

## Welcome Mat Edition

### A modern twist to a traditional building

#### MPK Chapel receives seating renovations

by Sean Crossley  
*Albrightian*

Built in 1958, the Merner Pfeiffer Klein Memorial Chapel is a venue that serves many purposes for students and non-students alike. It is the place where many musical concerts and recitals are held, one of the main venues for our student orientation program, serves as a facility for the graduation of the Degree Completion program, is used for weddings, and has recently become the home to our ever popular airband events.

Because this building is used quite often, it is not a surprise that the chapel is receiving a facelift. The new renovation to the chapel has been in the planning stages for a couple of years now. The first meeting took place last June and was headed by the Chapel Seating Task Force Committee with President McMillan being the chair of the committee and Ed Kappenstein supervising as the Facilities Project Manager.

This current project was implemented because the old seating in the chapel was deteriorating. The cotton

materials in the seats were popping out and they became difficult and expensive to replace. Because of the wear and tear of the seating,

it can be individually taken out and replaced, making it a much easier and inexpensive process.

The appearance of both

the furniture in the Campus Center Main Lounge as well as the new seating that is currently being installed in Klein Lecture Hall.

The main benefit of the new configuration of seating in the chapel is the handicap accessible feature. The newer seating, though it includes lesser seating capacity, has ten wheelchair accessible spaces for the handicap, compiling with the American Disabilities Act, ADA.

Along with the newer seating, the college has also purchased two newer podiums that match the chapel's interior. These podiums will serve as permanent fixtures and will be utilized for the graduation of our Degree Completion Program, will be used as lecture podiums for speakers, and will also be used for wedding ceremonies.

This renovation is one of many that are in the works to improve the handicap accessibility on our campus. Currently underway is a project to repave all of the walkways on our campus, getting rid of all cracks and imperfections making the pavements much smoother. With the new science center

**Chapel cont'd on pg. 2**



The new seating in the MPK Chapel

Photo by Mrs. McMillan

the chapel was not as visually appealing and seating was not as comfortable for spectators as it once was.

The newer seating consists of the traditional "pew type" seating, but also has new hybrid seating. These hybrid seats are a mixture between a pew and a theater seat. They provide larger individual seating but are very cost-efficient. Instead of having to replace an entire pew, once a seat is deteriorating,

the pew type seating and the new hybrid seating are very similar to the original seating in the chapel. However, the fabric that backs the seats as well as the wood finish meshes with the chapel, and makes the stained windows stand out more, making the chapel more visually appealing. The company who designed the furniture was Sauder Worship Furniture, the same company who made

• In This Issue •

MEISA benefit  
 recital  
 Pg. 2

Swim training in  
 Puerto Rico  
 Pg. 3

KCACTF  
 festival  
 Pg. 3

Make peace  
 a priority  
 Pg. 3

## News in the Brief

compiled by Jessica Bilello  
*Albrightian*

### Circuit City closes its doors

Circuit City was unable to find a buyer of the company; therefore, Circuit City stores across the nation will be closing, that is 567 stores. Circuit City will be joining other chains that have recently closed its doors including KB Toys and Linen N' Things. The company was looking for a buyer or a way to refinance its debt; however, the current economic recession did not help this situation. Circuit City was the nation's second largest consumer electronics retailer. "This is the only possible path for our company," said Circuit City's acting Chief Executive James A. Marcum "We are extremely disappointed by this outcome."

### Cardinals and Steelers head to Tampa

The Arizona Cardinals and the Pittsburgh Steelers will go face to face in Tampa, Florida for Super Bowl 43. This will be the first time in franchise history that the Arizona Cardinals have gone to the big game, but its quarterback, Kurt Warner, has been there twice before. The Arizona Cardinals beat the Philadelphia Eagles in the NFC Championship game 32-25. The Pittsburgh Steelers beat the Baltimore Ravens 23-14 in the AFC Championship game. The Pittsburgh Steelers defeated the Seattle Seahawks in Super Bowl 40, and that was quarterback Ben Roethlisberger's first Super Bowl, and he

### Student attends historic presidential inauguration

by Kimberly Thompson  
*Albrightian*

On Tuesday, January 20, sophomore Michael Moorhouse attended the inauguration of the 44th President of the United States in Washington, D.C. Moorhouse became eligible to attend the historic event as a result of his attendance at the Nation Youth Leadership Forum on Defense, Intelligence, and Diplomacy. Moorhouse is an alumnus to this forum which he attended during his junior year in high school. Since attending the forum he has been invited to several different conferences, the inauguration being one of them.

The University Presidential Inaugural Conference consisted of about 5,000 students from across the country. The conference began on Saturday, January 17 and ended on January 21. During the conference, Moorhouse had the privilege of attending a

number of seminars, where he was given the chance to listen to many different speakers, including Al Gore, Colin Powell and a number of other highly respected political figures. In addition to the seminars, Moorhouse also attended the black tie inaugural gala.

When asked about his feelings regarding his attendance to the inauguration, Moorhouse said, "I am extremely excited to be going to such an historic event and even more excited that this event has become that much more historic with Obama being the President-elect. Being able to be a part of something that will forever be looked back on by all generations to follow and having the ability to tell my children and grandchildren when the time comes for them to learn about this event that I was there and witnessed it first hand, is a feeling that can't even be described."

For more information on the  
**Inauguration cont'd on pg. 2**

### "A Different Way of Thinking" on another continent

by Tom Spincic  
*Albrightian*

Sophomore Sarah Mulvihill returned from a grand voyage late this past December. No, she did not travel to Ontario or Newark; instead, she spent her fall semester on the Gold Coast of Australia at Griffith University. While her friends at Albright were reviewing their schedules and making plans to move back into the dorms, Sarah was trying to figure out how to fit her life in a suitcase. While her friends watched the trees turn auburn and the leaves fall down, Sarah went scuba diving off the Great Barrier Reef. As they dragged out their jackets and scarves when the temperature began to fall, Sarah gazed idly out the bus window at palm trees and blue skies whizzing past on her way to the beach, lit up with white sand and clear blue sea.

"Very different from

Jersey," she quipped. However, this golden opportunity would never have come had she not visited the Study Abroad/Off-Campus Fair last spring.

This year, the Study Abroad/Off-Campus Fair takes place on March 5 from 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Advocates for experiential learning of all types attend, from academic advisors to students. Some have just returned from semesters spent abroad, others have spent time studying elsewhere and come to the fair to tell their stories. They try to encourage the rest of the student body to realize the potential opportunity lying in wait for them.

"I can't study abroad! I'm a psych-bio major... I don't even take a foreign language!" The staff at the Study Abroad Office hears stories like this all the time. The staff aims to clear up any preconceived notions students may have to  
**Study Abroad cont'd on pg. 2**

## Brief cont'd from pg. 2

was the youngest quarterback in history to come home with a win. Super Bowl 43 will be held on Sunday, February 1.

## Airplane Lands in the Hudson River

On Thursday, January 15th a U.S. Airways plane crash landed into the Hudson River. The plane took off from La Guardia Airport in New York in hopes to reach their destination in Charlotte, North Carolina. After a bird or flock of birds flew into the jet engine, the plane experienced a mechanical failure which resulted in the plane landing into Hudson River.

The plane's passengers were able to exit the plane via rafts and life jackets provided by U.S. Coast Guard. Thankfully, these passengers did not have long to wait in the water. Ferries that transport people between New Jersey and New York quickly responded, and they rescued the passengers. One passenger on the plane remarked on how calm the individuals on the plane were. Women and children were allowed to exit the plane, but everyone, all one hundred and fifty-five passengers exited

## Chapel cont'd from pg. 2

construction, there are plans to not only make the science center more handicap accessible, but also to make the campus center and the area around it more accessible as well.

## Inauguration cont'd from pg. 2

University Presidential Inaugural Conference, visit [www.inauguralscholar.org](http://www.inauguralscholar.org).

## Study Abroad cont'd from pg. 2

opt out of studying abroad. The office puts itself out there to encourage more students to entertain the notion that studying abroad is not only within their reach, but more valuable than they may realize. Once they become acquainted with an applicant, they strive to make the process easier.

Some students are concerned about maintaining their credits, having worked so hard to earn them all. But fear of losing or missing any-

thing is relatively unfounded, says Mulvihill.

"My interest in Australia had nothing to do with my major [Elementary Education]... I actually wasn't allowed to take any education classes there, due to state teaching regulations."

She adds, "The classes I took overseas counted as pass/fail, so it didn't affect my GPA—as long as I passed the class, it counted."

Certain misconceptions about the program still exist. For instance, studying abroad doesn't necessarily mean studying out of the country. Opportunities are available in many domestic cities, including Philadelphia and Washington, D.C. Albright's Center for Experiential Learning and Research also operates in conjunction with other schools' study abroad programs, such as Arcadia University, located outside of Philadelphia. This gives students a greater chance of finding the perfect institution for what they want.

In terms of payment for time spent studying away from Albright, no fees are charged to the student's account after the agency in charge of the program re-

ceives their payment. In some cases, it can actually be cheaper than a semester at Albright. Although scholarships provided by Albright, such as talent scholarships for theatre and journalism, and Presidential and Alumni family of scholarships are not usable for off-campus study, most grants, loans, and private scholarships still apply. Advisors at the Study Abroad Office can assist in providing information about other scholarships.

The application process is not an arduous one either, thanks to the Study Abroad Office. In Mulvihill's case, she did a fair amount of the leg work herself.

"The application process wasn't bad... I found [a program] at the Study Abroad fair, did everything online... Albright didn't even really know I was applying until I went and told them." But, she says, to have the assistance of the office was a valuable resource.

"Everyone there is very friendly and helpful. After I found out I had been accepted, the Study Abroad Office made it an easy transition. In late spring, they scheduled a meeting for all the

students studying abroad in summer and fall. They devise a packet of papers based on your specific country, containing what to look out for and expect there. They were very clear on what to do to prepare. I found it very beneficial."

College, in the grand scheme of things, is a glorified learning experience. What better way to learn something new than to immerse oneself in a totally different environment? What better experience can one draw upon later in life than an experience that is totally new, evoking feelings not yet felt before?

Sarah Mulvihill will always remember her first semester of her sophomore year of college, the time she lived in Australia. She was happy to return to her life in Pennsylvania as she had lived before, but she is already beginning to discover how her time spent in Australia will actually influence her later in life. As she finishes college and begins the next phase of her life, she will always remember.

"There were so many opportunities that I never would have had in America."

## MEISA benefit recital

by Alice Santana  
*Albrightian*

As soon as the winter turned colder and students got anxious to go home for the holidays, the hard-working members of Albright's MEISA chapter decided to host a Holiday Benefit Recital. The brainchild of treasurer Aaron Hubbard, the recital was set to benefit a foster home. He went to work researching and contacting possibilities, finally choosing the Friendship House's Cloud Home, located in Pottsville, Pennsylvania. Once they chose the charity, the members worked together to organize a phenomenal holiday show.

Once the members heard the stories of the boys in the home, their compassion drove them to set a high goal for themselves: raise enough money to buy the boys a Nintendo Wii. In addition, each of the boys chose one thing they really wanted, and MEISA compiled a list for non-members who wanted to help. A day into fundraising, MEISA noticed that students wanted to give, but some could not attend the show. Their brilliant minds came up with an idea for a "Giving Tree." This concept was comprised of paper hands that each cost a dollar in donation to the boys' home. Each person who donated could then write a short message on

their hand, which were later attached to a large cutout of a Christmas tree and displayed during the concert as a thanks to all those who donated.

The show took place on Thursday December 4, and the air was buzzing with holiday spirit. Roop Hall was decked out in garland and lights and the performers were bustling backstage. MEISA members rushed to add chairs to the room for the growing audience while Santa Claus prepared for his big entrance. The boys from the foster home sat in the front row and waited for their big break.

The recital featured performances by the Albright College Gospel Ensemble as well as several solo vocalists. All of the performers, with the exception of the sensational performance of "Jingle Bell Rock" by the boys from Cloud Home, were Albright students lending their talents to a great cause. Among these performers were MEISA president Alice C. Santana, who sang a duet of "Santa Baby" with MEISA member Kristin Whyte, and MEISA member Dan Gonder, who wowed the audience with an electric rock version of "Carol of the Bells."

The event was an absolute success. The members raised enough money to buy the boys of the Cloud Home a Nintendo Wii, as well each of the individual gifts on their Christmas list.

## thealbrightian

Albright College • Box# 717 • 13th & Bern Streets  
P.O. Box 15234 • Reading, PA 19612  
albrightian@albright.edu • ph: 610.921.7558 • f: 610.921.7530  
[www.albright.edu/albrightian](http://www.albright.edu/albrightian)

### Editors in Chief

Sean Crossley  
Katie Donaldson  
Jessica Bilello  
Jamie McGrath  
Amy Defibaugh  
Amanda Cain  
Megan Lamiotte  
Katie Donaldson  
Simon Foster  
Kim Bluemer  
Dr. Jon Bekken

### News Editor

### Features Editor

### Student Life Editor

### Sports Editor

### Entertainment Editor

### Design/Layout Editor

### Advertising Editor

### Copy Editor

### Faculty Advisor

### Reporters

David Yadush, Brandon Ruppert, Anne Rhodes, Caitlin Spratt, Maria Disla, Tyler Parmer, Jen Bates, Amanda Cain, Lauren Rampolla, Kelly Spracklin, Kaila Hawriluk, Dan Nester, Megan Lamiotte, Sam Levine, Allyse Wolfinger, Jessica Bilello, Kimberly Thompson, Jamie McGrath, Sean Crossley, Tom Spincic, Christopher Frank, Alex Quirits, Katie Donaldson, Manpreet Kaur, Billy LeDuc, Stephen Davis, Rebecca Woskoff, Kim Bluemer, Brian Benusa, Alice Santana

The Albrightian is published at least six times a semester by the students of Albright College except during vacation, holidays and examination periods. The publication is printed by the Susquehanna Printing Press in Ephrata, Pa. All submissions become property of The Albrightian, and the editors hold the copyright. All opinions expressed in The Albrightian are those of the authors of the columns and letters and are not necessarily the opinions of Albright College, its faculty, staff, administration or its Board of Trustees.

The Albrightian reserves the right to edit letters for length and to reject letters if they are libelous or do not conform to standards of good taste. Send letters to Campus Center Box 332. All letters received become property of The Albrightian.

*The voice of Albright College since 1904*

## KCACTF Festival Domino Players perform in Philly

by Amanda Cain  
*Albrightian*

The sights and sounds of William Shakespeare's *Love's Labour's Lost* came alive once more for the members of Albright College's Domino Players Theater Company on January 16 at the Merriam Theater in Philadelphia. The performance was part of the 2009 Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival.

The Domino Players' production was selected as one of nine from a group of 68 productions nominated in Region II, which included schools from Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, New York and Pennsylvania. Joining Albright at the festival were productions from Penn State Altoona, Rowan College, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Towson University, SUNY-Brockport, Grove City College, SUNY-Oswego and Queensborough Community College. Productions ranged from Shakespeare and the more recent *Spring Awakening*,

to student-written productions.

During the regional festival, students and directors have the opportunity to participate in a number of different workshops, symposia and regional-level award programs. The festival also offers opportunities throughout the year for student internships and scholarships, such as the Irene Ryan Acting Scholarship.

Directed by Julia Matthews, *Love's Labour's Lost* was first performed November 14 - 22 in the Wachovia Theatre. With the performance in the regional festival, the production has the chance of moving on to perform as part of the national festival in April at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. The last performance to participate from Albright was the 2007 production of *Waiting for Godot*, directed by Jeffrey Lentz. Lentz's adaptation of Samuel Beckett's production made it through to the national festival, along with three other schools.

## Puerto Rican adventure Annual swim team training

by Kimberly Thompson  
*Albrightian*

On December 14, 2008, the men's and women's swim teams headed to San Juan, Puerto Rico for their annual training trip, for the third year in a row. The teams stayed at the ESJ towers until December 23 where they spent several hours a day practicing their skills.

Practices took place twice a day, every day, for two hours. Typical practices for the teams are split between distance, mid-distance, and sprinters.

Each team follows a different workout. Distance typically does longer swimming sets while mid-distance often focuses on many different types of strokes. Sprinters work on shorter sets with fewer distances. Each practice typically began with a kick-and-pull set.

In addition to two practices a day, the teams also do a dry-land practice. Dry-land is done before the afternoon practices with

the entire team. It begins with laps around the gym, continuing with several ab and leg workouts, as well as suicides.

As a change, the teams were given the chance to hold a mini-meet against Hartwick, another college training in Puerto Rico during the same period of time.

"Overall Puerto Rico is a really hard nine days of training; however, all the hard work is worth swimming outside and getting away from the cold. It is just a fun and different way to prepare the team for our championship meet," said senior, Kristin Whyte.

Since returning home from Puerto Rico, the men's and women's teams are back on campus practicing, as well as competing in several meets. The women's team is undefeated in their conference. With two meets remaining, the team is getting ready to begin taper for the MAC championship, which will take place February 13 to February 15.

## Success mixing well for Ferry's lions

by Kevin Newkirk  
*Albrightian*

A coach's ability to blend veteran talent with the skill of newcomers is essential to the success of a sports team at any level. Rick Ferry's Lion basketball team's 11-5 start is a testament to Ferry's and the players' ability to blend those proven leaders and fresh faces.

"I really think we're coming together well as a team," says starting center and team captain Phil Hall. Hall, a 6-11 senior, leads the Lions in scoring and rebounding (14.1 points and 6.8 rebounds per game respectively), but is quick to point out that the key to Albright's success thus far is unselfishness.

"Everyone on this team looks to make the extra pass," he says, noting that first-year players and upper-classmen alike are contributing to this year's early success. Junior point guard Adam Van Zelst agrees.

"Our team's current success comes a lot from our chemistry. Everyone on the

team gets along pretty well. Our new guys are stepping up and playing well...the guys who have been here a few years are too."

Albright currently has five players averaging at least 8.5 points per game, as well as 10 players who play over 10 minutes a night. Furthermore, two new players making their presences known are sophomore guard Matt Ashcroft and freshman center Derek Hall. Ashcroft, a transfer from Division I Mount St. Mary's University (MD), is averaging 7.4 points and 2.3 rebounds per game. His clutch long-range shooting and energetic play off the bench were crucial in Lions' victory over Lebanon Valley January 10.

"As a new player in the program I just want to do whatever I can to try and help the team win," Ashcroft says.

The younger Hall brother also has a similar mentality. "I just try to come off the bench and come into the game and play as hard and as tough as I can and try to get my team a win," Derek says.

In Albright's 93-80 victory

over Elizabethtown on January 14, Derek complimented his older brother Phil's 24-point performance by shooting a perfect 5-5 from the field en route to scoring 15 points and tallying six rebounds. It was his best all-around performance of the year, one where he's averaging 5.7 points and 3.9 rebounds per game.

While the Lions have been impressive in the first half of the season, Ashcroft and Van Zelst quickly note that the Lions must improve defensively to contend for a MAC championship and NCAA tournament bid. The Lions are giving up 72.7 points per game.

"We need to get stronger defensively," Ashcroft says. "The offense can't always be there every night, but defense can, because defense is all effort."

It's a challenge the Lions can handle nonetheless. Van Zelst agrees.

"As long as we fight every night and play tough and play as a team, everything will continue to come together, and we'll be just fine."

## Make peace a priority

by Amy Defibaugh and  
Jeremy Gillam  
*Albrightian*

As we begin the New Year as witnesses to the fighting and suffering in Gaza, it is imperative to realize that there are peaceful alternatives to the conflict. The number of ideological and religious divisions in such close geographical proximity present complex political problems for Middle Eastern countries. Such a situation necessitates an attitude of coexistence from all sides.

In an effort to maintain peaceful relations as our ultimate ideal, it is vital that people compromise in the face of unfamiliar values. Only through engaging in discussion and diplomacy can differences be reconciled. Without the peaceful exchange of culture, we as citizens, political subjects and people of the world forgo all hope of realizing autonomy and justice.

Almost seven weeks ago, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict worsened; on December 19, 2008, Hamas leaders refused to extend the truce set in place during negotiations in June 2008, thus reopening the clash of violence. Mortar and rocket fire from Hamas militants triggered Israeli Air Force responses aimed at the civilian infrastructure along the Gaza strip. Over 1,100 Palestinians have been killed as a result of this renewed

conflict between Israeli and Hamas military forces; thousands have been displaced from their homes, driven to U.N. shelters or forced from the city.

The already staggering number of casualties cries out desperately for an end to the violence. Around the world, the sounds of war can be heard; it resonates within each of us. How are we to respond to the violence? How do we understand it? How do we help?

It's the perfect time to make resolutions for both ourselves and our communities. As so many have proclaimed in recent weeks, we must join together to make peace a priority. Internationally this has become the initiative for so many grass root organizations. Protestors have taken to the streets; artists and musicians, politicians and world leaders, people from across the globe are calling for peace in Israel and Palestine.

In Germany, the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra is composed of 100 young Israeli and Arab members. Their performance is more than the music they play; their message states that the "Israeli-Palestinian conflict cannot be solved militarily; rather total freedom and equality between Israelis and Palestinians should be the alternative to terrorism and casualty-heavy military operations."

On the other side of the world, Dr. Dorian Paskowitz is an 86-year-old Jewish physician from Hawaii. He co-founded Surfers for Peace, an organization inspired by an article in the LA Times, "Gaza Surfers Find Freedom in the Sea" and a photograph of two Palestinian boys sharing an old, beat-up surf board. Paskowitz acted quickly, delivering fifteen new surfboards to Palestinian enthusiasts. Paskowitz is convinced that surfing could become a peaceful outlet; passion for surfing could become a possibility for peace.

The diversity of the organizations working for peace and justice is breathtaking, comforting even. We are coming together, using our own talents and interests to encourage the construction of peaceful spaces, creative outlets, and nonviolent communication.

There is still more to be done. We need to educate ourselves and each other; we need to raise awareness through discussion and demonstration. Write your congress-person, talk to your church, friends, and family; get a bumper sticker or make a sign; create art. Collectively, we spread the word of peace and justice, care and compassion through different mediums.

Make this your resolution. Make peace a necessity in the New Year.

## Sudoku

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3 x 3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. You can't change the digits already provided in the grid. You have to work around them. Every puzzle has just one correct solution.

	3			2				
					7	5		6
6		8				7	1	2
				9				1
		2	3		8	4		
4				1				
5	4	7				2		9
8		1	2					
				4				8

## Campus Calendar

January 22 - March 11, 2009  
Freedman Gallery Exhibition  
Works by Sue Coe

Thursday, January 29  
Activities Fair  
CCML & CCSL 3 - 7 p.m.

Friday, January 30  
Melomanie Concert  
Roop Hall 8 p.m.

Thursday, February 5  
WRAPPED! In Search of the Essential Mummy  
CCSL-Fire Side 6:30 p.m.

Monday, February 9  
Persona Cards  
CCML 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. & 5 - 7 p.m.

Tuesday, February 10  
Comedian-Louis Ramey  
CCSL 8 p.m.

Wednesday, February 11  
Women's and Men's Basketball vs. Widener  
Bollman Gym 6 p.m. & 8 p.m.

## Albrightian Openings

We're looking for students who are interested in journalism and writing to become news, sports and feature writers, and anyone else interested in getting involved. The Albrightian is also in need of photographers. If interested in any position, send us an e-mail at [albrightian@alb.edu](mailto:albrightian@alb.edu). We are located in Selwyn Hall, third floor, rooms 308.

**First Albrightian Meeting for this Semester**  
Monday, Feb 3 @ 7pm  
Campus Center Main Lounge

## Horoscopes

compiled by Jessica Bilello

### Aries (March 21-April 19)

When you see something that confuses you today, you need to understand that it's a clear sign that you're on the right track! And don't wait for others to heap praise you, you are going to need to do it yourself! The challenges you have overcome would make anyone else shake with fear, and others could be a bit resentful that you have done what they couldn't. Don't hold it against your friends or coworkers if they can't bring themselves to congratulate you.

### Taurus (April 20-May-20)

Big picture thinking can all too often distract you from the details that really matter. But today, if you are flexible about a few things, you'll be able to find new appreciation for the smaller things in life. Suddenly, beauty will be all around you -- someone's laugh is like music to your ears, or their eyes hold a bright sparkle you'd never noticed before. There is a lot of nuance to your daily routine and it's very rewarding to sit back and enjoy it today.

### Gemini (May 21-June 20)

Reminiscing about the past is a great way to learn about where you could be going in your future. So send an email off to an old friend with the subject line 'remember when' and make your correspondence take you down memory lane! Not only will it be a great way to fill your busy day with sweet energy, it will remind you about just how far you have come in your life. Marking your progress is a great way to get a focus on where you want to go next in your life.

### Cancer (June 21-July 22)

You might be feeling stifled by your surroundings right now -- if there is any clutter on your desk, it will start creating clutter in your mind. But that's a problem that is really easy to solve. Simply take some time to clean up your work area or wherever you are spending the most time today. Could your car use a thorough vacuuming? Is your kitchen messier than you'd like it to be? Does your desk look like a disaster area? Getting things organized will make a dramatic difference.

### Leo (July 23-August 22)

Sorting through all the details of a new project or challenge might be extremely frustrating for you today, but that is no reason to just jump right in and throw caution to the wind! If you are confused, that is all the more reason for you to not be impulsive. Take a leap of faith today, and you might not land on your feet as gracefully as you usually do. You need to fully understand every single detail of a this new endeavor before you can get involved with it.

### Virgo (August 23-September 22)

An unresolved romantic issue in your life suddenly seems like it has a chance at a happy ending. You are finally getting a handle on what you want and what you don't want -- which is usually much more important. This other person is going through a similar growth phase, and they are ready to hear your feelings without over-reacting. They want to know what you think. This is a great day for putting the past behind you and it's a great day for solidifying a relationship.

### Libra (September 23-October 22)

If you've been feeling overwhelmed lately, it's probably because you are pushing yourself way too hard! Reset your agenda today, and make sure you are not spreading yourself too thin. If you're tired, take a nap. If you're sick of dealing with whiners, get some quiet alone time. Listen to your body and follow your mood, whatever hits you, whenever it hits you, today. Not every day has to be full of activities and accomplishments. It's a day you should spend focusing on your own needs.

### Scorpio (October 23-November 21)

People want to connect with you more than ever now, and will be extremely outgoing and talkative with you all day long. It could be difficult to juggle their attention with all the things you've got to take care of, but it will be fun! You love being busy right now, and it's going to be wonderful to have such a vibrant mix of socializing and working. People will want to know your secret to balancing everything so well, but for you there are no tricks -- it's just part of who you are!

### Sagittarius (November 22-December 21)

Today you'll have the opportunity to team up with someone who balances out your skills -- grab it! Sure, this person might not be your cup of tea, but minor personality clashes are nothing compared to the amount of progress you two can make if you put your heads together. Two heads are always better than one, and you are currently in a phase of your life when you are ready to collaborate and share the spotlight. Others may drive you crazy, but they can also drive you to success.

### Capricorn (December 22-January 19)

Your brain is going to take longer than usual to ramp up this morning, so it's not a great day to do any heavy research or calculations early on. To help speed up your cerebral wake up, seek out vibrant people who are always full of energy and sass. Also, getting involved in situations that require collaboration will help you get more active and energized. You won't be fully responsible for any one task, but you can still add your good ideas and input.

### Aquarius (January 20-February 18)

This is one of those days when you need to treat just about everyone you encounter with kid gloves. If you take care when dealing with others, you will reap huge rewards -- either in terms of good will, or in terms of gratitude. There are many fragile egos around you today and they are attached to some people who have powerful ties. So making friends and making people happy should be your number one goal. You won't regret expending the extra effort it requires.

### Pisces (February 19-March 20)

Today is definitely a great day to get a new project started, but don't expect to get too far with it right away. Not only do you have to pace yourself to conserve your energy, but you have to have realistic expectations. If you rush ahead and try to do everything at once, you'll only end up tired and frustrated at the end of the day without much to show for all your effort. Instead, start today off by doing some research and planning. It will help you enjoy the entire experience much more.