



# The Oracle

## *Great Strides Made by People you Know*

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There are many great success stories in the world and Pamela Brown's story is certainly one of them. Pam had been recently divorced when she started the Family Self-Sufficiency program and desperately needed a change in her life. The FSS program not only gave Pam an opportunity to be a better provider for her family but to also be a good role model for her daughter. Pam's strong faith in God, hard work, and

constant prayer gave her the discipline to achieve her goals. "I never let my circumstances get in the way of my goals," Pam said, "and now with the help of the Housing Authority and Habitat for Humanity I am a homeowner."

Pam faced her difficulties by taking control of her life, enrolling in a self-sufficiency program, educating herself, and pursuing her dream of homeownership. Pam is just an ordinary person raising her family.

However, ordinary people can overcome great difficulties and accomplish extraordinary things when they put their minds to it. It's never too late to turn your life around. Take charge of your life! Enroll in the Resident Self-Sufficiency program today. Call 396-3367.

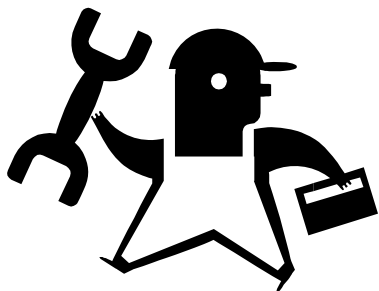


From left to right: Stewart Dale Spencer, Resident Services Director, Pam Brown, & Rebecca Espinoza, FSS Coordinator.

## *Its Summer, So Let the Music Play*



Here are just a few of the great things you can do this summer to enjoy life. Every Thursday night at 7 p.m., you can attend a free concert at the San Marcos Plaza Park featuring the Hill Country Community Band on July 3. The Terry Hendrix Band takes the stage July 10. It's Blanco Zydeco on July 17. Salsa del Rio sets the stage ablaze on the 24th. On July 31, it's the Patio Boys. On August 7, Mariachi Nueva Generation will entertain you. Then, Two Tons of Steel comes rolling your way closing the shows. It's great summer entertainment and it's free!



The proposed increase of maintenance charges were approved by the SMHA Commissioners, to be effective July 1, 2008. Lawn fees, bulb replacements, and other charges have increased. Copies of the NEW "List of Charges to Residents" are available at your site management office upon request.

## Odds & Ends

### When Can I Water?

Stage One water restrictions are in effect. You may water by hand any time. Otherwise help conserve water by following this weekly sprinkler schedule, 8 p.m. to 10 a.m.

### Address Ending – Day

- 0 or 1 – Monday
- 2 or 3 – Tuesday
- 4 or 5 – Wednesday
- 6 or 7 – Thursday
- 8 or 9 – Friday

### Library Workshop : Get a Home of Your Own! (Monday, July 28 at 6:30 P.M.)



*Matt Leschber is the presenter.*

Discover the benefits of homeownership at a free presentation at the San Marcos Public Library. Get answers to questions like: What are the benefits of homeownership? How much home can I afford? Discover the details of the buying process, from making an offer to closing the deal.

Sponsored by the San Marcos First-Time Home Buyer Program, the San Marcos Housing Authority, 1836 Realty, and InspectTex Inspections.

## About That Yard Sale

Yard sales on public housing property are limited to residents of public housing only. People are not allowed to sell items of any kind on public housing property unless they are a resident.

Residents of public housing may not hold yard sales for their family members nor allow outside family members to bring in items for the resident to sell for them. Money from the occasional sale of household items should be reported but does not affect your rent.



## She's on the Right Track

We are proud to announce that 5<sup>th</sup> grader Guadalupe from the C. M. Allen Homes made the honor roll and received an award certificate for maintaining all A's during the school year. She also has a perfect attendance record to add to her accomplishment.

That is the key to success! Show up everyday and do the work. Way to go, Guadalupe!

*Pictured with Guadalupe is her little sister, Vanessa, who is very proud of her big sister's accomplishment.*



# National Night Out is a Huge Block Par-taay!

It's the biggest block party of the year. It's National Night Out on Tuesday, August 5th. This is a great night of fun for all ages. There will be plenty of food, drinks, door prizes, prizes for the kids, and great music.

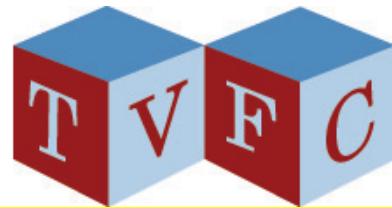


Best of all it is a chance for you to get to know your neighbors, which is a

very effective crime prevention tools. Come out and help us prepare or serve the food. Volunteers are needed and while you are there you can meet the EMS technicians, firefighters, and police officers. Call your site's Resident Services Center for more information. Stand up for your community!



## Texas Vaccines for Children



The Hays County Health Department will conduct an immunization drive for children living at the C.M. Allen Homes on Thursday, August 7 from 1 to 3 p.m. The drive will continue at Allen Woods Homes from 4 to 7 p.m. Bring your Medicaid or CHIP cards. Not covered? Fear not! The normal fee is \$15.00. Call Priscilla Hardgraves at 393-5520 for info.

## Clothing Sales Tax Holiday

Texans now can shop till they drop and not have to pay taxes on many items during the annual sales tax holiday, August 15, 16, & 17. And lay-away plans (if available) can be used again this year to take advantage of the sales tax holiday. The



holiday exempts most clothing and footwear priced under \$100 from sales and use taxes, which could save shoppers about \$8 on every \$100 they spend. Backpacks under \$100 are also exempt. For more information on exempt items call 800-252-5555.





# SAN MARCOS HOUSING AUTHORITY

## WHO WE ARE

### Board of Commissioners:

Richard Cruz  
Stacy Green (Resident)  
Rev. Samuel Montoya  
Earl Moseley  
Gloria Salazar

### Administration:

Executive Director  
*Albert Sierra*  
Financial Services Manager  
*Lana Bronikowsky*  
Maintenance Director  
*Albert Hernandez*  
Public Housing Manager  
*Misty Sanchez*  
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:

Allen Woods Homes  
878-0773  
Chapultepec Homes  
353-5062  
C. M. Allen Homes  
392-6273  
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, crime & drug prevention, 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.smpaha.org](http://www.smpaha.org)*

## Public Notice Regarding Fair Housing

In order to meet the requirements of HUD funding for the Family Self-Sufficiency Program, the San Marcos Housing Authority Board of Commissioners will consider adopting the following items as an addendum to its Public Housing Occupancy Policy and its Housing Choice Voucher Administrative Plan. Public comment is welcomed. Please submit your comments to San Marcos Housing Authority, 1201 Thorpe Lane, San Marcos, TX 78666, Attention: Board of Commissioners.

### FAIR HOUSING ADDENDUM:

We will advertise widely in the community for the Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) coordinator positions whenever they become vacant.

We will market the FSS program

to all eligible persons, including persons with disabilities and persons with limited English proficiency.

We will ensure that buildings and communications that facilitate applications and service delivery are accessible to persons with disabilities, taking into account the provisions of 24 CFR 8.6 regarding communication aids for disabled persons.

We will provide fair housing counseling services or referrals to fair housing agencies.

We will inform participants of how to file a fair housing complaint, including providing the toll-free number for the Housing Discrimination Hotline (800-669-9777).

To support the homeownership

goal of our FSS programs, we will recruit landlords and service providers in areas that expand housing choice to program participants.

We will utilize our housing management software as well as our online data management service to keep appropriate records of all persons served by our FSS programs. This includes, but is not limited to, the race, ethnicity, familial status, and disability status of program participants as well as the services provided to program participants and the outcomes of those services. This information will be submitted to HUD via the HUD Form 50058, semi-annual narrative reports, and program specific forms such as the e-Logic Model (HUD Form 96010).