



Advancing Civil Rights Through Advocacy



The Governor's 10th Annual Civil Rights Day

**Friday, February 22, 2013 10:00 AM
The WV Division of Culture and History
Norman L. Fagan West Virginia State Theater
at the Culture Center
1900 Kanawha Blvd. E.
Charleston, WV 25305**





Sponsored by:



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



**Herbert Henderson
Office of Minority Affairs**



**WV Division of
Culture and History**

**Herbert Henderson
Office of Minority Affairs**



Charleston Job Corps



**WV Human Rights
Commission**



PROGRAM

**Master of Ceremonies
The Occasion**

**Commissioner Darrell Cummings, Chair
WV Human Rights Commission**

HONOREES' ENTRANCE

**Greetings on behalf of
The Commission:**

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

**Introduction of Commissioner
Randall Reid-Smith**

**John McFerrin, Commissioner
WV Human Rights Commission**

Musical Selection:

**Randall Reid-Smith, Commissioner
WV Division of Culture and History
2012 Civil Rights Day Honoree**

Invocation:

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

**Introduction of the Governor's
Designee:**

**Lisa Younis, Commissioner
WV Human Rights Commission**

**Presentation of the Proclamation
and Remarks:**

**Dr. Carolyn Stuart, Executive Director
Herbert Henderson Office of Minority
Affairs, Representing
Governor Earl Ray Tomblin**







PROGRAM

**Introduction of the
Secretary's Designee:**

**William "Tank" Williams, Commissioner
West Virginia Human Rights Commission**

Remarks:

**Molly McIntyre Jordan, Deputy Secretary
WV Department of Health and
Human Resources**

Presentation of the Honorees: WV Human Rights Commissioners

Musical Selection:

**Randall Reid-Smith, Commissioner
WV Division of Culture and History
2012 Civil Rights Day Honoree**

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

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

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

**Closing Remarks: Commissioner Darrell Cummings, Chair
West Virginia Human Rights Commission**

LUNCHEON 12:00 NOON—1:00 PM



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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 22, 2013*, 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 Thirty-First day of January, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Thirteen and in the One Hundred Fiftieth year of the State.



Earl Ray Tomblin
Earl Ray Tomblin
Governor

By the Governor:

Natalie E. Tennant
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

Rocco S. Fucillo
Cabinet Secretary

Phyllis H. Carter
Acting Executive Director

February 22, 2013

As Chair of the West Virginia Human Rights Commissioners, it is truly an honor to be part of the Governor's 10th 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.

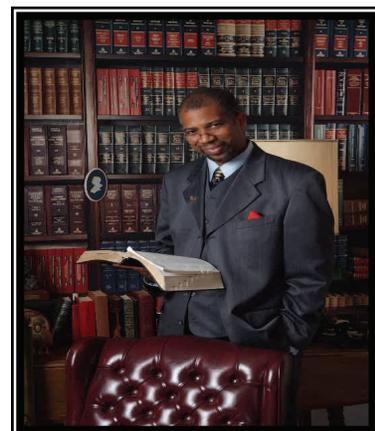
Each individual, regardless of race, creed, color or culture background have proven their strength and capability to rise to the many challenges that face us as a people. They continue to take a stand and let their voices be heard in the face of opposition which attest to the validity of their being 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**

**Rocco S. Fucillo
Cabinet Secretary**

**Phyllis H. Carter
Acting Executive Director**

February 22, 2013

On behalf of the West Virginia Human Rights Commission, I welcome you to the Tenth Annual Governor's Civil Rights Day Recognition. On this occasion, the Governor and the Commission recognize 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 Fucillo 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:

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

*honored posthumously

CAROL A. BEATTIE



Carol A. (Sharp) Beattie was born in Columbus, Ohio. She obtained her Bachelor's Degree from Ohio State University in June, 1963, specializing in Elementary Education. She obtained her Master's Degree in June of 1977 from Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan.

Beattie was employed in the Columbus Public Schools from 1963 until 1967 and the Department of Defense Dependent Schools in Germany from 1967 until 1970 as a First and Second Grade Teacher. She was a Teacher for the Learning Disabled in the Southwestern City Schools in Grove City, Ohio from 1970 until 1974, Port Huron, Michigan Public Schools from 1974 until 1977, Watervliet, Michigan Public Schools from 1977 until 1980, and Loudoun County Public Schools in Virginia from 1980 until 1988. She served as an Educational Diagnostician for the Loudoun County Public Schools in Virginia from 1988 until 2007 and is currently retired.

Beattie currently serves as Chairperson of Mission Team for the Charles Town Presbyterian Church in Charles Town, West Virginia. She believes it is her calling to "Help the Least of These" with her actions, as well as her voice. She became a founding member of the Jefferson County Homeless Coalition in 2010. At the time, there were no shelters available for those without homes in Jefferson County. Her team was able to work with area churches to establish an overnight Cold Weather Shelter for adults from November until March. They are now in their third year of providing winter shelters for men and women.

The Presbyterian Mission team also established and organized a day-time drop-in center known as the Hospitality Center to provide a caring, warm place for those without homes to receive breakfast and lunch and to take a shower. Since March, 2011, with the help of volunteers from many religious and civic groups, it has grown into a place where assistance is provided in helping adults move forward in their lives. Through association with Shenandoah Community Health and East Ridge Behavioral Health, they are able to provide physical and mental health services at the Center and assist with transportation to various parts of the Eastern Panhandle where assistance can be obtained. In addition, they are able to assist with jobs searches, resume building, and obtaining affordable housing for those who have limited income.

Beattie calls Charles Town, West Virginia her home and is married to Reverend Joseph G. Beattie.

THE HONORABLE IRENE C. BERGER



The Honorable Irene C. Berger graduated from West Virginia University in 1976 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in mathematics, and from the West Virginia University College of Law in 1979. After graduation, she was a staff attorney with the Legal Aid Society of Charleston until 1982, when she joined the Office of the Kanawha County Prosecuting Attorney. In 1994, she accepted a position as Assistant United States Attorney for the Southern District of West Virginia. She was appointed by Governor Caperton to fill a vacancy as Circuit Judge of Kanawha County for the Thirteenth Judicial Circuit of West Virginia in June 1994. In November 1996, she was elected to the unexpired term of Circuit Judge, and in November 2000 and November 2008 was elected to full terms. She was unopposed in all elections. During her tenure on the state bench, she was assigned by Administrative Order of the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals to sit temporarily as a justice of that Court in instances of recusal.

Judge Berger was named Woman of the Year by the Charleston Area Business and Professional Women's Club in 1996, and in 1997 she received the Celebrate Women Award from the West Virginia Women's Commission in the category of Government. In 2000, she was named an Outstanding Woman of Achievement by the Charleston YWCA and received the West Virginia University College of Law Women's Law Caucus Distinguished Woman in the Law Award for the Public Sector.

In 2002, she was named a Fellow of the West Virginia State Bar Foundation and honored as a West Virginia African American Woman of Distinction by the West Virginia Women's Commission. In the same year, she became a permanent member of the Fourth Circuit Judicial Conference. In 2003, she was named a Fellow of the American Bar Association and given the Mountain State Bar Association Merit Award.

In 2004, she was awarded the Community Champion Award by the Kanawha Institute for Social Research and Action and honored as a Distinguished West Virginian by then Governor Bob Wise. In 2006, Judge Berger was named Outstanding Alumna by the West Virginia University Alumni Association. In 2007, she was awarded the NAACP Image Award for Leadership by the Charleston, West Virginia, branch of the NAACP, and in 2008 received the Departmental Alumni Award from the Department of Mathematics of the West Virginia University Eberly College of Arts and Sciences. Judge Berger has served as Chairperson for the Legal Services for the Poor Symposium and as President of the Board of Directors of the West Virginia University Alumni Association. She has been a member of the following civic and professional organizations: West Virginia University College of Law Visiting Committee, West Virginia University Institutional Board of Advisors, West Virginia University Social Justice Visiting Committee, West Virginia Judicial Association, Mountain State Bar Association, Juvenile Justice Committee, the Governor's Domestic Violence Advisory Committee and the Children and Families Interim Committee of the West Virginia Legislature. She has served on the Board of Directors of the Legal Services Corporation, Family & Children Together and Keep a Child in School. She has also served as a judge for the West Virginia University College of Law Moot Court competition and participated in the Judge in Residency program at Washington and Lee School of Law. Judge Berger has been a presenter for numerous continuing legal education seminars.

She currently serves on the West Virginia University Student Affairs Visiting Committee, the University of Charleston Board of Trustees and the Board of Directors of the West Virginia University Foundation. On November 9, 2009, Judge Berger was appointed by President Barack Obama to the position of United States District Judge for the Southern District of West Virginia.

Judge Berger is a native of Amonate in McDowell County, West Virginia, and was the youngest of nine children born to Nathaniel and Irene O. Calloway Berger. She is married to David Howell.

RANDALL BYRNSIDE



Randy Byrnside, known as the Chef for Seniors serves between 3,000 and 4,000 meals per month. He cooks from scratch and serves up meals at the Kanawha Valley Senior Services Tiskelwah Center. Meals are delivered throughout the Kanawha Valley.

Byrnside started cooking when he was a kid in St. Albans, working in the food service industry at the age of 15 at Shoney's, Captain D's and the original River's Edge Restaurants. He then went on to work in the insurance industry for about 15 years until he had an aortic aneurysm in 2001. Doctors told him that he would not live.

After that experience, he decided he should be doing the work he truly loves, and he went back into the food service business. He worked at the Putnam Aging/Kanawha Valley Senior Services for ten years, and is currently working at the Tiskelwah Center.

Byrnside felt there was a reason why he lived and believes working for seniors is that reason. Byrnside said, "It's not about the cooking but cooking for the people I see come in here." "I see people come in here who have nothing." "I have people from shelters and high rises and some who are doctors. I've got such a diverse group of people."

Byrnside loves to cook and never went to culinary school. He has received \$40,000 to \$50,000 in participation grants throughout several years by writing his own grant proposals. He makes sure that his recipes meet health guidelines for his clientele.

Byrnside is involved in many community activities such as 4-H clubs, West Virginia Women Works, KVSS, and Tiskelwah Community Services Center, by helping with clothes, furniture or whatever is needed to anyone with needs.

Byrnside is the son of Rachel and Copper Byrnside. He and his wife, Linda, have one daughter, Brandie who helps him at the Tiskelwah Center and two granddaughters, Macie and Marley Reed.

WALTER H. CHAMBERLAIN



Walter H. Chamberlain was born in Charleston, West Virginia, on July 16, 1953 to the late Ida and George E. Chamberlain Jr. He attended Charleston High School graduating in 1971, and continued his education at the University of Cincinnati, Marshall University and West Virginia State College, graduating in 1976 with a degree in Sociology.

Chamberlain's mother graduated with a Master's degree in Psychology from Atlanta University and her grandfather, William Hooper Council, founded Alabama A & M University. Both of his parents put a high priority on education and all four of their sons eventually graduated from college.

Growing up he developed a great love for athletics and eventually became the captain of the first high school football team in West Virginia to win three straight State Championships. He was also a State Champion shot-putter his senior year at Charleston High School. He went on to play two years of college football and later became a member of the Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity while attending Marshall University.

Chamberlain retired from Union Carbide Corporation in 2001 with 26 years of service. He then began a second career as a social services worker with the State of West Virginia in 2008. He currently works as a social worker for the State of West Virginia with Adult Protective Services, where he works with abused and neglected adults. He is also a licensed Realtor in the State of West Virginia and was at one time a West Virginia high school football official.

In recent years, Chamberlain attended Shining Light Celebration Church and Living Word Christian Center. One of the greatest joys in his life has been reading and studying the Bible and sharing this message of love with other people. He was also a member of a group of Christian volunteers that for many years served monthly at Heartland of Charleston sharing the message and celebrating life with the elderly. Chamberlain has been a Bible teacher at Shining Light Celebration and at Living Word Christian Center in Charleston.

One of his favorite quotes: "The life you live before other people will ultimately be the unwritten testimony you leave behind about you in their hearts".

Chamberlain and his wife Velva are parents to one child, George Chamberlain IV of Charleston.

JAN DERRY



Jan Derry has been doing civil rights work for more than 30 years. Her life-long work as an advocate for individuals with disabilities began in 1981 when she became the Patient Advocate at Weston Hospital (renamed Sharpe Hospital) one of our state's largest inpatient psychiatric hospitals. In that capacity, she was responsible for investigating allegations of abuse and rights violations. She was often referred to as the "resident hemorrhoid" due to her tenacity to ensure that clinical decisions and administrative policies and procedures did not compromise the rights of the individuals they served. She developed the reputation of being known as the hospital's conscience.

From there she moved to Morgantown in 1990 and began working in the independent living division of the Coordinating Council for Independent living, CCIL. In 1993, this division of the agency split off from its parent organization and created a new non-profit organization, the Northern West Virginia Center for Independent Living, NWVCIL. She has served as the Executive Director since. In this capacity she has developed services and supports that assist individuals with disabilities throughout a 13 county service area to set, reach and maintain their goals for independence. She is known as being a leader in the disability community working to ensure that people with disabilities have equal opportunity to be contributing, valued members of their community and have equal access to all that a community has to offer its members.

Derry is a member of WVU's Social Justice Visiting Committee, a member of the WVU Rehabilitation and Counseling Advisory Board, a member of the state's Olmstead Advisory Committee, the state's Take Me Home Advisory Council and has recently been reappointed by the Governor as a member of the WV Statewide Independent living Council.

In her home town of Morgantown, she brings the voice of individuals with disabilities to City government by serving on the Pedestrian Safety Board and has recently been appointed by the City Council to serve on the City's Human Rights Commission. She is a strong advocate within her community, working for compliance with the Americans with Disabilities and Fair Housing Acts.

Because of her work with the West Virginia Foundation for Rape Information and Services, as they work towards addressing the needs of victims with disabilities and create more inclusive services, she was awarded the 2011 Visionary Voice Award by the National Sexual Violence Resource Center. In 2011 she was also selected by her peers in Region III (West Virginia, Virginia, District of Columbia, Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Maryland) to be the recipient of the National Council for Independent, NCIL, Regional Advocacy Award. She was also elected to serve on the board of directors for this national disability rights organization, representing Region III and serves as chairperson of NCIL's taskforce on Violence and Abuse of persons with disabilities.

Derry and her husband Mark, have 3 boys and 3 girls, ranging from age 38-19, and have been blessed with 4 grandchildren.

KATHERINE “KITTY” L. DOOLEY, ESQ.



Katherine L. “Kitty” Dooley is an attorney practicing in Charleston, West Virginia.

A sole practitioner she is the principal of The Dooley Law Firm, P.L.L.C. where she practices in the areas of personal injury, social security disability, consumer rights and employment. She has numerous legal and other affiliations.

She is the Chair of the Board of Commissioners for the Charleston - Kanawha Housing Authority where she spear-headed a Fifty Million Dollar project to rebuild the most depressed public housing in the City of Charleston. She is a 2006 recipient of the UniCare Community Service Award for her work with the Housing Authority.

In 2007, she was named as a Fellow of the West Virginia State Bar Foundation.

Attorney Dooley served two terms as a member of the Board of Governors of the West Virginia State Bar and is also is a currently the Chair of the Board of the Children’s Home Society of West Virginia and is a Board member of the Kanawha Institute for Social Research and Action (KISRA), the Appalachian Children’s Chorus and is a Member of the West Virginia University Women’s Studies Visiting Committee.

Attorney Dooley is a Past President of the Mountain State Bar Association, Inc. and Past Chair of the Minority Committee of the West Virginia State Bar. She has also served as a member of the State Bar's Young Lawyer’s Executive Committee. She is also past member of the West Virginia University College of Law’s Visiting Committee. She formerly served as a part-time Administrative Law Judge for the West Virginia Human Rights Commission.

She is a member of the Mountain State Bar Association, Inc. the American Association for Justice, the West Virginia Association for Justice, the Judge John Fields American Inns of Court and the Charleston Branch of the NAACP.

Attorney Dooley has also been involved in projects to recognize and honor the work of West Virginia’s first African-American Attorney, J.R. Clifford, as co-director of the J.R. Clifford Project.

Attorney Dooley is a native of Fairmont, West Virginia where she is a member of the Morning Star Baptist Church and serves as a Deaconess. She is a 1990 graduate of the West Virginia University College of Law and a 1980 graduate of Marshall University with a Bachelor’s Degree in Journalism. She has practiced law privately in Bluefield and Charleston before opening her own practice. She is also a former Senior Assistant Attorney General.

Following college she received her Commission as a 2nd Lieutenant and served in the United States Army from 1980 until 1984 attaining the rank of Captain. She received the Army Commendation (two oak leaf clusters) and an overseas service ribbon while an Intelligence Officer. She received her Army Parachutist Badge (Airborne wings) in 1979 while an ROTC cadet at Marshall University; the first female cadet in the State of West Virginia to do so.

Attorney Dooley is married to Chuck Green.

REVEREND RONALD WILLIAMS ENGLISH



Rev. Ronald W. English acknowledged the call to Ministry at the historic Ebenezer Baptist in Atlanta where he was licensed and ordained under the tutelage of Dr. Martin Luther King Sr. and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. While serving as Assistant Minister at Ebenezer he offered the prayer at the funeral of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. He was the 2012 recipient of the Living the Dream Advocate for Peace Award from the Martin Luther King, Jr. West Virginia Holiday Commission.

After earning his Bachelor's Degree at Morehouse College in 1967 and the Master of Divinity Degree from the Interdenominational Theological Center (ITS) in 1970 at the Atlanta University Complex, he served as special assistant to the President of ITC as Director of Public Relations and established the office of Alumni Affairs at ITC.

In June of 1972, Rev. English was called to pastor the First Baptist Church of Charleston, West Virginia. During his 21 year tenure, he led the church to become a Charter Member of the Religious Coalition for Community Renewal (RCCR) which established low income housing in downtown Charleston. He initiated the Black Heritage Cultural Series as the first such project funded by the WV Arts and Humanities Council and the Division of Culture and History.

Rev. English worked for the WV Division of Corrections on the administrative team that opened the Mt. Olive Corrections Complex, the state's maximum security prison for adult offenders in Fayette County.

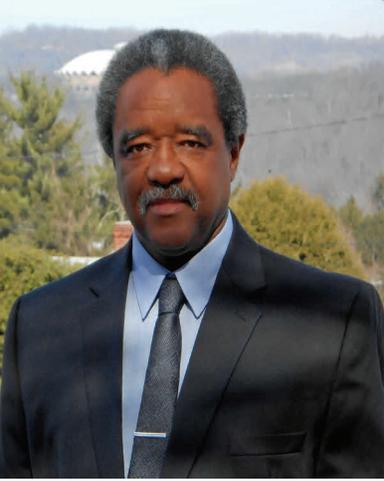
As a lifelong learner, Rev. English has done post graduate work in counseling at Marshall University Graduate College and has received counseling certification from the Kanawha Pastoral Counseling Center of Charleston. He has pursued specialized training in leadership studies from Princeton University (Princeton, NJ), the Center for Creative Leadership (Greensboro, NC) and the American Institute on Managing Diversity (Atlanta, GA). He was the Founder and Project Director for the 2007 King Day Conference on Managing Diversity which led to the Institute on Diversity Management in 2009.

He has lectured and written extensively on African-American history, particularly on the life and work of Martin Luther King, Jr. His international travels include sojourns to Europe, the Middle East, the Far East and he participated in a delegation of African American leaders invited by Bishop Desmond Tutu to South Africa on the release of Nelson Mandela.

Currently, Rev. English serves as Interim Minister at the Metropolitan Baptist Church of Charleston and as Adjunct Instructor in Leader Studies at Wheeling Jesuit University. His essays and editorials have been featured in local newspapers and other publications, particularly on the life and work of Martin Luther King, Jr. He has also moderated and produced public affairs programs for commercial and public television.

Rev. English is the proud father of one son and two daughters and loving grandfather of four girls and one grandson.

TIMOTHY L. HAIRSTON



Tim Hairston was born in September, 1955 in Welch, WV and grew up in Twin Branch, WV. He attended Davy Elementary and Welch High School until 11th grade, and then attended Gary High School in Gary, WV. While at Gary High School, he was the manager and statistician on the 1973 “AA” State Basketball Champions.

He enrolled at West Virginia University in the fall of 1973 and followed a pre-med curriculum. After completing 101 hours, he left school and has been working steadily since. His work career included the Governor’s Youth Work Program when he was still in high school, McDonald’s during college, and Hills Department store. He also worked at The Sound Post Hi-Fi in Morgantown, Radio Shack in Morgantown, and then acquired his present job with Mon Power/First Energy, which he has been employed with for the last 26 years.

Hairston is also a third-degree black belt equivalent in Chinese Kempo and is also a member of the Appalachian American Indians of West Virginia (A.A.I.W.V.) since June 1998. He was also the first African American president of the Mon-Preston Labor Council, AFL-CIO. He completed the West Virginia University Institute of Labor Studies and Research (ILS&R) for year course plus a year as an intern and six years of refresher courses starting in June 1991 and is an active member on the finance committee and citizen’s liaison committee for the Mon-Preson United Way for the past sixteen years. Hairston is also a member of the Community Coalition for Social Justice (CCSJ) since 1999, where he was also president for five years and still an active member of the steering committee as well as a founding member of the Allegheny Energy Diversity Council for its four year existence and a Commissioner for the West Virginia Human Rights Commission since October 2006.

Hairston has been married to Marcia for 35 years and they have two children, Clifton and Stephanie, and five grandchildren.

ROBERT L. HARRISON, JR. PH.D.



Dr. Robert L. Harrison, Jr. is the Dean of the College of Professional Studies and Professor of Education at West Virginia State University in Institute, West Virginia.

He is involved with the National Center for Human Relations where he chairs the Faith-Based Initiatives Committee. He also serves on the Historic Preservation Committee.

When he was Education Chair from 2003-2007, he provided the leadership to have West Virginia State designated as a Reading First Teacher Education Network School by the US Office of Education.

The purpose of the Network was to increase reading achievement of minority and high poverty students in the public school system. There were 150 Historically Black, Tribal and Hispanic Institutions in the United States eligible for consideration for this designation, and only 38 institutions were selected.

Prior to joining the faculty at West Virginia State University in 2002, Dr. Harrison was employed for 12 years at the West Virginia Department of Education where he worked as an Executive Director of the Office of Curriculum and Instruction; a Director of the Office of Professional Development; a Coordinator of Reading and English Language Arts; and a Coordinator/Liaison to the 19 West Virginia Teacher Education Programs.

From 1968-1988, he was employed as a teacher at Bluefield High School and Central Junior High School where he taught English, Journalism, and Reading. In addition, he served as a newspaper, yearbook, student council and National Honor Society Adviser. For ten years he coordinated the Black History Month Activities for Bluefield High School. In 2011, he was inducted into the Bluefield High School Hall of Fame.

Dr. Harrison earned his Ph. D. in Educational Administration from The American University in Washington D.C in 1988 where he was a Bishop Hurst Promising Young Doctoral Student Fellowship Recipient.

Dr. Harrison was awarded the Certificate Excellence in College Teaching and was the first graduate teaching assistant at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg to receive this honor in the College of Education. He earned the Certificate of Advanced Graduate Studies in 1975 from Virginia Tech. He earned the M. Ed. in Secondary Education at Kent State University in Kent, Ohio in 1972.

Dr. Harrison was Cum Laude Graduate of Bluefield State College in Bluefield, West Virginia. He was the first minority graduate of Bluefield State to be invited to give the Distinguished Alumnus Address during Homecoming in 1993.

CHERYL L. HENDERSON, ESQ.



Cheryl L. Henderson is an attorney and lives in Huntington, West Virginia where she has practiced law in the firm Henderson, Henderson & Staples, L.C. since 1982.

After graduating from Huntington High School in 1973, Henderson received her B.A. in English from Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee, and then her J.D. from West Virginia University College of Law in 1980. During her studies at West Virginia University School of Law, she spent the summer of 1978 at the Exeter College of Law in Exeter, England.

Henderson worked as a trademark attorney in the Trademark Office at the Department of Commerce in Washington D.C. for two years before returning home to West Virginia. She is a member of the West Virginia State Bar Association, American Bar Association, National Bar Association, Mountain State Bar Association, and was President of the Mountain State Bar Association from 1996-1998. She served as Treasurer of the Mountain State Bar Association from 1988-1994 and is currently serving as Treasurer again. From 1987-1988, she was Vice-President of the Cabell County Bar Association.

She served on the MCLE Commission from 1989-1992, on the State Bar Board of Governors from 1990-1994, and on the West Virginia Disciplinary Board from 1994-2000, and 2007-present. Henderson was a member of the West Virginia University Visiting Committee from 1996-2000. From 1997-1998, Henderson was a member of the Commission on Lawyer Specialization and Certification. She served on the West Virginia Bar Foundation from 1997-2002 and was President from 2001-2002.

Henderson is active as a volunteer in her community. She is a member of the Ebenezer United Methodist Church and was a member from 1996-1999 of the Race and Race Relations Committee of the United Methodist Church. She has served on the Ebenezer Medical Outreach Board for over 20 years. From 1998-2000, she was a member of the Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers Network, Inc.

Henderson was a mentor for the Cabell County Juvenile Probation Program from 1999-2001. She was a member of the Center for Independent Living Board of Directors from 1987-1990, Ebenezer Community Outreach Center Board of Directors from 1992-1994, St. Mary's Advisory Board for Women's Health 2008 to present, Team for West Virginia from 1995-1999, and WPBY Advisory Council from 1994-1998. Henderson was appointed to the West Virginia Board of Medicine as one of three lay members by former Governor Joe Manchin, III, in November, 2010.

THE HONORABLE TAL HUTCHINS



The Honorable Tal Hutchins was born in Wheeling, West Virginia. He grew up in Bellaire, Ohio graduating from Bellaire High School. He is a graduate of Bowling Green State University with a BFA degree and BA in Education.

He taught school for seven years in Wheeling, West Virginia, Ohio County, and was elected as the president of the Ohio County Teachers Association; later becoming an education consultant for the West Virginia Education Association, and is recently retired as a labor relations consultant for the Ohio Education Association with offices in Columbus, Ohio.

His community service includes membership in the Wheeling Lions Club, and a former member of the Wheeling Kiwanis Club. He has volunteered for Habitat for Humanity, Easter Seals, and the American Cancer Society's Walk-for-Life Campaigns. Previous Board memberships include the Wheeling Human Rights Commission, Northwood Behavioral Health System, and the Upper Ohio Valley Chapter of the American Red Cross.

Former Delegate Hutchins has been a lifelong member of the NAACP. He has been active in the advancement and recognition of minorities on the national level through his involvement with the American Red Cross organization.

Hutchins served as a member of the National Diversity Advisory Council NDAC of the American Red Cross from 2008 - 2012. The purpose of the Red Cross Diversity Board is to increase participation of minorities and persons of color at all levels of the organization.

He was elected to the West Virginia House of Delegates 3rd District, Ohio County, in 1994 and served three (3) consecutive terms from 1994 – 2000. He was re-elected to the House in 2006 and 2008 for a 4th and 5th term to the House of Delegates.

As a member of the House of Delegates, Delegate Hutchins has served as vice chair of the Health and Human Services Committee 1996 - 2000 and also served as vice chair of the Constitutional Revision Committee 2006 - 2010. He also served as a member of the House Judiciary, Banking and Insurance Committees and the Committee on Homeland Security and Veterans Affairs.

Hutchins has worked to provide insurance for poverty-stricken children and for the protection of senior citizens in nursing homes. He successfully co-sponsored and passed a bill to provide free transportation for aging veterans to VA hospitals in West Virginia, Pennsylvania and Ohio.

Delegate Hutchins is married to Carmen (Bass) Hutchins of Wheeling for 40 years, They have two daughters, Caressa Hutchins of Columbus, Ohio, Melanie Hutchins of Dallas, Texas and three wonderful grandchildren.

CHRISTOPHER D. JACKSON



Christopher D. Jackson was born July 29, 1978 in Charleston, West Virginia. He attended West Virginia State College from 1996 to 2001, and received a Bachelor of Science in Communications.

Jackson was the Student Government Association Vice President from 2000-2001; the Mr. WVSC 1999-2000; a Member of the Student Leadership Program; Who's Who Among American Colleges and Universities; a member of WVSC Ambassador's Club 1996-2001; a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., Theta Psi Chapter. Jackson was the Gore Hall Residence Director upon graduation in 2001, and this job provided him the opportunity to mentor other young males. While a Residence Director, he educated students about time management and participated in community service projects. The passion he developed for public service during his time as a Residence Director led him to enroll in a Master's Program. Jackson attended Marshall University's Graduate School from 2002 to 2005 and received a Master of Science in Adult and Technical Education.

During his tenure as a recruiter at West Virginia State University (WVSU), he took advantage of the opportunity to speak to college-bound students about the importance of continuing their education beyond high school; specifically in cities like Baltimore, Washington D.C., and Atlanta, students found his pep talks inspirational.

Jackson was the Director of Extended Studies/Personal Assistant to the Executive Assistant of the University President, West Virginia State University Department of the President's Office from October 2005 to November 2009 WVSU; the Interim Director of Recruitment from 2009 to 2012; the WVSU Program Coordinator; the WVSU Student Union from 2013 to the present; a member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc.; a Xi Alpha Graduate Chapter from 2001 to the Present; a Keeper of Finance Secretary from 2010 to 2013; a mentor at Glenwood Elementary and Dunbar Intermediate Schools; and other various community service projects. He is currently the Program Coordinator for the Student Services Department at West Virginia State University.

Jackson is currently applying to various universities to begin his quest for a doctoral degree. He is a true proponent of the belief that everyone should do all they can to perfect their craft. He enjoys working with students at WVSU where he is able to continue to engage and mentor other young adults as was done for him. He dedicates his professional life to helping others in any way he can.

REVEREND DR. SKYLER K. KERSHNER



Rev. Dr. Sky Kershner is the Executive Director of the Kanawha Pastoral Counseling Center in Charleston, West Virginia, and has been with the Center since 1989. He is a Diplomat in the American Association of Pastoral Counseling, a Nationally Approved Supervisor for the American Association of Marital and Family Therapy, and is adjunct clinical faculty at WVU School of Medicine, Department of Behavioral Medicine.

Rev. Kershner holds a Bachelor Degree from Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania (1978), a Masters of Divinity from Drew University in Madison New Jersey (1981), a Master of Social Work from Yeshiva University in New York City (1990), and a Doctorate in Ministry from Andover-Newton Theological School in Newton Center, Massachusetts (1988).

Ordained to ministry by the United Methodist Church in 1981, Rev. Dr. Kershner serves as the Pastoral Leader at Unity of Kanawha Valley Church on Bridge Road. He also coordinates the meetings of the Charleston Area Religious Leaders / Interfaith Clergy Association (CARLA). Rev. Dr. Kershner is on the Board of Directors of the Rotary Club of Charleston and is a Paul Harris Fellow.

He received his clinical training in two three-year post-graduate residencies in New York City: one at the Blanton-Peale Institute of Religion and Health (1987), the other at Ackerman Family Institute (1990). Kershner has training as an Outward Bound wilderness instructor, has been certified by the Samaritan Institute in coaching, using the Appreciative Inquiry model, and is an approved trainer for the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation.

Rev. Kershner is probably best known in the Charleston area for his work as a pastoral counselor and therapist, for his teaching and many presentations and workshops to professional and community groups, for his work on Interfaith initiatives, his care of miners after industrial disasters, and his trainings using Nonviolent Communication and Appreciative Inquiry. Rev. Dr. Kershner appeared on the Discovery Studios show “Hoarders,” showing his therapeutic work with a West Virginia family.

Passionate in his life work to help people have better relationships with themselves and with others, Rev. Dr. Kershner sees understanding and acceptance as core values of his ministry.

Rev. Dr. Kershner was born in Washington DC, and grew up in Pennsylvania. He has lived in Thailand, Germany, Maine, New Jersey, and New York City before settling in West Virginia. Rev. Dr. Kershner lives in Charleston with his wife, Maria Leon Kershner, a native of Costa Rica, and their two children, David and Maria Celeste.

REVEREND WILLIAM HOWARD LAW * POSTHUMOUSLY



Rev. William Howard Law, was born October 15, 1909, in Eldridge, West Virginia. Law and his parents moved to Beckley from McDowell County in 1921. In Beckley, he earned the distinction of being a member of the first graduating class of Stratton High School, Beckley, West Virginia in 1926. Pursuing a family-instilled love of knowledge, Rev. Law continued his higher education at West Virginia State College where he received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Education in 1931.

Rev. Law began his life of service by becoming an educator. As an educator, he held positions in Greenbrier, McDowell, and Raleigh counties, as well as in Baltimore, Maryland, where he taught French and German at Douglass High School. During the Korean Conflict, Rev. Law was a welding instructor for the United States Army at the Aberdeen Proving Ground in Maryland. Rev. Law witnessed first-hand the impact of *Brown v. Board of Education*. At an early age, he manifested his commitment to his fellow man through his selfless desire to help others. Rev. Law was a founding member of the Raleigh County Branch of the *National Association for the Advancement of Colored People*, established in 1938. During the early 1960's, Rev. Law noticed that many individuals within the black community had physical challenges. Because of this, he set out to remedy this problem by establishing Handicapped and Technical Industries, a non-profit business. Through Handicapped and Technical Industries, many persons with physical challenges received opportunities to make a living and have self worth. Rev. Law established a school for adults teaching typing and shorthand skills for those who had to choose between food for their family or an education. He helped adults earn their General Equivalency Diploma.

In 1991, one of his passions and greatest accomplishments was spear heading a successful mission along with collaboration efforts of individuals and community organizations from Beckley and surrounding areas to restore the historic Hunter Cemetery in Beckley, West Virginia. Law was a tireless proponent and often used his own finances to assist with the restoration. Rev. Law was asked why he took so much time and effort to restore the cemetery and was quoted as saying he believed he felt as though those who were buried there deserved to have a resting place that exemplified their heritage. Rev. Law helped achieve the goal to carefully preserve the resting place of Beckley's African American pioneers. Rev. Law was also able to demonstrate his desire to give and help others. Rev. Law was the founder of the Beckley World Mission, a nonprofit organization that collected and distributed food and clothing to the less fortunate. Rev. Law believed that God asks us "to look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others." Over a span of many years, his desire was accomplished by distributing hundreds of pounds of clothes and food, not only to less fortunate people within the hills of West Virginia, but transported those items to Africa.

Rev. Law reached out to encourage and comfort others. He was remembered by the son of a lifelong friend in "Chicken Soup for the Christian Soul 2" speaking words of comfort and encouragement. Rev. Law, who died in 2007 at the age of 97, often reminded his children and close friends "it is not how long you live, but how well you live."

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND OF WEST VIRGINIA



National Federation
of the Blind

Of West Virginia

The National Federation of the Blind of West Virginia (NFBWV) is the Organized Blind of the Mountain State. It is West Virginia's state affiliate of the National Federation of the Blind, the oldest and largest organization of the Blind in America. Founded in 1940, the Federation has grown to include over 50,000 members.

The NFBWV began in 1954 and has local chapters in Bluefield, Charleston, Clarksburg, Huntington, and Wheeling. Persons who do not live near these locations may join as members at large.

The purpose of the NFBWV is the complete integration of the blind into society on a basis of equality. This objective involves the removal of legal, economic, and social discriminations; the education of the public to new concepts concerning blindness; and the achievement by all blind people of the right to exercise to the fullest their individual talents and capacities. That means the right of the blind to work along with their sighted neighbors in the professions, common callings, skilled trades, and regular occupations. Federationists understand that "The real problem of blindness is not the loss of eyesight. The real problem is the misunderstanding and lack of information which exist. If a blind person has proper training and opportunity, blindness is only a physical nuisance."

The NFBWV is a consumer organization of blind people working to improve opportunities for blind West Virginians and to improve the understanding of blindness by the general public. The NFBWV serves as a vehicle for collective self-expression by the blind of West Virginia. Members of the NFBWV are involved in many programs and activities aimed at changing what it means to be blind. Through a variety of outreach efforts, the NFBWV is committed to changing public attitudes and understandings about blindness. These efforts include presentations to schools, civic organizations, and other groups; distribution of literature and videos; a presence on the Worldwide Web; and relevant stories in the news media.

Members of the NFBWV work to support legislation in both the U.S. Congress and the State Legislature. These legislative initiatives are intended to promote educational, social, and economic opportunities for blind persons as well as to remove barriers of discrimination. It is important to note that the NFBWV was instrumental in working with the Legislature in the early 1970's to amend the West Virginia Human Rights Act to extend protection to blind West Virginians. Two Federation members, Sid Allen and Victor Gonzalez, have also served as former Commissioners for the West Virginia Human Rights Commission.

A committee of the NFBWV meets regularly with representatives of state agencies that provide services to blind West Virginians in such areas as education, rehabilitation, library services, advocacy, and human rights. These meetings give blind persons an opportunity for effective consumer input into the quality and delivery of services which affect their lives .

One of the NFBWV programs "NFB Newslines" provides registered blind individuals with free access to more than 300 daily newspapers--including 12 West Virginia dailies--through the use of a touchtone telephone, available to persons within the state by contacting the WV Library Commission.

CURTIS E. PRICE



For 20 years, Curtis Price hopscotched around the country as he climbed the ladder with the Job Corps. Assignments took him to Cincinnati, Utah, Maine, Washington, D.C., Texas, Massachusetts, and New York.

At one point, as a Technical Officer based with the corporate office in Texas, he spent 80 percent of his time on the road. He loved his work and jumped at every opportunity to advance. But he never forgot his roots.

In 1986, after seven years in then Governor Jay Rockefeller's office as Equal Employment Opportunity Director, he signed on at the downtown Job Corps Center as a jobs finder for graduating students. Job Corps leaders then included such iconic community figures as Cookie Glasser, Bob Easley and James Parker. He quickly established a rapport with the at-risk students. Promoted to the center in Cincinnati where he headed the discipline program, he dealt with students from Detroit and Chicago and learned more about the special difficulties of street kids.

Wherever he went, he indulged his passions for basketball and music. As a center director in Washington, he played basketball with the students two nights a week. Advancing to the corporate office in Utah, he joined a group that recorded an instrumental gospel CD. During the Olympics, they played for groups in the Olympic Village and for visiting corporations.

He was best known, however, for his prowess on the basketball court. He grew up playing sports, first at Washington Manor and later on Bullitt Street. His father, a maintenance worker, introduced him to baseball and taught him about the importance of teamwork, a concept that paid dividends throughout his Job Corps career. He starred on the legendary 1968 team at Charleston High School. Under Coach Lou Romano, the undefeated team won the state championship. His team at Thomas Jefferson Junior High also went undefeated.

Despite a shattered knee suffered during his senior year in high school, he excelled in basketball at WVU and earned a B.S. degree in Secondary Education and Social Studies. He landed a coaching job at West Virginia State College. At 21, he was the nation's youngest head basketball coach and went on to earn the conference coach of the year title. After five years at State, he accepted the position with Rockefeller's affirmative action program. Seven years later, he found his career home with the Job Corps. Operated for the U.S. Department of Labor by Horizons Youth Services, the Job Corps here accepts students from Washington, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Virginia and West Virginia. The program offers free schooling, including technical training, for young people from 16 to 24. Primary goals are to improve the performance of the local center, known early on for its high graduation and placement rates, and to improve communication between staff members and students.

THE HONORABLE MARIE E. REDD



The Honorable Marie E. Redd is a native of Huntington, West Virginia. She is a graduate of Marshall University and holds a Master of Science Degree in Criminal Justice.

Senator Redd, in 1998 was elected to the West Virginia State Senate. Senator Redd has the distinction of being the first African American to serve in the Senate and the first woman senator ever elected from Cabell County. She was the Vice-chair of Transportation and sat on the Judiciary, Small Business, Government Organization, Health and Human Resources, and Education Committees.

In 2000 she co-chaired the Subcommittee B on Child Settlement Rights, As Is Vehicles, Police Review Boards, Stalking, and Victims' Rights. As Senator, she took pride in representing "all of the citizens of Cabell and Wayne Counties" and invited all constituents to the Capitol during the legislative session.

Former Senator Redd was employed by IBM Corporation for 18 years and was an instructor for five years in the Criminal Justice Department at Marshall University.

She has served her community well as past President of the Huntington Chapter of Links, Incorporated; past member of the YMCA C.D. Lauer Board of Directors; member, First Baptist Church; member, First Baptist Church Board of Trustees and past President of the First Baptist Church Women's Organization; President, Beta Tau Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated, Huntington, WV; past member of the Huntington Foundation; member, Federation of Democratic Women; member, Cabell County Democratic Women's Club; member, American Criminal Justice Association and American Corrections Association; member, Board of Directors TEAM for West Virginia Children, Inc.; and President, Board of Directors First Baptist Church Housing Association.

Her numerous awards include: 2000 Marshall University Criminal Justice Alumni of the Year; 69th Great Lakes Conference of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Community Service Award; 1999 Huntington Chapter of Links, Incorporated High Achievement Award; Member of the Year Award 2000 Black Alumni, Inc. Outstanding Service and Founder's Award; 1998-99 Marshall University Board of Director's Award; voted 100 Most Influential Person of the Century, Herald Dispatch, Golden Girl's Award, Stepping Stone's Award, 2012 Hova Underwood Children's Home Society Award.

Senator Redd is married to Attorney William L. Redd, her husband of 40 years and a Marshall University graduate, and who is a Social Security Advocate in The Redd Law Firm. They are the proud parents of two young adult children, LeMarquis A. Redd (Kateeda) and D'Ann M. Roach (Dwight) and grandparents of four grandchildren.

MAJOR GENERAL (RET.) ALLEN E. TACKETT



Major General Allen E. Tackett began his military career in the West Virginia Army National Guard as a Private with the 16th Special Forces Group on 20 January 1963. He went on to attend Infantry Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, Georgia where he was commissioned a Second Lieutenant, Infantry on 27 June 1967. Major General Tackett served with the 16th Special Forces Group and the 2nd Battalion 19th Special Forces Group for 25 years culminating with a tour as the Battalion Commander from 1 August 1985 through 1 October 1988. After 25 years with the Special Forces Battalion, he was assigned to the West Virginia State Area Command in several different positions of importance. While serving as the Maintenance Officer and Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, he was promoted to the grade of Colonel on 1 May 1989. He then served as the Deputy Chief of Staff and Chief of Staff. On 1 August 1994, Major General Tackett was assigned as the Special Assistant to the Adjutant General, then on 16 January 1995 he was assigned as the Assistant Adjutant General of the West Virginia Army National Guard.

Effective 11 September 1995, General Tackett was appointed as The Adjutant General for the West Virginia National Guard by Governor Gaston Caperton. On 9 October 1996, Governor Caperton promoted him to Major General. In 1997, he was reappointed by Governor Cecil H. Underwood, in November 2000. Governor elect Bob Wise reappointed him, and in November 2004, Governor elect Joe Manchin reappointed him. Major General Tackett retired on 31 January 2010. Major General Tackett has received numerous decorations and awards such as: Defense Distinguished Service Medal; Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal with Oak leaf Cluster; Army Commendation Medal with Oak leaf Cluster; Army Achievement Medal; National Defense Medal; Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal (Fifth Award); Humanitarian Service Medal; Armed Forces Reserve Medal (Third Award); Army Reserve Component Overseas Training Ribbon; Army Service Ribbon; Special Forces Tab; Master Parachutist Badge; West Virginia Distinguished Service Award; West Virginia Service Medal with six devices and West Virginia Emergency Service Medal. Major General Tackett was named the Outstanding Officer of the West Virginia National Guard for 1988; in April of 1989 he was elected President of the National Guard Officers Association of West Virginia for 1991; and 24 May 1991, he was named to the Fort Benning Officer Candidate School Hall of Fame. Major General Tackett was educated at the Special Warfare Center, Jumpmaster Course; 1967 Infantry Officer Candidate School; 1967 Infantry Officer Basic Course; 1968 Infantry Officer Advanced Course; 1978 Command and General Staff College; 1982 Special Warfare Center; and 1984 Techniques of Special Operations. Major General Tackett is affiliated with NGA WV, NGAUS.

He graduated in 1962 from East Bank High School and the University of Charleston in 1985 with his Bachelor of Arts Degree in Management. Major General Tackett was born in Baltimore, Maryland, 22 November 1944. His wife, Sallie Pat, is a retired teacher from the Kanawha County School System. He has one daughter, Lisa, who is an attorney and one son, Allen, presently serving as a Captain in the West Virginia Air National Guard.

FIRST LADY JOANNE JAEGER TOMBLIN



Joanne Jaeger Tomblin was born in New York City, New York and educated in the Long Island public school system. She went on to attend the University of Hartford, Connecticut, majoring in science for two years. During her third year, she decided to take an elective course in communications that would ultimately change the course of her life.

Upon the recommendation of her father, John Jaeger, who had visited West Virginia several times while on business with American Electric Power, she transferred to Marshall University to study journalism. She excelled in her newly chosen field and her efforts paid off when she, as a Senior, was named Marshall University's Broadcast Journalism Student of the Year. Her assignment of covering the Legislative session at the State Capitol was one that introduced her to a young freshman legislator, Earl

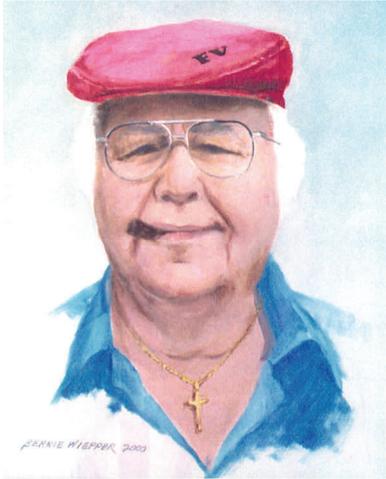
Ray Tomblin. First Lady Tomblin holds a B.A. and M.A. in Journalism from Marshall University and an Honorary Doctorate in Human Letters from Marshall University.

Joanne Jaeger Tomblin became the First Lady of the State of West Virginia on November 15, 2010. As First Lady, she promotes education at all levels, as well as the importance of college completion for our state and nation. Serving as President of Southern West Virginia Community and Technical College since 1999, she is very passionate about developing and encouraging leadership that benefits our State. She is an advocate for community colleges and their unique mission which she continually promotes throughout West Virginia and the nation. In her 30 years of service to the College she has served 13 years as President, making her the second highest ranking president in years of service in West Virginia. Throughout her years of service at the college, she has been successful in fostering cooperative relationships and partnerships between business and industry groups, government officials and boards of education. Under her leadership as President, Southern West Virginia Community and Technical College has attained the maximum ten years accreditation from the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools; and most recently, in October 2011, Southern was ranked as the 14th best community college in the nation by Washington Monthly.

The First Lady is not only passionate about education; she is also an advocate for the military and volunteerism. She has created and encouraged support of the West Virginia military and their families through her statewide initiative, "Serve West Virginia Military: Serving Those Who Serve Us," that encourages individuals and community groups to find ways to give back to the military personnel and families of the mountain state. In addition, she is also an advocate for tourism and the arts. During her time as First Lady, she has been instrumental in developing and showcasing our many artisans around the state and has even commissioned a West Virginia native to design the official Governor's Mansion ornament each holiday season. She is involved in many state, local and regional committees and organizations including The Education Alliance Board of Directors and Executive Committee. She currently serves as Chair of the Logan Regional Medical Center Board and Co-Chair of the West Virginia College Completion Task Force. She is an active member of the First Presbyterian Church of Logan and a devoted participant in the Chancel Choir.

She has been married to Governor Earl Ray Tomblin for 32 years. They have one son, Brent, who graduated from Marshall University, in Health Care Management, December 2012.

FRANK VELTRI * POSTHUMOUSLY



Frank Veltri was described as a Humanitarian who cared for Charleston's "little people" for nearly half a century. Charleston lawyer Tim Barber called him, "... the living example of pure, unadulterated selflessness."

Veltri was born the second of ten children. He was an uneducated man due to an impairment which prevented him from learning to read or write, but he was able to make a living as a real estate and business owner. He was an Army Veteran, serving in World War II. After the War, he opened poolrooms and clubs in Charleston.

Veltri also purchased several properties, including the Worthy Hotel and the Holley Hotel, both of which stood on Quarrier Street. He offered rooms to those with little to no income, and only expected them to pay rent if they were able to afford it.

In 1966, Veltri realized that many of his tenants had nowhere to go for Thanksgiving dinner. He decided to cook a feast for them. This custom grew year by year, until his annual Thanksgiving event was a Charleston tradition.

After being diagnosed with cancer, Veltri established an endowment with the Greater Kanawha Valley Foundation to continue paying for the annual Thanksgiving dinner after his death.

Through dedicated volunteers and donations, the Frank Veltri Annual Thanksgiving Dinner lives on today. Volunteers package over 1,600 dinners to deliver to shut-ins, and serve hundreds more at an area church. Many volunteers feel helping provide to those in need is not only a gift to those they serve, but a gift to themselves as well.

While the Veltri Dinner emphasizes a true need in Charleston – as evidenced by the almost two thousand people the meal helps every year – it also illustrates the benevolent spirit of many who are intent on giving. Candi Romero, Veltri's daughter, stated "The Thanksgiving dinner symbolizes what he did throughout the year. It is one day to bring what he believed in together. He was always helping anyone and everyone."

Veltri lost a five-year battle with prostate cancer on August 27, 2001.

REVEREND MATTHEW J. WATTS



Rev. Matthew J. Watts is the Senior Pastor of the Grace Bible Church of Charleston, West Virginia, where he has served for over 17 years. He has been a pastor for more than 26 years serving in several churches. He was formerly employed by Union Carbide Corporation for 18 years as an engineer and purchasing manager for Union Carbide's Kanawha Valley Locations. He left Union Carbide Corporation in December of 1996 to pursue his ministry and community service projects. In January of 1997, he established the HOPE Community Development Corporation, a non-profit organization with the mission of empowering the inner city through spiritual renewal, education, employment and training and economic development.

Rev. Watts is a native of Mount Hope, West Virginia and was educated in the public school system there. He is a 1977 graduate of West Virginia Institute of Technology with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. His Theological study includes the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago, Illinois, as well as special training focusing on developing the black family through the Christian Research and Development Center in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

The Reverend's 20-year career in Corporate America has enabled him to develop a keen business mind and he understands the importance of economic development to the empowerment of the African American Community. He developed Kingdom Management Consultants as a vehicle to assist minority owned business in their start-up and expansion plan, as well as to assist individuals in obtaining employment. He provided consultation to the One Valley Bank and the Charleston Black Ministerial Alliance in the development, implementation and marketing of the "Covenant Program". From 1993 to 1997 he served as President and CEO of Kingdom Broadcasting Corporation, which operated 1490 AM WCZR Radio, he still hosts a weekly call in radio program. Rev. Watts is recognized as a community leader and has earned this distinction through his active community involvement. Much of his community service is now done under the umbrella of the HOPE Community Development Corporation. One of his passions is working with youth. He has developed a model entitled HOPE Youth Development Movement. His staff shares this model each week at select public schools in the Kanawha County. Over 500 youth participate in the HOPE Youth Development Movement. He has also developed two models for juvenile offenders entitled "Prevention, Intervention and Diversion for Juveniles" and "After-Care and Transitioning for Juveniles". Rev. Watts views his community service as an extension of his ministry that helps him to keep his ministry focused and relevant as well as sensitive to the felt needs of the community. He serves as a mentor for young men and dedicates his time to service on several boards such as the Clay Center for the Arts, Governor's Workforce Investment Council, Governor's Commission on Prison Over-crowding, John & Vera Mae Perkins Foundation, Jackson, MS; Christian Community Development Association, Chicago, IL and the friend and confidant to many. He is also privileged to serve as the friend and confidant to many.

Rev. Watts has received local, state and national attention for his work. He was a 1996 recipient of the West Virginia Small Business Administration's "Small Business Advocate of the Year Award" for his work on the "Covenant Program". In 2002 Rev. Watts received the Washington Times Foundation Leadership Award for Faith Based Organization of the Year in West Virginia. He was also the 2004 recipient of the Crown of Peace Award for Exemplary Leadership in Reconciliation and Peacemaking from the Inter-religious and International Peace Council.

DR. ROZELLE JENEE WALKER



In 1974, Dr. R. Jenee Walker graduated from Lynwood Academy, in Lynwood, California as class valedictorian. She then went on to earn her B.S. Degree in 1978, majoring in Biology with honors from Loma Linda University and minoring in Family Studies, Loma Linda University in Loma Linda, California.

Dr. Walker received her Medical Degree in 1984 at the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, Nashville, Tennessee. She also graduated from West Virginia University School of Medicine, Morgantown, West Virginia. She completed her residency in Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine at Charleston Area Medical Center, in Charleston, West Virginia in 1987.

Walker received her Fellowship in 1987 through 1989 in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at the Charleston Area Medical Center.

She became Board Certified through the American Academy of Psychiatry and Neurology in 1989 and the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry in 1993.

From 1989 to 2000, Dr. Walker worked at the Shawnee Hills Mental Health Center, as a Staff Psychiatrist in Charleston, West Virginia; and then from 2000 to the present at the Charleston Area Medical Center's Family Resource Center as a Staff Psychiatrist.

Dr. Walker has appointments with the Clinical Faculty, West Virginia University School of Medicine from 2000 to the Present and is an Associate Professor of Psychiatry at the WVU Dept. of Behavioral Medicine & Psychiatry from 2000 to the present.

She has memberships with the following organizations: American Psychiatric Association; the American Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry; and the American Medical Association.

Walker's Presentations of Distinction are: African American Women on Tours, Atlanta, Georgia 2000; African American Women on Tour, Los Angeles, California 2001; and African American Women on Tour., Los Angeles, California 2003.

Dr. Walker has published "*Chicken Soup for the African American Soul.*" She has received the Alpha Omega Alpha - Woman of Distinction Award in 2004 and the West Virginia Minority Business Association - West Virginia Entrepreneur of the Year Award in 2005.

R. Jenee Walker, M.D. was born in 1956 in Compton California. She is married to Robert L. Walker, Jr., M.D., an anesthesiologist, and they have three adult children.

CHIEF BRENT L. WEBSTER



Chief Brent Webster was hired by the City of Charleston Police Department in November, 1994 and attended the Charleston Regional Police Academy #5. He was appointed to the position of Police Chief in January, 2005. During his tenure on the police department, Chief Webster has served as a patrol officer, bike unit member, and investigator in the Criminal Investigation Division. Supervisory assignments include Patrol District Sergeant, Juvenile Division Commander, Assistant Chief of Detectives, and the Chief of Detectives for the Criminal Investigation Division. He currently holds the civil service rank of Captain.

Webster is a graduate of West Virginia University and holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science with a minor in Sociology. He also attended the Maryland Institute of Criminal Justice Polygraph Examiner's Course and is a certified polygraphist.

Early on in Chief Webster's tenure as Chief, he realized and visualized that the direction of the department needed to focus on improving three key areas of customer service. Those key areas were: proactive law enforcement strategies, community policing, and education. The success of each of those key areas depended mightily on the use of diversity management. To Chief Webster, that simply meant that he needed to understand a much different perspective as possible to develop and implement the most impactful strategies for safety and community relations.

During his career, Webster has initiated many strategies that have proven most affective for the citizens of Charleston. Among these initiatives are Project Gun Safe (a comprehensive gun safety initiative in which \$25,000 was donated to midget league sports in the Charleston area in exchange for the opportunity to teach conflict resolution to many of our youth), development of a Police/Community Coalition for direct and frank communications with community leaders, and implementation of a new Incident Response Continuum for more efficient responses to criminal incidents.

Chief Webster has also developed a new Community Service Division; mandated walking patrols to garner better police/community relations; developed a minority recruiting committee to recruit highly interested and qualified minority applicants; host an annual Celebration of Black History Ceremony to recognize and honor those who serve; and he makes available many training opportunities for the police and community leaders.

Webster always makes himself available to everyone. At the end of the day, when contemplating whether to initiate a strategy for safety or positive police/community relations, Chief Webster can frequently be heard saying, "It's the right thing to do." At the Charleston Police Department, being fair is a requirement, not a preference, thanks to the leadership of Chief Webster.

Chief Brent Webster resides in Charleston, West Virginia with his wife and two sons.

THE HONORABLE PATRICIA H. WHITE



The Honorable Patricia H. White has been a tireless and committed advocate for the impoverished and uninsured for most of her professional career. In addition to her executive leadership and guidance of West Virginia Health Right, she is a past president of the National Association of Free Clinics and currently serves as Treasurer of NAFC. She served in the West Virginia House of Delegates for ten years and promoted legislation to improve health care for the uninsured, serving on many committees. Additionally, she was Director of West Virginia Health Systems' Regionalization project, a Planning Director for the Regional Intergovernmental Council, and a high school math teacher. She received her Masters of Public Administration and Public Health in 1973 at WVU/Marshall University in South Charleston; 35 hours on Master of Social Work 1970-71 at West Virginia University in Morgantown; and a BS in Mathematics 1970 at the University of Charleston, West Virginia.

From 1983 to the present, White has been the CEO of West Virginia Health Right in Charleston, West Virginia—a community based primary care clinic providing free medical care to over 22,000 uninsured indigent patients with clinic visits exceeding 90,000/year. White supervises/manages a paid staff of 42 and 500+ volunteers including physicians, dentists, nurses, pharmacists, medical technicians and office personnel. White designed an extensive patient database to track financial and medical status of patients that now serves as the national model for free clinics. She designed and implemented a directory and Instructional guide of all indigent patient assistance drug programs. White collaborated with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, AmeriCares and Aidmatrix to have this vital resource for obtaining free drugs available to physicians, medical facilities, and patients on the World Wide Web. White communicates and collaborates with the medical community, legislators and national drug companies to assure continued community support and availability of medications for indigent patients. White solicits large donations to aid in fund-raising for the expansion of services. West Virginia Health Right is the second Free Clinic in the country and was the first in West Virginia to receive recognition as a patient Centered Medical Home from the National Committee on Quality Assurance (NCQA). White established the WVRx, a statewide charitable pharmacy for the uninsured working poor, in 2008, which is now providing medical home referral and medications to over 50,000 individuals, and medications valued at over \$100 million. In 2010, she provided oversight of the development of software, called 'iHOPE', to streamline free drug manufacturer programs for the uninsured. WV Health Right which is the largest clinical provider for Breast and Cervical Cancer, screens over 10,000 uninsured women annually; and provides diagnostic, educational, treatment and follow-up medical care. White serves on Board of Directors of the National Association of Free Clinics: 2001 – present, Officer of NAFC Board of Directors, 2007-2010: Treasurer; President: 2005 & 06, Vice-President: 2002-04. White successfully completed a three year grant from the National Institutes of Health, NHLBI, from 2001 to 2004. It was the first NIH grant awarded to a free clinic in US and studied Cardiovascular Disease of the uninsured poor in rural West Virginia; one of six projects nationally.



**SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD
PAUL R. SHERIDAN, ESQ.
FORMER DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL
CIVIL RIGHTS DIVISION OF THE
ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE**

Special recognition is given to Paul R. Sheridan the former Deputy Attorney General for Civil Rights Division of the West Virginia Attorney General's office. Deputy Attorney General Sheridan worked for the Division from 1990 to 2013, with more than 22 years of faithful service dutifully enforcing state civil rights laws, representing the West Virginia Human Rights Commission in cases of discrimination in employment, housing, and places of public accommodations. He appeared regularly before the West Virginia Human Rights Commission, the state circuit courts, and the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals.



**SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD
G. MICHAEL PAYTON, ESQ.
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
OHIO CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION**

Special recognition is given to G. Michael Payton the Executive Director of the Ohio Civil Rights Commission (OCRC) for his faithful support of the West Virginia Governor's Civil Rights Day since 2005. Not only has he and his staff faithfully supported West Virginia in recognizing Civil Rights honorees, but he had a significant part in bringing about the Ohio Civil Rights Day to honor those unsung heroes of the Civil Rights Movement in the State of Ohio. This year the Ohio Civil Rights Commission celebrates its 5th Civil Rights Day.

Attorney Payton oversees and directs nearly 100 employees statewide in the agency's Central Office and six regional offices located in Akron, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, Dayton and Toledo. The OCRC is a state agency that investigates and enforces Ohio Civil Rights Act prohibitions against discrimination in employment, public accommodations and housing, and other areas while providing comprehensive education and outreach to organizations throughout Ohio. Payton previously served as Chief Legal Counsel and Director of Regional Operations for the Commission from 1997 to 2000. He served as an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Ohio from 1984 to 1995. During his tenure as an Assistant Attorney General, he also served as Counsel to the Ohio Civil Rights Commission. In addition, he served as Assistant Chief of the Attorney General's Transportation Section. Attorney Payton received a B.A. from The Ohio State University, and a J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center, in 1983.

Past Honorees

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

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

WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO:

- ◆ COMMISSIONERS OF THE WEST VIRGINIA HUMAN RIGHTS
- ◆ DR. CAROLYN STUART, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE HERBERT HENDERSON OFFICE OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
- ◆ THE GOVERNOR'S STAFF AND PHOTOGRAPHERS
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- ◆ COMMISSION & STAFF
- ◆ THE CIVIL RIGHTS DAY PLANNING COMMITTEE
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- ◆ QUEWANNCOII C. STEPHENS, PHOTOGRAPHER



“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.



