

GREETINGS;

As we enter the last full month of summer, we are in that once in a Blue Moon month of August. We begin August with a Full Moon in Aquarius and end the month on August 31 with a Full Moon in Pisces. Together they produce opportunity, imagination, intensity and creative understanding of life and all of its possibilities. The Sun in Leo brings heat and passion in all areas of our life. After 8/8 as Mercury moves to straighten out our thinking and helps the machinery of life heal, we will increasingly find ourselves looking forward, hopefully with optimism and enthusiasm, both traits of Leo.

LANDSCAPING; For those who want to be prepared for Fall's bounty, check out Kathy Huber's monthly column in the Houston Chronicle which appeared on Saturday, July 28, 2012. For those who need help with trees, irrigation, clean up and/or planting, please give me a call at 713/520-1551 and I will schedule time to help you. I am still planning to send pictures of beautiful yards I have created, but was delayed by so many days of rain in July in Houston.

AUGUST ASTROLOGICAL OUTLOOK;

The astrological patterns in August bring opportunity for change and challenge, particularly after Mercury moves forward in Leo early on 8/8. With the outer planets Uranus, Neptune and Pluto turning inward in Aries, Pisces and Capricorn, respectively, we are influenced by the movement of Mars, Jupiter and Saturn moving forward in Libra, Gemini and Libra, respectively. Since the moving forces all come from air signs, our actions will begin in our clear understanding of our circumstances and options. If you cannot understand your reality with confidence, find someone you trust to communicate with before acting. Those with planets in Gemini, Libra and Aquarius will be highly motivated to move forward with confidence and ease. This is especially true of Aquarians, as they begin the month of August with the Full Moon in their sign, urging greater awareness and self expression of their needs and desires. By midnight on 8/1 as the Moon is at its Full Moon position for the first of two times this month, it dances playfully with Jupiter, bringing sweet dreams if you can sleep, and pleasure if you are awake. Mercury remains in Leo till 8/31 at the Blue Moon in Pisces, moving into practical, problem solving Virgo. On 8/30, the Moon dances with Neptune, bringing the possibility of great creative energies, particularly for those with planets in Pisces and Cancer. Mercury moves past the point it went retrograde in July on 8/22, just before the Sun enters Virgo, our source of problem solving and an easing of our challenges and difficulties.

Venus begins the month in clever, light hearted Gemini and enters home loving Cancer on 8/7, just before Mercury goes forward. This begins a week of pleasurable, peaceful energy. Make the most of it and plan as much as possible for this second week of August if you want success. The challenging days of August come on 8/15-16, just before the New Moon in Leo on 8/17. On 8/15 Venus and Pluto struggle in Cancer/Capricorn and on 8/16 Venus in Cancer is ambushed by the unexpected Uranus in Aries. This is not a time for much activity or decision making. It is a time of observation and waiting for the dust to settle, particularly for those with planets in Aries, Cancer, Capricorn, Scorpio and Aquarius. In addition militant Mars joins cold Saturn in relationship sign Libra one last time on 8/15. Please avoid conflict with everyone on this day and exercise caution, not impulsiveness, in all of your affairs. The New Moon of 8/17 will bring a fresh perspective on everything. On 8/23, following the entry of the Sun into Virgo, Mars enters Scorpio and finds harmony with Neptune in Pisces, bringing a healing pattern into the mix. The last week of August is influenced by the presence of energy in earth and water signs, slowing us down, increasing our awareness of our feelings so we can heal and allowing us to see solutions we were too busy to be aware of.

In September, we will have the second of the two challenges to our circumstances brought about by the head butting of Uranus in Aries and Pluto in Capricorn. The first occurred on 6/24 and this is Act 2 for 2012 on 9/19. The energy of Uranus in Aries brings about rebellion directed toward the status quo of Pluto in Capricorn. Since this is a generational aspect, few of us will experience it personally. It is responsible for the changes we observe politically and economically. Many believe it is reflective of climate change and weather events. Since it comes during hurricane season, it may stir up the weather somewhere. All of us are being invited to be braver, more original and be leaders in our own lives, not

followers. We will have two periods of this combination in 2013 (5/20 and 11/1) and two in 2014 (4/21 and 12/14) and a completion on 3/16/2015. Like most patterns of growth and change, this is a 3 year process.

August will be for most of us a time of easier living and fewer challenges, so take a breath, re-boot yourself, and make a future plan. If I can help you with any of these activities, please call to schedule your appointment. These are the last lazy days we will have this year. Enjoy them.

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