



JAMES O. JESSIE DESERT HIGHLAND UNITY CENTER

COMMUNITY NEWS

Desert Highland/Gateway Monthly Newsletter

March 2020

MESSAGE FROM THE MANAGER

We have “leaped” out of February and are now marching in to the month of March! The City of Palm Springs and the Palm Springs Black History Committee would like to thank all that came out and supported the month-long events. From the Annual Awards Gala to the 33rd Annual Parade and Town Fair, all events were a success. This year’s Black History Month Theme: “African Americans and the Vote” highlighted the importance of voting back in the 1960s and how important it is to vote now.

I personally want to thank the James O. Jessie Desert Highland Unity Center Staff and volunteers that gave a helping hand with all the activities during Black History Month 2020.

WORDS OF THE MONTH

 Kobe Bryant once stated, “The most important thing is to try and inspire people so that they can be great in whatever they want to do.” Remember to be an encourager and not a discourager to those that you see.

COMMUNITY NEWS STAFF

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Visit the

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Web Site at: www.palmsprings-ca.gov

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

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NEWEST STAFF AT JOJDHUC

The James O. Jessie Desert Highland Unity Center would like to welcome our newest staff, Mr. Brian Jackson. Brian stated, “Working here at JOJDHUC is a dream come true. I’ve always participated in programs here from childhood to adulthood. I look forward to bringing new ideas and helping the City and my Community strive for excellence.”



JR. NBA 3-ON-3 BASKETBALL LEAGUE

Our Jr. NBA Basketball 3-On-3 League is having their first travel game at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, March 6, 2020, against Cahuilla Elementary. Then, from 5:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m. on March 12, 2020, we will be having our end-of-the-season celebration party. Thanks to all the youth for a great season and hope to see you next season.

FREE FOOD GIVEAWAY

Please join us March 12 and 26, 2020, for the FREE food giveaway at 5:30 p.m. in the JOJDHUC parking lot. Foods range from meats and even produce.

MATURE ADULT PROGRAM

February has ended and the Mature Adult Program (MAP) had a lovely time riding in the Black History Parade. The class is currently planning their next outing to the Museum of Ancient Wonders. Participants are still working on their Family Tree and planning a video viewing to present to their families. The Mature Adults Program meets every Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. with our staff Ms. Angie Cannady.

DRILL TEAM, DRUM SQUAD & DANCE CLUB

The James O. Jessie Desert Highland Unity Center Drill Team and Drum Squad has had a fun season, and as it comes to an end, their last performance will be at the ONE-PS picnic on March 21, 2020.

The Dance Club at JOJDHUC is a program added last year, with performances at the City's Breakfast with Santa and VillageFest, just to name a couple. The season will be ending with a combined Dance, Drill Team, and Drum Squad party from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. on March 24, 2020. We look forward to a great and exciting new season in September.

MLB PITCH, HIT & RUN

The JOJDHUC is hosting the annual MLB Pitch, Hit & Run Skills Competition at 4:30 p.m. on April 15, 2020. The age limit is 7 years to 14 years old. Join us for the fun and show your skills. Please feel free to come to JOJDHUC, or do your signups are online at: <https://pitchhitrun2020.leagueapps.com/events/1485115>

SOUL LINE DANCING

Soul Line Dancing class will begin again at 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on April 7, 2020. Let's have some fun while we learn new dance steps. Weekly classes are held from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

UNITED STATES CENSUS

On March 12, 2020, Census forms will be sent to every residence in the United States. When you receive yours, answer the questions and mail the form back in the postage-paid envelope provided.

The Census will help communities receive billions in federal funds each year for things like hospitals, schools, senior centers, emergency services, and public works projects.

The data collected by the Census can also help determine the number of seats your state has in the U.S. House of Representatives. Remember, it's in our hands to be counted!

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 schoolwork.

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.

Pickleball: Courts available every day from 10:00 a.m. through 1:00 p.m. in the Gymnasium

Sewing Class: Open to ages 10 years and up, the class is held from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 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 6 – 12 participate in uplifting/motivational sessions held 4:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. every Thursday.

EARLY CHILDHOOD LITERACY PROGRAM

The Early Childhood Literacy Program is in session, serving the communities with the effort to prepare our early learners for a great head start in preschool and kindergarten. This is a community-based program held Monday through Thursday, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., designed to jumpstart your child with activities such as learning shapes, colors, number recognition, pre-reading, prewriting skills, outdoor play, and opportunities for socialization. The group also attends the field trips to the library and other fun locations. Parents are actively involved with parent meetings, field trips, and much more. For more information please call the Center at (760) 323- 8271 and ask for Mrs. Gray.

COMMUNITY ACTION MEETING

Attention members, the next Community Meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the James O. Jessie Desert Highland Unity Center Community Room on Tuesday, March 3, 2020.

Digital Newsletter list

The JOJDHUC Newsletter is now digital. We are offering our newsletter through email and would like to have your email address to place on our email list. Please respond by calling 760-416-5715.