



McDowell County FACES Newsletter

The FACES of HOPE

January, 2015

facesfrn.com

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ODD HOLIDAYS FOR JANUARY: START THE YEAR WITH A SMILE

Peculiar People Day is just another weird event to celebrate the peculiarity in one's personality."

"Have fun with your friends or sweetheart by doing something really peculiar."

Why January and Why the 10th day? We did not find any reference to why the month of January or why the 10th of the month was picked to celebrate this day.

This holiday is referred to as a "National" day- However, we did not find any congressional records or presidential proclamations for this day. Even though we didn't, this is still a holiday that is publicized to celebrate.

After all, life would be so boring if we didn't have uniquely different people now wouldn't it!

Gone-ta-pott Day is one of those Weird National Holidays that gives you an excuse to celebrate the humor in a bad day. The best part is you get to do it on the 28th of every month. We have bad days every month therefore we think you need to party in it's honor and make the 28th of every month a gone-ta-pott day! That's right, it's time to get past the stress of life.

What does Gone-ta-pott mean anyway? Gone-ta-pott or "gone to pot" is a "idiom." If something has

gone to pot, it has gone wrong and doesn't work any more. A day where nothing has gone right. A day full of ms-haps. A day where everything you tried to do ended up with no success. A day where one thing right after the other went astray. A day when trying to meet a deadlines and everything got in the way. A day that should of been a day of success turned out to be a day turmoil.

Many times this idiom is pronounced Gone-ta-pott when a person is announcing how their day has gone. "My day has just gone-ta-pott!"

What is this Holiday for? This holiday is for seeing the humor in a bad day!

This Holiday is set aside for people around the world to appreciate and get a good laugh out of a bad day or a bad week. It's time to get past the stress. This day is set aside so friends can come together over a few drinks, a pot of stew and get a big laugh over stories being told about who had the worse day for the month. Invite all your friends and family over to share in the laughter. We all love to hear a good story and we all jump to attention when someone says..... let me tell you what happened to...! So on this day everybody needs to tell their best gone-ta-pott stories so everyone can get a big laugh out of it.

Play God Day: January 9 gives an opportunity for us "to act like Him and solve each other's problems.""

Play God Day offers you just the right opportunity to reach out to as many people you can and make their lives a bit easier."

We did not find any reference to why the month of January or why the 9th.

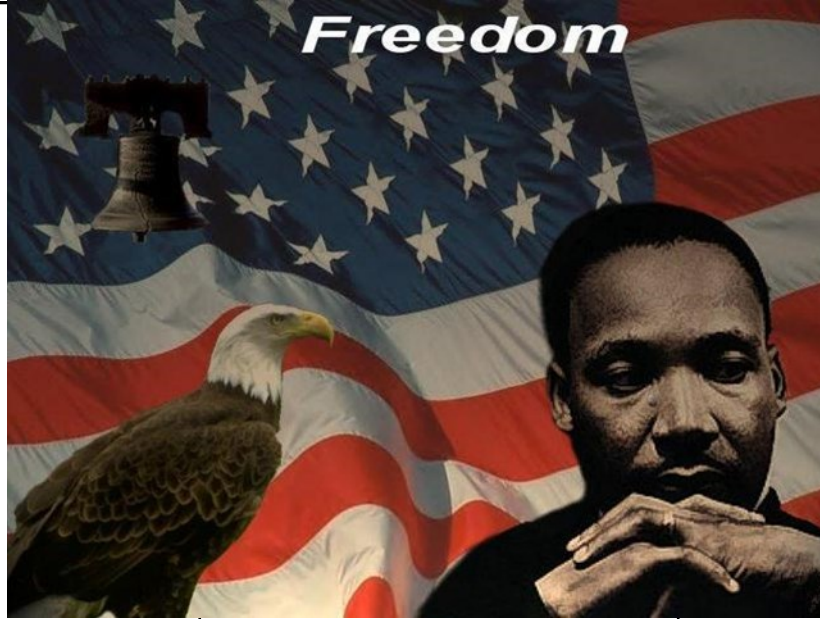
This holiday is referred to as a "National" day- However, we did not find any congressional records or presidential proclamations for this day. Even though we didn't, this is still a holiday that is publicized to celebrate. So enjoy the day and have fun with it.

My personal "holiday" is January 9 because I celebrate the birth of my only child, Daniel Allen Whitt, born January 9, 1983 at 9:43 a.m. weighing 7 pound 5 ounces and 21 inches long.

When I was 3 months pregnant, he gave my husband something to live for when he was nearly killed and recovering from a construction accident and he brings love and happiness into our hearts daily.

I hope I have many more years to celebrate my holiday.

Martin Luther King, Jr., (January 15, 1929 – April 4, 1968) was an American pastor, activist, humanitarian, and leader in the African-American Civil Rights Movement. He is best known for his role in the advancement of civil rights using nonviolent civil disobedience based on his Christian beliefs.



He was born Michael King, but his father changed his name in honor of the German reformer Martin Luther. A Baptist minister, King became a civil rights activist early in his career. He led the 1955 Montgomery Bus Boycott and helped found the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) in 1957, serving as its first president.

With the SCLC, King led an unsuccessful struggle against segregation in Albany, Georgia, in 1962, and organized nonviolent protests in Birmingham, Alabama, that attracted national attention following television news coverage of the brutal police response.

King also helped to organize the 1963 March on Washington, where he delivered his famous "I Have a Dream" speech. There, he established his reputation as one of the greatest orators in American history.

On October 14, 1964, King received the Nobel Peace Prize for combating racial inequality through

nonviolence. In 1965, he and the SCLC helped to organize the Selma to Montgomery marches and the following year, he took the movement north to Chicago to work on segregated housing. In the final years of his life, King expanded his focus to include poverty and speak against the Vietnam War, alienating many of his liberal allies with a 1967 speech titled "Beyond Vietnam".

In 1968, King was planning a national occupation of Washington, D.C., to be called the Poor People's Campaign, when he was assassinated on April 4 in Memphis, Tennessee.

His death was followed by riots in many U.S. cities. Allegations that James Earl Ray, the man convicted of killing King, had been framed or acted in concert with government agents persisted for decades after the shooting.

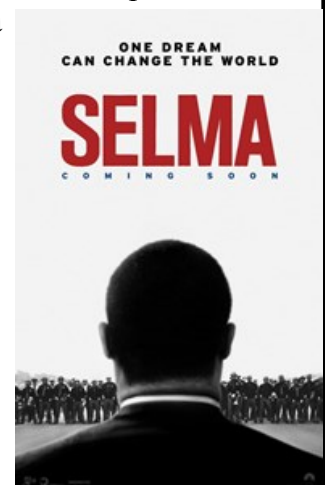
The jury of a 1999 civil trial found Loyd Jowers to be complicit in a conspiracy against King. The ruling

has since been discredited and a sister of Jowers admitted that he had fabricated the story so he could make \$300,000 from selling the story, and she in turn corroborated his story in order to get some money to pay her income tax.

King was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom and the Congressional Gold Medal. Martin

Luther King, Jr. Day was established as a holiday in numerous cities and states beginning in 1971, and as a U.S. federal holiday in 1986. Hundreds of streets in the U.S. have been renamed in his honor. In addition, a county was rededicated in his honor. A memorial statue on the National Mall was opened to the public in 2011.

On January 9, 2015, the movie *Selma* will be released. *Selma* is the story of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s historic struggle to secure voting rights for all people – a dangerous and terrifying campaign that culminated with the epic march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama, and led to President Johnson signing the Voting Rights Act of 1965.



2015 Meeting Dates



McDowell County FACES

January 8, 2015

February 12, 2015

March 12, 2015

April 9, 2015

May 14, 2015

June 11, 2015

July 9, 2015

August 13, 2015

September 10, 2015

October 8, 2015

November 12, 2015

December 10, 2015

All meetings are at 12:00 noon at FACES Office, 25 Bank Street. The meetings are typically over by 1:30 –2:00 p.m. The bold quarterly months are for Board meetings which we address items specific to FACES. The rest are community meetings where we may have a guest speaker, complete assessment, have issues brought to the table that affect the county. All meetings are open to the public.

This meeting is where anyone can come and identify a concern that can be addressed by providers, community, and families. The board is made up of 51% family and community members so we make sure the family has a voice on the issues facing our county. The Board creates a strategic plan to work on these issues and networks with stakeholders across the county to implement the plan as well as evaluate the process.

For more information contact Kathie Whitt at 304-436-5255.



McDowell County HOPE Coalition

January 26, 2015

February 23, 2015

March 23, 2015

April 27, 2015

May 25, 2015

June 22, 2015

July 27, 2015

August 24, 2015

September 28, 2015

October 26, 2015

November 23, 2015

December 28, 2015

All meetings are 10:30 a.m.—12:00 noon at FACES Office, 25 Bank Street. The meetings are open to the public. The HOPE Coalition has five Task Force Groups:

Health and Wellness: Jennifer Farmer and Nathan Acosta, Co-Chairs;

Chronic Disease: Donald Reed and Shelia Muncy, Co-Chairs;

Family: Jay Wilson and Karen Wilson, Co-Chairs;

Child Abuse/Domestic Violence: Rosie Jackson and Dee Ann Heptas Co-Chairs;

Alcohol, Tobacco and Other Drugs: Ginger Day

The Task Force groups are where the work gets done. For contact information, call Donald Reed at 304-436-9001 or Kathie Whitt at 304-436-5255.



River View High School SADD Chapter: Making a Difference



River View SADD Chapter Shares Christmas with Senior Citizens at Gary Nursing Home.

We all have our own traditions of celebrating the holidays. Many families gather at their grandparent's home to enjoy a home cooked dinner, laughter with relatives, watching the big game, or sleeping off the big meal but the important thing is the time well spent with loved ones.

This year River View High School SADD Club members wanted to start a new tradition. Members purchased and delivered presents to many residents of the McDowell County Nursing and Rehabilitation Facility. The evening was spent talking, laughing and singing many Christmas Carols. A few residents even got their doors decorated in a Christmas theme. Steven Matney and Kaitlyn Kennedy both stated this is a tradition that they will continue many years. "Just to see their happy faces, brought such joy to my own heart", stated Steven. "I think all schools and teenagers

need to get involved with the elderly, whether it be someone in your neighborhood or in this Nursing facility, we all have something we can learn from each other" said Kaitlyn.

Get involved in your community and volunteer, if you want to see changes, be the one to make a change said Advisor Ginger Day. I am so proud of this SADD Chapter, in such a short amount of time they have made great strides in changing their school and the communities in which they live.



River View High School SADD Club participated in "Tie One on For Safety Campaign".

This campaign started in 1986 by MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Drivers). Some of the most dangerous days of the year on our nation's roadways are between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day. That is why every holiday season MADD asks everyone to display a MADD red ribbon in a visible location to remind others to always designate a non-drinking driver. Tie One On For Safety is MADD's longest running and most visible public awareness project. The name comes from the phrase



"tie one on," which is slang for drinking alcohol. But at MADD they use the phrase to remind everyone that drinking and driving don't mix. SADD Members used the ribbons to tie on every car and bus parked at River View High School the evening of Tuesday, December 16, 2014. They also used the ribbons as ornaments on Christmas trees they decorated and donated to River View and to Five Brothers Pizza located in War and two trees have been placed at Bradshaw Town Hall. Anyone can stop in and admire the trees and feel free to pick up brochures and information on alcohol prevention and drug prevention.

If you want to start a SADD Chapter in your school or community and need more information call Ginger Day at 304-436-5255.



Meetings of Interest

WV Early Childhood Planning Task Force

As the Task Force wraps up its work this month, we want to thank the hundreds of West Virginians who contributed to the final plan we submitted to Governor Tomblin this month: **Building a System for Early Success: A Development Plan for Early Childhood in West Virginia**. The plan is posted at www.WVEarlySuccess.org. Also posted is a new 4-minute video, **The Earlier, the Better**, which provides a public-friendly introduction to the plan. All Task Force reports and presentations will remain available on our website for the foreseeable future.

The **Our Children, Our Future** platform includes as its #2 priority "Expanding quality early childhood programs," as proposed in the Task Force plan. Task Force member Dr. Art Rubin spoke at the recent OCOF press conference, featured in [this article in the Charleston Gazette](#).

Kids and Families Day at the Legislature will be held on January 14. The event opens at the Culture Center at 9:00 a.m. with the public premiere of a WV Public Broadcasting documentary called *The First 1,000 Days*. This excellent film puts a human face on the issues we addressed in our plan. To learn more about the event, [click here](#).

For further information about the work of the Task Force, please contact Julie Pratt, Project Director, at julie@ontheridgeline.com or 304-610-7154.

McDowell County FACES

**January 8, 2015
12:00 noon FACES Office**

McDowell County HOPE Coalition

**January 26, 2015
10:30 a.m. FACES Office**

South Central Community Collaborative Re-Design

In December DHHR, FRNs, and Providers met with the State agencies to talk about our Collaborative work. In our area this is **South Central Community Collaborative** and includes McDowell, Mercer, Wyoming and Mingo Counties.

Our meetings will now be held monthly on the **Third Thursday of Each Month at the Wyoming County DHHR at 10:00 a.m.** The Collaborative is a place where we can address child and family services, wrap around services, Safe At Home WV, and help to identify what it takes to keep children in their homes. Truancy is a big issue at the table.

Agencies and Providers are needed at the table for discussions and assistance. For more information contact the CSM at any one of the County DHHRs listed above.

January meeting will be **January 15, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.—12:00 noon.**