

EDITORIAL

Jill M. Friesz

I feel like we should be preparing for Halloween.... not Thanksgiving. The older I get; the quicker time seems to fly, and the faster holidays sneak up on me.

This may be because we have had an exceptionally busy fall. We have had company the past few weekends with family members out walking the pastures and freshly combined corn fields hunting the elusive deer. It proved to be much more of a challenge than they could have imagined, sending them back out to the fields weekend after weekend.

I am not personally a deer hunter. Although I went through the hunter safety course, I never had any intention of picking up a gun to ever in my life shoot anything. So, getting up at the crack of dawn in the cold, bundling up in blaze orange and walking miles every day doesn't sound even remotely enjoyable to me. But to our family members that were at our house hunting, it was exciting enough to keep them coming back for more.

It was interesting to hear their stories every night of the terrain they covered, the "almost" trophy bucks they missed, or the lack of the right kind of animal in their sights.

Since last weekend

was the final days of the season, everyone was a little more on edge and was ready to put in the work to fill their tags.

When I got home from work Friday evening, the crew was sitting in the living room all smiles telling tales of their hunt... and the youngest of the group was beaming with pride and the biggest smile I've ever seen on a 15-year-old girl. She got her very first buck... and she's hooked for life. Besides the thrill of the hunt and the adrenaline, I think she enjoyed spending time out in the field with her Dad and sharing this unforgettable moment with him. There was reason to celebrate Friday night!

The celebration continued at our house Saturday afternoon as another one of the hunters finally got his first-ever buck....after many days out searching and many miles of walking. It's so much fun to listen to the hunting tales, and to see the pride on their faces in the photos they proudly showcase.

Both bucks that were harvested will be mounted and proudly displayed and I have a feeling they will always hold a special place in their hearts and memories.

Wishing everyone a blessed Thanksgiving. I have a feeling I know what these hunters will be giving thanks for...



MERRILY ALONG

It is not all about the food

My favorite holiday is celebrating the birth of our Lord, Christmas. My second favorite is Thanksgiving.

I love the food: turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes and gravy, cranberry sauce, and all the trimmings. I could eat that food every day.

Most people like the drumstick, but I prefer the wing. I love cleaning off the bones. Val doesn't like white meat, and he would rather have ham than turkey.

The next day, a cold turkey sandwich on a homemade bun with a side of cranberry sauce is so good.

We usually have a big family get-together where everyone brings a dish. Who brings what is decided ahead of time so we don't double up.

I'm usually asked to bring homemade bread; this year, I will bring that, along with the dressing.

I always made my bread from scratch until I found Texas Dinner Rolls. They are easy peasy and so good. I make the dressing from scratch using my mom's recipe of dried bread. (When Kim was little, she called it crack-

lin' bread.) Mom used to set bread slices on the cabinet a couple of days ahead of time to dry them out, break them into little pieces, and add celery, onions, eggs, butter, giblets, and the cooled water from boiling the giblets. I don't measure anything; it is just by-guess and by-golly.

My mother-in-law made her dressing with any leftover bread - even cinnamon rolls. I remember the first time I ate it, and it was surprisingly good. I remember trying to guess what seasoning she used. She hesitated to tell me. When she told me what was added, being the conservative I am, I thought, why not?

Being so conservative, I get strange looks from the younger generation when I tell them not to throw the leftover turkey carcass away. I boil it. The broth and meat make the best turkey and dumpling soup.

Of course, we always go home with enough leftovers to eat

for a week.

It used to be that everything was made from scratch. It could become a competition to see who made the best food, especially pies.

One year, my mom received compliments on her delicious pumpkin pie all day. She couldn't take it anymore, so she

finally fessed up and said she had bought the pie and put it in one of her pie plates. We all giggled.

When I think about it now, it strikes me how it bothered her, and how

she thought she was cheating - a tribute to her honesty.

My very favorite part of Thanksgiving is when we go around the room and say what we are thankful for.

We are all blessed, and hearing even the youngest one say they are thankful for the simplest things truly touches my heart.

The wealthiest person in the world is the one who realizes and is thankful for family, friends and love.

It is not all about the food.

I am thankful for the many blessings I have received and I will remember to be thankful as I go merrily along.

Merrily Along
Carol Tescher
Obrigewitch

THE WORLD around us

Migrant Drowning

The bodies of eight people, including six children, have been recovered after a migrant boat sank off the Greek island of Samos, the coastguard has said. Around 40 people were rescued by authorities during an operation in the Aegean Sea involving aircraft and vessels, authorities said. Strong winds have been complicating rescue efforts. An official said a non-governmental organization alerted authorities, and that it was believed about 50 people were on board the vessel.

Trump Cabinet

Donald Trump has nominated longtime ally Brooke Rollins for secretary of agriculture, completing his cabinet roster. He made the announcement Saturday late afternoon, tapping the head of Maga-backed think tank the America First Policy Institute for the job. "As our next Secretary of Agriculture, Brooke will spearhead the effort

to protect American Farmers, who are truly the backbone of our Country," Trump said in a statement. Her nomination marks the end of a whirlwind - and sometimes dramatic - spree of nominations to lead executive agencies.

Hannah Kobayashi

A father of a missing Hawaii woman was found dead on Sunday in the US state of California after he travelled to search for her. Ryan Kobayashi had recently journeyed to Los Angeles to help search for his daughter, Hannah Kobayashi, 30. She went missing earlier this month after a stopover at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) on her way to New York City. Officials in LA confirmed that Mr. Kobayashi, who was 58, has since been found dead in a car park near the airport. Both police and the coroner's office have not publicly given a suspected cause of death.

DID YOU KNOW...
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Question of the Week

What is the best Thanksgiving side dish?

Mashed Potatoes	21
Stuffing	69
Green Bean Casserole	17
Sweet Potato Casserole	31

Next week's question...
Whic is better?
A. Cozy winter day with hot coca
B. Sunny beach day with a cold drink

Total Responses: 138

Submit answer to:
jill@gspublishing.net or answer on our Facebook page.

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