MULE CREEK POST

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FIRST BLACK COCK MARINE
Reginald Perkins becomes wrangler at San Quentin in 1952.
Page 7



INFLUENTIAL LEADER MALCOLM X
Read part of A'Lelia's African-American Heritage Month speech on page 6.
Page 6

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To Our Readers

By R. Blake Smith
Editor-in-Chief

WELCOME TO YOUR February Mule Creek Post, our African American Heritage Month special edition. This year we are taking a look at some of the most inspiring and influential African-American people in history, such as acclaimed aviator Bessie Coleman (beginning on this page), soldier, public servant, and businessman Colin Powell (pg. 6), prominent Chamber Bill (pg. 5). We also meet the men's first Black warden (pg. 5), and inspire into what African-American Heritage Month means to Mule Creek residents (first page).

We took a somewhat timely beginning with the new environment Executive Training class being offered (pg. 3) and also find out what inmate labor makes (pg. 7). Playwright Ron Kuby talks play production in "The Writing Post" (pg. 4), and Edward Garcia talks to us about completing the manuscript for his debut novel, *The Midnight Song* (pg. 4).

We travel back to the Vietnam War in "The Engineer's Notebook" (pg. 6), investigate the complex and fascinating topic of PTSD (pg. 5), and learn about building model guns in inmate hobby (pg. 11).

We'd like to acknowledge and thank inmate-blogger Mesquite and his co-facilitator, ex-Facility B co-facilitator Brett Jeffersonian Gardening work, both thanks to the many activity, news and letters of support from all of you who have taken time to share your thoughts and best wishes. It is our humble privilege to be a part of a community that continues to strive and excel, we look forward to your input and inspiring stories for inclusion in future issues of your Mule Creek Post.

Journalism Training Program Developing at Mule Creek

By Chris Brinkmann
Post Contributor

COMMUNITY RESOURCE MANAGER Laura Friedman drew a standstill to the floor of the Mule Creek Post in October when he asked, "Can you guys do a journalism training course?" So far, that unleashed on to 20th year of publishing the rest, with over 60 editions published and what looks like nothing but good things ahead, the answer was simple: "I'll [name] on 'Whole-hearted-ly!'"

Mule Creek Warden Patrick Covello, lieutenants and other administrators had been discussing ways to foster correspondence between the other yards and inmate and have expenses in the Post's operations, and decided on the training course. The intent is to be able to provide prospective training in prospective inquiries and writers, and potentially qualified recruited inmates to the other yards at Mule Creek State Prison and other institutions as well.

Mule Creek Post editors have been working on the lessons plan since the October meeting, developing the Incarcerated Journalism Training (IJT) course. The curriculum consists of 10 lessons, and Administrative Lieutenant Covello announced those who participate in the training.

"[If] grads will have everything they need to know to become qualified journalists," said Post reporter Christopher Brown. "They'll even be able to submit material to outside newspapers and other mainstream media. Prison journalism is taking off right now. Stories from inside are just as worthy as anything you have. And who better to report on prison issues than prisoners?" Correctional Counselor II, Librarian, the one-person story. "I believe this training is going to open up a whole new aspect to personal rehabilitation. It builds self-esteem and shows what participants are capable of. There's always been a lot of interest. I've got a list of prospective candidates two pages long."

Classes are limited to 20 to 25 participants, and candidates must be disciplined free for at least 12 months to be eligible. Those who are interested should send applications to 1113 Administration Building.



Bessie Coleman, known as the "Queen Bess" of aviation, was the first Black woman to earn her pilot's license and one of the first Native American women to learn how to fly. Coleman was working as a manicurist in Texas when she met a pilot who inspired her to learn how to fly. Coleman died in a plane crash in 1926 at the age of 34.

Having Pride and Facing the Future During African-American Heritage Month

By Christopher Brown
Post Reporter
and Sean Mack
Post Reporter

IN CELEBRATION THE significance of African-American Heritage Month, a new piece of artwork to describe the social and cultural progress made. America is seemingly a place of constant change in perspective and attitudes. However, as important to the attitude of America toward Black Americans is the acknowledgment, progress, of racial importance in the attitude of Blacks toward America. While maintaining new foundations and advancing cultural values, the achievements of the present generations still seem to lack a sense of satisfaction with being Black in America, similar to the generations before them.

Recent events become an example of the ongoing need to solidify a position of equality for Black Americans in social, educational, and in general environments. Despite being events such as George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Trayvon Martin, Breonna Wright, and Ahmaud Arbery, [illegible] the unresolved images of protests from across America and beyond. In 1910, Jane Locke, assistant professor of philosophy at Howard University, wrote:

> We make our own goals on the basis of what's possible, and what's possible rests on the goals we've made. Social opportunity is always a product of social struggle.

Nearly 100 years later, the sentiment is fitting of today's social climate. Another blade of a Black Awakening on the rise of Lincolnite Rises to tolerance, even with law enforcement should not be the sole impetus for Americans to unite in those efforts toward racial equality. The advent of social media has presented all Americans an opportunity to become conscious contributors to social gains.

Continually, following generations of oppression and suppression, Black Americans today are also shown themselves as more than reminders of the negative self-perceptions imposed upon

Continued on Page 6

"Queen Bess" First Female Black Aviator

By Clarence "Talib" Roberts
Mule Creek Post Staff

QUEEN BESS WAS recently used a segment about an early American aviator named Bessie Coleman. Hearing a name other than Amelia Earhart in connection with female pioneers of aviation struck me as peculiar. Earhart was the only name I could recall hearing about in this context. The segment aired on [illegible] stations when I learned that Bessie Coleman was the first African-American woman and first Native American to earn a pilot's license.

I began thinking about the way we really [illegible] grade history teacher would refer to diverse African-American pioneers of American history. Whenever I broached the topic, he would freely admit that the topic was outside the scope of the curriculum. As the library Coleman story progressed, I found myself reflecting back on that ninth grade history class, wishing I could have revisited her in evidence overthrowing the preeminence of African-American pioneers. By the end of the segment, I was overwhelmed of the forgiveness of historical diversity and inclusion, and concerned how many other Bessie Colemans

Continued on Page 6

In This Issue

Cooperation with the Warden: New Environmental Program 2
Welcoming Military Veterans to Mule Creek Men 2
Re-Entering Post Supervising Reentry to Work 3
Rehabilitation through Writing Grants Incarceration 3
PREA: No Longer Acceptable Activity Guides 3
Environmental Specialist Gardening Gardening 4
Environmental Specialist Gardening Gardening 4
Inmate Hobby Makes a Comeback 5
Inmate Hobby Makes a Comeback 5
Inmate Hobby Makes a Comeback 5
Inmate Hobby Makes a Comeback 5
Inmate Hobby Makes a Comeback 5
Inmate Hobby Makes a Comeback 5
Inmate Hobby Makes a Comeback 5
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