

Spice up holiday with oranges

At holiday time, even the most devoted hostess may long to use the dining room table for firewood. This is the season when hectic schedules can take some of the joy out of cooking. No doubt everyone could use a little ingenuity in the kitchen about now — not to mention easy recipes that look and taste great, but don't take a lot of time.

Almost everyone spends more time at home this season, inviting close friends and relatives to share morning as well as evening meals together. To add variety to your seasonal fare, why not make a lovely holiday breakfast to begin the day. With this unusual citrus flavor French toast, making the morning special is a cinch. Later on, an elegant Christmas-green pie is a welcome family dessert or adds that party touch to a casual gathering when guests stop by to see the tree. This festive-looking pie is easy to make and a delight to serve.

During the holidays, try something a little out of the ordinary by greeting family company with a quick, warm, spicy beverage. Lemonade flavor drink mix and just two simple seasonings are all you need to entertain them in style.

So, if you are beginning to feel like Scrooge or a Grinch, or are just homesick about the upcoming holiday season, try these ideas and you'll be brimming with holiday spirit.



ORANGE-FLAVORED FRENCH TOAST

1 cup milk
4 tablespoons orange flavor breakfast beverage crystals
4 eggs
Butter or margarine
1 loaf French bread, sliced 1-inch thick
Syrup

Combine milk and breakfast beverage crystals in bowl and stir until dissolved. Add eggs and beat well. Lightly butter a skillet or electric griddle and preheat. Dip bread slices in egg mixture, turning to soak both sides. Fry in skillet, turning to brown both sides. Sprinkle with confectioners sugar, if desired. Serve with syrup. Makes 8 servings.

2 tablespoons green creme de menthe liqueur
2 tablespoons white creme de cacao liqueur
1/2 teaspoon vanilla
1 1/4 cups (4 oz.) whipped topping, thawed
1 baked 9-inch chocolate or graham cracker crust, cooled

Dissolve gelatin in boiling water. Add cold water, liqueurs and vanilla. Chill until slightly thickened. Fold whipped topping into gelatin mixture. Spoon into pie crust. Chill until firm, about 3 hours. Garnish with additional whipped topping or chocolate curls, if desired.

GRASSHOPPER PIE

1 package (3 oz.) lime flavor gelatin
1 cup boiling water
1/4 cup cold water

HOT SPICED LEMONADE

1 1/2 cups prepared lemonade flavor drink mix
1 stick cinnamon
4 whole cloves
1 to 2 tablespoons brown sugar
1 teaspoon butter or margarine

1/4 to 1/2 cup (2 to 3 oz.) rum (optional)

Heat lemonade in saucepan with spices, sugar and butter. Stir in rum. Serve hot. Makes 1 1/2 cups or 3 servings.

Community Profiles

by Linda L. Thompson

"Pull oneself up by your own boot-strap" is an American terminology that describes a person who starts up from the bottom and works his way up to a reputable position in life. This statement describes our role model for this week.

Randy Massey is now the owner of "Randy's," located at 445 N.E. Killingsworth. Randy and co-worker, Robert Blincoe, is currently providing the N.E. area with a Soul Food restaurant and prices that the area can afford. Daily specials are usually \$3.95. Mr. Massey contends that he can keep prices affordable because of the type of food he serves. He feels that people still enjoy a good soul food meal but because of the time involved in preparing such a meal, they no longer do. Therefore, he is in business to do it for them.

Randy's charm, coupled with his dynamic smile and good looks, causes one to feel very special and very welcome as you enter the home-like atmosphere of his place. He usually addresses the persons he is serving by name. This is a characteristic that he feels is an important part of satisfying your clientele. This gesture is also a part of his overall belief regarding interaction with your fellowmen. Randy's has been open for approximately one month and business is great.

An only child, born in North Carolina, Randy was left an orphan at the age of six after the death of his mother. He lived with various aunts and relatives. This lifestyle created in Randy a strong sense of independence and an extra drive to succeed. "I learned to hustle very young," he says, "and it has paid off. No one gives you anything; you work for what you get." He left school and married while in the 11th grade. He is now the father of ten children. His youngest son, John, is known to Portland as a recipient of the Pop Warner award in football.

Mr. Massey is equipped with many of the Sagittarius traits which include the love for life and the enjoyments

thereof. He can be compared to an Eagle. He feels that his mind is the strongest of his assets. "As long as I have a mind that is functioning, there is nothing that I can't do and no one can enslave me."

Randy came to Portland from Youngstown, Ohio, about seven years ago and continued to work in his familiar field. He was Building Engineer for such buildings as The Corbett, The Multnomah and The Telco. He has never liked working for anyone and as the "rat race" became more crowded, he decided to withdraw and try his own business. He ran into many obstacles but was never deterred from the goal.

When asked what he felt was the key to success in life as well as in business, he explained, "Know people and know how to get along with them for it is true that 'no man is an island' and no man can be successful alone. Do your homework. Know as much as possible about the area that you will be going into (cost, production, commodity, etc.). Be self-motivated. I work myself so no one else can work me. I am better at being my own boss than at letting someone boss me. Have a driving desire to succeed at anything you do. I believe in myself and my abilities. I know what I can do. No one will close my business unless I do."

"Don't be afraid to work hard. Be willing to put in a lot of overtime. Keep going until you reap the fruit of your labor. Believe the rewards will come. Keep trying." Randy explains that, "Timing is very important, but if you give up you will lose out on the time. If you let a little thing like failure stop you, you will get bogged down. Businesses don't fail, people do and I am not a failure."

I have a sneaky feeling that Randy's restaurant will be a part of the City of Roses for some time — that is, until Randy decides to close the door for retirement. Until next time, remember: Don't let Christmas take away the true meaning of life.

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