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Everybody's Talking

Bird blockade: Trains traveling between the English centres of Brighton and London were delayed for at least 90 minutes for an unusual reason: a baby herring gull on the tracks needed to be removed. Officials turned off the power to the track during the removal process. Herring gulls are a common sight in the seaside town of Brighton, but they are on the red list compiled by the Birds of Conservation Concern, due to their declining population numbers. The incident initially led many to believe the reason for the train delays was a joke. The delayed passengers, though inconvenienced, were relieved to learn that the young bird was safely rescued and was unharmed.

Madonna superfan: Tara Berry, a dedicated Madonna fan, holds the Guinness World Record for the most tattoos of the same musician on the body, proudly displaying 18 portraits of the iconic singer. Her tattoo journey began in 2016 when Madonna sought out fans with tattoos of her image for a video. Inspired, Berry started with two tattoos, and then her collection rapidly expanded. She was motivated to surpass Nikki Paterson's record of 15 Eminem tattoos, leading her to invest nearly \$10,000 (USD) and 110 hours over six months. Despite her mother's shock, Berry's friends admired the artistic tribute. Her tattoos capture Madonna's memorable moments from the singer's worldwide career.

Alpaca escape: A herd of alpacas executed a daring escape plan, causing havoc on a highway near Cambridge, England. The animals had broken free from a local farm and were obstructing traffic on the busy road. Although police were called to the scene, by the time they arrived, the alpacas had been safely corralled back into their fenced field by the farmer. Motorists captured footage that showed the curious alpacas gazing at drivers, seemingly intrigued by the commotion they were unaware that they had caused. Meanwhile, some of the animals were happily munching on grass by the roadside, which added a touch of charm to the unexpected traffic jam.

Lucky lady: If you believe that good luck comes in pairs, then Christine Wilson is proof of that theory. The woman from Attleborough, Massachusetts (U.S.), won the lottery twice. The first time, she won \$1 million (USD) and she used some of her windfall to buy a car. Then, 10 weeks later, the lucky lady won another cool million dollars. In both cases, she had opted to receive her winnings as one-time payouts. Wilson earned her first lottery win by buying a \$50 ticket, and then she bought a \$10 instant ticket, which brought her the second big win. She said she plans to put her second windfall into savings.

Quoteable Quotes

"A lily or a rose never pretends, and its beauty is that it is what it is."
—Jiddu Krishnamurti

"Look closely. The beautiful may be small."
—Immanuel Kant

What's Happening

Nov 1 - Shine A Light 6pm: Residents are asked to turn on an outdoor light, hang a glowstick in a window or plug in holiday lights for the duration of the night to shed light on the issue of family violence in our community.

Nov 16 - Santa Claus Parade Starting at 5:30pm, the Whitecourt and District Chamber of Commerce is hosting the Annual Santa Claus Parade! The lineup starts at Festival Park and will make its way through the downtown core. Join us for a night of fun, candy, fires and Christmas cheer!

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Trivia

1. What kind of food is gazpacho?
2. If a carnivore eats meat, what is a frugivore?
3. This is the easternmost city in the U.S.
4. What is a female rabbit called?
5. How many years are in an undecennial—9, 11, or 20?

(Flip bottom of page for answers)
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Your Weekly Horoscope

ARIES (March 20 - April 19)

Important information may emerge from your unconscious at the end of the week. Pay attention to it because it might help you find a new solution to an old issue. Lucky numbers: 2, 4, 14, 30, 40, 45.

TAURUS (April 20 - May 20)

Surprises may abound for you as the week begins. The Taurus-born generally are not fond of change, but going with the flow right now may be in your best interests. Lucky numbers: 7, 13, 14, 21, 31, 48.

GEMINI (May 21 - June 20)

Do you feel your confidence is being shaken now? What adjustment might allow you to express your authentic self? To do so, you may need to push past your fear. Lucky numbers: 4, 6, 10, 13, 19, 23.

CANCER (June 21 - July 22)

You may feel the desire to retreat for a few days this week. If that's possible, honouring this need and decompressing from your daily routine might be helpful to you. Lucky numbers: 8, 12, 30, 38, 39, 41.

LEO (July 23 - Aug. 22)

A desire for having fun may continue this week. If possible, try to accommodate this, if you haven't done so yet. If you have, is now the time to get back to work? Lucky numbers: 1, 5, 27, 28, 39, 48.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)

This weekend may be a good time to tackle something that needs to be organized. This could be anything from a closet to thoughts that are running around in your head. Lucky numbers: 9, 15, 20, 33, 38, 45.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22)

The week may offer an opportunity to unearth information from the depths of your unconscious mind. This process is intended to serve your spiritual development. Lucky numbers: 11, 15, 33, 37, 40, 48.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

If you set goals at the time of your birthday last year, how well did you succeed at them? This month may be a good time to establish new ones for the next year. Lucky numbers: 12, 13, 15, 17, 19, 26.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

The eternal optimism of Sagittarius may want to ignore the hard truth of a situation in their life. Right now, though, you may be given opportunities to finally face it. Lucky numbers: 14, 16, 19, 28, 39, 45.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

If you are in conflict with yourself or someone else this week, step back and take a deep breath. Ask yourself what this dynamic might be trying to tell you right now. Lucky numbers: 10, 13, 22, 23, 31, 40.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

Are you experiencing a conflict with someone in a position of authority? Think carefully about whether your position is correct or the other person has a valid argument. Lucky numbers: 1, 10, 15, 22, 37, 41.

PISCES (Feb. 19 - March 20)

Organization is generally not a Pisces strong suit. At the beginning of this week, the energy supports catching up on your outstanding tasks, so take advantage of it. Lucky numbers: 3, 10, 17, 20, 35, 46.

Lucky numbers this week: This week's odds favour Taurus winners with the luckiest number being 21.

Did You Know...

- Pocket watch:** The small pocket inside the right side pocket of blue jeans is called a watch pocket. When Levi Strauss designed the trousers back in the late 1800s, men used pocket watches and could safely store them there.
- Clay comforts:** Baby pacifiers have been around for at least 3,000 years. They once were made of all sorts of materials that neither parents nor pediatricians would recommend today, such as clay, silver, and coral.
- Loonie legacy:** In Canada, the one-dollar coin, which replaced the paper bill in 1987, quickly gained the nickname "loonie" because it has a loon on the coin's reverse side. The image was created by wildlife artist Robert-Ralph Carmichael.
- Presidential whiskey:** After his tenure as U.S. president from 1789 to 1797, George Washington operated a highly lucrative whiskey distillery on his farm in Mount Vernon, Virginia. Today, staff continue to produce this historic whiskey.
- Same birthday:** Unless you were born on February 29, you are sharing your birthday with a lot of people around the globe: around 20 million people! If you are a Leap Year baby, then you share your special day with about 5 million people.

On the Lighter Side

One day the office computers broke down. Everyone had to think.

Doctor: "How is the patient who swallowed the coins?"
Nurse: "No change yet."

Knock! Knock! Who's there? Quiche. Quiche who? Want a hug and quiche?

What goes around the yard but stays in place? A fence.

The tree was glad when fall and winter passed. In fact, it was re-leafed.

Answers

4. Doe 5. 11
Trivia answers: 1. Soup 2. Fruit eater 3. Eastport, Maine

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Recipe of the month

Autumn Chowder

2 bacon strips, diced
1/4 cup chopped onion
1 medium red potato, cubed
1 small carrot, halved lengthwise and thinly sliced
1/2 cup water
3/4 teaspoon chicken bouillon granules

1 cup milk
2/3 cup frozen corn
1/8 teaspoon pepper
2-1/2 teaspoons all-purpose flour
2 tablespoons cold water
3/4 cup shredded cheddar cheese

Prep Time: 10 min Cook: 35 min

- 1 In a large saucepan, cook bacon over medium heat until crisp; remove to paper towels. Drain, reserving 1 teaspoon drippings. In the drippings, saute onion until tender. Add the potato, carrot, water and bouillon. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat; cover and simmer for 15-20 minutes or until the vegetables are almost tender.
- 2 Stir in the milk, corn and pepper. Cook 5 minutes longer. Combine the flour and cold water until smooth; gradually whisk into soup. Bring to a boil; cook and stir for 1-2 minutes or until thickened. Remove from the heat; stir in cheese until melted. Sprinkle with bacon.

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

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