



SUBMITTED PHOTO
The 3rd-5th grade Girls on the Run participants completed their program Sunday, November 15 in Sioux Falls with the culminating 5K event. They joined nearly a thousand other participants and crossed the finish line to realize that the seemingly impossible IS possible! We are thankful to our local United Way, who helped fund and bring this program to Yankton, and more specifically to 14 girls at Webster School. We are grateful to the volunteer coaches who volunteered two evenings a week for 12 weeks to conduct the lessons. Thank you, Deanna Branaugh, Lindsey Doctorman, Nikki Heinz, Miranda Leusink, Julie O'Brien and Kayla Rensink for your dedication! These girls are now more confident thanks to the lessons they received on positive emotional, social, mental and physical development. We give a HOOT HOOT about Girls on the Run, United Way and the local volunteer coaches!

Make Your Holiday Shopping And Charitable Giving Safe And Successful With These Tips From BBB

OMAHA, Neb. — Thanksgiving is quickly approaching, and some retailers have already announced several of their deals. Though more and more stores are opening their doors to shoppers on Thanksgiving Day, Black Friday will remain one of the biggest shopping days of the year, both online and in stores. BBB offers advice for consumers who plan to shop on Black Friday, Small Business Saturday, Cyber Monday and intend to make charitable donations on Giving Tuesday.

“Falling between Black Friday and Cyber Monday, Small Business Saturday, on Nov. 28, can be a fun part of your holiday weekend. By staying local, you’ll support the small businesses that helped create the identity of your community. This annual event is a great way to show your support for these local shops,” stated BBB President and CEO Jim Hegarty.

As always, retailers will compete feverishly to get shoppers to visit their stores and their websites. The National Retail Federation (NRF) “expects sales in November and December (excluding autos, gas and restaurant sales) to increase a solid 3.7 percent to \$630.5 billion — significantly higher than the 10-year average of 2.5 percent. Holiday sales in 2015 are expected to represent approximately 19 percent of the retail industry’s annual sales of \$3.2 trillion. Additionally, NRF is forecasting online sales to increase between 6 and 8 percent to as much as \$105 billion.”

BBB Tips for shopping on Black Friday, Cyber Monday, or Small Business Saturday to help ensure a satisfactory experience:

- Beware of pop-up shops that show up around the holidays, as these stores can disappear before you know it. Also, before you decide to purchase products online, visit bbbinc.org to check out a business. Make sure the website you’re browsing is reputable.
- When making an online purchase, look for the SSL encryption. You can recognize it by the “s” in https:// of the URL or the lock symbol; both ensure that the information you’re about to give out is encrypted for your safety.
- When shopping online and in stores, be sure to make purchases with your credit card, not a debit card. Credit cards give you significant protection against fraud, and even if your information falls into the wrong hands, you’ll be more likely to get all of your money back with your credit card company. If using a debit card, once the funds are drawn, they’re gone.
- Gift cards can be tricky purchases when bought online. Sometimes, gift cards purchased from a third-party seller can turn out to be used or missing the correct amount of funds. If you’re interested in buying a gift card, order it from a verified store or seller.

• Be sure to review all refund policies and warranty information. In the event that something goes wrong with your purchase, you’ll also want to have proof of your transaction. Save all receipts, email confirmations, or invoices you receive from retailers and if shopping online, be sure to screenshot the final confirmation screen as proof.

- When you’ve finished shopping both in store and online, you should remain vigilant. Stay updated on your accounts and statements, as well as any orders you completed online. Make sure only the charges you’ve approved appear on your statement, and if you see something suspicious, contact your financial institution.

Charities will also be seeking to capitalize on the holiday spirit by promoting “Giving Tuesday” on Dec. 1 as an opportune time to make donations. For many Americans, giving to charities

is almost as important during the holidays as celebrating with family. As a result, mailboxes often are stuffed with charitable solicitations as well as catalogs this time of year. Whether you celebrate or not, giving before Jan. 1 means your gifts will be deductible on your 2015 tax return.

Giving Tuesday is an idea that began three years ago with the 92nd Street Y in New York. Since then, it has grown to include more than 27,000 partners nationwide. Last year, more than \$26.1 million was given online through Blackbaud, a company that processes online donations of charities listed on the Giving Tuesday website.

BBB tips to increase your confidence that your donation will be used wisely:

- If you are unfamiliar with an organization, don’t hesitate to ask the charity for written information about its programs and finances.
- Don’t succumb to pressure to give money on the spot. A charity that can use your money today will welcome it just as much tomorrow. Watch out for appeals that bring tears to your eyes, but tell you nothing about how your donation will be used.
- Before making online donations, determine whether the charity’s website is secure and that it has a privacy policy concerning the use of your name, email address or other personal facts. (Secure site URLs begin with https://.)
- When considering support for a cause-related marketing campaign, find the answers to these questions: What portion of the purchase price will benefit the charity? What is the duration of the campaign? What is the maximum or minimum total contribution? If the information is not on the item, check the organization’s website.
- Before donating used items, make sure they are in good shape to reuse. Donating junk puts an undue burden on the charity and could do more harm than good. You may want to consider selling the item and donating the proceeds to a charity.
- Seek professional advice if you are in doubt about the deductibility of contributions.
- Other helpful tips for making donations are posted on give.org. The IRS website at irs.gov has information on the deductibility of donations on tax returns.

Thanksgiving Day Origins Remind Us What Is Important

BY DR. MIKE ROSMANN
 Sponsored by Lewis & Clark Behavioral Health

George Washington proclaimed the fourth Thursday of November as Thanksgiving Day during the first year of his American presidency in 1789. Several countries have established similar holidays, such as Canada’s celebration on the second Monday of October each year and Germany’s harvest festival, usually held on the first Sunday of October in conjunction with Oktoberfest.

The number of foreign communities and nations that hold annual celebrations of thanksgiving is increasing. The traditions they are establishing are similar to the American holiday, for they include parades, public proclamations of appreciation to farmers and laborers, indulgence in food and beverages and a day of rest except for the cooks and others in essential occupations.

Most historians trace the ritual in the U.S. to English immigrants who disembarked from their transport ship, the Mayflower, near Plymouth, Massachusetts in the autumn of 1620. Referred to now as the Pilgrims, they mostly originated from Scrooby in Nottinghamshire—where the rogue hero, Robin Hood, lived a couple centuries earlier.

The Pilgrims were called Separatists or Puritans because they adhered to stricter religious doctrines than those of the Church of England, which became England’s official church after King Henry VIII denounced the Roman Catholic Church around 1530 when Pope Clement VII would not annul his marriage to Catherine of Aragon or approve his five subsequent marriages.

Because they were persecuted for their religious doctrines, the Separatists emigrated to the Dutch city of Leiden where religious differences were acceptable, mostly between 1609 and 1620. They came to America from Leiden because there were no laws banning religious freedom in the New World.

They had heard about North America from English people who established Jamestown, Virginia in 1607 and from pre-



Dr. Mike ROSMANN

ceding Spanish and French explorers of the continent. They arrived too late in the growing season to raise food their first year in Plymouth but they had enough provisions with them and captured wild game, fish and mollusks for survival during the winter of 1620-21; nonetheless, many colonists succumbed.

According to a Plimoth Plantation (www.plimoth.org) publication, the colonists struck a treaty with native inhabitants in March, 1621, which included agreements to not harm each other, to return anything that was stolen, to not bring weapons to meetings and to become allies in times of war.

Squanto, a native of the Wampanoag tribe, who had been captured years earlier by English explorers of the Massachusetts coastal region and who had spent some time in London, returned to America with the Puritans and instructed them about growing corn and other crops in 1621. Unfortunately, Squanto died in 1622.

The Puritans had practiced several religious days of fasting and thanksgiving each autumn for many years in England and Holland. While residents of Leiden, the Separatists observed a three-day commemorative celebration of the end of the siege of Leiden by Spanish invaders who abandoned their efforts to subjugate the city on October 3, 1574, even though Spain’s war with the Netherlands did not end until 1648.

Drawing on these practices, the colonists held their first Thanksgiving during three consecutive days in the fall of 1621 and included about 90 of their indigenous predecessors, the Wampanoag Indians led by Ousamequin, also known as Massasoit to the English settlers. Besides Puritan religious observances, the participants exchanged gifts and enjoyed communal

meals and discussion together.

Good relations between the English immigrants in both Virginia and Massachusetts with their Indian neighbors deteriorated within a few years after their respective arrivals in 1607 and 1620. Native People came to view the colonists as invaders who competed for their resources and used superior weapons to subdue them.

Many Native Americans today look at Thanksgiving Day as a celebration by European immigrants who captured their land and changed Native cultures forever. Most still view the land, air, water and all creatures as gifts to be shared without ownership; Thanksgiving Day has a mixed connotation of appreciation and loss of heritage.

Native Americans usually held powwows each fall that included religious rituals, dances, contests and community meals long before Europeans came to America. Excerpts in Smithsonian Magazine from a book by Kenneth C. Davis, suggest French and Spanish explorers in other parts of the continent also may have practiced ceremonies of appreciation that preceded the celebrations by the Pilgrims in Massachusetts.

According to the historian, Ralph F. Wilson, it wasn’t until 1840 that the term “Pilgrim” came to refer to the Puritans who disembarked at Plymouth, Massachusetts.

An unknown person adopted the term from William Bradford (1590-1657), the first governor of the new colony who served five terms. Bradford had described his fellow citizens as follows: “They knew they were pilgrims ...and looked not much on those things (their previous homes in Leiden and England), but lift up their eyes to ye heavens, their dearest cuntry, and quieted their spirits.”

Pilgrim became part of the American vernacular to describe someone searching for a better spiritual life.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Dr. Rosmann lives near Harlan, Iowa. Contact him at: www.agbehavioralhealth.com.

Thanksgiving Travel Due To Hit 8-Year Highs

SIOUX FALLS — AAA Travel forecasts 46.9 million Americans will journey 50 miles or more from home during the Thanksgiving holiday, a 0.6 percent increase over the 46.6 million who traveled last year and the most since 2007. This marks the seventh consecutive year of growth for Thanksgiving travel.

“There’s no doubt a lot of us are guarding our dollars very closely these days,” said Marilyn Buskohl, spokeswoman for AAA South Dakota. “But the lowest Thanksgiving gasoline prices since 2008 are prying some of those dollars loose and driving what AAA expects will be near record numbers to hit the highways across the country.”

AAA predicts more than 135,000 South Dakotans will take a holiday road trip this Thanksgiving, a decrease of 1.6 percent over last year. Air travel is expected to decrease by 1.2 percent, with 6,320

South Dakotans flying to their holiday destinations. Though fewer South Dakotans are expected to leave town this Thanksgiving, more Americans will be traveling nationwide, according to AAA’s annual travel forecast.

BARGAIN-BASEMENT GASOLINE PRICES ARE DRIVING TRAVEL

Motorists nationwide continue to experience significantly lower year-over-year gas prices. AAA estimates consumers are saving nearly \$265 million on gasoline every day compared to a year ago. This has helped boost disposable income, encouraging more Americans to travel over Thanksgiving.

South Dakota’s statewide average price for regular self-serve gasoline stands at \$2.25 today, 69 cents below the price one year ago.

Today’s nationwide price for a gallon of gasoline has

dropped 74 cents to an average today of \$2.15 from the price on this same date one year ago.

AIRFARES FALL, HOTEL AND CAR RENTAL RATES RISE MODESTLY

According to AAA’s Leisure Travel Index, airfares are projected to decrease 10 percent this Thanksgiving, landing at an average of \$169 per roundtrip across the top 40 domestic

flight routes.

Rates for AAA Three Diamond-rated lodgings are expected to remain relatively flat, with travelers spending an average of \$155 per night. The average rate at a AAA Two Diamond-rated hotel has risen 4 percent with an average nightly cost of \$118.

Daily car rental rates will average \$60, eight percent higher than last Thanksgiving.

Thank You

Our deepest thanks to all who touched our family with caring kindness, thoughts and prayers. Special thanks to Fr. Tim Lange, YMC doctors, Majestic Bluffs Assisted Living & ASH Hospice, and Wintz & Ray Funeral Home. Thank you to all who touched Mom’s life in such a special way.

~The family of Odelia Langferman

Happy 75th Birthday, Mr. Fix-It! November 25, 2015 Love, Your Family

Greetings may be sent to: Lyle Johnson 1302 Oak St. Yankton, SD 57078



Graber-Hicks

Jon Graber and Elizabeth Hicks were married September 5, 2015 near Freeman, South Dakota in the Salem Zion Mennonite Church. Parents of the couple are Steve & Linda Graber, Freeman, SD & Newt & Carol Hicks, Utica, SD. Their reception & dance were held at the Hicks farm.

The couple will live near Freeman, SD where the groom farms and raises cattle. The bride is currently in her third year of Veterinary school at Iowa State University, Ames, IA.

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