

Meichels for Pesach

By Norma Barach
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Now is the time to begin getting your Passover repertoire together. Matzo farfel kugel made with apples and raisins is good with any poultry meal.

- 2 cups matzo farfel
- 2 large eggs, beaten
- ¼ cup sugar
- 1 tsp. salt
- dash nutmeg
- 3 tblsps. melted margarine or oil
- ½ cup yellow raisins
- ½ tsp. cinnamon
- 3 large tart apples, diced
- ½ cup chopped walnuts

Pour boiling water over farfel and soak for 5 minutes, covered. Drain. Add rest of ingredients. Grease a 9x12-inch pan. Pour in farfel mixture. Bake for 45 minutes at 350 degrees. Serves 9.

Pizzarelle Col Miele (Matzo Pancakes with Honey)

Editor's Note: This recipe comes from Edda Machlin's book "The Classic Cuisine of the Italian Jews, Traditional Recipes and Menus and a Memoir of a Vanished Way of Life."

- 8 store-bought regular matzos
- 5 eggs, slightly beaten
- 1 tsp. salt
- 2 tblsps. shredded lemon peel
- 2 tblsps. brandy
- ¼ cup pinoli (pine nuts) or ½ cup chopped walnut meats
- ½ cup dark, seedless raisins,
- 1 cup olive or other vegetable (Passover) oil for frying
- ¼ cup honey
- 3 tblsps. water
- 1 tblsp. lemon juice

Soak matzos in cold water, placing an inverted saucer over them to prevent them from floating, for ½ hour or until soft all through. Squeeze all the water out. You should have 4 cups of firmly packed soaked matzo.

Combine with eggs, salt, lemon peel, brandy, nuts and raisins.

Heat 1/3 of the oil in a large skillet. Drop the matzo mixture into the oil by the tablespoon and fry over moderate heat, turning until golden on both sides. Drain on a paper towel. Continue to fry until you have used up all the mixture, adding oil as it becomes necessary.

Combine honey, water and lemon juice in a small saucepan. Bring to a boil and cook for 3 minutes. Arrange pancakes on a serving plate and pour the honey mixture over them. Serve immediately. Serves 6.

INVITE A COLLEGE STUDENT TO SEDER

Want to do a Mitzvah during the holidays? Why not invite a college student to your Seder...many of them will be unable to be with their own families at this time. For students' names and information call:

ELIZABETH KLEIN - 847-4342

Interest Free Educational Loans

The Jewish Children's Service, based in Atlanta, Georgia, is a social service agency that provides interest free educational loans to Jewish youth whose families reside in the Southeast region.

Following are some of the guidelines that determine eligibility.

- Applicant and family must be members of the Jewish Community.

- Applicant and family must have resided for at least one year in an organized community that is affiliated with the Jewish Children's Service.

- Educational loans are to be used primarily for college or post-secondary training.

- Applicant must demonstrate an interest in securing educational training, show evidence of ability to realize success in prior schooling and be accepted by a recognized school.

- Loans are granted only on an annual basis.

- The principal determinant, in addition to the qualifications listed above, is financial need. This is determined and certified by the referring agency.

For additional information or to determine eligibility please contact Janice F. Willett or Nathaniel S. Greenwood, Jewish Social Services, P.O. Box 220188, Charlotte, N.C. 28222, 375-7738 or 375-7739.

JDF Roast

The Charlotte Chapter of the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation will hold its Annual Roast on April 30 at the Sheraton Center. The roast will honor Charlie "Choo-Choo" Justice. "An Evening of Nostalgia" will begin at 6:30 p.m. with cocktails, to be followed at 7:30 p.m. with dinner; the roast will begin at 8:30 p.m. The roast coordinators are Roz and Stan Greenspon. Tickets are \$50 per person and may be secured by calling the JDF office, 568-4389 or the Greenspons, 366-5797.

Correction

In last month's issue the story on the Project Site stated that the Ground-breaking Ceremony was in May. It was actually in December.

Cults - The Tender Trap

A Review by Saul Nathanson

More than 900 people died in Jonestown, Guyana in November 1978. Many of them were suicides. All were members of a "cult." Could it happen again? To you or someone you know?

Andy Silver, a former member of the People's Temple, feels that more people are susceptible to cult recruitment than is generally believed. Mr. Silver spoke at a meeting to discuss cults and youth today on Feb. 23 at Temple Beth El. The discussion was co-sponsored by Charlotte Chapter B'nai B'rith Women and the Community Relations Committee of the Charlotte Jewish Federation. To give another perspective, Betty Silver, Mr. Silver's mother, spoke and answered questions from the nearly 200 adults and teenagers who attended.

Linda Binnick, President of the Charlotte Chapter of BBW, and Vicki Hopkins, chairperson of the CRC, moderated the discussion and introduced Miriam Wallace of the ADL's Regional Advisory Board. Ms. Wallace spoke on the status of cults in Charlotte currently and what is being done to alert the broader community. Also, a CBS News film entitled "Cults-Choice or Coercion" was shown.

Mr. Silver related his experiences and what he felt led him to join the Rev. Jim Jones and his People's Temple. At the time Mr. Silver was a senior in college having been raised in a Jewish family in Tarrytown, N.Y. According to Mr. Silver, those in a "transition" state in their lives are most vulnerable. This includes those going away to college, or a new job, or undergoing an upheaval in their personal lives such as ending a romantic relationship unhappily.

The cult recruiter looks for these types of people by active solicitation or setting up a sidewalk booth. He preys on their naivete and their lack of stable social ties. Particularly those seeking the ultimate meaning of life in general are prime targets. The cultists offer friendship and "family" of a large organization whose leader has finally found the answers to all of life's problems. They engage in "love bombing," totally immersing the subject in the cult and blocking all outside stimuli. At this point, Mr. Silver says, the new recruit becomes an enthusiastic "Zombie" totally devoid of free will. The typical recruit is between 18 and 25, but elderly retirees have been targeted as well, giving away their retirement funds and signing away their social security checks to the living leader of the cult.

Mr. Silver urged that the most effective tool in combating cults is a healthy skepticism and a realistic awareness of one's self and surroundings.

Miriam Wallace spoke of the re-emergence of the "Moonies" in Charlotte, selling roses on the street corners. Another, and much stronger cult, based with national leaders here in Charlotte, is "The Way International" which actively recruits teenagers at rock concerts.

Approval has been granted to the Charlotte Chapter BBW by the Area Superintendents of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School System to have a classroom presentation on destructive cults brought to all high school students to alert youth to the presence and danger of cults. The goal this year is to reach all seniors so they can be informed of the true nature of destructive cults before they graduate.

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