

YouthBuild Texarkana

“Teamwork Makes The Dream Work”

YouthBuild Texarkana Staff

1. Barbara Pitts, Administrator
2. Tendra Jones, Assistant
3. Linda F. Mack, Coordinator
4. Elizabeth Marion, Consultant
5. Amon Rasheed, Consultant



1st YouthBuild Texarkana Participant Receives G.E.D.

Congratulations are in order for David C. Southworth the first YouthBuild Texarkana recipient to receive his G.E.D. on May 12th, 2008. The Staff at YouthBuild

go. Other YouthBuild participants that are making good progress in GED Class are: Genivia Clark, Daunte Hill, Amanda White,

Jermall Townsend and Maurice Owens.

Student Corner

The YouthBuild Texarkana Staff would like to recognize a student with near perfect attendance, Marcus Williams. Marcus joined YouthBuild during the recruitment process. After the program is completed, Marcus plans to attend college and study to become a math teacher. Marcus favorite thing about doing construction is the measuring and configuration of numbers in widths, heights, feet and lengths. Keep up the good work Marcus and keep striving for excellence.

YouthBuild Texarkana Student
David C. Southworth



Texarkana are very proud of David and this great achievement. We look forward to more of our YouthBuild Texarkana participants making this wonderful accomplishment. Great job David, way to

Facts & Figures

Did you know millions of homes are built each year and that the construction industry is one of the fastest growing industries in America. NCCER—what is it and what does it mean for you? NCCER is the National Center for Construction Education & Research. The organization maintains and publishes curricula in safety and standardized Construction. Upon NCCER Certification, students are registered in a national database, where they can seek employment.



YouthBuild Texarkana Students Register For Second Quarter

On Thursday, May 22nd 2008, 16 YouthBuild participants registered for the second quarter of Construction Technology Class at Texarkana College. The participants that were registered in day classes for the first quarter, registered for night classes and the participants that were registered in night classes the first quarter were registered for day classes. The transition went very

smoothly with the YouthBuild participants, those who had transportation issues were each given a one month public transportation pass in order to get to G.E.D. & Construction Technology Classes each day. The students have worked on a number of construction projects since this phase of the program began. The picture on the left side of this article is a Playhouse that the

YouthBuild students assisted in constructing. They are also working on the construction of a Farm House, “Great Job.”



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Kick Off Of "Music & Arts In The Park"

On May 24th, 2008 the Housing & YouthBuild Departments kicked off the annual "Music & Arts In The Park Celebration. This event was a total success thanks to our many sponsors, vendors, & YouthBuild volunteers. Hundreds of people flooded Bramble Park on Ferguson Street in Texarkana, Arkansas where this event was held. A well known area band (Ida Myrtis), played some great music. There was a fishing derby for the children and many fun games such as Tug-of-War, Sack

Race, One on One Basketball, Etc. There were also plenty of food, chili dogs, cheese nachos, candy, Soda's, bottled water, and the all time favorite those great turkey legs. The art work for this years t-shirt was provided by a young man from Dallas, Texas, Vincent Jerome Mack, Jr. A good time was had by all in attendance and each year it gets bigger and better. A great big THANK YOU to everyone that made this event the success that it was.



**"Never Give
Up On Your
Dreams
Because
Nothing Beats
A Failure But
A Trier"**

Betty brings the blues to downtown Pocket Park By: Aaron Brand - Texarkana Gazette - Published: 06/06/2008

Regional blues songstress Betty Lewis, who's performed from Paris, Texas, to Paris, France, will bring her soulful, heartfelt live presence to Texarkana for a free concert Thursday evening. The 6 p.m. show at downtown Texarkana's Pocket Park, 106 E. Broad St., is presented by the City of Texarkana, Ark., and its YouthBuild Texarkana's Music & Arts in the Park program. In addition to being a regional favorite at blues clubs and concerts throughout the year, Lewis has graced the stage at the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival, Baton Rouge Blues Fest, International Caribbean Fest (in Cancun, Mexico) and Belvedere Blues Fest (in Colorado). At the perfect price, it's bound to be a powerful, fun show and not to be missed.





Texarkana Gazette

"Serving the Four States Area"

Learning and Earning

Published: 12/13/2007

Jeremy Capone, Melvin Clardy and Justin Anderson take a GED placement test Wednesday afternoon at Ozan-Inghram/Iron Mountain Neighborhood Center as part of the YouthBuild Texarkana program. The nine-month program gives those ages 16 to 24 a chance to obtain their GED while learning construction and carpentry skills.



Grant provides construction trade education

By: Jodi Sheridan - Texarkana Gazette - Published: 08/10/2007

Texarkana, Ark., is hoping a hammer and a few nails will help give young adults the direction some of them need. Recently the city was awarded a \$400,000 YouthBuild grant from the

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The program puts young adults between 18 and 24 through a course of education, leadership training and learning the construction trade. "I will tell you, it works," said Elizabeth Marion, an educator

and consultant who recently came back to Texarkana from Arizona to help launch YouthBuild here.

"Always Dream Big"

Building Futures

Published: 01/16/2008

Joe Thompson, a YouthBuild volunteer, rounds the end of the handrail on a new wheelchair ramp Tuesday afternoon. YouthBuild is an outreach program that teaches vocational skills to adults 18-24. This is the first project for the 21 participants.



YOUTHBUILD SUCCESS STORIES



“Congratulations “

1. Congratulations are in order for YouthBuild Texarkana participant Maurice Owens. Maurice received his GED on Friday, October 17th, 2008.
2. Congratulations also to all of the YouthBuild Texarkana participants for receiving various construction certifications.
3. Congratulations to Marcus Williams for being hired as an employee of Lowe's.



A Look At YouthBuild Through Photography

