

# Smiles Sparkle... Confidence Soars



## THE PRACTICE STEPS BOLDLY INTO THE 21ST CENTURY

It has been awhile since the last newsletter and I apologize for the delay, but we have been very busy setting up an internet friendly program which will aid all the patients of the practice who have internet access.

The website, [www.albergerdds.com](http://www.albergerdds.com) has been updated. All patients of the practice can now go to the site and click on the Patient Login button. A new page will appear for a patient to enter their username and password both of which are of the patient's own choosing. Once the patient has logged on they will have access to different sections of their record including: family information, patient information, treatment information, account information, and appointment information. In addition to these categories, patients can make credit card payments on their accounts. In December we are projecting that patients will be able to make payments on their accounts using their checks or debit cards. Patients will also

be able to fill out three different forms online: 1. consent for internet communications. 2. Medical and Dental History. 3. Patient information form. A patient can update their medical/dental history on line one week before their appointment. This will save time when a patient comes for their appointment since this information is updated in our system. The patients personal information is protected by 128-bit SSL encryption.

Our staff will be asking all patients to give us their e-mail addresses. As we move forward the newsletters will be sent to the e-mail addresses eliminating the costs for printing, postage and labor associated with them.

Our internet program will allow us to let patients know via e-mail of their upcoming appointments. The program will send e-mail reminders one month, two weeks and one day before a scheduled appointment. Some of the patients have commented that they would rather have their appointment confirmations on their blackberries than any of the more conventional methods.

### 48 Hour Confirmations

Our staff will now be confirming all appointments 48 hours in advance. If an appointment needs to be re-scheduled our office requires 48 hour notice so we can schedule that appointment with another patient who is waiting for an appointment. Unfortunately, when patients change appointments without sufficient time for our staff to fill that time both prospective patients as well as the practice are negatively impacted. Your cooperation in this matter is greatly appreciated.

### INSURANCE

Our staff has recently sent out a letter to patients reminding them that as the year comes to a close, any insurance benefits that remain will be lost and a new deductible will need to be met. If you have any questions regarding your insurance status and remaining benefits please give Pat a call at 631-589-2600 so she can address any of your questions and concerns.

# Pat's Recipe Corner

## Potato and Bean Soup (My Dad's Recipe)

6 Potatoes washed and cut into chunks  
2 cans Cannellini Beans (do not drain)  
Chopped celery leaves  
2 cans low sodium chicken broth  
4 cloves garlic chopped  
Salt and pepper to taste  
Dash of cinnamon  
2 tbsp olive oil

Saute celery with garlic until garlic is lightly brown. Add remaining ingredients. Bring to a slow boil. Simmer on low heat until potatoes are soft.

When finished, you can mash the potatoes to make soup chunky or put in blender to puree for creamy soup.

Makes approx. 6 servings

### OFFICE HOURS

Monday & Thursday 9AM-8PM  
Tuesday & Wednesday 9AM-5:30PM  
Friday 8:30AM-12:30PM



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