

SOUTHERN NEVADA SCIENCE FAIR TO HIGHLIGHT STUDENT PROJECTS

Students from throughout Clark County will display the products of their scientific curiosity at the annual Southern Nevada Science Fair, which will be held March 22-25 at Cashman Field. Science projects will be open for public viewing from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Wednesday, March 24, and from 9 a.m. to noon Thursday, March 25.

Hundreds of the best science

projects by students in all grades from public and private schools throughout Clark County will be on display. Projects featured at the fair are winners of school-side fairs. Each school enters an average of three science projects in the county-wide fair.

An awards program will be held about two to three weeks after the fair, with details to be announced.

NOTES FROM THE SCHOOL OF AFRIKAN PHILOSOPHY

What does the "struggle" mean to you? We've all heard that Afrikans in America are struggling to better their condition. But what does that really mean? What are we really fighting for? Equality? Justice? Freedom? These are serious questions that demand serious thought and consideration.

Last week during the School of Afrikan Philosophy's weekly session, my brother posed these questions to the class. As was to be expected there were a variety of answers, but with a basic underlying theme. As great as diversity is, it is a hindrance to the Afrikan community in that we are not focused on exactly what we hope to achieve in this liberation struggle. We all have a basic understanding as to what we don't want (we're all disgruntled and displeased with the current condition of Afrikans) but what exactly do we want? What do you envision as the ultimate goal in this Afrikan liberation struggle?

Like any war the goal is to be victorious, but warriors do not fight if they know not for what their lives are to be sacrificed. So again I ask, what are we fighting for? I bring these questions to you in the hope that you will give them the serious and deliberate thought that they demand.

As a soldier on the front lines fighting for your liberation, I believe it is essential that I and my fellow warriors get a feel for what the masses expect as a result of this "war." Write to the Minister of Information c/o The Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice, 1201 S. Eastern Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89104 and share your thoughts on this poignant subject. Another aspect of war is, not only being informed but having the support of your people. The War Continues.

Until next week this has been the Minister of Information.

EDUCATION

STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN V.I.C.A. SKILLS OLYMPICS

The annual VICA Skills Olympics was held this week at Cashman Field Center each day from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Nevada VICA Association, Southern Nevada Vocational-Technical Center and the Area Technical Trade Center hosted the three-day event.

VICA, Vocational Industrial Clubs of America, offers students leadership, citizenship and character development programs and activities to complement skill training.

More than 450 students throughout the state competed in 20 categories in a competition that judged students based on their job skills in specific vocations.

Some of the trade areas included advertising design, air conditioning and refrigeration, brick masonry, carpentry, cosmetology, electronics, marine mechanics, nurse assisting and residential plumbing. Students were also judged on leadership skills such as public speaking and parliamentary procedure.

Students competed for medallions for first, second and third place in each category. First place winners in each event will go on to compete in VICA U.S. Skill Olympics in June in Louisville, Kentucky.

CONFERENCE TO FOCUS ON SPECIAL EDUCATION

A conference for parents, professionals and others concerned about the educational success of special education students will be held March 19 and 20 at Chaparral High School.

The conference, titled "Building Bridges Through Tradition," will be held from 3:15 p.m. to 9:45 p.m. Friday, March 19, and from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, March 20. It is sponsored by the Clark County School District and Special Education Parent Advisory Committee in conjunction with the Council for Exceptional

Children and Nevada Technology Center.

Conference workshops focus on transition from home to school to workplace or post-secondary education, behavior strategies at home and in school, communication, learning strategies, legal issues and other topics.

More information is available by calling 735-2922 or 799-5472. Some workshops will be conducted in Spanish. Child care is available, as well as parent scholarships to cover the \$10 conference fee.

AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY

Charlotte Forten Grimke (Educator, Writer, Abolitionist)

By Gwen Walker

Charlotte Forten was a free black from a wealthy family in Philadelphia. Although she was free and well educated, she understood the humiliation and pain of racial prejudice.



GWEN WALKER

When she was just a child, she was denied admittance to Philadelphia schools because she was Black. For a few years she was tutored at home. At age sixteen she was sent to live with the Charles Remond family in Salem, Massachusetts so she could attend integrated schools. Their home was headquarters for anti-slavery lecturers passing through the city.

In 1856 Charlotte graduated from Salem Normal School with honors and began teaching. She read constantly usually completing as many as 100 Books a year.

With the outbreak of the Civil War, Charlotte had the chance to serve her people by volunteering to teach freed slaves to read; slaves that the government decided to recruit to help assist in the War. When Charlotte returned to Philadelphia in May 1864, two thousand children were enrolled in schools on the Sea Islands.

For the next several years, she taught occasionally and gained a reputation as a writer.

In 1878 she married Reverend Frances J. Grimke. Charlotte Forten Grimke died July 23, 1914 after a lengthy illness.

Read more at the West Las Vegas Library.



CHARLOTTE FORTEN GRIMKE

ELEMENTARY MUSIC FESTIVAL SCHEDULED

Approximately 300 elementary students from 30 schools will put their musical talents to work when they perform 11 American folk tunes at the first-ever elementary music festival, schedules for 7 p.m. Saturday, March 27, at Cashman Field.

The performance will feature singing, dancing and reciting based on the "Orff" approach to music education, which focuses on involving the whole child as an active participant in learning about music fundamentals.

About one-third of the district's 131 music specialists collaborated for this project. They wanted to showcase what can be accomplished in 45 or 50 minutes per week for every child.

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