



CLUB NEWS



The *Positive Place For Kids*

March 2008

El Lugar Ideal Para Crecer

A Tribute to Black History Month

The month of February commemorates the celebration of Black History in America. Black History Month highlights the accomplishments, sacrifices, and shed blood that helped shape a culture into what we know and believe today. That all Americans regardless of the color of their skin all strived for a couple of common goals; to have the rights and freedoms that are common place in America, and the right to be called an American. The

goal of the Clements Teen Center staff is to educate its members about this culture. Throughout the club posters are posted to tell of the stories and accomplishments of African Americans heroes, how they helped to shape and develop a nation with little or no credit for the things that they did. Everyday a question of the day is posted at the front desk and in the computer /tech lab. Even though our youth might not know at the time what

African American invented the traffic light (Garrett A. Morgan), when they leave the club that day they have learned something new. Prizes are given out to the teens who answers the questions posted. This is a tribute to the Club staffs commitment of placing positive information in its members. The members are not just learning that February is Black History Month but that February is a lesson on AMERICAN HISTORY.

Crystal Cox Named Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Texas 2007 Youth of the Year

Crystal Cox is a true example of an extraordinary young woman. At age 16 she has just been selected as the Youth of the year for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Texas. Cox is among hundreds of local Youth of the Year winners across the country recognized by Boys & Girls of America for her sound character, leadership skills and willingness to give back to the community.



Her biography has been published twice in the Who's Who Among American High School Students and once in Who's Who Among American High School Honor Society. She is a member of the Youth Advisory Committee in the city of Killeen. Cox tutors her peers in all core subjects and foreign languages. Cox is a member of Marlboro Heights Missionary Baptist Church, Inc., where she participates actively in Youth Ministry and Young Adult and Sanctuary Choirs. Cox is from a single parent family where she is the second child of five. She

contributes to her family by helping with her younger brother who has cerebral palsy.

"Crystal is an inspiration to all who comes in contact with her. She is kind, dedicated, and respectful. Crystal is a jewel (diamond). I know that she will represent the Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Texas to highest level of dignity," said Yolanda Potter, Clements Teen Center Unit Director.

This winter, Cox will compete against other Boys & Girls Club members for the Texas Youth of the Year title and a \$1,000 scholarship from Reader's Digest. If Cox wins at the state level, then she will compete for the title of Southwest Region Youth of the Year and an additional \$10,000 scholarship. The five regional winners will advance to Washington, D.C., in September 2008 to compete for the title of Boys & Girls Club of America National Youth of the Year. The National Youth of the Year receives an additional \$15,000 college scholarship and is installed by the President in an Oval Office ceremony.

Angel C named Boys & Girls Clubs of Central Texas 2007 Jr Youth of the Year

Junior Youth of the Year is a program to prepare younger members for competing in the National Youth of the Year competition. They go through the same paperwork and interview as Youth of the Year; however they are only 11-13 years old. This is to give them insight and teach them the importance of going

that extra mile. Angel C from the Stonehaven Unit will accompany Crystal Cox to the North Texas Area Council meeting for the next round of competition. This will give Angel the opportunity to experience first hand the in's and out's of competing for the title of National Youth of the Year when her time comes.



Desktop Publishing by:
Thidarat Rattanapintha
Abdul Subhani
Editor:
Yolanda Potter

Youth of the Month

Woodrow Hall Unit
Allen C.

Bigham Unit
Willameana N.

Clements Teen Center
Joshua W.

Stonehaven Unit
Cheyenne R.

Gatesville Unit
Kristen S.

Lampasas Unit
Dakota A.

Copperas Cove Unit
Chelsea H.

Quote of the Month

"I am what time, circumstance, history, have made of me, certainly, but I am also, much more than that. So are we all."

James Baldwin

Community Service in Lampasas

Youth at the Lampasas Club rolled up their sleeves and put on their creativity caps for a community service project. Over thirty youth participated to make homemade Valentines Day cards that were to be distributed to local nursing homes on Valentines Day. The kids learned the importance of reaching out to others and touching hearts, even if in small ways.

Soaring Eagles Teamwork

The Georgetown "Soaring Eagles" Torch Club was able to learn about the importance of teamwork recently when they were paid a visit by Sergeant Jose Cortez and his wife. Sergeant Cortez spoke to the group about how he and his team had to work together to accomplish their missions in Iraq. He asked what their idea of teamwork was and then discussed leadership and the how it pertains to group success. The Torch kids were very vocal and enthusiastic and decided at the end of their meeting to adopt two units in Afghanistan and one in Iraq. We are looking forward to putting together our first club care packages to these soldiers serving overseas.

A few Torch members took the teamwork concept a step further by taking part in the MLK Youth Service Day on January 21st. Participants assembled around 8:30am at a local community service center where they were given various projects to help with.



These included raking leaves and making valentines cards for local Meals on Wheels recipients. After eating lunch, all participants were given the opportunity to take part in the local MLK march. Although some decided to return to the club because of the rain, a few did manage to tough it out and were able to listen to several local community members speak about the importance of the day and how it influenced their lives.

Basketball at it's best

The Clements Boys & Girls Club basketball leagues are in full swing this winter, with games being played every Saturday, Monday, Tuesday & Thursday starting at 5:30 pm during the week and 9:00 am on Saturday's. Playoffs will begin on Monday February 25 for the 3/4 grade and February 27 for the 5/6 grade leagues.



Sand Cups

Ingredients:

1 pkg. (12 oz.) NILLA Wafers
2 cups cold milk
1 pkg. (4-serving size) JELL-O Vanilla Flavor Instant Pudding & Pie Filling
1 tub (8 oz.) COOL WHIP Whipped Topping, thawed
8 to 10 (7-oz.) paper or plastic cups



Suggested garnishes: gummy worms or other gummy candies, candy flowers, "rocks", chopped PLANTERS Peanuts, granola

Directions:

CRUSH cookies in zipper-style plastic bag with rolling pin or in food processor container.
POUR cold milk into large bowl. Add pudding mix. Beat with wire whisk 2 minutes or until well blended. Let stand 5 minutes. Gently stir in whipped topping and 1/2 of the crushed wafers.
PLACE about 1 Tbsp. crushed wafers in each cup. Fill cups about 3/4 full with pudding mixture. Top with remaining crushed wafers. Refrigerate 1 hour or until ready to serve. Garnish just before serving.

For upcoming events or for general information please call:

(254) 699-5808

Admin Office:

304 West Ave B, Killeen - TX 76542

Woodrow Hall

Chief Professional Officer

Jon Charles

Deputy Chief Professional Officer

Calvin Darthard

Director of Operations

Leslie Carrasco

Director of Program Services

Francie Charles

Resource Development Director

Abdul Subhani

Information Technology Auditor

Yolanda Potter

Clements Teen Center Unit Director

Craig Neighbors

Bigham Unit Director

Daniel Anstee

Stonehaven Unit Director

James Beavers

Robertson Ave. Unit Director

Julie Hudson

Gatesville Unit Director

Cindy Harris

Lampasas Unit Director

Michael Blount

Unit Director
Noon Exchange Learning Center

Black History Month Celebrations

Our members have been working on three challenges for the month of January. The challenges are: Get fit challenge, Invent-a-game challenge, and Jump rope challenge-

Club members are learning to improve their basic skills and learning new ones. They have been practicing with a partner in double dutch, and speed rope jumping. To showoff all our skills we will have a jump rope showcase where they will demonstrate the skills that they have learned in the month of January. On Friday, February 8th at 4pm our members will showcase their hard



work and talent. We will have the fastest jump rope jumper, the longest jump rope jumper followed by the jump rope dance routine.

Club Members Participate in the Digital Arts Festival

Club Members finished their Movie Makers projects in Georgetown, Copperas Cove, Gatesville and Lampasas recently and the local winners entries were sent on to the regional contest. During this project Club Members were asked to create a short Public Service Announcements using this year's theme "Our Changing

World".

Over the next month, Club Members will be asked to create a 1 page magazine PSA to the same the theme. Also, the younger club members will be introduced to Animate Your World, a cartoon animation program provided by Cartoon Network for the Boys and Girls Clubs.



2008 begins a new year for the Boys & Girls Club of Gatesville, and the eginning of great programs

In January, the Green Vest program was introduced at the Gatesville Club, with many teens and pre-teens looking forward to earning their way into one of the "Green Vest". The Green Vest program was started this year to help the kids form leadership roles within the club.