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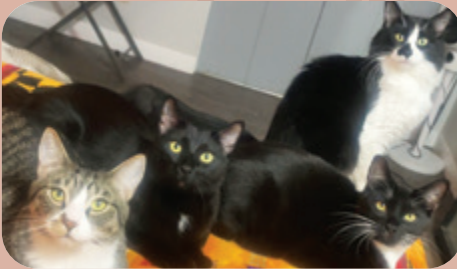
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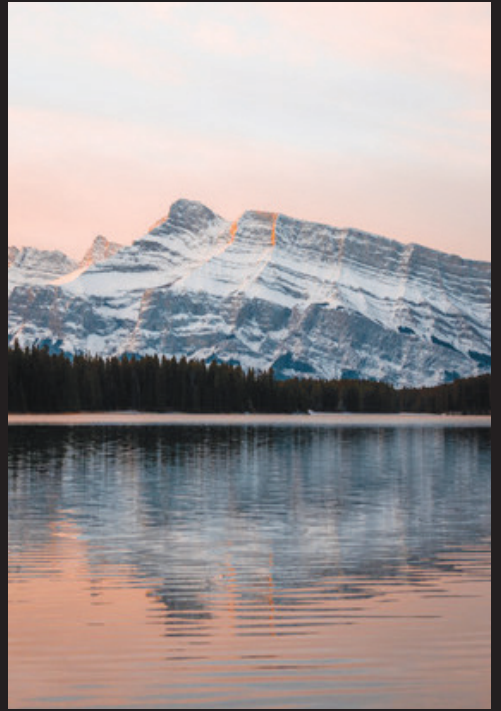


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Photo Gallery

by Jirapan Nilmanee (Mik)



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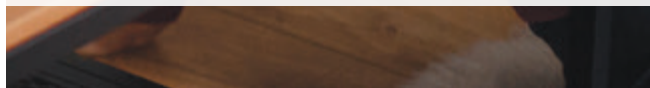
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GREENVIEW



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Celebrating Calgary 150 - Calgary's Prehistory

by Anthony Imbrogno (*The Calgary Heritage Initiative Society/Heritage Inspires YYC*)

2025 is Calgary's 150th anniversary! We're writing 12 articles on the different eras of Calgary's history.

Let's start at the beginning, not quite the Big Bang but the Dinosaur Age, when Alberta lay underneath the Western Interior Seaway. Alongside the newly forming Rocky Mountains was a lush coastline of tropical forests and wetlands.

The land was inhabited by creatures like the duck-billed Edmontosaurus, which was hunted by Albertosaurus. The warm and shallow sea was full of marine life like plesiosaurs, sharks, and giant fish.

Today, Drumheller is one of the world's richest dinosaur study areas. You'll see many fossils at the Royal Tyrrell Museum, Canada's only museum dedicated to ancient life.

Besides their scientific value, fossils became the fuels that have driven our economy and technology. After millions of years, shells formed porous layers on the seafloor where organic sludge settled and became exposed to heat and pressure, forming oil and gas.

In Turner Valley in 1914, natural gas sprayed out of one wellbore. Then in 1947, the Leduc-Rimbey reef became famous for an oil strike that launched the province onto the world stage.

On the Kainai Reserve southwest of Lethbridge, some ancient life turned into large deposits of iridescent shells, called ammolite. It's also called iniskim ("buffalo stone"), since according to Indigenous legend the first stone saved people from starvation. Ammolite became Alberta's official gemstone in 2022.

Fast forward to the last Ice Age, when 3-kilometer-thick ice sheets covered 97% of Canada. Then the sheets melted, leaving markers all throughout Alberta. The Prince of Wales Hotel in Waterton sits atop a kame, an irregularly shaped hill formed from ice sheet movements.

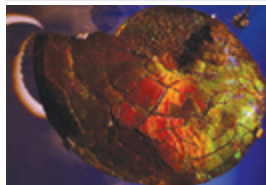
Another sign of glaciation are erratics, massive rocks seemingly placed at random. The growing ice sheets carried rocks and then left them behind when the ice melted. The largest is Big Rock near Okotoks, meaning "rock" in the Blackfoot language.

Another Ice Age effect was exposing the Bering land bridge linking Eurasia and Alaska. About 14,000 years ago, several thousand hunter-gatherers crossed over, probably following woolly mammoth herds. They spread out across the Americas, which we'll explore next month.

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https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Placenticerus_meeki_Mus%C3%A9e_des_Confluences_18102015_3.jpg. *Placenticerus meeki*, an ammonite species from the Cretaceous, 80 million years old. Origin: Alberta. Displayed at the Musée des Confluences, Lyon, France. Photo by Vassil, via Creative Commons CC0 1.0 Universal Public Domain Dedication.



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- Supply & install one corner caddy & soap dish
- Supply & install new subfloor
- Installation of new tile flooring
- Supply & install new vanity
- Supply & install new granite or quartz countertops with undermount sink
- Supply & install new Delta vanity tops
- Supply & install new drain system & pop-up stopper

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- Supply & install new Delta pressure balance taps
- Supply & install new toilet with soft close seat
- Supply & install one corner caddy with soap dish

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The Art of Finding Work - Jobseekers: Introduce Yourself with Style

by Nick Kossovian

Years ago, I attended a dinner party at which a relationship therapist was present. We were twelve, and some of us had never met. As you've probably experienced when attending a gathering, there's a tendency to split into pairs or trios, resulting in fragmented discussions. However, the relationship therapist took control by asking everyone at the table: "What's on your unofficial résumé? I'm a relationship therapist with a private practice. I enjoy hearing people's stories and how they got to where they are today."

Not

- "How you're doing?"
- "What do you do for a living?"
- "How do you know Jackie and Nunzio [our hosts]?"

Her question probed deep, and all eyes were on her. How she introduced herself was an education in making a memorable introduction by being interesting and interested.

More impressive, while fictional, is how James Bond introduces himself to a glamorous woman, Sylvia Trench, and subsequently to the movie viewer, who's going head-to-head with him while playing chemin de fer at one of London's finest clubs, Les Ambassadeurs.

Bond: I admire your courage, Miss...?

Sylvia: Trench... Sylvia Trench... and I admire your luck, Mr...?

Bond: Bond... James Bond.

Of course, there's much more to this scene, such as Bond's playful mirroring of "Trench... Sylvia Trench." After Sylvia loses her next hand, a man taps Bond on the shoulder, and Bond politely excuses himself. While walking to the front door, he arranges dinner with Sylvia and casually tips the doorman as we see on Sylvia's face, "Who is this man?" At no time does Bond linger.

I bring up the opening scene of the first Bond film, Dr. No (1962), because in under two minutes, you know

everything you need to know about James Bond: smooth, debonair, supremely self-confident, and risk-taking.

It's an art to introduce yourself in such a way that the other person wants to learn more about you, an art well worth learning. Whenever you meet someone for the first time, at a dinner party, the person you're paired up to play golf with, a new neighbour and especially your interviewer, how you introduce yourself is everything!

Are you introducing yourself as effectively as Bond or as memorable as the relationship therapist, cutting to the essence of who you are?

Most people are bad at introducing themselves—fumbling, rambling, and underselling themselves—even more so, thanks to social media eroding social skills. This is a problem. Like it or not, the first impression we make makes or break opportunities.

Being aware of what you're projecting about yourself is the first step in formulating an introduction that makes you interesting and, therefore, memorable so the other person is compelled to learn more about you.

Don't Get "Lumped In"

When introducing themselves, people usually state their title and workplace. Wrong! When you say, "I'm an accountant for Wayne Enterprises," the other person immediately lumps you into their preconceived notion(s) of what you do and whom you work for. Engage their imagination instead.

Bad: "I'm a software engineer at Yoyodyne."

Good: "I build tools for venture capitalists at a quirky startup called Yoyodyne; it's been a great ride so far! Technically, I am an engineer; therefore, I find myself dealing with product and design work, which I've discovered I'm good at."

Tell A Micro-Story

If you want to make a memorable introduction, introduce yourself in the form of a story. Storytelling is how humans learn because stories are mentally sticky.

Bad: "I moved to Toronto for work. I'm a project manager at BXJ Technologies."

This introduction is boring because most (hand-raised) people in Toronto moved to Toronto for work.

Good: "I'm a bit of a third culture kid. I grew up in Singapore and London, which explains my accent. I moved to Toronto to experience new energy. Ultimately, I fell in love with project management, Cabano's Cheeseburgers and Toronto's bubbly art scene."

Consider "Hooks"

Ideally, your introduction should lead to a meaningful conversation; therefore, try to fill your introduction story with a hook, such as a unique experience, an interesting fact or a comparison—a great way to create a visual—to arouse interest and spark a conversation.

Bad: "I'm a financial lawyer."

Good: "Have you seen the movie Dark Waters about the guy who took Dupont to court for millions of dollars? Well, I'm like that guy, only less stressed and famous, and I work for a bank."

Highlight Your Unique Journey

Everyone has a story. Introducing what makes yours unique will make you interesting and memorable.

Most likely, like me, you've had an unconventional career path:

"Believe it or not, I began my career as a barista. Pouring coffee gave me considerable experience in customer service and time efficiency. With those skills, I now manage St. Eligius Hospital's administration staff, ensuring the inpatient experience is as stress-free as possible."

Consider weaving into your introduction:

- Countries or cities you've lived in: "I've called three continents home..."
- An unusual hobby: "When I'm not crunching numbers, I'm usually rock climbing..."
- Volunteer experience: "I spend my weekends..."
- An unexpected skill: "My theatre experience often proves useful in board meetings..."



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SCAN THE QR CODE FOR THE SOLUTION



GAMES & PUZZLES

Guess the Instrument!

1. Dating back at least 50,000 years, this is considered the oldest known musical instrument in the world.
2. This instrument's name comes from the Persian word meaning "three-stringed."
3. This instrument is made up of 88 keys that strike 230 strings.
4. Along with the shamrock, this instrument is the official State emblem of Ireland.
5. This instrument is played with a bow made up of at least 150 individual hairs.
6. The Fender Stratocaster is this kind of instrument.



SCAN THE QR CODE FOR THE ANSWERS!



Thorncliffe Real Estate Update

Last 12 Months Thorncliffe
MLS Real Estate Sale Price Update

	Average Asking Price	Average Sold Price
November 2024	\$ 542,000	\$ 551,500
October 2024	\$ 499,900	\$ 488,000
September 2024	\$ 462,450	\$ 461,000
August 2024	\$ 544,450	\$ 548,500
July 2024	\$ 524,900	\$ 540,000
June 2024	\$ 589,900	\$ 625,000
May 2024	\$ 614,500	\$ 612,500
April 2024	\$ 456,900	\$ 517,500
March 2024	\$ 635,000	\$ 630,000
February 2024	\$ 324,450	\$ 332,500
January 2024	\$ 569,900	\$ 578,888
December 2023	\$ 479,450	\$ 471,750

Last 12 Months Thorncliffe
MLS Real Estate Number of Listings Update

	No. New Properties	No. Properties Sold
November 2024	12	10
October 2024	15	11
September 2024	17	12
August 2024	13	10
July 2024	10	9
June 2024	20	19
May 2024	13	8
April 2024	9	6
March 2024	8	7
February 2024	8	8
January 2024	5	5
December 2023	3	4

To view more detailed information that comprise the above
MLS averages please visit thor.mycalgary.com

Greenview Real Estate Update

Last 12 Months Greenview
MLS Real Estate Sale Price Update

	Average Asking Price	Average Sold Price
November 2024	\$ 255,000	\$ 250,000
October 2024	\$ 214,900	\$ 225,000
September 2024	\$ 262,500	\$ 261,000
August 2024	\$ 357,900	\$ 347,250
July 2024	\$ 209,000	\$ 200,000
June 2024	\$ 287,450	\$ 294,250
May 2024	\$ 349,900	\$ 345,000
April 2024	\$ 312,400	\$ 336,400
March 2024	\$ 232,400	\$ 243,500
February 2024	\$ 259,900	\$ 254,600
January 2024	\$ 669,900	\$ 648,000
December 2023	\$ 330,000	\$ 361,000

Last 12 Months Greenview
MLS Real Estate Number of Listings Update

	No. New Properties	No. Properties Sold
November 2024	1	4
October 2024	8	3
September 2024	1	2
August 2024	8	4
July 2024	3	5
June 2024	6	8
May 2024	7	3
April 2024	7	10
March 2024	8	10
February 2024	6	3
January 2024	3	3
December 2023	0	3

To view more detailed information that comprise the above
MLS averages please visit gree.mycalgary.com

Tortellini and Spinach Soup

by Jennifer Puri



Tortellini is an Italian bite-sized pasta which is stuffed with ricotta or parmesan cheese, pork, sausage, dried mushrooms, herbs, and vegetables.

This ring-shaped pasta is traditionally served in a broth, but tomato, mushroom, and meat sauces are also popular. Italy is recognized for its food culture and the work of rolling out the dough evenly and then cutting it into small squares, followed by the stuffing and shaping of the tiny tortellini which is an art in itself.

Tortellini and spinach soup is the perfect weeknight supper that can be enjoyed by every member of the family. It is delicious on its own or with a tossed salad and garlic or crusty bread.

Prep Time: 10 minutes

Cook Time: 15 minutes

Servings: 4 to 5

Ingredients:

- 1 package spinach or cheese stuffed tortellini (350 gm)
- 1 tbsp. olive oil
- 3 garlic cloves, finely chopped
- 1 small yellow onion, finely chopped
- 6 tbsp. tomato paste
- 3 cups fresh spinach leaves, stems removed
- 2 carrots, chopped
- 10 cups of low sodium chicken broth
- ½ tsp. ground black pepper
- Salt to taste
- 1 tsp. Italian seasoning
- 1 cup half and half cream

Garnish:

- Grated parmesan cheese
- Parsley leaves
- Red chili flakes (optional)

Directions:

- Place the olive oil, onion, garlic, and carrots in a medium size pot or Dutch oven. Sauté the vegetables until the onions are translucent, approximately 4 to 5 minutes.
- Add the tomato paste, Italian seasoning, salt, and pepper, stirring frequently. Next add the broth and bring to a boil. Add tortellini and cook until the tortellini is al dente, about 5 minutes.
- Reduce heat to low and gently add the half and half cream and the spinach leaves and continue to simmer for a couple of minutes or until spinach leaves are wilted and then remove from heat.
- Ladle the soup into bowls and garnish with grated parmesan cheese, parsley leaves, and chili flakes (optional).

Note:

- Leftover soup can be stored in an airtight container and refrigerated for up to three days.
- Vegetarians can substitute the chicken broth with vegetable broth.

Bon Appétit!

Managing and Preventing Kidney Stones

by Alberta Health Services

What Are Kidney Stones?

A kidney stone forms when salts and minerals that would normally pass out of the body in the urine build up in large amounts and separate from the urine to form crystals.

When the urine leaves the kidney, it may carry the crystal out, or the crystal may stay in the kidney, and over time several smaller crystals combine to form a kidney stone.

They can be as small as a grain of sand or grow to be as large as a golf ball.

Causes and Risk Factors

Several things can affect your risk for getting kidney stones. These include:

- **How much fluid you drink.** The most common cause of kidney stones is not drinking enough water. Kidney stones form when a change occurs in the normal balance of water, salts, minerals, and other things in urine. When you don't drink enough these substances can build up and stick together to form the crystals that eventually become kidney stones.
- **Your diet.** Diets high in protein and sodium increase your risk for kidney stones. So do oxalate-rich foods, such as dark green vegetables.
- **Being overweight.** This can cause both insulin resistance and increased calcium in the urine, which can increase your risk for kidney stones.

Your age, gender, and whether you have a family history of kidney stones can also affect your risk. But these things are out of your control.

Symptoms

- Sudden, severe pain that gets worse in waves. Stones may cause intense pain in the back, side, abdomen, groin, or genitals.
- Nausea and vomiting.
- Blood in the urine.
- Frequent and painful urination.

Treatment

For most kidney stones, your doctor will recommend home care, such as pain medicine and drinking plenty of water. You may get a medicine to help the stone pass. If it is too large to pass, you may need other treatment, such as one that uses shock waves to break the stone into small pieces.

Prevention

The following tips may lower your chance of getting kidney stones or from getting them again:

- Drink plenty of water.
- Eat less salt and salty foods.
- Increase your fibre consumption.
- Avoid grapefruit juice.
- Drink lemonade made from real lemons (not lemon flavouring). It is high in citrate, which may help prevent kidney stones.

If you have had kidney stones, your doctor or dietitian may talk with you about an eating plan to help prevent new stones. Talk to your health care professional about:

- **Oxalate.** Limiting certain foods that have a lot of oxalate, such as dark green vegetables, nuts, and chocolate may help prevent kidney stones.
- **Animal protein in your diet.** This includes beef, chicken, pork, fish, and eggs. These foods contain a lot of protein, and too much protein may lead to kidney stones.
- **Natural health products.** Your doctor may want you to limit how much fish liver oil, calcium, and vitamin C and D supplements you take.



City of Calgary Home and Small Business Webinars

by the City of Calgary

Start your 2025 home renovation projects or new business idea off on the right foot by watching a City of Calgary Home and Small Business webinar. Our catalog of recorded webinars covers everything you need to know about indoor and outdoor home renovations, how to start a small business, building a secondary or backyard suite, and more.

If you're a DIY home renovator, City experts outline the necessary building permit types, safety code requirements, land use bylaws, and essential tips for hiring a contractor and preparing for inspections.

For small business owners or those planning to start one, our recorded webinars dive into best practices for both commercial and home-based businesses. We'll walk you through the process of applying for a business licence, registering your business, and more.

If you're thinking about developing a secondary suite or backyard suite, take advantage of our recorded content outlining the development process including applying for permits, registering and legalizing suites, and information on programs like the Secondary Suite Incentive Program.

Access recorded webinars and stay up to date about upcoming live webinars and Q&As coming soon at calgary.ca/webinars.



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Councillor, Ward 4

Sean Chu

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ward04@calgary.ca

www.calgary.ca/ward4

www.seanchu.ca

Happy New Year to all Ward 4 Residents!

As we kick off 2025, let's focus on community safety and staying informed. This month, I'd like to highlight two key topics:

Snow and Ice Removal

Winter is here, and snow removal is a shared responsibility. The City of Calgary clears 10% of sidewalks, but property owners must clear sidewalks adjacent to their properties within 24 hours of snowfall ending.

Non-Compliance Process:

- Report unshoveled sidewalks through 3-1-1.
- A peace officer will issue a 24-hour warning if needed.
- If not cleared, a contractor removes the snow, and fines and service fees are charged.

Fines:

- First offence: \$250
- Second offence in 12 months: \$500
- Third+ offence in 12 months: \$750 and court summons

Reminder: Shovel snow onto streets, not from private property into public spaces, and avoid blocking wheeling lanes.

Be a Snow Angel!

Help older adults and those with limited mobility by volunteering to clear sidewalks. Your kindness keeps our community safe.

2025 Property Assessment Notices

Your 2025 Property Assessment Notices reflect your property's market value as of July 1, 2024, and its condition as of December 31, 2024.

What to Do Next:

- Review your notice for accuracy.
- Log in to Assessment Search at calgary.ca/assessmentsearch to: Check property details and update them if necessary. Compare your value with similar properties. Learn how your property was assessed.

Need Help?

Contact us at 403-268-2888 during the Customer Review Period from January 2 to March 11, 2025. Use the Property Tax Calculator at calgary.ca/assessment to estimate your 2025 taxes.

Thank you for doing your part to make Ward 4 a safe and thriving community. Stay safe this winter!

Councillor Sean Chu

Ward 4



News from the Friends of Nose Hill

by Anne Burke

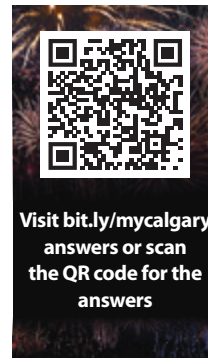
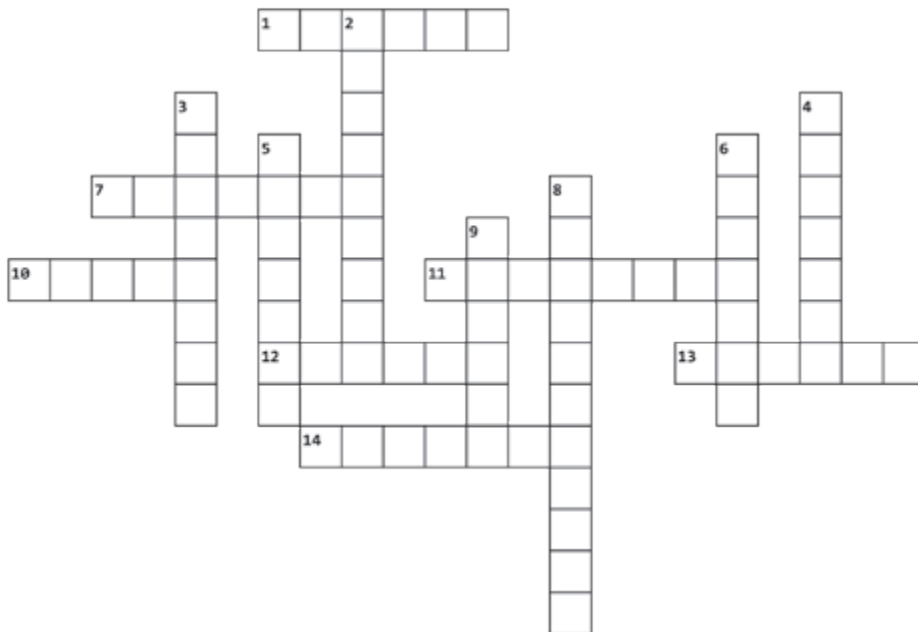
Alberta's Provincial Parks Act, introduced in 1930 and amended in 2000, provides for preservation of provincial parks, wildland parks, and provincial recreation areas to benefit current and future generations. There are rules and regulations about certain activities and restrictions. Important sites for conservation management are the Wilderness Areas, Ecological Reserves, Natural Areas, and Heritage Rangelands. More information at <https://albertaparks.ca/>.

The original Plan for Parks (2009-2019) is archived online. A new Plan for Parks: Engagement guide and fact sheet were posted. The first phase of engagement collected feedback from Albertans to inform a Plan. In the second phase, Albertans review the draft and provide input. The proposed vision statement has added cultural benefits and Indigenous reconciliation. There may be additional fees, some partner groups, increased tourism, recreation, and campgrounds.

An Online Survey asked how often you visit parks, what do you most value, what will Alberta Parks look like 100 years from now? If you agree that Albertans should be informed and engaged in park issues, what ways are important to you: a) increase opportunities to provide input into decision making for provincial parks; b) establish clear deliverables and milestones in the new ten-year Plan for Parks; c) consistently report on progress and achievement?

Since Parks conserve nature and connect people with nature, providing access to a variety of nature-based experiences will be important, so that building an appreciation for natural values is a key priority. Which of the following options would you support? a) create more parks to increase conservation and nature access; b) collaborate to improve how information about conservation activities in parks is shared; c) expand interpretive and educational programs to inform and inspire visitors; d) add volunteer opportunities to promote hands-on nature and conservation education.

January Crossword



Across

1. Ice-hockey player and co-founder of a popular restaurant franchise, Miles Gilbert "Tim" _____, was born on January 12, 1930, in Cochrane, Ontario.
7. World _____ Day on January 4 marks awareness of a form of communication for blind and visually impaired people.
10. On January 2, 2010, American singer-songwriter _____'s debut single, "TiK ToK," reached number one on the Billboard Hot 100.
11. This iconic Aretha became the first female artist to be inducted in the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame on January 3, 1987.
12. This TV series first premiered on January 12, 1966, starring Adam West as the titular character and tells the story of a superhero who fights crime in Gotham City.
13. Legendary comedian, Jim _____, was born on January 17, 1962, in Newmarket, Ontario.
14. Disney's popular TV movie, *High School Musical*, premiered on January 20, 2006, starring Zac Efron, Ashley Tisdale, and Vanessa _____.

Down

2. Franklin D. _____ was sworn in for his fourth term as US President on January 20, 1945, becoming the only US President to do so.
3. Romance novel, *Call Me by Your Name*, by André Aciman, was published on January 23, 2007, and later became a film starring Timothée _____.
4. On January 7, 1610, Galileo Galilei discovered the first three moons of this planet – the largest in our solar system.
5. British actress and singer, Cynthia Erivo, who plays _____ in *Wicked*, was born on January 8, 1987.
6. Steve _____ and Steve Jobs officially incorporated Apple Computer, Inc. on January 3, 1977, in California.
8. "Wedding March", composed by Felix _____, was first played at the wedding of Princess Victoria and Prince Frederick William of Prussia on January 25, 1858.
9. The first Winter Olympic Games officially opened on January 25, 1924, in Chamonix, _____.

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