



HOUSING AUTHORITY OF TRAVIS COUNTY

THE OAKS NEWS

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE PUBLIC HOUSING, MANOR TOWN AND CARSON CREEK RESIDENTS OF THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

June 2016

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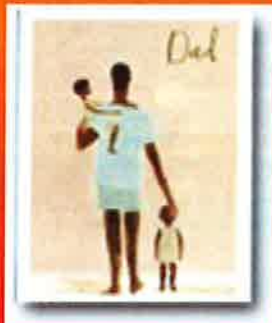
FATHER'S DAY JUNE 19, 2016!!

Father's Day is a celebration of fathers inaugurated in the early twentieth century to complement Mother's Day in celebrating fatherhood and male parenting.

Credit for what we now recognize as the official Father's Day goes to Sonora Smart Dodd, born in Arkansas from Spokane, who invented her own celebration of Father's Day in 1910. Its first celebration was in Spokane, Washington on June 19, 1910. Her father, the Civil War veteran William Jackson Smart, was a single parent who reared his six children in Spokane, Washington.¹²¹ Although she initially suggested June 5, her father's birthday, she did not provide the organizers with enough time to make arrangements, and the celebration was deferred to the third Sunday of June.

A bill to accord national recognition of the holiday was introduced in Congress in 1913. In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson went to Spokane to speak in a Father's Day celebration and wanted to make it official, but Congress resisted, fearing that it would become commercialized. US President Calvin Coolidge recommended in 1924 that the day be observed by the nation, but stopped short of issuing a national proclamation. Two earlier attempts to formally recognize the holiday had been defeated by Congress. In 1957, Maine Senator Margaret Chase Smith wrote a proposal accusing Congress of ignoring fathers for 40 years while honoring mothers, thus "[singling] out just one of our two parents". In 1966, President Lyndon B. Johnson issued the first presidential proclamation honoring fathers, designating the third Sunday in June as Father's Day. Six years later, the day was made a permanent national holiday when President Richard Nixon signed it into law in 1972. In addition to Father's Day, International Men's Day is celebrated in many countries on November 19 for men and boys who are fathers.

One early observance of a Father's Day took place in Fairmont, West Virginia on July 5, 1908. It was organized by Mrs. Grace Golden Clayton, who wanted to celebrate the lives of the 210 fathers who had been lost in the Monongah Mining disaster several months earlier in Monongah, West Virginia, on December 6, 1907. It is possible that Clayton was influenced by the first celebration of Mother's Day that same year, just a few miles away.



Clayton chose the Sunday nearest to the birthday of her recently deceased father. Unfortunately, the day was overshadowed by other events in the city, West Virginia did not officially register the holiday, and it was not celebrated again. Clayton's celebration was forgotten until 1972, when one of the attendants to the celebration saw Nixon's proclamation of Father's Day, and worked to recover its legacy. The celebration is now held every year in the Central United Methodist Church, as the Williams Memorial Methodist Episcopal Church, South, was torn down in 1922.



Important

Phone Numbers

**Housing Staff
Manager**

**Joanne Serrano
480-8245 ext. 17**

**Public Housing
Specialist**

**Gabrielle Wright
480-8245 ext. 38**

Senior Lead Maintenance

Alfred Galvan

Lead Maintenance

Juan Martinez

**Custodian/
Maintenance
Worker**

Jesse Villanueva



Work Order

Request Line

512-617-7850

**For After Hours
Emergencies call**



**and then call
Management at
512-563-0261**

SMOKE-FREE PROPERTIES NOW IN EFFECT!!!

The Housing Authority of Travis County (HATC) is implementing a smoke-free housing policy for all of its residential properties on **June 1st 2016**. Smoking will be prohibited in public housing units and common areas including outdoor patios, hallways, stairwells and parking lots. Smoking will only be allowed in designated outdoor areas. HATC's smoke-free policy applies to all residents, guests, contractors and employees of the properties. The purpose of HATC's smoke-free policy is to create a healthier, safer and cleaner living environment for residents. Specifically, the smoke-free policy aims to:



- Protect residents from the dangerous health impacts of second hand smoke.
- Reduce the risk of fire. HATC has had several fires resulting from smoking materials, matches and lighters.
- Reduce property maintenance costs. Cleaning costs are lower when management doesn't have to scrub, paint and replace items in a residential unit that smell like smoke or are covered in residue at unit turnover.

Definition of smoking

Smoking is defined as inhaling, exhaling, burning, or carrying any lighted cigar, cigarette, electronic cigarette, pipe, weed, plant, or any combustible substance in any manner or in any form.

******Smoking will only be allowed in areas designated with smoking signs. Signs will be posted at all residential properties. ******

Smoke-Free Policy Enforcement

Prior to 06/01/16 tenants will be required to sign a lease addendum acknowledging HATC's smoke-free policy. Enforcement of HATC's smoke-free policy will be as follows:

1. Verbal warning and referral to cessation services
2. Written warning and referral to cessation services
3. Probation and referral to cessation services
4. Eviction

******A family may forego eviction if they agree to attend an approved smoking cessation class and present HATC with a certificate of completion and commitment to comply with HATC's Smoke-Free policy.******

HATC staff will be available to assist residents in accessing smoking cessation programs and other services to help tenants be successful.

Any questions about HATC's smoke-free policy should contact Joanne Serrano, Property Manager or Gabrielle Wright, Public Housing Specialist by phone at 512-480-8245, or by email at joanne@hatctx.com/ gabrielle@hatctx.com.

DONATIONS

Thank you to Costco Wholesale and Unity Contractor Services for donating to our Public Housing residents.



HISTORY OF JUNETEENTH

Though Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on September 22, 1862, with an effective date of January 1, 1863, it had minimal immediate effect on most slaves' day-to-day lives, particularly in the Confederate States of America. Texas, as a part of the Confederacy, was resistant to the Emancipation Proclamation, and though slavery was very prevalent in East Texas, it was not as common in the Western areas of Texas, particularly the Hill Country, where most German-Americans were opposed to the practice. Juneteenth commemorates June 18 and 19, 1865. June 18 is the day Union General Gordon Granger and 2,000 federal troops arrived in Galveston, Texas, to take possession of the state and enforce the emancipation of its slaves. On June 19, 1865, legend has it while standing on the balcony of Galveston's Ashton Villa, Granger read the contents of "General Order No. 3":

The people of Texas are informed that, in accordance with a proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of personal rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and hired labor. The freedmen are advised to remain quietly at their present homes and work for wages. They are informed that they will not be allowed to collect at military posts and that they will not be supported in idleness either there or elsewhere.

That day has since become known as Juneteenth, a name derived from a portmanteau of the words June and nineteenth.

Former slaves in Galveston rejoiced in the streets with jubilant celebrations. Juneteenth celebrations began in Texas the following year. Across many parts of Texas, freed people pooled their funds to purchase land specifically for their communities' increasingly large Juneteenth gatherings — including Houston's Emancipation Park, Mexia's Booker T. Washington Park, and Emancipation Park in Austin.

WATER SAFETY: SIMPLE TIPS FOR SAFE SWIMMING!!

At the pool

When you're swimming in a pool or lounging in a hot tub, common sense reigns.

Follow the rules. Don't run around the pool or drink from glass containers.

Keep an eye on your kids. Even strong swimmers need adult supervision. Insist on life jackets for children who can't swim. If you need to leave the pool area — even for a minute — take your children with you.

Make sure the water is clean. The water should be clear and free of leaves, dead insects and other debris. **Stay away from drains, filters and water intakes.** Loose hair or clothing can get tangled in these structures — possibly trapping you under the water.

Monitor electrical power. Keep electrical appliances — TVs, radios and disc players, for example — a safe distance from the water. Never operate an electrical appliance when you're wet.

Locate the emergency equipment. Find the first-aid kit, and look for a flotation ring to throw to an exhausted swimmer and an extension pole to pull the swimmer to safety.

At the lake, river or ocean

If you'll be swimming in the open water, you'll need to take a few extra precautions.

Stay within designated swimming areas. These areas — which are usually marked off by ropes or buoys — are more likely to be free of weeds, rocky underwater terrain and other dangers. If you can, swim in an area that has a lifeguard.

Heed warnings. Don't swim in water known to be polluted. Pay attention to warning flags for high tides and other dangers.

Test the water depth before you dive in. Diving into water that's too shallow may lead to neck injuries or paralysis. **Know your limits.** Cold water, currents and other conditions on the open water can challenge swimmers. Start out slowly, and don't swim too far from shore.

Don't fight a strong current. If you get caught in a current, swim parallel to the shore until you feel the current relax — then swim gradually toward shore.

Protect your feet. Wear sandals or shoes on the beach to protect your feet from hot sand, broken glass and sharp seashells.

Steer clear of plant and animal life. Jellyfish, stingrays and other marine animals can cause painful stings or allergic reactions. Brushing up against certain types of seaweed or coral can result in painful scratches and scrapes.



Sun and Heat Safety Tips

In general, use moderation and common sense to enjoy Austin's sun and summer safely.

Slow down. Pay attention to your body's warning signs. If you feel overheated or tired, drink some water, reduce your activities, and stay in a cool, shady or air-conditioned place as much as possible.

Don't dry out. Drink plenty of nonalcoholic, non-caffeinated liquids during hot weather, even before you feel thirsty. Doctors recommend an electrolyte-replacement drink (like Gatorade) or water for those who are outside more than an hour or two.

Dress for hot weather. Wear lightweight, light-colored and loose-fitting clothing with a hat and sunglasses to help maintain normal body temperature.

Don't get too much sun. Sunburn makes the body's job of heat dissipation more difficult. Besides a hat and sunglasses, plenty of good sunscreen (minimum 15 SPF) is recommended. Avoid too much direct sunlight between 10:00 am and 3:00 PM even on cloudy days, when you can still get sunburned.

Beware of high humidity. When the humidity is low, air movement evaporates perspiration and cools your body. But when the humidity is high, this evaporative cooling is lost, and the danger of heat-related illness or death is increased.

SENIOR GIGGLES

A mother took her little boy to church.

While in church the little boy said, "Mommy, I have to pee."

The mother said to the little boy, "It's not appropriate to say the word 'pee' in church. So, from now on whenever you have to 'pee' just tell me that you have to 'whisper'."

The following Sunday, the little boy went to church with his father and during the service said to his father, "Daddy, I have to whisper."

The father looked at him and said, "Okay, just whisper in my ear."

There was a captain sailing on the sea during a battle. His servant came up to him and the captain said, "bring me my red shirt". So, the servant did as the captain said.

After that the servant came up to the captain and said, "Why did you say bring me my red shirt?"

The captain said, "Well if i get shot they won't see the blood."

The next day the servant came up to the captain and said, "There are 50 ships on the horizon."

The captain said, "Bring me my brown pants."

A man goes into a bar with his dog. He goes up to the bar and asks for a drink.

The bartender says "You can't bring that dog in here!" The guy, without missing a beat, says "This is my seeing-eye dog."

"Oh man," the bartender says, "I'm sorry, here, the first one's on me." The man takes his drink and goes to a table near the door. Another guy walks into the bar with a Chihuahua. The first guys sees him, stops him and says "You can't bring that dog in here unless you tell him it's a seeing-eye dog."

The second man graciously thanks the first man and continues to the bar. He asks for a drink. The bartender says "Hey, you can't bring that dog in here!"

The second man replies "This is my seeing-eye dog." The bartender says, "No, I don't think so. They do not have Chihuahuas as seeing-eye dogs."

The man pauses for a half-second and replies "What??! They gave me a Chihuahua??!"



RENTAL PAYMENTS
RENTAL PAYMENTS ARE DUE ON
THE 1ST OF EACH MONTH. PAY-
MENTS CAN BE HAND DELIVERED
OR MAILED TO:
THE HOUSING AUTHORITY OF
TRAVIS COUNTY
502 E. HIGHLAND MALL BLVD.
SUITE 106-B
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78752
PAYMENTS MUST BE MADE IN
THE FOLLOWING FORMS:
MONEY ORDER
CASHIER'S CHECK
PERSONAL CHECK
NO CASH WILL BE ACCEPTED
IF AN NSF CHECK IS PRESENTED
TO HATC FOR RENT, ALL FU-
TURE PAYMENTS MUST BE MADE
IN THE FORM OF A MONEY OR-
DER OR CASHIER'S CHECK. UN-
CERTAIN AS TO HOW MUCH
YOUR RENT IS? YOU MAY CON-
TACT MANAGEMENT AT 480-
8245 EXT 17 OR EXT 38. WORK

FATHER'S DAY STUFFED FRENCH TOAST

Ingredients

- 1 box instant vanilla pudding
- 2 cups very cold milk

Whipped Cream Topping:

- 1 cup very cold heavy cream
- 3 tablespoons confectioners' sugar
- 2 cups (about 1/3 box) va-
nilla wafers
- 2 bananas, sliced
- 1 teaspoon pumpkin pie
spice, for garnish

Directions

Put pudding packet contents into a glass bowl. Whisk in the milk. (To get milk very cold, put it in the freezer for 15 minutes).

In a clean bowl, using an elec-
tric beater or a whisk, beat to-
gether the cream with confec-
tioners' sugar until soft peaks
form.

Line each serving glass with a
single layer of vanilla wafers
and top with about 3 table-
spoons of pudding mix, whipped
cream, then a few

slices of banana. Repeat creat-
ing 3 layers and finishing with
a pudding layer. Allow to sit in
refrigerator for at least 1 hour
and up to overnight to set and
soften the cookies.

Top each dessert with a gener-
ous dollop of whipped cream.
Garnish with pumpkin pie
spice, a vanilla wafer and slice
of banana.

MONTHLY HOROSCOPE

Gemini 05/21-06/20

You're a rising star in 2016, Gemini, but it will keep constant effort to avoid slipping back down. Are you up for this? Of course you are!

Your attention is zeroed in on making progress, getting and holding on to those things you love most, and on not being rushed into making decisions. This year, you will ask all the right questions and refuse to proceed without solid answers and information.

The Mercury retrograde periods in May and then in September may be your most accomplished and solid times. September is especially potent. With Mercury in Virgo, you can easily self-correct and nudge situations and relationships to where you want them.

Home life should bring much satisfaction, and possibly some karmic insights, particularly in September and October. Family mysteries may be solved, or resolved.

Emotional ties and romance are empowered in November, but it may be December when you are the most

