

Meetings

Buffalo Niagara Partnership sets energy forum

In the first of a three-part series dealing with the economics of fuel and energy, the Buffalo Niagara Partnership will host a free luncheon and program titled "Taming Volatile Energy Pricing" from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Friday, June 20, at The Partnership, 665 Main St., Suite 200, Buffalo. Jason Willan, manager of research and publications for Constellation New Energy, will serve as the keynote speaker. A panel of energy industry representatives will also be on hand to discuss the many products addressing the volatility of the energy markets, the state of affairs in the oil and natural gas realms and pipeline expansion. The event is open to the public, and registration is available on the events calendar of the Partnership's Web site at www.thepartnership.org.

BNI Prime Time chapter to hear audit information

The next meeting of the Prime Time chapter of Business Network International will be held from 7 to 8:30 a.m. Friday, June 27, at the Root Five Waterfront Restaurant, S-4914 Lake Shore Road, Hamburg. Robert Kell from Aurora Accounting Systems will be on hand to give a 10-minute presentation titled "How to Survive a Tax Audit." The meeting is aimed at owners of small businesses, and all are encouraged to attend. For more information on Business Network International or the meeting, call Neil Scott of Country Dentistry at 648-1030.

Small-business owners to get online help

Thanks to New York University professor Myron Gould, small business owners have a new online resource to help them with opportunities for peer networking, advice from qualified professionals and other issues. The Web site, located at www.BizChatBoard.com, focuses on education and networking, offering the opportunity to make new business connections and to forge relationships with others who have shared concerns and interests.

O'Donnell Heating and Cooling wins another award

by CRAIG KANALLEY
Intern

Over the years, Amherst-based O'Donnell Heating and Cooling has received a number of awards for its quality service. It recently earned another.

Air conditioning and heating distributor Lennox presented the local company with a Signature Collection Award in April. The award is given to a company in the Northeast region that puts an emphasis on educating customers and selling quality equipment.

"These types of awards are only given once a year," said owner Jim O'Donnell, 41. "This is one of the highest awards given."

O'Donnell Heating and Cooling, 2032 Eggert Road, Amherst, was founded by O'Donnell's father, Ted, in 1961. O'Donnell himself has been in the business for seven years.

The company has won other "Signature" awards in the past. It has also received a number of other awards, including Best New RT-4 Refrigerant Installation,



O'Donnell Heating and Cooling, located at 2032 Eggert Road, recently won a Signature Collection Award, chosen from businesses along the Northeast.

Best Kept Business in Amherst/Eggertsville and the Lennox Premier Dealer of the Year.

"It means I'm doing my job, basically," O'Donnell said of the awards. "We pay a lot to operate equipment in this area, but we also keep people's needs in mind.

We put an emphasis on quality of installation and quality of product."

Customer feedback has proven the company's quality work.

"A survey goes out to each customer on each job. We have a 98 percent customer satisfaction for over seven years now," O'Don-

nell said.

Companies in the "Pittsburg District," from Detroit to New York City, were eligible for the most recent award that O'Donnell Heating and Cooling received.

Though it primarily works in Clarence and Amherst, O'Donnell Heating and Cooling services all of Western New York.

The company offers certified technicians to perform installations such as humidifiers, carbon monoxide detectors, energy-saving programmable thermostats, industry-leading filtration, and furnace and air conditioning systems. It has parts and supplies available for purchase in its showroom, 2032 Eggert Road, Amherst.

O'Donnell Heating and Cooling sells equipment manufactured by Lennox. In fact, it was the first premier dealer of Lennox locally. Today, there are 15 Lennox dealers in Western New York, according to www.lennoxdealer.com.

For more information on O'Donnell Heating and Cooling, visit www.odonnellheating.com.

New dental practice making children smile

by ANDREA KIMBRIEL
Clarence Editor

Growing Smiles Pediatric & Adolescent Dentistry is designed to be both patient and environmentally friendly.

When children come into the waiting room, they see a stuffed "dinosaur" of sorts that has teeth and a large toothbrush to brush them. They can pick a movie to watch during their appointment, with a parent's permission. And pediatric specialist Dr. Amanda Cryan and hygienist and office coordinator Kristina Bohn work hard to make their patients feel comfortable.

"That's our goal. To make every child excited about going to the dentist," said Cryan.

They also do X-rays using digital radiography, which is less radioactive and produces less waste. Bohn said it emits about one-tenth of the radiation normally given off by dental X-ray equipment.

"It's been evolving over the past 10 years and it's just amazing," Cryan said.

They also use a type of fillings that produces less waste and use a computerized charting system rather than paper.

Cryan said she's been doing simple things to help protect the environment since she was a child—for example, turning the water off while brushing her teeth.

The dental office at 6501 Transit Road, Suite B, opened on June 9.

"We're both very much about one-on-one interaction for children," said Cryan.

Their patients are from 1 to 18 years old, or 21 if they are in college. Cryan said it's recommended that parents find a dental home for their children when they are about 1 year old and have them receive a checkup to ensure that facial bones are growing normally and all is in order.

Cryan had been practicing locally with someone else for about two years.

"I had amazing opportunities where I was, but



Kristina Bohn, hygienist and office coordinator, and Dr. Amanda Cryan, pediatric specialist, demonstrate the toothbrush and stuffed animal they use to make children feel at ease in the waiting room at Growing Smiles Pediatric & Adolescent Dentistry.

Photo by John Rusac
 Purchase color photos at www.BeeNews.com

there were things I wanted to do to treat each child like my child," she said.

She said there are benefits to taking children to pediatric dentists. They are focused on the things that make dental treatment for children unique, such as behavior management.

"Every child's a little bit different," she said. The key is to find what they enjoy and help them understand what they are experiencing.

Bohn said she has always enjoyed working with children.

"I think that's really important with kids—

knowing that you love them" she said.

They enjoy offering complimentary dental education at schools and other locations.

Cryan had two and a half years of specialty training to be a pediatric dentist. Bohn said both of them have a higher level of education than is common in their field.

They can use sedation such as nitrous oxide at the office, and if more serious dental work is needed, Cryan will do it using general anesthesia at Women and Children's Hospital.

Cryan also specializes on working with people who have special needs, for which she has won awards. One of her cousins had special needs, she said.

"I always had extra compassion I guess, based on that," she said.

Cryan said it is important that those with special needs, as well as young children, receive regular checkups because they may not be able to express that something is bothering them or that they are in pain.

Appointments can be made by calling the office at 580-3580. Cryan said they try to offer hours that are convenient for parents, including before and after school and on some Saturdays.

Business News

Texas Roadhouse, 900 Young St., Tonawanda, will exchange gift cards from the Roadhouse Grill, which closed last week, for a free Texas Roadhouse entrée. There is no dollar limit on the entrée choice. The restaurant also accepts Roadhouse Grill coupons and free appetizer cards. Call the restaurant at 692-0457.

Kathy Kondratuk of Amherst was named first vice president of the Clarence Heritage Business and Professional Women's 2008-09 board of directors. Also named to the board were: Kristin Marusza, president; Jean Yanik, second vice president; Melody Overs, treasurer; and Donna Moran, secretary. CHBPW is a local organization of women helping women, offering members a supportive environment for personal and professional development, networking and contacts, increased leadership skills and greater political awareness.

Rob Lederman, owner of Rob's Comedy Playhouse in Amherst, has been named Humanitarian of the Year by Camp Good Days and Special Times. He has been involved with the organization for more than 20 years. Lederman will be honored with the Spirit of Teddi Humanitarian Award during the Creative Black Tie Gala on June 14, where he is also the emcee. The award is named after Teddi Mervis, the daughter of Gary Mervis, founder and chairman. He started the organization in 1979 in honor of Teddi, who passed away from a brain tumor.

Independent Health, headquartered in Amherst, is a recipient of this year's Independent Professional Review Organization 2008 Quality Award. IPRO is New York state's Medicare Quality Improvement Organization, and the award recognizes a commitment to improving health care services.