

# MY LINCOLN DENTIST

## HERMEY THE MISFIT ELF

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*Peace on Earth*

The claymation classic Rudolf the Red-nosed Reindeer has become a tradition for many families to watch since it was first aired in 1964.

The story has all the basic characters of Santa, the reindeer, and the elves, but it focuses on the lives of two misfits. The reindeer with the red nose and the elf who wants to be a dentist, rather than make toys.

Most of the duo's journey is a rather sad story of not fitting in. Hermey the elf and Rudolf are so ridiculed by their peers that together they run away. While trekking through a snowstorm and narrowly escaping the Abominable snowman, they discover the Land of Misfit Toys; a place where toys go when no child wants them. Hermey and Ruldoph promise the King of Misfit Land that they'll return with Santa who will find homes for these misfit toys. In the end, Rudolf and Hermey are accepted and are allowed to follow



their dreams.

In this story are many lessons, but one of the most important it that of following through on your dreams. Along the way, you may be discouraged, shunned, and laughed at, but with determination you can overcome most anything.

The other lesson for us to take away is to recognize the ugliness of pre-judging others. During the Christmas season we can all work harder to be kind to others no matter how different they may seem (even if they want to be a dentist!). ☺

### TEAM SPOTLIGHT

**Michelle Cahoon** Registered Dental Assistant in Extended Functions (RDAEF)

Michelle is one of our cheerful chair-side assistants. She holds the title of RDAEF and brings 20 years of experience to the practice. In order to obtain 'extended functions' (EF) certification, she completed a rigorous program and board examination in 2003. This certification gives her increased dental skills and responsibilities.

Although dentistry occupies much of her time, Michelle also keeps up a busy home schedule. Her and her husband Daryl are the parents of three busy girls. Torianne, Gabriella, and Madison keep mom and dad

moving between school, soccer, swimming, piano lessons, Brownies, and all other sorts of activities. During her short amounts of free time, Michelle is an avid reader of all types of novels, from suspense to historical fiction.

She is another one of our Bay Area transplants and was raised in San Jose before moving her family to Roseville some years ago. Michelle adds humor and enthusiasm to our lives every day and we are lucky to have her as part of our team.



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*General and Esthetic Dentistry*

**ATTENTION PARENTS**  
**Getting kids on the right track early!**

Our office is offering free "Happy Teeth" Visits to our patients between the ages of 1-5. These visits are designed to introduce these youngsters to the dental setting in a positive way and educate the parents in how to prevent dental problems. It's never too early to start good habits. Tell a friend.



## THE GIFT OF SIGHT

Recently a patient came into our office wondering about a newscast he had seen about a blind patient who had a tooth implanted in her eye that allowed her to see again. While this may seem very far-fetched, the story is in fact true!



The procedure is primarily for patients who have had such severe scarring of their outer eye that they are legally blind. The surgeon removes a tooth from the patient and prepares a hole in the center of it to hold a prosthetic lens. This tooth is then implanted into the eye along with tissue from the inside of the cheek to place around the pupil.

Dr. Victor Perez, of the University of Miami, described a recipient patient last year, "From the first day, she's been able to see 20/70. She cannot drive legally (yet), but she can see her hands, see TV, see the sky, see the clouds."

The technique has been used hundreds of times in Europe and Japan and is beginning to see a more limited use in the United States. The benefit is that by using the patients own tooth there is a reduced chance of rejection. The downside is that the physical appearance of the eye is not very good cosmetically. When the alternative is blindness, though, patients are often accepting of the procedure.

Now that is an 'eye-tooth' worthy of its name!

### Dental Humor

What did the dentist see at the North Pole?...A molar bear



What did the tooth say to the departing dentist?...Fill me in when you get back

- According to a "Time Magazine Survey", 59% of Americans would rather sit in a dentist's chair than sit next to someone on a cell phone.

## Our Request to Our Patients

We are an office that welcomes new patients. If you have been satisfied with your care at Denzler Family Dentistry, please tell your family and friends. Word of mouth is our most valued source of new patients. Thank you!