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Everybody's Talking

Well-dressed: James Maina Mwangi of Nairobi, Kenya, came from a poor family and didn't have very many clothes as a child. Eventually, he was able to earn money as a handyman, and he started to buy interesting clothes to match his flamboyant style. Today, he can be seen on the city's streets in suits of different colours, all with matching accessories. For example, if he decides to wear a bright blue suit, he wears a tie, hat, watchband, eyeglasses, and shoes that all match. On other days, he may be dressed in pink, yellow, red plaid, or black and white. During the pandemic, he even finds facemasks to match!

Bird sport: A sport in Belgium involves birds, but very little activity. It's called vinkenspot, which translates as "finch sitting" in English. In vinkensport, competitors sit in front of cages that contain one male chaffinch (a member of the finch family). These birds sing, and their owners keep track of the number of times their bird makes a complete bird call. A distinctive "suske-wiet" marks the end of each call. The competitor whose chaffinch makes the most calls in an hour is the winner. The sport is known to have cheaters; once, a competitor put a CD player in the box instead of a bird.

Pie queen: A baker from Seattle, Washington (U.S.), has become a pie-baking celebrity. Lauren Ko once worked as an executive assistant in education, but now she bakes pies with such intricate geometric designs that people flock to see her creations. Grandma's pies may have tasted delicious, but Ko's work also appeals to the eye. One blueberry pie, dubbed "flour power," uses dozens of six-sided dough bits to hold blue petals. Others feature swirls of food-coloured dough strands or shapes that are formed into unbelievable patterns. The resulting pies are almost too incredible to eat!

Much ado about nothing: Some people may wonder what the social media world is coming to after they hear about a video posted by Muhammad Didit of Indonesia. The young man decided to post a video of himself doing absolutely nothing. He shows himself sitting on a couch and staring into the camera for over two hours! He meant to record himself doing nothing for only five or 10 minutes, but after he started, he kept going. The weird thing is that the video has garnered hundreds of thousands of views and has motivated other people to do the same thing for even longer periods of time.

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"In a time of turbulence and change, it is more true than ever that knowledge is power."—John Fitzgerald Kennedy

"Statues and pictures and verse may be grand, but they are not the Life for which they stand." —James Thomson

What's Happening

NON profit organizations may submit events for FREE at <https://coffeenewswinnipeg.com/whats-happening>

Trivia

1. French fries originated in France—T/F?
2. What glands are responsible for producing tears?
3. What is a loge?
4. Who wrote the popular novel Beloved?
5. Guinness World Records states that the first speeding ticket was written in 1896, 1920, or 1929?

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Recipe of the month

Spring Pea Pasta

1 pound pasta
3-4 cups fresh peas
5 scallions, thinly sliced
1 shallot, very finely diced
1 cup chopped fresh mint
1 cup chopped Italian parsley
½ cup olive oil

2 lemons – zest and ¼ cup juice
2 cups fresh pea shoots, baby spinach or arugula
1 teaspoon salt (plus more to taste)
½ teaspoon pepper
1 tablespoon truffle oil
Optional: goat cheese crumbles

Prep Time: 15 mins. Cook time: 10 mins. Yield: 4 (main) or 8 (side)

- Boil pasta in a generous amount of salted water per directions.
- During the very last minute of cooking, if serving this as a warm entrée, add the peas to the pasta and just lightly blanch.
- While the pasta is cooking, prep the rest of the ingredients.
- Chop the scallions, shallots and herbs.
- Zest two lemons, and measure out ¼ cup lemon juice.
- Once the pasta is just about done, add the peas to the boiling pasta water and blanch for one minute, or just until bright green. Immediately drain, place pasta and peas in large bowl, drizzle with olive oil, lemon juice and season with 1 tsp salt and ½ tsp pepper.
- Toss in the pea shoots (or other greens) and add the scallions, shallot, herbs and lemon zest. Stir.
- Taste, adjusting salt and lemon juice, adding more of both, if necessary.
- Drizzle with truffle oil; serve immediately.

If making this as a pasta salad, rinse pasta and peas in very cold water to stop the peas from cooking any longer. Add goat cheese right before serving.

Source: www.feastingathome.com

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Your Weekly Horoscope

ARIES (March 21 - April 20)
You may feel very clear, articulate, and communicative. Public speaking or any endeavour that involves giving information to others might be favoured now. Lucky Numbers: 4, 28, 34, 42, 46, 48.

TAURUS (April 21 - May 21)
Strong support from close friends and family may give you great confidence. It might be a good time to mend fences and improve relations in your home life. Lucky Numbers: 9, 13, 19, 23, 29, 33.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)
You may feel great physically, and your confidence and optimism could be very high. You might feel that whatever you attempt now may likely succeed. Lucky Numbers: 6, 16, 26, 35, 36, 46.

CANCER (June 22 - July 22)
Your artistic efforts may flourish. You could be moved to express your affections more openly. You also might want to be surrounded by beauty and harmonious people. Lucky Numbers: 10, 13, 18, 40, 43, 48.

LEO (July 23 - Aug. 23)
You may benefit greatly from opportunities that occur. You might feel expansive and optimistic now. Very influential people could come into your life. Lucky Numbers: 4, 7, 16, 21, 28, 30.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
You may enjoy spy or mystery stories. Unsolved or puzzling problems of a situation might interest you. You may need to probe for answers in order to discover the truth. Lucky Numbers: 2, 6, 21, 25, 30, 34.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
You may be feeling warm, expressive, and lively. Friendships might be strengthened. Your creativity and a desire to beautify things could be stimulated. Lucky Numbers: 4, 16, 32, 38, 44, 48.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
This may be time for you to shine! You might have an extra measure of energy and confidence now and could make a strong, positive impression on others. Lucky Numbers: 8, 9, 19, 24, 39, 43.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)
You may be inclined to agree with people and situations. You also might attract what you need by letting more of the world come to you. Lucky Numbers: 10, 17, 25, 34, 41, 49.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 20)
You may have contact with someone who is important to you. Sharing memories and reminiscing with someone you might feel you can trust could occur. Lucky Numbers: 13, 19, 32, 33, 42, 44.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
You may be capable of decisive action and the will to carry through. You might inspire others, as well. Group efforts or joint projects could be effective. Lucky Numbers: 4, 15, 19, 34, 45, 47.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - March 20)
Cooperative endeavours may flourish now, and any social or joint activity might benefit you. You could achieve a harmonious balance of talking and listening. Lucky Numbers: 5, 6, 21, 25, 30, 40.

Lucky numbers this week: This week's odds favour Pisces winners with the luckiest number being 5.

Did You Know...

Long history: The Volkswagen Beetle, still on the roads today, is an iconic vehicle that dates back to 1938. Designed by Ferdinand Porsche, the Beetle was first built in Germany and came to North America in the 1950s.

Fun partnership: People from hometowns with dreary names can either laugh or cry. The folks in Boring, Oregon (U.S.), Dull, Perthshire (Scotland), and Bland, New South Wales (Australia), are choosing to jointly promote tourism as "The League of Extraordinary Communities."

Easy access: Japan has the highest number of vending machines in the world, with one for every 23 to 25 residents. They can be found in urban and rural areas, and play an integral role in the country's culture.

Pizzly bear: Most people know about grizzly bears and polar bears, but there is also a pizzly bear, the offspring of a polar bear and grizzly bear. They also are known as grolar bears and the *nanulak*, after the Inuit *nanuk* (polar bear) and *aklak* (grizzly bear).

More words: It's no wonder an English dictionary is so thick: the English language is believed to have the largest lexicon, or number of words, of any European language. That's due in part to accommodating so many foreign words.

On the Lighter Side

Many directors of today's comedies must be inspired by the old, silent movies. A scene is supposed to be funny, but the audience doesn't make a sound.

What's black and white and eats like a horse? A zebra.

If you had one match to light a kerosene lamp, fireplace, and wood-burning stove, which do you light first? The match.

What goes up but never comes down? Your age.

One worm to another: "Follow me. I know a restaurant where we can eat dirt cheap."

Answers

Trivia answers: 1. False 2. Lacrimal glands 3. Theatre box 4. Toni Morrison 5. 1896

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