

NOTES

NEWSLETTER OF THE TEXAS YOUTH COMMISSION

SUMMER 1983

Hill, Waldrop receive TYC Legislative awards

Rep. Gerald Hill of Austin and Rep. Tom Waldrop of Corsicana were honored by the Texas Youth Commission for their willingness to assist the agency with Legislative requests during the recent session of the Texas Legislature.

The two representatives were recognized and received engraved plaques during the annual agency-wide awards banquet June 20 in Kerrville.

Rep. Hill, first elected to the Texas House of Representatives in 1976, served as chairman of the Local and Consent Calendar Committee this past session. He also served on the Elections Committee, the Ways and Means Committee and the House Study Group Steering Committee.

Prior to the Session, Rep. Hill took the time and interest to educate himself about criminal justice issues and offered his assistance to the agency, according to Dr. George Willeford, who made the Legislative presentations.

Hill carried Legislation in the House which changed the name of the Texas

Youth Council to the Texas Youth Commission. He also carried the bill which will enable TYC to exchange client record information with the Department of Corrections.

"Though extremely busy with his numerous committee assignments outside the criminal justice area, Hill was continually supportive of our agency's Legislative concerns," said Dr. Willeford.

"We thank Rep. Hill for lending his time and credibility to us, and count him as a friend," Dr. Willeford concluded.

Rep. Waldrop, who has served two terms in the Texas Legislature, chaired the Budget and Oversight Subcommittee of the Criminal Jurisprudence Committee, and was a member of the Appropriations Committee. "He has been directly involved in both fiscal and program issues affecting TYC and has spent a great deal of his personal, as well as professional, time getting to know the agency," said Dr. Willeford.

(Cont. on P. 2)



DR. GEORGE BETO of Huntsville was elected to a two-year term as Chairman of the TYC Board during a special board meeting prior to the awards banquet. Dr. Beto also served as master of ceremonies for the banquet.

Beto elected board chairman

Dr. George Beto of Huntsville, who has served on the Texas Youth Commission Board since 1975, was elected to a two-year term as chairman during a special Board meeting in Kerrville June 20.

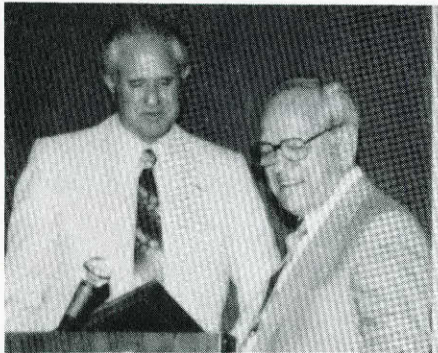
Ruben Schaeffer of El Paso was elected vice-chairman.

The two new officers are replacing Dr. George Willeford of Austin as chairman, and Jim Bowie of Houston, former vice chairman.

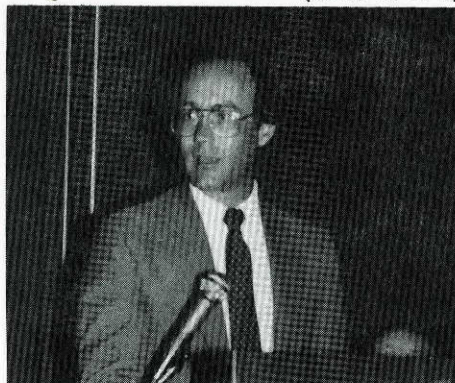
Dr. Beto, who was appointed to TYC's board in May of 1975 by Governor Dolph Briscoe, was reappointed to a new six-year term in 1981 by Governor William P. Clements. He is a former Executive Director of the Texas Department of Corrections, and currently is a professor in the Criminal Justice Dept. at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville.

A former president of the American Correctional Association, Dr. Beto is also a distinguished Alumnus of the University of Texas. He has served as

(Cont. on P. 2)



STATE REPRESENTATIVE Tom Waldrop of Corsicana (left) receives TYC award as Outstanding Legislator from TYC Board Member Dr. William Shamburger of Tyler during annual agency awards banquet June 20 in Kerrville.



STATE REP. GERALD HILL of Austin received one of two TYC Outstanding Legislator Awards presented at the TYC awards banquet June 20 in Kerrville...

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Dr. William Shamburger

Dr. Shamburger honored

Dr. William Shamburger, TYC Board Member since 1975, who has served as pastor of the First Baptist Church of Tyler for more than 25 years, has been named one of five distinguished alumni of Southwestern Baptist Seminary for 1983.

He was honored for rendering outstanding service to the seminary.

Dr. Shamburger obtained his master's degree in theology at Southwestern in 1945, and his doctor's degree in 1953. He earned his undergraduate degree in 1941 from Baylor University.

Dr. Shamburger has been chairman of the Texas Baptist Executive Board, a Baylor University trustee, and chairman of Southwestern's trustees. He currently is a Southwestern Seminary trustee.

He has served as pastor of Baptist churches in Corsicana, Winnsboro,

Rogers, Euless and Wellborn, and he was an Army chaplain, serving in India from 1945 to 1947.

He is a member of the Christian Education Coordinating Board and served as a member and chairman of the Executive Board of the BGCT.

Dr. Shamburger is a director of the Caldwell Schools Inc. and the J. E. Heath Foundation, and he serves on the Advisory Board of the Salvation Army. He was named Tyler's Outstanding Citizen in 1976. He and his wife Kathryn have three children and six grandchildren.

Dr. Shamburger was appointed to a six-year term on the TYC Board in 1975 by Governor Dolph Briscoe, and reappointed in 1982 by Governor William P. Clements Jr. for an additional six-year term. He served as TYC Board Chairman from 1980-1982.

National TV focuses on Dallas House

Dallas House staff and residents will be featured in a national television documentary titled "Growing Up In America," with interviews conducted by CBS-TV reporter Christopher Glen of New York City.

Dallas House was selected as the only juvenile facility in Texas to be included in the documentary, which concerns the problems of delinquency in America.

The date of the report's broadcast has not yet been announced.

Hill, Waldrop honored

(Cont. from P. 1)

Rep. Waldrop has worked closely with the Corsicana Residential Treatment Center and has become a strong advocate supporting TYC's needs concerning the future and direction of the Corsicana program, said Dr. Willeford.

"His genuine concern for the criminal justice system and juvenile issues in particular has provided us with a sensitive and articulate spokesman," Dr. Willeford added. "He went out of his way during the session to offer his support and assistance and was always accessible and ready to help."

Prior to the 68th Session, Rep. Waldrop visited TYC's violent offender facility at Giddings and later introduced legislation to help TYC strengthen that program by proposing to extend services to youth who needed supervision beyond their 18th birthday.

"We are grateful for his generous time and attention to TYC, and look forward to a long and productive future relationship," Dr. Willeford concluded.

"CARE"

You've helped me as best as you could
You've taught me things that you should

I've finally made it out of this place
But without you, I'd have shame on my face.

This is dedicated to all the staff at TYC
For they all showed that they cared for me

I pressed my luck and my freedom to roam,
Then TYC ended up my new home.

I've lived in the streets for too long now.

You've showed me discipline, I don't know how.

You show me your kindness every day
A simple thank you is all I have to repay.

I look out the window and see a dove
Which reminds me of your kindness, which I love.

At the end, you paid for my fare.
That just showed me you really do "Care."

Thanks! Tony Couder
1983
Gainesville State School

New Board officers

(Cont. from P. 1)

an instructor and as president of Concordia College in Austin, and was president of Concordia Theological Seminary in Springfield, Illinois.

Schaeffer, who has been a Realtor for more than 30 years, was appointed to the TYC Board in May 1975 by Governor Dolph Briscoe, and was reappointed in 1977.

He is a past president of local, state and national Boards of Realtors, and a past president of the Texas Property Exchangers. Schaeffer has also served as mayor pro-tem and administrative alderman for the City of El Paso, and currently serves as a member of the advisory committee for Southwest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf.

NOTES is published quarterly
by the
Texas Youth Commission, P.O. Box 9999,
8900 Shoal Creek Blvd.,
Austin, Texas 78766
+ 512 452-8111

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COMMISSIONERS -
Dr. George Beto, Chairman
Mr. Ruben Schaeffer, Vice Chairman
Mr. Jim Bowie
Dr. William Shamburger
Dr. George Willeford
Don Workman



TENURE PLAQUES were presented to TYC staff members during the Kerrville workshop in June. Those receiving 15-, 20-, 25-, and 30-year plaques were honored. Shown are (front row, left to right) Joy Johnson, Regina Carson, Eudora Braswell, Bobbie Barnes and Sophie Wilson, all from Gainesville, and all received 15-year plaques; Hetty Graham, Corsicana, 25 years; Linnie B. Shobe, Gainesville, 15 years; (back row, left to right) Sandra Burnam, Corsicana, 15 years; Frank Harris, Reception Center, 20 years; Elda G. Hebert, Ayres House, 20 years; Cladis Williams, Crockett, 20 years; Beverly McLester, Dallas parole, 15 years; Mack Maxwell, Gainesville, 25 years; Franklin Sperry, Gainesville, 25 years; and Lander Terry, Crockett, 20 years. (Not present were G. R. Wheat, Corsicana, 15 years; Betty Lofland, Gainesville, 15 years; and S. Q. Robinson, Giddings, 30 years.)

Judge agrees to hear evidence of Youth Commission changes

Following a hearing in U.S. District Court July 11, Judge William Wayne Justice agreed to allow the Texas Youth Commission to present evidence of changes in the agency since the original trial in 1973 of the Morales vs. Turman class action suit.

A date for that court hearing had not been set at press time.

Judge Justice also declined to approve an amended settlement agreement in the case in a Memorandum Opinion and Order issued on June 28, but said he would entertain additional amendments to the amended agreement.

TYC attorneys, attorneys with the Attorney General's office, and the plaintiffs' attorneys have been at work on a Second Amended Settlement Agreement, addressing several of the faults which the Court enumerated in its June 28 Order.

Plans are underway regarding the various means of updating the Court on current agency operations. Experts for the plaintiffs, who reviewed TYC operations in 1981, are expected to be invited to do a follow-up review and report in order to testify at the next hearing.

During the July 11 hearing, Judge Justice appointed a Tyler attorney, Otis W. Carroll, to serve as Attorney Ad Litem for the students. (An attorney ad litem is one appointed to represent the interests of juveniles or incapacitated

persons.)

In the June 28 Order, Judge Justice announced his intention to appoint Linda Singer, a Washington D.C. attorney, as the Court's expert to study and report on existing conditions in the Texas Youth Commission.

Ms. Singer testified at the July 11 hearing that her review would require 6-8 months of work at a cost of almost \$150,000 (assuming full agency cooperation and assuming that no other specialized experts would be needed).

She said she and two other attorneys from her firm expected to be able to conduct unaccompanied and unannounced inspections, to conduct confidential interviews with staff and students, and to receive copies of all requested files and records.

Attorneys responded to the consideration of appointing Ms. Singer, pointing out that TYC has not had the opportunity yet to present its own evidence of current conditions and that until that occurred, Ms. Singer's report would be unnecessary and inappropriate.

Judge Justice agreed, and decided against appointing Ms. Singer at this time.

In closing the hearing, Judge Justice remarked that he was interested in a satisfactory settlement of the Morales case.

(Cont. on Page 5)

TYC fortunate in budget process, White tells staff

"Some state agencies were totally abolished (by the Legislature); the fate others remains uncertain at this time; and quite a few agencies received cut-backs which will result in layoffs and fewer beds for clients, such as MHMR," TYC Assistant Executive Director for Support Services, told those attending the Kerrville workshop in June.

"TYC was very fortunate," he explained. "Not only did we NOT get cut back, but we received some additional beds and additional employee benefits," White said.

Employee benefits include a 4 percent salary increase in FY 1984 and 3 percent in FY 1985, White said. Teachers will get paid for the actual number of days worked. State contribution on group insurance will increase from \$60 to \$72 per month; state contribution on Social Security will remain the same.

Travel allowance will remain basically unchanged at 23 cents per mile and \$40 per day per diem, with the exception being that actual expense increases from \$60 to \$70 per day.

"The consolidation of a single budget pattern should not have any effect on institutions other than to make the reporting process considerably simpler," White said. The agency will be able to submit one report rather than seven reports.

White also told managers they need to be aware that operating costs were cut two percent and that one percent of the three percent increase in 1985 is not funded. "The one percent will have to be made up by individual activities," White explained.

One hundred additional beds will be constructed at the Crockett State School. New beds will also be available in two additional halfway houses, and two new group homes.

Other construction funded for TYC include renovation and expansion of the kitchen/cafeteria/warehouse and remodeling of the academic school building at Crockett; and \$1 million to start a new institution in South Texas.

"We knew this session would be tight when we went into it," White said, "and we were fortunate that we received the funds we did."

Agency staff training continues to increase

"TYC's agencywide Minimum Training Requirements (MTR) completion rate is a remarkable 89 percent for the quarter ending May 31," said Ron Allen, Director of Personnel and Staff Development.

Almost every program raised its overall completion rate, with several programs reporting 100 percent completion.

"Acknowledging that programs with larger staff population are less likely than smaller ones to reach 100 percent," added Allen, "it is still quite an accomplishment to do so."

Gail Graham, staff development coordinator, reports that four programs reached 100 percent minimum requirements: Community/Special Services Department (Central Office staff); Support Services Department (Central Office staff); El Paso Parole (for the second time); and San Antonio Parole.

All areas of Parole reached 97 percent completion of MTR's during the third quarter, and Parole showed the greatest improvement of 12 percentage points.

The program with the greatest number of requirements met is Giddings, with 1,980 out of a required 2116, giving that institution 94 percent completion. Brownwood also completed 94% of its MTR's.

TYC employees received 24,052 hours of training during the third quarter: 20,104 hours were logged for minimum training requirements, and 3,948 hours involved additional training.

The agencywide MTR Status Report totals for the third quarter include:

Central Office	86%
Halfway Houses	79%
Parole Areas	97%
Reception Center	86%
Brownwood	94%
Corsicana	77%
Crockett	88%
Gainesville	90%
Giddings	94%
West Texas	91%

"The agency new high of 89 percent completed MTR's is up from 83 percent last quarter," said Graham. "These high levels of training completion have been a result of administrative cooperation—and low staff turnover.



GROUNDBREAKING ceremonies were held May 16 at the site of the new Dallas Halfway House building in the Pleasant Grove Community. Taking part were (left to right) Wilton Davis, owner and contractor for the building; Travis Wortham, assistant superintendent; Pam Bhagwat, superintendent; Diana McBride, fiscal coordinator; and Floyd Hall, community coordinator. The new facility is expected to be ready for occupancy in October.

Brownwood TYC staff tenure recognized

Employees of the Brownwood State School and the Statewide Reception Center were honored in March for five and ten years of service at TYC facilities.

Carey Cockerell, state school superintendent, recognized the following staff members who have ten years of service: Bobbie Gaines, Eddie Hardy, Lela Henderson, Cecil Houston, Ella B. Jones, Nancy Miller and Wanda Russell.

First-year state school employees recognized were Ana Arredondo, Pam Barnes, Lanny Bessent, Kaye Boyd, Charles Bright, Rogers Byler, Richard Carpenter, Robbie Davis, Bobbie Duffer, Frances Griffin, David Harrison, Margaret Hellems, Phyllis Keese, Ellis Mahan, Pat May, Rolan Ogle, Mary Ramirez, Nelda Reiger, Joe Reno, Sue Roberts and Mike Van Huss. Cockerell was also recognized for having served five years at the Brownwood facilities.

Sandy Burnam, Reception Center superintendent, recognized the following for service at the Reception Center: Ten years: Beverly Hansboro, Mildred Ivy, Kay Reno, Arthena Shields and Frances Stockman; Five Years: Eva Alexander, Gilbert Gaeta, Ruby Louis, Wanda Marshall and Maxine Smith.

The recognition ceremony took place during a meeting of the Brownwood Community Advisory Council.

Griffin discusses accomplishments

A status report of the Youth Commission's child care and treatment program was given by Byron Griffin, Assistant Executive Director of Child Care, during the agency workshop at Kerrville in June.

Griffin noted the particular accomplishments of the past year, including implementation of the agency Task Force recommendations, the development of a parole level system, new child care standards, and the updating of procedure manuals.

He also told agency administrators that several new projects would soon be completed: new Security Unit policies; a case management revision; and new parole release criteria.

"Our objective during the coming fiscal year will be to concentrate on our group counseling and specialized services programs," Griffin added.

Cordell reports on-line services coming soon

"The Legislature has appropriated approximately \$1.2 million for TYC to purchase a mid-size mainframe that will deliver on-line services to all thirty-five TYC locations," Sonja Cordell, Director of Data Processing, told agency administrators during the Kerrville workshop in June.

Construction of a new computer room will begin August 1, to be completed by October 31, so that the new equipment can be installed in Central Office.

"We expect to begin placing terminals in field offices in the second half of fiscal year 1984," she said. "Our goal is to have data entry programs in PAYMIS ready by September 1, 1984."

Cordell explained that the greatest difficulty will be telephone lines.

"The state will be divided into four or five sections. Each section will have something like an old-fashioned 'party line,'" she said.

This network arrangement is called a multi-point network because more than one location shares a single line.

"If each location had its own line into Central Office, that would be called a point-to-point network—and prohibitively expensive," she added.

Cordell said the Data Processing Department received information from two vendors concerning equipment which would provide information needed by TYC.



SANDY BURNUM



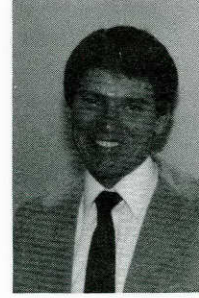
LINDA STEEN



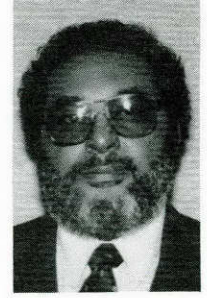
STEVE ROBINSON



RON HARRELL



MIKE URESTI



REUBEN BURNS

Administrators take on new positions

Sandra Burnam, former superintendent of the TYC Statewide Reception Center, took over the reins as superintendent of the Corsicana Residential Treatment Center June 16, following the resignation of Dr. Richard Kiekbusch.

Linda Steen, former assistant superintendent of the Brownwood State School, was named superintendent of the Reception Center, also effective June 16.

Burnam, who had been at the Reception Center nine months, has been with the Texas Youth Commission 15 years. She previously served as Administrator of Parole/Residential Contract Programs for the agency for three

Nueces House...

(Cont. from page 11)

Turners Landscape Co. donated the rental for several large decorative plants. Captain Carlos Cavazos, a member of the Corpus Police Department and a member of the Community advisory Council, was responsible for having patrolmen direct traffic for the open house.

Oliver's Jewelry of Kingsville donated a plaque and brass plates for a Resident of the Month award.

Mrs. Dorothy Kemp, a CAC member, served as chairman of the open house committee. Other members served as hosts and hostesses, presiding at the serving tables, helping in the kitchen, and at the guest book and registration table.

Other CAC members include Chris Meadows, Jim Todd, Byron Dodd, Ted Garcia, Kay Massingill, Steve Haffner, Paula Gaut, Noe Rodriguez, Cora Graham, Nancy Kelly, James Suggs, A. T. Wainscott and Emil Barondau.

Chester Clay is superintendent of Nueces House. Don Yunger is district manager of the parole office in Corpus Christi.

years, and as a parole officer in Fort Worth and Wichita Falls prior to that.

Steen served as assistant superintendent at Brownwood for 18 months. She has been with TYC since 1972, and previously held the position of Parole Area Supervisor in Fort Worth for three years. She has also been a parole volunteer coordinator, and community resource specialist in Fort Worth. Prior to that, Steen was volunteer coordinator at the Giddings State School. She began her employment with TYC as secretary to the superintendent at Giddings.

Ron Harrell, Youth Program Supervisor at the Gainesville State School, was chosen as the new assistant superintendent of West Texas Children's Home, effective June 30, replacing Mike Uresti.

Uresti was named Director of Treatment at the Corsicana Residential Treatment Center. He filled the position formerly held by Jackie Lazarus, who resigned in February.

Steve Robinson, former Halfway House Administrator in Central Office, was named Assistant Superintendent at the Giddings State School, effective June 1.

Dalton Sherrill, former Assistant Superintendent at Giddings, was named Halfway House Administrator.

Reuben Burns, former superintendent at Middleton House, began work August 1 as the new Assistant Superintendent at Brownwood State School.

Harrell, who has been with the agency 10 years, served in a number of other positions at Gainesville, youth activity supervisor, institutional trainer, and Director of Cottage Life, before becoming Youth Program Supervisor two years ago.

Uresti has been with TYC seven years, beginning his career with the



DALTON SHERRILL

Crockett State School, before going to WTCH a year ago.

Robinson previously served TYC as a hearings examiner, as superintendent of Travis House and Salado House, both in Austin, and was named Halfway House Administrator three years ago.

Sherrill began his TYC service as a youth activity supervisor at the Giddings State School, and also served there as caseworker and as volunteer coordinator, before being named assistant superintendent four years ago.

Burns has been with the Youth Commission since 1975. He served as medical/psychiatric caseworker at Gatesville, and as Acting Superintendent at the Hackberry unit before being named superintendent of Chelsea Hall in 1979. He continued as superintendent of Middleton House when a new facility was built in Richmond to replace Chelsea Hall.

(Cont. from Page 3)

He emphasized that addressing the "faults" should be the parties' first order of business.

David Richards, Executive Assistant Attorney General, asked the Court to call the hearing at the earliest time possible.

In declining to approve the amended agreement, Judge Justice wrote the powers of the Committee of Consultants "are quite limited, and the success of the settlement depends entirely upon the good faith cooperation of the defendants."

Wilderness Challenge experiences recounted

Wilderness Challenge, the 28-day Texas Youth Commission alternative program for carefully selected youth, is experienced eleven times each year.

Nine to eleven boys take each trip—and each has the option of participating in Wilderness Challenge or receiving a longer placement in a halfway house or contract program. Three caseworkers accompany each group for the entire course length.

“Not all boys who are given the opportunity choose to make the difficult trip into remote areas,” said Steve Kershaw, director. “Some decide not to because they are afraid of heights—some because the wilderness itself is scary.”

The opportunity to be able to return home in 28 days is a strong motivator, however, said assistant director Nancy Winborne.

Winborne selects participants at the Statewide Reception Center, based on the Center’s staffing committee recommendations, a short length of delinquent history, the recommendations of the county juvenile probation department, and a supportive family to return to.

Several county probation departments are supportive of Wilderness Challenge—Montgomery, Wichita and Taylor Counties where TYC has parole contracts and the staffs are more familiar with TYC options for placement—and frequently recommend their committed youth for the program.

TYC’s Wilderness Challenge, in its fifth year, was patterned after similar privately-operated programs, such as Outward Bound. TYC, however, incorporates a therapeutic program into the wilderness environment.

Youth are faced with the physical challenges of hiking long distances across back country, rappelling down sheer cliffs, wading white water rivers, and scaling major peaks.

The physical challenges, combined with peer influence and counselor guidance, form the basis for the therapeutic group work that takes place.

Different groups make trips to such mountainous areas

as the Big Bend area, Southwestern New Mexico, or Southern Colorado.

The youth carry all their supplies in 50-60 pound backpacks, and are responsible for preparing and cooking their meals, cleaning up, and properly containing fire and rationing water.

Shortly before the trip ends, each youth goes ‘solo,’ an experience in which each boy is taken to a remote site a short way from the main camp and must remain for 48 hours. He is given enough food and water to last two days, and must ration his supplies accordingly. Staff checks on each boy occasionally, however, and spends some time discussing his individual problems.

The group spends its final two days of the trip completely on its own (with staff following about a half mile behind in case of problems.)

During this “final expedition,” the group is totally responsible for tending to chores, holding its own ‘group’ sessions, and reading maps sufficiently to make the final trek across a mountaination.

“Only in case of a serious problem does the staff intervene at this point,” said Winborne.

Wilderness Challenge is based at the Crockett State School, and the program is under the supervision of Bob Drake, Crockett superintendent. The rate of recidivism for this TYC program has averaged about twelve (12) percent over three years.

“TYC staff members in other programs, county juvenile probation officers, and juvenile judges are encouraged to visit Wilderness Challenge at the midway point during which additional supplies are delivered to the participants,” said Kershaw.

Because of the remoteness of the areas traveled, a visit for observation of the activity takes several days.

At the conclusion of each trip, each participant writes a narrative of some aspect of the experience. Reprinted here are the essays of two of the boys who made the May trip.

“SOLO”

By: Martin Garcia

If you join Wilderness Challenge you have to go through something called “Solo”. It starts right after Resupply and you stay on Solo for two days. First they get you together and then they tell you what you are going to do. After they tell you what you should do, they (staff) tell you what to take. You have to take your sleeping bag, poncho, wool pants, rain pants; or to put it short whatever clothes you want to take. You also have to take your whistle, tent or plastic, and food. The staff will give you the food for your two days. The food is enough to get you through the days unless you eat it all in the first day. You get: ten crackers, a piece of cheese, a bag of raisins, a pack of granola bars, and a jug of water.

You get an area about 50’ x 50’. It’s like a big square. When you first get there it’s boring. All you do all day is sit around and do nothing. You can play with the ground or get into shape or you can walk around and think about what you will do when you get out.

Time goes slow and I do mean slow. All you can do is sleep until staff brings you your water. When

staff does bring your water, you are going to ask him “What time is it” or “How much longer do we have to go”. Then you go through the same old things that you did all day.

‘when you go to sleep at night, you might feel a little scared...’

When you go to sleep at night you might feel a little scared cause if you have seen horror movies like Friday the 13th, or some other chop-them-up movies, it makes you think, cause you hear all kinds of sounds. When you do get through the first night you have to go through the same things you did the other day. But when you finish Solo and you go back to camp you eat a good meal. You don’t have to cook cause staff has already made it.

(Cont. on page 7)

"FINAL EXPEDITION"

By: Joey Perkins, McAllen

The last couple of days the staff left us alone to do everything on our own. They were with us for 19 days showing us what needed to be done, how to do it, and how to get to where we were going. The night they left everybody got excited because all these days of hard work are about to pay off.

That morning we got up, did our exercises and got breakfast ready; cleaned up and on the trail sooner than it ever took when the staff was around. They were surprised to see us go so early cause we were usually late. When we got on the trail we hiked for about an hour and 15 minutes and realized we had gone further than we thought. We talked about what

'a lot of us miss a lot of different foods, like donuts and hamburgers...'

we were going to do when we got home to our families and friends. A lot of us miss a lot of different foods, like donuts, hamburgers, and especially our favorite drink. We had gone a month without smoking, so none of us really thought about it much.

That day we got 7 1/2 miles before lunch. It was supposed to have taken all day but we did it in a morning. We had the rest of the day to ourselves. We hiked hard that morning, we had the rest of the day to do what we pleased. It was fun. Everybody was sitting around and just saying what they felt, playing cards, and cracking jokes at each other. The next morning we did the same. Woke up early, got everything ready and was on our way but had to walk back cause we left trash and someone left their tennis shoes.

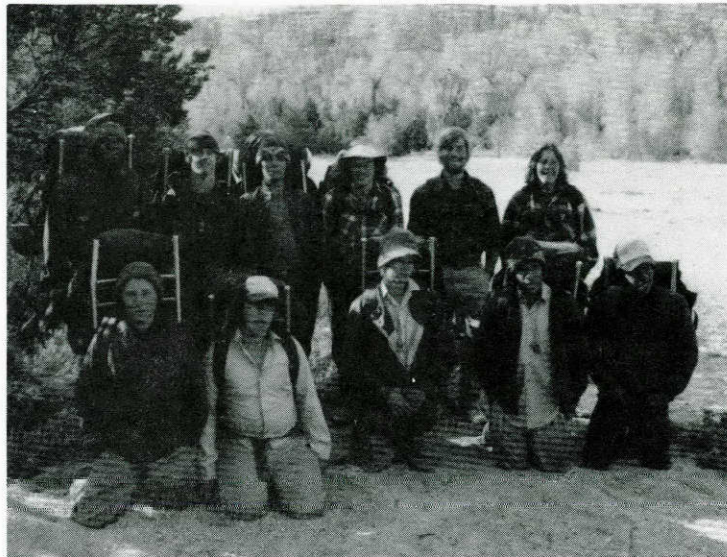
That day we had some arguments but none of them led to a fight. We were supposed to get over Loco Mountain, which we figured out why they called

'we earned...our early release home—and no one can say we didn't!'

it Loco Mountain the hard way. As we got over the mountain we saw some cars and a dirt road and we knew we were almost home free. It was before lunch one more time. We were tired but all of a sudden it felt like we just started. We got to the bottom of the hill to the dirt road. As we walked down the road we saw the bus and boy did it look pretty. One day we walked away from it and now we were walking to it. The feeling was great. We didn't have to wear those back packs any more and we did something that took hard work and no one handed it to us.

We earned and deserved our early release home and no one can say we didn't. Everyone's going home except for myself and I'm going to Gulf Coast Trade Center.

HOME FREE!!!!!!!!!!!!



YOUTH AND STAFF of the May trip of TYC's Wilderness Challenge program posed for photo at conclusion of trip. Included are staff members Anders and Nancy Engen, (back row right); and participants Levi Adamson, Scott Coleman, Michael Denman, Martin Garcia, Trinni Horton, Cary Loya, Robert Mann and Joseph Perkins.

Hoffman says MBO working at TYC

"We've done a good job in developing and completing key agency objectives this year," Deputy Director Mart Hoffman told Kerrville workshop participants. "Every year our system has gotten better."

Hoffman reported that the agency has completed close to 100 percent of fiscal year 1983 objectives. The impressive aspect of our objectives completed this year is that, in general, they have been more difficult and complex than in past years.

A key accomplishment this year has been the raising minimum training requirements from 68% completed to 89.3 percent.

"This is the highest that it's ever been, and is a result of top management support, cooperation of program managers, institutional personnel assistants, and hard work by the Personnel and Staff Development Department," he said.

Other accomplishments include the five-year data processing plan for conversion to a mainframe system; the completion of the security fence at the Brownwood State School; and implementation of Task Force recommendations.

Hoffman also reported that the agency's MBO Quarterly Progress Review has been implemented and has provided key managers of the agency with a positive means of administrative communication.

Plans for the coming fiscal year include having objective-setting done first by field administrators, with finalized objectives being returned in late July.

Solo... (Cont. from page 6)

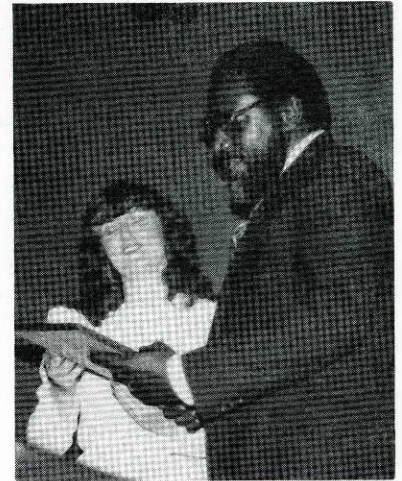
When you finish eating you talk with the other group members about what they thought about Solo. Some people have different ideas about Solo, but you all feel good in the end.



HELEN CALLOWAY, Crockett State School staff member, received the award for Outstanding Child Care Worker in Institutions.



ROBERT LOUIS, Dallas House, was named Outstanding Child Care Worker in TYC Halfway Houses. He receives his plaque from Board Member Ruben Schaeffer of El Paso.



JANICE LONGRIDGE-MASON receives plaque for being named Outstanding Central Office staff member from TYC Board member Jim Bowie of Houston.

Outstanding TYC employees, volunteers

HELEN CALLOWAY *Outstanding Child Care Worker in Institutions*

Helen "Mama" Calloway, Crockett State School Youth Activity Supervisor, was named Outstanding Child Care Worker in Institutions during the TYC annual awards banquet in Kerrville June 20.

Announcement of her selection from a field of seven nominees was made by TYC Board vice chairman Ruben Schaeffer.

Mrs. Calloway began her career with TYC in 1972 as a houseparent in the Azalea cottage. After the Crockett State School was closed as a home for dependent and neglected youth, Helen voluntarily stayed to help with the transition phase—painting, cleaning and helping get the campus organized to open the Crockett Wilderness Program.

Those who work with her say she has the ability to be firm, yet loving, which generates student respect, said Schaeffer.

Her dormitory consistently wins awards for cleanliness, neatness and behavior.

"Her most recent accomplishment is the beautification of the grounds surrounding her dorm, involving students in the planting, tending and caring of the plants," he added.

"Helen never leaves campus until ALL the work is done—in her dorm, in the cafeteria, in the security building,"

(Cont. on page 12)

ROBERT LOUIS *Outstanding Child Care Worker in Halfway Houses*

Robert Louis, Community Coordinator at Dallas House, was named outstanding child care worker in TYC Halfway Houses. Seven halfway house workers were nominated for the award.

"Louis has been a tireless speaker in the community on behalf of Dallas House," said TYC Board Member Ruben Schaeffer, who presented the award. "His efforts have helped create a solid, mutual volunteer relationship with the Dallas Homemaking Club."

"He has enhanced TYC's image with the Dallas County Juvenile Probation Department by training their entire group counselor staff," he added.

Louis regularly visits high schools throughout Dallas and Arlington, speaking both with teachers and students.

"His programs generate good will and improve community relations, helping tear down stereotypes about TYC," Schaeffer said.

In addition, Louis has "covered" the program, using his own personal time, while other staff members completed their Minimum Training Requirements.

"Innovative programming is a key ingredient of Robert's style," said Schaeffer. "He's developed the first Student Council for Dallas House and has recently implemented TYC's first Victim's Rights and Awareness

(Cont. on page 12)

JANICE LONGRIDGE-MASON *Outstanding Central Office Staff Member*

Word Processing Supervisor Janice Longridge-Mason was named Outstanding Central Office Staff Member from a field of six nominees.

"Janice has kept the agency in the forefront of Word Processing while overseeing a major departmental overhaul during the past year," said TYC Board Member Jim Bowie, who made the presentation.

Her most significant achievement has been the institution of the Xerox 860 system in Central Office, as well as in Giddings, Gainesville and the Reception Center. She also trained all field operators and supervisors.

"The unqualified success of the new word processing system throughout the agency is in itself an outstanding tribute to her dedication and professionalism," said Bowie.

"She has taken on projects such as producing the agency's budget and developing measures for analysis of clerical workload that others said couldn't be done...and she responds promptly and positively to user requests that frequently change in mid-project," he added.

Janice is a graduate of the Texas State Management Development Center's Managers of Managers program, and belongs to the Office Automation Society International, the International

(Cont. on page 12)



MR. AND MRS. Bill Partridge, operators of Azleway Boys' Ranch in Tyler, received the TYC award for most Outstanding Foster Home.



MRS. LENORA PRICE of Pyote was named Outstanding TYC Volunteer for her many years of work and contributions to West Texas Children's Home. She is shown here with Executive Director Ron Jackson.



DR. GEORGE Willeford, TYC Board Member, presents plaque to Ron Olson of the Southwestern Bell Pioneer Club of San Antonio for the club's contributions to Ayres House in San Antonio. The Club was one of two group awards. Also receiving a Volunteer Group award was the Levi Strauss Foundation for work with Valley House in Harlingen.

receive awards at banquet

DANA AND BILL PARTRIDGE

*Azleway Boys Ranch
Outstanding Foster Home*

Azleway Boys' Ranch of Tyler was recognized as TYC's Outstanding Foster Group Home during the annual awards banquet in Kerrville.

"Foster parents are invaluable resources for our youth," said Dr. William Shamburger, TYC Board Member who made the presentation to Bill and Dana Partridge, Azleway owners. "Money alone cannot possibly express our appreciation for the difficult and powerful role they play in effecting change in the lives of TYC youth."

"Azleway is known for its willingness to take on the very difficult youth and for their ability to always find something good in every boy," said Dr. Shamburger.

The foster group home provides care for 24 TYC youth. Boys may be placed in a structured main program which provides a nurturing, family environment while allowing him to experience the daily trials of growing up; older youths might be placed directly in Azleway's Independent Living Program, which provides freedom with responsibility for more mature youth involved in a vocational or work program.

"Azleway's setting is rural and the atmosphere is strictly family," said Dr. Shamburger. "The Partridges make it a point to visit with families while youth are in their care."

(Cont. on page 10)

MRS. LENORA PRICE

Outstanding Volunteer

Mrs. Lenora Price of Pyote was named Outstanding Individual Volunteer in TYC programs. She was selected from among ten nominees.

Mrs. Price, a former Ward County Commissioner, was instrumental in locating the West Texas Children's Home in Pyote.

She began her volunteer work as part of the "broom and mop brigade" in an effort to transform long-abandoned Air Force barracks into dormitories for dependent and neglected children back in 1966.

She also donated and helped plant trees on the barren campus. After children began arriving, Lenora worked tirelessly to amass a library at the Home.

She regularly visited children on the campus, and often brought children to her home. Over the years, she has taught Sunday School and Vacation Bible School classes to hundreds of WTCH youth.

Mrs. Price encouraged and helped create a Boy Scout troop at the Home, and fielded a Little League team. In her capacity as a county commissioner, she provided employment opportunities for students, helped build a regulation baseball diamond on the campus, and allowed children to swim in the Pyote County pool while the campus pool was repaired.

(Cont. on page 12)

RON OLSON

*SW Bell Pioneer Club
Volunteer Group Award*

Volunteer Group Awards in 1982 went to two Southwestern Bell Pioneer Clubs. Again in 1983, TYC honored another Pioneer Club, the San Antonio group, whose members have contributed an unbelievable amount of materials, equipment and labor to benefit the youth and staff of Ayres House, one of seven TYC Halfway Houses.

Ron Olson, an officer representing the group, attended the awards banquet and accepted the award from TYC Board Member Dr. George Willeford.

During the past year, the club "created" a backyard at Ayres House by installing a cyclone fence around a portion of the property, then donated and installed a barbecue pit and picnic table.

Members improved the Ayres House recreation program by recovering the pool table, donating a pool cue rack, donated assorted barbells and weights and a bench for a weight "station", and repaired and welded the basketball backboard.

They have improved the kitchen at Ayres House by donating and installing a screen door to the kitchen entrance, installing new kitchen linoleum, and donating a stainless steel drainboard.

(Cont. on page 12)

LEVI STRAUSS FOUNDATION Volunteer Group Award

The Levi Strauss Foundation Community Involvement Team of Harlingen received a TYC Volunteer Group Award during the agency's annual awards banquet in Kerrville.

Last October, the Foundation, through the efforts of Mrs. Tina Amaya, an employee of the Levi Strauss plant in Harlingen, donated \$4,400 to Valley House—toward the construction of an exercise/storage room to be located behind the Halfway House.

"That initial large contribution served as the impetus for the Harlingen Community Advisory Council to raise additional funds for the \$7,800 project," said TYC Board Member George Willeford. A donation from the Valley House landlord, Butch Looney, rounded out the fund-raising.

As a result of Strauss' initial contribution, Valley House residents and staff now participate in a regular exercise program.

"The new exercise building and equipment is very much appreciated, and we are happy to recognize the Levi Strauss Foundation for their generosity in granting this financial contribution," Dr. Willeford added.

Rey Gomez, Valley House superintendent, accepted the award on behalf of the Foundation, since a representative was unable to be present at the banquet.

Azleway...

(Cont. from page 9)

The Partridges believe in cooperation, and they make use of community resources. The couple obtains scholarships for selected youth, and provide free counseling for troubled youth and their families.

Azleway has provided care for 130 TYC youth since 1980 with an eighty percent success rate.

"Life at Azleway is a rich, significant experience for TYC youth, as it softens the pain that so many TYC youth have experienced with the reward that often comes with trying," added Dr. Shamburger. "We are proud to honor this remarkable couple and their staff."

Both Dana and Bill Partridge are experienced in child care work, and both have worked at the Lena Pope Home in Fort Worth: Dana for three years, and Bill for seven years. Bill served as recreation assistant, program director, and in the public relations position for the Home. Bill also worked with the Chaplain of the Waco State Home while

NANCY BRELAND Outstanding Child Care Worker in Field Services

Nancy Breland, secretary in the Fort Worth area parole office, was named Outstanding Child Care Worker in Field Services from a field of six area parole nominees.

"Fort Worth parole officers have enjoyed the envy of many others because of Nancy Breland, who not only performs expected tasks in a superior manner, but finds time to reach further," said TYC Board Member Jim Bowie.

"Nancy exemplifies the virtues of hard work and initiative, and has trained other parole clerical staff in Houston, San Antonio and Dallas in fiscal and clerical responsibilities," Bowie said.

She is also active in the volunteer program in Fort Worth and serves as



BOB DRAKE, Crockett Superintendent, and wife Dorothy, (center) hosted two Crockett volunteers who attended the awards banquet: Manuel Martinez and Gene Ellis.

attending college at Baylor University. He received his BA degree in sociology from Baylor, and later attended Southwestern Seminary in Ft. Worth.

Dana Partridge has taught kindergarten, fourth grade and fifth grade. She received her BA in education from the University of North Carolina, and her MA in childhood religion from Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth.

The Partridges direct a staff of seven. Azleway Boys' Ranch encompasses three buildings, with a new building now under construction to house the Independent Living Program.

The couple has three children of their own: Christy, 8; Brittney, 5; and Bryan, 8 months. The Partridge children attend Chapel Hill School, as do the foster youth placed at the ranch by TYC.

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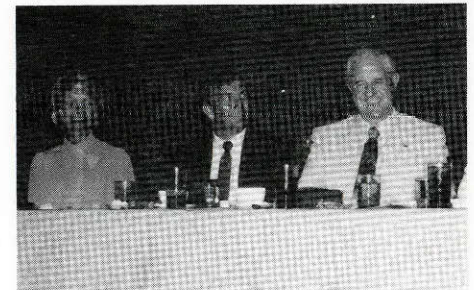
Also nominated as this year's Outstanding Foster Group Home were Linda and Kenneth Kidd of Waco.

the Need Coordinator for Area II.

Her volunteer activities have included obtaining food and supplies for eight Christmas baskets for the families of TYC youth; she has obtained tuition funds for a TYC youth in placement so he could attend the Fellowship of Christian Athletes' convention. She also acquired funds from a Catholic Church in Dallas which permitted a TYC youth to see his father for the first time in eight years.

"She is described by the staff as 'just wonderful...a jack-of-all trades...a lady who can do it all.'" Bowie added.

Other Field Services nominees included Lenard Holmes of Waco, Area 6; David Shelton of Dallas, Area 3; Debbie Garza of Edinburg, Area 4; Gretchen Stephens of Beaumont, Area 5; and Charles Barker of Amarillo, Area 1.



HEAD TABLE during banquet included (left to right) Missy (Mrs. Ron) Jackson, TYC Executive Director Ron Jackson, and Rep. Tom Waldrop.



AMONG GUESTS attending the agency banquet in Kerrville were former State Representative Lynn Nabers (right) of Brownwood, and Koma Donworth (second from right) administrative aide to Rep. Tom Waldrop. Shown also are Steve Robinson, Assistant Superintendent at Giddings, and wife Laurie Shanblum, Administrative Assistant to TYC Executive Director Ron Jackson.

Halfway house, parole offices combined in new Corpus facility

Jim Estelle, Executive Director of the Texas Department of Corrections, was keynote speaker at dedication ceremonies June 17 for the new Texas Youth Commission halfway house/parole office in Corpus Christi.

Young men here should continue their education, set goals for themselves and find God, Estelle told the more than 200 people who attended the event.

"About 85 percent of the people who come to my institutions are school dropouts," said Estelle. "That should tell you something."

"If you are going to be winners you need to stay in school till you get a diploma and then set some goals," he explained.

He also told the young men it was important that they find religion.

"It is critically important that you find God as you understand it," Estelle said.

Estelle also praised the efforts of volunteers who donate their time to work with troubled youth in the state.

"The volunteers are the superheroes of the criminal justice system," he said.

Also on the program for the afternoon open house and ribbon-cutting were Ron Jackson, TYC Executive Director; Joe Castillo, Area IV parole supervisor; and Cliff Zarsky, Corpus Christi city councilman; Nueces House Supt. Chester Clay; and the Rev. Harold Branch, pastor of St. John's Baptist Church.

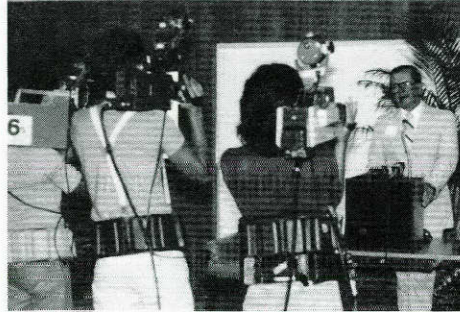
The new 8,000-square-foot building houses both a residence for boys and offices for the Corpus district parole staff.

The halfway house (Nueces House), 7,200 square feet, contains a large living area, three offices, a dining room, kitchen, six bedrooms and six bathrooms. Twenty-six boys presently reside there.

Four parole staff members housed in the building supervise the activities of youth who have returned from TYC residential programs to their homes and families in Nueces County and 14 surrounding counties.

Refreshments for the event were provided by members of the Corpus Christi Community Advisory Council, the Nueces House staff, and H.E.B. donated two large German chocolate cakes.

(Cont. on page 5)



JIM ESTELLE, TDC Executive Director, was keynote speaker at the Nueces House/Corpus Christi parole office open house June 16, with all three Corpus television stations covering the event...



CLIFF ZARSKY, Corpus Christi City Councilman, took part in opening program...



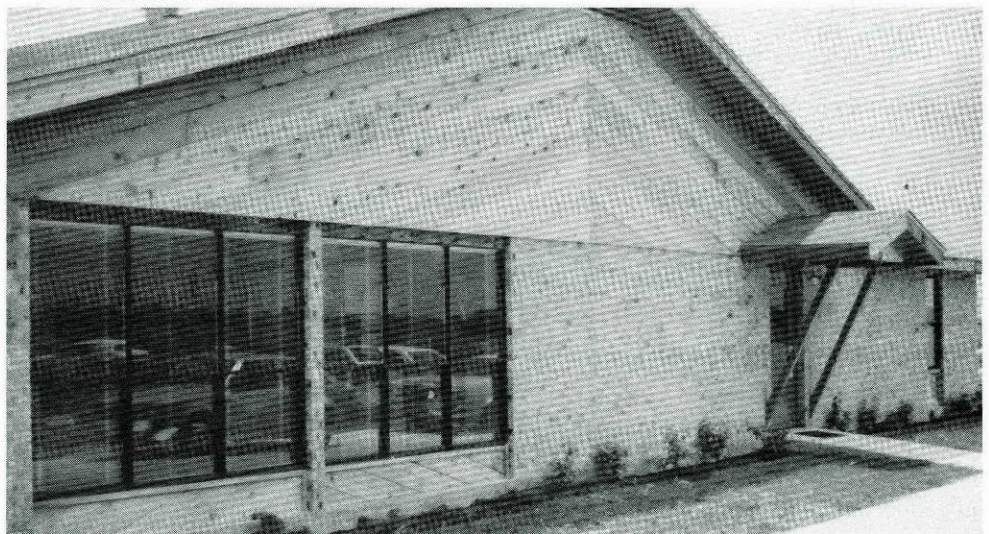
TYC EXECUTIVE Director, Ron Jackson...



NUECES HOUSE superintendent, Chester Clay, is interviewed by reporter...



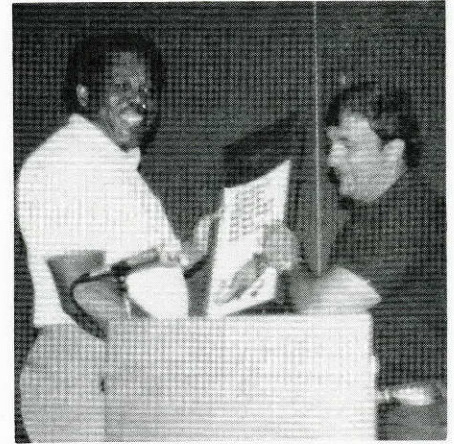
DALTON SHERRILL, right, Administrator of TYC Halfway Houses, and Steve Robinson, Asst. Supt. of the Giddings State School (former Halfway House Administrator) visit with guest speaker Jim Estelle, TDC Executive Director



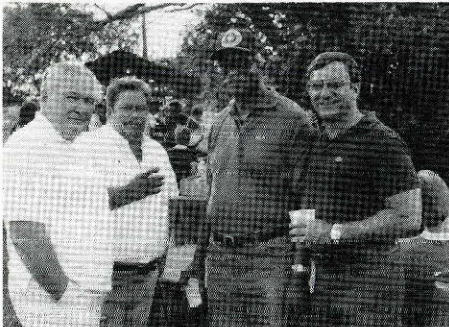
NEW CORPUS FACILITY features offices for five parole officers (parole entrance shown at right) and residential halfway house for 24 boys (halfway house entrance out of photo at left).



UNDER THE TALENTED direction of Fort Worth parole officer Frank Dunaway, parole staff members once again put on a great show—spotlighting changes in TYC during the past ten years...Shown are singers Lisa McGriffert, Shirley Adams, Vic Herrera, Octavia Cloman, Frank Dunaway, Vernon Broussard, Randy Williams, and Pattye Aldrich.



CALVIN CRENSHAW, Giddings Superintendent, won the "coveted" Shiver Award for 1983...Presenting the traveling award is Executive Director Ron Jackson...



BOB DRAKE, W. J. Ham, Pete Harroll and Executive Director Ron Jackson pause for camera during Sunday night cook-off...

Kerrville fun...



HOUSTON AREA parole staff members sported matching T-shirts at the cookoff...which said "Area V—Together & Loving it."

Mrs. Price...

(Cont. from page 9)

"Mrs. Price was openly supportive of TYC's decision to convert the Home from a dependent and neglected childrens' institution to a delinquent institution—even when it was not politically popular to do so," said Dr. George Willeford, TYC Board Member who presented her award.

She has been an honorary member of the Community Advisory Council for many years, and has contributed substantial financial amounts to activities for TYC students.

"Mrs. Price's service to WTCH have been so extensive, that the Home held an appreciation reception for her when she retired as County Commissioner," said Dr. Willeford. "It seems fitting that the Texas Youth Commission as a whole take advantage of this opportunity to publicly recognize her years of extraordinary service to our agency and our children."

Other nominees for the award included: John Colver, Valley House; Donna Anderson, San Antonio Parole; Sandra Menley, Giddings; Ina Miller, Middleton House; Alberto Renteria, El Paso Parole; Manuel Martinez, Crockett; Larry Raiff, Dallas Parole; Ronald Hartis, Corsicana; Wes and Collene Morrow, Gainesville.

Pioneer Club...

(Cont. from page 9)

The group improved the appearance of the House by staining the exterior front door and the exterior wood, and, in addition, constructed a front-porch roof overhang. They also reupholstered several pieces of furniture, and have donated clothing for residents.

"But most important, individuals in the club have given of themselves through interaction with the young men of Ayres House and have improved the boys' self-esteem," said Dr. Willeford. "The boys are sincerely grateful to receive assistance from community residents serving as caring, unselfish friends to them."

Ten other volunteer groups were nominated for the Outstanding Volunteer Group Award.

They were Dallas East Southwestern Bell Pioneer Club, Dallas; Howard Payne University Baptist Student Union, Brownwood; Free Indeed Outreach Program, Dallas; Second Baptist Church, Rosenberg; Era Baptist Church WMU, Gainesville; American Legion Post No. 626, Fort Worth; Pennzoil Exploration and Production Co., Corpus Christi; Optimist Club, Monahans; El Paso Lions & Lionesses; and El Paso Yucca Post 8919.

Longridge-Mason...

(Cont. from page 8)

Word Processing Association, and the Texas Association of State-Supported Computer Centers.

Other nominees for the award were Joye Robinson, Personnel; Pam Campbell, Legal; Diana Prewit, Purchasing and Supply; Joyce Bird, Accounting; and Sandra Hambrick, Community Services.

Louis...

(Cont. from page 8)

program. He has also helped introduce a highly effective Drug Abuse program at the House."

Other nominees from TYC Halfway Houses included Elda Hebert, Ayres House, San Antonio; Luana Marchese, El Paso House; Myrtle Mayberry, Middleton House, Richmond; Craig Hinkle, Nueces House, Corpus Christi; James Humphrey, Salado House, Austin; and Amador Martinez, Valley House, Harlingen.

Calloway...

(Cont. from page 8)

says one of her coworkers. "She always lends an extra hand. Hours after her shift is over, you might find her in the kitchen preparing dinner, washing pots, or serving meals — as a volunteer."

"Helen is an inspiration for all who work with her," Schaeffer concluded. "Her energy, youthfulness and spirit serve as a model for both students and staff."

Other nominees included Ron Harrell, Gainesville; Iris Bohr, Giddings; Horace Mann, Reception Center; Eddie Gill, Brownwood State School; Rodney Maurer, West Texas; and Barbara Peterson, Corsicana State Home.

'Those other people's kids...'

State Treasurer Ann Richards tells banquet crowd

State Treasurer Ann Richards, the first woman elected to a statewide office since Miriam "Ma" Ferguson began her second term as Governor during the Great Depression, was keynote speaker for TYC's annual awards banquet June 20 in Kerrville.

"Richards was instrumental in the formulation and passage of Legislation to improve the state's juvenile justice system during the 1981 session, through work with the Special Committee on the Delivery of Human Services in Texas," said Dr. George Beto, TYC Board Chairman, who introduced her at the banquet.

Richards served five years as a County Commissioner for Travis County, and was reelected overwhelming in 1980. She resigned her seat in 1982 to become a candidate for state treasurer.

"As a county commissioner, Richards was recognized for being a firm administrator while managing a large staff and a multi-million dollar county budget," said Dr. Beto.

She worked closely with the Legislature, state agencies, the business community and the general public. She also served as a member of the Austin Transportation Study, the planning and policy body which directs transportation needs and funding in the Austin metropolitan area.

The Austin American-Statesman named her one of Austin's "Ten Most Influential Citizens."

Richards has also served on the President's Advisory Committee on Women, and in 1981, was honored as "Woman of the Year" by the Texas Women's Political Caucus for her initiative and hard work in the Women in Texas History Project.

Active in politics for many years, both in Dallas and Austin, Richards managed the two successful campaigns



STATE TREASURER Ann Richards gave the keynote address for the annual TYC Awards Banquet. At left is TYC Board vice chairman Ruben Schaeffer and Mrs. Schaeffer.

for state Legislative candidates Sarah Weddington and Wilhelmina Delco. She also served as an administrative assistant to Weddington in the Texas House of Representatives.

She was born in Waco and earned a BA in 1954 from Baylor University. Later she pursued graduate studies at the University of Texas at Austin. Before her election to public office, Richards taught in the public schools, raised four children with her husband, Austin attorney David Richards, and actively volunteered her time in a variety of civic projects.

Text of Keynote Address TYC Annual Awards Banquet

By Ann Richards

Because of the personal importance of this event, I have been overwhelmed by the desire to perform well. At every opportunity I have sought counsel for today's remarks.

But, as is so frequently the case, the idea came to me not in a moment of study and contemplation, but as I was dressing for work and a rerun of the television program "Leave It To Beaver" came on the tube.

I trust that most of you remember the Cleaver family. Dear old dad Cleaver absentmindedly gets through his fathering years safely employed enough to provide a Middletown, USA, bungaloed existence for his family.

Mrs. Cleaver has enough cookies in the jar to protect the psyches of her young, and lovingly defines the household rules that keeps mud off the carpet.

Wally Cleaver heaves through adolescent trama and Beaver injects just the right note of naive wisdom

to make them all appear ridiculous.

In the particular episode that caught my attention, Wally is reminded by his mother that he must ask his dinner date what she would like to order at a restaurant and then HE should tell the waiter. Mama Cleaver turns to Beaver and says, "One day you'll be taking dates out to dinner."

To which Beaver replies, "No thanks, I've got enough trouble with manners at the family dinner table."

Well now...isn't that the truth? Beaver is right. We've got enough trouble with rules and expectations right her in the family without going out and asking for more. A ludicrous social rule that your date cannot order dinner for herself when dealing with do's and dont's at home is quite enough.

We as parents begin as early as possible to instill the fundamental refinements that will create an or-

(Cont. on page 14)

(Cont. from page 13)

derly structure in which the family humans can live together. Most of our rules have been handed down to us from our parents with added garnishments from Dr. Spock and Sigmund Freud. Ours is not to reason why, ours is just to PASS THE RULES ON.

At approximately the time the household valuables achieve a measure of safety, we send children out to become educated.

From kindergarten on, we instill the basic tenets on which our country was founded. Independent spirit, freedom of thought and speech, a governmental order founded on revolution. We want to give kids a full dose of American Independence.

We exalt the bravery and spirit of our founding fathers who gave us liberty. Within the message, we glorify rebellion. In fact, we urge them to independent action at a very early age.

Consider the case of the father of our country, George Washington...when just a slip of a boy, he told the truth all right, but he DID cut down the cherry tree.

And so, while we urge kids to revere the past, play by our rules, honor their founding fathers and their real mother and father, we ask them at the same time to be free-thinking and independent in all their actions.

This balancing act would test a seasoned juggler, and it is no wonder that many a ball is dropped. The inconsistency of our demands confounds even the most conforming and docile of our young people.

Contract if you will the happy All-American Cleaver family with all their rules and ambivalence toward Independence vs. Conformity with the All-American family that you and I know all too well...but our family doesn't sell soap to the television viewing public.

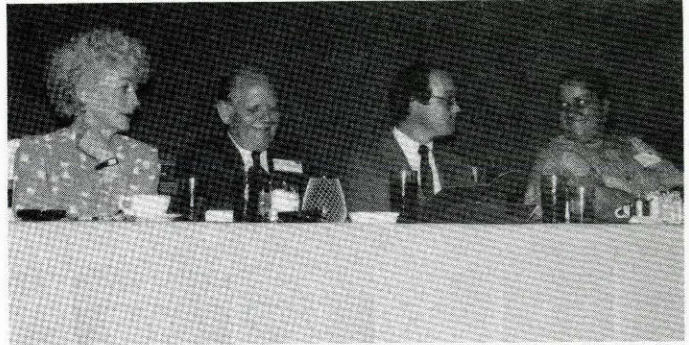
"The Wally Cleavers that fall into the criminal justice system in Texas aren't worried about an upcoming math test...they dropped out of school in the tenth grade..."

The Wally Cleavers that fall into the criminal justice system in Texas aren't worried about an upcoming math test, they dropped out of school in the tenth grade...just another statistic in LEAA studies...another of the "learning disabled" that couldn't tolerate the frustration of the public school system.

Frankly, I don't blame Wally...repeated trips to the principal's office won't solve his problem that Mama is a drunk and Papa hasn't been heard from since first grade.

A few dollars in Wally's jeans from a part-time job look mighty good to his younger brother Beaver...who, after all, has few role models that are realistic.

If he is black, he undoubtedly yearns to be Gary Coleman, a brilliant kid adopted by a right millionaire, but more likely can look forward to the hilarious life of Sanford the trash hauler...who's poor but hangs on with his street smarts.



HEAD TABLE included Speaker Ann Richards, Board Member Dr. George Willeford, State Rep. Gerald Hill and Mrs. Jim Bowie, wife of a TYC Board Member.

If he is Mexican-American, his television idol could be a cop on Hill Street Blues, but in the interim what better training for his life goal than to join a gang...wear a uniform, police the neighborhood of other gangs, read Low Rider Magazine in preparation of fast moving police cars.

If there were a Sister Cleaver, she would hardly opt for the Mama Cleaver home-baked image when there is a tigress to be unleashed by Shalimar perfume or DeWars Scotch...or a joint from brother Wally.

The stereotypical red, white and blue on the canvas of American life is blotched by the reality of what we are selling our children. And we are selling them short.

What happens to the children that stretch the spirit of American independence to the breaking point by breaking the law, disrupting orderliness...We get them out of sight, of course...

We give them to you because they are too much for us to handle.

We give them to you...with the expectation that you can undo all that has been done by us as parents, by society as a whole, and we do so with the insistence that you give them understanding, psychological counseling, loving guidance, education, and vocational training on a shoestring.

We compound our demands by making you statisticians and bookkeepers to justify in numbers the meagre expenditures we grant to you for the pur-

(Cont. on page 15)

(Cont. from page 14)

pose of rescuing young human beings.

But you and I know that there is not enough money — will never be enough money — to salvage all the lives entrusted to you.

But our hope continues that you will make up in innovation and hard work what cannot be purchased in dollars and cents. And the amazing thing is that you do it!

The Texas Youth Commission is recognized as the outstanding correctional program for youth in the nation. You've shown the flexibility to expand to a full spectrum of options for the case of children in trouble. From institutional-based to fostercare and halfway houses. Always under the constant threat of litigation...working long hours with constant interruptions in private time and often at real physical risk.

"Nothing is more threatening or more discouraging than confrontation with the bureaucracy that controls the purse strings..."

Probably the most serious challenge confronting you is keeping that spirit alive that placed you in this profession in the first place. Nothing is more threatening or more discouraging than confrontation with the bureaucracy that controls the purse strings.

The large portion of humble pie that is a steady diet when dealing with the Legislature can choke the most dedicated of souls. Not all legislators are like Gerald Hill and Tom Waldrop. So few of them have had direct experience with children in trouble or children of neglect. When our kids are in trouble we have the contacts and the sophistication to make the

"There is in what you do the equivalent of a religious calling—but without the reward of sainthood..."

system work for us. Your changes are "those other people's kids."

And so why do you do what you do? What I have described are stern realities...but there is in each of you a fundamental spark that still believes that your investment literally saves the lives of the children that WE have abandoned.

There is in what you do the equivalent of a religious calling — but without the reward of sainthood...

There is in what you do the discipline demanded of a general under fire — but you'll never see a medal...

And so in spite of what we do to the children of our state, thank God for you who continue to serve as a rescue unit.

For years I've told my children that life is much like a layer cake. You build one layer upon the other and you have a cake. But whether or not it is frosted is strictly up to you.

I think now that there is less value in building and more to be gained by peeling away.

Life experiences are much like shedding the outer skins of a chrysalis to reveal the special person within. It is the loving, trusting creature in our core...even in the hardest cases of the children that you supervise...the gentle, wise, innocent Beaver Cleaver that will make our world rules more tolerant, more humane, and, in the long run, will save us all.

PAROLE GOLDEN SPIKE awards this year went to the eight parole staff members who have been with the agency 10 years or more. Shown are, left to right (kneeling) Elton Strother, Chuy Bonilla, T. H. Hodge; (standing) Cathy Sussman, Herman Fox, Beverly McLester, Jimmy Ward, and Trudy Asbury. The awardees also received T-shirts with the slogan, "Morales-Iurman Survivors 1973-1983."



Agency says farewell to Su Cunningham...



CUNNINGHAM is surrounded by agency volunteer coordinators during going-away barbecue. Pictured, left to right, are Pattye Aldrich, Fort Worth Parole; Sandra Martin, former coordinator for Dallas Parole; Ann Harris, Houston Parole; Cunningham; Lucy Humbert, Corsicana; Ellie Hafner, volunteer from San Antonio; Bill Bradbury, Giddings; Katie Price, Gainesville; Cathy Sussman, San Antonio Parole; Rodney Maurer, West Texas; and Mickie Blocker, Crockett. Su served as Chief of Volunteer Services for many years.



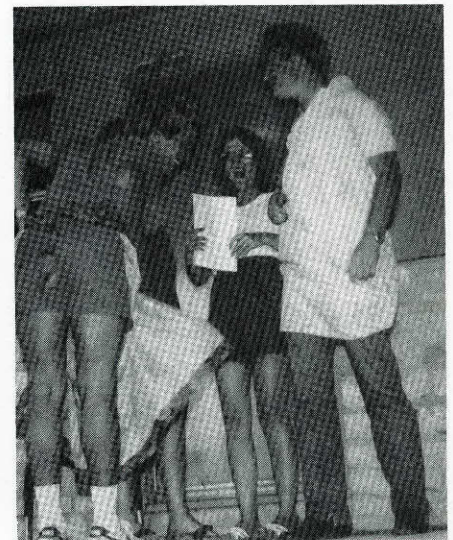
DEPUTY DIRECTOR Mart Hoffman, left, and Executive Director Ron Jackson, right, bid farewell to longtime TYC employee Su Cunningham during going-away festivities at Parrie Haynes Ranch...



BARBECUE with all the trimmings were served to more than 125 agency staff members and guests. Food for the event was prepared by Alton Weiser, John Franks, Joe Franks and Minnie Christiansen.



SU WAS PRESENTED A Seiko watch, an appreciation clock/plaque, and a leather briefcase by staff members and guests.



SKITS were presented by members of TYC's Staff Services Department, which Su headed until she accepted her present position as a Parole Commissioner with the Board of Pardons and Paroles. (Shown are Gabriel Esparza, Peggy Marshall and Nick von Kreisler.)



CROWD GATHERED after barbecue dinner for program, emceed by Mart Hoffman, and presentation of gifts by Executive Director Ron Jackson.

NOTES

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1836-1986

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