



**HAPPY THANKSGIVING  
FOLLIES!**

November 28, 2008



Hey!

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HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

My favorite holiday of the year! Seriously! I know I say that every holiday, but this holiday truly is!

Everything is awesome on Thanksgiving... even with the “angst” hanging in the air! Ha! It really is, though.

Remember what I said about “Right Now” being all that we have! It really “IS” all that we have! Be happy right this moment... and be grateful and thankful for all the blessings we have each and every moment of our lives. Even in the worst of times, folks, we have it pretty darn good! Don't you agree? Look around you, if you do not believe me.





Plus, Thanksgiving is just simply and a time to reflect and be grateful. There are no gifts, no real decorations that are not natural, and just good food and family.

If you cannot be near family this Thanksgiving, close your eyes and be thankful for them wherever they are! And for your many, many friends who love you. If you are not feeling very loved, trust me, you are. More than you can possibly know! That is a fact, Jack!!

OK. Enough of that, but please know that it is from my heart and is the way I try to live my life every day. I hope you do/will, too!

Found out yesterday that Wednesday (tomorrow) is going to be a “free day!” In other words, the place where I work is “giving us the day off!” No students will be there, so that is cool, but MAN, you should have seen us all scrambling today to fit three days work into two! We did it, though, and with a smile on our faces. Now we can relax for FIVE days! Honestly! I cannot believe I have FIVE days off!!! It is amazing! I am sure I will get bored or VERY tired from all of the chores around here before it is over! Will be thankful, though :-)

I have a couple of friends stopping by tomorrow and that will be fun. I have several neighborhood parties to go to and I also want to do some sprucing up of my house before my company arrives on Thursday. Also need to plant some winter plants out front and get some firewood! Not to mention, I have a mountain of food to cook for the flocks! Actually looking forward to it, though.



My kids are so happy right now! I heard a statement a long time ago that I think is very true! A “mom” is only as happy as her least happy child... Think about that... it is the truth! They are on your mind - always!

Jeremy has been on my mind for a while, now. He has had nice job after nice job, but NONE of them have been what HE was looking for - what he NEEDED! Well, God bless him... He got busy and even though he had a “nice” job right now, he sent out resumes and began to market himself. He DID it! He found his “Dream Job.” He sold himself and his ability and he started this past Monday. He is the happiest I have seen him in years - literally! He comes in the door at night grinning from ear to ear! I am so very proud of him. Especially in this amazingly difficult economy.

Jess changed careers and is now, I think I told you, the Administrative Manager for The Jewish Mother. She is so happy! She loves her work and learning about all of the things she has never dealt with before. So proud of her, too! For those of you who have asked, Ricky is doing just fine now, too, and seems to be back to, well close to, 100%. Thank you for your many, many prayers. They were much appreciated and apparently, answered.

FIVE days off! I cook tomorrow, entertain Thursday, and Friday I will put up Thanksgiving and get out Christmas!

You want to know something I am thrilled about? I finally broke down and bought a FAKE TREE! It is beautiful! Really! And I figure I have enough greenery in the house to give it that nice Christmas smell. I also figured I would save a piece of the environment and use this thing for a few years. I LOVE real trees, but for five years now I have gone out and bought a tree by myself, paid someone to help me get it into a sturdy stand, have hauled it into the house by myself, decorated it, fertilized it, and watered it to no avail, then hauled it out and cleaned and vacuumed for two days after. Each and every year I have ended up having to either buy a new vacuum cleaner or pay a service to fix the one I had - to the tune of a minimum of \$40.

SOOOOO, this year, I unpack her, assemble her, plug her in, and sigh a sigh of relief!! Hahaha! It is going to be awesome! Plus, some tree somewhere will be very grateful!



Ollie is not terribly happy with Jeremy's new job. Before, Jeremy and I worked separate hours. Me - days and Jeremy - mostly nights. That meant Ollie had been inside for months! His second day back outside all day was today and I swear to you, he already seems happier - but then again, it IS COLD! He loves the cold!

On a sad note - I LOVE The Virginian-Pilot! LOVE it! I think it is absolutely a fabulous paper, - the size, the layout, the content, the reporters - everything! Well, this week they announced they are cutting over 100 jobs, cutting 40 pages a week from the paper, and they are DOING AWAY COMPLETELY WITH THE BUSINESS SECTION! Hello!? That is honestly the first section I reach for. I LOVE the business





section- even though it has been a bit depressing lately! It will be in the Sunday paper, so I guess I will just have to get by, but, MAN, that HURTS!

Here are a couple of photos of "Stuff" I plan on cooking and getting the cook ware out and ready. I can't wait! It is going to be a feast: Turkey, spiral ham, corn bread dressing, giblet gravy, baked tomatoes, homemade yeast rolls, cherry salad, green bean casserole, sweet potato souffle', Cherry O' Cream Cheese Pie, and on and on and on!

OK, I have to put in a plug for the books! Some of you asked about cut off dates for ordering the books, I got them today. Here they are: to receive your books by December 24.

If you're in the Continental U.S.:

- \* December 9 is the last day for Ground shipping
  - \* December 12 is the last day for 2nd Day Air
  - \* December 15 is the last day for Next Day Air
- and your last chance to ensure your book makes it in time for the holiday festivities. So order while you can! - But truthfully, they make great New years' and Valentines day gifts, too. (Smile)  
If you're outside the Continental U.S., go to [www.Blurb.com](http://www.Blurb.com) for details!

This last photo is Jeremy getting ready for work. Even though he fussed at me for taking the photos, he was smiling. Just a great week!

Have a wonderful Thanksgiving, all. Love you very much!



*To all of you on my Friday Follies List, whether you are in Manila, Singapore, Kuwait, Bermuda, Virginia Beach, Mississippi, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Minnesota, Indiana, Colorado, Lake Tahoe, Philadelphia, Key West, New Jersey, North Carolina, Indonesia, Washington D.C., Iraq, Costa Rica, Poland, Maryland, West (By-God) Virginia, Nashville, Florida, Saudi Arabia, New Hampshire, Tampa, Chattanooga, France, Phoenix, New York, Oregon, Russia, Maine, Australia, Bangkok, or Yuma, have a wonderful, wonderful week!*

**G**od bless.

Remember, life is short!  
We need to make it a good one.  
Grow in peace and wisdom.  
Your Friday Friend,

Just Judi's Favorites  
Volume One • Appetizers  
Volume Two • Breakfast, Brunch, and Late Nite  
Volume Three • Soups  
Volume Four • Salads  
All available on [www.judiwithani.com](http://www.judiwithani.com)  
Go to Judi's Friends' Links at:  
[www.judiwithani.com/links](http://www.judiwithani.com/links)

# Judi Godsey

PS. NOTE OF CAUTION... 20 employees were fired from The New York Times here in Norfolk for sending lewd and indecent emails. (To my knowledge, none of the 20 were on our joke list - even though some of the attorneys who represent the company were!) I have asked each and every one of you on this list to tell me if the jokes that accompany these "Follies" place you in jeopardy, or even if they offend you. Please understand that they are intended to be light-hearted and are not mean-spirited in any way. If you are ever offended, do not hesitate to ask to be taken off the Friday Follies Joke List. PSS. If you send a joke and I don't use it, it is because it has been used before, and I try not to repeat. Remember, I have been sending these since August of 1997. One tends to go through huge numbers of jokes that way. Disclaimer: When anyone asks if I type all of these jokes, the answer is, "No!" I cut and paste one evening during the week (30 minutes, TOPS). Obviously I don't have time to sit, read, and retype jokes all day!