

DAYTON BRANCH NAACP #3181

The Dayton Branch

Chronicle



NAACP
Dayton Branch



INFORM | EDUCATE | EMPOWER

Founded in 1915, the Dayton Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is the oldest and largest Civil and Human Rights organization in the Dayton Region. Our members, volunteers, office staff, organizers, committee chairs, X and Facebook friends continue to fight for social justice for **ALL** Americans. We hope you will be enlightened as you view our latest edition of The Dayton Branch Chronicle.

The Dayton Branch NAACP **vision** is to fulfill the Dream of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 by capitalizing on the **2nd "A"** of the NAACP, which stands for **ADVANCEMENT**. We encourage you to join us and participate fully in this work for a better, stronger, engaged community.

Newsletter Highlights 2026

FEBRUARY

Message From The President

Membership & Life Membership

Civil Rights Complaints

February Community Meeting - Igniting Youth Activism!

General Membership Mtg

Black History Month

NAACP Annual Meeting

NAACP Board Meeting

57th NAACP Image Awards

Supporting Partner Organizations

Awards & Honors

NAACP Dayton Headquarters

In The News

In Memoriam

Upcoming Events

The Dayton Branch *Chronical*

President's Cabinet

Dr. Derrick L. Foward
President
Freedom Fund

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Membership and Life Member

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Finance

Cedric L. McGhee
ACT-SO

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Art Curator

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Communications, Press, Publicity & Technology

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Young Adult

Scott E. Barwick
Prison Branch

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Vice President
Community Coordination

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Labor & Industry

Rev. Dr. David I. Fox
Criminal Justice

Atty. Gary J. Leppla
Legal Redress

Roland Winburn
Economic Development

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2nd Vice President
Political Action

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Women in NAACP (WIN)

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Religious Affairs

Atty. Gary J. Leppla
Environmental & Climate Justice

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GOTV

Terrence Williams, SMSgt USAF (Ret)
Armed Services and Veterans Affairs

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3rd Vice President
Scholarship

Dr. Morris L. Brown
Health

Ayokunle O. Ogunduyile
International Affairs

Gerry E. Griffith, Sr.
Education

Traci Martin
Housing



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Secretary

Dinah M. Williams
Assistant Secretary

Financial Leadership

Jo A. Lovelace Hill
Treasurer

Harvey C. Bolden
Assistant Treasurer

Youth & College Leadership

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President, Dayton Youth Council

A'Mariyana Bennett-Crowder
President, Move Foward Thurgood Marshall

Lloyd M. Martin
President, LJYC

Pamela D. Sloan
Co-Advisor, Littlejohn Junior YC

Valerie R. Hayes
Co-Advisor, Littlejohn Junior YC

Executive Committee

Rev. Herman E. Branham
Chaplain

Chris R. Cortner

Lu Dale

Eric L. Ellington, Sr.
Sergeant-at-Arms

Office Volunteers

Dr. Morris L. Brown

Chris R. Cortner

Rev. Dr. David I. Fox

Johnnie Howell

Arnetta G. Gary

David K. Greer, Sr.

Rev. Renee Sheppard

President Emeritus

Jessie O. Gooding

The Dayton Branch

Chronical

Message From The President

Fellow Citizens,

In February, I actively engaged in a range of initiatives that advanced civic participation, community leadership, and organizational growth. I participated in the League of Women Voters (LWV) Unite and Rise Advisory Committee meeting, where we discussed collaborative strategies for the Get Out The Vote campaign in preparation for the November 2026 General Election. I also had the privilege of delivering remarks at the “Celebrating the Rule of Law: Heroes and Hardships” symposium, hosted in partnership with the Dayton Bar Association and the League of Women Voters of Greater Dayton, honoring the League of Women Voters Ohio, WilmerHale Law Firm, and Jessie O. Gooding. The event was masterfully facilitated by Chairman Gary Leppla, whose efforts I sincerely appreciated.

Continuing our work in community health, I organized a meeting with Tia Marcel Moretti, Director of the Department of Behavioral Health, along with her staff and key organizational leaders, to discuss the proposed Behavioral Health Hospital in Trotwood. The session included a robust Q&A and set the stage for a site visit to a State Hospital in Cincinnati.

Operational priorities were also addressed, with the successful supervision of the installation of the final front security door by Dayton Door Sales. Membership and fundraising efforts yielded notable results, with 15 fully-paid life memberships, 7 subscribing life memberships, 2 regular memberships, and 1 WIN membership secured, totaling \$5,160. As it relates to the 75th Dayton NAACP Hall of Freedom Awards, I secured Dr. Eric F. Spina, President of the University of Dayton, to serve as an Honorary Chair for the 75th Dayton NAACP Hall of Freedom Awards, further elevating the event’s profile.

Throughout the month, I remained deeply engaged with the community. I served as a guest speaker for Black History Month programs at United Rehabilitation Services, Tipp City Elementary School, and Judge Gerald Parker Kushinda Court, and also contributed as a judge for the Dayton Public Schools Debate competition. The students debated on the topic centered around the use of cell phones in school. Students from various schools throughout the district participated in a debate on the issue of cell phone use in schools, and both the affirmative and opposing sides presented thoughtful, well-supported arguments that demonstrated a strong understanding of the topic.

From a civic engagement standpoint, continue to watch HB 698, as it unnecessarily doubles down on state university compliance with restrictions established under Ohio Senate Bill 1, further tightening limits on diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) initiatives at Ohio’s public universities.

February concluded with a special moment of recognition, as I had the honor of presenting the President’s Award of Honor to Helen Jones-Kelley during her retirement celebration.

Your community servant,

Dr. Derrick L. Foward



Dr. Derrick L. Foward, President
 “Our Success is Influenced by Your Actions!”
 “Zero Dollars, Zero Cents!”

“Move Forward With Foward”

The Dayton Branch *Chronical*

Membership & Life Membership

The Dayton Branch NAACP membership is down 1.17% MTD vs previous year.

TAKE A STAND
FOR EQUALITY
FOR CIVIL RIGHTS
Join the oldest **and** boldest **and** baddest civil rights organization in the nation.
Join the NAACP



Atty. Richard F. Glennon

Subscribing Silver Life Members

Lynn Cooper	Theodore Hill	Lori Ohlmann	LeaQwin Roebuck
Gerry E. Griffith, Sr.	Jacqueline Pearl Moore	Sham Reddy	



William Rutledge

Subscribing Gold Life Members

Rev. Dr. David I. Fox	Daria Stone
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Dinah M. Williams
Chair, Membership and Life Membership Committee



Terrence Williams

The Dayton Branch *Chronicle*

Civil Rights Complaints



Dr. Morris L. Brown
Investigator



Chris R. Cortner
Investigator



Gary J. Leppla, Esq.
Advisor



Rev. Dr. David I. Fox
Investigator



David K. Greer, Sr.
Investigator

The Labor and Industry Committee and the Criminal Justice Committee worked together to investigate 13 complaints of discrimination, down 13.33% vs previous year MTD.

The top 5 types of complaints were as follows:

- Employment - 30.77%
- Police Misconduct - 30.77%
- Housing - 15.38%
- Education - 7.69%
- Entrapment - 7.69%

What is Entrapment?

Entrapment is a legal defense that applies when law enforcement officers induce someone to commit a crime that they otherwise would not have committed. In simple terms, it protects citizens from being unfairly tricked into breaking the law by the very people who are supposed to enforce it.

However, this defense only applies in limited circumstances. If the defendant was already predisposed to commit the offense, for instance, it usually will not succeed. Learning more about how entrapment works and when it doesn't is crucial to building a successful criminal defense strategy in many cases.

The Legal Definition of Entrapment in Ohio

Entrapment is defined under Ohio case law, rather than a single statute. Courts in the state follow the "subjective test" of entrapment. This means the focus is on the defendant's state of mind and predisposition to commit the crime rather than solely on the actions of law enforcement.

To prove entrapment, the defense must show two main elements:

- Government inducement: A law enforcement officer or other kind of government agent coerced the defendant into committing the offense in some way.
- Lack of predisposition: The defendant was not already inclined to commit the crime before the government's involvement.

If both elements are proven, the entrapment defense may potentially result in an acquittal, depending on the facts and circumstances of the case.

Rev. Dr. David I. Fox
Chair, Criminal Justice Committee

David K. Greer, Sr.
Chair, Labor & Industry Committee

Gary J. Leppla, Esq.
Chair, Legal Redress Committee

The Dayton Branch *Chronicle*

Young Adult

NAACP Dayton Branch
INFORM / EDUCATE / EMPOWER
DR. DERRICK L. FOWARD - PRESIDENT
NAACPDAYTON3181@SECGLOBAL.NET / NAACPDAYTON.ORG

Igniting Youth Activism

OUR COMMUNITY, OUR LIVES, OUR DESTINY

Algorithms isolate, material hardships weaken, and solidarity suffers. The future that youth were promised is not the future they've received, and the only way to achieve it is to ignite this generation's flame. Join us as we build an intergenerational bridge to discover new ways to support youth development in Dayton.

This panel explores:

- Strengthening our community through youth engagement
- Obstacles to solidarity
- Youth gaining and exercising power
- The importance of mentorship
- Exploring a shared vision for Dayton

February 23rd, 2026
6:00 P.M.
Grace United Methodist
1001 Harvard Blvd.

Ke Daniels
Community Development Leader

Ja'Kyia Jackson
YLAG Ambassador

Christina Jones
President, Dayton Youth Council

Deborah Howard
Educational Leader, Change Agent

Fred Cox
Community Member

Graham N. Curry, Chair, Young Adult, moderated a panel discussion titled, ***"Igniting Youth Activism!"*** This monthly community meeting was held at Grace United Methodist Church on February 23, 2026.

The distinguished guest panelists were ***Ke Daniels, Community Development Leader; Ja'Kyia Jackson, Senior, Chaminade-Julienne; Christina Jones, President, Dayton Youth Council; Deborah Howard, Educational Leader, Change Agent; and Fred Cox, Social Justice Advocate.***

Educated over 1,320 citizens during this town hall via online.



The Dayton Branch *Chronicle*

General Membership Meeting

President, Vice Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer
Providing Updates to the General Membership



The Dayton Branch *Chronicle*

Black History Month Program

President Foward Reads to United Rehabilitation Services Adult Clients



The Dayton Branch *Chronicle*

Black History Month Program

*President Foward Holds Discussion With
Clients in Judge Gerald Parker Kushinda Court*



The Dayton Branch *Chronicle*

NAACP Annual Meeting

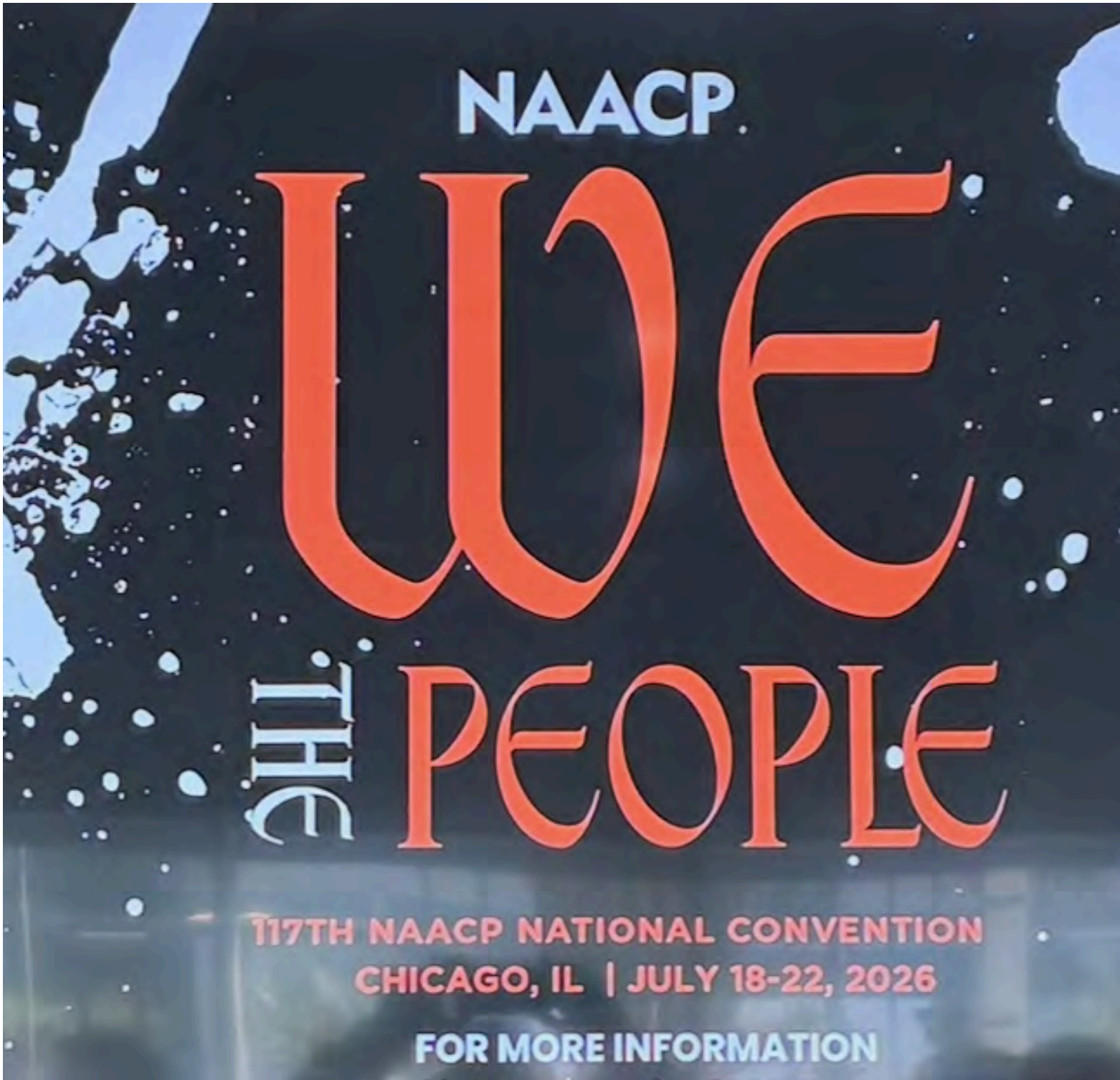
**President Foward Signs Official Record Book,
Take Notes and Gave Report During Annual Meeting**



The Dayton Branch
Chronicle

NAACP Board Meeting

2026 National Theme



The Dayton Branch *Chronicle*

57th NAACP Image Awards



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57th NAACP Image Awards



The Dayton Branch *Chronicle*

57th NAACP Image Awards



The Dayton Branch *Chronicle*

57th NAACP Image Awards

Networking



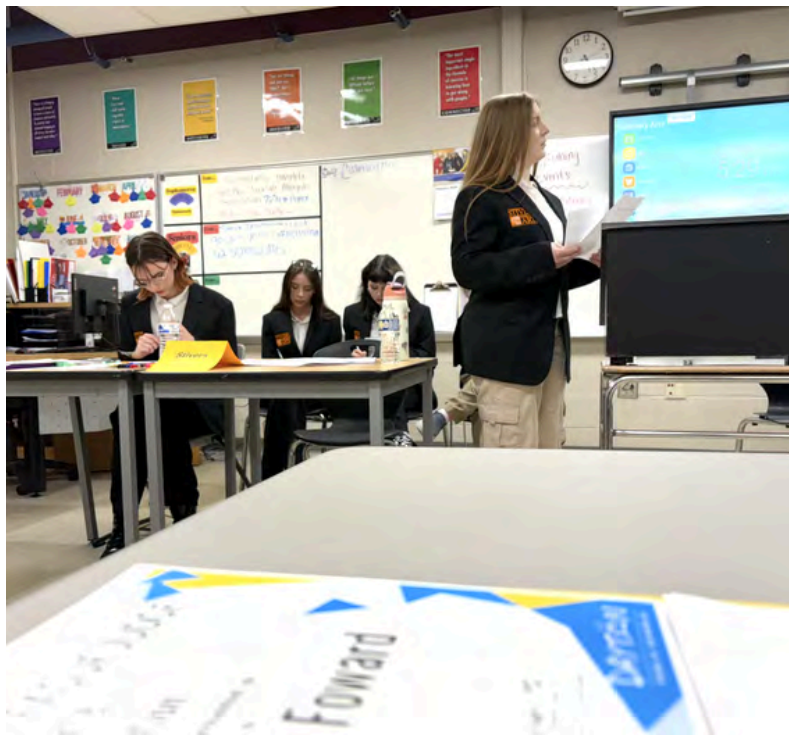
Supporting Partner Organizations

University of Dayton Black Law Students Association Collective Networking Event, in partnership with University of Cincinnati BLSA and Northern Kentucky University BLSA



Supporting Partner Organizations

Served as Judge During Dayton Public Schools Debate Competition Stivers vs. Meadowdale



Awards & Honors

Jessie O. Gooding

31st President and President Emeritus

Recognized for his Civil Rights Work During Heroes and Hardships Event



Awards & Honors

Jessie O. Gooding 31st President and President Emeritus Recognized for his Civil Rights Work During Heroes and Hardships Event



**3rd VP Willie A. Terrell, Jr.
Receives Parity, Inc. John E. Moore, Sr. Lifetime Leadership Award**



**3rd VP Willie A. Terrell, Jr.
Receives Parity, Inc. John E. Moore, Sr. Lifetime Leadership Award**



**Helen Jones-Kelly (Silver Life Member)
Receives President's Award of Honor Upon Retirement**



NAACP Dayton Headquarters

**Capital Improvement Project
New Front Security Screen Door
Come Visit Your Local NAACP
We are Open for Business!**





The Dayton Weekly News

An African American Community Newspaper

Dayton Branch NAACP Town Hall "Igniting Youth Activism"



The Dayton Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) will host a town hall titled, "Igniting Youth Activism!" The event will take place on Monday, February 23, 2026 at 6:45 pm at Grace United Methodist Church located at 1001 Harvard Blvd. The distinguished panelists will be Ke Daniels, Community Development Leader; Ja'Kyia Jackson,

Senior, Chaminade-Julienne; Christina Jones, President, Dayton Youth Council; Deborah Howard; Educational Leader; Change Agent; and Fred Cox, Social Justice Advocate. The moderator will be Graham Curry, Chair of the Dayton Branch NAACP Youth Adult Committee. Founded in 1915, the Dayton Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored

People (NAACP) is the city's oldest and largest nonpartisan civil rights organization. Serving the Dayton region and Montgomery County, its members are leading advocates for civil rights within their communities. The Branch is committed to informing, educating, and empowering the citizenry in the ongoing pursuit of justice and equality for all Americans.

The Dayton Weekly News

An African American Community Newspaper

PAID
\$10.00
Per Annum

Feb. 27 - Mar. 6, 2026

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Honoring the Past, Confronting the Present: Lessons in Liberty from Dayton's Civil Rights Titans

In the quiet corners of Dayton, the echoes of the Civil Rights Movement are not found merely in the pages of history books, but in the living testimonies of those who stood on the front lines. The Black History Month, Erica Fields and Donerik Black sat down with two titans of the local movement: Jesse Gooding, the "Lion of the Dayton" and national civil rights leader, and Dr. Anthony Whitmore, a strategic bridge-builder and the visionary behind MLK Dayton. While their paths famously diverged in 1964 when both sought the NAACP presidency, their lifelong destinations have remained identical: a Dayton where equity is a reality, not just a slogan. Today, their insights are more than necessary; they are survival tools. As the torch of Black leadership passed to a new generation, Gooding and Whitmore's legacies are not just remembered but are being actively lived. Gooding's vision of a public restroom without a long tick in the pipeline stands as a testament to the struggle. These insights are not just for the past; they are a blueprint for the future.

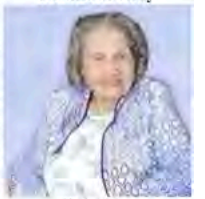


Jesse Gooding



Dr. Anthony Whitmore

The Power of a Matriarch: What the Life of Susie W. Roberts Teaches Us About the Black Family



Mrs. Susie Roberts

By Robbison Withers
I grew up watching Mrs. Susie Roberts walk into St. Benedict de More with a smile that lit up the room. She carried herself with dignity, and in turn, we learned to be the same. When you see her, you stand a little taller yourself. For Black History Month, we need to spotlight the bold names of the members, the legislators, and the headline makers, as we should. Yes, it's not just about the past; it's about the future. Susie's grandchild, Nikol Miller, tells the family's Dayton origin story: "When my grandparents moved to Dayton, she's mother passed."

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Beta Eta Omega Chapter Presents 46th Annual Ebony Jewels & Gems Cotillion



Someone once said, "You are capable of achieving greatness beyond measure." The Ebony Jewels & Gems Cotillion is a premier event recognizing the outstanding accomplishments of graduating seniors in the greater Dayton area. Preparations include a five-month process where participants engage in character building work, shops, leadership development, and cultural enrichment activities. The cotillion event is an elegant affair that spotlights the participants and the grandeur of education. Beta Eta Omega Chapter based at 46th Annual Ebony Jewels & Gems Cotillion on Saturday, February 21, 2026, at the Dayton Convention Center. The theme was "Star Beyond the Horizon: Where Dreams Take Flight." The theme represents what it means for the participants to persevere through challenges and setbacks, aspirations, living with courage and purpose, doing it right the way.

Central State University Hosts "Elect Her" Civic Leadership Training



WILBERFORCE, a global organization specializing in training young women for civic and community leadership. The training in education, the Bahamas, and the United Kingdom. The training in education, the Bahamas, and the United Kingdom. The training in education, the Bahamas, and the United Kingdom.

A Professional Voice in Wine, Leisure and Living Well



By Wanda Haynes
There is something about wine and a good conversation, a powerful and comforting combination. I like to have fun and see that we're all in this together. For many African Americans, wine is not just a beverage; it's a lifestyle, an experience that pairs naturally with leisure, travel, and professional enjoyment. Before the travel industry collapsed, Wanda Haynes is posted not just in the glass, but in the joy of living.

IN MEMORIAM**‘We will keep hope alive’:
Local leaders react to Rev.
Jesse Jackson’s death**

DAYTON, Ohio ([WDTN](#)) – The Dayton NAACP President, Dr. Derrick L. Foward, shared a statement on the death of the Honorable Reverend Jesse Jackson, a civil rights icon. Jackson died this Tuesday at 84-years-old.

“The Honorable Reverend Jesse Louis Jackson, Sr. was an iconic leader in the civil rights movement and a steadfast advocate for justice and equality. He dedicated his life to creating pathways of hope for those confronting oppressive systems and institutional barriers. Through decades of advocacy, organizing, and moral leadership, he challenged America to live up to its highest ideals,” wrote Dr. Foward.

Foward said Jackson inspired millions of people throughout his lifetime. “Reverend Jackson often reminded us, ‘Both tears and sweat are salty, but they render a different result. Tears will get you sympathy; sweat will get you change.’ He understood deeply the pain and plight of our communities, and he knew that sustained effort, disciplined action, and collective resolve were essential to transforming injustice into progress,” wrote Dr. Foward.

He said the best way to honor the life and legacy of Jackson is to remain committed to advocating for justice, equity and equality.

“As we reflect on his life and contributions, we recommit ourselves to the work of justice, equity, and equal protection under the law. The best way to honor Reverend Jackson’s legacy is not only with remembrance, but with renewed dedication to the cause for which he gave his life,” wrote Dr. Foward. “His life was a testament to faith in action, and for that, we are forever grateful.”

LOCAL & STATE

CLOSER LOOK

Local community leaders react to Rev. Jesse Jackson's death

By Eileen McClory
Staff Writer

Local Black leaders said the Rev. Jesse Jackson, who led the Civil Rights movement for decades after the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination, had a profound impact on their work.

Jackson, 84, died at his home in Chicago Tuesday from a long illness. He faced a rare neurological disorder that affected his ability to speak or move.

He ran twice for president, in 1984 and 1988, founded the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition and met with dozens of world leaders. Even as he was ill, he was still working for civil rights well into the Black Lives Matter era. In 2024, he appeared at the National Democratic Convention to advocate for a cease fire in the war between Israel and Hamas.

Montgomery County Commissioner Mary McDonald said Jackson impacted her life as he wanted the best for everyone and believed everyone had potential to be great.

"He believed all men had the opportunity to be the same," she said. "That's what I use as the foundation of what I do."

Derrick Foward, the president of the Dayton Unit



The Rev. Jesse Jackson (right) raises a triumphant arm with Daryl Ward, former pastor of the Omega Baptist Church, as Jackson takes the podium at the church to talk with the congregation. STAFF FILE

NAACP, said Jackson's work "pushed forth civil rights."

When Jackson ran for president in 1984 and 1988, he brought the issues of racial inequality to a national stage, Foward said.

Foward said Jackson brought a sense of hope to Americans, and encouraged them to keep moving in the face of adversity.

"His legacy is one of tireless service, not only for the African American community, but for the broader coalition of human rights," Foward said.

Vanessa Ward, chief executive officer at Omega Community Development Corporation, which works in north-west Dayton, said she and her husband hosted Jackson



at Omega Baptist Church. She called his death "a great loss."

"The messaging he planted will continue, and reinforce who we are as people and as we continue to fight," Ward said.

Rhine McLin, former mayor of Dayton and daughter of former state representative C. J. McLin, said

Jackson was "no stranger to Dayton," as he came several times to the city.

McLin said Jackson was a "charismatic civil rights man," and many of the strategies he employed were ahead of the times.

His thoughts on faith and hope were also important, she said.

"Especially in these times,

it's important to keep hope alive," she said.

McLin offered her "deepest condolences to the family."

Wittenberg University philosophy professor Julius Bailey knew Jackson and his family growing up in Chicago.

Later, Bailey worked for the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition as an intern and later as the Central Illinois education spokesperson for the organization.

Bailey said Jackson paid a great deal of attention to human rights, and pushed for equality not just for Black people, but for other marginalized groups, such as Hispanics, Jews and LGBTQ+ people, as well.

"I think of Jackson shifting how Black people can be involved in national politics and corporate business," Bailey said.

Personally, though, Bailey said he lives by Jackson's motto: "May my impact outweigh my importance."

"There will be people crying at his funeral who never knew him personally," Bailey said. "That's the life that I want to live, and the life that Jackson taught others to live."

The Associated Press contributed to this story.

Jackson spoke at Wilberforce's 2014 commencement

By Greg Lynch
Staff Writer

The Rev. Jesse L. Jackson Sr., a protege of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. and two-time presidential candidate who led the Civil Rights Movement for decades after the revered leader's assassination, died Tuesday. He was 84.

Jackson visited the Miami Valley in 2014 to be the keynote speaker during the Wilberforce University Commencement Convocation.

Jackson told Wilberforce University students that their fight for equality after graduation would reflect positively on an alma mater that was already steeped with tradition.

"Wilberforce is the mothership of historically black universities," Jackson told the crowd of more than 2,000 people, including about 100 graduating students, in the school's Alumni Multiplex.

At times Jackson asked the graduates to repeat his words. Jackson told the students, "strong minds bring strong change."



The Rev. Jesse Jackson Sr. was the keynote speaker and received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters Degree at Wilberforce University's 2014 Commencement Convocation on May 3, 2014. STAFF

The civil rights leader, founder of the Rainbow PUSH Coalition, and Democratic presidential candidate in 1984 and 1988, detailed examples of sev-

eral large corporations and industries in which blacks were under-represented in key positions, and challenged the students to help make up the gap.

"We're not responsible for being behind, but we are responsible for catching up," Jackson said.

"Stand up, don't self-destruct ... You've got a race

to run, and you're behind." Jackson noted the 1856 birth of Wilberforce — the nation's oldest historically black private university — came before the Civil War.

And when the school suspended operations in 1862 because of the war, some of its students went off to fight with the Union army to end slavery.

Graduating senior Janel Thomas of Cleveland called Jackson's commencement address, with its focus on the school's long and rich history, "very inspirational."

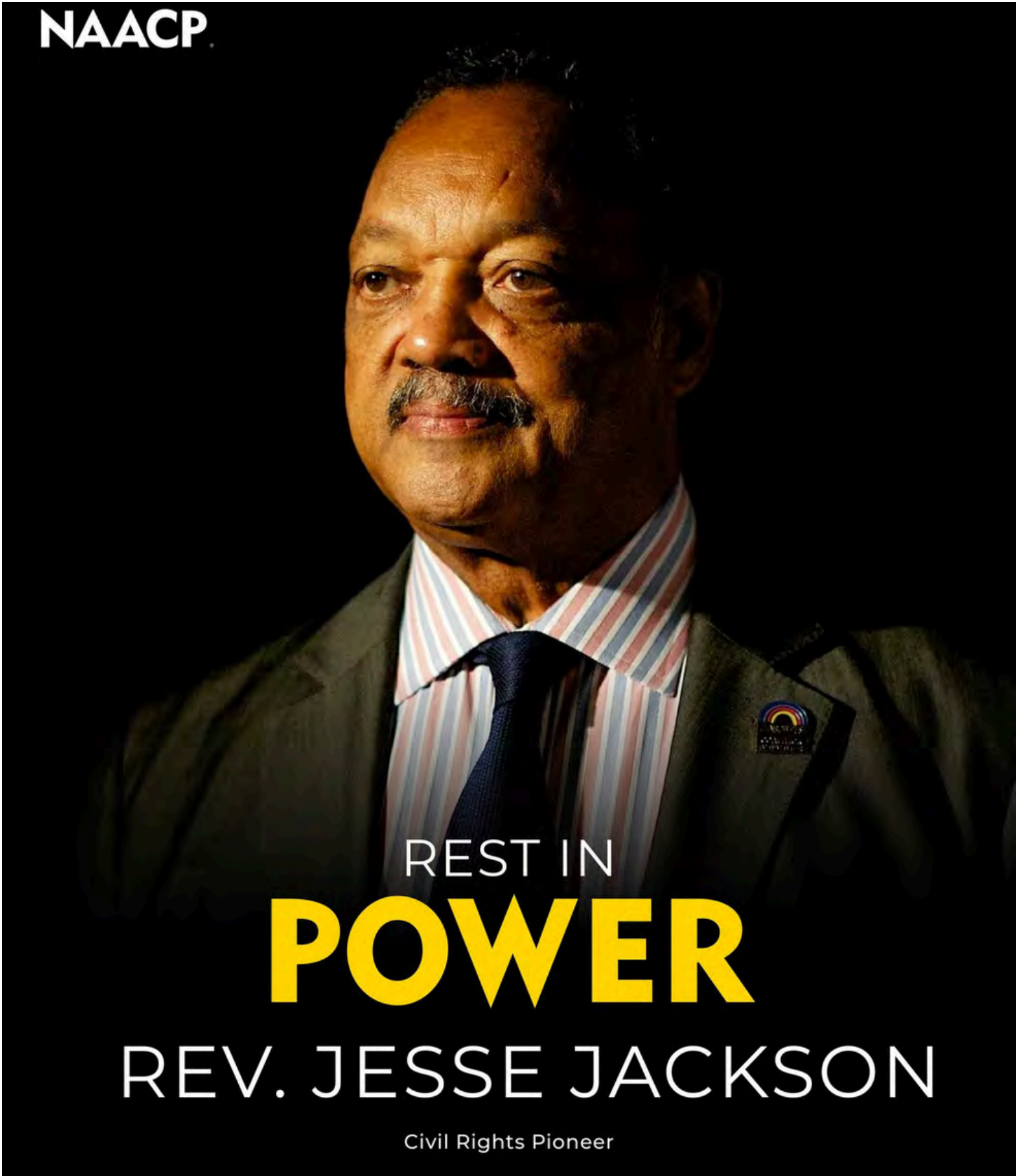
Jackson's speech "really makes me have more pride in my school," Thomas said.

Jackson's address lasted 20 minutes, and the civil rights leader departed because he had a plane to catch. But on his way out of the crowded gymnasium, Jackson stopped to greet several well-wishers, posing for photos and greeting families. He paused for a long embrace with Jessie O. Gooding, who served as president of the Dayton chapter of the NAACP from 1984 to 2002.

As part of the ceremony Jackson also received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree.

Original reporting by Mark Fisher was included in this story.

NAACP



REST IN

POWER

REV. JESSE JACKSON

Civil Rights Pioneer

The Dayton Branch
Chronicle

Upcoming Events

March 14, 2026

Ohio Conference NAACP Executive Committee Meeting
& Quarterly Training

March 16, 2026

Executive Committee Meeting

March 23, 2026

General Membership Meeting
& Prison Branch Committee Presentation



President Foward & Lady Tiwona

We recognize the women who have paved the way across industries, broken barriers, and inspired progress. Their dedication, innovation, and strength continue to shape our workplaces, families, and society for the better. At the Dayton Branch NAACP, we remain committed to fostering a culture of respect, inclusion, and opportunity, where women's voices are heard, their talents are valued, and their accomplishments are celebrated. Thank you for the impact you make every day.

Fully Committed!

Inform | Educate | Empower
Dr. Derrick L. Foward, President
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Get Educated!
Be Empowered!

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Mycah A. Pollard, Chair, Communications, Press, Publicity & Technology