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www.coffee-news.ca Est. 1988

Vol. 18 No. 52 December 27, 2021

Everybody's Talking

Beacon of colour: A lighthouse in Spain will never be the same again. That's because artist Okuda San Miguel used his talent to make the once-white Faro de Ajo lighthouse in the country's Cantabria region into a colourful beacon. With the Bay of Biscay as the building's backdrop, the extravagant array of different shades of blue, purple, red, orange, and yellow are eye-catching, to say the least. The colours adorn the 16-metre (52.5-foot) tower in geometric shapes that work together to form images of birds and animals. The artist named his creation "Infinite Cantabria."

Folding house: The tiny house movement is on a roll. Someone who is interested in this way of living might want to investigate the tiny houses built by a company in Latvia. Not only are the houses tiny, they are also foldable. Using a patented hinge system, these houses can be easily "unfolded" and set up almost anywhere. Once opened and ready for occupancy, these dwellings seem bigger than they actually are, thanks to thoughtful design, and they come with plumbing and electrical systems pre-installed. A permanent foundation is not necessary, and if the owner wants to change location, the house can be folded up and moved elsewhere.

Icy phenomenon: Kazakhstan may be cold in the winter, but people brave the chilly temperatures to view an interesting attraction. That sight is a "volcano" from which steam and water erupt, rather than lava. Called an "ice volcano," it is located on a snowy plateau near the city of Almaty. The volcano is actually a big mound of snow and ice that measures approximately 13.7 metres (44.9 ft.) high. It's hollow on the inside because an underground hot spring blows water and steam into the air. In winter, the water freezes and builds up, causing the big mound to develop.

Middle of nowhere: What has become known as "the loneliest house in the world" is on an island where no one has lived since the 1930s. Pictures of the house show why it has this nickname. Located on the island of Ellirey, in the Vestmannaeyjar archipelago south of Iceland, the white house sits on a green hill and is completely surrounded by the sea. Maintained today by a hunting association, the house has no accoutrements of modern living, such as electricity, running water, or indoor plumbing. It does, however, have a sauna.

Quoteable Quotes

"To understand everything makes one tolerant."
—Madame de Staël

"Love consists in this, that two solitudes protect and touch and greet each other."
—Rainer Maria Rilke

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Trivia

1. The bird known as the kookaburra is native to what country?
2. Col. Harland Sanders created what company?
3. Which Jamaican tangelo has an unflattering name related to appearance?
4. Where was the first Disneyland resort located?
5. What is another name for the Irish frame drum?

(Flip bottom of page for answers)

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(Over)


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BLUE BLOODS

MON - THURS 9:00

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Recipe of the month

New Year's Eve Pineapple Cheese Ball

2 packages (8 ounces each) cream cheese, softened
1 can (8 ounces) unsweetened crushed pineapple, drained
1/4 cup finely chopped green pepper

2 tablespoons finely chopped onion
2 teaspoons seasoned salt
1-1/2 cups finely chopped walnuts

Optional: Assorted crackers and fresh vegetables

Total Time: 20 min. prep + chilling
Yield: 1 cheese ball (3 cups)

1 In a small bowl, beat cream cheese, pineapple, green pepper, onion and seasoned salt until blended. Cover and refrigerate for 30 minutes. Shape into a ball (mixture will be soft); coat in walnuts. Cover and refrigerate overnight. Serve with crackers and vegetables if desired.

An ideal addition to any festive holiday party or get together!

Source: <https://www.tasteofhome.com>



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Your Weekly Horoscope

ARIES
(March 21 - April 20)
 For the next few days,
 you may feel out of
 balance or experience a
 conflict within yourself.
 If so, be careful not to
 project your emotions
 onto others. Lucky numbers: 7, 26,
 28, 31, 35, 48.

TAURUS
(April 21 - May 21)
 At this time, you may
 experience a sudden and
 urgent desire for free-
 dom. If so, look for ways
 to satisfy that need
 without radically dis-
 rupting all aspects of your life. Lucky
 numbers: 3, 8, 15, 25, 32, 41.

GEMINI
(May 22 - June 21)
 Those with strong Gemini
 energy can experience a
 sense of duality from two
 competing motivations. If
 you are feeling frustrated
 by this, channel it into
 positive activity until the moment passes.
 Lucky numbers: 1, 2, 13, 21, 38, 41.

CANCER
(June 22 - July 22)
 Your sense of self may
 be conflicting with who
 you are in an important
 relationship. If so, have a
 discussion with the other
 person in that relation-
 ship about redefining your roles.
 Lucky numbers: 2, 3, 5, 14, 45, 46.

LEO
(July 23 - Aug. 23)
 Others may not fully
 understand who you are
 or what you want right
 now. If so, making an
 adjustment in how you
 interact with them may
 generate a better outcome. Lucky
 numbers: 1, 5, 9, 13, 20, 40.

VIRGO
(Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)
 There is an opportunity
 now for heightened quick-
 ness and clarity of thought.
 If you are interested in
 writing something, the
 next few days provide a
 potentially good window for success.
 Lucky numbers: 4, 12, 16, 19, 35, 44.

LIBRA
(Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)
 You may experience
 confidence at this time
 that comes from a good
 balance of ego drive
 versus emotion. If so, it
 may be wise to take
 advantage of this opportunity. Lucky
 numbers: 6, 13, 32, 33, 38, 43.

SCORPIO
(Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)
 Your emotions may be
 focused now on what
 role you want to play in
 the world. If so, look
 deeply at what your
 heart tells you about
 what to do next. Lucky numbers: 4, 5,
 12, 21, 26, 33.

SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)
 Do you have a project
 you feel is outside of
 your comfort zone? If so,
 the energies right now
 encourage you to apply
 both discipline and inno-
 vation toward it. Lucky numbers: 10,
 20, 25, 26, 43, 44.

CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22 - Jan. 20)
 If you have been stymied
 in understanding a particu-
 lar person or situation, pay
 attention. The next few
 days may provide valuable
 information or a break-
 through to help resolve the matter.
 Lucky numbers: 9, 13, 16, 21, 28, 39.

AQUARIUS
(Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)
 Plucking information
 out of the ether is a
 known talent for many
 born under the sign of
 Aquarius. If this describes
 you, that ability may be
 heightened right now. Lucky numbers:
 5, 7, 10, 13, 15, 21.

PISCES
(Feb. 20 - March 20)
 There may be an opportu-
 nity now for you to expand
 your horizons through greater
 imagination and intuition.
 However, you should also
 keep your natural idealism
 grounded in a sense of reality. Lucky
 numbers: 11, 15, 18, 31, 35, 43.

Lucky numbers this week: This week's odds favour Libra winners with the luckiest number being 33.

Did You Know...

Island language: On the Caribbean islands of Curaçao, Aruba, and Bonaire, people speak a language called Papiamentu. A creole language, it is influenced by both Portuguese and Spanish. Over 250,000 people speak it on a regular basis.

Clap together: Castanets are often used in Spanish-style dancing. They are a percussion instrument made of two hollow pieces of wood or other material, tied together. Players hold them in their fingers and snap them together.

Which hand? People who are right-handed prefer to use their right hand for most functions, and if they are left-handed, they prefer to use their left hand. Those who are ambidextrous can use either hand with equal ease.

Thankful holiday: Thanksgiving Day is a national holiday in Canada and the U.S. Although it has the same name, it takes place at different times. In Canada, it's the second Monday of October; in the United States, it's the fourth Thursday in November.

Word game: A word that results from putting together two or more words, or parts of words, is called a portmanteau. The English language has many of these words, such as "brunch" (breakfast and lunch), "smog" (smoke and fog), and "dramedy" (drama and comedy).

On the Lighter Side

At the end of a concert, the pianist boasted that he played everything by ear. Heard in the audience: "That explains it. I didn't think those sounds could be made by human hands."

Moe: Why are you sleeping under that old car?
 Joe: Because I want to wake up oily in the morning.

Knock! Knock! Who's there? Wren. Wren who? Wren in Rome, do as the Romans do.

Apparently, you can not use "beef stew" as a password. It's not Stroganoff.

Who do you call to clean a filthy haunted house? The Ghost Dusters.

Answers

Trivia answers: 1. Australia 2. Kentucky Fried Chicken 3. Ugli fruit 4. Anaheim, Calif. (U.S.) 5. Bodhran

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