GREETINGS;

If you are in Texas, I hope you are coping well with the extreme heat and drought. Surely the major changes beginning this month will bring change in the weather as well. Best wishes for a safe and wonderful Independence Day on July 4.

I will be celebrating my 66th birthday Friday July 3, so I will not be in the office.

My beautiful 3 month old granddarling Catherine Renshaw has been entered in a contest. To view her picture and vote for her, please go to http://www.showusthecow.com/photos.php?view=browse&tag=CATHERINE. You can only vote once and the deadline is next month. Both grandmother and mother Alisha would appreciate your vote.

LANDSCAPING; Unbelievably, there are still things to do while the weather is this hot. I am pruning my own garden like mad, as it is overgrown due to the heat. Disease is rampant in trees and other plants, so now is the time to take notice, as the heat encourages rapid deterioration of toxic conditions. If you need services or a consultation, please call me at 713/520-1551. My new company Precision Landscape Specialists is an association of five specialists with over 100 years experience in the landscape profession: arborist, landscape design, irrigation and drainage and building of paths and patios.

JULY ASTROLOGICAL OUTLOOK;

What a month we will have in July. This is the first of three months where we will all be changed permanently, whether in our awareness or circumstances, or both. Some of you asked me about the recent death of three celebrities all at once. I told you that was common as a pre-eclipse cycle emerges. July we have the longest Solar Eclipse of this century on 7/21, coming in between two Lunar Eclipses (7/7 and 8/5). Naturally if your birthday is on any of these three days, this will be a life changing year for you. The eclipses occur in Sun signs Cancer and Leo, so personal, family and creative/love issues are highlighted. Usually severe weather events occur near an eclipse cycle, particularly where the eclipse is visible. In this case that would be northern India, southern China and the Pacific Ocean. This eclipse has an unusually wide pattern and occurs at 29 degrees of Cancer. With the large number of planets in personal signs, all of us will find ourselves shifting in perception and/or action with regard to our personal relationships. Eclipses often bring to the surface buried issues and hidden problems. Since by nature they are unpredictable, it is best to be rested and in balance and wait to see what comes up and deal with it in a timely manner.

Mental energy Mercury moves quickly from Gemini to Cancer (7/3) to Leo (7/17). This makes it more challenging to have a peaceful mind, so learn to breathe and meditate and keep your center. On 7/1 Mercury makes positive patterns with Jupiter and Neptune which increase creativity and also with Uranus which bring about sudden awareness. On July 4, Mercury and Pluto face each other. It is best not to battle with those with whom you have power struggle issues on this day. On 7/16 Uranus and Mercury form a pattern of brilliance in thinking and communication. If you need to work anything out, this is the day. After Mercury enters Leo (7/17), all of us will be more optimistic and creative, no matter what challenges come our way. On July 30, Mercury and Jupiter expand our understanding and on 7/31, Neptune expands our imagination. This should be a great month for creative, optimistic, clear thinkers.

Venus begins the month in Taurus and stays briefly, before moving into Gemini (7/5) and ending the month moving into Cancer (7/31). This should propel all of us to have more fun and lighten up. On 7/1 Venus and Neptune can potentially confuse us about money and/or love. On 7/2, life feels better as Jupiter expands our thought processes. On 7/21, during the eclipse, Saturn and Mercury form a serious thought pattern which relaxes on 7/27 with Jupiter bringing ease and on

7/28 with first Neptune and then Uranus increasing our spiritual understanding and creative problem solving skills.

Mars energy is strong in July, beginning with a strong aspect to Neptune and Jupiter on 7/6. For those inclined to paranoia, this is not a day to believe your mind or perceptions. For those wanting to solve problems with unusual solutions, count on inspiration. On 7/11, Mars moves into Gemini, where all of us are prone to anger and outbursts. If there are those you struggle with, avoid them or get yourself calmed down.

On 7/10, Jupiter and Neptune join together. This is significant because this conjunction occurs in Aquarius, the sign of sudden, collective change. This year and next mark the first return cycle of Neptune since it was discovered in 1848 as it joined Saturn. This cycle coincides with Jupiter, which will expand its influence in a different direction. Society will experience a paradigm shift this year and next.

July is the first month since April when the Sun moves into a Cardinal (action) sign. All current conditions will move this month. This is the first of three patterns of oppositions we will experience between now and September. The first is the opposition from Cancer to Capricorn which affects all of those with planets in cardinal signs (Aries, Cancer, Libra and Capricorn). The second is from Leo to Aquarius which affects all with planets in fixed signs (Leo, Scorpio, Aquarius and Taurus). The third is from Virgo to Pisces on September 15, which affects all with planets in mutable signs (Virgo, Sagittarius, Pisces and Gemini). We are all affected by this fated time and the change opportunities it brings. This is the time to live inwardly (Pisces) and plan strategies which expand our solution options (Virgo).

If you face challenges or have questions I can help you with, please call my office for an appointment at 713/520-1551.

NAN HALL LINKE M.A.