The Ghost Whisperer

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Ellie Pechet is the owner of Phoenix Rising Counseling and Energy Healing Center in Buzzards Bay.

In the healing room, a room that I am told has previously hosted the spirits of Geronimo and Jesus Christ, of loves lost, kings conquered, and parents who've passed away, the trickle of a rain chime rings constant.

The scent of lavender washes over light lilac walls hung with a purer purple tapestry.

A stone of a similar hue is set in the necklace that wraps around the neck of a Wareham woman who breathes deeply as she settles into a rocking chair at the center of the room. A rose quartz sits above her shoulders for protection.

Amethyst, she says, is a crystal that holds the capacity for healing. The color purple, she continues, also exudes that curative quality. An amethyst crystal hangs at the end of a silver chain that Phoenix Rising Healing Center proprietor Ellie Pechet often dangles from her fingers - the direction of it's swing, she says, relays recommendations from her spirit guides - guides who facilitate conversations between the spirit and the physical world. Both the course the chain takes and vigor with which the stone swings help Pechet decipher which of the services she dispenses from this space might serve her clients best.

Counseling with complimentary healing techniques is what this Wareham resident offers inside Phoenix Rising Healing Center, hidden under an Enterprise Rent-A-Car sign on Main Street just west of the Buzzard's Bay rotary.

Pechet describes herself as a medium, a medical intuitive, a metaphysical healer and a psychic. She couples her heightened spiritual sense with a master's degree in counseling from Cambridge College. Today, as a medium, she offers a mini-reading. Sinking into a chair blanketed in the image of an angel, I am reading-ready.

She asks if I have a grandmother in spirit, and I do. Pechet says she sees an elderly woman at my side. The "woman" is cranky and in her late 70s, and more than a little impatient. When the description doesn't quite match that of my deceased grandmother, Pechet asks her to step aside. Before bidding us goodbye, the woman calls Pechet a blabbermouth. The comment, although uncalled for, is somewhat typical of the outbursts of an elderly family friend who passed away some months ago.

A stylish woman with a soft demeanor and dark hair emerges. Pechet says she looks somewhat Mediterranean - maybe Italian, with a handsome face and an eye for appearances. A pudgy, blue-eyed woman - short and smiley with a sparkle in her eye and a pink complexion - is next.

Although I express uncertainty about their identities, certain pieces of their descriptions do induce thoughts of a great aunt whose photo sits atop my grandmother's piano, or a neighbor who invited me inside her home as a child.

Pechet has practiced "mediumship" for roughly 10 years. Her specialty of late, however, is work she refers to as a sort of modern-day exorcism.

Later, in the next room - the room Pechet's pendulum passed over when she decided which would be most amenable for our interview - I sit beside a bookshelf that houses titles holding the secrets to children's past lives; crystal, gem, and metal magic; and auras and how to read them. Under Asian-inspired wall hangings and figures of a belly-less Buddha, I observe Pechet as she expels a dark spirit

Lee Daymon manages the Lobster Hut seafood market next door. Six months ago Pechet relieved Daymon of a negative spirit attachment. Post-session clarity allowed her to put the pieces of her problems together, Daymon says, and she felt like a dark cloud was lifted. "I actually felt it lift through my body and come out of my body, and you feel 100 percent better right from the onset. It opened me up to appreciate and want to learn more about life's greatest battles, but also realize how important your own true spirit is."

Daymon said Ellie's reading have been right on, and she recommends her services to those who have not had success with traditional counseling.

Pechet sees her services - from readings of past lives and archangels, to reiki and electromagnetic balance therapies - not as entertainment, but as a catalyst for physical, emotional and spiritual healing.

"It's a way to get clear, accurate information quickly, and I'm result oriented and do whatever I can do to help people as quickly as possible. It's extremely gratifying," she said.

As Halloween approaches, Pechet explains, the veil between the physical and non-physical world thins. Earthbound spirits are more easily evidenced, spirit activity surges, spirit guides may be reached less arduously, more people come through with more messages - especially for their loved ones, she says. It's the perfect time for people to set intentions, to decide to leave behind the trappings of negativity, to set an internal filter for the quality of energy they choose to welcome into their lives. It's also the perfect time for Ellie Pechet to drop her reading rates.

For more information about Phoenix Rising Holistic Healing Center, call 508-295-9809 or visit www.phoenixrisinghealing.com.