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**Everybody's Talking!**

**Island survivor:** A tiny dog named Valerie managed to survive alone in the wild for 529 days on Kangaroo Island, off the southern coast of Australia. The miniature dachshund vanished during a camping trip and avoided rescue efforts for months, despite trail cameras, food traps, and even her owner's scent being used to lure her in. Volunteers with a local wildlife group finally gained her trust by sitting calmly with treats and familiar objects, waiting until she was ready. After countless hours and kilometers travelled, they brought her to safety. Though she's still adjusting, Valerie's story has warmed many hearts. Against all odds, the little dog proved just how far resilience can go.

**Lifeline calls:** In the small village of Sharrington, England, residents rallied to save their historical red phone box by queuing up to make dozens of calls in a single day. Though slated for removal due to low usage, the booth has served as an emergency resource for locals and visitors alike, including paramedics unable to get mobile reception. The campaign's leader says the surge in calls shows strong support and that the box is more than a relic, it's a real necessity. Community members described it as a piece of history and a symbol of unity, especially in an area where vital services have slowly disappeared. Whether or not the phone company moves ahead with removal, the signal from locals is loud and clear.

**Tortoise breakthrough:** A century-old Galapagos tortoise has become a first-time mother, marking a milestone for a Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (U.S.), zoo and a hopeful step for her endangered species. The hatchlings' parents, who are two of the zoo's oldest tortoises, were paired through a breeding program designed to protect this rare subspecies. Four babies recently emerged and are now growing behind the scenes, with more eggs still being monitored. The mother, known as Mommy, had never passed on her genes, making these hatchlings especially valuable. With so few of these tortoises in captivity, each new arrival adds critical genetic diversity. Their tiny steps mark meaningful progress for conservation.

**Face rocks:** In Chichibu, Japan, an unusual museum houses more than a thousand naturally formed rocks that bear a striking resemblance to human faces. Known as Chinsekikan, or the "Hall of Curious Rocks," the collection includes stones that unintentionally mirror everything from famous musicians to cartoon characters. None are carved, but each was shaped solely by nature, then spotted for its personality-packed expression. The founder, who spent decades collecting these stony lookalikes, insisted on no alterations, preferring only rocks that seemed to gaze back on their own. Experts say the shapes result from mineral fractures, weathering, and erosion that mimic facial features. Still, whether you see Elvis or E.T., it's hard not to smile back.

**Quoteable Quotes**

"There is no gate, no lock, no bolt that you can set upon the freedom of my mind" —Virginia Woolf

"The world will ask you who you are, and if you don't know, the world will tell you." —Carl Jung

**What's Happening**

**\$1,000 Visa Gift Card Giveaway** – The Color Bar is giving away a \$1,000 Visa Gift Card. No purchase necessary. See the Color Bar ad at the top of the page to enter.

**Veterans Day Celebration** - Nov. 8th, 9 to 10:30 a.m. Marks the grand opening of Honored Mission Hall. Pay tribute to all of those who have served and protected our great nation. Featuring music, speakers, presentations, covered seating, covered parking, golf cart shuttles to and from the parking lot. 1776 Freedom Blvd., Conroe.

**Calvary Road Baptist Church Yard Sale** – Nov. 8 at 8 a.m. at 12621 Calvary Road, Willis. Vendors welcome; spaces are at \$15 each. For more info, call 936-827-7434 or email crbcwillistx@gmail.com

**Texas Lions Camp Chili Cookoff** - Sponsored by Lake Conroe Centennial & Montgomery Lions Clubs. Nov. 15 at Breakwater Grille, 13109 Melville Dr., Montgomery. Cooking starts at 7 a.m., public entry at 11 a.m. Winners announced at 1 p.m. Walkaround cup and spoon \$7. Register teams at 832-643-5854, bkevsmith@gmail.com, 936-525-0095 or katherine@lakeconroelady.com

**Eerie Echos** – Free symphonic concert by the Montgomery Community Band. Nov. 16 at 4 p.m. at Lake Creek High School, 20639 FM 2854, Montgomery.

**Tomball German Festival Christmas Market** - Dec. 12 through 14 at 201 S. Elm St., Old Town Tomball. Free admission and parking. Four live music stages, carnival rides and kids area, 150+ vendors, 30+ entertainers. For more information and to become a vendor, visit TomballGermanFest.org

**Trivia**

- The Lion, the Witch, and the \_\_\_\_ was written by C.S. Lewis.
- This dance became a huge craze during the Roaring Twenties.
- The Northwest Passage is in Antarctica—T/F?
- Canada's longest river is the Mackenzie, MacDougal, or McClaren River?
- This singer was known as "Old Blue Eyes."

(Flip bottom of page for answers)

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## Your Weekly Horoscope

### ARIES (March 20 - April 19)



You may feel at a stale-mate about how to move forward in some area of your life. What viewpoint adjustment might create positive movement in the situation? Lucky numbers: 11, 13, 14, 18, 23, 43.

### TAURUS (April 20 - May 20)



A Taurus likes to have time to process information and make decisions, but a lot of data may come at you now. Don't feel pressured to act unless you feel comfortable. Lucky numbers: 2, 8, 15, 17, 28, 45.

### GEMINI (May 21 - June 20)



Energies influencing you are in flux, so you may feel anxious as a result. Especially at midweek, be mindful when driving and when working with electrical devices. Lucky numbers: 7, 8, 16, 30, 34, 44.

### CANCER (June 21 - July 22)



You may feel particularly eager and ambitious this week to accomplish what you most desire. Just be realistic in assessing the risks you could be taking in the process. Lucky numbers: 5, 15, 18, 28, 36, 47.

### LEO (July 23 - Aug. 22)



This week consider focusing your efforts outside of your needs. What might you do now to help a fellow human or two? Some of the benefits may accrue to you. Lucky numbers: 7, 8, 18, 20, 25, 32.

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



The scariest thing this Halloween might be thoughts bubbling up from your unconscious. They may contain important insights so try not to look away from them. Lucky numbers: 3, 4, 8, 13, 21, 44.

### LIBRA (Sept. 23 - Oct. 22)



You are coming to the end of a period that encouraged you to claim your power. Have you taken advantage of it, and what additional action could you take this week? Lucky numbers: 4, 24, 27, 30, 32, 47.

### SCORPIO (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)



The next few weeks may provide an opportunity to lighten up your communication style. Yes, your insights are serious, but how you present them need not be grim. Lucky numbers: 6, 10, 33, 36, 42, 44.

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



For the next few weeks, you may be eager to explore new ideas, especially in philosophy and beliefs. Consider holding off on taking immediate actions based on them. Lucky numbers: 1, 10, 13, 17, 24, 43.

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



Did a new idea and plan come to you at the end of last week? Do you think it is viable, and how might you implement it now, before this opportunity passes by? Lucky numbers: 13, 28, 29, 35, 36, 48.

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



You may have an opportunity to work with others whose beliefs are aligned with yours. What endeavors can you accomplish together? Make this plan a joint effort. Lucky numbers: 10, 14, 19, 27, 32, 34.

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



You may feel a sense of urgency to complete something before it is too late. Take a deep breath and ground yourself. Then dig in and do the work. Lucky numbers: 9, 16, 22, 26, 43, 45.

Lucky numbers this week: This week's odds favor Libra winners with the luckiest number being 27.

## Did You Know...

**Sacred trunk:** To the ancient Maya, the Central American Indigenous civilization, the towering ceiba tree represented the universe itself. Its deep roots symbolized the underworld, the trunk stood for human life, and its wide canopy reached toward the heavens.

**Currency connection:** In 1999, a group of European countries introduced the euro for electronic transactions to unify trade and boost cooperation. A few years later, coins and bills rolled out for everyday use. It marked a new chapter in continental teamwork.

**Puppy muse:** Paul McCartney's beloved dog Martha inspired the Beatles tune *Martha My Dear*. Though the lyrics sound like they're meant for a woman, the song was really a musical nod to his fluffy, four-legged companion.

**Arcade origins:** Long before arcades, pinball began as a tabletop game called Bagatelle. The switch to coin-operated machines with flippers, bumpers, and flashing lights developed over decades. One early upgrade, a spring-loaded plunger, helped launch the modern experience.

**Shell secret:** A tortoise is a type of turtle, but it sticks to land and skips the swimming altogether. Its legs are more like sturdy stumps than flippers, built for walking instead of paddling. While all tortoises are turtles, not all turtles follow the same path through life.

## On the Lighter Side

First ant: "What's that smell, is it you?"  
Second ant: "No, it's de oder ant."

Knock! Knock! *Who's there?* Tummy. *Tummy who?* Tummy you'll always be number one!

What is a better name for a fly swatter? A fly splatter.

Lately, my skiing skills are really going downhill.

Diner: "I'll have the alligator sandwich, and make it snappy!"

### Answers

**Trivia answers:** 1. Wardrobe 2. Charlestone 3. False, Arctic 4. Mackenzie 5. Frank Sinatra

### Caregiving is more than a job - it's a calling.

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