



# The Oracle

## *It's Never Too Late*

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Its crunch time. The world economy is shrinking. Good jobs are hard to find. If you are trying to decide whether or not you should get your GED, stop wondering. If you are unemployed, underemployed, or in the same situation as last year, you're doing something wrong! You need the competitive edge that only education and training can give you.

SMHA Resident Services can put you on the fast track to a brighter future and get you started on earning your GED, getting your drivers license, getting technical or

vocational certification, or even getting into college. We can help you reach your goals with free tutoring and other services.

Are you still dreaming? Then wake up! Without an education, is it almost impossible to find a steady job with benefits.

If you are tired of playing games and if you are sick of being on the losing team, enroll in one of our self-sufficiency programs. We are changing lives and yours could be

next! Don't count on someone else to pay your bills and take care of your children. Take charge of your own destiny! Call 396-3367 for information about the Resident Self-Sufficiency program or 353-5062 for information about the Family Self-Sufficiency Program at the Chapultepec Homes.



### *Emergency Maintenance Guidelines from the Maintenance Department*

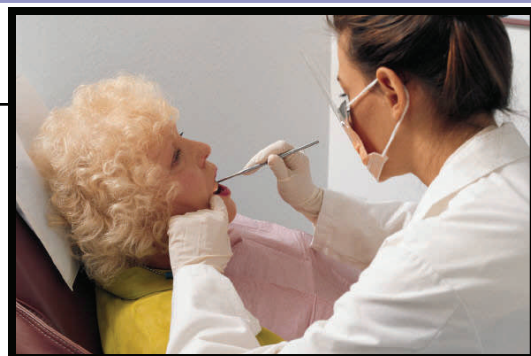
*Call the main office (353-5058) with routine and emergency maintenance requests during normal business hours (Monday - Friday, 8 - 5).* If you have a routine maintenance problem during non-business hours, report it the next time the office is open. *If you have an emergency maintenance problem during non-business hours, call the Emergency Maintenance Number (738-1243).* If you leave a message, *remain by the phone* until the maintenance worker returns your call. If you do not get a call-back within 5 minutes, call again. Call for any problem inside or outside of your apartment that could result in personal injury or damage to property if not corrected quickly. Please use good judgement. Abuse of the emergency maintenance number may result in charges to you. *We want* to take care of true emergencies quickly. *We do not want* to take workers away from their families and pay overtime for work that can wait.



SMHA will be closed  
Good Friday  
April 10.

### Need A Dentist?

*Need to see the dentist but not sure where to go? The Luling Community Dental Clinic is your best bet. They provide a wide range of high quality dental services and take amazing care of their patients. Fees are based on your income. Payment plans can be arranged in advance if necessary. If you need to see a dentist, call Melissa at 353-7343 for more details.*



**The Campus Ministry from Texas State University showed the kids how to make hand puppets.**



Exploring a cave on Spring Break at Enchanted Rock.



Kids having fun while delivering "The Oracle."

### Tutors Can Make the Difference



Are your grades suffering? Free help is available! Loose the shame in your game! The Resident Service Department provides free tutors to help you succeed. Our centers are open on school nights, Sunday through Thursday, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Family Self-Sufficiency Office, the PODER Learning Center, and the KAD Korner Store. Success is within your reach but you have to take the first step. Get up off the couch, put the X-Box down, stop making excuses, and begin working on your future. Contact your center for details.

### Rocking Springtown Villa Every Month

The group performing on the right is called Illiacus. They have been entertaining residents in nursing homes and retirement centers in San Marcos for over seven years now. Illiacus performs regularly at Springtown Villa. You can catch their performance the second Monday of every month, rain or shine at 7 p.m.



# SMHA Teens at Texas State and Around the State!



Dancing and playing on the campus of Texas State University .



Volunteer Jeff Kester poses with kids on top of Enchanted Rock. To get your child involved in our youth program, call Bonnie at 392-6273.

## Own Your Home. No Money Down!



Now you can own your own home, with no money down and no closing cost. Bigelow Homes will begin building and selling a Courtyard Series home starting at \$101,381 in the Blanco River Village. If your family earns \$32,000 a year, you can own your own home. Call Bigelow Homes at 392-6700 or contact Rebecca Espinoza at 353-5062 for more details.

### BOBCAT BUILD RETURNS TO THE HOUSING AUTHORITY

On Saturday, April 4, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., students from Texas State University will take on six different projects at our housing sites! This is their way of saying thank you to San Marcos for hosting them while they attend college in San Marcos. We encourage residents to provide refreshments or to pitch in and work alongside them. They will be working on the playground at Allen Woods, doing landscaping at the Resident Services Centers, and helping elderly residents with their gardens. Contact the Resident Services folks at your site to find out how you can help!





## SAN MARCOS HOUSING AUTHORITY

### WHO WE ARE

#### Board of Commissioners:

Gloria Salazar—Chairperson  
Earl Moseley—Vice-Chair.  
Stacy Green—Resident Rep.  
Rose Brooks  
Rev. Samuel Montoya

#### Administration:

Executive Director  
*Albert Sierra*  
Financial Services Manager  
*Lana Bronikowsky*  
Maintenance Director  
*Albert Hernandez*  
Public Housing Manager  
*Rose Miranda*  
Resident Services Director  
*Stewart Dale Spencer*  
Section 8 Director  
*James Snell*

#### Housing Offices:

Allen Woods Homes  
353-5058  
C. M. Allen Homes  
353-1116  
Housing Choice Voucher  
353-5061  
Springtown Villa  
396-3363

#### Resident Services Centers:

Family Self-Sufficiency  
353-5062  
KAD Korner Store  
392-6273  
PODER Learning Center  
396-3367  
Springtown Villa  
353-7343

### WHAT WE'RE ALL ABOUT

The San Marcos Housing Authority provides decent, safe, and sanitary housing for about 555 low-income families and individuals, including the elderly and disabled. Our Resident Services Program consists of several initiatives designed to support Self-Sufficiency & Family Development, Elderly & Disabled Services, Youth Services, and Resident Organization & Community Development. All Resident Services initiatives are united in the overall goals of improving the quality of life for public housing residents, reducing dependence on the welfare system, and empowering our residents to take charge of their lives and of their environment.

*The Oracle is produced and published monthly by the Resident Services Department of the San Marcos Housing Authority. Managing Editor — Herod King Ellison; Senior Editor — Stewart Dale Spencer. Contact SMHA Resident Services, 701 South LBJ Drive, San Marcos, Texas, 78666. Phone — 396-3364 \* Website — [www.smpba.org](http://www.smpba.org)*

## *Kudos Mr. Bravo! We Salute You.*



Meet maintenance worker Ruben Bravo. He has been with the Housing Authority since 1982! He is a highly skilled professional with experience in drywall, landscaping, carpentry, plumbing, air conditioning, and refrigeration. Ruben is married with three children and five grandchildren. When he is not on call for after-hours emergencies, he likes to go camping at Canyon Lake. We appreciate all he does to make life better for residents and employees at the Housing Authority!