



Community Coalition for Social Justice
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UPDATE: 1 APRIL 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, April 9th, at 7:00 p.m.** at **Panera's on Patteson Drive**. We will try to reserve the meeting room. *We will not meet if Monongalia County schools are closed for the day or close early due to inclement weather.* 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.

RESPONSE TO KKK FLYERS: Morgantown residents know that a KKK group out of North Carolina randomly distributed flyers in yards in the area, including in Wiles Hill, on March 17th. We notified the NAACP members, who discussed the issue at their March 19th meeting, as we did at our meeting the same night. Sandra Nelms and Susan Brown, our co-chairs, are writing a letter to the editor of the *Dominion Post* as our response to this act of hate.

NEW STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBER: We welcome Greg Spransy as a new member of our steering committee.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY 2020: We are just beginning to talk about our Fourteenth Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Celebration on January 20, 2020. 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



CITY COUNCIL FORUM IS APRIL 11TH: The League of Women Voters and Mountaineers for Progress are sponsoring a forum for Morgantown City Council candidates from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at South Middle School. Early voting will start April 17th, and



election day is April 30th. City residents may vote for candidates in each of the seven wards. For more information, including location of polling places, please go to morgantownwv.gov/157/Election-Information. CCSJ is a 501 (c) (3) organization so does not endorse candidates for political office. Neither the League of Women Voters nor Mountaineers for Progress endorses candidates. However we all encourage everyone

to be informed voters.



MORGANTOWN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION: The next regular meeting will be Thursday, April 18th, 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/.

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 April:

National Child Abuse Prevention Month – A time to emphasize the importance of families and communities working together to prevent child abuse and neglect and to promote the social and emotional well-being of children and families.

Sexual Assault Awareness Month - A month to promote awareness of sexual assault, harassment, or other abuse to increase prevention efforts to protect all people of all ages.

April 1: Youth Homelessness Matters Day – Part of a campaign to create brighter futures for young people who have faced homelessness and to show them they have the power and opportunity to become whatever they put their minds to.

April 7: World Health Day – Calls for an awareness that, without nurture and protection of health, persons are vulnerable to economic and social hardship and unable to fully utilize on engage in human rights.

April 16: Holocaust Remembrance Day – Anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising – Seeks to commemorate the Holocaust by remembering and honoring the victims of the Holocaust, which include six million Jews, thousands of Russian gypsies, homosexuals, persons with disabilities, and others.



MORGANTOWN NOW CHAPTER MEETING IS APRIL 9TH: This Food & Friends Meeting will be from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Monongalia Friends Meeting House, 648 E. Brockway Avenue, Morgantown.

The group will continue to discuss upcoming events and priorities for Morgantown NOW. Akeya Carter, MSW, from the WVU Division of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion will join them to discuss Title IX and the work at the University. Appetizers and beverages will be provided. Bring a friend who has been meaning to check out Morgantown NOW!

If you have something you would like on the agenda, please email items to morgantownnow@gmail.com by Sunday, April 7th at 500 p.m.

Also, please let them know if you require childcare.



GREATER MORGANTOWN INTERFAITH ASSOCIATION

GREATER MORGANTOWN INTERFAITH ASSOCIATION (GMIA) MEETING IS APRIL 14TH: The meeting will be from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. at the Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship, 429 Warrick Street.

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.



NAACP MEETS APRIL 16TH: The next meeting will be Tuesday, April 16th, at 5:30 p.m. at the Pines Country Club. Jerry Carr is the new president of this group.



APRIL PFLAG GROUP MEETING IS APRIL 9TH: Congratulations to all. The Morgantown group is now an official PFLAG group.



Please join us for the Morgantown PFLAG Meeting and Potluck/Chili Cook-off!

Tuesday, April 9, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at the Morgantown Church of the Brethren, 464 Virginia Ave, Morgantown, WV.

Our goal is to be a better support for our loved ones who identify as LGBTQ+. We are looking for parents, relatives, friends or allies to join us in being an extended family to the LGBTQ + community.

We are part of the national PFLAG organization and are committed to advancing equality through its mission of support, education, and advocacy.



MORGANTOWN PRIDE: This is a new group in Morgantown “that 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/.

Its April events are:

Pride Block Party is April 13th starting at 2:00 p.m. on Arch Street. “Lots of fun activities” are planned. The WVU LGBTQ+ Center is a co-sponsor.

Morgantown Confessions is April 14th: This event will be at 123 Pleasant Street in Morgantown from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. “Bedpost Confession is coming to Morgantown in the form of APPALACHIAN CONFESSIONS! Come see local stars perform, listen to the anonymous confessions of the audience, and maybe confess something if you’re feeling bold!

“Set List: Ezra Mars, Josie Martin, Natasha Stone, Shana Reed, Alexandra Kadner, Sara Rudy

“Our MC for the night is Jodi Hollingshed!

“Sex: (almost) everybody does it and (almost) nobody talks about it—except at BedPost Confessions, a live storytelling series based in Austin, Texas. Whether the performers are funny, informative, political, or completely personal, the anonymous confessions from the audience are the stars of every show.”

April meeting: This will be Saturday, April 20th, from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. at Quantum Bean Coffee, 258 Kingwood Street, Morgantown.



WVU LGBTQ+ CENTER EVENTS: All events are at the Center at 724 College Avenue unless otherwise noted.

There will be Friday Morning Cartoons each Friday through April 27th, from 10:00 a.m. to noon and Genderwhat? Sessions every Wednesday from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. through April 25th. “Join the weekly discussion group with Erica and friends to learn more about the gender non-binary spectrum, play games, make crafts and be yourself!”

Other events for April include:

Tuesday, April 2nd- 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.: “**TRANSforming Appalachia:** A multi-disciplinary panel on what it means to be transgender,” WVU College of Law. “Join OUTLaw and the ACLU of WVU Law for a multi-disciplinary panel on what it means to be transgender.” Food and refreshments will be served.

Friday, April 5th - 2:30-4:00 p.m.: **Quilt Party:** “We invite you to join our ‘No Hate In My Holler’ traveling quilt project. “All are welcome to stop by and design squares to add to the quilt. As it travels the state it will keep growing with more designs, each inspired by the theme of ‘No Hate In My Holler’. All materials will be provided. No experience is necessary. This event will **also be held on Friday, April 12th**, from 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 6th – 7:00-9:00 p.m.: **Movie and Pajama Night at True Colors LLC.** All are welcome to wear a fun and comfortable pajama and join True Colors to watch the movie *Princess Cyd*. RSVP to Matthew.Carter@mail.wvu.edu

Wednesday, April 10th - 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.: **Transgender: You're part of the Story.** WVU Mountainlair Ballrooms. “WVU's David C. Hardesty, Jr. Festival of Ideas presents “Transgender: You're part of the Story,” by Nicole Maines with Wayne and Kelly Maines, with book signing to follow. More information is available at festivalofideas.wvu.edu/events/wayne-maines.

Tuesday, April 23rd - 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.: **Art Evening with Jeneice Shaw**



The 6th Annual Lavender Graduation

Sunday
April 28, 2019
3:30 pm
Mountainlair
Ballrooms

Join us in a ceremony honoring the achievements of graduating lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and other gender and sexual minorities, and allies.

Inquiries? Contact us at lgbtq@mail.wvu.edu
(304) 293-9593

SAVE THE DATE

WVU CENTER FOR BLACK CULTURE AND RESEARCH ANNOUNCES ACADEMIC STARS FOR 2019: “Each summer the WVU Center for Black Culture and Research sponsors a program for newly enrolled African American freshman designed to enrich their college experience.

“Entitled Academic STARS, (Students Achieving and Reaching Success) this five-week program helps students build a solid academic foundation, develop cultural self-awareness, and enhance their leadership potential. Along with offering a credit bearing course, the experience includes three workshops as well as a variety of other academic and social activities.

“During the final week of the program, students are also required to participate in an authentic ‘Rites of Passage’ process, which builds on the knowledge obtained in their required classes. STARS students here at West Virginia University are retained at a very high level, and are engaged at every level of student involvement and leadership.

“The program will continue in the Fall, and students will have additional requirements such as attending related cultural programs, and being present for mandatory study tables. For this effort, they will receive a fall book scholarship which they may use in the WVU Bookstore.

“This program is fully funded, and students only need additional money for their personal needs.”

The Academic STARS online application is available at urwvu.wufoo.com/forms/z12ct6cp1bwv3t6/.

Application Deadline: Friday May 3, 2019; Program Dates: Sunday, June 23rd – Saturday July 27th, 2019

WVU CENTER FOR WOMEN'S AND GENDER STUDIES APRIL EVENTS:

Sunday, April 7th, 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.: Center for Women's and Gender Studies Honors & Awards Ceremony, WVU Mountainlair Rhododendron Room

Thursday, April 25th, 2:00 to 5:00 p.m.: Women's and Gender Studies Fair, WVU Mountainlair..



“BATTLE OF THE SEXES” MOVIE ON MONDAY, APRIL 8TH AT 7:00 P.M.: The WVU Center for Applied Coaching and Sports Studies is presenting “Battle of the Sexes,” featuring the 1973 story of tennis players Billy Jean King and Bobby Riggs - one of the most watched sporting events in history. Following the movie, there will be a discussion on the themes and ideas surrounding continuing efforts to strive for gender equality. The program will be in the WVU Mountainlair Laurel Room and is free and open to the public. Please RSVP to Marla Gladstone at mdg0021@mix.wvu.edu.



UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF MORGANTOWN PROGRAMS FOR APRIL:

April 7: Open Mike Poetry and guests

April 14; Jonathon Rosenbaum from League of Women Voters at Heritage Point

April 21: Tadashi Kato performing at Mainstage Morgantown

April 31: Rev Robin Zucker

Please go to uufmwv.org/ to check for updates. 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.

STATE-WIDE AND AREA EVENTS

An advertisement for the West Virginia Black Heritage Festival, Inc. 2nd Annual Spring Dinner / Dance Gala. The ad features a group photo of the TFC Band & Show members. Text includes: 'West Virginia Black Heritage Festival, Inc.', '2nd Annual Spring Dinner / Dance Gala', 'Featuring: TFC Band & Show', 'TICKETS ARE \$50 WHICH INCLUDES A DELICIOUS DINNER & AN AMAZING SHOW!', 'TICKETS MUST BE PURCHASED BY APRIL 2, 2019!', 'Silent Auction with wonderful Prizes', 'April 13th, 2019', 'Time: 6:00 PM to 11:00 PM', 'Village Square Conference Center', '1489 Milford St.', 'Clarksburg, WV', 'Contact: Sherri James 304-629-6777', and 'MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH A GRANT FROM BARBAR BRENNEN HIGHLAND ARTS FUND'. There is also a small image of a person playing a trumpet.



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.

TRY THIS™
west virginia

Building Blocks for
Healthy Communities

TRY THIS WEST VIRGINIA CONFERENCE IS JUNE 7-8TH: Registration is now open for this conference to be held at West Virginia Wesleyan College in Buckhannon. If you are working for a “healthier West Virginia,” then “this conference is for you.”

“Enjoy two (or three) idea-packed, inspiring days with like-minded West Virginians! Trade ideas with people from all over the state who are doing great things in their own communities. Get inspired again and again. Meet new friends! Help build a statewide movement!”

For more information, please go to trythiswv.com/conference/.

RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS IN APRIL 2019 FROM PETER CLARK

April marks the season of Mmaal, which is when the rivers open, and of the Eagle Dances, when people of the Arizona Pueblo tribes dance to dramatize their communities’ relationship with the Sky-World.

Monday, April 1

* Laylat al-Isra’ wa al-Mi’rāj – Islam

The commemoration of the Prophet Muhammad’s night journey from Mecca to Jerusalem, his ascent into heaven and return on the same night, and his receipt of Allah’s commandment of the five compulsory daily prayers. This celebration begins at dusk.

Friday, April 5

* Qingming – Chinese traditional

Often called Tomb Sweeping Day, it is a day to honor one’s ancestors and visit their grave sites, as well as to welcome the coming of the spring season.

Saturday, April 6

* Anniversary of the Church’s Founding – Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

* Worldwide General Conference begins – Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

This is the largest worship service for Latter-day Saints (also known as Mormons) and lasts for two days. Conference proceedings are broadcast live over the Internet and through other electronic media.

* Ugadi or Yugādi – Hinduism

The New Year's Day celebration for Hindus of the Deccan Plateau in central and southern India, which traditionally includes a ritual bath, prayers, and the eating of pachhadi: six flavors that represent six different life experiences. The flavors are bitter, tang, sour, spicy, salty, and sweet, which symbolize sadness, surprise, disgust, anger, fear, and happiness.

Monday, April 8

* Hanamatsuri or Wesak – Buddhism

In the northern tradition, this is the anniversary of the birth of Śakyamuni Buddha, the historical founder of Buddhism. In the southern tradition, this is celebrated during Visakha.

Tuesday, April 9

* Jalál – Bahá'í

The beginning of the second month in the Bahá'í calendar, "Jalál" means "glory."

* Shrimad Rajchandra Dehvilay – Jainism

This festival marks the day of the emancipation (death) of Shrimad Rajchandra, a prominent Jain philosopher, in 1901 C.E. He was an influential spiritual guide for Mohandas Karamchand (Mahatma) Gandhi.

Sunday, April 14

* Palm Sunday – Christianity (Western churches)

The remembrance of Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem, when crowds spread palm fronds on the ground as Jesus rode into the city. Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week.

* Vaisakhi – Hinduism

The first day of the solar year and an important harvest festival in northern India.

* Vaisakhi [or Baisakhi] – Sikhism

On this date in 1699 C.E., Gurū Gobind Singh, the tenth Guru, created the Khalsa Panth, the Brotherhood of the Pure. Khalsa brothers are given the name Singh (lion), and sisters are named Kaur (princess).

Tuesday, April 16

* Yaqui Deer Dance – Native American spirituality

A ceremony that integrates ancient rites of the Yaqui people of Arizona with the Christian Easter rituals.

Wednesday, April 17

* Mahavira-jayanti – Jainism

Celebrating the birthday of Lord Mahavir (Great Hero), the 24th Tirthankara (and last of this time cycle). Jains remember their most important prophet by decorating their temples with flags, with prayers and fasting, and by making offerings of rice, fruit, milk, and other items.

Thursday, April 18

* Maundy Thursday [Holy Thursday] – Christianity (Western churches)

The remembrance of Jesus' last supper with his disciples and his institution of the "love commandment" (the term "Maundy" comes from the Latin word for "commandment") while he washed their feet as a servant.

* Birthdays of Gurū Angad Dev and of Gurū Tegh Bahadur – Sikhism

Gurū Angad Dev (1504 – 1552 C.E.) was the second and Gurū Tegh Bahadur (1621 – 1675 C.E.) was the ninth of the Sikh Gurūs.

Friday, April 19

* Good Friday – Christianity (Western churches)

A commemoration of the passion of Jesus of Nazareth, i.e., his death by crucifixion. At sundown some churches begin the Easter vigil either this evening or on Holy Saturday (April 20).

* Eve of Pesach [Passover] – Judaism (ends on April 27)

The beginning of an eight-day festival celebrating God's deliverance of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. The story is told during a Seder meal at sundown, including readings from a book known as the Haggadah. Some Jews refrain from work on the first two and the last two days of this holiday.

* Laylat al-Bara'at or Nisf Sha'bān – Islam

According to Muslim tradition, Allah approaches the earth on this night (the middle day of the eighth month in the Islamic calendar) to call humanity to repentance and grant forgiveness of sins.

* Hanuman Jayanti – Hinduism

A celebration of the birth of Hanuman, the faithful servant of the god Rama who can assume any form in order to conquer evil. Believers visit temples and apply sindoor (red powder) to their foreheads, since Hanuman is often portrayed as a red half-monkey, half-human.

Saturday, April 20

* Lazarus Saturday – Christianity (Eastern churches)

A commemoration of Jesus' miracle of raising his friend Lazarus from the dead, celebrated on the eve before Palm Sunday.

* Eve of Ridván – Bahá'í (continues through Thursday, May 2)

Commemorating the twelve days that Bahá'u'lláh spent in the garden of Ridván during his exile in Baghdad and when he proclaimed himself as the one announced by the Báb, which occurred in 1863 C.E. On the first (4/21), ninth (4/29), and twelfth days (5/2) of this festival, work is suspended. The festival begins at sundown.

Sunday, April 21

* Easter Sunday – Christianity (Western churches)

Celebrating God's raising of Jesus of Nazareth from the dead, this day is the oldest and most central festival in the Christian year and initiates the fifty-day period culminating in Pentecost.

* Palm Sunday – Christianity (Eastern churches)

The remembrance of Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem, when crowds spread palm fronds on the ground as Jesus rode into the city. Palm Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week.

* Theravadin New Year – Buddhism

The New Year festival for Theravadin Buddhists, celebrated for three days beginning on the first full moon day in April.

Thursday, April 25

* Eve of Great and Holy Friday – Christianity (Eastern churches)

At sundown Eastern churches commemorate Jesus' death by crucifixion, followed by an observance of the Great Sabbath, in which believers remember Christ's burial and await his resurrection on Holy Pascha, or Easter morning.

Sunday, April 28

* Holy Pascha – Christianity (Eastern churches)

Celebrating God's raising of Jesus of Nazareth from the dead, this day is the oldest and most central festival in the Christian year and initiates the fifty-day period culminating in Pentecost.

* Jamál – Bahá'í

The beginning of the third month in the Bahá'í calendar, "Jamál" means "beauty."

Tuesday, April 30

* Ghambar Maidyozarem begins – Zoroastrianism (continues through Saturday, May 4)

Celebrating the creation of sky and the harvesting of the winter crops.

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.