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# DIRECTIONS

DEEP EAST TEXAS REGIONAL
MENTAL HEALTH MENTAL RETARDATION
SERVICES

An Equal Opportunity Employer Vol. 1 No. 3 November 25, 1974


## POLK COUNTY WORKSHOP PROGRESSING

Mr. Jack Calhoun, prominent Polk county citizen and civic leader, has agreed to accept the directorship of the Polk County Workshop and Opportunity Center on a temporary basis. With the resignation of the original director, he will coordinate the remodeling of the workshop building and receive the facilities' first clients. This will give the local council and the DETRMHMRS' staff the opportunity to select a new permanent director.

Mr. Calhoun, a Houston businessman for many years, moved to Indian Springs near Livingston after his retirement in 1969. Since moving to Polk County, he has served as president of the Polk County Planning Commission and also served an unexpired term as County Commissioner in 1971.

Other activities include the chairmanship of the March of Dimes and the Cancer Society. He also worked toward obtaining funds for the Early Childhood Developmental Center. As an active member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, he presently serves as Senior Vice-Commander for District 19 and is a member of the organization's Bicentennial Committee.

## PUBLIC EDUCATION ACTIVITIES CONTINUE TO EXPAND

Two members of the DETRMHMRS' staff were guest speakers at the Groveton High School this month.

Bob West, a clinical psychologist, conducted a discussion of contemporary views toward mental illness and its treatment on November 4. Larry Davis, Coordinator of Alcoholism and Drug Abuse, presented an educational program on alcoholism and drug abuse on November 11. Both programs were held in the school auditorium with approximately 200 students in attendance at each meeting. These programs in addition to numerous speeches to civic, church and industrial groups are efforts to increase public knowledge and acceptance on mental illness and mental retardation.

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEMBERS SPOTLIGHTED

This section will be a regular feature for the next several months in order to introduce each Board member to the citizens of the region.

Mr. W. J. Gentry is currently serving a two-year term as a DETRMHMRS Board of Trustees member representing Houston county. Mr. Gentry, who serves as Vice-Chairman for the Board, is a member of Lions International and the Masonic Lodge and is a long time worker in the Methodist Church.

Born in Houston county, he received both his Bachelors and Masters degrees from Sam Houston State University. From 1924 to 1942, Mr. Gentry taught in several schools in the Houston-Anderson county area including Juanita, Silver Creek, Priscilla, Grapeland and Porter Springs.

In 1942, he was elected tax assessor-collector for Houston county, a position he held for six years. He was superintendent of schools at Elkhart from 1948 to 1966. In 1966, he became superintendent of schools in Crockett, a position he held until his retirement in 1968.

Since retirement, Mr. Gentry has been very active in the National Retired Teachers' Association and the American Association of Retired Persons.

Mr. Gentry married the former Victoria Mc Carter in 1927. They have one son, Paul Dean and two grandchildren, Deanna and Paul Dean, Jr. Paul Dean is division manager for the Schick, Warner-Lambert Company in California.

## SOUL FOOD FUND FEST CONDUCTED

LIFT, Inc., a Houston county organization for Early Childhood Development, held a Soul Food Fund Fest at the city park in Crockett on Saturday, November 9, 1974.

The menu included turnip greens, cornbread, ham and sausage among other items. The food was donated by interested citizens in the area. Activities included dancing, horse-drawn buggy tours, and exhibits.

Participants at the fest were Representative Emmett Whitehead, Mayor J. B. Sallas, Dick Orton of the Department of Community Affairs and Judy Lee, Director of LIFT, Inc.

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## MRS. GLADYS HAMPTON RETIRES, BECOMES VOLUNTEER

Mrs. Gladys Hampton, Regional Director for Welfare Services, State Department of Public Welfare in Nacogdoches, retired in October. Mrs. Hampton began her career with the Department as a caseworker in the Houston-Galveston area in 1942. In 1942-43, she was assigned to the Civilian War Assistance Program, a position that she says was very interesting and challenging. She worked with detained enemy aliens, evacuees, and torpedoed enemy seamen.

In 1944, she was assigned to the Lufkin office as a supervisor and in 1954, was given responsibility for the direction of Welfare Services in Angelina, Tyler, Jasper, and Newton counties. For several years, she was a regional field representative stationed in Nacogdoches and served the entire Deep South-East Texas re-tion.

Mrs. Hampton, who received her Bachelors and Masters degrees from Stephen F. Austin State University and did further graduate studies at the University of Washington, has worked on several occasions as a consultant to the Texas Research League.

Married, and mother of two foster daughters, she plans to remain active in community affairs. However, she does plan to take time out for a Caribbean cruise in January and a trip to Tasmania, Australia early next year.

As a tribute to her many years of outstanding public service, the Nacogdoches City Council recently named a city office complex, the Gladys Hampton Building in her honor.

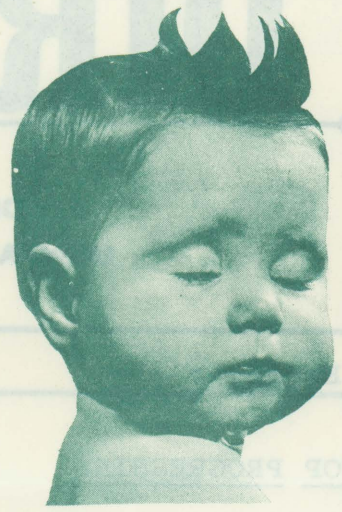
## MENTAL HEALTH DIRECTOR SERVES AS RURAL CONSULTANT

Betty Ecker, Director of Mental Health Programs, attended a planning conference at the University of Wisconsin, in Madison, Wisconsin, November 11-13. The purpose of the conference, which included ten rural mental health consultants from across the country, was to plan for the annual week-long Summer Study Program concerning rural mental health services to be held June 16-20, 1975. This will be the third annual meeting for the Program, which is considered to be the National Rural Mental Health Meeting.

Proposed topics considered for next summer's meeting were the creation of a National Association for Rural Mental Health; the certification of rural mental health administrators, consultants, and educators; and the discussion of legal rights of clients being served by mental health centers.

Mrs. Ecker also attended the semi-annual meeting of the Rural Community Mental Health Newsletter editorial staff, of which she is co-editor. The newsletter is sent to 2500 rural mental health centers across the nation.

## PERSONS WITH GOOD MENTAL HEALTH



They feel able to deal with most situations that come their way.

They get satisfaction from simple everyday pleasures.

They have self-respect.

They feel comfortable about themselves.



They are not bowled over by their own emotions - by their fears, anger, love, jealousy, guilt, or worries.

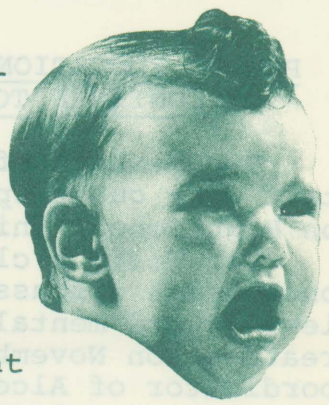
They can take life's disappointments in their stride.



They do not push people around, nor do they allow themselves to be pushed around.

They can feel they are part of a group.

They feel a sense of responsibility to their neighbors and fellowmen.



They neither underestimate nor overestimate their abilities.

They can accept their own shortcomings.

They have a tolerant easygoing attitude toward themselves as well as others; they can laugh at themselves.



They are able to think for themselves and make their own decisions.

They welcome new experiences and new ideas.

They put their natural capacities to use.

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## ADDITIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL NOMINEES APPROVED

### ANGELINA COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Name

Allen, Oscar
Caskey, Fr. John
Harris, Bernice
Picou, Garland
Perkins, William D.
Runnels, Pamela
Taylor, Robert S.
Townsend, Ina Mae
Tims, Inez

### NACOGDOCHES COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Name

Anderson, Florence
Brashear, Mrs. Russell
Goodrum, Marian
Hampton, Gladys
Loflin, Mrs. Walter
Perry, Mike
Warren, Percell

### NEWTON COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Name

Davis, Hager
Duncan, James D.
English, Helen
Sanson, Devere

### SAN JACINTO COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Name

Fraley, Elizabeth
Jackson, Betsy
O'Quinn, R.N., Charlotte-Chairman
Sanders, R.N., Bessie
Williams, Marcelene

### TYLER COUNTY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Name

Bateman, Betty
Boykin, Bob-Treasurer
Boykin, Janice
Esler, Mrs. Jack
Grillot, Janice
Mann, Judge Tom D.-Chairman
Minter, B. M.
Parker, Dr. Raymond
Shumate, Reverend Roger
Smith, Brad
Stanford, Mrs. Bennie
Sullivan, Sam

## ADVISORY COUNCILS HOLD MEETINGS

### HOUSTON COUNTY

The Houston County Advisory Council met on October 29, 1974 in the county courtroom at Crockett, Texas. Members attending were: J. T. Hicks, President; Mrs. W. B. Dabney, Vice-President; Oscar Sanders, Secretary-Treasurer; Mrs. Charles Moore and J. D. Long. Others attending were: W. J. Gentry, Vice-Chairman, DETRMHMRS Board of Trustees; Leonard Baxter, Director of Mental Retardation Programs; Marjorie Graham and Mrs. Sylvia Lively.

Items of business discussed were the following:

Location for proposed Houston County Developmental Center
Applications for employment
Referrals from five participating school districts

Mr. Sanders reported 15 referrals from the Crockett Independent School District.

### SHELBY COUNTY

The organizational meeting of the Shelby County Advisory Council was held at the Excelsior School office on November 5. Doyle Watson, Shelby County Superintendent of Schools, served as temporary Chairman for the meeting. Members present were: Billie Allen, Pinkie Atkinson, Doyle Watson, Doc Floyd Watson and Bobby Collins. The DETRMHMRS' staff members present were Dr. Wayne Lawrence and Leonard Baxter.

The group elected Bobby Collins as Chairman and Pinkie Anderson as Secretary-Treasurer.

The primary function of the Council will be to provide local leadership and support for the Shelby County Sheltered Workshop and Opportunity Center which will begin operation soon after the first of the year.

### ANGELINA COUNTY

The DETRMHMRS Angelina County Advisory Council met at the administrative offices in Lufkin on November 12. Members present were: Bernice Harris, Garland Picou, Pamela Runnels, Robert S. Taylor, Inez Tims and Ina Mae Townsend.

The major item of business was the election of officers with the following results: Garland Picou, Chairman; William Drew Perkins, Vice-Chairman; and Bernice Harris, Secretary.

The Council recommended the membership be increased in order to provide representation for all areas of the county. Proposed members will be presented at the next meeting on Thursday, December 12, at the DETRMHMRS office, Lufkin.