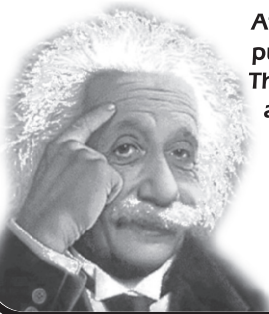


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Vol. 11 No. 17 April 26, 2021

**Everybody's Talking**

**Dating game:** If you are trying to meet that special someone, it's best not to damage their property in the process. But that's what Yoshito Harada of Aichi Prefecture, Japan, did. He got into the habit of slashing the tires on women's cars, then following them so he could offer to help. Recently, one of his targets remembered him from a previous tire-slashing incident, and she called the cops. It wasn't long before the police discovered that Harada had played this game several years earlier and had been caught. He paid compensation for the tires and didn't go to jail, but none of the ladies was interested in dating him.

**Pandemic dress:** Peyton Manker was not able to wear her homemade dress to her high school prom, which was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, lots of people saw her unique dress on social media. Manker, of Sparta, Illinois (U.S.), decided to enter a contest to make her dress out of duct tape, and she succeeded beyond her wildest dreams. She spent almost 400 hours and used about 40 rolls of tape to create her dress. The coronavirus-themed gown is royal blue and gold and contains colourful scenes depicting the pandemic, such as hospital staff with masks.

**Tiger tales:** Getting caught in floodwater is no fun, even for tigers. One such feline, a resident of the Kaziranga National Park in Assam, in northeastern India, was looking for shelter when it discovered a goat shed on someone's property in Kandolimari Village. Park officials identified the animal as a not-quite-full-grown, male Bengal tiger. Officials kept a close eye on the situation so nobody, including the tiger, would get hurt. During heavy rains, many animals in the park, including elephants and rhinos, must find sanctuary by moving to higher ground.

**Tall and straight:** Cactus plants can grow to be quite tall, and one in Takinogawa, Tokyo (Japan), leaves onlookers awestruck at its height. This cactus looks like a pole as it reaches for the sky on the side of a three-story building. No one is aware of the plant's age or genus, but it does appear that someone cares for the prickly thing. Metal rings are wrapped around the plant that attach it to the building, presumably so it won't topple over. The building is 10 metres (33 ft.) high, and this cactus is a little taller than that. Its top is slightly higher than the building.

**Quoteable Quotes**

"It is better to begin in the evening than not at all." —*English Proverb*

"If we had no winter the spring would not be so pleasant: if we did not sometimes taste of adversity, prosperity would not be so welcome." —*Anne Bradstreet*

**What's Happening**

**Online event posting** During the Pandemic, we are happy to post your online event in the What's Happening section of Coffee News. Please visit our website at [www.coffee-news.ca](http://www.coffee-news.ca) to submit your event.

NON profit organizations may submit events for FREE at [www.coffee-news.ca/whats-happening](http://www.coffee-news.ca/whats-happening)

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**Trivia**

1. Mt. Whitney is located in which mountain range?
2. What do you call puppets controlled by strings or wires?
3. The official Mexican flag features what type of bird—caracara, condor, or raven?
4. What are the lower chambers of the heart called?
5. What popular sales event takes place the day after Thanksgiving in the U.S.?

(Flip bottom of page for answers)

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**Recipe of the month**  
**Cheesy Broccoli Soup in a Bread Bowl**

1/4 cup butter, cubed	1/4 teaspoon pepper
1/2 cup chopped onion	1/4 cup cornstarch
2 garlic cloves, minced	1/4 cup water or additional chicken stock
4 cups fresh broccoli florets (about 8 ounces)	2-1/2 cups shredded cheddar cheese (8 ounces each), optional
1 large carrot, finely chopped	6 small round bread loaves (about 8 ounces each), optional
3 cups chicken stock	Optional toppings: Crumbled cooked bacon, additional shredded cheddar cheese, ground nutmeg and pepper
2 cups half-and-half cream	
2 bay leaves	
1/2 teaspoon salt	
1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg	

Prep Time: 15 mins. Cook time: 30 mins. Yield: 6 servings

1. In a 6-qt. stockpot, heat butter over medium heat; sauté onion and garlic until tender, 6-8 minutes. Stir in broccoli, carrot, stock, cream and seasonings; bring to a boil. Simmer, uncovered, until vegetables are tender, 10-12 minutes.
2. Mix cornstarch and water until smooth; stir into soup. Bring to a boil, stirring occasionally; cook and stir until thickened, 1-2 minutes. Remove bay leaves. Stir in cheese until melted.
3. If using bread bowls, cut a slice off the top of each bread loaf; hollow out bottoms, leaving 1/4-in.-thick shells (save removed bread for another use). Fill with soup just before serving.
4. If desired, serve soup with toppings.

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

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**Reader of the Month**  
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