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Vol. 18 No. 33 August 16, 2021

Everybody's Talking

Perfect office pet: Some stores may have pet cats, mechanic shops have pet dogs, and hairdressing salons have pet birds, but a pet alpaca is unusual. That is the case with a video production company in the city of Wuxi near Shanghai, China. A llama-alpaca mix named Tuo Baiwan regularly visits the office, providing a dose of relaxation to employees. Tuo Baiwan is the perfect mammal to do this, as he enjoys being petted and getting treats from the staff. He also loves for employees to take breaks and lead him out to the grassy grounds so he can roll around.

Cool car: To say that Nguyen Dac Chung is a Batman fan would be an understatement. In fact, the architecture student from Hanoi, Vietnam, is so enamoured with the character that he decided to build his own Batmobile. The replica has an engine and suspension system, and it can be driven around, with a maximum speed of 100 kilometres (62 mi.) per hour. The driver can take one passenger, but the car's creator says he wants to make some improvements to the interior. Just like the Batmobile in the movies, this version has doors that lift up to open. It took him 10 months to create the vehicle.

Waterlogged: Two adventurous boaters, thought to be lost at sea, were found safe and unharmed after several days in a wooden boat off the coast of South Australia. The boat belongs to Tony Higgins, who bought it to restore it. His passenger was Derek Robinson. The two men putted out from Coffin Bay, but ran into trouble when a propeller broke, slowing them down. They didn't realize they were considered (missing) and that a friend had called authorities when they didn't show up at their destination on time. A huge search ensued, but thankfully, all ended well.

Ham for dinner: Those who love a good ham dinner may not want to spend as much on a meal as a ham lover from Japan did. The piece of ham came from Spain's Huelva region. The buyer, who paid 12,000 Pounds, demanded that the meat come from an Iberian pig that was over two years old. The pig had to spend 100 days grazing in the mountains, and it had to put on at least 100 kilos (220 pounds) from eating nothing but acorns and herbs. Then the meat had to be cured for five years, which is twice the usual time. Here's hoping the cut tasted good!

Quoteable Quotes

Hear everything and judge for yourself." *George Eliot*
"Sweet are the thoughts that savour of content; The quiet mind is richer than a crown." *Robert Greene*

What's Happening

Sept 1-Healthy Waters Lac La Biche, Hylo-Venice Open House Join us for an exciting evening learning about and discussing the health of our lakes and watersheds! Starting at 6:00 pm at the Hylo-Venice Agriplex and featuring displays, educational resources, and guest speakers!

Oct 1 to 31-The Haunted Hike It's scary good time at this one-of-a-kind Haunted House located in a giant warehouse in Vegreville. Do not miss this event, open every weekend in October. This is a tentative date. Exact dates and hours TBA. www.thehauntedhike.ca

NON profit organizations may submit events for FREE at www.coffee-news.ca/whats-happening

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Trivia

1. The Matterhorn is part of which mountain range?
2. What atmospheric layer blocks many ultraviolet rays?
3. Which comet made its closest approach to Earth on July 22, 2020?
4. Who was the creator of the popular sitcom All in the Family?
5. St. Joan of Arc was a national heroine of what country?

(Flip bottom of page for answers)

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Your Weekly Horoscope

ARIES (March 21 - April 20)

You may be very optimistic and possibly a little too extravagant now. Be cautious because things may not always be as they seem. Beware of any get-rich-quick schemes. Lucky Numbers: 10, 11, 33, 34, 45, 46.

TAURUS (April 21 - May 21)

You may be inspired creatively, artistically, and spiritually. You might find yourself wanting to create or listen to music, rather than concentrate on practical matters. Lucky Numbers: 22, 23, 44, 46, 48, 49.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

You may have the discipline to tackle difficult tasks. It might be easy for you to concentrate and to eliminate the things distracting you from reaching your goals. Lucky Numbers: 5, 10, 15, 25, 35, 45.

CANCER (June 22 - July 22)

Speaking about very personal, private matters may come easier to you now. You might also find it useful to record some of your memories by writing a journal. Lucky Numbers: 3, 15, 16, 18, 33, 38.

LEO (July 23 - Aug. 23)

Asserting yourself in a more positive manner may assist you in earning a leadership role. You could have an opportunity to shine, once you choose your future path. Lucky Numbers: 7, 9, 12, 22, 31, 41.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)

You may have an extra measure of confidence and could make a strong first impression. Interviews or public relations of some nature might be highlighted. Lucky Numbers: 2, 9, 13, 15, 17, 44.

Lucky numbers this week: This week's odds favour Scorpio winners with the luckiest number being 6.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)

Your imagination and sensitivity may spark your interest in psychology, as well as in the deep secrets of others. You might enjoy reading some mystery and supernatural stories. Lucky Numbers: 1, 7, 9, 17, 26, 42.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)

Your ability to understand abstract ideas and your desire to grow intellectually may be very strong. Studying new concepts could enable you to get past recent difficulties. Lucky Numbers: 6, 7, 13, 19, 25, 38.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)

You may be willing to experience a refreshing change of pace. A more adventurous attitude in your relationships could make this time very stimulating. Lucky Numbers: 6, 10, 24, 25, 32, 48.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 20)

You may be fascinated by the mysterious and want to probe until you discover the truth. An interest in detective investigations or legal matters might come to the fore. Lucky Numbers: 2, 13, 19, 30, 39, 47.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)

You may have to be quiet and to look more objectively at your relationships. It might be a fruitful time for you to learn more about love and about what you truly value. Lucky Numbers: 7, 14, 15, 21, 28, 29.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - March 20)

Any partnership that might start now could likely prove to be a lasting one. Don't allow your power and control to become a major issue in the relationship. Lucky Numbers: 25, 27, 30, 34, 39, 45.

Recipe of the month

Spicy Cajun Potato Salad

5 pounds medium Yukon Gold potatoes, peeled and cut into 3/4-inch cubes
1 large yellow onion
1/2 medium lemon
1/2 teaspoon salt
8 hard-boiled large eggs, chopped

1-1/2 cups mayonnaise with olive oil and coarsely ground pepper
1 cup dill pickle relish
1/4 cup yellow mustard
1 to 2 tablespoons Cajun seasoning
1/4 cup minced fresh parsley
Paprika

Prep Time: 20 min. Cook Time: 10 min. + chilling Yield: 20 servings

- Place potatoes in a Dutch oven; add water to cover. Cut onion in half crosswise; add one half to saucepan. Bring to a boil. Add lemon and salt to cooking water. Reduce heat; cook, uncovered, until potatoes tender, 5-6 minutes.
- Meanwhile, chop remaining onion. Combine with eggs, mayonnaise, dill pickle relish, mustard and Cajun seasoning.
- Drain potatoes; rinse under cold water. Discard onion and lemon. Add potatoes to egg mixture; gently toss until well mixed (do not overmix, or potatoes will break down). Refrigerate, covered, 1-2 hours. Just before serving, sprinkle with parsley and paprika.

Source: www.fastefhome.com

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Did You Know...

Tart drink: A beverage enjoyed by people in Colombia is *lulada*. It is made with lime juice, water, sugar, and ice, along with its namesake, mashed *lulo* (also known as *naranjilla*), a sweet and tart fruit loved by Colombians.

Good stuff: Earwax, or "cerumen," may not be the most glamorous of topics, but the substance is healthy for a person's ears. Along with lubricating the skin in the ear canal, it protects the middle and inner ear from dust and dirt.

Volcano action: Known as the Land of Ice and Fire, Iceland has between 20 and 30 active volcanoes, with Grímsvötn being among the most active. It is located in Iceland's Vatnajökull National Park.

Loud and odd: A bird called the horned screamer lives in the northern half of South America. These birds are known for their odd, loud call, as well as for the horn of cartilage that grows out of their foreheads.

First hit: American musicians Simon and Garfunkel (Paul Simon and Art Garfunkel) were high school friends in the 1950s. Before they became famous, they performed as a duo named Tom and Jerry. Their song, "Hey Schoolgirl," became a hit.

On the Lighter Side

Hospitality: Making your guests feel at home, even when you wish they were.

Why didn't the physics teacher marry the biology teacher? Their chemistry just wasn't right.

The things that come to those who wait may be the things left by those who got there first.

What did the lovestruck cat say to the "man" of her dreams? "O Romeo, Romeo, wherefore art thou Romeo?"

They told me that I had type A blood, but it was a type-O.

Answers

Trivia answers: 1. The Alps 2. Ozone 3. Neowise 4. Norman Lear 5. France