




JAMES O. JESSIE DESERT HIGHLAND UNITY CENTER

COMMUNITY NEWS

Desert Highland/Gateway Monthly Newsletter

May 2019

MESSAGE FROM THE MANAGER

The James O. Jessie Desert Highland Unity Center (JOJDHUC) has made it to social media. The City of Palm Springs Parks & Recreation Department has a Facebook Page which showcases the great programs, events and activities that are organized by the department. With this newly added informational tool, we invite you to please  like us.

WORDS OF THE MONTH



George Washington Carver once said, *“How far you go in life depends on your being tender with the young, compassionate with the aged, sympathetic with the striving, and tolerant of the weak and strong. Because someday in your life you will have been all of these.”*

We must keep in mind that we need to treat people the way we to want to be treated.

COMMUNITY NEWS STAFF

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MATURE ADULT PROGRAM

Have you heard about the Mature Adult Program at the James O. Jessie Desert Highland Unity Center? If not, now is the time to join us!

This month the Mature Adult Program will be visiting the Living Desert on Wednesday, May 8, 2019. The cost is only \$15 per person, and includes a guided, ride along tour of the entire park.

If you, or anyone you know, would like to be a part of the program, we meet every Wednesday from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the JOJDHUC.

ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

Each year, the James O. Jessie Desert Highland Unity Center holds a special appreciation dinner for our youth. This year we will be handing out awards to those who participated in Drill Team/Drum Squad, track & field, and other programs. Also, we are presenting special recognition awards to youth that have gone above and beyond in their activities. Everyone is invited to share this special day with the kids. The banquet will be at **5:00 p.m.** on **Friday, May 24, 2019.**

BASKETBALL TRIP WITH LA SPARKS

Have you ever seen a professional WNBA Basketball Team? Join us on a trip to watch the Los Angeles Sparks practice on **May 18, 2019**, at Santiago High School in Corona. While watching the Sparks, youth have a chance at winning jerseys, basketballs, and other raffle prizes. The cost is only \$10.00 per person. Let's have some fun while watching the pros in action!

FREE TDAP TESTING

Does your son or daughter need to get a TDAP test? If so, Borrego Health is offering FREE testing at the following locations:

- May 8 - Painted Hills Middle School from 1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.,
- May 22 - James Workman Middle School from 1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.,
- May 23 - Cielo Vista Charter from 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

LITTLE MISS PAGEANT

The JOJDHUC, along with the Palm Springs Black History Committee, held the 2019 Black History Little Miss Pageant at the Palm Springs Pavilion on Saturday, April 20, 2019.

Escorted by our young boys were 12 beautiful girls ranging in ages 2 to 11 years old reciting poetry, modeling, and entertaining the crowd.

Trophies, tiaras, and gift bags were awarded to Calyse Walton, Kerrielle Rose, Caliana Walton, Caleeah Walton, Jada Francois, Jayanna Cannady-Childress, Ah'Lani Baker, Aakiylah Cowsert, Emerald Skelton Booty, Serenity Colon Booty, Cynthia Curtis, and Keyviah Harris.

SOUL LINE DANCING

Soul Line Dancing has the latest songs for you to dance to; the first song is “Work it out” by Tucka and the other is “Just Fine” by Mary J. Blige. All participants ages 6 years to adult are welcome. Classes are currently held from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

CONGRATS TO TRACK TEAM

The JOJ Staff would like to congratulate all the John Carlos Track Meet participants. We appreciate you representing our Center, and thanks to the staff; Ms. Angie and Ms. Ann for all their help.

We also want to congratulate our Palm Springs High School Varsity Boys Track Team for placing 1st overall in Division 2 at the 48th Annual Janice Kelly Southland Invitational.

HEALTH SURVEY

The Health Assessment & Resource for Communities (HARC) group is conducting their 2019 Coachella Valley Community Health Survey. Valley residents will be randomly called and asked a series of questions about their health, and information gathered from this survey will be used to identify the most pressing health needs and bring the necessary resources to the valley. HARC is a non-profit research organization in Palm Desert, and the survey calls will come from Kent State University on their behalf. Each week one participant will be selected in a random drawing to win \$100. If you have questions, please visit www.HARCdata.org.

MLB PITCH, HIT & RUN

On April 10, 2019, at the JOJDHUC we held our annual Pitch, Hit and Run Skills Event, which is a qualifier for the regional level of the competition in Menifee. With over 20 players signed up and quite a few walk-ins, our attendance was pushed to over 30 participants this year. We had five youth advance to the regionals, which was held on **April 27, 2019**, in Menifee, California.

SEWING CLASS

This month's focus will be on how to sew a skirt and shorts, because summer is just around the corner. We also invite you to bring individual projects, if you have something that you need help sewing our staff can assist. The class is offered from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., and 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., every Friday. Ages 10 years to adult are welcome. We supply the sewing machines and you bring thread. If you don't know how to use the machine, we will teach you.

COMMUNITY ACTION MEETING

Attention Desert Highland Gateway Estates community members! The next Community Meeting will be held in the JOJDHUC Community Room at 7:00 p.m. on **Tuesday, May 14, 2019**.