

Plan A Special New Year's Eve At Home

Featured Recipes

Alternate Pennsylvania Dairy Princess Heidi Miller, also representing Dauphin County, enjoys promoting dairy products and making new friends.

She shares three of her favorite cheese ball recipes that she recommends using for your New Year's Celebration.

"They not only look good but taste good too," she said.

HOLIDAY CHEESE BALL

16-ounces cream cheese, softened
2 cups shredded cheddar cheese
1 tablespoon each pimento, green pepper, chopped onion
2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce
1 teaspoon lemon juice
Crushed pecans

Mix cheese and cream cheese together. Add pimento, green pepper, onion, Worcestershire sauce, and lemon juice. Mix well. Form into ball. Chill. Roll in chopped pecans before serving.

OLIVE CHEESE BALL

8-ounces cream cheese, softened
8-ounces blue cheese, crumbled
1/4 cup soft butter
2/3 cups chopped black olives
1 tablespoon minced chives or parsley
1/2 cup chopped English walnuts

Blend cream cheese, blue cheese, and butter. Add black olives and minced chives or parsley. Form into ball. Roll in nuts before serving.

DRIED BEEF LOG

8-ounces soft cream cheese
1/4 cup parmesan cheese, grated
1 tablespoon horseradish
1/2 cup chopped green olives
1 cup dried beef, finely cut

Blend together cream cheese, parmesan cheese, and horseradish. Stir in olives. Form into ball. Chill several hours. Roll in dried beef.

On no other night of the year is there so much pressure to "have fun" as New Year's Eve.

This attitude is what encourages so many people to drink to excess, make their way through large crowds of strangers at expensive gatherings, or in some way show others that, yes, they are indeed having the expected fun on New Year's Eve. The reality is that most people spend quiet evenings at home with family and friends and don't even see the clock strike midnight since it is past normal bedtime.

Here are some suggestions to help you enjoy a special New Year's Eve at home.

- Set the clocks ahead — if midnight seems to take forever to arrive and kids are tired. Set your clocks ahead one, two or even three hours so everyone can enjoy, celebrate, blow horns, bang pots and pans, and then get to bed at a reasonable hour so the next day is also enjoyable.

- Make a special non-alcoholic punch for everyone including the children to enjoy, use special glasses to add to the atmosphere.

Orange Smoothie

This non-alcoholic drink provides nutrients from milk as well as all the nutrients in a serving of orange juice.

6-ounce can frozen orange juice concentrate

1 cup milk, two percent fat
1 cup water

Recipe Topics

If you have recipes for topics listed below, please share them with us. We welcome your recipes, but ask that you include accurate measurements, a complete list of ingredients, and clear instructions with each recipe you submit. Be sure to include your name and address. Recipes should reach our office one week before the publishing date listed below.

Send your recipes to Lou Ann Good, Lancaster Farming, P.O. Box 609, Ephrata, PA 17522.

January

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2 tablespoons sugar
1/2 teaspoon vanilla
8 ice cubes

Place all ingredients in a blender. Cover and blend until smooth. Serve immediately.

Peachy Punch

Peaches add flavor and texture to this punch, a tasty treat without any alcohol.

16-ounce can sliced peaches, in light syrup

1 cup apple juice
1 tablespoon lemon juice
12-ounce bottle ginger ale

Chill ingredients thoroughly. Blend peaches and syrup until smooth. Add apple and lemon juices, blend; and remove blender jar from power unit. Add ginger ale; mix well. Serve immediately.

Make your own seltzer beverages. They have more nutrition than a flavored seltzer water when made with fruit juice and no added sugar. For example, try 2 tablespoons of frozen orange juice concentrate mixed with 1 cup of seltzer.

Play the games you or your

children received for Christmas, or go back to old standards such as Charades.

On individual slips of paper, write such things as: the funniest thing that happened to me this year; the most embarrassing; the weirdest; the scariest, and so forth.

Have each person pick a slip of paper, take a few minutes to think about it, and then everyone shares his or her experience.

Take out the pictures you took over the past year and organize! Talk about them with family and friends while dating, labeling and organizing. Send any duplicates to family members out of town, or make individual scrapbooks for each person. The purpose is to enjoy the photos, remember why you took them, and share the memories with others.

Take the time to reflect on the past year, what you are thankful for and how you have grown as an individual.

With family and friends, set some goals for next year — make a point to include "having

more fun" to your list and come up with places to see, people you want to visit, and things you want to do.

Write down your goals and keep them where they can be seen. Remember to set priorities, be thankful for what you have, and anticipate the new year as another grand adventure in life.



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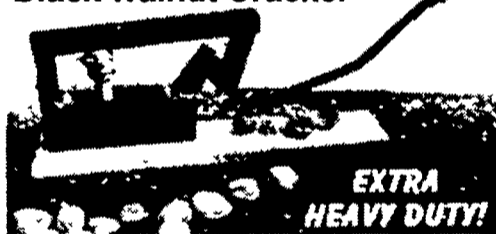
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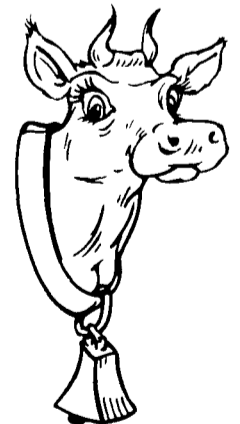
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