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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**Jeannette Rankin Peace Center Celebrates National Day of Decency
in Missoula May 14**

Contact: Betsy Mulligan-Dague, peace@jrpc.org or 406-274-6171

The Jeannette Rankin Peace Center (JRPC) announces two community events in observance of National Decency Day on May 14, 2019.

- Monday, May 13, 7 pm in City Council Chambers, 140 West Pine St.: Mayor John Engen will issue a proclamation recognizing May 14 as Day of Decency in Missoula, in conjunction with National Decency Day.
- Tuesday May 14, 12 noon at Imagine Nation Brewing Company, 1151 West Broadway: The Jeannette Rankin Peace Center and Mayor Engen invite the public to “a decent lunch.” Attendees may bring lunch or purchase one from the Arabian Food Truck at the brewery. According to a joint statement from Mayor Engen and JRPC Executive Director Betsy Mulligan-Dague, the purpose of the lunch is “to stand together with our neighbors to celebrate and commit to acting and promoting decency in our community through both conversations and actions. Through our local commitment to civil discourse and respect along with other local initiatives it is hoped that the concept of decency can grow on a national scale.”

The Jeannette Rankin Peace Center will distribute buttons and stickers at both events “to serve as reminders of the basic standard of civility that every American deserves, regardless of personal, religious or political opinions,” the joint statement from the mayor’s office and JRPC reads.

National Decency Day is the brainchild of New York’s Lisa Cholnoky, a private citizen. In 2017, Republican U.S. Rep. Lee Zeldin (NY-1) delivered a speech on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives to bring awareness to Cholnoky’s “Campaign for Decency. That speech started a movement to encourage people to focus on “decency in the way we interact with each other,” Cholnoky said. “Civil discourse is facing some of its biggest challenges today. People are afraid to express themselves without conversations becoming arguments, or worse yet, they are not bothering to talk at all. Most aren’t even listening. We know that at the root of understanding each other starts with a commitment to decency. Whether in our local or national discourse, reminding each other of the importance of civil discussion and shared purpose – no matter our differences of opinion – is a fundamental right that each of us can contribute.”

On May 14, events will take place in more than 15 states, aimed at inspiring decency in everyday life, conversations and actions.

Other Localities Participating:

East High School - Alaska
Watermark Communities - Arizona
Rampart High School - Colorado
Greenwich Academy, The Hotchkiss School - Connecticut
Tower Hill School - Delaware
Suncoast Elementary - Florida
Punahou - Hawaii
Cary Town - Mississippi
Nashua High School - New Hampshire
Tinton Falls - New Jersey
Shelter Island Union Free School District - New York
The Meadows School - Nevada
Davidson College - North Carolina
Governor's Proclamation - State of Arkansas
Governor's Proclamation - State of Connecticut

Missoula Proclamation attached

For more information, visit www.decency.today

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