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Volume 3:4 April 13, 2026

Everybody's Talking!

Chilly challenge: Each year, a record-breaking snow maze brings winter magic to visitors in St. Adolphe, Manitoba (Canada). Built on the site of a corn maze, this frosty labyrinth attracts thousands eager to weave through its towering, castle-like walls. The maze, certified as the world's largest, is crafted from compacted snow using specialized equipment and determination. Even on the coldest days, its thick walls offer shelter from the wind, making the experience surprisingly cozy. Beyond the maze, visitors can enjoy sleigh rides, a snow hill, and a giant igloo serving hot drinks. This annual tradition shows that a little snow and a lot of imagination can turn a chilly day into a winter wonderland.

Glowing bay: The waters of Mosquito Bay, on the island of Vieques, Puerto Rico, glow with an otherworldly light once darkness falls. The shimmering effect comes from countless microscopic organisms that emit a radiant blue-green hue when disturbed. Recognized globally for its intensity, the bay is often described as one of the planet's brightest examples of bioluminescence. Kayakers drift across the still surface, each movement sending soft waves of light rippling outward. Because the phenomenon is fragile, local guides limit activity to protect its delicate balance. The glowing bay continues to draw visitors from around the world eager to witness this rare natural spectacle firsthand.

Language wiring: The language a person learns early in life seems to shape how their brain connects and processes information. In a study comparing native speakers of German and Arabic, scientists found distinct differences in white matter, the brain's wiring that links regions for understanding and producing speech. German speakers showed stronger connections on one side, while Arabic speakers had more cross-hemisphere communication. Researchers believe these patterns reflect each language's grammar and sound structure. The results suggest that growing up with a language leaves lasting physical traces in the brain, revealing how closely language and thought are connected.

Labor legacy: In Winsted, Connecticut (U.S.), a massive indoor mural stands as a tribute to a variety of trades and professions. Measuring about 120 feet (37 m) long and five stories high, it ranks among the largest indoor artworks ever created. Artist Ellen Griesedieck conceived the project after watching an aircraft engine being fitted into place, inspiring her to capture the pride and scale of human work. Combining painting and sculpture, it portrays real people in everyday roles, from firefighters and farmers to steelworkers and teachers. Supported by craftspeople and donors who contributed materials, the mural continues to grow, echoing the same collaboration it depicts.

Quoteable Quotes

"Let the improvement of yourself keep you so busy that you have no time to criticize others." —Roy T. Bennett

"No act of kindness, however small, is ever wasted." —Aesop

What's Happening

Toastmasters meet weekly, 7PM Okanagan College, #131, 2552 10 Ave NE. Build confidence, meet friends, improve communication. Come to learn, stay for the fun.

Men's Shed Salmon Arm is all about men helping men in the community. Please join us for dinner and lively discussion every Monday, 6PM, at Wing's Kitchen Restaurant, 21 Shuswap St N. Salmon Arm. For more information you may also contact Club Secretary, Richard Anderson at salmonarmshed@gmail.com

Do you have an event you wish to advertise free?
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Trivia

1. Sherlock Holmes took care of this insect in his retirement.
2. Bronze consists primarily of copper and tin—T/F?
3. Which ancient culture harvested the papyrus plant to make paper?
4. If you visited Big Sur, you would be in which U.S. state?
5. In what year did the Beatles come to America?

(Flip bottom of page for answers)
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(Over)

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Your Weekly Horoscopes

ARIES

(March 20 – April 19)



This week is a crucial one within a three-week window. You may be debating what is most important. Be sure of what you want before you start something new. Lucky numbers: 5, 16, 22, 24, 31, 45.

TAURUS

(April 20 – May 20)



Your birthday month is a good time to review your year's accomplishments, and set goals for the new one. An opportunity may bring you into uncharted territory. Lucky numbers: 12, 15, 22, 25, 26, 44.

GEMINI

(May 21 – June 20)



Monitor what you say this week. Geminis sometimes speak without considering reactions. This tendency may be heightened, perhaps with unwanted outcomes. Lucky numbers: 4, 8, 13, 15, 29, 43.

CANCER

(June 21 – July 22)



Early this week may be a good moment for some down time. The energy could encourage you to relax without guilt about putting aside your responsibilities for a bit. Lucky numbers: 3, 11, 18, 33, 41, 42.

LEO

(July 23 – Aug. 22)



You may have a greater opportunity early this week to tell others what you want. You might be successful, but be careful about being impulsive in what you say. Lucky numbers: 10, 13, 22, 32, 35, 45.

VIRGO

(Aug. 23 – Sept. 22)



You may feel unclear about how to proceed for a few days at the beginning of the week. You may want to postpone any important decisions until this passes. Lucky numbers: 10, 14, 20, 22, 32, 46.

LIBRA

(Sept. 23 – Oct. 22)



Those who live with Libras know they don't like to show anger. Midweek, however, this may not be true. So to try to prevent a standoff, be careful what you say. Lucky numbers: 6, 15, 24, 25, 38, 44.

SCORPIO

(Oct. 23 – Nov. 21)



It has been about six months since your birthday. Did you set new goals at that time? Review your progress to date, and make any needed changes to the plan. Lucky numbers: 14, 28, 31, 39, 45, 47.

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 22 – Dec. 21)



An important Sagittarius theme is a philosophy reflecting who they are and what they believe. Does your philosophy represent your values? Make necessary adjustments. Lucky numbers: 7, 9, 13, 24, 34, 37.

CAPRICORN

(Dec. 22 – Jan. 19)



Capricorns focus on endeavors bringing them success and achievement. This may be a good time to evaluate if these efforts are in alignment with your highest values. Lucky numbers: 2, 4, 10, 11, 26, 44.

AQUARIUS

(Jan. 20 – Feb. 18)



This week's energy may support you in helping humanity's evolution, especially in telling others of your plans. Be careful about being too aggressive in your approach. Lucky numbers: 8, 15, 18, 29, 36, 41.

PISCES

(Feb. 19 – March 20)



You may feel confused and subject to delusion early this week. It may be better to postpone any important decisions or actions for a few days until this passes. Lucky numbers: 1, 2, 9, 24, 30, 46.

Lucky numbers this week: This week's odds favor Taurus winners with the luckiest number being 25.

Did You Know...

Battle brew: Instant coffee took off during World War II, when soldiers, sailors, and aviators relied on it for a quick caffeine fix. They then carried the habit home after the war, turning the novel powder into a worldwide everyday drink.

King's cravings: Singer Elvis Presley treated breakfast like a feast. Reports from his longtime cooks describe mornings filled with piled plates of biscuits, eggs, and meats, often served in bed, showing his taste for both comfort and indulgence.

Number itch: Arithmomania is the compulsive drive to count, whether it's steps, cars, or anything else. The urge can fade and return, sometimes pushing people to track exact totals or seek even numbers before feeling satisfied.

Language mosaic: North America once held hundreds of different Indigenous languages and dialects, some unlike any others in existence. In certain areas, the sheer range of languages surpassed all of Europe, reflecting a broad cultural diversity.

Spinning flight: In ancient China, children spun bamboo toys that rose into the air when twirled by hand. The playful design showed how spinning blades could create lift, an idea that later inspired inventors working toward the creation of helicopters.

On the Lighter Side

Bob: "Why are elephants so wrinkly?"
Rob: "They're too big to fit on the ironing board."

Knock! Knock! *Who's there?* Wendy. *Wendy who?* Wendy bell rings, I can stop knocking.

What's the best day of the week to play a double header in baseball? Tuesday.

Be careful when it is raining cats and dogs. You might step in a poodle.

Did you hear about the kid who eats cold porridge for breakfast? It was pretty gruel.

Answers

Trivia answers: 1. Honey bees 2. True 3. Egyptian 4. California 5. 1964
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