



Community Coalition for Social Justice
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UPDATE: 1 JUNE 2017

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: Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday, June 13th, at 6:30 p.m.** in the **Training Room in the Public Safety Building** at the corner of Spruce Street and Walnut Street. Parking is available in the garage attached to the building.

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 - \$10 for individuals and \$25 for organizations – to CCSJ, PO Box 160, Morgantown, WV 26507-0160. You can join or donate by credit card via PayPal on our web site.

CCSJ ANNUAL MEETING FOLLOW-UP: We are still working out details following up our planning session on "What's Next" on Sunday, November 6th. Please email us at ccsjwv@hotmail.com if you'd like to be involved.

MLK DAY 2018: We have started planning for MLK Day 2018 – our twelfth annual event! We again very much appreciate the financial support from the City of Morgantown for this event. 2018 marks the fiftieth anniversary of Dr. King's death. Because we anticipate that many anniversary events will focus on his career and adult life, we decided on a tentative theme of "Growing Up Martin" to focus on his boyhood. For instance, he had a best friend who was white, but they were separated when they attended school. We have some children's choirs interested in participating but always welcome your ideas.



FIND US ON FACEBOOK! Just look for "Community Coalition for Social Justice" under "Groups" and become our friend. Thanks to Mike Sharley for being our group "leader."

LOCAL NEWS



MORGANTOWN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION: The next regular meeting will be Thursday, June 15th, at 6:30 p.m. in the Public Safety Building Conference Room on Spruce Street. You can get copies of the agendas and minutes for the commission meetings at www.morgantownwv.gov/government/commissions/human-rights-commission/human-rights-commission-agenda-minutes/.

Thanks to the work of the Commission, the Morgantown City Council adopted a new “Welcome to Morgantown” statement and a “Resolution Supporting the Rights of Immigrants, Refugees, and Asylees” at its May 2nd meeting. CCSJ joined numerous individuals speaking in favor of these documents. The welcome statement was adopted unanimously. The resolution was adopted by a vote of 5-2, with Councilors Wes Nugent and Jay Redmond voting no. You can find links to both documents at www.morgantownwv.gov/government/commissions/human-rights-commission/. Dave Saville, a member of the Commission, had an op ed in the *Dominion Post* on May 28th, explaining why the resolution was needed.

You can find a calendar of annual human rights observances at www.morgantownwv.gov/wp-content/uploads/Annual-HR-Observances.pdf.

Here are the events for June:

LGBT Pride Month - Commemorates the anniversary of the June 28, 1969 Stonewall riot in New York City, the incident that initiated the modern gay rights movement in the United States. LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender) Pride Day is the last Sunday in June.

June 1 Stand for Children Day - A day to emphasize the importance of standing up for children by supporting systemic change and increased funding for public education.

June 5 World Environment Day - Observance promoting an awareness of the impact of environmental conditions on individual and community well-being and food sources which make life possible for current and future generations.

June 8 World Oceans Day - Call for awareness of the importance of protecting oceans from pollution and rising sea levels to prevent individuals and entire communities from loss of property, housing, livelihood and food supplies.

June 12 Loving Day - Observes the anniversary of the 1967 United States Supreme Court Decision *Loving v. Virginia* which struck down the miscegenation laws in 16 states barring interracial marriage.

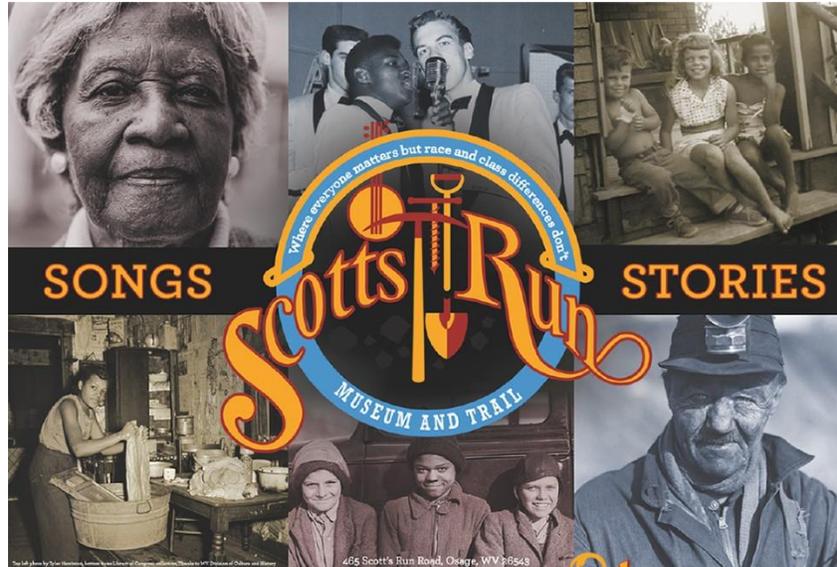
June 14 Race Unity Day - Observance promoting racial harmony and understanding and the essential unity of humanity.

June 19 Juneteenth - Originally commemorating the announcement of the abolition of slavery in Texas in 1865, it is now celebrated throughout the United States to honor African American freedom and achievement.

June 20 World Refugee Day - Raises awareness about the plight of refugees and displaced persons.

June 26 United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture - A day to remind people that human torture is not only unacceptable – it is also a crime and a universal violation of a human right.

SCOTTS RUN PROGRAM JUNE 1ST:



CONCERT *and*

MULTIMEDIA EXPERIENCE WITH AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

METROPOLITAN THEATRE

THURSDAY, JUNE 1

DOORS OPEN 6PM WITH EXHIBITS IN THE LOBBY

OPEN SEATING MUSIC STARTS AT 7:30PM



COME SHARE THE FUN AND LEARN SOMETHING, TOO

A cool mix of sound
to tell the story of the Scott's Run legacy
featuring Al Anderson and the Rock and Soul Revue,
blues from Soup Camel, original folk songs for the occasion by
Chris Haddox, Billy Ed Wheeler music from Donna Weems,
gospel music from the Flying Colors

TICKETS \$5 AT THE DOOR WITH PROCEEDS BENEFITTING SCOTTS RUN MUSEUM



NOW CHAPTER MEETING: Learn about this group's activities through its Facebook page at www.facebook.com/groups/375050676186301/. Rose Casey posted there that "dues are \$35 or \$10-34 on a sliding scale, and they can be paid by cash or check. (Electronic payments will be available shortly.) If you haven't already joined the national NOW group, please join the Morgantown chapter!"



GREATER MORGANTOWN INTERFAITH ASSOCIATION (GMIA): The next meeting will be June 4th at Tree of Life congregation, 242 S. High St., Morgantown. The program will begin at 3:00 p.m. with Judaism 101. Working groups will meet from 4:00-

6:00 p.m. The July meeting will be July 9th to accommodate the Fourth of July holiday.



The poster features a vibrant illustration of a picnic scene. In the foreground, a red and white checkered picnic blanket is laid out on a green lawn, with a white plate and a picnic basket nearby. A red charcoal grill sits on a tripod stand. In the background, a yellow vintage-style bus is parked on a grassy hill. The landscape includes green pine trees, rolling hills, and a bright sun with rays in a blue sky with white clouds. The text 'MFP Community Picnic' is written in a large, blue, cursive font at the top. Below the illustration, the date and time are listed: 'Sunday, June 18' and '4:30 - 7:30 p.m.', followed by the location 'Dorsey's Knob Pavilion'. A red banner at the bottom of the illustration reads 'ALL KINDS WELCOME' in white, bold, uppercase letters. Below the banner, the text 'Mountaineers for Progress invites you to join us for our first ever Community Picnic. Enjoy hotdogs and games as we kick off the summer. Bring a dish!' is written. Further down, it says 'Announcing our Young & Seasoned Activist of the Year awards!' and 'Nominate and vote on our website: www.mountaineersforprogress.com'. At the very bottom, a red bar contains the text 'BYOB (this is a family friendly event)' in white.

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NAACP NEXT MEETING JUNE 20TH: The Morgantown/Kingwood Branch of the NAACP meets every third Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. at the Red Cross offices, 1299 Pineview Drive, Suite 300, Morgantown.



The NAACP Education Summit has been rescheduled for the fall of 2017 due to the uncertainty of the budget for the State of West Virginia.

MORGANTOWN RESIDENTS HELP LGBTQ+ REFUGEES: Hydrara Bossa, a new resident of Morgantown, has set up a site at www.gofundme.com/help-lgbtq-refugees-in-kenya to help LGBTQ+ Ugandans who have sought asylum in Kenya. He started two community houses before leaving Kenya, and the funds will be used “to maintain the households as they wait for their resettlements.” Hydrara notes that “our funds will go a long way in Kenya — \$45.00 buys feed for their chicken-raising project for

a month; \$130.00 buys food for each household for a month; \$250.00 pays the monthly rent, \$40 will pay for water and electricity for one community house for a month.”

STATE-WIDE EVENTS



2ND ANNUAL WEST VIRGINIA SOLAR CONGRESS: ENVISIONING A FUTURE OF ENERGY FREEDOM FOR WEST VIRGINIA IS JUNE 24:

This program will be held from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Eastern WV Technical and Community College, 316 Eastern Drive, in Moorfield. “The West Virginia Solar Congress is a free public conference that brings together solar supporters, homeowners, installers, and advocates from across the state to discuss solar energy in West Virginia. This event will focus on two major topic areas: creating energy freedom in West Virginia and solar education for homeowners and agricultural producers interested in going solar.

“The second annual West Virginia Solar Congress will be hosted by WV SUN in partnership with Eastern WV Technical & Community College.

“This event is FREE and open to the public. Everyone is welcome to attend!” Check the event page at www.wvsun.org/2017-solar-congress/ for a full agenda coming soon and a link to the page to RSVP.

WOMEN OF APPALACHIA SPOKEN WORD EVENT SEPTEMBER 30TH: WVU has announced that it will “collaborate to host Women of Appalachia Spoken Word Event.”

The call for submissions says that “If you live in one of the 420 Appalachian counties, Women of Appalachia Project invites you to submit writing to be featured in their annual series of regional events, one of which will be held at WVU Saturday, September 30, 2017. The **deadline to submit fiction or nonfiction poetry, song, short story, or essays is Thursday, August 10**. Details can be found at womenofappalachia.com.

“WVU Libraries is partnering with the LGBTQ+ Center, the Women’s Resource Center, the Center for Women’s and Gender Studies, and WVU Campus Read, to bring the Women of Appalachia Project ‘Women Speak’ juried spoken word event to campus in the fall, in conjunction with the Libraries’ Looking at Appalachia exhibit.

“Since 2010, Albany-Ohio based poet and photographer Kari Gunter-Seymour has curated art exhibitions and spoken word events via the Women of Appalachia Project, an arts organization she created ‘to address discrimination directed at women from the Appalachian region by encouraging participation from women artists (fine art and spoken word) of diverse backgrounds, ages and experiences to come together, embrace the stereotype, show the whole woman; beyond the superficial factors people use to judge her — providing opportunities to share art with our communities, receive recognition and encouragement, and build strong networks’ (womenofappalachia.com).

“The five WVU organizations are thrilled to work together to bring this regional event to campus September 30, 2017, in the Milano Room of the WVU Downtown Campus Library. The event will also spark new conversations and perspectives around the Libraries’ Looking at Appalachia exhibit of 73

crowd-sourced photographs from contemporary Appalachian amateur and professional photographers from everyday life.

“*Hidden Figures* is the WVU 2017-18 Campus read; chair Susan Lantz is thrilled to partner with this event and hopes the characters from the book *Hidden Figures* will inspire local writers. The LGBTQ+ Center and the Women’s Resource Center encourages individuals to consider the diversity of gender and sexual minorities, and hopes they explore an intersectional perspective that includes racial, ethnic, class, ability, religious, region, and other identity markers. Other participating regional sites include Ohio University Southern; Parkersburg Art Center; The Bowen House in Logan, Ohio; Ohio University Multicultural Arts Gallery in Athens; and the Pump House Center for the Arts in Chillicothe, Ohio.”

The WVU contact is Sally Deskins, Exhibits & Programs Coordinator, WVU Libraries 304.293.0369; sbdeskins@mail.wvu.edu.

NAACP STATE CONFERENCE AUGUST 11TH AND 12TH: This will be at the Holiday Inn on Pineview Dr. in Morgantown.



OUR CHILDREN OUR FUTURE CANDIDATE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES: “The WV Candidate Training Academy is a non-partisan coalition that is dedicated to recruiting and training new candidates for office. We believe that democracy works better when more of us are involved in the political process, and when government is more representative. The WV Candidate Training Academy was started in 2015 by a coalition of organizations and partners of every stripe – including the WV Healthy Kids and Families Coalition, Generation WV, the WV Chamber of Commerce Executives, the AFL-CIO, the Sierra Club, WV Citizen Action Group, the WV Center on Budget and Policy, the WV School Board Association, the WV Community Development Hub, and the Secretary of State’s Office. Our lead partners are the Our Children, Our Future Campaign and the WV Women’s Commission.

There are three workshops remaining: Beckley on June 10th (By and For Women), Southern WV on July 15th (All are Welcome), and Martinsburg on August 5th (All are Welcome)

For more information about the trainings, go to www.ocofwv.org/candidatetraining/. “Graduates from these trainings have won campaigns for City Council, Magistrate, County Commission, School Board, Delegate, and State Senator in WV.”

OUR CHILDREN OUR FUTURE YOUNG WV: POWER BUILDING CONFERENCE SEPTEMBER 8TH TO 10TH: Are you aged 15-25? Want WV to be the coolest place to live, go to school and work? Then this conference at Marshall University in Huntington is for you! Join a statewide movement of young people committed to making waves of change in WV!

At the Young WV conference, you’ll find:

Youth-led breakouts on voter engagement, racial justice, mental health, LGBT advocacy and more!

Young WV Policy Challenge

A chance to meet other young people from across the state

\$Mini-grant\$ opportunities for student chapters

Info on how to create a Young WV chapter in your school or organization

Scholarships are available!

Go to www.ocofwv.org/youngwv/ for information on registration, scholarships, information on volunteering, becoming a sponsor to support low-income students to attend, information on lodging, submitting policy ideas, etc.

Like Young WV on Facebook to stay in the loop and follow on Twitter at [_YoungWV](#)

RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS IN JUNE 2017

FROM PETER CLARK

Celebrating LGBTQ Pride Month

For Native Americans in the Pacific Northwest, June marks Miso’o, the season of Sockeye salmon, which is the most important food source for the coming year. In Arizona, this is also the season of the Hopi Kachina Dances, in which long lines of dancers (representing various spirit-powers) perform in the open plazas of Hopi pueblos.

Sunday, June 4

- Pentecost Sunday – Christianity (Western and Eastern churches)

A celebration of the Holy Spirit’s descent upon the Apostles following Jesus’ ascension into heaven, Pentecost [which derives from the Latin for “fifty,” because it occurred fifty days after Easter] is often known as “the birthday of the Christian Church.”

- Núr – Bahá’í

The beginning of the fifth month of the Bahá’í year, meaning “light.”

Sunday, June 11

- All Saints – Christianity (Eastern churches)

Celebrating the lives of those saints, known and unknown, whose prayers and exemplary lives have a positive influence on the lives and Christian faith of others. Western Christian churches celebrate this festival on November 1st.

- Trinity Sunday – Christianity (Western churches)

Marking the celebration of God manifested in three Persons: as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Thursday, June 15

- Corpus Christi – Christianity [Roman Catholic]

Named for the Latin phrase “Body of Christ,” this festival is a time when Catholic Christians express their faith in Christ’s real presence in the elements of Holy Communion.

Friday, June 16

· Martyrdom of Gurū Arjan Dev Ji – Sikhism [Nanakshahi tradition]

The first Sikh martyr and the fifth gurū, Arjan (1563 – 1606 C.E.) built the Harimandir (Temple of God) in the town of Amritsar with door facing all four directions, in order to emphasize that the Sikh way was open to all regardless of their socio-economic status. He also compiled the Sikh scriptures known as the Gurū Granth Sahib.

Sunday, June 18

· Anniversary of Jamyang Khyentse Chökyi Lodrö – Buddhism [Tibetan tradition]

A celebration of the Tibetan lama (ca. 1893 – 1959) whose mastery of several lineages and insights have had a profound effect on numerous currently teaching lamas.

Monday, June 19

· Enlightenment of Kwan Yin Bodhisattva – Buddhism [Mahāyāna Pure Land tradition]

A celebration of the enlightenment of the bodhisattva of compassion—an enlightened being who vows to attain final, supreme enlightenment in order to save all sentient beings from suffering. In the Pure Land tradition, this bodhisattva frequently accompanies Amida Buddha in icons and other depictions.

· New Church Day – Swedenborgian Christianity (Church of the New Jerusalem)

Annual commemoration of the visionary document The True Christian Religion, written by Emanuel Swedenborg in 1770 C.E.

Tuesday, June 20

· Summer Feast – Native American spirituality

A day to honor the coming and going of the seasons, celebrated with songs, prayers, and story-telling.

· Laylat al-Qadr [Night of Power or Destiny] – Islam

A festival commemorating the first revelation of the Qur’ān to the Prophet Muhammad in 610 C.E., at the age of forty. Often fixed as the 27th day of the Islamic month of Ramadān, Sunnis may also observe it on the 21st, 23rd, 25th or 29th. Shi’ites observe it on the 19th, 21st or 23rd of Ramadān. The festival begins at sundown.

Wednesday, June 21 Summer solstice

· Litha [Midsummer's Eve] – Wicca

A celebration of the consummation of the sacred marriage, in which the male divine energy is poured out in the service of life.

Friday, June 23

· Jum'at al-Wadā [Farewell Friday] – Islam

As the last Friday in the month of Ramadān and the Friday immediately preceding Eid al-Fitr, this day is not a festival day, but it is still considered special by many Muslims.

· Sacred Heart – Christianity [Roman Catholic]

A devotional feast during which Catholic Christians reflect on God's compassionate love, symbolized by Christ's heart.

· Rahmat – Bahá'í

The beginning of the sixth month of the Bahá'í year, Rahmat means "mercy."

Saturday, June 24

· Eid al-Fitr – Islam

This is the Breaking of the Fast that celebrates the end of the month of Ramadān. Usually lasting three days, this festival begins with communal prayer and may also include charitable acts, visiting family and friends, preparing special foods, dressing in new clothes, and giving gifts.

Tuesday, June 27

· Anniversary of the Martyrdom of Joseph Smith – Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

Recalling the assassination of the prophet Joseph Smith and his brother Hyrum while they were incarcerated in Carthage, Illinois, in 1844 C.E.

Thursday, June 29

· Ghambar Maidyoshem begins – Zoroastrianism

A celebration of the creation of water, the sowing of the summer crops, and the harvesting of grain. This festival continues through Monday, July 3rd.

· Feast of the Apostles Peter and Paul – Christianity (both Western and Eastern churches)

Celebrates the two apostles who preached the Christian gospel in Rome. In Eastern churches this festival begins at sundown.

If you want more information about any of these holy days, please contact UCSF Medical Center Spiritual Care Services at 415-353-1941 (Rev. Dr. Peter Yuichi Clark).

Our thanks to the Council of Religious Leaders of Metropolitan Chicago, the Multifaith Action Society of British Columbia (Canada), BBC's Religion Website, Peel Schools District Board (Mississauga, Ontario, Canada), the Arizona State University Provost's Office, the NCCJ of the Piedmont Triad, the Anti-Defamation League, Project Interfaith (Omaha, NE), the University of Victoria Faculty of Law (British Columbia, Canada), the Center for Spiritual and Ethical Education, and www.interfaith-calendar.org

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