



New Commissioners Appointed to Housing Authority Board

At the March meeting of the Board of Commissioners, outgoing Chairperson Gloria Salazar administered the oath of office to new commissioners as well as those who were appointed to a second two-year term. The new commissioners are Juan Miguel Arredondo and Richard Cruz. Returning commissioners are Rose Brooks, Maggie Moreno, and Gerald Brown (Resident Commissioner).

The new Board elected officers. Ms. Moreno is the new Chairperson and Mr. Arredondo is the new Vice-Chairperson. Executive Director Albert Sierra serves as Secretary. The Board is responsible for general oversight of the Housing Authority. They meet about 10 times per year on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 5:30 PM at the main office of the SMHA, which is at the Allen Woods Homes.

MAINTENANCE EMERGENCIES: WHAT ARE THEY AND WHAT SHOULD YOU DO ABOUT IT?

If you have a **maintenance EMERGENCY** during normal office hours, call your management office. If it is after hours, call 512-738-1243. Leave a message and the on-call maintenance worker will call you back. Call this number only for emergencies, such as:

- ◆ **Gas leaks**
- ◆ **Major water leaks** (If your toilet is overflowing, turn off the valve below the tank. If a faucet is broken, turn off the valves below the faucet, if possible.)
- ◆ **Clogged toilet** (if it is the only toilet in your home)
- ◆ **Lock-outs**
- ◆ **No electricity to your entire home** (Check your breaker box first. If the power is out in your neighborhood, call the San Marcos Electric Utility at 512-393-8313.)
- ◆ **No air conditioning or heating** (only when it is very hot or very cold)



For all **NON-EMERGENCY** maintenance requests, call your site office during regular office hours or submit a request using the form on our website:

<https://smpha.org/non-emergency-maintenance-request/>

Don't forget to click on the "submit" button. Regardless of how we receive the request, you can expect a response within 2 business days, Monday through Friday.

If you will not be at home during normal business hours:

- ◆ Make sure your front screen door is unlocked.
- ◆ Disengage your ring-bolt or keyless dead-bolt.
- ◆ If you have a dog, it must not be loose in the area where the work will be done.

ALLEN WOODS HOMES — PODER LEARNING CENTER

Spring is in the Air



The smell of fresh flowers and a home-cooked meal filled the air as the seniors enjoyed their Spring Party at PODER. Their first activity was to

decorate an Easter bonnet with materials such as artificial and real flowers and little bunny and chick figurines. Pictured (above from left to right) are Maria Flores and Helen Rodriguez showing off their hat creations and friendship! After being fed a delicious home-cooked brunch of homemade tortillas and chicken & rice and listening to a presentation by Sergio Garcia about Medicaid, it was time to show off their hats! Participants paraded through PODER and the friendly contest ended with 4 winners being awarded a bouquet of fresh flowers. Pictured (right) is Gloria Ortiz winner of Best Strut! Of course it wouldn't be a party without BINGO, so the celebration ended with some quick rounds and raffling off small prizes. Thanks to intern Kathy LaPlant-Israel for running the activities, Mary Ann Lopez for cooking and doing the bingo, Sergio Garcia for the Medicaid information, and HEB for donating fresh flowers. Our seniors had a blooming good time!



Weird Science

As the great Miss Frizzle once said, "Take chances, *make mistakes*, get messy!" and that's exactly what our teens did in our Teen Night. They followed directions and did experiments to solve an "Escape Room" mystery. This included creating a small version of "elephant toothpaste," working together to engineer a device that would transport the "cure" from one side of the room to the other, and mixing ingredients together to make edible slime. Encouraging STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities open opportunities for our teens to be interested in jobs in the science and math fields!



Resident Assembly Meeting: First Friday @ 10AM in PODER

¡Chistes!

-Profesora, alguna vez me castigaría por algo que no hice?

-No Jaimito, nunca.

-Ah, pues que bien, porque no hice los deberes!

Estaba Jaimito en clase de lengua y le dice a la maestra: Profe, ¿Cómo se escribe celular?

-Pues es escribe como suena...

-¿Y si está en silencio?



Springtown Villa

Thank you to our friends at BBVA Compass bank
for coming out to see us these past couple of
months and teaching us about safe banking!



On the
way
back
from
the
store!



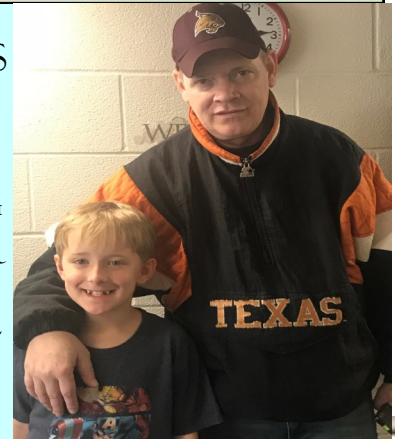
RESIDENT COUNCIL

Every 1st & 3rd Wednesday
of the month

Enjoying some sweets with
some sweet people while
celebrating our March birthdays.



CONGRATS
TO RYAN
MORING
FOR BEING
SUPERSTAR
OF THE
WEEK AT
SCHOOL!



Yet another
successful
Easter
Celebration
with the
members of
Generation
Connection at
Texas State!



Happy Easter!



C. M. ALLEN HOMES — KAD KORNER STORE

Hello everyone! My name is Sophia Phillips and I am interning this semester at the San Marcos Housing Authority, CM Allen location, working alongside Ms. Bonnie Pecina. I am a senior undergraduate student at Texas State University studying Social Work. I have always had a passion for working with people and have volunteered countless hours serving others. Every day working with Ms. Bonnie Pecina at KAD, I see the compassion and drive these kids have and want to spread to others. The children and families here truly love and care about one another in some way, shape, or form and that is what makes CM Allen such a great community to live in. Bonnie is such a strong and amazing woman who has the biggest heart. I am blessed to be able to work alongside someone like her who has such strong compassion and empathy for others.



Please feel free to approach me with any questions and I am so excited for what this semester has in store for me!



SPRING BREAK ...

The kids designed their own Treasure Chest with construction paper and decals. Now set to save their hidden treasures!



And, finally it was activity day! Thanks to Krispy Kreme for donating 3 dozen donuts for our kids to play a fun game!



Then, the kids learned the effects & danger of using illegal drugs and underage drinking. Teaching them today will help prevent bad choices tomorrow.

RESIDENT ASSEMBLY Mark your calendars for these events:

- April 11** - Senior Social & Bingo, 1:30 PM - 3:00 PM (\$1 for 2 bingo cards)
- April 26** - Greet & Meet Social & Bingo 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM. Meet the officers! (\$1 for 2 bingo cards)

This is your home. Get to know your neighbors.
Looking forward to meeting all of you,

Mattie Medina
President, 512.749.5541

Our hats are off to all the volunteers who donated their time, energy, strength, and patience so that the kids could have fun, run around, and learn many new things.

CHAPULTEPEC HOMES & ADULT LEARNING CENTER



The Chapultepec Resident Assembly Annual Easter Egg hunt was held on March 26th. We had a great turnout and the kids seemed to have fun hunting for eggs. They also enjoyed a cook out and a scavenger hunt. Thanks to all who participated in this fun annual event.

Our FSS class for March was presented by staff from Crockett Elementary School. It focused on brainstorming ideas on bringing parents, students, and school staff closer together to be able to encourage student growth and parent/teacher interaction. One of our newest FSS participants, Lilia, (pictured left) helped put this class together. It was wonderful to see the kids faces light up at having their educators at their home.




We want to thank everyone who purchased a raffle ticket for our Resident Assembly Easter basket fundraiser. And the winner is...Kelly Fox! Pictured left is Kelly and her very excited daughter Gabrielle. The Resident Assembly raised \$40.

April Happenings:

- **April 11—FSS Orientation for prospective FSS participants, 12 PM**
- **April 12—Resident Assembly meeting and Birthday Celebration for April, May, and June birthdays, 6 PM**
- **April 19—ADHD Support Group, 6:30 PM**
- **April 23—FSS Class: Job Readiness presented by Melissa Trevino with Goodwill Industries, 6 PM**

RECYCLING INFORMATION FOR SAN MARCOS RESIDENTS

ACCEPTED RECYCLING MATERIAL	MATERIAL <u>NOT</u> ACCEPTED+
<p>Paper: newspaper, office paper, junk mail, magazines, boxboard, and flattened cardboard</p> <p>Milk and juice cartons*</p> <p>Tin and Aluminum Food or beverage cans*</p> <p>Plastic: #'s 1-7*</p> <p>Glass: Unbroken Glass & Bottles (any color)*</p> <p><i>*Remember to rinse</i></p> <div style="border: 1px solid green; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>RECYCLE COLLECTION DAYS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ☺ Allen Woods, Chapultepec, Springtown Villa— Every Tuesday ☺ CM Allen — Every other Tuesday ☺ Porter (1235 MLK Drive) - Every Monday </div>	<p>Plastic bags (grocery or sandwich bags)</p> <p>Plastic films (bubble wrap or Saran wrap)</p> <p>Styrofoam (any type)</p> <p>Pizza boxes (food residue)</p> <p>Dirty aluminum foil (food residue)</p> <p>Chips bags / Pringles cans</p> <p>Candy or granola wrappers</p> <p>Soiled paper (napkins or paper towels)</p> <p>Fast food wrappers or cups</p> <p>Clothing</p> <p>Electronics</p> <p>Cork</p> <div style="text-align: right; margin-top: 20px;">  </div>

+ If this material is seen in your bin, Texas Disposal Systems will not pick it up because it is considered to be “contaminated.” The Housing Authority is not responsible for the management of the recycling program. For questions or to resolve problems, call the City at (512) 393-8407.

Put your recycle bin out the night before your collection day and move it back by 9 PM the next day. Bins must be placed as close to the roadway as possible without interfering with vehicles or pedestrians.

OTHER SERVICES

REDUCE: Pharmaceutical Drop-off

WHAT? Unused prescription medications (Mark out name and address on bottle; no liquids)

WHERE? San Marcos Police Department (2300 S. Interstate 35 Frontage Rd.)

WHEN? Drop box kiosk available 24/7 in lobby

REDUCE: Household Hazardous Waste Drop-off (the HHW)

WHAT? Dispose of materials containing toxic chemicals in a safe way

(Examples of accepted items: drain cleaners, degreasers, paints, fluorescent lights, CFL bulbs, cell phones, batteries, weed killers, used oil, oil filters, and medical needles.)

WHERE? City Hall Traffic Yard - entrance across from the big HEB (630 E. Hopkins)

WHEN? Tuesdays & Fridays (noon to 3:30 pm)

REUSE: HHW Reuse Facility

WHAT? Any material still good is available to take for free (up to 5 items)

WHERE? City Hall Traffic Yard - entrance across from the big HEB (630 E. Hopkins)

WHEN? Tuesdays & Fridays: noon to 3 pm

There will be a Community Clean Up with ten, 40-yard roll-offs for large debris; Green Guy (accepting metal, appliances, and 4 passenger tires per family); and Household Hazardous Waste Drop Off.

Dates: April 14 and May 12

Time: 8 AM—1 PM

Place: 750 River Rd (behind the Animal Shelter)

**READY TO GET YOUR GED/HSE?****REGISTER FOR OUR FREE GED PREPARATION CLASSES****Part One: Tuesday, April 10 at 9:00 AM or 1:00 PM****Part Two: Thursday, April 12 at 9:00 AM or 1:00 PM****YOU MUST BE REGISTERED TO ATTEND OUR FREE CLASSES**

**GED Preparation classes are Mondays through Thursdays
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM and 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM**

OFFICE HOURS: Monday through Thursday, 1:00 - 4:00 PM

**San Marcos Public Library Learning Center
625 East Hopkins, San Marcos, Texas 78666
512-393-8215**

psimmons@communityaction.com

Paws & Effect: Tracy & Frankie

By Brianna Lopez

Over the past year, there has been an influx of new residents at Springtown Villa. Only the residents that I am talking about have four legs, wag their tails, and love to be petted! Dogs are beneficial to people in general, but specifically for many at Springtown because they live alone, have health issues, or a combination of both. Dogs can help reduce stress, lower blood pressure, and increase social interaction and physical activity. This promotes a healthier lifestyle for some of our elderly residents because they now have a reason to go outside daily and be active. Dogs can also help reduce depression by helping the owner focus on something other than physical problems and negative preoccupations with illness, aging, or loss.



Springtown resident Tracy Frank first met Frankie at the San Marcos animal shelter. He was only about four months old when she adopted him and will turn two this year! Tracy says that her favorite thing about Frankie is that he makes her laugh by hiding stuff around the apartment. When asked what she would like to tell people without a pet, Tracy said she would like to encourage anyone who is feeling even a little bit lonely to go out to a shelter. "There are many animals that need homes, but what people don't realize is that sometimes we need animals just as much. Frankie means a lot to me and I would be very sad if I didn't have him."

April 2018

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1 	2	3	4	5 <i>Soar With Your Dreams</i> KAD—5:30 PM	6	7
8	9	10 <i>College Workshop</i> KAD 5 PM	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 <i>ADHD Support Group</i> CALC 6:30 PM	20	21
22	23 <i>Job Readiness</i> CALC 6:30 PM	24 <i>Board of Commissioners</i> 5:30 PM	25	26 <i>Food Wise</i> CALC 6 PM	27	28
29	30	The Romans gave this month the Latin name Aprilis but the derivation of this name is uncertain. Since some of the Roman months were named in honor of divinities, and as April was sacred to the goddess Venus, her Veneralia being held on the first day, it has been suggested that Aprilis was originally her month Aphrilis, from her equivalent Greek goddess name Aphrodite (Aphros), or from the Etruscan name Apru. The Anglo-Saxons called April ēastre-monaþ (ēastre is the root of the word Easter).				

LEADERSHIP**Board of Commissioners**

Maggie Moreno — Chairperson

Juan Miguel Arredondo — V. Chairperson

Gerald Brown — Res. Commissioner

Rose Brooks — Commissioner

Richard Cruz — 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