



Cherie Barton's December 2012



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MERRY CHRISTMAS!

- 12/5/2012-Ambassador Christmas Social
- 12/5/2012 -BYP December Monthly Luncheon: financial
- 12/05/2012-Holiday Tapas Cooking Class
- 12/7/2012-Metro Conversations
- 12/07/2012-Idaho Stampede vs Austin Toros
- 12/08/2012-Holiday Dodgeball Challenge
- 11/26/2012-12/19/2012-Classical Drawing Classes Every Monday, Wednesday/
- 12/18/2012-LB Alumni Night at the Winter Garden aGlow
- 12/21/2012-The Nutcracker - Ballet Idaho
- 12/25/2012- Christmas Day
- 12/29/2012-Idaho Stampede vs Reno Bighorns

MASHED POTATOES WITH HERB INFUSED CREAM AND CHIVES

I recommend these mashed potatoes. They are outstanding!
Servings: makes 8-10 Servings

Ingredients

- 4 1/2 lb. russet potatoes
- Kosher Salt to Taste
- 1 1/2 Cup Heavy Cream
- 1 tsp. minced garlic
- 1 shallot, thinly sliced
- 1 Large fresh thyme sprig
- 1 bay leaf
- 1 tsp. Peppercorns
- 8 Tbs. unsalted butter
- 1/4 cup chopped chives
- Fresh ground pepper to taste

Directions

Bring peeled and cut russet potatoes to a boil. Boil until tender, about 15 min. Meanwhile heat a pan combine cream, garlic, shallots, rosemary, bay leaf, thyme, and peppercorns. Bring to simmer until the cream is reduced to about 1 cup. Stain the cream thoroughly. With the potatoes through a ricer into a large bowl. Add butter, then gradually pour in cream, stirring the potatoes till they are smooth and cream. golden brown, about 2-3 minute per side.



TIPS FOR WINTERIZING YOUR HOME

Clean those gutters

- Once the leaves fall, remove them and other debris from your home's gutters

Block those leaks

- One of the best ways to winterize your home is to simply block obvious leaks around your house, both inside and out, experts say.

Insulate yourself

- "Another thing that does cost a little money -- but boy, you do get the money back quick -- is adding insulation to the existing insulation in the attic," says Lipford. "Regardless of the climate conditions you live in, in the (U.S.) you need a minimum of 12 inches of insulation in your attic."

Check the furnace

- It's a good idea to have furnaces cleaned and tuned annually. Costs will often run about \$100-\$125.

Get your ducts in a row

- According to the U.S. Department of Energy, a home with central heating can lose up to 60% of its heated air before that air reaches the vents if ductwork is not well-connected and insulated, or if it must travel through unheated spaces. That's a huge amount of wasted money, not to mention a chilly house.



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