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CASH FOR CANDY

Local Dentist Takes a Stand Against Sweets this Halloween

Vancouver, Washington

One area dental office is redefining the phrase "put your money where your mouth is." This Halloween, trick-or-treaters can bring their excess candy to Dentus Dental Center in Orchards and receive \$1 per pound. Dr. Jacqueline Angell and Dr. Kirk Shillinger are leading this anti-decay movement by giving away dollars and toothbrushes in exchange for cavity-provoking candy. Dr. Jacqueline Angell says "We feel very strongly that this is a great program, which is why we are inviting the public to participate, instead of just our patients."

"We're not saying don't eat candy. That's not realistic. What is realistic is for kids to enjoy some of their favorite candy, and then donate the rest. Visiting your dentist twice a year and brushing daily are great preventative measures, but doing away with excess sweets would really give your teeth a healthy boost," says Dr. Kirk Shillinger from Dentus Dental Center. "Kids can still have all of the fun of trick-or-treating, nobody wants to give that up, but now their piggy banks will benefit as well. Plus, the kids will get to be involved in doing something positive for our troops overseas." Candy will be boxed and shipped to Operation Gratitude, which delivers 100,000's of packages each year to service members who are away from their families.

Global sugar consumption for children increases by about 2% annually and currently sits at 50 million tons per year, which means parents need to be sure their kids teeth are being cared for more than ever. Dr. Jacqueline Angell says "Candy, as well as hurting children's teeth, can lead to hyperactivity and contributes to childhood obesity, a growing problem in our country. In some cases, the wrong types of candy can also lead to broken teeth and damaged braces."

Candy will be collected at Dentus Dental Center on Monday, November 2nd from 4:00pm to 7:00pm. We welcome Halloween costumes if your child would like to dress up. The candy must be unopened with no bites. It will then be boxed and shipped to Operation Gratitude.

Dr. Jacqueline Angell and Dr. Kirk Shillinger are practicing at Dentus Dental Center, 11100 N.E. Coxley Drive, Vancouver, Washington 98662. Our office emphasizes family dental care as well as cosmetic procedures. We are available to provide more information at 360-254-9700, or visit Dentus Dental Center on-line at www.dentus.com