

VAASA DAILY

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Вітаємо всіх українців у
Ваасі! Сподіваємося, вам тут
сподобається і навіть залишитеся
після закінчення війни в Україні! ▲
warm welcome to all Ukrainians in Vaasa! We
hope you will enjoy yourself here and even
stay after the war in Ukraine is over!

**Mystical East in Tika-
noja**

All EU-candidates

**Mysterious green
giants in the La-
si-palatsi square,
Helsinki**

**Puccinis "Tosca" is
coming to Vaasa**

ROAD CHURCHES

**The Kremlin mocks
its opponents**

HERE WE ARE:

vpress.ovh

Urgent Action Needed to Address Disturbing Climate Trends

The recent data indicating record-high global temperatures for April 2024 is not merely a statistic to be glanced over; it is a glaring alarm bell in the ongoing crisis of climate change. As reported in our recent article, the month of April has shattered previous records, marking the eleventh consecutive month of unprecedented warmth. These alarming trends should serve as a clarion call for immediate and decisive action on a global scale.

The implications of these rising temperatures are far-reaching and deeply concerning. From the rapid melting of polar ice caps to the exacerbation of extreme weather events, the impacts of climate change are being felt around the world. The consequences are not confined to distant lands or future generations; they are affecting us here and now, threatening our way of life and the stability of our planet.

In Europe, where temperatures soared above average, we witnessed firsthand the effects of climate change on our doorstep. From heatwaves in Russia to unseasonably warm temperatures in Scandinavia, the signs are clear: our climate is changing, and we must act decisively to mitigate its effects.

But the responsibility does not rest solely on the shoulders of individual nations or regions. Climate change is a global issue that requires a coordinated and concerted effort from all nations, regardless of political differences or economic

interests. The time for finger-pointing and empty promises has long passed; now is the time for action.

Governments must prioritize environmental policies that promote sustainability and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Businesses must embrace renewable energy and sustainable practices. And individuals must make conscious choices in their daily lives to reduce their carbon footprint.

Furthermore, we must hold our leaders accountable for their actions – or lack thereof – on climate change. Those who continue to deny the overwhelming scientific evidence or prioritize short-term

economic gains over long-term environmental sustainability must be challenged and held accountable.

The stakes could not be higher. The window of opportunity to address climate change is rapidly closing, and the consequences of inaction are dire. We owe it to future generations to leave behind a planet that is habitable, healthy, and sustainable.

In the face of these disturbing climate trends, we cannot afford to be complacent. Now is the time for bold leadership, decisive action, and a collective commitment to safeguarding the future of our planet. The time for action is now.



Photo Supplement - vpress.ovh

WASA DAILY - a modern newspaper with a layout from the 1870s. At that time, most newspapers had this format, corresponding to A4, and 4 pages. Lots of text, but no pictures at all, so there's a lot to read in a few pages. The newspaper contains quotes from old daily newspapers, taken from the National Archives (digi.kansalliskirjasto.fi). Text in this publication is generated in part with GPT-3, OpenAI's large-scale language-generation model. Upon generating draft language, the texts have been reviewed, edited, and revised the language and the newspaper takes ultimate responsibility for the content of this publication. Wasa Daily will continue to be published on Sunday mornings, but our aim is that it will eventually be published every day. The magazine can be read online for free, printed single issues cost 1 €. Advertising price 6 €/ millimeter, but standard ads are cheaper (25 mm high=140 €, 50 mm = 280 €, 75 mm=400 €. Repeated ads = 50% discount). Send ads to wasadagblad@gmail.com as jpg, tiff or png, the advertisements are then reduced to a column width of 46 mm. If the advertisement does not fit, we will contact you (space is limited). Editor-in-Chief: Hans Björknäs. Mail: Wasa Dagblad, Skolhusgatan 37 B 7, 65100 Vasa, telephone +358-40-5462455. E - mail: wasadagblad@gmail.com



Giacomo Puccini's classic Tosca, set to premiere in January 2025

Vaasa City Theatre's opera for the 2024-2025 season will be Giacomo Puccini's classic Tosca, set to premiere in January 2025. The autumn 2024 program will also feature the dance theater piece "Vaikutetut" and the "Sydänsyky" theater festival.

Puccini's Tosca takes over the Romeo stage in January 2025, directed by Vaasa City Theatre's artistic director Seppo Välinen and conducted by Anna-Maria Helsing, who has been appointed the chief conductor of Vaasa City Orchestra for the years 2025-2028. The costumes for the production are designed by Emilia Eriksson, with set design by Mika Haaranen. The adaptation of the opera is by Touko Niemi.

The title role of Floria Tosca will be portrayed by soprano Reetta Haavisto, while the roles of Baron Scarpia and Mario Cavaradossi will be played by baritone

Waltteri Torikka and tenor Mika Pohjonen, respectively. Other roles will be performed by Heikki Aalto, Jacob Waselius, and Henri Uusitalo. The opera is a collaboration between Vaasa City Orchestra and Vaasa Opera Association Choir, and it is set to premiere on Thursday, January 16, 2025, at Vaasa City Theatre's Romeo stage.

"Tosca is a truly wonderful opera musically, offering a bit of everything. It's great that our orchestra gets to perform this piece, and we have our own orchestration for it. I'm extremely happy with the fantastic lineup of soloists!" says the opera's conductor Anna-Maria Helsing.

"Tosca is one of Giacomo Puccini's three great operas and represents the verismo style. Verismo emphasizes naturalism, portraying ordinary people in everyday situations. Tosca's intense and fast-paced thriller unfolds over the course of one day in June 1800," describes director Seppo Välinen.

Tosca is an Italian three-act opera with music by Giacomo Puccini and libretto by Luigi Illica and Giuseppe Giacosa, based on Victorien Sardou's five-act drama La Tosca. The action takes place in Rome around the year 1800, amidst the political upheaval caused by Napoleon's invasion

of Northern Italy. The ruling powers attempt to suppress Napoleon's supporters through terror, and death sentences are part of everyday life.

Vaasa City Theatre's decision to bring Tosca to its program is a significant step in diversifying the city's opera offerings and reinforces Vaasa's reputation as an opera city. This production not only promises unforgettable experiences but also strengthens the city's position as a cultural hub in Finland.

Puccini's Passion: From Family Duty to Operatic Glory

Giacomo Puccini, born into a musical dynasty in Lucca, Italy in 1858, wasn't destined for the stage – at least not initially. Expected to follow his father's footsteps as a church musician, a young Puccini found solace in the grand operas of Verdi. This ignited a passion that would redefine Italian opera for generations to come.

Orphaned at a young age, Puccini persevered, enrolling in Milan Conservatory. Despite initial struggles, his undeniable talent shone through. His graduation piece, "Capriccio Sin-fonico," received praise for its innovation and emotional depth,

THIS NEWSPAPER CAN BE READ ANYWHERE



Like here in the Palosaari Square

hallmarks that would become synonymous with his operatic works.



Puccini's early operas met with mixed success. Yet, his unwavering determination and keen understanding of audience desires led to his breakthrough with "Manon Lescaut" in 1893. The opera's heart-wrenching story and soaring melodies captivated audiences across Europe.

Over the next three decades, Puccini redefined opera. He crafted masterpieces like "La bohème," a poignant portrayal of love and loss amongst struggling artists, and "Tosca," a thrilling exploration of love, betrayal, and political turmoil.

Puccini wasn't afraid to push boundaries. "Madama Butterfly," with its tragic depiction of a Japanese geisha abandoned

by her American lover, shocked audiences with its stark realism. Yet, its powerful music and timeless themes cemented Puccini's place as a giant of the operatic stage.

Giacomo Puccini's life ended tragically in 1924. But his legacy lives on. His operas continue to be performed worldwide, their passionate melodies and unforgettable characters captivating audiences young and old. Puccini's story is a testament to the transformative power of passion, proving that even from a path of duty, true artistic genius can blossom.

Wasa Theatre: Cake candles premiere in September



Tårtljus - premiär 14.9.2024

Tårtljus, is a gripping drama comedy that follows Stina's life from the age of 17 to 107, with Tove Qvickström in the lead role. The show takes place over 90 birthdays where the guests vary but where she always bakes the same cake. The smell of

freshly baked goods is likely to spread in the auditorium, at the latest at the end of the play when the cake is ready. The exploration of life's changes and choices is delivered in 90 minutes, in a total experience where no one leaves the stage.

Hitachi Energy invests in Vaasa

Hitachi Energy is investing approximately EUR 180 million in a new production and technology campus in Vikby, Korsholm.

The investment includes:

A state-of-the-art transformer factory, which will double the production and testing capacity of transformers in Finland.

Modern office space.

Investment objectives:

Respond to the growing demand due to the energy transition.

Strengthens the company's commitment to innovation, quality, safety and sustainability.

Create 200 new jobs.

New campus:

To be completed in 2027.

Extent 30,000 square meters.

The entire personnel of the company's Vaasa region, more than 500 people, will move there.

Other impacts of the investment:

Art Experience of the Week:



Robert Wilhelm Ekman 1808-1873

The country's most influential artist in the middle of the 19th century, considered by many to be the father of painting in Finland. Lemminkäinen at the Fiery Lake, sketch, 1867

Strengthen Finland's position as a developer of clean technology.

Contribute to the modernization and efficiency of the power grid.

Safeguard Finland's security of electricity supply.

About Hitachi Energy:

A global technology leader advancing a sustainable energy future.

Employs more than 600 people in Finland, of whom about 500 work in Vaasa.

Develops and manufactures many key technologies for the green energy transition in Finland.

New Tick-Borne Threat Emerges in Finland:

Neorlichiosis Can Cause Long-Term Fever Climate change brings new threats to our health. One such concern is a tick-borne bacterial infection called "Neorlichiosis," with the first case confirmed in Finland. Infectious disease specialist Ulla Hohenthal warns of this new danger in the medical journal Mediuutiset.

The primary symptom of Neorlichiosis is

a prolonged fever that can last for weeks. Diagnosis can be challenging because the disease is still rare, and its symptoms can mimic other tick-borne illnesses like Lyme disease. Fortunately, treatment for Neorlichiosis is effective with antibiotics, the same ones used for Lyme disease.

The risk of tick-borne diseases increases with climate change as ticks thrive in warm and humid weather. It's crucial to protect yourself from tick bites by wearing long clothing and using insect repellent. Additionally, monitor tick bites and seek medical attention if symptoms develop.

The discovery of Neorlichiosis serves as a reminder to be vigilant for emerging infectious diseases. By following public health guidelines and practicing tick prevention, we can minimize the risk of contracting this and other tick-borne illnesses.

Palosaari Library will close

The Palosaari Library, a cornerstone of the Vaasa community for over 120 years, continues to offer residents a vibrant space for learning and leisure. Located at Pikitehtaanankatu 19-23, the library boasts a collection of books, magazines, and newspapers alongside board games, computers with internet access, and even a fish aquarium.

Palosaari Library was founded in August 1901. In 1929, it got its own library building, designed by architect Carl Schoultz, on the edge of the Palosaari market square. Palosaari Library started reading dog activities in Vaasa, and dogs are welcome in the library in other ways as well.

Beyond its collection, the library serves as a meeting place for the community. They host storytimes for children in both Finnish and Swedish, providing a space for early literacy development and cultural connection. The library also offers public wifi and various digital resources, ensuring everyone has access to information and technology.

And now the library is going to close. At a recent meeting of the City Council, the decision was made to close the library, and next year the library will no longer exist based on this decision.

Voting about shutting down the library
Shut down:
RKP: Somppi Sari, Villanen Frans, Skytte Mathias, Nilsson-Väre Marit, Kloo Barbro, Strömsholm Eva-Maria, Frantz Hans, Blomfeldt Ragnvald, Rodén Sonja, Ångerman Johan.
SDP: Ala-Heikkilä Sari, Tolppanen Maria, Halonen Sanna.

Kok.: Mäki Tommi, Pääjärvi-Myllyaho Riitta, Luoma Kai, Koski Susanna, Hei-nonen Marko, Rajala Katja, Tulimaa Leena, Munkki Marianne, Viinamäki An-ne-Marie, Uusi-Kokko Elli.

PS: Järvinen Juhani, Ollila Mauri, Vahtera Matti.

Vihr.: Autio Olli, Karakan Emine, Saita Maria.

Don't shut down

RKP: Henriksson Elisabet, Boucht-Lindeman Helena, Granfors Ulla, Sirén-Aura Monica, Mahdi Ramieza, Kauppinen Johanna.

SDP: Mäkynen Matias, Teppo Erkki, Hellman Per, Andrejeff Pirjo, Miettinen Arja, Kivioja Tuija.

PS: Köykkä Kimmo, Sulkakoski Tero, Laine Kari, Takala Ismo, Rintamäki An-ne.

Vas.: Moision Harri, Moision Päivi.

KD: Hokkanen Heimo, Kaunismäki Tomi.

Kesk.: Tuomisto Tauno, Rintamäki Merja.

Registration for Vaasa coeducational institution Alma for the academic year 2024–25 starts on 15 May

Registration for Vaasa samio Alma's courses for the academic year 2024–25 will start already in May this year. You can re-

gister for the next academic year's courses from 3 pm on 15 May. In previous years, course registration for the current academic year has started in August.

A printed course brochure will not be published this year, but you can familiarize yourself with the range and register for the courses online at uusi.opistopalvelut.fi/vaasa.

Although the course brochure has had to be abandoned for financial reasons, the quality of the service and the wide range of courses on offer remain at the same excellent level. We offer more than 1,000 courses annually to 16,000 students in ten different subject areas. In addition to Vaasa, Alma has operations in Vähäkylä, Laihia and Isokylä. Alma also offers a wide range of online and ECTS courses. The courses and lectures are open to everyone.

They, who know a little more are They, who read Wasa Daily

Senior meetings are organised for 70- and 80-year-olds in Uusikaarleby and Vaasa

In May, the Wellbeing Services County of Ostrobothnia organises senior meetings for 70- and 80-year-olds who do not receive other regular help, such as home care. At the senior meetings, the elderly receive tips for promoting health and functional capacity, but also for support for living at home. The senior meetings are mainly aimed at these age groups, but other seniors are also welcome to participate.

"It is a good idea to come to a senior meeting, because you can meet your own area's senior adviser and you can also get information about the activities and objectives of the senior counselling service. You will also find out in which matters you can contact the senior adviser. During the senior meeting, you also have the opportunity to fill in a self-assessment form to get an idea of your own health," says Annikka Tetrault, Coordinating Ward Nurse for Health Services for the Elderly.

Time and registration for the senior meetings

The Wellbeing Services County of Ostrobothnia organises two Swedish-language senior meetings:

For 70-year-olds on Tuesday 14 May 2024 at 13–15, Nykarleby Town Hall

For 70-year-olds on Wednesday 22.5.2024 at 13–15, Vaasa City Library, Main Library, event space Venny

and two Finnish-language senior meetings:

For 70-year-olds on Tuesday 21.5.2024 at 13–15, Vaasa City Library, Main Library, event space Venny

For 80-year-olds on Thursday 23.5.2024 at 13–15, Vaasa City Library, Main Library, event space Venny

You can register for the senior meetings in Nykarleby by sending a text message to 050 514 4898 or by calling 06 786 2753 no later than Thursday 10.5.2024. You register for the senior meetings in Vaasa four days before the meeting you want to attend by sending a text message to 040 186 2846 or 0400 992 438. It is also possible to register by calling the numbers between 8.30 and 9.30, also at least four days before the meeting. There is a limited number of places at the meetings.

The program includes the importance of diet

The program at the senior meetings varies slightly, but at all meetings you will receive information about the importance of diet as you get older, exercise, how to prevent falls, assistive devices and senior counselling activities. The program also includes break gymnastics.

The senior meetings take a summer break and then return in August and September. Senior meetings are organised in all municipalities of the Wellbeing Services County of Ostrobothnia in either Finnish or Swedish. The date and time will be announced in August.

THL: Obesity in Finland is already causing major problems – now is the time for societal action

The BMI of about 1.2 million adults exceeds the obesity threshold (30 kg/m²). 30% of women and 27% of men are obese. Obesity is most common among people aged 40–64, of whom one in three has obesity.

Waist obesity is even more common and affects almost every second adult. The limit value for waist obesity is considered to be a waist circumference of more than 90 cm for women and more than 100 cm for men.

Obesity and abdominal obesity have become more common among people

of working age, i.e. those aged 20–64. Among working-age men, obesity has increased by 3 percentage points and among women by 4 percentage points compared to 2017. A medium-sized man has gained 1.6 kg and a woman by 1.8 kg.

This data is based on THL's Healthy Finland study, in which 10,000 randomly selected people aged 20 and over were invited to a comprehensive health examination. Of these, 5,800 (58% of those invited) took part in the health check.

"Obesity is becoming more common and the problems it causes are exploding. Obesity costs the health care system an additional billion euros every year. Comprehensive measures from society are needed at the latest now to stop population obesity. Such measures can be, for example, taxes and marketing restrictions because the food is unhealthy," says Associate Professor Annamari Lundqvist, who led the study.

Confederation of Finnish Industries Business Cycle Barometer: Business outlooks remain gloomy

29.4.2024 Confederation of Finnish Industries EK

Based on the April Business Cycle Barometer of the Confederation of Finnish Industries EK, Finnish companies' assessments of the economic situation have remained at the level of crisis times. Non-financial corporations' business cycle expectations have risen slightly from last January's survey, but are still clearly minor. The economic downturn is hitting construction and industry in particular. Service sectors, in turn, have continued to support the Finnish economy and especially employment in recent months.

"The prolonged weakening economic cycle has hit corporate profitability hard. The operations of companies were also affected by large-scale strikes organised by the trade union movement, which came up when asked about obstacles to growth. The strikes caused harm, especially in industry. Based on the respondent companies, no easing in profitability development is expected in the coming months either, so the difficult times will continue at least until Midsummer," says Sami Pakarinen, Director General of the Confederation of Finnish Industries.

Production and sales have declined in recent months. Companies expect the decline to continue over the next three months. In manufacturing and services, production is expected to start growing in

six months' time. The decline in output is already clearly reflected in employment in the private sector. Enterprises' estimates of the development of personnel numbers will continue to be subdued also in the coming months.

"Employment has been declining for several months now. When we know that employment will only react to production with a delay, the turn for better employment will take place next year," Pakarinen continues.

The main obstacle to growth is still insufficient demand. Half of the respondents reported insufficient demand as an obstacle to growth. Problems with the availability of skilled labour have continued to ease as a result of the downturn.

They, who know a little more are They, who read Wasa Daily

A new tax: The Greens wants an EU-tax

The Greens are advocating for the EU to have the ability to levy taxes, which would allow it to become more financially independent and have more resources to address pressing issues. They want the EU to have more power and autonomy compared to the member states

The summer pedestrian street in Vaasa will open again this year

The summer pedestrian street, which has been organised in previous years, has received positive feedback from entrepreneurs and customers. As a result, the summer pedestrian street will also be opened this summer. The location is the same as the previous Hovioikeudenpuistikko section of the street between Kirkkopuistikko and Raastuvankatu.

The summer pedestrian street will open on Monday 29.4 and will be open until 16.9. The closure of the street area will begin on Thursday 25 April, and the terraces of the pedestrian street will be built during the weekend of 27–28 April.

(vaasa.fi)

VAMK recognised as an Elite Athlete Friendly University

The Finnish Olympic Committee has awarded Vaasa University of Applied Sciences with the quality mark of an elite athlete friendly university, as evidence of comprehensive consideration of athletes' needs during their studies. The recognition also highlights the longstanding collaboration with the Vaasa Region Sports Academy. VAMK is one of the five Finnish universities of applied sciences that have received this recognition.

New Traffic Insurance Law Makes Many New Vehicles Mandatory to Insure

The reform of the Traffic Insurance Act comes into effect on June 1st, 2024, bringing several changes. Under the new law, many previously uninsured vehicles will require insurance. Operating these vehicles without insurance will be illegal.

The new mandatory insurance applies to, among others, electric scooters, senior scooters, and all rental electric kick scooters. These vehicles must be insured if they weigh over 25 kg (55 lbs) or can travel faster than 25 km/h (15.5 mph).

Electric Bicycles are an Exception
Electric bicycles are exempt from the 25 kg and 25 km/h limits. The insurance requirement doesn't apply to electric bicycles that:

Require pedaling to operate
Have motor assistance that cuts off at 25 km/h
Have a motor with a maximum power of 250 W
Other electric bicycles follow the same insurance requirement as other electric vehicles.

Driving Uninsured is Prohibited
Unregistered vehicles must have valid traffic insurance whenever they are in use. Vehicles in storage do not require traffic insurance. If a vehicle is not insured, it is illegal to operate. Driving uninsured poses a significant risk, as a driver who neglects insurance will be entirely without compensation in case of an accident. Additionally, a penalty fee must be paid for driving without insurance.

Traffic Insurance Offers Broader Coverage in Finland
Finnish traffic insurance provides a wider range of compensation compared to many other countries. Antti Tuulensuu, Head of Claims at the Finnish Motor Insurers' Centre, reminds us that mandatory

traffic insurance in many other countries doesn't cover the driver's own injuries.

Traffic insurance can be purchased from any insurance company that sells it. Since the insurance content is defined by law, traffic insurance is the same across all insurance companies.

More Information:
Finnish Motor Insurers' Centre: <https://www.lvk.fi/>

Kela Proposes a General Practitioner - Nurse Collaborative Model

The History of healthcare reimbursements in Finland dates back to 1967, when Kela began reimbursing the costs of private specialist visits, aiming to facilitate access to specialist care. As of the beginning of 2024, Kela reimbursements have been decided to be increased. The goal of the new Kela reimbursement model is to improve access to primary care and the continuity of care. There are currently no detailed plans regarding the continuation of Kela reimbursements for current specialist visits.

The benefits of continuity in patient-physician relationships were also recognized in the late 1980s in the Kela-funded general practitioner model as part of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health's general practitioner trials. Two other general practitioner trials were carried out by reorganizing the activities of health centers to operate on a population responsibility basis and by making physicians' working hours flexible. In all three general practitioner trials, the activities were compared to conventional health center operations.

In Kela's general practitioner pilot project from 1985 to 1993, private practitioners committed to seeing patients within 3 weekdays. Kela paid reimbursements to general practitioners based on the population size, age structure, and physician's experience. Specialist visits and laboratory and radiology costs were covered by Kela to medical centers. General practitioner services as well as laboratory and imaging tests were free of charge to patients. Continuity of patient-physician relationships improved most for individuals without occupational health care. In addition,

through specialist consultations in hospital sectors, the use of emergency services was reduced, and referral practices to hospital clinics were modified.

The new Kela reimbursement model could be based on a general practitioner - nurse collaborative model. Any resident of the welfare area could choose, if desired, a general practitioner who operates in the private sector as their primary healthcare service provider, along with a nurse as their collaborator, instead of a welfare area health center. This would lighten the workload of the welfare area, and overlapping activities would not be supported by Kela reimbursements. Other professionals (such as physiotherapists, mental health nurses, psychologists, or social workers) from either the private sector or the welfare area could support the team as needed.

A general practitioner - nurse collaborative pair operating under the new Kela reimbursement model would follow regionally agreed-upon care escalation and care pathways. Diagnostic services would be provided by the welfare area or equivalent service providers at the same cost.

Gemini advanced is an improvement but it costs

The new version of Gemini, also referred to as Gemini Ultra or Gemini Advanced, shows significant improvements over the earlier versions (likely what you experienced as Bard). Here's a breakdown of the advancements:

Surpassing GPT-4 in Benchmarks: Benchmarks suggest that Gemini Ultra performs marginally better than GPT-4, the current leader from OpenAI. This is especially true for tasks that require reasoning and factual accuracy.

Improved Image Generation: While still under development, Gemini Ultra shows initial capabilities for generating images based on text descriptions. This is a new feature not present in earlier versions.

Enhanced Reasoning Abilities: When compared to earlier versions, Gemini Ultra demonstrates a clearer ability to understand and respond to prompts that require logical reasoning and background knowledge.

Here are some things to keep in mind:

Limited Public Availability: As of April 2024, Gemini Ultra is part of a paid tier and not widely available for free use yet.

Focus on Specific Tasks: The current strengths of Gemini Ultra seem to lie in factual language tasks, reasoning, and potentially image generation. It might not always outperform earlier versions in creative writing or informal conversation.

Overall, Gemini Ultra appears to be a substantial upgrade, especially for tasks that require reasoning and factual accuracy. If these are your primary needs, then the new version might be a significant improvement. If you were happy with the free tier's capabilities for creative writing or casual conversation, the earlier version might still be sufficient.

Vasa War Veteran Museum: A Chronicle of Finnish Military History

The Vasa War Veteran Museum

QUOTE of the WEEK

The social welfare and health care funding moped is heading towards the gorge, who dares to acknowledge the facts?

Lauri Korkeaoja, Director of Communications at the Finnish Medical Association Finland's second largest wellbeing services county, the wellbeing services county of Southwest Finland Varha, announced last week that it will exceed its budget, doubling in relation to the budgeted deficit of EUR 80 million. This week, the wellbeing services county of Vantaa-Kerava announced that it will apply for additional funding of EUR 148 million to cover its statutory services this year and next. The wellbeing services counties made a total deficit of just under EUR 1.4 billion last year and this year's budgeted deficit was just under EUR 1 billion. On the basis of this news, which we will shortly be hearing from other regions, it is far from enough. My guess is that last year's deficit will be far exceeded. But how did this happen? After all, there was much more money than was spent on social welfare at the beginning of the wellbeing services counties.

In April, Annika Saarikko, chair of the Centre Party, visited the Finnish Medical Association's Hippopotamus Lääkäritalo podcast and pointed out that social welfare and health care is turning into a caricature of everything it was supposed to be.

EU-ELECTION



EU-ELECTION

European Parliament Election 2024 - All Candidates

| | |
|----|--|
| 2 | Ahtola, Eero, yrittäjä, Vantaa |
| 3 | Haapalehto, Jaakko, yhdistelmäajoneuvonkuljettaja, Kankaanpää |
| 4 | Karhunen, Marko Eerikki, tuotepäällikkö, Kerava |
| 5 | Kivinen, Lassi, avainasiakaspäällikkö, Helsinki |
| 6 | Kivirinta, Aki, IT-konsultti, Oulu |
| 7 | Korhonen-Low, Mira, kauppatieteiden maisteri, asiantuntija, Helsinki |
| 8 | Lampinen, Kimmo, sähköasentaja, Jyväskylä |
| 9 | Lehtisalo, Tiia, sairaanhoitaja (AMK), Riihimäki |
| 10 | Leinonen, Arne, tuoteomistaja, palvelumuotoilija, Helsinki |
| 11 | Lähteenmäki, Laura, projektipäällikkö, IT-insinööri, Lahti |
| 12 | Mertala, Tomi, opiskelija, Joensuu |
| 13 | Mutenia, Sami, huoltomies, Rovaniemi |
| 14 | Mäkipelto, Jussi, diplomi-insinööri, Kaus-tinen |
| 15 | Paasonen, Juha, linja-autonkuljettaja, Turku |
| 16 | Peltola, Jarmo, projektipäällikkö, Leppä-virta |
| 17 | Peltola, Juha-Matti, kirvesmies, Tampere |
| 18 | Pihkola, Miika, opiskelija, Lappeenranta |
| 19 | Pollari, Visa, ohjelmistokehittäjä, yrittäjä, Espoo |
| 20 | Sneitz, Nina, tutkija, filosofian tohtori, Helsingfors |
| 21 | Vihervaara, Tommi, johtava asiantuntija, Akaa |
| | Suomen Kristillisdemokraatit (KD) - Krist-demokraterna i Finland (KD) r.p. |
| 22 | Korhola, Eija-Riitta, filosofian tohtori, tietokirjailija, Helsinki |
| 23 | Heikkinen, Matti, insinööri, tiimipäällikkö, Oulainen |
| 24 | Hiippavuori, Katriina, valtiotieteiden maisteri, eduskunta-avustaja, Masku |
| 25 | Mönttinen, Ari, terveyskeskuslääkäri, Lohja |
| 26 | Pettersson, David, jordbrukare, teologie magister, maanviljelijä, teologian maiste-ri, Pedersöre |
| 27 | Puolimatka, Tapio, professori emeritus, Jyväskylä |
| 28 | Ruotsala, Aki, yrityspalvelujohtaja, ekono-mi, Seinäjoki |
| 29 | Terä, Tommi, toiminnanjohtaja, tradeno-mi, Turku |
| 30 | Turunen, Ann-Niina, koulunkäynninohjaa-ja, perhehoitaja, Lappeenranta |
| 31 | Visakorpi-Kemppainen, Marika, aluesyytt-äjä, varatuomari, Jyväskylä |
| 32 | Liike Nyt r.p., Rörelse.nu r.p. |
| 33 | Lahto, Christa, yritysjohtaja, yrittäjä, Pori |
| 34 | Korhonen, Toni, toimitusjohtaja, yrittäjä, Vaasa |
| 35 | Luomala, Mikko, väitöskirjatutkija, Espoo |
| 36 | Redsven, Petteri, yrittäjä, toimitusjohtaja, Lahti |
| 37 | Leponiemi, Johanna, opettaja, muusikko, Oulu |
| 38 | Kolhinoja, Inka, merkonomi, urheilija, Vantaa |
| 39 | Nummela, Nina, yrittäjä, Vantaa |
| 40 | Jaari, Heidi, lentoemäntä, avustustyöntekijä, Helsinki |

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| 46 | Garedew, Kaisa, kansanedustaja, Jyväskylä |
| 47 | Grönroos, Simo, filosofian tohtori, toimin-nanjohtaja, Espoo |
| 48 | Heltimoinen, Ilpo, tuotantotekniikan mekaanikko, Lappeenranta |
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| 51 | Kiviranta, Joonas, tekniikan lisensiaatti, Tampere |
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| 55 | Makkonen, Teija, valtiosihtööri, sotatietei-den maisteri, Helsinki |
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| 57 | Peltokangas, Mauri, kansanedustaja, Kokkola |
| 58 | Polvinen, Mikko, kansanedustaja, insi-nööri (YAMK), Kuhmo |
| 59 | Ruohonen-Lerner, Pirkko, Euroopan parla-mentin jäsen, Helsinki |



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| 67 | Bibani, Gashaw, projektipäällikkö, projekt-chef, Vantaa |
| 68 | Diop, Paco, varhaiskasvatuksen opettaja, Turku |
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| 73 | Kyllönen, Merja, kansanedustaja, bioana-lyyttikko, Suomussalmi |
| 74 | Käppi, Matleena, opiskelija, luonnontie-ten kandidaatti, Jyväskylä |
| 75 | Lindén, Lauri, opiskelija, Tampere |
| 76 | Majok, Ajak, taiteilija, Helsinki |
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| 78 | Minkkinen, Minna, puolueen 3. va-rapuheenjohtaja, sosiaalityöntekijä, Tampere |
| 79 | Nieminen, Riku, näyttelijä, yrittäjä, Hels-inki |
| 80 | Pikkarainen, Harri, ylilääkäri, överläkare, Lahti |
| 81 | Saramo, Jussi, kansanedustaja, Vantaa |
| 82 | Säynevirta, Sami, järjestöpäällikkö, metsätalousinsinööri (AMK), Helsinki |

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| 90 | Broman, Samuel, företagare, jurist, yritt-äjä, juristi, Korsholm |
| 91 | Byman, Oscar, specialmedarbetare, eko-nomie magister, erityisavustaja, kauppa-tieteiden maisteri, Kimitoön |
| 92 | Bäck, Mira, sjukskötärstudierande, saira-anhoitajaopiskelija, Vasa |
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| 95 | Henriksson, Anna-Maja, undervisningsmi-nister, riksdagsledamot, opetusministeri, kansanedustaja, Jakobstad |
| 96 | Hertzberg, Magnus, journalist, pensionär, toimittaja, eläkeläinen, Helsingfors |
| 97 | Jern, Mikael, agronom, jordbrukare, agro-nomi, maanviljelijä, Esbo |
| 98 | Meinander, Henrik, professor, professori, Helsingfors |
| 99 | Möller, Ingrid, studerande, opiskelija, Pargas |
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| 102 | Pusa, Kalle, IT-konsult, jurist, IT-konsultti, juristi, Helsingfors |
| 103 | Sigfrids, Frida, politices magister, riksdagsassistent, valtiotieteiden maisteri, eduskunta-avustaja, Borgå |

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EVENTS

ILMAJOKI MUSIC FESTIVAL
ARMI-opera
 7.6 - 16.6.24



Solist: Lilli Paasikivi
www.musiikkijuhlat.fi

PRIDE-WEEK in Vaasa and Kors-
 holm
 10-16.6.24

<https://www.regnbagsallians.fi/>
VAASA AIR SHOW 15.-16.6.
 Finland's biggest air show in 2024! The main air show of the Finn-ish Aeronautical Association The air show is organized by a team of Vaasa Flight Club professionals. Our organization is ready to make your participation successful. The annual main air show of the Finnish Aviation Association (SIL) is also the main air show of the Finnish Air Force, the Army and the Finnish Border Guard. The air show will be organised together with Finland's most experienced air show organisers, who have experience in organising 20 international air shows in Finland, Europe and Asia.

<https://vaasaairshow.fi/fi/etusivu>
Lisää Löylyä Rockfestival - 2
dagar 14-15.6

Lisää Löylyä Rockfestival 14.6 - 15.6 2024 in Vaskiluoto, on the former Wasalandia area.

<https://lisaaloylya.fi/>
KALEVAN COMPETITIONS in Vaasa
 27-30 June 2024

The Athletics Championship, or the Kaleva Games, will be held in Vaasa on June 27-30, 2024. It is one of the most significant national sports events of the year in Finland

<https://kk2024.fi/>
HERÄTTÄJÄJUHLAT IN VAASA 5.-
 7.7.2024

Vaasa is set to host the city's second-ever awakening festival in the summer of 2024, a remarkable 60 years after the last event The theme for the days is "Let the wind fill the sails."

The festival grounds are located in the city center, alongside many hotels and restaurants, making it easy to move around on foot or by bike. In Vaasa, you are truly by the sea, as the distance from the market square to the beach is just a few hundred meters. A tranquil evening stroll along the water-front, a visit to the playground, or exploring the city's magnificent cultural offerings can be easily done in the immediate vicinity of the festival area. "Körttiradio" will broadcast programs around the clock throughout the event days.

TANGOMARKKINAT 40 Years!
 10-14.7.2024

Seinäjoki
<https://www.tangomarkkinat.fi/>

LOHTAJA CHURCH MUSIC FESTIVAL
 23-28.7.2024

www.kirkkomusiikkijuhlat.fi

KORSHOLM MUSIC FESTIVAL 2024
 24.7-31.7.2024

www.korsholmmusicfestival.fi

TOVE TEUVALLA-OPERA
 Östermark kyrka .Teuvan kirkko
 3.8.24 - 11. 8.2024

<https://www.korsholmmusicfestival.fi/tove-teuvalla/operan-tove-teuvalla>

VAASA FESTIVAL
 1-3.8.2024

<https://vaasafestival.fi/>

WASA FUTURE FESTIVAL
 5-10.8.2024

The Wasa Future Festival 2024 is set to take place from 5th to 10th August.

This event gathers knowledgeable and motivated individuals from the business world, universities, regional decision-making bodies, and ministerial corps to focus on solving issues in Vaasa and across Finland. The event can be followed on Wasa Future Festival YouTube channel.

Wasa Innovation Center
 Gerbyntie 18
 65230 Vaasa
<https://wasafuturefestival.fi/>

NIGHT OF THE ARTS



In Vaasa
 15.8.2024

VAASAN MARSSI

9.-11.8.2024
 Vaasan Kävelyklubi ry/rf
www.vaasanmarssi.fi

RITZ

NON-STOP
 Local artists and band
 24-25.5.2024
 Free Entry
ritz.fi

VAASA LITTFEST

tila - tillstånd
 13.-17.121.2024
vaasa.fi/littfest

TIKANOJA



THE ART EVENT OF THE YEAR!
 Eero Järnefelts exhibition
 opens on Nov 23, 2024

PRESIDENT OF FINLAND

The official portrait of president Alexander Stubb has been published



© Tasavallan presidentin kanslia, kuvaaja: Jussi Ratilainen

CHOIR FESTIVAL 9-11.5.2024

WHAT A WONDERFUL FESTIVAL!









ROAD CHURCHES

Finding Refuge on the Road

Finding Refuge on the Road: A Look at Europe's Road Churches

For centuries, churches have served as places of solace and spiritual renewal for communities. But in modern Europe, a unique concept has emerged: road churches. These are churches specifically designed or adapted to welcome travelers, offering a haven for prayer, reflection, or simply a peaceful break from the journey.

Germany: The Pioneering Nation

Germany is credited with birthing the road church concept. The first one is believed to have opened decades ago in Baden-Baden, offering a pit-top for weary travelers on the Autobahn. These Autobahn chapels, as they're sometimes called, often boast distinctive architecture, creating a visually striking landmark alongside the highway.

Finland's Extensive Network

Finland has embraced the road church concept with remarkable enthusiasm. Boasting over 200 road churches scattered across the country, they provide a haven for travelers, particularly during the summer months. While some close during the winter, a dedicated few remain open year-round, offering a warm and welcoming space for all.

Beyond Borders: The Spread of Road Churches

While Germany and Finland have the most well-established networks, the concept of road churches is gradually gaining traction in other European countries. Austria, Hungary, and the Netherlands are just a few examples where you can find these traveler-friendly places of worship. Are There Road Churches in the USA? Currently, the concept of dedicated road churches isn't as widespread in



the United States. However, there are examples of churches along major highways that offer similar hospitality to travelers. Some have designated rest areas or open their doors for prayer and contemplation. Additionally, truck stops often have chapels or designated quiet spaces that cater to travelers on the road.

A Beacon for the Modern Traveler

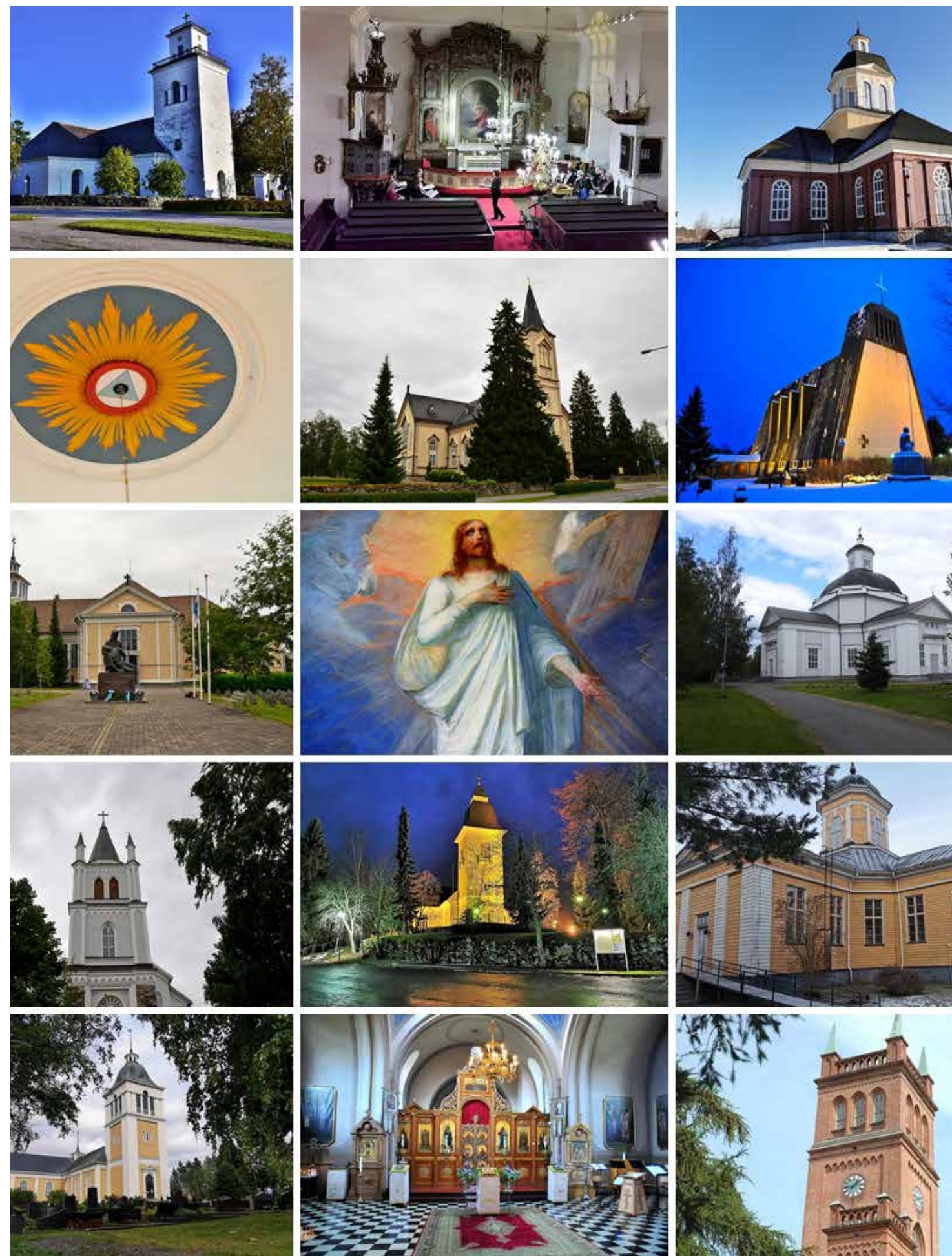
In an age of fast-paced travel, road churches offer a valuable service. They provide a place for weary travelers to find a moment of peace, re-connect with their faith, or simply appreciate a beautiful space. The unique architecture and welcoming atmosphere make them more than just rest stops; they're cultural landmarks and testaments to the enduring power of spiritual connection.

Here's how to find the Road Church!

In Finland, more than 260 Road Churches open their doors to visitors in the summer. Many of these churches are easily accessible by following the white Road Church signs along the road-side. Before your trip, however, you should take a look at the Tiekirkot.

fi website, where you can find detailed information about road churches.

- You can search for Road Churches using the map search and selecting your own summer vacation route to see which churches fall along the way.
- You can also browse the list of Road Churches and search for churches by location or church type (wooden, concrete and stone churches). Church opening hours vary, so always check our website on the church's own page. Most churches are open from 5.6.–20.8. from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., but some Road Churches serve visitors all year round. Churches may offer worship services as well as other events such as concerts and meditation. Finland's first Road Churches opened in the early 1990s, initially in a few churches in Northern Finland. The idea of open-door churches, which originated in Germany, has since become widespread. Both Evangelical Lutheran and Orthodox churches are involved, and new churches join every year. In addition, you can find information about Road Churches on Facebook and Instagram on account @tiekirkot. Follow Road Churches on social media and admire people's church spotting with the hashtag #tiekirkko. A road church awaits you along the way – stop and enjoy a different resting place.



Lähialueemme tiekirkkoja

ART



Mysterious moss giants take over Lasipalatsi Square

A green moss giant with skis and poles has arrived at Amos Rex's domes, ready to explore unfamiliar terrain. Wanderer sees the world as being best explored by travelling, but also with the sense of touch – especially the touch of the hand. That may be why the giant is moving two fingers across the palm of his other hand, forming the sign that means to walk or to wander.

Wanderer is one of four bright-green, giant-like figures who have temporarily set up camp in the courtyard at Lasipalatsi Square and on the terrace of Bio Rex. Kim Simonsson's (b. 1974) are about four metres high and communicate with each other through Finnish sign language. They have been acquired for Konstnämnden, which has one of Finland's most extensive private art collections.

The moss giants' long journey home passes through the centre of Helsinki

The giants – Wanderer, Collector,

Friendship and Bringer of Light – are on their way home to the forest. During the summer, they will take a break at Lasipalatsi Square, after which they will gradually continue to their final destination: a leafy forest glade at Amos Anderson's summer residence, Söderlångvik manor on Kimito Island. There they will stay permanently, gradually becoming part of the forest ecosystem.

"I had a vision of a large moss figure in the forest, so people would accidentally meet a friendly giant in the woods. That dream will now become a reality, with the four giants moving to a forest glade at Söderlångvik," Simonsson says.

The moss giants will be discoverable in the forest at Söderlångvik from spring 2025 onwards.

Simonsson describes his giants as utopian moss children. He has given each individual in the group their own specific task, with each task being equally important. One carries tools, while another has skis on his back. It is also worth paying attention to the moss giants' hands, which play an important role: they communicate with each other, and with the outside world in sign language.

Sculptor Kim Simonsson lives and works in the artists' village of Fiskars in Western Uusimaa. He has been working with ceramic moss figures for almost a decade – the moss giants are his most large-scale works so far.

The Moss Giants will be at Lasipalatsi Square 29 April–20 October 2024. The exhibition is curated by Kai Kartio.

Sign language is for everyone

Sign language is a visual language used by deaf, hard-of-hearing, and hearing people. It consists of various signs, combining facial expressions, hand body and mouth movements. Two different sign languages are used in Finland: Finland-Swedish and Finnish Sign Language, which is also used by Kim Simonsson's Moss Giants.

Spring exhibitions

Amos Rex's Spring exhibitions offer experiences for our emotions and all of our senses – the first-ever collections exhibition I feel, for now and Josefiina Nelimarkka's studio exhibition The Cloud of Un/knowing. The exhibitions are open 27 March – 8 Sept 2024. (Source: Amos Rex)



CLIMATE CHANGE

The Heat Will Kill You First: A Gripping Look at Our Scorching Future

Jeff Goodell's "The Heat Will Kill You First: Life and Death on a Scorched Planet" is a stark and unsettling exploration of the escalating threat of extreme heat. Goodell, a veteran environmental journalist, meticulously weaves together scientific evidence, historical anecdotes, and personal narratives to paint a vivid picture of a future increasingly dominated by heatwaves.

The book opens with a gripping account of the deadly 2003 European heatwave, highlighting how unprepared cities are for such extreme temperatures. Goodell then delves deeper into the science, explaining how human activity, particularly greenhouse gas emissions, is pushing our planet towards a tipping point. He explores the complex feedback loops that exacerbate heat, such as the melting of polar ice caps and the desertification of land, leading to even more extreme weather events.

Goodell doesn't shy away from the human cost of rising temperatures. He details the devastating impact on agriculture, with crop failures threatening global food security. He explores the rise of heatstroke and heat-related illnesses, particularly among vulnerable populations. One particularly poignant chapter chronicles the struggles of a Phoenix community facing increasingly unbearable summers.

The book isn't all doom

and gloom. Goodell dedicates sections to potential solutions, exploring innovative adaptation strategies and technological advancements like heat-resistant crops and reflective surfaces for cities. He profiles individuals and communities actively working towards a more sustainable future. However, Goodell emphasizes the urgency of action, arguing that a large-scale global shift is necessary to avoid the worst-case scenarios.

Overall, "The Heat Will Kill You First" serves as a powerful wake-up call.

Rescension:

"The Heat Will Kill You First" is a well-researched and engaging read. Goodell's prose is clear and concise, effectively conveying complex scientific concepts to a general audience. The use of personal stories from individuals impacted by heatwaves adds a powerful emotional dimension to the narrative. The book is well-paced, with a mix of historical context, current trends, and potential solutions.

However, the sheer volume of information presented can feel overwhelming at times. While Goodell offers some hope with potential solutions, the overall tone remains predominantly cautionary. Readers seeking a more optimistic



Jeff Goodell. Foto: Lrvelasquez
Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 4.

outlook may find the book emotionally draining.

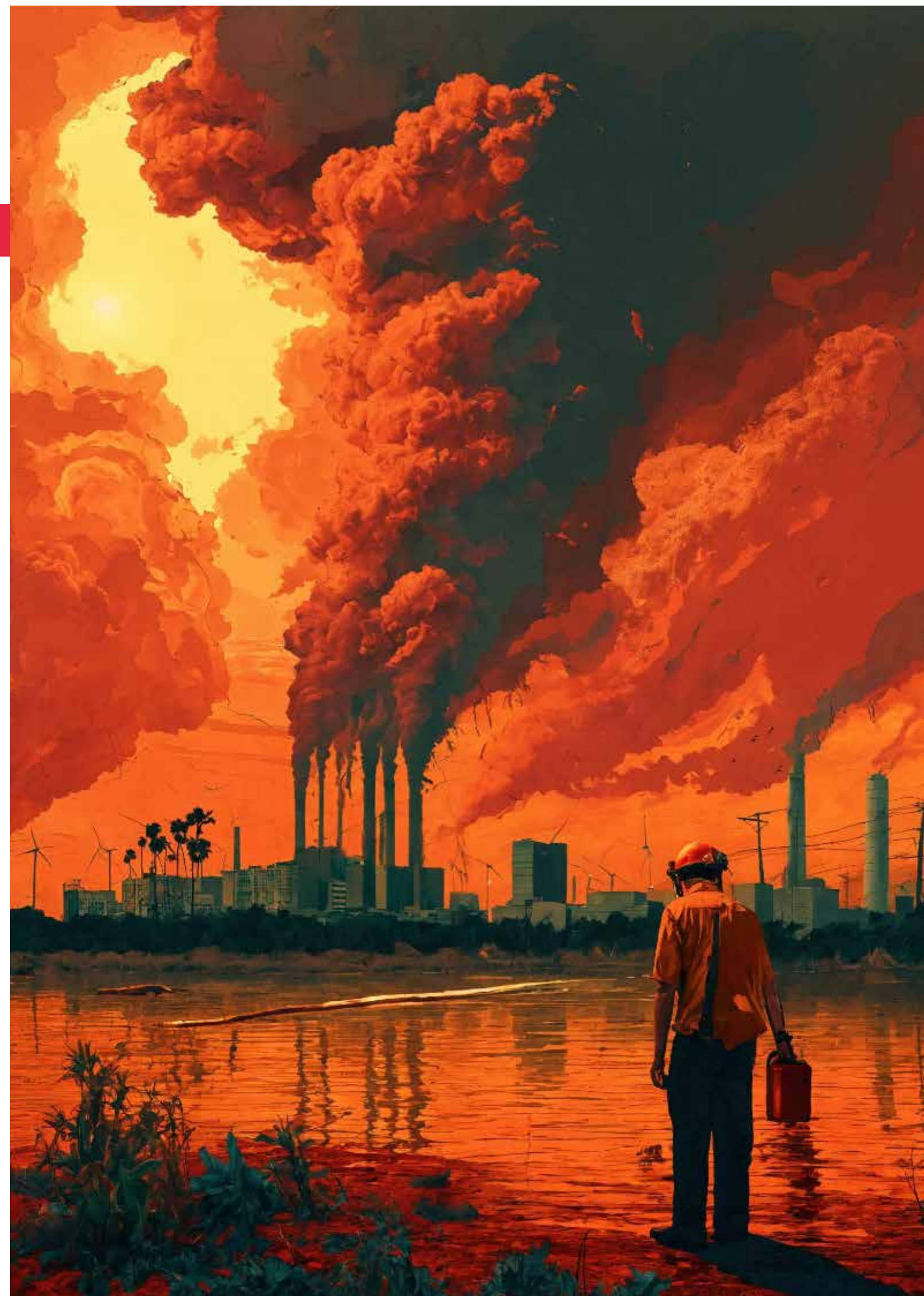
Comments:

One of the book's strengths is its emphasis on the interconnectedness of the climate crisis. Goodell demonstrates how extreme heat is not an isolated issue but rather a symptom of a larger environmental imbalance. The book effectively challenges the reader to consider the ripple effects of a warming planet, highlighting the far-reaching consequences for health, food security, and social stability.

Another noteworthy aspect is Goodell's exploration of societal inequalities in the face of climate change. He demonstrates how low-income communi-

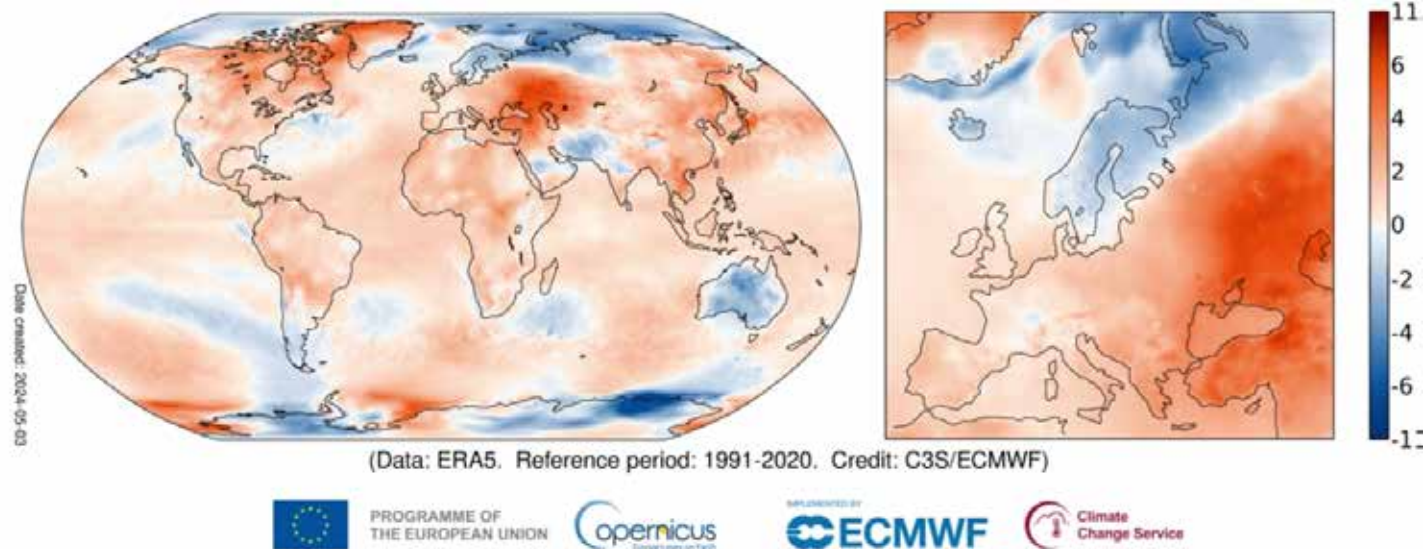
ties and developing countries are often disproportionately impacted by extreme heat, lacking the resources to adapt. This raises important questions about environmental justice and the need for global cooperation.

Overall, "The Heat Will Kill You First" serves as a powerful wake-up call. It compels readers to confront the urgency of the climate crisis and the potentially devastating consequences of inaction. While not an easy read, Goodell's work is a crucial contribution to the conversation about our planet's future, prompting a reevaluation of our relationship with the environment and the choices we make today that will shape the world of tomorrow.



CLIMATE CHANGE

April 2024 Marks Record Global Temperatures



Surface air temperature anomaly for April 2024 relative to the April average for the period 1991-2020. Data source: ERA5. Credit: Copernicus Climate Change Service/ECMWF.

In an alarming trend, April 2024 has been recorded as the warmest April globally in the data record, surpassing all previous records. According to data from the ERA5 surface air temperature, the average global temperature for April reached 15.03°C. This marks a significant increase of 0.67°C above the 1991-2020 average for April and 0.14°C above the previous record set in April 2016. Notably, this is the eleventh consecutive month to claim the title of the warmest in the ERA5 data record for its respective month.

Comparing to the pre-industrial reference period (1850-1900), April 2024 was a staggering 1.58°C warmer, highlighting the rapid pace of global warming. Over the past twelve months (May 2023 – April 2024), the global-average temperature has been the highest on record, exceeding the 1991-2020 average by 0.73°C and the pre-industrial average by 1.61°C.

European temperatures for April 2024 were also notably above average, with an average temperature of 1.49°C higher than the 1991-2020 average, making it the second warmest April on record for the continent. Eastern European regions experienced the most significant deviations from average temperatures, while Fennoscandia and Iceland saw below-average temperatures.

Outside of Europe, regions experiencing temperatures well above average included northern and northeastern North America, Greenland, eastern Asia, the northwest Middle East, parts of South America, and most of Africa. The weakening El Niño in the eastern equatorial Pacific did little to mitigate marine air temperatures, which remained unusually high.

The global sea surface temperature (SST) for April 2024 over 60°S–60°N set a new record at 21.04°C, slightly below the March 2024 record of 21.07°C. This marks the thirteenth consecutive month where the SST has been the warmest in the ERA5 data record for its respective month of the year.

Temperature anomalies were evi-

dent across Europe, with western Russia, eastern Ukraine, and Türkiye experiencing particularly warm anomalies. Conversely, below-average temperatures prevailed over most of Fennoscandia.

Internationally, northern and northeastern North America, Greenland, and parts of Asia saw temperatures significantly above average, with some areas experiencing heatwaves. South America and Africa also recorded above-average temperatures, with extreme heat conditions in the Sahel region early in the month.

In contrast, Australia experienced below-average temperatures, as did parts of the Middle East, Iran, and Pakistan. Northern Siberia and southern South America also saw below-average temperatures.

The continued rise in marine air temperatures, despite the weakening El Niño, is cause for concern, with record-high SSTs persisting over much of the tropics and other ocean basins. This warming trend underscores the urgent need for global climate action to mitigate the impacts of climate change.

(Source: C3S)

The Impact of Climate Change on Public Health: Understanding Emerging Risks

As the global climate undergoes a dramatic transformation, the consequences reach far beyond the headlines of melting glaciers and extreme weather events. A concerning reality is emerging - climate change is profoundly impacting public health, raising serious anxieties about the rise and intensification of various diseases and health conditions.

The time for action is now. By implementing a comprehensive strategy that combines mitigation, adaptation, public education, and international collaboration, we can safeguard the health and well-being of present and future generations in the face of a rapidly changing climate.

One of the most immediate threats lies in the increased prevalence and severity of certain illnesses. Rising temperatures and shifting rainfall patterns create ideal breeding grounds for disease-carrying insects like mosquitoes and ticks. This translates to a potential expansion of vector-borne diseases like malaria, dengue fever, Zika virus, and Lyme disease. Regions previously spared from these threats may now face heightened risks, placing a significant strain on healthcare systems and the communities they serve.

The impact extends beyond infectious diseases. Changes in temperature and precipitation can significantly alter the distribution and abundance of allergenic pollen and mold spores. This translates to a

worsening of respiratory conditions like asthma and allergic rhinitis for many individuals. Additionally, heatwaves, a growing consequence of climate change, directly threaten human health. These increasingly frequent and intense heat episodes can cause heat-related illnesses such as heatstroke and dehydration, with vulnerable populations like the elderly, children, and those with pre-existing health conditions facing the greatest risks.

The link between climate change and air quality is also concerning. Higher temperatures contribute to the formation of ground-level ozone and particulate matter. Exposure to these pollutants is directly linked to respiratory and cardiovascular diseases, including chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), heart attacks, and strokes. Wildfires, becoming more frequent and severe in many parts of the world, further exacerbate air quality issues by releasing harmful pollutants and particulate matter into the atmosphere.

Climate change also poses a growing threat to waterborne diseases. Rising temperatures can lead to the contamination of water sources and the proliferation of waterborne pathogens, increasing the incidence of diarrheal diseases like cholera and cryptosporidiosis. Extreme weather events like hurricanes and floods can disrupt water and sanitation infrastructure, further heightening the risk of waterborne disease outbreaks.

The path forward requires a multi-pronged approach. We must prioritize mitigation efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and slow

down the pace of climate change. At the same time, adaptation strategies must be implemented to address the current and projected impacts. Strengthening healthcare systems and public health infrastructure is crucial to effectively respond to emerging health threats.

However, the solution goes beyond technical measures. We must actively promote awareness and education about the interconnectedness of climate change and public health. Empowering individuals and communities with this knowledge is essential for taking proactive steps to protect their health. Recognizing the inseparable link between environmental and human health is the foundation for building a more sustainable and resilient future for all.

Furthermore, fostering international cooperation is critical. Climate change is a global challenge, and no single nation can tackle it alone. Collaborative efforts in research, resource sharing, and technology development are essential for effectively mitigating the health impacts of climate change on a global scale. By working together, we can build a more robust and coordinated response to this looming public health crisis.

The time for action is now. By implementing a comprehensive strategy that combines mitigation, adaptation, public education, and international collaboration, we can safeguard the health and well-being of present and future generations in the face of a rapidly changing climate.

HEALTH

Melanosis Coli: A Benign Colonic Pigmentation Disorder

Melanosis coli, also known as pseudomelanosis coli, is a frequent finding during colonoscopy, characterized by brown or black mucosal pigmentation of the colon. This article reviews the etiology, often linked to laxative abuse, particularly anthraquinones, as well as the pigment composition (lipofuscin) and differentiation from melanin. We discuss the asymptomatic nature, typical endoscopic appearance, and the absence of established treatment or significant complications. The article concludes by addressing the inconclusive evidence regarding a potential association with colorectal cancer.

Melanosis coli is a benign disorder characterized by the deposition of pigment within the colonic mucosa. Despite its name, the pigment responsible is not melanin, but rather lipofuscin, a byproduct of cellular wear and tear. This article delves into the etiology, clinical presentation, endoscopic features, management, and the ongoing debate regarding its association with colorectal cancer.

Etiology:

The most common risk factor for melanosis coli is the long-

term use of certain laxatives, particularly those containing anthraquinones. Examples include senna, cascara sagrada, rhubarb, aloe vera, and frangula. Anthraquinones are believed to stimulate melanogenesis, a process that mistakenly leads to lipofuscin deposition in macrophages within the colonic lamina propria. Other proposed causes include chronic inflammatory bowel disease and heavy metal exposure, but evidence is limited.

Symptoms:

Melanosis coli is typically asymptomatic. It is often incidentally discovered during colonoscopy performed for unrelated reasons.

Endoscopic Findings:

Colonoscopy reveals characteristic brown or black mucosal pigmentation, usually in a patchy or marbled pattern, predominantly affecting the right colon. The pigment does not cause any structural changes to the colonic wall.

Treatment:

Melanosis coli itself does not require specific treatment. The primary approach involves identifying and addressing the underlying cause, such as discontinuing anthraquinone-containing

laxatives. Alternative laxatives like fiber supplements or osmotic agents can be considered.

Complications:

Melanosis coli is not associated with any significant complications. It does not cause inflammation, bleeding, or obstruction.

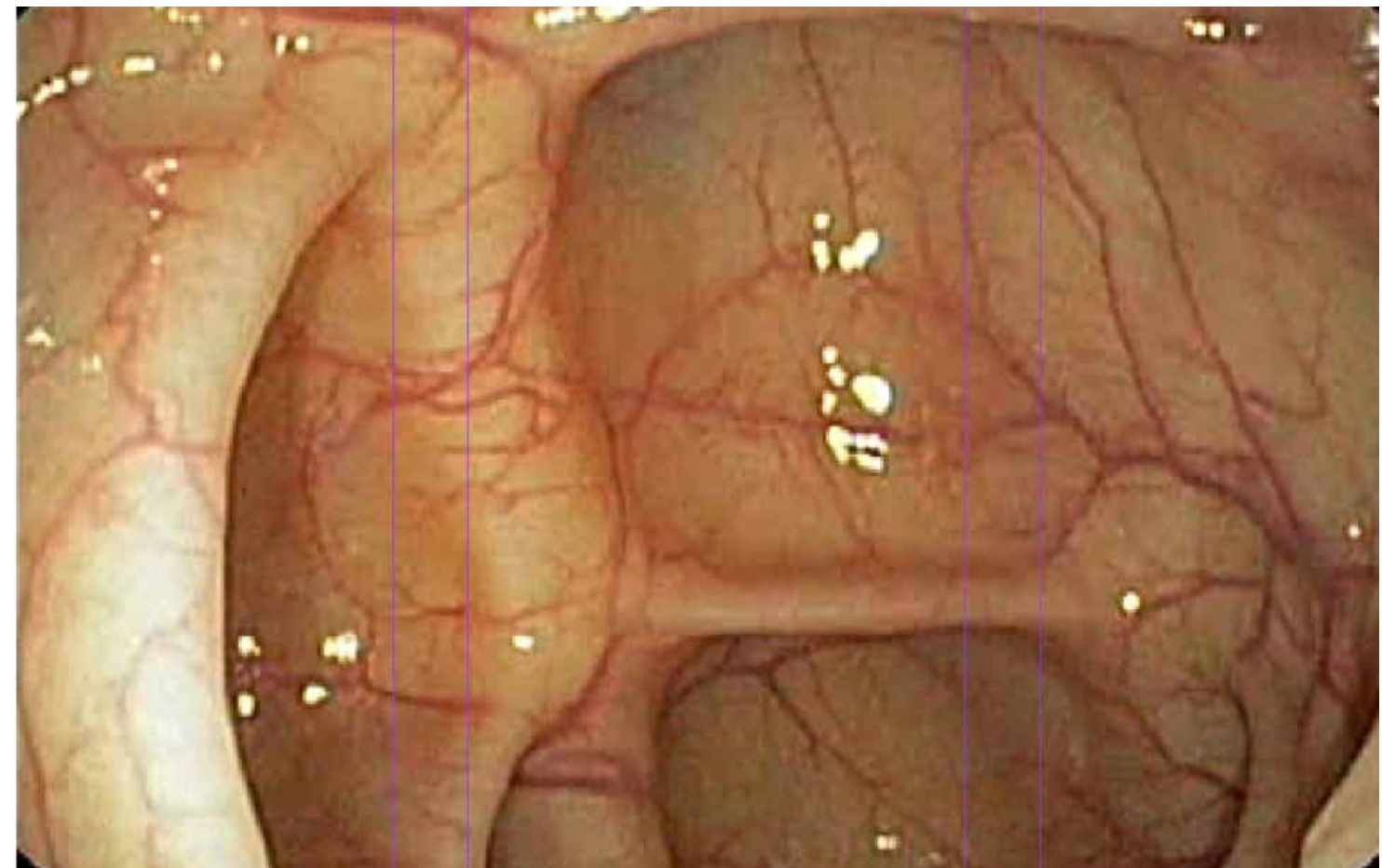
Association with Cancer:

The potential link between melanosis coli and colorectal cancer remains a subject of debate. While some studies suggest a higher prevalence of melanosis in patients with colorectal polyps or cancer, others haven't found a clear association. More research is needed to determine if melanosis coli is a risk factor or merely an incidental finding in these patients.

Conclusion:

Melanosis coli is a benign colonic pigmentation disorder most commonly linked to anthraquinone laxative use. It is asymptomatic and diagnosed on colonoscopy. Management focuses on addressing the underlying cause, and the condition carries no significant complications. The potential association with colorectal cancer requires further investigation.

Note: This article is intended for informational purposes only and should not be construed as medical advice.



Normal colon mucosa



The quite remarkable changes in colonic mucosa in Melanosis Coli

TRAFFIC



New Kaisantunneli tunnel opened for cyclists and pedestrians in Helsinki

The new Kaisantunneli tunnel in the heart of Helsinki opened its doors to cyclists and pedestrians on Sunday 4 May 2024, just in time for the start of National Cycling Week. The approximately 220-metre-long tunnel runs under the railway yard of Helsinki railway station and connects Kaisaniemi Park with Oodi and Kansalaistori square. In the old days, the cycling distance between these points south of the railway station was 600 metres. And at several traffic lights we had to wait.

The tunnel has been designed especially with the needs of cyclists in

mind, but it is also possible to walk through it. It has its own bike lane, a bike lift and a parking space for about a thousand bikes called the Bike Garage. However, this is not yet open. In the future, a bicycle repair shop will also be located in Pyörätalli.

For pedestrians, the tunnel offers an unobstructed and easy access to Kaisaniemi Park and Oodi. Stairs have been built at the Oodi end of the tunnel to access the train platforms. 40 bike frame locking racks have also been built on the Kaisaniemi park side.

The construction of the Kaisantunneli has taken three years and its costs have risen from the original EUR 25 million to EUR 32 million. However, the project has gone according to plan and there have been no disruptions in traffic.

The new Kaisantunneli tunnel is a significant improvement to the traffic system in the heart of Helsinki, and it will certainly make it easier for cyclists and pedestrians to move around.

Map: © OpenStreetMap kartoittajat



AI-RADIO

Nordic's First Fully AI-Produced Radio Channel Launched in Finland

Finland's AI Radio began its operations as a web radio channel on Wednesday, November 29, 2023. Bauer Media takes a significant step in the audio market by launching the Nordic's first radio channel whose content is entirely produced using artificial intelligence. This innovation combines technology and entertainment and strengthens Bauer's position as a pioneer in the audio industry.

"We are excited and proud to introduce the Nordic's first AI Radio to the market. This is an exciting milestone in the radio industry and a testament to our commitment to delivering new and innovative content to our listeners in the future," says Sami Tenkanen, CEO of Bauer Media.

In the initial phase, AI Radio's content consists of the following features:

Audio productions produced with the assistance of artificial intelligence

Nationally significant traffic announcements produced by AI

National weather warnings for inclement weather, produced by AI Entertainment news read by AI from the entertainment portal Voice.fi.

New features for AI Radio are planned continuously to keep it interesting and relevant to its listeners. Advertisers are also considered through innovative audio advertising solutions.



An image made by AI showing what an AI radio looks like

"This launch represents Bauer's commitment to innovation and leveraging the latest technology to develop the radio business. We will continue to actively work on development even after the launch to offer listeners even more personalized and tailored experiences in the radio industry," says Sini Kervinen, Head of Innovation.

AI Radio is also expanding to FM frequencies. In Helsinki, the channel can be heard on frequency 102.0 MHz and in Kangasala on frequency 101.6 MHz until April 8. The channel can also be listened to online on <https://radioplay.fi/tekoalradio/>

BIOGRAPHICAL LIBRARY



A story about the opera singer Irma Rewell is to be found in the library

Women's Voice ("Naisten Ääni") project: Stories of a thousand women added to the biographical library

Women's Voice project: Stories of a thousand women added to the biographical library At least 50 stories related to Vaasa!

The history of Finnish society and culture has largely been built on people's actions and influence, but the role of women in this story has often been neglected. The actions, influences and life experiences of women have been surprisingly little recorded in the collective memory. To change this, the Women's Voice project has been born, which aims to make women's stories and influence part of the Finnish historical narrative.

The Women's Voice online publication, launched in 2017 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Finland's independence, is part of the effort launched by the Finnish Women's League to produce extensive material on the lives of Finnish women and their impact on society. At the heart of the project is the desire to produce and disseminate

information about what women have done, how they have contributed to the development of society, how they have lived and how they have overcome life's challenges.

In spring 2024, the thousandth biography was published, and many more have been added since then. At least fifty stories tell about women from Vaasa or women whose lives are connected to our city.

Mention should be made of a few well-known Vaasa residents whose biography can be found in the Women's Voice library: Irma Rewell, Ritva Hyöky, Eeva Kauppi, Alexandra Frosterus-Sältin, Rosina Heikel,

Diverse participation in the online publication is welcome, and national, local and family women are welcome to participate. The aim is to highlight different stories and experiences: everyday heroines, those who have toiled in organisational work, visible and invisible, loud and silent. We want to compile material that reflects the diverse contribution of Finnish women to society and culture.

You can write new biographical articles for the Women's Voice online publication or copy previously published articles in the journals of women's organisations, as long as the original publisher has permission to republish. In addition, we challenge organisations and individual citizens to participate in collecting and documenting women's stories in their own communities. The aim is to make the Women's Voice project a show of women's strength and at the same time create a unique set of data on the lives of Finnish women.

The Join us page contains more thoughts and ideas on how each of us can participate in the Women's Voice project and make the stories of Finnish women more visible and meaningful. Join us and help us tell the unforgettable stories of Finnish women! The Women's Voice library is online permanently and will also serve researchers for decades to come – or centuries!

Here you can find the Women's Voice biographical library: <https://www.naistenaani.fi/>

HEALTH

Don't Juice Up Your Weight Gain: Daily Fruit Juice May Not Be Your Friend



For many, reaching for a glass of 100% fruit juice seems like a healthy choice. However, a new study suggests that daily consumption of fruit juice might be linked to weight gain in both children and adults.

Researchers reviewed dozens of existing studies on fruit juice and body weight. While the results weren't entirely conclusive, some trends emerged.

Children and Weight Gain: The study found a clear link between daily fruit juice intake and increasing Body Mass Index (BMI) in children. Each additional serving of juice per day was associated with a slightly higher BMI gain.

Adults and Weight Gain: The picture for adults was less clear-cut. Studies that didn't account for overall calorie intake showed a connection between daily juice and weight gain. However, studies that considered total calorie consumption did not find a significant association. This suggests that the potential weight gain may be due to the extra calories in juice, not the juice itself.

The Takeaway: While more research is needed, this study adds to growing evidence that suggests limiting sugary drinks, including 100% fruit juice, could be beneficial for weight management.

Here's Why Juice Might Not Be the Best Choice:

- **High in Sugar:** Even though it's natural sugar, fruit juice can be quite concentrated. This means a single serving can contain a significant amount of calories, which can contribute to weight gain.

- **Missing Fiber:** Unlike whole fruit, juice lacks the filling fiber that helps you feel satisfied. This can lead to overconsumption of calories throughout the day.

So, what should you do?

- **Focus on Whole Fruits:** Choose whole fruits instead of juice whenever possible. Whole fruits provide essential vitamins, minerals, and fiber, keeping you feeling fuller for longer.

- **Limit Juice Intake:** If you do enjoy juice, make it an occasional treat, not a daily habit. Consider diluting it with water to reduce the sugar content.

- **Be Mindful of Portion Sizes:** Even with whole fruit, be mindful of portion sizes.

Remember: Water is always the best beverage choice for hydration and overall health.

Source: JAMA Pediatr 2024 Mar 1;178(3):237-246. Consumption of 100% Fruit Juice and Body Weight in Children and Adults: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis. Michelle Nguyen et al.

HISTORY

The Freemasons Tomb in the Kaisaniemi Park, Helsinki

This fenced tomb in the northern part of Kaisaniemi Park (near the Botanical Garden fence) rests Major Fredrik Granatenhjelm (1708 - 1784). Fredrik Granatenhjelm was one of the first Freemasons in Finland at the time, although this is not entirely certain. He wanted to be buried in this place, where he had often walked.

Freemasonry had come to Finland in 1777.

After Finland came under Russian rule, Masonic organizations were banned in 1821. But there were Freemasons in Finland even before the country gained independence, and in 1908 meetings began at the grave of Major Granatenhjelm. An official meeting was held to cherish the memory of the Major, secretly at the meetings there were plans to begin Masonic work when circumstances permitted.

The grave of Major Fredrik Granatenhjelm is the oldest monument in Helsinki. The stone does not bear his name, but the inscription: "Lika godt / om verden vet hvem här hvilar / alt nog / Gud k  ner hvad Han gjort / och / v  lsignar / HANS minne". ("Just as well, does the world know who rests here. Yes, God knows his works and blesses his memory.")



ART EXHIBITION

New Exhibition Opening at Kuntsi Museum for Modern Art: "Bodies and Moments – Three Perspectives on the Kuntsi Collection"



KAUKO LEHTINEN: *Summer clouds*, 1967. Acrylic on canvas. Photo: Mikko Lehtimäki.

On May 5, 2024, Kuntsi Museum for Modern Art will unveil its latest exhibition, "Bodies and Moments – Three Perspectives on the Kuntsi Collection." This exhibition offers a diverse overview of the foundation's collection from the viewpoints of three curators. Featuring nearly 200 works, the exhibition occupies the entire museum space and includes pieces loaned from sources outside the foundation's collection.

Every three years, Kuntsi Foundation, established in 1970, presents an exhibition based on its collection at its eponymous museum. The current exhibition, "Bodies and Moments – Three Perspectives on the Kuntsi Collection," is curated by the foundation's board members: Dr. Leevi Haapala, Dean of the Academy of Fine Arts; Teemu Mäki, Chairman of the Artists' Guild in Finland; and Anne-Maj Salin, the Foundation's representative and museum director emerita.

A Surrealist Continuum from Classics to Contemporary Art

Leevi Haapala's section of the exhibition explores the transition from surrealism to contemporary art. Highlighting surrealism within the Kuntsi collection, Haapala traces its influence on contemporary works and subsequent art trends. The exhibition begins with European surrealism classics and progresses to contemporary art, featuring artists exploring urban life, constructivism, and pop art.

In addition to collection pieces, Haapala has selected works by Helsinki-based contemporary artist Antti Ruuhela to engage in dialogue with the collection.

A Multidimensional Perspective
Teemu Mäki's section is divided into four themes, addressing the celebration of everyday life, the grotesque body, societal statements in art, and the outer essence of humanity. Mäki's curation spans sections titled "An Ode to Everyday Life – Paradise Is Here and Now," "A Grotesque Body (is a Living Body)," "Art as a Hammer – Beyond Human," and "More Than Human."

Mäki's section features works from the Artists' Guild in Finland's collections and pieces loaned by artist Eeva Honkanen, as well as a work by the curator himself. The loans aim to enrich the section and demonstrate the relevance of the foundation's collection to contemporary art.

Central Works Narrating Moments and Encounters

Anne-Maj Salin has selected a collection of iconic works for the exhibition, focusing on moments, situations, and atmospheres depicted in the artwork. Salin emphasizes how familiar pieces can evoke new experiences and thoughts in different contexts, underscoring the enduring relevance of quality artwork.

Approximately two hundred works will be on display at the exhibition, showcasing both Finnish contemporary art and rarely exhibited pieces by international artists from the foundation's collection. The exhibition runs from May 5 to October 6, 2024, at Kuntsi Museum for Modern Art. (VAASA.FI)

ART EXHIBITION

The Mystical East - Tikanoja Art Exhibition 18.5 - 27.10.2024

An extensive art and cultural history exhibition at Tikanoja Art Home sheds light on images of the mystical East

The exhibition, which opens at Tikanoja Art Home for the summer, sheds light on images of Eastern spirituality in Finnish art from the 1800s to the present day with cultural-historical artefacts and nearly a hundred works. The exhibition presents numerous works by Vaasa-born Ilona Harima, some of which are on display for the first time in public.

Images of the mystical East and Eastern spirituality have been produced and reproduced in Western culture for centuries. For example, yoga, meditation, oriental dance or Eastern religions have served as inspirations for many artists. The exhibition at Tikanoja Art Home presents the theme in Finnish art since the 1800s through cultural-historical artefacts and nearly a hundred works.

The exhibition is based on a research project by Nina Kokkinen, Postdoctoral Researcher at the Donner Institute. He has explored artists' interest in Eastern spirituality, which is connected not only to concepts related to Buddhism, Hinduism and Asian culture in general, but also to a strong plot of esoteric spirituality.

"Many discussions related to Eastern spirituality were also linked to Theosophy in Finland, which artists became interested in already at the end of the 1800s," says Kokkinen,



Ilona Harima, *Hamsa*. Picture: Noora Lehtovuori. Vasa bildbank

whose research has previously led to the production of several exhibition projects.

A genuine desire to understand

Tikanoja Art Home features works by Ilona Harima, an artist who is important for Eastern spirituality, some of which belong to Tikanoja's art collection. Harima was a theosophist, a co-Freemason, and he was also one of the founding members of Finland's first Buddhist association. Harima painted oriental miniatures from the 1930s onwards, using Tibetan Buddhist imagery, among other things.

The exhibition also presents Akseli Gallen-Kallela's art and objects he has collected from his travels. In the shadows of colonialism, a great deal of exotic artefacts were brought to Europe, which often ended up in museum collections and studio interiors. The exhibition highlights the problematic images of Eastern spirituality, but also

the artists' genuine desire to understand and learn about other cultures. Lately, Eastern spirituality has blended into popular culture and the diverse terrain of neo-spirituality. It lives in people's minds as a longing for aesthetics, escapism, and a desire to look at life from a spiritual perspective. The exhibition also includes works by contemporary artists such as Outi Heiskanen, J. O. Mallander and Silja Rantanen, which draw on Eastern traditions and philosophies – and offer perspectives on spiritual growth and freeing oneself from the chains of the mind.

Rare discoveries through art mapping

For the exhibition, a national survey of works has been carried out, especially of the works of women artists connected to Vaasa. In addition to Ilona Harima, works by Eva Bremer, Meri Genetz and Lyyli Visanti have been mapped. Works that have emerged from public and private collections (Vaasa.fi)

Kaleva Games in Vaasa 27-30.6

Vaasa prepares for the Kaleva Games: Karlsplan is being prepared for competition



Kaleva Competition 2018 - 3000 m, Jyväskylä

From left to right: Sandra Eriksson, Camilla Richardsson, Astrid Snäll, Linnea Harala, Lotta Mäkinen, Emma Hakala, Hilikka Kontro, Pihla Hokkanen, Amanda Virtanen, Oona-Mari Hakulinen, Mona Af Forselles, Janna Hautala.

Image Tuomas Vitikainen. Wikimedia Commons.

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The Finnish Athletics Championships, Kalevan, will take place in Vaasa on 27–30 June 2024, according to a press release from the city. It is one of Finland's leading national sports events, and the City of Vaasa has been preparing for the event for several years.

The Kaleva Games are expected to attract about 20,000 visitors to Vaasa. The implementation of the event requires significant cooperation from the sports clubs in the region. The main organizer is Vaa-

sa Sports Society in cooperation with Palosaaren Urheiluseura, Vaasan Toverit, Vaasan Vasama, Vähänkylän Viesti and IF Femman.

Mika Lehtonen, Head of Sports Activities, says that the City of Vaasa has started preparing for the event already several years ago.

One of the most visible improvements is the installation of a new scoreboard at Karlsplan, which replaced the old one last year.

"The new digital scoreboard is a 14.7 x 5.8 metre LED screen, where we can show, in addition to results, live broadcasts from the pitch and replays in slow motion. The old painting was mechanical," says Lehtonen.

"It's quite cold in the main stand because it's in the shade. The glass walls will reduce the draught and wind, Lehtonen explains.

The running tracks on the pitch will be washed and the lines will be repainted. In addition, minor repairs will be carried out across the entire plan, and old power and data cables will be replaced with new ones.

The equipment and equipment on the pitch must also be in good condition for the competition.

"We update equipment such as javelins, bullets, crossbars and scaffolding. After the Kaleva Games, everyone who uses the pitch will be able to benefit from the new equipment, Lehtonen says.

The event will have a significant impact on traffic, and temporary traffic arrangements and parking areas have already been planned for a long time. More information on this will be provided closer to the event.

The Kaleva Games also extend beyond Karlsplan.

"The women's and men's walking competitions will take place on the new pedestrian and cycling track in the beautiful seaside environment of Onkilahti," says Lehtonen.

The Kaleva Games will feature both top national athletes and promising young talents. The competition takes place between the European Championships and the Olympic Games, so it is possible that we will also see Finnish medalists from the European Athletics Championships in Rome at Karlsplan.

"We hope that the people of Vaasa will mark the Kaleva Games on their calendars and gather in large numbers to follow the competitions," says Lehtonen.

The Budapest memorandum

Budapest Memorandum 1994: Upholding Ukraine's Borders

In the wake of the dissolution of the Soviet Union, Ukraine found itself at a pivotal moment in its history, charting a course towards independence and sovereignty. Among the agreements that emerged during this transformative period, the Budapest Memorandum stands out as a symbol of international commitment to safeguarding Ukraine's territorial integrity.

Signed in 1994, the Budapest Memorandum on Security Assurances was a landmark diplomatic pact involving Ukraine, Russia, the United States, and the United Kingdom. At its core lay a crucial promise: the signatories pledged to respect the sovereignty and existing borders of Ukraine, reaffirming their commitment to the principles of non-aggression and refraining from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of Ukraine.

The memorandum represented a significant diplomatic achievement for Ukraine, offering reassurance in a time of uncertainty and vulnerability. It provided a framework for Ukraine's security and stability, underpinned by the collective assurances of major global powers.

However, the Budapest Memorandum's significance would be tested in the years to come, particularly in the context of Russia's annexation of Crimea in 2014 and its ongoing involvement in the conflict in eastern Ukraine. These events underscored the complexities and challenges of international diplomacy, raising questions about the efficacy of agreements like

the Budapest Memorandum in a rapidly evolving geopolitical landscape.

In the aftermath of Russia's actions, there were calls for the signatories of the Budapest Memorandum to honor their commitments and take concrete steps to support Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity. Yet, the response from the international community remained varied, reflecting divergent interests and geopolitical calculations.

For Ukraine, the Budapest Memorandum served as both a source of hope and frustration. While it represented a vital pillar of its security architecture, the failure of some signatories to uphold their obligations highlighted the limitations of diplomatic assurances in the face of determined aggression.

Despite these challenges, the Budapest Memorandum endures as a symbol of international solidarity and the imperative of upholding the principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity. Its legacy serves as a reminder of the enduring importance of diplomacy in resolving conflicts and advancing peace and security in an interconnected world.

Russia Disrespected the Budapest Memorandum

The Budapest Memorandum of 1994 was an agreement between Russia, Ukraine, the United States, and the United Kingdom. In the agreement, Russia pledged to respect Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity, including its borders. The memorandum was a significant milestone in shaping European security after the fall of the Soviet Union.

However, Russia has failed to uphold its

commitments under the Budapest Memorandum. In 2014, Russia annexed Crimea, a peninsula belonging to Ukraine. In 2022, Russia launched a full-scale invasion of Ukraine, resulting in a humanitarian crisis and thousands of casualties.

Several reasons explain Russia's disregard for the Budapest Memorandum. Firstly, Russia has long held an imperialist view of Ukraine. It considers Ukraine part of its "historical sphere of influence" and has opposed Ukraine's aspirations to become an independent democratic nation.

Secondly, Russia has become increasingly authoritarian in recent years. President Vladimir Putin has consolidated power and cracked down on any dissent. This makes it difficult for Russia to cooperate with other countries in good faith.

Thirdly, Russia holds a revisionist view of international law. It believes it has the right to use force to achieve its goals, even if it violates international laws and norms.

Russia's breaches of the Budapest Memorandum have severe consequences for European security. It demonstrates that Russia is not a reliable partner and is willing to use violence to achieve its objectives. This has heightened tensions in Europe and complicated the construction of a stable and peaceful security order.

The international community must respond decisively to Russia's violations of the Budapest Memorandum. Russia needs to be held accountable for its actions, and there must be clear repercussions for its aggression. Additionally, the international community needs to work towards supporting Ukraine and aiding its reconstruction efforts in the aftermath of the war.

The Budapest Memorandum serves as a stark reminder of the importance of international law and respecting a state's sovereignty and territorial integrity. Russia's violations pose a serious challenge to European security, demanding a strong and unified response from the international community.

RUSSIA'S STRANGE DIPLOMATIC LANGUAGE

The Kremlin mocks its opponents

When tensions between the two countries increase – as in recent years between Russia and Ukraine – it is common for the aggressor to ridicule its counterpart. We have seen examples of this. Russian state television is doing its best to spoil Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky and the Ukrainian leadership. According to the Kremlin, Zelensky is a Nazi, a drug addict, a clown, a liar, a traitor, a criminal, a psychopath.

lenskyy on the battlefield, so they resort to personal attacks in an attempt to discredit him. However, these attacks only hook and further strengthen Zelenskyy's determination and the unity of the Ukrainian people.

Then there is reason enough to say that the President of Ukraine is not the only one exposed to derogatory and mocking adjectives. The German leader is a "sausage maker" and the leader of the USA is a senile dementia elderly.

This is not a new phenomenon. In particular, the word clown seems to be popular in the Kremlin when someone dares to oppose plans to conquer Russia. On 26.11.1939, a few days before the start of the Winter War, Pravda published the following sensational article about Finnish Prime Minister Aimo Kaarlo Cajander:

"Finland's government fears appearing before the country's parliament. Instead, Prime Minister Cajander, on November 23, happily performed at a concert. The music played, the prime minister gave a speech. Finland's citizens must be entertained in their current sad situation. Cajander tried



Aimo Kaarlo Cajander

to entertain the audience as best he could. He displayed clownish talent. Cajander turned the concert venue into a simple circus arena. Like Pelle Jöns, he somersaulted, spoke non-sense, stood on his head, walked around the arena on his hands.

First, he dragged out several portraits of Russian tsars onto the arena and bowed down to these images. These humble bows he performed with the ingrained subservience of a born servant. He spoke of 'the policy beneficial to Finland, followed by Alexander I and Alex-

ander II and approved by all the people of Finland.' Then Pelle Jöns stood on his head and threatened the Soviet Union with one of his feet because Moscow was thinking of threatening Finland's independence. It was truly a majestic attitude!

It is known that the Russian tsars, whether named Alexander or Nikolai, suppressed all attempts by the Finnish people to gain independence in every way. The tsarist policy, which aimed to oppress, subjugate, and paralyze the people, was only accepted by the reactionary-minded,

corrupt Finnish bourgeoisie. Cajander et consortes served the Russian tsars as faithful lackeys and court jesters. When tsarism was overthrown by the people's fatal blow, the temporary government refused to grant Finland independence. For this independence, the Bolsheviks Lenin and Stalin fought in cooperation with the Finnish people. From the Soviet government, the Finnish people have received their independence, which Finland's bourgeoisie always displays and still sells as a commodity on the market of imperialism. Such are the facts.

Cajander believes that when he makes his somersaults, the world goes off the rails. A ridiculous illusion! Pelle Jöns makes his somersaults, but the facts stand unyieldingly where they stand. This whole pathetic comedy is played out only to avoid answering the Finnish people's question to its ridiculous, intrigue-ridden government: why have Latvia, Estonia, and Lithuania concluded treaties with the Soviet government guaranteeing their independence, peace, and secure work, while the Finnish government has interrupted negotiations and caused anxiety and worry for the Finnish people? Here one cannot avoid the issue by just dodging. Cajander makes somersaults, crows like a rooster, suddenly bursts into tears. He cries, moans, tears his clothes to pieces, strikes around with the words of a circus clown, scatters ashes.

Not on his own head, but on the heads of the ministers of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. Through tears, Cajander cries out: 'These three vigorous Baltic states,

Statsministern skymfas grovt av rysk officiös

Otillständigt angrepp i Pravda.

Moskvatidningen Pravda, sovjetregeringens språkrör framom andra, publicerar i sitt gårdagsnummer en skymfartikkel utan like i anledning av statsminister Cajanders senaste tal kring förhållandet Finland-Ryssland, en artikel, som i sin utomordentligt groteska utformning utgör en egendomlig replik till statsministerns av vilja till samförstånd präglade anförande. Vi återge

Hufvudstadsbladet den 27.11.1939

which had a brilliant future ahead of them, have suddenly been transformed from independent states into realms more or less dependent on the Soviet Union. D

This has made a crushing impression on us Finns." Cajander weeps for the political leaders of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania. They have turned out, you see, to be very shortsighted. But Pelle Jöns in the role of prime minister, behold, he is farsighted. He is a politician who has been schooled by the far-sighted Beck, by the clear-sighted Moscicki. May he experience how they feel, these Polish Pelle Jöns, who have forever lost their commitment. Soon enough, Cajander may have the opportunity to realize that it is not the Finnish government's puppets who are foresighted, but Estonia's, Latvia's, and Lithuania's current leaders, who have concluded agreements with the Soviet Union guaranteeing the independence of these states.

But Cajander and his cronies cannot avoid giving the Finnish people the answer they increasingly demand.

Why have you, gentlemen Cajander and your associates, interrupted the negotiations? The people have not demanded this of you. Who has demanded that the negotiations be interrupted? Finland's prime minister wriggles like an eel, he cries and snivels and wipes the tears from his dirty face: "As much as we have tried to find a common basis for our negotiations, they have nevertheless been temporarily interrupted.

This must be regretted all the more as Finland sincerely wishes to maintain good relations with all its neighbors." Cajander "regrets"! Cajander "has temporarily" interrupted the negotiations! Cajander sheds crocodile tears. Crocodile tears are said to be the most deceitful, the most vile, the most disgusting in the whole world. But even more repulsive, even more vile, even more deceitful are the tears shed by Pelle Jöns as he imitates the crocodile. It is a perversion of a reptile that lacks sharp teeth, that lacks strength, but is full of the cunning and voracity of a little predator.

And yet Cajander and his henchmen will not escape answering the question that the Finnish people increasingly threateningly pose to them, as they see the country being drawn into a shameful and dangerous game by provocateurs. Why have you, Cajander and your gang, interrupted the negotiations? You are "independent" (?) only of the Finnish people, who in fact seek the friendship of the Soviet people. Who, then, are you dependent on? Whose will do you fulfill, whose instructions do you follow? And Pelle Jöns in the prime minister's office runs anxiously,

cowardly around, letting his faded eyes wander in all directions and swearing to God: "Finland has not been in need and has not received instructions from other states. By God, it has not received any!" A clown's oath, invoking God!

The receipt for "foreign states' instructions" having been fulfilled has been published. It is found in the English imperialist press's approval of Cajander's speech. The Daily Herald pats its Finnish Pelle Jöns friendly on the shoulder: "you have done well, dear brother".

Can one then be surprised that Cajander and his entourage have not found "a common basis" with the Soviet government? Pelle Jöns performs his somersaults on the warlike imperialism's "general platform," lets the jazz orchestra clang, lets the saxophone jam, lets the circus director's whip whistle.

Will this political circus continue for a long time? We must hope: not too long. We must hope that the Finnish people will not allow puppets like Cajander and his associates to steer Finland's ship of state further towards the brink of destruction, where Beck and Moscicki have suffered shipwreck."

This text's Swedish translation was published in Hufvudstadsbladet on November 27, 1939. In Pravda, it was published on November 26, incidentally the same day as the shots in Maimila were fired, evidently by the Russian side.

Our paper one year ago:



Printed 1 €
Free on the Net

ISSN 2954-2456

WASA DAILY - a modern newspaper with a layout from the 1870s. At that time, most newspapers had this format, corresponding to A4, and 4 pages. Lots of text, but no pictures at all, so there's a lot to read in 4 pages. The newspaper contains quotes from old daily newspapers, taken from the National Archives (digi.kansalliskirjasto.fi). GPT3 does some of the routine editorial work. Wasa Daily will continue to be published on Sunday mornings, but our aim is that it will eventually be published every day. The magazine can be read online for free, printed single issues cost 1 €. Advertising price 6 €/ millimeter, but standard ads are cheaper (25 mm high=140 €, 50 mm = 280 €, 75 mm=400 €. Repeated ads = 50% discount). Send ads to wasadagblad@gmail.com as jpg, tiff or png, the advertisements are then reduced to a column width of 46 mm. If the advertisement does not fit, we will contact you (space is limited). Editor-in-Chief: Hans Björknäs. Mail: Wasa Dagblad, Skolhusgatan 37 B 7, 65100 Vasa, telephone +358 40-5462455. E-mail: wasadagblad@gmail.com

Вітаємо всіх українців у Ваасі! Сподіваємося, вам тут сподобається і навіть залишитеся після закінчення війни в Україні! A warm welcome to all Ukrainians in Vaasa! We hope you will enjoy yourself here and even stay after the war in Ukraine is over!

NEWS

XXIX Vaasa Choir Festival TODAY

There's still time for today's closing concert!

The final concert of the Vaasa Choir Festival once again brings together festival participants and main performers in the traditional way.

Take advantage of this opportunity, here is a chance to enjoy some really great choral singing, Vaasa City Hall on Sunday 21 May 2023 at 14:00

14.00-14.15 Damkören Quinnto

14.15-14.35 Cawiar

14.35-15.00 Chamber Choir Kamppi Song

15.00-15.20 - Intermission -

15.20-15.40 Southern Ostrobothnia Male Singers Jussit

15.40-16:00 to Wasa Sångargille

Ticket €25, Pensioners, students €20 Choir members €15

Vaasa's XXIX Choir Festival - a success!

Vaasa - a great music city. Lots of music all summer long!

So this week we started with the choir festival, led by its artistic director Kristian Heberg.

A few numbers and other information:

- 170 free appearances

- more than 80 choirs



Here we are:
www.vpress.ovh



Art experience of the week

The national art gallery Ateneum opened its doors in mid-April after a long renovation. In May 5 the Albert Edelfelt exhibition was opened.

Albert Edelfelt was a Finnish painter who lived from 1854 to 1905. He was a prominent figure in the Finnish art scene, and his works continue to be celebrated and studied to this day. Edelfelt's paintings reflect the beauty and simplicity of Finnish life, and his ability to capture the essence of his subjects is what sets him apart as one of Finland's greatest artists.

This famous painting, "Boys playing on the shore" was painted in 1884, and can be seen in the exhibition.

- about 1700 participants
- long nonstop concerts at the Rewell center.

- concerts in three churches, Palosaari church, Vaasa church and Orthodox church.

Next year, the Choir Festival will be organized for the thirtieth time. We'll be waiting!

VAASA

HITACHI INVESTS IN VASA

The factory burned down, but it will be rebuilt and even better and more efficient.

It's great that an international company trusts Vaasa!

WELFARE AREA and €345,000

The Ostrobothnian welfare area has budgeted €345,000 for political party support. This money is not needed in the care of patients it was decided.

True Finns and KD do not accept this money. This sum would have been enough for the salary of 10 nurses. But the welfare state chooses to give them to the political parties, which have long enjoyed party support from the state.

In Vasabladet, Asko Salminen from the True Finns says: "There is no need for a party support like this, but this money should be used for health care. Those of us who sit in the welfare area council get meeting fees. I don't understand why the parties should get extra support."

According to Vasabladet, political parties received a smaller amount of money last year, i.e. €4,000 per representative. Several parties did not find any reasonable use for the money and returned some of it. Still, the Welfare Region raised the amount of money to be donated to the parties to €6,000 this year. This money would certainly have been



Photo Supplement on pages 7-10

HUMOR ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

LUMP COLLECTOR

The rag collector: "Have you any rags to sell 1 day?"

The Lord: "No, my wife has gone to the country."

"Then maybe there are some tomb bottles to buy?"

PELLES' PHILOSOPHY

Pelle (who was hit by his mother); "Think, father, how we would have had a good time and been allowed to do as we pleased, if you had not married mother!'"

PUTTE WANTS MEDICINE FROM GRANDMA

MODERN: "But, Putte dä, why do you only want medicine from grandma and not from me?"

PUTTE: "Well, you know, mom, grandma's hand shakes so!"

NEWS

A; "You must have written in your newspaper that I am a fake gambler and a fraud! B: .Impossible! My magazine only contains news!"

BORN TO DANCE

"Don't you think, captain, that one must be born to dance?"

"Sure. . . I have never seen an unborn dance".

THE MORE YOU GET, THE MORE YOU WANT

"It's quite peculiar, the more you get, the more you want!" "Listen, tell me one thing! Have you ever had twins?"

WITH A MAN ON THE BEACH

Him: A week ago you had no idea that you would now be sitting on the beach with a man you didn't know at all.

Her: Well, I probably did.

Him: But dear little friend, you didn't know me then.

She: No, but I knew myself

WOMEN'S CLOTHING

Nothing dresses a woman better than nothing.

NERVOUS LADY

An anxious, nervous woman, accompanied by her husband, approached the station inspector at a small outlying railway station and asked: "Has the quarter-past train leaving already?"

»Yes, ten minutes ago,« was the reply. "When does the four-and-twenty train come?"

»It takes quite a while.«

»And before doos there are no trains at all?«

"No."

»And not any passenger trains?«

"No."

»Some freight train then?«

»No, no trains at all.« "Is it absolutely safe?"

»Yes, absolutely sure!«

"Then, John, can we cross the track."

Mrs. BROWN

The pastor's wife is visiting Mrs. Brown and tells, among other things:

- I just received a letter that my son received a scholarship.

- I am really very happy. I understand your feelings so well. I used to feel exactly the same way, when our pig won first prize at the farm meeting.

IN SCHOOL

- Was it you, Hans, who wrote on the board: "The teacher is a donkey".

- Yes it was.

- Well, it pleases me in any case that you stick to the truth.

TWO ANECDOTES ABOUT KANT

Two anecdotes about Kant, which prove his great presence of mind, are

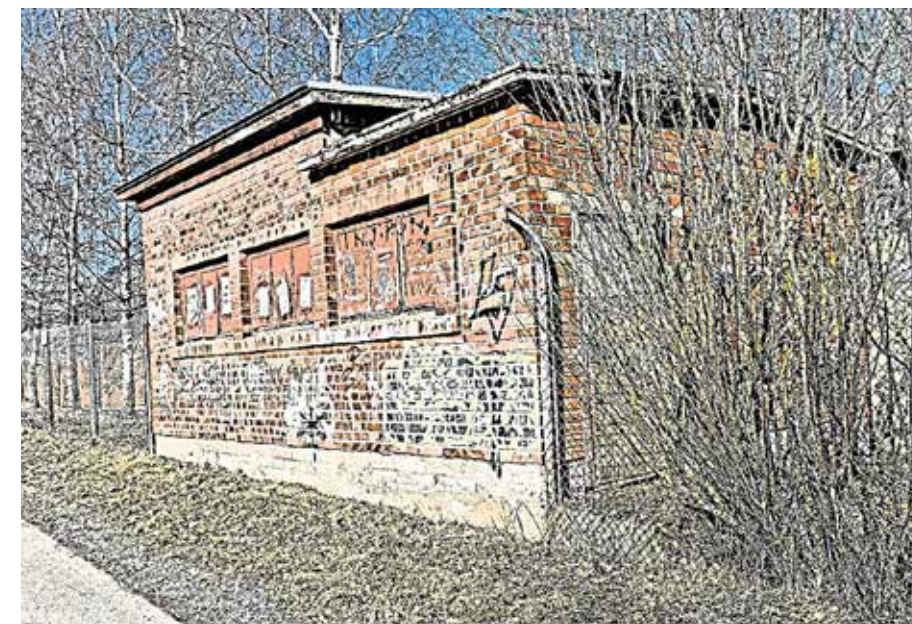
reported by Otto Schöndörffer in the "Philosophischer Almanach" dedicated to Kant's memory. Kant once followed his habit of equanimity and strolled on the so-called Philosopherdamm near Pregel, lost in deep thought. Then suddenly a man rushed up to him with a large butcher's knife in his hand and shouted: I must butcher you!

Kant saw at once that he was dealing with an insane butcher's flock. He therefore calmly and firmly said to him: "You are mistaken, dear friend!" Today is not slaughter day. It's Wednesday, because slaughter day is on Friday. Namely, there were specific days of the week established for butchers to slaughter on. The madman started and laughed confusedly; You're right.

He let the already menacingly raised arm drop and slowly withdrew.

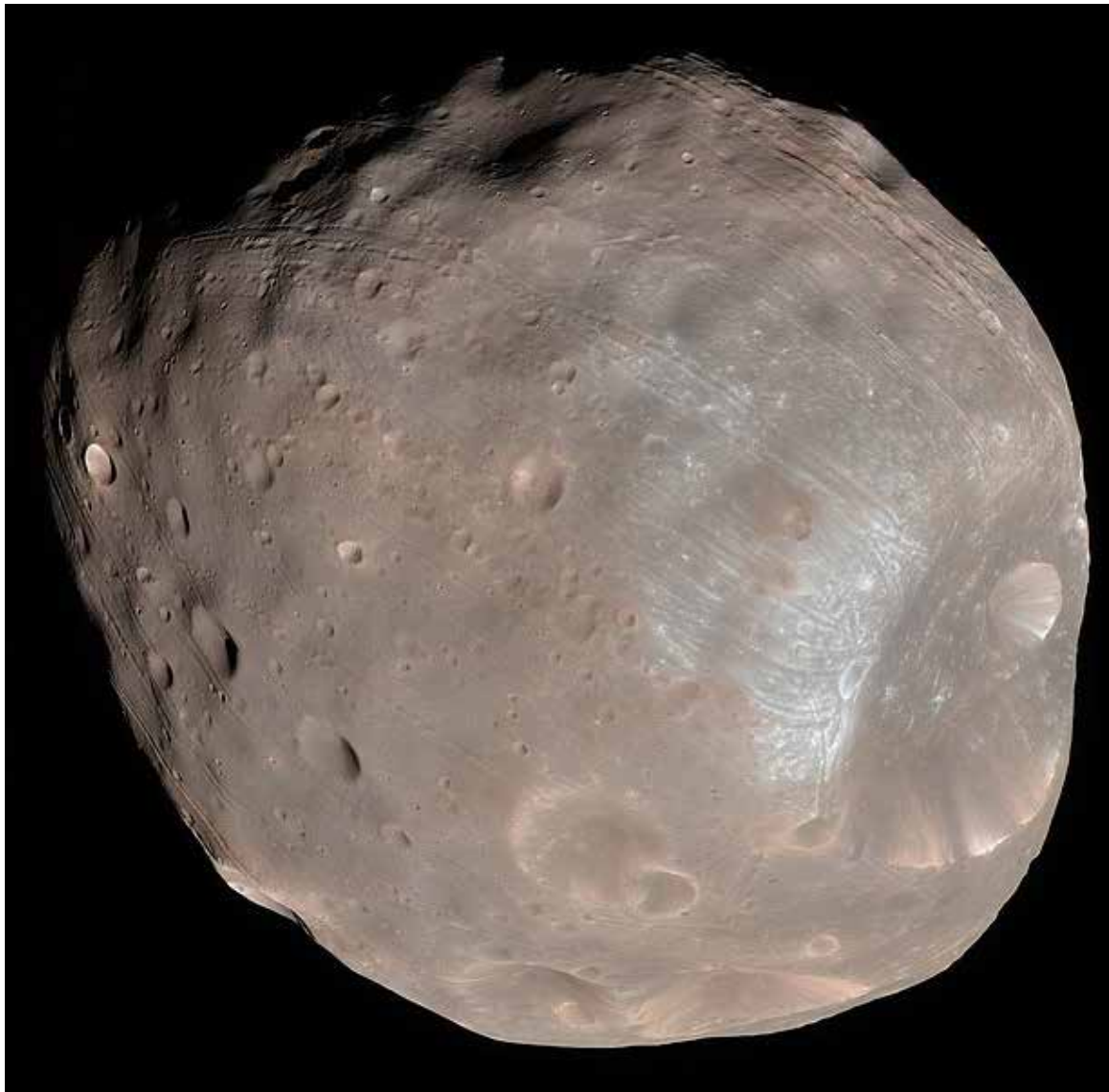
Another time the philosopher was walking through a narrow and crooked street in the old Königsberg, when suddenly two galloping horses rushed towards him. Kant did not have time to turn away, which was otherwise impossible on the narrow street. Now he had once read that horses never touched people who were lying on the ground, but that even during the fastest race they did not touch them. He therefore threw himself hastily down on the ground, and indeed the two horses dashed away over him without injuring him in the least.

What house is this?



Last weeks house:
The Governors House
PhotoScetch

This weeks astronomical picture:



Phobos colour 2008.jpg

Color image of Phobos, imaged by the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter on 23 March 2008.

The illuminated part of Phobos seen in the images is about 21 kilometers (13 miles) across. The most prominent feature in the images is the large crater Stickney in the lower right. With a diameter of 9 kilometers (5.6 miles), it is the largest feature on Phobos.

NASA / JPL-Caltech / University of Arizona

Public domain

Next week:



From our readers

We very much welcome submissions from our readers. Comments, stories, memories, debate, news from home. Probably this will be the most important part of this spring paper. But space is limited, so please write as short as possible! So please send posts to: wasadagblad@gmail.com

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