MULE CREEK POST

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Librarian
the original search engine

Ione, California [illegible] [illegible]

To Our Readers

By [illegible]
Editor-in-Chief

WELCOME TO YOUR February Mule Creek Post. This month we look forward to meeting Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) President [illegible] at the February [illegible] education summit and roundtable event, sponsored by the Feather River College chapter, [illegible], and the Social Justice [illegible] Club. The PTK Regional Coordinator, Dr. [illegible], professor [illegible], Warden P. Covello and many notable academics and Mule Creek administrators and dignitaries will attend to celebrate and highlight the importance of education in the rehabilitative process.

In this issue, Feature Reporter [illegible] shares the compelling and inspiring story of [illegible], whose faith led to a [illegible] [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] (page [illegible]). We'll also find out the origins of Valentine's Day and how Mule Creekers are managing love and marriage, with reporters A. Rios and F. Lee, and [illegible] explores some interesting historical facts to celebrate during Black History Month.

Dale Reed investigates Governor Newsom's hope to close a California prison, and [illegible] outlines new laws in effect for 2020 (page [illegible]). Arts in Corrections' [illegible] [illegible] teaching the [illegible], and [illegible] explains gaming in "Tabletop Gaming."

We'll look at novel writing and look at journalism in the Writing Post, and share some information on starting a prison newspaper.

It's a jam-packed issue, something to accompany your Chef's [illegible] pizza recipe from [illegible] in Mule Creek's Kitchen. We hope you enjoy.

Did You Know?

A Look at African-Americans' Inventive Contributions

By Isaac "[illegible]" Neal
Post Reporter

EVERY YEAR IN February, Americans celebrate and commemorate Black History Month. It's a time to learn about notable Americans of African descent who endured and fought to end slavery, or championed the causes of civil rights and equal rights. Did you know Black History Month is about more than that? Did you know many African-Americans made significant contributions to the way of life that all Americans enjoy today?

In the late 1930s, Frederick McKinley Jones invented what he called "the portable x-ray machine" — actually a refrigerator for military field kitchens — and refrigeration techniques that were applied to railroad cars and trucks. Previous refrigeration models were too big, so Jones reduced the size and started his own company, the Thermo Control Company, with Joseph Numero. Their company manufactured automatic air coolers for trains, ships, and airplanes in order to keep food fresh. Jones even developed ways to keep the air surrounding food at a constant temperature so that fruits wouldn't dry out or go bad before they hit the supermarkets. Just think of all the fruits that do not grow in America: bananas, mangos, and papayas, among others, and we get to enjoy them because of Jones' invention.

Another great African-American inventor was Garrett Augustus Morgan (1877-1963), who

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California Governor Gavin Newsom signing legislation.

Governor Wants to Close One Prison

By D. Reed
Post Reporter

"I WOULD LIKE to see in my lifetime and hopefully my tenure, that we shut down a state prison," said California Governor Gavin Newsom to the *Fresno Bee* editorial board in November. This statement came as part of a broader conversation on criminal justice reform. Matthew Cate, former secretary of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), remarked that while closing a prison is ambitious for Newsom's tenure, it might be possible over two terms. "By the end of his second [term] I think it could be done, and I think it is something he could rightfully be proud of."

A driving force behind Newsom's goal is that closing a prison would save the state a lot of money. According to the *Sacramento Bee*, California's correctional system had a 2019-2020 budget of $[illegible] billion. By comparison, the state spent $[illegible] billion on the University of California and California State University systems for the same period.

Although the state has reduced the prison population by [illegible] over the past decade, chairman of the assembly budget committee Assemblyman Phil Ting (D-San Francisco) says that the prison budget has increased. In the [illegible] budget, the CDCR allocated $[illegible] billion with about [illegible] staff positions. The current $[illegible] billion covers [illegible] department staff positions.

According to The Associated Press, a state-commissioned study by a private consulting firm found that [illegible] of California's prisons are in need of repair or replacement. For instance, the estimated cost to repair the California Medical Facility in Vacaville (built in [illegible]) is $[illegible] million. The study indicates that overdue maintenance is estimated at more than $[illegible] billion.

Moving away from punishment towards strengthening prevention programs, enhancing rehabilitation, and providing reentry assistance is

Continued on Page [illegible]

Celebrating Valentine's Day:

History, Traditions, Poetry, and Facts

By A. Rios
[illegible]

VALENTINE'S DAY ORIGINATED as a western Christian feast day that honored one or possibly two early saints named Valentinus. Also called Saint Valentine's Day or the Feast of Saint Valentine, it is celebrated annually on February 14, and is recognized as a significant cultural, religious, and commercial celebration of romance and romantic love in many regions around the world.

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