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Columbia College Chicago

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hanksgiving

A SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT FROM THE COLUMBIA CHRONICLE

NOVEMBER 24, 1997

THE FIRST THANKSGIVING PROCLAMATION - JUNE 20, 1676

On June 20, 1676, the governing council of Charlestown, Massachusetts, held a meeting to determine how best to express thanks for the good fortune that had seen their community securely established. By unanimous vote they instructed Edward Rawson, the clerk, to proclaim June 29 as a day of thanksgiving, our first. Take into account that this proclamation is REPRODUCED HERE IN THE SAME LANGUAGE AND SPELLING AS THE ORIGINAL.

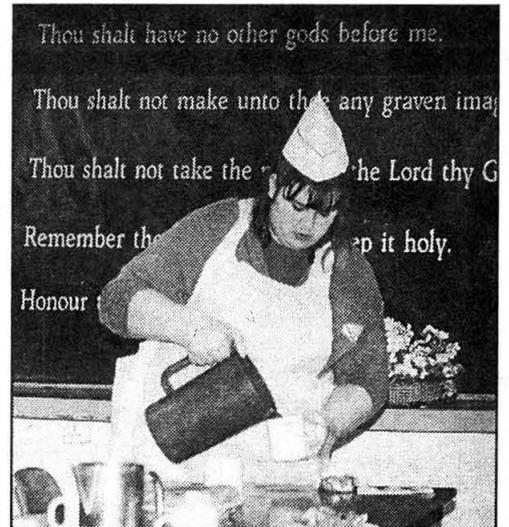
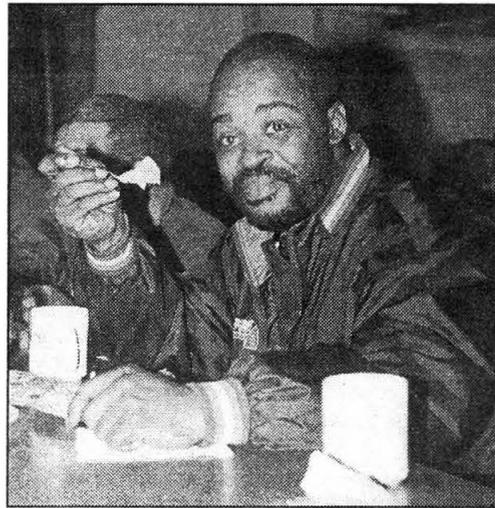
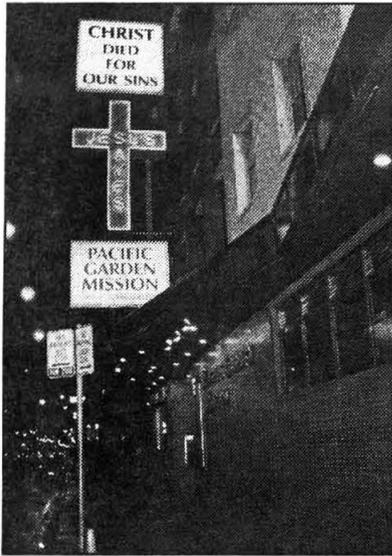
"The Holy God having by a long and Continual Series of his Afflictive dispensations in and by the present Warr with the Heathen Natives of this land, written and brought to pass bitter things against his own Covenant people in this wilderness, yet so that we evidently discern that in the midst of his judgements he hath remembered mercy, having remembered his Footstool in the day of his sore displeasure against us for our sins, with many singular Intimations of his Fatherly Compassion, and regard; reserving many of our Towns from Desolation Threatened, and attempted by the Enemy, and giving us especially of late with many of our Confederates many signal Advantages against them, without such Disadvantage to ourselves as formerly we have been sensible of, if it be the Lord's mercy that we are not consumed, It certainly bespeaks our positive Thankfulness, when our Enemies are in any measure disappointed or destroyed; and fearing the Lord should take notice under so many Intimations of his returning mercy, we should be found an Insensible people, as not standing before Him with Thanksgiving, as well as lading him with our Complaints in the time of pressing Afflictions:

The Council has thought meet to appoint and set apart the 29th day of this instant June, as a day of Solemn Thanksgiving and praise to God for such his Goodness and Favour, many Particulars of which mercy might be Instanced, but we doubt not those who are sensible of God's Afflictions, have been as diligent to espy him returning to us; and that the Lord may behold us as a People offering Praise and thereby glorifying Him; the Council doth commend it to the Respective Ministers, Elders and people of this Jurisdiction; Solemnly and seriously to keep the same Beseeching that being perswaded by the mercies of God we may all, even this whole people offer up our bodies and soules as a living and acceptable Service unto God by Jesus Christ."

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COLUMBIA SPONSORS THANKSGIVING DINNER AT PACIFIC GARDEN MISSION

Photo Essay by Stacy Morgan



Thanksgiving

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Thanksgiving celebrations throughout history and in different cultures

Throughout history mankind has celebrated the bountiful harvest with thanksgiving ceremonies.

Before the establishment of formal religions many ancient farmers believed that their crops contained spirits that caused the crops to grow and die. Many believed these spirits would be

released when the crops were harvested and felt the spirits had to be destroyed or they would take revenge on them for harvested them. Some of the harvest festivals celebrated the defeat of these spirits.

The Greeks

The ancient Greeks worshipped many gods and goddesses. Their goddess of corn (actually all grains) was Demeter who was honored at the festival of Thesmophoria held each autumn.

On the first day of the festival, married women (possibly connecting childbearing and the

raising of crops) would build leafy shelters and furnish them with couches made with plants. On the second day they fasted. On the third day a feast was held and offerings to the goddess Demeter were made gifts of seed corn, cakes, fruit, and pigs. It was hoped that Demeter's gratitude would grant them a good harvest.

The Romans

The Romans also celebrated a harvest festival called Cerealia, which honored Ceres their goddess of corn (from which the word cereal comes). The festival was held each year on October 4 and offerings of the

first fruits of the harvest and pigs were made to Ceres. Their celebration included music, parades, games and sports and a thanksgiving feast.

The Hebrews

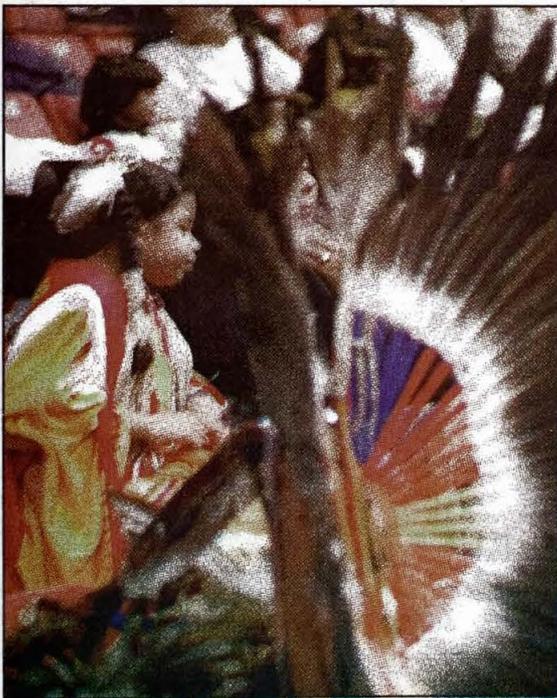
Jewish families also celebrate a harvest festival called Sukkoth. Taking place each autumn, Sukkoth has been celebrated for over 3000 years.

Sukkoth is known by two names, "Hag ha Succot," the feast of the Tabernacles and "Hag ha Asif," the Feast of Ingathering. Sukkoth begins on the 15 day of the Hebrew month of Tishri, 5 days after Yom



POW WOW AT THE UIC PAVILION

Photo Essay by Stacy Morgan and Stacey Weber



Kippur the most solemn day of the Jewish year.

Sukkoth is named for the huts (succoth) that Moses and the Israelites lived in as they wandered the desert for 40 years before they reached the Promised Land. These huts were made of branches and were easy to assemble, take apart and carry as the Israelites wandered through the desert.

When celebrating Sukkoth, which lasts for eight days, the Jewish people build small huts of branches which recall the tabernacles of their ancestors. These huts are constructed as temporary shelters, as the branches are not

driven into the ground and the roof is covered with foliage which is spaced to let the light in. Inside the huts are hung fruits and vegetables, including apples, grapes, corn, and pomegranates. On the first two nights of Sukkoth the families eat their meals in the huts under the evening sky.

The Egyptians

The ancient Egyptians celebrated their harvest festival in honor of Min, their god of vegetation and fertility. The festival was held in the springtime, the Egyptian's harvest season.

The festival of Min featured a

parade in which the Pharaoh took part. After the parade a great feast was held. Music, dancing, and sports were also part of the celebration.

When the Egyptian farmers harvested their corn, they wept and pretended to be grief-stricken. This was to deceive the spirit which they believed lived in the corn. They feared the spirit would become angry when the farmers cut down the corn where it lived.

The United States

In 1621, after a devastating first year in the New World, the Pilgrim's fall harvest was very successful and plentiful. There

was corn, fruits, vegetables and fish which was packed in salt, and meat that was smoked over a fire. They found they had enough food to put away for the winter.

The Pilgrims had beaten the odds. They built homes in the wilderness, they raised enough crops to keep them alive during the long coming winter, and they were at peace with their Indian neighbors. Their Governor, William Bradford, proclaimed a day of thanksgiving that was to be shared by all the colonists and the neighboring Native American Indians.

The custom of an annually celebrated thanksgiving, held after the harvest, continued

through the years. During the American Revolution (late 1770's) a day of national thanksgiving was suggested by the Continental Congress.

In 1817, New York State adopted Thanksgiving Day as an annual custom. By the middle of the 19th century many other states also celebrated a Thanksgiving Day. In 1863 President Abraham Lincoln appointed a national day of thanksgiving. Since then each president has issued a Thanksgiving Day proclamation, usually designating the fourth Thursday of each November as the holiday.

Careers that keep on Thanksgiving

By Kaplan Educational Centers

There's all that hoopla surrounding the feast, but what a let-down when Thanksgiving is over and the bird has been picked clean.

Well, here's some good news. That excitement doesn't have to end. Keep the Thanksgiving spirit in your life all year (and all your life) by pursuing a career along the lines of the following:

HUNTER

Here, turkey turkey turkey... Gather animal species for human consumption, animal feed, bait and other uses and manage animals for research and control purposes.

Job outlook: slower than average growth.

COSTUMED PILGRIM GUIDE/ACTOR

It's almost too good to be true...star power AND cool hats. Entertain, communicate, and bring history to life through interpretation of dramatic roles.

Job outlook: faster than average growth.

FOOD SCIENTIST

Imagine...not only getting to inspect livestock, but getting paid to do it. Develop new or better ways of preserving, processing, packaging, storing and delivering foods.

Job outlook: average growth.

FARM WORKER

Raise turkeys, ducks and chickens, and whenever you've got a hankering you've got the makings for Thanksgiving Turducken. Plant, cultivate, harvest, and store crops; tend livestock and poultry; operate and maintain farm machinery; and maintain structures.

Job outlook: slower than average growth.

HISTORIAN

Heck, the story of the first Thanksgiving is a crowd-pleaser any day of the year. Research and analyze the past, usually specializing in a specific country or region in a particular time period or in a particular field.

Job outlook: faster than average growth.

POULTRY CUTTER

Maybe you're allowed to bring home any unwanted scraps! Slaughter and cut up turkeys and other types of poultry.

Job outlook: slow growth.

CANNERY WORKER

Help make sure the cranberry sauce that blurs out of the can is as fresh as on the day those cranberries were harvested. Perform a variety of tasks in canning, freezing, preserving, or packing food products.

Job outlook: average growth.

PASTRY CHEF

Who says you can't put marzipan pilgrims atop any pecan pie old day you want? Produce baked goods for restaurants, institutions, and retail bakery shops.

Job outlook: faster than average growth.

AGRICULTURAL TECHNICIAN

Ensure that more sweet potatoes make it to families' tables. Improve the yield and quality of crops or increase resistance of plants to disease, insects, or other hazards.

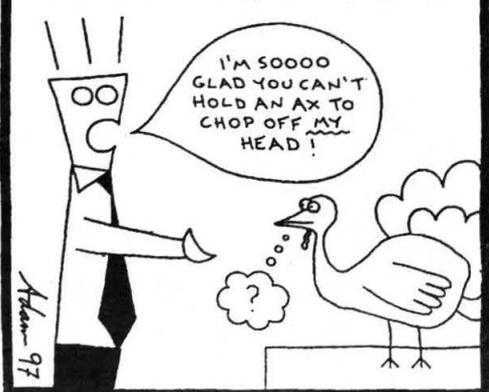
Job outlook: average growth.

A little Thanksgiving humor

THANKSGIVING?



THANKSGIVING IS A TIME TO COUNT YOUR BLESSINGS...



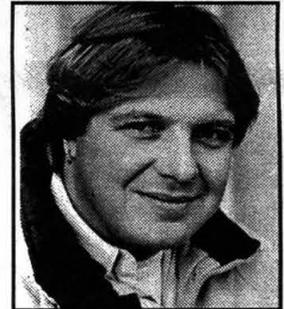
Face Value by Vincent Johnson

"What is your favorite Thanksgiving memory?"



Mike Gastala
Sound
Freshman

"The fact that I never had anything to worry about and eating the most I ever ate with my entire family."



David Homuth
Sound
Senior

"Eat too much, watch football and play cards."



Mary K. Chorba
Dance
Senior

"Getting a long weekend."



Erin Flynn
Theater
Sophomore

"When Fabio came to my door with an 'I Can't Believe It's Not Butter' tub to spread on my muffin."

Have a Happy Thanksgiving from The Columbia Chronicle