



150 Main Street Monroe CT 06468 (203) 261-0047

November 3, 2016

Merry Greetings!

Quick reminder that my Wordpress blog is still being carried with all the largest Connecticut newspapers (since 2009) please check it out (and comment!) at <http://blog.ctnews.com/lenhard/>

And if you enjoy the monthly newsletters, know that they are archived on the website under "News" at <http://www.talismanct.com> so you can read through the backlog if you want to.

I am going to segueway from last month's newsletter topic of "What makes you a witch?" to HOW do you incorporate witchcraft (magick) into your day to day. In other words: How to be a magickal person in a muggle world! Now you might be thinking, "Hmmm, easy for HER - she owns that shop!" but I assure you, loooong before Talisman was even a thought in my head I was unapologetically throwing tarot cards and checkin' palms where EVER I was! Once in a blue moon I will be out and about and someone will look crosseyed at my pentacle and ask "what's that?" with a face ... and I hold it up and say, "This? It's a star. My whole family is from Texas ... you know,

the Lone Star State?" then while they are trying to process this I burst out with a big ol' smile and say "AW, I'm just screwing with you! I'm really a Witch!" (cue my hysterical laughter because I am, of course, hilarious).

Disclaimer: This approach may not work for everyone.

Look, you know what works? Authenticity. Honesty. Integrity. Maintaining your sense of humor never hurts. The times I have failed miserably were the times I tried to be someone I was not, wore clothes that made me uncomfortable, was nice to or engaged with people I genuinely didn't like. Because I wasn't being ME, just some second-rate version of myself. And the older I get, the less I care if people like how I dress or talk or act; same as I don't particularly care what THEY are doing. I don't follow trends because I have my own style and that includes how I decorate my home, which very much openly displays my eclectic pagan leanings. But not everyone can burn candles, have their altar in open view, or display their books. Or can they? My sister-in-law Kim's altar was probably 9 feet long (former dry bar counter) located right in the family room and yet NO ONE would have known what it was unless they really, really looked with eyes that see. Incense, candles, several statues of the Archangels - great big sand dollars (pentacles) - shells, pine cones, driftwood - feathers and a bell. It was all there: What we like to call "hiding in plain sight".

Witchcraft, when practiced as a religion is a Nature Religion - so using items from the natural world is utterly appropriate. Most of us have been avid collectors since childhood and as China (who you know from behind the counter at the shop on Tuesdays and most Saturdays) says, "I've never met a minimalist Witch!" we do so love our stuff, especially found objects: Jars of butterfly wings (I am forever finding these on the ground); ditto snake skins, feathers (separated by color) and all your resins. Delicious! Acorns - oh, how I love these! I collect and keep all mine in an acorn-shaped cookie jar. I carry three with me every time I have a meeting or need to negotiate with someone. I carefully explain to the trio what help I need to accomplish, promising to plant them in the woods when my plans come to fruition. I always do.

I keep my dirt 'n dusts in jars with nice labels (ant hill, cemetery, crossroads, brick etc.)

Sand dollars, starfish (convenient natural pentacles)

Bowls of shells, pinecones - pile your stones into mini cairns.

Turn an old leaky aquarium into a tabletop fairy garden.

Can't burn candles? Work with oil. Put some on cotton balls to carry or place around the house/office. Remember there are no flames with an electric oil burner.

Can't have incense? Work with powders or dried herbs as a loose potpourri (philter).

Practice living deliberately. Aleister Crowley famously said "Every Act of Will is an Act of Magick" so start putting real thought into what you do - stop living a rote lifestyle!

Cooking - stir pots clockwise or counter clockwise (deosil/widdershins) with INTENT. Clockwise to bring energy in; counter clockwise to move it out.

Know that a good dutch oven substitutes for a cauldron.

Add a pinch of salt to your store-bought cleaning supplies

A bay leaf in your wallet to keep something "green" in there and attract more of the same.

Got Reiki? Use it to energize food, bath water, pets, plants ...

Add magickal intent to the laundry's rinse water (rose water for love, rue water for protection, basil or bay water for prosperity) infuse your clothes.

Keep a spray bottle of sea water in your fridge, and spritz yourself liberally and often - especially your hair (Are you a sea witch? You don't have to say it but act like it! Smell like it!).

Old wooden spice racks make great magickal cupboards, I love the ones with small drawers.

My dear friend Lina (from the Angel Store up the road from Talisman) always says "You can't go down the same road every day and expect to see something new" so literally CHANGE your route! Go to a different grocery store. Visit a library in another town. Shop at a farmer's market. Go to your Town Hall and get a list of the Adult Education classes being offered at your local high school or community center - and guess what? Things like tarot reading, mediumship, meditation are now being offered!

I am going to think of dozens of more things right after I send this newsletter off. But it's already two days late, so I will end now. Remember that the only magickal "tool" you really need is yourself. Your Will. Your Intent. That's all!

Oh ... but all the rest is so much fun, isn't it? I love every bit of it!

Blessed Be!

Laura

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NEW-AGE FAIRES HELD EVERY SATURDAY

Faire time 12-6pm. (203) 261-0047 for appointments

Readers (\$30/30 minutes - cash only)

Please call in advance for readers' schedules as they are subject to change. To see our Readers' background information, visit:

[Reader Bios](#)

November 5

EstaRa - Twinflame & New Paradigm Divine Relationship Readings

Gwen Lord - Whole Life Tarot (Past Life recall)

Sandy - Soul Portraits and/or Tarot

November 12

Gwen Lord - Whole Life Tarot (Past Life recall)

Pina - Angel Reader/Oracle (Mediumship)

Rachel - Tarot (Mediumship), Pet Intuitive (pets or photo)

Sherri - Tarot with Astrological Spread

Sandy - Soul Portraits and/or Tarot

November 19

Andrea - Tarot/Mediumship

Andrew - Tarot, Runes (Past Life Regression tonight see Workshops listed below)

Gwen Lord - Whole Life Tarot (Past Life recall)

Pina - Angel Reader/Oracle (Mediumship)

Sandy - Soul Portraits and/or Tarot

November 26

Angela - New Reader (see below) Intuitive Medium

Gwen Lord - Whole Life Tarot (Past Life recall)

Sandy - Soul Portraits and/or Tarot

Sherri - Tarot with Astrological Spread

New Reader: Angela has been working as a Medium since 2005 and originally began her spiritual journey with Tarot Cards in 1999. She has attended Spiritualist church workshops and in 2008 completed an Advanced Mediumship Program through the Trilogy Institute in Lilydale NY. As a Medium, she works with all 5 senses although Clairsentience has been her stronger focus in recent years. Angela welcomes the client to record the session and asks that you have a loved one in mind before the

session begins. The true work of a Medium is to prove the continuity of life, and Angela focuses on validating the spirit presence and works towards clarifying their message in such a way as to bring healing.

Laura Notes: My interview reading with Angela began with her taking notes outside while I finished up with a client of my own. My mother came through first and spoke about having more faith; come spring new terms or a contract that would make for better conditions (interesting, as there may be a very exciting announcement made at that time!) and made her feel as if I had been living in a basement (yes, I WAS living in a basement apartment) and not very happy about that. Saw that I had two sons, both tall but the taller one (Derek, my eldest) will have a wonderful wish come true that will see him living a very different but amazing life next year. Something he would never imagine in his wildest dreams at this time, but it is THAT great. A healing from China - something coming from China that would be very helpful in the near future -- Angela asked me "What's up with China?" and I laughed and said that for me China is a person, not a place - but that certainly makes sense! My grandfather came through, literally pulling a boat in the water with a rope (yes, he had done that often as he was an avid sailor/fisherman) wanted me to see he was healthy and strong again. Angela said she kept seeing a squirrel around - well, my grandfather hand-fed the squirrels in the backyard, they came to him as soon as he sat down. Used to make my grandmother crazy, she was afraid of them!

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The designation of "mediumship" is NOT a guarantee that your loved one(s) will present themselves in the reading - it means the channel is open and a particular reader is skilled at recognizing and then relaying information when/if it comes through.

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We do things a bit differently at Talisman. You pay our readers AFTER the reading is finished, and if you are not happy you don't pay. NO READER can read EVERYONE successfully and everyone who works at Talisman is aware of this fact. Know that it is acceptable after the first 5 minutes of a reading to say something like, "I'm sorry, what you are saying just isn't

resonating with me. I would like to stop the reading now, but thank you for your time". If you do not hear something amazing in the first five minutes, or if it just isn't right ... don't expect a reading to get better as it goes on. Readings go off track for a number of reasons - but the point is, you shouldn't pay if you are not happy. Please, just be courteous and respectful. Complaints are rare because every reader has had to pass the "ultimate interview" ... they must sit and read ME (and I've been reading over 35 years myself) and tell me something about my past/personal life, my children, home, or business that they could not possibly have heard or learned someplace else. But every reader has their unique gift and their own style, it is NOT one size fits all. Personally, I don't think anyone should get a reading more than once every 6-8 weeks and prefer you allow at least 3 months between readings ... you don't want to become a psychoholic, right? I WILL discourage you from this behavior! My goal is to see people leave an "intuitive counseling session" (because that is really what we do) feeling validated, uplifted and hopeful regardless of the situation or challenges they may be facing. That is the true measure of a "good" reading!

Available by Appointment:

Laura: I do special, in-depth readings by appointment. My 60+ minute private sessions includes a chakra check up, a print out and review of your astrological natal chart, tarot and palm reading and more! (\$60). Call the shop for an appointment, as I schedule these when the shop is closed or after-hours. Private half hour tarot readings (\$30) also by appointment. Phone sessions are \$20 for a half hour - for those who do not live nearby. Yes, I do \$5 tarot/palm readings on Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Sunday these are done in-between phone calls and waiting on patrons - you can't make an appointment, and I do get interrupted. Sometimes there is no one waiting, other times a dozen people are standing in line. They are five dollars because the shop is open and I am working! These mini-readings last about 10 minutes or so, and great if you have a quick question or have never experienced a reading before.

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Workshops at Talisman
RSVP (203) 261-0047

Methods of Divination taught by Laura Lenhard (\$25). Monday, Nov. 21st from 6-8pm. Limit 12 Attendees. Hey, Tarot isn't for everyone ... so let's explore! Runes, pendulum, tea leaves, palms ... cost of class includes your own set of runes, a pendulum, packet of handouts - all I ask you to bring is a magnifying glass please. We'll sip our tea then read our cups as well!

Past Life Regression with Andrew Neblett, Ph.D. (\$25) Saturday, Nov. 19 6:30-9pm. Dress warm and comfortably, bring any type of seating that will make you comfortable (lounge chair, bean bag, etc) or by all means, plan to sit in one of ours! You will be introduced to various ways of attaining 'State' and regression methods. Learn why energy is so important and how past lives affect our current energy. We will do a past life regression and open up the floor to share our experiences (only on a voluntary basis only. No pressure here!) Just come, get relaxed and enjoy! Limit 30 attendees. Andrew Neblett is a certified hypnotist CT registered hypnotist, HYP 0000114), Natural Health Consultant, Energy Kinesiologist, TBM practitioner (Total Body Modification), Hypnosynergetics instructor, Intuitive Counselor, Herbalist, and a Process Coach. He also practices aromatherapy, reflexology, homeopathy, radiesthesia, E.F.T. and iridology. Learn more at <http://www.integrativenaturalwellness.com/about-us/>

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Community Events

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 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: CWPN.Org.

The CWPB hosts monthly networking meetings throughout the state, open Sabbath circles, coven and study group referral service, classes/work-shops, various social events and lectures with well-known members of the Pagan community.

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Claysonnets Unique Clay Keepsakes: Holiday Gift Pop-up Market
12/15 (4-9pm) and 12/16 (1-9pm) at the NIA Startweather House. 1773
Huntington Tpk, Trumbull. Readers Available. For more info: Contact Dana
- Dana2@snet.net

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Awaken The Power Therapy: Introduces Women's Wellness & Empowerment Group. This group is a 8-10 session group that meets on Saturdays. The Group focuses on life issues: juggling work & family, substance abuse issues, early recovery from substance abuse & depression, parenting issues, parenting a "difficult" child or a child with a mental health diagnosis, relationship issues, low self-esteem, social isolation, reduction of sexual libido with depression and/or childbirth, assertive communication with a spouse & in the workplace. This group allows for a supportive & safe space to process, ventilate feelings & gain useful advice and support using art therapy, GODDESS Training, expressive therapy, spirituality principles, cognitive behavioral therapy techniques, dialectical behavioral therapy approaches, guided meditation and open discussions with other women. Each Group is \$25 per session. For clients with Medicare or Medicaid sessions will be free! CALL FOR DETAILS! Monique West, LCSW. Email: Mwest@awakenthepower.org 58 River Street, Milford, CT 06460 203-693-1050

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Hunter Healing Hands: Located in Black Rock, Jessica and Jim Hunter's events include Reiki Share; monthly drum circle; classes and so much more! For details, cost, etc. please see Hunter Healing Hands Contact 203-916-8381 to register for an event!

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Astrology Corner

By Alethea Hunt, Astrologer

There's some great energy in the air regarding love, money, and friendships as Venus escapes the iron grasp of restrictive, oppressive Saturn and glides toward harmonious alignment with social, liberating, possibly rule-breaking Uranus on the 5th. Venus also has the blessed support of Jupiter, the other benefic, so this is a good time to recognize situations and people that may have actually been holding you down/back as you turn more of an eye toward cultivating connections based on mutual growth and evolution. Circulate for sure, and don't be afraid to tap your social networks for fiscal or romantic opportunities – things like online dating or even meetup groups may prove to be a blessing! Our social spheres become VERY active indeed once Mars enters Aquarius on the 9th, thus igniting an almost 2 month-long mutual reception w/ Uranus in Aries!

During November's second week things are in a state of energetic flux with 3 planets (Mars, Venus, & Mercury) all switching signs between the 9th - 12th. Try to hold off on any major decisions or actions during these days as each planet goes void – ideally, wait it out until each planet gets situated in its new sign just to see if any changes surface that may impact the situation. The next item on the docket is a Taurus Full Mooon (sorry, couldn't resist, LOL!) on the 14th. This lunation is great for spellwork – especially regarding money matters – with the Scorpio Sun and witchy Black Moon Lilith opposite this Moon. This energy does seem to favor the solitary witch over involvement in a coven, as there are stress hits to both the Sun & the Moon from a group-oriented Pallas Athene in Aquarius. Pallas in Aquarius is very much a social tactician, but if the hive mind isn't resonating with you or you feel your independence is being absorbed into The Collective (à la The Borg), take space if you need it – just be mindful of the social politics involved so as not to find yourself ostracized from the group entirely. This aside, there is also a shamanic component to this Moon courtesy of its contact with Medicine Man Chiron, so a drum circle might be a better option! Even if you are flying solo, this could be a good time to explore drumming for the purposes of "journeying". And if you ARE doing any spellwork with this lunation, most definitely do not forget to include an

Offering to the appropriate deity(ies) or to any plant/stone spirit you may be working with. Know that overall this energy favors working with the magic of the Earth in general, and is useful for emotional healing as well...hmmm, with Chiron in Pisces involved, perhaps some Apache Tears may be therapeutic, then?

The dominant astrological feature this month is the square between Jupiter in Libra and Pluto in Capricorn, exact on Thanksgiving but active all month. Primarily what we have here is a clash between the forces of expansion (Jupiter) and destruction (Pluto) – something in our life is growing even as something else may be falling apart. Since this comes off the heels of a mutual reception between Venus & Jupiter and Venus is also involved in this square, there is a good chance this growth relates to a partnership or union in our lives. The collapse may be regarding our relationship with our parents, or could pertain to a career-related or even financial implosion of some kind. So if there's some kind of big love in your life around this time, it might not be – for example – a good time to introduce your partner to Mom and Dad at Thanksgiving...especially if there could be some lingering resentment regarding an ex/divorce, as they might negatively prejudge him/her as not measuring up to whoever came before. Perhaps we've even partnered with someone from another race, religion, or culture, and this triggers ugly, biased, old-school disapproval to rear its head. I also wouldn't pick this month to go jetting off with Sweetie on work's dime if you have to travel for business, as it could damage the relationship with your employer. Another way this could play out is corporate downsizing/layoffs affecting the availability of funds to travel and see your partner's family for the holidays. These are just examples, but be aware of this general tension between the expansive, open vibe of Jupiter and the darker, potent, potentially power struggle-laden undercurrents of Pluto. On a psychological level, it's important to understand the energy of this square can also relate to relationship growth that is undermined by fear or defensiveness – if so, get a handle on this ASAP or you may risk losing a good thing!

The last item is a New Moon in Sagittarius on the 29th. It's a good lunation for spiritual growth with its contact to Neptune, but we do also have to be careful not to get carried away or even delusional in doing so, as Neptune can be where we metaphorically “drink the Kool-aid”. Are our paradigms truly fostering our growth and understanding, or are they really doing more

harm than good where we've actually pulled the wool over our own eyes and become blind to this? We should absolutely subject ourselves to this kind of scrutiny with Neptune also on the potentially fate-derailing South Node, and it definitely is not a time for the use of "substances" to "expand our spirituality, maaaaan", either! Given this Moon's close proximity to Juno, it's highly possible as well to sacrifice the personal belief system to a significant other now. Resist the urge to lose yourself and get swept up in a religious, political, or philosophical point of view – especially one that comes via someone you look to as a "guru". There's helpful contact between this lunation and Vesta in Leo, denoting the sacredness of our OWN beliefs and how important it is to stay dedicated to our OWN Truth(s). As an aside, Vesta's involvement also suggests this would be a great time for some kind of (spiritual) fire ceremony, so stoke that hearth (fireplace? bonfire?); heeding all appropriate cautions and with a bucket of water nearby, of course! ;-) And DO look to add meditation to your spiritual practice, as it's likely to help you tap the "still, small voice" now....perhaps even a fire meditation, then?

*** A note to readers: If you would like to receive my FREE monthly newsletter via email which is packed full of information & astrological insights, click [HERE](#) or email Alethea@EmpoweredDestiny.com and I'll be happy to add your name to my list of recipients! You can also follow my nifty astro-blog or find me on Twitter (@EmpwrDstny).

Namaste, my friends -

***"The Divinity within me perceives and adores
the Divinity within you"***

**** Laura ****