

NOTES

NEWSLETTER OF THE TEXAS YOUTH COMMISSION

SUMMER 1987

Dr. George Beto Speaks at Awards Banquet

Dr. George Beto, board member of the Texas Youth Commission, was the keynote speaker at the agency's annual employee awards banquet, July 16 in Kerrville.

Dr. Beto, currently a distinguished professor of criminal justice at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, served as director of the Texas Department of Corrections from 1962 to 1972. He has been a member of the Texas Board of Corrections, the Illinois Parole Board, and the Texas Constitutional Revision Commission. He was a member of the National Advisory Council on Correctional Manpower and Training and the American Bar Commission on Correctional Facilities and Services.

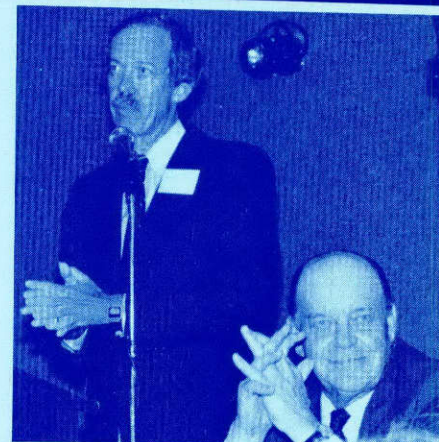
He has served as a member of the Governor's Task Force on Intellectually Handicapped Citizens and the Criminal Justice System; and the Special Interim Committee on the Criminal Justice System of the Texas Advisory Board.

A Distinguished Alumnus of the University of Texas, Dr. Beto received a Master of Arts in medieval history from UT, and a Ph.D in education from UT. He received his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Valparaiso University.

From 1939 to 1949 he was an instructor at Concordia College in Austin and served as the school's

president from 1949 until 1959. Beto was named president of Concordia Theological Seminary in Springfield, Illinois, a post he held until 1962.

He is past president of the American Correctional Association and was a consultant to the 1971 National Governor's Conference. He served as a consultant to the President's Crime Commission and as a lecturer at the Bates College of Law at the University of Houston. He received the 1985 Hall of Honor Award from Texas Corrections Association. He also served as a delegate to three United Nation conferences on crime and has been involved in surveys of prisons in several foreign countries.



DR. GEORGE BETO of Huntsville, TYC Board Member, was keynote speaker at the annual TYC awards banquet July 16 in Kerrville. He was introduced by TYC Board Chairman, Larry F. York of Austin, left.

Dr. Beto was appointed to the TYC Board in May 1975. He has served two full terms on the board and was elected chairman on June 30, 1983. His term as a board member expires August 31, 1987.

Legislature Passes Determinate Sentencing Bill

The 70th Legislature has passed House Bill 682, which permits a juvenile court to give a child aged 10 to 17 a determinate sentence for as long as thirty years for the offenses of murder, capital murder, aggravated kidnapping, aggravated sexual assault, deadly assault on a law enforcement officer, or criminal attempt to commit capital murder if the offense occurred after September 1, 1987.

The prosecutor in determinate sentence cases may refer the

petition to the grand jury, which must approve the petition before a determinate sentence can be given. These cases may be tried in statutory county courts or district courts, and not in constitutional county courts. Judges, not referees, must hear the cases. Also, there must be twelve jurors if the child asks for a jury and the child may have a jury set the sentence. The child may also ask the court to open the hearing to the public.

(Continued on page 2)

Text of Keynote Address

TYC Annual Awards Banquet

By Dr. George Beto

There are two types of government within the United States--cabinet form and the board system. Under the cabinet form of government, whenever a new governor is elected, there is a change in state administration. The head of the state police is replaced; the administrator of the state correctional system moves on; the administrative heads of the hospital, juvenile justice, welfare, etc., systems are succeeded by appointees of the new governor.

Texas, historically, has had the board form of government. The appointment power of the Texas Governor is severely limited; in fact, he makes two office appointments--that of Adjutant General and Secretary of State.

The various agencies are directed by policy making boards

to whom the administrator is answerable and responsible. As a result, Texas has been characterized by department or agency heads with long tenure. There comes to mind the distinguished records of Homer Garrison with the Department of Public Safety, De Witt Greer in the Highway Department, J.W. Edgar as head of the Texas Education Agency, and others with equally long and distinguished records. Unlike the cabinet system, the board form enables the administrators to engage in long-range planning and the implementation of those plans.

Mr. Jackson is an example of the asserts of the board system. In few other states, especially those with a cabinet system, would the head of the juvenile justice serve for thirteen years.

As a Board Member, I have observed Mr. Jackson with admiration and interest as an administrator. He has a warm and compassionate heart; at the same time he can be almost cold and ruthless in making difficult administrative decisions. His accomplishments in planning and implementing for this agency are many. Without controversy, however, his greatest achievement was the removal of this agency from the jurisdiction of the Federal Court. His tact, ingenuity, flexibility, and vision resulted in the dismissal of the celebrated Morales case with prejudice. For this he has earned the gratitude of the Board, the employees, and the wards of the Texas Youth Commission.

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Determinate Sentencing Bill (Continued from page 1)

The sentence, determined by either judge or jury, will be served in an institution until the child's eighteenth birthday. If the sentence is not completely served by that time, the child is referred back to the juvenile court which may release him to TYC's jurisdiction i.e. parole or transfer him to the Texas Department of Corrections. Upon transfer to TDC, time spent in TYC is counted as if it has been spent in TDC. TYC may petition the juvenile court to release the child with a determinate

sentence at any time, but may not release or parole him without approval from the court.

A child adjudicated for one of these offenses may be placed on juvenile probation, and the probation may later be revoked. The child has the right to a jury at the probation revocation hearing.

The impact of this bill occur over the next several years and cause an increase in institutional populations. Anticipating the increased populations, the Legislature provided funds to place

a fence around another TYC institution. The youth committed under the determinate sentence will be Giddings State School. Another secure institution will house other violent offenders such as youth committed for aggravated robbery. Some youth who would of been certified and sentenced to TDC may now be sent to TYC under the determinate sentence. This may increase commitments to TYC this fiscal year. Otherwise, the cumulative growth in average daily population of institutions will occur over the next several years.



STATE SENATOR Chet Edwards of Duncanville, received a TYC Legislative award at the agency's annual awards banquet July 16 in Kerrville. Susan Bush of Athens, TYC Board Member, presented the engraved plaque to Edwards.

Rep. Hightower honored by TYC

State Representative Allen Hightower of Huntsville received a Legislative Award from TYC during the agency's annual awards banquet July 16 in Kerrville.

Dr. George Beto, TYC Board Member, presented the award to Representative Hightower, who is chairman of the Corrections Committee which has oversight respectively over criminal justice agencies.

"Representative Hightower is a friend and supporter of programs for youth and adult offenders, and has taken special interest in probation related activities," said Dr. Beto. "During the 69th Legislature, Representative Hightower was assigned the monumental table of Oversight of the embattled criminal justice system by the Speaker of the House. Even at the very end of the Session, Representative Hightower was spearheading the effort to utilize bonding measures to provide funding for construction at various state agencies including the Youth Commission," added Beto.

"His door is always open to agency administrators who have a problem to discuss. As a former adult probation officer, Representative Hightower is keenly aware of the pressures facing persons employed by the correction realm," said Dr. Beto.

Texas Senate," said Mrs. Bush. "Through his chairmanship of the Sunset Commission, Senator Edwards has significant influence and interest in the legislature which reauthorized TYC. Senator Edwards was interested in what types of programs might work to reduce recidivism and what can be done to enhance the programs of



STATE REPRESENTATIVE Allen Hightower of Huntsville, received a TYC Legislative award at the agency's award banquet July 16 in Kerrville. Dr. George Beto of Huntsville, TYC Board Member, made the presentation.

Prior to his election to the legislature, Hightower served for 11 years as a game warden in east Texas. In 1970, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department awarded his outstanding efforts for saving a person in Caddo Lake. In 1973, he was awarded the Outstanding Officer of the Year by the Houston Academy for arresting an armed robber. As a former state employee, Representative Hightower is genuinely concerned about the needs of state employees.

"The Texas Youth Commission is appreciative of the outstanding contributions Allen Hightower has made to all individuals in the corrections field, and of the continued support of the Youth Commission," Dr. Beto said in presenting him an engraved plaque.

the Youth Commission," she added.

"While the Corsicana State Home is located within his district, Senator Edwards' interests go beyond his support of that facility. He generally cares about all children of Texas and has diligently worked to improve services to them."

Sen. Edwards given award

Senator Chet Edwards of Duncanville received one of two Legislative Awards from the Texas Youth Commission during its annual awards banquet July 16 in Kerrville.

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

Senator Edwards is chairman of the Senate Committee on Nominations and serves on the Senate Committee on Education, State Affairs, and Health and Human Resources. This past session, Lt. Governor Hobby also appointed him chairman of the Texas Sunset Advisory Committee.

In 1983, he was named one of the three Outstanding Freshman Legislators by Texas Business Magazine. In 1985, Texas Monthly Magazine designated him as one of the Five Outstanding Young Texans; and the Common Cause Organization named him Legislator of the Year.

"Senator Edwards has quickly risen as one of the most influential and respected members of the



ALBERT BENSON, left, received the Outstanding Child Care Worker in Institutions for 1987. TYC Board Member Richard Abalos of Odessa made the presentation.

Albert Benson **Brownwood State School** **Outstanding Institutional Employee**

Albert Benson, caseworker at Brownwood State School, was named Outstanding Child Care Worker in Institutions during the agency's annual awards banquet in Kerrville July 16.

Richard Abalos of Odessa, TYC Board Member, made the announcement.

"Selected as this year's statewide winner is a man who has given the Texas Youth Commission eight years of service--not by being just another child care worker, but by being the best child care worker he can be and directing his life toward that accomplishment," said Abalos.

In 1980, Benson was promoted to a YAS II. His growth and leadership abilities were solidly recognized in 1981 when he was promoted to YAS III and became a group leader. He became so proficient at these skills in such a short time that he was regarded as the "model group leader" by his peers and professional staff. After several years of commuting to Tarleton University, he received his Bachelor's Degree in 1986. He continued "through the ranks" to his present position of Caseworker II and Hope Dorm Director.

"His charisma among students produces positive leadership in students who have leadership qualities, said Abalos. He is straightforward and honest with students so that they always know where he stands on issues."

Also nominated for Outstanding Child Care Worker in Institutions were Steven Spilman, Statewide Reception Center; Gwen Ryan, Corsicana State Home; Bill Platt, Crockett State School; David Davis, Giddings State School; and Charles Barton, West Texas Children's Home.



GAIL GRAHAM, Central Office employee, was named Outstanding Central Office Employee for 1987 during the agency awards banquet July 16 in Kerrville.

GAIL GRAHAM **PROFESSIONAL SERVICES** **OUTSTANDING**

CENTRAL OFFICE EMPLOYEE

Gail Graham, Manual Systems Coordinator, was named Outstanding Central Office staff member at the agency's annual awards banquet July 16 in Kerrville.

Announcement of her award was made by TYC Board Chairman Larry F. York of Austin.

"Gail Graham has demonstrated her loyalty to the Texas Youth Commission by devoting many, many hours above and beyond her duties preparing policy in order to seek ACA accreditation for the agency, and her knowledge of agency policy and procedures has been very valuable in accomplishing this major task," said Larry York.

Gail Graham has been employed by TYC for nearly fourteen years and has been very creative in designing the new manuals format and is working on a consistent format for the agency forms.

She is described as "always fulfilling any and all duties assigned and serves in whatever position she has been assigned, always researching her new responsibilities and becoming knowledgeable as quickly as possible."

"Her devotion to the agency is shown by her various positions over the years, and her dedication to the agency is shown by her leadership ability in writing correct policy for the agency, as well as the amount of hours she works to do the job correctly," Mr. York concluded.

Also nominated for the Central Office Award were Kitty Morse, education; Dolores Holubec, personnel; Joel Graham, fiscal; and Chuck Jeffords, research and evaluation.



MARTIN ROCHA, Fort Worth Paole Officer, was named Outstanding Child Care Worker in a Non-Residential Program for 1987.

Martin Rocha **North Region**

Outstanding Employee In a Non-Residential Setting

Martin Rocha of Fort Worth, a seven year staff member, was named recipient of the Outstanding Child Care Worker in a Non-Residential Program during the agency's 1987 awards banquet in Kerrville July 16.

He was announced as the winner by Richard Abalos of Odessa, TYC Board Member.

Rocha is described as "a tireless worker who volunteers for special assignments and takes great pride in completing the routine tasks with special attention to detail and quality."

As a parole officer in the Fort Worth parole office, Martin utilized his bilingual skills by involving himself in the Hispanic community with his active participation in a special federal program by working with juvenile gangs. Even though his caseload on parole and institutional status was always the highest in the 50 county area of the North Region, Martin always managed to earn the highest plaudits when case files were reviewed by area supervisors or central office auditors.

"While many people in social work have a sensitivity to human needs, Martin possesses a unique ability to discernment of when to help and what to do," said Abalos. "As he meets families even in a social setting, parents and students alike seek him out as they would a friend they haven't seen in some time. Martin combines the firmness of a father, the empathy of a mother, and the patience of Job," concluded Abalos.

Also nominated for the Outstanding Employee in a Non-Residential Program were Benny Martinez, West Region; Alma Padron, South Region; Gretchen Stephens, East Region; and Fabian Martinez, Central Region.



CHARLES I. ADAMS, Dallas House employee, was named Outstanding Child Care Worker in Halfway Houses for 1987. He is shown here accepting the award at the TYC annual awards banquet in Kerrville.

Charles I. Adams **Dallas House**

Outstanding Halfway House Employee

Charles I. Adams, weekend coordinator at Dallas House, was named winner of the agency's award for Outstanding Halfway House employee during the annual awards banquet July 16 in Kerrville.

Announcement of his award was made by TYC Board Member Rev. Floyd N. Williams, Sr. of Houston.

"Charles has excelled beyond the basic call of duty to make some unique contributions to the TYC program," said Williams. "Specifically, he has integrated the weekend program well into the overall treatment atmosphere of his House. Many of the projects our recipient is involved in include raising funds for youth activities such as the State Legislature Field Trip, coordinating projects such as "CLEAN DALLAS", Senior Citizens House Repairs, maintenance of historical sites, assisting in assembling voting machines, and coordinating volunteer services for the East Dallas Crime Watch Program."

Adams began his career with TYC in 1974. He established a pattern of dedication and consistency during his early years in TYC. Adams was later promoted to Assistant Recreation Director, which eventually led to his transfer in 1980 to his current position of weekend coordinator for his halfway house.

Also nominated for the Halfway House Award were Jesusa Reyes, Ayres House; Nelida Tristan, McAllen House; Rev. James Robinson, Jr., Middleton House; Ray Anthony Floyd, Nueces House; Lucious Lee, Schaeffer House; Carolyn A Jackson, Turman House; Pamela L. Neeley, Valley House; and Michelle Mollberg, Willoughby House.

Tucker Foster Home

Outstanding Contract Program

The Tucker Foster Home, a residential contract program located in Mt. Calm, Texas, was named TYC's outstanding contract program during the agency's annual awards banquet July 16 in Kerrville.

"The Tucker family is very close knit with Sunday afternoons and holidays being a big affair at the couple's home. Usually, 25 to 30 or more kids, grandkids, inlaws and former foster kids come to visit, eat and frequently spend the night," said Rev. Floyd N. Williams, Sr., TYC Board Member who announced the winner.

The Tuckers accepted their first TYC youths in April 1976. From 1976 to 1981, the couple took dependent and neglected children from Waco State Home, Corsicana State Home and other foster homes that were ceasing operation. In 1981, the Tuckers accepted their first delinquent from a parole placement, and since then they have cared for TYC youth from a variety of sources.

In the past, Mrs. Tucker had often remarked to members of her church that "the Good Lord passed her by when he was distributing talents because she



TUCKER FOSTER HOME was named TYC's Outstanding Contract Program during the agency's annual awards banquet in Kerrville. Shown accepting the award is Mr and Mrs. J.L. Tucker.

couldn't sing, dance or play an instrument," said Williams. However, over the years, the Tuckers have arrived at a clear perception of their true calling by "providing a stable home for children in need, and establishing a legacy of love to span the generations," concluded Rev. Williams.

Other contract programs nominated for the award were Buckner Baptist Benevolences/Odessa Group Home, West Region; Jefferson County Juvenile Probation Department, East Region; and Rio Grande Marine Institute, South Region.



TENURE AWARD plaques were presented at Kerrville to employees who have reached 20, 25, 30, and 35-year milestones with the Texas Youth Commission. They included, left to right (front row), Nancy Miller, Brownwood, 15 years; Garland C. Orsburn, Jr., Gainesville, 30 years; Jane Dudley, Gainesville, 20 years; Ruby H. Jacobs, West Texas, 20 years; Susan W. Morgan, Gainesville, 25 years; Norma Jane Estes, Gainesville, 35 years; Linda L. Steen, Reception Center, 15 years; and Shirley Adams, North Region, 15 years. (back row) Katie Price, Gainesville, 15 years; Lucy Humbert, Corsicana, 15 years; Jesus Bonilla, West Region, 25 years; Dann W. Barger, Reception Center, 20 years; Lenard O Holmes, Central Region, 25 years; Jack Patton, Brownwood, 20 years; Lawrence A. DeMoss, Corsicana, 25 years; and Cecil Houston, Brownwood, 15 years.



CALVIN CRENSHAW, right, Superintendent of Giddings State Home and School, is shown accepting the State Safety Award from Ron Jackson, left, Executive Director. The award is presented to the safest institution in TYC and is determined by computing on a ratio of the number of accidents to the number of employees.

Kerrville Workshop 1987

About 225 staff members attended the 1987 annual workshop July 15-17 at the Inn of the Hills in Kerrville.

Highlights of the workshop included the annual awards banquet honoring outstanding employees, which was held on the evening of July 16 in the Medallion Complex of the hotel. The keynote speaker was Dr. George Beto of Huntsville, TYC Board Member. Two state legislators were honored by the Texas Youth Commission during the awards banquet: State Senator Chet Edwards of Duncanville and Representative Allen Hightower of Huntsville. The invocation during the banquet was sung by Octavia Cloman-Shaw, Parole Officer from the North Region. She was accompanied on piano by Wilbert Rogers, also from the North Region.

Ron Jackson, Executive Director, discussed the impact of the Sunset Bill and the determinate sentencing bill. He also said that the agency was currently evaluating our participation in the IV-E Program with the Texas Department of Human Services to receive federal reimbursement for those students who are in residential contract programs and TYC halfway houses. Ron Jackson presented a State Safety Award to the Giddings State School, for the safest institution in TYC. He also presented 20-25-30 and 35-year tenure plaques.

Information presentations were made during the 1987 workshop by Gary Fuchs, Administrative Assistant; Jerry Day, Director of Community Services; Jeff Carr, Research Specialist; Chuck Jeffords, Research Associate, Byron Griffin, Superintendent of Education;

Cherie Townsend, Administrator of Residential Contract Programs; Joseph Martinez, South Regional Director; and Paula Morelock, Community Services Coordinator.

Beverly W. Womack, Community Rehabilitation Professional Services, presented a "Chemical Abuse" workshop on Thursday morning, July 16.

Dr. Rolando V. del Carmen, professor, Sam Houston State University, also presented a workshop on Thursday morning, July 16, on "Employee Liability/Litigation."

On Friday morning July 17, Linda D'Amario Rossi, Director of the Maryland Juvenile Services, presented a workshop "Contract Care: State of the Art in Contract Care and Where Texas Stands."

Individual meetings of administrators were held Thursday afternoon, and the TYC Board held a regular meeting at that same time.

Many employees exhibited their talents during a skit competition that was held on Friday morning, July 17. The results were as follows: North Texas Region, first place; Brownwood State School/Reception Center, second place; and Giddings State School, third place. The official judges were Dr. William Shamburger, Central Office; Linda D'Amario Rossi, Director, Maryland Juvenile Services; Richard Abalos, TYC Board Member; and Peg Johnson, TYC State Volunteer Resource Council.



JOYCE RIGLER, who served as Assistant Superintendent at Gainesville State School, was honored at a retirement dinner at the Parrie Haynes Ranch August 12. Shown with Rigler is Executive Director Ron Jackson.

Administrative Transfers

Jane Chandler, assistant superintendent at Crockett State School, has been transferred to the Gainesville State School as assistant superintendent. Chandler replaces Joyce Rigler who retired in August after 13 years at TYC.

Ace Myrick has been appointed assistant superintendent at the Crockett State School effective August 1. Myrick had previously served in the capacity of caseworker at the West Texas Children's in Pyote.

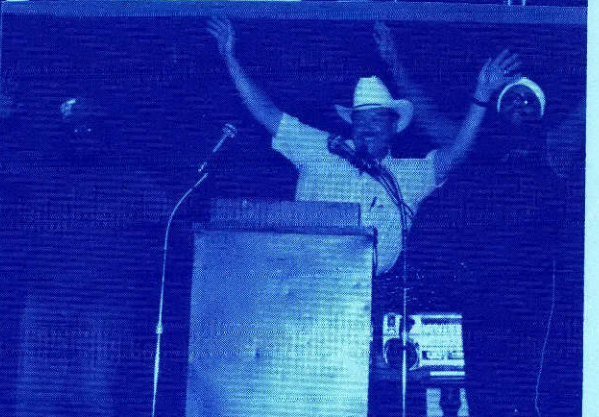
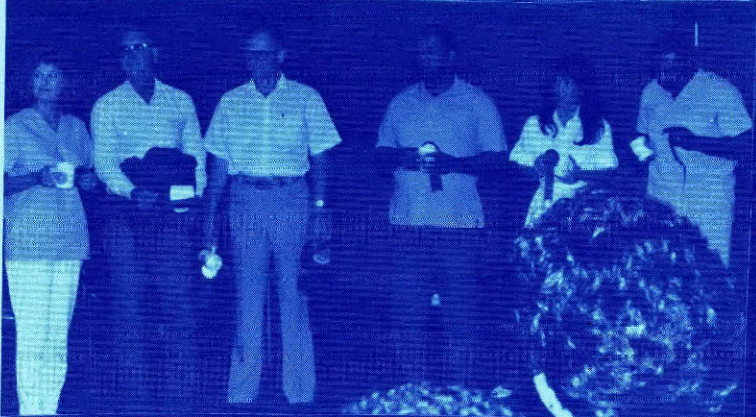
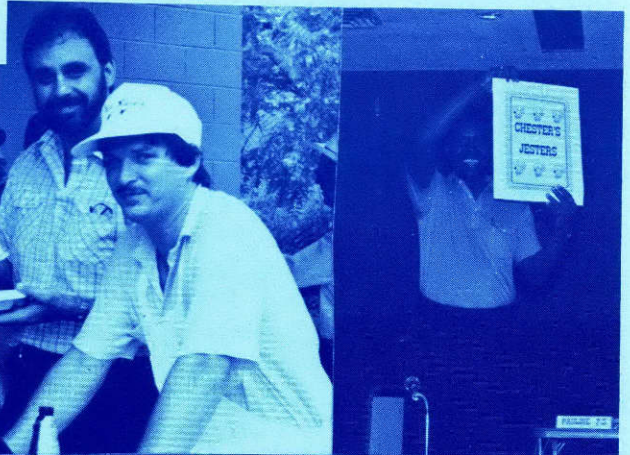


NORTH TEXAS REGION won first place in the skit competition held during the annual Kerrville workshop. Pictured (left to right) are Beverly McLester, Lynne Parra, Octavia Cloman-Shaw, Henry Frayre, Debby Ennis and Wilbert Rogers.

Agency Workshop



More from Kerrville



McAllen House Named for Dr. George Beto

The Texas Youth Commission will dedicate the halfway house in McAllen with a formal ceremony on September 16.

The facility, located at 4112 North 22nd Street, will be named in honor of Dr. George Beto of Huntsville, who was appointed to the TYC Board in May 1975. He has served two full terms on the board and was elected board chairman on June 30, 1983. His term as board member expires August 31, 1987. Dr. Charles Friel, Dean and Director, College of Criminal Justice, Sam Houston State University will be the keynote speaker at the dedication from 3 to 5 p.m. on Wednesday, September 16.

The TYC program, which originally opened in 1984, houses 24 male youth between the ages of 15 and 17 who have been committed by juvenile court judges from a surrounding 22 county area for engaging in delinquent conduct. A halfway house placement for TYC youth is generally in lieu of a stay at a TYC institutional program, although some youths are transferred to the community; preparation for General Equivalency diplomas through local community colleges; or a combination of these community-based programs

McAllen House youth will be attending McAllen High School

and Lincoln Junior High School. The program also includes group and individual counseling and recreation and physical activities. The boys advance to different level systems, where more responsibility and privileges are accorded those on higher levels.

The halfway house contains 6565 square feet, including offices for the McAllen district parole staff.

Staff in the halfway house include John Held, superintendent; Albert Benson, assistant superintendent; Javier Aguilar, Community Coordinator; Nelida Tristan, Weekend Coordinator; Terrie Sheffield, Susana Guerrero, Ignacio Lopez, Alberto Canales, Ricardo Leal, Cipriano Gallardo, YAS; Linda Castillo, Cook; Eduardo Alaniz, Jr., accounting clerk; and Rosie Ruiz, secretary.

TYC Board members will also attend the event. They include Larry F. York of Austin, Chairman; Susan Bush of Athens, vice chairman; Richard Abalos of Odessa; Judge Jorge C. Rangel of Corpus Christi; and Rev. Floyd N. Williams, Sr. of Houston.

TYC's other halfway houses are located in Austin, Dallas, El Paso, Harlingen, San Antonio, Corpus Christi, Richmond, and Fort Worth.

NOTES

is published by the
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