

# Middle Eastern menu popular with diners

Martin Weber was determined to bring some of New York City's vibe and energy to downtown Newark.

Having operated a few eateries in Manhattan, he wanted to contribute to Newark's urban renewal by opening the Green Chicpea, a Middle Eastern eatery that is glatt kosher, located at 59 Halsey St. and minutes from the Newark Liberty International Airport.

Opened in September, the restaurant received great response from the local business community as well as the college students who have dined at the restaurant.

The Green Chicpea has an artsy feel, and was designed in such a way to lend "a funky, SoHo-like feel" to the restaurant. The walls are decorated with artwork from local talent.

"The atmosphere is fresh and homey, like the food we serve," he said.

The food is authentically prepared by a Middle Eastern chef with 15 years experience, Weber added.

Though it's a quick-serve restaurant, everything is made fresh and on premises.

"We're making a difference. We are offering a different cuisine and a healthier choice."

People can enjoy falafels, various chicken dishes, salad platters and other food popular in Tunisia, Syria and surrounding countries. The tables have chalkboards, allowing patrons, including the city's college student population, to doodle or work out math problems. Students also can work on their computers, since the restaurant contains many outlets and offers Wi-Fi.

## GREEN CHICPEA

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Comparing his experiences of running a restaurant in Manhattan to Newark, the owner said it's not as different as one would think.

"You lack the density, but you definitely have the city feel and the diversity," he said.

— By Minhaj Hassan

## The GREEN CHICPEA

Traditional Middle-Eastern Cuisine  
with a Gourmet Twist



Friendly Service  
with a Smile

Fresh Food  
Prepared Daily  
and In-House

We Cater

Middle Eastern Cuisine  
under VAAD HAKASHRUS  
of Flatbush

Wifi / Chalk Board Tables



59 Halsey Street • 862-240-1500

(Located in The New Halsey St. Village...Corner of New St.)



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