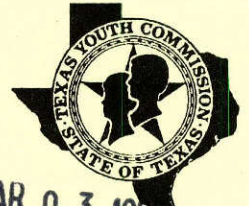


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# TYC NOTES



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## SENATOR TURNER, REPRESENTATIVE STILES HONORED AT AGENCY'S BANQUET

State Senator Jim Turner of Crockett and State Representative Mark Stiles of Beaumont were recently honored for their support and assistance to the Texas Youth Commission during the agency's annual awards banquet July 23 in Kerrville.

Pete Harrell of Austin, a member of the TYC Board, presented the award to Senator Turner.

"The Youth Commission is indeed fortunate that such a key member of the legislature and leader in the area of criminal justice also happens to reside in a community in which one of our facilities is located," said Harrell in presenting his award. "Senator Turner is acutely aware of the tremendous problems facing the adult criminal justice system and has become very knowledgeable of the unique issues facing the Youth Commission," he continued. "He has taken the time to visit with Crockett State School employees to understand the consequence of legislative proposals such as those contained in the Comptroller's study last summer," said Harrell.



Senator Jim Turner

\* \* \* \*

Comer J. Cottrell of Dallas, TYC Board Vice Chairman, made the announcement of the award to Representative Mark Stiles in Kerrville, July 23. Representative Stiles was unable to attend the awards banquet and received the award during the board meeting in Beaumont September 17.

"Elected to the Texas House of Representatives in 1982, Representative Stiles is recognized as a key leader in this legislative body," said Cottrell in announcing the award. "He was listed by *Texas Monthly* magazine in 1991 as an Honorable Mention recipient in their list of Best Legislators,



Representative Mark Stiles is pictured here at ground-breaking ceremonies in Beaumont.

and received the 1991 Legislator of the Year award given by both the Texas Public Employees Association and the Texas Municipal League," continued Cottrell.

(Continued on Page 3)

### 1993 Kerrville Workshop Scheduled

The 1993 administrator's workshop has been scheduled for Wednesday July 14, 15, and 16, 1993 at the Best Western Inn of the Hills in Kerrville.

Specific information on next year's workshop will be forthcoming.

(Continued on Page 3)

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## **Board Adopts 6-Month Minimum Length of Stay**

The Youth Commission's Board during its regular meeting in Beaumont on September 17, 1992, approved implementation of a proposed rule establishing a minimum six month length for all youth committed to TYC on or after October 1, 1992. In presenting this policy change to the Board, Jay Lindgren, Deputy Executive Director, reminded the Board that with increased funding to juvenile probation departments, the legislature expected commitments to TYC be reduced. Reduced commitments will enable TYC to retain all youth for at least six months in a residential program prior to being released on parole.

The Board also discussed the increasing number of minority youth committed to TYC. In Fiscal Year (FY) 1989, 26% of commitments were Anglo (517 youth), 37% Hispanic (744 youth), and 36% Black (723 youth). For the Fiscal Year ending August 31, 1992, the number of Black youth had risen to 44% (929 youth) of all commitments. The number of Hispanic youth (797) had remained relatively the same, at 37% of commitments and Anglo commitments had declined to 18% of commitments (380 youth). The Board asked staff to examine this alarming trend and provide a report on the disproportional number of minority youth committed to

the Youth Commission. The Board also instructed staff to include an analysis of the number of minority youth involved at all levels of the juvenile justice system and provide any information on national studies on this issue.

## **Cisneros Speaks At Awards Banquet**

The Honorable Henry G. Cisneros, Chairman of Cisneros Asset Management Company and former mayor of San Antonio, was the keynote speaker at the agency's annual employee awards banquet in Kerrville, July 23.

The Texas Youth Commission has had the honor of hearing Cisneros at the groundbreaking of the Evins Center in 1986 and the dedication ceremonies in 1990. As a former mayor of San Antonio, he became the first Hispanic mayor of a major U.S. city and helped develop San Antonio into one of the nation's most progressive cities. He gained national attention throughout his tenure as mayor and was interviewed as a potential vice-presidential candidate in 1984.

Cisneros, a professor as well a public figure, has a doctorate in public administration and taught urban economics at Trinity University in San Antonio. He was recently elected deputy chairman of the Federal Reserves Bank of Dallas and is chairman of the National Civic League and co-chair of the National Hispanic Leadership Agenda. He is host of *Texans*, a television show produced quarterly in Texas and *Adelante*, a national Spanish-language radio commentary series.



*Henry G. Cisneros speaks during the Kerrville awards banquet*



## **Senator Turner** - - (Continued from Page 1)

Senator Turner currently represents Senate District 5, which encompasses 18 central and east Texas counties. His newly redrawn district will now also include Lee County and the Giddings State School. Senator Turner currently serves on the Senate Finance, Economic Development and Intergovernmental Relations Committees. He also serves on the Interim Committee on Criminal Justice and was appointed by Lt. Governor Bullock as a member of the Punishment Standards Commission. The Senator received the distinction of being named by Texas Monthly magazine as an up and coming first term member of the Senate.

As a member of the Finance Committee, Senator Turner will play an integral role in the deliberations regarding the Youth Commission's budget and legislative action on providing hazardous duty pay for TYC line staff. He will continue to be at the forefront of discussions dealing with the entire criminal justice system and will undoubtedly play a key role in any discussions involving the Youth Commission and issues facing the juvenile justice system.

"Prior to serving in the Senate, Senator Turner served in the Texas House from 1981 to 1984 during which time he was named an "Outstanding Legislator" by Texas Business magazine. From 1984 - 85 he served as Special Counsel for Legislative Affairs and as Executive Assistant to Governor White. Senator Turner received both his bachelor and law

degrees from the University of Texas. Jim and his wife, Ginny, have been married for over 20 years and have two children," said Harrell.

"The Texas Youth Commission appreciates your outstanding contributions to the Texas Legislature and your support of our agency. We are pleased to present you with this plaque in appreciation of your service," concluded Harrell.

## **Representative Mark Stiles**

(Continued from Page 1)

"In addition to his involvement in consumer affairs as a member of the House Committee on Insurance, Representative Stiles has been a leader in issues dealing with the criminal justice system," said Cottrell. "In 1989, Stiles was appointed to the conference committee that resolved the differences in the legislation that created the Texas Department of Criminal Justice," said Cottrell. "Last session, he and Representative Hightower were the key House members involved in the deliberations dealing with the settlement of the county jail overcrowding lawsuit." Stiles currently serves as a member of both the Texas Punishment Standards Commission and the Legislative Criminal Justice Oversight Board," said Cottrell.

During the 72nd Legislature, Representative Stiles was involved in numerous issues that directly impacted the Youth Commission. He sponsored legislation to authorize the payment of hazardous duty pay for TYC line staff. While the bill was not adopted due to a technical point of order. It is hoped that raising this issue before the legislature last session will improve the chances of passage next session. He was successful, however, in enhancing the sanction for a youth convicted of assaulting a TYC employee. He offered a floor amendment that assured that Youth Commission construction projects were included in the bond package that was eventually approved by Texas voters last November. In addition to his efforts in sponsoring legislation of importance to the Youth Commission, Representative Stiles led the House floor debate in favor of not including the Youth Commission under the auspices of the Commission on Health and Human Services. The issue of consolidation will be back before the legislature when it convenes in January of 1993," continued Cottrell.

A native of Houston, Representative Stiles resides in Jefferson County. He attended Sam Houston State and Lamar Universities. He and his wife, Sandra Kay, have three children. Effective with the 1992 elections his legislative district will include the western and southern portions of Jefferson County.



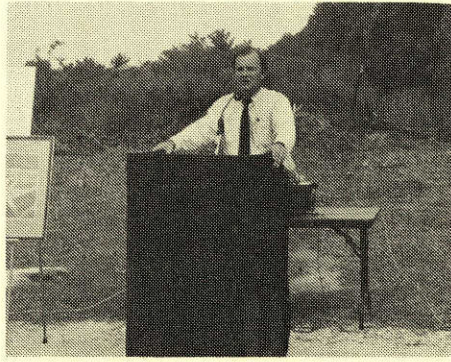
## **TYC Hosts Groundbreaking**

The Texas Youth Commission hosted groundbreaking ceremonies for the construction of its new state school on September 17 in Jefferson County.

Texas Comptroller John Sharp provided the keynote remarks during the event. Also speaking during the groundbreaking were Senator Carl Parker, Representative Mark Stiles and Jefferson County Judge Richard P. LeBlanc, Jr.

Texas voters approved the issuance of general obligations bonds authorized by the legislature last session for construction of this new secure facility which has a residential capacity of 150. Generally, youth who have been adjudicated for serious felony offenses are placed in TYC's secure facilities. This state school will house youth from the east and southeast areas of Texas.

The 50 acre campus style site will be located near other criminal justice agencies under construction in the area. This facility will consist of six dormitories housing 25 youth each and separate buildings for security placements and medical needs, academic instruction, vocational training, recreational activities, maintenance functions and administrative offices. Construction is scheduled to begin in early 1993 and is expected to last approximately 24 months.



*Comptroller John Sharp is pictured here at groundbreaking in Beaumont.*



*Delores Holubec accepts her Outstanding Award for 1992 from Board Member Edna Tamayo.*

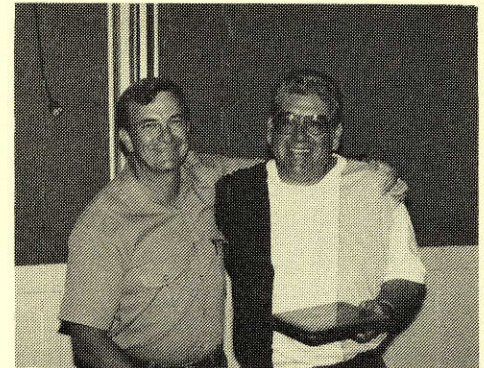
## **Bonilla Named 1992 Administrator of the Year**

Jesus Bonilla, Regional Director for the West Region, was named Texas Youth Commission's Administrator of the Year for 1992 during the agency's annual workshop in Kerrville July 23.

The Administrator of the Year winner is selected by fellow peers and is intended to recognize administrators who would otherwise not be eligible for recognition in other award categories.

Jesus Bonilla was originally hired in 1961 as a Parole Officer I in El Paso; he was promoted to Parole Supervisor of that office in 1976. Bonilla has held his current position since 1986 when he was named Regional Director of the West Region, encompassing the various parole offices and Schaeffer Halfway House.

In accepting his award, Bonilla applauded his various mentors in the agency and peers in the West Region.



*Ron Jackson (left) is pictured with Jesus Bonilla, Administrator of the Year for 1992.*



*Cherie Townsend (left) receives Shiver Award from previous recipient Marie Murdoch.*



# Corsicana Holds Homecoming Celebration

The Texas Youth Commission's Corsicana State Home held its annual homecoming of ex-students on June 13. This homecoming was entitled "Back Home to Calvert Hall," in honor of Judge Robert Calvert, a Corsicana State Home ex-student.

The highlight of the homecoming was the dedication of Calvert Hall, one of the last remaining original buildings on the Corsicana campus. Lt. Governor Bob Bullock, introduced by Ron Jackson, Executive Director, attended the dedication ceremony and was keynote speaker.

"Judge Robert Calvert, who was born in Tennessee and placed in the facility in 1915, has had a distinguished career as a lawyer, Texas State Representative, Speaker of the House and Chief Justice of the Supreme court of Texas," said Bullock. "The ideals and values that Judge Calvert represents are timeless; they reach back to what's good about Texas and this country we live in," continued Bullock.

During the plaque dedication ceremony, State Home Superintendent Sandy Burnam presented a pen and ink drawing of Calvert Hall that was drawn by staff member Arnold Pena.



*Pictured with Lt. Governor Bullock during Corsicana Homecoming are (l to r) Peg Johnson, member of Dallas Advisory Council and Joan Timmons, Chief of Volunteer Services.*

During the celebration, current Corsicana students were honored for their improvement in school work and attitude. The students were Nikia Smith, Robert Neville, Julian Campos, Robert Lindley and Stephanie Sullivan.

## TYC Benefits From Two Grant Awards

"The Texas Youth Commission has successfully applied for funding through the Criminal Justice Division of the Governor's Office to support two projects," reported Susan J. Saperstein, Federal Relations Coordinator in Central Office. The grant period is fiscal year 1993, with continuation funding available at decreasing levels for up to five years.

**1. Drug Education and Prevention:** This \$107,674 grant will provide culturally sensitive substance abuse and delinquency prevention activities to siblings and peers of youth currently committed to TYC from Austin and San Antonio.

Two Chemical Dependency Prevention Counselors and two support staff will be hired to coordinate with community programs and incorporate drug and delinquency prevention activities and support groups into existing neighborhood services.

**2. In-Service Training:** Developed in collaboration with Sam Houston State University, this \$132,367 grant goes to the University to support in-service training for TYC community services staff through the creation of a Community Services Training Institute at Sam Houston State. The training will concentrate on issues critical to employee safety and job performance.

Members of TYC's Training and Community Services Divisions are developing the curriculum with the University to ensure the program addresses staff interests and needs. The grant covers the provision of all training services, as well as staff meals and lodging costs.



## Dallas DAs Visit Gainesville

By Katie Price

In a setting exactly opposite from a courtroom situation, 12 assistant district attorneys from Dallas County's 304th District Court met the challenge of the ROPES course at the Gainesville State School campus. Not looking at all like attorneys, the casually-dressed group assembled at the school early one hot Wednesday morning in August to find out what trust was all about.

Travis Riggs, ROPES instructor, assisted by Yvette Young, YAS, and John Stutz, Chaplain, led the group through the low and high elements of the program. The afternoon session provided an opportunity for some really brave individuals to experience the walk across the high log and climb the pumper pole to leap to the near, yet so far, trapeze swing and descent to earth.

(Continued on Page 7)



*Pictured at Corsicana homecoming are (l to r) Mrs. Calvert, daughter Carolyn Pool, Judge Calvert, Superintendent Sandy Burnam and Executive Director Ron Jackson.*

## Volunteer Conference Held In San Antonio

By Joan Timmons

The Ninth Annual Texas Youth Commission Volunteer Conference was held in San Antonio in September. Executive Director Ron Jackson was keynote speaker and Justice Orlando Garcia of San Antonio was a special luncheon speaker on Friday, September 11.

Sixty-seven TYC volunteers and groups were nominated in all categories. Many of them were present for the awards ceremony on Saturday, September 12.

The following awards were given to Outstanding Volunteers in six categories:

Named Outstanding Individual Volunteers for 1992 were John Bustillos, parole volunteer in Dallas and Judy Ehrke, one-to-one volunteer and advisory council member in Brownwood.

Sarah Tellez, Brownwood State School, received the Religious Individual Volunteer Award for 1992. Named Outstanding Student Volunteers for 1992 were Joe Ramon, Schaeffer House student, and all the Ayres House students. Named Outstanding Staff Employee was Joe Rickey, West Texas State School. H.E.B. Food Store in Corsicana was named Outstanding Civic Group or Business for 1992. Rick White, Store Director accepted the award. Northwest Baptist Church of Houston was named Outstanding Religious Volunteer Group for 1992.

Award presentations were made by Jay Lindgren, Deputy Executive Director; Neil Nichols, Asst. Executive Director for Professional Services; Dwight Harris, Director of Institutions; and Adrian Moore, Central Region Director.

Dr. Leonard E. Lawrence, TYC Board Member from San Antonio, was guest speaker at the event. Edna Tamayo, TYC Board Member from Harlingen, was master of ceremonies.

Next year's volunteer conference will be held in Houston, and the 1992 conference will be held in the Valley.

## Giddings Receives Safety Award

The Giddings State School was named the recipient of TYC's Institutional Safety Award during the agency's annual workshop in Kerrville in July.

The award was presented to Superintendent Calvin Crenshaw in recognition of the facility's injury rate of 7.0% (number of injuries per 100 employees) compared to their previous rate of 17.1% for FY 1991-92.

Crenshaw accepted the award on behalf of Giddings' employees who have "worked hard and conscientiously in making the facility a safer place to work."



## Brookhaven Boys Ranch Named Outstanding Contract Program

The Brookhaven Boy's Ranch in Waco was named Outstanding Contract Program for 1992 during the agency's annual awards banquet July 23 in Kerrville.

Four other Texas Youth Commission contract programs were nominated to compete for the Statewide Award including the Rio Grande Marine Institute in South Region; Texas Key Intensive Supervision, East Region; East Texas Open Door, Inc., North Region; and Aliviane, Inc. No-AD, West Region.

"Brookhaven was started over five years ago by Bob Drake as a TYC approved and sole source provider to TYC," said Pete Harrell, TYC Board Member from Austin in presenting the award. "Bob, who was a former TYC administrator, developed his program into a DHS licensed

residential treatment center with a number of referral providers, but the program never abandoned TYC," he continued. "In fact, the program currently guarantees more than one-third of its bed space solely to our youth in need of Level V treatment services," said Harrell.

Brookhaven has evolved into an outstanding example of consistency and expertise in working with highly emotionally disturbed students. They have worked hard to develop a number of creative approaches to working with this population. One of the most effective for TYC students is Brookhaven's independent living program in Waco. This program combines traditional independent living preparation with the adult setting of the Texas State Technical College campus. The

(Continued on Page 8)



*Pictured during Valley House open house are (l to r) unidentified member of Harlingen Chamber of Commerce, George H. McShan, Harlingen School Board Member, Tony Garza Cameron County Judge, Butch Held, Superintendent, Gary D. Compton, TYC Board Chairman, State Representative Ken Fleuriet, Edna Tamayo and Pete Harrell, TYC Board Members, and Ron Jackson, Executive Director.*

## Dallas DAs --

(Continued from Page 6)

Bill Meili, Dallas County Chief Prosecutor, in a letter written to the Gainesville facility after their trip, wrote, "The ropes course built my confidence...a very powerful tool and a boost to my self-confidence and esteem. We'll be better at our jobs now because of what we did and what we watched each other do."

Janet M. Wright, Assistant DA in Dallas County, wrote in her letter "what a great tool the Ropes Course is for personal and social growth.....your staff made us feel competent even in our most doubtful of moments." She continued, saying that "letting the juvenile court prosecutors and investigations know first hand what the juveniles experience at TYC will hopefully give us insight as to the appropriate placement for a child."

Jack Patton, Assistant Superintendent, coordinated the day's events with assistance from Superintendent Jerry Day, Business Manager Dwain Young and his secretary Carole Foster, and Volunteer Coordinator Katie Price.



*Luis Lopez from South Region (center) receives the 1992 Computer Customer/User Award from Carolyn Purcell and Ron Jackson*



## **Delores Holubec Outstanding Central Office Employee**

Selected as Outstanding Central Office Staff Member for 1992 was Delores Holubec, served as Compensation/Benefits Supervisor in the Human Resources Department and was recently promoted to Human Resources Manager.

Four Texas Youth Commission Central Office Quarterly Winners were considered by the Statewide Awards Selection Committee for this year's top award. The winner was announced by the committee in Central Office in June.

Announcement of her award during the banquet in Kerrville July 23 was made by Edna Tamayo, TYC Board Member from Harlingen.

"Delores is an enthusiastic woman who provides TYC employees with support and the most up-to-date information about available employee benefit options," said Tamayo in presenting her award. Delores has been

responsible for the development of several new programs and projects which will improve agency personnel practices. She designed and developed a video for presentation of the new employee orientation, and helped negotiate a dental insurance plan for TYC employees. "She is a certified compensation specialist and her extensive knowledge of state benefits and insurance programs is an asset to TYC and all of its employees," continued Tamayo.

Delores has been an employee for TYC for over six years. Her dedication and willingness to assist others has greatly enhanced her department's service to employees.

The other quarterly central office winners considered for this award were Raquel Medina, Finance; Marilyn Dierschke, Health Services; and Loretta Smith, Finance.

## **Brookhaven --**

(Continued from Page 7)

Brookhaven program has also firmly established itself in the community by allowing its students to participate in activities such as Adopt-a-Highway and numerous other church activities in the Rogers Hill Community.

"Brookhaven continues to provide some of TYC's most difficult youth with effective treatment services and often succeeds in changing youth's problem behavior to positive behavior. Most significantly, the Brookhaven program has created a true partnership with TYC in the provision of services to TYC youth, and the level of cooperation and coordination within the relationship is outstanding," concluded Harrell.

The Texas Youth Commission presented the plaque to Brookhaven for their constant dedication to the betterment of Texas' troubled youth and for their outstanding performance and effectiveness in working with TYC's youth.

\* \* \* \* \*

Bob Drake, who owned the Brookhaven Boys Ranch, passed away on August 18, after a lengthy illness. He is survived by his wife, Dorothy.



*South Region field services program is awarded the ACA accreditation certificate following the awards banquet during the ACA Conference in San Antonio August 1992. TYC's South Region also received awards for accreditation of Evins Regional Juvenile Center and Valley House. All three programs scored 100%. Pictured (l to r) are George Phyfer, Chm. of Accreditation Board, Ron Jackson, Joseph Martinez, Nellie Tristan, Steve Spilman, Dora Ramirez-Itz, Helen Carothers, ACA President, James Gondles, ACA Executive Director, Gail Graham, and Cherie Townsend.*



## **David Williamson Named Outstanding Staff Member in Institutions for 1992**

David W. Williamson, Director of Security for the Crockett State School, was named Outstanding Staff Member in Institutions during the agency's annual awards banquet in Kerrville July 23.

The winner was announced by Pete Harrell, TYC Board Member from Austin.

"David has been with the Texas Youth Commission over 15 years and has previously served the agency as a YAS I, II, III, and IV," said Harrell in making the presentation to Williamson. "David is a very busy staff member--he has served on more than two dozen agency-wide committees and task forces ranging from policy development and review, staff development, and management of aggressive behavior to providing technical assistance to all TYC institutions," said Harrell.

David has participated in countless local projects in an overall effort to provide quality care to the youth committed to the agency. He demands quality work from the 23 staff he supervises and provides the necessary front-line leadership to make things happen.

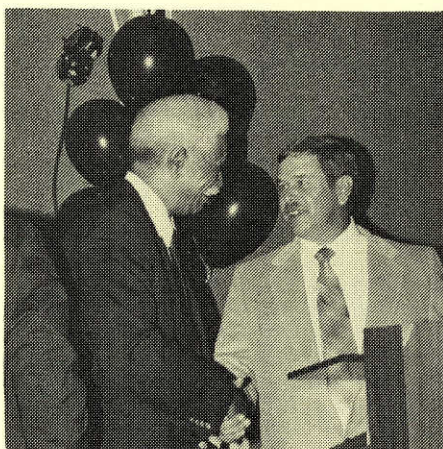
"Due to his efforts to stay abreast of all agency programs and practices, David is frequently called upon by staff at all levels for assistance," continued

Harrell. "While under the supervision of former superintendent Jerry Day, David established the first campus security team at Crockett. This program was shared with all facilities and has evolved throughout TYC into what we know today as Outside Security," said Harrell.

Harrell concluded his presentation by commending David for his personal dedication to the troubled youth of this state and the Texas Youth Commission.

Also nominated for the Statewide Award for Outstanding Staff Member in Institutions were

Edwin Gray, Statewide Reception Center; Brenda Adkins McFarland, Brownwood State School; Jimmy Alexander, Corsicana State Home; Robyn Byars, Gainesville State School; Linda Reyes, Giddings State School; and George W. Titus, West Texas State School.



*Board Member Pete Harrell (left) presents award to David Williamson from Crockett.*

## **TQM Initiatives**

Cathy Negrel, Quality Coordinator for the Texas Youth Commission, reported to the TYC Board during its July meeting in Kerrville, on the agency-wide implementation of Total Quality Management (TQM).

TQM was identified as a different way of conducting business whereby TYC's customers will be identified internally and externally. The agency's three common goals are customer and employee satisfaction, and business results.

Negrel enlightened the board on Quantum Solutions, the company selected to help provide training for the agency's implementation of TQM. The contract with Quantum Solutions began in June, 1992 and concludes in May, 1993. There are three phases in the Action Plan for Year 1. Management will be trained with new skills and educated on the cultural shift that needs to take place to support the new processes. Phase I, which is now complete, entailed three two-day workshops which involved 160 TYC managers, supervisors and some staff positions. This workshop was conducted to create buy-in, an overall awareness and acceptance of TQM concepts. One hundred Phase I participants will volunteer to continue with Phase II of the training. Participants in Phase II will attend seven monthly training sessions to learn teamwork and facilitation skills, process improvement and process redesign

(Continued on Page 10)



## **Rick L. Hart South Region Outstanding Staff Member in Community Services**

Rick L. Hart, Community Coordinator at Dallas House in the North Region, was named winner of the agency's award for Community Services for 1992. Announcement of his award was made by Edna Tamayo, TYC Board Member from Harlingen, during the awards banquet in Kerrville July 23.

"Rick's dedication to our agency, youth and staff extends beyond many lines," said Edna Tamayo in presenting the award. "Through Rick's hard work and commitment to our youth and the community, he has either established or helped establish the "Stewpot," which raises funds to help cloth and feed the homeless; the "Soul Patrol," which allows our youth to assist in the delivering of the meals to the homeless; and has aided in the "Habitat for Humanities" project which allows our youth to help build homes for low income and homeless people," she continued.

Rick is a "hard task-master" who demands excellence from our youth by becoming an example for them to follow. He shows our youth his love and support and comes up with different methods to teach them the importance of respect towards each other, education and work. Rick is so committed to helping "people" that his commitment extends beyond the halfway house and into the community where he takes the time to make many personal contacts with professionals such as doctors and other business leaders. "Rick usually succeeds in "winning them over" and getting



*Rick L. Hart accepts his award from Board Member Edna Tamayo.*

them to volunteer their time and expertise with our youth and staff." said Tamayo.

"Rick has made numerous and outstanding contributions to Texas' troubled youth," concluded Tamayo.

Also nominated for the Outstanding Staff Member in Community Services were Roy Ford, Central Region; Steve Ener, East Region; Linda Rodriguez, South Region; and German Avila, West Region.

### ***New Appointments***

Dwight Harris has been appointed Director of Institutions. Dwight previously served as Assistant Superintendent at the Gainesville State School. He also held the positions of Central Region Parole Supervisor and Youth Rights Administrator.

## **TQM**

(Continued from Page 9)

techniques to apply in their daily work and to share what they learn with other TYC employees. Phase III will involve 17 of TYC senior managers to be trained to serve as the Agency's Quality Council. The Quality Council will meet two days a month for six months, and then one-half day a month for three months. During this process, the Quality Council will review TYC's Performance Appraisal System, recognition and reward system and other items to better support TYC's Quality Improvement Process. A group of managers and supervisors will share their skills with other TYC staff.

The ultimate goals of TQM are to improve services to the youth, improve services internally, customer and employee satisfaction, organizational effectiveness and to develop a culture open to creativity and innovation, and to improve TYC's success overall.

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Linda Reyes has been appointed Chief of Mental Health Services. Dr. Reyes previously served as psychologist at the Giddings State School where she began her career with TYC in 1988. She worked with various special programs at Giddings including the Capitol Offender, Sex Offender, and Chemical Dependency programs.

(Continued on Page 12)



## **Gail Graham Receives Director's Award**

Gail Graham, Policy and Manuals Coordinator and ACA Accreditation Manager in Central Office, was named the recipient of the Executive Director's Award during the 1992 annual administrator's workshop in Kerrville, July 23.

Gail was recognized for her dedication in coordinating the American Correctional Association's accreditation process for the agency.

This special recognition was initiated by the executive director as a token of appreciation to a TYC employee who has made a significant contribution to the work of the agency.

## **Valley Open House**

TYC's Valley House hosted a community open house commemorating the dedication of its new program and facility on May 6.

The event which was sponsored by the community service council of Valley House welcomed about 150 guests to the facility including TYC board members.

Gary Compton, Chairman of TYC's Board, was the master of ceremonies. Ron Jackson, executive director, and Edna Tamayo, Board member from Harlingen, as well as numerous other community leaders addressed the audience. Cameron County Judge Tony Garza was the guest speaker.

Following the dedication, refreshments and mariachi music was provided for all the guests.



*Gail Graham receives the Executive Director's Award from Ron Jackson.*

## **ACA Accreditation**

by Gail Graham

During FY '92, seven TYC programs were accredited by ACA. Programs were audited by juvenile justice professionals in the states of Kansas, Virginia, New Mexico and Maryland. During exit conferences, auditors were complimentary of TYC programs and resources, and impressed by TYC staff commitment to youth and their problems. All programs received 100% compliance on mandatory standards and si programs received 100% compliance on non-mandatory standards. The audited programs and responsible accreditation coordinators are: Roy Washington, Central Region; Les Brown, West Region; Allen Wallace, North Region; Joe Tharaniyil, East Region; Dora Ramirez Itz, South Region; Mario Garza, Evins Center; and Butch Held, Valley House.

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Board members include:

**Gary D. Compton**, Amarillo, Board Chairman; **Comer J. Cottrell**, Dallas, Vice-Chairman; **Edna Tamayo**, Harlingen; **Pete Harrell** and **Marilla B. King**, Austin, and **Leonard E. Lawrence, M.D.** of San Antonio.

Ron Jackson is Executive Director.

Many staff are responsible for day-to-day operations that ensure compliance with ACA standards. Central Office staff, first line staff and many in between, play major roles in maintaining an accredited status. The ACA Coordinators represented their programs during fact-finding hearings before the Commission on Accreditation panel during the ACA annual conference in San Antonio. On August 3, staff were honored during the Accreditation Awards Luncheon.

Through FY '92, 13 of a possible 21 TYC programs have been ACA accredited. Halfway house programs begin the reaccreditation process during 1993.



**\*\*\*NOTICE\*\*\***

If you want to continue to receive TYC NOTES, Texas law requires that you request it in writing annually. Your name will be removed from the mailing list if you do not respond. To remain on the mailing list, return this page with your mailing label to:

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Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*NOTE: TYC employees, contract programs, and juvenile probation departments are exempt from this requirement.**

**Appointments - -**

(Continued from Page 10)

Antonia Lopez has been appointed Chief of Casework. Antonia was previously the Director of the Sex Offender Treatment Program at the Giddings State School. She has held various other positions while at TYC including Family Services Director at Corsicana and Foster Care Specialist in Central Office.

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