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Honoring A Great Man With A Holiday



KEITH O. HILTON

Recently I, my wife and two daughters watched a video version of the Autobiography of Malcolm X, which included many actual clips of Minister Malcolm X lecturing.

They were mesmerized by his life and sincerity. For the next week, the little one daily not only told her pre-school classmates that Malcolm X was a great man, but she also told them why. She is four years old. Her awareness of him is becoming clearer, not fleeting.

The teenager started reading the book the very next day and started doing research on him. She even presented her history teacher with the idea of doing a comparative narrative on Malcolm X and Rev. King.

Now this young lady is certainly not unlike many other teenagers (and some non-teenagers for that matter) at times; too much phone, TV and mouth. But she is bright.

She is very active in her high school's Black Student Union and invited her classmates over to watch the video. She uses my personal library as much as I do.

Like many young people, from her school studies, she had basically only known his name and heard that he believed in violence. Now she is getting a broader and more accurate picture of the man and his message.

This broader and more accurate picture of El Jaji Malik el Shabazz (Malcolm X) is also the objective of syndicated columnist Ron Daniels. Daniels is advocating that May 19 (Malcolm's birthday) be celebrated as Malcolm X Day.

Along with Daniels, others across the nation are endorsing this idea of this National African Holiday. Ron's column, Vantage Point, runs in many newspapers in the country. For more information, write him in care of any of the newspapers that

you read his column.

Just as young people are slowly beginning to use the term African American, the rediscovery of Malcolm X has to also occur. The man never went away, just as the collective notion of Pan-Africanism is as deep in the African American psyche as integration.

Twenty five years ago, Malcolm X was referring to Black people in this country and in the western hemisphere as Africans. Twenty Five Years Ago.

Yes, a national holiday commencing with 1990 is in order. That is why HIGHER EDUCATION goes on record as supporting and offering assistance in any way necessary.

But just as we know that African Achievement Month is every month, keeping Malcolm and the Malcolm X holiday drive in the public needs to be done during the summer, winter, spring and fall.

According to Ron Daniels, for 18 years now in Washington D.C., Malcolm X Day has been celebrated. Now that is a movement. Now is also the time to make it national.

Malcolm X was not even a high school graduate, but today, there are two colleges named in his honor.

At every college that I have been connected with, I have never failed to meet pockets of students who want to learn more about those such as Malcolm X, the Honorable Elijah Muhammad, Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, Fannie Lou Hamer, Marcus Garvey and Frantz Fanon, to name a few.

Some readers will not immediately know some of these people or others who will be mentioned in future columns, but in time and as you continue to save and share these columns, we are confident that they, other outstanding human beings and topics will come to mean

School Registration Dates Vary For New And Returning Students

Nine-month schools in the Clark County School District begin classes Monday, August 28. Although August 24 and 25 are the official days set aside for students to register, there are some exceptions.

Students, in ninth through twelfth grade who are new to Clark County, should contact their school of attendance immediately to arrange an appointment with a counselor to choose classes for this school year. In order to avoid confusion and long lines, most schools have set aside specific days for new students to register. Parents and students should check with the school they will be attending for exact registration dates and times, since these times vary from school to school.

Secondary students who are returning to the same school they attended last year should have received registration packets in the mail. Incoming ninth graders were also sent registration packets by their new school. Any students who should have received registration packets by mail and have not, should contact their school office.

Parents who do not know which school their child should attend school call the school district's zoning office at 799-7573.

Seven year-round elementary schools in the district began classes August 2. Any elementary student who has been assigned to a year-round school should contact the school as soon as

possible, if not already enrolled and attending class.

much more to you.
HILTON: HIGHER EDUCATION is designed to dialogue with college and world readers. Education is ongoing and certainly not limited to school classrooms. Let's talk.

School District Has Three Different School Schedules

There are three different schedules for schools operating within the Clark County School District. They include a 45-15 year-round schedule for seven elementary schools, a 60-15 year-round schedule for the ten elementary schools, and a nine month schedule which is in effect for students in a majority of the elementary schools. All junior and senior high schools operate on a nine month schedule.

Year-round schools which observe the 60-15 schedule, and all nine month schedule schools, begin classes August 28. The seven 45-15 schedule year-round schools began classes for the 1989-90 school year on August 2.

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Letter Sent To Parents Of Home-School Students

A letter was mailed this week by the school district to all parents whose children are currently involved in the Clark County School District's Home-School Program. The letter explains testing procedures that must be followed for students who receive home instruction.

The procedures were clarified by the Nevada Attorney General's opinion, which was received by the school district July 28.

The Clark County School District will conduct testing, at no cost to parents, on Monday, August 21 and Tuesday, August 22 at 9 a.m. at Pupil Personnel Services, located at 2701 East St. Louis.

Make-up testing, conducted by the school district, is scheduled for Monday, August 28 and Tuesday, August 29. Parents who plan to have their children tested on one of the make-up days should call Marge Comeau at 799-8642, so adequate testing personnel and classroom facilities may be scheduled.

Parents may also choose to have their children tested at

another location of their choice according to the Attorney General's opinion, however, certain criteria must be met. A Clark County School District licensed teacher must be involved in the testing, either as the test administrator or as an observer.

If parents choose to have the test administered by someone other than the school district employee, that person must receive training on test administration procedures prior to the test being given. Administration of the test must also be observed by a licensed school district employee.

Parents, who elect to have test administered at a location other than the classrooms at Pupil Personnel Services, will be charged \$20 per hour to compensate for the school district employee's time.

EDITORS NOTE: A complete copy of the letter sent to parents of students receiving home-school instruction is attached. Any questions should be directed to Mark Lange, Director Research and Development at 799-5231.

NOTICE

In the July 1989 Centel Telephone Directory, the phone number for the Superintendent of Schools is listed incorrectly. The correct telephone number for the Clark County School District Superintendent of Schools is 799-5315.

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