



LOCAL MH•MR

# NOTES

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## HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIPS, AWARDS PRESENTED AT STATE TARC CONVENTION

Three Texans who have made outstanding contributions to the well being of the state's mentally retarded were awarded Honorary Life Memberships at the state convention of Texas Association for Retarded Children in Beaumont April 12.

The recipients are **Mrs. Ovid Youngblood**, Waco; **Joe Day, Jr.**, Fort Worth; and **J. Ed Bridges**, Austin.

TARC honorary life memberships are given only to persons who have distinguished themselves by long time services to the mentally retarded and by furthering the Association's goals.

A special award from the TARC Board of Directors was presented to **Ward Burke**, Lufkin attorney and chairman of the Texas Board of Mental Health and Mental Retardation. Burke was keynote speaker at the opening session of the convention.

Other awards and recipients included:

Statewide Appreciation Award, Professional, Individual:

**Mrs. Venedia Watkins**, Kilgore;

Statewide Appreciation, Volunteer: **Carl Bearden**, Midland;

Statewide Appreciation, Organization: Texas TARS;

Local Appreciation Award, Individual: **A.R. Garcia**, Del Rio;

Local Appreciation, Organization: **John DeAnda** and the Latin-American Radio Club, Brown County;

Newspaper Publicity: Longview News and Journal;

Radio Publicity: Station KITE, San Antonio;

Newsletter: San Antonio Association for Retarded Children, Inc.;

Special Award: Joseph Schlitz Brewing Company, Longview;

Special Awards from the TARC Board: **Mrs. Irene Westmoreland**, Henderson; State Rep. **Will L. Smith**, Jefferson County;

Employer of the Year: U.S. Post Office in Dallas. ■

## McLENNAN COUNTY ALCOHOLISM COUNCIL MERGES PROGRAMS WITH WACO CENTER

The McLennan County Council on Alcoholism has merged its information, education and referral services with those of the Waco-McLennan County MH/MR Center.

**James G. Dunn** is now on the MH/MR staff as director of alcoholism programs, continuing the services of the alcoholism council, assisting Freeman House halfway facility for alcoholics, and using the MH/MR Center's referral and counseling facilities.

**Robert B. Sheldon, M.D.**, medical director of the MH/MR center, said the combined programs will improve the effectiveness of alcoholism services in McLennan County. — **Donna Weise** ■

## CENTER DIRECTORS, BUSINESS MANAGERS MEET IN AUSTIN TO DISCUSS BUDGET PLANS

Directors of MH/MR Community Centers met in Austin April 16 with TDMHMR Commissioner **John Kirross-Wright, M.D.** and **Charles Eskridge**, director of Regional Programs Division, to discuss projected needs for state grants-in-aid for the next biennium.

Discussion topics included funding requirements for existing programs and for new programs not now offered such as drug abuse, alcoholism, and child and adolescent services.

Other topics included expanded programs to meet populations not adequately recognized in initial center planning; increased staffing through use of trained non-professionals; and current plans for discontinuing programs which have proven ineffective or too costly.

The set of program goals for 1972 and 1973 will be recommended to the Community MH/MR Centers Committee of the State Board for adoption as budget policy. Centers will then prepare and submit the actual budget to TDMHMR for grant-in-aid funding assistance for the next two years.

Community Center business managers and comptrollers also met at central office for a work session on budget and reporting matters. They were assisted by TDMHMR staff members **Frank Womack**, **Art Thompson**, **John Williams, Ph.D.**, **Dan Sheehan, Ph.D.** and **E.C. Blythe**, director of business services for the Austin-Travis County MH/MR Center.

"Fund Management in Multi-Funded Community Centers", "The Computer and How It Can Help You", "Correlating Budgets and Expenditures with Patient Data", and fiscal management problems of centers were also discussed. ■

## MENTAL HEALTH TOPICS DISCUSSED AT COLLEGE STATION SEMINAR

The first annual community institute on mental health was held in College Station, March 7.

Sponsored by the Brazos County Counseling Service, the one-day institute included speeches by **Luis Laosa, M.D.**, director, Central Brazos Valley Psychiatric Division, Austin State Hospital, and **Ann Hughes, M.D.**, director, Child and Adolescent Services, TDMHMR.

The 175 participants included both professional people and laymen. Leaders for discussion groups were doctors, attorneys, educators, ministers and psychologists.

Discussion topics included physical and mental health, marriage and the individual, children and discipline, and depression and anger. ■



## A MEMO ---

**TO: COMMUNITY MH/MR CENTERS**  
**FROM: CHARLES S. ESKRIDGE, DIRECTOR**  
**REGIONAL PROGRAMS DIVISION, TDMHMR**

It seems to me we are overlooking a valuable resource for keeping in touch with current happenings in the MH/MR Center field of program and administration.

I refer to our use of *Local MH/MR Notes*—the monthly publication designed expressly for communications between the Department and MH/MR Centers and information exchange between centers themselves.

If we did not have such a communications tool, I think we would all bemoan the fact.

Surely this publication, and the time, money and expert effort put into it by the TDMHMR Communications Division is a valuable resource for community centers as well as for those of us in the Department whose primary job is with local MH/MR services.

Perhaps we need more dialogue about what purpose you, in community MH/MR centers and outreach clinics, would like *Notes* to accomplish.

Each center has named a reporter who is responsible for submitting items to *Notes* on a regular monthly basis. May I courteously request that reporters attempt to get ideas from their board members and staff for making *Notes* a more effective communications medium for exchange of ideas and programs.

I am making this same request of Regional Coordinators of the Department: What would be the most useful format and content for a monthly newsletter?

But I must warn you...you who are in the field will have to cooperate if the *Notes* is to realize its full potential. It is simply not possible for the communications staff to keep us fully informed of developments in all areas of the state unless each center cooperates by regularly submitting newsworthy items.

I sincerely hope you will decide that *Notes* can be useful enough to community MH/MR programs throughout the state for its publication to be continued.

## SIX NEW TRUSTEES JOIN BOARD OF AUSTIN-TRAVIS COUNTY MH/MR CENTER

Six new members were named to the Austin-Travis County Mental Health/Mental Retardation board of trustees, while three members were re-named to serve new terms.

In the first use of the amended law regarding procedures for naming board members, the four sponsoring local agencies made direct appointments instead of first naming a selection committee.

Named to serve one-year terms were: the Rev. Marvin C. Griffin, Mrs. Irene Snyder, Mrs. Robert M. Wilkes, and Louis DeMoll. To serve two-year terms are: Russell Rowland, Ralph Hanna, M.D., William F. Anderson, M.K. Hage, and Gardner Lindzey, Ph.D.

Holdover board members are Mrs. Snyder, first president of the board, Dr. Hanna, current president, and DeMoll, former director of community services for TDMHMR. ■

## ATTORNEY NAMED TO WACO MH/MR BOARD

David B. Kultgen, a Waco attorney, is a new member of the Waco-McLennan County Mental Health/Mental Retardation board of trustees.

Kultgen succeeds Judge Bill Logue.—Donna Wiese. ■

## GAINESVILLE CITY COUNCIL VOTES TO HELP ESTABLISH COMMUNITY MH UNIT

The Gainesville City Council has voted to participate in the establishment of a community mental health unit in Gainesville.

Other agencies participating include the Cooke County Commissioners Court, the Child Development Center in Gainesville and TDMHMR.

The Child Development Center, now being established at Gainesville's Booker T. Washington School, will provide clinic and office space.

TDMHMR will pay the salaries of a psychiatric nurse and secretary, fees for a psychiatrist to provide outpatient treatment one day a week, and half the drug costs.

Gainesville and Cooke County will each underwrite one-fourth of the drug costs and will share in providing office equipment. ■

## ANNUAL EGG HUNT STAGED FOR RETARDATES IN BEAUMONT AREA

The Beaumont Council for Retarded Children and the Beaumont State Center for Human Development recently sponsored the annual Easter egg hunt for retarded children in Sabine County. The hunt was held on the grounds of St. Vincent de Paul Seminary near Beaumont.

Church, school and civic groups provided baskets, eggs and program features. Games and refreshments were also provided. The children were assisted by girls of the Lambda Tau Sorority at Lamar Tech, dressed in bunny costumes.

Mayor James McNicholas officiated and State Rep. Will Smith was guest of honor. ■

## ALCOHOLISM FORUM HELD IN BELTON

A community forum on alcoholism was held March 17 at Mary Hardin-Baylor College in Belton.

Sponsors included the Bell County MH/MR Center in Belton, the Bell County Council on Alcoholism, and the Texas Commission on Alcoholism.

Speakers included Larry Wharton, M.D., director of the alcoholism unit at Austin State Hospital; Mrs. Ruth Osborne, assistant director of education for the Texas Commission on Alcoholism; and Steven B. Schnee, a clinical psychologist at the MH/MR center.—Mrs. Linda Chupik ■

## SAN ANGELO AGENCIES MEET TO DISCUSS NEEDS OF CHILDREN, ADOLESCENTS

The Mental Health/Mental Retardation Center for Greater West Texas, San Angelo, sponsored a seminar for youth-serving agencies on March 11.

Representatives of seven agencies met with Ann Hughes, M.D., director Child and Adolescent Services, TDMHMR, to discuss child and adolescent needs in the San Angelo area and ways to develop future programs. The session also provided an opportunity for agency representatives to express ideas for opening more channels of communication.

Attending were representatives of the San Angelo Independent School District, City-County Welfare Department, Juvenile Probation Department, San Angelo Association for Retarded Children, Youth Service and Resource Bureau, Texas State Welfare Department and Tom Green County Child Welfare Department.—James M. Young ■



## CENTRAL PLAINS MH/MR CENTER SCHEDULES OCCUPANCY OF NEW BUILDING

The Central Plains Comprehensive Community MH/MR Center is scheduled to move into its new \$600,000 building in Plainview on July 1. **Weldon Allen**, chairman of the center's board of trustees, made the announcement at the board's March 16 meeting.

Adjoining the Central Plains General Hospital scheduled to open at the same time, the MH/MR Center will offer inpatient, outpatient, partial hospitalization, emergency, and education and consultation services to Bailey, Briscoe, Castro, Floyd, Hale, Lamb, Motley, Parmer and Swisher counties. The mental retardation service for the area is provided through the affiliate High Plains Children's Training Center and Sheltered Workshop.

The board of trustees also discussed the federal staffing grant proposal submitted to the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare.—**Elizabeth Woodley** ■

## VOLUNTEERS PREPARE TO WORK WITH CHILDREN IN CORPUS CHRISTI PROGRAM

A training program for volunteers to work with emotionally disturbed children is being developed by the Coastal Bend Association for Mental Health in Corpus Christi.

The volunteers will work with classes at the Institute for Child Development, a non-profit corporation established in 1969.

The institute was organized by the Coastal Bend Association for Mental Health, First United Methodist Church, Corpus Christi Independent School District, Corpus Christi Association of Congregations and the Nueces County Mental Health and Mental Retardation Community Center's board of trustees.

The institute's first classes are being held this spring for a small group of children whose emotional disturbances impede their ability to learn in standard classroom settings.

**James Burk** is president of the institute. **Miss Marjorie Stuth** is vice president and **Mrs. Leonard Holloway** is chairman for volunteers. ■

## BEXAR COUNTY COUNSELORS OFFERED REFRESHER COURSE IN TESTING TECHNIQUES

A refresher course in individual testing for school counselors in the Bexar County area is being conducted by **William Garretson**, psychologist, in the offices of the Bexar County Mental Health and Mental Retardation Board, San Antonio.

The course is part of the service provided by the demonstration mental health/mental retardation behavior project. The demonstration project is sponsored by the Bexar County MH/MR Board of Trustees, Community Guidance Center, and the Departments of Pediatrics and Psychiatry, University of Texas Medical School at San Antonio. ■

## TARRANT COUNTY MH/MR BOARD NAMES 21 TO LOCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEES

The Tarrant County Mental Health and Mental Retardation board has approved eight appointments to the MH/MR medical advisory committee and 13 appointments to the professional advisory committee.

Named to the medical advisory committee were eight physicians: **W.V. Bradshaw Jr.**, **Marion W. Brous**, **Harold B. Eudaly Jr.**, **William E. Foster**, **Arthur L. Hessin**, **Cortell K. Holsapple**, **T.H. Mohamed**, and **Charles W. Tow Jr.**

Named to the professional advisory committee were **Art Berliner**, **Stanley Fishler**, **Ivan Fitzwater**, **Mrs. Phoebe Hommell**, **J.W. Keith**, **Miss Josephine Kelly**, **Judge Scott More**, **Noel Roberts**, **Saul Sells**, **Theron Brooks**, **Virgil M. Cox, Jr.**, **Stephen G. Maddox**, and **James D. Malone**. ■

## CENTERS ANNOUNCE STAFF APPOINTMENTS

Recent appointments to the staffs of community MH/MR centers include:

**Warren T. Townsend**, director of social work, Bell County MH/MR Center, Belton.

**Mary Bubliss, M.D.**, medical director; **Mrs. Noel Woodley**, coordinator; and **Mrs. Eleanor Griffin**, director of retardation services, Central Plains Comprehensive Mental Health and Mental Retardation Center, Plainview.

**John Weimer**, acting administrative director and **James J. Ferrero, M.D.**, director of mental health services, Austin-Travis County MH/MR Center. ■

## VOLUNTEERS FROM APOSTOLIC PROGRAM ACTIVE AT HIDALGO COUNTY CENTER

Four members of the apostolic program of St. Joseph's Novitiate of Bailey's Harbor, Wis., have completed a volunteer work program at the Hidalgo County Mental Health and Mental Retardation Center.

**James Muller**, **Kevin Swift**, **Joseph Zurfluh** and **Michael Jugla** were assigned to projects in the Day Activity Center program at the center.

The brothers worked with individual patients and group projects and also were responsible for developing a garden project on land adjoining the center.

The Day Activity Center is presently serving 18 to 20 individuals. ■

## SURVEY SHOWS MH/MR CENTER IN BAYTOWN IS REDUCING AREA ADMISSION RATE

The Bayshore MH/MR Center in Baytown is significantly reducing admissions to state facilities from its catchment area according to figures released recently by the Harris County Mental Health and Mental Retardation Board.

Admissions from the catchment area to Austin State Hospital and the Texas Research Institute of Mental Sciences have declined at least 19 percent since the Bayshore Center opened in March, 1968.

Two other Harris County centers showed increases in admission figures.

The Mid-Houston Center, operated by St. Joseph Hospital, recorded a 4 percent increase in state hospital admissions in its area during 1968-69.

The Hedgecroft Center area, which included much of Southwest Houston, showed a 29 percent increase in admissions during the same period. The Hedgecroft Center closed in August, 1969. ■

## GREGG COUNTY ARC PROVIDES RECREATION CENTER FOR RETARDATES

A recreation center for retarded children, operating seven days a week, is now open in Longview.

The center has playground areas, picnic areas, and an olympic-size swimming pool. The City of Longview is constructing a wading pool for younger children.

The center is sponsored in part by the Gregg County Association for Retarded Children, which recently named **Johnny Case**, Longview restaurant owner and civic leader, as honorary chairman of the association's membership drive.

**Joe Simpson** is president of the Gregg County ARC. ■

## CHANGE OF ADDRESS

If you receive your *Notes* by mail and you change your mailing address, please advise the Communications Division, Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, Box S, Capitol Station, Austin Tex. 78711. Please include both your old and new addresses.



## DALLAS COUNTY MH/MR CENTER, DARC PROVIDE RECREATION FOR RETARDATES

A newly-organized recreation program to serve the retarded in the North Dallas area has been funded by the Mental Health and Mental Retardation Center of Dallas County.

The program, sponsored by the Dallas Association for Retarded Children, is part of the MH/MR Center's plan to provide services for the retarded on a county wide basis.

The program is conducted at St. Mark's School each Saturday from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Children participate in physical activities, sports, handicrafts, swimming and games.

Future plans include bowling, roller skating, picnics, field trips and other activities. ■

## DALLAS COUNTY MH/MR BOARD CHAIRMAN HONORED AS SMU 'DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS'

**Charles G. Cullum**, chairman of the Dallas County Mental Health/Mental Retardation Board, recently received a Distinguished Alumnus Award from Southern Methodist University in Dallas.

Cullum, who graduated in 1936 with a bachelor's degree in journalism, also is a member of the Dallas Citizens Council and is a past president of the Better Business Bureau. ■

## BROWNWOOD STATE HOME, SCHOOL FOR GIRLS IS NEWEST TEXAS YOUTH COUNCIL FACILITY

The Brownwood State Home and School for Girls is the newest facility of the Texas Youth Council.

**Lt. Gov. Ben Barnes**, featured speaker at the April 2 dedication ceremonies, cut a ribbon symbolizing the official opening of the new facility.

TDMHMR representatives included **John Kinross-Wright, M.D.**, Commissioner; **Ann H. Hughes, M.D.**, director for Child and Adolescent Services; **W.G. Kirklin**, assistant to the Commissioner; **Charles Martin**, deputy commissioner for mental retardation services; **Bruce B. Conway** director of manpower, communications and training; and **Larry Mildren**, regional coordinator for West Central Texas.

**Bill Doggett**, former superintendent of Austin State School, is superintendent of the new Brownwood facility.—  
—Larry Mildren. ■

## TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND MENTAL RETARDATION

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## MH/MR EDUCATION PROGRAM PLANNED BY LEADERS FROM 15-COUNTY AREA

County Agents and Home Demonstration Agents from a fifteen-county area served by the Vernon Center met for a one-day workshop at the Wilbarger Memorial Auditorium in Vernon on March 30.

The meeting was developed by **Vernon Pellett, Ph.D.** and **James Standley**, MH/MR education specialists with the Texas A&M Extension Services, under a contract with TDMHMR.

Purpose of the meeting was to assist in developing county-wide educational programs for mental health and mental retardation in the fifteen-county area of North Central Texas. ■

## "LOCAL MH/MR NOTES" CORRESPONDENTS

Paul Southern, Th.D., Abilene Area Center for MH/MR; Louise Evans, Amarillo MH/MR Regional Center; John B. Spragens, MH/MR Center of Austin-Travis County; Mrs. Linda Chupik, Bell County MH/MR Center, Belton; James F. Bailey, Bexar County MH/MR Services, San Antonio; Mrs. Judy W. Bybee, Central Texas MH/MR Center, Brownwood; Mrs. Elizabeth Woodley, Central Plains Comprehensive Community MH/MR Center, Plainview; Robert H. Dovenmuehle, M.D., Dallas County MH/MR Center; Mrs. I.W. Gillett, El Paso Center for MH/MR Services; Mrs. Mary N. MacKay, Galveston County MH/MR Center; Mrs. Leon Polzin, Gulf Bend MH/MR Center, Victoria.

Sarah N. Cartsonas, Harris County MH/MR Services, Houston; Marion Shirah, Hidalgo County MH/MR Services, Edinburg; Vergia Mae Musselwhite, Jefferson County Community Center for MH, Beaumont; Clayton Mallett, Lubbock MH/MR Center; Carol Ann Story, Midland Community Center for MH/MR; Mrs. J.G. Bryson, Nueces County Community Center for MH/MR, Corpus Christi; Gary K. Smith, Smith-Wood County Center for MH/MR Services, Tyler; G. Clark Anderson, Tarrant County MH/MR Center, Fort Worth; William J. Dees, Texarkana Regional MH/MR Center; Mrs. Donna Wiese, Waco-McLennan County MH/MR Center; James M. Young, MH/MR Center for Greater West Texas, San Angelo; Mrs. Charles Russell, Wichita Falls Community Center for MH/MR Services.

Regional Coordinators: Larry J. Mildren, West Central Texas, Abilene; Weldon F. Newton, North Texas (West), Fort Worth; Bascom L. Hodges, Capitol Region, Austin; Richard M. Bruner, South Texas, Harlingen; James R. Sones, Gulf Coast, Houston; Hal I. Hart, East Texas, Tyler; Clyde R. McLean, West Texas, Midland; Gordon A. Cizon, North Texas (East), Fort Worth.

Items for *Local MH/MR Notes* should be forwarded to Communications, TDMHMR, prior to the end of each month for the following month's issue. Address correspondence to *Local MH/MR Notes*, Communications Division, Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, Box S, Capitol Station, Austin, Tex. 78711. ■