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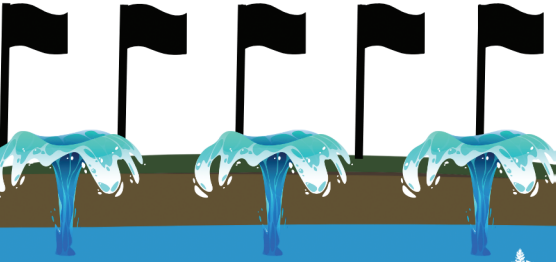
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Vol. 2 No. 21 July 20, 2026



Everybody's Talking!

Map walk: In the village of Klejtrup, Denmark, a farmer turned the edge of a lake into a walkable map of the world using stones gathered from nearby fields over many years. What began as a personal pastime grew into a full outdoor model where visitors can step from one continent to another in minutes. Each section was carefully shaped to match coast-lines, with certain northern regions repeated to avoid the size distortions found on common wall maps. Paths, flags, and small bridges now guide travelers across the layout, making the globe feel surprisingly compact. The project remains a local landmark, offering a simple way to explore geography on foot.

Owl currency: Long before the modern Greek one-euro coin was minted, an earlier version of the same owl was used across the ancient world, first appearing around 2,500 years ago. In Athens, silver tetradrachm coins showed Athena on one side and her owl with an olive sprig on the other, becoming a well-known trade currency for merchants and travelers. The design stayed mostly the same for generations, making the "owl" one of the most familiar coins of its time. Greece later chose this symbol for the national side of its one-euro coin, keeping the bird inside a border shaped like an old piece of silver. Today the image connects the coin in people's hands with Greece's long history and the stories that shaped it.

Cactus sealant: Builders in parts of rural Mexico still rely on a cactus-based mixture to protect adobe homes, using a method passed down since long before modern materials arrived. The process begins by boiling pieces of prickly pear cactus until they release a thick gel that blends with water and lime, creating a coating that helps walls resist moisture and pests. Researchers have recently revisited this approach, studying faster ways to collect the gel for natural building work. The mixture can also strengthen handmade bricks, helping homes last in tough climates. Beyond construction, the same cactus is inspiring biodegradable products, showing how an old plant tradition remains useful today.

Waldo goodwill: While helping build a new children's hospital, a construction worker in Indiana (U.S.) found an unexpected way to lift young patients' spirits. Drawing on his love of art, he created a large wooden *Where's Waldo* figure at home and painted it with help from his daughter. Once finished, he began placing the character in shifting spots around the work site so kids watching from an upper floor could search for it each day. Nurses soon joined in by passing along sightings, turning it into a small routine that brightened hospital stays for many children. The simple game also built a connection between the crews and the children's families, showing how a light idea can offer comfort during difficult moments.

Quoteable Quotes

"The power to question is the basis of all human progress."
—Indira Gandhi

"If science fiction is the mythology of modern technology,
then its myth is tragic."
—Ursula K. Le Guin

What's Happening

Paleontology Play - Dinosaurs are taking over the Huntsville Public Library! Dino games, puzzles and crafts suitable for toddlers to teens. Fossil digs and experiments will provide an archaeological experience. Monday, July 20, 10:30 to noon and Tuesday, July 28, 1 to 2:30 p.m.

New Waverly Public Library Events – Pasta Paleontology July 22 at noon; Jurassic Busting Out July 24 at noon for ages 13+. Rock Painting July 29 at noon for all ages. For more events and information visit NewWaverlyPublicLibrary.org

Honoring Sam Houston – July 25, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tour the Steamboat House and catch a glimpse into the last years of Sam Houston's life. Houston died in the Steamboat House on July 26, 1863, and his funeral was held in the upstairs parlor the next day. Located at the Sam Houston Memorial Museum complex. Free event.

Sam Houston High School Reunion – Celebrating 51 years! July 31 through Aug. 1st! View the event schedule at SamuelWalkerHoustonMuseum.com, call 936-295-2119 or 936-355-5267 or email swhalumni1906@currently.com

Scan here to see more What's Happenings: 

Trivia

1. Which actress starred in the movie *Some Like It Hot*?
2. How many bones are in the adult human body?
3. No bears are native to Australia—T/F?
4. A tennis ball has fuzz to slow it down, speed it up, or extend its use?
5. "Fauntleroy" is the middle name of this beloved Disney character.

(Flip bottom of page for answers)

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Your Weekly Horoscope

ARIES (March 20 – April 19)

Have you figured out yet what you are here to do? The evolutionary energy at work now could help to reshape your life, but you need to be patient. Lucky numbers: 15, 18, 26, 31, 37, 38.

TAURUS (April 20 – May 20)

Taurus always means well, even when they act like the proverbial bull in a china shop. The mid-week energy might help soften this dynamic, so take advantage of it. Lucky numbers: 12, 14, 17, 25, 38, 41.

GEMINI (May 21 – June 20)

Luck may very well be on your side early this week. Be sure to look at potential opportunities through the lens of their calculated risks, before making a decision. Lucky numbers: 6, 13, 18, 26, 37, 40.

CANCER (June 21 – July 22)

If you want to make a presentation or communicate in another public way, consider doing so during the next few weeks. Your nurturing style could appeal to others now. Lucky numbers: 9, 12, 15, 25, 28, 46.

LEO (July 23 – Aug. 22)

Your birthday month is a good time to review your prior year accomplishments and set goals for the new one. Consider choosing ones that align with your highest values. Lucky numbers: 10, 12, 25, 41, 44, 48.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22)

Choosing between results and relationships, Virgos often lean toward results. Midweek energy offers an opportunity to shift more toward nurturing connections to others. Lucky numbers: 7, 8, 12, 20, 33, 48.

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

LIBRA (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22)

Libras are often reluctant to tout their accomplishments, giving credit to others. But at midweek, try to take the opportunity to shine and let everyone see your light. Lucky numbers: 1, 8, 13, 23, 35, 36.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21)

Early this week, you may be uncomfortable with the intuitive insights that are revealed to you. Resist the temptation to overreact. Wait a few days for this phase to pass. Lucky numbers: 8, 9, 16, 23, 29, 39.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21)

Your natural optimism may expand midweek. Take advantage of this dynamic, but be conscious of your enthusiasm encouraging you to overreach in risktaking. Lucky numbers: 2, 7, 8, 26, 29, 44.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19)

Your ambitions to succeed at your endeavors get an extra boost at the end of the week. Be careful not to run roughshod over those you care about in the process. Lucky numbers: 4, 12, 13, 14, 20, 40.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18)

You might be in a stalemate this week about what you want vs. your role in the world. If you consider it carefully, you may realize they are the same thing. Lucky numbers: 5, 6, 7, 8, 12, 13.

PISCES (Feb. 19 – March 20)

At midweek, others may want to lean on you for more than you can give. One way to aid them might be to find a way that they can help themselves. Lucky numbers: 18, 21, 23, 28, 32, 33.

Did You Know...

Frog bite: Frogs might look toothless, but some secretly have tiny teeth neatly tucked along the top of their mouths. Others even grow small, fang-like edges, showing that frogs' mouths aren't quite as simple as they seem.

Brow power: Eyebrows do more than simply frame a face. They help block sweat and rain from the eyes, and their shape guides moisture safely to the sides. Even so, they still manage to reveal every emotion you try to hide.

Sprout story: Brussel sprouts are named for Belgium's capital, where they became a favorite long ago. Their plant ancestors grew around the Mediterranean, but these tiny greens now thrive in cooler climates and are popular worldwide.

Rhythmic seal: A California sea lion named Ronan surprised scientists by learning to bob her head to music. She could even match new tempos, proving that keeping a beat isn't just for humans and parrots after all.

Painted skies: High above Iceland, nacreous clouds can glow with soft, shimmering colors that change as the light moves. Made of tiny ice crystals in the cold stratosphere, they often form smooth, rolling patterns, giving the sky a striking, unusual look.

On the Lighter Side

When construction workers party, they really raise the roof!

I told my suitcases, "No vacation this year." Now I'm dealing with emotional baggage.

Al: "Why did you move to Hawaii?"

Sal: "So I could spend my vacations at home and still enjoy myself."

Knock! Knock! Who's there? Maya. Maya who? Maya best friend?

What do you call a man with a seagull on his head? Cliff.

Answers

Trivia answers: 1. Marilyn Monroe 2. 206 3. True 4. Slow it down 5. Donald Duck

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(Over)



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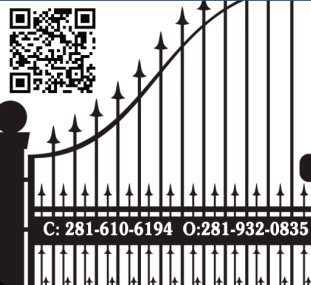
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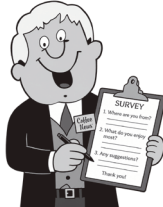


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