

# CENTRAL TEXAS HOUSING CONSORTIUM

## NEWSLETTER

www.centexhousing.org

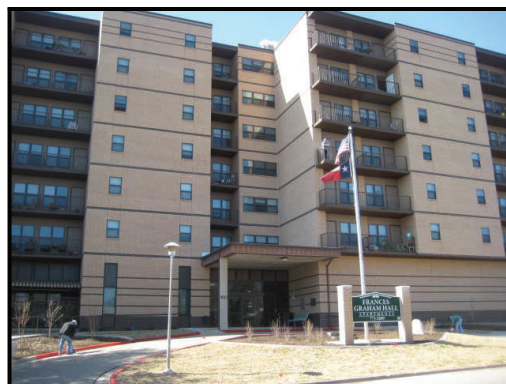
MARCH 2011



### Landscaping Gives Frances Graham Hall a New Look

Walking paths, garden benches and new shrubs, sod and groundcover have been installed at Frances Graham Hall for the residents to enjoy when our balmy spring days arrive! This project also included six new resident parking spaces.

2010 ARRA Capital Funds, FGH reserves and 2009 Capital Funds. With these projects finished or nearing completion, we are starting to plan for the renovation of the common areas.



#### Inside This Issue

|  |   |
|--|---|
| Simplify Your Life with Auto Draft for Your Rent | 2 |
| TISD Bond Election                               | 2 |
| Public Housing Annual Plans                      | 2 |
| Check Out the WOW Bus!                           | 2 |
| The Real World                                   | 2 |
| Resident Spotlight                               | 3 |
| Health Fairs                                     | 3 |
| Pest Control                                     | 3 |
| Kaleidoscope News                                | 4 |
| BBQ Dinner                                       | 4 |
| Bullying - Not a New Problem                     | 4 |

Enhancement of this property's landscape continues a major modernization project that has included solar panels, new chillers, new common area and laundry room HVACs, water-saving plumbing fixtures, ceiling fans and energy-saving compact fluorescent light bulbs. To maintain the improved landscaping, a high efficiency sprinkler system was installed.

Funding for these projects was provided by the ONCOR Take A Load Off Texas Program,

### Calendar of Events for Residents

|                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| Mon. / Wed. / Fri. | Temple GED Class at Rose Hall - 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm  |
| Tue. & Thu.        | Belton GED Class at BHA Resident Center - 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm  |
| Mon. & Wed.        | Temple Computer Classes at Rose Hall:<br>Beginner Computer Class - 3:30 pm to 5 pm<br>Intermediate Computer Class - 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm |
| Mon. & Wed.        | Belton Computer Class at BHA Resident Center - 1:30 pm to 3 pm   |
| Tue. & Thu.        | BHA STRIVE at BHA Resident Center - 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm   |
| Mon. & Wed.        | THA STRIVE at Rose Hall - 4:30 pm to 5:30 pm   |
| March 7            | THA Family Nutrition at Rose Hall - 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm   |
| March 8            | BHA Family Nutrition at BHA Resident Center - 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm   |
| March 11           | Kyle Health Fair - 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm  |
| March 14           | Makeup Housekeeping Workshop at BHA Resident Center - 10:00 am to 10:45 am   |
| March 17           | Real World for BHA & THA Youth at Rose Hall - 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm   |
| March 23           | 4H Meeting at Rose Hall - 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm   |
| March 24           | College Campus Visit for Youth in Grades 7 to 12 - 10:00 am to 2:00 pm   |
| March 29           | Common Cents Living "Passing on Values to Children" at Rose Hall - 12:30 pm to 2:30 pm   |
| March 31           | Health Fair at Rose Hall - 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm  |
| April 7            | Money Habitudes by Agri Life at Rose Hall - 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm   |
| April 11           | THA Family Nutrition at Rose Hall - 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm   |
| April 12           | BHA Family Nutrition at BHA Resident Center - 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm   |
| April 26           | Common Cents Living "Get the Facts on Serving Sizes" at Rose Hall - 1:00 pm to 2:00pm  |
| April 27           | 4H Meeting at Rose Hall - 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm   |

Check out the schedule of resident activities on our website at [www.centexhousing.org](http://www.centexhousing.org)

#### CURRENT & UPCOMING CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

- ◆ FGH - ceiling fan and compact fluorescent bulb installation
- ◆ Tembell landscaping improvements / exterior lighting
- ◆ Tembell - construct two duplexes
- ◆ Tembell buildings 1 & 3 - install new windows and thin brick
- ◆ Golden Haven - replace east entrance door
- ◆ Carver - cabinet replacement in selected units
- ◆ Electronic deadbolt installation CTHC-wide
- ◆ Crestview / Ratliff exterior power washing

### Simplify Your Life with Auto Draft for Your Rent

Would you like to not have to worry about coming into the office or mailing that rent check on time every month? Sign up for automatic rent draft! It's easy - just come by the office with a voided check and ask the Admin staff for an automatic rent draft form. We will sign you up, and CTHC will draft your bank account on the due date of your rent each month. One less thing for you to remember every month!

### TISD BOND ELECTION

A bond election is scheduled for May 14 that would allow major improvements to be made at Jefferson and Scott Elementary Schools, three middle schools and Temple High. This is an important decision for the Temple community, so all issues should be reviewed carefully.

If you are not a registered voter, please contact the Temple Housing Authority main office. You are encouraged to cast your vote, and we can register you.

### Public Housing Capital Fund Plans

It is time to begin updating the annual Capital Fund Plan. It will include planned capital improvements for the next year. Residents will be notified when meetings will be held to discuss the Plan. We encourage all residents to attend these meetings to provide their input.

## Check Out the WOW Bus!

The WOW (Wildcat On Wheels) Bus from TISD will be visiting several complexes during the remainder of this school year. It is equipped with computers to give students an opportunity to complete school assignments. Parents can use the computers to check students' grades online. There is an area set up for



board games, and surplus school supplies are distributed when available. The bus will be at the following sites on the designated Mondays from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.:

- ★ February 21 – Friendship House – 1609 East Avenue I
- ★ March 7 – Adams Bend Apartments – 3101 West Adams
- ★ April 18 – Friendship House – 1609 East Avenue I
- ★ May 2 – Willow Brook Apartments – 511 West Avenue V



- ★ May 16 – Friendship House – 1609 East Avenue I

## THE REAL WORLD

What skills do youth need to succeed in the real world? CTHC youth, ages 10 to 18, will find out at 4 p.m. on March 17 at Rose Hall when they participate in a simulation of the "real world." The program is a hands-on activity where youth participants explore career opportunities and make lifestyle and budget choices similar to those faced by adults on a daily basis. The youth will choose a career, save 10% of their take-home pay, learn skills needed to manage finances, write checks and balance a checkbook. They will also explore alternatives that would help balance a budget.



discuss factors that influence career choices and randomly select a career for this activity. When they have determined their net income, they begin to make choices for housing, transportation, insurance, groceries, etc. For each category, participants make a choice, write out a check, and balance their checkbook. At the end of the exercise, they draw a "chance card" that reflects emergency expenditures or unplanned income requiring budget adjustment.

This program positively influences the financial management skills, knowledge, and attitudes of youth as they prepare for success in the real world. Sign up the youth in your household today! Dinner for participants will be included.

The program was conceived and will be run by Family and Consumer Sciences / 4-H Extension Educators. Participants

For details or more information on any resident programs or activities mentioned in this newsletter, contact the Resident Services Department at 773-2009, extensions 220, 221, 222 or 233 for Temple. For Belton, please call 939-5321, extension 25.

## Resident Spotlight - JoEva Mobley

Frances Graham Hall resident JoEva Mobley was born in the small east Texas town of Alto. When she was just six weeks old, her parents moved to Houston, which was then a small agricultural town. She grew up in a farming family, living on five acres of land. Their farm had cows, chickens, pigs, a horse, and a huge garden to feed the growing family. JoEva remembers all the canning they did to survive the year. The family consisted of her parents and five children including JoEva's older sister Ruth, her twin sister LuAva, her brother Calvin, and her baby sister Anne. She remembers the Depression years and thinking how poor her family seemed until one day when she noticed that many of the children at her small, rural school had no lunches. With her family's self-sufficiency, they were always well-fed.

JoEva was the first member of her family to graduate from high school. Following high school, she worked in Houston at the S. H. Kress "five & dime" lunch counter. She later worked as a salesgirl at Foley's. She vividly remembers Pearl Harbor; she was on a date and they heard the news on the radio. Her date immediately stranded her saying that he

needed to sign up for the war effort. JoEva had to find her own way home!



JoEva met her husband, Lester Mobley, soon after the war began. He was in the Air Force medical corps (under Army supervision) at Ellington Field, where the U.S. had begun training pilots. They were married in 1942. Housing in the area was hard to come by, and their first home was a one-room apartment. JoEva worked as a welder at the shipyards during the war. When the war was over and with the aid of the G.I. Bill, the couple was able to buy

their first home. Their first daughter, Barbara, was born in 1945; their second, Lucy, in 1949.

After her husband passed away, JoEva continued living and working in Houston as a church secretary until she received a call from her daughter in Germany, where she and her husband were missionaries. Lucy was about to give birth to her fifth child and asked her mother for assistance. So, JoEva left for Germany and spent four years there doing mission work. Upon her return, she applied for housing with the Temple Housing Authority and soon became a resident of Golden Haven for 17 years.

Two years ago, her health declined somewhat, and JoEva requested a transfer to a handicapped unit. The one available at the time was at Frances Graham Hall, so fearless, JoEva made yet another new start. She remains active, continuing her mastery of all things creative such as painting, knitting, crocheting, needlework, etc. She now has seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren, with much-anticipated twin boys due soon!

### ★★★ Health Fairs ★★★

**CTHC & the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor Nursing students will partner to offer two health fairs in March.**

★ "Spring into Health" for Adults - at the Kyle, Friday, March 11, 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm ★

★ "Healthy for Life" for All Age Groups - at Rose Hall, Thursday, March 31, 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm ★

Community partners will be on hand to address a variety of health topics at both events.

Make plans to attend!

## PEST CONTROL

Pest control is a joint effort between residents and management. Residents are required to maintain cleanliness in their apartments to ensure pests are not "living" in our communities. Residents may treat their apartments for pests as long as the product used is a residential product and applied according to the application instructions on the label.

Charges for pest control treatment could be passed along to the resident if the source of the pests is from cleanliness issues in the apartment.

When you see pests, you should always let your Complex Manager know. Pests may include bed bugs, cockroaches, mice, and

rats. If possible, let us know exactly where you saw the pests. The sooner we know, the sooner we can take steps to eliminate them. But you do not have to just wait to see pests. You can take easy steps that are more powerful than pesticide sprays to get rid of pests and keep them away.

Pests will not live where they cannot find food, water, or shelter. Here are some tips for making your home an unfriendly environment for pests.

- Store fresh food or food in cardboard boxes in containers that pests cannot get into. Containers should have tight lids and be made of plastic, glass, or metal.



- To control crumbs and make clean up easier, only eat in the kitchen or dining area of your home.

- Wipe down all counters and tables where you eat, and stovetops after meals.
- Pests don't need much to live on. Sweep the kitchen and any other eating areas after meals.
- Look for and clean up food spills or buildup of food material on or under countertops, stoves and refrigerators.
- Keep pet food covered and don't leave it out at night.

# KALEIDOSCOPE NEWS

## TEEM Program

Assessments are underway for the children involved in the TEEM (Texas Early Education Model) Program, and we are looking forward to seeing them graduate later this year!



## Soothing Music!

Ms. Udelia made circle time a grand time when she took out the guitar and started strumming for her Toddler B class!

## Fun Curriculum!

The old saying "Children learn through play!" is true at Kaleidoscope! Pre-schoolers have been honing their pre-writing and fine motor skills.

## Goey-Goey Science!

What is that goey stuff? Nathaniel is enjoying a science experiment in the Preschool I classroom.



## Taking Time to Make Friends!

You can never start making friends too soon - as proven in the Infant A classroom.



## **BBQ Dinner**

sponsored by the  
**Western Hills Church of Christ**  
**Sunday, April 3, 2011**  
**4:30 pm to 6:00 pm**

**The Kyle, Frances Graham Hall & Golden Haven**

Please refer to our website  
[www.centexhousing.org](http://www.centexhousing.org)  
 for the list of the Board of  
 Commissioners and staff directory.

# Bullying - Not a New Problem

There have always been bullies. But in this technological age, bullying has taken on some added dimensions, and resulted in serious consequences for the victims and the perpetrators.

What is the definition of bullying? A lot of young people have a good idea of what it is because they see it every day. Bullying happens when someone hurts or scares another person on purpose and the person being bullied has a hard time defending himself or herself. Usually, bullying, like the following examples, happens over and over.



- Punching, shoving, and other acts that hurt people physically
- Spreading bad rumors about people
- Keeping certain people out of a "group"

- Teasing people in a mean way
- Getting certain people to "gang up" on others

Cyber-bullying is when children or teens bully each other using the Internet, cell phones or other technology. This can include:

- Sending mean text, email, or instant messages
- Posting nasty pictures or messages about others in blogs or on Web sites
- Using someone else's user name to spread rumors or lies about someone

Unfortunately, not everyone takes bullying seriously, not even adults. However, it can be extremely serious. Bullying can affect the mental well being, academic work, and physical health of children who are targeted. Children who are bullied are more likely than other children to have lower self-esteem; and higher rates of depression,

loneliness, anxiety, and suicidal thoughts. They also are more likely to want to avoid attending school and have higher school absenteeism rates. Recent research on the health related effects of bullying indicates that victims of frequent bullying are more likely to experience headaches, sleeping problems, and stomach ailments. Children who bully are more likely than other children to be engaged in other antisocial, violent, or troubling behaviors. Bullying can also negatively affect children who observe bullying going on around them, even if they aren't targeted themselves.

Family members - parents, siblings, grandparents, and others - play key roles in helping to prevent bullying, stopping bullying that may be occurring, and helping children and youth to cope with bullying that they already have experienced. Information is available at [www.StopBullyingNow.hrsa.gov](http://www.StopBullyingNow.hrsa.gov) to help adults and children understand and prevent bullying.