



## Thomas Dishes Assist to Boyhood Club

Boston Celtics All-Star Isaiah Thomas, 28, recently returned to his hometown of Tacoma, Washington, to open the new **Isaiah Thomas Court at the Boys & Girls Clubs of South Puget Sound's Al Davies Branch.**

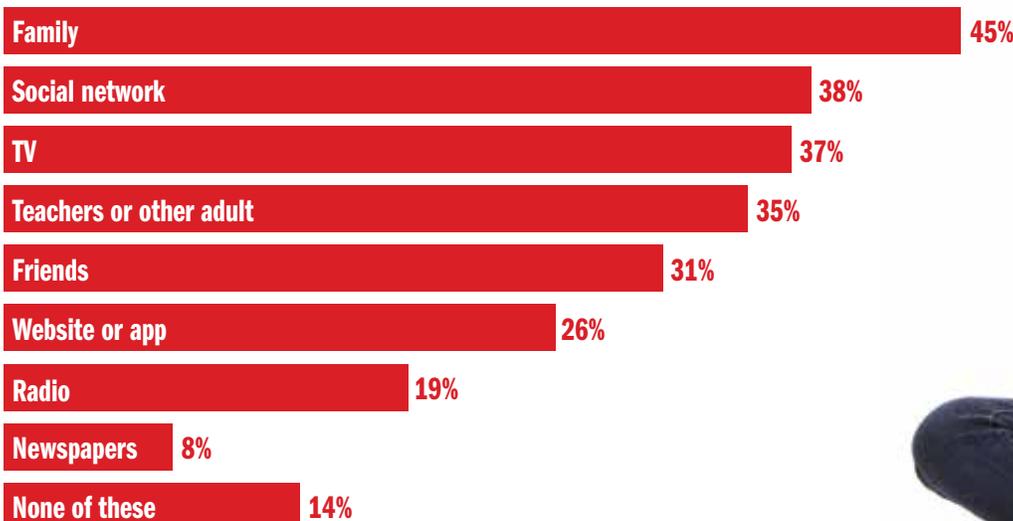
After Lowe's and BGCA awarded the Club a \$50,000 Lowe's Renovation Across the Nation grant, Branch Director Sierra Raynor contacted Thomas about helping to convert the Club's defunct boxing gym to a basketball court.

The Club alum readily agreed and donated \$80,000... then got the NBA Players Association Foundation to give \$20,000 *more*.

It's not the first time Thomas has given back to his Club. After receiving the NBA Cares Community Assist Award in December, he bestowed the \$10,000 charitable donation that came with it to his boyhood Club, too.

## Sources Used by U.S. Children and Teens to Get News, Jan. 2017

% of respondents



Source: Common Sense Media, "News and America's Kids," March 7, 2017



# Clubs Go Green!

With a mission to promote sustainable homes, workplaces and communities through education, research, advocacy and technical assistance, the nonprofit Southface has helped dozens of Boys & Girls Clubs reduce energy and water consumption – saving an average of \$1,000 a month each!



Funded by The JPB Foundation, Southface has dispersed \$1.3 million in grants to date, reducing combined utility costs

at participating Clubs by over \$350,000! **Clubs receive up to \$75,000 to implement long-term saving strategies and educate members and staff about energy and water conservation.** Tactics include installing high-performance LED lighting, web-based thermostats, and pool blankets that reduce evaporation losses of water and energy when a pool isn't in use.

The BGCA/Southface partnership was even recognized by the EPA's Energy Star National Building Competition, placing first in water savings and second in overall energy savings!

To learn more about optimizing your Club's energy efficiency and opportunities to participate, visit [NewInitiative.Southface.org](http://NewInitiative.Southface.org).

## DIY for Teens

Looking for ways to **engage your teens**? **Check out [DIYprojectsforteens.com](http://DIYprojectsforteens.com)**. Stuffed with artsy-crafty projects aggregated from the web, it's a great source for cheap – but not cheap-looking – do-it-yourself projects teens will love! From sunglasses makeovers, flip-flop embellishing and friendship bracelets, to creating artwork with Sharpies, Washi tape and even nail polish, teens will flip over the super-cool DIY projects. Step-by-step tutorials make them doable for fledgling and accomplished creatives alike!



*Cheap sunglasses, fruit embellishments, rhinestones and a glue gun are all that's needed for unique summery shades!*

## Pratt Supports Hometown Teens



"Guardians of the Galaxy" star Chris Pratt helped break ground recently on the **Dan Pratt Memorial Teen Center in Lake Stevens, where he grew up. The Teen Center is part of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Snohomish County.** Pratt teamed up with charitable organization Omaze selling \$10 raffle tickets to win a tour of the "GOTG 2" set and lunch with the movie star, raising \$485,000 to build the center.

In a Facebook message, Pratt shared what his father meant to him and the community. "Dan Pratt made me

who I am. He was a funny, thick-skinned, hard-working man who commanded respect for authority. My dad coached me and so many other kids in Lake Stevens in every sport and was a pillar of his community. He affected a lot of young men. And now his memorial Teen Center will help keep kids out of trouble for many years to come."

To paraphrase Andy from "Parks and Recreation," those are the coolest sentences I have ever heard somebody write.