

Hello, Hardwick Dental Family!

First, I hope this letter finds everyone happy and healthy. The days are getting longer and hopefully soon the temps will start to get warmer! The past 12 months have been extremely difficult for everyone, but there does seem to be light at the end of the tunnel.

It has been quite busy here at the Hardwick Dental Group! There is a lot of exciting information to pass on to you all.

Covid-19 update:

We continue to follow all the state and federal recommendations and guidelines to make sure you and all our staff are safe every time you step foot in our practice. Our waiting room continues to be set up for social distancing, Covid-19 screening phone calls/text messages are still being done before each appointment and masks are still required upon entrance in the building.

Our medical grade air purifiers are running every day in the waiting room and all the operatories and next week they will receive professional maintenance from the company we purchased them from to make sure they are clean and working to top efficiency. This maintenance will happen on our purifiers every 3 months.

The COVID-19 vaccine was offered to everyone at our practice, another layer of protection for our staff and our patients. We encourage anyone who can get the vaccine to do so!

Baby Boom!

Two of the wonderful women in the Hardwick Dental Group family are expecting, and we could not be any more excited! Sarah Degre, our wonderful dental hygienist, and Dr. Piet will both be welcoming baby girls very soon! Sarah is due in April and Dr. Piet is due in August.

Sarah will be taking some much-deserved time off starting toward the end of April and that means a few things for our patients.

- 1.) **Our hygiene schedule is tight!** We are doing everything in our power to make sure our patients are being seen for their regular recalls when they are due and to make sure we are able to accommodate patients when they have a schedule change. We have opened some Fridays in April, May, June and July in order to see hygiene patients and some of our staff will be working longer hours during these months to make sure we are able to see all of our patients when they need to be seen.
- 2.) **If you do not have a hygiene appointment and need one, please schedule ASAP!** Due to being short a hygienist and the regular scheduling of 3 and 6 month recall cleanings, our hygiene schedule is currently booking out into August and September. If you do not have a scheduled cleaning and need one, please call us ASAP.
- 3.) **Utilize the Sooner if Possible List:** If you do get in our schedule, or are currently in our schedule but would like to be seen sooner, please ask to be put on our sooner if possible list. Our schedule is always changing due to cancellations and if you are flexible, we can almost guarantee we can see you sooner than your currently scheduled appointment.
- 4.) **If you are currently scheduled, your appointment MIGHT change by 10-20 mins.** To optimize our current schedule, we may be moving your currently scheduled appointment up or down

10-20 mins to fit in a patient that is not currently scheduled. If this does happen you will receive an email or text of with the time change. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause but we ask for your patience and for your help in making sure everyone is able to be seen in a timely fashion.

- 5.) **Temporary Dentist:** Starting in August when Dr. Piet will not be in the office, we will have a Temporary Dentist on staff to help with procedures and Hygiene Checks. Dr. Vasa has also agreed to see patients an extra day when Dr. Piet is out of the office.

New Faces:

We are happy to announce that both of our current Dental Assistants, Jamie Strek and Kalyn Briggs, have been accepted into Dental Hygiene School in Vermont, starting August of 2021! We are extremely proud of them for furthering their education in the dental field and we know they will excel in their pursuits.

This does mean that both will not be seen in the practice as much starting in August and that we will be bringing on some new faces to join our team.

We are currently going through the interview process to make sure we bring on a pair of dental assistants that will create a smooth transition and continue the quality of care that we expect at the Hardwick Dental Group. We hope you will all be welcoming of these new faces and make sure you congratulate our current all-star dental assistants on their upcoming educational pursuits next time you are in the office!

New Services:

Dr. Piet and Dr. Vasa may have had some extended time off not seeing patients during quarantine, but they were busy with their Continuing Education! Thanks to their hard work and zest for furthering their dental knowledge and education we are now able to offer NEW and EXCITING services at Hardwick Dental Group...

Both Doctors are now offering CLEAR ALIGNER ORTHODONTICS – they are working with SureSmile to deliver affordable and convenient orthodontic treatment to all our interested patients. SureSmile works like Invisalign, clear retainers allow the teeth to move into more ideal positions without all the metal hardware!

Dr. Piet also completed an AAFP certified course to be able to provide BOTOX and filler services to our interested patients. This means she can use BOTOX on the face to smooth and prevent wrinkle lines; fillers are for volume replacement and enhancement.

If you are interested in Clear Aligner Orthodontics or BOTOX/Fillers call and schedule a consult today!

For those of you who finished this letter, thanks for hanging in there! We love being able to provide our service to all of you in this community and can not thank you enough for being a part of this practice!

Sincerely

The Hardwick Dental Group Family