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Trivia:

If you were born one trillion
(1,000,000,000,000) seconds ago,
how old are you now? (Answer over) →

Massive tech IPOs spur warnings

Ian McGugan, financial columnist at The Globe and Mail, added his cautionary two cents this week on the massive U.S. high-tech IPOs happening this year:

"When markets fixate on such a narrow swath of companies, things typically do not end well.

"The railway and utility boom of the 1920s, the Nifty Fifty era of the early 1970s and the dot-com bubble of the 1990s were all periods of extreme market concentration – and they were all followed by market busts.

"The sudden outburst of mega-IPOs this year is not an encouraging sign. In previous episodes of market mania, a major wave of equity issuance typically came just before the bubble popped.

This should not come as a big surprise. When do insiders want to sell their shares to the public most urgently? It's when they perceive that most of the big gains are already in the rearview mirror and that trouble is brewing."

Read the full article (June 16) at: theglobeandmail.com



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Will A.I. change how children talk?

Children who interact with artificial intelligence (AI) on a regular basis could adopt completely different expectations of human interaction, says an article on The Conversation.

The prevalence of AI devices and chatbots in our homes make it easy for kids to interact with artificial intelligence, potentially undermining their understanding of how normal human conversations flow. Quick answers, especially involving human responses, aren't always available on demand as they are with AI.

Researchers Gaby Clark and Andrew Zinin say that the com-
See 'Children and AI' over →

Big ads, little ads,
tiny wee ads!

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The Buzzette
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News of the Odd:

A woman whose Ring camera

data, including private video, was sent to her ex-husband by a Ring employee was one of several who received a settlement in 2023 amounting to a cumulative \$5.6 million from Amazon, which purchased Ring in 2018, for breach of privacy.

The breaches occurred in 2017, and involved thousands of video recordings from Ring cameras that were pointed at bathrooms and bedrooms in private homes. The U.S. Federal Trade Commission found that Ring cameras in homes could be accessed by any Ring employee.

Ring cameras are home security cameras for both indoor and outdoor use.

The Macktown Buzzette

June 18 -
July 1, 2026

IREN expansion excites, incites

The expansion of the IREN facility on Coquiwalldie Road has the community a-buzz with conversation – and also some skepticism.

Originally operating as a Bitcoin mining campus, the site is now being retrofitted to support artificial intelligence (AI) computing workloads.

The transition involves removing existing ASIC mining hardware with Graphic Processing Unit (GPU) installations scheduled to begin in the second half of 2026, according to IREN spokesperson Matt

Epting, responding to a query from the Buzzette.

While mining equipment is being removed and replaced, the existing buildings, electrical infrastructure and the 100MW substation remain in place, with operations continuing at their 80MW capacity.

The change will also involve "installing redundant power components" that are, according to CEO David Shaw, expected to "significantly increase [the facility's] taxable value."

See 'IREN' over →



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Water report finds no big problems

The District's 2025 Water System Report was presented at last Monday's council meeting. Nothing previously unknown was noted.

Mayor Atkinson inquired about the recurring recommendation over several years' reports for additional water storage to improve fire response in town.

Quotes:

"I do not think the measure of a civilization is how tall its buildings of concrete are, but rather how well its people have learned to relate to their environment and fellow man.

—Sun Bear

A rep from L&M Engineering replied that creating water storage can be "tricky" due to the capacity for bacterial growth in a reservoir.

The report is available in the June 8 Council Agenda and on the District's website.



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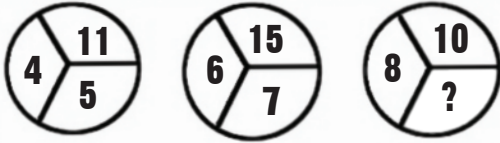
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MISSING NUMBER

Find a pattern to guess the missing number.



MINI CROSS from last issue - select answers: ACROSS: 2. Giant, 5. Knot, 8. Effete, 11. Trellis, 12. Viral, 13. Western. DOWN: 1. Aka, 2. Golfers, 6. Belle, 7. Resin, 8. Erie. CRYPTO-QUOTE: You have to ask yourself, Am I building a birdhouse or a deck? Measure twice, cut once. - Alastair MacLeod
Trivia answer: You would be 31,700 years old, born in the Upper Paleolithic era.

I used to jog but the ice cubes kept falling out of my glass. - David Lee Roth



Tsay Keh Dene Timber LP FOREST OPERATIONS MAP

Tsay Keh Dene Timber FLA99439 2026-4

Tsay Keh Dene Timber's Operations Map # Tsay Keh Dene Timber FLA99439 2026-4, public review and comment from June 18 - July 18, 2026, at link below, or in person by appointment Mon - Fri 8 am - 4 pm. Contact the forestry department at the email or phone number below in order to schedule an appointment. 1200 Mill Road, Mackenzie, BC, V0J 2C0. This FOM is applicable for 3 years and may be relied upon to apply for a cutting or road permit to harvest a cutblock or construct a road displayed on the FOM.

250-645-4982
fom@chuchoforestry.com
<https://fom.nrs.gov.bc.ca/public/projects>



'Children and AI'...

mand-style interactions, the immediate request gratification, and the absence of body language and normal conversational cues when interacting with AI could thwart children's learning of patience and politeness in conversation.

They ask the question: "Should we teach children to say 'please' and 'thank you' to Alexa?"

Find the article "Alexa, tell me a joke" at theconversation.com.

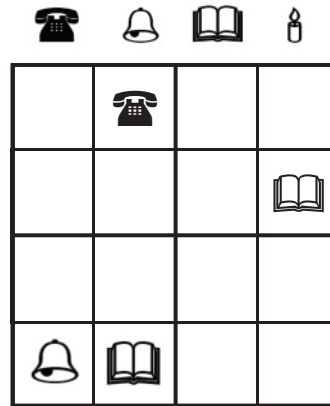
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SUDOKU

Each row, column and quadrant must contain one of each symbol!



COMMUNITY NOTES

WEEKEND CRAFTS 1 - 3 pm at the Mackenzie Visitor Centre. Drop by #11-600 Mackenzie Blvd to join the fun! More info: 250 997-5459

BOOK CLUB meets June 29th, 5 pm. June's book: *The House in the Cerulean Sea*. Sign up @ the Library.

SCHOOL DISTRICT 57 Board of Education Open Meeting June 22, 6 pm, online only. (Rescheduled from June 9). Find agenda & livestream link at sd57.bc.ca

CANADA DAY July 1 Celebrations at Spirit Square. Details @ Rec Services.

CONGRATS

TO MSS AND MORFEE GRADS 2026! "Somewhere, something incredible is waiting to be known."

'IREN'...

IREN says the shift to AI infrastructure requires a more specialized workforce and greater operational oversight than cryptocurrency mining.

Currently employing 54 people - most of them local, according to the company - IREN expects to expand the workforce to 87 on-site positions. New roles include data centre facilities managers, network engineers and senior data centre technicians and positions are posted on IREN's website.

Epting added that IREN has more than doubled its Community Grants Program to \$250,000 annually.

A conversation on a local Facebook group in recent days revealed widespread misunderstanding of the nature of IREN's operations in Mackenzie versus data centres elsewhere in Canada and the world.

Epting confirms that the Mackenzie facility remains air-cooled rather than water-cooled. Water-cooled centres are a source of great concern for communities in the U.S. where centres five to 25 times the size of IREN Mackenzie are, in some

cases, destroying local water supplies.

Other concerns around data centres, including some in Canada, are the use of fossil fuels to power them, such as Kevin O'Leary's proposed Wonder Valley project in Alberta, which would not only burn fossil fuels but would consume electricity on the scale of 15 Calgary-size cities, according to The Tyee.

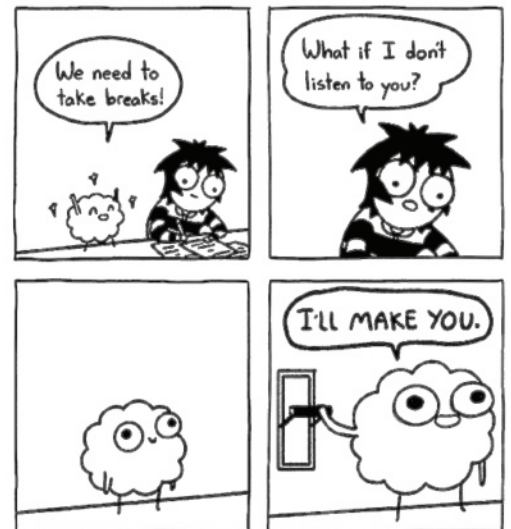
A lesser known concern is the excessive heat produced by data centres, creating what researchers describe as "heat islands" in the local vicinities.

In its first year of operation in Mackenzie, IREN had proposed a system that would use the plant's waste heat to heat the Omineca Growers Society greenhouse, at that time slated for an adjacent industrial lot. Some jurisdictions have engineered similar local uses of heat from these facilities. However, this was later deemed to be not feasible here.

Response to a secondary query about what happens to excess heat from IREN's Mackenzie facility was not received by print time.

[Full disclosure: Parts of this article were written with the help of A.I.]

Sarah's Scribbles sarahcandersen.com



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