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# Everybody's Talking!

WashingtonCountyCoffeeNews@gmail.com Vol. 2 No. 40 December 2, 2024

Edible artistry: In Auckland, New Zealand, Devoney Scarfe has gained fame for her stunning pie art, transforming dough into intricate creations like celebrity portraits and whimsical designs. What started as a hobby while balancing motherhood and a parttime job quickly evolved into a renowned craft. Her dedication paid off with a viral tribute to Queen Elizabeth, which captured widespread attention online. Each pie, requiring meticulous sculpting, painting, and baking, can take up to a week to perfect. Scarfe overcomes numerous challenges, such as preventing dough from collapsing or cracking. These impressive pies, after being showcased online, are typically enjoyed by her ever-hungry

**Cosmic baseball:** In Virginia (U.S.), a collegiate summer baseball team, the Tri-City Chili Peppers, has transformed the sport by introducing "cosmic baseball" games. These games, played at night under black lights, feature UV-reactive uniforms, balls, and bats, creating a visually stunning spectacle. Despite the unconventional lighting, players have adapted to the UV environment, making it second nature to track and hit the ball. The concept, initially inspired by a glow stick incident on the field, became a reality with the help of J.W. Electric, which developed a powerful black light system. The investment, estimated at \$100,000 (USD), has paid off as the games have gained viral popularity online and quickly sell out.

Explosive hammer: In Xiangyang, China, a 90-year-old woman named Qin discovered an old hand grenade in a field, mistaking it for a hammer. For two decades, she used this dangerous tool to crack nuts and hammer nails. The grenade, identified as a Chinese Type 67, went unrecognized until demolition workers spotted it at her house. Police were stunned by its smooth handle and dented metal head, indicating years of heavy use. Despite speculation that it was a training grenade, authorities confirmed it was fully capable of exploding. Remarkably, Qin's curiosity never led her to pull the exposed fuse, which could have had fatal consequences. This incredible story of luck has been widely shared in China.

**Legendary theft:** The mythical sword Durandal, long embedded in a rock wall in Rocamadour, France, has mysteriously disappeared. Known as the "French Excalibur," this legendary blade, said to have belonged to the famous knight Roland, had been a fixture for 1,300 years. The sword vanished despite being secured far above the ground. Durandal's tale, told in the epic poem "The Song of Roland," recounts its indestructible nature and the legendary relics embedded within it. The disappearance has deeply impacted Rocamadour, where the sword was an integral part of local heritage and tourism. Theories about the theft abound, including the use of professional climbing gear.

## Quoteable Quotes

"Friends are those rare people who ask how you are and then wait to hear the answer." —Ed Cunningham

"The heart has reasons that reason does not understand."

—Blaise Pascal

# What's Happening

Maine Made Holiday Shopping Revel in the magic of the season with festive shopping experiences throughout Maine. What does your community and those around Maine have to offer? Check out this link https://visitmaine.com/things-to-do/shopping/holiday-shopping-maine

Washington County Extension 4-H Seasonal Craft Pop-up in Calais Seasonal craft pop-up on Saturday, December 14 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Calais Free Library, 9 Union Street. The event is FREE and registration is required. Space is limited to 15 participants ages 5-18. Register by Monday, December 9 by visiting - https:// extension.umaine.edu/washington/4-h-craft-pop-up-event/. For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation contact Gabby Brodek at 207.255.3345 or gabrielle.brodek@maine.edu. Participants will be lead through several seasonal craft projects to take home. Each participant will have an opportunity to make and decorate a miniature doll as well as a card and envelope. All materials for the crafts will be provided.

## Trivia

- 1. Loch Ness is a famous lake in this country.
- 2. Who painted "The Starry Night"?
- 3. Who provided the voice of Yoda in Star Wars movies?
- 4. This is the world's rarest natural hair color.
- 5. What is the last letter of the Greek alphabet? (Flip bottom of page for answers)

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# Your Weekly Horoscopes

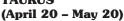
## (March 20 - April 19)



If a recent spiritual insight prompted you to make changes, you may find that progress will be stalled for a few weeks. If not, you could get a

second chance soon. Lucky numbers: 2, 20, 38, 41, 42, 48.

## **TAURUS**





Last week, were you able to take advantage of an opportunity to adjust your view about risk vs. reward? If you did, this

week may provide you with a chance to test it. Lucky numbers: 6, 12, 13, 16, 29, 44.

#### **GEMINI** (May 21 - June 20)



A number of options may give you a strong impulse to act. However, any efforts could be stymied right now. Perhaps recon-

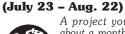
sider your options in about two months. Lucky numbers: 4, 6, 11, 20, 34, 46.

#### **CANCER** (June 21 - July 22)



For the next few months, you may be frustrated by a lack of forward move-ment. Before this ends, your energy may be best channeled into better

understanding yourself. Lucky numbers: 1, 9, 15, 16, 27, 29. **LEO** 





A project you started about a month ago may stall right now. A couple of months could pass before you can restart it, so try to be patient in

the meantime. Lucky numbers: 11, 15, 23, 36, 39, 40.

#### **VIRGO** (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)



A confusing period you may have lived through in the last few months might end soon. While this could have been uncomfortable, perhaps

you acquired more flexibility. Lucky numbers: 5, 10, 16, 17, 22, 36.

## (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22)



Your natural tact and diplomacy are always appreciated. But the energy for the next couple of weeks may be helpful in turning down the heat of any ongoing conflict. Lucky numbers:

7, 8, 17, 24, 35, 41. **SCORPIO** 

## (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)



If you are experiencing a conflict with someone, the next two weeks may offer some emotional distance from it. Try not to lose your connection

to them in the process. Lucky numbers: 5, 22, 29, 46, 47, 48.

### **SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)



New information and insights may come midweek, if you are open to receiving them. You might want to wait a few weeks before initiating any

changes from them. Lucky numbers: 10, 13, 20, 22, 28, 32.

#### **CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)



At the start of the week, the energy supports your innate ambition and hard work to build solid structures. Carefully consider how to apply this poten-

tial to achieve success. Lucky numbers: 4, 8, 17, 19, 37, 42.

#### **AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)



Aquarius energy resonates strongly in the sky this week, activating your Sun in this sign. The specific focus may be on love and your unconscious

beliefs about it. Lucky numbers: 3, 6, 11, 30, 32, 39.

#### **PISCES** (Feb. 19 - March 20)



This week may bring a setback, stemming from a communications conflict with others. The situation might have been foggy for a while, but

could begin to clear soon. Lucky numbers: 18, 23, 27, 30, 37, 45.

Lucky numbers this week: This week's odds favor Capricorn winners with the luckiest number being 37.

# Did You Know.

Aging illusions: Contrary to popular belief, our noses and ears don't actually keep growing as we age. Instead, they appear larger because of gravity and changes in our skin. Most bones stop growing by age 20.

**Xmas history:** The "X" in "Xmas" has its roots in the Greek alphabet, where "chi" is the first letter of "Christos," meaning Christ. Over time, the abbreviation caught on and became widely accepted in the English language.

**Speech struggles:** Despite being celebrated as among the greatest speakers, Martin Luther King, Jr., once earned a "C" in public speaking from a school teacher. This grade didn't stop him from inspiring millions with speeches like "I Have a Dream."

Ball physics: The performance of a tennis ball depends on its temperature. A gas-filled core inside each ball changes with heat, affecting how high the ball bounces. That's why Wimbledon keeps theirs at a perfect 68°F for optimal play.

Cereal surprise: Think those colorful Froot Loops have different flavors? Think again! Despite their rainbow hues, every piece of the breakfast cereal tastes the same. Taste tests and Kellogg's both confirm that all the colors share one flavor.

# On the Lighter Side

Knock! Knock! Who's there? Pumpkin. Pumpkin who? A pumpkin fill your flat tire.

How many friends did the bell bring to the party? It brought the whole clang!

I was overruled at the measuring competition.

Did you hear that a magician directed a film? She really made

Father: "You have four D's and a C on your report card!" Son: "I know. I think I concentrated too much on one subject.'

### Answers

3. Frank Oz 4. Red 5. Omega Trivia answers: 1. Scotland 2. Vincent Van Gogh

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