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Everybody's Talking

Chapel on a cliff: A certain medieval ruin in Catalonia, Spain, might make tourists' heads spin. The Hermitage of La Pertusa is perched on top of a steep cliff above the village of Corçà. Visitors can reach this centuries-old chapel by a narrow road, but the last bit requires a hike on a trail. Those who reach the ruin would be well-advised not to look down, where they would see a sheer drop to the Canelles Reservoir. The view is called amazing. For their efforts to reach the site, fans of birdlife have been rewarded with sightings of eagles, peregrine falcons, and vultures.

Better butter: Butter is one of those ubiquitous foods that most people don't think about very often. They simply smear it on bread, melt it on popcorn, add it to favourite foods, and eat it. But Sublime Butter in St Margarets, a suburb of London, England, makes a special version called "Ridiculous No55 Lobster & Crab Butter" that is renowned for its unique flavour. The makers use British Isles lobster, Devon crab, caviar, lemon, and fennel. Judges at The Guild of Fine Food named it among the world's finest foods and claimed they could eat it right off the spoon. Sublime Butter founder Chris Mair is thrilled with the accolades.

Imagining the past: A photographer from Portland, Oregon (U.S.), is interested in documenting abandoned properties. Because he uses a drone, some of Brendon Burton's photos are aerial in composition. In a series called "Thin Places," shots include dilapidated farmhouses and barns in the middle of fields, a once-elegant manor on the edge of a swamp, and an old stone home at the foot of a mountain. The collection also includes deserted churches, commercial buildings, mobile homes, and even a tree house. Abandoned places appear in other series by the photographer, prompting viewers to wonder who once used or lived in the ruined buildings and why they left.

Coffee time: A pink flamingo that lives in a zoo in Granby, Quebec (Canada), decided to stretch its wings and go for a short flight. The bird must have been thinking of breakfast, or maybe just a cup of coffee, because it headed for a donut chain a short distance from the bird's stall at the Granby Zoo. Customers spotted the bird in the parking lot at the restaurant, and they called the zookeepers to inform them of its whereabouts. The pink-feathered friend didn't flinch when its keepers arrived to help it get back home. The keepers don't know why the bird wanted to escape, but it didn't insist on staying for coffee.

Quoteable Quotes

"Creativity can be described as letting go of certainties." —Gail Sheehy

"Perseverance is not a long race; it is many short races, one after another." —Walter Elliott

What's Happening

Sep 10 - Large Item Drop-Off Public Works Parking Lot - 7 Chevigny Street. 8 am to 2 pm. This event is for residents of St. Albert only; non-residents and contractors will be turned away by on-site staff.

Sept 17-Ride for Kids in Crisis The ride is a fund raiser to support children in Ukraine, Myanmar, Congo, Yemen, Turkey and Afghanistan. You can bike, skate, run or walk to make a difference. To register go to www.glorychurch.ca or call 780-428-3041

Sep 24 - Pitch-in Morinville - Clean Sweep 9 Am to 3 PM. Lets pitch-in to help clean, restore and beautify Morinville! Register and receive a certificate, gloves and garbage bags. 780-939-7839

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

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Trivia

1. Mauritius is one of the ____ Islands.
2. Which prime minister oversaw Canada's constitutional independence?
3. Charles Darwin sailed around the world on this ship.
4. What is Reginald Kenneth Dwight's stage name?
5. The scientific name for near-microscopic water bears is ____.

(Flip bottom of page for answers)

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I wish everyone a fun-filled summer!

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Your Weekly Horoscope

ARIES (March 21 - April 20)

An unresolved issue from the past may resurface right now. Resolving it may require a change in your attitude, especially if you feel like you've been banging your head against the wall. Lucky numbers: 5, 13, 16, 31, 41, 42.

TAURUS (April 21 - May 21)

Those born under Taurus are happy when they feel grounded. Early this week, your thoughts and emotions may be more fully in sync, which could help you feel more stable. Lucky numbers: 7, 8, 10, 19, 25, 28.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)

Geminis often see all aspects of a situation and thus can sympathize with all parties involved. You may be asked to make a definitive choice. Try to choose what aligns with your values. Lucky numbers: 11, 16, 20, 22, 28, 31.

CANCER (June 22 - July 22)

Toward the end of the week, you may feel that your heart and mind are well-balanced. This might be a good time to develop a plan to move forward. Lucky numbers: 6, 17, 22, 31, 41, 48.

LEO (July 23 - Aug. 23)

Nurturing and the role of mother may be an important focus for you now. This might apply to you either as a mother or as a child, especially if you are a daughter. Lucky numbers: 9, 11, 12, 19, 21, 38.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)

If you look deeply, you may see a hidden opportunity. You might need to use your skills to focus on the details, to help you decide if something is worth pursuing. Lucky numbers: 10, 13, 16, 36, 44, 45.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)

You may be experiencing difficulties in communicating with others right now. Try to carefully ensure that everyone is clear about expectations, particularly for any joint endeavours. Lucky numbers: 8, 22, 29, 34, 38, 44.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)

You may feel that your mind is pulling in one direction, and your heart is pulling the opposite way. Be patient for a few days and perhaps this feeling will pass. Lucky numbers: 2, 5, 14, 21, 32, 35.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)

Right now you may be feeling conflicted about fulfilling your responsibilities at home and those at work. The perfect balance may not be possible, so try to strive for a workable one instead. Lucky numbers: 1, 5, 9, 16, 26, 36.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 20)

You may experience an easy flow of energy. Try to consider how you could use it to help achieve your goals. Others might be inclined to follow your lead right now. Lucky numbers: 3, 15, 18, 26, 32, 41.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)

Are you feeling particularly stressed right now? You might want to consider exploring an adjustment in viewpoint that allows you to find a better balance between your needs and responsibilities. Lucky numbers: 4, 9, 11, 30, 36, 46.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - March 20)

Pisces often has a strong imagination that can easily build castles in the sky. Right now, those dreams may be tested to see if they can have a solid foundation. Lucky numbers: 14, 18, 21, 29, 36, 47.

Lucky numbers this week: This week's odds favour Cancer winners with the luckiest number being 17.

Did You Know...

Easy plant: An easy-care houseplant is a snake plant. The stiff, vertical leaves can be 6 inches (15 cm) to 8 feet (2.4 m) high. Snake plants don't need water often and are very forgiving about the amount of light they require.

Not just pink: While most people are familiar with watermelon that is pink inside (some with seeds and some without), other types look the same on the outside, but are yellow or orange on the inside.

Norwegian roots: Well-known children's writer Roald Dahl grew up in Llandaff, Cardiff, Wales. His parents were Norwegian, and thus he spent many summers in Oslo. One of his most famous books is *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*.

Puzzle pieces: Jigsaw puzzles have been around since 1766. That's when an English cartographer named John Spilsbury glued a map onto wood, cut it into pieces, and asked his students to put it back together.

Lucky cat: A certain figurine of a cat, called *maneki neko* in Japanese, is considered a lucky charm. The cat's right paw may be raised to attract good fortune, or a left paw raised to welcome people. Both paws raised indicate it is protecting the premises.

On the Lighter Side

What did the fisherman say to the magician? "Pick a cod, any cod."

Judy: "A man was here to see you this morning."
Boss: "With a bill?"
Judy: "No, with a regular nose."

What happened to the house built of cymbals? It came crashing down.

Two fish sat in a tank. One asked the other, "How do you drive this thing?"

Knock! Knock! Who's there? Topic. Topic who? Topic a wildflower is against the law.

Answers

Trivia answers: 1. Mascarene 2. Pierre Trudeau 3. H.M.S. Beagle 4. Elton John 5. Tardigrades

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