

Opinion



Letters to the Editor



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Goodwill . . . no, wait



When an anonymous letter purportedly from neighbors arrived complaining about our Christmas decorations being up before Thanksgiving, my wife and I were both very upset. Our decorations are in no way outrageous, and we live on a semi-rural road outside a subdivision. We have a grand total of eight strings of lights on our four-acre property - three illuminated bushes. Being friends with a diverse group of people, we not only display the traditional red and green of Christmas, but also the blue and white of Hanukkah and the winter season in general. Ours is truly a nondenominational display of the festive, welcoming nature of Christmas and other year-end holidays.

While I understand that some consider it inappropriate, it's not for others to tell us how to celebrate the holiday season at our house on our property - just as we wouldn't tell them.

Sean A. Rhoads, Newark

Kindness teed up

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Area residents were pleased when Ron Jaworski bought our local golf club, Blue Heron Pines. His fame, sportsmanship, and support for charity brought prestige to the club and to Galloway Township. This spirit of charity was evident recently when a neighbor was diagnosed with cancer and had to undergo yearlong chemotherapy. With an annual membership, he was only able to play a few rounds before becoming ill. W

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him back on the links. It is nice to know there are people like Jaworski who don't just speak of lofty ideals, but put them into practice.

Michael J. Kennedy, Egg Harbor City, kennedyhouse@comcast.net

Counting the ways

At Thanksgiving, I reflect on being a Muslim American and that for which I am thankful. I am thankful that I have a roof over my head and food to fill my stomach, thankful to my parents for raising me up with love, thankful to practice my religion freely, inasmuch as my forefathers were persecuted in Pakistan for their beliefs, thankful for living in a land of opportunity, and for being able to fulfill my dream of becoming a physician. And I thank all those in my life who made this possible. As the prophet Muhammad instructed, "One who is not thankful to people, is not thankful to Allah (God)."

Madeel Abdullah, M.D., Newtown Square, madeel1@gmail.com

Online protest

The sanctity of this special day is starting to vanish, as retailers have decided that they cannot wait one the day to start their sales. Of course, if people planning on shopping on Thanksgiving Day shop instead online, maybe the brick-and-mortar retailers will get the message and go back to the old Black Friday openings.

David M. Levin, Vineland

Warship saving lives

The Philippines relief mission undertaken by the USS George Washington brought a smile ("Aboard U.S. carrier, Phila. native sees typhoon's impact," Nov. 19). What makes our country great is the ability to turn giant machines of destruction toward salvation for human beings.

Sean Storey, Pine Hill

Justly to be missed

Philadelphia Judge Anthony J. DeFino, who died in a house fire Sunday, was the first to welcome my family to our South Philadelphia block 35 years ago. Over the years, he served as the unofficial mayor of the neighborhood, greeting everyone, always impeccably dressed for his daily strolls, joking with children and adults alike. We all loved and respected him as a true gentleman and a fair jurist. As we grieve with the judge's wonderful family, and also recall firefighters' brave efforts Sunday, we will surely miss the judge's familiar greeting, "How you doin' Boss?"

Thomas W. Gamba, Philadelphia

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