

Career Fair helps students find work during and after college education

By **NEIL SIDERS**
Staff Reporter

Volunteer State Community College makes an effort to help its students and the community find employment. This effort culminates with Vol State's Career Fair which took place Wednesday, September 28.

The total of forty-seven vendors was an increase of five from last year's event. The growth of this event was made more evident by the increase of participating faculty members from fourteen last year to twenty-two this year.

The list of potential jobs spanned from NorthCrest Medical Center whose representative, Kristin Huffman, was looking to fill clinical positions to restaurants, such as Waffle House, seeking to employ cooks and waiters.

Another in the wide range of job opportunities included Vector Marketing whose district manager, Cathleen Woods, was looking for part-time sales persons to sell knives for Cutco Cutlery.

The list went on with Trinity Marine

Products, Inc. whose representative, Andy Afflick, explained how they were attempting to find employees who were willing to sign on as metal fabricators and welders. No experience was required as they had their own training school. Afflick was excited by the experience, borrowing a line from Arnold Schwarzenegger, "We'll be back."

There was even a booth for those who would rather work for personal satisfaction than money. COMPASS, which is a company who recruits volunteers for the local school system, was represented by Kara Arnold, their executive director. Arnold also vocalized her enjoyment of the Vol State Career Fair saying it was, "a really great way to meet people."

Dr Rick Parrent, director of career placement and co-operative education and the person in charge of the Career Fair was thrilled with the event saying it was a "high success."

Parrent went on to explain that the turnout was "a direct result of the faculty working with the event."

An example of the faculty

participation was the deal Parrent worked out with professors of the Learning Strategies classes where students received extra credit for attending the job fair.

Holly Vervle, Heather Key, and Jessica Weidner were included in the many students who showed up and answered two simple questions to get extra credit: What table caught their attention most and what table caught their attention the least?

This cooperative effort elevated student attendance to over 700. The continued growth of the Career Fair has precipitated a change of venue planned for next year.

The fall event of 2006 will be held in the gymnasium to accommodate the increasing number of vendors.

At the Career Fair, there were opportunities for anyone seeking employment whether it is part time or for a long time career.

The Vol State Career Fair may continue to grow and, if it grows, it will expand opportunities for job seeking individuals at Vol State and through out the community.

Public safety statistics show a decrease in violations in 2004 over previous years.

By **GREG STINSON**
Editor

The S.G.A. is the Student Government Association. Ever wonder what they do?

"Represents the students concerns and issues that they may have, to the administration", according to Evan Espey, president of the S.G.A.

The S.G.A. Senate meets every second and fourth Monday of each month. The senate convenes to discuss upcoming events and major issues regarding students.

"As the vice president of the Student Government Association, I serve on the president's cabinet as well as being president of the senate. I make agendas for each meeting, conduct each meeting, and serve as the 'go-to' for students. Aside from constitutional responsibilities, I extend help to each club when they need it, even if it is something such as talking to their club about issues, or going to their events to help set up or carry out something. I am also trying to schedule in going to each clubs meeting at least once this year, as well as helping Secretary of Communications Ryan Chapman

organize businesses that will support Vol State's Student IDs with a discount," said Tia Bailiff.

Jamie Durham is the secretary of state and she "loves her job." She answers questions and directs people to where they want to go.

"I love it; it's fun and I love all the people," Durham said.

"Any issue that a student feels is a problem is a major issue to me. I treat all student related matters in the same way: it is a major issue that needs to be solved," said Bailiff.

There are some major issues that students bring to the attention of the S.G.A. like tuition, number of classes, times of classes, and smoking policies.

"I encourage students to get involved. I have an open door policy for anyone to come to me or any member of my cabinet with questions, concerns, or suggestions," said Espey.

"It's nice when your peers are more ambitious about school, you look up to them. I feel more supported from those peers," said Durham

"My favorite thing is working with the administration of the college to find solutions to student's issues and or concerns," said Espey.

The following companies and organizations took part in the Fall 2005 Career Fair.

AIG/American General
AllState Insurance Agency
BellSouth
Best Buy of Rivergate
CareAll Health Services
COMPASS
Crye-Leike
Dell (Spherion)
Dollar General
Enterprise Rent-A-Car
Family Dollar Stores
FedEx
Franklin Police Department
Friendship Home Healthcare, Inc.
Gallatin Chamber of Commerce
Gap, Inc.
Gateway Health System
Hendersonville Chamber
Hendersonville Medical Center
Hooters of Rivergate
Jewish Hospital Healthcare
Livingston Regional Hospital
NorthCrest Medical Center
Petra Fashions
Randstad
River Park Hospital
S & S Family Entertainment
Smith County Memorial Hospital
SouthEast Waffles LLC
StoneCrest Medical Center
Sumner County Human Resources
Sumner County Schools
Sumner Regional Health System
T.R.A.C. Inc.
The Employment Guide
TN Air National Guard
TN Cancer Registry
TN Dept of Labor
Toys R Us
Trinity Marine
UPS
US Army
US Navy
Vector Marketing
Wilson County Schools
Zaxby's

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