

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF TRAVIS COUNTY

THE OAKS NEWS

DECEMBER 2016

RAD INFORMATION MEETING

The Housing Authority of Travis County will be conducting informational meetings for RAD (Rental Assistance Demonstration). Please make your best efforts to attend.

Alexander Oaks

December 20, 2016

6:00pm-7:30pm

Alexander Oaks Office

Eastern Oaks

December 21, 2016

6:00pm-7:30pm

Eastern Oaks Office

Summit Oaks

December 22, 2016

6:00pm-7:30pm

Summit Oaks Office

COMMISSIONERS

Chairman

John Hernandez

Vice Chairman

Ann Denton

Commissioner

Wilmer Roberts

Commissioner

Eddie Karam

Commissioner

Robbye Meyer

STAFF

President &

Executive Director

Patrick Howard

Director of Housing

Operations

Christina Montes

Assistant Director

Housing Of

Operations

Barry Hall

Housing Specialist

Gabrielle Wright

CHRISTMAS TREE SAFETY TIPS

Follow these steps for the perfect, accident-free tree:

- Look for a tree with branches that can bend without breaking such as pine or spruce as they don't burn as easily.
Make sure your tree fits firmly in its stand and has plenty of water.
Examine all your holiday lights for frayed wires and broken sockets.
Never overload the outlets or use real candles on your tree.
Keep the lower branches short so they don't poke small children in the eye.





**MAINTENANCE
WORK
ORDER
REQUEST
LINE
617-7850.**

COLD WEATHER PRECAUTIONS

It is necessary to take the following steps to avoid freezing pipes in the event that the outside temperatures fall below 32 degrees.

- Open all water faucets to a very thin trickle and allow water flow to continue throughout

the night.



- Leave all cabinet doors underneath sinks open so the water pipes will remain ventilated with warm air.
- Leave the heat turned to "AUTO" and thermostat set at no less than 60 degrees.
- If you plan to be out of town or away from your home for more than 48 hours, please notify management so that your home can be checked periodically for frozen or busted pipes.

TODDLER TOY BUYING GUIDELINES

Before purchasing any gift on your child's wish list, it is important to check the label and make sure it's appropriate for his/her age. According to Parents.com, accidents can be avoided if the guidelines listed below are followed for children 3 years of age and under.



- Avoid buying toys with small parts, such as puzzles or mini building blocks, which can be a choking hazard.
- To prevent strangulation, make sure strings, straps and cords on toys are no more than 5 inches long.
- Steer clear of toys with sharp or jagged edges.
- Never give your toddler an electric or battery-operated toy (unless the battery case screws shut).
- Throw away all packaging immediately, especially plastic bags.

**HAPPY
BIRTHDAY TO
ALL BORN IN
DECEMBER!**



**For Emergencies
After Office
Hours Call And**

911

**Then Contact
Management at
512-563-0261.**

MEXICAN HOT CHOCOLATE

Ingredients

- 3 ounces (tablet or cone) Mexican chocolate or bittersweet chocolate
- 3 cups of milk
- 2 tablespoons of sugar
- Pinch of salt
- Miniature marshmallows
- 6 cinnamon sticks

(preferably Mexican canela), for serving

Instructions

Using a sharp knife, break up the chocolate into small pieces. In a saucepan, combine the chopped chocolate, milk, sugar, and salt over medium-low flame. Heat and stir until the chocolate is completely

melted and milk is very hot, but not boiling. Remove from the heat and froth with a mini whisk. Divide the hot chocolate among big mugs, top each with a few marshmallows, and serve with the cinnamon sticks as stirrers.



BROWN SANTA REGISTRATION



The Brown Santa Program provides assistance during the holidays to families residing in Travis County, primarily living outside the geographical city limits of Austin. The registration deadline is December 1st. You may apply at:

OakHill/Lake Travis Area:
West Rural Community Center

Manager: Jane Price MacLean
8656-A State Hwy. 71 W
Suite A
Austin, Tx 78735

Manor Area:
East Rural Community Center
Manager: Dennis Chapman

600 W. Carrie Manor
Manor, Tx 78653
512-854-1531

Del Valle Area:
South Rural Community Center
Manager: Ross Stephens
3518 FM 973 South
Del Valle, Tx 78617
512-854-1521

Coats for Kids

Coats for Kids is an annual community project that collects and distributes warm winter coats to eligible children and teenagers in Central Texas. Each year, The Junior League of Austin, Jack Brown Cleaners, KASE 101, and KVUE partner to organize and facilitate the details of Coats for Kids in an effort to bring the community together to ensure that the children of Central Texas stay warm.

Distribution Information

Distribution Day: Saturday, December 10th 8:00 AM-3:00 PM

Distribution Site:

Palmer Events Center
900 Barton Springs Rd.

Contact Information:

The Junior League Of Austin
(512) 467-8982



Social Media

Like us
[@Housing Authority of Travis County](#)

Follow us
[@HATCTX](#)

Visit our
website at
HATCTX.com

Giggles!!!

A couple of tourists were dining at a fine restaurant in Paris. After waiting for an hour, the husband finally was able to catch the waiter's eye. "I want a bottle of your best wine," he ordered.

"What year?" asked the waiter.

"Right now!" bellowed the tourist.





HATC Office Hours

Happy Hanukkah

The office hours for HATC changed (effective 12/9/16)

Monday-Thursday 8am-5pm

Closed For Lunch: 12pm-1pm

Friday

8am-12pm

Walk-Ins are welcomed Tuesdays and Thursday 8am-3pm

You must have an appointment to talk to your Housing Specialist Monday, Wednesday, and Friday

December 26th, 2016-January 2nd, 2017 the Office will be closed in observance of Christmas and New Years

SAGITTARIUS HOROSCOPE (NOVEMBER 22-DECEMBER 21)

2017 is a year wide open with opportunities for Sagittarians. There is plenty of energy that will prompt you to dig in and make tremendous progress.

There are also countless doors opening to new, previously unconsidered projects, pursuits, and partnerships. Forget those preconceived notions of what you should do or need to do. This year, you can do just about anything.

The Sun-Pluto conjunction in Capricorn in January keeps your attention on career and public pursuits. You're not limited to being intense only about work, though. If you have a creative or other passion, you can get intense about that, too.

2017 starts with Mercury retrograde in Capricorn but the planet goes direct in Sagittarius. Work steady but aim high. The fourth and final Mercury retrograde is entirely in Sagittarius. Saturn spends the year in Sagittarius so Mercury's extra time there in December only improves your grasp on whatever situation is developing around you.

When the Sun enters Sagittarius in November, planets are scattered around the sky. There is a Mercury-Saturn conjunction, however, that sharpens your keen mind and tempers your social activities.

The asteroid Ceres is also transiting the Lunar North Node in glorious Leo. Nurturing yourself and your loved ones has never been easier or more satisfying.