

Community Coalition for Social Justice

PO Box 160

Morgantown, WV 26507-0160

ccsjwv@hotmail.com

www.ccsjwv.org

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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 May 13th @ 7:00 pm.

Please send your web site suggestions to Mike Attfeld 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 - \$10 for individuals and \$25 for organizations – to CCSJ, PO Box 160, Morgantown, WV 26507-0160. We decided at the last steering committee meeting that, after more than 13 years of keeping our dues at \$5, we should ask for \$10 for individuals.

CCSJ PICNIC SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 22: CCSJ is planning a Diversity Picnic on Sunday, September 22nd, at Osage from 4-6 pm. We will visit the new coal museum there and have a picnic at the shelter. Al Anderson will make arrangements for us to see the museum and use the shelter. We have not had an event in Osage yet, so please plan to join us on the 22nd. We will be providing the food.

Jobs for Justice: Susan Brown attended the Wednesday, April 17th meeting at the public library to represent us and learn more about what it means to be a community group as part of a Jobs for Justice campaign. Tim Hairston represented us at the Mon-Preston Central Labor Council meeting the following week when this effort was discussed. We will be posting information about this campaign on our web site soon, but, if you know of local organizations that might be interested in participating, please contact Jeff Cech at jcech@iwintl.org.

City Council Funding Update: As Morgantown residents know, the City Council is facing budget constraints. Therefore, our request for funding to support Martin Luther King, Jr., Day 2014 has been denied at this time. However, it is our understanding that requests will be reconsidered when the final results for this fiscal year are known. We certainly appreciate the past support we have received from the City of Morgantown for this event and will keep you posted on plans to support the 2014 event

WVU NATIVE AMERICAN STUDIES PROGRAM SEEKS VOLUNTEERS FOR SUMMER PROJECT:

This volunteer service project is funded by the West Virginia Humanities Council in coordination with the WVU Native American Studies Program and Grave Creek Mound Archaeological Complex (GCMAC), West Virginia Division of Culture and History.

Up to fifteen volunteers from throughout West Virginia will receive training and supervision to assist GCMAC's curators with a variety of volunteer activities. Volunteers will help clean, number, and package items associated with our region's ancient past. They will also help the curators and staff with archaeological reports, photos, and field notes in the facility's library. The week includes a free public film series and culminates with a free public symposium and luncheon focused on archaeology and state-of-the-art curation practices.

The volunteers' valuable contributions will help West Virginia achieve its essential preservation and educational goals. No prior experience is needed—but volunteers must be 18 or older with a strong desire to learn and "give back" to our state while serving as part of a great team of summer volunteers!



This project is being presented with financial assistance from the West Virginia Humanities Council, a state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations do not necessarily represent those of the West Virginia Humanities Council or the National Endowment for the Humanities.

 **WEST VIRGINIA
HUMANITIES COUNCIL**

For more information and to apply, go to assets.slate.wvu.edu/resources/362/1366381353.pdf.

LOCAL NEWS

Human Rights Commission: The Morgantown Human Rights Commission meets the third Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm at the Public Safety Building Conference Room. There is currently one vacancy on the commission. All are welcome to attend the meetings.

STATE-WIDE NEWS

fairness west virginia plans fund-raiser: Here is an e-mail from Scott Jarrell, director of development and corporate outreach for Fairness West Virginia:

“Fairness West Virginia is ready for the first ever national initiative - **Give OUT Day!**

“On Thursday, May 9th, Fairness invites you be a part of history and participate in a ‘National Day of Giving’ that will engage hundreds of LGBT organizations large and small across the country and mobilize thousands of people to support the work necessary to achieve fairness for all LGBT people in our communities.

[“Become part of the first national day of giving and make your donation here for Fairness WV today!](#)

“For the past four years, Fairness has been making tangible progress toward the fair treatment of LGBT people who call the Mountain State home. Our efforts have seen steady progress on many issues from anti-bullying to employment and housing nondiscrimination legislation - and much of that progress is because of supporters like you who have stepped forward and taken action. **Give OUT Day** is another call-to-action we believe will be a huge success for our organization and our efforts in this state!

“**But wait - you don't have to wait until May 9th to donate!** You can simply follow the links provided and make your donation today! We have until 11:59pm on May 9th to raise as much money as

possible, all of which will go towards Fairness and will let our presence be known throughout the entire nation!

“Thanks in advance for helping make the first national **Give OUT Day** a huge success - and for showing the nation how dedicated you are and Fairness is to equality for all in the Mountain State!”

Earlier this week I rec'd a message from the WV Mission (Episcopal Diocese email list) about an effort that is taking place state-wide to assist with fighting hunger. I have been corresponding with Corey about this and with his encouragement I am sending this message to all of you. The time line is very short and I have been attempting to learn more about specifically what is going on.

Walk Out Hunger event in Monongalia County will take place Monday May 6 in Morgantown: Here is information from Mike and Tammy Miller, volunteer coordinators for Empty Bowls:

Tom Knopp, director of the Kenova Good Samaritan Center, is walking 25 miles in each of West Virginia's 55 counties to raise funds to support the two statewide food banks.

His goal is to raise a total of \$10,000 in each of the 55 counties to support the Food Banks and local food pantries. ALL funds raised will go to the statewide Food Banks. The Huntington Area food bank serves Cabell, Wayne, Mason, Putnam, Lincoln, Logan and Mingo counties. The Mountaineer Area Food bank serves the remaining 48 counties, including Monongalia County.

The Monongalia County Walk will meet at the Courthouse Square at 8:00 am for a few brief words and the actual walk will begin 8:30.

The local coordinator for the Monongalia County Walk Out Hunger event is Jacque Dooley, coordinator of The Rack, the WVU Food Pantry.

The route for the 25-mile walk in Monongalia County will go from downtown to the Mileground to Sabraton to Green Bag Road, downtown, over the Westover bridge to Granville, Osage, Star City, Suncrest, Route 705, Stewart Street, Willowdale Road, and end at the Puskar Stadium. If you are able to walk some portion of the route please email clprichard@mail.wvu.edu and indicate which leg or legs of the route you are willing to walk.

There is NO registration fee and NO Cost to walk.

If you want more information about the Walk Out Hunger project please check out the website <http://www.walkingouthunger.org/>

MAY DIVERSITY CALENDAR FROM ED HORVAT

ASIAN/PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH (USA) was enacted by Public Law to honor the achievements of Asian/Pacific Americans and to recognize their contributions to the United States. May was selected because Japanese immigrants first arrived in the USA on May 7, 1843; and the Transcontinental Railroad was completed on May 10, 1869 (Golden Spike Day).

EARTH-BASED SPIRITUALITIES – May 1. Beltane (also called Beltain, May Day) celebrates the conjoining of the infinite potential of the Goddess with the life-sparking energy of the God in a sacred marriage, the basis of all creation. It is a time for balancing the feminine and masculine tides within the psyche as each celebrant prepares to participate in bringing the creative potential of the year to fruition.

CHRISTIAN – May 2. Holy Thursday (Eastern Orthodox following the Julian calendar) celebrates the institution of the Lord's Supper by Jesus.

CHRISTIAN – May 2. National Day of Prayer (USA).

CHRISTIAN – May 3. Holy Friday (Eastern Orthodox following the Julian calendar) commemorates the Passion of Jesus Christ – his submission to death.

CHRISTIAN – May 5. Pascha (Eastern Orthodox following the Julian 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.

CHRISTIAN – May 9 Ascension Day (Churches following the Gregorian calendar) comes forty days after Easter (Pascha), and is the anniversary of Jesus' ascension, opening heaven's Royal Doors to all. "When You fulfilled the plan of salvation for us and united all things on earth to those in heaven, O Christ our God, You ascended in glory, never leaving us but remaining ever-present. For You proclaimed to those who love You: 'I am with you and no one else has power over you.'" – Kontakion of the Feast

SCIENTOLOGY – May 9. Dianetics Day celebrates the publication of L. Ron Hubbard's book, Dianetics: The Modern Science of Mental Health on this day in 1950.

INTERFAITH – May 14 – 19. Festival of Faiths held in Louisville, Kentucky in 2013:

<http://festivaloffaiths.org/>

JUDAISM – May 15. Shavuot ("weeks") is one of three Pilgrim Festivals (along with Passover and Sukkot) in the Jewish calendar. It falls on the sixth day of Sivan beginning at sunset the night before. Shavuot is also known as the Feast of Weeks because it occurs seven weeks after the first day of Pesah (Passover). Originally, Shavuot was a time of bringing the first fruits of harvest to Jerusalem as a show of thanks, but has since transformed into the anniversary of the day the Torah (the foundation of Jewish law) was given to the Jewish people. It is customary to read from the Book of Ruth and study the Torah during Shavuot. It is celebrated for two days in the diaspora and for one day in Israel and among Reform Jews worldwide.

CHRISTIANITY – May 19. Pentecost (Gregorian calendar), also known as Whitsunday in some western churches, takes place fifty days after Easter (Pascha) and ten days after the disciples witnessed the ascension of Jesus Christ. When Jesus' disciples gathered to observe the Jewish feast of Shavuot, there was a sound like a violent wind, and then something that looked like tongues of flame came down and rested on each disciple's head. The disciples all began to speak in such a way that people of many different languages could understand them. Christians consider Pentecost the birthday of the Church because, from that moment on, the disciples carried the message of Christ everywhere they went all over the world.

BAHA'I FAITH – May 23. Declaration of the Bab commemorates the day in 1844 on which he announced his identity as the Bab, or Gate, the herald of the new age.

BUDDHISM – May 25. Wesak, or Buddha Day, is the most important day of the year for Buddhists. Coming on the full moon, it marks the triple celebration of the Buddha's Birth, Enlightenment, and Bodily Death/Final Liberation. "On the night of the full moon of Wesak, while sitting under a pipal tree at Bodh Gaya, the Buddha overcame the attacks and temptations of Mara 'the evil one' and attained

enlightenment.” – Buddhist Text

CHRISTIAN – May 26. Trinity Sunday is a celebration of the Christian understanding of God in Three Persons (Father, Son, Holy Spirit). It comes one week after Pentecost (Western Churches).

BAHA'I FAITH – May 29. Ascension of Baha'u'llah marks the anniversary of the death of the founder of the Baha'i Faith. Baha'is suspend work on this day. "Blessed is the spot, and the house, and the place, and the city, and the heart, and the mountain, and the refuge, and the cave, and the valley, and the land, and the sea, and the island, and the meadow where mention of God hath been made, and His praise glorified." – Baha'u'llah

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 America's many religious communities. It is composed from sites for interfaith calendars on the web and the Multifaitth Calendar 2013, published by the Multifaitth Action Society of Port Moody, British Columbia, Canada.

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