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MH MR SERVICES

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4101 SOUTH MEDFORD DRIVE
LUFKIN, TEXAS 75901
PHONE (713)639-1141

DEEP EAST TEXAS REGIONAL MHMR SERVICES

Vol. 7, No. 3 5 | *An Equal Opportunity Employer and Care Provider* | May-June, 1981

County Judges Workshop Deemed Success



Jasper County Judge Harold Kennedy; Lena Coward, Administrative Assistant to Hardin County Judge; Elaine Burnett, Hardin County Secretary.

On June 29, 1981, MHMR sponsored a workshop for County Judges from throughout the Deep East Texas region. The workshop was well attended with sixteen judges and county officials participating in the session.

The purpose of the workshop was to provide information on the Center's psychiatric inpatient program and to discuss admission procedures to the inpatient units. Each participant was furnished an example set of completed commitment forms to be used for their future reference.

Attending from Angelina County were Judge Dan Jones and Judge David Cook; from Hardin County, Lena Coward and Elaine Burnett; from Houston County, Judge N.A. Smith and County Attorney Donald Gordon; from Jasper County, Judge Harold Kennedy; from Nacogdoches County, Judge Jack Yarbrough; from Newton County, Judge Lee Roy Fillyaw, Commissioner E.A. Jarrell, and Commissioner Joe Powell; from Polk County, Judge Wayne Baker; from Shelby County, Judge Johnnie Johnson and County Attorney O.H. Polley; from Trinity County, Judge Dan Dominey; and from Tyler County, Judge Allen Sturrock. MHMR Board Members V.B. Woods, Ward R. Burke, and George Gee also attended.



MHMR Board Member Ward R. Burke (Left) and Shelby County Attorney O.H. Polley.



Left to Right: Trinity County Judge Dan Dominey, Jasper County Judge Harold Kennedy, Newton County Commissioner E.A. Jarrell and Newton County Judge Lee Roy Fillyaw.

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Sunrise Manor Halfway House Dedication

Calling it "a testimony to the ideals that made this country great," Temple-Eastex Chairman Arthur Temple joined area civic leaders, MHMR Board members, and staff in dedicating the new Sunrise Manor Halfway House on May 27, 1981.

Temple, speaking before a crowd of about 75 persons gathered outside the facility for the event, praised Simon and Loucille Henderson for purchasing the building and donating it for halfway house use. The building, located at 1915 Old Mill Road in Lufkin, has 15 beds for mentally retarded males. The new facility has five more beds than the previous one and provides more space while satisfying all of the required fire and safety standards.

Praising the halfway house approach to treating the mentally retarded, Temple stated that it was a "basic right" of each person to live and do things on his own. "They (retarded citizens) have the right to live and develop their capabilities in their own home counties," Temple said, "and the halfway house serves people in the least restrictive circumstances possible."

V.B Woods, Chairman of the MHMR Board of Trustees, presented certificates of appreciation to the Hendersons and John and Virginia Winston, whom he called the "sparkplugs" of the project. John Winston is the president of the Pineywoods Mental Health, Inc. Board of Directors. Other Board Members include George Henderson, H.J. Shands, Jr., Percy Simond, Bettye George, and Dr. Royce Reed.

In ribbon cutting ceremonies, Mrs. Winston and Mrs. Henderson officially opened the Sunrise Manor facility. The Rev. Jack Shoultz gave the invocation and George Henderson, Vice President of Pineywoods Mental Health, Inc. presided over the dedication.



Left to Right: Ward R. Burke, Pitser Garrison, Lottie Temple, Arthur Temple, Virginia Winston, Loucille Henderson, George Henderson, Percy Simond, Simon Henderson, Royce Read.

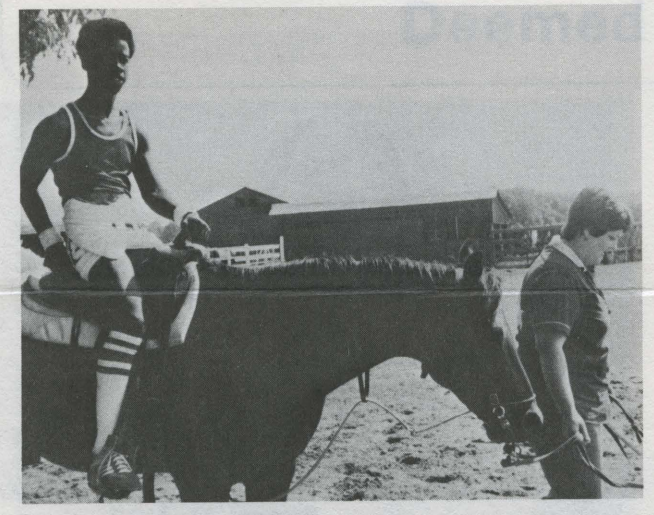


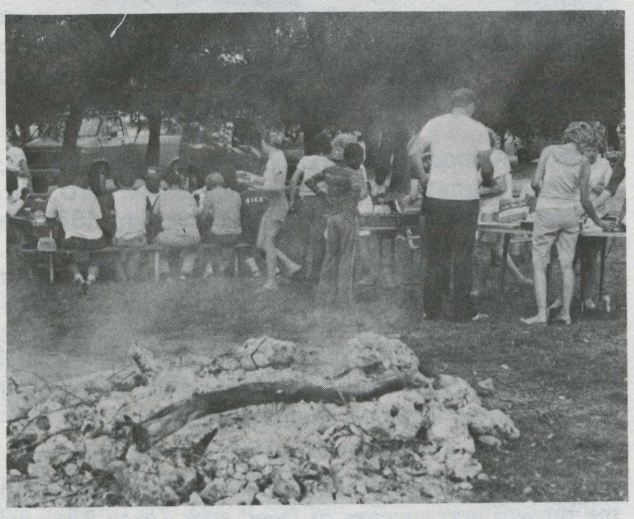
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CAMP LEANDER 1981

For 94 MHMR clients from throughout the thirteen county region, the week of June 8th through June 12th was an experience that will long be remembered. This group, accompanied by 27 staff members, left Lufkin June 8, 1981, for a full week of activities at Camp Leander which is located 20 miles north of Austin, Texas. The camp, operated by the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, is designed and equipped for the special needs of handicapped children.

A typical day at camp begins at six o'clock in the morning with the staff preparing a hearty breakfast for the clients. After eating, the clients prepare for a full day of exciting activities. The activities begin at the stables where each client has the opportunity to ride a horse or a donkey. Staff members are available to lead the horses if the clients require assistance.





The next activity is a one hour show that takes place on the stage at the covered pavillion. On Tuesday, a marionette show, the Wizard of Oz, is presented for the clients. On Wednesday, a magic show is presented to the delight of the clients. On Thursday, a clown with the

Continued on page 4

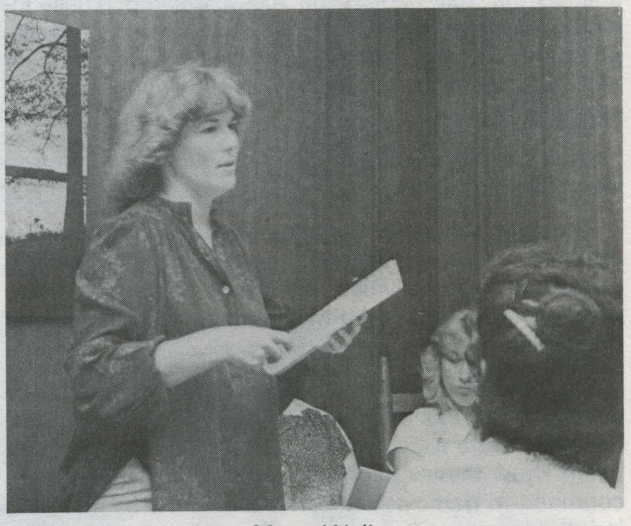
Two Center Employees Honored in May

Marty Walker, Unit Director fo the Jasper/Newton County Sheltered Workshop, and Betty Pate, Computer Operator at Central Administration, were named in May as outstanding Employees of the Quarter.

Marty Walker was one of the original employees of the Deep East Texas MHMR when she joined the staff on September 1, 1974. Betty Pate has been employed with the Center since December 19, 1977.



Betty Pate



Marty Walker

Clients Rights

The Public Responsibility Committee will accept complaints regarding abuse and denial of right for mentally retarded citizens. Mail to P. O. Box 935, Lufkin, Texas 75901.

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Wayne Lawrence, Ph.D., Executive Director
Susan Rushing, Editor

A product of the Consultation and Education Services Program.

Toll Free Crisis Line - - - 1-800-392-8343

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name of Sad Sam entertains the clients with his huge bag of surprises.

After the morning activites, the clients return to camp riding on tractor-drawn trailers, observing the many animals that roam about the 700-acre camp. These include longhorn cattle, sheep, goats, ducks, geese, pheasants, horses, and deer. The clients have a time for rest and meeting new friends while the noon meal is being prepared.

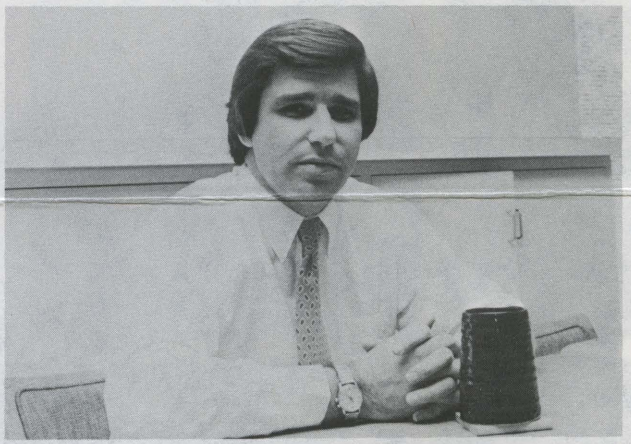
After lunch the clients have an hour of free time to visit and play games.

The first scheduled activity after lunch offers the clients a choice of softball, crafts, or table games. Following these activities, the clients prepare to swim, paddleboat, or fish in the two beautiful lakes located at the camp.

The clients return to the campsite and prepare for the evening meal. The evening activities include ball games, dances, nature trails, movies, outdoor cookouts, and a talent show the last night of camp. The clients are encouraged to participate in the talent show by performing skits, songs, dances, and comedy routines. This show has been a highlight through the years with many clients performing for the first time on stage before an audience.

On Friday morning everyone packs, cleans up the campsite, and prepares for the return trip home, a tired but happy group.

Many clients are already excited about returning for another fun-filled week at Camp in 1982.



Jim McDermott To Work on Doctorate

Jim McDermott will be leaving the Center July 31, 1981 to return to Austin to complete his Ph.D. Mr. McDermott has been with MHMR since May, 1977. He began as Director, Program Support Services Division. At this position he was responsible for Personnel, Staff Orientation and Development, Consultation and Education, Quality Assurance, Volunteer Services, and Public Information. In May, 1979 the Center reorganized some of its administrative responsibilities and Mr. McDermott was appointed Director, Mental Retardation and Support Division.

Mr. McDermott has made significant contributions to the growth and success of Deep East Texas Regional MHMR Services. He has played an active part in assisting the Public Responsibility Committee and the Regional Professional Advisory Committee in their important roles to the Center.

The Center wishes him the best of luck in his future endeavors and hopes he will visit us often.