

HMOH 12-14-001



NOMINATION FORM
HALF MILE OF HISTORY

Section A: Nomination Information

Name of Nominated person, place or event: EARL C. ANDREWS

The nominee is being honored for outstanding contributions in the area(s) of (please check all that apply):

<input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment/Media	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Philanthropy
<input type="checkbox"/> Architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> Government/Military	<input type="checkbox"/> Religion
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Arts and Culture	<input type="checkbox"/> Industry	<input type="checkbox"/> Science
<input type="checkbox"/> Aviation	<input type="checkbox"/> Invention/Innovation	<input type="checkbox"/> Sports
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Business/Corporate Leadership	<input type="checkbox"/> Law	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community Service	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> Other
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Oil/Gas	

Section B: Nominator's Information

Name of person making nomination: ART JOHNSON

Address: 2122 EVANSBURG LANE

City: TYLER State: TEXAS Zip: 75703

Daytime telephone: 903-530-6107 Email: ajohnson@asbtx.com

Relationship to nominated individual: FAMILY FRIEND

Nominated Individual's year of birth: 1907 Nominated Individual's year of death: 1997

Section C: Narrative

The narrative section of the application is the most important. It is the primary source of information judges use to make their selection of new inductees. The two-page narrative submittal must utilize size 12 Times New Roman font and be double spaced. Please include a recommended 25-30 word marker caption at the end of the narrative. Any additional material will be referred to only for verification of accuracy of the nomination. No submitted materials will be returned.

The narrative section must contain an explanation of the nominee's enduring contribution that make this person/place/event worthy of the honor. Please describe the impact the nominee has had on the community, county, region, nation and/or world. For Individuals, please include any honors earned by the nominee as well as a list of organizations in which the nominee has been involved. Also, please indicate their educational background as well as the length of time the individual has lived in Smith County. Inclusion of photos is preferred but optional. Do not send original photos. All submitted materials will become property of the City of Tyler and its Historical Preservation Board.

Please submit nominations to:
City of Tyler Historical Preservation Board
Attention: Half Mile of History
P.O. Box 2039
Tyler, Texas 75710

HALF MILE of HISTORY NOMINATION: EARL C. ANDREWS 1907-1997

Earl Andrews was a role model to many and gave most of his time, effort and energy back to the Tyler Community. Born in Austin, TX in 1907, Earl moved to Tyler in 1916. He graduated from Tyler High School and upon graduation he worked as a bookkeeper at Peoples National Bank and then for The Wadel-Connally Company.

In 1937, Andrews formed Andrews-Box-Rivere Co which later became Andrews-Rivere Co. The company sold and serviced appliances, televisions, stereo, butane, window air-conditioners, central heat and cooling systems and the largest, most complete record shop in the city. The firm was located at University Place and later moved to Front & College Streets, behind the Catholic Church.

During World War II the draft board refused to allow Earl to enlist stating that the butane delivery (6 to 8 tanker trucks) to farmers and oil drilling rigs was too important to the war effort.

When the New London school exploded, the sheriff told Earl to take his new flat bed truck to the school as fast as possible to help with the recovery and to transport people to the hospital, he made several trips.

Back in the 1920's, he was the first president of Tyler Little Theatre which became Tyler Civic Theatre. He also served as the President the Civic Music Association and on the boards of Community Concerts Association, East Texas Symphony Association and Tyler Museum of Art. He was President of Retail Merchants Association and Tyler Area Chamber of Commerce, director of Tyler Industrial Foundation and served on boards of Tyler Savings and Loan Association (Chairman) and Citizens First National Bank.

Andrews was chairman of the Mental Health and Mental Retardation Regional Center and was instrumental in bringing MHMR to Tyler and it was renamed Andrews Center in his honor in 1990.

Earl served 27 years, 1965-1992 as a Tyler Junior College trustee. He also served on the board of Medical Center Hospital Foundation, Tuberculosis Association and American Cancer Society.

He was President of the Texas Rose Festival as well as the East Texas Fair Association.

Andrews was active in all Masonic bodies and served as the president of the Tyler Jaycees and the Downtown Rotary Club.

He has received the T. B. Butler award and W. C. Windsor awards.

As a member of Marvin United Methodist Church for more than 70 years, Andrews served at one time or another, in virtually all offices of congregation leadership.

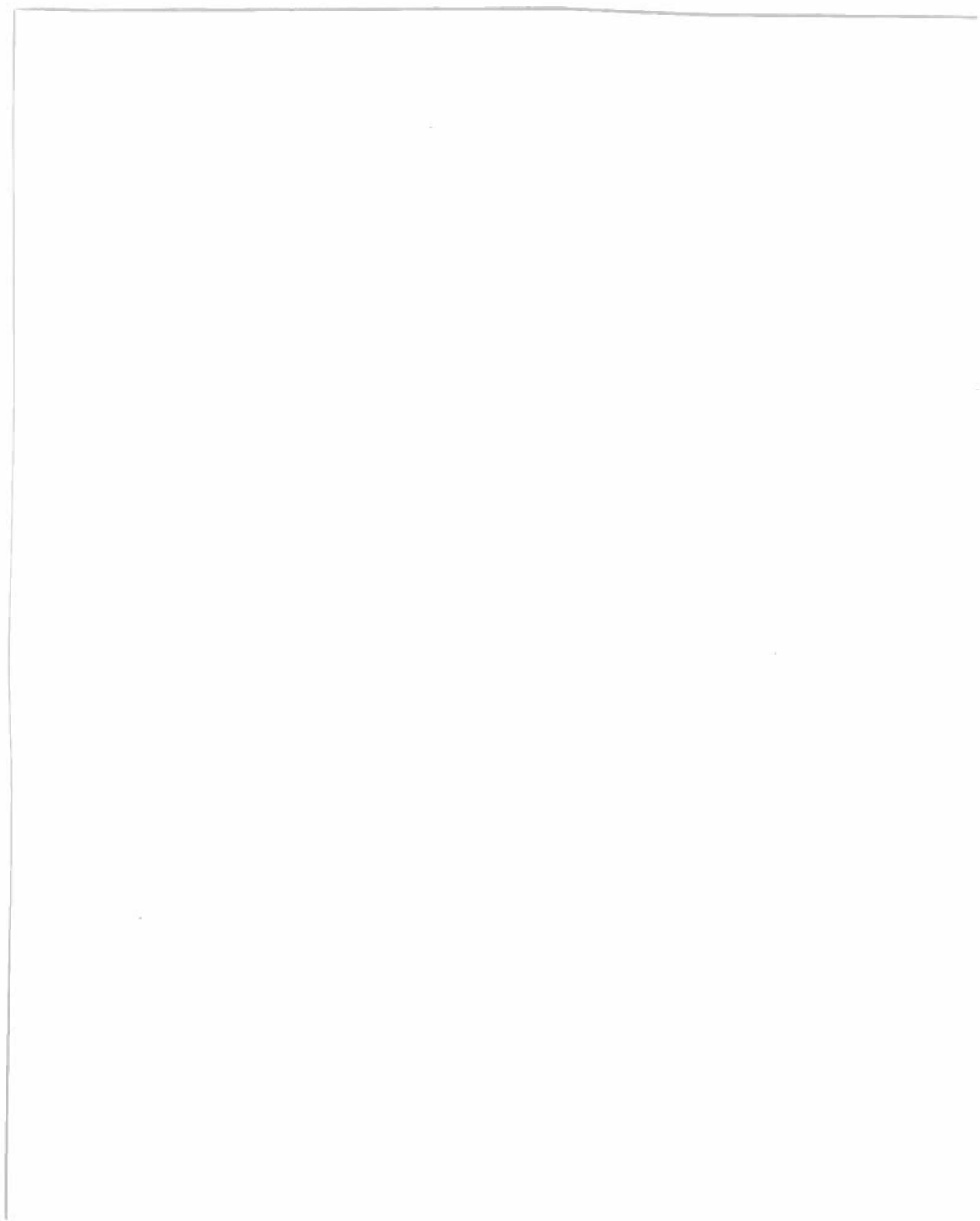
He cut a big swath from business and corporate leadership to arts and cultural activities, education, medical, as well as civic contributions. Earl had a BIG heart and he was always sensitive to the needs of others.

Earl was a leader, a role model, and a gentle man of faith who dedicated his entire life to Philanthropic and Business activities of the Tyler Community. It is with fond memories and due respect that we submit Earl C. Andrews for nomination in Tyler's Half Mile of History.

MARKER CAPTION:

Earl C. Andrews was a leader, a role model, and a gentle man of faith who dedicated his entire life to Philanthropic and Business activities of the Tyler Community.





ANDREWS • POTTER



Edward M. Potter, left, and Earl C. Andrews gave Tyler Junior College 45 combined years of service as Trustees.

Several hundred people came to campus one Sunday afternoon last June to pay tribute to long-time Board of Trustee members, Earl C. Andrews and Edward M. Potter, who retired this year. "Dr. Ed Potter and Earl Andrews have contributed so much to TJC and to the community over the years," said Dr. Raymond M. Hawkins, TJC President. "They have so many friends that the College felt like a community-wide reception would be a nice chance for people to come and pay tribute to these outstanding gentlemen."

Andrews, who came on board in 1965, said, "Every time this College builds a new building, whether it's a dorm or classroom or what, it is a step in the right direction. We'll never get enough money to provide the necessary facilities, but I got a thrill every time we let a contract to build."

Andrews was co-owner of Andrews-Riviere Company for over 40 years, and he took a leadership role in numerous civic organizations. He served as president of the Retail Merchants Association, Rotary Club, Texas Rose Festival Association, East Texas Hospital Foundation, Tyler Community Concerts and East Texas Fair Association.

He received the T.B. Butler Award in 1967 as Tyler's outstanding citizen, and the Andrews Center in Tyler stands as a tribute to his many years of volunteer service to the Mental Health and Mental Retardation Association.

Andrews and his wife, Frances, have one daughter, Ellen Smith, and four grandchildren—Lann, Christen, Haley and Hadley.

Potter joined the Board after winning his election in 1974. His philosophy about serving as a Trustee was not to meddle in the day-to-day operation of the College. "The Board is supposed to set policies, assign responsibilities and the president in turn, in his table of organization, assigns responsibilities."

Potter, perhaps, understands the Board's role more than most because Tyler Junior College has been a part of his entire adult life. He was in the first class when the College opened its doors in 1926. When he graduated from the University of Texas at Austin with highest honors and sporting a Phi Beta Kappa key, he earned a master's degree in history. He received an honorary doctor of law degree from East Texas Baptist College in 1954.

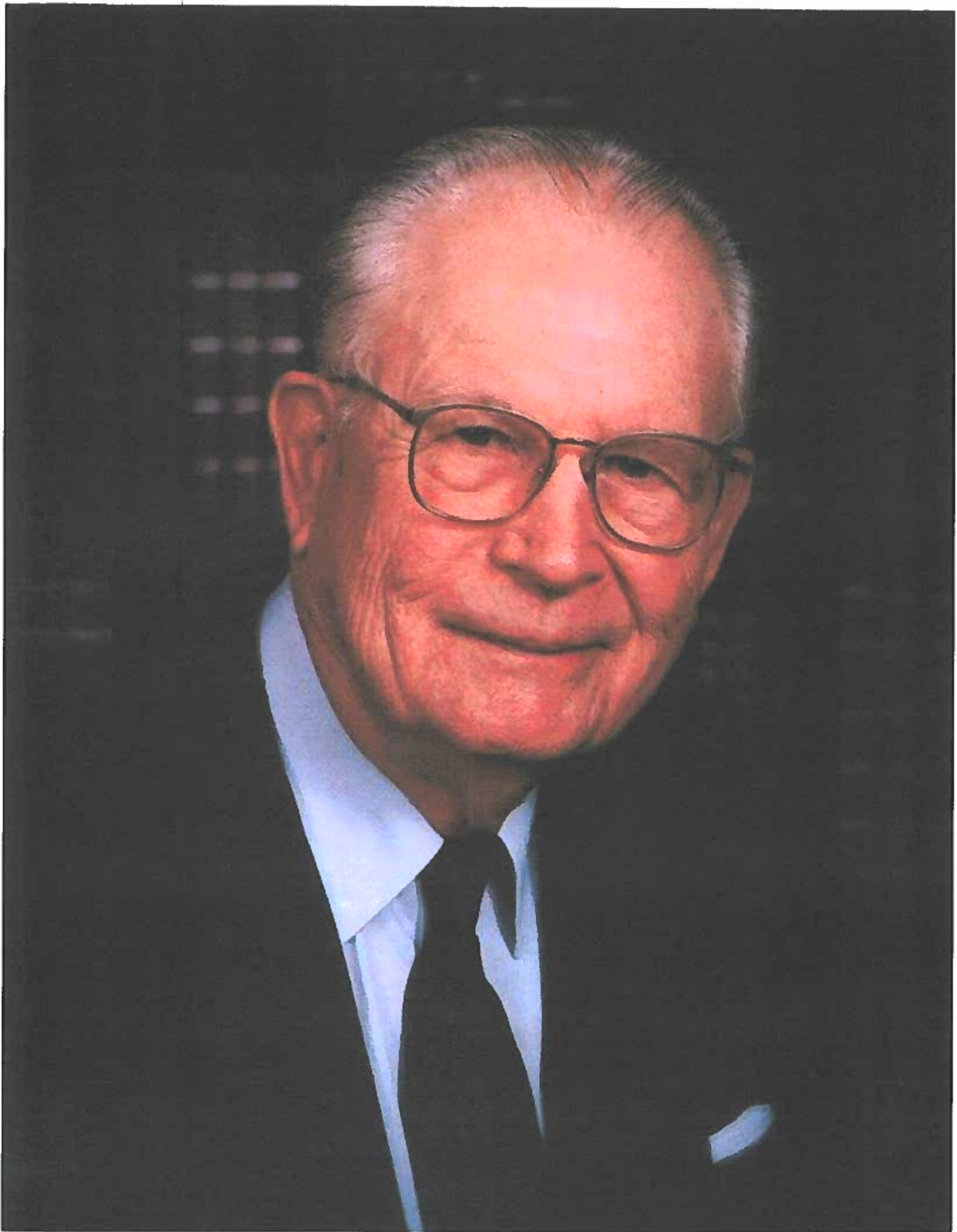
After a short venture as a principal of an elementary school and a distinguished career as an intelligence officer in the Army Air Corps during World War II, he returned to Tyler and accepted a position of administrative dean at TJC. When he retired in 1972 he held the position of vice president, general and academic.

Potter and his wife, Myra, have one daughter, Eleanor, and two grandchildren—Craig and Pamela.



Tyler Junior College
P.O. Box 9020
Tyler, Texas 75711

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
TYLER, TEXAS
Permit No. 797



Art Johnson

From: Cindy Moore <cmoore@andrewscenter.com>
Sent: Wednesday, September 24, 2014 1:27 PM
To: Art Johnson
Subject: EARL ANDREWS
Attachments: [Untitled].pdf


Mr. Johnson,

Hope this is helpful. If you have trouble opening the document, I will gladly fax or mail it.

If I can be of further assistance, please contact me at the number below.

We appreciate your willingness to honor this wonderful man and his family!

Cindy Moore
Executive Assistant to CEO
Andrews Center
2323 West Front Street
Tyler, TX 75702
903.535.7338
903.535.7386 fax
cmoore@andrewscenter.com



CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This E-Mail is intended only for the use of the individual or entity to which it is addressed and may contain information that is privileged, confidential and exempt from disclosure under applicable law. If you have received this communication in error, please do not distribute, deliver or copy this material. Please do not disclose its contents or take action in reliance on the information it contains. Please notify the sender by E-Mail at the address shown and delete the original message from any computer. Thank You.

This email has been scanned by the Symantec Email Security.cloud service.
For more information please visit <http://www.symanteccloud.com>

CHARACTER AND CONSTRUCTION

There have, of course, been many tests of this ability and of personal character through the years. Clients of all ages and with varying degrees of mental and emotional difficulties have been treated; and a vast array of administrative involvements on the local, state and national levels have been dealt with.

But some trials have been faced on a very personal level.

In the midst of the great progress of the 70's tragedy struck the family of Earl Andrews. His daughter gave birth to a Downs Syndrome child, a little girl whose arrival had been eagerly awaited by parents and grandparents.

Nothing in his life, including the years spent in developing programs designed to deal with such contingencies, had prepared Andrews for this turn of events. "You cannot know the trauma of such a thing unless you have experienced it," he says. There is overwhelming despair through which those affected attempt to find some light of hope. In many cases there is little, if any, but Andrews believes that in his own situation the glimmer of light is that such a circumstance may have increased his sensitivity to the suffering of others.

In addition, he gained valuable insight into the expertise of medical specialists. "The doctors are so skilled," he says, "that they can tell you almost from the first how far you can expect the child to develop, and there has been so much progress in the treatment of mental retardation."

What he might have added, according to another Trustee, is that there has also been great benefit to this region served by MHMR as Andrews became even more in-

tensely focused on the cause to which he has dedicated so much of his life.

Nor has he been alone in dealing with such trials or in the resultant intensity of dedication to the cause.

Mildred Speights originally became interested in MHMR because of the mental affliction of one of her relatives. She felt a responsibility to become involved when Board membership was offered to her, and one of her first acts after accepting the call was to travel to Terrell State Hospital to persuade her relative's doctor to allow his outpatient to be treated locally by one of the MHMR psychiatrists. "That was years ago," says Mrs. Speights now, and her relative "has never been back to Terrell."

And Trustee Isadore Roosth, whose involvement with MHMR dates from 1975, says "I have had experience with people with mental problems of one kind or another, and I know first hand about the terrible cost of treatment and the difficulty of even finding the proper treatment."

Roosth became involved with MHMR when he found that the agency could "...get help to a person of ordinary income or less." He wanted to assist in such an undertaking.

A lifelong Tylerite, Roosth was born some three blocks from his present office in downtown Tyler and has a special feeling for the city and its people. His concerns in this regard have drawn him into a number of community activities besides MHMR, but the remarkable progress of the latter has given him special satisfaction.

He remembers that when he became involved board members were not happy with MHMR facilities in the downtown office

building. "You just cannot do as good a job in a makeshift facility," he says. "The person with a problem must be advised initially without pressure, in an individualized environment and in the most serene way. The client certainly does not need to be placed in an environment that is dilapidated or mixed in a regular office building..." — which was the circumstance at the beginning of his tenure.

Roosth, Andrews and Mrs. Speights were guiding forces in the drive for construction of new facilities, especially the Regional Center headquarters building.

In January of 1978 board members of East Texas Mental Health, Inc. held their first meeting, and the agenda primarily concerned new facilities. ETMH had been established for the purpose of handling financial involvements, and Board members at this time, Charles Childers, Harry S. Phillips, Henry Bell, Jack Jackson, Wilton Fair, Baker Lucas, F.O. Penn and Royce Wisenbaker discussed plans for construction of a new Regional Center Building and Day Training Center Building for mentally disadvantaged children.

Financing, as it turned out, was easier to find than sites. The Center had received construction grants in 1974, one for Mineola and one for \$297,874.00 for a Tyler site, and the Board initiated plans to arrange for necessary additional financing.

In an unprecedented fund drive, the Board enlisted financial assistance from every bank and savings and loan in Tyler. Enough money was made available for plans to proceed, and arrangements were made for MHMR to lease new facilities from ETMH, in strict compliance with the law.

Finding proper sites was somewhat more difficult. "We had a heck of a time finding a location for a new Center building," recalls Earl Andrews. "One day I was riding around town with a real estate agent, crying on his shoulder, when he drove past this lot on Front Street. He said, "What about this place?""

The wooded parcel of land and the lot next to it were available, and Andrews knew he had found the right location. And just up the street, next to the Municipal Rose Garden, property was available and suitable for the Day Training Center. Both properties were subsequently acquired through the generosity of Tyler citizens, and ownership was transferred to ETMH, Inc. Design and construction plans were initiated almost immediately.

Tyler architect E. Davis Wilcox was approached by the Board to submit design work on the new

Center building because of his familiarity with similar operations.

At the time, Wilcox had rendered service to MHMR in Austin for a number of years. He was familiar with programming requirements for MHMR facilities and with conceptual standards the agency believed should be incorporated into the building.

Conferences with Center personnel preceded design work, so that Wilcox and his associate, Charles Hannah, could accommodate functional needs. Features of the site dictated that the building should be split-level, and the split-level approach would work to the advantage of the building because such a concept can effectively separate dissimilar uses.

The upper level would be designed for large groups and for administration. The lower level was to be tailored for counseling offices,

therapy rooms and waiting areas. The building would have a free and open look with plenty of glass and a minimum of closed-in areas — no long, continuous hallways.

Acoustics would be engineered in such a way that there would be no boom or echo. Some rooms would be soundproofed. The interior of the building would be "humanized" by the avoidance of a massive look and by the use of earth tone colors on walls and ceilings.

Wilcox and Hannah visited the center in McAlister, Oklahoma, one of two prototype centers in existence during the design period, and learned from the users what had worked well design-wise and what had not. This was invaluable in planning the Tyler Center. Design work proceeded, with plans being that design and construction should be a "one-year project."



BEGINNING

On August 19, 1966 George B. Pearson, administrator of Tyler's Medical Center Hospital, wrote a letter to Tyler attorney Jack Jackson asking him to chair a board of trustees for a regional mental health and mental retardation center. Jackson was asked to choose board members and then to work with County Judge R.S. (Dick) Burrus in setting up the apparatus to get MHMR off the ground. In order to qualify under the state legislation authorizing the establishment of the board of trustees it was necessary to include in the plans one additional county, so that the total population served would be over 100,000.

Wood County was asked to join with Smith County in the endeavor, but the Wood County Commissioners declined the offer in a letter to Jackson dated October 6, 1966. "We are extremely sorry," it read, "that our budget will not allow this at the present time."

Jackson remembers that the population stipulation was subsequently rescinded "...but then Wood County later raised some money and decided to join with us anyway."

Jackson's choices for the original Board of Trustees were: Tyler businessmen Earl C. Andrews, F.O. Penn, George Pirtle and Phil Gossett; bankers Henry M. Bell, Jr. and Harold Stringer; physician Dr. Masters H. Moore and Mineola civic leader Mrs. Mildred Speights.

Mrs. Speights had played a vital part in the decision of the Wood County Commissioners to join the MHMR effort. She recalled many years later that she had "gone everywhere and seen everybody over a three week period" in an effort to enlist support for that which she knew to be a crucial need. She had encountered positive reaction but

also extensive negative response, this latter even extending to her own family. A relative, who was also a physician, had told her there was "no need for such a thing" as MHMR.

Having virtually given up on prospects of seeing Wood County involved she had gone out of town and was informed of the good news by way of a long distance call from her husband. She remembers being "overjoyed" at hearing that money had been raised and that Wood County would become a part of MHMR in East Texas.

The choice of Jack Jackson to preside over the original Board was a natural one. Jackson, a decorated Air Force veteran of World War II, presented an exemplary record of civic involvement encompassing a wide range of activities from civic clubs to Boy Scouts.

Most significantly, perhaps, he could bring his legal expertise to the various legislative involvements attendant upon opening phases of MHMR operation. He had graduated with both the BBA and JLD degrees from the University of Texas and included among his professional memberships the Phi Alpha Delta legal fraternity and the American, Texas and Smith County Bar Associations.

On June 4, 1968 the Smith County Commissioners Court signed the contract which legally put the operation of MHMR into place. The Smith-Wood County Mental Health and Mental Retardation Center was established under sponsorship of the counties' commissioners courts, and plans for the local center were initiated.

Of great significance is the fact that there were already in place at this time a number of regional agencies and operations devoted to helping the mentally ill and mentally

retarded. The Board of Trustees of the new MHMR Center were to "be involved" with these entities "in planning and coordinating services."

Already established were the Smith County Association for Retarded Children, Inc.; Pre-School Playschool for Retarded Children; Opportunities in Tyler, Inc.; Summer Camp for Handicapped Children; Speech and Hearing Clinic; Special Education Department of the Tyler Independent School District; East Texas Treatment Center in Kilgore; Lufkin Development Center and Denton State School.

Also in place were Tyler-Smith County Mental Health Association, Rusk State Hospital, Terrell State Hospital, Tyler Junior College and Jarvis College Counseling Services and a number of psychiatrists and psychologists in private practice.

Cooperation between the new MHMR Board and these active groups and individuals, especially Mrs. Marjorie Dibert, Executive Director of the Smith County Mental Health Association, was a major factor in bringing Regional Center operations to life.

Jack Jackson recalls that during these early days of MHMR development Board members were heavily dependent upon the expertise of both professionals and experienced lay personnel. He and the others who had pledged a large measure of their time and effort to a cause they believed in were, in a sense, students embarking voluntarily upon a course of study in the realm of psychology and medical program administration.

Jackson and the Board, besides meeting in regular sessions and with experts in their fields, came to be in almost constant receipt of letters and documents apprising them of the legal ramifications of their new

responsibilities and guiding them mentally and emotionally into this new endeavor. The board members were an attorney, bankers, businessmen, a doctor and a housewife learning at the feet of governmental officials and psychologists and doctors of psychiatry.

One of the earliest communications received by the Board was, very simply, a spelling out of what they were to be about.

"The functions of a community mental health center," it read, "are twofold, education and treatment. The basic educational activities include

- (1) The training of a large number of volunteers to work directly with patients;
- (2) To help the community understand the etiology and symptoms of mental illness; and
- (3) To educate the community to accept and live with the people who traditionally have been 'sent away' to state hospitals.

The treatment dimensions of the center's activities must be at least

- (1) The caring of the acutely disturbed via short term hospitalization;
- (2) The treatment of chronic patients via a partial care program; and
- (3) To be a catalyst in the organization and coordination of community agencies and to bring these resources into effective use for the patient population which the community mental health center serves."

This, in a few words, represented the challenge facing this new Board of Trustees of the Mental Health and Mental Retardation Center. It was a challenge "eagerly but respectfully" accepted by the Board, and, more practically, one that would have to be met head-on if

funds from local, state and federal sources were to be forthcoming.

It started, almost literally, "on a shoestring."

The first budget submitted for review by the commissioners courts was for \$6,445.00, to cover the following items: secretary's salary, executive desk, executive chairs, secretary desk, secretary chair, two side chairs, file cabinet, typewriter and office machine rental, telephone, stationery, miscellaneous supplies, rent, postage, petty cash, miscellaneous and travel.

Legislative mandate declared that counties participating in the new program were to arrange for funds to complement those provided by the state as their part in "providing a sound plan of mental health and mental retardation services." The plan for the region served by the Smith-Wood County Center was to be developed under direction of the Board of Trustees. The state paid \$5,000.00 toward initial phases of the program.

The first office of MHMR in Tyler was the jury room of the Smith County Courthouse, and it was during meetings in this chamber that Gary Smith of Dallas was hired to serve as the center's first director.

Smith, a 28-year-old native of Conroe, Texas, then on temporary assignment with the City of Dallas Planning Commission, was described in a memo to the Board as "a very able young man."

He had worked for and with the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation and met "Departmental requirements for a Developer I at a salary of \$11,616.00."

Earl Andrews remembers that during those days, Judge Burrus

would arrange for financing \$1,000.00 at a time, and out of this money both Smith and a secretary were paid.

But logistics and salaries and other financial responsibilities were but a part of the endeavor facing director and Board then and now. As another early document advised (regarding the difficulty of arranging for the participation of medical personnel): "The new role of the psychiatrist in this treatment program will meet with great resistance from a variety of areas, especially persons in the medical field, but this is still a reality which must be faced. One of the major difficulties with psychiatric involvement at this point is that psychiatrists are not trained to work in this type of treatment center. They are trained to become private practitioners in a one-on-one therapeutic encounter. If this role and style is carried over into a community center, the center will never be effective."

From the outset, the Board has been faced with a multiplicity of challenges, not the least of which has been the finding and enlisting into service of first class personnel, both medical and non-medical.

But, of course, the amount of money available to attract good people in the salaried categories, has depended upon the generosity of funding agencies and persons in the private sector.

Andrews remembers that at the beginning the federal government was involved on an "eight-year diminishing basis." The first year of operation, he recalls, the government supplied 100% of federally legislated funding. The second year it was 90% to the state and county's 10%, then 80%-20% and so on until at the end of the period all financing was up to states, counties and boards.



EPILOGUE AND PROLOGUE

In July of 1991 a Tyler woman said to a local business man, "MHMR has literally saved my life." She said the words slowly and passionately. "When I came here to take this job (with an area religious organization) I was at the end of my rope. My husband had left my son and me, and I had no money and didn't know a soul in this town. I was suicidal."

The confession shocked the listener, because the woman, whom he had known for some years as a radiant example of the faith she represented, had never spoken of her past. She would have been the last person he would have thought to have needed psychiatric care.

"I took my son with me to MHMR," she said, "and they gave both of us new direction and purpose. They are as good with children as they are with adults. I couldn't begin to tell you what they've done for us."

When his visitor left, the man sat for a moment wondering how many times such an account might have been repeated during the past quarter-century not only in Tyler and East Texas but wherever MHMR centers have been established. Her story represented a sort of beginning for her and her son, even as it had been recounted at the end of this chapter of Regional Center history.

Just three months before, the person perhaps most responsible for making available the help that woman had received had stepped aside.

On April 25, 1991, Earl Andrews announced his retirement from the Board of Trustees. "It was time to go," he says. "They were accepting everything I said, and that's not good."

The resignation was announced at a board meeting, but "only after work had been completed on the new Athens facility," says a longtime

Center employee. "He wouldn't have left until after that job was finished."

Following Andrews' announcement, Isadore Roosth rose to say "We don't want to accept this resignation, but it appears that Mr. Andrews has made up his mind."

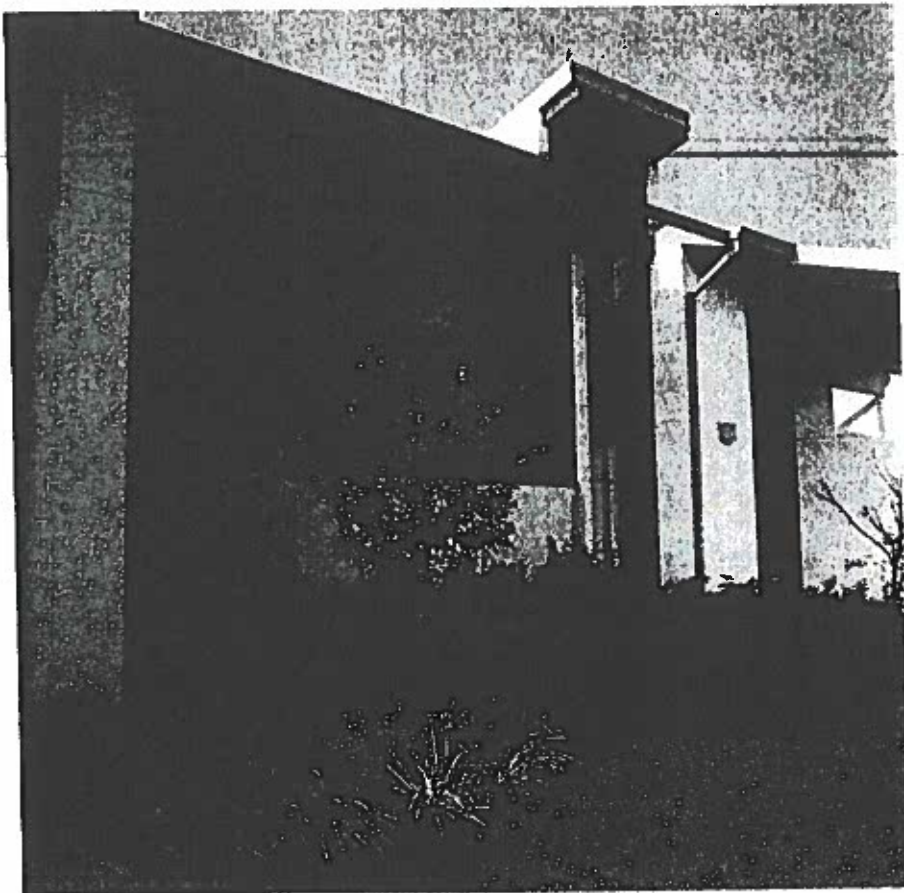
"There are no words," he continued, "to express the way the Board feels about Mr. Andrews and his many years of dedication and service to the Center."

No words, perhaps, but a lasting tribute.

On May 31, 1991, Richard DeSanto announced that Earl Andrews had agreed to allow the Center to be re-named "The Andrews Center."

And so it has been.

The newly christened complex of regional services stands today on the threshold of even greater accomplishments, a living symbol not only of the dedication of Earl C. Andrews but of the devotion of all of the men and women who have given their lives to the cause of healing the sick and helping those who cannot help themselves.



The new Athens facility is state-of-the-art architecturally and functionally.

EAST TEXAS MENTAL HEALTH, INC.

In light of this burgeoning activity, the need for a first class regional MHMR Center building became apparent. As a matter of fact, it was, in a sense, mandated by the Center's Statement of Purpose — "It is the purpose of this Center to provide for the conservation and restoration of mental health among the people of Henderson, Smith, Rains, Van Zandt and Wood Counties and toward this end to provide for the effective administration and coordination of mental health and mental retardation services, so that persons so effected shall be afforded the opportunity to develop their respective mental capabilities to the fullest practicable extent and to live as useful and productive lives as possible. Center services are available to residents of these counties, without regard to race, color, creed, national origin, sex, age, marital status or ability to pay."

The Board of Directors, seeing the obvious need for extensive new Center facilities proceeded with a course of action that would allow them to accomplish their objectives and, at the same time, fully meet the requirements of House Bill 3.

This 1965 legislation, which had provided the initiative for the development of local MHMR Centers, expressly forbade Center Boards of Trustees from borrowing money for purchasing real estate. The Legislature did not want local centers to obligate themselves financially beyond the legislative appropriation period. The intent was sound, since public tax money was involved. But the very fact that tax money was involved was seen by the local centers as reason to find the best way to assure that money use would be wise. As was stated at the time, "The MHMR Board in East Texas has been particularly concerned throughout its history with assuring itself and those it

represents that MHMR expenditures are a good use of tax dollars." Services were expanding dramatically, and, in order to facilitate the expansion, new quarters were required so that tax money could be most efficiently and appropriately expended.

Since the legislative appropriation period was but two years, it was correctly assumed that no private investor would be willing to undertake a financial obligation of the size anticipated in building new facilities or even remodeling old ones.

So the Board of Trustees of MHMR voted to create a private, non-profit corporation to be called East Texas Mental Health, Inc. Its purpose was "To develop adequate facilities, provide a mechanism to borrow money to accomplish the same, and ultimately, to provide a reduced cost for housing center programs."

The idea for creating such a corporation was not unique, having been previously used in Galveston and Dallas. Therefore, calling upon the attorneys for the Dallas MHMR Center for assistance in setting up this corporation was an obvious course of action.

East Texas Mental Health, Inc. was formed with the board of directors being identical with that of MHMR. Application for non-profit corporation status was made in 1974, and the Board forthwith applied for non-profit status with the Internal Revenue Service under Section 501. And since it was determined at the time that the purpose of the corporation was that of a title holding company, the status was determined to be 501(C)2, under the codes of the IRS — effective January 24 of the following year.

During this period the Center was renting a facility in Canton, and that operation was in jeopardy

because the owner of the property was contemplating its sale, thus leaving the Center without its site. So the first test of the purpose of the new ETMH, Inc. was initiated.

A donation was received to provide a down payment on the purchase of this property, and this money was prepaid to the Corporation as rent, with the understanding that the debt which the Corporation would incur in purchasing the property would eventually be retired through this sort of payment. Thus, in relatively short order, the wisdom of establishing the Corporation was proven. Property was purchased legally, and the principal of offering reduced rental payments by the Center was then established.

But, as Jack Jackson remembers, new problems arose almost immediately: "How could the same Board of Trustees continue to contract or lease with itself? And how could funds donated to the Center be transferred to meet the financing needs of the Corporation?"

After deliberation, the Board decided to establish an "arm's length relationship." The corporation charter was amended to provide a separate board of directors to manage the corporation.

The association between the MHMR Board of Trustees and the ETMH, Inc. Board of Directors was defined as one of a "stockholder" relationship. Corporation board members would be appointed by the MHMR Board, and the two would be separate entities.

The initially appointed ETMH board members were Charles Childers, Jack Jackson, Henry M. Bell, Jr. and F.O. Penn. They, along with the MHMR board were to play an integral part in important subsequent events.

A NEW ERA

In April of 1979 paving work was completed at the Mineola Center, and in October of that year the facility was dedicated. Main speaker during the ceremony was State Representative Bill Hollowell. Charles Childers and Earl Andrews honored Mrs. Mildred Speights for her many contributions to MHMR, particularly in Wood County.

Mrs. Speights had almost single-handedly brought the Mineola facility from dream to reality. It had been she who had raised the matching funds to construct the building which stands today a symbol of her dedication to the cause into which she has invested so much of her life.

Two months later, in December of 1979, a new era began for the MHMR crusade in East Texas. The beautiful new Regional Center Building in Tyler stood ready for occupancy. That which had originally been envisioned as a one-year construction project but had taken the better part of two years and \$1,895,687.00 to complete opened its doors.

The big migration from the Bryant Petroleum Building began, and on January 1, 1980 the new West Front Street facility was occupied.

Nestled in a grove of tall pines and resting in harmony with its surroundings, the building was eminently suited to its function. It had been designed to accommodate three separate services under one roof: Outpatient for all ages — serving those who are developmentally delayed or mentally retarded, with complete diagnostic and evaluation facilities; training, consultation and education; and Regional Center administration offices. "It was a dream come true,"

recalls one of the staff members who had moved over from the Bryant Petroleum Building.

Charles Childers had been devoting time and effort to MHMR since its infancy in the early 70's and



The Regional Center Headquarters Building in Tyler.

Many people had been involved in bringing this project to completion, but several had brought particular skills to bear.

MHMR Board members at this time were Chairman Earl Andrews, Vice-Chairman Mildred Speights, Secretary-Treasurer Isadore Roosth, Mrs. Martha Hunter, Bobby Sanders, A.C. McMillan, George T. Hall, Masters H. Moore and Mrs. Linda Underhill.

ETMH Board members were President Charles L. Childers, Vice President Harry Phillips, Secretary-Treasurer Jack Jackson, Wilton Fair, Baker Lucas, F.O. Penn, Henry Bell and Royce Wisenbaker.

had stayed through the difficult years of development. Appointed to the Board of MHMR in June, 1971, he had served as secretary-treasurer through June, 1975.

As president of Tyler Bank and Trust he was able to bring his financial expertise to the fledgling operation to which he had been attracted by Earl Andrews. "Earl told me what a good job the Center was doing and how many people in our community were being helped," remembers Childers, "and when he asked me if I'd be willing to serve, I said yes."

The function of the Trustees was and is to provide guidance to the

executive director in developing policies and reviewing employment of staff, and Childers' expertise in relative areas proved invaluable during those early days.

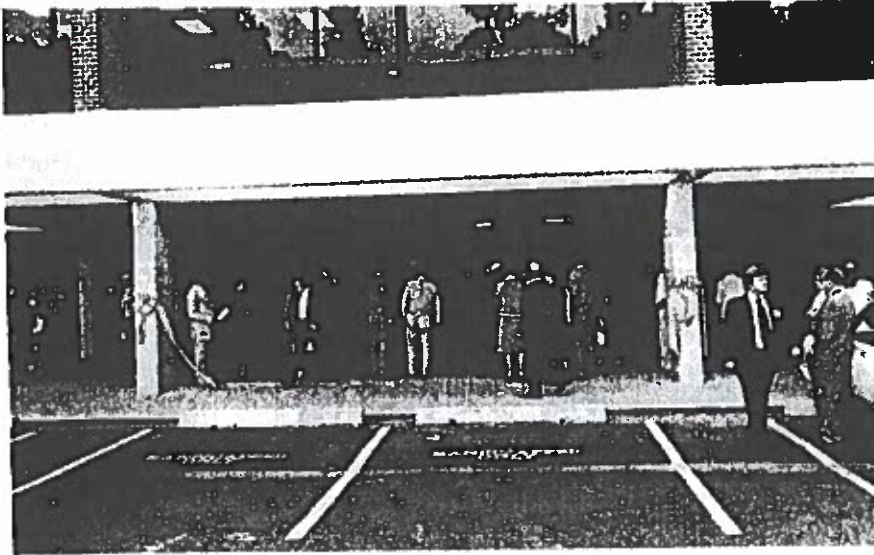
short message on the importance of that which would take place in the lives of East Texas citizens in the beautiful new facility. Isadore Roosth, Chairman of the MHMR

Board members at the inception of the dream.

One of those Board members was Henry M. Bell, Jr., President of Citizens First National Bank of Tyler and President of the Tyler Clearing House Association. It had been Bell, along with Childers, who had played a key role in developing the financing mechanism for the two new Tyler facilities. Through the work of the Clearing House Association, the Savings and Loan Association and the Center Boards, the eleven financial institutions in Tyler had jointly provided interim and long-term financing.

Henry M. Bell, Jr. has brought to his various MHMR involvements an exemplary resume.

Having graduated from the Citadel in Charleston, South Carolina and Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut he joined the staff of the Citizens National Bank (now First City National Bank) in 1948 and rose through the ranks to the position of Senior Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive



A large crowd gathered for grand opening of the Main Facility.

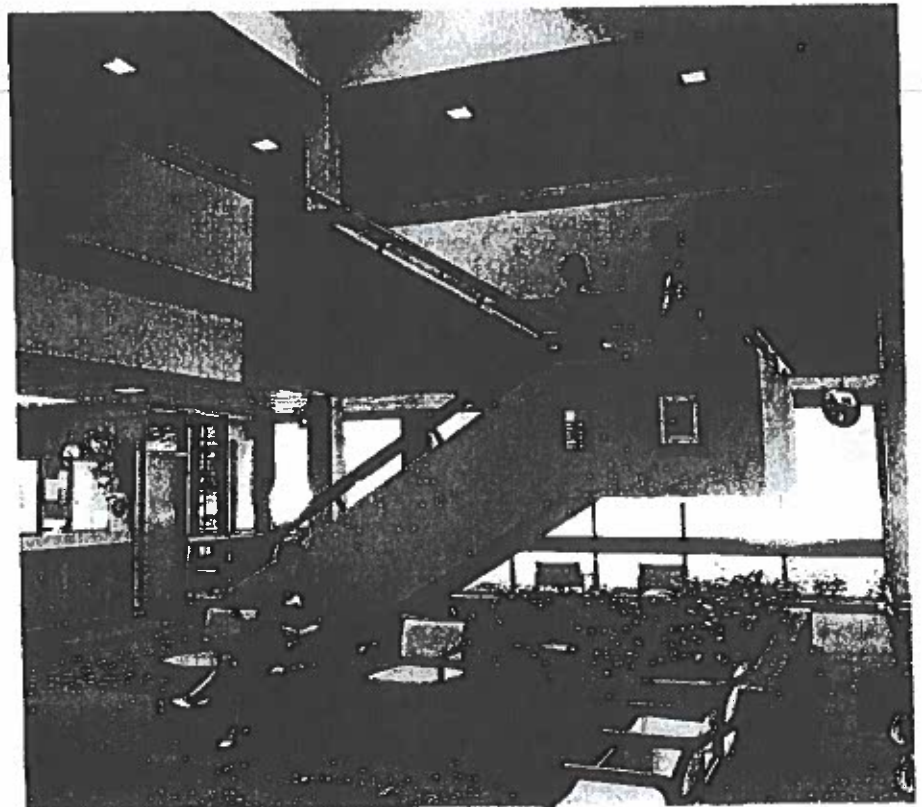
When the establishment of East Texas Mental Health, Inc. became expedient, he had moved over to that Board as its first president. Again, his expertise in financial matters had been a key ingredient in the swift movement made by this fund-handling entity.

A Dallas native, Childers graduated from Southern Methodist University, Southwestern Graduate School of Banking at SMU and the Institute for Financial Management at Harvard University.

During grand opening ceremonies for the new Regional Center Building on May 8, 1980 he addressed the attendees with a message honoring all those who had been involved in the development and progress of MHMR in East Texas.

Recognized were the Tyler Mental Health Association, East Texas Mental Health, Inc. and the Board of Trustees of the MHMR of East Texas. Dr. William Shamburger, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Tyler gave the invocation, and Board of Trustees Chairman Earl Andrews delivered a

Facilities Committee, recognized those individuals who were MHMR



Freedom and openness characterize the interior of the Main Facility.

Officer before retiring in September of 1988.

He has distinguished himself as a civic leader in Tyler and East Texas through a succession of civic involvements, including memberships and/or board positions in some thirty organizations, seven of them relative to either mental or physical health.

Among his many recognitions, he numbers the 1961 W.C. Windsor Award as Tyler's Outstanding Young Man and the 1971 T.B. Butler Award as Tyler's Outstanding Citizen.

Those who attended grand opening ceremonies that day in May and who later would proceed down the street for the grand opening of the Day Training Center were deeply impressed by the functional beauty of the new buildings.

The latter had been designed to meet the needs of special children.

Bright, cheerful and spacious, it spoke of love and compassion. Its attributes and unlimited potential

were extolled by officiants Childers, Andrews and Rabbi Eugene H. Levy of Tyler's Temple Beth El.



Earl Andrews made the dedicatory address during grand opening ceremonies for the Child Development and Training Center. Charles Childers stands in the background.



Earl Andrews, born in Austin in 1907, moved to Tyler in 1916. He graduated from Tyler High School and upon graduation, worked as a bookkeeper at Peoples National Bank and then for the Wadel-Connally Company.

Andrews was the first president of Tyler Little Theatre, which later became Tyler Civic Theatre. He also served as president the Civic Music Association and on the boards of Community Concerts Association, East Texas Symphony Association and Tyler Museum of Art, in addition to being president of the Retail Merchants Association and Tyler Area Chamber of Commerce, director of Tyler Industrial Foundation and on boards of Tyler Savings and Loan Association and Citizens First National Bank.

Andrews was chairman of the Mental Health and Mental Retardation Regional Center and was instrumental in bringing MHMR to Tyler; re-named Andrews Center in his honor in 1990.

Andrews served on a myriad of local boards and civic groups, many time in leadership roles.

In recognition of his life of service, he received the T. B. Butler award and W. C. Windsor awards.

Earle Mayfield was born April 12, 1881, in Overton, His family owned Mayfield Grocery Company, a large wholesale provider of grocery products throughout Texas.

Mayfield, a graduate of Southwestern University in Georgetown and The University Texas Law School, first practiced law in Meridian, Bosque County, Texas. His skill as a lawyer and orator were immediately recognized, for the people of Meridian first elected him City Attorney and then, in 1907 at the age of 26, he was elected to the Texas Senate.

In 1912, Mayfield was elected to an unexpired term on the Texas Railroad Commission. In 1922, he resigned from the Commission to campaign for the United States Senate. He won the Senatorial election in November 1923, but was defeated in 1928 in his attempt for a second term.

Mayfield moved permanently to Tyler in 1931 and opened Mayfield, Grisham Patterson & Grisham Law Firm on the second floor of the Swann Building. By 1933 Mayfield & Grisham Law Firm occupied the entire 14th floor of the new People's National Bank Building, the most prestigious office space in East Texas.

In addition to practicing law for over 30 years in Tyler, Senator Mayfield was active in several civic organizations.

Sen. Mayfield died at age 83 on June 23, 1964, and was buried in Oakwood Cemetery.



Half Mile of History

Marker Unveiling

In honor of

Earl Andrews and
Sen. Earle Mayfield

Tuesday, April 14, 2015

Opening remarks: Mayor Martin Heines

Half Mile of History honoree biographies read by:

Historic Preservation Board Member Danny Noteware

Historic Preservation Board Member Vicki Betts

Unveiling of Marker and Certificate Presentation

Responses

Special Announcements

About the

Half Mile of History

The City of Tyler's historic preservation program, the Half Mile of History, resulted from a recommendation that came out of the Tyler 1st (formerly Tyler 21) planning process. The fifth goal of the Historic Preservation chapter is:

"Promote and display diverse aspects of Tyler's history to enhance resident and visitor awareness of its importance."

The goal of the Half Mile of History is to pay tribute to people, places and events that have contributed to the rich history of Tyler and Smith County.

The Half Mile of History is a permanent, outdoor, half-mile loop that surrounds the square in the heart of Downtown Tyler. Stone markers are placed in the sidewalk along the Half Mile of History to commemorate significant people, places or events.

We encourage you to view all of the markers to learn more about our history.



A Natural Beauty

Half Mile of History

Marker Unveiling

In honor of

Earl Andrews and

Jan Earle Mayfield

Tuesday, April 14, 2015