

# Brevard Health Care News

SERVING FLORIDA SINCE 1987

a publication of Florida Health Care News, Inc.

For additional health care information, visit us on the web at [www.flhealthcarenews.com](http://www.flhealthcarenews.com)

IMPLANT, COSMETIC, AND GENERAL DENTISTRY

## IN THIS EDITION

- 2 **Advanced Surgical Weight Loss**  
**Safer, less invasive alternative to gastric bypass!**
- 3 **Florida Pain Management Associates**  
**Who would your doctor go to for pain relief?**
- 5 **Neurology Institute of Melbourne, P.A.**  
**A candid conversation about neuropathy**
- 6 **Bassin Center for Eyelid & Facial Plastic Surgery**  
**Discovering the Smartlipo™ difference**
- 8 **South Florida Eye Clinic**  
**Providing relief for view-obstructing eye floaters**
- 9 **Indian River Medical Center**  
**The brain and beyond**
- 10 **Orthopaedic Center of Vero Beach, P.A.**  
**Complex shoulder problem?**
- 11 **Bonnie Hearing, Inc.**  
**Personalized hearing care**
- 12 **Merrill A. Grant, DMD, P.A.**  
**Let your smile be your crowning glory**

# CROSSING THE BRIDGE

**Patients with several missing teeth no longer have to suffer with removable partial dentures. Implant-secured fixed bridges can restore comfort, confidence, and security.**

Former Bostonian Shelley Califano was uncomfortable with her partial denture.

**Clark F. Brown, Jr., DDS, P.A.**

"I wasn't happy with its appearance," confides the dietary director, "and there were a

lot of foods I couldn't eat, even sandwiches and most fruits were very difficult for me. I decided I didn't want to live the rest of my life with that type of

thing in my mouth."

A partial denture, also called a partial plate, is a removable appliance that replaces some of the natural teeth in one arch.

"I was just uncomfortable with it in general," she remembers, "so I began looking for someone who specialized in implants."

After significant research, Shelley says she put together a list of quali-

(see **Bridge**, page 4)

PHOTO BY DENNIS BRANDS, HAIR AND MAKE-UP BY IMPERIAL SALON AND SPA



**Shelley says that her new implant-supported fixed bridge has totally changed her life.**

## A message from Dr. Brown:

First impressions are strong and lasting, and most people interpret your smile as a reflection of your personality. A pleasing smile makes a very positive first impression on people, where a poor smile is often greeted with reservation and caution. Only if a relationship develops do we really get to know the person behind the smile.

A 2004 scientific survey conducted at the Medical College of Wisconsin found that 99.7% of the respondents believe a smile is an important social asset. The same survey found that 96% of adults believe an attractive smile makes a person more appealing to the opposite sex, and 74% felt that an unattractive smile could hurt a person's chances for career success. It was determined that the characteristics people are most likely to notice first about someone's smile include straightness, whiteness and color of teeth, any missing teeth, the sparkle of the smile, and sincerity of the smile.

In my office, I use the most advanced techniques and materials available to create an attractive, positive smile. I look at the patient, listen to what they want to achieve, and together we plan the end result. This is the most important and most difficult aspect of treatment. Several people, both in the forefront and behind the scenes, are often involved in creating the desired appearance. In the forefront are the dental hygienists, dental assistants, treatment coordinator, and me, who all work directly with the patient. Behind the scenes are the laboratory technicians who create custom restorations to perfectly suit the needs of each patient.

We all work together, ensuring a winning smile for the patient.

### PAIN MANAGEMENT



A doctor's doctor

3

### NEUROLOGY



Phantom feelings?

5

### DENTISTRY



Ten great reasons to smile

12

Brevard Health Care News  
a publication of Florida Health Care News, Inc.

PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Tampa, FL  
Permit No. 2397

Carrier-Route Pre Sort

Health Care Patron

# Bridge

(continued from page 1)

fyng dentists in her area and began her search by scheduling an appointment with Clark F. Brown, Jr., DDS, a comprehensively trained and experienced dentist who has practiced implant, cosmetic, and general dentistry in Melbourne for more than twenty-eight years.

"I had a number of dentists on my list, but I never went for another consultation," admits Shelley. "Dr. Brown's staff is unbelievable, every one of them, and he is extremely knowledgeable and professional."

## The consultation

"During my first consultation with a new patient, I take a medical history," describes Dr. Brown. "Then we go over the types of problems the patient may be having and the goals she or he wants to achieve.

Implants look, chew, and feel like natural teeth, and stimulate the bone, causing it to strengthen and grow.

"The implant-supported fixed bridge has several advantages over a denture," informs Dr. Brown. "Whereas a denture feels like there is something foreign in your mouth, the fixed bridge feels like your own natural teeth.

"Second, even a well-fitting denture can still move because it is sitting on tissue and tissue can give a little bit, where implant-supported teeth are not going to move at all.

"Third, taste buds are found not only on the tongue but also on the roof of the mouth as well. Because a denture covers those nerve endings on the roof of the mouth, it affects not only the sensation of taste but also

cially if the tooth is in the back where it will be subjected to a lot of pressure," informs the doctor.

During the placement of implants, the tissue over the implant site is opened to expose the bone. A recipient space is created in the bone to the exact shape of the implant, and the implant is then placed into the bone. The tissue is repositioned and secured with sutures.

Once the implant and bone have fused, which takes approximately four months, the top of the implant is uncovered, and replacement teeth are attached to the implants.

restorative dentist is eliminated. He knows exactly how the placement of the implant is done for each patient and why.

"Dr. Brown described exactly what would be happening, each step I would have to take, how long the procedures would last, and precisely what I would encounter," says Shelley.

Following her consultation, she decided to have implants.

## The result

"Dr. Brown created a design plan for me," says Shelley. "He showed me a book of all the different shapes of teeth I could have, and his staff was great in helping me choose.

"They were excellent."

"There are many shapes and styles of teeth that patients can choose from," acknowledges Dr. Brown. "It is interesting, though, that generally speaking, teeth usually conform to the shape of the person's face, whether it is round, oval or square."

"I showed Dr. Brown just what I wanted," reflects Shelley, "and they came out exactly how I hoped they would.

"In fact, he was right on the money about the entire procedure. Everything he said, all the steps he laid out and the timeline for each step, was exactly correct.

"Best of all, this has totally changed my life.

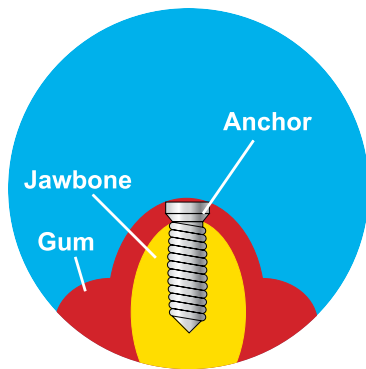
"My new teeth make a huge difference in what I can eat, which is simply everything, and as a food service director I work with other people. My new smile absolutely gives me more confidence.

"For me, this has totally changed my life." **FHCN**—Kris Kline



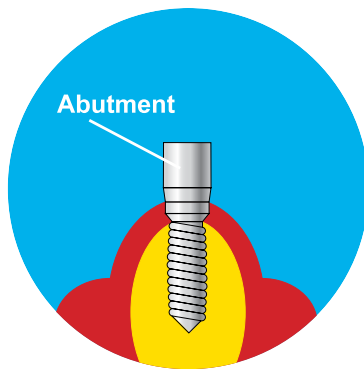
Clark F. Brown, Jr., DDS, is board certified by the American Board of Oral Implantology/Implant Dentistry. He earned his undergraduate degree from the University of California, San Diego, and his doctor of dental surgery degree from Georgetown University. Dr. Brown served as a dentist in the U.S. Air Force from 1978 to 1981. He has been in private practice in Melbourne since 1981. He is a diplomate

of the American Board of Oral Implantology/Implant Dentistry, International Congress of Oral Implantologists, American Society of Osseointegration, and American College of Forensic Examiners and is a fellow of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry and International Congress of Oral Implantologists.



### Step 1

The coated anchor of the implant is surgically placed into your jawbone. Over the next few months, the living bone in your jaw will bond with the anchor.



### Step 2

An abutment, or "post," is attached to the top of the implant's anchor.



### Step 3

One or more custom-designed tooth restorations are attached to the abutment.

"Of course, we take x-rays, which enables me to see how much bone a patient has, and then we sit down together and discuss how we can reach his or her goals. We discuss what we can achieve, other options, and the cost and time involved."

Dr. Brown spends enough time with his patients so that they can make educated decisions.

"When Shelley first came to us she had a few teeth that had broken down," recounts Dr. Brown. "She had only three teeth on her top arch that were holding in her partial denture, and one of them needed to come out.

"That meant that Shelley was left with two reliable options. One was a denture that would have required removal for cleaning. The other was an implant-supported fixed bridge, which is more comfortable and stable than something that is removable. An implant is as close as we could come to replacing her own teeth."

of food temperature, which plays into the whole eating experience."

"Dr. Brown explained everything to me," recalls Shelley. "I was impressed with his in-depth knowledge and the time he took to share it with me."

## Permanent implants

A dental implant is an artificial replacement for the root of a tooth. The implant provides a foundation on which permanent teeth or removable teeth can be securely attached.

"The first stage is to place the implants," educates Dr. Brown. "These implants are made of titanium, which is an extremely biocompatible material. It is a strong substance that has the ability to actually bond to the bone."

This process is called *osseointegration*.

"At times we can place an implant and immediately place a tooth over it. The success rate of that procedure is less than if we let the implant heal first, espe-

### Here for you

Dr. Brown looks forward to meeting the readers of *Brevard Health Care News*. For additional information or to schedule an appointment, please call **(321) 259-9429**. The office is located at **2113 Sarno Rd.** in Melbourne.

**For more information, please visit [www.drimplant.com](http://www.drimplant.com).**

## Brevard Health Care News

215 Bullard Parkway  
Temple Terrace, FL 33617  
(813) 989-1330

## Spring 2008

Barry P. Levine  
**Executive Publisher**

Ron Lubrat  
**Associate Publisher**

Billie S. Noakes  
Michael J. Sahnó  
Kris Kline  
**Staff Writers**

Patricia Comeau  
**Production Manager**

Tony Pesavento  
**Creative Director**

Shaquea Moore  
**Graphic Design**

Brian Glenn  
**Photography**

Brian Levine  
**Administrative Assistant**

Jeanette Cherry  
Dino Paglierani  
**Distribution**

## Contributing Editors

**Clark F. Brown, Jr., DDS, P.A.**  
Implant, Cosmetic, and General Dentistry

**Advanced Surgical Weight Loss**  
Minimally Invasive Weight Loss Surgery

**Florida Pain Management Associates**  
Pain Management

**Neurology Institute of Melbourne, P.A.**  
Neurology

**Bassin Center for Eyelid & Facial Plastic Surgery**  
Eyelid, Facial Plastic, and Reconstructive Surgery

**South Florida Eye Clinic**  
Ophthalmology

**Indian River Medical Center**  
Neurosurgery

**Orthopaedic Center of Vero Beach, P.A.**  
Orthopaedic Surgery

**Bonnie Hearing, Inc.**  
Audiology

**Merrill A. Grant, DMD, P.A.**  
General and Cosmetic Dentistry

Brevard Health Care News is published by Florida Health Care News, Inc.

Florida Health Care News, Inc., reserves the right to decline any advertising/marketing article.

Brevard Health Care News is provided for information only and should not be construed as medical advice or instruction. If you have questions concerning articles in this edition, feel free to call our contributing editors.

Brevard Health Care News provides a paid forum for medical professionals to present their ideas about various aspects of medical treatment and procedures. Florida Health Care News, Inc. is not responsible for the medical care delivered by the contributing editors presented in this edition.

Articles reflect the opinion of the sponsoring professional or organization and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of other contributing editors. Contributing editors have approved all text contained within their respective articles.

© 2008 Florida Health Care News, Inc. All rights reserved. The contents of this publication, including articles, may not be reproduced in any form without written permission from the publisher.