Community Coalition for Social Justice
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UPDATE: NOVEMBER 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, NOVEMBER 17, AT 7:30 P.M. ON ZOOM. ALL ARE WELCOME.

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86887808295?pwd=4Uy1gK96ocBTXGcc5pTrljXNBqXJ8M.1

Meeting chat link: https://us02web.zoom.us/launch/jc/86887808295

Meeting ID: 868 8780 8295; Passcode: 679028

One tap mobile
+13126266799, 86887808295#,*679028# US (Chicago)
+16468769923, 86887808295#,*679028# US (New York)

Join by SIP: 86887808295@zoomcrc.com

Join instructions:
https://us02web.zoom.us/meetings/86887808295/invitations?signature=0YnUH20WHfFMc7zrXkA2F17otGZijc2wpRx1D32H1mM

CCSJ OPPOSES AMENDMENT ONE: At our October 20 meeting, we voted to oppose Amendment One which is on the West Virginia ballot. We are following the lead of the League of Women Voters on this issue, which notes that the amendment would add a ban on non-citizen voting to our state constitution. "Yet, non-citizens are already prohibited from voting under West Virginia and federal law. This statutory framework, along with other existing electoral safeguards, ensure that only eligible citizens vote in our

elections. The amendment is unnecessary and serves dubious purposes. State and federal law already dictate that only U.S. citizens can vote in our elections."

Please note that your ballot will only have a short summary of the amendment, not the full text, which is only a paragraph.

WE CELEBRATED MORGANTOWN'S MUNICIPAL EQUALITY INDEX SCORE ON OCTOBER 7: We worked with the West Virginia University Center for Community, Connections, and Culture (CCCC) to host this event. Speakers included 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 discussed "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 highlighted 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 (*photo on left*) focused on the theme "Don't Stop Believing." Schneider noted that, "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, directed a choir of singers who support the LGBTQ+ community, including participants from Pittsburgh and Morgantown.

The event was livestreamed through WVU. The recording of the program will be available on our website soon. The photos are by Eve Faulkes. We appreciated the financial support of the City of Morgantown for this event.

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.

AND AT THE PITTSBURGH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT! West Virginia Living Co. has a store just outside the arrivals gate or the new airport. You cannot miss the store.







WEST VIRGINIA HUMANITIES COUNCIL

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, November 19th**, 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 are three vacancies 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 November from https://www.morgantownwv.gov/DocumentCenter/View/396/Calendar-of-Annual-Human-Rights-Observances-PDF/:

Native American Heritage Month – Celebrates and honors the history and culture of Native Americans in the United States.

November 2: **International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists** – A day to emphasize that information is essential for decision making whether it be economic, social or political. Information is the cornerstone for democracy, good government and effective institutions. During the past decade 700 journalists have been killed worldwide.

November 3: Election Day – A day set by United States law for citizens to exercise the right to vote in the election of public officials.

November 9: Day against Racism – A call for global action against intolerance and its attendant violence as well as enhancement of communal and national tolerance, fairness, and mutual respect.

November 13: World Kindness Day – Calls for special deliberate efforts to treat others with kindness and even to exceed the rights which people can expect or hope to be honored in their relationships with others.

November 16: International Day for Tolerance – Emphasizes the dangers of intolerance and is a call for action for the advancement of human welfare, freedom, and progress everywhere, as well as a day to encourage tolerance, respect dialogue, and cooperation among different cultures and peoples.

November 20: Universal Children's Day – The world-wide day for promoting mutual exchange and understanding among children and for initiating action to benefit and promote the welfare of the world's children:

November 25: International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women – A day for emphasizing awareness that violence against women is a preventable human rights violation based on discrimination against women and a perception of inequalities between men and women.

November 26: Thanksgiving Day – Following a 19th Century tradition, this day commemorates the Pilgrim's harvest feast in the autumn of 1621 and their successful interdependence with Native Americans making the feast possible.

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

VOTE AS IF DEMOCRACY DEPENDS ON IT…IT DOES!!!

If you have not already taken advantage of early voting, that deadline has now passed. Election Day is Tuesday November 3, 2026 and polls in West Virginia will be open from 6:30am until 7:30pm.

A shout out and a thank you from LWV-MM to Mountain Line Transit Authority bus services for stepping up and providing free rides on all local routes on Tuesday November 3rd. If you need more information visit busride.org to view routes and times in Morgantown.

It is not too late to fulfill your civic duty to participate in the process of electing the officials that will represent us on local school boards, county commissions, state legislature, and federal government. If you do not know where your polling place is located then please check with the county clerk's office at monongaliacountyclerk.com or your Secretary of State's office to locate this information outside of Monongalia County. In West Virginia the site address is govotewv.com or sos.wv.gov. Every state has similar options.

You can also download a sample ballot mononaliacountyclerk.com or your appropriate county. You can complete your ballot on paper and take it into the voting booth with you. You may not use your cell phone or other electronic device in the voting booth. For information on your candidates we suggest you do the research on Vote411.org and ballotpedia.org. Both sites have questionnaires and ballotpedia.org gives biographies and voting histories of candidates if available.

As of October 30, 2026 more than 48 million Americans have cast their ballots early. In West Virginia, 115,855 residents have already voted in-person or by returned absentee ballot. This state participation in early voting is up 30% from the 2022 midterm election. However, in the 2022 midterm election, only 35.4% of the total number of registered voters actually participated. This translates to 100% of us living with decisions made by only 1 in 3 of us. This translates to our community, state and federal representation being determined by only ⅓ of eligible voters.

There are 1,210,297 registered voters eligible to vote in this election and the early votes currently represent less than 10% of those eligible to vote. We look forward to revealing what percentage of residents participated this year in a future contribution.

In recent years, United States elections have become fodder for conspiracy theorists, election deniers, and other interference. 2026 will prove to be a test of our laws, our Constitution, and our belief in a representative system of government. Political scientists, scholars, and historians are all issuing

warnings that as we count this election, we must all be prepared to stand up and defend the results. While mainstream media outlets like to project winners based on the initial returns, we must also remember that the actual process takes longer than just the election day results. In West Virginia, absentee ballots are not opened and tallied until after the polls close. All county clerks are also responsible for an official canvas of the ballots. This process can take weeks, especially if there are contested ballots or close races.

The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan volunteer organization that encourages informed and active participation of citizens in government. The League does not support or oppose any political party or candidate, but is engaged in local, state, and national issues of importance to our communities. The League works to influence public policy through advocacy and education. League membership is open to all men and women age 16 or older.

MORGANTOWN NOW BUSINESS & ANNUAL MEETING: The Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 10 at 7:00 p.m. at the Strange Light Coffee House, 304 Willey St., Morgantown.

There are four current Officers: 1. President, Adrianne Dering, 2. Vice President, Amanda Ray, Treasurer, Lynda Goldberg, and Communications Officer, Barbara Evans Fleischauer. All of the current officers are willing to run for their positions again. Nominations may also be made from the floor. We will have fall snacks, including hot cider.

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

MORGANTOWN-KINGWOOD BRANCH OF THE NAACP MEETS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17TH: The meeting will be at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom and should include a block of time to vote for officers for the coming year. The current slate includes Mark King, president; Kevin Gooding, first vice president; Dady Dadyburjor, second vice president; Chelsea Slade, third vice president; Hope Allman, treasurer; and Bekah Aranda, secretary. Contact the NAACP at 3241naacp@gmail.com for more information and to learn how to participate.

The branch has 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 BRETHREN-MENNONITE: November 1 is All Saints Day at our 10:30 Morgantown Church of the Brethren worship, with photographs of those no longer with us.

Looking for a place to be with people on Election Day? The polarized nature of our elections can make awaiting election results alone an anxious experience. **Join us at the Peace Table, November 3rd from 6:00-8:30pm for a meal and connecting as a community.** Taco Salad Bar will be provided with both vegetarian and omnivore proteins. Food prep starts about 4:15 if you'd like to help.

Saturday, November 7, you are invited to a pumpkin pie baking beginning 3:00 and wrapping up by 8:00, when you take home your beautiful pie. There will also be some supper provided. All will be provided so you can roll out the dough.

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.

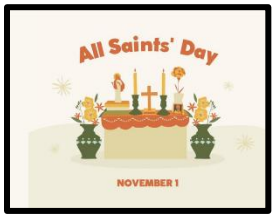
The church is a member organization of CCSJ.

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.



"This year we will celebrate All Saints' Day on Sunday, Nov. 1. Every year we take time to celebrate and name all church members, friends and loved ones who passed away over the past year. We invite you to bring photos of loved ones to place in the window wells of the sanctuary during worship."



"We are partnering with Scott's Run Settlement House to sponsor 25 families for their special Thanksgiving food drive. Scott's Run Food Pantry will serve nearly 300 families, and we are working together to provide non-perishable food items and gift cards for families.

Please take a turkey feather (or multiple feathers) from the bulletin board, purchase the items on the feather, and bring them back to the donation area in the church entryway before Nov. 10."



"Presbyterian Women is holding its annual greenery sale with Modern Homestead.

Available to order are two styles of greenery swags, greenery wreaths in three sizes, and a memorial greenery arrangement for gravesites. Please return your order form and check to the church office by Sunday, November 15, or to Ann Lawson, 305 Rhode Island Avenue, Westover, WV 26501. Checks can be made out to Presbyterian Women.
Include your contact information, the date you will pick up your wreath, and the location of pick-up. All proceeds from the sale will support Presbyterian Women's missions.
Deadline to order: Sunday, November 13.
Pick-up time and locations: Reedsville Modern Homestead: November 29 through December 5. Church parlor: Sunday, November 29."

The church's Facebook page is at www.facebook.com/FPCMorgantown and has details about the many activities.

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.

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.

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):





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, November 30, at 6:00 p.m. at the Ferry House, 88 Lazzelle Union Road, Maidsville, across from the railroad bridge entering Scotts Run.

Morgantown WV Mutual Aid

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



The prestigious award is presented annually to a resident of West Virginia who best exemplifies the values and ideals taught by Martin Luther King Jr.

To nominate someone, you must submit a two-page statement of support, two letters of recommendation, and complete a nomination form available at https://wvuengage.wvu.edu/submitter/form/collectsubmitteridentity/170504ab-2e05-473d-a088-9f840bc84e1e.

Nominations are due by Thursday, December 3.

The award recipient will be announced during the 2027 MLK Unity Breakfast slated for 9:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 16, in the Mountainlair Ballrooms.

STATEWIDE NEWS

IT IS TIME TO VOTE!! If you live in Monongalia County, you can find all you need to know about voting in the county at https://www.monongaliacountyclerk.com/index.php/elections/17-current-election/124-2026-general-election-information, including the sample ballot for your precinct.

Election Day is Tuesday, November 3, polls will be open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Go to your county clerk's website or the Secretary of State's website to find your polling place. On Election Day, you must vote at your assigned polling place to be sure your vote is counted.

In addition to any local issues on your county ballot, there is a **proposed amendment to the West Virginia constitution.** Poll workers are not permitted to explain this amendment to voters so please read it and make your decision before you are ready to vote

This is the information on the amendment from the Secretary of State's website:

> Title of Amendment: "Amendment 1: Citizenship Requirement to Vote in West Virginia Elections Amendment"
>
> Summary of Purpose: "This amendment provides that in all elections held in West Virginia only citizens of the United States who are citizens of this state are qualified to vote."
> Full Text of the Amendment: §4-1. Only citizens of the United States who are citizens of this state shall be entitled to vote at all elections held within the counties in which they respectively reside; but a person who is a minor, or who has been declared mentally incompetent by a court of competent jurisdiction, or who is under conviction of treason, felony or bribery in an election, or who has not been a resident of the state and of the county in which he or she offers to vote, for 30 days next preceding such offer, shall not be permitted to vote while such disability continues; and, a person in the military, naval, or marine service of the United States shall not be deemed a resident of this state by reason of being stationed therein.

WEST VIRGINIA NOW: For more information, go to www.facebook.com/WestVirginiaNow or email Amanda Ray, the state NOW president, at amandajray@yahoo.com.



You can register at https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/west-virginia-now-annual-meeting and get a link to the full agenda at that site.

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

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



"The midterm elections are just around the corner and as always, ACLU-WV is here to answer any voting related questions you may have or assist you if you run into any problems at the polls."



The ACLU-WV Bill of Rights Brunch is back!

"We'll be celebrating at noon on Sunday, November 15, 2026, at Charleston Marriott (200 Lee Street).

"This year's honorees include Lani Wean for her extensive work on behalf of immigrant families and ICE rapid response, B*lack by*

God founder and publisher Crystal Good, and Becky Pepper-Jackson, who bravely challenged West Virginia's discriminatory trans athlete ban at the U.S. Supreme Court.

"We'll also be enjoying the distinctively Appalachian musical craftsmanship of Megan Jeans' Secret Family!

"It's been a heavy year across the nation and in West Virginia, but the fire of hope still burns hot as we've stood up together and pushed back. Thank you for doing your part. We hope to see you at brunch to celebrate our wins, mourn our losses and chart a way forward, together.

"Become a sponsor and/or secure your tickets at https://action.aclu.org/event/wv-bor2026.

"Questions? Please contact Development Manager Rose Winland at RWinland@acluwv.org."



Fellowship applications will be considered as they are submitted – there is no application deadline.

RAINBOW PRIDE OF WEST VIRGINIA:



"A special night dedicated to celebrating the incredible impact individuals can make in the LGBTQ+ community.

"Join us as we honor our 2026 Power of One recipient, John Brown-Huggins, and enjoy electrifying performances by current and former Rainbow Pride pageant title holders.

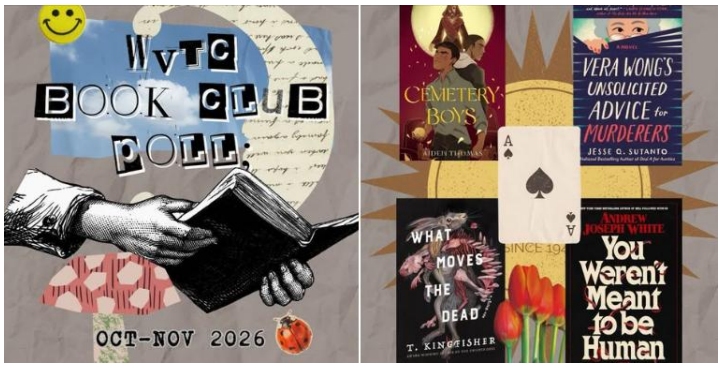
"Doors open at 6 PM for a cocktail hour featuring heavy hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar, catered by 1010 Bridge. The show starts at 7 PM!

"Get Your Tickets early - $30 online| $40 at the door."

Follow this group on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/RainbowPrideWV

WEST VIRGINIA TRANS COALITION:





Follow this group at www.facebook.com/wvtranscoalition/. Email wvtranscoalition@gmail.com or DM the group to join the book club.

NOVEMBER DEI CALENDAR

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

November is Native American Heritage Month, celebrating the cultures, traditions, and histories of Native Americans. This month also includes observances that honor veterans and promote gender equality and remembrance.

November 11 – US: Veterans Day. Honors US military veterans.

November 19 – International Men's Day. Focuses on men's health, positive male role models, and gender relations.

November 20 – LGBTQ+: Transgender Day of Remembrance. Memorializes those killed due to anti-transgender violence.

November 25 – UN: International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. Calls for action to end violence against women and girls.

November 26 – US: Thanksgiving Day. Observed on the fourth Thursday in November.

November Heritage Months 2026

Native American Heritage Month: It's a time dedicated to learning about the unique history, diverse cultures, and contributions that Native Americans have made to society. They have distinct traditions and languages that are connected to their ancestral land. Celebrate their culture all month long while bringing awareness to the hardship including assimilation and displacement they have faced in history.

November Awareness Months 2026

National Veterans and Military Families Month: November is a time to honor those who have served in the military and the families who made sacrifices. It's an opportunity to give respect to their commitment to protecting American freedoms.

National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month: Six million Americans live with Alzheimer's Disease and almost three million new cases are diagnosed annually. This progressive and deadly brain disease has no cure. However, researchers are still working hard to discover its cause. This month, we celebrate those living with the disease, their caregivers, and the healthcare professionals who treat them.

Movember: Every November, men grow their mustaches to raise awareness about men's health issues like suicide or prostate cancer. The awareness month hopes to educate about the importance of early cancer detection as prostate cancer doesn't typically have any warning signs or early-stage symptoms.