Dear Patient,

I'd like to start this newsletter off with a hilarious story about hundreds of politicians buried to their necks in a tragic but funny mishap during a tour at a manure-packaging facility. But we're all still waiting (hoping) for that to happen so...

Instead I'd like to lead off with a quote that made quite an impression on me when I first heard it. I've found it to be true, and I've incorporated it into my overall philosophy. The message is positive and reinforces the idea that serving other people will bring to you that which you desire. Of course, what one person desires (wealth and riches) may vary wildly from what another (friends and a loving family) might want. Either way, it seems the following idea will get you there:

"You can get whatever you want in life, if you help enough people get what they want."

On the other hand, I know a guy who seems to believe that "no good deed goes unpunished". This type of outlook just doesn't fire me up. It isn't any fun to believe that your good work goes completely unrewarded and recently something happened to me to suggest that it isn't true either. After that I promise to broach some highly anticipated dental topics such as: Invisalign, the hugely popular invisible orthodontics (now with free in-office teeth whitening), implants for dentures and an interesting true story of one patient's childhood attempt to disguise cavities prior to his dental checkup.

When it was announced that Billy Joel was coming to town I couldn't wait to get my tickets online to see the "Piano Man" live. The tickets were not close to the stage but the Qwest Center is a nice venue so I was sure we'd enjoy ourselves. On the day of the concert (about 2 hours before the concert to be exact) my sister calls to tell me she is thinking of trying to find a ticket if I'd like to buy her an early birthday present. Deciding to really push the envelope of good will, I told her to buy 2 tickets online with my check card if she could find them and to take our mother (Mother's Day present). My sister finds (somehow) 2 tickets at face value (I don't understand how this is even possible since the show has been sold out for months). We walk to the Qwest Center and separately to go to our seats. My seats are so high up that I nearly have an anxiety attack and not only does Billy look like an ant from where I sit, but I even have to hunch down in my seat to see the big screen monitor as my view of that is partially obstructed by the ceiling lights and such. The only way we could have been further away would have been to sit outside on a window-washing scaffolding. As we prepare to make the best of it, my sister sends me a text message on my cell phone that her seats are so close to the stage (only 20 feet away!) that she can clearly see Billy's receding hairline. And that there are some empty seats next to her and that my wife and I should come down from the roof and join her!!!! We did just that and saw the show of our lives! Billy hit every high note with gusto and showed that at 57 he hasn't lost one iota of his ability to tickle the ivories.

Perhaps it was karma. On my favorite TV show, "My Name is Earl", Earl says simply: "Do good things and good things will happen to you." I'd like to think that. Makes me want to do more good things.

Next up: someone, who shall remain nameless, recently admitted to me that when he was a child in the 50's he attempted to cover any dark spot on his teeth with little bits of marshmallows before a visit to the dentist in order for it to appear as though he had no cavities. I hope I'm not giving anyone out there any ideas but this was just too funny not to pass on. I can only imagine what his puzzled dentist thought as he gazed at the little marshmallow balls stuck on the kid's teeth. I wonder it they were white marshmallows or the multi-colored kind?

Finally, we are now offering Invisalign as a treatment for correcting crowded, crooked teeth or teeth with spacing. I plan on correcting my David Letterman space with Invisalign. I will need to wear this thin, clear plastic cover over my teeth for a few months to move them back into the position they were in when my braces first came off when I was 16. If you are interested in Invisalign, give us a call for an evaluation during the months of May and June. We may need to take some impressions and some photos of your teeth and a panographic x-ray. There is more information online at Invisalign.com.

With school ending now is a good time to schedule an appointment for kids before they get too busy with summer activities. Teenagers with wisdom teeth extractions might want to be scheduled soon.

For patients that have problems keeping a lower denture in place I would highly recommend implants to snap the denture onto for a secure hold. I've worked with some patients who have gone this route with great success and swear by their new level of comfort and security. Often we can simply retrofit an existing denture to over the implants. We work with a couple of top-notch oral surgeons who place the implants. Implants are not some far-out treatment option. They are for real, they are successful long-term and they are here to stay. If you've ever thought about it-go for it!

Well, I hope everyone has a safe and fun summer. See you for your next visit! By the way if anyone has any reserved College World Series tickets that they can't use please let me know, I have some family in town that week that have never been.

Yours,

Dr. Foix

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