

TRC news & views

TEXAS REHABILITATION COMMISSION

Vol. 2, No. 6

Austin, Texas

NON-CIRCULATING
NTSU LIBRARY

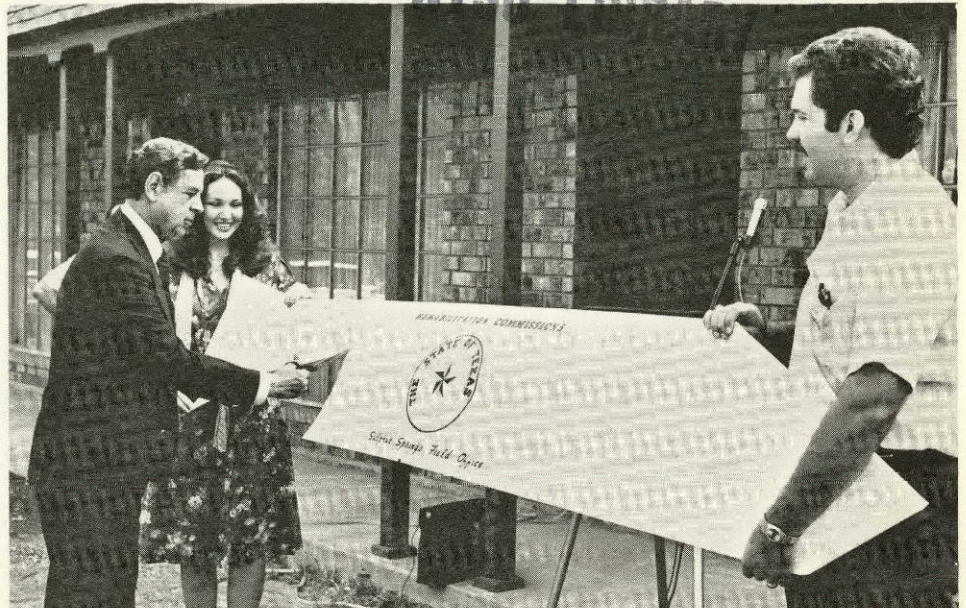
October, 1980

Ribbon Cutting Marks Office Opening

Local dignitaries and TRC officials joined together in Sulphur Springs last month to get our newest field office off to a good start. Though the Sulphur Springs office has actually been in existence for several months, a ribbon cutting ceremony...complete with speeches and beauty queen...made the opening official.

Robert M. Marx, Director of Region VI, was on hand to welcome the guests and explain the function of the Sulphur Springs office. Commissioner W. K. Harvey, Jr. delivered the dedication address and guided the scissors through a hand-lettered banner drawn up by the Sulphur Springs Chamber of Commerce. After the ceremony, visitors were treated to a tour of the new office and refreshments.

If you're passing through the area, the Sulphur Springs office is located at 207 Jefferson St., Counselor Lan Rainey and secretary, Brenda Duke, are assigned to the office. They will work with clients from a three county area which includes Hopkins, Franklin and Titus counties.



Miss Dairy Festival, Lydia Wallace (background) and Jim Thompson, Hopkins County Chamber of Commerce, helped Commissioner Harvey as he cut the banner in a ceremony that marked the official opening of TRC's Sulphur Springs Field Office.

Lan Rainey (far right) is the Counselor in the new Sulphur Springs Field Office. Among those who were there to wish him well were (right to left) Commissioner Harvey, Bob Marx, Regional Director-Dallas, and H. L. McLerran, Supervisor-Paris Field Office.



National Employ The Handicapped Week - Oct. 5-11

School Program Materials Available

Usually, the best time to start preparing for a job is when you are still in school. The Commission wants to make it possible for students with disabilities to stay in school. So, a plan has been worked out so students can get as much help as possible without dropping out of school. This plan is called the TRC School Program.

Program Specialists

Frank Perdue and Milt Lege' worked closely with Staff Development - Instructional Media in the development of the School Program materials. The materials include a tape/slide presentation, flip chart and handbook for high school personnel, brochures and a Student Health Survey that help to identify students who may be eligible for TRC services.

Copies of the A/V presentation can be checked out from regional offices. Due to the request for materials, additional paper has been ordered for the printing of the publications. TRC Supply has issued stock numbers for the brochure, #0522; and handbook, #0523; and the Student Health Survey, #0524. These will be available in a few weeks.

Message From The Commissioner

by W.K. Harvey, Jr.

Fiscal 1980 reflected a culmination of many activities within the Commission to strengthen our programs in general and fine tune our case service delivery system and the Disability Determination adjudication process. I am most gratified with the results attained and wish to express my sincere appreciation to each employee for their individual contribution to this effort. The collective effort and dedication of our employees to our mission of providing efficient and effective services to our constituency - the handicapped and disabled - is refreshing and rewarding. Also I am grateful to our Board for strong, supportive and responsive leadership in maintaining a positive posture in the formulation of policies through which we fulfill our responsibilities and obligations as the principal authority in state government in matters related to the handicapped and disabled.

The meshing of resources and client needs in a period of spiraling inflation and economic uncertainties is no small task. By strengthening our utilization of similar benefits, in-service training in the basics of rehabilitation, and constant appraisal of where we are and where we want to go enabled us to achieve a successful year. Our effort to strengthen all aspects of our support system in the delivery of services to our clients will continue in fiscal 1981 during which we must harness all of the support and resources that are available to assure maintenance of our present level of services. I know that we can successfully meet this challenge.

Again, thanks for a successful year in Vocational Rehabilitation, in Disability Determination, in Extended Rehabilitation and in the maintenance of our public image as a responsive and effective state agency.

Fiscal Program Takes to Field

You asked for it...you got it. Representatives of TRC's Fiscal Division are now available to assist all field offices with fiscal procedure. The program, effective the beginning of this month, was developed in response to requests from field personnel.

Upon the request of a Field Supervisor, representatives of the Fiscal Division, Operating Expense Department and Client Records Department will travel to your office to explain such things as client requisitions, change orders, client statistic procedure, travel vouchers, payroll, phone bills and the like. They will also be available to work with you on any special problems you might be experiencing.

Chief Accountant Bob Dale says the assistance will be available on an ongoing basis now, where in the past, it was only available sporadically.

For more information, contact Bob Young, Controller; Bob Dale, Client Accounting or Charles Tarver, General Accounting, in the Central Office.

Young Named to Controller Post

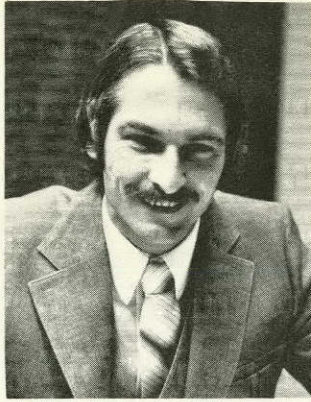
Bob Young assumed the position of Controller of TRC on Sept. 1st. On that date, the Controller position was placed at the Assistant Deputy Commissioner level. Young had been act-

ing Controller since April of this year. Quoting Vernon M. Arrell, Executive Deputy Commissioner, "We are pleased to have Bob in this position on a permanent basis."

TRC People

Meet David H. League... Staff Psychologist in the Odessa Field Office. It is David's job to provide psychological services to TRC offices in Odessa, Midland and the surrounding area. He has worked in the Odessa office for six years. Prior to that he worked at Eastern New Mexico University in food service management, and as a director of a boys ranch.

David, 35, grew up in Carlsbad, New Mexico where he graduated from Carlsbad Senior High School. He is a graduate of Eastern New Mexico University, where he



earned Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Psychology and Personnel Services.

David and his wife Kathleen have two children. When he's not at work, David apparently enjoys the outdoors. His interests include softball, golf and hunting.

DDD Hosts SSA Managers, Directors

Last month, for the first time in recent history, the Disability Determination Division hosted a conference for Social Security Administration Area Directors and District Managers. Approximately 30 directors and managers met with DDD personnel to discuss mutual goals and concerns related to disability programs and, at the same time, to learn more about DDD's operation.

The SSA representatives were treated to a tour of DDD and viewed a slide presentation detailing the DDD operation. They also heard from TRC Commissioner Harvey, who emphasized the need for continual concern for improving the delivery of services to the public in order to offset recent increases in negative public attitudes toward government workers at all levels.

Assistant Deputy Commissioner Dale Place briefed the gathering on the current and projected case processing profile, stressing that the primary goal has been to improve the quality of service.

Noel Wall, Assistant Regional Commissioner for Programs in the Dallas SSA Region, also addressed the conference. He complimented DDD for maintaining a high degree of professionalism and for being willing to innovate and cooperate with recommendations, initiatives and changes.

(The following poem was submitted by Hugh L. Johnson, TRC Counselor in the Alpine Field Office. It was written by Cole Cornett, one of Johnson's clients.)

Decision

by Cole Cornett

When I first started to college, I didn't know what to take
But since I didn't have to pay for it, what difference did
it make?

Sure, I took the basics: History, English, and more
But, to this day, I still cannot figure out what I took them
for.

You see, I had no interest in that academic line
'Cause I could not find "a-one" that I would claim as mine.
So after one year of sitting in a boring class,
I decided to get technical, even though academically I did
pass.

"Construction Technology" is what I tested out
But, for some reason, I was still quite in doubt.
You see, building houses I found not to be too fun
Working the whole year round in rain, snow, or sun.

And then I looked at my pocketbook and I could clearly see
That it couldn't buy the supplies needed with our "rising
economy."

So I went back to working at a little ol' boot shop
Just wishing that someday I could say, "I have reached the
top!"

By having my own so-called company and being considered boss
And knowing what to do should my books show a sudden loss.
Then a man had a talk with me that made my ambition strong
And believed that my wait on being boss surely wouldn't be
too long.

But when I told him, "I don't have enough money to go to
T.S.T.I.,"

He found certain ways that the state could get me by!
Now I am all set to go and learn my life-long trade
And soon I can look back and say, "Look at the progress I've
made!"

So one year from now in Van Horn, whenever you go up there,
Come in and have a chat at "Cole's Boot and Shoe Repair."



Miss Bernice Johnson was honored last month, upon her retirement after 34 years of state employment. Johnson, a registered nurse, started to work at TRC in 1970 as a Disability Examiner in DDD. She moved to DDD's reconsideration section in 1973. Starting in 1975, Johnson specialized in handling medical development requests for the Bureau of Hearings and Appeals. She remained in that position until retirement. Johnson has accumulated a long list of civic activities including her involvement with the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services (DACOWITS). She is pictured here receiving a Meritorious Service Award from Commissioner Harvey while her brother, Mr. Hilmar Johnson, looks on.

Newsletter Name Stays the Same

Before we announce the outcome of the "Name the Newsletter Contest," thanks to all of you who submitted suggestions. We are happy to know that so many of you are interested enough to have taken the time to come up with ideas and send them to us.

TRC's Executive Committee members were the judges in the contest. At their last meeting, after some discussion, committee members voted to keep the current name of the newsletter, "TRC News & Views."

Better Late Than Never

Some of you, particularly those of you in remote field offices, may have received your paycheck a bit late last week. But, it might have been even later in arriving had it not been for the "above and beyond the call" efforts of three Central Office employees. Charles Tarver, General Accounting; Diann Dorner, Payroll; and Lee Henderson, Mail Room Supervisor, waited all weekend (Sept. 27-28) for the State Comptroller's Office to get the checks to the Central Office.

The situation is similar to another which occurred recently. At least twice in the past four months, the Dispatching and Counselor Assistance divisions have spent a number of their off-duty hours getting client maintenance checks in the mail for timely delivery.

TRC Calendar of Events

OCT

1-3	Medical Training for Counselors - Phase I	Dallas
5-11	"National Employment of the Handicapped Week"	
6-10	New Personnel/Specialized Orientation Workshop	Austin
6-10	Managing Human Resources in a Rehabilitation Agency	RAMP - University of Oklahoma
8-10	Workers Compensation Conference	Austin
8-10	Instructor - Evaluator Workshop	Salado
10-14	Fundamentals of V.R. Counseling (1st week)	SAHS - Dallas
14-16	SSI/SSDI Workshop	Austin
20-24	Supervisory Management Training - Phase II	RAMP - University of Oklahoma

TRC News & Views is printed by the Texas Rehabilitation Commission for distribution to its employees and retirees throughout the state. This publication is a joint effort of TRC's Public Information Office and Instructional Media Department. Letters to the Editor may be addressed to Kaye Beneke, Public Information Office, Texas Rehabilitation Commission, 118 E. Riverside Drive, Austin, Texas, 78704; or telephone (512) 447-0745, (Tex-An) 823-4745.