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## The Labyrinth

by Lena Kinakin

The time has come in my life where I am realizing that if I stand still, I will remain at this point forever and life will pass me by. So I have been saying 'yes' a lot. The 'yes' that I committed to this past December altered my life. I walked the labyrinth at St. Paul's Church in Vancouver. I remember reading an article about it in the newspaper about three years ago. The labyrinth at St. Paul's Church is drawn on the floor. It is a large circle that has an opening at one end where you enter. You follow a pattern in a circular motion towards the centre. The walk in is spent on thoughts of guidance. The centre is spent clearing the mind and the walk out is being open for the answers.

I have been thinking a lot about my life's circumstances and why I am where I am. How can I make a difference, what direction do I go in now? Am I living my life to the fullest? I have read countless books, attended many workshops and seminars and mulled these ideas over in my head. "Clarity of vision is power. The answers lie in the stillness. Practice meditating." After a few weeks I would find myself sitting and thinking the same thoughts. This brought on depression and hopelessness.

When I walked up to the labyrinth, I felt excited because I read in the church foyer that walking the path did not require me to figure it out. I was to let go and allow. I began by sitting down on a chair nearby to ground myself. I looked around at my surroundings and asked that I realize, consciously, the gifts I was about to receive. I then stood up and walked over to the entrance and stepped in. The path was smooth and so simple. I put one foot in front of the other — one step at a time. This reminded me of life, but the beauty was, all the time I was walking closer to the center. My shoulders began to drop. My mind began to empty of the chatter. I felt an emptying of my doubts and fears. I would open my mouth and the air rushed through my head, throat and body. I truly felt what it meant to be one with all.

When I reached the center, I began by sitting in a cross-legged position. I realized in a few minutes that the only thing I was thinking about was the pain in my legs. I felt so open. Time had ceased to exist, there was just NOW. The confusion had fallen off my body in big chunks. At some point I stood up and began my walk back, slowly. I wanted to feel my heel touch the floor first and then my whole foot s-t-r-e-t-c-h to the toes. I felt love for everyone. I wanted to bless all people as they walked their sacred path/life.

When the exit came I felt a touch of anxiety. I now needed to believe in myself and walk my life's journey. I circled the outside of the labyrinth and then plunged into the next moment. I noticed how clear my head felt and how clear my focus was and still is. I felt fresh, alive, hopeful and joyous. I was able to be with, not be in. I accepted the fact

that there is a path in front of me now and I need to slow down and take it one step at a time.



There is now a Labyrinth at Naramata Centre. It will be available to participants at the Spring Festival of Awareness, as well as a workshop. Those interested in walking it at other times please call Naramata Centre 250-496-5751.

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March 19 - Handwriting Explained with Angèle.

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March 26 - Vaccine Research with Donna Roth The facts and fallacy with in-depth research provided.

March 28 - (Sun) Palm Sunday Service - Worship to Mother & Father God with Revs. Juanita & Roberto Rivera. (No collection or admittance fees)

April 9 - Feng Shui with Vicki Stefopoulou Understand the dynamic flow of energy as it circulates through your home or business. see story page 15

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## Make your Life Matter

by Hermann Müller

When you are in touch with your inner self and your soul, you have it all, because your soul's already got it. You



don't need experience, you need to get in touch with your inner self. You must stay in your body and not in your head, intellectualizing. The more you listen to your body and what it is telling you, the more comfortable you will be. I meet clients for the first time, they open themselves up in a way they haven't been able to with people they have lived with for twenty years. If they are not comfortable that they are already understood they cannot open up. They know I understand them, because their body will tell them that I am comfortable with them. Your body has sensory mechanisms that are listening, feeling and evaluating constantly. What we need is to get connected to our soul, then we can express our soul better. Then you can have a spiritual experience, being who you are. As you experience your spirit within you, you can feel beautiful wherever you can go and if you are in a group who don't like you, know who you are, and like yourself, then you don't have to make yourself comfortable or get them to accept you.

If you look at the basic principles, life is simple. We use less energy in the day when we use our energy in the moment and are focused. A lot of energy is spent chasing things that haven't happened. Thought is vibration, a wavelength and physical action is much slower. What goes through the mind in a few minutes might take hours to write down or days and years to do. What is the point of thinking so much and not doing. If you think and don't have the desire to do, what is the point. The reason your soul came into matter was to change matter for you. Unless we change matter we are not doing service. To change matter and make things happen is what excites the spirit.

This is why so many spiritual people feel misunderstood by society, unable to participate. Affluence and success is the proper use of energy. When you don't use the energy given to you, you are not in the present moment, your body is past tense.

Our purpose is to change all the time, unless we change and move on, are careful not to carry stuff that happened and is therefore part of the past, we are not evolving. see ad below

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## Musing

with Angèle publisher of ISSUES

#### **Celebration Time**

Growing up in a large family out in the wilderness with many brothers taught me many skills. Being productively busy is one of them, for it seemed the sun would go down before we finished all that needed doing. We did have candles and propane lights, but they were used sparingly. This month's photograph is of me having my tenth birthday. I am the one behind the candle. I know this is my birthday party and not one of my brother's because there are more girls than boys in the picture. Hazel, Gail, Sharon, Laurie and myself were the only girls living in our small community, so it was a special occasion when they all came over for a visit and cake. Presents were usually money or a gift made by themselves or their Mom. This year on Feb. 20th, I enjoyed having my 47th birthday gathering and I made time for it. The twentieth of each month is my 'going to print' time and my day is usually spent on the computer putting the finishing touches to ISSUES. Thanks to all who came to my birthday and to those who sent their love and blessings, for I do know how busy life can get.

Life has always been busy for me. I reread some letters that I wrote to my Mom when I was fourteen and my opening sentence on all four of them was about how busy I was. Life doesn't change much unless we put our undivided attention on what we want and ask for it with all our heart. I love being busy, so I doubt if that will change. My challenge is to get clear on what I want to spend my time doing.



Last Sunday I made time for a walk in the sunshine rather than typing Musings so my story is short this month. Letting go of expectations and at the same time expecting only the best is what I am practising these days. I have ideas on how to make it work, but at the same time, I know I have to be flexible enough to keep changing as the circumstances do. I continue to do the breathing exercises that Ken teaches me, feeling deeply into my body, checking in as often as possible. Lately it is the sensations of anxiety and fear that I can feel moving in my belly. I give them space and instruct my brain not to get caught up in past patterns and to live in the moment. Each time I remind myself to let go of the past patterning, it fades a little.

For the past three years my hips have been shifting, a long slow process that seems to be coming to fruition. When I go for a walk I can feel my sway back tucking under and straightening. My shoulders are becoming more balanced over my torso which allows my neck to come into proper alignment. Straightening the twist in my hips and the curve in my low back gives me a feeling of weakness and there are moments when I wonder if what I am doing is for my best interest but they are short-lived. I breathe into the fear and remind myself of what

Ida Rolf said about the hips and the sacrum needing to be in alignment with the centre of the Earth so that we feel Her and get a clear connection to our purpose for being here, for I do want to do my best this time round.

Getting the hips to rotate meant my opposite shoulder had to loosen up and the thousands of small intricate muscles within the hips had to stretch and realign themselves. I give credit to yoga, rolfing and my emotional clearing process that I do weekly or monthly for it feels like completion is close, and at the same time I know it only readies me for the next step in my journey.

February is the month I choose my 'Universal lesson' for 1999, something to focus my intent on and to remind myself to do things in a different way. This year it is "Getting Clear." Getting clear with myself and what I want for me and the community that I live in; getting clear with friends, advertisers and readers about what is expected from all of us: getting clear with my business partners about what we need from each other to feel supported; and getting clear within myself on the qualities I need in a new business partner. Issues is now in its tenth year and I feel it is time for more input, more creative flow with someone who loves working on computers and has a vision of networking information. The possibilities are unlimited but it takes dedication, time and money to make it a reality. It is always exciting to see what the future will bring and time is our illusion, so what will be will be. I wish you love and light in manifesting your desires. Breathe deeply and get in touch with your body for it has the answers you need to make yourself healthy and happy.





## ISSUE S MAGAZINE S

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ISSUES welcomes articles by local writers. Please keep them to approx. 500-700 words. Advertisers and contributors assume responsibility and liability for accuracy of their claims.

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## Emotional Healing

by Kimberly Crawford

Have you ever wondered what is the most predominant factor in maintaining a person's overall health? Many health professionals point to tangible factors such as diet and exercise but one of the most important aspects of health maintenance overlooked is analysing and controlling one's emotions.

An interesting statement, but if you consider how emotions permeate our very existence, it is a perspective worth observing! All bodily functions are controlled by our emotional state in every respect. Imagine driving your car and suddenly a person appears in front of you. You instantly respond by slamming on the brakes (for a near miss, I hope!). Your body reacts to this by a sudden surge of adrenaline, your heart begins to race, you begin to sweat and shake, your vision and hearing become acute to the point of super-ability. Fear is not the only emotion that can affect us. Anger, anxiety, grief and many other emotions can affect us physically in many ways.

Emotional encounters that are negative, such as confrontations that cause anxiety, anger, frustration and hate (the worst!) cause natural chemicals (peptides) to miscommunicate with their receptors and cause all sorts of problems such as effects to breathing, blood flow, digestion (your stomach knots/physically drops), and the body's immunities and natural healing process is actually interrupted.

Such emotional encounters are normal and temporary but if carried for an extended period of time can affect health adversely. Being in control of your emotions and consciously observing your basic thought processes will allow you to be more aware of your emotional state. For instance, I make a point of questioning my thought processes (where did that come from) throughout my day.

Meditation has been my most beneficial tool over the years. When I started meditating a few years ago, my biggest problem was getting my thoughts to stop. I was always thinking something! The biggest benefit has been an internal calmness that has helped me in tight situations, including the adrenalinerush moment. Staying relaxed helps me to heal faster and keeps me from getting sick as often. Also, visualizing pleasant scenes can help to keep me balanced and focused.

Much research has been focused on emotional health and it all pretty much comes to the same conclusion. You are what you think, so pleasant thoughts to you and happy healing!

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### Earth and Spirit · Gaia and Tao

by Rémi Thivierge

There are special places on Earth that have drawn people from all cultures - waterfalls, mountains, the shore of the ocean. Some of these spots are also very inspiring - they can help us feel more intouch with our spirit. We can call them power spots, or spirit places. However, most of us are not clearly aware of the energy that we can draw from these places. You might have a spot like this that isn't known to anyone else, or only a few. It might be a particular hilltop, or sitting under a special tree. Or is this something that you did as a kid but have lost touch with now that you've grown up? And has your life lost some of its richness as a result?

Mother Earth, Gaia, is suffering from all our misuse and abuse. She has gotten cranky, and throws out storms, earthquakes, global warming, floods and fires. There is now more and more ultraviolet light coming through the ozone layer. This negatively affects our immune systems and that of every other living creature around us.

We, especially in the West, have been consuming and polluting more than Mother Earth can handle. Did you know that we Canadians use more energy and pollute more, per capita, than any other country on Earth? Some of our politicians are talking the talk but no serious action is being taken. Most of us don't complain much - polls show that concern about the environment is a very low priority for the vast majority of Canadians.

More and more of us seem to have difficulty being grounded now because of all the earth's turbulence - we don't feel safe. As well, social and economic changes are part of the issue of not feeling solidly grounded.

It's becoming more and more important for us to get in touch with Mother Earth, and to visit power places, where it's easiest for us to connect with the Earth. Being busy running our lives, or focusing only on personal growth and spirit, is no longer enough. We need to recharge our connection with the Earth and do spiritual work in these special power places.

Rogers Pass, at Glacier National Park east of Revelstoke. is a great example of a power place to do that type of work. It's a powerful place — extremely rugged, steep mountains, many glaciers. Natives have never lived in that area because there was too much snow in winter. We can commune more easily in such a wild, undamaged place, than we can in tamed places - in our back yard or near our homes.

This coming summer, the last summer before the millennium, I would like to propose that you join me for a retreat at Rogers Pass. To bring together the Earth's energy and that of the universe, of Tao - within your own spirit. Some say that we might even be able to give some of this energy back to Mother Earth, to celebrate her, to help her heal. At the very least, we can thank her for all she has provided us.

This time at Rogers Pass will be a time for us to do some deep spiritual work together and to commune and share as a group — to do some yoga, various types of meditation and work on our chakra systems. As we work toward uniting these two polarities - Earth and Spirit, we will also spend time working toward uniting other polarities within ourselves - integrating mind and body, strength and sensitivity, personal growth and growth relationships. See ad to the left.

From the Editor...

## Chit Chat

with Marcel



Quite often in my daily work I observe and come in contact with people who are discouraged and

dissatisfied with the state of the world around them. These conditions are making them angry and they are attempting to protest and 'fix' what they see as turmoil and outright deceit and dishonesty. Their efforts are largely involved in attacking this negativity and trying to create change from outside themselves. It is so easy to be ensnared by this mind set because to our logical minds this seems to be our only recourse.

However, if we listen to some of the new teachings that have come forth in the last several years, we are going about this process from the wrong direction. What I hear these teachers saying is that what we see in the world around us is merely a reflection of what is in ourselves and in order to "fix" what is out there we must first change this inner cause. It is fruitless to struggle with outer conditions; the only valuable arena for our efforts is working with our own personal growth. I find that as I endeavour to bring love and light into my consciousness, the reflections that I see around me reflect more love and light. Because of this I am beginning to realize more and more that my outside efforts will not produce lasting results until the source of my discontent has been eliminated from my heart and mind. This applies on a global basis as well as personally. Society will not evolve into harmony and balance until the individuals within it evolve into harmony and balance. Our health care system will cease being over burdened only when we create health within ourselves; our governments and institutions will serve us well only when we create trust and honesty within ourselves; our societies will stop warring only when we create peace and harmony within ourselves.

So perhaps the only worthwhile 'outside effort' is the education of individuals; encouraging people to take responsibility for themselves as well as the world around them by working on their own health and personal growth. When more people in society become aware and enlightened and have expanded their own consciousness, the governments and institutions that they are working in will begin to reflect this expansion and harmony.

At Issues we desire to be a part of this by informing and encouraging people toward their highest potential. We hope that our informative articles and stories of change in peoples' lives will inspire others toward a new awakening and that the advertisements will give them information and ideas on how to go about this process. Our endeavour is to eliminate the darkness by spreading love and light, while still supporting freedom of speech by allowing people to express marcal

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## The Heart of the Universe

by Heather James

I saw the most amazing sight last evening when I was out walking grandbaby, Ben.

The empty lot down the street was a shimmery green and in the very centre of this vast space were three red tulips glowing like a tiny, huge heart. No other colour, no other flowers, just three tulips in a sea of green.

You couldn't see them from the street if you drove by in a car. You had to walk and be keeping a close eye on the world. The lot falls away from the street and the ground was uneven. falling in miniature hollows and hills. And there, in the centre of this untended green were those three perfect tulips. Unexpected and beautiful, perfect just as they were.

No one has ever lived there, save the mice and grasshoppers. There has never been anyone to plant these around a front porch. How did they get there and not only survive but thrive with exuberance?

A dog barked, a car went by and we walked on slowly, our hearts stronger from that one wee glimpse.

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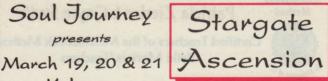
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## Sacred Science, Geobiology & Working with the Devas

by Christan Hummel

I first became acquainted with the term "geopathic stress" when my friend and mentor, Drunvalo Melchizedek, brought Slim to a Flower of Life facilitators' meeting in January 1997. Slim had invented some tools which used in conjunction with some waveform tapes cleared pollution in the city of Denver in 1992. I brought Slim to California three times and each time I learned more about his work and his tools. Finally, I asked permission to share the information in his workshops. Thus I began to share with others his work with the tools and their application for individual use. First I talk about geopathic stress lines and Hartmann grid lines—how to detect them, what their effect is on health, sleep patterns, financial flow, mental clarity, and many other symptoms that are well documented to be related to geopathic stress.

I began to research these geopathic lines, what they were, how they originated and how to heal them. What I knew from Slim's research was that they were zones of stressful energy that had a negative effect on life - plant, animal and human. They also seemed to affect inanimate objects like cars, appliances, plumbing and so on. We had many reports of people blocking the geopathic stress lines going into their house or office, and suddenly appliances that didn't work before began working! Others reported that houses on the market for three years sold within weeks of blocking the geopathic lines. The case histories were endless. It made sense from a Feng Shui point of view.

Little by little I began to feel uneasy about simply diverting these lines into someone else's back yard. I wanted to know how they were generated, and if there was a way to heal the energy permanently. It was at this point that a friend of mine returned from an open house at the magical garden of Perelandra in Virginia, where they had daily miracles in their garden through working with the nature spirits, or devas. He came back excited by the possibilities of working so creatively with the devas and using Machaelle Wright's techniques for designing and creating a garden by cooperating with them.

In preparing to get a garden ready, Machaelle outlined the steps for healing the land of geopathics. What? Healing them? This was the missing piece. I called Perelandra's office and spoke with one of the people. Yes, they had heard of Slim Spurling; he had come out there sometime in the past. But the information they had about the geopathic lines came from the devas themselves.

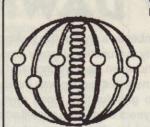
What they had to say about them was that the geopathic zones are the accumulation of humanity's emotional and mental residue that has been absorbed by the land - psychic garbage, so to speak, that has collected into rivers or currents of energy. It came from such things as emotional energy the land had absorbed from battles in the area. According to Slim's research, these energy rivers are then drawn to areas that are natural flow patterns in the Earth — either the earth's electromagnetic lines (in the case of Hartmann lines) or naturally occurring conduits such as fault lines, fissures, underground water tables and rivers. Machaelle was told that the nature

kingdoms served to hold these lines of energy until humanity matured enough to take responsibility for healing the unresolved energy.

Well, that sounded a bit far out to me, but I was living in a house that was a geopathic nightmare. If it could work on my house, it would probably work anywhere. Sol was willing to give it a try. We did the procedure outlined in Machaelle's book, Perelandra Garden Workbook, Volume 2, but instead of doing only the garden area, we did the entire forty acres the whole hillside our landlord owns. The entire process took about an hour. one that would have taken weeks with the rod-in-the-ground method. I was a bit skeptical, but willing to try anything that would better the situation at my home, which had been almost unbearable.

Within twenty-four hours we went and dowsed the property, and to my surprise, there were no lines at all! More dramatic was the change I noticed almost immediately on the property. The landlord, who was a forty-five-year retired marine, changed almost overnight from being very militant, barking out orders to those around him, to having a soft, sweet and sensitive demeanour. I was amazed. I began to notice within days a tremendous influx of animal life onto the property. Rabbits, hawks, owls. hummingbirds, dogs, roadrunners and even a friendly skunk who adopted me were all new found visitors to the property. The opposite was true of the persistent ant problem. As a last resort I had begun to bombard them with a pesticide (something I am loath to do) because I was besieged with a sea of them carpeting whole areas of the house. It turns out that ants and pests live off the DOR energy and the geopathic stress! Well, within two days the ants were gone completely. Another sign that something had changed was that the trees I had planted (which, once planted, immediately lost all their leaves) began to sprout new growth in the winter no less! So there were clear indications that this was working.

Once we discovered that working with the devas to heal the geopathics was a verifiable reality we began to go to work on all the areas we had previously yearned to do, but were either not allowed to or were prohibited by the time and space limitations of the old method. Our first experiment was the town of Victorville, California. On our trip there



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we encountered ninety-mile-an-hour winds. When I inquired inwardly what that was about, I got the message that it was a result of the geopathic imbalance of the area. Well, I knew that there were documented cases of geopathic energy buildup related to earthquakes, so this didn't sound totally outside the realm of possibility. In Victorville we did the clearing technique and left for home. The next day the news predicted fifty-milean-hour winds, but instead there was nothing except complete stillness. At this point I began to think we might really be on to something.

all with the same verifiable results, that I know that this method is effective for healing the geopathic stress zones. We have found that by working with the surrounding devas in the area we can even clear the geopathics for the down-

We have done enough areas now,

ISSUES - March 1999 - page 11

town area of an entire city. We have done this already in San Diego, Corpus Christi and San Antonio. Not only did the cities feel better afterward, but you could see a visible difference.

In San Antonio, a person assisting who worked there commented that there were ducks in the river. I didn't think much about that until he said that in the twenty years he's worked there, he had never seen ducks! The next day we saw not only ducks, but a crane as well.

I have come to realize that this is one of the many gifts that Earth herself is giving us to enable us to heal much of the emotional, mental and physical damage that has been done. The Hopi prophecy is that the Earth will be totally healed before we make our transition to the next level. I believe that this is one of the ways she has given us to help restore the Earth to her once-pristine beauty.

## THE NEW DAWN

My life has been a colorful one. Living as so many of us did in the past, I was a child of parents lacking the skills to meet my needs, particularly the emotional ones. So I decided to attempt to fulfill them on my own. At the tender age of thirteen I was on my own, working fulltime (I looked older than my real age) and quite content with my new-found freedom. Denial and pain were glassed over with parties, alcohol, drugs and food. I put on a brave front but my world was shaking like an earthquake, and like most earthquakes, it left a path of selfdestruction and problems. However, as I look back on those days, the pain was part of the vehicle that brought me to the life I enjoy now.

I remember as a child of five looking around at my dysfunctional family environment, and even as a young child I somehow knew that our life was insanity. I am so grateful that those days, nights, and years of abusing myself and being abused by others have actually led to my healing. I have been blessed with the tools of a survivor... a determination, will and spirit that would not be broken. I always knew that suffering was temporary and that I had something of value to pass along to others.

Since becoming a healer, (I believe we are all born with healing abilities) I have found that the more I healed, the more I was able to assist the healing of others. Daily my heart opened, forgive-

by Dawn King

ness became my purpose, and I began to expand my passion and abilities to help others.

I started practitioning in 1988, specializing in Applied Kinesiology, and sought as much knowledge as I could get about nutrition. Employed as a full-time practitioner in a clinical setting for over two years with skilled teachers, I honed my skills. But I longed for my own business. In 1991 I believe my heart was opened wide. I met my husband Robert, renewed and re-committed my life as a mother of three, and asked God to use me as a healer of our planet and its people. I started my own business.

Personally and professionally I am a results-driven individual. So I proved to myself with thousands of clients that my system of healing, (which has expanded to include Neuro Linguistic Programming, Educational Kinesiology, and Touch For Health, herbs, nutrition, a variety of energy modalities, and a commitment towards maximizing the human potential) created life-changing, long-lasting results. As my expertise and confidence grew I worked with clients from all over Canada, the U.S. and Europe, addressing illness and pain of all kinds. I have been privileged to teach what I know to hundreds of practitioners, have designed and facilitated wellness programs for the B.C. Government for women of abuse, and have accepted numerous engagements as a professional speaker.

In 1996 I designed and taught the first Professional Practitioner Training Program. It has been an honor to expand, improve, and offer the program regularly since then. It is my passion to share a deeper level of knowledge with my students so that they may better help their clients. Perhaps it was due to my own frustration as a student, even as an adult, that made it so essential that my programs employ cutting edge teaching techniques, delivered in a safe, caring, accepting, and playful environment. As a result, all of the graduates are confident and competent practitioners.

As a teacher, I am inspired by the student's desire to heal. As a healer, I am grateful for God's gift. As a person, it is my absolute purpose in life to lead the people of our planet through a journey of self-healing and self-discovery.

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## Woman to Woman

by Nicky Stewart

What does International Woman's Day really mean. It is clear that in the past one hundred years women have made enormous strides in public life. It has also been a time of tremendous change and enlightenment. This is a period in history that all of the ancient cultures and prophets have spoken of. It is characterised as a movement into deeper spirituality supported by a yearning force to explore and understand the God and Goddess, Native American traditions, shamanic training, and much knowledge related to Mother Earth and the close relation we share with Her.

We live, however in a patriarchal society where the controlling energy or power of this system, namely *fear*, has begun to tighten its hold. Throughout time, women have all, at one time or another, adapted ourselves to this fear consciousness. We have done this by becoming more like men, the very creatures we spend so much time trying to change and accuse of destroying the world. Now at this time in history we realize that *fear* does not work!

Yet, men in power continue to create a force field that attempts to pull us into their fear/s - real or imagined - and draw us into this vortex. As women, we need to ask the question "why?" We need to examine from our hearts, from our wisdom what we know to be true about feminine consciousness and its place in this world. Quite possibly, we have been under siege for so long that like children who have been confined for too long we have lashed out in anger towards the world and the ruling patriarchy, for not being heard, for not being recognized, and for not being able to be who we are.

This is a difficult time! But as all the ancient teachings suggest: difficult time holds deep and profound lessons for each and every one of us. We are in an adolescent era where all that we have known to be traditionally solid is being torn down by our own awakenings to truth. We are deconstructing our known heroes and our heroines and as a result find ourselves in a void.

As adolescents we are also learning to put away negative or childish behaviours and developing the ability to respond responsibly! This stage is also characterized by the process of nurturing and honing our gifts and talents that would benefit not only ourselves but those around us. This process allows us to follow our own path with the best mentors society has to offer. Thus everyone is served through the teaching and the learning. Unfortunately this type of harmony is rarely found today.

Lacking heroes or heroines, we continue to lash out at one another. We support the underdog. We have great empathy and many soothing words for those who are victims and for those whose lives are a continuous roller coaster of drama and crises. But, what happens to the women who overcome, who succeed, who learns to be the greatest she can be? They fall away and stand alone - many unsupported. Is it possible she could replace the void and become the mentor all our daughters and ourselves so desperately need?

And who are these heroines? They are not the superwoman we have come to expect and accept as normal. They are not the doingness of men in action. Instead they are women who stand still and allow time to flow into, over them without getting caught up in the action of having to do. They are women who just are. They nurture us through our adolescence with their deep wisdom, experience and understanding. Look around women, see who they are! Honor them! Celebrate them! It may in fact be you.

## Nicky Stewart

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## Jin Shin Do®



by Deborah Holmes

Jin Shin Do helps to balance the body, mind and spirit. For me personally, a Jin Shin Do session relaxes me much more than a massage does (even though I also enjoy massages), and the effects often last for several days. I have experienced relief from headaches, back pain, and symptoms related to my menstrual cycle. It helps with hormonal balancing, and can help to boost the immune system and relieve sinus pressure.

Emotionally, Jin Shin Do has often helped me deal with stress and feeling overwhelmed by my busy, hectic life and all my responsibilities. After a session, nothing in my outer world has changed from two hours earlier (at the beginning of the session), but something has shifted inside and things don't seem as hard to cope with. Sessions have helped me deal with emotional upsets, conflicts at work and old issues from my

Jin Shin Do workshops have been a big part of my spiritual growth during the past seven years. I view the world from more of a Taoist perspective, and I feel more connected to Spirit and to the Earth. I am able to be a witness more often. Even when I am very emotionally involved in a situation, there is a part of me that is watching and observing how I am reacting, and I am able to be more objective. I find it easier to be of support to others as well, without trying to "fix it".

I am more in touch with the seasons, and I can see patterns in people's actions, as related to the seasons. For example, fears often surface during the winter (water time), and anger is more evident in the spring (wood time) or if a person has an imbalance in wood. Conversely, spring can be a time of motivation and getting started on projects, after resting during the cold, dark months of winter. I actually look forward to winter now as an opportunity to rest and go inward (I just wish I had more time to do this!)

The people I have met through Jin Shin Do have been very important to me, particularly my two teachers, Noël Taylor and Tolling Jennings. I have many close friends, and I feel more supported by and connected to others. It is getting easier to ask others for help - something that was difficult for me to do in the

Jin Shin Do has been such a gift to me, and I have seen others blossom with the support they receive during sessions and workshops. See ad below.

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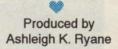
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by Vicki Stefopoulou

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When Chi circulates it brings balance, goodness inherent and abundance without struggle. When the flow is blocked it prevents opportunity, the energy feels stuck and so do the people occupying the space; life seems as if in a constant uphill climb.

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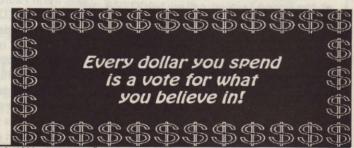
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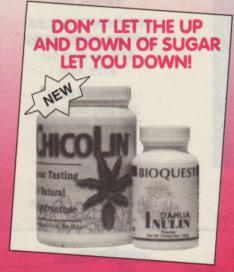
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## Astrological Forecast for March by Moreen Reed

We jump into March with a Full Moon at 10:58 pm. We are asked to shine the light of awareness on our spiritual journey, and/or connection to the 'mystery'. In particular, how can your spiritual path help you to face humanity's current challenges of connecting to instinct, natural law and to a world view that is sustainable? The highlighted degree symbolism\* 'An examination of initiates'. The keyword is Qualification. Can you allow reality to expose and therefore inspire others with your spiritual trust?

Saturn reality and Neptune vision have been in and out of a square dance since June 98. In March they heat up for their final dance the first week of April. These two challenge our fears around disappointment— for example, when reality turns out not to be as we envisioned it. Can you still seek to manifest without getting attached to the outcome? Action is required to take a vision into reality, hesitating, waiting for a sign will not work. The leap of faith is required! Course corrections are only obvious when you are engaged in the journey. In the news the start of this cycle was in 1989. New visions of reality that were put forward then are now expected to have a concrete form.

Mercury makes its first Retrograde of 99, on March 10th. While Mercury is retrograde, familiar channels of communication become tangled and confused. Expect delays and changes in plans. This is a great time for right brain activities like art and meditation. You'll find yourself re-evaluating and reconsidering major issues. Hold all final decisions and approval until after Mercury goes direct on April 2nd. Let your sense of humour overcome the challenges of the unexpected adjustments. On March 13 Pluto makes its annual Retrograde station, from now till August 18 the status quo will be challenged to evolve by those who feel oppressed and disenfranchised. In the news today we can see possible reconciliations occurring where the striving for understanding brings clarity to the objectives sought. World markets will take a sudden turn.

The New Moon is at 10:48 am March 17th. Today we can plant seeds of spiritual renewal, to your connection to transcendental law. Highlighted is the opportunity to take responsibility for the quality of your relationships. Do you passionately seek genuine understanding with "other"? The highlighted degree symbolism is the 'A Harvest Moon'\* The keyword is Benediction.

March 18 is a big day. Mars makes its first station since February of 97. During retrograde Mars we are all asked to question intentions, in particular as it pertains to issues motivated by feeling powerful or powerless. Any intentions that become stalled today will resume progress, with alterations, the first week of August 99. In the news there is a lack of clear judgement, which leads to disharmony and an inability to adapt or adjust; this causes negotiations in politics and business to break down. Forward momentum for Mars resumes on June 3rd. Both Mercury and Venus change signs today adding to the energetic mix 'ups'. The mind (Mercury) shifts back into a spiritual mode with its retrograde motion taking it back into Pisces. Venus moves on into sensual Taurus, allowing us all to slow down and smell the spring blooming.

The spring equinox is at 5:46 pm on March 20th. This turn on the wheel corresponds almost exactly with the annual Saturn Venus conjunction which occurred the day before. This is the reality test of our collective values and this year it is in Taurus, an earth sign whom many say is ruled by the earth. This begs the question, "Do we value Her?" Action always speaks louder than words...

March ends with another Blue (Full) Moon at 2:49 pm. We are asked to shine the light of awareness on our personal intentions. Are you able to see where your motivation is taking you? The events of the past week will be a good indicator. The highlighted degree symbolism is "The President of the country "\*. The keyword is Idealization; the self-sacrifice required to be the creative representative of an eternal value. This day we will also see passions running high as well as fear, as we head toward the looming reality test (Saturn) with vision / illusion (Neptune) on April 6th.

## Miracle Man

by Diana Cole

I am a patient of Joel Whitehead, located at The Lakelands Acupuncture & Chinese Herbal Centre in Kelowna and I would like to share with you my own personal experiences I've had with this incredible healer I call the Miracle Man.

For many years I led an entrenched street existence; a life of prostitution, cocaine and alcohol. Three years ago I turned my life around. I moved in with a dear friend of mine, now my fiancé and best friend. I was a mess. I was determined to get off the streets and kick the drugs and alcohol. I became very ill. The excruciating pain throughout my entire body was unbearable. My legs and back were getting very weak. It seemed almost impossible. I sought help from various doctors and other professionals in the field of medicine, enduring numerous tests and prescriptions. I was admitted to the Hospital Emergency where they conducted more tests and x-rays. I was devastated. Were they ever going to find out what wrong with me?

By this time I was walking with a cane. One day I was in so much pain my fiancé called an ambulance. I spent the night in the Hospital and the next morning I woke up with no feeling in my Legs. This condition lasted for several hours. Next, I underwent physiotherapy, chiropractor, and massage therapy treatments which seemed to worsen my condition. I was constantly in tears wondering if my condition would ever improve.

Out of desperation we decided I go to see another Chiropractor. We ordered x-rays and discovered I had no bend in my neck, sublexation and a second phase degenerating spine. I was devastated. I was told there wasn't all that much they could do for me. I was suicidal at this point. I knew I couldn't go on any more. Then I met Joel Whitehead. Joel told me he could help me with my medical problems including the degenerating spine. I was thrilled. The diagnosis was that I had a kidney yang deficiency, a prolapsed stomach, liver blood dryness, a bacterial infection, allergies to eggs, milk, and several other things. My body wasn't absorbing calcium, B vitamins or iron. I believed in Joel's ability to heal so I couldn't wait to get started.

Joel prescribed some Chinese herbs, energy treatments, and a special diet that I had to follow. My condition improved and I was able to walk without hanging on to the walls or furniture. Then came the Nesshi treatments. I no longer have a prolapsed stomach, my organs are healing and my back feels a whole lot better, except for a lower back pain due to deficient kidneys which he is currently treating. Joel also gave me treatments to help with some painful childhood memories. He successfully treated me for stress, fear, milk, sugar, pain, and a painful bacterial infection. My body is now able to absorb calcium and other essential vitamins and minerals. Every day I look and feel much better. Joel has taught me many things including how to eat healthy and nutritious foods.

My fiancé had serious lung problems. He went to see Joel as well. Joel diagnosed the condition that is known as damp heat. Joel prescribed several herbs and now my fiancé can breath sweet air for the first time in twenty years.



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I've spread the news about Joel's ability to heal to several professional people, family, friends and even to strangers I have met on the street. I see a lot of extremely happy faces coming and going from his office. I can't help but spread the news everywhere I go.

Joel has totally changed my life. I am no longer suicidal. I don't have to worry about being confined to a wheelchair. My organs are functioning properly again and I have a second chance in life today because of him. With a few more treatments I'll be as good as new.

See ad above

## 1 Could Never Do That!

### **Baby Steps to Becoming a Teacher of Healers**

by Laureen Rama

This spring, I'm leading my third and fourth Advanced Shamanic Healing Training courses. The first was a year and a half ago. If you had told me ten years ago that this would be my passion and how I earn my living, I would have had a hard time believing you. I was the Director of a non-profit organization and starting my Master of Adult Education degree. My plan was to quit my job within five years and expand the management consulting practice I had started on the side.

I did not do healing work. I did not see or foresee myself as a healer. Yet I did have strong intuition. And others said they found it helpful to speak to me about their challenges. As I travelled the world, I was often introduced to shamans and healers. These seemed like interesting peripheral factors in my life then. Now I see they were indications of a gift that others could more clearly see.



I loved my life ten years ago. It was rich and full with work I enjoyed, stimulating learning, friends, family, and a loving relationship. I had almost everything I had ever dreamed I wanted and the future looked even brighter. And then after a year or so, things fell apart. The relationship ended. I quit my job before I was ready so that my ideal successor could take over. My dog died. I held up well for three months and then sunk into a strange depression.

It took about six months of introspection and the support of a counsellor to pull myself out of that pit. I felt I had: learned a major lesson—that I was not in control of my universe. I could not make everything I wanted to happen happen, especially when other people were involved. I felt I understood some of my deep thought and behaviour patterns and where they came from, but I didn't know how to change them. I didn't know where to look for hope for the future. But I decided to leave that be and just enjoy life, and what came, one step at a time. I felt free and glad to be alive. Open to whatever my life would become now.

Around that time I went to a conference and found myself in a workshop in which we learned how to do shamanic journeys. I was completely taken by this experience. In my shamanic journey meditations I found myself becoming different animals. And this changed me! My back was straighter afterwards and I felt more inwardly powerful. I came home and started asking everyone if they knew a shaman who could teach me more.

Within two months I had taken a basic workshop with Michael Harner, the grandfather of the neo-shamanic movement, and was invited to a private vision quest retreat. There I had a vision that I would be a shaman leading ceremonies. This was unexpected yet it felt completely right. I realized then this was the direction my whole life had been moving toward.

I felt fear at the responsibility this role would carry. I protested, "I'm little, I'm white, I'm a woman, I'm a management consultant! How could I be a

shaman?" I heard gentle, wise laughter and from an unknown source: -"Do you think you'll be doing this alone? We'll be with you, supporting you. Just keep doing what you're doing and you'll grow into it step-by-step."

I then became part of a group that met every two weeks to do shamanic journeys. We often did healing for other people. In my first healing journey, I was guided to do a soul retrieval-bringing back a part of a woman's soul that had split off due to trauma when she was young. I had never heard of this practice before. Yet every week, I and another man did the soul retrieval aspects of the healings. I loved doing them. I found it easy and exciting and I found myself filled with so much compassion for the people I supported in healing. I also received healing from the group and found that this was the answer to changing the behaviour patterns I had identified in therapy. I started feeling more alive and whole. I told some of the healing stories to my friends and they started asking me to do it for them.

So I began performing healings for my friends. After about a year, I mustered up my courage and started charging money for the time I spent doing healing sessions. It was a challenge to feel worthy of this. I asked for guidance from spirit and received the message that spirit wanted me to do healing work and wanted me to be supported in that.

Meanwhile, I had also started teaching small groups of my friends how to do shamanic journeys. This was easy, because I had been leading workshops for years. Then my teacher suggested I lead a workshop based on my personal experience with facing the death of someone I loved. The workshop would help people let go of loved ones who were dying, or had died, so they could support them as they died. My teacher said that this was ancient work and much needed on the planet.

I had never done grief work with people. I decided to put on a workshop and I wondered how to let people who would be grieving know about the workshop. I put a small ad in the newspaper and received seven phone calls and everyone came to the workshop. The whole time I just prayed for spirit to guide me and I felt guided. The workshop was powerfully healing for all who attended. I felt that if I could do that, I could probably lead any shamanic workshop. My shamanic teaching career had begun!

I decided to take Sandra Ingerman's five day soul retrieval course as I saw how powerful soul retrieval healing was. I met other shamanic healers there and felt part of an international community. People started asking me if I would teach them how to do soul retrieval healing. I said I didn't feel I had enough experience yet.

Then I enrolled in an expensive three year program with Michael Harner, not knowing where the money would come from. I was mortgaging my life for this! I sought guidance from spirit and got that to really learn I should teach. I quit the program and put much time and energy into launching my own series of workshops across Alberta on Shamanic Care of the Soul—preventing soul wounding using shamanic principles.

And then came a time when it just felt right to offer a training course for healers. Four wonderful people came to that first seven day event. I was in awe of the process. They changed before my eyes and I grew too. The second course a year later was just as powerful, so I decided to offer it more often.

Step-by-step, I have become a shamanic healer, a shamanic teacher, and now a teacher of healers. And looking back now, I know that the wonderful life I had planned for myself ten years ago, was off the mark. I had planned it with my head. Now I trust the process enough to continue following, not needing to know the next baby step, just trusting it will be there when I'm ready.

See ad to the left.

Laureen Rama will present a workshop, 'Shamanic Care of the Soul' at the Spring Festival of Awareness.



The Spring Festival of Awareness will be held at Naramata Centre, April 23, 24 & 25.

See the February Issues for details.

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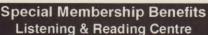
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## Thai Massage

by Mark Lasinski

As the field of complimentary health care gains popularity traditional healing methods are being rediscovered. In recent years nuad phaen boran - ancient Thai massage - has been receiving an increasing degree of attention. Thai massage is recognized as one of the oldest forms of manipulative therapy. The archeological evidence suggests that the method arrived in the region today occupied by Thailand around the 2nd century B.C. Its roots, however, reach deep into the 5000 year old heritage of yoga.

The terminology used to describe nuad phaen boran is somewhat misleading. Specifically the word "massage", as it is understood in the West, does not apply to most of the techniques of the system. The method could rather be likened to such fields as physiotherapy, chiropractic and osteopathy. Thai massage addresses many issues underplayed, or avoided completely, by more common forms of bodywork. While these occupations concern themselves with "systematic manipulation of the soft tissues of the body", they tend to focus almost exclusively on the muscular system. Thai massage, in turn, devotes an equal amount of time to treatment of ligaments, tendons and other connective tissues. Gentle spinal manipulation is also practiced. Herbal treatments, external and internal, are an integral part of traditional Thai massage.

Thai massage is normally administered on a mat placed on the floor. The receiver wears comfortable, loose attire which allows for complete freedom of movement. During the course of each session the receiver assumes five positions: prone, supine, recovery (left and right) and sitting. The practitioner, kneeling beside the receiver, conducts the treatment while closely observing the etiquette. This concerns his own positioning, body language and rhythm. The latter is normally dictated by the receiver's breathing pattern. The therapist incorporates almost all parts of his body while treating the patient. Fingers, thumbs and elbows are used to administer acupressure with pinpoint accuracy. Palms of the hands, the knees and the feet are used to apply more generalized pressure and to gain leverage. A trademark of traditional Thai massage is the use of the therapist's body weight while applying manipulation and traction. Doing so enables him to keep fatigue at bay and allows even a relatively weak practitioner to perform lifts which would otherwise require a lot of strength. Nuad phaen boran can be divided into two components: acupressure and manipulation. Acupressure is normally administered first. As the patient's body limbers up manipulation is introduced into the treatment. Manipulation has two benefits: it stretches muscles, ligaments and tendons; it then brings to the surface deep muscle and connective tissues thus enabling the therapist to apply direct acupressure to these organs.

The complexity of technique in Thai massage is unparalleled in the field of manipulative therapy. The practitioner must develop a good deal of dexterity and coordination - a skill which takes some time to acquire. Many techniques, although very beneficial if used skillfully, are potentially damaging if applied incorrectly or with too much zeal. Thai massage, more than other such methods, requires the practitioner to recognize



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Touch for Health Level II March 13 & 14

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Level IV June 5 & 6

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Brain Gym Okanagan Centre (4 Day Workshop)

March 20 & 21, March 27 & 28 Sat. & Sun. 9:00am - 5:30pm \$300

Kamloops (3 Day Workshop)

April 9, 10 & 11 Fri. 6:30 - 9:30pm Sat. & Sun 8:00am - 6:00pm \$275

Brain Organization Okanagan Centre May 22 & 23

Sat. & Sun. 9:00am - 5:30pm \$225

Portland State University credit \$235US

Vision Circles Portland, Oregon April 2, 3 & 4

University credit course \$380 US

Okanagan Centre April 30, May 1&2

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### Vision Circles

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### **Touch for Health**

The TFH program is divided into four 16 hour levels. In the first level you learn to balance fourteen pairs of muscles that correspond with the fourteen Chinese meridians, and give a general balance of the major postural muscles. You learn how to use massage points, holding points, meridians and muscle massage. Also learn food testing, and a powerful Emotional Stress Release technique that uses visualization. These basic techniques form the core of all TFH sessions. As you continue with the three further levels you learn many new techniques, 28 more muscles, and a whole range of ways to make sessions flow more easily and quickly. All the processes involve restoring the body to its natural state of health, balance and integration.

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when less is more.

Over the centuries traditional Thai massage has developed into many different styles, each characteristic of the region of the country in which it was practiced. Today two major systems, Southern and Northern, dominate the scene. A little known, and very rarely taught, is the Palace style. It was developed for the royal family and is reportedly used as a part of their health regiment. Characteristic of the Palace style is that the therapist may use only the palms of his hands to administer the treatment. The King and the royal family is held in very high regard; it is inconceivable that they should be touched with any other part of the body.

Traditional Thai massage is experiencing a renaissance of sorts in its country of origin. After falling into a brief disfavor, caused by the increasing prevalence of modern medicine, its popularity is again on the increase. While Thais are pragmatic people who appreciate the value of modern science, seeking help from a medical doctor is not always practical or affordable. While Thailand is a country where 85% of the population resides in rural areas not many physicians feel compelled to set up practices in small villages. For a large segment of the population resorting to traditional approach seems to be the most sensible thing to do. See ad to the right

Friday, March 19. 7:15 pm at the Yoga Studio, 254 Ellis St, \$5

### Traditional Thai Massage Intensive Weekend Workshop

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For more information inquire with Mark Lasinski

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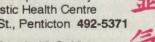
Mark Lasinski has been practicing traditional Thai massage since 1990. He spent 12 months in Thailand where he acquired his credentials.

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Past Life Regression with Lance Tomlyn at Dare to Dream, Kelowna, p. 20

Learn to read the Tarot - Simply with Maurine Valorie in Vernon, p. 26

### March 5

Reflexology at Nature's Way Herbal Health in Vernon, p. 28

### March 6

Angel Adventure with Nicky Stewart in Penticton, p. 13

Learn Tarot with Dr. Keith Andrews, p. 20

Back to Basics with Tyson Bartel in Kamloops, p. 27

### March 6 - 7

Reiki with Michael Kruger, Penticton, p. 22

#### March 7

The Gathering at Millennium Café in Kelowna, p. 24

### March 11

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Life Force Therapy with Carol Rienstra in Calgary, p. 31

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Earth & Spirit with Rémi Thivierge in Revelstoke, p. 8

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Integrated Body Therapy with Cassie Caroline Williams in Kamloops, p. 30

Spirituality Workshop with Sarah Scott Simonson in Westbank, p. 13

Touch for Health at Turning on the Light in Okanagan Centre, p. 21

#### March 13 - 17

Jin Shin Do with Deborah Holmes & Karen Ngai in Salmon Arm, p. 14

### March 18

Reflexology with Tricia Sonsie at Dare to Dream in Kelowna, p. 20

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Stargate Ascension Weekend with Craig Russel in Kelowna, p. 10

#### March 22

Professional Counselling Course, begins in Kelowna, p. 2

#### March 25

Pranic Healing, Free Intro Talk with Marilee Goheen at Dare to Dream in Kelowna, p. 3

### March 27

A Day with David Icke, Kamloops, p. 2

### March 27 - 28

A Weekend with Breema with Greg Collins in Salmon Arm, p. 29

#### March 30

Culture and Health 2000, Public Health Forum in Penticton, back cover

### April 1 - 5

Touch for Health Seminar with Yvette Eastman in Vancouver, p. 14

### April 3 & 4

Traditional Thai Massage Workshop with Mark Lasinski in Penticton, p. 21

### April 14

The Living Soul with Hermann Müller in Kelowna, p. 5

### April 14 - 21

Astrology with Moreen Reed in Nelson, p. 16

### April 17

**Professional Practitioner Training** starts with Dawn King in Kamloops, p. 12

### April 30

Okanagan Wesak Festival with Ashleigh Ryane in Kelowna, p. 15

### ONGOING EVENTS

**MEDITATION** with Christina **TUESDAY** in Penticton 7 pm 254 Ellis St. Penticton, by donation WEDNESDAY in Peachland 7 pm in her home, for directions...767-3373

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### **Spiritual Awakenings**

Insights of the Near-Death Experience and Other Doorways to Our Soul by Barbara Harris Whitfield

Health Communications, ISBN 1-55874-338-3

If we try to ignore our pain and achieve the higher levels of our consciousness, something, usually our false self/negative ego or shadow self, will hold us back until we work through our particular unfinished business. Trying to bypass the work that needs to be done on our negative ego/shadow backfires..... The consequences often are denial of the richness and healthy spontaneity of our inner life: trying to control oneself or others; all-or-none thinking and behaving; feelings of fear, shame and confusion; high tolerance for inappropriate behaviour; frustration, addictions and compulsions; and unnecessary pain and suffering.

Spiritual awakenings come in many forms. It can be the result of a slow and steady change in perception, going out-of-body in childbirth, following intense meditation or prayer, the death of a loved one, withdrawal from chemicals, spontaneously when in nature, an intense transcendent sexual experience, a kundalini awakening, breath or bodywork, or as dramatic as a near-death experience.

Regardless of the precipitating event for spiritual transformation many people find themselves feeling alone in their experiences without support from their immediate circle. Shifts occur on the spiritual, emotional, physical or mental levels affecting every aspect of our being. 'Psychic abilities may suddenly emerge, old emotional issues may surface for healing, a profound connection to nature or a power greater than ourselves may bring feelings of awe, inspiration or creativity. There can be an overwhelming feeling of unconditional love for all people, animals, nature or our planet. It may seem difficult to find words to describe experiences for which there are no words, only feelings like those never experienced before.

Barbara Harris Whitfield had her first near death experience twenty-five years ago following surgery for a spinal fusion. It is from her own life experiences and her work as a researcher and transpersonal body-centered therapist in private practice that she can offer such an in-depth look at this profound healing journey.

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### The Stormy Search for the Self

by Christina & Stanislav Grof, M.D.

J.P. Tarcher Inc., ISBN 0-87477-553-1

For some individuals, the transformational journey of spiritual development becomes a "spiritual emergency", a crisis in which the changes within are so rapid and the inner states so demanding that, temporarily, these people may find it difficult to operate fully in everyday reality. In our time, these individuals are rarely treated as if they are on the edge of inner growth. Rather, they are almost always viewed through the lens of disease and treated with technologies that obsure the potential benefits these experiences can offer.

The authors have each brought to this book their own area of expertise — Christina from her personal dramatic experiences of an activated kundalini, first in childbirth, which at that time was suppressed with drugs. With no knowledge or support for what was happening she continued to experience symptoms over a twelve year period that were frightening, physically challenging and unexplained.

Stanislov's interest in psychology and psychiatry began right after high school. While in medical school he became a participant in experiments with LSD which was being tested for its ability to help patients with psychoses. His very first experience had mystic properties which he didn't realize until later were possible without the use of drugs. It changed the way he looked at traditional psychiatry and led him to observe nonordinary states of consciousness as spiritual evolution.

As a couple, Stanislov could support Christine through her 'dark night of the soul' and other phases of transformation with compassion, support and the knowledge that her journey was unfolding exactly as it needed to for her. Christine demonstrated through her transition that spiritual transformation is a process. It varies from one person to the next and from moment to moment as an individual allows the unfolding of the true self. By understanding the range and diversity of the symptoms and manifestations of spiritual emergencies, building an emotional support system and finding the needed medical supports for times of crisis one can honor the metamorphosis and enjoy the journey.

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"I've been told not to use salt!" No, they used the word "salt" but meant the harmful chemical sodium chloride. All side effects, warnings, and bad press based on medical research have been done with refined, white "table salt" which is approximately 99.8% sodium chloride. Your very blood requires actual salt to function. Your cells must be bathed in a sodium-based, extracellular fluid. When the cells of a mammal are deprived of sodium they literally explode attempting to equalize inside and out.

Because the body runs on salt, without properly balanced salt we run out of electrolytes and our "Batteries die out". Refined table salt, even so-called "sea salts" from some sources which are mostly sodium chloride, promote pathological calcification and a breakdown of cellular tissue. When people talk about "salt", they overlook the fact that there are approximately 82 other elements in natural Celtic Sea Salt which serve as a buffer to protect you from the harshness of pure sodium chloride. Nature put those buffers there to make sure our bodies could use the sodium properly, and to ensure that once it has been utilized, it will be eliminated completely and quickly through the kidneys. Celtic Sea Salt is completely unrefined to ensure proper bodily utilization.

Celtic Salt has an infinite number of roles in our health. One of the most important properties is that it recharges and maintains the cells and energizes the body. Proper salt actually helps our cells produce other necessary minerals, and recharges the cells in much the same way as a battery. The better you maintain the battery, the longer it lasts and the better it performs.

Minerals are present in food (though many foods are vastly depleted), but proper salt effects how your body handles, and what it does with, those minerals. Salt effects digestion. Take

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potassium for example. You can eat many potassium-rich foods, but it will do you little good unless you are taking proper salt as well. Your body cannot properly digest raw vegetables without salt. People used to eat a salty soup before a meal to enhance digestion. Salt re-enriches your saliva so your body can manufacture the proper digestive juices to break down the complex carbohydrates, celluloids and chlorophyll from the vegetables which contain potassium. Salt actually creates hydrochloric acid.

Hydrochloric acid is made from the hydrolysation of chlorine. The chlorine comes from the essentially balanced sodium chloride we find in Celtic Salt. Those who preach "no-salt" diets are incorrect; they should know we are saltbased creatures - tears, blood, sweat are salty! They should say a "no refined sodium chloride" diet. Vegetarians need proper Celtic salt more than anyone to aid digestion - add salt and they start digesting properly; no more burping on their greens. They can now get more nutrition from their meals. When using the high mineral-balanced Celtic salt, I would say you can now get up to seven times the nutritional value out of vegetables by increasing food's potency and enhancing the positive effects of nutrients, re-enriching saliva, and creating hydro-chloric acid.

The general rule of osmosis when it comes to bodily functions: Water goes wherever salt goes. If we do not replenish our body's salt reserves, we throw off that vital balance of salt and water that keeps us functioning normally. Your body will begin to secrete water more quickly in order to raise the level of sodium concentration in the bloodstream.

continues page 29

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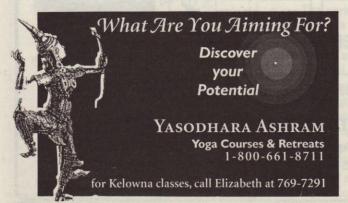
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## Lessons in Somatic Awareness

by Tyson Bartel

I have been interested in human movement studies for many years. At my first meditation retreat in Thailand, the yoga class after the first hour of morning sitting meditation was welcome release for my western body not accustomed to sitting cross-legged on the floor for long periods of time. Each morning I looked forward to the ninety-minute yoga class as a way to bring mindfulness meditation into movement and relaxation for my muscles and joints stiff from all the sitting. I realized my body had lost the ability it once had as a young boy to be comfortable in any reasonable position. I decided to regain this lost suppleness and comfort through the study of yoga. My six month Asian vacation became a two-year pilgrimage of learning about myself through Yogic practices taught by different teachers. When I returned to Kamloops, my learning continued under Marni Marriott's guidance and through association with other students on the path.

When Marni's first yoga teacher, Lila Ostermann, came to town I was introduced to the work of Dr. Moshé Feldenkrais at a movement workshop in which Lila blended many movement arts with yoga. She had briefly studied with Moshé and had been inspired by his genius. The movement lessons she learned had been incorporated into her life and had assisted many people she worked with who had back problems.

One lesson she showed us I found very profound in the way it changed my back's contact with the floor. First she asked us to do a body scan while lying on our backs. "How much of your spine lies on the floor?" she asked. My lumbar spine arched high off the floor and my low back felt stiff. After the movement lesson was complete she asked us to notice our spines again. Now my lumbar spine was lying on the floor and my low back felt warm and wide. I had learned how to relax my back! Lila said that if this lesson were done regularly for a few weeks, we'd notice a lasting change in how our backs felt, because these movement lessons actually are a form of sensory motor learning that reprograms the neurological communication between brain and body. As babies we used sensory motor learning to teach ourselves to make sounds, crawl and walk. Unfortunately, for most humans, the curiosity to explore our movement potential goes to sleep as we become adults and we end up accepting a limited repertoire of movements as our response to the stress of life in the modern world. Many of the symptoms of aging and poor health are a result of a diminishing range of movement choices that place unnecessary wear and tear on the human body, not to mention the limiting effect inefficient movement has on our mental faculties and emotional responses. Fortunately, Feldenkrais and other pioneers in psycho-physical re-education, like F.M. Alexander, realized that through awareness we can at any phase in our lives begin to reawaken our sensory motor learning system and resume where we left off as youngsters, learning how to express our potential through our bodies.

I went home from Lila's workshop inspired to practice the movement lesson for the back every day for a week or two and discover whether these ideas were true or not. I felt my back relax every time I did the lesson, so it was easy to motivate myself to do it regularly for a couple of weeks. Then one day while doing the dishes I realized the familiar tightness in my low back from bending over the sink was missing and my back felt good while standing too! I realized then how effective this method can be!

Soon after my dishwashing epiphany, I was talking with a friend about my desire to learn more. He got up, went to his room, and came back with Feldenkrais' book, Awareness Through Movement and Robert Master's book Listening to the Body plus a series of audio cassette movement lessons given by Brian Lynn during a workshop in Kamloops years ago. He said I could borrow them all and learn more about it. I went home to begin my studies! As I learned the lessons many of my chronic tensions began melting away. As well as feeling more comfortable in my body, I noticed my overall sense of health and well-being improving. I noticed certain postures in my Yoga practice becoming easier. My breathing during daily activities felt easier and smoother too. Along with the movement lessons, I was practicing a couple of brain exercises that Robert Masters had created. These exercises sharpened my senses and opened my mind in many ways.

I helped Cassie Williams bring Alice Friedman to Kamloops for a weekend workshop in the Feldenkrais Method®. It was awesome! She came again a few months later and told me a four-year practitioner certification in the method would be starting in Seattle in February '98. I went to a pre-training workshop in Vancouver and knew the training was what I was looking for. Now I'm one third of the way through and can see how inspired my life is through the learning process it provides. The core of the method is being aware, which means applying the insights gained about oneself in the lessons to daily life. As I learn to focus my awareness on what I'm doing moment to moment, movement to movement, the quality of my life is improving.

My service is to bring awareness back to our bodies and to listen for the wisdom that lies within them. This is somatic awareness. Coming home to our bodies is, I believe, the foundation of any method of personal growth or spiritual evolution, for within our bodies is the centre of the universe. See ad to the right.



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## Ownership

by Flo Dewitt, R.N.

If I ask for guidance from the Universe, God, the Angels, the Masters, my pendulum, a magnificent rock - who speaks to me? Where does this voice with its solid words of advice come from exactly?

Recently I experienced a feeling of total despair for I had come to the absolute and utter end of my own awareness and understanding. The beloved in my life, the one whose heart beats so close to mine, revealed to me in quiet innocence that I am afraid of losing control. I was shattered, not because of mean words\_but because it was the truth. "Who me?" I said to myself. But I am so clear and so capable in so many other areas, I AM in control!

My heart, my passion all my life has been to listen to God, to the Higher Beings, to the Master called Jesus, that I could, by my Presence in this form, reveal the reality of God, to His glory. So where is control in such a case?

We are individually free to accept the design presently in our lives in this moment and within the design is the control necessary to LET love manifest. In my case, I am free as a woman to yield my individual concepts to my beloved and in that freedom, new concepts are born. The blending brings its own fulfilment...

I CAN hear the voice within, when in my own desperation I seek guidance. But I AM that voice, for I AM just one small part of this magnificent WHOLE glorious experience we call LIFE on earth.

Let us own our expression! Let us assume full responsibility for our view, for our feelings, for our passion to know and understand and for our footsteps in the sand. No judgement, for it is all perfect. It is perfect to LET our unconditional LOVE be released under the control of the design present! See ad to the left.

### More Precious Than Gold

by Rhona Terry

I am 59 years young and have had three great six-month dental checkups! I used to spend quite some time sitting in the dentist's chair while he removed plaque from my teeth. No more.

Two eye doctors both said I had cataracts and I must have them removed. I mixed Pascalite and water, let the clay settle and washed my eyes with the clear water that remained. Two days ago I went to an eye surgeon and he said "You do not have cataracts." I was elated.

My energy has definitely gone up. All my little aches and pains are gone and it feels great!

I received a letter from a man that passed four kidney stones with no pain. He said the only difference in his life was 'ingesting Pascalite' and he is grateful. I have many more letters and cards from very happy people and if you are interested, come and see me and go through my book.

Dogs, birds, cows, horses etc. have been helped too. I look forward to your testimonial! See ad to the left.

- March 1999 - page 28

### Continued from page 24

Signs of too little salt in the diet may take the form of sweating profusely and loss of appetite, extreme fatigue followed by muscles that become sore and stiff and begin to twitch. Finally, insomnia and perhaps convulsions in extreme instances.

Without proper salt, the cells cannot regenerate and they have no energy. The cells actually take sodium from the saline fluid surrounding them and convert the sodium to potassium to create energy and cool down the body. As the body sweats, it loses electrolytes as well as salts and fluids. Proper salt replenishes these supplies.

Denying yourself the proper salt worsens every problem in which cell repair and rejuvenation must occur to maintain body function. This is the single, most important biological fact that must be considered when talking about Celtic salt and deprived of this vitally balanced saline solution, the cells degenerate and age.

Sadly, natural sea salts can be just as harmful as refined, white, sodium chloride (table salt). In fact, many come from the same refineries. Celtic salt is moist; dry salt indicates that the magnesium has been removed, because magnesium clings to water. Salt from salt mines and ancient sea beds are not fit for human consumption. Thousands of years of rainfall through many geological layers will deplete vital minerals from these deposits. Most of the elements are driven down far below the salt line, hence destroying the delicate, natural balance of minerals, gases and moisture found in the living waters of the ocean, where Celtic salt is harvested annually. Salt deposits will either have too many minerals, or not enough. Because Celtic salt has a perfect balance of the essential minerals and gases the body requires, people find they use about one-third the amount they would use with other "salts."

There are those that say salt causes high blood pressure. Again, the term should be "sodium chloride", not salt. Celtic salt actually stabilizes blood pressure, whether high or low. How? Because it is the primary cleanser of our veins and arteries keeping our "transmission lines" clean since it has the ability to clear plaque. Proper salt in the bloodstream will actually cleanse the blood vessels and ensure normal circulatory flow. Oil and salt work together as a team - salt breaks up grease. Chefs have known for centuries that if they add oil alone to food, it becomes "greasy" and indigestible; but, if they add salt, it breaks up the bonds of the oil giving it a wonderful taste and consistency.

Celtic salt helps to digest and emulsify foods natural oils - the two ingredients compliment each other. Celtic salt does the same thing in our bodies having the ability to scour the artery walls clean. See ad below.

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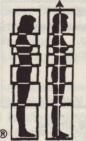
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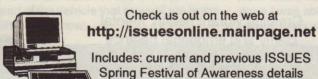
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## HIP, LEG & FOOT SELF-CARE

by Cassie Caroline Williams, Ph.D.

A number of people have discomfort at the hip, which may be a problem associated with inner organs, such as the bladder, uterus, ovaries or bowels. In some cases it is due to arthritis. Other times we may have experienced an injury there, such as a blow; then it is even possible for a bone to be compressed or torqued (twisted). These situations are possible for some practitioners with osteopathic training, such as Integrated Body Therapy, to release. One easy way to get considerable comfort at the hip is to lie on your back and draw up the leg which has the sore hip. Then position the bent knee with your hands in maximum comfort and press the knee towards the hip; this should feel really good. If it doesn't, try a slightly different angle or use less pressure. You may have to experiment a bit to find the position that is just right for you.

Some people experience considerable pain in a horizontal line just outside the hip joint. This is due to the head of the femur moving somewhat outside the socket joint of the ilium. If left unattended, this can lead to arthritis. To determine if this is your problem, run your hand down the side of the sore hip. If you feel the edge of the top of the femur as smooth bone, that is not the problem. However if you feel a ledge of bone, the head of the femur is somewhat out of its socket. To correct this, you may stand and use the leg of the affected side to push away to your side a weight, such as a gallon jug of water. Release the tension and repeat three times, or lie down, moving your affected leg out to the side while resisting with your hand against your thigh. Repeat three times, relaxing in between tries.

Pain along the outer edge of the thigh (under the outer seamline) may reflect some lymphatic congestion to the endocrine system(upper part). This can be alleviated by pulling up on the tender tissues. In extreme cases a rolled towel may be placed under the sore thigh when seated.

The knee! What a joint! Here the femur rests on top of the tibia, with the patella as support, as well as all the muscles, tendons and ligaments. But so many of us have had trouble here, which isn't surprising when you consider the anatomy of the joint and what we do to it. When seated — with the sore knee having the leg extended or straight, you can have one hand under the joint and the other underneath. You can apply light pressure to the kneecap and see where it goes easily and comfortably; hold this about a minute and release. Then try to lift the end of the femur (thighbone) while holding down the tibia (the reverse may be more comfortable for you), again about one minute. The trick here is to do whatever is comfortable for you. Next have one hand above the knee and the other below, twisting the hands in opposite directions and compressing towards the knee joint. Make certain that it all feels good.

The ankle can be really troublesome, especially if we have twisted it. Hold one hand above the ankle while the other grabs the heel. Find whatever way is the most comfortable, with one hand twisting one direction and the other the opposite direction, all while compressing both hands towards the joint. This can be done down into the foot, just doing whatever feels good. Even the toes may be twisted into comfortable positions.

### Why a Natural Health Consultant?

by Corry Bond

What brought me to opening a Natural Health Consulting business today is a long story. I have always been interested in biology, especially human anatomy and physiology. After high school I trained to become a nurse graduating from the Riverside School of Psychiatric Nursing in 1967. During this time I also became interested in nutrition and biochemistry. Then I married and went to work at Woodland's School until the birth of our first child.

During the pre-school years within my own family it became apparent that my first born was having difficulty. After many a visit to the pediatrician and then a child psychiatrist she was diagnosed as being hyperkinetic. It was recommended that she be put on Ritalin. Having the experience of working at the hospital with drugs and side effects this did not sit well with me. I began to do research of my own and soon found that diet was being used to control this condition at a clinic in the United States. This was both expensive and a lot of work as most food additives, colour and sugar were suspect which meant that most of our food was produced at home or purchased from reliable sources or health food stores. As this diet was much healthier than the average family diet it was good for us all.

Along with this also came an ardent interest in growing and using herbs. This brought back many a memory of my grandmother and the things I can remember her doing when I was a child. We lived in the Netherlands, just after the war. This was also a time before medicare and people had to be more self-sufficient in their personal health care. I remember her doing ear candling, caring for feet( reflexology?), and her use of oils and herbs, her food combining and being sure we all got our fish oil daily. As I learned more about modern medicine these things all seemed old fashioned and obsolete. I continued to work in health services learning all the modern drugs and their side effects and the many intrusive treatments in use.

Meanwhile, in my own family life we were avoiding drugs and using herbs and other natural means to maintain our health. Throughout the years as I worked in various community health positions working one-on-one with clients it became apparent to me how little people are aware of how to look after their own health needs and how dependent society has become on the medical system and its drugs. I started to read more about some of the older medical systems such as Ayurveda, the Chinese system, and the various natural health treatments, herbs, etc. I was pulled more and more towards this area of health care. I finally enrolled in the School of Natural Health Care to become a certified natural health consultant.

I feel that in this role I am able to help provide people with the knowledge to make informed choices about their personal health issues and lifestyles. I have opened People's Choice Natural Health Consulting in Kamloops and will offer health education, health and lifestyle assessments, nutritional consulting, herbal consulting, reflexology and ear candling in my practice. I hope to work with clients in a confidential and caring manner to help them regain control over their well-being. The emphasis of health care is moving towards prevention. In general the therapies are low cost and less invasive, environmentally safe and generally have no side effects. Many of the older ways are becoming the new ways. They have withstood the test of time. See ad in NYP

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Just how well garlic delivers is largely dependent on two factors: allicin content and the presence of its precursor, alliin, which is converted to allicin by the enzyme allinase. This process takes place in the presence of water — in the case of a supplement, when it has been ingested.

Recently, some garlic manufacturers have dismissed allicin as an integral component of garlic, suggesting that garlic exerts its healthy effects through other means. Scores of trials and studies have documented that allicin is the primary active ingredient of garlic, and allicin which produces its beneficial effects.

Garlic and cardiovascular health — Garlic provides protection against heart disease and strokes by intervening in the process of atherosclerosis at many stages of its development. Numerous double-blind, placebo controlled studies in people with cholesterol levels higher than 200 mg/dl show that garlic supplements standardized for alliin content can lower serum cholesterol levels by about ten to twelve percent. LDL or 'bad' cholesterol levels drop by an average of fifteen percent, HDL or 'good' cholesterol levels increase by an average of ten percent and triglyceride levels typically drop by fifteen percent. These combined effects significantly reduce the risk of heart disease.

Garlic supplements standardized for alliin content also effectively reduce blood pressure in people suffering from hypertension. Systolic blood pressure can decrease by about as much as 20 - 30 mm Hg and Diastolic by 10 - 20 mm HG.

The aggregation (clumping together) of sticky substances known as platelets within the blood is linked to heart disease and strokes. Several studies show that garlic standardized for alliin content inhibit platelet aggregation.

Antibiotic effects — Recent studies compared the efficacy of garlic standardized for allicin content with that of commonly used antibiotics including penicillin, streptomycin, chloramphenicol, erythromycin and tetracycline. In addition to confirming garlic's antibiotic effects the studies also demonstrated the herb's ability to kill bacteria that had become resistant to one or more of the antibiotics used.

Garlic is also an effective antifungal, in particular against Candida albicans, the fungus that causes yeast infection. In animal and test tube studies, garlic proved more effective than seven antifungals commonly used for infection, including the prescription hystatin.

In India, a study conducted by Dr. Saini and Dr. Desal showed that garlic had a preventative effect on the development of atherosclerosis and consequent high blood pressure. In Libya, Dr. R.C. Jain of the University of LBenghazi found in studies that garlic can prevent plaque formation in arteries and help prevent the occurrence of atherosclerosis. In human tests, garlic reduced cholesterol and slowed platelet aggregation. At the University of Geneva, Dr. F.G. Piotrowski used garlic in one hundred patients with abnormally high blood pressure. On average, the blood pressure was lowered forty percent.

For over 4000 years, garlic has been a mainstay in people's diets and more importantly, an integral part of many natural therapies. As researchers can now attest, scientific documentation supports what so many of us have known for years, that garlic is truly an effective natural remedy.

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