

BERKELEY POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Holiday Tradition Continues Meals Given to Families in Need

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Berkeley, California (Wednesday, November 14, 2012) - On Tuesday, November 20, 2012 at 6:30 a.m., members of the City of Berkeley Police Department (BPD), Berkeley Boosters Association, University of California Police Department (UCPD), Berkeley Rotarians and other community volunteers will meet in front of the Ronald Tsukamoto Public Safety Building continuing a 28 year tradition of assembling and distributing turkey baskets to needy families in Berkeley.



Off Loading Turkeys & other Food



Assembling the food to be distributed

The groups will put together 250 food baskets to be distributed to needy Berkeley families by BPD, UCPD and Parking Enforcement Officers. Each basket will contain a turkey, fresh produce, and enough canned and packaged food to feed approximately eight (8) people.

During this year's "Turkey Ride," current and retired BPD, UCPD officers and friends rode 210 miles along the coast over three days to raise donations to purchase items to fill the turkey baskets.

The Turkey Ride was conceived in 1983 when three (3) BPD officers rode their bikes from Berkeley to South Lake Tahoe. During their journey, those original riders decided to build future rides into fund-raising events and use the money to help Berkeley families in need. Each year, participants of the ride receive helpful support from a dedicated team composed of members of BPD, UCPD, Berkeley Boosters Association, family and friends.

This year's program goals could not have been met without the long-time support of the Berkeley Rotary Club, which contributes generous financial support. The additional support of Safeway Stores, Greenleaf Produce, Mt. Tam Fresh, Super Star Produce, Twin Peaks Distributing, Redwood Distributing and the Alameda County Food Bank help provide additional food for the baskets. The Turkey Riders and the event organizers would like to thank them for their ongoing generous support and donations.

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