

Thanksgiving nowadays

By Alyssa Hetherington
Contributor

As the holidays come hurtling toward us faster each year, Thanksgiving is becoming less recognized each year. Though this holiday has a controversial past, Thanksgiving is a holiday about being around family and recognizing all the things in your life that you should be thankful for.

Thanksgiving is based off the story of a group of surviving pilgrims from the Mayflower and a group of Native Americans from the Wampanoag tribe coming together in the fall of 1621. They held a festival that lasted around three days and each party came together to celebrate the good corn harvest. It was first recognized as a holiday in the year 1863 by former President Abraham Lincoln.

The darker part of the story is that this

appreciation for each other did not last long. Years following brought battles which later turned into wars, which caused huge casualties on both sides but which were particularly devastating to the Native American side. This part of history is usually forgotten or overlooked, but is just as important to acknowledge.

Nowadays, the holiday centers around a turkey dinner with a group of family and friends coming together. A traditional turkey dinner with sides such as mashed potatoes, stuffing, cranberry sauce, gravy and sweet potatoes—just to name the more traditional ones. The next day involves eating the leftovers and creating some amazing sandwiches that includes all the sides and the turkey placed inside two pieces of soft bread.

Another tradition associated with Thanksgiving is the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade and the start of the holiday season. The iconic Macy's

Thanksgiving Day Parade involves giant balloons of beloved characters, floats carrying famous singers, Broadway snippets, bands, and people dressed up. At the end of the parade Santa Claus is seen riding his sleigh and is symbolizing the bringing in of the holiday season.

A newer tradition that is becoming popular with younger generations is Friendsgiving. Friendsgiving is when a group of friends celebrates with a smaller scale Thanksgiving a week before or after the actual Thanksgiving. Friends come together and bring all sorts of food, traditional or not, and have a party celebrating their friendship.

Whether or not you choose to celebrate this holiday, the idea of being thankful for what you have is something to reflect on no matter the season.

Democrats, it is time to pull it together already

By Julie Carter
Opinion Editor

I really, really don't feel like writing about the upcoming 2020 presidential election. However, I feel like something must be said at this present moment about the dangerous territory that Democrats are approaching for this year.

To keep it brief: Democrats are, for all intents and purposes, at a very big risk of losing.

I don't even think it'll be a close race. Donald Trump will assume office on January 20, 2021 by a large margin.

Now, I'm about as liberal as they come. The mere thought of Trump being president for another four years causes the same reaction in me as drinking an entire cup of vinegar would.

However, I must face the facts.

With that being said, some fellow liberals may be asking me "how could you say that about Trump?" It is easy. I am not throwing him to the side anymore. I did that in 2016 and look how that turned out. He is a serious political contender with a massive base.

I assure you that I see in him numerous flaws. However, these flaws mean nothing to a large base that foams at the mouth at whatever nonsense comes out of his mouth.

Then, there are his sworn enemies that

immediately hear the man's name and won't listen to what he is saying. A high percentage of it is complete insanity, but one cannot automatically brush it aside as far-right cannon fodder.

How did Trump get elected in 2016? Easy. People liked him enough to vote for him. People didn't just vote for him because they didn't like Hillary. They liked him. Period. Also, it is a much larger group of Americans than some of us are willing to accept.

There is another large issue that many Democrats are ignoring. No one really cares about their nominees. The number of die-hard supporters for specific candidates is so small. Bernie Sanders maybe has the largest base, and, once again, how did that turn out in 2016?

Just from listening to fellow liberals, I can tell a few things. Most have a handful of candidates they "like" or "are okay with." This attitude is not going to beat Donald Trump. It just isn't.



All the candidates are essentially having a pissing contest as to who is the most liberal. This is not the point. No one gives a damn. They are just looking like carbon copies of each other. No one stands out.

All the women are rather robotic, being written off as Hillary Part II. Joe Biden is viewed as annoying, especially to young liberals. The only thing people know about Pete Buttigieg is that he is gay, and, honestly, most people are not ready for a 37-year-old gay mayor from Indiana to be President of the United States. Sorry, not sorry.

As Senators, all of these people would be great. They are not ready to be president. They need to stay in their lane. There is no shining star in the Democratic Party at the present moment. It is 2016 all over again.

Now, Donald Trump evokes a response. Negative or positive response does not matter as long as it is something. He will bulldoze his way into the office for another four years, and no one is strong enough to stop him right now.

So, fellow liberals, what are we going to do about it? Are we going to learn our lesson from 2016? Are we going to fight with each other over who is the most liberal, ignoring the middle ground vote? Or are we going to put on our big boy pants and fight our way to getting this manic, out-of-touch strongman out of office?