

Finances turn, helping motivation

Aries (March 21 – April 20) A turnaround on the professional front, while slow to start, will gather momentum. There is nothing like a bit of financial motivation to keep things moving. Seize on it as the motivator it is. The way is open for some lucky hunches.



Shannon O'Brien
• Weekly Horoscope

Taurus (April 21 – May 21) While personal and professional lives both need your full attention, unless you've mastered the art of cloning you're not going to pull it off. This will call for some smart time management skills.

Gemini (May 22 – June 21) Passion, drive and ambition reaches work Wednesday, with competitive drives kicking in. Yet if you think you're going to get away with letting life become all work and no play you've got another thing coming. Your time management skills will be tested.

Cancer (June 22 – July 22) You may feel you've lost momentum, but what is really happening is that your personal life is fighting back. A life without adventure or fun is no longer an option. Start saying yes to the things that you want to do.

Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22) There is a comeback taking place, a real turnaround on both the financial and professional fronts. How fast doesn't matter for this is a force that is happening of its own volition. What you have is balance.

Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 23) The game is changing constantly. Jupiter's departure has done nothing to slow financial momentum. You are more focused on things going wrong than what's going right. Give attention to communication, especially in relationships.

Libra (Sept. 24 – Oct. 23) Since July, there have been many challenges, but now you can put things into perspective. Because hindsight has 20/20 vision, you can see how this has raised the bar. This leaves you with a new sense of inner strength.

Scorpio (Oct. 24 – Nov. 22) You've moved from some high-pressure months at work to where you have a chance to experience the more playful side of life. Avoid worrying about losing your professional momentum. Now you have a chance to create a better balance

between work and play.
Sagittarius (Nov. 23 – Dec. 21) The things that created balance issues in the past just aren't there. This comes as you reach a turning point on the professional, financial and personal fronts – a turnaround that is more significant than it appears at first glance.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 20) What a difference a week makes. Communication lines are opening up. While this makes it an important week for business, personal and social networking, it relieves balance issues. You won't lose professional momentum.

Aquarius (Jan. 21 – Feb. 19) Move into the new week with your confidence high. Taking on the world is exactly what you're positioned to do. Passion, drive and ambition in your career sector is going to give things a further boost. This is an alignment that peaks over the weekend. You're able to work hard and play hard.

Pisces (Feb. 20 – March 20) Move into the week feeling more financially motivated, especially as you sense that you're gaining a handle on the professional challenges of the last few months. There is enough urgency to get you to take action, with the backup to follow things through. You're more involved and connected this week, less focused on yourself.

For entertainment purposes only.

On the Beat

COLBY POLICE
Wednesday
6:26 p.m. – Colby Cinema reported semi parked in parking lot. Told driver to move.
8:29 p.m. – Vehicle parked in alleyway at 230 N. Sterling. Vehicle OK; spoke with subjects.
11:19 p.m. – Loud party complaint at 210 N. Country Club.
Thursday
12:24 a.m. – Security check at Twister's.
1:49 a.m. – Fight behind Twister's. Unable to locate.
2:03 a.m. – Vehicle all over the road eastbound on Fourth from Country Club.
2:20 a.m. – Large group of people wearing dark clothing southbound on Garfield from the 100 block. Unable to locate.
5:32 a.m. – Security check to residence.
10:52 a.m. – Pickup parked for three days in the 400 block of N. Walker. Spoke to owner; vehicle moved.
11:13 a.m. – Dog at large caught at 815 S. Grant. Turned over to Colby Animal Clinic.
12:43 p.m. – Criminal damage to vehicle in the parking lot at Colby Community College.
2:01 p.m. – Manager of Super 8 Motel reported theft of tools. Report filed.
2:05 p.m. – Principal at Sacred

Heart School reported dog at large on playground. Turned over to animal clinic.
3:05 p.m. – Walk-through at Walmart.
6:32 p.m. – Alarm reported. Met with owner at scene; all OK.
8:36 p.m. – Puppy at large at Pine and Franklin. Owner arrived on scene.
9:26 p.m. – Damage to front door at 110 E. Fifth Apt. 1. Report filed.
11:50 p.m. – Suspicious vehicle parked in alleyway of 110 E. Fifth. Everything OK.

THOMAS COUNTY SHERIFF
Wednesday
7:20 p.m. – Narcotics violation report filed.
8:11 p.m. – Cattle out on U.S. 24 a mile east of Colby. Trooper Joe Greene moved cattle into fenced-in field; owner advised.
10:03 p.m. – Subject ringing door bell at Colby Trailer Village No. 24. No one found.
10:52 p.m. – Call that vehicle broke down on I-70 six miles west of town.
Thursday
12:54 a.m. – Shut off lights in the concession stand at the Brewster football field.
1:57 a.m. – Vehicle all over the road eastbound on Fourth from Country Club. Unable to locate.

Poisonous pokeweed out in force in wet summer

Some specimens of a dangerous weed with big shiny leaves and hanging clusters of purple-black berries are now tall enough to stand out in the company of central U.S. crops, weeds and garden plants.
Thick and fleshy, the purple-red stems of pokeweed can mature at three to eight, sometimes 10 feet tall.
"This summer, we've received a number of phone calls about the

plant," said Ward Upham, horticulturist with Kansas State University Research and Extension. "Evidently, common pokeweed got off to an unusually good start in June. Nowadays, it's sticking out all over the place like some kind of sore thumb. Where the plant is multi-stemmed, it may even look shrubby.
Pokeweed is unusual among weeds in that every one of its parts is poisonous, Upham said,

and the plant becomes increasingly dangerous to humans, pets and livestock as it grows. The toxicity of its parts also ranges. The least hazardous are the plant's children – and the bird-attracting berries. The most dangerous is pokeweed's large white tap root – which can get as big as a bowling ball.
"Strangely, pokeweed has a long history of human use," said Upham, "particularly if you were a native American interested in a short-lived crimson dye or a violent cure for stomach cramps – which could include diarrhea, vomiting or both.
"From pioneer through medicine-show days, people used pokeweed to treat everything from rheumatism to hemorrhoids. Today, some of us still harvest its leafy shoots in spring, to cook and eat as greens.
"Even though the plants are then at the low point of their emerging toxicity, you've got to cook those shoots thoroughly – at least twice,

disposing of the water each time. Handling and preparing the shoots will be hazardous, too. You can absorb pokeweed juice through your skin."
Fortunately, the plant tastes "pretty awful," Upham said. Livestock will avoid it if other food is available.
Unfortunately, birds are fond of the berries, so they often distribute each berry's eight to 10 seeds with a bird dropping of fertilizer. Pokeweed is a tough perennial, and its tap root gets larger every year. One treatment with a strong herbicide such as 2,4-D may not kill anything other than top growth.
"If you just have a few of these weeds, I'd recommend digging them out, removing as much of the tap roots as you can," Upham said. "Then get rid of them. Don't even put the plants in your compost pile. If you can, approach pokeweed as you do poison ivy. Or, at the very least, wear a tough long-sleeved shirt and gloves."

Mistaken identity lands pastor in jail

SHREVEPORT, La. (AP) — A series of unfortunate coincidences led to a case of mistaken identity that put a Louisiana minister behind bars for nearly eight hours.
Gregory Jones, pastor at the Eden Worship Center, was pulled over for speeding and arrested as a man wanted for violating pa-

role in Texas.
The minister not only had the same name as the wanted man, but the same birthdate – and a Texas driver's license. So he wound up handcuffed and taken to a Shreveport jail.
Jones says deputies treated him well and assured him they were checking his claims. A pho-

tograph and fingerprint check eventually confirmed he wasn't the wanted man.
Caddo Parish sheriff's Lt. Don Gibbs says the department was sorry for the inconvenience but committed to ensuring that wanted criminals don't accidentally go free.

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