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I started Coffee News® to support local small businesses and bring our community a little more positivity each week.

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Vol. 2 No. 23 June 8, 2026

Everybody's Talking

Grandmother connection: A creative company in Tokyo has found a new way to bring comfort and connection to modern life by offering a "rental grandmother" service. Through its OK! Obaachan program, women later in life can be hired to cook meals, give advice, or simply share time with clients seeking warmth and companionship. The idea grew from a desire to support both lonely residents and older women looking for meaningful work. Many find joy in being needed again, while families appreciate the sense of care that feels like home. The service also highlights Japan's effort to keep seniors engaged in society, and that wisdom and kindness still hold great value in everyday life.

Ocean discovery: Near Mexico's coastline, researchers confirmed a previously unknown manta ray, expanding the known family to just three species on Earth. The ray displayed distinctive grey wing tips and shoulder markings that clearly separated it from others. After comparing hundreds of photographs and sketches, scientists confirmed the differences through genetic analysis. The new species, named Mobula yarae after a mythical sea spirit, is thought to inhabit the Atlantic and parts of the Caribbean. Early findings suggest it may have recently evolved from a larger relative, offering a glimpse into ongoing speciation. For marine biologists, the discovery provides clues about how creatures continue to diversify in modern oceans.

Refuse reborn: In San Francisco, a recycling company has transformed part of its waste facility into a space for artists to create and experiment. Through Recology's artist residency program, participants collect discarded materials and turn them into new works like sculptures, paintings, and installations. They are given studio space, tools, and time to develop their projects before displaying them in a free public exhibit. Over the years, hundreds of artists have joined, finding fresh ways to reuse metal, wood, and plastic. The program encourages people to see waste as something that still holds creative value. By blending art and recycling, the effort demonstrates that trash can be reshaped into something lasting.

Ship sanctuary: A retired cruise ship now rests ashore on Bintan Island, Indonesia, as a luxury hotel, preserved by an owner who couldn't bear to see its history fade. Once known as the MV Doulos Phos, the vessel sailed for decades under different names before becoming too old for the sea. Its new owner purchased it after years of disuse, moving it onto land and rebuilding every level while keeping much of its original structure. Visitors can now stay in expanded cabins, explore restored decks, and even see the old lifeboats still hanging along its side. The ship's transformation has turned a century-old relic into a permanent landmark, grounded by craftsmanship and respect for its story.

Quoteable Quotes

"Every day is a new day, and you'll never be able to find happiness if you don't move on." —Carrie Underwood

"Intelligence is the ability to adapt to change." —Stephen Hawking

What's Happening

Blanton Museum of Art Every Tuesday visitors get free admission.

The Drop-In Austin Music Series Free outdoor concerts every Thursday at 8:00 PM through August 13 at the Long Center for the Performing Arts!

No concert July 2. RSVP required at thelongcenter.orgNON PROFIT organizations may submit fundraising events for FREE at www.centraltexascoffeenews.com. Please submit a minimum of 6 weeks in advance.

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Actual Size

Trivia

- Who created the comic "Tin Tin"—H.A. Rey, Hergé, or Beatrix Potter?
- Before Titanic, this 1993 movie was the highest grossing film of all time.
- British Queen ____ reigned between 1837 and 1901.
- Where is the world's lowest point on land?
- Scale-shaped clouds create this type of sky, often signifying changing weather.

(Flip bottom of page for answers)

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Avara MENTAL HEALTH

Recipe of the month

Easy Chocolate Eclair Cake

2 cups whole milk
2 packages (3-1/2 ounces each) instant vanilla pudding mix
1 container (8 ounces) frozen whipped topping, thawed

1 package (14.4 ounces) whole graham crackers
1 container (16 ounces) chocolate frosting

Prep Time: 15 min Yield: 15 servings

- In a large bowl, whisk together milk and pudding mix for 2 minutes. Fold in whipped topping until well-combined.
- In a 13x9-in. baking dish, layer graham crackers evenly over bottom. Spread half the pudding mixture evenly over graham crackers; repeat layers. Top with remaining graham crackers. Spread chocolate frosting over top.
- Cover; refrigerate at least 3 hours. Cut into squares; serve.

Want to celebrate Chocolate Eclair Day June 22, but don't have time to make the fancy pastry? Try this easy variation instead!

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

Your Weekly Horoscope

ARIES
(March 20 - April 19)

You may be tempted to act impulsively at mid-week. Consider buckling down instead. This could show your serious intent and help avoid conflict about old issues. Lucky numbers: 3, 7, 12, 13, 31, 40.

LIBRA
(Sept. 23 - Oct. 22)

Is there an annoying situation that has been bubbling beneath the surface? Try to address it early in the week or it may blow up in a way you don't expect. Lucky numbers: 1, 2, 10, 13, 30, 36.

TAURUS
(April 20 - May 20)

Your grounded, practical nature may get a boost at midweek. If you have a project that requires more hard work to complete, this might be a time to invest in it. Lucky numbers: 17, 18, 22, 27, 36, 40.

SCORPIO
(Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

For a few days at mid-week, you may find a respite from the information flow that seems to follow you everywhere all the time. Let it wash over and restore you. Lucky numbers: 2, 11, 14, 28, 37, 44.

GEMINI
(May 21 - June 20)

The new moon at week's end encourages you to set intentions toward your goals. You may be given a number of options to do so. Slow down and choose carefully. Lucky numbers: 6, 10, 19, 25, 30, 32.

SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

The new moon at week's end is a good time to set intentions. However, the options that you can pursue may be a bit overwhelming. Try waiting a few days to decide. Lucky numbers: 9, 10, 24, 37, 33, 47.

CANCER
(June 21 - July 22)

You may receive a boost of optimism and enthusiasm. How might you direct this energy to achieve something close to your heart? Don't let the moment slip by. Lucky numbers: 9, 14, 35, 37, 39, 40.

CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

Capricorns have a strong ability to manifest success. But now may be a good time to question if your endeavours satisfy your heart's wishes. If not, adjust accordingly. Lucky numbers: 8, 18, 20, 37, 41, 44.

LEO
(July 23 - Aug. 22)

You may be in love with love for the next month. Carefully consider this in new relationships. Give yourself time to see if this person is right for you. Lucky numbers: 13, 17, 21, 33, 36, 41.

AQUARIUS
(Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

You know the goal you're manifesting but might have difficulty attracting others to your vision. Craft a message that reflects the passion of what you want to achieve. Lucky numbers: 7, 9, 12, 17, 22, 27.

VIRGO
(Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)

Your grounded and hard-working nature is a gift, but it can get a bit tedious. The weekend is a good time to add some pleasure and fun to your life. Lucky numbers: 5, 6, 18, 19, 34, 42.

PISCES
(Feb. 19 - March 20)

Your empathy is a double-edged sword, attracting and repelling others. Right now, you may be able to communicate with added warmth and joy to draw others to your side. Lucky numbers: 4, 5, 10, 15, 44, 48.

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

Did You Know...

Bold bite: Mustard began in ancient Rome, where crushed seeds were stirred into grape juice for extra taste. Centuries later it spread across Europe, valued as a cheap way to add flavour long before imported spices became common.

Letter logic: When abbreviations are said as full words, like NATO, they're called acronyms. If each letter is pronounced separately, like FBI, they're technically "initialisms." Both shorten long names but sound completely different when spoken.

Gut gate: Unlike people, horses can't bring food back up once it's swallowed. A tight stomach valve and angled passage block the reverse flow, which protects the system but also raises risks if too much gas or liquid builds inside.

Candle customs: The birthday candle tradition began when ancient Greeks lit cakes to honour the moon goddess and send wishes skyward. Later, Romans used candles on cakes to celebrate birthdays, a practice that continues around the world today.

Timeless ride: A man from the U.S. bought a green Rolls-Royce Phantom in 1928 and proudly kept it for 77 years. He drove it well into old age, eventually earning the record for the longest private Rolls-Royce ownership in history.

On the Lighter Side

Doctor: "You'll need stitches in that cut."
Patient: "Don't bother, I'll do it."
Doctor: "Suture self."

Knock! Knock! *Who's there?* Gnu. *Gnu who?* I gnu you'd ask me that!

How do you mend a broken tuba? With a tuba glue.

A clockmaker's alarm makes him rise and chime.

Mr. Alligator said he couldn't make it to the party. He was swamped.

Answers

Trivia answers: 1. Herge 2. Jurassic Park 3. Victoria 4. Dead Sea 5. Mackereel Sky

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