

Olivia Belofski
James Skoufis Thanksgiving Day Celebration
November 16, 2023



I started writing this essay for the things that I am grateful for. I had to delete what I had written before. It's not that it was bad content, it's just that my perspective changed after what recently happened.

On Saturday November 11, 2023 my father, sister and I got into a terrible accident. My father decided to do something fun with us and take us to Palisades Mall for dinner and shopping. Stephanie and I were so excited to go shopping, and spend some time with my father since he works a lot.

We entered Route 6 from Route 17 in the Town of Woodbury. All I heard was an extremely loud bang; all I saw was white airbags all around my body. I was confused, startled and very scared. I couldn't comprehend exactly what was going on at first. My hearing was muffled; my legs hurt. "Are you girls ok?" my dad screamed. And thankfully we were. We were hit head on by a drunk driver which caused a four car accident.

After getting home and coming to the realization of what the alternative could have been, and countless "what ifs?" kept going on in my head. I started feeling enormously grateful for the things that are in my life that I take for granted. From day to day, I never realize or take the time to appreciate what means the most to me, especially people in my life who have shaped me into the person I am. I'm beyond grateful for my family. I don't know what I would do without their unending support and love, they always have my back in everything I do! I'm also thankful for my friends; they always know how to make me laugh and never fail to put a smile on my face when I need it the most. I honestly do not know where I would be without them. I'm looking forward to a relaxing and fun Thanksgiving holiday with all of the special people in my life.