SENIOR NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2024 MUNICIPAL AGENT FOR THE AGING/SOCIAL SERVICES DANIEL SIMONELLI

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Hours: Monday through Friday 8am to 3:30pm

Hello All,

So far we have had a pretty active winter compared to past years. Please refer to the winter storm preparedness sheets that were sent out in past months for what to do in case of a big storm. If you need a new sheet, please reach out to me and I can supply you with one! Stay warm and safe this winter!

Operation Fuel Applications have Re-Opened! Call to make an appointment!

Operation fuel applications have re-opened for a limited time. Operation fuel can help with a current bill or a future fuel delivery. If you have applied in the past, or think you may qualify, please give me a call to set up an appointment to submit a new application. You will need to have: An email address, the last 4 weeks of income for every household member, and information of the fuel vendor that you use.

Please note – Operation Fuel application window is based on available funding and can close down at any time but they are currently expected to remain open until March 1^{st} . If you think you are eligible, please call me to make an appointment. – 203-268-1137



The Commission for the Aging will meet on Monday February 5th at 5 pm at the Easton Senior Center.

A soup recipe that is good for the brain

Tuscan-Style Chicken, Bean and Tomato Soup

Soup recipes can be easy, delicious *and* healthy. The four-bean mix bulks out this dish with extra protein and fiber, without adding fat, making it satisfying and beneficial for your cardiovascular system. Your brain relies on a healthy heart and blood vessels for its supply of oxygen and precious nutrients.

Ingredients

- 1 tbsp <u>olive oil</u>
- 1 <u>onion</u> chopped
- 1 <u>carrot</u> chopped
- 2 <u>celery stalks</u> chopped
- 1 <u>zucchini</u> chopped
- 2 <u>large tomatoes</u> chopped
- 14 oz <u>four-bean mix</u> rinsed and drained (Can choose any you'd like)
- ½ lb or 3/4lb of chicken thighs boneless, skinless, trimmed and sliced
- 4 cups <u>chicken stock</u>
- 1 bay leaf
- 1 tsp <u>dried oregano</u>
- 1 lemon grated zest optional
- 5.29 oz <u>baby spinach leaves</u> chopped

Instructions

- Heat the oil in a large saucepan over medium heat and cook the onion for 10 minutes, until soft and golden. Add the carrot and celery, and cook for 5 minutes, until just soft.
- 2. Stir in the zucchini, tomatoes, four-bean mix, chicken stock and 1 cup (250 ml) water. Add the bay leaf, oregano and lemon zest, if using. Simmer for 20 minutes, until the vegetables are tender and the chicken is cooked through.
- 3. Stir in the chopped baby spinach leaves and cook for 2 minutes, until wilted.

Recipe Notes

You can replace the four-bean mix with 2 cups cooked beans made from 2/3 cup (140 g) dried beans.

This recipe is for 4 servings

Enjoy!