

# IN OUR TOWNS

## HYGIENIST OPENS UP, AND STUDENT OPENS WIDE



**DENTAL HYGIENIST** Sally Ann Woltowitz shows Daniel Mandigo, 9, the suction tube she uses while sealing teeth during a visit Wednesday morning at Lawrence Elementary School in Middletown. Woltowitz works for Community Health Center, which helps to serve mothers and students from 1 to 19 years old at 15 schools throughout Middletown and Clinton. The program began in April.

JOHN WOIKE / THE HARTFORD COURANT

# City, state open wide to 'Give Kids a Smile'

By Joseph Wenzel IV  
Special Staff

MIDDLETOWN — The topic on everyone's mouth at a legislative breakfast last week was how to ensure healthy smiles for children in the state.

City officials, school instructors, dentists, lawyers and state legislators came together to celebrate Give Kids a Smile Day on Friday when the Middlesex County Miles of Smiles Program sponsored a legislative breakfast to talk about issues involving children and dental care.

The purpose of the breakfast was to bring more attention to the issue of uninsured children not having dental care and ways to get these children more help.

"We need to make sure our kids don't suffer for another year," said Mary Milkovic, executive director of Community Health Center Inc. "This is a critical issue, we need to stay involved."

Miles of Smiles provided

## City

## Briefs

C O N T R I B U T I O N S



The English Tea Garden

& Gift Shop...

Is fortunate to welcome

10 new artists from the Front Porch Gift Shop in Mendon.

We now offer Candles,



Cassie Hines, 4, an old pro, asked for sunglasses and opened wide for hygienist Sally Wolkowitz Friday at Vinnie's Jump and Jive in Middletown for Give Kids a Smile Day.

Red Hen Special to The Press

documentation that "children who have mouth pain often miss more days of school than other children." It added that many of the problems are "completely preventable."

"People don't think of oral health as part of regular health care, but why shouldn't it be?" asked Middletown Mayor Sebastian N. Giuliano.

The mayor told the support-

ers to keep up the good fight. "Your dental health determines your overall health," Giuliano said. "If you keep pushing it (legislation), it will happen."

The day also allowed children to get free dental checkups at Vinnie's Jump and Jive and at local dentists' offices. Kids were able to get a clean bill and a free checkup.

Miles of Smiles, a traveling dental program, was also present. The program works with kids from birth to 19 who do not have a regular dentist. Not only does Miles of Smiles treat kids, it helps the kids find a dentist and access HUSKY dental insurance.

Melanie Wilde, program manager of Miles of Smiles, said that people could contact

**Miles of Smiles already visited these schools:**  
Farm Hill School  
YVCA Middletown preschool program  
Lawrence School  
Middletown WIC  
Spencer School  
Kelgwin School  
Bretfield School  
Wesley School

**Miles of Smiles will visit the following schools:**  
Feb. 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 15  
Wilson School  
Feb. 20, 21, 22, March 6, 7, 8, 27, 28, 29, April 17, 18, 19  
Middletown WIC  
March 20, 21, 22, Moody School  
April 3, 4, 5, Snow School

## Middletown arrests

BREACH OF PEACE — Edibardo B. Velasco, 38, of 203 Pearl St., was charged with second-degree breach of

peace and interfering with a police officer.

LARCENY — Derek J. Perrino,

23, of 1189 Washington St., was charged with sixth-degree larceny.

LARCENY — Kathryn Sanserivo, 18, of 109 Bella

DUI and traveling too fast for conditions.

THREATENING — Nadine Whittington, 41, of 1001 Old