

Decisions on distribution of funds to be made at regional level with citizen involvement

COUNTY IDENTIFIES PRIORITIES FOR PROPOSED AUGMENTATION

INTERVIEW:

MILTON GREENBLATT

Director, UCLA
Community Psychiatry



Dr. Milton Greenblatt is considered the grandfather of community psychiatry. And he is proud of that title. "If that's what people think, then I feel great."

Since his first job in 1941, Greenblatt has been a pioneer in social and community psychiatry. More than 40 years ago he

"Psychiatry must be immersed in the care of the underserved and underprivileged; it can't be an elite occupation."

pushed for deinstitutionalization and began product line workshops and housing alternatives for the mentally ill.

Greenblatt has been at UCLA for 11 years and at nearly 70, the rumors of his retirement are running, but if they are true, he

Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health has outlined its priorities for distribution of the proposed 1984-85 augmentation funds from the Governor's Budget.

The department estimates it may receive approximately \$10.6 million in additional state money for mental health programs in Los Angeles County in fiscal year 1984-85.

In his Governor's Budget submitted to the Legislature in January, Gov. George Deukmejian proposed a \$35 million increase in funding for local mental health programs in the counties. If passed, this would mean the additional \$10.6 million for Los Angeles County.

The County Department of Mental Health identified as its service priorities children and adolescents, mentally disordered offenders-jail program, emergency crisis intervention, community support programs and residential care.

Using the California Model of comprehensive community mental health services as a resource guideline, the department identified these priorities based on areas of high need and gaps in services.

Portions of the augmentation funds, totaling \$6.2 million, have been designated for programs, staff and services in the priority areas for either county operated or contractual services.

The remaining money would be distributed to the regions and central programs based on "relative need" and would also be for county operated or contractual services.

Specific programs within the priority areas have been targeted for augmentation funds, but decisions on the majority of money to be used for priority services, as well as the remaining funds, will be made on the regional level.

Specific additions to the Children and Youth Services Bureau would be a 40-bed residential program and case management in each of

the five county regions. Children and Youth Services may also receive additional funds, based on need.

Services added to the mentally disordered offenders-jail program would be the establishment of a mental health treatment program at the Sybil Brand women's jail and expansion of a similar program currently operating at the men's jail.

Emergency crisis intervention services would be augmented to ensure there is 24-hour mobile response capability in each region.

Funds would be used to augment residential services so there would be at least one of each kind of residential facility identified in the California Model in each region.

Request for Proposals (RFPs) for programs will be distributed. Decisions about the distribution of funds will be made at the local level through the usual planning process.

"We trust that regional planning efforts will ensure the active involvement of departmental staff, contract providers, regional interagency committees, Regional Community Liaison Committees and the Mental Health Advisory Board in identifying the manner in which the service priorities will be addressed," according to J.R. Elpers, M.D., department director.

INSIDE:

MAY DAYS
PGS. 4-5

RHYME AND REASON
PG. 6

The Assembly Select Committee on Mental Health will hold a hearing on "Children and Adolescent Mental Health Needs" at 9:30 a.m. on May 11 in Los Angeles. Location has yet to be determined. For information, call the committee at (916) 445-4477. Comments may be sent to the Assembly Select Committee on Mental Health, 1100 J St., Sacramento, CA 95814.

MHA
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Mental Health Association in Los Angeles County
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Judges are Scott Grieger, Amy Goldman and Maxine Junge, L.C.S.W. (l-r). The winning photograph is by Phillip A. Calhoun of Venice High School.

YOUTH ARTWORK EXPRESSES FEELINGS, CELEBRATES MENTAL HEALTH MONTH

High school students once again will be "Expressing Feelings Through Art."

For the third year, the Children's Citizens Advisory Committee to the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health Children and Youth Bureau is sponsoring this art competition.

"Expressing Feelings Through Art" is presented in celebration of Mental Health Month and to "bring public awareness to the mental health needs of children and youth," according to Ada Jones, M.S.W., project coordinator.

The competition is open to high school students from the Los Angeles Unified School District and Los Angeles County Schools.

An exhibit of the paintings and drawings will be open weekdays from May 15 to June 15 at the Los Angeles County Education Center gallery, 9300 E. Imperial Highway, Downey. Admission is free. Selected artwork will be displayed at the American Psychiatric Association Convention at the Los Angeles Convention Center May 5 through 11.

This year, in addition to the artwork, students have described in writing the feelings they are expressing in their artwork.

Judging the artwork were Scott

Grieger, fine arts department chairperson, Otis Parsons Art Institute; Maxine Junge, L.C.S.W., registered art therapist, Loyola Marymount University; and Amy Goldman, fine arts department, University of Southern California.

A reception held at the Department of Mental Health on April 26 featured speakers Dr. Elizabeth Poster, assistant dean, University of California, Los Angeles, School of Nursing, and John Otterbridge, director of the Watts Towers Art Center.

SHON, PASADENA CENTER WILL LOOK AT 'NEW TRENDS IN MENTAL HEALTH'

Steven Shon, M.D., clinical director of the California Department of Mental Health, will deliver the keynote address at Pasadena Mental Health Center's conference, "New Trends in Mental Health."

This eighth annual community conference will be held on Friday, June 1, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at The Pasadena Center, 300 E. Green St., Pasadena.

Shon will speak on "The Changing Face of Mental Health—Its Impact on You."

Warren L. Jones, M.D., Ph.D., faculty and training supervisor, South-

ern California Psychoanalytic Institute, will speak on "Current Trends in Psychotherapy."

PSYCHIATRISTS PRESENT 'MOSAIC' OF TOPICS AT ANNUAL MEETING

Biological links to psychiatric disorders, the connection between marital status and health, the psychiatric implications of a potential "nuclear winter," advances in treating Alzheimer's disease, and the causes and cures of adolescent violence are among the topics to be discussed during the 137th American Psychiatric Association Annual Meeting.

The meeting, with the theme, "American Psychiatry: A Dynamic Mosaic," will be held from May 5 to 11 at the Los Angeles Convention Center.

The meeting will feature special lectures by eminent scientist Carl Sagan, Ph.D. who will discuss the "T-TAPS Paper," which described the aftermath of nuclear war, and author Norman Cousins, whose books have popularized the concept that patient attitude can affect health.

Virginia Johnson-Masters and William H. Masters, M.D., whose research has revolutionized America's knowledge about sex, and made sexual problems an important part of health care, will review the first 25 years of sexual therapy, and will look at its potential in upcoming years.

Other special speakers include former First Lady Rosalynn Carter and Cornelia Wilbur, M.D., whose pioneering work with a patient suffering multiple personalities gave rise to the book and movie, *Sybil*.

"The special lectures we have selected for this annual meeting present a broad mosaic of provocative

thought on issues of importance not only to psychiatrists but also to the general public," said APA President George Tarjan, M.D.

The meeting will have an agenda of topics that range from biomedical and laboratory findings that shed light on to causes and potential treatments of psychiatric disorders to the social issues that are part of all medical care, particularly mental care.

Among the biomedical research questions addressed at the meeting are whether certain imbalances in the body's hormones are markers for psychiatric disorders, whether new pharmacological treatments are beneficial to various illnesses, whether the risk for developing substance abuse such as alcoholism has a genetic factor and whether blood flow or electrical activity in the brain has any bearing on psychiatric illnesses.

Social issues to be discussed include the role family relationships play in the development or prevention of mental illness, the effects of socialization on women's self-image, the plight of the homeless, and ethical and legal problems associated with the care of the elderly.

RECOVERY INC. TO SHARE METHOD AT APA MEETING

Recovery Inc. will be participating in a workshop at the American Psychiatric Association annual meeting.

Recovery Inc. members will take part in the workshop, "What Are Patient Groups Doing," on Tuesday, May 8, at 8 a.m. in Suite 216-B of the Los Angeles Convention Center.

The workshop is designed to familiarize psychiatrists and other mental health professionals with the activities of various patient groups and movements and to examine ways in which patient groups can assist and work with professionals.

During their segment of the workshop, three Recovery Inc. members will be demonstrating the Recovery method and how it works. During the dialogue portion of the workshop, Recovery members will answer questions.

Recovery Inc. is a non-profit international mental health resource, offering training in self-help techniques for persons suffering from nervous symptoms. Its purpose is to help prevent relapses in former mental health patients and to forestall chronicity in nervous patients.

Recovery Inc. meetings are held in most areas of the county weekly at no charge. For a meeting list, call (213) 651-2170.

PERSONAL GROWTH, RELATIONSHIPS TO BE EXPLORED AT NASW 'LIFE FAIR'

It is a fair time.

The National Association of Social Workers (NASW) Counseling and Referral Service of Los Angeles County is presenting "The Getting More Out of Life Fair," a day of workshops for the public on family relationships, personal growth and mental health topics.

Co-sponsored by Los Angeles Valley College, the fair will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 19, in Monarch Hall, Campus Center of the college, Fullerton and Burbank Streets, Van Nuys.

Topics of the 30 workshops, all led by licensed clinical social workers, include "Returning to the Market Place—Balancing Family and Job," "Understanding Human Sexuality—Am I OK? Are You OK?," "Gays, Lesbians and Their Families—Understanding and Accepting" and "Discipline in an Age of Permissiveness—Coping with Your Teen-ager."

"Since social workers in private practice and agency work see people coping with all sorts of life transitions and personal crises, it made sense to us as professionals to expand our public education work to the life fair format," said Judith M. Harris, life fair

chairperson.

"An educational format gives people a chance to get information in a non-threatening environment and perhaps to find that their problems and concerns are neither unique nor terrible. There is help available," she said.

"Dealing with Divorce," the keynote address, will be given by Joan Dasteel, L.C.S.W., Ph.D., private therapist and senior teacher at UCLA Extension's Department of Human Services and Development.

The referral service held a similar workshop last year in Los Angeles.

"The feeling was that we should bring this to other parts of the city," said Lynn Slade, referral service coordinator. "It's such a geographically diverse community that we felt what we did should be replicated and expanded." She said the first life fair had a large turnout.

The referral service, a non-profit organization, offers free referrals by a social worker to licensed clinical social workers in private practice in Los Angeles County.

Fee for the life fair is \$25. Persons may pre-register or register at the door. For additional information, call (818) 781-1200, ext. 277.

PSYCHOLOGISTS OFFER WORKSHOPS ON LEADERSHIP, DIAGNOSIS SKILLS

The California State Psychological Association's (CSPA) Continuing Education Committee will offer two spring workshops in Los Angeles County.

Open to all mental health professionals, the workshops will be held on June 3, from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., at the Beverly Hilton Hotel, 9876 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills. Continuing education credit is available for psychologists, social workers and nurses.

The "Leadership—Management Skills for Mental Health Professionals" workshop will teach practical skills and strategies using various leadership models. It will be led by Nels Klyver, Ph.D., staff psychologist for the Los Angeles Police Department, where he is in charge of train-

ing programs for supervisory and management development.

A workshop on "Structural Diagnosis in Clinical Practice: Understanding the Difficult Patient" will be led by Althea J. Horner, Ph.D., senior faculty, Wright Institute Los Angeles Post Graduate Center. The focus will be on integrating new concepts of psychoanalytic theory with clinical data and experience.

Deadline for pre-registration is May 25, with a fee for either workshop of \$85 for CSPA members and \$95 for non-members. Registration at the door is \$95 for members and \$105 for non-members.

Call Linda Bear, CSPA continuing Education Program administrator, at (213) 478-5039 for further information.

SUPERVISORS APPROVE ESTABLISHMENT OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES DEPARTMENT

After Three-hour Hearing Before Overflow Crowd

Before an overflow crowd of celebrities, child-abuse workers and politicians, the Board of Supervisors voted Tuesday, April 10 to establish a new Department of Children's Services.

Supervisor Pete Schabarum dissented, saying he wanted services for the elderly included in the new department.

"The creation of a Children's Services Department is just a first step," said Celeste Kaplan, vice chairperson of the Children's Services Task Force.

"Now the question is implementation and carrying out the plan, adopted by Los Angeles County Supervisors in April, in a way that helps families and provides better protection for children," Kaplan said.

Kaplan and the other 27 members of the task force were asked by the Board of Supervisors to study 1) alternatives to a separate department, and 2) the merger of adoptions, the responsibility for status offenders, runaways, chronic truants and kids out of parental control, into an existing department.

"What Supervisor Edmund Edelman proposed a year ago was the formation of a Children's Services Task Force to deal primarily with administrative questions at top administrative levels," said Kaplan. Edelman strongly favored a separate department for children's services.

"We recognized at the beginning that we couldn't deal with issues of top reorganization from an administrative standpoint unless we looked at how the whole system is functioning today in relating to children," said Kaplan.

The task force came up with what

ment of Public Social Services for a year as a transitional measure.

"The recommendations we made are policy recommendations, to be done whether or not there is a new department. They have nothing to do with top administration," said Kaplan.

Under one of the recommendations, the Department of Children's Services will be authorized to hire enough social workers to investigate all reports of suspected abuse.

"Of the many recommendations to improve Children's Protective Services, the most important is that case loads will be reduced so that workers can provide quality service and to insure that one CPS worker works with an abused child from beginning to end of the child's stay in the system," said Kaplan. "We are calling this comprehensive, continuous case management."

The social worker would be responsible for taking immediate action to protect any endangered children in an assigned family. Also, children that have been abused will not be released to their parents or guardians unless home conditions are shown to have changed.

"This case management responsibility must remain in the public sector and not be contracted out or assigned to a private agency," said Kaplan. "Together with that goal, it is important to implement the services that are mandated for abused children and families in the state law.

These specific services, counseling, parent education, in-home caretakers, respite care for children and teaching and demonstrating homemakers, can

"The report is a sweeping set of reforms in the system in dealing with abused and neglected children. The recommendations are a set of policies for reorganizing basic delivery of services wherever they are located administratively."

Kaplan terms "a sweeping set of reforms in the entire system in dealing with abused and neglected children." The 47 recommendations are a set of policies for reorganizing basic delivery of services, wherever they are located administratively.

"Of the recommendations, 24 dealt with children's service workers and their function. We then made recommendations regarding coordination of the county system. Currently, 13 county departments and agencies are involved in services to abused and neglected children."

In taking its action, the Supervisors will now concentrate in the new agency various children's services currently assigned to the Public Social Services, Probation and Adoptions Departments.

The task force originally recommended that a separate department not be considered before July 1985.

"The minority report is not a total disagreement," said Kaplan, "but a difference on two points. There was total unanimity on the 47 of 49 points."

The minority report requested guarantees for a separate department a year from now and that the head of the department would have a graduate degree in social work and practical administrative experience in children's services. The majority report strongly recommends that such a person be hired.

"The major difference is a matter of timing; the majority wanted to make a final decision for a department in the summer of 1985 while the minority wanted a decision now," said Kaplan.

Both the minority and the majority proposed to set up a Bureau of Children's Services within the Depart-

be secured with contracts to private, non-profit agencies.

"The task force drew the line between overall protective responsibility of the government, care by children's services workers and the provision of certain services that are needed and can best be secured from private, non-profit agencies."

The task force also pointed out the need for a central county registry for child abuse cases, to be shared by police and other agencies involved in preventing child abuse.

"When police investigate a case," said Kaplan, "they don't have access to earlier information; sometimes this delay can be fatal. All public agencies mandated with child care and protection must have access to information."

Also recommended are more judges in the Juvenile Court's dependency section, recruitment and training programs for foster parents and better collaboration with private social agencies.

The task force also recommended changes in state legislation and administration, which includes creation of this new department.

The Supervisors also will create a committee to oversee administration and policy of all departments that provide services to endangered children, such as the mental health department.

Creation of the new department and implementation of some of the task force's recommendations will require legislative approval in Sacramento, but county officials anticipate no opposition.

The Department of Children's Services will become operational in September, with a staff drawn largely from other county agencies currently involved.



Actress Sally Struthers and comedienne Carol Burnett (l-r) were among the celebrities who testified before the Board of Supervisors in favor of a new county Department of Children's Services.



Los Angeles Raider Lyle Alzado (front, left), himself a victim of child abuse, testified before the Board of Supervisors for the Children's Services Department. Also testifying was actor Henry Winkler (back, right).



Barbara Prober and Sylvia Cherney, members of the Mental Health Association in Los Angeles County Children and Youth Committee; Celeste Kaplan, vice chairperson, Children's Services Task Force and Maurine Kornfield, Children and Youth Committee chairperson (l-r).

LEGISLATIVE BREAKFAST TO FOCUS ON LESSENING ABUSIVE BEHAVIOR

"Working Together to End Abusive Behavior" is the theme for the San Fernando/Antelope Valley Regional Community Liaison Committee's (RCLC) legislative breakfast.

The meeting will be held on May 5, from 10 a.m. to noon, at San Fernando Valley Child Guidance Clinic, 9650 Zelzah Ave., Northridge.

The meeting will focus on ways to lessen abusive behavior, both mental and physical particularly to children and the elderly, according to Olive Ruby, RCLC member and chairperson of the committee Planning the breakfast.

"Our RCLC voted to go this way because we felt that it was the greatest need for the most people," she said. "Through education and legislation, we hope to lessen this (abusive behavior)."

Judge H. Keith Byran of the Municipal Court in Newhall will moderate a session at the meeting in which legislators will present information, followed by questions from the audience.

The meeting is open to the public, but reservations are required. For more information or reservations, call Kathy Tasugi at (818) 508-7800.

WALK-A-THONS, EDITORIALS, FILMS CELEBRATE MENTAL

FILM VERSION OF COUSINS' 'ILLNESS' RELATES MIND'S HEALING POWER

In 1964, Norman Cousins was in his prime as a lecturer, humanitarian and editor of the "Saturday Review."

Returning from Russia, where he headed an American cultural exchange delegation, Cousins was stricken with a degenerative bone disease. Specialists gave him a one in 500 chance of recovery.

Determining to be the one in 500, Cousins refused to succumb to the illness. The story of his recovery, using positive emotions and his own medication regimen, became the best-selling book, "Anatomy of an Illness."

The television film based on the book, starring Ed Asner as Norman Cousins will be shown Tuesday, May 15, from 9 to 11 p.m. on KCBS, Channel 2.

In life, Cousins had a good friendship with his doctor, and the film illustrates the unique and special partnership Cousins developed with Dr. William Hitzig (Eli Wallach).

Armed with the belief that "your mind can cure your body," Cousins stopped taking all prescribed medication. He asked his doctor to administer massive doses of Vitamin C and he viewed Marx Brothers, Abbott and Costello and other comedy films to utilize his "positive emotions."

Cousins learned that negative emotions have negative effects on body chemistry and wondered about positive feelings. "Do love, hope, faith, laughter, confidence and the will to live have therapeutic value? Long before my own serious illness," says Cousins, "I became convinced that positive emotions have biochemical significance that contributes strongly to healing and one's well being. The positive emotions are life-giving experiences."

The film vividly points out the risks Hitzig took in allowing Cousins to follow his own treatment. He is accused of not following established scientific procedure and administering "placebo medication." He later admits that even though he didn't believe in Cousins' unorthodox treatment, "I believe because Norman does."

"Hitzig said it was clear to him that there was nothing undersized about my will to live," says Cousins. "He shared my excitement about the possibilities of recovery, and liked the idea of a partnership, although his reputation was on the line. He said that what

was more important was that I continue to believe that my body could heal itself."

The film also illustrates Cousins' belief that "a hospital is no place for the seriously ill," with indiscriminate medications, constant requests for blood samples and food of little nutritional value. Cousins' wife Ellen, stoically played by Millie Perkins, is seen handing out fresh vegetables to other patients during her husband's hospital stay.

Once it has set up the situation, the program is involving and entertaining with some lessons to be taught. It is not a character study of Cousins, barely touching on his numerous involvements, but focusing on the story of a man, who as Cousins' terms himself, "wins the war."

The film is not a great triumph over illness story, though there is the obligatory cane thrown in the air shot, but a rather quiet story of how one man decided he was going to live.

"I have to make a decision about how I'm going to live," says Asner as Cousins, in bed and in great pain. He recounts coming home from an examination after being told he was a prime candidate for a heart attack. "The first thing you did," says his wife, "was pick up the girls and throw them in the air." He replies, "I'm going to keep throwing the girls in the air."

Cousins writes that he was hesitant to write the book because he did not want to give false hopes to those with similar diseases. In the film a woman asks to use Cousins' "secrets" for her husband, and Cousins warns her that his unusual methods will not work for everyone.

Cousins strongly believes that the human mind has a role to play in the control of pain, just as it has a role in combating illness. He suffered excruciating pain during his illness and used several mental attempts to overcome his misery.

Cousins believes that the mind can cure the body and that patients have a responsibility for recovery.

"Before long, medical researchers may discover the human brain has a natural drive to sustain the live process and to potentiate the entire body in the fight against pain and disease.

"When that knowledge is developed, the art and practice of medicine will ascend to a new and higher plateau."

'FIT TO BE UNTIED,' DISCUSSION TO BE PRESENTED MAY 23 AT USC

"Fit to Be Untied," the internationally-acclaimed Italian documentary, and a panel discussion with psychoanalysts, a former patient and parents of a mentally ill person will be presented May 23.

The screening is sponsored by the University of Southern California Center for the Humanities and the Southern California Psychiatric Society in cooperation with the Mental Health Association in Los Angeles County. It will be held at 7 p.m. in USC's Bovard Auditorium.

Participating in the panel discussion will be psychoanalysts Dr. R.D. Laing and Dr. H.R. Brickman, former patient Catherine Kennedy-Jones and filmmakers Dan and Elaine Weisburd, parents of a mentally ill son.

"Fit to Be Untied" presents a different approach to mental illness and mental retardation. It protests the institutionalization of patients and offers alternatives to institutionalized care.

The film was inspired by and favors

the "democratic psychiatry" movement, which succeeded in changing Italian mental health legislation with the closing of mental hospitals in 1978.

It focuses on Parma, Italy, where patients have been reintegrated into the community. The documentary examines the lives of three hospitalized young men, misdiagnosed children and retarded men working successfully in a factory.

"Fit to Be Untied" was judged best film of the year by the Italian Film Critics Association and Catholic Film Office and at the Rotterdam Film Festival. It received honors at the Berlin and Nyon Film Festivals.

It was made by a collective that included Marco Bellocchio, Silvano Agosti, Sandro Petraglia and Stefano Rulli.

Tickets for the program are available at the door for \$7.50 and \$3.50 for students with current student identification card. For more information, call Susan Crow, USC Center for the Humanities, at (213) 743-7951.



Planning for the San Gabriel Valley walk-a-thon are MHA project coordinator Debra Hamilton, jockey Chris McCarron, Project Return member Michael Upchurch, Ron Nagata of La Puente Valley Community Mental Health Center and jockey Sandy Hawley (l-r).

PROJECT RETURN SETS WALK-A-THONS

Project Return is expanding its annual walk-a-thon, not in distance, but in number.

This year, there will be three walk-a-thons and picnics in recognition of Mental Health Month—in West Los Angeles/Santa Monica, San Fernando Valley and San Gabriel Valley.

Joining in the celebrations this year will be jockeys, politicians and celebrities.

The walk-a-thons will benefit Project Return, a Mental Health Association in Los Angeles County (MHA) program of self-help clubs for recovering mentally ill persons. The San Gabriel Valley walk-a-thon will benefit other MHA programs as well.

Actor Charles Siebert of the "Trapper John, M.D." television show, is grand marshal of the San Fernando Valley walk-a-thon on Saturday, May 19. He will lead the walk at noon from Fidelity Federal Savings, 14475 Ventura Blvd. to Balboa Recreation Center on Balboa Boulevard for a picnic.

Assembly member Tom Bane (D-Van Nuys) will be guest speaker at the picnic, and the Project Return Players improvisational theater group will perform.

Call (818) 780-1931 for information about the San Fernando Valley walk.

The second annual West Los Angeles/Santa Monica walk-a-thon will begin at noon on Saturday, May 26. Participants will walk a five-and-a-half mile route from the Federal Building, 11000 Wilshire Blvd., to Palisades Park, Ocean Avenue and San Vincente Boulevard, Santa Monica.

Santa Monica Mayor Ken Edwards is scheduled to attend the picnic in

Palisades Park, and the West Los Angeles Association of Life Underwriters is co-sponsoring this walk-a-thon.

For more information about the West Los Angeles/Santa Monica walk-a-thon, call (213) 629-1527.

Jockeys Chris McCarron and Sandy Hawley are the honorary chairpersons for the Saturday, June 2 San Gabriel Valley walk-a-thon. This event will wrap up the region's celebration of Mental Health Month.

Starting point for the walkers is I-CAN in Pasadena. They will leave at noon and walk on Lake Avenue and along the last part of the Rose Parade route to Victory Park for a picnic.

A transportation fair with information booths on transportation resources for mental health consumers will highlight the activities at the Victory Park picnic.

Call (818) 576-0784 for information about the San Gabriel Valley walk.

"We are holding the walk-a-thons to show our support for greater mental health," said Project Return Director John Siegel. "Since May is National Mental Health Month, a walk-a-thon was suggested by one of our Project Return members as a way of doing this and celebrating Mental Health Month."

Siegel said the walks are open to all interested persons. Persons also are needed as sponsors. Contributors are asked to sponsor a walker for a specific amount, rather than pledge per mile, and to pay the walker before the event. All donations are tax-deductible. Checks should be made out to MHA/walk-a-thon and mailed to 930 Georgia Street, Los Angeles, CA 90015.

I wish to sponsor _____ for the walk-a-thon.

Name _____

Address _____

Donations are tax-deductible. Send checks made out to MHA/walk-a-thon to MHA, 930 Georgia St., Los Angeles, CA 90015.

HEALTH MONTH IN MAY

DOCUMENTARY ILLUSTRATES NEED FOR SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITY NETWORK

"What we call them, how we treat them and whether we are willing to help them appear to determine what the long-term mentally ill can become. It also says something important about ourselves."

These words are spoken by narrator Burt Lancaster in "Interrupted Lives," a videotape documentary on the need for a supportive network of community services for the mentally ill.

The local television premiere of "Interrupted Lives" will be Sunday, May 20, at 6 p.m. on KCET Channel 28.

In this hour-long videotape, produced by the Eldan Company, the need for community services is illustrated through the re-enactment of real-life experiences of mentally ill persons.

With the exception of one actress in a crisis care scene, mentally ill persons themselves recount their own struggles with the mental health system. Members of the Project Return Players, an improvisational theater group of recovering mentally ill persons, are featured.

In the videotape, John recreates his experience in jail. Shelley shares her fears about stigma against the mentally ill.

Clayton tells of difficulty in finding a job and decent housing. Ro relates her frustrations with and fight for Social Security Supplemental Income. Bill relives one of his 26 hospitalizations.

"Their stories, together, are a powerful stimulus to action, a potent force, not only to change public at-

titudes about mental illness, but to mobilize community demand for the development of effective community support programs for these citizens," according to "Interrupted Lives" producers Dan and Elaine Weisburd, themselves parents of a mentally ill son.

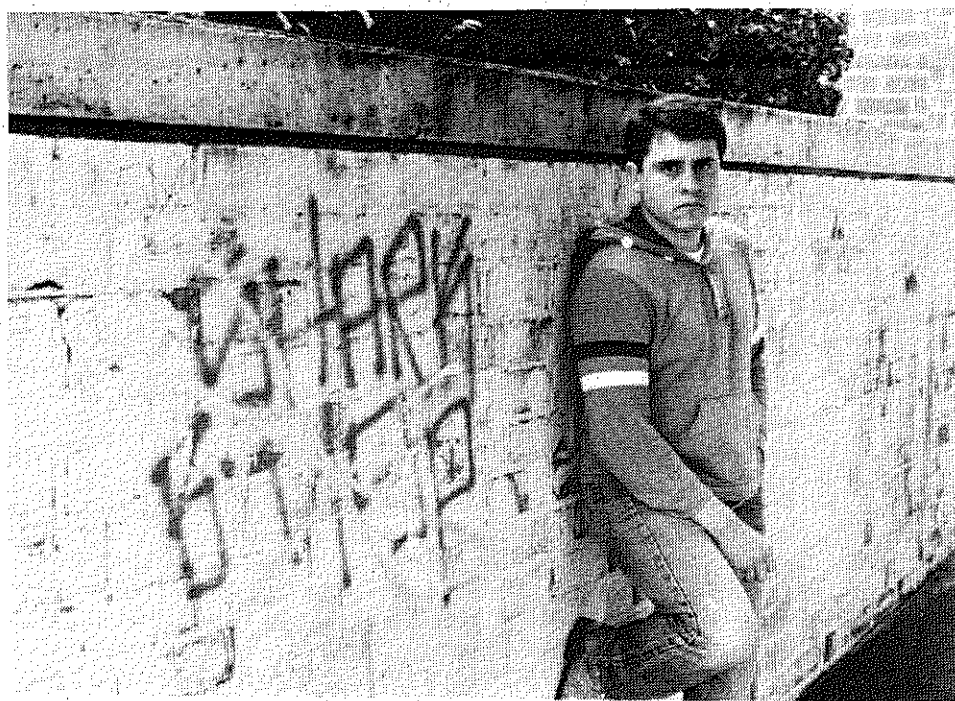
"Interrupted Lives" was taped in a variety of Southern California locations, including mental hospitals, board and care homes, Skid Row, jail, rehabilitation programs and sheltered workshops. A number of local agencies are featured in the film.

Academy Award-winning actor Burt Lancaster volunteered his time as narrator.

"I know how important this message is," said Lancaster, who has a mentally ill family member. "No one is rich enough to buy mental health for one who is ill. Only the community, working together, with a network of support can rescue these 2½ million people."

"Interrupted Lives" is one of three videotapes on mental illness produced by the Weisburds. "We're On Our Way," also narrated by Lancaster, is a half-hour version of "Interrupted Lives" and is designed for professionals. The 11-minute "Community Support" is targeted at legislators and is narrated by Elaine Weisburd.

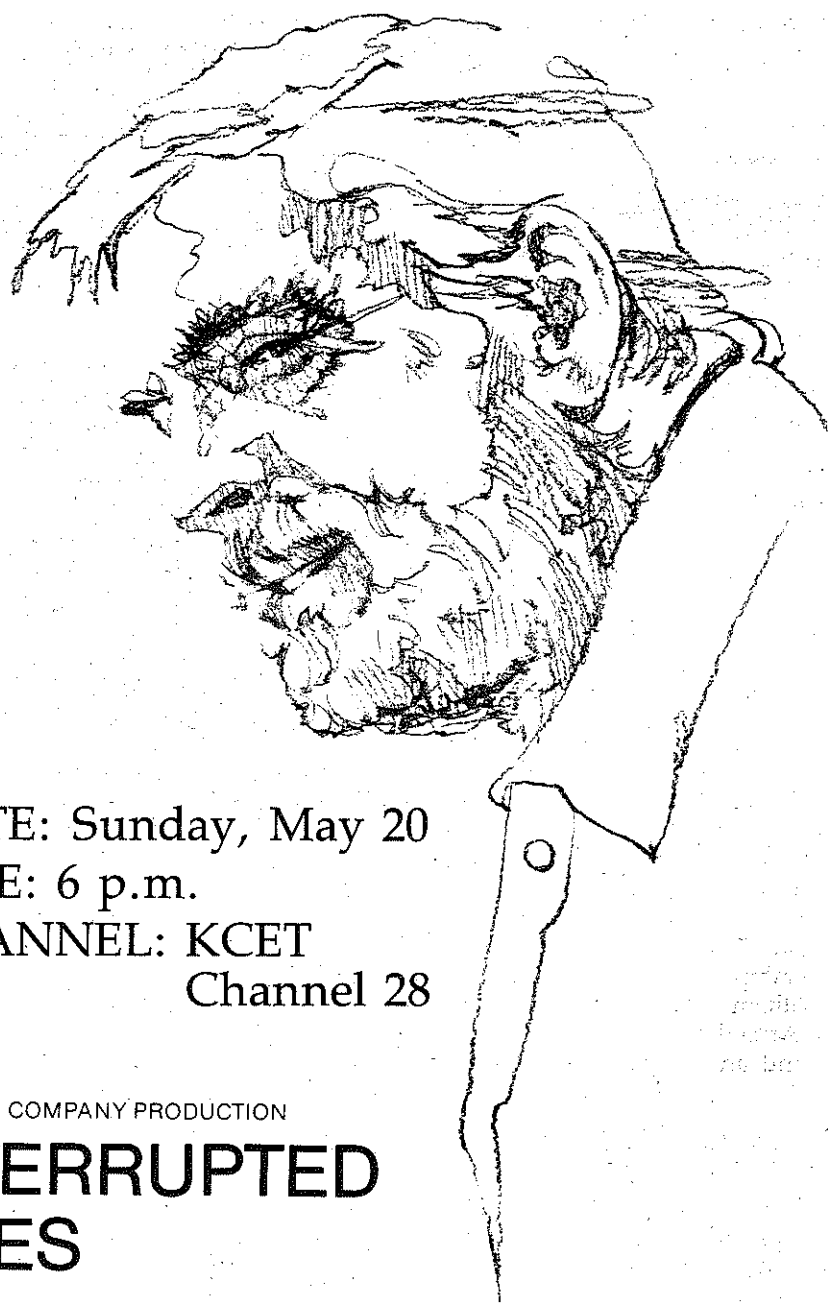
All three videotapes were produced by Eldan Company through a grant from Boston University's Center of Rehabilitation Research and Training in Mental Health.



Long-term mentally ill person Rudy Ariola shows the many hours of loneliness people like him face in a scene from "Interrupted Lives."



An actress portrays an acutely ill person in a psychiatric emergency scene from "Interrupted Lives."



DATE: Sunday, May 20
TIME: 6 p.m.
CHANNEL: KCET
Channel 28

AN ELKAN COMPANY PRODUCTION

INTERRUPTED LIVES

"Trapped in loneliness and isolation, two and one half million Americans are waiting to see what we will do..."

BURT LANCASTER

TAPES DEVELOPED FOR COMMUNITY

Eldan Productions has developed three videotapes for community use at meetings, advocacy and for publicity of other events with mental health concerns.

All three of the pieces illustrate the tremendous need for community support services for mentally ill and recovering mentally ill persons.

Besides the hour-long documentary, "Interrupted Lives," other tapes available are "We're On Our Way," a half-hour tape on stigma and loneliness designed for professionals, and "Community Support," an 11-minute

tape narrated by the mother of a mentally ill son. It is targeted for legislators.

All three tapes are available on ½ inch Beta, ½ inch VHS, ¾ inch U-Matic and a press information packet has been developed. Interrupted Lives in \$70, "We're On Our Way" is \$50 and "Community Support" is \$40.

To obtain copies of the tapes and/or the promotional aids write to: Boston University Center for Rehabilitation Research and Training in Mental Health, 1019 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, MA 02215.

KTTV SERIES OF MAY EDITORIALS RECOGNIZES MENTAL HEALTH MONTH

KTTV Channel 11 television station is recognizing Mental Health Month with a series of editorials in May.

The editorials will be delivered by station manager Bill White. It is a rare public service for a television station to present a month-long series of editorials on a single subject area.

The editorials will cover a variety of mental health topics, including housing for the mentally ill, Social Security, crisis and emergency care, job training and work opportunities, jails and the homeless, coordinating and streamlining the mental health system, community care, local funding and loneliness.

They are scheduled to run weekdays at 6:58 a.m., 12:58 p.m., 8:58 p.m., 10:58 p.m. and

2:30 a.m. and weekends at 11:59 a.m., 5:58 p.m. and 10:28 p.m.

"We feel mental health is a critically important issue that is not discussed enough in public, and we feel that the media, generally speaking, do not do enough on the subject of mental health," said Frank Clarke, KTTV editorial director.

"We have a disaster in mental health," he said. "We feel that California's system is failing desperately to deliver treatment to many of the people who meet the legal requirements for commitment.

"We have too many folks who need care not receiving it. There is a crisis in care for the mentally ill, and maybe the state and counties need to make a greater commitment to mental health."

GREENBLATT CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

much to do; the promotion of social and community psychiatry is lagging," he says.

At UCLA, Greenblatt holds a host of titles, including director Neuro-psychiatric Institute hospital and clinics, executive vice chairperson of the department of psychiatry and director of community and social psychiatry.

Greenblatt is currently involved in the school's community support project, working with 10 committees in such areas as public policy and geriatric services. Using Santa Monica as a catchment or target area, the project will research and study bringing psychiatric and social services to Santa Monica.

The goals of the project are systems he has worked on most of his life, improved aftercare through outpatient treatment, transitional facilities and then help into the community.

Greenblatt is distressed by the drive to return to hospitalization. Gov. Deukmejian's budget includes a hefty increase to raise hospital standards. "It's okay to help hospitals, but there must be a balance between hospitals and the community. The more we give to hospitals increases the number of people in them. It takes a great deal of money just to keep a hospital plant going, and after awhile you are throwing good money after bad," says Greenblatt.

Recent budget cutbacks have made Greenblatt a mourner, but as he says, "I'm not paralyzed. We are retrenching from the system's position of greatness in the 1960s and 1970s, and this movement is sad."

Says Greenblatt, "The economy has changed, the county's money has been cut and the quality of care has dropped.

"Treatment is private. If you've got the money, OK; otherwise, we'll wait and maybe the person will get better. Left untreated, patients usually get worse, often join the homeless

there until 1963. "I started when clients were kept in seclusion, often under heavy medication.

"One of the first things we did was work on developing the internal community, the hospitals," he says. He began socialization activities with patients, parents and staff "to increase humanitarian treatment and close some gaps."

The next step was bringing the therapeutic community together with other citizens to work on breaking down barriers in society. "With patients and non-patients together, the community becomes more friendly, even therapeutic, and fear and stigma are eliminated."

He also began job rehabilitation programs and the massive shifting of people out of state hospitals and into halfway houses ("I believe the halfway house is a great modality") and apartment dwellings.

Home treatment service was also part of the program. In the program, a catchment area resident with an emotional crisis could call the hospital and be visited by a doctor, social worker, psychiatric nurse, resident, volunteer or occupational therapist. The hospital provided the car.

If the person was a homemaker, the visiting professional would arrange for care of the children and household. "The person would be given medication if necessary, entered into therapy and become a different animal.

"In a hospital," says Greenblatt, "people are often scared and don't really get good treatment for at least two or three weeks. We were able to prevent one half from coming to the hospital and the others at least knew someone when they went in. We found that the tendency to have crises diminished. With care at hand and knowledge that help was nearby, people were given command of the problem."

When he became Massachusetts State Commissioner of Mental Health,

"Treatment is becoming private. If you have the money, OK; otherwise, we'll wait and maybe the person will get better. Left untreated, patients usually get worse, often join the homeless population and end up in the penal system, which is non-humanitarian and more costly."

population and end up in the penal system, which is non-humanitarian and more costly.

"We must look after the indigent population," says Greenblatt. "There are 70,000 to 80,000 medically indigent adults, treated under Medical, who must go to county institutions.

"We used to be able to look after eight out of every 10 clients that came here (University regents financially supported the NPI), now we are lucky if we can care for one-and-a-half out of 10. We are becoming a private institute and that changes our teaching system. Psychiatry must be immersed in the care of the underserved and underprivileged; it can't be an elite occupation," says Greenblatt.

"Our catchment area is the world; we don't meet the needs of a target community. It's the ones who don't seek out services, minorities and those with language problems, that could and should be reached."

Greenblatt advocates change in two directions: moving into community psychiatry and mobilizing community support, including volunteers and investing in research. "Research could give people a chance in the future and is better than investing in hospitals."

Greenblatt was so successful in his career, he says, because in Massachusetts he had good legislation to work with, produced target areas, and had a master plan and the backing of the legislature.

Greenblatt's career in community psychiatry began at the Massachusetts Mental Health Center in 1941; he was

he applied many of the lessons he had already learned. He started 50 halfway houses and divided the state into target areas along government guidelines "with plans for treatment of all citizens and the ideal of deinstitutionalization and community-based treatment."

He increased ambulatory care services, outpatient services, sheltered workshops and decentralized hospitals while reducing their populations. "While hospital populations decreased, the number of people served increased.

"I encountered a tremendous amount of professional resistance," says Greenblatt, "but I had a lot of power and the law (which he had a hand in developing) behind me, plus the backing of the citizenry." Greenblatt instigated a major citizen movement, appointing thousands to volunteer boards over the years.

"Some professionals went along with the program, others retired—a lot retired. But my persuader potential is not bad. It's a minor miracle that I lived through it without having my head knocked off. I was known as the great masochist."

Greenblatt realizes he was part of a revolution. "It was a total reconstruction of the system and it involved a lot of problems, such as fighting for scarce resources, but we had to push ahead with the revolution.

He says he was part of the third revolution in psychiatry. The first in modern times was moral treatment, "taking off the chains," the second was Freud after the turn of the century

with the study of a patient's unconscious, childhood and sexuality.

The third revolution, in which Greenblatt fought, was the field of community social psychiatry and deinstitutionalization. He points out that the other side of this revolution is the advent of pharmacological drugs.

Greenblatt is a believer in community psychiatry because it fits in "with my concept of social medicine."

His concepts and idealism grew with him as a poor boy whose family struggled through the Depression. "I was always interested in education,

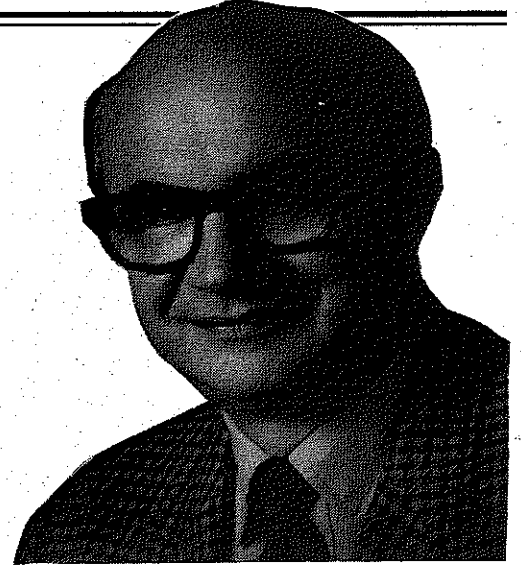
and my Russian parents adored and idealized the concept of learning.

"From them I learned my social point of view. I believe in the effort to work for a better deal for the masses."

Trained as a violinist, Greenblatt finished medical school in 1939 and realized that medicine was a one-to-one profession. "I asked, 'where does society come in?' Too many doctors get caught up in making money to pay for the years of struggle. I asked, 'where does society benefit? What about poor people?'"

"I'm always looking for a way to reach more people with more resources."

"Poetry and healing are in the same family."



THERAPIST USES POETRY AS CATALYST

"Therapists often know nothing about poets or poetry," says Arthur Lerner, Ph.D. "They think we are bastardizing the psychology field, and some poets feel the same about their field. We are using poetry as a tool."

Arthur Lerner is a pioneer in the use of poetry in counseling and therapy. He describes the process as "the application of poetry to the therapeutic process; it is a tool, not a school. This does not negate the reality of the experience. Poetry in therapy is an adjunctive tool."

Lerner's interest in poetry has been lifelong. He had his first poem published when he was 7 or 8. "I was fascinated by words and their meanings. I grew up reading the New Testament and hearing the Old Testament. I was struck by words and their meanings." "Words For All Seasons," his fourth volume of poetry was recently published.

He is quick to point out that poetry therapy is not a cure. "Poems can help people get out emotions without feeling any shame and realize that someone else has said or thought the same thing."

Someone can listen to William Blake's "The Poison Tree," one of Lerner's favorites and say, "he is talking about me. This poem says what many people feel," says Lerner.

"I was angry with my friend. I told my wrath, my wrath did end. I was angry with my foe. I told it not, my wrath did grow."

"There is no poetry prescription; people can't rhyme out their problems," says Lerner. "But the right poem can act as the catalyst, to express deep feeling, give rest and help people become at peace with the world."

Though the purpose is to enlarge awareness, not make poets out of people, he does have patients who write. "Some write what they are feeling, others can hide behind poems, but we know that the more honest the feeling, the better the poem. For other patients, he "begs, borrows or steals" to have poems on hand.

He is a founder and director of the Poetry Therapy Institute, a non-profit corporation. "We have ethical, honest people trained who know techniques of poetry therapy. At the Institute we offer no degrees, no certificates. We have workshops in art therapy and special courses in poems and art.

"Our initial efforts were directed toward introducing poetry as a tool in therapy and/or counseling to the professional and lay public through workshops, seminars, courses, lectures at colleges and conferences," says Lerner.

There have been inquiries about the program from other countries and trainees have come from a variety of disciplines.

Lerner is also president of the National Association for Poetry Therapy. In a recent president's message, he wrote, "We are considered by and large at this time to be an ancillary therapy. If so, does this mean we are secondary in function? Are we under the aegis of whatever therapist or therapy may be considered primary? Or are we saying that professionally we must get a kiss of approval from another area, another therapist who may or may not know anything of our work?"

He sees as his responsibility attracting interested and able individuals who want to enter the field of poetry therapy and developing the necessary education, training and supervision programs. "Until the academic world decides to offer appropriate programs leading toward a degree in poetry therapy, we must take the leadership in establishing entry level courses, experiential workshops, seminars and lectures.

"The fact remains that two fields are represented here—poetry and therapy. The fact also remains that there is considerable experience on the part of practitioners that poetry in therapy not only works, but is a field of great potential. Naturally, what is needed is research of a refined nature addressing the phenomena of process, result, and follow-up."

Lerner recently retired as professor emeritus of psychology and humanities at Los Angeles City College. He holds seven graduate degrees, "evidence of my own high-level neuroses.

"Therapy and poetry are blood brothers," says Lerner. "Jung recognized the need for poets. In ancient Greek mythology, Apollo was the god of poetry, light and reason. His son was the god of the healing arts. Poetry and healing are in the same family. I believe that a good collection of poems is like a medicine cabinet."

COURT DATE FINALLY SET FOR MHA VS. DEUKMEJIAN

After nearly five years since its initial filing, MHA vs. Deukmejian is finally going to trial.

The class-action suit, originally filed during Gov. Jerry Brown's administration, claims that the state is inappropriately confining people in state hospitals who could be more properly placed in alternatives which are less restrictive.

The case will go to trial May 1 and shortly thereafter will be assigned a judge as soon as a courtroom is available.

In April a mandatory settlement conference between both parties in the suit was held. In such a conference, a judge works with both sides to try to reach a pre-trial settlement. "Negotiations at this point have stopped," said Dan Stormer of the Western Center on Law and Poverty, one of the groups presenting the case, "so we are proceeding to trial."

"The sides are too far apart," said Malcolm Loeb of Mental Health Advocacy Services, counsel for the plaintiff.

Mental Health Association vs. Deukmejian contends that mentally disordered persons confined in state

hospitals have a right to receive treatment in community facilities that are least restrictive of their personal liberties.

"The state's using of hospitals is unconstitutional for a majority of people there," said Stormer. He said the plaintiffs are relying on state statutes and the California state constitution for the basis of its claims.

"People are being damaged because of the state's refusal to properly fund community facilities and as a result people are staying in hospitals too long and becoming dependent on hospitals," said Stormer.

"The case is about the right to community treatment and the creation of community mental health services funded by the state," said Loeb. "If people are taken out of hospitals there is no viable place for them to go. They have a constitutional right to treatment."

Working on the case are Jim Preis and Nancy Shea of Mental Health Advocacy Services, Dan Stormer and Carmen Estrada of the Western Center on Law and Poverty and Jan Costello of Loyola Law School.

LEGISLATIVE ANALYSIS

RESIDENTIAL CARE BILLS INTRODUCED

A series of bills aimed at improving the residential care system in California has been introduced in the state Assembly.

The 11 bills in the series "are designed to fix little things in the system," says Deanna Marquart, consultant to the Commission on California State Government Organization and Economy, known as the "Little Hoover" Commission. "The bills would be of low or no cost," says Marquart.

In December, the Commission issued its report on "Community Residential Care in California," authored by Marquart. The report listed "abusive, unhealthful, unsafe and uncaring conditions" and made numerous recommendations.

According to Marquart, the bills are not a response to the report, which makes its own legislative recommendations, but an outgrowth. Assemblyman Phil Wyman (R-Bakersfield), a member of the commission, asked the Assembly Minority Consultants to put a series of bills together, and he found sponsors.

The bills cover general aspects of the system including "creating a better response mechanism," says Marquart. "Crises go unresolved because there is no system in place. Police don't know who to call." Certification of providers, a process termed veneration, is also addressed.

Says Barbara Lurie, chief of the county Department of Mental Health Patients' Rights Office, "The bills would beef up standards and shift department responsibilities that deal with community residential care facilities. They would provide more consumer input and strengthen the Ombudsman Program."

The specific bills, now as separate pieces of legislation, may be introduced as a package in the fall. The reform bills include:

AB 3252 (Wyman) would require a license, issued by the state Department of Social Services (DSS), to operate a residential care facility. It would also require the department to make an inspection 90 days after the license is granted and take any remedial action if the facility is not operating properly.

AB 3586 (Sebastiani, R-Sonoma). The bill defines a residential care facility and would make it a misdemeanor to operate an unlicensed facility.

AB 3474 (Wyman) would direct the DSS to establish an automated license information system on administrators of residential care facilities.

Says Lurie, "The system would include any violations, so if the person applied for a license, inspectors would be tipped off to any infractions and easily be able to tell the administrator's reputation."

AB 3589 (Mojonnier, R-San Diego) would require facilities of 25 or more to have a patient-oriented facility council and facilities of less than 25 to have groups of volunteer monitors. The council would have to be made up of residents and family members and the volunteer monitors would have to be trained by the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program. The purpose of the groups is to help residents negotiate remedies with the administration in protection of their rights and help make decisions regarding quality of daily life.

AB 3662 (Filante, R-Marin) existing law has created the Office of State Long-Term Care Ombudsman, dealing primarily with nursing homes and senior citizens. This bill would require the office to establish a toll-free hotline

to respond to crises in either long-term or licensed community care facilities. The bill would give \$15,000 from the general fund for the 24-hour, seven day a week service.

AB 3906 (Allen, R-Orange) would shift the responsibility of developing a facility rating scale from the Department of Social Services to the Departments of Mental Health and Developmentally Disabled. The scale would be enforced by the DSS and adopted after advise and approval of representatives of consumer and residency advocacy groups.

ACR 133 (Assembly Concurrent Resolution - Allen) would request the Department of Public Social Service, with the assistance of the Department of Consumer Affairs, to develop a telephone directory of licensed community care facilities according to the major client group served.

AB 3988 (Filante) would shift responsibility from the state Department of Social Service to the Departments of Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities for developing licensure requirements in the areas of program goals, providers, standards and client services.

AB 3588 (Mojonnier) would establish that in client-brought charges against a board and care provider, the provider would have to pay attorney's fees, if the client won the case.

"This would facilitate cases in filing a suit of negligence or damages," said Lurie, "and award attorney's fees to the winner. Most board and care home residents can't sue in civil court because they don't have the money."

After exhaustive hearings in 1982, the Little Hoover Commission has also recommended changes in licensing and regulatory oversight in long-term care facilities, known as nursing homes. Both Republicans and Democrats have responded with bills to address the problems.

The bipartisan package is known as the Nursing Home Patient Protection Act of 1984. The act encompasses nine Assembly bills and eight Senate bills. The intent is to correct problems related to nursing home residents and operators. The bills include:

SB 1341 (Mello, D-Monterey), **AB 2264**, **AB 2265** (Moorhead, D-Citrus Heights) would make it easier for courts to order nursing homes providing poor quality care into receivership.

SB 1343 (Watson, D-Los Angeles), **AB 2262** (Margolin, D-Los Angeles) improves the level of staffing care at nursing homes, and would require DHS to appoint an advisory committee that would relate staffing requirements to varying levels of patient need and report its findings to the legislature by January 1986.

SB 1346 (Petris, D-Oakland) **AB 2261** (Isenberg, D-Sacramento) would allow the state to stop admissions to nursing homes if their conditions are especially bad. It also prohibits nursing homes from evicting residents who convert from private paying status to Medi-Cal as long as they were on a private pay status for 90 days.

SB 1340 (Mello), **AB 2258** (Davis, D-Los Angeles) raises penalties for repeat and willful violations and permits the DHS to conduct abbreviated surveys of facilities which have a history of poor performance.

The bills will be considered in both the Senate and Assembly over the next several weeks.

CONNECTIONS WITH THE EDITOR LETTERS

CARE FACILITY OPERATOR SPEAKS OUT

I wish to point out and comment about an omission in your caption for the picture showing reporter Sandy Hill re: the CBS News series on mental health, produced by James Kennedy, in your March edition of Connections. A notable absence to the long list of credits (in the caption) for those involved in the series was The Manor. Interviews with our staff, myself included, and footage of our facility appeared on two of the four nights on which the program aired. Yet, I think your failure to mention us is not a simple oversight, but symptomatic of the mental health system's continued refusal to recognize the contributions of the private community care sector.

I think it was excellent that you presented a piece on Tom Rossebo in an earlier edition, but how quick was Mr. Marabella (Connections with the Editor, March 1984) to negate it and use it as an opportunity to attack board and care facilities. In response, I feel that I can't stay quiet any longer. Increasingly, I feel that it is time community care or residential care facilities come "out of the closet," show the mental health system the vital role that we play as unsung heroes and get some well deserved recognition. Yes, there are horror stories, but frankly, I am sick and tired of the emphasis being on, as Mr. Marabella states, "I will speak only of the worst one in this letter." How about the good ones? They are out there too, doing a tremendous job under trying circumstances.

Note that Ken Edwards, mayor of Santa Monica, in another article of the same issue, requested Gov. Deukmejian to act in his capacity to press for the types of community-based alternatives to hospitalization which should include, among other things, "board and care facilities which support residents in living to the maximum of their potential." This is the kind of direction that is needed.

We all know the funding for such programs is pitiful and that as long as our "colleagues" of the mental health service system refuse to support us with either money (no mental health

dollars go to community care facilities), or even with emotional/verbal support, no progress will ever be made. Frankly, I am frustrated, angry and tired of the whole problem. I personally have worked diligently over the past few years to try and upgrade the system and have gotten nowhere. I agreed to participate in the CBS News series because I felt someone had to take a stand and to publicize the positive side of the residential care system. And with such increasing recognition, I feel that it is about time that there be an increase in funding from the county and elsewhere, so that we can finally do more for our residents in the areas of treatment and programming. It has been too long that the only money tends to go to the non-profit and "in" groups. There is a phenomenal amount of services that we already render and can expand upon in a cost effective means, if we were in but given the funding to do so. I think it is about time everyone stopped the negative mentality and complaining about the "board and care system" and recognized that there are good ones out there, and that they should be provided with the resources so that they can not only survive, but do even more. The time has come to think of augmented board and care.

Dennis G. Wilder, Ph.D.
Executive Director, The Manor
Chairperson, Alternatives to
Hospitalization Committee of the
Countywide Interagency
Committee on Mental Health

Connections encourages response from readers. Letters should be kept as brief as possible and are subject to condensation. Connections reserves the right to edit letters for style and libel. Letters must include signature and valid mailing address. Pseudonyms and initials will not be used. Due to space limitations, an attempt will be made to publish a representative sampling of views.

Letters should be sent to: Connections, Mental Health Association in Los Angeles County, 930 Georgia St., Los Angeles, CA 90015.

CALENDAR

May 2

Countywide Interagency Committee on Mental Health: The committee will meet at 9:30 a.m. in the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health first floor conference rooms, 2415 W. Sixth St., Los Angeles.

May 2

Los Angeles Superior Court Family Mediation and Conciliation Service: A free custody options seminar on divorce, custody and parenting issues for parents involved in or contemplating a divorce will be held from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Superior Court, room 241, 111 N. Hill St., Los Angeles.

Call (213) 974-5524 for reservations.

May 2

Senior Health and Peer Counseling Center: A free 10-week pain management workshop for seniors with chronic pain will meet on Wednesdays from 9:30 to 11 a.m. at 2125 Arizona Ave., Santa Monica. Pre-registration is necessary.

Call (213) 829-4715 for information.

May 2

Hillview Mental Health Center: "Phobias: What You Don't Know Can Be Frightening," a free education program, is designed to provide insight into the control of phobias. It will be offered from 7 to 9 p.m. at 11600 Eldridge Ave., Lake View Terrace.

Call (818) 896-1161 for reservations.

May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Metropolitan State Hospital and Alliance for the Mentally Ill Norwalk: A free lecture/discussion series for families of the mentally ill will be offered from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. in the hospital's James Hall, 11400 Norwalk Blvd., Norwalk. Topics will be "Manic-Depressive Disorders and Other Psychoses" on May 3, "Surviving and Thriving with a Mentally Ill Relative" on May 10, "The LPS Law and Patients' Rights" on May 17, "Conservatorship Issues" on May 24, and "Planning for Hospital Discharge—Community Placements" on May 31.

Call (213) 863-7011 for information.

RCLC Meetings

The Regional Community Liaison Committees (RCLCs), the citizens advisory groups providing input to the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health regions, will meet as follows:

San Gabriel Valley Region RCLC will meet at 5:30 p.m. on May 8 at Arcadia Mental Health Center, 330 E. Live Oak, Arcadia.

Call (818) 960-6411 for information.

Coastal Region RCLC will meet on May 10 at 6:45 p.m. in conference room eight-east, Harbor-UCLA Medical Center, 1000 W. Carson St., Torrance.

Call (213) 533-3154 for information.

San Fernando/Antelope Valley Region RCLC will meet on May 11 from 10 a.m. to noon at the regional office, 5077 Lankershim Blvd., Suite 400, North Hollywood.

Call (818) 508-7800 for information.

Central Region RCLC will meet at 7:30 p.m. on May 16 at the LAC/USC Medical Center Psychiatric Hospital, room 2C18, 1934 Hospital Place, Los Angeles.

Call (213) 226-5726 for information.

Southeast Region RCLC will meet on May 17 at 1:30 p.m. at the Southeast Churches Service Center, 7600 State St., Huntington Park.

Call (213) 603-4884 for information.

RCLC meetings are open to the public.

May 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Rio Hondo Mental Health Services: A support group for relatives of mentally ill persons will meet from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at 12000 E. Firestone Blvd., Norwalk.

Call (213) 864-2751 for information.

May 3-6

American Academy of Psychoanalysis: "Psychoanalysis, Communication Technologies and the Media" is the theme for the academy's 28th annual meeting, to be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Los Angeles.

May 4

Bay Cities Center for Human Development: A singles group will meet at 7 p.m. at 9100 S. Sepulveda Blvd., Suite 102, Los Angeles. Fee is \$5.

Call (213) 670-8255 for information.

May 5

San Fernando/Antelope Valley Regional Community Liaison Committee: The RCLC legislative breakfast, with an emphasis on lessening abusive behavior, will be held from 10 a.m. to noon at San Fernando Valley Child Guidance Clinic, 9650 Zelzah Ave., Northridge. Reservations are required.

Call (818) 508-7800 for information.

May 5-11

American Psychiatric Association: The APA annual meeting will be held at the Los Angeles Convention Center, Los Angeles.

Call (202) 682-6000 for information.

May 5, 12, 19, 26

Teen Talk: Topics for this talk show featuring teen-agers will be "Serious Illness" at 6 a.m. and "Children of Holocaust" at 9 a.m. on May 5, "Mothers and Sons" at 6 a.m. and "Mothers and Daughters" at 9 a.m. on May 12, "Teens and Gangs" at 6 a.m. and "Military Service" at 9 a.m. on May 19 and "Teen Celebs" at 6 a.m. and "Class Clowns" at 9 a.m. on May 26. The program, hosted by Joseph Feinstein, will air on KHJ-TV Channel 9.

May 6

Project Return: A performance of the comedy, "Like One of the Family," to benefit Project Return Center, will be presented at 8 p.m. at Theatre West, 3333 Cahuenga Blvd. West, Los Angeles. Tax-deductible tickets at \$15 per person or \$25 per couple must be ordered in advance and are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Call (213) 629-1527 for information.

May 7

National Association of Social Workers Southern California Women's Council: "Getting Involved in Politics to Support Women's Agendas" will be discussed at the general meeting, held at 9:30 a.m. at Orthopaedic Hospital guild conference room, 2400 S. Flower St., Los Angeles.

Call Brenda Wiewel at (213) 949-8455 for information.

May 9, 23

Relatives and Friends of the Mentally Ill: This support group will meet at 5:30 p.m. at Augustus F. Hawkins Mental Health Center, 1720 E. 120th St., Los Angeles.

Call (213) 321-3799 for information.

May 10

Vista Del Mar Child Care Service: The 11th annual Mareaner S. Appelbaum Institute will have Elissa P. Benedek, M.D., training and research director at the Center for Forensic Psychiatry in Ann Arbor, Michigan, as keynote speaker, with the topic "Violence and Aggression in the Family: Issues for Family and Children." It will be held at 3200 Motor Ave., West Los Angeles.

Call (213) 836-1223 for information.

May 10

Children and Youth Committee, Mental Health Association in Los Angeles County: Carlyn Lampert, M.S.W., and Tina Shaps, M.S.W., co-directors of Los Angeles Free Clinic Homeless Youth Project, will address the noon meeting held at MHA, 930 Georgia St., Los Angeles. The Homeless Youth Project provides vocational, counseling and emergency services for runaway youth in Los Angeles and Hollywood.

Call (213) 629-1527 for information.

May 12

Alcoholism Center for Women: "Our Mother/Our Self: Bringing It All Back Home," a one-day workshop for adult daughters of alcoholics on exploring their relationships with their mothers, will be offered from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 1147 S. Alvarado St., Los Angeles. Fee is \$15.

Call (213) 381-7805 for information.

May 13

Southeast Region, Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health: "Abortion and Unwanted Pregnancy" will be discussed by gynecologist/obstetrician Hubert L. Hemsley, M.D., on the "A Healthy Mind: For You and Your Family" radio talk show. It will air from 9 to 10 p.m. on KACE, 103.9 FM and is hosted by Julius I. Fuller M.S.W.

AMI Meetings

Meetings of Alliance for the Mentally Ill (AMI) chapters, groups for families of the mentally ill, will be held as follows:

Pomona AMI will meet on May 1 from 7 to 9 p.m. at Landmark Medical Center, 2030 N. Garey Ave., Pomona. AMI San Gabriel Valley member Andy O'Connor will speak on AMI organization.

Call (818) 576-0784 for information.

AMI Glendale will meet on May 1 at 7 p.m. at Verdugo Mental Health Center, 417 Arden, Glendale. Caring and sharing sessions will be held at 6 p.m. on Tuesdays at the center.

Call (818) 842-5378 for information.

AMI Van Nuys will meet on May 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30 at 8 p.m. at San Fernando Valley Community Mental Health Center, 6740 Kester Ave., Van Nuys. Areta Crowell, Ph.D., acting regional director of the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health San Fernando/Antelope Valley Region, will speak to the group on May 9.

Call (818) 988-8050 for information.

AMI Norwalk will meet on May 8 from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School district administration building, 12820 S. Pioneer, Norwalk.

Call (213) 864-4412 for information.

Beach Cities AMI will meet at 10 a.m. on May 9 at the South Bay Office of Mental Health Social Services, 19000 Hawthorne Blvd., Suite 302, Torrance.

Call (213) 772-2188 for information.

AMI Los Angeles will meet on May 10 at 7:30 p.m. at Thaliens Community Mental Health Center, 8730 Alden Drive, Los Angeles. The topic will be "Community Housing Dilemma for the Mentally Ill."

Call (818) 797-3562 for information.

AMI San Gabriel Valley will meet on May 11 at 7:30 at San Marino Community Church, 1750 Virginia Road, San Marino. A videotape presentation will contain the recent KCBS News series on mental health and the "Good Morning, America" interview with John Hinckley's parents.

Call (818) 797-3562 for information.

South Bay AMI will meet at 7 p.m. on May 21 at Torrance First Christian Church, 2930 El Dorado, Torrance.

AMI East San Gabriel Valley will meet at 7:30 p.m. on May 24 at Queen of the Valley Hospital, 1115 S. Sunset Ave., West Covina, in the trailer near the north parking lot.

Call (818) 337-7439 for information.

May 14, 21

Manos de Esperanza: A two-session program on "Personal Growth: Theory and Practice," presented by clinical psychologist Ricardo J. Montalbetti, will be the focus of the in-service training programs, open to mental health professionals. They will be held from 10:30 a.m. to noon at 6740 Kester Ave., Van Nuys, and will be conducted in Spanish.

Call (818) 988-8050 for information.

May 15

CBS: "Anatomy of An Illness," the premiere of a television film starring Ed Asner and based on Norman Cousins' book about his recovery from a degenerative spinal disease, will be shown from 9 to 11 p.m. on KCBS, Channel 2.

May 15

Children's Citizens Advisory Committee, Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health Children and Youth Bureau: "Expressing Feelings Through Art," an exhibit of drawings and paintings by high school students, will be on display weekdays until June 15 at the Los Angeles County Education Center gallery, 9300 E. Imperial Highway, Downey. Admission is free.

Call (213) 738-4600 for information.

May 16

Southern California Psychiatric Society: "Depression and Suicide" by Robert Litman, M.D., will be the May topic of the SCPS lecture series for the public. It will be presented at 8 p.m. at Stephen S. Wise Temple, Hershenson Hall, 15500 Stephen S. Wise Drive, Bel Air. Donation is \$4.50.

Call (213) 477-1041 for information.

May 16

San Fernando Valley Child Guidance Clinic: The annual Humanitarian Award Dinner, this year honoring William S. and Lilly Rozay for their charitable work, will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the Sheraton Universal Hotel, 300 Universal City Plaza, North Hollywood. The \$125 ticket is tax-deductible.

Call (818) 993-9311 for information.

May 19

National Association of Social Workers Counseling and Referral Service of Los Angeles County and Los Angeles Valley College: The "Getting More Out of Life Fair," a day of workshops on family relationships, personal growth and mental health topics, will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at the college campus center's Monarch Hall, Fullerton and Burbank Streets, Van Nuys. Fee is \$25.

Call (818) 781-1200, ext. 277.

May 19, 26

Project Return: This federation of self-help clubs for recovering mentally ill persons is sponsoring a walk-a-thon in San Fernando Valley on May 19 and a walk-a-thon in West Los Angeles on May 26. Sponsors are needed for the Project Return members walking.

Call (213) 629-1527 for information about the May 26 walk-a-thon and (818) 780-1931 for information about the May 19 walk-a-thon.

May 20

KCET: "Interrupted Lives," a documentary on the need for community services for the mentally ill, will be shown at 6 p.m. on Channel 28.

May 21

National Association of Social Workers Region H: Dr. Leonard Schneiderman, dean of the UCLA School of Social Welfare, will speak on social work education at the Region H meeting, held at California Federal Savings and Loan, Third and Fairfax, Los Angeles. A potluck dinner will be held at 6:45 p.m., and the program will begin at 7:45 p.m.

Call (213) 935-2050 for information about food for the potluck dinner.

May 23

USC Center for Humanities, Southern California Psychiatric Society and Mental Health Association in Los Angeles County: A screening of the Italian documentary, "Fit to Be Untied," will be presented at 7 p.m. in Bovard Auditorium, USC. A panel discussion with psychoanalysts, a former patient and parents of a mentally ill person will follow the showing. Tickets are \$7.50 and \$3.50 for students.

Call (213) 743-7951 for information.

May 24

Mental Health Advisory Board: This advisory board to the Board of Supervisors will meet at noon at the Hall of Administration, room 739, 500 W. Temple St., Los Angeles.

Call (213) 738-4772 for information.

CONNECTIONS

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