

***Journal #5843 from sdc 11.28.24***

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*from Treasure Island*



## **Is celebrating Thanksgiving disrespectful to Indigenous people?**

Indigenous East Bay residents share how they acknowledge and commemorate Thanksgiving.  
[https://www.berkeleyside.org/2023/11/22/is-celebrating-thanksgiving-disrespectful-to-indigenous-people?](https://www.berkeleyside.org/2023/11/22/is-celebrating-thanksgiving-disrespectful-to-indigenous-people?goal=0_aad4b5ee64-5bbf215dc8-333380833&mc_cid=5bbf215dc8&mc_eid=9a443e4f7b)

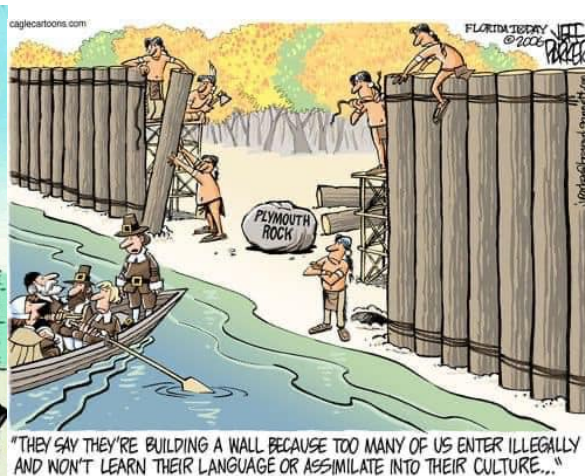
[goal=0\\_aad4b5ee64-5bbf215dc8-333380833&mc\\_cid=5bbf215dc8&mc\\_eid=9a443e4f7b](https://www.berkeleyside.org/2023/11/22/is-celebrating-thanksgiving-disrespectful-to-indigenous-people?goal=0_aad4b5ee64-5bbf215dc8-333380833&mc_cid=5bbf215dc8&mc_eid=9a443e4f7b)



## **14 Fun Facts About Turkeys**

#8: A turkey's gender can be determined from its droppings

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/14-fun-facts-about-turkeys-665520/?spMailingID=49103088&spUserID=OTYyNTc5MzkyMTQyS0&spJobID=2581979927&spReportId=MjU4MTk3OTkyNwS2>



## How America's First Banned Book Survived and Became an Anti-Authoritarian Icon

The Puritans outlawed Thomas Morton's "New English Canaan" because it was critical of the society they were building in colonial New England

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/how-americas-first-banned-book-survived-and-became-an-anti-authoritarian-icon-180982971/?spMailingID=48868678&spUserID=OTYyNTc5MzkyMTQyS0&spJobID=2560188314&spReportId=MjU2MDE4ODMxNAS2>



## What's The Real Story Behind Thanksgiving?

Kristin Salaky writes for Delish:

"Most Americans are taught the same story about Thanksgiving—that Pilgrims sat together with Native Americans to share a meal and thank them for helping with a successful first harvest. Bonus points if the story you learned also includes an appearance from Squanto or a lesson in fertilizing crops with fish. But most popular retellings of the first Thanksgiving have been proven to be riddled with mistruths. While you may know that on some level, what's not often discussed is the truth about the holiday's history and the effect it has on many Native Americans.

So consider this just that—an updated history lesson. Learn why some people choose not to celebrate Thanksgiving and how you can support Native people during the holiday season and beyond.

You probably have some vague idea that the Thanksgiving holiday is not quite the rosy picture you read about in school, but the "real origins" of the holiday are not clear cut either. We'll give you the best glimpse at what we know, but note: There is a lot of information to digest about this issue and a few supposed origins of the holiday—some of them conflicting. This is the most commonly researched and reported story."

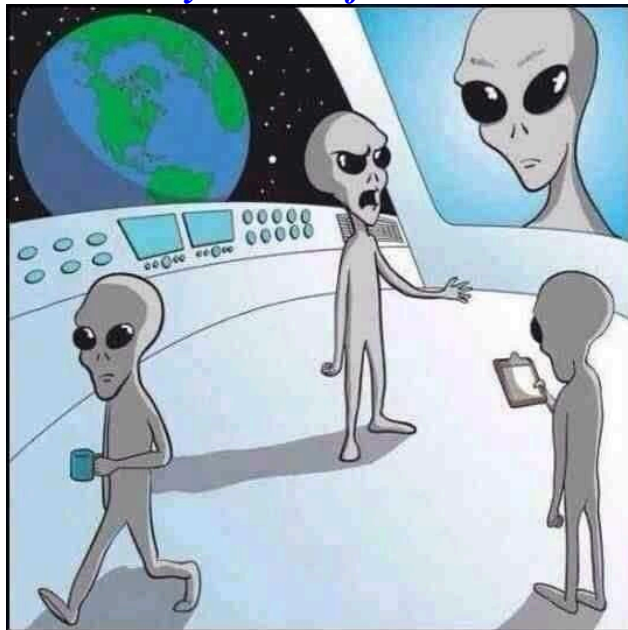
[Read why Thanksgiving is controversial](#)

[Teaching K-12 Indigenous History & Culture Critically: Indigenous Perspective of Thanksgiving Resources](#)

[Thanksgiving: A Native Perspective – This sourcebook of essays, speeches, stories and activities will help teachers and students think critically about what has been, and continues to be, taught as the "first" Thanksgiving](#)



*My all-time favorite:*



"LAST MONTH THEY WERE LOBOTOMIZING PUMPKINS,  
NOW THEY'RE SHOVING BREAD UP A TURKEY'S ASS. THIS  
PLANET HAS ISSUES, BERT."

<https://www.npr.org> > 2023 > 11 > 21 > 1197958708 > fresh-air-draft-11-21-2023

**Lakota Playwright Larissa FastHorse : Fresh Air - NPR**

**Larissa FastHorse's** satire, *The Thanksgiving Play*, focuses on four well-meaning white people trying to put on a politically correct school production for Native American history month. She spoke ...

## Thanksgiving Day

In his first [presidential proclamation](#), George Washington designated **November 26**, 1789 as a Day of National Thanksgiving. The next president to issue a [Thanksgiving Proclamation](#) was Abraham Lincoln, who in 1863, also designated **November 26**. In October of his third year in office, Lincoln invited Americans to “set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next as a day of thanksgiving and praise.”

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 thanks-giving 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.

*[George Washington, October 3, 1789, Thanksgiving](#). Series 8, *Miscellaneous Papers ca. 1775-99, Subseries 8A, Correspondence and Miscellaneous Notes*. [George Washington Papers](#). Manuscript Division*

Thanksgiving was practiced in America by early English colonists. In a letter dated September 4, 1619, Sir William Throckmorton, Richard Bearkley, George Thorpe, and John Smyth gave Captain John Woodlief various orders, including one for an annual religious observance of thanksgiving at the newly established Berkeley Hundred plantation in Virginia.

Impr[imatur] wee ordaine that the day of our ships arrivall at the place assigned for planta[tion] in the land of Virginia shall be yearly and perpetually kept holy as a day of thanksgiving to Almighty god.

*Sir William Throckmorton, Richard Berkeley, et al. [Ordinances Direccons and Instructions to Captaine John Woodlefe](#). September 4, 1619. In [The Records of the Virginia Company of London](#). Volume III, p. 207. Series 8: *Virginia Records Manuscripts*. [Thomas Jefferson Papers, 1606 to 1827](#). Manuscript Division*

The origin of the American Thanksgiving tradition of feasting, though, is generally credited to the [Pilgrims](#). As early as 1621, the Puritan colonists of Plymouth, Massachusetts set aside a day of thanks for a bountiful harvest. Throughout the colonial period and into the nineteenth century, official days of [feasting](#) and [fasting](#) commemorated periods of good and poor fortune.

872-1, Oct. 145



By the HONOURABLE,  
**Gurdon Saltonstall, Esq;**  
 GOVERNOUR of His Majesty's Colony of Connecticut in New-England.  
**A PROCLAMATION**  
**For a Publick Thanksgiving.**

**A**LTHOUGH, Considering the Judgments of GOD, which are on the Earth, in the great Distress & Dejection brought upon many Nations, both by WAR and PESTILENCE.

AND Considering also past calamity, the awful Tokens of GOD's Righteous Anger against us, Especially, in the Contagious SICKNESS which has been in divers Places of the Land, and in the continued RAINS, by which great Losses have been sustained, it becomes Us to be deeply Humbled before the LORD.

IT is Nevertheless our Duty to Acknowledge the many Instances of Divine Goodness, which the LORD whole Ways, are not as Ours, has Graciously vouchsafed Us, and which are never to be forgotten.

THE Smiles of Providence on the BRITISH Empire, and particularly, On Our Sovereign Lord the KING, in the Prosperity of His Life and Reign; On Their Royal Highnesses the PRINCE and PRINCESS of Wales; and on all the Branches of the ROYAL FAMILY, not only, in Their Happy Increase, by the BIRTH of the Royal Prince WILLIAM AUGUSTUS, but also, in the Lives of Others of Them when in Hazard by Sickness, have been Mercifully Spared.

THE PEACE which has been Continued to Our Nation, after so many Endeavours to interrupt it.

THE Preservation of the said Dominion from the raging PESTILENCE, which has laid so many Places waste, within their View, and Neighbourhood.

THE General HEALTH that has been Enjoyed in the Land, notwithstanding, The SMALLPOX has prevailed so much, in the Principal Place of our Neighbouring Province.

THE Preservation of Our COLONY, in so great a Measure from that Contagious Sickness, when We have been in great Danger of it; The Continuance of Our Privileges both Civil and Sacred; The Peace which we have Enjoyed; And the good Supply of the Fruits of the Earth, which the present Year has been Crowned with.

WHICH are, ( *All of them* ) Blessings from the LORD, whose Mercy therein We ought to Celebrate with great THANKFULNESS.

**I** have therefore thought fit, with the Advice and Consent of the Council, and at the Desire of the Representatives, to Appoint, and do hereby Appoint Wednesday, the Eighth Day of November next, to be Observed as a Day of Publick THANKSGIVING throughout the Colony. Exhorting all both Ministers & People, with Unfeigned Devotion, to Bless the Name of the LORD, and Praise him for all the Wonders of his Goodness; And, to Beg that the Mercy which we Adore, may in all the needful Instances thereof be manifested to Us. And all Servile Labours on the said Day is hereby strictly Prohibited.

Given in New-Haven, the Fourteenth Day of October, Anno Domini 1711, in the Eighth Year of the Reign of Our Sovereign Lord GEORGE, by the Grace of GOD of Great Britain, France and Ireland, KING, Defender of the Faith, &c.

G. SALTONSTALL  
**GOD Save the KING.**

[By the honourable Gurdon Saltonstall, Esq; Governour of His Majesty's Colony of Connecticut in New-England, a proclamation for a publick thanksgiving...](#) New-London: Printed by Timothy Green, printer to his honour the governour and company, 1721. [Printed Ephemera: Three Centuries of Broadides and Other Printed Ephemera](#). Rare Book & Special Collections Division

When Boston Harbor was closed in retribution for the Boston Tea Party, for example, Massachusetts authorities declared a fast day. The Virginia House of Burgesses ordered fasting in support of the Bay Colony. Complying with the proclamation, on June 1, 1774, George Washington noted in his diary, "Went to Church and fasted all day."

Most early Thanksgiving days were spontaneous celebrations. However, by the mid-nineteenth century, an annual fall Thanksgiving meal was customary throughout much of the United States and its Territories. During the gold rush, miners far from home observed a day of thanks. On December 1, 1850, Alfred T. Jackson of Litchfield County, Connecticut described his California Thanksgiving.

Although there was nothing to show it, we observed Thursday as Thanksgiving, as that was the legal day in the States. All we did was to lay off and eat quail stew and dried apple pie. I thought a lot about the old folks and would like to have been home with them, and I guess I will be next year...

[The Diary of a Forty-Niner, ed. by Chauncey L. Canfield](#). Boston, New York, Houghton Mifflin company, 1920. ["California As I Saw It": First Person Narratives of California's Early Years, 1849 to 1900](#). *General Collections*

For more than a decade, writer and editor Sarah Josepha Hale pushed for an annual day of national Thanksgiving. From the helm of several prominent women's magazines, Hale editorialized about the importance of a national Thanksgiving celebration. She also [wrote](#) to President Lincoln directly. On October 3, 1863, in the wake of Union victory at the Civil War battle at Gettysburg, President Abraham Lincoln decided to issue his first [Thanksgiving Proclamation](#); his [second](#) followed in 1864. [The President's Hymn](#), composed in honor of the new holiday, rang out across the nation.

Give thanks, all ye people, give thanks to the Lord,  
Alleluias of freedom with joyful accord:  
Let the East and the West, North and South roll along,  
Sea, mountain and prairie, One thanksgiving song.

[The President's Hymn](#). William Augustus Muhlenberg, words; J.W. Turner, music; Boston, Mass: Oliver Ditson & co., c1863. [The Alfred Whital Stern Collection of Lincolniana](#). Rare Book & Special Collections Division





[A Butcher Shop Window At Thanksgiving Time, Norwich, Connecticut](#). Jack Delano photographer, Nov. 1940. [Farm Security Administration/Office of War Information Black-and-White Negatives](#). Prints & Photographs Division

Since Lincoln in 1863, every President of the United States has issued an annual Thanksgiving Proclamation, each citing a specific date. While most proclaimed Thanksgiving for the fourth or last Thursday of November, Franklin D. Roosevelt chose the third Thursdays of November 1939 through 1941, for economic reasons. Late in 1941, Congress passed Thanksgiving legislation that Roosevelt signed into law on December 26, 1941. Public Law 77-379 set Thanksgiving Days from 1942 onward to the fourth Thursday in November. The law also made Thanksgiving Day an annual Federal Holiday.

### Learn More

- Search for *Thanksgiving* or *Thanksgiving sale* in [Chronicling America](#), a collection of millions of historic American newspaper pages. Limit the search to 1789 to see what the *Gazette of the United-States* published about Thanksgiving that year or view the selected articles provided in [Thanksgiving: Topics in Chronicling America](#).
- View a collection of “free to use” images featuring [Thanksgiving](#) preparations and celebrations throughout history.
- [African American Perspectives: Materials Selected from the Rare Book Collection](#) contains five Thanksgiving Day addresses from the period 1875-1897. [Search](#) the collection on the term *thanksgiving* to read sermons which include Benjamin William Arnett’s [Centennial Thanksgiving Sermon](#).

- Recall past Thanksgiving Days. [Search](#) the collection, [American Life Histories: Manuscripts from the Federal Writers' Project, 1936 to 1940](#) for *Thanksgiving*, *Thanksgiving dinner*, and *turkey* to access interviews like [A Preacher Tries Farming](#).
- Read [The Frontier Holiday: Being a Collection of Writings by Minnesota Pioneers...](#) This collection of brief first-person descriptions chronicles the celebration of Christmas, New Year's, and Thanksgiving in nineteenth-century Minnesota. Find this book and other pioneer recollections by searching on the term *Thanksgiving* in the collection [Pioneering the Upper Midwest: Books from Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin, ca. 1820 to 1910](#).
- [Search](#) on the terms *turkey*, *harvest*, *pumpkin*, or *canning* in the collection [Tending the Commons: Folklife and Landscape in Southern West Virginia](#) to see images, and hear tell of events, associated with the U.S. Thanksgiving celebration. (Thanksgiving is celebrated in Canada on the second Monday in October.)

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## The Myth of Thanksgiving

The first Thanksgiving feast between English settlers and Native Americans almost certainly never took place as we imagine it did.

So where did the mythology surrounding Thanksgiving—and its status as a national holiday—come from?

In this **PAST FORWARD** conversation, Wampanoag historian Linda Coombs and Narragansett Knowledge Keeper Cassius Spears join Sicangu Lakota filmmaker Yvonne Russo for an exploration of indigenous perspectives of that first encounter with European settlers 400 years ago, and what is actually known about the first Thanksgiving.

**[WATCH NOW](#)**

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*And to all of you....we are so blessed to be living in this time and place.  
 I am thankful to have all of you in my life and to communicate in so many smallways.  
 I am thankful that we all have been able to participate in a history that gets better and better.  
 I am thankful that there are still people in the world that meet challenges straight on and have persistence to keep their “ eyes on the prize”.  
 I am thankful that there are those who renew our faith in mankind and potential, rather than give into the negative putdowns that abound.*

*Enjoy this special time.     sdc*



Eagle Wings' Fundraiser

# AFTER THANKSGIVING CRAFT SALE

## NOVEMBER 29TH & 30TH



**Reno-Sparks Indian Colony Reno Gymnasium**  
**10am-6pm**  
34 Reservation Rd. Reno, NV

Over 40 Vendors	U.N.I.T.Y. Native Tacos
Raffle	Concessions
Local Native Crafters & More	Eagle Wings' Performance

\$40 a day for vendors

Please fill out vendor application and send to [sburns@rsic.org](mailto:sburns@rsic.org)  
Will need approval of Vendor application to make payment.



Scan for Vendor Application



Contact Stacey Burns  
(775)785-1338  
Email vendor application to [sburns@rsic.org](mailto:sburns@rsic.org)

