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*Creating*



*Futures*

Summer Program 2009



*Bringing People and Jobs Together*



**Workforce Solutions of Central Texas  
Summer Youth Employment Program  
“Creating Futures”**



- Who:** Youth, ages 14-24  
**What:** Paid work experiences  
**When:** June 1 – July 31 (staggered start times)  
**Where:** Public and private employers  
**How Many:** 438 youth  
130+ worksites  
**Why (Goals):** Help Central Texas youth gain work experience, learn work ethic soft skills (Big 20), and/or get exposure to work-based concepts.

**Worksite-Based Community Projects:**

- Cameron** “Going Green” - community education program that researched and developed a brochure for the local community with information on how to GO Green In your homes and community. The brochures were distributed through the local newspaper. They also developed a coloring/activities book for children...with everything in it about going green. The book was posted on several teacher websites for use with school children. This group also developed several radio spots “The Green Spot of the Day”. They went to the radio station and taped them and they ran (at no cost to us) about 5 times per day. These spots were again informational about ways to go green and the importance of that.
- Bartlett** Did much the same as the Cameron group but their brochures will be sent with the water bills and they developed posters to be posted at local business sites. They are also presenting to their local Lions clubs etc about this information as a way to get the information out. The group also developed their own recycling logo which was adopted by the high school and painted around the campus to promote awareness.
- Belton** Build a computer – this program takes old out dated computers that do not work and rebuilds them to be put back into use. Students learn to take computers apart, identify computer components/parts, conduct general maintenance and replace parts, and reconstruct a working computer. The computers are being donated to local charitable organizations.
- BIG Red Treats Program – This program was developed specifically for **special needs kids** mostly special education students. They prepare daily treats such as muffins, cakes etc for sale. The proceeds are put back into the program to purchase more ingredients for production. The program has developed a brochure and sale their items to local coffee shops and other organizations. They are learning many things to include meeting deadlines as they have orders that must be done by a specific time each day. The program is a joint effort between Workforce, the local ISD, and the Region’s Education Service Center. Because of the student success achieved, the ISD has **continued the program as part of the regular special needs curriculum.**
- Copperas Cove, Hico, Holland, and Lampasas**  
Beautification Programs – **Activities varied by location. In general, the projects** developed a plan to upgrade the local sites such as parks and senior citizen facilities. Sites were retrofitted and refurbished to make them senior citizen friendly and more attractive to community members. The youth built bird houses; made and put out handrails and ramps; rebuilt, sanded and repainted park equipment; and put in community gardens.
- Copperas Cove, Lampasas**  
Medical rotation program (2 weeks exposure in 4-5 departments such as direct care, hospitality, administration, dietary, etc.) at the local nursing home where youth interested in the Medical field are getting a taste of what is involved in Nursing Home care.
- Lampasas** Video Project program developed future youth program marketing and recruitment resources. Youth learned how to plan, develop and edit DVD videos. They will also develop individual electronic portfolios and a PowerPoint presentation.





**Work Based Skills and Work Ethics**  
**The BIG 20**  
 Developed by Workforce Solutions - Central Texas



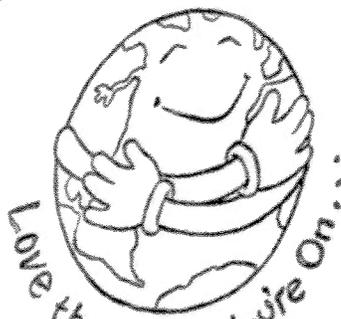
**PURPOSE:** To develop work-based skills and work ethics so that youth may be prepared and succeed in employment.

1. Good Attendance
2. Punctuality
3. Teamwork
4. Problem Solving
5. Meeting Deadlines
6. Planning Processes (may include budgeting, researching etc.)
7. Proper Personal Appearance
8. Taking Initiative
9. Getting along with other Co-workers
10. Communication Skills
11. Leadership Skills
12. Setting/Meeting Goals
13. Good Work Attitude
14. Following Instructions
15. Honesty
16. Ability to Delegate
17. Self-responsibility
18. Decision Making Skills
19. Respecting Authority
20. Time/Resource Allocation

**Examples of Press Coverage and Youth Products (MUCH more including Central Texas VIDEO available upon request)**

Creating Futures  
 Workforce Solutions of Central Texas

**Teens for Green**



Love the World You're On...  
 Coloring Book

**VIEWPOINT**  
 Thursday, June 23, 2009 Page 4

**Redesigning and recycling newspaper**

Whoa, what happened here? One of the interesting paradoxes about writing a weekly column is that it can actually be harder to write and edit a short column than it is to edit a longer one. At the same time, though, shorter columns tend to be able to keep their thoughts focused on one main topic. The temptation to keep writing is just too great for some of us, and that leads to just too long, meandering pieces that dilute the point.

I am guilty of that crime -- as some of you have probably picked up on as you have read my calendar on Page 3. Creating information and making it easy to find is important for publications and Web sites. Readers shouldn't have to hunt for information, it should be found in generally the same spot each week -- updated of course.

That's not always easy to accomplish, though. Like much the rest of paper, though, the sign of a good columnist is that they can make their words work. There are words in the editor -- and editors in the same thing goes for education and age -- we are some weeks



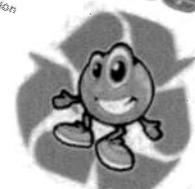
**BILL CRISS**  
 Cameron County Reporter

**Recycling in Cameron**  
 A couple of stories from last week's paper put a couple of items more about recycling in a story that throws everything out the window. Such is life at a newspaper, large or small.

Recycling in Cameron County is a complex process. It starts with the green bin that you use to collect your recyclables. The bin is then taken to a recycling center where the materials are sorted and recycled. The process is a continuous cycle that helps reduce waste and conserve resources.

**Helpful websites:**  
 www.treehugger.com  
 This site has news, facts, and blogs about the environment.  
 www.ecogeeek.com  
 This site contains blogs about saving the environment.  
 www.simplegreen.com  
 This site provides information about products that do not harm the environment.  
 www.arn.com  
 This site gives ways to recycle and information about the environment.

**Teens for Green**



**"Going Green"**  
 Make it your theme

**SUNDAY, July 19, 2009**

**TEMPLE DAILY TELEGRAM / 3D**

**Helping students develop work skills**

building her knowledge and she'll become even more valuable to us," Brander said of Kayla.

This is Kayla's first summer job and she said she appreciates the fact that her supervisors don't hover over her.

Kayla has organized workbooks a lot of shredding workbooks on posters used at the Downtown area offered at the Downtown area.



**The Killeen Daily Herald**

Wednesday, Jun. 24 2009

**15 Cove teenagers experiencing work force this summer with Creating Futures program**

By Alicia Lacy  
 The Cove Herald

School's out, and while most kids are using the free time to relax, vacation and spend time with friends, or those old enough to work will get a summer job, 15 Copperas Cove teenagers are getting a taste of the work force through the Creating Futures summer program offered by Workforce Solutions of Central Texas.



**BIG RED TREATS**

