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Luis R. DePaul picked up Coffee News at the Ormond Beach Diner

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Est. 1988

Vol. 22 No. 1 July 14, 2025

Everybody's Talking

Painted illusion: Artist Alexa Meade blurs the line between reality and painting, transforming people and spaces into two-dimensional illusions. By painting directly onto live models and surroundings, she creates immersive installations where visitors become part of the artwork. Her work extends beyond galleries, with large-scale activations, brand collaborations, and even virtual reality projects. Using advanced imaging technology, she recreates her painted environments in virtual reality, allowing audiences to step inside her work in new ways. Whether through live performances, physical installations, or digital experiences, her art invites people to question what they see.

Opera revived: Morgiane, which may be the oldest surviving opera by a Black American composer, was finally performed, 138 years after its composition. Edmond Dede, a musician from New Orleans, Louisiana, overcame racial barriers to pursue his craft, eventually finding recognition in France. But the American classical world ignored him, so he worked as a conductor while composing in the shadows. His opera remained unheard until its lost manuscript surfaced in a Paris music shop and reached Harvard University's archives. OperaCreole and Opera Lafayette recently gave Morgiane the long-denied debut. Restoring Dede's overlooked legacy shows how Black composers have shaped classical music.

Shell sensors: In Warsaw, Poland, an unexpected team of mussels, fitted with sensors, helps monitor water quality. These mollusks are highly sensitive to pollutants, and their shell movements provide early warnings of contamination. Fixed to pedestals with safe adhesives, they send real-time data to monitoring teams. If multiple mussels close their shells in response to poor conditions, testing is triggered, and the water supply may be shut off. This natural detection system complements modern equipment, ensuring safer drinking water. After three months, the mussels are released back into the wild. By blending technology with nature, Warsaw keeps water clean with minimal disruption to the ecosystem.

Perception shift: Physical challenges don't just seem harder due to fatigue. They're also influenced by social support. Studies show that hills appear less steep when individuals are with a supportive friend or even thinking about one. This effect isn't due to mood but rather to the psychological boost that strong relationships provide. Just as carrying a heavy load makes a hill seem steeper, having social support makes it feel less daunting. Research suggests this influence comes from how social connections ease stress and enhance confidence in overcoming obstacles. The presence of support, real or imagined, doesn't just change emotions, but it also alters how people visually perceive the world.

Quoteable Quotes

"Progress is not achieved by luck or accident, but by working on yourself daily."
—Epictetus

"Remember there's no such thing as a small act of kindness. Every act creates a ripple with no logical end."
—Scott Adams

What's Happening

Every Thursday from 12:15 to 3:15: Open Game Play will be held at the River House at 179 Marine Street in Downton St. Augustine. Bring your own or use one of ours such as cards, scrabble, chess, etc. Free to attend. For more info, call 904-209-3655.

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Actual Size →

Trivia

- How many bones are in the human knee?
- This poetic form of Japanese origin has 17 syllables.
- The Mississippi River is considered the muddiest in the world—T/F?
- Which tropical breakfast fruit has over 1,000 varieties worldwide?
- What sport was first known as aquaplaning?

(Flip bottom of page for answers)

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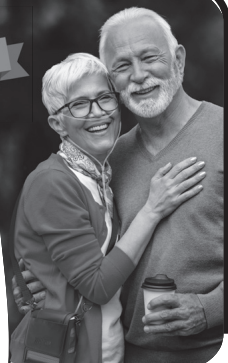
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Your Weekly Horoscope

ARIES

(March 20 – April 19)



An old issue may be
triggered for you this
week. Take a deep breath
before you speak or act,
as you might be tempted
to be impulsive in react-

ion to this reemergence. Lucky numbers:
9, 19, 20, 33, 34, 43.

TAURUS

(April 20 – May 20)



You may feel emotion-
ally well-grounded in the
middle of the week. If
you have been facing an
issue that is difficult to
tackle, this could be a
good time to try to do so. Lucky
numbers: 10, 12, 33, 42, 43, 45.

GEMINI

(May 21 – June 20)



A lot of information may
come at you this week,
which might be related to
your relationships. Take
time to analyze it for a
few days before you take
any action. Lucky numbers: 11, 14, 17,
31, 43, 44.

CANCER

(June 21 – July 22)



Making an emotional con-
nection to others is impor-
tant for Cancers. But in
the coming weeks, you
may verbally stumble.
Remember that not every-
thing needs to be said. Lucky numbers:
6, 9, 12, 17, 21, 34.

LEO

(July 23 – Aug. 22)



A caution light may turn
on for the next several
weeks. Have a plan to
back up your electronic
devices, drive carefully,
and take a deep breath
before you speak. Lucky numbers: 8,
14, 17, 25, 38, 48.

VIRGO

(Aug. 23 – Sept. 22)



Virgo's attention to detail
is among your natural
talents. This skill may be
much needed for the
next several weeks to
avoid mistakes on the
part of yourself and others. Lucky
numbers: 1, 6, 12, 24, 32, 42.

LIBRA

(Sept. 23 – Oct. 22)



Are you assessing the
balance of effort between
you and your partner? Try
to resist a temptation to
respond aggressively or
impulsively. Instead, fos-

ter honest discussion. Lucky numbers:
7, 8, 32, 38, 40, 44.

SCORPIO

(Oct. 23 – Nov. 21)



Your level of intuitive
insight may be overwhelm-
ing at times. At midweek,
the energy can allow you
to be more grounded.
Consider how to maintain
that dynamic. Lucky numbers: 4, 6, 16,
29, 35, 47.

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 22 – Dec. 21)



You may feel you have too
many opposing options
from which you need to
choose right now. Evaluate
their pros and cons, but
wait a few days to make a
decision. Lucky numbers: 15, 18, 20,
26, 36, 47.

CAPRICORN

(Dec. 22 – Jan. 19)



Over the next few weeks,
you may have difficulty
communicating your
ideas to others. Consider
how making an adjust-
ment in your style of
presentation could help. Lucky numbers:
3, 6, 15, 17, 35, 41.

AQUARIUS

(Jan. 20 – Feb. 18)



Today's world rewards
those who practice one-
upmanship. But for the
next few weeks, this
dynamic may fail, giving
your low-key demeanour
a chance of success. Lucky numbers:
5, 13, 14, 17, 23, 31.

PISCES

(Feb. 19 – March 20)



Too many are focused on
what they can get without
thinking about others.
Radiating the power of
compassion and empathy
may encourage others to
make an adjustment. Lucky numbers:
2, 3, 6, 41, 44, 46.

Lucky numbers this week: This week's odds favour Taurus
winners with the luckiest number being 33.

Did You Know...

Coastal charm: Sweden's Gothenburg archipelago is a mix
of history, nature, and seaside adventure. With car-free islands,
Viking-age villages, and fishing traditions, its old-world charm
meets modern relaxation by the sea.

Tofu tale: Tofu has been a part of Chinese cuisine for over
2,000 years, first made during the Western Han Dynasty.
Since then, this versatile, soy-based food has spread across the
world, becoming a staple in many different dishes.

Reptile reps: Lizards aren't just exercising when they do
"push ups." They're sending a message. Some species use the
movement to display strength, ward off rivals, or impress
potential mates. For lizards, a good workout can mean survival.

Old timer's day: The oldest player to ever appear in a U.S.
Major League Baseball (MLB) game was Satchel Paige. The
right-hander pitched three scoreless innings at age 59 for
the Kansas City Athletics against the Boston Red Sox on
September 25, 1965.

Lucky fourteen: The 13 American colonies famously broke
away from the British in 1776. It was 14 years later that the
newborn nation gained its first addition, with the state of
Vermont joining the union on March 4, 1791.

On the Lighter Side

Knock! Knock! Who's there? Pasta. Pasta who? Pasta ball!
I'm open!

Who collects taxes in Hades? The Inferno revenue services.

The rubber man tried to join the circus, but he got bounced.

Good judgment comes from experience, and most of that
comes from bad judgment.

Patty: "That cow just got married!"

Matty: "I guess that makes her a honeymooner."

Answers

Trivia answers: 1. Four 2. Halku 3. False, Yellow River
4. Banana 5. Water skiing

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