

**Talisman ...  
Unique New-Age Shop  
150 Main Street  
Monroe, CT  
(203) 261-0047**

[www.talismanct.com](http://www.talismanct.com)

<http://blog.ctnews.com/lenhard/>

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**January 1, 2012  
Happy New Year!**

This newsletter is going out late but not for lack of effort, as I wrote and rewrote my opening several times before settling on a focal point. With all the hype surrounding the 2012 phenomenon, one would expect some significant weight to be placed on this month's writing. And so it is. But let me start by saying that I've always been an optimist. In fact, I have even been called a "Pollyanna" (not necessarily a compliment) on many occasions. I can make lemonade out of the most bitter of lemons – and I enjoy doing it, for the most part. And thus, many years ago when I began in earnest to study the earth changes relative to prophecy, as well as the mass awakening as relates both to spirituality AND conspiracy theory (Illuminati, New World Order and the like) I really found myself in a quandary. Hard to put a positive spin on GMOs, toxic chemicals, Senate privilege (so they can engage in "insider trading" legally now? Wow!) all sanctioned by our government. Hard to be positive in the face of continued oil drilling, nuclear expansion, frackking – watching as our Earth becomes ever more polluted in the name of "resource development". All this happening while the global elite continue to gamble with the financial security of our country! Of the world!

But I'm also tired of rehashing and recycling information – as the prophecies, solar storms, and pole shifts have all been done to death. Likewise, the enlightenment process, ascension, mass awakening ... not much new to say here, either. Fact is, this New Year is unlike any other as it has been anticipated in so many ways and for so long ... and now that it has finally arrived, it is almost anti-climatic. Nothing exploded or cracked open – the sun rose on a new day and here we are, still standing!

So ... let's talk about uncharted territory, shall we?

Over the past five years, I have created and grown a business I am proud of. Talisman was created, not copied, and I run my shop the way I live my life – unconventionally. I've never adhered to a "business is business" mentality, mainly because I am primarily in the business of spirituality. I have been blessed with the ability to meet a new person and within five minutes see through to their strengths and weaknesses in order to offer them a glass of that sweet lemonade, along with a safe place to work through the trials and tribulations that life throws their way. Talisman's patrons are a gift – I learn so much from all of you! I strive to see the positive in every situation while validating the severity of real problems many of you must contend with, and continue to work through.

So to all of you exceptional, amazing people – I would be doing you a disservice if I wasn't honest about

my feelings and ideas concerning these remarkable but unstable times. Not very "Pollyanna" of me, but we all woke up today with our world intact, so there is still time to make necessary changes. Fear to make the change will only hold you in place. And whether we make decisions assertively or passively accept whatever life throws our way, we still must deal with consequences. Some of this is simple: If you don't feel right about what you are doing, then it isn't right. If you hate your job, then you hate your job. If your relationship isn't working, then it isn't working. Only you can make these changes and no amount of "psychic readings" are going to change the issues and problems you face unless you are willing to do the work. My advice is to learn quickly and remove negative thoughts and those aspects of your life that you have control over, because over these next two years we will be moving fast-forward into vast environmental, financial and spiritual crises the likes of which the world has never seen before. Consider yourself validated, but know that the choices that we make are entirely our own - and no one else's. The World is under severe pressure that is much larger than some of these smaller problems. And folks, rest assured ... THESE are the good old days!

On a different note, moving into this year, I am looking forward to exciting times ahead. This weekend will find us at the shop, doing some cosmetic fixing-up and making room for new products. Talisman will continue to purchase as many products as possible directly from local crafters, as I believe in supporting our own community. I'll be scheduleing more classes and workshops - please, let me know what you want to see offered! I know that over the next few months, there will be at least one new shop opening while others close their doors (for which I am deeply sorry). However, Talisman will continue to stand alone and strong, unapologetically caring for "our" people and doing what we do in our unique and passionate way - in Monroe!

Although the Westport location was a six-week holiday boutique, I met so many wonderful new people and learned that no matter what social and financial structure one is experiencing at the moment, it is painfully obvious that we are all facing the same global concerns. Reflecting back on the experience I came to realize that its remarkably quick launch (we got called in and literally put a shop together in mere days) illustrated beautifully how quickly and effortlessly we can (and will) move and initiate change when the time comes to do so.

Planning and visioning are part of manifestation - but in the end, we will do what we must do, and go where we are meant to go. We always live our fate, but not always our destiny - mainly because we choose to engage in self destructive behaviors which are certainly not in tandem with Divine Will. This is true both on a personal and collective basis - again, "we the people" are dealing with the devastation caused by the manipulative, selfish behaviors of those who we have allowed to make the rules. We can collectively choose to passively accept this as our reality, or we can fight for change. Our choice. But the tired old line "oh, I am only one person there is nothing I can do" isn't going to cut it anymore. It never really did.

The year 2012 does not herald an end to life here on Earth, but instead an end to a way of life. I do believe 2012 marks a tipping point: Time to choose a side and make a stand. Why settle for what fate has in store for you? Life is so much more when we embrace and move bravely into our destiny! Because I believe in reincarnation, I believe we actually chose to be born to be here NOW, bringing the knowledge and experience of past lives with us so we might live into not only our own destiny but also have the

ability to affect the destiny of humanity as a collective whole. Yes, we are the ones we have been waiting for. These are epic times, and our involvement is crucial – the word "exciting" does not even BEGIN to cover it!

I've said it before, now let me say it again: Magick or energy manipulation of any kind will not serve us if we are not working for our own higher good and/or the higher good of the whole. Mind you, I am not saying it won't "work" what I'm saying is that it won't serve you. There is a difference. Make no bones about it – I am no fan of "The Secret" because when you ask for something over and over again, perseverating on an outcome and focusing and refining your vision board again and again, or light candle after candle ... do you think that maybe the Universe knows that what you are asking for doesn't serve your higher good? Do you think our Spiritual Mother and Father/Goddess and God cannot hear you? Or do you simply think that YOU know, better than they, what is best for you? HmMMM ??? You can behave like a petulant child or you can graciously ask once – and let it go.

Realize that it is not a failure when something it is not meant to be. It is a fork in the road.

We are standing now, together, at a fork in the road leading into the uncharted territory which is 2012. How we choose to look at this as individuals is as important as how we choose to move forward together.

And honestly, I believe that all that really matters is that we not stop moving forward, past the negative and choosing instead to rise above and soar. Don't you agree?

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New Hours

Wednesday & Thursday: 11am–7pm

Friday & Saturday: 11am – 8pm

\* Sunday: 11am–5pm \*

Closed Monday & Tuesday

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MONTHLY NEW-AGE FEST

Saturday, January 7th AND Saturday, January 21st  
12:00pm–6:00pm – (203) 261-0047 for appointments

Talisman's monthly New-Age Fest has become so popular we've decided to make it bigger and offer it twice each month, on the first and third Saturdays.

Saturday, January 7th – Readers (\$25/20 minutes – please, cash only):

Andrew Neblett, Tarot

Melissa, Tarot

Rachel, Pet Psychic (all pets welcome, or bring a picture)

Sierra North, Shammanic Journey to find your Power Animal  
Tammie, Chair Massage (\$1/minute)  
Tim Bshara, Aura/Chakra Photography (\$40, photo and 23 page report)  
Yvonne, Tarot

Saturday, January 21st – Readers (\$25/20 minutes – please, cash only):

Barbara DeLong, Cosmic Deck of Initiation  
Melissa, Tarot  
Rachel, Pet Psychic  
Sierra North, Shammanic Journey to find your Power Animal  
Patty, Crysall Ball Reading  
Tammie, Chair Massage (\$1/minute)

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Workshops & Classes

Thought, Magick and Quantum Physics: Sat. January 7th 6:30–8:30pm, taught by Andrew Neblett \$25  
RSVP 203–261–0047

This workshop will teach you the latest thinking on how your thoughts can create magickal results via quantum physics. Your thoughts create reality! Learn how it works, how it DOES NOT work and how to apply quantum physics in all of your life for positive growth, manifestation and happiness. If you practice magick or not, this class will help you to achieve what you dream! Your health, happiness and success are a direct reflection of your thoughts. Change them, change your life! This workshop is for all levels of ability, non-believers and believers, the magickal and the muggles. All will benefit!

Dr. Neblett is one of our most popular readers AND teachers – and I am pleased to let you all know that he has agreed to teach a class after the New Age Fest the first Saturday of each month, from 6:30–8:30pm. So mark your calendars and hold the date/time! Website: [www.nebletteronline.com](http://www.nebletteronline.com)

Tarot 101: Saturday, January 28th 4–6pm \$10

Bring your tarot cards and any questions you may have – Laura (who has been reading for over 25 years) teaches this popular class, suitable for beginners and intermediate readers. Part of the class is dedicated to theory, the rest is practical as we throw cards and practice reading. Handouts.

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Talisman's Regularly-Scheduled Readers

(203) 261–0047 for appointments (Cash payment requested)

Starr: Thursdays – Angel Readings 3:00–7:00 pm \$30/30 minutes.

Mark Hoyt: Spirit Guided Tarot – Fridays 2–8pm. \$25/20 minutes.

Lina: Sunday mornings – Intuitive Counseling by appointment (261–0047) \$50/45 minutes. Fluent in Italian, Spanish and English.

January 7 & 21: New Age Fest, 12–6pm (variety of readers/healers)

January 14: Elpida, Greek Coffee Ground Readings 1pm–6pm, \$30/20 min. Fluent in Greek and English

January 28: Gwendolyn Lord, Whole Life Tarot 1–6pm, \$25/20 minutes.

### **Available by Appointment**

Talisman's readers are available for parties and events. You can pay by the hour or allow us to set up and have your guests/attendees pay individually. We do our best to be flexible and fairly priced! Our party rates are \$60 an hour, plus gas/mileage. Please make all scheduling arrangements through Laura at (203) 261–0047.

Healing massage/Reiki with Kim: Most of you have met Kim, my best friend and sister-in-law, as she has watched the shop from time to time. She has dressed candles, done house cleansings, and sat in on healing/reading sessions at Talisman as well. Kim takes her own special brand of healing massage/Reiki/journeywork/mediumship on the road, so to speak – "Have table/will travel!" – is a licensed aesthetician and available for at-home sessions for \$85/hour. Of course, I am biased ... but the feedback I have been getting is that she is providing a truly unique and wonderful experience. Call 261–0047 for more information.

Laura: I do special, in-depth readings, my 45+ minute private sessions include a chakra check up, a print out and review of your astrological natal chart, tarot and palm reading, and more! (\$40). Call the shop for an appointment, I schedule these when the shop is closed or after-hours. Yes, I still do \$5 readings but these are done in-between phone calls and waiting on patrons – you can't make an appointment, and I do get interrupted. But I am always happy to peek at someone's palm or throw a few cards, so don't hesitate to ask!

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### **The Undercroft at Talisman**

The Circle of the Sacred Well has a permanent 'home' or covenstead, located at Talisman in Monroe. The Circle has long had a close relationship with Talisman, and Laura, as we share many of the same goals regarding helping to create and serve the pagan and New Age community here in western CT. After almost 10 years of a nomadic existence for the Circle, it is wonderful to have a permanent space to meet. We welcome the community to join us on any of the dates below.

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**Event: Wiccan/Pagan Study Group**

Date: January 17 – Time: 7:30 p.m.

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[Astrology Corner by Alethea](#)

**\*\* A note to readers: If you would like to receive my FREE monthly newsletter via email which is full of information and astrological insights, simply send an email to [AHunt617@aol.com](mailto:AHunt617@aol.com) and I'll be happy to add your name to my list of recipients!**

Happy New Year, everyone! 2012 starts off on a mixed note – we have a somber Sun/Pluto conjunction in Capricorn loosely squaring a Moon/Uranus conjunction in Aries. Expect the “party hard” mood of New Year’s Eve to wear off fairly quickly with responsibilities and more serious concerns tapping you on the shoulder like some curmudgeonly old geezer. Venus will remain in social, airy Aquarius for about the first half of month which is a good influence for getting together with friends or starting an exciting, electric new romance but do be careful to leave people their space. Aquarius isn’t a sign that enjoys being smothered so if you do find someone at a New Year’s party that you like, try to play it cool.

The Full Moon in Cancer on the 9th is a particularly nice one. Both the Sun & Moon catch supportive vibes from Mars and Virgo making home, family, and personal concerns mesh well with professional responsibilities and work-related issues. If you’ve been on a mission in either area of your life and have need to work hard at a task, Mars in Virgo at the Full Moon will help you streamline in a way that may even leave you time to attend to both – it’s kind of like a 2-for-1 deal if you play your cards right! The key is going to be to work smarter, not necessarily harder, and prudently direct your energies to their most effective ends.

There’s an interesting Aquarius New Moon on the 23<sup>rd</sup> which has the status quo “all shook up”. During this time Saturn is sitting on the final degree of Libra – the so-called Anaretic Degree. There’s a sense of urgency in planets that inhabit this space and Saturn will pause on this degree just as it prepares to turn retrograde in February, making this feeling very potent. We’re entering a time of critical mass regarding the relationship lessons that we’ve been learning over the last 2 years. This is doubly so with Saturn also located in the “Via Combusta” zone during the next 10 months.

The “Via Combusta” is also known as the “Burning Road” or “Fiery Way” – planets traveling through this area of the zodiac are said to undergo a sort of trial-by-fire. Saturn is not completely bereft, however – Libra is still the sign of its exaltation and Saturn fares well here. Rather, this will be a time of **cumulative review** in relationships where we’ll be taking all that we’ve learned over the last 2 years and fully assimilating these experiences before we proceed. Expect people to make major decisions about the state/status of their relationships during the next 10 months as Saturn completes its journey through

Libra. The pressure exerted by Saturn upon partnerships of all kinds will reach a climax during this period – essentially, Saturn will be pressuring us for our “final answer”. This is as it should be, however – you can’t remain on the fence forever ...

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**The Smoking Gun Research Agency** operates their Library & Research Center at 284 Racebrook Road in Orange, CT. The Center is open to the public Tuesdays through Fridays from 12pm–6pm, and evenings on Wednesday and Fridays. Weekend hours vary depending on the SGRA’s outside events schedule. The Library features over 3,000 materials from books to DVDs covering a wide range of subjects from paranormal phenomena, to psychic abilities, to government controversies. The materials are available for research to anyone, a members of the SGRA can check–out items just as they would at a public library. The library is also searchable online through the SGRA’s website at [www.sgra.org](http://www.sgra.org). Visit the website for information on upcoming events and information. Talisman customers receive a 10% discount on any classes, events, or items from the SGRA, just mention where you heard about us!

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**The Connecticut Wiccan Pagan Network (CWPN) Inc.** is a 501(c)(3) not–for–profit educational and networking organization dedicated to meeting the needs of the greater Wiccan and Pagan community in Connecticut and surrounding areas. The goal was, and is, to help provide a forum for Wiccans and Pagans to meet others of "like mind" and to come together and worship in a safe environment. Our hope has been to construct a sense of "community" in which we can all share with and learn from one another. Membership is open to all Wiccans, Pagans, and those with a serious interest in learning more about our religion. If you are under 18 years of age you may join with written parental consent. We reserve the right to refuse or terminate membership of anyone who we feel may be harmful to our organization or to the Wiccan/Pagan Community. Learn more at our website: <http://www.cwpn.org>.

The CWPN hosts monthly networking meetings throughout the state, open Sabbat circles, coven and study group referral service, classes/work–shops, various social events and lectures with well–known members of the Pagan community. Some of our past guests have been: Janet and Stewart Farrar, Gavin Bone, Margot Adler, Ted Andrews, Dr. Leo Louis Martello, Tzipora Klein, Laurie Cabot, Raven Grimassi, Donald Michael Kraig, Phyllis Currott, Lori Bruno, Jane Sibley and Ellen Evert Hopman.

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**Lunchtime Tai Chi** – Thursdays from 12–12:30 (Stress Reduction Qigong) 12:30–1:00 (Tai Chi). American Institute of Tai Kwon Do, 380 Monroe Tpk (Jennie's Pizza Plaza). Taught by Ann Sullo, Certified Instructor. \$20/month Qigong only; \$30/month Full Class. No experience necessary! For Info call (203) 606–9354. Note: Some of Talisman's patrons have taken Ann's class and the reports coming back have been excellent!

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**Drum Class with Andy Schoenfeld:** I first learned of this specific drumming technique from Mike Longo, who had learned it from Dizzy Gellispie. I use the drumming technique in combination with tonal sounds (throat singing) to create a hypnotic effect that produces wonderful results. You will certainly feel relaxed, but more so a connection to the pulse of life that is within you. Each person uses the technique in their own personal way, my job is to help you learn how to open the goodie box that is within you. Louis Armstrong, when asked the definition of "swing" said that it is playing the right notes in the right place. Swing, grace, stillness -- call it whatever you like -- it is a specific place that is within you. Stravinsky said that music by its definition expresses nothing but itself. Landmark education teaches you to separate your story from the events of your life. You will see that there is no difference between psychological life and the life of music. Both need to be experienced without interpretation. The drumming opens up your awareness to this experience. I hope to provide you with a fun experience. Call (203) 926-1163 for more information or to register. See Andy on YouTube for more: <http://youtu.be/IzaTT1OU5lw>

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Another wonderful video – please watch and share, especially with your children: <http://youtu.be/OPR3GlpQQJA>

Namaste, my friends –  
"The Divinity within me perceives and adores  
the Divinity within you"

Laura Lenhard