



Happy Thanksgiving!



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Talia Madgett Completes Her Education and Gets a New Home

Talia's educational career began in California as a student at a local community college and has brought her all the way to San Marcos where she has completed her Bachelors Degree in Interdisciplinary Studies. Now she is a third grade teacher at Mendez Elementary.

Talia became interested in the Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program when she realized she needed more space for herself and her son Takai but could not afford it on school loans and grants. Talia joined the FSS Program in 2005, and has been an exemplary participant.

Talia actively participated in the Resident Assembly as Vice President one year and Treasurer another. As part of her goal plan, Talia improved her credit rating, learned new money management skills, and prepared herself and Takai for homeownership.

Talia and Takai will be moving into their own home, which is under construction, at the end of the year. Talia has been a proud member of the Chapultepec Community and says she always knew where she wanted to go in life. She

just needed a little help to get there!

In the picture below, Talia receives her "FSS Diploma," and payment of the money she accumulated in her Escrow account, from FSS Coordinator Megan Perez. Congratulations Talia on completing your FSS goals and here's to a bright, happy, and successful future!



IMPORTANT NOTICES FOR PUBLIC HOUSING RESIDENTS!

Allen Woods Residents: A public meeting will take place at the PODER Learning Center on Tuesday, November 3 at 6:30 p.m., during the normal meeting of the Resident Assembly, to get resident input on the proposed sale of public housing property to Texas State University. The land under consideration is the location of the playground known as "Bobcat Backyard." If approved, the playground facilities will be removed and scattered throughout the Allen Woods site. We want to hear your opinion so please come to this important meeting to hear all the details!

Allen Woods, C. M. Allen, Chapultepec, Porter Homes, & Scattered Site Housing Residents: the HUD Real Estate Assessment Center (REAC) will conduct their annual inspection of our properties in January. If your unit is in need of any repairs or other maintenance, please contact the Main Office of the Housing Authority NOW to put in a work order. Don't wait until January! We must meet housing quality standards but if we don't know about your problem, we can't fix it! There is no charge for normal wear and tear. If your unit needs repairs because of damages you or your family have caused, we will work with you to make the charges fit your budget. Honest!

Working the NAHRO Convention!



The Texas Chapter of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO) held its Fall convention at the Embassy Suites Hotel in October. Helping out at the registration desk were (from left to right) Christopher Broussard of Gary Job Corps, H. K. Ellison, and Sylvia Villanueva of the San Marcos Housing Authority. In the photo on the right is Octavio Perales and Christopher Broussard of Gary Job Corps.



Please remember to celebrate Veteran's Day on Wednesday, November 11. Housing Authority offices will be closed. The Veteran's Day Parade will be on Saturday, November 7, at San Marcos town square, at 10 a.m.

Preparing Meals for the Elderly!



Shown in the photo is Jamie Hayatt (on the right), a volunteer from Professor David Carpenter's class on aging and Irasema Gonzales, a volunteer who lives at the Porter Homes. The Meals On Wheels program needs volunteers. If you want to make a difference in the lives of many local elderly and disabled citizens, contact Beatrice Pacheco at 353-5018.

Get the Help You Need To Succeed! Get A Tutor!



Don't wait until you are failing a class to get help. Getting someone to help you early on with your studies will help you improve your grades. Don't wait! We have tutors available after school at the PODER Learning Center, the KAD Korner Store, and the Chapultepec Homes. Other times are available by appointment. Contact the Service Coordinator at your site for details.

America: A Poem Of Freedom, Inspired By 9-11

América

América está triste.
América no duerme,
no dormirá jamás
Buscando su gente,
sus Torres perdidas.

América, llora junto
a sus seres queridos
Perdidos dentro
escombros de acero
y metals Tirados,
humo y cenizas.

Personas sin causa
murieron el 11 de
Septiembre del año
2001.

Eran las 9:50 de un
martes sus Torres
estaban... Junto a su
gente perdida
Orgullo de
América, Orgullo
del mundo.

América llora, su
gente perdida Sus
Torres calleron el
mundo se enluta
Pidiendo justicia.
País bendecido,
reclama justicia.

El mundo lamenta

gritando justicia mi
Gente perdida y sus
Torres caidas
Reclaman justicia,
Orgullo del mundo.

Adios para símpre.
Justicia sera Mi
pueblo querido.

September 12 & 13,
2001 — E. C.

*Editor's Note:
Submitted by a resi-
dent of Springtown
Villa.*



Anointed Voices Concert at Springtown Villa



On Thursday, October 8, the youth gospel choir Anointed Voices, led by Birdie DeShay-Jefferson and Roy K. Coleman, performed at Springtown Villa. Their songs echoed throughout the community room and into the hearts of the residents who were mesmerized by their talent and their passion. It was a full house with many residents attending along with parents of the children, who were eating light

snacks and enjoying the music. A joyous evening ended with hand-clapping, piano playing, and singing, leaving everyone with good feelings.



As of October 21, 2009, the Housing Authority is accepting applications for the following units: 1, 2, 4 & 5 bedrooms.

Texas Night Out was Fun, Fun, Fun!

Tuesday, October 6, was a memorable evening for our residents as they celebrated Texas Night Out. Residents at each site came together for an evening of food and fun. There were games, music, plenty of food, and one site even had a jumping castle. It was fun for the whole family! The photo on the right shows some of the kids from C. M. Allen hamming it up for the camera. Get more information from your Resident Services Center about how you can get involved and make a difference in your community!





SAN MARCOS HOUSING AUTHORITY

Board of Commissioners:

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

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
Mary Ann Ramirez

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
*KAD Korner Store
Youth Development Services
392-6273
*PODER Learning Center
Resident Self-Sufficiency
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 — 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*

Lisa Obst: Lives, Loves and Laughs!



Lisa Obst is a familiar face at the Housing Authority's main office. She is a part-time accounting assistant for the San Marcos Housing Authority. Lisa works on accounts payable and receivable. She also assists with reconciling the bank statements and rental registers at the end of each month. Lisa does a lot of data entry of bills and the writing of the checks for our bills. When she is not accompanying her daughter on various activities, Lisa is an avid bowler. To say that she loves the game would be putting it mildly. She plays in three bowling leagues and travels to five tournaments a year with ten other ladies. All of the tournaments are in Texas except for the national tournament. Lisa enjoys spending time outdoors, reading detective novels, and eating good food. Always ready for a laugh, Lisa loves watching comedy and can hardly wait for the next film to come to the local theatres.