

October 31, 2004 ~ Morning Radio Show for 106FM

Deborah came into the studio to offer readings for a call-in show. She gave brief, live readings to listeners of Moo Crew Morning Show for a Halloween celebration.

October 31, 2005 ~ Morning Radio Show for 106FM

Deborah visited a party in a listener's home and offered readings to people for another Halloween celebration.

August 11, 2003 ~ [Ozaukee County News Graphic \(an article discussing The TreeHouse Gallery\)](#)

Treehouse decorated with non-traditional art

By LAURIE ARENDT - GM Today Correspondent

August 11, 2003

CEDARBURG - Cedarburg has a long-standing tradition as a haven for artists, but a new artists' cooperative is giving that tradition a little face-lift. "We think there's a demand for more nontraditional and unique art in Cedarburg," says Deborah Lighthart, one of three co-owners of The Treehouse, scheduled to open this month on the third floor of the Cedar Creek Settlement. "If you walk through the existing shops and galleries, there's a sense of repetition after a while. We're going for the funky and unique, and we've already had people wander in and buy items when we've been in the space trying to set up."

A chance meeting brought the three Treehouse owners together. "We actually met at another local artists' cooperative," says Lighthart. "We found that we all shared a similar vision and we all created nontraditional art. After chatting, things started to happen spontaneously."

Within days, the trio had found their new space and come up with their name, which is a take on the view of Cedar Creek. "We're right over the Cream and Crepe end of the building and we overlook the water," says Lighthart. "It is a wonderful space to open a gallery."

The Treehouse will feature an eclectic group of artists, though all available works share the same contemporary approach. Lighthart of Deborah Lighthart and Associates makes handmade paper and works in digital images. She also adds in her interest in poetry to create inspirational verses. Her partner, Betsy Kaplan of Whimsical Works, creates work for women and children. Rounding out the trio is Janelle Stensby of PJ's Artwork, who creates fused glass works and mosaics.

In addition to the owners' works, the gallery will also feature the work of six gallery sharers: Pam Ruschman's oil painting; the debut of Dawn Safram's painted objects; Ginny Kwech's beading and jewelry; Nancy Desmond's painted furniture, frames and mirrors; Sandy Remer's copper wire and concrete creations and Pam Garski's jewelry, decopage and twiggery. In addition, The Treehouse also plans to include consignment pieces from additional artists.

"Our focus is very unique, fun work," says Lighthart. "We're not looking for run-of-the-mill work, no pun intended."

She points to galleries further south in the Northshore, such as Art Elements in Mequon, as proof of the area's demand for more contemporary art. "We're just taking that idea and moving it northward," she says.

Though Lighthart, Kaplan and Stensby are all professional artists, they are first-time gallery owners. "We're very excited about the future," says Lighthart.

The Treehouse will be open limited hours on the weekends through August. The gallery's official grand opening is scheduled for Sept. 13 from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m., at which time it will assume normal Settlement hours. For more information, call 377-8885.

January 12, 2003 ~ [Milwaukee Journal/Sentinel Article in Lifestyle section \(an article discussing how my work as a reader was started\)](#)

Psychic is attuned to spiritual nature

By DEBORAH LIGHTHART

as told to Mary Louise Schumacher

Last Updated: Jan. 12, 2003

I had been experiencing a lot of psychic and spiritual awakening since the birth of my second child. I was drawn to my more spiritual self, and it was something I didn't entirely understand. A few years later I had a third child and started getting images and messages.

How I Did It

Deborah Lighthart, who lives in Cedarburg, has been a psychic for 15 years.

I was very drawn back into the cards. I'd picked up a set of Tarot cards as a teenager and every month or two I would do readings for family or friends or myself. I studied it, but just because I enjoyed it.

When I got back into it, I was having so many people coming to me for readings. One day I was doing a reading for a neighbor's friend's cousin. I was throwing cards. I looked at her and all of a sudden I thought I don't even know this woman, I should be getting paid for this.

Now I have a current list of clients - some I talk to once a week, some one time a year - of 500 or maybe 600. And it's all from word of mouth.

It's hard to explain how I do this. It is not just the cards that work. They are a tool to gain insights into your life. The meaning of the cards, the spiritual lesson itself, is pretty universal.

You have to meditate on the meaning of the card. To find the details or how to apply that to a person's life, it is my psychic power that helps me see. It's like a sixth sense. You know what it's like when you walk into a room and get the feeling that someone is looking at you and turn around to see that they are? It is the same sort of thing. It is very natural, but most people don't exercise it.

I would say about 80% of the people whom I talk to want to talk about an affair of the heart. It's human nature. They are going through some test of faith with a lover or boyfriend or husband. I help them get deeper into their own heart. If people are more distanced from their intuitive side, it is harder.

I have felt at times very insecure. I hang up the phone and wonder if I am saying the right thing. It has a big impact on what people do.

There was one poor woman who called me all of the time for about a year. I told her that if I were just her friend, I would never have told her to hang on and wait for her boyfriend to come around. He had moved out of town and said he didn't want to see her any more. But he came back. They are married now.

There are people who make fun of me, sure. My parents until recently didn't think I had a real job. They think it's entertainment. There are some readers that really put their heart into their work and mean well, but there are a lot who are completely phony. And it can be really hard to tell.

August 4, 2002 ~ [Journal/Sentinal column by Polly Drew 8/3/02 \(an article about getting a psychic reading\)](#)

Trying to predict who knows most about future

Last Updated: Aug. 3, 2002

Polly Drew - ARCHIVE

Sitting in the doctor's waiting room, glancing at a Cosmopolitan magazine, I discovered the article "Forget Therapy, Get a Psychic?" Fortunetellers are hot.

I asked my friend, Victoria, an attorney and mother of four, for her thoughts on psychic energy.

"I'm open to it, but I've never gone to one," she says. "Hey, I believe in science and the power of the brain. Who really knows?"

I told Victoria that the Cosmopolitan article said it was hip to have psychic help with decisions and problem-solving. We've read that Nancy Reagan had a psychic visit the White House regularly while she was first lady. Entertainers such as Calista Flockhart and Courtney Love are rumored to consult psychic readers.

I'll admit that over the years I've consulted astrologers and psychics and had tarot cards flipped for me several times - the first was right before the birth of Emily, now 11. A few psychotherapy colleagues have whispered that they, too, have looked to "the metaphysical side" for direction.

But Victoria makes a good point: "Psychotherapy forces people to work through the hard stuff on their own."

People in therapy have to dig to develop their own insight.

Psychotherapists have worked hard to become established as a state licensed and regulated profession. A master's degree in the field, 3,000 hours of supervised clinical work and an exam are the minimum requirements by the State of Wisconsin to practice clinical psychotherapy.

But there are no educational requirements or formal training to call yourself a psychic, astrologer or other "intuitive healer."

"There is a gypsy-like mystique to the profession," says Deborah Lighthart, 33, of Cedarburg. Lighthart has been working as a professional psychic-healer, using tarot cards and her own intuitive instincts for five years. She boasts a client list of more than a thousand, many of whom keep in contact with her via the phone.

"Yeah, it's definitely more accepted now. But I wish there was a way to regulate who does this. There are a lot of good actors, and fakes," she said, mentioning that word-of-mouth referrals, new age bookstores and even some churches will refer to psychics whom they know and trust. "Once you've heard that a psychic is good, my suggestion is to ask for a short reading and see how it feels," she said. "More should happen than just giving advice."

Lighthart said a responsible psychic knows when to refer for psychotherapy or medical intervention.

I decided to attend what's called a "Spirit Fair" at 7th Ray Books and Gifts, 5806 W. National Ave. The tiny store has about 10 people waiting to get readings from six different readers who sit at card tables with tarot cards, crystals, books on astrology and numerology.

Anna, 27, sits in a rocking chair waiting for a reading from Lighthart. A professional musician, Anna said she's waiting to hear about a job interview and a new love interest. She lets me sit in on her reading, if I don't use her last name.

Lighthart invites Anna into a small, private room. On a table are a stack of round tarot cards. "How are you?" Lighthart asks Anna.

"I'm wondering about a job I applied for," Anna says, as Lighthart mixes up cards.

"Let's take a look," Lighthart says. "Take a deep breath and focus on the prospective job." After a few moments of both women mixing the cards, Anna is asked to cut the deck. Lighthart lays out the cards in a particular pattern.

"Oh yeah, you've got the job," Lighthart says, without missing a beat. "They'll call you tomorrow." Anna seems pleased.

The reading lasts an hour, with Anna asking questions about her love life and career. Lighthart "throws cards" on various questions and uses her intuition on others. Unlike therapy, Anna says little and merely listens to Lighthart's interpretations. Lighthart, on the other hand, works hard to help her client understand by using metaphor and checking in to make sure what she's saying "makes sense."

When the reading is over, I ask Anna if she minds a phone call from me to follow up. But when I call Anna the next day, she is unavailable. Seems she has just resigned from her current position. Her new employer needs her as soon as possible.

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