



Community Coalition for Social Justice
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www.ccsjwv.org

UPDATE: 1 AUGUST 2019

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, August 20th**, at **7:00 p.m.** at **Panera's on Patteson Drive**. We have reserved the back meeting room. If the weather is nice, we may meet outside.

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.

2019 ANNUAL MEETING/PICNIC IS SEPTEMBER 8TH: Please join us for our CCSJ annual meeting on Sunday, September 8th, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the Scotts Run Museum at 465 Scotts Run Road in Osage. We will have a very short business meeting followed by time to enjoy the museum and view the video about Al Anderson that the Morgantown History Museum produced. We can also learn about all the community activities centered around the museum.

This will be followed by a cookout/picnic in the lawn area beside the museum at 4:00 p.m. that will include a special cake to celebrate our 20th anniversary since we were organized in the fall of 1999! All are welcome.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY 2020: We are beginning to talk about our Fourteenth Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration on January 20, 2020, and we are pleased to report that the City of Morgantown has again committed funding to support this event. Please let us know if you have suggestions.



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, August 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/.

The commission has been very busy in making important recommendations to the Morgantown City Council and working on a “Strategic Plan for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for City Workforce, Volunteer Policy Advisors, and Community Members.”

Morgantown’s City Council has adopted AN ORDINANCE PROHIBITING BULLYING IN CITY SERVICES, ACTIVITIES, PROGRAMS, AND FACILITIES SERVING YOUTH. The draft plan, resolutions mentioned below, and ordinance can be found on the CCSJ website at www.ccsjwv.org.

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 August:

August 6: National Night Out – Marks the importance of collaborative efforts in reducing crime and for strengthening neighborhood relationships that help prevent crime and protect persons from criminal activity.



National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes strong police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live and work.

The Wiles Hill Highland Park Neighborhood Association will celebrate this event on Tuesday, August 6th from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Wiles Hill Community Center, 287 Eureka Drive. The WHHPNA will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, drinks and paper products. Bring your favorite covered dish to share with our friends and neighbors.

August 9: International Day of the World’s Indigenous Peoples – Celebrates the richness of indigenous cultures and recognizes the challenges indigenous peoples face today, ranging from poverty and disease to dispossession, discrimination and denial of basic human rights.

August 12: International Youth Day – Celebrates young people and the integral role they play to create a world fit for children.

August 23: International Day for the Remembrance of Slave Trade and Its Abolition – Memorializes the tragedy of the transatlantic slave trade, coinciding with the anniversary of the uprising in Santa Domingo (today Haiti and the Dominican Republic) that initiated its abolition. Tragically, other forms of slavery still persist today.

August 30: International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearance – A day to promote taking a stand against secret imprisonment, forced disappearance and abduction, and placing persons in any situation without access to relatives and/or legal representation.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS: The League of Women Voters is working with a state and a local group to begin planning for the 100th anniversary of the 19th amendment, which gave all women in the country the right to vote. If you are interested in participating in the planning, please contact Vicki Conner at vicki_conner@msn.com.



GREATER MORGANTOWN INTERFAITH ASSOCIATION

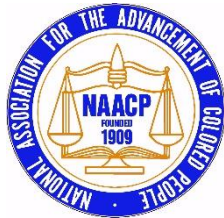
GREATER MORGANTOWN INTERFAITH ASSOCIATION (GMIA): Information on the next meeting was not available at “press time.”

You can follow GMIA on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MorgantownInterfaithAssociation/ or on the web at www.morgantowninterfaith.org. The email address is morgantowninterfaith@gmail.com.



MORGANTOWN NOW CHAPTER MEETS AUGUST 13TH: This meeting will be from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. at 648 E. Brockway, Morgantown to “prepare for Fall and beyond.” If you have items for the agenda, please email them to morgantownnow@gmail.com by the Sunday before the meeting.

Follow this group on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MorgantownNow/



NAACP MEETS AUGUST 20TH: The next meeting will be Tuesday, August 20th, at 5:30 p.m. at the Pines Country Club.

NAACP members met at the Aull Center on July 27th to volunteer with the Appalachian Prison Book Project.



APPALACHIAN PRISON BOOK PROJECT (APBP): This program is based on the second floor of the Aull Center at 351 Spruce Street, next to the public library to send books to people imprisoned in six states. They can request books, and volunteers do their best to match the requests with available donations. **There is a great need for recent paperback dictionaries in decent condition.** If you have any you

can donate, you can drop them off at the APBP office any time the Aull Center is open: Monday-Wednesday from 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Thursday and Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. **For more information about the APBP, please go to appalachianprisonbookproject.org.**



PFLAG GROUP MEETING AUGUST EVENTS:

AUGUST 13: PFLAG MONTHLY MEETING - This meeting will be at 6:00 p.m. at the Church of the Brethren, 464 Virginia Avenue, Morgantown.

AUGUST 17: PFLAG SOCIAL SATURDAY - This will be held at the downtown Panera’s from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. “Come for breakfast and stay for the company of other PFLAG folks (or vice versa!).” Future Social Saturdays will be at the same time, same place, on September 21st and October 19th.

AUGUST 24: RAISING TRANSGENDER KIDS - “This meeting is for anyone (parents, grandparents, guardians, etc.) raising transgender kids.

“We will get together to chat, discuss struggles and successes, and share resources. Location will be kid-friendly so please feel free to bring your trans and non-trans kids!”

The meeting will be from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Please contact PFLAG at 304-296-8236 or info@pflagmorgantown.org for details on the specific meeting location.

Follow PFLAG on Facebook at www.facebook.com/pflagmorgantown/ or www.pflagmorgantown.org.



MORGANTOWN PRIDE: This group “provides social and educational resources for the LGBTQ+ Community, Friends and Allies in Mon. County.” Follow this group’s activities on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MorgantownWVPride/.

There were no upcoming events posted as of “press time.”



GOODWILL CITY AMBASSADORS RECRUITING VOLUNTEERS FOR THE 2019 WVU FOOTBALL SEASON: Sara Bishop, coordinator for the Goodwill City Ambassadors, has provided the following letter:

Do you like to meet new people and share your love for West Virginia University (WVU), the Greater Morgantown area, and “wild and wonderful” West Virginia? Consider joining the Goodwill City Ambassadors!

The Goodwill City Ambassadors are a group of volunteers from the local community and various organizations. In the fall of 2012, the Ambassadors began greeting and providing information to visiting fans at WVU Football games. The program has evolved over the years, as we now work closely with WVU Department of Intercollegiate Athletics, WVU Alumni Association, WVU Police Department, Greater Morgantown Convention and Visitors Bureau (GMCVB), and other organizations in the Greater Morgantown area to continue improving visiting teams’ fan experiences on game day. During the last seven WVU Football seasons, the WVU fan base has evolved into “tourism ambassadors” for the community as they too welcome guests to Mountaineer Country.

In addition to greeting fans outside of Milan Puskar Stadium and within tailgating lots before home games, WVU Department of Intercollegiate Athletics asked Ambassadors to assist with their golf cart shuttle service again this season, which was introduced prior to the 2018 WVU Football season. Ambassadors drive the accessible golf carts to and from pickup locations surrounding the stadium every home game. This service is provided so that guests with a disability and elderly or injured patrons, along with one companion, have a positive experience during a WVU Football home game. The golf cart shuttles run two hours prior to kick off until half-way through the first quarter. Then, Ambassadors will begin shuttling guests from the stadium to their original pickup location at the beginning of the fourth quarter until one hour after the game. This new service received positive feedback from many visitors last fall and the Ambassador team is excited to assist with once again.

Individuals interested in driving the carts would do so either before or after the game. WVU Department of Intercollegiate Athletics provides golf cart driver safety training as well as ADA training prior to the first home game.

We are currently seeking additional volunteers for the 2019 WVU Football season who can assist with Ambassador responsibilities- greeting and assisting visiting fans and driving the golf cart shuttles. By becoming an Ambassador, you will have the opportunity to connect with the community and feel rewarded in giving back to locals and visitors alike. We hope you will join us!

Please note that, while Ambassadors get bright orange attire, parking passes, and boxed lunches, they do not get tickets to the games.

If you have any questions, please email Sara Bishop at goodwillcity@gmail.com.



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF MORGANTOWN PROGRAMS FOR AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER:

August 4: Judith Wilkinson: Relaxation

August 11: Mike Attfield: Guided Discussion

August 18: Duane Nichols: Poetry and Religion

August 25: Michael Siciliano: Movie and Potluck with discussion to follow

September 1: Jim Rye: Impacting Our Personal Environments” and picnic

September 8: Rev. O'Kelly, inspirational poetry referencing current issues of our times

September 15: Ceremony at Heritage Village

September 22: Changing of the seasons - leaders to be determined

September 29: To be determined.

Except where noted, all events are at the Fellowship building at 429 Warrick Street. All are welcome. The Fellowship is a member organization of CCSJ.



WVU CENTER FOR BLACK CULTURE AND RESEARCH WELCOME BACK BBQ: This annual event will be held on Thursday, August 22nd from 12:00 to 3:00 p.m. at 590 Spruce Street. It is free to WVU students, faculty, and staff. For more information, please go to cbc.wvu.edu/events/2019-belmeear-welcome-back-bbq.

STATE-WIDE AND AREA EVENTS



Information about the **Kanawha Valley NOW** chapter is available at www.facebook.com/Kanawha-Valley-NOW-1976287046030339/?ref=br_rs or email kanawhavalleynow@gmail.com.

West Virginia NOW has a Facebook page at www.facebook.com/WestVirginiaNow.



**A FAIRER
FUTURE**

FAIRNESS WEST VIRGINIA GALA IS SEPTEMBER 28TH: This annual event will be in Charleston. Tickets and hotel information is available fairnesswv.org/2019/07/25/get-your-fairness-gala-tickets-today/

10th Anniversary Gala!

“Act quickly! Tickets are going fast!

“As part of their sponsorship of our event, Embassy Suites is also offering a block of discounted rooms of \$119 for a single or \$129 for a double!

“You can reserve online at <http://group.embassysuites.com/FairnessWV> or call the hotel directly at 304-347-8700. If reserving online, make sure to enter the three-letter code FWV in the group/convention code space to get the discount.

“We can’t wait to celebrate ten years of fighting for fairness for all West Virginians with you! Make sure to reserve your tickets today!

“

We also want to thank our amazing sponsors! To become a sponsor contact us at info@fairnesswv.org.”

More information will be available at www.facebook.com/fairnesswv/ and fairnesswv.org.

Fairness West Virginia is hiring a communications manager. The position is open until filled, with details available at fairnesswv.org/2019/07/05/were-hiring/.

There is also a new “**Name and Gender Change Guide for West Virginia Residents**” available at fairnesswv.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/WV-Name-Gender-Change-Guide.pdf.

RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS IN AUGUST 2019 FROM PETER CLARK

For Native Americans, August marks the season of Wilhoon, the season marking the salmon runs of late summer; the Hopi Snake Dances, marking a sixteen-day ritual of purification; the Stomp Dance, performed by Seminole and other Oklahoma tribes as a time of renewal and purification; the Sun Dance, observed by Plains peoples (Arapaho, Cheyenne, Shoshone, Arikara, Crow, Sioux, and others) as a time of penitence and sacrifice; and the Iroquois Green Corn Ceremony, a time of renewal involving dances, fasting, offerings, and readings from the code of Handsome Lake.

Tuesday, August 1

- Kamál – Bahá’í

The beginning of the eighth month of the Bahá’í year, meaning “perfection.”

- Lughnassadh [Lammas] – Wicca

The harvest of first fruits, celebrating the harvest of corn and wheat. Wiccan practitioners see this time as a signal of the god Lugh's decline of strength as the sun rises farther south each day, while the Goddess witnesses this season with sorrow and joy. It is both a somber and celebratory feast day.

Monday, August 5

- Feast of the Transfiguration – Christianity (Eastern and many Western churches)

Celebrates the manifestation of Jesus' divinity as God's Son to his disciples Peter, James, and John on Mount Tabor. In Eastern churches, the celebration begins at sunset; for Western churches, this feast is marked on the following day, Tuesday, August 6th.

Thursday, August 8

- Fravardeghan Days [Muktad] begin – Zoroastrianism

A time of memorializing one's ancestors in preparation for Nowruz [see August 17], according to Zoroastrians who follow the Shenshai calendar.

Saturday, August 10

- Yaum-al-Arafah – Islam

This day is the most important for Muslim pilgrims undertaking the Hajj journey; believers implore Allah for boundless forgiveness and mercy on the plain of 'Arafāt, adjacent to the holy city of Mecca.

- Tisha B'Av – Judaism

A solemn day of mourning and fasting for the destruction of the First and Second Temples in Jerusalem, as well as other tragedies in Jewish history coinciding with this date, beginning at sundown.

Sunday, August 11

- Eid al-Adhá – Islam

This three-day festival of sacrifice begins at sundown and is the concluding act of pilgrimage for Muslims; adherents offer sheep, goats, and camels, whose meat is then distributed to the poor.

Wednesday, August 14

- Dormition of the Theotokos or Most Holy Mother of God – Christianity [Eastern churches]

According to the Orthodox Church, this day marks Mary's death and resurrection by God, as a sign to all believers of their ultimate destiny.

Thursday, August 15

- Assumption of the Virgin Mary – Christianity [Catholic churches]

According to the Catholic Church, this day commemorates how, at the end of her life, Jesus' mother Mary was assumed—body and soul—into heaven, where she intercedes for all believers.

- Zhōngyuán Jié [Ghost Festival] – Taoism

According to Chinese Taoist belief, this day is when deceased ancestors visit the homes of the living. Families prepare feasts and set tables with empty chairs so that the living and the dead can share the meal together.

- Narali Purnima or Rakhi or Raksha Bandhan – Hinduism

Celebrating the end of monsoon season, marked by throwing coconuts to Varuna, the sea god. During this festival, girls and women tie amulets on their brothers' wrists for protection against evil.

Saturday, August 17

- Nowruz – Zoroastrianism

The start of the New Year for Zoroastrians who follow the Shenshai calendar, beginning the year 1389 AY [After Yazdegird III, the last of the Persian Zoroastrian monarchs].

Tuesday, August 20

- Asmā' – Bahá'í

The beginning of the ninth month of the Bahá'í year, meaning "names."

Thursday, August 22

- Khordad Sal – Zoroastrianism

The birth anniversary of the prophet Zarathustra (Zoroaster), according to the Shenshai calendar.

Saturday, August 24

- Sri Krishna Jayanti or Krishna Janmashtami – Hinduism

A festival celebrating the birth of Krishna, the eighth incarnation of the god Vishnu, whose purpose was to destroy the demon Kansa who was responsible for evil's increase in the world.

- Festival of Ksitigarbha (Jizō) Bodhisattva – Buddhism

Celebrating Ksitigarbha (Jizō) Bodhisattva, the savior of beings who suffer in the hellish realms, as well as the guardian of expectant mothers, travelers, and deceased children in Japanese culture.

Monday, August 26

- Ullambana – Buddhism

A day when Buddhists make offerings to the Triple Gem—the Buddha, the Dharma [teachings], and the Sangha [monastic community]—on behalf of their ancestors.

- Paryusana or Paryushan Parva begins – Jainism

The beginning of an eight-day festival that is considered a holy convocation by Jains. Believers impose restraints on their daily activities by fasting, meditation, and prayer. The last day of Paryusana is called Samvatsari (Tuesday, September 3rd) and is a solemn occasion for examining one’s thoughts and feelings, and for asking forgiveness for offenses committed against others through deeds, words, or thoughts.

Friday, August 30

- Ra’s al-Sanat al-Hijriyah: Islamic New Year [First of Muharram] – Islam

Commemorating the migration of the prophet Muhammad and his small band of followers from Mecca to Medina in 622 C.E., in order to escape persecution and to establish the first Muslim community. The Islamic year 1441 begins at sundown.

If you want more information about any of these holy days, please contact UCSF Health 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 British Columbia’s Equity and Inclusion Office, the University of Victoria Faculty of Law (British Columbia, Canada), the Center for Spiritual and Ethical Education, and www.interfaith-calendar.org.

To subscribe to this calendar and sync it with your Google, Outlook, or iCal calendars, visit <http://ucsfspiritcare.org> and select the “Resources” menu.