Beefy Minestrone Soup

Corinne Bachle, MG

1 tri-tip roast, 2-3 lbs. 2 quarts water 2 quarts beef stock (fat free, low salt) Olive oil 2 14-oz. cans pinto beans 1 large garlic clove 2 cups celery, chopped 1 large onion, chopped 3 large carrots, chopped 2 cups fresh string beans, trimmed, and cut into 1" pieces 2 cups fresh zucchini, quartered and sliced 2 cups thinly sliced and quartered new potatoes 2 cans Italian stewed tomatoes 2 cups shredded cabbage 4 Tbs. green pesto sauce (or more) 1 cup Trader Joe's Harvest Grains Blend Salt and pepper to taste Parmesan cheese to taste Steak and roast seasoning (or similar) to taste

- 1. Trim tri-tip of all visible fat. Cut into 3 or 4 chunks and season with Steak and Roast (or similar) seasoning. Place in crockpot and pour 1 quart of beef broth over.
- 2. Cook on high for about 6-8 hours until meat is very tender.
- 3. Skim fat from broth and add more broth to the soup pot.
- 4. Place meat on plate and cut across the grain in 1 inch strips. Meanwhile...
- 5. Sauté the onion, celery, and garlic in olive oil.
- 6. Blend $\frac{1}{2}$ of pinto beans with some added liquid in a blender until they are a smooth consistency (set aside).
- 7. Put the water and 1 quart beef broth in a 10-quart stock pot.

This hearty soup can't be beat on a cold autumn day! It takes a little time, but its well worth the effort. It's a meal in itself and it makes a BIG pot of soup. ENJOY!!

- 8. When water comes to a boil, add remaining whole pinto beans, Harvest Grains Blend and all vegetables except cabbage.
- 9. Cook on low flame for 40 minutes.
- 10. Add blended pinto beans. Leave lid off pot after adding blended pinto beans. Add shredded cabbage, sliced beef and broth from the crockpot.
- After beans and vegetables are cooked, add cabbage and boil 15-20 minutes. Add Harvest Grain Blend, salt and pepper, and pesto. Simmer 10 minutes.
- 12. When serving, add Parmesan cheese to taste.