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Dental Update
by Dr. Richard Thompson

INCORRECTLY PEGGED FROM THE BEGINNING

So-called "peg laterals" are small, cone-shaped teeth that develop on either side of the top two front teeth. These undersized teeth appear to be "baby teeth" surrounded by larger permanent teeth. As a result, the smile looks unbalanced. Fortunately, your dentist can restore peg laterals to the size of normally developed incisors by building them up with composite material. This tooth-colored resin restoration requires no anesthetic and can be accomplished in one visit. After the dentist acid-etches the tooth's enamel so it can properly accept the resin, layer upon layer of resin is applied to the tooth. After the composite material cures properly, the augmented tooth is shaped and polished. The result compares favorably with surrounding natural teeth.

Composite resin restorations and other advances in cosmetic dentistry make it harder than ever to tell the difference between what's natural and what's not. They also make it easier than ever to smile with confidence. This column is prepared as a public service to help our Ocean Springs family and friends become aware of and better understand modern dentistry and the power of a healthy smile. If you would like more information on any of our topics or an appointment, please call THOMPSON FAMILY DENTAL at 828-7755. Our office is located at 22 Ocean Blvd., Suite 1, Del Ray Beach. Open Monday-Thursday 8am-5pm, Friday by appointment only.

*The Red Cross Blood Drive will be at the High School this week, 10-5.
P.S. A peg lateral incisor may be augmented with a crown.*

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