



Stories That Really Move You!

I was delighted to get a phone call from Bonnie Pecina letting me know that the KAD program at the CM Allen Homes was once again welcoming volunteers. I first became aware of this amazing program when the children from CM Allen attended a summer camp that I co-teach at Texas State University. After the camp ended, Bonnie called seeking volunteers. I was happy to help out, and I now go monthly to read to the children then lead a movement activity that usually aligns with the story.

I know the importance of providing physical activity opportunities for children, as well as the value of children hearing rich oral language through storytelling. The KAD program offers the perfect avenue to bring these needed experiences to the children of CM Allen. Mostly, I just love being with the children and they seem to enjoy the experience.

~ Rose Berglund

[Editor's Note: Rose retired from public education after 35 years of teaching and is now a Lecturer in the Department of Health and Human Performance at Texas State University.]



HOUSING AUTHORITY OFFICES TO REOPEN

Beginning Monday, November 2 our offices will be open to the public with limited capacity for each site. Face coverings must be worn upon entering our buildings. Please continue to do the following:

- ⇒ Pay rent online at www.smpa.org or drop off your money order or check in the night drop box. We strongly encourage you to create an account online to pay your rent and other fees owed to SMHA. There is no fee to set up an account online or to make any payments.
- ⇒ Continue calling in all work orders via telephone.
- ⇒ Appointments will be made to sign your annual lease contract.
- ⇒ Please decrease the traffic in our offices/lobbies and call to make an appointment if you must meet with your site manager or any other staff member.

Applications for admission can be retrieved online at www.smpa.org and can be mailed in or dropped off in our night drop box.

ALLEN WOODS HOMES — PODER LEARNING CENTER

Being thankful in times of a pandemic is not an easy thing. So let's start with a deep breath. That breath that gave us another day of life . . . another day to see all the things we saw today, the friends we got to talk to, and the experiences we got to live through.



Things might not always meet our expectations, but remember the times when things have *exceeded* our expectations. Thank those around you that have helped you get through this year, but don't forget to thank yourself for being strong enough to get through another day.

Pumped Up Pumpkins

WE ARE SO IMPRESSED BY HOW CREATIVE OUR RESIDENTS ARE WHEN THEY PRESENTED THEIR PUMPKIN MASTERPIECES! WITH DIFFERENT TYPES OF MATERIALS SUCH AS PAINTS, MARKERS, GLITTER, AND OTHER CRAFT ITEMS, THEY CREATED PUMPKINS THAT SHOWED THEIR HALLOWEEN AND FALL SPIRIT. THE WINNER, HELEN RODRIGUEZ, RECEIVED A FALL-THEMED GOODY BASKET AND EVERY PARTICIPANT RECEIVED A BAG OF HALLOWEEN CANDY.



Last Bit of Summer

Before the weather turned cold, the teens at PODER enjoyed a surprising bit of fun in the sun at Canyon Lake on Indigenous Peoples' Day. Since many of the rivers, pools, and lakes were closed this summer, kids weren't able to enjoy swimming as in previous years. With very few people on the beach on a Monday, the teens enjoyed skipping rocks, playing sharks & minnows, and splashing around. When the teens got back to the center, they were treated with Wingstop wings and board games. It was a nice change of pace for everyone and a much needed break from their current reality.



Springtown Villa

Activities Returning Soon!

We are excited to be working to resume activities at Springtown! We are working to come up with fun and safe activities that everyone can enjoy! We hope to bring back fan favorites, such as bingo and movie night! We are already attempting smaller events, like pumpkin painting, to gauge interest. Our final goal is to have fun, safe activities soon!



A friendly reminder from our Resident Council that they are still here and their thoughts are with everyone.

President Lino Puente

“We’ll be opening up soon! Be patient and safe everyone!”

Vice-President Rhonda Massey

“John Wayne said ‘Courage is being afraid but saddling up anyway.’”

Treasurer Eric West

“Be vigilant and careful!”



We're opening up!
The Springtown Villa office will be open again on Monday, November 2.

C. M. ALLEN HOMES — KAD KORNER STORE

We were excited to get together as a community for KAD Halloween. Our kids were able to dress up for the costume contest which was judged by three local state troopers and two of our own elder residents. The kids had so much fun painting pumpkins, spinning the wheel for prizes, and participating in the cake walk where many kids were able to take a cake home. The top three winners of the costume contest from first place to third place were Kaylianna Gonzalez, Damien Guevara, and Massiah Galvez.



Some of our residents have started playing Loteria at home. Each day we deliver two cards to their door and when they get a bingo they post their sign outside their door. This has been a fun way of keeping our honored elders involved in community life.



We will be taking Fall-themed family pictures starting the first week of November. Please come by the KAD center to sign up for a date and time.

CHAPULTEPEC HOMES & ADULT LEARNING CENTER



The closet cleanout was a success!
Thanks to everyone that came to get things they needed.

As many of you already know, I have taken a position with ARCIL here in San Marcos. I am so blessed to have had the opportunity to live at and work for the Housing Authority. When I moved here I had no support system, but within the Resident Services programs I found the support that I so desperately needed. As an employee of the Housing Authority I was given the opportunity to learn and grow, as I entered the professional workforce. I am grateful for all of the mentoring and encouragement from Gene, Stewart, Maria, Bonnie, and Matt. My biggest blessing is getting to know so many wonderful people that have embraced me and let me help guide them. This move was necessary for the betterment of my family, I am very emotional right now because I am excited to be moving on to a new adventure but I am sad to leave behind all of the people that I have met during my time here.

To all of my residents: You all have such amazing potential. I know that each and everyone of you will go on to do amazing things. Know that you have the power to change the world. I cannot wait to see all the wonderful things you will accomplish. I will miss each and every one of you.

With greatest love and respect,
Kathy



And the winners of the pumpkin coloring contest are...

Jolie R. age 12

Parker C. age 10

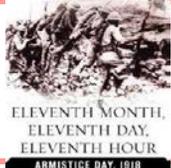
Claire C. age 6

Brayden C. age 3

Special thanks to Maria Calcaben for being our judge.



November

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2		4	5	6	7
8	9	10	 <p>ELEVENTH MONTH, ELEVENTH DAY, ELEVENTH HOUR ARMISTICE DAY, 1918</p>	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22		24 <i>Board of Commissioners</i> 5:30 PM	25		28	
29	30	November (from the Latin novem or nine) was the ninth month of the old Roman calendar. November retained its name when January and February were added to the calendar. November was referred to as Blōtmōnaþ by the Anglo-Saxons. Seems fitting, doesn't it?				

LEADERSHIP	HOUSING OFFICES	RESIDENT SERVICES
Board of Commissioners Richard Cruz — Chairperson Gloria Salazar — Vice-Chairperson Nina Linda Ramos — Commissioner Rachel Durrance — Resident Comm. Mittie Miller — Commissioner Executive Director Lana Wagner	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	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