

## GREETINGS:

I hope you are planning a wonderful celebration for this week's national holiday. Today, June 29 we are beginning a cycle which occurs every 24 years, in which Venus and Jupiter join together in Leo, the sign of the heart, in the month when the Sun goes into Leo and creative change and magic abound. The last time this occurred was the summer of 1991 and the time prior to that was the summer of 1967, the Summer of Love.

On a personal level, I am grateful for the opportunity to celebrate my 72nd birthday on Friday with two of my three children and all of my 5 grandchildren, as well as my younger sister. I am strong, optimistic, in great health and very blessed to have such great family, friends and 3 careers that I love (counseling, landscaping and writing). I can't wait to see what this summer brings. It will be a welcome change from the past 3 months of unending challenges which make me feel like I was hit by an asteroid and then a tsunami. Happy Asteroid Day today.

LANDSCAPING: I am available for landscape consultations at the rate of \$95 for planning and doing it yourself. I can handle any of your landscape needs with a crew of well-trained landscape professionals I have worked with for 14 years. The never ending rain has produced a growth spurt that needs to be pruned before the long hotter summer ensues. Please contact me with your questions and needs on my cell at 713/542-7231 or email me at [nanlinke@aol.com](mailto:nanlinke@aol.com).

## JULY ASTROLOGICAL OUTLOOK

The arrival of the Summer Solstice on June 21 ushers in a cycle which will be strong until the Autumnal Equinox on 9/23, which happens to be Yom Kippur. The fabulous Summer of Love, Light and Creativity of 2015 began the day after the Summer Solstice, 6/22 as Jupiter and Uranus reached an exact support triangle from Leo to Aries, blending the strength and bravery of fire sign Aries with the creative, open heart of Leo, which meant help was on the way if we can bring it forth in our consciousness and actions. My Sunday School teacher Bill Kerley gave us a prayer to use about that time and I want to share it with you and instruct you to use it at least 3 times a day, which has been a tremendous help to me:

MAY I BE FILLED WITH LOVING KINDNESS AND COMPASSION

MAY I BE WELL

MAY I BE PEACEFUL AND AT EASE

MAY I BE HAPPY

MAY I BE GIVEN THE PATIENCE, THE COURAGE, THE UNDERSTANDING AND THE DETERMINATION TO MEET AND OVERCOME THE INEVITABLE DIFFICULTIES, HARDSHIPS AND FAILURES THAT COME TO ME IN LIFE

July begins with a dramatic, dynamic Full Moon in Capricorn, joined by Mars, Uranus and Pluto. The last two days of June are filled with opportunity as Venus and Uranus dance together on Monday, 6/29 and on both 6/29 and 6/30 the Moon is moving through Sagittarius which creates a bonfire of optimism and opportunity as all of the fire signs are loaded with possibilities of greater love energy not seen in the past 24 years. All of July is energized by the planets in water and fire, the energy of non-rational unlimited outcomes. The beginning of July is under the rulership of the Moon and the last part of July is under the rulership of the Sun, which means our capacity for lightness and enlightenment is beyond what we have experienced and what we can imagine. This is the month to dream big and increase your awareness of your desires.

On July 1, before the Full Moon of the early evening, Venus and Jupiter join together in Leo, warming our hearts and allowing us to see change as necessary even when we are undergoing upheaval. This is a time of unlimited renewal as we imagine what lies outside the boxes we feel stuck in. At this time we will see

our path clearly as a spark of excitement arises, often paired with anxiety. This is our clue that we are on the growing edge and becoming more fully alive. Just before sundown on July 1 the Sun and Neptune join together in a supportive triangle, at which time the personal desires of the Sun in Cancer are infused with the transpersonal energy of Neptune in mystical Pisces, bringing us forward to a softer and more optimistic view of the world and our place in it.

The Full Moon in Capricorn occurs on the evening of July 1/7/2, bringing the culmination of what began at the last New Moon on 6/16. The Full Moon in July is also known as the Thunder Moon due to the presence of strong summer storms or the Buck Moon, named for the time when the deer display their antlers again after dropping them in the Fall. The Moon symbolizes our capacity to find safety, nurturance and growth. The Moon also represents our past, habits and comfort zones. The Sun represents our capacity to self-actualize our potential. It deals with the present and is future oriented. At the Full Moon the Sun and Moon oppose one another creating the largest cycle of light and enlightenment we experience each month. The time of the Full Moon also points out the necessity of rebalancing our masculine (Sun) and feminine (Moon) functions. At this Full Moon Mars joins the Sun energizing the masculine values of courage, decisiveness and protection. Mars is assertive, passionate and brave and we would all be well advised to wear these traits as best we can. This Full Moon also contacts Pluto, which at its best gives us the ability to face our fears, transmute our Shadow and release what no longer serves our evolution. Just hours before the Full Moon Venus makes its first of 3 conjunctions with Jupiter inviting us to enjoy life, play more and seek pleasure, love and meaning. From June 14-August 17 Venus remains close to Jupiter, expanding the flow of generosity, faith and joy into our lives. Venus joins Jupiter again on 8/4 (Leo) and 10/24 (Virgo). To sum up: this Full Moon invites us to celebrate love, hope and vision.

The July 4th holiday weekend finds the Moon in Aquarius with Venus and Jupiter in Leo offering the opportunity to celebrate and enjoy friends and family. This is a great time to be with warm hearted, loving groups of people.

The mental energy of Mercury which is once again moving with lightness and curiosity begins the month in Gemini, its home sign, urging us to find the humor in our dilemma's and challenges. On 7/8 Mercury enters Cancer, increasing our tendency to feel and take things personally. It is also a time we are paying more attention to home and family matters. On 7/13 Mercury and Neptune dance together with ease and beauty which is a wonderful time to experience spiritual and creative pursuits. On 7/15, just prior to the New Moon in Cancer, Mercury and Pluto create opposing forces, which is a time to be honest and strong about your limitations, perceived or real. Ironically, this is the time our mission to Pluto will bring us data on this Planet of transformation. On 7/16 Mercury joins Mars which is not the time to react, try to resolve conflict or start conflict with anyone---but we will all be tempted. Find a zipper for your mouth and BREATHE deeply. On 7/18 Mercury and Uranus crash into one another which can provide a flash of genius or an attack of paranoia. On 7/22 just before the Sun enters its home in Leo, Mercury is stabilized by Saturn in Scorpio and sanity and a deeper understanding of the mysteries of life return. Mercury enters Leo on 7/23 and reflects the warmth of the Sun.

Venus begins the month in Leo, briefly enters Virgo on 7/18 and goes retrograde on 7/25-9/6). As mentioned above Venus joins jubilant, generous Jupiter in magnanimous Leo on 7/1, has a moment of doubt on 7/14 as Saturn asks us to grow up and see life more realistically if necessary. On 7/25 when Venus moves backwards for 6 weeks in Virgo and Leo, Mars and Uranus have an explosive energy pattern which urges caution and patience in all matters related to love and money. This is not the day to make demands or try to solve problems. Let it pass if you can, or find a supportive, wise person to process your feelings with and decide to give it a few days before you make decisions and take action.

Mars is a feisty force this month. If you need courage to act, you have it. If you want to have a fight, even if it is not a good idea, it will be hard to restrain yourself, particularly on 7/15 (New Moon) and 7/25, Mars is a planet which finds direct, decisive action a natural mode. When it is moving through the water sign Cancer which is ruled by the Moon, it is more emotional, vulnerable and non-rational. Find ways to relax and slow down and avoid people and circumstances where you are uncomfortable where possible. This is a time to delegate and avoid as much as you can. This is particularly true with family members and matters

that trigger you. Mars in Cancer stirs up family issues that need resolution, while paradoxically, this is not the time to resolve them.

Jupiter is moving through the last degrees of Leo and will enter Virgo on 8/11. This the last full month of Jupiter in Leo energy for the next 12 years. Make the most of it by opening your heart, expressing your creativity and joy and finding others to share life with.

Saturn has moved back into Scorpio for a 3 month review course and will move forward on 8/1 and move into Sagittarius on 9/17. In mythology Jupiter represents expansion and Saturn represents contraction. On 8/3 these two opposing forces began another struggle period which has a strong effect on society. Some people want to go forward, others backward. It will be a battle between the past and the future for all of us.

The New Moon of 7/15-16 is full of significance for all of us, especially since the Moon rules the sign Cancer and the New Moon begins a cycle of 28 days. The New Moon in Cancer turns our attention to home and family life. Mercury and Mars are also in Cancer and join together a few hours after the New Moon. This calls for a deepening of our emotional intelligence: the ability to understand, communicate and act appropriately on our feelings. This the 4th lunation in a row that spotlights Mars. If you are not aware what your deepest motivations, needs and injuries are, this will be the month to find out. This is a time of deep feeling which allows us the strength to become more vulnerable so we can heal at a deeper level. Life should move with greater speed after this powerful New Moon.

On 7/26, the day after Venus turns retrograde, Uranus begins its retrograde period (till Christmas Day)., During this time period we need to review our lives and see where we have old patterns that no longer serve us. We have time to make a plan to bring these changes into manifestation after Uranus moves back into action on 12/25/15.

The second Full Moon in July occurs 7/31 with the Sun in Leo and the Moon in Aquarius, a so-called "Blue Moon", which is not astrologically significant but does occur every 2 to 3 years due to the structure of our calendar. The Farmer's Almanac editor used a blue pencil to circle the date of the fourth Full Moon occurring within a season, hence the term "Blue Moon". The Full Moon of 7/31 occurs with the Sun in Leo the sign of personal creativity and the Moon in Aquarius which seeks collaboration among equals. In this Age of Aquarius we are still struggling to recognize and honor our common humanity. This Full Moon urges us to fearlessly and generously shine our light so we may be seen by those who share our values. We need to be ourselves, contribute our gifts to the community and find our tribe. Enjoy the journey

In the summer when Neptune, Pluto, Uranus and Venus are all retrograde, it is a good idea to slow down like the planets do, and find time to review and revise your ideas and plans. With the exception of my birthday on July 3, I will be in the office to help you with re-designing your life goals, strategies and understanding. This is a slower time in my landscape business, so I invite you to join me in taking time for yourself in this important time of change and growth.

HAVE A GREAT INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION.

NAN