Advancing Civil Rights Through Advocacy

The Governor’s 11th Annual Civil Rights Day
Thursday, February 27, 2014  10:00 AM
at the
Beni Kedem Shrine Temple
100 Quarrier Street
Charleston, WV 25301
Sponsored by:

State of West Virginia
Office of the Governor

Herbert Henderson
Office of Minority Affairs

Charleston Police Department

State of West Virginia
Human Rights Commission
# PROGRAM

**HONOREES’ ENTRANCE**

**AUDIENCE, PLEASE STAND TO RECEIVE OUR HONOREES**

| **Master of Ceremonies** | Rev. Darrell Cummings, Chair  
West Virginia Human Rights Commission |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| **Invocation:**          | The Honorable James R. Leslie  
Office of Attorney General,  
Civil Rights Division |
| **Welcome:**             | Rev. Darrell Cummings, Chair |
| **Greetings and**        | The Honorable Earl Ray Tomblin  
Governor, State of West Virginia |
| **Presentation of the Proclamation:** |  

**The Occasion**  

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<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Musical Selection:</strong></th>
<th>Rev. B. J. Roberts</th>
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<td><strong>Introduction of Honorees:</strong></td>
<td>Rev. Darrell Cummings, Chair</td>
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<td><strong>Poetry Selection:</strong></td>
<td>Poet Crystal Goode</td>
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<td><strong>Introduction of Honorees:</strong></td>
<td>Joshua Chaffin</td>
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Musical Selection: Violinist Alasha Al-Qudwah
Introduction of Honorees: Myisha Robinson

Musical Selection: Charleston Job Corp. Choir
Introduction of Honorees: The Honorable Allison C. Anderson
West Virginia Human Rights Commission

Special Presentations - Marykaye Jacquet, Deputy Director
West Virginia Human Rights Commission

Candle Lighting Tribute in Honor of
The Honorable Judge Phyllis H. Carter

Musical Selection - Rev. Donte’ Jackson

*additional presentation*

Cpl. Errol Randle,
Charleston Police Department

Closing Remarks:

Closing Song: “Lift Every Voice and Sing”

LUNCHEON 12:00 NOON—1:00 PM
Advancing Civil Rights Through Advocacy

The Governor’s 11th Annual Civil Rights Day

GOVERNOR EARL RAY TOMBLIN
Proclamation
by Governor Earl Ray Tomblin

Whereas, equal rights and opportunities for all West Virginians are fundamental to our well-being, and these rights and opportunities are protected in both our Declaration of Independence and our State's Constitution; and

Whereas, equal opportunities in employment, public accommodations and housing are public policy in West Virginia; and

Whereas, the West Virginia Legislature created the Human Rights Act prohibiting discrimination in employment and in places of public accommodations based on race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, disability or familial status; and

Whereas, the West Virginia Human Rights Commission encourages mutual respect among all racial, religious and ethnic groups within the State; and

Whereas, the West Virginia Human Rights Commission works cooperatively with government agencies, community and civic organizations and representatives of minority groups to promote programs and campaigns devoted to the achievement of tolerance, understanding and equal protection of the law.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Earl Ray Tomblin, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim February 27, 2014, as:

Civil Rights Day

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to join me in this observance.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol, City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the Twenty-First day of January, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Fourteen and in the One Hundred Fifty-First year of the State.

Earl Ray Tomblin
Governor

By the Governor:

Natalie E. Tennant
Secretary of State
February 27, 2014

As Chair of the West Virginia Human Rights Commissioners, it is truly an honor to be part of the Governor’s Eleventh Annual Civil Rights Day Celebration. My congratulations go out to each of the honorees and the contributions they have made to the civil and humanitarian benefits of all West Virginians.

Each individual, regardless of race, creed, color or culture background have proven their strength and capability to rise to the many challenges that face us as a people. They continue to take a stand and let their voices be heard in the face of opposition which attest to the validity of their being honored on today. These and individuals like them have given us a firm foundation on which we continue to build a better place for our continuing generations and the protection of those who follow in their footsteps.

Again, my personal congratulations go out, in memorial to the late Judge Phyllis H. Carter, Acting Executive Director of the West Virginia Human Rights Commission, who passed away on January 18, 2014, Marykaye Jacquet, Deputy Director, my fellow Commissioners and the Commission staff for the work they continue to do to eliminate discrimination for all West Virginians.

Truly yours,

Darrell Cummings
Rev. Dr. Darrell Cummings
Chair, WV Human Rights Commission
February 27, 2014

On behalf of the West Virginia Human Rights Commission, I welcome you to the Eleventh Annual Governor’s Civil Rights Day Recognition. On this occasion, the Governor and the Commission recognizes those persons who dedicate themselves to the elimination of discriminatory practices against all citizens within the Great State of West Virginia.

Thank you Governor Tomblin and Secretary Bowling for your continued support of the Commission and its work. Without your support, this recognition would not be possible.

Congratulations to our honorees who continue each day to make life better for all West Virginians. Your work is a testament to the principles of freedom and equality.

Sincerely,

Marykaye Jacquet
Deputy Director
WV Human Rights Commission
Meet Our Honorees

For dedicated service to the people of West Virginia and their constant struggle
for civil rights for all, we honor:

Jamie S. Alley, Esq.
Dr. Ethel Caffie-Austin
Edward “Eddie” Belcher
Beni Kedem Shrine Temple
Dr. Braxton Broady
Rabbi Beth Jacowitz Chottiner
Rev. Wesley Q. Dobbs
Karl S. Gattlieb, Esq.
Paul L. Hamilton
Rt. Rev. Dr. Emanuel A. Heyliger
Rosalean Hibbett
Rev. Dr. Lloyd A. Hill
Norman Lindell
Tara N. Martinez
Dr. Rida Mazagri
John T. McFerrin, Esq.
Ralph D. Miller
The Honorable Sharon M. Mullens
Pastor Willie Nevels
Cpl. Errol Randle
Kathleen P. Reid
William O. Ritchie, Sr. *
Monia S. Turley
West Virginia Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Rabbi Victor Urecki
Lisa K. Younis
Jamie S. Alley, Esq.

Jamie S. Alley is a native of West Virginia and has lived most of her life in eastern Kanawha County. Alley is a 1995 magna cum laude graduate of the University of Kentucky, where she majored in both Philosophy and Russian and Eastern Studies. A member of Phi Beta Kappa, Jamie spent the spring term of her junior year as an exchange student in Vladimir, Russia. Alley graduated, cum laude, from Washington and Lee University School of Law in 1998. Since then, she has been practicing law in Charleston, West Virginia.

In May 2001, Alley joined the Civil Rights Division of the West Virginia Attorney General’s Office. She became a Senior Assistant Attorney General in August 2006. As a member of the Civil Rights Division, Alley had the privilege of representing the West Virginia Human Rights Commission. In this capacity, Alley assisted and advised the Commission with respect to drafting administrative complaints and conducting investigations into alleged unlawful discriminatory practices. She litigated housing, employment and public accommodations discrimination cases on behalf of the Commission and victims of unlawful discrimination. She also defended Commission orders on appeal.

In 2011, Alley was the recipient of the Regina Charon Award for Zealous Advocacy, awarded by Legal Aid of West Virginia, for her work in representing victims of unlawful discrimination.

In March 2013, Alley decided to leave the Civil Rights Division to become the Board Attorney for the West Virginia Board of Medicine.

During her tenure in the Civil Rights Division, Alley was fortunate to work with and learn from many wonderful individuals, in both the Attorney General’s Office and the Human Rights Commission, all of whom were dedicated to the common goal of improving human rights and access to employment, housing and public accommodations for all West Virginians.

She remains a strong supporter of the important work of the Civil Rights Division and the Human Rights Commission, and is honored by her continuing friendship with colleagues in both offices.
Dr. Ethel Caffie Austin

A native of Mount Hope, Ethel Caffie-Austin is known as West Virginia’s “First Lady of Gospel Music.” She began playing piano at the age of six, started accompanying church services at nine and directed her first choir at age 11. Throughout her life, she has carried on a rich tradition of African-American gospel singing, piano playing and worship. She has taken her music and ministry into prisons, schools and government housing projects, and has performed at festivals across the country and in Europe. She also is in demand as a clinician and often presents gospel workshops in conjunction with the Vandalia Gathering. She founded the Black Sacred Music Festival at West Virginia State University in Institute and has several recordings and an instructional videotape to her credit. She was the subject of a 1999 documentary film entitled “His Eye Is On the Sparrow” and a 1997 Goldenseal magazine article, “Hand-Clapping and Hallelujahs: A Visit with Ethel Caffie-Austin.

She is the 2012 recipient of YWCA 100th Year Celebration Outstanding Women of Achievement Award; in 2006 Recipient of the Vandalia Award West Virginia’s Highest FOLK Life Honor; June, 2002, recipient of The First West Virginia African American Women of Distinction Awards from West Virginia Women’s Commission; Thomas Dorsey, the Father of Gospel Music, referred to singing Gospel Music as “singing the good news.” Since childhood, that is exactly what Dr. Caffie-Austin has done. She was coronated as West Virginia’s Queen of Black Sacred Music on November 22, 1995, and West Virginia’s Queen of Gospel Music in 1998, Dr. Caffie-Austin has been sharing the rich and distinctive sound of Black Sacred Music through performance to thousands for more than a decade.

Dr. Caffie-Austin was an educator for more than 25 years in Fayette and Kanawha Counties; a visiting professor in the music department for Davis and Elkins College; the Teagle fellowship recipient for two years; served as artist in Residence for Randolph and Fayette County Schools; and taught at Capitol High Academy. She is featured in Kanawha County Schools Eight Grade West Virginia History Book. She still continues to organize gospel choirs including, gospel groups at different state universities, innumerable festivals, churches and civic organizations facilitating her tours across the United States and throughout Europe. Today she still gives workshops all over America and Internationally. Dr. Caffie-Austin has been guest soloist at Wolf Trap for a prominent Anthology of folk music for the Smithsonian; performed in Zimbabwe and at Africa King Theatre. Dr. Caffie-Austin has received countless distinctions, prizes and honors. Features in numerous magazines including Lifestyles, Folk Song Magazine, etc. have been common. Documentaries on her work have been broadcast, her How To Play Gospel Piano DVD is world renown. She has been awarded numerous awards including the "Jefferson Award for Humanity" and the "Brotherhood Award.” Dr. Caffie-Austin has been guest soloist for the Wheeling Symphony Orchestra and debuted at the Kennedy Center for Performing Arts in Women of the Gospel.
Edward “Eddie” Belcher

From 2011 to the present, Eddie Belcher has worked for the Director of the West Virginia House of Delegates Supply Division. He has served as a public servant for many years. He worked in the Secretary of State’s office from 2001 to 2005; and in the Governor’s office from 2005 to 2011.

Belcher has always been active in his community whether it was taking an elderly neighbor to the grocery store or doctor even while he was in high school. Or helping to rebuild a church in the community, both physically and spiritually.

Belcher excels in giving to the community, especially when it comes to having fundraisers for individuals and families who are at their lowest points. Belcher spearheaded a fundraiser for a couple who had a baby with a rare form of cancer for which there was no cure. With Belcher’s dedication and organizational skills, a $10,000 plus fundraiser enabled researchers at St. Jude to develop a treatment option. That new treatment not only saved this infant but also about sixteen other children nationwide who were suffering from this terminal disease. Belcher worked diligently on behalf of the baby who had lost both her hearing and eye sight. Because of the disease she suffered from, she needed special, very expensive baby formula. Belcher meticulously calculated how much would be needed to ensure the child would have enough formula until she could access adult foods. Then he single-handedly organized a fish fry at the local elementary school. Overwhelming community support and turnout gave this baby a real chance for life. Another child was hurt in a bicycle accident and suffered brain damage. This child had to re-learn walking and talking. Again, Belcher stepped up to the plate and organized a fundraiser for the travel expenses for the family during the child’s extensive rehabilitation. Belcher has held fundraisers so their families wouldn’t have to lose their homes.

A few of Belcher’s other accomplishments include organizing the Alum Creek Alliance for Community Development to better the lives of citizens of Washington Districts, working for the establishment of an Alum Creek Community Center to serve communities in both Kanawha and Lincoln counties, his membership with the Alum Creek Lions Club, and his efforts to help build the monument to General Charles Yeager on U.S. 119.

Belcher has been honored for his work at other times, including: National recognition from Optimus International 2000 for his work with childhood cancer awareness, while serving as a member of the South Charleston Optimus Club for four years. In 2008, 2009, and 2010, Belcher received recognition from the KVC Foster Care, Southern West Virginia for organizing Foster Care Christmas drives for Southern, West Virginia foster children. The Bennie Pedilla VFW Post Number 4768 bestowed upon Belcher the 2008 Outstanding Community Service Award. In 2010, he received the Distinguished Mountaineer award from then Governor Joe Manchin. The Alum Creek Citizen of the Century was awarded to Belcher at the Centennial in 2011.
Beni Kedem Shrine Temple

Beni Kedem Temple, one of the largest charitable organizations in West Virginia, was founded in Charleston, West Virginia on June 23, 1896. A committee of past Grand Masters, presented a petition to the 22nd Imperial Council Session held in Cleveland, Ohio, to open and form a new Temple to be called “Beni Kedem,” (“Sons of the Dessert”) the petition was referred to the Committee on Charters and Dispensations, which later reported, after a full investigation of the application for a dispensation to open a Temple at Charleston, West Virginia, that the same be granted under that name.

Since its humble beginning in 1896, and 100 years later and growing stronger, Beni Kedem Temple has show an increase in membership during most of the years. The organization provides an array of volunteer services to the State of West Virginia. Their presence is known throughout from participating in various parades and at civic functions. The Shriners have built an entire organization that is noted for its humanitarian efforts of helping others.

The Shriners Hospitals in Cincinnati, Ohio, Lexington, Kentucky, and many of the Temples have their own vans which provide transportation to those who need it. Their Van Transportation Program speaks volumes to the services they provide. The vans are inscribed with “We Deliver,” a term which describes the contributions of the many Nobles that participate in the transportation of children in Southern West Virginia to the Shriners Hospitals for treatment. The van transportation began in the early 1970’s when the first Hospital van was donated to the Bluefield Club by Pepsi Cola Bottling Company of Princeton. The Beni Kedem service area currently has about 120 drivers available for their nine van services to Charleston, Logan, Huntington, Beckley, Bluefield, Tug Valley, and County Clubs in Nicholas, Greenbrier and McDowell. The majority of those trips are made to the orthopedic facility in Lexington, Kentucky and to the burn treatment center in Cincinnati, Ohio.

The Shriners Hospitals also recently teamed up with the West Virginia State Police in a cooperative venture for a “Troopers and Shriners Helping Children” initiative with orthopedic problems or burn injuries to receive free medical care at the Shriners Hospitals. The Shriners have assisted countless individuals over the years by providing for their medical needs or by just putting a smile on the hearts of children through their Clown Unit, Temple Patrol, Oriental Band, Motor Corp, Ceremonial Cast, Highlanders Unit, and countless other components of this worthy organization which continues to excel in perfecting its services to the community.
Dr. Braxton Broady

Dr. Braxton Broady is the youngest of ten children born to the late Frank C. and Lonnie J. Broady of North Holston, Virginia. Each member of his family became members of High Street Baptist Church upon moving to Roanoke, Virginia.

Dr. Broady attended the Roanoke City Public Schools and is a graduate of Lucy Addison High School. He attended Shaw University and later earned a Bachelor of Theology degree from Virginia University (formerly Virginia Seminary), Lynchburg, Virginia. He obtained his Doctor of Divinity Degree from Richmond Virginia Seminary. He also received a Doctor of Humane Letters Degree from Virginia University, Lynchburg, Virginia.

He has served as Supply Minister at Maple Street Baptist Church, Roanoke, Virginia. He later pastored the First Baptist Church in Hollins, Virginia. Dr. Broady and his family moved to West Virginia in 1964. His pastoral tenure in West Virginia began at First Baptist Church, Mount Hope. He and his family relocated to Welch, West Virginia where he served as Pastor of Saint James Baptist Church for eleven years. Dr. Broady was called to shepherd the flock of Ebenezer Baptist Church on the west side of Charleston and was installed as Pastor on Sunday, October 5, 1975. Rev. Broady has pastored Ebenezer Baptist Church for the past 38 years.

Since his arrival in Charleston and at Ebenezer, Dr. Broady has served on and been affiliated with several civic, government and religious organizations. He is the founder and former State President and Moderator of the Progressive Missionary Baptist Association and State Convention of West Virginia. His involvement with community activism has empowered him to serve as Chairman of the Charleston Human Rights Commission, the Charleston Planning Commission, Board of Directors of the Tiskelwah Center, Past President of the Greater Charleston Ministerial Association, Past President of the Charleston Black Ministerial Alliance, Charleston Area Religious Leaders Association (C.A.R.L.A.), past Chairman of the Religious Coalition for Community Renewal (RCCR), member of the Trustee Board of Richmond, Virginia Seminary and President of the Charleston Lions Club where he received the Melvin Jones Fellow Award from the Lions Club International Foundation. He has also served as a Councilman for the City of Charleston, West Virginia.

He has been married for 53 years to the former Cecelia Jean Staples of Roanoke, Virginia. They are the proud parents of three sons: Braxton Ricardo Broady and wife Donna of Las Vegas, Nevada; Everett Nathaniel and wife Arlinda and their sons Caslin Nathaniel, and Braxton Everett all of Stone Mountain, Georgia and Cedric Vaughn Broady of Charleston, West Virginia.
Rabbi Beth Jacowitz Chottiner

Rabbi Beth Jacowitz Chottiner joined Temple Shalom as its current spiritual leader in 2006. Born in Brooklyn, New York and raised in Old Bridge, New Jersey, she is a graduate of Rutgers University, where she majored in psychology and minored in Judaic studies.

She received her Master of Arts in Hebrew Letters and rabbinic ordination from the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in Cincinnati, and also earned a Master of Arts in Religious Education from the seminary’s New York campus.

In Wheeling, Rabbi Jacowitz Chottiner joined the city’s Human Rights Commission in 2011, and currently chairs the panel. Last year, she successfully led the citywide campaign to preserve the commission’s authority to adjudicate cases related to employment, housing and public accommodation violations instead of referring those cases to the state’s Human Rights Commission.

In 2010, when the Westboro Baptist Church targeted Catholic sites in Wheeling for its hate demonstrations, Rabbi Jacowitz Chottiner was instrumental in organizing the West Virginia is No Place for Hate campaign in Wheeling, which included a well-attended and heavily publicized inclusion rally at Wheeling Park to counter the Westboro pickets.

Rabbi Jacowitz Chottiner is a regular participant in an interfaith Thanksgiving service and has organized and participated in services to honor the late Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Through her vision, and the help of an advisory board that was established in Wheeling, thirty-five teachers, students and community members will travel to Poland this summer for a study seminar run by the non-profit organization Classrooms Without Borders. By visiting Holocaust sites, accompanied by a Holocaust survivor and professional Holocaust educator/tour guide, the participants will learn not only history, but lessons about tolerance, acceptance of others, diversity and bullying.

Rabbi Jacowitz Chottiner is a member of the Greater Pittsburgh Rabbinic Association, the Pittsburgh Reform Rabbis Group and the Out-the-Pike Interfaith Clergy Group.
Pastor Dobbs, a native of Fairmont, West Virginia, received his license to preach in 1974 and was ordained in 1976. He has served as the pastor of several churches in the Fairmont area and in Elkins, West Virginia. He is a graduate of Dunbar High School and the Methodist Theological School.

Reverend Dobbs was called to pastor the Morning Star Baptist Church (MSBC) in Fairmont, West Virginia on January 1, 1987, began his service on March 1, and is the longest serving pastor of the church. He has truly been a blessing to the MSBC Church Family and is revered as a community leader. Pastor Dobb’s blesses the congregation through his transformative sermons, encouraging and uplifting words, and his unwavering commitment to Christ, the Church and the youth of the church.

Through Pastor Dobbs’ leadership and spiritual guidance, the Church has experienced many accomplishments and an overwhelming growth in membership and special ministries within the church. Since becoming pastor of the MSBC, over 300 people have joined the MSBC. He has mentored and provided spiritual guidance to over 50 associate ministers and deacons. Two of his major accomplishments consist of a complete restoration of the church sanctuary and dining area and the addition of a two story multi-purpose center that houses the Emma Pearl Dobbs Faith Room.

As the shepherd, Pastor Dobbs encourages full participation and spiritual growth. Under his leadership, approximately 18 ministries exist. Seasoned ministries continue to evolve; new ministries have emerged, all with a spiritual purpose. The youth groups such as the Mime and God’s Angels inspire continuous spiritual growth. The Women of Purpose Ministry consistently hosts annual conferences for spiritual renewal. The Mission continues to carry out the true meaning of missionary work and the Sunday School continues to provide the foundation for spiritual growth. The men of the church, when called upon consistently unite to meet the unique needs of the Church. The Usher Board, Greeters, Pastor’s Aid Committee, and Kitchen Committee all serve with enthusiasm and passion. The music ministries of the church continue to bless the Lord.

Pastor Dobbs also serves as the moderator for the Tygart Valley Baptist Association; NAACP treasurer; Fairmont General Hospital council member; and West Virginia Human Rights Commissioner, appointed by the former Governor Joe Manchin.

He is employed by the Marion County Commission as a Lieutenant for the Home Confinement Office. Pastor Dobbs is married to the former Cynthia Black.
Karl S. Gattlieb, Esq.

Karl S. Gattlieb holds a BA from the University of Charleston, Charleston, West Virginia, a Major in Sociology and Psychology and a Minor in U.S. History. He was the Captain of the intra-mural football team, The Rebels plus One. He taught Sales and Marketing at U.C. Gattlieb is the Founder/President of MyZgen, which he started in 2000, building the current team in 2009 to 2010, and totally moved from television to the World Wide Web.

Gattlieb was employed by Wells Fargo Insurance from 2006 to 2008, and he was in charge of structuring a unique nationwide insurance services program. The objective was to set up Post 65 (Medicare Eligible) Medical Benefits for large companies that have medical benefit obligations of over one thousand individuals in that age group. This took maximum advantage of and further strengthens existing relationships of both the Commercial Banking and Corporate Banking Divisions. In 2002, Gattlieb started the Gattlieb Group Inc. an Insurance, Manufacturers Representative and Business Development Company, which is still in operation. In 1997, Gattlieb was the Owner/Founder of Bug Z Cleaners LLC, building the company from start-up to a multi-million dollar company. He sold product to Wal-Mart, Advance Auto, QVC, Pep Boys, Western Auto and others, and sold the company to a Florida based corporation. In 1992, Gattlieb started Ceiling Inc. (Ceiling Cleaning) growing the business from zero to servicing three national accounts—Rite Aid Drug, White Hen Pantry and Sunoco. He sold business to Louisville based company. In 1988, he worked for RMSA as Sales Consultant in Atlanta as well as representing Leslie Fay Women’s Sports Wear covering West Virginia and Western Pennsylvania. The total women’s clothing business collapsed and he moved back home to start Ceiling Inc. In 1978, Gattlieb was a Sales Executive for College Town, Inc. Braintree, Massachusetts—300 Million dollar company. He was in charge of sales for Western Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Kentucky and Tennessee consistently ranking in the top three for sales increase, nine years in a row and achieving two million dollars in personal annual sales. The company closed its doors Thanksgiving Friday 1988. In 1969, Gattlieb, partnered with his father in Gattlieb Associates, a Manufacturing Rep Firm representing over 60 companies, at one point, covering West Virginia and part of Western Pennsylvania, selling hardware, house wares, electronics and sporting goods. The company achieved seven million dollars in annual sales. He Left to go on his own in the women’s apparel business. (College Town). In 1968, Gattlieb held his first full time job after graduation from college as a West Virginia Sales Representative for Mattel Toys. The would not promote him for fear they could not find anyone to cover West Virginia.

Currently, Gattlieb serves as a Commissioner for the West Virginia Human Rights Commission; is the President of the Foster Parent Association for U. C. Basketball Players. Three of the players, Jason Gee, Brian Dickerson and Pat Westbrooks, and Gattlieb are still close to this day. He calls them “My 3 sons.” Gattlieb is the former President of Kanawha City Lions Club (built to largest enrollment in club’s history); formed the longest running Fantasy Football League in the world. (still going after 38 years); elected President Charleston Regional Sports Council; elected President of Kanawha City First, a neighborhood group, which stopped Wal-Mart from building in Kanawha City; campaign Chairman for two different candidates for prosecuting attorney—one won, the other died weeks before the election. Gattlieb has been married for 40 years, has two daughters, and three grandchildren. He loves to travel, spend time with friends and is a huge sports fan. GO CUBS!
Paul L. Hamilton is a graduate of Marshall University in 1972. He served in the U.S. Army Ordnance Corp as Platoon Leader in the 76th Heavy Equipment Maintenance Company and Equal Opportunity Officer of the 544th Supply and Service Battalion gaining first experience with equal opportunity issues.

After leaving active duty in 1974, he began employment with the State of West Virginia Department of Welfare in Economic Services and later moving to the Cabell-Huntington-Health Department as a Medical Social Worker.

Hamilton worked for the Tri-State Regional Blood Center of the American Red Cross in Donor Resources providing training and public relations support to local Red Cross operations in twelve West Virginia counties at beginning of the AIDS crisis in the United States.

In October of 1986, he began employment with the West Virginia Human Rights Commission as a Community Relations Specialist and remains employed with the West Virginia Human Rights Commission as an Investigator with a special focus on disability issues.

Hamilton is married with one son and one grandson.
Rt. Rev. Dr. Emanuel A. Heyliger

Pastor Emanuel Heyliger was born in Guyana, South America. He graduated from Kings College, London University, West Virginia Institute of Technology and Marshall University Graduate College. In addition, he did Post Graduate work at Bethel Seminary and Wheeling Jesuit University. Rev. Heyliger has served as the Senior Pastor of Ferguson Memorial Baptist Church in Dunbar, West Virginia since May 1, 1980. Rev. Heyliger has served as Assistant General Secretary, Congress of Christian Education, National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.; Executive Board Member, National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.; President, Charleston Black Ministerial Alliance; Chairman, Ordination Council, Mt. Olivet Baptist Association; Administrative Assistant to the Moderator, Mt. Olivet Baptist Association; Chairman, Stewardship Committee, Mt. Olivet Baptist Association; Member, Evangelism Commission, West Virginia Baptist Convention; Chairman, Religious Affairs of the State of West Virginia NAACP. He also served on the Mayor’s Blue Ribbon Panel on Diversity for the City of Charleston; The Kanawha County Vision 2000 Human Resource Committee; Board Member, National Center for Human Relations at West Virginia State University and Condemnation Commissioner for Kanawha County. He was appointed by Governor Gaston Caperton to the West Virginia Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Commission. He was also appointed by Governor Cecil Underwood to the Board of Mission West Virginia and re-appointed to the West Virginia Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday Commission. He was certified by the Virginia State Supreme Court as a mediating specialist. He specializes in bringing people together for he believes that they can be unity in diversity. He has been a confidant and counselor to Governors, Senators and Mayors. Also, he has served as Chaplain to the Senate of the West Virginia State Legislature.

Rev. Heyliger serves as the chairperson of KISRA - the faith–based and community-serving initiative of the church. He is known as being a National Preacher, Lecturer, Evangelist, and Conference Speaker. After the Burundi Civil War, Rev. Heyliger was invited to Tanzania where he ordained twenty ministers from both the Hutu and Tutsi tribes to serve in the war torn era. Because of this he was made an International Ordination Bishop of the Protestant Elim Evangelical Churches. He also provides leadership for churches in North and South America, the United Kingdom, East and West Africa. Among his major achievements was the construction of the sanctuary of Ferguson Memorial Baptist Church and Christian Education Center. In 2008, a grant of $5 million from the U. S. Government was used to build the Empowerment Center, which is a one stop center for business, banking, job training, job development and education. He established a Covenant in 1995 with One Valley Bank (now BB&T), to provide loans for cars, housing and business for all people, especially the poor and minority, who would have never had the opportunity. Because of this he was recognized as the Small Business Advocate of the year by the U S Small Business Administration. Under his leadership, Ferguson Baptist has been recognized by the State of West Virginia with the Governor Service Award. Because of his dedicated service to the community, he was made an Honorary Sheriff. West Virginia State University Alumni and admitted to the Leadership Circle for the Multiple Sclerosis Society. Some of his proudest achievements include, preaching before the 8.5 million at the Baptist Convention, The Potter’s House, Dallas, Texas, where Bishop T. D. Jakes is the pastor, the four governor’s inaugural service and the Commencement Exercise at the Idahousa University in Benin, Nigeria. He is the proud father and mentor of three beautiful daughters, and the grandfather of one granddaughter and four grandsons.
Rosalean Hibbett

Rosalean (Shelton) Hibbett is a resident of Bridgeport, Ohio and a member of Bethlehem Apostolic Temple in Wheeling, West Virginia. She was born on September 27, 1927, in Stanton, Alabama. In 1929, her family moved to Benwood, West Virginia because her father was a miner and relocated for his job. She graduated from Lincoln High School in Wheeling, West Virginia, which was the only Black high school at that time. After graduation, she wanted to pursue her dream of becoming a nurse, but was not able to attend nursing school in West Virginia because of segregation. She had to leave the area and decided to attend Grady Memorial Hospital in Atlanta, Georgia, which was also a segregated nursing program. While in Atlanta she attended Ebenezer Baptist Church where Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Sr. was the pastor and the graduation ceremony was held there. She graduated in September 1949 and topped all other students out of a class of fifty-nine nurse graduates in scholastic standing for a three-year course and was presented an award for highest achievement maintaining a 90 average. The Grady Alumnae Association also presented her with a scholarship award for her excellent academic achievement to help her pursue a B.S. degree in nursing, but she decided to return back home to help her mother, who was a widow, raise her three sisters. When she returned home, Wheeling Hospital would not accept her as a Registered Nurse so she took the advice of the Director of Nursing who was a Nun at the Wheeling Hospital and worked in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to work as a nurse for three months. During that time, she found out she was accepted to a nursing position in Detroit, Michigan and wanted to thank the Nun who recommended her to the Pittsburgh Hospital. The Nun asked her to wait before leaving the area so she could see what she could do for her to work at Wheeling Hospital. A big meeting was held in the auditorium where doctors, nurses, and student nurses held a vote to determine if they were willing to work with her. A 99% majority vote was favorable with only one vote against her. She was awarded a nursing position in 1950 at Wheeling Hospital making her the first African-American registered nurse. Her nursing career lasted for approximately 20 years as she experienced some patients and hospital staff who did not want to be helped by or work with an African-American nurse. She persevered through it all. In January 2006, she was awarded the first Rosa Parks Award given in the Wheeling area by the MLK Day Committee.

She married the late John Hibbett in 1952 and was married for 52 years. From this union she became the mother of nine children and grandmother of 14 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. She has been a mother of the church at Bethlehem Temple for over 20 years and has been a Sunday School teacher for over 60 years where she has influenced many young peoples lives. At the age of 86, she is still a vital part of her community.
Rev. Dr. Lloyd A. Hill

Born March 18, 1960 in Charleston, West Virginia to Mr. Robert Lee and Elnora Marie Hill. Educated in Kanawha County Schools till the age 16, after which he decided on his own that he no longer needed school to make it in this life.

Less than one year later at the age of 17 he found himself standing before a judge who sentenced him to the state penitentiary at Moundsville West Virginia, for the rest of his natural life.

After two years of being incarcerated, Pastor Hill came to know Christ, and it was there that God called him to preach as well as pastor the very men whom he was locked up with. In 1988, God over ruled the Judge’s sentence and released Pastor Hill to further the call upon his life to do the will of God outside the walls of prison.

In 1990, Reverend Hill was called to serve as Youth Minister of The Liberty Missionary Baptist Church by which also in 1991 he was licensed to preach the gospel under the pastorate of The Reverend Charles E. Blackmon.

In 1991, he had the distinct honor of preaching the first ever Charleston Black Ministerial Alliance, Inc. City-Wide Youth Revival, and in 1992, he was asked to do so again. In 1996, he was ordained by The Mt. Olivet Baptist Association after being called to serve as Senior Pastor of The Liberty Missionary Baptist Church.

In December 2004, Pastor Hill was granted a full and unconditional pardon by then Honorable Governor Bob Wise, and was selected by the Martin Luther King Jr. West Virginia Holiday Commission to be the recipient of the 2008 Governors "Living The Dream" Award. Pastor Hill holds an Honorary Doctorate Of Divinity Degree conferred upon him by the Saint Thomas Christian University. He served as President of the Charleston Black Ministerial Alliance from 2004 until 2012.

After 13 years of faithful service to the Liberty Missionary Baptist Church, in August of 2009, God called and separated Pastor Hill to the work of The Father's House where he now serves as Senior Pastor. At this time, he serves as the Second Vice President of the Progressive Missionary Baptist Association and State Convention of West Virginia. He is very active in the community, serving on various boards and committees, speaking up and out for the rights of others as needed. His heart's desire is to see people saved and delivered by coming to Christ especially our young people whom the enemy is destroying with a vengeance.

He is married to the former Rosa Ward of McDowell County, West Virginia, and together they have four children and 13 grandchildren.
Norman Lindell

Norman Lindell holds a B.A. Degree in History, and a Master of Science in Human Resources Management from the University of Charleston.

Lindell was most recently employed as a Human Resources Consultant for the law firm of Steptoe & Johnson, PLLC.

Prior to joining Steptoe & Johnson in May 2002, Lindell spent almost twenty-five years with the West Virginia Human Rights Commission. He was the Acting Executive Director three times. During his last twelve years with the Commission, Lindell held the position of Deputy Director.

From 1996—2000, Lindell served on the State Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights.

In addition to his education, Lindell has been a national trainer in the area of employment, housing and other forms of discrimination for the U. S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the National Association of Human Rights Workers.

Lindell is married to Patricia, has two children and four grandchildren.
Tara Martinez

Tara Martinez is the Executive Director of the West Virginia Women’s Commission. Tara has spent the last 15 years in service to the state of West Virginia working with motor carrier enforcement at the Public Service Commission, animal health and executive departments at the Department of Agriculture, and for the past five years at the Women’s Commission; there is not a branch of state government she will shy away from.

Martinez’s work focuses on monitoring women’s issues legislation, program planning and implementation, and working with legislators and policy makers on issues of importance to women across the state and country. She also serves as liaison to national associations, state and federal agencies, along with other statewide and national organizations.

Tara has served as a member to the: Vice Chair, SAC US Committee on Civil Rights Chair of the 2014 Turning a New Leaf fundraiser benefiting the Empowerment Fund for victims and survivors of domestic violence; National Association of Commissions for Women as an elected Board member 2012-2013; Chair of the NACW Conference Planning Committee 2011-2014; WV Hi-Y Youth in Government Committee Member; Committee Member for West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence 30th year Celebration; Legislative Action Team Member 2008 to present; Vice-Chair 2011 Salvation Army Boys and Girls Club Inaugural Mother’s Day Celebration; Chair 2010 Multiple Sclerosis Women on the Move Luncheon; Citizen Member of the Equal Pay Commission 2008-2014

In December 2012, Martinez completed her MBA at Marshall University’s EMBA program. She began the program when her daughter was 10 days old and experienced one of her proudest moments walking across the stage during her hooding ceremony with her daughter watching and cheering her on.
Dr. Rida Mazagri

Dr. Mazagri, a native of Libya, graduated eighth in his class at the Al Fateh University School of Medicine in Tripoli, Libya. He was medically qualified in 1986, MBBch, at Al-Fateh University; in 1997, by the Canadian Neurosurgery Board, FRCS©, and in 2003, by the American Board of Neurological Surgery, FACS. Dr. Mazagri has over 16 years’ experience in neurosurgery.

Dr. Mazagri received his Fellowship training at the University of Saskatchewan, Royal University Hospital, Saskatchewan, Canada; Pediatric Fellowship, Division of Neurosurgery at the University of Ottawa, Ontario, Canada; and Mini-Spine Fellowship at the University of Ottawa. Dr. Mazagri completed his post-graduate training from 1986 to 1987, a rotating internship at Al-Fateh University Medical School Teaching Hospitals, Tripoli, Libya; from March 1987 to 1988, he worked in general surgery; from January 1996 to March 1996, he completed his Neuroradiology Rotation at Barrow Neurological Institute Radiology Department, in Phoenix, Arizona; from July 1991 to June 1997, he completed his neurosurgery residency at the Division of Neurosurgery, University of Saskatchewan Royal University Hospital, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada; and from July 1997 to December 1997, completed his Neurosurgical Assistance in the Neurosurgery Department Saskatoon and Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada.

Dr. Mazagri is currently a neurosurgeon with University Physicians and Surgeons and a professor at Marshall Medical School, in Huntington, West Virginia. In addition to the myriad brain and spine surgeries performed, he performs surgery known as kyphoplasty. This procedure treats osteoporotic compression fractures, removes pain and restores the deformity, which appears in the elderly. Kyphoplasty elevates the fracture to restore height.

On his 50th birthday, Dr. Mazagri went to Libya during the uprising against Dictator Moammar Gadhafi to help the wounded and save lives. Gadhafi’s police arrested him believing that he was an American agent. Dr. Mazagri was threatened with death, rape and suffered horrific beatings. Dr. Mazagri quoted to newspapers on his return to the United States that a general asked him what his specialty in medicine was, and Dr. Mazagri told him it was surgery of the spine and brain, to which the general began stomping on his back as hard as he could. This treatment went on until Dr. Mazagri, along with hundreds of others, was freed by rebels on August 24, 2011. Today, in spite of the challenges he endured, with perseverance and dedication to saving lives he continues to teach and perform surgery in Tripoli, Libya and in Huntington, West Virginia.

Dr. Mazagri has received numerous awards; was the author and co-author of several published neuroscience manuscripts and abstracts; and was the Assistant Professor of Neurosurgery at Syracuse Medical School in Binghamton, New York. Dr. Mazagri is married with four children.
John T. McFerrin, Esq.

John T. McFerrin, Esq. was born in Atlanta, Georgia and grew up in Eastern Kentucky. He has lived in West Virginia since 1982.

McFerrin is a graduate of the University of Kentucky and Duke University Law school. He also holds an additional degree from Concord University.

He is admitted to practice law in state and federal courts in both Kentucky and West Virginia as well as the United States Supreme Court.

McFerrin was employed by the Attorney General’s Office from October 31, 1996, through July 30, 1999, as an Assistant Attorney General. In that position he represented the West Virginia Human Rights Commission, both advising the Commission and representing the Commission in court proceedings and in administrative hearings.

He and his wife, Karen Kostol, have also maintained a private practice in Beckley, West Virginia, where they specialized primarily in employment and discrimination law.

Currently, he has served as Commissioner on the West Virginia Human Rights Commission since 2011. While serving in that position he has not only actively participated in Commission meetings but conducted training for Commission staff.

He now lives in Morgantown, West Virginia, with his wife and two children.
Ralph D. Miller

Ralph D. Miller is a graduate of West Virginia State University, with undergraduate degrees in Architectural Technology and Psychology and holds a Masters Degree from the University of West Virginia College of Graduate Studies.

Miller has over nineteen years of experience working with educators, business people and students. Miller has assisted with the startup of at least eight small businesses, several non-profits, taught adults how to write business plans, designed and operated pre-college and college internship programs, successfully run two non-profit organizations, and has been a consultant to many small businesses and non-profit organizations.

Miller founded the Charleston Community and Family Development Corporation in 1997 to provide volunteer technical assistance to churches, community non-profit organizations and small businesses to improve living conditions of children and families living on Charleston’s west side.

Miller has spent the past eleven years working with the Kanawha County Board of Education, community organizations, corporate and university partners in establishing a “Community School” program at the new Mary C. Snow West Side Elementary School. He raised $600,000 to build a full-service clinic at the school and raised over a million dollars in the first year of the school’s operation to start an Extended Learning Day Program. The program model currently serves K-12 students and is a major partner in the West Virginia’s Education Reform Legislation.

Miller has worked with a diverse group of churches, community organizations, and community leaders. Some of his clients have included: the Governor’s Cabinet on Children and Families, West Virginia State Attorney General’s Office, Toyota (Georgetown, Kentucky), Union Carbide, Verizon, IBM, The Education Alliance, Littlepage Terrace Resident Council, HOPE Community Development Corporation, The Tiskelwah Center, The Lady Warriors Basketball Team, Opportunities Industrialization Centers, First Baptist Church Family Enrichment Center, MAACK, East End Family Resource Center, West Virginia State Community and Technical College and others. He has worked with organizations in Florida, Georgia, Ohio, Kentucky, Wisconsin and Missouri.

Miller currently sits on the boards of the United Way, West Side Neighborhood Association, Charleston Area Alliance Education Committee and a past board member of Kanawha County Communities That Care. He is an ordained elder and the Dean of Education at the Temple of Faith Ministries in Cross Lanes, West Virginia where he and his family reside.
The Honorable Sharon M. Mullens

Judge Sharon M. Mullens, is a native Charlestonian. She is the eldest daughter of the late West Virginia State University Professor Richard N. Gwinn and Joan V. Gwinn. Judge Mullens formerly practiced law in West Virginia with a Modified-General Private Practice for 19 years.

Judge Mullens is a graduate of Stonewall Jackson High School, West Virginia State College (now University) and the Ohio State University College of Law.

Prior to beginning her solo private practice in 1989, she previously worked for four years for the Legal Aid Society of Charleston, ultimately serving as Domestic Relations Unit Manager and four years for the West Virginia Attorney General's Office in the Civil Rights Division, culminating her career there as Deputy Attorney General of that Division.

She is also a former eight year member of the Board of the Black Diamond Girl Scout Council, serving two terms as Treasurer; Former President of the Mountain State Bar Association; Former ten year member of the Charleston Legal Aid Society Board of Directors; Member of Charleston Job Corps Community Advisory Council; Former Chair and Vice Chair of the West Virginia State Family Law Committee and Minority Lawyer Committee; served as Legal Aid of West Virginia Pro Bono Volunteer Attorney, and was the 2004 Kanawha County Family Court Guardian Ad Litem Of The Year.

She also served on the Legal Aid Services to the Poor Committee for the West Virginia State Bar and the Citizens Advisory Committee of Kanawha County Family Court.

She was elected to the Kanawha County Family Court, 11th Circuit, 5th Division as Family Court Judge in 2008 and assumed the bench January 1, 2009. She is a member of the West Virginia Family Judicial Association.
Pastor Willie Nevels

Rev. Willie Nevels was one of the first African American Referees for Ohio County. He was also the first African American basketball official for ESPN in the 1970’s.

He is a member and treasurer of the Upper Ohio Valley Ministerial Alliance of Wheeling, West Virginia, a member of the Pittsburg Ministers Conference and vicinity; and moderator of the Mt. Zion Association of Churches.

Rev. Nevels is a Commissioner of the Wheeling Housing Authority and has served in that capacity for the past two years.

He is responsible for first introducing the naming of the area, in Wheeling, between 11th Street and the intersection at Route 40/National Road and Mt. Wood Road as Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Way; believed to be the only street in West Virginia, so named in honor of the late Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Rev. Nevels also received recognition in 2012, for the role he played in instructing the youth of his church community and surrounding as to the struggles and advances of African Americans and their thrust toward equality.

Rev. Nevels is currently the Eminent Pastor of Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church in Weirton, West Virginia where he has served for the past 24 years.

He and his lovely wife, Loma, are the proud parents of six beautiful children, five girls and a boy. Rev. Nevels and his family currently reside on North Huron Street in Wheeling, West Virginia.

His personal motto is: We must see Jesus!
Cpl. Errol D. Randle is a veteran public servant with 20 years of service with the Charleston Police Department (CPD). Randle has served in various capacities, including CPD Patrol Officer; CPD Street Crimes Unit Detective; Federal Bureau of Investigations Street Gang Task Force Officer.

In June of 2007, Randle was appointed to the position of CPD Strategic Planning Officer by Chief of Police Brent L. Webster which he currently holds. With this position, Randle wears several hats which include, but not limited to, development of law enforcement projects/initiatives; departmental recruiting; and police/community relations.

Randle’s passion and buy-in to achieving the “Beloved Community” at work has also transcended into his personal life as he serves as a mentor for the mentoring group Boys to Men at the Paul Dunbar Second Avenue Community Center. At Boys to Men, the mentors take advantage of opportunities to pass on positive life lessons/experiences that traditionally a father should teach their son such as how to tie a tie or how to properly shake hands. The young boys are also taught tools which help them make good choices such as conflict resolution, chivalry, and respect. Lastly, the boys are exposed to an array of experiences to help them aspire to a dream.

Prior to Randle’s career with the Charleston Police Department, Randle served a four year tour in the United States Air Force as a security police specialist. Randle served one deployment in Saudi Arabia during Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm and one deployment in Kuwait during Operation Southern Watch.

Randle is most proud of being the father of Kennedy Marie Randle (8 years old) who is the love of his life.
Kathleen P. Reid grew up in Northern Virginia. She met her husband, Chip, on a blind date in Richmond, Virginia while attending Virginia Commonwealth University (VSU). Reid worked for a publishing company, and participated in volunteer work through civic organizations.

In 2003, after 33 years in New Jersey and upon retirement, Reid and her husband moved to Shepherdstown, West Virginia, to be closer to her family. In her own words, she was “bored to tears.” She saw an article in the local paper about classes starting for CASA of the Eastern Panhandle, Inc. (CASA-EP).

CASA stands for Court Appointed Special Advocate. After a rigorous training program, CASA volunteers are appointed to investigate cases when children have been removed from their homes because of abuse and/or neglect. CASA is a nationwide program, and there are ten other CASA organizations in West Virginia. Reid decided to do volunteer work and went through CASA’s nationally mandated training curriculum in November of 2003. In December 2003, Reid was sworn-in, and was assigned to her first CASA case in January of 2004.

During her tenure as a CASA Volunteer, Reid advocated for 13 family groups, for a total of 30 children, donating over 1000 case hours and more than 14,830 case-related miles. Reid partnered with co-founder, Joan Ergin, as well as Quincy Northrup each on a case, and mentored Renee Karos and Beth Koonse on two cases. Kathy eventually stopped advocating on CASA cases for a while, to help with ROCK – Ride on for CASA Kids, (now CASA River Century), CASA’s largest yearly fundraiser.

Subsequently, Reid ultimately returned to child advocacy, and partnered again with Renee Karos on a continuing basis, where she still currently graces CASA with her hard work and effort. Reid possesses an innate aptitude to understand issues that aren’t necessarily explained or written on paper to be researched; a valuable trait while advocating for abused and neglected children.

Reid shows a keen awareness and sensitivity of her surroundings, yet can still remain objective, sensible and non-judgmental. She is intelligent, personable and always willing to do whatever she can to help a child. Her genuine love of children is the motivating force behind the effort she puts forth at CASA-EP. The compassionate, inherent way she advocates for the children on her cases is nothing less than exceptional. Reid flies “under the radar,” never seeking to draw attention to herself or her good deeds. She will be celebrating her 10 year anniversary with CASA of the Eastern Panhandle, Inc.

In addition, to the years of faithful service she has given to the children of the Eastern Panhandle through CASA-EP, she has also maintained her primary job, which is the Office Manager at The Shepherdstown Presbyterian Church August 2004.

Reid is also a member of the League of Women Voters and recently began training at the Jefferson County Community Ministries (JCCM). Reid will be doing intake for new and returning clients. Reid and her husband have three children and eight grandchildren—eight years old and younger.
William O. Ritchie, Sr. *

William O. Ritchie Sr. was born in April 1926 in Big Island, Virginia to the late Samuel and Sadie Ritchie.

The family moved to Fayette County, West Virginia during the early 1930’s where Ritchie graduated from Dubois High School. He served in the United States Army during World War II. Ritchie subsequently graduated from the Pittsburg Institute of Mortuary Science in 1951.

During March of 1955, Ritchie, along with his partner James F. Johnson established the Ritchie and Johnson Funeral Parlor Inc. in Beckley, West Virginia. He faithfully served his community as a mortician for more than 50 years.

Ritchie was an active member of St. Matthews AME Church in Beckley, serving as President of the Senior Choir, member of the Male Choir, Pro-Tem of the Trustee Board and teacher in the Sunday school.

His other organizational memberships included King Hiram Abill Lodge #25 with Consistory Shriners, the men’s Civic Club of Beckley and the Grandview Country Club where he played with passion, the game of golf. Ritchie was among a very elite group of golfers who experienced the rarely executed “hole in one.”

Ritchie was especially proud to provide further service to his community as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Beckley Housing Authority where he was a proponent of ensuring equitable and affordable housing for deserving residents of the city. The Lewis-Ritchie Apartments were co-named in his honor.

Since 2002, Ritchie has had a legacy scholarship award, along with the late Curtis Pannell, at Woodrow Wilson High School for a deserving senior as determined by the school. To date, 14 students have received the annual scholarship.

Ritchie, who departed this life during September 2001, was anteceded in death by his loving wife of 52 years Eva C. Ritchie during January 2006. His memory is cherished by his three daughters and two sons, along with a host of other relatives.

* Posthumously
Monia S. Turley was born in 1961 in Madison, West Virginia to Jerrell and Phyllis (deceased) Holbrook. When Turley was five, her family moved to Cleveland, Ohio where she grew up. In 1978, her family returned to Lincoln County, West Virginia.

In 1980, Turley worked for the state’s Office of Emergency Services, in the then Nuclear Civil Protection Division as a typist/secretary. She worked in the Emergency Operations Center during disasters such as floods and search and rescue operations, in collaboration with FEMA, the National Guard, State Police, Civil Air Patrol and several agencies. She participated in mock nuclear disasters with the Beaver Valley, Shippingport, Pennsylvania Nuclear Facility. Turley assisted the planners with all county and state disaster plans identifying fallout shelters and plans of evacuation for the occurrence of nuclear events and disasters in West Virginia.

In October 1984, Turley began working with the West Virginia Human Rights Commission in the Legal Division before the Commission hired its first full-time hearing examiner—now administrative law judges. Over the years, Turley has assisted in every area of the Commission, and currently has been the executive secretary for the last eight years to the executive director. Turley received Mediation and Advanced Mediation training from the West Virginia State Bar to become a Conciliator from 2006 to 2011 for the Commission’s Pre-determination Conciliation Program (early settlement). Turley is proud of her efforts in helping to resolve disputes and achieve settlements.

Turley has a total of 34 years with the State and 30 of those years have been dedicated to the Commission. In her words, she is a behind the scenes worker to get things done to eliminate discrimination—a cause which is very important to her. A pivotal moment in Turley’s career with the Commission came about when she held a client on the telephone trying to convince the client not to commit suicide. The client was so distressed because of discrimination, it culminated to almost the point of no return. Thankfully, the client received the necessary help needed, and the client ultimately went on to win their case.

From 1997 to 2010 Turley, along with her husband, Glenn, owned and operated Turley Trucking, a small trucking company leased to Miller Transporters, Inc., hauling chemicals across the United States for Dupont, Inc. and various other chemical companies. Turley was a volunteer reading teacher in her community; is a Christian and very active in her home church, where she has sung in her family Gospel group since she was six years old; and is active in her community helping others. Turley has been married 33 years with no children, has one brother, two sisters and she mothers many nieces and nephews. She lives by one simple rule, “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.” Her firm belief is that all people should be treated equally as they were created equal.
Rabbi Victor Urecki

Rabbi Victor Urecki has served as Rabbi and spiritual leader of B’nai Jacob Synagogue since 1986.

Rabbi Urecki is a member of the Rabbinical Council of America, as well as the Chicago Board of Rabbis. He is also on the Executive Rabbinical Cabinet of the Jewish Federations of North America, the largest Jewish philanthropic organization in the world.

He serves on the National Council of AIPAC (The American Israel Public Affairs Committee) and on the board of directors at the University of Charleston.

Rabbi Urecki was the 2011 recipient of the "Living the Dream Award" for his work on interfaith relations.

Rabbi Urecki is a contributing editor to the Charleston Gazette, writing frequently about religious tolerance and mutual respect. Rabbi Urecki has devoted his career to teaching the importance of religious openness, embracing similarities and finding strength in differences.

He co-founded the “Root and the Branch,” an organization dedicated to creating opportunities for faith traditions in the Kanawha Valley to come together, dialogue, and learn from one other. Through the “Root and the Branch” and his involvement in interfaith activities, Rabbi Urecki lectures regularly at area churches and schools on Jewish/Christian relations and Muslim/Jewish understanding.

In addition, Rabbi Urecki offers classes at B’nai Jacob where Christians, Jews, and those of all faiths and spiritual thinking can openly and in mutual respect approach the Hebrew Bible and share together the ideas that shape their journeys.

He and his wife, Marilyn, have three daughters, Avrah, Chava and Zahava. His wife Marilyn teaches at B’nai Jacob and Charleston Catholic High School.
The mission of the West Virginia Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (WVCDHH) is to advocate for, develop, and coordinate public policies, regulations, and programs to assure full and equal opportunity for persons who are deaf and hard of hearing in West Virginia.

The West Virginia Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing was established in 1989 by the legislature to aid West Virginians who are deaf or hard of hearing in their efforts to live independent and productive lives by maintaining a clearinghouse of information, maintaining a list of qualified and certified interpreters and American Sign Language (ASL) teachers in West Virginia, conducting outreach to raise awareness, and investigating the condition of deaf and hard of hearing West Virginians. The WVCDHH also provides some training for interpreters, the deaf community, and the general public.

Other services of the WVCDHH include: *Telephonic Communication Device Loan Program*, a long-term lending of TTYs and amplified phones for income-qualified individuals with documented need; *Interpreter Registry & Directory*, maintaining a registry and public directory of qualified interpreters in West Virginia—coordinating the state testing system for interpreters; *Training*, sponsoring trainings for interpreters, deaf and hard of hearing individuals, and interested businesses or organizations; *Accessible Smoke Alarms*, partnering with the Division of Rehabilitation Services to distribute free accessible smoke alarms for deaf and hard of hearing.

There are seventeen positions on the Commission. Nine are appointed by the Governor, eight represent state agencies. Commission members meet quarterly in different places around the state. Commission members are responsible for setting the direction and planning for WVCDHH and supervising the Executive Director.
Lisa K. Younis was appointed to the West Virginia Human Rights Commission in 2006 and continues to work in the position with her fellow commissioners from around the state. She has served and continues to serve on many local and West Virginia boards and committees. Recently, Younis was appointed to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights State Advisory Committee. Younis is always interested in promoting West Virginia and focusing resources. She is a primary sponsor of the newly created film, A New Home for Liberty, written by Thomas Rodd and directed by Joe Yates. Lisa is hopeful that eventually, every West Virginia student will have the opportunity to see the film, become aware of the contribution J. R. Clifford made in his lifetime, and recognize the importance of abolition to West Virginia statehood.

Understanding a bit of Younis’ background helps explain who she is. Younis is a proud West Virginian who was born in Philippi and raised in Summersville to a Japanese immigrant mother and a Japanese-American father. In the early 1900’s, aided by industrialist/coal company owner, J. G. Bradley, Younis’ grandfather emigrated to Widen, West Virginia and became the chief cook in the coal company’s clubhouse. Harry Taka, Younis’ father, was born and raised there with his two older sisters, Grace and Marion. For unknown reasons, Younis’ grandmother took Harry and Grace back to Japan when Harry was seven years old. WWII came. Due to the protection of J. G. Bradley, the remaining Taka family was spared from the internment camps, however while in Japan, Younis’ father was not as fortunate. He suffered discrimination for being a U.S. citizen. Upon returning to the U.S. after the war, he was frequently treated as an outsider. Nevertheless, loyal to the U.S. and his coal mining roots, Harry Taka studied mining engineering at WVU and West Virginia Tech and served in the U.S. Army. On a family visit to Japan, Harry met Younis’ mother, Miyo. They married and chose to reside in Summersville. Younis’ mother spoke no English and was unfamiliar to the American culture. Aided by Younis’ grandfather and aunt, Miyo gradually became acclimated. Younis and her sister were steered by Japanese-culture and mores but because of the fear of being “different” in a small town in rural West Virginia, Younis’ father insisted on only speaking English as a family. Younis’ father died when she was still in high school after many years battling kidney failure and hemodialysis. On her own and on a fixed income, her mother continued to raise Younis and her younger sister in Summersville. Younis attended WVU on an academic scholarship and pursued a career in the health profession. She received a Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing. While there she met her husband, John, a Wheeling native and dental student. They moved to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and as John completed his orthodontic residency, Younis worked as an orthopedic nurse to support them.

Younis would like to take this opportunity to thank Senator Joe Manchin, III for initially appointing her to West Virginia Women’s Commission and then to the West Virginia Human Rights Commission. She is grateful and honored that Governor Earl Ray Tomblin continues to support her efforts by reappointing her. Serving on the Commission has been a wonderful experience and she treasures her relationship with the other commissioners, the staff, and the civil rights attorneys. She has been extremely thankful for the opportunity to serve the Eastern Panhandle and West Virginia as a commissioner and feels especially fortunate to have known and worked with the late Administrative Law Judge Phyllis Carter. “Phyllis was an inspiration to a newly appointed commissioner and she has always been professional, patient, tough and caring. Through her untiring effort, Phyllis was a role-model for us all.” Currently, Younis and John reside in Shepherdstown, West Virginia with their two teenagers, Jack and Avery.
A SPECIAL TRIBUTE
In Loving Memory of
The Honorable Phyllis Harden Carter
Acting Executive Director
West Virginia Human Rights Commission
March 7, 2011 - January 18, 2014
RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, we, the Commissioners and Staff of the West Virginia Human Rights Commission, at 1321 Plaza East, Room 108-A, Charleston, West Virginia, wish to extend our heartfelt sympathies to the Carter family, and that our prayers are with you as we gather to bid goodbye to a respected friend, colleague and outstanding individual.

WHEREAS, Judge Phyllis Harden Carter served as an Administrative Law Judge for the West Virginia Human Rights Commission from 2001 to 2005, as Chief Administrative Law Judge for the Commission from 2005 to 2011, and served faithfully as Acting Executive Director from March 7, 2011, until the time of her passing on January 18, 2014.

WHEREAS, under Judge Carter's leadership and guidance, the Commission accomplished many goals prior to and during the 2013 fiscal year in continuing its mandate of intolerance against discrimination in any form in concert with the West Virginia Human Rights Act, as amended and the West Virginia Fair Housing Act.

WHEREAS, Judge Carter led by example by building a strong community of constituents, comrades and confidants within the community who understood the necessity and importance of the work of the West Virginia Human Rights Commission and its mission to provide quality and quantitative services to the citizens of West Virginia.

WHEREAS, the passing of our beloved Director and friend has been sanctioned by the will of the Almighty, and although presently grieving, the ties within the human hearts of each of us who knew and worked closely with her shall never be broken. We are encouraged and consoled with the words from Biblical writ which says, “I will never leave thee nor forsake thee.”

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commissioners, and Staff of the West Virginia Human Rights Commission, embrace the Carter family during this time of great sorrow, as each of us share a common bond that will connect us for the rest of our lives. We can in no way replace Judge Carter, but will continue to demonstrate our respect for her memory to you through our love, prayers and concern for you.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a period of official mourning will be observed to acknowledge the passing of a tremendous friend and exemplary leader.

Humbly submitted this 25th day of January 2014.

Dr. Darrell W. Cummings, Chair and Marykaye Jacquet, Deputy Director
Past Honorees

2013
Carol A. Beattie
Randall Byrnside
Jan Derry
Reverend Ronald W. English
Robert L. Harrison, Ph.D.
The Honorable Tal Hutchins
Reverend Dr. Skyler K. Kershner
National Federation of the Blind of West Virginia
The Honorable Marie E. Redd
First Lady Joanne Jaeger Tomblin
Reverend Matthew J. Watts
Chief Brent L. Webster
The Honorable Irene C. Berger
Walter H. Chamberlain
Katherine “Kitty” L. Dooley, Esq.
Timothy L. Hairston
Cheryl L. Henderson, Esq.
Christopher D. Jackson
Reverend William Howard Law *
Curtis E. Price
Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Allen E. Tackett
Frank Veltri *
Dr. Rozelle Jenee Walker
The Honorable Patricia H. White

2012
Robert S. Baker, Esq.
Marion J. Capehart *
Earl Eugene “Gene” Corum *
Elmer H. Day, Jr.
Lt. Col. Kenneth Hale
Allan N. Karlin, Esq.
The Honorable Darrell W. McGraw
Charles G. Peters, Jr.
Jean E. Simpson
Richard F. “Dick” Smith
Dallas S. Staples
Gail Henderson-Staples, Esq.
The Honorable Bonnie Brown
Dr. Hazo W. Carter, Jr.
Rev. Dr. Darrell Cummings
James Lonnie Hagood *
Richard J. “Dick” Henderson *
Rev. Jim Lewis
Jane Moran, Esq.
Paul R. Sheridan, Esq.
Randall Reid Smith
Carolyn Elizabeth Smoot *
Dwight J. Staples, Esq.
Milford Ziegler

2011
The West Virginia Human Rights Commission’s Fiftieth Year Anniversary Celebration. The West Virginia Human Rights Act was enacted in 1961 thereby creating the West Virginia Human Rights Commission. Governor Tomblin presented a Proclamation proclaiming December 13, 2011 as Human Rights Commission Day, reaffirming the mission of the Commission to continue to administer and enforce the Act, and to encourage and endeavor to bring about mutual understanding and respect among all racial, religious and ethic groups within the state and to eliminate discrimination in employment, places of public accommodation and housing. In Celebration of its Fiftieth Year Anniversary, held in the Rotunda of the Capitol Building, Charleston, West Virginia during the Legislative Session, guests and dignitaries of honor spoke toward the reaffirmation of the Commission.

*honored posthumously
### 2010
- Mary Frances Brammer
- Helen Sutton Dobson*
- Lieutenant Sidney Edward Frye
- James A. Haught
- Jada C. Hunter
- Dr. Margaret Anne Cyrus Mills*
- Dr. Minu Sabet
- Catherine Dooley Taylor
- Reverend Beatrice Ruth Burgess*
- Patrolman Robert Edward Easley, Sr.*
- The Hon. Joseph Robert Goodwin
- Councilman James C. Hunt
- Odith P. Jakes*
- Brown Hugo Payne, Esquire*
- First Sergeant James C. Spriggs, Jr.*

### 2009
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- Raymond Hammarth
- Lenora E. Harmon*
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- Bernice Johnson
- James C. Karantonis
- Mae Stallard
- David Stewart
- Margaret Taylor
- Wendy Thomas
- Russell Van Cleve*
- Winifred W. White
- Brian Williams*
- Claude Williams
- Thomas Zerbe, J.D.

### 2008
- The Seventeen Black Railroad Yardmen
- C. O. Baumgardner
- Thomas H. Mack
- Rabbi Helen Bar-Yaacov
- William Anthony “Tony” Brown
- The Charleston Women’s Improvement League, Inc.
- James A. Griffin
- James Arthur Jackson*
- Gertrude Diana Campbell Jackson*
- Charles Howell James, II*
- The Hon. A. Andrew MacQueen, III
- Attorney James E. Parker
- Richard H. Payne
- Benjamin Clyde Perkins, Jr.*
- The Silver Leaf Club
- The West Virginia Tuskegee Airmen
- Quewanncoi “Que” C. Stephens, Sr.
- The Hon. Justice Margaret L. Workman
- Eugene K. Young

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- Dr. Charles R. Byrd*
- Anna Evans Gilmer
- The Hon. Mike Kelly
- Rashida Khakoo, M.D.
- John E. Lynch, Jr.*
- The Hon. Charlene Marshall
- James B. “Jim” McIntyre, Esq.*
- Mary Willene Hairston Moore
- Robert L. “Bob” Morris*
- Dr. Taylor J. Perry, Jr.
- Joseph Cromwell Peters*
- Bishop Donald L. Pitts
- Martha “Sweet Pea” Dunlap Sanders*
- Carter Zerbe, Esq.

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Ken Hechler, Ph.D.
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Mentola Joyce Jackson
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J. Franklin Long, Esq.
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The Hon. Larry V. Starcher
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2005
Willard L. Brown, Esq.*
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Harry Jheopart Capehart, Esq.*
Elizabeth E. Chilton
William E. “Ned” Chilton*
Gustavus Werber Cleckley*
Savannah R. Evans
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The Rev. Dr. Idus Jones, Jr.
Cora Francis Coleman Jones
The Hon. A. James Manchin*
Dr. Virgil E. Matthews
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Thomas G. Nutter, Esq.*
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2004
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Hollie James Brown
Madrith Chamber
Rev. David C. Chappell*
Sgt. Edward Clark, Jr. (Ret.)
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2003
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- Standley Green
- E. David Cartwright
- George G. Couch, MBA, FACHE, NHA
  Vice President, Wheeling Hospital
“Lift Every Voice and Sing”
(Negro National Anthem by James Weldon Johnson)

Lift every voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise, high as the list'ning skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song, full of faith that the dark past has taught us,
Sing a song, full of hope that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun, of our new day begun,
Let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chast'ning rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet, with a steady beat, have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been watered
We have come, treading our path thru' the blood of the slaughtered,
Out from the glooming past, till new we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way;
Thou who has by Thy might, led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee.
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee.
Shadowed beneath Thy hand, may we forever stand,
True to our God, true to our native land.