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Remember What's Important This Holiday Season

"Give thanks for a little and you will find a lot."

-Hausa Proverb

Butternut Squash, Cranberry and Apple Gratin



- 8 tablespoons unsalted butter, plus 1 tablespoon at room temperature
- 3 pounds butternut squash, peeled, halved, seeded, and diced into 1-inch cubes
- 3 sweet-tart apples that will keep their shape after baking, peeled, cored, and diced into 1/2-inch cubes
- 1 1/3 cups dried cranberries
- 1/4 cup finely chopped flat-leaf parsley
- 1/2 teaspoon finely chopped fresh thyme
- 1 tablespoon kosher salt
- 1 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 1/4 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 1 heaping cup plain flour

Preheat the oven to 350°F. Grease a 9-by-11-inch baking dish with the 1 tablespoon of butter and set aside.

In a large bowl, toss together the squash, apples, cranberries, parsley, thyme, salt, black pepper, and cayenne pepper. Drizzle in the melted butter and stir to combine, then add the flour and mix to evenly coat the squash mixture.

Turn the mixture into the prepared baking dish and bake until the top is golden brown and the squash is tender but not mushy (a paring knife should easily slip into the center of a piece of squash), 45 to 50 minutes.

Remove from the oven and cool 5 minutes before serving.

-photo and recipe from OrganicGardening.com

Fun Facts About Thanksgiving!



- AAA (American Automobile Association) Ninety percent of travelers or 38.9 million traveled by automobile in 2013.
- Minnesota is the top turkey producing state.
- 88% of Americans say they eat turkey at Thanksgiving.
- According to the Guinness Book of World Records, the largest pumpkin pie ever baked was 2020 pounds. The pie was over 12 feet long. The ingredients included; 900 lb. of pumpkin, 62 gallons of evaporated milk, 155 dozen eggs, 300 pounds of sugar, 3.5 pounds of salt, 7 pounds of cinnamon, 2 pounds of pumpkin spice and 250 pounds of crust.
- The first Macy's day parade took place in New York City in 1924. The tradition today brings around 3 million to New York each year for the event and over 44 million viewers watching by TV to see the famous kick-off to the Christmas shopping season.
- Charlie Brown's Snoopy character appeared more than any other character in the famous Macy's Day Parade.
- The first Thanksgiving football game was in 1934, where the Detroit Lions hosted the Chicago Bears at the University of Detroit Stadium. The NBC radio broadcast aired the game on 94 stations.

Thursday, November 27

	Bears	12:30 PM
	Lions	
	Eagles	4:30 PM
	Cowboys	
	Seahawks	8:30 PM
	49ers	

Happy Thanksgiving!

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving with friends and family!

Ideas For Staging Your Home For The Fall



Let's play up the autumn feel of your home starting with your front yard.

Make sure all of the leaves are raked and flower beds are cleaned up and mulched. Allow the beautiful fall colors from the trees to shine through around your home.

While outside, make sure the back yard is picked up and summer free. Put away all of the pool toys, tiki torches, and beach balls. Bring out your warm, fall color cushions for your patio furniture and perhaps add a fire pit to sit around.

Finally place un-carved pumpkins by the front door along with a beautiful fall wreath.

Move inside

Start with some fresh fall floral arrangements. There are many options such as marigolds, Mexican sunflowers, and strawflowers. Place flowers in the entry way, master bedroom, and on the mantel.

To make your home feel warm and welcoming, invest in some throws and pillows to match your floral arrangements. The colors should be seasonal and inviting.

Fill the bare areas with well placed seasonal decor, also.

Use pleasing fall scents

Combine the senses with holiday scented candles. Some great choices are pumpkin spice, baked apple, vanilla cinnamon, or cranberry.

Add a fall centerpiece to your dining room table. Put out your best holiday table setting to help buyers envision Thanksgiving dinner in their new home.

Too Much is Too Much

Try not to overdo the fall decorations. Even though the buyers will appreciate coming into a refreshingly decorated holiday house, at the same time they want to be able to picture their own furniture and home decor in the house.

Keeping the decorations tasteful and minimal is always best!



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This Newsletter is
dedicated to my loving
mother, Helen, who
passed away on
Nov 4th, 2014.