

Merry Christmas

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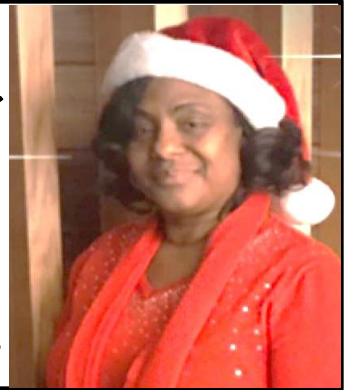
Clarksdale, Mississippi

FEDERATION TOWERS NEWSLETTER

2020 Thanksgiving Smiles

Due to COVID-19, Thanksgiving 2020 may have been celebrated a little differently this year, but the smiles were the same. Although gatherings were limited, residents celebrated amongst themselves in small groups and the Federations Towers' Activity Committee headed by Ommie Gilliam prepared and delivered a traditional Pre-Thanksgiving dinner on Wednesday, November 25th. Special thanks to Aaron Henry Estates' resident, Mr. Lyndon Holmes, for donating fresh picked turnip greens that Viney McDaniel prepared. Thanks are also due to Eugene Taylor for preparing the pumpkin pies, turkey, and dressing. In addition, the CARE Station Food Bank provided Thanksgiving Day meals which were delivered by Queenie Vortice and Shirley Wiley. Again, thanks to all who helped make this Thanksgiving full of smiles in spite of the pandemic.



*Season Greeting From Your Property Manager**Whatever your reason for the season, I hope it finds you with joy and peace.**I pray good health, wealth, good food, and friends for you never cease.**Whatever you do or say, or with whomever you spend your holiday,**I wish you abundance in every single way.***Glad Tidings!****The Leasing Office will be closed Dec. 21, 2020-Jan. 3, 2021.**

Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas



Most elderly residents should probably cancel big Christmas celebrations for good measure. In case you missed it, things out there with COVID aren't looking so good, and it's increasingly clear that dinner parties and other intimate gatherings are playing a big part in the growing "second wave." Traveling to celebrate the season with other people, at a chilly time that's most conducive to indoor activities, seems less and less wise. And yet, a survey released in late October found that 61 percent of Americans who replied expected to spend Thanksgiving with people who don't live in their households; 90 percent planned to eat inside. Hopefully, some of these people will change their minds— if not, we seem to be in for a world of trouble since confirmed cases of COVID-19 in early November boomed up from 10 million to over 11 million in just a week's time. Currently, according

to the Center for Disease Control (CDC), Mississippi has nearly 156,868 cases of COVID-19 and up over 500 since last month there have been nearly 3,800 deaths. Of that, Coahoma County has 1270 cases with 43 deaths, while Quitman County has 500 cases and 7 deaths. Tallahatchie County has reported 981 cases with 27 deaths. However, as many families are making plans for December celebrations, federal health officials are hoping for mid-December vaccine approval. Unfortunately, distribution may not reach rural Mississippi until the spring. Thus, practicing stringent social distancing and staying home as much as possible should still be Plan A. There are many variations of social gathering rules in each state, but for some Americans, annual Christmas traditions are now out of the question due to updated travel guidelines in over 25 different states. Likewise, on December 1, 2020, Mississippi Gov. Tate Reeves announced that 54 of Mississippi's 82 counties (which include both Quitman and Coahoma counties) are now under additional COVID-19 requirements that mandatory masks inside schools, businesses or public spaces. In addition, the order restricts group gatherings to 10 people or less indoors and outdoors gatherings to 50 people if social distancing cannot be maintained. In the remaining counties, indoor gatherings are limited to 20 people and outdoor gatherings to 100 if social distancing cannot be maintained. In all counties, some gatherings are exempt, such as those at religious organizations or students meeting in classrooms. Previously, Reeves ordered bars and restaurants to serve alcohol only to seated patrons and not after 11 p.m. Most businesses must limit customers or visitors to 75 percent capacity and implement safety precautions. Visitors to nursing homes and other long-term care facilities should spend time with family members only and avoid contact with other residents, among other restrictions. While the idea of gathering the family may be hard to avoid, celebrating now holds a lot more anxiety than it ever did before because hosting a Christmas event will bring some form of risk to your home even if all of your guests abide by guidelines set forth by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the restrictions mandated by executive orders. Therefore, please consider having a smaller than usually Christmas so that we don't have a tragic new year as a result of unsafe holiday fun.

Veteran's Day– Thanks for Your Service



In recognition of Veteran Day 2020, the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 203 representative Emma Simpson presented Federation Towers' Veterans Robert Randle, Jr, Harry Broom, Eugene Taylor, and Lisa Campbell with gifts of appreciation for their military service. This is the seventh year the auxiliary has recognized our vets. On behalf of all they do to support, the Federation Towers' veterans are grateful for their continued support.

Our Vote Counted! Congrats to Democrats



Whether it was curb-side, absentee, or in-person voting, like much of the country, in spite of the national crisis due to the coronavirus, Federation Towers-Clarksdale residents exercised the right to vote in record numbers on Nov. 3, 2020, ensuring a Democratic win for Vice-President Joe Biden and running mate Kamala Harris who on January 20, 2021, will become both the first woman and person of color to take the office.

Retired Senior Volunteers (RSVP)



Unfortunately, due to the pandemic's restrictions on social gatherings, this year's RSVP "Thank You" Banquet has been cancelled. However, Coahoma Opportunities, Inc.'s Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) Director Dr. Mary Dear-Moton would like to express her gratitude to all the hard-working volunteers here at Federation Towers- C'dale. If you

are 55 years or older and not already signed up, consider joining RSVP today! RSVP offers a great opportunity for you to serve your neighbors and improve your quality of life. You will receive on-the-job training and are covered under the RSVP liability insurance plan. For more information, speak with Site Coordinators Mary Quinn or Queenie Vortice. Special thanks to all Safety Captains, Site Coordinator Queenie Vortice and Committee Heads Ommie Gilliam, Frank Rosebur, Harry Broom, and Diane Matthews.

Christmas Word Search



S	N	O	R	T	H	P	O	L	E	W	M	I	Y	V	R	Q	I	W	E
A	P	N	C	N	U	T	C	R	A	C	K	E	R	S	N	X	O	K	U
N	L	F	A	Z	S	H	G	H	F	Z	S	H	N	T	G	Q	U	J	A
T	W	T	R	X	M	M	I	D	E	L	V	E	S	O	G	C	Q	V	U
A	R	L	O	W	Q	R	F	E	Q	N	Q	U	S	C	X	L	Y	N	P
C	I	A	L	Y	X	U	T	H	C	W	Y	Y	Z	K	C	I	G	B	V
L	U	R	S	E	C	G	S	T	R	E	E	C	P	I	A	G	R	E	D
A	G	I	N	G	E	R	B	R	E	A	D	A	A	N	N	H	E	L	E
U	I	C	E	L	E	B	R	A	T	E	Q	R	M	G	D	T	E	L	C
S	D	E	C	E	M	B	E	R	N	R	N	D	L	S	Y	S	T	S	O
Z	S	M	C	V	P	Q	S	H	C	F	A	S	T	V	C	D	I	R	R
F	N	P	H	M	U	I	A	N	Z	C	A	F	F	E	A	N	N	E	A
G	O	N	I	G	O	R	U	B	O	Q	D	M	W	R	N	X	G	I	T
B	W	K	M	L	E	N	J	Y	U	W	M	I	I	I	E	T	S	N	E
J	C	Q	N	P	C	H	R	I	S	T	M	A	S	L	N	Y	J	D	F
A	D	V	E	N	T	C	A	L	E	N	D	A	R	D	Y	T	W	E	H
S	X	W	Y	H	O	L	I	D	A	Y	P	W	N	L	Q	N	E	E	U
V	F	O	R	N	A	M	E	N	T	S	C	O	O	K	I	E	S	R	V

HOLIDAY
GINGERBREAD
BELLS
COOKIES
STOCKINGS
ELVES
GREETINGS

CAROLS
CANDY CANE
NORTH POLE
CELEBRATE
ADVENT CALENDAR
CARDS
LIGHTS

DECEMBER
WINTER
SNOW
SNOWMAN
DECORATE
CHIMNEY
TREE

REINDEER
SANTA CLAUS
FAMILY
NUTCRACKER
ORNAMENTS
CHRISTMAS
GIFTS

recipe: gingerbread

1/2 cup white sugar
1/2 cup butter
1 egg
1 cup molasses
2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
1 1/2 tsp baking soda
1 tsp cinnamon
1 tsp ground ginger
1/2 tsp ground cloves
1/2 tsp salt
1 cup hot water

Preheat oven to 350 F. Grease and flour a 9-inch square pan.
In a large bowl, cream together the sugar and butter. Beat in the egg, and mix in the molasses.
In a bowl, sift together the flour, baking soda, salt, cinnamon, ginger, and cloves. Blend into the creamed mixture. Stir in the hot water. Pour into the prepared pan.
Bake 1 hour in the preheated oven, until a knife inserted in the center comes out clean. Allow to cool in pan before serving.

Higher Utility Allowance Means Rent Lowered by \$1



Two major changes will affect the amount you pay for housing in the coming year. The first change is due to a raise in your utility allowance. Because rent calculations include the cost of both shelter and utilities, each year a utility analysis is conducted in order to assure that each resident's housing expenses be equal to no more than 30% of the household's adjusted monthly income. This year's calculation has resulted in an average raise of \$1 making one bedroom allowances \$58, studio apartment allowances \$41, and two-bedroom allowances \$73. The change became effective on November 17, 2020, and thus caused an average rent decrease of \$1. If you have not received a copy of this change to your lease prior

to making your December payment, a one-dollar credit will be notated on your rent receipt. If you have not received a copy of your lease showing this decrease, please notify the leasing office. In addition, Social Security and Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefits will receive a Cost-of-Living Adjustment (COLA) increase of 1.3 percent in 2020. Increased payments to SSI beneficiaries will begin on December 31, 2020 and the 1.3 percent cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) will begin for Social Security beneficiaries in January 2021. Social Security and SSI beneficiaries are normally notified by mail in early December about their new benefit amount. Most people who receive Social Security payments will be able to view their COLA notice online through their my Social Security online account at www.socialsecurity.gov/myaccount. Be mindful that rent is also determined by income. However, rent changes due to the COLA will not be effected until your annual recertification.

IPM: Winter Pest Awareness

As the temperatures continue to drop, we aren't the only ones running into the warm indoors. Since colder weather does tend to push pest like rodents indoors, look for any openings behind kitchen cabinets and appliances, around your baseboards, and in closets. Notify management so that all cracks around your apartment can be sealed. Also, store food in airtight containers and make sure to clean up any/all food spillage in your pantry. Be sure to clean away all pest dropping and do not leave open food containers in your pantry or even food in thin bags or containers – these will not stop a rodent! Poison packs should be placed behind each stove and refrigerator. If you see these packs torn or any pest evidence notify management immediately.

PEST CONTROL

Date may be rescheduled
due to Christmas holiday.

Dec. 22, 2020

9am-5pm

National Safety Council Safe Holiday Tips– Food Safety



- Wash your hands frequently for 20 seconds each time when handling food.
- Keep raw meat away from fresh produce.
- Use separate cutting boards, plate and utensils for uncooked and cooked meats to avoid cross-contamination.
- Use a food thermometer to make sure meat is cooked to a safe temperature.
- Refrigerate hot or cold leftover food within two hours of being served.
- When storing turkey, cut the leftovers in small pieces so they will chill quickly.
- Thanksgiving leftovers are often only safe for 3-4 days if properly refrigerated.

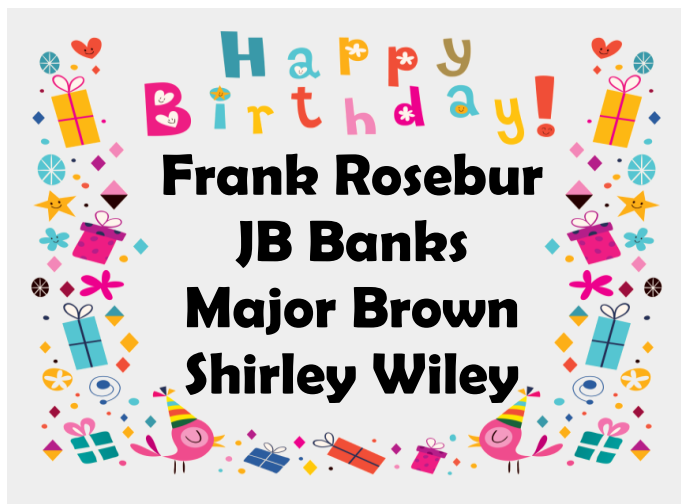
CARE STATION MEAL DELIVERY WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE

December 21, 2020-January 4, 2020

Delivery will resume January 5, 2020

REMINDER: The Medicare Open Enrollment Deadline is December 7, 2020.

For 2021 coverage, open enrollment will run from October 15, 2020 to December 7, 2020. During the annual enrollment period (AEP) you can make changes to various aspects of your coverage.

**Year End Thanks**

By Brother Cornelius Carter

Our Father, once again, here we are at your throne of mercy, thanking you for another chance to say Amen. We have so much to thank you for and we can't pay you, but we can start by thanking you for bringing us over many hurdles, heartaches and pain. As this year is coming to a close, we want to thank you and worship you for the many blessings you bestowed on us throughout 2020. You've been our provider, you've been there when we need you most, and for that we praise you. We thank you, Father, for the many people that crossed our paths and blessed us. We are so grateful to you. As we approach 2021, continue to bless all of us throughout this community. Continue to make us the shining beacon. Continue to let our light shine so bright, that all men and women would be drawn unto you. And as always, we will be ever so careful to give your name the praise that you deserve.

*In Your Son, Jesus' Name We Pray,
Amen*

**FEDERATION TOWERS-CLARKSDALE**

1160 Ritchie Street, Clarksdale, MS 38614

Phone: (662) 624-4850, Fax: (662) 624-4769



THIS IS YOUR NEWSPAPER AND YOUR VOICE NEEDS TO BE HEARD.

To submit items that would be helpful to others or to suggest a topic, call the property manager.

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