

NOTES

SPRING/SUMMER
1986

NEWSLETTER OF THE TEXAS YOUTH COMMISSION

AG opinion strikes down glue-sniffing as delinquent conduct

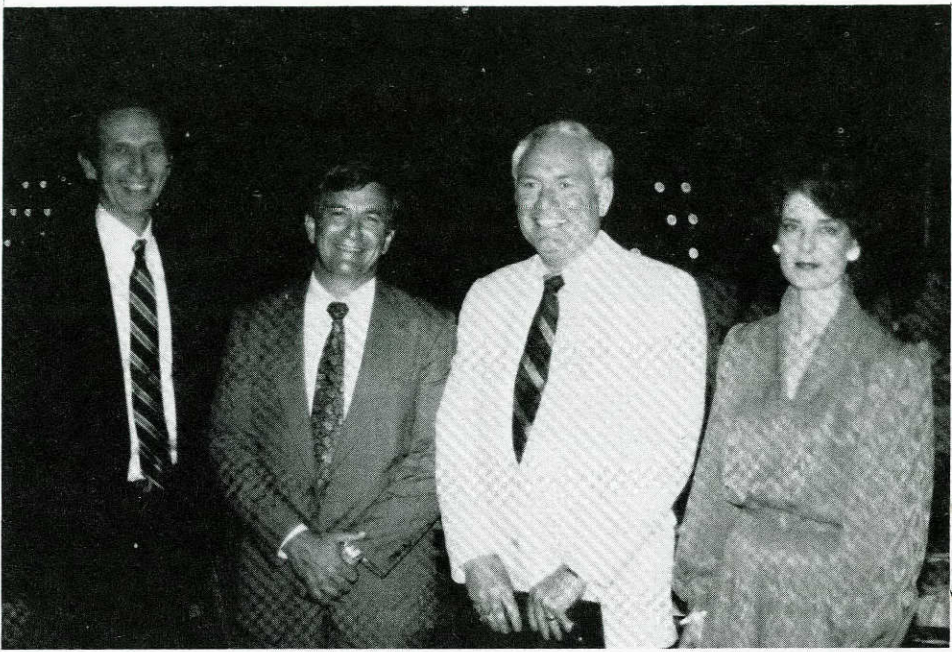
Attorney General Jim Mattox has ruled that "inhaling fumes or vapors of paints and glue" remains Conduct Indicating a Need for Supervision, despite the fact that the 69th Legislature enacted House Bill 1929, which reclassified that offense as punishable by confinement in jail — delinquent conduct.

Since the Texas Family Code section which identifies "glue sniffing" as a CINS offense was not repealed by the bill, the result is that youth still may not be committed to TYC for this offense.

"Such conduct may, however, become delinquent conduct if it is in violation of a reasonable and lawful order of a juvenile court entered at a hearing to modify disposition," said Neil Nichols, TYC Legal Counsel.

TYC asked the Attorney General's office for an official ruling on the matter,

(Cont. on Page 2)



LEGISLATORS HONORED — State Representative Jim Rudd of Brownfield and former State Senator Ed Howard were presented Legislative awards during the Texas Youth Commission's 1986 awards banquet July 10 in Kerrville. Shown at the banquet are, left to right, Howard; Ron Jackson, TYC Executive Director; Rudd; and Susan Bush of Athens, TYC Board vice chairman. (See articles, page 3).

FLSA results in closing of camp, Wilderness Challenge, group homes

The Texas Youth Commission has discontinued operation of its two group homes (in Austin and San Marcos) and will close the Fairfield camp in Freestone County and the Wilderness Challenge program on August 31, 1986.

The programs have been closed because of the financial impact resulting when state employees were included under the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA). TYC became subject to the federal Fair Labor Standards Act as a result of a February 1985 U.S. Supreme Court decision.

Although many private employers had been subject to the Act since 1938, public employers such as TYC had been exempt. The FLSA's most significant impact upon TYC is its requirement that all overtime hours (hours worked in ex-

cess of 40 during any work week) be compensated at one and one-half times the regular hourly rate.

Prior to this, TYC had compensated employees for overtime by allowing the employee to take time off (hour for hour) during the twelve months following the accrual of overtime.

The 32 employees at Fairfield and 9 at Wilderness Challenge were given notice in June that staff positions would be abolished as of August 15. The group homes ceased operation in February.

"The agency has made every attempt possible to relocate each employee," said Personnel Director Trennis Jones. All employees were assisted in finding other positions within the Texas Youth Commission system, and were given priority consideration for job vacancies for

which they were qualified.

The camping program at Fairfield began operation in January of 1980 when it was moved from the Davy Crockett National Forest area to Department of Corrections property in Freestone County. The agency placed younger male youths under 14½ years of age, with relatively short delinquent histories, at Fairfield.

The 40 students who were at the camp were reassigned to existing private contract programs and to new programs which have been developed.

Wilderness Challenge, a diversionary project which served as an alternative to long term institutionalization for non-violent youth who were considered a low risk to their communities, began operation in 1979 and was administered under

(Cont. on Page 2)



CORSICANA STUDENTS and staff went all out for Texas Day in April — dressing "Texan" and holding a noon barbecue. Special guest was State Representative Tom Waldrop, who spoke

to the audience. Events included a tall-tale-telling contest; a historical skit; cow chip throwing contest; costume judging and the "cotton-eyed Joe," shown above.

Houston council elects officers

The Community Volunteer Youth Council of Houston elected new officers for the 1986-1987 term during its May meeting.

Anne Harris, formerly volunteer coordinator for Houston area parole, was elected chair, with Barbara Atkins, vice chair; Annette Perry-George, secretary; Marilda Roberson, treasurer; and Dr. James Jones, parliamentarian.

Eva Ponce, outgoing council chair, gave a brief summary of the accomplishments and activities of the council during 1985-86.

Pat George, volunteer coordinator, presented certificates to volunteers who served during the past year.

TYC closes group homes, camps . . . (Continued from page 1)

the Crockett State School for many years until this year, when it was moved to the Statewide Reception Center.

Specially trained counselors took 8-10 youths on 30-day wilderness trips into the Big Bend area of Texas and into New Mexico and Colorado.

Due to the nature of that program, the counselors were with the group 24 hours a day throughout the trip and subsequently became subject to overtime provisions during these hours.

Congress amended the FLSA in November, 1985, and delayed coverage under the Act until April 15, 1986. At that time Congress also wiped out liability for unpaid overtime in 1985. They also allowed each employee to accrue a certain number of hours of compensatory time before payment is mandated.

AG opinion . . .

(Continued from page 1)

and received the opinion July 11, 1986.

"At least one child has been committed for violation of the law," Nichols said. "He has been discharged from TYC as a result of the opinion."

Girls dorm open house held

The newly-decorated girls' dormitory at Gainesville State School was shown off during an open house April 30.

Student hostesses were Yolanda Flores, Betty Prado, Laura Vasquez, Vicki Gillen, Laura Miller, Barbara Foster, Kim Eubanks, Dorothy Tucker, Lee Ball and Stephanie Jones.

Premium overtime pay is not mandated for all TYC employees; some are exempt, including those in executive, administrative or professional positions.

TYC is currently in the process of analyzing all TYC jobs and determining which employees are exempt.

Direct child care workers in institutions have been receiving overtime pay since February 1985, and the agency has paid \$58,938 for overtime since the ruling became effective.

"Program managers have worked diligently to cut down the amount of overtime being worked," explained Jones. "In May 1985 the agency paid \$9,395 for overtime, but through careful management, had reduced the amount to \$3,871 by May of this year."

Land sale proceeds distributed

TYC in March sold a 34-acre tract in Corsicana for \$206,212.

The proceeds from that sale were to be divided between the Corsicana State Home and the South Texas Regional Juvenile Facility, according to legislation passed in the last session.

The TYC Board voted in March to allocate the funds equally — with \$103,106 to be expended at each facility.

The funds at Corsicana will be spent on repairing and renovating the roof of cottage #12, major pool repairs and a new pool filter, renovation of the TYC training facility, and leveling and repairing flooring in five staff houses on the campus.

The funds at South Texas will be used in building a recreation building at the new juvenile center. Several other buildings at Edinburg are being built during this biennium with the \$2.2 million allocated in TYC's budget.

TYC had advertised eight tracts for sale at Corsicana and set minimum acceptable bids. Tracts 7 and 8 were sold to the only bidder. There were no bids for the other 90.768 acres.

Mark White
Governor of Texas

TYC BOARD

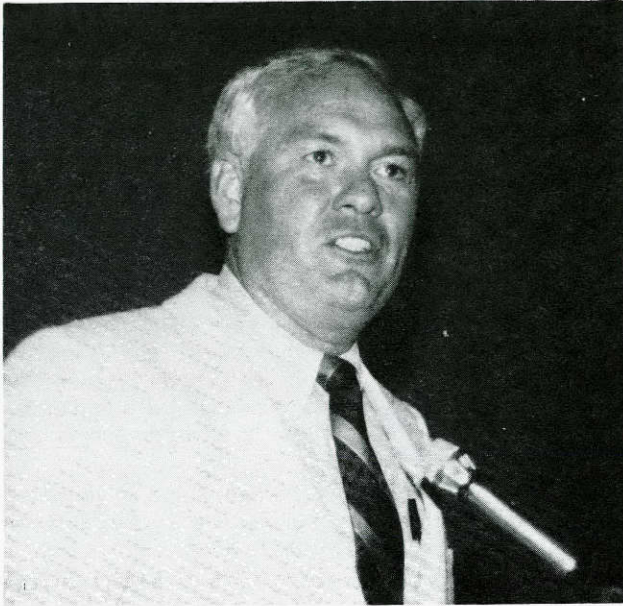
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Joan Timmons
Editor



STATE REPRESENTATIVE Jim Rudd of Brownfield, chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, received a TYC Legislative award at the agency's awards banquet July 10 in Kerrville. Dr. George Beto, Board Chairman, presented the engraved plaque to Rudd.

Jim Rudd receives Legislative award

State Representative Jim Rudd of Brownfield received a Legislative Award from TYC during the agency's annual awards banquet July 10 in Kerrville.

Dr. George Beto, TYC Board Chairman, presented the award to Rudd, who is chairman of the House Appropriations Committee.

"Representative Rudd has had immense influence over this agency's activities for many years," said Dr. Beto. "During the 69th session, while Rudd chaired the Appropriations process, TYC received needed funding to expand the residential contract program — which was of vital importance to our ability to serve youth in the most appropriate placement.

"We were also able to continue construction of our South Texas regional juvenile center during a session which awarded few dollars for construction," he added.

Last year Rudd received what has become THE most important recognition for a State Legislator in Texas; he was named one of Texas MONTHLY Magazine's Ten Best Legislators.

Rudd was described in Texas MONTHLY as "doling out money with firmness and fairness, but never favoritism . . . Thanks to Rudd, in a year when there was less money to go around than anyone could remember, there was ALSO less rancor about the appropriations bill than anyone could remember."

He received the rarest of House tributes during the final appropriations battle — a standing ovation.

"The Texas Youth Commission is appreciative of the outstanding contributions Jim Rudd has made to the State of Texas and to this agency during his tenure in the Legislature," Dr. Beto said in presenting him an engraved plaque.



SUSAN BUSH, TYC Board vice chairman, made the Legislative award presentation to former State Senator Ed Howard during the TYC awards banquet July 10 in Kerrville.

Texarkana Legislator honored by agency

Senator Ed Howard of Texarkana received one of two Legislative Awards from the Texas Youth Commission during its annual awards banquet July 10 in Kerrville.

Susan Bush of Athens, TYC Board vice chairman, presented the engraved plaque to Senator Howard.

Senator Howard served as a State Representative from 1969 to 1975, and as a Senator from 1979 until May of this year. He resigned to become director of governmental affairs for an Austin law firm.

"TYC has enjoyed an excellent relationship with Senator Howard," said Bush, "and he has made an effort to familiarize himself with our parole operations in East Texas."

During his sixteen years in the State Legislature, Senator Howard sponsored many major legislative measures of importance to the state, she said.

During the 68th session, he sponsored a bill to establish restitution centers for non-violent offenders. Noteworthy during the 67th session was passage of the wiretap bill he sponsored, said Bush.

He was twice recognized by Texas MONTHLY magazine as an outstanding Legislator, and Texas BUSINESS magazine cited him as one of the Ten Best Legislators during the 67th Session, described him as the "hardest working member of the Senate."

"His background and experience with the Legislative process, and with this agency, will be missed, but we are pleased to be able to thank him and honor him tonight for his longstanding and ongoing contributions to the youth and citizens of Texas," said Bush. He truly qualifies as a diligent and commendable example of public services at its best."

Judge Justice defers comment on *Morales* until his jurisdiction ends in 1988

In speech at TCJJ conference

Judge William Wayne Justice of Tyler, who presided over the *Morales v. Turman* class action lawsuit for more than a decade, was the keynote speaker at the Texas Coalition for Juvenile Justice conference in May.

He told the opening night crowd that he was "especially gratified to discover" that TCJJ had "made no mention of the Texas Youth Commission," in connection with that group's activities in problem areas.

"I hope and trust that the omission is because the Commission is operating in such a way that it no longer needs your close scrutiny," he said. "I was astonished two years ago, when I heard testimony from experts on the final settlement in *Morales v. Turman*. In that case, as you may recall, the Commission's predecessor, the Texas Youth Council, was found to operate the state training schools for boys and girls in violation of the Eighth Amendment's prohibition against cruel and unusual punishment.

"At a settlement hearing, the three experts were almost lyrical in their praise of the settlement, using superlatives that I had never heard applied to any judicial document," Judge Justice added.

"Based on their extraordinary enthusiasm for the efforts of the Texas Youth Commission, I agreed to terminate the case, the only class action over which I have presided that has been closed," he concluded.

Judge Justice added that he could not publicly comment about any issues in *Morales* until his jurisdiction over the settlement ends in 1988.

In other comments to the TCJJ conference, Judge Justice said he feels "youth are capable of a much more mature role in our society than we permit."

He described compulsory high school education as producing great chaos and bitterness.

"Many youths regard our public high schools as nothing less than a kind of prison," he said. "The effect is that they react in much the same manner as actual prisoners in a prison setting; that is, they tend to be disruptive and violent, with the consequence that the learning environment is intolerably strained and disarranged.

"Often these youth drop out. Indeed, some of your literature points out that thirty percent of the adolescents who start high school in Texas do not graduate.

"Should we not, therefore, consider the abolition of compulsory high school attendance?" he asked.

"I would not want to be misunderstood as to this proposal. I am a hard-line advocate of free public education; but I do not think we should confine its benefits to youth. If a youth desires to assert his incipient adulthood by leaving school, let us permit him to do so; but make it easy and convenient for the ones who later recognize the desirability and necessity for further training and instruction to enroll in free public schools designed for them.

"One thing is certain: the present system results in frustration and discontent to all who are involved in its processes," he concluded.

Turman House reports successful school year

An emphasis on academics is a top priority at Turman House, TYC's halfway house in Austin.

"All residents attend public school — either Reagan High, Pearce Junior High or Rio Grande," said Marie Murdoch, superintendent.

Two outstanding students this spring were George Stone, who completed nine hours at Austin Community College, and Mark Bell, a junior with almost straight A's.

Turman House students' academic performance is monitored by weekly progress reports from their teachers, rating behavior, effort and whether they are passing or failing in each course.

Each Friday afternoon a group counseling session is held to discuss the week's progress reports and any problems that occurred in school. Each

week the three residents with the best school reports are awarded a \$5 movie pass to use over the weekend. The passes are provided by the Women's Benevolence Committee of the Lakeway Baptist Church.

"Every student has a chance to win, because the same resident cannot win twice in a row," said Murdoch.

Students receive daily tutoring from an AISD Chapter I instructional aide. The Chapter I program has also provided a computer and various school supplies, including a set of encyclopedias.

"For most of our boys, this is the first time they have achieved such academic success," added Murdoch, "and this success can be used as a building block for continued success in school and in other areas of their lives."

Gateway student setting high goals

Dean Haack, who is soon to be released from Gateway, a TYC contract program in San Antonio, has maintained excellent grades at Fox Tech High School and has been placed on the Honor Roll three times.

Dean also worked 20-25 hours per week as a courtesy clerk at HEB during the school year.

"Gateway has helped me a lot so that I'll be prepared to go out into the real world and be independent," says Dean. "The staff has been fair and has a fairly good system of dealing with us. It is very relaxed — more so than any of the other halfway houses I've been in."

Dean plans to live independently when he is discharged in August, and continue his education at Churchill High School as a senior. After that, he plans to attend San Antonio College. He hopes to support himself in a job pertaining to architecture/construction.

Sunset Commission completes recommendations for TYC changes

Following nine months of intense investigation by its staff, and after receiving public testimony, the Sunset Commission has approved specific statutory language to continue the agency for 12 years and to implement several recommendations to change agency operations.

Among the major policy issues decided were:

1. Elimination of the statutory limit on contract rates for parole services. (Currently TYC can pay only \$3/day/student for not more than 20 days per month.)
2. Requirement for TYC to contract for future halfway house services, unless appropriate services are not available on a contract basis.

Although its staff recommended that TYC's Board Chairman should be appointed by the governor, and that the Board should include a juvenile judge and a representative of a private sector agency which contracts with TYC, the Sunset Commission did not adopt these recommendations.

Other changes include:

1. TYC should be required to use a standard method in calculating cost per day;
2. Parents who are financially able will be required to contribute to the cost of their child's commitment to TYC (The Attorney General's Child Support Enforcement Division will be designated as the collection agency);
3. Child support payments for a child committed to TYC will be transferred from the parent to TYC during the time the youth is in TYC's actual custody (The Attorney General's Child Support Enforcement Division will be responsible for collection);
4. TYC will be required to develop and utilize performance-based contracts where practical and feasible; and TYC shall be required to develop performance evaluations for TYC-operated programs.
5. A standardized case management system for parole which objectively measures certain elements will be required.
6. Restitution or other appropriate alternatives will be authorized as an alternative to parole revocation.
7. TYC is authorized to develop pro-

grams which encourage family involvement in rehabilitation programs.

8. Revocation of CINS probation will be prohibited for commission of status offenses and misdemeanors punishable only by fine in the adult system.

Another recommendation of the Sunset staff, which would have required TYC to document a reasonable attempt to ob-

tain less costly services for emotionally disturbed youth in contract residential treatment centers prior to placement at the Corsicana Residential Treatment Center, was not adopted.

A bill to continue the agency for another 12 years, incorporating the present law and the specific changes recommended, will be introduced during the 1987 session of the Texas Legislature.



FULL GOSPEL BUSINESSMEN'S Fellowship Association of the Fort Worth-Keller-Grapevine area, volunteer to come to the Gainesville State School the second Saturday of each month and provide fellowship, visits and participate in student activities. The group also makes monetary donations for emergency furloughs and other student needs.

Sunset panel recommends probation fees for juveniles

The Sunset Commission, in its year-long study of the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission, has recommended that the state should require assessment of probation fees for juveniles — unless those fees are waived or reduced by the court.

They also recommended that:

— a one-time juvenile court fee should be assessed to support a special fund for diversion of juveniles from commitment to TYC;

— juvenile courts should be required to examine the parents' ability to contrib-

ute to the cost of court-ordered residential care;

— the number of Class C. misdemeanors needed to prosecute in juvenile court should be reduced from three offenses to one offense;

— county juvenile boards should have the authority to contract with TYC for provision of probation services.

These recommendations are being incorporated into the legislation which will continue the juvenile probation agency for a 12-year period.

Prison whites to college black

Ex-offender finds new life with patience, goals

(The following article is being reprinted from the Fort Worth Star-Telegram May 24, 1986. The subject of the article, Don Taylor, attended Southwest Texas State University and the LBJ School of Public Affairs while on educational stipend from the Texas Youth Commission. He is now employed full-time in the office of Executive Director Ron Jackson as Coordinator for ACA Accreditation for the agency.)

By LEE JONES
Star-Telegram Austin Bureau

Austin — By the time he was 30, Don Taylor had spent 10 years in prison inmate whites.

Taylor, now 47, wore more dignified garb Saturday — a black mortar board and academic gown. With a criminal record of drug possession and burglary behind him, Taylor received his master's degree from the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs of the University of Texas.

"I like to think of myself more as a criminal justice professional who has a history in criminal justice than as an ex-con who is now a graduate," Taylor said.

Dean Max Sherman said Taylor is the first ex-offender to graduate from the prestigious school and earned high praise as a student.

"He's just remarkable. He's taken his experience and turned it into something real positive," Sherman said.

Taylor, who served three terms in the Texas Department of Corrections, didn't put his prison experiences completely behind him. He once wrote a paper for Professor Barbara Jordan on *Philosophical Justifications for Imprisonment*.

"I said in my concluding paragraph that obviously some people need to be in prison, but I felt like it is greatly over-used," he said in an interview Friday.

Other students knew Taylor's background and accepted him from the outset, Sherman said. And he blended in with them outwardly distinguished more by his age than his history. He was in charge of the stage crew, for instance, when the students put on their annual *Follies* to spoof the faculty and the school.

"I sort of avoided the convict role," Taylor said.

But it's a role that when mixed with his educational attainments and his desire to serve gained him leadership roles and the attention of policymakers in several efforts to improve corrections.

He is national president of Citizens United for the Rehabilitation of Errants, a group advocating prison changes, and is a nominee for the board of governors of the American Correctional Association. (Editor's note: Taylor won election to this post.)

Taylor also served on the Austin jail commission and was appointed by Gov. Bill Clements — who also granted him a full pardon in 1981 — to an advisory commission on prison overcrowding.

It was a long struggle from his early brushes with the law to the status of adviser to the governor.

"I did really have a bad record," Taylor said.

Raised in a rough east Dallas neighborhood, he ran away from the county boys' home at age 13, stole a car and was arrested in Arkansas. Crossing the state line made the auto theft a federal crime, and he was placed in the Federal Juvenile Training School in Washington, D.C.

Taylor spent about a year in the federal institution before he was sent back to Texas.

A ninth-grade dropout at 18, he was sent to state prison for burglary of an elementary school and possession of a syringe. Released, he was arrested and returned to prison at 21 for possession of marijuana. Taylor drew a third prison sentence for burglary and forging prescriptions.

Set free in 1969, he went to Austin and got in trouble again. But this time the judge dropped charges on the condition he would obtain counseling and enter a methadone program to fight his drug habit.

It was a slow struggle but Taylor stayed out of trouble this time and began taking courses at the University of Texas in the early 1970s.

He held a number of jobs, including rehabilitation counselor for ex-offenders and buyer at Tracor, a major scientific equipment manufacturer in Austin.

Taylor began commuting to Southwest Texas State University in San Marcos while working part time at the Texas Youth Commission and obtained his bachelor's degree in criminal justice. He took educational leave in 1984 to start his work at the LBJ School and will return to the commission full time on June 1.

He said he hopes to use his experience working with the Legislature on the commission's legislative program.

"I like the political give and take. The public policy perspective is more what I like to do," Taylor said.

There are some lessons in why Taylor succeeded while many other former inmates get stuck in revolving doors between the free world and prison.

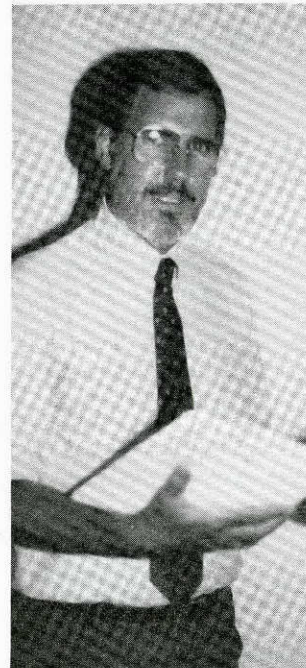
"The main thing is patience and having goals and sticking with them . . . You've got to set realistic goals and plod along. My first goal was to get off narcotics. When I accomplished that, then to get a decent job, then an education," he said.

Charles Sullivan of Washington, D.C., national director of Citizens United for the Rehabilitation of Errants, said Taylor had some advantages in being intelligent and having a good upbringing by his mother after his father's death when he was two.

"He had very strong family support," Sullivan said.

Sullivan, who met Taylor on an Austin basketball court in 1976, said working for improvements of Texas prisons had been therapeutic for the ex-inmate and helped rid him of many of his frustrations.

"I've just marveled the last 10 years watching him develop that leadership. He can see that people can change," Sullivan said.



Don Taylor

TYC students' #1 problem? Parents

The number one problem of TYC students is parents — how they control or fail to control; their lack of involvement; and their failure to communicate — according to an extensive needs assessment conducted by TYC's Department of Planning, Research and Evaluation.

Nearly 70 percent of youth committed to the Texas Youth Commission have experienced serious problems with their parents.

The system-wide review of student problems and needs was undertaken prior to development of TYC's 1988-89 biennial budget request to the Legislature.

Questionnaires were designed and distributed to staff members during the fall of 1985.

A total of 1,886 student cases were represented in the returned questionnaires.

Other important problems were poor self-image/self-esteem (64.16%); impulse control (62.15%); marijuana abuse (60.37%); under-achievement/motivation

in education (57.91%); poor school attendance (57.60%).

Other high-ranking problems included motivation/attitude related to work, alcohol abuse, lack of social skills, vocational and career development problems.

Service needs of the agency were also ranked by staff members.

The top six service needs included 1) psychological counseling and services for interpersonal problems, 2) parent involvement and family counseling, 3) substance abuse counseling and treatment, 4) career planning and job placement, 5) vocational guidance counseling, and 6) educational guidance counseling and training.

Also included among student needs were aftercare programs, independent living programs, sex education and motivational training. Twelve percent of the TYC staff also indicated a need to improve or expand physical plants and equipment.

Re-Entry furlough required for parole

In 1985, the Texas Youth Commission changed the way students achieve parole status.

Previously, students who successfully completed senior level in residential care were automatically promoted to parole on release to their home community. If the student then violated parole, a revocation hearing was required in order to return him to secure care.

In an effort to provide a better transition between TYC residential care and parole, the agency developed a policy requiring students to successfully complete a 30-day re-entry furlough prior to being paroled.

A student in TYC residential care is eligible for this furlough upon promotion to Senior level in TYC's training schools and halfway houses.

Students in residential contract placements continue to have periodic furloughs home and are released directly to parole after completing a community program.

A student returning to the community on re-entry furlough is placed on maximum supervision. This means he must contact his Parole Officer within 48 hours to schedule a minimum of one in-

person and two telephone contacts during the 30-day period.

At the initial meeting, the student signs a contract that outlines the behaviors that will be expected of him while on furlough and the consequences of failing to fulfill the contract.

If the student successfully completes the contract, he is paroled. If, however, he has consistently violated the contract rules, he is returned to a residential program for thirty days without a formal hearing.

The Parole Officer documents the violations in writing, shows evidence that the youth and parents have been counseled about the violations and their consequences, and demonstrates to the Parole Supervisor that return to residential care is in the best interests of the youth and/or community.

In the event a law violation has been committed, TYC staff hold a formal transfer hearing prior to returning the youth to residential care. In this case the youth is placed on the lowest level and must work through the TYC program again.

Although still in its first year of operation, the 30-day re-entry furlough ap-

RANK ORDERED SUMMARY PROFILE OF STUDENT PROBLEMS AND NEEDS

Problem	Percent
Parental Control/ Involvement/ Communication	69.75
Self-Image/Self-Esteem	64.16
Impulse Control	62.15
Marijuana Abuse	60.37
Under Achievement/ Motivation	57.91
School Attendance	57.60
Career Planning	55.28
Motivation/Attitude	52.73
Occupational Knowledge	50.76
Job/Vocational Skills	49.14
Alcohol Abuse	48.21
School Disruption/Behavior	46.23
Social Skills	42.53
Financial Resource/Clothing/ Transportation	41.20
Peer Relations	38.36
Job Placement	36.92
Aggressive/Assaultive	36.14
Learning Disabled	25.45
Parental Rejection	25.30
Habitual Runaway	25.16
Medical/Dental	24.96
Parental Alcohol/Drug Abuse	24.38
Sex and Birth Control	22.74
Emotional Abuse	20.02
Emotionally Disturbed (Ed.)	19.33
Amphetamine Abuse	18.44
Mental/Emotional	17.16
Inhalant/Solvent Use	16.21
Suicidal	9.38
Physical Abuse	3.06
Mental Retardation	3.87
Sexual Abuse	3.06

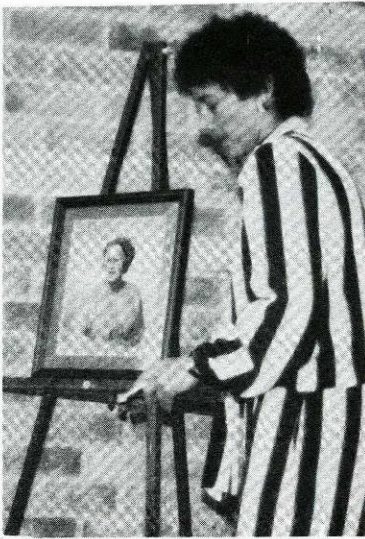
Corsicana holds program to celebrate Black history

A special program in celebration of Black history was held March 7 at the Corsicana State Home.

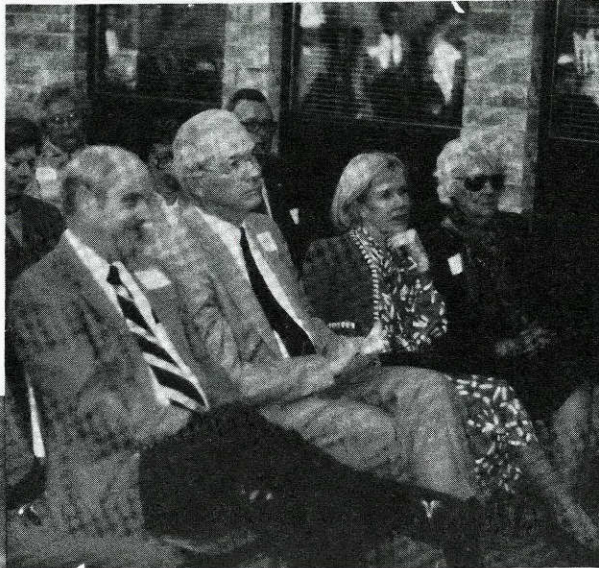
Community residents and staff members participated in the program. Alex Williams, assistant principal at Corsicana High School, gave the main speech on Black history.

pears to be fulfilling its anticipated results: students are required to spend less time in restrictive care; students and community are both provided with a period of adjustment prior to parole; and, in unsuccessful furloughs, return to care is expedited while the student's rights are protected.

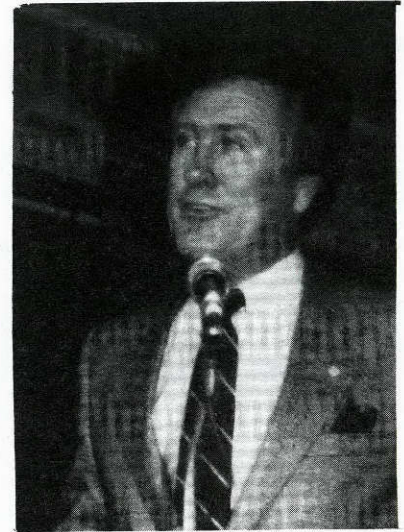
Willoughby House dedicated



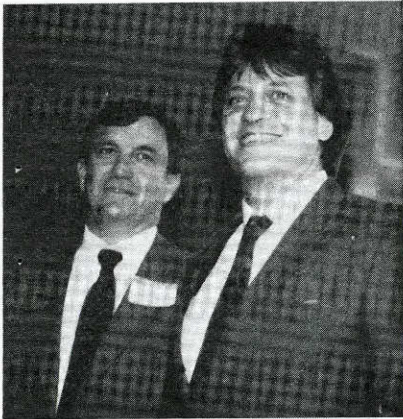
LYNNE PARRA, superintendent of Willoughby House, unveils portrait of Mrs. Clara Willoughby during dedication program.



WILLOUGHBY FAMILY members were special guests for the dedication of the Fort Worth Halfway House to Clara Willoughby of San Angelo. Pictured (left to right) are her son, Ray Willoughby, Jr., her son-in-law, John Cargile, and daughter Clara Willoughby Cargile.



GIB LEWIS, Speaker of the Texas House of Representatives, was keynote speaker at the dedication of Willoughby House in Fort Worth, TYC's ninth halfway house. This halfway house was designed for girls and features an on-site school.

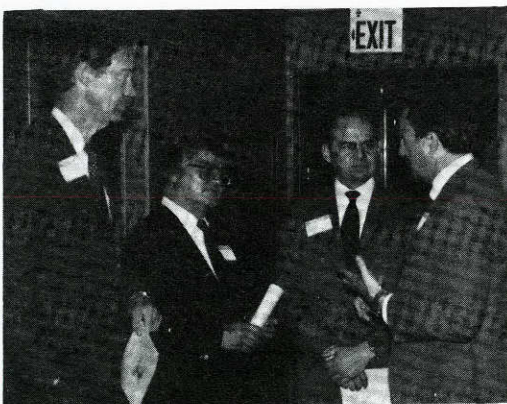


AL GRANOFF (right), State Representative from Dallas, and Ron Jackson, TYC Executive Director.



SUSAN BUSH, TYC Board Member, visits with Dallas House superintendent Pam Baghwat.

March 12, 1986 Fort Worth



TYC BOARD MEMBERS (left to right) Larry York, Richard Abalos and Jorge Rangel, visit with Executive Director Ron Jackson



BILL MCKAY, TYC's state volunteer council president and a member of the Fort Worth Community Advisory Council (left) visits with Hugh Parmer, State Senator from Fort Worth, center, and Bill Simms, State Senator from San Angelo, who attended the Willoughby House dedication.

TYC's willingness to change created strong agency — Hill

A 'spirit of willingness' enabled the Texas Youth Commission to 'weather the storms of the Morales case and to emerge a stronger agency than ever before', Chief Justice of the Supreme Court John L. Hill Jr. told TYC staff members at the agency's annual awards banquet — held July 10 at Kerrville's Y.O. Ranch/Hilton Hotel.

Hill conceded that the agency is a far different one today than it was 12 years ago, "in significant part because of the prodding of the federal court."

But, he said, if TYC had only grudgingly done the things it was forced to do by the court, the Morales case would still be occupying the time of the courts, the agency's staff, and the attorney general's office.

"The fact that the agency is where it is today is because there were those in the agency who were willing to be critical of their own agency," Hill said. "This is a difficult thing for all of us to do."

He urged the agency board and staff members to "see to it that this agency never loses its ability to look inward at itself and be critical to the extent that new ideas and new concepts are never rejected out of hand but are examined on their merits."

Justice Hill served as Attorney General during much of the time the Morales v. Turman class action lawsuit was being tried in federal court.

"There were kernels of truth to be found among the many charges leveled against the TYC," Hill said. "Progressive leaders within the agency saw this.

"We began to see that agreement and change of some of the more egregious examples of problems within the TYC might have the beneficial effect of preventing the court from entering an order which would be impossible to live with," he said. "Our advice was to put inevitable changes in place before they could be ordered by the court in some unpalatable way."

"By taking a firm stand on the legal issues, and by taking a close look at the changes alleged to be needed, a settlement was achieved which has been praised by a great many people who were formerly only critical of the agency," he concluded.

Hill also extended thanks to those who work with delinquent youth through the Texas Youth Commission "dealing with problems that the rest of us don't want to deal with."

"Yours is most often a thankless task . . . you deal with problems which society would rather not think about . . . even the families of many of the kids that you deal with would prefer not to be reminded of their offspring. It is often very difficult for you to see a young person released from TYC's protection back into inadequate homes and into the streets.

Two state legislators were honored by the Texas Youth Commission during the awards banquet in Kerrville: Representative Jim Rudd of Brownfield and former Senator Ed Howard of Texarkana. (See page 3).

Information presentations were made during the 1986 workshop by Gary Fuchs, Administrative Assistant; Ed White, Assistant Executive Director for Support Services; Linda Rossi, Deputy Director; Carolyn Purcell, Director of Data



JOHN L. HILL JR., Chief Justice of the Texas Supreme Court, was keynote speaker at the annual TYC awards banquet July 10 in Kerrville. He was introduced by TYC Board Member Larry York of Austin, left. At right is TYC Board Member Rev. Floyd N. Williams Sr. of Houston.

Processing; Jerry Day, Director of Institutions; and Don Taylor, ACA Accreditations Manager.

Darrell Piersol, Director of the Governor's Executive Development Program, was the opening day keynote speaker Wednesday, July 9.

Ron Jackson, Executive Director, discussed recent agency changes and future developments, and presented 20 and 25-year tenure plaques.

Dr. Richard Cheatham, dean of the school of communications at Southwest Texas State University, provided a workshop Thursday morning, July 10, on "Organizational Teambuilding Through Interpersonal Relations."

Friday morning July 11, Dr. Janine Sagert conducted a workshop on "Managing Stress."

Individual meetings of administrators were held Thursday afternoon, and the TYC Board held a regular meeting at that same time — prior to the awards banquet that evening.

Training offered Caseworkers

TYC Caseworker II's who have completed all minimum training requirements and who have been with the agency at least two years will be offered a 32-hour in-service training program this fall.

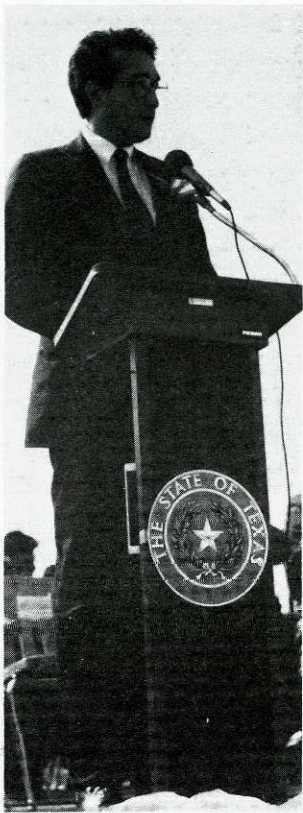
The program, which will include group therapy, individual counseling, suicide prevention and substance abuse counseling, will satisfy the 30-hour job-related training required for promotion to Caseworker III.

The initial training will deal with group therapy only. The other topic will be handled later.

In addition, the program will satisfy Department of Human Services in-service requirements for social worker certification.

Specific training dates will be announced in the FY '87 Training Calendar, said Trennis Jones, Director of Personnel and Staff Development.

Groundbreaking, dedication ceremony



HENRY CISNEROS, Mayor of San Antonio, was keynote speaker for the groundbreaking and dedication of the new TYC 48-bed institutions in Edinburg, the Evins Regional Juvenile Center.



DR. GEORGE BETO, TYC Board Chairman, served as master of ceremonies during dedication and groundbreaking ceremonies at Evins Regional Juvenile Center in Edinburg April 25.

April 25, 1986
Edinburg,
Texas

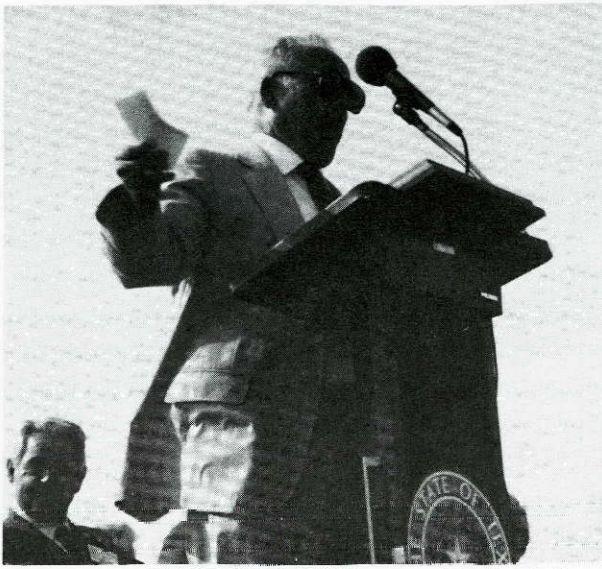


TYC BOARD MEMBERS (left to right) Richard Abalos, Larry York and Dr. George Beto, visit during the reception following the groundbreaking and dedication of the Evins Regional Juvenile Center in Edinburg April 25.

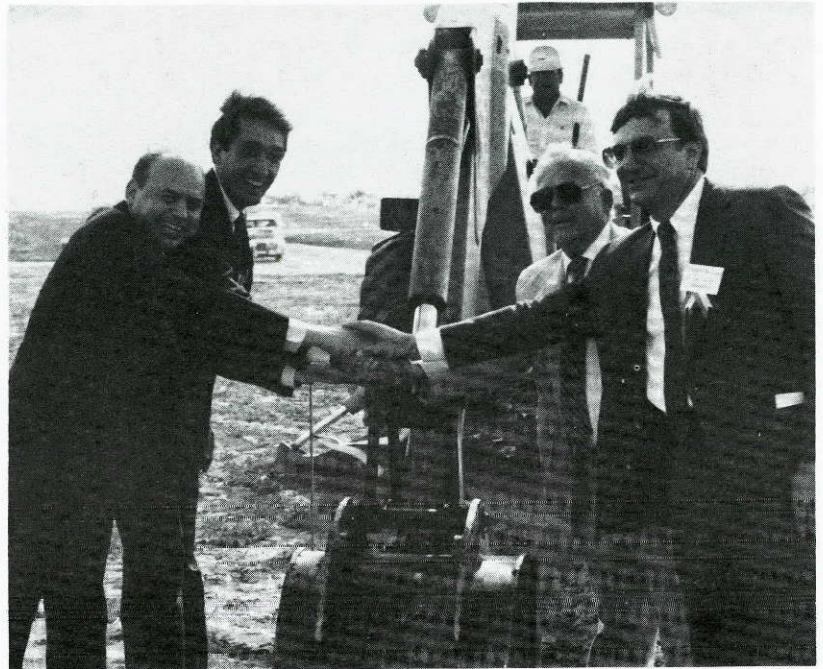
CURRENT STRUCTURE on the site Center in Edinburg is this temporary five TYC employees who administer mobile diagnostic unit. Joseph Mart



ies at Evins Regional Juvenile Center



JUDGE JOE B. EVINS responds to the dedication of the TYC juvenile center named for him and his son, the late Joe B. Evins, Jr.

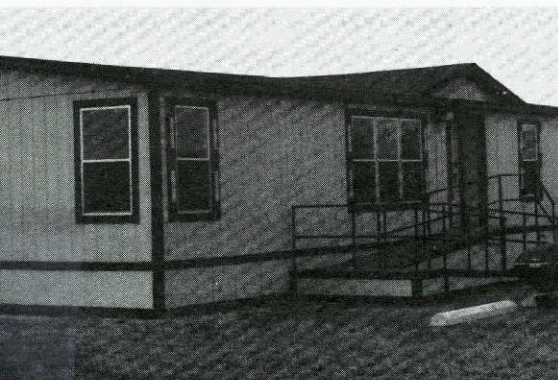


GROUND WAS BROKEN April 25th for the new Evins Regional Juvenile Center in Edinburg with these four participants standing in front of the official backhoe! They are left to right, TYC Board Member Jorge Rangel of Corpus Christi; San Antonio Mayor Henry Cisneros; Judge Joe B. Evins; and TYC Executive Director Ron Jackson.



SUSAN BUSH, TYC Board Member from Athens, and Mike Harrison, TYC Administrator of Halfway Houses, visit during Evins Center dedication.

or TYC's Evins Regional Juvenile office building, which houses the the South Texas program and ez is Regional Administrator.



DISTINGUISHED GUESTS at the dedication and groundbreaking for the Joe B. Evins Regional Juvenile Center in Edinburg included, left to right, Ron Jackson, TYC Executive Director; Lalo Arcuarte, Hidalgo County Commissioner, Precinct 2, Pharr; Senator John Traeger, Seguin; Rep. Juan Hinojosa, McAllen; Judge Evins, 206th district Court, Edinburg; Santo F. Saldana, Hidalgo County Judge; Samuel Sanchez, Hidalgo County Commissioner, Precinct 1, Weslaco; and Leonardo Camarillo, Hidalgo County Commissioner, Precinct 4, Edinburg.

Special education, vocational programs major focus for TYC superintendent

Byron Griffin, TYC Superintendent of Education, reported on major areas of focus for education during the May Board meeting.

The first annual report of the Morales v. Turman Consultant Committee included discussion and concerns of a number of educational goal statements in the settlement agreement.

Special education and vocational education were of special interest to the consultants — Allen Breed, Dr. Frank Garfunkel and Dr. Milton F. Shore — and Griffin provided information to the Board concerning present direction and objectives of the education department.

"In special education, we had two main concerns," said Griffin, "the possible underidentification of eligible special education students, and the quality of services."

One objective set by the department was to raise the number of identified special education students from 13 percent to 30 percent by the end of the fiscal year (Aug. 31, 1986).

"So far, the percentage has been raised to 27 percent," Griffin said.

A second objective was to use federal grant funds for an in-depth review of the TYC special education program by experts.

Two U.T. professors and a private consultant have completed field work and their final report and recommendations are due this summer, he said.

"In particular, we expect extensive recommendations regarding our education diagnostic process," Griffin said. "We have asked for recommendations based on our present level of resources, as well as open-ended recommendations that would be dependent upon our obtaining other resources."

Griffin also told the Board that the agency has expanded vocational education programs in TYC schools through a \$132,000 federal grant to equip the new vocational building at Gainesville and to replace equipment at Brownwood and Giddings.

Funds were also used to equip office education classes at

Giddings and at the three institutions (Crockett, Corsicana and West Texas) which do not have vocational buildings.

"We also have added vocational interest testing for all students coming through the Statewide Reception Center," he said.

New agencywide standardized scheduling now makes it possible for all students to take a vocational course. Previously, students who needed supplementary reading or math classes were unable to participate in vocational courses.

"With over fifty percent of TYC commitments now being diverted from large institutions, and with almost all previously successful students being diverted to community-based programs (either TYC halfway houses or privately-operated contract programs), the average student in TYC on-campus schools has changed," Griffin said.

"Very few have any high school credits at all, and most have attended school in a haphazard fashion, at best, in the past few years."

"Despite this, we have been able to measure some academic achievement with our students, and last year 292 TYC institution students passed the G.E.D.," he said.

"We are also addressing education for students on parole," Griffin said. "Few TYC students stay in school after returning home." The Texas Education Agency has appointed a staff member to work with school districts on behalf of paroled students who encounter problems upon reentry.

Griffin said he expects most new education modifications to be in place by September 1, 1986.

He also said that even though most recent education reforms don't apply to the agency (TYC is legally exempt from most sections of the Texas Education Code) our teachers participated in the recent state teacher testing (TECAT), and TYC has instituted the state career ladder salary system.

"We will also utilize the new state teacher appraisal system," he added.

TexaSaver retirement plan offered to employees

The State of Texas is one of the first in the nation to offer its employees a new optional IRS retirement program called 401 (k).

TexaSaver's key features include:

- Lets you shelter up to 10 percent of your current income from taxes.
- Provides a choice of three investment funds to help your savings grow.
- Investment fund earnings grow tax-free as well.
- You can withdraw funds under certain circumstances.
- You can borrow from your own account.

Because the Comptroller's Office is the administrator of TexaSaver, it was the first state agency to participate, starting last December. That office tested the program to make sure it ran smoothly before offering it to other agencies.

Since January, TexaSaver has been available to all agencies whose payroll systems can accommodate pre-tax salary deferrals, including TYC.

All full-time and part-time permanent employees are eligible for TexaSaver.

The plan is similar to the Deferred Compensation now available, but there are some additional benefits. One is the ten-year forward averaging — a special

tax treatment for money withdrawn from the plan. Another advantage is that money can be taken from TexaSaver and deposited into an Individual Retirement Account (IRA) to further defer taxation.

If no other funds are available, money can be withdrawn from TexaSaver to buy a primary home, finance a college education, or handle a major uninsured medical expense.

TYC's administrator, Delores Holubec, Central Office Personnel Department, can provide further information. IDS Financial Services administers TexaSaver, and can be contacted at the toll-free number: 1-800-328-8703.

Giddings students 'turn eyesore into asset'

BY BILL BRADBURY
Giddings Volunteer Coordinator

Girl Scout Neighborhood Director, Marty Moran, was unsure of the response she would receive when she took out an ad in a local Giddings Newspaper to ask for help in repairing the Giddings Girl Scout meeting building.



GIDDINGS GIRL SCOUT director Marty Moran, right, makes a special award presentation to student volunteer Lisa Shough and Giddings State School superintendent Calvin Crenshaw. Giddings students were instrumental in doing refurbishing work for the girl scout meeting house.

Giddings State School was unsure of just what they might be getting into, but they answered the ad. However, one thing was for sure, the girl scouts needed a meeting place they could be proud of, and Giddings State School had many talented student volunteers who were not afraid to get their hands dirty.

The building was in very poor condition. Weeds had almost overtaken the club house. Door frames and doors were rotted and there was a large hole in one door where rodents had eaten through. Wide cracks in cinderblock walls let outside light shine in. Interior walls had turned dull yellow and paint on the exterior walls and wood trim showed signs of deterioration.

With Superintendent Calvin Crenshaw's support, the expertise and assistance of John Gordon, Woodshop Vocational Instructor, and ten tireless student volunteers, the work began.

Three months and 175 volunteer hours later, the building was ready for the March 16th Open House. Numerous community businesses, financial institutions and concerned citizens donated supplies and materials but it was Giddings State School vocational students and Student Council members who put it all together.

Here is what the students accomplished: Grass was mowed and trimmed, an abandoned refrigerator was hauled away, two doors and door frames were replaced, two door jams were built and installed, bathroom door was repaired, hundreds of cracked joints in cinderblocks were chiseled out and repaired with new mortar, interior and exterior walls were painted, all wood trim was scraped and painted. Also, a donated air conditioner was installed, donated wall-to-wall carpet was installed and finally, 30 plants donated by Wal-Mart and Durrenberger Nursery were used to beautify the landscape.

Neighborhood Director Marty Moran and Superintendent Calvin Crenshaw were very proud of the outcome. The building had changed from an eyesore in the community to an asset and one which will serve the Girl Scouts for many years to come.

New law extends insurance to dependents

A new federal law requires that group health care insurance be continued to "qualified beneficiaries" who would otherwise lose coverage upon the death of the employee, termination (whether voluntary or involuntary — other than for gross misconduct), or divorce, or a dependent child who ceases to be a dependent child under the requirements of the plan.

This requirement is imposed by the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1986 (COBRA), which was signed by President Reagan on April 7, and takes effect September 1, 1986.

The employee or beneficiary generally has a 60-day election period during

which he may elect to continue coverage. The employee or beneficiary must pay the full group premium for the coverage on a monthly basis, and an additional two percent of the premium may be charged to cover the additional administrative expenses to the program.

In the case of termination, health insurance may be extended 18 months.

In the case of death, divorce or cessation of dependency, the insurance may be extended 36 months.

Several limitations apply, however.

Failure to make a timely premium payment will cease coverage.

Becoming covered by another group health plan or Medicare will cease coverage.

If a divorced spouse remarries and becomes covered under a group health plan, coverage will cease.

"Coverage is for health only . . . It does not include life, accidental death and dismemberment or disability coverages," said Delores Holubec, Benefits Coordinator.

All state employees and their spouses will be provided official notice of the continuation right, and the information will be published in the group insurance and HMO booklets. Notice will be included in the August paycheck envelope of TYC employees.

An additional notification will be made upon termination or other qualifying event.



CHRISTI MALLETTE, right, received the Outstanding Central Office Award for 1986 during the agency awards banquet July 10 in Kerrville. TYC Board Member Jorge Rangel made the presentation.

Christi Mallette Audit Department

Outstanding Central Office Employee

Christi Mallette, internal auditor, was named Outstanding Central Office staff member at the agency's annual awards banquet July 10 in Kerrville.

Announcement of her award was made by TYC Board Member Jorge Rangel of Corpus Christi.

"Christi has demonstrated her loyalty to the Texas Youth Commission in many ways," said Rangel. "She spent seven years as a child care worker, and made a successful transition as an internal auditor three years ago — a profession which was totally foreign to her at that time."

A licensed child care administrator by the Department of Human Services, Christi was elected the Outstanding Child Care worker at Crockett State School in 1980. That same year she was selected as one of the Outstanding Young Women in America.

She has attained TCA blue level correctional certification and is a nominee for the Board of the Regional Networks for Children. She is also a member of a voluntary program for delinquent youth, PEAKS.

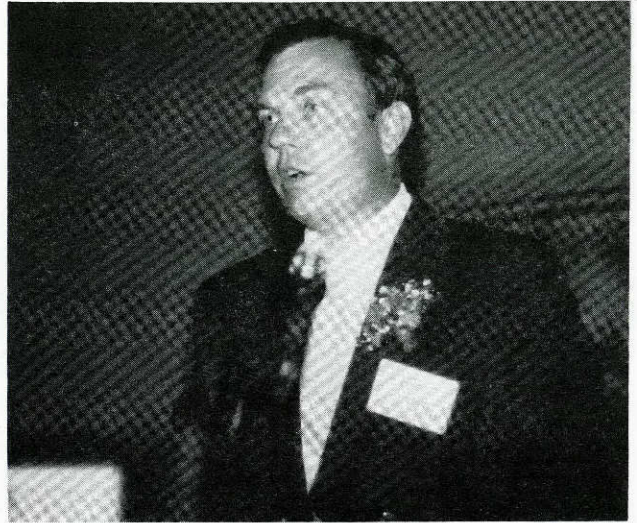
She recently completed a Master's degree program in criminal justice management at Sam Houston State University.

Also nominated as the Outstanding Central Office employee were Mario Acosta, personnel; Judy Meador, legal; and C. V. Kinser, maintenance and construction.

New program at Reception Center

A diversionary program was initiated last November at the Statewide Reception Center to provide educational opportunities and more constructive use of time for students who are awaiting placement.

All students who are at the Reception Center more than 10 days participate in educational activities most of the day. Students who qualify study to prepare to take the General Education Development (GED) test.



HERMAN FOX, left, TYC parole officer from Paducah, was named outstanding parole staff member at the agency's annual awards banquet July 10 in Kerrville. Presenting the award to Fox was Rev. Floyd N. Williams Sr. of Houston, right, TYC Board Member.

Herman Fox

Area II, Paducah Office

Outstanding Employee in Parole

Herman Fox of Paducah, a seventeen year staff member, was named recipient of the Outstanding Child Care Worker in Parole during the agency's 1986 awards banquet in Kerrville July 10.

He was announced as the winner by Rev. Floyd N. Williams of Houston, TYC Board Member.

"Fox is described as REALLY caring about the youth he serves," said Rev. Williams. "After a training meeting in Brownwood, he took the time to visit every one of his students there despite the fact that he had a six-hour trip home that night."

Fox "goes that extra mile" and frequently refers students to a community contract program when they are having problems on parole, rather than having them returned to an institution.

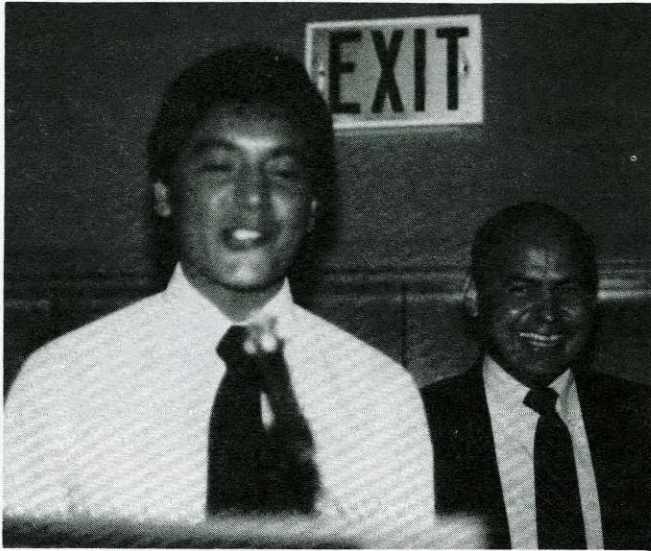
Officer Fox also provides excellent public relations for the agency through speech to civic groups, county probation departments and special meetings of law enforcement officers.

"He has seen many changes in the agency's parole procedures over the years — and has readily adapted to them," said Rev. Williams. Fox participated in the very first revocation hearing under the stringent new guidelines introduced several years ago.

Because he works in a distant office, Fox is constantly faced with problem-solving tasks alone. He has been recognized for his loyalty to the agency and holds the respect of his fellow workers.

"Although he was recently commended by his area supervisor for having the best file documentation during an audit, he is more often recognized for his outstanding "people" skills. He is noted for counseling his clients with firmness and empathy," Rev. Williams said.

Also nominated for the outstanding parole employee award were Trudie Asbury, El Paso; Alma Padron, McAllen; John Adkins, Houston; Jovita Avila, Austin and Sharon Hambrick, Tyler.



JAVIER AGUILAR, left, was named TYC's outstanding halfway house staff member during the agency's awards banquet July 10 in Kerrville. Aguilar, a McAllen House youth activity supervisor, received the award from TYC Board Member Jorge Rangel, right.

Javier Aguilar
McAllen House
Outstanding Halfway House employee

Javier Aguilar, youth activity supervisor at McAllen House, was named winner of the agency's award for outstanding Halfway House employee during the annual awards banquet July 10 in Kerrville.

Announcement of his award was made by TYC Board member Jorge Rangel of Corpus Christi.

Aguilar is described as "always having time for students on a one-to-one basis," said Rangel. "He has demonstrated professionalism and dedication to his House and has gained the respect and trust of both staff and students."

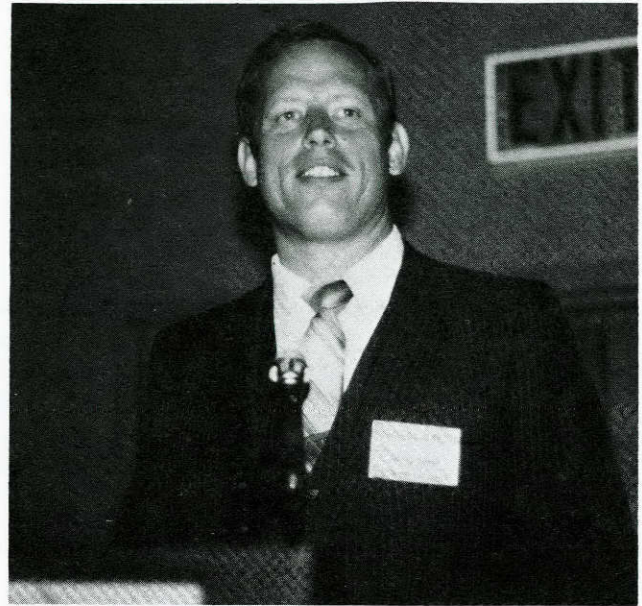
In addition to his regular duties as group leader, Aguilar regularly volunteers more than 40 hours a month — taking students on outings to museums, parks, ballgames, movies and restaurants.

"He has been responsible for motivating community volunteers and personally supplies his own VCR for recreational activities on weekends," said Rangel. "He helps acquire jobs for residents and donates items for fund-raising projects."

He is described as "taking criticism constructively" and being willing to try to improve his job performance at every opportunity. He graciously fills in for staff members when they are in a bind.

"Aguilar helped start a foster home for a student and volunteers at this home during his time off," Rangel concluded.

Also nominated for the Halfway House Award were Roy Ford, Ayres House; Anthony Ray Floyd, Nueces House; James Alexander, Schaeffer House; Noe Molina, Turman House; and Betty Smith, Willoughby House.



RONALD HARTIS, Corsicana State Home employee, was named Outstanding Child Care Worker in Institutions for 1986. He is shown here accepting the award at the TYC annual awards banquet in Kerrville.

Ronald Hartis
Corsicana State Home
Outstanding Institutional Employee

Ronald Hartis, security staff member at Corsicana State Home, was named Outstanding Child Care Worker in Institutions during the agency's annual awards banquet in Kerrville.

Susan Bush, TYC Board vice chairman, made the announcement.

"Selected as this year's statewide winner is a man who has given the the Texas Youth Commission 15 years of service," said Bush, "starting at the bottom and working up to his present job as YAS IV supervising other employees."

"Hartis is a respected leader in his own department and throughout the campus," she said. "He has developed forms and procedures to streamline his program and has organized procedures to help keep closer tabs on students."

Hartis has long been an active employee volunteer and has involved students in his community church, helps out with the Boy Scout Troop, assists with special campus projects, takes a student home to spend Christmas with his family, encourages his church to make donations to the campus program, and was honored this spring for accruing 500 hours of documented volunteer services since 1981.

Hartis is always willing to assist on his campus and in other TYC programs on a moment's notice when needed," said Bush. "When the ranch program staff resigned, he went to the ranch for a week until a new staff could be hired."

"He genuinely cares about kids and maintains contact with many ex-students," she concluded.

Also nominated for Outstanding Child Care Worker in Institutions were Edna Morris, Reception Center; Floyd Graham, Brownwood; Randy Woolley, Crockett; Bill Simes, Fairfield Camp; Regina Carson, Gainesville; William Bradbury, Giddings; Gary Brewer, West Texas; and Efrain Davila, Evins Regional Juvenile Center.

High Frontier Inc. Outstanding Contract Program

High Frontier, Inc., a residential treatment center located in the Davis Mountains, was named TYC's outstanding contract program during the agency's annual awards banquet July 10 in Kerrville.

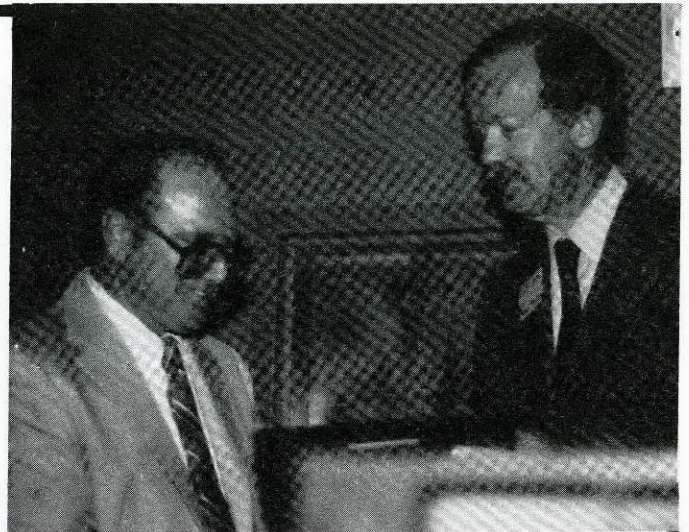
"TYC is fortunate to have more than 100 excellent contracts with privately-run youth programs," said Larry York, TYC Board Member who announced the winner. "We are continually encouraging the development of new programs in the private sector. This year we have placed a total of 1,400 youth in contract programs, and are currently maintaining an average daily population of 600 in our residential contract program."

"The winning program was started in order to take kids that other treatment centers rejected because of their thick referral packets . . . kids who had bounced from one program to another," said York.

High Frontier, Inc. was organized by Bill McKay of Fort Worth, a businessman whose hobby is rescuing unfortunate kids, not playing golf, hunting or fishing. (McKay was honored last fall as TYC's outstanding individual volunteer for his work in organizing the TYC State Volunteer Council.)

"The treatment team at High Frontier has fine-tuned the program into a self-actualized treatment center based on positive peer culture therapy," said York.

"The program features quality programming, constant upgrading of the physical plant, and a conscious effort to reach out across the state to fill voids and gaps in services that youths need," he added. "This year High Frontier opened a halfway house in Fort Worth to allow ranch students an opportunity to move into a less restrictive setting — particularly when they did not have an approved home to return to."



DR. JAMES SMITH, left, Exec and Medical Director of High Frontier, Inc., attended TYC's awards banquet July 10 and accepted the Outstanding Contract Program award for High Frontier, Inc., located in the Davis Mountains from TYC Board Member Larry York, right.

"This program has truly stretched and grown to search for the best way to work with troubled youth, and is staffed by sensitive, caring employees," he concluded.

Dr. James Smith, Executive and Medical Director of High Frontier, accepted the award for his program.

Other contract program nominated for the award were Hicks Foster Home in Fort Worth; Crossroads in Harlingen; Warren West Group Home in Seguin; Casa Phoenix in Houston; and Albertine Yeager Youth Crisis Center in Galveston.

Volunteers conference slated Sept. 25-27 in Corsicana

The Third Annual TYC Volunteer Conference is slated September 25-27 at the Holiday Inn in Corsicana, hosted by the Corsicana State Home Community Advisory Council.

The general session begins at 10 a.m. Friday, September 26, with reports from the representatives from each local council. A luncheon is scheduled following the opening session.

Actually the conference gets underway Thursday afternoon, September 25, with registration and a tour of the Corsicana State Home. The Annual State Council meeting of the State Board will begin at 8 a.m. Friday morning, prior to the opening.

Workshops are planned Friday afternoon with a dinner slated that evening at the Corsicana State Home campus. Games and other entertainment is

planned after dinner. Except for the Friday night activities, all conference events will be held at the Holiday Inn.

Saturday morning (September 27) continental breakfast courtesy of the Corsicana Council will be available from 7:30 to 9 a.m. From 9 to 11 a.m., Table Topics are scheduled.

Table topics include fundraising, health concerns, and the State Council's role in the overall picture.

The annual awards luncheon will be held at noon.

Co-chairing the conference activities are Jim Acker and Joan Cummings of the CSH volunteer council, with staff support from Lucy Humbert, Corsicana State Home volunteer coordinator.

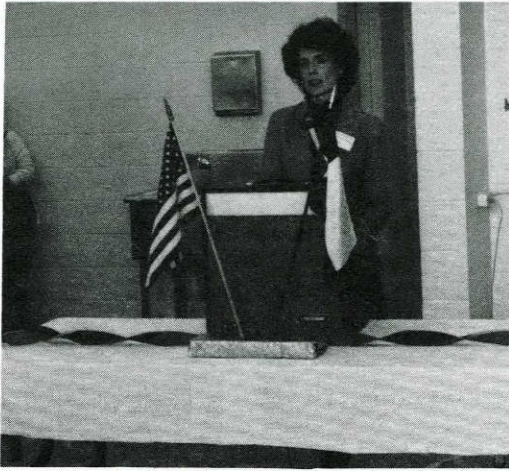
Other subcommittee chairmen include: Jerry Harris, hotel arrangements; Dick Miller, program coordinator; Jack Bag-

gett, fundraising; Mike Gage, dinner; Lawrence De Moss, games; Melanie Hardeman, registration; Jerry Cock-erham, greeters; Lucy Humbert, tours; Gretchen London, gifts, donations; Ron Hartis, Danita McAnelly, luncheons; and Laura Albrecht, publicity.

About 125 people (staff members and volunteers) attended last year's volunteer conference. Fewer staff members will be able to attend this year, due to budget restrictions, so the program is being planned to benefit volunteers and local council members.

A preliminary announcement brochure will be available soon from local volunteer coordinators and local council chairmen.

Information will also be sent soon concerning nominations for volunteer awards.

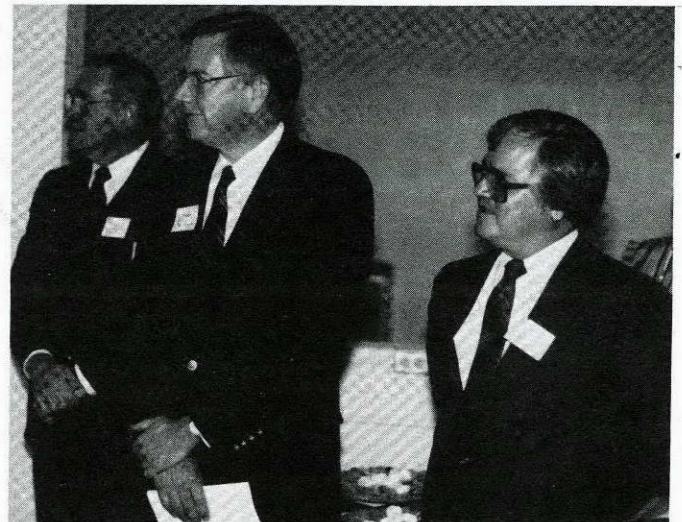


SUSAN BUSH, TYC Board Member, introduced speaker State Senator Ray Farabee, during open house at Gainesville vocational building.



NEW VOCATIONAL BUILDING at Gainesville State School was the site of an open house March 13. This entrance is actually at the rear of the building, where the open house event was held.

Senator Farabee speaks at Gainesville open house



SENATOR RAY FARABEE, center, waits his turn to give the main speech at the Gainesville open house. To his left is Gainesville Superintendent Tom Riddle, and at right, TYC Board Member Richard Abalos.



March 13, 1986

SENATOR FARABEE greets members of the Gainesville community and state school staff members during his visit to the campus to dedicate the vocational building.

DR. GEORGE BETO, chairman of the TYC Board, served as master of ceremonies at the Gainesville vocational building open house.



TYC begins ACA accreditation

Twenty TYC staff members who are members of the ACA accreditation teams at Gainesville, Dallas House and Dallas Parole attended a training session July 17 and 18 concerning TYC's pilot project on accreditation.

The orientation session held in Gainesville was conducted by two ACA accreditation instructors, Jack Green, director of operations, and Lynda Pusatari, program specialist. The session was coordinated by TYC's Accreditation Manager Don Taylor.

The TYC Board in July okayed a 12-month contract with the Commission on Accreditation for \$14,025. TYC has submitted an application to the Criminal Justice Division of the Governor's Office for \$16,310 to cover accreditation fees and agency travel. If the grant is approved the funds will be available at the end of September.

In March the Board approved proceeding with the pilot project to seek accreditation from the American Correctional Associations' (ACA) Commission on Accreditation for Corrections. A pilot project in one training school, one halfway house and one parole office was okayed and is intended to assess the feasibility of seeking accreditation of all TYC's operations.

Team leaders have been appointed at each site and the self-evaluation process has begun. Each program team is mak-

Blue Cross rates remain unchanged

The Board of the Employees Retirement System has extended the current group insurance contract with Blue Cross/Blue Shield for an additional year, beginning September 1, 1986.

The contract includes no increase in rates for health, life, accident and disability coverages.

Three benefits have been added: 1) routine physical examinations conducted on an outpatient basis will be included — subject to normal plan deductibles and co-insurance; 2) coverage for treatment of alcoholism, and 3) continuation of group health coverage for certain dependents of divorced or deceased employees and retirees.

TYC employees who have suggestions or recommendations regarding the group insurance program should contact Dotty Doyle, Gainesville State School, TYC's representative to the Group Insurance Advisory Committee.

ing a preliminary assessment of its compliance with the standards.

Team leaders are Joyce Rigler, Assistant Superintendent, Gainesville; Pam Bhagwat, Superintendent, Dallas House; and Bill Hornyak, Area Supervisor, Dallas Parole.

The accreditation process involves three stages: Applicant Status, which has been completed; Correspondent Status, the self-evaluation process in which TYC prepares for an audit by the CAC auditors to determine if the agency is in compliance with CAC standards; and Candidate Status, in which TYC responds to the audit report in three ways: 1) by submitting a plan of action to reach compliance; 2) by asking for a waiver; or 3) by submitting an appeal of the findings.

"This phase can take up to a year," said Taylor.

"TYC is currently planning to complete Correspondent Status in December," he added. "This agency is fortunate to have two staff members (John Arrendondo and June Cox) who are trained auditors for the CAC. This available expertise will be invaluable."

Also Linda Rossi, Deputy Director, is a member of ACA's Commission on Accreditation for Corrections, and urged the Board to approve the pilot project.

"The self-evaluation process is healthy," said Rossi. "It's a good thing to compare our programs to nationally-recognized and accepted standards to see how we measure up."

"Accreditation helps to upgrade our profession, improving our credibility and standing in the community," she added. "It's just good for morale to be accredited."

37 receive tenure plaques

Thirty-seven TYC employees have received 15, 20 or 25-year tenure plaques from the agency.

Ron Jackson, Executive Director, presented 20 and 25-year plaques during the Kerrville workshop July 9-11 to the following:

25-YEAR PLAQUES: William E. Bond, Reception Center; James Miller, Giddings; and Herbert R. Earley, Gainesville.

20-YEAR PLAQUES: Charlene L. Harris, Dale Courtright, Brownwood State School; Archie Sims, Giddings; Grady Knight, Gregorio Y. Garcia, West Texas Children's Home; and Dr. Ralston B. Gober, Corsicana.

Fifteen-year plaques have been

Board okayes three research proposals

Three proposals to do research with TYC youth have been approved by the Board.

Dante Pena, a doctoral student in criminal justice at Sam Houston State University, will conduct a study investigating the relationship between learning disabilities and juvenile delinquency.

His study will examine the relationships between learning disabilities, social competence, classroom environment, family environment using statistical tests.

Questionnaires were given to 100 TYC students at three sites (Gainesville, Crockett, Giddings) and 100 students at non-TYC facilities.

Dr. W. David Watts, chairman of the department of sociology/anthropology at Southwest Texas State University, is examining the relationship between delinquency and the possession of success-oriented values.

He has given questionnaires to 150 students at Brownwood State School and to a similar number of non-delinquents at a public high school.

Drucilla Reyes, a master's degree candidate in criminology and corrections at Sam Houston State University, is doing research into the effect of pre-service training on 25 TYC caseworkers concerning their attitudes on various juvenile justice strategies.

"This study should be useful to the agency in determining the extent to which the attitudes of new employees are consistent with the philosophy of the agency," said Adrian Moore, Director of Planning, Research and Evaluation, "and the extent to which pre-service training shapes attitudes in the desired direction."

earned by the following: CENTRAL OFFICE — Tilford Pike, Pat Tucker; PAROLE — Trudie Asbury, El Paso; RECEPTION CENTER — Beulah H. Couch, Linda Slusher, Marie Taylor; BROWNWOOD — Thomas Stewardson, Ellis B. Mahan, Betty L. George, Loyce Williams, Dorothy Willson, Dalton Cox; GIDDINGS — Alexander Stephens; GAINESVILLE — Mona Interwicz, Judy Blanton, Andrew Williams, Joyce Laverne Williams; WEST TEXAS — Teclo Bustamantes, Ken Cook; CORSICANA — Gladys Basham, Alma Reese, Gordon Griffin, Billie Sims, Harvey Elmore, Vergie Brown; and CROCKETT — Edith Rushing.

Nutrition chief receives honor

Alana Webb, Chief of Nutrition, has received the Recognized Young Dietitian of the Year Award. She was the only dietitian from Austin to receive the award given by the American Dietetic Association through the Texas Dietetic Association.

The award is given for outstanding leadership and professional achievement by young dietitians. The award was presented at the 1986 Texas Dietetic Association Annual Meeting in Fort Worth in April.

Five other dietitians were recognized from Texas.

Fulltime volunteer chaplain serves reception center

Mickey Harr, a semi-retired businessman, has been named fulltime volunteer chaplain at the Statewide Reception Center.

Mr. Harr, who conducted a prison ministry in New Mexico, has been involved at the reception center on a part-time basis for almost two years, and has been solely responsible for providing Sunday morning worship services to students during that time.



CHAPLAIN H. R. EARLEY, left, of Gainesville, was honored at a retirement dinner and received an appreciation plaque presented by TYC Assistant Executive Director Mart Hoffman, right. Also pictured is Mrs. Earley.

Chaplain Earley retires

A 25-year employee of the Texas Youth Commission, Chaplain H. R. Earley, was honored recently at a retirement dinner for 85 guests.

Chaplain Earley was chaplain at Gainesville State School for 21 years.

Dr. William Shamburger, Chief of Chaplaincy, was master of ceremonies.

Among the many gifts presented were items to make Earley "look" retired — sunglasses, jogging pants, T-shirt, sun hat, fishing pole, lawn chair and umbrella.



Cocoros



Chandler



Rhodes

Crockett administrators named

Several new administrators have recently been appointed by the Texas Youth Commission.

David Cocoros, formerly assistant superintendent at Crockett State School, was named superintendent in March.

Cocoros previously served as superintendent of Ayres House in San Antonio and as Houston parole supervisor.

Cocoros received his bachelor's degree in psychology from Sam Houston State University.

Dr. Jane Chandler of Austin, was appointed assistant superintendent at Crockett State School August 1. For the past three years, she has been director of programs and staff psychologist for a 180-bed adult psychiatric unit at the Austin State Hospital.

She was in private practice in Dallas from 1982 to 1984, and from 1974 to 1982 served as staff psychologist and chief clinical psychologist of Rusk State Hospital.

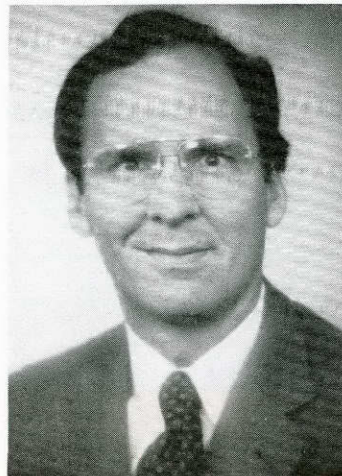
Dr. Chandler holds a bachelor of arts degree in psychology from the University of Texas, a master's degree from Stephen F. Austin State University, and Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Arlington. She is currently working toward her Master of Business Administration from the University of Texas.

Also new at Central Office is Shannon Rhodes, new assistant director of personnel.

Rhodes replaces Sharman Eskew, who resigned after 11 years at TYC to accept the position of Director of Personnel for the Texas Animal Health Commission June 16.

Rhodes most recently was Director of Human Resources for the Institute for the Blind in Hartford, Connecticut. She holds a B.B.A. degree in personnel management from the University of Connecticut.

Hoffman resigns position



Mart Hoffman

Mart Hoffman, who served as TYC's deputy executive director for ten years (1975 - 1985) resigned from the agency in June to accept a position as clinical services supervisor for the Oak Residential Treatment Center in Austin.

Hoffman began his career working with youth in wilderness campus settings. From 1967 to 1970 he was with the Salesmanship Club Boys Camp, Dallas, and a related organization, Girls' Adventure Trails of Dallas.

He later served as a social work intern for the Settlement Club Home of Austin while working toward his master's degree.

In July of 1972 Hoffman joined the staff of the Brownwood State Home as a social worker and adventure trails program director. In 1973 he was appointed

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Who Is to Blame?

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The following poem may not be original, but was sent to a TYC resident at Schaeffer House by his mother, who is serving time in prison.)

We read in the papers and hear on the air
Of killing and stealing and crime everywhere.
We sigh as we say when we notice the trend
"This young generation — where will it end?"
How can we be sure it's their fault alone?
Do they ask us for bread, and we give them stone?
Are we less guilty who place in their way
Too many things that lead them astray?
Too much money, too much idle time.
Too many movies of passion and crime.
Too many books not fit to be read.
Too much evil in what they hear said.

Too many children encouraged to roam.
Too many parents who won't stay at home.
Kids don't make the movies, they don't write the books.
They don't paint good pictures of gangsters and crooks.
They don't make the liquor; they don't make the bars.
They don't make the laws; they don't make the cars.
They don't peddle the drugs that muddle the brain;
That's all done by older folks greedy for gain.
Delinquent teenagers — oh, how we condemn!
For the sins of our nation, we blame upon them.
By the laws of the blameless the Savior made known
Who is there among us to cast the first stone?
For in so many cases — it's said and it's true —
The word delinquent fits older folks, too.

Three represent TYC at national conference

TYC Board chairman Dr. George Beto, Executive Director Ron Jackson and Deputy Linda Rossi were among those in the Texas delegation who attended the second National Conference on Correctional Policy June 25-28 in Washington, D.C.

The conference, sponsored by the American Correctional Association (ACA) and the National Institute of Corrections, was called to study the problem of prison overcrowding.

"The number of offenders in prison has doubled over the past 10 years and now stands at an all-time record of 500,000," said Anthony P. Trivisono, ACA executive director. "Another dimension to the dilemma is that most prison systems in this country are under court order to improve conditions of incarceration."

Hoffman

(Continued from Page 19)

acting superintendent of the home, and was confirmed as superintendent in 1974.

Hoffman was named assistant director of institutions at central office in 1975, and was later appointed Director of Institutions. He was named Deputy Executive Director in September of 1976.

The TYC Board passed a resolution July 10 honoring Hoffman "for his distinguished service and deep concern for troubled youth" and wished him well in his future work.

Art show winners named

Gainesville student Mark Cerna captured the grand prize in the June art show at Gainesville State School with a portrait of a young cowboy.

Other winners were Paul Vera, first in the Nature category; Thomas Campbell, first in the Cartoon category; Kevin Marry, first in the Mechanical category; Others who placed included Darrell Ayers, Leigh Ball, Ernest Smith, John Vaughan, Thomas Gomez, Greg Lenor, George Foley and David Schaezel.

Special awards went to Christopher Najera, Harold Dyer, and Carol Foster.

Cathy Farquhar coordinated the event. Judges were volunteers Wes Morrow, Kay Marshall, Jim Fielder and Ken Leach. After the show the entries were displayed at Gainesville Memorial Hospital.

NOTES

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