

Ruby Says

by Ruby Duncan

April 6th starts the first day of "Week of the Young Child." This is being sponsored by Nevada affiliates of the National Association for the Education of Young Children, with assistance from the Clark County Child Care Association. One of our VISTA Volunteers at Operation Life, Lynn St. Pierre, was appointed Southern Program Director.

This week should signify the need for quality child care and services. The Las Vegas Chapter of NAECY has set aside two nights for public discussion. On Tuesday, April 8th at 7:00 p.m. in the Flamingo Library Auditorium there will be a panel discussion of Child Abuse and Neglect. The panel members will include Rick Pacult, Juvenile Court Liaison Officer for the Nevada State Welfare; Dr. Beverly Neyland, Pediatrician; Francisco Montoya, Protective Service Officer and Sandie Durgin, Youth Counselor of Juvenile Bureau of the Metropolitan Police Department. They will discuss the various aspects of child abuse and what individuals can do to help battered or neglected children.

The UNLV Education Auditorium will be the

site of the second lecture, on Wednesday, April 9 at 7:00 p.m. Dr. Fred Kirchner, Associate Professor in Foundations and counseling in the College of Education, will present a talk on the Developmental Characteristics of Infants. He will discuss what children are and what stimuli they can respond to, and he will also present what parents can use in their own homes to make children more responsive to early education. Both discussions are free and open to the public.

As you know, Operation Life has been involved in child care and children's services in the form of WIC, Health Care, the Swimming Pool and Summer Lunch Program, and the West Las Vegas Library. We hope to open our day care houses by June 15. Clark County Welfare Rights Organization has been lobbying at the Legislature in Carson City for 100% of need for children and families. We have also written letters asking that such programs as WIC and the Lunch Programs not be cut from the federal budget this year.

We highly recommend that you attend one or both of the meetings to learn how you can take an active role in the welfare and education of your children.

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V * A FACTS

Q -- My 74-year-old grandfather is a veteran drawing pension from the Veterans Administration. I hear that pensioners his age don't have to file an income questionnaire anymore. Is that true?

A -- Yes. Veterans 72 years old and older who've been on VA pension rolls during two consecutive years are exempt. They must notify the agency of changes in value of their estates or annual incomes, however.

Q -- I'm a ready reservist, and wonder if I'm eligible for Servicemen's Group Life Insurance (SGLI) issued by the Veterans Administration?

A -- Yes. The Veterans Insurance Act of 1974 provides automatic

\$20,000 coverage under SGLI for service personnel on active duty and ready reservists. You may elect coverage in amounts of \$5,000, \$10,000, \$15,000, or no coverage at all.

Q -- What is the federal government doing, education-wise to help veterans who dropped out of high school before entering military service?

A -- The Veterans Administration has provided GI Bill "catchup" training to 645,000 so-called educationally disadvantaged veterans since the current law was enacted in June 1966. About 390,000 of them received "free entitlement," which means the benefit was not charged against their basic entitlement.

Enrollment up at CCCC

A 7000 student enrollment was reported by Dr. R. Stephen Nicholson, Executive Vice President, Clark County Community College recently.

While the new campus at 3200 East Cheyenne, North Las Vegas, is now in full operation, and the second and third buildings are under construction and scheduled for completion by mid 1977, all three buildings would house only one-half of the present enrollment.

Two year colleges nationally grew at a 5% rate but the Clark County Community College with almost 100% increase ranks as the fastest growing in the nation.

Now in the final semester of its fourth year the college is 111% larger than it was last Spring.

According to Dr. Nicholson, the economic slowdown has only accentuated the need for additional vocational skills in a narrowing competitive job market.

As a consequence of this, the lack of space problem for the college adversely affects the needs of a growing number of unemployed in need of retraining and part time workers who are going back into further instructional programs.

While the Board of Regents requested funds from the legislature which would allow for growth and continued development of the college, the Governor's budget request reduced these funds by 25%.

The proposed budget under review by the House Ways and Means Committee and the Senate Finance Committee reduces the Regents' request of \$1700 for 1975-76 and \$1800 for 1976-77 to about \$1200 per student.

Without funding at the level requested by the Regents the college's "open door" policy for Clark County residents of all ages and socioeconomic circumstances will become a closed book.

THIS WEEK IN BLACK HISTORY April 1975

THURS.

3

Carter G. Woodson, founder of Association for Study of Negro Life and History, dies. 1950

FRI.

4

Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., leader of civil rights movement, assassinated in Memphis, Tenn. 1968

SAT.

5

Booker T. Washington, founder of Tuskegee Institute and Black leader, born a slave in Va. 1856

SUN.

6

Matthew Henson, Black explorer, reaches North Pole with Commander Robert E. Peary. 1909

MON.

7

Billie Holiday, jazz singer, born. 1915

TUES.

8

Frederick Douglass makes first speech for abolition society at Nantucket, Mass. 1841

WED.

9

Birth of Paul Robeson, singer, actor, spokesman for Black equality. 1898

INTERNSHIP OPEN

Applications will be accepted from April 1 through 15 for the Sen. Howard Cannon Internship Program, which allows a University of Nevada, Las Vegas student to spend the spring semester in the Washington office of the Nevada senator.

The candidate selected will work in the office of Sen. Cannon and receive remuneration of \$400 per month, plus travel expenses.

The internship is open to any UNLV senior or first-year graduate student in any major field of study, according to Dr. Albert C. Johns, chairman of the screening committee. Applications, including the student's collegiate transcript three letters of recommendation, and an essay of not more than 1,000 words on why the student is seeking the internship, should be submitted to the political science secretary, Social Services 239, on or before April 15.

Personal interviews will be scheduled and the applications will be forwarded to Sen. Cannon for final determination.

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