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Navigator News

"Discovering Fun News and Friendly Facts"

Port Washington, NY

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(516) 883-SEWS (7397)

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Where in the World...

Every winter in Sapporo, Japan, there is a giant snow festival that is visited by many people from Japan and around the world. Sapporo is turned into a winter dream world with the International Snow Sculpture Contest that has taken place since 1974. In 1983, the third site at Susukino was opened, adding a new addition to the festival with the ice sculptures, illuminated by the neon street lights. In 1984, the duration of the festival was extended from 5 days to 7 full days. Even visitors from America and Canada were traveling halfway around the world to visit this extravagant attraction, which draws in nearly 2 million people every year.

What's Going on Here...

December 8th: "Christmas Tree Lighting in Port Washington" will be held at Blumenfeld Family Park at 6PM. This will feature a live nativity scene and music from the St. Peter's School Chorus. Santa Clause will also be in attendance to visit the beautiful Christmas tree.

December 15th: "Holiday Tales at the Hearth" at the Hempstead House in Sands Point, 127 Middle Neck Road. An event to celebrate holiday traditions from around the world. The event begins 12-3pm, admission \$10 for members, \$20 for non-members.

December 23: "Social Media-Grow Your Small Business" workshop at the Port Washington Public Library. This free workshop begins at 7PM. Attendees will learn how to get the most "bang for their buck!" for their business using social media.

How's it Possible...

Did you know that a recent invention called "Solar Roadways" could change the way we drive? Solar Roadways are specially engineered solar panels that can be walked and driven upon. The solar wafers are protected under thick layers of shatter proof gorilla glass and can generate electricity from any surface. The solar panels can be used to pave roads, driveways, sidewalks or any surface meant for walking. The goal is to charge electric vehicles with clean energy from the sun, first with solar parking lots and hopefully highway infrastructure while driving. One day, solar panels will be available for highways, but first will come non-critical applications such as driveways and parking lots. Solar roadways will also help with the prevention of greenhouse gases.

When Did That Happen...

In 1968 astronauts Frank Borman, Jim Lovell and William Anders spent the night before Christmas orbiting the moon. The three astronauts became the first men to leave Earth's gravitational pull, the first to orbit the moon, and the first to view all of Earth from space and the first to see the dark side of the moon. Apollo 8 is perhaps best remembered today for the broadcast the three astronauts made when they entered the moon's orbit on Christmas Eve. As viewers were shown pictures of the moon and Earth from lunar orbit. The broadcast ended with the famous line "Merry Christmas, and God bless all of you, all of you on the good Earth". This became one of the most watched television events in history.

Who Knows...

1. What has an eye, but can not see?
2. What kind of room has no doors or windows?
3. What kind of tree can you carry in your hand?

(Find the answers on the back, under "In The Stars")

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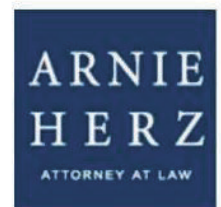
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That's Incredible!

We all know some Ice Age creatures like the woolly mammoths and saber-tooth cats, but the biggest bear that lived 10,000 years ago was "The Giant Short-Faced Bear". This animal was discovered in 1854 by paleontologist, Joseph Leidy. The fossil of the bear was found in a tar pit in California, but many of its fossils are found everywhere throughout North America. The ancestor of the short-faced bear is the grizzly bear, unlike it's cousin who is omnivorous, this creature is a carnivore. It is 6 feet tall, however when standing it is measured at 11 feet tall. This mammal is one of the greatest prehistoric bears ever discovered.

That's Trendy!

The cold front is near when we find ourselves nestled at home wrapped in a blanket, enjoying the smell of wintry candles, and a preheated oven ready to bake yummy snacks and desserts. During the winter season cookies are one of the most popular goodies to make. The trendiest holiday cookies to bake are chocolate chip cookies, sugar cookies, ginger cookies, and Linzer tarts. This year's favorites are peanut butter blossoms and fig cookies. No matter what your favorite cookies are any of these delicious cookies will be great to enjoy this holiday season.

That's Funny!

What do Santa's elves do after school?

-Their gnomework

How much Hanukkah gelt did the skunk get?

-One cent

How does a snowman get to work?

-By icicle

That's Twisted!

If Freaky Fred found fifty feet of fruit and fed forty feet to his friend Frank, how many feet of fruit did Freaky Fred find?

That's Inspirational!

"The artist is nothing without the gift, but the gift is nothing without work." - Emile Zola

Pet of the Month!

The Town of North Hempstead Animal Shelter



Hunter is an 11 month old Pointer/pit bull mix who loves to play! Hunter is a smart and athletic boy who absolutely loves our agility equipment, especially the hurdle jump. Hunter lived with small dogs and children in his former home and is seeking a new, active family dedicated to continuing his training.

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In The Stars

ARIES (Mar 21- Apr 20) If you can get those creative juices flowing, there are plenty of great ideas just waiting to be brought to the surface. Lucky Day: Friday

TAURUS (Apr 21-May 21) Look for ways to get creative with your surroundings this month. How can you use your creativity and drive to make your environment more pleasant? Lucky Day: Thursday

GEMINI (May 22-June 21) Geminis will benefit from talking with a trustworthy friend this month, a good friend might also offer some sound advice too. Lucky Day: Monday

CANCER (June 22-July 22) Nourish your soul in all the ways that make you feel whole. Infuse positivity into your heart and mind. Lucky Day: Sunday

LEO (July 23-Aug 22) When you open yourself to loved ones, you might be surprised to see how much they appreciate it. Lucky Day: Tuesday

VIRGO (Aug 23-Sept 23) Give yourself a break this month. You can't control everything, so focus on what you can do. Lucky Day: Friday

LIBRA (Sept 24-Oct 23) Libras could be motivated to offer advice or a caring shoulder to a friend this month, by bringing some clarity and a little spark back into their life. Lucky Day: Wednesday

SCORPIO (Oct 24-Nov 22) Scorpios could feel their deep energy taking a new direction this month. Your vibe will be right for trying new things. Lucky Day: Saturday

SAGITTARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21) This month a positive and forward-thinking spirit can bring it all back together with a dash of fun and a side of laughter. Lucky Day: Tuesday

CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 20) Capricorn energy may run hot this month. You can choose to be the level-headed one if you channel that energy into being productive. Lucky Day: Friday

AQUARIUS (Jan 21-Feb 19) Aquarians could be drawn to living out loud this month. Take joy in the moment, and find fun in everyday things. Lucky Day: Thursday

PISCES (Feb 20-Mar 20) This month embrace something you love so you can look forward to it every day! Lucky Day: Wednesday

Answers to Who Knows: #1. A Needle #2. A Mushroom #3. A Palm Tree

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