



AMERICAN HOLIDAYS, TRADITIONS AND CUSTOMS OF THEIR CELEBRATION

Student of Jizzakh Pedagogical University

Shodmonova Sabrina

*Scientific supervisor: **Hakima Botirova***

Senior teacher Jizzakh State Pedagogical University

Annotation: I am going to talk about American traditions and first of all I have to tell you that I found it quite difficult to justify what is a tradition or not. Firstly, traditions vary from place to place and the with the USA being such a huge country it is just natural that there are other traditions in the north than there are in the south. So I tried to find traditions that are spread across the country or at least known across the fifty states. Secondly, there are traditions that have a history and used to be big one day, but lost their importance as time went by. I tried to pick the traditions that are of importance to the average American citizen. That means that I will leave out holidays like President's day, where people know that it is a holiday, but it does not really matter to them except if they get off school. So please excuse if I will leave out things you consider important or experienced differently.

Key words: federal, hibernating, groundhog, whispers, necklaces, announcement, celebrates, harvest.

Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday Monday, January 15 Each year on the third Monday of January schools, federal offices, post offices and banks across America close to celebrate the birth, the life and the dream of Martin Luther King. He thought for freedom, equality and dignity of all races and people with non-violent means. Martin Luther King day also reminds everybody of Rosa Parks and the Civil Rights Movement. It was a hard way to pass the bill to make this day a federal holiday. But in 1983, fifteen years after King's death, Ronald Reagan signed a bill into law, making the third Monday of January a national holiday. This year's theme is "Remember! Celebrate! Act! A day on, not a day off!"

Super bowl Sunday January 28 Super bowl Sunday is a very important day for most Americans. It is the day where the winner of the American Football league play against each other for the greatest trophy in football history. People have Super bowl Parties and meet to watch the game. The first Super bowl took place in 1967 and this year's game was won by the Baltimore Ravens who won over New York 34 to 7.



Every year, communities run out of water because everybody goes to the bathroom at the same time, at the quarterly breaks. The winner team get Super bowl Rings, each worth 5000\$ and about 120 000\$ prize money. The game is interrupted for commercial breaks and the show starts at early afternoon, so if you watch the whole show you will see a few thousand commercials. The average cost of a thirty second spot is 2.3 million dollars. This years national anthem was performed by the Backstreet Boys and the half time entertainment was by Aerosmith and NSYNC. The game was watched in more than 43 million homes.

Groundhog Day February 2 February 2 It is ancient belief, that hibernating creatures, which means that they sleep in winter, can predict the arrival of springtime. The day half way between the first day of winter and first day of spring is called Candlemas. An old lore says:

“If Candlemas be fair and bright, Winter has another flight. If Candlemas brings clouds and rain, Winter will not come again.”

So when the groundhog comes out of his den and sees his own shadow, it will be winter for six more weeks. The U.S official groundhog is kept in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania. In a great ceremony, in early morning of February 2, “Punxsutawney Phil”, as the groundhog is called, is puled from his den and whispers his prediction in the ear of his keeper. This happensin fround of hundreads of reporters and lots of cameras it is broadcasted on the news all day.

Valentine’s Day February 14 Valentine’s day drived from a Roman holiday and was brought to the USA by British settlers. People send to Valentines to their Valentines. A Valentine can be a card or a gift as a token of love or a person, singled out as somebody’s sweetheart. It is also a huge business, shops and restaurants are decorated and the newspapers are full of ads.

Mother’s Day May 13 in 1907, a woman from Philadelphia began campaigning to establish Mother’s Day as a national holiday. She did not give up until in 1914, President Wilsom made the official announcement, proclaiming Mother’s Day a national holiday. Kids are supposed to let their mom have a day off. Many families begin mothers day with a breakfast in bed, while dad and the kids do the work and let mom sleep late. Maybe the kids prepare a little gift for their mom or write a card and lots of families go out for a dinner in mom’s favourite restaurant. As a national holiday, Mother’s Day is proclaimed by the President every year. For example in 1996, President Clinton proclaimed it as following: “.....Now, therefore, I William J. Clinton, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim May 12, 1996, as Mother’s Day. I urge all Americans to express their gratitude for the many



contributions made by our mothers and to observe this day with appropriate ceremonies, activities and programs...”

US Independence Day. July 4 Independence Day celebrates the birthday of the United States of America, which was founded on July 4th, 1776, with the signing of the Declaration of Independence. On this day you see national colours white-red-blue everywhere, people are off work and have July 4th parties, they have flag hanging in their front yards, they have barbecues, throw horseshoes, play sports and burn fireworks, a lot more than they do for New Year.

Halloween Wednesday, October 31 Halloween is the time of ghost, witches, pumpkins and Trick or Treating. The history of Trick or Treating can be traced back to the early celebrations of All Souls’ Day in Britain, when beggars walked from house to house and got treats to say a prayer for the dead. The custom changed and the children become the beggars, and during the Pioneer Days housewives would give kids treats to keep from being tricked.

Nowadays, the kids walk their neighbourhood and say “Trick or Treat” and get candy from the people sitting in front of their houses with loads of candy. Even shopping malls and public places make Trick or Treating Days for kids to come and get candy. The symbol of Halloween is of course the pumpkin. It is pumpkin season and people used to cut faces out of pumpkins and put lights in it, but nowadays, Jack.O. Lanterns are mostly made of plastic.

Thanksgiving Thursday, November 22 in 1621, after a hard first year in the New world, the Pilgrims ‘fall harvest was very successful and plentiful. Their governor proclaimed a day of celebration that was to be shared by all the colonist and the neighbouring Native Americans. The tradition of a thanksgiving day was kept in the following years, and in 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued a Thanksgiving Day proclamation and so did all of the following Presidents, usually on the fourth Thursday of each November. Although there is no real evidence that turkey was served at the Pilgrims first Thanksgiving, it is now the traditional meal for the family dinner. Usually people go home and spend the holiday with their families. Therefore, Thanksgiving is one of the most busy travel days of the year.