

Local expertise offers something extra

New procedures and technologies are hitting the market and becoming more readily available and financially affordable to the general population. There's no need to wait for that call from the "Extreme Make-Over" program any longer. It takes a mammoth commitment to be among the best in cosmetic procedures. Each of the professionals interviewed agree that continuing education is a must but it also requires "something more." When asked about what they appreciate about their respective fields, here is what some of our local experts had to say. What is consistent is the pride and passion each reveal for their chosen profession. Several of our experts are Allen County natives and have kept their practice close to home.

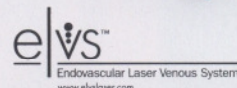
- "I enjoy working with my patients to get an idea of what they want and how to achieve it, then showing results before and after." Thomas Herendeen, MD, Facial Plastic Surgery (Allen County native, attended Leo High School)
- "Many people stand all day at their jobs. Often I hear a patient say that they wish they had sought treatment for varicose veins sooner. So the effects of what I do not only helps my patients cosmetically, it helps them medically, as well." Marcus Jimenez, MD, Indiana Vein Center (Fort Wayne native, attended Carroll High School)
- "There is always a challenge to face — day-to-day variety. It's a specialty area requiring quick-mindedness and problem solving skills. I love the artistic piece of the profession." Geoffrey Randolph, MD, Summit Plastic Surgery

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- I know that I make people better. It's not like with diabetes or hypertension where they might feel the same after treatment. They feel better and know that they are better." Jeffrey Sassmanshausen, Three Rivers Dermatology (Fort Wayne native, attended Concordia High School)

- "I feel I'm a true artist. Having the 'artistic eye' is something that can't be taught. It's a gift." Robert Severinac, MD, Indiana Plastic Surgery Center

- "I love being able to make a difference in people's lives. I search for hidden smiles. The new technologies are wonderful. We've learned that a smile can change a life. That's what I do." Thomas Teel, DDS, Family Dentistry & Aesthetics, Inc. (Fort Wayne native, attended Snider High School)

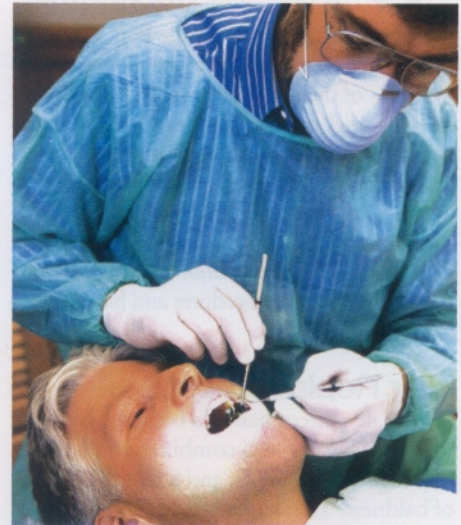
- "It's important that every client feels that a procedure is being done with them not to them. I love to hear how good it makes women feel about themselves to wake up beautiful each morning." Lillian Wollman, licensed aesthetician and make-up artist.

Looking Good with surgery and beyond

With all this said, a word of advice. Before making an appointment with a plastic surgeon or physician, cosmetic dentist, dermatologist or aesthetician, consider this: Elective cosmetic surgery is for healthy people. It is not designed to be a miracle in the making ... the miracle has already occurred. We are indeed wondrously made. Whether to seek cosmetic help along the way is a personal choice. Keep in mind that the availability of cosmetic surgery in no way replaces the need to live a healthy lifestyle. In order to keep a vibrant, youthful appearance, remember the basics. Guard your health — maintain good nutrition, hydration, skin care, avoid irritants and excessive sun exposure. Be hesitant to undergo any type of cosmetic surgery if you are not committed

enough to do your part as well. Fort Wayne is blessed with the talent of fine physicians. And they will advise you to do what is in your power to maintain health — both mind and body — from the inside out. Let beauty shine from within. That's the best form of rejuvenation.

Remember, even the perhaps not-so-lovely Cleopatra captured Marc Antony's heart with her ambition, charm and intelligence ... and perhaps a nose for nobility!



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