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Jovita Gonzales is spreading the masa in the corn husks as part of the preparation for tamales. She learned the art of tamale making many years in the Rio Grande Valley and has brought this talent with her to **Angleton**. For tamales you can contact her at 848-8461.



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Juvenile Crime in Texas

Brief History

Perhaps responding to a change of mood about juvenile justice in the state, the legislature in 1983 changed the name of the Texas Youth Council to the Texas Youth Commission.

Beginning in the mid-1980's there was an explosion in the rate of juvenile crime. From 1988 to 1993 in Texas there was a 69% increase in all referrals to juvenile probation for delinquent activity and a 161 % increase in referrals for violent offenses. The Texas rate for homicides by juveniles was almost twice the national rate (12.8 per 100,000 vs. 6.6) and there was a 285% increase in youth committed to TYC for violent offenses.

In 1987, in response to what was already seen as a shocking increase in violent juvenile crime, Texas became one of the first states to adopt "blended sentencing" where a criminal sentence is blended in some fashion with a more traditional juvenile court disposition. This allows youth who receive a determinate sentence to serve the first portion of the sentence in TYC with the possibility of being transferred to the adult system to complete the sentence. The alarming rise in juvenile crime continued. In Texas, from 1990 to 1998:

- The juvenile proportion of total arrests increased from 23% to 35%.
- Juvenile violent crime arrests also increased. The arrest rate peaked in 1994 at 18%, up from 13% in 1990. Commitments to the Texas Youth Commission during this time reflect these trends:
- As the decade began, commitments were relatively stable, hitting a decade low of 1,564 new commitments in fiscal year (FY) 1993.
- Beginning in FY 1994 commitments began a radical climb, peaking at 3,188 in FY 1998, an increase of 104% in five years.

The 74th Texas legislature passed the most expansive juvenile reform legislation since 1973. This legislation that took effect in January 1996 has been described as a "get tough, balanced approach" that reflects the public attitude that we want to punish youth in some meaningful way, and yet not abandon rehabilitation as a principal aim for our children. The get-tough theme of the reform legislation was unmistakable:

- Promotion of the concept of punishment for criminal acts was added as a purpose of the newly named "Juvenile Justice Code."
- The certification age was lowered from 15 to 14 for capital and first degree felonies; and once a youth is certified, transfer to criminal court is automatic for all subsequent felonies.

The Texas Youth Commission (TYC) is Texas' juvenile corrections agency.

Our Mission

Protection - To protect the public, and control the commission of unlawful acts by youth committed to the agency by confining them under conditions that ensure their basic healthcare and emphasize their positive development, accountability for their conduct and discipline training. (Family Code, Section 51.01(1), (2) and (4) and Human Resources Code, Section 61.101(c));

Productivity - To habilitate youth committed to the agency to become productive and responsible citizens who are prepared for honorable employment through ongoing education and workforce development programs (Human Resources Code, Section 61.034(b) and 61.076(a)(1));

Rehabilitation - To rehabilitate youth committed to the agency and re-establish them in society through a competency-based program of Resocialization (Human Resources Code, Section 61.002, 61.047, 61.071, 61.072, 61.076(a)(1)(2) and 61.0761); and

Prevention - To study problems of juvenile delinquency, focus public attention on special solutions for problems, and assist in developing, strengthening, and coordinating programs aimed at preventing delinquency (Human Resources Code, Section 61.031, 61.036 and 61.081 (c)).

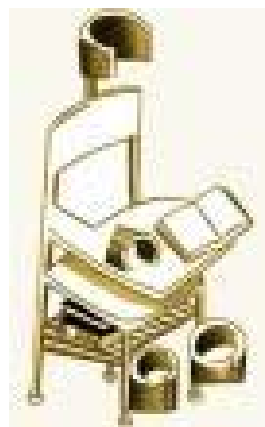
TYC Overview

The youth sent to the Texas Youth Commission (TYC) are the state's most serious or chronically delinquent offenders. In fiscal year 2005 (9/04 - 8/05), 33% of new arrivals had committed violent offenses, the same percentage as in fiscal 2004. Overall, 38% of new arrivals were categorized as high risk offenders.

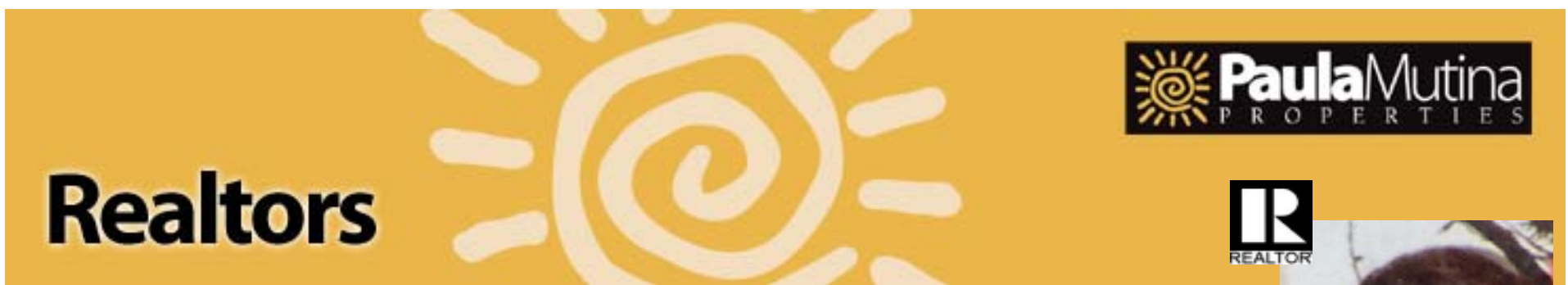
- 90% were boys. 10% were girls.
- 43% were Hispanic. 33% were African-American. 23% were Anglo.
- 35% admitted at intake that they are gang members.
- Median age at commitment was 16.
- Median reading and math achievement level was 5th grade (five years behind their peers).
- 40% were identified as eligible for special education services.
- 10% of the TYC population were Limited English Proficient.
- 81% had IQs below the mean score of 100.
- 39% had a high need for drug treatment.
- 36% had severe mental health problems.
- 76% had parents who never married or who divorced or separated.
- 35% had a history of being abused or neglected.
- 62% came from low-income homes.
- 74% came from chaotic environments.
- 54% had families with histories of criminal behavior.
- 11% had family members with mental impairments.
- 49% were in juvenile court on two or more felony-level offenses before being committed to TYC.

Commitment Profile

Fiscal Year



	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
TOTALS	2406	2448	2511	2526	2614
ANGLO	635	642	628	561	606
BLACK	822	818	771	794	857
HISPANIC	930	971	1102	1156	1125
OTHER ETHNICITY	19	17	10	15	26
MALE	2161	2237	2248	2261	2354
FEMALE	245	211	263	265	260
U.S. CITIZENSHIP	2311	2327	2346	2353	2457
MEXICAN CITIZENSHIP	82	94	143	143	132
OTHER CITIZENSHIP	13	27	22	30	25
COMMITTED AGE 12 OR LESS	41	35	19	33	37
COMMITTED AGE 13	123	123	127	114	111
COMMITTED AGE 14	353	325	313	311	318
COMMITTED AGE 15	647	636	629	653	659
COMMITTED AGE 16	893	908	975	945	963
COMMITTED AGE 17	342	411	427	453	502
COMMITTED AGE 18	6	10	21	17	24
COMMITTED AGE 19	1				
COMMITTED FROM HARRIS	403	401	400	527	580
COMMITTED FROM GALVESTON	36	55	65	49	33
COMMITTED FROM HIDALGO	19	36	41	45	32
COMMITTED FROM FORT BEND	28	35	36	38	28



¿Buscando una Casa?

Buscar casa toma tiempo y bastante trabajo, pero el esfuerzo vale la pena si encuentra una casa adecuada para usted. El primer paso es determinar el precio que puede pagar y lo que necesita de una casa. Entonces ya estará usted en una buena posición para seguir los contactos y trabajar con **MOLLY SANTOS-PAULA MUTINA PROPERTIES** que le pueda mostrar casas en el mercado, presentar su oferta al vendedor, y aconsejarlo en lo referente a prestamistas de hipotecas, abogados en bienes raíces, compañías de títulos, e inspectores de casas. Cuando haya localizado la casa que desea, es la hora de negociar el precio de contrato de venta con el vendedor y, antes de firmar el contrato de compra, contratar los servicios de un inspector de casas profesionales. Si llega a un acuerdo con el comprador sobre el precio final de compra y los términos del contrato (Incluyendo contingencias), el paso siguiente es obtener financiamiento, también tenemos un programa del 100% de financiamiento donde puede agregar los gastos para cerrar el contrato.



Para más preguntas
llame a: (979) 549-5221
or (979) 849-2222

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Word Power

En Palabras Hay Poder

No one can ever argue in the name of education, that it is better to know less than it is to know more. Being bilingual or trilingual or multilingual is about being educated in the 21st century. We look forward to bringing our readers various word lists in each issue of *La Voz de Brazoria County*

Summer	El verano
Hot	Caliente
Temperature	Temperatura
Warning	Aviso
Danger	Peligro
Swimming Pool	Piscina
Park	Park
Shade	Sombra
Ice	Hielo
Ice Cream	Helado
Snow Cone	Raspa
Vacation	Vacación
Sleep late	Dormir tarde
Get up early	Levantarse temprano
Town	Pueblo
Movies	Películas



Obteniendo ayuda

Si tiene dudas con respecto a la cantidad de un prestamo para que califica, el obtener una precalificacion por un prestamista es necesario. La mayoría de los agentes de bienes de raíces lo podemos ayudar para lo que usted califica.

PAULA MUTINA PROPERTIES

849-2222 or 549-5221 pregunta por Molly
600 Cedar Street Angleton, Texas 77515



No Es Mi Problema It's Not My Problem

Mouse Story ...

A mouse looked through the crack in the wall to see the farmer and his wife open a package. "What food might this contain?" The mouse wondered - he was devastated to discover it was a mousetrap.

Retreating to the farmyard, the mouse proclaimed the warning. "There is a mousetrap in the house! There is a mousetrap in the house!"

The chicken clucked and scratched, raised her head and said, "Mr. Mouse, I can tell this is a grave concern to you but it is of no consequence to me. I cannot be bothered by it."

The mouse turned to the pig and told him, "There is a mousetrap in the house! There is a mousetrap in the house!" The pig sympathized, but said, "I am so very sorry, Mr. Mouse, but there is nothing I can do about it but pray. Be assured you are in my prayers."

The mouse turned to the cow and said, "There is a mousetrap in the house! There is a mousetrap in the house!" The cow said, "Wow, Mr. Mouse. I'm sorry for you, but it's no skin off my nose."

So, the mouse returned to the house, head down and dejected, to face the farmer's mousetrap— alone.

That very night a sound was heard throughout the house — like the sound of a mousetrap catching its prey. The farmer's wife rushed to see what was caught. In the darkness, she did not see it was a venomous snake whose tail the trap had caught.

The snake bit the farmer's wife.

The farmer rushed her to the hospital and she returned home with a fever. Everyone knows you treat a fever with fresh chicken soup, so the farmer took his hatchet to the farmyard for the soup's main ingredient . . . the chicken.

But his wife's sickness continued, so friends and neighbors came to sit with her around the clock. To feed them, the farmer butchered the pig.

The farmer's wife did not get well; she died. So many people came for her funeral, the farmer had the cow slaughtered to provide enough meat for all of them.

The mouse looked upon it all from his crack in the wall with great sadness.

So, the next time you hear someone is facing a problem and think it doesn't concern you, remember — when one of us is threatened, we are all at risk.

We are all involved in this journey called life.

We must keep an eye out for one another and make an extra effort to encourage one another.

REMEMBER: EACH OF US IS A VITAL

THREAD IN ANOTHER PERSON'S TAPESTRY;

OUR LIVES ARE WOVEN TOGETHER FOR A REASON.

One of the best things to hold onto in this world is a friend.

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Democrat For County Commissioner Pct# 2

CHINA TRADE ACTIONS THREATEN FFA PROGRAMS, AIM TO MONOPOLIZE GROWING U.S. SECONDARY MEAT MARKETS FOR RABBIT AND GOAT

The World Health Organization has confirmed that Chinese authorities knowingly withheld reporting two human deaths from the Asian bird flu for two years. At the same time, China has been quietly and steadily increasing exports into the U.S. of large quantities of rabbit meat raised far below the United States Department of Agriculture standards. The secret is China doesn't have to meet USDA requirements but rather only minimal FDA inspection at U.S. ports of entry and duty free to boot.

Reportedly, Chinese produced rabbits are raised around large waste ponds and fed algae harvested from the water. It takes 6 months, twice the American average time, before the animals are of sufficient weight to be processed. What is in the meat? Who knows? Livers, the key indicator of infections such as coccidiosis are not shipped with the carcass.

U.S. Future Farmers of America programs known as FFA exact the highest possible dietary and sanitary standards of students here. Rabbit is a very high protein and low fat meat

superior to chicken if somewhat higher in price. It is the obvious per unit replacement for poultry if the bird flu strikes. American growers cannot compete for commercial business against such unfair advantages offered China under Free Trade.

Reportedly, herds of goats are also emerging in China to take advantage of increased U.S. consumer preference for goat meat because of the possible undetected spread of mad cow disease. The same likely tactic can be expected to be used. How does authentic Chinese Cabrito Chow Mein grab you?

The domino effect stands to also negatively impact feed sales, farm equipment sales and related jobs if the problem is allowed to continue. The real question is do we or do we not as Americans have a right and responsibility to protect our jobs, our health and our standard of living. President Bush says NO to protectionism. In this regard I say YES, no question.

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