

BUSINESS

Something's different at this center

■ Chiropractic care and therapy offered together

By **PAM GIBBENS**
CHRONICLE CORRESPONDENT

Owner Kevin O'Brien recently celebrated the grand opening of N8 Touch N8ture's Therapy Center, 6312 FM 1960 in Atascocita.

O'Brien, a graduate of Humble High School, the University of Texas and Texas Chiropractic College, has been operating his chiropractic clinic since 2002. With the addition of N8 Touch N8ture's Therapy, O'Brien now offers massage therapy along with chiropractic care in a spa-like setting.

"The benefits of massage and chiropractic services together makes us absolutely unique," said O'Brien.

"We have four massage suites. We offer deep tissue massage, prenatal massage, hot stone treatment and aroma therapy."

With soft music and candles, clients can receive private,

hour-long therapeutic table massages in a tranquil environment.

For busy people, quick chair massages for the neck, shoulders and back are available.

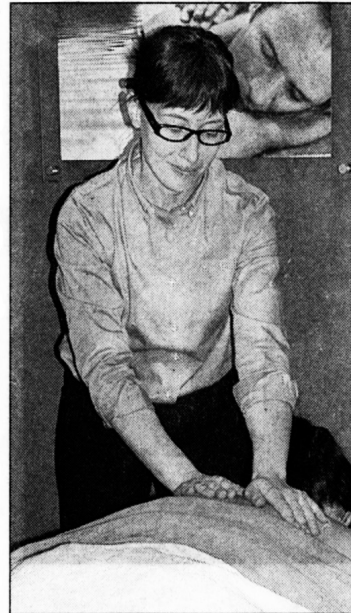
"People can step in here on their way home from work," said O'Brien.

"They like it because they don't have to get undressed. It's very convenient and it only takes 10 or 15 minutes."

N8 Touch is a concept based out of Scottsdale, Ariz., and it offers the public a new twist in massage therapy, said franchise President Ron Stilwell.

"Our model provides patients with the advantages of having a membership without requiring appointments," said Stilwell. "Over the past five years, therapeutic massage has become a mainstream business that was once only available at high-end spas and resorts. The N8 Touch model makes this valuable resource available to the middle class at an affordable price."

According to the American Massage Therapy Association, people between the age of 55-64 have tripled the use of massage



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RELAXING TIME: N8 Touch N8ture's Therapy Center massage therapist Gina Palazzo works on a client.

over the past 10 years. The industry is expected to grow from \$6 billion to \$11 billion in sales over the next five years.

Advantages of massage therapy include stress relief, improved circulation, reduction

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N8 Touch N8ture's Therapy Center
owner

of blood pressure and tension-related headaches.

Chiropractic services include spinal decompression for herniated disks and for pain associated with the neck and shoulders as well as traditional chiropractic adjustments.

"Our traction tables are designed to create negative pressure," said O'Brien. "Using weights, we can create healthier disks over time and relieve pressure."

N8 Touch has 11 people on staff including professionally-trained massage therapists.

For details or an appointment, call 281-812-4009.