

Academic Fair is a Big Success

There was a great turnout at the One Day Academy Academic Fair at Crestview Baptist Church in Austin on January 17. Just over 80 students pre-registered, yet almost 140 students participated.

The academic fair was broken up into three categories: science, art, and photography. Projects that received a blue ribbon for the Outstanding level of achievement are eligible to compete in regional competitions, such as the Austin Science Fair, held in February. Students also received red ribbons for Honorable Mention.

Patti Ashley, coordinator of the event, was pleased with the turnout and hopes more students will participate next year. "It is encouraging for students to display their work and have fun sharing ideas. The competition is good motivation to strive for excellence and enjoy working hard."

Ruth Alford, who entered her "Bird's Gift of Flight" science project, said, "In the past, I missed out on the aca-



One Day Academy Natural Science Department Chair Cindy Roberts judges Ruth Alford on her project. Photo by Laura Peisker

demical fair because I thought it would be no fun." But this year she listened to her friends who said to give the fair a try, and she enjoyed it.

The art and photography contestants seemed to have mixed feelings. Many of them thought it was difficult to create a great artwork to submit, and were nervous about the judging. Others, like Meret Stover, said,

bricks before the rope broke.

Although the project was difficult to complete, the boys were pleased with the outcome. Gavin agreed with Tommy when he said, "I'm excited for people to look at what we did."

Dr. Charles Sweet, who served for 30 years as Director of the Microbiology Department at the Texas De-

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Land of the Free Because of the Brave

We all know that serving in the military is a sacrifice. Not all of us have been in the boots of someone who has made that sacrifice—either by serving or by sending a family member off to serve.

Some adults and students of One Day Academy have close friends and family in the military. I remember when my mom told me that my big brother Shane was accepted to the Naval Academy. I was only seven years-old, yet I remember it vividly. I was mad because I was not going to have him at home anymore. Right now he is in flight training in Enid, OK.

I am not mad anymore, in fact, I am proud of Shane and I am also proud of my cousin Joe, who is in the Marines, stationed in Japan. My brother Evin, in his first year at the Coast Guard Academy says, "I want to save lives." I know my brothers and cousin have sacrificed a lot to get where they are today.

Ben Snodgrass's cousin Wyatt has been in the Army for two to three years as a medic. Soon he will be stationed in Iraq, but right now he is at home in Iowa. Ben said, "I am proud of Wyatt, and I know he is doing a very honorable thing."

"Wyatt's mother, Erin, has gone through a lot, although she gets worried when she hears the stories of him in Iraq," said Ben. "She knows that God has called him to the military."

Kim Behrman's cousin Mark has been in the Secret Service for about eight years. He recently trained in Washington D.C. He is 48 years-old and he travels a lot.

Nick Mortensen's grandfather was a pilot in the Air Force before joining the Marines. He was in the military for 24 years, including service during World War II. He is now retired.

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Resolving to (Not) Make Resolutions?

New Year's Resolutions are fun right? Well, that depends on whom you ask. I was hoping to learn people's opinions about New Year's resolutions and get some cool ideas for resolutions to make in the future. Instead, my first interviewee replied, "Well, I don't do New Year's resolutions; they are kind of dumb."

Most students did not care about resolutions. In fact, most of the people I asked had pretty poor opinions of resolutions, calling them "dumb." Most students do not care about, let alone even make, New Year's resolutions!

Why don't students make them? Why do they think they are dumb? Well as most people know from experience, it is hard to keep a New Year's resolution. Does that really make them dumb? Well, no. But, to most students they are just another way of wasting time.

What about keeping up with resolutions made in 2008? Some students replied that they had remembered them but not kept them. Most people said that by the New Year they had forgotten what their resolution was, and they had likely not kept it. Nathanael Hein said it well: "New Year's resolutions start out cool when you first make them, but by the end of the month they are done. Kind of like roller coasters, they go up and then down."

Most students (or at least the ones I interviewed) don't make New Year's resolutions. I still have not lost my interest in them. Who knows, maybe someone who does make them will make a resolution to get people to make more resolutions!

- Sami Shamard

One Day Monthly Word Search - Maverick Moses

N P N I E E D F N E R S
O N S E F I O N O W K P
I O H E A W E B Y S P L
T S I S E J U D A R F O
A R R O O S E V E L T B
R E W O H N E S I E L A
U F A R N N I I L A I M
G F C E A D A M S E N A
U E K S E W I R O K C C
A J R N O S K C A J O D
N O T G N I H S A W L F
I M O N R O E W D O N K

President	Inauguration	Washington
Adams	Jefferson	Jackson
Monroe	Lincoln	Roosevelt
Eisenhower	Kennedy	Bush
	Obama	

Ancient International Traditions Scorned by Youngest Generation

For countless years, generations of frustrated parents have struggled to comprehend why their children failed to grasp the importance of their behavior, and the improvement thereof. Parents have thrown up their hands and blamed their children's behavior on all sorts of ailments: immaturity, "a phase," and pigheadedness.

Recent intensive and exhausting studies on the part of the writer have discovered the true root of this parental problem.

Out of a group of ten bright young children, only an incredible three in ten knew what a New Year's resolution was.

Even more astonishing was the discovery that, out of this small number of children, only one actually seemed interested in discussing the life-changing, illuminating experiences that are annual resolutions. The others, much to the detriment of the human race in general, expressed only a desire to return to their cupcakes.

However, after being coerced with promises of extra icing, the enlightened three who actually grasped what we would be speaking of were separated from their respective pastries, and convinced to give their opinions on this vitally important topic.

When asked to describe her understanding of the New Year's resolution concept, Amaris, age six, answered, "It's a thing where your parents say to do the dishes for all of 2009." This promising answer, of course, led to the question of whether she, too, would infinitely improve herself in this manner. She replied, "That's stupid."

Another six-year-old, Lauren, smiled brightly when hopes were expressed that she might enlighten us as to her definition of a New Year's resolution, but she was unable to comment. When asked if she had made any herself, her answer was a highly expressive explosion of giggles, and what may have been a nod in the affirmative.

All hope was not lost, however, because next in line was McKenzie, aged five. She, too, seemed to find the idea of New Year's resolutions (and being quoted) quite hilarious, but was able to explain that the concept was, "Bad. No, cool. No, bad. No, cool, cool, cool, cool, cool." This enthusiasm was quite heartening after the wasteland of appreciation for ancient international traditions.

However, one wunderkind's enthusiasm is not enough. If you care about the continued development of the human race, we beg you to educate your children about the importance, the cultural celebration, the veritable life-changer that is a New Year's resolution. The world depends on you.

Lauren Manske

Verse of the Month:

Instruct a wise man and he will be wiser still;
teach a righteous man and he will add to his learning.

Proverbs 9:9

Land of the Free

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Stacie Bright's brother-in-law Brandon Bright, who has been in the Air Force for six years, is stationed in Phoenix, Arizona. Mrs. Bright says, "I have a sense of pride for those who serve in our armed forces. My husband was in the military, and having someone close to you who is in the military deepens your respect for all military men and women."

Mrs. Bright's cousin Rusty has been in the Air Force for 26 years. He is a pilot stationed in Tennessee. "The military is a neat place. Everyone there is like one big family, caring for each other," Mrs. Bright said. "Thomas has to leave behind his wife and kids when he goes off to do military-related things and he is gone for long periods of time."

Many great men and women sacrifice much every day so that we may be free. Let's remember to say "thank you" to all those fighting to keep us free and to keep them in our prayers.

- *Maverick Moses*

The Clipboard

The annual **Homeschool Formal** is approaching. Early registration ends January 31, 2009, but late registration is available. Mandatory dance lessons, a fine dinner, a keepsake photograph, fun music, dance cards and friends are perfect ingredients for an evening to remember. For more information, go to the website: www.christianhomeschoolformal.info.

It's not too late to sign up for the **2009 One Day Academy graduation**, scheduled for Saturday, May 23 at the Church of Glad Tidings. For more information, contact Patti Ashley at p.ashley@onedayacademy.com.

If your student is graduating with One Day Academy in 2009, please consider joining our **2009 ODA Graduation Fellowship Group**. Our goal is to help the graduates develop lasting friendships. We have several events (many are low cost or free) in the planning stages. For more information, contact Beckye Estill at bestillandknowthatHeisGod@gmail.com or Susan Peisker at s.peisker@onedayacademy.com.

Join the **Psalm 91 ministry** and pray for the One Day Academy staff. Contact ministry coordinator Contact Tom Schoeneck at 512-785-9897 or t.schoeneck@onedayacademy.com.

Go to www.onedayacademy.com for a complete listing of One Day Academy activities, and for links to homeschool groups that partner with ODA.

Academic Fair

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partment of Health, was the distinguished guest speaker for the academic fair. Dr. Sweet, who is known by many for his love of young people and his ministry to them, spoke to the students about how "science is the search for truth."

Dr. Sweet said it takes time to reach one's goals. Also, it is very unlikely that one will be like Albert Einstein and develop a theory that astounds the world, but one should still try one's hardest.

"Math is very important; you should take as much as you can, even if you don't like math or aren't very good at math." Dr. Sweet also talked about the practicality of science students taking business classes so they will be able to manage people and budgets.

Most importantly, having faith, principles and confidence will help one reach one's goals. Dr. Sweet ended his speech by saying, "I hope you have great careers, and that many of you go into science."

Participants offered mutual comments of appreciation for the fair's success. Many were grateful to One Day Academy and Crestview Baptist Church, in addition to Mrs. Ashley and Karen Depwe for their efforts to make the fair a success.

Mrs. Ashley thanked all the judges who gave time to help the students, including Dr. Chuck Hayes, whose 30 years' experience as head of the Physics Department at the University of Hawaii was greatly appreciated.

Student participants were exemplary in their behavior, Mrs. Ashley said, and several judges commented on how patiently they waited for their turn to be judged.

Next year's Academic Fair is expected to be even more exciting. Mrs. Ashley hopes that there will be more contestants, and she has planned additional events, such as a History Bee, a Spelling Bee, and a Bible Bee.

- *Michaela Hood*



Dripping Springs Campus Administrator Melissa Huff, a graphic artist, assesses an art division entrant's work at the academic fair. *Photo by Laura Peisker*



Dr. Charles Sweet addresses the crowd at the 2009 One Day Academy Academic Fair. *Photo by Laura Peisker*

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