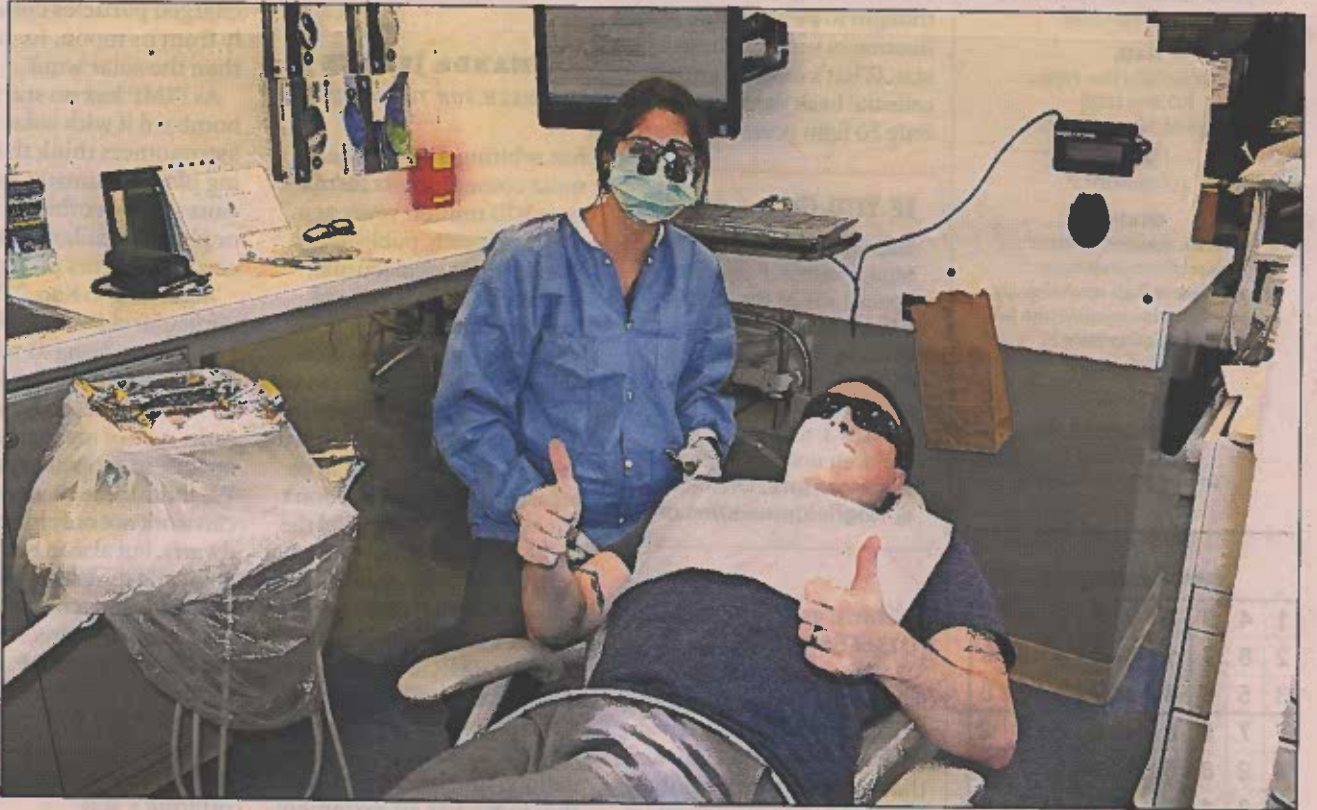


The Republican. PLUS

MASS LIVE



Student Sage Wilcox and a patient in the dental hygiene clinic at Springfield Technical Community College. STCC, in conjunction with the Valley District Dental Society will co-host the second Community Dental Day on Oct. 27.

SPRINGFIELD

STCC helps create healthy smiles

Springfield Technical Community College's dental hygiene program and the Valley District Dental Society will co-host the second Community Dental Day on Oct. 27.

The event provides an opportunity for area residents who might not be receiving any dental care to obtain free treatment and schedule follow-up visits.

The dental hygiene and dental clinics in Building 20 at STCC will be open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Oct. 27. Valley District Dental Society licensed dentists, together with STCC dental hygiene and assisting students, will offer patients education, health screenings, diagnosis, X-rays and other types of urgent care.

"It will not be unlimited care, but

there will be such treatment as fillings, extractions, sealants and taking care of urgent issues," said Dr. Martin A. Wohl, one of the dentists who supervises students treating patients at STCC. "We will not provide cleanings, but in diagnosing that someone needs a cleaning, we will be able to schedule a follow-up visit. We will be able to put them into the system to get routine cleanings."

While Community Dental Day will be free, patients can return to STCC for low-cost follow-up care. STCC's dental hygiene clinic on the second

floor of Building 20 offers routine cleanings and various procedures at a reduced cost to residents of the Greater Springfield area. Seventeen dental chairs are set up in an effective and inviting floor plan.

"We're excited about Community Dental Day," Wohl said. "We had a wonderful response last time. The doctors feel they can again provide a valuable service, and they can help people that generally can't find the care they seek. We hope Community Dental Day will get people to start thinking about making either here or elsewhere as a dental home."

STCC president John B. Cook said the college is proud to join the Valley

SEE SMILES. PAGE P4

Smiles

CONTINUED FROM PAGE P1

District Dental Society in hosting the event.

"This is a terrific opportunity for our dental hygiene students to get hands-on experience working with area dentists," Cook said. "I know the students genuinely enjoy helping people get the care they need. They look forward to participating in Community Dental Day."

STCC will welcome anyone who needs care that day, but Wohl recommends contacting the dental hygiene clinic in advance to make an appointment for Community Dental Day. Call 413-755-4900 for an appointment.



Student Sage Wilcox treats a patient in the dental hygiene clinic at STCC.