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hen was the last time you walked barefoot on and tumors;<sup>2</sup> and those who exercise outdoors have the beach or lay in the grass with your face in lower blood pressure, higher self-esteem, and improved the sun? How about camping in the forest or hiking without your shoes?

This may be the perfect prescription for what ails you.

Of course, this statement is nothing new. We often heard, "Go outside and play!" and know that a beach vacation can change your entire perspective. But how often do we actually do these things? Not as often as we should.

The sad truth is that in our modern society, humans have become isolated from Mother Earth, living in our plush homes with comfy shoes on our feet, and while generations before us used her healing embrace as a natural home remedy, it now takes science for many of us to understand why and how we need

Everyone agrees that being outdoors makes you feel better, yet many say we are sick from missing that connection, and studies over the years have supported that claim: attention deficit disorders improve when kids spend more time outdoors;1 short periods of time in the woods can improve depression,<sup>2</sup> while long stretches can increase white blood cells that fight viruses

mood compared to indoor exercisers.3

Palm Springs grounding pioneer, Clinton Ober

In Japan, "forest bathing," or shinrinyoku, simply being in nature and connecting through all your senses, is an evidencebased therapy with so many health benefits there is even a Japanese Society of Forest

In our nation's capital, a physiciansupported group has created Park Rx America, a public health intervention for "nature deficit disorder," encouraging doctors to prescribe time in green spaces and local parks for those with anxiety, hypertension, asthma, diabetes, and behavior issues in children.

But what is it about being connected to the earth that actually heals us?

The biophilia hypothesis suggests that we have an evolutionary need to be near nature and doing so enhances all our

senses; that we are genetically programmed to find trees, plants, water, and other natural elements engaging and soothing.

However, a local Palm Springs research and development company takes this theory a step further and points to our dependency on the earth's energy, or Continued on page 10



#### Transformative. It's the word I've heard

most from those who attended Wellspring, the mindbody-spirit think tank produced by Wanderlust and held at the Palm Springs Convention Center last October. With over 150 influential speakers, yoga, meditation and fitness classes, and an array of spaces to experience products and practices, the event was overwhelmingly wonderful.

Wanderlust's mission is to help us cultivate our best selves and the many opportunities to grow were summarized as Practice. Think. Sweat. Restore.

"The most exciting thing for us," said Wanderlust CEO and Co-Founder Sean Hoess, "was that the very concept of the event, redefining wellness to include social wellness (relationships, social change) and global wellness (environmentalism, global health), resonated with our audience. Attendees were ready to learn and practice for their own wellness, and then take larger ideas back to their community to help others."

There were too many highlights to name, and everyone took away something different. I enjoyed Making of a Modern Elder author Chip Conley, who told us "curiosity plus passion gets rid of wrinkles" and Bulletproof's Dave Asprey, who said he'd live to be 180. "Here's to attention, intention, and incorporating this knowledge and shift into my every day," said Greater Palm Springs CVB's Donna Sturgeon, while DAP's David Brinkman summed it up as phenomenal.

There were a few things I was skeptical about in the lead-up to the event, but Wellspring exceeded my expectations in every way. The first was the indoor location as Wanderlust festivals are standardly outside, but the convention center could not have been a better place; every room offered a different experience.

Another anomaly was keynote speaker Russell Brand (not really the face of health), but WOW, did he deliver an entertaining and heartfelt presentation. Through Continued on page 24



#### SAVE THE DATE AFFAIR OF THE HEART

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# CELEBRATING Mother Earth

In this shiny New Year, we take a look at our relationship with nature. When was the last time you enjoyed the great outdoors, went camping or strolled on the beach? In today's society, we've done a good job of isolating ourselves from Mother Earth, and it seems to be harming our health.

So with this New Year's issue, our wellness recommendation is simple: kick off your shoes.

Our lead feature looks at grounding, a global wellness trend with roots in our valley of which we can be very proud. Earthing pioneer Clint Ober shares memories of his mid-western youth with Native Americans and how they turned to Mother Earth for answers and healing. In Living Wellness with Jennifer Di Francesco, we learn of the Peruvian practice of honoring Pachamama, as she is called there (p.17).

It's no coincidence that grounding is growing at the same time energy medicine is evolving in both the allopathic and natural medicine worlds. Who provides more energy than Mother Earth? She - and we - are all part of a very powerful and energetic universe, and when we live life in the same direction as that universal energy flow, things go smoothly for us; when we go against the grain, things become challenging.

Both Jayne Robertson and Tracy Smith offer related insights in their respective articles, Inner Space, Inner Peace (p.27) and The Power of Emotion through Affirmation, Intention and Prayer (p.16). Jay Anderson shares The Healing Sounds of Music (vibrational energy flow; p.14) and Leah Wiltgen offers tips on maintaining our lymphatic system, our "internal river of life" (p.15).

We are all part of the same universal energy flow, and we need our Mother Earth. So kick off your shoes, get grounded and embrace the energy around you which is there for one purpose – to make you a healthier and more complete human being.

Here's to a flowing New Year for all ~

Lauren Del Sarto Founder/Publisher



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#### A Season of Good Health!

# !

## Desert Health® is proud to support these community events. We look forward to seeing you out and about!

Jan. 11 • Saks Wine & Rock 'n Roll. This charity kickoff event for the Desert Woman's Show will feature the "Best of Saks 5th Avenue" fashion show and pop-up store, Santa Margherita Wines, appetizers and open bar by Toscana Country Club with entertainment provided by Big Rock Pub. Ticket proceeds and a silent auction will benefit SafeHouse of the Desert. 6:30-8:30pm at Toscana Country Club, everyone is welcome, and tickets are \$75. www.DesertWomansShow.com/tickets.

Jan. 12 • Trilogy at the Polo Club Wellness Fair. On the beautiful grounds of the Valley's fast growing gated community whose motto is "Live Happier." A variety of valley health and wellness professionals will offer demonstrations, samples and product information from 9am-12pm. Enjoy raffle prizes and fresh bites from their acclaimed restaurant, June Hill's Table. Model home tours also available. Free, open to the public and presented by Desert Health®. Located on Avenue 52 between Monroe and Jackson. (760) 238.0245.

Jan. 16 • Wellness Worth Watching. Food Choices presented by Eisenhower Health and Desert Health. Groundbreaking documentary exploring the impact our food choices have on our individual health and that of our planet. Annenberg Health Sciences Building at Eisenhower, Rancho Mirage. Doors open 1:30pm; Movie 2-4pm. \$5. RSVP (760) 423.4855.

Jan. 16-20 • Desert Classic. The PGA Tournament is celebrating 60 years with a focus on its rich history, a festive environment and giving back to local children's charities. Top golfers compete by day while Sammy Hagar & The Circle (Friday) and Bad Company (Saturday) entertain at night (5pm). PGA WEST and La Quinta Country Club. \$30 tickets include access to three on-course hospitality venues and evening concerts and are available at www.desert-classic.com/tickets.

Jan. 25 • Women Leaders Forum's Women Who Rule presented by Desert Regional Medical Center. Raise a toast - and college scholarships - for Young Women Leaders while honoring dynamic community leaders at this celebratory luncheon. Champagne reception/silent auction start 11am (see p. 32). Agua Caliente Resort. (760) 837.7222. www.wlfdesert.org.

Jan. 26 • Palm Springs Health Run & Fitness Expo. Join runners, walkers and health enthusiasts for the 10K, 5K, and 1K Fun Run or simply come for the EXPO featuring over 100 vendors including the Pet Pavilion and Lifestream blood drive. Stay for the 1st Annual Health and Wellness Luncheon honoring United Way of the Desert's Kristal Granados and Desert Health's Lauren Del Sarto. Races begin at 8am; luncheon begins at 12pm and tickets are \$30 (see p. 34). Register at www.PalmSpringsHealthRun.com. (760) 409.1530.

**Feb. 7 – 10 • 19th Annual Palm Desert Senior Games & International Sports Festival.** The first California senior games of the season include the team events of soccer and volleyball, and individual competition in table tennis, 9-hole golf, track & field, race walking and the most popular of the sports, pickleball. Registration open through January for those ages 35 and up. www.DesertSeniorGames.org or (760) 568.2560.

**Feb. 12 • Indio Senior Center Health Fair.** Free flu shots, balance testing, blood pressure, nutrition services, giveaways, refreshments and more will be offered at this free event from 9am – 12:30pm at the Indio Senior Center. 45-700 Aladdin St. For information call Sylvia Tenorio (760) 668.0395.

**Feb. 14 • Affair of the Heart.** This free community education and screening event hosted by Desert Regional Medical Center offers guest speakers, lectures on heart conditions, treatment options and prevention, as well as free blood pressure and blood sugar screenings. 8am-2pm on the Desert Regional campus in Palm Springs. (800) 491.4990.

**Feb. 16 • WineLover's Auction.** Presented by Desert Care Network, this signature event features a wine reception and dinner to benefit Coachella Valley Volunteers in Medicine. Silent and live auctions feature wine and wine-themed baskets, travel and entertainment, art, jewelry and much more. Thunderbird Country Club 5-10pm. www.WineLoversAuction.com.

**Feb. 16 • 12th Annual Desert Woman's Show.** One day only at the Renaissance Indian Wells Resort from 10am to 5pm. Fashion shows include Pete Carlson's with spring arrivals of golf and tennis attire and Macy's. Guest speakers include Michael Klaper, MD, and life coach, Lynda Reid, author of *The Little Book of MORE*. Complimentary general admission tickets available online at www.DesertWomansShow.com courtesy of Desert Care Network while supplies last. Diana@MarloProductions.com or (760) 285.3903.

**Feb. 16 • 12th Annual Greater Palm Springs Food & Wine** at the Desert Woman's Show featuring your favorite restaurants including *Mastro's, Eight4Nine, Roy's Hawaiian, Panera Bread, California Pizza Kitchen, Wildest Greens, Daniel's Table* and much more! Tastings and live entertainment sponsored by Big Rock Pub. 11am to 4pm at the Renaissance Indian Wells Resort. Tickets are \$20 in advance available at www.GreaterPalmSpringsFoodandWine.com.

**Feb. 20 • Wellness Worth Watching.** The Mindfulness Movie presented by Eisenhower Health and Desert Health. Learn about the scientific research on the benefits and the increasing acceptance of mindfulness for brain health. Annenberg Health Sciences Building at Eisenhower, Rancho Mirage. Doors open 1:30pm; Movie 2-4pm. \$5. RSVP (760) 423.4855.

**Feb. 23 • 11th Annual Trilogy La Quinta Health Fair.** This festive and free event is open to the public and presented by *Desert Health*. A variety of Coachella Valley health professionals will offer demonstrations, samples and product information. Raffle tickets for thousands in prizes available for \$1 each to benefit Coachella Valley Volunteers in Medicine. 9am to 12pm. 60-750 Trilogy Pkwy (off Ave. 60) La Quinta. (760) 702.3037.

March 20 • Wellness Worth Watching. Queen of the Sun presented by Eisenhower Health and Desert Health takes us on a profound journey through the catastrophic disappearance of bees and the struggles and solutions facing beekeepers, scientists and philosophers. Annenberg Health Sciences Building at Eisenhower, Rancho Mirage. Doors open 1:30pm; Movie 2-4pm. \$5. RSVP (760) 423.4855.

April 24 • Wellness Worth Watching. Walk with Me presented by Eisenhower Health and Desert Health is a cinematic journey into the world of mindfulness and the Zen Buddist Master Thich Nhat Hanh. Annenberg Health Sciences Building at Eisenhower, Rancho Mirage. Doors open 1:30pm; Movie 2-4pm. \$5. RSVP (760) 423.4855.

May 22 • Desert Health Wellness Awards. The Wellness Awards return honoring those in our community moving health and wellness forward. The evening includes a reception, dinner, celebrity speaker author Mimi Kirk discussing longevity through food choices, local integrative doctor William J. Grimm, DO, and the awards presentation. To be held at The S Rancho Mirage. 6pm-9pm. Wellness Award nominations open now through March 31 and everyone is encouraged to take part (see p. 33). Visit www.deserthealthnews.com (760) 238.0245.



#### Take the Call: Your Voice and **Your Health Matter**

#### By Health Assessment and Research for Communities

In the coming months, you may get a phone call asking you to participate in a health survey. This may be the sort of thing that you normally politely decline, but this isn't just any survey. It's the Coachella Valley Community Health Survey, and it's essential to improving health in our region. Below are some of the details about the survey; we hope that you will find this information compelling enough to take the call.

Who Conducts the Survey? The Community Health Survey is conducted by HARC (Health Assessment and Research for Communities), a nonprofit research organization located in Palm Desert. The survey is conducted every three years and has been taking place for over a decade. Calls will come from HARC's partner, Kent State University (so they will <u>not</u> be from a 760 area code).

Who Will Get the Call? Community members are randomly selected to participate in the survey; anyone with a phone (cell or landline) could be called. We need more than 2,500 people to take the call and share their stories. We want to hear from everyone who lives here one month or more per year, including snowbirds and migrant farmworkers along with permanent residents.

What Happens with the Data? Once the phone calls are complete, HARC analyzes the data and prepares a written report of the findings. The report and a searchable database are freely available to the public at www.HARCdata.org. It is very important to note that individual answers are confidential. HARC's data tells a story about our entire community, not any one person in particular—so your responses are safe with us.

Who Uses the Data? The data is provided back to the community for free so that everyone can access it. HARC's data is used by a wealth of local organizations, including the cities, hospitals, clinics, and nonprofit organizations. Here are a few examples of how organizations have used HARC's data to provide services in the Valley:

- Desert AIDS Project uses HARC's HIV testing data to get funds to provide free HIV testing for everyone.
- Local senior centers, including Mizell and Joslyn Center, use HARC's food insecurity data to obtain funds to provide home-delivered meals for low-income, homebound
- Shelter from the Storm, the Coachella Valley's only domestic violence services provider, uses HARC's children's data to get funding to support their onsite schools

Is There Anything in it for Me? The call should only take about 20 minutes of your time, and as a bonus, every week one participant will receive a \$100 Visa card. The information gathered on this survey helps our community immensely, so please take the call—for your community and your health.

Who Supports this Survey? This survey is made possible by funding from the cities of Cathedral City, Coachella, Desert Hot Springs, Palm Desert, and Palm Springs; Desert AIDS Project; Desert Care Network: Desert Regional Medical Center and JFK Memorial Hospital; Desert Healthcare District; Eisenhower Health; First 5 Riverside; IEHP; RAP Foundation, RUHS – Behavioral Health and Public Health; and generous private donors. For questions, please visit www.HARCdata.org/FAQ or call HARC at (760) 404.1945.



#### **Healthcare District Seeks Two New Board Directors**

"Knowing is not enough; we must apply. Being willing is not enough; we must do." –Leonardo da Vinci

Two residents in the Desert Healthcare District's newly expanded area will soon have an opportunity to apply those wise words as members of the District's Board of

With the expansion of District boundaries, which 80 percent of voters approved on November 6, the board will increase from five to seven members. Letters of application

to fill the two new seats will be accepted until 5 p.m. Tuesday, January 8, 2019. Serious candidates with varied experience and qualifications are welcome to apply. All candidates must be registered voters who live in the Coachella Valley, east of Cook

Street. Top managers and executives employed with valley hospitals are not eligible to The new directors will be expected to help carry out the mission of the District and Desert Healthcare Foundation: "To achieve optimal health at all stages of life for all

district residents." The District/Foundation promotes equity in health care and supports many providers, hospitals and community organizations that deliver care to residents. All current and incoming directors are charged with representing the health and

wellness interests of the entire district of 400,000+ people. Board commitment includes a variety of responsibilities and at least one monthly board meeting. Directors are paid a stipend per meeting.

"Serving on the Desert Healthcare District Board is an awesome opportunity and responsibility," said Dr. Les Zendle, board president. "Unlike other boards where directors may not be directly aware of the impact they're making, District Directors are in the rewarding position of frequently hearing and seeing for themselves the effects of the decisions they make for the health and wellbeing of the Coachella Valley."

The application process includes an open meeting on Tuesday, January 15, when the board expects to review submissions and interview applicants. The board will then have an opportunity to nominate candidates for consideration, and ultimately appoint the two directors.

One of the new appointees will be expected to serve until the general election in November 2020, and the other until elections in November 2022. The terms likely will be assigned by lot.

The appointees will be the latest new members to join the board. In November, voters in Zone 4 of the District (largely Cathedral City) elected Evett Perezgil to the board. Incumbent Carole Rogers ran unopposed and retained her board seat, while Kay Hazen ended her 18-year run as a director.

To learn more about the application requirements and process, go to dhcd.org or email Board Relations Officer Andrea Hayles at ahayles@dhcd.org.

#### You're Invited to **AFFAIR OF THE HEART**



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#### **Maintaining Quality Of Life with Tinnitus**

By Lisa Nathan Bellows, MA, CCCA

It is estimated that 50 million Americans suffer from a tinnitus disorder, a ringing or buzzing in the ear. Most patients describe the perceived noise as a persistent, chronic, annoying and sometimes debilitating buzzing, ringing, static or high-pitched sound in the ear(s) or head. However, current tinnitus research now defines tinnitus as a disorder involving the brain and not necessarily the ear(s) as previously suspected.2

Tinnitus is defined categorically as subjective and objective. Subjective tinnitus occurs in 95 – 98% of patients who are the only ones to perceive the sound. There is no external stimulus present to measure. Objective tinnitus can be measured because a physical sound source is present.3

The source and intensity of the tinnitus may not be relevant to each individual patient. According to a 2014 National Institutes of Health report, "The percentage of tinnitus awareness during the day, self-reported depression and/or anxiety, and subjectively experienced loudness are the most important factors related to the severity of the perceived tinnitus."4

Even after 40 years of dedicated study and research in the field of tinnitus, the American Tinnitus Association reports that most patients are given little hope and direction when they turn to the medical community for help with their affliction. Many patients are counseled by their primary physician or otolaryngologist (ear, nose, and throat specialist) that little or nothing can be done to reduce or manage the complaints.

The good news is that there are now safe and effective non-invasive treatments to address patients who report that their tinnitus is debilitating, according to audiologist Douglas Beck, AuD, and these therapies can include the use of hearing aids.3

In their 2017 report Tinnitus Issues and Management, Mazevski, et al., concluded that many patients who suffer from chronic tinnitus also have a hearing loss component present. Many people are therefore unaware of their hearing deficit because their hearing loss is relatively silent in comparison to the tinnitus they experience. Most



While there is currently no cure for tinnitus, management options are available for those with the condition.

patients therefore pursue relief for their greatest complaint and ignore their hearing deficits. The report also revealed the 80/80 Rule: 80% of the patients with sensorineural hearing loss (nerve deafness) also experience tinnitus. Reciprocally, they added that 80% of the patients with tinnitus suffer from hearing loss.

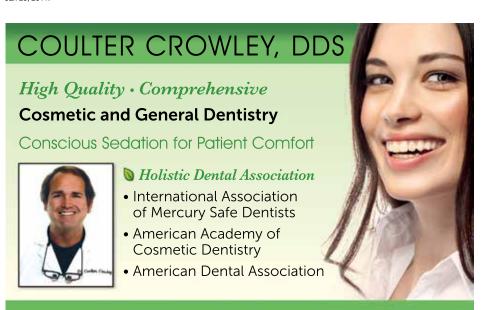
The report advised that most patients can be effectively managed utilizing three levels of support tailored to the specific needs of each patient. These primary strategies

- Level I Referral to a health care provider such as a primary physician to address the patient's general health.
- Level II Audiometric baseline testing to provide a comprehensive clinical assessment of the patient's auditory function. A tinnitus survey may be utilized. When needed, a referral to an otolaryngologist is made to diagnose and treat any ear, nose and throat conditions that may be present. When appropriate, amplification (hearing aids) and tinnitus programs may be discussed and
- Level III A skills education program designed by an audiologist and mental health practitioner to teach self-management responses to address negative reactions to tinnitus.

As articulated by Beck in 2017, tinnitus unfortunately continues to be an enigma and there are no clear answers, cures or treatments available in a one-size-fits-all medical strategy. It is important for patients who experience chronic and debilitating tinnitus to maintain flexibility when selecting a preferred method of treatment and/ or management by a physician, medical practitioner, audiologist or therapist. Baseline audiological testing is key, in cooperation with assessment by the otolaryngologist, to identify a multitude of specific medical conditions which may be present and that can be addressed. Only then can an appropriate and tailored management plan be implemented to improve a tinnitus patient's quality of life.

Lisa Nathan Bellows is an audiologist practicing in Palm Desert and a member of Desert Doctors. She can be reached at (760) 340.6494. For more information visit www.DesertDoctors.org or call (760) 232.4646.

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Lifestyle factors play a role at every age

By Lauren Del Sarto

Colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths in the U.S. behind lung cancer. According to the American Cancer Society (ACS), the lifetime risk of developing colorectal cancer is about 1 in 22 (4.49%) for men and 1 in 24 (4.15%) for women. And while colorectal cancer rates have dropped overall, the numbers are rising in younger adults, many in their 20s and even some in their teens.¹

A report from the Cleveland Clinic states that the risk of getting colon cancer before age 50 is now twice as

high, and the risk of getting rectal cancer is four times as high, for people born in 1990 as it was for those born in 1950.1

These concerning statistics have prompted the ACS to lower their recommended screening age from 50 to 45 for those at average risk.

While researchers work to identify the contributing factors for today's youth, many point to lifestyle as diet, exercise and social habits such as smoking and drinking have all been linked to adult onset of colorectal cancers.

"Diet plays a very important role in preventing these cancers," says gastroenterologist Mehrdad Asgeri, MD, of Palm Springs. He encourages all to "keep things moving" as constipation increases the exposure to toxins which irritate the lining of the colon. Additionally, he says, chronic inflammation increases your chance of these cancers, and a healthy diet can decrease inflammation.

Asgeri recommends eating fibrous foods that keep your system working properly such as leafy greens, figs (one of the most fibrous foods), fresh fruits and raw vegetables; eliminating processed meat, limiting grass-fed red meat, and eating more white meat and fresh fish. "Metamucil and other fiber supplements are good as they not only alleviate constipation, but also absorb toxins."

He emphasizes avoiding aspartame, the artificial sweetner found in diet beverages and sugar-free foods, as it has been scientifically linked to colorectal cancers.

"Exercise has also been shown to decrease and prevent colon cancer," adds the father of two with expressing concern for the younger generations. "Many young people are so bound to their computers and spend less time being physically active. We need to encourage them to get outdoors and play, and that goes for the rest of us as

#### Other risk factors

In addition to lifestyle choices - poor nutrition, inactivity, smoking, and drinking - a history of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD) such as ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease can also increase risk. Dr. Asgeri adds diabetics and those who use narcotics, muscle relaxants and steroids to the list.

Genetics do play a role and genetic testing can help identify mutations and risks. Those with a history of colorectal cancer in the family should begin screenings as early as 25 years of age.

#### Symptoms

Symptoms of colorectal cancer include rectal bleeding, blood in the stool, abdominal cramping, a change

in stool shape and consistency, and weakness and fatigue. However, many of these symptoms can also be caused by something other than cancer such as infection, hemorrhoids, or irritable bowel syndrome.<sup>2</sup> Asgeri adds that other common symptoms he sees include unintentional weight loss, loss of appetite and change in bowel habits.

#### Preventative screening

While rates of

colorectal cancer

have dropped

overall, the

numbers are

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some in their

teens

Colorectal cancer almost always develops from abnormal growths, or polyps, in the colon or rectum. Screening tests can find precancerous

polyps, so that they can be removed before turning cancerous. Screening can also find colorectal cancer early, when treatment works best,<sup>3</sup> and is important because the condition is standardly nonsymptomatic in the early stages.

However, it is estimated that only 53% of Americans over 50 have undergone appropriate screening.4 "We have to be diligent about screening," says Asgeri. "Because by the time it is symptomatic, the cancers are often too progressed for positive outcomes."

As stated, the new ACS recommendation is to start screenings at age 45 and earlier for those with hereditary risk factors (identified genes or affected family members) and those with IBS conditions.

Standard of care most often recommended is a colonoscopy which is covered by insurance as preventative. If benign polyps are found, then colonoscopies are repeated every ten years; if polyps are found to be cancerous, then every 2-5 years based on the type of cancer cells identified. Other screening options include:

- Virtual colonoscopy, a CT scan with ingested contrast and observation of the lining of the colon. While there is a 95% accuracy rate, it is less favorable due to the X-ray exposure, and if polyps are identified (25-35% of the population), a gastroenterologist is then called in for a colonoscopy to biopsy.
- Fecal immunochemical, or FIT, test is a fecal sample collected at home and sent to the lab to test for blood in the stool. It is recommended annually and reported to be 95% effective.
- Fecal DNA tests are the newest option and are also a home collection. They look for abnormalities characteristic of the DNA in colorectal cancer. With an 80% efficacy, they are recommended every three years, but significantly more expensive than FIT.
- Sigmoidoscopy is a less invasive procedure than colonoscopy and can be done in a primary care office, but only checks the lower three feet of the large intestine where more aggressive polyps usually occur. Because it does not check the entire colon, Dr. Asgeri recommends this procedure more often in rural areas where access to comprehensive options is limited.

For more information, visit the American Cancer Society at www.cancer.org.

References: 1) https://health.clevelandclinic.org/rising-colon-cancerrates-in-young-adults-prompt-earlier-screening; 2) Signs and Symptoms of Colorectal Cancer. American Cancer Society. May 30, 2018; 3) https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/colorectal/basic\_info/screening/index.htm; 4)Winawer S, Zauber AG, Ho MN, et al. Prevention of colorectal cancer by colonoscopic polypectomy. The National Polyp Study Workgroup. N Engl J Med. 1993; 329:1977-1981.



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#### **Another Reason to Exercise: Your Memory**

#### Provided by Alzheimers Coachella Valley

January is usually a time of renewed commitment to improving one's health. Diet and exercise are at the top of the list. While we know that exercise helps strengthen bones and muscles, reduces stress and the risk of cardiovascular disease and diabetes, there's another reason: physical activity benefits the brain.

According to Jonathan Graff-Radford, M.D. with Mayo Clinic, "Studies show that people who are physically active are less likely to experience a decline in their mental function, have a lowered risk of developing Alzheimer's disease, and possibly have improved thinking among people with vascular cognitive impairment."

Alzheimer's is the most common form of dementia and while the disease currently cannot be cured nor the progression of memory loss be stopped, some treatments can reduce the symptoms.

"It is evident that both physical and mental exercises can reduce the chances of getting Alzheimer's and slow down the worsening process of the disease among those who are already suffering from it," says Parama Roy Chowdhury in her CouncelHeal.com article, Alzheimer's Patients Can Slow Memory Loss Process by Regular Exercise.

She cites research led by Dr. Marie-Christine Pardon, School of Biomedical Science, The University of Nottingham, UK, which found "that the hormone CRF or corticotrophinreleasing factor, which is mostly produced in excess when a person is stressed or depressed, has a positive effect on the brain... It was also found that the amount of CRF is significantly lower in patients suffering from Alzheimer's."

"Overall, this research provides further evidence that a healthy lifestyle involving

exercise slows down the risk of Alzheimer's disease and opens avenues for the new interventions targeting the altered CRFR function associated with the early stages of the disease," said Dr. Pardon.

Brain Size Matters The hippocampus, the part of the brain that is involved in the formation of new memories and learning, begins to shrink in late adulthood.

Sportrec.com in its article, Does Exercise Improve Memory, notes the results of a 2011 study in which participants, ages 55-80, walked for 30 minutes three times a week, while others performed a stretching routine. At the end of seven weeks, the study found those who participated in walking had improved memory function due to the increase in volume of their hippocampus.

In another 2013 study published in the journal, Frontiers in Aging Neuroscience, sedentary adults ages 57 to 75 were separated into an exercise group and a wait-list. The participants exercised on a stationary bike or treadmill for an hour, three times a week. After the 12-week study, those who exercised improved their memory performance, brain health and physical fitness. The stretching group did not improve their memory.

How Much Exercise A well-rounded exercise routine should include resistance training and cardio exercise such as light walking or jogging. According to the Mayo Clinic, "short 30-minute exercise sessions have been proven to be beneficial.

Start with 10 to 20 minutes of brisk walking or weight lifting once or twice a week and gradually increase your workout. Always consult your doctor prior to beginning any exercise routine.

For more information, contact Alzheimers Coachella Valley at (760) 776-.3100.

Sources: 1) https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/alzheimers-disease/expert-answers/alzheimers-disease/fag-20057881: 2) https://www.counselheal.com/articles/3571/20130125/alzheimer-patients-slow-memory-loss-process-regular.htm; 3) https://www.sportsrec.com/406604-does-exercise-improve-memory.html

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#### New Year, New Day, Set New Goals

Each year, as December 31st approaches, people start talking about goals, especially fitness-related ones. I feel everyone has the best intentions, including myself, to lose the weight, eat clean, or detox. I like to sit down with my cancer Warriors and have a goal-intention setting night. After cancer, your body has the innate ability to detox itself and rejuvenate to healthy again, but it needs help from you both mentally and spiritually.

Let's talk about a mental detox for a second. For a survivor this might be the biggest thing to overcome: the aches, shooting pains, the fear and anxiety that comes along with the word Cancer itself, and the "what if" questions. What if it returns? Why do we think this way; why not change our vocabulary and mental state to gratitude? Why not make goals to stop ourselves when we start to drift into the that fearful state? It's hard, but maybe setting a goal to practice this type of mindful thinking one day at a time is the way to mentally detox.

Most survivors also end up with the notorious chemo belly, so maybe the goal is not to lose weight but just to tone the belly. Setting the goal to attend a gentle fitness class twice a week is realistic. Then after 30 days, increase the goal to four times a week, etc. When you start with a few days and book it like an appointment, after 30 days it will become a habit. Join a breast cancer survivors' group and ask others to help keep you accountable; you will be glad you did. Place it on your calendar like any other appointment and respect that time. Remember you are the most important person for whom you need to care.

So many times, after cancer I hear stories of survivors who try to go back to their normal routines in life. My philosophy: don't go back - it wasn't working then, so why would it work for you now? Use what you learned during your cancer treatments: self-care, slow down, enjoy the little things, don't sweat the small stuff, and live in the moment. If it is better nutrition you seek, then set goals with your family to meal prep a few times a week. Start by picking a night to do this, make 3-5 easy and interchangeable meals. It will not only be healthy for you and them, but a fun family bonding time, making conversation and connecting with one another, without electronics.

Let's talk electronics for a moment. Detox from those as well - no emails, social media, games, or even checking the news. Studies prove that all these things can make you more anxious, and we could all use a detox from anxiety. Set the goal for an electronics detox for a few hours, then half a day, then building up to a full day, and maybe even take your email off your phone. Use that extra time that you normally scroll through social media to re-connect with family, friends or use it as downtime and self-care. You will be glad you did. Send me your goals and let's keep each other accountable together. Have a very happy season and a blessed New Year.

Shay Moraga is an E-RYT500 yoga instructor, lululemon Ambassador and triple negative breast cancer survivor whose mission is to inspire, empower and educate. She can be reached at shay@namstewithshay.com or (760) 895.1705.





#### **What Does Snoring Have To Do** With My Eyes?

By Jennifer I. Hui, MD

The eyelids protect and maintain the health of our visual system. They lubricate our eyes bathing tears over the surfaces of our globes countless times a day. The tears provide nutrients, oxygen, disease-fighting antibodies, protective mucus and oils that are all key to the health of our eyes.

At times, a person's eyelids may become red and irritated, or their eyes may be constantly red, watering and sticky. These conditions can lead to floppy eyelid syndrome (FES) which is often seen in association with obstructive sleep apnea (OSA).

With FES, a patient's eyelids become very lax and excessively long/loose with time. It is part of a cyclical cause. With OSA, a person snores and stops breathing with sleep. With the cycle of repeated lack of oxygen with sleep, free radicals (rogue particles) form in the body and circulate, attacking tissues and causing inflammation. In the eyelids, these free radicals cause a change in tissue architecture and make the lids less elastic. As the elasticity is lost, the lids become more loose and lax, and easily evert with sleep.

In addition, those with OSA often turn onto their side or stomach to ease snoring which causes their eyelids to rub on their pillow and often flip over due to elasticity. The affected individual is unaware of this occurrence, but will be bothered by constant feelings of irritation and discharge.

The cycle repeats itself and relief is brought about by addressing the underlying cause - the obstructive sleep apnea.

Those suspected of having sleep apnea will be recommended to have a sleep study to confirm the diagnosis. In most cases, a CPAP device will be issued to ensure proper oxygenation is maintained with sleep. Affected individuals are also often advised to lose weight. With enough weight loss, often the OSA will cease, and the ocular complaints will improve and may even reverse themselves. If a person is unable to resolve their OSA, eyelid surgery may help to alleviate ocular symptoms. However, first and foremost, the OSA must be addressed to preserve lung and cardiovascular function. Low levels of oxygen stress both systems and significantly increase the risk of an adverse cardiac event.

So the next time your ophthalmologist asks if you snore, there may very well be a good reason! A recent patient was able to avoid having eyelid surgery after taking action to address his OSA, which can be reversed.

"I was recommended to Dr. Hui for a lazy eyelid," the patient states. "My initial meeting was met with doubt. Dr. Hui said I had OSA and would not operate until I was evaluated for this condition and tried to lose weight. After some serious thought, I did the sleep study and found I had severe OSA and began using the CPAP machine. Finally sleeping better, I took Dr. Hui's advice and lost 35 pounds in 6 months. I no longer need CPAP, the eyelid has corrected itself, and my COPD has disappeared. I have great breathing capacity, sleep soundly and regained my energy and health at 71 years old!"

Dr. Hui is the founder of The Eyelid Institute in Palm Desert. She is an Oculoplastic surgeon with a special interest in helping patients with eyelid, lacrimal and orbital conditions and can be reached at (760) 610.2677.



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Dr. Willson joined the AVID team in 2015. He was a Division 1 cross country and track and field runner at the University of Miami where he received his degree in Exercise Physiology. He received his Doctorate in Physical Therapy from the University of St. Augustine. Dr. Wilson is a three time All ACC Academic Honor Role and also holds a US Track and Field Coaching certificate. He has a passion for helping his patients regain functionality to return to their sports, pursuits and lifestyle without pain.

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#### Valeria Batross Fitness & Wellness Director, Sun City Shadow Hills

With over 22 years in the industry and a team of 25, Valeria has led the wellness charge in her community, introducing members to lifeenhancing practices beyond fitness including guided meditation, Qigong, vinyasa yoga, crystal bowls and more. She also implemented Weight Watchers, a wellness hour podcast, and events and lectures to inspire others towards living their healthiest selves.

"Embedded in me since I was 15, wellness and fitness have taught me that with knowledge, passion and empathy, I can continue to impact other's lives for the better."



#### **Denise DuBarry Hay**Owner/Founder Bikram Yoga Plus & Wildest Greens

A lifelong health advocate and practicing yogi since 1979, Denise has established quality businesses encouraging good health. She opened Bikram Yoga Plus in Palm Desert in 2011, Wildest Greens Organic Restaurant in Palm Desert in 2017, and Bikram Yoga Plus Palm Springs opening early 2019.

"I'm thrilled that I can create businesses that help people be their healthiest and happiest. It's my small contribution to our community."



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#### **Bronwyn Ison**Owner/Founder Evolve Yoga Studio & BronwynIson.com

Bronwyn founded an award-winning yoga studio in La Quinta and continues to broaden her wellness message through online classes and community outreach supporting Fit Prevention, Keep a Breast, Warrior Wellness Solutions, Run10Feed10 and Toys For Tots. She further inspires as a Women's Health Magazine Action Hero (4 years) and a lululemon Ambassador (2 years).

"As a health and wellness influencer over the years, I'm grateful to inspire and encourage others to evolve into overall wellness in mind and body."

Continued on page 25

# Paradigm By Jeralyn Brossfield, MD Shift in Medicine Today



#### **Getting Into Zen**

Is it a coincidence that the words Zen and Zone are so similar? There must be a reason that when human beings do what we love at our highest level of proficiency, we are also at peace and experience fulfillment.

There is clear evidence that our thoughts often get in the way of our flow.

I learned in typing class that once I trusted that my fingers knew where the letters were, I could stop thinking and type much faster. Musicians learn their instrument so that music can flow without specific thought of each note or strum. Athletes train so they can perform without

A very simple example of "being in the zone" happens when we are driving a familiar route and get to our destination and realize that we didn't think about the last segment of our drive – in fact it was as if we were on auto-pilot.

thinking and their skill increases.

The science of flow is big business because it can produce results far beyond those expected.



The art of Jean-Michel Basquiat

In these states of flow or "being in the zone" we tend to have peace of mind, even when

doing or creating something very technical or profound. Neuroscience shows us that when we are creating and have relaxed into the zone, we are also at our most efficient, peaceful, yet active, brain state.

I was privileged to view an exhibit of Jean-Michel Basquiat's art this past week. What struck me most was that in order to produce the volume and type of art that he produced in his eight-year career, he had to be "in the zone." The sheer number of paintings he created (over 1,500 before his death at age 27), each at rapid speed and seemingly with abandon, belie minimal effort. The lines and brush strokes of his art appear to be created so freely that it seems as if he must not have been thinking about what he was painting, but simply letting it flow.

The juxtaposition of this apparent flow and outcome compared to my own experience when I paint made me think: 1) this is where talent differentiates the great artists (LOL), but also; 2) If I weren't trying to copy something else, or thinking my art needed to look a certain way, be proportional, or make sense... then maybe I could let it flow and my own version of art would emerge.

The closest I've come to experiencing this has been a phase where I did "dot" painting by transferring paint using the end of a chopstick and made repeating

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# Benefits of Participating In a Clinical Research Study

#### Provided by Palmtree Clinical Research

The main thing to know when considering participation in a clinical research study is you are not a human "guinea pig." Clinical studies are strictly monitored; volunteers receive detailed informed consent forms to review and sign before participating, and they receive excellent care by a team of medical professionals including a supervising physician. Many clinical research trials available in the Coachella Valley are phase 3 studies, which is the last phase of investigation to confirm safety and effectiveness before the medication or treatment is presented to the FDA for final approval.

Some studies compare existing drugs with similar new options; other trials test previously FDA-approved medications or ingredients that are being presented in different protocol combinations or strengths; and a few studies are truly groundbreaking.

One of the biggest benefits of participating in a clinical study is the opportunity to obtain leading-edge care before it's readily available to the public. This is especially helpful if your current medication is not working as well as both you and your doctor would like. By volunteering in a clinical trial, you could get access to a medication or treatment that may offer greater efficacy than existing options.

One local teenager's parents enrolled her in a clinical study through Palm Springs Clinical Research for a non-steroidal topical cream to treat eczema. The girl had severe eczema on her arms and legs and would wear long-sleeve shirts and long pants even in warm weather to cover up the scaly and often broken skin rash lesions which made her feel self conscious. Over the course of the trial her eczema greatly improved to the point where she was able to wear sleeveless tops and shorts. This study medication, Eucrisa, has since received FDA approval and was the first new medication approved for eczema in more than a decade. Among this plant-based formula's active ingredients is boron. One of the side effects of steroidal creams is that they can thin the skin. The non-steroidal Eucrisa offers what may be a better safety profile and is a welcome option for managing eczema.

In addition to receiving study-related medical care at no cost, most clinical studies offer a monetary stipend for the volunteer's time and travel costs. Yet one more reason to participate in a clinical study is the altruistic aspect of helping others with the same medical condition you have and knowing that you are contributing to scientific development and the future of medicine.

According to an online survey of nearly 4,000 people in the United States conducted this past summer by Scorr Marketing in conjunction with Antidote, the top reasons people choose to participate in clinical research studies are as follows:

- 1) I wanted to help future patients who come after me.
- 2) I wanted to improve my quality of life.
- 3) I wanted to receive the best care possible.
- 4) I wanted to receive the most up-to-date therapies without the high expense.
- 5) I joined to extend my life.
- 6) I was following my doctor's recommendation.

Palmtree Clinical Research is located in Palm Springs. For more information about current clinical studies being offered, please visit www.palmtreeclinical.com or call (760) 778.7799.

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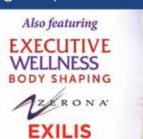
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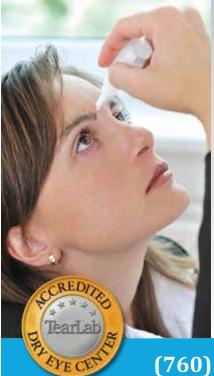
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#### Are You Grounded?

electrons, to balance our bodily systems (along with every other living thing on the planet). And all you need to do is put your bare feet on the ground.

"The concept is so simple, yet the results are so profound," says Clinton Ober, the founder of Earthing, Inc., in Thousand Palms.

Ober and his company have been conducting clinical trials on the positive effects of 'grounding" "earthing" for over 20 years.

Ober (74) grew up in the Midwest with many Native American neighbors remembers traditions that would resonate: a friend's mother telling

him to take his shoes off as they would make him sick, and a little girl with scarlet fever whom the Western doctors couldn't help. Her family placed the girl in a hole in the earth while her grandfather built a fire and sat with her for 2-3 days. Shortly after, she was back playing with the others.

"The main thing I learned from the Native Americans is that they look at everything as alive," notes Ober, "from trees to a blade of grass, to the earth. And all that the earth offers belongs to everyone."

Ober would later become a pioneer in the cable industry where he learned the importance of grounding. The air and environment contain static electricity that gives electrical wires a different amount of electrical charge than the ground and in order to eliminate static, you have to ground the wires.

He began to apply this same principle to humans who for generations roamed bare foot or wore leather shoes (which are conductive) until the 70s when rubber soles, such as tennis shoes, became the norm. After experimenting personally and on a few friends with arthritic disorders, he became convinced that grounding was Continued from page 1

the primary element humans were missing from our connection with the earth, and that reconnecting could promote normal functioning of our bodily systems and help reduce chronic inflammation and pain.

In 20 years, he has worked with doctors, scientists and health practitioners on

clinical trials through the Earthing Institute has revolutionary results. "If inflammation is the cause of most chronic health disorders," he says, "then I know that not grounding is the cause of inflammation, because we now know that if the body is grounded, we cannot inflammation."

The world is starting to take notice and the "grounding" movement is on the rise.

So impressed by the research and his first-hand experience, Deepak Chopra, MD, has added the practice to his six pillars of wellbeing including sleep, meditation and stress management; movement, yoga and pranayama breathing; emotions, nutrition and nourishment; and now, biological rhythms and grounding.

But in today's world, going barefoot outdoors all day is not realistic, so how do you stay grounded?

To conduct his research, Ober needed a means of grounding subjects and, thus, created conductive mats for beds, floors, desks and chairs that connect to the grounding plug in an electrical outlet and automatically ground users. The demand for his Earthing products became so popular, he began selling them online. Today, over a million units have been sold.

"As time went on, we recognized that we can ground people and it can reduce inflammation, but we needed to look at what was causing all this inflammation and a primary factor was stress which elevates

Continued on page 11



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# **Medical News**

#### Why Does My Tooth Hurt After the Dentist?

By Nicholas S. Baumann, DDS

A trip to the dentist is supposed to help us keep our teeth healthy and take care of dental problems, but what if after a visit that includes something as simple as a filling, we start to experience sensitivity or pain? What are the possible reasons for this, and what can be done to solve the issue?

The first most likely cause of tooth sensitivity is if the bite is high, say from a filling or crown. Having even a small excess force on the tooth can lead to inflammation in the ligament around the tooth. This can lead to sensitivity while biting, as well as to hot and cold. A bite being high by as little as a few microns can lead to this. Think about if you get something as small as a hair stuck between your teeth. It is very easy to tell, and a hair is only about 50 microns thick. Luckily, it is very easy for your dentist to adjust the bite which usually eliminates the sensitivity. Even if the bite feels ok when you bite down, it still may need to be adjusted. Our teeth don't always come down in the same position and there may be areas that hit high when different bites are performed, such as chewing, or grinding. All of these different bites need to be checked and adjusted if symptoms persist.

If bite adjustments do not alleviate the problem, another possibility would be that the restoration did not adhere to the tooth fully. If this is the case, there can be microscopic movement between the restoration and the tooth, leading to sensitivity.

This is hard to determine as you would not be able to see this at all on an X-ray. Moreover, we must focus on symptoms after other solutions have been attempted. If this is the case, the only way to resolve the issue is to replace the restoration. Composite, tooth-colored fillings are the restorations most likely to have this issue. It can also occurs in other types of restorations like crowns, although this is less

If all other things do not result in relief of symptoms, there may be a problem with the nerve of the tooth. If there is deep decay or a fracture of the tooth before a filling or crown



If a toothache after seeing the dentist remains for more than a few days, it's time to return.

is done, there may already be damage done to the nerve. The closer to the nerve, the more likely this can occur, but it may even occur in a simple filling. Preparing a tooth for a filling or crown is a trauma to the tooth. Sometimes it can just take time for sensitivity to calm down, but if the nerve reacts unfavorably to the filling process, this can lead to sensitivity ranging from minor to extreme. If the sensitivity is due to nerve irritation, the only solution is to have a root canal.

Tooth sensitivity after seeing the dentist can be frustrating; however, it can occur for a number of reasons. If you have sensitivity for longer than a few days after a filling or crown, be sure to see your dentist. Luckily, most of these cases are easy to fix either with a small adjustment or a little time, and long term it should feel just like your natural tooth.

Dr. Nick is with Palm Desert Smiles and can be reached at (760) 568.3602.



#### Are You Grounded?

Continued from page 10

cortisol and sympathetic response," says Ober. "We knew we could ground people physically, but needed someone who could ground them mentally.'

A joint venture with Dr. Chopra made perfect sense as the two share the same intention of improving the wellbeing of our world and everyone in it. Their new line of grounding products is called Deepak Chopra InnerSpace and includes grounded yoga and sleeping mats and even yoga floors.

"When I met Clint, I knew a powerful, impactful movement could be created to help people in their journey towards total wellbeing," said Dr. Chopra. "This new integration of meditation and grounding to reduce total body-mind inflammation is perhaps the most important insight yet and with 23 peer-reviewed and published studies on grounding and its various healing effects, the sound evidence is there to support the claims.'

'One of our shared goals is to grow the meditation and yoga industries," adds Ober. "When you do yoga grounded, it's easier to move and easier to meditate because you can feel the positive effects on your body."

A greater goal is to offer grounded wellness centers in cities and corporations throughout the world open and available to all. Last year they opened their very first at Desert AIDS Project (DAP) in Palm Springs which is now open to all through their new partnership with Kristin Olson's Urban Yoga. A similar site is planned this year at the Earthing headquarters in Thousand Palms.

The premier site came about as DAP and Dr. Chopra are working on a research program related to chronic inflammation in association with UC San Diego. To further aid in healing patients and DAP employees, Deepak Chopra



An enticing spot like a backyard beach can encourage daily grounding.

InnerSpace gifted the non-profit a grounding yoga floor and grounding chairs. CEO David Brinkman shared that prior to installation, there were two weekly yoga classes attended by 3-4 people. Within 60 days of installation, their classes were full, with more classes added by Urban Yoga which moved its center to DAP last year.

"At the same time people are doing yoga, they are receiving treatment for inflammation, stress and pain reduction," notes Brinkman. "I see patients and employees light up when talking about how much they enjoy their time in the grounded classes, and I know we are doing the work that is Deepak's and Clint's vision to achieve. It's a beautiful partnership and something for which we are so grateful."

A feature film on grounding called Down to Earth will also be released early this year. The film will feature Ober, Dr. Chopra, Steven Sinatra, MD, and others and the movie trailer, which has been out for two years, has received over 100 million views. A premiere screening is planned locally this spring to benefit DAP.

"We encourage you to go outside, get your bare feet on the ground, and begin to let the inflammation drain from your body," concludes Dr. Chopra, and if you don't have time for that, grounding products which are "second to nature" are also available thanks to the pioneering work of Palm Spring's own Clint Ober.

Editorial by Lauren Del Sarto, publisher, Desert Health. For more information on grounding visit EarthingInstitute.net.

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NICHOLAS S. BAUMANN, DDS

**Beauty Sleep: Myth or Must?** By Deborah Schrameck, NC, PT

Sleep is the foundation on which we build and maintain our health and is the best way of guarding against stress and age-related

Is the concept of beauty sleep a myth or reality? Science tells us that a good night of sleep is essential for repairing, regenerating and restructuring the skin. Several studies suggest that the magic happens between 11 p.m. and 2 a.m. when the skin renewal rate almost doubles, increasing cell division that renews and repairs skin.

During the day when it's light, our skin's main job is to keep hydrated and protected. At night when we're sleeping, the skin is genetically programmed to switch into recovery mode, proving beauty sleep to be far more than a marketing line.

The benefits of sleep for skin include fewer wrinkles, less sagging, rejuvenated color, fewer acne blemishes, and less

During sleep, blood flow increases to your skin increasing oxygen and nutrient delivery. This allows the skin to remove pollutants, free radicals and other irritants which cause skin aging. Increased nutrients rebuild collagen and repair damage from UV exposure. Collagen, a protein found everywhere in the human body, has different functions in different places, but in the skin, it provides volume and thickness. When we get proper sleep collagen repair reduces wrinkles and improves dry, flat, sagging skin.

Melatonin is commonly thought of as the hormone that helps us get to sleep, but it also acts as an essential antioxidant produced at night to support the repair of oxidative stress from UV-light damage. This improves age spots, fine lines and even helps prevent skin cancer.

Getting a good night's sleep helps to lower the stress hormone cortisol. Lack of sleep increases your cortisol levels putting your skin in a pro-inflammatory state. This impacts the protective barrier of the skin, drying the skin and increasing the exposure to bacteria or other irritants that can result in acne, blemishes or other skin conditions like psoriasis. Elevated levels of cortisol also increase the breakdown of collagen and elastin, resulting in more wrinkles and premature aging.

During sleep a surge in human growth hormone helps repair and rebuild body tissues, increasing muscle mass and strengthening skin. Naturally occurring growth hormone plays a big part in maintaining the collagen matrix, and hence the appearance of youthfulness.

At midday the protective oil on our skin peaks with a significant drop at night, causing the skin to lose vital levels of hydration. The less you sleep, the more dry and dehydrated your skin will look and feel. The effects of dehydration on skin are swollen, sunken eyes; dark circles; flaking; a pale, ashen complexion.

Here are a few quick tips to improve your skin at night:

- Sleep 7 9 hours consistently.
- Wash your face to remove poreclogging irritants before bed.
- Moisturize to hydrate and protect the skin at night.
- Sleep on a smooth clean surface to reduce skin irritation.
- Sleep on your back to limit wrinkles from skin stretching and compression.
- Elevate your head to help reduce bags and circles under your eyes by improving blood flow and preventing blood from pooling.

Beauty sleep of 7 - 9 hours per night is a surefire way to help your skin repair itself, increase blood flow, rebuild collagen, and allow the muscles in your face to relax after a long day.

Deborah Schrameck is a wholistic kinesiologist, health coach, nutritional counselor and owner of Body Alive. She can be reached at (760) 238.0625 or happyfit@ mac.com. For more information visit www.BodyAlive.us.

#### The Benefits of CBD Topicals

By Danielle Rubin

It's important to focus proactively on health and wellness, such as eating better and exercising regularly; however, as we age we also pay the price for the activities in our younger years. Aches and pains, whether from old injuries or new sports, exercise routines and illness, are challenges that can stop us from continuing on our wellness journey.

One new avenue that has come to the forefront when seeking relief from chronic aches, pains, soreness, skin conditions and even insomnia is the use of innovative cannabis-infused topical products. Topicals, which include lotions, balms, salves and oils, are non-psychoactive cannabis products which are absorbed directly through the skin for localized pain and inflammatory relief. The healing ingredient in all cannabis short for cannabidiol, which has anti-inflammatory properties, vitamins A, D and E, and essential fatty

Different topicals are created for a variety of conditions. People with mild to chronic joint or muscle pain can use specific topicals as an alternative to opiates and pain-killers, while other creams have demonstrated marked results in alleviating symptoms from skin conditions such as eczema and acne. A variety of applications are also available including moisturizing lotions, creams, oils, skin patches, salves, liniments or ointments designed to produce hot or cold sensations alongside their beneficial botanical and cannabis chemistry.

CBD oils are also popping up in high-end skin care creams, gels, and serums. CBD interacts with our body's endocannabinoid system and helps the skin look more radiant and youthful, while also helping with inflammation due to acne or other skin

It is important to speak with an expert to best identify which products will address your issues. Many topicals are designed to treat specific pain and are applied directly to the site, such as a sore shoulder, elbow,

or skin care. Other products are more generalized and can relax the entire body and provide relief from a variety of aches and pains at the same time.

"We work with our clients to identify their issues, and then review and discuss the products that will best address their needs," says Jennifer Montgomery, manager at The Lighthouse Cannabis Boutique in Coachella. "Many of the products are infused with essential oils and use organic ingredients, so we diligently research all of our products and carefully check the labeling to ensure that the ingredients and suggested usage information is clear and readily available for

Montgomery advises these best practices for using CBD topical products:

- Determine the affected area and then choose the best product to target the
- Clean the area before applying the product with a quick rinse, then pat dry.
- Be generous and massage vigorously with each recommended application.
- After applying the topical product, wash your hands so as not to transfer the product, which might also contain citrus, pepper or mint, to your eyes.

It is also important to manage your expectations. Prepare for a subtle, innocuous relief alongside sensations depending on the concentration of other soothing ingredients. These products don't necessarily cure our ailments, they simply make them more bearable.

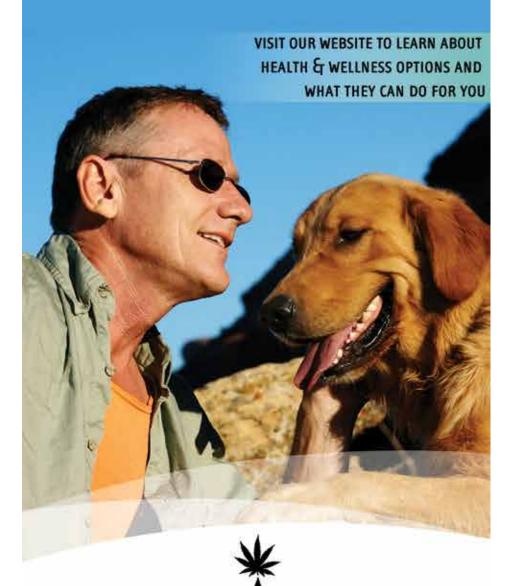
Danielle Rubin is the creative director of The Lighthouse Cannabis Boutique in Coachella, the valley's only fully licensed dispensary. They offer home delivery and highly trained and educated staff to assist patrons on their health and wellness journey. Learn more at www.LighthouseDispensary.com or call (442) 256.3627.



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#### Valley Teens Becoming Mindfully Resilient

As rates of stress, depression, and teen suicide have soared in the past decade, the Health and Nutritional Sciences (HANS) Academy at Indio High is piloting a new curriculum called Mindfully Resilient. Units in anger management, the science of stress, anxiety, depression, healthy relationships and more are taught to bring mental health awareness and education to over 100 teens in the HANS Academy. The goal is to raise awareness about mental health and provide teens with coping skills to deal with life's mental health challenges.

Senior Samantha Pineda talks about her experience in Mindfully Resilient:

As a senior in high school, the reality of graduation is settling in and many of us are feeling stressed about this. One of my favorite courses this year is my HANS class. One of the lessons I apply to my life every day is the breathing techniques we've been taught through our meditation sessions. I've learned to relax and live in the moment through breathing properly. I've learned in this class how we can positively impact others, so I take these mindful techniques home to my family and they even share them with their friends.



Student Samantha Pineda finds calm with her mindfulness jar at Indio High's wellness academy.

We also have a difficult weekly tradition with workout Wednesdays with a yoga session during class. Some weeks we even have guest instructors who volunteer their time to come to our school and teach yoga.

One of my favorite activities from class is my 'mindfulness jar.' A mindfulness jar is literally a mason jar filled with sand and water. Although this jar may seem basic, it represents much more. When the sand settles and the water is clear, you can see right through the jar. When the jar is shaken and the water is murky, you can't see anything. This is like your mood and mind when you are upset and aren't thinking clearly. You need to "let your sand settle" so you won't do anything rash and regret it later. Just shaking the jar when you're upset feels so satisfying. We did this activity in our anger management unit where we're being taught how to identify and manage our anger.

I've only just touched on a few things from class, but I'm grateful for all I've learned and am eager and enthusiastic to see what's to come during the rest of the school year.

For more information on the Indio High Health and Nutritional Science Academy (HANS), contact Jason Tate at jason.tate@desertsands.us.

#### **New Year's Resolutions:** What's on Cancer Patients' Lists?

By Anita Roark

There's no denying it—having cancer (or any other life-threatening disease) definitely changes the way one looks at the future. So it's only natural that, after a diagnosis of cancer, the nature of patients' New Year's resolutions changes as well.

I can say that from my own experience (diagnosed with breast cancer in January 2016, treated throughout that year, still on tamoxifen to help prevent recurrence and/ or new cancers) and from what newly diagnosed patients and long-time survivors have expressed both in online posts and in person at CancerPartners, a non-profit offering free educational and emotional support for Coachella Valley residents.

As I sifted through many people's stories, including my own, I began to see some patterns emerging—certain items rising to the top of most everyone's New Year's lists. Here, in no particular order, are some of them.

Stay clear of grand resolutions. Keep them modest, realistic, and attainable.

Be gentle with yourself, after all you've been through and are still facing. And don't beat up on yourself if you feel anxious, worried, scared, angry or depressed. Just let it all out for a moment or two, take some deep breaths, and then bring yourself back to positive thoughts and actions.

Take good care of your physical body. That includes resolving to:

- Exercise as much as possible in your current condition. Remember, it doesn't have to be miles of jogging—a short, leisurely walk around the block will be just fine.
- Eat as well as possible. Whole foods that are organic and processed as little as possible are usually best. But if you're experiencing nausea or decreased appetite due to treatments, it's okay to indulge in foods that are less healthy but appeal to you. Just get back to the good stuff when your appetite returns.
- Get proper rest. Take naps when you feel tired. That will help to restore your energy.

Be willing to accept help. Nancy Brier put it this way: "As hard as it can be to be on the receiving end of a helping hand, put the word out that you have cancer and ask for help. Then take it."

Conversely, help others. "I want to focus less on me and more on others," said Bonnie Annis on curetoday.com. She especially wants to be compassionate toward others who have been newly diagnosed and share the wealth of information she's gathered on her own cancer journey.

Spend more time with friends and family. Go on some adventures with them, in nature if possible.

Connect with your spirituality, whether that be through meditation, religious affiliation, inspirational readings, or prayer.

And most of all, be grateful! Thank everyone involved in your health care and every other aspect of your life. Thank God or the Universe that you are alive, for however long that may be. In fact, give thanks for all things, day and night. It's amazing how that kind of deep gratitude makes all things endurable, even turning suffering to joy.

Anita Roark, MA, is communications coordinator at CancerPartners, the local nonprofit offering educational and emotional support to all those in the Coachella Valley affected by cancer. She can be reached at (760)770-5678 or aroark@cancerpartners.org. www.cancerpartners.org.

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The Benefits of Microcirculation for Cancer Patients Ilona Kopaz, CNHP, CCT, CNC (1 to 2:30 pm on 1/23)

**Nutrition for Living with Cancer & Beyond** Tiffany Dalton, FDN, CNC, HHP (1:30 to 2 pm on 1/17 & 2/21)

#### **Health, Wellness and Advocacy Series**

A Collaboration of the Palm Desert Public Library, Cancer Legal Resource Center and CancerPartners. All lectures held at the Library from 3:30 to 5 pm

Be Your Own Advocate, Richard H. Gelb, MA (1/31)

The Importance of Legal Resources & Information for Cancer Patients and Survivors, Stephanie Fajuri, Esq. (2/7)

Managing Emotions When Dealing with Cancer, Richard H. Gelb, MA (2/21)

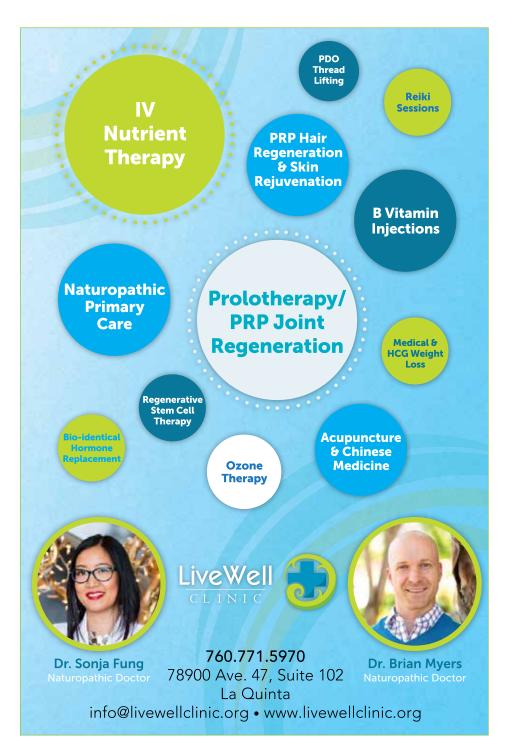
Call 760.770.5678 or go to cancerpartners.org/events for complete information.

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#### **The Healing Sounds of Music**

#### By Jay Anderson, MT-BC

Music is wonderful. It is often referred to as the universal language. We may listen to music for sheer joy, to dance, to change our moods, to enhance fond memories and to exercise. Music therapy, however, is much more.

As an allied health profession, music therapy is defined as the focused and intentional use of music and music-related therapeutic interventions, applied by a professional music therapist, to relieve and assist recovery from a variety of emotional, mental, and physical diseases, illnesses, disorders, or discomforts.

Two common misconceptions abound about music therapy: one must have some musical ability to benefit from the therapy, or that one style of music is more therapeutic than others. Musical talent or training is not necessary for clients, and all types of music can be useful to effect change and reach therapeutic goals of those taking part. Musical preferences, treatment needs, circumstances and goals of the individual or group help determine the types of music a therapist might employ.

Designed to address health and educational goals, music therapy can help manage stress, promote wellness, enhance memory, relieve pain, express feelings, improve interpersonal communication, promote physical rehabilitation and more. It is a creative, flexible and often spontaneous therapy to help people of all ages and abilities including seniors, children, adolescents, and adults.

A holistic and non-invasive treatment, music therapy can relieve anxiety, acute and chronic pain, Alzheimer's disease, developmental and learning disabilities, substance abuse issues, mental health needs, brain injuries, traumatic stress, aging-related conditions, Parkinson's disease, anger issues, and physical disabilities. Through music therapy, persons experiencing challenges can make positive changes in mood and emotional modulation, practice problem solving, explore feelings, and resolve interpersonal conflicts – all which can lead to stronger family, friend and community relationships.

Music therapists work in schools to provide services listed on individual education plans for special learners to strengthen areas important in daily life such as sequencing, memory, communication, sensory and physical motor coordination skills. The therapy is also used in hospitals to elevate patients' mood; it can counteract depression, fear and apprehension and reduce or alleviate pain associated with surgical procedures or in conjunction with anesthesia and pain medication. Music therapy can help induce sleep, relaxation, assist in labor and delivery, and promote movement for physical rehabilitation.

For seniors, the sensory, emotional and mental stimulation of music can help increase or maintain levels of mental clarity and memory, emotional stability, and physical and social functioning which improves overall quality of life.

In all cases, a professional music therapist assesses physical health, emotional well-being, social functioning, communication abilities, and cognitive skills through the musical responses of an individual or group. Based on defined needs, strategic music therapy interventions follow. Sessions and progress are documented and evaluated.

Community music groups such as drumming, improvisational music making, simply listening to music, songwriting, and music and imagery can all bring family and friends together, supply vital support for physical exercise and provide opportunities for personal growth. Music is profound. Unleash the power of music.

Jay Anderson is a music therapist and member of the American Music Therapy Association. For more information contact janderson@mindingmusic.com or (760) 834.1164.

#### **Self-Care for the New Year**

#### By Sonja Fung, ND

Are you ready for a "new you" this year? It may be no surprise that the all-time leading resolution is to lose weight and get healthy. After indulging in festivities for the past four months, all those tasty, sugary treats and drinks have probably found their way to your waist line.

We all tend to gratefully overlook all the sugar, carbs, and alcohol during celebrations; however, our bodies still feel the impact of the resulting added stress and inflammation. Sugar pushes all the good-feeling buttons in our brain and gut and makes it that much more addictive and harder to quit. Sometimes, even the best of us need a little help over the sugar detox hump.

What better way of jump-starting the New Year than with a reboot to clean out the old and bring in the new? A nutritional detoxification program is an effective way to remove everyday stress and toxins and restore gut function - especially after the holidays.

Think of a nutrition reboot like an oil change. Your car won't function optimally and efficiently when its oil is old and sludgy. Your body's major detoxification organs, including your liver, kidneys, colon, and skin, function in the same way. Like any type of filter, if not maintained, it will eventually clog,



January can be a good time to commit to a cleanse.

and the detoxification process backs up, recycling toxins back into the body.

Effective cleansing programs can help with weight loss, increase energy, eliminate inflammation, normalize digestive function, improve sleep, and reduce joint pain, headaches, and other chronic disease symptoms. With a structured detoxifying program, many people can identify and eliminate specific chemicals and/or foods that cause inflammation and immune imbalances in their body.

While some prefer a three-day juice cleanse, your body needs time to reset for lasting change. It takes 21 days to form a habit which is the recommended length for a detoxifying cleanse to reset your taste-buds, get rid of sugar cravings, and get onto a healthy eating plan to stay with you throughout the year.

You can do a 21-day program on your own at home or by joining a group. A group program has the advantage of accountability and the support of others throughout all stages. Studies have shown that people who participate in a group are much more likely to successfully follow an entire protocol and report better results.

Putting in the time now while you're motivated will serve you best in the long run. It is also important to note that those with health issues should be screened before starting any program to determine if it is safe for their body.

Start your New Year with a self-caring oil change and get ready for the New You!

Dr. Fung is a primary care naturopathic doctor with a focus on integrative cancer care and PRP regenerative joint injections at Live Well Clinic in La Quinta which also offers a 21-day Nutrition Reboot program starting January 17. For more information, call (760) 771.5970 or visit www.livewellclinic.org.

#### **Assisting Our Internal River of Life** The benefits of manual lymph drainage therapy

By Leah Wiltgen, LMT, CDT

The lymphatic system is often referred to as the "river of life" as it flows with nutrients and substances that bathe our cells and flood the interstitial spaces under our skin. This vital system is key to sustaining homeostasis throughout our bodies, working silently and consistently to maintain fluid balance while serving as a main

pathway for eliminating toxins via our lymph nodes.

This sprained ankle demonstrates swelling and bruising

The lymphatic system is an essential part of our immune system as it is the primary reservoir of white blood cells. Thus, a compromised lymphatic system can result in chronic diseases and increased pain which can negatively affect our quality of life and limit daily activities.

When the congestion of lymph occurs, it can also impair healthy circulation and nerve conduction. It is critical that the lymphatic system is stimulated so that the flow of lymph can improve compromised areas and the entire body.

The origins and effects of the lymphatic system have been studied for centuries. As far back as 1647, the cisterna chyli, a lymph depository in the abdomen, was identified; the lymph vessel system was discovered shortly thereafter. In the early 20th

century, Danish doctors Emil and Estrid Vodder pioneered the specialty of medicine called "lymphology." They noticed that patients with chronic colds often had swollen

lymph nodes and that gentle massage could reduce swelling and aid in recovery. Since there is no pumping mechanism for the lymphatic system, it relies in part on muscle and joint movement to function. The Vodders dedicated their work to developing specific massage techniques using intuition and practical experience and called the treatment manual lymph drainage (MLD) therapy.

The strokes applied in the Vodder's MLD method are intended to stimulate the movement of the lymphatic fluids in order to assist the body in cleansing. It's a gentle, rhythmical technique that cleanses the connective tissue of inflammatory materials and toxins, enhances the activity of the immune system, reduces pain, and lowers the activity of the sympathetic nervous system. There are no lotions or oils used in these treatments.

MLD can improve many conditions. Because of the gentle nature of the touch (about the weight of a nickel), it can even be applied a day after most surgeries to help reduce swelling and bruising while assisting in faster, healthier recovery.

Positive results have been seen with cosmetic surgery, pre- and post- orthopedic procedures and post breast cancer treatments, as well as with primary and secondary lymphedema and non-infected inflammatory conditions such as sprains and strains.

Leah Wiltgen is a licensed massage therapist with certification from the Dr. Vodder International Academy of Manual Lymph Drainage and can be reached at (760) 449.7855 or leahwiltgenmld@gmail.com.



Symptoms are significantly reduced and client reports less pain and increased range of motion after (1) one-hour manual lymph drainage session.

#### **Lowering A1C Levels with Osteogenic Exercise**

By Bettyann Sator, BS, RDMS, RVT

For many affected by high glucose levels, the A1C is a familiar blood test that measures the amount of glucose that attaches to or binds with hemoglobin found in red blood cells. High glucose levels in the blood stream are often indicators

of pre-diabetes or type 2 diabetes (T2D) and greatly impact a person's overall wellbeing.

When a person's A1C points to high glucose levels, medication, modifications in diet, and incorporating cardiovascular and some weight training exercise are considered appropriate paths to lowering associated risks.

Research is now showing positive results for osteogenic loading, a form of resistance training, as a simple, yet effective means of also lowering AIC.<sup>1,2</sup> Osteogenic loading (OL) is traditionally a rehabilitative medicine method with a goal of improving bone density and preventing bone fracture. It is a brief, intensive resistance exercise that has long been shown to increase lean muscle mass and improve bone density. This new theory is that these protocols also stimulate myofibril (muscle fibers within cells) to change the actual cell structure where insulin receptors absorb glucose. By increasing myofibril hypertrophy (or structure), more insulin receptors are available to convert glucose into energy which, in turn, lowers A1C levels.



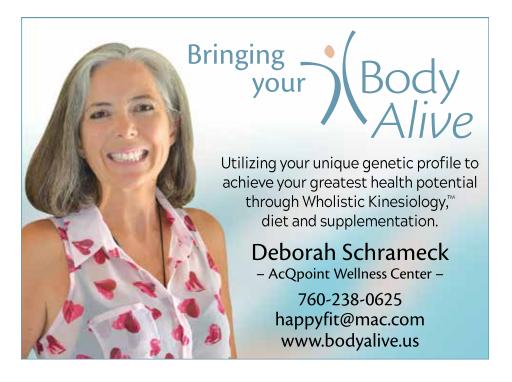
Sator works with a client performing osteogenic exercise.

This new research is encouraging for those struggling with pre-diabetes and T2D as the osteogenic loading does not require a lot of time to see results. As reported in the Journal of Diabetes and Journalism, subjects completed therapy intervention only once per week with a minimum of 18 sessions completed at the conclusion of the 24 weeks; no dietary modification was implemented. Bone density improvement is seen with as little as 15 minutes a week.

That osteogenic loading is effective for increasing bone density and muscle strength has been well-researched and documented. What we did not know is that it is also showing promise as an effective, non-invasive way to reduce A1C.

Bettyann Sator, is co-owner of BioStrength in Palm Desert and can be reached at (760) 408.2720. For more information visit www.getstrongbones.com.

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Alas, science has discovered the "Aura", that invisible emanation which surrounds all living things. We now call this space the "biofield". It took a machine to measure what the human mind has intrinsically known for eons. Biofield Tuning works within this 360 degree bubble of vibratory energy. Certified Practitioners use tuning forks as frequency antennae to detect discordant vibrations occurring throughout the biofield, and in the body.

These discordant vibrations directly relate to life difficulties, traumas or illnesses. Using a timeline and an energetic map discovered by the founder of this technique, Eileen Day McKusick, practitioners have learned how to interpret the frequency changes in the tuning forks that occur from birth to the present. The sound changes which occur at different ages throughout this timeline are heard by both the practitioner and the client, which helps to encourage a dialog between the two. Within this safe and respectful environment, repressed or unexpressed memories resurface, allowing for some resolution to occur. Certified Biofield Tuners are not psychotherapists; they serve only as supportive, impartial witnesses. Sometimes just being heard is enough to gain some clarity around the difficult parts of life. After receiving a tuning, clients often feel a sense of lightness, freedom and coherence. They often gain new ways of seeing why unproductive patterns consistently occur throughout life, and the ways in which they participate in these cycles. All of the real work is done, in the moment, by the recipient. The Biofield Tuning Practitioner only acts as the guide, shining the light, opening the door. Driving the bus, the recipient decides where to go, the practitioner offers the

Like a beautiful violin, the human body has a sound. When this sound goes out of resonance, Biofield Tuning can help. No one is "broken", no one is "damaged". A treasured violin is not thrown away or discarded. A string is tightened, another is loosened. Harmony is restored. All by the use of a tuning fork.

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# An Extraordinary Year Starts with the Right Questions

By Laya Raznick, CHHC

We all feel it! The turning of the page. A new beginning. And with the New Year often come resolutions; a focus on what we don't want and a goal to change it.

Last New Year's Eve, when the clock struck midnight, my client Pamela resolved to lose 10 pounds. Like many of us, she had lost and gained these same 10 pounds again and again. At the start of the year she made progress, but as the year went on she gained the weight back, plus 3 extra pounds as well.

Most of us can relate to Pamela's story. So, what's the missing piece that leads us from resolution to long term success?

As stated by Jeralyn Brossfield, MD, "Focus on the problem and we tend to advance and then reverse in our progress. Focus instead on what we want, begins an endless (positive) pattern that is sometimes described as a repeated cycle of action – result – evaluation – adjustment."

When we define our goals by what we want rather than what we don't want, we're aligning with a vision rather than a problem. Add the reason why we want it and we have a winning formula for long-term goal success.

Pamela decided to redefine her goal and considered why she wanted to lose weight. She recognized that what she really wanted was to feel lighter, healthier and more inspired each day. She designed daily actions that supported these goals in all aspects of her life, not just in diet. And by the end of the year she had lost 10 pounds and kept it off.

To have an extraordinary year, answer these four questions to reveal your passions, your motivation, your strengths, and what's in the way for you right now.

- 1. Define your gifts: Name three things you do well and feel inspired by doing.
- 2. **Recognize your successes:** What were your three greatest accomplishments this past year and what was your motivation for accomplishing them?
- 3. **Acknowledge your tests:** What was the hardest thing you had to overcome this year and what did it teach you?
- 4. **Admit your challenges:** Name three things you've been procrastinating to complete for weeks, months, or even years, and why you haven't acted yet.

Most people are much closer to achieving what they want than they know. Do the work to get clear and enlist systems of support to keep you on track when old patterns set in.

There are resources all around you. Once you're clear, find the most interesting person in the room and begin a conversation. You never know how sharing your vision might spark the flame of creativity.

Laya Raznick is a certified holistic health coach guiding experienced women to release limiting stress patterns so they can relax and live with more inspiration, joy, and ease. Laya can be reached at (760) 512.3399. www.layaraznick.com.

# The Power of Emotion through Affirmation, Intention and Prayer

By Tracy J Smith

"While many people possess the intent of their prayer, many others miss the corresponding emotions that go with it." - Dr. Joe Dispenza

Emotion is one of the most powerful forces available to humans to create optimum health, financial prosperity, and a joyful life. When harnessed through affirmation, intention and prayer, we can create a life that is rich in all things. Many people who once dismissed these methods as "new age" are now discovering they are capable of changing their lives in ways they never imagined were possible by using these simple practices.

Each of these practices begins as a thought, which is then combined with faith and the expectation of the results, and then released, allowing for the manifestation of the desired physical condition or event. The initial thought is like a radio signal being sent out into the universe which returns as a formation in the sender's life.

Here are simple descriptions of affirmation, intention and prayer:

Affirmation is declaring that a desired condition is coming into one's life.

Intention is focused thought of a desired condition.

*Prayer* is a thought of a desired condition that is surrendered to a higher spiritual power to bring into our life.

For any of these methods of transformation to work, three things are necessary:

**Emotional backing.** You must be able to feel what it would be like to have the new condition in your life. For example, if you want to be healed of a physical condition, what would perfect health be for you?

Belief in the outcome. You must believe it can happen.

**Release.** You need to let go and allow the desired condition to manifest itself without controlling it. Let the universe do its part.

The power of affirmation, intention and prayer can be best understood by viewing them as the movement of energy. Knowing the universe is all energy, each person vibrates energy at different frequencies, and we attract whatever frequency our energy is vibrating. Our emotion is that frequency. If you are vibrating at the frequency of love, you will attract love into your life. For this reason, it is important for us to feel what we would like our life to be like and believe we can attract our desires into our life.

If you are skeptical about the ability of affirmation, intention and prayer to change your life, I encourage you to experiment with those emotions for 30 days and see what happens. Pay attention to your focus, for where your focus is, your energy goes. Even if the desired outcome is not happening on your timeline, keep your focus on the faith that the emotion is working. Keep an attitude of gratitude and look for the good in everything. You have nothing to lose!

Tracy Smith is an energy intuitive therapist and Emotion/Body Code practitioner with AcQpoint Wellness Center and can be reached at (760) 409.9289. www.TracyJSmith.net.



# Living Wellness

#### with Jennifer Di Francesco

#### **Learning from the Peruvian Practice of Honoring Pachamama**

My mother instilled in me a wanderlust spirit and quest to travel the world through the eyes of the people who live in faraway lands. Following this sage advice, I have affirmed time

and time again that traveling allows one to journey into a deeper part of self and an extension of knowledge from an internal place to the external world. Traveling this summer to Peru, a country of ancient heritage, taught me some invaluable lessons related to treading more gently and respectfully upon this sacred earth.

Deep within the indigenous views of day-to-day living in Peru is the daily ritual of observance and deep appreciation for Pachamama - Mother Earth. The people of the Andes have believed for centuries that Pachamama has a generosity of spirit, by which one receives the necessities of life to sustain oneself. There is accessibility to food that nourishes, water that quenches, wood and metals that protect and the warmth of the sun that gives light and energy. Viewing Mother Earth as a living being allows for respect and understanding that when we cause destruction to nature, we harm the earth in ways that affect life force. Even in a land such as Peru with its rugged terrain, poverty and hardship there is a stunning appreciation. There is a palpable feeling that instead of viewing the world as having limited resources, which is our Western tendency, the Peruvians interact with nature in a dance of respect, mutual support and abundance. Tied directly into this world view is the Peruvian commandment and only moral rule that exists - Ayni, which is translated as reciprocity. The law of Ayni is a multifaceted concept. Simply stated, it is the belief that in giving, you are entitled to receive something back. When you receive something you then have an obligation to reciprocate and give in return. This belief is not the same thing as monetary payment. Reciprocity in Peru brings people closer with the goal to balance and have mutual support rather than gaining

How can we take the two lessons of Pachamama and Ayni and hold them with meaning in our multifaceted world?

Simplicity is Electricity: This statement is a great mantra to practice. In the Andean culture there is a tendency to focus on the quality of life that the calmness of the countryside provides. They also look to the nurturing quality from family and friends. Having abundance means something different. It can be laughter, peace of mind or Pachamama's gifts of weather or good health. By learning to focus on simplicity we can have a clear path towards gratitude. With more gratitude we become more generous. This is the cycle of reciprocity!

Connecting with Mother Earth: In Peru the massive steps leading closer to the sun at every ruin is the recurring symbol of Mother Earth. Upon realizing that a step in the Incan culture is the significance of Mother Earth, it becomes an easy reminder; with every breath and every step one connects with a sacred geography.

Modest rituals can be profound. Praying from the heart before mealtime, cleaning up debris from the earth, planting a tree, conserving water, walking instead of driving, or exchanging one's living energy in heartfelt ways, through reciprocity, serves as a catalyst of consciousness that spreads and multiplies.

#### Treating the Common Cold with TCM

#### By Diane Sheppard, PHD, LAc

I just caught a cold – a perfect time to write about the Traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) approach to treating the common cold. The Shan Han Lun, a treatise on cough/ cold and viral/bacterial infectious diseases, is considered the groundwork for TCM

TCM categorizes cold and flu in two stages with the first being wind cold. If not treated, the pathogen then turns into wind heat.

#### Common cold caused by wind cold

Classic symptoms of a cold just starting include fever, chills (worse than the fever), inability to get warm, nasal with clear mucous or sinus congestion, possible cough with clear mucus, stiff neck and shoulders, and an occipital headache (in the back of

This is treated with a diaphoretic (sweating) therapy which is especially helpful in this stage as it warms the body and pushes the pathogen out through the pores. In the very early stages of this pattern, an effective remedy is miso soup using the white part of the spring onion and fresh ginger. Some say take cover under the covers to sweat it out. It is also helpful to take a steam shower with essential oils like peppermint or eucalyptus to open the nasal passages, or leaning over a steaming pot of water containing the oils with a towel over the head.

If the pathogen moves deeper in the body, symptoms that follow may include strong chills, sore throat, inability to sweat, wheezing, and stiff neck. The classic herbal remedy is cinnamon twig decoction, a stimulant that opens the bronchial passages, warms the body, and stimulates sweating. It also contains apricot seeds to help relieve wheezing and licorice root to soothe the throat and help with cough.

#### Common cold caused by wind heat

When the influence of wind combines with heat, the cold travels deeper into the body; the fever is worse than the chills, and the pulse is faster than normal. The primary symptom is a swollen and sore throat with headache and irritability. If there is a cough, it is usually dry or nonproductive, with occasional expectoration of yellow mucus.

Numerous formulas treat the many variations of this condition, but the most famous by far is Yin Qiao San. This is a highly effective treatment for wind heat symptoms appearing as influenza and tonsillitis in addition to the common cold.

Another effective herbal remedy in cases of wind heat is Gan Mao Ling whose patent formula has small dose of willow bark and aspirin.

#### Other elements of treating the common cold

When treating cold or flu symptoms due to wind heat, the results are always more dramatic if the treatment begins at the earliest possible stage of the illness. It is important to get adequate rest, a vacation from sources of stress, and good nutrition in the form of soups and fresh juices. Sweets and stimulants (such as caffeinated beverages) cause a rapid progression in the severity of the illness since they tend to feed the pathogen and should be avoided.

Diane Sheppard is a licensed acupuncturist and doctor of traditional Chinese medicine. She is the owner of AcQpoint Wellness Center in Palm Desert and can be reached at (760) 345.2200. www.AcQPoint.com



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Learn how to care for your body's energy centers which when blocked can create

dis-ease. Includes demonstrations and a crystal bowl sound bath.

Thursday, January 24 • 5:30-6:30 pm FREE Introduction to Feldenkrais with LeAnn Brightwell

The Feldenkrais method is an educational system that allows the body to move and function more efficiently and comfortably.

Thursday, February 7 • 5:30-6:30 pm FREE

#### Healing using sound, vibration & music with Daniel Clemens of BodyTune

Daniel will discuss and demonstrate how to use sound, vibration and music to calm the body, open the mind, and free the spirit for healing and wellness.

#### Thursday, February 21 • 5:30-6:30 pm FREE Live experience with Timothy Courtney

Join Psychic Medium Timothy Courtney as he helps us understand what happens when we pass over and how spirit communicates. Experience Tim connecting with the spirit world bringing messages from the other side.

RSVP requested; for full schedule email acqpoint@aim.com

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#### **Cell Phone Safety** Simple steps to minimizing risks

By Ellen Marks

Take a look around anywhere you go - cell phones and wireless devices are an integral part of our lives because they are beneficial in many ways. However, we continue to hear conflicting messages about their health effects. So what can we do? In light of excellent independent science, we should take simple precautions.

As Director of the California Brain Tumor Association, I have been involved in this issue for over a decade and have testified to the U.S. Congress on the issue of cell phones and health. The recent results of the \$30 million U.S. National Toxicology



Our dependency on cell phones can overshadow thoughts of safety.

Program study (U.S. NTP) concluded that there is "clear evidence" that wireless radiation is causing some cancers and "some evidence" that it is causing other cancers. The areas of most concern are tumors near the heart and brain tumors.

2011 the World Health Organization's International Agency for Research on Cancer classified radio-frequency electromagnetic fields as possibly carcinogenic to humans based on an increased risk of brain tumors associated with mobile phone use. This includes all things wireless, including cell towers. Other independent science indicates a risk

of breast cancer when the phone is kept in the bra or breast pocket, damage to male fertility, miscarriages, thyroid cancer, behavioral problems for children and more. Children are more susceptible to any environmental toxin, including wireless radiation, according to the American Academy of Pediatrics which has spoken out publicly about the potential hazards from exposure to wireless radiation.

Cell phones entered the market 30 years ago without pre-market safety testing as microwave ovens had been deemed safe by the FDA. Today, the U.S. government does require testing, but the phones are tested held away from the body, thus holding it to the body could result in RF energy exposure higher than government limits. The U.S. NTP study, along with many other studies, has also proven that there is damage to our DNA at non-thermal levels which is what is emitted by cell phones. Despite this, the government testing for harm from wireless radiation only takes into account thermal damage.



Holding your phone away from your body may help minimize exposure.

In 2017 the California Department of Public Health released a cell phone safety document to the public with similar suggestions to those below. We need not throw away our cell phones, iPads, laptops, etc., but you can protect yourself and your families by implementing the following practices while enjoying this technology:

- 1) When your phone is on it is best to carry it in a purse, briefcase or backpack. If it must be on your body, it should be in airplane mode or off.
- 2) Children should use phones only for emergencies. If they carry one, it should be kept in a backpack or purse.
- 3) Instead of holding a phone directly to your head, use the speaker or text.
- 4) Do not allow infants or toddlers to play with a phone that is on; only use wired baby monitors.
- 5) If you need to hear your phone at night, you should keep it in a room other than your bedroom. No one should sleep with it (or an iPad or laptop) near them - especially not under their pillows.
- 6) Limit your use of a cell phone in areas where there is a poor
- 7) Limit your use of a cell phone on buses, in trains, cars or planes; the metal surroundings reflect the waves and increase exposure to you and those around you.
- 8) Use corded landlines at home and in the office for the majority of conversations.
- 9) Pregnant women should keep all It is recommended to turn off your phone while abdomen.



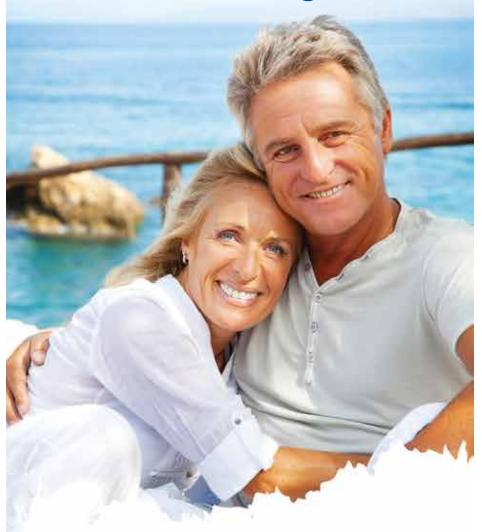
wireless devices away from their sleeping or remove it from the bedroom.

- 10) Couples attempting to have children should keep wireless away from a female's abdomen and the lower abdomen of a male.
- 11) When exercising, such as walking, biking, etc., turn it off and check your messages every so often.
- 12) Turn off WiFi at home while sleeping or not in use; use ethernet, if possible.

Ellie Marks of Indian Wells is the Director of the California Brain Tumor Association. She works on educating the public on prevention of primary brain tumors and other cancers and ill effects from wireless radiation. She also works on legislation locally and nationally to help bring awareness to the public, is co-producer of the award-winning documentary Mobilize, and appears in the new award-winning film Generation Zapped. For more information please visit www.calibta.org or www.saferemr.com.

Sources: 1) U.S. NTP Study: https://www.saferemr.com/2018/11/NTP-final-reports31.html: 2) WHO/IARC classification: https://www.iarc.fr/ wp-content/uploads/2018/07/pr28\_E.pdf; 3) Breast cancer: https://www.ncbi.nlm.nlm.gov/pubmed/24151509; 4) Sperm: Second link is review of many studies http://ccf.org/reproductiveresearchcenter/docs/agradoc239.pdf; 5) https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/ pii/S0160412014001354; 6) Miscarriage: https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-017-16623-8; 7) Behavioral issues in offspring: https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-017-16623-8; 7) Behavioral issues in offspring: https://www.nature.com/articles/srep00312; 8) Thyroid cancer: https://www.saferemr.com/2014/07/is-mobile-phone-use-contributing-to.html; 9) Pew research: cell phones while sleeping http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2010/09/13/do-you-sleep-with-your-cell-phone

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News from the Valley's Integrated Health Community

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#### **Depression and Inflammation**

By Jessica Needle, ND

Depression is a disease that has plagued humankind for centuries and which unfortunately remains prevalent today, affecting 1 out of 5 individuals at some point in their lives. Up to 50% of the population may be seasonally affected, experiencing a mild form of depression due to fewer daylight hours during the winter. Moderate to severe depression is more likely to occur in the year following hospitalization for a physical illness or the death of a loved one.

Antidepressants are a common treatment and can be effective for many. However, one third of people with depression fail to respond to this type of medication. To find other avenues to treat depression, research during the last decade has looked at depression as an inflammatory disease, noting that physical symptoms in depression mimic those of a cold or flu: fatigue, loss of appetite, listlessness, change in sleep patterns, and lethargy. This sickness behavior is induced by inflammatory chemicals released in response to illness, and some patients with depression show an increase in these inflammatory markers.

During an inflammatory episode the body releases cytokines, small protein molecules that incite the immune system into action. One such molecule which is well-known and often tested through routine blood work is C-reactive protein. Anything over 3 mg/L is considered a marker of high inflammation, but values greater than 1 are an indicator that a patient is less likely to respond to selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) such as Prozac and Zoloft.

Adding aspirin or the non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug celecoxib to a medication regimen can improve symptoms during a major depressive episode. For people who want to avoid drugs and their side effects, there are many ways to lower inflammation naturally.

First, follow an anti-inflammatory diet. This requires eliminating processed foods, eating as many plant-based foods as possible, and consuming a high amount of omega-3 oils from avocados, salmon, olives, hemp seeds, flax seeds and nuts. Refined starches in bread and baked goods, cane sugar and alcohol all increase inflammation in the body. Diets characterized by high consumption of red meat, sweets, high-fat dairy products and low intake of fruits and vegetables are associated with an increased risk of depression.

Second, exercise moderately. When you are depressed, it can be difficult to motivate yourself to get moving. But if you do, you will get the benefits of increased endorphin production, weight control and reduced cardiovascular risk, along with a 5% reduction in inflammatory cytokines from just 20 minutes of walking on the treadmill. Low-intensity exercise causes nerve cells to grow and make new connections. This improvement in brain function helps relieve depression.

Third, manage your stress. Inflammation is your body's response to stress, and stress can induce or worsen chronic conditions, depression included. Cortisol is a hormone produced under conditions of stress, which leads to increased inflammation. Meditators and yoga practitioners lower their cortisol and inflammatory levels, but you can choose any stress reduction method you enjoy such as journaling, spending time in nature, deep breathing or petting an animal. Chronic stress makes people more likely to neglect healthy behaviors and thus increases the risk of major depression, so lowering your stress now can prevent recurrence later.

Dr. Jessica Needle is a naturopathic doctor practicing at Optimal Health Center in Palm Desert and can be reached at (760) 568.2598.

#### Getting Into Zen

Continued from page 8

patterns on a canvas. Once there was the first line of dots on the canvas, I could detach my mind and just repeat the pattern with dots of color. This felt like meditation – my mind felt calm, I was just watching the pattern emerge, and time passed without my awareness.



Getting into the zone can help manage your relationship with work.

In our day-to-day lives, we often think we have to "work hard" to succeed, but perhaps the possibility of getting "into the zone" offers a way to change our relationship with our work. Could we train ourselves to stay in a pattern of calmness that allows us to get into the zone creatively each day and keeps us in a healthy brain state?

Cognitive behavioral therapy teaches anxiety management by focusing on the symptoms experienced with anxiety. Do you feel your heart race? Do you feel your skin flush? Do you feel your palms

get sweaty? Do you feel pressure in your head? Whatever physical symptoms are present for the individual are then recreated for a set time daily that is unassociated with any anxiety, until the brain learns that these symptoms are not cause for anxiety.

Meditation flips this concept around so that we repeat the physical practice of being calm, focusing on our breath, hearing ambient sound, detaching from our thoughts or watching them "float by like clouds." By practicing this state, we can create brain shift similar to muscle memory so that we can stay in this zone throughout our day – even when challenged with the unexpected. The surprise is an ease and flow that is more productive than we think possible – without effort.

Daily meditation shifts the brain to a happy state and helps to keep you in the zone.

I've often brushed off the saying, "Do what you love and you'll never work a day

in your life." But maybe it's also about staying in a brain state that you love. It's about getting into the zone so that your own thinking doesn't get in the way of staying in your happy place.

In this state, the external work is not what drives the experience, but rather the internal brain state as it creates a zone of peace and calm that allows your work to flow... I'm giving it a try!

Dr. Brossfield practices functional medicine for men and women at her practice, XO Health, in Rancho Mirage and can be reached at (760) 573.2761.

#### Aging Gracefully Through Hormone Balancing

By Noelani Rodriguez, ND

Women, have you ever experienced any of the following symptoms - weight gain despite exercising and a good diet, low libido, dry skin, hair thinning, hot flashes or night sweats? Or maybe you've been dealing with horrible sleep quality, brain fog or difficulty with memory and cognition. Then this article may be for you.

As we age the hormones that control our metabolism, our sleep patterns, our skin health and so much more all start to decline. It has also been reported that when a woman's level of estrogen drops as it does with menopause, inflammation in the body can increase and brain function can decline, possibly increasing incidence of dementia.

Years of health care and media have told us that these symptoms are simply a part of aging, something which most women have to endure. But are weak bones, elevated blood pressure, horrible sleep, and no sex drive something we want to live with? I'd rather not if I don't have to, and this is where hormone balancing comes in.

There are two main styles of hormone replacement therapy (HRT): static dosing and rhythmic dosing. Static means the woman is essentially given the same amount of hormone all throughout the month. Rhythmic HRT follows the natural cycle of a woman's sex hormone production prior to menopause and is also known as "biomimetic" (mimicking human biology).

Rhythmic dosing was first developed by T.S. Wiley, a medical researcher and the author of Sex, Lies, and Menopause and Lights Out: Sleep, Sugar and Survival. There are pros and cons to each style of HRT; static is simpler in that the woman takes the same dose daily. However, some women have not achieved optimal results with static dosing and feel better following the natural rhythm of hormone production from when they were in the their 20s. With rhythmic HRT, women with a uterus will return to having a light menses monthly and will need to follow their dosing calendar closely to ensure they apply the correct amount of hormones daily.

One of the most common myths about hormone replacement therapy is that it may increase the risk of cancer as reported by the Women's Health Initiative research study in the early 2000s. However, the study only assessed the effects of synthetic HRT, such as Premarin, while bio-identical HRT has not demonstrated the same

So which style of HRT is the better option? Well, rhythmic HRT is a newer practice in comparison to static, but is showing great anti-aging results and is considered by supporters to be the most natural way to dose hormones.

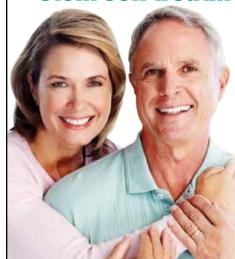
Think this approach to longevity may be right for you? For post-menopausal women, recreation of their cycle would follow the lunar calendar, which starts January 10, 2019. However, it is recommended that you speak with a health practitioner trained in rhythmic hormone replacement therapy to see if you are a candidate.

Dr. Rodriguez is a naturopathic doctor with Pure Health in Palm Springs and can be reached at (760) 322.2520. For more information, visit www.purehealthmedicine.com.

Sources: 1) Kantarci, Kejal., et al. Brain structure and cognition 3 years after the end of early menopausal hormone therapy trial. American Academy of Neurology. March 21, 2018. http://doi.org/10.1212/WNL.0000000000003325; 2) Lobo, Roger A. Hormone-replacement therapy: current thinking. Nature Reviews Endocrinology 13, 220-231 (2017). Published: 07 October 2016; 3) Pike, Christian J. Sex and the development of Alzheimer's disease. Journal of Neuroscience Research. 07 November 2016. http://doi.org/10.1002/jnr.23827

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#### **Gallbladder Function and Support**

By John R. Dixon, DC, CCN, IFMCP

Many adults suffer from gallbladder problems with many experiencing symptoms in early adulthood, especially women who develop gallstones much more frequently than men. In fact, cholecystectomy, surgery to remove the gallbladder, is one of the most frequently performed abdominal surgeries in the United States today.

The gallbladder is a small organ that sits under your liver in the upper right quadrant of your abdomen. It stores and releases bile into the small intestine during digestion. Your liver produces on average about a quart of bile daily. It is a yellowish liquid that helps the body break down fat and detoxify various toxic organic and inorganic compounds.

Adequate healthy bile and bile flow is required for the absorption of essential fatty acids, cholesterol (which is required for steroid hormone production), and fat-soluble vitamins such as A, D, K, and E. When bile flow becomes congested, it can lead to the formation of gallstones and result in biliary obstruction. This can result in severe inflammation of the gallbladder (acute cholecystitis) and often leads to gallbladder removal.

In addition to fat digestion and absorption, bile plays a major role in the removal of toxins collected in the liver. In general, whatever the liver is working to eliminate finds its way into the bile. A condition known as cholestasis results from sluggish or disrupted bile flow from the liver to the small intestine which can lead to accumulation of toxic bile acids and other metabolites in the liver. The accumulation of toxic bile acids in the liver-gallbladder system damages bile duct epithelial cells and hepatocytes (liver cells) causing liver injury and inflammation.

Many people have genetic weakness that predisposes them to gallbladder disease. These particular genes produce a family of enzymes called the UGT enzymes. Faulty UGT enzymes result in something called impaired glucuronidation and the accumulation of toxic bile acids in the liver.

Following are several effective strategies for restoring gallbladder function, improving bile flow and up-regulating glucuronidation even if you've had your gallbladder removed:

Herbal bitters including barberry bark, dandelion root, fennel, ginger, globe artichoke, goldenseal root, milk thistle, peppermint, burdock root, myrrh, and clove work by stimulating the release of bile. Bitters also have been known to increase HCL, pepsin, gastrin, and pancreatic enzymes. Dr. Shade's Bitters No. 9 by Quicksilver Scientific is an excellent choice for bitters.

Other supplements to support bile formation and detoxify bile acids include choline, taurine, glycine, pancreatic lipase, ox bile, calcium d-glucarate, and artichoke root extract. Diets high in cruciferous vegetables including broccoli, kale, cabbage, Brussels sprouts and cauliflower are also highly beneficial.

Dr. John Dixon is an Institute of Functional Medicine certified practitioner and can be reached at the Natural Medicine Group (760) 345.7300.

Sources: 1) Role of Glucuronidation for Hepatic Detoxification https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3828276; 2) https://www. ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4615692 Bile acid metabolism; 3) Canadian Journal of Gastroenterology and Hepatology: https://www.hindawi.com/journals/cjgh/2018/8096314.

#### Health is a Choice

Continued from page 1

laughter and lunacy he inspired us all with his journey and struggles, many shared by those in attendance. He even sat on the side of the stage and invited those asking questions to join him, delivering ardent answers and garnering respect from even the most skeptic.

Then, with so many options, how could you cover the event in just three days? While the conversation was global, the experience was very personal. Each attendee selected what they wanted in advance with a straightforward app that allowed for last minute changes or wait listing for full classes (not many were turned away). Any free time could be spent in the expo recharging at the Bulletproof oxygen bar, sampling kombucha and chewable vitamins, or getting a nutritional IV.

Third was the cost. At \$945, the ticket price seemed out of reach for the anticipated 5,000, but the event delivered far beyond any conference or mindshare summit I've ever attended, and according to producers, attendance was 4,900. Many were from the wellness industry, while others were simply investing in their personal health. People came from as far away as Japan, Sweden, Brazil, Australia, and Hawaii.

Implementation and attendance were exceptional for a first-time event, and the Wanderlust team feels they can do even better. "We're looking at ways to reduce the price, as we want to make sure the event can attract a large and diverse audience. We'd also like to find more ways to integrate the event into Palm Springs, both for physical activities like runs, hikes, and treatments and in reaching out to the many amazing restaurants for collaborations," says Hoess.

Wellspring will return to Palm Springs in the fall so those who didn't get a chance to experience it can do so this year. "Palm Springs was the perfect venue for the event, and the amount of feedback we got from attendees about the town itself -- its food, its natural beauty, and the great people was overwhelming. It's our dream to grow Wellspring into something that directly involves the entire downtown area and exposes our guests to all that Greater Palm Springs has to offer!"

Editorial by Lauren Del Sarto



"Food isn't like medicine, it is medicine." - Mark Hyman, MD (Photo by Alexandre Souetre for Wanderlust Festival.)



Attendees chose from a variety of yoga, meditation and fitness classes. (Photo by Melissa Gayle for Wanderlust Festival.)



Bulletproof's vibe plate and oxygen bar were of the many wellness products to experience in the expo. (Photo by Ryan Neddeu for Wanderlust Festival.)

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# 25

#### The Game of Golf "FORE" Savings

By Michele T. Sarna, AIF, AWMA

Learning how to play the game of golf can be very challenging. The terminology alone is a hurdle in itself: bogey, eagle, mulligan, shank, fried egg! Seriously, was this originally an initiation into a secret society?

Nonetheless, those who play are passionate about the game. Understandably so. You spend a good part of the day outdoors surrounded by beautiful sprawling green grass, tall trees, often ornate lakes or ponds, and good company. The only focus is trying to get a ball into a hole; 18 different holes to be exact.

Learning the savings game is not any different. Yes, like golf, we need to "learn" to save, and like golf, a savings plan has its own dictionary. Beyond the traditional savings account, there is IRA, ROTH, 401k, 403b, HSA, SEP-IRA, a taxable investment account, and many other ways to save - all which have their own set of rules and challenges.

In golf, we play with a set of clubs. Each club is used for a given task at hand, to send the ball a certain distance or help in a specific scenario - like being stuck in the sand trap. Comparatively, in saving, each type of



Like golf, we need to learn to save.

account is used for a certain goal, although some accounts are similar in nature such as retirement savings accounts. Many retirement accounts have tax advantages during the years of accumulation, but different annual contribution limits and rules to contribute and withdraw. All, however, have the same task at hand - save for the future.

There are many obstacles and challenges when trying to save. However, we need to approach our savings goals like we do golf -- one hole at a time.

Think of each savings goal as a golf hole. That particular hole (goal) may have a lake we need to clear, or a fairway lined with many trees making it impossible to find our ball if we hit it out of bounds. We may play it safe on that hole knowing we have other holes to make it up. In saving, if there is an unexpected event that occurs where we need to dip into another account or not save as much as we wanted to that month, we can adjust and make it up in the coming months.

As I always say, life happens and saving takes time, practice and lots of perseverance. When a ball goes awry, a golfer will yell "FORE" so other players proceed with caution. In planning for retirement savings, think of "FORE" as your Future; prepare for **O**bstacles; so you may **R**etire and **E**njoy!

Michele Sarna is a financial advisor at Beacon Pointe and can be reached at (760) 932.0930.

Wellness Award nominees to date

Continued from page 8

#### **BUSINESS**

#### **Cetina Raw Natural Beauty**

Located in downtown Palm Springs, Cetina offers each client a custom experience for skin and hair using all natural ingredients. Hair coloring, masks, facials, lotions and creams are all concocted using natural oils, herbs, organic and non-toxic products. Owner Ana Cetina loves educating her customers and "treats them all like family."



"Beauty starts from the inside out. My purpose is to educate everyone how to use and make raw natural ingredients to feel and look beautiful." – Ana Cetina

#### **Desert Oasis Healthcare**

DOHC developed the Employee Success Program with a focus on wellness including a locally-sourced café on campus, healthy catering, healthier themed company-wide events, a nutrition month, on-site dieticians, hiking and walking clubs



and more. The effort has garnered many national workplace awards and has increased employee engagement, morale and wellbeing.

"As a local health care leader, we have a strong commitment to the health and wellness of our greatest assets – our employees, patients, and the community." – Megan Guerra & Kristi Vaughn

#### Fit in 42

Gerry and Casey Washack have provided the Valley with training and nutritional guidance for the past 14 years. Their signature program, Fit in 42, teaches healthier habits through action and education and has helped thousands lose thousands. The brothers have created a family atmosphere



and include their clients in the goodwill services they offer local non-profits each month.

"We wanted to create a road map for people so they have all the tools necessary to achieve their fitness goals and live their best lives." – Casey Washack

#### **INTEGRATIVE PRACTITIONER**



#### Celeste Amaya, MD

Dr. Amaya practices mind-body medicine in her approach in treating patients. Using both allopathic medicine and Eastern philosophy, she assesses an individual's needs considering both their emotional and physical state. She takes time to teach meditation and meridian access therapy for whole body healing and treats each client with compassion and care.

"I merge ancient Eastern healing with modern traditional medicine to consistently produce dramatic reversals of chronic health issues. Patients report powerful, transforming and multidimensional shifts in mind, body and spirit."

Continued on page 34

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# NATUROPATHIC FAMILY MEDICINE with Dr. Shannon

#### **Top Fertility-enhancing Foods**

In the U.S. one in eight couples is infertile and many others struggle with optimal fertility. There are many options to enhance fertility. One essential option is to eat a high-quality diet and add specific foods that may enhance fertility. In addition to eating fertility-enhancing foods, it is also essential to eliminate toxifying and hormone disrupting foods such as those high in high fructose corn syrup, trans fatty acids, hormone-enhanced meat and dairy, farm-raised fish, and non-organic produce.

#### **Enhancing Female Fertility:**

Yams and Sweet Potatoes. Yams and sweet potatoes contain properties that enhance progesterone and progesterone making parts of the body. Eating one or more yams several days per week can potentially boost progesterone.

Organic Eggs. Egg yolks, specifically, are high in choline and inositol. Choline and inositol have the ability to improve female egg quality and improve egg reserve. These nutrients are also essential in fetal brain and neurological development.

**Healthy Fats.** A diet rich in omega fatty acids can improve fertility overall from egg quality to sustainable embryo uterine implantation. Foods rich in omega fatty acids are wild fish, avocado, olives, olive oil, and organic pasture-fed beef.

**Green Vegetables.** Organic dark green leafy vegetables are high in B vitamins and folate that improve hormonal regulation, egg quality, overall fertility, and fetal health and development. Eating a wide range of organic green vegetables such as broccoli, spinach, kale, Brussels sprouts, and dark green leafy salad improves nutritional body status of these vitamins.

#### **Enhancing Male Fertility:**

Nuts and Seeds. Eating a variety of nuts and seeds increases selenium, zinc, and

healthy fats essential for quality sperm production, specifically almonds, Brazil nuts, sesame seeds (tahini in hummus) and ground flax seed are rich in zinc and selenium.

Healthy Fats and Quality Protein. Increasing foods high in both quality omega fatty acids and protein can increase the nutritional vitality of sperm. Pasturefed beef, lamb, bison, and wild fish are high in quality fats and protein. Avocados are nutrient rich and full of health fat, as well.

**Green Vegetables.** Green vegetables rich in B vitamins and folate are also necessary for enhancing male fertility. Consuming green vegetables daily can enhance quality, production, and vitality of sperm.

The easiest way to enhance fertility with food choices and food quality is to prepare more meals at home, as it can be challenging to find the quality fertility-enhancing food in the prepared food and restaurant environment. Focusing on homemade meals is the best way to ensure quality and optimize nutritional content. However, one stand-out organic restaurant recently added menu options to enhance preconception health, fertility, and meals during pregnancy for women and men in Palm Desert. Luscious Lorraine's Organic Cafe now offers a menu on which I collaborated with Chef Lorraine using the above-mentioned foods for all stages of baby making.

To enhance fertility, this type of diet is one essential part of preconception preparation.

Dr. Shannon Sinsheimer is state licensed naturopathic doctor with a focus on fertility, family wellness, and pre-conception health. She can be reached at Optimal Health Center (760) 568.2598.

# Outdoor Gym Opens in La Quinta Valley's first Fitness Court® free for all

La Quinta has joined over 4,000 cities around the globe making fitness free and accessible to all through the installation of an outdoor circuit training court. The new facility is part of a multi-million dollar nationwide effort to get people excited about health and fitness. Spearheaded by National Fitness Campaign (NFC), the Fitness

Court® ecosystem combines national campaign resources, digital tools, evolving challenges and best-in-class equipment to create the world's best outdoor gym experience.

Located at La Quinta Park across from La Quinta High School on the corner of Blackhawk Way and Adams Street, the course takes users through seven movements and offers four progressive training options: easy, medium, hard and expert. There is also an app designed to be a coach in your pocket with platforms for both Apple and Android. The programming and challenges are digitally delivered and designed to be completed in just seven minutes. The app also allows you to track results.

"Health and wellness are priorities for La Quinta," said Mayor Linda Evans. "Being selected as the first location in the Coachella Valley for a Fitness Court® enhances our efforts to continue to promote well-being to our residents and visitors."



The high tech outdoor fitness court is open to La Quinta residents and visitors alike.

The Fitness Court was funded partially through a grant received from NFC and partially through the city's parks equipment replacement fund. La Quinta's Facilities department will maintain the recreation site.

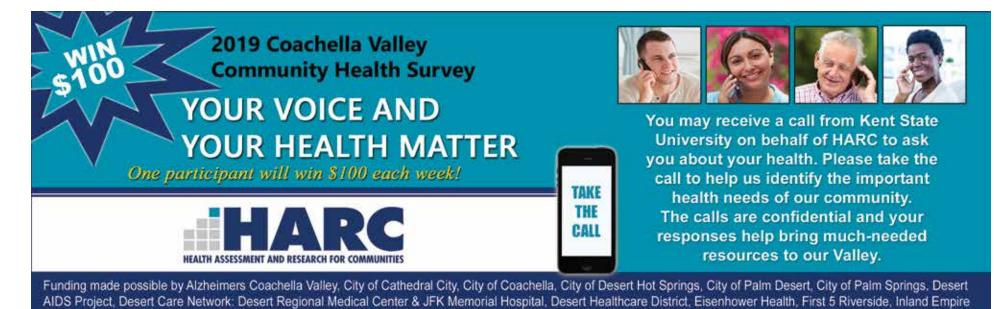
Founded in 1979, NFC is a social enterprise which partners with local communities and nationwide sponsors to build funding and promote healthy infrastructure. Their goal is to provide free fitness spaces in hopes of breaking down barriers to fit lifestyles and to change health outcomes. Partnerships with more than 100 corporate sponsors have helped raise over \$100 million in the

United States, Canada and Australia.

"We are delighted to bring our national campaign to the City of La Quinta," said NFC Founder Mitch Menaged. "We welcome this active community to our nationwide digital gym network and I invite everyone to download our free Fitness Court® mobile app."

"This unique exercise platform offers free access to fitness for everyone," adds Evans. "A healthy community is a prosperous community and we're proud to partner with NFC to further activate our public spaces for all to enjoy."

For more information visit www.playinlaquinta.com. The free Fitness Court® app is available at the AppStore and Google Play.



HARC is a nonprofit organization located in Palm Desert. If you have any questions, please visit www.HARCdata.org or call 760-404-1945.

Health Plan (IEHP), RAP Foundation, Riverside University Health System - Behavioral Health, Riverside University Health System - Public Health, and generous private donors.





#### **Inner Space, Inner Peace**

By Jayne Robertson, C-IAYT, E-RYT 500

One of my deepest intentions is finding a peaceful heart. The inspiration has, in part, stemmed from my dad, who passed away in 1982 but not before leaving an indelible imprint on the person I am today. He was a metallurgical engineer and researcher in aerospace back in the day when it was an emerging field of exploration in the late 50s and early 60s. When Dad would talk to me about outer space, I would sit in a stupor trying to comprehend the vastness of it all. Here we are, on this little dot of a planet in the Universe and what's "out there" is mind-blowing. It was the new frontier, a place of apparent silence, radiant light, and endless opportunities to search into the unknown, where infinity has true meaning.

I then started to think about inner space...that dwelling within each of us that, like outer space, has unlimited potential for exploration. At one time, our body was thought of in limited terms but today, we are able to SEE strands of DNA. Sitting within this inner landscape beyond the physical is thought to be the "Hridaya," the cave of the heart - that untouchable, unchanging, and steadfast center of who we are. As spiritual teacher Eckhart Tolle said, "At the deepest level of Being, we are one with all that is."

One of my wishes for the world is peace, yep, that hippie-sounding affirmation of wanting peace throughout the world. I doubt we'll see peace in the world in my lifetime as we've been at war for a couple of thousand years, but that simply deepens the desire to be part of the peacemaking footprint. If I wish peace for others, I know that I must first have peace within my own being; hence, the need to explore my own inner space. Meditation, slowing down and living with intention, contemplation, and yoga are the doorways into inner space. Over the years, I have become better at finding the "Hridaya," the center of who I am. At times, we can become lost and the consistency of our practice is what reminds us of that connection and helps us to find that place within.

As so often is said, we begin with the breath. We breathe into our own inner space, bringing in what we need and, upon exhale, we release that breath into the outer space. Our earthly outer space or atmosphere is one which all beings have been sharing since the beginning of time. I know that if I can offer through my breath my own infusion of intention, or a sense of peacefulness, then each out-breath is an opportunity to offer peacefulness to the whole. Just as a prayer is sent out each time the wind passes through Tibetan prayer flags, we can do the same with our own breath.

So my 2019 wish is this: May all of us touch a natural sense of peacefulness, within and without. May all of us spend time exploring our own inner being and, in doing so, recognize how it is intertwined with everything else. And, finally, may all of us be inspired by those who have gone before us, exploring both inner and outer space.

Jayne Robertson is owner and instructor at Desert Yoga Therapy in Rancho Mirage. For more information, visit www.desertyogatherapy.com or call (760) 456.5160. jayne@desertyogatherapy.com.





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Thursdays, 10:30 a.m., Mizell Senior Center
Fourth Tuesday of the month, 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.,
Vista Cove at Rancho Mirage. Open to the public.

New! Wednesday, 2 p.m. at Bella Villaggio, Palm Desert

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An eight-week social and educational program for both care giver and loved one. Experts in a variety of fields present a different topic each week.

**Next series begins on January 11.** Pre-screening is required; limited to a maximum of eight couples.



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All of our programs are free! 100% of monies raised for ACV remain in the Coachella Valley to fill the need for professional and peer-led programs.



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By Dipika Patel

## News from the Valley's Integrated Health Community Fig & Date Coconut Brownies

Superstar figs are full of vitamins and minerals and packed with antioxidants and fiber, supporting the whole body for anti-aging, helping to fight cancer, and treating common illnesses. Fresh figs last seven to ten days after they're picked, but you can dry them to extend their shelf life and boost some of their nutrients. They are great as a snack, fresh or dried, or added to dishes giving you an interesting nutrient-dense meal. They are very versatile and can be used in salads, stews, drinks, preserves, in desserts (like these delightful brownies!), or as a side dish. You will not be disappointed.

While there is a wealth of wisdom in this glorious fruit, we must be mindful of our own bodies. Individuals with diabetes should be cautious when consuming or using figs for healing, as they can affect glucose levels, and those with skin and other allergies to mulberry (a kin to the fig) must be careful as well.



½ cup raw almonds

½ cup dried pitted dates

½ cup raw organic cacao powder

1/3 cup applesauce

1/4 cup organic coconut sugar (optional for those who do not like the bitterness of cacao; you can use this or crystalized dates)

1/4 cup light canned coconut milk

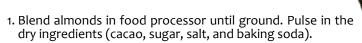
1/4 cup organic coconut shreds

5-6 stemmed dried figs

2 Tbsp. organic unrefined coconut oil

½ tsp. baking soda

1/4 tsp. sea salt



2. Next, add the dates, figs, coconut milk, coconut oil, coconut shreds, and blend until you have a smooth batter.

3. In a medium bowl, stir applesauce into the batter.

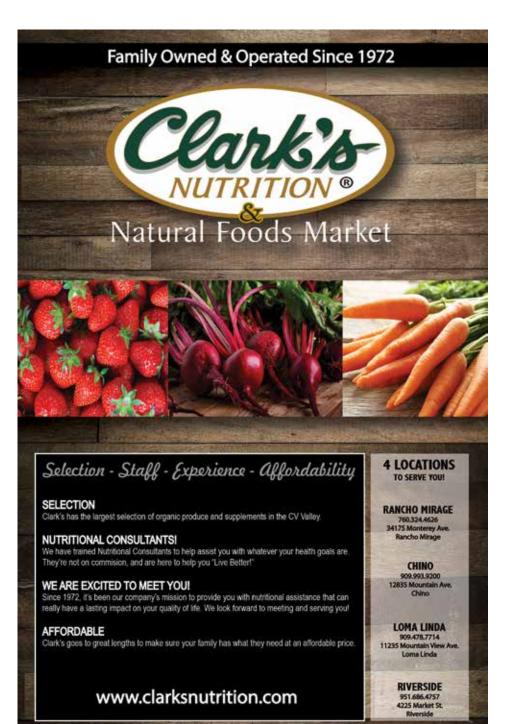
4. Grease an 8x8" pan lined with foil and spread batter evenly on the foil.

5. Bake at 325 degrees for 25 minutes, or until toothpick comes out clean.

6. Let cool about 10 minutes before cutting.

These delightful little treats are great once cooled, but best the next day from the refrigerator. They can last a week in the fridge, but trust me; they won't make it that

Dipika is a holistic health & lifestyle coach who empowers clients to activate a balanced lifestyle of the mind, body and soul. She can be reached at dipika@dipikapatel.life or www.loveyourlifehealthy.com





#### Why Nutrition Matters When You Have Cancer

A cancer diagnosis can be overwhelming. A health care team may provide a variety of treatment options, but it is up to the patient to prioritize and focus daily on their nutrition, which is the foundation of health. Malnutrition (lacking adequate nutrients) is a serious side effect of cancer and cancer treatments. In fact, at least half of cancer patients suffer from malnutrition at time of diagnosis and 20% of cancer-related deaths are due to malnutrition and not the cancer itself. Eating well prior to, and during cancer can result in significantly better survival rates and improved quality of life throughout the cancer continuum. Our biggest challenge as a nation is to get educated on using diet and lifestyle changes as a first line of defense for cancer prevention and for cancer survival.

A dietary approach for cancer patients may require specific adjustments, depending on the type of treatment and side effects. The anti-cancer diet philosophy is the same for everyone: a low glycemic diet centered around more vegetables than fruit, with adequate protein and high-quality fats. Fresh fruits and vegetables offer an abundance of fiber, vitamins and essential minerals, lowering risk of disease and reducing the likelihood of malnutrition.

Maintaining weight is key to cancer survival and correlated to improved quality of life during cancer treatments as well. A 2015 study by Martin and colleagues, published in The Journal of Clinical Oncology, identified that weight-stable cancer patients, even if overweight, survived 5 times longer than patients who lost 15% of their bodyweight. Weight loss in a cancer patient is a red flag that there is likely a risk of muscle loss and lack of nutrients; therefore, cancer patients need to be vigilant and actively participate in dietary interventions.

Common yet misguided advice to a cancer patient is, "Eat whatever you want." We have known for centuries how connected our body is to what we feed it. Oncology nutrition research continues to confirm what Hippocrates, the Father of Medicine, already knew. His wise words were, "Let food be thy medicine and medicine be thy food." Food is a powerful tool and is underutilized in our medical system today.

The "perfect" diet may not exist, but there are certain qualities of the diet that make the difference in health and survival. When cancer was rare, we were consuming traditional diets filled with a variety of seasonal, organically grown vegetables, herbs, some fruits, and some animals. They did not include modern offenders such as preservatives, pesticides, chemicals, processed sugars or inflammatory fats which have led us to today's epidemic of being overfed, yet under-nourished. Real, whole foods provide substantial benefits to the body as they contain healing compounds called phytochemicals. Science continues to prove that a diet loaded with these powerful plant treasures can potentially prevent, or even stop, cancer in its tracks. If we can treat the grocery store as our pharmacy, undoubtedly, we would see dramatic decline in all disease and better outcomes from cancer treatments.

Tiffany is a certified nutrition consultant and functional diagnostic nutrition practitioner and can be reached at (760) 285.1221. For more information visit www.tiffanydalton.com.

Sources: http://www.jhoponline.com/ton-issue-archive/2013-issues/october-vol-6-no-9/16012-malnutrition-in-patients-with-cancer-anoften-overlooked-and-undertreated-problem

#### Warm, Cozy and Real Citrus & Palm serves whole food with heart

#### A Desert Health Review

For those of us who prefer to eat clean, discovering a new restaurant offering a full menu from which we can choose is sheer exuberance. The checklist can be

demanding - grass-fed, free-range, garden fresh, locally-sourced, gluten-free, dairy-free – all served in a warm ambiance with a full array of beverage options.

Citrus & Palm in Indian Wells delivers on all fronts including a home-grown garden for freshly harvested herbs and vegetables.

My friend Pam and I went for dinner the other night and had a delightful evening and exceptional meal. She is a gluten-intolerant Italian, and I'm...well, all of the above, and we both love good food.

This hidden treasure located at the on-site garden. the Miramonte Resort was recently redesigned with natural materials

- grained woods, soft leather, rustic touches and could not be warmer and more welcoming. Outside a large fire pit invites you to enjoy a pre- or post-dinner cocktail, and inside, the open kitchen chefs greet you upon arrival.

Sitting at a two-top with comfy barrel chairs and a large metal round, we were ecstatic to see so many menu options from which we could choose. We decided on shared plates to experience more flavors and started with the roasted cauliflower and stir-fried green beans, a house specialty. Pam loved the cauliflower, even calling it "comfort food," while I preferred the green beans.

"It has an umami reminiscent of cheese with no cheese in sight!" she exclaimed describing the texture and flavors of the cauliflower dish created with pesto, toasted almonds and a light lemon aioli. It was heavenly!

The green beans were sprinkled with hearty pancetta, fresh mint from the on-site garden, crispy shallots, toasted peanuts and a chili yuzu glaze adding a touch of spicy citrus. I couldn't

We then moved on to the lobster salad and fried calamari appetizer. Pam's Calabrese rejoiced at the GF next to the fried calamari which is made with corn starch versus wheat flour. The crispy treat was lightly seasoned and served with both a marinara and Calabrian aioli.

The lobster salad was a rainbow of colors and flavors - tender chunks of the succulent seafood placed kabob-style with sliced avocado and both grapefruit and oranges slices and sprinkled with Fresno chilies. As Chef Paul Hancock described, the spicy notes round it out with the creaminess of the avocado and tart citrus. Delicious!

We then decided to split the Mangalista tomahawk pork chops served with Brussels sprouts and mashed yams. Mangalista is a domestic breed described as "the Kobe of pork." Served with a succulent fig sauce, the moist and tender chops were delectable and large enough

In speaking with Chef Paul, we learned that all their red meat is grassfed, the salmon is wild-caught Alaskan, and the free-range chicken comes from Pasturebird whose hens are raised on a grass and bugs diet, enjoy elevated irrigation for cleaner ground, and are 100% vaccine- and antibiotic-free. Chicken like it used to be: lean, flavorful, and consciously-raised.

It was a wonderful evening of good wine, sampling an array of tastes, and appreciating wholesome ingredients. While quite full, when we learned that

the berry crumble dessert was made with coconut flour and also gluten-free, we decided we had to try it! With fresh berries, tart rhubarb and toasted almonds, it did not disappoint. It was the perfect ending to an exceptional meal.

Real food restaurants like Citrus & Palm are hard to find. We can't say enough good things about it. The new design is warm but "cool," and Chef Paul and his team have achieved their goal of offering room and an outdoor fire pit create savory, satiating and comforting food you can feel good about eating.



Chef Paul Hancock with herbs and vegetables from



The stir fried green beans, a house specialty



Lobster salad with citrus, avocado and Fresno chili peppers



A half serving of the signature dish Mangalitsa Tomahawk Pork Chop



Natural elements in the dining a warm and cozy environment.

Citrus & Palm is located at the Miramonte Resort in Indian Wells and open for breakfast, lunch and dinner (open for dinner Tues.-Sat.). Small plate dinners and appetizers range from \$6 - \$20; main courses from \$23 - \$43. To view full menu and hours visit www. MiramonteResort.com or call (760) 341.7200.

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Jessica shares her ideas, tips, and recipes in several formats, and regularly visits stores so you can ask questions about food, nutrition, diets, cooking, and more.



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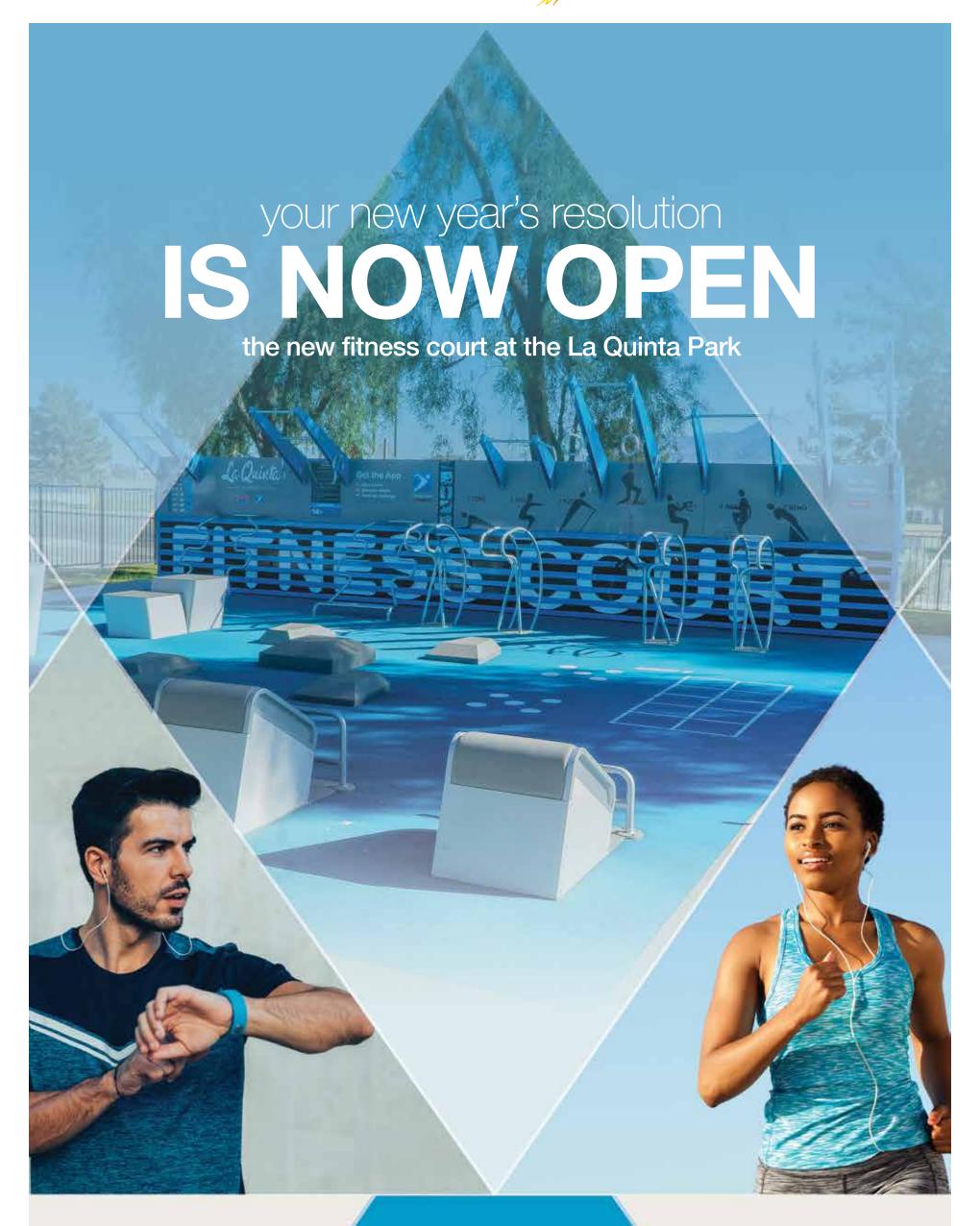
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#### **Exercising on a Ketogenic Diet**

By Michael K Butler B.A.; P.T.A.; CSCS\*D; RSCC\*D; NMT

It seems the hot diet trend these days is the term ketosis. People are losing weight quickly and keeping it off with a great deal of discipline and significant effort.

The aim of a ketogenic diet is to keep your body in a metabolic state called ketosis. Our bodies normally burn carbohydrates for energy. When you restrict the amount of carbs, the body will breakdown stored fat, creating molecules called ketones to use as fuel. The object is to eat high amounts of fat, moderate protein and low carbs.

The keto diet was originally designed not for weight loss, but for epilepsy. In the 1920s doctors realized that keeping their patients on low carb diets forced their bodies to use fat, instead of glucose, as the first line source of fuel. When only fat is available for the body to burn, the body converts the fats into fatty acids, and then into compounds called ketones. For reasons not entirely understood even today, fueling the body primarily on ketones reduces seizures, but with effective anti-seizure medication available few people with epilepsy rely on ketogenic diets.

Keto and exercise performance: By restricting carbs, we limit the ability of our muscle cells to access sugar (one of the fastest fuel sources the body utilizes). When the body doesn't get enough sugar, the ability to function at high intensities (activities lasting longer than 10 seconds) is impaired. This happens because the body starts to shift to burning glucose instead of ATP+ creatinine phosphate for energy.

Keto and weightlifting: Strength, power and muscle mass can all be improved while on this diet. Using the ATP+creatine phosphate will fuel those quick intense muscle contractions, as long as you're doing your sets at for a brief time (around 10 seconds), then carbohydrate restriction will not impair your gains.

Keto and cardio workouts: If your primary goal is to do cardio, then you don't have to worry about using high intensities which require sugar as the primary fuel source; all you need to do is get your heart rate up and keep it up. Due to the moderate intensities of cardio, the ketogenic diet will not impair your cardio exercise performance. In fact you may work out longer without getting tired. 50-70% of your max heart rate should be utilized.

In closing, it's the diet that's important for losing weight, and choosing the right mode of training will only reinforce and add benefit to your overall goal.

Michael Butler is co-owner of Kinetix Health and Performance Center. He is a licensed physical therapist assistant, a certified strength and conditioning coach with the highest distinction honors, a full body active release therapist, and a writer/publisher of over 100 articles, books and magazine contributions. Michael@kinetixcenter.com or (760) 200.1719.

#### **Maximizing Your Endurance Training**

By Matthew Wilson, DTP

The development of an endurance training program involves different variables that need to be accounted for to maximize performance. Maximizing performance is the number one goal of all training programs.

Training used to consist of high intensity interval training most days of the week. Arthur Lydiard, the running coach for the New Zealand distance runners, believed in a high-volume base period to increase aerobic capacity at the beginning of an athlete's training cycle. This was a change to the traditional training schedule. Endurance training has built on this premise and continues to evolve.

There are two major measurements of an athlete's endurance capacity that training programs build on for improvement. The first is VO2max, the maximum oxygen uptake or the maximum volume of oxygen that can be utilized in one minute during maximal exercise. It is generally considered the best indicator of cardiorespiratory endurance and aerobic fitness.

VO2max is affected by oxygen availability and its transfer and usage in the cell. Oxygen is transported from the lungs to the mitochondria. The more efficient the process the faster the transfer of oxygen to the lungs, stroke volume and capillary density in the muscle.

Elite athletes have extremely high VO2max capacity. Lactate threshold determines and distinguishes fitness levels. Lactate threshold is the exercise intensity at which lactate starts to accumulate. Lactate is produced when the body cannot produce enough ATP energy through aerobic metabolism, so it starts producing more energy anaerobically, producing lactate as a byproduct.

As lactate is moved back to the muscle to produce ATP is produced faster than it can be metabolized.



elite athletes should consider.

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**SUSAN BUTLER** NMT, LMT, CFT

UC Berkeley physiologist George Brooks has found that training actually teaches muscle cells how to use lactic acid as a fuel to train and perform harder. As the training becomes efficient and harder, the mitochondria grow, taking in more lactate and burning it for more energy.

While high intensity training maximizes VO2max and lactate threshold there are other factors that affect performance. Fatigue and recovery are a result of building endurance to a higher level. Overtraining inhibits the rebuilding process and requires a lengthy recovery. The 80/20 model is one way of rebuilding. Train 80% in zone 1 or below a ventilator threshold, which is a long slow run. Train 20% at zone 2 at the

lactate threshold and zone 3 above the threshold, which is at race-specific intervals.

Keep in mind that every athlete and runner differs in reaction to specific workouts and their ability to recover. Constant reevaluation of the program is necessary to customize the training program based on the athlete's physical and mental capacity.

Dr. Wilson is a Doctor of Physical Therapy at Avid Physical Therapy. He was a Division 1 cross country and track runner at the University of Miami and received his United States Track and Field Coaching Certificate. Dr. Wilson can be reached at matthew. wilson@movementforlife.com

Source: 1) University of California - Berkeley. "Lactic Acid Not Athlete's Poison, But an Energy Source - If You Know How to Use It." ScienceDaily, 21 April 2006

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**Michele Finney** CEO, Desert Regional **Medical Center Desert Visionary** Award

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#### Bringing Desert Health to You Join us at our community health fairs

This year Desert Health is proud to present three community wellness fairs offering the opportunity to meet many of the doctors and health care practitioners who contribute to our publication. Beautiful venues, prize giveaways, and other festivities add to the fun at each event.

Our three events will take place on Saturdays from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. at Trilogy at the Polo Club on January 12; Trilogy La Quinta on February 23; and at Outdoor Resort Palm Springs on March 9. Both Trilogy events are free and



Outdoors at the Trilogy Polo Club Wellness Fair



Guests can sample the Polo Detox Salad

to the public; the Outdoor Resort event is open exclusively to residents of that community.

In January, the Find Your Fit Wellness Fair returns to the grand lawn of Trilogy at the Polo Club. This spectacular new-home

community is the fastest growing in the valley and features restaurants,

one of our favorite Tasty Hill's Table. bites will be offered along with prize giveaways, live music, and tours of the clubhouse and model homes. The Polo Club

> is located off Avenue 52 at Monroe across from the Polo Grounds. Trilogy at La Quinta will once again attract a festive crowd as they celebrate their 11th annual event. \$1

raffle tickets for thousands in prize A guest enjoys giveaways will benefit Coachella complimentary massage Valley Volunteers in Medicine - and everyone takes something new home. Trilogy La Quinta is located off Avenue 60 in La Quinta.



At each event, a variety of Coachella Valley health professionals will offer demonstrations, product samples and information. Learn more about the many practices and programs you see in Desert Health, get a free massage, check your blood pressure, try acupuncture... or just stop by and say hello.

Start the New Year out right and come see us at our Trilogy Wellness Fairs! For more information contact Desert Health at (760) 238.0245.

# WELLNESS worth WATCHIN

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#### **JANUARY 16 • Food Choices**

This ground-breaking documentary explores the impact that food choices have on people's health, the health of our planet and on the lives of other living species. Food Choices also discusses several misconceptions about food and diet, offering a unique new perspective on these issues.



FEBRUARY 20 • The Mindfulness Movie

A powerful and educational showcase of worldwide brain research proving the benefits of mindfulness and the g acceptance of the practice. Drama stories shed light on the military's use, as well as how a group of special teens have benefitted. Narrated by Benedict Cumberbatch.



MARCH 20 • Queen of the Sun

A profound journey through the catastrophic disappearance of bees and the mysterious world of the beehive. We learn the heartfelt struggles of beekeepers, scientists and philosophers from around the world as they reveal both the problems and the solutions in renewing a culture in balance with nature.



#### APRIL 24 • Walk With Me

A cinematic journey into the world of mindfulness and the Zen Buddhist master Thich Nhat Hanh. Filmed over three years and with unprecedented access, this visceral film is a meditation on a community who have given up all their possessions for a monastic life in rural France.

Annenberg Health Sciences Building at Eisenhower Doors open: 1:30p.m. • Movies begin: 2p.m. Tickets: \$5 (Cash only at door). Call (760) 423-4855 or reservations@eisenhowerhealth.org



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William Grimm, DO

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Desert Health Wellness Awards nominees to date

Continued from page 25

#### INTEGRATIVE PRACTITIONER (CONT.)

#### William Grimm, DO

In Dr. Grimm's 25 years as a primary care physician, he has studied and embraced holistic health. He truly cares for his patients' overall wellbeing first prescribing lifestyle over medication. Dr. Grimm has recently expanded his practice to include two naturopathic doctors who work closely with him and his patients as well as their own.

"I believe the integrative physician is the doctor of the future. Years ago I chose my training in osteopathic medicine for this reason. And, for

the past 25 years, I have had the privilege of helping patients heal themselves through my evolving holistic approach."



#### Christina Vu, MD

Recognizing the alarming suicide rate among physicians, Dr. Vu, a second-year resident at Desert Regional Medical Center, established a wellness program to address the physical, emotional and social well-being of her peers. Efforts focus on screening for depression, encouraging work-life balance, and implementing discussion platforms to help keep her fellow physicians in good health so they can best serve those who entrust them with their care.

"It's important to have a sense of self-care and well-being. As health care providers, maintaining wellness is vital to providing optimal patient care.'

#### **NON-PROFIT**

#### **Alzheimers Coachella Valley**

Established in 2018, ACV provides educational and social service programs for individuals facing Alzheimer's and other dementias, their families and their caregivers. Their innovative and free programs focus on what is still possible and include interactive support groups, activities for caregivers and those affected, certified training classes and one-on-one care consultations.



"Our mission is to provide education, support, respite care, and advocacy for those in the Coachella Valley living with Alzheimer's and dementia." - Dom Calvano, Board President

#### YOUTH (18 & UNDER)

#### Secilia M. Valenzuela

A senior at Indio High, Secilia has embraced a path of health and wellness and works to inspire those around her to do the same. Using the knowledge she learned in Indio's Health and Nutritional Sciences Academy, including healthy food choices and stress reduction techniques, she is quick to lend a helping hand and encourage other students, family, and community members towards the same life-changing path.

"Changing my diet and lifestyle helped me to be more energetic and the best I can be. I want to help others to do the same."



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WILDEST GREENS

Saturday, February 16th, 2019 11:00 am - 4:00 pm

**Renaissance Indian Wells Resort** \$20 advance \$25 door



## FULLFILL YOUR FRESH FOOD FANTASIES

Something for Everyone...

Vegan · Paleo · Gluten-Free · Flexitarian

COFFEE & TEA

COLD PRESSED JUICES

ALL DAY BRUNCH

HAPPY HOUR



Open Daily: 10am to 9pm

**FREE JUICE** SHOT! Bring in this ad for a FREE JUICE SHOT!



Eat Here

Visit our website for a full menu and hours wildestgreens.com

> 760-636-0441 **72990 El Paseo** Palm Desert, CA 92260



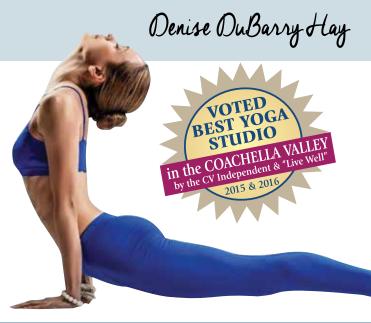
HOT "SUN ROOM"

> Bikram • Hot 60 Inferno Pilates Warm Vinyasa

#### **OUR PROMISE:**

Every class, every instructor, every aspect of our studio is dedicated to your wellness. We can't wait to see you.

NAMASTE,



# Here

Do Yoga

ANY CLASS \$10

Bring this ad in and take any class for just \$10 Regular Price \$20

# COOL "MOON ROOM"

Trapeze Yoga Yin Yoga Yoga Sculpt

- Retail Shop
- Showers
- Lockers

4.8 STARS ON: **f G** 





760-346-2988 · coachellayoga.com

**PALM DESERT** 36869 Cook Street, Ste. #101

**PALM SPRINGS** 611 S. Palm Canyon Drive, Ste. #206

# Palm Desert Family Dental (760)568-5902

Samir Tadha, DDS Coulter Crowley, DDS • Sarat Ummethala, DDS

Maximize your Smile in One Hour with Dr. Crowley's Smile Lift.

> Only \$599 (A \$1,299 value!)

Satisfaction Guaranteed!

Call for details. Limited time only. Some restrictions apply. Offer expires 2/28/19.

#### **New Patient Special** only \$99

(Over \$600 in savings!)

Includes: Complete Exam, Full Mouth Digital X-Rays, Teeth Cleaning, Complimentary Whitening Trays\*

\*New and cash patients only. One-time use. Some restrictions apply. Not valid for gum disease. Offer expires 2/28/19. Call for details.

#### Free **Dental Implant** Consultation

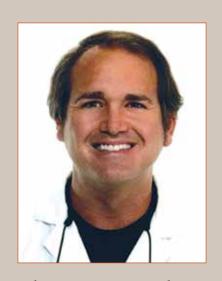
(Regularly \$120)

New and cash patients only. One-time use. Some restrictions apply. Offer expires 2/28/19. Call for details.

#### Do you have...

Worn out or yellow teeth? Chipped or gap teeth? Teeth that will not respond to whitening?

Veneers or Lumineers may be the answer for you.



Coulter Crowley, DDS

Cosmetic & General Dentistry

#### Do you have...

Missing teeth or ill fitting dentures? Tired of messy adhesives?

Always worrying about denture mishaps?

Want a second opinion from a board-certified implant specialist?

Dental implant treatment might be the solution for you.



Sarat Ummethala, BDS, DDS, DABOI

Implant & General Dentistry

#### Specializing in:

**Cosmetic Dentistry Implants** Zoom • Veneers **Lumineers** • Bridges

**Crowns • Invisalign** All-On-Four One-Day **Dental Implants Snap on Dentures** 





(760) 568-5902

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