



The Oracle

A Facelift for Public Housing Thanks to Texas State University Students and Bobcat Build

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Get the Whole Story — Check Out the Link!
http://www.news8austin.com/content/your_news/?SecID=278&ArID=204880

An Important Meeting For All Residents



The Housing Authority will hold a public meeting at 5:30 PM on Thursday, May 29, in the Dining Room at the Allen Woods Homes, 1201 Thorpe Lane. The meeting will give housing authority residents, local government officials,

and other interested parties an opportunity to express their interests, priorities, and concerns related to the budgeting and funding of the housing authority's Capital Grant Program for Fiscal Year 2009. This program provides

funds for public housing improvements. We will also report on current projects.

This is your chance to help us decide how we will spend this money. Your opinion matters so we need to hear from you!



Do your civic duty! Make an informed choice! Get educated on the issues and then vote in the May 10 local elections. School Board Trustees will be selected by local voters. Just a handful of votes can change the outcome! A *Voters Guide*, published by the League of Women Voters, is available at the Resident Services office at your site. You can also register to vote for the General Election in November.

A Request from the Maintenance Department

Please pitch in and help the grounds keepers keep your yards looking good by doing these things:

- When the lawn care service is cutting and trimming the grass, please move lawn furniture to the patio.
- Don't forget to roll up water hoses onto the holder or move them off the grass.
- Remove clothes from your clothesline.
- You can prevent damage to gardens by keeping them free of weeds and tall grass. Inexpensive border fencing is also helpful.

Your cooperation will help us provide better service!



Meet the Podiatrist at PODER



Keep diabetes in check! See a podiatrist at 2 PM on Tuesday, May 27 at the PODER Learning Center. You must fill out a demographic sheet at the center with your name,

date of birth, emergency contact, primary care doctor, Medicare, secondary insurance, copies of insurance cards, whether or not you are diabetic, and a list of medications. The doctor

accepts Medicare, Care Improvement Plus, and Humana Sterling Option One as primary insurance. For more information contact Michael Vargas at 512-405-8300.

Goodbyes and Hellos

Eva Sanchez, the Site Manager of Springtown Villa for over 28 years, retired on March 31. Mrs. Sanchez began working for the San Marcos Housing Authority in 1980. She plans to spend more time with her husband, Herbert. Her dedication

to the residents of Springtown Villa and her devotion to the Housing Authority will be missed. Irma Adame, from the Section 8 office, is the new Site Manager. We wish them both the best of luck!



Eva Sanchez poses for a picture with a co-worker during her retirement party.

Shop for Free!

“Pack It Up and Pass It On” is sponsored by The Department of Community Relations at Texas State University. This event makes it possible for people from low income families to get clothes, shoes, carpets, computers, books, and many other useful items, which were donated by university students who are either graduating or leaving for the semester and



the windfall is yours. You must have a voucher to enter the distribution area. A limited number of vouchers will be available from the Resident Services office at your site beginning Monday, May 5. The event takes place at 7 AM on Thursday, May 22 at the LBJ Student Center Ballroom on the Texas State Campus. There will be free parking available in the parking garage!



Spring Break is Just Great



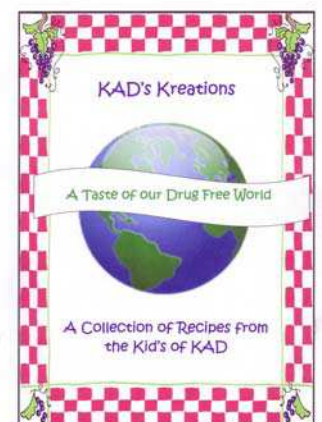
March was a busy month for the kids in our Kids Against Drugs (KAD) program! The PORDER Learning Center hosted a backyard barbecue with help from Texas State volunteers (picture on left). Kids at C.M. Allen went Bowling. Springtown Villa residents hosted an Easter Egg hunt (picture on right).



Get The New KAD Cook Book

KAD’s Kreation was put together by our own kids and a group of Social Work students from Texas State University. The first printing sold quickly but a new supply is now available and will be on sale at the Cinco de Mayo celebration on Saturday, May 3 at the Hays County Civic Center.

The book is funny, touching, has great recipes, and you can have it all for only \$10! All of the proceeds will be used to benefit the children and youth living in public housing. If you can’t make it to Cinco de Mayo, ask for a copy at the Resident Services office at your site!





SAN MARCOS HOUSING AUTHORITY

WHO WE ARE

Board of Commissioners:

Richard Cruz, Earl Moseley, Rev. Samuel Montoya, Gloria Salazar, (Resident Commissioner pending)

Administration:

Albert Sierra—Executive Director
James Snell—Section 8
Misty Sanchez—Public Housing
Albert Hernandez—Maintenance
Lana Bronikowsky—Accounting
Stewart Dale Spencer—Resident Services

Resident Services Offices:

- Administration
396-3364
- Family Self-Sufficiency
353-5062 (Chapultepec)
- Resident Self-Sufficiency
396-3367 (all other sites)
- P.O.D.E.R. Learning Center
878-0773

- Elderly & Disabled Services
353-7343
 - Kids Against Drugs (KAD)
Korner Store, 392-6273
 - Allen Woods Nutrition Center
353-5018
- Housing Offices:**
- Allen Woods
353-5058
 - C. M. Allen
353-1116
 - Springtown Villa
396-3363
 - Housing Choice Voucher
353-5061

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. Please send your inquiries and submissions to SMHA Resident Services, 701 South LBJ Drive, San Marcos, Texas, 78666. Website: www.smpaha.org

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.

Proposed Rate Increase for Repairs

The San Marcos Housing Authority Board of Commissioners will consider a revised schedule of fees for charges to residents for repairs in excess of reasonable wear and tear. Your input would be greatly appreciated. The proposed fees are posted at all San Marcos Housing Authority offices. Final rates will be considered on Tuesday evening, May 13, at the next Board of Commissioners meeting in the Main Office of the Housing Authority at the Allen Woods Homes.



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Looking in on SMHA Resident Services Staff



Our Elderly & Disabled Services Coordinator, Alma Gonzalez, along with other staff and volunteers, recently helped many residents to get their tax rebates. The tax preparation companies wanted 10% of the rebate. We did it for a smile and a "Thank You!"