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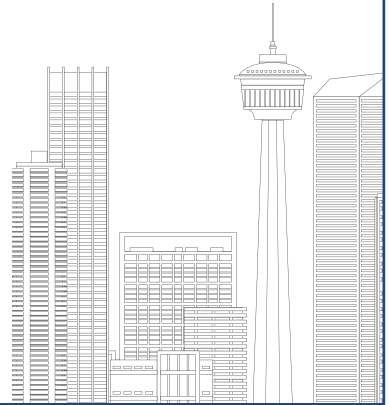
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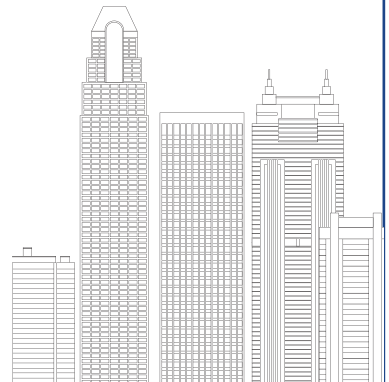
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ELBOW VALLEY CONTENT**

**News, Events,
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**Real Estate
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Her SAIT Graduation

by Garth Paul Ukrainetz

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Good coffee always faithful friend
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No more her forward path unknown

She pushed with all her might, she did
Propelled that boulder up the mountain
She's reached the top, SAIT graduation
A new career, a rolling stone

GAMES & PUZZLES

Guess the Flower!

1. This flower's colour depends on the acidity of the soil.
2. Named after the Greek messenger of the gods, this flower comes in nearly all colours of the rainbow except red.
3. Despite misconceptions, this spring-blooming bulbous plant is not officially the Dutch national flower.
4. This prickly pink plant became Alberta's floral emblem in 1930.
5. The national flower of South Africa belongs to one of the oldest families of flowering plants on Earth – approximately 300 million years!
6. This flower's Greek name, Galanthus, translates to "milk flower".



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The Beatles: Chart-Toppers to Solo Legends

April is a memorable month for the Beatles whether together or not... On April 4, 1964, the Fab Four made history by holding the top five spots on the Billboard Hot 100. Fast forward to April 17, 1971, and each member—Lennon, McCartney, Starr, and Harrison—had their solo singles on the UK charts.

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December	24	3	2	\$1,624,500	\$1,574,450
November	24	1	3	\$1,595,000	\$1,492,500
October	24	4	3	\$2,998,000	\$2,970,000
September	24	5	4	\$1,463,950	\$1,452,500
August	24	5	3	\$1,395,000	\$1,395,000
July	24	5	3	\$2,499,000	\$2,600,000
June	24	8	5	\$2,349,000	\$2,275,000
May	24	6	3	\$1,495,000	\$1,515,000
April	24	2	5	\$1,495,000	\$1,490,000
March	24	7	6	\$1,747,500	\$1,730,000

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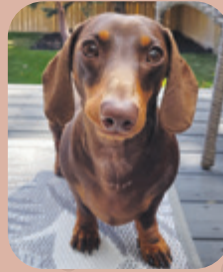
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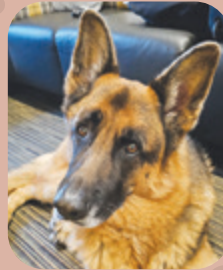
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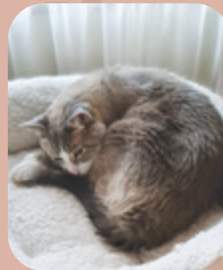
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Zucchini Spears with Zesty Tomato Sauce

by Jennifer Puri

Zucchini is a green, oblong squash that is typically served in savoury dishes. It has a mild taste and the smaller to medium-sized zucchinis have the best flavour.

Low in calories but high in fibre, zucchini contains more potassium than a banana. Loaded with vitamins, minerals, and antioxidants, zucchini is good for the digestive system and eye health.

Zucchini can be eaten raw in a salad or with a dip, but it can also be steamed, sautéed, added to breads, muffins, and pancakes, stuffed with rice and meats, or spiralized into zucchini noodles.

Baked zucchini with herbs and parmesan cheese is a quick and easy side dish, as shown in the zucchini spears with zesty tomato sauce recipe below.

Prep Time: 20 minutes

Cook Time: 15 minutes

Servings: 4

Ingredients:

- 4 medium-sized zucchinis
- 2 tbsp. olive oil
- 2 tbsp. fresh oregano
- 1 cup finely crushed breadcrumbs
- 1 cup shaved or grated parmesan cheese
- ½ tsp. salt
- ½ tsp. ground black pepper
- 1 tsp. red chilli flakes (optional)

Tomato Sauce

- 1 small can (398 ml) tomato sauce
- 2 cloves garlic, finely chopped
- 8 cherry tomatoes halved
- 2 tbsp. olive oil
- 2 tbsp. oregano
- 1 tsp. sugar
- Salt and pepper to taste

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 450 degrees Fahrenheit.
2. Rinse the zucchini and pat dry with a paper towel. Place the zucchini on a cutting board, trim the ends off, and then slice into four pieces lengthwise.



3. Place the zucchini spears on a foil-lined baking sheet, drizzle with olive oil, and then sprinkle with salt, pepper, and oregano. Next sprinkle the breadcrumbs evenly over the zucchini followed by the parmesan cheese and red chilli flakes if using.
4. Place the zucchini on the middle rack of the oven and bake for 12 minutes uncovered. Make sure not to overcook the zucchini as it will turn mushy.
5. To make the tomato sauce add olive oil to a small pan over medium heat. Add the chopped garlic and sauté for about a minute, then add the cherry tomatoes and oregano. Sauté for another couple of minutes and then add the tomato sauce, salt, pepper, and the sugar. Simmer until the sauce starts to thicken and then remove from heat.

To serve, place the zucchini spears on a platter and pour some of the tomato sauce over it. Leftover tomato sauce can be stored in the fridge in an airtight container for a couple of days.

Bon Appétit!

Overcoming Dating Anxiety

by Nancy Bergeron, R.Psych. | info@nancybergeron.ca

Dating anxiety is common, but you can manage it with the right mindset and strategies. Here are some suggestions to get you started:

1. Shift Your Mindset

Lowering the pressure or expectations. Treat dates as casual meetups instead of stressful interviews.

Reframe any rejections. Not every match works out, and that is normal. See each time as a learning experience.

Focus on the enjoyment of the date. Instead of trying to impress your date, focus more on whether you are enjoying their company.

2. Prepare and Practice

Start small. Get comfortable with social interactions by practicing with friend or in low pressure environments.

Plan ahead. Choose a familiar setting for the date to feel more at ease.

Have conversation starters. Think of a few topics in advance to avoid awkward silences.

3. Manage Anxiety in the Moment

Breathe deeply. Try slow breathing exercises.

Use grounding techniques. Focus on your senses - what you see, hear, feel to stay present.

Accept your nervousness. It's normal. A little anxiety can make you appear more engaged and authentic.

4. Build Confidence Overtime

Expose yourself gradually. The more you date, the more natural it will feel.

Positive self-talk. Remind yourself of your strengths and why you are a great person to date.

Don't overanalyze. Avoid replaying the date in your head. Just move forward.

5. Seek Support if Needed

Talk to friends. They can offer their encouragement and a different perspective.



Consider therapy. If your anxiety is overwhelming, a therapist can help with confidence building strategies.

6. Confidence Tips

Before the Date: Dress in a way that makes you feel good and comfortable. Listen to music that pumps you up. Visualize the date being successful. Remind yourself why you are going to be a great date.

During the Date: Open body language by maintaining good posture, an open smile, and making eye contact. Try to slow your speech, reminding yourself that it's okay to pause and breathe. Focus on the other person as it helps keep away self-consciousness. Laugh off any mistakes you make. Humility is actually attractive.

After the Date: Don't overanalyze the date in your head. It is what it is, they either like you or they don't. It's a two-way street...you're evaluating them as well. Celebrate that you took a chance even if the date wasn't perfect. You break your anxiety cycle by facing your fears and learning as you go!

Practice makes each attempt easier and builds confidence. Get out there and have some fun.

Bicycle Helmet Safety

by Alberta Health Services EMS

Most injuries occur when a cyclist suffers a fall, strikes a stationary object, or collides with another cyclist or pedestrian. It is the law in Alberta that cyclists under the age of 18 must wear a helmet (and recommended for all ages). Helmets should be CSA approved and worn during recreational activities such as skateboarding, in-line skating, and cycling.

Getting Informed

- Wearing a helmet while cycling can prevent a serious injury or even save a life.
- Brain injuries can cause permanent disability or death.
- Reduce your risk by always wearing your helmet.
- Replace any helmet that has been involved in a crash, even if it appears undamaged.

Getting Started

- Allow children to assist when buying their helmet.

Cyclists who choose their own helmet are more likely to wear them.

- Start the habit early. Young children learning to ride tricycles need to wear helmets.
- Parents must lead by example – always wear a helmet when cycling.

Getting the Right Fit

- Take the time to properly fit and adjust your helmet to ensure maximum protection in case of a crash.
- When worn properly, helmets should fit level, not tilted up, or down over the forehead.
- Helmets should feel snug, but not too tight. To test the fit, the helmet should not fall off when you shake your head from side-to-side while the straps are unfastened.
- Adjust the chin straps to form a “Y” below and slightly forward from the ears.
- Only one finger should be able to fit under the chin strap when it is fastened.
- Do not forget to use the sizing pads included with the helmet. They will help improve the overall fit, comfort, and safety.



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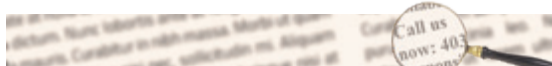
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