



Community Coalition for Social Justice
PO Box 160
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ccsjwv@gmail.com
www.ccsjwv.org

UPDATE: JULY 1, 2022

MISSION STATEMENT: The Community Coalition for Social Justice is a coalition of organizations and individuals dedicated to promoting the principles of social, environmental, and economic justice and respect for all persons. We oppose discrimination and hate-motivated violence in Morgantown and surrounding communities.

Also: Please note that CCSJ is a 501 (c) (3) organization and therefore is non-partisan. While we encourage everyone to vote and participate in the political process, we do not endorse candidates, provide a forum for candidates to campaign, or publicize partisan political statements.

CONTACT US: Please send your web site suggestions to Mike Attfield at mdattfieldo@gmail.com. Please contact any of the steering committee members to volunteer to help and to share your suggestions for our work or e-mail us at ccsjwv@gmail.com. Please send items to share with our membership to Barb Howe at barbara.howe@mail.wvu.edu.

PLEASE ALSO REMEMBER TO SEND YOUR DUES - \$10 for individuals and \$25 for organizations – to CCSJ, PO Box 160, Morgantown, WV 26507-0160. You can join or donate by credit card via PayPal on our web site.

July CCSJ Meeting is July 19th at 7:30 p.m. on Zoom.

Here is the Zoom information:

Topic: Community Coalition for Social Justice July Meeting
Time: Jul 19, 2022 07:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81922860902?pwd=I4X5x1SRSTAy6vTijQDfUVicTOhlg-.1>

Meeting ID: 819 2286 0902

Passcode: 050702

One tap mobile

+16468769923,81922860902#, *050702# US (New York)

+16469313860,81922860902#, *050702# US

Dial by your location

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

+1 646 931 3860 US

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 669 444 9171 US

Meeting ID: 819 2286 0902

Passcode: 050702

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/keGECakOTd>



“READ ALOUD” PROJECT WITH THE SHACK NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE WAS A

SUCCESS: Mike Attfield, Nicole Bode, Susan Brown, Susan Buchser-

Lochocki, Eve Faulkes, D.D. Meighen, Sue Miles, and Sheila Rye read

to students in kindergarten to grade 6 on June 22nd and 23rd from books we purchased with funds from the FirstEnergy Foundation. For your reference, here is the list of books we used with the grade level:

K - *All Are Welcome* and *My Name is Yoon*; K/1 - *I Am Enough* and *Freedom Soup*; 1 - *Flat Stanley and Our School Garden*; 2 - *Black is a Rainbow Color* and *Chrysanthemum*; 3 - *She Persisted* and *A Friend for Henry*; 4 – *Henry’s Freedom Box* and *Stealing Home*; and 5/6 - *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind* and *The Distance Between Us*. D.D. Meighen also donated some related books to the Shack.

Mike Attfield led our effort to organize this. Our partners at the Shack (Shawnda Cook, Devon McDaniel, and Dawn Lipscomb) ordered the books so that each child received a copy of the book read to him or her. Several of the volunteers met with Melissa Workman, director of the WVU Nursery School, to learn more about reading to children, and she shared many ideas to keep children engaged.

It is hard to know who had more fun from this experience. Shawnda said, “This was great, the kids LOVED the activities everyone planned! Thank you so much for partnering with us!”

Here are some comments from our readers:

Nicole Bode: “What a fun experience! Thanks for organizing.”

Susan Buchser-Lochocki: “This was alot of fun. We all talked about names and being friends.... friendly to each other.”

Eve Faulkes: “My reading session with *Henry’s Freedom Box* to the 4th grade went well. I could see some rapt attention to the end even though the book may have been created for younger readers. The words were simple, but the illustrations were wonderful. The book was about one of the most famous escapes to Freedom during the underground Railroad. One of the reasons I thought the book might not match today’s 9-year-olds was that one boy’s reaction to the slave boss was ‘that guy was a psychopath!’ After, we talked about how important is to be aware of unfairness and of people who are sad around you and might need help. Some of the kids brought up mass shootings and many talked about their fathers or grandfathers in the service. One talked about the nightmares and screaming of her uncle. They spoke of their own fears of loud noises and trauma that can be passed down from ancestors. It got pretty deep. We also

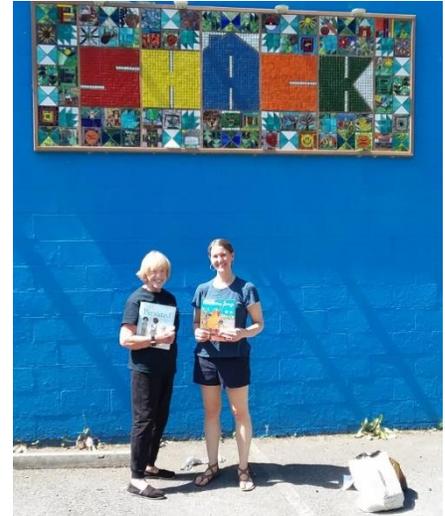
talked about when things go well and the history of successful helping one another across races and faith as happened at the Shack and in Scotts Run, a legacy of where they are playing and learning right now.”

D. D. Meighen: “Enjoyed the experiences as well. Reading with visual aids and creative dramatics is such a great way of telling or reading the story. With ‘Flat Stanley’ I had the kids become as flat as they could and slip through a coat hanger (all successful). Hope we might do this again.”

Sheila Rye planned an activity and made cornbread in a cast iron skillet because it’s mentioned in the book she read. She also gave the children two stickers from previous Martin Luther King, Jr., Day events that related to the theme of her book.

One of the readers shared that she/he was a dyslexic with learning disabilities but could still do lots of things like reading. After sharing that, one of the students said he/she also had dyslexia.

The Shack folks took this photo of Mike and the children with their copies of *The Distance Between Us*: On the right, are two of our happy readers: Sue Miles (left) and Nicole Bode.

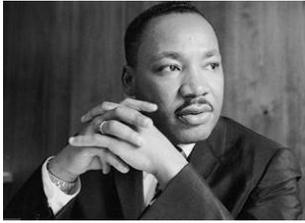


You can check out photos that the Shack staff took on their Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/theshackWV/posts/pfbid02Z2R7EdHpzfnuQZ5vBXjPywRgpQHJxNfTA2ti64836BWZm7y6QsECg5JNHDLneAk8l>.

We also have the opportunity to receive another \$2,000 from the FirstEnergy Foundation and are considering ideas on how to use that, including a possible social justice/environmental justice “fair” at Morgantown’s Ruby Amphitheatre on September 18th from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. (date change from original date). If you are interested in participating, please contact Mike Attfield at mdattfieldo@gmail.com.

CCSJ SUPPORTS WEST VIRGINIA CITIZEN ACTION GROUP (WVCAG) PETITION ON GUN VIOLENCE: This is to go to our legislators to take real action against gun violence. At “press time,” we are waiting to hear from the WVCAG about how to add our support.

BOOK LISTS UPDATED: We have updated our lists of books at the Morgantown Public Library system that focus on social justice topics. These will soon be available under the “Resources” tab of our website at www.ccsjwv.org/resources.html.



MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., DAY 2023: We are beginning to think about Martin Luther King, Jr., Day 2023 and have signed our contract to be back at the Metropolitan Theatre on January 16th.



FIND US ON FACEBOOK! Just look for “Community Coalition for Social Justice” under “Groups” and become our friend. Thanks to Mike Sharley for being our group “leader.”

LOCAL NEWS

MORGANTOWN CIVILIAN POLICE REVIEW AND ADVISORY BOARD UPDATE: The Morgantown City Council will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, July 5th**, during the council meeting that begins at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall, 389 Spruce Street. This will be on the revised ordinance creating a Civilian Police Review and Advisory Board. The revisions are necessary after Judge Susan Tucker signed the order finalizing the legal action with the Morgantown Fraternal Order of Police. You can find the proposed revisions at morgantownwv.gov/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Agenda/_07052022-2098, starting at page 36 of the packet for the council meeting.

Mike Attfield has contacted members of city council to express our support for the revised ordinance and our desire for council to appoint members to the board.



MORGANTOWN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION: The next regular meeting will be Thursday, **July 21st** at 6:30 p.m. You can get contact information for the commission, including information on filing complaint forms at www.morgantownwv.gov/272/Human-Rights-Commission.

You can get copies of the agendas and minutes for the commission meetings at www.morgantownwv.gov/government/commissions/human-rights-commission/human-rights-commission-agenda-minutes/.

You can find a calendar of annual human rights observances at www.morgantownwv.gov/DocumentCenter/View/396/Calendar-of-Annual-Human-Rights-Observances-PDF

Here are the events for July:

July 4: Independence Day – Anniversary of the United States Declaration of Independence in 1776 which led to the creation of a new union and new rights for citizens.

July 11: World Population Day – Emphasizes awareness that the world’s #1 problem is too many people using too many resources and creating too much unsustainable waste. Excesses impact current climate, energy, and support systems.

July 26: ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) Day – Commemorates the 1990 signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which guarantees equal opportunity for people with disabilities.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MORGANTOWN-MONONGALIA COUNTY (LWV-MM): Follow this group on Facebook at www.facebook.com/LWVMM and contact them by email at lwmorgantown@gmail.com. You can join the League of Women Voters at tinyurl.com/join-lwvmm.



MORGANTOWN NOW CHAPTER: The next meeting should be July 12th at 7:00 p.m. No further information was available at “press time.”

Follow this group on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MorgantownNow/, which includes information about the repercussions of the Supreme Court’s decision on Roe. Details and agenda are available through the weekly newsletter or email at morgantownnow@gmail.com.



MORGANTOWN-KINGWOOD BRANCH OF THE NAACP MEETS JULY 19TH: This meeting of the membership will be at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom. Contact the NAACP at 3241naacp@gmail.com for more information and to learn how to participate.

The branch has a Readings on Race and Rights group that is publicized through the NAACP listserv.

The branch had a table at the Juneteenth event in Fairmont, when branch president Anitra Hamilton was presented with the 2022 Juneteenth Rosa Parks Determination Award.

The *Dominion Post* published an op ed by President Hamilton on May 29th that was a report on our recent activities.

Follow the NAACP on Facebook at www.facebook.com/naacp3241/?ref=page_internal.



MORGANTOWN CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN-MENNONITE: Follow them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/Morgantown-Church-of-the-Brethren-Mennonite-93776113634 or at www.morgantowncob.org. Sunday services are held at 10:30 a.m. in person and via Zoom, with the link available at www.morgantowncob.org. “We ask that everyone wear a mask inside the building.”

Groups are again starting to use the various spaces at Morgantown Church of the Brethren. If you have a community event or meeting that needs a space to gather, contact Wes at 681-209-2029.

The church has also started a Sharing Box outside the church at 464 Virginia Avenue, where you can drop off extra food you may have or take some if you need it, or swap food.



UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF MORGANTOWN: For information on Sunday services, please contact: UUFMWV@gmail.com or UUFMWV.org.

PFLAG: The closest chapter now is in Fairmont, with information available at www.pflagfairmont.org. According to its website, "PFLAG Fairmont meets each month, usually on the first Thursday of the month at 7p.m. on the 2nd floor of the Ruth Ann Musick Library on the campus of Fairmont State University."



DISMANTLING RACISM TOGETHER: This group is not meeting in July.

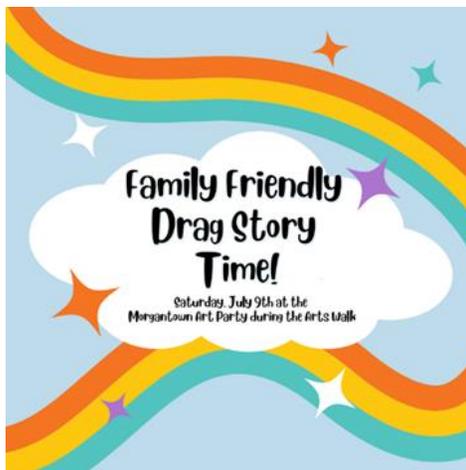


MORGANTOWN PRIDE: For information on this group, go to www.facebook.com/MorgantownWVPride/?ref=page_internal or www.morgantownwvpride.org. Morgantown Pride has an Instagram page at www.instagram.com/morgantownwvpride/?hl=en.

Registration is now open for Morgantown Pride's Block Party sponsors and vendors, and folks can register at forms.gle/HaNgc9yJ4anGqsN69. The party will be August 28th from 1: 00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Morgantown Farmers Market.



- July 7th - Pride Gathering @ Terra Cafe Patio / 6:30pm - 8pm
- July 9th - Drag Story Time / Arts Walk @ Morgantown Art Party / 11 am - 4pm
- July 10th - Public Pride Meeting via Zoom / 11am
- July 29th - Pride Mini-Golf Night @ Morgantown Mini-Golf / 7pm - 9pm
- July 30th - Pride Hike and Picnic @ White Park / 11am - 1pm
- August 7th - Public Pride Meeting via Zoom / 11am
- August 13th - Swimming at Cheat Lake Beach / 1pm - 3pm
- August 27th - Morgantown Pride Parade / 7pm





There are “Raising Trans Kids” events scheduled for July 9th and August 13th on Zoom from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. “The Raising Trans Kids Community Group is for West Virginia parents, guardians, and families who are raising transgender or gender diverse kids (of any age), or have kids who might be transgender or gender diverse.” Email raisingtranskids@gmail.com to get the meeting information.



MONONGALIA COUNTY CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER EVENTS:

JULY 23: Suncrest Café and Mountaineer Golf Course will be hosting a golf tournament to benefit Monongalia County Child Advocacy Center at 9:00 a.m. Team registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. All proceeds will directly benefit children who have experienced abuse, neglect, or other adverse childhood experiences (ACEs). 🏌️ 3-Person Scramble - \$210 per team; 🏌️ Tee Sponsorships Available.

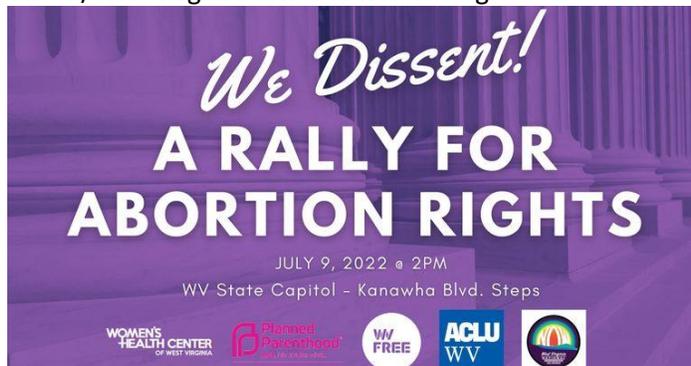
August 1: MCCAC will host a Tour/Information Night at the Center at 909 Greenbag Road in Morgantown “Join us to learn about MCCAC’s services, the Barbara Myers Ambassador Program, and more. Tours will also be available - come check out the new addition!



STATE-WIDE AND AREA EVENTS



WEST VIRGINIA NOW: West Virginia NOW is online at www.facebook.com/WestVirginiaNow and wvnow.org.





FAIRNESS WEST VIRGINIA ANNOUNCES SAFE & HEALTHY SCHOOLS INITIATIVE: This is “to make sure we’re doing everything we can to keep our kids safe, supported and prepared to become the leaders of tomorrow.” Paula Kerner, a 35-year veteran of Kanawha County Schools, is joining Fairness West Virginia to lead this new initiative.



ACLU QUEER YOUTH SUMMIT REGISTRATION IS OPEN: “This free camp will bring together young West Virginians either identify as LGBTQ+ or come from LGBTQ+ families from across the state, and give them the tools they need to organize and advocate for the issues they care about.

“Campers will learn how to talk to legislators, run effective meetings, tell powerful stories, and more, and will participate in a collective action to better the lives of LGBTQ+ people after the camp concludes. Perhaps most importantly, AQYS campers will get to be themselves for a weekend

around people who understand them.

“The 2022 Summit will take place at Jackson's Mill in Lewis County from late morning on August 1st to the afternoon on August 5th.”

For more information and the registration link, please go to action.aclu.org/webform/wv-aqys-2022.

ACLU AND ABORTION ACCESS: “The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), ACLU of West Virginia (ACLU-WV), Mountain State Justice (MSJ) and the Cooley law firm filed the lawsuit in Kanawha County Circuit Court on Wednesday, June 29, 2022 on behalf of Women’s Health Center of West Virginia (WHC) and its staff.

“The statute in question, enacted by the state legislature in the late 1800s, not only criminalized the provision of abortion care, but was also used to punish the person seeking the abortion (and even their partners).

“The lawsuit argues the statute should be considered void under the doctrine of “repeal by implication,” a legal concept recognized in West Virginia courts that holds an older law is made void when a newer, conflicting law is passed.”

For the full press release, go to www.acluww.org/en/press-releases/were-suing-have-states-19th-century-crime-abortion-declared-unenforceable



The **ACLU of West Virginia Equity and Justice Fellowship** is open to undergraduate students, graduate students, law students, and nontraditional students or citizen activists who identify as being in a historically marginalized community that is underrepresented in West Virginia advocacy and policy-making spaces.

Depending on fellows' areas of study and career goals, fellows can work with ACLU-WV staff on legal advocacy, policy advocacy, research, communications, community education, organizing, development, or nonprofit management matters.

The application is available at action.aclu.org/webform/wv-fellowship. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis. There is no deadline to apply.

Please contact Mollie Kennedy at mkenedy@acluww.org with questions.

SUFFRAGIST MEMORIAL PLANNED FOR CAPITOL GROUNDS: The West Virginia Legislature passed a resolution in 2021 and asked the Governor to appoint a committee to work on this. The West Virginia Suffragist Memorial Committee has been meeting for several months and is now seeking public input into the kind of memorial they might construct. The goal is to have the memorial finished by 2024. To learn more about the committee's work, go to westvirginiasuffragistmemorial.com. If you have ideas, please send them to Dr. Renate Pore, committee co-chair, at renatepore@gmail.com.

DIVERSITY CALENDAR FOR JULY 2022

From www.diversityresources.com/2022-diversity-calendar/

7/2 – Birthday of Thurgood Marshall (Black American): well-known as a civil rights activist who served as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court

7/6 – Birthday of 14th Dalai Lama (Tibetan): Happy Birthday to a Nobel Peace Prize recipient and Tibet's leader in exile!

7/6 – Birthday of Frida Kahlo (Women, Mexican): one of the most recognizable painters of the 20th century

7/7 – The Hajj (Islamic): annual pilgrimage to Mecca, that all Muslims must take at least once in their lives

7/18 – Birthday of Nelson Mandela (South African): civil rights leader for South Africa, and the country's first black president

7/25 – Pioneer Day (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints) observed: Utah official holiday marking the arrival of LDS church founder Brigham Young arriving to the Salt Lake area

7/26 – Americans with Disabilities Act: outlawed the discrimination against people with disabilities