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Vol. 20 No. 33 August 14, 2023

Everybody's Talking

Roundabout way: Thank goodness a roundabout in Denbighshire, Wales, is only busy with traffic a couple of times a day. Otherwise, the people who live in the centre of it might have gone crazy by now. Clwyd Howatson and his wife and son occupy a bungalow situated smack dab in the middle of the roundabout, which was completed in 1980 after his parents, the late David John and his wife Eirian Howatson, had already lived on the spot for 20 years. The current occupants have other family members who visit often, and no one has any intention of giving up their unusual piece of property. It's their home, after all.

Viking mania: A Bosnian man changed his life goals after watching "Vikings," a television series that dramatized the life of Ragnar Lodbrok, a legendary Norse hero. The man binge-watched the TV series, becoming a huge fan in the process. Calling himself "Ragnar the Bosnian Viking," he started wearing tunics, grew a long white beard, and braided his hair. He embraced the Viking culture by making artifacts in his workshop, including a Viking boat and intricately designed Viking shields and axes, which he sells. A goal for this modern Ragnar is to build a Viking village, which he hopes will become a tourist attraction.

Desert oasis: There is a kind of Eden in the Gobi desert in Mongolia that has been nurtured by a man named Baraaduuz Demchig. About three decades ago, the now-elderly man wanted to find a way to grow crops in the arid environment. However, the plants would be blown away by the wind. To protect the area, he planted elms, and it worked. Today, the trees stand watch over such crops as apples, black currants, raspberries, and sea buckthorn. Reclaiming some of the desert land and making it productive provides an important source of food for locals, many of whom are also planting trees to protect their own crops.

Going backward: Driving in reverse is not the easiest thing to do, but it is a necessary skill that drivers should have. To prove that backwards driving is doable, a man named Chandramouli of India's Tamil Nadu state decided to try to break the record for the longest distance driven in reverse gear in less than 30 minutes. He accomplished the feat by going backwards within that time frame for 16 kilometres and 140 metres (approximately 10 miles) on a bypass road. He did the task safely. That was his motivation for challenging the record: He wants young drivers to be aware of the need to drive with skill and safety in mind at all times.

Quoteable Quotes

"The more elaborate our means of communication, the less we communicate." —Joseph Priestley

"If you can give your child only one gift, let it be enthusiasm." —Bruce Barton

What's Happening

Aug 20 - Underwater Rodeo Lake Cleanup Join divers from all over Alberta and Saskatchewan in skills development dives and a lake cleanup. Everyone is welcome, including non-divers snorkelers. Visit www.fortmacscuba.com for more info.

2nd Tuesdays of Month - Stitch n' Btch Stitch 'n Btch is a name that has been used to refer to social knitting groups since at least World War II. The group meets to knit, crochet, cross-



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Trivia

1. A hexagon has four, six, or eight sides?

2. Thomas Edison invented the phonograph—T/F?

3. The game mahjongg originated in what country?

4. Brontophobia is fear of brontosauruses, thunder, or dump trucks?

5. This is the vertical post that divides window panes.

(Flip bottom of page for answers)

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Your Weekly Horoscope ARIES IIRRA

(Sept. 23 - Oct. 22)

(Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

19, 23, 25, 38.

SCORPIO

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 22 - Dec. 20)

Your charm and diplo-

macy may be highlighted

now. You can use these

to help others, but make

sure you don't take on

more than you can handle

You may find you have a

high level of ambition now. If there is a goal

you haven't been able to

manifest before, now

Your Sagittarius optimism may get a boost midweek. How do you

want to use this energy to

plan something new? You

may want to wait a bit to

Capricorns often project

a serious attitude. Right

now you may have the

potential to incorporate a

more relaxed energy to

achieve a balanced view-

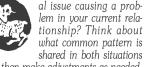
as you do so. Lucky numbers: 12, 16,

may be the time to try. Lucky numbers: 14, 27, 29, 38, 40,

implement it. Lucky numbers: 1, 4, 10,

(March 20 - April 19)





and then make adjustments as needed. Lucky numbers: 4, 21, 23, 30, 32, 42. **TAURUS**

(April 20 - May 20)

You may come across an opportunity to take a risk on a new project, but may also run into a challenge requiring you to believe in yourself and your endeavour. Lucky numbers:

to get in touch with your

10, 31, 42, 44, 45, 47. **GEMINI**

(May 21 - June 20) You might find it easier



emotions at midweek. In doing so, information may bubble to the surface that was hidden in your subconscious. Lucky numbers: 6,

13, 14, 18, 26, 38. CANCER

(June 21 – July 21)



34, 39, 46.

CAPRICORN

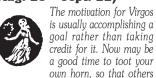
now. Lucky numbers: 8, 12, 22, 38, 47, 48. LEO

(July 22 - Aug. 22)

have an opportunity to do a monthly reset of your emotions. This time you may want to direct that reset to your beliefs

around love and marriage. Lucky numbers: 13, 14, 24, 26, 27, 33. VIRGO

(Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)



own horn, so that others remember your value. Lucky numbers: 11, 31, 32, 42, 44, 45.

Lucky numbers this week: This week's odds favour Scorpio winners with the luckiest number being 27.

Did You Know...

Night treat: Queen of the Night is a nickname for the cactus *Epiphyllum* oxypetalum. This plant produces beautiful white flowers, but only at night, and the flowers wilt before the sun comes up. It's a rare event to witness.

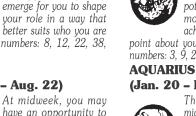
Coffee alternative: Someone who wants the taste of coffee but not the caffeine could choose chicory as an alternative. This root, which is roasted and ground, can be steeped like tea or brewed like coffee.

Yummy fruit: The Kiwano, also called the horned melon, is native to sub-Saharan Africa. True to its name, its orange skin is covered with horny protuberances. The flesh tastes like a cross between a cucumber and a lemon.

Rock band manager: Brian Epstein (1934-1967), who was manager for the rock group The Beatles, was working in his family's Liverpool, England, record store when he met the









munications with others, now and once this influence passes? Lucky numbers: 7, 21, 30, 37, 42, 44. **PISCES**

(Feb. 19 - March 19)

(Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

Pisces can sometimes be a bit of a "wet blanket. At week's end, however, you may have an opportunity to adjust your demeanour to radiate the

best qualities of this sign. Lucky numbers: 5, 10, 22, 24, 35, 42.



group. He became their manager in 1962.

Icy treat: The world did not always have what are known as Popsicles. In 1905, an 11-year-old American boy named Frank Epperson accidentally left a soda drink outside overnight, with a stick in it, and the liquid froze.



A really bad gymnast walked into a bar.

Patient: "Doctor, I am having trouble sleeping." Doctor: "Lie on the edge; you'll eventually drop off."

What do you call a bird stuck at the North Pole? A brrrrrrrd.

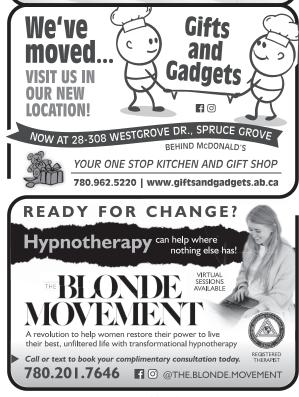
Words that soak into your ears are whispered, not yelled.

Knock! Knock! Who's there? Ivan. Ivan who? Ivan working on the railroad.

Answers

noilluM .d Trivia answers: J. Six 2. True 3. China 4. Thunder

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²¹⁻Cold Lake