



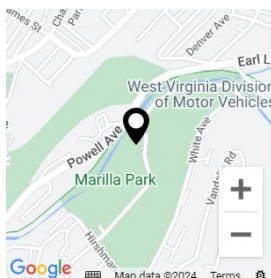
**Community Coalition for Social Justice**  
**PO Box 160**  
**Morgantown, WV 26507-0160**  
**ccsjwv@gmail.com**  
**www.ccsjwv.org**

**UPDATE: SEPTEMBER 1, 2024**

**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.



**There will be no regular monthly meeting in September. Instead, please join us at our CCSJ Picnic at Morgantown's Marilla Park Pavilion on Sunday, September 8, from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. All are welcome, and we are inviting members of groups that have attended our other recent events. Please bring a dish to share if possible. We will provide drinks. Al**



Anderson will sing, and Mike Attfield, Sheila Rye, and Jim Rye will provide music. We will have poster-size panels of our exhibit on the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Civil Rights Act and copies of our graphic novel for people to review. We will also have the NAACP's voter registration information available.

This will be our annual meeting so will include a very short business meeting at 5:30 to elect members of our steering committee, who serve three-year terms. The current steering committee members are willing to continue: Mike Attfield (chair), Al Anderson (vice chair), Sheila Rye (secretary), Barb Howe (treasurer),

Susan Brown, Judy Cohen, Laura Cohen, Tim Hairston, and Mike Sharley. We are also pleased to announce that Bonnie Brown, Eve Faulkes, and Don Spencer are willing to join the steering committee. If you are interested in joining the committee, please let us know at [ccsjwv@gmail.com](mailto:ccsjwv@gmail.com)

Our main purpose is a chance to get together in person and socialize. Do note, please, that CCSJ is a 501 (c) (3) organization. We encourage everyone to be an informed voter, but **no political campaigning is permitted at our events**, so please leave your buttons, shirts, and other campaign paraphernalia at home. Thank you!

Eve Faulkes is taking “Celebrating the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1964” exhibit and graphic novel on the road.



Eve and Joan Browning hosted the exhibit at MultiFest in Charleston from August 1st to 4th, where Eve took the photos. The center photo shows storyteller Crystal Good with her Black by God festival program book.



The exhibit was at Suncrest United for two weeks from August 16th to exhibit there.



Methodist Church in Morgantown 30th. The photos below show the



Eve Faulkes hosted the poster version of our exhibit at Morgantown’s Art Walk on August 10th. She also had the NAACP’s voter registration information available.

The future schedule for the exhibit, at press time, is:

**September 3-5:** A at the Clarksburg Kelly Miller community Center, 408 E.B. Saunders Way, just before the Clarksburg Black Heritage Festival (see below for more on the festival)

**September 6-13:** Fairmont State University

**September 12:** smaller posters at the Morgantown Mutual Aid Fair at First Presbyterian Church, Morgantown (see below for more on this event).

**September 17:** WVU Mountainlair with the cooperation of Javier McCoy of the WVU Center for Black Culture.

We are making plans to make the graphic novel more widely available through the funding we have received from the FirstEnergy Foundation.

**PRESERVING OUR HISTORY:** In August we donated two bankers' boxes of our records of our first 15 years to the West Virginia University West Virginia and Regional History Center. We will soon be transferring photos of our events and copies of our Update to the Center. We hope these records will help people interested in social justice groups around the county and state.



Joan poses with her book on July 13.

**Joan Browning donates copies of her book:** *Deep in Our Hearts: Nine White Women in the Freedom Movement* by "is an eloquent and powerful book that takes us into the lives of nine young women who came of age in the 1960s while committing themselves actively and passionately to the struggle for racial equality and justice. . . . The book delves into the hearts of the women to ask searching questions. Why did they, of all the white women growing up in their hometowns, cross the color line in the days of segregation and join the Southern Freedom Movement? What did they see, do, think, and feel in those uncertain but hopeful days? And how did their experiences shape the rest of their lives?"

Joan has donated five copies of this book to the CCSJ. We then donated one to the Morgantown Public Library. The other four are for sale at \$35 each if conveyed by hand or \$40 if mailed. If you would like one, you can reserve it by sending a note to Barb Howe at [barbara.howe@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:barbara.howe@mail.wvu.edu). You can pay for it by sending a check to our P.O. Box at Box 160, Morgantown 26507-0160. Or you can pay using PayPal. For details on this go to our "Join Us" page at [ccsjwv.org/join-us.html](http://ccsjwv.org/join-us.html).

**CONTACT US:** Please send your web site suggestions to Mike Attfield at [mdattfieldo@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:ccsjwv@gmail.com). Please send items to share with our membership to Barb Howe at [barbara.howe@mail.wvu.edu](mailto: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.



**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 HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION:** The next regular meeting should be Thursday, September 19, at 6:30 p.m. Contact information for the commission and information on filing complaint forms is at [www.morgantownwv.gov/272/Human-Rights-Commission](http://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/](http://www.morgantownwv.gov/government/commissions/human-rights-commission/human-rights-commission-agenda-minutes/).

**Vacancies on Human Rights Commission.** There are currently four vacancies on the commission. According to the City of Morgantown's website, "Appointments of to the Commission are made by City Council, and all must be residents of the City. All seats are non-ward specific." Information on applying for the commission is available at [morgantownwv.gov/FormCenter/Boards-and-Commissions-Application-7/Application-to-Serve-on-City-Boards-and--45](http://morgantownwv.gov/FormCenter/Boards-and-Commissions-Application-7/Application-to-Serve-on-City-Boards-and--45).

**Here are the events for September:**

**September 2: Labor Day** – Celebrates the historic struggles of workers in the United States to achieve safer working conditions, shorter hours, and humane restrictions on child labor while contributing to productive economies.

**September 8: International Literacy Day** – Supports awareness of the importance of persons being able to read and write in order to participate in today's economic, legal, health and social environments.

**September 17: Constitution Day and Citizenship Day** – Commemorates the ratification in 1787 of the United States Constitution, the organization of government, and rights of citizenship. Also honors all who have become United States citizens.

**September 21: International Day of Peace** – Calls for continual working for peace and reduction of use of violence in attempting to solve problems among individuals and all levels of human interaction.



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

The League has information available about the upcoming election, including an updated colorful flyer for all voters, a fact sheet for students, and a fact sheet on voting absentee for voters with disabilities. To get copies, please contact Judy Ball at [Balljk@aol.com](mailto:Balljk@aol.com). She is also teaching a class at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) on Voting in West Virginia that is open to OLLI



members in person or on Zoom. There is also information on voting absentee on the League's Facebook page as you can now submit an application for an absentee ballot.

The Morgantown/Monongalia County League is a member organization of CCSJ.



**MORGANTOWN NOW CHAPTER:** Follow this group on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/MorgantownNow/](https://www.facebook.com/MorgantownNow/) or email at [morgantownnow@gmail.com](mailto:morgantownnow@gmail.com).

**Future meetings:**

**Tuesday, September 10:** Meeting at Friends Meeting House, 7:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, October 8:** Mixer: TBA, 7:00 p.m.



**Sunday, October 27: 6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.: 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Berlin-Style FUNdraiser, 131 Pleasant Street, Morgantown.** "Join us at The Co-Op for our 3rd annual Berlin-style Ping Pong Tournament. All proceeds benefit Holler Health Justice. There will be nonstop ping pong plays, raffles, and much more. We will put the FUN in fundraising for a great cause."

**Tuesday, November 5:** VOTE (Election Day)

**Tuesday, November 12:** Meeting at Friends Meeting House, Annual Meeting/Officer Elections, 7:00 p.m.

**December:** Mixer: TBA

\*This schedule is an attempt to plan out consistency for the year! We will do our best to stick to this schedule but everything is subject to change for extenuating circumstances.

**NAACP**

**MORGANTOWN-KINGWOOD BRANCH OF THE NAACP MEETS TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17.** This meeting of the membership will be at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom. Contact the NAACP at [3241naacp@gmail.com](mailto:3241naacp@gmail.com) for more information and to learn how to participate.

The branch has a Readings on Race and Rights group and does its work with a variety of committees, including Education, Political Action, Legal Redress, Criminal Justice, and Health.

Follow the NAACP on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/naacp3241/?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/naacp3241/?ref=page_internal).

We appreciate the fact that the Branch shares this Update with its membership.



**MORGANTOWN CIVILIAN POLICE REVIEW ADVISORY BOARD NEEDS TWO MEMBERS:** The City of Morgantown is currently accepting applications for the two vacancies on the board, and you can get a link to the application and more information by going to [morgantownwv.gov/640/Civilian-Police-Review-and-Advisory-Boar](https://morgantownwv.gov/640/Civilian-Police-Review-and-Advisory-Boar). "The Board shall consist of nine members appointed by City Council. Each member shall be a resident of the city or an active member of an organization that works within the city to promote

purposes consistent with the purpose of the Board.” For links to agendas and minutes of past meetings, go to [www.morgantownwv.gov/AgendaCenter/Civilian-Police-Review-Advisory-Board-47](http://www.morgantownwv.gov/AgendaCenter/Civilian-Police-Review-Advisory-Board-47).



**MORGANTOWN CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN-MENNONITE:** Sunday services are held at 10:30 a.m. in person and via Zoom with the link available at [www.morgantowncob.org](http://www.morgantowncob.org). Everyone is welcome.

The church has a Blessings Box outside the church at 464 Virginia Avenue, Morgantown, where you can drop off extra food you may have or take some if you need it, or swap food. Feminine hygiene products are also welcome.

Follow them on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/Morgantown-Church-of-the-Brethren-Mennonite-93776113634\\_](https://www.facebook.com/Morgantown-Church-of-the-Brethren-Mennonite-93776113634_).

The church is a member organization of CCSJ.



**GREATER MORGANTOWN INTERFAITH ASSOCIATION:** If you are interested in this group, please contact Eve Faulkes at [faulkeseve@gmail.com](mailto:faulkeseve@gmail.com).

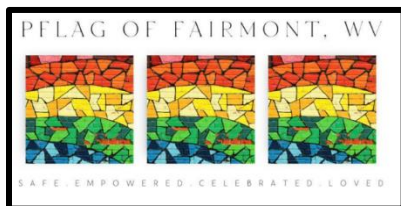


**DISMANTLING RACISM TOGETHER MEETS MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 16:** The program will be at 7:00 p.m. by zoom to hear Eve Faulkes’s presentation on West Virginians in Civil Rights as portrayed in a recent project she designed. The zoom link is [us02web.zoom.us/j/85962493623#success](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85962493623#success).

To learn more about Dismantling Racism Together, go to [www.facebook.com/search/top?q=dismantling%20racism%20together%20morgantown](https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=dismantling%20racism%20together%20morgantown).



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MORGANTOWN:** The church is located at 456 Spruce Street. The church’s community engagement/mission efforts include a free Community Pancake Breakfast each Sunday, a church garden, and support for groups like the Appalachian Prison Book Project. Planning is also underway for an event in early October to support and network LGBTQIA+ Youth and families. Adult Sunday School is at 9:30 a.m. Online worship is at 10:00 a.m., and in-person worship is at 11:00 a.m. Learn more about this work at [www.firstpresmorgantown.org/community-missions](http://www.firstpresmorgantown.org/community-missions).



**FAIRMONT PFLAG MEETS TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17TH:** This meeting will be an election for new board members.

Information is available at [www.pflagfairmont.org](http://www.pflagfairmont.org) or [www.facebook.com/groups/PFLAGFairmont](https://www.facebook.com/groups/PFLAGFairmont). There are many events listed on the Facebook page.



**MORGANTOWN PRIDE EVENTS:**



For information on Morgantown PRIDE, and descriptions of the board positions, go to [www.facebook.com/MorgantownWVPride/?ref=page\\_internal](https://www.facebook.com/MorgantownWVPride/?ref=page_internal) or [www.morgantownwvpride.org](http://www.morgantownwvpride.org). This is a very active Facebook page so check it regularly for updates and more events.

Morgantown Pride has an Instagram page at [www.instagram.com/morgantownwvpride/?hl=en](https://www.instagram.com/morgantownwvpride/?hl=en).

#### PROJECT RAINBOW:



Project Rainbow provides shelter and support services to vulnerable young folks in the LGBT community who come from all across WV. They need our support. This gala is going to be so much fun! Drag performers, aerialists, mimosas, silent art auction, and brunch by Almost Heaven Desserts.

Come join us! You can buy tickets at [https://www.projectrainbowwv.com/event-details/somewhere-over-the-rainbow-a-gala-](https://www.projectrainbowwv.com/event-details/somewhere-over-the-rainbow-a-gala-for-project-rainbow)

[for-project-rainbow](https://www.projectrainbowwv.com/event-details/somewhere-over-the-rainbow-a-gala-for-project-rainbow). Tickets are \$50+\$1.25 service fee for food, drinks, and admission to the silent auction.

There will also be a Spooky Drag Bingo on Saturday, October 12, at the Morgantown Art Party and Murder Mystery Dinner on Monday, October 28, at Gibbie's Pub.



**RAISING TRANS KIDS GROUP:** Anyone interested in joining the meeting for the first time or to get more information can email [raisingtranskids@gmail.com](mailto:raisingtranskids@gmail.com).

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.



**MONONGALIA COUNTY CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER (MCCAC).** Follow this group at [moncocac.org/news/](http://moncocac.org/news/) or on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/MONCOCAC](http://www.facebook.com/MONCOCAC).

The MCCAC "is excited to announce an incredible opportunity for passionate individuals to make a difference in our community. We are currently seeking a dedicated and dynamic Director of Awareness and Development to join our mission-driven team." Apply at [www.indeed.com/cmp/Monongalia-County-Child-Advocacy-Center/jobs?jk=04b803e59e2a10ce&start=0&clearPrefilter=1](http://www.indeed.com/cmp/Monongalia-County-Child-Advocacy-Center/jobs?jk=04b803e59e2a10ce&start=0&clearPrefilter=1).

The MCCAC is also looking for a group of volunteers to help beautify the outdoor space.

Activities Include:

**Weeding:** Help remove unwanted plants and weeds to ensure our green spaces are healthy and beautiful.

**Staining:** Assist in staining wooden stairs to protect them from the elements and enhance their appearance.

**Mowing:** Keep our small lawn looking neat and tidy by mowing the grass.

**Power Washing:** Use power washers to clean surfaces, making them look fresh and new. Surfaces may include: building, concrete pad, and fencing.

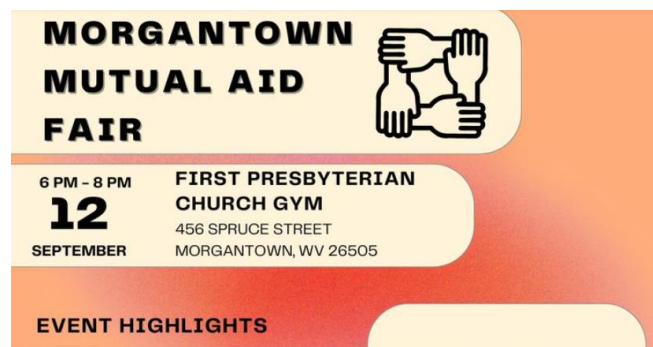
**Save the Date for upcoming events:**



**Battle of the Bartenders** – November 19, 2024, 5:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m., Kegler’s Sports Bar, 735 Chestnut Ridge Road. “Four teams of two will compete to be the best - the team who raises the most money by the end of the night takes home a prize!  
“Stay tuned for further information about the teams.”

**Girls’ Night Out** – May 30, 2025.

**SCOTTS RUN COMMUNITY SING:** This event happens every last Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m. at the Ferry House, 88 Lazzelle Union Road, Maidsville. It is right across from the railroad bridge entering Scotts Run. You do not have to be from Scotts Run to participate. It is for everyone, from anywhere, and for all ages!



**MORGANTOWN MUTUAL AID FAIR IS SEPTEMBER 12:**

“Join us on Sept. 12th for Morgantown's first mutual aid fair. This event will reoccur every month on the second Thursday from 6-8 p.m. Individuals will be able to get assistance with basic resources and outreach services. Have services or resources to offer? We are seeking applications for outreach services and items that might be helpful to low to no income

individuals. Contact Brian Butcher via email at [brian@wvhousingjustice.org](mailto:brian@wvhousingjustice.org) or send us a direct message.” Follow this group on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/events/26398354889810327/26398354896476993/](https://www.facebook.com/events/26398354889810327/26398354896476993/).

**WVU EVENTS**

**WVU WOMEN’S RESOURCE CENTER NEWS:** This exhibit and expo are open to the public.

**Silent Witness Exhibit**

**Sept. 30 – Oct 4, 2024**

**Vandalia Lounge, Mountainlair**

**Oct 7 - 11, 2024**

**HSC Pylons**

Help honor West Virginians who were murdered by acts of domestic violence and visit the Silent Witness Exhibit, a collection of life-sized silhouettes that soundlessly screams out for victims who can no longer speak for themselves.

**Silent Witness Resource Expo:** **Oct. 1st, 2024, 12 p.m. – 2 p.m., Vandalia Lounge, Mountainlair**

Learn more about the resources available for those who have suffered from domestic violence or for those who know family or friends who have experienced domestic abuse or violence. Several groups will participate to provide information on available services, resources and programming at WVU and across West Virginia.



**WVU LGBTQ+ CENTER CAMPUSWIDE PRIDE: WELCOME BACK MIX & MINGLE IS THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19TH:** This event will be at the WVU Mountainlair Gold Ballroom from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. "We're back for another exciting year! Join the LGBTQ+ Center for an evening of connection and community. We're holding a mix & mingle to bring together members of the LGBTQ+ Community and our allies from all across campus.

Enjoy hour d'oeuvres, refreshing drinks, engaging conversation, and enter to win one of three prizes at our raffle. Contact us with any questions at [lgbtq@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:lgbtq@mail.wvu.edu)."

**MONONGALIA COUNTY EARLY VOTING SITES ANNOUNCED:** You can start to make a plan to vote now. Early voting starts October 3<sup>rd</sup> and runs through November 2<sup>nd</sup>, Monday through Saturday, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. There will be four locations this fall: The County Election Center at Mountaineer Mall, 5000 Greenbag Road, near Anybody Fitness and the site of the old Goodwill Store for long-time residents; Mason-Dixon Historical Park, 79 Buckeye Road, Core, in the red barn; Suncrest Towne Centre 525 Suncrest Towne Centre Dr. next to First United Bank when coming from Stewartstown Road; and, **new this fall, the WVU Art Museum Education Center, 20 Fine Arts Drive**, with parking available in lot 51.

### STATE-WIDE EVENTS



**WEST VIRGINIA NOW:** For more information, go to [www.facebook.com/WestVirginiaNow](https://www.facebook.com/WestVirginiaNow) or email Amanda Ray, the state NOW president, at [amandajray@yahoo.com](mailto:amandajray@yahoo.com).

There is a new NOW chapter starting in Huntington. The kickoff will be an "Unhappy Hour" with Barbara Evans Fleischauer on Tuesday, September 24th.



Enjoy food and drink through the Morgantown Mile Private Outdoor Designated Area (PODA). Dress in your favorite caftan or as Helen called it, your 'house dress.' Stanleys, Furleys, Chrissys, Janets, Larrys and, of course, Jack Trippers are welcome! After crawling through downtown (and stopping for a picture with the Don Knotts statue), enjoy music at the Brew Pub and giveaways with Spike Nesmith of the Breakfast Show with Colin and Spike at 8 p.m. All ticket sales benefit the West Virginia Chapter of the National Organization for Women. More information may be forthcoming at [www.facebook.com/events/1070680534475919/?ref=newsfeed](https://www.facebook.com/events/1070680534475919/?ref=newsfeed)



**FAIRNESS WEST VIRGINIA:** Follow Fairness West Virginia on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/fairnesswv](https://www.facebook.com/fairnesswv).



**"Our Annual Gala is Quickly Approaching!"**

"Fairness West Virginia Institute is dedicated to education and advocacy on behalf of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer West Virginians and their allies. Fairness presents an annual fundraiser gala each year in the fall to recognize and celebrate the progress toward full equality in the Mountain State.

"Join us for an unforgettable evening where diversity and inclusivity take center stage. Roll the dice, spin the wheel, and revel in the thrill of A Night in Monte Carlo, all in support of a noble cause. Every chip you play, every dance you share, fuels our mission to foster love, acceptance, and equality for the entire LGBTQ+ community. Indulge in an elegant atmosphere, savor delectable cuisine, and dance the night away to celebrate love in all its forms. Together, let's raise the stakes for a brighter, more inclusive tomorrow. Your presence makes a difference; your joy makes it unforgettable.

"So we're excited to invite you to this year's A Night in Monte Carlo! Join us on Sept. 21, 2024 at Embassy Suites in Charleston as we dance the night away. This black tie-optional party will help us celebrate our efforts to make the Mountain State a better place for LGBTQ+ people to live, work and raise a family. We'll have food, music and a silent auction. See you at the Gala where everyone's a winner!"

You can buy tickets at [secure.everyaction.com/pcT65hQ-7Ua6fdo50Zd\\_pw2](https://secure.everyaction.com/pcT65hQ-7Ua6fdo50Zd_pw2). Sponsor information is available at [fairnesswv.org/gala/](https://fairnesswv.org/gala/).

Supporters can book discounted rooms (\$139/night) at Embassy Suites. To get the discount, book your room by September 5. Book Online: Visit Embassy Suite's website and book your room like normal. Set the date of your stay, select "special rates," and enter the code "929." Or, simply click this link. Book by Phone: Call 304-347-8700 and select "reservations" from the menu. Give the reservationist the code "929."

Fairness has also announced that "As summer break comes to a close and students head back to the classroom, our team is proud to be in the third year of our Safe & Healthy Schools Initiative. With this program, we're working all year round to make sure LGBTQ+ youth can learn and grow in the kind of supportive classrooms all students deserve.

"We got the idea to start the Safe & Healthy Schools Initiative during the COVID-19 pandemic. As schools closed that year, dozens and dozens of parents, teachers and volunteers reached out to us with concerns about a young person in their life who is a member of the LGBTQ+ community. They were managing feelings of isolation, feeling burdened by a national campaign of anti-LGBTQ+ legislation, or struggling at home. We realized that West Virginia had a crisis on its hands, and we wanted to help.

“Research from GLSEN showed that, in 2021, 70 percent of LGBTQ+ students in our state experienced at least one form of anti-LGBTQ+ discrimination at school. Most teachers in our state want all students to feel safe and supported at school, but they don't always have the resources or skills to make that happen. That's where we come in.

“In 2022, Paula Kerner, a longtime Kanawha County educator and veteran GSA sponsor, joined our team to officially launch the Safe & Healthy Schools Initiative. She spends her time traveling across the state training educators on how to make their classrooms more inclusive, how to address bullying and harassment, and how to encourage a vibrant student life that encourages everyone to be their best.

“Our annual gala is one crucial way that you can help fund Paula's work to make our schools more safe and supportive for LGBTQ+ students.”



**ACLU OF WEST VIRGINIA UPDATES:** Follow this group at [www.acluwb.org](http://www.acluwb.org) or on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/ACLUWB](https://www.facebook.com/ACLUWB).

The ACLU opposes Amendment 1 that will be on the West Virginia ballot this fall. According to their website, “Amendment 1 would change the West Virginia Constitution to prohibit ‘the practice of medically assisted suicide, euthanasia, or mercy killing of a person.’ Cynically, the proposed amendment concludes by stating that this does not prohibit the practice of capital punishment.” For more information, please go to <https://www.acluwb.org/en/news/life-and-death-ballot-vote-no-amendment-1-november>.

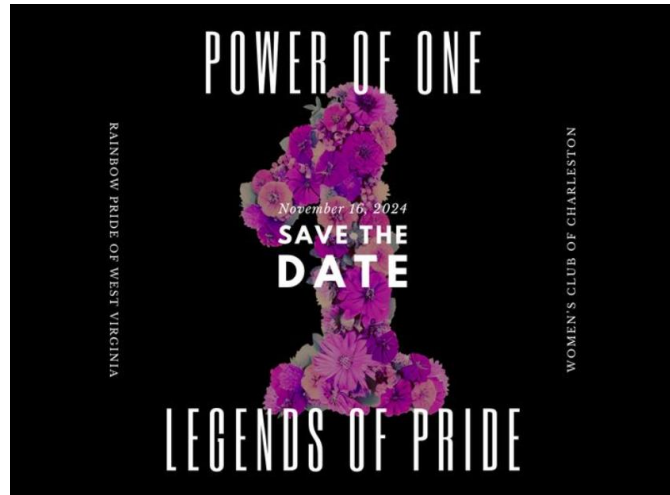


**Executive Director Search Still Open:** The ACLU of West Virginia is searching for a new executive director through Axis Talent Partners. The position description and application are available at [axistalentpartners.applytojob.com/apply/kRwAhtQdXw/Executive-Director-At-ACLU-West-Virginia](https://axistalentpartners.applytojob.com/apply/kRwAhtQdXw/Executive-Director-At-ACLU-West-Virginia). There is an open rolling application, but candidates who submitted before August 9th are likely to be in the first round of reviews by the search committee.



**RAINBOW PRIDE OF WEST VIRGINIA EVENTS:**





**WEST VIRGINIA TRANS COALITION:** “The West Virginia Transgender Coalition is a grassroots organization that works to ensure the wellbeing, safety and lived equity of all trans, nonbinary, and gender expansive community members within the state of West Virginia.” For more information, please go to [www.facebook.com/wvtranscoalition/](https://www.facebook.com/wvtranscoalition/).



**The 2024 West Virginia Black Heritage Festival  
will be held September 6th, 7th and 8th, 2024**

**Friday September 6, 2024**


Annual Kelly Miller / West Virginia Black Heritage Festival Golf Tournament  
8:00am Registration  
Bel Meadow Golf Club

**Saturday September 7, 2024 (videos of some of the performers are on the festival website)**

Opening Ceremonies	12:00 PM
Byron Cooper MC	All Day
West Side Rhythm and Blues	1:15 PM
Lady D (West Virginia's First Lady of Soul)	2:45 PM
Balafon West African Dancers	3:30 PM
Forever Yours - O'Jays Tribute	4:15 PM
The Franchise Band	5:30 PM

Invincible: A Glorious Tribute to Michael Jackson 7:30 PM  
Flight 66 Featuring Byron Cooper 9:30 PM


For more information and to register for the golf tournament on Friday, September 6, please go to <http://www.wvbhf.com/>.



**West Virginia Faith Collective**

**You won't want to miss this!**


Justice & Jubilee is a movement for liberation, rooted in progressive Christianity and born in West Virginia. They are a founding partner of the West Virginia Faith Collective, and they've got an incredible thing coming your way.



**A new series airing next month**

Black women make up between 1.5 - 2.5 % of the State's population. A small but vibrant group, they are often overlooked and unheard.

We believe that the least heard people have the most important things to say.



**Spilling the Black Girl Tea**

"Spilling the Black Girl Tea: Unfiltered Stories from the Heart of Appalachia" is a multimedia, anti-racism project uplifting the experiences and work of Black women who call West Virginia home.

The storytellers in the project are 17 Black girls and women ranging in ages from 16 to 80, candidly sharing their experiences in intimate conversations. The participants are students, community leaders, educators, advocates, activists and entrepreneurs who are talking about what matters to them most.

Some of these women are long-time friends. Some have just met for the first time. All of them are telling their stories their way.

This limited, four-episode series is set to launch on Monday, September 9, and each of the following Mondays throughout September. You can watch the episodes on the [Justice & Jubilee YouTube channel](#) and listen on the [Accidental Tomatoes Podcast](#).

**Want to know more?**

📌 Subscribers to the Justice & Jubilee email list will gain exclusive, early access to the weekly episodes! Watch your inboxes throughout the month of September, as Justice & Jubilee will deliver each weekly episode at the top of the week to its subscribers. If you are not subscribed to their email list, [update your email preferences](#) with us.

Follow Justice & Jubilee on social media to see who's involved in the conversations and what they're talking about!

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#### DIVERSITY CALENDAR FOR SEPTEMBER

[www.diversityresources.com/september-diversity-calendar-2024/](http://www.diversityresources.com/september-diversity-calendar-2024/)

**National Hispanic Heritage Month:** Observed from September 15 to October 15, this national month celebrates the culture and contributions of Hispanics and Latin Americans to the United States. The anniversaries of many Latin American countries are held on or around September 15 hence why the start of the month starts mid-month. Take time to acknowledge how these communities impact society and foster understanding of their unique heritages.

**National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month:** September is a time to remember the lives lost to suicide and people who are living with depression. In the United States, it's a leading cause of death and is an important topic to discuss with loved ones. Take time to raise awareness about mental health by sharing resources with loved ones or colleagues this month. It's also a great time to share inspirational stories of hope too.

**World Alzheimer's Month:** This international campaign focuses on acknowledging the challenges of people living with Alzheimer's and dementia, their families, and those who care for them. Unfortunately, the number of people who live with these diseases is expected to triple by 2050. This makes it that much more important to recognize the risk factors associated with developing it and steps to take toward reducing your risk of developing it in the future.

**September 10: World Suicide Prevention Day** – This day is observed globally to raise awareness about the prevention of suicide, a serious issue that affects people of all ages and backgrounds. It

encourages open discussions about mental health, destigmatizing mental health issues, and promoting support systems for those who may be struggling.

**September 11: Patriot Day** – Today, we remember the heroes and the victims of the tragic events that occurred on September 11, 2001. Take time to honor the lives lost in the attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City, the crash of the United Airlines Flight 93 in Pennsylvania, and the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. Today, reflect on the importance of unity and the commitment to fight for freedom during times of adversity.

**September 21: International Day of Peace** – This United Nations Day encourages the world to call for nonviolence and a ceasefire. It promotes peace and harmony and a variety of events that promote tolerance and understanding are held throughout the world.

**September 23: International Day of Sign Languages** – The International Day of Sign Languages celebrates sign languages as a vital part of linguistic and cultural diversity. This day highlights the importance of sign language in the full realization of the human rights of people who are deaf. It promotes the preservation of sign language and advocates for the rights of deaf people worldwide to have access to education and information in their native sign languages.

**September 23: Celebrate Bisexuality Day**- Bisexuality Visibility Day is committed to celebrating the bisexual community and its history and achievements. Raise awareness about bisexuality and speak up about misconceptions about the community in the workplace and beyond.