

STYLE AND SUBSTANCE

Colorful Contemporary Creation

*A Riveting Modern Marvel
Located on the Edge of Peoria*

**Local
Home Accents**
Define Your Personal Style

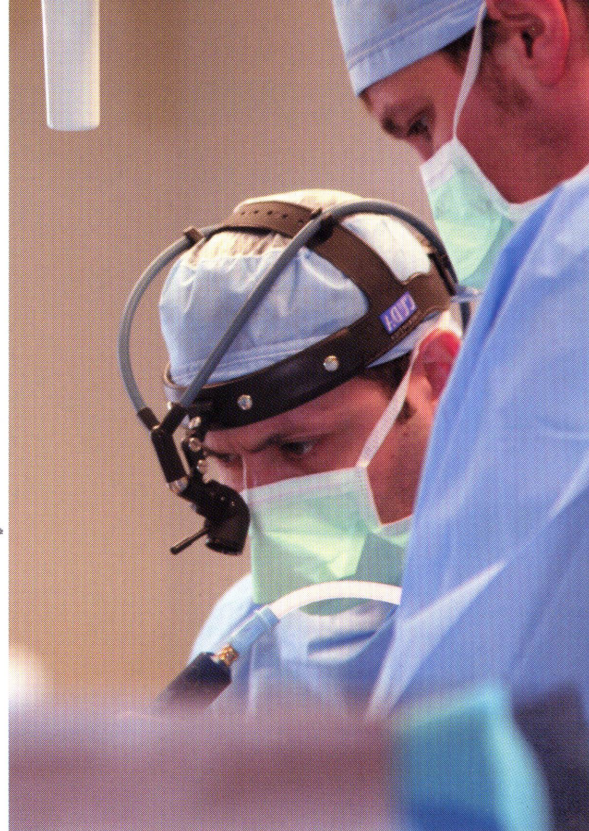
Showcasing
Distinctive
Homes of
Central Illinois

Turn Back the Clock on Aging

Organized by Janelle Martel

Photography by Debbie Ford

Before and After Photos by Nizar Merheb M.D.



Dr. Merheb focuses his attention during a full face lift – one of the many facial cosmetic surgery procedures he performs

Local Doctor Introduces New Laser Treatment for Aging, Sun-Damaged, Acne Scarred Skin and Melasma

Do you suffer from the embarrassment of aging, sun-damaged skin or are you self-conscious about dark pigment spots or wrinkles? Do you want to feel more confident about putting your best face forward? Now there is an innovative new way to turn back the hands of time and do an “about face” on less-than-perfect skin, and it can be accomplished right here in Central Illinois.

Dr. Nizar Merheb M.D. of Facial Cosmetic and Reconstructive Surgery, S.C. in Dunlap, is one of the first Facial Cosmetic surgeons in the country to offer a new aesthetic solution for repairing aging and sun-damaged skin without significant downtime and risks. This newest generation of non-invasive laser technology, called Fraxel® Laser Treatment (FLT), resurfaces skin, treats wrinkles around the eyes and improves skin conditions such as melasma (“the mask of pregnancy”), age spots and sun spots on the face, neck, chest and hands. Fraxel can also effectively treat

and smooth acne scars.

Dr. Merheb reports that the Fraxel laser delivers microbeams in a randomized pattern, which creates microscopic thermal wounds like islands among a sea of healthy tissue, to rejuvenate the skin without creating an extensive burn area. This innovative approach allows the doctor to treat only a small fraction of skin at a time, so it heals much faster than if the entire area was treated at once. In addition, Fraxel spares the top layer of skin, which allows the patient to wear makeup immediately after the treatment.

“The unique ‘fractional’ approach is a huge step forward in providing significant cosmetic results with minimal downtime,” says Dr. Merheb. “This advanced treatment is the first cosmetic laser to provide an effective, gradual procedure that creates new healthy tissue by stimulating the body to naturally repair aging and photo damaged skin without significant risks or recovery time.”

about face

"Fraxel Laser Treatment represents new-generation laser resurfacing with predictable results. It rebuilds damaged skin like digital photo modification – pixel by pixel, spot by spot," says Dr. Merheb, who is the first in the Peoria area to own the advanced laser system and successfully treat many satisfied patients. "Think of your skin as a family portrait or a digital photograph in need of high-quality restoration or touch-up. A painting is delicately restored one small area at a time, just as a photo is digitally altered, one pixel at a time. That's the scientific principle behind Fraxel Laser Treatment."

Safe and effective, the Fraxel laser is cleared by the FDA and has undergone extensive testing in the lab as well as out in the field. Dr. Merheb says that based on his clinical experience, an effective treatment regime generally requires three to five treatment sessions spaced roughly two to four weeks apart.

"In our practice, we have observed great improvements in uneven skin color and wrinkles around the eye area. The treated skin is smooth, soft and fresh. In fact, our patients are so thrilled with how young and attractive they look that their friends and family members are requesting Fraxel Laser Treatment, especially when compared to other invasive treatments that are associated with far more significant side effects," notes Dr. Merheb.

According to Dr. Merheb, other key advantages of Fraxel Laser Treatment (FLT) over traditional invasive laser skin resurfacing include:

- No scalpel or stitches
- No general anesthesia – FLT is well tolerated with a topical anesthetic
- Convenience – the procedure itself takes about 30 minutes in the doctor's office
- High safety and proven effectiveness on the face, neck, chest and hands
- Minimal risk of complications or adverse events
- The ability to treat darker skin types such as Asian or Mediterranean complexions
- Natural, youthful-looking results



An amazing transformation can be seen in the before and after photos of Cindy Foust of East Peoria, who has undergone three Fraxel Laser Treatment sessions performed by Dr. Merheb. Her Fraxel treatments have focused on the large sun damaged areas on the cheekbones, a scar near her jaw, freckling across the forehead area, and fine lines around the lips, eyes and on the forehead, which are visible in the before photo on the top left.

"My results were dramatic and I was very happy immediately following the first treatment," she explains. "Right away I noticed that a lot of the freckling was gone and the sun damage is now so much lighter. Hopefully by my last treatment, it will be gone completely. In addition, the lines on my forehead and near my eyes and lips have gotten a lot smoother." Foust explains that she had her first treatment done on a Friday and was back to work by Monday. With only two more Fraxel treatments to go, Foust is confident about putting her fresh, new younger looking face forward.

Dr. Merheb has a passion for the art and science of facial cosmetic surgery and skin care. Following his graduation from the University of Illinois, he continued his education at Emory University Medical School, where he received his medical degree and general surgical training. He completed his residency in Maxillofacial Surgery at Emory, followed by a high-tech fellowship devoted to Facial Aesthetic Surgery through the American Academy of Cosmetic Surgery, where he is an active member.

As a board certified Cosmetic Surgeon,

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about face



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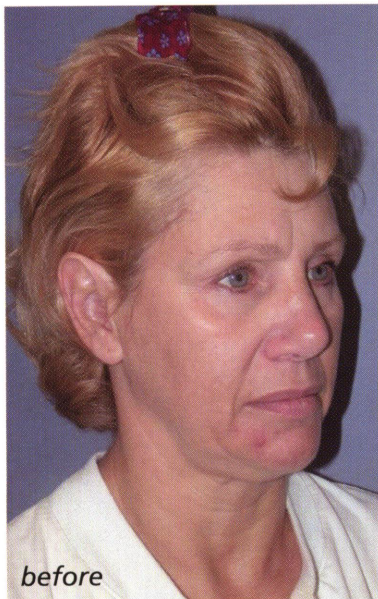
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Dr. Merheb has an appointment to the professional staff at OSF Saint Francis Medical Center, as well as Methodist and Proctor Hospitals, and is also a Clinical Assistant Professor of Surgery for the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria. Dr. Merheb recently moved his practice to a new state-of-the-art facility at 11825 N. Knoxville Avenue in Dunlap, where he routinely and safely performs both facial aesthetic surgery and non-invasive procedures in a private, spa-inspired setting.

In his practice, Dr. Merheb combines the art and science of Cosmetic and Maxillofacial Surgery to provide his patients with complete facial analysis and recommendations for treatments that will achieve beauty, balance and harmony. The broad range of facial cosmetic surgery procedures he offers includes facelifts, eyelid enhancements, lip augmentations, cheek bone implants and neck lifts, just to name a few. In addition, Dr. Merheb offers new patients a complimentary, private consultation.

"Our goal is to achieve a consistent, long lasting, natural, attractive and youthful appearance of the face," Dr. Merheb explains.

Dr. Merheb's on-site medical spa offers a



before



after

In addition to Fraxel Laser Treatments, Dr. Merheb also performs a wide range of facial cosmetic surgery procedures. Approximately two-and-a-half years ago, Marilyn Barton, 52, of East Peoria, had Dr. Merheb perform a brow lift, neck lift and full face lift to address drooping eyelids, excessive folds of skin on the neck and wrinkles on the face. The dramatic differences and improvements can be seen in these photos, taken before and after her surgery

"Having this surgery changed my whole life," she explains. "I felt a lot better about myself when I looked in the mirror, and that motivated me to lose 30 pounds. Having the surgery made me think more about a healthier lifestyle – eating healthy and exercising. In addition, I'm more organized, and I think it all has to do with the way I feel about myself. I have more confidence and self esteem."

comprehensive menu of medical spa services including facials, chemical peels, waxing treatments, photo rejuvenation, active acne treatments, permanent hair reductions, spider vein treatments, medical microdermabrasions, Botox and many others. These spa treatments are designed to rejuvenate, relax and renew the body,

mind and spirit.

For more information about Fraxel Laser Treatment or any of the other facial cosmetic procedures or spa services offered by Dr. Merheb at Facial Cosmetic & Reconstructive Surgery, visit www.myfacemd.com. 