

SPRING 2012



**TOUMA
AUDIOLOGY AND
HEARING AID CENTER,
INC.**

**NEWS &
EVENTS:**

**Hearing Aid
Open House**

Demo high-end hearing aids for FREE for 2 weeks.

No obligation to buy!

Call 304-522-8800 for an appointment to see an audiologist.

**High-End
Hearing Aid
Purchase
Promotion**

Purchase 2 high-end hearing aids and receive a TV/Cell Phone Bluetooth bundle for FREE!
Offer valid while supplies last.

About our Audiology Staff

Happy spring from Touma Audiology and Hearing Aid Center at River Cities ENT! It's getting warmer outside and we would like to invite you to celebrate the warm weather by improving your hearing health and quality of life. At Touma Audiology, we are proud to have our audiology department lead by two Au.D.'s (doctors of audiology) as well as experienced audiology assistants and residents. With the Au.D., a higher level degree, you can be confident that you will receive the excellent diagnostic care and hearing aid expertise that you deserve.

Barb Danford, Au.D. obtained her Doctor of Audiology (Au.D.) from West Virginia University in Morgantown, WV; she also received her bachelors degree from WVU. Dr. Danford is a fellow member of the American Academy of Audiology and has been at River Cities ENT since 2007.

Marie Graziani, Au.D. received her Masters in Audiology from Ohio University in Athens, OH and then her Doctor of Audiology (Au.D.) from Salus University in Elkins Park, PA. Dr. Graziani is a fellow of the American Academy of Audiology and has worked at River Cities ENT since 2007.

Darla Kingery, HIS is a certified Hearing Instrument Specialist has worked at River Cities for over 10 years. Darla preforms a majority of the balance testing as well as assisting with hearing aid services and hearing tests.

Jeanene Booth, CAA is a Certified Audiology Assistant and has been at River Cities ENT for 6 years. Jeanene also assists with balance and hearing tests as well as hearing aid services.

Allison Mester, B.S., is an audiology resident and has been at River Cities since July, 2011. Allison is a Au.D. candidate and will graduate with her Doctor of Audiology from Ohio University in June, 2012.

What is Tinnitus?

- ◆ Tinnitus is the sensation of hearing sounds, such as ringing, roaring, whooshing, chirping, beeping, or buzzing which may vary in intensity, and be constant or intermittent.
- ◆ These sounds are usually inaudible to others and are often accompanied by hearing loss.
- ◆ There are many theories on the cause of tinnitus including:
 - ◆ Noise exposure (repeated exposure to loud noise or exposure to a single very loud impulse sound can damage the sensory cells in the inner ear; once these cells are damaged or destroyed, they cannot be renewed or replaced)
 - ◆ Diseases of the ear (such as Meniere's disease)
 - ◆ Ototoxic drugs (some medications are toxic to the ear)
 - ◆ Presbycusis (hearing loss due to age)
 - ◆ Head and/or neck trauma
- ◆ According to the American Tinnitus Association, tinnitus affects about 50 million people in the US

**If you suffer from tinnitus, whether it is an annoyance or debilitating, *do not lose hope!*
There are many treatments and lifestyle changes that may improve your tinnitus.**

Widex Clear hearing aid with 'Zen' tinnitus programming

The Widex Clear hearing aid with Zen programming was designed *especially* for tinnitus sufferers. The goal of the Clear is to provide amplification to help improve hearing as well as play Zen tones to you relax and pay less attention to your tinnitus. The amplification portion of the hearing aid behaves the same as any hearing aid, amplifying sounds based on each individual's hearing loss to help improve speech understanding. The tinnitus portion of the device, called 'Zen tones' and 'Zen noise,' plays melodic tones or white noise through the hearing aid into your ear. These tones are played at a low volume to help distract you from your tinnitus when you are in a quiet situation (when tinnitus is generally the most annoying.) There is no cure for tinnitus, but the Widex Zen programming has been proven to help people cope with their tinnitus to improve their communication and quality of life.

Ask one of audiologists about the Widex Clear with Zen programming today!

Thank you for taking the time to review our new tinnitus products!

Please feel free to contact the audiology department if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Barb Danford, Au.D., CCC-A, Doctor of Audiology

Marie Graziani, Au.D., CCC-A, Doctor of Audiology

Darla Kingery, HIS, Hearing Instrument Specialist

Jeanene Booth, Certified Audiology Assistant

Allison Mester, B.S., Au.D. Candidate, Graduate Clinician

