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Everybody's Talking

Aurora rails: In northern Norway, a new overnight train has been built with one goal in mind, letting passengers watch the Northern Lights while they travel. Instead of standard windows, the cars are wrapped in glass, including the ceiling, so the sky stays in view from every seat. The interior lighting is kept low to avoid reflections, making it easier to see faint movement outside. The route runs through areas already known for strong aurora activity, turning the journey itself into the main attraction. Designed as an alternative to daytime sightseeing, the train pairs slow travel with night skies. For travellers, it offers an immersive way to experience the aurora from a moving viewpoint.

Reef voices: Coral reefs are alive with clicks, pops, and low noises, but it's been hard to tell which fish make which sounds. A new tool solves that by recording audio and video together, letting researchers match a sound to the fish seen making it. The system uses underwater microphones paired with a wide-view camera, so crowded reef scenes are easier to sort out. Early recordings showed that many fish make sounds scientists didn't know about before. Those identified noises are added to a shared library for future study. Over time, the recordings can be checked without divers returning to the site. Researchers say listening this way could become a simple way to track reef activity and changes.

Ancient paths: In Bolivia, a rock surface covered in dinosaur footprints is offering a rare look at daily life in the distant past. Instead of bones, the site preserves steps left in soft ground, showing where animals actually walked. The markings stretch across what was once a wet shoreline, forming long paths that hint at repeated movement through the area. Most prints belong to meat-eating dinosaurs that traveled on two legs. Some tracks curve or overlap, suggesting turns, pauses, or shared routes. Because footprints stay where they're made, researchers can study direction, pace, and spacing with unusual confidence. The site helps turn frozen moments into a clearer picture of how these animals moved across the land.

Vape power: In England, an engineer has shown how much energy is thrown away by turning discarded vaping devices into a working home battery. Instead of seeing them as trash, he collected hundreds of used units and removed the rechargeable cells inside. Once combined, those small batteries formed a single power source capable of running household electronics for hours. The setup worked without drawing from the grid, lighting rooms and running everyday appliances. The project began after he noticed how easily people tossed devices built with reusable parts. The experiment highlights how much usable energy ends up in the bin and what careful reuse can unlock.

Quoteable Quotes

"Attention is the rarest and purest form of generosity."
— Simone Weil

"I intend to live forever. So far, so good."
— Steven Wright

What's Happening

Hampden Kiwanis Community Bean Supper 1st Saturday of every month, Oct-May: 3 kinds of beans, coleslaw, biscuits, red hots, and desserts. 4:30 pm to 6 pm, 41 Canoe Club Road, Hampden, ME. \$10 per person, \$25 family. Carry out available.

Hampden Holiday Shopping Festivals Hampden United Methodist Church, Christmas Fair, 8 am to 2 pm, 44 Kennebec Rd. Hampden Historical Society, Christmas Bazaar, 8 to 2 pm, 83 Main Road South. Hampden Rec, Holiday Market with multiple vendors, 9 am to 2 pm, Skehan Rec Ctr, 1 Main Rd North.

NON profit organizations may submit events for FREE at www.coffeenewsbangor.com

Trivia

1. Which composer wrote The Four Seasons?
2. This is the longest river in South America.
3. What is the longest running animated television series in history?
4. What is the name of the cowboy in the Toy Story movies?
5. The chemical symbol for silver is Au, Ag, or Si?

(Flip bottom of page for answers)
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Recipe of the month

Halloween Brownies

1 package (15.8 ounces) brownie mix
1/2 cup semi-sweet chocolate chips

2 cups chow mein noodles
18 candy eyeballs

Prep Time: 20 min Cook: 30 min Yield: 9 spiders

1. Prepare and bake brownies according to package directions using an 8-in. square baking pan lined with parchment. Cool completely in pan on a wire rack.
2. In a microwave, melt chocolate chips; stir until smooth. Remove 1 tablespoon melted chocolate to a small bowl; reserve for attaching eyes. Add noodles to remaining chocolate; stir gently to coat. Spread onto a waxed paper-lined baking sheet, separating noodles slightly. Freeze until set.
3. Cut nine brownies with a 2-1/4-in. round cutter for spider bodies. Attach eyeballs using reserved melted chocolate. With a bamboo skewer or toothpick, poke eight holes in top of each spider for inserting legs. Insert a coated noodle into each hole. Store in an airtight container.

Cheesy, crumbly and delicious? Yup, these spookily yummy treats are the ideal treat to any Halloween feast!

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

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Your Weekly Horoscope

ARIES (March 20 – April 19)
You may feel an energy boost at mid-week. Use it to complete a project that requires focused discipline. Carefully consider any impulse to pivot in a new direction regarding it. Lucky numbers: 4, 5, 9, 20, 44, 46.

TAURUS (April 20 – May 20)
The three outer planets have moved from earth and water to fire and air. Does this shift feel uncomfortable? Use your perseverance to flow with these energies rather than resisting them. Lucky numbers: 16, 27, 32, 41, 43, 44.

GEMINI (May 21 – June 20)
Geminis often approach situations from a highly intellectual perspective. For the next weeks, however, the Universe may ask you to adjust your view to add more heart and passion. Lucky numbers: 11, 13, 18, 25, 43, 47.

CANCER (June 21 – July 22)
At mid-week, you may run into an obstacle to your plans from someone with a stake in the outcome. Take a step back and ask where they might have a point. Lucky numbers: 10, 14, 21, 27, 39, 43.

LEO (July 23 – Aug. 22)
Leo is associated with heart and courage. This week may bring an opportunity that requires both. Be sure you act on it in a way that is fair to all concerned. Lucky numbers: 1, 6, 17, 23, 38, 41.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22)
Pluto in Aquarius calls you to a higher form of service. It may require an adjustment in your view of who you are and the role you play in the world. Lucky numbers: 2, 8, 11, 28, 31, 36.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22)
The highest purpose for Libras is to help humanity find balance, harmony and peace. It is important you stand your ground in this task now, even though it is hard. Lucky numbers: 5, 12, 23, 33, 40, 43.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21)
Your ability to deeply see others' truths may tempt you to be skeptical of humanity's future. That is understandable but we need your truth telling skills now more than ever. Lucky numbers: 17, 26, 31, 41, 43, 48.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21)
Your natural optimism is given a boost early in the week. It can help you achieve what you desire to manifest. Just be careful of any temptation to over-reach. Lucky numbers: 8, 13, 26, 29, 34, 41.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19)
At mid-week, others may feel that you are being stubborn about something of interest to both of you. Take a step back and consider if they might be right. Lucky numbers: 3, 4, 13, 40, 45, 46.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18)
Aquarius can naturally sense how humanity's evolution might unfold. Your gift is to bring that understanding to the rest of us. An opportunity for this is in play at week's end. Lucky numbers: 12, 14, 26, 34, 37, 40.

PISCES (Feb. 19 – March 20)
Pisces deeply feels the pain of our chaotic world. Nonetheless, strive to find a helpful role among humanity. Where can you help relieve the tension of our collective dissonance? Lucky numbers: 7, 9, 14, 25, 35, 44.

Lucky numbers this week: This week's odds favour Sagittarius winners with the luckiest number being 29.

Did You Know...

Doughy history: France's famous croissant actually began in Austria, where a crescent-shaped pastry called *kipferl* was already part of local baking. Its form inspired the treat now linked with French bakeries, long before it became a breakfast favourite.

Calm seas: The Pacific Ocean got its name from Ferdinand Magellan after his voyage brought him into calm waters. "Pacific" comes from a word meaning peaceful, reflecting his first impression of this particular ocean.

Bump reflex: Goosebumps appear when tiny muscles pull each hair upright, creating small bumps across the skin. This reaction can happen during strong emotion as well as cold, showing how our bodies still carry an ancient insulating response.

Frozen filter: When seawater turns to ice, much of its salt is pushed out, leaving the frozen surface far fresher than the ocean below. After years of this natural filtering, melting sea ice can release water that's surprisingly close to fresh.

Crystal balance: Deep in your inner ear sit tiny natural crystals that shift whenever you move. Their small movements help your brain understand direction and keep your sense of balance steady, even during simple everyday motions.

On the Lighter Side

What hotel does cheese stay in? Stilton.

The failed poet decided to leave the writing process to the prose.

Knock! Knock! *Who's there?* Fido. *Fido who?* Fido go away, will you miss me?

Take it from a scientist: Never believe atoms. They make up everything.

Navy jet pilot: That is it! We're flying faster than the speed of sound!

Co-pilot: What?

Answers

1. Antonio Vivaldi 2. Amazon 3. The Simpsons 4. Woody 5. Ag

Trivia answers: 1. Antonio Vivaldi 2. Amazon 3. The Simpsons 4. Woody 5. Ag

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