



# THE VOICE



## Remembering Why You Are Thankful

I'm thankful I was born "in the good old days" when Halloween Parties were a part of the yearly events celebrated in every classroom at Grain Valley School. We brought our costumes to school and put them on during the afternoon recess. Our Room Mothers arrived and brought cupcakes, cookies, candy and apple cider and we all celebrated together. Our costumes came from our imaginations, not the costume shop. We were gypsies and hobos, cowboys and ghost; football players and cheerleaders; all politically correct, or so we thought.

I'm thankful that as soon as Halloween ended we could turn our thoughts to Thanksgiving! Like most families in Grain Valley, Thanksgiving meant three things at our house. I usually ignored the fact that the women in the family cooked all week. You had to make cornbread early in the week so it could dry out before you made the stuffing! (no Stove Top Stuffing) You had to make the pies (no frozen pie shells, let alone frozen pies). You had to peel the potatoes; well, you get the picture.

To me, Thanksgiving meant getting up early to watch the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, dressing up (yes, people still dressed up) to visit with relatives and friends, and the best part, Thanksgiving dinner.

I was thankful that Grandmother Rumbo made the best homemade noodles I've ever put in my mouth. I was thankful that Grandmother Napier made wonderful homemade rolls.



### Coffee With Classmates

Eighteen GVHS alumni and 5 guest enjoyed Coffee with Classmates on October 20, 2021, at the Historical Museum. Carol (Perry) Gorley, Class of 1961, surprised us with a wonderful cake. Not only was it delicious but the top was decorated with an "edible" photograph of the school many of us attended for 12 years!



I was thankful that Aunt Opal always made a chocolate meringue pie, just in case “someone” didn’t like pumpkin or pecan.

And I was thankful that my mother made my favorite, heavenly hash. I don’t know where the name comes from because heavenly hash is a dessert! But one definition of “hash” is small chopped up food, thus the name. The delicious dish contained chopped nuts, chopped pineapple, chopped marshmallows (no miniature ones in the 1950s) and chopped maraschino cherries.

I was also thankful that we always had “extra” food which we were able to share with some of our neighbors that didn’t have food or family with which to share the holiday.

Unfortunately, sixty years later, we still have folks we know that don’t have enough food. So, as we look forward to sharing this Thanksgiving holiday with family or a welcoming neighbor, I hope you will consider sharing a little “extra” with someone who could use your help. At this time of year, please remember the Grain Valley Assistance Council or the Faith United Methodist Church Back Pack Program which provides a bit of food for the weekend to Grain Valley students.

This Thanksgiving, don’t just remember why you are thankful, give others a reason to be thankful too!



## Grain Valley Historical Society Meeting

**November 18, 2021  
6:00 PM**

**Join us for a potluck dinner followed by a program and meeting.**

## Building for Rent

**The Historical Society is available for rent at reasonable rates - -** The half-day rate is \$75 and a full-day rental is only \$100

A great location for birthdays, bridal or baby showers, parties and more!

**For additional information call: (816) 867-5158 or (816) 392-4873**

## Visit our website

[www.grainvalleyhistory.com](http://www.grainvalleyhistory.com)

For information on museum hours, meetings, special events and building rental, check out our website. The website is provided and maintained courtesy of the

## Valley News

*Grain Valley’s Community Newspaper*