

Psychic to peer into the lives of seniors

By HARMONY DESMOND
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PEABODY — When it comes to supernatural powers, some people believe in them, while others think it's all a hoax. But throughout time, there have been people who claim to be able to communicate with the dead or see into the future.

The Peabody Council on Aging is giving seniors the chance to decide for themselves next week, when it hosts a program by a local woman who says that since she was a young girl, she has heard and seen things that most others cannot.

Linnea Johansson practices what is known as psychometry, the act of holding an object that belonged to someone who has died and picking up the "vibration" of that person.

Being psychic, she says, encompasses many things, including predicting the future through dreams or prophecies, or being clairvoyant. What Johansson does is called mediumship, which is making contact with those who have died. What does she say to skeptics who don't believe in an afterlife?

"This isn't the only place where people are," she says. "How could it be? People live anywhere from 30 to 90. I believe there is a beginning, middle, but no end. I do think there is reincarnation."

Although Johansson does personal readings, she prefers a group setting such as the Council on Aging. She says the energy has more momentum with a group. She asks people to bring a tangible object to the meeting, preferably a photograph or a piece of jewelry.

"All of the people are completely anonymous to me," she says. "I don't get a list beforehand of the people's names."

Often, the messages that Johansson relays come in the form of a name or several names.

"These are things that only the family will understand," she says.

She recalls one reading she did

for an elderly woman who received a personal message from her late husband.

"He told me to say one thing to her," Johansson recalls. "He said 'Tell her she's like a Dresden doll.'"

Johansson relayed the message to the wife, who was then convinced that it had to be from her husband. This was a special message that only the two of them knew about.

When the couple met at the age of 18, it was the first thing he ever said to her, and through the years it remained a favorite saying between them.

Johansson will be at the Community Life Center Monday, March 11, from 1 to 3 p.m.

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