

## Craft Corner

### Thanksgiving Placemats

Everyone in the family can share what they are thankful for with these Thanksgiving Placemats.



#### **Materials:**

12" x 18" sheets of paper  
Crayons or markers

#### **Optional:**

Colored construction paper  
Glue  
Scissors  
Clear Contact paper  
Leaf shaped cookie cutter

#### **Directions:**

Make a placemat for each person who will share Thanksgiving dinner with you. Each person can write things for which she is thankful all over her placemat. Share the things you each wrote during Thanksgiving dinner. Keep the placemats for next year to remember this year's blessings.

To make a placemat, start with a large sheet of paper. You can write directly on the paper using crayons or markers. Or you can first draw leaves all over the placemat and write one statement in each leaf. (Try tracing a leaf shaped cookie cutter.) Or you can cut out leaves from different colored construction paper and glue them all over the placemat. To help keep the placemat fresh for future years, cover it with clear contact paper. Remember to write each person's name and the date on his placemat.

*We have over 80 ready to make crafts at  
[www.Calliope-Creations.com](http://www.Calliope-Creations.com).*

## Memory Lane

### Bedtime Sharing

This time of year it is especially important to remember all of the things for which we are thankful. I am thankful for the childhood memories I have of time with my family. I hope my children look back and remember their childhood as fondly.

One way we can help our children build memories is by creating a bedtime sharing ritual. After teeth are brushed and stories read, take a moment for each person to say one thing they

enjoyed during their day. Ending the day by remembering happy experiences helps us wake up with a positive attitude.

Your grown children will remember the day to day activities they were thankful for as children and will also remember these bedtime sessions with fondness.



### *Inside this issue:*

Thanksgiving Placemat	1	Giving Thanks	3
Bedtime Sharing	1	Look for Us	3
Pinecone Holiday Card	2	Note From Our Founders	4
Decorating for Fall	2	To Subscribe	4
Candy Turkey Recipe	3	Quick Quotes	4

## Party Picks

### Decorating for Fall

There are lots of simple ways to add fall color to your home for the Thanksgiving season. To create a festive Thanksgiving table, carve out small pumpkins and place small potted plants like ivy inside the hollowed out middles. You can also add some fall colored tapered candles to the middle of the ivy. Several of these grouped on a table make a lovely centerpiece. Small hollowed out pumpkins can also hold dips in small bowls that fit inside. A great game for the kids outside is the old favorite of raking up the leaves and jumping in them! A fun art activity for kids of all ages is to gather up fall colored leaves from the yard and glue them to a piece of sturdy paper. Think of fun and creative pictures to make out of the leaves. You can also string fall colored leaves to a ribbon and hang it across the fireplace. Simply punch a hole in each leaf with a hole punch and tie the leaf to the ribbon. Space the leaves about 10 inches apart.



*For great party ideas check out our Party Packs at [www.Calliope-Creations.com](http://www.Calliope-Creations.com)*

## Cards for All Occasions

### Pinecone Holiday Card

Create your own Christmas or Chanukah holiday cards. Using the Large Pinecone template trace a large Pinecone on the bottom corner. Trace one smaller Pinecone using the Medium Pinecone Template at the top and one at the bottom of the card, as close to the large Pinecone as possible. Add Merry Christmas or Happy Chanukah, putting the Christmas underneath Merry, or the Chanukah underneath Happy. It is easier to fit it in the spot if you trace Christmas or Chanukah first, then center the Merry or Happy above it as shown in the example. Make sure you place the Merry Christmas or Happy Chanukah template upside down on your light source before you trace.



© Verla Page, Embossing Etc., 2002

*For more card ideas visit our Art Gallery at [www.Calliope-Creations.com](http://www.Calliope-Creations.com).*

★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
*\$5 OFF*  
*Your Next Order of*  
*\$50 or More*

**From [www.Calliope-Creations.com](http://www.Calliope-Creations.com)**

Simply enter coupon code **v1i21102nl** at the checkout.  
Expires 12/31/02, limited to one coupon per customer.

## Family Fun for Everyone

### Candy Turkey Recipe

¼ cup butter  
4 cups mini marshmallows  
6 cups Rick Krispie® cereal  
1 package Oreo Cookies®  
1 tub chocolate frosting  
1 package (12 oz) candy corn



Melt butter in saucepan. Add marshmallows and stir until melted. Stir in cereal. Cool for 10 minutes. Rub hands in butter and roll mix into 1 ½ inch balls. Twist a cookie apart. Lay one half on the table filling side up; spread frosting on top of the cookie. Put a cereal ball on top. Add frosting to the filling side of the other half of the cookie. Press 3 candy corns to the frosting to make the turkey's feathers as shown in the picture. Press the cookie to the back of the cereal ball. Add a dot of frosting to another candy corn and add for the head. Makes 25 to 30 turkeys.

*Check out other free recipes like this one at [www.Calliope-Creations.com](http://www.Calliope-Creations.com) under Free Family Recipes.*

## The Spice of Life

### Giving Thanks

by Luisa Spriggs

We all appreciate the importance of maintaining tradition, especially during the holidays. Try tweaking tradition a bit and showing gratitude in a slightly different way this Thanksgiving. I suggest spending a few hours at a shelter feeding the homeless, donating a turkey to a nursing home, going to a hospital and visiting patients without families, or even inviting someone without family or friends to share dinner with yours. Be creative! At the coffee shop, anonymously pay for a stranger's drink; at the grocery store, let the person behind you go first; send flowers to the nursing staff of a hospital, a fire department, grocery store, or anyone else working on Thanksgiving. Remember to get the whole family involved, especially the children. Giving is a great way to say thanks. Giving on Thanksgiving is a wonderful way to tweak the tradition inherent in that holiday.

"For it is in giving that we receive."

-St. Francis of Assisi

*Luisa uses her writing to inspire families and individuals to create positive experiences in their lives. Be sure to catch next month's article on Christmas Cheer.*

## Look for Us:

### Embossing Etc.

NATIONAL CHRISTMAS SHOW, Nov 8<sup>th</sup> -10<sup>th</sup> D.C. Armory 2001 East Capitol Street, Washington D.C.

Friday-Saturday 10 a.m.- 6 p.m , Sunday 10 a.m.- 5 p.m.

NORTHERN VIRGINIA CHRISTMAS MARKET, Nov 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> Capital Expo Center, Chantilly, VA

Friday-Saturday 10 a.m.- 6 p.m , Sunday 10 a.m.- 5 p.m.

MARYLAND CHRISTMAS SHOW, Nov 29<sup>th</sup> -Dec 1<sup>st</sup> & Dec 6<sup>th</sup> -8<sup>th</sup> Fairground, Frederick, MD

Friday-Saturday 10 a.m. -6 p.m , Sun 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

### Craft Packets

CALLAHAN PROMOTIONS, INC. ARTS & CRAFTS SHOW, Dec 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Des Moines Fairgrounds, Des Moines, IA

## A Note From Our Founders

Dear Friends:

Our family lives very near where all of the sniper shootings occurred in the Washington, D.C. area over the past several weeks. We are all very grateful that the situation is resolved and that no more lives were lost. It's sad that it sometimes takes a tragedy to remember to take the time to be grateful for the things that are important to us. We often take these things for granted, such as a loving family, good health, and a safe home. Unfortunately, it seems that around the world over the past year or so there have been several such events that have caused us to gather our families close to us.

I don't get sick very often, but without fail when I have a stomach ache, for example, I really wish I

had taken the time to fully appreciate the days that I didn't have a stomach ache. But somehow that goes unnoticed. We're trying to take the time to notice things like that this Thanksgiving season. In our family during dinner each night we ask about one happy thing and one not happy thing from each person's day. We've recently starting adding one thing each person is grateful for from that day. I hope that's a tradition we can continue long past the holidays.

We wish you, your friends, and family a Happy Thanksgiving filled with the things for which you are grateful!

Very truly yours,  
Susan and Mary

### To Subscribe:

Calliope Times™ is a free monthly newsletter with tips and ideas for you and your family. To subscribe, sign the Guest Book on our web page at [www.Calliope-Creations.com](http://www.Calliope-Creations.com).

### Quick Quotes:

"There is a calmness to a life lived in gratitude, a quiet joy."

-- Ralph H. Blum

10% off of a  
**Thanksgiving Craft Packet Bundle™**  
from  
[www.Calliope-Creations.com](http://www.Calliope-Creations.com)

Includes 4 Thanksgiving Craft Packets™  
of your choice.

Enter coupon code **v1i21102nl2** at the checkout.  
Expires 12/31/02, limited to one coupon per customer.