

Sweet Tale: Rome native's family candy business featured in book (Just in time for upcoming holidays!)



ONEIDA—The story of Turkey Joints, a regional culinary treat that's captured the notice of foodies worldwide and has been featured on NPR's "Morning Edition" and travel website AtlasObscura, is putting Central New York on the map this holiday season.



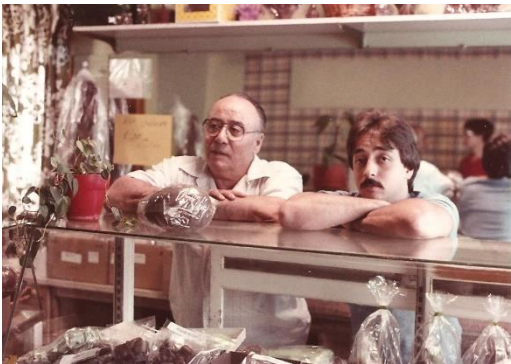
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In the new anthology "Main," which celebrates small town America through tales of family-owned businesses, Oneida writer Dyann Nashton recounts her teenage years working her great uncle Tasos Haritatos as relatives pitched produce and package the distinctive bone-shaped candy. Her tale "Candy is Strong When the Marrow Sweet" is both an insider's look at how Turkey Joints are made and a teenager's coming-of-age story set in Rome, NY.

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A former journalist with a bachelor's degree from Utica College/Syracuse University, Nashton spent her early career working in newspapers and continued with freelance journalism. Though the Turkey Joint story was her first foray into creative non-fiction, her piece was chosen over hundreds of submissions, and is one of twelve essays that comprise "Main."



"It's very unusual in publishing to be accepted on a first try," she noted. "The details from that period of my life, plus the emotional appeal of a candy that's been made locally by generations of the same family, is what attracted the editors."

Nashton said the Turkey Joints story, while intensely personal, also captures the memories the Central New York community shares with the seasonal candy made at Nora's Candy on Doxtator Street in Rome.

"Main" is published by Books By Hippocampus, a literary press based in Lancaster, PA. Copies of the book can be purchased at Nashton's public readings, or through the website TurkeyJointStory.com, and are \$12. As Nashton observes, "The book is a perfect complement to a gift of a jar of Turkey Joints," and offers a nostalgic look at a unique Central New York favorite.