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Everybody's Talking

Floridian flamingo: Visitors to the U.S. state of Florida soon discover that flamingos, the pink birds with spindly legs and long necks, are a common sight. Fittingly, then, an art installation at the Tampa International Airport honours that bird. Called "HOME" and created by artist Matthew Mazzotta, the sculpture is a huge likeness of the pink creature. It stands 21 feet (6.4 metres) tall, and it appears to be bending its neck down into water to feed at eye level with visitors; the water's surface is visible near the airport ceiling. Special ceiling lighting creates this optical illusion. Travelers are encouraged to touch and interact with this interesting piece of art.

Piece of the puzzle: In 1980, in the northern Spain town of Castrojeriz, a church was the victim of a crime. A thief got away with six invaluable, centuries-old Flemish tapestries. After several years, police finally recovered these works of art, made by Corneille Schutz. However, until recently, one piece from the largest tapestry had remained missing. This was a 2-x-2-foot (0.6-x-0.6-metre) square in the bottom left corner. An investigator with the Spanish National Police reopened the case in 2021, after over 40 years, and found a lead. The missing square contains an image of an angel. It was returned to the church in February 2022.

Cartoon passport: When Belgian citizens open their new passports, they may think it looks like some kind of odd comic book. That is because the new design for these important pieces of identification include background images of cartoon characters, including the Smurfs and boy reporter Tintin, who are beloved in Belgium. Some of the images, appropriately, include elements of travel, such as the rocket that took Tintin to the moon. On another page, a Smurf looks at a globe and a number of maps. Note that the cartoons are not just to make the document look flashy; they also contain many security elements that prevent counterfeiters from making copies.

Home with travelers: A Chinese man who doesn't get along very well with his family decided to find another abode. That was over 14 years ago, and the place he found to call home is the Beijing Capital International Airport. Wei Jianguo gets a monthly government allowance that provides him with funds to buy enough food to keep him from going hungry. Sometimes he buys food from a restaurant and sometimes he prepares it on an electric cooker. At night, he sets up his bed in a waiting area of the airport. A few times over the years security has taken him home, but he always ends up coming back and setting up again.

Quoteable Quotes

"It's a whole lot more satisfying to reach for the stars, even if you end up landing only on the moon." —*Kermit the Frog*

"If you can't fly then run, if you can't run then walk, if you can't walk then crawl, but whatever you do you have to keep moving forward." —*Martin Luther King, Jr.*

What's Happening

Volunteer with local seniors March - June: Give a listening ear and friendly smile while helping improve care for seniors. Learn more at http://www.surveybcseniors.org/volunteer or email Emily at ejurek@providencehealth.bc.ca

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Women's PROBUS Club of White Rock & South Surrey, a social club for **all** retired and semi-retired women, holds regular meetings the last Wed of the month. As well as interesting monthly speakers, our PROBUS Club offers unlimited opportunities to socialize through smaller groups such as book clubs, doing crafts, eating out, as well as, scheduled walks in the area. For further info please call Bronwen 778-240-4734 or view our website www.probusforwomen.ca.

Jam - Bread & Blessings Adults/Seniors Lunch Wed, 11 am - 1pm every other week starting on Feb 15th. 15417 Roper Ave. (& Best) White Rock, BC - The Salvation Army. Info 604-802-4302 or 604-531-7314 Everyone is Welcome! Meet new people, enjoy a nutritious lunch, games, fellowship and fun.

Trivia

1. Mozart liked to play this indoor game while composing.
2. Movie director Elia Kazan's birth city is now called _____.
3. In *King Lear*, the eldest daughter is Goneril, Regan, or Cordelia?
4. In 1964, Jean-Paul Sartre declined what?
5. Andorra is a co-principality on which continent?

(Flip bottom of page for answers)

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Your Weekly Horoscope

ARIES
(March 21 – April 20)

Opportunities for you to be successful may be plentiful right now. The key, however, might be to pick the ones in line with your values and that also benefit others. Lucky numbers: 3, 11, 13, 29, 30, 44.

TAURUS
(April 21 – May 21)

At the beginning of the week, you may come into possession of some startling information. Consider it carefully before sharing it with others, especially if it could trigger a confrontation. Lucky numbers: 5, 8, 11, 27, 36, 43.

GEMINI
(May 22 – June 21)

Things may be very busy for you at the start of the week, especially regarding calls and texts. Try to use these conversations to get the help you need with your endeavours. Lucky numbers: 11, 14, 15, 41, 44, 46.

CANCER
(June 22 – July 22)

Midweek, you may feel particularly emotional. This could be a catalyst to bringing a situation to resolution. Be sure, though, that you aren't arguing a point just for the sake of doing so. Lucky numbers: 14, 18, 23, 26, 27, 43.

LEO
(July 23 – Aug. 23)

Your natural optimism is highlighted at midweek. This feeling will only last for a few days, so you may want to capitalize on it to move something forward. Lucky numbers: 2, 7, 12, 23, 29, 36.

VIRGO
(Aug. 24 – Sept. 23)

Virgos often find success through hard work. For the next two years, that dynamic may be tested. However, if you are flexible, you might find yourself with a new skill set. Lucky numbers: 4, 11, 32, 33, 43, 46.

LIBRA
(Sept. 24 – Oct. 23)

Are you experiencing dissatisfaction with your life overall, or a relationship in particular? This may be a good time to make an adjustment that will put you on a better path. Lucky numbers: 7, 10, 16, 27, 36, 47.

SCORPIO
(Oct. 24 – Nov. 22)

Scorpios often intuitively understand the hidden wounds in people. You may need to make an adjustment this week, to avoid impulsively communicating to others what you know about them. Lucky numbers: 10, 13, 30, 36, 44, 47.

SAGITTARIUS
(Nov. 23 – Dec. 21)

You may find that your heart and mind are out of sync at the beginning of the week. You might want to postpone any important decisions for a few days. Lucky numbers: 1, 9, 16, 19, 31, 47.

CAPRICORN
(Dec. 22 – Jan. 20)

Are you feeling emotionally out of sorts, perhaps angry at minor annoyances? Now may be a good time to analyze the underlying cause of your feelings and find a resolution. Lucky numbers: 9, 14, 22, 23, 28, 30.

AQUARIUS
(Jan. 21 – Feb. 19)

Aquarius often presents a subdued, intellectual persona to the world. At midweek, the astrological energy might encourage you to add more heart into your approach with others. Lucky numbers: 6, 8, 12, 29, 35, 47.

PISCES
(Feb. 20 – March 20)

You may be working harder now, perhaps at the behest of others. Try to be aware of your own needs, and don't overly tax yourself while you adjust to the new pattern. Lucky numbers: 11, 18, 22, 29, 31, 35.

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

Did you know?

Big and wide: South America is home to the giant water lily (*Victoria amazonica*), or Amazon Water-platter. Sitting on the surface of the water, this fast-growing plant can be as wide as 2.4 metres (8 ft.), and has a sweet scent.

Rock band tie: Actress Naomi Watts has had many roles, including Nora Brannock in the TV series *The Watcher*. She was born in 1968 in England. Her father, Peter Anthony Watts, was once a sound engineer for the rock band Pink Floyd.

Big hole: Near Winslow, Arizona (U.S.), a large meteor strike 50,000 years ago caused the Barringer (or Meteor) Crater. The hole is 1,300 metres (4,265 ft.) wide with a maximum depth of 174 metres (570 ft.).

Gloved hands: In the 1950s, wearing white gloves as part of dressy attire became fashionable for women. While the gloves may have looked classy, they weren't very practical for the women wearing them.

Corn collector: Bundt pans may have been designed for making cakes, but they're also useful when cutting corn off a cob. Put the end of the cob into the pan's centre hole, then cut off the corn and it falls neatly into the pan.

On the Lighter Side

Knock! Knock! *Who's there?* Lotus. *Lotus who?* Lotus in and we'll tell you.

What do you call the ghost of a chicken? A poultry-geist.

Bob: "I went window shopping today."
Bill: "Did you get anything?"
Bob: "Yes, four windows."

Why was the ruler so confused? It couldn't think straight!

I don't like elevator music. It's bad on many levels.

Answers

Trivia answers: 1. Billiards 2. Istanbul, Turkey 3. Gonenli 4. Nobel Prize in Literature 5. Europe

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