## Autumn Harvest

October 17th, 2013 with Chef Robert Alimirzaie



## **Butternut Squash Gratin**

## **Ingredients:**

1 Tbsp rosemary and garlic seasoning mix (if you don't have the mix, make your own by mixing ½ Tbsp rosemary with ½ Tbsp garlic powder)

½ tsp nutmeg

½ tsp sea salt

½ tsp black pepper

2 Bay leaves

1/4 tsp minced garlic

½ onion, chopped

4 oz cream cheese

1 ½ cup Mozzarella shredded cheese

1 butternut squash, peeled, seeded, and sliced into ½ inch slices (Tip: Cut the ends of the squash first and then cut the squash in half. Next peel the squash and then remove seeds. Lastly, slice the squash into ½ inch slices.)

3 cups milk

## **Directions:**

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Lightly spray a 9×13 inch baking dish.

In a medium sauce pan, add onions, cream cheese, milk, nutmeg, salt, pepper, Bay leaves and minced garlic.

Stir all ingredients together in sauce pan and simmer for 30-35 minutes, stirring occasionally. Using a mesh strainer or cheese cloth, strain and separate the liquid from the seasoning into a separate bowl.

Layer a single layer of squash slices into the bottom of the 9×13 inch baking dish.

Sprinkle the layer of squash with some of the Mozzarella cheese.

Pour ½ of the liquid mixture onto squash layer.

Top the liquid and squash with a an additional amount of Mozzarella cheese.

Add the additional squash slices on top of cheese to form second layer.

Again top with Mozzarella cheese and pour remaining sauce over squash.

Top the squash with any remaining Mozzarella cheese.

Allow ingredients to settle for 3-4 minutes.

Place squash in the oven and bake for 40-45 minutes until sauce is bubbly and cheese is brown. Allow baked squash to cool before serving.

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