Port Warwick Dental Arts: Dentistry, artistry, philanthropy

BY TESS GOLDBLATT

f David Letterman had the privilege of interviewing Dr. Lisa Marie Samaha of Port Warwick Dental Arts (PWDA), he'd most likely come up with his "Top Ten Reasons for Being in the Smile Business." The Oyster Pointer scooped Letterman! Dr. Samaha's Top Three Reasons:

1. Dentistry

It's about healing. "I'm honored to be in relationships with patients who trust me and allow me to help

them heal, even those with the most challenging dental disease. I am committed to creating beautiful smiles and to helping patients achieve total periodontal health," says Dr. Samaha. Donna Atkinson was amazed at how "Dr. Samaha was able to do what no one else could, mainly get me beyond my fear. The day she eliminated my years of dental disease was one of the greatest days of my life. That was also the day she gave me my new smile and changed my life!"

High-tech and high touch are in perfect balance as Dr. Samaha and assistant Renee Smith attend to patient Zack Duman.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF PWDA

Tranquil waters of a koi pond aid in relaxation for Dr. Samaha's patients.

on Children's Hospital of the

King's Daughters. Frequently, donations of artwork and dentistry are offered for other fundraisers. "We're so blessed with a thriving practice," says Samaha. "The abundance we experience leads us looking for ways to reach out and help our community, especially in these uncertain economic times. This year, we are asking Hampton Roads' residents to nominate someone for one of our Smile Makeovers. We are looking for someone with an exceptional story. We're not looking for press. We are looking for the person." See the Smile Makeover Nomination form on this page. **◄**¶

2. Artistry

Artistry abounds. The design of the building reflects Dr. Samaha's creative flair. Arlyene Lusk says, "The comforting, welcoming staff, the warm neck roll and blanket as well as the soothing music and view into the Asian garden had a calming effect." Dr Samaha's original artwork hangs throughout the office and attests to her skillful appreciation and talent for all things esthetic. Artistry naturally finds its way into the smiles of her patients. "My patients and I collaborate in the design of every smile," says Samaha. "They can choose the little nuances that distinguish one smile from another. The result is as 'custom-designed' as each of our patients, an art as much as a science."

3. Philanthropy

PWDA recently held a professional whitening fundraiser and raised nearly \$12,000 for children's charities, focused

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