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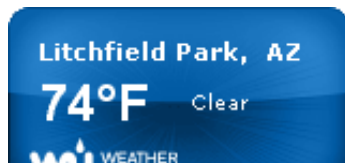
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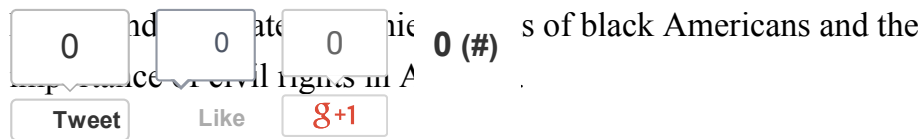
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Black History Month celebrated at EMCC

Submitted by West Valley View on Tue, 02/03/2015 - 12:00am

Throughout the month of February, EstrellaMountainCommunity College will hold a series of special events to recognize Black History



The national theme for 2015 is “A Century of Black Life, History, and Culture” in honor of the genesis of the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History, now the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH).

The association was founded in 1915 by Carter G. Woodson who labored under the belief that historical truth would crush falsehoods and usher in a new era of equality, opportunity and racial democracy.

The college, at 3000 N. Dysart Road, Avondale, will hold the following free events throughout the month:

- A Black History Month kickoff and reception, featuring Artist Rhonda Shakur, will run from 1 to 2:30 p.m. today at the Plaza Gallery. Attendees can learn about the activities planned to celebrate Black History Month, and will have the opportunity to meet Shakur and the Black History Month Planning Committee. A guided art walk will follow with Shakur explaining her works. Light refreshments will be served.
- The Black History Month art exhibit titled “Se` to Soeurs” by Shakur will be on display today through Feb. 28 at Komatke and Estrella halls. Shakur is the featured artist for Black History Month 2015. “Se` to Soeurs” means “Sister to Sisters” in Creole and French. Shakur uses a process she refers to as fine art in wood dimensions, consisting of layers of scenes, cut and constructed from recycled wood, hand-sanded, and hand-painted to create large standing art work.
- A discussion of the book *A Lesson Before Dying* by Ernest Gaines will run from noon to 1 p.m. Feb. 18 at the Center for Teaching & Learning. Published in 1993, the novel won the National Book Critics Circle Award for fiction, was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize, and was the October 1997 choice of Oprah’s Book Club. It was later adapted into a HBO movie, which received an Emmy and Peabody award. The book gives a unique outlook on the status of blacks in the South after World War II and before the Civil Rights Movement.
- The EMCC Maricopa Council of Black American Affairs

(MCBAA), in partnership with the Women's Leadership Group (WLG), will host Maricopa County Community College District Chancellor Rufus Glasper for "What's Your Story?" from 9 to 10 a.m. Feb. 19 in the Estrella Conference Center. Glasper will share his journey, lessons learned and advice for attendees, followed by a question-and-answer session.

- A black history conference will take place from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Feb. 26 in the Estrella Conference Center. The conference will cover various aspects of black history through a series of guest presentations and break-out sessions. Attendees can select among various topics and workshops.

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