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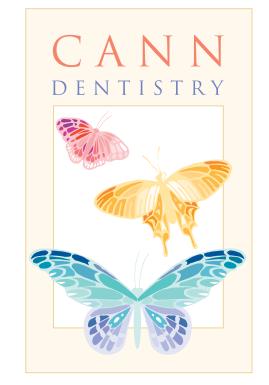
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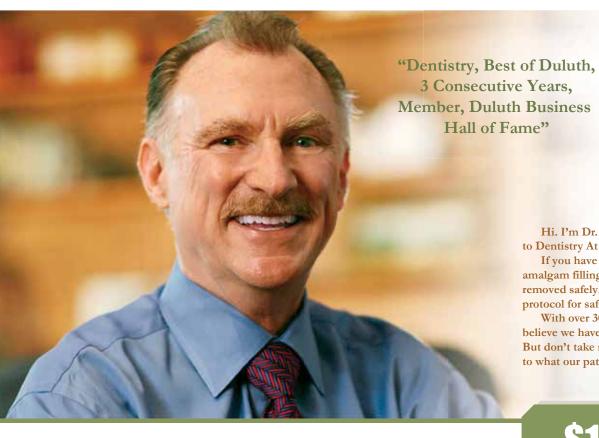
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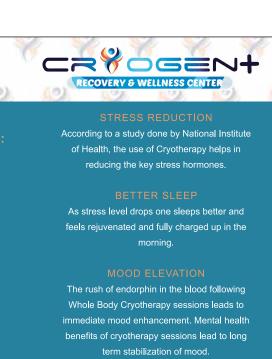
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Four Atlanta Yoga Luminaries

bit.ly/ATLYogaLuminaries

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Bruce Lipton: The Role of Consciousness in Healing bit.ly/BruceLiptonPt1

The Mystery of IBS bit.ly/MysteryofIBS

OMISSION: Last month's "Four Atlanta Yoga Luminaries" article did not mention this magazine's relationships with two of the featured yoga teachers. *Natural Awakenings* is a sponsor of Dirty South Yoga Fest, which Jessica Murphy founded. And Gina Minyard led a half-day yoga retreat in September that was produced by this magazine.

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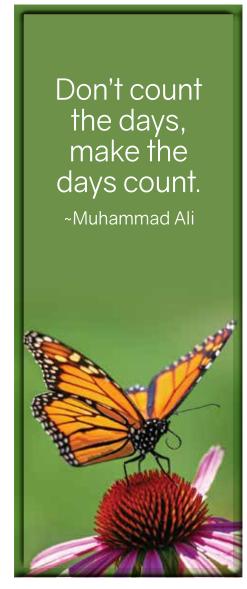
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t was bound to happen sometime; I have no idea what to write about.

It's 5 a.m. on the Tuesday morning of production week and I have been awake for well over an hour. I rarely toss and turn; on those infrequent occasions that I wake up in the middle of the night, I can very quickly tell if I'm going back to sleep or not, and if not, remaining in bed never seems like an attractive alternative; I am not one who worries or stresses much, but it seems as if the ideal time for worry to enter my mind is in the middle of the night.

To some degree, our journey together through the pages of this magazine reflects my own journey of discovery and learning. It goes without saying that many, many, many readers are much farther along the roads of natural health, emotional healing and spiritual awakening than yours truly, so it is fortunate that the nature of widecirculation publications is more broad than deep. Moreover, when the longest single article in this magazine is no more than 2,000 words, or about a 10-minute read, it is difficult to get past introductory and beginner-level pieces.

Nuts! Not knowing what to write about, I just started writing, and now I realize this piece is about making sausage; the behind-the-scenes thinking about how

our content is chosen. It's exactly the sort of writing that our franchisor teaches us not to do. Oh well...

What I am driving at was this: the path of any awakening is, by definition, one of depth. But the magazine format stands in opposition to this. What we've tried to do here at *Natural Awakenings* Atlanta is go deeper into subject matter by employing one of three methods: 1) special sections, 2) series and 3) ongoing follow up.

We've done a number of special sections, three in this year alone. The largest, our April section on Energy Healing, has been followed up with articles on some research behind sound healing, the Emotional Freedom Technique. In this very issue, contributor Janet Raftis offers more science behind energy healing, and staff writer Noah Chen writes about the Harmonic Egg, a sound therapy device that one actually sits in!

Now we're in the midst of a three-part series on Ayurveda, a subject so vast that three articles seem terribly insufficient. Sounds like a reason for another stream of follow-up pieces!

By far, the deepest we've gone is on the topic of yoga. I believe that we're the only publication in Atlanta to feature yoga content in each and every issue. Moreover, we've intentionally gone deeper, wishing to draw yogis further into all eight limbs of yoga and not just talk about asanas. But more about that next month.

So, we try to extend the boundaries of the magazine format and its insistence on a maximum of 10-minute reads. We do this because we like depth, and depth is required for personal transformation, and we believe that you, our readers, want and appreciate depth as well. Our editorial team will soon meet to plan into 2020 and beyond. We would love it if you would let us know what you might like to see in print. Here are some of our ideas for topics to address more deeply. What do you think?

Hacking the Subconscious Holistic Skincare All About Water What is Self-Love? What is Mindfulness? Meditation Physical and Emotional Detoxing **Building Community** On Abundance Surviving the Dark Night of the Soul State of Talk Therapy A Course In Miracles Raw Food Diets Naturopathy

Which of the above topics resonates with you? Is there something missing that you'd like to see? Let me know! After all, the farther I travel this road, the more interested I become in co-creating content, and the most important of potential partners is you! Email me! paul@naAtlanta.com



Paul Chen has been owner/publisher of Natural Awakenings Atlanta franchise since January 2017. He is a practicing Buddhist

and a founding member of East Lake Commons, a cohousing community.



Ryuho Okawa, founder of Happy Science.

New Happy Science Movie

Immortal Hero, a film based on the epiphany that inspired Ryuho Okawa to found Happy Science, Japan's spiritual movement of 12 million-plus followers, opens in the United States and Canada on October 18, 2019.

The film arrives in Atlanta on October 18 and plays for a week, but the location had yet to be determined at press time. Please visit immortal-hero.com for up-to-date information.

Based on the true story of the near-death experience that compelled Okawa to devote his life to spreading the truth he received from the spiritual realms and masters, *Immortal Hero* tells the story of Makoto Mioya, a highly successful Japanese writer and publisher who heals himself from a fatal heart condition after a near-death visitation from powerful spiritual beings. As part of his recovery, Mioya writes about his rebirth as an enlightened teacher. Although he faces challenges at home and abroad, Mioya promises to use his second chance at life to make a positive difference for as many people as possible.

Immortal Hero is the 17th film by Happy Science Productions, the award-winning media arm of the Happy Science movement, which was founded in 1986.

Happy Science's mission is to bring happiness to all humanity by integrating religions across the world, transcending religious and ethnic conflicts, and cultivating happiness, success, health and wealth for all people.

For more information: Happy Science Atlanta Branch, 1874 Piedmont Ave. NE, Suite 360-C, Atlanta, GA 30324, atlanta@happy-science.org, 404-892-7770.



(Photo: Serenbe)

Attune, a four-day wellness experience designed to support one's journey of awakening, will take place November 8 through 11 at Serenbe Wellness Community just south of Atlanta.

Keynote speakers for the event include world-renowned best-selling author and speaker, Elizabeth Gilbert; international lecturer, researcher, and author Dr. Joe Dispenza; and #1 New York Times best-selling author, Gabby Bernstein. The event includes healing workshops, cathartic movement classes, immersive experiences, time in nature, practical tools to support healing, as well as the opportunity to "slow down and return to a natural rhythm," according to its website.

Ticket options include Day Passes, starting at \$250, and Full Immersion Passes that range from \$1,800 to \$3,100 and include accommodations. Full Immersion tickets include organic and locally sourced meals, which include vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free options.

Attune founder, Jenny Emblom, who has a master's degree in spiritual psychology, was diagnosed with ovarian cancer at the age of 33. She decided to retreat at the Optimum Health Institute in San Diego, where she healed the cancer through a cleanse and detox program for body, mind and spirit. She has since founded Living Wholly, an interactive, informative ecommerce site for elevating consciousness.

Located in Chattahoochee Hills, Georgia, 30 miles south of Atlanta, Serenbe is set among acres of preserved forests and meadows with miles of nature trails that connect homes and restaurants with arts and businesses. Its conscious architectural planning is designed to support connection to nature and community living.

For more information, visit AttuneByLivingWholly.com.

Dirty South Yoga Fest

Atlanta's sixth Dirty South Yoga Fest, held in August, once again broke its previous attendance record. Last year, the first year the festival extended past one day, attendance was approximately 750. This year, the first year the festival included Friday sessions, attendance jumped to 900.

"For a Friday, during the day, I think it was very well received," says Jennifer Kitchen, the festival's project manager. "We had more people than we anticipated."

The Friday sessions were geared towards yoga teachers and studio owners and were longer in length. Kitchen felt that these classes were well received.

Saturday and Sunday offered attendees what the festival has come to be known for—a wide variety of classes that extend beyond what one typically finds in their local studio. The classes that filled up fastest, for example, included Align Flow with Essential Oils with Holly Griffin; Sweat, Stretch and Detox with Anna Kennedy; Sacred Cacao Ceremony with Nina Simone; and Qigong with Corrine Chavez.

Disclaimer: Natural Awakenings is a sponsor of the Dirty South Yoga Fest.



Marietta's Café Life REINVENTS ITSELF

With Chef Jai at the helm, Café Life has re-invented itself inside and out. Located in Marietta, the restaurant has remodeled its interior and updated its menu for the fast-mov-

ing, health-oriented customers of Atlanta today. It is operated and managed by Dare2Dream Culinary Consultants, LLC.

"We wanted to focus our energy on creating a cultural change that would excite the Cobb County vegan community along with all health-conscious people," says Chef Jai, a graduate of Le Corden Bleu College of Culinary Arts in Tucker, GA, with 20 years' experience.

"The plant-based lifestyle has been a whirlwind of excitement and has sparked my desire to help everyone experience the wonderful benefits of healthy eating. I want people to know that we are here to service all of their food service needs with a vast array of options for their taste buds," says Jai.

Focusing on a "love for food, a taste for diversity and a love for people," Café Life claims to be Cobb County's only plant-based restaurant. It is located at 1459 Roswell Rd. in Marietta. For more information, visit CafeLife4Life.com or call 770-977-9583 Ext 122.

Bruno Groening

Dr. Wolfgang Vogelsberger, M.D., will talk about what many believe to be the thousands of medically verified spiritual healings of Bruno Groening.

"Bruno Groening left behind the knowledge of how to absorb a natural healing power that can bring long-lasting health to every human being," says Fred Stevens, a follower of Groening's work. "I've found that his teachings have simplified and clarified my own spiritual inclinations in ways that no other teachings have."

The Medical Scientific Group (MWF), an international forum of independent healthcare professionals, has documented and verified Groening's results.

The talk will take place from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., November 9, at the Smyrna Community Center, 200 Village Green Circle in Smyrna. There is no cost to attend.

"The information provided may open you up for a way to healing, whether it's a health challenge, a financial difficulty, a parenting issue or any life problem that holds you back," says Stevens.

For more information, contact Sarah Thorsen at Sarah.Thorsen11@gmail.com or 404-217-4432.



hoto: Devin Clayton)

Cryogen+ Recovery OPENS SECOND LOCATION

Top athletes Lebron James and Usain Bolt are just a few who haveadopted cryogenic and compression therapy to aid recovery from punishing workouts and performance. The Cryogen+ Recovery and Wellness Center is now open in two locations in metro Atlanta, Grant Park and Hapeville, offering Atlantans the benefits of the technology.

Cryogen+ offers three treatment options for different needs. Whole body cryotherapy helps speed physical recovery by exposing the body to temperatures colder than -200° F for 3 minutes. Benefits can include muscle and joint pain relief, weight loss, younger-looking skin and improved mood and energy.

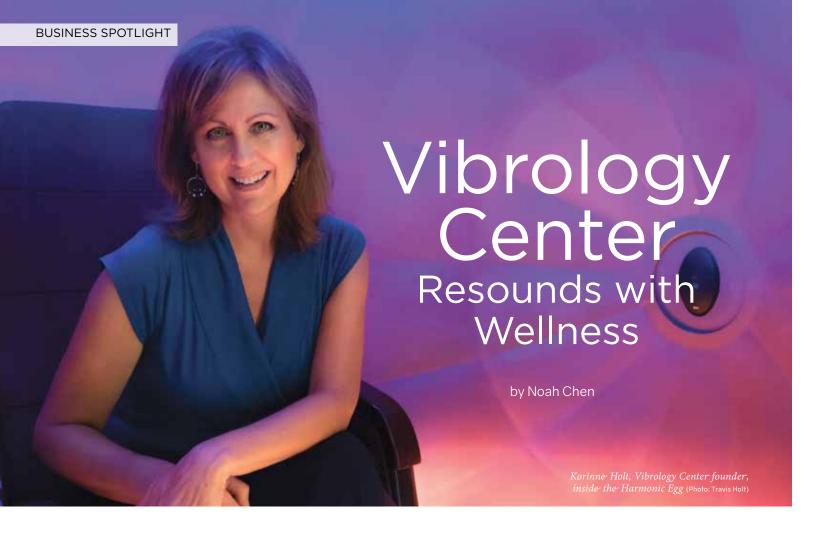
Localized Cryotherapy is used to promote collagen production, reduce inflammation, support athletic recovery for problem areas, and pain relief. It is also used to treat illness and discomfort in pets.

The center's third treatment option, NormaTec compression technology, is a dynamic compression device that uses dynamic, massage-like compression to increase circulation.

"If you consider that we all grew up using ice to treat pain, you can see that cryotherapy offers an improved version of a tried and true remedy. By perfecting 'icing,' we are able to speed recovery and help you get back to enjoying an active lifestyle," says founder Tynisha Astrel.

Memberships start at \$99/month. Individual sessions start at \$40 for localized cryotherapy, \$89 for whole body cryotherapy and \$40 for NormaTec compression sessions.

The Cryogen+ Recovery and Wellness Center in Grant Park is located at 1039 Grant Street SE, Building A, Suite A21 in Atlanta. To learn more, visit TheCryogenPlus.com, email recharge@thecryogenplus.com or call 404-963-5265 for Hapeville or 470-428-2139 for Grant Park.



ucked away on the second floor of Serendipity Labs in the business plaza of 100 North Point Center East is a hollow, multi-faceted wooden egg about the size of a car. The device, called the Harmonic Egg, is both a rare healing tool and the cornerstone to The Vibrology Center, run by sole founder, Korrine Holt.

Holt has been using the Harmonic Egg to heal and alleviate a wide variety of medical issues, from stress and insomnia

Tia Rusan **678.561.7194**

to helping multiple sclerosis (MS) patients recover lost mobility.

"So far there's nothing it's not improving. It's resetting the autonomic nervous system and relaxing it," says Holt about the Harmonic Egg. "It's harmonizing the body, so all the healing mechanisms are coming online."

Holt specializes in vibro-acoustic therapy (VAT), a form of sound healing, and admits that research about it is hard

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to come by, alhas links to several peer-reviewed

VAT works by immersing the individual in musical vibrations that carry energy into the body. When the frequency of a

though her website papers on the topic.

muscle is matched

by the external sound, that muscle will resonate, causing increased blood flow to the area and loosening tightened fibers. Sounds during VAT can also affect the pacinian corpuscle, the receptors in the body that send certain non-pain messages to the brain when they're stimulated.

The Harmonic Egg was built to enhance the healing qualities of VAT. The sound is more concentrated toward the individual when they are enclosed in the capsule, with the egg shape focusing the vibrations on the client. The wooden walls of the egg resonate like a musical instrument.

Holt describes the healthy body as being "in tune," or vibrating at certain frequencies. The music played into the egg is customized to reverberate with the frequencies the individual is lacking, and by submerging the out-of-tune body in the proper frequencies, Holt is able to "retune" it.

General stress, sleep. and digestion are the three things Holt says she treats the most, but some people come with more complex issues, and some come on a weekly basis to counteract the damage of their high-stress lifestyles.

General stress, sleep, and digestion are the three things Holt says she treats the most, but some people come with more complex issues, and some come on a weekly basis to counteract the damage of their high-stress lifestyles.

"One gentleman I started working with has neuropathy and is numb in his feet; he's getting the feeling back. I had an MS client who was unable to rotate her ankles, and she was able to rotate her feet and ankles for the first time in years."

Some clients have issues of which they might not be aware. Holt has her own ways of finding what "notes" in the body are not resonating fully using kinesthetic muscle testing. This practice relies on the idea that the body knows what is right or wrong for it. For example, Holt

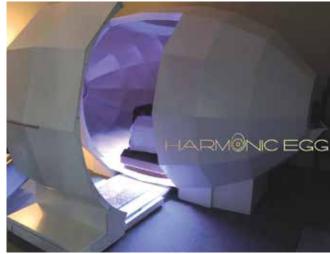
will ask a client to say "the note of A is resonating in my body" while monitoring the muscles in the client's arm. If they hold firm, it indicates that the note is resonating fine, but if they slacken, there may be problems.

After identifying what "notes" the client's body could resonate more effectively, the

individual enters the Harmonic Egg and sits in a reclining zero gravity chair. Sessions consist of forty minutes of customchosen music, followed by ten minutes of silence. Afterward, the client discusses the experience with Holt, and future sessions, if necessary, can be planned.

Many report very positive experiences in the Harmonic Egg. According to Holt, the technology is doing so well that the manufacturer, Life Center, is backed up with orders until next month. Currently, Holt estimates there are only eight Harmonic Eggs in the world, with that number probably rising to around 20 within 18 months.

"I think people are starting to experience how powerful it is—and there are no negative side effects. Some things



(Photo: Harmonic Egg)

you just can't keep in the can," says Holt. "Now, how much Western medicine is going to jump on that, I don't know."

But the growing number of Harmonic Egg orders, as well as her own growing and diversifying client base, has given Holt an optimistic outlook on the future of her industry.

"I think we're on the edge of a massive shift toward sound healing," she says. "I think the cat's out of the bag on this one."

For more information, including details about the Harmonic Egg and how to book a session, go to https://www.vibrologycenter.com/.



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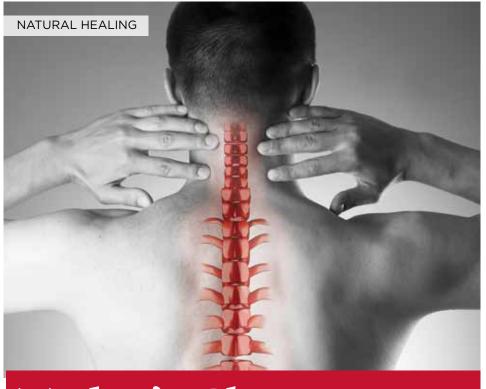
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Today's Chiropractic

Going Beyond Back Pain

by Marlaina Donato

hiropractors are often perceived as back pain specialists, but optimal chiropractic care treats the whole person from the inside-out, starting with the nervous system. This means practitioners can address many conditions that transcend typical expectations.

The human spinal column sports 31 pairs of nerves, some corresponding directly to digestive, reproductive and respiratory organs, which might explain why regular spinal adjustments and other chiropractic techniques can be helpful for seemingly unrelated conditions like asthma, chronic headaches, hormonal imbalances and temporomandibular joint (TMJ) disorders.

A scientific review of 179 published papers focusing on various non-musculo-skeletal conditions shows benefits of full-body chiropractic treatment for asthma, infantile colic and cervical vertigo. Results

are also promising for middle ear infections in children and pneumonia in seniors.

Clinical evidence suggests the nervous system is a cohesive factor in achieving overall wellness. "In chiropractic and holistic philosophy, the body is considered a self-healing organism," explains chiropractic physician and applied kinesiologist Marc Terebelo, of the Chiropractic Wellness Center, in Southfield, Michigan. "The nervous system controls the body, so issues in the toes or fingers may be caused by spinal issues in the neck and low back. Likewise, bladder and menstrual cycle problems can be caused by injury to the low back or pelvic regions."

William J. Lauretti, a New York Chiropractic College professor in Seneca Falls, concurs with the benefits of holistic treatment. "Chiropractors view the body as an integrated unit, and problems in one area might affect a seemingly unrelated Chiropractors view
the body as an
integrated unit, and
problems in one area
might affect a seemingly
unrelated area.

~William Lauretti

area," he says. "Most chiropractors have a wide variety of treatment approaches to offer, including advice on nutrition, lifestyle, stress management and exercise."

Chiropractic and Digestion

It's worth noting that the nerves that innervate important digestive anatomy—from the salivary glands to the stomach down through the intestinal tract—branch off the spinal cord at various levels of the cervical, thoracic and lumbar spine. "This means that chiropractic adjustments given to [the] neck, mid-back, lower back and sacrum are important to optimal digestive function," says chiropractor Sean Cailteux, of Exodus Health, in Shawnee, Kansas.

In his practice, Lauretti has observed better digestion as a positive side effect to regular adjustments. "I've had a few patients over the years who reported improvement in digestive problems after chiropractic treatment of the mid- and low back. In some of those cases, the improvement was serendipitous, because the patient didn't discuss their digestive symptoms initially, only after they noticed the improvement."

Hope for Headaches and TMJ Dysfunction

Chronic tension headaches and migraines can become the norm for too many individuals, but chiropractic care—including spinal adjustments, nutrition advice and addressing emotional causes such as stress and anxiety—can be key in reducing pain and getting to the root of the problem.

"Technically, only headaches with a list of very particular characteristics can be properly diagnosed as migraines," Lauretti explains. "The cause of many cases of chronic, long-term headaches is often from poor function of the muscles and joints in the neck." These types of headaches often respond well to treatment focused on restoring normal function to the neck, he says.

TMJ disorders can cause painful and sometimes debilitating symptoms, including facial and tooth pain and locking of the jaw. Chiropractic treatments often provide reliable relief. "The TMJ is a very important joint in the body, with thousands of neuroreceptors. TMJ involvements can cause headaches, particularly around the ear or side of the head, vertigo, tinnitus and other hearing issues," says Terebelo.

Cailteux notes that aside from experiencing jaw pain and headaches, someone suffering from TMJ disorder may have

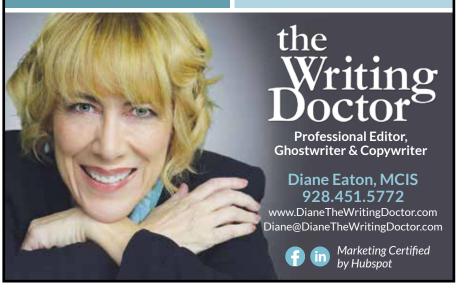
difficulty chewing, and may experience an audible clicking of the jaw with movement. "Chiropractic adjustments can be particularly helpful, especially when delivered to the TM joint and the neck. Gentle, soft-tissue manipulation of the muscles and tendons of the jaw, specifically the masseter, temporalis and pterygoid muscles, is also a highly effective treatment."

For a true holistic approach and lasting success, Lauretti offers this advice: "Look for a doctor who is willing to work as part of your healthcare team and who's willing to refer you for specialty care when appropriate."

Marlaina Donato is the author of several books, including Multidimensional Aromatherapy. She is also a composer. Connect at AutumnEmbersMusic.com.



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ertebral subluxation." If you've heard the term, you've probably seen a chiropractor.

Detecting and correcting *vertebral subluxation*—misalignments of vertebrae in the spine—has been the focal point of chiropractic care since the practice was invented more than 100 years ago. The idea being: if the vertebrae are reset sufficiently, the associated pain and functional loss can be reduced.

But two of Atlanta's chiropractic care physicians have adopted advances



Russell Friedman, DC, ME, Ali Friedman, DC, Shaun Puro, DC (Photo: JC Penny)

in technology along with more holistic perspectives of the body in order to get better results than their more traditional counterparts.

Snubbing the push-pull-and-pop approach that chiropractic is famous for, their adjustments are ostensibly more precise and can benefit the patient's health more significantly.

A Top-Down Approach

Dr. Randy Culig, founder of Pierce Chiropractic in Atlanta, believes that the cervical spine—the seven bones in the neck—is the key to chiropractic correction and the resulting improvements in health and wellness.

"Approximately 74% of low back pain surgeries are considered unsuccessful," says Culig, a cervical spine specialist. "Why? If the problem isn't coming from the lower back but originates in the cervical spine, then any back surgery is only correcting the compensation of the problem—not the problem itself."

The cervical spine is by far the most movable area of the spine, which makes it the most prone to injury. The rest of the body tends to adapt to whatever's going on in the cervical spine.

"The cervical spine has the most intricate structure," says Culig. "The vertebral artery runs through it and supplies 11 out of the 12 cranial nerves. That's why we see a lot of patients with things related to the cranial nerves: the blood supply can often be inhibited due to misalignment to the cervical spine."

"When the cervical spine is out, it tends to bring the skull off balance, which then tends to throw off your entire center of gravity. So, we see a lot of conditions, including sciatica, numbness in the foot or hip pain that all tend to stem from the cervical spine."

The staff at Pierce Chiropractic use several diagnostic tools to get a more precise understanding of a patient's condition. They use thermography to provide insights about blood flow, which in turn tells them about the patient's side-to-side symmetry. Then, with the help of X-rays and precision 3D imaging, they get a mathematical equation that calculates the exact vector in the neck that needs to be adjusted in the patient.

"We know the specific vector, and we leverage the area correctly," says Culig. "When it comes time to do the adjustment, it feels like nothing more than a tap behind the ear."



 $\label{eq:decomposition} \textit{Dr. Culig prepares a patient for taking detailed x-rays of the cervical spine.} \ \ (\texttt{Photo:DJ} \ \ \text{and} \ \ \texttt{Karen Hagerman})$

Not a Bone-Out-Of-Place Model

"The bone-out-of-place view is a mechanistic approach that's like fixing your car," says Dr. Russell Friedman, the senior physician at AlternaHealth in Sandy Springs. "But we're not just cars that get dented. People are a whole system that responds with a nervous system and life force, and the body tries to compensate and create balance so it can be energetically sound."

Gravity is the largest stressor on the human body, says Friedman, yet the "bone-out-of-place" model of traditional chiropractic treatment doesn't account for it. "Posture. It uses more energy to stand up against gravity and it takes more neurological wiring and more structural integration into the fascia and bony system to integrate it" than any other system.

"We're wired something like a puppet, with the string at the top," says Friedman, who is board-certified in QSM3, NUCCA, and Orthospinology.

That top string is found in the cervical spine—the only place one can access "all the rubber bands, all three dimensions—anterior, posterior, up and down and side to side," says Friedman. "All the lines from the pelvis come up through the

chest, the back, the shoulders, all the way around three dimensionally and up."

With their QSM³ technology, AlternaHealth can read the body's weight differential from side to side, the "tilt" or "lean" of certain areas, and the "twist" of the body—the way the body is energetically holding itself. The data accounts for damage done to the body, its orientation and the way it is or has been breaking down energetically.

Friedman says the equipment allows him to get insights about the configuration of the body and how it's responding energetically. "I can look in real-time—live—and watch the body as it oscillates. I look at the energy of the human body, and then I have what I need to restore the structure."

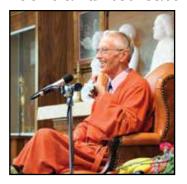
The goal is *tensegrity*—a term that alludes to the balance and uplift of a well-filled balloon. "When you open the nervous system and expand the cells of the body," says Friedman, "the human body reacts.

The majority of my patients get a reset."

Find out more about Pierce Chiropractic Center at PierceChiroCenter.com and AlternaHealth Solutions at AlternaHealthSolutions.com.

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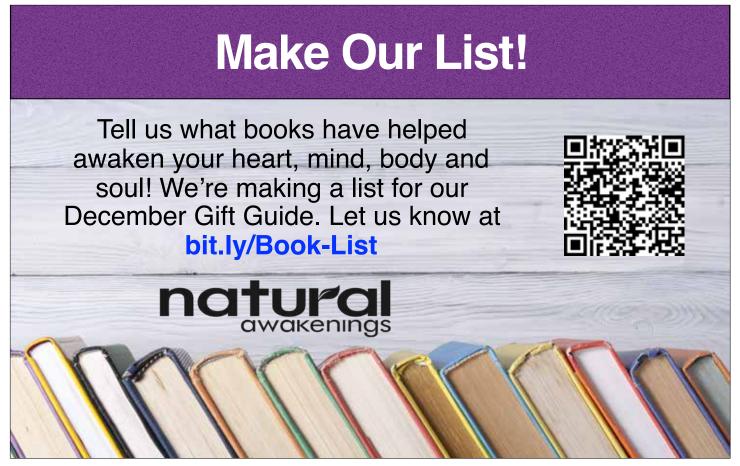
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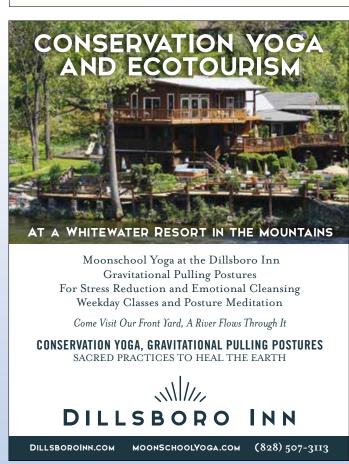




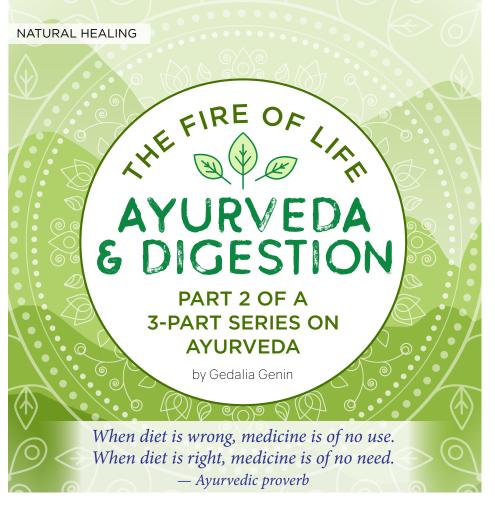
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yurveda—a five thousand-yearold system of holistic medicine that promotes longevity, balance and overall health—is finally getting more of the attention it deserves.

Many popular energy and protein drinks now include Ayurvedic herbs such as turmeric and ashwagandha. Ginger tea is getting recognition for its immune-building properties. Ayurvedic treatments are offered at hotel spas, and Ayurvedic chefs are getting calls to cook for people with special needs. Even Forbes magazine claims Ayurveda is going mainstream in their "10 Wellness Trends" of 2019.

Considering the toxins in the environment and in our foods, the overuse of prescription drugs, increased stressors and a fairly broken health care system, Ayurveda holds a treasure trove of tools to help us return to our innate wholeness and optimal health. And beyond that, for those inclined, the practice offers people a path to spiritually align with their true divine Self, their purpose and creativity.

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The Role of Digestive Health

From the Ayurvedic perspective, a healthy digestive system is the cornerstone of health and well-being, and every disease is believed to arise from inefficient digestion. People might eat what they think are the best of foods, organic and unprocessed, but if they are not digesting, absorbing and eliminating them properly, then undigested foods are stored in organs, tissues, the brain, cells and energy channels, according to Ayurveda. The result is *ama*, the Sanskrit word for toxins.

Common physical signs of impaired digestion include weight gain, fatigue, low libido, constipation, dry skin, bloating, congestion, acid reflux, impaired immunity, sleep issues, acne, eczema, psoriasis, brain fog, thyroid conditions and joint pain.

Ayurveda pays attention to *agni*, the "fire" or energy that is responsible for digestion. When the agni is balanced, things that are beneficial to health—courage, joy, intelligence—to arise. When agni is out of balance, emotions that are destructive to health— such as fear, anger and confu-

sion—arise. Further, how one "digests" their life is as important as what they eat.

Even with good intentions, doing things in the wrong order won't get results. Ayurveda teaches that when a person tries to clean up their diet before first clearing out the toxins, the "good" food will literally go to waste in the digestive system. That doesn't mean we should ditch the kale or the smoothies, just that we should first examine the larger picture of our health and consider detoxing. [In Part 3 of this series, Panchakarma, a comprehensive Ayurvedic detoxification program, will be discussed.]

On top of it all, the by-product of excellent digestion is *ojas*, the "essence of vitality." It can be one's best friend for maintaining vim and vigor, vibrant skin and clear intelligence.

Keeping the Fire Burning

How does one keep the digestive fire burning bright? By giving it the right amount of fuel. When one overloads it by eating too much at meals or drinking too much water with meals, one drowns its full potential. Unlike Western all-you-can-eat buffets, Ayurveda recommends eating only until the stomach is 2/3 full. Then, by giving the body enough time to fully digest between meals, the "sacred inner fire" is kindled.

Another key to good health is taking pleasure in, and bringing awareness to, the act of eating. Far more than it's realized, meals are mechanical and joyless. People have countless excuses to avoid taking the time to prepare, share or enjoy a meal. But by bringing full attention to eating—and eating slowly—people can transform the act of eating into a ritual of thanks.

After all, the consequences of unconscious eating have become devastating. More than 10 percent of the world's population, including 604 million adults, is now obese, according to a 2017 study at the University of Washington. There has also been a sharp spike in heart disease, diabetes and kidney disease.

Eating Seasonally

"Ayurveda is about living in harmony. Eating seasonally and locally. You not only get the most nourishment, but also rekindle your relationship to food and the environ-

ment," says Nishista Shah of the Ayurvedic Institute of Albuquerque.

Ayurveda recommends we nourish ourselves by eating what is in season. For example, we can eat cooling foods, herbs and spices in the summer, such as cucumber, mint, coconut water, cilantro and watermelon. In winter, we can consume warming soups and stews that include spices such as ginger, cinnamon and chilis, and herbs such as ashwagandha and holy basil to warm us. Each season is associated with a primary *dosha*, or energetic quality, that dominates it, so when people pay attention to nature on the outside and on the inside, they harmonize and improve their health at the same time.

The Six Tastes

Much of the wisdom of Ayurveda lies at the tip of the tongue. Our taste buds do much more than simply identify tastes, they extract the nutritive value of foods and provide the initial spark that revs up the entire digestive system.

While many other health systems focus on labels describing protein content,

calories or carbohydrates, Ayurveda identifies six tastes—sweet, sour, salty, bitter, pungent and astringent—that need to be included in diets to help maintain health and balance.

Of course, Western culture emphasizes sweet and salty tastes, which will often trigger cravings for bitter foods such as coffee and chocolate. The cravings are one way our bodies tell us what we might be missing.

Ayurveda recommends incorporating the six tastes at each meal, suggesting that by balancing the tastes, one can feel more balanced and satiated. At the same time, one will be less likely to overeat or crave foods that are not good for them. If we consistently eat only a few of the tastes, for example, we are at greater risk of health problems.

Working with the six tastes is one way to balance the doshas. When one or more of a person's doshas is out of balance, the tastes can help one repair an imbalanced state. [See Part 1 of this Series in our September issue for an exploration of the doshas.]

For example, the sweet taste decreases Vata and Pitta while increasing Kapha.

The sour taste balances Vata but increases Pitta and Kapha. While sour foods can awaken digestion, thoughts, and emotions, it can possibly lead to aggression.

The salty taste decreases Vata but increases Pitta and Kapha. It is grounding, good for absorption and helps with electrolyte balance and absorption of minerals. But too much salt can have a negative impact on the blood and skin.

The bitter taste increases Vata and decreases Pitta and Kapha. It is detoxifying but it can be quite drying for a Vata person if overdone.

Pungent foods, like ginger, garlic and onions stimulate the mind, nervous system and emotions. They will aggravate Pitta quickly (think of a spicy Indian meal) but balance Kapha.

Foods with astringent taste can aggravate Vata but balance Pitta and Kapha and can mentally strengthen and purify. In sum, the best way to approach the tastes is to aim to eat with the seasons and include all six tastes at a meal while favoring one's primary dosha to keep it balanced. This is a pathway to inner balance.

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Simple Avurvedic Steps for Healthy Digestion

Here are a few simple recommendations to promote healthy digestion based on Ayurvedic principles:

- · Avoid ice cold drinks and foods directly out of the refrigerator.
- Avoid processed, radiated, microwaved and leftover foods. They have no *pranic*, or life force, energy.
- Learn to use healthy food combining.
- Eat only kitchari for a day or more. (See recipe below)
- Drink Digestive Tea (See recipe below)

*Disclaimer: This information is not meant to replace medical care, your medications or your doctors' advice. For best results, work with a professional Ayurvedic practitioner.



1 Tbsp fennel seeds

- 2 Tbsp cumin seeds
- 2 Tbsp coriander seeds

Boil the seeds in six cups water for five minutes. Strain and drink throughout the day.

KITCHARI

Reprinted with permission from "The Ayurvedic Institute"

Kitchari is a staple in Ayurvedic life. It is an easily digestible, highly nourishing and detoxifying food that is made from rice, split mung beans, spices and vegetables. Kitchari can be used for a cleanse, for a "day off" from regular food or simply eaten on a regular basis. In Ayurveda, the transition between seasons is an optimal time to cleanse.

Ingredients

½ cup basmati rice

1 cup mung dal (split yellow)

6 cups water

½ to 1 inch ginger root, chopped or grated

A bit of mineral salt (1/4 tsp. or so)

2 tsp ghee

½ tsp coriander powder

½ tsp cumin powder

½ tsp whole cumin seeds

½ tsp mustard seeds

½ tsp turmeric powder

1 pinch asafoetida (hing)

Handful of fresh cilantro leaves

1 ½ cups assorted vegetables (optional)

Preparation

Carefully pick over the rice and dal to remove any stones. Wash them separately in at least two changes of water and place them in a pot. Add the water and cook, covered, until it becomes soft, about 20 minutes.

While that is cooking, prepare any vegetables that suit your constitution. Cut them into smallish pieces. Add the vegetables to the cooked rice and dal mixture and cook 10 minutes longer.

In a separate saucepan, sauté the seeds in the ghee until they pop. Then add the other spices. Stir together to release the flavors. Stir the sautéed spices into the cooked dal, rice, and vegetable mixture. Add the mineral salt and chopped fresh cilantro and serve.

Optional:

- Add vegetables such as zucchini, asparagus, sweet potato
- For Vata or Kapha doshas, add a pinch of ginger powder
- For Pitta doshas, leave out the mustard seeds

Next month: Part 3 of our Ayurveda Series: Ayurveda-based Therapeutic Methods



Author Gedalia Genin, Ph.D., has been using Ayurveda, breathwork, meditation, essential oils, Marma and more for over 15 years to help women

experience greater health and vitality. Contact her at GedaliaGenin@gmail.com or 678-357-3443 or visit GedaliaHealingArts.com. Atlanta: Saturday, October 26, 2019 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

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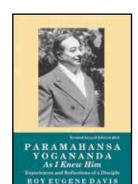
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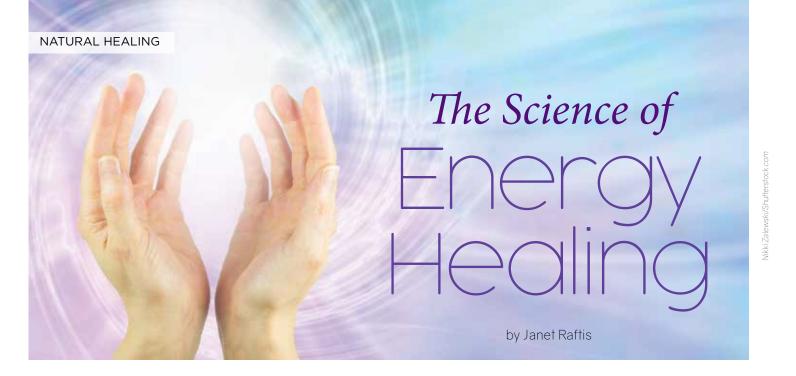
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Final session: Moving forward using all the principles of Ayurveda.

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ands-on healing and energy healing modalities like Reiki have long been relegated to the supernatural and, until recently, have often been tossed aside as witchcraft, sorcery or other dark arts sometimes punishable by death. After centuries of getting such a bad rap, energy healing has made a profound and significant comeback—and is even backed by science.

Reiki is arguably the most common form of touch healing therapies, of which there are many. Practitioners of touch healing therapies channel life force energy into another person, and by doing so, rebalance the energies within the field of the client. Energy healing can be done both in-person—with the practitioners' hands touching or just above the body—or remotely across any distance.

The process works within the emotional, mental, physical and spiritual planes of the recipient's energy field and can create anything from subtle to profound shifts in the person's well-being.

As energy healing practices have become more mainstream, people have wanted to both prove and disprove their efficacy, and research has begun to emerge that demonstrates how science supports what occurs during an energy healing session. James Oschman, Ph.D., a leading authority on the scientific understanding of hands-on healing and author of the book, *Energy Medicine: The Scientific Basis*, says, "all medicine is energy medicine." Further, he explains, "any intervention with a living organism involves energy in one form or another."

Oschman describes the science of energy medicine as the way in which the body creates and responds to energies such as electric, magnetic, and electromagnetic fields—including light and sound—as well as heat, pressure, chemical and elastic energy, and gravity.

Much of the standard medical equipment in hospitals and research centers uses electric, magnetic, and electromagnetic fields to measure and diagnose, including X-ray and MRI machines, electroencephalograms, electroretinograms, and electromyograms. Their biomagnetic counterparts— those that involve the interaction of living organisms with magnetic fields—include magnetocardiograms, magnetoencephalograms, magnetoretinograms, and magnetomyograms. Other machines

that use energy for treatment include the magnetic biopsy, the electrical biopsy, the optical biopsy, transcutaneous nerve stimulators, cardiac pacemakers, defibrillators, lasers and more.

Research by Dr. John Zimmerman in 1990, validated by Kusaka Seto in 1992, found that the energy emitted from a healer's hands is simply another type of energy medicine, emitting frequencies within the same range as the equipment mentioned above. "Healing energy, whether produced by a medical device or projected from the human body, is energy of a particular frequency or set of frequencies that stimulates the repair of one or more tissues," notes Oschman.

Zimmerman found that the frequencies generated through energy healing therapies fall between the ranges of 0.3 and 30 Hz, mostly between 7 and 8 Hz. Research done by Andrew Bassett and Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons in N.Y. found that these frequencies also could jumpstart the healing of soft and hard tissue injuries. They worked to bring what they called pulsing electromagnetic field therapy (PEMF) for bone healing into modern medicine, which was approved by the FDA in 1979. They later expanded the study beyond just bone healing and found the range of frequencies responsible for other types of healing: two cycles per second (Hz) works for nerve regeneration, 7 Hz for bone growth, 10 Hz for ligament repair and higher frequencies for regeneration of the skin and capillaries—all frequencies found within the same range as those emitted through the hands of energy healers.

While the science shows that placing hands on the body of another person can generate frequencies that have a healing effect, can similar results be achieved when practitioner and recipient aren't in physical proximity to each other? "Remote energy healing"—when the practitioner and the receiver are not physically near each other—still yields the same healing results despite the distance. To more clearly understand how this works, it is helpful to set aside the Newtonian model of physics and take the perspective of quantum physics.

Within the quantum model, energy is considered non-local and non-linear. This means the transfer of energy is not limited to time or place. Through the holographic

model, what is "here" is also "there" and even "way over there." Because of this, we can access this energy in any location at any time through our intention alone. Einstein referred to this as "spooky action at a distance."

This concept has been the subject of quite a few studies, ranging from the healing effects of prayer to energy healing modalities. In two studies conducted by Targ/Sitcher and MAHI (Mid-America Heart Institute) and cited by Lynne McTaggart in her book, *The Field: The Quest for the Secret Force of the Universe*, groups that received healing energy remotely recovered at significantly higher rates than the control groups that received no healing. Moreover, significant positive results were observed in physical healing as well as emotional and psychological healing.

In the Targ/Sitcher study, which worked with subjects suffering from AIDS-defining illnesses—illnesses that the CDC has determined to be directly and almost solely associated with advanced HIV infection—those who were treated had significantly fewer doctor visits and hospitaliza-

tions, fewer days in the hospital when they did go, fewer new AIDS-defining illnesses and significantly lower severity of the disease compared to the control group. They also registered significantly better results on psychological tests than the control group. The results suggest that the frequencies that promote healing need not actually be transmitted from a hand placed over a body, but can also traverse space and time to achieve the same results from a distance.

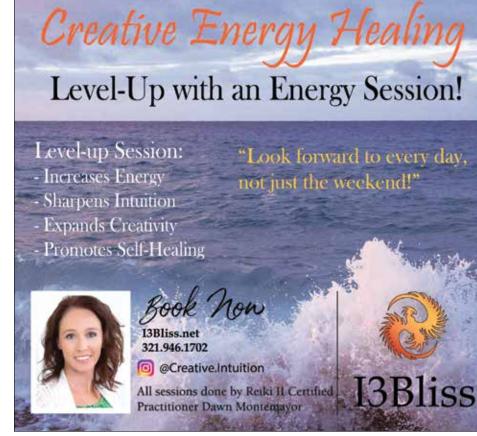
As energy healing becomes more popular in the United States, it is gaining acceptance in mainstream medicine, with greater presence in hospitals around the country. Whichever energy healing modality you choose, the results are best measured by your personal experience.

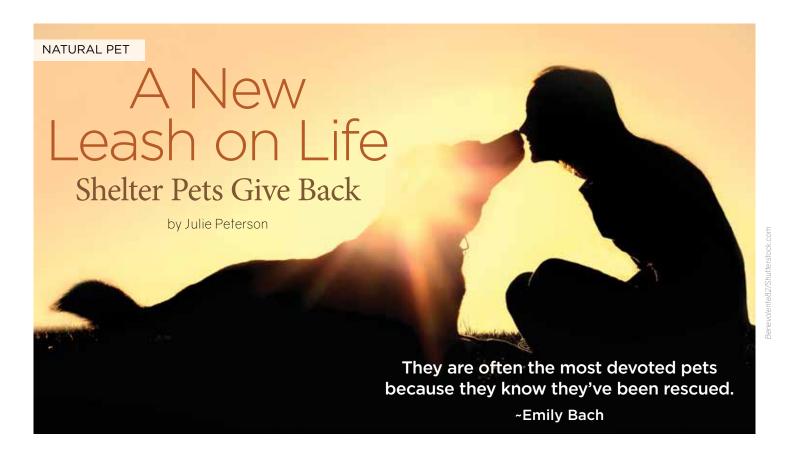


Janet Raftis is a Master Energy Healer and divine channel whose work focuses on helping people achieve a greater sense of wellness and a stronger sense of

connection with Spirit. For more information, visit JanetRaftis.com







ade Breunig, of Buckeye, Arizona, had lost his marriage, his job and his house. To combat depression, he went to the local animal shelter to adopt the first cat that "talked" to him. As if on cue, a 2-year-old black cat yowled persistently. During the adoption, Breunig learned that "Bubba" had been scheduled to be euthanized. He was saving

Fourteen years later, Bubba died, and Breunig knew he would miss the mischievous, playful companion that loved car rides more than most dogs. Crying, but surrounded by his second wife and kids, he realized, "I didn't save Bubba's life. He saved mine."

Devoted and Practical

The benefits of the human/animal bond are manifold, supported by an army of studies that speak to pets' ability to reduce stress, improve mood and even reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease. Research into animal-assisted therapy compiled by the University of California, Los Angeles, details the positive mental, emotional and physical effects of this natural modality.

Anyone looking to lower blood pressure, ease anxiety or secure companionship can find it all at their local shelter, where homeless dogs and cats are eager to oblige. Emily Bach, public relations and event coordinator at Bishop Animal Shelter, in Bradenton, Florida, has many inspiring stories about adopted shelter animals. "They are often the most devoted pets because they know they've been rescued," she says.



Meet Your Match

Best Friends Animal Society has a quiz called Paws Like Me (BestFriends.PawsLikeMe.com) to match people with adoptable animals. Shelter workers can also help families select appropriate pets.

The outdated myth that shelter pets are incorrigible, unlovable animals with behavioral issues no longer holds. Family circumstances—a change of job or residence, death, divorce or illness-can land a confused and well-loved dog or cat in a shelter. Others become accidental strays or are unceremoniously dumped by uncaring owners. Bishop, a no-kill shelter, places about 100 pets every month, showcasing them on social media, news outlets and at outreach events.

No-Kill Initiative

Shelters share success stories of animals that get a "forever home". Unfortunately, hundreds of thousands don't and are euthanized. Best Friends Animal Society, in Kanab, Utah, is working to change this. By partnering with animal welfare organizations and shelters, Best Friends has a goal to "Save Them All" through an initiative to make all of the nation's shelters "nokill" by 2025—which means 90 percent of shelter animals might be saved. Euthanasia will be reserved for failed rehabilitation or when an animal has no chance of recovery from an illness or injury.

In 1984, when Best Friends was founded, about 17 million animals died in U.S. shelters annually. As of August 2019, that number is down to 733,000, a nationwide save rate of 76.6 percent.

Historically, no detailed data was kept on shelters. "For decades, we have worked in the dark to end shelter killing because we lacked accurate information about the problem we were trying to solve," says Julie Castle, CEO of Best Friends. The organization recently launched the community lifesaving dashboard (BestFriends.org/2025-goal), a database that anyone can access to help save

shelter pets. "With a better understanding of where the trouble spots are and the profile of animals being killed in a community, we can better deploy our collective resources for the greatest lifesaving impact."

Part of the success of the no-kill movement involves increased awareness that kindness toward all species is important. Bach points out that shelter animals are also the lower-cost option for people that want pets; most are vaccinated and neutered before they are adopted out and are often already trained.

Getting Ready to Adopt

Before jumping in to help save them all by adopting, potential pet parents should research breeds, crunch numbers and think ahead. The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) suggests considering several issues:

Lifestyle: Dogs live 10 to 15 years, cats up to 20. Pets should fit the family now and in the future.

Money: Pets require training, food, toys, equipment, medical exams and treatment.

Breeds: Not all dogs and cats will be a good match for every home. Personality is key.

Safety: Pet-proofing a home includes removing potential dangers and preventing accidental escape through windows, doors or fences.

Not everyone can adopt, but anyone can help. Shelters accept donations and most have a wish list of items. Volunteers are a core need at shelters, and it's work that can quench the thirst for spending time with animals without adopting any of them.

Julie Peterson writes from rural Wisconsin. Contact her at JuliePeterson2222@gmail.com.

Pets Promote Health

Many studies document the positive influence of pets on our well-being.

Healthy Heart

Single people that live with a dog have a decreased risk of cardiovascular disease. (Tinyurl.com/DogsAndCardiovascular). Part of the reason for this is likely because dog owners tend to get more physical activity than those without dogs, which makes dog owners generally more fit (Tinyurl.com/NIH-PetsAndHealth).



The demands of life can take a toll on the body. Contact with animals is linked to lower heart rate, blood pressure, cholesterol, anxiety and fear levels, and increased feelings of calmness. Lower levels of stress hormones, such as cortisol, have been shown to help regulate inflammation, which helps the immune system fight off everything from colds to diseases (Tinyurl. com/AnimalVisitationProgram and Tinyurl. com/StressAndInflammation).

Social Bonding

In children with autism spectrum disorder, animals help them learn to connect better to others. One study using guinea pigs found that these kids talked and laughed more with peers. There are now therapy



(Tinyurl.com/AnimalsAndAutism).

Mood Boost

Animals elicit smiles, which makes them great for deterring depression (Tinyurl. com/PetTherpyAndDepression).

Cancer Help

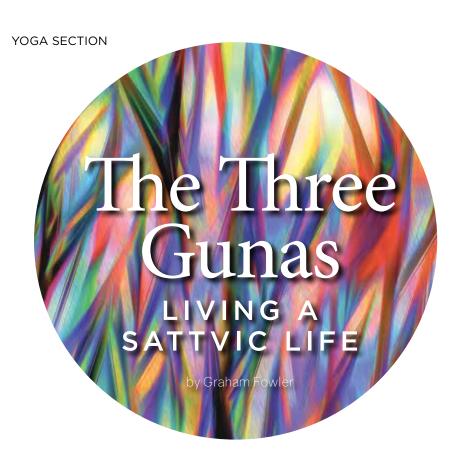
From lessening loneliness to lifting emotional well-being, children and adults undergoing cancer treatment seem to benefit from time with dogs (Tinyurl.com/ CaninesAndChildhoodCancer and Tinyurl. com/AnimalsAssistChemo).

Pain Killer

Animals can soothe away some chronic pain and enable people to reduce use of pain medication (Tinyurl.com/Animals AndPainRelief).

October is National Shelter Pets Month Bring Home a Friend for Life





ccording to yoga philosophy, everything is made up of three qualities or attributes, called *gunas*—sattva, rajas, and tamas. The predominant energy of *sattva* is light. The predominant energy of *rajas* is motion. The predominant energy of *tamas* is darkness. As *guna* means thread or strand, the three gunas weave together these three intertwined aspects to form everything in existence. The proportion of each thread determines the dominant feature of what is formed.

Everything exists because of the interplay of the gunas and every aspect of our existence is profoundly affected by them.

State of Flux

The three gunas are constantly in a state of flux, but we can and do influence them as well. Everything we say, think or do sets in motion the influence of sattva, rajas or tamas, reinforcing them in body, mind, behavior, and being.

A predominance of sattva is expressed as clarity, upliftment, intelligence, harmony, friendliness, compassion, discernment, inner happiness or gratitude. A key goal of yoga is to cultivate sattva guna in every aspect of life.

A predominance of rajas brings up impulses of desire, ambition, passion. It can provide impetus to get things done. In excess, it can show up as restlessness, jealousy, greed, aggressiveness, hatred, anger, chaos.

When tamas predominates, it is grounding. A little bit of tamas makes for a good night's sleep. In excess, tamas leads to dullness, inertia, procrastination, doubt, superficiality, apathy and despair.

Cultivating sattva is of prime importance to the yogi. Allowing rajas and tamas to predominate is to allow toxic thoughts and behavior to predominate, leading to disharmony, disease and premature aging—obstacles to the state of yoga.

On the Yoga Mat

Imagine three people in the same yoga class, practicing *paschimottanasana*, or Seated Forward Fold. What guna do you think is dominant in each of them?

Ella is determined to make an impressive showing and struggles mightily to go very deeply into the pose. "I will touch my toes, by God," she thinks. As a result, she rounds her shoulders to lurch farther forward, which gains her about an inch but brings pain into her lower back. She labors on, hoping to impress the new teacher, who seems interesting.

Emmett is just not into it. He's absently checking his fingernails as he half-heartedly moves into the pose. He's not really challenging himself. "What's the use?" he thinks. He slouches his upper back, which compresses his diaphragm, interfering with breathing. But he's only slightly uncomfortable, so he begins to drift off.

Chloe moves mindfully into the pose, present to body and breath. She has a pleasant feeling of restful alertness; her breath follows her awareness to the sensations of stretch in the body. Her body remains open as the stretch gradually deepens to the point where it feels right to her. Her sense of quiet exhilaration brings an upsurge of gratitude, which is imperceptible to others in the class except for the slight hint of a smile on her face.

Food for Thought

In the *Bhagavad Gita*, a highly regarded text from the yoga tradition, Krishna describes to Arjuna how the food we eat affects the presence of each of the gunas:

Sattva ~ Food that is fresh, soothing and agreeable to digestion, prepared with positive attitude and received in gratitude. Breakfast is light; lunch is substantial as required but not more; dinner is as light as possible so bodily organs can rest through the night. (b.g.17.8)

Rajas ~ Rajasic people are drawn to spicy, hot, bitter, salty, acidic and burning food. Like the people who eat it, this food produces pain, grief, and disease, and hinders spiritual attainment. (b.g.17.9)

Tamas ~ Tamasic people eat old, overcooked, stale, tasteless, impure, empty, and dead food with no nutritional value. This food returns these qualities in kind to the eater. (b.g.17.10)

In practice, we tend to cycle through the gunas, with one then another predominating, in the same way we can tend to favor a certain diet, perhaps sattvic, but then fall off the wagon with some unconscious, habit-driven action that's not in our best interest.

But there's always a moment of a choice—even if it's just a split second—to notice what may have otherwise been a mindless impulse to raid the fridge and scarf up massive quantities of that cold three-day-old pizza.

A coherent daily practice of meditation and yoga increases our consciousness and we become more aware of rajasic and tamasic patterns that no longer serve us.

Increased sattva improves our observation skills. With self-compassion, we monitor and make new decisions to further cultivate the presence and potency of sattva, both on the yoga mat and in every area of life.

We need all three gunas, but as yogis, we want to cultivate a predominance of sattva guna, while retaining some rajas and a small amount of tamas. How do we strike a balance? The eight limbs of yoga, as advocated in Patanjali's Yoga Sutra, begin with prescriptions for a sattvic lifestyle. The first two limbs, *Yama* and *Niyama*, help us measure how well our behavior and mental patterns align with sattva. [See more about the first two limbs of yoga in "Live Like a Yoga Part 1" in our June issue.]

A Sattvic Life

According to Ayurveda, we "digest" everything we take in through our senses, not just through our food, and everything can have a rajasic, tamasic or sattvic influence on our being. Equipped with this awareness, we can be more discerning about our choices—the movies we watch, the substances we take into our bodies, the people we associate with, who we choose as our role models and all aspects of our lives.

To cultivate more sattva in life, we can begin to notice the effects of the day's activities and begin to bring more awareness to everything we do.

In yoga practice: Notice the effect of your asana practice on your body and mind, both during and especially the time following your practice. Do you have a sense of clarity, upliftment, calm energy (sattva)? Or do you feel agitated, quick to fly off the handle, impatient (excess rajas)? Or dull, wiped out, needing to sleep (excess tamas)? Notice, and modify your practice as needed.

In meditation: "Be without the three gunas, Arjuna, freed from duality," says Krishna in the *Gita*. But he is not advocating eliminating the three gunas from our lives. He is advocating a technique of meditation that moves us *beyond* the technique to a state of pure meditation—beyond any thought, attitude or intention. Resting in this state brings us back into alignment—the state of yoga.

In activity: "Established in Yoga, perform action, for balance of mind is called Yoga." (b.g. 2.48) By regularly resting in meditation, we return to activity refreshed and with a balanced perspective. We are more able to observe our life and make more conscious decisions on how we choose to be.

In our thoughts: Becoming more aware of the effect that our own thoughts have on us might be the biggest challenge of all. Are our thoughts creating conflict or separation (rajas)? Inertia (tamas)? Or upliftment and harmony (sattva)? It might be difficult to stop an unhealthy thought from manifesting at first. But we can choose not to entertain it.

As we grow in sattva, the quality of our thinking and behavior will naturally become more positive and life-supporting.



Graham Fowler is creating a haven on the banks of the Upper Tallulah River for yogis and lovers of nature. Contact him at grahamfowler@comcast.net.



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~Ileana D'Cruz

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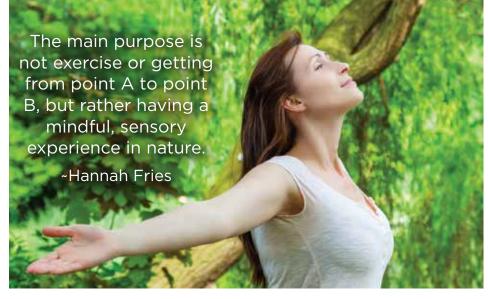


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FOREST BATHING

Mother Nature's Rx for Body and Mind

by Marlaina Donato

n 1982, the Japanese government coined the term Shinrin-yoku ("taking in the I forest atmosphere" or "forest bathing") to inspire people to visit and appreciate national parks. Today, that walk in the woods has become a medically recommended activity worldwide for improving immunity, reducing symptoms of anxiety and depression, managing chronic pain and promoting better sleep. The research supporting the physical and mental benefits of forest bathing is so compelling that it's advocated by the National Institute of Public Health of Japan and prescribed to patients there.

Researchers from the University of East Anglia, in England, examined years of studies and found significant evidence that experiencing nature has a positive impact on health. Published in the journal Environmental Research in 2018, the metaanalysis involving 290 million participants from 20 countries concluded that spending time in green spaces lowers blood pressure and cholesterol, and reduces the stress hormone cortisol. The study also noted a lower risk of Type 2 diabetes and death from heart disease.

Terpenes and Tree Therapy

Another recent review of studies, published in the International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health, concluded

that Shinrin-yoku can ease the symptoms of adult depression. "Forest bathing plugs us into something we all seek—a source of peace and well-being. The thing that first hooked me into being a forest bathing guide was reading the robust body of research that proves the benefits of forest bathing," says Judy Beaudette, board secretary of Friends of North Creek Forest, in Bothell, Washington.

Melanie Choukas-Bradley, a certified forest therapy guide and author of *The Joy* of Forest Bathing: Reconnect With Wild Places & Rejuvenate Your Life, in Chevy Chase, Maryland, attests to the therapeutic value of forest bathing. "Even occasional nature immersion can have beneficial health effects that can last for days. Many doctors are now prescribing nature to patients. There's an organization devoted to this called Park Rx America." She recommends just 20 minutes during a lunch break to sit on a bench or on the ground beneath trees.

There are many theories of why spending time in the woods or any other natural place makes us feel good; for example, findings published in the journal *Toxicological Research* in 2017 attribute the immune-boosting, mood-lifting benefits of forest bathing to natural terpenes released into the air by trees, especially conifers. Terpenes contain anti-inflammatory properties that strengthen the body's natural defenses.

Sensory Immersion, **Not Exercise**

Shinrin-yoku is intended to engage the trinity of body-mind-spirit. "The main purpose is not exercise or getting from point A to point B, but rather having a mindful, sensory experience in nature. It isn't some prescribed task you need to do, like pushups," explains Hannah Fries, a poet and author of Forest Bathing Retreat: Find Wholeness in the Company of Trees. She communes with the wild for both health and inspiration. "Even if it's only 20 minutes a week, go outside without a phone or other electronic device. Walk slowly. Look more closely. Listen. Smell. Touch. Interact with the living, breathing world around you. It's that simple."

Choukas-Bradley says that observance is key. Recalling her first forest bathing experience, she says, "We paid attention to our breath and tuned in to the sights, sounds and sensations all around us. I noticed a perfect spider's web, just barely trembling in the slightest breeze, its creator clinging to the center."

She recommends finding a "wild home"—a neighborhood park, garden or backyard tree. "Make it a practice to find a 'sit spot' where you can quietly observe beauty and are apt to feel a sense of awe. Psychology researchers have shown that experiencing awe has many positive effects on emotional health."

It doesn't matter if we commune with nature in a rural or urban setting, only that we remain dialed in to our surroundings. "Forest bathing is a tool for slowing down our buzzing minds and practicing a secret superpower—the skill of consciously choosing what we put our attention on," says Beaudette.

Marlaina Donato is the author of several books, including Multidimensional Aromatherapy. She is also a composer. Connect at AutumnEmbersMusic.com.

YOGA EVENTS

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26

2nd Annual PositiviTEA for the Soul - 3-5pm. All-levels, beginner-friendly Vinyasa yoga class, followed by discussion with light refreshments. We seek to build community from peoples of diverse backgrounds and launch the healing process for everyone. Presented by Yung Yogi, @thayungyogi. At Yoga Samadhi, 27 Waddell St NE, Unit A, thayungyogi@gmail.com, www.eventbrite.com/e/positivitea-for-the-soul-tickets-73004722089

SUNDAY

Feelflow Yoga & Sound Healing in Nature -

11:33am. Also Mon. 7:07pm. A great way to release any stress that you had to intake during your week. Bring own mat. Plant-based fruit snacks provided. \$7/class. Winn Park, 32 Lafayette Dr NE, Atlanta. Tinyurl.com/y6csqjbv.

Family Yoga - 2pm. Introduce your children to the pleasures of fitness with a weekly restorative yoga session. Designed for children 12 and under. Reiki With Love, LLC Healing Sanctuary, 420 McDonough Blvd SE, Atlanta. Tinyurl.com/y6qcu4o

Restorative Yoga – 3-4pm. With Reiki with Love, LLC, LaShorn Love, Owner. Bring yoga mat, water bottle and any other equipment you may need. \$10 if preregister. 420 McDonough Blvd SE, Atlanta. Tinyurl.com/yccx9jev.

MONDAY

Hatha Yoga - 6-8pm. With Raj Mehta. Gentle stretching and health education. Each week Rai presents information about different herbs. Free. Sevananda Community Room, 467 Moreland Ave NE Atlanta. 404-681-2831. Sevananda.coop.

Hip Hop Yoga - 6:30-7:30pm. Led by certified yoga teacher Jaimee Ratliff. An inspiring flow for all levels, set to your favorite Hip Hop + R&B tunes. Free. The Home Depot Backyard, 1 Backyard Way, Atlanta. IaimeeRatliff.com.

TUESDAY

Yoga for Runners and Athletes - 6:30-7:30pm. Not held 1st Tues. With Morgan Bettini. Class gives you specific cross training that creates more strength, flexibility, mobility and mental stamina. All levels welcome. \$6/class. The Center for Love and Light, 1145 Zonolite Rd, Ste 10, Atlanta. More info & to register: WithLoveAndLight.com.

WEDNESDAY

Free Yoga & Mindfulness Class - 12-1pm. Introduction to mindfulness and how to apply it to daily life in order to live with greater freedom and happiness. Includes discussion, a gentle yoga practice and a formal mindfulness practice. 5575 New Northside Dr, Ste 100, Atlanta. SatiYogaAtl@gmail.com. SatiYoga.net.

FRIDAY

Community Class - 4:30-5:30pm. Enjoy a vinyasa flow or power class. Format determined by the teacher. Benefits Holbrook Farms Retreat for Survivors of Heros. \$5 donation. LiveURYoga, 408 S Atlanta St, Ste 157, Roswell. 770-299-1639. LiveURYoga.com.

Community Kirtan – 8-10pm. Last Fri. Open mic/informal format, where you take turns in sharing songs and chants. Free; donations accepted. Form Yoga, 533 W Howard Ave, Unit C2, Decatur. Pre-register: FormYoga.com.

SATURDAY

Sunrise Yoga Meditation - 7-8am. Simple mantras, gentle asanas, pranayama and guided meditation. Unity North Atlanta, 4255 Sandy Plains Rd, Marietta. 678-819-9100. UnityNorth.org.

Free Yoga - 8:30-10am. Yoga and pranayama (breathing) for all levels and ages. Greater Atlanta Vedic Temple, 492 Harmony Grove Rd, Lilburn. 770-381-3662. VedicTemple.org.

PRIVATE INSTRUCTION

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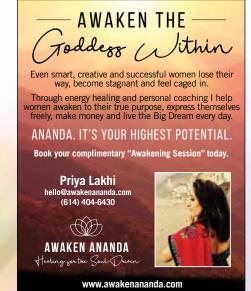
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Submit free listings to calendar@ naAtlanta.com and paid listings to ads@naAtlanta.com.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2

8th Annual FDHA Health Summit – 9am-1:30pm. Theme: Mind Matters Too. Purpose is to build a healthy community by sharing resources and solutions through various workshops, a luncheon and wellness screenings. Free. Hyatt Regency Hotel, 265 Peachtree St NE, Atlanta. Tinyurl.com/y2tuw5gj.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4

The Atlanta International Night Market - Oct 4-6. Celebrate good food, exciting performances, and most importantly cultural diversity. North Point Mall, Alpharetta. AtlNightMarket.org.

Sustainable Atlanta Roundtable - 7:30-9am. Topic: Corporate Social Responsibility: Perspectives from Our Region. Southface Institute, 241 Pine St NE, Atlanta. Southface.org.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5

3rd Annual Joan P. Garner Walk & Health Fair - 9am-1pm. All ages. Includes health screenings and information, warm-up activities, and much more for the whole family. Free. Washington Park, 1125 Lena St NW, Atlanta. Tinyurl.com/y4kuw2nm.

Plant. Eat. Repeat. Fall Workshop Series 2019 - 10am. Whether you're a novice or a gardening pro, come prepared to learn from experts who will provide hands-on teaching and demonstrations. Parkview Community Garden, 353 Wilkinson Dr SE, Atlanta. ParkPride.org.

Workshop: Raising Funds for Your Park - 10am-12pm. Allison Barnett, Park Pride's Associate Director, will share with you successful methods and case studies and ideas for how to adapt these tactics to fit your own needs. \$5/person. N.H. Scott Recreation Center, 2230 Tilson Rd, Decatur. 470-371-7330. ParkPride.org.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6

Bike & Brew with REI - 8am-2pm. Join the Georgia Conservancy and REI's Outdoor School's Mountain Biking Instructors for a morning of trail riding at the Chattahoochee River National Recreation Area's Cochran Shoals Unit followed by a trip to SweetWater Brewing Company. More info: GeorgiaConservancy.org.

Pause to emPower - 4:30-6pm. With Deborah Garrard. A conversation for interfaith leaders around the topics of food and faith, wellness and wholeness. Free. The Gathering Room, Lutheran Church of the Resurrection, 4814 Paper Mill Rd SE, Atlanta. RSVP: Bit.ly/PauseToemPOWER.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7

Living Foods Institute Healthy Lifestyle Programs - Oct 7-21. 9am-4pm. 1-, 5-, 10-, 15- & 30-day programs as well as 5 Super Detox Day options available. Hands-on training in the raw and living foods recipe preparation, emotional and mental healing, cleansing and detoxification and more. Fee according to package selected; some scholarships available. Living Foods Institute, 1700 Commerce Dr, Atlanta. 404-524-4488. LivingFoodsInstitute.com.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10

Transmission Meditation - 7:30pm. A dynamic process that serves the world and is a hothouse of spiritual growth for participants. Sponsored by Share International USA Southeast Region. Free. Phoenix & Dragon Annex, Clifford Steele Building, 5505 Roswell Rd, Atlanta. 404-680-7423. Info-se@ share-international.us. Share-International.us/se/upcoming_events.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12

Taste of BBQ Festival - 10am-6pm. A family-friendly event (formerly Alive Festival) featuring tasty BBQ bites, local vendors, artist market, live music, food and a Family Fun Zone. A fundraiser for Project Green. Free admission & parking. Suwanee Town Center Park, 330 Town Center Avenue, Suwanee. AliveeExpo.com.

Fall Farm Days at Smith Plantation -

11am-3pm. Features artisan exhibits and demonstrations of life on a 19th-century farm. Free activities provided by Roswell Garden Club including handmade birdfeeders, crafts, scavenger hunt, floral arranging, petting zoo with farm animals, wagon rides and more. 935 Alpharetta St, Roswell. 770-641-3978. Roswellgov.com.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13

Me, My Health, & I: Interactive Wellness Fair – 12-4pm. For the entire family. Features a vendor market, live demonstrations and speaker sessions Free admission. Pittman Community Center, 950 Garibaldi St SW, Atlanta. Tinyurl.com/y3y47tqv.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 19

Pawfest - 10am-4pm. A dog-gone good time for the whole family. Free admission. Praise Community Church, 329 Grayson Hwy, Lawrenceville. GwinnettHumane. wixsite.com/pawfest.

A Message of Hope - 2pm. In chaotic times, we long for messages of hope. See a video presentation featuring the late Benjamin Creme as he reveals the most momentous event in human history, unfolding right now. Share International USA Southeast Region. Free. Toco Hill-Avis G. Williams Library, 1282 McConnell Dr, Decatur. 404-680-7423. Share-International.us/se/upcoming_events.

YOU HAVE THE WRITE TO HEAL

Oct 19 & 26. 2:30-5:30pm. Learn how much of your dis-ease can be relieved with the power writing. Join award-winning author and coach, Kim Green, for writing, sharing and writing your way to wellness.

Decatur Healing Arts

619-B E College Ave, Decatur. 404-378-6288. Registration: DecaturHealingArts.com/events.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20

Raw & Living Foods Banquet Feast & Graduation Party – 3:30pm. Delicious organic raw and living foods buffet and testimonies from students who have completed the Healthy Lifestyle Course. Open to the public. \$5-\$10 donation appreciated. Living Foods Institute, 1700 Commerce Dr, Atlanta. For reservations: 404-524-4488. LivingFoodsInstitute.com.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 21

Raw & Living Foods Educational Seminar & Recipe Demonstration - 7pm. Learn how to reverse and slow aging, heal disease, increase energy, reach ideal weight and more. Enjoy recipe demo and taste delicious recipes. Get all your questions answered. Open to the public. \$5-\$10 donation appreciated. Living Foods Institute, 1700 Commerce Dr, Atlanta. Call & leave name & number in your party for reservations: 404-524-4488. LivingFoodsInstitute.com.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23

TRANSMISSION MEDITATION

7:30pm. A dynamic process that serves the world and is a hothouse of spiritual growth for participants. Sponsored by Share International USA Southeast Region. Free.

Friends House

701 W Howard Ave, Decatur. 404-680-7423. Info-se@share-international.us. Share-International.us/se/upcoming_events.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24

The Nature Club Dine and Discover -

7-9pm. Learn all about bats with certified interpretive guide and bat enthusiast, Jenna Ellett. \$10/general public, \$5/CNC Members. CNC, 9135 Willeo Rd, Roswell. 770-992-2055. More info: ChattNatureCenter.org.

CENTER FOR LOVE AND LIGHT

1145 ZONOLITE ROAD NE, SUITE 7, ATLANTA, GA 30306 | WITHLOVEANDLIGHT.COM

INTUITIVE DEVELOPMENT - Oct 5-6. This workshop with Janet Raftis, Scott Hall and Lea Morgan takes you into the heart of your connection to Spirit, combining intuitive development with channeling, mediumship and connection to your Spirit guides. bit.ly/Intuitive-Development

LUMISUMMIT 2019 - Oct 11-13. Three enlightening days of amazing speakers, meditation, sound healing, channeling, kundalini yoga and you. Hosted by Jamie Butler. Speakers include Leigh Mallis, Peter Lombardi, Ashley Jones, Lori Hayes, Dr. Julia Spinolo, Danielle Hall, more. bit.ly/LumiSummit

HEALING NIGHT WITH THE LOVE AND LIGHT INSTITUTE - Oct 17, 6:45-8:30pm. Varied healing modalities and practitioners will be represented and offered to participants in 15-min mini-sessions. Guests will see up to 3 healers and have an opportunity to connect with other guests.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26

Holistic Wellness Fair - Oct 26-27. 10am-5pm, Sat; 12-5pm, Sun. Renew, refresh and rejuvenate. Features merchandise, health services, readings, food and more. Free admission. Unity North Atlanta Church, Holy Grounds Cafe, 4255 Sandy Plains Rd, Marietta. Tinyurl.com/y5vvkwth.

Reiki Training Level I - 10am-4:30pm. Level 1 training will get you started with this life-changing tool. Learn how to bring harmony and joy into your life and the life of your family members, friends and pets. Heal Center Atlanta, 270 Carpenter Dr, Ste 500, Sandy Springs. 404-307-0004. HealCenterAtlanta.com.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Sevananda Natural Foods Market's
45th Anniversary Celebration - 3-7pm.
Music, food, vendors and more!
Sevananda coop members get in free;
\$5 admission for family, friends and
the general public.

International Montessori Academy 1240 Euclid Ave NE, Atlanta 30307. sevananda.coop

Open House for New Stone Mountain

Retreat Center – 1-7 pm. The Maroon Peak Retreat and Event Center opens on November 1. See our 3-acre location that can host 30, including 8 to 10 overnight guests. Details: Dr. Imani Ma'at, 404-702-4382, or Dr. Uwa Osimiri, 248-773-1857.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 28

Detoxifying Thai Herbal Massage - 10am-2pm. Observe, learn and practice the art of massage with traditional the Thai Herbal Ball (herbal medicinal poultice) and how to perform a detoxifying hydrotherapy treatment using a portable steam unit. Heal Center Atlanta, 270 Carpenter Dr, Ste 500, Sandy Springs. 404-307-0004. HealCenterAtlanta.com.

ONGOING EVENTS

sundays

Sunday Experience - 9:30am, Adult Study; 10:10am, Meditation; 10:30am, Service. Spiritual Living Center of Atlanta, 3107 Clairmont Rd, Ste A, Atlanta. 404-417-0008. slc-atlanta.org.

Meditation Service – 10am. See website for complete list of services and events. Atlanta Meditation Center of Self-Realization Fellowship, 4000 King Springs Rd SE, Smyrna. 770-434-7200. SRFAtlanta.org.

Meditation Instruction - 10-11:30am. Free instruction for newcomers and practitioners at our Open House. Free childcare. Shambhala Meditation Center of Atlanta, 1447 Church St, Decatur. 404-370-9650. Atlanta. Shambhala.org.

Sunday Meditation, Talk and Fellowship

- 10:30-11am, personal, silent meditation. All are welcome to meditate or sit quietly. 11am-12pm, talks followed by Q&A and discussion. 12-1:30pm, tea, coffee, snacks, fellowship. Vedanta Center of Atlanta, 2331 Brockett Rd, Tucker. 770-938-6673. VedantaAtlanta.org.

Meditation Class: Sandy Springs - 10:30-11:45am. We begin each class with a short meditation, followed by a practical teaching, and end with a brief meditation based on the teaching to help integrate it into our daily lives. \$12. Loving Hut Vegan Cuisine, 220 Hammond Dr NE, Ste 302, Sandy Springs. MeditationInGeorgia.org.

One World Spiritual Center: Celebrating One World, One Heart Sunday Service -

11am. Held at the Open Mind Center, 1575 Old Alabama Rd, Ste 213, Roswell. 678-214-6938. OneWorldSpiritualCenter.net.

Reading Service – 11am. See website for a complete list of services and events. Atlanta Meditation Center of Self-Realization Fellowship, 4000 King Springs Rd SE, Smyrna. 770-434-7200. SRFAtlanta.org.

Shamanic Journey Meditation - 11am-12:30pm. First Sunday of every month. Experience Shamanic Journey as pathway to inner peace, healing and wisdom. Drums and rattles welcomed. Hosted by Gailie Spirit Weaver. Love donation. The Heron House, 102 Russell Rd, Mountain Park. For more info, RSVP & check schedule: Meetup. com/ShamanicJourney.

Free Meditation & Self-Reflection Workshop - 11:30am-12:30pm. Experience bliss and tranquility, and learn about the essence of meditation, basic posture, breathing meditation and the basics of self-reflection. Free. Happy Science Meditation Center. 1874 Piedmont Ave, Ste 360-C, Atlanta. 404-892-7770. Atlanta.HappyScience-NA.org.

Health & Success Seminars - 1:30-2:45pm. Check website for most current times, dates and topics and other weekly programs. Happy Science Atlanta, 1874 Piedmont Ave NE, Ste 360-C, Atlanta. Atlanta. HappyScience-NA.org.

Monthly Feminine Energy Empowerment Seminars – 2:15-3:30pm. 4th Sun. Topic changes monthly. Designed with the particular needs of the transformative woman, these workshops deal with topics pertinent to spiritual empowerment, health and wellness, and living your authentic self. \$15. Hidayah Reiki, 4282 Stone Mountain Hwy, Ste K, Lilburn. 678-438-6442. Hidayah Reiki.com.

mondays

Monday Night Ride: Larry's Winter Edition

 6:30pm. 17 miles; 15-17 mph (no drop).
 A good ride for a Monday, not too slow but isn't a strenuous ride either. No ride if raining. Roswell Bicycles, 670 Houze Way, Roswell. BikeRoswell.com/events.

Monday Night Meditation - 7-8pm. An instructor-led meditation and discussion as we develop our meditation practice by maintaining a moment-to-moment relaxed awareness of our surrounding environment, bodily sensations, thoughts and emotions. All levels. \$10. Open

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THREE FACES OF THE HEALING GOD-DESS WORKSHOP - Oct 6, 2-6pm. With Mandara Cromwell and Kate Holland. Be introduced to the relatively new science of cymatics—making sound visible, along with many other mystical techniques that are now on the forefront with advanced sound technology. \$25.

MATRIARCHY & THE MOON: LUNA 101 -

Oct 8, 7-8pm. With Jaia Devi. Workshop is a remembrance of our traditional matriarchal ways. Come prepared to re-awaken intrinsic knowledge as you are guided on an exploration of lunar and matrilineal traditions around the globe. \$30; \$40 including a 1-oz lunar medicine.

FAERIE HOUSE MAKING - Oct 26, 10am-12pm. With Candace Apple. Entice the faeries into your world with a mystical, magical faerie cottage created from gourds, mosses, fungi, twigs, nuts and dried flowers. \$35; supplies included.

Mind Center, 1575 Old Alabama Rd, Ste 213, Roswell. 678-243-5074. TheOpenMindCenter.com.

One Breath at a Time: Buddhism and the 12 Steps - 8-9:30pm. Also Thurs, 7:30-9pm. Meetings start with 10 mins of shamatha meditation. Reading from One Breath at a Time followed by open discussion. Shambhala Meditation Center of Atlanta, 1447 Church St, Decatur. 404-370-9650. Atlanta. Shambhala.org.

tuesdays

Let's Meditate Atlanta - 12-1pm. Sahaja Yoga meditation sessions are always free. East Roswell Library, 2301 Holcomb Bridge Rd, Roswell. Facebook.com/groups/We-MeditateGroup.

Sierra Club Meeting - 7pm, refreshments; 7:30pm, program. 2nd Tues. Georgia Chapter Office, 743 E College Ave, Ste B, Decatur. More info: Georgia.SierraClub.org/Atlanta.

Introductory Presentation on Meditation and Positive Living - 7-9pm. Come and enjoy this most inspiring of topics to reach your highest potential as soul. Free. Life Enrichment Center, 1340 McConnell Dr, Decatur. To register, Dhana: 404-273-5704. Santmat.net.

Let's Meditate Atlanta - 7-8pm. Sahaja Yoga meditation sessions are always free. Mountain View Regional Library Study Room, 3320 Sandy Plains Rd, Marietta. Facebook.com/groups/WeMeditateGroup.

Meditation on Twin Hearts - 7-8pm. This meditation works on the physical, mental and spiritual levels to open the heart chakra and the crown chakra, thereby enabling you to draw down a great amount of high-quality divine energy into the crown. Donations of \$10 & up accepted. The Center for Love and Light, 1145 Zonolite Rd, Ste 10, Atlanta. WithLoveAndLight.com.

wednesdays

Noon Time Four Stage Meditation -

12:15-12:45pm. With Minister Bob Imai. Check website for most current times, dates and topics and other weekly programs. Happy Science Atlanta, 1874 Piedmont Ave NE, Ste 360-C, Atlanta. Atlanta. HappyScience-na.org.

Decatur Farmers' Market - 4-7pm. Also Sat, 9am-1pm. Local farmers, artisanal food makers and crafts. Every market hosts live music, free samples from our chef demos, CSA subscription pick up and more. First Baptist Church of Decatur, 308 Clairmont Ave, Decatur. 404-373-1653. fbcdecatur. com/index.php.

An Introduction to the Happiness Program -

:30-7:30pm. We all want happiness but how do we get there? Come find out how in a fun-filled, interactive and informative session. Includes: guided relaxation through the breath; light yoga & stretching; insights into the nature of mind; guided meditation; Q&A session. Free. Art of Living Atlanta Center, 7730 Roswell Rd, Ste 400, Atlanta. ArtOfLiving.org/us-en/atlanta.

Weekly Wednesday Meditation Class -

7-8:30pm. Open to all levels. Experience true inner peace. With the Venerable Nicholas Thannissaro Georgia Meditation Center, 4522 Tilly Mill Rd, Atlanta. MeditationCircle.org.

Spiritual Women Entrepreneurs Network – 7-9pm. Meets the 2nd Wed each month for a Cookies + Connection networking and mastermind event. Soul, Mind, Body, 3115 Piedmont Rd, Ste D102, Atlanta. RSVP: Meetup. com/SpiritualWomenEntrepreneursAtlanta.

Medicine Circle: Healing Chants from the Buddha Dharma - 7:30pm. A community offering for anyone who is in need of healing, or anyone who knows someone who is in need of healing. Free; donations accepted. Candler Park Yoga, 1630-D Dekalb Ave, Atlanta. MantraChant.com/medicine circle.

Wednesday Night Meditation Service – 7:45-8:30pm. Features guided meditation, chanting, silence and prayer. Unity North Atlanta, 4255 Sandy Plains Rd, Marietta. 678-819-9100. UnityNorth.org.

thursdays

Monthly Park Meeting - 7:30-9am. 2nd Thurs. Park Pride brings together community leaders and park advocates from throughout Atlanta for education, networking and strategy. More info: ParkPride.org.

Light Workers Support Group - 11am-1pm. A support group for beginning and current Light-Workers, Star Seeds, Earth Angels. All practices welcome. Commune with others, share experiences and connect with a conscious community of individuals dedicated to rising the vibration of others. Lake Claire Community Land Trust, 270 Arizona Ave NE, Atlanta. 708-320-942. Thetxlp.com.

Midday Meditation - 12-12:45pm. With Kisha Lee Crawford. Meditation practitioners of all levels welcome. \$10. Phoenix & Dragon Bookstore, 5531 Roswell Rd NE, Atlanta. 404-255-5207. PhoenixAndDragon.com.

Orientation to Energywork - 7pm. 1st Thurs. Introduction to channeling and energywork. Bill will explain concepts of channeling, energywork, remote healing, transfer process, and potential benefits of energywork. Free. One block from Midtown Marta Station. To reserve a seat: 404-423-5747. inmatehealingbill@gmail.com. EnergyworkATL.com.

Meditation Practice Group - 7-8pm. 2nd & 4th Thurs. A free program for new and experienced meditators who wish to learn how to meditate or deepen their practice of meditation on the inner light. No experience necessary. All welcome. Sevananda Community Room, 467 Moreland Ave NE, Atlanta. Cindy: 770-363-8935 or Infose@sos.org.

Twin Hearts Meditation - 7:30-8:30pm. This meditation is an act of service. We use divine energy to bless the planet, our loved ones and every part of our life. Atlanta Pranic Healing Center, 1955 Cliff Valley Way NE, Ste 215, Atlanta. 470-333-2742. AtlPranicHealing.com.

One Breath at a Time: Buddhism and the 12 Steps - 7:30-9pm. See Mon listing. Shambhala Meditation Center of Atlanta, 1447 Church St, Decatur. 404-370-9650. Atlanta.Shambhala.org.

fridays

Environmental Sustainability Board

Meeting - 8-10am. Decatur City Hall, Conference Rm, 509 N McDonough St, Decatur. Lena Stevens: 404-370-4102 or Lena.Stevens@DecaturGA.com.

Friday Patio Nights – 7pm. Includes sidewalk sales and live music, when live music is available otherwise it is playlists and Pandora. Antlers and Wings, 245 E Trinity Pl, Ste 1210, Decatur. 404-861-6216. AntlersNWings.com.

saturdays

Glow of Love Saturdays – 10am. Volunteer wanted. Come rain or shine we will be in attendance gaining knowledge, volunteering our times, and tending to the most precious herb garden. Refreshments and a mini-herb lesson. Free. Grow2Glo Herb Garden, 2215 Browns Mill Rd SE, Atlanta. Tinyurl.com/yxtc8g8w.

Bike Roswell Saturday Morning Ride -

9am. Informal, year-round group ride that rolls along 25 miles of the beautiful Roswell Mayors Ride route through Roswell. Riders of all abilities. Roswell Area Park (Front Lot), 10519 Woodstock Rd, Roswell. More info: BikeRoswell.com/events.

Decatur Farmers' Market - 9am-1pm. See Wed listing. First Baptist Church of Decatur, 308 Clairmont Ave, Decatur. 404-373-1653. fbcdecatur.com/index.php.

Seven years without a cold? Copper in new device stops cold and flu

By Doug Cornell

New research: Copper stops

colds if used early.

ore and more people are saying they just don't get colds anymore.

They are using a new device made of pure copper, which scientists say

kills cold and flu viruses.

Doug Cornell invented the device in 2012. "I haven't had a single cold since then," he says.

People were skeptical but EPA and university

studies demonstrate repeatedly that viruses and bacteria die almost instantly when touched by copper.

That's why ancient Greeks and Egyptians used copper to purify water and heal wounds. They didn't know about viruses and bacteria, but now we do.

Scientists say the high conductance of copper disrupts the electrical balance in a microbe cell and destroys the cell in seconds.

So some hospitals tried copper touch surfaces like faucets and doorknobs. This cut the spread of MRSA and other illnesses by over half, and saved lives.

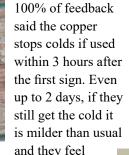
Colds start after cold viruses get in your nose, so the vast body of research gave Cornell an idea. When he next felt a cold about to start, he fashioned a smooth copper probe and rubbed it gently in his nose for 60 seconds.

"It worked!" he exclaimed. "The cold never got going." It worked again every time.

He asked relatives and friends to try it. They said it worked for them, too, so he patented CopperZapTM and put it on the market.

Now tens of thousands of people

have tried it. Nearly 100% of feedback said the copper stops colds if used within 3 hours after the first sign. Even up to 2 days, if they still get the cold it is milder than usual and they feel better.



Users wrote things like, "It stopped my cold right away," and "Is it supposed to work that fast?"

"What a wonderful thing," wrote Physician's Assistant Julie. "No more colds for me!"

Pat McAllister, age 70, received one for Christmas and called it "one of the best presents ever. This little jewel really works." Now thousands of users have simply stopped getting colds.

People often use CopperZap preventively. Frequent flier Karen Gauci used to get colds after crowded flights. Though skeptical, she tried it several times a day on travel days for 2 months. "Sixteen flights and not a sniffle!"

Businesswoman Rosaleen says when people are sick around her she uses CopperZap morning and night. "It saved me last holidays," she said. "The kids had colds going round and round, but not me."

Some users say it also helps with

sinuses. Attorney Donna Blight had a 2-day sinus headache. When her CopperZap arrived, she tried it. "I am shocked!" she said. "My head cleared, no more headache, no more congestion."

Some users say copper stops nighttime stuffiness if used just before bed. One man said, "Best sleep I've had in years."

Copper can also stop flu if used early and for several days. Lab technicians placed 25 million live flu viruses on a CopperZap. No viruses were found alive soon after.

Dr. Bill Keevil led one of the teams confirming the discovery. He placed millions of disease germs on copper. "They started to die literally as soon as they touched the surface," he said.

People have used it on cold sores and say it can completely prevent ugly outbreaks. You can also rub it gently on wounds or lesions to combat infections.



Dr. Bill Keevil: Copper quickly kills germs that have cold viruses.

The handle is curved and finely textured to improve contact. It kills germs picked up on fingers and hands to protect you and your family.

Copper even kills deadly become resistant to

antibiotics. If you are near sick people, a moment of handling it may keep serious infection away from you and your loved ones. It may even save a life.

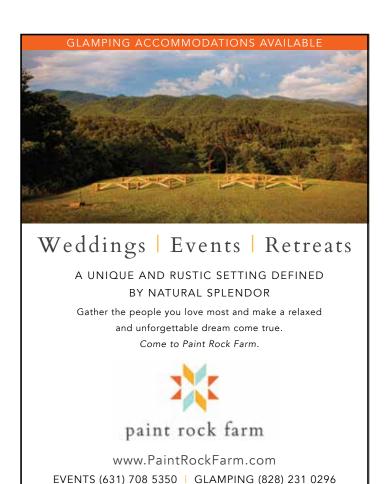
The EPA says copper still works even when tarnished. It kills hundreds of different disease germs so it can prevent serious or even fatal illness.

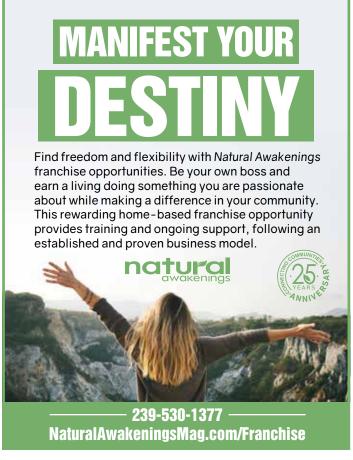
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Service @ 10am: Reading Service @ 11am. See website for a complete list of services and events.

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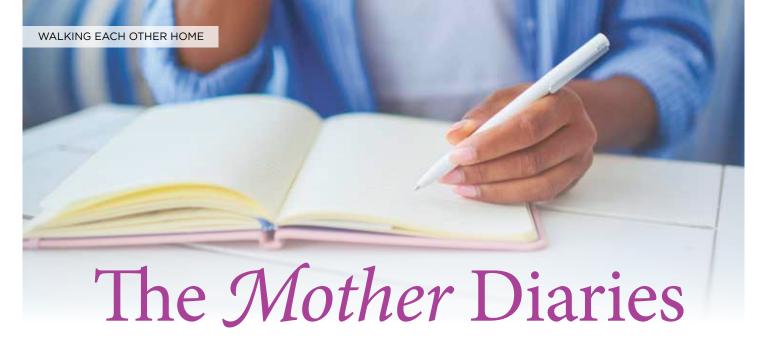
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By Kim Green

still possess that pile of loose yellow sheets that I call the "Mother Diaries." They were never meant to be a maudlin ode, never meant to appreciate or remember. Instead, they were an homage to the transformative power of gut-deep grief.

When I was 15, an unimaginable thing happened. My mother dropped dead on the New York City subway. That single moment transformed me and birthed a prolific scribe and teller of truths.

My parents were divorced, so when my father moved back, he toted a suitcase brimming with grief, rage and regret. A relentless question floated in the air: How can we live without her? I spent countless days and nights silently raging and questioning all of the things that were not for me to question. I now stand grateful for the audacity that tragedy instilled.

I remember the day that I pulled a legal pad off the shelf, instinctively knowing what to do. I wrote and wrote for days on end, freeing all the pain that had festered. I was able to question everything and find the answers. Although my answers were tainted by naiveté and discontent, they gave me a roadmap to myself. On those yellow pages, I was able to say what I needed to say and believe what I needed to believe for my own sake. I was suddenly a 15-year-old "genius," a writer of essays with the hubris to question everything. I even formed opinions about things I knew nothing about.

Luckily, no one ever read my rage, but it was the sheer sacredness of having a place to go to document my misery that got me through. Every word I wrote was a prayer to ensure that nothing could ever hurt me again. Words became my armor.

When I was 32, something else hap-

pened, toppling the towering life that I had re-built. I was a successful business owner, married to a great man, living in the stunning Sonoran Desert of the Southwest. I had an adorable son who was confirmation that miracles can happen. But by my son's first birthday, I had shrunk into a mere wisp of a woman. My chest hurt, knees rattled and my joints ached. My doctor called to tell me that I had Systemic Lupus Erythematosus. Once again, I was slapped with another inescapable truth, a tragedy for which nothing could be done. My body was filled with this strange unpronounceable disease, of which I had never heard. But I digress. This is not about that. This is about how writing saved my life, again.

I chose to go public with my news and called every person I had ever known. Talking, crying and complaining, until my mouth ached. Until one no-nonsense angel ended my senseless chatter, asking, "Well, what are you going to do now?"

To my silence, the angel said something short, sweet and profound: "Write something."

And, so I did. Remembering what my college professor said, "Write what you know," I wrote furiously and freely about being sick, scared and alone. Those early days were filled with doctor's appointments, blood draws and steroid infusions. I was able to face it all, knowing that my deepest relationship was with my empty pages; they provided the one place I could be myself.

When I wrote, I could think and re-think things that happened and could happen. In my pages, I could ward off the bad and recreate good with the magic wand of my own intention. I could take an aerial view of a situation that was too painful to bear. Writing left me with the mobility to leave the crime scene and see that I was more than just sick. My mind soared on my pages; time stood still as I played with words, ideas and altered reality. I indulged in each syllable, leaving the need for perfection by the wayside.

And as each word that pours out of me leads to the next and the next, before I know it, I realize I am still very much alive.



Author and coach Kim Green owns Blank Page Consulting. Her workshop "You Have the Write to Heal" will be at Decatur Healing Arts on October 19 and 26. More at

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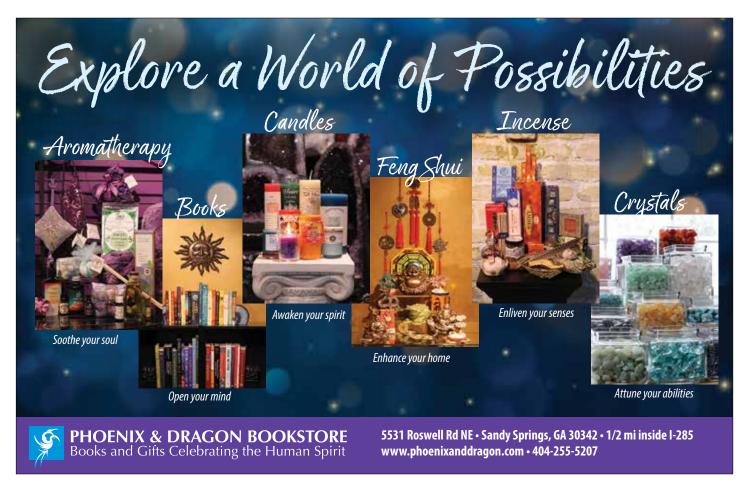
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