



Happy St. Patrick's Day!

The Oracle

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Celebrating the Life of Earl L. Moseley

The Chairman of the San Marcos Housing Authority Board of Commissioners, Earl Moseley, passed away on February 25, surrounded by friends and family.

A lot has been said about Earl — first black city council member in San Marcos, Coordinator of Campus Activities at Texas State University, Elder of the Abundant Life Church in San Marcos, and so on.

What the news left out, however, was that for ten years Earl was a leader on the United Way Board for ten years and on our Board for five years.

I had the good fortune to attend many of those meetings. Earl brought a unique and professional perspective to those meetings . . . along with a sense of humor. He was always supportive of our efforts to do more than just put a roof over peoples' heads but to help them learn how to escape poverty.

I didn't understand how much Earl had affected the lives of others until I spent some time at his Texas State University office, getting his signature for a grant application. The love and respect of staff and students alike was obvious.

Only 48 years old, Earl left us too soon but he beat the odds. He was diagnosed with pancreatic cancer about 10 years ago. He wisely refused to believe the doctors, who assured him he would not last long, choosing instead to believe in the power of prayer and of God's love.

Earl's funeral will be at 11 a.m. on Friday, March 5 at the First Baptist Church of San Marcos. The Housing Authority will close at 10 a.m. that day and will re-open no later than 2 p.m.

Stewart Dale Spencer

The Public Housing Capital Fund Program — We Want Your Opinion!

Each year, HUD provides money to Public Housing Agencies (PHA's) through the Capital Fund Program, for the development, financing, and modernization of public housing developments and for management improvements. The San Marcos Housing Authority will hold a public meeting on Wednesday, March 17 in the Allen Woods Dining Room (1201 Thorpe Lane) at 5:30 p.m. We will show how this year's funds are being used and our preliminary plans for Fiscal Year 2011. This is your chance to have a voice in how those funds will be used. Don't be shy . . . Speak up!

Hooray for PODER

I would like to thank the staff and the tutors of the P.O.D.E.R. Learning Center for helping my daughter Kayla. After bringing home a “C” on her report card I decided to have her tutored in social studies. In exactly one semester she went from a “C” to an “A”. Not only is Kayla scoring higher but she enjoys her tutoring and the other after-school activities that P.O.D.E.R. offers. This is a great opportunity for children to get ahead in learning and improve their school grades. If it wasn’t for the fact of this being a no-cost program, my daughter would not be able to attend. With many thanks and much appreciation, thank you to the San Marcos Housing Authority and to P.O.D.E.R. — Sherri Martin

Editor’s Note: Kayla recently placed fourth in the 5th grade “Number Sense” event at the San Marcos District meet of the University Interscholastic League on February 6, 2010.



OWN YOUR HOME!
Thursday, March 11 at 6:30pm in the Public Library
Information for anyone who is interested in purchasing a home for the first time.
For more info call 512-393-8200

Important Census Information

Confused about the census? Don’t know the benefits of the census? Need more information? Get your questions answered by experts at Questionnaire Assistance Center (QAC) and Be Counted (BC) facility sites starting mid-March:

- Allen Woods Homes (Section 8 Office)
- C.M. Allen Homes (management office on River Road)



Important Dates:

March 2010 – Census forms are delivered either by mail or in person from a census worker. Households should complete and return their forms when they are received based on who will live in the home on April 1st.

April 1, 2010 – This is **Census Day!** The forms are answered based on who lives in each home on this date.



Our Generation



Chapultepec After School Program

Eat !

Learn!

Play!



M-F 3:30 - 5:30 pm
Call: 512-396-3364
for more information



March Birthdays

Allen Woods

- None

Chapultepec

- Jurgen Ammerer—4th
- Analeise Ortiz—7th
- Alexander Salazar—13th

C.M. Allen

- Derek Garcia—16th
- Isaiah Cordero—19th
- Christian Valtierra—25th
- Crystal Valtierra—25th
- Sheila Clay—14th
- Katresha Hill—15th
- Guadalupe Suarez—4th
- Julissa Garcia—6th
- Jennifer Rose Guerrero—31st



Thanks KAD

KAD is the best place I ever went to. You get a hot meal when you come in after school, you get help with your homework, you play games, get to use the computers, read books and enjoy doing all kinds of activities. You get to have fun with your friends. They even have a party once in awhile. KAD stands for Kids Against Drugs.—*Eric Garcia, Age 11*

Chapultepec All Stars

“Star Students” are kids in the Chapultepec after-school program who attend every day, practice good manners, and complete their homework. This month’s star students are:

- Monique Ledesma
- Keishon McKinney





The Corkboard: Announcements, Games, and Laughs

Some People Have All the Luck by Maria Calcaben

We all have our good days and our bad, but how much of it is actually related to luck? I was surprised at some of the answers I got from people at Springtown Villa.

What do you consider unlucky?

We make our own luck. I think people have bad luck because of their negative attitude. If we are down on our luck, then we played a big part on getting

there.—**Bette Gulley**, resident volunteer

What is the luckiest thing that happened to you?

Becoming a mom. I was blessed to have the focus off me and getting compliments on being a single parent. It changed my life. —

Linda Torres, AARP worker

What is your good luck charm?

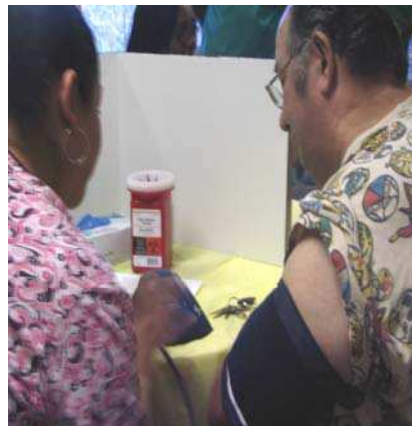
Helping others. I believe when I help others, the good deed comes back to me

in reward. — **Vernon Heffington Sr.**, resident

What do you think about luck?

Maybe luck is most beneficial to those prepared to take advantage of it. — **Ray Hatch**, resident

Whether luck comes from a four leaf clover, religious beliefs, or just from our own attitudes on life, we could all use a little of that magic this Saint Patrick's day. Good Luck!



Get Healthy!

Wii Games, Blood Pressure Checks, Nutrition Classes, Fitness...

More opportunities coming to Springtown Villa

call 353-7343 for more information

Site Announcements

Chapultepec:

March 8— Resident Assembly, 6:30 pm

March 19—FSS Support Group, 6:30 pm

Allen Wood Residents:

March 24—Constable speaks on eviction, 5:30 pm

March 25—Blood Pressure Check 10 am

C.M. Allen Residents:

March 4—Resident Assembly Meeting, 6:30 pm, with guest speaker Audra Miller: Let's Talk About Planting

March 2—Texas Primary Election Day (No KAD group) 7 am — 7 pm, COME VOTE

Springtown Villa:

March 8—Music Night, 7 pm





Mi Vida, Mi Comunidad



Receta de Arroz con Leche de Stela Cano

Ingredientes

2 tazas de arroz

4 tazas de agua

4 tazas de leche fresca

1 lata de leche condensada

Un poquito de sal



Direcciones

Se lava el arroz bien. Luego se pone en la olla con 4 tazas de agua a fuego lento. No lo tapes. Cuando este cocido, le pones la leche fresca y la lata de leche condensada a fuego lento. Le puedes poner pasas. ¡Disfrutalo!

Palabras de Reflexión

“El pasado es un recuerdo, El future es inseguro. El presente es un presente, por eso se llama presente.”

-suggested by *Merlin*, a resident at Springtown Villa



¡Chistes!

- Doctor, doctor, no puedo recordar nada.
- Vaya, y desde cuando tiene usted este problema?
- ¿Qué problema?

- Doctor, doctor, me he roto el brazo en varios sitios.
- Pues yo de usted no volvería a esos sitios.





SAN MARCOS HOUSING AUTHORITY

Board of Commissioners:

Earl Moseley—Chairperson
Rose Brooks—Vice-Chair.
Stacy Green—Resident Rep.
Vacant—Resident Rep.
Rev. Samuel Montoya
Paulette Wallington

Administration:

Executive Director
Albert Sierra
Accountant/Program Mgr.
Lana Bronikowsky
Maintenance Director
Albert Hernandez
Public Housing Manager
Rose Miranda
Resident Services Director
Stewart Dale Spencer
Section 8 Coordinator
Frances Santoya
Springtown Villa Manager
Veronica Miranda

Housing Offices:

Allen Woods Homes (Main)
353-5059
C. M. Allen Homes
353-1116
Housing Choice Voucher
353-5061
Springtown Villa Manager
396-3363

Resident Services Centers:

*Chapultepec Homes
(*Family Self-Sufficiency*)
396-3364
*C. M. Allen Homes
(*KAD Korner Store*)
392-6273
*Allen Woods Homes
(*PODER Learning Center*)
396-3367
*Springtown Villa
(*Elderly/Disabled Services*)
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—Maria Calcaben; Senior Editor—Stewart Dale Spencer; Creative Consultant—Herod King Ellison. Contact: SMHA Resident Services, 701 South LBJ Drive, San Marcos, Texas, 78666. Phone — 396-3364 * Website — www.smpba.org*

Emily Cisneros: A Peek into the Future



Emily Cisneros' drive to finding a meaningful career led her to an internship with our Resident Services Department. As a young and eager Social Work student, she enjoys building relationships with the residents of the Chapultepec Homes, working with children in the after-school program, and exploring the world of public housing. She has previous volunteer experience working with inner city youth and with Child Protective Services in her hometown of San Antonio. She likes to spend time with her family and with her lovable bull terrier, Gibson. She also likes to attend live theater performances. Emily has been a Sunday School teacher and child care provider at her church since she was 16 years old. She hopes to get a job in San Marcos after she graduates from Texas State University in May. If we're lucky, she will continue to help make San Marcos a great place to live!