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Everybody's Talking

Steel giant: A massive mechanical elephant in Nantes, France, has become the unlikely heart of a once-quiet industrial area. The creature carries groups of visitors as it moves slowly between old shipyard buildings that were turned into workshops for imaginative machines. Its designers chose to rebuild the district by filling it with unusual moving creations instead of traditional development. Inside the gallery, workers shape everything from small insects to towering animals, letting guests watch each project take form. The elephant remains the main draw, spraying water as it travels along its route. Its steady loop through the district keeps drawing people back to see what's new.

Timber craft: In Yorkshire, England, a local woodcarving group is turning fallen city trees into simple handmade items that bring people together. When a large alder tree came down near the town of Shipley, members gathered the wood and brought it to their monthly meet-up. There, beginners and experienced carvers shaped the logs into spoons, bowls, and sturdy mugs, giving the old tree a new purpose. Many members value the donated wood, especially those who do not live close to forested areas. Tree surgeons often share cut branches that would otherwise be thrown away. The club says the work offers steady hands, shared company, and a welcome pause from daily life.

Tactile view: Visitors to St. Elmo Castle in Naples, Italy, can find a steel railing engraved with braille that describes the scenery for people who can't see it. The feature was added by a local artist who wanted everyone to share in the experience, even if they couldn't view the coastline or city below. As more travellers ask for accessible options, small changes like this show how design can open doors without altering historic sites in significant ways. The railing invites readers to follow its path and imagine the landscape through touch instead of sight. Similar ideas are appearing in other cultural spots, reminding destinations that inclusivity doesn't need to be complex to make a real impact.

Meal mission: Los Angeles actor and musician Jaden Smith runs the I Love You Restaurant, built on his earlier food-truck project, offering free plant-based meals to people who don't have steady housing. The idea began with vegan trucks that handed out simple dishes in areas where support services are limited and often stretched thin. At the restaurant, customers who can pay cover their own meal and help fund one for someone else, keeping the service accessible to anyone who needs it. Volunteers help prepare the food each day, keeping the focus on healthy, sustainable options. Smith has described the project in online videos as part of a broader effort to make good meals easier to reach.

Quoteable Quotes

"All serious daring starts from within." —Eudora Welty

"I feel that there is nothing more truly artistic than to love people." —Vincent Van Gogh

What's Happening

Allen R. Baca Center Program Expo 08-21-26 Join us from 1:00 - 3:00 PM. Explore everything the Allen R. Baca Center has to offer! Meet group leaders, discover clubs, fitness, arts, games, and more. Find a new hobby, make friends, and see why there's something for everyone!

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Actual Size

Trivia

1. Who wrote the song "The Wreck of the Edmund Fitzgerald"?
2. How many toes does a camel have on each foot?
3. Matt Damon played this Robert Ludlum character in four movies.
4. Kite flying is a professional sport in Thailand—T/F?
5. This is made from the chemical reaction of fat and ashes.

(Flip bottom of page for answers)

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Recipe of the month

Frozen Cherry Salad

1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese, softened
1 carton (8 ounces) frozen whipped topping, thawed
1 can (21 ounces) cherry pie filling

2 cans (11 ounces each) mandarin oranges, drained
Maraschino cherries and orange wedges, optional

Prep Time: 10 min Yield: 12 servings

① In a large bowl, combine cream cheese and whipped topping. Stir in pie filling. Fold oranges into cream cheese mixture.
② Transfer to a 9x5-in. loaf pan. Cover and freeze overnight. Remove from freezer 15 minutes before cutting. Garnish with cherries and orange wedges if desired.

The perfect cool dessert addition to your summer picnic basket.
Try it out during August
— Picnic Month!

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

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Your Weekly Horoscope

ARIES

(March 20 – April 19)

Getting what you want requires that you do the necessary hard work. You may receive an energy boost this week to do so. But be sure your goal matches your values. Lucky numbers: 3, 14, 16, 21, 37, 40.

TAURUS

(April 20 – May 20)

The energy for the next month may give you an opportunity to begin to heal an old emotional wound. This might be the beginning of a long-term process. Lucky numbers: 10, 19, 20, 22, 23, 44.

GEMINI

(May 21 – June 20)

You may experience a temporary set back for the next few weeks in manifesting your goals. Patience and flexibility could help you get through this period. Lucky numbers: 12, 18, 23, 28, 35, 39.

CANCER

(June 21 – July 22)

Your emotions should be well grounded, anchoring you over the next month. Before this energy dissipates, consider how to take advantage of this to accomplish a goal. Lucky numbers: 1, 2, 9, 14, 17, 45.

LEO

(July 23 – Aug. 22)

A beneficial energy is available early this week. You could use it to have fun, but you also might be able to accomplish something significant, if you do the work. Lucky numbers: 15, 24, 33, 36, 39, 44.

VIRGO

(Aug. 23 – Sept. 22)

Your birthday month is a good time to evaluate your prior year accomplishments and set goals for the new year. Consider breaking out of your comfort zone. Lucky numbers: 6, 8, 11, 13, 22, 40.

LIBRA

(Sept. 23 – Oct. 22)

For the next month, it is important that you not overlook the details to get to what appears to be a win-win result. Otherwise, the agreement may fall apart. Lucky numbers: 5, 17, 28, 36, 37, 46.

SCORPIO

(Oct. 23 – Nov. 21)

Your intuition may be in high gear for a few days early in the week. If it's overwhelming, withdraw from the world as much as possible. Self care is important. Lucky numbers: 7, 10, 17, 19, 26, 28.

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 22 – Dec. 21)

While your energy may be at a low point now, a temporary, midweek reprieve may happen for a few days. If you can accomplish something quickly, take advantage of it. Lucky numbers: 13, 15, 28, 31, 34, 39.

CAPRICORN

(Dec. 22 – Jan. 19)

Your ambition may be heightened for a few days at the end of the week. Apply this energy, before it passes, to whatever might need a boost to be successful. Lucky numbers: 8, 9, 26, 34, 38, 43.

AQUARIUS

(Jan. 20 – Feb. 18)

Are you having difficulty getting acceptance for your goals? It may be helpful to make an adjustment to flesh out the details, in order to gain the confidence of others. Lucky numbers: 2, 10, 12, 20, 37, 43.

PISCES

(Feb. 19 – March 20)

It has been about six months since your birthday. Did you set new goals then? Now is a good time to evaluate your successes and make changes to what isn't. Lucky numbers: 15, 16, 20, 21, 22, 43.

Lucky numbers this week: This week's odds favour Leo winners with the luckiest number being 33.

Did You Know...

Water divide: Salty ocean water makes up about 97% of Earth's water, leaving only a small fraction of fresh water in ice, groundwater, and surface sources. That tiny share supports drinking supplies worldwide and most everyday uses.

Silent suits: During a spacewalk, an astronaut's suit uses low-pressure air, which is much thinner than what we breathe on Earth. With so little air moving past the lips, a whistle can't form at all, no matter how hard astronauts may try.

Ancient ache: Egypt's early dentists faced constant tooth wear from gritty foods, so they turned to remedies like crushed minerals and natural rinses. Their simple mixtures aimed to ease discomfort and keep mouths healthier despite a harsh diet.

Coral heart: Heart Reef is a naturally formed, heart-shaped coral patch in the Whitsundays, sitting within Australia's Great Barrier Reef. A pilot first noticed its outline during a flight, and today it is protected, so people view it only from the air.

Tropical twist: Despite its name, Hawaiian pizza was invented in Ontario (Canada) by a Greek-born restaurateur who decided to top a cheese pizza with pineapple and ham. The sweet-and-salty experiment sparked a debate that still divides pizza lovers today.

On the Lighter Side

How many ants do you need to fill a rented apartment? Ten-ants.

The invisible man tried to lie to me, but I saw right through him.

Note to self: Thanks for always being there!

Mike: "Uh-oh, I just made an illegal left turn."
Ike: "That's okay, so did the policeman behind you."

Knock! Knock! *Who's there?* Weed. *Weed who?* Weed better go home—it's time for lunch!

Answers

Trivia answers: 1. Gordon Lightfoot 2. Two 3. Jason Bourne 4. True 5. Soap

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