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Everybody's Talking

Masked bandit: A home in North Ridgeville, Ohio (U.S.), was the site of a masked robbery. The robber was not human, and it didn't steal anything. However, it did make quite a mess. The villain was a raccoon, which had somehow found its way into the home. The owner realized something was amiss after finding the mess, and then discovering the source of the problem. A raccoon was taking a nap in the dishwasher. Police were summoned, and patrolman John Metzro answered the call. Metzro managed to get the animal out of the dishwasher without hurting it, then encouraged the animal to leave the premises. No charges were filed.

Iron shoes: There are various ways to exercise to stay strong and healthy, but a Chinese man decided to take his workout one step further, literally. Zhang Enshun, who hails from Yulin City in Guangxi province, puts on a pair of "iron shoes" and tries to walk. The iron shoes are actually steel plates that he straps to his shoes. He started with one plate and has progressed to four, which together weigh a total of 150 kilograms (330 pounds). He tries to gradually increase the distance he is able to walk in these shoes, and he practices tai chi while doing it. Exercise experts don't advise trying this type of workout without first receiving training from specialists

Garden community: An intriguing landscape design exists in Nærum, Denmark, in the northern outskirts of Copenhagen. Known as the "round gardens," they are actually oval-shaped allotment gardens, laid out between public housing and traditional housing. This creation was designed in 1948 by renowned landscape architect Soren Carl Theodor Marius Sorensen. Still in use today, the gardens consist of 40 hedge-encircled plots of land measuring approximately 25 x 15 metres (82x49 feet), within which an owner can build a cottage and design their own garden plots. The plots do not have driveways leading to them, meaning that inhabitants are encouraged to walk to their cars, which helps them get to know their neighbours in the process.

Pretty in pink: Bruna Carolina Peres, who lives in Brazil's state of Parana, has been nicknamed "Bruna Barbie." That's because she has opted for a lifestyle with a theme that revolves around the well-known Barbie doll. She has become famous on the internet for her posts, which show her living in a world of pink. Almost everything in her house is a shade of pink, including carpets, counters, cupboards, pillows, and bedspreads. She has a few black-and-white pieces and a blue room designed with the male Ken doll in mind. Her wardrobe also is all pink, from jackets to sunglasses and from blouses to belts. Images of Bruna Barbie have garnered millions of online followers, and she earns money from her videos. Peres, the woman behind this media sensation, is a law school graduate.

Quoteable Quotes

"Words are the physicians of a mind diseased." -Aeschylus
"The older I grow the more I distrust the familiar doctrine that age brings wisdom." -H.L. Mencken

What's Happening

Feb 12 to 13-Ladies Ice Fishing Event LADIES - Are You Ready To Fish Anglers, non anglers and every lady in between. I will be hosting an all ladies fishing event on Lac La Biche Lake. www.facebook.com/LisaRoperOutdoors

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Trivia

1. What is bonsai?
2. What is a government run by nobility called?
3. Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune all have rings—T/F?
4. Who discovered penicillin?
5. What is the most destructive insect in the world?

(Flip bottom of page for answers)

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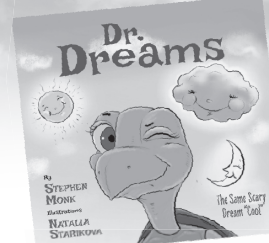
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to November's Coffee News Guy contest winners!

Your prizes are in the mail!

Barry Johnson
Jenn Bredo
Dianna Ridgeway
Carol Williams



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HAPPY

February 2

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Your Weekly Horoscope

ARIES

(March 21 - April 20)



The astrological environ-
ment now is offering you
an opportunity to move
toward healing. Hard work
is possible at this time
and may be best directed
inward, rather than focusing on others.
Lucky numbers: 2, 5, 7, 18, 26, 40.

TAURUS

(April 21 - May 21)



You may have high energy
to apply to new endeav-
ours. Perhaps consider how
your efforts can be geared
toward service to others,
in a way that aligns with
your values. Lucky numbers: 16, 18, 21,
22, 40, 43.

GEMINI

(May 22 - June 21)



You may feel that any-
thing is possible right
now. However, there is
also the potential for being
overly idealistic or opti-
mistic. Perhaps you should
consider tempering your expectations.
Lucky numbers: 5, 9, 11, 23, 38, 43.

CANCER

(June 22 - July 22)



You may feel stymied in
your efforts right now. If
so, examine your fears.
Think about how an
adjustment in your view
of the situation can miti-
gate obstacles or restrictions. Lucky
numbers: 14, 15, 19, 33, 41, 43.

LEO

(July 23 - Aug. 23)



Have you recently experi-
enced a sudden or unex-
pected change in your
life? If that is the case,
consider examining any
conflicts that you feel
about your life's direction. Lucky
numbers: 4, 7, 11, 22, 24, 27.

VIRGO

(Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)



Some other zodiac signs
are usually considered
charismatic in a way that
Virgo is not. Right now,
however, you have the
potential to be successful
in persuading others to your viewpoint.
Lucky numbers: 18, 20, 22, 30, 31, 46.

LIBRA

(Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)



Perhaps you are con-
fused about a source of
conflict right now? It
may be best not to over-
ly focus on it and to let
the situation play out for
a while. Lucky numbers: 3, 5, 8, 9,
35, 43.

SCORPIO

(Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)



An old karmic pattern
may be coming to the
surface at this time. Such
events are lessons, meant
to help you shed any
unhelpful behaviours that
are holding you back. Lucky numbers:
1, 8, 9, 17, 39, 41.

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)



Now is a good time to
consider where you are in
your profession and what
you want your legacy to
be. The potential exists
to make some positive
changes. Lucky numbers: 3, 15, 20,
29, 31, 32.

CAPRICORN

(Dec. 22 - Jan. 20)



In the last few weeks,
there may have been com-
munication difficulties or
breakdowns with mechan-
ical objects, such as your
car. This should improve
over the next several weeks.
Lucky numbers: 13, 16, 28, 36, 40, 44.

AQUARIUS

(Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)



At the beginning of the
week, there is the poten-
tial for a reset in some
area of your life, possibly
regarding your spouse.
Don't let this opportunity
slip by. Lucky numbers: 12, 19, 31, 36,
42, 44.

PISCES

(Feb. 20 - March 20)



Midweek, there is the
potential to balance your
ego drive and emotions.
This may provide an
opportunity to manifest
your Pisces empathy with-
out losing yourself in the process.
Lucky numbers: 6, 8, 9, 27, 28, 31.

Lucky numbers this week: This week's odds favour Aquarius
winners with the luckiest number being 31.

Did You Know...

Salty spread: Australians love their Vegemite, but visitors
may have to acquire a taste for it. This brown paste is made
from yeast extract, and it is very salty. It's usually enjoyed on
toast or with cheese.

Thai island: There is an island in the Gulf of Thailand called
Koh Chang, which means "Elephant Island" in Thai. It is
known for its rugged beauty and its beaches, including Lonely
Beach and White Sand Beach.

Good cooks: Many different kinds of chefs contribute to a
kitchen's production. For example, a sauce chef (or saucier)
prepares sauces, gravies, soups, and stews, while a pastry chef
(or patissier) looks after the baking.

Sinking feeling: The captain of the *Titanic*, which sank in
the Atlantic Ocean on April 15, 1912, was Edward Smith.
Actor Bernard Hill portrayed him in the 1997 movie of the
same name. The real captain perished when the ship sank,
leaving behind a wife and daughter.

Canadian star: Mary Pickford (1892-1979) was born Gladys
Smith in the city of Toronto, Ontario. She was a famous actress
of the silent screen era. Movies she starred in include *Hearts
Adrift* (1914) and *The Poor Little Rich Girl* (1917).

On the Lighter Side

What did the grapes say when the hippo stepped on them?
Nothing. They just let out a little wine.

Barry: "That parrot is talking about American history, math
problems, and English literature."
Larry: "That's because it used to be a teacher's pet."

What happens when a dog eats garlic? His bark becomes
worse than his bite.

Knock! Knock! Who's there? Lion. Lion who? Lion on a block
of ice can send shivers down your spine.

What do you get if you cross an antelope with a journalist? A
Gnus reporter.

Answers

Trivia answers: 1. Japanese art of growing dwarf trees
2. Aristocracy 3. True 4. Sir Alexander Fleming 5. Desert locust

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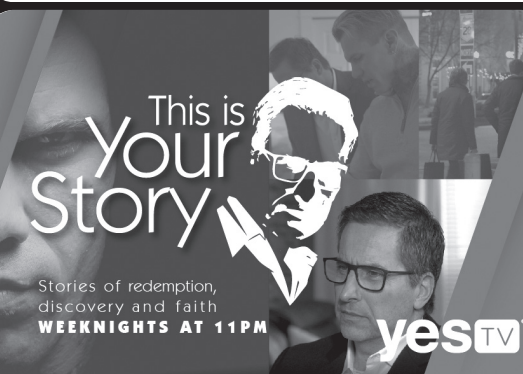
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