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## Dogs: Consultant helps animals, owners

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Meeting the challenge, Takacs said she plopped down on the floor and was able to tell the owners things about the dog that she wouldn't readily know.

She knew where the dog liked to sleep, that he liked to sleep with a blanket over his head and that he was secretly desiring a bacon-flavored treat that the owners had stopped buying.

"Their jaws dropped," Takacs said. Since then, Takacs' reputation spread by word of mouth, allowing her to intuit for people — and their pets — full time.

She lectured at the Community College of Allegheny County, has seminars all over the region and has a bi-monthly discussion group that meets at her apartment.

On Saturday, Takacs did eight readings on the more than 75 collies attending the Collie Frolic.

Ruth Ayers, president of the Collie Rescue League, said that her experiences with Takacs were powerful, convincing her to book Takacs for the event.

"I had her read for a rescue dog," Ayers said. "He had a lot of strange little quirks."

Lance, Takacs told Ayers, liked men with beards who smoked pipes. While Takacs couldn't have known it, one of Lance's previous owners was a man just as she described.

Takacs also described where Lance liked to go to relax and sleep. She also revealed to Ayers that he liked flute and bagpipe music.

"She pretty much had him right," Ayers said. "She physically described the place where he liked to go. It wasn't hokey. There's depth to her."

Shelly Caldwell of the Swallow Hill Farm, an animal boarding house and obedience training center in Finleyville, Washington County, said that her experience with Takacs was even more specific.

Caldwell found herself caring for a horse that kept watch out of the back door of her stable.

"She wasn't very friendly," Caldwell said.

Caldwell asked Takacs to do a read on the animal, which she did, telling Caldwell that the horse was sensitive to the spirits in the area.

As it turned out, Caldwell's home is in the center of what was once a Native American village.

"Their burial ground is up the road," Caldwell said. "I never made the connection."

Takacs said that it's through experiences like this that her business has grown.

"I haven't done a lot of marketing," she said. "It's much more credible this way. I'm trying to get across the professionalism of this. It's not a scary thing. It's a guidance thing and it's very rewarding."



Joyce Lehosky (center) and her daughter, Laurie, laugh at the revelation by "intuitive consultant" Renee Takacs as she gives Brandi Lee the collie a psychic reading during the Collie Frolic in North Park. Takacs "knew" that Brandi likes to go to the cupboard to hide.

James Knox/  
Tribune-Review

## Canine consultant tells owners what pets are really thinking

By Mark Berton  
Staff writer

Renee Takacs didn't invent women's intuition, but she has taken it one step further: dogs and horses.

Holding a master's in transpersonal psychology from Atlantic University and a bachelor's in business administration, Takacs, 38, is an "intuitive consultant."

"I see, or intuit, as one who functions as an adviser, who uses an intuitive approach to sound decision-making," said Takacs, who lives in Bridgeville.

This weekend, she took her skills, used primarily for people trying to make decisions concerning their

careers or relationships, to pets Saturday at the Fourth Annual Collie Frolic at Miller Grove, North Park.

There, she impressed more than 100 people with her skills.

"I can't believe what she knew about," said Joyce Lehosky of North Huntingdon, Westmoreland County.

Lehosky took her collie, Brandi Lee, 2, to see Takacs at the Frolic.

"Renee told us that Brandi had a connection with a male with a bad knee. Well, that was my husband," Lehosky said. What's more, Takacs "knew" that Brandi liked to go to the cupboard to hide, she added.

Takacs told Sue Yaras that her dog, Cadence, 2, had a muscle strain from agility training. She knew that he

liked grapes and could turn on the bathtub faucet to get a drink.

"It was very interesting," Yaras said. "She was pretty accurate."

While she shies away from the term "psychic," because of the negative connotations society places on it, Takacs claims that she is able to "read" the energy coming from people and animals.

Takacs said that she realized that she could read dogs as well as humans two years ago as she was leaving a party where she was asked to read. "They said, 'Next time you come back, you'll have to do a read on our dog,'" she said.

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