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## Recipe of the month

### Bacon Wrapped Stuffed Mushrooms

½ cup chopped green onions  
2 (8 ounce) packages cream cheese, softened

20 fresh mushrooms, stems removed  
1 pound sliced bacon, cut in half

Level: Easy Total: 30 mins Yield: 20 appetizers  
Prep: 10 mins Cook: 20 mins

- Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C).
- In a medium bowl, mix together the green onions and cream cheese. Stuff mushroom caps with the cheese mixture. Wrap each mushroom with a half-slice of bacon, and secure with toothpicks. Place on a baking sheet.
- Bake for 20 minutes in the preheated oven, until the bacon is cooked through.

An ideal addition to a party tray or a wonderful appetizer for a romantic Valentine Day meal.

Source: www.allrecipes.com

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Vol. 18 No. 2 January 11, 2021

## Everybody's Talking

**Underwater art:** A young Bahamian girl sits beneath the sea off the coast of New Providence, an island in the Bahamas. Actually, the girl is a statue, made of sustainable materials designed to encourage the growth of coral. Named "Ocean Atlas," this statue was made by Jason deCaires Taylor, an artist and photographer. "Ocean Atlas" was installed in 2014 under the water near the city of Nassau. It is 5.5 metres (18 ft.) tall and weighs over 60 tonnes. It is possible to go snorkeling in the area to see this interesting art installment up close.

**Tiny tree:** Fairy Lake near the town of Port Renfrew on Vancouver Island, Canada, draws people to its shores so they can view a little fir tree. This small conifer is special because it is growing out of a log that is submerged in the lake. The tree is thought to be between 30 and 40 years old, and no one is quite sure how it survives on the log, which is the source of its nutrients. The tree is the subject of many photographs, and no two are alike. In times of high water, it may be almost submerged, while on still summer mornings, it sits peacefully in the mist.

**Twice lucky:** His last name has not been released, but "Joe B." is one lucky fellow. From Pueblo, Colorado (U.S.), Joe bought two lottery tickets on the same day at different stores located a few blocks apart. He purchased one in the morning and one in the afternoon. Both tickets turned out to be \$1 million winners! Joe used the same numbers (his lucky ones) each time. It took him a month to claim his prizes, and when he did, it was via a drive-thru window set up during the COVID-19 pandemic.

**Animal hospital:** The Nairobi National Park in Kenya has a special centre for injured animals. Called the Nairobi Animal Orphanage, this centre takes in and treats animals and birds of many different species. On any one day, there may be lions, hyenas, cheetahs, parrots, ostriches, and more. While the animals are ill or injured, they are nursed back to health by the orphanage's staff. The centre's goal is for the animals to be rehabilitated and returned to their natural habitats. Often, park rangers are the ones who find and bring in animals and birds that need medical treatment. The public can visit the orphanage for educational tours.

## Quoteable Quotes

"Whatever is—is best." —Ella Wheeler Wilcox

"It will never rain roses: when we want To have more roses we must plant more trees." —George Eliot

## What's Happening

**Feb 1 to 28-Hypothermic Half Marathon 10K** Virtual event - participate from any location you choose! Run in support of Justsocks.ca - a volunteer operated charity providing new socks to those in need across Canada. [www.hypothermichalf.com](http://www.hypothermichalf.com)

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## Trivia

1. A xylophone is a member of what class of musical instruments?
2. Where is Tasmania?
3. Lou Ferrigno is best known for his portrayal of what TV character?
4. In the periodic table of elements, what is the symbol for platinum—P, Pl, or Pt?
5. What is a snaffle?

(Flip bottom of page for answers)  
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# Your Weekly Horoscope

**ARIES (March 21 - April 20)**

This may be a busy and active time in your personal life. Appointments to keep and a hectic schedule might leave you little time for close, personal contact with your loved ones.  
Lucky Numbers: 1, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13.

**TAURUS (April 21 - May 21)**

Take a break from your rigid schedule. This may be a favourable time to take a short vacation or pleasure trip, especially to visit people whose company you really enjoy.  
Lucky Numbers: 9, 11, 34, 41, 42, 48.

**GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)**

Think big – the basics of your life may be shifted. You might be more willing to take risks and speculate. This could spur you to discover ways to improve your career.  
Lucky Numbers: 10, 19, 22, 32, 38, 41.

**CANCER (June 22 - July 22)**

Your relationships may be very harmonious and positive. Humour those who need to tell you how to live your life. Shower loved ones with affection and pampering.  
Lucky Numbers: 11, 30, 37, 39, 42, 44.

**LEO (July 23 - Aug. 23)**

You might discover that the ethics you hold can radically change through some new experiences. You may find new and exciting ways to begin a high-tech adventure.  
Lucky Numbers: 17, 28, 33, 42, 45, 47

**VIRGO (Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)**

Try to focus on maintaining a healthy lifestyle. You might need to concentrate on complex concepts that can be very demanding, both mentally and physically.  
Lucky Numbers: 2, 15, 19, 29, 35, 48.

Lucky numbers this week: This week's odds favour Sagittarius winners with the luckiest number being 3.

## Did You Know...

**Snack time:** Everybody loves popcorn, especially at the movies! Popcorn is a specific type of corn with a hard outside and an inside that consists of dense starch. When heated, the starch pops and turns the kernel into the familiar snack.

**Mountain ranges:** The country of Colombia, in the northwest corner of South America, is home to the Colombian Andes. There are three branches: Cordillera Central, Cordillera Oriental, and Cordillera Occidental.

**Famous works:** Composer Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart (1756-1791) was a famous Austrian composer whose works are still admired today. He wrote operas, including *The Marriage of Figaro*, as well as symphonies, such as the *Jupiter Symphony*.

**Fast running bird:** Ostriches are found in the wild in Africa and are also raised around the world as a farm animal. Although they can't fly, they can run faster than any other running bird.

**Cotton swabs:** A Polish American named Leo Gerstenzang is credited with inventing the Q-tip in the early 1920s after watching his wife use a cotton-covered toothpick as a makeshift version. That spurred him to come up with something better.

## On the Lighter Side

My friend and I often laugh about how competitive we are. But I laugh more.

What has feathers but no wings? A pillow.

Man on one river bank: "I need you to help me get to the other side!"  
Man on the other river bank: "You are on the other side!"

Don't you hate it when someone answers their own questions? I do.

What do Alexander the Great and Winnie the Pooh have in common? Same middle name.

## Answers

**Trivia answers:** 1. Percussion 2. SE Australia 3. The Hulk 4. Pt 5. A bit for a horse

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