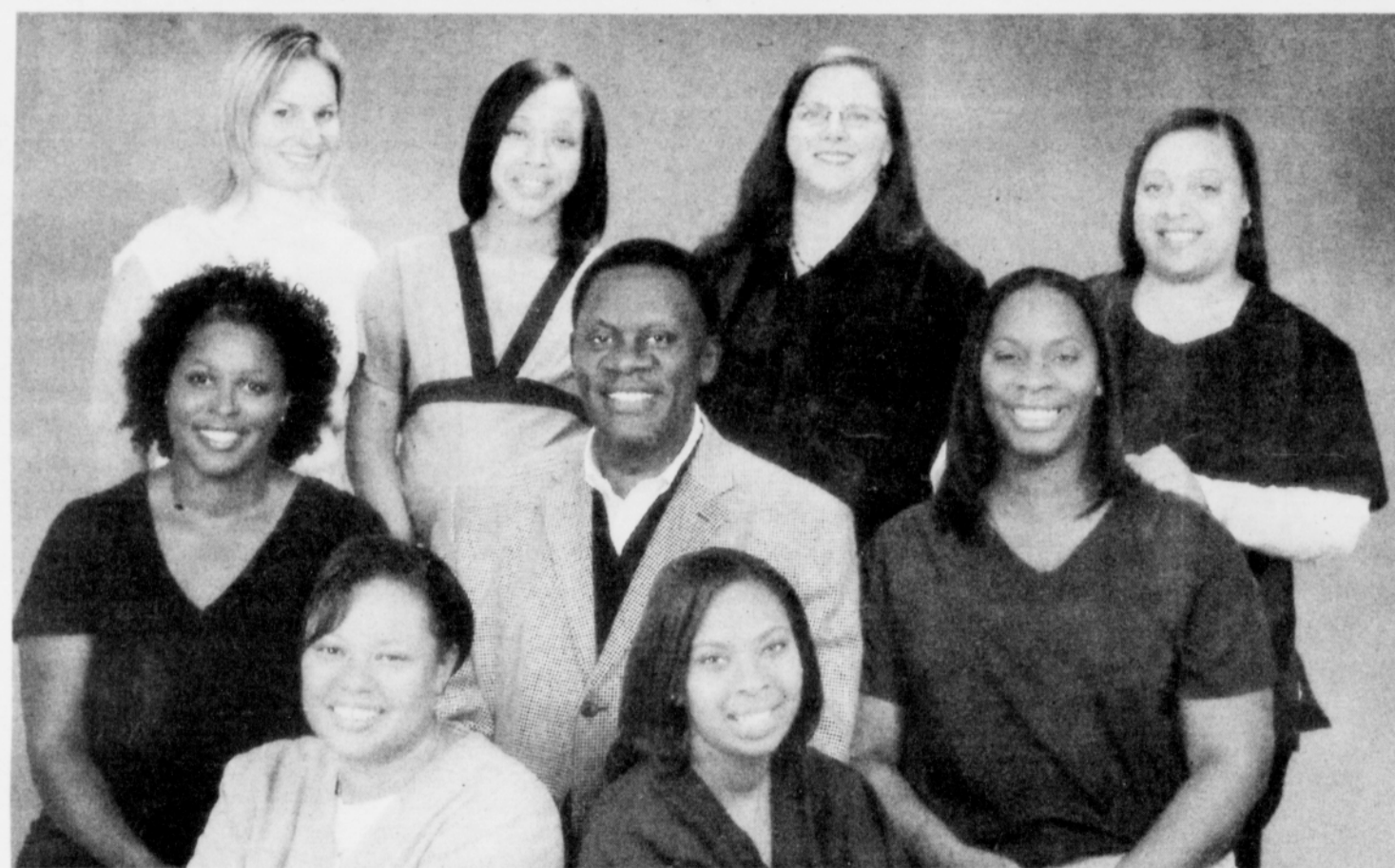


HEALTH



Dr. Billy R. Flowers (above center) and his skilled staff are ready to help those in need.

THE SPINA COLUMN™

An ongoing series of questions and answers about America's natural healing profession.

Part 35. Different Benefits by Age Group

Q: What age groups can a chiropractor help most?

A: This is like asking which age groups benefit most from good health. And yet, each age group has specific problems for which your chiropractor has specific answers.

Infant and Young Children

Other mothers are often amazed to see a mother carrying her infant out of the adjusting room. And yet, since the delivery process itself causes a high percentage of subluxations, infants to need chiropractic care. Obviously, children and infants are treated differently than adults. There are new, highly sophisticated methods of adjusting children and infants to insure the best possible results with the least possible discomfort. Though young children can't tell you they're in pain, their irritability is often a sign of the need to be checked.

Young Adults and Teenagers

More and more young adults and teenagers are getting involved in active sports. As a result, more and more of them are getting injured, requiring prompt chiropractic care.

Obviously half of the girls in our society develop scoliosis (curvature of the spine) during puberty. Left untreated, scoliosis keeps getting worse over time. However,

it can almost always be corrected when chiropractic care is initiated in time.

Needless to say, every teenage girl should be checked regularly for scoliosis and all teenagers and young adults should see their chiropractor regularly to make sure their newly active sports lives aren't creating spinal problems they'll have to live with the rest of their lives.

Adults

The world today is experiencing a terrible level of stress. Long work weeks, seemingly impossible deadlines and economic woes create incredible pressures. In addition, most adults breathe in polluted air, drink chemically treated water and consume an average of nine pounds of food additives and chemical preservatives in a year, putting even more stress on their bodies. One sure way to keep the stress level from causing potentially dangerous subluxations is with regular chiropractic check-ups.

Senior Citizens

Retirement age for many people has become just plain tiresome. Aches and pins, often the result of untreated subluxations, abound. Yet it hardly seems fair that having to suffer with pain or

being drugged into numbness are fair rewards for all the years of hard work.

Depending on the degree of subluxations degeneration, your chiropractor can often provide help.

For senior citizens who've been fortunate enough to suffer minimal trauma in their lives, virtually complete spinal recovery should be almost as easy as it would be for younger people.

For those who have suffered needlessly for years, your chiropractor can often slow or stop the degeneration, making life more comfortable. It is certainly worth the effort so that our senior citizens get the dignity of health care they deserve.

Something for Everyone

As you can see, there are practically as many reasons to have regular chiropractic checkups as there are people. Make an appointment for yourself and your loved ones soon.

Flowers Chiropractic Office
2124 NE Hancock
Portland, Oregon 97212
Phone: (503) 287-5504

Flowers' Chiropractic Office
2124 NE Hancock, Portland Oregon 97212
Phone: (503) 287-5504

Don't Worry, Be Happy

Positive outlook helps the heart

(AP) — Be happy — it seems to be good for your heart.

Scientists have long known that Type A personalities and people who are chronically angry, anxious or depressed have a higher risk of heart attacks.

Now a Harvard review of the flip side of that psychology concludes that being upbeat and optimistic just may help protect against heart disease.

Rather than focusing only on how to lessen heart risks, "it might also be useful to focus on how we might bolster the positive side of things," said lead researcher Julia Boehm of the Harvard School of Public Health.

Boehm reviewed dozens of studies examining a positive outlook — as determined by various psychological measurements — on heart health. Optimism in particular seems key, as a number of studies found the most optimistic people had half the risk of a first heart attack when

compared to the least optimistic, Boehm said.

Why? Previous work shows the stress associated with negative psychological traits can lead to damage of arteries and the heart itself.

Boehm found that people with a better sense of well-being tend to have healthier blood pressure, cholesterol and weight, and are more likely to exercise, eat healthier, get enough sleep and avoid smoking. But she cautioned that it will take more research to tease apart if a positive outlook makes people feel more like taking heart-healthy steps — or whether living healthier helps you feel more positive.

More research is needed, but that link between psychological and physical well-being makes sense, said Dr. Elizabeth Jackson of the University of Michigan and American College of Cardiology, who wasn't involved with the review. Among her own heart patients, she has noticed that those who feel they have some control over their lives and are invested in their care have better outcomes.

HEALTHWATCH

receive a free kit of safety and testing supplies. Call 503-284-6827.

Free Body Basics -- This physician recommended class is appropriate for all ages and health conditions. Plan to attend this one-session class and learn the simple guidelines for safe exercises, including stretching. Call 503-256-4000 to register.

Empowerment through Relaxation -- Free informal meditation classes that address breathing techniques, some gentle ancient African yoga poses and mental balancing techniques. People have left these classes joyful and with a peaceful view of their lives. Call Dr. Marcelitte Faila at 503-228-6140.

Tenderfoot Care -- Treat your feet with a soak, nail trim, buffing and massage from a licensed nurse at one of six clinics or at your home. Call 503-251-6303 for more information.

Cancer Resource Center -- Providence St. Vincent Medical Center and the American Red Cross have joined forces to create the first in-hospital resource center providing books, printed material, computer access and more for individuals and families dealing with cancer. The center is open Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Lead Poisoning Prevention -- Learn how to protect your family from lead poisoning. Ideal for folks in live in older homes with children or pregnant women. Qualified participants

Parenting Classes -- Newborns don't come with instruction manuals but parents and parents-to-be can learn about a variety of topics from pain and childbirth to breastfeeding to infant CPR and much more. For a schedule of events, call 503-574-6595 or visit: providence.org/classes.

Heart Talk Support Group -- Meets on the second Monday of each month; from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. For more information, call 503-251-6260.

Families with Mental Illness -- A free, 12-week course for people whose family members live with mental illness is offered at Emanuel Hospital, Mt. Hood Medical Center and Providence Medical Center. The course has been described as "life-changing" by former participants. Registration is required by calling 503-203-3326.

Cholesterol Profiles -- Get the resources to help you keep an eye on your cholesterol and other indicators of heart health. Educational material provided. For more information, call 503-261-6611.

Bereavement Support Groups -- Free, safe confidential group meetings for those who have experienced the death of a loved one offered on various nights and locations. For information and registration, call 503-215-4622.