

The mission of the 'Food Section' is to provide our readers with great tasting healthy recipes and useful household information. The Portland Observer respectfully requests all comments and/or family recipes you would like to share with us. Address emails to foods@portlandobserver.com

FOOD

Diploma Cookies

"This cookie recipe is the perfect touch to honor graduates. Surprise them with diploma cookies decorated with a ribbons in school colors to really personalize the graduation celebration."

Ingredients

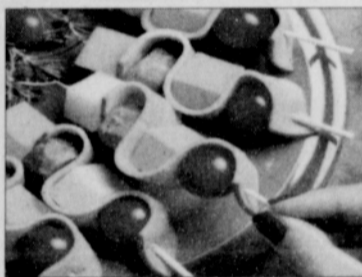
- 2 egg whites
- 1-Tbs. fresh lime or lemon juice
- 1/2-cup sugar
- 1/2-cup all-purpose flour
- 1/3- cup butter, melted
- 1-pound vanilla candy coating

Decorations:

Narrow ribbon in school colors

Directions

1. Preheat oven: 350F. Lightly spray cookie sheets with non-stick cooking spray. Generously butter handle of wooden spoon.
 2. Combine egg whites and lime juice in large bowl. Beat at high speed until foamy. Continue beating, gradually adding sugar, until glossy and stiff peaks form. Gently stir in flour and butter.
 3. Spoon 2 tsp. batter onto prepared cookie sheet; evenly spread batter into a 3-inch circle. Repeat with remaining batter, placing only 3 cookies on each cookie sheet. (Do not reuse cookie sheets without first washing and reapplying non-stick spray.)
 4. Bake for 5 to 8 minutes or until edges just begin to brown. Immediately shape cookies by wrapping around buttered wooden spoon. Gently remove from cookie sheet; cool completely.
 5. Melt candy coating in 1-quart saucepan over low heat, stirring occasionally, until melted (3-4 minutes). Carefully dip each end of cookie in coating. Gently shake cookie to remove excess coating. (Cookies are very fragile-be gentle.) Place on wax paper until coating is set (15 minutes). Repeat with remaining cookies and coating.
- Tip: If using dark cookie sheet, line with aluminum foil; spray with non-stick cooking spray.
- Tip: When cookies are baked, immediately loosen them from the cookie sheet with a thin metal spatula. Working quickly, place buttered handle of wooden spoon on one side of cookie; carefully roll up. Keep the bowl end of the spoon over the edge of counter to make rolling easier. Slide cookie off spoon handle onto cooling rack. If cookies harden before rolling them, put cookies back into the oven until they soften (about 1 minute).



Ham & Cheese Ribbons

"These are great make ahead appetizers that have great flavor and visual appeal."

Ingredients

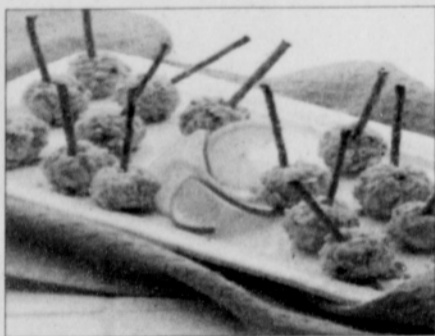
- 6 (1/2-ounce) slices of smoked deli ham
 - 24- (7" or 8") wooden party skewers
 - 1 (8-ounce) cheddar cheese brick
 - 1 (8-ounce) Monterey Jack Cheese brick
- Note: Cube cheeses into 3/4-inch pieces
- 1 pint small firm cherry tomatoes
 - 8 baby dill pickles, 1/2-inch slices
 - Country-style Dijon mustard

Directions

1. Thread 1 end of ham onto 1 skewer.
 2. Thread 1 cube cheese onto skewer. Bring loose end of ham over cheese cube and onto skewer.
 3. Add 1 cherry tomato; bring loose end of ham over tomato and onto skewer.
 4. Add 1 pickle piece; bring loose end of ham over pickle onto skewer.
 5. Add 1 cube of cheese.
 6. Repeat the process adding the remaining ingredients to the remaining skewers.
 7. To serve; arrange skewers on serving platter with mustard.
- Tip: Make up to 8 hours ahead. Cover, store refrigerated until serving.

Cheese Pops

"These easy-to-make appetizers will have everyone asking for the recipe."



Ingredients

- 1 (3-ounce) cream cheese, softened
- 1-Tbs. milk
- 1 cup American cheese, shredded
- 1-Tbs. green onions, thinly sliced
- 1/4-cup finely chopped peanuts
- 18 pretzel sticks

Directions

1. In small bowl; blend cream cheese and milk at medium speed, (scraping bowl often) until smooth. Add cheese and green onions, continue beating until well mixed.
 2. Cover; refrigerate at least one hour.
 3. Shape into 1-inch balls; roll in peanuts.
 4. Prior to serving; place pretzel stick in each ball.
- Tip 1: Keep cheese cold until ready to serve.
- Tip 2: Cheese can also be rolled into a log and served with crackers; if desired.

'Congratulations!'

BY SHARON SPERRY

As parents we anxiously anticipate the day our children graduate school. Our expectations are many; after all we have invested all of our uncon-

ditional love, values, beliefs, time, money and countless sleepless nights into our children. We will make whatever sacrifices are needed to provide them every opportunity in life. We acknowl-

edge and nurture their dreams; even when they doubt themselves, we believe.

We watched with excitement as they took those first baby steps; now we watch them step into adulthood with goals of careers and families of their own. We can breathe a sweet sigh of

relief; taking comfort in the fact we have done all we can to prepare them for their journeys in life.

"Congratulations Mom & Dad on a job well done!"

"Congratulations Graduates, you've worked hard to earn your place in the world!"

Ingredients for life..



1.99 lb
CLUB PRICE

Rancher's Reserve Angus Beef Top Round London Broil
Boneless.
SAVE up to \$2.60 lb.

1.49 lb
CLUB PRICE

Pork Shoulder Country Style Ribs
Bone-in.
SAVE up to \$1.60 lb.

3.99 lb
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3.99 lb
CLUB PRICE

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Perfect for salads.
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- Custom-made in the Deli

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CLUB PRICE

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Club Price: \$2.50 ea.

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SAVE up to \$2.50

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CLUB PRICE

Safeway Butter Top Bread
22.5-oz. Homestyle White or Whole.
SAVE up to \$1.99 on 2

10¢ per 16-oz.
CLUB PRICE

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