

what's up?

Tuesday

MIXER: The Pre-Medical, Pre-Dental Society will hold a mixer at 6 p.m. in the Grove.

Wednesday

ACCOUNTING SOCIETY: Freshmen and sophomores in the Accounting Society will meet at 7 p.m. in Rudder Tower 601. Elections for freshman representative will be held and refreshments will be served.

Thursday

OFF-CAMPUS NIGHT: A get-together for off-campus students will begin at 6 p.m. in the Grove. Everyone is invited to attend.

CAMPUS CRUSADE: Campus Crusade for Christ will meet at 7 p.m. in Rudder Tower 302.

CEPHEID VARIABLE: Cepheid Variable will present two showings of "Dr. Strangelove" at 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. in the Rudder Theater.

Friday

FELLOWSHIP: The Intervarsity Christian Fellowship group will meet at 7:30 p.m. in Rudder Tower 301.

DEADLINE: Today is the deadline to submit applications for student workers for Muster and Parent's Day. Applications may be turned in at the Student Government office in the MSC 216.

AGGIE CINEMA: "Goodbye Girl." Marsha Mason, Richard Dreyfuss and Quinn Cummings star in this romantic comedy. A rising actor moves in with a struggling dancer and her smart-alec 10-year-old daughter. Movie begins at 8 p.m. in Rudder Auditorium.

MIDNIGHT MOVIE: "Billy Jack." Tom Laughlin stars as a half-breed Indian who helps an idealistic teacher maintain a Freedom School in spite of the violent opposition of the entire township. Movie begins at midnight in Rudder Theater.

Saturday

AGGIE CINEMA: "Goodbye Girl." Second showing of this movie will be shown at 8 p.m. in Rudder Auditorium.

Welfare needs a 'human touch'

"Welfare programs can and must have more of the human touch..." U.S. Senator Fred Harris told his colleagues in 1967.

Harris' statement led to amendments to the Social Security Act making the services of volunteers in such programs a prerequisite for federal financial participation.

That's one reason volunteers are needed at the Texas Department of Human Resources in Bryan. But there's another, more important reason.

"Having volunteers in the agency enhances our service to clients," said Wendy Biro, of the Office of Citizen Involvement.

Biro helps recruit volunteers in 11 Texas counties. She wants to increase the number of volunteers in Brazos County, where past participation has been limited.

The Texas Department of Human Resources supervises five program areas. These range from the Aid to the Aged, Blind, and Disabled (ABD) program to the Protective Services program for abused and neglected children.

Volunteers may train to become a "case aid," an assistant to a case worker, or do other work, Biro said.

"We're looking for someone with an interest in social services, someone with time, someone who can make a commitment," Biro said.

The time commitment that volunteers must make is directly correlated with the amount of time needed to learn the program. It can be from one to six months, with workers being able to volunteer again after that period.

A&M students have worked for the Department of Human Resources before. They can arrange to volunteer for a semester, Biro said.

"We also have various projects we can arrange for groups with a short term or ongoing interest," Biro said. Sororities or fraternities could sponsor parties for foster children or collect toys for Christmas presents.

Working for the Department of Human Resources benefits the volunteers as well as the clients.

Volunteers can win pins, plaques, and certificates of appreciation for exceptional work. Volunteers also receive reference letters.

The job is an education, Biro said that workers learn interviewing skills and other valuable social work techniques. They also learn about the problems of the poor and about the Department of Human Resources.

Some volunteers have been hired eventually by the Department, Biro said.

Though the volunteers aren't paid, they are treated just like regular employees.

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