

GREETINGS;

If you are reading this email, you deserve congratulations for surviving July with its two eclipses and multiple challenging energy patterns. Even if you didn't know about astrology, you could not ignore the unusual weather all over the world. The last week of July got the Cardinal Cross Axis moving and shaking and we all have the opportunity to become clearer on our needs and how to respond to the needs of others in a balanced equation based on power sharing.

As we enter August, on the heels of the entry of Mars into Libra till 9/14, the violent opposition of Mars to Uranus on 7/30 and the joining of Mars and Saturn on 7/31, it is time to enjoy a slower, quieter time of rest, recreation and regeneration.

If your yard is like mine, it grew like the "little shop of horrors" in July with the rain and heat. I have pruned mine, but if you need someone to help you, I can arrange that for you. Please call my office at 713/520-1551 to schedule your pruning and cleanup. Many of you have discovered drainage problems. I can also help you with that as well.

AUGUST ASTROLOGICAL OUTLOOK;

The number of challenging patterns in August is drastically reduced from July. With no planets in water signs most of the month, we all have the opportunity to give our feeling function a rest and think more clearly until 8/20, at which time mental energy Mercury goes backwards. This doesn't keep us from thinking straight, just encourages more introverted thought processes and often a change of mind.

The New Moon in Leo occurs 8/9. Plan all your important activities in the period from 8/9-8/20 if at all possible. This is the best period in August for uninterrupted creative flow. The Full Moon of 8/23 brings feelings back into the picture as the Moon is in Pisces for a couple of days.

Many people have questioned me about all the internet writing about the major Cardinal Cross of 2010. Actually it is called a T-Square, which is like a table with three legs, i.e. wobbly. For those with planets in Cancer it is a cross and it is a time of intense change that occurs every 40 years or so. When change is planned we look forward to it, but when it arrives suddenly, in an unexpected form, we often fail to enjoy the experience. The Cardinal signs are Aries, Cancer, Libra and Capricorn and they represent the four major spokes on a wheel that hold the structure and enable the wheel to move, hence all the change we have no control of. It is a period of uncertainty for certain. Last October, when Saturn moved into Libra, this period began in earnest. In May, at the Full Moon on 5/27, Uranus, the planet of rebellion and individuality, moved into cardinal sign Aries for the first time in 84 years. This began a tug of war between Saturn in Libra and Uranus in Aries, hence the challenges all of us have faced with relationships since then. On 6/10 Jupiter jumped into Aries and added a fourth planet to the mix, joining Pluto in Capricorn, Saturn in Libra and Uranus in Aries. Thus began the fateful dance of change for all of us on the planet. Since the United States was born with the Sun in Cardinal Cancer (July 4), we will be on the forefront of change, which in my mind is not necessarily a bad thing. It just scares some of us and doesn't feel comforting.

Now that Mars is in Libra till 9/14, the process is speeded up and moving steadily. For all the things that have felt stuck and frustrated us, that is not going to be possible now. The issues for all of us deal with personal initiative, self sufficiency and decisiveness in balance with responsibilities to and for others, finding peace with that process and communicating clearly and peacefully about areas of dissatisfaction. This will be more pronounced for those with planets in Libra and Aries.

Mental Mercury has an interesting month, with no major aspects and a mercury retrograde pattern. Since Mercury is moving through Virgo, it is at home in its attention to detail and desire to resolve problems and make progress.

Venus, however is moving around like a Tasmanian Devil, beginning the month in Virgo, and Moving home to Libra on 8/6, where it will insist people with planets in Libra deal honestly with the difficulties in their relationship life. To not do so will stimulate non-stop conflict. On 8/7 Mars opposes rebellious Uranus in Aries. On 8/8 Venus joins exacting Saturn. On 8/9 Venus opposes Jupiter which will open Pandora's box for good. On 8/10 Venus and Pluto square off which makes things painfully clear and on 8/20, as Mercury goes retrograde Venus joins Mars for some fireworks. All of us are reviewing our relationship needs and developing strategies to get what we didn't even know we wanted, particularly the cardinal signs, Aries, Cancer, Libra and Capricorn. Remember growing pains are an inevitable component of change.

Mars moves through Libra all month, activating our aggression in dealing with others, especially on 8/4, when both Jupiter and Pluto join in. This is not a good day to discuss anything with anyone other than yourself and a great time to take it easy and try to regain your balance.

Jupiter remains backing up in Aries and runs into Pluto on 8/3 in the spirit of excess and into Saturn, the planet of consequences on 8/16. All of us are trying to decide whether to expand or contract and on this day it may become clear which path to take, particularly for those with planets in Sagittarius, Capricorn, Aries and Libra.

On 8/13, resting Uranus moves back into Pisces for the last time. Uranus moves through a sign for 7 years, during which time it totally changes the life of those with the Sun in that sign. This will be the last visit for 84 years, so if you have planets in Pisces, your intense change period will last until 3/12/2011. Take advantage of the momentum and quit making excuses. This is a magical time for you to break old patterns and begin a new, better, freer life.

There is a preponderance of planets(energy magnets) in air signs this month which energizes the thinking communicating energy, In other words, it will be hard to have a still mind and keep your mouth shut. Be forewarned, this will have long reaching consequences, particularly in dialogue with those whom you are closest to.

In summation, the last time we had a period with this type of energy was the late 1960's and previously the late 1920's. We all changed and became new people then and will do so again. If you need help with your optimism please read "Learned Optimism" by Martin Seligman and check out the new book by Matt Ridley, "The Rational Optimist".

I will be working all of August if you need help processing the changes in your life or cleaning up your yard. Enjoy the certainty of change and take it easy and surround yourself with supportive, enjoyable people and activities.

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