



December

Safe Toys and Gifts Month

Universal Human Rights Month

12/1 Rosa Parks Day

12/1 World Aids Day

12/2 Special Education Day

12/3 International Day of Persons with Disabilities

12/21 Winter Solace Day

12/25 Christmas Day

12/31 New Year's Eve

DDS Employee of the Year



December Birthdays

12/6 Stacy Curtis

12/6 Julie Manis-Lee

12/9 Tora Aldridge

12/12 Melissa Stone

12/13 Beverly Monk

12/16 Isaac Perry

12/17 Sabrena Harris

12/18 Rodney Farley

12/19 Karenna Richmond

12/20 Jennifer Gordon

12/22 Patricia White

12/30 Sandra Thomas

12/31 Stacey Schratz

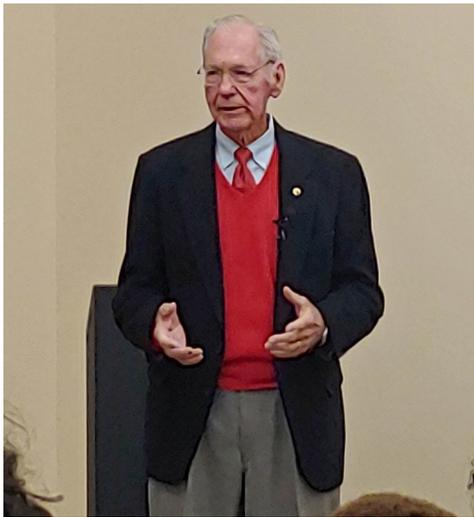


At the annual Arkansas Human Services Employee Association, Awards Banquet, Nancy Holder was recognized as DDS Employee of the year. She was presented her award by DDS Deputy Director, Thomas Tarpley. Nancy has served DDS for about 36 years in various positions. She currently serves as Program Administrator of Children with Chronic Health Conditions. In each capacity, she has brought excellence, determination, and integrity. Congratulations Nancy!

DDS colleagues in attendance include Joe Winford, Program Administrator, (pictured above left) and Tracy Turner, Program Administrator (not pictured).

2019 DHS Veteran's Wall of Honor Ceremony

On Friday, November 8th, DHS added 60 new Veteran portraits to the Wall of Honor and also displayed the wall logo. Director Melissa Stone read the names of Veterans in the Division of Developmental Disabilities Services during the ceremony. DHS Secretary Cindy Gillespie introduced the keynote speaker, Retired Major General Don C. Morrow. We recognize and thank all who have served and currently serve! If you are a Veteran and would like to be included in the DHS Wall of Honor, please contact Stephen Thornton at Stephen.thornton@dhs.arkansas.gov.



General Morrow



Secretary Gillespie



Director Stone



the blue umbrella

HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE

December 6th at 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Shop, enjoy refreshments, visit with some artists,
& register for a door prize!

700 Main Street, Little Rock AR 72203 * Monday - Friday, 10 a.m. - 2p.m. * www.blueumbrellaar.org



Jambalaya

Ingredients

2 bay leaves	1 ½ teaspoon salt	
1 teaspoon dried oregano	1 teaspoon ground red pepper*	
1 teaspoon black pepper*	1 teaspoon ground white pepper*	
2 ½ tablespoon butter	½ cup chopped green onion	
2 cups converted rice	1 ½ cup chopped celery	
¾ cup chopped bell pepper	1 ½ minced garlic	
¾ tsp dried thyme	4 cans chopped tomato**	1 lb ground beef
¾ cup tomato sauce	½ cup chopped smoked sausage	Lawry's Season Salt
1 can chicken broth	½ cup chopped kielbase sausage	Worcestershire sauce
Peeled & fully cooked shrimp	½ cup chopped Cajun sausage	



Season ground beef with Lawry's season salt, black pepper, and worcestershire sauce then cook until done. Drain excess oil. Sear sausages. Combine all ingredients except shrimp in large boiler pot. Cook covered until rice is tender (about 20 minutes). Add shrimp during last 5 minutes of cooking.

- ◆ for milder/spicier taste use less/more amounts of three peppers
- ◆ may substitute 4 cans of chopped tomatoes, chopped bell peppers, and celery WITH 4 cans of rotel (original, mild, or spicy)
- ◆ use **ONLY** Uncle Ben's converted rice



DHS CHRISTMAS DRIVE

NOVEMBER 1 - DECEMBER 6

WEEK 11/3	<i>socks (Nike, fun, diabetic), fuzzy hats, mittens, t-shirts, throws, blankets</i>
APPAREL	
WEEK 11/10	<i>nail polish, bath products, shampoo, manicure sets, wallets, watches, jewelry</i>
BEAUTY	
WEEK 11/17	<i>board games, card games, balls, etc.</i>
FUN & GAMES	
WEEK 11/24	<i>books (all genre), word searches, adult coloring books, crayons, markers, colored pencils</i>
ARTS & CRAFTS	
WEEK 12/1	<i>tablets, fitbits, yeti cups, headphones, cd players, drones</i>
BLACK FRIDAY BIG TICKET ITEMS	

DONATION BOX LOCATION:

DPS: Secretary's Office - 2nd Floor

If you have questions, please reach out to Yvette Swift at Yvette.Swift@dhs.arkansas.gov.

Save the Dates

11/1-12/6 DHS Christmas Drive

12/6 DHS Toy Drive Parade with LRFD, Santa, and the DHS Singers

12/13 DDS Holiday Party

1/10/20 DHS New Year Celebration



Comments, Suggestions, and Q & A

What would you like to see featured? Please send all comments, suggestions, submissions, and Q&A to Yvette.swift@dhs.arkansas.gov by the 15th of each month.