



JAMES O. JESSIE DESERT HIGHLAND UNITY CENTER

COMMUNITY NEWS

Desert Highland/Gateway Monthly Newsletter

February 2018

February is Black History Month here in the United States. February is also one of the busiest months for the staff at the James O. Jessie Desert Highland Unity Center (JOJDHUC). The JOJDHUC staff not only work the programs and services here at the Center, we also organize many of the events during Black History Month here in the Valley. In this month's issue of the "Community News" newsletter you will see a list of activities and events that are being held during the month of February. I am personally encouraging all to take advantage of the 31st Annual Black History month parade and the many events happening during Black History Month here in the City of Palm Springs and the Coachella Valley and want you to remember that "Black History is American History".

WORDS OF THE MONTH

A quote from Booker T. Washington stated, "I have learned that success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which he has had to overcome while trying to succeed."



COMMUNITY NEWS STAFF

Editor

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Visit the Desert Highland Web Site at

www.palmspringsca.gov

To contact "Community News," call (760) 416-5716

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BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2018

The Palm Springs Black History Committee is actively seeking participants for the **31st Annual Parade and Town Fair on February 24**. We are looking for spectators and even possible parade participants. Following the parade there will be a Town Fair where we are looking for vendors as well as on-stage performers. The Parade starts at 11:00 a.m. and the Town Fair is from noon to 6:00 p.m. and will feature on field performances live entertainment and amusement rides for all. Come out to Frances Stevens Park and enjoy the day.

Applications are being accepted for the **Tiny Tot's and Lil Miss' Pageant** in conjunction with Black History Month. The Tiny Tot's portion of the pageant is open to girls and boys 0-4 years of age. The Lil Miss portion is open to girls ages 5-12. We are in need of volunteer escorts for each contestant. If you can help, please contact Linda Gray at 760-323-8271.

Other events are listed as follows:

February 3, 2018 - Annual Awards Gala, 6:00 p.m. at the Palm Springs Hilton

February 10, 2018 - Adult Basketball Tournament
Registration starts at 9:00 a.m. and tip off at 10:15 a.m. at the James O. Jessie Desert Highland Unity Center.

February 11, 2018 - The Artists and Their Works at the Palm Springs Art Museum at 2:30 p.m.

February 24, 2018 - 31st Annual Parade and Town Fair in beautiful Downtown Palm Springs at 11:00 a.m.

DRILL TEAM & DRUM SQUAD

Drill team is now getting ready for our Black History parade so we will be practicing every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 4pm to 6pm. We have incorporated a dance group that will be practicing with us to get prepared for the Black History Town Fair performance. Make sure to come show your support to our youth of today because they are our tomorrow future.

BLACK HISTORY COMMITTEE PAGEANT

Applications are being accepted for the up coming 2018 pageant at the Palm Springs Pavilion, Saturday, March 17, 2018 at 5:00 – 9:00. The Pageant is sponsored by the Palm Springs Black History Committee and the James O. Jessie Desert Highland Unity Center. The Lil Miss and Lil Mr. portion of the pageant is opened to elementary ages, 6 – 11 years. The Tiny tots consist of the boys and girls ranging from ages, 3 – 5 years.

We are excited to inform you of our new division. The Beautiful Baby Division!!! This division gives the opportunity to introduce our babies and give them the chance to be Lil princesses and Lil princes for the day. For more information please contact Linda Gray at 760-323-8271.

UPCOMING JOJDHUC ACTIVITIES

After School Homework/Tutoring: Monday through Thursday from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Staff assists youth with their school work.

Drill Team and Drum Squad: Every week practice is held from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursday.

Early Childhood Literacy Program: Every Monday through Thursday from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Staff teaches Pre-K students the fundamentals that prepare them for kindergarten.

Pickle ball: Held every day from 10:00 a.m. through 1:00 p.m. in the Gymnasium

Sewing Class: Open to ages 10 and up, the class is held twice, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and then again at 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., every Friday.

Workout Wednesdays: Youth do their homework and then do a facilitated workout from 1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. every Wednesday.

Youth Encouragement Program (YEP): Youth in grades 6th – 12th participate in uplifting/motivational sessions from 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. every Thursday.

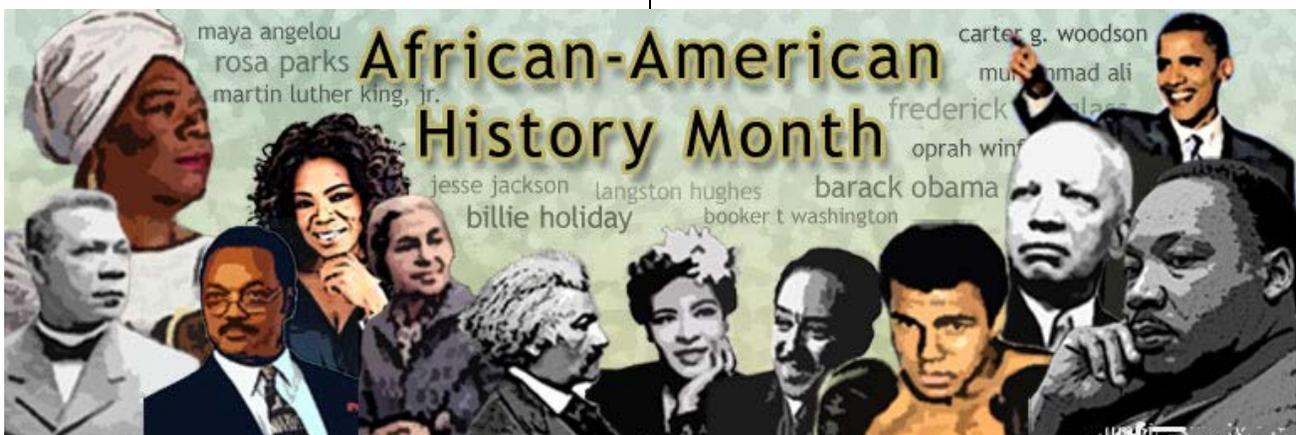
Start today, make today, wear it tomorrow learn to sew and enjoy the complements you get when you start created you own design of clothing for yourself and others if you like. For the month of February we will be learn to quilt. We will be making a quilt form old jeans. Come learn the history of what has been pasted down from generations. The class will be from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. to 6pm every Friday. Participant ages are 10 years old to adult come enjoy the yourself and lets have so fun. Participants will be required to get a membership; the cost is \$5 for the year.

WORKOUT WEDNESDAYS & YOUTH BASKETBALL

Now that football is over Workout Wednesdays has continued. We want to get right back to training bodies and muscles with games and light-weight training. It's so much fun to see our youth play a cooperative collective activity that teaches them to have team work, good sportsmanship and leadership, along with increasing strength and social skills. We have two coaches on staff with 30 plus years of coaching experience in sports.

Your child can become a member with a \$5 Membership Fee. Participants have access to the computer lab to do their homework and then workout from 1:30 p.m. - 2:30 p.m., giving everyone the chance to be home at a reasonable time. Join us for Workout Wednesdays in our air-conditioned facility, or just come hang out in a safe, staff- supervised environment.

Youth Basketball has begun. In January we started practicing for a couple of weeks and after seeing participation we have locked down practice days of every Wednesday & Friday from 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. We will have games according to future schedules. So, come on down and get involved with our community for our Youth Basketball. Any questions speak with Coach Angie Cannady or Coach Will Pellum.



SEWING CLASS