



Remembering a Patriot this Memorial Day

This Memorial Day, we will be remembering our beloved patient and friend, Joe Baker. Joe was courageous, gentle, humble and a true patriot. He was born on November 19, 1924 in Bronx, New York, and shortly after Pearl Harbor, at the age of 17, enlisted in the Navy.

Joe trained at the sub base in New London, Connecticut, and became part of the Sculpin crew. In late 1943, The Sculpin's assignment was to harass Japan's lifeline to her base at Truk Island in the South Pacific. On November 20, over a period of 9 anxious hours, the Sculpin had been rocked by an estimated 52 heavy depth chargers forcing it to surface and fight it out with the Japanese Destroyer Yokohama. After a heroic effort by the crew of the Sculpin against overwhelming odds, the "abandon ship" order was given and the Sculpin was scuttled.

Joe along with 40 of his crewmembers spent 12 grueling hours on the deck of the Yokohama receiving beatings from clubs and fists before being separated onto two aircraft carriers heading toward Tokyo. The carrier Chuyo, with 21 of the Sculpin crew aboard, was hit by torpedoes from the USS Sailfish resulting in the loss of 20 of Joe's crewmembers. Joe was on the other carrier and ended up spending 2 years in a POW camp in Tokyo.

He and his crewmembers worked in the Asho copper mine under horrendous conditions. Joe was in the same camp as Lou Zamperini (Unbroken) and they became good "mates". Burned, beaten, starved, brutally overworked, forced to exist with vermin as bedfellows, and humiliation their unfailing daily fare, Joe and the other survivors of the Sculpin proved to be tough and resilient. Twenty-one had entered the prisoner-of-war camps, twenty-one started home on VJ Day. Joe was presented the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart by Admiral Nimitz.

Upon returning to the states, Joe continued his schooling at Dartmouth and also the Stonier School of Banking at Rutgers. Joe married the love of his life, Louise in 1949, and moved to the Boston area to work at First National Bank, then State Street Bank. He and Louise lived in Westwood where they raised their two children. Joe passed away September 23, 2012. He and Louise shared 63 wonderful years together.

Louise recently wrote, "Joe always thought we should remember and thank those who served our country." For many Americans, Memorial Day signifies the unofficial start of summer. Perhaps the most meaningful way we can honor the memory of a deceased veteran on Memorial Day is to follow Joe's example and simply express our sincere thanks and appreciation to the many military veterans still living and anyone actively serving in the Armed Forces. Thus, whether he or she is a family member, friend, or someone we see during a parade, a memorial service, in an airport or store, consider making a point of politely extending your hand as you say "Thank you for your service."



- Kevin, Rick, Brian



We'd like to take this opportunity to put the spotlight on a wonderful non-profit organization that was founded by one of our long-time patients, Brian McCourt.

The McCourt Foundation

The McCourt Family is no stranger to family illness and caregiving. Long before any one of the seven brothers were born, their father, Robert, was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis (MS) when he was just 25 years old. After living with the disease for 42 years, Robert passed away in 1992 at the age of 67.

After seeing the effect that MS had on their father as well as their family, the McCourt brothers felt the need to help others within the MS community. To honor their father and provide support to other families facing MS, they organized a fundraiser road race in 1992. This was the first step in their philanthropic journey, which still continues today. That journey evolved when their mother, Mary, was diagnosed with Alzheimer's Disease (AD), which she lived with for over a decade. Although the McCourt brothers lost both of their parents to very different illnesses, both fell within the neurology community. Feeling compassion for families battling a variety of incurable neurological diseases, their philanthropic efforts grew into what is now The McCourt Foundation (TMF).

Upcoming Events:

Boston Waterfront 5K Fitness & Wellness Festival

Sunday, June 16, 2019 | 8:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Flynn Cruiseport Boston

Tour de South Shore

Saturday, September 21, 2019 | 6:30 AM - 1:00 PM
DCR Wompatuck State Park | Hingham, MA

To learn more, get involved, or donate to The McCourt Foundation visit www.mccourtfoundation.org



Staff Feature:

Anne Gill

I've had the pleasure of working with Thomas Family Dental for the last 25 years. I started as an intern after attending the Bryman Institute in Brookline, MA. I love dentistry because I enjoy working one-on-one with people. It's a privilege to be able to help individuals improve their health and it's rewarding to see the results when our patients return again. Outside of work, I spend a lot of time outdoors. I enjoy boating and snowmobiling. I love spending time with my grandchildren and I am also fond of traveling. Most recently, I visited Hamburg, Germany, where my grandfather is from. I'd like to share a quote to inspire my wonderful patients; Nothing is impossible. The word itself is 'I'm possible'.

- Anne Gill, Dental Assistant

New Arrivals at Thomas Family Dental

Our staff recently became a sponsor, through Mission E4, for 10 year old Schneider Valeis whose parents are deceased. He lives with his brother Divensly in Hati. Schneider is in 4th grade, helps with chores around the orphanage and enjoys playing ball games with the other children. The sponsorship helps provide Schneider with a Christian education, hot meals year round, school uniform, books and medical care.



Hygienist Pat Quadir with her new grandson Wesley born to her daughter Carrie and Adam Martin on February 2, 2019.
7 lbs 4 oz - 19 inches



Assistant Dawn Estano with her son Dawson Fox Estano. Welcomed to the world April 29, 2019.
7 lbs 1 oz - 19 ¾ inches

Cracked Tooth Syndrome

When you bite down you feel discomfort ranging from slight sensation to a sharp pain. It quickly disappears. You start to avoid certain foods or chew on one side of your mouth. Does this sound familiar? If so, you may have a cracked tooth. It can be difficult to tell if you have a cracked tooth. Cracks are often invisible to the eye and usually do not show up on an x-ray.

Symptoms:

- Discomfort when you bite down on certain foods or upon releasing your bite
- The discomfort may be off and on or it can be every time you bite on the tooth
- The discomfort does not linger and can range from very mild to a sharp pain
- Sensitivity to cold temperature

Causes:

- A moderate or large filling in the tooth
- Chewing on hard objects
- Trauma from clenching or grinding
- Exposure to extreme hot and cold temperature over time
- Trauma from an accident or sports injury

Treatment Options:

- Adjust the bite
- Replace the filling
- Place a crown on the tooth to protect it from more damage
- Root Canal if the nerve is damaged
- Remove the tooth if the crack is too severe

Dental Implants

Dental implants are one of the most significant advances in dentistry in the past 30 years. Millions are placed by dentists every year in tens of thousands of people which make implants a very common and popular option for replacing teeth. They are designed to be a long lasting, permanent solution to tooth loss. We often find the results to be life changing for our patients.

Indications:

- Missing one or more teeth
- Loose or ill-fitting complete dentures
- Uncomfortable partial dentures with metal clasps

Benefits:

- Increased self-esteem and confidence
- Stable, well functioning dentures
- Reduced bone loss
- Greater chewing ability
- Improved speech
- Better looking smile

Most adult people of any age are good candidates for dental implants depending on their health and bone level. If you are interested in learning more about implants and whether they are a good treatment option for you, call to schedule a complimentary consult with your dentist.



- A Kate Middleton
- B Anne Hathaway
- C Jessica Alba
- D Blake Lively

Do you know your celebrity smile?

Email your name, telephone number and answer to:
crivera@thomasfamilydental.com
Must be 18 years old to enter | Limit 1 entry per patient.

ENTRY DEADLINE: JUNE 1ST

One winner will be randomly selected from the correct entries.

The winner will be contacted by June 8.

Prize: \$100 Visa Gift Card

Congratulations to Jackie Groden,
the lucky winner of our last
Celebrity Smile contest in January!

Community Happenings



We want to thank all the patients who generously contributed to Rosie's Place food and clothing drive; the women were grateful to receive your donated items.

We are currently collecting the following items for the Animal Rescue League of Boston, the Milton Animal Shelter, and the Medfield Animal Shelter:

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|-------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| • Kongs | • Dry Dog Food | • Grooming Tools | • Sponges |
| • Peanut Butter | • Purina Dry Cat Food | • Cat Toys | • Dish Soap |
| • Training Treats | • Cat Litter | • Cat Beds | • Paper Towels |
| • Leashes | • Cat Nips | • Pill Pockets | • Laundry Detergent |
| • Dog Toys | • Kuranda Dog Beds | • Cat Scratching Posts | • Windex |

Please drop off items at the Medfield or Milton locations

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 7-5 PM

Deadline: June 13



MEDFIELD OFFICE | 508-359-6600
5 North Meadows Road | Medfield, MA 02052

MILTON OFFICE | 617-696-4800
99 Adams Street | Milton, MA 02186
www.thomasfamilydental.com

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