WINTER 2012

YOUR GUIDE

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wenty years ago the internet was a small collection of goverment and educational computers, a place for scientists to communicate. Today, you can

access the internet and 3 billion other connected beings with a device that fits in your pocket. Twenty years ago your car had an AM/FM radio, and a fancy cassette player. Today, your car plays music and helps you navigate with signals sent from satellites that orbit the earth. Twenty years ago, hearing impairment meant wearing funny earpieces that sometimes squeaked with audio feedback. Today, cochlear implants effectively reverse the condition of deafness.

Twenty years ago, I was introduced to the local holistic community and met fascinating people who taught me about new dimensions of reality. I wanted to share what I learned from these mind/ body/spirit practitioners. I asked Felicia what she thought about starting a local directory. She wisely told me how hard it would be and that we didn't know what we were doing, but she also trusted that we would figure it out. Today, we can look back and remember an incredible journey that helped us connect with amazing people and organizations whose shared goal was to help shift our consciousness to prepare for a better, more rapidly changing tomorrow.

The year 2012 brings with it both fears and hopes as mankind tries to imagine the significance of the Mayan calendar. Personally, 2012 brings a significant milestone as the 20th anniversary of the Holistic Networker magazine. These past two decades have been rewarding and enlightening for me. I have been blessed to be able to work from home, and watch my children achieve their own milestones and grow into aware and responsible beings.

I see 2012 as a new beginning for our civilization. New understandings of how the universe works, and new advances in technology enable us to create a sustainable future and even begin to remake and reshape our own ideas about what it means to be human.

What an exciting time to be alive!

Best wishes,

s a ll ists e. Recently my mother was attending a show. They called a woman in the audience to come on stage as it was her 95th birthday. She excitedly got up from her chair and

with surprising agility climbed the steps. They then began to play her favorite song. With a lot of enthusiasm, she sashayed across the stage as she enjoyed her special moment. A few weeks later my mother was attending another show at this same venue. A woman in the audience got up and commented that it had been her friend, whom they had honored. The 95-year-old woman had told her after being on stage that that was the best day of her life. The next day she passed suddenly and was gone. I marveled at the way this woman's life had concluded. To have one's best day at ninety-five, just seemed so wonderful and precious to me. And to remain in good shape until the end and to then pass quickly and painlessly just felt so right.

Shortly after hearing this story, I was riding in an elevator with a much older gentleman, who was hunched over and had a cane. He looked like he was well into his 80's and he appeared to be very feeble. I asked him how he was doing. He replied hesitantly, "O.K." and asked me how I was doing. I said that I was fine.

He said emphatically, "At your age you should be fine!"

I smiled and said "you are right". As I got out of the elevator I pondered this moment. I thought about the truth of what this man had said. For him every step is a challenge. His health is obviously precarious and at this point, he is unlikely to improve to any great extent. I have my health and while I am no longer in my 20's, I am in good shape and still have a lot to look forward to. I often think that it is important to appreciate what you have while you still have it and not just after the fact. While most of us would agree that we would like to be dancing happily until the day before we pass, very few people are fortunate enough to have this experience. That is why it is good to be grateful for all of the many blessings we do have while we still have them.

I hope you will count your blessings each and every day and that you will be an inspiration to the rest of us by living a long, healthy and happy life.

Love & Light,

Holistic Forum



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Frankie Burget is a licensed Occupational Therapist and Fellow with the American College of Wellness who has practiced in the DFW area for over 20 years. She has extensive training including Barnes Myofascial Release Centers and Upledger Institute. You may view her curriculum vitae on the About Us page of her website, www.windsongtherapy.com. Please contact her at 817-571-8135 or frankie@windsongtherapy.com. Please see bodywork section for more information.

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nervous diseases are disclosed by the decreased mobility of the pupil; frequent disturbances of the sight point to diseases of the kidneys (diabetes), as does also the falling out of the eye-lashes. By analyzing the iris of the eye, it is possible to determine the condition of your body by reflex markings found in the corresponding fibers of the iris. Iridology analyzes the iris of the eye to determine the cause of your ill health, in what state it is in, how it arrived there, how to free your body of it, and most of all, when you have freed it.

Dr. Edna Graven, DC, CTN, BCI, director of The People's Chiro-practic Clinic has over 30 years experience as a Nutritional Consultant and as an Iridologist. She has been instrumen-tal in helping many regain higher levels of health. She can be reached at 972/256-0004; drecraven@earthlink.net.

What is a naturopathic doctor?

Doctors of naturopathic medicine (NMDs) are trained as primary care physicians and have attended a four-year naturopathic medical school. Their training is based on the same basic science and clinical biomedical instruction as allopathic medicine (MD);

however, natural medicines are emphasized. This rigorous medical training differentiates NMDs from other self-taught alternative practitioners. Naturopathic doctors assist patients by using integrative and holistic modalities such as nutrition, herbal medicine, homeopathy, and counseling. This approach has proven successful in helping both chronic and acute conditions. To determine if a doctor is trained as an NMD, verify that they have an active medical license and have graduated from an accredited AANMC medical school (www.aanmc.org).

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Suzanne Miller is a LMT and Kripalu Yoga Teacher. She can be reached at 972-319-3661.



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Sherri Lackman is a Master's Level Licensed Professional Counselor. She holds membership in the American Counseling Association, the International Institute for Bioenergetic Analysis, the Dallas Society for Bioenergetic Analysis, and the Heart-Centered Therapies Association. Sherri treats Depression, Bipolar, Anxiety, and Eating Disorders. Her office is located in Richardson, 972-231-4466.

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1:00pm-2:00pm: lunch 2:00pm-4:00pm: Meetup Presentation *"Media: What's New in 2012"*

Saturday, February 25, 2012

9:30am-1:00pm: workshop WordPress 102: "Working with Themes"

1:00pm-2:00pm: lunch 2:00pm-4:00pm: Meetup Presentation *"Mobile Web"*

Saturday, March 24, 2012

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Excellent meeting. It doesn't matter how advanced you are, you'll always learn something at these meetings. *—John Peterson*

I always get a lot out of Tony's tips and suggestions and this week was no exception. -Laurie Shook

Great presentation, thanks Tony. I learned a lot and also met a lot of good people. — Shane Walker

As usual, well run, interesting topic. My only complaint is that I leave wishing for more... - Sharon Smith

Great information for anyone running a WordPress blog. Lots of great resources on Tony's blog. —*Mitch*

Very good - enjoyed the training and networking —*Al Martine*

What people are saying...

What a great opportunity to LEARN. And..learn from the Best. — *Scot Duke*

Great meetup as usual. If you need help with WP this is the place to be. Thanks Tony. *—Nixon*

So informative as usual. I always learn so much! —*Kathy Libey*

Very helpful information. meeting was well-organized and information was great. — *Ginny Dudek*

This Meet Up is always one to look forward to. Great fun, lots of useful information, great networking. Not to be missed...ever! -Bonnie Bolin Peterson

Tony as a speaker and as an instructor is awesome as always. *—Mari Davis*





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ation's first privately funded, comprehensive EV charging network now includes Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex; Interstate 45 connection with Houston slated for 2012

NRG Energy, Inc. (NYSE: NRG) is bringing range confidence to electric vehicle (EV) owners in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex by commencing operations at the first privately funded, eVgosm (ee-vee-go) Freedom Station in Texas, including the first high-speed direct current (DC) charger in Texas that is among the first in the nation. NRG plans to install a total of 70 Freedom Stations in Dallas/Fort Worth and 50 in Houston by the end of 2012, with half in place by this summer. NRG also plans to electrify the Interstate 45 corridor connecting them in 2012.

The first eVgo Freedom Station is located at the Walgreens at 5201

Belt Line Road at Montfort Drive in Dallas. Each Freedom StationSM provides a 480 volt DC fast charger that can add 30 miles of range in as little as 10 minutes and a 240 volt Level 2 charger that can add up to 25 miles of range in an hour. Freedom Stations are available 24/ 7 and include a customer service tower with a mounted camera. giving customers access to an eVgo service representative or to activate a strobe light, siren and alert law enforcement, even from inside their vehicles. The eVgo network will also include Convenience StationsSM that offer a 240 volt Level 2 charger and are available during the retail host's business hours.

"Inaugurating the first Freedom Station in the Dallas/Fort Worth Metroplex is a critical first step toward making electric vehicles the smart and convenient choice for Texans who want to reduce their cost of driving while contributing to cleaner air and America's energy independence," said David Crane, NRG President and CEO. "We're taking a page from Southwest Airlines when they started out 40 years ago to link the major population centers in Texas. This first station is the start of an ecosystem that will eventually give Texas EV owners the freedom to drive with range confidence throughout the region."

"Thanks to the innovative spirit and hard work of folks at NRG and their eVgo partners, we're closer to a day when electric cars will be a prominent feature on our roadways," Governor Rick Perry said. "I'm proud of our efforts in Texas to foster an environment that frees the private sector to solve problems and meet challenges. Because we steer clear of crippling mandates and work to keep our regulatory structures fair

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and predictable, Texas has created a favorable business climate that allows companies like NRG to provide the cutting-edge technology and products that will keep our state moving forward."

EVs, powered by electricity generated from domestic fuels, including zeroemission wind and nuclear power in Texas, have the potential over time to reduce dramatically the ongoing transfer of American wealth to oilproducing nations. Transportation accounts for more than a quarter of America's greenhouse gas emissions and in most Texas cities, it is the largest single source of nitrogen oxides emissions.

"The North Central Texas Council of Governments is delighted that the first eVgo electric vehicle charging station is now operational in the Dallas/Fort Worth region with many more to come in the near future," NCTCOG Executive Director Mike Eastland said. "In an area of 6.5 million people, air quality is always a primary concern. NRG's eVgo network is a welcome complement to NCTCOG's Electric Vehicles North Texas program, and we truly appreciate our public- and privatesector partners that have been and continue to be instrumental in preparing the region for electric vehicles."

NRG will provide EV owners in eVgo cities with extremely



convenient and affordable unlimited miles "home-and-away" charging plans with no upfront cost and a flat monthly fee. NRG will install and maintain the region's charging infrastructure of home chargers and public fast charging stations conveniently located along major freeways and in key shopping and business districts.

"Electric vehicle ownership should be fun, affordable and convenient, with drivers having complete confidence that a fast charger is never more than a few miles away," said Arun Banskota, President of NRG's EV Services division.

NRG is working with the North Texas electricity transmission and distribution company Oncor on zone planning and site selection for the eVgo charging stations in the Metroplex to ensure accessibility and reliability.



"From our installation of more than a million and a half advanced meters to help customers better manage their electricity usage, to the construction of 850 miles of new transmission lines delivering renewable power, Oncor is a leader in making Texas the best place in America to drive plugin vehicles," said Jim Greer, Oncor's Senior Vice President of Asset Management and Engineering. "By 2012, our investments will enable more than three million homes and businesses in Oncor's service area to use electric vehicle charging technology, such as the NRG eVgo network, when renewable energy availability is highest and the cost of electricity is lowest, supported by the capabilities of Oncor's advanced meters."

eVgo Partners

The following companies are working with NRG to make the eVgo network a success:

• Auto Sales and Rental: Gulf States Toyota, Hertz, Mitsubishi Motors, Nissan North America, smart USA, VIA

• Charging Station Host: Best Buy Co., Inc., Crescent Real Estate, Gallery Furniture,

H-E-B/Central Market, Memorial City Mall, Park 'N Fly, Spec's Family Partners, Walgreens

- Charging Technologies, Network Services and Smart Energy: AeroVironment, GE, Siemens
- Retail Electric Providers: Green Mountain Energy Company, Reliant Energy, TXU Energy
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Book Review + Author Interview: Sitting Moon

by Dr. Daoshing Ni and Jessica Chen

Reviewed by Allie Chee

How does a woman quickly and safely rejuvenate after childbirth, provide well for her baby, get back to her old energy level, and back into her old jeans? Have a sitting moon!

Sitting Moon?

In use for thousands of years, the Chinese calendar is a lunisolar calendar, indicating the phase of the moon. According to Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM), to rejuvenate after childbirth a woman should rest for approximately one month, or one "moon". Thus we have the title of the new book from Dr. Daoshing Ni and Jessica Chen about natural postpartum rejuvenation, Sitting Moon.

In a country where woman are often back on their feet and running soon after giving birth, one month's rest may sound shocking, but this practice is common in many countries around the world today and throughout history. The reasons are many, but the two primary purposes are to allow the mother to regain the strength and essence she gave to the baby and lost in childbirth, thus supporting her long-term vitality; and time and ability for the mother to deeply nurture and bond with the newborn. In case those reasons aren't compelling enough, there is also a list of ways a woman may suffer longterm if she does not take time to heal after childbirth.

While the subject of infant care and breastfeeding are often covered extensively in books, training classes, and even some hospitals, directions for the mother's postpartum care –if not completely ignored–certainly takes last place.

Since the mother's health and wellbeing support her and the infant in all ways, this new book has an important place in every mother and care-provider's library.

What you'll find in the book

When I heap praise on this book, I speak from personal experience. When six months pregnant, I knew it was "now or never" to start preparing the nutritious meals I would need postpartum, so I bought a freezer and jumped on my computer to begin a search for postpartum recipes I could prepare in advance.

Unless you're comfortable eating any ol' dish someone prepares or brings from a restaurant, asking someone to search out top quality ingredients and prepare the exact three meals per day plus snacks you would prefer postpartum is likely expecting too much! Naturally postpartum moms are grateful for any help, but you get the idea here.

When I sat at the computer to commence the search, there was an auspicious email announcing the release of Sitting Moon, which I ordered immediately.

What I found in Sitting Moon was far more than a postpartum meal plan. Almost any topic of interest or need for the postpartum mother is addressed: yoni care, breast care, and natural remedies from TCM for numerous ailments of mind, body, and spirit. There are also special sections that address issues and offer recommendations for mothers recovering from a C-section, which today could mean 35-45% of all mothers giving birth in a hospital. As it is so vital to the effectiveness of a sitting moon, approximately 2/3 of the book is dedicated to the role of nutrition in healing and producing ample milk. There are recipes offered, week by week for the 4-week sitting moon, and they are specific for that week's rejuvenation needs. They are all surprisingly simple to prepare, most include ingredients that are readily available, and they are absolutely delicious.

Forget chicken bits in a gooey sweet and sour sauce—these recipes have titles such as: Scallops with Broccoli, Vegetable Barley Soup, Baked Sesame Tofu, and most adventurous, Peanut and Pork Knuckle Soup. There are many recipes and suggestions for vegetarian moms, as well. Many recipes do include Chinese herbs, and those can be purchased from a Chinese medicine practitioner or herbalist.

As a last bit of evidence of the efficacy from my personal experience with a sitting moon, and to further encourage mothers: as a first time mom at 42-years old, I had a home birth, abundant milk supply, and was back in my old clothes in six weeks all by taking a full month's rest with my baby, and eating three meals plus two snacks per day of excellent food!

Interview with the authors

I had the opportunity to speak with the authors and to inquire further on the topic of postpartum recovery and how Chinese Medicine addresses the issues.

Q. Many women say, "I feel better and ready to move around," often as soon as 2-3 days after giving birth. How can the decision to return to an active lifestyle quickly after delivery effect a woman's health in the long-run?

A. When women say they're feeling great and ready for action again after a few days, this can be the adrenaline from labor. This is viewed as "false" energy. So in actuality, your body is still recovering. If you do not take some time to allow your body to heal it can run into problems in the future.

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A year down the line you may find yourself being more tired, having a difficult time sleeping, with difficulty in losing the pregnancy weight, or joint pain. In addition, the mother's body is still "open", "loose", and "tired" in the pelvic region. Having a normal and sometimes overly active life style too quickly can cause problems in the pelvic regions such as bleeding disorders, hernia or hemorrhoids.

Q. In your book, you address special issues for women over 35 or having had a C-section. IVF pregnancies are ever on the rise, even with women under 35. What special needs do they have and would you add that category to the group who need to take special care with a Sitting Moon?

A. Care for IVF moms should fall under the category of women over 35 and c-section. The process of IVF takes a lot out of a woman, therefore it is important to bring more nourishment to their body after giving birth. Many IVF expecting mothers tend to be more emotionally tired. They will need more relaxation and personal time to heal, which is in short supply once the woman becomes a new mother. Therefore, a plan for such healing activities should be contemplated and scheduled before the labor process.

Q. It is common and said to be "normal" that women lose a tooth with a pregnancy or lose a substantial amount of hair after childbirth. Is that to be expected or is it a sign of something that can be addressed and/or prevented?

A. It is normal to lose hair after labor due to the hair that was not shed during pregnancy. But if the hair loss is excessive, it can be a sign of lack of nutrients. According to Chinese medicine, hair is related to blood and the kidney/adrenal/reproductive system. When the blood is flowing abundantly and the kidney/adrenal/ reproductive is strong, hair will be full and strong. Naturally after child birth, the mother is deficient in both. This issue can be prevented and addressed with acupuncture (bringing more blood flow to the head) and Chinese herbs (providing nutrients to the body). Of course, eating well and getting some shut-eye is also important.

Q. The explanations one commonly hears for postpartum depression, anxiety, and/or nightmares seem to fall short, and women are often prescribed antidepressants as the remedy. Even when women are happy with their pregnancy and adore their babies, they can experience these symptoms. Can you explain it in TCM terms and describe the approach to address these issues?

A. In TCM, mood disorders after labor can be due to depletion of blood and lack of sleep. The blood loss from the labor leads to the blood not able to nourish the heart and spirit. In TCM, the heart is one of the organs that is related to your mood. Lack of sleep can also affect your mood. Your body heals and regenerates when you sleep. When your body does not get the proper amount of rest, it does not provide the right amount of nutrients to your body, and can therefore further enhance mood changes.

Q. In a breastfeeding class I audited, an attendee asked the lecturing nurse about eating spicy food and junk foods while breastfeeding. The answer provided was, "Your baby does not eat what you eat--it's different". However, if the body uses what we eat to make blood, and breast milk is made from the proteins, sugars, and fat in the mother's blood, what we eat has an immediate and direct relationship on what our baby eats. Your comments from a TCM perspective?

A. Even though the main compositions of the breast milk are fat, protein and carbohydrates, there are many micronutrients as well as other trace chemicals that tag along with the breast milk delivered to the baby. Therefore certain nutrients and trace chemicals, such as in spicy foods and cured meats, can still be transferred in a minute amount to the breast milk. This normally should not impact the baby adversely when eaten in a small amount. From the TCM perspective, it is very important for the nursing mother to eat a diverse spectrum of whole foods and stay away from manufactured foods (processed and packaged foods). This way, the baby will be exposed to different nutrients and learning how to digest and absorb these nutrients.

Q. The recipes in Sitting Moon are delicious, easy to prepare, and nutrient-rich. Would you recommend those recipes for mothers beyond the first postpartum month?

A. Yes! The moms can continue to prepare these meals up to 1 year after delivery. They are especially good to have when the mom's get their first menstrual flow after delivery. These meals are also excellent for women to have at the tail end of or after their menstrual flow.

Q. Can we look forward to more books on a related subject--Your Baby's First Two Years: Recipes and Common Herbal Remedies, for example? (I would vote for that.)

A. Sounds like an excellent idea! Maybe also on healthy eating during pregnancy.

Thank you. We'll look for those!

Allie Chee is a certified Traditional Chinese Medicine Nutritionist

http://texanesemama.blogspot.com/



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The HCG Guidebook was written for the HCG dieter who wants the simple details of how to do the HCG diet right. Based on the work of Dr. Simeons, this easy-to-read guidebook lays out the basics of the diet in modern terms and makes it easy to understand what to do and when to do it.

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Chapter 1

How it All Began The Remarkable Work of Dr. A.T.W. Simeons

- · Abstract
- · Pounds and Inches
- · Three Types of Fat
- Three Paths to Becoming Overweight
- HCG: The Key to Weight Loss
- Complicating Disorders
- · Dr. Simeons' HCG Clinic in Italy
- HCG and "Loading Days"
- The Transition Phase of the HCG Diet
- \cdot Two Types of HCG

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Chapter 3 Details of the HCG Diet

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Tips, Tricks and Strategies

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- · BBQ Chicken
- · Baked Apple "Pie"

Chapter 8 Transition

(Phase 3) Recipes

- Creamy Coffee Frappe
- Cheesy Gooey Omelette
- Creamy Strawberry Smoothie

Chapter 9 Frequently Asked Questions

Chapter 10 Sharing HCG Diet Experiences

Chapter 11 The Upward Spiral

Chapter 12 Conclusion

"I found this book to be very helpful in explaining the logistics of what our bodies do in response to the HCG diet. I had read Dr. Simeons' book and had a basic understanding of the protocol. However, this book gave me a far better comprehension on the details. It's one thing to mechanically follow a planned menu to lose weight. It's quite another to be aware with what's really happening. Knowing the additional info afforded me higher self-accountability and helped keep me on track. The book also helped convert my negative thinking about dieting into much more encouraging and motivational thinking. I'd readily encourage anyone who really wants a good guide to the HCG protocol to purchase this book." —Paul

"I love the way you take the protocol and turn it into a living life model. It's wonderful. You're working with it to enhance your lives as well as make your weight manageable and health stronger. At first look, the protocol is limiting, but your book has a unique way of making this a lively approach to health and wellness. It no longer seems limiting.

I've read the other books and done the protocol. This work is unique because it is all about losing the weight and living a lighter and happier life. No better way to shake cravings and learn. It truly links mind, body, spirit and holistic insights.

I've tried the injections and the homeopathic drops you offer. I found the drops easier and just as effective. But this book is a great way to invest the time suddenly freed from cravings...great job!" —Cynthia



HCG has been called a miracle weight-loss formula. For the first time, an affordable homeopathic remedy, formulated to free the body of stubborn fat is now available to you in easy-to-use drops.

As for me, my personal experience (and the experience of several people I know very well), is that these drops DO work and that the diet is very healthy. I agree that a diet this low in calories would not be healthy without the drops. I have not felt as well for years. and I KNOW my health is much better, to say nothing of the fact that I look better. I have not lost muscle, and in fact I am much stronger than before my weight loss....My experience with other dieting did not produce long-term success. For the first time in my life I feel like I have "conquered" my weight problem. The rate of long-term success is much higher with this diet than any other that I know of. -MH

Success is contagious, my husband has dropped 10 pounds and is impressed and energized by how easy and effective the HcG is. I am amazed and quite delighted! :) Thank you for your great website. —PW

"This is an amazing product - I won't go into everything I have tried before because the story is the same over and over but I feel better than I ever have - I am strong etc,. etc. I read your book and use it as it is intended - a guidebook. I am so thrilled that I can still get these drops..." Having been on every diet, and for emphasis let me say again—EVERY DIET in the last 35 years, I speak with a certain amount of field experience on this topic. Over the years, I have had little or no weight loss success on any diet I have tried, including a lap band placement in 2008.

Until you {my friend} came in and whispered, "HCG..." BAM. 50 pounds since 8/27 and counting...not only counting, but confident that I will continue to count. That's a first—a diet that I feel will continue to work and that I will continue to follow until I am as svelte (and healthy) as I want to be.

Yes, the diet works because of the severity of the reduced calorie intake. But...that intake is sustainable because of HCG. I know because if I forget to take the drops, the gnawing hunger returns. The other factor for me is that it is changing my metabolism. I did the liquid diet, lost 20 pounds off my ankles, earlobes, and thighs, felt awful, and gained it back immediately after eating solid food, I mean one meal of solid food and the weight was on! ... On this diet, I started losing the weight in my stomach first (a first!) and even on days when I have been less than faithful to the 700calorie plan, I still lose or maintain the weight. I also know that I have reduced my insulin requirements and reduced my high blood pressure medication as a direct result of the weight loss.

—SH



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By Leslie Green

Moments or Lifetimes

recently had a friend send me some of his favorite Richard Bach quotes. Among them was this one:

"Don't be dismayed at good-byes. A farewell is necessary before you can meet again. And meeting again, after moments or lifetimes, is certain for those who are friends."

Like many of us, I'm not crazy about good-byes. Over the years I've gotten better at them, but I sometimes wonder if it's simply been through sheer practice. Is that how the military kids I grew up with dealt with it? Through practice?

Or, is there a different mind-set that helps us through good-byes? Like so many aspects in our lives, is it more a matter of how we choose to think about a given situation? How we choose to perceive what we consider our reality?

After reading this quote, then re-reading it, I gradually began to see a shift in my perception. What did it for me was the second sentence, "A farewell is necessary before you can meet again." Oh okay, I see. In order to rejoice in meeting again, there must first be a farewell. A stop and a start. An end and a beginning.

Essentially, when we kiss our kids goodnight, even as babies, we're giving them a farewell. Of course, they are just in another room, but this act of 'farewell' leads to an opportunity to meet them again – the next day. The same occurs with our partners when we leave in our separate directions in the morning, and our loved ones, whether they're getting on a plane to fly far away or in their car to drive across town.

I believe this quote reaches a crescendo with the last sentence, "And meeting again, after moments or lifetimes, is certain for those who are friends." Think about that. Moments or lifetimes. For those who are friends.

Moments or lifetimes. I personally have experienced moments apart from a friend that have felt like a lifetime; as if the second the door shut behind them, I already yearned for their return. It's a lot like my Yellow Lab. I can leave the house for a moment, say, to check the mail, and return to a dog who acts as if I've been gone years. She's genuinely ecstatic to see me. On the other hand, I've spent a lifetime away from certain friends, only to reconnect decades later and have it feel as if mere moments had passed.

For all of us, we have experienced these 'moments and lifetime' feelings.

As I've mentioned in previous articles, I'm still friends with many people from my kindergarten days, which practically is a lifetime. I was reminded recently of what a lifetime of friendships has meant to one such friend. Mollie recently posted on Facebook, "Whether any of you realize this or not...Audra, Missy, Jennifer, Helen, Joelia, Margaret and, yes, you, Leslie, made a big difference in my life. Thank you all. Sometimes life buries your memories. And sometimes life brings them back. It goes with the "Full Circle Journey" article. I've been trying to get back to my roots since my son was born. Facebook has been the greatest part of my journey. To connect with the old and new friends has been the key to me rediscovering myself. 'Full Circle', my friends. Thanks for keeping me grounded...."

So instead of being dismayed by goodbyes, perhaps our focus should lie in the rejoicing of meeting again. I like that. Thinking about good-byes in this new context brings me comfort.

However, what if I take Bach's quote,

and acknowledge that for me, it's a much more comforting way of looking at good-byes than my 'old' way, but

what if there's still more....

What if there are no good-byes among friends? I'm not talking about acquaintances here, I'm talking about friends. Those special souls with whom you've formed a heart connection. Whether this connection is formed in person, over the phone, through emails, back and forth in texts – regardless of how they're formed, true connections exist. And when these friends truly dwell in your heart, are you ever really separated? I believe the answer to that is no.

My hope is that your heart, like mine, has the capacity to hold many dear souls – so much so that you don't feel separated by distance, but rather you're able to feel the Oneness that connects us all.

Doug, thank you for sending the quotes. Although we haven't met in person (yet), I know you, and yes, you dwell in my heart.

Thank you to all of my friends who have Seen me and who have allowed me to See you.



My name is Leslie Green. I understand that for many, Trusting Life is easier said than done. For that reason, I write true stories that illustrate how I, as

well as others, have learned to Let Go and Trust Life Today. I am someone who seeks Truth, yet also someone who realizes there is actually no seeking involved – it all lies within. Read more from my blog at <u>TrustLifeToday.com</u>



by Cynthia Novak

Welcome 2012! We've been waiting for you and I couldn't be more excited to see a New Year arrive. It's a year filled with financial opportunity and political debate that ends with a new plan and likely a new man in the White house. The first six months have powerful Mars transits that keep business moving, but are also good for aggression. It is important to be aware of events in the world without being anxious or wary of them. It is also good to pull away from the computer when the Uranus-Pluto transit compels you to plug in for more and more. The gift is the perspective of Saturn. We are in exciting times, but all times in history were exciting. The stress comes from fear of the future so roll up your sleeves and build something.

Saturn is exalted, which means the planet of strength and endurance is particularly happy to roll up his sleeves and lend some sweat to the equity of the future. Saturn first moved into the constellation Libra as the Super Committee ended in a political stalemate, however, that didn't stop money from moving. Within 2 weeks the Market went up along with consumer spending and there was a tax deal that sent it higher. Throughout this season Saturn remains strong and in a good place for business and optimism. In June of 2012, our President will rework his plan for the future. It's tempting to jump ahead, but we don't want to miss any of Your Winter Stars.

January 2012 begins with Jupiter, the optimist, moving forward. He's ready to make political and legislative hay of seeds planted late in 2011. Saturn anchors Jupiter at the beginning of the month, but soon Jupiter charges

ahead. This should be good for jobs, construction and mortgage loans. As Mars appears to stop in the heavens and move backward late this month, politicians are frustrated, but something compels them to help move us forward. Caveat: The apparent retrograde or backward motion of Mars, the planet of business, could mean that things are delayed until July when Mars finally leaves this place for about 2 years. I suspect we'll see movement this month with more this summer and fall. These are exciting times. The dark side of Mars is anger and confrontation...even war. Watch for aggression at every level: Whether it's on the playing field of sports, work or the battlefield. Jupiter appears to stop so all month he is sitting in the same place. This can be lucky for you, however, here is a caution for Jupiter transits: Although you'll want to bet your winnings, Saturn faces Jupiter and says to save some. Saturn is stronger, but if you bet it all, then your winnings are fleeting. Best luck comes when you invest and save. This is true with love, too. Invest in a solid relationship, but if you're not willing to move, then you might be waiting alone.

February begins with plenty of relationship drama not just on Valentine's Day, but in the very first days of the month when Venus faces Mars. Retrograde Mars is stuck in the past. That may literally play out like a series of planetary actions and reactions. Women look at men and ask for action. Saturn faces Jupiter suggesting a push for real commitment. Retrograde Mars lacks the oomph to commit. This could add up to an abundance of folks taking a little space. It promises to bring more folks out to see what or who is the

best fit for now and for the future. The dark side of retrograde Mars is passive-aggressive behavior. The good thing about the Venus opposition: We see what's up and decide with our time and ultimately our allegiance. It should make for some estranged bedfellows and a call for a clear platform or commitment in later April after Mars goes forward again. This is true for politics and international relationships, too. The political arena is much more volatile with outside nations influencing actions. If your romance has too many outsiders stirring the pot, then you'll easily see that they will be part of your future. The month is great for clarity; what you see is what you'll live with. Would you want this for your best friend or child? If your suitor can't decide, the push of Jupiter to Pluto first and later to Mars may well lead you to bid "adios Adonis", as you may decide that you want someone with more substance than physical form. Yes, wisdom does win over ego...grins.

March: This month is all about love and money. On a simple or shall we say private level, the Market moves on optimism and we have loads of that. It's a gambling combination and it is fraught with high rollers with high hopes. It's hard for Saturn to remind us to save some. We can't hear him over our excitement for today. I expect a passionate surge of public enthusiasm for a candidate, too. President Osama's healthcare legislation comes under the Supreme Court's gavel until the end of June. This is the perfect balance of Saturn and Jupiter. Is it the law or is it belief? Is it right or do I simply wish it were? March and April are great for his potential opponents, however, they need to bring their respective plans for the future of the nation. Sound bites and irritation are entertaining, but a serious debate is a wise investment for voters. Money is in the air and it's not

>continued from p27

about money lost, but about potential. Plenty of it is moving to candidates' coffers. Venus Joins Jupiter and they are indulgent planets. They trigger Pluto and eventually Mars. Mars is still rather reluctant to dive in, but something is happening and there is something in the wind that might just catch the emotions of the people. There is also the war or anger side of Mars. I hope there is no new war in the air, but with the actions of Iran and revolutions in several Arab nations, the dogs of war are howling.

Lucky You! If you happen to have a personal planet in Vedic Aries, then you feel the optimism of Jupiter all season. In March, Venus might just tip you toward romance, a new job and, yes, even a fresh philosophy of life. Pull out your chart and see if you happen to have a planet near 6 degrees of Aries, Leo or Sagittarius in your Vedic chart (which is 1 Taurus in your Western chart). If so, then you have great potential to transform your life so choose your actions and reactions wisely. This is only the beginning. Anchor your enthusiasm with Saturn's wisdom and this could be the best new beginning ever. We all have the opportunity to use this great combination. As Jupiter moves forward to catch Pluto and Mars in the first half of 2012, this energy enlivens all of our lives. Saturn faces Jupiter and we do what we must with the knowledge we have. Like President Clinton, we give up something for better health and perhaps a longer life. If you happen to be directly under Jupiter's optimism and face Saturn's wisdom, then you have it just a little easier and can show us how to leave resentment behind and embrace our gifts. I mean that literally. The luckiest of all are folks who embrace the power of their own choice to live a full life

each day. That takes the best of these planets and we all have access to them now.

President Obama has very stressful, life-transforming transits in March and April with relief at the end of June. Ketu (karma) pulls off his Moon. The Moon is our emotions in western astrology and our perceptions in Vedic. The President's moon is very likeable, however, it doesn't look as if he's enjoying his success. His moon line runs through Washington DC. I anticipate problems with his healthcare bill, but that he will be happy (more than just relieved) when the court rules. I am saying that it will be a mixed bag and that the legislation will need to be changed in some form before it can move forward. I do not believe it will be ruled as being totally against the constitution. This experience will alter the way he perceives the world, politics and this nation. What the President decides to do in terms of running or not running again is up to him. The transits are truly wild cards. It is possible that "We the People" will see an incumbent not run for personal reasons. I honestly don't know. I wish him well and hope that he has the best advisers in the world to help him navigate the nation and not just run for office. We'll see a man who appears to transform before our eyes this summer, however, the winter and spring bring heavy burdens of responsibility and trust.

Politics aren't everything this year... but they seem to be everywhere. Newt Gingrich is rising. I have no confirmed time of birth, but do have 11:45 pm. If that is accurate, then we should see the former Speaker of the House continue to rise. He and President Obama have a very potent connection. The President's Moon (or his perceptions) and Speaker Gingrich's Mercury (or business planet) are in the same place in the heavens. At this time, both men of opposing parties can literally shed the karmic debt encountered in their success and work together. That is a lofty hope, but it will literally free both and could bring the nation together. It triggers Romney's chart, too, but not as powerfully.

I would love to watch them debate or better still, just sit and explain their respective plans for the nation. Speaker Gingrich (assuming his birth time is accurate) is in a very successful master cycle for political success, however, he has a tricky chart. He rose and fell and rose again over the decades, however, he has a practical vision worth listening to. I don't know if he'll make it to the nomination, but I do expect a very lucrative few months for his campaign. Greed is his weakness, as well as his relationships. However, with Ketu at the very front of his chart, he is difficult to frame in a simple picture. Ketu came of age by age 50 so when he says that he is a better husband now than he was before, I believe him. I also know that it is very difficult to "see" a person born with that placement. That alone makes him interesting.

Since Ketu has come of age for him and since Ketu is crossing his business and communication planet, as well as President Obama's Moon, I see them facing off. I hope they work together as the nation needs them, but in a 2-party system that isn't likely. Instead the most we can hope for is a debate or discussion. Ketu helps us shed our karmas and is great at revealing the foibles of the ego. I do not believe it is an accident that they are both on the national stage as "We the People" must decide which direction to take this fall. Scandal follows both men as we enter the spring. Romney may well reap the rewards.

Iran: I have Iran's birth chart as 2-11, 1979 at 2pm. This is when the Ayatollah Khomeini came to power. In light of Iran's arrogant actions and the painfully reminiscent Embassy burning, I pulled up this chart. It is a great chart for self-destruction. Pluto on the point of physical body (in this case the physical nation), with this sort of arrogance, and Iran's defiance of the world's agreements, takes my breath away. Furthermore, we can add to that their potential for a nuclear weapon. (I'd bet on it with their actions and transits). Add to this the transit of Uranus (an unexpected transit from home, in this case the mother land) and I believe they are ripe to blow or implode. Looking at their president's chart, I see that Mars will appear to stop on his Jupiter in January and I fear that his hubris will make even more action then and in May and June 2012. This is not a passing mood, but a passionate and aggressive action. I suspect and fear that they believe (Jupiter) that now is the time to rise up (Pluto) to take their rightful place on the world stage as an opponent to the Western World, which started with the British Embassy. I fear that Iran wants to be the Islamic nation to gather the Arab nations together against a foe. It will backfire against them, but in the meantime, their hubris is potentially destructive for many others. And, it will play a role in the election of our next president.

President Obama's chart is hit by the same powerful transits. His Mars, the planet of action and, yes, of war, trigger's Iran's chart and, yes, Ahmadinajad's (whom I disrespectfully refer to as "nutjob"). I do not envy the President the next few months. As I edit this, I heard that Iran has a US drone. Mars is sitting on Iran's Saturn and pulling onto its Rahu. This is big and part of the first of three powerful swings over potentially perilous planets. A nation has a birth chart and the Sun in that chart is the leader. Neither "nutjob's" chart nor the nation's chart shows any sign of restraint or compliance.

The Republican Players: Don't count Perry out. The Mars transit I mentioned in Iran's chart is a big player in Perry's chart. I expect to see Perry rise and fall as Mars triggers him in Dec. 2011 April and June 2012. He'll find the wisdom of his Saturn or be gone, although he is not leaving anytime soon. One thing is certain about Perry's chart: He believes he is the right man for the job. His national position will rise in June, but I don't know if he will be the nominee. The stress of Mars on his Saturn and Moon may be a struggle between Perry, the man and Perry, the candidate his handlers want him to be. This will either bring voters to him or push them away. I don't think we will know until this summer.

Romney's chart is also triggered, but he will make a more measured response. Romney's own Sun faces the President's Mars. Both will face off as the leader and potential leader of the US. Romney takes the challenges and balances them with fortunate transits. He's in for the long run. Gingrich will have the most carefully thought out and researched response for Iran if the time I have for him is right. It will also have a huge impact upon his image. Saturn is strong. We get to see the men and their plans for the nation. This is exciting on every level.

I hope you will check back for more exciting news of 2012. This is the year we've been waiting for. There is a big party at the end. I hope to see y'all there.



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Cynthia Novak is a professional astrologer. She can be contacted at metro 817-261-2984. Read Cynthia's daily astrological message at HolisticNetworker.com

or CynthiaNovak.com Hear Cynthia's talk entitled "Astrology & You" at 11:30am on Sunday, April 22nd at the Wellness Expo in Addison.

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Holistic Networker

PO BOX 702956 • Dallas, TX 75370-2956 972-403-0940 • 972-403-1536 / fax

Quarterly Advertising Rates

	Print size		int ice	Web size	Web Price	Print + Web Bundle
Print	(w x h)			(w x h)	90 days	save!
		new	renew			
Full Page	7.5" x 10"	\$845	\$775	-	-	-
Half	7.5" x 4.75"	495	445	-	-	-
Third	4.75" x 4.75"	395	345	336p x 280p	165	425
Quarter	3.5" x 4.75"	325	285	300p x 250p	145	355
Sixth (vertical)	2.375" x 4.75"	235	195	160p x 600p	95	255
Sixth (horizontal)	4.75" x 2.375"	235	195	728p x 90p	95	255
Eighth	3.5" x 2"	175	155	468p x 60p	75	195
Twelfth	2.375" x 2.375"	135	125	125p x 125p	65	155
Holistic Forum	photo + text	155	135	photo + text	185	225
Directory Listing	text ad	95 *	89*	text ad	35	115
Event	text ad	\$1/wd	\$1/wd	text ad	\$20/ea	n/a
Classifieds/Job Ads	text ad	\$1/wd	\$1/wd	text ad	\$30/30 days	n/a

28,000 copies are printed and distributed each quarter.

Pay for any 4 issues in advance and save 20%

Prices are for black & white ads. Add 10% for spot color and 40% for 4-color. * Save \$60! Directory listing costs only \$35 with ANY display ad.

Directory listing includes: business name, contact name, address, phone, & 25-word description.

Add'I words are \$0.50/each. Add'I contact names are \$5/each. Add'I phone, email, web are \$3/each.

HolisticNetworker.com gets 24,000 unique quarterly visitors.

Internet ads are displayed in rotation with other ads of the same size. 5,000 monthly views are guaranteed (15,000 total views).

next issue	early**	ad close	final art	publication date	Publisher's liability for errors does not exceed the cost of the advertisement.
Spring 2012	<mark>Feb 1</mark>	Feb 15	<mark>Mar 1</mark>	Apr 1	Publisher reserves the right to refuse any advertising for any reason at any time.
**5% discount when art and payment are submitted (postmarked) by this date					

Article Marketing New Advertising options at HolisticNetworker.com

Headline Article Featured Article Standard Article home page headline article article featured on home page promotional article

\$225/month \$125/month only \$25

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Questions? 972-403-0940 or ads@holisticnetworker.com

HolisticNetworker.com/mediakit

Wellness Expo [®]	upcoming shows: Addison, October 15-16; Addison, April 21-22 Grapevine, June 22-23, 2012						
Affordable Exhibitor Spaces	Booth space available	\$169 - \$499	For booth options and pricing, see				
Literature Table	Showcase your flyers/brochures	only \$35	WellnessExpo.net or call 972-378-3770				

Welness Expo

Sat/Sun, April 21-22, 11am-6pm • Addison Conference Centre

Talks & Demos Angel Messages Cancer, Emotions & **Neurotransmitters** Permanent & Temporary Food Allergies Improve Your Health & Eliminate Ailments Learn to Recharge Your Battery Soul Mates & Sacred Agreements **Breast Choices for the Best Chances** The Healing Energy of Crystals & Stones Our Hidden Talent • What's on Your Mind? 2012 - Being the Messenger Talking to the Other Side! Healing with Sound • Spiritual Connections Past Lives, Dreams & Soul Travel Astrology & You and more!

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shop. snack. mingle. learn. play.

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