



# Northlake Forest

## HERALD

November 2018

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE NORTHLAKE FOREST HOA

Volume 8, Issue 11

## The History of Thanksgiving and its Celebration

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 which caused the crops to grow and die. Many believed that these spirits would be released when the crops were harvested and they had to be destroyed or they would take revenge on the farmers who harvested them. Some of the harvest festivals celebrated the defeat of these spirits. Harvest festivals and thanksgiving celebrations were held by the ancient Greeks, the Romans, the Chinese, and the Egyptians, to name a few.

### 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 (possibility 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 Cerelia, which honored Ceres their goddess of corn (from which the word cereal comes). The festival was held each year on October 4th and offerings of the first fruits of the harvest and pigs were offered to Ceres. Their celebration included music, parades, games and sports and a thanksgiving feast.

### The Chinese

The ancient Chinese celebrated their harvest festival, Chung Ch'ui, with the full moon that fell on the 15th day of the 8th month. This day was considered the birthday of the moon and special "moon cakes", round and yellow like the moon, would be baked. Each cake was stamped with the picture of a rabbit - as it was a rabbit, not a

man, which the Chinese saw on the face of the moon. The families ate a thanksgiving meal and feasted on roasted pig, harvested fruits and the "moon cakes". It was believed that during the 3-day festival, flowers would fall from the moon and those who saw them would be rewarded with good fortune. According to legend, Chung Ch'ui also gave thanks for another special occasion. China had been conquered by enemy armies who took control of the Chinese homes and food. The Chinese found themselves homeless and with no food. Many starved. In order to free themselves, they decided to attack the invaders. The women baked special moon cakes which were distributed to every family. In each cake was a secret message which contained the time for the attack. When the time came, the invaders were surprised and easily defeated. Every year moon cakes are eaten in memory of this victory.

### 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 hard and devastating first year in the New World, the Pilgrim's fall harvest was very successful and plentiful. There was corn, fruits, vegetables, along with fish which was packed in salt, and meat that was smoke cured over fires. 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

*(Continued on Page 3)*

# NORTHLAKE FOREST

## NLF COMMITTEES

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### NLF EVENTS / NEWSLETTER

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Board Liaison.....Rebecca Dessenberger

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

All of our committees are seeking volunteers to help continue making our community a fun place to be. Just a little bit of your time can go a long way. If you are willing to help, in any way, please fill out a "Contact Us" form on the website.

## NLF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President**.....Paul Rath  
**Vice President**.....Rebecca Dessenberger  
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If you notice a problem or have a concern about something within NLF, please complete the form on our website and bring it to the attention of the management company or Board member so that the issue can be addressed.

**MANAGEMENT COMPANY**  
Inframark

**Michael Quast / Portfolio Manager**  
281-870-0585

Michael.Quast@inframark.com · www.inframarkims.com

Northlake Forest HOA Website: www.northlakeforesthoa.com

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

### EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Poison Control ..... 1-800-222-1222

### NON-EMERGENCY NUMBERS

Mark Herman Constable, Precinct 4..... (281) 376-3472  
Harris Cnty Sheriff's Office @ HWY 249 .. (281) 290-2100  
Cy-Fair Volunteer Fire Dept @ Telge Rd.... (281) 550-6663  
Harris Cnty Courthouse @ Cypresswood... (281) 376-2997

### GOVERNMENT NUMBERS

Harris County Animal Control..... (281) 999-3191  
Harris County Public Health & Environmental Services  
..... (713) 439-6000  
R. Jack Cagle - Community Assistance Dept.  
..... (281) 353-8424  
Social Security Administration ..... 1- (800) 772-1213  
Department of Public Safety @ West Rd.... (281) 517-1333  
Department of Pubic Safety @ Grant Rd ... (281) 890-5440

### POST OFFICE

USPS @ Spring Cypress..... (281) 373-9125  
The UPS Store @ Spring Cypress ..... (281) 304-6800  
FedEx Office @ Barker Cypress..... (281) 256-8323

### LIBRARY

Lone Star College CyFair Library  
Circulation Desk ..... (281) 290-3210  
Northwest Branch Library  
@ Regency Green Drive..... (281) 890-2665  
Barbara Bush Library @ Cypress Creek ..... (281) 376-4610

### SCHOOLS

Administrative Offices ..... (281) 897-4000  
Farney Elementary ..... (281) 373-2850  
Goodson Middle School ..... (281) 373-2350  
Cy-Woods High School ..... (281) 213-1800

### UTILITIES

NW Harris County MUD #10..... (832) 467-1599  
Best Trash ..... (281) 313-2378  
CenterPoint Energy Gas ..... (713) 659-2111  
Relient Energy Electricity ..... 1-(855) 347-3232  
..... www.powertochoose.com

## NEWSLETTER INFO

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*All articles are due by 10th of the month to be  
considered for publication*

### PUBLISHER

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Advertising..... advertising@PEELinc.com



## Harvey Knocked Us Down But A Night in Bethlehem Is Back in 2018!

### "A Night in Bethlehem"

**VISIT BETHLEHEM THIS SEASON ON  
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1ST &  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2ND  
5:00-8:00 PM.**

**THIS IS A FREE EVENT FOR THE COMMUNITY!**

Messiah's A Night in Bethlehem is an outdoor, interactive event where individuals and families are invited to stroll through Bethlehem at their own pace. Imagine what life was like during this miraculous time in history as you visit the Spice Merchant, the Produce Market, sample the wonderful treats at the Bakery and taste the savory soup at the Soldier's Tavern. Listen to the storyteller, and visit the shepherds, & the Inn. Listen for the Kings arrival at the stable with gifts for Jesus, as Mary & Joseph look on. Don't miss this living, interactive recreation of the original Christmas story. Join us for free activities for the family including candle making, creating a clay pinch pot, sewing a coin bag or playing Bethlehem dress-up. Pet the live animals and enjoy cookies, hot cider and coffee.

Messiah A Lutheran Faith Community is a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Messiah is located at 11522 Telge Road, ½ mile north of Highway 290. Regular Sunday worship times are: 8 am—Traditions; 9:30 am—The Gathering; and 10:45 am—The Crossing. The Discovery (education) Hour is 9:15-10:15 AM on Sundays. For more information, 281-890-3013 or [www.messiahlc.org](http://www.messiahlc.org). All people are welcome at Messiah.



*(Continued from Cover)*

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.



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## Traditional Homemade Stuffing

This simple homemade stuffing is perfect for weeknight dinners or the holidays!

Author: Liz Fourez, [lovegrowswild.com](http://lovegrowswild.com)

### Ingredients

- 1 pound firm white bread, cut into 1-inch cubes
- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 2 cups onion, finely diced
- 2 cups celery, finely diced
- 2½ cups low-sodium chicken broth, divided
- ¼ cup fresh parsley, chopped
- 2 teaspoons poultry seasoning
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon black pepper
- 2 large eggs

**Instructions** - 1. Preheat oven to 250°F. Place the bread cubes in a single layer on baking sheets and bake for 1 hour, stirring occasionally. Set aside and allow the bread to cool.

Melt the butter in a large skillet over medium heat. Add the onion and celery and cook for 10 minutes, stirring occasionally, until the vegetables are tender and almost golden. Scrape the vegetables and butter into an extra large bowl and add the cooled bread cubes, parsley, poultry seasoning, salt, pepper and 1¼ cup of the chicken broth. In a small bowl, whisk the 2 eggs and the remaining 1¼ cup chicken broth until combined and pour into the bowl of stuffing. Gently mix the stuffing until all the ingredients are completely combined and place in a buttered 13x9-inch baking dish. Cover the dish with foil and bake for 30 minutes. Then remove the foil and bake for another 25-35 minutes until the center is set and the top is golden brown and crisp.

## Cypress Ranch Theatre Presents: The Little Mermaid

Based on one of Hans Christian Andersen's most beloved stories and the classic animated film, Disney's *The Little Mermaid* is a hauntingly beautiful love story for the ages. With music by eight-time Academy Award winner, Alan Menken, lyrics by Howard Ashman and Glenn Slater and a compelling book by Doug Wright, this fishy fable will capture your heart with its irresistible songs, including "Under the Sea," "Kiss the Girl" and "Part of Your World."

Ariel, King Triton's youngest daughter, wishes to pursue the human Prince Eric in the world above, bargaining with the evil sea witch, Ursula, to trade her tail for legs. But the bargain is not what it seems, and Ariel needs the help of her colorful friends, Flounder the fish, Scuttle the seagull and Sebastian the crab to restore order under the sea.

Disney's *The Little Mermaid* offers a fantastic creative opportunity for rich costumes and sets, as well as the chance to perform some of the best-known songs from the past 30 years.

## Access To Northlake Forest On-Line

If you are new to the neighborhood – WELCOME! To gain access to important information and documents go to our official website page [www.NorthLakeForestHOA.com](http://www.NorthLakeForestHOA.com) and select Register. Enter the required information and your access will be approved shortly.

Please note, we have several ways to communicate with residents, via our NorthLakeForestCommunity Facebook page [www.facebook.com/groups/NorthlakeForestCommunity](http://www.facebook.com/groups/NorthlakeForestCommunity) and via Nextdoor [www.northlakeforest.nextdoor.com](http://www.northlakeforest.nextdoor.com). Our main source of communication is via our website.

If you have any comments and concerns you would like addressed by Inframark and/or the Board, please fill out a "Contact Us" form via the website and we will respond as quickly as possible.

# CYPRESS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL



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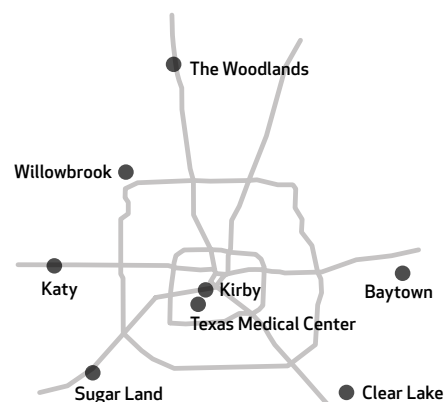
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**281.737.PINK (7465)** to schedule your mammogram.

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## THANKSGIVING TRIVIA

Did you know.....

- Americans eat approximately 46 million turkeys each Thanksgiving.
- The heaviest turkey on record, according to the Guinness Book of Records, weighs 86 pounds.
- The average turkey served for Thanksgiving weighs 16 pounds.
- Campbell's Soup created green bean casserole for an annual cookbook over 50 years ago. Now, Campbell's sells about \$20 million worth of cream of mushroom soup, most likely purchased by folks making what has become a thanksgiving tradition- green bean casserole.
- Historians say turkey was not served at the first Thanksgiving dinner, a three-day meal shared between the pilgrims and Wampanoag tribe in 1621. Instead, venison and seafood are most likely what was eaten.
- The first Thanksgiving dinner was eaten with spoons and knives — but no forks! Forks weren't a popular utensil until the 18th century.
- President Lincoln declared Thanksgiving a national holiday in 1863, to be celebrated each year on the last Thursday of November.
- Benjamin Franklin said in a letter to his daughter in 1784 that he believed a turkey would be “a much more respectable Bird” for the young United States than the bald eagle. He said the turkey is “a true original native of America” and “a bird of courage.” Franklin's take on the national bird was not popular enough to displace the bald eagle.
- In 1953, Swanson had so much extra turkey (260 tons) that a salesman told them they should package it onto aluminum trays with other sides like sweet potatoes — and thus the first TV dinner was born.
- Each year, the president of the United States pardons a turkey and spares it from being eaten for Thanksgiving dinner. The first turkey pardon ceremony started with President Truman in 1947.
- The Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade began in 1924 with 400 employees marching from Convent Ave to 145th street in New York City. During this time the parade was accompanied not with oversized balloons of our favorite cartoon characters, but with live animals borrowed from the Central Park Zoo.

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