

Journal

Texas Youth Commission
News and Information from throughout the Agency

December 1994, Winter Issue

4900 N. Lamar, Austin, TX 78765

95-310 MAY 02 1995

Coke County facility Wackenhut's first juvenile venture.

Female youth move in

TYC girls arrive at new Bronte facility

Eighty-six TYC female offenders have been assigned to the newly opened Coke County Juvenile Justice Center at Bronte, Texas. The facility opened October 1.

The program is a residential contract program of Wackenhut Corrections Corporation. An open house for local citizens was held October 1 and more than 600 toured the center.

The center, which was completed on schedule in 120 days by Dinosaur Construction Corporation, is a partnership with the state, the county, and the private corporation working together to create a special facility for juvenile female offenders.

A formal dedication was held October 16 with County Judge Royce Lee as master of ceremonies, who shared ribbon-cutting honors with State Representative Rob Junell of San Angelo.

The center has 96 beds. This is Wackenhut's first venture into a juvenile female facility. Taking part in the ceremonies were Steve Robinson, TYC Executive Director; Dr. George Zoley, president of Wackenhut; and Gilbert Rodriguez representing Governor Ann Richards. A 17-member choir composed of new residents sang "This Little Light of Mine."

The facility has four dorms, a gymnasium and a main building housing an academic school, library, computer lab, commercial kitchen, commercial laundry, full service infirmary, visiting area/chapel and administrative offices.

(continued on page 2, see Bronte)

IN THIS ISSUE

Sheffield Boot Camp	3
Annual Restraint Testing	6
Incentive Program	8
Calvert Remembered	10
Gang Intervention	16

SECTIONS

Around TYC	3
Cultural Events	5
Human Resources	6
Youth Spotlight	9
Volunteers	12
Programs	15

'96-'97 Budget submitted

On September 9, 1994 the Youth Commission submitted the Legislative Appropriations Request (LAR) for Fiscal Years 1996 and 1997 to the Governor's Office of Budget and Planning and the Legislative Budget Office. TYC's board approved the basis for preparing the LAR at the board meeting in Kerrville on July 20, 1994. The board instructed the agency to request the necessary funding to:

- (1) implement the "Progressive Sanctions Model;"
- (2) double the current minimum lengths of stay for all offenders;
- (3) provide specialized treatment for 100% of youth's identified priority needs; and
- (4) provide follow-up aftercare services to youth to reinforce specialized treatment provided during their residential stay.

The LAR for FY 1996-97 is presented in strategy format consistent with the agency's strategic plan. TYC's strategies remained the same as those presented in the LAR for FY 1994-95 with the addition of a separate strategy for construction and one for prevention. Each TYC strategy corresponds to an agency goal as presented in the strategic plan.

(continued on page 4)

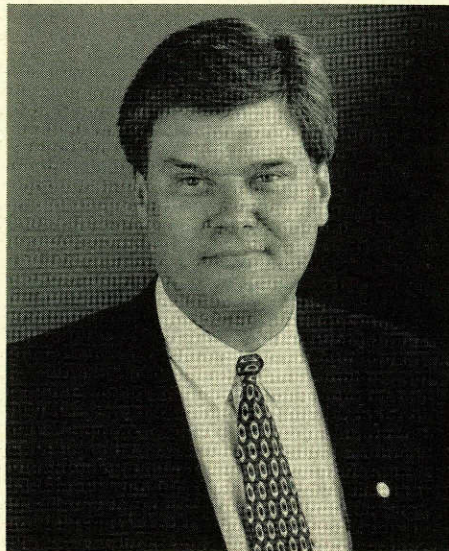
From the Executive Director

Juvenile justice issues (violent juvenile crime, parental responsibility, Texas Youth Commission) were "the BIG issues" in the recent Governor's race. And even before *that*, many varied groups have been focusing their attention on the problems of violence and juvenile crime.

The common theme seems to be criticism of a system that was created in the '70's and how that system now appears to be ineffective in dealing with the types of crimes being committed by juveniles in the '90's.

As most of you know, *numerous* proposals are expected to be introduced before the Legislature in January—proposals which, if they become law, will affect the way we in the field of Juvenile Justice do our jobs. You read about these recommendations and hear about them on radio and TV on a daily basis.

I believe our agency will be called on to serve primarily the state's most violent



Steve Robinson, Executive Director

should stay with the person for five years—to be expunged *only* if there is no further felony adjudication or conviction during that five years.

Legislators will make an effort to create more certainty into the system. They want a more accountable system of juvenile justice... where a young person *knows* with certainty what the consequences will be for his actions.

Toward that end, we have worked with the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission to design the Progressive Sanctions Model

"I believe our agency will be called on to serve primarily the state's most violent youth—those deemed "chronic offenders," and those with serious emotional, mental and medical problems, in addition to their delinquent behavior."

youth—those deemed "chronic offenders," and those with serious emotional, mental and medical problems in addition to their delinquent behavior. The offenses for which you can be sentenced to TYC will most likely be expanded. Local entities are being given state dollars to run programs for less violent youth in their home communities... to divert them from the Youth Commission.

I think we'll also see changes made in accessibility: law enforcement authorities will probably gain broader access to juvenile records; a statewide depository of arrest records, fingerprints and photographs may be legislated, as recommended by numerous groups, agencies, judges, and political candidates. Many are recommending that a juvenile criminal record

(See September JOURNAL) which creates that "certainty." But that Model will require funding from the Legislature.

Many efforts will be made to hold parents more accountable for their children's actions.

One plan calls for providing judges with the authority to require parents to participate in restitution; it also calls for *enforcing* existing laws that assess fines and other penalties against parents who allow their children to skip school.

Another plan seeks to provide that a parent or guardian be ordered to pay restitution, court costs and the cost of detention and treatment.

Another recommendation calls for no minimum age limitation as to when parents are responsible for the acts of their

minor children.

Many proposals call for expanding TYC facilities — 2,000 new beds in one report; 4,500 in another. One recommendation includes transferring \$25 million from TDCJ to the juvenile probation commission to expand programs and services for less serious offenders *not* appropriate for TYC.

We will see several bills seeking to lower the age of certification as an adult to 14, and those seeking to lower the age at which one can receive the death penalty.

The Joint Interim Committee on the Family Code recommends adding 850 juvenile probation officers. The Attorney General's plan calls for adding 1,000 probation officers (as recommended by TJPC).

The Governor's Youth Summit Report would require the parents of a youngster in trouble to participate in restitution, and recommends that local school districts consider adopting a community service component for high school graduation.

The Texas Commission on Children and Youth seeks to clarify that judges may order the youth and/or the parents to participate in community service regardless of ability to pay restitution.

While it will be difficult to keep all of you informed concerning pending legislation, we will try to be sure that each of you has access to information so you will be knowledgeable during the next few months when the legislature is in session.

It will be an extremely busy time for us — providing information and estimating potential costs concerning hundreds of proposals — and I'll have to call on many of you in the field. I will take this opportunity in advance to thank you for helping us with this monumental task. ✱

Bronte (continued from page 1)

The decor takes its cue from the mountains surrounding Bronte. The pale hues of pink, rose, green and blue underscore that the center is a departure from a traditional institutional setting. A perimeter fence and the central control security system provide safety to the residents and to the community.

"The mission is to provide a therapeutic environment and program which will meet the specific needs of juvenile female offenders and return them to society as productive members," said Erika Olson, administrator. ✱

Beaumont increases to 144 beds

Design changes for the Golden Triangle State School, which include stopping work on the physical education building, have been approved by the TYC board, following a critical audit of the project by the State Auditor's Office.

The changes for the \$18.2 million facility will increase bedspace from 48 to 144 — the original intent of the Legislature.

In exchange for stopping construction of the \$2 million physical education building, which would have housed a covered, heated swimming pool, two dormitories containing 96 beds will be built. Only the foundation for the physical education building had been completed.

Other options were considered when cost overruns for additional dirt needed to bring the site above sea level became apparent, including abandoning the project or stopping work on other buildings.

"But all proved too costly or unfeasible because they would have left essential buildings as unusable shells," said TYC Executive Director Steve Robinson.

Target date for completion of the complex and readying it for occupancy by TYC students is May 1995.

Reorganization in Central Office division

Dr. Linda Reyes has been named Director of Programs and Mental Health Services, and now reports to Deputy Executive Director Jay Lindgren.

Her department will include Chief of Casework Elizabeth Lee and Chief of Substance Abuse Marilyn Dierschke. A new position of Treatment Specialist has been created in the department.

The Departments of Education, under Byron Griffin, superintendent, and Health Services, directed by Sandra Ferrara, have

been merged into the Direct Services Division, and now report to Lindgren.

"The reorganization is intended to focus, integrate and strengthen our core resocialization program and case management practices," said Lindgren. "We intend to develop a more consistent and efficient design, improve training, monitoring, and direct support to those implementing treatment and case management on a day-to-day basis." *

AROUND TYC

Boot Camp opening in February

The Youth Commission will open the Sheffield Youth Leadership and Resocialization Academy, a 48-bed resocialization boot camp, February 4. It is located in Sheffield, Texas, approximately 125 miles south of Midland-Odessa near Interstate 10.

Lemuel "Chip" Harrison, formerly program administrator at the Statewide Reception Center, has been named superintendent.

Harrison assumed his duties November 15. He holds a bachelor's degree in business administration from Tarleton State University. He has been with TYC 12 years, beginning as a youth activity supervisor at the Brownwood State School. Prior to coming to TYC, Harrison worked as a detention officer for the Immigration Service, as an active military policeman for four years and as a drill instructor in the Texas Army National Guard for four years.

The facility will be the first of its kind run by the Texas Youth Commission. The program will be patterned after the Sgt. Henry Johnson Youth Leadership Program in New York state.

Basic and advanced military style training will be integrated with TYC's basic resocialization programming. It will be a value-based program focusing on self-discipline (personal accountability), affiliation (team achievement and relation-

ships), self-esteem (personal competence) and self worth.

A variety of military protocols will be used, including inspections, formation, reporting, boards of review, greetings and staff chain of command.

The facility will be a renovated elementary school in Sheffield, and is being operated through a ten-year agreement between the agency and the Iraan-Sheffield ISD, which will supply educational services.

Renovation of the existing building began in November and is scheduled for completion in late January. The facility will include an outside perimeter security fence.

Newly-committed youth ages 15 to 18 will be assigned directly to the boot camp from the Statewide Reception Center. Minimum length of stay will be six months with intensive follow-up aftercare planned.

Youth will participate in a solidly programmed sixteen hour per day schedule, seven days a week, including education, rigorous physical exercise, work restitution, experiential training and resocialization programming.

The boot camp is a program under the Department of Institutions. Staff recruitment began in October and job fairs were held in Sheffield and Iraan in November. *

TYC JOURNAL

is published quarterly by the

TEXAS YOUTH COMMISSION

4900 N. Lamar • P.O. Box 4260

Austin, Texas 78765 • (512) 483-5331

Contributing information should be sent to the attention of **Janice Longridge** at the above address.

Editorial Board:

Janice Longridge

Karen Collins

Joan Timmons

Rita Zapata

Judy Meador

Gary Fuchs

Desktop Publisher:

Cynthia Park

Executive Director:

Steve Robinson

Reporters:

Beverly Rawlings, BSS

Kim King, SRC

Lucy Humbert, Corsicana

Melanie Hardeman, Corsicana

Virginia Lewis, Crockett

Jo Lockhart, Gainesville

Katie Price, Gainesville

Bill Bradbury, Giddings

Shannon Ford, WTSS

Trudie Asbury, W. Reg.

Kaycee Pollock, N. Reg.

Denise Kennedy, E. Reg.

Raul Arredondo, S. Reg.

Jane Parker, C. Reg.

BOARD MEMBERS

Gary D. Compton, Amarillo, Board Chairman; **Marilla B. King**, Austin, Vice-Chair; **John W. Odam**, Houston; **Edna Tamayo**, Harlingen; **Pete Harrell**, Austin; and **Leonard E. Lawrence, M.D.**, San Antonio

Budget (continued from page 1)

The agency goals are to (A) protect the public, (B) enable productivity, (C) provide rehabilitation, and (D) prevent delinquency. Each TYC strategy also corresponds to an agency objective. The agency objectives are (A.1.) to prevent, through physical security, offenses which would have led to 21,000 arrests per year by 1999, (B.1.) to increase to 35 percent the percentage of youth who at the time of discharge have attained a high school diploma/equivalency certificate; have attained independent living skills; are employed at least part time; or are attending school or vocational/technical training by the end of FY 1999, (C.1.) to keep the one year rearrest rate below 45 percent for youth released from primary treatment programs through FY 1999, and (D.1.) to facilitate community prevention initiatives or provide other prevention technical assistance to at least 500 public or private groups by FY 1999. The agency's strategies and the amounts requested for each strategy for FY 1996-97 are reflected in the sidebar on the right.

Due to limited funding resources, the state leadership requires state agencies to prioritize their LARs to determine what funding is most essential to meet public needs. All of TYC's strategies were ranked in priority order by Executive Staff and are represented in the Priority Allocation Table in the LAR. The basis for this ranking is to provide state leadership with three different options. The first option is to allow TYC to maintain the current minimum lengths of stay for youth. The second option would be to increase the minimum lengths of stay by 50% and increase the rate of specialized treatment from 30% of priority need to 60% of priority need. The third option would be to double the minimum lengths of stay and serve 100% of the priority need of specialized need youth.

The average daily populations (ADP) for TYC represented in the LAR at the option 3 level of funding are 2,801 youth in residential placement in FY 1996 and 3,857 in FY 1997. TYC is funded to care for a residential ADP of 2,376 in FY 1995. At option 1, TYC would have an increase in ADP of 307 above FY 1995 in FY 1996 and 636 above FY 1995 in FY 1997. At option 2 an additional 87 ADP would be added in FY 1996 and in FY 1997 489

TYC Strategies and Budget Requests

	FY96	FY97
A.1.1. Provide a continuum of TYC-operated and contracted primary care programs under conditions designed for the youth's welfare and the interests and safety of the public, youth and staff.	\$98,706,450	\$129,094,181
A.1.2. Provide a system of assessment which is culturally competent and accurately determines the relative security risk and treatment needs of committed youth so they are placed in appropriate programs.	\$1,992,868	\$2,000,850
A.1.3. Construct and renovate TYC facilities in order to provide sufficient capacity and proper conditions.	\$203,617,302	FY97 Unexpended Balance
B.1.1. To provide or facilitate 12-month academic, vocational/technical, and GED preparation programs.	\$10,196,373	\$11,022,851
B.1.2. To provide independent living preparation training and transitional assistance.	\$905,859	\$905,859
C.1.1. Provide a culturally competent system of integrated primary treatment and aftercare programs.	\$13,380,975	\$16,486,633
C.1.2. Provide a system of culturally specialized treatment programs for youth with the specialized needs of capital offense history, chemical abuse dependence, emotional disturbance or gang membership.	\$8,869,168	\$10,885,175
C.1.3. Implement the interstate cooperative agreement regarding the return and supervision of runaways and the supervision of juvenile probationers and parolees.	\$75,232	\$75,232
D.1.1. Provide assistance and information to support state and local efforts in delinquency prevention.	\$150,000	\$150,000

ADP would be added. At option 3 an additional 31 ADP would be added in FY 1996 and in FY 1997 356 ADP would be added.

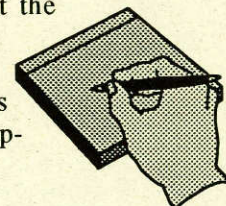
The majority of the increase in ADP in FY 1996 and FY 1997 would be handled by expanding contract care capacity. Expansion of the Jefferson County facility and the addition of the Sheffield Facility will also provide additional capacity. With the anticipated continued growth in commitments into the FY 1998 and FY 1999 biennium, TYC is requesting construction funds in the FY 1996-97 LAR to increase capacity to meet these demands. Funds are being requested to construct a total of five new 288-bed facilities, four 48-bed work camps, and four additional dormitories at the Evins Regional Juvenile Center. A prototype model for the 288-bed facility is being developed to reduce the construction costs of these projects. TYC will continue its efforts to reduce costs in construction projects and in the programs operated for youth. *

TYC Attorney pens article for publication

TYC hearings examiner Julie Wright has written the cover article which was published in "The Texas Prosecutor," a publication of the Texas District and County Attorneys Association, featured in the July/August issue.

Her article, entitled "When Justice Is A Woman: Voir Dire Considerations in Sexual Assault Cases," discussed jury selection in sexual assault cases and the impact that female jurors have on those verdicts.

Wright, who attended college and law school at the University of Texas, Austin, has been a TYC hearings examiner since September 1993. *



Briefly noted...

■ New officers of the Fort Worth volunteer council are **Jeanne Chambers**, chair; **Larry Singleton**, co-chair; **Pam Reed**, secretary; **Patricia West**, treasurer; and **Ignacio Torres**, State Volunteer Resource Council representative.

■ New officers of the El Paso Community Resource Council are **Dorothy Davidson**, chair; **Sally Duran**, vice-chair; **Richard Robinson**, treasurer; and **Karmen Gonzalez**, secretary.

■ **Corsicana State Home** hosted the Corsicana area Chamber of Commerce's "new teacher welcome" for 50 new teachers in Navarro County school districts. Calvert Hall was the setting for the event, attended by about 200.

■ The **Houston volunteer council**, as part of their orientation for new members, toured Crockett State School in October... they were honored at a luncheon sponsored by the Crockett volunteer council, and attended the Crockett Council's meeting.

■ **Tom Tye**, formerly Chief of Independent Living, has been named Chief of Halfway Houses... **Karen Chalkley Turcotte**, formerly Ayres House independent living coordinator, has been promoted to Chief of Independent Living... **Roy Washington**, former parole supervisor for the central region, has been named superintendent of Turman House in Austin... **Shannon Ford**, secretary to the superintendent, has been named Volunteer Coordinator at West Texas State School, replacing **Rodney Peacock**, who retired.

■ **Joe Curry**, who has been with TYC nearly 20 years, has accepted a position with the New Mexico Corrections Department as Director of Education for the correctional facility at Las Cruces, N.M... Joe most recently served as educational liaison in the West Region.

✱

Hambrick heads intercultural task force

Sharon Hambrick, Tyler parole officer, is the new chairperson for the statewide intercultural awareness task force, which met Oct. 27-28 in Houston.

Other new officers are Ramon Campos of Giddings, vice chairman; Maria Ruiz, west region, secretary; and Elias Clark, Houston parole, assistant secretary.

The group visited the George I.

Sanchez school and the Museum of Fine Arts. They also toured the Chinese Community Center.

Deputy M. Dear of the Harris County Sheriff's Department presented a lecture on Asian gangs, providing the group with information concerning the cultural interaction within the Asian Community.

The ICA task force will meet in January in San Antonio. ✱

CULTURAL EVENTS



Central Region Director Adrian Moore speaks in Mexico City.

Moore addresses University of Mexico

Adrian Moore, Regional Director for TYC's Central Region, presented a professional paper in October at the Second National Conference on Social Work (E1 Convencion Nacional de Trabajo Social) at the University of Mexico in Mexico City.

The theme of the conference centered on change within the context of social needs, citizen involvement and democratic participation. The university's school of social work organized the conference attended by social service personnel from Mexico, Canada, Brazil, Argentina and the United States.

Moore's paper addressed changes which have occurred with the Texas Youth Commission over the last 20 years. His paper outlines the key elements of the

Morales case, highlights new programs and concepts which emerged in the mid-70's and summarizes current programs and services contracted for and operated by TYC.

Moore observed that much of the emphasis of the social work curriculum in Mexico is directed to community organization efforts. He visited one of the community social service centers, La Pradera, where social work field placements occur.

"While there is little in the way of government-supported social services, the community centers use a very extensive network of neighborhood councils and volunteers to provide support to families, children and youth, and the elderly," he said. ✱

Risk management inspections

TYC's Risk Management Department, under the direction of Karen Collins, has completed two months of facility inspections.

"We would like to thank all of the institutions for making our facilities a safe place for our youth and staff," she said.

In addition to conducting monthly facility inspections, the Risk Management

Department has created a Risk Management Administration Board which held its first meeting on December 2, 1994 at the TYC training facility at Corsicana.

The board, to be made up of staff appointed by institution superintendents and the Director of Community Services, will set direction for safety and health programs which impact TYC staff and youth. *

HUMAN RESOURCES

SDAB recommends annual testing for restraint proficiency

The agency Staff Development Advisory Board (SDAB) has proposed that TYC staff members be required to display proficiency in physical restraint and self defense training as an annual condition of employment.

Information concerning the recommendation was presented to the TYC board for consideration during the October 26 board meeting.

Currently, if a trainee fails the training in the Preservice Academy, he is subject to termination. However, if he passes Preservice and is employed, and then doesn't maintain proficiency, there is no penalty.

Although previous policy required that sole supervision staff pass annual restraint training, current policy requires this only of security staff.

The SDAB recommendation includes retraining and retesting within 90 days for staff who fail to display proficiency annually. If they do not pass, based on circumstances, they would be placed on layoff status and eligible for reemployment if they can pass at a later time.

The legal department is developing a lay-off policy for the board's consideration.

The recommendation includes at least six months warning that the policy is being changed.

There are approximately 1,400 staff in direct child care positions who would have to meet the annual requirement according to Eric Young, Director of Human Resources. He estimates that the change would negatively affect less than three percent of staff.

Concerns include employment-related claims brought by employees who cannot pass the training, and personal injury claims brought by employees, students or third persons who are injured by aggressive youth when an employee's failure to effectively restrain the youth caused or contributed to the injury.

Still to be determined is defining the employee's eligibility for reinstatement as to time limits, positions affected, eligibility for different jobs, job location, and acceptance of offers.

The board instructed the staff to develop further revisions to policies before final action is taken. *

Corsicana's most notable graduate dies

Calvert Hall named for former Texas Supreme Court Justice.

Former Texas Supreme Court chief justice Robert W. Calvert, who was a resident of the Corsicana State Home orphanage during his formative years, died October 6 in a Waco hospital.

Born in Tennessee, Judge Calvert lived at Corsicana State Home from the time he and his sister and brother were left there in 1913. His sister died there during an influenza outbreak which also claimed the lives of many other children.

After graduating from the State Home high school in 1923, he worked as an elevator operator at the Capitol to help pay his way through college. He graduated from the University of Texas School of Law.

In 1992, the oldest remaining building on the Corsicana State Home campus, the dining hall, was renovated and renamed "Calvert Hall" in honor of Judge Calvert. Meeting rooms included on the second floor were beautifully furnished with antiques — many of which had originally been used at the State Home. Lt. Governor Bob Bullock spoke at the dedication ceremony.

Judge Calvert wrote warmly of his remembrances of the Corsicana orphanage in his autobiography, "Here Comes The Judge."

Calvert was elected to the Texas House of Representatives in 1933, and from 1937 to 1939 served as Speaker of the House. He was an Associate Justice of the Texas Supreme Court from 1951 to 1960, and served as Chief Justice from 1961 to 1972.

See related story and photo on page 10. *

Humenuik honored for service at Brownwood

Brownwood State School employees honored Statewide Reception Center Superintendent Dan Humenuik with a reception as an expression of appreciation for his serving as acting administrative officer of the school from June to October.

Dwight Harris, Director of Institutions, presented Humenuik with a plaque "in grateful appreciation and lasting recognition."

Gaylon Garrison was named superintendent effective October 1. *

Governor-elect's wife visits Gainesville campus

Laura Bush, wife of Governor-elect George W. Bush, visited the Gainesville State School campus in October. She had lunch with staff at the Training Building and toured the campus, visiting a dormitory, academic classrooms, Challenge school, vocational shops and the ROPES Course. Bush met and talked with numerous staff and students during the visit. *

Vietnam veteran speaks at Giddings

AVietnam veteran was the guest at a special assembly at the Giddings State School. Dave Roever, who founded Roever Educational Assistance Programs to help students overcome challenges and reach their goals, spoke.

Severely wounded in Vietnam when a phosphorus grenade exploded in his face, Dave has used his experiences of overcoming great pain and physical obstacles to share a love of life and the importance of personal perseverance with more than 5 million students during the last 14 years. *

Top administrators named at Brownwood



Gaylon Garrison, right, new Brownwood Superintendent, was honored at a reception for city residents. Also shown, left to right, are Reception Center Superintendent Dan Humenuik; Community Advisory Council President Keith Clark; and TYC Executive Director Steve Robinson.

New superintendent and assistant assume duties in October.

Gaylon Garrison has been named superintendent and Heriberto (Eddie) Hernandez has been named assistant superintendent for the Brownwood State School, according to TYC Executive Director Steve Robinson.

Garrison, who assumed his duties October 1, comes to TYC from Texarkana where he was director of the Bowie County School of Success, an alternative academic program for youth between the ages of 15 and 21.

Prior to that he served as a high school assistant principal at Liberty-Eylau High School in Texarkana, and has been in Texas public school systems for 18 years.

He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree from Southern Arkansas University and a Master's Degree in Guidance and

Counseling from Prairie View A&M University.

Garrison was named one of Texas' Five Outstanding Young Texans in 1992. He currently serves as an executive board member of the National Dropout Prevention Network, and is president-elect of the Texas Association of Alternative Education.

Hernandez, who assumed his duties October 15, began his career with TYC at the West Texas State School as a Youth Activity Supervisor I; later he served as a YAS IV, Caseworker III/Dormitory Manager, Youth Rights Specialist and Director of Security. He most recently served as a Social Services Administrator at West Texas.

Hernandez holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Texas at El Paso and received his Master's Degree in Clinical Psychology in 1991 from the University of Texas of the Permian Basin. *

Briefly noted ...

■ **Alex Escarcega**, TYC's West Region Director, was selected by the student body of the David L. Carrasco Job Corps Center as honorary chairman of the Drug Free Program.

■ TYC staff members **Dwight Harris**, Director of Institutions; **W.J. Ham**, Attorney; and **Jerry Reeves**, Giddings Chaplain, participated with leading religious leaders in a meeting sponsored by the Texas Commission on Children and Youth addressing how people of faith can help restore a moral and spiritual climate to meet the needs of children and families.

■ New officers of the Gainesville State School Community Advisory Council are **David Pruitt**, chairman; **Linda Lewis**, co-chairman; **Arline Grant**, treasurer; and **Mitzi Brannan**, secretary. **Joe O'Dell** is outgoing chairman.

■ New officers of the Giddings Community Advisory Council are **Betty Keller**, president; **Scott Rohloff**, vice president; and **Mary Gutierrez**, secretary-treasurer.

■ **Mark Padilla** has been elected chair of the San Antonio Council. Other new officers are **Mario Montes**, vice-chair; **Michele Wheeler**, treasurer; and **Rosie Abreu**, secretary. Outgoing chair is **Diana Alcocer**, who served in the position two years.

■ East Region Director **Helen George** was invited to join 100 other high-ranking state and local officials at the University of California at Berkeley for a conference on "Reinventing Government: Building A Constituency for Change" in September.

■ The Giddings State School **Capital Offender Program** was featured on the CBS network program "48 Hours" October 12. *

Threatt honored at retirement dinner

The West Regional Office held a dinner September 28 to recognize and show appreciation to Johnny Threatt, Schaeffer House superintendent, on his retirement from TYC after 18 years of service.

More than eighty (80) persons from

various community agencies throughout the city of El Paso attended.

Threatt was presented a plaque by regional director Alex Escarcega. Carole Hunter, special assistant to El Paso Mayor Larry Francis read a proclamation from the city of El Paso. *

Win extra cash by suggesting savings

The State Employee Incentive Program (SEIP) is an ongoing program that offers many opportunities to TYC employees, including a chance to earn extra cash. The program was created to involve employees by evaluating and implementing their good suggestions to reduce state expenditures, increase state revenues, and/or improve service quality.

To participate, employees may suggest a way that TYC, or any other agency, can improve operations and/or save money. Regional directors, human resource officers or business managers have the proper form. Fill it out and send it to Dennis Payne, Staff Development Division Manager in Central Office.

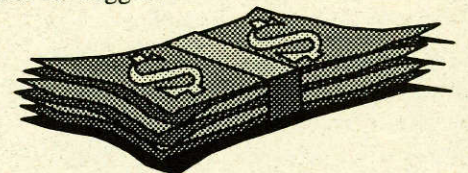
If the suggestion will save money or increase revenue it is important to include a detailed projection of the cost savings, a method to calculate the cost savings, and an implementation plan. Only suggestions containing those three items are considered for implementation. If a suggestion is implemented and results in a cost savings, an employee could be eligible to receive 10% of the money saved, up to \$5,000.00.

A Senior Review Team makes the final recommendation. The Team is composed of John Franks, Dwight Harris, Cherie Townsend, and Eric Young.

The suggestion is then sent to the Texas Incentive and Productivity Commission (TIPC). The members of this commission meet on a regular basis to review suggestions and determine which suggestions are eligible for a cash award.

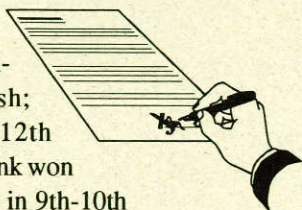
If a suggestion is eligible for a cash award, savings will be tracked for a one year period. One year from the implementation date, the SEIP Coordinator will certify the savings.

Some TYC employees have already earned cash awards. Angie Stacy earned \$2400 and recognition from the Governor for suggesting a better way to purchase food for halfway houses. Another employee, Carrie Stacy, received \$400 for suggesting a better way to coordinate travel arrangements. *



Gainesville student wins second place in writing contest

Gainesville State School student Frank Byrd III won second place in the 12th Annual Dallas/Ft. Worth Network of Hispanic Communicators' High School Writing Contest. His prize was \$175. Frank entered the contest through his reading class, taught by Linda Germany. This year's theme was "Why do teenagers join gangs? How do we stop gang violence?" The contest drew more than 180 entries in the categories of 9th-10th English; 11th-12th English; and 9th-12th Spanish. Frank won second place in 9th-10th English. *



Reception Center students decorate for Halloween

Administrators and staff at the Statewide Reception Center donned costumes and students participated in dorm decorating contests on Halloween.

Judges for the contests were volunteer council members Helen Wesson, Lee Ann McClatchy, Carter Sharpe, Mary Ann Cuellar and James Brasher.

First prize was a pizza party for the winning dorm. *

KUDOS...

■ **Crockett students** were top winners in the annual Crockett Christmas Parade November 17 with the "Best Overall" float, "Christmas in the Pines." Five students rode on the float in the parade. *

Youth observe "Children Sabbath"

Youth at the Crockett State School joined the nationwide observance of "Children Sabbath" with volunteers from the Tejas Catholic Church and Most Holy Trinity Mission in October.

Father Tej challenged students to look for preventive measures to reduce crime and violence.

Students were treated to an array of desserts provided by the members of church. *

Turman House youth visit State Fair

The Austin Council provided funds for ten Turman House residents, their teacher Gus Poole, and staff members Trent Banks and Larry Johnson, to make a one-day trip to the State Fair in Dallas in October.

The group visited exhibits including farm products, crafts and livestock, as well as various rides and entertainment. *

YOUTH SPOTLIGHT



The 1994 GIDDINGS STATE SCHOOL INDIANS football team finished the season with a 7-2 record. They were coached by Sandy Brown, Andy Marek, Silas Waldrup, Benjamin Smith, Lester Ward and Claude Mathis.

Giddings finishes season with 7-2 record

The Giddings State School Indians football team completed their season with a 7-2 record. "Our only two losses came at the hands of Bartlett, and St. Pins, a Catholic School in Houston," said Coach Sandy Brown.

In honor of the Indians' winning season, a special sports banquet was held in October. Keynote speaker was two-time Super Bowl Champion Earl Cooper, who showed video highlights of his NFL career.

Coaches Lester Ward and Sandy Brown presented awards to individual team players and monogrammed caps to over 72 staff and community volunteers. As the coaches related, without the correct volunteer-to-student supervision ratios, Giddings State School would have been unable to play the six away games this season. *

Calvert recalls life at a 'different' Corsicana

Judge Robert Calvert, former Chief Justice of the Texas Supreme Court, recalled his younger years at Corsicana State Home, then known as the State Orphan Asylum, in his autobiography "Here Comes the Judge."

Legal documents committing him, his older brother Grady and his sister Maxie Lillian to the State Home were executed October 10, 1913 by Navarro County Judge R. R. Owen.

"Judge Owen...on the appropriate form, gave his opinion of the mental condition of each of us," Judge Calvert wrote. "On my brother's form, he stated, 'very bright.' On my sister's form he stated, 'bright.' On my form, he stated, 'good, sound mind.'"

"He also wrote that the medical form indicated none were bedwetters, 'nor had we been suffering from head or body lice or ringworm of the scalp.'"

"My mother and her four children spent some two or three months living with the Wafers and their two sons in Corsicana before we were committed to the State Home...I did not like the word 'asylum' and I did not wish to be parted from my mother and family. When Superintendent W. F. Barnett came in an old Model-T touring car to pick up the three of us to take us to the State Home, they had to pull me out from under the bed screaming that I did not want to go," he wrote.

"I recall vividly the first day...the old school building at the institution had two entrances, one for the boys and another for the girls. The students lined up in single file with the lower grades in front... whoever took me to the school reached the building early and stood me up first in line with the first graders... I later found myself in the first grade. I realized I was in the wrong room, but I was much too shy to speak out.

"I was sent to the little boys' building, a cottage-type red brick dormitory. My brother Grady was sent to the big boys'



Judge Robert Calvert, left, and Charley M. Clark, both outstanding ex-students of Corsicana State Home, were active in the exes' annual homecomings. Clark died in 1993 at age 92.

building. Not only were we segregated into different buildings, but there were areas within which the little boys had to remain and areas within which the big boys had to remain... and the same was true of the girls. Thus I had only rare opportunities to see or be with my sister and my brother.

"Really it did not take long to adjust to this situation and to make friends with the others in the little boys' building," he wrote.

"She would ask, 'Children, who gave you this fine home?' And we were taught to respond in unison, 'The taxpayers of Texas.' And then she would ask, 'And how will you repay the taxpayers of Texas?' And we were taught to respond, 'By being good citizens.'"

The matron on his dorm was known as Auntie. On Sunday afternoons, she made talks to her charges, reminding them that they were wards of the State of Texas.

"She would ask, 'Children, who gave you this fine home?' And we were taught to respond in unison, 'The taxpayers of Texas.' And then she would ask, 'And how will you repay the taxpayers of Texas?' And we were taught to respond, 'By being good citizens.'

Every child at the State Home had

chores to perform. "My first job was to carry wood from the wood yard to the kitchen. Through the years I had various duties. I spent time in cleaning dormitories, making beds, sweeping and mopping floors and milking some of the 40 to 50 cows we kept. I spent sometime in the creamery... I worked in our large vegetable garden and on the farm, pulling corn and plowing with the mules... I worked some in the cow lot...

For a time I worked at the Home's broom and mattress factory.

"My final duty was to be in charge of the hogs. We killed hogs in the wintertime and stored the meat. I watched over those hogs like a father watches over his children. I had to know when one was sick or one of the sows was about to litter, and be on hand when this occurred.

"The night watchman roused me in the middle of one night and told me that one of the sows was trying to litter but ap-

parently was having problems, and I had better get up and go see about her. The sow was in heavy labor but unable to litter. Something had to be done. I never had had such an experience and had never heard of one, but I devised the only means I knew of for helping her.

"I heated a bucket of water and got some soap. I would insert my soapy hand and find the pig in the birth canal. There was no trouble with pigs coming hind feet first, but those coming head first presented nothing I could get hold of. I got a piece

ried and had two more sons) only very rarely during my years in the State Home. She came perhaps once a year to see Grady and me after our sister's death. I understood she was there for my sister's funeral, but I was delirious (with flu) and did not know it. I went to see them in the summer before my junior year, and I spent a few days with them on the farm. Then at the end of my junior year in 1922, I visited them two or three days in Cleburne."

Shortly after his mother divorced in 1923, his two half-brothers were commit-

ous debate meetings. The superintendent decided to make use of Robert's speaking ability when the institution badly needed a new boys' building.

He DID speak, inviting the Legislators to "send a committee, or all who could come, to visit Corsicana, inspect the institution, and get acquainted with the boys and girls who were wards of the State of Texas."

After this visit, the Legislature appropriated \$100,000 for building a new boys' dormitory.

Some time later, someone wrote a feature story for the DALLAS MORNING NEWS titled, "The One Hundred Thousand Dollar Boy."

"There were some 350 to 400 children in the Home when I left," Judge Calvert wrote.

"In the depression years the number of children increased tremendously; my half-brother tells me that in 1933 the number of youngsters rose to some 900. There were no such programs as aid to dependent children or social security, and low-income, one-parent homes had to place the children somewhere if they were to eat regularly."

Judge Calvert also wrote of the tremendous changes that were made later at the State Home... dorms replaced by cottages for eight to ten children... trying to keep children of the same family together, even though they may be of different sexes.

"This appeals to me as an improvement," he wrote. Later he said it caused him great concern that families were being separated and placed in foster homes, rather than institutional care... "remembering how my brothers and I kept our family contacts."

Many years later when moving the State Orphans Home students to the Corsicana public schools was contemplated, he strongly urged that this course be taken, even over the opposition of many former students.

"I felt that the loss of school and group activities at the Home was far outweighed by the benefits students would derive from being integrated into a complete society. The greatest shortcoming of institutional life of my day was that it did not prepare young people to walk confidently into outside society." *

"In the depression years the number of children increased tremendously... There were no such programs as aid to dependent children or social security, and low-income, one-parent homes had to place the children somewhere if they were to eat regularly."

of strong galvanized wire and bent a hook on the end of it, inserted my hand and the wire and hooked the crook in the wire through the pig's lower jaw. I ran the risk of tearing out the jaw, but as the sow strained I would pull. I stayed there until I helped her deliver every one of her some eight or ten pigs and we lost only one. I had been successful as midwife to a sow!"

This experience caused him to ponder whether to attend A&M to become a veterinarian, or continue to consider studying law at the University of Texas.

"I saw my mother (who had remar-

ted to the State Home also. Judge Calvert was just a few months away from graduation. One of his half-brothers was only six years old, and another child started picking on him immediately, "as was the custom... I stood by and made him fight so that he would learn to defend himself among the boys on campus."

Judge Calvert graduated as salutatorian, and later roomed with the State Home valedictorian when both entered the University of Texas at Austin as freshmen.

Young Robert became a member of the State Home debate team, and won numer-

NOTICE

If you want to continue to receive the *Texas Youth Commission JOURNAL*, 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:

TYC JOURNAL

4900 North Lamar
P.O. Box 4260
Austin, Texas 78765-4260

I wish to continue receiving the *TYC JOURNAL* at the address/corrected address on my mailing label. (Please attach.)

Signature _____ Date _____

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

Chili cook off brings in \$4500

Forty teams entered the 2nd annual Chili Appreciation Society International, Inc. sanctioned "Cookin' for Kids Chili Cook Off" sponsored by the Gainesville Community Advisory Council. Participants were able to earn points to enter the international cook off in Terlingua. The September event was co-sponsored by VFW Post #1922 and Auxiliary. The volunteer council netted \$4,500.

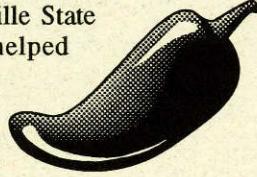
The VFW members treated team members to a dinner and dance on the Friday evening prior to the cook off. 'A Touch of Texas' band donated their talents for the boot scootin'.

Council members Katie Price and Mitzie Brannan enlisted 20 sponsors who

purchased ads on T-shirts that were designed and sold for the event. Raffle tickets were also sold for a smoker and picnic table, both made by the vocational classes.

TYC staff Danny Reed and Mark Hancock, along with community volunteers, donated their talents to pick guitars and sing for the afternoon entertainment. The Staff Quality Improvement Group committee set up a food booth to sell hamburgers and sausages.

Many Gainesville State School staff helped with the event and served as judges for the chili tasting. *



Giddings sponsors public forum

"Keeping good kids good and out of gangs" was the focus of the county-wide public forum October 4, at the Giddings Elementary School, with 300 citizens attending.

The forum was held to promote public awareness of juvenile delinquent behavior, including but not limited to gang activity within Lee County. The Giddings State School Community Advisory Council, under the leadership of members Betty Kellar, Linda Dillman and Tad Cooper, sponsored the event to bring the community together, confront the problem while it is still relatively small and develop strategies to reverse the trend of increased violence in our communities.

A video was produced giving the community an overview of the resocialization process at the Giddings State School. The second half of the video focused on Lee County graffiti—making the point that juvenile delinquency is not just an urban problem.

Emcee was Community Advisory Council member Tad Cooper, Lee County juvenile probation officer. The keynote speaker was Giddings State School chief psychologist Corinne Alvarez-Sanders, Ph.D. and two Giddings State School students. Twelve panelists from various areas of civic responsibility gave brief remarks and answered questions from the audience.

Those in attendance had an opportunity to visit nine resource tables headed by experts in such diverse areas as child abuse, suicide prevention, gang membership and the 4-H organization. Refreshments were provided by the Giddings State School Community Advisory Council coordinated by Debby Hudgins. *

VOLUNTEERS

Evins dance nets over \$7,000

The fourth annual benefit dance sponsored by the volunteer council of Evins Regional Juvenile Center raised more than \$7,000 for the council's projects and activities.

The dance featured two Tejano bands, Los Palominos and Elida Reyna and Avante, and was held at the Villareal Convention Center in McAllen.

Predance publicity included public service announcements, press releases, flyers, posters and radio advertising.

Council members who sold tickets,

handled backstage security, and decorated the hall, included Alicia Campos, president; Leo Rodriguez, vice president; Catherine Hoard, secretary; George Masso, Johnny Rodriguez, Mary de Luna, Manuel Garcia and Catalina Morgan.

Financial sponsors included the International Bank of Commerce, Texas State Bank, State Farm agents, LFD Home Furnishings, Texas Commerce Bank of McAllen and the Law Office of Ramon Garcia of Edinburg. *

El Paso volunteer promotes education, discourages gangs

El Paso parole office volunteer Albert Montoya, a junior criminal major at the University of Texas at El Paso, is working with a group of UTEP students called 'La Fuerza,' (some of whom were former gang members) to promote education among students throughout the community.

'La Fuerza' was formed to discourage high school students from joining gangs by informing them about the importance of education, encouraging them to stay in

school, and emphasizing the benefits of having a college education.

Group members regularly give presentations at El Paso area schools, talk about their own experiences with gangs, and tell how getting a college education has had a positive impact on their lives.

Montoya, who was involved with gangs when he was 13, said he joined 'La Fuerza' to help kids.

They expect to expand the program to public schools throughout El Paso. *

Brownwood Council runs booth at Pecan Valley Festival

Twenty-two Brownwood volunteer council members and six volunteers manned a food booth for two days during the annual Pecan Valley Arts Festival in Brownwood in September—to raise funds for council projects, Christmas gifts for youth, and travel for families of students at the state school.

Chairman was Council vice president Vicki Smith, assisted by her husband Jack, who was responsible for charcoaling the hot dogs and hamburgers served.

Council member Charles Lockwood, whose family owns the local Dr. Pepper company, donated all the Dr. Pepper products... AND worked in the booth.

■ Volunteers Vicki and Jack Smith later grilled hamburgers on campus as a going away party for the girls who were being moved to the new female facility in Bronte. Forty-two girls and ten staff members consumed 80 hamburgers and 50 hot dogs, in addition to nacho cheese dip, chips, cookies and sodas. *

Brownwood volunteers host event for new superintendent

Brownwood volunteer council members held a special reception October 12 to meet the new Brownwood State School superintendent Gaylon Garrison. Council member Judy Ehrke coordinated table decorations and provided a floral arrangement.

A second reception was hosted by long-time Brownwood volunteer Groner Pitts, and Margaret and Stuart Coleman for local business and civic leaders to meet the new superintendent.

TYC Executive Director Steve Robinson attended both receptions for Garrison. (See related story and photo on page 7.) *

Golf tourney nets \$10,000 hole in one

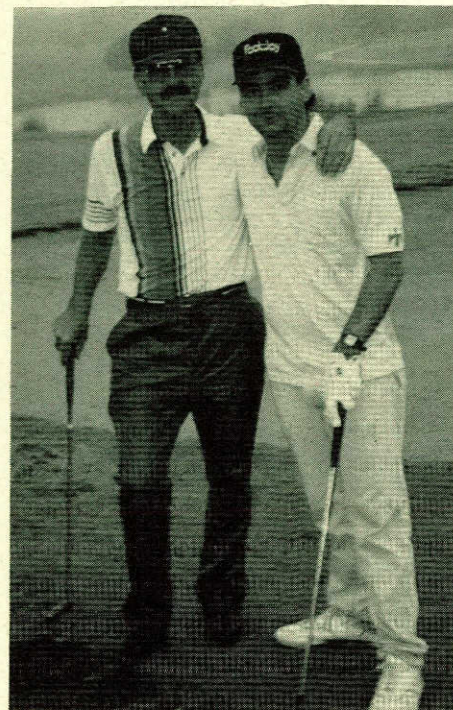
Big winner of the Austin Community Advisory Council's 5th annual golf tournament was Donny Bone, who shot a Hole in One on the lucky sixth hole—winning a \$10,000 prize sponsored by Rick's \$1.35 Cleaners.

The Council netted about \$2,250 from the tournament held at Forest Creek Country Club, according to chairman Allen Golden and treasurer Mike Powers.

First place team included Ken Neeley, who also served as tournament co-chair, Todd Thomason, Ned and Mark Welch. In second place were Jack and Donny Bone, and Joe and Daryle Petrick. Council president Phil Sanders sponsored the third place team of Ramiro Lopez, Brian Hughes, Stewart Rojo and David Mines.

SuperCuts sponsored the Hospitality Cart and Rick Watson's State Farm Insurance Agency donated 10 dozen golf balls and 500 tees. Trophies were donated by Art Hall Trophy Shop.

Thirteen groups/businesses contributed funds as green/tee sponsors. *



PROUD DAD Jack Bone is pictured with son Donny Bone, who had a Hole in One during the Austin volunteer council sponsored golf tournament October 15 at Forest Creek Country Club. Donny Bone's feat garnered him \$10,000! The giveaway was sponsored by Rick's \$1.35 Cleaners.

KUDOS...

■ **Vicki and Jack Smith**, Brownwood Community Advisory Council members, were honored by the advisory council with an appreciation plaque commending them for their individual and joint services to the group, directing the council's food booth at the arts festival for the past three years.

■ **Alice Maldonado**, central office Human Resources staff member, was honored October 15th by the Mexican American Business and Professional Women of America with the Lifetime Achievement Award for her volunteer work with TYC youth at Giddings and Turman House.

■ **Comer Cottrell** of Dallas, who served on the TYC board until 1992, has been inducted into the Texas Business Hall of Fame. Cottrell began Pro-Line Corporation with \$600 and a borrowed typewriter and built it into the second largest African-American owned business in the Southwest. TYC's halfway house in Dallas was renamed Cottrell House.

■ **Robert Louis**, YAS IV at the Cottrell House in Dallas, was selected as citizen of the week by KRLD news radio station for his work with youth and community service in the Fort Worth/Dallas area. Mr. Louis will be honored at a luncheon at the end of the year. *

Crockett banquet honors volunteers

Crockett State School and its Community Advisory Council sponsored a volunteer banquet in September, carrying out the theme, "Volunteers the Heart of Texas."

State Senator Jim Turner was the keynote speaker. He praised the volunteers and staff of the state school.

"You're dealing with the juveniles that no one else wants, and you're on the front lines in both the battle for public safety and the battle to save these kid before they enter the adult criminal justice system and you deserve our praise," he said.

He mentioned the alarming increase in juvenile crime and said, in light of this increase, juvenile justice and the TYC capacity will be a key issue in the 74th Legislature. He said lawmakers will likely authorize TYC to expand its capacity.

Turner complimented the TYC students on their accomplishments and involvement in community service and challenged them to continue to work at getting an education and to be productive citizens.

"I plan to help TYC secure the resources it needs to build on the hard work of its volunteers and employees, particularly the good people here at Crockett State School," Turner said.

He presented a Senate Proclamation recognizing the dedication of Lou and Kathy Hollis as Outstanding Volunteers, for their nomination for the Governor's Volunteer Service Award and for Lou Hollis' service as chairman of the TYC State Volunteer Resource Council.



Crockett Superintendent Rey Gomez presents a gift of appreciation to State Senator Jim Turner, who spoke at the banquet.

Named Outstanding Staff Volunteer was Dianne Graham, and recognized as the One-to-One Volunteer was Carol Robinson.

Outstanding Service Awards went to Brookshire Bros., HEB, KIVY, KBHT, Citizens National Bank, First National Bank and Tyer Processing.

Earning Outstanding Community Service Awards were the Piney Woods Fine Arts Association and Houston County Chamber of Commerce.

Volunteer Coordinator Virginia Lewis was in charge of the event.

Guests included Joan Timmons, chief of volunteer services for TYC; Crockett Mayor and Mrs. Chris von Doenhoff, Dr. Richard Dupuy and Bill Hyman. *

San Antonio picnic focuses on fun, funds

More than 150 TYC youth, volunteers, parole officers and halfway house staff attended the 17th Annual San Antonio Picnic in September, which featured barbecued chicken, ribs and sausage grilled by new San Antonio Council president Mark Padilla.

Youth enjoyed a basketball shootout organized by Youth Advisors Paul Trevino and George Alonzo. Folklorico dancers provided entertainment.

Donations from individuals and businesses, including Pace Foods Inc. and En*Corps, the San Antonio Express-News volunteer organization, helped fund the picnic and other council projects. Several grocery stores donated shopping certificates for food and supplies.

Council member Michele Wheeler served as picnic coordinator. *

Crockett honors law officers

The Crockett State School Community Advisory Council honored local law officers during its annual appreciation dinner in October at the school's park.

About 100 people, including officers representing the various county law enforcement agencies, county and city officials, and members of the public attended.

Testimonials were made on behalf of the law enforcement officers by Yolanda Taylor (representing State Senator Jim Turner's office), District Attorney Cindy Maria Garner, Mayor Chris von Doenhoff, DPS Trooper Bobby Bowlin, and Chamber of Commerce President Max Grubb.

Awards and certificates of appreciation were presented by Crockett State School Superintendent Rey Gomez and Ann Martinez, whose husband Manual had been involved with the appreciation dinner for many years before he passed away.

Grace Street Church of Christ provided the desserts, HEB Pantry Foods provided briskets and Crockett State School employee Robert Thompson cooked the ribs and sausage for the dinner. *

Artists sponsored to work with students

Sponsored by Navarro Council of the Arts, artists Susan Kemner Reed (visual artist), Regina Davis (dancer), and John Logan (potter) conducted a class for students at the Corsicana State Home in October.

These artists were conducting a week-long workshop for Corsicana I.S.D. elementary students on artists with disabilities. They related and demonstrated to the students about their art and how their disabilities have not prevented them from progressing with art and with their lives.

The Council also recently sponsored bagpiper Patrick Regan to conduct a class with the State Home students. *

C.A.P.S. Group formed in San Antonio

C.A.P.S. founder Sylvia Stanley has recently opened an office in San Antonio staffed by Maria Velasquez who has parental support groups for the Palmer Drug Abuse Program.

The office, located at 4814 West Avenue, will be open Monday through Friday, (210) 979-9295. Support group meetings will be held the second and fourth Thursday evening of each month.

Dr. Roberto Gonzales, a psychologist with Community Counseling Services, affiliated with Our Lady of the Lake University, will meet with families each month to focus on feelings and coping with crisis situations.

Debbie Dick, a San Antonio parole officer with experience in family counseling services, is presenting a series on parenting skills the fourth Thursday of each month. Dick will help parents learn to better deal with day-to-day problems covering topics such as limit setting, communicating with kids, and conflict resolution skills.

Ten members of the San Antonio C.A.P.S. group made a trip to Giddings State School on September 6 to meet with teachers, case workers and top administrators. The families had lunch and visited with their children while at Giddings. A trip to Brownwood is also planned. *

Parent support group holds conference

The parent support group for the East Region held its first "Mini Conference" for parents of youth who are in the custody of Texas Youth Commission at the Mt. Horeb Missionary Baptist Church in Houston.

The theme for the conference was "preserving the family." TYC parole officer Carolyn Rogers facilitates the group for the region which meets on a monthly basis, aided by three parent volunteers who each have children with TYC.

Judge Veronica Morgan spoke about "raising kids in the 90's," and the importance of family values and how this impacts youth.

Continental breakfast and lunch were sponsored by the Houston Community Volunteer Youth Council and Fiesta Mart, Inc. *

TYC alliance with UTEP "Praxis" program

The Texas Youth Commission West Regional Office entered into a new alliance this fall with a UT El Paso Community Volunteer Program, "Praxis," due to the high number of student volunteers who elected to work with our youth.

"Praxis" is a community service program at UT El Paso run by the Wesley Foundation and United Campus Ministries. Each semester, students have a choice of community placements throughout the city of El Paso, with various social service and/or state government agencies to develop a first hand knowledge about those agencies and further their commitment to bring positive changes to their community.

Twelve students chose to volunteer with TYC youth at Schaeffer House and the El Paso Parole Office. They volunteer as tutors, mentors and provide other assistance.

The students represent a diverse cross-section of the various academic departments at UT El Paso in addition to the traditional departments of criminal justice, sociology/social work and psychology. *

PROGRAMS

Corsicana programs in transition

The Community Advisory Council (CAC) for the Corsicana State Home hosted city and county officials during their October meeting to inform them of transitions and growth occurring in the campus program.

Guests were provided with a brief history of the programs along with an overview of the increased population and new programs.

Lynn Weems, psychologist, reviewed the history of the Home's programs.

As the population of children declined, the State Home became a residential treatment center for emotionally disturbed teenagers. The Texas Youth Commission increasingly received students who could best be served by the Corsicana program, and the State Home began to serve emotionally disturbed juvenile delinquents.

Superintendent Chester Clay, Jr. described students being served in the Corsicana program vs. students served in another TYC institution.

"There are two kids exhibiting the same delinquent behavior. One student is a criminally-oriented kid who tends to be a predator. This student preys on other people, i.e. students and staff. This kid is best served by programs found in other TYC institutions," he said.

"The second kid has emotional dys-

functions which could be psychological, medical or both. This student may have a chemical imbalance and need psychopharmacotherapy which is a combination of psychological treatment and medication. His problems may be addressed with certain combinations of treatment and he may be best served in the Corsicana program," Clay explained.

"Two programs are being added here to serve the dysfunctional and aggressive type youth," he added. The acute care cottage, a self-contained unit, has a capacity for 14.

The unit serving youth with aggressive behavior will open in December. This program will serve the dysfunctional youth from various TYC facilities. After a student is stabilized, he will be returned to the TYC facility which referred him. The assessment and program developed for treating the student will go with him.

Dr. Joe Finch, Director of Psychology, is in charge of the two new programs. Terry Moore, psychologist, is director of the acute care unit. Dr. Mercy Chieza, psychologist, directs the aggressive care program, which is called Aggressive Intervention Management (A.I.M.). Corsicana is increasing staff from 142 to 232, and student population will increase from 88 to 130. *

Gang intervention program underway at Gainesville

The Gainesville State School Gang Management Team is the result of a task force established by superintendent Jerry Day to deal with the influx of students who are involved in gang related crimes or behaviors.

In its first year, the task force developed outside contracts with several noted gang intervention specialists from the Metroplex, and with their assistance, developed an on-campus program aimed at educating both staff and students in the dynamics of the gang culture and its effects on society.

In February, the task force was upgraded to a Gang Management Team. The program has been expanded to include a tracking system to identify and categorize gang-related behaviors on campus. The contract gang specialists formed a peer

group made up of gang affiliated students, to deal with problems as they develop.

"This group has proven to have a positive impact on reducing gang related violence on our campus," said Day.

"This group has proven to have a positive impact on reducing gang related violence on our campus"

**- Jerry Day, Superintendent
Gainesville State School**

The program, developed and conducted by contract specialist Amon Rashidi and gang intervention specialist Omar Jefferson, includes 12-week group training sessions for 20 youth, community outreach services, and cultural awareness

training for staff.

The group sessions focus on youth awareness of causes, symptoms and solutions to violence and delinquency, reducing the incidents of violence and need for gang affiliation.

The community outreach services seek job opportunities in the community for paroled youth, and conduct in-home visits with youth to give additional support upon their release from the institution.

Cultural awareness training for staff includes dynamics of gang culture, organizational structure, and recognizing gang behavior. ✱

TYC JOURNAL

Texas Youth Commission

4900 North Lamar

P.O. Box 4260

Austin, Texas 78765