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TOP SPORTS STORIES

- Trinity fields co-ed team for soccer
- Black Bears honor Pirates great, Blass
- Black Bears rally for 6-4 win
- Ex-WVU running back Garrison heading to Fresno State
- UHS' Voithofer earns spot in national golf tourney
- MHS boys' soccer hopes to build off state title
- Vegas predicts WVU football will win 7.5 games
- Teamwork the focus for Trinity volleyball

TOP NEWS STORIES

- Commission questions Birds Creek project
- Man arrested after ramming police cruiser
- MUB raises minimum wage by \$1.50
- Miss West Virginia, Outstanding Teen to be crowned tonight
- University Avenue to close for construction
- Evansdale Crossing project nears completion
- Study: Parking, safety could be reasons for vacant retail space
- 'Traditional' councilmen leave prior to Redmond's swearing in

Morgantown solar co-op forming

CONOR GRIFFITH
TheDPost.com

MORGANTOWN — Any Monongalia County property owners looking to switch their homes to solar power now have an opportunity to do that with a discount.

This is where WV Sun, a nonprofit that helps communities develop renewable energy projects and programs, comes in. Emily Stiever, the chief of staff for the nonprofit, said by banning together, people can better negotiate for cheaper prices on solar installation.

"Based on the same principle as buying in bulk, co-op members purchase solar systems together to save money and share knowledge," she said. "The group uses a competitive bidding process to select a single company that will install systems on all of the participating homes. Each participant signs his or her own contract with the installer, but everyone gets the bulk discount."

As of Friday, March 20, the Morgantown Solar Co-op had 27 members. Joey James, who lives just outside city limits, is one of them.

"What we found is that people are truly interested in renewable solar energy," he said. "It's really about a quality of life improvement."

James said anyone who wants to find out more or might be interested in joining the co-op can email him directly at jjames@downstreamstrategies.com or visit wvsun.org/solar-coops/morgantown-solar-co-op/.

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