



*Gifts you can freely give:
To your enemy, forgiveness
To an opponent, tolerance.
To a friend, your heart.
To all, charity.
To every child, a good example.
To yourself, respect.*



**May the spirit of the season
bring you and
your family hope,
happiness and love.**

ANNOUNCEMENT: Nebraska RentWise

RentWise is a program to help renters obtain and keep rental housing and be successful renters through education. **The class is free to residents of low income housing, and open to the public for the cost of \$5.**

A **RentWise class** will be held in the casual atmosphere at the *Gifford Tower Community Room* on **Monday, November 9, 2020.**

For those tenants that it pertains to, their attendance counts as credit toward the 8 hours of monthly HUD Community Service/Self Sufficiency mandates. A certificate will be awarded upon completion of all the classes.

Be sure to take part in this free and informative opportunity. If you have any questions you can call **Tina**. @ 402-727-4848 ext. 3



Fremont Housing Agency
2510 N. Clarkson St.
Fremont, NE 68025



Section 8 News & Reminder **October - November - December 2020**

The Fremont Housing Agency Offices Will Be Closed On:

Closed **Monday, October 12**
Wednesday, November 11
Thursday & Friday, November 26 & 27 *Closed*
Friday, December 25

Halloween is celebrated on October 31st every year. The holiday began as a Celtic festival from Ireland called Samhain. Halloween became more popular worldwide with the start of the Christian holiday called All Saints Day. Halloween is traditionally a holiday that is meant to ward off evil spirits. During the time of the Celtic traditions, people would carve out scary faces and figures in giant turnips, place a candle inside, and set in their windows to scare away evil ghosts and enemies on Halloween.

Nowadays the turnips have been replaced by orange pumpkins, but the carving tradition is still continued, as well as lighting the pumpkins on the night of Halloween. The traditional colors that are used for most decorations for Halloween are black and orange. There are certain characters that are associated with Halloween: ghosts, witches, skeletons, vampires, werewolves, bats, and black cats.

People celebrate Halloween by going trick-or-treating, which means to get dressed up in costumes to look like traditional characters, such as witches or ghosts, and travel from house to house and say, "trick or treat." If the house is friendly, they will give treats to those dressed in costumes, such as candy or small toys. However, if the house does not give them any goodies, then the trick-or-treaters will play tricks on them, such as decorating the yard with toilet paper or eggs. Many of the homes will already be decorated with scary graveyards or fake spider webs to scare away evil spirits, as well as children who are trying to play pranks.

Most people who celebrate this holiday enjoy throwing costume parties where all the guests are dressed up in the traditional characters of Halloween. Often there are costume contests to judge who has the best outfit. Apple bobbing, a tradition that involves floating apples in water and participants attempting to grab the apple with only their mouth, is popular for Halloween. Many children and adults get together and tell ghost stories and spooky tales to scare one another while they eat the candies they collected during trick-or-treating.

Some religious groups do not celebrate Halloween because they feel it goes against their religious beliefs as a way of worshiping evil. In Mexico, the Day of the Dead is often confused with Halloween because it falls the day after Halloween and celebrates the dead in their communities. However, this holiday is not the same as Halloween, and has its own customs, traditions and meaning. The Day of the Dead is a joyous celebration filled with parades, food and music as people reconnect with their loved ones who are dead, while Halloween is meant to scare off dead people and evil spirits. Halloween is more of a dark tradition with the idea that some spirits and ghosts come back around that time to scare or hurt people. However, most people do not really worry about the scary parts of Halloween and instead enjoy eating the candies, wearing the crazy costumes, and spending time with friends and family while they visit others in their community.

Thanksgiving Day is a public holiday. It is a day off for the general population, and schools and most businesses are closed.

Family Celebration

Thanksgiving Day is a day for people in the US to give thanks for what they have. Families and friends get together for a meal, which traditionally includes a roast turkey, stuffing, potatoes, vegetables, cranberry sauce, gravy, and pumpkin pie.

In some cities and towns, there are parades during the Thanksgiving weekend. In most areas, these festivities also mark the opening of the Christmas shopping season.

Long Weekend in More Than 20 States

The Day After Thanksgiving, also known as Black Friday, is a holiday in more than 20 states. It's common to take trips and visit family and friends during the long weekend.

Many Have the Day Off

Most government offices, businesses, schools, universities, colleges, and other organizations are closed on Thanksgiving Day. Many offices and businesses allow staff to have a long four-day weekend for Thanksgiving, so these offices and businesses are also closed on the Day after Thanksgiving Day. Public transit systems usually do not operate on their regular timetables.

Thanksgiving Day is one of the busiest periods for travel in the USA. This can cause congestion and overcrowding. Seasonal parades and busy football games can also cause disruption to local traffic.

US Holiday Since 1863

Thanksgiving Day has been an annual holiday in the United States since 1863. However, not everyone sees Thanksgiving Day as a cause for celebration.

Beginning in 1970, a group of Native Americans and their supporters have staged an annual protest for a National Day of Mourning at Plymouth Rock in Plymouth, Massachusetts on Thanksgiving Day. American Indian Heritage Day is also observed at this time of the year.

There are claims that the first Thanksgiving Day was held in the city of El Paso, Texas, in 1598. Another early event was held in 1619 in the Virginia Colony. Many people trace the origins of the modern Thanksgiving Day to the harvest celebration the Pilgrims held in Plymouth, Massachusetts in 1621. However, their first true thanksgiving was in 1623, when they gave thanks for rain that ended a drought. These early Thanksgivings took the form of a special church service, rather than a feast.

In the second half of the 1600s, thanksgivings after the harvest became more common and started to become annual events. However, they were celebrated on different days in different communities and in some places there were more than one thanksgiving each year. George Washington, the first president of the United States, proclaimed the first national Thanksgiving Day in 1789.



“There is always, always something to be thankful for.”

A true story showing that, deep down, Christmas has always been about the joy of giving.

The Postman Lifted Us From Depression

My parents, at the height of the Depression, were forced to go on home relief, which is known as welfare today. It was 1935, when I was 10 years old, and we lived on the first floor of a walk-up apartment on 43rd Street, in Brooklyn, New York.

A few days before Christmas, I looked out a kitchen window to see my father sitting on the stoop, dejected and depressed, with tears in his eyes. The mailman was approaching our building and asked my father what was wrong.

I heard my father say that he had used up his food vouchers and that the rent was past due. He had tried to work as a laborer through the Works Progress Administration, but he wasn't a very strong man, and the work had been too hard for him. I was scared, having seen newspaper pictures of people being put out on the street with all their belongings.

“Ike, how much do you need?” the mailman asked. My dad said he needed \$33 for the rent, and without hesitation, the mailman took \$50 from his wallet and handed it to my father.

My dad said, “I don't know when I'll be able to pay you back.” The mailman put an arm around my father and said it would be okay if he paid him back or he didn't pay him back.

The mailman noticed me looking through the window and said, “Isaac, things will not be this way forever. If you or your son will remember this day, there will be times in the future when someone needs your help. Help them within your means and tell them what happened this day. This will be my payback. Merry Christmas and Happy Chanukah.”

As long as he lived, my father helped others when he could, and I've done my best to do my part in paying his generosity back. — *Martin Klapper, Longmont, Colorado*

The inspiring generosity of this short Christmas story can help get us into the holiday spirit. You can do simple acts of kindness at any time—try them yourself!

Calendar - Dates to Keep in Mind

October

- 12 - Columbus Day
- 16 - Boss's Day
- 31 - Halloween

November

- 3 - Election Day
- 11 - Veteran's Day
- 26 - Thanksgiving Day
- 27 - Black Friday

December

- 10 - Hanukkah begins
- 18 - Hanukkah ends
- 21 - First day of Winter
- 25 - Christmas Day

Happy Winter Holidays!



Fremont Housing Agency

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Fremont Police Dept.
(402) 727-2677
Emergency - 911

Fremont Fire Dept.
(402) 727-2688
Emergency - 911

General Assistance
(402) 727-2731

Health & Human Services
(402) 727-3200

LifeHouse
(402)-721-3125

Salvation Army
(402) 721-0930

