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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Northline Commons offers bargain hunters tips to shop smart on Black Friday**

### ***Children invited to meet Santa Claus as he stops by Northline Friday for values on gifts for the whole family***

*November 24, 2008*— Widely known as the busiest shopping day of the year, the day after Thanksgiving is typically associated with huge discounts and frenzied shoppers. Northline Commons is offering tips to help bargain hunters shop smart on Black Friday, Nov. 27, when Santa Claus is expected to stop by to check out the values.

**Santa will join shoppers at Northline Friday and will greet children from noon – 2 p.m. at a tent near Pappa’s BBQ and Marshalls. Northline Commons is located at 4400 North Fwy, 77022, on the corner of I-45 North and Crosstimbers St.**

#### **Tips to make the most from Black Friday:**

**1. Make a list and check it twice**

Follow Santa’s lead and make a list of the people you’d like to shop for and think about items that would suit their personality. Don’t forget to include the people we many times overlook, such as neighbors.

**2. Set a budget and stick to it**

Decide on a budget and write down how much you plan to spend on each gift on your list. Take the list and a calculator with you to keep track of what you spend *while* you shop—not after the damage is done. Off-price retailers such as Ross and Marshalls at Northline offer brand name fashions at prices up to 60-percent less to help families get more for their buck.

**3. Dress like a pro shopper**

Houston weather can be unpredictable and vary hour by hour, so tune into the news Thanksgiving night to get the weather predictions for Friday. Dress warmly if starting to shop in the cool mornings or planning to stay out after dark. Layers of clothing are best so you can shed them as the day warms up. Comfortable shoes are a must.

**4. Save time, money, and stress by driving less**

Instead of driving from one store to the next, wasting time and gas money, try shopping at a center where you can run in and out of the stores you need. Families can shop, bank, eat, and more, all at Northline’s convenient open-air center.

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## **5. Take a break**

Take a time-out to eat, relax and check your list so your shopping experience will be a pleasant one. A break will give provide an opportunity to review your list and take a breather. Shopping on an empty stomach can sour anyone's mood so reward yourself with a nice meal after all the super-savings you found.

Ross, Marshalls, Palais Royal, Conn's, Footlocker, Pappa's BBQ, and Cici's Pizza are among the Northline merchants helping families with their holiday shopping. For more information, please visit [www.northlinecommons.com](http://www.northlinecommons.com).

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