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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

Well-dressed: James Maina Mwangi of Nairobi, Kenya, came from a poor family and didn't have very many clothes as a child. Eventually, he was able to earn money as a handyman, and he started to buy interesting clothes to match his flamboyant style. Today, he can be seen on the city's streets in suits of different colours, all with matching accessories. For example, if he decides to wear a bright blue suit, he wears a tie, hat, watchband, eyeglasses, and shoes that all match. On other days, he may be dressed in pink, yellow, red plaid, or black and white. During the pandemic, he even finds facemasks to match!

Bird sport: A sport in Belgium involves birds, but very little activity. It's called vinkenspot, which translates as "finch sitting" in English. In vinkenspot, competitors sit in front of cages that contain one male chaffinch (a member of the finch family). These birds sing, and their owners keep track of the number of times their bird makes a complete bird call. A distinctive "susk-e-wiet" marks the end of each call. The competitor whose chaffinch makes the most calls in an hour is the winner. The sport is known to have cheaters; once, a competitor put a CD player in the box instead of a bird.

Pie queen: A baker from Seattle, Washington (U.S.), has become a pie-baking celebrity. Lauren Ko once worked as an executive assistant in education, but now she bakes pies with such intricate geometric designs that people flock to see her creations. Grandma's pies may have tasted delicious, but Ko's work also appeals to the eye. One blueberry pie, dubbed "flour power," uses dozens of six-sided dough bits to hold blue petals. Others feature swirls of food-coloured dough strands or shapes that are formed into unbelievable patterns. The resulting pies are almost too incredible to eat!

Much ado about nothing: Some people may wonder what the social media world is coming to after they hear about a video posted by Muhammad Dikit of Indonesia. The young man decided to post a video of himself doing absolutely nothing. He shows himself sitting on a couch and staring into the camera for over two hours! He meant to record himself doing nothing for only five or 10 minutes, but after he started, he kept going. The weird thing is that the video has garnered hundreds of thousands of views and has motivated other people to do the same thing for even longer periods of time.

Quoteable Quotes

"In a time of turbulence and change, it is more true than ever that knowledge is power."
—John Fitzgerald Kennedy

"Statues and pictures and verse may be grand, but they are not the Life for which they stand."
—James Thomson

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.

June 8-3rd 2021 Marda Loop Justice Film Festival justREEL film screening MLJFF invites you to our FREE social justice themed double feature, followed by a prerecorded QA segment with a subject matter expert. Available across Alberta from 5:30 pm to 11:59 pm. Learn more and register today at: <https://justicefilmfestival.ca>

July 30 to Aug 2- The Annual Rotary RIBFEST YYC Rotary RIBFEST YYC is a fun event to bring our community together and to raise money for local charities. Join us July 30 to Aug 2 from 11-9 at McMahon Stadium for the Stampede Famous RIB trucks. <https://www.chinookrotary.org/pagerotary-ribfest-yyc>

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

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Trivia

1. French fries originated in France—T/F?
2. What glands are responsible for producing tears?
3. What is a loge?
4. Who wrote the popular novel Beloved?
5. Guinness World Records states that the first speeding ticket was written in 1896, 1920, or 1929?

(Flip bottom of page for answers)

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(Over)

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Your Weekly Horoscope

ARIES

(March 21 - April 20)

You may feel very clear, articulate, and communicative. Public speaking or any endeavour that involves giving information to others might be favoured now. Lucky Numbers: 4, 28, 34, 42, 46, 48.

TAURUS

(April 21 - May 21)

Strong support from close friends and family may give you great confidence. It might be a good time to mend fences and improve relations in your home life. Lucky Numbers: 9, 13, 19, 23, 29, 33.

GEMINI

(May 22 - June 21)

You may feel great physically, and your confidence and optimism could be very high. You might feel that whatever you attempt now may likely succeed. Lucky Numbers: 6, 16, 26, 35, 36, 46.

CANCER

(June 22 - July 22)

Your artistic efforts may flourish. You could be moved to express your affections more openly. You also might want to be surrounded by beauty and harmonious people. Lucky Numbers: 10, 13, 18, 40, 43, 48.

LEO

(July 23 - Aug. 23)

You may benefit greatly from opportunities that occur. You might feel expansive and optimistic now. Very influential people could come into your life. Lucky Numbers: 4, 7, 16, 21, 28, 30.

VIRGO

(Aug. 24 - Sept. 23)

You may enjoy spy or mystery stories. Unsolved or puzzling problems of a situation might interest you. You may need to probe for answers in order to discover the truth. Lucky Numbers: 2, 6, 21, 25, 30, 34.

Lucky numbers this week: This week's odds favour Pisces winners with the luckiest number being 5.

Did You Know...

Long history: The Volkswagen Beetle, still on the roads today, is an iconic vehicle that dates back to 1938. Designed by Ferdinand Porsche, the Beetle was first built in Germany and came to North America in the 1950s.

Fun partnership: People from hometowns with dreary names can either laugh or cry. The folks in Boring, Oregon (U.S.), Dull, Perthshire (Scotland), and Bland, New South Wales (Australia), are choosing to jointly promote tourism as "The League of Extraordinary Communities."

Easy access: Japan has the highest number of vending machines in the world, with one for every 23 to 25 residents. They can be found in urban and rural areas, and play an integral role in the country's culture.

Pizzly bear: Most people know about grizzly bears and polar bears, but there is also a pizzly bear, the offspring of a polar bear and grizzly bear. They also are known as grolar bears and the *nanulak*, after the Inuit *nanuk* (polar bear) and *aklak* (grizzly bear).

More words: It's no wonder an English dictionary is so thick: the English language is believed to have the largest lexicon, or number of words, of any European language. That's due in part to accommodating so many foreign words.

On the Lighter Side

Many directors of today's comedies must be inspired by the old, silent movies. A scene is supposed to be funny, but the audience doesn't make a sound.

What's black and white and eats like a horse? A zebra.

If you had one match to light a kerosene lamp, fireplace, and wood-burning stove, which do you light first? The match.

What goes up but never comes down? Your age.

One worm to another: "Follow me. I know a restaurant where we can eat dirt cheap."

Answers

4. Toni Morrison 5. 1896
Trivia answers: 1. False 2. Lacrimal glands 3. Theatre box

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