

## DID YOU KNOW?

Justin W. Dart, Jr. was honored as "Handicapped American of the Year" at the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped annual meeting in Washington, D.C. this month. Dart is well known as a tireless advocate for the rights of persons with disabilities. Last December Dart was forced to resign from his federal post as commissioner of the Rehabilitation Services Administration.

Advocacy, Inc. will conduct a study of the health and hospitalization (H&H) industry in Texas. The study will attempt to determine if families and family members with developmental disabilities have been denied H&H coverage on a discriminatory basis. If you would like to participate in the study call Carole Rylander at 512-499-3600 or write: Rylander Consulting Group, 2800 One American Center, 600 Congress Avenue, Austin, 78701-3286.

The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission reports a slight increase in the number of people with disabilities on the federal payroll. On Oct. 1, 1985 there were 161,000 people with disabilities employed by Uncle Sam. On September 30, 1986, there were 162,389 persons employed, an increase of .04 percent. For a copy of the report, write Clayton Boyd, EEOC, 2401 E Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20507.

Jennifer Arrowood, Eisenhower High School in Houston, won the \$1000 first place award in the 1988 National Journalism Contest sponsored by the GCDP and the Disabled American Veterans. In her winning essay, "Employment the Passport to Dignity," Arrowood says, "They should be worked with, not worked against."



Austin, Texas

May, 1988

## Gain Up to a \$2,400 Tax Reduction

... hire a person with a disability

**W**hat is the Targeted Jobs Tax Credit Program (TJTC)? An incentive program for employers to hire persons from targeted groups that have a high unemployment rate. One of key targeted groups is persons with disabilities.

The Governor's Committee for Disabled Persons (GCDP) initiated a program to enhance the use of TJTC called, "Targeted Jobs Tax Credit 1988 Disabled Worker Placement Project." The project emphasizes the benefit to employers who hire eligible workers with disabilities. This unique project involves a synergistic partnership between the Governor's Committee, Mayor's Committees and local agencies.

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Kerby Lane Cafe manager, Randy Baird of Austin, communicates with an employee who has a hearing disability.

Photo by: Ted Candler



## President's Committee Celebrates 40th Anniversary

The President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped (PCEH), which observed its 40th anniversary this year, is of vital importance to millions of Americans with disabilities who are unemployed, underemployed or out of the labor force due to overwhelming discouragement at not being hired for any job. PCEH states its mission as being "to provide leadership to achieve maximum employment of people with disabilities."

The President's Committee serves as a catalyst, fostering cooperation among 650 volunteer organizations and individual members, Governor's and Community Committees on Employment of the Handicapped, government agencies, other groups and organizations. It provides technical assistance to these groups in developing and implementing projects, and conducts programs designed to strengthen the awareness of employers, labor leaders, educators and others regarding the capabilities of workers who are disabled.

The PCEH chairman and 4 vice-chairpersons are appointed by the President of the United States. Other appointments to the PCEH are made by the chairman who also appoints the executive director.

Jay F. Rochlin, a former AT&T executive, has been named executive director of the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped by Harold Russell, chairman. In making the announcement, Chairman Russell said, "Jay Rochlin brings a wealth of management experience, wide contacts in corporate, consumer and government circles, and a depth of commitment to the rights of all citizens with disabilities. He will give the President's Committee the dedication, energy and insight that it needs to cope with its many demands."

"He also brings much needed continuity to the President's Committee," Russell continued, "for he has been acting executive director for the past two years. He has already steered the Committee through a crucial reorganization and realignment and it's urgent that he continue to guide the Committee in new directions."

### Time Magazine publishes Weldon's Letter to the Editor

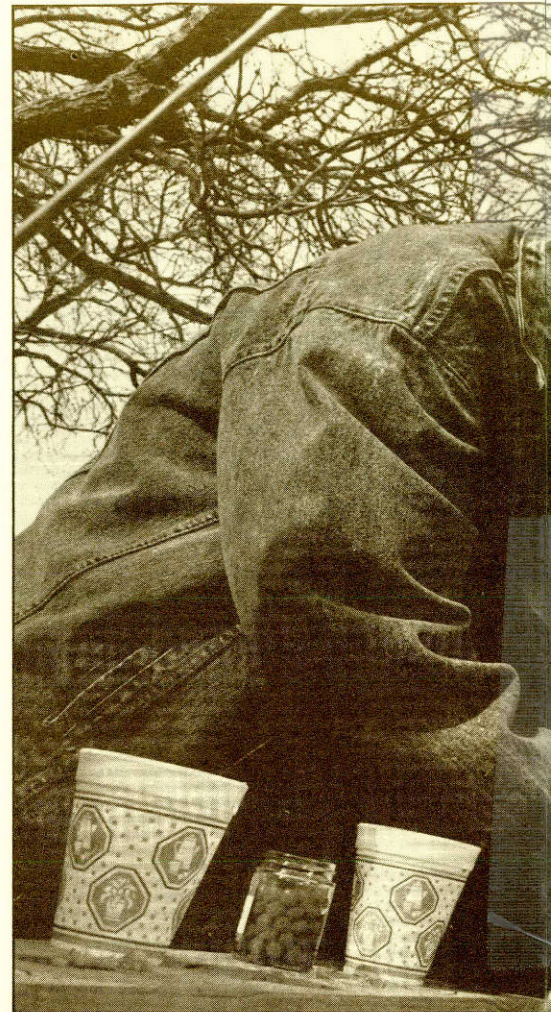
... excerpt April 11 issue

My thanks go to the students of Gallaudet University not only for demanding to have a deaf president but also for saying that every deaf person has a right to a role model. This episode points up the paternalism that exists in most schools with programs for persons who are deaf. Our hearing teachers say they "know what's best" for us. In employment situations, deaf people are often overlooked for promotion and are told they are not competent. Experience shows this is not true.

Kathy Weldon, Vice Chairperson  
Governor's Committee for Disabled Persons

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PCEH Mission Statement



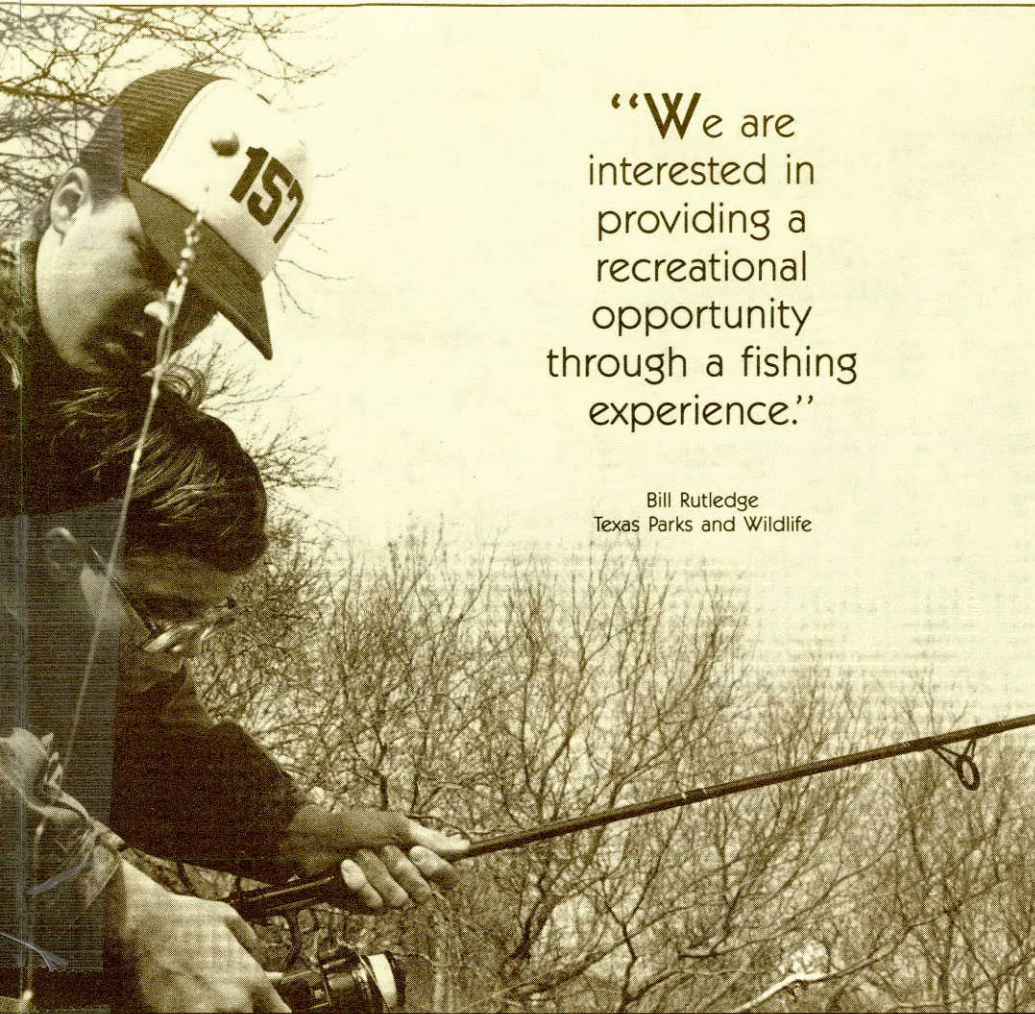
## Something Fishy

... 1,987 persons w

A program designed to provide fishing opportunities for people with disabilities, "Access to Rainbows," is a lot of fun and has proven to be a huge success. With more than 2,600 people statewide participating in the program it appears that nothing compares to the excitement of a bite on your bait and reeling in a fish.

Ten local mayor's committees, in cooperation with the events' sponsors, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Lone Star Brewery and the Texas Governor's Committee, held accessible trout fishing events. An estimated 15,000 fish, ten to twelve ounces in size, were dropped in predominantly closed bodies of water in the cities of Austin, Beaumont, College Station, Corpus Christi, Laredo, San Angelo, San Antonio, Temple, Texarkana and Waco.





“We are interested in providing a recreational opportunity through a fishing experience.”

Bill Rutledge  
Texas Parks and Wildlife

Photo by: Ted Candler

## with disabilities reel in fish

More than \$10,000 worth of donated resources were garnered to support these community fishing projects. Most locations supplied bait, tackles and offered volunteer assistance in baiting hooks and cleaning fish. Bill Rutledge, chief of fish hatcheries for Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, said, “We are interested in providing a recreational opportunity through a fishing experience. Certainly a large number of persons with disabilities have not participated in fishing because of accessibility problems.”

“There is a growing trend in fishing and wildlife funding to devote funds to these types of projects. It is a lot of fun and much personal satisfaction is derived by people who participate,” said Bill Rutledge. Volunteers numbering more than 650 gave of their time and energy to assist.

These events sparked a definite community interest as shown by the support demonstrated by donated resources, equipment and volunteer time. As a special touch, the Bryan—College Station coordinators distributed specially designed commemorative mugs to all persons with disabilities who participated.

In Corpus Christi, Judy Packner, a fishing pro from California, demonstrated equipment especially designed to assist the angler with a disability. In addition, Lakeview Pond in Corpus Christi now has a permanent accessible dock which was built especially for the “Access to Rainbows” fishing project.

## 1988 Barbara Jordan Awards Winners

for excellence in  
the communication  
of the reality of  
persons with  
disabilities

### TV Public Service Announcement

Robert A. Nowotny,  
Luminarye Productions, Houston

### TV Documentary

Kym King, KTXH TV 20  
Houston

### TV News Feature

Janice Miles, KENS TV 5  
San Antonio

### Radio News Feature

Kenneth Frantz Davidson and  
Diana Weiss Davidson  
Brenham

### Print News Article

Lori Stahl, Dallas Morning News

### Print Feature Article

Leslie Linthicum, The Houston Post

### Special Contributions—Individual

Claire Barlow Roffino  
C L Productions, Mesquite

### Special Contributions— Organization

KVUE TV 24 (David Little)  
Austin

Awards were presented at an evening reception held at the Governor's Mansion on May 10, 1988.

Entries are now being accepted for the 1989 media awards. Contact GCDP for an entry package.



## Tax Reduction

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The program kicked-off on March 18 with a series of letter mailings by the Texas Employment Commission. The letters introduced more than 40,000 non-governmental employers in the cities of Austin, Corpus Christi, San Antonio, Temple and Waco to the Targeted Jobs Tax Credit 1988 Disabled Worker Placement Project. Local efforts to assist interested employers will continue through June 3.

The bottom line for employers is a tax reduction of up to \$2400 for each eligible worker with a disability who is hired. One Austin employer, Randy Baird, manager of Kerbey Lane Cafe, highly recommends the use of TJTC. "We have hired two people with hearing disabilities," said Baird. "It has required little or no adjustment and was one of our best moves in terms of searching for someone who is happy, qualified to do the job and will stay with us for a period of time."

When you think tax credit you think paperwork. But Phil Miller, Jr. of Carneiro & Chumney, Co., a San Antonio CPA firm, tells us, "It is really not hard. It is generally available to anyone with a tax liability as a dollar for dollar tax reduction. It is a deduction from the amount you

**"For instance, if you owed \$3000 you could claim up to \$2,400 and therefore actually write a check to the government for \$600."**

Phil Miller, Jr.  
Carneiro & Chumney, Co.

actually would write a check for to the government. For instance, if you owed \$3000 you could claim up to \$2,400 and therefore actually write a check to the government for \$600."

Job orders have been received for workers with disabilities that might not have come through common referral channels. And employer awareness about the TJTC has been generated. The project has had a definite influence on furthering interagency efforts at the local level to place qualified workers with disabilities. The major benefit of TJTC

for large and small employers is the program's proven track record of being a substantial financial asset.

Placement figures will be available in early June with a printed report produced by August 31. Please contact the Governor's Committee if you wish to receive more information on TJTC.

## GCDP Report

The GCDP Report promotes employment and public awareness of the abilities and special needs of persons with disabilities. This quarterly GCDP Report is published by the Governor's Committee for Disabled Persons.

Communications may be addressed to: Cindy Counts, Editor, GCDP Report, 118 East Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas 78704. You may also call (512) 445-8741 VOICE or TDD.

Taped copies of the GCDP Report will be provided upon request.

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