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**Everybody's Talking**

**Odd house:** In Deerfield, Illinois (U.S.), a suburb of Chicago, one house draws considerable attention from passersby. Known as the "Pie House," this structure has been positioned on a narrow lot in a desirable area of town since it was built in 2003. To make use of the limited space, the developer designed a long, narrow home. It is complete with a modern kitchen, nice bedrooms, two-and-a-half bathrooms, and hardwood floors. When it was originally built, neighbours complained. Since then, the home has become known as a unique addition to the architecture of the area.

**Salty scenes:** Artists have been known to use a variety of materials to create their work. For Bashir Sultani of Toronto, Ontario (Canada), that medium is salt. Using such tools as Q-tips and razor blades, Sultani moves the salt around on a black background to design the scene, which could be a celebrity's face or a plate of food. Earlier in his career, Sultani, who was born in Afghanistan, used only white salt to produce black-and-white pieces. Now he uses salt of various colours to add more realism to his work, making a hamburger loaded with lettuce, tomatoes, and cheese appear to be truly edible.

**Big babies:** The North American term, "failure to launch," refers to adult children who end up being supported by their parents for much longer than may be reasonable. In Italy, these individuals are known as bamboccioni, which means "big babies." In that country, a judge recently ruled that a part-time music teacher in his thirties did not have the right to expect his parents to support him. Until the ruling, the teacher's parents had been providing him with 300 Euros a month. The judge was clear that she would not make such a ruling if an adult child has special needs, but healthy adults should be expected to support themselves.

**Hungry, but happy:** Chen Yongen of Cangbaotian village, Guizhou Province, China, was thrilled to find that his pet dog had survived calamity. The village had experienced a landslide during which everyone had to leave in a hurry. Because many buildings were demolished, villagers were unable to return for over a month, due to safety concerns. The pooch had been on his chain and was unable to run to find shelter, so the pet owner feared for the dog's safety. When the owner was allowed back home, he could hear barking under the rubble. With help from villagers, he was able to dig out his scared and hungry pet, which was overjoyed to see his owner.

**Quoteable Quotes**

"Are not flowers the stars of earth?" —Clara Lucas Balfour  
 "Observation is a passive science, experimentation an active science." —Claude Bernard

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**Trivia**

1. Which Russian cosmonaut was the first to travel to outer space?
2. The first Harley-Davidson motorcycle was marketed in 1903, 1922, or 1932?
3. Darjeeling, Earl Grey, and Oolong are types of what product?
4. How many U.S. gallons of liquid does a 10-gallon hat hold?
5. What is the dream phase of sleep called?

(Flip bottom of page for answers)

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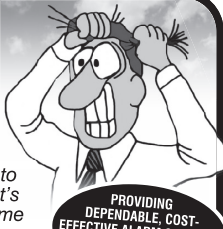


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**Recipe of the month**


**Cheesy Broccoli Soup in a Bread Bowl**

1/4 cup butter, cubed	1/4 teaspoon pepper
1/2 cup chopped onion	1/4 cup cornstarch
2 garlic cloves, minced	1/4 cup water or additional chicken stock
4 cups fresh broccoli florets (about 8 ounces)	2-1/2 cups shredded cheddar cheese
1 large carrot, finely chopped	6 small round bread loaves (about 8 ounces each), optional
3 cups chicken stock	Optional toppings: Crumbled cooked bacon, additional shredded cheddar cheese, ground nutmeg and pepper
2 cups half-and-half cream	
2 bay leaves	
1/2 teaspoon salt	
1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg	

Prep Time: 15 mins. Cook time: 30 mins. Yield: 6 servings

- In a 6-qt. stockpot, heat butter over medium heat; sauté onion and garlic until tender, 6-8 minutes. Stir in broccoli, carrot, stock, cream and seasonings; bring to a boil. Simmer, uncovered, until vegetables are tender, 10-12 minutes.
- Mix cornstarch and water until smooth; stir into soup. Bring to a boil, stirring occasionally; cook and stir until thickened, 1-2 minutes. Remove bay leaves. Stir in cheese until melted.
- If using bread bowls, cut a slice off the top of each bread loaf; hollow out bottoms, leaving 1/4-in.-thick shells (save removed bread for another use). Fill with soup just before serving.
- If desired, serve soup with toppings.

Source: [www.tasteofhome.com](http://www.tasteofhome.com)




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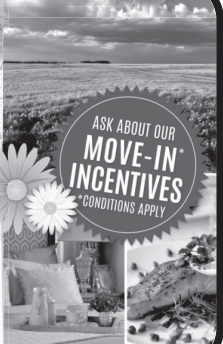
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# Your Weekly Horoscope

**ARIES (March 21 - April 20)**  
Harmonious relationships may be very important to you. Taking some initiative could provide support from those in a position to assist you in your goals. Lucky Numbers: 3, 18, 24, 30, 36, 42.

**TAURUS (April 21 - May 21)**  
A goal or vision you may have been working toward could come to fruition. Your optimistic attitude could gain momentum and positive recognition. Lucky Numbers: 23, 26, 33, 36, 43, 46.

**GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)**  
You may feel like socializing, but might not want to put out any great expenditure of energy. Relaxation, enjoyment, and pleasure might be needed now. Lucky Numbers: 4, 13, 24, 33, 43, 44.

**CANCER (June 22 - July 22)**  
A difference of opinion may arise, and you might have to challenge someone. Your mind may be sharp, allowing you to reason in ways that are more cooperative with others. Lucky Numbers: 20, 28, 30, 37, 40, 46.

**LEO (July 23 - Aug. 23)**  
This may be a very positive time in your marriage or closest relationships. You need to be together and to share loving feelings could be very strong now. Lucky Numbers: 4, 17, 21, 25, 28, 36.

**VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)**  
You may feel confident and ambitious, and enjoy athletic events and sports. You also might feel energetic and optimistic about your own personal growth. Lucky Numbers: 6, 11, 17, 19, 36, 42.

**LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)**  
Opportunities for enjoyable social interactions may occur now. Financial plans could go smoothly, and personal relationships might be more harmonious. Lucky Numbers: 11, 15, 19, 31, 35, 39.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)**  
Your communication skills may be excellent now. This could be the right time to discuss feelings and clear the air of any past grievances you might have had. Lucky Numbers: 14, 18, 23, 31, 40, 44.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)**  
You may really enjoy art, theatre, music, and your own inner world of fantasy. Your imagination and interest in spiritual matters might come to the fore. Lucky Numbers: 4, 8, 20, 24, 43, 46.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 20)**  
Opportunities for friendship, cooperation, and shared happiness may arise. The warmth and goodwill you generate now might be a benefit to you later on. Lucky Numbers: 2, 4, 12, 24, 42, 44.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)**  
You may have more energy and fun now. You might be in harmony with those in your circle of friends. There could be a sense of cooperation, rather than resistance. Lucky Numbers: 12, 15, 18, 21, 22, 25.

**PISCES (Feb. 20 - March 20)**  
Social gatherings may be very positive. You could be inclined to make your home more inviting. You might even want to enhance your own personal look in some way. Lucky Numbers: 4, 16, 21, 27, 32, 39.

Lucky numbers this week: This week's odds favour Aries winners with the luckiest number being 3.

## Did You Know...

- Another name:** Art lovers are familiar with "Mona Lisa," the famous painting by Leonardo da Vinci. It's also known as "La Gioconda," after its possible subject, Lisa Gherardini, the wife of a wealthy Italian merchant named Francesco del Giocondo.
- Good eyesight:** Giraffes have two very distinct advantages over other animals. They're tall enough to munch leaves at treetop level, and they have such excellent eyesight they can spot a threat coming from at least a mile away.
- Not a UFO:** People often spot unidentified flying objects in the night sky, but another kind of UFOs exist in the quilting world. UFOs are what quilters call their unfinished objects. They can be unfinished for a variety of reasons, including simply running out of fabric.
- Little flute:** The piccolo, which means "little" in Italian, is a musical cousin to the flute. A member of the woodwind family, its sound is an octave higher than a flute. The piccolo is the highest pitched instrument in the orchestra.
- The Equator:** The South American country of Ecuador derives its name from the word's Spanish meaning: the equator. The Equator runs through the country, and in San Antonio Parish there is a 30-metre (98-ft.) monument to mark the location.

## On the Lighter Side

Everyone learns from other people's mistakes – none of us has time to think them all up for ourselves.

What would a chair look like if your knees bent the other way?

During a grammar class, the teacher spots one of her pupils staring out the window. "Hey, Peter!" she shouts, "Give me two pronouns." Peter answers, "Who? Me?"

People who say it cannot be done are often interrupted by the person doing it.

What did one candle say to the other candle? Let's go out tonight.

### Answers

Trivia answers: 1. Yuri Gagarin 2. 1903 3. Tea 4. 3/4 of a gallon 5. REM

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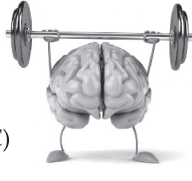


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