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The Youth Advocate

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH SERVICES

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1976

Agency Closes S.C. School For Boys

The S. C. Department of Youth Services has begun close-out of its institutional operations at the S. C. School for Boys in Florence, the first step in the opening of the \$5 million "New Campus" here.

As of August 31, all 185 students from the Florence campus had been transferred to the Willow Lane, John G. Richards and Reception and Evaluation Center campuses in Columbia, Director Grady A. Decell said.

The students are being temporarily housed in dormitories, and absorbed into educational, recreational and treatment activities on the three Columbia campuses until the "New Campus" is complete. Decell said the complex is expected to be finished before Nov. 1.

Construction of the New Campus began in spring, 1975. Decell said the Florence facility was being phased out "because we wanted to concentrate our institutional programs in Columbia. Also, the complex was outmoded and the cost of modernization was prohibitive."

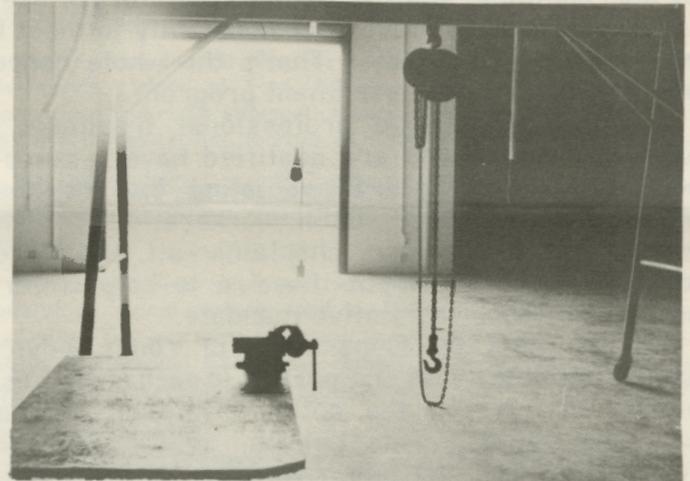
The 152-bed facility will feature extensive vocational and academic schools, gymnasium, administration building, auditorium-chapel, a 23-room school, four 20-bed cottages and a 72-bed intensive care unit. There are provisions for a natatorium and a student center to be added later. The campus is located behind the Reception and Evaluation Center on Broad River Road.

Decell also announced that administrative activities will be changed so that all treatment and educational programs will be centered in the complex created by the Willow Lane School, R and E and the New Campus. All three facilities border each other.

"We're moving the Reception and Evaluation Center staff and students to the John G. Richards campus," Decell said. The John G. Richards students and staff will move to the buildings formerly used by R and E. We believe that we will have a more efficient administration in that all treatment programs will be located in a central area."

The changeover, Decell said, will take place at about the same time the move from Florence is being made.

Agency Personnel Director A. Frank Lever, III said "19 staff members from Florence indicated they would move to Columbia. The agency guaranteed all 104 employees in Florence jobs in Columbia."



Waiting For Students

"The move has created some personal hardship, as we knew it would," Lever said. "We're trying to solve as many problems as we can."

Lever said many employees had been with the Florence school all their working lives "and don't want to leave Florence. We sympathize with their feelings, and are working to find them jobs in the Pee Dee area."

The agency has contacted local businesses and governmental agencies, Lever said, and has received some assistance in placing staff members who wish to stay in Florence. Lever said the State Department of Mental Retardation, which will take over a majority of the Florence property, has hired 11 employees.

Administration Realigned To Strengthen Treatment

The S. C. Department of Youth Services has conducted a series of administrative alignments designed to strengthen its treatment

program.

Deputy Director for Fiscal Affairs Jack Shivers remains in his position. J. P. Neal, Jr., former Deputy Director for Administrative Services, becomes Deputy Director for Professional Services. Roland D. Bollacker, Jr., former Unit Coordinator of the Reception and Evaluation Center, becomes executive assistant to Decell. Richard J. McCants, Unit Coordinator of the S. C. School for Boys in Florence, assumes Bollacker's former post. Richard Campbell, Assistant Unit Coordinator, becomes Director of

Institutional Services.

The changes were effective September 13.

Under the new plan Neal is in charge of all professional services, including education, psychology, recreation, religious programs, psychiatry and medicine, and public information. He was formerly in charge of the general administrative services for the agency.

Shivers assumes responsibility for maintenance, farm operations, accounting, purchasing, food and laundry and personnel. He previously was in charge of

accounting, purchasing and grant management.



Bollacker



Shivers



McCants



Neal

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Director's Dialogue. . .

by
Grady A. Decell



The recently completed reorganization of part of our administrative structure (See story, Page 1) is a reminder we must work constantly to meet the needs of our children. That's the whole concept of our rehabilitative treatment program.

We desire to give professional treatment, in which all those who are qualified have a voice in planning, executing and evaluating the treatment plan. Psychologists, social workers, our psychiatrist, youth counselors, chaplains—all, and more—must give positive input if we're to help children according to our legislative mandate.

In the past the Department of Youth Services has relied heavily on one person in each of the institutions to oversee the entire treatment program for each child. This person, additionally, was responsible for the administration of the institution, from seeing that the lawn was cut to ensuring that food was served on time to staff and students.

At that time, because of money and manpower, this was the best system we could devise. It's time to grow again. In the future, unit coordinators—the people whom we've been talking about—will serve as true coordinators. They will make sure that the treatment programs that are established are followed. They will serve as parent-advocates for each student under their care. They will ensure that we give the best treatment possible to each child.

The purpose of our program is to change children. We strive to change them from defeated, lonely, pain-wracked, desperate, insecure, hopeless boys and girls into confident, loving (and lovable), successful, and far-sighted adolescents capable of coping with almost any given situation.

It is a time-consuming process, both from the child's standpoint and from the professional's standpoint. But it must be done. And it must be done with professionals trained in the causes and solutions of juvenile delinquency.

Otherwise we're wasting our money and much of our talent. We cannot afford to do that, especially from the child's point of view. The structural changes were made to provide treatment services into the most concentrated and strongest force we can devise. We must help them now, because once they've determined that they are adults, and not children, it's hard to change their behavior until the onset of the criminal menopause.

News Briefs

DIRECTOR IS ADMINISTRATORS' PRESIDENT

State Director Grady A. Decell became president of the National Association of State Juvenile Delinquency Program Administrators at their annual meeting at Myrtle Beach in October. Decell was vice president of the organization last year. The association is designed to help in the administration of state juvenile delinquency programs.

STATE DOING GOOD JOB WITH YOUTH

South Carolina is "helping and rehabilitating troubled youth rather than sending them down a deadend," said S. C. Rep. Carolyn E. Frederick of Greenville at the S. C. Youth Workers Association in September.

Rep. Frederick noted among the improvements:

---Evaluation of youngsters at the Department of Youth Services Reception and Evaluation Center.

---State laws dealing with abandoned children, child abuse, foster care and financial assistance.

---Financial assistance for adoptive parents of certain types of children.

South Carolina, said Rep. Frederick, "need take second place to no state in the union in effort to improve the lot and chances of troubled youth."

YOUTH BUREAU LOCATED IN HOSPITAL

The Charleston Regional Office of the Youth Bureau Division located its Summerville branch office in the old Dorchester County Hospital.

Dorchester County Council has agreed to a 13-month lease to rent the bureau three rooms in the old hospital. The agency will employ a social worker involved with status offenders. Referrals are being accepted from the probate court, police, schools, and churches, among others.

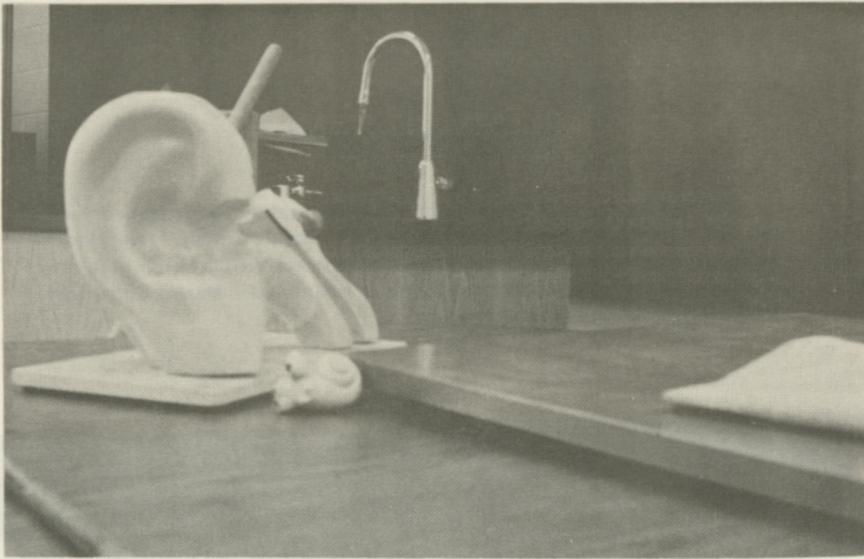
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED IN DRUG RESPONSE

The Alternatives Program of the Drug Response Operation in Columbia is seeking volunteers to help children who've been tripped out on drugs.

Joe Ray, coordinator of the Alternatives Program, said volunteers would be used for female awareness groups, reading improvement, rap groups and values clarification sessions. The program works with youths 8-17. Those interested can contact the Mosob Neighborhood Treatment Center at 1900 Hampton St.

The Youth Advocate is published monthly by the S. C. Department of Youth Services, Box 21487, Columbia, S.C., 29221. It is entered as third class mail at the Columbia Post Office. All inquiries to the newsletter, including address changes, should be addressed to the editor.

Mrs. Lucy T. Davis Acting Chairman
Grady A. Decell Director
Edward B. Borden Editor



THE AGENCY MOVES

The first phase of the anticipated move from John G. Richards School to the New Campus began in early October. Here, in a biology classroom in the vocational building (above), symbolic perhaps of a student's need to listen and understand, an ear keeps a lonely



sentinel. Students had several days off (above right), helping in the move, such as carrying a display table into the automotive shop. Like many instructors, Vocational teacher Paul Vaughan (below, right) patiently waits for furniture from the old library to be picked up. Teachers J. P. Temple and Jasper Mack (lower left) untie a nut bin after it was removed from the old auto mechanics shop.

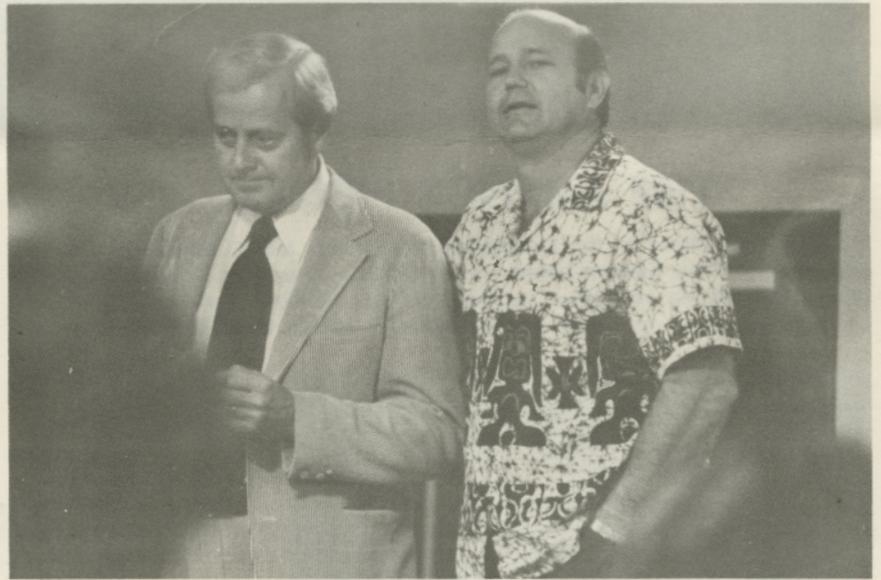


The Youth Advocate Scene



Youth Workers Meet

Outgoing S. C. Youth Workers Association president Al Brodie (right), introduces Dr. W. J. Beeners at the association's fall meeting in Myrtle Beach. Beeners is director of speech at Princeton University's Theological Seminary. Brodie is chaplain at the Reception and Evaluation Center. Some 300 delegates attended.



SUMMER CAMP

The Spartanburg Youth Bureau conducted a summer camp program for 20 clients at Mary Elizabeth Girl Scout Camp. Using local talent, children between 10 and 16 engaged in activities which included crafts, Akaido, dog obedience, and a magician's show. Some just took their time and enjoyed nature.



SPORTS JACKETS

A Columbia soft drink firm donated several hundred dollars' worth of sports jackets to St. Luke's Center, here proudly displayed by clients and staff. Director Leroy Blakely (back row, third from left) said the acquisition has added immensely to the morale of the clients.



DIRECTOR SPEAKS

Director Grady A. Decell emphasizes a point during an ETV appearance with news director Jim Welch. Decell spoke on status offenders, and the agency's \$1.5 million deinstitutionalization grant.

Alex Korda Is Founder Of Four Scout Troops

When Alexander A. Korda was a youth counselor at John G. Richards in 1969 the young men presented him with a problem. They had very little to do in physical activity on the weekends.

Korda, a former Boy Scout, had been reading on Scouting within institutions. He wrote the author of the article, put together a program and was given the go-ahead.

From that small beginning seven years ago Scouting at John G. Richards has grown to four troops—296, 297, 298, and 299—with some 60 Scouts participating at one time. Last year it reached out to 223 boys, or 95 per cent of the student body. The program has continued to expand with such innovative ideas as a yearly Scouts' Olympic Games and the agency's own marching troop, composed of youngsters in frontiersmen uniforms.



SCOUTS ON TELEVISION

Youth Services Scoutmaster Alexander A. Korda inspects the making of a hammock by his Scouts during an appearance on WOLO-TV. Korda is Assistant Director of Cottage Life at John G. Richards school. Television personality Anne Cobb (right) was host on the special half-hour program.

Around the Agency . . .

...Deputy Director James P. Neal, Jr., spoke to Zion Caanan Baptist Church in Mullins...Appearing at the Institutional Library Service Workshop was John G. Richards principal Gene Cantrell...Elizabeth B. Chorak, Rock Hill Youth Bureau, explained referral procedures to policemen undergoing training at the Regional Planning Office, Rock Hill...Fred Dodds, ICU-Mod and Edward B. Borden, Public Information, spoke to the East Columbia Ruritan Club...Carla S. George, Columbia Youth Bureau, and Volunteer Mardell Lan-

Franco, talked about the agency on the Bill Benton program, WIS radio...Lucia Quinn, Reception and Evaluation Center, was interviewed on WUSC-FM regarding the purpose of the agency. Ms. Quinn says much interest was shown about her job working with kids...the Rev. Al Brodie, R&E, spoke to a "Current Issues Class" at Spring Valley High School...Walter Waddell, Spartanburg Youth Bureau, spoke to the Community Services Workshop, Spartanburg, about the services of the Youth Bureau...

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The efforts were enough to win Scouting's coveted Silver Beaver Award, given by the local council for people who support and participate in an organization that works with boys. It is the highest local award that can be presented to the adult Scouter.

"I'm glad to receive the recognition," says Korda, "but mostly I'm glad for the publicity it has brought to our Scouting program here."

Korda, a retired Army officer, was a Boy Scout in New Jersey in the 1930's. "I became a patrol leader," he recalls, "and stayed with the Scouting program until the military called."

His training helped him, he believes. He organized the first intelligence platoon at Fort Jackson. His mission: to go behind enemy lines and radio information back. "We used stalking, searching, and the woodlands techniques I learned in Scouting," he says.

At John G. Richards he organized the Scouting program along the national rules and regulations. There are some differences, however.

"When we receive a boy, we don't talk about relationships, leadership, moral values, and achievement. We pick these up gradually. Our boy must know how to read and write. The boy must live by a 'Personal Growth Agreement' covering cottage living and physical fitness progress. Otherwise he can't register with the

Boy Scouts."

By demanding the boys earn their way into the troop—by not coddling them or letting them join without necessary grades in school, work, and cottage life—Korda believes that they become better Scouters.

"They come into the troop with a desire to learn and to be part of the group. We teach them the techniques that can make them excel in whatever they do."

A recent TV appearance proved a fine example. "The boys had to light a piece of felt by striking on flintstone. It sometimes can take quite a time. There they were, down on their hands and knees, striking sparks while the cameras zoomed in and I held my breath. They had a beautiful flame going in about six seconds, a near record for us."

Each troop has a scoutmaster and assistant scoutmaster. The troops go on field trips, hikes, and camporees. They also participate in other community activities.

Two hundred twenty-six youngsters participated in the summer camp program. Another 308 qualified in the Presidential Fitness Program. And last year the school was represented by six students and a scoutmaster in the Governor's Road Race Cup.

The frontiersmen uniforms were created by Mrs. Korda from old Army tocton uniforms. Korda picked the 36 best marchers and decked each one out with a "Davey Crockett" coonskin cap. The marching troop has been in the Cayce-West Columbia Christmas Parade in 1975 and invited to the Bicentennial Parade in Lexington, S. C.

The Scouts Olympic Games are the crown, so far, in Korda's list of achievements. "It was the first in South Carolina. Troops from throughout the Granby District—which our troops are in—participated in 60 and 100 yard dashes, the 220-yard and 440-yard relays, football and baseball throws, chinups and other events."

When the Scouts leave the school, Korda and the scoutmaster make an effort to get them registered in their local community troops.

"Sometimes we're successful, sometimes not," Korda says. "If the boys can keep up with the new group through scouting skills learned here, they'll have taken a giant step towards rehabilitation."

PROFILE: Howard Ellzey, Chaplain



Editor's Note: Howard Ellzey, chaplain of the Intensive Care Units, has been an employee of the department of Youth Services for 3 1/2 years. A native of Laurel, Miss., Ellzey has a B.S. degree from the University of Southern Mississippi and a Master of Divinity Degree from Emory University. Ellzey is also a major in the Army Reserves and is an honor graduate from the Army Command and General Staff College. PROFILE asked Ellzey about the nature of his work:

PROFILE: What are the differences—if any—between kids in the institutions and those in town?

ELLZEY: The only difference is that our students are in a closed setting because they've been caught. Most adolescents have problems—some more severe than others—and it doesn't make any difference whether or not you're in an institution.

PROFILE: What kind of attitude do kids in institutions have?

ELLZEY: Once they get over the shock of being institutionalized they have a very good attitude towards religion, towards God, the church, chaplains—everything.

PROFILE: How do you try to help them?

ELLZEY: Religious faith is like behavior modification. Only those who really want help can be helped.

PROFILE: Well, how do they feel about you—and religion?

ELLZEY: A good many students have a "fox hole" religious faith. They're from religiously deprived homes. They've never been taught to have a viable faith. They don't know that to serve God they must make a commitment. Many are afraid to make that commitment.

PROFILE: Does religion—religious programs, really—help children?

ELLZEY: By all means, yes.

PROFILE: How?

ELLZEY: Jesus said man's got to obey two laws if he's to have the proper relationships in this world. You must first love God, and then your fellow man as you love *yourself*. Notice I stress the word, "yourself." Every therapist in our agency is trying to get the student to love himself. Our chaplains, staff members and dedicated Christian volunteers are supporting this effort because we believe that by loving God you can perfectly balance your life.

PROFILE: What is your future emphasis?

ELLZEY: For the past 70 years ministers and chaplains have been praying for a chapel in the Columbia area. This dream will soon be a reality with the opening of the New Campus. We will have a complete chapel program, one that will provide the religious atmosphere conducive to spiritual growth for all our students.

AROUND CAMPUS, CONTINUED

...the Kershaw/Clarendon/Lee Youth Bureau office opened Sept. 20, with staffers *Mike Cavanaugh*, Social Worker; and Secretary *Valerie Hudgins*. Address is Kershaw/Clarendon/Lee Youth Bureau, 111 Broad St., Box 4, Camden, S. C. 29020, 432-0957

...Charleston Youth Bureau Psychologist *Terry D. Payne* has been installed as a vice president

of the Charleston Optimist Club. *Payne* was also given the Friend OF Youth award. ...Willow Lane School Unit Coordinator *Harry C. Dunagan* spoke to the National Association of State Juvenile Delinquency Program Administrator on "Co-Education of Facilities - A Problem for Classification and Treatment." . . .

Administrative Alignment, continued

Bollacker is serving as an administrative aide to the director. The responsibilities of the Deputy Director for Institutional Services remain essentially unchanged.

"The whole idea of the changes is to meet the treatment needs of children assigned to our care," said Decell.

In the new concept, the Social Services division will focus its treatment services on each individual child. The unit coordinator—the person in charge of each campus—will ensure that the services are actually meeting the needs of each child.

"The unit coordinators are to act like parents and become irate if they don't receive the treatment to which they're entitled," said Decell. "The purpose of this entire system is to change children."

Social Services Director Eleanor S. McKinney, 1976 co-employee of the year for the agency, becomes an assistant under Edward C. Thomas, Deputy Director for Institutions.

Neal, a native of Kershaw, is former director for Public Relations and Development at Benedict College. Neal has a B.S. in Botany-Zoology, and an MAT in



McKinney



Campbell

Science Education from Howard University. He has been a deputy director of the Department of Youth Services since 1970.

Shivers, a Furman University graduate, has been associated with the agency since 1954. He has been superintendent of the John G. Richards School, and director prior to becoming Deputy Director for Fiscal Affairs. He was named male employee of the year in 1975.

Bollacker has a B.A. degree from the University of New Hampshire. A Vietnam veteran, Bollacker has been with the agency since 1971. McCants was Supervisor of Social Services at the agency's Willow Lane School and became a unit coordinator in 1973. He is a graduate of The Citadel.

Milam Named Client Advocate

Charles M. Milam, former Installation Commander of Ft. Monmouth, N. J. Army Post, has been named Client Advocate for the Youth Bureau Division of the S. C. Department of Youth Services.

The announcement was made by State Director Grady A. Decell.

Milam, a retired colonel, is responsible for knowing children's problems, needs and rights, Decell said. Milam will consult with state and federal leaders on developing new pro-

grams in these areas.

Milam managed a staff of 2,500 civilian and military employees at Ft. Monmouth. He had responsibility for the police and fire departments, supply and transportation, housing, an auxiliary aviation detachment and supervised the construction of a \$25 million office building.

A graduate of the University of Arkansas, Milam has an MBA in Management from Fairleigh Dickinson University. A native of Camden, Arkansas, Milam holds the Legion of Merit, Silver Star, Bronze Star and a variety of campaign medals from WWII, Korea and Vietnam. He is also a Master Parachutist.

He served at military posts in California, Arkansas, Kentucky, Illinois, Kansas, the Philippines, Japan, Vietnam, North Carolina, Oregon and New Jersey.

