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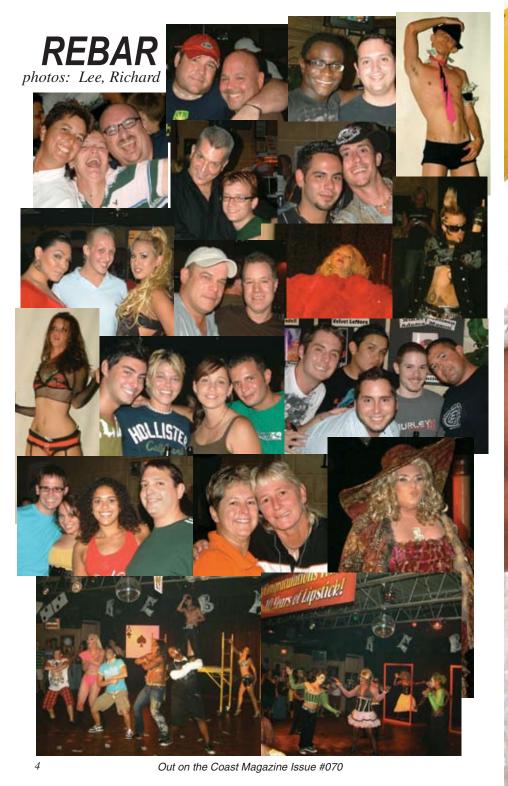


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HOROSCOPE by Jacqueline

Now is the perfect time to make changes in your life and surroundings! With Pluto going direct on the 8th, we can benefit from its' light as is gives us direction and focus. Now we can see our flaws and a means to change them. With a Full moon in Pisces on the 15th, there's an urge, compelling us to make changes for our own emotional happiness. However, when Mercury goes retrograde on the 24th it brings with it those pesky miscommunications. But true to form, a new Moon on the 29th which will bring us back to an emotional balance with all the chaos of this month.

Aries March 23 - April 22 "Be like the willow and bend with the wind, don't be sturdy as the mighty oak for you will fall!" Complications may arise and your patience may be tested as the decisions and path you took in the spring will change. Don't be judgmental and listen to the whole story, have faith and stay with your truth. Re-evaluate your long-term goals and make solid plans in that direction.

Taurus *April 23 – May 22* You've always had an eye for the beauty that surround's you, especially in your home but let's remain practical. Remember you can have both if you have patience and don't let your bullheadedness blind you. Patience and open-mindedness will bring you to your desires.

Gemini May 23 – June 22 Your heightened charm will be a beacon to others this month and attract all who approach. Use the beginning of the month to set your plans in motion. However, set boundaries, but do it lightly and with a sense of humor. When Mercury goes retrograde after the 24th, misunderstandings are due to arise testing your charm and patience.

Cancer June 23 – July 22 Pluto's' rise will have a dual effect on you this month and put you on an emotionally roller coaster. This is the time for you to be one with the crowd and not an outcast. Keep your mind open and speak before you act. As your sensitivity and intuitive abilities are heightened, misunder-standings may occur. Others aren't hearing correctly what you're saying. Know your boundaries and silently stick to them. You'll find things will run a lot smoother.

Leo July 23 – August 22 It is paramount that you organize your work and finances prior to Mercury going retrograde on the 24th. Double check your efforts, ensure all the pieces are in order then sit tight until after October 15th when Mercury goes direct. Anything you do during that time will only cost your more.

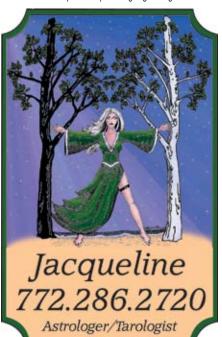
Virgo August 23 – September 22 Happy Solar Return! Last month was the time to think about you. This month is a time to think about others. You'll be called upon by others for help by using your natural organizational skills. Don't hesitate, you'll find the recognition you get later for your efforts will be well worth the sacrifice.

Libra September 23 – October 22 With Venus, Mercury and Mars in your sign, your light will shine brightly this month. Let your voice be heard by all and they will listen, especially with your love life. Don't anticipate or solicit a response, you'll probably be wrong. However, in time you'll find what others reveal will be unexpected or unusual, but immensely beneficial. Especially after the 24th when Mercury goes retroorade in your sign.

Scorpio October 23 – November 22 Use this month to organize yourself and your surroundings as big changes are fast approaching. Make detailed plans and alternative ways to accomplish your goals or after the 24th, you'll find it more difficult, expensive and time consuming to make positive changes.

Sagittarius November 23 – December 22 With Pluto going direct, you can now move more freely as the restrictions that have been put upon you since April subside. From now until December, you'll be able to let your natural talents flow and others will appreciate and compensate you for all your efforts, especially in your love life.

Capricorn December 23 – January 22 Everything feels like a test as all the personal planets going through Libra this





month and next. You'll find yourself wanting to make dynamic changes with those around you. Be careful not to tread on others points of view. They won't appreciate it and you won't get what you want. Change your actions and others will change theirs.

Aquarius January 23 – February 22 The beginning of this month brings love and harmony into your life. You're seeing things clearly right now. Make sure you use this time to speak out and others will listen. However, after the 24th, they may not hear exactly what you're saying. Be patient and repeat yourself. They will eventually get your point.

Pisces February 23 – March 22 Be aware of your responsibilities and boundaries as other's are not. Right now especially you can find yourself caught up with other peoples stuff and before you know it taking responsibility for

their actions. This will prove to be fruitless. Give them your suggestions and walk away. Cleaning up your personal life and not getting involved with others better use your time.

For those who want to know: Last month and this month we had all our personal planets go through Virgo, which means our day to day actions have been put through a detailed examination. When you have 2 or more planets close to each other, it's called a conjunction. What a conjunction does is strengthen the energy between the planets. What this means to us is that we are forces to pay more attention to the particular part of our life where this energy is hitting. Because it's been in Virgo, we must put our nose to the grindstone and not over analyze what is taking place.

Monthly horoscopes by Jacqueline. For more information on Astrology or for a private reading call: 772.286.2720





Ten Time

with Miss T

I'm sure you've noticed that we're on a diet this month. Silly accountant running on about something about living within one's means – well I think he's mean! We have all these pictures from Velvet's 10 Years in Lipstick at **REBAR** and more from **Cold Keg**, too but no room for them, much less the news. I guess it just goes with all the other drama this month. Let's hope Fay washed it all away and next month things can return to normal (in the mean time, if you have thought about advertising with us, now would be a really good time).

Fay washed away Gay Skate – looks like **The Living Room** will be rescheduling it for October (so starting figuring out what costume goes best with roller skates), meanwhile **Gay Bowling** is back for an encore September 21. Everyone had such a good time last month that they decided to do it again while awaiting the arrival of the Liquid Vegas at Port Canaveral. Also, you need to start saving your dollars if you want to attend the third anniversary dinner on November 16 at Yellow Dog. After a year's hiatus this \$100 a plate with silent auction returns. Make your plans now, tickets will be going on sale soon.

East Coast MCC has been making plans, deciding their future, On Sunday, August 24, 2008, the congregation, located in both Port St. Lucie and Melbourne, voted to disaffiliate from their parent denomination, the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (MCC). The vote was over 95% in favor of disaffiliating from the denomination.

Rev. Dr. Jerry L. Seay, Co-Pastor, stated that while the decision was difficult, the church is ready to enter a new phase of existence as a Christian church for all people. A member of another MCC congregation recently remarked that "MCC has drifted from its origin as a grassroots organization to a corporation with a hierarchy which seems to have lost touch with members on a local level." East Coast MCC has not been able to develop a strong relationship with the denomination.

East Coast MCC joins three other Florida congregations who have disaffiliated from the denomination since last October, Rainbow Promise Community Church in Lakeland, A New Church (formerly Hope MCC) in Daytona Beach, and also voting on August 24 to disaffiliate, St. Luke's MCC in Jacksonville. Dr. Seay stated that each congregation had their own reasons for leaving the denomination. East Coast will be developing a new name for their church, and will continue their regular schedule of services.

Meanwhile, up the road in Cocoa, Family of God Community Church will be celebrating their 10th Anniversary in October. Get your tickets now for their Home Made Lasagna Dinner to be held on Saturday, October 19th. Contact them at 321-632-3767 for your ticket. ▼

Don't see your event mentioned? Did you tell me about it? I'm a fairy, not a seer, silly! Send your news, gossip and tidbits to MissT@ootcmag.com





Spiritually Speaking

The Opening Ceremonies of the XXIX Modern Olympics at Beijing, China were absolutely spectacular! To see the hundreds of countries parading their flag and national



pride was awe-inspiring. But representing those many athletes are the many, many hours and years of hard work; the calculated practice, strict regimens of training, and repeated coaching. These athletes embody the best of brawn, skill, and agility. Their dexterity did not come by chance or natural gifts alone.

They had to put effort into their sport.

There is a word for this type of Olympian effort: MOTIVATION. When we think of someone who is motivated they are often described as focused, energetic, committed and purposeful. Certainly this describes those who spend entire lives in some cases, focused on competition. When one is motivated, the inner state of commitment to a goal is evident. It is a direction and persistence of action, encouraging and guiding behavior. You can force someone to do something, but you can never actually force them to want to do it. The desire to want comes from within us and motivation is the internal driving force which draws out fulfillment from what we are doing.

No doubt the Apostle Paul had in mind the footrace of the ancient Greek Olympics when he wrote to the Corinthians about another race:

"Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last; but we do it to get a crown that will last forever." (I Corinthians 9:24-25)

Life is a race, we are the runners. The heavenly prize Paul speaks of is attained by being properly motivated. All who compete in the games go into strict training. This refers to our daily spiritual regimen of prayer, meditation, and scriptural study, our inner state of being guided and empowered by Spirit within. This takes motivation, indeed.

Epictetus, the influential Stoic first century philosopher, speaks to motivation, not only of physical brawn, but to a spiritual life of personal character and behavior. For Epictetus, life was a progression, a race, if you will, toward moral perfection, not by following a list of rules, but by learning how to live life with greater dignity and tranquility by perfecting our inner person—our character. He directly refers to the ancient Olympic games as an

example (as the Apostle Paul) of how we are to realize our inner character. Yes, there is blood, sweat, and tears to becoming more that we are. There is a higher calling to move from beyond the mundane to the extraordinary. He says:

"Now is the time to get serious about living your ideals...This is your life! You aren't a child anymore...

The longer you wait, the more you will be vulnerable to mediocrity and

filled with shame and regret, because you know you are capable of better."

We run the race of life, not to gain a crown that fades away; but to attain a crown that will last forever. The comparison between the temporal and eternal is clearly seen. We, as people of faith, are in a challenge of Olympian proportions. We will not win the race of life just moping along. It takes motivation...The term motivation comes from a Latin word meaning TO MOVE. In motivating ourselves we want to move from one position to another. The spiritual life is not a static one. It is one that moves from precept to precept, line upon line, from glory to glory... If we are not progressing, growing, maturing—then we are not moving toward the heavenly goal. And by the way, the heavenly goal is not just fire insurance from hell, but a goal of perfecting the purpose and plan of God within us and the realization of character's reward, of which any 'crown' of reward is but

The "crown that will last forever" shall be divine approval and not a tacky tiara of mere human achievement. To hear our Creator say to us: "Well done, good and faithful servant..." shall be more than enough as we lay our 'crowns' of earthly achievement before the One we have lived for and died for. The love of acceptance into the heavenly Realm far outshines the glitter of gold and shiny precious stones.

Life is not easy. But we are promised God's presence to be with us through thick and thin. So, my friend, keep on keeping on until life's race is run and the battle won. Don't ever give up! There is strength for the weary, healing balm for the injured, and a song of triumph in the end! Alleluia! Thanks be to God!

The Reverend Gregory L. Denton is Pastor of New Hope First Community Church, "A church built on love where everyone is welcome," an independent growing congregation that believes in God's all-inclusive love. New Hope, celebrating its 12th year in the Palm Beaches, is located at 2929A South Seacrest Blvd. in Boynton Beach, FL. Sunday services are 10:30 am. Discussion Group/Bible Study Thursdays at 7:30 pm. On the web at: www.newhopefla.org





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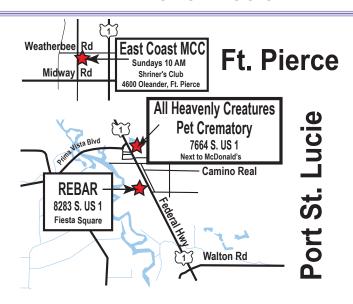
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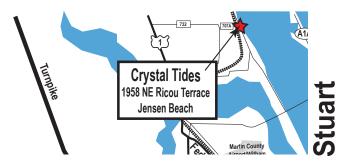
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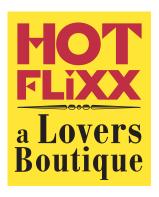








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