

Clarenceville Helps Musicians

Thanksgiving Spirit Saves 'Turkey Day' For Band

Thanks to the Clarenceville School District the Ohio band that almost had to cancel out of appearing in the J.L. Hodson Thanksgiving Day parade will be in there marching with all the other bandmen.

Late last week the Drum and Bugle Corps band from Garretttsville, O., almost bowed out of the parade when it was

discovered overnight accommodations at a downtown Detroit school would run into a pretty fee.

Fred Scott, assistant manager of Hodson's display studio and assistant parade coordinator, contacted David McDowell, superintendent at Clarenceville.

Not only would Clarenceville gladly accommodate the bandmen overnight, but a pretty gracious welcome is awaiting the 100 Ohioans when they arrive Wednesday night at Clarenceville.

ACCORDING to Supt. McDowell, who is being assisted with the project by Mrs. W.C.

Prisk, the visitors will be served a turkey dinner Wednesday night at the nominal cost of \$1.25.

Food will be prepared by the Clarenceville cafeteria staff under the supervision of Mrs. Mary Ellen Wolf. Serving will be Dr. Samuel Prisk, Mr. and Mrs. McDowell, Mrs. Stanley Pozniak, Mr. and Mrs. Robert

Muir, Mr. and Mrs. W.C. Prisk, and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Turek.

A Thanksgiving Eve swim will be afforded the bandmen with the Clarenceville High School pool scheduled to be open between 9 and 10 p.m., according to William Waters, pool director.

AFTER "CAMPING OUT"

overnight in the Clarenceville gymnasium, bandmen will be treated to a hearty breakfast of ham and eggs prepared by Mr. and Mrs. McDowell, Dr. Prisk, W.C. Prisk, and Robert Muir, with the assistance of Mrs. Wolf.

Assisting with the entire undertaking are Clarenceville community-minded citizens in-

cluding parents of band students, Robert G. Vedder has charge of custodial arrangements.

Although the Ohioans will pay for their Thanksgiving dinner, there will be no charge for breakfast Thursday thanks to the generosity of a number of Clarenceville residents.

Those who have donated to help defray the cost of breakfast as well as of custodial, lifeguard, and pool costs include, to date, Gene Merrihew, Dr. Prisk, Anthony Bangs, Arthur Mann, W.C. Prisk, Mrs. Patricia Vickery, Harold Harnden, McDowell, the Livonia National Bank and Detroit Bank and Trust.

Plymouth Thankful For Pilgrims' First Feast

By W. W. EDGAR
Observer Roving Editor

All across America they'll be celebrating Thanksgiving Day Thursday with mixed emotions.

While each family will be counting its blessings at the festive board they'll be adding a prayer for peace in the world -- and it will be quite different than the original day of Thanksgiving that was celebrated by the Pilgrims in Plymouth, Massachusetts, in 1621.

And nowhere in the broad land will there be a closer attachment to the Pilgrims of New England than in Plymouth, Michigan.

From the day in 1825 when the first house was built on the site of the present Mayflower Hotel at Ann Arbor Trail and Main Street, there has been

a feeling of kinship with the Pilgrim fathers who landed at Plymouth, Mass., in 1620 and started the Thanksgiving tradition by giving thanks for a bountiful harvest.

Not only was the name Plymouth adopted, but a large "Plymouth Rock" has been displayed in Kellogg Park as a link with the past.

THIS LINK was given a royal, official ring, a year ago during the Centennial Celebration when His Worship Frank Chapman, then Lord Mayor of Plymouth, England, presented a 50-pound piece of rock taken from the dock from which the original Mayflower sailed, to the city to help mark the Centennial.

"This bit of rock," he said, "will bring the tie with the homeland a bit closer."

This bit of stone is the only "official" Plymouth Rock in America today, and has been given a place of honor on the wall between City Hall and the Dunning-Hough Library in Plymouth.

THE ORIGINAL Thanksgiving in 1621 was a harvest festival in which families, neighbors and friends gathered to enjoy a feast, and participate in games to celebrate what had been a bountiful harvest.

Not only did the Pilgrims celebrate, but the Indians, with Chief Massasoit, also participated. It was a great period of giving thanks and establishing peace with the Red Men.

According to historians, only about half of the original 102 Pilgrims survived the first winter. They had labored long and hard to build a village and plant crops. When their harvest was gathered they celebrated.

In writing to a friend in England, so the historians reveal, one of the Pilgrims said: "Our harvest being gotten in, our Governor William Bradford sent four men on fowling so that we might after a special manner, rejoice together, after we had gathered the fruits of our labors. They four, on one day, killed as much fowl as, with a little help besides served the company almost a week."

"Among the rest, their (the Indians) greatest kin, Massasoit, with some 90 men, who for three days, we entertained and feasted, and they went out and killed five deer, which they brought to the plantation and bestowed on our Governor, and upon the Captain (Miles Standish) and others."

SOME OF the historians, in describing the original Thanksgiving, which set the pattern for the traditional celebration across America, tell of foot racing, wrestling, exercising arms (infantry drill) and pitching the bar. . . . All done to mark friendly competition with the Indians.

It is interesting to note on this Thanksgiving Day that the area surrounding Plymouth, Mich., is one of the largest turkey raising grounds in the country -- a link with the original celebration where the Pilgrims -- and the Indians -- found fowl so plentiful.

And so close are the ties that Plymouth is the only city in the land with two Plymouth rocks, one in Kellogg Park and one encased on the wall next to City Hall on Main Street.

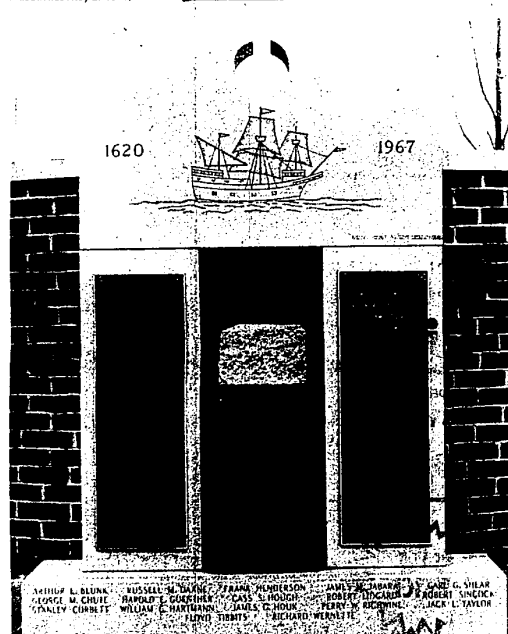


GETTING THEIR HEADS together as if to discuss what the future holds for them are these gay old birds who will probably adorn a dining

room table Thanksgiving Day. It's the time to feast but these "turks" didn't seem to relish the idea. (Observer photo by Harry Mauhe)

The Observer

Regional



MEMORIES OF THE first Thanksgiving celebration are recalled in the City of Plymouth where a rock from the original Plymouth, England has a place of honor. The plaques carry the names of Plymouth leaders over the years.

Urge Care In Holiday Drinking

For many, drinking may brighten up an evening, but imprudent drinking mixed with driving can turn a bright holiday season into a disaster, says the Traffic Safety Association.

Drunk driving is the major cause of traffic deaths all year round, but last November and December, alcohol was found to be a significant factor in 76 per cent of the total fatalities.

Eleven out of 16 pedestrian victims tested -- a full 70 per cent -- were pronounced medically drunk at the time of the accident. Ninety per cent of the drivers tested had blood

alcohol levels over .05 per cent.

NO DOUBT some of these deaths could have been prevented had the victim used a little extra prudence in his last few hours of life. The Traffic Safety Association offers these simple and sensible guidelines for all who would like to enjoy the full holiday season this year:

Follow the "one-for-one" rule. The human body can handle, that is dispel or oxidize, about one ounce of liquor in an hour, the amount in one normal high ball, mixed drink or bottle of beer. So, a safe

rule to follow is one hour for one drink.

Don't drink on an empty stomach. Alcohol gets into the blood through the stomach. Food slows the absorption rate, helps keep the blood-alcohol content down and thus helps to keep you sober. The breathalyzer or any chemical test for intoxication registers the amount of alcohol in the blood -- not how much you've had to drink.

Many kinds of medicine produce deadly results in combination with alcohol. If you are taking medication -- especially tranquilizers or anti-histamines -- and drink, then don't drive.

A Busy Santa Claus Is Coming To Our Town

Yule Postage Goes Up

The second biggest time of the year is in store for Observerland youngsters during the holiday weekend--the annual appearance of their great friend, Santa Claus, at area shopping centers.

There isn't any question that the smiling, old gentleman will be the busiest person in Michigan Friday and Saturday.

And there isn't any question that thousands of eager, anxious youngsters will be awaiting his arrival and the opportunity to chat with the jolly bewhiskered Santa to let him in on the secrets of what they would like under the tree on Christmas morning.

Traditionally, Santa makes his visit to the shopping centers in the period between Thanksgiving Day and the following Sunday.

Officials at the centers have been busy with preparations for the annual visit for several weeks and you can bet there won't be any misuses. Santa has been scheduled to put in appearances at the Livonia Mall, Westland Shopping Center, Korvette's and in Plymouth during the two days. He'll also make visits to the Downtown Shopping Center in Farmington at Demory's and the Farmington Plaza.

In order to make certain he'll be able to meet the tight time schedule, he'll travel via helicopter to some, via swift modern cars to others and to some he'll just get there--the end result will be the same, thousands of cheering and in some instances crying youngsters--all with the same idea

to tell their story and make their thoughts available to the greatest friend of all children.

SANTA CLAUS has agreed with those in charge to appear at Westland Shopping Center Friday at 10 a.m., where he will move to his seat in the specially constructed headquarters to meet and greet his tiny followers. He'll be there daily from that moment until Christmas Eve.

Then he'll take a break to go to the Livonia Mall for his annual pre-Christmas appearance on Friday at 11 a.m.

The Mall has a special attraction for youngsters this year in a Christmas elf contest. Some lucky boy and girl will be selected as elves by Christmas Carol. They will be treated to a luncheon with Santa, a family pass to the Cinema Theatre and a \$20 gift certificate to Sears along with numerous other gifts.

The list of gifts includes a colored picture of each with Santa in his huge sleigh. With that bit of business out of the way, Santa will take another break and quickly move to the Farmington Plaza for another welcome and greetings with his followers in that area at 1:30 p.m. Friday.

That's just the start of the busy weekend. He'll resume his traveling Saturday morning when he boards a helicopter for a landing at Korvette's, West Chicago at Telegraph, at 10:30 and then skims into Plymouth for the parade and appearance at 11 a.m.

Then come the big chores for the parents. They'll listen to the requests of their wee ones, check with Santa and make certain that he gets the message--their message along with the ones delivered personally by the youngsters themselves.

It will cost six cents to send Christmas cards this year, whether they are sealed or not.

In previous years, unsealed cards without a written message (only the signature of the sender) could be sent for one cent less than first-class postage. These were delivered as third-class mail, without provision for forwarding or return if undeliverable.

This year, all Christmas cards weighing one ounce or less must carry six cents postage. All cards bearing the correct postage which are undeliverable as addressed will be forwarded if a new address is available.

The post office stresses the importance of a return address if cards are undeliverable. This allows the sender to keep his mailing lists up to date.



TIMES HAVE CHANGED but the Pilgrims enjoyed their first Thanksgiving Dinner just as much then as we do when we carve the big bird today.

all the family will enjoy
THANKSGIVING DINNER
here

Hillside Inn

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DINNER
SERVED
12:30 to 7:00 P.M.

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