

**Community Coalition for Social Justice  
P.O. Box 160  
Morgantown, West Virginia 26507-0160  
ccsjwv@hotmail.com  
www.geocities.com/ccsjwv/index.html**

**Update: 8 April 2004**

## **I. CCSJ PROJECTS**

**Next Steering Committee Meeting: Tuesday, May 4, 7 p.m. Place to be announced. Please contact Barb Howe at [barbara.howe@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:barbara.howe@mail.wvu.edu) if you have issues for the steering committee to consider.**

**Spring Networking Meeting set for Wednesday, April 14<sup>th</sup> -6:30 p.m. - 8:30 - Public Safety Building**

By now, you should have received a postcard to remind you about our second annual spring networking meeting is Wednesday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, from 6:30-8:30 p.m. in the training room of the Public Safety Building at the corner of Spruce and Walnut streets. The goal of this meeting is to promote networking among local groups who share our interests so that we can identify common goals and potential strategies to address our concerns. Last year's meeting led to inviting Rick Wilson of the American Friends Service Committee as the speaker for our CCSJ annual meeting.

We look forward to seeing you there! In advance, please feel free to share your ideas with Tim Hairston at [questz1@adelphia.net](mailto:questz1@adelphia.net).

### **Library Books Project**

We have just learned that the City of Morgantown will be providing another \$1000 grant for the next fiscal year, which starts July 1. We very much appreciate the city's continued support of this project and plan to use this money to provide books related to economic justice issues.

We have just finished purchasing books from our "catalogue" for the Head Start centers and for two Monongalia County school libraries.

## **II. PLEASE SEND YOUR DUES AND IDEAS!**

If you have not yet done so, please send your dues so that we have the resources to continue our work. We use your money to purchase books for local schools, for instance. **Dues are \$5 for individuals and \$25 for organizations.** Youth under the age of 18 are free. Please send your checks, payable to CCSJ, to PO Box 160, Morgantown, WV 26507-0160.

Please send your web site suggestions to Mike Attfield at [attfield@labyrinth.net](mailto:attfield@labyrinth.net). Mike has posted all our past Updates on the web.

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@hotmail.com](mailto:ccsjwv@hotmail.com).

Deadline for items to include in next Update will be April 30. Please send items to share with our membership to [ccsjwv@hotmail.com](mailto:ccsjwv@hotmail.com).

**If we can support your event or your issues in some way, please let us know, especially if you represent a member organization.** We want to be a true coalition that unites groups and individuals interested in social justice, so please let us know how we can help and please send us information about your group to publicize to our membership.

### **III. NEWS OF MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS**

#### **Caritas House**

On May 1, Caritas House will be participating in the Profitts benefit sale for local charities and non-profits. We need volunteers to help sell tickets and to work the sale! For each volunteer that works on the day of the sale, Caritas will get an extra \$5.15 an hour. If you want to volunteer, please email Andrew Barnes, volunteer coordinator for Caritas House, at [caritasvolunteer@hotmail.com](mailto:caritasvolunteer@hotmail.com) or call him at 304-598-5111 to sign up.

#### **Morgantown NOW**

NOW and FEM (Female Equality Movement) is organizing to attend the **march for Women's Lives** in Washington, D.C., on Sunday, April 25<sup>th</sup>. If you'd like information about going with the Morgantown group, please contact [choicemarch@hotmail.com](mailto:choicemarch@hotmail.com). Bus transportation will be \$40/person, and buses will leave the WVU Coliseum at 6:00 a.m. If you are unable to go but would like to provide financial support for someone else to attend, please also email [choicemarch@hotmail.com](mailto:choicemarch@hotmail.com). There are people who want to attend but who cannot afford the bus fee.

#### **WVU Center for Women's Studies Upcoming Events**

April 13 - **Fireside Chat: Elizabeth Engelhardt**, Assistant Professor of Women's Studies, WVU. "The Tangled Roots of Feminism, Environmentalism, and Appalachian Literature". Downtown Campus Library, Milano Room, Appalachia Collections. Time: 4 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

April 17 - **Honors and Awards Ceremony**. Mountainlair, Rhododendron Room. Time: 2: 30 p.m. - 5: 00 p.m.

April 28 - **Fireside Chat: Joan Gibson-Howell**, Assistant Professor of Dental Hygiene, WVU School of Dentistry, Title to be announced. John Jones B Room, Health Sciences Center. Time: 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

### **IV. UPCOMING LOCAL EVENTS - MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

#### **Monday, April 12 - 7:30 p.m. - WVU Religious Studies Program Lecture - WVU Erickson Center**

The 3rd Manfred O. Meitzen Distinguished Guest Theological Lecture will be held at the Erickson Center on Monday, April 12, starting at 7:30 p.m. The Meitzen Lecturer this year is Dr. Amy-Jill Levine of Vanderbilt University. Dr. Levine's talk will be on the topic "**Lost History of Women in the Bible.**" A reception and refreshments will follow the talk and a question and answer session. This event is free and open to the public.

The Religious Studies Program's press release for this event says that: Amy-Jill Levine is E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Professor of New Testament Studies and Director of the Carpenter Program in Religion, Gender, and Sexuality at Vanderbilt University Divinity School. Prior to coming to Vanderbilt, she was the Sara Lawrence Lightfoot Associate Professor of Religion at Swarthmore College. Holding a B.A. from Smith College and an M.A. and Ph.D. from Duke University, Levine has been awarded grants from the Mellon Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the American Council of Learned Societies. Her numerous publications address Christian Origins, Jewish-Christian Relations, and Sexuality, Gender, and the Bible; she has recorded the "Introduction to the Old Testament," "Great Figures of the Old Testament," and "Great Figures of the New Testament" for the Teaching Company's Great Lecture series.

Her current projects include the editing of the fourteen-volume series, *The Feminist Companions to the New Testament and Early Christian Literature* (Continuum/Sheffield University Press). A self-described "Yankee Jewish feminist who teaches in a predominantly Protestant divinity school in the buckle of the Bible Belt," Levine couples historical-critical rigor, literary-critical sensitivity, and a frequent dash of humor with a commitment to exposing and expunging anti-Jewish, sexist, and homophobic theologies.

### **April 12-16 - WVU Gay Pride Week Schedule of Events provided by WVU's BiGLM**

Monday, April 12

- \* Kick-off lunch in the Mountainlair food court - 12 PM
- \* Talk by Roger Banks on HIV/AIDS, and showing of movie "Philadelphia" 7 PM, Gluck Theatre, Mountainlair (1st floor)

Tuesday, April 13

- \* Allies talk (or Straight Talk) - 4 PM, Woodburn Hall room 102 - The Straight Talk for Friends and Allies is an opportunity for members of the community-at-large to come and hear about and talk about the lives and concerns of the lesbian, gay, and bisexual folks here in Morgantown.
- \* Drag Bingo - 7 PM, Shenandoah Room, Mountainlair (1st floor)
- \* Candlelight Vigil - 9 PM, Woodburn Circle

Wednesday, April 14

- \* Faculty talk - 11 AM to noon, Hatfields Room A, Mountainlair (1st floor)
- \* Poetry Slam - 9 PM, 123 Pleasant Street, Downtown Morgantown

Thursday, April 15

- \* Reading by Hanne Blank - 4 PM, E. Moore Hall, Downtown Campus
- \* Presentation by Hanne Blank - 8 PM, 458 BUE (Business and Economics Bldg), Downtown Campus
- \* Drink a Beer with a Queer - 10 PM-ish, Vice Versa, Downtown Morgantown

Friday, April 16

- \* Gay-la - 7 PM, Monongalia Arts Center (MAC), Downtown Morgantown - The Gayla will be a semi-formal event in the Mon Arts Center (MAC) from 7 to 10 on Friday. Tickets are 7 dollars at the door – five dollars in advance. The Gayla will be a celebration of the arts, including music, theatre, poetry, photography, painting, and mixed media. There will be refreshments, and a dj and dancing. Everyone is most enthusiastically invited!
- \* Caritas House benefit -- 10 pm Vice Versa club

Booth in Mountainlair - \*ALL WEEK\*

### **Wednesday, April 21 - 7 P.M. - The Mon-Earth Benefit Concert - Metropolitan Theater**

Thanks to Robert Tower for providing all the information below for this event to benefit organizations working to improve the environment in and around Monongalia County

#### **Starring the following nationally touring performing artists:**

**SONiA** of disappear fear - [www.soniadf.com](http://www.soniadf.com)

SONiA sings with a voice that is raspy yet pure and pens clever, touching lyrics that shine with sincere honesty and unforgettable emotion. SONiA has performed on Good Morning America, at the Lilith Fair and at the 2000 Olympics in Sydney. She has shared the stage with the Indigo Girls, Sarah McLachlan and Jewel.

**Jonathan Byrd** - [www.jonathanbyrd.com](http://www.jonathanbyrd.com)

With a unique voice and stunning guitar work, Jonathan creates beautiful and insightful songs. He blends original material with folk, blues, rock and jazz influences. Folk legend Tom Paxton said "What a treat to hear someone so deeply rooted in tradition, yet growing in his own beautiful way."

**GrooveLily** - [www.groovelily.com](http://www.groovelily.com)

GrooveLily plays smart pop, with a contagiously effervescent sound that links a sharp wit with intelligent original songwriting. Combining elements of rock, jazz, folk and popular music, their vocal harmonies weave through a lush musical landscape textured with keyboards, drums and blazing electric violin.

**Wishing Chair** - [www.terrakin.com](http://www.terrakin.com)

Wishing Chair's roots-folk is full of soul and energy and powered by acoustic guitars, accordion, banjo and gorgeous harmonies. The Green Man Review said their music "has so much heart it infuses the air with art, engulfing the listener in a soft blanket of wonderment, magic and notes that seem to land in the air."

**Emcee: Jim Truman** - [www.jimtruman.com](http://www.jimtruman.com)

Jim is a local favorite who previously traveled extensively as a comedian and opened shows for Jay Leno, Jerry Seinfeld, Sinbad, Paula Poundstone and Roseanne, to name a few. As a singer/songwriter, he has opened for Steven Stills, Leon Redbone, John Sebastian, Leon Russell and Edgar Winter.

**The following organizations will receive funds generated by the concert:**

The Sierra Club, Friends of Deckers Creek, Mon River Trails Conservancy, West Virginia Wilderness Coalition

**The following organizations will also have information and representatives at the concert:**

Cheat Lake Environment & Recreation Association (CLEAR), Citizens for Responsible Development, The Coopers Rock Foundation, Downstream Alliance, Friends of Blackwater, Friends of the Cheat, Green Space Coalition, Mountaineer Audubon Society, West Virginia Botanic Garden, West Virginia Highlands Conservancy, West Virginia Interfaith Global Climate Change Campaign, White Day Creek Watershed Association

**Tickets to the Mon-Earth Benefit Concert**

Tickets are General Admission and cost \$20 each if purchased in advance (\$25 at the door). There is a \$5 student discount and a 5\$ Senior discount. (A Senior is defined as someone at least 65 years old.)

**Tickets are available through the following Morgantown area retailers:**

(They may be purchased with cash or a personal check made out to "The Sierra Club").

Adventure's Edge (Pleasant Street)

The Blue Moose (Walnut Street)

The Bookshelf (by the Office Depot)

Devincent's Music Center (High Street)

Fawley Music Company (in Sabraton)

Keyboard World (at the Mountaineer Mall)

Kleeb's Music Center (by the K-Mart)

Mountain People's Co-Op (Beechhurst Avenue.)

Jay's River Cafe at Whitetail Cycle & Fitness (on the trail in the Wharf District)

**And online at [www.mon-earth.org](http://www.mon-earth.org)**

For further information, please contact Robert Tower, Mon-Earth Benefit Concert Producer, at 304-296-7606 or go to [www.Mon-Earth.org](http://www.Mon-Earth.org)

## **V. OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Global Education Week is April 19-24**

The information on this event is the email sent to publicize this event.

Education International (EI), the global federation of teacher unions, has invited its member organisations, representing 26 million teachers and other education personnel worldwide, to actively participate in the Global Action Week for Education to be held in more than one hundred countries

The Global Action Week is being coordinated by the Global Campaign for Education (GCE), a coalition of NGOs, civil society organisations and teachers unions dedicated to fulfill the 2015 Education For All goal. Today, 113 million children are still deprived of any education.

The aim of the 2004 Global Action Week is to pressure political leaders to provide more money and political leadership into the Education For All initiative. NGOs and teachers unions are invited to organise lobbies by children for children: like town meetings in the USA, imbizos in Southern Africa or panchayat in India.

"The 2004 Global Action Week is a chance for millions of children to voice their right to a free, quality public education and ask decision-makers what they will do to make that right a reality," explains Frédérique Boni, the GAW coordinator in EI. To ensure that children involved in the lobby are not manipulated, teachers and NGO coordinators have been instructed to make sure that the children involved are confident and well informed enough to speak for themselves.

Teachers are also invited to use the GCE "classroom activity pack" to help pupils in the North to find out about why their peers in poorer countries do not get an education. Teachers can also arrange an exchange of e-mails, letters and pictures with a sister school in the developing world.

Though they are not part of the GCE, many international agencies and governments around the world support the Week of Action including UNESCO, ILO and UNICEF.

For more information, contact:

Global Campaign for Education

c/o Education International, Bld. Du Roi Albert II, 5 (8th floor)

1210 Brussels, Belgium

Tel: 00 32 2 224 06 11

Email: [anne@campaignforeducation.org](mailto:anne@campaignforeducation.org)

Website: [www.campaignforeducation.org/\\_html/actionweek/2004-aw/frameset.shtml](http://www.campaignforeducation.org/_html/actionweek/2004-aw/frameset.shtml)

### **Petition to support marriage equality for GLBT couples in West Virginia**

Below, you will find an official document from R. Vernon Haning, provided through Kris Hash, for those interested in supporting Patricia Link, Sheila Chambers, David Schumate and Michael "Andy" Ragland and other West Virginia same-sex couples who are fighting for the right to marry in West Virginia.

According to Mr. Haning's email, "There are no aversive financial or legal consequences to you for providing support. Your signature on the form is an action similar to a signature on a petition, but in a format fulfilling the legal requirements for the West Virginian Supreme Court of Appeals. It is urgent that we move quickly to collect these signatures. Here are the specific directions.

- 1) Make copies of the form for signature collection – collect as many signatures as possible.
- 2) Do not leave blank forms in the hands of others – collect signed forms immediately.
- 2) Sign in the space for “Name”
- 3) Print your name clearly below your signature just above the space for your address
- 4) Enter your address and date the form.

Here is the form:

BEFORE THE WEST VIRGINIA SUPREME COURT OF APPEALS

PATRICIA M. LINK and  
SHEILA A. CHAMBERS  
on behalf of themselves and  
all others similarly situated,  
Petitioner,

vs.

NO: 040475

ALMA Y. KING,  
Clerk of the Kanawha County  
Commission,  
Respondent.

David E. Shumate, Michael "Andy"  
Ragland, J. Wade Davis, and Jamie  
A. Bailey, Intervenors

**MOTION FOR LEAVE TO FILE STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FOR PETITIONER**

We the undersigned individuals and groups desire to become petitioners and/or friends of the court and we state that we are in total agreement with the Petitioners in this case and that the restriction of their obtaining marriage licenses violates their fundamental constitutional rights guaranteed by the West Virginia Constitution.

\_\_\_\_\_  
NAME

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

\_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS

Return Signed forms to:  
Patricia M. Link, JD, PhD

Director of Law Library Resources  
Jackson Kelly PLLC  
1600 Laidley Tower  
Charleston, WV 25322  
(304) 340-1260  
Fax (304) 340-1081

--

R. Vernon Haning  
1031 Forest Road  
Charleston, WV 25314  
Phone: (304) 344-0469

### **West Virginia Law Day 2004 is April 30**

This year's theme is "To Win Equality by Law – Brown v. Board at 50" to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Brown v. Board of Education decision. The West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals will sponsor a Legal Information Fair from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. in the Capitol Complex. To participate, please contact Julie Palas at 304-558-0145 or by email at [juliepalas@courtswv.org](mailto:juliepalas@courtswv.org) by April 16<sup>th</sup>. For further information, check the court's web site at [www.state.wv.us/wvsca/lawday/covercss.htm](http://www.state.wv.us/wvsca/lawday/covercss.htm).

---

#### ***CCSJ Steering Committee 2003-2004***

Tim Hairston (Monongalia-Preston Labor Council AFL-CIO), President. Al Anderson, Vice President. Barb Howe (WVU Center for Women's Studies), Secretary. Gregory Wagner, Treasurer. Mike Attfield. Judy Cohen. Lourdes Cottingham (Equality for All Americans). Suzanne Gosden. Kris Hash. Jacqueline Moseley. Shelly Barrick Parsons (Presbyterian campus ministry). Michael Sharley. Deb Strouse (WV Center for Dispute Resolution).