

THE ORACLE



*Martin was often seen working in the community garden.
We'll miss him!*

THE MONTELONGOS MAKE A HOME

When you buy your first home there is a certain sense of accomplishment that resonates with those first steps you take as you enter your new house. Somehow the fact that those empty walls are now yours and your family's to fill with pictures, scuff marks, and memories makes the emptiness seem much more fulfilling and alive than the countless rooms where you were merely a tenant. A major goal of the Housing Authority is to help people achieve their dreams of finding a safe and affordable house that they

can turn into a home. Martin and Reyna Montelongo have achieved their dreams of owning their own home. In June, they moved out of the C. M. Allen Homes to join the ranks of former residents who have become home owners. It was through hard work and perseverance that the Montelongo's were able to reach their goal. The family has been known by their neighbors and the staff at KAD for being kind and considerate people. During their time here they maintained the community garden, helped the KAD staff with the rummage sale, and helped in other, smaller ways. We are glad to see that their kindness has paid off.

AFFORDABLE CARE ACT ENROLLMENT STARTS OCTOBER 1

On October 1, the Health Insurance Marketplace opens in every state. With a single application, HUD-assisted tenants can see if their families qualify for Medicaid, for the Children's Health Insurance Program, or for subsidized health insurance premiums, and can enroll in coverage that begins as soon as January 1, 2014.

The benefits of the Affordable Care Act to HUD-assisted households is explained in this video message and blog post by Secretary Donovan, who explains how sharing information about the Affordable Care Act with HUD-assisted tenants contributes to HUD's mission of building strong and healthy communities across the country. For the video, go to <http://blog.hud.gov/index.php/2013/07/24/message-hud-secretary-shaun-donovan-affordable-care-act/>.

The best place for the latest, most accurate, information on the Marketplace is the updated website, www.HealthCare.gov. At the site, you can learn what it is, who can apply for insurance, how to get insurance, how to lower costs, and more. Tenants can also call a toll free number, (800) 318-2596, to speak with a trained customer service representative. The site can also help connect you to people in local communities who can provide HUD-assisted tenants with personal help making insurance choices.



ALLEN WOODS HOMES—PODER LEARNING CENTER



Go Cats Go!

Thanks to an anonymous donor, a few of the families from the PODER After-School Program were given free football tickets to the Texas State vs. Prairie View A&M game last month. Judy Spurlock and her children, Makayla and Jasper (above), enjoyed cheering for the home team, watching the dance and cheer acts, and even meeting the mascot, Boko the Bobcat! What a great way to spend quality time together as a family!



PODER HAUNTED HOUSE

A “Ghastly” Good Time for the family!
Costume Contest for kids to win prizes!

Thursday

October 31

4:30 PM—5:30 PM

PODER Learning
Center
FREE EVENT!!



Tips for Lil' Trick or Treaters



Consider adding reflective tape or striping to costumes and Trick-or-Treat bags for greater visibility.

Considere añadir cinta o tiras reflectantes a los disfraces y a las bolsas para ir a pedir regalos, para mayor visibilidad.

A good meal prior to parties and trick-or-treating will discourage youngsters from filling up on Halloween treats.
Una buena comida antes de fiestas y de ir a pedir regalos en Halloween desalentará a los jovencitos de llenarse con los dulces que reciban.

Try to ration treats for the days following Halloween.

Trate de racionar los obsequios para los días después de Halloween.

Source: www.aap.org

COUPONS GALORE!

There's been a buzz in Allen Woods Homes! Many of the residents have taken advantage of the couponing classes offered at the PODER Learning Center. Amanda Camacho, a resident of Allen Woods, has been helping to teach her neighbors how they could save money and even get money back with coupons! Stop by the PODER Learning Center and check out the Community Coupon Box to save money on your next grocery trip!



Springtown Villa

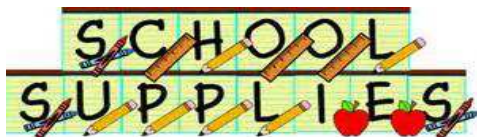


Springtown residents attended the Senior Dance hosted by CTMC on August 21st at the San Marcos Activity Center. Everyone had a great time and enjoyed dancing the afternoon away.



Residents came together to celebrate Diez y Seis de septiembre. They made gorditas, rice, and beans. They also held a "grito" contest.

Diez y Seis de septiembre FIESTA!



Springtown Villa residents get involved in their community. Office Depot had a special on school items. Our residents Bo Wimberley, Cynthia Watts, and Cherie Wood made a few trips to purchase school supplies for the after school program at the Allen Woods Homes. Children were invited to Springtown to pick up the supplies. Transportation was provided by Maria Calcaben, the Service Coordinator at Allen Woods.



C. M. Allen Homes—KAD Korner Store



I first met Bonnie and the kids at KAD last year when I volunteered at the after school program. I sought out my position as tutor because I believe in serving the next generation through education and mentoring. The kids at KAD are great and I love coming in to see them every day. I know we will have a great school year!

[Note: Eric Lundquist is a senior at Texas State University. His major is Anthropology/Cultural Studies.]



Amanda Sladek is a former KAD member who just graduated from SMHS. She is now attending Sam Houston University in Huntsville. She plans to visit KAD and tell the kids that all is possible and “Yes, you can!” She thanks her grandmother, Lois Sladek for her guidance and support.



Our Girls Are Back!

We are so excited to have the girls of Kappa Delta Chi back at KAD! The girls provide extra hands by working with the kids and inspiring them to work hard in school so they can be successful. Every-day of the week a group of girls come by to help with homework and play with the kids. They inspire the kids to continue with higher education and all the little girls say they want to be a part of Kappa Delta Chi when they are in college!

October Events at KAD

- **University Starts At Home—Helping families guide their children to college, Oct. 3, 10, 17, & 24 (4-Week Program)**
- **Kappa Delta Chi Halloween Carnival—October 24, 6 PM—8 PM**
- **Zumba Class—Oct. 10 & 24, 10:30 AM**
- **Family Science Night, Oct. 10, 6—8:30 PM**



Happy Halloween



Chapultepec Homes — Family Self-Sufficiency



Thanks to an anonymous donation of Texas State Bobcat Football Tickets, residents from Chapultepec were able to cheer the Bobcats on to victory over Prairie View A&M, 28-3!



A HUGE Thanks to Embassy Suites San Marcos for donating school supplies to the children of Chapultepec! The donations helped parents save money on the basic school supplies



so they could put money towards school clothes and supplies for extra-curricular activities! The children were so excited to see the generous amount of supplies! Way to go Embassy Suites!

The Next FSS Class will be held on October 17 at 6:30 PM in the Chapultepec Adult Learning Center! We will have a pot luck dinner, so please call 512-396-3364 to sign up!





Hello San Marcos Housing Authority! My name is Linda Smith-Dishmon and I'm currently interning at Springtown Villa throughout the fall semester. I was born and raised in Austin but now I'm from Bastrop, where my family and I have lived for over twenty years. We raised four beautiful children whose ages range from fifteen to thirty. My family and I enjoyed having foster children in our home for many years. I attend a church in Austin where I have been a life member.

I started at Austin Community College and now I'm attending Texas State University. I am majoring in social work and I am very excited about being part of this field. I will be completing my field internship and I am so thankful to the residents and staff of Springtown Villa.

My pastimes include spending time with family, going to lakes and parks in Bastrop, and reading a good book or watching a good movie. In December, I will be awarded a bachelor's degree in social work and will continue onto graduate school. Eventually, I hope to have my PhD in social work or psychology. I look forward to starting a career within the next five years. I also look forward in watching my daughter finish high school and starting college. I live by these words of wisdom: "God is stronger than my circumstance."



ELMER SAYS, "IT'S ALMOST WED WIBBON WEEK!"

Join the Certified 5K Run & 1 Mile Run/Walk for families and children.

WHERE: Five Mile Dam Park/Blanco Vista Neighborhood/Youth Soccer Fields

DATE: Saturday, October 19, 2013

TIME: Onsite registration begins at 7:00am; 1 Mile Run/Walk begins at 8:00am; 5K Run begins at 8:30am

ENTRY FEES:

- 1 Mile Run/Walk—FREE. Each child who participates in 1 Mile Run will receive a medal
- 5K Early Registration: \$25 (must be post marked by October 12, 2013)
- 5K Late Registration: \$30 (begins 10/13/13 to Race Day)

Online Registration: <https://signmeup.com/95147>;

By Mail/In person: Pay by check or money order to – HCCADA 1901 Dutton Dr., Ste. E San Marcos, TX 78666

AWARDS: Overall Male & Female Champion; Overall Male and Female Masters' Champion (age 40 and up); First Place Male and Female for Wheelchair division; Top three Male and Female finishers in the following age groups: 14 & Under, 15–19, 20–29, 30–39, 40–49, 50–59, 60+

For more info go to:

www.hayscaldwellcouncil.org



Hays Caldwell Council
On Alcohol & Drug Abuse

IF YOU PLAN TO VOTE IN THE NOVEMBER ELECTION, READ THIS!

Texas voters must show a photo ID to vote in elections in Texas, unless you are exempt (see "Exemptions" below).

If you do not have any of the following acceptable forms of ID, beginning June 26, 2013, you may apply for an Election Identification Certificate (EIC) at no charge.

However, if you already have any of the following forms of ID, you are not eligible for an EIC:

- Texas driver license—unexpired or expired no longer than 60 days at the time of voting
- Texas personal identification card—unexpired or expired no longer than 60 days at the time of voting
- Texas concealed handgun license—unexpired or expired no longer than 60 days at the time of voting
- U.S. passport book or card—unexpired or expired no longer than 60 days at the time of voting
- U.S. Military identification with photo—unexpired or expired no longer than 60 days at the time of voting
- U.S. Citizenship Certificate or Certificate of Naturalization with photo

A list of driver license offices open on Saturdays through November 2, 2013, (for Election Identification Certificates ONLY) can be found at <http://www.txdps.state.tx.us/DriverLicense/documents/openCtyOfcs.pdf>.

Exemptions

If you are voting by mail, you do not have to submit a photo ID.

If you have a documented disability, you may apply at your **county voter registrar** for a permanent exemption from the photo ID requirement. If approved, you will not need a photo ID to vote.

For more information on the types of exemptions available, please visit your **county voter registrar** or go to <http://www.sos.state.tx.us/>.

How to Apply

To apply for an EIC, visit a driver license office and complete an [Application for Texas Election Certificate \(DL-14C\) \(PDF\)](#).

To qualify for an EIC, you must:

- **Bring documentation** to the office to verify your **U.S. Citizenship**
- **Bring documentation** to the office to verify your **Identity**
- Be eligible to vote in Texas (**Bring your valid voter registration card to the office**, or submit a voter registration application through the Texas Department of Public Safety at the office)
- Be a Texas resident
- Be 17 years and 10 months or older

GOT
QUESTIONS?
CALL HAYS
COUNTY
ELECTIONS AT
512-393-7310.

ALSO, SEE THE
EVENT
CALENDAR ON
PAGE 8 FOR
"MOBILE" EIC
APPLICATION
TIMES.

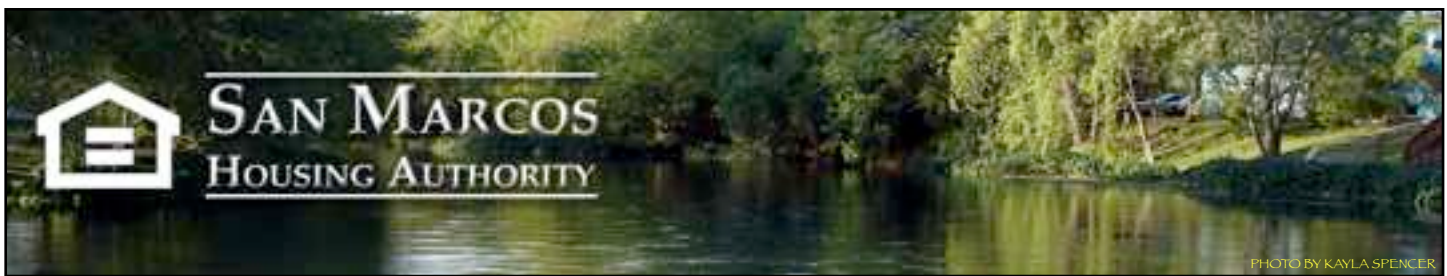


PHOTO BY KAYLA SPENCER

Event Calendar

October 1 & 2

Mobile Election Identification Certificate,
9 AM - 3 PM at three locations: Hays
County Government Center, San Marcos
Activity Center (RM 3), & Southside
Community Center

October 5

Sacred Springs Powwow, Aquarena Center,
10 AM - 6 PM

October 26

Farmer Fred's Harvest Fall Festival (a.k.a. the
Halloween Carnival), San Marcos Plaza
Park, Saturday, 6 PM - 9 PM

Goblins in the Garden, Wildflower Center,
Saturday, 4 PM - 7 PM

THE CRYSTAL BALL

You are invited to a Halloween Carnival



When: Tuesday, October 29, 2013

Where: The Youth Council

Time: 5:30-8:30pm

Fly in for games, prizes & lots of fun

Don't forget to wear your costumes!

We will have a costume contest!

**FOR MORE INFORMATION
CALL REBECCA AT 512-754-0500**



WHAT WE DO

The San Marcos Housing Authority has provided decent, safe, and sanitary housing for San Marcos Residents since 1950. We have three housing programs: Public Housing, Housing Choice Voucher, and Project-based Section 8. These programs provide housing for 569 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.

WHO WE ARE

Board of Commissioners

Rose Brooks—Chairperson
Lorraine Burleson—Vice-Chairperson
Vacant—Resident Representative
Ovelia Mercado—Commissioner
Mary Barnhart—Commissioner

Administration

Albert Sierra—Executive Director
Lana Bronikowsky—Accountant/Programs Manager
Albert Hernandez—Maintenance Supervisor

Rose Miranda—Public Housing Manager
Gene Martin, II—Resident Services Director
Frances Garcia—Section 8 Coordinator
Amanda Ramirez—Springtown Villa Manager

HOUSING OFFICES

Allen Woods Homes (Main Office)

512-353-5059

C. M. Allen Homes

512-353-1116

Chapultepec Homes

512-396-3364

Housing Choice Voucher

512-353-5061

Springtown Villa

512-396-3363

RESIDENT SERVICES CENTERS

Chapultepec Adult Learning Center & Family Self-Sufficiency

512-396-3364

KAD Korner Store

512-392-6273

PODER Learning Center

512-396-3367

Springtown Villa

512-353-7343