

Terrace Bay - Schreiber

NEWS

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SERVING TERRACE BAY, SCHREIBER, ROSSPORT & JACKFISH LAKE

Schreiber dental clinic re-opens for business this week

By Dave Chmara

Two dentists have taken over the Schreiber Dental Office practice of Dr. Kearns.

Garth Sweetnam and Alice Jackes, began the full-time operation last Monday, Oct. 30. Because of legal reasons, the name of the practice has been changed to Mountainview Dental.

The husband and wife team moved to Schreiber from Toronto on Oct. 15 and have been busy ever since arranging financing, finding a place to live until their home is ready to move into, meeting with their accountant and lawyer, taking out insurance for the practice and their home, notifying people of their address change, contacting dental supply distributors and meeting with a realtor to look for a house.

As with the new doctors in Terrace Bay and Schreiber, Sweetnam and Jackes have discovered one of the first questions people are asking them is "How long do you plan to stay?"

Well, the couple said they plan to live here a long time and intend to raise their family here. Sweetnam and Jackes have no children yet so that should give some indication as to how long they'll be sticking around.

One reason they came to Schreiber is because they know there's a demand for a full-time dentist. The other reason is because they love this area and are both outdoor oriented people.

Sweetnam enjoys playing hockey, fastball and is a self-proclaimed fishing fanatic.

Jackes likes to play tennis, go hiking and fish (her husband bought her a fishing rod for her last birthday).

Their dental practice will operate full-time Monday to Thursday. Office hours Monday and Tuesdays are from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Wednesday and Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30

p.m. Sweetnam and Jackes will also be available for emergency appointments as well.

Bookings for appointments are filling up quickly and Sweetnam said, "from all indications it appears we'll be quite busy."

While Sweetnam specializes with children, Jackes' specialty is gum disease and in the future she may perform minor orthodontic work.

Prior to moving to Schreiber, the couple worked in Toronto for about one year. Sweetnam worked from 9 a.m. to 12 noon at the Hospital for Sick Children. Then, from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. he worked at two other offices.

Jackes meanwhile, worked at the Toronto General Hospital. The two have also worked in the Sioux Lookout area on Indian Reserves.

Jackes decided to use her maiden name in her profession for a couple of reasons. First, it was her name when she graduated, and second, she said it presents less problems when patients call for Dr. Sweetnam. By using her maiden name the receptionist, Marie Fortier (who also worked for Dr. Kearns), won't have to keep asking if it's Mr. or Mrs. Sweetnam.

Patients will be randomly allocated to the two dentists unless a patient has a preference for one or the other.

Sweetnam and Jackes both said they want to become involved in the community but this involvement will have to wait a while until they are settled in to their new home and practice.

The couple is also willing to promote public education, especially in the schools.

Besides this, they also plan to continually upgrade their skills by attending day-long or weekend workshops and courses which will inform them on the latest technology in dentistry.



Alice Jackes and Garth Sweetnam are the two new dentists in Schreiber. They arrived here in mid-October and have been busy ever since in setting-up their dental practice. The husband and wife couple said they plan to stay in Schreiber a long time and said they plan to raise their family here.

Photo by Dave Chmara



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