



BUILDING UP STRONG FAMILIES

By Maria Calcaben

The bond that links your true family is not one of blood, but of respect and joy in each other's life. — **Richard Bach**

The HUD “Strong Families Initiative” event was not only a kick-off to summer, but a nod to our residents and the community of Allen Woods Homes. The whole front of PODER was filled with smiling residents sitting under tents, awnings, or on picnic blankets. The neighborhood event provided entertainment for the kids including a bounce house, yard games, and board games they could take home and play with their families that would encourage family bonding. It also included free food and drinks for all those who came. Most importantly, there were local resources such as Hays Caldwell Council, Goodwill Job Resource, Greater San Marcos Youth Council, Community Action, Community Action Mobile Librarian, Crockett Elementary, and Sozo Church. A variety of agencies offered helpful information to our families such as preparing them for the next school year, finding a job, and enrolling in adult education programs. The biggest treat for the evening was the live entertainment and prizes!



Four different bands and artists played sets throughout the evening. Sydney Quantz lulled the residents with her flowing voice and guitar, Lena and Jack threw out positive vibes with their box guitar and ukulele, Sidnee used her powerful voice to put some soul in the mix, and Frederico finished off the evening with smooth, acoustic guitar songs. There was also a contest for the residents where they drew a picture of themselves or families and wrote about their strengths within their families and the neighborhood and what we could do

make it better. The winners of the contest included senior resident Arleen Machado, who won a \$25 gift card to McDonald's and the Hargrove Family, who won a \$50 Tanger Outlet gift card. We also want to recognize the following businesses because through their donations, they made this evening possible: HEB, Sam's Club, Starbucks, Advance Auto Parts, Bush's Chicken, Little Cesar's Pizza, McDonald's, Tanger Outlets, Renee Velenzuela, and Rays of Hope. We also want to thank the Allen Woods Resident Assembly for their support and preparing the food. This event revealed how strong the sense of community is at Allen Woods and helped bring ideas to make our neighborhood and our families better!

ALLEN WOODS HOMES — PODER LEARNING CENTER

RESIDENT ASSEMBLY MEETING: First Friday of Every Month



Pirate Day



Ahoy Matey! The summer program continues to have smooth sailing as some of the Texas State Football players come and join our kids for Pirate Day. The kids and players made pirate hats, picked out pirate names, and joined in pirate activities such as Peg Leg Push and Find the Treasure (shown above). At the end of the day, the kids enjoyed a treat of chocolate gold doubloons from our homemade treasure chest. We look forward to having the Texas State Football players come and join us for more fun activities this summer!



Reading Comes to Life

The United Way Reading Program is not a typical reading program. This summer, the kids won't



only be reading chapters from the book *Coco*, but they will be doing games and projects to really make the book come alive! Analia Voss, Director of Community Impact, and her assistant Reyna want the kids to associate reading with fun so the activities relate to what's happening in the book. Recently, the kids made



box guitars to go along with the character Miguel's pursuit to enter a singing competition.

Receta: Sándwich de ensalada de pollo y aguacate

- Pechuga de pollo 2
- Aguacate maduro 2
- Pan de molde rebanadas 4
- Cebolla morada 50g
- Aceite de oliva virgen extra 15 ml
- Mayonesa 15g
- Finas Hierbas 3g
- Sal
- Pimienta negra molida

Para iniciar la receta vamos a **cortar las pechugas de pollo** en cuadritos de unos 2 centímetros de largos. Calentamos un poco de aceite de oliva en un sartén y asamos los trocitos de pollo por unos cinco minutos, a fuego medio, hasta que queden bien dorados. A media cocción sazonamos con las finas hierbas, sal y pimienta al gusto. Cuando esté listo retiramos de la lumbre y dejamos enfriar.



Ahora vamos a cortar los aguacates en dos, retirarles el hueso, la piel y cortarlos en cubitos de un tamaño similar al pollo. Picamos la cebolla y la colocamos junto con el aguacate en un cuenco. Añadimos **el pollo, ya tibio o frío**, la mayonesa, el aceite de oliva, sal y pimienta. Revolvemos muy bien. Calentamos el pan y armamos los sándwiches. Si lo deseas puedes agregarle una hoja de lechuga o un poco de queso.

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

Springtown Villa



Father's Day Cook-Out



A little rain was not going to ruin our celebration! This year we turned our annual Father's Day cook-out into a cook-*in*. Resident Joe Torres helped prepare the meal in honor all of the fathers at Springtown Villa.

Pictured at the top left are Steve Fox & Fred Miller. They were the winners of the raffle prizes: a free movie pass to a local EVO theater of their choice. Thank you to EVO entertainment for donating these passes for both our Mother's Day and Father's Day cook-outs!



THANK YOU, TRUE HEART HOSPICE

The rain came back for a sequel, so we held our Wheelchair/Walker Wash event indoors. To the left, Ramona Galvez poses with her squeaky clean walker . . . and some watermelon.



Pictured above are Lea from True Heart & resident Fred Miller, undisputed Champion of Lawn Games! The photo was captured after a very intense game of tic-tac-toe.



Jen from True Heart hard at work!



C. M. ALLEN HOMES — KAD KORNER STORE



Hello everyone! My name is Camille Carrillo and I am the new summer intern for the KAD Center at CM Allen. I am a senior at Texas State University, pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Social Work. I was born and raised in El Paso but moved to San Marcos about five years ago to begin my college career. You may be thinking that five years is a long time to achieve a bachelor's degree, but I needed some extra time to explore my career path and found my calling in Social Work. I have enjoyed living in San Marcos over the past few years. It has now become my home away from home. After I graduate, I would love to explore and travel Europe in the fall and

obtain my Master's degree in Social Work at the University of Austin beginning in the spring of 2019. My goal during my first professional experience is to use my passion of helping others meet their needs in any way possible. I am excited to meet everyone and spend my summer here at CM Allen. I look forward to meeting y'all and serving the San Marcos Community!



Camille is making sure that Miss Carol gets to the KAD Center to enjoy a game of Bingo.



Benito Castillo and his father, Pedro, serenaded our Father's Day Celebration attendees. There was good food and fun for all! What a special time for father and son to spend quality time together to bring joy for all!

We would like to give a special thanks to all of the agencies who came out to volunteer and make our event possible! Jamie Velasquez with Goodwill



SMHA Executive Director Albert Sierra visited with Dr. Charles M. Johnson.

Industries of Central Texas, David Bryant and Paula Simmons from Community Action, Sylvia Mussy from the Lions Club, Dr. Charles M. Johnson and students from Texas State, and resident Mattie Medina for providing a soap box derby event. Thank you all for your support and dedication to our community!

JULY EVENTS

♦ Central Texas Food Bank Children Feeding Program

Monday-Thursday, 12 —1 PM

♦ Hays Caldwell Council

Every Wednesday, 1—2 PM

♦ Money Management Class/Bingo

July 11, 10 AM—12 PM

♦ United Way Reading Class

July 12, 1—2 PM

♦ KAD Crafts with Mattie

July 12, 2—3:30 PM

♦ Hays Caldwell Council Teen Group

July 12, 3:30—4:30 PM

♦ Good Neighbors Reading Program

Every Tuesday, 11 AM—12 PM

CHAPULTEPEC HOMES & ADULT LEARNING CENTER

JULY HAPPENINGS



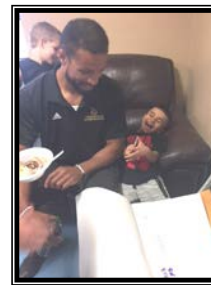
Summer Picnic
July 5
6 –8 PM

FSS Class: Financial Security
presented by BBVA Compass
Bank - July 18
5–6 PM

Our June FSS class was presented by Lupe Valdes with the USDA Rural Development program. He provided information on two different home buying loan options. This is a great opportunity for future FSS graduates. Here is what one participant had to say about the class:



“I just got off the phone with my mom like almost crying because this dream I’ve had of owning a home just turned into a very achievable reality for me. I had no clue how to approach home buying or even thinking about home buying and now I’m sitting here with a solid 5-year plan, which ends with me being a homeowner. That class was incredible!”



Last month we had a pizza and ice-cream party to celebrate the end of the school year and the time Curtis spent with us as the after-school program facilitator. The kids seemed excited to celebrate the end of school and had lots of laughs with Curtis. The kids made Curtis a card wishing him well and although they seemed sad to have to say goodbye, they gave lots of hugs and told him how much he will be missed.



If you haven't heard yet, the newly renovated Children's Park Playscape is now open. You may not know that Stewart Dale Spencer, our Assistant Program Director, played a role in the development of the original Playscape, built over 25

years ago. Pictured above is Stewart at the grand opening, along with Cathy Dillon, one of the three women that brought the idea to the community. He is wearing an original t-shirt from when the first Playscape was constructed. Way to go on still being able to wear that shirt!



Below Corrie looks happy to have received a Birthday Box donated by sharingbirthdayjoy.org. Her little brother, Mason, was all smiles wearing a birthday party hat. What a great organization that helps spread birthday joy!



SMHA BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

The Board of Commissioners covered a lot of territory at their June meeting. First up was a presentation about the 2017 audit. The auditors reported to the Commissioners that the Housing Authority had good financial controls and there were no findings (which is accountant-speak for problems). The only issue was that Housing Authority reserves are significantly decreased as a result of the long-term consequences of the 2015 floods. Executive Director Albert Sierra reported to the Commissioners about the progress of the Housing Authority's application to recover funds expended in the repair of the CM Allen homes from the CDBG – DR program. The Housing Authority has applied to the city for \$864,803. As part of the process, the Housing Authority was required to get elevation assessments from FEMA and to add additional flood insurance through the National Flood Insurance Program. The assessments have been done and the commissioners approved the purchase of the insurance at this meeting. Sierra expects to meet with the mayor and the city manager soon in connection with the application for disaster relief funding.

GOOD STUFF AT THE PUBLIC LIBRARY!**SPOOKY Poetry Writing Workshop**

Friday, July 13
3:00-5:00 p.m.

Join Wade Martin, poetry and writing enthusiast, for a fun (and spooky!) writing workshop for teens and adults to celebrate Friday the 13th. Don't be scared! Get the cob-webs out of your writer's block and join in for this creative treat.

Canine Behavior Problem Prevention

Thursday, July 26
7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Maria Victoria Garcia, a certified canine training and behavior specialist, will instruct on preventing common behavior problems such as jumping, chewing, barking, pulling, begging, digging, inappropriate elimination, etc. She will give you the tools to mold your dog/puppy into an upstanding canine citizen and family member. Free, all ages welcome. No dogs permitted for this event.

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.
Library Closed July 4

**Get the latest news about the San Marcos Housing Authority!**

Official information is regularly posted on our website. A few times each month, we post stories that include public notices, a digital version of our monthly newsletter, policy changes, and resident opportunities. You can

get these stories automatically by email. Go to smpha.org on your smart phone, tablet, or desktop computer. Scroll down until you will see "Subscribe to Blog via Email." Right below that is a place where you can enter your email address to receive notifications of new posts by email. And in case you are wondering, your email address is not shared with anyone else.

On the right, this plant was spotted at the CM Allen Homes recently. Although it is called the century plant, it typically lives only 10 to 30 years. Near the end of its life, the plant sends up a tall, branched stalk, with yellow blossoms. The plant dies after flowering, but produces shoots from the base, which continue its growth. Maria Pena, a former resident, told us she planted it in 2008 so this is what you would call an early bloomer, for sure!



San Marcos

Public Library

July/August
2018**Chemistry Rocks!**Friday, July 27
2:00 p.m.

Ages 3 and up. Dr. Ben Martin reveals science secrets with chemical experiments that change color, blow bubbles, and burst into flame!

**Kent Cummins
Magic Show**Wednesday, August 8
11:00 a.m. & 1:00 p.m.

Free ticket required,
available July 25

All ages. Magnificent magician Kent Cummins and his granddaughter, the Amazing Adele, will astonish all ages with feats of mystifying magic and illustrious illusion. Pick up free tickets beginning July 25. Program sponsored in honor of L. Dianne Murray.

Mad ScienceWednesday, July 18
10:00 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.

Free ticket required,
available July 3

Ages 3 and up. It's not magic, it's science! See sensational secrets revealed with eye-popping and jaw-dropping science experiments.

Early Literacy FestivalWednesday, August 1
10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

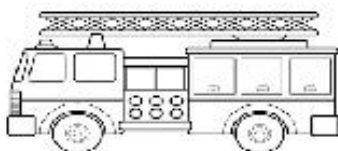
Ages 0 to 6. A festival of fun to celebrate the magic of early childhood with age-appropriate activities and early literacy strategies families can use at home. Check your progress towards your 1000 books, or sign your child up for a 1000 Books Before Kindergarten library card. Let's get every child ready to read!

**Fired Up
About Reading**Tuesday, July 17
7:00 p.m.

and

Thursday, August 2
10:00 a.m.

San Marcos firefighters visit the library with hot stories and cool trucks!

**Mermaid & Sea
Monster Hat Craft**Monday, July 23
9:00 a.m.

and

Tuesday, August 7
6:00 p.m.

Registration required.

Join us to make a fun mermaid or sea monster hat to wear during San Marcos' Mermaid Splash Weeks (September 8-22). Supplies provided.

**Get Your 1000
Books Library Card**

1000 Books Before Kindergarten® is a registered trademark of the 1000 Books Foundation, used with permission.

LEGO Mania

Fridays, July 6, 13, & 20

Friday, August 3
3:00 p.m.

Grab a bowl of LEGOs and a base plate and build your dream creation. Ages 4 and up.



July 2018



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

1	2	3	4 <i>SMHA OFFICES CLOSED</i>	5	6 <i>Orientation Workforce Solutions, 10 AM</i>	7
8	9	10	11 <i>Money Management Bingo, KAD @ 10</i>	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 <i>Financial Security Class CALC @ 5 PM</i>	19	20 <i>Orientation Workforce Solutions, 10 AM</i>	21
22	23	24 <i>Board of Commissioners 5:30 PM</i>	25	26 <i>Food Wise Cooking Class CALC @ 6 PM</i>	27	28
29	30	31	July was named by the Roman Senate in honor of Roman general Julius Caesar because it was the month of his birth. Prior to that, it was called Quintilis, the fifth month of the original 10-month Roman calendar.			

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