

Community Coalition for Social Justice
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MISSION STATEMENT: The Community Coalition for Social Justice is a coalition of organizations and individuals dedicated to promoting the principles of social, environmental, and economic justice and respect for all persons. We oppose discrimination and hate-motivated violence in Morgantown and surrounding communities.

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING AND MEMBERSHIP: The Steering Committee will next meet at Panera's on Monday, March 11th @ 7:00 pm. The meeting room is reserved for the entire year.

Please send your web site suggestions to Mike Attfield at attfield@comcast.net. Please contact any of the steering committee members to volunteer to help and to share your suggestions for our work or e-mail us at ccsjwv@hotmail.com. Please send items to share with our membership to Barb Howe at barbara.howe@mail.wvu.edu.

PLEASE ALSO REMEMBER TO SEND YOUR DUES - \$5 for individuals and \$25 for organizations – to CCSJ, PO Box 160, Morgantown, WV 26507-0160.

“Y.E.R.T (YOUR ENVIRONMENTAL ROAD TRIP)” TO BE SHOWN AT WVU COLLEGE OF LAW ON APRIL 3: CCSJ is cooperating with the Monongalia Friends Meeting, Monongahela Chapter of the Sierra Club, Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship, WVU Law School Center for Energy and Sustainable Development, and YOTT2013 (Year of the Tree) to sponsor a showing of this award-winning film at 6:30 pm in the Lugar Courtroom. Admission is free, and there is plenty of free parking. We are very pleased that producer Mark Dixon will be with us to show the film and lead the discussion.

Please help us publicize this opportunity by distributing the following press release and learn more at www.yert.com:

Bewildering predictions about our planet's future? What to do? Film producer Mark Dixon packs his camera and two friends into a car.

Their goal: "50 States. 1 Year. Zero Garbage". Called to action by a planet in crisis, the three friends hit the road, with hope, humor -and all of their trash - to explore America, the good, bad, and weird, in search of innovators tackling humanity's greatest environmental challenges in this award-winning docu-comedy.

Author Jeff Biggers says in Huffington Post, "The Fellini trio of the climate justice movement, the YERT film crew has managed to pull off the impossible in the world of cinema--a deeply absorbing and often hilarious road trip that confronts the badlands of our nation's spiraling descent into dirty energy darkness, only to emerge along the solar roadways and wind-swept plains into the myriad possibilities for new power and sustainable living. By the dramatic end of Your Environmental Road Trip, audiences will not only cheer, but feel compelled to spring to their feet to join an inspiring movement for change. If only our nation's policymakers will watch this important film and do the same."

A dynamic speaker, Mark will also introduce Transition Towns, a fast-growing energy descent and

re-localization, global sustainable community movement. Mark is a founder of Pittsburgh Transitions. Learn more about this at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transition_Towns

CCSJ SUPPORTS FAIRNESS WEST VIRGINIA CAMPAIGN TO END DISCRIMINATION IN HOUSING AND EMPLOYMENT: CCSJ has signed up as a supporter for the campaign to pass The Employment and Housing Nondiscrimination Act (EHNDA). This act will add "sexual orientation" and "gender identity" to the categories of people protected by West Virginia's laws prohibiting discrimination in housing, employment, and public accommodations. By endorsing, your organization believes: All hard working people in our state, including transgender people, should have the chance to earn a living and provide for themselves and their families. Nobody should have to live in fear that they can be legally fired for reasons that have nothing to do with their job performance. A person's sexual orientation or gender identity has nothing to do with their qualifications as a good renter or home buyer. If your organization also supports this effort, you can sign on at <https://docs.google.com/a/fairnesswv.org/spreadsheet/viewform?formkey=dEtCT2R3bGZGOVE5STFZNXAzZUVzQ0E6MQ>

LOCAL NEWS

WVU CECILIA ROLLINS BROWN BAG LUNCH FILMS AND DISCUSSIONS IN HONOR OF WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH – ALL AT 11:30 IN THE WVU MOUNTAINLAIR GLUCK THEATRE – FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC:

March 7: Event Description: Based on a short story by Isaac Bashevis Singer and directed by and starring Barbara Streisand, "**Yentl**" tells the story of a young woman who yearns to study, but lives in a culture where study is only for men. Yentl disguises herself as a man in order to get an education, and embarks on a journey of self-discovery that transcends the traditional notions of gender. The film questions the appropriateness of roles, as determined by society. Yentl's defiance of social expectation and her reversal of traditional gender roles crosses deeply rooted religious boundaries, and captures the essence of a woman's struggle between her desire to learn and the tradition of her religion. This film will be presented by Rabbi Zalman, co-director of the Chabad Jewish Student and Community Center.

March 14: Event Description: Receiving renowned acclaim at the 2004 Sundance Film Festival, "**Iron Jawed Angels**" is an American drama that tells the remarkable story of a group of passionate and dynamic young women, led by Alice Paul (Hilary Swank) and her friend Lucy Burns (Frances O'Connor), who put their lives on the line to fight for American women's right to vote in the 1910s. Sacrificing their health, marriages, and the limited amount of freedom they had, these women were imprisoned and force fed after picketing and hunger-striking against war-time president, Woodrow Wilson, but survived to see the results of their efforts with the passage of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution of the United States in 1920. This film will be presented by Dr. Barbara Copenhaver-Bailey, assistant vice president for student success.

March 21: Event Description: An extraordinary, must-see documentary, "**Passionate Politics: The Life and Work of Charlotte Bunch**" explores compelling issues in women's and gender Studies, human rights & global concerns, public policy, government, sociology, political science, social movements, and lesbian, gay, bisexual & transgender studies. Told by the women around the world who have worked with Charlotte Bunch to put women's rights on the global human rights agenda, the film brings Charlotte Bunch's story to life: from idealistic young civil rights organizer, to feminist activist, to internationally recognized leader. This film will be presented by Dr. Ann Oberhauser, professor of geography and director of the Center for Women's and Gender Studies at West Virginia University. For more information on these

programs, contact Debbi Pariser, 304-293-0890 or debbi.pariser@mail.wvu.edu.

WVU AFRICA NIGHT ON MARCH 10 AT 6:00 PM: TALES OF AFRICA 2013: Come and enjoy African food, music, conversation, dance and fashion! The evening will feature a special guest speaker, Mr. Anthony T. Browder, who is a modern day explorer and the first person to lead an American-African archeological expedition to Egypt. This event will be held at the Mountainlair Ballrooms. For further information, contact

Liz Finklea at (304) 293-3498 or liz.finklea@mail.wvu.edu. This event is sponsored by the WVU International Students Organization, Center for Black Culture and Research, Division of Student Affairs, and the Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. Admission is \$10.00 and tickets can be purchased in advance or at the door.

CSA Beginning

Sky Harman, after studying sustainable agriculture for the last three years, has come back to the area. He will be leasing land from the Yoder's Strawberry Farm out near Goshen Rd and starting a new CSA. CSA is a way for families and individuals to subscribe to a farm, pay for 6 months of locally grown organic vegetables and save money! There will be various drop off points once a week (or you can have it delivered for a little extra). <http://www.harmonywv.com/index.htm>

CSA gives the farmers an income they can count on. It gives the rest of us healthy food at a decent price and saves the earth. How good can that be? If you have kids or grandkids you can even take a tour of the farm in season and see where your food comes from, maybe even help pick it.

There are other CSAs around and many of you may already belong, but if you don't, please check out the website below. Most CSAs are already full and you will want to sign up early. (If you sign up by the end of March, there's a discount.)

Finally, please pass this note on to others who might be interested.

Peace to you all, Patsy and Tom Harman <http://www.harmonywv.com/index.htm>

STATE-WIDE NEWS

WEST VIRGINIA WESLEYAN COLLEGE PRESENTS DR. MICHAEL KIMMEL ON MARCH 19 AT 7:00 PM. Dr. Kimmel is the country's preeminent scholar on masculinity and author of *Guyland*, *Misframing Men*, *The Guy's Guide to Feminism*, *Manhood in America*, and *The Gendered Society*. The program will be held in Wesleyan's Performing Arts Center. It is free and open to the public, with a reception to follow in the Greek Room of the Performing Arts Center.

MARCH DIVERSITY CALENDAR FROM ED HORVAT

WOMENS HISTORY MONTH (USA) was initiated by the National Women's History Project (NWHF), a nonprofit educational organization founded in 1980 to "promote gender equity through education about women's diverse lives and accomplishments." The organization was an outgrowth of a 1978 California committee formed to address the lack of inclusion of women's history in the educational curriculum of K-12 schools. In 1981, the NWHF successfully lobbied Congress to declare a Joint Congressional Resolution for "National Women's History Week." Congress expanded the celebration to an entire month in 1987.

CHRISTIANITY – March 1. World Day of Prayer. A world-wide annual day of prayer hosted by

women from Anglican, Orthodox, Protestant, and Roman Catholic traditions.

BAHA'I FAITH – March 2. 'Ala (Loftiness) is the 19th and final month of the Baha'i solar calendar. 'Ala is the time of the 19-day fast (until March 20) in preparation for Naw Ruz. Those of age and in good health abstain from food, drink, and tobacco from sunrise to sunset. The purpose of fasting is to remember one's dependency on God and to learn detachment from material things.

HINDUISM – March 10. Mahashivaratri is dedicated to Shiva, one of the major deities to whom Hindus direct their devotion. The night before the feast, Hindus recite sacred texts, sing and tell stories in honor of this God whose dynamic cosmic dance creates, preserves, destroys and recreates the world.

SCIENTOLOGY – March 13. The birthday of Scientology founder, L. Ron Hubbard (1911).

SIKHISM – March 14. Sikh New Year's Day, beginning of the year 545 of the Nanakshahi Era.

ZOROASTRIANISM – March 16-20. Ghambar Hamaspathmaedem occurs on the intercalary days and celebrates the creation of human beings and commemorates passed souls.

BUDDHISM – March 17-23. Higan-e (to reach the other shore) starts three days before the March (Vernal) Equinox, and finishes three days after that day, continuing for a total of one week. It is a time to honor ancestors and to come together to chant the name of Amida Buddha.

CHRISTIANITY – March 18. (Orthodox Christian Churches following the Julian calendar). Clean Monday, the first day of The Great Fast (or the Great Lent), the 40-day period prior to the beginning of Holy Week, ending with Lazarus Saturday, the day before Palm Sunday. It is the final six weeks of a ten-week period of spiritual discipline, cleansing, and fasting leading up to *Pascha* (Easter) on April 5.

EARTH-BASED SPIRITUALITY – March 20. Ostara celebrates the return of the Goddess-as-Maiden, the courting of the Goddess by the God, and the reawakening of the seeds within the earth touched by the warm glow of the Gods' love.

SHINTO – March 20. Shunki-sorei-sai, the spring memorial service, is held at home altars to revere ancestors as kami. Gravesites are cleaned and purified.

BAHA'I FAITH – March 21. Naw Ruz, New Year 169 BE of the Baha'i Era! Naw Ruz falls on the vernal equinox, symbolizing spiritual growth and renewal. Baha'is feast and celebrate during the evening. The first month of the Baha'i year is Baha (Splendor). Baha'is name their months and days with Arabic names for attributes of God.

ZOROASTRIANISM – March 21. Now Ruz (New Day) is New Year's Day for 1382 AY or 3751 AZ in the Fasli (seasonal) calendar. It celebrates the renewal of the world and the creation of fire.

CHRISTIANITY – March 25. Palm Sunday (Gregorian calendar) celebrates the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem.

Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday (Western churches) or after Palm Sunday (Eastern churches following the Gregorian calendar). Holy or Maundy Thursday on March 28 celebrates the institution of the Lord's Supper by Jesus. Good or Holy Friday on March 29 commemorates the Passion of Jesus Christ and his submission to death by crucifixion.

JEHOVAH'S WITNESS – March 26. Lords Evening Meal Memorial was the only religious ceremony

Jesus directly commanded his followers to observe (1 Cor 11:23-26). This meal occurred on the Jewish celebration of Passover, and the Jewish day goes from the evening of one day to that of the next. Therefore, Witnesses believe that both the Lords Evening Meal (also known as the Last Supper) and the death of Jesus took place on the same day. The Memorial magnifies two expressions of love: The great love that Jehovah showed for humankind in giving his Son; and the self-sacrificing love that Jesus showed for humankind by willingly giving up his human life. Witnesses observe the Memorial after sundown, and it may or may not coincide exactly with the Jewish observance of Passover. The date changes yearly based on a lunar calendar.

JUDAISM – March 26 - April 2. Pesah, or Passover, commemorates the departure of the Israelites from Egypt. Celebrated for eight days, the first two and the last two days are holidays for Orthodox Jews. The first and the last days are holidays among Reform Jews, who celebrate for seven days. The evenings of the first and second days begin with Seders, festive meals and the telling of the Passover story. Pesah/Passover begins at dusk (before sundown) the previous day (March 25).

ZOROASTRIANISM – March 26. Birth of Prophet Zarathustra.

HINDUISM – March 27. Holi, a colorful and joyous festival, is dedicated to Krishna or Kama. It is a time to remember the brightness and splendor of living, a time to spread joy, color and love into the lives of family and friends.

CHRISTIANITY – March 31. Easter (Western churches) or Pascha (Eastern churches using the Gregorian calendar) celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ as a message of hope and victory over death. The oldest and most important Christian festival, it initiates the fifty-day period culminating in Pentecost.

NOTE: The above is not a complete calendar and is intended only as an example of some of the kinds of festivals, holy days, and religious observances of North America's many religious communities. It is composed from sites for interfaith calendars on the web and the Multifaith Calendar 2013, published by the Multifaith Action Society of Port Moody, British Columbia, Canada.

To purchase the Multifaith Calendar for 2013, visit <http://www.interfaithmarketplace.com/> in the USA; or www.multifaithcalendar.org in Canada and elsewhere.