



Newsletter - August 2021



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Greetings!

We hope this newsletter meets you with good health and happy summer vibes! As our lives become "back to normal" a little more each day, we wanted to share the very best of our on-goings here at Prairie Dental Group.

Scholarship Winner

Congratulations Michelle H. for winning this year's Dr. Jeff Heitner Health Sciences Scholarship! A \$500 award was presented to help offset tuition costs. She will be attending UCLA this fall with plans to major in biomedical engineering. Have fun Michelle, good luck with your studies, and Go Bruins!



Say It Ain't So!

With bittersweet hearts, we announce that Dr. Judd Heitner will retire from practicing dentistry in October 2021. He has provided our patients and team members with endless laughs, great advice, meticulously radiant dental care, and looked after our oral health for over 30 years. He will be greatly missed, but we look forward to the future of our practice and the legacy that he will be leaving us. Congratulations Dr. Heitner, we love you and we hope your increased duties as Grandpa are cherished during your retirement!



Caryl, our beloved Office Administrator for nearly 25 years will also retire this fall. She is the glue that keeps us together! Caryl has inspired us for decades with great leadership and a genuine love for Prairie Dental Group. We cannot say enough about Caryl's work ethic and commitment to our PDG family. She is just awesome! We hope you enjoy your time with grandkids and in the garden. We are so happy for you!



Rebecca has just recently retired from dental hygiene, but thankfully we will be able to have her here a little longer by working with us on an as-needed basis. She is an exceptional dental hygienist; an essential member of our group and we are so happy that she'll be able to expand her Grandma duties as well! Congrats Rebs!



New Faces

It's not all sadness and sorrow around here... We still have an amazing team of people and are happy to introduce a new addition to the team! Dr. Erik Engelbrektson, DMD has been practicing dentistry for several years, both internationally with the U.S. Navy and locally in the Twin Cities. Originally from Fargo, North Dakota, he is a huge Gopher fan! He lives with his wife and three young children in South Minneapolis. Welcome Dr. Erik!



We're Minnesota's Best! Star Tribune Readers' Choice



Thank you for voting us Minnesota's Best! The Star Tribune Readers' Choice voting is in and we are excited to say we are part of the best businesses in the Twin Cities community. Check us out in their upcoming Minnesota's Best magazine starting August 1st. #mnbest We are so proud to have been voted:

GOLD BEST: Cosmetic Dentist

SILVER BEST: Dentist / Pediatric Dentist

Your Child Has a Cavity.... Now What?

Coming to the dentist can potentially be scary to a child, especially if their parent inadvertently paints the picture of the dental office being a hurtful place. Parents can often, without knowing, impose fear into their child from their own anxiety about dentistry that they may have experienced in the past. Here are three tips to help your child have the best possible experience in the dental chair:



1. Stay behind in our waiting area - It may come as a surprise, but most children cooperate much better when their parent is not present in the operatory.

2. Avoid negative talk regarding dentistry - “It’s just a shot” or “Your dad and I hate going to the dentist!” will not allow us to establish a trusting relationship with your little one. Let them know that they are coming to the dentist to get help for a sick tooth and explain that the doctor and their helpers will take very good care of them. There's a reward at the end! (BONUS: we brought back the Toy Tower!)

3. Let us do the talking - We usually know the best way to explain a dental procedure while, at the same time, not scaring the pediatric patient.

We take great pride in providing quality dental care for the entire family. Rest assured, your child is in great hands at PDG. With your help, your child can have a comfortable dental experience and have a positive view on dentistry moving forward!

School Supply Drive

We are again collecting school supplies through the month of August. Donations of pens, pencils, crayons, notebooks, scissors, folders, backpacks, etc. will go to the PROP Shop of Eden Prairie. Thank you for your participation!



PDG Annual Fun Run

Our annual Fun Run was another success this year at Rice Marsh Lake Park in Chanhassen! Dr. Fenger, Dr. Moos, and hygienist Amber were the fastest in the bunch!





Esperanza Viva Dental Mission Trip

After a long-awaited delay due to the global pandemic, a team of PDG clinicians will be traveling to Puebla, Mexico to take care of the dental needs of over 100 kids at the Living Hope International orphanage: Esperanza Viva. Dr. Fenger, assistant Deb, and hygienists Amber and Shadae (along with a few bonus family members!) will travel to Puebla at the end of October. We wish them safe travels and a rewarding experience!





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