

DILES HEARING CENTER

January 2009

Winter Edition

DIABETES & HEARING LOSS

IF you are one of the 13 million people diagnosed with diabetes, you should have your hearing checked regularly. Those with diabetes are more than twice as likely to have hearing loss than those who do not, according to a recent National Institute of Health (NIH) study. Overall, more than 40% of people with diabetes had some degree of hearing loss.

To facilitate hearing checks, the Better Hearing Institute (BHI) has designed a Quick Hearing Check to help people quickly assess if they have a hearing loss that requires a more comprehensive hearing test by a hearing professional. This quick check is available at www.hearingcheck.org.

For years physicians have regularly encouraged their patients with diabetes to have regular vision exams, now they need to add a regular hearing exam to that list. Both hearing and vision loss are associated with diabetes. Studies by BHI show that people with untreated hearing loss have a lower quality of life and may even earn less than those with normal or aided hearing.

If you have diabetes or know of someone who does, encourage them to see a licensed audiologist for testing. If you have additional questions, ask your physician or call Diles Hearing Centers: Athens (740) 594-3571 or Jackson (740) 288-3571, also toll free at 800-237-7716.

WE'RE BACK IN JACKSON

After much contemplation I made the difficult decision to move my Gallipolis operation to Jackson. We are at our former 232 Huron Street location (in the McGraw Physical Therapy Building) and hope that folks in Gallipolis will make the easy drive up Route 35 to see us in Jackson.

Margaret White is in Jackson on Tuesday and Wednesday, Jessica Ziegler is there on Monday and Thursday and Diane will be seeing patients on Tuesday.

Office hours are Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Tel. (740) 288-3571.

NEWS YOU NEED TO KNOW...

WARNING! Hearing Aid Batteries Are Dangerous if Swallowed!

- * Keep batteries out of the reach of children
- * Discard batteries safely (Diles Hearing Center has collection containers in each office)
- * Never allow children to play with batteries
- * Never change batteries in front of children
- * NEVER put batteries in your mouth for any reason! They are slippery and easy to accidentally swallow.
- * Always check medication before swallowing as batteries have been mistaken for tablets.
- * IF a battery is swallowed, contact the
**NATIONAL BUTTON BATTERY INGESTION HOTLINE at
202-625-3333.**

Our REFER a FRIEND program will continue in 2009. We know that word of mouth is the sincerest form of flattery and we truly appreciate everyone who has referred a friend or family member to us. We hope that you will continue to tell others about Diles so they, too, will have the gift of good hearing and you will receive a Chamber Gift Certificate.