

ONE VOICE

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HACA'S 100th COMPUTER RECIPIENT FINDS A NEW WORLD ON INTERNET

Teresa Frazier, 67, of North Loop Apartments, was the 100th HACA resident to receive a free refurbished computer donated by Austin Community College. She earned the device after completing Austin Pathways' Tech Starters computer class taught by Austin Free-Net.

Teresa said she used to be afraid of computers, but Tech Starters helped her overcome her fear. She's since expanded her horizons via the internet, and says she feels more connected to her past and the present.

"It's so uplifting," she said. "The sky's the limit."

Teresa enjoys using Google to reminisce and research the places she traveled as a child. The daughter of migrant farmworkers, Teresa and her parents spent years following crops from the Rio Grande Valley in Edinburg, Texas, to Washington State.

"We traveled as far north as Canada," she said. "We went to Mount Rainier and Chelan Lake. The pictures are set in my mind. Now that I Googled Mount Rainier, I want to go over there to visit my family and the area."



Her newfound computer skills also have allowed her to become more active in her community. She registered online for a library card and takes frequent trips to gather new books. She is even considering taking writing classes through Badgerdog so she can document and share her childhood adventures.

"It's like I woke up," she said. "I'm more apt to being out there than just sitting at home. It's a whole new world!"

THINKING OF GOING BACK TO SCHOOL? FREE MINDS CAN HELP!



Free Minds, a program of Foundation Communities' College Hub, offers a free two-semester college humanities course for adults. Students work with top college faculty, earning six college credit hours upon completion of the course. Classes meet two evenings a week in east Austin August-May. Tuition, books, child care and support services are free to participants. Tutoring and transportation assistance are also available. Check out the program's eligibility requirements and/or apply online by July 7 at FreeMindsAustin.org. For more info., call (512) 610-7961.

Our Mission & Vision

To cultivate sustainable affordable housing communities and partnerships that inspire self-reliance, growth and optimism. We envision neighborhoods where poverty is alleviated, communities are healthy and safe, and all people can achieve their full potential.

ANNUAL NAHRO AWARDS HIGHLIGHT OUTSTANDING RESIDENTS

HACA is proud to announce that several of the agency's public housing residents and Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) clients were recently recognized with awards from the Texas and Southwest National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials.

North Loop resident Bill Alexander was named the Texas NAHRO 2017 Resident of the Year for his continued participation in Resident Council and for being a longtime advocate for resident needs.

Bouldin Oaks Resident Yousef Younes and Santa Rita Resident Sophie Asifiwe each received a scholarship from Texas NAHRO. Yousef is a senior at Travis High School who has his sights set on a career in engineering or computer science. Sophie is a senior at Eastside Memorial High School who plans to become a nurse.

HCV clients Australia Nelson and Roshonda Smith Livingston each received a scholarship from Southwest NAHRO. Australia is a 40-year-old mother of four who strives to earn her Bachelors of Science in Nursing from the University of Texas at Arlington. Roshonda, 26, is a single mother of three boys who is currently pursuing a degree in social work at Austin Community College.



Top Photo: (From left) SW NAHRO scholarship winners Roshonda Smith Livingston (HCV), Australia Nelson (HCV), and TX NAHRO scholarship winners Yousef Younes (Bouldin Oaks), and Sophie Asifiwe (Santa Rita).
Bottom Photo: 2017 TX NAHRO Resident of the Year Bill Alexander



(From left) Rocky Harlingen, Vernon Neal and Jon "Mike" McCaskill helped their neighbors get to safety when a fire started in a unit at Gaston last month.

FIRE SPARKS TEAMWORK AT GASTON

When a fire started in an apartment at Gaston Place on May 2, fellow residents Rocky Harlingen, Vernon Neal and Mike McCaskill flew into action. Rocky pulled the emergency fire cord, while Mike ran throughout the property to alert residents of the emergency. The men worked with Resident Council President Alice Merida and HACA staff Miriam Yoke, Anthony Zernick and Valerio Utrera to call the fire department and evacuate the building. Thanks to the quick actions of the Gaston community, the fire damage was limited to one unit, and no one was seriously injured. Most often fires are started through carelessness with cooking, matches, cigarettes and candles, many fires can be avoided by using caution and common sense. Follow these fire prevention tips:

- Cooking grease should be completely cool and placed in metal can before disposing of it in the trash.
- Do not burn candles in your unit.
- Do not allow young children to operate the stove.
- Properly supervise children and ensure they do not have access to matches or lighters.

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD FOR 2017 PHA ANNUAL PLAN REVISIONS

HACA will have a public comment period for a revision to the 2017 Annual Plan to include language for the separation of the land associated with Mainsprings School from Meadowbrook Apartments and to transfer this land to HACA's nonprofit subsidiary to Austin Affordable Housing Corporation. There will be a 45-day public comment period now through 5 p.m. July 10. All comments should be made in writing and delivered to 1124 S. IH-35 Austin, TX 78704 and made to the attention of Michael Gerber, President/CEO.

Public Hearings to present comments regarding the draft annual plan and the proposed revisions to both policies will be conducted during the Citywide Advisory Board Meeting at 10 a.m. June 13 at Booker T. Washington Terraces, 905 Bedford Ave.

The HACA Board of Commissioners will vote on the adoption of the revision to the 2017 PHA Annual Plan at noon on July 13, at the HACA Central Office, 1124 S. IH-35. A forum will be available during Citizens Communication to voice your concerns.

Copies of the revision to the 2017 PHA Annual Plan are available for review and inspection at the HACA Central Office located at 1124 S. IH-35 or an electronic version is available online at www.hacanet.org.

HACA is committed to compliance with the American Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Please call 477-4488 ext. 2112 for assistance.

LET HACA HELP YOU FIND THE PATHWAY TO HOMEOWNERSHIP

Thinking of buying a house? Learn about what it takes to qualify for homeownership, what is involved in being a homeowner, and what resources are available through HACA to make it happen!

All public housing residents and HCV clients are invited to attend a Pathway to Homeownership Workshop presented by Austin Affordable Housing Corporation Project Development Manager Suzanne Schwertner from noon to 1 p.m. on June 29 at the HACA Central Office, 1124 S. IH-35.

Lunch is free, and attendees will have the opportunity to win a gas card! For more information or to register to attend, call Lisa at (512) 767-7646 or visit <http://www.hacanet.org/residents/fss-services>.



GIFT CARD GIVEAWAY

Are you reading One Voice? For a chance to win a \$10 gift card, call (512) 477-4488 ext. 2601, and leave a message with your name, phone number, property name and unit number. Say the key phrase: "SUMMER FUN." The first 15 callers could win one of 10 gift cards. Contest open only to subsidized and public housing residents.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

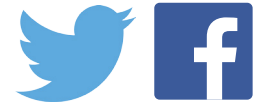
HACA Administration (512) 477-4488
 Resident Call Center (888) 842-4484
 Maintenance Work Orders (512) 477-8518
 Section 8/Housing Choice (512) 477-1314
 Fire/Police 911
 Non-Emergency Police 311
 Poison Center (800) 222-1222
 Quit Smoking (877) 937-7848
 RAD Hotline (844) HACA-RAD

One Voice is published by the Housing Authority of the City of Austin. Submit comments, articles and photos to One Voice via email at: media@hacanet.org.

All submissions must include a name and phone number to be considered. Copy may be edited because of space limitations.



HACA does not discriminate on the basis of disability status in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its federally assisted programs and activities. The following person has been designated to coordinate compliance with the nondiscrimination requirements contained in HUD's regulations implementing Section 504: Vice President of Housing & Community Development, 1124 S. IH 35, Austin, TX 78704, (512)477-4488; TTY: (800) 735-2989 or 711 Voice Relay.



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JUNE 2017

Editor's Note: Scheduled meetings are subject to change.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 Rent due RAD Meeting 5:30 p.m. @ Northgate	2 Resident Council 11 a.m. @ Georgian 1:30 p.m. @ Santa Rita	3
4	5 Resident Council 1:30 p.m. @ Bouldin	6 Resident Council 11 a.m. @ Coronado RAD Meeting 10:30 a.m. & 5:30 p.m. @ Lakeside	7	8 Resident Council 1:30 p.m. @ Gaston RAD Meeting 4 & 5:30 p.m. @ Chalmers	9	10
11	12 Resident Council 11 a.m. @ Lakeside 1:30 p.m. @ Meadowbrook	13 Citywide 10 a.m.	14 RAD Meeting 10:30 a.m. @ Gaston Resident Council 10:30 a.m. @ Northgate 1:30 p.m. @ North Loop	15 RAD Meeting 5:30 p.m. @ Goodrich Resident Council 10:30 a.m. @ Chalmers 1:30 p.m. @ Rosewood/Salina	16	17
18 Father's Day	19 Resident Council 1 p.m. @ Thurmond	20 First Day of Summer Resident Council 11 a.m. @ BTW	21 RAD Meeting 4 & 5:30 p.m. @ Georgian	22 Resident Council 11 a.m. @ Goodrich 1:30 p.m. @ Man. 11 1:30 p.m. @ Man. Village 1:30 p.m. @ Shadowbend	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	