

ONE VOICE

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HACA Youth Gets a Stellar Opportunity at West Point this Summer



Astrophysicist Neil deGrasse Tyson said, “Everyone should have their mind blown once a day.” Well, one day last month, Georgian Manor resident Joseph Williams and his mother Lenora got the mind-blowing news that 12-year-old

Joseph was among about 100 kids in the U.S. chosen to attend the 2017 STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) Workshop from May 30 to June 2 at the U.S. Military Academy in West Point, New York. This unique program is especially designed for seventh and eighth graders like Joseph who demonstrate strong interest and skills in science, technology,

engineering and math. HACA ROSS Specialist Ben Calvo encouraged Lenora to help Joseph apply for the program. Within weeks, Lenora received an email confirming Joseph had been accepted, and HACA began making travel arrangements for Joseph. “We’ve never had the opportunity to leave the state before, and I thought this will be great for him,” Lenora said. “I appreciate HACA’s help because I never thought that he would have this kind of opportunity.” Joseph is a student at Gus Garcia Young Men’s Leadership Academy where he consistently makes the A/B honor roll. He said his favorite class is science. “I like astronomy,” Joseph said. “Studying space.” In his free time, Joseph enjoys camping under the stars with his Boy Scout troop where he currently serves in the rank of Tenderfoot. We at HACA hope Joseph’s experience at West Point is out of this world!

The First Tee of Greater Austin Offers Golf Camp for HACA Kids

The First Tee of Greater Austin helps shape the lives of young people by reinforcing values like integrity, respect, and perseverance through the game of golf!

In partnership with HACA, the First Tee is offering a free, four-day summer camp open to HACA children ages 9 to 14. Full-day camps run from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday-Thursday. Half-day camps run from 8 to 11 a.m. Monday-Wednesday. Campers will be introduced to drills

and compete in fun games at the Harvey Penick Golf Campus’ three-hole short courses and practice several golf techniques. Campers will then cool down from the Austin heat at the adjacent East Communities YMCA pool, which even has a water slide! Sound like fun? Contact YES Manager Felisa Jones at (512) 767-7825 or email felisaj@hacanet.org to participate in the camp’s selection lottery. Hurry! The lottery is open now and closes May 15.

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.



ROOM TO PLAY

Bouldin Gets a New Playground

It didn't come in a basket or wrapped in a bow, but the new playground equipment at Bouldin Oaks was a welcome Easter surprise.

A few young HACA residents broke in the new playscape last month during a property-wide Easter egg hunt on Easter Sunday, April 15.

Children took a break from collecting colored eggs to run in the wood chips,

climb on the monkey bars, and swing on the swingset.

The covered playscape is one of several improvements being made at Bouldin Oaks and other HACA properties as part of the Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) project. For HACA residents, RAD=PIC, protections, improvements, and choices.

Exterior improvements will continue at Bouldin Oaks throughout the summer. Additional upgrades at the property will include barbecue grills and an onsite laundry facility.

For more information about RAD, visit www.hacarad.org, email hacarad@hacanet.org, or call the RAD Hotline at (844) HACA-RAD (422-2723).



HACA'S OWN RHYMING SIMON

Lakeside resident Ailana Larson wrote and illustrated her first book when she was 6 years old. She remembers her mother reciting lines from Robert Louis Stevenson as she pushed Ailana on the swing. Now 67, Ailana is an award-winning poet who recently took home a trophy during the 25th Annual International Poetry Festival. Ailana competed in a Haiku Death Match against international, state, and local poets. "Thanks HACA

and Family ElderCare for Badgerdog! They provided the opportunity to publish my first works, attend poetry evening classes for free and meet other wonderful poets," Ailana said. "I am now part of a group that is lead by a wide variety of instructors who offer new and different styles of poetry instruction. This has built a peer community which continues to enhance my literary skills and bring about friendships. I feel like I'm HOME."



Join Us for Mayfiesta This Month!

¡Vámonos a Mayfiesta! The 25th Annual Mayfest is set for 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. May 5 at the Doris Miller Auditorium, located at 2300 Rosewood Ave. This year's theme is a fun and colorful party, or fiesta, to celebrate Older Americans Month! All seniors and persons with disabilities living at HACA's public and subsidized housing

properties are encouraged to attend. The afternoon will feature games, prizes, a resident talk show, and vendors from several local service organizations like Family ElderCare, AGE of Central Texas, and United Healthcare, and a taco lunch. Call your ROSS specialist or FSS coordinator if you need help with transportation.



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: "MAY FLOWERS." The first 15 callers could win one of 10 gift cards. Contest open only to subsidized and public housing residents.

HARVARD VISITS HACA

Researchers from the Harvard Chan School of Public Health recently visited HACA as part of a Smoke-Free Policy study. HACA was one of 15 public housing authorities in the U.S. invited to participate in an on-site visit. The study, led by researchers Robyn Rae Keske and Jodi

Anthony, explores smoke-free policies at public housing communities. Researchers met with HACA executives, directors, managers, and residents to discuss the impact HACA's smoke-free policy (implemented on September 1, 2015) has had on residents, agency staff, and overall operations.



Jobs Plus Honors Community Liaisons

Jobs Plus ATX hosted a thank you and good-bye party last month celebrating the end of the service term for the first cohort of Jobs Plus Community Liaisons. Outgoing Community Liaisons had the opportunity to talk with partners to plan their next steps in the Jobs Plus program, such as training or employment services.

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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MAY 2017

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Rent due Resident Council 1:30 p.m. @ Bouldin	2 I-DADS 7 p.m. @ BTW Resident Council 11 a.m. @ Coronado	3 I-DADS 7 p.m. @ BTW	4	5 Resident Council 11 a.m. @ Georgian 1:30 p.m. @ Santa Rita	6
7	8 Resident Council 11 a.m. @ Lakeside 1:30 p.m. @ Meadowbrook	9 I-DADS 7 p.m. @ BTW Citywide 10 a.m. RAD Meeting 5:30 p.m. @ Santa Rita	10 I-DADS 7 p.m. @ BTW Resident Council 10:30 a.m. @ Northgate 1:30 p.m. @ North Loop	11 Resident Council 1:30 p.m. @ Gaston	12	13
14	15 Resident Council 1 p.m. @ Thurmond	16 I-DADS 7 p.m. @ BTW Resident Council 11 a.m. @ BTW RAD Meeting 4 & 5:30 p.m. @ Meadowbrook	17 I-DADS 7 p.m. @ BTW RAD Meeting 4 & 5:30 p.m. @ Georgian	18 Resident Council 10:30 a.m. @ Chalmers 1:30 p.m. @ Rosewood/Salina	19	20
21	22	23 I-DADS 7 p.m. @ BTW RAD Meeting 10:30 a.m. @ North Loop	24 I-DADS 7 p.m. @ BTW	25 Resident Council 11 a.m. @ Goodrich 1:30 p.m. @ Man. 11 1:30 p.m. @ Man. Village 1:30 p.m. @ Shadowbend	26	27
28	29	30	31			