

Our Opinion

Give thanks

While the hype surrounding present-day Thanksgiving centers mostly around Black Friday and the great deals to be had, it is important to pause and give thanks as well.

Thanksgiving's roots in the United States date back to the 1600s as a way to celebrate a good harvest. Today, it seems like giving thanks for getting a good deal has replaced the original intent of the holiday. We regret this.

Locally, individuals, groups and organizations will spend Thanksgiving Day helping out a neighbor or a loved one. The Russ Graham Memorial Thanksgiving Day Dinner will mark its 10th anniversary of providing a free dinner to the public. There is little doubt that this annual event, held at the Houghton-Higgins Lake Elks Lodge, has made an impact on those that help make it successful each year. Young and old volunteers take time out of their holiday to prepare, cook, serve, deliver and clean-up a feast that last year fed nearly 500. When completing these tasks, it is likely that many are giving thanks for what they

have and how those blessings allow them to participate.

Their work, which lasts much longer than Thanksgiving Day, should serve as an inspiration to give things. It also serves as an excellent segue into the Christmas season.

In today's fast-paced world of uninterrupted technology, it is well worth putting down your smartphone, tablet or laptop, rolling up your sleeves and digging into some family time. In order to preserve the American spirit that has been celebrated in hundreds of Thanksgivings past, we must get back to the basics.

Backyard football games on Thanksgiving afternoon are being replaced by campouts on cold cement. Stores are now starting to open on Thanksgiving eve, cutting even further into family-time of people working in retail. The boost to the economy is great, but is it worth the strain on the American family?

This Thanksgiving, take the opportunity to give thanks. The satisfaction should greatly outweigh any good deal had. Happy Thanksgiving.

Twinkies a tasty part of Americana



I Was Thinking... By Cheryl Holladay

Say it ain't so. No more Twinkies unless Hostess can salvage its many brands in bankruptcy court through meditation with its bakers' union?

The little golden cakes filled with cream and calories may have taken a hit lately from their healthier competitors like vegetables and whole grains, but it's a fattening little piece of Americana I'd rather not part with.

As a kid it was a treat to find a two-cake package in my Holly Hobby lunchbox, snuggled in

next to the bologna sandwich and a Thermos of milk.

Hostess Twinkies have been an iconic part of our culture and they also represent much of what's bad for people: 150 calories per serving (one cake), 4.5 grams of fat and 27 grams of carbohydrates. Although it must be said that Ding Dongs, also a Hostess product, are even more fattening.

In the movie, "Die Hard," Bruce Willis' character, John McClane, tries to fire down a "1,000-year-old Twinkie" and asks Reginald Veljohnson's character, Sgt. Al Powell, what's in one, to which he answers -- after having purchased several earlier in the movie, supposedly for his pregnant wife and not for himself -- "Sugar-enriched flour, partially hydrogenated vegetable oil, polysorbate 60 and yellow die No.

5, just everything a growing boy needs." In the movie, "Wall-e," the only thing left behind on Earth beside piles of garbage, Wall-e and a cockroach is a Twinkie, presumably because of the myth that Twinkies will never grow stale.

Twinkies have also immortalized in other movies, like Zombieland and Ghostbusters.

It's sad to think of never eating a deliciously buttery-tasting fat-bomb again. The first store I checked when I heard the bad news didn't have any, but I didn't want to hunt all over town only to be disappointed (and I'm not paying hundreds of dollars for a box on e-Bay).

So I bought a two-pack of Hostess chocolate cupcakes, the kind with the distinctive white icing swirl.

It wasn't the same.

Your Opinion

'Wonderful, thoughtful' Vets Day program

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Houghton Lake Middle School for the Veteran's Day Program on Nov. 12, 2012. It was a wonderful, thoughtful presentation. My husband John, a Vietnam veteran, felt deeply honored and respected. I'm sure the other veterans present did as well.

It was extra special for us, having two of our grandchildren (Ashley and Sean Patti) participate with their classmates in a reading. All the children, and the teachers who prepped them, did an excellent job. Our heartfelt thanks to all. Patricia Patti Cadillac

Support Israel

The Jews have been a blessing to the world despite being hated by so many people and nations. Their greatest contribution was a Jewish boy, whose father was, and is Almighty God, creator of life. His name was Yeshua, whom we call Jesus. I have just learned of a Jew named Haym Solomon. He came to America in 1772, and established a brokerage business in New York City. In 1975 the United States Post Office honored him with a stamp that said, "Financial Hero-Busi-

nessman and broker, Haym Solomon, was responsible for raising most of the money needed to finance the American Revolution, and later to save the new nation from collapse." Haym was captured twice by the British. Unfortunately, he died at 41, and was buried in an unmarked grave. This is only one of the many reasons to support the tiny Jewish nation of Israel, and its capital Jerusalem, ancient city of King David. Parker Seiler Prudenville

May take years to repair nation

I read the letters last week, and felt I had to add my opinions to the list. I read a few reasons why the most liberal man in presidential history was re-elected. The one reason that I failed to see was the votes of "religious" folks. As I understand it, most Americans believe there is a God. My big concern is that believing there is a God is not the same as believing in God.

I believe pre-election polls showed that a high percentage of "believers," voted for Barack Obama. To me, anyone who votes for the man also votes for his progressive agendas, and the platform of the Democratic Party: Abortion on demand, no matter how late term, and approve and push for marriage between two people of the same sex.

These are just two horrible ideas

that this man promotes. Let alone the fact that he has a belief that the D.C. government should be in control of every aspect of the American way of life, businesses included. Never in history has an administration been so anti-business and added so much to the debt of our nation. Who hires workers? Have you ever seen a poor person posting want ads?

How long will it be before the "bailed out" auto companies are right back where they were pre-bailout? Nothing has changed in the way they are being operated. If it happens again, help them reorganize and start over in a profitable fashion.

President Obama has added millions of folks to the ranks of poor, food stamps, welfare, SSI, etc. Some day the well will run dry...then what? You can only bite the hand that feeds you so often. There are certainly some who would love to find work and get off the free stuff, but far too many are entrenched and want to keep it that way. Can't they see what is happening to Europe? Or do they not care so long as the goodies keep coming?

He and his administration have covered up the four Benghazi murders worse than a previous president covered up Watergate. But as main "media" outlets love him, nothing will ever be done to punish that lack of backup those Americans pleaded for and deserved. Or the cover-up by sending our UN representative out to tell untruths when the attack was on live video! And

even the president speaking at the UN and our Secretary of State both shouting how "this Internet video is what stirred up those masses." Hogwash, as it has now been proven otherwise. But, will they get their comeuppance? Not hardly, but let's wait two more years and see what happens. Sadly our nation will no doubt be in such horrible straits it may take years to repair.

I am not a strict party man, and have voted for others at times, but it seems that some folks vote party over conscience, common sense and the good of the nation. Where or where is the party of John Kennedy?

Wes Evoy Houghton Lake

Letters Policy

The Resorter welcomes concise letters to the editor. We require that letters be signed and contain addresses and telephone numbers for verification. E-mailed letters must contain addresses and telephone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be printed.

All letters are subject to editing and should be no longer than 500 words.

Letters may be sent to the Resorter at P.O. Box 248, Houghton Lake, MI 48629 or e-mailed to news@houghtonlakeresorter.com. Deadline for letters to be published is Tuesday the week of publication.

Editor's Note

The button to start the press was within arm's reach around 2:15 p.m. last Wednesday when the power was lost at the Resorter's Houghton Lake office.

The outage, which lasted nearly three hours, kept the press from running in the normal 2 p.m. timeslot. In the last 72 years, little has kept the Resorter from getting in the mail and on the newsstands on time. This power outage almost did.

However, thanks to an excellent crew at the Resorter and help from the United States Postal Service -- including our

area post offices -- the Resorter made it to newsstands and mailboxes mostly unaffected by the outage.

We were struck by the number of phone calls and visits to our office wondering where this week's edition of the Resorter was and when it would be out. It is regrettable to have to tell someone the paper is not yet out but satisfying that so many of our readers -- from Houghton Lake to Prudenville to Roscommon to St. Helen -- want their Resorter on Wednesday afternoon when it is hot off the press.

Legislative Directory

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U.S. Senator Carl Levin

Saginaw Office: 515 N. Washington Avenue, Suite 402 Saginaw, MI 48607-1370 Phone: (989) 754-2494

IT HAPPENED THIS WEEK

REPRINTED FROM HOUGHTON LAKE RESORTER AND ROSCOMMON COUNTY HERALD-NEWS BACK ISSUES 125 YEARS AGO-NOVEMBER 18, 1887

Accident.

Yesterday the passenger train due here at 4:28, met with a serious accident between Beaver Lake and Ogemaw by running into a log train...The passenger train was about an hour late on her arrival at West Branch, and was running fast to make time, and in coming round a curve at the place named, the engineer saw a log train that had backed out of a switch across the track. The engine was reversed and the air brakes set, but the speed was so great that a collision was inevitable, and the passenger train went crashing into the logs. No one was hurt but the fireman who had one of his hands bruised in jumping from the train.

100 YEARS AGO-NOVEMBER 21, 1912 Hunter Shot.

An attempt on the life of Bernard Hartman, aged 27 years, of Standish, was made by an unknown man while the young man and three companions were hunting in the woods near St. Helen, early Friday morning. He was taken to Mercy hospital at Bay City, where, from last reports he lays in critical condition.

75 YEARS AGO-NOVEMBER 18, 1937 FRANKLIN PETROLEUM DEVELOPMENT COMPANY OF DETROIT LEASES 3200 ACRES OF OIL LANDS FROM ST. HELEN OIL COMPANY, Inc. Active Development Work Now Under Way With First Well Down 2190 Feet

55 YEARS AGO-NOVEMBER 21, 1957 Photo outline NEM Conference Football Champions

The Houghton Lake Bobcats, winners of the Northeastern Michigan Conference football toga this year, are shown above...The winners averaged 52 plays, gaining 366.6 yards per game, during league play this season.

25 YEARS AGO-NOVEMBER 19, 1987 KCC students score well on test

Scores of nursing students from Kirtland Community College who took the state registered nursing examination last July ranked fourth among 50 nursing schools.

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Resorter Reader Poll

Last week's results Are the Democrats and Republicans handling the national debt crisis well? Yes-5% No-95%

This week's question Do you plan to go Black Friday shopping before 6 a.m. on Friday?

To express your opinion, go to www.houghtonlakeresorter.com 82 readers responded to the poll last week

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