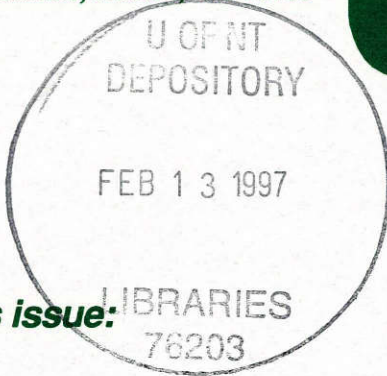


Texas Youth Commission Journal

News and information from throughout the agency.

December 1996, Winter Issue

4900 N. Lamar, Austin, TX 78765



In this issue:

Education undergoes restructuring

Story on page 3.

McKenzie honored

Story on page 5.

IPC guides information technology planning

Story on page 6.

Opening dates moved up for Bryan, Vernon institutions

Increased commitments during the fall have resulted in moving up the opening dates for two new TYC institutions -- Hamilton State School in Bryan, now slated to open February 1, 1997; and Victory Field Correctional Academy in Vernon, to open April 1, 1997

Superintendents for both institutions, Lemuel Harrison at Victory Field and Bob Woods at Hamilton, have moved to their new locations and are overseeing final plans for opening the two new programs next year.

TYC officials traveled to Vernon in October to announce that construction at the Vernon site would be completed by March 31. Making the trip were Dwight Harris, as-

sistant deputy executive director for juvenile corrections; Alex Escarcega, director of juvenile corrections and aftercare; and commandant Harrison.

Construction is being done by prison inmate labor under the direction of Texas Department of Criminal Justice, with supervision from TYC officials.

The first group of 96 juveniles will arrive at the facility April 1 according to Harrison.

"Groups of youths will be phased in, with the inmate population increasing to 336 by the end of the academy's first year," he explained.

(Continued on P. 2)

IN THIS ISSUE

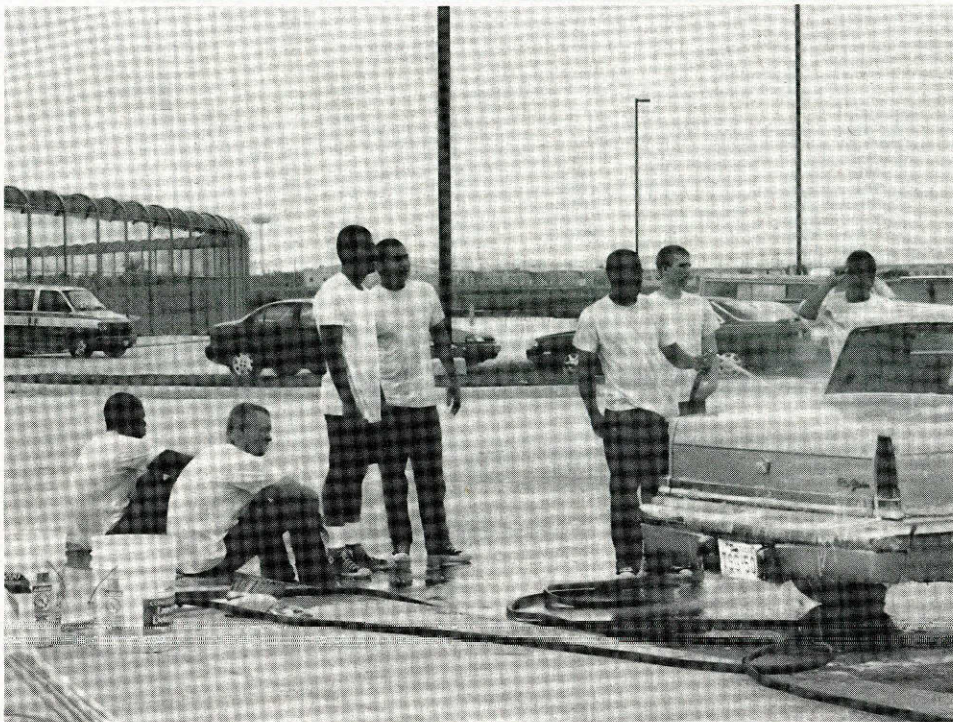
Clarification	5
New administrators	7
Evins garden	9
Volunteer conference	14
"TYC-Texas" tour	17

SECTIONS

Around TYC	2
Youth Spotlight	9
Volunteers	13
Cultural Events	17
Human Resources	19



BREAKING GROUND for a new 96-bed dorm at Brownwood State School was a "community event." Pictured at the special event are, left to right, Julia Taylor, volunteer council president; Stuart Coleman, Brownwood Economic Development Corporation; Dale Courtright, business manager; Groner Pitts, longtime benefactor/volunteer; Heriberto Hernandez, assistant superintendent; Sandy Burnam TYC deputy executive director; Gaylon Garrison, superintendent; Dwight Harris, TYC assistant deputy executive director for juvenile corrections; Brownwood mayor Bert Massey; Robert Porter, BEDC; Robert Reid, HOK Architects; Wayne Clawson, TDCJ, project manager; and Floyd Carroll, CME Builders, contractor.



JEFFERSON COUNTY STATE SCHOOL students helped the institution's new volunteer council raise more than \$700 with a car wash and link sale in November. Advance tickets were sold for the event, held in the parking lot at the state school. Council members supervised the activity.

AROUND TYC

Corsicana school adopted by H.E.B.

The Corsicana Residential Treatment Center has been selected as one of Corsicana's H.E.B Food Store's adopted schools this year. The school has received \$400 worth of Nifty Gifty coupons -- redeemable toward merchandise in the store.

Students on high behavioral levels were treated with a trip to the nearby Texas Motorplex drag races, thanks to Pepsi-Cola and volunteer Lynn Pommerening, a Pepsi employee.

K-Mart Distribution Co. recently donated 64 cases of Planters corn chips to the center, according to volunteer coordinator Lucy Humbert.

* * * *

TYC JOURNAL

published quarterly by the

TEXAS YOUTH COMMISSION

4900 N. Lamar ● P.O. Box 4260
Austin, Texas 78765 ● (512) 483-5245
Contributing information should be sent to the attention of Joan Timmons at the above address.

Editorial Board:

Joan Timmons
Rita Zapata
Judy Meador
Patti Hayes
Billie Flippen

Reporters:

Tammy Vega, Brownwood
Kim King, Sanction Unit
Lucy Humbert, Corsicana
Virginia Lewis, Crockett
Raul Arredondo, Evins
Robyn Byars, Gainesville
Bill Bradbury, Giddings
Vicki Holcombe, Jefferson Co.
Shannon Ford, Marlin

Executive Director:

Buck Martin, San Saba

Steve Robinson Allan Spearman, West Texas

Deputy Executive Director: Kaycee Pollock, NS Area

Director: Denise Kennedy, ES Area

Sandy Burnam Jane Parker, SS Area

BOARD MEMBERS

Leonard E. Lawrence, M.D., San Antonio, Board Chairman; Edna Tamayo, Harlingen, Vice-Chair; John W. Odam, Houston; Pete Harrell, Austin; Lisa Saemann-Teschner, Dallas; and Pete C. Alfaro, Baytown.

Bryan, Hamilton...

(Continued from p. 1)

All positions at both institutions have been posted, with TYC staff throughout the state having had the opportunity to apply before the jobs are posted elsewhere. Screening and interviewing is continuing through December and January.

A job fair was held in Bryan Nov. 7 to seek applicants for several hundred positions at Hamilton State School.

Dr. Delbert Price, formerly assistant superintendent of MHMR's Travis State School, has been selected as assistant superintendent. A psychologist, Dr. Price has previously been with Brenham State School.

Among others hired for administrative positions are Joe Franks, business manager; David Morrison, training director; Jim Yeager, human resources director; Charles Barton, program administrator; Gradyne Sennette, principal, and Debra Pace, administrative secretary.

The facility was formerly a TDCJ 1,000-bed substance abuse facility located in far north Bryan, just off FM 2818 on Sandy Point Lane.

"It is a year old, but is brand new because it has never been occupied," said Supt. Woods. The institution is laid out campus-style with eight building over 20 acres.

Each dorm has 20 bunk beds located adjacent to a large open living area. Each "pod" contains three 40-bed dorms and has its own entrance, control center, group rooms and offices.

When totally full, the institution will house 720 TYC youth and will be the largest TYC facility.

Plans finalized to restructure TYC education programs

"In keeping with TYC's 16-hour day, four resocialization cornerstones have been identified," said Dwight Harris, assistant deputy executive director for juvenile corrections.

They are: Correctional Therapy; Discipline Training; Work; and Education.

"The Education facet of the four cornerstones is an important one for several reasons," he explained. "First and foremost, basic educational skills -- the ability to read and write -- are essential for anyone to be successful in today's world.

"Secondly, the vast majority of youth committed to our agency are still legally required to attend school because of their age -- so our institutional academic school programs are a fundamental part of our rehabilitation process," Harris said.

Since instituting the structured 16-hour day in TYC institutions and half-way houses, it has been obvious that TYC needed to look at our overall education program, he added.

"Our new superintendent of education, Dr. Judy Huffty, who began her work here in June, has spent a tremendous amount of time studying our students, their behavior, their background, and our curriculum," Harris said.

Some very specific goals have been set for youth, which are intended to give them the skills necessary to successfully live and work in society when they return home, he said.

A number of factors have resulted in restructuring of the TYC education program, said Dr. Huffty.

Recent problems include the commitment of more special education students, increased graduation requirements by the Texas Education Agency, and increased anti-social behavior of students. Also of concern has been the drop in average reading level of recently-committed students.

The plan to restructure education programs is based on a goal of having all students leave TYC with a GED;

school credits equivalent to their age and grade level; a high school diploma; or a certificate of vocational competence.

"The plan also includes an emphasis on students leaving TYC with the opportunity to pursue a career through initial employment or through post secondary training," Dr. Huffty explained.

Our goal is to debate, discuss and decide education decisions based on equity, excellence, and quality for our students, she added.

"We'd like to ensure that all students leave the agency with the skills to be successful in a technologically complex world, and with the ability to

scholarships from many state-supported institutions.

"This year is the second year of a major shift in defining a more stringent curriculum for the State of Texas," said Dr. Huffty. "As in public schools, TYC teachers will be involved in study and transition of the Essential Elements (EE's) to Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills.(TEKS)

In the Academy Program, youth will be taking regular middle school or high school credit courses, as well as advanced placement courses.

Included in all three of the "ABC's" will be English As A Second Language (ESL), Higher Order Think-

"The majority of our youth are still legally required to attend school...so our academic school programs are a fundamental part of our rehabilitation process..."

Dwight Harris

solve problems, work productively and apply basic skills to real life situations," she said.

The restructured education plan has been named "The ABC's of TYC Education," so named because each of the programs within the education department begins with one of the first three letters of the alphabet: A. Academy, B. Basic Skills, and C. Career-technology.

ACADEMY PROGRAM

Fifty-two (52) percent of TYC youth are age 15 or below when committed, and 300 of those are 14 or below and in grades 5-8.

Nearly 30 percent of all youth return to public schools when released on parole.

The Academy Program provides students who have been assigned to institutions the opportunity to maintain their educational program at an appropriate grade level—with the expectation that they will graduate meeting the minimum or advanced requirements for high school graduation.

The highest ranking graduates from TYC schools are eligible for

ing Skills (HOTS) Conflict Resolution, and special education.

BASIC PROGRAM

The Basic Program is designed for students whose credits and age indicate that they would not be likely to return to public schools. The emphasis is on basic skill development and mastering the skills necessary for passing the GED and provide more time for vocational training.

"Basic skills needed to pass the GED will be more intense for the '96-'97 school year," said Dr. Huffty.

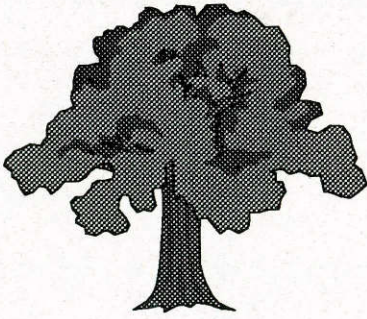
The academic focus of the "B" program is reading, writing, math and computer literacy.

Also included are "Success-Oriented Skills" such as health and family, career investigations and civics.

CAREER-TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM

Youth in the Career-Technology Program can complete vocational/career technology classes through the high school credit classes of the basic classes.

(continued on p. 4)



JCSS observes first anniversary

Staff, volunteers and students marked the first anniversary of Jefferson County State School, Beaumont, with special festivities, including the dedication of an oak tree.

Ribbons of black and gold -- the school's newly-adopted colors -- were tied on the tree.

"The tree serves to provide students with a solid foundation, and

to enable them to grow beyond their past wrongs," said Deirdre Delcambre, caseworker and anniversary event committee member.

Festivities also included a barbecue lunch, special activities, a performance by the school's youth choir, and door prize drawings throughout the day.

Education...

(continued from page 3)

Those in the "C" Program will be working toward completing a career pathways program that can lead to "banking" credits earned with a community college or technical training school or completing a vocational certification while at TYC.

"A \$2.4 million request has been submitted with the Legislative Action Request for TYC for the 1998-99 fiscal years to upgrade and update TYC's vocational program," Dr. Huffty said.

Students in the "C" Program will be those who participate in RIO-Y, BES (Basic Employability Skills training), Industries Programs, Apprenticeships, Computer Labs, Advanced Placement Classes for college credit, and secondary career-technology classes. They may also be studying technical reading, writing and math.

One of the goals of the "C" Program is to provide official certification

in technical skills, such as welding, construction, automobile technology, horticulture, office support systems, culinary arts, and other programs as schools identify areas that are viable training programs for entry level jobs.

Two teams have been organized to assist in the restructured education program.

The Education Management Team (EMT) is composed of a principal from each site, a representative from the juvenile corrections division and a representative from the rehabilitation division. This team, which is scheduled to meet quarterly, will develop work plans, recommend strategies, and guide the development of the educational program. Other staff may be asked to assist this team.

The Education Coordination Team (ECT) will be composed of elected members from the educational faculty as well as other TYC staff. This team will provide coordination among the programs and promote understanding and knowledge regarding the mission of education as a cornerstone in resocialization.

The ECT will include one principal, one caseworker, three teachers (one from an institution within each service area), one diagnostician, one institutional superintendent, one treatment team representative, and one representative from the juvenile corrections division.

"We're looking at some creative

problem-solving to meet the needs of youth and plan for making the most of our resources," Dr. Huffty added. "We already know that increases in student population will occur without increases in teaching space."

Issues at which the teams will be studying soon are:

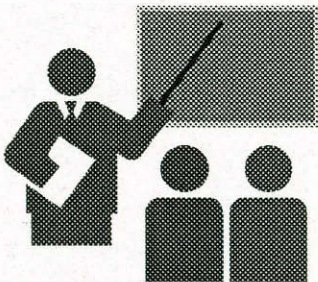
1. Staffing Patterns—Teachers at each site and their teaching assignments.

2. Central Office education staff—a need for more positions and fair and equitable salaries to be competitive with professionals in the field.

"We're recommending the addition of a special education supervisor, a coordinator of career and technology education, a director of technology, an industry coordinator, and a technical assistant for 1997. Additional special program support in special education and ESL is proposed for the 1997-98 school year," she said.

3. Educational Programs—upgrading technology: establishing libraries for both students and teachers; developing flexible schedules for meeting the education needs within the 16 hour day; and recruiting and maintaining qualified teachers.

4. Aftercare—Working with Project RIO-Y to assist in preparing students for the "world of work;" establishing an industry program to provide real life experiences for students; and improving career and technology programs.



McKenzie honored by Governor

GLEN McKENZIE, central office program administrator for the juvenile corrections division, was honored by Governor George W. Bush Nov. 13 for his effort to improve customer service and make government more cost-effective. The occasion was the Governor's Productivity Suggestion Awards, which rewards the best of hundreds of state employee suggestions submitted to the State Employee Incentive Program. The awards are privately funded by Cary Maguire of Maguire Oil Co. in Dallas. McKenzie's award was for jointly designing a light-weight riot vest that diffuses blunt force and resists sharp force penetration. His \$5,000 second place award was split with TDCJ employee Darrell McCracken. The two agencies have saved the state \$394,681 with their design. Five other state employees also received cash awards for their suggestions to the State Employee Incentive Program.



Agency policies going on-line GOP to be "tossed" in 1997

TYC is making an effort to automate policies for use by agency staff. Official policies will be updated agencywide by the policy and manuals department in Central Office, and all personal computers will have access to the world wide web inTRANet system.

"Soon, everyone will be able to view policies from any agency personal com-

puter," said Gail Graham, policy and manuals administrator.

The Personnel Policy and Procedure Manual is currently on-line in Central Office and will be made available to field offices as soon as the "bugs" have been worked out, she explained.

PC specialists will be equipping individual PC's across the agency during No-

vember and December.

"Paper copies of the manuals will also be maintained until we are comfortable with the new system," Graham added. "Sometime during the spring of 1997 we expect to instruct the agency to "toss" most of our paper copies of certain manuals.

Two important things are happening to the GOP at this time.

The entire manual is being reformatted to be consistent with TYC rules in the Texas Administrative Code, including the numbering system. It is being renamed the General Administrative Policy Manual (GAP) and is being reduced by at least 60 policies.

The new "GAP" will be effective January 1, 1997.

The second important event is that the new GAP will be available on-line by January 1, or as soon after that as possible, Graham said.

"A limited number of GAP's will be printed to support the automated system. At that time, current GOP's will be eliminated," she explained.

Policy automation is being achieved as a part of the administration's goal to ensure that agency support-type functions provide the field with the most effective efficient work environment possible, Graham concluded.

Harris clarifies recidivism goals

An article concerning TYC's Phase III reorganization in the September 1996 edition of the TYC JOURNAL discussed the realignment of agency resources and philosophy to reduce recidivism.

Dwight Harris, assistant deputy executive director of juvenile corrections, stated that "it is our goal to reduce recidivism to ten percent by the year 2000," through intensive surveillance and supervision of youth on parole.

While that is a worthy goal of the juvenile corrections division of the agency, TYC's Strategic Plan for the 1997-2001 period lists outcome measures based on expected levels of funding in several categories:

The one-year rearrest rate is projected for the year 2000 at 42 percent.

The one-year reincarceration rate is projected at 25 percent for the year 2000.

"We sincerely hope to beat those projections by concentrating our parole resources in the four major counties (Dallas, Tarrant, Harris and Bexar) which contain 49 percent of the youth on parole and account for 52 percent of all rearrests," Harris reiterated.

However, it is important that JOURNAL readers understand that the official budget request information submitted to the Legislature is based on projections in the Strategic Plan, Harris explained.

IPC guides information technology planning

In 1995, an independent auditor recommended that TYC implement two basic processes to ensure that money spent on information technology will support achievement of the agency's goals and objectives.

The two processes are: (1) The development of an effective agency-wide information technology planning process that is shared by both MIS and users; (2) The development of an effective process driven and controlled by users for managing technology projects.

An information resource design team was established to develop this planning process in consultation with TYC operat-

"Data obtained or created within the agency belongs to the agency, not to any particular function, location or individual..."
IPC Principle

ing management and users. The design team members were Patti Hayes and Jay Svinicki, Co-Chairs; Kathy Bremner (MIS); Doris Davila (Evins); Dan Humeniuk (Brownwood Sanctions Unit); James Nastars (Finance); Lynne Parra (McFadden Ranch); and Bob Woods (Crockett). The Information Policy Committee (IPC) was the result of the efforts of the design group.

The IPC has just completed developing its mission, responsibilities, and decision-making principles, said Jay Svinicki, co-chair.

"We started on six initial projects which will complete the IPC structure, he said. "We expect these projects to be complete by January 15th. At that time, new projects will be selected with the goal of improving communication of information needs and solutions from local user groups to the IPC and back."

The IPC reports to the management team, which is under the direction of Sandy Burnam, deputy executive director. The mission statement, list of responsibilities, and set of principles describe what the IPC is, how we will function, and what we hope

to accomplish, Svinicki explained.

Staff with comments, suggestions, or requests should contact the coordinator or any member of the team. Members are listed at the end of the article.

The IPC's mission statement is: "To provide a clearly articulated system for making information and technology policy decisions that support the agency mission and to communicate those decisions across the agency in understandable language."

RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Address current and future strategic

issues related to agency information needs.

2. Provide direction for and approval of the agency Information Resource Strategic Plan.
3. Make and communicate policy decisions regarding information and technology.
4. Ensure that the agency's information processes meet the agency's needs.
5. Ensure user information needs are communicated and acted upon in a deliberate, timely fashion.
6. Identify incentives and methods for managers to make information-based decisions.
7. Promote an information-based agency culture.
8. Oversee information projects to maximize efficient use of resources.
9. Evaluate the impact of information and technology policy decisions to ensure that intended benefits are achieved.
10. Establish agency standards for data, information, and technology.

PRINCIPLES

"We will fulfill our responsibilities

guided by the following principles," Svinicki explained:

1. Everything is kept as simple as possible, but no simpler.
2. Decisions are consistent with the agency strategic plan.
3. Technologies are consistent with the adopted technology standards.
4. Every systems project has an identified manager who is responsible for the success of that project. The manager represents the users of the output.
5. Data obtained or created within the agency belongs to the agency, not to any particular function, location, or individual. Agency data is available to anyone in the agency who can justify a need for it.
6. All implemented information systems are supported by sufficient resources to achieve the desired result.
7. Information systems are integrated for the purpose of efficiency and increased functionality where feasible.
8. Information is more important than the technology used to produce it.
9. Information systems are flexible.
10. Information system design includes controls to ensure: safeguarding of assets; compliance with laws and regulations; and reliability and validity of data.
11. System development will follow a standardized process.
12. Innovative information systems are encouraged within established standards and policy.

INITIAL PROJECTS

1. Define and document current agency technology and information infrastructure.
2. Identify long term goals of IPC.
3. Approve the agency Information Resource Strategic Plan.
4. Identify ways to promote an information-based agency culture.
5. Establish a Data, Security, and Technology Standards group to set standards for hardware and applications, data security, and agency-wide data,

(continued on p. 7)

TYC staff members receive promotions

New administrators come on board

John Thomas, formerly chief of substance abuse services in Central Office, assumed duties Nov. 1 as assistant superintendent at Crockett State School. Thomas formerly served as a social services administrator at Gainesville, where he was in charge of the chemical dependency program.

He holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Houston, and a master's degree in marriage/family therapy from Hahnemann University in Philadelphia.

Thomas replaces **Bob Woods**, who has begun his duties as superintendent of the new TYC institution in Bryan -- Hamilton State School -- which is scheduled to open Feb. 1, 1997.

Al (Dolores) Elizondo, formerly program administrator at Gainesville State School, has assumed his new position as commandant of the Sheffield Boot Camp. Elizondo has been with the agency since 1982, as a dorm director, vocational coordinator, case manager and parole officer, following 26 years in the U.S. Air Force.

Elizondo holds a bachelor's degree in industry and technology from East Texas

University, and a master's degree in human development and counseling from Vanderbilt University.

He takes over the Boot Camp leadership from **Lemuel (Chip) Harrison**, who has moved to Vernon to become superintendent of the Victory Field Correctional Academy -- a new TYC institution slated to open April 1, 1997.

Jules Franklin, formerly chief of aftercare, has been named staff development manager and began his duties Oct. 1. Franklin, who has been with TYC since 1991, has over 23 years of experience in the field of criminal justice. He also spent 13 years in staff development in adult and juvenile corrections.

Franklin replaced Dennis Payne, who was named director of media services.

Two TYC administrators have moved into executive administration: **Paul Reeves**, formerly with planning and research, has been named executive assistant/planning specialist, and will coordinate Legislative hearing assignments, track pending legislation and fiscal notes. He will also write the TYC Legislative Reports.

Former TYC training director **Dennis Payne** has transferred to the position of director of media services. Payne and Reeves both report to chief of staff Judy Briscoe.

Two new parole supervisors are **Murray Smith**, Austin district office, and **Carl Fretwell**, Fort Worth office. Smith, who began his employment with TYC in 1971 as a youth activity supervisor at Gatesville State School, will supervise parole officers in Austin and Waco. Smith left TYC in 1972, but returned in 1974 as a caseworker. He has been a parole officer since 1978.

Fretwell, who will supervise parole staff in Fort Worth and Irving, began his TYC career as a caseworker at Crockett in 1976 in the new wilderness program.

He went on to Gainesville as a caseworker and left TYC in 1982 to work as an adult parole officer. He returned to TYC in 1988 as a parole officer in the Fort Worth office.

Other new administrators in Central Office include: **Donroy Hafner**, new federal programs specialist in the education department, who replaces Leann Bourque; **Gerald Nash**, case analyst for Title IV-E; **Chris Burton**, treatment specialist in the Rehabilitation Services department; and **Lane Roos**, Project RIO-Y administrator.

Leaving Central Office recently were **Jerry Dollar**, executive assistant, who resigned to go into private business in El Paso; and **Stacy Wendlandt**, administrative assistant to Executive Director Steve Robinson. Appointed to fill Wendlandt's position is **Eleanor Thompson**, who was formerly an administrative assistant with Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock's office.

Terryl Pickens, formerly a Title IV-E case analyst in central office, is the new director of operations for Beto House, TYC's halfway house in McAllen. He previously served as a parole officer in New Jersey and was an investigator for the New Jersey Division of Criminal Justice. He also served as an officer in the U.S. Air Force.

Pickens holds a bachelor's degree in history from Montclair State College in New Jersey, and a master's in criminal justice administration from Central Missouri State University.

Three new parole officers in San Antonio are **Dan Collins**, formerly with the Guadalupe Juvenile Probation Department; **Jesus Hernandez**, formerly a parole officer with TDCJ; and **Grace Salazar-Herios**, formerly a juvenile probation officer, Communities in School counselor, and a child protective specialist.

IPC... (continued from p. 6)

including identifying primary ownership for subsets of data.

- Develop a structure for Central Office user groups that will set day to day priorities.

IPC MEMBERS

Patti Hayes, Chair - Executive Administration

Jay Svinicki, Coordinator - Research & Planning

Ron Arnett - Business Services

Kathy Bremner - Information Resources

Chuck Jeffords - Research & Planning

Elizabeth Lee - Rehabilitation Services

Paula Morelock - Juvenile Corrections

Terry Graham - Finance

Colleen Waring - Internal Audit

Eric Young - Human Resources

Austin employees walk for safe families

A team of Texas Youth Commission employees participated in Austin's annual "Walk for Safe Families," a fund raising event which benefits the Travis County Center for Battered Women.

ATYC team has participated in the event for the past five years with this year's team of 14 being the largest.

Through donations from TYC co-workers, friends, and families, the money collected to support the walkers has totaled well over \$5,000 -- with this year's amount being over \$1,200.

The team consists of TYC staff from various central office departments and offices and from the Austin regional office. Several others assisted the team in acquiring donations. Even though the team is one of the smallest in numbers, compared to those of the private sector corporations, it is one of the most dependable, consistent and highest contribution per walker teams, said Christi Mallette, coordinator.

Central office employees double charity donations

TYC Central Office employees made significant advances in participation and raised per capita contributions during the 1996 State Employee Charitable Campaign, while doubling the 1995 amount contributed.

A total of \$5,290.29 was for the campaign this year, said Michelle Pundt-Miller, chair. The 1995 total was \$2,418.50.

"A goal of \$24 per year per 200 Central Office employees was surpassed," she said. "Monies were collected by direct contributions, a Pretty Baby Contest and Trick-or-Treating for change at Halloween."

During the 1995 campaign, 23 per cent of central office employees produced \$14 per capita. This year 44 per cent of central office employees produced \$32.11 per capita.

Two departments had 100 percent participation: office of general counsel and

internal audit. The juvenile corrections division had 92 per cent participation and the highest total contribution of \$889.

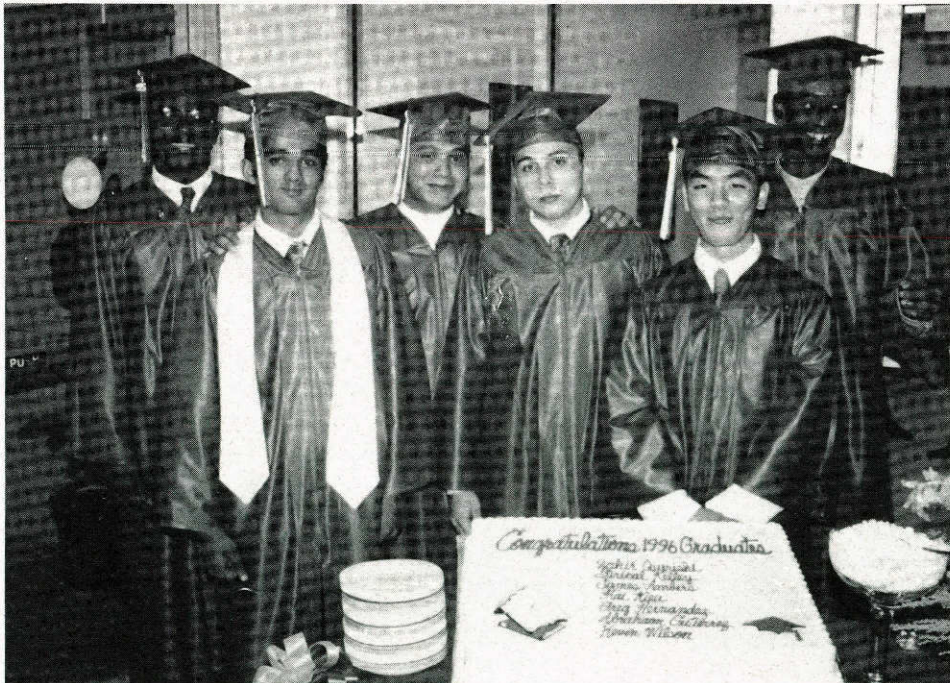
Additional support was given to the campaign from Giddings State School employees, who contributed \$336, under the chairmanship of Bill Bradbury.

Laura Johannsen served as the liaison to the state campaign. Others on the central office committee with Pundt-Miller were Marie Monroe, Melissa Headrick, Judy Meador, Lisa Donnelly, Mary Smith, Crystal Rose, Dale Sylvester and Keitha Baker.

Brownwood employees raise \$590 for charitable campaign

The annual State Employee Charitable Campaign drive held at the Brownwood Sanction Unit and Brownwood State School in October, surpassed last year's contribution and raised \$590 for local, state and national charities.

Seven high school diplomas awarded at Giddings



HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMAS were awarded to seven Giddings State School graduates, who were honored at a reception following the graduation ceremony. They are, left to right, James Ambers, Zahir Querishi, Greg Hernandez, Abraham Gutierrez, Hal Kieu and Sirical Kelly. (Not pictured is graduate Kevin Wilson.)



Evins breaks ground for community garden

"Turning Ground...Turning Youth Around" was the theme at the Evins Regional Juvenile Center's Community Nutrition Project ceremony, which was formally dedicated by TYC Executive Director Steve Robinson and State Representative Richard Raymond.

Rep. Raymond was one of the authors of House Bill 2198 which initiated the Community Nutrition Task Force, a pilot program to establish underutilized state property for community food production through gardening.

The Evins project is one of three in the state.

"We're putting a public/private coalition together to provide horticultural and nutritional training and a one-acre food garden that will not only enrich the diets of the youth at Evins, and provide food for the community, but will also give them the basics of gardening, nutrition and how that knowledge benefits their health and economic security," said Robinson.

John "Butch" Held, Evins superintendent, an avid gardener, spearheaded the project and was instrumental in getting over \$3,000 of in-kind donations for seeds, plants and other needed supplies.

The dedication ceremony was assisted by Leda Roselle, special assistant to Texas Land Commission Gary Mauro, and Mari Z. Pulido, marketing specialist.

Youth received classes on nutrition by Akin Poopula, Department of Health nutritionist.

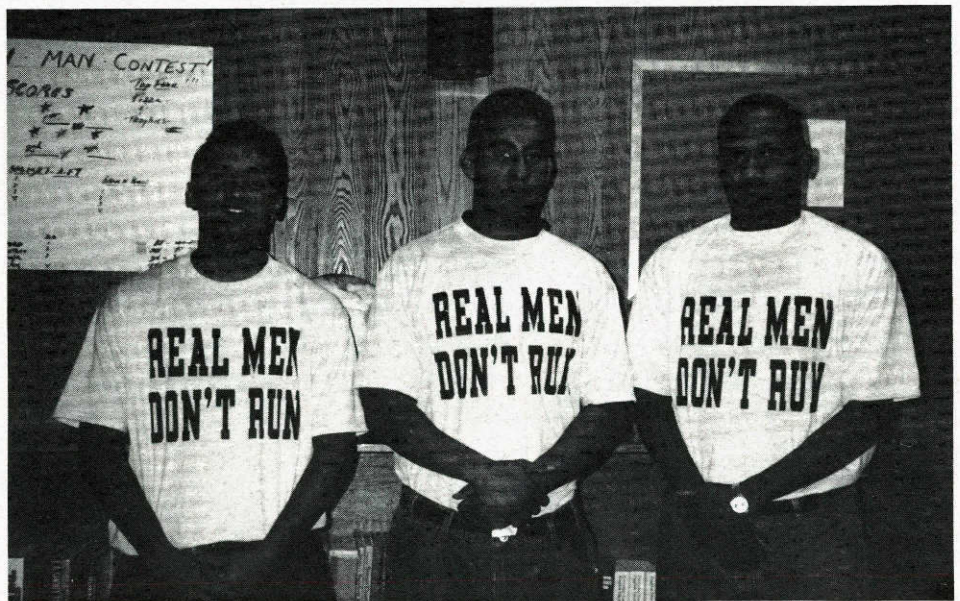
Horticulture classes are being provided by Dr. John Fucik, A&M citrus center-Weslaco, and Rio Grande valley master gardeners Nora Solis-Gracia and Susan Heathcock.

Among the first crops harvested are okra, jalapenos, squash, pumpkins, tomatoes, cucumbers and corn.

Half of the vegetables are being donated to organizations that serve the needy.

YOUTH SPOTLIGHT

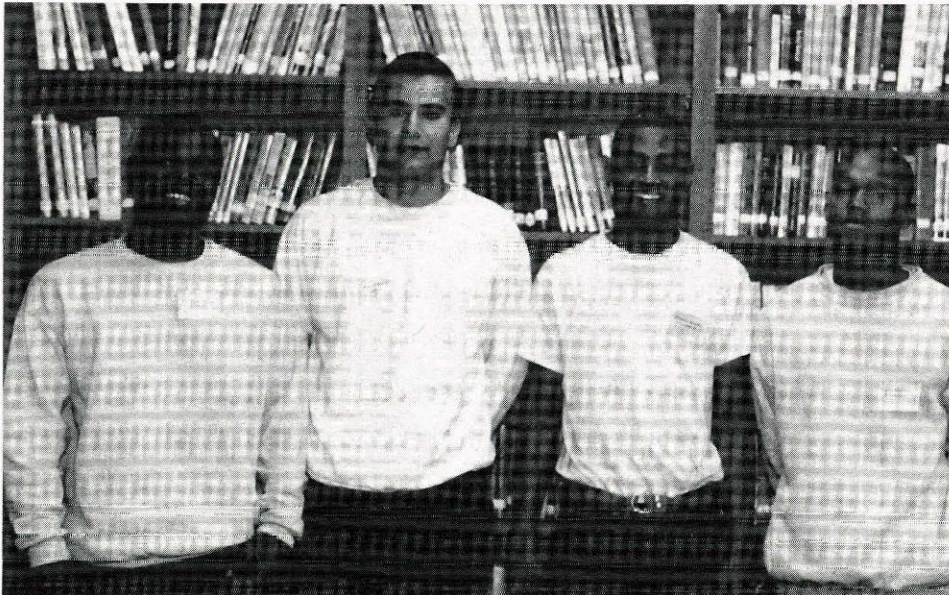
EVINS REGIONAL JUVENILE CENTER youth gardeners pose with their teachers, master gardeners Susan Heathcock and Nora Solis-Gracia, in the bountiful nutrition gardens they have planted, nurtured and harvested.



Ayres House independent living graduates

AYRES HOUSE independent living program graduates Angel Perez, Juan Ortiz and Daniel Mendoza each received the highest honor a student can receive upon completion of the program. Their motto, "Real Men Don't Run", addresses the positive roles and responsibilities that men should represent in their homes and communities -- fatherhood and leadership.

GIDDINGS STATE SCHOOL INDIANS football team coaches Lester Ward, Claude Mathis and Sandy Brown stand behind the 1996 team, which ended this year's winning season with 8 wins and 3 losses, including a win over Gainesville State School.



BROWNWOOD STUDENT COUNCIL officers are, left to right, Anthony Parks, historian; Daniel Perez, president; Prentice Smith, vice president; and Curtis Mackey, secretary. The group is learning parliamentary procedure. Staff sponsors are Julie Scott, Eduardo Martinez and Tammy Vega.

Attorneys give program at Turman

Several Austin attorneys, members of the Texas Young Lawyers Association, presented a current events series to youth at Turman House, TYC's halfway house in Austin.

They explained the importance of voting, and even registered those who were old enough to vote. They also encouraged youth to watch the political debates, read

the newspapers and watch political reports on television.

In later sessions they made comparisons of the candidates and prepared for a mock debate. Each youth researched a candidate's viewpoints and issues and presented the three major candidates for president in a mock debate, according to Trent Banks, director of operations.

Giddings students involved in fall political campaign

Students and academic staff at Giddings State School were actively involved in the political campaigns and the November 5 general election.

Students were encouraged to study the issues of the three major political parties and decide which party they would support. They used newspapers, magazines and other resources from the internet to gather information. Their support translated into making speeches and having debates to influence their peers.

The activity introduced youth to the responsibilities of citizenship, and helped them understand the election process.

Following a mock election, participants were rewarded with pizza, courtesy of the Giddings volunteer council.

McFadden students make presentations in Corsicana

Students from TYC's McFadden Ranch, located in Roanoke, traveled to Corsicana to speak to several school and civic groups, in an effort to help deter young people from following the paths that led them to TYC.

The students talked about how drugs and alcohol affected them in different ways -- their families, and as individuals -- educationally and legally.

Following the presentations the Corsicana volunteer council hosted a dinner for the McFadden students.

Two Brownwood students receive recognition in TAAS

Two Brownwood State School students achieved academic recognition on their Texas Assessment of Academic Achievement (TAAS) test.

Marcus Southall received recognition in reading and Julian Guerrero achieved recognition in math.

Four others also passed all three portions of the test. Six students passed two sections and are preparing for the third.

Literacy program at Corsicana encourages youth to learn to read

A recent program expounding the virtues of literacy, sponsored by the education department at Corsicana State Home, featured keynote speaker Jerry Hill, a 55-year-old GED graduate of Navarro College's Adult Literacy Program.

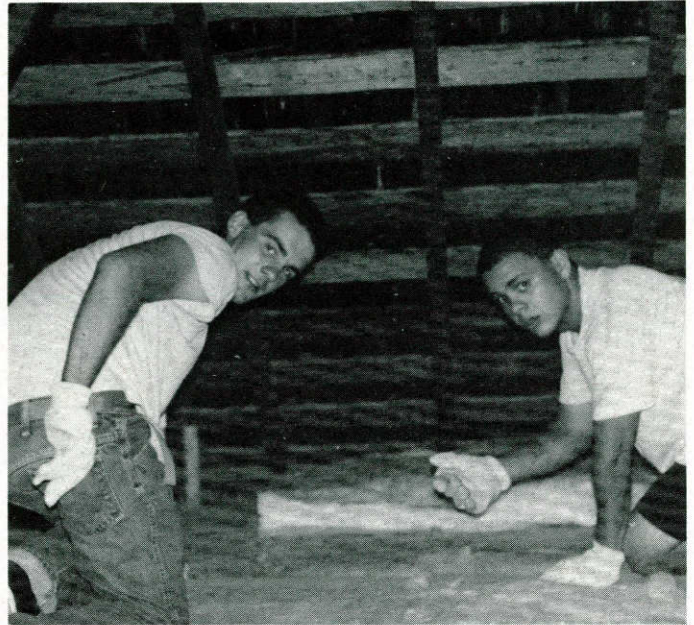
Hill told of his struggle as a youth in both his homelife and school. Hill left home at age 16 and went on to make it in the world of work, due virtues to his hard work and perseverance.

For years he was able to compensate for not being able to read by having his wife read to him, by remembering what he was told, and by carefully watching others.

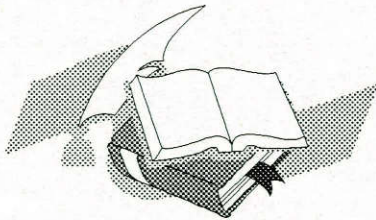
Later in life, when he was unable to read to his grandson, he finally pursued reading at Navarro College, and was able to obtain his GED. Hill's challenge to the youth was "to persevere in their reading and education," and not to give up.

Corsicana youth presented interpretative readings and poems and stories they had written. They also presented several skits.

Teachers who coordinated the program were Esther Boyd, Ann Edwards and Ginger Mullenix.



TWO BROWNWOOD STUDENTS, Eli Moran and Lucas Martinez, lay insulation in the attic of a Habitat for Humanity house -- a community service project in Brownwood in which students have been participating. Three students work each weekend, learning skills such as laying insulation, painting and installing drywall. Twenty-nine students donated 139 hours to the project during the summer and fall.



Willoughby students "walk out on crime"

Four Willoughby House (Fort Worth) residents and staff member Becky Dimock, participated in the Citizen's Crime Commission's "Walk Out On Crime" in October.

Girls taking part were Amy Cantu, Lisa Martinez, Ricketisha Robertson and Tracy Gooden. The team won second place in raising the most money for the event this year, according to Luann Pelletier, superintendent.

Dorm groups compete in marching competition

The six dormitories of the Brownwood State School competed in a marching drill competition led by student drill leaders in October.

Competition featured five minutes of standard movement and ten minutes of entertaining, freestyle marching.

Brownwood volunteer council members Dann Barger, Mickey Harr, Dr. Edward Garrett and Aaron Blake served as judges for the campus-wide event.

Top honors were taken by Faith Dorm, led by student Johnny Gilder. Hope Dorm, led by student Shawn Jones, took second prize, and Success Dorm received third prize.

El Paso youth taking advantage of opportunities

Vito Attaguile has been taking classes for his high school diploma now that he is back in El Paso -- even though he obtained a GED at West Texas State School, according to parole officer Normando Amaya.

Recently he was able to begin computer classes, and now attends from 7 a.m. to 12 noon daily -- five days a week. Then he heads to the PLATO Drop Out Recovery Program to continue his other classes from 1 to 4 p.m.

Vito says he learned "the meaning of discipline and how to be physically fit" at West Texas, and intends to join the U.S. Navy to train on their high tech computers.

Brownwood students take part in crusade

Brownwood students were entertained by world "champions" during the Reaching America's Youth (RAY) Crusade led by Bunny Martin.

RAY is a national organization that provides religious programs to correctional facilities throughout the U.S.

The "Just 4 Us" weekend was designed to appeal to youth and features champions in weightlifting, karate, basketball, movies and even yo-yo competitions.

The program was coordinated by Chaplain Mike Miles.

On a positive note...

Willoughby House resident **Memory Ford** made straight A's during the first six weeks and has been placed on the honor roll at Western Hills High School in Fort Worth. She is also active in the school's ROTC program, according to Supt. Luann Pelletier.

Seven Brownwood State School students passed all sections of the TAAS test recently: Jesse Wilder, Curtis Mackey, Max Luna, Nathan Higginbotham, James Gilday, Julian Guerrero and Marcus Southall....Guerrero received academic recognition in math, and Southall received academic recognition in reading, according to principal Les Plagens.

San Antonio parole officer Karen Tillotson reports that **Kathleen Segovia**, who is attending San Antonio College, has been elected co-president of the Sigma Alpha Tau chapter, a national criminal justice fraternity. Kathleen is raising a one-year-old daughter and maintaining A's and B's in her college courses. She is due to be released soon, Tillotson adds.

Daniel Mendoza was honored with a going away party when he graduated from the independent living program at Ayres House, TYC halfway house in San Antonio. He is currently enrolled as a freshman at Blinn College, Brenham. While at Ayres House, Daniel served as a peer staff counselor for a cultural awareness workshop with the National Conference of Christians and Jews....he also traveled to Austin with a group of high school and college youth to present a workshop to Turman House youth.

Three TYC students at Mel Matthews Boys Ranch in Cisco, a TYC contract program, have passed all sections of the TAAS exam: Dwayne Hurst, Scott Nolet and Rey Jones....All three are active in sports and have jobs, according to TYC staff liaison Louis Laster, a quality assurance specialist in Fort Worth.

TYC student **Lamont Jenkins**, a senior at Jefferson High School in San Antonio, is a starting player for the Mustang football team, according to San Antonio parole officer Dan Collins. He reports that Lamont is enrolled in a broadcast journalism class and his project is to tape his high school football games.

Allen Scott, 21, a former TYC student at Turman House in Austin, is currently a junior at Southwest Texas University, San Marcos. He is working on a degree in criminal justice and works 30 to 40 hours weekly for Madison Commercial Group as a painter and repairman. TYC volunteer Michael Powers served as a mentor for Allen while he was at Turman House, and continues his involvement in helping Allen.

Ex-con takes anti-drug message to WTSS youth

Ted Stone -- an ex-con, minister and author -- is a man on a personal mission fighting drug abuse. He is walking across America from Washington, D.C. to Los Angeles carrying an American flag and sharing his anti-drug message to all who will listen.

This 62-year-old walked right past WTSS on I-20 in Pyote, and even though he was able to empathize with those behind the fence, he continued westward.

Shortly afterward, Harvey Acker, a WTSS community advisory council member, heard Stone speak at his church in Monahans -- and arranged for him to return to the TYC institution and share his message with the youth in the "senior" dorm.

He recounted how alcohol and substance abuse led him from its initial pleasure to a loss of control of his values -- and then to criminal activity. He was arrested for armed robbery and attempted murder, convicted and served several years in prison. The horrors of prison life finally caused him to make a commitment to sobriety and self control.

Over time Stone structured his message to help others, especially youth, fight and win the same battles he had fought.

Stone also gave the senior dorm students a copy of his book, "Somebody Special."

Family Day held at Willoughby

Thirty-five family members attended Willoughby House's third family day Saturday, September 21, traveling from Dallas, Arlington, Tyler, Corpus Christi, Bastrop and Houston.

Families participated in multi-family group sessions during the afternoon, and were informed about the goals set for their daughters.

A fourth family day will be held in December, according to Luann Pelletier, superintendent of the halfway house for females in Fort Worth.

Crockett students confirmed in Catholic Church ceremony

Edmond Bishop Carmond, diocese of Tyler, confirmed seven Crockett State School youth into the Catholic Church in a dedication ceremony attended by family members of the youth, Crockett staff, and members of St. Francis of Tejas Church.

It was the first visit by a bishop since the late 1950's, when several young women were confirmed.

Father Tej Lal and volunteers from St. Francis have provided Catholic services at Crockett State School for several years.

State volunteers meet in Austin

Representatives from local TYC volunteer councils throughout the state met at the TYC central office in Austin Nov. 8 for their semi-annual meeting.

Staff presentations were made by deputy executive director Sandy Burnam; chief of staff Judy Briscoe; assistant deputy executive director Dwight Harris; and general counsel Neil Nichols.

Business was conducted by chairman Leo Rodriguez, Evins Council. Betty Kellar of Giddings, state council secretary, distributed the minutes of the March 3 meeting; and Viva Miller of Crockett, state council treasurer, distributed the treasurer's report. Also participating was state council vice chairman Bob Frisby of Corsicana.

Jane Parker, San Antonio volunteer coordinator, made a formal presentation on conducting financial business for TYC's non-profit councils.

Shirley Cochran, TYC victim information coordinator, discussed recent laws affecting the agency and its response to victims of crime. She also discussed victim empathy programs being held in some institutions.

Miller, representing the Crockett Council, also announced details of the upcoming 13th annual TYC volunteer conference, scheduled Feb. 21-23 in Huntsville, and hosted by the Crockett Council. (See related article on page 14.)

The group voted to purchase booklets for officers of each local council outlining correct parliamentary procedures and Roberts Rules of Order.

Volunteers making reports were Dann Barger, Brownwood council; Bob Frisby, Corsicana council; Brenda Faulk, Crockett council; Betty Kellar, Giddings; Amos Landry, Jefferson County council; Alonzo Calderon, San Saba council; Harvey Acker, West Texas council; Dick Robinson; El Paso; Rosie Abreu, San Antonio; Bob Stewart, Austin; Doug Douglas, McFadden council; Ignacio Torres, Fort Worth council; Randy Harrill, Dallas council; Sonja Lucas-Roberts; Houston; Johnny Rodriguez, Evins council; and Joyce Quesada, York House council.

VOLUNTEERS



STATE VOLUNTEER RESOURCE COUNCIL members attended the semi-annual meeting Nov. 8 in Austin. Pictured are, front row, Johnny Rodriguez, Evins; Leo Rodriguez, Evins, State Council chair; Viva Miller, Crockett, state treasurer; Bob Frisby, Corsicana, state vice chair; Betty Kellar, Giddings, state secretary; and Dick Robinson, El Paso (former state treasurer). Standing, left to right, are Dann Barger, Brownwood; Rev. Amos Landry, Jefferson County; Joyce Quesada, Corpus; Doug Douglas, McFadden; Alonzo Calderon, San Saba; Brenda Faulk, Crockett; Ignacio Torres, Fort Worth; Sonja Lucas-Roberts, Houston; Randy Harrill, Dallas; Rosie Abreu, San Antonio; Harvey Acker, West Texas; and Peg Johnson, Dallas (former state council chair).

WTSS council golf tourney raises \$2,420

West Texas State School sponsored its 6th annual WTSS Golf Classic October 19 at the Ward County Golf Course in Monahans.

The tournament raised \$2,420 to benefit the WTSS Community Advisory Council fund. The council's primary focus this year will be to purchase new, all-metal components to upgrade and expand the WTSS physical fitness course, previously constructed by youth and staff.

Community volunteers and staff volunteers coordinated and promoted the event. Cooks from the maintenance department served up a 'get'em started' breakfast of sausages and tortillas, followed with a barbecue lunch for golfers and volunteers.

Hole sponsorships by area businesses, individuals and several WTSS departments, plus golf entry fees and food donations provided the profits, after expenses.

Crockett council will host 13th annual volunteer conference

The 13th annual TYC volunteer conference is slated Feb. 21-23 in Huntsville, hosted by the Crockett State School Community Advisory Council.

Twelve workshops are slated for the conference -- ranging from working with university interns to "Fun-Raising" to understanding grief.

Special presentations are featured on Operation Kick-It, by prison inmates; Voice of the Victims, by crime victims; and TYC's capital offender program.

Highlight of the conference will be the presentation of awards to the agency's outstanding volunteers, selected from six categories. Rev. Delvin Atchison, chairman of the Crockett volunteer council, will speak at the awards event. Guest speaker for a luncheon is Frank Minton, and the keynote speaker opening the conference will be Dr. Sam Souryal, of Sam Houston state University -- where the conference will be held.

Participants will be housed in the University Hotel on the campus of SHSU, which is in the same building as the workshop sites.

On Friday afternoon February 21, those attending the conference will have several choices for tours -- four of which are to prison units in Huntsville: "The

Walls", built in 1849, which houses the execution chamber; the Wynne Unit, built in 1883, which houses the license plate factory, mattress factory and sign shop; the Ellis I unit, built in 1917, which houses death row, and such industries as the garment factory, agriculture operations and woodworking; and the Holliday Unit, a recently-built prison similar to TYC's Marlin and San Saba facilities.

Other tours include Sam Houston Memorial Museum; Crockett State School; "Stand With Sam," a spectacular monument on IH45 (the world's tallest statue of an American hero; and the Prison Museum.

The annual meeting of the State Volunteer Resource Council, including reports from local councils and election of state officers, is scheduled at 4:30 p.m. Friday, February 21.

The Crockett council will host dinner and a theater production entitled "On the Way to Texas" Saturday night, February 22.

Registration fee (until February 14, 1997) is \$50, with a \$60 fee after that date.

Rooms at the University Hotel are \$34/single and \$39/double. Reservations can be made for the hotel at +409 291-2151.



ANNUAL HOUSTON VOLUNTEER COUNCIL honorees are, left to right, Kim Ogg, Garnett Coleman, Anna James, Carl Lewis, Audrey Lawson and Roel Medina (for Channel 45).

San Antonio volunteer council elects officers

Lisa Bauerlein has been elected president of the '96-'97 San Antonio volunteer council.

Other new officers are Cheryl Martinez, vice president; Sandy Bergman, secretary; and Cheryl McDonald, treasurer. Committee chairmen include James Holmes, recruitment; Mark Padilla, fund raising; M/Sgt. Chris Hester, youth picnic; Roger Martinez, budget; and Raul Solitaire, holiday events.

The council raised more than \$4,000 at its second annual "Bowling for Texas Youth" benefit. Twenty teams participated in the bowl-a-thon, and HEB donated \$500 as a sponsor. Other sponsors donated \$175 per team. Publicity was provided by Tichenor Media Systems.

Houston volunteer council banquet held to present outstanding citizens

Six Houstonians, singled out for their contributions in several categories, were honored by the Houston Volunteer Youth Council at its annual banquet October 11.

Keynote speaker was Dr. Judith Craven, president of the United Way of the Texas Gulf Coast. Also attending was TYC Executive Director Steve Robinson.

Award winners this year were: Audrey Lawson, Ensemble Theater, for her

work in the arts; Carl Lewis, Olympian, community service; Anna James, Southwestern Bell, corporate; Kim Ogg, Anti-Gang Task Force, education; State Representative Garnett Coleman, public official; and Channel 45 -- KXLN-TV -- media.

The event was held at the Marriott Medical Center Hotel with a reception prior to the dinner.

Pemberton heads Gainesville council

Pat Pemberton has been elected chairman of the Gainesville Community Advisory Council. Other new officers are Jerry Metzler, co-chairman; J.T. Stanley, re-elected treasurer; and Deborah Miller, staff, secretary.

The volunteer council met in October at the independent living area on the Gainesville State School campus with students from that program providing Halloween decorations.

Gary Scott and Omar Jahwar, gang interventionists for the institution, presented members of the Umoja Council to give the program. The group is made up of known gang leaders (called OG's -- "original gangsters") on campus.

Meetings of the Umoja council are held to help diffuse potential gang conflicts. During the meetings many youth proclaim their independence from gangs and encourage others to do likewise. During the council program youth discussed what crimes had brought them to TYC and their involvement with the gang intervention program.

Twenty-six Gainesville students were honored with a graduation program after completion of a twelve-week gang intervention program.

Participating on the program were gang interventionist assistant Alex Martinez; Chaplain John Stutz; former student Eric Reavis, now executive director of United Brotherhood Graduates; and superintendent Jerry Day.

Certificates were presented by Gary Scott and Omar Jahwar.

Houston council elects new officers for 1996-97

Eva Burford has been elected chair of the 1996-97 Houston Volunteer Council.

Other new officers are Ian Martin, vice chair; Gabrielle Hadnot, treasurer; Daina Harris, secretary; and Sonya Lucas-Roberts, parliamentarian.

Corsicana volunteer urges others to help

(The following "Letter to the Editor" is reprinted from the *Corsicana DAILY SUN* Oct. 13, 1996)

TO THE EDITOR:

Several weeks ago I moved to Massachusetts to be near my family. For 32 years I have lived in Texas. When my husband died three years ago I looked for something to fill the empty space.

When Lucy Humbert interviewed me for volunteer service with the Corsicana State Home, I told her I didn't feel I was educated enough and my motives were purely selfish.

But that first day changed my life as I left with a song in my heart given to me by the appreciative eyes of the life I had touched. I started with one day -- but very soon Became drawn into four. All these young people[touched me, but Jerry (the one I helped to learn to read in just a few short months) -- touched my soul, a joy I had never experienced.

So now that I am unable to continue, I am appealing to you all to fill in that empty space that I left there in Corsicana. Age--gender--doesn't matter. All you need is an emptiness that needs filling or a desire to give some of your love to a young person who has stumbled. Go talk to Lucy, tell her I sent you. It will enrich your life, your family and your friends.

I was not born in Texas -- but I will always be a Texan.

With warm affection for everyone at the Texas Youth Commission.

Alma 'Lisa' Davis

Parenting classes underway in El Paso

James Aguirre, community health educator with Thomason Hospital, has been teaching weekly parenting classes in the El Paso parole office. In addition to youth and parents, three volunteers are also attending to better serve Schaeffer House residents.

They are Juan Martinez, Ruby Ladson and Rosie Flores.

Classes were held every Wednesday evening for six weeks with parole officers Normando Amaya and Arnold Martinez ensuring that parents and parolees get to class on time. They have also coordinated and arranged for transporta-

tion when needed, and have served as class monitors.

Feedback from participants has been positive.

Volunteer Juan Martinez said the information "should be available before they become parents...I can see some things I might have handled differently with my own children."

"This class should be required for all new parents," said volunteer Ruby Ladson.

Aguirre, who has more than ten years' experience and training in parents, sex education and family planning, will begin a new session January 22, 1997.

'Staying on Course' theme of parent workshop

"Staying on Course, Family Unity" was the theme for Houston's fourth annual parent workshop, conducted under the leadership of parole officer Carolyn Rogers and her parent support group.

More than 75 parents, mentors and volunteers attended the October 12 event, hosted by the Houston volunteer council, the parent support group and Northwest Baptist Church.

Workshops included stress management, drugs and alcohol, education and Senate Bill One. Highlight was a panel presentation of parents, students, school officials, community agencies, clergy and TYC representatives.

Sheffield volunteers raise \$800 at festival

The Community Advisory Council for TYC's Sheffield Boot Camp held a fall festival in October and raised \$800 to be used to benefit youth.

The event featured a popular dunking booth, participated in by former commandant Chip Harrison; booths, games and snacks.

Boot Camp secretary Teresa Hernandez coordinated the event.

Don Pitts is president of the council. Other officers are Bob Reece, vice president; Cressa Jennings, treasurer; and Mary Ann Fortune, secretary.

Giddings volunteers sell ads for program

The Giddings Community Advisory Council cleared more than \$700 for their treasury, while also providing a service for the Giddings State School Indian Football team, by selling advertisements to local businesses for the team's football programs, and by selling the programs at the gate before games.

The council also raised funds by operating the football concession stand.

Ministry group hosts at San Saba

The Bill Glass Ministries hosted a "weekend of champions at San Saba State School Oct. 25-27, which featured various entertainers throughout the United States who also gave testimonies.

They included singer/recording artist Cindy McMullen, also named "Mrs. Harley Davidson Texas 1995; Bruce Crevier, basketball handler who juggles, dribbles and spins up to 18 basketballs at a time; David Pendleton, ventriloquist and humorist; and Bunny Martin, magician and yo-yo

champ of the world.

Motivational speeches and testimonies were also presented by Glass, college football All-American and ex pro football player; author Sandy Fatow, ex-marine and recovering drug addict; and Tully Blanchard, former U.S. Heavyweight wrestling champion.

Two hundred sixty youth and staff participated in the activities, coordinated by volunteer coordinator Buck Martin.

Gainesville council raises \$5,500 at 4th chili cook-off

More than \$5,500 was raised at the 4th annual "Cookin' For Kids" Chili Cook-off, co-sponsored by the Gainesville volunteer council and the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1922 and Auxiliary.

The C.A.S.I.-sanctioned event was held in September at the VFW Post.

Twenty-two teams were entered. Top winners were Sandra Watts of Garland, first; Ricky Rains of Thackerville, second; and Winston Bland of Corsicana, third.

Awards were presented by VFW Commander Joe Wilson and past commander J.T. Stanley, who is also a mem-

ber of the Gainesville State School volunteer council.

They also conducted the drawing for a 30" barbecue smoker and a swing.

Earl Clement of Gainesville won the smoker, and Harry Weber of Valley View won the swing with frame.

The VFW served a meal for the cooking teams the night before the cook-off.

Funds from the cook-off will be used by the council to assist in educational and rehabilitative programs.

Crockett students attend banquet

A group of Crockett students attended a banquet at the Crockett Civic Center and heard Basketball Hall of Famer Calvin Murphy speak. He told about participating in Pop Warner baseball and Golden Gloves boxing as a youngster, which he felt gave him a foundation for achievement.

Murphy was hired by Houston Mayor Bob Lanier to work in the city's youth programs -- where in three months, 5,000 youth participated.

Each Crockett student received an autographed photograph of Murphy.

Also speaking at the banquet was State Senator Jim Turner.

Julia Taylor heads volunteers; Brownwood CAC raises \$1,000

Julia Taylor has been elected 1996-97 president of the Brownwood Community Advisory Council.

Retired staff member Dann Barger has been elected vice president and Judy Erhke has been re-elected treasurer.

Outgoing officers Vicki Smith, Carter Sharpe and Judy Erhke were recognized for their contributions to the council with special plaques.

The council once again participated in the annual Pecan Valley Arts Festival raising more than \$1,000 selling hamburgers and hot dogs at the two-day event.

Volunteers take "TYC-Texas" tour

Three Evins Regional Juvenile Center volunteers toured four TYC institutions over the Labor Day weekend, accompanied by volunteer coordinator Raul Arredondo.

Making the swing through East Texas were Leo Rodriguez, president (and also State Council chairman); Manuel Garcia, treasurer; and member Johnny Rodriguez.

The tour schedule included Giddings State School, Marlin Orientation and Assessment Unit, Corsicana State Home, and Crockett State School. At each TYC stop, the local volunteer coordinators-- Bill Bradbury, Shannon Ford, Virginia Lewis, and Lucy Humbert--coordinated tours and information.

Johnny Rodriguez said, in speaking for the group, "there were so many things we were not aware of. While all the institutions are under TYC operation, each school seems to have a different "climate" and population.

"I think we have a better understanding of the TYC mission, and more importantly, how we as volunteers can help individually and through our councils," he added. "We saw how the larger facilities operate -- and what we can anticipate in the future at Evins."



THREE VOLUNTEERS from the Evins Regional Juvenile Center volunteer council made a "tour of Texas" TYC facilities. Pictured here with Corsicana volunteer coordinator Lucy Humbert are, left to right, Johnny Rodriguez, Manuel Garcia and Leo Rodriguez. Leo Rodriguez also serves as State Volunteer Resource Council chairman.

CULTURAL EVENTS

Austin intercultural task force benefits children in Juarez

The TYC Austin Intercultural Awareness Task Force Committee collected used clothing, athletic equipment, used computers, books and toys in October for two juvenile offender programs in Juarez, Mexico -- the Tribunal de Menores and the Desarrollo Integral de la Familia (DIF).

The idea surfaced during the May statewide intercultural awareness task force committee meeting in El Paso, when members toured these two facilities and saw the needs.

Central Office staff member Ray Leach delivered the donations to the

El Paso parole office where El Paso staff members Maria Ruiz and Lisa Compean coordinated the unloading, sorting and inventory of donated items by volunteers Cecilia Rodriguez, Noel Pallares and Louis Lohr.

Parole officer Benny Martinez ensured that all proper paperwork was submitted to Mexican Customs Officers for processing prior to delivery October 15. He, Leach and Lohr made their first delivery to the Albergue Granja Hogar DIF.

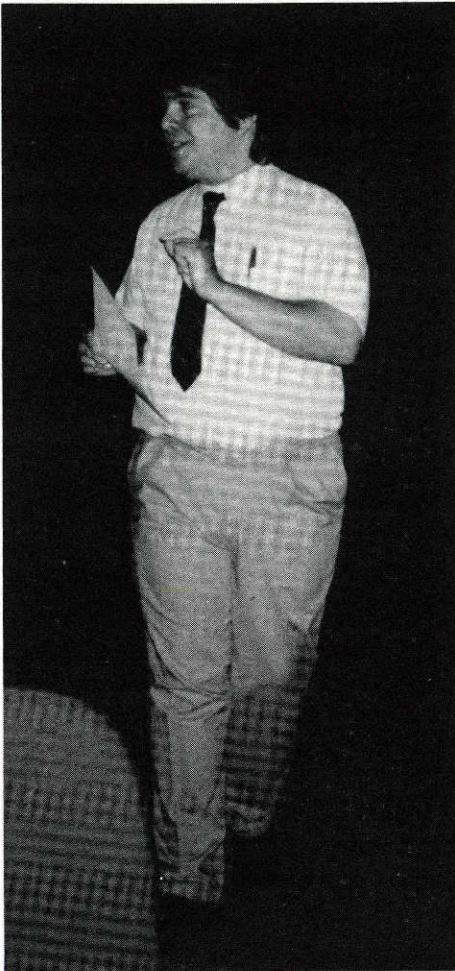
They met with director Haydee H. Heredia and made time for a photo session and video tape of the meeting. At Tribunal de Menores they were met by Professor Gomez. Youth and staff were gathered at the cafeteria where Martinez made the presentation of donations.

Martinez addressed the youth about continuing their education, decision making, evaluating negative role models and making the most of the donated sports equipment, books and computers.

He was also able to meet with Miguel Rocha, TYC escapee.

Central Office staff member Sylvia Perez assisted in keeping the lines of communication open, and did follow up to ensure that necessary documentation was prepared for delivery into Mexico.

Longtime Corsicana volunteer honored on 80th birthday



THE CENTRAL OFFICE cultural awareness committee sponsors monthly "brown-bag" luncheons, with speakers from various cultures. Pictured is John Waukechon, Austin school district Indian education project facilitator, who spoke to about 40 participants Sept. 5.

A reception honored longtime outstanding Corsicana State Home volunteer Charles Barnaby on his 80th birthday September 18 at the public library civic room.

A third generation resident of Corsicana and Navarro County, Barnaby has been active in community affairs all his life. He has been active in the Navarro County Extension Committee on Health and Aging; American Red Cross Board of Directors, serving as chair three terms; American Heart Assn. board with which he helped organize the walkathon fund raiser; the "Just Say No To Drugs" project for which he was instrumental in orchestrating the "Hands Around the Courthouse" activity; Corsicana Noon Lions Club; Corsicana State Home volunteer and Community Advisory Council member and

chairman two terms; and he assisted with soliciting prizes for the American Cancer Society "Laps For Life" fund raiser this year.

Barnaby was the recipient of the Outstanding Older Adult in Navarro County award in 1989, was named Lion (Club Member) of the year in 1984, received the statewide Texas Youth Commission award as Outstanding Volunteer in 1989, and received the Outstanding Volunteer award at the Corsicana State Home in both 1989 and 1990.

He has overseen Christmas parties which the Lions Club sponsored at the Corsicana State Home for the past eleven years.

He was instrumental in bringing cable TV to the Corsicana State Home campus, facilitating the project with the cable company and raising funds from local businesses and trusts.

Barnaby served many years as a volunteer to Cottage 11 students, sponsoring their birthdays, tutoring them in the campus school, finding them jobs in the community and soliciting needed items. He also organized a special Christmas Eve event for the students.

More than 200 Corsicana residents attended the party, bringing their favorite story, memory or experience to present to him.

Judge, reporter speak

Austin municipal judge Phil Sanders and KVUE-TV crime reporter Shelton Green talked to Turman House youth on recent changes in the law which effect them.

Judge Sanders is an active member of the Austin volunteer council.

Green discussed how reporters present information about different crimes, and the public's perception of juvenile crime.

NOTICE

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

TYC JOURNAL

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

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

Signature _____ Date _____

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

Red Ribbon Week presentation made

Five students from Jefferson County's chemical dependency programa presentation to seventh and eighth graders at Lumberton middle school during Red Ribbon Week on how experimenting with drugs led to their commitment to TYC.

The youth were accompanied by Robert Criss, JCSS chemical dependency counselor. The presentation was arranged by Cindy McLaughlin, a student intern at JCSS who currently teaches at the school.

Corsicana volunteers tour Marlin O&A

Seven volunteers from Corsicana recently toured the Marlin Orientation and Assessment Unit, accompanied by Corsicana superintendent Chester Clay and volunteer coordinator Lucy Humbert.

They were welcomed by Alan Steen, Marlin superintendent, and the tour was conducted by Marlin volunteer coordinator Shannon Ford.

Those making the trip were Dr. Lynn Anderson, Dr. Linda Timmerman, Mary Rozelle, Aline Marshall, LaVerne Miller, Dr. Jane Walker and Richard Deupree.

Students provide decorations for event

Youth at Crockett State School provided table decorations for the annual conference of the People Against Violent Crime organization in Austin.

Decorations, designed by the youth, were wood cutouts of the state map painted red, white and blue featuring the scales of justice and PAVC.

The decorations included greenery and lighted candles placed in memory of the victims of Texas whose lives were taken as a result of violent crime.

Eleven Brownwood staff honored at retirement

Eleven longtime staff members at Brownwood State School and the Brownwood Sanction Unit were honored at a retirement dinner held at Howard Payne University in Brownwood.

Deputy Executive Director Sandy Burnam provided the keynote address.

Retirees had a combined period of service of 220.8 years.

They included Roger Byler, George Dunseath, Marilyn Goodson, JoAnn Miller, Walter Stanton, Dale Courtright, John George, Joe Lee, Odessa Stanton, June Zink and Nell Bishop.

HUMAN RESOURCES

News briefs...

A basketball game between TYC youth and Houston area parole officers ended with the final score 95-72, in favor of staff...Debra Young and Associates sponsored the event. Attending were parents, staff and youths' family members. Pizza and sodas were served after the game.

Rita Hughes, quality assurance supervisor for the East service area, was presented a plaque of appreciation following her two-year stint as chair of the Community Resource Coordinating Council of Harris County.

The Corsicana Navarro Council of

Therapists present at San Antonio meeting

Joe Tom Childs and Gene Hartin therapists at the Brownwood State School sex offender treatment program (SOTP), made a presentation at the Third Annual Wright Child Care Workshop in San Antonio.

Seventy-five participants from residential centers and foster care programs throughout Texas attended the specialized training.

The SOTP is a confrontive therapeutic process, using a cognitive/behavior approach, that emphasizes full and detailed disclosure of the offense, acceptance of full responsibility, deviant fantasy interruption and replacement techniques.

In its fifth year at Brownwood, the SOTP is directed by John Newton.

The Arts sponsored two art programs for students at Corsicana. Don Sanders, singer and songwriter, performed through music and storytelling, and Anna Rose Barry and Emily Walker hosted weaving and spinning demonstrations for the girls.

Also on the Corsicana State Home campus, Gatesville female prisoners brought four community education programs to students, with three women prisoners telling their life stories, an "Operation Kick-It" program.

The Crime Victim Crisis Center in Abilene provided victim sensitivity training to the staff at both TYC institutions in Brownwood. Judy Kingery, CVCC director, trained primary service workers, youth activity supervisors and administrative staff on victim empathy, crisis resolution, restitution and victim/offender mediation.

Crockett holds appreciation banquet

Crockett State School's annual volunteer awards banquet, held November 4, honored Houston County law officers, volunteers, contributors and victims of violent crime.

The following awards were presented: Carol Robinson, volunteer council award; Steve Macias, outstanding staff volunteer; Glenna Medina, Heart of Gold Award; Shari Keever, Going the Extra Mile

Award; the Billy Bobalik family, family involvement award; Bobby Bowlin, law officer of the year; Deborah Harlan and Cecil Jameson, victim presenters.

Others receiving awards included Carol Wells, Jerri Warner, Eloise Wooten, Carol Kemp, Johnny Hellums, James Berry, Bill Holcomb, Bill Watson, Bryan Lake, Jeanette Minter, Kyle Pendergraft, Mary Ann Riley, Carol Hacker, Gary Farek, Stanley Mitchell and the Houston County Chamber of Commerce.

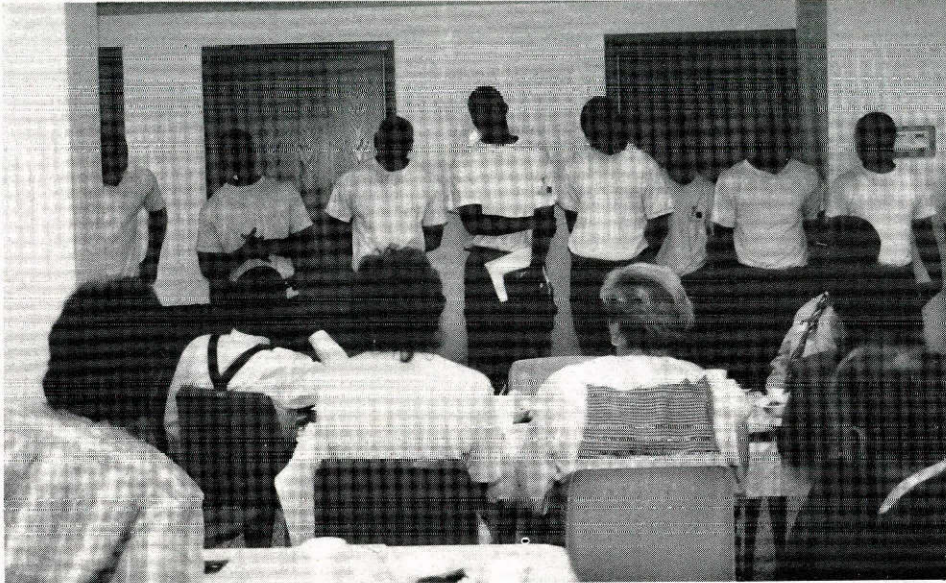
Speaker for the event was comedian Warren Bradley. Musical entertainment was provided by Mrs. Estella Brown and Steve Marsh.

Rev. Delvin Atchison, chairman of the volunteer council, welcomed guests and Chaplain Bill Phillips gave the invocation, and presented awards to religious volunteers.

The event, attended by more than 200 law enforcement officials, staff, volunteers and community residents, was coordinated by volunteer coordinator Virginia Lewis.



Printed on recycled paper.



THE UMOJA COUNCIL for the Gainesville State School spoke to a recent meeting of the Community Advisory Council. The group is made up of known gang leaders (called OG's -- Original Gangsters"), and they help diffuse potential gang conflicts on campus.

TYC JOURNAL

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