Dear friends,

Today we celebrate its 243rd “Independence Day” with fireworks and flag-waving. While there is much to celebrate in the birth of our nation and the ideals of liberty and freedom that are the foundation of our constitution, much of the celebrating has become an exercise in glorifying war – the songs, the armored vehicles on parade, the military shows of strength and glory. War is unfortunately a part of our heritage as a nation, but there is so much more to celebrate, and other ways to serve. As long as we glorify war and perpetuate the view that no other service to country is as honorable or heroic as becoming a part of the military killing machine, we will continue to have wars and our sons and daughters will continue to seek the paths we so glorify.

The closing words of the Declaration of Independence call us to pledge our support for each other as we work together to make this country better. We at JRPC have called this day “Interdependence” day. Instead of glorifying war, let us think about and honor the indigenous Americans we displaced, the countries and peoples around the world we share this earth with, the earth itself and all our fellow creatures, the millions of immigrants that make our country rich with diversity, the neighbors we share our communities with, the civil servants who work hard with few rewards and all the heroes who worked and died to protect the human and civil rights of all of us. Let us celebrate those who serve our country in compassion and generosity – true to the spirit of liberty and justice for all. When I lift my red, white and blue, it will be for all of you...Betsy

Calendar

Wednesday-Sunday, July 10-14 Camp Mimanagish, Boulder River Valley, Montana PRIDE Camp for LGBT+ families and children, couples, children, individuals, or any combination of LGBT+. It will encompass a spiritually broad based program to assist families, children and their families, and individuals to connect with a God of their own understanding without fear of judgment or condemnation for who they are. 

https://www.mimanagish.org/pride
Thursdays, July 11 and 18, 5:30-7 pm. JRPC. Mark your calendar for our popular international discussion series with Humphrey Fellowship professional from around the world. This year will feature 15 mid-level folks from 15 countries in professions as varied as education, journalism and government. Tonight's discussion will focus on Public Health with Fellows from Central African Republic, and Pakistan.

Friday, July 12, 8 pm. St Paul's Lutheran Church (202 Brooks). Close The Camps Rally in conjunction with the national Lights for Liberty -- Stand to voice our horror over the situation on the southern border- specifically in relation to detained children. Join with others in Missoula and around the nation. There are rallies planned for all across the country, including Helena and many other cities. For a listing near you, visit https://www.lightsforliberty.org/.

Sunday, July 14, 6 pm. Imagine Nation Brewing. Arabian Nights. Enjoy authentic Arabian food (from Kamoon), Arabic music and an Arabic mini-market. $25 each. Pre-booking required at INBC

Wednesday, July 17, 11 am-2 pm. Caras Park and 7--9 pm, Bonner Park: The International Choral Festival gets underway with over 400 choir members coming from all over the world! Events on July 17 are free; ongoing performances Thursday-Saturday require a button that can be purchased for $20 at Fact and Fiction, Fresh Market, Good Food Store, Orange Street Food Farm, and at the Festival office (312 East Pine) and at festival events. HOST Families Needed to provide a room with sleeping space for a minimum of two choir members, most meals while they are here, and the ability to provide transport to and from choir events during the festival. If you can be a host, please go to the International Choral Festival website for more information and to sign up. Go to: https://www.choralfestival.org/

Sunday, July 21, 12-8 pm, Imagine Nation Brewing. Please join Recycling Works and Imagine Nation Brewing for our second glass drop-off event of the year! Drop-off in the back corner of Imagine Nation's parking lot where that big ole crane used to be. Cost is $5 per 5 gallon bucket filled(these buckets will be at the event), and all recyclers get $1 off a beer or kombucha, courtesy of Imagine Nation! $2 off coupons will be given for those bringing 20 or more gallons.

Saturday, July 27, 2-7 pm. UM's English Language Institute is looking for community members to host 1-2 high school students from Kumamoto, Japan, (Montana's sister state) for one afternoon, Hosts will coordinate an activity or excursion for their students and then provide dinner either at home or out. We need hosts for 23 students. Contact Sarah Biortis at sarah.bortis@mso.umt.edu or 243-5885.
Action Opportunities

Travel the World Without Leaving Home.

1) UM’s English Language Institute is looking for community members to host 1-2 high school students from Kumamoto, Japan, (Montana’s sister state) for one afternoon, Saturday, July 27, 2-7 pm. Hosts will coordinate an activity or excursion for their students and then provide dinner either at home or out. We need hosts for 23 students. Contact Sarah Biortis at sarah.bortis@mso.umt.edu or 243-5885

2) Be a host family for the Mansfield Center. Contact Deena at
   - July 12:14: Global faculty and practitioners in workforce development. Host a pair from two of the following countries: Ethiopia, Algeria, Brunei, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Israel, Uganda, Ukraine, Suriname, South Africa, Ecuador, Myanmar, Latvia, Uzbekistan, Honduras, Albania, Tunisia
   - August 30-September 1: Students and young professionals studying global environmental issues. Host a pair from two of the following countries: Brunei, Myanmar, Thailand, Laos, Vietnam, Cambodia, Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia, Singapore, Timor Leste

3) International Choral Festivals needs hosts to provide a room with sleeping space for a minimum of two choir members, most meals while they are here, and the ability to provide transport to and from choir events during the festival. If you can be a host, please go to the International Choral Festival website for more information and to sign up. Go to: https://www.choralfestival.org/

Fair Trade News

Missoula's only all fair trade store, a program focused on JRPC's international peacebuilding efforts. Who wouldn’t love a gift that brings more peace and justice to the world!!!

Ongoing Events and Meetings

Women in Black & Veterans For Peace Fridays, North end of the Higgins Bridge, 12:15-12:45 pm. missoulawib@montana.com
Balanced View Clarity Online Call Sundays, 11am-noon, or Mondays 5-6pm. Contact: CheyenneRivers@BalancedView.org. Visit http://www.Bright.how
Veterans For Peace first Monday of each month, 4-6 pm, JRPC. 406-363-6150 or pvaughan184@gmail.com
JRPC Coordinating Council Third Monday of every month, 5:30 pm at JRPC. All are welcome to attend!
Women in Black of Polson Mondays, 12-12:30 pm, Polson courthouse. c211p110@earthlink.net
Knitting For Peace every Tuesday, 1–3 pm, JRPC. 543-3955.
Jewish Reading Group, one Wednesday a month to discuss fiction. Contact us at readingjewsmissoula@gmail.com. Come once or come every time!
Spanish Conversation Group meets monthly at Iron Griz. Contact joann@rockisland.com for more information.
Nonviolent Communication Practice Group Second and Fourth Wednesdays, 12-1 pm, JRPC info@patrickmarsolek.com
The Cranium creates origami delights every 1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesday, 1:15-3:15, JRPC. bonnie@bonnietares.com
Time Bank Orientation Contact info@missoulatimebank.org for individual and group orientation for new members at a location TBD.
Montana Moves To Amend statewide phone calls 4th Tuesday of each month. Contact Sue at 543-3254

Articles Of Interest

#NeverAgainIsNow: 36 Arrested As Hundreds of Jewish Protesters Block Road to Migrant Detention Center

Coverage of our July 3rd No War in Iran Rally from The Missoulian and the Missoula Current

Have you read a good article that you'd like to share? Send us a link and we'll take a look!
Ways to Help JRPC

- **We are looking for volunteers to fill the following positions:**
  - Newsletter editor
- **We are starting the planning for our fall Peace Party -- and we need you!! Give us a call!**

Jeannette Rankin Peace Center has been in Missoula since 1986, working to build non-violence, social justice and sustainability. We are pleased to be a member of the Montana Shares Network, a partnership of Montana-based nonprofit groups devoted to improving the quality of life in communities throughout the state. Give to JRPC through your workplace. [www.montanashares.org](http://www.montanashares.org)

The JRPC e-newsletter is sent to our listserv each Thursday. Deadline for calendar items is noon, Wednesday. We always appreciate your contributions, comments and suggestions. If you would like to be taken off our mailing list, please unsubscribe below. To sign up, click this link.

**Sign Up for Our E-NewsLetter**

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