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Vol. 2021 No. 5 February 1, 2021

**Everybody's Talking**

**Loyal pet:** A Russian woman named Svetlana is not able to leave her pet husky at home. Svetlana goes to work in a mall, but when she leaves her dog in her apartment, the neighbours complain that he howls all day. So, she dresses him up in a blue sweater and takes him to work, leaving him on the sidewalk outside the mall. A homemade sign explains the situation to passersby. Svetlana spends lunch hours and breaks with her pet, but she won't give his real name, so the press has dubbed him "Russian Hachiko." The husky is happy waiting for Svetlana. He gets greetings from shoppers all day long!

**Hard cheese:** It may not appeal to everyone, but there is a type of cheese made in the Himalayas that provides a great source of protein for those who must survive in cold mountainous regions. Called Chhurpi or Durkha, this cheese is made from the milk of yaks or chauri, a yak-cow cross. The cheese can be cured to be soft or hard. It is the hard version that is the most unusual. It is so hard that, before biting into it, people must keep it in their mouths to soften it up, and chew on the outer layers as they soften. It can take a couple of hours to eat a piece of this cheese in this way, but there is no loss in flavour.

**Chalk replica:** "Along the River during the Qingming Festival" is a centuries old Chinese work of art on an approximately five-metre (16-ft.) long scroll. It is a favourite of art teacher Zhao Wenrui of Shanxi Province, China. Wanting to surprise his students after the isolation of the COVID-19 pandemic, he made a replica of the famous work using chalkboards and chalk. The finished product took him three months and covers eight chalkboards and, like the original, reveals the lives of the people of the time, from farmers to vendors to boatmen, along with an amazing array of landscapes.

**Weird name:** A young Mexican man who grew up in the United States had always been called "Bambino" by his parents and friends. However, when his family of four went back to Mexico, the parents decided to let their son know his real name. It is "Zero Zero Three," or "Cero Cero Tres" in Spanish. The parents gave him the name because he is the third of four children. His complete name is "Cero Cero Tres Miller Santos Chablé." Zero Zero Three was able to use his name to his advantage. He won a prize offered by a pizzeria in Merida, Yucatan, Mexico, for having the weirdest name. He received two large pizzas as the prize.

**Quoteable Quotes**

"Always do what you are afraid to do." —Ralph Waldo Emerson

"Looking forward to things is half the pleasure of them." —L.M. Montgomery

**What's Happening**

GET IN WHAT'S HAPPENING - Submit your event to www.bvcoffeeneews.ca and be seen here by thousands of readers each week.

Please take me home!

**Coffee News**® wants all of our readers to stay safe, so please take this copy with you.

**Trivia**

1. Haiku is Japanese poetry—T/F?
2. What is the term used for one who unloads ships?
3. In which U.S. state will you find the rock formation El Capitan?
4. An ocarina is newly discovered gemstone or a small wind instrument?
5. What is the dog's name in the Garfield comics?

(Flip bottom of page for answers)

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(Over)

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## Your Weekly Horoscope

**ARIES**  
(March 21 - April 20)

Changing bad habits may enable you to find some new inspiration. Be more flexible and adaptable, but try not to become disorganized or lose sight of your goals. Lucky Numbers: 3, 16, 18, 29, 35, 40.

**TAURUS**  
(April 21 - May 21)

You may be genuine and quick to lend a helping hand and support the ideas of others. Be sure you are comfortable with how much extra responsibility you are taking on. Lucky Numbers: 7, 8, 15, 17, 18, 25.

**GEMINI**  
(May 22 - June 21)

You could receive thanks from those who value your ideas and your work ethic. An inviting atmosphere at work and appreciation for a job well done may be indicated. Lucky Numbers: 5, 14, 21, 24, 31, 34.

**CANCER**  
(June 22 - July 22)

Your personal relationship may feel loving, secure, and balanced. You might see an increase in your joint finances. One partner may benefit in some other financial manner. Lucky Numbers: 2, 18, 19, 35, 36, 48.

**LEO**  
(July 23 - Aug. 23)

You may be forced to confront processes that are no longer valid. You might need to look past the present in order to find better ways to deal with problematic situations. Lucky Numbers: 1, 6, 16, 26, 36, 46.

**VIRGO**  
(Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)

Past experiences may greatly influence your interaction with others and your perceptions. Deepen your research in a specific subject, rather than studying new areas. Lucky Numbers: 4, 18, 24, 28, 34, 38.

Lucky numbers this week: This week's odds favour Taurus winners with the luckiest number being 7.

## Did You Know...

**No jumping:** Elephants may be able to run, but they can't jump. This may be because they have weak leg muscles, despite being large animals. Also, their ankles are not very flexible.

**Sweet berries:** Hackberries grow on the *Celtis occidentalis* tree in North America. These tiny berries are full of protein and sugars. They are sweet, and some say they taste like candy or dates.

**Playing games:** Moscow is home to the Museum of Soviet Arcade Games. It has about 60 different games, which are in Russian. For example, one is called *Morskoi Boi*, meaning Sea Battle.

**Cheese cousins:** A darker, crumblier cousin of the common soft white brie is called brie noir. Made in Seine-et-Marne, not far from Paris, brie noir is made by aging it for as long as two years.

**Old fort:** An ancient fort on an Arabian Sea island, off the west coast of India, is Murud-Janjira Fort. Locals call it Ajinkya, or "invincible." With its own fresh water source and fish to catch, the self-sufficient residents were difficult to conquer.

## On the Lighter Side

First snail: "I have to cross the road."  
Second snail: "Be careful, there's a bus coming in an hour."

What belongs to you but is used much more often by your friends? Your name.

A patient asked a doctor to look at his laptop. He thought it had caught a virus.

What can answer in any language, speak without a mouth, and sing without an ear? An echo.

Life is what happens to you while you're busy planning more important things.

## Answers

Trivia answers: 1. True 2. Stevedore 3. California 4. Small wind instrument 5. Ode

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January 23

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**Recipe of the month**

**Bacon Wrapped Stuffed Mushrooms**

1/2 cup chopped green onions  
2 (8 ounce) packages cream cheese, softened

20 fresh mushrooms, stems removed  
1 pound sliced bacon, cut in half

Level: Easy Total: 30 mins Yield: 20 appetizers  
Prep: 10 mins Cook: 20 mins

- 1 Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).
- 2 In a medium bowl, mix together the green onions and cream cheese. Stuff mushroom caps with the cheese mixture. Wrap each mushroom with a half-slice of bacon, and secure with toothpicks. Place on a baking sheet.
- 3 Bake for 20 minutes in the preheated oven, until the bacon is cooked through.

An ideal addition to a party tray or a wonderful appetizer for a romantic Valentine Day meal.

Source: [www.allrecipes.com](http://www.allrecipes.com)

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