

River Oaks News

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From the White House Historical Association

A History of White House Presidential Turkey Pardons

Beginning with George Washington, many presidents declared their own days of thanksgiving before Abraham Lincoln made it an official holiday in 1863 and Franklin D. Roosevelt signed legislation in 1941 designating the fourth Thursday in November as the federal Thanksgiving Day holiday.

Reports of turkeys as gifts to American presidents can be traced back to the 1870s.

Turkey presentations at the White House became national news in the 1920s with accounts of turkeys taking exciting cross-country trips to the White House and arriving dressed for the occasion in goggles and sweaters, inside their decorated coops.

John F. Kennedy was the first to unofficially pardon a turkey by telling attendees at the presentation, "Let's keep him going."

Patricia Nixon sent gifted turkeys to Oxon Hill Children's Farm, while Rosalynn Carter sent some to a Evans Farm Inn to live in a miniature zoo.

In 1989, the formalities of pardoning a turkey became a White House Thanksgiving tradition when George H.W. Bush remarked, "Let me assure you, and this fine tom turkey, that he will not end up on anyone's dinner table, not this guy -- he's granted a Presidential pardon as of right now -- and allow him to live out his days on a children's farm not far from here."

Since then, each year the president has pardoned a turkey or two in an official ceremony.

From the River Oaks Fire Department

Santa Claus is Coming to Town!



Off duty employees from the River Oaks Fire Department will volunteer their time to escort Santa Claus around River Oaks in his sleigh!

The schedule is as follows:

- District 1 - Tuesday, Dec. 10 at 6:30 p.m. Santa will be at the City Park to meet with kids from the area from 7:45 to 8:30 p.m.
- District 2 - Thursday, Dec. 12 at 6:30 p.m. Santa will be at Irma Marsh Middle School to meet with kids from the area from 7:45 to 8:30 p.m.
- District 3 - Tuesday, Dec. 17 at 6:30 p.m. Santa will be at the Community Center to meet with kids from the area from 7:45 to 8:30 p.m.
- District 4 - Thursday, Dec. 19 at 6:30 p.m. Santa will be at Castleberry Elementary to meet with kids from the area from 7:45 to 8:30 p.m.

*Note - children are asked to stay in yards or off the street when Santa drives by. Children may visit Santa at the appointed stopping points for the given night in your neighborhood. (see graphic on page 6)

From the City River Oaks

Hometown Christmas Event

The City of River Oaks will host a Hometown Christmas event on Saturday, Dec. 7 at 6 p.m. at City Hall, located at 4900 River Oaks Blvd.

There will be more than 20 local vendors, selfies with Santa, CISD student performances, ornament creations, hot cocoa and more! [Sign up here](#) to join the parade.

From the City River Oaks

City Hall Closed Today & Tomorrow

City Hall and the River Oaks Event Center will be closed Thursday, Nov. 28 and Friday, Nov. 29 for Thanksgiving.

Regular residential garbage will not be collected on Thursday, but both sides of the City will be collected on Friday.



Be Safe, Not Sorry, This Holiday Season

As you gear up to shop online and have gifts shipped to your home, keep one thing in mind this holiday season, "Porch pirates" are getting bolder.

Many of these thieves will steal packages from your front doorstep even if there's a car in the driveway and a video camera on the door. Some actually follow vehicles from Amazon and other delivery companies, snatching packages shortly after they are delivered.

"This is a time to give, not to take," Tarrant County District Attorney Phil Sorrells said. "If you steal packages, we will find you and prosecute you to the fullest extent of the law."

"Thieves know more people are shopping online and they know people can't always stay home waiting for a package to be delivered," he said. "We are doing everything we can to keep our community safe."

Here are some ways to reduce your risk of falling victim to Porch Pirates:

- Have deliveries put behind bushes or trash carts, so they can't be seen from the street.

- Require a signature on delivery.
- Ask neighbors to pick up your packages when they are delivered.
- Install a video doorbell camera that might deter criminals.
- Schedule your packages to be delivered when you are home, or have your packages delivered to your place of business.
- Choose in-store pickups, rather than home delivery.

Legal Notice

CASTLEBERRY INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENDITURES, AND CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2024

| Data Control Codes | 10 General Fund | COVID 19- ESSER, III School Entry | 30 Debt Service Fund | 60 Capital Projects | Other Funds | Total Governmental Funds |
|---|--------------------|---|-------------------------|------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| REVENUES | | | | | | |
| 5700 Total Local and Intermediate Sources | \$ 10,538,372 | \$ - | \$ 5,725,635 | \$ - | \$ 777,448 | \$ 17,041,455 |
| 5800 State Program Revenues | 33,827,021 | - | 550,408 | - | 919,934 | 35,297,363 |
| 5900 Federal Program Revenues | 293,634 | 890,012 | - | - | 7,950,894 | 9,084,540 |
| 5820 Total Revenues | 44,659,027 | 890,012 | 6,276,043 | - | 9,598,276 | 61,423,358 |
| EXPENDITURES | | | | | | |
| Current | | | | | | |
| 0011 Instruction | 27,756,099 | 377,121 | - | - | 2,880,374 | 31,009,594 |
| 0012 Instructional Resources and Media Services | 628,337 | - | - | - | - | 628,337 |
| 0013 Curriculum and Instructional Staff Development | 1,547,345 | 107,168 | - | - | 853,989 | 2,508,502 |
| 0021 Instructional Leadership | 1,932,767 | 159,983 | - | - | 377,895 | 2,469,645 |
| 0023 School Leadership | 2,364,928 | 21,561 | - | - | 8,761 | 2,395,250 |
| 0031 Guidance, Counseling, and Evaluation Services | 1,158,909 | 8,142 | - | - | 567,769 | 1,734,820 |
| 0032 Social Work Services | 278,584 | - | - | - | - | 278,584 |
| 0033 Health Services | 422,331 | 13,105 | - | - | 4,995 | 440,431 |
| 0034 Student (Paper) Transportation | 1,111,713 | 4,357 | - | - | 19,861 | 1,135,931 |
| 0035 Food Services | - | - | - | - | 3,831,654 | 3,831,654 |
| 0036 Extracurricular Activities | 1,417,867 | - | - | - | 465,256 | 1,883,123 |
| 0041 General Administration | 2,190,088 | 8,044 | - | - | - | 2,198,132 |
| 0051 Facilities Maintenance and Operations | 4,453,044 | 11,991 | - | - | 99,862 | 4,564,897 |
| 0052 Security and Monitoring Services | 1,113,185 | 182,190 | - | - | 423,503 | 1,720,878 |
| 0053 Data Processing Services | 1,995,943 | - | - | - | 1,782 | 1,997,725 |
| 0061 Community Services | 8,540 | 350 | - | - | 8,329 | 17,219 |
| Debt Service | | | | | | |
| 0071 Principal on Long-Term Liabilities | - | - | 1,640,000 | - | - | 1,640,000 |
| 0072 Interest on Long-Term Liabilities | - | - | 1,139,100 | - | - | 1,139,100 |
| 0073 Bond Insurance Cost and Fees | - | - | 2,881,183 | - | - | 2,881,183 |
| Capital Outlay | | | | | | |
| 0081 Facilities Acquisition and Construction | 941,978 | - | - | 3,004,686 | - | 3,946,664 |
| Intergovernmental | | | | | | |
| 0099 Other Intergovernmental Charges | 121,747 | - | - | - | - | 121,747 |
| 6030 Total Expenditures | 49,441,415 | 890,012 | 5,660,283 | 3,004,686 | 9,542,030 | 68,540,436 |
| 1200 Net Change in Fund Balances | (4,784,388) | - | 615,760 | (3,004,686) | 56,246 | (7,117,068) |
| 6100 Fund Balance - July 1 (Beginning) | 10,903,195 | - | 3,552,464 | - | 1,562,400 | 16,018,059 |
| 3000 Fund Balance - June 30 (Ending) | \$ 6,118,807 | \$ - | \$ 4,168,224 | \$ (3,004,686) | \$ 1,618,646 | \$ 8,900,991 |

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RiverOaksNews



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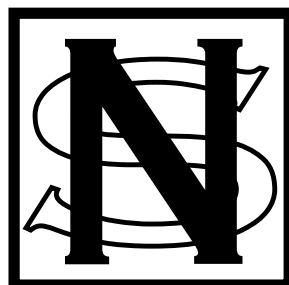
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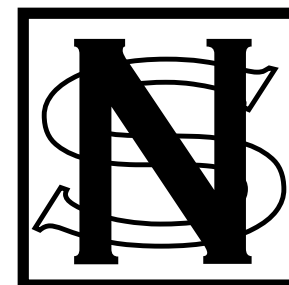
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from Founders Online, National Archives and Records Administration

Thanksgiving Proclamation

New York, 3 October 1789

By the President of the United States of America, a Proclamation.

Whereas it is the duty of all Nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey his will, to be grateful for his benefits, and humbly to implore his protection and favor - and whereas both Houses of Congress have by their joint Committee requested me "to recommend to the People of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many signal favors of Almighty God especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness."

Now therefore I do recommend and assign Thursday the 26th day of November next to be devoted by the People of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being, who is the beneficent Author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be - That we may then all unite in rendering unto him our sincere and humble thanks - for his kind care and protection of the People of this Country previous to their becoming a Nation - for the signal and manifold mercies, and the favorable interpositions of his Providence which we experienced in the course and conclusion of the late war - for the great degree of tranquility, union, and plenty, which we have since enjoyed - for the peaceable and rational manner, in which we have been enabled to establish constitutions of government for our safety and happiness, and particularly the national One now lately instituted - for the civil and religious liberty with which we are blessed; and the means we have of acquiring and diffusing useful knowledge; and in general for all the great and various favors which he hath been pleased to confer upon us.

And also that we may then unite in most humbly offering our prayers and supplications to the great Lord and Ruler of Nations and beseech him to pardon our national and other transgressions - to enable us all, whether in public or private stations, to perform our several and relative duties properly and punctually - to render our national government a blessing to all the people, by constantly being a Government of wise, just, and constitutional laws, discreetly and faithfully executed and obeyed - to protect and guide all Sovereigns and Nations (especially such as have shewn kindness unto us) and to bless them with good government, peace, and concord - To promote the knowledge and practice of true religion and virtue, and the encrease of science among them and us - and generally to grant unto all Mankind such a degree of temporal prosperity as he alone knows to be best.

Given under my hand at the City of New York the third day of October in the year of our Lord 1789.

George Washington

From the Mary Isham Keith Chapter, National Daughters of the American Revolution

NSDAR Celebrates Veterans Day and Native American Heritage Month

Mary Isham Keith Chapter's November chapter meeting was a wonderful gathering filled with thanksgiving and celebration, learning about Native American culture, and presenting awards.

The chapter honored veterans with a Veteran Tribute Table of family veteran photos. Attendees were given poppies to wear on Nov. 11 by Laura Tauzel, Commemorative Events Chair and Chaplain Betty Coe Manuel read the poem, *In Flanders Fields*.

Kim Simpson presented *A Glimpse of Native American Heritage*, informing about her Native American heritage and the culture of the Kiowa and Cherokee people. She shared personal family artifacts and a video of a Pow Wow and Native American dancing. Kim was presented a certificate and a donation was made in her honor to Bacone College, a private Indian college in Muskogee, Oklahoma. The NSDAR promotes the continuing education of the history and culture of Native Americans, as well as the support of the educational and cultural pursuits of its citizens.

Finally, chapter member Katrina Lorenzen was presented the Historic Preservation Award by Historic Preservation Chair, Virginia Brown, for her work restoring Jackie Cochran's Beech Aircraft at the Fort Worth Vintage Air Museum. This aircraft was the last plane owned by Cochran. It was donated to the museum and is being restored as part of a program to honor women in aviation.

The NSDAR is a non-profit, non-political volunteer service organization and lineage society. More than one million women have found purpose and passion in DAR membership.

For more information, how to find an American Revolutionary patriot or DAR and programs, email mikregent2023@gmail.com.



Pictured: Historic Preservation Chair Virginia Brown, Regent Charlseyy Holler and Katrina Lorenzen.



Pictured: Kim Simpson and Chapter Regent Charlseyy Holler.



Pictured: The Veteran Tribute table display.



Pictured: Regent Charlseyy Holler and Katrina Lorenzen with the Jackie Cochran display.

Use Tap to Pay When Possible to Avoid Credit Card Skimmers

When you head out to the Black Friday sales with your credit card, remember to tap to pay or use a trusted payment app on a mobile phone when possible, instead of inserting your card into the payment pad or swiping the card to pay.

The Texas Financial Crimes Intelligence Center (FCIC) and the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) have additional advice for avoiding credit card skimmers at the gas pump and at other payment devices, and they've gathered it into a PSA on the [TDLR YouTube channel](#).

Most skimmers have been placed deep inside the gas pump cabinet and it won't be obvious that something's wrong, but there are still some things consumers can check for before using a credit card at a gas station:

- Look at the gas pump and cabinet – do they look damaged, or look like they've been tampered with?

At gas stations and other stores:

- Wiggle the card slot – is it loose?
- Look at the keypad – is it loose or does it look like something has been placed on top of it?

Additional ways consumers can protect themselves:

- Always use a credit card, not a debit card, if you're not going to pay cash, this protects the PIN and prevents access to a bank account.

- Set card usage or transaction alerts for bank and credit card accounts. Most major banks offer apps that allow real-time monitoring of accounts.

- Regularly monitor credit card and bank statements for fraudulent charges or suspicious transactions.

The FCIC, which coordinates law enforcement investigations into organized financial fraud, was the first statewide unit of its kind in the United States and operates as a partnership between TDLR and the Smith County District Attorney's Office. TDLR regulates motor fuel metering and quality and collects consumer complaints and merchant reports related to credit card skimmers. The Smith County DA aggressively investigates and prosecutes criminals engaging in organized financial crimes such as fraud related to gasoline pump skimmers.

About TDLR

TDLR provides regulatory oversight for a broad range of occupations, businesses, facilities, and equipment in Texas. The agency protects the health and safety of Texans by ensuring they are served by qualified, licensed professionals. Inspections of individuals, businesses, and equipment are done on a regular basis to safeguard the public. Currently, the agency regulates 38 business and occupational licensing programs with almost 1,000,000 licensees across the state.

Visit TDLR's website for more information and resources. You can search the TDLR licensee database, and also find past violations in which a final order was issued against companies or individuals. TDLR's Customer Service line is available anytime between 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, at 1-800-803-9202. TDLR representatives are fluent in English, Spanish and Vietnamese.

From The Warm Place

The WARM Place, a Grief Support Center For Children

What is The WARM Place:

The WARM Place (What About Remembering Me Center, Inc.) is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization providing grief support services to children and their families, as well as young adults ages 19-25, who have experienced a death loss. We also provide a continuing program of grief education and training.

Does The WARM Place offer counseling services:

No, we offer peer support groups. At The WARM Place, we support a "companionship" approach in our work with children who are grieving. As children experience grief at The WARM Place, they share their stories and hear the stories of others with similar death losses. The sharing of stories allows them to incorporate the loss, not only in their heads, but also in their hearts—and that is where healing begins.

If you feel you or your child would benefit from individual counseling, we would be happy to provide names of counselors and community agencies in your area.

Are all children accepted into the groups?

The WARM Place program does not fit the needs of every child.

The purpose of an intake appointment is to assess each child's needs. If a child's situation requires other intervention, the Group Director will refer the family to another program, such as individual counseling.

How are the groups organized?

Groups are divided by grade (K-3rd, 4th-5th, 6th-8th, and 9th-12th) and the type of death loss the child has experienced. Each night of the week is designated for a different type of death loss: parent, brother/sister, and grandparent/friend/other family member.

When do the groups meet?

Our regular ongoing groups meet every other week on either Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday evening from 6:15 p.m.– 8:30 p.m.

The Young Adult and Pre-K groups meet at different times throughout the year.

For more information, call 817-870-2272 or complete the form on the [Warm Place website](#).

A History of Thanksgiving

The nation will mark Thanksgiving once again on this fourth Thursday in November. It is part of a long tradition that has spanned many generations, including historical parallels in Texas.

Perhaps the most notable Thanksgiving feast was that of the Pilgrims at the Plymouth Colony on Nov. 22, 1621. It had been a difficult year for the English settlers who had arrived in Massachusetts the previous November. The Wampanoag tribe, which controlled most of Massachusetts and Rhode Island, made offers of friendship to the Pilgrims, sharing their food as the colonists struggled through the winter and then taught them about raising crops in the area.

After a bountiful harvest that fall, the Pilgrims decided to organize a feast to give thanks to God for their good fortune. In the spirit of gratitude, the Wampanoags were invited to join them in what became a three-day feast. The meal was quite different than the usual fare seen on American tables today. Using what was available locally, they ate swans, seals, deer, fish, and lobsters.

Such celebrations to give thanks to God were not unusual among Europeans in general during that time period. By the time of the famous 1621 Thanksgiving at the Plymouth Colony, other feasts to give thanks had occurred already in other parts of the nation.

In 1541, Spanish conquistador Francisco Vazquez de Coronado had a special Thanksgiving Mass held for him and his men not far from what is now Amarillo and the Palo Duro Canyon in celebration of their good fortune.

In 1565, Spanish conquistadores led by Pedro Menendez de Avile at the settlement of St. Augustine, Florida, held a special Roman Catholic mass and later a feast to give thanks to God for their safe arrival. They invited members of the local Timucua tribe to join them.

In 1598, more than 500 Spanish colonists led by Don Juan de Onate arrived at San Elizario, near modern-day El Paso, and had a special day to give thanks for their own good fortune. This has led some to claim San Elizario as the site of the First Thanksgiving.

As for the Pilgrims, the Plymouth colonists and the tribes did not repeat the occasion in 1622. In 1623, after a difficult year of droughts that threatened the crops, late rains rescued the harvest. As it proved to be much more bountiful than expected, the colonists again had a celebration to give thanks that November. Tragically, relations with the Wampanoag tribe deteriorated in the ensuing decades with the initial gestures of friendship forgotten and the tribe shattered by war. Nevertheless, New England residents would continue to have periodic Thanksgiving observances in the years afterward, often organized by the local churches.

In spite of a few instances of Thanksgiving observances in the South, it did not catch on as an annual observance as it did in New England. The tradition, however, spread northward into the British colonies in Canada, where observances remained mostly local until the late 1800s. It was established as an official national holiday in Canada in 1957, and because of Canada's shorter growing season, on the second Monday in October.

New York became the first state to declare Thanksgiving a holiday, starting in 1817. Efforts were made to make it a national holiday in the 1820s, led by noted writer and educator Sarah Josepha Hale of New Hampshire. Up until the Civil War, the date of Thanksgiving was left to the states and made more of a local observance. Dates for Thanksgiving ranged from early October through the end of December.

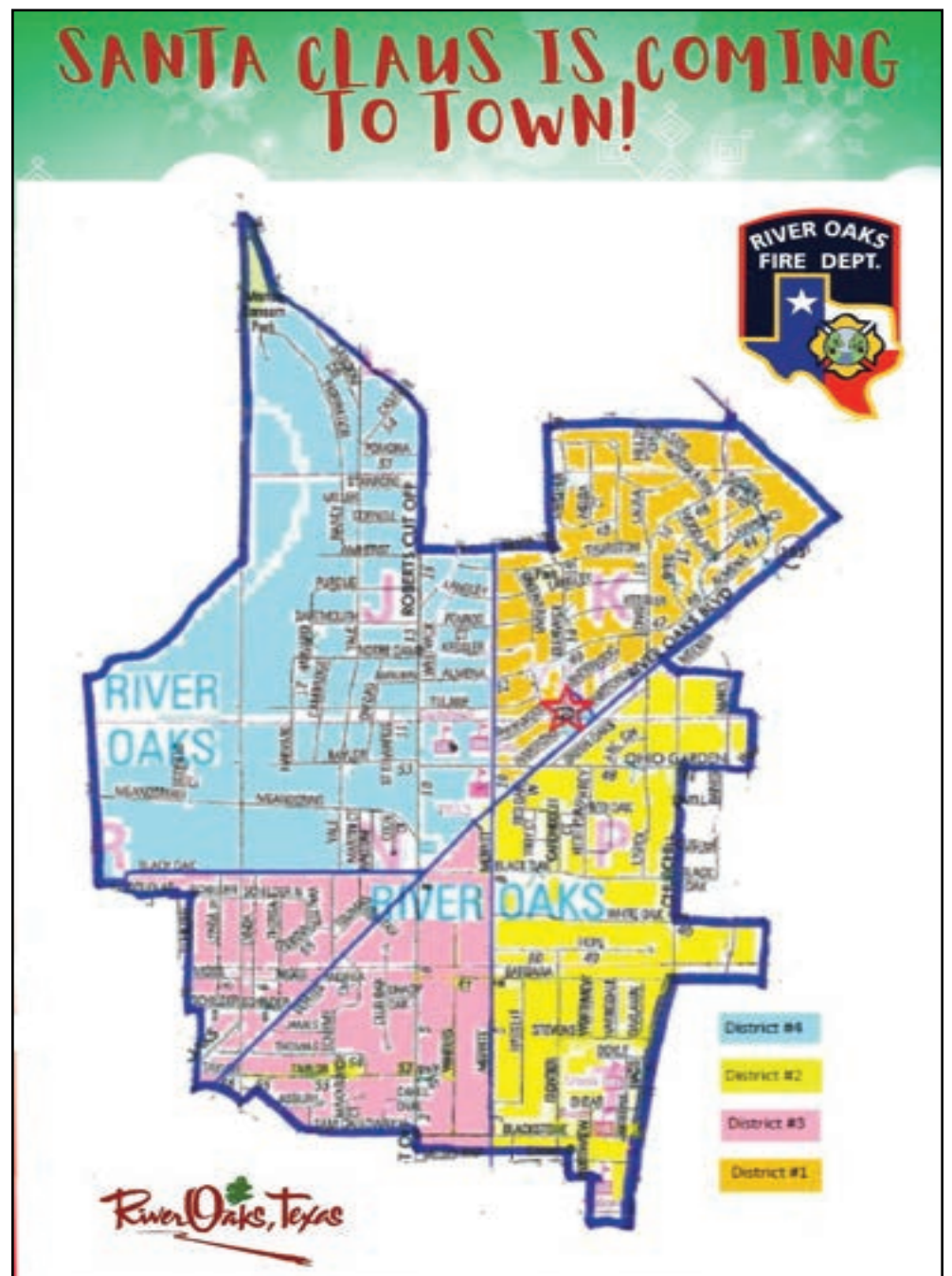
In 1863, Secretary of State William H. Seward convinced President Abraham Lincoln to make it a national holiday on the last Thursday in November. Lincoln announced the holiday as a day to give thanks to God for the blessings the nation had and added that all Americans should remember the widows and orphans the war created.

In 1941, the holiday officially became the fourth Thursday in November from that point onward. President Harry Truman started the tradition of pardoning one turkey for Thanksgiving in 1947.

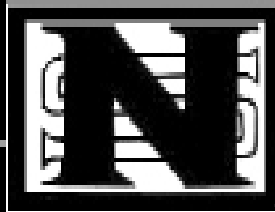
Other nations have also adopted Thanksgiving, inspired by the American example. Liberia, which was founded by former American slaves, marks Thanksgiving as the first Thursday in November, dating back to 1821. Brazil made the fourth Thursday in November its Thanksgiving holiday in 1966 after their ambassador to the United States saw the American holiday firsthand.

Turkey sales have topped \$1 billion annually in the past few years. Many churches and communities still continue with the initial spirit of Thanksgiving by reaching out to the poor and homeless with food drives and community Thanksgiving meals prepared and served by volunteers.

Though the coronavirus pandemic may dampen many travel plans and gatherings out of precautions for public health, millions of Americans will still pause to consider what they are thankful for.



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817-560-9400

peter@polinsky-insurance.com

HEALTH INSURANCE

(all year/ages) Medicare &

Obamacare 817-874-7569

Marilyn-Kaye.com - Online Quotes

SERVICES PROVIDED

AMERICAN LEGION Post 297

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alpost297@sbcglobal.net

CHURCH OF CHRIST THE KING

3290 Lackland Rd.

Fort Worth, Tx 76116

Every Sunday worship at 9:30am

Business Directory Listings - \$10 per month! • classifieds@suburban-newspapers.com

Weekend Forecast



Friday, Nov. 29:

AM - Sunny, with a high near 54. North wind around 5 mph becoming east in the afternoon.

PM - Partly cloudy, with a low around 37. South southeast wind around 5 mph.



Saturday, Nov. 30:

AM - Mostly sunny, with a high near 63. South wind 5 to 10 mph becoming north northwest in the afternoon. Winds could gust as high as 20 mph.

PM - Partly cloudy, with a low around 35. North wind around 5 mph.



Sunday, Dec. 1:

AM - Mostly sunny, with a high near 54.

PM - Partly cloudy, with a low around 35.

Extended Forecast [Click Here](#)