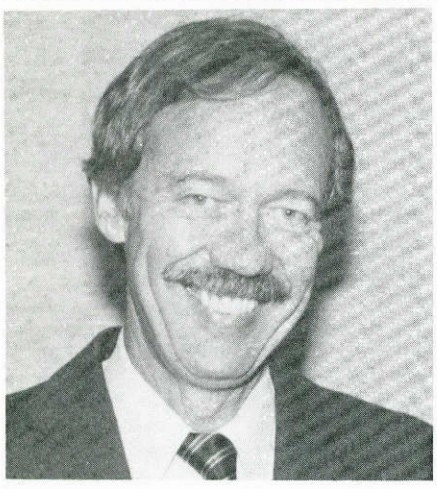


NOTES

NEWSLETTER OF THE TEXAS YOUTH COMMISSION

Summer/Fall
1985



LARRY F. YORK
New TYC Board Member

Austin attorney named to Board

Governor Mark White has appointed Larry F. York of Austin to a six-year term on the Texas Youth Commission Board.

York, managing partner of the Austin law office of Baker and Botts, replaced Jim Bowie of Houston, whose term expired August 31. His appointment will expire August 31, 1991, and requires confirmation by the Texas Senate during its next session in 1987. York began his service on the Board at the November 14 meeting.

York received both a Bachelor of Business Administration degree and a law degree from the University of Texas. He

served as associate editor of the UT Law Review and as president of Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity. He was also named outstanding senior law student.

York served as First Assistant Attorney General from 1973-74, during which time he was involved in the Morales V. Turman litigation. Because of his involvement in that case, he visited several TYC facilities at that time.

In addition, York is a member of the Board of Directors of the Texas Research League and the Supreme Court Task Force on the Court Administration Act.

He and his wife Peggy have three children—Robert, Mandy and Andrew.

1985 Commitments Up 20%

TYC receives more illegal aliens

The number of juveniles committed to the Texas Youth Commission rose nearly 20 percent during fiscal year 1985.

A comparison of 1984 and 1985 statistics shows that 2,307 youth between the ages of 10 and 17 were committed to TYC in 1985, an increase of 376 over the 1,931 committed during fiscal year 1984.

One important increase was reflected in the number of illegal aliens committed: 90 in fiscal year 1984 and 140 in fiscal year 1985 — a 57 percent rise.

The agency projected only a three percent (3%) increase for fiscal year 1985 (above the number committed in 1984) based on information which was available at that time.

"In order to provide space for this increase, we have had to identify the students who were, comparatively, the most prepared to move from residential programs to parole," said TYC Executive Director Ron Jackson.

"In other words, we had to parole students with the best prognosis for success, in order to retain a reasonable length of time for the students with the most serious criminal records and the most severe treatment needs," he explained.

During the summer, most non-violent of-

fenders were being paroled in less than six months, and some in less than four months.

"Local juvenile authorities, who have committed their most serious juvenile cases to TYC — and obviously are han-

(Cont. on P. 2)

Fort Worth halfway house set to open

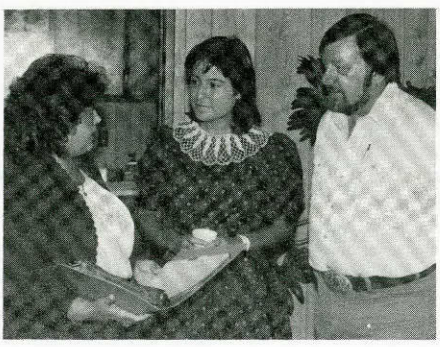
Construction on TYC's 7,000 square foot halfway house in Fort Worth is nearing completion, according to Superintendent Lynne Parra.

Parra has hired 12 staff members for the house, which will have female residents. The Fort Worth program is TYC's

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STATE REPRESENTATIVE Lena Guerrero, center, toured the new Austin group home shortly after its completion. She was accompanied by Sandra Spiller, left, TYC Group Homes coordinator, and Layton Kirkin, houseparent.

Klug discusses privatization

R. B. Klug, Chief of Construction and Maintenance, participated in a round table discussion on "Privatization of Correctional Facilities" at the annual meeting of the American Institute of Architect's Architecture for Justice Committee.

Klug's presentation, an overview of 10 years of TYC experience in leasing halfway house and group home facilities, was a discussion of privately owned, publicly-operated facilities.

Klug, an architect, is an appointed member to the A.I.A. Architecture for Justice Committee. The meeting was held in Los Angeles in October.

Schaeffer House boys donate 1800 volunteer hours—in one month!

Schaeffer House students in El Paso collectively worked 1,878 volunteer hours during the month of June, according to Supt. Johnny Threatt.

Students were involved in teaching youth how to swim, assisted physically handicapped in woodworking, helped mentally retarded youth at a Lions summer camp, and assisted the Angel In Disguise community assistance program, which provides canned food, clothing, furniture and appliances to the needy.

In addition, residents helped at the "Little Boy Blue and Sister, Too" annual picnic for needy children, attended by 4,500 children from Juarez, Mexico, and El Paso, Texas.

Schaeffer house boys also assisted in a community block party to celebrate Emancipation Day in Texas.

1985 Commitments (Cont. from P. 1)

ding more of these cases this year — have difficulty accepting residential stays that are even shorter than before," said Jackson, "and it is certainly understandable that for a time, we were receiving an increasing number of complaints about students being released too soon."

The average daily population in TYC placements (institutions, halfway houses, contract care, camping programs) has been nearly five percent higher than last year. In April the average rose to nearly seven percent above the budgeted population.

"We will soon have a ninth halfway house open, which will house 24 students, and two new dormitories at the Crockett State School (scheduled to open next year) will make it possible to add nearly 100 additional students," Jackson said.

The rapid turnover of students and the crowded conditions complicate the establishing of positive staff-student relationships, which are a primary resource in juvenile corrections for maintaining safe living conditions and providing rehabilitation opportunities, he added.

Some of the counties which showed the largest percent increase in commitments were:

	FY 1984	FY 1985
Bexar	126	174
Collin	15	22
Ellis	7	13
El Paso	101	146
Galveston	15	21
Gonzales	4	17
Gregg	7	13
Harris	385	429
Kleberg	9	15
Lubbock	28	39
McLennan	19	26
Montgomery	20	35
Nolan	8	13
Nueces	62	71
Parker	2	8
Reeves	8	12
San Patricio	11	20
Tarrant	94	152
Travis	42	59
Uvalde	2	6
Val Verde	4	16
Victoria	7	13
Willacy	3	11
Williamson	15	24

Thirty-five counties which had NO commitments in 1984, committed 68 youth in 1985: Erath, 7; Hood, 5; Chambers, Freestone and Hamilton, 4 each; Crane, Lavaca and Somervell, 3 each; Clay, Dallam, Gaines, Hudspeth, Jack, Leon, Mc-

Culloch and Sutton, 2 each; Calhoun, Cherokee, Crosby, Dimmit, Franklin, Garza, Hall, Hill, Lynn, Maverick, Panola, Pecos, Polk, Reagan, Runnels, San Augustine, Sherman and Stephens, one commitment each.

Despite the sharp increases in commitments, a few populous counties showed decreases in the number of youth committed to TYC in 1985.

These include:

	FY 1984	FY 1985
Dallas	157	136
Henderson	10	7
Hidalgo	50	43
Jefferson	27	15
Wichita	19	11

Mark White
Governor of Texas

TYC BOARD

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- Dr. William Shamburger, Tyler**
- Rev. Floyd N. Williams Sr., Houston**
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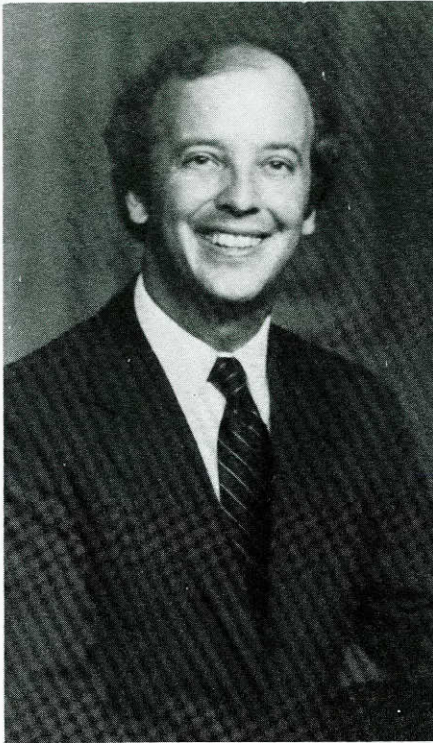
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Ed White
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★ ★ ★
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Joan Timmons
Editor



Senator Kent A. Caperton

Sen. Caperton honored by TYC

Senator Kent A. Caperton of Bryan was honored by the Youth Commission for his assistance to the agency during the 69th Legislative session.

The award was announced during the annual agency awards banquet July 22 in Kerrville by Rev. Floyd N. Williams, Sr., TYC Board Member from Houston.

"In his capacity as a member of the Senate Finance Committee, Sen. Caperton was instrumental in securing funding through the appropriations process so that the agency can open new dormitories at Crockett State School when construction is completed," said Rev. Williams.

The Crockett funding was in serious jeopardy for several weeks during a session in which nearly all state agencies received substantial funding cuts.

As chairman of the Senate Criminal Justice Committee, Sen. Caperton guided TYC bills through the crucial committee process, making it possible for the agency to extend jurisdiction of TYC youths to age 21; to increase parole contract fees; and to provide start-up money for private sector contract programs for youth.

"We expect these new laws to be of great benefit to children in our care," said Rev. Williams.

Rep. Granoff given award

Rep. Al Granoff of Dallas was presented with a TYC Legislative Award during the agency's annual awards banquet July 22 in Kerrville.

Dr. William Shamburger of Tyler, TYC Board Member, presented the award to Rep. Granoff.

"I am certainly honored to be able to present the Youth Commission's award to a state representative who has done so much to assist this agency during his tenure in the House of Representatives," said Dr. Shamburger.

Rep. Granoff first became interested in TYC when the new Dallas House Facility was being built—shortly after his first successful race for the Legislature in 1982.

He has continued that close relationship with Dallas House staff and students and has contributed many hours of volunteer work and fundraising at that facility. (Dallas House is located in his district.)

"Al has visited nearly every TYC institution and halfway house during the past four years. He has been particularly interested in seeing that our youth had continued assistance after their stay in our facilities—understanding that many of them do not have supportive homes to return to," said Dr. Shamburger.

"Because of this concern, Al was able to convince the Legislature in 1983 to earmark TYC's unexpended balances, which ultimately totaled \$300,000, for an independent living program. He is a frequent visitor at Ayres House in San Antonio—where our independent living program is being piloted," he added.

Rep. Granoff sponsored two important TYC bills during the 69th session, both of which passed: one bill will enable TYC to provide seed money to new private contract programs which would be beneficial to TYC youth; the other increases the amount the agency can pay to counties who provide parole supervision.

"And most importantly, Rep. Granoff was influential in securing additional appropriations to the agency during the difficult, financial constraints which the Legislature faced during the past session," said Dr. Shamburger.

Senator Caperton has received accolades from Texas Business magazine at the close of each of the two terms he has served in the Senate. Texas MONTHLY magazine named him the "Rookie of the Year" after the 68th session, and last June he was named one of Texas



REP. AL GRANOFF displays Outstanding Legislator plaque presented to him by the Texas Youth Commission. Shown also is Pam Bhagwat, Dallas Halfway House superintendent, Rep. Granoff is a frequent visitor and volunteer at Dallas House.

Rep. Granoff received his law degree from Southern Methodist University in 1975, and is a practicing attorney working primarily in workers' compensation and personal injury law. He is currently a member of the Sunset Commission.

"His activities on our behalf have certainly resulted in your being considered TYC's 'hope for the future,'" Dr. Shamburger concluded. "We are most gratified and honored that you have seen fit to assist this agency."

Hot rod, wheels show held

Brownwood State School students were treated to a hot rod and wheels show recently on campus. Students visited various exhibits and displays of antique cars, custom vehicles, restored vehicles, motorcycles and dragsters, including the Asphalt Aviators Motorcycle Club of Brown County.

MONTHLY's "10 Best Legislators" for his work during the 69th session.

"The Youth Commission is pleased to honor Sen. Caperton and formally thank him for his assistance," Rev. Williams added, "and we look forward to a continuing good relationship with him and his staff."



PROJECT TEJAS Division winners were recognized at the agency workshop in Kerrville. Winners and chairmen of their divisions shown above included Dwain Place, Corsicana, Institutions Winner; Sandra Queen, Houston, parole winner; Michael Harrison, Child Care division, Central Office winner; Katie Price, Gainesville, presented a plaque for raising the most money total among institutions; Johnny Threatt, El Paso house, halfway houses winner; and Peggy Marshall, Support Services division, Central Office, which raised the most total money of the three central office divisions.



TENURE AWARD plaques were presented at Kerrville to employees who have reached 20, 25 and 30-year milestones with the Texas Youth Commission. They included, left to right, (front row), Bernice P. Norwood, Gainesville, 20 years; Dwain Place, Corsicana, 20 years; Glyn Ridge, Crockett, 15 years; Wyndale Lynn Weems, Statewide Reception Center, 15 years; Robert Brown, Giddings, 30 years; Joel Grahain, Central Office, 15 years; Aubrey Young, Corsicana, 20 years. (back row) Joyce Rigler, Gainesville, 20 years; Bobbie Owens, Gainesville, 20 years; Rosa Warren, Crockett, 20 years; June Cox, Central Office, 15 years; Flossie J. Wells, Brownwood, 15 years; Walter Stevens, Giddings, 15 years; Dotty Doyle, Gainesville, 20 years; and Richard T. Springstun, Statewide Reception Center, 20 years.

Communities In Schools program prevents high school dropouts

Encouraging students to complete their high school education is the main goal of Communities in Schools (CIS), a new, in-school dropout prevention program that began operating in three south Austin schools this fall, according to Executive Director Jo Webber, Ph.D.

"CIS works on the premise that 'high risk' students can best be helped in the school setting itself," Webber said.

Webber said the CIS program began operating in August to combat Austin's projected 24% dropout rate. Designed to increase students' school attendance and academic achievement and to decrease their discipline problems and contact with the juvenile justice system, the program provides group and individual counseling, academic tutoring, pre-employment training, health and recreational services, and referrals to other service agencies.

To deliver these services, the program will utilize repositioned staff from community service agencies.

"One of our program's goals is to work with Austin community service agencies on reconceptualizing the delivery of their services," Webber said. "It's perhaps more effective for these agencies to deliver their services in the schools, where the kids are, rather than expecting students to find a way to them."

Webber said the Austin Parks and Recreation Department and the city health department will provide staff to work directly with students enrolled in the Austin program. The Youth Employment Service and Child and Family Services have also agreed to assist the program by placing agency staff at a school site.

CIS programs currently operate out of Travis High School, Fulmore Junior High School and Travis Heights Elementary.

Each school will have a staff of counselors, employment specialists and health and recreational specialists who will identify and work with 100 to 200 students a year. Webber said students are referred to the program on the basis of their school attendance, grades, discipline problems and need for more intensive services.

CIS is funded by grants and donations from both the private and public sector. This year, the CIS - Austin program has received funding from Mobil Oil Corporation, Southwestern Bell, United Way, the Texas Education Agency and the Criminal Justice Division.

Austin is one of four cities in Texas involved in one-year CIS pilot programs; the other cities include Dallas, El Paso and San Antonio. Each of the pilot programs is modeled after a Houston CIS program, which began six years ago and has proved

effective in preventing high risk youth from dropping out of school.

TYC Executive Director Ron Jackson is a member of the Board of Directors of the state board for the Communities in Schools program, coordinated by the Governor's Office of Community Leadership.

"From September 1979 to May 1983, the average school attendance of Houston participants in the pilot program rose from 68% to 93%," Jackson said. He also said that 80% of the Houston students who enter the program complete their schooling.

The stigma associated with dropping out is greater today than it was in the past. A 1984 study on dropouts conducted by the Austin Independent School District attributes this phenomenon to the increase over the years in the percentage of Americans aged 25 and older who have completed four years of high school or more, from 25% in 1940 to nearly 70% in 1980.

"Today's dropouts are experiencing more problems and obstacles from society than ever before," Webber said. Namely, high levels of unemployment and low levels of income.

"Dropouts are also more likely to be in need of social services," Webber said. "Ultimately, they can become unhappy, frustrated adults."

Mrs. White speaks at awards banquet

Linda Gale White, wife of Texas Governor Mark White, was keynote speaker at the Texas Youth Commission's annual employee awards banquet July 21 in Kerrville.

Mrs. White noted that she has been involved in the issue of child abuse "for some time, and if I have learned anything, it's that child abuse and juvenile delinquency regularly appear in tandem in the tragic profiles of these cases."

One study of first degree murderers indicates that 75 percent had been abused or neglected as children, she said.

"Other crimes show higher correlations," she added.

"How many of your clients have 'graduated' to the penitentiary in spite of your dedication, caring and effort to help them? Is it so surprising, when they started off with so little encouragement, tenderness and support?"

Nationally, one in four girls and one in ten boys are molested by the age of 18—80-90 percent of the time by someone they know, she added.

"It is unlikely that we will ever have enough money, man power or resources to treat all the juvenile delinquents and victims of child abuse and neglect," she said. "But we would never have solved the problem of polio by purchasing more lung machines, either. What we can do is muster all the resources we

"Child abuse and juvenile delinquency regularly appear in tandem . . ."

do have to ensure that the majority of the children who are not now abused or delinquent remain that way."

Mrs. White advocated teaching children to prevent or stop their own victimization, as well as several outstanding anti-victimization programs, such as the Star Program, a service of the San Antonio Family Outreach, and the WHO program sponsored by the Dallas Mental Health Association.

She also discussed successful prevention programs that operate on the basis of volunteer support, such as Family Outreach, which has 16 Texas chapters that assign volunteers on a one-to-one basis to work with potentially abusive families.

While she spoke a great deal about programs that will prevent child abuse, Mrs. White also addressed some "equally innovative and successful programs" that are targeted specifically at preventing juvenile delinquency.

"Of all the social institutions, the school is best able to identify potential delinquents before they become major problems to the community," she said.

"We know that delinquency increases for students who remain in schools under conditions of failure and alienation," she said. "It is critical for schools to reduce the sense of isolation these children feel, and to find positive ways for them to achieve success."

She described the Governor's juvenile justice education project, which has introduced a law-related curriculum to grades four through six, and has reached over 20,000 Texas students.

"Studies indicate that law-related education can significantly reduce delinquency when properly implemented," Mrs. White said, citing a study involving 72 students which resulted in 30 fewer thefts, 24 fewer acts of violence against other students, and 38 fewer stealing incidents than would normally have been predicted on the basis of the students' previous delinquent behavior.

She also spoke of the Communities In School program, which seeks to create a positive, less alienating environment with the school. The program, also in the Governor's Office, provides



KEYNOTE speaker Linda Gale White

services for targeted students such as counseling, tutoring, field trips, home visits and other motivational activities to encourage students to stay in school.

"Communities In Schools currently has programs in Houston, Dallas, Austin, El Paso and San Antonio," she said.

"The prevention of child abuse and juvenile delinquency is a community problem, requiring a community solution," Mrs. White told TYC staff members. "This is an awesome task, and no one solution will eliminate the problems. But we are finding

"Delinquency increases for students who remain in schools under conditions of failure and alienation . . ."

prevention techniques that work. Despite severe budget constraints, some excellent laws were passed during the last session that will better protect Texas children," she added. "Laws benefiting abused children may also prevent that child's delinquency."

Mrs. White concluded her remarks by applauding the efforts of TYC staff members.

"I want to thank you for the dedication you have continuously shown . . . on those days when it seems as if nothing will improve the lives of your clients—no matter how hard you work—please know that your effort is truly appreciated. Your energy and determination does make a difference."



SUNSET COMMISSION staff member Kathy Hutto, lead analyst for the team which is studying the Texas Youth Commission, tours new Austin group home accompanied by Gary Fuchs, TYC administrative assistant and liaison for the Sunset process.

Women employees invited to January conference

"A Celebration of Leadership: Women in the Public Sector" will be the theme of a conference scheduled January 22 at Palmer Auditorium in Austin.

The one-day event is sponsored by the Governor's Commission for Women, the State Agency Liaison Group, and the School of Social Work, University of Texas at Austin.

Speakers will include Ann Richard, State Treasurer; Wilhelmina Delco, and Lena Guerrero, State Representatives from Austin.

Governor Mark White will recognize state agencies which successfully recruit and promote women into management positions at a noon awards luncheon.

Workshops will include Improving your Professional Image; Risk-taking for Career Management; Organizational Politics; Pay Equity; How to move Up from clerical to management; and The Balancing Act — a look at the professional and personal lives of mothers employed outside the home.

For further information, contact Joan Timmons, TYC's representative to the Texas State Agency Liaison Group. TYC employees will have priority for registration at this year's conference, since all were turned down last year because capacity was limited at the La Mansion Hotel.

Sunset staff draft report due to agency in February

The Texas Youth Commission is being reviewed by the Texas Sunset Advisory Commission. The Commission was created by the 65th Legislature in 1977.

The Sunset Act is a comprehensive law which provides for thorough review of an agency's operation and programs on twelve-year intervals.

The agency's Self-Evaluation Report was completed and turned over to the Commission staff on September 1, 1985.

All correctional state agencies are being reviewed this year: TYC, Department of Corrections, Board of Pardons and Paroles, Adult Probation Commission and the Juvenile Probation Commission. In addition several other large agencies (MHMR and DHS) are also coming under Sunset review prior to the 1987 Legislative session.

During the Sunset process, the Commission staff gathers information and makes recommendations to members of the Commission concerning an agency's operations and procedures. Staff members interview many agency officials and employees throughout the state in an effort to understand how the agency conducts its business and works with clients or the public.

Initially, the members of the Commission held a public hearing at which Executive Director Ron Jackson outlined the agency's philosophy, operations, and problems.

Members of the Commission are: Sen. Chet Edwards, chairman; Rep. Patricia Hill, vice chairman; Rep. Bruce Gibson, Mr. Charles Edmonds, Public Member-House, Sen. John Montford, Sen. Bob McFarland, Sen. Ray Farabee and Mr. Pete Snelson, Public Member-Senate.

The Youth Commission will receive the Sunset Commission's staff report in draft form prior to February 7, the Sunset dead-

Austin TYC students take part in tourney

A combined team made up of Austin parole students and Salado House residents participated in a softball tournament August 3 sponsored by the Youth Advocacy Program in Austin.

Twelve teams entered. The Austin TYC team was managed by parole officer Lalo Gutierrez and volunteer Paul Ysaguirre. The Austin Area Community Council donated funds for the entry fee and uniforms.

line for completion. At that time, the agency will have an opportunity to comment on the recommendations.

The TYC Board will be asked to review the document at their March meeting.

Sunset Commission staff analysts assigned to review TYC include Kathy Hutto, lead analyst, Jenny McKay, Bruce Crawford, and Jim Cash.

To date, team members have visited the Statewide Reception Center twice, all institutions except Crockett and Fairfield Camp; Dallas House, Ayres House, Turman House, Schaeffer House, Austin Group Home; Fort Worth, San Antonio and Midland Parole; and several contract programs: Lena Pope Home, Fort Worth; Salvation Army Home for Girls and Youth Alternatives, San Antonio. The team also visited the South Texas region facilities and services.

They will spend the month of January compiling their recommendations.

The Sunset Commission will meet to receive public testimony on the staff report March 14-15 in Austin. At that time the Commission will receive the formal response of the Youth Commission and hear public comments from any interested party.

Following this meeting the staff will incorporate recommendations of the Commission members and prepare a decision document regarding TYC.

The Commission will meet again April 18 to vote on each individual recommendation in the decision packet. A majority vote of the Commission is necessary to approve any recommendations. No public testimony is received at this meeting.

The final meeting scheduled concerning TYC is June 13, 1986. At that time the Commission will approve the specific statutory language to implement the recommendations approved at the April 18 meeting. No public testimony is received at that meeting.

The Sunset staff will spend the remainder of next year reviewing three large agencies: MHMR, TDC and DHS.

During the last session, several agencies were "sunsetting," including the Texas Health Facilities Commission. Others were separated into more than one agency as a result of Sunset Legislation, such as the Texas Department of Water Resources which is now two agencies: the Texas Water Commission and the Water Development Board.

Big Bend—a unique classroom

TYC Wilderness Challenge students learn map reading, compass navigation, survival skills

By Peggy Carpenter

(The following article has been reprinted from SCENE magazine by free-lance writer Peggy Carpenter who spent several days on a TYC Wilderness Challenge trip last February.)

There are lessons to be learned in the lonesome country of Big Bend. Lessons about lechuguilla, tinajas, mesa walls and men. Lessons about one's self.

The Texas Youth Commission has adapted the primal expanse — the torturous terrain — of Big Bend National Park into a 708,000 acre classroom for juvenile boys who have been remanded to the custody of the state.

Big Bend is a unique classroom. The South Rim of the Chisos Mountains towers almost 8,000 feet above the color-splattered desert basin, the weathered face of which is freckled with countless forms of cacti that jab flesh beneath layers of clothing, occasionally piercing through leather-soled boots. The limestone walls of Mesa de Anguila, looming 1,500 feet high across the western horizon, intimidates even veteran outdoorsmen.

The 90 youths selected annually to participate in the Wilderness Challenge Program grow from adolescence to manhood during an arduous 21-day trek across the region once known as the Texas Badlands. Their experience is, in many ways, a modern version of the rites of passage performed in previous centuries by Indian youths as they attained manhood.

The Wilderness Challenge participants, self-proclaimed "vatos" [Sp. dude] learn the skills of map reading and compass navigation, techniques for locating water in the desert and methods for rendering that water palatable. They learn from the onset to identify plants that are injurious and those that are passive.

The vatos learn to survive, even thrive, in one of the roughest regions of North America — Texas' Big Bend. The lessons learned in the wilderness enable the youths to survive in the equally-tough world from which they came — modern society.

* * * *

While most of Texas shivered and put another log on the fire the night of February 1, the vatos, counselors and I found our meager comfort curled up in individual sleeping bags. Camped near Terlingua Creek, a few miles east of Mesa de Anguila in Big Bend National Park, most of us were at least 400 miles from home on the coldest day in decades.

Clouds obscured the moon. The north wind howled as a pack of coyotes whined and yipped only yards from our fireless camp. An owl hoo-hooted close by.

"Geez," I heard one of the boys say. "I wanna go home. I swear, I'll never get in trouble again."

There was a good chance the teenager was telling the truth. Since its inception in 1978, The Wilderness Challenge Program boasts a 15 per cent recidivism rate. Eighty-five per cent of the boys, aged 15 to 17, who are handled by the program will not be back in the Texas Youth Commission or the Texas Department of Corrections.

Feeling sympathy for the miserable boy, I rued my own impulsiveness in coming with Mike Stoolmiller, the W.C. acting director, on re-supply. My curiosity about the program, the reasons for the unusually good success rate in dealing with juvenile offenders, was the reason for my being there. We met the group

earlier in the day at Terlingua Abaja with enough food and supplies for the remaining 14 days of the trip.

Had I not been so nosy, I'd have been stoking the home fires like every other sane person in Texas, instead of shivering in a sleeping bag surrounded by coyotes and cactus.

Mike crawled under my tarp then, asking how I was doing.

"Terrible," I said. "I'm freezing."

"No wonder. Put your toboggan cap on," he told me. "You lose 70 per cent of your body heat through your head. Are you wearing socks?"

"Are you kidding me? Of course I'm wearing socks. I'm freezing."

"Either take them off, or put on a fresh pair," he said. "You sweated in those socks today, whether you realize it or not. The moisture in your socks is making your feet cold."

I minded, child-like.

"One more thing. Tighten the draw string around the opening of your sleeping bag so no air gets down inside," he said. "You'll be a lot warmer."

I was. The simple advice was the first of a continuous stream offered by the four W.C. counselors that made life in Big Bend easier by the day.

A backpack must be belted snugly just above the pelvic bones, I learned the next day, so the weight of it neither pulls on the shoulders nor rests on the buttocks. Properly fitted, a person can carry a relatively heavy pack with ease. With the new supplies equally distributed, each member of the expedition (except me) carried 70 pounds on his back when we left the ruins of Terlingua Abaja and headed to the Mesa de Anguila.

We were led by one of the youths who had been selected as trail leader for the day. We hiked in single file across the ups and downs of the cactus-punctuated basin behind a boy with a map and compass.

The backpack can best be managed by leaning slightly forward while walking uphill, slightly back when descending a slope. Steep declines can best be maneuvered by a novice by using a side step. During brief resting periods, the pack weight is eased by bending at the waist and peering at the ground, placing the load squarely on the back.

Water weighs 12 pounds a gallon, so the ideal backpacking is from one natural water source to the next. In the desert, that means planning the journey from one spring or tinaja to the next. Tinajas, eroded holes in the rock formations which catch rain water and run-off, are scattered throughout the park. Springs, where water seeps from deep underground, usually are seen from great distances like oases. The tinaja and spring water must be treated with iodine before it can be ingested.

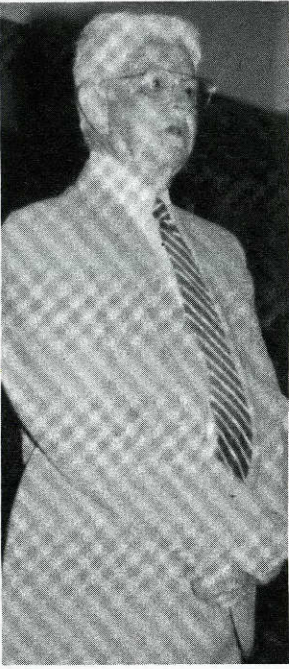
Iodine is lighter than water. Every ounce counts when you're carrying a 70 pound backpack over long distances — especially when a portion of that distance included an ascent of the Mesa de Anguila, stretching before us from north to south across the western horizon.

She taunted us as we approached. The weathered limestone walls of the mesa reach 1,500 feet high. Few non-professional climbers attempt to scale it. Most park visitors who camp on top of the mesa get there by hiking in from Lajitas, 15 miles to the west.

Most vatos agreed, even with a belay, the zig-zag ascent of

(Cont. on P. 10)

Austin halfway house renamed in memory of former TYC director



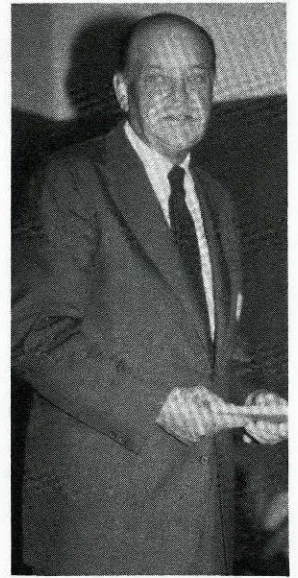
JUDGE Jack Pope of Austin, made the dedicatory address for the Turman House ceremony.



DEE PREWIT, Chairman of the Austin Area Community Advisory Council, welcomed guests to the Council-sponsored dedication and open house.



TYC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Ron Jackson makes presentation of Board Resolution to Mrs. Jack Turman, wife of the late Dr. Turman, who served as TYC Executive Director from 1957 to 1973.



DR. GEORGE BETO of Huntsville, TYC Board Chairman, was master of ceremonies at Turman House program. All TYC Board members also attended the event.



TURMAN HOUSE superintendent Marie Murdoch accepts portrait of Dr. Turman from TYC Executive Director Ron Jackson during dedication ceremony.



The Family of the late Dr. Jack Turman posed for group photograph beneath the framed portrait placed at Turman House during the dedication ceremony. Mrs. Turman is pictured with their two sons and daughters-in-law and her mother.



JUNIOR LAWHON, a student at the Gillean Inc. Group Home in Albany, was named a co-winner of the James Wade Award for their outstanding work and projects in the local Shackelford County 4-H and FFA clubs. The award carried a \$125 cash prize and was given by Wade Implementation Co. of Stamford in May. The Group Home is operated by Paul and Doris Cooper.

Board okays new age 21 policies

The Texas Youth Commission Board, during its July 20 Board meeting in Kerrville, okayed new discharge policies in keeping with Legislative action allowing TYC to retain some students past their eighteenth birthday and until age 21.

Most students will continue to be discharged at age 18.

However, exceptions are noted in the new policy. Youth may be retained after age 18 if they are:

1. Violent or repeat offenders who have not completed the required minimum institutional length of stay;
2. Students who have not completed the minimum time that was assessed as a result of a TYC administrative extended stay hearing;
3. Students who are on escape status at the time of their 18th birthday;
4. Any other student if authorized by the Executive Director.

These exceptions are true only for students committed to TYC for offenses which occurred after September 1, 1985.

Each student retained in TYC custody past the age of 18 will be reviewed by a committee of professional staff in the program to which the student is assigned. The committee will send a letter to the Executive Director recommending continued custody or discharge. The Executive Director will review and approve or disapprove each recommendation.

The policy has been published in the Texas Register and is listed in TYC's General Operating Policies and Procedures (GOPP) manual as No. 90.43.1000.

AT GIDDINGS

Model program started for juvenile sex offenders

A model residential treatment program for juvenile sex offenders at Giddings State School has been established, with sixteen youth selected for the program.

TYC's Sex Offender Treatment Program (SOTP) is a twelve-month program designed to decrease the recidivism of sex offenders. The treatment phase will require the youth to a) accept responsibility for his offenses; and b) understand and alter his sex offense cycle—exploring his own victimization and developing empathy for his victim.

The program was first proposed in May of 1985 and Mario Garza, M.S.W., was hired as the program director in July.

Following the treatment phase of about nine months, the aftercare phase will take place when the student is transferred to a TYC halfway house or become involved in a community program for treatment of sex offenders. This phase will last about three months while the youth's treatment is aimed at facilitating community reintegration.

All students in the program live in the same dormitory at Giddings—in two groups of eight students. One group is made up of violent sex offenders—those who have committed rape, aggravated sexual abuse and rape of a child. The other group is composed of nonviolent offenders committed for sexual abuse of a child, indecent exposure, incest, and indecency with a child.

"Research and treatment of sexual offenders has revealed important differences between violent and nonviolent sexual offenders," says Dr. Matthew Ferrara, TYC Chief of Counseling. "Violent offenders tend to be aggressive and predatory. Nonviolent offenders tend to be

passive and have a victim mentality. The two groups will be housed in different wings of the same dorm, reducing the opportunity for victimization to occur."

Candidates for the program are identified by the Giddings Special Services Committee, although dorm directors may also refer students who are not committed for sexual offenses, or who admit to a pattern of sexual offense behavior which occurred prior to placement at Giddings.

The treatment program includes group therapy, journal writing, family therapy and social skills training.

Social skills training attempts to correct the students' misunderstandings of the use of power in social relations.

"Hopefully, this component will assist the student in acquiring new, socially acceptable behaviors which could be substituted in place of their sex offense cycle behaviors," Dr. Ferrara said.

Also included is sex education, covering male-female differences, hygiene, incest, homosexuality and family planning.

"An expected benefit of this course will be that facts about sex will replace inaccurate notions the student may have acquired," he explained.

The Texas Interagency Council on Sex Offender Treatment, created by the Texas Legislature in 1984, recommended that TYC establish a program for juvenile sex offenders, and on Nov. 1 that Council visited the Giddings program.

The Council has recommended that both the public and private sector invest in treating and rehabilitating sex offenders to ease already over-burdened state agencies.

Dr. Michael Cox, a psychologist at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, said Baylor's Sex Offender Treatment Program, which has an 85 percent success rate, attests to the fact that private programs can be effective in treating offenders and self-supporting by requiring that offenders pay for their treatment.

"The number of sex crimes in Texas has been grossly underestimated," Dr. Cox says, "and will continue to increase each year if offenders are left untreated."

The Council (TYC is a member) also recommends establishing a more accurate reporting system for identifying sex offenders and crimes, and establishing treatment programs within the Texas Department of Corrections and community-based agencies.

Gainesville students 'Learn-To-Bowl'

The Gainesville State School recreation department initiated a 'Learn To Bowl' Program for senior students, and awarded ribbons to first, second and third place bowlers.

Students rotate weekly trips to the local bowling alley and receive instruction on how to bowl and keep score. An all-star tournament was held.

Recreation director Kirk Keller was in charge of the program.

Big Bend: unique classroom . . . (Cont. from P. 7)

the Mesa de Anguila is the most gruelling, physically taxing experience of the trip.

Clipped into a safety line with a fail-safe D-ring, with one counselor belaying from above and another advising on the techniques of three-point climbing, the ascent is, nonetheless, nerve-racking for a novice and worsened by the weight of the cumbersome pack.

Leaning forward is difficult during the climb, so there is the constant sensation the pack will pull you over backwards. The belay rope tangles in lechuguilla protruding from the wall. The rock, cold in the morning, numbs your fingers. Your leg shakes uncontrollably from the tension, but you finally make it.

"The climb of the mesa wall always scares the boys the most," Mike Stoolmiller said. "But I've never seen a serious accident happen on the wall."

That's a good safety record, considering the number of youths who have made the ascent since 1978.

"Out here, we deal in perceived risks," explained veteran counselor Lee Lovinfosse. "We place the boys in stressful situations — situations they believe are dangerous — in order to teach them to handle stress."

"We know the climb of the mesa wall, with the belay and safety line, is physically hard, but it's really safe," she said.

The vatos are under pressure from the first day off the bus. The weight of the pack alone is stressful. Carrying it up mountains, along precipitous paths at the gaping edge of Bruja Canyon or the height of the South Rim can be terrifying for a youth afraid of heights — a boy from Houston who never got higher than the fifth floor.

The group is under pressure to cover a certain number of miles each day to keep on schedule. That means they must work as a team, each man doing his own job, taking care of his share of the work, carrying his own weight. If he doesn't carry his share, someone else carries more than theirs.

Naturally, there are problems. Problems are handled in huddle-ups. They are the heart of Wilderness Challenge. The lessons learned there — lessons about one's self and one's friends — are the very reason for the program.

"We're not out here to teach the kids about the out-of-doors, really," Stoolmiller said. "That's not our goal. It is a side-benefit. As a program, our goal is therapeutic. To instill in the boys that they can choose; that behaviors have consequences—positive or negative."

"Huddle-up!" one of the vatos will holler. "I want a huddle-up!" The group, counselors and all, congregate in a circle. The man who called the huddle-up is the leader.

"I'm calling this huddle-up on John. John, I'm tired of you always picking on Andy. You're always making fun of him because he's not as fast as you think he ought to be. I think Andy is trying — and I think you should get off his back.

"What'd you mean, man?" John will say. "I ain't done nuthin' to Andy."

Several team members hold out their hands, a signal they want to speak. One is given the go-ahead by the leader.

"That's not true, man," he says to John. "I hear you, man. I hear you sayin' things about Andy all the time where he can hear you. And he just takes it. I'm tired of it, too. I'm tired of Andy not taking up for himself."

And so the conversation goes. Andy must face his own problems — his fear of standing up for himself. Perhaps that fear was why he followed an older, stronger boy months before

when they stole a car. The consequence of the action was Andy's presence in T.Y.C. and the Wilderness Challenge program.

John must face his own problem of saying things behind Andy's back and not to his face — an act of cowardice as seen by the other vatos.

Huddle-ups have lasted as long as three hours. They do not end until the group is satisfied that the problem has been recognized and resolved.

"My heart is in the huddle-ups," said Lee. Standing slightly over five feet, she commands the respect of the vatos and fellow counselors.

"It is in the huddle-ups that we, the boys and counselors, learn about ourselves. It is where we get insight into our problems and how to deal with them. One of the hardest things is just admitting you have a problem. Once you've admitted it, you can start to work on it."

Like the Outward Bound programs, Wilderness Challenge counselors employ the conscious use of metaphors to teach the boys the important lessons.

"Like carrying the backpack," Lee said. "We try to show them that if they can trudge up a mountain all day with a heavy pack, they can shoulder the burdens at home that they weren't shouldering when they did whatever they did to end up in T.Y.C."

They get their points across.

"They want us to look at our lives," one vato said to me. I had asked him what he had learned on the trip, and how he would apply it when he got home.

"I have learned to look at my life and what I want out of it," he said. "I have learned to think about the future. I have learned that I can do things I never dreamed I could do."

Another agreed. "I've learned to communicate better with people," he said. "Not to jump down their throats, but to listen to what they have to say."

"I agree," another boy said. "I've learned to talk better. I think I can go home now and talk to my mother."

"Yeah," another youth said. "I've learned to care more about people, to not always be out just for myself."

I spoke with him as we sat in the sun at Tickle Tongue, an ancient dry waterfall near Wax Camp, on top of the Mesa de Anguila. It is a sheer cliff where the boys practice climbing and rappelling.

"I've been conning people for two years," the 17 year old said. "I told them what they wanted to hear. I knew what they wanted to hear. I know now there's no reason for you to believe me, but I've learned out here. I've done alot of thinking."

"The only thing I want right now," he said, "is to go home and be straight. Make something of my life. I want it not just for my family. I want it for me."

I watched his face when he said it. I had watched him climb the mesa wall and Tickle Tongue earlier, seen the expression in his eyes when he reached the top. I knew, he was capable of more than he ever dreamed.

He had learned his lessons well in the lonely country of Big Bend. He had learned to look at himself.

"You know it's not going to be easy," I said. "It's going to be as hard to turn down the temptations as it was to climb the mesa wall. Harder, maybe."

"I know," he said. "But this time, I'm doing it for me. I climbed the wall, didn't I?"

Positions upgraded to provide more equitable compensation; career ladders now available

More than \$1 million goes to merit raises

Although state employee salaries were only increased six percent across the board during the present biennium, the Texas Youth Commission has provided over a million dollars in merit increases since 1978, and has upgraded the positions of over 1,000 employees—resulting in salary increases.

"In addition, the agency has provided nearly \$120,000 in educational assistance for employees, including tuition reimbursement for 27 employees since 1983, and stipends for 13 employees since 1971," said Ron Jackson, Executive Director.

Jackson said that since 1978, TYC has spent \$1,138,733 to provide merit increases for employees.

Personnel adjustments made during the past few years to provide more equitable compensation for staff performing certain functions include the following:

CHILD CARE POSITIONS

1. *Youth Activities Supervisor IV*
This new position was granted to TYC in 1983 and received a 6.5% increase in salary for the primary agency paraprofessional supervisory positions.
2. *Youth Activities Supervisor III*
With the creation of the y.a.s. IV position, the y.a.s. III position became a direct child care position. Currently 10% of the agency's direct child care positions have been elevated to this level.
3. *Caseworker I*
In 1982 eighteen Caseworker I positions were added in institutions. This group 9 position provided a career ladder opportunity for child care staff who were not yet qualified through education or experience to be a caseworker II.
4. *Caseworker III*
In 1984 the agency established a career ladder for a caseworker II, group 12, to advance to caseworker III, group 15, after completing certain experience requirements. Originally a limit of 50% caseworker III positions was allowed but no limit is used beginning in FY 1986.
5. *Halfway House Superintendent*
In 1984 the agency upgraded the position of halfway house superintendent from group 16 to group 17, an increase of approximately 6.5%. Assistant superintendents were upgraded to Group 13.
6. *Parole Officer*
Beginning in FY 1986 a parole officer I, group 13, is now able to advance to parole officer II, group 14, when s/he achieves the required experience. The number of parole officer II positions is no longer limited as was previously true.
7. *Teachers*
Effective June 1985 qualifying TYC teachers began receiving teacher career ladder supplements according to standards for Texas public school teachers.

8. *Nurses*
In 1983 licensed vocational nurses were upgraded one group to group 8 (LVN 1) and group 10 (LVN II).

SUPPORT POSITIONS

1. *Secretarial/Clerical*
The institutions career level for secretaries in 1982 was extended to include an administrative secretary, group 9, position. Previously a secretary III, group 7, was the highest secretarial position available.
2. *Personnel*
The position of personnel assistant I, group 11, was added in 1981 in each institution to replace the position of personnel clerk, a group 8 position.
3. *Maintenance*
Within the past four years most maintenance supervisor I, group 10, positions have been upgraded to maintenance supervisor II, group 12, positions to provide a higher level for the maintenance foreman's position. In all schools groundskeeper positions were upgraded to groundskeeper III positions and maintenance mechanic II positions replaced some of the maintenance mechanic I positions.
4. *Purchasing/Warehouse*
In 1983 the position of purchasing and supply officer was added to all institutions. In 1984 the warehouse stock clerk III position was added.
5. *Food Service*
By 1984 all cook I and cook II positions were elevated to head cook I or head cook II positions and all institutions of 100 students or more had an assistant food service manager position.

★ ★ ★

In addition to upgrading positions and adding new career levels the agency has also provided training opportunities for staff to acquire certain skills and credentials which will assist them in pursuing career opportunities.

Examples of the special training include:

1. *First Level Manager Training.* Department heads, cottage directors, and selected secondary supervisors have attended the state training for beginning first level managers during the past four years.
2. *Middle Managers' Training.* Central office administrators and institution superintendents have attended the training for advanced managers which has been offered the past three years.
3. *National Institute of Corrections Training.* Selected agency professional and administrative staff have attended the national training for corrections professionals.

Review of Crockett program indicates need for training

Staff recommends continuing crisis team six more months

TYC's Planning, Research and Evaluation Department completed a program evaluation of the Crockett State School Crisis Management Team, and presented a summary of their findings and recommendations to the TYC Board in September.

The Crisis Management Team program was established in July of 1984 at Crockett to try to decrease the need for admitting students to the security unit; and decrease the number of negative incidents, such as escapes, assaults, and grievances.

The CMT concept is to reduce security commitments and handle crises when and where they occur. The Crockett security unit was closed and security staff members were trained to be team members to address and resolve problems immediately, and to provide followup.

One reason for establishing the program is that the Morales Settlement Agreement calls for students "to be referred to isolation or security only when such confinement is more appropriate than other positive methods of intervention."

"In this regard, CMT operations have the appearance of intervening positively where confinement would frequently have been used before CMT," said Adrian Moore, Director of Planning, Research and Evaluation.

Security staff members were trained as members of the crisis team, and their frequent interaction with students and staff has the appearance of greater productivity and improved staff efficiencies, according to the report.

Dorm directors advise that reduction in the use of security has prompted a sharp decrease in the amount of paper work related to security admissions and releases, although dorm staff members were less than supportive at the time the evaluation occurred.

Crockett nurses reported that their workload had increased in supervising students in the infirmary, laundry and switchboard coverage.

"Students surveyed felt positive about CMT visits, and enjoy the team's accessibility," said Moore. "They feel CMT staff members are helpful to them, and, it should be noted that none of the griev-

ances filed against staff were related to CMT staff."

The report recommended continuing CMT operations at Crockett for a second six-month period, with a second review being conducted to determine whether the program will positively impact the performance indicators.

Also recommended is a comprehensive in-service staff training program geared to improving dorm staff skills in working with students.

Evaluators also recommended that minor disruptions be handled by dorm staff members so that CMT members can be readily available for more serious situations.

Data illustrates that after CMT became operational, there were decreases in student assaults, grievances, and security admissions. However, there were increases in total incidents, staff assaults, escapes, property destruction, restraints and incidents requiring medical attention.

"The overall increase in incident activity suggests that CMT fell short of positively impacting these program performance measures," said Moore.

A second six-months for the CMT program will be concluded in February, and researchers will conduct a second review in February and March.

Beddow heads Brownwood community council

Michele Beddow has been elected president of the Brownwood Community Advisory Council, replacing Gene Deason.

Other new officers are Joe Huff, vice president and Jay Phillips, secretary-treasurer.

New members of the council, elected to serve a three-year term, are Jim Cowart, Bob Rutherford, Alice Morris, Mitchell Pittman, Charles Lowe, John Oliver, Bob Richmond, Randy Lancaster, Deborah Jones, Ike Avinger, Felix Garza, Raul Martinez, Joe Villarreal, Aaron Blake, Jim Prock and Beth Hardon.

Tenure Certificates Received

Twenty-seven Texas Youth Commission staff members have qualified as of October 1985 for ten-year tenure certificates. Sixty-four employees have qualified for five-year certificates.

Ten-year employees include:

CENTRAL OFFICE: Christi Mallette, Jesus Ozuna, Allan Spearman.

GAINESVILLE: Bill D. Liddell, Jr., Larry W. Bates, Marjorie Tune, Norman W. Clark, Reid Turner, Wayne Gore, Kirk Keller, Eula F. Martin, Tommy Thomas, Peggy Jo Moredick.

BROWNWOOD: Tommy R. Manley, Jr., Herbert C. Lee, Robert L. Williams, Sarah Camacho, Kelly L. Tyson, Stanley W. Erickson.

STATEWIDE RECEPTION CENTER: Rickie C. Strickland, Nasheed J. Dalleh, Carl D. Clark.

CORSICANA: Melanie Hardeman, Willie Brown.

CROCKETT: Carol Hacker.

PAROLE: Alex Escarcega, Joe Curry, El Paso.,

* * * * *

Five-year employees are:

CENTRAL OFFICE: Carol Basey.

BROWNWOOD: Terri J. Strength, Betty J. Kennedy, Ruby J. King, Arthur P. Zuniga, Horace R. Mann, Jerome Parsee, Roy E. Whitehead, Mary P. Taggart, Klora N. Dobbins, Patricia A. Searcey, John D. Holt, Diane L. Alexander, Zelda B. Oakley, Melvin H. Evans, Linda S. Holt, Boyce E. Newton, Draco R. Miller, William C. Sullivan, Leonard W. Reed, Michael A. Parker.

CROCKETT: David Cocoros, Melvis Wooten, John D. White, Mary Ann Milligan, Willie Lee Rhodes, David Singletary, Willie Elm, Ida B. Griffin, Edgar McKnight, Norbert Mitchell, Alva L. Phillips, Reginald Smith.

GAINESVILLE: James A. Gray, Robin M. Shroul, Robin L. Florie, Lunetta J. Privett, Susan K. Smith, Gregory Mack, Frances Moore, Mayfield Berryman.

STATEWIDE RECEPTION CENTER: Oliver Joe Hair, May J. Sutton, Stephen S. Bundren, John Rhodes, John C. Schroll, Willie L. Morgan, Betty L. Kyle.

WEST TEXAS: Alberto R. Garcia, Sheila Moore, Wallace L. Nation, Richard D. Bowen, Odessa Stanton, Dovie Abron, Manuel Jimenez, Roger Shute.

CORSICANA: Donald Freeman.

PAROLE: Malane A. Jones, Houston; Lana Biggerstaff, Paris; Rebecca M. Westergard, San Antonio.

HALFWAY HOUSES: Georgia Taylor, Nueces House; Maria Longoria, Valley House; Noe Molina, Turman House; Theresa Day, Schaeffer House.

Rossi Appointed Deputy Director

Linda D'Amario Rossi, former director of the Rhode Island Department for Children and Their Families, has been named Deputy Executive Director of the Texas Youth Commission, according to Ron Jackson, Executive Director.

Rossi began her duties October 1.

As director of the Rhode Island department, she managed and administered the state program which provided services to abused, neglected, wayward, dependent and delinquent children, youth and families. She was responsible for planning, development, management and administration of a \$42 million budget and the supervision of 780 staff members.

Prior to being named Director in February 1984, she served as Deputy Director of the agency for a year.

She served as Assistant Director of the Rhode Island Department of Corrections from July 1976 to January 1980. In that capacity she was administrator of the state juvenile correctional services, including the training school, detention center, diagnostic center, the youth correctional center, and various community programs including probation and parole services.

Rossi has served as a consultant to the American Correctional Association, where she conducted training for the Virginia Department of Corrections to prepare and organize for accreditation.

She is currently an Executive Commissioner of the Commission on Accreditation for Corrections; past president of the National Association of Juvenile Delinquency Program Administrators; and has served on several committees of the American Correctional Association.

Rossi has been named to Women in State Government; Who's Who in the East; Who's Who in America — Women; Leadership Rhode Island; The World of Who's Who of Women; received the Creative Public Administration Award from the American Association of Public Administrators, Rhode Island Chapter, in 1977; and was nominated in both 1983 and 1984 for Esquire Magazine's "Outstanding Young American." She has taught courses in juvenile justice and correctional topics at Roger Williams College, Administration of Justice Programs.

She holds a Master of Social Work degree from Boston University School of Social Work; a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Rhode Island; a Certificate in Correctional Management from the University of Pennsylvania Wharton School; and has taken courses at Boston University Law School.

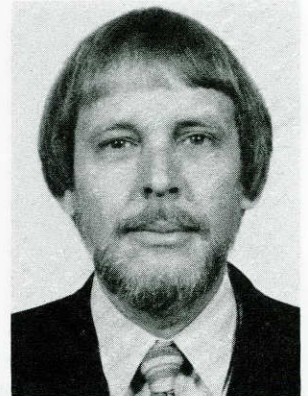
* * *



Rossi



Purcell



Pagett

Former Deputy Director Mart Hoffman was named Assistant Executive Director of Child Care to fill the position vacated several months ago when Byron Griffin was named TYC's Superintendent of Schools, a newly-created position.

Hoffman assumed direct responsibility for all child care programs, with Jerry Day, Director of Institutions; John Arredondo, Director of Community/Special Programs; and Joseph Martinez, South Texas Regional Administrator, now reporting to him.

* * *

Don Pagett, formerly Director of the North Carolina MHMR Black Mountain Center, has been appointed Superintendent of West Texas Children's Home, Pyote.

He also served as Director of North Carolina's Juvenile Evaluation Center, a residential treatment institution for court-adjudicated juvenile delinquents, for 7 years.

Pagett, who replaces Allan Spearman, began work December 1.

Carolyn Purcell, formerly manager of

Systems Services for Westinghouse, has been named Director of TYC's Data Processing department. She replaces Sonja Cordell who resigned in June.

Allan Spearman, formerly Superintendent at West Texas Children's Home, has transferred to Central Office as Assistant Director of Institutions. Stan DeGerolami, former assistant superintendent at West Texas, has transferred as assistant superintendent at the Giddings State School. He fills a position at Giddings formerly held by Joseph Martinez. Martinez was appointed South Texas Regional Administrator in September (**SEE RELATED ARTICLE**).

Johnny Williams, a former assistant superintendent at West Texas Children's Home until he resigned in 1981 to enter private industry, has returned to the WTCH campus as assistant superintendent.

Dan Humeniuk, former Salado House Superintendent, has been named Assistant Halfway House Administrator following completion of his course work for a masters degree in social work at the University of Texas.

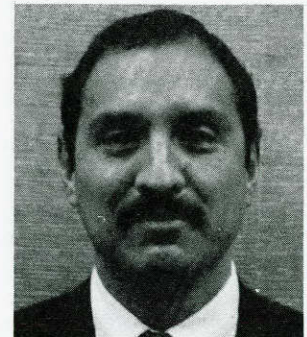
Martinez appointed regional administrator

The Texas Youth Commission has created a South Texas Region to administer TYC programs in a 27-county area of South Texas, according to Executive Director Ron Jackson.

Named to fill the job of Regional Administrator, effective October 1, was Joseph Martinez, formerly assistant superintendent at the Giddings State School. Martinez reports to Mart Hoffman, Assistant Executive Director for Child Care.

He is responsible for administration of

(Cont. on P. 18)



Martinez

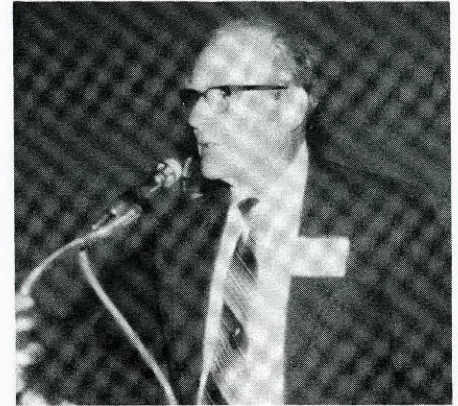
1985 Outstanding employees named.....



AMADOR MARTINEZ, Valley House Community Coordinator, received the award as Outstanding TYC Halfway House staff member from Board Member Jim Bowie of Houston.



TWO EL PASO parole officers shared honors as TYC Outstanding Parole Officers, Joe Curry and Alex Escarcega. Their plaques were presented by Rev. Floyd N. Williams, left, TYC Board Member from Houston.



JAMES GRAY, Gainesville State School maintenance mechanic, was named Outstanding Staff Member in TYC Institutions during the Kerrville wards banquet.

Martinez named top halfway house staff

Amador Martinez, community coordinator and volunteer coordinator at Valley House in Harlingen, was named 1985 outstanding child care worker in TYC halfway houses.

TYC Board Member Jim Bowie of Houston made the announcement and presented the award.

Martinez "can always be counted on in time of need," said Bowie. "He has demonstrated a great amount of commitment and has helped improve the program by seeking out community resources and through fund-raising."

A TYC employee for three years, Martinez involves the boys in volunteer work for the community. He works closely with the Valley House volunteer council and has assisted with a benefit barbecue and raffle this year, netting \$1,500 for the fur-lough fund and recreation equipment purchases.

"Through his efforts many goods and donations have been contributed to the residents," Bowie added. "He always opens his house to our boys, and frequently allows those without jobs to do yard work at his home for pay."

Other nominees for the award were Carolyn Jackson, Salado House; Emily Torres, Ayres House; Floyd Hall, Dallas House; Javier Cuellar, McAllen House; Gary Ganschow, Nueces House; Mel Sanchez, Schaeffer House; and Myrtle Mayberry, Middleton House.

El Paso "team" wins parole recognition

Two El Paso parole officers, nominated as a team, were named TYC's outstanding child care workers in parole for 1985.

They are Joe Curry and Alex Escarcega, each of whom has been employed by TYC for ten years.

They were presented the award during the annual awards banquet in Kerrville by TYC Board Member Rev. Floyd N. Williams, Sr. of Houston.

"According to their fellow employees, Joe and Alex have exemplified complete dedication toward the youth who come under TYC jurisdiction," said Rev. Williams.

"To nominate one and omit the other would be an injustice, for they compliment each other to become the most effective PAIR of parole officers in the state," said the nomination material submitted. "Their total objective is to assist our students."

"Despite the fact that Joe and Alex never met until they became parole officers in the El Paso office, they have evolved into a professional team that personifies excellent service delivery to TYC parolees," said Rev. Williams.

Curry previously worked as a diagnostic teacher at Crockett State School, and Escarcega has served as a houseparent at Giddings and as a caseworker at the Reception Center. Both teach courses in criminal justice at El Paso Community College.

Their teamwork involves revocation hearings, transportation for illegal aliens,

Gainesville employee receives top award

James Gray, maintenance mechanic at the Gainesville State School, was named TYC's outstanding child care worker in institutions for 1985.

His award was announced by TYC Board Member Richard Abalos of Odessa during the agency's annual awards banquet in Kerrville.

Mr. Gray "has shown dedication and devotion to the agency by demonstrating the outstanding level of care and concern for the religious education and involvement in Christian fellowship for the students at Gainesville," said Abalos.

"He has involved himself in student life and has spent many hours of his own time on weekends and after work transporting students to church services and other activities," he added.

Gray encourages students to improve their behavior with the prospect of being rewarded by having the opportunity to go to church off-campus. He has also recruited many volunteer families in his church to befriend Gainesville students; as a result, many families take students from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. each Sunday to visit in their home and take part with them in church events.

"Mr. Gray has had a very positive impact and influence on Gainesville students, and they see him as a person who truly cares about them," said the nomination. "He has become a public relations ambassador in the community, and students consider it an honor to be able to

(Cont. on P. 20)

(Cont. on P. 18)



PEGGY MARSHALL, fiscal department secretary, was honored as TYC's Outstanding Central Office staff member.

Marshall named top central office staffer

Peggy Marshall, fiscal department administrative secretary who supports 23 employees, was named TYC's outstanding central office staff member for 1985.

She received a plaque from TYC Board Chairman Dr. George Beto of Huntsville during the agency's annual awards banquet in Kerrville.

"Ms. Marshall has coordinated multiple projects in a cheerful and professional manner," said Dr. Beto, "and reminds others in central office of the primary importance of mutual support in the services of others."

She has frequently been called on to assist with agency-sponsored workshops and conferences, in addition to her regular duties. She annually provides clerical support for the Kerrville workshop, and last year was responsible for a tremendous amount of work for a national conference which TYC helped host in San Antonio.

"Ms. Marshall exhibited unprecedented leadership skills in motivating all areas of Support Services division to work together for Project Tejas," said Dr. Beto. "At the same time she planned, coordinated and led the entire Central Office fund-raising effort for Project Tejas—which raised more than \$1,000 in central office."

During the recent Legislative session, Ms. Marshall's example kindled a strong spirit of cooperation and goodwill—often after regular working hours when Legislative requests required much extra time, Dr. Beto added.

Other Central Office nominees included Chuy Ozuna, Jerry Daniels, C. V. Kinser, George Ebert and Karen Wooding.



TYC BOARD MEMBER Richard Abalos, of Odessa, left, presents awards for TYC Outstanding Contract Program to Oscar Gonzales, administrator of Gulf Coast Trades Center, New Waverly.

Gulf Coast Center named outstanding

Gulf Coast Trades Center in New Waverly was recognized as TYC's outstanding contract program during the agency's awards banquet in Kerrville.

Announcement of the award was made by TYC Board Member Richard Abalos of Odessa, and presented to Mike Buzbee, administrator of the program, during the awards ceremony.

TYC negotiated its first contract with Gulf Coast ten years ago.

"Since that time, the facility has served hundreds of TYC students, many of whom have been able to complete the program and become successful in the world of work," said Abalos. Generally TYC has about 50 students in the 100-bed facility located in the Sam Houston National Forest.

The program teaches students nine vocational skills, as well as academic work toward GED certificates, and assists them in getting jobs when they leave.

"We at TYC feel fortunate that our relationship with Gulf Coast Trades Center has always been excellent," said Abalos.

The program is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, and the Board of Governors has named it as one of the five best schools of its kind.

Other programs nominated for the outstanding contract award were Genesis House in Pampa; Methodist Boys Ranch in Waco; Gillean Group Home in Albany; and Bob Henry Group Home in Garland.



TYC BOARD Member Susan Bush introduced keynote speaker Linda Gale White.



DR. GEORGE BETO, TYC Board Chairman, left, and Ron Jackson, TYC Executive Director, visit at head table during awards banquet.



SPECIAL GUESTS at the awards banquet in Kerrville were Mary Scott Nabers, Texas Employment Commissioner; Gay Erwin, Director of the Governor's Office of Community Leadership; and Missy Jackson, wife of TYC Executive Director Ron Jackson.

Ross received degree

Ronnie Ross, Caseworker III at the Giddings State School, received a Master's Degree in Education from Prairie View A&M in August.

Ross has been a caseworker at Giddings for seven years.

Research compares corrections in nine states

TYC's Department of Planning, Research and Evaluation has recently completed a comparative review of the juvenile correction agencies in nine states, including the seven largest—New York, California, Illinois, Pennsylvania, Texas, Ohio and Florida.

"In addition Washington and Massachusetts were included because of some of the unique aspects of their juvenile corrections systems," said Adrian Moore, director.

The research revealed that jurisdiction terminates at age 21 in all the states studied, with the exception of Massachusetts, where it terminates at age 18, and California, where young adult offenders may be retained to age 25.

Five states have commitment provisions wherein the corrections agency determines both placement and length of stay—indeterminate commitments.

Four states (New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio and Washington) have modified forms of determinate sentencing wherein statutes set minimum and maximum ranges of time required to be spent in facilities.

"Only in the state of Pennsylvania may the courts specify the facility to which the juvenile must be assigned," Moore said.

In the states where determinate sentencing is used, there are provisions for early release when the agency makes the same recommendation to the courts.

Four states have juvenile correction operations administered by a human or social services department, and two operate within an agency combined with the adult correction system. Three states' juvenile corrections operations are administered by separate independent agencies, similar to Texas.

California, New York and Illinois operate with external parole boards making decisions about parole. The correction agency has parole decision-making in Texas, Ohio, Florida, Massachusetts and Washington. The court has parole authority in Pennsylvania.

In the states using a form of determinate sentencing the courts generally have authority to grant approval for parole upon completion of minimum terms.

Parole is administered by all state juvenile correction agencies except in Pennsylvania where it's administered by the courts.

Probation is administered by county government in seven states; in Florida and Massachusetts probation is state-administered.

"Only two states have a lower unit cost of care than does the State of Texas," said Moore.

The annual unit cost (figured by dividing total annual budget by number in care) was highest in Massachusetts, \$85,681, with New York second at \$60,997, followed by Pennsylvania and California, \$43,000.

Others in order were Washington, \$42,000; Ohio, \$26,000; Texas, \$24,000; Florida and Illinois, \$22,000.

The report indicates that Massachusetts is the only state which does not operate training schools. All states except Illinois and Ohio use forestry camps.

"All states' juvenile correction agencies studied except California, Pennsylvania and Illinois use a broad range of community-based program," Moore added. "In these three states control of community programs is normally at the probation/court level."

Second volunteer conference held in Houston

About 125 staff members and volunteers attended the second annual TYC volunteer conference October 24-26 at the Intercontinental Hotel, Houston.

Highlights of the conference were workshops, entertainment provided by the Houston Community Volunteer Youth Council, the election of officers for the State Volunteer Resource Council, and the annual volunteer awards luncheon.

Hosts for the event were the Houston volunteer council and the Middleton House volunteer council.

Tours were provided to Harris County Juvenile Detention Center; Middleton Halfway House; YOU Emergency Shelter; and PALS contract group home.

Keynote speaker was Dr. Bobbie Allen Henderson, associate professor of child, development/early education and family relations at Texas Southern University.

Workshops included Encouraging Self-Esteem in Youth; Grassroots Fundraising; Biofeedback/Stress Management; Tapping the Corporate Sector; Evaluating Your Program; Council Development and Management; Career Development for Volunteers; and Developing an Effective Volunteer Work Team.

Award winners included Bill McKay of Fort Worth, Individual Volunteer award Milton Hobbs, Giddings, Outstanding Employee Volunteer; Pizza Hut, Giddings, Outstanding Contributing Business; Nueces House student volunteers at a nursing home, Outstanding TYC Student Group; and Howard Payne University Baptist Stu-

dent Union, Outstanding Social or Civic Group. **(Volunteer award winners will be featured in the next edition of TYC NOTES).**

The First Lady of Texas Award for outstanding volunteer services throughout the agency, was presented to Dr. Paul Carlin for the Prisoners Bible Institute.



OFFICERS OF THE TYC State Volunteer Resource Council were elected during a organizational meeting in Austin in June. They include, left to right, Jim Acker of Corsicana, treasurer; Peg Johnston of Giddings, at-large member; Bill McKay of Fort Worth, chairman; Dorothy Kemp

of Corpus Christi, secretary; and Manuel Martinez of Crockett, vice chairman. The temporary state officers were elected by the Board of Directors, which is made up of a representative from each local volunteer council.



THREE GAINESVILLE employees sported "Rah Rah 20" sweat shirts in celebration of their twenty years as employees there. They are Asst. Supt. Joyce Rigler, left, Personnel Assistant Dottie Doyle, center, and IPO Bobbie Owen, right. Congratulating them during the Sunday barbecue are Dr. George Willeford, Chief of Medical Services, and Gainesville Superintendent Tom Riddle.

Halfway house

(Cont. from P. 1)

first halfway house for girls since a similar program operated briefly in Austin in the late '70's.

Although halfway houses for male students accommodate 24, the residence for females is being planned for 16-18.

The six bedrooms in the house will have three beds each, and will include built-in vanities and mirrors, a feature not included in TYC halfway houses for males.

The Fort Worth house will also include a classroom, since the girls will attend school there, rather than at public schools. All bedrooms open into the dayroom, rather than being located down a corridor.

Floyd Hall, former community coordinator at Dallas House, has been named assistant superintendent. Among the other staff members are Frank Harris, treatment coordinator; Sareta Spratt, stenographer; Nancy Breland, fiscal coordinator; Patricia Krebs, community coordinator; and Betty Smith, weekend coordinator.

Parra said construction is expected to be complete by the first of the year, with girls being received shortly after that. The house is located at 8100 West Elizabeth.

Over 300 attend homecoming at Corsicana State Home

Over 300 former students of the Corsicana State Home attended annual homecoming activities on the campus June 8.

With few exceptions each class from 1915 to 1984 was represented. The class of 1945 had the most, with 13 present for their 40th reunion celebration.

Policy changed for spending money for released students

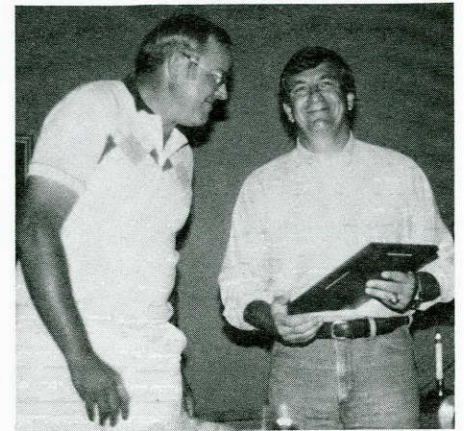
The Texas Youth Commission Board has changed TYC policy regarding spending money for released students.

In the past institutions and halfway houses gave all students five dollars at the time they were released on parole.

The new policy is as follows: "Students released from residential care who travel to their home placement by public transportation and who do not have at least five dollars they can withdraw from their personal trust fund are authorized to receive five dollars cash spending money from agency funds."

Anytime students are being released home with the expectation they will be remaining at home, they are covered by this policy. Students being discharged or paroled directly from a residential program, and students being placed on a community re-entry furlough meet the definition of "release".

The policy includes all residential programs, including contract care programs.



RON JACKSON, TYC Executive Director, received his 20-year plaque with the agency from Fiscal Director John Franks, left.

Lee named to hall of honor

Calvin Lee, physical education teacher at Brownwood State School, was inducted into the University of Texas at Arlington Hall of Honor for athletes during halftime ceremonies September 28.

Lee, who played his high school ball at Comanche, was a running back in 1955-56 when the Arlington school was a junior college.

Wilderness group assists family

(The following letter was received by Michael Qunell, Wilderness Challenge Director, commending the nine students who completed the 28-day trip in the Gila National Wilderness area of New Mexico June 15).

Sir:

Monday, June 10, 1985, my family and I had the good fortune of being camped next to a group of young men. We were at Elephant Butte State Park, in Truth or Consequences, New Mexico. There had been a terrible wind storm at approximately 2 a.m. Monday morning. Our boat had become swamped and for all practical purposes was lost. Three of your counselors, Lee Lovinfosse, Mike Ash and Gary Burda enlisted the help of the young men under their direction, and together, we were able to salvage and subsequently save the boat.

My experience with people has been varied from one extreme to the other. As my profession meets myself and others in this line of work with the very best and the very worst I commend you and your people on the work you are doing. I believe that your trust and devotion has already and will continue to prove that humanity as a whole is worthwhile, and I, for one, can attest to the impact that you are having on these young men.

If it had not been for the willing spirit and cooperation of all concerned the boat would not have been saved. But more importantly, my family has seen first hand that too often a person is branded with a name or one time deed. And if given a chance for redemption more likely than not will accept the latter.

Once again I thank you for your works and the help of your "ambassadors of good will." If I can ever be of help in any way, please feel free to contact me.

Respectfully,
Lt. Truman Nix
Patrol Commander
Alamogordo, N.M. Dept.
of Public Safety.



Salado House team
(tied for first)

First annual halfway house softball tournament held

The first annual TYC halfway house softball tournament, initiated by Supt. Rey Gomez of Valley House, Harlingen, was held August 11 in Austin.

Six halfway house teams participated. The Austin Area Community Advisory Council provided lunch and umpires for the event, thanks to CAC member Lloyd Chapman and Golden Life Fitness Centers of Austin. Also umpiring were Mike Harrison, Administrator of Halfway Houses, Dan Humeniuk, Assistant Administrator, and Peggy Probst.

Dallas House team, coached by Andrew Muniz, and Salado House team, coached by Rodney Reese, tied for first place. Valley House, coached by Rey Gomez and Rogelio Lopez, was third, and Nueces House, coached by Chester Clay and Anthony Floyd, came in fourth.

Also competing were Middleton House, under the direction of Mike Ybarra and Robert Delgado; and McAllen House, coached by Richard Leal.

"Despite 102-degree weather and ten hours of games in one day, youth demonstrated excellent sportsmanship behavior," said Harrison. "For some of these boys, this was the first time they had ever played on an organized team."

Gray . . . (Cont. from P. 14)

work with him on routine maintenance repairs on campus."

Other institutional staff members nominated for the 1985 award were John Rhodes, Reception Center; Dann Barger, Brownwood; Hetty Graham, Corsicana; Claire Dandeneau, Fairfield Camp; James McCullough, Crockett; Thelma Davis, Giddings; and Anna Barrera, West Texas.

Texas Baptists fund TYC head chaplain

Funds to help provide a director of chaplaincy for the Texas Youth Commission were approved by the Human Welfare Coordinating Board of the Baptist General Convention of Texas.

The Board and the Missions Division of the Texas Baptist State Missions Commission together will give \$20,000 over the next two years to fund 50 percent of the chaplain's salary and office budget.

The coordinating board and Missions Division will have the right to ratify the person chosen to fill the position, according to Max L. Brown, board director. The director of chaplaincy will be responsible for religious services, pastoral counseling, religious education, after-care outreach

program and the chaplaincy certification and intern programs of TYC.

The two-year request was presented to the Board by Dr. William Shamburger, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Tyler, and a member of the TYC Board.

"This type of service gives Texas Baptists an excellent chance to help develop a new ministry among troubled young people," said Brown. "Our churches have become increasingly involved in Texas Youth Commission program and we recognize and support their efforts. We believe Texas Baptists want to help nurture the spiritual growth of young persons assigned to TYC."

South Texas Region (Cont. from P. 13)

three Youth Commission halfway houses, located in McAllen, Harlingen and Corpus Christi; the 48-bed institution to be constructed in Edinburg; three district parole offices; and for placement and monitoring activities of all private contract programs in the area which provide services for TYC youth through contracts.

"The appointment of a Regional Administrator highlights the Youth Commission's commitment to providing expanded services to youth in the South Texas area," said Jackson. "We have been working with Legislators and other officials in South Texas for several years to improve and add programs in the area which will enable the agency to serve youth nearer their homes, thereby aiding in their rehabilitation."

Three employees have been appointed as team members of a mobile diagnostic unit for the South Texas area.

George Palmer, a psychologist, formerly a planner with the Texas Department of Public Safety, is the supervisor of the unit, reporting to the Regional Administrator. Palmer, a native of Brownsville, has served as Administrative Assistant at La Esperanza in Brownsville, and was intake psychologist for Social Services and Community Health in Alberta, Canada.

Other members of the team are Antero Rios, formerly intake officer for the Hidalgo County Juvenile Probation Department detention center, who has been named to the caseworker position; and Efraim Davila, formerly assistant superintendent of the TYC halfway house in McAllen, who has been named community resource specialist for the unit.

When the mobile unit begins operation, committed youth will receive medical, psychological and educational testing in their home county, rather than at the TYC Statewide Reception Center in

Brownwood.

"At that time, we anticipate that very few youths will need to be transported outside the 27 counties," said Jackson. "Exceptions will be those committed for violent offenses, who will have to be taken to the Giddings State School, and those who may need to be housed temporarily at the Statewide Reception Center because they have special problems which need to be considered for placement in a private sector program."

The location of a placement team in the Valley is expected to greatly reduce costs of most counties, which have had to bear the financial burden of transporting juveniles committed to the Youth Commission to the distant reception center at Brownwood, hundreds of miles from most South Texas counties.

TYC's Regional Administrator and the mobile diagnostic unit employees are currently housed in a 1,500 square foot modular building which has been placed on the TYC property in Edinburg, 3801 Monte Cristo Road, the site of the 48-bed Youth Commission institution now under construction.

Construction of the initial development phase for the South Texas institution is underway, including preliminary site work, underground utilities, streets, flood control and the placement of the temporary building for administration and the mobile diagnostic unit.

Architects have also begun designing for Phase 1, to include the construction of seven permanent buildings: a 5300 square foot administration building, a family center, an academic school building, dining room/kitchen, warehouse/maintenance building, infirmary/security building, and recreation area. Phase 1 construction is slated to begin in March of 1986, with bids to be let in January.

Corsicana program study shows staff morale high

More training, individual psychotherapy recommended

The first of a two-part evaluation of the Corsicana treatment program was done last December and January by the Department of Planning, Research and Evaluation, and recommendations were reported to the TYC Board in July.

The Corsicana State Home for the past three years has developed and begun operating a residential treatment program for emotionally disturbed youth.

The program evaluation reported on the types of students placed and the program services being provided, as well as staff perceptions of successes and needs.

The study was made in an effort to determine the extent to which the Corsicana program is meeting the needs of the emotionally disturbed population within the agency.

The majority of the students at the Corsicana Residential Treatment Center (CRTC) are below age 15 (60%), and a disproportionate percentage are Anglo youth as compared to blacks or Hispanics.

"At the time of the study, Anglos made up nearly three-quarters of the CRTC population (73%), while blacks and Hispanics comprised 12% and 15%," said Adrian Moore, Director of Planning, Research and Evaluation. "No other TYC facility type was found to have such a small percentage of minority group residents."

In addition score patterns and tests for statistical significance suggest that CRTC students are significantly less delinquent than the rest of the TYC population.

However, Corsicana students tend to have more pre-commitment court placements and they demonstrate slightly more disruptive behavior at the Reception Center than other students. They also have more intense problems of a personal nature, including families who are ill and who have experienced personal conflict.

Dorm assignments are made according to size and need. One dorm houses boys who are younger and smaller in stature; another houses special needs students; and the third houses older, more aggressive students. (A fourth dorm for girls has now been opened.) The research team noted that the general appearance of Corsicana dormitories was more homelike and somewhat less institutionalized than at training schools.

Academically, Corsicana's high teaching staff-to-student ratio allows very small class size (3 to 10 per class), and compared to training schools, classes have the appearance of being more relaxed

with less emphasis on classroom control. Approximately 75% are in special education.

Researchers reported that a total of 254 students in TYC (13 percent of TYC's total population) were diagnosed as mentally disordered, as of Feb. 15, 1985. Nineteen percent of those were at Corsicana, while 57 percent were in training school and 23 percent were in contracted treatment centers.

Of the 48 students then residing at Corsicana, one was diagnosed as psychotic; of the 146 at training schools, 20 were considered psychotic.

In conclusion researchers pointed out that the Corsicana program has the advantage of being TYC's most heavily budgeted program and it has the highest overall staff-to-student ratio.

"The high level of staff morale prevails and personnel enjoy the administrative leadership provided," said Moore. "Community involvement is extensive, and students are receiving individual attention."

The department recommended that admissions criteria should be established which will assure that Corsicana's services are provided to TYC students who are most in need, since present criteria focuses on students who are aware of the need for treatment and are motivated to change.

Also recommended was a review of capacity uses of the center resources and at contracted centers to determine cost effi-

cient utilization and future capacity needs.

"The feasibility of procuring less costly placements for some of the students at Corsicana not currently receiving, or not in need of, individual psychotherapy should be reviewed," he said.

Researchers suggested consideration of increasing Corsicana's capacity to accommodate high priority emotionally disturbed students.

Also recommended was that residents should receive individual psychotherapy at the intervals prescribed by psychiatrists, and toward that end they recommended that a medical psychiatric casework position be established at Corsicana.

Lastly a comprehensive staff development and training program was recommended in order to improve staff skills in working with emotionally disturbed residents.

"As such, we recommended that when YAS positions are vacated, they should be filled with persons who have a degree from an accredited college or university with a major field of study in psychology or in the social science area," Moore concluded.

CORSICANA students in campus speech class performed a musical revue, "I Didn't Know That," under the direction of Greg Schwab, Children's Director of the local community theatre Warehouse Living Arts Center, and Ginger Mullenix, speech teacher. Students performing included, left to right, Bobbie Vinson, Connie Baker, Adrian Rekdahl, Mitch Boyce and Leslie Schloss.





INTERNATIONAL visitors, representing six countries toured Dallas House August 14. The delegation was on a 30-day tour of the United States visiting agencies to determine how to effectively utilize volunteer resources in their own countries. Dallas House was selected from among the 18 recent Presidential Award winners. The visitors were from Israel, Jordan, Nepal, Mauritius, South Africa and the United Kingdom.

Avon honors five TYC staff

Five TYC staff persons were honored by the Avon Corporation for their "years of commitment and dedication to uplifting troubled youth to a better life" at the NAACP National Youth banquet held in Dallas.

About 1,000 people from throughout the nation attended.

TYC honorees were Pam Bhagwat, Travis Wortham and Robert Louis of Dallas House; Wilbert Rogers of Fort Worth parole; and Ruby Louis, Corsicana.

The Avon Corporation is also one of the sponsors of the National Volunteer award that Dallas House received this year from President Reagan. Several Reagan cabinet members and comedian Dick Gregory also participated in the program.

Parole team

(Cont. from P. 14)

delivering subpoenas, dictating summaries of adjustment, working with the Mexican Consulate, and regular supervision of their caseloads.

"When one is busy elsewhere, the other fills in," said Rev. Williams.

"The two have also represented TYC in the continuing attempts to resolve the situation of illegal aliens—a problem of such dimension that neither the federal government nor several international agencies have been able to resolve it," he added.

Curry also serves as volunteer coordinator and makes frequent presentations to service organizations and college classes. Both, however, pitch in together to recruit and train volunteers and interns, and this year have supervised 29 volunteers.

For four years they have also coached a TYC parolee softball team every Saturday. After softball season they gather up 12 parolees for a five-day trip to Ruidoso—where they voluntarily take responsibility for 24-hour supervision of the boys.

"Joe and Alex are proof that individuals—not systems or policies or resources—are the basic elements of effective child care," concluded Rev. Williams.

Also nominated for the 1985 parole award were Wilbert Rogers, Fort Worth parole officer; Jovita Avila, Austin parole stenographer; Beverly McLester, Dallas parole officer; Anne Harris, Houston parole volunteer coordinator; and Bennie Reyes, San Antonio community resource specialist.

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