

July 2019 Spokane Area Diversity/Cultural Events

Unity in the Community School Supply Drive. Consider donating school supplies for children in K-8th grade. School supplies will be handed out on Saturday, August 17, 2019. Supplies are given out on a first-come, first serve basis. Children must be accompanied by a parent/guardian and must participate in the Culture Villages experience by visiting all of the booths. For school supply list and for more information visit www.nwunity.org.

Spokane Silver Celebration

Classic black and white photography by Bill and Kathy Kostelec celebrating 25 years photographing Spokane.

Dates: June 20, 2019 through August 4, 2019

Time: Tuesday-Sunday, 10:00 am-5:00 pm

Location: [Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture](http://www.northwestmuseum.org), 2316 W. First Ave

Cost: \$10.00 adult, \$8.00 seniors, \$5.00 children ages 6-17, \$8.00 college students with ID.

For more information visit their website at <https://www.northwestmuseum.org> or call 509.456.3931.

As Grandmother Taught: Women, Tradition and Plateau Art

Coiled and twined basketry and beaded hats, pouches, bags, dolls, horse regalia, baby boards, and dresses alongside vintage photos of Plateau women wearing or alongside their traditional, handmade clothing and objects, with works by Leanne Campbell, HollyAnna CougarTracks DeCoteau Littlebull and Bernadine Phillips.

Dates: August 2018 through December 2019

Time: Tuesday-Sunday, 10:00 am-5:00 pm

Location: [Northwest Museum of Arts and Culture](http://www.northwestmuseum.org), 2316 W. First Ave

Cost: \$10.00 adult, \$8.00 seniors, \$5.00 children ages 6-17, \$8.00 college students with ID.

For more information visit their website at <https://www.northwestmuseum.org> or call 509.456.3931.

“Sacred Encounters: Father De Smet and the Indians of the Rocky Mountain West” Exhibit

The exhibit tells the story of how Jesuit missionaries (Father De Smet) came to the interior Northwest at the invitation of the Coeur d' Alene and Salish tribes and the profound effects this sacred encounter had on both cultures.

Date: Open, no end date at this time

Time: 9:00 am – 5:00 pm daily April through September, 10:00 am - 3:00 pm October through March, (closed holidays)

Location: Old Mission State Park, Cataldo, ID (I-90, exit 39 – 60 miles east of Spokane)

Cost: \$5.00 park entrance fee, exhibit \$5.00 per person/\$10.00 per family.

For more information visit their website at <https://parksandrecreation.idaho.gov/parks/coeur-d-alenes-old-mission>.

Can You Queer Me Now?

Day: Tuesday

Time: 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Hear voices directly from the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Queer, and Questioning community right here in the Inland Northwest. You will hear more about current events, local groups, and perspectives directly from the queer youth community. Hosted by Ian Sullivan on KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

Democracy Now**Day: Monday-Friday**

Time: 8:00 am – 9:00 am & 5:00 pm-5:00 pm

A national, daily, independent, award-winning news program hosted by journalists Amy Goodman and Juan Gonzalez. Pioneering the largest public media collaboration in the U.S. Link <https://www.democracynow.org/>. KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

Democracy Now! Headlines in Spanish**Date: Saturday**

Time: 7:00 am – 8:00 am

Democracy Now! is a national, daily, independent, award winning news program hosted by journalists Amy Goodman and Juan Gonzalez on KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM.

Website: www.kyrs.org or www.democracynow.org.

Detention**Day: Monday**

Time: 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

Variety music/talk show for teens by teens. This show is produced by the students of West Valley City School. Hosted by Kade, KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

Dragonflies on Thin Air**Day: Sunday**

Time: 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

One of the few elementary age children's radio shows produced by kids for kids in the country. The program is fun and educational for children and adults, and includes a mix of jokes, music, guests, stories, poetry, trivia and more. Hosted by [Trevor, Zoe, Eva and Selena](#), KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

Irish Music on Tap**Day: Wednesday**

Time: 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Music from Ireland, Scotland and England. Hosted by Don and Rick, on KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

Latin Lounge**Day: Monday**

Time: 6:00 pm-8:00 pm

A wide spectrum of Latin music. Hosted by "Corazon" on KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

Layali Arabia**Day: Saturday**

Time: 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Arabic songs from a multitude of different genres to come out of the Arab World. Hosted by Rahmi on KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

Queens of Noise**Day: Wednesday**

Time: 8:00 pm-10:00 pm

You will hear best in female vocalist/musicians. Hosted by "Queen of Mean" and "Luscious Duchess", KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

QueerSounds

Day: Thursday

Time: 6:00 pm-8:00 pm

QueerSounds is radio show dedicated to playing music by and for LGBTQ people. Music, interviews, community events and forums. Hosted by bob, KYRS FM 92.3 or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>. Join the hosts on Facebook at www.facebook.com/qsounds, or email them at queersounds@kyrs.org.

The Persian Hour

Day: Saturday

Time: noon – 1:00 pm

The Persian Hour’s consists of a variety of Iranian music from hip hop to traditional, Jazz, blues, rock and roll and the usual. Also, they will share stories, recipes, and interviews. Hosted by Shahrokh, KYRS 92.3 FM or 88.1 FM. Website: <http://www.kyrs.org>.

Engineering with Cardboard

Build a rocket, space station, or interstellar landing module. Materials provided. All ages.

Date: Monday, July 1, 2019

Time: 10:00 am

Location: Arcadia Elementary Gym, Deer Park, 1120 East D street

Cost: Free and open to the public

For more information visit Spokane County Library District website at www.sclld.org or call 509.893.8300.

2020 Earth Day – Spokane’s 50th Anniversary

The community is invited to join Earth Day Spokane’s founders and organizers for a discussion to plan for 2020 which will include ideas on hosting small and large events throughout the City of Spokane and the City of Spokane Valley.

Date: Monday, July 1, 2019

Time: 3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Location: Shadle Library Community Room, 2111 W Wellesley Ave

Cost: Free and open to the public, complimentary baked goods and beverages provided.

For more information visit Facebook at Earth Day Spokane or email Charity@thefamilyguide.org.

Close the Camps Rally

There will be nationwide protests on Tuesday, July 2 demanding the closure of the inhumane immigrant detention centers subjecting children and families to horrific conditions. Bring signs.

Date: Tuesday, July 2, 2019

Time: noon - 1:00 pm (meet at 11:30)

Location: Thomas S. Foley US Courthouse, 820 West Riverside Ave, will march to Post St.

Cost: Free and open to the public

For more information, visit their Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/AoUoNEasternWA/>. Sponsored by All of Us or None of Us Eastern WA (Todos O Nadie).

Engineering with Cardboard

Build a rocket, space station, or interstellar landing module. Materials provided. All ages.

Date: Tuesday, July 2, 2019

Time: 2:00 pm

Location: Spokane Valley Library, 12004 E Main Ave

Cost: Free and open to the public

For more information visit Spokane County Library District website at www.sclld.org or call 893.8400.

Science Speaks

A four-week program that teaches how to make science experiments using common kitchen ingredients. For ages 6-10.

Date: Tuesday, July 2, 2019

Time: 6:00 pm

Location: Shadle Library, 2111 W Wellesley Ave

Cost: Free and open to the public

For more information visit Spokane Libraries at www.spokanelibrary.org or call 509.444.5390.

Engineering with Cardboard

Build a rocket, space station, or interstellar landing module. Materials provided. All ages.

Date: Wednesday, July 3, 2019

Time: 2:00 pm

Location: Otis Orchards Library, 22324 E Wellesley Ave

Cost: Free and open to the public

For more information visit Spokane County Library District website at www.sclcd.org or call 509.893.8390.

Engineering with Cardboard

Build a rocket, space station, or interstellar landing module. Materials provided. All ages.

Date: Wednesday, July 3, 2019

Time: 3:30 pm

Location: Cheney Library, 610 First St, Cheney

Cost: Free and open to the public

For more information visit Spokane County Library District website at

<http://sclcd.evanced.info/signup/list?df=list&nd=150&kw=Engineering+With+Cardboard> or call 509.893.8280.

Spokane Community Celebration of the 4th of July

Live music, food, beer garden from No-Li Brewhouse, craft vendors, group performances and more, all leading up to the fireworks show over the park and the Spokane River gorge.

Date: Thursday, July 4, 2019

Time: All day, music begins at noon with bands playing up until the fireworks show. Fireworks begin at 10 pm.

Location: Riverfront Park, 507 N Howard

For more information call 509.635.6601 or visit their website at <http://www.spokaneriverfrontpark.com/>.

The Singing Nuns

An Independence Day concert and fundraiser carnival benefiting the Portico Restoration Project. Enjoy the Higher Grounds Coffee Shop, food booths, balloon animals, bouncy house, fish pond game, face painting, piñatas, photo booth, zip line and more.

Date: Thursday, July 4, 2019

Time: Gates open at 4:00 pm, music begins at 8:30 pm. Stay to 10 p.m. to watch the city fireworks for the bluff. Bring a lawn chair and flashlight.

Location: Mount St. Michaels, 8500 N St Michaels Rd

Cost: \$5.00 per person, children 7 and under free with paying adult. Pay at the gate.

For more information contact visit their website at www.singingnuns.com or call 509.467.0986 ext 130.

Diverse Voices Writing Group

Date: Thursday, July 4, 2019

Time: 5:30 pm

Location: Spark Central, 1214 W Summit Parkway

Cost: Free and open to the public

For more information call 509.279.0299 or visit their website at <http://www.sparkwestcentral.org/>

Engineering with Cardboard

Build a rocket, space station, or interstellar landing module. Materials provided. All ages.

Date: Saturday, July 6, 2019

Time: 3:30 pm

Location: Argonne Library, 4322 N Argonne Rd

For more information visit Spokane County Library District website at

<http://scl.d.evanced.info/signup/list?df=list&nd=150&kw=Engineering+With+Cardboard> or call 509.893.8260.

Spokane Taiko Drums Ensemble

Experience energetic performance on traditional Japanese drums. As time permits, attendees may have the chance to play the drums themselves.

Date: Tuesday, July 9, 2019

Time: 2:00 pm – 2:45 pm and 3:30 pm – 4:15 pm

Location: Shadle Library, 2111 W Wellesley Ave

Cost: Free and open to the public

For more information visit Spokane City Libraries website at <http://www.spokanelibrary.org> or call 509.444.5300.

Unity in the Community Committee Meeting – Theme: Thriving Together. Rising Together

Date: Tuesday, July 9, 2019

Time: 5:30 pm

Location: Emmanuel Family Life Center, 631 S Richard Allen Ct

Cost: Free and open to all who have an interest in making this event happen on August 20, 2016.

For more information visit their website at www.nwunity.org.

Spokane Taiko Drums Ensemble

Experience energetic performance on traditional Japanese drums. As time permits, attendees may have the chance to play the drums themselves.

Date: Wednesday, July 10, 2019

Time: 10:30 am – 11:15 am and 1:00 pm – 1:45 pm

Location: Indian Trail Library, 4909 W Barnes Rd

Cost: Free and open to the public

For more information visit Spokane City Libraries website at <http://www.spokanelibrary.org> or call 509.444.5300.

Diverse Voices Writing Group

Date: Thursday, July 11, 2019

Time: 5:30 pm

Location: Spark Central, 1214 W Summit Parkway

Cost: Free and open to the public

For more information call 509.279.0299 or visit their website at <http://www.sparkwestcentral.org/>

Lights for Liberty Spokane – End Detention Camps

Protest the horrific conditions that immigrants and refugees are facing and to call for an end to detention camps. There will be speakers attesting to these cruel conditions and how US immigration policies have impacted our community here in Spokane, as well as throughout the nation and abroad. At 9 PM we will be holding a candlelight vigil to remember those we have lost and will continue on to march to the DHS office downtown.

Date: Friday, July 12, 2019

Time: 8:00 pm – 9:30 pm

Location: Riverfront Park Clock Tower

Cost: Free and open to the public

For more information call Fernanda at 509.655.1753.

52nd Annual Cheney Rodeo and Parade

Dance follows the rodeo Friday and Saturday.

Dates: Friday –Sunday, July 12, 13, & 14, 2019

Time: Friday 7:20 pm, Saturday 11:30 am (parade downtown Cheney), 7:20 pm (rodeo), Sunday 2:00 pm (rodeo family day)

Location: Bi Mart Arena, Michael P. Anderson Highway (SR 904), Cheney, WA

Cost: \$14 in Advance-on-line sales close midnight July 12th, \$18.00 at the gate (Friday and Sunday), \$20.00 at the gate on Saturday, \$28-two adults and two children (ages 4-12) in advance, \$7.00 for children 4-12, children under 3 and under years of age are free.

For more information, visit their website at <http://www.cheneyrodeo.com/>.

2019 Spokane Police Department - Community Appreciation Day

This open house event is a chance to get to know the officers in your community. There will be demonstrations from the K9 team, the Motor Unit, and the Explosive Disposal Unit “bomb squad” robot!

Date: Saturday, July 13, 2019

Time: noon - 4:00 pm

Location: Spokane Community College Soccer Field. 1810 N Greene St

Cost: Free and open to the public

For more information email Kathy at karmstrong@spokanepolice.org.

8th Annual PBS On-line Film Festival

From fact to fiction, these films offer surprising stories. These short films – times vary from several minutes to about 25 minutes.

Dates: Monday, July 15, 2019 to Friday, July 26, 2019

Cost: Free to watch on-line.

Watch on-line and vote for your favorite short film. For more information about each film, visit their website at <https://www.pbs.org/search/?q=film+festival>.

Spokane Taiko Drums Ensemble

Experience energetic performance on traditional Japanese drums. As time permits, attendees may have the chance to play the drums themselves.

Date: Monday, July 15, 2019

Time: 3:00 pm

Location: East Side Library, 524 S Stone St

Cost: Free and open to the public

For more information visit Spokane City Libraries website at <http://www.spokanelibrary.org> or call 509.444.5300.

NAACP Monthly Meeting

Date: Monday, July 15, 2019

Time: 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

or community venue, check their Facebook page

Cost: Free, meeting open to everyone

For more information contact spokanenaacp@gmail.com or visit their Facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/spokane.naacp/>.

Spokane Taiko Drums Ensemble

Experience energetic performance on traditional Japanese drums. As time permits, attendees may have the chance to play the drums themselves.

Date: Wednesday, July 17, 2019

Time: 11:30 am -12:15 pm and 2:00 pm – 2:45 pm

Location: South Hill Library, 3324S Perry St

Cost: Free and open to the public

For more information visit Spokane City Libraries website at <http://www.spokanelibrary.org> or call 509.444.5300.

Deep Space Escape

While in deep space, you and your crew wake up unexpectedly from your stasis chambers. You have 30 minutes to discover what's gone wrong and regain control of your spaceship. Can you solve the puzzles and clues in time to survive?

Date: Wednesday, July 17, 2019

Time: Start times are 2:00 p.m., 3:00 pm, and 4:00 pm.

Location: Medical Lake Library, 321 E Herb St, Medical Lake

Cost: Free and open to the public, for ages 10 and older

For more information and to register visit <http://sclد.evanced.info/signup/list?df=list&nd=150&kw=Deep+Space+Escape> or call 509.893.8330.

Deep Space Escape

While in deep space, you and your crew wake up unexpectedly from your stasis chambers. You have 30 minutes to discover what's gone wrong and regain control of your spaceship. Can you solve the puzzles and clues in time to survive?

Date: Thursday, July 18, 2019

Time: Start times are 2:00 p.m., 3:00 pm, and 4:00 pm.

Location: Cheney Library, 610 First St

Cost: Free, for ages 10 and older

For more information and to register visit <http://sclد.evanced.info/signup/list?df=list&nd=150&kw=Deep+Space+Escape> or call 509.893.8280.

Diverse Voices Writing Group

Date: Thursday, July 18, 2019

Time: 5:30 pm

Location: Spark Central, 1214 W Summit Parkway

Cost: Free and open to the public

For more information call 509.279.0299 or visit their website at <http://www.sparkwestcentral.org/>

20th Annual South Perry Street Fair & Parade

Booths along Perry Street and in Grant Park, live music (1:30-10 pm), beer gardens and more! Proceeds are donated to local charities

Date: Saturday, July 20 2019

Time: 10:00 am - 10:00 pm

Location: South Perry Street between 9th & 11th and Grant Park

Cost: Free and open to the public

For more information visit their Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/southperry>.

13th: From Slave to Criminal with one Amendment Documentary

The 13th Amendment to the U. S. Constitution abolished slavery. But it also included a provision many people don't know about and that is what this documentary brings to view. "Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist."

That exception justifies the use of forced labor as long as the laborer is a convict. This documentary makes the case that inclusion of this loophole is only one of the justifications for continuing domination of people of color. The 13th Amendment was ratified in 1865 and director Ava DuVernay supports her thesis through the use of both historical footage and interviews

Date: Sunday, July 21, 2019

Time: 5:45-8:45 pm

Location: Magic Lantern Theatre

Cost: Free and open to everyone.

Sponsored by Meaningful Movies Spokane with UUCS. They hold free screenings of films related to social justice, environmental issues, on the 3rd Friday of the month.

Spokane Taiko Drums Ensemble

Experience energetic performance on traditional Japanese drums. As time permits, attendees may have the chance to play the drums themselves.

Date: Thursday, July 25, 2019

Time: 1:00 pm

Location: Northeast Community Center, 4001 N Cook St

Cost: Free and open to the public

For more information visit Spokane City Libraries website at <http://www.spokanelibrary.org> or call 509.444.5300.

Diverse Voices Writing Group

Date: Thursday, July 25, 2019

Time: 5:30 pm

Location: Spark Central, 1214 W Summit Parkway

Cost: Free and open to the public

For more information call 509.279.0299 or visit their website at <http://www.sparkwestcentral.org/>

Spokane Taiko Drums Ensemble

Experience energetic performance on traditional Japanese drums. As time permits, attendees may have the chance to play the drums themselves.

Date: Friday, July 26, 2019

Time: 10:00 am

Location: West Central Community Center, 1600 N Belt St

Cost: Free and open to the public

For more information visit Spokane City Libraries website at <http://www.spokanelibrary.org> or call 509.444.5300.

Rally for Salish

Spokane's indigenous language is recognized by the United Nation's International Year of Indigenous Languages. Singing, drumming and Salish language speeches by Salish School of Spokane students and staff and other Salish speakers. Drummers, singers and speakers of indigenous languages welcome.

Date: Friday, July 26, 2019

Time: noon – 1:00 pm

Location: Riverfront Park, Clock Tower Meadow, 507 N Howard St

Cost: Free and open to the public, free hot dogs until gone.

For more information visit their Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/events/2230049507109037/>.

Julyamsh Pow Wow

Largest outdoor pow wow in the Pacific NW, silent Art Auction with horse parade prior to Grand entry.

Date: Friday - Sunday, July 26-28, 2019

Time: Friday evening, Saturday during the day and evening. Grand entry: 7 p.m. on Friday, 1:00 pm and 7:00 pm on Saturday and 1:00 pm on Sunday.

Location: Kootenai County Fairgrounds, Coeur d'Alene, ID

Cost: \$10.00, 12 & under and 65+ free

For more information www.julyamsh.com or call 1.800.523.2462.

5th Annual Vegfest: Healthy Living Expo and Music Festival

Includes healthy living, animal- and eco-friendly exhibitors, renowned chefs and speakers from around the country, presentations, music festival, cooking demonstrations, food trucks, non-profit organizations, an outdoor market, massage, and more.

Date: Saturday, July 27, 2019

Time: 10:00 am – 6:00-- pm

Location: Spokane Community College, 1810 N Greene St

Cost: Free and open to the public

For more information visit <https://www.inveg.org/vegfest.html>.

Daughters of Norway

A club to unite women who wish to preserve their Nordic heritage by exploring its rich history, culture, folk arts and native languages. Meetings involve sharing Nordic tales, cooking, arts and tips on retracing family roots.

Date: Saturday, June 27, 2019 (fourth Saturday of each month)

Time: 10:00 am

Location: TBD

For more information call 509.926.8090 or visit www.daughtersofnorwayfreya.org or contact (509) 926-8090 for location and time of monthly meetings.

Learn Bon Odori Dancing

The Bon Odori Dancing Ensemble will demonstrate and teach traditional Japanese festival folk dances with instructor Jacqui and vocalist Narong.

Date: Monday, July 29, 2019

Time: 7:50 pm

Location: Spokane Buddhist Temple, 927 S Perry Street

Cost: Free

For more information contact call 509.534.7954 or visit their website at <http://SpokaneBuddhistTemple.org>.

Cultural Exchange Potluck - Winterfest

Interested in planning for Winterfest Holiday Traditions 2019/200. Bring a dish, networking, fun and games and play the food roulette for a global tasting challenge.

Date: Wednesday, July 31, 2019

Time: 3:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Location: Franklin Park Picnic Shelter, 302 W Queen Ave

Cost: Free to attend, potluck

For more information call Charity at 509.928.9664 or email charity@thefamilyguide.org.

Hispanic Business/Professional Association (HBPA) Social

Date: Wednesday, July 31, 2019

Time: 5:00 pm - 7:30 pm

Location: De Leon's Taco and Bar, 1801 N Hamilton

Cost: Free to attend, food/drink cost depend on what you order

For more information visit their website at www.hbpspokane.net.

Save the Date

51st Annual Art on the Green

Annual event features vendors, art, food live entertainment and children's activities.

Dates: Friday-Sunday, August 2-4, 2019

Time: Friday - noon-7:30 pm, Saturday – 10: 00 am – 7:30 pm, Sunday – 10:00 am – 5:00 pm

Location: North Idaho College campus, Coeur d' Alene, ID,

Cost: Free and open to the public

For more information on Art on the visit their website at www.artonthegreen.org.

An Evening in Tuscany - Italian Dinner and Silent/Live Auction

Guests enjoy a fabulous scratch made Italian dinner, prepared by a local signature chef, as well as indulge in a night of wine, art, entertainment, desserts and music that will make you feel like you were in Tuscany!

In addition to dinner and music, there will be a live & silent auction to benefit YWCA Spokane’s programs and services for women, children, and families impacted by domestic violence, homelessness, and unemployment.

Date: Saturday, August 2, 2019

Time: 5:00 pm – 10:00 pm

Location: Beacon Hill, 4848 E Valley Springs Rd

Cost: \$100.00 per person, \$800 for a table, seating is limited, reservations are required, must be 21+ to attend

For more information call Katie Sowers at 509.789.9312. To order/purchase tickets visit

<https://ywcaspokane.org/event/tuscany2019/>.

Unity in the Community – Celebrating 25 Years, Theme: Thriving Together. Rising Together

Date: Saturday, August 17, 2019

Time: 10:00 am - 4:00 pm

Location: Riverfront Park

Cost: Free

For more information visit www.nwunity.org. School supplies for K-8th grade are given out on a first-come, first serve basis. Children must be accompanied by a parent/guardian and child must participate in the Culture Villages experience by visiting all of the booths.

NAACP State Area Conference of AK, OR & WA

We will celebrate past accomplishments, discuss current challenges, and unify around defending civil rights in our region. The pinnacle of the weekend’s event is the keynoted Centennial Celebration Dinner with the theme of STAY WOKE 2 VOTE!

Dates: Friday-Sunday, September 13-15, 2019

Time: Friday 6:00 pm – Sunday 2:00 pm

Location: Northern Quest Casino, 100 N Hayford Rd, Airway Heights

Cost: \$150.00, Pre-registration is required

For more information, visit their website at <http://www.naacpaowsac.org/> or email

communications@naacpaowsac.org.

Ardha Nareeshwarm - Kuchipudi Style South Indian Dance-Drama

Date: Saturday, September 28, 2019

Time: 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm

Location: Bing Crosby Theater

Cost: \$30.00 if purchase on or before September 20, 2019, \$35.00 after September 20th. Purchase tickets at

www.ticketwest.com or 1.800.325.seat.

For information email sacaspokane@gmail.com or call 509.467.5558.

For more information visit www.nwunity.org. School supplies for K-8th grade are given out on a first-come, first serve basis

If you know of diversity/cultural event open to the public that you would like added to the monthly calendar, please e-mail Yvonne C. Montoya Zamora at yvonnecmz04@gmail.com with event details.

For general Spokane events visit www.visitspokane.com or <http://www.spokane7.com/>.

July 2019 National/International Diversity/Cultural Celebrations

July 1 Canada Day - Canada

On this day in 1867, the British North America Act created the Canadian federal government. The BNA proclaimed 'one Dominion under the name of Canada', and the day was titled 'Dominion Day'. It was renamed 'Canada Day' by an act of Parliament on October 27, 1982.

July 1 NAIDOC – Australia

NAIDOC stands for National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee. It's a week-long celebration around Australia to focus on the history, culture and achievements of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

SAR Establishment Day – Hong Kong

Commemorates the reversion of the city from British to Chinese rule in 1997. SAR stands for Special Administrative Region.

Independence Day – Burundi

In 1962, gained independence from Belgium.

July 3 Emancipation Day - USA

Recognizes the abolition of slavery in the Danish West Indies in 1848.

July 4 Independence Day – U.S.

In 1776, representatives from the 13 Colonies signed the Declaration of Independence proclaiming their separation from England and formed the United States of America. It is celebrated with picnics, fireworks, parades and outdoor activities.

July 5 Independence Day – Venezuela

On July 5, 1811, Venezuela became independent from Spain.

July 6 Dalai Lama's Birthday – Tibet, Buddhist

His Holiness the XIVth Dalai Lama, Tenzin Gyatso, is the spiritual and temporal leader of the Tibetan people. Born to a peasant family in northeastern Tibet, he was recognized as the 14th Dalai Lama (Mongolian for "Ocean of Wisdom"). In Tibetan Buddhism, the Dalai Lama is believed to be an incarnation of Avalokitesvara, the Buddha of Compassion.

July 7 Tanabata – Japan

Meaning "seven evenings" it is a Japanese star festival derived from Obon traditions and the Chinese star festival, Qi Xi. The festival is usually held on July 7 and celebrates the meeting of Orihime (Vega) and Hikoboshi (Altair). The Milky Way, a river made from stars that crosses the sky, separates these lovers, and they are allowed to meet only once a year.

July 9 Independence Day – Argentina

In 1816, become independent from Spain. At that time Argentina was part of the United Provinces of South America.

July 10 Independence Day – Bahamas

In 1973, became independent from the United Kingdom.

Martyrdom of the Báb – Baha'i

Commemorates the arrest, torture, imprisonment, and execution of the 31-year-old Báb, the prophet-herald of the faith, in Tabriz, Persia, in 1850 C.E. The event is observed at noon. Work and commerce are suspended on this day.

July 11 Imamat Day – Islam Ismaili

Imamat Day is celebrated every year by Ismailis on the day that their Imaat or religious leader transferred from the past Iman to the present Aga Khan.

Naadam Festival - Mongolia

The festival lasts 3 days where men compete in the three manly national sports of horse riding, archery, and wrestling competitions.

World Population Day – UN

July 12 Battle of Boyne – Northern Ireland

Dutch Prince William of Orange defeated the deposed King James II of England and Scotland at the Battle of Boyne in Ireland. After the battle, which took place on July 1, 1690, King James was forced to flee to France.

July 13 Katimat (7th month) – Baha’i

The first day of the seventh Baha’i month. Katimat translates as “Words.”

July 14 Bastille Day - France

Commemorates the event that launched the French Revolution. On this day in 1789, the Bastille, which held political prisoners and became a symbol of oppression by the monarchy, was stormed and prisoners freed.

Republic Day - Iraq

July 16 Guru Purnima – Jain, Hindu

Celebrated by disciples to revere and honor their Gurus (spiritual masters).

Wassana/Dhamma Day – Buddhist

This day marks the beginning of the 3-month “Rains Retreat” for self-examination and peace-making for monks and nuns. It also celebrates Buddha’s first teaching.

July 18 Umi no hi (Marine Day) - Japan

Japanese honor the importance of the sea and its role in Japanese history on this day.

Munoz Rivera Day – Puerto Rico

This day celebrates the legacy of Luis Munoz-Rivera, a Puerto Rican patriot, poet and journalist.

Nelson Mandela’s Birthday – South Africa

Known as Mandela Day, has been celebrated since 2009.

July 20 Munzo-Rivera Day – Puerto Rico

This day celebrates the anniversary of Luis Munoz-Rivera, a Puerto Rican patriot, poet and journalist.

Independence Day – Colombia

In 1810, became independent from Spain.

July 21 Independence Day – Belgium

In 1931, became independent from the Netherlands.

July 24 Pioneer Day – Christian - Mormon

This day honors the pioneers who came across the U.S. plains led by Brigham Young to Utah in 1847. The day is celebrated with parades to remember their pioneering ancestors.

Simon Bolivar Day – Venezuela, Ecuador

Simon Bolivar (1783-1830) was one of South America’s greatest generals. His victories over the Spaniards won independence for Bolivia, Panama, Columbia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela. He is called El Libertador and the “George Washington” of South America.

July 26 Day of National Rebellion – Cuba

Independence Day – Liberia

July 27 Caribana Parade – Afro-Caribbean, Canada

Held in Toronto, Caribana commemorates Canada’s diverse Caribbean community with the giant street parade, based on the Carnival of Trinidad and Tobago. It attracts nearly one million spectators including celebrants from the U.S.

July 28 Independence Day - Peru

In 1821, became independent of Spain.

July 30 Oh-Harai-Taisai – Shinto

Japanese worshippers participate in a Grand Purification Ceremony as an act of purification for sins and offenses committed during the first half of the year. This ritual is observed twice yearly.

July 31 Feast of St. Ignatius Loyola – Spain

Commemorates the life of St. Ignatius Loyola (1491-1559) who founded the Society of Jesus, the Roman Catholic religious order whose members are known as Jesuits.

Source: Multicultural Calendar 2019 published by Creative Cultural Communications:
<http://usa.multiculturalcalendar.com/v/home.html>.

Navajo Code Talkers

For July, I am highlighting Navajo Code Talkers who served in the Marine Corp during WWII as code and communication experts. While there were other code talkers from other tribes: Hopi, Comanche, and Mohawk, since May 10, 2019, three Navajo Code Talkers and the last Mohawk code talker have passed. Fleming Begaye Sr., 97 years old, passed on May 10, 2019 in Chinle, AZ. New Mexico state Senator. John Pinto, age 94, passed on May 25, 2019 in Gallup, NM. On June 3, 2019, William Tully Brown, 96 years old passed in Winslow, AZ. Less than 6 Navajo code talkers remain. Louis Levi Oakes, age 94, the last of the Mohawk code talkers passed on May 28, 2019, in Quebec.

The U.S. military celebrates National Navajo Code Talkers Day on August 14th. In July of 1982, President Ronald Reagan signed a Presidential Declaration making August 14 as National Navajo Code Talkers Day.

The Navajo code talkers took part in every attack the US Marines conducted in the Pacific from 1942 to 1945. They served in all six Marine divisions, transmitting messages by telephone and radio in their native language. The Japanese were never able to break the code, a code developed within the Navajo language.

Navajo (Diné) Code Talkers – World War II

In 1969, the 4th Marine Division Association was holding its 22nd reunion in Chicago, Illinois. At each reunion, the committee selected someone to receive an honor. That year, Lee Cannon, a member of the Honor's Committee suggested that the Navajo Code Talkers receive the honor. As the committee concurred with Cannon, he spent time tracking down the code takers and receiving permission from the Marine Corp to honor these men. Cannon was not aware of the secrecy surrounding the code talker program and may have unintentionally set the wheels in motion to declassify the program and Navajo dictionary.

Fifteen Navajo code talkers from the 4th Division along with a Navajo code talker representing the 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 5th, and 6th Marine Division attended the reunion in June of 1969. This honor encouraged the code talkers to form an association and held their first association reunion in July 1971. During the reunion, a team of interviewers from the Doris Duke Oral History project from the University of Utah were there to capture the code talkers' memories of serving in the Marines in the South Pacific during World War II as code talkers. This was the first time the code talkers spoke of their military service. When they were discharged from the Marines they were told not to speak of or tell anyone including family what they did during the war just in case the military need to use the code again. In fact, their discharge papers did not identify them as code talkers (642) due to the secrecy of the code talker program. Since then, the code talkers have often been referred to as the military's secret weapon as the Japanese were never able to crack the Navajo code. The United States was able to crack Japan's naval codes, as were the Japanese able to break the U.S. codes. The "code" is a code within the Navajo language (see below for examples). The Army had limited success with the Choctaws and Comanche during World War I and II (in Europe), however, both tribes used their own language, it was not designed as a code within the language. With the Navajo code, if a person knew the Navajo language, they still needed to know the code in order to translate correctly as to what was being said.

In 1942, Philip Johnston, the son of a missionary, who lived on the Navajo reservation as a child, submitted a proposal to Major James Jones recommending that the Navajo language be used for military purposes. Major Jones contacted Major General Clayton Vogel with Johnston's proposal. Major General Vogel tested the possibility of using the Navajo language in late February 1942 in Los Angeles and determined that having Navajos transmit verbal messages was an advantage over sending code that needed to be deciphered before sending and deciphering again when received which often took hours when time was of the essence. However, a setback initially arose, as the Navajo did not have military words in their vocabulary. The First 29 Navajo recruits were given the assignment of developing a code, words in the Navajo language that would be used for specific military words. In addition, they were also told to design an alphabet. By the end of the war, the number of words had doubled from the first set of 200 plus code words developed.

The initial Navajo's recruits were recruited from the Ft. Defiance, Arizona area. Thereafter, military recruiters usually went to government boarding schools near the Navajo reservation. There were several requirements; the Navajo's had to be fluent in English and the Navajo language and be able to physically endure basic training. The Marine Corp found out that many Navajo's excelled in basic training due to their harsh life on the reservation. The ironic note of Native Americans sent to government boarding schools, was that one of the penalties facing the students was the inability to speak their language without punishment. That same language the Navajo's were forbidden to speak at school was now needed to help the U.S. defeat the Japanese. Over 400 Navajo's served as code talkers from 1942 to 1945, today the surviving code talkers are all over the age of eighty.

While the Battle of Midway took place prior to the Navajo code talkers' formation, they served in many other battles in the South Pacific starting with Guadalcanal, and including Bougainville, Guam, Pelelia, Saipan, Tinian, Okinawa, and Iwo Jima. The knowledge of the code talkers were on a need to know basis, they often reported to the highest commander at the battle sites. On various occasions throughout the war, the code talkers were mistaken as Japanese by both U.S. Army and Marine soldiers. Many were marched with a rifle in their back to the commanding officer so he could vouch for the code talker as being a U.S. Marine. Many of the code talkers were assigned "bodyguards" to ensure their safety (from both U.S. military personnel and the Japanese) as not only did they handle communications both talking in code but also repairing the equipment, stringing lines and "runner" duties, getting messages to the appropriate commander. In addition, on several occasions' marines thought the Japanese were on their radio frequencies when they heard the code talkers. According to McClain, during the battle of Iwo Jima, Commodore McGovern listened to a Navajo transmission thinking the Japanese had

broken into their circuit. McGovern grabbed the microphone and told the Japanese to get off his circuit. A Navajo voice immediately replied that he was Navajo, not Japanese and for him to get off the circuit. (p. 171-172)

The effectiveness of the Navajo code saved countless lives as reported by various commanding officers during those times they were utilized. In the battle of Iwo Jima, 6,821 marines, sailors, and soldiers lost their lives, including two code talkers. The fight in the South Pacific resulted in the death of 19,733 marines and 67,207 injuries. A total of ten code talkers were killed during the war in the South Pacific. After the war, the military department told the code talkers not to let anyone know what they did during the war in case they needed to be used again. Many of the code talkers returned to the Navajo reservation and kept their word about not letting family and friends know that they served as code talkers during the war.

In July of 1982, President Reagan declared August 14th as National Navajo Code Talkers Day. In 1992, the First 29 (referred to as such as they were the first Navajos recruits sworn in as Marines) or family members received Congressional Gold Medals of Honor. The remaining Navajo code talkers received Congressional Silver Medals of Honor for the service of their country.

Navajo's, as did many other Native American's served in the military during World War I. Based on their service to the United States, they were granted U.S. citizenship in 1924. However, they were not given the right to vote, the right to vote came later. It was not until 1962, Native Americans were given the right to vote in every state.

The Navajo lived in the same area of Arizona, New Mexico, Colorado, and Utah (Four Corners) for hundreds of years with the exception of four years in the 1860's when the U.S. government forced them to leave their homes to be interned near Ft. Sumner, New Mexico. The Navajo refer to this time as "The Long Walk" as many Navajo's died or were killed by Kit Carson and his men during their escort from their home (Four Corners area) to Ft. Sumner. When the Navajo were able to return to their land, the U.S. government reduced their land to half the size. Despite their past history with the United States government, Navajos have volunteered for military service in both World War I and World War II to help protect the United States and their land. In addition, many American Indians from the late 1800's were forced to attend government boarding schools. While attending, the students were punished if they spoke their native language. The government's need of Navajo's during World War II who could speak fluent Navajo and English (many Navajo's learned English at these boarding schools) to develop an unbreakable code in the Pacific does not appear in any history books written prior to the 1970's due to the secrecy surrounding their utilization during WWII.

Examples of the original code

Military Designations:

Corps	Din-neh-it	Clan
Division	Ashi-hi	Salt
Regiment	Tabaha	Edge-water

Airplanes:

Dive Bomber	Gini	Chicken Hawk
Torpedo Plane	Tas-chizzie	Swallow
Observation Plan	Ne-as-jah	Owl
Fighter Plane	Da-he-tih-hi	Hummingbird
Bomber	Jay-sho	Buzzard

Ships:

Battleships	Lo-tso	Whale
Aircraft Carrier	Tsidi-ney-ye-hi	Bird Carrier
Submarine	Besho-lo	Iron Fish
Mine Sweeper	Chia	Beaver

Officers:

Brigadier General	So-a-la-ih	One Star
Major General	So-na-kih	Two Stars

Colonel

Atsah-besh-legai

Silver Eagle

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