

GREETINGS:

As this long, wet summer finally comes to an end, we can all look forward to change. Fall in Houston brings a plethora of learning and listening activities. Here are some of my favorites:

September 3: FREE yoga classes at Heights School of Yoga all day (15th and Rutland)
Lectures resume at Houston World Affairs Council
Progressive Forum resumes their world class lecture series

For those who want to tackle the landscape, the following is suggested:

LANDSCAPING: the excess of rain has left trees standing in water much of the summer. Please get them trimmed this Fall so they don't fall over or become diseased due to dead branches not being removed. After the soil dries out, it will be time to plant after the temperature returns to the 80's in the day and the 60's at night. Fall is our second spring, so planting now brings abundant color all Fall and much of the winter. For most of us, myself included, the lower temperatures and excess rain have caused plants and shrubs to grow beyond imagination. Please reshape your landscape before replanting. If I can help you with pruning, building walkways, irrigation or drainage, please call me at 713/520-1551.

ASTROLOGICAL OUTLOOK FOR SEPTEMBER:

September is an exceptionally active month astrologically. The slow moving, fatefully teaching planet Saturn finally moves out of Leo on 9/2 after being there since 7/17/2005. For those with planets in Leo, time has stood still and obstacles have been never ending. The feelings of fatigue and relief compete for your attention. All the fixed signs, including Scorpio, Aquarius and Taurus, will begin to feel relief as well.

Naturally, someone else needs the lessons of Saturn, and those with planets in Virgo will be the focus of Saturn's intensity for the next 2-1/2 years. On a positive note, we all will benefit by taking stock of our health issues and making a plan to improve our habits. Additionally, our working conditions and environment need our attention as well. Both these areas are areas ruled by Virgo, so to be in sync with the waves of change, move in the direction life is moving toward.

We will all be feeling the effects of the August Lunar Eclipse until 9/11, at which time a Solar Eclipse occurs at the New Moon. The Lunar Eclipse of 8/28 brought all manner of secrets out in the open and everyone felt more during and following this time. 9/11 begins a time of renewed energy and commitment to starting over in whatever needs our attention.

Venus, the planet which symbolizes our values, and to some extent our money issues, will begin its forward movement on 9/8. After 9/8 we all may feel more fortunate, attractive and optimistic about issues of relationship and money.

Mercury, the planet symbolizing our mental energy, begins the month in Virgo and then rushes through Libra and then into Scorpio. These are all social signs, so getting together with others and finding pleasure in doing so, will be the dominant thought for most of us. Before leaving Virgo for Libra, Mercury makes a strong pattern with Pluto, bringing out more secrets and guaranteeing serious thoughts and/or discussions on or after 9/3. On 9/5 Mercury moves into Libra, urging us to be fair and seek peace in all our dealings with others. On 9/18, Neptune helps our imagination and artfulness in speech and on 9/26 Mars makes us clear and decisive and balances all the tension we have been feeling. On 9/27 Mercury moves into water sign Scorpio for a month of thinking like a feeling person.

Venus finally moves forward in Leo on 9/8, and don't be surprised if you find yourself wanting to spend money thereafter, particularly if you have places to go and people to see. On 9/21 Neptune brings Venus out of balance again, and a day of paranoia will occur for some. All those with planets in Libra and Taurus will be better after 9/8. They have run out of coping energy in recent months.

Mars is most active this month, beginning the month in Gemini and moving into Cancer where, after moving backwards, Mars resides till the end of December. This is 3 times longer than normal, so expect the feeling intensity of fiery Mars in a water sign to cause many people to be a

bit testy and some downright angry. Mars moving through Gemini till 9/28 makes the mind a field of ideas, all moving in circles. Only those with strong yoga practice and great concentration can make the most of this time of mental originality. Mars and Uranus clash on 9/3, making conflict a strong possibility, especially for those traveling long distances. If possible, avoid those with whom you have difficulties on this day. On 9/9 Neptune softens the situation, bringing about creative solutions and spiritual possibilities. Be very careful on 9/21 as Mars and Pluto oppose one another. This is a very hostile pattern and one found with accidents, so slow down and observe if you can't control yourself. All those with planets in Gemini will be operating on jet fuel for the month. Those with planets in Cancer should get ready for a 3 month period of accomplishment, beginning 9/28.

With so much energy in mutable signs, we all may be running in circles and feel like Tasmanian Devils. It is important to rest and not move around like a poisoned rat. If you need to discuss any of your concerns, conditions and issues, I will be in the office all of September and can be reached at nanlinke@aol.com or 713/520-1551. Enjoy the changes Fall will bring.

NAN HALL LINKE