

Ban R. Barbat DDS-PC

Dr. Ban R. Barbat

Where Lasting  
Smiles BeginPractice  
Update

6044 24-Mile Road, Shelby Township MI 48316 • (586) 739-2155 • WhereLastingSmilesBegin.com

She'll Never Really Retire,  
*Nor Will Her Smile!*

**A**fter Joanne Sockwell 'retired' as the Deputy of Operations at a Detroit State Prison, she began as Director of Administration for the Wayne County Health Department. After six months, she 'retired again' and completed training to get her real estate license. Now as a Real Estate broker, she trains others in the field while staying highly involved in her church. In both roles, she finds herself frequently speaking to groups or in close situations. This requires confidence and a confident smile.

You'd never know it now, but when Joanne was 27, she was in an auto accident that caused her to lose her teeth. She was fitted for dentures and wore them day and night. The constant pressure this places on the jaw bone typically causes the bone to shrink, or 'resorb.' This is what causes dentures that once fit securely to begin to slip.

help much. Eating becomes difficult and most are forced to eat soft foods that dissolve easily in the mouth.

Although Joanne had not experienced bone loss, she wanted a more secure fitting denture. She found she had to keep a tube of denture adhesive in her purse. Not only was she trying to keep her denture secure, she was trying to prevent food from getting underneath. Another frustration was trying not to yawn in public, since her lower denture would lift up when she did.

At age 66, Joanne had been contemplating dental implants for 7 or 8 years. One day, she saw Dr. Ban Barbat's ad in the newspaper and contacted her. "She called me on a Saturday, which impressed me," Joanne stated. After meeting, Joanne learned the process and felt very comfortable proceeding.

Now, with dental implants securing her lower denture, Joanne has the ability

to eat everything she wants. "I can eat apples, nuts, peanut brittle and salad. And, I can chew better. Being able to chew things I couldn't chew well before helps me to eat healthier," shares Joanne.

From years in a career where interacting with others was an important part of her job, Joanne adds, "Patient relationships are almost like family relationships. You build those relationships. The people at Dr. Barbat's office treat you like family. They are compassionate, very professional and always treat you courteously."

Joanne now enjoys eating comfortably, speaks confidently and laughs without worry. And, her purse no longer contains denture adhesive! Joanne is not about to slow down and her smile shows it!

**To overcome the frustrations of an ill-fitting denture or partial, call (586) 739-2155 for a free consultation with Dr. Barbat. She'll gladly answer your questions and discuss the options that are best for your individual needs.**

DENTAL LASER CAN REPAIR  
'GUMMY' SMILE

**W**hen someone smiles and shows too much gum above the upper teeth, this is referred to as a "gummy smile." Many with this often 'hold back' rather than smile fully or cover their mouths when smiling or laughing.

Repairing a gummy smile is through gum recontouring called a *gingivectomy*. This removes excess tissue around the teeth.

Because Dr. Barbat uses a dental laser to repair and recontour gum tissue, she can correct a gummy smile quickly and without sutures (*stitches*).

The laser also seals the tissue

as it works, so bleeding is either eliminated or minimal. Recovery time is typically a week or less.

Once the tissue has been removed, most people want to enhance the appearance of their teeth with porcelain veneers or crowns. This completes their new smile with a beautiful line, shade and shape of teeth.

If you know someone with a gummy smile, suggest they call (586) 739-2155 for a no-cost consultation. Dr. Barbat will be happy to answer questions and discuss the specifics of treatment during that time.

## Staff Spotlight On

Christal,  
Registered Dental AssistantChristal &  
husband Peter**Years with Dr. Barbat:** Nine**Native of:** Michigan**School:** Superior Medical Education/EMT  
& Dental Radiology Center**Enjoys most about her position:** "Working in an office that is contemporary and on the cutting edge of dentistry."**Favorite Food:** Tabouleh**Favorite Movie:** Ties between "Mrs. Doubtfire," "The Notebook" and "Fireproof"**Favorite Book:** Journey To Integrity**Best trip:** Recent honeymoon cruise to Bahamas!

## Dealing With Snoring And Sleep Apnea

It may seem humorous in cartoons but heavy snoring can be a symptom of a serious problem: Sleep Apnea. More than 12 million Americans suffer from Sleep Apnea. It's estimated that 10 million more have it and don't even realize it.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention reports that sufferers characteristically make periodic gasping or "snorting" noises, during which their sleep is interrupted. At the initial onset of the condition, the patient may be absolutely quiet and not make any sounds even though they are having episodes of Sleep Apnea.

This can occur over and over during the night, eventually leading to excessive daytime sleepiness and posing serious health implications. It has been linked to obesity, heart disease and other illnesses.

One common cause is TMJ (jaw joint) disorder, or TMD, which can also cause headaches, including migraines, neck, back and shoulder pain, ringing ears, jaw popping and tingling fingers.

TMJ disorder stems from a bad bite, meaning upper and lower teeth don't close together correctly, causing strain to head and neck muscles.

Fortunately TMD and Sleep Apnea are treatable by specially-trained Neuromuscular Dentists such as Dr. Barbat. Less than 5% of the world's dentists are trained in Neuromuscular Dentistry.

Using advanced technology, she provides a comprehensive evaluation that includes measuring the strain on jaw muscles. Through computer analysis, Dr. Barbat is then able to locate your jaw's most comfortable resting position.

Once the new jaw position is found, Dr. Barbat can custom-fit you with a small, comfortable mouthpiece for sleeping or place crowns and veneers to make this new sleep-enhancing jaw position permanent.

If you know a heavy snorer or one who suffers with Sleep Apnea symptoms, arrange a time to discuss this effective process designed to get you to restful sleep.

THIS OFFICE  
Has Staying POWER!

Imagine working with the same Dentist for over a decade (or nearly 15 years), and loving it! That's the case with 6 of Dr. Barbat's staff with another 4 staff on board for over 7 years!

There are 12 staff members who support Dr. Barbat with only 2 who have less than 3 years' longevity. What keeps team members so happy at a dental office? Dr. Barbat credits it to "respect for our patients, each other, and the quality of care we deliver."

Robin, a Hygienist with over 14 years of longevity, adds, "We all think of one another like family and feel the same about our patients. We're given opportunities to grow through continuing education courses and training in new technology. As far as a dental practice, we feel this is an ideal environment!"

Where Did  
2011 Go...!!

It's September, and patients are already discussing treatment they'd like to complete before the year's end. Many wish to use dental insurance coverage and some want procedures performed during year-end vacation time.

Let us help you maximize your insurance benefits for the treatment you desire through proper scheduling!

If you are considering treatment, **NOW is the best time to discuss** your procedure so adequate treatment time can be scheduled.

SEND A FRIEND'S SMILE!



Dr. Barbat is always happy to accept new patients and especially appreciative when patients send friends, co-workers and family members. Feel free to suggest others call us or visit our website: [WhereLastingSmilesBegin.com](http://WhereLastingSmilesBegin.com). Thank You!

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