



Advancing Civil Rights Through Advocacy



9th Annual West Virginia Civil Rights Day

**Tuesday, February 28, 2012, 11:00 AM
Norman L. Fagan West Virginia State Theater
The WV Division of Cultural and History
State Capitol Complex
1900 Kanawha Blvd. E.
Charleston, WV 25305**





Sponsored by:



**State of West Virginia
Office of the Governor**



WV Division of Culture and History



WV State University



WV Human Rights Commission





**Master of Ceremonies
The Occasion**

**The Honorable Terry Walker,
Commissioner
WV Human Rights Commission**

HONOREES' ENTRANCE

**Greetings on behalf of
the Commission:**

**Karl Gattlieb, Commissioner
WV Human Rights Commission**

Musical Selection:

**Randall Reid-Smith, Commissioner
WV Department of Culture and History**

Invocation:

**Bishop David Stockton
West Virginia State University**

Introduction of Governor:

**Rev. Wesley Dobbs, Commissioner
WV Human Rights Commission**

**Presentation of Proclamation,
Remarks & Honoree Photos**

**The Honorable Earl Ray Tomblin,
Governor**

Presentation of Honoree Awards

**Michael J. Lewis, M.D., Ph.D
Cabinet Secretary, DHHR**

Musical Selection:

**Randall Reid-Smith, Commissioner
WV Department of Culture and History**

**Presentation of Special Awards &
Sponsor Certificates:**

**Phyllis H. Carter,
Acting Executive Director
WV Human Rights Commission**

****Special Closing Musical Selection****

LUNCHEON 12:00 NOON—1:30 PM



Advancing Civil Rights Through Advocacy

West Virginia Civil Rights Day
February 28, 2012



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 our Declaration of Independence and in 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, housing and in places of public accommodations based on race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, age or disability, and 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 WV 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 State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim ***February 28, 2012***, as:

Civil Rights Day

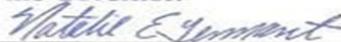
in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to join me in this observance.

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 20th day of February, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twelve and in the One Hundred Forty-Ninth year of the State.




Earl Ray Tomblin
Governor

By the Governor:

Natalie E. Tennant
Secretary of State



STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

Earl Ray Tomblin
Governor

1321 Plaza East, Room 108 A
Charleston, WV 25301

Michael J. Lewis, M.D., Ph.D.
Cabinet Secretary

Phyllis H. Carter
Acting Executive Director

February 28, 2012

As Chair of the West Virginia Human Rights Commissioners, it is truly an honor to be part of the Governor's 9th 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 to Judge Phyllis H. Carter, Acting Executive Director of the West Virginia Human Rights Commission, 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





**STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN RESOURCES**

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

**Earl Ray Tomblin
Governor**

**1321 Plaza East, Room 108 A
Charleston, WV 25301**

**Michael J. Lewis, M.D., Ph.D.
Cabinet Secretary**

**Phyllis H. Carter
Acting Executive Director**

February 21, 2012

On behalf of the West Virginia Human Rights Commission, I welcome you to the Ninth 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 Lewis 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,

Phyllis H. Carter

Acting Executive 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:

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

*honored posthumously

ROBERT S. BAKER, ESQ.



Baker, came to the Beckley Commission with years of experience working in the legal field, including representing employees in employment discrimination cases and tenants in housing matters.

He was appointed to the Beckley Human Rights Commission on January 28, 2003, to fill an unexpired term. He was the last Director of the Appalachian Research and Defense Fund, and retired in 2010 from Legal Aid of West Virginia. Baker is a practicing attorney with the Commission and is formerly an attorney with Legal Aid of WV, Inc., where he served a three county area from January, 2002, until July, 2010.

Baker, received an A.B. degree from Oberlin College in 1968, his J.D. Degree from Golden Gate University School of Law in 1976, and an M.B.A. from West Virginia Graduate College (now Marshall University Graduate College) in 1995. From 1968 to 1971, as a Peace Corp Volunteer, Baker taught secondary school mathematics at the Holy Ghost Secondary School in Segbwema, Sierra Leone, West Africa.

Baker formerly served as Legal Director for Appalachian Legal Services; and as Deputy Directing Attorney, Directing Attorney and Director of the Appalachian Research and Defense Fund.

Baker presently is the Chair of the Access To Justice Commission of the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals. Baker is also a member of many boards and commissions including the West Virginia State Bar Standing Committee on Legal Services for the Poor; the WV Legislative Task Force on Social Security Disability; and West Virginia State Bar Commission on Children and the Law.

Baker is married to Ruth Baker, they have three children: Kevin Baker, Jacob Yarrow and Jessica Yarrow. Kevin is an attorney in Charleston, WV; Jacob is the program director for the arts program at the University of Iowa; and Jessica has been involved in human rights work in Guatemala. Baker practiced law for about 35 years, in San Francisco, has practiced in Fayetteville, and Beckley, West Virginia.

THE HONORABLE BONNIE BROWN



Delegate Bonnie Brown, 30th District, Kanawha County first became politically involved in the 1970's, working in the Women's Rights Movement. She was a political organizer for the ERA in many states, as well as in Washington. Her work for women's rights and civil rights led to her appointment as Chair of the South Charleston Human Rights Commission. She lobbied the state legislature on those issues, including the Martin Luther King Holiday bill. She decided to run for office in 1982, won her first election by twelve votes.

Delegate Brown chairs the Legislative Rule-Making Review Committee in her 11th term in the WV House of Delegates and currently serves on the Judiciary and Constitutional Revision Committees. She also chairs the bi-partisan Women's Caucus.

Delegate Brown is a 2005 graduate of the Foreign Policy Institute at the Center for Women's Policy Studies and serves on the National Conference of State Legislatures Committee on Human Services and Welfare, and on the Environment and Energy Committee of the Southern Legislative Conference. She was recently appointed to represent the Southern region on the Intergovernmental Affairs Committee of the Council of State Governments. She has been featured in the book, *Talent and Courage: Outstanding WV Women in the 1990's*, by Ethel Davies. Her recent honors and awards include:

- ◆ Chuck Chambers Public Service Award WV Environmental Council
- ◆ Mountains of Gratitude Award WV Division of Rehabilitation Services
- ◆ Pace Setter Award Women in Legislatures Lobby
- ◆ Roger Baldwin Award American Civil Liberties Union
- ◆ Kentucky Colonel - Governor Steven Beshear, Kentucky
- ◆ Other honors and awards include:
- ◆ Legislator of the Year The National Child Support Enforcement Association
- ◆ Guardian Angel Award West Virginia Women's Commission
- ◆ Susan B. Anthony Award for Furtherance of Women's Rights
- ◆ Outstanding Woman of Kanawha Valley
- ◆ Woman of the Year Charleston Area Business & Professional Women
- ◆ Legislator of the Year American Psychological Association
- ◆ Metro 911 Hero of the Year in Kanawha County

Educated at Oregon State, University of Idaho and Morris Harvey College (University of Charleston), Bonnie earned a BA in English. She is married to Gary Brown, the mother of Mollie and Joel, and grandmother to Casey and Mischa.

MARION ELAINE JONES CAPEHART *



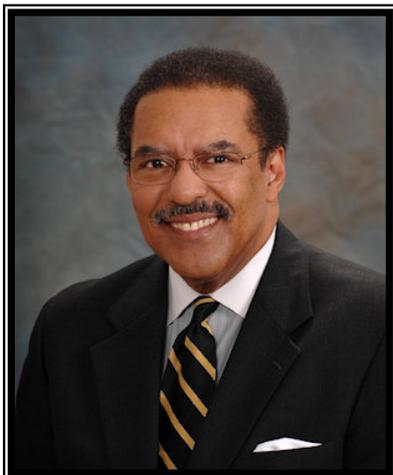
Marion Elaine Jones Capehart was appointed Commission to the West Virginia Human Rights Commission by former Governor Gaston Caperton in 1979 and served dutifully for a term of five years. She was very pleased to accept the appointment and looked forward to making a valuable contribution to the Commission as one of its members.

She attended public schools in McDowell County and graduated from Kimball High School. She received her Bachelors degree from West Virginia State College, her Masters degree in Education from New York University and her Bachelor of Law degree from Howard University in Washington, DC.

Marion pursued a career in the McDowell County public schools having served at Elkhorn High School, Big Creek High School and the McDowell County Vocational Technical School in Welch. During her career, she was an active member of the McDowell County Education Association, the West Virginia Education Association, and the National Education Association; holding various offices and serving on numerous committees at local, state and national levels.

In addition to her civic endeavors, Marion was active in the Links, Inc., of Southern West Virginia, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc., and Les Modernes Club. Marion was a member of St. Peters Catholic Church in Welch, West Virginia and at a later time transferred her membership to Sacred Heart Catholic Church in Princeton, West Virginia. She enjoyed reading and traveling. Her most memorable trip was to the Mediterranean with a stop over in Rome where she had the opportunity to visit the Vatican. She was married to the late Harry J. Capehart Jr. for 61 years, having married in June of 1950.

DR. HAZO W. CARTER, JR.



Dr. Hazo W. Carter, Jr. began his service as West Virginia State College's ninth president in 1987. He became the first President of West Virginia State University in 2004. For 25 years he has been a chief executive officer at a higher education institution. Prior to coming to West Virginia, he was President and Professor of Education at Philander Smith College in Little Rock, AR.

Dr. Carter holds a B.S. in English from Tennessee State University; an M.S. in Journalism from University of Illinois; and a Doctorate of Education in Higher Education Administration from George Peabody College for Teachers of Vanderbilt University in Nashville, TN.

Throughout his tenure at West Virginia State, he has worked tirelessly to articulate the institution's economic impact and presence as the largest institution of higher education in the Kanawha Valley. President Carter successfully led a 12-year quest to regain the institution's 1890 land-grant status by encouraging local community leaders, legislators, and alumni to support having this status restored at the State level and recognized and funded at the federal level. In addition, Dr. Carter provided the leadership that resulted in West Virginia State College being designated as West Virginia State University. On April 7, 2004, Governor Bob Wise signed the bill that officially changed the institution's status to that of a university.

President Carter is also an active participant on various local and national boards. He is a member of the boards of directors of: Advantage Valley; Chemical Alliance Zone; United Way of Central West Virginia; College Summit; and, the West Virginia Intercollegiate Athletic Conference. He is a member of the Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation Board of Trustees; the Martin Luther King, Jr. West Virginia Holiday Commission; and the Council of 1890 Presidents and Chancellors. He serves on the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges Board of Directors and is a founding member of the West Virginia Association of Land-Grant Institutions, a cooperative venture between WVSU and West Virginia University. He is also a member of the White House Initiative's Board of Advisors for Historically Black Colleges and Universities and the Board of Directors of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities.

President Carter has received many awards and accolades in recognition of his distinguished service. Among the most cherished are: "Distinguished West Virginian" awards by former Governors Gaston Caperton and Bob Wise; "Honorary West Virginian" awarded by Governor Joe Manchin, III; and designation as "President of the Century" by the West Virginia State College (University) National Alumni Association in 2000.

Dr. Carter is married to Phyllis W. (Harden) Carter who is currently the Acting Executive Director for the West Virginia Human Rights Commission. The Carters have one daughter, Angela, who is employed at Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, Kentucky.

EARL EUGENE “GENE” CORUM *



Earl Eugene (Gene) Corum, a former West Virginia University athlete, coach, professor and administrator, was fondly known as “Gene” to most everyone around him. He was an avid Mountaineer fan and an exceptional sportsman through his high school years; including being an all state guard at Huntington High School before accepting a scholarship from to play at WVU in 1940 by Coach Bill Kern.

After serving his country in WW II, Gene was named team captain of the 1947 Mountaineers, then shortly after was drafted by the Chicago Cardinals of the NFL and the Chicago Rockets of the AFL. He was a member of the West Virginia Sports Hall of Fame, WVU Athletic Department Hall of Fame, and the WVU School of Physical Education Hall of Fame and served as a member of Morgantown City Council and WVU Athletic Council.

Gene Corum earned both his bachelor's and master's degrees from WVU in 1948. After coaching two years at Point Marion High School, he accepted a position as freshman coach on Art Pappy Lewis' staff at WVU in 1950; moving to varsity status in 1951 and became one of Lewis' top assistants where he remained until he was appointed WVU's 26th head football coach. He served as head coach of the Mountaineers from 1960 through 1965 and earned the moniker Gentleman Gene.

Corum's tenure as head coach will probably be most remembered historically as the first coach of a major sports team at WVU to integrate the sport by recruiting the first black athlete to play football. Following his coaching career, Gene became a long-time teacher and administrator at WVU. He held the positions of Professor, Acting Dean of the PE School, Acting Athletic Director, Assistant Dean and concluded his service by being named Associate Dean Emeritus.

Gene Corum shared a wonderful and happy life with his wife, Lucille Virginia, for 62 years. His family cherishes his memory as a great husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather, an inspiration to all of the students and student athletes who knew his grace, humility and humor, and a pioneer in the integration movement.

REV. DR. DARRELL W. CUMMINGS



Dr. Darrell Cummings was born in San Antonio, Texas and is a graduate of Cuyahoga Community College, Cleveland State College, Internal Auditor Federal Reserve School, Moody Bible School, and the Ashtabula Bible School, where he received his Doctorate in Theology.

Rev. Dr. Cummings founded Greater Love Pentecostal Church in Ashtabula, OH, in 1980, and remained there for over a decade. On June 15, 1992, Dr. Cummings became the pastor of Bethlehem Apostolic Temple. He has worked avidly in the church since he was licensed as a minister at age of sixteen, which spans some 30 plus years.

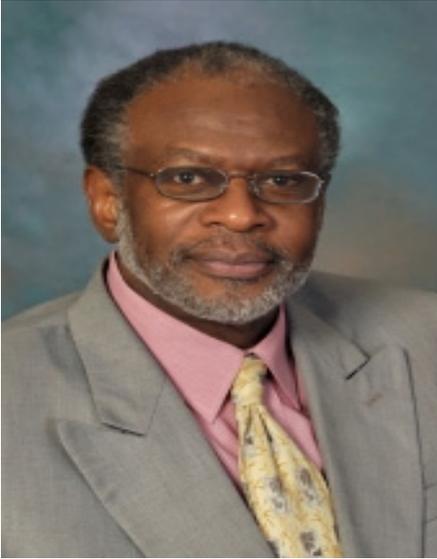
Rev. Dr. Cummings has served as a leader and officer in the religious community, for over two decades; including serving as the former Vice-President of the Wheeling Clergy Council; the former Chairman of the Evangelism Committee for the Greater Wheeling Council of Churches; the former Chairman for the Martin Luther King Community Celebration for the Ohio Valley, and presently serves as the President of the Ohio Valley Pastor's Association.

In 1997, Rev. Dr. Cummings was among those awarded "Man of the Year" by the Wheeling NAACP. And receiving the "Man of the Year" award from the African American Heritage of the Ohio Valley Program in 2009. He was awarded Civil Rights Leader of the Year" by the West Virginia Educators Association, and was given the honor of serving as Chaplain for the West Virginia Legislature, in both the Senate and the House. Rev. Cummings serves on several boards including Habitat for Humanity, the Wheeling Police Commission, Youth Services Board of Wheeling, and the West Virginia Northern Community College. He is also a recipient of the "St. Francis Xavier Award" from the student government of Wheeling Jesuit University. Pastor Cummings was appointed as a Commissioner for the WV Human Rights Commission in August of 2006, by former Governor Joe Manchin, III of West Virginia, and currently serves as Chairman.

Former Governor Manchin also recognized Rev. Dr. Cummings as a Distinguished Mountaineer of the year in 2010. Rev. Cummings writes weekly and monthly guest editorials for several newspapers in the Ohio Valley, and serves in the Chaplain Department of two State Prisons, a Nursing Home and two hospitals.

Pastor Cummings and his wife have three children: Melanie Faith, Claude Vaughn and Richard Williams Cummings.

ELMER H. DAY, JR.



Elmer H. Day, Jr., currently serves as the Executive Director of the Beckley Human Rights Commission. He has been employed by the City of Beckley for over 18 years.

Day is a 1965 Graduate of Stratton High School and a 1972 graduate of Morris Harvey College (currently the University of Charleston).

Before serving the citizens of the City of Beckley in his current capacity, Day served his country in Vietnam as a member of the United State Marine Corps. He was awarded two Purple Heart Medals for wounds he received during his service in Vietnam.

Day is a member of the Disabled Veterans of America, American Legion Post #70, National Association of Human Rights Workers, NAACP, Citizens Improvement Association, Mountain State Center for Independent Living Board, and the Governor's Hate Crime Task Force.

During his tenure as a Board Member with Mountain State Center for Independent Living, the City of Beckley completed sidewalk curb cuts throughout the City, which enables individuals with mobility impairments to negotiate the City of Beckley.

Day and his wife Lucille Robinson Day, make their home in Beckley, West Virginia. They are the parents of three children, Derek, Eric and Laneen. They also have two grand-daughters Erica and Paige.

LT. COL KENNETH L. HALE



Lt Col. Kenneth L. Hale, Sr. serves as the State Equal Employment Manager for the entire West Virginia National Guard, in the Human Resources Office located in Charleston, West Virginia. In this capacity he is directly responsible for the Equal Employment and Equal Opportunity programs for all Army National Guard units spread across 28 counties in the state along with the two Air National Guard Wings spread over 3 locations.

The youngest child of Edward H. Hale, a Tuskegee Airman, and Lucille M. Campbell Hale, who was the oldest African American female to graduate from WVSU at 85 in December of 2006. Lt Col Hale was born August 11, 1955, and graduated from Stonewall Jackson High School in Charleston, West Virginia. Four of his five brothers have also served in the military. After earning credits at Marshall University, he graduated with a Regents Bachelor of Arts from West Virginia State University in 1984. Lt Col Hale's military career started in 1985 from the enlisted ranks when he joined the 130th Tactical Airlift Group and became an Inventory Management Specialist. He was offered a chance to join the officer ranks and was commissioned in 1988. He served in the 130th Airlift Wing from his commissioning until 1990 as a Transportation Officer and Logistics Plans Officer. Recognizing his talents, he was brought to State Headquarters where he served as the Senior Air Guard Social Actions Officer and then as a Personnel Officer. In 2002, he was given his current responsibilities as the State Military Equal Opportunity Officer. Lt Col Hale has also worked at the West Virginia Governor's Office of Community and Industrial Development/Employment and Training Division.

Lt Col Hale is the father of seven and the grandfather of twelve. As an active member in the community, he was the past Secretary and President, West Virginia State Conference of Branches of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). He currently serves as the President, Charleston branch, of the NAACP and formerly served on a number of committees; Chemical Valley Midget Football League (CVMFL) By-Laws committee, Maximizing African-American Academic Achievement for Children in Kanawha County (MAACK) a committee leading the education initiative to closing the academic achievement gap, and another as committee member for the Men-to-Men summit. He was a lead organizer of the Juneteenth Celebration on the West Side of Charleston, a celebration of the Emancipation Proclamation. Lt Col Hale is an avid member of his church and stays involved in the decision-making committees that affect the West Side of Charleston through the Tuesday Morning Group, while offering his talents to the Capitol Resource Agency Board of Directors.

Lt Col Hale is also involved with the youth of today through mentoring and has 28 years of service as a Little League football coach for the Western Generals Youth Football League Franchise. He also coached Stonewall Jackson Middle School Junior Varsity girl's basketball. His many unpaid hours of community service have been recognized with the Air Force Outstanding Volunteer Service Ribbon, the local branch Roy L. Wilkins Meritorious Service Award as well as the 2006 National N.A.A.C.P. Roy L. Wilkins Meritorious Service Award. Lt Col Hale was recognized at the 1998 National Guard Bureau (NGB) Equal Opportunity and Civil Rights Training Conference as the State Equal Employment Manager of the Year. He was also recognized by NGB in 2006 for an Outstanding Minority Community Relations Program. In 2011, Lt Col. Hale was the recipient of the local, district, and national Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Incorporated Citizen of the Year Award.

JAMES LONNIE HAYGOOD *



James Lonnie Haygood, affectionately known as “The Wheel” was noted for being a beloved husband, and dubbed ‘father’ to many. He was born in Huntington, WV where he began his education in the Public School system.

From there, he attended Bluefield State College, graduating with a degree in Music and Art. He began his teaching career by organizing the first band at Liberty High School and Aracoma High School until the onset of integration when he was transferred to Man High School in Man, WV, where he taught Social Studies, and was the advisor for

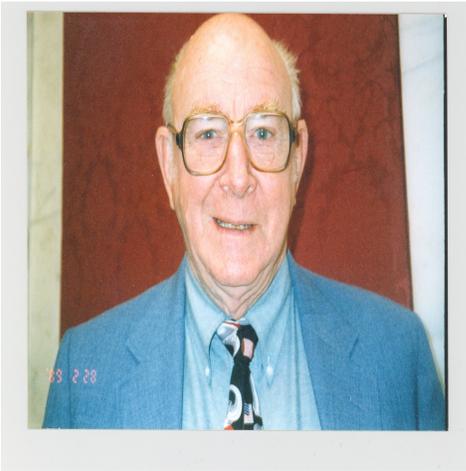
the Man High yearbook. He was also the video photographer for Man High School football games.

Haygood retired from teaching in 1986 after 38 years. During the time period, he was a pillar of the community and was very civic-minded; involved in numerous organizations and worked during the summers as Youth Director for the Boston Redevelopment Association, doing habitat work with the youth from different countries.

Haygood was a member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and served as the LCEA from 1980 to 1981. He was a member of the Kiwanis Club and served there as President from 1994 to 1995. He was the Lt. Governor of Division 9, for the West Virginia District from 1998 to 1999. He received the Hixson Award, the highest honor that could be bestowed upon a Kiwanis club member during his affiliation with the organization.

Haygood was very instrumental in helping to establish the Logan Area Library where he was a long-standing Board member. He was also on the Board of the Public Defender’s Office, and the New Improvement League of Logan, WV and on the Buffalo Creek Flood Committee as a Board Member. He was a lifetime member of the NEA and served as President of the Logan Teacher’s Association and the WVEA. Haygood was also a member of the NAACP and the Aracoma Alumni Association.

Haygood was active in church work for many years; even from an early age, He served faithfully as Deacon, Trustee, and held other positions including church treasurer and Sunday School Superintendent. He and his wife Ora J. Haygood, enjoyed 54 wonderful years of marriage. She currently resides in Groveport, Ohio with family.



RICHARD J. "DICK" HENDERSON *

Richard J. "Dick" Henderson, was born July 28, 1927, in Escanaba, Michigan, but a West Virginian by choice. To say Dick had the "gift of gab" would be an understatement. His ability to communicate led him to the University of Houston where he studied journalism and was the Sports Editor for the school newspaper. Upon graduation, Dick began his professional career as a reporter for the Houston Post. He later became the public relations director of Union Carbide and editor of "The Carbider," a publication for 1,500 employees and distributed throughout the Kanawha Valley.

During World War II, Dick served his country as a member of the United States Navy. In 1949, he married the former Lorraine Northup and they were the devoted parents of nine children and the proud grandparents of their ten grandchildren.

Dick was a loyal Mountaineer. In 1992, Dick began his career of public service when he was elected to the House of Delegates from the 32nd District, a position he held until his death in 1998. He was known almost as well for his patriotic ties as he was for his quick wit and booming voice. The House staff quickly learned that when Dick talked he did not need a microphone. Dick and his newly elected colleagues from the 32nd District were quickly dubbed the "Four Horsemen," a title they adopted with pride. The original Horsemen -- Dick, Steve Harrison, Jay Nesbitt and Ron Walters -- were outspoken advocates for cutting taxes. At Dick's suggestion, they cut off their neckties to prove their point. Whether eating a bill on the floor, spraying one with disinfectant, or passing out cans of pork and beans with pennies taped on top, people listened when Dick Henderson took the floor.

He was a staunch supporter of the pro-life movement, and once addressed a pro-life rally in the rotunda with the remarks, "I've got nine kids -- my record speaks for itself." In addition to his public service, Henderson was an active member of Saint Francis of Assisi Church in St. Albans where he sang in the choir, taught Sunday School classes and coached the church basketball team. He dedicated much of his time to various civic, social and public service organizations, including the American Legion, Catholic War Veterans, Sierra Club and the Lions Club, the Kanawha Hospice Care, the St. Albans Library and the Charleston Distance Run.

Dick lived life to the fullest. He embodied all the traits of an effective public servant. His actions, though often comical, were never without a serious point. Dick touched and enriched many lives and he was loved by all who came into contact with him. He was respected, admired and revered by his colleagues; those who had the opportunity to know and work with him were truly fortunate. While Dick may be gone, he will never be forgotten. His spirit and his dedication will long be remembered each time the St. Albans/Nitro Bridge, named in his honor, is crossed. The 1934 Dick Henderson Memorial Bridge is the oldest cantilever over the entire Kanawha River.

ALLAN N. KARLIN, ESQ.



Allan N. Karlin, a graduate of Yale College (1969) and Boalt Hall, the law school of the University of California at Berkeley (1974), has practiced law in West Virginia since 1975.

In 1981, Karlin opened his own law office. Since then, he has represented clients in personal injury and employment cases throughout West Virginia, including appearances before the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals and the Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit.

Since 1993, the Best Lawyers in America has recognized Karlin for his work in the field of employment law.

In 2004, his colleagues recognized his work, naming Karlin a Fellow of the West Virginia State Bar Foundation.

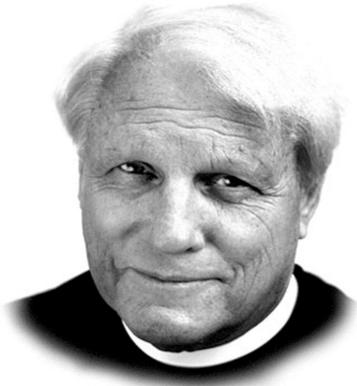
In 2005, he received the Sid Bell Memorial Award from the American Civil Liberties Union of West Virginia for his commitment to civil liberties and, in 2006, he was named the Member of the Year by the West Virginia Association for Justice.

In 2006, Karlin was honored by induction in the American College of Trial Lawyers and, in 2007, he was selected as a member of The College of Labor & Employment Lawyers. Since 2008, Karlin has been named a Super Lawyer by Super Lawyer magazine.

Karlin is a past president of the West Virginia Association for Justice. He was a member of the West Virginia Lawyer Disciplinary Board for six years and served as Chairperson of the Board from 2000-2003.

He has continued his involvement in issues of ethics and professionalism as a member of the Ethics Committee of the National Employment Lawyers Association. Karlin has also served as an Adjunct Lecturer at the West Virginia University College of Law where he has taught Pre-Trial Litigation, and as a member of the Board of Directors of the West Virginia Fund for Law in the Public Interest. Karlin frequently lectures to other lawyers on a variety of topics.

REVEREND JIM LEWIS



Jim Lewis was born in Baltimore, Maryland. He graduated from Washington & Lee University in 1958, married Judith Graham, and promptly went into the Marine Corp. Judy and Jim have a son, three daughters and nine grandchildren.

After graduating from Virginia Theological Seminary in Alexandria, Virginia, he was assigned in 1964 to St. Anne's Episcopal Church in Annapolis, Maryland. In 1968, Rev. Lewis became the rector of Trinity Church, Martinsburg, West Virginia. In 1974 he became the rector of St. John's Episcopal Church in Charleston, West Virginia.

While at St. John's he shepherded the parish toward major community and social justice work: The Manna Meal, a feeding program, for the poor, unemployed and disabled; serving breakfast and lunch 365 days a year and has served over a million meals. Covenant House, one of the other food and shelter programs, which provides essential care for the poor, was an ecumenical offshoot of the Manna Meal program. Manna Meal and Covenant House are now community-based programs, who partner with West Virginia Health Right and Hospice, which had early beginnings in the church.

The church offered space for one year to the organizers of the Women's Health Center of West Virginia where Rev. Lewis served as Board member. During that time Rev. Lewis also established an office to counsel Vietnam Veterans; a Committee Against Registration for the Draft, and became an advocate to the gay and lesbian communities.

Rev. Lewis worked together with the West Virginia Council of Churches on the issue of capital punishment.

Rev. Lewis became the director of the West Virginia Coalition for the Homeless in 1986. He has served Episcopal parishes in Michigan, and in the Episcopal Dioceses of North Carolina and Delaware. In addition, he worked on the Delmarva Peninsula, with immigrant workers from Central America and Mexico. Rev. Lewis' missionary travels also extend to Central America, Israel/Palestine, Cuba, Libya, and Jordan; as well as traveling with a peace delegation to the Gulf War in Iraq.

Rev. Lewis advocates for Peace continued with him being actively engaged as a founding member of the West Virginia Patriots for Peace. Rev. Lewis serves on the board of Mountain State Justice. Rev. Lewis has received many awards and accolades and has authored *West Virginia Pilgrim* (1976 –Seabury Press) and writes *Notes From Under the Fig Tree* at www.figtreenotes.com.

THE HONORABLE DARRELL V. MCGRAW, JR.



Attorney General Darrell V. McGraw, Jr., is the oldest of four sons born on November 8, 1936, to Julia Zekany McGraw and the late Darrell V. McGraw. His childhood was like many of those who grew up in a rural coal mining area, except his family emphasized education over any other pursuit. Attorney General McGraw has been a lifelong student, and his extensive knowledge includes West Virginia history and his family's roots. He considers his induction as a Knight of the Golden Horseshoe, an honor as one of his highest achievements for an 8th grader on a history test .

Affectionately known as "The Judge" by all of West Virginia, McGraw has made history throughout his career as a champion of the people. McGraw was only 17 when he enlisted in the Army, and was soon thereafter sent off to Germany. McGraw's intelligence and drive made him successful in the Army. He was sent to Army Leadership School. McGraw enjoyed his time in the Army. McGraw knew that he wanted to make his life in West Virginia, and he knew from an early age that his calling was public service. In keeping with those goals, he chose to attend West Virginia University, and became Student Body President in his senior year. He worked as a janitor for the University, and was hired to promote products on campus, and started a business. He wrote letters to the parents of his classmates and offered to deliver a cake to their son or daughter on their birthday. He paid someone to do the letters and labels, negotiated a deal to have the cakes baked and hired his future brother-in-law to deliver them. He made one dollar per cake; which was pretty good money back then.

It was this background that led Joe Gluck, WVU's legendary dean of students and former Navy chaplain, to ask McGraw to help save the mast of the U.S.S. West Virginia. Bombed and sunk during the attack on Pear Harbor, the U.S.S. West Virginia has been lauded as a symbol of the United States' resolve during World WarII. The battleship was raised from Pearl Harbor, repaired and returned to action against the Japanese. After the war, the battleship was sold for scrap metal to be forgotten until Gluck and McGraw stepped in to save the mast. McGraw and others arranged to have the mast transported by railroad from the west coast. The mast is now a permanent reminder of history on WVU's campus. General McGraw joins with the local VFW at the mast each year on December 7 in remembrance of Pearl Harbor.

General McGraw has used this same determination and appreciation of history in his twelve years as a Justice and Chief Justice on the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals and in his current role as the 35th Attorney General of the State of West Virginia. On the West Virginia Supreme Court, General McGraw was noted for his stance on adequate funding for local schools, protecting the rights of working people, and resisting the use of eminent domain for private purpose. Since being elected Attorney General in 1992, General McGraw has returned over \$1.9 billion dollars to West Virginia and its citizens for violations of the State's consumer protection act and antitrust laws. He has used the power of his office to stop the erosion of citizens' rights.

Despite his many accomplishments, Darrell McGraw remains a humble man, grounded in his roots. General McGraw is most pleased by the support and compliments of the average citizen who calls his office as reflected in his statement, "We help 10,000 citizens a year.

JANE MORAN, ESQ.



Jane Moran, Esq., a former actress, now practices public-interest law in Williamson, WV. She works diligently to protect poor, children, and those workers who have been mistreated and the victims of domestic violence. Moran, originally from Illinois, embarked in WV by way of New York, to California and finally settling in West Virginia in 1975.

Moran was a core teacher at Benchmark Institute, in San Francisco, CA a non-profit training organization for advocacy lawyers. She was honored by that same organization in 2003 for the work she has done with non-profits.

Before venturing into private practice, Moran managed the Mingo County office for Legal Services for the poor; from September 1979 through December 1981. She also performed as a staff attorney at that office from September 1976 until September of 1979.

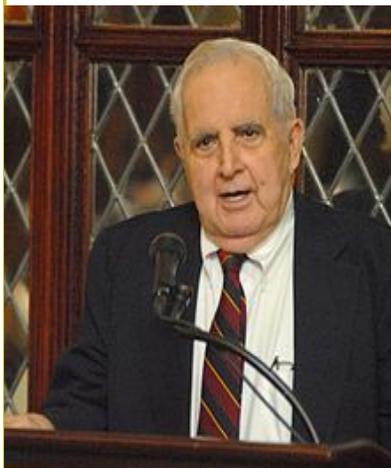
Moran was one of the founders of the Tug Valley Recovery Center, Inc., - a local citizen's group funded by the Campaign for Human Development to develop lower and middle class housing in that area. Also while there she facilitated the development of a housing project consisting of 13 single-family residences for flood victims. The group also received \$125, 000 dollars to install a central water and sewer system.

Moran drafted legislation in 1978, which came to be known as the Family Protection Act, which contained injunctive provisions to protect battered women, and further provided police additional enforcement. Moran's advocacy work resulted in the passage of the Bill by the West Virginia Legislature. That task force formed the nucleus of the West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence. The Family Protection Shelter Support Bill was enacted during the 1980 Legislative session.

Moran was appointed by the Supreme Court to serve on the Juvenile Justice Committee from 1986 through 1996. She was one of the organizers for the study group on Abuse and Neglect and of the Child Fatality Review Committee.

Moran presently serves on the Adjudicated Juvenile Rehabilitation Review Commission which was created by Supreme Court Justice Margaret Workman to review the practices and procedures of State juvenile facilities through on-site visits investigations regarding child custody.

CHARLES G. PETERS, JR.



Charles Peters is an American journalist, editor, and author. Peters was born in 1926 in Charleston, West Virginia. He attended public schools, graduating from Charleston High School in 1944. He enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1944. In 1946, he went to New York to enter Columbia College. After receiving his BA in 1949, he entered graduate school at Columbia and received his MA in 1951. In 1952-53, he worked for the J. Walter Thompson advertising agency in New York. During the summers from 1946 through 1954, he performed various backstage roles at summer theaters in Boylston, Massachusetts, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, and Newport, Rhode Island, and had his own repertory company in Charleston, West Virginia.

Peters entered the University of Virginia School of Law in 1954. He was named to the editorial board of the *Virginia Law Review* in 1955, serving until his graduation in 1957. After receiving his law degree, he married Elizabeth Hubbell, a former ballet dancer who had attended Vassar College. He returned to Charleston to practice law with his father's firm, Peters, Merricks, Leslie and Mohler. His practice included libel, criminal defense, corporate and labor law, as well as representing plaintiffs and defendants in civil trials.

In 1959, he was named chief staff officer of the Judiciary Committee of the West Virginia House of Delegates, and in 1960, he was elected a member of the House. In 1960, he also managed the primary and general election campaigns in Kanawha County for presidential candidate John F. Kennedy. Speaker Peters worked closely with Senator Paul J. Kaufman to establish the West Virginia Human Rights Commission which became effective July 1, 1961, to create the West Virginia Human Rights Act, as amended by the passage of House Bill 115.

After serving in the 1961 session of the legislature, he went to Washington, D.C. to help start the Peace Corps. After returning to serve in the 1962 legislative session, he was named the Peace Corps' Director of Evaluation, a position that required him to report on the performance of the agency's programs overseas and on how they could be improved.

In 1969 he founded *Washington Monthly* and was editor-in-chief until 2001. In 1999 he founded the non-profit organization *Understanding Government*, of which he is currently president. Peters is the author of four books including, most recently, a biography of Lyndon Johnson. He writes the regular *Monthly* column "Tilting at Windmills."

Peters was named the recipient of the first Richard M. Clurman Award in 1996 for his work mentoring young journalists. He also received the Columbia Journalism Award in 1978 and was a Poynter Fellow at Yale University in 1980, the Delacorte Lecturer at the Graduate School of Journalism at Columbia University in 1990 and 2003 and visiting fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University in 1994. In 2001, he was elected to the Hall of Fame of the American Society of Magazine Editors and the Hall of Fame of the D.C. Society of Professional Journalists. In 2002 he was the *Times Mirror* David M. Laventhol Visiting Professor at Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism. In 2003 he received the Carr Van Anda Award from the E.W. Scripps School of Journalism, Ohio University. He was a Public Scholar at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, September 2002 through April 2003.

PAUL R. SHERIDAN, ESQ.



Paul R. Sheridan is Deputy Attorney General for Civil Rights and manages the Civil Rights Division for the West Virginia Attorney General. He has worked for the Division since 1990. As a part of his duties, he enforces state civil rights laws, representing the West Virginia Human Rights Commission in cases of discrimination in employment, housing, and places of public accommodations. He appears regularly before the West Virginia Human Rights Commission, the state circuit courts, and the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals.

In 1992, Mr. Sheridan organized the West Virginia Hate Crime Task Force, and served as its Coordinator for ten years. He was a member of the National Association of Attorneys General Bias Crime Task Force, and a participant in the 1997 White House Conference on Hate Crime. He assisted in the development of training and resource materials on hate crime for the United States Department of Justice and the United States Department of Education, and he has provided training and advice on effective responses to hate crime to police officers, prosecutors, educators, and community leaders. He drafted the 1998 amendment to the West Virginia Human Rights Act which provides for civil rights injunctions. For his anti-hate crime work, Mr. Sheridan received a 1999 Living the Dream Award from the West Virginia Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission, a 2008 Public Service Award from the U.S. Department of Justice, and the 2008 Roger Baldwin Award from the ACLU of West Virginia.

In 1999, Mr. Sheridan helped start the West Virginia Civil Rights Team Project, an effort to assist high schools and middle schools to effectively address bullying and harassment, and he supervised the program for three years. In 2001, the Civil Rights Team Project was recognized by the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission. Mr. Sheridan has served as a lecturer on numerous discrimination-related topics, including West Virginia Employment Law, Fair Housing, the Americans With Disabilities Act, and Litigation Before the Human Rights Commission. He has made presentations on Prevention of Bullying and Responding to Intolerance at the Community Level. He has acted as a volunteer mediator in state and federal court cases.

Sheridan formerly worked as a staff attorney for the Appalachian Research and Defense Fund. He is a graduate of Wesleyan University and the West Virginia University College of Law. Sheridan is married to Kate FitzGerald, and is the father of James Sheridan and Nora Sheridan.

JEAN E. SIMPSON



Jean E. Simpson, has been a West Virginia native all of her life, having been born and raised in Charleston, WV. She attended Flagler College in St. Augustine., Florida, Art School.

Jean’s years of community involvement have taken notice since 2007 when she first began as an advocate for those less fortunate. She is the co-founded Manna Meal Community Garden, Inc., which began as a small soup kitchen back in 1978 and to date has fed over 1.25 million people.

Manna Meal serves two meals a day, 7 days a week, 365 days per year to anyone who is hungry with a “no questions asked” policy.

Jean has dedicated the majority of her life to helping people in need especially in the area of helping to feed the hungry. She owned and operated General Seafood and Catering for 23 years.

Jean received the 2010 Governor’s Service Award for Manna Meal Volunteers. On January 14, 2012, Jean was present to receive the Living the Dream Service Organization award presented to Mann Meal by the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday Commission. As an award recipient, Jean says she recognizes how easy it is for many individuals to take for granted the privilege to go to the store and buy what is needed, and cites fighting hunger in the Kanawha as her personal quest; which she says comes from seeing everyday people doing without the very basic food needs and feel a compelling desire to help change their circumstances.

Jean, a widow with no children continues to care for the millions of hungry people in America, of which 17 million are children. She says she feels extremely blessed with the position to give so much to people and receive pay for what she does... “who could have a better job?”

RANDALL REID-SMITH



Randall Reid-Smith (Charleston, West Virginia) has served as the Commissioner of the West Virginia Division of Culture and History since 2006. His responsibilities include oversight for the West Virginia Commission on the Arts, and the state's Archives and History Commission, Capitol Building Commission, and Records Management and Preservation Board, while administering the Arts Section, Archives Section, Historic Section, and the Museums Section for the State of West Virginia. While he has been commissioner, the Division has introduced several programs designed to support youth involvement in arts and history including the

West Virginia State History Bowl, the Festival of Songs for high school show choirs and the first statewide initiative of the VH1 Save The Music Foundation's program bringing free musical instruments to qualified pre-K through middle schools in West Virginia.

Since the mid-1980s, Reid-Smith has maintained an international career as an operatic tenor. He taught private voice lessons and master classes at the university level at colleges around the country.

Before returning to his native West Virginia, Reid-Smith served as the Director of Education and Outreach and Production at the Toledo (Ohio) Opera Association. He is an accomplished opera singer who has won numerous competitions at the state and regional level and is written up in the International Who's Who of Music and Musicians.

Reid-Smith received a Masters of Music from Indiana University and a Bachelor of Music from the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. He was awarded an honorary doctorate of Music from Glenville State University. In 2011, Fairness West Virginia presented Reid-Smith with the Ian Gibson-Smith Award for exemplifying LGBT activism through outstanding service, professionalism and performance in everyday life.

RICHARD F. "DICK" SMITH



Smith was born in Menominee, Michigan on April 22, 1934. After graduating from Menominee High School in 1952 he joined the US Navy and served for four years on active duty. He also served for four years in inactive reserve service. He entered the automobile industry while in the Navy in 1954. His first contact with the industry was as a "bird dog" for Duval Motor Company in Jacksonville, Florida. While in Florida he attended Jacksonville University on the GI Bill for one year.

He joined Williams Buick Company in Jacksonville as a salesman in 1956 and remained with Williams Buick for four years. From there he moved to Key Buick in 1960 and served there in many capacities. His first assignment with Key Buick was as a Tower Operator, dispatching service assignments to the technicians. Then he was assigned as a Service Advisor, and was promoted to Assistant Service Manager through 1962. Smith moved to the Sales Department as a sales representative and then promoted to Sales Manager through 1966.

In January 1967 he moved his family to San Francisco, California to run Regal Oldsmobile Co. In 1968 he moved to Huntsville, Alabama as General Sales Manager with Royal Chevrolet for one year.

In January 1969 Smith had the opportunity to become the dealer in Charleston, WV at Royal Oldsmobile. During his tenure as Dealer of Royal Oldsmobile, Smith was afforded the opportunity to serve on the GM-Dealer Policy Committee, on the Oldsmobile Board of Governance, and as NADA Director from WV representing all new car dealers in the state. Dick has been affiliated with Key-Royal Automotive Company, a 26-dealer group, as a member of the Board and a member of the Executive Committee.

Smith retired on December 31, 1994 and maintains his residence in Charleston, WV where he and his sweetheart of 59 years, enjoy traveling. They are the proud parents of four children, eleven grand children and eleven great grand children.

During Smith's Missionary trips abroad, he was very instrumental in assisting with the Living Wells for the World project, and continuing sponsorship through First Presbyterian Church, which teaches communities in third world countries how to build adequate water systems for a clean and safe water supply.

CAROLYN ELIZABETH SMOOT *



Carolyn Elizabeth Bennett Smoot, was a long time resident of WV and noted for her many years as a public servant and activist.

She attended Aracoma High School, which closed during her junior year however while there, she was a member of the National Honor Society, head majorette and a cheerleader. Carolyn graduated from Logan High School, was a member of the National Honor Society and was the first African American majorette.

Carolyn graduated from West Virginia State College University with a Bachelor of Science degree in education. While at Bluefield State, she was chosen as the head majorette, she was cheerleader, played basketball, was a member of the track team and Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

Carolyn earned a Masters of Public Administration degree from Marshall University. She was the first African American and first female appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the West Virginia State Senate to hold title of Commissioner of Employment Security for the State of West Virginia. Carolyn, also held consultant positions with the United States Department of Labor in Head of Placement, Director of Education and Training, and Director of Human Resources.

Carolyn has been recognized in various publications including, the Directory of Distinguished Americans, Who's Who in the South and Southeast, Edition one of 5000 Personalities of the World, Who's Who in West Virginia - First Edition, Community Leaders of America, Community Leaders of the World, Who's Who in American Women, Who's Who in Black America, First World Edition in International Book of Honor, West Virginia Ambassador of Goodwill, featured in Ebony and Jet magazines,

She was also Co-Chair of The National Education School of Funding Day in WV, sponsored by Congressman Major Owens, conducted training for the United States Department of Labor, she was a participant in the first White House Conference on National Growth and Economic Development, participated in the White House Conference on Science and Technology, the National Women's Political Caucus, served as Co-Chair of the Veteran's Employment and Training Advisory Council, West Virginia Vietnam Veterans Civic Council, Ex-Officio Member of The Labor-Management Advisory Council, West Virginia Political Caucus, Ex-Officio Member of The West Virginia Commission on Aging, Association for Community Education of West Virginia, Advisory Committee of the Community College Component at West Virginia State College University, National Governor's Association, Monitor for Unemployment Insurance Activities, Interstate Conference of Employment Security Agencies Delivery Systems Task Force, Human Resources Development Foundation, Executive Advisory Board, and received the Freedom Award - Charleston NAACP.

DALLAS S. STAPLES



Mr. Staples joined the Charleston Police Department and served for twenty five years. In 1991, Mr. Staples was appointed Chief of Police by Mayor Kent S. Hall. During his tenure as Chief, he established the Charleston Police Horse Mounted Police Unit , Bicycle Patrol, Neighborhood Assistance Officers (NAO's), Charleston Police Youth Advisory Board, allowing student representatives from Kanawha County High Schools to discuss and advise on issues of Public Safety concerns affecting youth. Chief Staples also established the West Virginia D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) Training Academy, training police officers throughout West Virginia and the Tri-State to teach this drug abuse prevention program to 5th and 6th grade students in all counties in West Virginia.

As Chief, Staples was and remains a strong proponent of the Community Policing philosophy, which utilizes all government and public resources to address community safety issues. Staples partnered with Senior Citizens to establish a Senior Volunteer Corp to work at the police department, taking telephone reports and calling to check on the well being of other seniors.

Mr. Staples is a avid Equestrian and has participated in horseback riding programs to aid individuals with disabilities. He has been a member of the Charleston Job Corp Community Relation Council for more than thirty years and currently serves on the Executive Board. Staples is a member of The Fraternal Order of Police, Capital City Lodge #74, Deacon Riverview Baptist Church, Past President West Virginia Black Law Enforcement United (WVB.L.E.U.) Member American Endurance Ride Conference and Charleston YMCA. Former Commissioner Charleston Urban Renewal Authority.

Mr. Staples' other employment includes: Director of Security, T.D. Jakes Ministries, Dallas Texas; Director of Operations and Training, West Virginia Division of Juvenile Services; Director of Security for West Virginia Lottery, Enforcement Director WV Alcohol Beverage Control Administration, Commissioner WV Alcohol Beverage Control Administration, and currently Project Manager WV Division Homeland Security Emergency Management School Safety Vulnerability Assessment.

Mr. Staples is a graduate of the West Virginia State Police Academy, West Virginia State University, Morris Harvey College (now the University of Charleston) Graduate of US Drug Enforcement Administration National Academy, United States Secret Service Dignitary Protection School, Department Of Justice Contract Cultural Diversity Trainer, Certified Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) Train the Trainer Graduate Southern Police Institute (University Of Louisville) Sexual Assault Investigation School, graduate of Police Public Information Officer School (Institute of Police Technology and Management, University North Florida) and United States Air Force Veteran.

Mr. Staples was one of 8 police officers and one firefighter who sued the city of Charleston in U.S. District Court for discrimination in hiring and promotion practices in the police and fire departments. The suit was settled when the City agreed to a Court monitored Consent Decree. The Decree made the city hire one minority for every one non-minority hired in the police and fire departments. The number of minorities had to represent 15% of the total number of officers in each department. At the time of the suit there were only eight black police officers out of 168 police officers, and 1 black firefighter out of 100 plus firefighters. The suit was filed in 1965.

DWIGHT J. STAPLES, ESQ.



Dwight J. Staples is a partner with the Law Firm of Henderson, Henderson, and Staples, 711 Fifth Avenue, Huntington, WV.

His early education was at Woodrow Wilson High School, in Beckley, WV, with continuing education at West Virginia State College, Institute, WV, B.S. Education, West Virginia College of Graduate Studies, M.A., Education Administration West Virginia University College of Law, Morgantown, WV, Doctor of Jurisprudence.

Mr. Staples expertise in law is in Personal Injury, Vehicle Accidents, Wrongful Death, Sexual Harassment, Employment Discrimination, Employment Disability Discrimination, Workers Compensation, Landlord Tenant Law, State and Federal Criminal Defense, Medical Malpractice, State Employee Grievance and numerous other areas.

He has practiced before the Circuit Courts of West Virginia, The West Virginia Supreme Court, the West Virginia Federal District Courts, and the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Mr. Staples is a member of the West Virginia State Bar Association; National Bar Association; Mountain State Bar Association, Vice President and former Treasurer; American Association of Justice; West Virginia Association of Justice, Board of Governors; Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity; Legal Advisor to the Huntington NAACP.

He is also a member and Trustee of Mount Zion Baptist Church, Beckley, West Virginia, and holds Affiliation with various Civic, charitable and professional organizations.

Staples and his wife have four children and two grandchildren.

GAIL HENDERSON STAPLES, ESQ.



Gail Henderson-Staples is a partner with the Law Firm of Henderson, Henderson, and Staples, in Huntington, WV, alongside her husband, Dwight J. Staples, Esq. She worked in the firm also with her father, the late Herbert Henderson, founder and CEO.

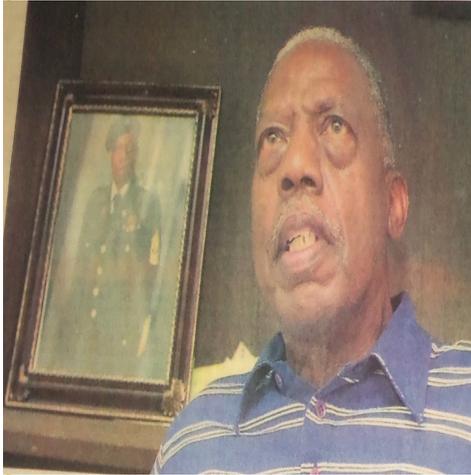
Henderson-Staples was educated in the Cabell county school system, at Huntington High School, in Huntington, WV., with continuing education at Chatham College, Pittsburgh, PA, earning a B.A. Political Science, 1981; and attending West Virginia University College of Law, Morgantown, WV, earning her Doctor of Jurisprudence in 1984.

Within the law practice, Henderson-Staples, expertise concentrates on Personal Injury, Wrongful Death, Social Security, Medical Malpractice, Research, Automobile (Lemon Law), Real Estate, and numerous other areas.

She is a member of several organizations including the West Virginia State Bar Association; National Bar Association; Mountain State Bar Association, former President and Treasurer; American Association of Justice; West Virginia Association of Justice, and Affiliation with various Civic, Charitable and Professional organizations.

Henderson-Staples and her husband are the proud parents of four daughters, Kelly Ann, Jeanie Nicole, Amber Michelle, and Olivia Renee; and two grand children,, Corrina and Christian.

MILFORD ZEIGLER



After 35 years, 70-year-old Milford Zeigler retired from his work as community service director. Zeigler grew up in the small coal town of Lilly Brook and was raised by his grandparents. The Town was segregated in those days and although black and white children played together, they couldn't go to school together. Zeigler went to high school at Omega for two years, moved to Beckley, WV and finished High School at Stratton.

Zeigler was drafted into the Army which he believes was the best thing that ever happened to him in that he received education, learned discipline and learned to trust. When he came home from the Army, he went into the National Guard where he stayed until he retired ending up being West Virginia's first black First Sergeant. After the Army he worked in several jobs delivering furniture, tended bars, waited tables meeting a lot of people who eventually helped him in community projects. In 1975, he was hired by then-Governor Gaston Caperton to work at the McDonough Caperton Insurance Group, which later became Acordia as his Community Project Director. One of his first projects was taking underprivileged children to West Virginia University and Marshall University football games for free.

Zeigler worked with several volunteers from the United Way, laborers from Prisons to the WV State Police who donated drivers and vans to transport the under privileged children to ball games. Zeigler soon earned the nickname "a man without a budget." He worked on all these projects without money. Zeigler was able to have the Ebenzer Baptist Church, in Marmet which slaves originally built, renovated by prisoners. Another project was Amandaville in downtown St. Albans, with the help of Adjutant General [Robert] Childers who had a battalion to remove trash and lay the pipe for sewage which included working with Linda Meckfessel and former Governor Jay Rockefeller.

Another project was getting the Covenant House fixed up. Rev. Jim Lewis told Zeigler that he had an old building and asked Zeigler if he could get it fixed. Caperton's father donated the first \$3,000, and the prison labor force renovated it like a new place. Zeigler said he remembered Rev. Lewis saying, "This is the closest to Heaven I've ever been." Zeigler started a summer basketball league on a closed playground from another renovated project. Several people from electrical unions, pipefitters, high schools among many others donated time, money and material to make these projects happen.

The Milford Zeigler Foundation was started, but Zeigler said he hasn't had to use it. Zeigler has previously been quoted saying, "I ain't worried about nothing'. I ain't gonna get rich, so I'll just be without a budget. I don't worry about money." Zeigler and has had many hank-you letters and framed newspaper clippings and awards. Among these awards are the West Virginian of the year in 1991 and the prestigious Jefferson award, in which he made a trip to the White House.

Zeigler is married with five children: Milford Jr., from his first wife; and from his second wife: Milford Jr., Libby, Leonard and Janie Zeigler O'Neal Peyton (now deceased and who was an Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Rights Division of the Attorney General's office)

Past Honorees

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

William Anderson
Raymond Hammarth
Lenora E. Harmon*
Gregory T. Hinton, J.D.
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
Quewanncoii "Que" C. Stephens, Sr.
The Hon. Justice Margaret L. Workman
Eugene K. Young

2007

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.

2006

Carole "Cookie" Glasser
Kent S. Hall
Della Louise Brown Taylor Hardman, Ph.D.*
Ken Hechler, Ph.D.
Mildred Ruth T. Holt
Mentola Joyce Jackson
The Rev. Dr. Patricia Ann Jarvis, D. Min.

The Rev. Dr. David A. Kates*
J. Franklin Long, Esq.
Anna L. McCright
Edward L. Peeks
The Hon. Larry V. Starcher
Clarence Wanzer

2005

Willard L. Brown, Esq.*
 The Hon. Herman G. Canady, Jr.
 Harry Jheopart Capehart, Esq.*
 Elizabeth E. Chilton
 William E. "Ned" Chilton*
 Gustavus Werber Cleckley*
 Savannah R. Evans
 Faith Holsaert
 The Rev. Dr. Idus Jones, Jr.
 Cora Francis Coleman Jones

The Hon. A. James Manchin*
 Dr. Virgil E. Matthews
 Blanche Wade
 Thomas G. Nutter, Esq.*
 The Rev. Dr. David Louise Smith*
 Dr. John Warner, Jr.
 Richard G. Walker
 William L. Williams, Jr.
 The Rev. Dr. F. Emerson Wood

2004

Dr. Elayne Croxier Abnathy
 Dr. Mildred Mitchell Bateman
 Hollie James Brown
 Madrith Chamber
 Rev. David C. Chappell*
 Sgt. Edward Clark, Jr. (Ret.)
 Rabbi Samuel Cooper
 Howard Samuel Crump
 The Hon. Gail Ferguson
 Roger Foreman, Esq.
 Robert Jackson Guerrant
 Betty Agsten Hamilton
 Jean F. L. Lazarus*
 Allen Edward Lee

Rev. Newsome*
 Josephine Rayford
 Lucile Meadows*
 Dr. Sophia Peterson*
 Lucille Pianfetti
 Charles E. Price*
 George Rutherford
 Steve Rutledge
 Rev. Charles H. Smith
 Mary Snow
 The Hon. Nancy Starks*
 Rev. Julian Sulgit, Jr.
 The Hon. Booker T. Stephens
 Dr. Leon Howard Sullivan

2003

Louise P. Anderson
 Rev. Richard Bowyer
 Joan C. Browning
 Philip W. Carter, Jr.
 George E. Chamberlain, Jr.
 Carrie Chance
 Dr. Betty Jane Cleckley
 Rev. Homer H. Davis
 Elizabeth H. Gilmore*
 Rev. Paul J. Gilmer, Sr.
 Henry Hale
 Bernard Francis Hawkins*

Herbert H. Henderson, Esq.
 Paul J. Kaufman*
 Rose Jean Kaufman*
 Shirley N. Paige
 Emerson Reed
 Helain Rotgin
 Rev. Dr. Dean K. Thompson
 Clayborn Tillman
 James A. Tolbert, Jr.
 Nellie Walker
 Ellis Ray Williams

*honored posthumously

DELEGATE CHARLENE MARSHALL



A retired Data Technician Born September 17, in Osage, West Virginia. Educated in Monongalia High School. Was married to Rogers Leon Marshall (deceased). She is the mother of Gwendolyn, Rogers Jr., and Larry R. Delegate Marshall is a Board Member, Morgantown Theater Company; Boy's and Girl's Club of America; Valley Health Care; Former Member, West Virginia University School of Nursing Advisory Board; Chair, West Virginia Human Rights Commission; Past Recording Secretary, Steelworkers Local 6214; Past Recording Secretary, Monongalia-Preston Labor Council; Retired Member, Local 814, WVU; Recipient, 1994 Mayor of the Year Award; 1985 WVEA Effie Mayhan Brown Award; 2006 Public Citizen of the Year Award, WV Bar Association.

Legislative Service Elected to the House 1998-2000; 2004-2010 Legislative Positions Held Vice Chair, Committee on Political Subdivisions, House Chaplain, 75th Legislature; Chair, Committee on Economic Development and Small Business, 78th Legislature; House Chaplain 79th Legislature Other Public Service Former Mayor, City of Morgantown, 1991-1998; Past President, Morgantown N.A.A.C.P.; Former Member, Red Cross Executive Board; Former Member, Member Leadership Monongalians First Class; Member, Presidents Visiting Committee Student Affairs; Recipient, Exceptional Service in the Public Interest Award, Federal Bureau of Investigation; 2006 Mountain State Bar Award for Outstanding Citizen; Mountain State Bar Foundation Award for Public Citizen of the Year.

DELEGATE MESHEA POORE



Attorney Born September 2, 1975, in Charleston, the daughter of Raymond Howard and Martha Gale Poore Education Southern University Law Center; Howard University Affiliations Member, West Virginia State Bar; Alabama State Bar Association; Mountain State Bar Association; Kanawha Federation of Democratic Women; National Federation of Democratic Women; National Caucus of State Legislators; National Black Caucus of State Legislators; Women's Club of Charleston; Executive Committee Member, Young Lawyer Section, West Virginia State Bar; Board Member, West Virginia Legal Aid; Board Member, East End Main Street; Board Member, Schoenbaum Family Enrichment Center Legislative Service Appointed to the House December 18, 2009, to fill vacancy created by the resignation of Carrie Webster; Elected to the House 2010 Other Public Service American Council of Young Political Leaders Delegate 2010; Kanawha County Public Defender, 2004-2009; Southern University Law Center Student Attorney - Juvenile Justice Department; Director, National Women Law Students' Association; Maxine Waters Freedom Fellow; Democratic National Committee Executive Director Fellow; Patricia Roberts Harris Public Affairs Fellow Religion: Baptist.

WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO:

- ◆ COMMISSIONERS OF THE WEST VIRGINIA HUMAN RIGHTS
- ◆ COMMISSION & STAFF
- ◆ RANDALL REID-SMITH, COMMISSIONER
- ◆ WV DEPT. OF CULTURE AND HISTORY LIBRARY COMMISSION
- ◆ BISHOP DAVID STOCKTON
- ◆ DUNBAR PRINTING SERVICES
- ◆ G. MICHAEL PEYTON AND THE OHIO CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION
- ◆ THE CIVIL RIGHTS DAY PLANNING COMMITTEE
- ◆ THE GOVERNOR'S STAFF AND PHOTOGRAPHERS
- ◆ BECKY CROWN OF CROWN CATERING

COMMENTARIES

A particular teaching from the writings of the Baha'i Faith has inspired me in all my endeavors in human rights. I have learned to regard man as a mine rich in gems of inestimable value. Providing equal opportunities allows it to reveal its treasures, enabling all to benefit. During my years in West Virginia I have witnessed the Human Rights Commission's great efforts to provide such opportunity and justice to many individuals. The result has been that when the potentials of these individuals were given a chance the society benefits immeasurably from them. This fact makes me very happy and proud to be a part of this organization and an honoree recipient of its award.

*Dr. Minu Sabet
Civil Rights Day Honoree ~ 2010*

COMMENTARIES

The West Virginia Civil Rights Day is a mighty beacon of thanksgiving, hope and activism for believers in Racial Equality and Justice for all people. I give thanks to the West Virginia Human Rights Commission for its crucial struggles to keep this incomparable component of the Government of West Virginia available to its people! No greater honor has ever been mine as when I was selected as one of the honorees FROM WHENCE WE CAME in 2006.

To have the Governor of West Virginia personally place in my hand the coveted Civil Rights Award helped to replenish my enduring faith and activism in the struggle for social justice and equality. Further, this recognition validated my other life commitments: Improved Educational Opportunities for Youth and Adults and Environmental Justice.

Today's political climate, accelerating extremism in the Nation, the failures of our educational system, and a lack of ordinary civility in manners are all critical signals that a difficult path of positive activism lies ahead. I stand ready to continue my personal commitment.

*Mildred T. Holt
Civil Rights Day Honoree ~ 2006*

I was both gratified and honored to be recognized as a 2008 WV Civil Rights Day recipient. This recognition validated the direction God had set for me from the time I arrived in WV in 1972.

As an African-American male, I feel God blessed me and placed me in positions in WV to address many of these concerns. I initially became the first African-American attorney to work at Appalred Legal Services work as a staff attorney with District 17 of the DMWA, representing and assisting black and white and disciplined poor and unemployed multicultural adolescent youth for 30 years at the Charleston Job Corps as they sought to positively redirect their lives and become gainfully employed.

Notwithstanding my physical disabilities, I'm so thankful that God has blessed me and continues to bless and use me in His service. Thank you for ordering my steps!

*Mr. James E. Parker
Civil Rights Day Honoree ~ 2008*



“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.



