

# Psychic healer tries to get in touch

By RICHARD WIENS  
Of the Emerald

Laeh Maggie Garfield sits in a patch of sunny earth behind the Eugene Center for Personal Growth and speaks of cosmic things.

Garfield is a psychic healer, teacher and mother of two psychic daughters. "Psychic chords", the seven "chakras" of the body, "Knowledge of the future" and "past life exploration" are more than just terms to Garfield. To her, they are reality.

"Psychic work used to be thought of as this weird thing, but it's something everybody can do," says Garfield.

But "If you're too cosmic, way out there, you can't keep yourself together on the material plane — you're not of this planet," she says. "If you're so earthy that you're ultra-materialistic, then you have no cosmic sense of what you're here for, no sense of how you're creating havoc in worlds beyond your imagination.

"I'm looking for balance," Garfield says. "I look at what people are over-emphasizing and what needs to be emphasized instead."

She works with small groups of students and individual clients at the growth center, 1997 Garden St., as well as in other parts of Oregon, Washington and California. While she teaches a host of mystical techniques, she concentrates on "psychic healing" with clients.

"Most everyone comes because of personal problems," Garfield says. "If necessary, I refer them to physicians. But some people don't need a doctor, because what's going on in them isn't expressed in a true physical ailment. They're just out-of-sorts."

Garfield says she touches into their aura to see what's going on. "I talk out the plays that they've written for themselves and say 'Look, there are alternatives to this script.'

"A lot of people float around with holes in their aura. They don't keep their aura clean, so they take on a lot of other people's junk."

Suddenly, the listener turns participant as Garfield rises to inspect the aura. "You're right half is good, but there's a hole in your upper left side," she says, running her hands over an invisible force field.

The psychic "rebuilds" the punctured



Photo by Steve Scher

Touching a person's aura to feel psychic energy is just one phase of psychic healer Laeh Maggie Garfield's work. Beginning tonight, she will teach a class which examines trance states, meditation, visualization as well as healing.

aura, which contains a hole "only when you're unaware of it." A backache from sitting on a hard wood floor is gone. She reaches out her hand to touch him; and a hot buzz of energy flows through them.

Garfield gained some of her psychic knowledge from an apprenticeship with a Pomo Indian Shawoman in California named Essie Parrish. Some of her talent, however, seems to have been inherited.

"I was born into a family where the women were wise women. When someone would come by the house and complain

about their life situation, my aunt would turn around and say 'Well, don't worry, I'll do something about it.' And I would watch her do something about it. Garfield said her aunt is a visionary foreseer of the future.

Garfield also does some fortune telling. "I've been into Tarot as a way of telling what's going to happen next."

Garfield pauses, pulls out a crystal pendulum and requests that the listener ask a yes-or-no question of it.

"Uhh, will the sunny weather continue?" She gazes at the crystal dangling from

her hand and says "That's a wobbly yes." Garfield has not always had so much control over her psychic powers.

"When I was in my early '20s, I would go into a room and I would just get filled with the knowledge of what was going on in that room and I would be exhausted by it. I could see a couple holding hands and know they hated each other....I'd see another couple not even talking to each other and I'd know how they loved each other. I could feel it."

One difference between Garfield and the casual observer is that she says she sees "psychic chords which go from one chakra in one person to the same chakra in another person.

"Sometimes, in close relationships, people chord each other to the third chakra — the power center — so that one partner has all the power and the other has none," Garfield says. "The one who has none begins to get certain physical problems from being chorded there, like gall bladder trouble — they can never make a decision.

Leah believes in strong family ties, partially because of her "good, healthy view of reincarnation." She is the mother of a 15-year-old who has "out-of-body experiences" and a nine-year old "natural healer."

"The greatest disaster in America right now is the abandonment of the family, because those are very long and important psychic ties," Garfield believes.

"We don't just choose to be born for the heck of it. We choose to be born to a particular family for a particular reason. Sometimes, we've been born into that family a number of times and we usually know our father and mother very well.

Remembering past lives is one of many "techniques" Garfield will teach during a "Psychic Work" class every Tuesday for six weeks from 7 to 9:30 p.m. beginning tonight at the growth center.

The class will also cover trance states, meditation, visualization, guided fantasy and grounding (staying centered in yourself). In addition, "all the students will have experiences with healing someone not present and someone in the class, and they'll learn to transfer energy."

Those interested in "Psychic Work" can call 686-0150 or 485-8563.

## Governor hopeful says she doesn't 'waffle'

By ANN TRENEMAN  
Of the Emerald

Claiming she is "not a political prostitute" and "answers to no vested interest group," Emily Ashworth, Coos County Democrat, is preparing to take firm stands in her upcoming campaign for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination.

Ashworth, an unofficial candidate until March 15, says she doesn't "waffle" on the issues, since "becoming governor of this state is secondary. The important thing is to stand up for my beliefs on the issues."

As part of her "media strategy,"

Ashworth says she will file as a candidate on the last possible filing date, and then begin campaigning for the Democratic nomination.

Ashworth will open a Portland base next week and start her less-than-\$20,000 campaign during which she plans to "bring the issues to the forefront the politicians never answer."

Ashworth says she was urged to run "by Democrats around the state." She says she is running "because essentially people are responsible for bad government. People are not willing to become involved."

Ashworth has been involved in politics since 1972 when she chaired the Coos County McGovern organization. Since then she has worked for the campaigns of Sen. Betty Roberts and the late Sen. Wayne Morse. She attended the Democratic National Convention as a Carter delegate and is included in the 1977 "Who's Who, Women in American Politics."

She says, "Straub is inept as governor. He snatches defeat from the jaws of victory. He has demonstrated a lack of leadership and a non-responsiveness to the Democratic Party platform."

Asked how she feels about large bureaucratic government

organizations, she says, "I have a short fuse with bureaucratic bullshit."

She resigned from the Teacher's Standards and Practices Committee, which she was appointed to in 1977, and from the Welfare Reform Board, because of bureaucratic ineptness.

"Government should treat you as if you were paying their salaries," Ashworth elaborates.

Ashworth, a life-science teacher at Coos Bay Junior High School, is adamant in her stand against herbicides, adding that "Nobody in the name of profit has the right to poison the drinking water."

"If I were governor I'd have a

simple solution. Straub says he needs to research the problem. I'd declare a moratorium."

Ashworth opposes nuclear power plants and advocates a building ban on them. She advocates abortions for welfare women and disapproves of the recent legislation limiting abortions. She is against field burning and in favor of researching alternate forms of energy.

"I guess you could call me the Anti-Anita Bryant candidate," says Ashworth, adding that she is opposed to discrimination of any kind.

She also favors turning the estimated \$100,000 surplus tax money back to the people in direct property tax relief.

Ashworth knows she has a race on her hands.

"I'm a dynamic person and have a lot to say. It would be the thrill of my life to run against Tom McCall."

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