Merry Hallowgivingmas St. Easterpendence Day

I for one am glad to see the beginning of the fall and cooler temperatures. This past summer has been a “Long Hot Summer,” with hot temperatures, high humidity and destructive storms. It was just one I wouldn’t like to see repeated.

Apparently though, winter and Christmas is on the way, as I have observed Christmas decorations in various stores. Yikes! I haven’t even put away my sundresses and flip-flops yet and am in no way ready for the Christmas season.

We ask ourselves each year, “How soon should merchants put out Christmas items? How early should we start hearing Christmas music on the radio and in the malls?

Is there a protocol to follow or do we as consumers follow the lead of retailers and begin decorating and getting ready for Christmas right now?

I don’t know about anyone else, but I would like to celebrate Halloween and Thanksgiving first. Of course, now that I am older, celebrating Halloween means children getting dressed up and going “Trick or Treating.”

The bright colored candy corn, peanut butter kisses, gum and chocolates have been on the shelves for over a month. I wonder how long ago that candy was made and how long has it been in a storeroom?

Yes, I am aware that everyone wants to sell more items and make more money. Is this the reason for the “rush” into each holiday?

What has happened to Thanksgiving? Did it get lost between Halloween and Christmas? Thanksgiving is the one day that families set aside to feast and thank God for his blessings. One year I tried to purchase Thanksgiving napkins and all I could find was one little display of Thanksgiving decorations. However, there were plenty of Christmas decorations for sale.

Today it appears that Thanksgiving is always overshadowed by Black Friday. A lot of times we are reading the infamous Black Friday ads and are planning our next day’s excursion before we eat our turkey and cranberry sauce. (I know this is true, because I, too, am guilty.)

I remember when we did not ever put up our Christmas trees until the second week in December. Also back then, waiting for stores to open their Winter Wonderland display of toys for the Christmas season was something to look forward to. It was then you could take your children to the store and let them oooo and ahhhh over the delightful scene.

Today, I know people who have their Christmas shopping almost done and have gifts already wrapped. Are these organized people or do they just want to “get it over with?” Perhaps, I am a procrastinator or a weirdo for wanting to enjoy each holiday before the next one arrives.

Each holiday deserves its own recognition in one way or another. I happen to enjoy each one like New Year’s and the hopes for a new year; Valentine’s Day and the chocolate and hearts; St. Patrick’s Day and the wearing o’ the green; Easter and the resurrection of Christ; Mother’s Day; Memorial Day; Father’s Day; Independence Day; Labor day; Halloween; Thanksgiving and Christmas.

My main concern is that some of the lesser holidays do not get the attention and respect they

deserve.

There is actually a page on the social media Facebook called “Merry Hallowgivingmas St. Easterpendence Day.” Yes, it is a unique name, but something to ponder. Is this what we are trying to do with the rushing of each season and holiday?

In fact, one of the postings on the page was, “I saw school supplies in the stores already. Thanks for ruining summer.”

Are you ready for Christmas? Do you have your shopping done? Do you think we all tend to rush from one holiday to the next? Let me know and I’ll give you a Penny for Your Thoughts.