

Health & Beauty Profile

By Julie Jacobs, Photo by Dan Epstein

FACE FIRST

Local Surgeon Changes Looks and Lives

Cosmetic surgeon Janet M. Neigel, MD, FACS, recalls one of her most memorable cases. A woman from India, extremely self-conscious about her appearance, traveled to see Dr. Neigel for laser hair removal. Following the initial consultation, she treated the woman over several sessions and employed a bleaching technique to remove facial brown spots. Soon afterward, the woman's "confidence increased so dramatically that she started her own business, got married and had

children." Dr. Neigel says she has seen many cases like this. "The Neigel Center for Cosmetic and Laser Surgery has a reputation for providing the best care in the region, and we have a wide range of services that will help you feel good about your appearance and aesthetic issues. In cosmetic procedures, we include the eyes and face, as well as the many advanced technologies we use—including the NASA-developed GentleMax device that uses light-emitting diodes to stimulate collagen production and reduce wrinkles. Not to mention her 25 years of experience in the field, her patients who come from around the world, and her own reality."

"I've seen my first wrinkles, so I can relate," she chuckles. "As I've aged, I've come to share the same concerns as my patients."

The only physician in her family, Dr. Neigel always had an interest in science. She trained in ophthalmology while at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ), where she also was exposed to dermatology and ENT, ears, nose and throat. Her postgraduate training included research and clinical fellowships in orbital surgery and oculoplastics at the University of British Columbia with the world's leading orbital specialists.

She opened her practice, The Neigel Center for Cosmetic and Laser Surgery, in West Orange in 1996. Today she also maintains satellite offices in Morristown and Jersey City, conducts "house calls" in Manhattan, and serves as Clinical Associate Professor of Ophthalmology at UMDNJ/New Jersey Medical School. Her mission remains steadfast: To restore youth as safely and naturally as possible and help her patients regain their self-confidence.

The services she offers are vast and comprehensive—from non-invasive cosmetic procedures like Botox and other fillers, to cosmetic surgical procedures like breast lifts and tummy tucks, to non-cosmetic surgery on the eye area following trauma. Additionally, she utilizes lasers to remove unwanted hair and veins, remove moles and dilate



Janet M. Neigel, MD, FACS

skin and treat other eyelid and facial issues. The Neigel Center also provides spa services, provided by highly skilled estheticians to address such issues as sagging skin, acne, hyperpigmentation and sun damage.

On the industry's continuous advances, she remarks, "A lot of new technology comes along, but you have to be smart about it. We don't jump on any bandwagon right away. I wouldn't conduct any treatment on a patient that I wouldn't first try on myself."

Upward of 85% of her patients are women, most ages 35 to 65. While she says they have become better informed about cosmetic surgery, she looks to further educate them and the public at large through open houses that The Neigel Center hosts several times a year at the West Orange office. Attendees have the opportunity to speak with physician and staff and see treatment demonstrations.

"I love making people look better and feel better about themselves," says Dr. Neigel. "I can't tell you how many hugs I get in a day!"

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