



WV New Jobs Coalition invites communities to share their vision for our state..

Tax Cuts: Truth & Consequences

By Gary Zuckett

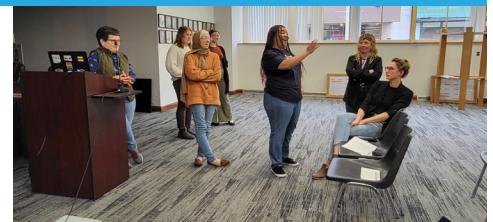
The more than \$750 million tax giveaway (mostly to the rich) passed by the WV Legislature hasn't even hit our state's budget, yet the majority party's policies appear to be getting ready to keep their budget belt even more tightened. Why else would they totally ignore the many unmet needs of our state?

(ICYMI, see this *Mountain State Spotlight* article for more on "How lawmakers did and didn't address West Virginia's major issues during the 2023 legislative session": <https://mountainstatespotlight.org/2023/03/12/wv-2023-legislative-session-what-happened/>).

During the recent interim sessions, legislators heard updated testimony that revealed that the Governor's declared state of emergency in the state's jails and prisons (that the legislature extended during the session) has already gotten worse. Moreover, the situation with the National Guard filling in and regular guards doing double shifts forever is dangerous and not sustainable. I bet they still need the \$20 million dollars of 'lock repairs' which were mentioned during the regular legislative session! It's mind boggling...

The cost to keep the Guard in our prisons has cost a reported \$17 million so far. Wouldn't it be cheaper (and safer) to just give our corrections officers the \$10K annual raise that died in the House Finance Committee in March?

Now we're hearing that volunteer fire departments are broke and shutting down and there's also an EMT shortage! No 'surplus' funds for them either! Make sure you get sick at a slow time so you won't have to take a number and wait.



IRA Roadshow

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The Pleasants Power Station bailout will empty the wallets of WV electricity customers.

Update on Pleasants Power

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Help Fund an Organizing Revival in WV!

We need your support to provide our team the education and tools needed to build power and win real change, especially in preparation for 2024. You can make a contribution today at www.wvcag.org/fundourtraining to help us meet our fundraising goal.

Help Fund an **ORGANIZING REVIVAL in WV!**

Fund a WV Organizing Revival **pg 10**

Tax Cuts Cont.

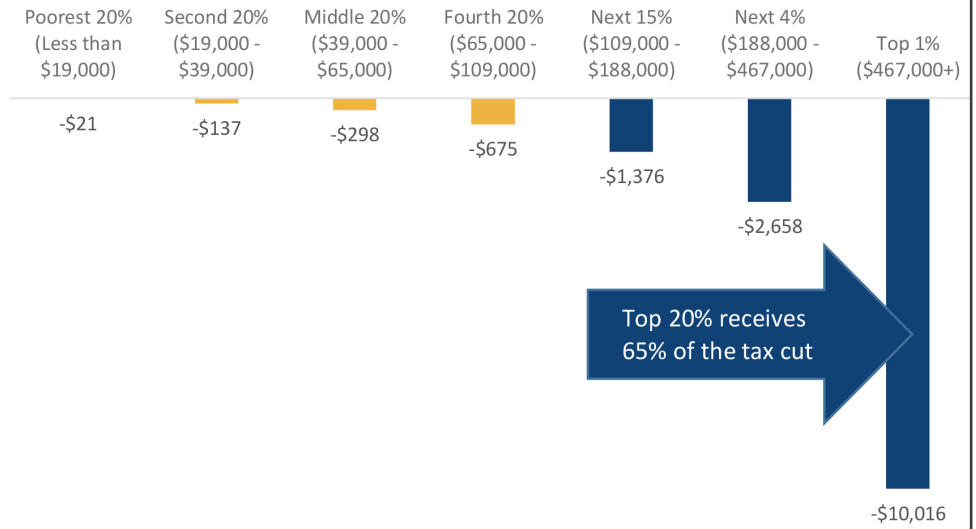
I don't know about you, but the two-lane road I drive 10 miles/day on has pothole patches inside pothole patches. And there are new ones growing everyday! Flat state budgets for the past five or six years have led to flat tires from hitting too many potholes.

All these crises were ignored during the session so that all our "surplus" financial eggs could all be put into the tax cut basket to mostly benefit the wealthy, including our millionaire governor. Trickle-up economics at its worst.

Don't think it'll really be that bad? Then check out one of the WV Center on Budget and Policy's community meetings called "More Money for Who?" on "how state tax changes undermine schools, libraries and healthcare." This is a series of interactive community discussions on

Wealthiest West Virginians Benefit the Most From West Virginia's Income Tax Cut

Average tax change by income groups from reducing state income tax rates to 2.36%, 3.15%, 3.54%, 4.72%, and 5.12% (2023 West Virginia incomes)



how the recent tax changes can affect your public services. (See www.facebook.com/WVCBP/events/ to find an event near you). §

Graphic Source: <https://wvpolicy.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/FY-2024-Budget-Report.pdf>

Renewed Effort to Pass the Freedom to Vote Act

By Julie Archer

To Have a Functioning Democracy We Also Need to Reform the Supreme Court

While passage in the current Congress might be challenging, there's a renewed effort to pass bold, transformative legislation to protect the freedom to vote, restore integrity to America's elections, and build a more inclusive and responsive democracy where everyone can participate, every vote is counted, and everyone's voice is heard. Gary and I recently attended meetings with staff for Senators Capito and Manchin, along with members of the WV Faith Table and other partners and allies to share our experiences and our organizations' reasons for supporting the Freedom to Vote Act.

As most of you know, WV CAG is a founding member of WV Citizens for Clean Elections, a coalition of organizations working to increase transparency and accountability in West Virginia elections, and advance reforms to strengthen democracy and ensure fairness and impartiality in our courts. WVCCE came together specifically to address the negative impact money in politics has on our democratic

institutions, and move us toward a government that is more transparent, accountable, and responsive to the needs of all West Virginians. It is hard for everyday people to have their voices heard above the special interests that spend money to influence our elections, but the FTVA can help empower average citizens by combatting secret money and election interference. More specifically the bill would put an end to big money funneled through groups with secret donors by requiring groups that spend money on political ads to say where the money came from. No matter our political beliefs, we all benefit when we know who is trying to influence our elections. An informed public is critical for us to function as a true democracy.

Removing barriers to voting and ensuring every eligible voter has an equal opportunity to participate in political life and to have a voice in the decisions that affect their lives is critically important. Sadly, West Virginia has one of the lowest voter participation rates in the country. Transportation problems, illness or disability, and having a conflicting work, family or school schedule are among the reasons cited most often by West Virginians for not voting. Additionally, the lack of uniform standards for things like vote by mail, drop boxes, provisional ballots, and voter

identification requirements creates barriers and unequal access to the ballot from state to state. The FTVA will go a long way toward removing barriers to voting experienced by West Virginians, and at the same time counter attacks on the freedom to vote we are seeing in other states in order to ensure we all have equal access to the ballot.

One reason we're in such dire straits is due to the fact the US Supreme Court struck down a key provision of the Voting Rights Act, which gave the federal government the ability to shut down potentially discriminatory voting changes before they took effect. The 2013 decision in *Shelby v. Holder* is one of several in recent years where the Court has reversed decades of legal precedent that helped protect many of our fundamental rights. This new era of reversing rights has created a legitimacy crisis of the Court's own making, a crisis that had been further exacerbated by major ethical lapses.

The current scandal involving Justice Clarence Thomas proves justices can't be trusted to police themselves. Defending and strengthening our democracy, also means ensuring confidence in our courts. To restore and earn that confidence, the Court could start by adopting a mandatory code of ethics. The American Bar Association recently urged such a move, noting that SCOTUS is the only court in the country without such binding rules. "If the legitimacy of the Court is diminished, the legitimacy of all our courts and our entire judicial system is imperiled," the Association said. If the Court refuses to adopt a change, Congress should act.

It's no surprise that a recent national poll conducted by Public Policy Polling for the group End Citizens United found that a majority of voters don't have trust or confidence in the Supreme Court. However, of the voters surveyed, 67% said they believe a code of ethics and a method for investigating violations would restore trust in the institution. Voters also believe that there should be consequences when a Supreme Court Justice violates ethics rules.

The Freedom to Vote Act creates national standards for voting, ensuring all 50 states have...

- Automatic voter registration
- Same-day voter registration
- Online voter registration
- Early Voting
Guaranteed two weeks incl. nights and weekends

FREEDOM TO VOTE ACT

To her credit, Senator Capito has acknowledged the need for a code of ethics for the Court in light of the recent revelations regarding Justice Thomas. However, as Michael Waldman, President and CEO of the Brennan Center for Justice wrote recently, "[B]eyond stronger [ethics] rules, the scandal shows how lifetime tenure can engender justices with a startling sense of entitlement and a belief that they are beyond accountability." Term limits would prevent any individual from accumulating unaccountable power and at the same time help ensure that the composition of the Court better mirrors the preferences of American voters, Waldman argued.

We look forward to working with both our senators in the months ahead to get these and other needed reforms to strengthen and protect our democracy across the finish line. Call Senators Manchin and Capito and urge their support.

- **Senator Manchin:** 304-342-5855 (Charleston)
- **Senator Capito:** 304-347-5372 (Charleston) §

Envision WV Project Gears Up for Summer

By Brandi Reese, WV New Jobs Coalition Coordinator

The Envision West Virginia Project has had a robust slate of activity since last checking in. We hit the ground running after holidays moving directly into the WV legislative session. The WV New Jobs Coalition could be found tabling with project surveys on NAACP Day, MLK Day, E-Day, Black Policy Day and Recovery Day. Attendees were very

receptive to surveys and all of these days netted numerous responses. It was an especially good opportunity to engage young people in West Virginia.

Seeking out further opportunities to reach crowds with the project, we took advantage of additional tabling opportunities at events such as job fairs and other resource events. We were also graciously invited to attend some WV Center

Envision Cont.

on Budget and Policy meetings, West Side Charleston Community meetings and Naloxone trainings. Combined with the tabling throughout the session, these opportunities coalesced to give us a diverse array of ages and backgrounds for a fuller view of the issues most important to West Virginians.

Our Organizer, Morgan, took a look at first quarter responses, crunched some data and analysed the top concerns and desires, prominent among them being the addiction crisis and lack of recovery or mental health resources. West Virginians want to see jobs brought to the area, particularly in current fields. Renewable energy jobs were mentioned more than once. And, West Virginians want improved broadband, infrastructure and community programs that get youth involved in positive and productive activities, keeping them engaged and out of trouble.

Our survey response slideshow can be seen here:

<https://www.facebook.com/newjobswv/videos/566626225561099/>.

So what else? Where is the Vision Project going next? Earth Day provided multiple tabling opportunities throughout the month of April to collect additional responses. It seems that tabling with the survey is a key way to generate responses, so we plan to continue to do so at various events across the state as the weather gets warmer and more opportunities present themselves. We've also had a bulk of door hangers printed and will be canvassing the neighborhoods where we table. Our goal is to have 1,000 surveys completed by West Virginians across the state by fall.

During this time, we will also be combining the project with our 2023 state campaign **Solar for All**, which we will be sharing as we make appearances across the state with the Inflation Reduction Act Roadshow. It is crucial that we



bring the funds available via the IRA into West Virginia so West Virginians will benefit. We are combining forces and working hard speaking to elected officials across the state to try to make that happen. These funds will help address some of the concerns discussed in the surveys.

We're looking forward to summer sunshine and the opportunity to talk to more West Virginians. Come out and see us, and make your voice heard!

WV New Jobs Coalition is a coalition advocating for stronger communities for a brighter future here in WV. Join us as we work to move state and federal policies to improve climate, healthcare, jobs and justice for all.

Share Your Vision for WV: envision.newjobswv.org

Join our Mailing List: mail.newjobswv.org

Volunteer: volunteer.newjobswv.org

Donate: donate.newjobswv.org §

Medicaid Work Requirements Would Be Disastrous for WV

By Kim Jones, Health Care for All WV Coordinator

It will come as no surprise that the Republican plan to address the debt ceiling would have required the most vulnerable Americans to pay the price. Low-income families and people with barriers to care would suffer the most had their plan to slash programs that support American workers and that provide a safety net for our most vulner-

able survived the Senate intact. In late April, the US House of Representatives narrowly passed a bill to raise the debt limit (the vote was 217 to 215, with every Democrat voting against it) in exchange for drastic cuts to vital social programs, an expansion of work requirements on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), and provisions to allow states that have expanded Medicaid to put

burdensome work requirements on Medicaid recipients.

But data shows that most people in states that expanded Medicaid who receive the Medicaid benefit through the Affordable Care Act already work or have significant barriers to work, like disabilities, family obligations and caregiving, or they are in school. In West Virginia and states with fewer jobs that provide a true living wage for the people, this proposal would have even more dire consequences. Most low-wage jobs do not offer affordable health benefits. In rural states with high numbers of people living under the poverty line, finding a job in their town can be extremely difficult. Consider those who don't have transportation or access to wi-fi. Through no fault of their own, they are at the risk of losing their health coverage. Medicaid is a health program, not an employment program.

Although the Medicaid work requirements were dropped from the final bill, had they been adopted, 21 million Americans would be at risk of losing their health coverage, according to the [U.S. Department of Health and Human Resources](#). In West Virginia, as many as 220,000 people could lose their vital health coverage. If you don't think that is a disaster in the making, see what happened when Arkansas tried it.

According to Kat Stoll, policy director for West Virginians for Affordable Health Care: *"In Arkansas, the only state to have implemented Medicaid work requirements, the results of work requirements were disastrous. Research led by Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health found that*

"... implementation of the first-ever work requirements in Medicaid in 2018 was associated with significant losses in health insurance coverage in the initial 6 months of the policy but no significant change in employment. Even Medicaid enrollees who complied with the work requirements lost coverage due to paperwork requirements and other reporting burdens like having to submit pay stubs, timesheets or other documents every month, potentially from multiple employers."

The cost of following Arkansas down this destructive path for the people of our state is unthinkable. West Virginia legislators have proposed Medicaid work requirement bills six times in recent years. We must remain vigilant. We cannot let federal or state work requirements endanger our already struggling families.

The health of our most vulnerable neighbors should not be sacrificed to pay our national debts. When will we accept that having health coverage, affording life-saving medicines and treatments, and taking care of our mental and physical health should not only be available to people with higher incomes?

We must make the health of Americans and West Virginians a priority! Our healthcare is not where our leaders should be cutting corners.

If you would like to work with us to make the changes WV needs, please go to [facebook.com/healthcareforallwv](https://www.facebook.com/healthcareforallwv) and like/follow, or email healthcareforall@wvcag.org. §

Debt Crisis Fallout Continues

By Gary Zuckett

I began writing this as the Republicans were playing a 'game of chicken' that threatened to blow up our economy over the debt limit. Thankfully, our President and his negotiating team talked them off the cliff, but not without some damage to our national and state priorities. Some of these included extending work requirements to seniors receiving SNAP and giving the developers of the Mountain Valley Pipeline a free pass to do whatever damage to our mountains, water and wildlife they desired to complete its path through our state. The MVP has nothing to do with our national debt.

Speaking of debt, when Republicans are in power, they ignore it and pass massive tax cuts for the rich that balloons our nation's red ink. Then, when they're the minority, all of a sudden the debt becomes a major threat to

our nation and the reason to make drastic cuts in social programs. Right on cue, they threatened to let our country default on its obligations unless the administration agreed to drastically cut social programs, roll back climate efforts, and nix student loan forgiveness. The debt ceiling is an artificial construct that was passed to mollify conservatives who were anxious about the cost of our nation entering into WWI and may be unconstitutional. It needs to be fixed.

Our country's budget and expenditures are NOT like those of our family household or even our state. There are sometimes good reasons to spend more than we take in as a nation - natural disasters, war, climate change and other extenuating circumstances. In addition, if we install a more progressive tax structure we can lower the debt by bringing in more revenue if we make the wealthy and corporations pay their fair share

On the Road with the IRA Roadshow

By Dani Parent

Since January, CAG and our allies have connected with individuals, municipalities, and organizations across the state to share how they can benefit from millions of dollars in available investments from the [Inflation Reduction Act](#). At these events, community members and elected officials will have the opportunity to learn from experts from around the state about how to put these investments to use in homes and communities.

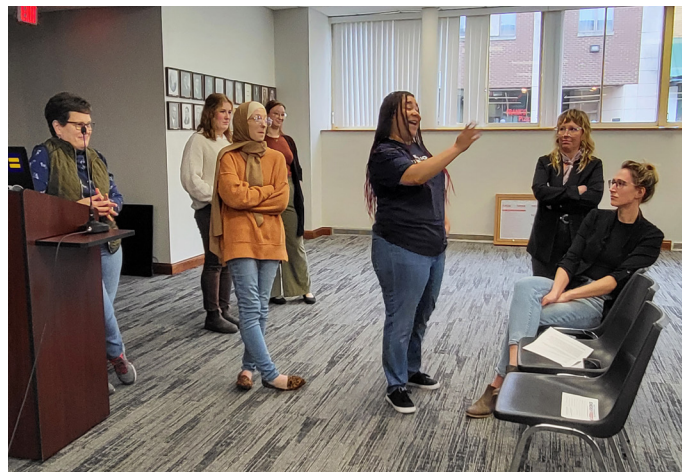
If you're interested in how to help guide your community to a just transition for the future, start with BlueGreen Alliance's [User Guide to the IRA](#) and Perry Bryant's excellent [summary of the IRA](#).

For individuals and households, check out [Rewiring America's Individual Household Benefit Calculator](#) to see tax credits, rebates, and incentives you can take advantage of now for energy efficiency, appliance upgrades, and more. Also, if you're in the Appalachian Power service territory, visit takechargewv.com to schedule your free energy audit today!

If you're interested in hosting or attending a Roadshow event in your town, please reach out to us at dani@wvcag. We tailor these events to the interests and needs of our audience, but there's something in the IRA to benefit everyone. We hope to see you this summer, West Virginia! (*See online version for hotlinks.) §

Debt Cont.

of taxes. That's why it's called a balance sheet. We do need to reduce our national debt, but not by cutting programs that support working families and those less fortunate. Instead, let's do it by increasing revenue and making sure everyone is paying their fair share. We're the wealthiest nation in the world, we can continue to pay our bills if we 'balance' our income better! Sadly, the Republicans controlling the House continue to push tax cuts for the already rich. I'll end with this quote from Common Dreams: "While Americans are sheltering inside to avoid the fallout of climate-spurred wildfires, Republicans think now is a good time to repeal the largest climate investment in our history to pay for their corporate handouts." (<https://www.commondreams.org/news/replicans-follow-debt-ceiling-fight-with-tax-cuts-for-wealthy>) §



Presenters taking questions during the IRA roadshow in Montgomery, WV.

Medicare Dis-Advantage

By Gary Zuckett

Ever wonder why there are so many commercials on radio and TV hawking Medicare Advantage plans? As a senior citizen myself, I get phone pitches several times a week to join one. Well part of the reason is that Big Insurance has figured out how to 'game the system' so that these swell sounding private Medicare plans with, admittedly, services not offered by regular government issued plans, are now the most profitable part of the private insurance market!

How did the insurance profiteers take a government program to make sure seniors all have healthcare and turn it into a cash cow? Simple, they lure (cherry pick) healthy seniors with 'extra' perks like gym memberships and then deny needed medical services to them when they get really sick so that those in need of serious medical care are forced back into the public program to pay the medical costs. Remember what Big Insurance calls it when they have to pay for your healthcare? It's labeled on their books as a 'medical loss' because it eats into their profits!

Probably the most insidious way the insurance profiteers scam the taxpayer is by “up-coding” (i.e lying about) the seriousness of their subscribers’ maladies so that they can bill higher amounts to Medicare.

The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid [have been auditing](#) several of these Medicare Advantage programs and are in the process of clawing back literally billions of our Medicare tax dollars paid out to Big Insurance through this type of scam.

Bottom line - Take Action! Call both of our Senators with this message:

1. Level the playing field so that the public Medicare program includes needed coverage upgrades for things

like dental and eyecare.

2. Make sure that Big Insurance repays every damn dollar they’ve scammed out of the public Medicare program with interest!
3. Make sure millionaires, billionaires, and big corporations pay their fair share of taxes to pay for needed health care for all.

Here are their phone numbers.

- Senator Manchin: 202-224-3954 (Washington) or 304-342-5855 (Charleston)
- Senator Capito: 202-224-6472 (Washington) or 304-347-5372 (Charleston) §



By Kim Jones

“There is a culture war taking place in America that’s not relegated to the most spectacular of instances like the insurrection on January 6th, or the escalation of violence taking place across our country - it resides in the hearts and minds of people stretched across America be we urban, suburban, rural.” – *United Vision Project*

For almost ten years now, Americans have grown farther and farther apart in how we think about politics, democracy, and the future of this country. Families have been torn apart. Nearly everyone has found themselves estranged from people that they love. The hurt in our families and relationships has been profound. That pain has spilled over into every aspect of our lives.

“A house divided against itself cannot stand.” We have seen the devastation to our country that this toxic division has caused.

Can we as a country survive if we keep going in this direction?

The United Vision Project was created to help us heal and really listen to one another. This extraordinary texting campaign has reached hundreds of thousands of people in the states they started in. We are hopeful that West Virginia will be chosen as one of the next states to participate in this vital movement.

If you are pained and exhausted by the culture war, here is your chance to help. Every month, the United Vision Project hosts trainings for people like you! People who want to get involved in bringing us closer together instead of further and further apart.

Learn more at unitedvisionproject.org. And sign up today to sign up to get started as a partner of this important work! See the entire training schedule here: unitedvisionproject.org/our-events. Can’t wait to see you there! §



By Eve Marcum-Atkinson

Stories have power, and we need yours, and your friends' and families' stories, too, in order to keep making change.

Many of us are struggling to afford medical expenses or prescriptions, to access needed care, are without coverage or soon to lose coverage, or are fighting with our insurance providers to cover rightful claims.

Contact Us at www.hcstorieswv.org to Share Your WV Health Care Story!

A story can change the hearts and minds of the public, and our policymakers! This helps protect needed programs from harmful funding cuts and changes, programs that provide affordable health care to you and your family. This also helps expand programs to provide more coverage when so many West Virginians fall through the cracks.

I have to say, I think it's because of people sharing their health care stories that we were able to encourage our state legislators to **reduce the insulin copay cap down to \$35**, and cap the cost of diabetic supplies. This is huge! Mindy Salango, one of our story tellers, shared that at

one point her monthly insulin copay costs were more than her mortgage payments. She had to ration her insulin, a deadly gamble, and because of it she now has diabetic retinopathy. Stories like hers helped to move policy.

Watch Health Care Story Videos and Clips on [YouTube.com/@wvcitizenaction!](https://www.youtube.com/@wvcitizenaction)

Because of people like you, change happens. Please consider sharing your healthcare story at www.hcstorieswv.org, or you can email me directly at eve@wvcag.org to schedule a confidential interview. Your story will remain confidential, unless you agree to share it publicly, and there are many ways to do so:

- Anonymously, First name only, Full name
- State only, County, or City
- Text only, audio or video (*this can be done by Zoom over your computer or device*).

We CAN educate lawmakers on our real healthcare struggles, and affect real policy change.

Let's raise our voices together and fight for affordable, accessible, equitable Healthcare for All in WV. §

UPDATE on Pleasants Power Station

By Dani Parent

West Virginia advocates, including WV-CAG and our allies in the West Virginians for Energy Freedom coalition, are yet again in a battle on behalf of ratepayers over Pleasants Power Station, a 1300 megawatt coal power plant near Belmont, WV. The future of the plant is currently being debated by the West Virginia Public Service Commission.

We've been here before, you may recall. In 2017, Monongahela Power requested to buy the plant from another FirstEnergy subsidiary. The PSC and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission both recognized the proposal as a risky deal for West Virginians. The plant, which was scheduled to close in June of 2023, is currently "on mothballs" while the sale is considered, meaning that it is deactivated but not retired.

FirstEnergy, the plant's current owner, has proposed that Mon Power and Potomac Edison customers pay more to keep the plant open but not operating for another year while government officials decide whether the plant is to be permanently subsidized by ratepayers at a currently unknown amount. Mon Power and Potomac Edison have not completed an analysis to determine if the acquisition is in the best interests of the companies or their customers, but suggest that customers start paying a temporary surcharge to continue to operate for up to 12 months. The report cites a number of challenges to continued operation of Pleasants, specifically mentioning federal wastewater and air quality regulations, and declining energy prices. The report did not evaluate the costs and liabilities related to the coal ash pond and landfill at Pleasants, and does not acknowledge that Energy Harbor has the option to extend its lease agreement and continue operating the plant into early 2024.

The Pleasants plant primarily sells power into a regional power market, where it has to compete with other power plants. But the plant is no longer competitive, and is facing serious environmental liabilities. FirstEnergy wants ratepayers to subsidize the plant even though customers don't need the plant or the energy generated there, and even though FirstEnergy's own analysis acknowledges

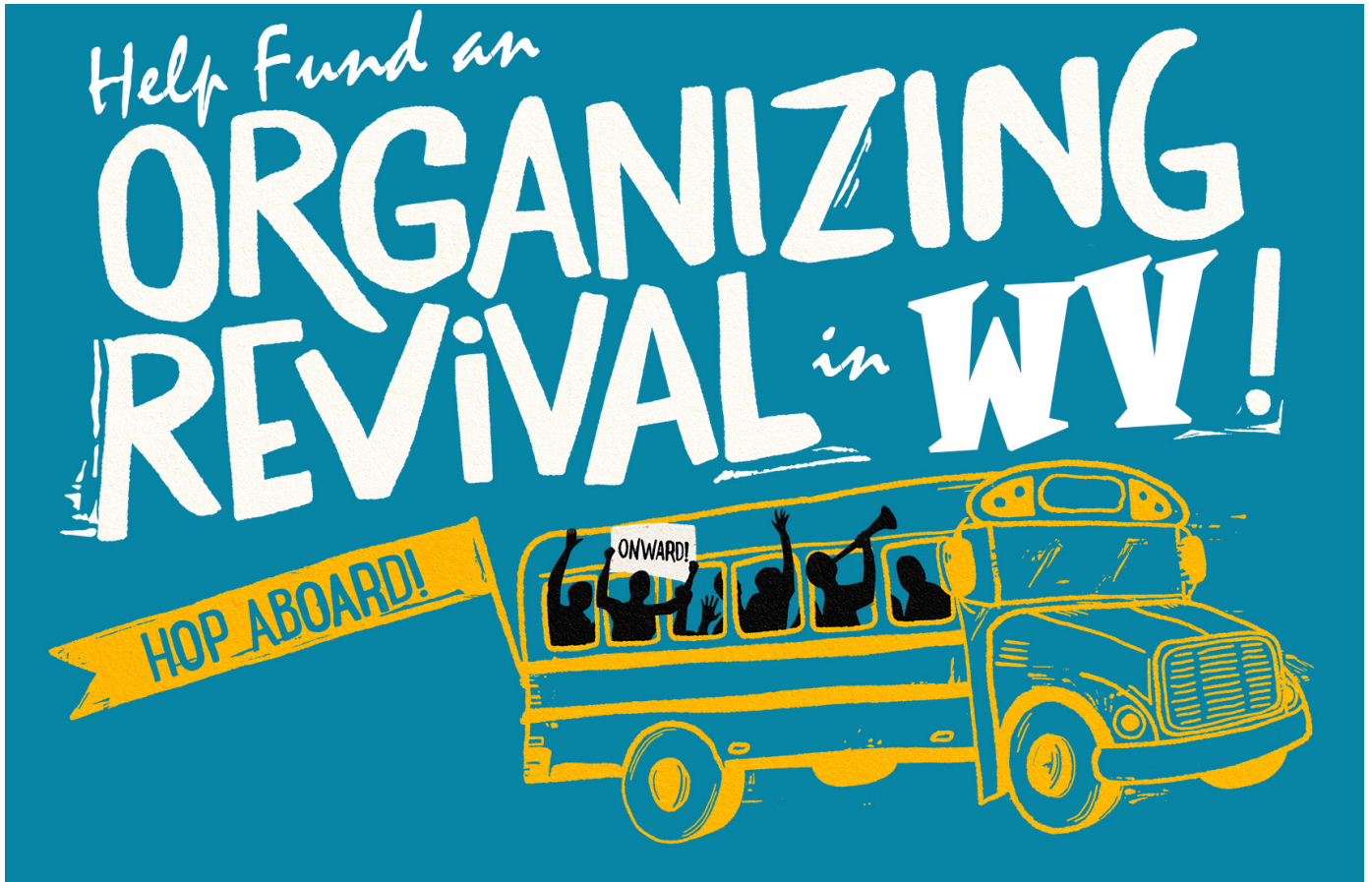


the plant's many problems. Worse, FirstEnergy's proposal would protect its own shareholders, while forcing West Virginia customers to bear all of the costs and risks. If FirstEnergy's scheme is successful, customers would be saddled with potentially massive costs and liabilities.

The West Virginia PSC has ordered First Energy to explore the takeover of the station, and next steps are expected in June if the companies can reach agreement on a letter of intent. WV-CAG, Solar United Neighbors, and Energy Efficient West Virginia filed a petition for reconsideration for the proposed surcharge and are planning to continue to oppose plans that would leave ratepayers holding the bill for keeping the plant operating past its use-by date. We will continue to advocate for ratepayer input in the process, so please sign our petition for the PSC to hold public hearings in service areas that will be affected by the surcharge at this link or using the QR below:

ppls.ac/pleasants §





Your contributions can make a real difference as we move into a new Organizing Revival in WV!

By Eve Marcum-Atkinson

WV Citizen Action and our members will have a lot of work ahead of us in preparation for 2024. If we want to help reach more people, bridge the divide, and educate voters, then our staff and volunteers need training and resources.

As you know, the divide and the impact of misinformation runs deep. This wound to our democracy isn't a papercut and will take thoughtful, knowledgeable, compassionate and patient people to help it heal. This level of deep work requires focused training.

Training takes money, and we need your help to fund it, to develop the skills and acquire the tools we need to best plan our outreach to and connect with our fellow West Virginians.

Our national affiliate, People's Action, is holding a big Organizing Revival conference in late June in Arlington, VA and we'd like 10 of our organizers to attend. There will be

lots of opportunities for training, inspiration, and planning at this event. Costs include travel, food, lodging, and the registration fee, and as we know, expenses like these, especially around the DC area, are significant. In addition, there are several other events later in the year that we need to attend, some virtual and some in-person.

We need your support to help get us there, get us trained, and then get us back out the door, educating the public, building relationships, inspiring people to get more actively involved, and doing the work needed to make positive change in our state.

Our goal is to raise at least \$25,000 to help fund these efforts.

Please go to wvcag.org/fundourtraining and make a contribution today. Your support will provide our team the education and tools needed to build power and win real change in people's lives. §



SAVE THE DATE!

**Coonskin Park
Charleston, WV**

AWARDS PICNIC

**16 Sept, 2023
1:00 – 4:00Pm**

Save The Date!

Plans are underway for our 2023 Awards Picnic, and we have a date and location: Saturday, September 16th from 1:00PM to 4:00PM at Coonskin Park’s Columbia Shelter in Charleston, WV.

Join WV Citizen Action and friends for an afternoon of fun as we come together to recognize several individuals for their contributions to the progressive movement in our state. This event will include a catered meal and live music in a fun, outdoor location with playground equipment for kids, access to hiking and biking trails, and much more. To complete the afternoon, the following civic awards will be presented:

- **Pam Nixon** - Thomas Knight Excalibur lifetime achievement award
- *Charleston Gazette-Mail* reporter **Mike Tony** - Don Marsh & Paul Nyden Public Service award
- **Shalom Tazwell** - Si Galperin in Defense of Democracy award

Purchase tickets online at wvcag.org or become a sponsor and have your or your org’s name listed in the program.

- **\$150 ~ Friend:** 1 ticket & program listing
- **\$250 ~ Supporter:** 2 tickets & program listing
- **\$500 ~ Advocate:** 4 tickets & program listing
- **\$1,000 ~ Champion:** 8 tickets & program listing
- **\$5,000 ~ Leader:** 12 tickets & full page in program

We hope to see you on September 16th! §

WV Citizen Action Group
1500 Dixie Street
Charleston, WV 25311

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Address Service Requested

Renew your membership today!

Keep Us Going and Growing! WV CAG Membership & WV CAEF Support Form

Name: _____ E-mail: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Individual: ___\$35 Family: ___\$50 Student/Senior: ___\$15

Sustainer: ___\$250 Public Citizen: ___\$500

Enclosed is \$ _____ made payable to **WV Citizen Action (WV CAG)** (not tax deductible).

Enclosed is \$ _____ made payable to **WV Citizen Action Education Fund (WV-CAEF)** (tax deductible).

Please mail checks to:

WVCAG or WVCAEF | 1500 Dixie Street | Charleston, WV 25311

You can also donate online at

wvcag.org or wvcaef.org.

Please consider setting up an automatic monthly recurring donation.

Thank you for your support!

