



## CONTINUOUS GIVING

*By Maria Calcaben  
& Stewart Dale Spencer*

We lost a dear friend recently. Beatrice Pacheco was a former resident who served as a volunteer and as a part-time employee in the SMHA Resident Services department. She moved out of Allen Woods many years ago but stayed very connected with us because she became the site manager for the Meals-on-Wheels program at the Allen Woods Dining Room. She had been dealing with some serious health issues for many years but that did not keep her from doing her best to serve our residents and many other home-bound elderly throughout the area who received a hot meal, five days a week. She was assisted by her two sons, Justin and Joshua, both of whom also served as tutors in our after-school program a few years ago. - Stewart



*From 2008: One of Ms. Bea's favorite pictures, with Josh on the left and Justin in the Rattler uniform.*

Ms. Bea as she was known by our residents, had a profound effect on all who encountered her. She was there in the early years of the after-school program at the PODER Learning Center and she helped me during my first year as the new Service Coordinator for Allen Woods. She cooked meals and then would help play with the kids, along with Justin and Joshua. Although Bea had a tough exterior, her heart was as big as anyone I know. That never changed in all the years I knew her and that was how most of her Meals-on-Wheels participants felt as well.

Lola Bell has been volunteering at the Allen Woods Dining Room for about five years. Ms. Bea was like a shining light for her, providing direction and encouragement, and since her passing, Lola says she has felt lost without her.

Meals-on-Wheels was a passion for Bea because she got to help bring joy to the elderly in her community as well as opportunities for volunteer service. Jesse Martinez and Juan Villanueva were regulars in the Dining Room. They remember Bea's many events, such as bingos and holiday parties. Jesse and Juan would always be ready to help out with cooking or party planning. They loved helping Ms. Bea because she helped so many people in the community. Not only did she help with meals, she would always lend a shoulder for people to cry upon. Susan Tilatitsky says that Ms. Bea changed her life. Susan said, "I started volunteering at Meals-on-Wheels and it gave me a purpose." She reminisces about how Ms. Bea would tell her how proud she was of the work that she had done and the lifestyle changes she had made to improve her health. This gave Susan the confidence to start volunteering at PODER and to continue making positive changes in her life.

I recently talked to Joshua. He is still helping out at Meals-on-Wheels. He thanks his mother for making him the man he is today. Bea was a single mom raising two boys and even through her own struggles, she always had something to give when someone needed help.

So what's next for Meals-on-Wheels? Jackie Gonzales was just hired as the new Site Manager at the Allen Woods Dining Room. She hopes to continue Ms. Bea's good work by adopting her philosophy on life: Don't take things too seriously; there's always something to laugh about in life. Love and care for the people around you. You always have something to give, even if it's just some of your time. Ms. Bea has left us but her memory will live on as long as we continue to emulate her example. - Maria

## ALLEN WOODS HOMES—PODER LEARNING CENTER

### First Day Back to School



A rush of laughter and anticipation fill the halls of the PODER Center again as the kids dash in for the after-school program. We had a couple of new kids in the program, but many were returning students. The kids had a pretty good first day back at school seeing their friends again and meeting their teachers. The middle school kids that started 6th grade were

nervous, but then became excited as they continued their day in a new school. Thanks to Rays of Hope for providing many of our kids all their school supplies and new backpacks for the upcoming school year. Pictured are Jedidiah and Analia Trevino holding up their backpacks full of goodies!

RESIDENT ASSEMBLY  
MEETINGS: FIRST  
FRIDAY OF EACH  
MONTH @ 6 PM



### Enseñe a sus hijos a seguir las reglas

**-La disciplina es necesaria e importante:** De este modo, los niños conductas son aceptables. Les ayuda a convertirse en adultos responsables.

**-Las reglas ayudan a los niños a desarrollar autocontrol:** también les ayudan a comprender lo que usted quiere y necesita.

**-La disciplina debe ser firme, justa y constante:** Ser constante significa hacer siempre lo mismo. Sea firme con las consecuencias. De este modo logrará que se respeten sus reglas.

**-¡Siga sus propias reglas!:** Los niños aprenderán más de sus acciones que de sus palabras.



*Source: Prevention and Early Intervention Calendar*

## PODER EVENTS FALL 2017

### FAMILY EVENTS

- \* September 7 @ 6PM: Family Cooking Classes
- \* September 15 @ 5PM: Family Night—Color Our World
- \* October 5 @ 6PM: Family Cooking Classes
- \* October 9, 16, 23 @ 6PM: Family Night Series—Mad Science Experiments
- \* November 2 @ 6PM: Family Cooking Classes
- \* November 17 @ 6PM: Family Night—Exploring Past, Present, and Future
- \* December 7 @ 6PM: Family Cooking Classes





## Springtown Villa



Throughout the summer, our residents and the Springtown Resident Council have been working extremely hard with fundraising. We were finally able to raise enough money to purchase a new TV and Blu-ray player for our community room, since our old one was giving out. The residents are welcome to

enjoy the TV or player in the community room during office hours. We would like to thank the Resident Council officers: Lino, Eric and Patrick, and staff Brianna and Amanda for helping with our fundraisers. However, the biggest thank you goes out to the residents at Springtown for supporting and donating to make all of this possible!

**Resident  
Council  
Meetings:**  
**Sept. 6  
&  
Sept. 20  
3:30 PM**

## Meet Our New Residents!



Meet Ernest! He was born in San Antonio and moved to San Marcos when he was a young child. He's a big Star Trek, Star Wars, and science fiction fan!



This is Steve, the Irishman from San Antonio! He loves NASCAR, and has one son who also lives in San Marcos.



Give a big hello to Ruth! She's originally from New Jersey but has been a Texan since '72! She loves wildflowers, country drives, playing video games, trying new restaurants, and going to the movies!



Julie is from California and moved to Texas three years ago to be closer to her family. She loves crafts and playing music. She plays guitar, piano, and trumpet.

# C. M. ALLEN HOMES — KAD KORNER STORE

## FACES OF SUCCESS

On the left, former KAD participant, Christopher Lopez, makes it to the Big Apple—New York City. He graduated from the Parson School of Design in May! What an inspiration! Below is a picture of Chris, when he was a bit younger, enjoying the big wave at Schlitterbahn! In the picture, he is to the right and behind Service Coordinator Bonnie Pecina. We were all a bit younger in those days.



We are grateful to Mattie and Kyle Medina for their generous support this past summer. The Medinas were part of a successful Summer Craft Activity series every Wednesday, where they provided supplies and spent time sharing their skills with our kids and even a few adults. Everyone seemed to enjoy the many different craft skills that were taught by the Medinas. Mattie made sure that everyone was on their best behavior while the classes were conducted. Wow, it worked!



## KAD AFTER SCHOOL



The 1st day of school was delayed because of the heavy rains in the area. In the first weeks of the KAD After-school Program, we will work on hurricane-themed activities and evacuation safety procedures during floods and inclement weather.



## CHAPULTEPEC HOMES & ADULT LEARNING CENTER

PromiseLand Church generously donated backpacks filled with school supplies for some of our residents. Nikki Lassiter shows off her



children's new backpacks. We are very grateful to the good folks at PromiseLand for their support!

### Kids night in/Parents night out!

**The Resident Assembly held a parents night out in July as a fund raiser. The kids got to make crafts and watch a few movies. There was lots of laughter and fun with this bunch! The next resident meeting is on September 14 at 6 PM at the Chapultepec Adult Learning Center.**



We had two FSS classes this month to get ready for the new school year.

Former Chapultepec resident and FSS graduate, Michelle

Ledesma, presented

information on the 2004 Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act (IDEA). Michelle works for Community Action as a Family Advocate. She explained the IDEA legislation and instructed parents on how they could get additional help for their children.



In the picture below, FSS participants, along with Donna McCain from the Hays Caldwell Council, show off their door prize winnings. Donna did a presentation on Social Skills and Effective Communication to help children stand up to peer pressure and bullying. It was a very informative presentation and the attendees were excited to each win a bag full of school supplies!





## RESIDENTS HELPING RESIDENTS

Springtown Villa resident Elnora (Nora) Rodriguez can often be seen sweeping the walkway and area under the gazebo. When asked why she does it she responded with, "We've got some seniors that sit out here, and I do it for them. If it's messy, it looks ugly. And if it looks ugly, they don't want to come sit out here and they don't leave their apartment all day. I do it for them."

## Department of Education Announces Year-Round Pell Grants

U.S. Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos recently announced that, as of July 1, 2017, Year-Round Pell grants are now available to students. This change to the policy ensures that hundreds of thousands of college students will now have the needed resources to complete their course work in a time frame compatible with their individual needs.

According to the announcement, this new change in the Federal Pell Grant Program allows "an eligible student to receive up to 150 percent of the student's Federal Pell Grant Scheduled Award beginning with the 2017-2018 award year."

KAD  
Korner  
Store  
September 12  
6 PM

## HAYS CALDWELL COUNCIL

A PROGRAM OF CENIKOR FOUNDATION

512-396-7695 X214

**Fall Presentation:**

PODER  
Learning  
Center  
September 14  
6 PM

## Social Skills



## Effective Communication

**Helping Kids Stand Up to Peer Pressure and Bullying**

## ADULT LEARN TO SWIM

Fear of the water • Don't float • Need breathing skills • Water safety

You may qualify for  
**FREE SWIM LESSONS**  
Through our "Scholarship Program"

**Learn to swim classes begin soon**  
2-5 per class.

**To Register Contact:**

Sherry Spaar  
iSwim4Life Swim School  
4105 Hunter Road • San Marcos

s.spaar@infantswim.com • 512-787-5877

Sponsored by:





## BOARD OF COMMISSIONER MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The Commissioners met on August 22. Present at the meeting were Gerald Brown, Gloria Salazar, Liz Trevino, and Albert Sierra. Also present were Robin Mack, Eloy Sanchez, and Rodrigo Amaya.

### Financial Reports

As of July 31, the Public Housing fund had a revenue surplus of \$68,589. [Editor's Note: Last month we erroneously reported a June surplus of \$91,173. The correct amount for June was \$71,219.]

Section 8 had a surplus of \$9,244 in administrative expenses.

Springtown Villa had a surplus of \$41,828.

### Occupancy Reports

Public Housing - 95%.

Section 8 - 98%.

Springtown Villa - 95%.

### New Business

The Commissioners authorized the purchase of a truck for the Executive Director, replacing an older truck, which will be used by the Maintenance Department.

Check out the cool stuff going on at the San Marcos Public Library this month!

### Designing Your College Plan

Thursday, September 14 at 6:30 p.m.

Middle school is the perfect time to start laying the groundwork for college. Learn about courses to take in high school, financial aid, scholarships, and the non-academic skills that will help learners make successful transitions. Presented by Kira Holt.

### SNAKE & SPIDER BITES: The Gory Truth

Wednesday, September 20 at 10:30 a.m.

Learn about different snakes and spiders in our area and how to protect yourself from bites. Presented by Steven Heath, City of San Marcos Animal Services Department.



### 50+ Facebook for Seniors at the Activity Center

Wednesday, September 20 from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Do you want to be part of the social media population? Learn how to sign up for Facebook and check on friends and family members. The City of San Marcos Parks and Recreation and the San Marcos Public Library are partnering to bring you Facebook for Seniors at the San Marcos Activity Center, 501 East Hopkins. Register through the Parks Department at 512-393-8400.

[sanmarcostx.gov/library](http://sanmarcostx.gov/library)

[/sanmarcopubliclibrary](https://www.facebook.com/sanmarcopubliclibrary)

### AARP Safe Driver

Monday, September 18  
1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

The AARP Smart Driver course is designed for drivers age 50 and older as a refresher for driving skills and road knowledge. Instruction includes proper use of new technology in cars, techniques for handling turns, and state-specific rules of the road. This class does not count toward Defensive Driving requirements. Register at the information desk, or through [sanmarcostx.gov/libraryregistration](http://sanmarcostx.gov/libraryregistration). A fee for the textbook will be collected by the instructor on the day of class. Cost is \$15 for AARP members, \$20 for non-members.

### Medicare Made Easy

Thursday, September 21  
10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Take the guesswork out of applying for Medicare. Discover Medicare options, eligibility rules, and signup timeframes at this free, educational workshop.

### LIBRARY HOURS

Monday through Thursday  
9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Friday 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Sunday 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Closed Labor Day  
Monday, September 4

625 E. Hopkins 512.393.8200

## Finding Affordable Internet Service

From <http://everyoneon.org/>: EveryoneOn solicits a wide range of Internet Service Providers to feature their low-cost Internet offers on our website. Those featured have met our minimum service and price standards and are committed to working with EveryoneOn in helping connect families and individuals. Internet Service Providers (ISP) and service plans must meet the minimum requirements:

**Technology** - Cable or wireless (must be 4G LTE) \*\*\*\*\* **Speeds** - 5Mbps down/1up

**Data allotment** - (wireless --minimum 3GB/month; throttled speeds acceptable) (wired --minimum 100GB/month; throttled speeds acceptable)

**Data cost** - \$10-\$25/month maximum; no overages for exceeded data

**Equipment cost** - \$50 modem maximum; one-time fee, no monthly leasing options

**Data analysis** - ISP will report anonymized subscription data (monthly)

**Term** - Month-to-month service, no contract

*If limited offers or no offers are available in a region, EveryoneOn may feature offers that do not meet its minimum specifications but provide service.*

# SMHA CALENDAR - September 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
September (from Latin septem for "seven") was originally the seventh of ten months on the oldest known Roman calendar, with March (Latin Martius) the first month of the year until perhaps as late as 153 BC. After the calendar reform that added January and February to the beginning of the year, September became the ninth month but retained its name. It had 29 days until the Julian reform, which added a day. Although the Autumnal Equinox will be on September 22, as far as meteorologists are concerned, Autumn begins on September 1 and ends on November 30.					1	2
3	4 SMHA OFFICES CLOSED	5	6	7 Family Cooking Class PODER 6 PM	8	9
10	11	12 Social Skills & Effective Communication KAD - 6 PM	13	14 Social Skills & Effective Communication PODER - 6 PM	15	16
17	18	19	20 Managed Care & Medicaid CALC 6 PM	21	22 	23
24	25	26 SMHA Board of Commissioners Allen Woods 5:30 PM	27	28 Food Wise CALC - 6 PM <a href="http://bit.ly/FWClass">http://bit.ly/ FWClass</a>	29	30

## LEADERSHIP

### Board of Commissioners

Gloria Salazar—Chairperson  
Gerald Brown—Vice-Chairperson  
Rose Brooks—Commissioner  
Liz Trevino—Commissioner  
Maggie Moreno—Commissioner

### Executive Director

Albert Sierra

## HOUSING OFFICES

Allen Woods Homes (Main Office)

512-353-5059

CM Allen Homes

512-353-1116

Chapultepec Homes

512-396-3364

Housing Choice Voucher

512-353-5061

Springtown Villa

512-396-3363

## RESIDENT SERVICES

Chapultepec Adult Learning Center

Family Self-Sufficiency

512-396-3364

CM Allen KAD Korner Store

512-392-6273

Allen Woods PODER

Learning Center

512-396-3367

Springtown Villa

512-353-7343