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The Guardian, Week of December 31, 2018

Wright State University Student Body

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WEEKLY HOROSCOPES
DECEMBER 24, 2018
BY SARAH CAVENDER

Your weekly horoscopes for December 24.

ARIES –

The Moon is rotating too quickly and encourages you to confront some intense, emotionally complicated situations. Watch out for tempers as you travel and run your errands not to mention any surprising scheduling issues.

TAURUS –

The atmosphere this week has a strange fog and illuminates the relationship sector of your chart. Watch out for intense and unexpected interactions this week due to unruly, fiery Mars clashing Pluto.

GEMINI –

The Moon enters fiery Aries Thursday morning, encouraging you to tackle your to-do list just watch out for some obstacles around communication this afternoon. Unexpected flare-ups surface in your relationships this evening thanks to Mars clashing with Uranus.

CANCER –

The Moon enters fellow fire sign, finding you in a creatively inspired and flirtatious mood. However, there's some very intense energy in the air this week, as surprising information comes your way. Be smart (and kind) about communication.

LEO –

The Moon enters Aries and illuminates the home and family sector of your chart, which encourages you to reflect on your sense of security and boundaries. Surprising (and agitating) financial issues may arise this week.

VIRGO –

This week things will feel like a slow mo movie Virgo. Bringing news your way but be sure to keep your cool when your coupon isn't working at the store.

LIBRA –

The universe is encouraging you to reflect on your budget this week Libra. How wisely are you spending your money, but also, how wisely are you spending your time? Surprising news arrives this week.

SCORPIO –

As the Moon leaves sleepy Pisces and enters your sign early this week, it's important that you sit with your emotions and give yourself permission to fully feel them. Don't stuff them away and distract yourself with work, friends, or love. Do your best to be patient.

SAGITTARIUS –

The Moon enters Aries and activates a very sensitive sector of your chart, encouraging you to slow down and get some rest. This week brings surprises that propel you to make some changes around your professional goals.

CAPRICORN –

The Moon enters Aries this week, lighting up the friendship and community sector of your chart and inspiring you to network. However, watch out for unexpected, heated emotions that flare up this weekend.

AQUARIUS –

The Moon is shadowed, focusing on the career and reputation sector of your chart. Reflect on your relationship with the public. Watch out for unexpected drama this week with old friends.

PISCES –

The Moon enters its fuller phase as it connects with our intuition, meaning we're all eager to get things done. Obstacles come up as the Moon squares off with Saturn. Mars clashes bringing unexpected changes and flared tempers, and inspiring people to seek freedom.

WINTER FASHION TIPS
DECEMBER 25, 2018
BY SRUTHI TENKAYALA

I'm not sure what it is about winter, but something about the cold seems to destroy the motivation to do anything. You just want to wrap yourself in warm blankets and stay in your comfy oversized sweats all day. But here's the thing: you can look fashionable and stay warm without too much effort. Below are a couple of ideas to help you out:

SWEATERS

A sweater can instantly make you look more stylish than you feel. Cable knit, cashmere, turtleneck, patterned; the possibilities are endless. They can be mixed and matched with so many things to create some stylish ensembles. Leggings are great, although may not be the best for the winter air, so skinny jeans or leather pants are it.

Sweater dresses paired with the knee-length boots make for cute outfits too. Sweaters may seem boring or plain but they're fuzzy, comfy and most importantly, warm.

SCARVES

Recently, I discovered something called an "oversize blanket scarf." No, it's not an actual blanket. Think of an infinity scarf, but bigger and with twice as many ways to use it. Apart from being used as a blanket, these scarves can be used as makeshift ponchos, shawls or capes.

By cape, I don't mean the one Superman has. This one is draped across one shoulder, so it's a cross between a cape and a scarf. More importantly, your face won't freeze. So, if you're prone to cold noses, pick up a blanket scarf.

BOOTS

This is really simple but matching your boots with your bag gives your outfit a new element of style. You could look more put together than you feel just by doing this. Boots are another essential winter item, just like sweaters.

Full-length, ankle, heeled, over-the-knee, flat, wedged; whatever you prefer. Heeled knee-length or ankle boots paired with denim make your legs look leaner and longer. It goes without saying that leggings and boots are best friends. Pair them up with a cute sweater and simple accessories and you've got yourself a winter outfit.

BEST PLACES TO TRAVEL ON A BUDGET
DECEMBER 26, 2018
BY SHADDIA QASEM

With the fall semester wrapping up and exams finally coming to an end, most students are planning what they will be doing during break. Whether you're staying home for the holidays or traveling to visit family, or just traveling because you need a break, here are a few places that are good for those on a budget:

Great Wolf Lodge

If you are looking for a sweet and simple weekend getaway, consider staying a few nights at Great Wolf Lodge. Although it isn't far from home, with all its amenities and attractions, you won't feel like you're in Ohio. While most of the activities are aimed towards children, adults are still able to enjoy their time off at the spa salon. If you're missing the days of summer, one can never go wrong with the water park area of the lodge. The warm water of the pools, lagoons, rivers and creeks will make you forget about the cold wintery weather outside; not to mention taking a dip in the soothing hot springs.

Boston Mills/Brandywine Ski Resort

Embracing the winter weather can be fun if you know what to do and where to go. Going to a ski resort is a great way to spend time with friends and family, or alone if you prefer, and enjoy time away. With the choice of skiing or snow tubing, you can't go wrong. If you're not a fan of road trips, consider Mad River Mountain instead.

Brite Winter Festival

For those that appreciate road trips, this might be the place for you. In January, drive up to Cleveland and spend a few nights downtown to celebrate the 10th year of the Brite Winter Festival and enjoy the art, music and food vendors galore. Guests are bound to have fun just listening to the music, not to mention the six outdoor and indoor stages it will take place on.

Hocking Hills

If you're craving some alone time, or time with loved ones, consider renting a cabin at Hocking Hills. At a reasonable price, spend a few nights in a cozy cabin, away from all the hubbub of college life. Depending on your mood, check out the attractions around Hocking Hills, or stay comfy in your cabin.

NETFLIX REVIEW: DUMPLIN'
DECEMBER 28, 2018
BY SHADDIA QASEM

One of Netflix's recent releases is "Dumplin'", a warm-hearted film about a plus-size girl and her mother, a former beauty pageant queen obsessed with beauty pageants. With Jennifer Anniston both producing and acting in this film, viewers can anticipate a charming, captivating and meaningful storyline; not to mention the fact that "Dumplin'" is also a bestselling novel.

Our main character, Willowdeen, is a teenager with a big heart and bigger personality, struggling to find her place in a world of beauty pageants and beauty queens. Based in Texas, a popular area for pageants to be held, Willowdeen is surrounded by the pressures of looking like every other girl in town.

Since her mom was always busy with pageants, Willowdeen was truly raised by her aunt, a proud, confident and vivacious woman who knew how to put a smile on anyone's face and taught her to love herself and not to care about what anyone thinks. Bonding through their love of Dolly Parton and her uplifting and inspiring music, you would think that the aunt and niece were actually mom and daughter.

When a life-altering event happens, Willowdeen is faced with a grief and pain that no one wants to endure. After finding out a truth that was previously hidden, she and her best friend decide to take part in the upcoming beauty pageant, which comes as more than a surprise to her mom and everyone else in town. Of course, this comes with obvious challenges, like her feeling as if she doesn't fit in with all of the other girls.

As the movie goes on, Willowdeen deals with her hardship in many ways; some are annoying, making you just want to shake her and yell "what are you doing?!", and some are more on the admirable side... kind of.

All in all, this is a great movie with an inspirational message that both boys and girls can learn from. If you haven't read the novel, "Dumplin'" is great to watch; the novel is probably even better.

As an added note, even if you're someone who isn't a fan of country music, trust me, you'll be dancing and snapping after you watch this movie.

WEEKLY HOROSCOPES
DECEMBER 31, 2018
BY JAMIE PENWELL

HERE ARE THE SIGNS 2019 RESOLUTIONS:

ARIES – YOU SHOULD SPEND MORE TIME WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY THIS YEAR, ARIES. YOU HAVE A TENDENCY TO KEEP TO YOURSELF. YOU WILL FEEL INCREASED HAPPINESS AS A RESULT.

TAURUS – IN 2019, YOU SHOULD EAT HEALTHIER, TAURUS. MOST IMPORTANTLY, TRY TO AVOID EMOTIONAL EATING BINGES; THESE SMALL SACRIFICES WILL GO A LONG WAY.

GEMINI – THIS YEAR, GEMINI, YOU NEED TO WORK ON YOUR TARDINESS. PUNCTUALITY IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT IN THE WORKFORCE AND IT MOST LIKELY BOTHERS YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY. THIS IS AN IMPORTANT HABIT TO KICK.

CANCER – THIS YEAR, DO YOUR BEST TO MEET NEW PEOPLE, CANCER. TRY TO OVERCOME YOUR SHY NATURE AND EXPAND YOUR HORIZONS – WHO KNOWS WHAT YOU'RE MISSING OUT ON.

LEO – THIS YEAR, YOU SHOULD ADOPT A PET. A FURRY COMPANION TO KEEP YOU COMPANY IS JUST WHAT YOU NEED, SINCE YOU ARE ENERGETIC WITH A BIG HEART.

VIRGO – YOUR NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION SHOULD BE TO REDUCE THE STRESS IN YOUR LIFE, DEAR VIRGO, AND LEARN TO RELAX MORE. STOP WORRYING ABOUT EVERY LITTLE THING. YOU STRESS CLEAN TOO OFTEN.

LIBRA – THIS YEAR, TRY TO SPEND LESS TIME ON SOCIAL MEDIA, LIBRA. YOUR ADDICTION NEEDS TO BE BROKEN; THIS YEAR IS THE YEAR TO MAKE AN IMPORTANT CHANGE.

SCORPIO – FACE YOUR FEARS, SCORPIO. DO ONE THING A MONTH THAT SCARES YOU – FLY, SKYDIVE, CLIFF JUMP, STAND UP FOR YOURSELF OR TRY A NEW FOOD. AT THE END OF 2019, YOU'LL BE PROUD OF EVERYTHING YOU ACCOMPLISHED.

SAGITTARIUS – IN 2019, YOU SHOULD KEEP A JOURNAL. YOU WILL ENJOY BEING ABLE TO LOOK BACK ON THE YEAR. JUST MAKE SURE YOU ACTUALLY WRITE THINGS DOWN.

CAPRICORN – THIS YEAR, LEARN TO SAVE YOUR MONEY, CAPRICORN, AS YOU TEND TO SPEND IT AS SOON AS YOU GET IT. SET MONEY ASIDE WHEN POSSIBLE SO THAT YOU HAVE AN EMERGENCY FUND OR TRAVEL FUND.

AQUARIUS – THIS YEAR, YOU SHOULD AIM TO STOP PROCRASTINATING, AS YOU SO OFTEN DO. THE HARDEST PART ABOUT ACHIEVING THIS RESOLUTION WILL BE FINALLY GETTING STARTED.

PISCES – IN THE UPCOMING YEAR, YOU SHOULD READ MORE. FIGURE OUT WHAT KINDS OF BOOKS YOU ENJOY AND READ THEM IN YOUR SPARE TIME; YOU WILL ENJOY THE BENEFITS OF IMPROVED FOCUS, MEMORY AND KNOWLEDGE

TEN HORRIBLE HOLIDAY PICK-UP LINES
JANUARY 1, 2019
BY JAMIE PENWELL

What better way to get into the holiday spirit than with holiday-themed puns? While I don't recommend using some of these on people, they are still really fun to read. Here are my ten personal favorites. Hopefully you enjoy them as much as I do!

* LET'S MAKE THIS A NOT-SO-SILENT NIGHT.

* WANNA SCROOGE?

I laugh every single time I read this.

* ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A TREE TOPPER? BECAUSE I'VE BEEN TOLD I'M A STAR ON TOP.

Ladies – this one's for you.

* ARE YOU TINSEL? BECAUSE I WANT YOU ALL OVER MY TREE.

This one's a little too straightforward.

* IS YOUR NAME JINGLE BELLS? BECAUSE YOU LOOK LIKE YOU GO ALL THE WAY.

Don't use this one on a girl – you might get hit.

* IS BLACK FRIDAY ALREADY PAST? TOO BAD BECAUSE CLOTHES ARE 100% OFF AT MY HOUSE THIS FRIDAY.

It's never too late for this line.

* I'VE GOT SOMETHING SPECIAL IN THE SACK FOR YOU!

* BLACK ICE ISN'T THE ONLY REASON I'M FALLING.

This is one of my favorites because I fall a lot.

* CAN I PUT YOU ON TOP OF MY TREE SO THERE'S AN ANGEL ON THERE?

* MY BEST TOYS RUN ON BATTERIES.

FLASHES OF BLUE LIGHT IN NEW YORK SKIES CAUSE ALIEN PANIC
JANUARY 2, 2019
BY LUCAS GONZALEZ

New York's skies were illuminated by flashes of brilliant blue light on Thursday. The phenomenon has been traced back to energy company Con Edison, in Astoria, Queens, according to a report from CNN.

The incident caused transportation delays, power outages and transmission dips in the area, CNN reported. LaGuardia Airport in Queens was temporarily closed between 9:22 and 10:23 p.m., according to CNN.

The blue flashes of light were visible from Manhattan all the way to New Jersey, according to CNN. The incident led to widespread confusion and panic among residents, some of whom reported hearing loud bangs.

Con Edison spokesperson Bob McGee told CNN that the "arc flash" was caused by a fault in the company's electrical equipment. He later said that there had been no fire or explosion, according to CNN.

McGee also told CNN that the arc struck the ground, causing the loud noises which were reported.

Con Edison said that their crews responded to the incident along with the New York Fire Department, according to CNN. By the time firefighters arrived to the scene, the flashes were over, McGee said in the CNN report.

New York Police said late Thursday night in a Tweet that the incident had been caused by a transformer explosion. "No injuries, no fire, no evidence of extraterrestrial activity," the tweet said.

Con Edison confirmed that all major transmission lines had been restored on Friday morning, according to CNN.

NETFLIX REVIEW: BIRD BOX
JANUARY 2, 2019
BY SHADDIA QASEM

Let me preface this article by saying that this is a peculiar yet brilliant film. With a heart-stopping opening scene that makes you feel as if the character is warning you of the dangers that lay ahead, "Bird Box" is a captivating film that immerses you into a horrifying, apocalyptic world from start to finish.

The film starts out with the leading lady, Sandra Bullock, guiding two children on a mission to save their lives. The first scene alone has the audience's mind racing and trying to figure out what is happening.

Let's start off by saying that typically, any movie with Bullock in it is bound to be a good one; she does not often disappoint. However, Bullock isn't the only one to make this film the masterpiece that it is. With a star-studded cast, viewers will recognize many faces: Sarah Paulson from "American Horror Story", Danielle Macdonald from "Dumplin'", Tom Hollander from "Pirates of the Caribbean", singer Machine Gun Kelly, BD Wong from "Jurassic Park" and many more.

Within the first several minutes, "Bird Box" shows news coverage of mass suicides in different countries, with death tolls above ten thousand. If the first scene in this movie doesn't get your attention, this sure will.

As people everywhere start killing themselves, the characters quickly find out that sight has now become their death sentence. Out of nowhere, people get a strange look on their face, their eyes change completely and then they kill themselves.

The outside world has become a dangerous dystopia; if you look, you die. While "Bird Box" is fascinating in the way of its storytelling, it can be compared to other films. For example, this movie is very much like M. Night Shyamalan's film "The Happening" and John Krasinski's film "A Quiet Place". Both these films are similar in the fact that there is something outside that is deadly. Although these three films are comparable, it doesn't take away from the fact that each is compelling in its own way of storytelling.

The film has become so popular that it shocked even Netflix, tweeting that in its first seven days, over 45 million Netflix accounts had already watched "Bird Box". The film has also earned itself many memes, and as we all know, if you become a meme, you've basically made it in life.

The only complaint that this movie has the possibility to receive is the ending. Without any spoilers, "Bird Box" could have had a way better, more satisfying ending. Besides that, it is 100 percent worth watching. It received a 65 percent on Rotten Tomatoes and a 6.8/10 on IMDb.

CAMPUS RESOURCES FOR NEW YEAR'S FITNESS RESOLUTIONS
JANUARY 3, 2019
BY ARIAN MCNEIL

2019 is quickly approaching, and with a new year, many people make goals or resolutions for themselves – usually as a form of self-betterment. A popular resolution for many people is working out more frequently, getting in shape or losing weight. The fitness and wellness section of Wright State's Department of Campus Recreation has many resources to help students and staff work towards their fitness goals, whatever they may be.

The Fitness Center is free to students and has a variety of equipment, including: free weights, treadmills, stationary bikes, ellipticals, etc.

The fitness center is open 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. Monday-Thursday, 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. Friday and 1-8 p.m. on the weekends. Inside of the fitness center, many fitness classes are offered throughout the week at various times in three exercise studios.

These classes are free to students and can be a great way to start working out on a regular basis. A variety of classes are usually offered, including: yoga, TRX, cycle fit,, total body circuit and more.

Another option for those looking to get fit is personal training. Wright State has personal trainers who offer individual training, as well as small group personal training. The prices vary depending on how many sessions you sign up for but it is cheaper for students. Another resource that can be set up is nutrition counseling; Wright State students can receive a 20 percent discount on those fees.

For those who want to get active by playing a sport, Wright State offers many intramural sports during the winter and spring, as well as a number of competitive sport clubs. Outdoor Recreation offers trips and hikes, as well as the climbing gym for students who are looking to get in shape.

If you are looking for more information on what Wright State has to offer in terms of fitness and wellness or recreation, details can be found online at wright.edu/student-affairs/health-and-wellness/campus-recreation.

CALIFORNIA LAW ONLY ALLOWS SALE OF RESCUE, SHELTER ANIMALS
JANUARY 4, 2019
BY LUCAS GONZALEZ

California recently passed a law which allows pet shops to only sell cats, dogs and rabbits which come from shelters or rescue organizations, instead of breeders, according to a report from CNN.

The new law, known as The Pet Rescue and Adoption Act, was introduced by California State Assembly member Patrick O'Donnell and approved by California Governor Jerry Brown in October 2017, according to the CNN report. It went into effect on Jan. 1, the report says.

The act also mandates that all pet shop owners keep records showing where each animal was obtained from, according to CNN. Any vendor who fails to produce records for their animals will have to pay a \$500 fine, CNN reported.

Pet shops will also have to allow animal control agencies and shelters access to their records, according to CNN.

Individuals will still be allowed to purchase from private breeders, according to CNN.

San Diego Humane Society Law Enforcement Chief Steve MacKinnon has praised the law. "It takes the emphasis off the profit of animals and puts the emphasis back on caring for and getting these cats and dogs a good home," he said in a report from USA Today.

There has been some opposition to the law, however. In a statement from the American Kennel Club's website, Senior Policy Analyst Phil Guidry said that the law would, "dramatically reduce every Californian's access and ability to choose a pet with the predictable type, mandated care, and substantiated health backgrounds that come with purebred pets from regulated sources."

California has become the first U.S. state to have such a law, according to USA Today. Before the act was passed, 36 California cities had already banned mass-breeding, USA Today reported. These policies will now be enforced state-wide.

WSU BOARD OF TRUSTEES VOTES TO IMPOSE LAST BEST OFFER ON FACULTY UNION
JANUARY 5, 2019
BY SARAH CAVENDER

Wright State's Board of Trustees just express its intent to impose a last best offer to the WSU chapter of American Association of University Professors (AAUP). In a meeting on Friday, Jan. 4, the board voted unanimously to implement the terms and conditions of the offer.

"For the board of trustees, this process has focused squarely on two goals; first, getting the university on path to long term financial sustainability and second, on maintaining for our students one of the most affordable rates of tuition in the state of Ohio. To do so means changes in university operations," said Board Chairman Doug Fecher.

The offer from the board meeting would result in maintained faculty salaries as they are now. It would also place faculty union members in a more uniform health care plan with all members of the university. There would be no changes to the current rules set for retrenchment or layoffs; there will be no pay raises and furloughs.

AAUP-WSU President Martin Kich previously told the Guardian that they intended to go on strike if the Board imposed its last best offer. If the union chooses to initiate the strike process, they must give the university and Ohio State Employee Relations Board ten days' notice. Negotiations between the faculty union and administration may resume at any point during that ten-day period, Kich said.

The bargaining process has taken place for nearly two years, during which many of the articles have been agreed upon between administration and AAUP-WSU. The trustee's terms and conditions accept all of the articles that were tentatively agreed upon, according to a press release.

For more information on the terms and conditions visit the Board of Trustees website.

BREAKING: FACULTY UNION EXPECTED TO FILE 10 DAY STRIKE NOTICE
JANUARY 6, 2019
BY SARAH CAVENDER

On Saturday Jan 5, a communication email was sent out to the members of Wright State University chapter of American Association of University Professors rejecting the last best offer by the board.

“The unanimous recommendation of the AAUP-WSU Executive Committee is to reject the imposed contract by authorizing a strike,” according to the email.

On Jan 4, the WSU Board of Trustees unanimously voted to implement the terms and conditions of their offered contract to the collective bargaining.

In the email sent to members, the AAUP-WSU executive committee detailed their reasoning and briefed members on the articles negotiated on.

”On Monday, January 7, our attorney will file a formal strike notice with Ohio SERB (State Employment Relations Board). This prompt filing will provide great flexibility in timing a strike, which will of course be contingent upon the results of the vote. Our attorney will also file an Unfair Labor Practice charge against the admin/Board, because they failed to negotiate before imposition,” according to the email.

For nearly two years Wright State administration and their WSU-AAUP have been locked in very tense contract negotiations. During which many of the articles have been agreed upon between administration and AAUP-WSU. The trustee’s terms and conditions accept all of the articles that were tentatively agreed upon, according to a press release by Wright State administration.

Since 2016, Wright State has been navigating a financial crisis in which the university was required to address a \$30 million structural budget deficit caused by years of un-budgeted and uncontrolled spending that used \$130 million in reserves. The financial recovery included three rounds of staff layoffs and sweeping budget controls and cuts across the university. Those efforts have provided some short-term relief to the university’s financial situation according to the administration release.

“If we let this stand, our union will have sold out sixty-plus current and all future NTE colleagues,” according to the union’s communication email. “Plus, the administration will have even less incentive to hire TET faculty. Altogether, this will make shared governance and academic freedom more tenuous for all.”

In a press release by the faculty union, President Martin Kich stated the faculty feel compelled to stand up for the quality of education.

“They have refused to negotiate at all since our members overwhelmingly rejected the Fact-Finder’s report in early November. Despite their repeated promises to negotiate, and our repeated offers to do so, the Board has elected to impose a contract that damages our students and makes academics a low priority,” said Kich in a press release.

The executive committee concluded their email by stating they were ready to negotiate.