

ASTROLOGY NEWS

by Gloria Star

If you have astrology news or events of interest to the astrological community that you would like to share with TMA readers, please send the information to Gloria@GloriaStar.com.

CBS Sunday Morning Features Astrology

On February 7, 2021, CBS News Sunday Morning’s news-magazine broadcast a segment titled “Charting the rising signs for astrology.” Correspondent Rita Braver narrated the segment. Several astrologers were in the spotlight. It was Superbowl Sunday, and the outcome of the game between the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and the Kansas City Chiefs was not yet known. Sports astrologer Andrea Mallis, nicknamed “The Sports Sorceress,” was interviewed and referenced the astrological chart for the game. She also pointed out some qualities of the quarterbacks for the game: Tom Brady (a Leo) and Patrick Mahomes (a Virgo). Braver went on to explore other questions, such as: “How does astrology work?” Astrologer Tracy Rogers explained the complex calculations involved and emphasized that modern astrologers use software programs and reference books to calculate a natal chart. When Braver asked, “What do you say to a skeptic, someone who’s never tried it?” Rogers replied, “Get a reading!” Also interviewed was the editor-in-chief of *Cosmopolitan* magazine, Jessica Pels, who said that visits to the magazine’s online astrology content spiked by 75% in March 2020. Astrologer Susan Miller admitted that she did not see the pandemic on the horizon: “But neither did the CIA or the WHO.” She also said that astrology offers “hope, a feeling of excitement, of possibility.”

Ultimately, Mallis said that she thought the outcome “looks a little more favorable for the Chiefs,” but commented that she had a nagging feeling that steered her to the Buccaneers. “*But there’s Tom Brady, it’s Tom Brady, it’s Tom Brady!*”

Theories about the Current Astrology Boom

Hillary George-Parkin’s piece, “The anxieties and apps fuelling the astrology boom,” was the subject on *BBC News* online on February 5, 2021. In her interview with astrologer Charm Torres, who resides in Toronto, Canada, she learned that the unique qualities of astrology make an ex-

cellent fit with the extra time at home that we’ve all endured during the COVID-19 pandemic: “... people were forced to really sit down with themselves and reflect on what their life was about and where their head was.” Torres said: “Astrology has a way of getting us to be more connected to life and to something bigger than us.”

George-Parkins also noted that the rise in astrology’s popularity was already in place before the pandemic, providing a strong platform for potential growth. Shifts away from mainstream religion have also created a void. Denver, Colorado astrologer Chris Brennan was quoted: “Astrology traditionally has been on the outs with both science and ... religions like Christianity... it’s neither wholly scientific nor wholly religious.” Google Trends shows that searches for “Astrology” and “birth chart” both hit 5-year peaks in 2020. (Along with these metrics, I’ve also heard from several professional astrologers that their consulting business has been in unusually high demand and kept them quite busy during lockdown.) Also noted in the article, Chani Nicholas, a Los Angeles-based astrologer, has garnered record sales of her best-selling book, *You Were Born for This*. And financial astrologers like Caroline Goldstein have seen a rise in membership for her weekly live-streams. You may still be able to activate the link to this informative piece: <https://www.bbc.com/worklife/article/20210205-why-astrology-is-so-popular-now>

In Memoriam

Chris McRae was, indeed, an internationally known astrologer, author, brilliant teacher, and an amazing woman. Her contributions to astrology cover many platforms, including her service in leadership positions on many astrological organizations. Her work with the Edmonton Astrological Society (Canada) began in the 1970s and continued throughout her life. But it was her vision, leadership, and enthusiasm for the International Society for Astrological Research (ISAR) that brought her closely in touch with astrologers worldwide. Chris passed away on December 28, 2020, just a month away from her 93rd birthday and just after she made the finishing touches on her new book, *Great Conjunctions, Shifting Times* (MMA/Seek-It Publications).

Astrology Conference Calendar (Updated April 2021.)

May 27-31, 2021: 37th Annual Northwest (Virtual) Astrological Conference (NORWAC). **For info:** phone: (206) 930-7614; email: nwastroconf@gmail.com; URL: www.NORWAC.net

June 24-26, 2021: 9th Annual Great Lakes Astrology Virtual Conference, *Finding the Flow*. **For info:** email: glacastrology@gmail.com; URL: www.greatlakesastrology.com

August 18-22, 2021: ISAR Conference, Westminster, CO. **For info:** URL: ISAR21.com

September 17-19, 2021: Astro Magia: A Symposium of Art, Academy, Philosophy, & Practice (Online). **For info:** URL: <https://astromagia.org/>

September 23-26, 2021: The Astrology Gathering, Lily Dale, NY. **For info:** email: theastrologygathering@gmail.com; URL: theastrologygathering.com.

October 29 - 31, 2021: 53rd Annual AA Conference 2021, Wyboston Lakes, UK. **For info:** URL: <https://astrologicalassociation.com>

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Gloria Star is a professional astrologer, author, and teacher. You can learn more about her and her services at <http://www.GloriaStar.com>

Eastern Window

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References and Notes

1. Big shout-out to Diego Iglesias.
2. Penny Farrow, "Timing Is Everything," in *The Mountain Astrologer*, April/May 2018, p. 14.
3. Farrow, "A Fine Family or a Rowdy Brood," in *TMA*, Oct./Nov. 2019, p. 16.
4. Farrow, "The Peanut Butter Sandwich," in *TMA*, Aug./Sept. 2018, p. 16.
5. Retrogrades are indicated in the chart by underlining.
6. Farrow, "Elevator Going Up," in *TMA*, Feb./March 2018, p. 20.
7. See Note 4.
8. Farrow, "The Intricate Weave of Relationships," in *TMA*, Aug./Sept. 2017, p. 21. Note: Sambandha is different from the concept of mutual reception.

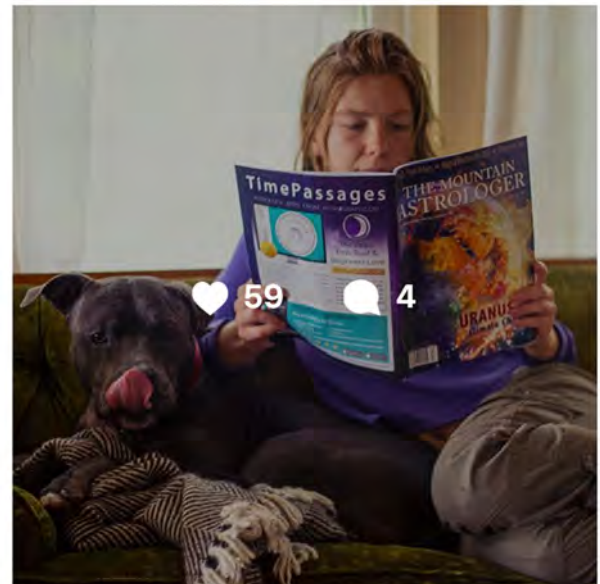
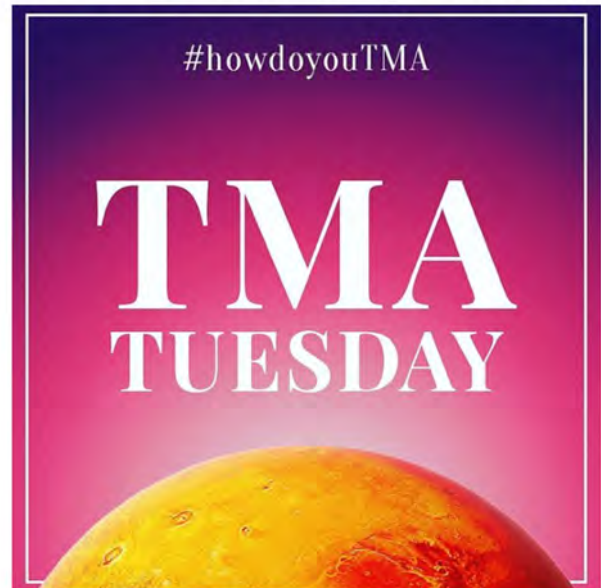
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Penny Farrow has an MS degree from Cornell University and an extensive career as a teacher, researcher, and businesswoman. Involved in the Vedic tradition since 1971, she has studied Jyotisha intensively since 1991, primarily under the personal tutelage of Hart deFouw. She taught Jyotisha and Sanskrit at Vedic Vidya Institute in San Rafael, California for eight years. Now residing in Florida, Penny teaches Jyotisha and Sanskrit full-time, including a new online option. Please visit her newly launched Cosmic Kaleidoscope Journal at <https://vedicchart.com/cosmic-kaleidoscope-journal>. Her email is: info@vedicchart.com; website: <http://www.vedicchart.com>



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