



CLUB NEWS



The **Positive Place For Kids**

May 2009

El Lugar **Ideal Para Crecer**

BIGHAM Youth Storm House of Representatives FLOOR!

On April 22, 2009 five members from the Bigham Unit in Killeen were escorted by Representative Ralph Sheffield of District 55 to the floor of the House of Representatives in Austin. The kids were part of Charity Day at the Capital, they were treated to a special proclamation and the opportunity to HIT the gavel during the session. Hannah E, Hunter E, Jamar D, Marcus D and Annisa D all had a life changing experience during their visit. According to Unit Director Hasina Rogers the new motto of the Bigham Unit is "Our Actions are the Spring of our Happiness." With good grades, good behavior and self-respect comes great rewards!



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Upcoming Events:

May 9th

The Central Texas Professional Association Summer Staff Training @ Marble Falls

Week of May 25th

Free Membership Week at all CLUBS!

Youth of the Month

Bigham Unit
Joann H.

Clements Teen Center
Crystal E.

Copperas Cove Branch
Ashanti S.

Gatesville Branch
Brittany R.

Georgetown Branch
Haley C.

Lampasas Branch
Emily C.

Woody Hall Unit
Essence W.

Branch Director Takes Pie In Face for Habitat

Julie Hudson, Branch Director for the Boys & Girls Club of Gatesville took a pie in the face for Habitat for Humanity. The Torch Club chose Habitat for Humanity for their community project, and decided to raise money to buy a few things for the new house when it's built. The Torch Club and staff decided to hold a competition. Each staff member was given a container that the kids and families could drop money into. At the end of the two weeks the two staff members with the most money in their containers would get a pie in the face. So... Jennifer Feather-

ston & Julie Hudson took one for the team. By the way the kids from the Torch Club raised \$458 with their project. The Boys & Girls Club of Gatesville has been recognized nationally for their outstanding programming in all five youth core program areas. This character and leadership program has now evolved to Gatesville, starting their 1st ever Keystone Club for youth 13-18 years of age.



Georgetown Annual Red Poppy Festival

The Georgetown Boys & Girls Club had the opportunity to participate at the city's annual Red Poppy Festival. Club members worked at the informational booth alongside board members selling T-shirts and helping festival goers with their questions. All of the children did a great job representing the club and were all very enthusiastic and friendly towards the patrons.

Quote of the Month

"It was energetic, it was happy, it was welcoming. As soon as you walked in you heard the sounds of activity. It was a healthy place to spend time, not just in a physical sense, but in a cultural and social sense. There was always something positive going on.

LEONARD NIMOY"

Lampasas Hosts Inter Club Tournament



2009 Area Games Room Tournament

APRIL 18th – The Boys and Girls Club of Lampasas played host to the 2009 Area Games Room Tournament. The tournament was attended by the Gatesville, Georgetown, Lampasas, and Woody Hall clubs. This year's Champion was Georgetown. The participants took part in Air Hockey, Foosball, Peterson Pool, Bobcat Pool, Checkers, Sorry, Connect 4, and Speed Stacking. Gatesville came in 2nd place this year, and the Woody Hall unit came in 3rd. The kids from the Woody Hall unit deserve special recognition for the fact that they did not have teenage representation. The kids were treated to pizza, drinks, snacks, and had team challenges to keep them busy throughout the day.

Woody Hall Unit Easter Egg Hunt and Relays

April was a fun filled month, full of new and exciting events for the Woody Hall Unit Club members. We started the month off with an Easter Egg Hunt, which was started on Friday April 10th, by teaching kids how to dye Easter eggs. The club members got very creative with their egg decorating skills. These eggs turned out egg-errific! The eggs were saved and used for the Easter egg hunt that was held the following day. We had our club members personalize their Easter egg bags by decorating them with various arts & crafts items. Approximately 150 youth participated in the hunt.



Copperas Cove & Torch Club Team Up for Easter Egg Hunt!



The Boys & Girls Club of Copperas Cove provided an Easter Egg Hunt for kids on April 10th with the Torch Club taking the lead in hiding 600 eggs. The kids were bused to South Park where they were let loose to search for eggs. Alissandra, our TOP EGGER came in with about 35 eggs. Special golden eggs were filled with special prizes. Fun was had by all!

Poetry Comes to AYPYN Middle School Sites

Under the direction of Jena Gesserman, professional poet from Austin, Texas. Each of the four middle school sites were treated to their creation of a poetry book. Each child was exposed to creative writing opportunities as well as learning more about writing poetry. Jena makes things fun for the youth involved and provided them with the opportunity to develop their own skills. Way to go JENA!



Mother/Daughter Sleepover Held in

On March 27th, 2009 the Boys & Girls Club of Gatesville held its first mother/daughter sleepover. This event was used to encourage families to participate in activities with their children. In the theme of "spa night" everyone was treated to homemade facials made from yo-

gurt, honey and oats. They also had their hair and nails done...which turned out very appropriately an '80's theme; a flashback for all mom's.



From the CPO Desk

Community mobilization and family involvement are strategies of our Boys & Girls Club organization. This strategy can be used to better serve more young people and broaden the impact of all Club programs. With the newly created five-year Strategic Plan we continue to meet the daily challenges of our youth. Each of our club members and club staff realize that this movement is bigger than ourselves. Our goal is to provide a SAFE, POSITIVE atmosphere where every child can grow and develop. As we move forward throughout the year let's remind ourselves that every CHILD is worth saving and every CHILD deserves our very best!

For upcoming events or for general information please call:

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Daniel Anstee

Stonehaven Unit Director

James Beavers

Robertson Ave. Branch Director

Julie Hudson

Gatesville Branch Director

Michael Blount

Lampasas Branch Director

Tiana Marratta, Rachel Lassiter,

Amanda Reardon

Unit Directors
AYPYN Middle School Program