



Pesach Information

Haddar Chabura Shmura Matzos are the only *matzos* certified by Star-K this year. These *matzos* adhere to the strictest 18 minute standard. The 18 minutes are calculated from the time the water is first poured onto the flour, until the very last *matza* of that batch is put into the oven. Please be aware that not all 18 minute *matzos* are the same. Most brands calculate the 18 minute interval so that the actual time is significantly greater than 18 minutes. All of the *mehadrin* machine *matza* bakeries possess very reliable kosher supervision. However, the kosher consumer should realize that not all *mehadrin* machine *matzos* are created equal. For more information, visit the Star -K website by typing www.star-k.org/cons-kash-recent.htm and selecting the Spring 2009 issue of *Kashrus Kurrents*, "Machine *Matzos*."

Baltimore Chometz Burning this year will take place on Monday, March 29, 2010 between 6:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. in the Clubhouse Parking Lot of the Pimlico Race Course. The only entrance is from Hayward Avenue, three blocks east of Park Heights Avenue. Look for posters throughout the community for directions.

The **Star-K Pesach Guide 2010** is available in bookstores. Star-K's product information and various *Pesach* related articles can be found online by visiting www.star-k.org and clicking on the *matza* icon, "*Pesach* Info and Lists."

Consumer Alerts

Shoppers, located in Baltimore, MD, is currently selling peppers from Israel. Israeli produce is usually identified by a sign or sticker on the fruit or vegetable. These pappers are not under a reliable *hashgocha*, and one is required to take *Teruma* and *Maaser*. Consumers should always be careful to follow through with the proper procedures when purchasing produce from Israel.

Red Bull Original Energy Drinks are approved and certified by the Federation of Synagogues (London). **Red Bull "Shots" are NOT recommended at this time.**

Rabbi Weissmandl has terminated his certification of the poultry plant and poultry meat processing facility of AgriStar in Postville, IA as of February 12, 2010. The products produced there are packaged under **Aaron's Best, Supreme Kosher** and **AgriStar** labels. These products continue to be certified as kosher by the OU.

Several **KC Masterpiece, Hidden Valley, and HV Manufacturing brands of sauces and marinades** will no longer be certified. The OU symbol has been removed. As always, consumers are urged to verify the presence of the kosher symbol when purchasing products.

Shop Rite Instant Hot Cocoa Milk Chocolate Flavor 20 oz. UPC: 4119001760: A limited amount of these canisters inadvertently contain non-kosher marshmallows. Affected product is limited to those products bearing the date code July0511B. Consumers should contact their Rabbi to determine the status of utensils that have come into contact with this product. It is being withdrawn from the marketplace.

Butter Flavored Pam in Israel is OU-D. The small print indicates that the item is suitable only for those who use *cholov nochri* (non-*cholov yisroel* milk powder). Butter Flavored Pam in the U.S. is OU *Pareve*.

Consumer Information

At present, only store prepared foods displayed on the menu of **Cocoaccinos**, located at 2831 Smith Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21209, are *Cholov Yisroel*. All other items i.e. drinks, cakes and ice cream are not necessarily *Cholov Yisroel*.

Rita's Italian Ice, located at Valley Village Shopping Center, 9103 Reisterstown Road, Owings Mills, MD 21117, has renewed its *hashgocha* and will reopen this year beginning March 4th.

Prepared foods will be available for Pesach from **Catering by Weiss** only when sealed and labeled with the Star-K Passover symbol.

Mincha at the STAR-K office building is Mon. - Thurs. at 1:50 p.m.