

**Community Coalition for Social Justice  
P.O. Box 160  
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ccsjwv@hotmail.com  
www.geocities.com/ccsjwv/index.html**

**Update: 9 October 2004**

## **I. CCSJ PROJECTS**

**Next Steering Committee Meeting: Monday, October 25, 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.**

### **Annual Meeting & Organization Fair Set for Tuesday, September 21 (International Peace Day)**

Thanks to all those who participated in the organization fair on September 21, and a special thanks to Shelly Barrick Parsons for organizing this and preparing the attached handout, describing the work of the organizations who participated. We all enjoyed sharing our work, our challenges and strategies. For instance, the United Methodist Church's Justice and Advocacy Team is part of the Interfaith Coffee Program "Joining Faith & Fair Trade" by encouraging all congregations that hold coffee hours to use fair trade coffee. For more information, on that effort, contact [interfaith@equalexchange.com](mailto:interfaith@equalexchange.com) or call 744-776-7366. And Habitat for Humanity, which does wonderful work in the county in providing affordable housing, is finding that families sometimes have trouble paying the property taxes on their new homes. All of these groups are wonderful resources, so please support their work and utilize their services - and help us continue to build a real coalition.

### **Diversity Week Photo Contest**

The deadline has passed to submit photos for this contest, so please stay tuned to learn who the winners are!

### **Economic Justice Book Ideas Still Needed**

We still have some funds to spend on economic justice books for the Morgantown Public Library, so please send your ideas for additional purchases to Judy Cohen at [mcohen@access.k12.wv.us](mailto:mcohen@access.k12.wv.us).

### **New Steering Committee Members, Officers!**

Suzanne Gosden has agreed to be the new secretary for CCSJ, and Barb Howe is moving to the treasurer's position. Eric Simpson, prevention educator at Caritas House, is a new member of the steering committee. We still have room for more members on the steering committee, so, if you are interested in being more involved in CCSJ, please contact Tim Hairston at [questz1@adelphia.net](mailto:questz1@adelphia.net).

## **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 Atfield at [atfield@labyrinth.net](mailto:atfield@labyrinth.net).

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 October 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**

The United Way fundraiser, "The Magical Night of Giving" will be November 7th, at the Morgantown Mall. On that evening, the Morgantown Mall will close its doors to the general public, and will only be open to those people who have bought tickets from their local non-profit organization, like Caritas House. There will be extreme sales throughout the mall, as well as door prizes drawn every five minutes. It is a great way to save on early holiday shopping, as well as to support Caritas House. Tickets are \$5 each, and Caritas House receives all the proceeds from the tickets it sells. If Caritas House sells the most tickets, compared to the other United Way-associated non-profits, then it also receives additional monies through the event.

#### **WVU-ACE**

WVU-ACE is working with the West Virginia Education Association on plans for a Higher Education Conference at the Ramada Inn in Morgantown on Saturday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> from 9am-4 pm. Session topics will include employee rights, PEIA and TIAA-CREF, and NEA member benefits. There is no registration fee, but please call the WVU-ACE office at 598-3900 to pre-register by Monday, October 18<sup>th</sup>.

#### **WVU Center for Black Culture and Research**

CBC &R is sponsoring a WVU Diversity Week Seminar on African American History & Culture in West Virginia on October 23, 2004, from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. in the Rhododendron Room of the WVU Mountainlair.

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

The national conference on Women and Creativity 2004: Examining the Past/Composing the Future starts Wednesday, October 13, with registration at the Radisson Hotel at Waterfront Place from 1-5 pm on Wednesday, 8-5 on Thursday, and 8-3 on Friday. There will also be registration at the Creative Arts Center on Wednesday from 6-7 p.m.

Registration costs are \$95 for the entire conference, \$45 for Thursday or Friday, and \$15 for individual sessions. The conference schedule and registration information is available at

<http://www.as.wvu.edu/wmst/wvuwomenandcreativity.htm>

There will be a tour of Morgantown-area art galleries and studies on Wednesday afternoon from 1-5 p.m., including a reception at the Monongalia Arts Center from 4:30-6 p.m. The keynote speaker will be composer Libby Larsen on Wednesday, October 13, at the Creative Arts Center at 7:30 p.m. This is free and open to the public. There will also be a WVU Symphony Orchestra concert on October 14, featuring the work of women composers, including Larsen. The Meet the Composer Fund has provided an award to support Ms. Larsen's visit.

Co-sponsors are the Center for Women's Studies, College of Creative Arts, and WVU Council for Women's Concerns, with Arts Monongahela, Inc., and the Monongalia Arts Center as our key community partners. This project is being presented with financial assistance from The West Virginia Humanities Council, a state affiliate of the National

Endowment for the Humanities. Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this conference do not necessarily represent those of the National Endowment for the Humanities.

### **MORGANTOWN NOW**

The next meeting of the Morgantown NOW chapter will be Thursday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, at 6 pm., probably at the WVU Law School. For more information, contact Jessi Kalvitis at [hagdinvincible@yahoo.com](mailto:hagdinvincible@yahoo.com).

## **IV. LOCAL, STATE, AND NATIONAL NEWS**

### **SCOTTS RUN FAIR**

The Scotts Run Fair will be held on Saturday, October 16<sup>th</sup>, from 10am-8 pm. CCSJ will be there with a table and membership information. Many of you probably saw the *Dominion Post*'s recent stories about Osage, so this is your opportunity to learn more about this area.

### **NORTH CENTRAL WEST VIRGINIA FOUNDATION FOR EQUALITY CANDIDATE FORUM**

Meet candidates for the West Virginia Legislature from North Central West Virginia and learn how LGBT issues will be addressed in the capitol by our representatives

Date: Wednesday, October 20 7:00pm - Room 153 WVU College of Law

Co-hosted by WVU College of Law ACLU, WVU College of Law National Lawyers and, and WVU BiGLM

Come, ask questions, learn, speak your mind. All are welcome!!!

The West Virginia Foundation for Equality is in the early stages of forming a North Central West Virginia chapter! This is a group dedicated to meeting the needs of the LGBT community in WV. The Foundation works through community awareness, public education, and political action to achieve full equality for LGBT persons in the home, workplace, classroom, and the state. For more information, visit the group's website at [www.wvffe.org](http://www.wvffe.org).

### **WVU BiGLM**

Bisexual, Gay, and Lesbian Mountaineers meets every Thursday from 8:00-10:00 p.m. in the Laurel Room of the WVU Mountainlair to provide support for bisexual, gay, lesbian, and transgendered students, faculty, and staff at WVU; provide a safe place for LGBT people to meet and discuss the issues that affect their lives; educate the campus and community concerning bisexual, gay, lesbian, and transgendered issues; and monitor and promote social justice on campus and in the surrounding community. Allies and PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) are welcome. Membership does not indicate sexual orientation or sexual practices. For more information, go to [www.wvu.edu/~biglm](http://www.wvu.edu/~biglm), phone 293-8200, or email [wvu\\_biglm@hotmail.com](mailto:wvu_biglm@hotmail.com).

### **Morgantown ACLU**

The Morgantown ACLU chapter is still working on the campaign to make Morgantown a Patriot Act-free community. If you are interested in this campaign or would like to circulate petitions in support of this ordinance, please contact Leah Rye at [squamishforever@yahoo.com](mailto:squamishforever@yahoo.com). Only residents of the City of Morgantown are eligible to sign these petitions.

### **Voter Registration Deadline**

As a reminder, the last day to register to vote in West Virginia is October 13<sup>th</sup>. Registration information is available online at [www.wvsos.com/elections/voters/voterbasics.htm](http://www.wvsos.com/elections/voters/voterbasics.htm).

## **Voting Information for People with Disabilities**

The West Virginia Secretary of State's Office has published a brochure giving information about voting procedures for people with disabilities. If you are permanently and totally disabled, you can be put on a special absentee voting list so that you automatically get an absentee ballot mailed to you for each election. If your polling place is not handicapped accessible, you may be able to vote from your vehicle. You can get a copy of this brochure at [www.wvsos.com/elections/publications/Disability%20Acc.pdf](http://www.wvsos.com/elections/publications/Disability%20Acc.pdf) or by calling the Secretary of State's Office at 1-866-SOS-VOTE (1-866-767-8683).

## **WVU Events to Commemorate 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education**

**Monday, October 18 2004 - Gluck Theater, WVU Mountainlair - 7:00 p.m.**

### *Desegregation of Schools in West Virginia as a Result of Brown v. Board of Education*

Brown v. Board of Education directly impacted black women teaching in West Virginia at that historic time. In telling the stories of their lives, these women described what it was like to move from the close knit black schools to the integrated - mostly white - schools.

Panel discussion will cover Black Female teachers' situation before and after the Brown Decision.

Panelists: Dr. Ancella Bickley, retired vice-president of academic affairs at West Virginia State College

Dr. Rita Wicks-Nelson, professor emerita of psychology at Marshall University

Program coordinated by Sherri Belmear, Assistant to VP Administration, WVU and Ron Lewis, Professor in History, WVU.

**Wednesday, Nov. 10, 2004 - Mountainlair Ballrooms - 7:00-8:30 p.m.**

### *"What Mama Taught Me: The Seven Core Values of Life"*

Speaker: Tony Brown, Dean of the School of Journalism and Communication at Hampton University

Tony Brown will discuss his recent book, "What Mama Taught Me: The Seven Core Values of Life"

This includes Question and Answer Session.

Mountainlair Ballrooms - 8:30 p.m. - Book Signing

Program coordinated by Dana Brooks, Dean of School of Physical Education, Chair of Brown V. Board Event.

Breakfast coordinated by Jennifer McIntosh, Executive Officer, President's Office for Social Justice, WVU

## **CCSJ Steering Committee 2004-2005**

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