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DIRECTIONS

DEEP EAST TEXAS REGIONAL
MENTAL HEALTH MENTAL RETARDATION
SERVICES

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NEWTON COUNTY DEVELOPMENTAL CENTER SPOTLIGHTED

This month "Directions" is featuring the Newton County Developmental Center.

Located in the Courthouse Annex in Newton, the unit is currently serving 9 clients from the Bon Wier, Weirgate, Newton area. Transportation for clients is provided by the Newton Independent School District. Also, hot lunches are provided and the children have access to one of the school playgrounds.

The Center staff consists of Janis Smith, Director; Marva Lewis, Aide and Sharon Gaston, Newton High School Distributive Education student.



Individually designed programs include basic self-help skills, training in basic academic skills and work adjustment training. The Newton Center receives excellent community support and older clients will eventually participate in a sheltered workshop planned by the Jasper-Newton-Kirbyville Association for Retarded Citizens.



SUNRISE MANOR DEDICATED

The dedication ceremony opening Sunrise Manor in Lufkin proved to be an outstanding success. Over two hundred people from the region heard Congressman Charles Wilson deliver the dedication address.

Congressman Wilson commended the citizens of Deep East Texas for their outstanding efforts on behalf of the mentally retarded. Wilson also said that the citizens should be proud of their efforts on behalf of the mentally ill and mentally retarded of the area.

Lufkin Mayor Pitser Garrison cut the ribbon opening the House. He was assisted by representatives of the Angelina County Chamber of Commerce.



Lufkin Postmaster R. V. Welch, Herman Brown, Lufkin Mayor Garrison, Congressman Charles Wilson and Jerry Benson at ribbon cutting ceremony.

BOARD TO MEET IN WOODVILLE

The regular monthly meeting of the DETRMHMRS' Board of Trustees will be held on May 25, 1976, at 5 p.m. at the Woodville Inn in Woodville.

The public is cordially invited and urged to attend.

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Angelina County Developmental Center

An Easter Party was the big event of April at the Center. Mothers, sisters and brothers of the clients participated in the egg hunt and Easter party. Everyone had a good time, especially the children!

Debbie Hill, Director of the Center, is leaving to take another position in San Augustine. She will be missed.

Kirbyville Developmental Center

The Special Olympics in Beaumont at Lamar University provided excitement for the clients at the Center when 13 of them participated and brought back 9 blue ribbons and 1 red ribbon. Barbara Smith and mothers of the clients accompanied the group to Beaumont.

A welcome gift of a tape recorder was presented to the Center by the North Bon Ami Baptist Youth.

Mrs. Troy Mitchell's generosity was appreciated when she treated the clients with donuts for a snack. More good eating came later when adult clients went berry picking and Aide Etha Mae Denmon made a tasty berry pie for all to enjoy.

Shelby County Sheltered Workshop

The Workshop has expanded to 20 clients as of this week and everyone is keeping busy with individual and group projects. Some of the activities are making coat hangers, flower pots and stripping furniture to be refinished.

On April 7 the Texas Rehabilitation Commission conducted a site visit at the Workshop. The evaluation team approved the Workshop for Level II work adjustment training.

Jasper County Development Center

The Adult Class is still busily engaged in their job as clean-up crew for Meigs Building and Construction Company. The latest job was cleaning up after the roofers were finished at the Checkerboard Farms chicken houses. They are also stripping and painting old furniture and cleaning gallon cans to sell to nurseries.

A new adult student, Marlin R. Williams, has joined the Workshop classes.

In the educational field, the Early Childhood Class is on a new Behavior Modification Program. A newly formed Adult Class is taking instruction in arts and crafts.

The Tri-County Community Action Inc. group is sending volunteers to help at the Workshop and they are also providing transportation for clients.

(Continued.....)

On April 29, the V.F.W. gave a bicentennial party and donated an American flag to the Workshop. They also presented a short program on the meaning of each part of the flag.

The Center appreciates the generosity of various service clubs and church groups, including Beta Sigma Phi and the Episcopal Women, who have donated items to the Center recently.

Houston County Developmental Center

April was a social month for the Center. It started April 3 with a party for the special education classes of Crockett High School. Twenty-one students and three teachers came to the Center for games and refreshments.

On April 8 the Missionettes of the First Assembly of God Church in Crockett furnished 13 clients with tickets for the circus and Mrs. Patsy Reynen bought drinks and popcorn for those attending.

On April 15, the Beta Sigma Phi treated 13 clients to an Easter party complete with cake, punch and other goodies.

Shelbyville Developmental Center

The 3 and 4 year olds at Shelbyville held their Easter party on April 9th. Ten visitors came and enjoyed refreshments along with Easter eggs. The students were then dismissed for a week of Easter vacation.

Seven of the youngsters will be going into regular kindergarten next Fall, so they have been practicing writing their names and numbers.

Warm weather brings picnic time, so one day everybody took their snacks and walked over to the elementary campus where they had a picnic and watched a group of older children playing baseball.

Trinity County Outpatient Clinic

Volunteers make a valuable contribution to the success of operation of the DETRMHMRS' programs and Trinity County Outpatient Clinic has been one of the most outstanding for volunteer contributions. Volunteers held a meeting at the Clinic on April 28 to discuss new staff schedules and volunteer work schedules for the next 3 months. Volunteers in attendance were Melba Wars, Anna Pfleger, Oma Bush and Fair Punch.

Newton County Developmental Center

Mrs. Dorothy Reliford visited the program in April. A Community Assistance Aid for the Texas Department of Public Welfare, she expressed interest in the work that was being done and volunteered her services should they be needed in the future.

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The Nacogdoches County Community Counseling Center is now open at its new location at 1211 Mound Street. The Center was recently moved to this attractive frame building which provides a reception area and a group therapy room in addition to other offices. Ample parking is also available.

ANGELINA CLINIC TO HOLD OPEN HOUSE

The Luncheon Pilot Club of Lufkin and DETRMHMRS will cosponsor an open house for the Angelina County Outpatient Clinic on Sunday May 23, 1976, from 2 to 4 p.m. The Club will provide hostesses and refreshments and assist with the mailing of invitations.

The Clinic is located at 911 South Chestnut, Suite 506. The Clinic entrance is located on the Ralph Street side of the building.

All interested organizations and churches are requested to send representatives. The purpose of the open house is for the public to inspect the fine new facility and to become better acquainted with the array of services provided by the clinic. All interested citizens are urged to attend.

ANNIVERSARY MODEL FORD GIVEN TO PINEYWOODS ARC

A 1953 Ford was donated to Pineywoods Association for Retarded Citizens by Dr. William C. Doyle, Assistant Professor of School Services at SFASU.

The car, formerly belonging to Dr. Doyle's father, is in excellent running condition and is a 50th Anniversary model of Ford Motor Company. Allen Micheletti, director of the Workshop and Mrs. Marian Goodrum, Pineywoods ARC director, accepted the keys for the vehicle which will be raffled off to raise money for a truck for the Workshop.

"We are deeply appreciative of the generous gesture on the part of Dr. Doyle, who, by showing such interest in our facility, practices what he teaches," said Mr. Micheletti.

BIDS AWARDED BY BOARD

The regular monthly meeting of the Deep East Texas Regional Mental Health Mental Retardation Services' Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, April 20, in Lufkin.

The Board acted on the following items: consideration and awarding of of bids for Mobile Evauation Unit and Day Treatment Program Vehicles; the bid for the Mobile Evaluation Unit van was awarded to Sam's Cabinet Shop of Lufkin and a bid for a minibus for the Mental Health Day Treatment Program in Lufkin was awarded to Ogden Chevrolet of Colmesneil. The Board discussed a proposal concerning Computer Utilization; and discussed the FY 77 and FY 78-79 Biennieum Budget Process.

Other agenda items included discussion of an Affirmative Action Plan report and discussion of Board Policy on Dual Employment and consideration of Consultant Services. Other topics discussed were Peer Review Process and Procedure, the Dedication Ceremony for Sunrise Manor and the Acceptance of Donations.

CONTRIBUTIONS MADE TO SUNRISE MANOR

The following contributions have been made to Sunrise Manor, a halfway house for mentally retarded males in Lufkin. The Lufkin Evening Lions Club, Lufkin Rotary Club and Lufkin Jaycees each furnished a bedroom; and the Lufkin Noon Kiwanis Club purchased 12 chairs and materials for an oversized dining table. Sam's Cabinet Shop, Sam Kaemmerling, owner, built the table. The Volunteer Services, Lufkin State School; various Sunday School classes from the Calvary Baptist Church, Lufkin; and Burke Baptist Church, Burke provided linens for the facility. Many thanks to these dedicated contributors whose contributions amounted to thousands of dollars.

ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETINGS

During the last two weeks, the DETRMHMRS' staff has met with the advisory councils of Angelina, Houston, Jasper, Nacogdoches, Polk, San Jacinto, Shelby and Trinity counties in an effort to receive local input for the preparation of budgets for fiscal years 1977, '78, and '79.

Attendance and participation in these meetings has been good.

The budgets will be presented in Austin in May.

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Please address correspondence to: DIRECTIONS, Deep East Texas Regional Mental Health Mental Retardation Services, 303 Angelina Bldg.,Lufkin, TX 75901

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The Deep East Texas Regional Mental Health Mental Retardation Services operates in compliance with the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, and Executive Order 11246, as amended.