## **HEALTH & FITNESS**

## Dr. Cooke is known for creating attractive, lasting smiles

## **Christina Macone-Greene**

Special to the Village News

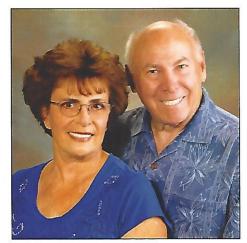
For more than 35 years, Clayton Cooke, D.D.S., has provided patients with state-of-the-art dentistry coupled with extraordinary human compassion. Specializing in restoration and oral function, Cooke offers dental excellence through a blend of technical precision and wonderful patient care.

His advanced education and innate handeye coordination has enabled Cooke to raise restorative dentistry to a whole new level.

"I've been very fortunate to have had some wonderful education and continued education over the years," Cooke said.

Remaining on the cutting edge has always been a top priority for this professional. Even back in the 1970s, Cooke had close professional relationships with the top practitioners of dental implantology.

During the course of his career, he has placed over 500 dental implants. From that number, Cooke said, over 90 percent of them are still in place today.



Ellen and Joe Indelicato show off the smiles made possible by the work of their dentist, Dr. Clayton Cooke.

"Our patients have had great results," Cooke said. "We have taken them from having a handicapped mouth to the point where they can feel whole again by smiling and chewing comfortably."

For patients Joe and Ellen Indelicato, their dental restorative work changed their lives.

"My wife and I are so pleased with the dental work that we had," Joe Indelicato said. "We enjoy eating now and we smile a lot more because we are not ashamed of our teeth."

This type of positive feedback moves Cooke each and every time.

"I get this remarkable feeling that what I have done for my patients will help them for a lifetime, because most of the things that we do here will last a very long time," he said.

Cooke's practice offers quality comprehensive dental care. For new patients, this involves an informative dental health interview with Cooke, followed by a swift and comfortable intra-oral camera exam. A nearby closed-circuit television allows patients to watch their own "mouth tour." This analysis provides patients with the answers they need regarding the overall health of their gums, teeth and existing restorations.

Also inspected is the patient's dental function and mechanics of his or her bite and chewing motion. An improper bite and alignment, Cooke said, can lead to dental clenching and grinding, Temporomandibular Joint Dysfunction (TMJ), headaches and even earaches.

Cooke offers individuals various choices in how to achieve better dental health. Through attentive listening and communication, he focuses on the true needs of his patients.

In dental restoration, Cooke said, accuracy is imperative. Cooke reaches this by utilizing high magnification for procedures, high definition impression materials and quality products while only using regarded laboratories.

"When our restorations come back from the lab, we inspect them before our patient is seen," Cooke said.

A methodical process, Cooke checks and rechecks a patient's bite, chewing system



Clayton Cooke, DDS

function, and of course, comfort. These ingredients add to the longevity of dental restorations.

Cooke's patients reside throughout California and across state lines. Many patients have sought out Cooke's expertise when other dentists turned them away.

"The challenge of the work that I do is uniquely different," he said. "There's a lot that goes into it."

Cooke attributes the success of his practice to his compassionate and attentive staff. They include Diane Furtak, Rhonda McGowan, Noreen Busby and Trish Villegas.

Recently, Cooke added another benefit to his office in bringing aboard Chris Herman, D.D.S. who specializes in children's dentistry.

"He is a wonderful dentist and great communicator," Cooke said.

Cooke said he feels fortunate to work in Fallbrook and is very appreciative of the support he has received from members of the community.

The Fallbrook office of Clayton Cooke, D.D.S., is located at 425 East Alvarado Street, Suite A and can be reached at (760) 728-5011.