

Homeopathic cures for what ails you

Florida native picks up practice and lands in Park City

Gina Barker, The Park Record

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Jeffery Prickett wants to get the word out to Park City, the Homeopathy and Natural Medicine Center is open for business. A Florida native who moved to the area last year, Prickett has a background in psychology and has practiced acupuncture and homeopathy for the past 20 years.

And in 20 years, Prickett has treated the average scrapes and bruises, ADHA, depression, anxiety, skin conditions, the flu, autoimmune disorders and even schizophrenia.

So what is homeopathy?

"It's a system of natural medicine that uses small amounts of natural substances that stimulate the body to correct itself," Prickett said. "It doesn't force a reaction, rather it gives the body the energy it needs to overcome whatever the symptoms are."

What might come across as a new age concept actually stems from a German doctor's practices more than 200 years ago. And though the answer sounds technical, what homeopathy really comes down to is providing small amounts of plants, minerals, metals and animals in what is called the 'Law of Similars,' Prickett said.

The Law of Similars, created in 1796 by Samuel Hahnemann, also means "let like be cured by like" and came from Hahnemann's attempts to cure malaria. Hahnemann experimented with cinchona bark, a popular treatment for the disease at the time. The German physician discovered by using treatment in an unnatural amount, he developed similar symptom to that of malaria patients. The cause was the cure. From there, Hahnemann decided a cure for anything could be found through what caused the affliction to begin with.

"Homeopathy is not suppressing symptoms," Prickett said, "rather it sends a signal in the body to correct the symptoms."

His first encounter with homeopathy came after he started seeing the

usual signs that he was getting the flu. After visiting a homeopathy specialist and following the treatment, he said the flu which typically took him two weeks to get over lasted only a day.

"I remember I felt a bit better, but I was still tired with a bit of a fever on the first day," he said. The next day, I woke up and felt almost completely recovered. The fever just melted away."

Since then, Prickett swears whenever he does get the flu, it will last about 24 hours.

There are more than different 3,000 medicines available. The small, pellet-like pills patients are given come from tinctures, a liquid form of the minerals, plants, metals and animals that is diluted and shaken over and over again until it is finally put into pill form. "Beyond a certain point, there are no molecules left of the original substance," Prickett said. "What is left is the energetic imprint of the substance."

Alternative medicines have always been fascinating to Prickett, and with homeopathy in particular, he said he loves the individual treatments every patient receives. Every session begins with an interview where he sifts out every minute piece of information to determine which of the thousands of treatments will work best.

"You have to individualize every case," Prickett said. You may have 10 people all with the flu, but there might be 10 remedies needed."

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