May 2022 Volume 8

- ✓ Scientific dispatch
- ✓ Tri-State, here we come!
- ✓ Welcome Tina and Sarah!





At her physical, Annie mentioned that she was having a lot of flatulence, but wasn't concerned because it was silent and didn't smell bad. The doctor prescribed some pills and had her return in two weeks.

At her checkup, Annie noted that her gas new smelled.

At her checkup, Annie noted that her gas now smelled terrible! Said her doctor, "Great, your sinuses are clear, now let's get you to an audiologist!"



scientific dispatch >>>

Improving Speech Intelligiblity with Cutting Edge Research!

Researchers injected a new compound through the eardrums of human volunteers (and guinea pigs) in several private otolaryngology practices in the US. Results showed significant improvements in word recognition scores of the treated ears with no major negative side effects noted. These changes were noted for tests in quiet *and* in noise. Further studies are planned!

W.J. McLean et al; Otology & Neurotology, Vol. 42, No 7, 2021

Spring Has Sprung, Plants Are Growing AND SO ARE WE!!

We are delighted to announce that we are expanding into a third location, Greenfield, MA! The owners of Pioneer Hearing Services, Barb and Norm Morris, are retiring and handing the reins to us as of July 1st. Patients of Pioneer Hearing Services have relied on the Morris' friendly service and excellent hearing healthcare for decades and we are honored to be able to continue their tradition.

The office is located in the Valley Medical Group building at 329 Conway Street in Greenfield, on the second floor. We will be open and scheduling appointments on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. The office will be staffed by Drs. Milkey, Moore and Tully.

Unlike our other locations, there will be no walk-in service hours. However, we will have a drop box for your convenience to pick up supplies during off-hours or to drop off a hearing aid that needs service. We look forward to seeing some familiar faces there and meeting lots of new ones!

BOSE BOWS OUT OF HEARING AIDS

The first major player in "direct-to-consumer" hearing aids, Bose, has discontinued their health department and will no longer support their product. Other over-the-counter aids are slated to arrive September, 2022. They will be "non-prescriptive," which means they won't be adjusted specifically to your hearing loss. Will they work? Potentially. But they're unlikely to fit well – physically or acoustically. It is a rare day when we can take a hearing aid, program it with our computers, and have it be a good fit for your loss without further adjustment. As Bose found out, the device is only part of the solution.

We stand by our adage that a hearing aid is only as good as the person who fits it – we believe our smarts and expertise are just as important as the technology of the aids when it comes to hearing success. Most importantly, we feel that ALL potential hearing aid users should start with a diagnostic hearing evaluation. Hearing loss and tinnitus can be a symptom of other health issues and deserve a thorough evaluation!



Sarah Marie Laakso, AuD joined the BHC team in January 2022. She is a 2017 graduate of UMass Amherst, and is passionate about providing patient-centered care! She believes in a very personalized approach to hearing health.

Sarah Marie spends much of her spare time outside running, hiking, and snowboarding, but also enjoys spending a day at home trying her hand at a new craft project. She lives in the Pioneer Valley with her husband and their cat Artie.

Tina Sharrock joined the BHC team in our Swanzey office in July 2021, bringing over 20 years of office experience and a love for her local community, where she's lived for over 17 years.

Tina has 3 adult children and 4 *remarkable* grandchildren who rule her life! She enjoys traveling, quilting, camping, music and most of all, spending time with her grandchildren!





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