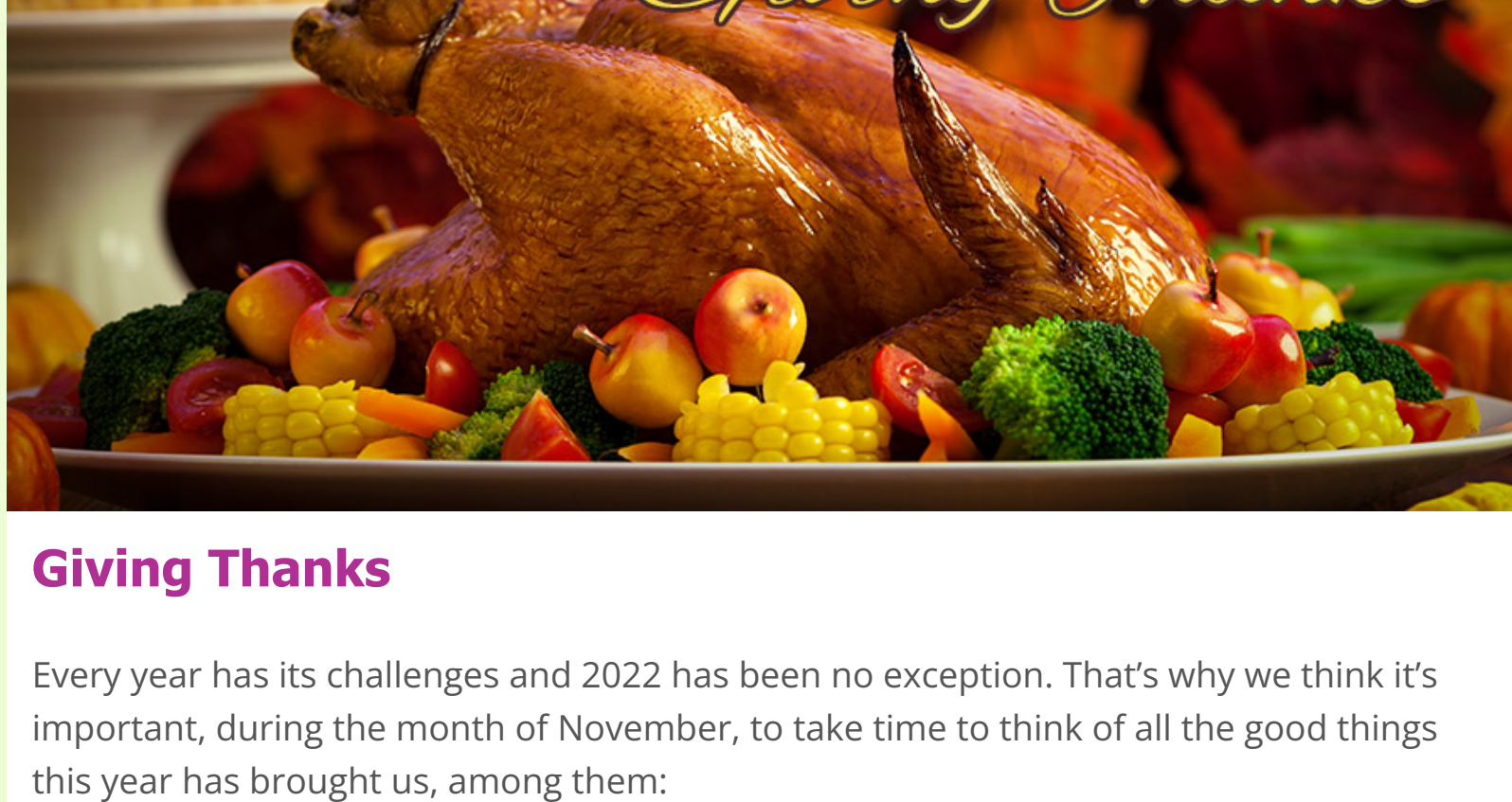




# OPEN TABLE

MORE LOVE – LESS HUNGER

## News from Around the Table



### Giving Thanks

Every year has its challenges and 2022 has been no exception. That's why we think it's important, during the month of November, to take time to think of all the good things this year has brought us, among them:

- Our clients, who let us know they appreciate what we are doing, and who make us smile every day
- Our volunteers, who show up day after day, week after week, and do the hard work of organizing, sorting, packing, preparing, delivering, and so much more
- Our new annex, which will give us the space and equipment to improve our services and allow us to serve more clients in a way that is best for them
- Our generous donors and supporters, without whom none of the above would be remotely possible

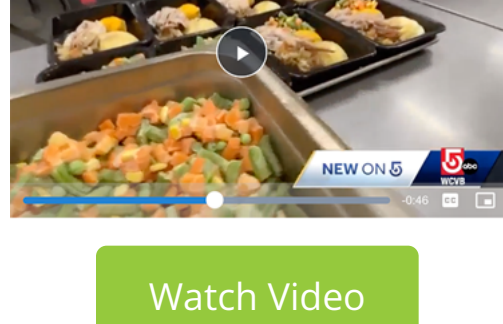
We are grateful for these and so much more. Thank you to **ALL of you** for providing rays of sunshine throughout this year!

### Thanksgiving Schedule

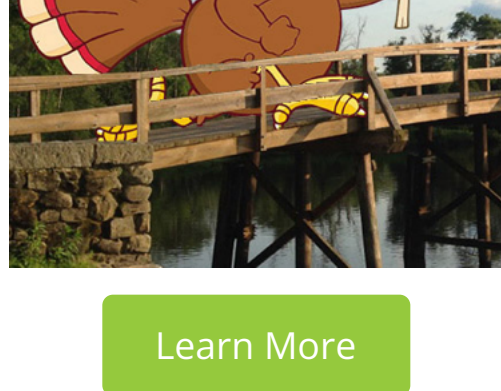
We at Open Table don't just take care of our clients, but we look after our volunteers and staff as well. With that in mind, our pantry will be closed on Thanksgiving Day so everyone can be home with their families. Anyone with a Thursday appointment may come during our normal hours on Tuesday of that week to pick up a pre-packed bag of groceries and prepared meals; there will be no online phone or pre-orders during the weeks of 11/21 and 11/28. We wish everyone – clients, staff, volunteers and supporters – a very Happy Thanksgiving!

### Thanksgiving Meals on TV

We were thrilled to welcome [WCVB Channel 5 Boston](#) into our kitchen on Monday for a glimpse into our Thanksgiving preparations! We are offering our clients a choice of either delicious, fully-prepared traditional Thanksgiving meals or a frozen turkey and all of the ingredients for a make-at-home festive meal. Channel 5 captured all the activity and the importance of providing choices. Thanks to our staff members and volunteers who kept doing their good work as the cameras rolled.



Watch Video



Learn More

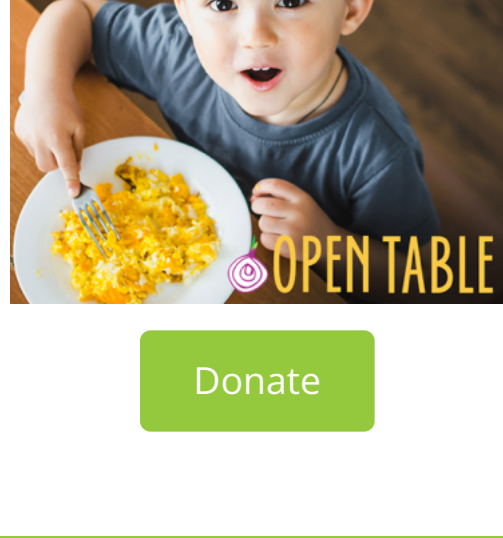
### Do the Turkey Trot

Nothing says Thanksgiving like getting in some exercise before the big meal, and we've got just the thing: Concord's Turkey Trot! This ongoing 5K tradition runs Thanksgiving morning at 8:30 am (bib pick up is at 7 am) on Keyes Road in Concord. It's a family-friendly event that attracts over 1,000 runners and walkers each year – some in outlandish and interesting outfits – and even better, it benefits Open Table.

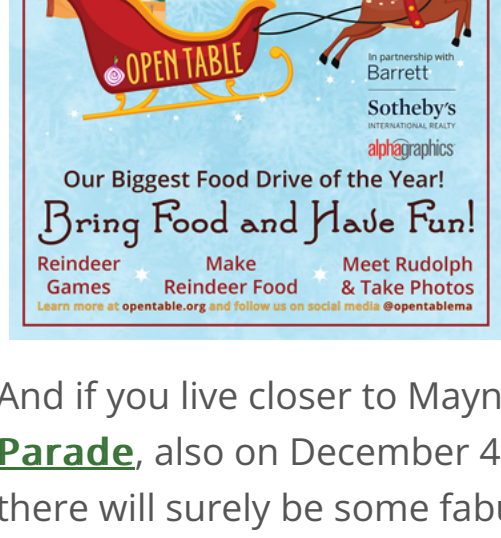
And if running isn't your thing, we can use volunteers that morning to help out. Contact us at [volunteer@opentable.org](mailto:volunteer@opentable.org) and let us know. You can get all the info and register for the race at <https://www.marxrunning.com>.

### (Thanks) Giving Tuesday

After the turkey has been eaten, the Black Friday shopping done, and the Cyber Monday deals made, it's time to give back on Giving Tuesday. And while a million other deserving organizations will be jockeying for your attention, please consider putting aside a little something for Open Table. Thanks to anonymous donors, your donations on Giving Tuesday will be matched up to \$12,000 - providing more meals and groceries! Our many families and individuals will thank you.



Donate



### December Holiday Happenings

Open Table's Help Fill the Sleigh Food Drive at **The Concord Tree Lighting & Holiday Parade**, Sunday, December 4th, 3-6pm - Bring **Food** & Have Fun! Find us near the Main Street roundabout (on the same side as Helen's). Start your afternoon with Open Table: Drop-off a shelf-stable donation, get a picture with Rudolph, make reindeer food, and play some reindeer games before enjoying all the other festivities on offer. Spread the word & donate: Help us make this our biggest food drive ever!

And if you live closer to Maynard, we'll also be at the **56th Annual Maynard Holiday Parade**, also on December 4th, starting at 2pm. With this year's theme of "Candy Land" there will surely be some fabulous floats. Food donations will support Open Table, the Maynard Food Pantry, and the Backpack Program.

On Saturday, December 3rd, join us at **Saint Matthews** in Acton for their annual **Festival of Sharing**, which features live music, an amazing cookie walk, and hundreds of unique and thoughtful gifts - you might be able to grab a couple bags of our yummy granola!

Our very popular **Family-to-Family Holiday Drive** returns this year, providing families the opportunity to support other families in need, while learning about hunger-related issues. Stay tuned for our kickoff and registration next week!

**Volunteers are needed at each of these events! If you are available to help, please contact us at [volunteer@opentable.org](mailto:volunteer@opentable.org). Learn more [HERE](#).**

### Call for Chopped Auction Donations

Our fabulously popular in-person fundraising event, Chopped for Charity, is already being planned for spring of '23. One of the things that makes it so successful is a variety of interesting silent auction items. Do you have a vacation home or season tickets you could share? A craft you're really good at? Or a business with goods you can offer? Give us a shout and let us know what you can donate – our planning team will be thanking you.



To have your donation listed in the program book, please register your donation by **March 15, 2023 by contacting Renee Magasanik: [rmagasanik@opentable.org](mailto:rmagasanik@opentable.org).**

For sponsorship and program book ad information, please contact Jonathan Magasanik at [jmagasanik@opentable.org](mailto:jmagasanik@opentable.org).



### Granted - We Thank You

We couldn't do all that we do without the incredibly generous organizations who grant us funding. This month we are grateful to **Greater Boston Food Bank**, who not only provides us with fresh produce and shelf-stable food, but also with money to support our very important mission of feeding those in need. Thanks to **Trinitarian Congregational Church** in Concord and to the **Maynard Community Chest** for their generous grants in support of general operations, which give us valuable flexibility to respond quickly to our clients needs

And this month we'd also like to honor and thank those individuals and organizations who took the time to run food drives, make kids' bags for our deserving families, or provide financial support including:

- [Acton Boxorough United Way](#)
- [Alcott Elementary School](#)
- [Aurelia's Garden](#)
- Blueberry Lane, Concord neighborhood
- Cheryl Palmer
- Concord & Acton Middle Schools
- [The Community School](#)
- [Congregation Kerem Shalom](#)
- [Crosby's Marketplace](#)
- [Debra's Natural Gourmet](#)
- [Donelan's Supermarket, Acton](#)
- [Drumlin Farm](#)
- Finley from Acton
- [The Food Project](#)
- [Gaining Ground](#)
- [Janssen Research & Development](#)
- John Skelly
- Julie Fish
- Kathy Coughlin
- Kathy Parker
- Mary Sterling
- Maynard High School Honor Society
- [Nashawtuc Country Club](#)
- [Nashoba Brooks School](#)
- [Roche Bros, Acton](#)
- [Stop & Shop, Acton](#)
- [Sudbury Farms](#)
- [Sudbury United Methodist Church](#)
- Traveling Cap Mushroom Company
- [Trinity Episcopal Church](#)
- [Trader Joe's, Acton](#)
- [Verrill Farm](#)
- [West Concord Union Church](#)

### Fun Food Facts: Sweet Potato



Sweet potatoes are winter's versatile starch. A member of the morning glory family (who knew??), sweet potatoes can grace your table as a side dish OR a dessert. They can be boiled, baked, diced and roasted, fried, put in a casserole with marshmallows or baked into a pie crust and served with whipped cream. And as delicious as they are, they also pack a lot of nutrition in a single package: beta carotene, vitamins E and C, iron, potassium and vitamin B6. Don't confuse them with yams, which are actually a tropical root native to Africa while sweet potatoes are native to South America.

For a sweet way to serve sweet potatoes this Thanksgiving, take a look at this recipe from [Gaining Ground](#)

Get Recipe



**Our Contact Information**  
\*{{Organization Name}}\*  
\*{{Organization Address}}\*  
\*{{Organization Phone}}\*  
\*{{Organization Website}}\*

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