

# Up The Enterprize™

A View from Below the Texas Health and Human Services Enterprize System

## IN THE NEXT ISSUE

### Enterprize Agencies Unveil New Logos

Agency heads vying for the Executive Commissioner's favor go all out!

### Drones to Replace EVV!

Will drones replace the Electronic Visit Verification System (EVV), the call-in system to make sure personal attendants are where they're supposed to be?

### Enterprize Contracting: The Circus is in Town!

It's more fun than ever! The clowns will be paying the big bucks and the monkey house is full!



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## LEAD STORY

### Migration of DADS Staff to HHSC Worries State Leaders

The continuing migration of Department of Aging and Disability Services (DADS) employees to the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) has state leaders confused again. Some suggest it's because DADS has the lowest average salary in the Enterprize. Others point to the selection of guest speakers at recent DADS all-staff meetings.

Either way, the race is on and tempers are rising. Recently, the transfer papers of a newly-hired managed care policy analyst from DADS were stolen



*DADS staff and their families wait to cross Lamar Blvd, on their way to a new beginning at HHSC.*

as she stood in line to cross Lamar Blvd. Witnesses report that the culprit, an un-named DADS Assistant Commissioner was shackled and led by Enterprize goons to an awaiting interrogation vehicle as he (oops) yelled out, "Help me, please, set me free! The Deputy is running everything and we don't even have Marc Gold anymore!"

## IN THIS ISSUE

### New DSHS Mission Statement Imminent

Newborn babies, pathogenic bacteria, rabid dogs and others regulated by DSHS eagerly await the agency's new hashtag.

### Governor Perry Honors Fellow Aggie Weizenbaum



*Circa 1970: Governor Perry cheers on Aggies as fellow classmate Jon Weizenbaum, looks on from the crowd.*

### Commissioner Channels Angosia III Ambassador

A tell-all interview with the unnamed Enterprize commissioner who channels the advice of an alien health care policy analyst ... and the Executive Commissioner is listening. **See page 5.**

### Don't Tell Anybody, But...

*A PolitiFact me, baby report.*

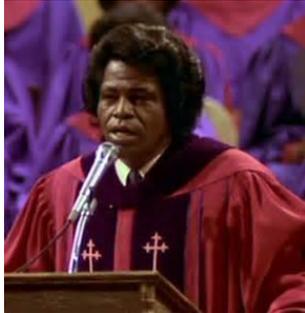
Up The Enterprize (UpThe) is published bi-monthly, pretty much, and employs some very clever acronyms to lend ease and fluidity to the reading of UpThe, to wit: **HHSC** – Health and Human Services Commission; **EC** – Texas Health and Human Services Enterprize Executive Commissioner; **DFPS** – Department of Family and Protective Services; **RP** – Rick's Pony; **DSHS** – Department of State Health Services; **HM** – His Majesty; **DADS** – Department of Aging and Disability Services and, oh yeah, **DARS** – Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services. UpThe is looking for JAKE contributors who can whistle and regularly include verbs in sentences, and an editor. Hello? Reader comments and inquiries can be emailed to [Editor@Enterprize21.neomailbox.net](mailto:Editor@Enterprize21.neomailbox.net). All Rights Reserved. Copyright May 2014.

## Around the Enterprize: News from Our Sister Agencies

UP HHSC

### Texas Sun Worshippers Lobby EC for Their Own Paid Religious Holiday

The dream of the *Texas Sun Worshippers* (TSW) to secure their own paid religious holiday soared when HHSC Executive Commissioner Janek announced that Good Friday would be a paid holiday for another religious group.



After marathon meetings with Janek, TSW ministers hope to have an agreement in place before the 2014 Summer Solstice. Multiple religious groups support TSW's position including the Priory of the Godfather of Soul.

UP DARS

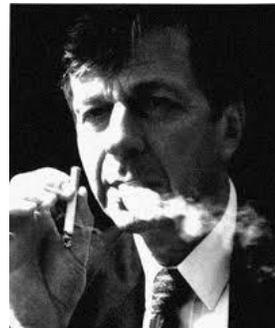
### DARS Commissioner Durden Lays Down the Law

DARS Commissioner Durden recently escorted an employee, who was scheduled to telework that day, out of the agency's headquarters. Visibly upset, the man was consoled by Durden with a little hug saying, "I'm sorry, honey, you need to go home now and get to work."

UP DSHS

### New DSHS Mission Statement Imminent

Rumors abounded as emotions reached a fevered pitch outside the doors of the meeting room where the DSHS Council was considering the adoption of the public health agency's bold new mission statement: *Keeping You Healthy*



Proposed DSHS logo.

*'til you Drop Dead.* "It's edgy, in-your face!" said one advocate.

Also on the agenda was the adoption of a new DSHS logo developed by consultants from a remote area in the Nevada desert who testified behind closed doors about the true meaning of the logo.

UP DADS

### Governor Honors DADS Commissioner Jon Weizenbaum

At a ceremony marking the first day of a major reconstruction project to upgrade all restrooms in the west tower of the John Winters Building, Governor Rick Perry issued a proclamation renaming all of the refurbished restrooms the *Weizenbaum Jons*. A fellow Aggie, Weizenbaum stated that he was overwhelmed and looked forward to seeing gold plaques on each and every bathroom stall.

UP DFPS

### Everyone Agrees: No news is good news.

No news!

Don't forget to share Up The Enterprize with your pals.



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### DARS Executive Staff Photo Fuels Rumors

An executive staff photograph included in the 2013 Department of Rehabilitation Services (DARS) Annual Report has Enterprize watchers wondering if there's an imminent shake-up afoot at the highest levels of the agency.

The below photograph shows ten DARS executives in what most people think is a standard government photo. "Not so fast," says Durea Lemur, "you have to ask yourself, 'where is the



focus of the picture and who is wearing the royal blue power tie?" Lemur, author of the best-seller *The Image and The MAN* continued, "and why is there a huge tree between this alpha dog archetype and DARS

Commissioner Durden? See how she's separated from the pack with what appear to be her only two allies?"

"And then there's the woman in red," Lemur persisted, "don't get me started on her!" When pressed for a comment outside DARS headquarters, the normally composed Deputy Commissioner (the guy in the blue tie) seemed flustered, "uh, I'll have to check with the Commissioner as soon as she's finished hugging that teleworker over there."

Suggested responses when you're asked if you contributed to this issue of *UpThe*.



"I am Sparticus."

"Did you get a perm? Sure looks nice!"

"Excuse me, I have to go to the Jon."

### HHSC Focus Group Participants Needed

The Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) is seeking focus group participants to provide input on whether there are too many focus groups. The focus groups, referred to by staff as the "focus-group focus groups," are the result of a focus group attended by Enterprize executives who agreed with the Executive Commissioner that the Enterprize lacked focus.

Behind all this is House Bill 1066 (83rd Texas Legislature, Regular Session) which requires state agencies to conduct a survey of all interested parties before doing any *dang thang* (sic), including providing services. Further, coffee shall be provided at all focus group meetings.

The bill's sponsor, Representative William Hastings, heir to the Hastings Research Design Corporation fortune, shared a touching story with *UpThe* about his father who toiled his entire life to clearly communicate with the world *and* his family. "In fact, I remember," Representative Hastings gently recounted, "any time Daddy was fixin' to beat the hell out of one of us kids, he would communicate that to us real clear. I love my Daddy and that's the reason for this law." "Besides," the Representative continued, "what's wrong with doing a few focus groups and writin' a report or two....or three. It ain't like we're trying to postpone every dang thang to hell 'n back!"



## The Beaver's True Identity Revealed



David Lakey, DSHS  
Commissioner

"I am The Beaver," announced the emotionally exhausted Department of State Health Services Commissioner David Lakey to an all-staff meeting today. For staff under 50 years old, the shocking statement was preceded by the Commissioner's favorite episode of *Leave it to Beaver*, a 20<sup>th</sup> century sitcom starring... Commissioner David Lakey.

"I'm not proud of it, but there came a time in my life when I wanted to do something more than be a child actor. I wanted to be a doctor, but who would ever take The Beaver seriously. So I lied."

At that moment, Mr. Jerry Mathers, the man long-assumed to be The Beaver walked on stage and gave Lakey a tearful embrace.



David Lakey, The  
Beaver

"We're tired of living a lie," Mathers told the crowd, "I know Davey will be working through this with his family and friends, and so will I."

"You trusted us, and we let you down," Lakey said, "the only thing now is to make it right with you and the man upstairs, Executive Commissioner Janek."



Jerry Mathers, Not  
The Beaver

### GLADvocate Awards

The latest data from H.B. 1066 focus groups on *happiness* have confirmed that the majority of service recipients are "extremely happy" with every facet of the health and human services system in Texas. Over 90% of respondents reported feelings of being "lovingly embraced into the ample bosom of The Enterprize."

With so many happy service recipients, The Enterprize is happy (just like you!) to announce that it will be presenting the GLADvocate Award of the Month beginning July 2014.

Naturally, the award will not be presented during legislative sessions when everybody either hates us or is totally bored out of their minds.

### DFPS Commissioner Swears in CPS Workers

"F\*cking awesome, that's what you are! Each and every one of you!"

When the latest Child Protective Services (CPS) class graduated on May 2 in Houston, the DFPS Commissioner opened the swearing in ceremony of CPS workers exactly as he had the previous ones.

"Everybody knows that you have the sh\*ttiest, toughest job in the world, but YOU have made the commitment to get your asses in here and make sure that Texas children are always safe every single day. I salute you!"

"You are the g\*d d\*mn heartbeat of this agency!" the Commissioner said before administering the oath to the class in front of a standing-room only crowd.

### Don't Tell Anybody, But...

- The HHSC Assistant Commissioner for Veteran's Services declared during an April statewide staff meeting, "there is no lack of services for veterans in Texas." There's an app with four buttons that will lead them to the abundance of services! As social media exploded with the news, a couple of the over 4,000 homeless veterans in Texas actually heard about the cool new app because they have smart phones. While the over 30,000 veterans awaiting services in Houston and Waco welcomed the incredible news, many of the hundreds of thousands of veterans living in other states made plans to move to the Lone Star State.
- The Texas Veterans Commission will soon host a "Beating the VA Backlog" event to provide direct, one-on-one assistance to Texas Veterans.
- **PolitiFact me, baby.**