



Talisman

Talisman ... A Unique New-Age Shop

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www.talismanct.com

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

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January 2, 2011

Happy New Year!

Let me begin with a heartfelt "Thank You" to all of you, the friends and patrons of Talisman, for your support in 2010. We finished up the year with strong holiday sales, but even more important to me were the kind and wonderful sentiments expressed. I probably received the nicest compliment of my life from a patron during this year's holiday shopping season. After apologizing for not having stopped in for almost a year, she went on to say, "Laura, I have to tell you something. Everywhere I go here in town - the supermarket, the library, the pharmacy - you name it, I run into people who are talking about you. And absolutely everyone is saying the same things, about how nice you are, how much they love your shop, how happy they are that you have stayed open all this time." I was almost moved to tears.

This month I'm focusing on the topic of psychic readings, otherwise known as intuitive counseling sessions, since so many people enjoy kicking off the new year with a reading! For anyone interested, I am listing the background information about our Talisman readers (below) for this purpose.

Those of you who have sat with me, personally, have heard my little introductory rant - but here it goes for the rest of you: A reading rarely tells you anything you don't already know yourself. The thrill is in the connection, the realization that you, and your problems, are known and important to the Divine. Often, for those of us who believe in God/Goddess, Higher Power (or whatever) there are times when everything is going wrong or we are in a terrible mess - and we sit and pray and ask "Hey! Are you listening to me up there? I am suffering down here - do you even care?" And I believe the answer can in fact come from a good reading - a "good" reading being one that gives clear, definitive statements as to how you are feeling and exactly what you are going through. This is called Validation. I also believe this is a way that the Divine responds to us, sort of like "Yes, I do know what you are going through and I have been paying attention the whole time".

The kicker, now and forever more - is Free Will. The fact is, no reader can tell you what to do (or rather, they shouldn't) because YOU are in charge of you. No one else. So while a reading may point out a choice to be made, or issue a gentle warning, what you do in the end is really up to you.

Most of my readers have full-time jobs (besides reading) many are skilled in Reiki, Reflexology, or another form of the healing arts. The only way to "interview" a reader is to get a reading, which means (besides the fact that I get way too many readings!) they have

all been able to tell me something about myself they could not have known any other way. I can thus vouch for their respective intuitive talents. I do not encourage, or really allow, patrons to get reading after reading after reading (affectionately known as "psychoholic" behavior!) and in fact am pretty strict with a universal dictate that no one should get more than one reading every 6-8 weeks, tops.

Now - what do we do when a reading ISN'T good, when no connection is made? If you honestly feel, 3-5 minutes into a reading, that nothing is resonating and there is no connection - please, it is absolutely okay to say "This isn't feeling right to me. I'd like to stop now". I know this is hard, because you can't help but wonder if maybe further along there will be information you need to hear. But the fact is, psychics have their off days too ... besides feeling ill or being tired, I don't know, maybe our guides go on vacation or problems and concerns at home were weighing more heavily than expected and thus blocking images otherwise meant to go through - but regardless, it is fine to stop a reading or request a refund if you voice a concern but the reader presses on anyway. At Talisman, we take payment after the reading is done, to facilitate this point. All the readers here are well aware of my feelings on the subject, and we all are in agreement. The need for validation works in both directions, readers appreciate hearing it too, as constructive criticism is valuable as it helps everyone in the end.

I'm going off-topic here, but I want to remind everyone that I am still working on my book and I am asking anyone who is willing to share their favorite or much-used spell, formula or recipe for inclusion in the book. You can reply to this newsletter or send it to me at www.lenhard@comcast.net. For each submission, note how you want to be named/credited - or, if this was something passed down through a family member, how you want that person named. Please know I am not asking for proprietary family secrets! But if you would like to share and be named in the book, I would deeply appreciate your contribution.

NEW AGE FEST

(203) 261-0047 for appointments

Talisman's next New-Age Fest will take place on Saturday, January 8th from 12:00-6:00pm. Readings are \$25/20 minutes and spirit guide drawings/aura photography is \$40 - cash only, please. Andrew Neblett and Mark Hoyt will be reading tarot, Starr will doing Angel readings, Spirit Guide artist Jessie Shippy and Jamie Jennewein,

Shaman, will also be there. As always, Tammie will have her chair set-up for massage (\$1/minute). Also Tim Bshara of A Healing Hand will offer aura-chakra photography sessions \$40 (includes a 22 page report) or healing sessions, \$20/20 minutes.

Chair Massage by Tammie, licensed Massage Therapist, from 12:00 to 6:00 \$1/minute. While you are sitting in the specially designed massage chair, Tammie can work on legs, arms, back, shoulders, neck - five or ten minutes spent in Tammie's chair will leave you relaxed for the rest of the day ... everyone who tries it comes back again and again!

Talisman: List of Readers

(203) 261-0047 to schedule appointment

Andrew Neblett: Now a regular at Talisman's monthly "New-Age Fest" I have known Andrew for several years. We've done a few paranormal investigations together, he and I, usually walking into whatever place others are running out of (we ain't scared of no ghost!). Andrew started out at Talisman as an instructor of some wildly popular classes, then began reading during our monthly Faires. Andrew has been professionally reading tarot and runes for over 11 years and uses the pendulum, muscle testing and spirits as necessary during his readings.

Since birth, Andrew has lived a natural/metaphysical lifestyle due to his mother raising him with natural cures and living in several haunted houses. Yes, he has been thrown across the room by unseen forces more than once! These influences have taught him to trust his "gut" instincts and to conquer fear. He is a practicing demonologist/exorcist for over 27 years and an ordained minister and uses these gifts in C.O.R.P.S.E. (CT Offices of Respectful Paranormal/Spiritual Examinations www.corpse-usa.org). He is a natural health consultant, certified and CT Registered Hypnotist (HYP.0000114), herbalist, creator of Octoenergetics, author (Octoenergetics, Foundation Book 1, 2009 and Book 2 and 3 currently being written along with two other books), certified Neuro-linguistic Programming Instructor, Hypnosis Instructor, and teaches Continuing Education Classes in Southbury, CT, and certification classes in Hypnosis, NLP, Octoenergetics and Psysomatic Kinesiology nationally. He also practices meridian therapy (think needleless acupuncture) aromatherapy, reflexology, radiesthesia, E.F.T., hair analysis and iridology. He uses the combination of hypnosis and other alternative health modalities in his practice, Neblett Hypnosis & Wellness Group, L.L.C., with locations in New England and New York. For more information on health services, please visit www.nebletonline.com.

Andrew reads at the monthly Faire, \$25 for 20 minutes. Private sessions are by appointment (\$35 1/2 hour - \$65 1 hour for readings; \$100 for Health Consultations) call 203-910-0708 for more information.

Barbara DeLong: Barbara has been working professionally in the field since the early 70's along with being a full time special education teacher and a single parent. Her readings come from a very spiritual background and are focused on giving the individual understanding of the pathway they are on and positive insight on how to enable the creative energies within to expand on the human experience. The readings give a 12 month glimpse and go from the mundane to the magical. In the 80's she began painting personal Mandala's for friends. Since that time her paintings and the life readings that go with them are now worldwide with over four hundred of them in countless private collections. These individual paintings evolved into the second circular deck published called The Cosmic Deck of Initiation. The deck was published in 1991 and since then thousands have been purchased. Barbara toured the country with the deck for over five years demonstrating them at conventions and book stores nationwide (and soon available at Talisman as well). Barbara is an ordained Minister and for the past five years (2003-08) conducted services at a local Spiritualist church as a rotating minister - which inspired her platform mediumship. Her website www.barbaradelong.com is a teaching site; along with spiritual material there are predictions for the energies of every day in the year. Check out Barbara's Blog Talk Radio Site: www.blogtalkradio.com/night-light.

Barbara reads on Fridays by appointment, \$40 for 30 minutes; \$75 for 60 minutes.

Christine Honeck: Christine is the founder of Intuitive Instincts and is a certified life coach, color consultant and reiki practitioner for animals. A natural intuitive and clairvoyant, she has also studied Aura-Soma Colour with Debra Hastings of Points of Light Resources and is a graduate of Automatic Intuition by Slade Roberson of shiftyourspirits.com. She is very connected to nature and helps others connect to what is natural and true for them outside the confines of societal conditioning. She offers her clients a safe space in which to find and hear their true voice. Her readings are unique in that they incorporate different modalities within one reading that is then brought together with the cards. Christine reads using The Heart of Fairy Oracle Cards. Prior to the reading, at her home, Christine prepares to meet each individual by meditating/journeying and using automatic writing techniques. When you call for an appointment, please provide your birthdate/time/place so she can include aspects of your astrological chart into the reading. The cards, astrological aspects and automatic writing add up to a reading that is both interesting and insightful.

Christine is available most Saturdays by appointment, \$30/30 minutes.

Elpida: Elpida, who is of Greek heritage, is a well-known and respected reader in the area and we are so happy to have her at Talisman. Having inherited her gift from her mother, Elpida has been a coffee ground reader since the tender age of 16 (and as far as I know, there are only two in Connecticut, the other being a woman of Russian descent). She has helped guide many people to find their way in turbulent times and made countless predictions of happy events. She believes a reading is an enlightening experience, not only providing predictions of the possible future but also identifying issues that haunt us from the past. Many times a reading is an objective mirror that shows where we deviated from our true path - and a guide to show how we can get back on track. Elpida can help you find your way and give you her visions of hope.

Coffee Ground readings are a practice called Tasseography, as are Tea Leaf Readings. The coffee is Greek or Turkish and the grounds are added to water and brewed. The grounds settle to the bottom of the cup and form thick sediment like mud. A reading consists of taking at least 2 sips of the coffee then the reader removes the excess liquid. The sediment is then turned to coat the inside of the cup. Once the sediment dries, the reader 'reads' the cup. It is very similar to seeing shapes in the clouds or ink blots.

Elpida will also be doing mini Feng Shui sessions at Talisman. Bring a copy of your home's floor plan and Elpida will make recommendations how to adjust your environment to make it more supportive in order to manifest your Heart's Desire. Feng Shui, the Ancient Chinese Art of Placement, is still a very powerful and empowering way to align your environment with your Heart's Desires. Come and experience a mini Feng Shui session at Talisman, and Elpida is available for a full at home Feng Shui session when you are ready for the next step.

Elpida considers herself an intuitive counselor and uses many different mediums such as Tarot Cards, Oracles, the Coffee Grounds and Mediumship to empower her clients to envision hope for the future and to manifest their Heart's Desires. She is also a Certified Professional Coach and a Certified Feng Shui Practitioner. She lives in Danbury with her adoring husband and adorable daughter. She can be reached at (203) 994-4155 and through her website: www.EnvisionHope.com.

Elpida reads the second Saturday of each month. A coffee reading or feng shui session is \$30 for 20 minutes.

Gwendolyn Lord: I guess you could say it's in my blood – I grew up with my Mother

reading playing cards and palms, so Tarot seems to be second nature to me. I have Romany friends who showed me how they read for Rom, as opposed to Gadje (that's us non-gypsy folk) although they did not do readings for each other too often. My friend's Mother used to say I was a natural, and teased me about having bypsy origins, though I was a strawberry blond in my teens.

I have been reading Tarot for many years well as at the University of New Haven. I attended an amazing workshop at the first Craftwise in CT, where a professor of psychology at, for friends and family, and have read professionally for Perkin-Elmer Executive headquarters, formerly in Wilton, CT as Columbia University led us all in a series of exercises to think outside of the basic Tarot images, and see divination in the symbols that permeate our culture as well as other cultures. This helped me to expand on my own vision of Tarot, and really go beyond the basics. It was also at this first Craftwise that I saw my favorite Tarot deck, the Healing Tarot by Elizabeth Bluewitch. This is an art deck, dedicated to healing, in which Elizabeth, in a labor of love and creativity, had her friends pose for the Major Arcana, and all of the images are staged with great artistry. I have had extremely accurate and powerful readings for others, since I have been using this specific deck (though it took me over ten years to finally purchase one). The deck is limited to a production of one thousand, and is hard to obtain now. I feel that Tarot is a window, which we open to let in the collective wisdom and guidance of the world of spirit - Prophecy - and the questions we ask of Tarot are always answered, even if they don't seem apparent at first.

Gwen's tarot readings may contain some past-life recall. She reads the third Saturday of the month, at a cost of \$25 for 20 minutes.

Jamie Jennewein of Starlight Healing: Jamie conducts Animal Spirit Readings (aka Power/Totem Animal Retrieval) which is a Shamanic technique designed to reconnect you with your personal animal spirit. And while this isn't a "reading" per se, very often the animal comes through with a message about whatever life issue is being experienced at that time. My own session with Jamie was quite powerful and gave me much to think about. Quite an experience.

Many traditions acknowledge that a person is born with a specific power/totem animal that becomes their healer, guide and protector. Over time, if this animal is not recognized the power and protection can be lost. A power animal retrieval is a method in which a practitioner finds your animal spirit through a shamanic journey and restores the connection and bond between you and your spirit animal. As you develop this relationship with your totem, you are aligning yourself with powerful archetypal energies and

reconnecting your spiritual ties with Mother Earth. But while we have our soul animal, we also have other totem animals that work with us for specific situations. If you are going through a difficult time, Jamie can pull information which can prove quite helpful as you tap into that particular animal's energy and gifts. Just ask!

Jamie is a Shamanic Practitioner, offering power animal retrievals, soul retrieval, extractions, healing journeys, cleansing ceremonies, sacred space creation and Munay-ki rites. Her practice has strong Native American and Celtic influences, although she also studies and incorporates the traditions of many other cultures. She is a Reiki Master of the Usui Shiki Ryoho tradition. Jamie has a B.A. in Psychology from St. Bonaventure University. Jamie has taught several workshops for the New England Society of Shamanic Practitioners to encourage strong relationships and understanding of animal spirit guides and how to incorporate that relationship to enrich their everyday lives. Jamie has a deep connection with animals, both in the physical and spiritual realm. She is a licensed wildlife rehabilitator and worked at Earthplace, the Nature Discovery Center as a wildlife technician for 10 years. Her soul purpose is creating awareness of our deep ancient connection with Gaia, our Mother Earth, by awakening compassion in our hearts for all beings. She assists us along this journey by strengthening our connection with animal and nature spirits and shares the knowledge of the ancient shamanic traditions to allow us to recognize the rhythms of the heartbeat of all beings.

Jamie reads at the monthly Faire and Tuesdays by appointment from 5-7pm. \$25/20 minutes.

Jessie Shippy: Jessie, a third generation Clairvoyant-Intuitive, creates highly personalized Spirit Guide Drawings. She is noted for her visionary ability to access the Akashic Records, bringing forth the highest truths and spiritual principals, presenting them in a concise, straightforward, applicable manner. You'll discover how your soul is calling you and you can best reply, in order to enjoy a rewarding future. Along with a colored drawing of your Spirit Guide, the following are some messages that may come through from Spirit: Your spiritual gifts interpreted through color, confirmation and communication, the year the Guide came to you, the guide's name and origin.

Jessie Shippy is a Reiki Master, ordained minister, hospice trained, graduate of the Institute of Children's Literature, and a regular guest on Sarasota TV. Jessie worked and trained for five years under Sandy Anastasi at Starchild Books, located in Florida. Sandy gave John Edward his first Psychic Development Training.

Jessie is a regular guest at the monthly Faire. A 30 minute reading/drawing is \$40. For

more information visit: <http://www.spiritguidelady.net>

Mark Hoyt: Mark incorporates channeling/mediumship as part of his tarot readings. He came to Talisman through a referral by my good friend Jessie Shippy, who only sends me the most exceptional people! Mark is an RN with an extensive background in Energy Work, Reflexology and Massage (trained at the Palmer Institute in Salem, MA) all of which will eventually lead to his being a very familiar face at Talisman as we move ever-closer to our goal of becoming a full-service Healing Center.

Mark reads on Fridays, 2pm-8pm, \$25 for 20 minutes. Reflexology sessions can be scheduled by appointment at a cost of \$100/hour, and these can take place at your home or Talisman, whichever is most convenient and relaxing for you.

Pina "The Lady of the Light": Blessed as a child with many gifts, Pina is an Oracle Psychic Medium who does Angelic Readings. She follows her spiritual path through this life using her gifts to help others. Pina is a Psychic Consultant with the Connecticut Paranormal Research Society and travels between New York and Connecticut where she has an established clientele. Pina has worked at Magical Realms and Mystical Energy in New York, Purple Moon and Trinity Productions in Connecticut - and currently reads at Talisman and PHD in Connecticut. Pina also joins forces with Barbara DeLong to conduct a Mediumship Platform (John Edwards style) and has facilitated programs with The Smoking Gun Research Agency of Connecticut. Pina works with the Angelic Realm to advise. To help with the fruition of manifestations she blends oils, enchants candles, makes her own spiritual baths and unique incense - all of which are available for purchase when she is at the shop.

Pina reads at Talisman's monthly Faire (the first Saturday of each month) at a cost of \$25 for 20 minutes.

Rachel of Ravenswhisper: An animal communicator, she doesn't need the animal present (although they are certainly welcome) because while it's nice to meet the animal, the physicality can be distracting during a reading. Rachel uses simple information from the person to communicate with the animal's higher intelligence. Usually the name, age and breed is all that is needed, although some questions are asked as a way to direct the session. After a simple meditation, Rachel basically has a chat with the animal/pet, and gets all sorts of interesting details that comes in the way that particular animal communicates - through words, pictures or feelings. She can talk to pets living or deceased, domestic or wild, asking anything the animal would know ... it's from their perspective.

Rachel is available at the monthly faire, \$25 for 20 minutes.

Signora Lina: Lina was raised by her beloved grandmother in Roma, Italy. Lina was sent to stay with her grandmother at a very young age, as she had been blinded by a roadside bombing during World War II, and served as her grandmother's "eyes". And Lina did, in fact, watch as people came from far away to visit her grandmother for a healing or psychic counseling - during the lean times following the War, food would be exchanged as payment for her "gift." This gift of second sight was passed to Lina upon her grandmother's death - a gift she continues to use to help others to this day. In 2010, Lina wrote a book about her experiences entitled "Through My Eyes She Saw" which has enjoyed brisk sales at The Angel Store, Talisman, and online through the publisher.

Lina uses a unique combination of mediumship, angel cards and palm reading in a reading that can extend as far as two years into the future. A session with Lina lasts a minimum of 45 minutes and costs \$50. Available Sundays and during the week by appointment (203) 261-0047.

Starr: Advised and guided by the angels that surround each of us, Starr was sent to Talisman following a reading she received from Lina at the Angel Store. Lina told her "You need to be doing this yourself – go to Talisman and speak to Laura" and honestly, with that kind of referral how could I have said no? Thank goodness I didn't, as Starr has been a member of the Talisman family for almost three years, and during that time she has built up quite a reputation and following. Advised and guided by the angels that surround each of us, she also has the gift of "Telemetry" or the ability to read an object through touch. If you would like to connect with a deceased loved one through an object (article of clothing/jewelry, a letter, picture, toy, etc.) please bring these along to your session.

In addition to raising five children of her own, Starr has also had a part in rearing another 30-plus foundlings (usually adolescent) who came to her either homeless, addicted, or both. As tough as she is loving, her own life experiences lend themselves to a sometimes blunt but honest reading that has brought many to tears.

Starr reads on Thursdays, 2pm - 7pm, or by appointment (203) 261-0047. \$30 for 30 minutes.

Tim Bshara: Tim is the owner of A Healing Hand and has been practicing the healing arts for over 11 years. He incorporates Reiki, sound healing, and crystal healing for truly

effective, personalized client sessions. A Healing Hand offers a wide variety of crystals from small tumbled stones to 12 inch spheres, as well as customized crystal grids for your room, house, office or meditation space. A Healing Hand also offers Aura Photography services, allowing the client to see the energy field all around them as well as the 7 chakras (major energy centers). Learn more at <http://www.ahealinghand.net> regarding the services and products provided.

Tim is a regular at Talisman's monthly faire. Aura Readings are \$40 and Crystal/Sound Healing Sessions are \$20 for 20 minutes. Alternatively, you can arrange private healing sessions with Tim at his healing room, or he can travel to you!

Talisman's Regularly-Scheduled Readers

(203) 261-0047 for appointments

(Cash payment requested)

Jamie Jennewein: Tuesdays 5-7pm: Animal Spirit Readings - \$25/20 minutes. By appointment.

Starr: Thursdays - Angel Readings 3:00-7:00 pm (or by appointment) \$30 or ask question \$1/min.

Barbara DeLong: Fridays by appointment (call 261-0047) \$40/30 min; \$75/60 min.

Mark Hoyt: Tarot - Fridays 2-7:30pm. \$25/20 minutes.

Lina: Sunday mornings - Intuitive Counseling by appointment (261-0047) \$50/45 minutes.

January 8: Talisman's Monthly New-Age Fest. 12pm-6pm. This month featuring Andrew, Mark, Starr, Jamie Jennewein, Jessie Shippy and Tim Bshara.

January 15: 1:00-6:00pm; Gwen, Whole-Life Tarot \$25/20 minutes

January 22: Elpida, Greek Coffee Ground Readings 1:00-6:00pm, \$30/20 minutes; and Tammie Barletta, Chair Massage, \$1/minute 12:00-5:00.

January 29: 1:00-6:00pm; Gwen, Whole-Life Tarot \$25/20 minutes

HOURS

Tuesday-Thursday: 11:00am-3:00pm and 5:00pm - 7:00pm

Friday: 11:00am-3:00am and 5:00pm - 8:00pm

Saturday: 11:00am - 8:00pm

----- If coming from a distance, please always call ahead of time -----

Available by Appointment ...

Laura: Almost everyone knows that I'm happy to throw cards/read palms for five dollars. As a courtesy I don't do this when there are scheduled readers working that day, many of whom drive a distance to get to the shop and it's not fair to them. People ask - Why only five dollars? Because you have to catch me between customers/phone calls and even then I am apt to be interrupted by the business of running the shop - so \$5 seems fair to me! However, I have been getting requests for private readings for some time now ... and so, if you would like a private appointment on Sunday/Monday (when Talisman is closed) I will come to Talisman and sit with you, in an uninterrupted reading, for \$25. Also, most of Talisman's readers - and myself - are available to read at home parties or events for three or more people. Call me (261-0047 or 402-9186) to schedule.

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 is taking her own special brand of healing massage/Reiki/journeywork on the road, so to speak "Have table/will travel!" and is 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. She also does Reiki, manicure & pedicures on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday at Sona Bella Salon & Day Spa, located at 189 Coram Ave., Shelton (203) 922-1425. <http://www.sonabellasalonandspa.com>.

Reflexology with Mark Hoyt: Call Talisman for details, but people are raving about his talents in this healing arena. Mark has an extensive background in Energy Work, Reflexology and Massage (trained at the Palmer Institute in Salem, MA). Hour-long sessions (\$100) can take place at your home or Talisman, whichever is most convenient and relaxing for you.

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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**The Undercroft at Talisman**

**January Open House**

**Second Friday each month - December 7**

**5 p.m. to 8 p.m.**

There is no cost for attending the Open House events. Come when you can and stay for as long as you like! These are family-oriented events. Adults and children of all ages are welcome to attend. These are great events at which to socialize and meet others of like mind. If you have heard of the Circle, but want to find out more before attending a formal event, these Open Houses are the place to do so! Contact Mandy at 203-922-2643 or visit <http://www.thecircleofthesacredwell.org> for more information.

**Full Moon**

**January 16 - 7:30 pm**

**Unitarian Universalist Church, Stratford**

**Study Group**

**January 18 - 7:30 pm**

**Undercroft at Talisman**

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**New at Talisman**

Holey Stones! I've been searching for a reliable supplier of these for a long time now, and finally have someone who lives close to the shore in England willing to ship these to me. I've already strung them on black silk cord and they are just lovely and feel wonderful in your hand. I am selling these for \$8.99 each, and they come with a description card as well. You might remember these from the movie "The Spiderwick Chronicles". If you

have never heard of holey stones, here you are:

**Holey/Hag/Odin/FairyStone (Witches Amulet)**

**Hand picked from the shoreline of the North Norfolk Coast of England**

Holey stones are known by a variety of names; Holed stone, Odin Stone, Crick Stone, Hag Stone, Fairy Stone and Witches Amulet. A holed stone, or holey stone, is any rock with a weathered/eroded hole in it which has been created by nature alone. The sculpting powers of wind and water create the opening in a stone over a great amount of time and it is believed to carry the wisdom of the ages, having both healing and magical properties. These hard to find stones are considered powerful protection stones that can be worn for personal protection, hung at doorways or windows to protect the home, or even hung near a pet's sleeping place to protect the pet. Hung by a black ribbon at whichever door is most regularly used in the home it will snag negative vibrations as soon as they enter. To prevent nightmares, place in the sleeping area of the one who wishes to be free of nightmares. When strung with a red string or ribbon and hung over the bed it acts as a shield against bad dreams much like the Native American dream catcher.

A holey stone may also be used for Full Moon magic by gazing at the moon through the hole and speaking a need to the Gods. It is also said to give one the power of second sight and with a little practice, the ability to see the flitting forms of the faerie folk and Nature spirits. Crystal healing lore holds that Holey Stones are helpful for healing disease and maintaining general health, particularly when the stone is rubbed on the body of someone sick. They are also said to improve eyesight.

Proper care of holey stones consists of cleansing them in the same manner as most other gemstones, usually by soaking in salt water and recharging by placing in sun or moonlight.

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**EVENTS**

Talisman is being featured in ***The Wiccan Rede*** in January - a publication by The Connecticut Wiccan/Pagan Network (CWPN). I have been a member for almost ten years, and was thrilled when Gina, President of the CWPN, came to do the interview and take pictures of the shop last week. But I was even happier when presented with the opportunity to collaborate on lectures and events. To start off, **please hold the date of June 19th (Father's Day) for a Midsummer Celebration co-sponsored by the CWPN and Talisman!**

CWPN 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.

Current membership rates are:

\$30 per year per individual

\$40 per year per family (same residence, one newsletter)

\$50 per year per coven up to 13 persons (same address, one newsletter)

Membership in the CWPN includes: Subscription to the Wiccan Read; Notice of and invitation to any private CWPN events; 10% discount at various locations; The CWPN coven referral service; A laminated membership card; One free ad in the Wiccan Read; Admission to and voting privileges at CWPN meetings. Many businesses that support the CWPN give a 10% discount to our active members. Membership card must be presented at the time of purchase to receive the discount. Please see <http://www.cwpn.org> for membership application.

Lucy Walker Reports: During the winter I help run a Bald Eagle Observation Site at the Shepaug Dam Hydroelectric plant in Southbury on the Housatonic River. The site is now open on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays until March 16<sup>th</sup>. The best chance of seeing one is earlier in the season than later. The site is open to the public and free but reservations are required, in order to limit the number of visitors. Call (800) 368-8954. Reservations are taken Tuesdays – Fridays. For more information see [www.shepaueagles.info](http://www.shepaueagles.info) or

[http://www.firstlightpower.com/eagles/viewing\\_shepaug.asp](http://www.firstlightpower.com/eagles/viewing_shepaug.asp).

I will be there all season every day, so I would love to see you!

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#### **Astrology Corner by Alethea**

The New Year certainly seems to be off to a noteworthy start as we will have a New Moon Solar Eclipse in the sign of Capricorn on January 4th. On that same day, Jupiter and Uranus will be conjunct in Pisces for one last dance together before the pair make their way into Aries in earnest. The Sun and Moon are catching quite a bit of tension during this eclipse - they will be sandwiched between Pluto and Mars which certainly isn't an easy place to be to begin with, let alone the fact that they'll also be in a tiff with Saturn on

this date. Let's break it down and take a look at what all of this may mean on a collective level.

The Sun and Moon conjunct in Capricorn puts a focus on necessity, our goals, and the foundations we're building our lives upon. With Capricorn, we're talking about what we hope to achieve and with the New Year just beginning, this is a good time to pause and take stock of the direction we want our lives to go in. Here is a moment where we may find ourselves at a crossroads, when we're taking stock of our lives and where we want to go. With Saturn in Libra we may have the needs of our partner to think about which may come into conflict with our own desires. It is important to consider if we're still moving together in the same direction toward the same end or if our goals have shifted. Is this relationship becoming a burden that is holding us back? Is our partner doing their fair share of the lifting?

The emphasis is on keeping it real and doing what you have to do to get where you want to be in life - best to seriously contemplate whether or not your partner's game plan matches up with your own. With Pluto also in Capricorn, this is a time when many people may overhaul the direction their lives are taking 180 degrees and make some serious alterations to their objectives. It's a time of rebuilding from scratch if what you're doing hasn't yielded the results you're looking for.

Venus is also highlighted on this date as she'll be receiving a simultaneous square from Neptune/Chiron and a trine from Jupiter/Uranus. Venus symbolizes love, among many other things, and with her being in hard relationship to Neptune and Chiron many of the illusions we may be holding about our relationships may be poised to drop around this date. The trine she receives from Jupiter and Uranus can help to ensure any ending that comes about will ultimately be for the better, as this energy is one of liberation and growth.

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

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### **Situations Wanted**

It's amazing how thick I can be when it comes to new ideas! I mean, I have had so many individuals come to Talisman looking for jobs, and it only now has occurred to me to use



the newsletter as a resource. Going out to over 1,400 addresses (and further forwarded all over the world!) it's silly not to put this to good use and try to find people jobs during these difficult times.

If you'd like to be added next month, just reply and send me your name, email address, qualifications and position desired. And if you have a reason to contact an individual listed, please know that they will be someone I have met personally, and I anticipate they will be spoken to and treated respectfully. You may certainly call me first if you have any questions (203) 261-0047.

**Sasha Grace:** Pagan, young woman who is great with kids/babysitting, housecleaning, or retail sales. Has car. Looking in the Monroe/Shelton/Trumbull area. Email: [xsheswaitingx@aol.com](mailto:xsheswaitingx@aol.com)

**Darcy Greene:** Certified Phlebotomy Technician, approved and Accreditation by the National Healthcareer Association and the State of Connecticut Department of Higher Education. National Certification through NHA. Overall grade average 98% with 108 hours of classroom theory and 100 successful venipunctures, 40 hour internship at Griffin Hospital. Anatomy and Physiology, OSHA regulations; infectious disease/prevention; universal precaution procedures; equipment and supplies; special collection procedures; complications; professionalism; quality assurance; legal issues; and health law; overview of blood pressure; dermal puncture and EKG administration. I hoped that they would've put us up with a job when we were done, HELL NO! Nobody wants to hire you if you don't have that much experience, even though I worked for Quest Diagnostics for 13 years (not doing Phleb). I have to work nights which narrows it down a bit, the only place i can really do that is jails and hospitals. Which is both fine with me, i am not picky! Email: [Witchgirl@att.net](mailto:Witchgirl@att.net)

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### **Kali-Ma**

The glorious image of Kali-Ma, formerly housed at Purple Moon, is in residence at Talisman. Many of you know that I am devoted to Kali and have created a small shrine in the back of the shop so all may spend time in her presence. The feminine power which emanates from this statue is staggering. Come in, light some incense, and stand or kneel on a pillow while you reflect on the Mother Goddess Kali. Her image, frozen in time to reflect her utter destruction of the army of demons that were attempting to destroy the world, shifts and changes from terrible to loving the longer you remain with her. She is the

Guardian, the Protectress, the Patroness of abused and battered women and children. She loathes ignorance and cowardice - be sure to approach her with a pure heart. Petition her for help in providing for your family, healing illness (especially in children) and overcoming odds that appear insurmountable. Kali unblocks roads and doors by blasting them open ... but once they are open, if you hesitate she is apt to shove you through them anyway. If she finds you worthy, she will visit you in your dreams - and do not speak of these to anyone, they are between you and Kali. You may leave pictures or a written request; or gifts of candy, oranges or red flowers. Know what you truly want and ask it of Her as a child asks its mother for a favor.

But honestly, now - is there really any other way to approach the perfection which is the Feminine Divine?

**Wishing all of you a Glorious & Blessed New Year filled with all good things!**

**Laura Lenhard**

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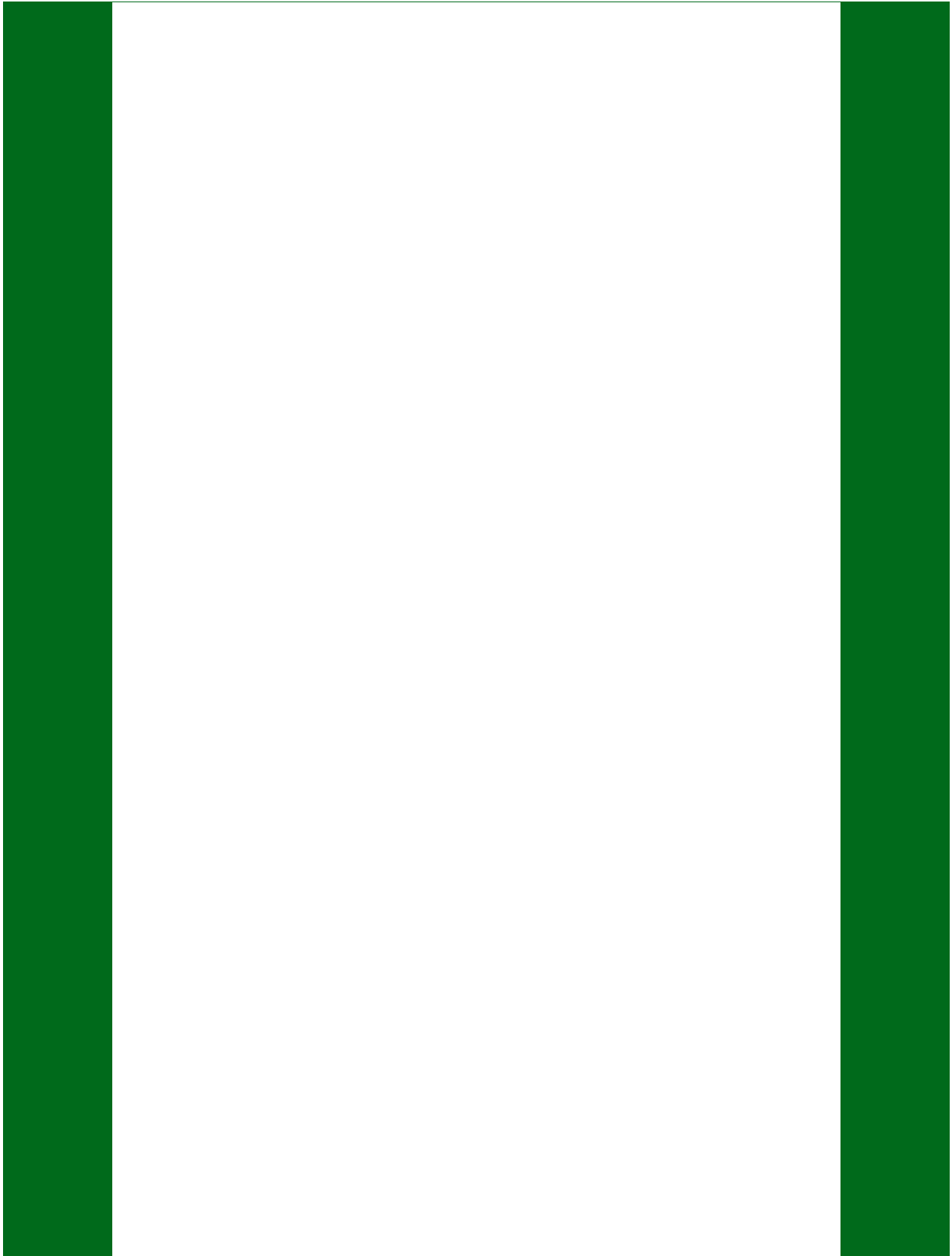
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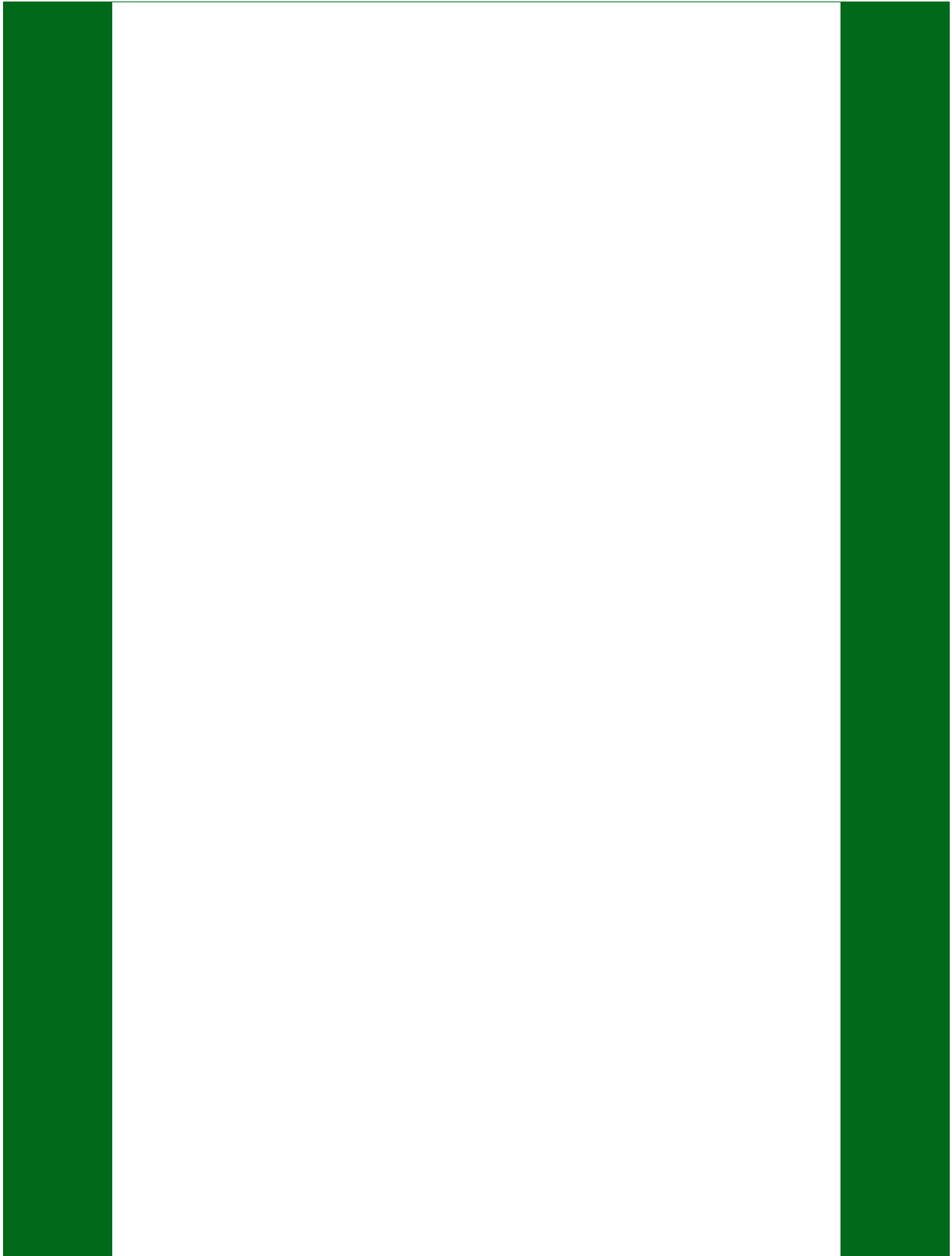
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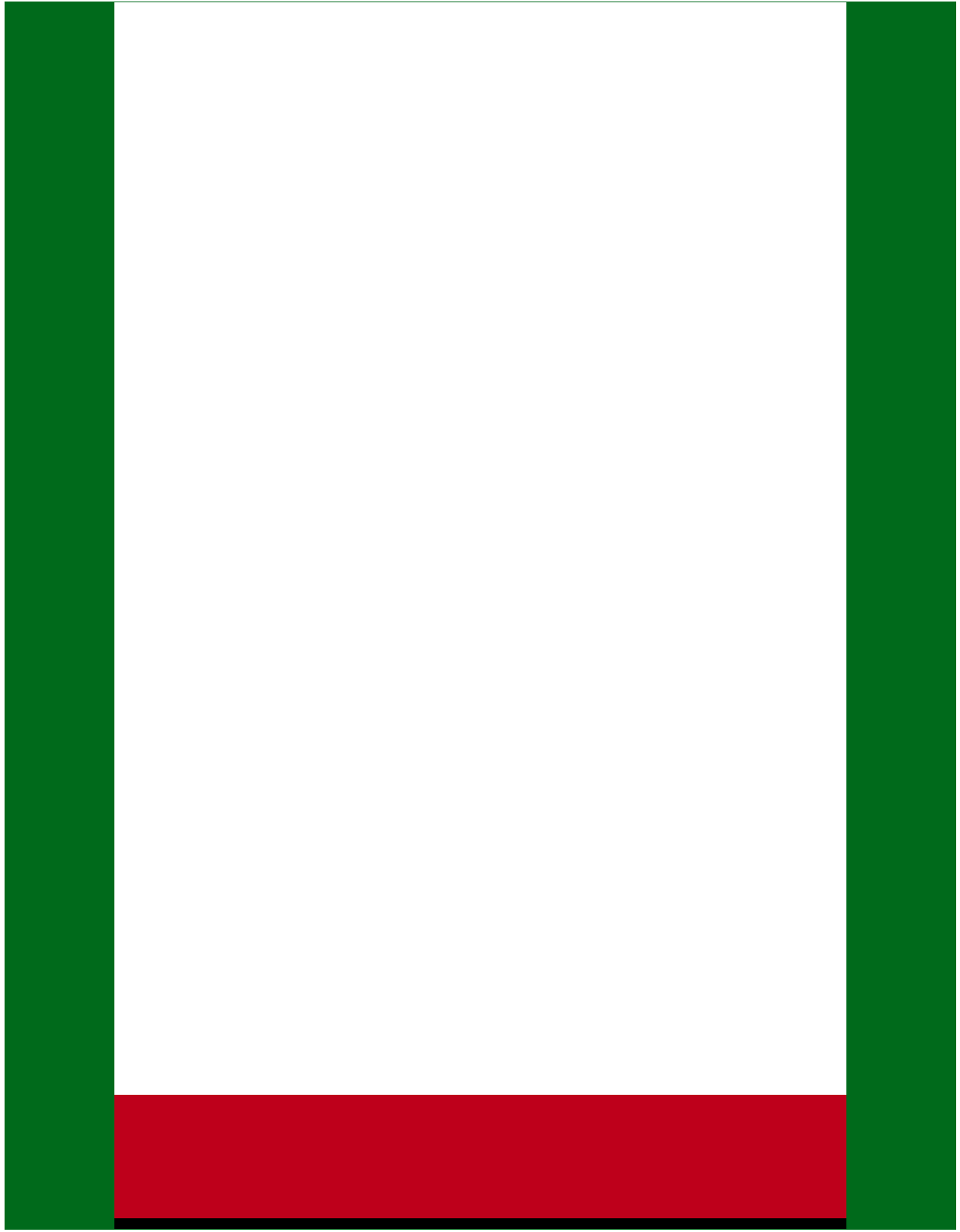
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