



Community Coalition for Social Justice
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UPDATE: SEPTEMBER 1, 2026

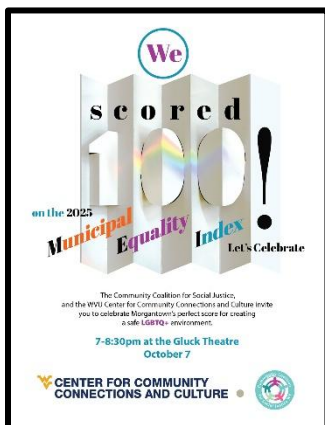
MISSION STATEMENT: The Community Coalition for Social Justice is a coalition of organizations and individuals dedicated to promoting the principles of social, environmental, and economic justice and respect for all persons. We oppose discrimination and hate-motivated violence in Morgantown and surrounding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

OUR NEXT MEETING IS TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15, AT 7:30 P.M. ON ZOOM. ALL ARE WELCOME.

Eve Faulkes will be hosting this zoom, and the link will go out closer to the date.

WELCOME MELISSA LATIMER: We are pleased to welcome Dr. Melissa Latimer to our steering committee. Since our annual meeting scheduled for August 16th was rained out, we elected her on our August 18th zoom meeting. Dr. Latimer is an emerita professor of sociology at WVU.

CCSJ TO BE AT SCOTTS RUN STREET FAIR SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19: We will have our graphic novel and bumper stickers for sale. See more about the fair below.



SAVE THE DATE OF TUESDAY, OCTOBER 7TH AT 7:00 P.M. AT WVU GLUCK THEATER TO CELEBRATE MORGANTOWN'S MUNICIPAL EQUALITY INDEX SCORE:

"Morgantown scores 100% on national LGBTQ+ equality index,"

The City of Morgantown scored 100% in the 2025 Human Rights Campaign's Municipal Equality Index (MEI) for support of the LGBTQ+ community. Morgantown was the smallest city in the country to earn 100%. The Community Coalition for Social Justice (CCSJ) and the West Virginia University Center for Community Connections and Culture (CCCC) are hosting a celebration of this success on Wednesday, October 7 from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. in the Gluck Theatre of the WVU Mountainlair. The event is free and open to the public.

The program will open with welcoming comments from Mike Attfield, chair of CCSJ, and Javier McCoy, director of the WVU CCCC.

Speakers will include immediate past chair of the City of Morgantown's Human Rights Commission, Annie Cronan Yorick, Esq., who prepared the annual MEI reports for 2023-2025. She will discuss "How to Earn a Great Municipal Equality Index Score." Key aspects of the report are non-discrimination laws, the municipality as an employer, municipal services, law enforcement, and the City's leadership on LGBTQ+ equality.

CCCC Program Specialist Julia Myers and Assistant Director Ti Bedunah will highlight the work of the Center and its focus on supporting the LGBTQ+ community. This includes Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, and Expression (SOGIE) training, Safe Zone training, and upcoming programming for LGBTQ+ History Month in October. The Center "aims to foster belonging, connection and holistic student success through programs, resources and engagement."

Executive director of Fairness West Virginia, Andrew Schneider, will present on the theme "Don't Stop Believing." Schneider notes, "In challenging times like these, it's important to recognize in places like Morgantown that we can still take meaningful action toward attaining protections and representation for LGBTQ+ people in West Virginia. Fairness WV will never stop fighting for and believing in a brighter future for all West Virginians. "Fairness West Virginia describes itself as the statewide civil rights advocacy organization dedicated to fair treatment and civil rights for LGBTQ+ West Virginians."

Dr. Kym Scott, director of choral activities at WVU, will direct a **choir of singers who support the LGBTQ+ community.**

The **event will be livestreamed** through WVU. Details of this will be forthcoming.

It is free and open to the public with partial financial support from the City of Morgantown so all are welcome.

Civil Rights Act Exhibit and Voting Rights Exhibits available:



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.

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.

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, September 17th**, 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. There is one vacancy on the 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/.

Here are events for September from

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

September 7: 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). Thanks to Cynthia Nelson, the secretary of the LWV-MM, for this report:

LWV-MM voter registration and education tables will be at multiple locations in September.

On September 4th, we will be at the Westover Senior Center from 4:30 to 6 pm. League members will also be located at the First Friday for the Arts on Friday September 4th from 6 to 8 pm. Our table will be located in front of the River Fair Trade on High Street. Information on voter ID requirements that changed in 2025, instructions on how to verify and/or update your voter registration, early voting opportunities will all be available.

On Saturday September 9th, LWV-MM will be attending a meeting with the Cass CEOs at Mylan Park from noon to 1:45 pm.

On Monday September 21st, LWV will be at The Heritage from 10:30-11:30 am.

On Friday September 25th, stop by and see our League members on High Street in Kingwood from 11am to 3pm.

The LWV-US, LWV-WV, and LWV-MM continue to be concerned about the handling and counting of absentee ballots. We encourage all voters to make a plan, assist family, friends and neighbors that might need assistance to go to their polling place on election day or take advantage of early voting locations to ensure their ballot is counted!!!

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. We hope you read our Substack articles shared on social media.

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 September 17, 2026 at 6:30 pm. We encourage all members to participate in the monthly meetings. If you are a member and cannot attend the meetings, you can always stay abreast of the conversations by reading the monthly secretary's report embedded in the agenda.

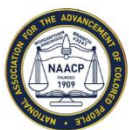


MORGANTOWN NOW MEETS SEPTEMBER 15TH: Morgantown NOW will be marking National Voters Registration Day, on **Tuesday, September 15th**, at **7:00 pm** with a program featuring **Monongalia County Clerk Carye Blaney**. Ms. Blaney will give an update on changes in the law. The meeting will take place at the **Monongalia Friends Meeting House**, [648 E Brockway Ave](#), located near the new Marilla Pool.

Also invited to speak on 9/15 will be members of the **WVU Vote for Equality Team** who will share what they've learned so far about how to boost the student vote.

In lieu of our regular monthly meeting in November, M-NOW will be holding our annual **Berlin-Style Ping Pong Fundraiser** at the **Co-op**, 131 Pleasant St, on **Sunday, October 25th**, at **6:00 p.m.** This very popular event is like musical chairs, only with a group of people circulating around a ping-pong table, many of whom are enlivened by beer. Costumes are welcome to celebrate Halloween!

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



MORGANTOWN-KINGWOOD BRANCH OF THE NAACP MEETS TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH: The meeting 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.

Branch members met with representatives of the Black Student Union on Friday, August 21st to encourage students to vote.

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: Have You: "Shown up" to protests or rallies, but want to do more; Worried about the effectiveness of your resistance; Wanted to resist State violence, but been afraid of retaliation; Desired to explore the moral, ethical, and spiritual dimensions of resistance in more depth? Good News; we have too! Join us at Morgantown Church of the Brethren every other

Tuesday in September-November for Beyond the Picket Line: Peacemaking Through Nonviolent Resistance and Mutual Aid. Together we will explore resources that examine the theoretical, ethical, and practical dimensions of living resistance; put resistance into action through role play and skill building exercises; and eat a simple meal together, because peace and justice begins around the dinner table. **Join us from 6-8:30 p.m. starting Tuesday September 8th.**

Worship with Morgantown Church of the Brethren September 6th will be outdoors at Marge Lewellen's farm on Joe's Run Road. Please plan on bringing a blanket or chair, some bug spray, and a dish to share for potluck. Phone for directions.

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.



CCSJ is co-sponsoring this workshop.

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: "Join us for our monthly meetings at the Frank & Jane Gabor West Virginia Folklife Center on the campus of Fairmont State University. Our meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 PM." Go to <https://fairmontpride.com/meetings/> to access the link to join the meeting virtually.

From the Facebook page: "In accordance with the bylaws of Fairmont Pride, this post serves as notice for an upcoming executive board election. Slate Two elections for the seats of Vice President and Secretary will be held at the September business meeting. Nominations began at [the] August business meeting and will continue until official voting at the September meeting. Members must be present at the September meeting to be eligible to vote.

"Nominations may be made in writing to the President via email at president@fairmontpride.com, in the member Discord server, or in person at the September business meeting before voting commences. To run for office and vote in elections, some qualifications include being a paid member. For a full list of board member duties, codes of ethics, and expectations, please visit our website at <https://fairmontpride.com/.../08/Fairmont-Pride-Bylaws.pdf>.

"If you have any questions about elections, board seat duties, or other business, please don't hesitate to reach out through this page or to a current board member directly. Thank you!"

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



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 Project Rainbow on Facebook at www.facebook.com/projectrainbowwv or on the web at www.projectrainbowwv.com.



MONONGALIA COUNTY CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER (MCCAC) EVENTS: Join us on November 15th at the Mon County Center for MCCAC's Holiday Market & Quarter Auction! Shop local vendors and enjoy holiday fun with the whole family while supporting a great cause!



We are still accepting vendors and sponsors!

👤 Want to participate as a vendor? Fill out the Vendor Interest Form here: <https://forms.gle/AFgEqucaDhHvUcAN9>

Completing our interest form does NOT commit you to participating — it simply helps us share updates and reach vendors who would like more information.

★ Interested in a sponsorship opportunity at the event? Reach out to pshreve@moncocac.org

Whether you're looking to showcase your business, gain community exposure through sponsorship, or simply enjoy a festive day of shopping and giving back, we'd love to have you with us!

Follow this group at moncocac.org/news/ or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MONCOCAC.

OSAGE GOSPEL 'N SOUL COMMUNITY CHOIR: The next meeting should be Monday, September 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.



Help us keep our community hydrated all summer. Scan the QR code to sign up for a shift to stock the cooler outside the Morgantown Public Library at 373 Spruce Street with a case of water and ice.



WVU HUMANITIES CENTER LECTURE OPEN TO PUBLIC ON SEPTEMBER 9TH:

"The WVU Humanities Center invites you to join us for an evening with Emily Matchar at 7:00 p.m. on September 9th in 202 Brooks Hall. Matchar will be discussing her novel, *In the Shadow of the Greenbrier*. (Light refreshments at 7:00, talk begins promptly at 7:30.)

"In the Shadow of the Greenbrier" is a multigenerational Jewish family saga set around the iconic West Virginia luxury resort, the Greenbrier. The novel is a deeply poignant exploration of trauma, legacy, and the stories

we tell to survive. Inspired by the remarkable yet little-known true events that shaped West Virginia history, *In the Shadow of The Greenbrier* follows four generations of one Jewish American family in the inevitable clash between legacy and individualism.

"Did you know that German diplomats were staying at the Greenbrier Resort in the 1940s? Do you know why? To learn more about a relatively unknown chapter of West Virginia history and meet a spectacular novelist, join us!

"This event is free and open to the public. Registration is not required, but it helps us plan: <https://wvu.libcal.com/calendar/events/shadow-of-the-greenbrier>.

"This programming is made possible thanks to our Pi Lambda Phi Jewish Studies Endowed Lectureship."

SCOTTS RUN STREET FAIR IS SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19:



STATEWIDE NEWS



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.



The ****West Virginia NOW Annual State Conference**** is coming up, and we want YOU there! Join us ****November 13–14**** for a weekend of connection, conversation, learning, and action with feminists from across West Virginia.

✦ ****Friday, November 13:**** Evening Mingle

✦ ****Saturday, November 14:**** All-day Conference featuring

inspiring speakers, interactive workshops, important conversations, and more!

And we're thrilled to welcome ****National NOW President Kim Villanueva**** as a special guest!

Whether you're a longtime activist, new to the women's advocacy space, or simply ready to get more involved, this conference is a chance to connect with people who believe in building a more just and equitable West Virginia.

Registration opens soon! Stay tuned for more details, and mark your calendar now. 📅

#WVNOW #WestVirginiaNOW #SaveTheDate

The meeting will be at the Kanawha County Public Library, 805 Quarrier Street, Charleston.

Kanawha Valley NOW: 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 GALA IS OCTOBER 17: “Join us in Charleston Saturday, October 17, as we celebrate with a tribute to the 1980s and dance our way to a brighter future for LGBTQ+ West Virginians for the Fairness West Virginia Institute Annual Gala.



“We invite you to *Don’t Stop Believing* for an unforgettable, 80s-themed night inspired by the music, spirit, and resilience of a decade that taught us how to hold on to hope.

“!Tickets are selling fast! Doors open at 6 p.m., with dinner at 7 p.m. Come dressed to express, and let’s light up the dance floor in style.

“Don’t miss your chance to shine – grab your tickets and let’s make history on the dance floor!”

Click here to join us at the gala! <https://www.fairnesswv.org/gala>

Follow Fairness West Virginia on Facebook at www.facebook.com/fairnesswv.



ACLU OF WEST VIRGINIA UPDATES: Follow this group at www.acluww.org or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ACLUWV.

NEW: We’ve created an easy-to-use tool to let your legislators know you want mass surveillance companies like Flock out of West Virginia for good. It’s never too early to let lawmakers know what’s on your mind. Use this tool today and tell the Legislature to get the Flock out of West Virginia!



The ACLU of West Virginia also has a toolkit called “Get the Flock Out: A toolkit for addressing mass surveillance in your community” at <https://www.acluww.org/news/get-the-flock-out-west-virginia-a-toolkit-for-addressing-mass-surveillance-in-your-community/>.

RAINBOW PRIDE OF WEST VIRGINIA: Follow this group on Facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/RainbowPrideWV>.



☐🏃 RUN, WALK, ROLL, OR SASHAY – LET'S GO! 🏃☑

Rainbow Run 2026- Saturday, September 12 @ 9 AM | Capitol Market, Charleston

This isn't just a race. It's a celebration. It's community. It's funding LGBTQ+ educational scholarships and building a better future together.

Whether you're sprinting, strolling, rolling, or serving looks the entire way – we want YOU there.

The Details:

📍 800 Smith St, Charleston, WV 25301

🕒 Check-in: 7:30 AM | Race starts: 9:00 AM

🏆 Prize categories for ages 10-46+ AND wheelchair racers

Register Here: <https://givebutter.com/RPWVRainbowRun>



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

SEPTEMBER EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY CALENDAR

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

September includes Hispanic Heritage Month and several observances centered on mental health, remembrance, and linguistic rights.

September 10 – World Suicide Prevention Day: A global effort to raise awareness and strengthen prevention initiatives.

September 11 – US: Patriot Day: Remembers the victims of the September 11, 2001 attacks.

September 15 – World Afro Day: Celebrates Afro hair, identity, and culture.

September 18 – UN: International Equal Pay Day: Highlights global efforts to close gender pay gaps.

September 23 – UN: International Day of Sign Languages: Raises awareness of sign languages and the rights of Deaf communities.

September National Months 2026

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.

September Awareness Months 2026

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.