

A Blog For The Serious Shopper



Related Posts

➔ [It's a Family Affair](#)

HEALTH & BEAUTY FEATURES, MEDICAL FEATURES

Dentistry in the Family

Just a few hundred years ago, barbers ripped out teeth and treated tooth decay one minute and shaved you the next. But in 1700 that all changed. Dentistry, as we know it today, was founded by French physician Pierre Fauchard and moved to America 60 years later when English dentist John Baker set up the first American practice. From there, dental health slowly became the concern of the masses. There were missteps along the way, such as using cocaine as a local anesthetic; yet around 200 years after the first dentist entered America, nylon toothbrushes were mass-marketed, and fluoride toothpaste was commonplace. Dentists no doubt love the focus on their profession, but now they must battle for a focus on dental health, not dental cosmetics, as people become concerned more with the whiteness of their teeth than their overall oral health.

Dentistry in the Family: The Kelliher Family



Dr. Kelliher

The Kelliher family has been in dentistry in the Northern Virginia area since 1962, when the father of the current crop of dentists and dental hygienists came to town. Jeremiah Kelliher set up shop on Brandon Avenue in Springfield, where the Kelliher's still have a practice. Dr. Jerry Kelliher and Dr. Sean Kelliher, or Dr. Sean and Dr. Jerry as they are known to their patients (it's easy to see how last names could get confusing), hold the fort down in Springfield while their brother, Dr. Dan, works out of the Metropolitan Dental Centre off of Braddock Road in Fairfax.

Dr. Jeremiah was the man who started the family tradition in dentistry, but it's likely to live on for a while as six of his seven children are in the profession.

Three are dentists, all his daughters are dental hygienists, and there's the one son that Dr. Jerry lovingly calls the "oddball" of the family, who has done well in the insurance business in North Carolina.

The Kelliher's have a great reputation throughout NoVA, and they are committed to furthering their education long after they have left school. Dr. Dan even lists "continuing education" accomplishments on his website.

[See the Top Dentists 2011 List Here.](#)



Northern Virginia Magazine on Facebook

Like 3,642



Herndon, VA
703-464-5880

