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Vol. 21 No. 22 May 27, 2024

Everybody's Talking

Stellar find: On the third day of his internship at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Maryland (U.S.), 17-year-old Wolf Cukier spotted something extraordinary and his summer became anything but routine. While analyzing star data, Cukier noticed a shadow that hinted at a celestial body, leading to the discovery of TOI 1338 b, a previously unknown planet located 1,300 light-years away. This gas giant is 6.9 times larger than Earth, a size between that of Neptune and Saturn. The significant find proves that fresh eyes and youthful enthusiasm can lead to groundbreaking discoveries in the vast expanse of space.

Oink oasis: At a cafe in Japan, patrons trade lattes for hog hugs. Visitors rave about the tranquility at Mipig Cafe in Tokyo, snapping selfies with miniature trotters. Surprisingly clean and cuddly, these pigs charm visitors with their unique personalities. The cafe is a hit with locals and tourists alike. It charges 2,200 Yen (JPY) for 30 minutes with the animals. Mipig boasts 10 locations across Japan, with more on the way. These micro pigs are no bigger than small dogs and make delightful companions. Pig cafes can offer solace and joy, leaving guests feeling blissfully sleepy and relaxed among the cute little critters.

Deep dive: Could the mystery of Amelia Earhart's vanished plane be unraveling? A crew claims to have stumbled upon the remnants at the ocean's depths, in the approximate area where Earhart's plane vanished in 1937. After scouring over 5,000 square miles (13,000 sq. km) of seabed, Deep Sea Vision unveiled a photo with an image that resembles Earhart's Lockheed 10-E Electra plane. Team leader Tony Romeo asserted confidence in the find, citing the absence of other crashes in the vicinity. Using cutting-edge technology, the crew aims for further exploration. While underwater archaeologists anticipate more evidence, hopes soar for an exhibit at the Smithsonian Institution. For now, it remains a tantalizing deep-sea quest.

Ancient echoes: In a tale as tangled as the vines themselves, aerial laser scanning has revealed ancient Amazonian cities, which have been shrouded in mystery for millennia. These pre-Columbian marvels paint a vivid picture of a bustling civilization nestled in Ecuador's Upano Valley. The discovery, spanning over 300 square kilometres (116 sq. mi.), showcases a network of roads, farmlands, and drainage systems that rival even those of today's urban planners. Astonished by the sheer scale, scientists now are reconsidering what they thought they knew about the Amazon's ancient inhabitants. As the jungle's secrets unravel, clearly the past holds more surprises than ever imagined.

Quoteable Quotes

"Familiar acts are beautiful through love." —Percy Bysshe Shelley
"Nothing is impossible. The word itself says, 'I'm possible.'"
—Audrey Hepburn

What's Happening

Jun 12 - Stony Plain Meals on Wheels 45th Anniversary SPMOW is marking its 45 year anniversary by holding a special celebration at the Family Connection Centre, 5600-50 Street, Stony Plain. The event is open to the Public on June 12, 2024 at 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm. **Jun 14 to 16 - Summer Book Sale** Friends of the Spruce Grove Public Library. Sale hours are Friday 12-6, Saturday, 10-6, Sunday 12-4. Take what you want, pay what you can.

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Trivia

1. South America has 3, 4, or 5 time zones?
2. This elephant is a favourite character by children's writer Dr. Seuss.
3. The citizens of Monaco are called Monocans, Monocytes, or Monegasques?
4. What island nation was named after a Dutch province?
5. A dactylogram is more commonly known as what?

(Flip bottom of page for answers)

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Your Weekly Horoscope

ARIES
(March 20 - April 19)

Please be careful with the words you use this week. What you say now could strongly encourage or deeply wound others, or even yourself. Therefore, choosing wisely is important. Lucky numbers: 5, 10, 29, 31, 34, 40.

TAURUS
(April 20 - May 20)

Out-of-the-box thinking is not a natural style for most who are Taurus. At the end of this week, though, you may experience an insight that falls into this unusual category. Lucky numbers: 7, 15, 26, 43, 45, 47.

GEMINI
(May 21 - June 20)

This week potentially may reveal a hidden opportunity for a new endeavour. To embrace it, you may need to be grounded and choose between a myriad of options. Lucky numbers: 11, 19, 22, 23, 28, 46.

CANCER
(June 21 - July 22)

Cancers are often focused on helping others, especially family members. This week may be a good time to solicit allies. But don't forget your own needs in this process. Lucky numbers: 17, 25, 33, 36, 42, 47.

LEO
(July 23 - Aug. 22)

Your natural energy and enthusiasm may have focused, until now, on your own goals. How could you expand your efforts to help humanity at large? This week might bring opportunity. Lucky numbers: 1, 2, 4, 13, 22, 35.

VIRGO
(Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)

You may find your mind and emotions in conflict at week's end. How could you incorporate some intuitive information into your rational view to create more balance? Lucky numbers: 8, 9, 13, 24, 27, 29.

LIBRA
(Sept. 23 - Oct. 22)

Your normal tact and diplomacy may be tested at the end of the week. To avoid saying something you might regret, please take a deep breath and think before you speak. Lucky numbers: 11, 13, 18, 19, 36, 37.

SCORPIO
(Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

Scorpios sometimes struggle with how to successfully communicate their intuitive insights to others. This week may offer an opportunity for a new approach. Lucky numbers: 4, 12, 17, 18, 38, 40.

SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

Wisdom may be a key word for you this week. Consider making an adjustment in your view or your beliefs. Do you need to seek a mentor, or even to become one? Lucky numbers: 3, 16, 18, 20, 39, 42.

CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

This week's astrological energy could support your endeavours. To manifest it, you may have to seek help from others on an alternative that you might not normally consider. Lucky numbers: 6, 22, 28, 35, 38, 43.

AQUARIUS
(Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

Did you have a breakthrough last week on that fear or issue that was holding you back? If so, keep going. If not, you may have another chance this week. Lucky numbers: 10, 14, 16, 34, 40, 42.

PISCES
(Feb. 19 - March 20)

Continuing from last week, you may be experiencing heightened intuitive and psychic abilities. Are you using this energy well to make progress toward your ideals? Lucky numbers: 2, 13, 17, 31, 39, 48.

Lucky numbers this week: This week's odds favour Taurus winners with the luckiest number being 7.

Did You Know...

Bounce: A trampoline park in Snowdonia, Wales, is named Bounce Below. In an old mining cavern, it's the world's largest underground venue of its kind, with over 929 square metres (10,000 sq. ft.) of nets for bouncing.

First big hit: Rap music isn't for everyone, but fans of the genre remember the very first rap song to top the Billboard Hot 100. "Ice Ice Baby" by American artist Vanilla Ice reached Number 1 in 1990.

Early ice cream: Apparently royalty in China made the creamy delicious stuff as early as 618-907 C.E. using heated and fermented milk, with flour and camphor (for flavour). They froze the concoction by mixing salt with ice.

Special sword: Ever since the 1920s discovery of ancient Egyptian King Tutankhamun's tomb, scientists have examined the iron dagger found inside. The most recent conclusion is that it was made from a meteorite.

Message method: Yodeling has been part of Switzerland's culture for centuries. While the folk tradition is fun to hear or to try, yodeling began as rural communication between Alpine villages and to call flocks of cattle.

On the Lighter Side

The moon saves money by cutting its own hair. How? Eclipse it.
Show me a man with braces on his teeth and I'll show you a man who puts his money where his mouth is.

Customer: "Waiter, this plate is wet!"
Waiter: "Sir, that is your soup."

Knock! Knock! Who's there? Zipper. Zipper who? Zipper-de-do-dah!

Why couldn't the archeologist get promoted? Because his career was in ruins.

Answers

Trivia answers: 1. 5 2. Horton 3. Monegasques 4. New Zealand 5. Fingerprint

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