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Recipe of the month

Cheesy Broccoli Soup in a Bread Bowl

1/4 cup butter, cubed
1/2 cup chopped onion
2 garlic cloves, minced
4 cups fresh broccoli florets (about 8 ounces)
1 large carrot, finely chopped
3 cups chicken stock
2 cups half-and-half cream
2 bay leaves
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg

1/4 teaspoon pepper
1/4 cup cornstarch
1/4 cup water or additional chicken stock
2-1/2 cups shredded cheddar cheese
6 small round bread loaves (about 8 ounces each), optional
Optional toppings: Crumbled cooked bacon, additional shredded cheddar cheese, ground nutmeg and pepper

Prep Time: 15 mins. Cook time: 30 mins. Yield: 6 servings

1. In a 6-qt. stockpot, heat butter over medium heat; sauté onion and garlic until tender, 6-8 minutes. Stir in broccoli, carrot, stock, cream and seasonings; bring to a boil. Simmer, uncovered, until vegetables are tender, 10-12 minutes.

2. Mix cornstarch and water until smooth; stir into soup. Bring to a boil, stirring occasionally; cook and stir until thickened, 1-2 minutes. Remove bay leaves. Stir in cheese until melted.

3. If using bread bowls, cut a slice off the top of each bread loaf; hollow out bottoms, leaving 1/4-in.-thick shells (save removed bread for another use). Fill with soup just before serving.

4. If desired, serve soup with toppings.

Source: www.tasteofhome.com

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Everybody's Talking

Odd shape: Square watermelons actually exist in Japan, but they don't come from special seeds. They are created when a watermelon of the usual variety is grown inside a box so that the final product is square. Watermelons of this shape have the advantage of being stackable, so therefore are more easily transported and stored. The taste of these watermelons isn't like regular ones because they're harvested before they become mature. People buy them as ornamental gifts, parting with as much as \$100 USD if purchasing from a Japanese store, and for much more from specialty stores in other countries.

A place for books: There is a library like no other in Stockholm, Sweden. Stadsbiblioteket (City Library) was designed by architect Gunnar Asplund in the 1920s. Its round shape is unusual, with stacks of books encircling the huge room. Above the stacks is a viewing area, allowing visitors to take a bird's-eye look at the hundreds of thousands of books available for reading and loaning. The architectural style is known as Nordic Classicism; some people call it "Swedish Grace." Both inside and out, the building is a photographer's dream, not to mention a reader's fantasy.

Wild winds: On New Zealand's South Island is a windswept area called Slope Point. This forbidding place on the island's most southern tip, almost midway between the Equator and the South Pole, experiences relentless, howling winds that come across the ocean, uninterrupted, from Antarctica. Sheep graze there, and years ago farmers decided to plant trees to act as shelters for the animals. Today, those trees are a tourist attraction because the wind has forced them to grow sideways – literally. While people like to come to see the trees, they must make day trips because there are no accommodations on this wild, windy point.

Sink art: An artist in Milan, Spain, didn't let the coronavirus pandemic get in her way. During the shutdown in that country, Marta Grossi used an everyday home feature as her canvas: the sink. Normally used for the drab tasks of doing dishes and personal care regimes, Grossi decided to breathe creative life into the basins by using watercolour paints. From sea anemones to butterflies to floral designs and animal life, she created bright, colourful scenes. She left each painting intact for 24 hours, but took photos before washing each design down the drain.

Quoteable Quotes

"Thinking is the talking of the soul with itself." —Plato

"There is no chance, no destiny, no fate that can circumvent or hinder or control the firm resolve of a determined soul." —Ella Wheeler Wilcox

What's Happening

Online event posting During the Pandemic, we are happy to post your online event in the What's Happening section of Coffee News. Please visit our website at www.coffee-news.ca to submit your event.

April 30-Ladies Night Come paint a masterpiece, get crafty, socialize, and discover something new. This after-hours event for girls/ladies 13 and older. Pre-registration is required and donations are gratefully appreciated. Stuart MacPherson Public Library. 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

NON profit organizations may submit events for FREE at
www.coffee-news.ca/whats-happening

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Trivia

1. What type of insect is said to be responsible for spreading Lyme disease?
2. Where is the popular U.S. theme park called Epcot located?
3. Gorp is a popular trail mix. What do the letters represent?
4. What is an octet?
5. What do mini, midi, and maxi refer to in the fashion world?

(Flip bottom of page for answers)

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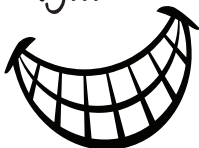
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Your Weekly Horoscope

ARIES

(March 21 - April 20)



Look beyond your own
expectations. Your per-
spective may need a
little widening so that
you start to appreciate
the contributions of
others for what they really are. Lucky
numbers: 10, 14, 27, 31, 37, 43.

TAURUS

(April 21 - May 21)



Some people may not
understand your talent,
but they know what they
like. If you take your
time, your creativeness
could help you surpass
all expectations. Lucky numbers: 3, 6,
9, 12, 15, 18.

GEMINI

(May 22 - June 21)



You may need patience
and a sense of humour
when dealing with those
who have no idea about
the true value of things.
Try a different perspec-
tive and you could learn more. Lucky
numbers: 4, 21, 24, 27, 30, 36.

CANCER

(June 22 - July 22)



You may need to express
your ideas more clearly,
as you shouldn't expect
others to understand
your inner emotions.
Good communication
may be very important right now.
Lucky numbers: 8, 14, 23, 24, 28, 40.

LEO

(July 23 - Aug. 23)



Keep up the positive flow
and you may be able to
give others some insight.
You could meet some
really interesting people
who touch something
special in your heart. Lucky numbers:
8, 12, 22, 25, 47, 49.

VIRGO

(Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)



Analyze all of your avail-
able options. Your mod-
esty could attract impor-
tant people to your
cause. Your bright ideas
may enlighten the lives
of others. Lucky numbers: 12, 14, 27,
34, 37, 43.

LIBRA

(Sept. 24 - Oct. 23)



Relax and be yourself.
Time may find a way to
make things right. Your
fears could be blown all
out of proportion. Don't
allow your imagination
to work overtime. Lucky numbers: 3,
5, 18, 29, 35, 37.

SCORPIO

(Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)



This may be the time for
making long-range plans
and thinking about what
is really important now.
The trivial details of day-
to-day living should not
dominate your attention. Lucky
numbers: 11, 13, 16, 27, 34, 38.

SAGITTARIUS

(Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)



A change of residence
or workplace may give
you all the freedom you
require. Your talents
could flourish within a
more mindful, spiritual
framework. Lucky numbers: 19, 21,
23, 35, 44, 48.

CAPRICORN

(Dec. 22 - Jan. 20)



You may need to look
past the negative and
come up with a more
positive future scenario.
Your creative mind might
help you change your
inner expectations. Lucky numbers: 1,
6, 19, 23, 26, 34.

AQUARIUS

(Jan. 21 - Feb. 19)



You may feel like you're
in the middle of a con-
troversial situation. You
might want to keep your
distance from negative
influences. Your positive
flow could prevail. Lucky numbers: 6,
13, 26, 34, 36, 38.

PISCES

(Feb. 20 - March 20)



You may have some big
decisions to make right
now. Others might try to
influence your actions,
but only you can decide
in which direction you
want to proceed. Lucky numbers: 19,
22, 24, 27, 34, 44.

Lucky numbers this week: This week's odds favour Leo winners
with the luckiest number being 8.

Did You Know...

Underground spectacle: The state of Kentucky (U.S.)
is home to Mammoth Cave, a cave system that spans more
than 400 miles (644 km). Cave explorers can visit some of
these caverns at Mammoth Cave National Park.

Too hot: A restaurant in Jakarta, Indonesia, is rumoured to
serve up the spiciest noodle dish ever. Called *Mie Goreng
Pedas Mampus*, or "Death Noodles," the dish uses common
packaged noodles, but serves them with a sauce made from as
many as 150 bird's eye chilies.

Snowy occurrence: When gusts of wind pick up dry snow,
a snow devil may occur. Although rare, they can happen
when cold air moves over a warm surface, causing an updraft
that can rotate, bringing with it swirls of snow.

Straddling two continents: A few cities in the world are
located in two continents. For example, Suez is in Africa and
Asia, Panama City is in North and South America, and
Istanbul is in Europe and Asia.

Personal tree space: In some forests, there is a phenomenon
called "crown shyness." This happens when the upper branches
of trees don't touch their neighbours, so there are gaps in the
canopy when looking upwards.

On the Lighter Side

Why don't oysters give to charity? Because they're shellfish.

Middle age: When the narrow waist and the broad mind begin
to change places.

Opportunity may knock only once, but temptation bangs on
the door forever!

If you see an ocean but not water, where are you? In front of
a map.

How is a hospital gown like insurance? You're never covered
as much as you think you are.

Answers

Trivia answers: 1. Tick 2. Bay Lake, Fla. (U.S.) 3. Good
of raisins and peanuts 4. Group of eight 5. Skirt lengths

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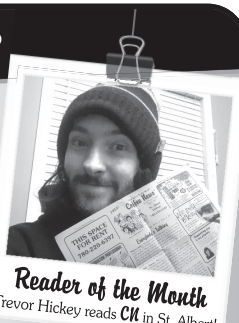
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