



The DoIT Digest

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Thanksgiving Edition

This Week:

- **Giving Thanks is a Long-Held Tradition in the United States**
- **Black Friday Offers Opportunity for Cyber Criminals**



Giving Thanks is a Long-Held Tradition in the United States

The month of November represents the transition from autumn harvest season to winter. “Giving thanks” for the annual harvest has been observed since the early days of America. Historians say the American tradition began in 1621 at Plymouth Rock to not only celebrate the harvest, but the founding of our nation. That first celebration in America lasted for three days and brought the settlers and Native Americans together to feast on the bounty of fruits, vegetables and meats of the area. Thanksgiving was not celebrated again until 1789 when George Washington proclaimed it a national holiday to be observed on the last Thursday in November yet was celebrated on different days from state to state until Thomas Jefferson did away with the holiday completely. Thanksgiving finally became a national holiday to be celebrated on the last Thursday in November in 1863 when President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed it so. Wishing everyone a wonderful Thanksgiving this week!

Black Friday Offers Opportunity for Cyber Criminals

Don’t throw caution to the wind along with your cash and credit cards . . . cyber criminals are looking forward to the feeding frenzy that Black Friday shopping can offer. Remember to follow a few simple precautions as you make your in-store and on-line purchases:

- Stick to known websites
- Stay connected to secure networks
- Beware of links in email and social networks
- Use two-factor authentication and robust passwords
- Set up alerts on credit cards
- Keep an eye out for phishing

DoIT FYIs & Reminders

While the holidays can be fun, they may also be stressful. That’s why CMS is partnering with Magellan to present a “Surviving the Holidays” webinar presented on December 2, 2019 from 12-1 pm (CT). For more information, visit the announcements page of our [employee portal](#).

