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Vol. 21 No. 21 May 20, 2024

Everybody's Talking

Pretty in pink: A woman from Romania loved trucks so much that she decided to become a driver. But in the male-dominated industry, the woman, whose name is Georgeta, wanted to show her femininity by decorating her truck the way she desired: in pink! As trucking companies would not be amenable to such a colour scheme, Georgeta bought her own truck and is now working for herself. Her truck has a pink paint job, both inside and out. Even the steering wheel and dashboard boast her favourite colour. On her long drives, Georgeta has the company of her two cats: Norocel and Pisy. Georgeta has become known as Trucker Barbie.

Seeing things: Most people who are thinking about getting a tattoo don't consider an image in 3D. But that's what a tattoo artist from Portland, Oregon (U.S.), has started to make famous. Known as Winston the Whale, this artist uses inks of red and blue to create simple pictures on people's skin. By overlaying the image in both colours, he produces the 3D look that moviegoers used to see when they wore specially designed glasses. Usually Winston the Whale's designs are quite simple, ranging from a cactus under a half-moon to spaceships, mountain scenes, a piece of pizza, or a skull. In any case, the viewer's eye sees what appears to be a three-dimensional image.

Hotel stay: The cost of accommodation is going up everywhere, but a large family in China figured out a way around it. From Nanyang, Henan province, the family of eight moved into a luxury hotel suite that has two bedrooms and a living area. Because they no longer have to pay utilities like heat, electricity, water, and parking, the family can afford this option more easily than living in an apartment. Mu Xue, a family member, claims that everyone loves living in the hotel because it is convenient and comfortable, and that they may stay forever. The hotel gave the family a special rate of 1,000 Yuan (CNY) because of their indefinite stay.

Mistaken identity: For years, the Allentown Art Museum in Allentown, Pennsylvania (U.S.), showcased a painting thought to be the work of a student from the studio of legendary Dutch artist Rembrandt. However, a routine cleaning and restoration project unveiled a secret hidden beneath layers of old varnish. Advanced imaging techniques showed brushstrokes that experts say unmistakably identify the piece as belonging to Rembrandt himself, promoting "Portrait of a Young Woman" from a mere curiosity to a multimillion-dollar masterpiece overnight. This discovery not only redefined the museum's collection, but also reminded the art world of the mysteries that can hide in plain sight.

Quoteable Quotes

"So often in life, things that you regard as an impediment turn out to be great, good fortune."
—Ruth Bader Ginsburg

"Art is not a reflection of reality; it is the reality of reflection."
—Jean-Luc Godard

What's Happening

May 26 - Walk for Alzheimers Canada's largest fundraiser for Alzheimers disease and other dementias, sign up today at walkforalzheimers.ca

Jun 7 - 2nd Annual 'Illuminating Hope' Garden Cocktail Party Join us at the Lodge at Snow Valley for an SYC Beer tasting, Salisbury Greenhouse micro-fundraiser, silent auction, most importantly, stories of hope from survivors of family violence. Doors are open at 6:30 PM, tickets at www.thetodaycentre.ca.


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Trivia

1. Where are the islets of Langerhans?
2. What is sought in the opera Parsifal by Richard Wagner?
3. The Leonid meteor showers were named for a Russian scientist—T/F?
4. In 1666, the Great Fire of this city started in a bakery.
5. Whose wife, in the nursery rhyme, could eat no lean?

(Flip bottom of page for answers)

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Your Weekly Horoscope

ARIES (March 20 - April 19)
This may be a good time to engage with others about projects that are important to you. However, be sure to remember the adage to think before you speak. Lucky numbers: 14, 17, 21, 43, 45, 46.

TAURUS (April 20 - May 20)
Your grounded nature may be spotlighted this week. Seek opportunities to improve your finances or love life. Whatever you pursue should align with your highest values. Lucky numbers: 6, 15, 16, 27, 32, 48.

GEMINI (May 21 - June 20)
A lot of energy will be in Gemini for the rest of this year, particularly the next month. This may be an opportunity to highlight your talents, if you choose to seek it. Lucky numbers: 17, 21, 24, 38, 44, 45.

CANCER (June 21 - July 22)
Cancer-borns may tend to prioritize their heart over their head. For a few days at the end of the week, the potential exists to balance your feelings and thoughts. Lucky numbers: 1, 10, 17, 21, 34, 43.

LEO (July 23 - Aug. 22)
Your natural optimism may be supercharged for the next month. This could be a good time to initiate opportunities to expand your efforts, but be careful of overreaching. Lucky numbers: 5, 17, 19, 24, 25, 35.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)
For the next month, those around you may be swirling in a flurry of activity. Be sure to recognize when to follow their lead and when to go your own way. Lucky numbers: 11, 12, 14, 37, 41, 44.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22)
Libras like to talk out all aspects of an issue, sometimes ad nauseam. For the next few months, however, you may find that others are more willing to do so than usual. Lucky numbers: 4, 11, 17, 19, 27, 35.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)
At midweek, you may feel very uncomfortable. Taking a few days to examine your emotions may invite some important information that could trigger a significant breakthrough. Lucky numbers: 9, 16, 21, 24, 32, 34.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)
Did you develop a new set of goals at your birthday about six months ago? If so, what progress have you made since then? Where might you need to correct your course? Lucky numbers: 3, 15, 24, 26, 32, 40.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)
Capricorns often wish to build a stable and successful foundation in their lives. For a few days at the end of the week, the energy will support this cherished effort. Lucky numbers: 10, 12, 14, 25, 29, 43.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)
Is there a fear or other issue that has held you back from who you really are? The energy this week is conducive to personal transformation. How might you use it? Lucky numbers: 2, 9, 13, 19, 47, 48.

PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20)
Your intuitive and psychic abilities may be heightened this week. Planning a positive outlet could help avoid the potential to be overwhelmed by incoming information. Lucky numbers: 8, 12, 13, 14, 31, 42.

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

Did You Know...

Twisting fun: The game "Twister" involves dots on a floor mat and people as the playing pieces. Like its title, people do a lot of twisting. Reyn Guyer invented it in 1964. Charles Foley and Neil Rabens helped with artwork and design.

Lawyer first: American author John Grisham has published more than 50 books. Before writing novels, he was a lawyer, which is why most of his books feature lawyers as main characters. His first bestseller was *The Firm*.

Blown away: During Paris Fashion Week in 2007, both audience and models were "blown away" by the runway design. Using cyclone technology from his vacuum cleaners, James Dyson created wind machines to blow air at the models.

Sweet goodness: Germany is the home of authentic marzipan, a sweet dessert loved by many. It's made of only ground almonds and sugar, but many recipes call for other ingredients like egg whites and almond extract.

Big Ben: The clock tower in London, England, affectionately known as Big Ben opened in 1859. The tower's formal name is Elizabeth Tower. The nickname actually refers to the clock's 13.7-metric tonne bell inside.

On the Lighter Side

Where did Napoleon keep his armies? Up his sleeves.

A long shot was leading the big horse race, but not furlong.

Did you hear about the podiatrist who ran for mayor? He was de-feeted.

Customer: "I'll have a hamburger."
Waiter: "With pleasure."
Customer: "No, with pickles and onions."

Knock! Knock! Who's there? Disguise. Disguise who? Disguise the limit!

Answers

4. London 5. Jack Sprat
Trivia answers: 1. Pancreas 2. Holy Grail 3. False

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