



the home connection



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November 2011



Start a New Tradition

It's never too late to start a new tradition and create happy memories...here are some ideas to get you started:

Plan a cookie baking party...each friend can bring the ingredients for their favorite cookie. Pick up some decorative tins or bags and at the end of the day, everyone will have a nice variety of cookies in great containers ready to give to co-workers, teachers, grandparents, neighbors, etc.

If you have children, plan a separate one-on-one date with each of them. It doesn't have to be fancy - focus on staying present and showering them with the gift of your attention and love. Choose an activity or place they like to go...make sure they know how special they are.

Plan an afternoon or evening to volunteer at a food bank or soup kitchen near you. Encourage friends and family members to come along!

Local, reputable organizations know of families who need your help, especially during this time of year. Once you have selected a particular family to adopt, tell your friends and family about their needs and offer the opportunity for them to help if they so wish...you might just be surprised about the out pouring of generosity.

Sign up for a 5k walk/run. Don't let the cold weather keep you inside...bundle up and breathe in the fresh air!

Call your favorite friend with children and offer to babysit one evening so they can run errands....we all know this is an extremely busy time of year and everyone can use a helping hand.

The Spirit of Giving



Looking for ways you can help this holiday season? Check out the websites below...

Learn more about local charities:

- www.northwestharvest.org
- www.seattlefoundation.org
- www.foodlifeline.org
- www.hope-link.org
- www.liveunited.org
- www.voaww.org
- www.teenfeed.org
- www.ugm.org
- www.marchofdimes.com/washington
- www.mammashands.org
- www.nokidhungry.org

Connect with a local food bank:

- www.commerce.wa.gov/maps/
- www.fishfoodbanks.org
- www.skfcf.org
- www.emergencyfeeding.org
- www.homelessshelterdirectory.org

Research other charities:

- www.charitynavigator.org
- www.charitywatch.org
- www.greatnonprofits.org



November Football

MONDAY NIGHT games

All games at 5:30pm (PT) on EPSN

- 7 CHICAGO @ PHILADELPHIA
- 14 MINNESOTA @ GREEN BAY
- 21 KANSAS CITY @ NEW ENGLAND
- 28 NEW YORK @ NEW ORLEANS

THANKSGIVING day games (PT)

- | | | | |
|-----------|--------|------|----|
| GB @ DET | 9:30am | FOX | 30 |
| MIA @ DAL | 1:15pm | CBS | |
| SF @ BAL | 5:20pm | NFLN | |

Local Happenings

- 2-6 Seattle Int'l Auto Show
www.seattleautoshow.com
- 5 46th Veterans Day Parade
www.auburnwa.gov
- 5 Bellevue Holiday Bazaar
www.bellevueclub.com
- 11 Veterans Day Parade
Legion Park, Arlington
- 11 Gem Faire - Tacoma
www.gemfaire.com
- 12 Antique Show - Monroe
Evergreen Fair Grounds
- 24 Fantasy Lights - Spanaway
thru January 1
www.piercecountywa.org
- 25 Tree Lighting & Parade
www.seattle-downtown.com/events
- 25 The Nutcracker
Pacific NW Ballet Co
Seattle thru December 27
www.pnb.org
- 25 Tree Lighting Celebration
and Holiday Parade
Westlake Center
www.seattlecenter.com
- 25 Zoo Lights - Tacoma
thru January 1 www.pdza.org
- 26 Holiday Tree Lighting
Tacoma
www.broadwaycenter.org
- 26 Garden d'Lights
Bellevue Botanical Gardens
thru December 31
www.gardendlights.org
- 27 Seattle Marathon &
Half Marathon
www.seattlemarathon.org
- 30 Victorian Country
Christmas Puyallup thru
December 4



IMPORTANT november dates



Sunday, November 6

Daylight Saving Time Ends - fall back 1 hour

Tuesday, November 8

Election Day

Friday, November 11

Veteran's Day—counties closed

Thursday, November 24

Thanksgiving Day—counties closed

Friday, November 25

Day after Thanksgiving—counties closed
Black Friday, a big day for retail shopping

Monday, November 28

Cyber Monday, the biggest day for online shopping



Did you know...

Monday after Thanksgiving is known as *Cyber Monday*? It's the day when many online stores have huge sales to kick off the holiday season and you can get some great deals! Check out the websites below (along with your favorites) for savings and gift ideas for the family:

www.cybermondaycentral.com
www.cybermonday.fm
www.bestcybermondaysales.com
www.cybermonday.net

Various Gifts

www.redenvelope.com
www.uncommongoods.com
www.perpetualkid.com

Food/Beverages

www.harryanddavid.com
www.hometownfavorites.com
www.beermonthclub.com

Tech/Gadgets

www.thinkgeek.com
www.coolest-gadgets.com

Toys

www.quincyshop.com
www.fatbraintoy.com
www.oompa.com

Artsy Stuff

www.etsy.com
www.finedoodles.com
www.meart.com
www.canvaspress.com

Eco-friendly | Charities

www.reuseit.com
www.friendsofrees.org
www.groundsforchange.com
www.kiva.org
www.greensender.com

Don't forget about Black Friday:

www.blackfriday2011.com
www.black-friday.net
www.blackfriday.info
www.iblackfriday.com

TURKEY day 2011

Below are some great additions to your favorite stuffing recipe:



- Chopped apples and walnuts
- Dried cranberries and roasted pecans
- Granny Smith apples and almonds
- Chopped apples and Italian sausage
- Caramelized onions
- Bacon
- Italian sausage
- Mix of wild mushrooms
- Chopped dried pears and walnuts
- Diced ham
- Pine nuts and raisins
- Water chestnuts
- Sundried tomatoes

Turkey Thawing Times

Weight	in Fridge - 40°F	in COLD Water*
8-12 lbs	2 to 2.5 days	4 to 6 hrs
12-16 lbs	2.5 to 4 days	6 to 8 hrs
16-20 lbs	4 to 5 days	8 to 10 hrs
20-24 lbs	5 to 6 days	10 to 12 hrs

*turkey should be submerged in the water

Turkey Cooking Times

Open Pan Method

in 325°F conventional oven on lowest rack

Weight	Unstuffed	Stuffed
8-12 lbs	2.75 to 3 hrs	3 to 3.5 hrs
12-14 lbs	3 to 3.75 hrs	3.5 to 4 hrs
14-18 lbs	3.75 to 4.25 hrs	4 to 4.25 hrs
18-20 lbs	4.25 to 4.5 hrs	4.25 to 4.75 hrs
20-24 lbs	4.5 to 5 hrs	4.75 to 5.25 hrs