July 2023 Issue | Insight to Keep You in the Loop at EGCC

The Torch

Lighting the way for Diversity, Inclusion and Student Culture



people are knowledgeable about the French roots of New Orleans, French based creole, and the Louisiana purchase which have all greatly contributed to who and what the US has become today. But, did you know that California has the most significant French population? Louisiana comes in second place behind California. Also, I bet you didn't know that Maine has the highest percentage (25%) of French inhabitants. In fact, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, over 1.2 million people in the US speak French or a French Patois, such as Jamaican Patois or French Creole. So, this month say it loud! "Vive la France!" By: Julian Walker (2017). French-American Heritage month. National Today. https://nationaltoday.com/french-american-heritage-month/

**JULY 26** Disability Awareness Day is recognized on July 26, with the goal of encouraging others to gain a better understanding of persons affected by a disability, whether it is physical, cognitive, or psychological. Additionally, it is meant to increase awareness of the benefits of integrating and including people living with disabilities into all parts of society. While we're talking about being aware of differences and actively recognizing how persons of varying abilities accomplish the same goals, we need to begin with eliminating preconceived notions by truly getting to know individuals who are differently abled in our communities. According to the CDC, "disability inclusion means understanding the relationship between the way people function and how they participate in society, and making sure everybody has the same opportunities to participate in

When it comes to the topic of disability, some people may feel fear, discomfort, or may even avoid talking about it all together. However, the disabled population is also the most inclusive of any minority population, spanning all races, ethnicities, genders, sexual identities, religions, levels of education, socioeconomic classes – although you can't change the color of your skin, you can become disabled at any moment. But where do we start? The non-profit One Young World suggests ten ways we can all work towards make society more inclusive for people with disabilities, including: · Employing people with disabilities · Increasing disability representation in political settings · Integrating disability history into school curriculums · Employing more actors with disabilities in mainstream media

same way. Providing accommodations for a person to reach the same outcome as someone else does not detract from or harm another person; it simply acknowledges the worth and dignity of all persons. "Inclusion is not bringing people into what already exists, it is making a new space, a better space

And lastly, and maybe most importantly, realize that people with disabilities are humans, too! No

two people are the same, and no two people will experience the same disability diagnosis the

New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Georgia.

adopted the Declaration of Independence.

liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

began in 1775.

for everyone." - Rachel Olivero, National Federation of the Blind By: Abbie Twyford Wilson

every aspect of life to the best of their abilities and desires."

\* INDEPENDENCE DAY \*

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Also called the Fourth of July, Independence Day marks the historic date in 1776 when the

Declaration of Independence was approved by the Continental Congress. The written declaration

stated that the American colonies were tired of being ruled by Great Britain. They wanted to

become their own country. Before the declaration, America was part of the Kingdom of Great Britain (now called the <u>United</u> <u>Kingdom</u>). In the 1600s, people came from Great Britain to settle in what is now North America. Between 1607 and 1732, the British founded 13 colonies: Virginia, New York, Massachusetts, Maryland, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Hampshire, Delaware, North Carolina, South Carolina,

As these colonies grew, the people who lived there thought the British government treated them

unfairly. For instance, they had to pay taxes on items such as tea and allow British soldiers to stay

in their homes. The colonists had to follow these laws but couldn't do anything to change them.

The colonists rebelled. As a result, the Revolutionary War between the colonists and Great Britain

Fighting wasn't enough though. The colonists decided they needed to declare their independence

in writing to explain their reasons and gain support from other countries like France. On July 4,

1776, a small group of representatives from the colonies—called the Continental Congress—

Written by a committee led by Thomas Jefferson, the document was signed by people from all 13 colonies. But the British government didn't accept it. So, the colonists continued to fight for independence until they finally defeated Great Britain in 1783. The Declaration of Independence, now housed at the National Archives in Washington, D.C., is recognized around the world as an important message of self-governance and human rights. The second sentence says it all: that all people are created equally and have rights that include life,

Today the <u>United States</u> and Great Britain are friends. Most Americans still celebrate

Independence Day, often with parades and fireworks. Historians think this is thanks to a letter

written by John Adams, who helped write the declaration and would also go on to be the second

U.S. president. In his letter to his wife, Abigail, Adams predicted that the colonists' independence

would be celebrated by future generations as an annual festival with parades and bonfires. By: Tracy Esken

Rose Davidson- The scoop on why we celebrate Fourth of July

National Geographic Society- Copyright 2015-2023

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE \\\(O)|R\|L|D\<sup>y</sup>\\$ 

International Day of the World's Indigenous People is observed each year to raise awareness and protect the rights of the world's indigenous population. This event also recognizes the achievements and contributions that indigenous people make to improve world issues such as environmental protection.

Every year on August 9th, International Day of World's Indigenous People celebrates the

communities and knowledge of this population. Making up less than 5% of the world's population

PEOPLE AUGUST 9



EASTERN GATEWAY

World Humanitarian Day (WHD) is an international day dedicated to the women and men who lost their lives for humanitarian causes worldwide. The annual Remembrance Day happens on August 19 for Special Representative of the Secretary-General Sergio Vieira de Mello and 22 colleagues killed in a bombing attack at United Nations Headquarters in Baghdad. Humanitarian aid workers provide much-needed assistance to people suffering and less fortunate

ones that make easier and safer globally.

worldwide. These workers live in conflict countries or areas the destroyed and devasted by natural occurrences that lead to vulnerable of the people inhabitant those countries or areas. WHD is more than just a day of recognition of humanity's efforts; it is a day for people working on humanitarian causes and

Furthermore, United Nations has a theme for observing. The theme helps to bring together everyone across the globe to help improve humanity and raise awareness for the survival, well-being, and dignity of individuals affected by disasters and the safety of humanitarian aid workers. Humanitarian aid workers are unsung heroes in harm's way in conflict areas or zones to help other people suffering. People can observe World Humanitarian Day by



Taking a look at equality, it is a state of being equal, and these rights are for the equality in status, for equality in rights and for equal opportunities. There is a difference in fairness and equality. Fairness is ensuring that individuals are given what they need to make certain equity is obtained. Equality is the same

Before Congress officially declared August 26 as Women's Equality Day in 1973 when Representative Bella Abzug advocated a bill to designate this day to be recognized; women did not have the same rights as men in this country. Though the constitutional amendment had been ratified on August 18, 1920, it was not official until the correct government official certified it. U.S Secretary of State Bainbridge Colby signed a

proclamation behind closed doors, at 8 a.m. on August 26, 1920, and officially ended Women's Suffrage.

Women's suffrage began around 1847 with the first Women's Right Convention and has a long history of women wanting the same rights to vote in the United States. Through the Civil War, the ratification of the 14th Amendment, Supreme Court ruling upholding the states' rights against the voting rights of women, the formation of the National Association of Colored Women, to the formation of the Congressional Union

Today it may seem trivial to the newer generations that we celebrate these milestones; however, we must understand our past. In the words of Robert A. Heinlein, "A generation which ignores history has no past -

Women's Equality Day is celebrated to commemorate the adoption of the 19th Amendment, which gave women the right to vote and the Women Suffrage Movement. This day also highlights the many efforts of continued work towards full equality. We must also not forget to focus on equality with fairness to bring

treatment to ensure the state of being equal.

for Women Suffrage women have fought for equal rights.

and no future."

Always,

Karla

true equitable change.



essential in the forming of the United States. I especially enjoy this month because while it reminds the world that we exist, it also helps to remind us (Hispanics and Latino/a's) that we are great, that we come from greatness, and that we can produce greatness. The narrative around my community is often negative and our potential is often questioned.

Admittedly, that has an impact. Hispanic Heritage Month is as much a reminder to myself as it is

to the rest of the world ¡QUE SI SE PUEDE! (THAT YES, WE CAN!)

By: Alexandra Montaz

Rosh Hashanah

work or taking a sabbath.

Sukkot 9/29

To me Hispanic Heritage Month means visibility, it's a reminder, it's a yearly refresher that

energizes me to continue the work my ancestors began to empower and uplift my community

and those marginalized alongside us. Hispanic Heritage Month is a beautiful reminder to the

world that Hispanic and Latino/a people exist, contribute greatly to society, and have been

American Flags on government buildings and establishments be flown at half mass and asks Americans to honor those who lost their lives with a moment of Silence beginning at 8:46am Eastern Standard Time. Resources:

Rosh Hashanah, is celebrated at the Jewish New Year. The word actually means "Head of the Year" and is considered to be the birthday of the universe, the day accepted by the Jewish faith as the date God created Adam and Eve. Rosh Hashanah is over de on the first two days of the Jewish new year, Tishrei 1 and 2, beginning at sundown on the eve of Tishrei 1. These dates correspond to 9/15 and 9/17 of our calendar. Rosh Hashanah is celebrated with candle lighting in the evenings, festive meals with sweet delicacies during the night and day, prayer services that

include the sounding of the ram's horn (shofar) on both mornings and desisting from creative

By: Julian Walker

commemorates the miraculous protection God provided for the children of Israel when they left

days, Sukkot is a weeklong celebration celebrating the gathering of the harvest and

year trek through the Sinai desert. (2005). Sukkot - Chabad.org. Chabad.org. https://www.chabad.org/library/article\_cdo/aid/4126/jewish/Sukkot.htm Other Diversity

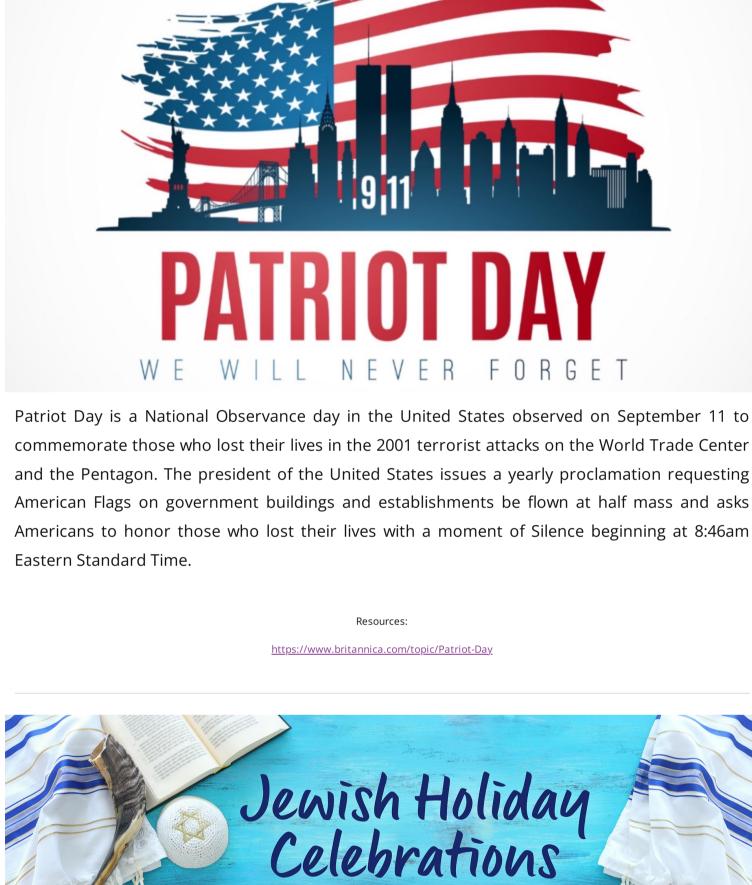
July 7/9: Martyrdom of the Bab(Baha'i) 7/19: Muharram Islamic New Year 7/24: Pioneer Day (Mormon) 7/30: International Day of Friendship

August

**National Civility Month** 

EASTERN GATEWAY COMMUNITY COLLEGE Steubenville Campus: 4000 Sunset Blvd., Steubenville, OH 43952 | Youngstown Campus: 101 E. Federal Street, Youngstown, OH 44503

PRINT SHOP



(2005). What is Rosh Hashanah? - chabad.org. Chabacanada.org. https://www.chabad.org/library/article\_cdo/aid/4762/jewish/What-ls-Rosh-Hashanah.htm Yom Kippur 9/24 Yom Kippur or The Day of Atonement, is the holiest day of the year in the Jewish calendar. For nearly twenty-six hours-from several minutes before sunset on 9 Tishrei (September 24) to after

nightfall on 10 Tishrei (September 25) Jewish people abstain from food and drink, do not wash or

anoint their bodies, do no wear leather footwear, and abstain from marital relations. Instead,

celebration of Yom Kippur dates back to the months after people of Israel left Egypt in the year

(2005). What is Yom Kippur? - the day of atonement - chabad.org. Chabad.org. https://www.chabad.org/library/article\_cdo/aid/177886/jewish/What-Is-Yom-

In Jewish custom, you begin immediately planning construction of the sukkah (a foliage-covered

booth) after the celebration of Yom Kippur. The sukkah is used for the joyous holiday of Sukkot,

which follows Yom Kippur by just 5 days. While Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are shorter Holy

2448 from creation (1313 BCE). Together with Rosh Hashanah, these days are considered the

High holy days in the Jewish calendar.

time is spent in prayer to God praying for forgiveness. According to the Jewish people, the

Egypt. The Torah refers to the holiday by two names: Chag HaAsif ("the festival of gathering," or "Harvest Festival") and Chag HaSukkot ("Festival of Booths"). Easy expressing a reason for the holiday. In Israel, crops grow in the winter and are ready for the harvest in the late spring. Some of them remain out in the field to dry for a few months and are only ready for harvest in the early fall. Chag HaAsif is a time to express appreciation for this bounty. The name Chag HaSukkot commemorates the temporary dwellings God made to shelter Jewish ancestors on their way out of Egypt. Some say this refers to the miraculous clouds of glory that shielded the Jewish people from the desert sun, while others say it refers to the tents in which they dwelled during their 40-

8/21: Senior Citizens Day 8/22: American Business Womens Day September Suicide Prevention Month 9/4: Labor Day 9/16: Mexican Independence Day 9/22: National Native American Day

If you have a story you would like to share with the Office of Institutional Diversity for us to spotlight, feel free to send it to: diversityoffice@egcc.edu

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