



Trashy News

No, not the latest celebrity gossip but something that actually affects your life. Your garbage doesn't disappear by magic. The SMHA pays someone to pick it up and take it to a sanitary landfill.

We have a new provider: Best Waste, Inc. Residents of Allen Woods, CM Allen, Chapultepec, and the Porter Homes will be getting a new trash bin from Best Waste. Our contract for curbside service from Texas Disposal Systems will end on October 31. Spooky, huh? But fear not! Best Waste will come in like a saint on November 1. Garbage will be collected on Wednesdays. Bins must be

stored behind your unit. You may place them on the curb (in the street — not on the sidewalk) on Tuesday evening or early Wednesday morning. They must be moved back behind your unit no later than Wednesday evening.

This does not affect your recycle bin, which is provided by the City. The following is from the City website: Put all your recyclables into the cart with the tan lid, no need to sort them! Do not put your recyclables in a plastic bag in your cart - must be loose in the cart. You do not need to wash your containers, just a quick rinse. You must be able to close the cart lid. If you have extra recycling that will not fit in your cart, place loose in a cardboard box next to your recycling cart on your service date. Recycling is picked up every other week depending on your trash service route.

(<http://sanmarcostx.gov/1403/Residential-Curbside-Services>)



National Night Out (or Texas Night Out, if you prefer) will be held on Tuesday, October 3.

Celebrations will be held at all of our housing sites. The times vary at each site so watch for flyers or other information where you live. The Housing Authority supports the ideals behind NNO:

"National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances." (<https://natw.org>)

We ask residents to watch out for each other. Report crime and suspicious activities to the police. Use the non-emergency SMPD phone number: 512-753-2108 (option 2). Use 911 only for real emergencies.

Put that number in your smart phone and save it with a name such as "SMPD Dispatch" or something else you will easily remember. It's okay to call even if you are not sure of criminal intent. Also, if crimes are not reported, the police are not able to see patterns and know what areas might need more patrols. Criminals don't like attention. Make sure they know that people in your neighborhood are paying attention!



ALLEN WOODS HOMES — PODER LEARNING CENTER



WE ARE FAMILY!

Our first Family Night this school year turned out to be quite colorful! After a light meal, the activities for the evening included creating a family crest to wear, a Fun Run around the neighborhood, and ended with a giant color fight at the back of PODER. The evening was centered around how setting a good example for your kids and encouraging a healthy lifestyle can help build stronger, healthier families. After each activity, families were given time to discuss dialog questions to help promote open conversation. The Fun Run was a great way to get everyone moving and volunteer “cheerleaders” were stationed all around the neighborhood to inspire the runners to keep going. This evening’s success could not have been achieved without the help of volunteers from the Terry Scholars Foundation!



Kickin' Up a New Class

As the original karate class participants advanced into the adult-level class, there was room to create a new kids class. Many kids tried out, but only a few were chosen: Aden Richardson, Kendra Luera, Zayda Luera, Jasper Barrett, Analia Trevino, and Josh Sanchez. They are currently learning the basic movements of karate such as blocking, kicking, and punching as well as the history of karate for when they get tested to achieve their next belt color. The adult class students have now become assistants with the new class but will continue to improve their own techniques. Their goal is to earn a black belt. Good luck to this new class of students!



ARAÑAS DE OREO



Ingredientes: Galletas oreo, regaliz negro en espiral.

Direcciones:

Abrimos las galletas por la mitad y retiramos un poco de la crema. Deshacemos la espiral de regaliz y cortamos ocho patas para cada galleta. Las colocamos y cerramos. Luego, con la crema que hemos retirado, podemos hacer pequeños ojos que remataremos con trocitos de regaliz a modo de pupilas.

<https://www.directoalpaladar.com/recetario/>

Springtown Villa



Last week's presentation by the Hays County Food Bank was on sugars and the effects they have on our bodies. The residents learned that sugar is important because it is what gives us energy and fuels us! They also learned the suggested amounts of sugars for both men and women to allow them to live a healthy life style. Pictured to the left are Epifinia, Nora, and Shirlene looking at the drink choices and the amounts of sugar in each drink option. Thanks Hays County Food Bank for a great class!

Pictured on the right is a beautiful hand crocheted blanket donated by Arleen, a former resident! This is beautiful blanket with lots of fall colors! We are raffling it off as a fundraiser for the Springtown Resident Council. The tickets are \$2.00 for one and \$5.00 for three. The raffle will be October 9th at 2 PM in the community room at Springtown Villa. Want a chance to win? Contact Brianna at the Resident Services Office at Springtown Villa (512-353-7343) to purchase your tickets.



Thank you to a resident's family member for the generous donation of a flat screen TV to our Sun Room. This area is also equipped with a DVD and VHS player, gaming connections, a card table, exercise equipment, and a small library!

Here are residents working on a DIY birdhouse painting project. The residents find these type of projects relaxing, interesting, and fun because they are able to use their own creativity! As you can see, we have a great turnout for these kind of events!



C. M. ALLEN HOMES — KAD KORNER STORE



Hi everyone! My name is Kathy Hernandez. I have several nicknames but the students prefer to call me "Miss Kat." I am the intern for KAD this fall and I'm so excited to see what this semester will bring! I am a senior at Texas State University, pursuing a degree in Recreational Therapy. I hope to continue my education and work towards a master's degree in Occupational Therapy. I am originally from Brownsville, which is down in the valley. I have already learned so much from the kids and enjoy being their after-school program teacher. I hope to teach the kids the importance of recreational activities and can't wait to show them all the fun activities I have planned! Thanks to the help of all the volunteers, the children are able to receive help while doing their homework. I have learned a lot from my mentor, Bonnie Pecina, and I admire her passion for helping the community!

For 10 years, Kids Against Drugs has been **Kappa Delta Chi's** local philanthropy. As individuals, and as an organization dedicated to service, the members of KDChi volunteer at KAD on a daily basis as leaders, tutors, mentors, and friends to the children of the K.A.D. program. They also help out at the Chapultepec After-school Program.

KDChi has helped the community in many ways including school supply drives, hosting annual events such as Halloween Carnivals, Easter Egg Hunts, and National Night Out. They love the kids here and enjoy being their positive influences. KDChi members have created close bonds with our kids as they help them achieve success, aspire to do greater things, and grow as individuals. In the 2016-2017 academic year, the local KDChi chapter completed nearly 1,000 community service hours at KAD. They are striving to increase that number for this new school year.



Upcoming Events at KAD:

- ☺ Come join us for Texas Night Out on Tuesday, October 3rd at 6 PM.
- ☺ The San Marcos Goodwill Job Help Center will be conducting on-site Job Readiness Training on October 10, 10 AM—12 PM.
- ☺ Bring the kids to KDChi's Halloween Haunted House on Thursday, October 26th at 6 PM.

CHAPULTEPEC HOMES & ADULT LEARNING CENTER

COMMUNITY EVENTS

(All dates and times are subject to change)

Tuesday, October 3

Texas Night Out Party, 6:30 - 8 PM

Thursday, October 12

Resident Assembly Meeting, 6 PM

Friday, October 27

Halloween Dance/Carnival, 6 - 8 PM

Thursday, November 9

Resident Assembly Meeting, 6 PM

Friday, November 10

Parents Night Out, 6 - 8:30 PM

Monday, November 20

Pot Luck Dinner, 6 - 8 PM

Friday, December 8

Family Craft Night, 6 - 7 PM

Thursday, December 14

Resident Assembly Meeting, 6 PM

Monday, December 18

Christmas Party, 6:30 - 8:30 PM

FSS

Class:

**Healthy
Lifestyles**



**Wednesday, October 11
@ 6 PM**



Curtis Singleton is running the Chapultepec After-school Program this school year. He will be completing his undergraduate degree in Recreational Administration this December. Before attending Texas State,

Curtis was in the Air force and served as a medical technician for five years. He spent time in Alaska, Japan, South Korea, Germany, and Canada. Now he is focusing in gaining experience in administrative work in resident services and providing recreational activities for children. Curtis hopes to work with non-profits and organizations such as Texas Parks and Wildlife, teaching families the benefits of recreation and nature conservation.



FSS participants attended a class presented by Rocio Moreno from STAR+PLUS Program with information on various Medicaid enrollment options. If you are interested in learning about the different options you have for Medicaid, call Rocio at 512-799-3987.



University Starts At Home

Helping families guide their children to college

FREE 4-week program for parents and students

CM Allen Housing Authority Community Center

820 Sturgeon San Marcos, TX

Meeting dates: Mondays, Oct. 9, 16, 23, and 30

from 5:30-7:00 pm, snacks provided



We invite parents and families of middle and high school students who are interested to know more about how they can help their child get to college to participate in a free 4-week program.

Workshop 1: Developing college aspirations and goals

Workshop 2: The college application and college student life

Workshop 3: Paying for college

Workshop 4: Texas State University campus visit (limited number will be able to attend)



This program is being offered by Dr. Melissa Martinez and the Center for P-16 Initiatives at Texas State University



FREE BUSINESS CLASSES



October 26th-December 12th

Have you thought about starting a business?

Do you have a business you would like to grow?

Community Action, Inc. of Central Texas is offering a **free** 6 week workshop series on starting and/or building your business.

Topics include:

Finances/Budgeting

Marketing

Legal

Banking

Business Plans

Classes will be Tuesdays & Thursdays 6pm-9pm in San Marcos.

Call **Francesca Ramirez** at **512-392-1161 x 313** for more information and to begin the enrollment process.



Community Action, Inc.
of Central Texas
— DEVELOPING OPPORTUNITIES —

We just can't seem to get rid of former Senior FSS Coordinator, Megan Spiller. Recently, she and her father delivered a dryer to Ruby Prado at the CM Allen Homes. Ruby is a Family Self-Sufficiency program participant. When Megan told us her grandmother was giving away a gas dryer, we put the word out on our FSS email group. Most of our public housing units have only electrical connections for dryers but about 80 units at CM Allen also have natural gas outlets. The FSS families in the Housing Choice Voucher program live in all-electric apartments. This is a good example of how being in the FSS program can benefit you and your family. We do our best to find resources for FSS participants and they often help each other out. We are grateful to Megan and her family for continuing to be a part of FSS! Call 512-396-3364 if you want to be in FSS.



Highlights from the Board of Commissioners Meeting

The Board of Commissioners met on September 26. All Commissioners were present. During the public comment portion of the meeting, three different persons expressed their concern about the possibility of the sale of the Allen Woods Homes to Texas State University. They all said they were against it and that they were concerned about the impact it would have upon the residents.

Financials—Public Housing has a year-to-date surplus of \$61,936. The Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher program has an administrative surplus of \$12,022. Springtown Villa has a surplus of \$36,060.

Occupancy—Public housing: 94%; Housing Choice Voucher: 99%; Springtown Villa: 95%.

Under **New Business**, Albert Sierra summarized the proposed fiscal year 2018 Public Housing budget. The budget was approved by the Commissioners.

In other business, the Commissioners approved the write-off of \$9,440 of uncollectible debt. The board also adopted the Fiscal Year 2018 Fair Market Rents, published by HUD, for the Austin-Round Rock Metropolitan Statistical Area, which includes Hays County. Sierra said that for the purposes of the Housing Choice Voucher program, the payment standard to be applied would be approximately 10% less than those fair market rents.

The Commissioners considered various bids for garbage collection. Sierra said the contracts for curbside pickup would be three years with a maximum potential increase of 5% per year. The Commissioners awarded the curbside collection contract to Best Waste, Inc. This will include replacing the dumpsters at the Chapultepec Homes with individual bins for the apartments. Residents will have to take their bins to the curb but this will alleviate the problem of excessive dumping of trash in the existing dumpsters by the general public. Waste Management of Texas, Inc. was selected for the dumpsters at Springtown Villa and a roll-off dumpster at Allen Woods. Sierra said that the container agreement includes a 30-day termination notice.

The Commissioners recessed into **Executive Session** to discuss a feasibility study for land disposition in accordance with section 551.072 of the Texas Government code. When they returned from executive session, Chairperson Gloria Salazar announced that they had decided to take no action on the matter.

During the **Commissioners Report**, Salazar mentioned the Texas NAHRO conference that will take place in San Marcos on October 17. Sierra said the Mayor has been invited to speak at the event. Sierra invited the Commissioners to participate in the event. Finally, Sierra commented on a public hearing that will take place in City Hall, also on October 17, related to the CDBG Disaster Recovery funds. He expressed his concerns about how many homes were flooded in the Blanco Gardens neighborhood and said that he had attended a neighborhood meeting and encouraged the people in Blanco Gardens to express their concerns to the City about how the disaster recovery funds are being allocated. One specific concern was that according to the current proposal, if someone uses disaster recovery funds to make repairs to their home, they would not be able to sell it for 20 years without having to pay back the assistance. Sierra also reported that the city has not responded to the concerns he has expressed about the eligibility of the Housing Authority for disaster recovery funds. He is hoping to get an answer regarding why assistance to the Housing Authority was included on earlier drafts of the action plan but was later removed from the plan that was finally submitted to HUD. He also expressed concern about the timeframe for the money to be spent, saying that we were well over one year in the process and no funds have been awarded at all. He also expressed concern that evidently the additional \$8 million of federal funds had already been committed to River End, before the public hearings on how those additional disaster recovery funds should be spent.



October 2017



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1

2

3

TEXAS NIGHT
OUT

4

5

Family
Cooking Class
PODER—6 PM

6

7

8

9

University
Starts at Home
KAD—5:30 PM

10

Job
Readiness
KAD—10 AM

11

Healthy
Lifestyles
CALC—6 PM

12

Emergency
Preparedness
PODER—6 PM

13

14

15

16

University
Starts at Home
KAD—5:30 PM

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

University
Starts at Home
KAD—5:30 PM

24

25

26

Cooking &
Nutrition Class
CALC—6 PM

27

28

29

30

University
Starts at Home
KAD—5:30 PM



Halloween culture can be traced back to the Druids, a Celtic culture in Ireland, Britain, and Northern Europe. The Feast of Samhain was held on October 31st to honor the dead. Samhain signifies "summers end" or November. Samhain was a harvest festival with huge sacred bonfires, marking the end of the Celtic year and the beginning of a new one. The Celts believed the souls of the dead roamed the streets and villages at night. Since not all spirits were thought to be friendly, gifts and treats were left out to pacify the evil and ensure next year's crops would be plentiful.

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