

Head Start Day marks program's tenth year

Head Start Day was recognized nationally Wednesday. It marks the tenth anniversary of this important program which provides pre-school education, health and nutrition, and family development activities to low-income Americans.

J. David Hoggard, Executive Director of the Economic Opportunity Board of Clark County, which operates the local Head Start program, stated that the event will be celebrated locally with a two day conference on "Closing the Gap in Community Services" which will be held at the Thunderbird Hotel. The conference will be open to parents of children participating in the program and to community resource people associated with education and the helping services, said Hoggard.

Workshops at the conference included "The Welfare of Young Children," Legislative Action, "Community Services," Employment and Training Opportunities, "Health and Nutrition," and "Outreach and Public Information."

The conference was sponsored jointly by EOB's Head Start and Child-Family Resource Programs, according to Jean Dunn, Educational Services Administrator at EOB. She explained that the Clark County CFRP is one of eleven such programs across the nation which are funded for four years as demonstrations by the Office of Child Development (OCD) of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW). Ms. Dunn described the program as "a child-centered family service program, designed to provide family support services that are crucial for, and directly related to, the sustained growth and maturation of children." She said that CFRP was open to low-income families with children from the prenatal period through the age of eight.

Ms. Dunn explained that CFRP receives approximately \$125,000 for a 12-month period and serves at least 80 underprivileged families from all over Clark County and from all ethnic backgrounds. "About ten percent of all the CFRP families have children with handicaps," she said. "This is in accord with Head Start policy."

"The goal of the program," she continued, "is to establish the unique problems of each family and to help develop, with the help and cooperation of the family, a plan to satisfy its needs."


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Focus on Seniors

The Springtime Bazaar at EOB's Senior Center May 9 saw members of the community crowding the Senior Center at 960 W. Owens to eat, see the exhibits of handiwork, arts and crafts, and make purchases, and hear the entertainment. It was a busy day for the seniors, full of friendship and cooperation.

Contributions to the bazaar, through gifts of food for the "Dime-a-Dip" luncheon, and displays of needlework and handicrafts, included: Willie Mae Brown, Mary Nichols, Sally Ortiz, Ruth Miller, Mattie Smith, Ethel Normand, Lueise Young, Essie Long, Alice Owens, Corine Owens, Vera Noad, Letha Thomas, Exie Thompson, Bertha Sauckle, Herbert Clark, Eva Carr, Nat Hooks, Esther Bullocks, Julia Samuel, Edna Carter, Mary Russaw, Nota Williams, Hattie Mathews, Lucille Nelson, Pearl Bush, Laura Waldenburger, Marie Alexander, Alice Hill, Sally Morris, Nancy Sanders, Earline Jackson, Estella Carter, Georgia Jackson, Earnestine Howard, Connie Surrell, and members of the EOB Senior Center Staff.

The entertainment program included selections by the Senior Center Choir: "Blessed Assurance," "Put Your Hand in the Hand," and "What a Time," with Vera Noad as song leader and Mattie Smith as accompanist. Frankie Watkins recited a humorous poem, and Rosie Nell Smith, a student at Sunset High School, sang. Later that evening, Rosie Nell was crowned queen of the Afro-American Unity Festival.

The Springtime Bazaar was one of many special events scheduled for May, National Senior Citizen month. Other Senior Citizen month activities in which all seniors are invited to participate, are:

May 18 -- Senior Citizen Picnic at Paradise Park starting at 10 a.m. An old fashioned picnic that promises to be fun for all seniors. Bring your own picnic basket; the charcoal fireplaces in the park will be lit and ready for use. Games, contests and prizes will be featured on this gala day. Transportation from EOB Senior Center at 10 a.m. if needed. Call the Senior Center, 648-3280, ext. 85 for information.

May 27-28 -- Senior Citizen days at the Boulevard Mall with special discounts to seniors, refreshments, educational exhibits and entertainment. Transportation from the Senior Center at 9 a.m. each day.

May 28 -- Zion National Park trip for senior citizens. Sign up soon for this beautiful trip. Call the Senior Center for information.

May 29 -- "Take a Senior to Lunch," recognition luncheon at Hotel Sahara Space Center, 12 noon. Special speakers and entertainment. Call the Senior Center, 648-3280, ext. 85, for ticket information.



The Eskimo and the Tlingit Indians believe that the spirit of the dead is the spirit of the aurora borealis.

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AIDES IN ACTION



by Charles G. Schilling, Horticulturist
 Cooperative Extension Service
MULCH FOR WEED CONTROL

If weeds are a problem in your garden, a mulch may be very helpful. Mulches suppress weeds, saving you a lot of work. Weeds that do get through can easily be pulled out. A good mulch will reduce soil blowing and washing from irrigation. Mulches keep the soil from getting hot and will keep the soil from drying out.

Grass clippings, sawdust, straw, and compost make excellent mulches. They add organic matter to the soil which helps keep the soil crumbly and easy to work. At the end of the growing season, the mulch can be worked into the soil to supply organic matter for the following crop.

Apply 3 to 4 inches of mulch around established plants, making certain you do not cover them. Add more mulching material when old layers get thin.

Do not apply paper materials for a mulch if it contains ink. Newspapers, magazines, or any other printed material contain harmful elements, and can be harmful to you if absorbed by the plant and then consumed.

When using organic materials such as sawdust, straw or leaves, you will find it beneficial to add nitrogen fertilizer to the material before applying it as a mulch. One cup of fertilizer high in nitrogen for each bushel of organic material. To avoid burning the plants, do not let the fertilizer touch them. Ammonium sulfate or a blend such as 16-20-0 are good sources. If ammonium nitrate is used, 1/2 cup will be enough. If garden problems arise, call me at 385-6411.

The programs of the Nevada Cooperative Extension Service are open to all without regard to Race, Color or National Origin.

Rose Program

The Clark County Cooperative Extension Service, the Las Vegas Valley Rose Society and the Clark County Library jointly will be presenting a 3-day Rose Program at the Downtown Library, 400 E. Mesquite Avenue.

On Sunday, May 18, from 1:30 p.m., a "Rose Garden Tour" will be conducted. Entrance to the Rose Garden will be through the Library section only. On Monday, May 19 from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m., a program entitled "Rose Growing in Southern Nevada" will be presented and Tuesday, May 20, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m., tips will be given on "Conditioning and Arranging of Roses."

Free Rose literature will be available while it lasts at each session.

Plan to attend these free programs that are open to all without regard to Race, Color or National Origin.

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