

# “People are noticing” her perfect smile

Stephen G. Blank, DDS

After traveling back and forth between her home in Toronto and her parents’ home in Florida for over 20 years, middle school teacher Grace Duvelsdorf moved to Port St. Lucie full time in 2003.

“Soon after the move I had a problem with one of my teeth,” Grace confides, “and I didn’t have a dentist. Because Dr. Blank’s office was right around the corner from me, I scheduled an appointment, and I’ve been going to him ever since.”

Stephen G. Blank, DDS, practices cosmetic and functional dentistry in Port St. Lucie.

“Initially, Dr. Blank did some functional work on my teeth and gums. Then we be-

gan discussing my mouth from a cosmetic perspective. My teeth were crooked and had yellowed over time, and some of them had bonding so we couldn’t do a whitening process.”

Bonding is a composite resin filling sometimes used to cover flaws and repair cavities.

“Grace came to us with teeth that were discolored, rotated, and there were spaces between her teeth where the gums had receded,” remembers Dr. Blank. “They were showing signs of wear and weren’t appearing as attractive as she wanted them to look.”

“We discussed my *perfect smile*,” reflects Grace. “Dr. Blank explained everything thoroughly; he laid it all out for me.”

FHCN photo by Nerissa Johnson



Photos courtesy of Dr. Blank

laminates bonded to the front of the teeth.

“Grace left our office with resin temporaries that looked beautiful, just like her new teeth were going to look,” says Dr. Blank.

“I actually had to go to a conference in New York while wearing my temporaries,” admits Grace, “and everything worked out fine. I even had a colleague tell me my teeth looked absolutely beautiful.”

“On the third visit, we were able to bond all the porcelain restorations to Grace’s teeth,” recounts Dr. Blank.

“Everyone’s been complimenting me on how good I look, but they don’t know exactly what I’ve done,” Grace notes with a laugh. “Some of them have said, *What is it that’s different?*”

“I’m getting compliments from my associates, my colleagues, and even my own family, so people are noticing. It’s obvious that something has changed.

“And my husband, Jack, thinks they look fabulous.”

FHCN—Kris Kline

## For that healthy smile ...

Dr. Blank and his staff look forward to meeting the readers of Florida Health Care News. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call (772) 878-7348. His office is located at 184 N.W. Central Park Plaza in Port St. Lucie.

## Great results

“We were able to complete Grace’s smile makeover in just three visits,” observes Dr. Blank. “On the first visit, we do all of our smile design. We plan for the size of the teeth, their shape, coloring, and any other aesthetic concerns that will help meet our patient’s goals.”

Mindful of the patient’s expectations, Dr. Blank chooses his cosmetic dentistry procedures and methods carefully. He takes

his time in evaluating both the patient’s dental condition and how the new smile will fit with other facial features.

On the second visit, a *wax-up*, a wax model of how the enhanced or repaired teeth will look, is completed by the laboratory. It is used to make any necessary changes before the lab proceeds to make the patient’s new “teeth,” which in Grace’s case were porcelain veneers. Veneers are specially made thin porcelain shells or



Stephen G. Blank, DDS, is a graduate of Northwestern University Dental School in Chicago. He has since completed intensive continuing education studies, and he and his dental team have completed the Dental Organization for Conscious Sedation program. Dr. Blank has taught continuing education courses for dentists, dental assistants, and hygienists in conjunction with Indian River

Community College’s Dental Science department, and he is a facilitator/mentor with the Dental Boot Kamp program and a supporter of the Smiles for Life Foundation. Dr. Blank enjoys teaching dental teams around the country.

Dr. Blank invites you to visit his website at [www.PSLDENTIST.com](http://www.PSLDENTIST.com).

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