



Community Coalition for Social Justice
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UPDATE: APRIL 1, 2026

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.

OUR NEXT MEETING IS TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2026, AT 7:30 P.M. ON ZOOM. ALL ARE WELCOME.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81872301965?pwd=LSEmbdxX4rNKQt4nk64nxmK2aGl2m.1>

Meeting ID: 818 7230 1965

Passcode: 987681

One tap mobile

+13052241968, 81872301965#, *987681# US

+13092053325, 81872301965#, *987681# US

Join instructions at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/81872301965/invitations?signature=uSdG6JFvStu580nDYY2O6oHiYglkUQPKvsdzMePhhA4>

CCSJ WILL BE AT RDVIC WALKING WITH SURVIVORS ON SATURDAY, APRIL 18TH, AT FARMERS MARKET PAVILION AT 400 SPRUCE STREET: In-person registration starts at noon. The walk begins at 1:00 p.m. To register-on-line or get more information, please go to <https://www.rdvic.org/events/walking-with-survivors-2026>. We will have our graphic novel and co-exist bumper stickers to sell as well as cards publicizing that book.



Courtesy of Angela Smith
Community members examine literature on display at the "Unhoused in Morgantown: Barriers & Solutions" roundtable at the Mountainlair Gluck Theatre on Tuesday evening

CCSJ WAS CO-SPONSOR OF ROUNDTABLE ON HOMELESSNESS IS TUESDAY, MARCH 24, AT WVU: CCSJ co-sponsored this program with the West Virginia University student government, Mountaineers Indivisible Citizen Action (MICA), and others. Eve Faulkes had 2 of our exhibit panels about voting at the event and a copy of our graphic novel and cards to publicize it. She took the photo at the top left. The photo at the top right was in the *Dominion Post* on March 27, along with a long story about the program.

CCSJ AT APPALACHIAN STUDIES ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE: Joan Browning, Eve Faulkes, and Barb Howe represented CCSJ at the Appalachian Studies Association's annual conference at Marshall University on March 20th with a session on our graphic novel, exhibit, and related programming. We were able to distribute copies of the West Virginia Humanities Council-version of our book to libraries at Berea College, Clemson University, and Northern Kentucky University, as well as to representatives of organizations in Johnson City, Tennessee. Lori Hostuttler, director of the WVU West Virginia and Regional History Center, allowed us to have cards publicizing our book at her exhibit table. We will continue to have cards at the Center downtown Library.



Barb, Joan, and Eve. Photo by Denise Pittenger

Friday, 9:30AM-10:45AM. Session 2.2.
Education Building 100. PANEL:
"Celebrating the 60th Anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and West Virginians' Experiences in Civil Rights: How We Have Been Connected All Along"
Convener: Barb Howe, Community Coalition for Social Justice

- "Overview of the Project," Barb Howe, Community Coalition for Social Justice
- "Compiling and Illustrating West Virginians' Experiences in Civil Rights: How We Have Been Connected All Along and Designing the Related Exhibit," Eve Faulkes, Community Coalition for Social Justice
- "My Role as Storyteller and Co-Editor for West Virginians' Experiences in Civil Rights: How We Have Been Connected All Along and the Related Exhibit," Joan Browning, Community Coalition for Social Justice

If you wish to exhibit the original 6-panel exhibit on the Civil Rights Act of 1964 or the Voting Rights version, please contact Eve Faulkes at faulkeseve@gmail.com, who designed both exhibits. Both exhibits "travel" in the back of her car. We also have half-size posters of the six panels of the 1964 Civil Rights Act to show in smaller spaces.

NEW SOUTH MEDIA, INC. HOSTING JUNE 23RD BOOK CLUB MEETING FEATURING OUR BOOK: New South Media, publishers of *WV Virginia Living* and *Wonderful West Virginia*, among other magazines, is purchasing

copies of our book for the June 23, 2026, session of its “Book of the Month” meeting from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. EDT. Eve Faulkes, who compiled and illustrated the book, plans to attend, as does Joan Browning, one of the storytellers who is a Freedom Rider.

You can get information about the Book Club at <https://wvliving.com/bookclub/> and register for the June meeting at <https://304tix.com/events/west-virginians-experiences-in-civil-rightsa-wv-living-book-club-discussion-event-6-23-2026>. You can choose to attend in person for \$12.24, including food and beverages, or attend on Zoom at no cost. If you wish to purchase a copy of the book, you can do so after you register for \$20, including shipping. We expect that the books will be available by mid-March for those who wish to pick up a copy in person at New South Media’s office, next to The F.A.R.M., which is at 1179 Main Street in Granville, WV. Please call 304-413-0104 or email Natalie Webb at info@newsouthmedia.com to arrange a time frame for sale and pickup. Payment may only be made by credit card.

WEST VIRGINIANS’ EXPERIENCES IN CIVIL RIGHTS: HOW WE HAVE BEEN CONNECTED ALL ALONG!, our graphic novel, is available at:

Appalachian Gallery, 270 Walnut Street, Morgantown. The phone number is 304-296-0163.

Barnes & Noble, 3000 University Town Centre Dr., Morgantown. phone: 304-599-1294.

Terra Cafe, 4325 Industrial Avenue, Star City. phone: 304-554-2233.

The book also is available on Amazon as both paperback (\$15) and Kindle (\$8) versions. The easiest way to find it is to type “Eve Faulkes” in the Amazon search engine.

If you buy the book on Amazon, you may be able to leave a review. Go to Amazon.com, search for Eve Faulkes to bring up the book title. Then go to the bottom of the page where it says “Review this product” in the lower left corner for the guidelines.



We still have a few copies of this printing for libraries, museums, schools, and related organizations.

It is important to note that “This project [our reprint] is presented with financial assistance from the West Virginia Humanities Council, the official state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Any views, findings, conclusions or recommendations do not necessarily represent those of the West Virginia Humanities Council or the National Endowment for the Humanities.”

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 barbarahowe3@gmail.com.

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, Thursday, April 16th, 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.

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/.

The May meeting of the commission will be May 14th.

With the appointment of Caleb McClung, there are no vacancies on the commission for the first time in a long time.

Here are events for April from

<https://www.morgantownwv.gov/DocumentCenter/View/396/Calendar-of-Annual-Human-Rights-Observances-PDF/>

National Child Abuse Prevention Month – A time to emphasize the importance of families and communities working together to prevent child abuse and neglect and to promote the social and emotional wellbeing of children and families.

Sexual Assault Awareness Month - A month to promote awareness of sexual assault, harassment, or other abuse to increase prevention efforts to protect all people of all ages.

April 1: Youth Homelessness Matters Day – Part of a campaign to create brighter futures for young people who have faced homelessness and to show them they have the power and opportunity to become whatever they put their minds to.

April 7: World Health Day – Calls for an awareness that without nurture and protection of health, persons are vulnerable to economic and social hardship and inability to fully utilize or engage in human rights.

April 16: Holocaust Remembrance Day – Anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising – Seeks to commemorate the Holocaust by remembering and honoring the victims of the Holocaust which include six million Jews, thousands of Russian gypsies, homosexuals, persons with disabilities, and others.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MORGANTOWN-MONONGALIA COUNTY (LWV-MM). Thanks to Cynthia Nelson, the secretary of the LWV-MM, for this report:

Eligibility to vote in the May 12, 2026 deadline is rapidly approaching! The last day to register to vote is Tuesday April 21, 2026. You can do this online at sos.wv.gov.

We are encouraging all voters to use this website to verify your voter registration is active and on file before this deadline. You can also see your district and Election Day poll location. Remember your approved voter identification card when voting in person at the early voting or polling location!

The LWV-WV vote411.org team has been actively working for months to verify candidate filings in all races across the state and formulating survey questions for every race's candidates. Please use this free resource to learn about the candidates in your races. If a candidate you are looking for information has not replied to the questionnaire, contact and inform them that their participation helps you learn about their platform. The questions are designed to gain insight into their positions on matters important to voters. Candidates will receive the questionnaire pertaining to the office they are seeking in the next few days.

The following offices will be elected to the position in the May 12 election:

WV Supreme Court of Appeals Division 1 and 2.

Circuit Court Judge Circuits 6, 13, and 15.

Family Court Judge Circuit 10

Intermediate Court of Appeals

Conservation District Supervisor

Political Party Executive Committees

Any vacancy in a non-partisan office that requires a special election.

Voters in Monongalia County will also determine continuation of the Excess Levy for schools. A full breakdown of the allocation of excess levy funds can be found at boe.mono.k12.wv.us.

Early voting will be April 29th to May 9th at the Mountaineer Mall Election Center on Greenbag Rd. or Mason Dixon Park in Core. If you are absentee voting, make sure all instructions are carefully followed including the inclusion of voter identification and signature requirements. If any instructions are incomplete or incorrectly followed, your ballot may be contested and not counted. Also a reminder that the US Postal Service no longer post marks on date mail is received. They do not postmark until the date it begins processing. (Keep this in mind for your April 15 tax deadlines also).

The LWV of Morgantown-Monongalia County invites everyone to subscribe to LWV-MM's Substack <https://lwvmorgantown.substack.com>. A subscription gets you automatic updates. And it's free.

Follow the League on Facebook at www.facebook.com/LWVMM and contact them by email at lwvmorgantown@gmail.com. You can join the League of Women Voters at tinyurl.com/join-lwvmm.

The next monthly board meeting will be via zoom on Thursday, April 16, 2026 at 6:30pm. We encourage all members to participate in the monthly meetings.

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



MORGANTOWN NOW: Follow this group on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MorgantownNow/ or email at morgantownnow@gmail.com.



MORGANTOWN-KINGWOOD BRANCH OF THE NAACP MEETS TUESDAY, APRIL 21ST. 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 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.



MORGANTOWN CIVILIAN POLICE REVIEW ADVISORY BOARD NEEDS ONE MEMBER: The City of Morgantown is currently accepting applications for the one vacancy 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. "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."

The board meets the second Tuesday of each month at noon at the Morgantown Public Safety Building conference room. For links to agendas and minutes of past meetings, go to www.morgantownwv.gov/AgendaCenter/Civilian-Police-Review-Advisory-Board-47.



MORGANTOWN CHURCH OF THE BRETHERN-MENNONITE: As is traditional with the Church of the Brethren, Love Feast will be celebrated on Thursday, April 2, beginning at 6:00 p.m., and all are invited to experience any part of the service. It includes a simple meal, a foot or hand washing ritual, and communion. This takes place in the Fellowship Hall at 464 Virginia Avenue.

Easter Sunday, April 5, will begin with a festive breakfast potluck to precede the 10:30 service. People are invited to bring flowers, which will find a use in the service.

Services are in person or on Zoom at 10:30. For Zoom instructions, please go to <https://www.morgantowncob.org/>.

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.

The church is a member organization of CCSJ.

MONONGALIA FRIENDS MEETING: First Day meetings are at 11:00 a.m. at 648 E. Brockway, Morgantown. Contact them at monquakers@gmail.com. Monongalia Friends Meeting is a member organization of CCSJ.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MORGANTOWN: The church is located at 456 Spruce Street. 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.

It is a value of First Presbyterian Church that when we gather we welcome one another just as God loves us, without any conditions.

No matter who you are or where you're from
No matter where you live or work
No matter your family of origin or ethnicity
No matter who you love or how you identify, or wherever you are on your spiritual journey
We welcome you just as God loves you, without any conditions.

Annual Spring Flower Sale! Now through May 3rd: Presbyterian Women are offering beautiful spring hanging baskets for sale. The baskets are provided by Modern Homestead in Reedsville, WV and will be available for pickup on April 30th in Reedsville with deliveries to FPC on May 3rd and 10th. Prices range from \$24.99 to \$27.99 per basket. Order forms are in the parlor and checks should be made payable to Presbyterian Women. The proceeds from the sale support the missions of Presbyterian Women. For pictures and descriptions of the baskets, visit <https://www.shopmodernhomestead.com/s/search?q=hanging%20baskets>

The church's Facebook page is at www.facebook.com/FPCMorgantown and has details about the many activities. The church has been a member organization of CCSJ.



FAIRMONT PRIDE: Follow this group on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/fairmontpride>.



MORGANTOWN PRIDE:



Morgantown Pride has an Instagram page at www.instagram.com/morgantownwvpride/?hl=en. Follow them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MorgantownWVPride.

#pridetribeMorgantown #morgantownwvpride #YallBelongHere



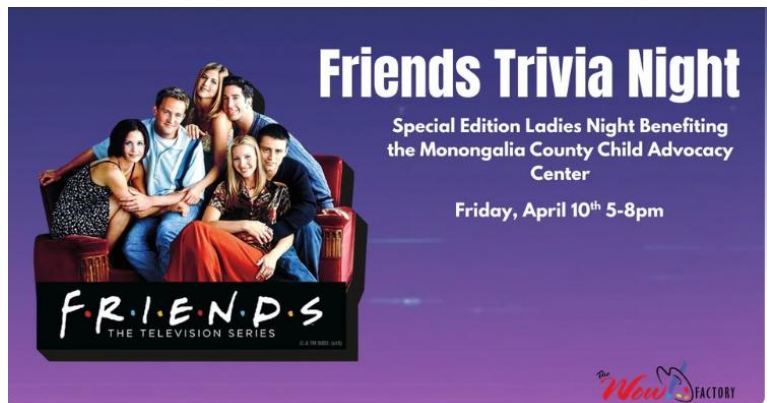
PROJECT RAINBOW: Follow this group on Facebook at www.facebook.com/projectrainbowwv or on the web at www.projectrainbowwv.com.



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



Check the MCCAC website at <https://moncocac.org/news/girls-night-out/> for information on sponsorship opportunities, ticket sales, and auction/raffle donations.



OSAGE GOSPEL 'N SOUL COMMUNITY CHOIR: The next meeting should be Monday, April 28th at the Ferry House at 6:00 p.m.



Morgantown WV Mutual Aid

MORGANTOWN MUTUAL AID: Follow this group on Facebook at www.facebook.com/search/top?q=morgantown%20mutual%20aid.

STATEWIDE NEWS

ELECTION SEASON IS UNDERWAY: For information on everything you need to know about registering, voting, or running for office, go to <https://sos.wv.gov/elections/Pages/default.aspx>. You can register now for an absentee ballot. Pay attention to deadlines and, if necessary, go to the post office to be sure something is postmarked on time.

Please see the League of Women Voters article above about issues for this election in Monongalia County.

Early voting starts April 29th and continues through May 9th, every day except Sunday. In Morgantown there will be early voting at the Mountaineer Mall on Greenbag Road and at Mason-Dixon Park. Any registered voter in Monongalia County can vote at any early voting site. On Election Day, you must vote at your precinct to be sure your vote will count.



WEST VIRGINIA NOW: For more information, go to www.facebook.com/WestVirginiaNow or email Amanda Ray, the state NOW president, at amandajray@yahoo.com. Follow this group on its Facebook page for updates on legislation relating to NOW's interests.

Kanawha Valley: Follow them on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100068111934197>.

Huntington NOW: Follow them on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61564175287992>.



FAIRNESS WEST VIRGINIA: Follow Fairness West Virginia on Facebook at www.facebook.com/fairnesswv.



"This year, lawmakers introduced several bills that would have directly harmed LGBTQ+ West Virginians. Thanks to the tireless advocacy of Fairness West Virginia supporters across the state, we defeated every single anti-LGBTQ+ bill.

Together, we helped stop:

A bill that would have overturned local fairness laws in 21 communities across West Virginia, protections that ensure LGBTQ+ people cannot be fired, evicted, or denied services simply for who they are.

A bill targeting drag performances, which sought to restrict artistic expression and further stigmatize LGBTQ+ culture.

A bill that would have criminalized transgender people for simply existing in public spaces, threatening trans West Virginians with criminal charges for using locker rooms and changing areas.”



Several communities are starting to post their PRIDE events for June 2026 on the webpage at <https://www.fairnesswv.org/events>.



ACLU OF WEST VIRGINIA UPDATES: Follow this group at www.acluww.org or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ACLUWV. This is a very active Facebook page so please check it for current issues and actions.



RAINBOW PRIDE OF WEST VIRGINIA

Follow this group at www.facebook.com/RainbowPrideWV or rainbowpridewv.org for information on various events.



WEST VIRGINIA TRANS COALITION: Follow this group at www.facebook.com/wvtranscoalition/.

APRIL MULTICULTURAL CALENDAR

<https://www.diversityresources.com/diversity-calendar-2026/>

April recognizes World Autism Month and features cultural and faith-based observances across multiple traditions.

April 2 – [Jehovah’s Witnesses: Memorial of Jesus’ Death](#)

Annual observance remembering the death of Jesus Christ, held after sunset.

April 2 – [World Autism Acceptance Day](#)

Promotes understanding and acceptance of autistic individuals and their families.

April 2-9 - [Jewish: Passover*](#): Commemorates the liberation of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt.

April 5 – [Christian: Easter](#): Celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ in many Western Christian churches.

April 14 – [Sikh, Hindu: Vaisakhi](#): Marks the founding of the Khalsa for Sikhs and the spring harvest in many parts of South Asia.

April Awareness Months 2026

Genocide Awareness Month: Genocide refers to the deliberate and systemic destruction or killing of a group of people because of their ethnicity, race, or religion. Learn about genocide throughout history, including in Rwanda, Cambodia, Bosnia, and Armenia, and the Holocaust. Learn what you can do to help those who are victims of these horrific tragedies.

Paralyzed Veterans Awareness Month: This month, learn about the challenges of veterans living with spinal cord injuries or dysfunction. The Paralyzed Veterans of America has 34 chapters across the country that educate the public about its programs, services, and support for injured veterans and their families. Take time to honor those who make these lifelong sacrifices for our country and freedoms daily.

April Heritage Months 2026

Scottish-American Month: This month, learn about the culture and contributions of Scottish Americans to society. Tartan Day is celebrated on April 6th to remember the signing of the Declaration of Arbroath in 1320, which granted Scotland independence from England. Highland games are enjoyed this month, including the hammer throw, tug-of-war, and caber toss. April is a time to learn about the impact that Scottish culture has had on America. Learn about their rich traditions to promote acceptance of all heritages in society.

National Arab American Month: This month, recognize the contributions of nearly 3.5 million Arab Americans to all aspects of American culture. It is also a time to raise awareness about anti-Arab bigotry and how to eradicate it. Focus on challenging stereotypes and prejudices in the workplace and beyond this month.