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ACTIVE news

The Advisory Council For Technical-Vocational Education In Texas



Vernon A. McGee, Chairman

Alton D. Ice, Executive Director

Box 1886 Austin, Texas 78767 512/475-2046

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LEARNING ABOUT OTHER CAREERS CAN PROVE HELPFUL

Some came out of curiosity. Others came sensing that if they learned just one thing that would be helpful to them in their day-to-day lives, the effort would be well invested.

The occasion was the first of six "Supervision and Management Seminars" held March 13 by the Huntsville Public Schools.

About 130 people, varied in backgrounds, attended the first seminar. By the time the seminars terminate April 24, about 200 people are expected to attend one or more of the weekly three-hour sessions.

Percy Pace, Vocational Director for the Huntsville ISD, cites the seminars as a means of people "learning about other career fields."

"Most of us work or come in contact with other fields at one time or another," said Pace, who is coordinating the seminars. "By learning about each other's fields, people can help and benefit from each other."

The topic for the first seminar was "Free Enterprise Business and Industrial Economics."

L. P. Jones, Senior Vice-President of Houston ENTEX (Energy, Transportation and Exploration), noted that "only when we play around with a free enterprise system do we get into trouble."

Jones cited actions by the Federal Power Commission as a prime example of why not to tamper with a free enterprise system.

In 1954, the FPC, on a U. S. Supreme Court ruling, was given the power to regulate natural gas production as well as its prices.

In the ensuing years, natural gas became the cheapest form of energy resulting eventually in the demand exceeding the supply.

"If there had been no regulations on its price, competitiveness would have existed among other energies," said Jones. "Cheap gas killed the coal industry."

He noted that the price of natural gas had not changed until 18 months ago.

"The consumer decides the fate of the (See CONSUMER, page 4.)

KERR APPOINTED TO NACVE

Dr. Walter Kerr, of Tyler, was appointed March 21 by President Ford to a three year term on the National Advisory Council for Vocational Education.

Kerr is President of the Texas Industry Council for Career Education and State Coordinator of Industry, Education and Labor. He is also President of the National Youth Foundation.



Dr. Walter Kerr

He will be sworn in by U. S. Commissioner of Education, Terrell Bell, at the May 2 joint meeting of the national and state advisory councils in Washington, D.C.

One other Texan serves on the 21-member NACVE. He is Tom Pauken, a Dallas attorney.

SBOE MAKES ACTIVE APPOINTMENTS

C.C. "Bill" Elkins, of Dallas, and Jack Page, of El Paso, were appointed March 8 by the State Board of Education to serve unexpired terms on the Advisory Council for Technical-Vocational Education in Texas.

Both were recommended by Governor Dolph Briscoe. The State Senate confirmed their appointments March 20.

Elkins, as Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Elkins Institute, Inc., manages a network of electronics institutes in several states. He is a former school principal and superintendent.

Page is Administrative Assistant for Plans, Construction and Maintenance for the Ysleta Independent School District. He is a former industrial arts teacher, supervisor and department head, and he has worked closely with officials in Operation Mainstream, manpower programs, and vocational work study programs.



Bill Elkins



Jack Page

AMARILLO "BOOMING" SAYS HARRIS

Amarillo is "booming," says Dick Harris, President of the Amarillo Chamber of Commerce.

The unemployment rate is a low 3.1 percent. A recent labor market count revealed that "we are going to have about 6,000 new job openings in the next 30 months," says Harris.

Harris, along with other community leaders, addressed the Advisory Council for Technical-

Vocational Education in Texas when it met in Amarillo March 25-26.

The ACTIVE was presented with an overview of the economy, manpower requirements, and vocational-technical education in the Amarillo area.

Harris attributes the "boom" to new industries moving into the area as well as to indications that the housing and beef industries, hit hard by inflation and recession, are showing signs of coming back.

In concluding his remarks, Harris indicated that vocational education must play an integral role in helping to fill those 6,000 jobs during the next 30 months.

Dean Bigham, Vocational Director for the Amarillo Public Schools, noted that Amarillo College, Texas State Technical Institute and the public schools are in "close and constant communications with each other and with all segments of business and industry as they relate to their particular program areas."

"We're very responsive to the development of programs that will meet the needs of the work community," Bigham added. "We're able to maintain this smooth working relationship through the continuous and effective involvement of active advisory committees representative of the work community in our area."

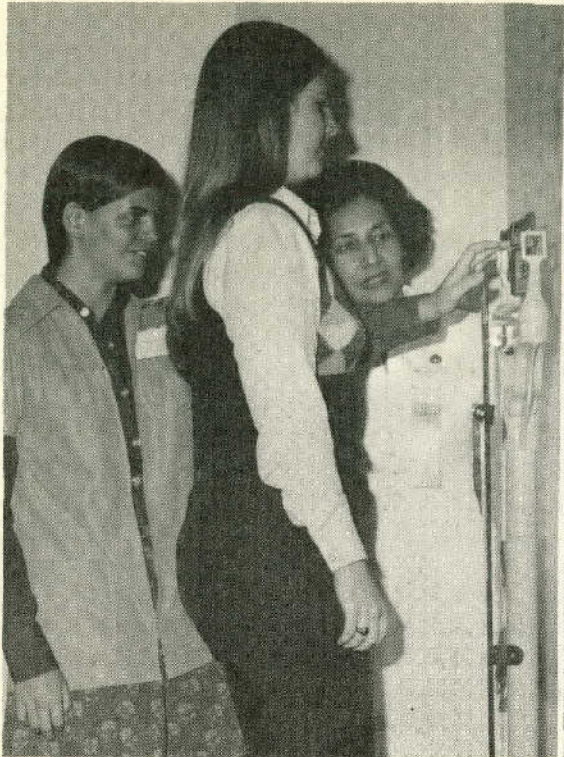
GUIDANCE WORKSHOPS UNDERWAY

Workshops aimed at developing group techniques for the dissemination of career guidance materials are being conducted in regional Education Service Centers throughout the State.

In its third year, the Group Guidance Program has involved 1,200 counselors, teachers, vocational specialists, administrators and ESC personnel in three day workshops.

Each workshop focuses on promoting "group skills" for providing students with career information and guidance activities in three major areas. These areas are: labor market information, self-awareness, and tools for employment (getting and keeping a job).

Additional information on the workshops can be obtained by contacting the guidance or career education coordinator at an ESC.



A vocational student (left) competes in the nurses aide contest at the convention of the Texas Association of Health Occupations Students in March. A contest on sales demonstrations (right) was a part of the competition sponsored by the Texas Association of Distributive Education Clubs of America.

YOUTH CLUBS HOLD CONVENTIONS

San Antonio hosted conventions during March for two vocational youth groups--the Texas Association of Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) and the Texas Association of Health Occupations Students (TAHOS).

Contests held at these conventions were the culmination of a year's activities for the students. Approximately 2,500 DECA students met March 6-8, and 1,200 TAHOS students convened March 14-15.

Following is a capsule of their activities:

DECA--A Variety of contests related to the distribution fields took place, with area winners participating in the state competition. In the display contest, students rated window displays in three San Antonio stores, and their ratings were compared with those of professional judges to determine the winners.

Job interview competition took place at personnel offices in numerous San Antonio stores. Under realistic conditions, students actually applied for jobs, filled out

applications, and were interviewed by personnel directors.

Other contests included sales demonstrations of everything from tires to scarves, public speaking, development of a newspaper ad, and manuals relating to on-the-job training and career fields.

The culmination of the convention was the Saturday night awards banquet. Among the winners were Troy Hester, Pampa High School, Boy Student of the Year; Lisa Parker, Linden-Kildare High School, Girl Student of the Year; and Sharpstown High School, Houston ISD, Chapter of the Year.

TAHOS--Most of the TAHOS contests took place at the Baptist Memorial Hospital in San Antonio under real job conditions. Dressed in their lab coats and uniforms, students competed in numerous skill contests. Most contests related to the jobs students hold in the cooperative training program.

Contests covered such occupations as dental (See TAHOS, page 4.)

(CONSUMER, Continued from page 1.)

economy," he said. "A dollar spent on a product is a vote for that product. A dollar not spent is a vote against the product."

Topics ranging from "Behavioral Dynamics" to "Business and Industrial Training" highlight the seminars."

The idea for the seminars grew out of a community conference held in Huntsville last year by the Advisory Council for Technical-Vocational Education in Texas, said Pace.

The ACTIVE sought to involve a cross-section of people in the conference, one of 16 held statewide to address education/manpower issues, and we sensed the merits of people learning about each other's fields, Pace added.

(TAHOS, Continued from page 3.)

assistant, dietary clerk, pharmacist assistant, physical therapy aide, respiratory therapy aide, and ward clerk. Contestants

were asked to show their proficiency at such tasks as preparing a meal tray for a diabetic, demonstrating cardio-pulmonary resuscitation, performing qualitative urine chemical tests, and more. San Antonio doctors and other professional health workers served as judges.

Other contests included job application, prepared and extemporaneous speech, extemporaneous essay, and exhibits.

At the TAHOS awards banquet Saturday night, James Summersett of Robert E. Lee High in San Antonio was named Outstanding TAHOS student, and Sherman High School was honored as the Outstanding TAHOS Chapter.

APRIL CAREER MONTH

Governor Briscoe has proclaimed April as "Career Opportunities for Youth Month." Employers are encouraged to open their doors to accommodate youth interested in exploring career opportunities.

Will Reece, Editor

The Advisory Council for Technical
Vocational Education in Texas
P.O. Box 1886
Austin, Texas 78787