



## Tragedy at Reagan National

A fatal crash on 29 January took down a commercial jet and a US military helicopter on a training flight near Washington DC's Reagan National airport. Authorities have said all 64 people on the American Airlines flight were presumed dead as well as three more on the army helicopter, making the incident the deadliest US air tragedy since 2001.

Figure skaters Evgenia Shishkova and Vadim Naumov Shishkova and Naumov, who were married to each other, won the world championships in pairs figure skating in 1994 and had reportedly lived in the US since at least 1998, where they trained young ice skaters.

Inna Volyanskaya Inna Volyanskaya, 59, was a skating coach at the Ashburn Ice House in Virginia.

"She was a figuring skating coach," Ross Linsel, her ex-husband, told NCB reporters, and an "amazing skater".

"It's going to be so hard without her. She meant a lot to these kids.



Victims of the Washington DC plane crash, clockwise from top left: Danasia Brown Elder, Grace Maxwell, Vikesh Patel, Kiah Duggins, Sarah Lee Best, Vadim Naumov and Evgenia Shishkova, Inna Volyanskaya, Elizabeth Keys. Composite: Clockwise from top left: GoFundMe, Cedarville University, LinkedIn, Civil Rights Corp, Wilkinson Steklhoff, Wolfgang/Bundesarchive Thieme, AP, Wilkinson Steklhoff

It's devastating for me to think about the kids without her."

Spencer Lane, and his mother, Christine Lane

Spencer Lane, a 16-year-old figure skater from Barrington, Rhode Island, posted photos and videos from the camp on his Instagram account hours before the crash. He had been aboard the plane

alongside his mother, Christine Lane.

Douglas Lane, his father and Christine's husband, told WPRI that his son, who was adopted along with his brother Milo from South Korea, was a "force of nature".

"In his home club in Boston, he was just loved by everyone from the adults running to club to

the smallest skaters, to the people that are competing for a shot at the Olympics, they all just adored him," he said.

He also praised his wife's creativity and interest in graphic design and photography.

"For Christine, just the amount of people from the community in

*Continued on Page 3*



## Shirley Chisholm (1924-2005)



Congress is more diverse now than it's ever been. However, when Chisholm was attempting to shatter the glass ceiling, the same couldn't be said. During the racially contentious period in the late '60s, she became the first Black woman elected to Congress. She represented New York's 12th District from 1969 to 1983, and

in 1972, she became the first woman to run for the Democratic Party's presidential nomination. Her campaign slogan "Unbought and unbossed" rings even louder today. Senator Kamala Harris paid tribute to Chisholm in her 2020 presidential campaign announcement by using a similar logo to Chisholm's.

## RTA Dedicating Seat to Rosa Parks



The Greater Dayton RTA is showcasing a number of local sites during Black History Month.

On Feb. 1, Dayton RTA will have the February calendar bus, which features Black History Month, along with other holidays and

events occurring within the month.

According to the RTA, the following sites will be represented:

- Charity Adams Earley Girls Academy
- Dayton VA Medical Center
- Ex-Fifth Street YMCA
- Old Miller Under-

ground Railroad House

- Paul Laurence Dunbar House
- Wayman AME Church
- Wright-Dunbar neighborhood

Interior cards will be placed on the fixed routes for riders to read relating to the sites.

A seat will be left open

on the fixed routes with a placard to honor the legacy of Rosa Parks.

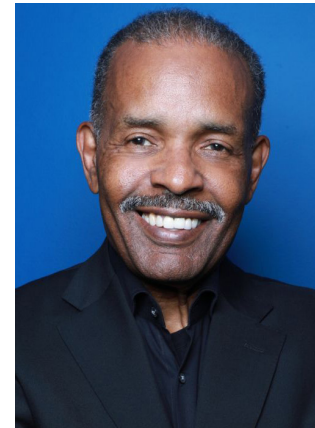
"Riders are encouraged to take a picture or video with the placard stating what Black History Month means to them and sharing it on social media using #RTABlackHistoryMonth," said RTA. "Each week during the month, one person who creates a post will randomly be selected to win some RTA swag items."

## Civil Rights Icon Honored With Library Room Dedication

Black Lives Matter Dayton is excited to announce a special Room Dedication ceremony, aptly named the Tech Room, coupled with a Ribbon-Cutting ceremony to honor the legacy of the esteemed talk-show host and activist, Joe Madison, also known as the Black Eagle of SiriusXM Radio. The Tech Room is designed to celebrate Joe Madison's remarkable contributions to media and social justice, recognizing his role as a powerful advocate for civil rights and community empowerment.

Carlos Buford, a member of Black Lives Matter Dayton, has spearheaded this initiative, motivated by a deep respect for Madison's influence within the community and his unwavering commitment to the struggle for social equity.

This meaningful project has attracted the support and collaboration of distinguished Community Advisors. Among them are Liz Early, the found-



Joe Madison

er of the Early Visions Purpose Center, who is known for her dedication to uplifting marginalized voices, Michael Motley, a celebrated activist and speaker, and Rev. Dr. David I. Fox, a respected leader with extensive experience in community organizing. Together, they lend a wealth of knowledge and insight to ensure the Tech Room serves its purpose effectively.

The Dayton Metro Library and its committed staff have played a crucial role in this initiative, offering significant re-

sources and support to help build a space that will serve as a hub for education, engagement, and empowerment. The Tech Room aims not only to commemorate Madison's life but also to provide the community with access to tools and opportunities to explore the fields of broadcasting and media.

As we prepare for this momentous occasion, we envision the Tech Room as more than just a dedicated space; it is an invitation for our younger generations to connect with the legacy of Joe Madison. By im-

*Continued on Page 5*

## UNCF Mayor's Luncheon

UNCF Mayor's Luncheon was held at Sinclair Community College.

Among the special guests was Olympic champion Edwin C. Moses — a name Daytonians may recognize from the local Boulevard.

Moses was born in Dayton and had the street named after him after he won his second gold medal. He won for men's 400m hurdles during the 1976 and 1984 Olympics.

He spoke at the event about his time growing up and going to Fairview High School.

"One of the most important things we had



Edwin C. Moses

was that diversity and being in an environment where everybody wanted to abound," said Moses. "And it was very peaceful. We had our little conflicts,

but it was a great environment to grow up in, in Dayton during that time. Dayton was one of the most desirable cities in the country."

## February is Black History Month

### What's Inside

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Health	8

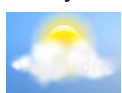


# Around DAYTON

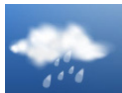
## Miami Valley Weather

### Saturday Sunday

Mostly Cloudy  
High 36  
Low 30



Rain  
High 51  
Low 42



### Monday

Cloudy  
High 61  
Low 42



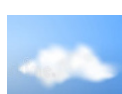
### Tuesday

Mostly Cloudy  
High 48  
Low 38



### Wednesday

Cloudy  
High 51  
Low 46



## 5 day Forecast

LEARN THE SKILLS YOU NEED TO LAUNCH YOUR TECH CAREER—FOR FREE!

npower

**IN JUST 20 WEEKS, YOU WILL RECEIVE:**

- Part-time, instructor-led tech skills training
- Paid internship opportunities
- Opportunity to earn industry-recognized certifications
- Mentoring & career development
- Job placement assistance

Available for young adults ages 18-26, military veterans, and military spouses.

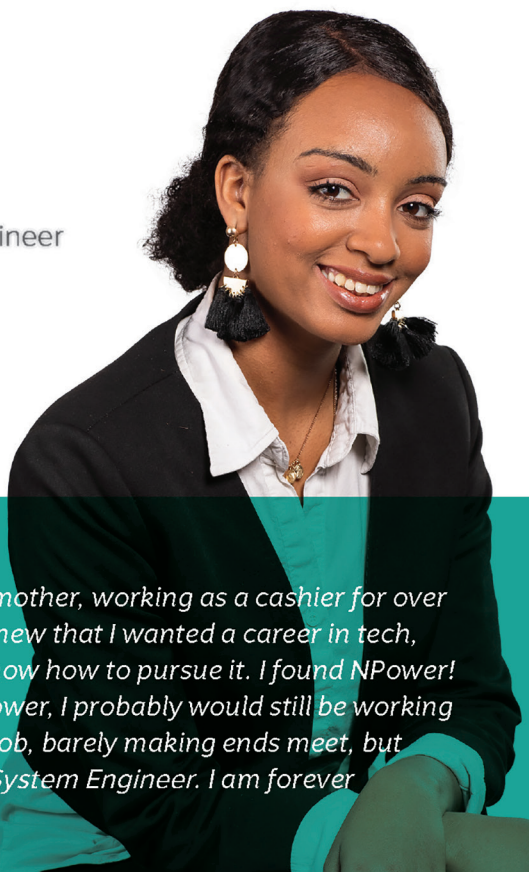
Must have high school diploma or equivalent. No technology experience necessary.

VISIT

[www.npower.org/locations/ohio](http://www.npower.org/locations/ohio)

**Quster B.**  
System Engineer  
at Verizon

*“As a young mother, working as a cashier for over six years, I knew that I wanted a career in tech, but didn’t know how to pursue it. I found NPower! Without NPower, I probably would still be working a dead-end job, barely making ends meet, but now I am a System Engineer. I am forever thankful!”*



## Harrison Township to Host Black History Month Recognition Event

Harrison Township will celebrate Black History Month with a special recognition event on Tuesday, February 13, 2025, from 7:00 to 8:00 PM at the Harrison Township Community Center, located at 5945 N. Dixie Drive. This year’s theme, “African Americans and the American Labor Movement,” will highlight the achievements and contributions of African American labor leaders and educators in our community.

The event will recognize three exceptional individuals:

Stacey Benson-Taylor, a native Daytonian with a distinguished record of advocating for workers and families across Montgomery County and Ohio. A servant leader, she imparts her knowledge and skills through teaching, mentoring, and community service.

Carl Kennebrew, a resident of Harrison Township and a proud member of IUE-CWA for nearly 25 years. He currently serves as the 8th President of IUE-CWA, continuing his legacy of service to the labor movement.

Genieve Caldwell-Foy, a seasoned educator with a career spanning over three decades. She has dedicated her life to leadership in education, curriculum development, and promoting excellence in student achievement. Genieve was also the first African-American female elementary principal in multiple school districts in the Miami Valley and has continued to contribute to the educational community through mentorship, workshops, and curriculum development.

The event will be emceed by Marsha Bonhart, who will guide the evening’s program and lead the recognition of these outstanding honorees.

“We are excited to celebrate the rich history and contributions of African Americans in labor and education,” said Township Trustee Roland Winburn. “This event honors the hard work, perseverance, and dedication of those who have paved the way for future generations, and we invite everyone to join us in this important celebration.”

This event is free and open to the public, and all are encouraged to attend and participate in this special evening of recognition and reflection.

For more information, contact Nathan Edwards at nedwards@harrisantownship.org or 937-838-0060.

## Black History Month Programs at DML

Dayton Metro Library continues celebrating Black History Month in February with programs all ages can participate in and enjoy. Learn something about Black literacy, art, history, and businesses that have influenced American culture with these upcoming programs.

**Headlining Programs:**

Brown Hands, Black Schools HBCUs Film, Saturday, February 22, 1-4 pm, Main Library, Bassani Theater Off Third, 3rd Floor: Celebrate Black History Month and literacy with a special screening of the film Brown Hands, Black Schools HBCUs, based on the book, Brown Hands, Black Schools by Latoya Turner. This animated 16-minute short has live-action scenes highlighting the history of historically Black

colleges and universities (HBCUs) and the importance of literacy. Patrons will also participate in literacy activities, have a red-carpet experience, meet the cast, take part in a Q&A session, and enjoy a storytime with Latoya Turner. (All Ages)

**Additional Programs Taking Place:**

Homeschool Art Club: Reginald Laurent Art, Tuesday, February 11, 11 am-12 pm, Miamisburg Branch: Celebrate the month by creating artwork inspired by the colorful paintings and wood assemblages of Laurent. (Families)

Black History Heroes, Tuesday, February 11, 4-5 pm, West Branch: Learn about the heroes of Black history in fun, interactive ways like a trivia contest, scavenger hunt, stories, and crafts. (All Ages)

Coloring for Adults, Wednesday, February 12, 10-11 am, Northwest Branch: This month’s color theme is Black history with Black Ohio singers as the background music. Registration is required. (Adults)

Black History Trivia, Wednesday, February 12, 5-6 pm, Northwest Branch: Patrons can show off their knowledge of Black history and win prizes. (Teens)

25th Infantry Bicycle Corps, Tuesday, February 18, 4-4:45 pm, Burkhardt Branch: The Buffalo Soldiers tested bicycles to transport soldiers from Fort Missoula to Yellowstone. Hear the stories of their challenges during this time in history. (Families)

Make a Rosa Parks Bus, Tuesday, February 18, 4:30-5:30 pm, Van-

dalia Branch: Celebrate Parks’ historical achievement by creating a foam bus. (Ages 3 and up)

Family Program: Create & Learn: Black Inventors, Wednesday, February 19, 4-5 pm, Main Library, Children’s Creativity Space: Learn about the contributions Black inventors have made to history. Using stickers and facts, patrons will create a factbook to take home. (Families)

The Art of Storytelling in the African Diaspora, Wednesday, February 19, 4-5 pm, West Branch: A special guest will drop by to give an interactive performance of how ancestors used storytelling to pass on culture and customs. (Families)

Black Art: From the Harlem Renaissance to the Present, Thursday, February 20, 6-7 pm, Ket-

tering Moraine Branch: Karen D. Brame from DML’s Special Collections will take guests on a visual journey of various periods, themes, and pieces of art created by Black artists from the early 20th century to contemporary times. (Adults)

Uplifting Our Roots Pop-up Shop, Saturday, February 22, 3-5 pm, West Branch: Explore and uplift the community’s African American entrepreneurs. See what services they offer and learn how they began their businesses. Vendors interested in participating need to register. (Families)

For more information and to register if required, visit DaytonMetroLibrary.org or call the Library’s Ask Me Line at 937.463.2665.

## MVRPC Releases Regional Resiliency Guidebook & Toolkit

The Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission has released a Regional Resiliency Guidebook & Toolkit as a result of the lessons learned and resources created from the Memorial Day 2019 Tornadoes. This guide is set to position the Region with tools to adapt to changing conditions, identify future natural and human-related disaster threats and hazards, and withstand, rapidly recover and improve from disruption due to future emergencies.

Each jurisdiction can use the full toolkit or portions to fit the needs of their community with the support of MVRPC staff. The toolkit is available at mvrpc.org/regional-resiliency-planning.

“The planning, execution and the lessons learned from the recovery must not be lost. The Re-

gional Resiliency Guidebook and Toolkit will ensure the Miami Valley has a comprehensive plan for dealing with future disasters. It provides for organization, action, data collection and retrieval. Everyone responsible for overcoming future disasters will be able to hit the ground running. The Guidebook and Toolkit is a plan for being prepared and overcoming disasters.” - Woody Stroud, Board member of Greene County Transit and MVRPC Board of Directors and Former chairperson of the Disaster Recovery Leadership Board.

“As a stakeholder that was very active with the affected communities during the response and recovery of the Memorial Day Tornadoes of 2019, the guidebook and toolkit is a great resource, should a similar event happen

again. The toolkit provides a one-stop repository of the Miami Valley’s historical hazards and their jurisdiction’s current potential vulnerabilities. This information is vital for stakeholders, to better position themselves to identify what their community vulnerabilities are, which then can create ideas for mitigation measures, which in turn, will strengthen the resilience of local government and citizens.” - Sam Reed, Ohio Department of Public Safety

“The tornadoes that struck Greater Dayton in 2019 tested our Region’s resilience, but we emerged stronger, thanks to collaborative efforts with the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission and many other partner organizations that worked together to identify the needs of our neigh-

bors and the resources necessary to support relief and recovery efforts. The new Regional Resiliency Guidebook and Toolkit is the next step in aiding our Region should such natural disasters occur in the future. This system is an investment in our community, and we’re so proud to be a part of its development.” - Michael M. Parks, CFRE, president of The Dayton Foundation and delegate of the MVRPC Board of Directors

“Having the experience of working through a major disaster like the 2019 Memorial Day tornadoes underscores the importance of disaster preparedness. This Regional Guidebook and Toolkit provides the resources any community needs to respond to disasters with diligence and efficiency.

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# Classified National



## Request for Proposal GD 25-12

**Due Date:** 03/06/2025, 10:00 AM EST via OpenGov  
Greater Dayton RTA is soliciting proposals to provide print, radio, billboards, and video advertisements.  
If interested, visit: <https://www.iriderta.org/about/doing-business>  
Direct questions to [ngreer@greaterdaytonrta.org](mailto:ngreer@greaterdaytonrta.org)  
Noah Greer, Senior Purchasing Agent

## Program to Help Black-Owned Businesses Get Government Contracts



Lori Smith

Nationwide -- Lori Smith, Founder and CEO of Acu-Elligent LLC, a leading Black-owned business coaching and management consulting firm, has launched a program to help other Black entrepreneurs get access to federal government contracts. Based in Savannah, Georgia, Lori brings over 41 years of invaluable experience in federal service to this groundbreaking initiative.

“Our goal with GovCon Revenue Strategy is to level the playing field for small businesses in government contracting,” she comments. “We’re providing the insider knowledge and proven strategies that can transform a small business into a successful government contractor.”

She has also announced the release of GovCon Revenue Strategy: The Ultimate Guide for Small Businesses to Win Higher-Priced Contracts, a comprehensive guide that aims to revolutionize how small businesses, particularly minority-owned enterprises, approach and succeed in the federal contracting marketplace.

Key Features of GovCon Revenue Strategy:

- A step-by-step roadmap for navigating the complexities of government contracts
- Strategies for identifying hidden opportunities and leveraging set-aside programs
- Techniques for building valuable relationships with agency contacts
- Guidance on crafting winning proposals that justify premium pricing

Impact and Vision: This initiative represents Acu-Elligent’s commitment to empowering small businesses to thrive in the \$700 billion federal marketplace.

Learn more about the company at its official web site at [AcuElligent.com](http://AcuElligent.com)

About  
Founded by Lori Smith, Acu-Elligent LLC is a business coaching and management consulting firm dedicated to helping companies successfully navigate the complexities of federal contracting. With a team of seasoned experts, the company provides mentorship, training, and strategic guidance to businesses seeking to grow in the government contracting sector.

Learn more about the company at its official web site at [AcuElligent.com](http://AcuElligent.com)

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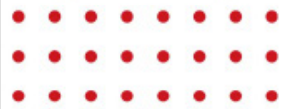
With a team of seasoned experts, the company provides mentorship, training, and strategic guidance to businesses seeking to grow in the government contracting sector.

## Become a CASA

Court Appointed Special Advocate

Spring Training Begins  
February 25, 2025  
5:30-8:30 PM

As a Court Appointed Special Advocate, you can keep children who have experienced abuse and neglect safe by advocating for them in court.



### What it takes to be a CASA

- Must be 21 years of age or older
- Successfully pass screening and background checks
- Complete 30 hours of pre-service training



### Volunteer Training Dates:

Tuesdays, February 25-March 18 5:30-8:30PM

Volunteer Opportunities [www.mcjcoho.org](http://www.mcjcoho.org)  
Montgomery County Juvenile Court- CASA  
(937) 225-5491

## CITY OF TROTWOOD VACANCY NOTICE Civil Service Commission

The City of Trotwood’s Civil Service Commission has two vacant seats and is seeking volunteers to serve for a five (5) year term. It is the Commission’s duty to provide by rule for the determination of merit and fitness as the basis for appointment and promotion in the service of the Municipality as required by the Constitution of Ohio. It

shall provide by rule for, and hear, appeals from the action of the Manager or other officer in any case of transfer, reduction, or removal of classified personnel. The Commission meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 5:00 p.m., as needed.

You must be an elector of the City to be considered for this volunteer position. Volunteer applications may be found on the

City’s website or by clicking this link: Volunteer Application. Completed applications should be submitted to the Clerk of Council by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, February 7, 2025. You may submit your application in person on the second floor of the Government Center during business hours or by U.S. mail, fax, or e-mail.

### Tragedy at Reagan National... Continued from Page 1

Rhode Island I’ve already heard from today that she’s touched,” he said. “Whether it was screening them to adopt the dog that they loved or helping them with a summer project or whatever, she was just one of those people that could just kind of plug in anywhere, connect with people and build a real bond.”

Jinna Han, and her mother Jin Han  
Jinna Han, a 13-year-old figure skater from Mansfield, was among the victims, alongside her mother, Jin Han.

Doug Zeghibe, CEO and executive director of the Skating Club of Boston, described the young skater as “a wonderful kid” with “wonderful parents” to USA Today .

“Great athlete, great competitor,” Zeghibe added. “Loved by all.”

Peter and Donna Livingston, husband and wife, and Everly and Lydia, sisters

Sisters Everly and Lydia Livingston, ages 14 and 11, are confirmed to have been aboard the plane alongside their parents, Donna and Peter. Both sisters had been young figure skaters.

“Lydia, 11, was known for her vivacious personality and strong desire to improve on the ice – no matter the critique,” the Skating Lesson wrote on Instagram .

“Everly, 14, was shy and reserved compared to her sister, yet came alive on the ice – becoming a sectional champion at the intermediate and juvenile

levels,” they added.  
Sean Kay and his mother, Julia Kay

Sean Kay, 11, was a young student of coach Alexandr “Sasha” Kirisanov. He was dance partners with Angela Yang on the ice. He was traveling back from Wichita with his mother, Julia Kay.

Vitali Kay, husband to Julia and father to Sean, told CBS that he met his wife in college and they had been together for more than 20 years. He has three other children, who also compete on the ice.

“I had to deliver the news to them, right, and that was the phrase I used: ‘Hey, Julia would want you to do this, to skate,’” he said.

Angela Yang  
Angela Yang was a young figure skater, coached by Kirisanov and dance partners with Sean Kay.

The Skating Lesson wrote on Instagram that the pair were “undefeated in juvenile ice dance this season. The talented team had big plans for their future”.

Angela is survived by her father and two siblings.

Franco Aparicio  
Franco Aparicio of Washington earned a trip to the developmental camp by placing fourth in the intermediate division at Eastern Sectionals, according to the Skating Lesson. This was his second year earning a spot at the camp. He is survived by his mother and two siblings.

Justyna and Brielle Magdalena Beyer

Brielle Magdalena Beyer, 12, was traveling on the plane alongside her mother Justyna. Brielle was part of the Skating Club of Northern Virginia.

Andy Beyer, Justyna’s husband and Brielle’s dad, told NBC that his wife was his soulmate and that his daughter “was someone who was just meant to sparkle”.

“She had a beautiful voice, she used to fill the house with just whatever was on her mind. Taylor Swift, and lately, Wick-ed,” he said.

Cory Haynos, and parents Stephanie and Roger Haynos

Cory Haynos, a teenage skater from northern Virginia, and his parents, Stephanie and Roger, were also onboard the flight, relatives have said in interviews and social-media posts.

“Cory was an amazing skater,” Matthew Alan LaRavier, Roger’s cousin, wrote in a Facebook post. “We all were expecting Cory to represent our country in the US Olympics in the future.”

Other passenger victims

Michael Stovall  
Michael Stovall, 40, was a member of the Steamfitter’s Union. He was a resident of Maryland who went by Mikey.

Stovall was part of a group of seven friends from the DC area who

Continued on Page 6

### MVRPC Releases Regional Resiliency Guidebook & Toolkit... Continued from Page 2

As a jurisdictional representative, I can also attest to the impact organizations like MVRPC have on the response, recovery, and resurgence of communities experiencing distress/disasters.” - Stephanie L. Kellum, Deputy City Manager and Board member of MVRPC Board of Directors.

MVRPC was designated the leader of the Long-Term Community Disaster Recovery Network to assist and organize the Region in the recovery of the Memorial Day Tornadoes. MVRPC worked in partnership with federal and state agencies, local governments, non-profits and private business leaders to aid in recovery as well as mitigate and plan for

future resilience against extreme weather-related events.

MVRPC and the Region began to focus on resiliency planning to ensure communities were prepared to address future extreme weather-related events. MVRPC conducted numerous engagement, training and planning sessions with our partners. It was critical as the lead of Long-Term Community Recovery that MVRPC ensure our member organizations are equipped and prepared with resiliency needs for each of our member jurisdictions.

Established in 1964, the Miami Valley Regional Planning Commission promotes collaboration among communities, stakeholders, and residents to advance regional

priorities. MVRPC is a forum and resource where the Board of Directors identifies priorities and develops public policy and collaborative strategies to improve the quality of life throughout the Miami Valley Region.

MVRPC performs planning and research functions for our Region that ensure livable and equitable communities; clean air and water; robust roadway, transit, and active transportation options; and strategic community plans that chart the course for member communities and partners. MVRPC’s geographic area includes Darke, Greene, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, Shelby, and northern Warren counties in Southwest Ohio. Learn more at [mvrpc.org/our-region](http://mvrpc.org/our-region).

# Arts & Entertainment

## Fun Family Programs at DML

Dayton Metro Library always has a calendar full of family events ranging from movies and wellness to stories and stuffie pals. Below is a small sampling of what is coming up in February.

**Family Movie Night,** New Lebanon Branch, Monday, February 3, 6-7:30 pm: Enjoy a movie screening of *Cool Runnings* (Rated PG, 1993).

**PJ Pals – Family Storytime,** Northmont Branch, Tuesdays in February, 6:30-7 pm: Patrons and kids can wear their pajamas and meet at the Branch for a family storytime that involves stories, songs, and activities that are fun for everyone.

**West Turns Three,** West Branch, Wednesday, February 5, 4-5 pm: Celebrate the West Branch's birthday by visiting with staff and patrons and making

new friends.

**Fireside Bookclub,** Northwest Branch, Wednesday, February 5, 4-5 pm: Explore stories and participate in discussions by the Branch's cozy fireplace.

**Family Program: Wellness** Wednesday, Main Library, Children's Creativity Space, Wednesday, February 6, 4-5 pm: Wellness and mindfulness workshops are the focus of this program, where patrons can journey to bettering their health and forming bonds with others.

**Paws to Read,** Northwest Branch, Thursday, February 6, 5:30-6 pm: Read a story to LuLu, a certified therapy dog from the Miami Pet Therapy Association.

**free to belong. Book Club,** E.C. Doren Branch, Thursday, February 6, 6-6:45 pm: Foster a love of reading by celebrating the magic of picture-books, exploring diverse

cultures, and creating memories through shared activities.

**The Game Zone,** Huber Heights Branch, Thursday, February 13, 4-5 pm: Play board or card games while making new friends.

**Stuffed Reading Buddy Adoption Event,** West Carrollton Branch, Friday, February 14, 2-4 pm: Patrons can adopt their own plush stuffie reading buddy to take home. Go through the adoption process of filling out an application and reading stuffie bios. Before taking the stuffie home, they will receive a check-up. The program includes making a craft too. Toddlers, preschoolers, and kids in grades K-6 are welcome.

For more information and additional family programs, visit [DaytonMetroLibrary.org](http://DaytonMetroLibrary.org) or call the Library's Ask Me Line at 937.463.2665.

## Troy-Hayner Cultural Center to Show Ghost on February 7th



Everyone needs something to do on a Friday night. Why not go to the movies? Friday Night Movies at the Hayner Center features classic movies with café style seating, popcorn and soda. All films start at 7:00 PM and are free and open to the public.

*Ghost* (1990) is a fast paced Romantic Thriller starring Patrick Swayze, Demi Moore and Whoopi Goldberg. Swayze plays Sam Wheat a murdered banker whose ghost is stuck on Earth. Golberg

portrays psychic Oda Mae Brown who helps save Sam's girlfriend Molly Jensen (Moore). *Ghost* won two Oscars at the 63rd Academy Awards. Whoopi Goldberg won Best Actress in a Supporting Role and Bruce Joel Rubin won Best Writing, Screenplay Written Directly for the Screen. The film is rated PG-13.

The Troy-Hayner Cultural Center is proudly supported by the citizens of the Troy City School District through a local tax levy and generous

gifts to the Friends of Hayner.

Troy-Hayner Cultural Center is located at 301 West Main Street, Troy, OH 45373. Hours of operation are Monday 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm, Tuesday – Thursday 9:00 am – 9:00 pm, Friday and Saturday 9:00 am – 5 pm, and Sunday 1:00 pm – 5 pm. The Hayner Center is closed on holidays. For more information, visit our website at [troyhayner.org](http://troyhayner.org) or call (937) 339-0457.

## Five Things You Can Do to Celebrate Black History Month on the Riverway

## Celebrate the Month of Love with the Miami Valley Symphony Orchestra

TROY, OH (January 28, 2025) – The Arbogast Performing Arts Center (APAC), located at 500 S. Dorset Rd. in Troy, OH, presents the tenth event of its 2024-2025 Season on Saturday, February 22, 2025, at 7:00 pm with the Miami Valley Symphony Orchestra: Love Notes.

February is the month of love, and what better way to capture this rich and complex emotion than through the beauty of music. 'Love Notes' by the Miami Valley Symphony Orchestra (MVSO) is a symphonic musical journey capturing the theme of love in its various forms, through the eyes of Tchaikovsky, among the pages of the Great American Songbook, across time to the era of Gershwin, over to opera's most well-known romantic arias, and straight into the power love ballads from Broadway and cinema. The orchestra will be led by MVSO Music Director and Conductor Awadagin Pratt, along with Concertmaster John Root.

The MVSO opens this one-of-a-kind evening with a visit to two of the most famous lovers in time with Tchaikovsky's *Romeo and Juliet Fantasy Overture*. The night continues with several classic love songs to fill the APAC with romance, including favorites like "Our Love is Here to Stay," "It Had to Be You," "My Funny Valentine," and more. The first half of the program closes with a medley that includes crooner Tony Bennett's signature love letter, "I Left My Heart in San Francisco."

After intermission, operatic and classical

music take center stage, with the saucy "Habanera" from Bizet's iconic opera *Carmen*, "Quando m'en vo" from Puccini's beloved *La bohème*, and the well-known and well-loved "O mio babbino caro," another one of Puccini's beautiful treasures. Concert-goers will then be in for a treat, as local ballroom dancers Ronnie and Cindy Mullins will dazzle with an intoxicating tango, the Latin dance of love. The night concludes with a visit to Broadway, with love songs from smash hits like *West Side Story* and *Les Misérables*. Finally, let's go to the movies with the timeless ballad "My Heart Will Go On" from the cinematic blockbuster *Titanic*.

This MVSO concert celebrating the rich emotion of love will include performances from two incredibly talented singers, each with Ohio ties:

Tommy Gearhart is a sensitive yet powerful jazz vocalist who has developed his own sound as he explores the Great American Songbook and jazz standards. Originally born in Toledo, Ohio, and raised in Detroit, Gearhart holds degrees from University of New Mexico and the College of Santa Fe. He currently lives in New York where he maintains a steady presence in the city's jazz club scene.

Soprano Victoria Okafor hails from the DC/Maryland area, and she holds degrees from Shenandoah Conservatory and the Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. Praised for her "silvery-voiced soprano" (Seen and Heard International), Okafor is steadily making a name for herself in the world of classical music. She has sung with prestigious companies such as Washington National Opera, Opera Birmingham, Opera

Columbus, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Cincinnati Opera.

The APAC is also thrilled to welcome back local musician David Wion, a gifted pianist and Director of The Troy-Hayner Cultural Center, who will do the honors of playing piano with the MVSO for this concert.

On Saturday, February 22, make it a date at the APAC with the Miami Valley Symphony Orchestra. Bring your special someone, your cherished loved ones, or those you just love spending time with to enjoy a magical evening immersed in the music of love.

**PURCHASING TICKETS:**

Tickets to Miami Valley Symphony Orchestra: Love Notes begin at \$30 and can be ordered in one of three ways:

- 1) Online at [www.etix.com/ticket/v/21323](http://www.etix.com/ticket/v/21323).
- 2) Calling the APAC Box Office at (937) 418-8392.
- 3) Visiting the APAC Box Office in person. The APAC Box Office is located at 500 S. Dorset Road, Troy, OH 45373, and is open Tuesday-Friday from 12:00pm-4:00pm.

Please Note: The APAC does not allocate tickets or authorize any other ticket seller, service, broker, or agent to sell tickets to APAC events. If you purchase tickets from anyone other than Arbogast Performing Arts Center (via [etix.com](http://etix.com)), please check the seller's credibility and examine tickets carefully for authenticity before purchasing. To avoid potential ticketing issues, including overpricing, purchase tickets only from the Arbogast Performing Arts Center online (via [etix.com](http://etix.com)), in person at the APAC Box Office, or by phone at 937-418-8392.



## Rotary Bourbon & Chocolate Festival, Hamilton, February 1 from 6 to 10pm

Chocolate samples from 15 of the area's finest dessert vendors, a bourbon tasting bar with rare and specialty bourbons, live entertainment, raffle prize baskets from local businesses, live and silent auctions

## Dinner & A Show

Troy | February 14 & 15  
Cut off for registrations is February 10



## Paint Your Partner

Sidney | February 14 @ 6pm

## Valentine's Dinner Entropy Brewing

Miamisburg | February 14 & 15  
Romantic dinner & live music



## Sweetheart Walk

February 8 @ 11am

This all-day passport event will take place in downtown Miamisburg. Check in at participating merchants and collect stickers for an entry to win the raffle basket!

# Education

## Wilberforce University to Celebrate Founders' Day 2025



WILBERFORCE, OH — Wilberforce University is proud to announce its annual Founders' Day Celebration, honoring the rich history and enduring legacy of the nation's first private historically Black college (HBCU.) The Founders' Day event will take place on Thursday, February 13, 2025, at 11:00 AM, in the Alumni-Multiplex Gymnasium.

This year's celebration promises to be especially inspiring as we welcome KaJeza Hawkins, a distinguished Wilberforce graduate from the Class of 2021 and current Weekend Anchor for WDTN News 2, as the keynote speaker.

As a news reporter, Ms. Hawkins covers a diverse range of topics with a particular focus on Ohio-related issues

such as crime, social issues, holidays, and natural disasters. Her work has been featured in prominent outlets including WKBN-TV, FOX 8 News Cleveland, Yahoo News, and WDTN-TV.

"Founders' Day is a time for us to reflect on the incredible legacy of Wilberforce University and the countless individuals who have shaped our institution into what it is today," says Wilberforce President Vann R. Newkirk, Ph.D. "We are honored to have Ms.

Hawkins as this year's keynote speaker. She has become a shining example of the excellence the University strives to instill in its students, and we are thrilled to have her share her journey and insights with the Wilberforce community."

The public is invited to attend Wilberforce Found-

ers Day 2025, celebrate the rich legacy of the University, and learn more about its glorious future!

To learn more visit Wilberforce.edu.

About Wilberforce University

Wilberforce University is the nation's oldest private, historically black University owned and operated by African Americans. Its roots trace back to its founding in 1856, a period of American history marred by the physical bondage of people of African descent.

The founding of Wilberforce University represented a bold, audacious, and visionary example of what could happen when men and women of goodwill transcended race and the prevailing social and cultural constructs and norms to pursue a noble purpose.

## Community Support Sought for Dayton Christian's \$7M Athletic and Arts Performance Center

MIAMISBURG, Ohio (WKEF) -- In less than two years, Dayton Christian students will no longer have to travel off-campus for football or soccer games. Dayton 24/7 Now's Gwyneth Falloon spoke with the school about its plans to build a new, multi-million dollar athletic and arts performance center and how you can help.

"Bring the Warriors home," said head of school, Matt Baker.

Soon, all Dayton Christian students will do just that, return home to campus off Spring Valley Pike in Miamisburg.

"In order to get space back that we're using currently in the academic wing and turn it into classrooms again, we

need to create an auxiliary gym that also can be used for other means," Baker shared. "We're also putting an athletic field out front."

It's a seven-million-dollar project, keeping all Warriors on-site and making room for the growing student body.

"It's about 50 hours that a young man and young lady will spend on the road, traveling to and from our soccer facility. You take new drivers, younger drivers that need to stay here rather than making that drive, it's just going to create a safer environment," said Baker. "We're at 1271 (students), right now, from 786. There's been a huge amount of growth in the last five years. We'll get back eight classrooms by making these two moves."

The multi-million dollar

project is funded by donors, who've raised more than half of the seven-million dollars needed, but they still need your help.

"Everybody will be here. When students get finished with practices and they get finished with different things that are after school, they'll be able to walk right out here on campus and go to those games," Baker said. "It'll build up the the feeling of just community and the feeling of belonging here for our students."

If you're interested in making a contribution, visit the school's website. Dayton Christian hopes to break ground in August and have the new facility ready to go for the 2026-27 school year.

## Civil Rights Icon Honored With Library Room Dedication... Continued from Page 1

mersing them in the values he championed, we aspire to inspire curiosity and ambition in young minds, encouraging them to explore the world of radio and broadcasting through

the lens of an iconic figure who was born, raised, and educated right here in Dayton, Ohio.

We fervently hope that our efforts to honor this remarkable icon will transcend the dedication

itself, igniting a movement that motivates future generations to engage, advocate, and make their voices heard in the ongoing fight for justice and equity.

## CITY OF TROTWOOD Black History Month "Expression Contest"

The City of Trotwood, Ohio, will host a student arts expression contest—including music, visual arts, and performance—to commemorate Black History Month!

Students in grades 3 – 12 from ALL schools within the City of Trotwood are encouraged to submit an original expression piece of their desire, inspired by the theme: "African-Americans and Labor" Submissions will be divided into three groups: 3rd -

5th grade, 6th – 8th grade, & 9th – 12th grade. There will be 3 winners selected from each group; winners will receive a cash prize and notable public recognition.

1st place - \$75  
2nd place - \$50  
3rd place - \$25

Contest entries must be submitted to Charles Wheeler III, Parks & Recreation Marketing Coordinator, via email at ch-

wheeler@trotwood.org, by Friday, February 21, 2025. Submissions must be original work and include the student's name, school, grade, and parent's contact information.

Please contact Parks and Recreation Marketing Coordinator Charles Wheeler III, at 937-854-7228, with questions regarding the competition.

## DML's Computer Programs for February

Dayton Metro Library consistently offers a variety of computer classes for patrons. Here are a few select programs taking place in February.

Internet Safety for Everyone, Monday, February 3, 6-7 pm, Miamisburg Branch: Patrons will gain insight and tips for protecting themselves while using the Internet.

Introduction to MyChart, Wednesday, February 5, 10 am-12 pm, West Branch: MyChart is an app through the Kettering Health Network that allows patrons and patients to connect to health information and doctors. Learn how to view medications, communicate with doctors, see after-care visit summaries, and more. Registration is required. Please have a MyChart account already set up before the class. Contact the Branch if one-on-one assistance is needed with this.

PressReader: Digital Magazines & Newspa-

pers, Tuesday, February 11, 2:30-3:30 pm, Huber Heights Branch: Access hundreds of free magazines and newspapers with this free database offered to DML Library Card holders. Registration is required, but limited space remains.

How to Print from Your Phone (iPhone & Android), Tuesday, February 11, 3-4 pm, West Branch: DML using Princh for wireless printing needs. Patrons will learn how to send print jobs to Library printers from their phones with the Princh app. Phones should be fully charged for this program.

Using Canva, Tuesday, February 11, 5:30-7 pm, Northwest Branch: Learn the basics of creating promotional graphics using Canva, a free online resource for designers. This includes going over Canva tools and site navigation. Patrons will need to have a Canva account. Registration is required.

Personal Cybersecurity, Tuesday, February 11,

6-7 pm, New Lebanon Branch: Learn the importance of data security and how to safely interact in digital spaces to protect personal information.

Internet Safety, Tuesday, February 25, 2-3:30 pm, Burkhardt Branch: Patrons will learn what makes an excellent password in addition to helpful methods for managing log-in credentials for multiple accounts. Registration is required.

Internet Searching, Thursday, February 27, 10 am-12 pm, Huber Heights Branch: Gain a deeper knowledge of website evaluation, security, and instructions on searching. Registration is required.

For more information, to register if required, and for additional computer classes, visit DaytonMetroLibrary.org or call the Library's Ask Me Line at 937.463.2665.

## HBCU Professor's Book Initiative Tackles Child Literacy and Hair Bullying

Dr. Linda J.M. Holloway, a passionate educator and advocate for children's welfare, has embarked on a mission to address two alarming issues facing young students: low literacy rates and the epidemic of hair bullying, particularly among Black children. When she discovered that one in three children were not reading at grade level and learned of the emotional distress caused by taunts about their hair, she felt compelled to take action.

In response, Dr. Holloway, an Alabama State University counselor educator, launched the "1,000 Free Books Giveaway" campaign three years ago to provide books to children in marginalized communities. Starting locally in Alabama, her initiative has expanded significantly, yielding over 2,500 free books distributed to children in need.

I Love My Happy Hair Her first book, "I Love My Happy Hair," is central to her campaign, which addresses hair bullying while promoting a positive self-image. The story follows a little girl



Dr. Linda J.M. Holloway

named Little Miss Linda who grapples with her feelings about her hair until her mother teaches her to appreciate its uniqueness. Through the enchanting tale, Little Miss Linda inspires other children to celebrate their hair and reject the negativity associated with hair bullying. Her journey is complemented by the uplifting "Happy Hair Song" and an anti-air bully pledge.


Dr. Holloway's impact has even reached South Africa, where her books have helped educators establish libraries, ensuring that children no longer need to travel long distances to access literature.

With over 30 years in academia, Dr. Holloway is more than an educator.

She is a story activist dedicated to using the power of storytelling to uplift and empower children. She has been featured across various media platforms, including The Roland Martin Show and The Griot, and has received multiple accolades for her contributions to education and social justice.

For those interested in following Dr. Holloway's impactful work, her YouTube channel showcases her efforts and provides additional resources for families seeking to support their children's literacy journey.

# Miami Valley DIRECTORY OF CHURCHES



**Worship At  
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Of Your  
Choice**

**COLLEGE HILL COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
(corner Philadelphia Dr. and Cornell Dr.)  
www.collegehillcommunitychurch.org  
**937-278-4203**  
We are a multicultural,  
multi-lingual congregation  
Morning Worship every Sunday  
at 10:30 am

**ST. MARGARET'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**




5301 Free Pike, Trotwood, Ohio 45426  
Office: 937.837.7741  
Office Hours: 10:00 am-2:00pm-Monday-Friday  
Website: www.stmargaretsdayton.org

Reverend Father  
Benjamin E. K. Speare-Hardy II, Rector

*The mission of St. Margaret's Episcopal Church is to worship, to serve and to form the spiritual and moral growth of individuals according to the teachings of Jesus Christ.*

**SERVICE SCHEDULE**  
Adult Bible Study - Sunday 9 AM  
Worship Service - Sunday 8 AM & 10:30 AM  
Sunday School - Sunday 10:30AM

**Mt. Enon Missionary Baptist Church**  
"Building a Healthy Church to Serve an Unhealthy Society"



**(937) 222-0867**  
**FAX: (937) 222-7336**

**SUNDAY**  
Sunday School.....8:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship Services.....10:00 a.m.

**WEDNESDAY**  
AM Prayer Meeting.....9:30 a.m.  
Bible Study.....11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

**Saturday**  
Bible Study.....11:00 a.m.

**Pastor Cory J. Pruitt**  
1501 W. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Dayton, OH, 45412

**WAYMAN CHAPEL A.M.E. CHURCH**  
3317 Hoover Avenue ~ Dayton, Ohio 45407  
**Rev. Gerald A. Cooper, Pastor**

937-268-6729 ~ Office      937-267-9804 ~ Fax



**SUNDAY**  
Church School      9:00 a.m.  
Worship Services      10:00 a.m.


**WEDNESDAY**  
Prayer Meeting/Bible Study      Noon

**THURSDAY**  
Food & Clothing Pantry 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Join us for a new beginning...

**Greater Allen A.M.E. Church**

**Rev. Elmer S. Martin, Pastor**  
1620 West Fifth Street  
Dayton, OH 45402-2910  
Church Phone: 937-223-5115  
Fax: 937-223-8872  
Email: greater\_allen\_ame@att.net



**Church Sunday School.....9:15 a.m.**  
Sunday Worship.....10:45 a.m.  
Women's Bible Study - Monday.....6:30 p.m.  
Noonday Bible Study - Wednesday.....12:00 p.m.  
Prayer Meeting - Wednesday.....7:00 p.m.  
Bible Study - Wednesday.....7:30 p.m.

**Believers Christian Fellowship Church**



3010 McCall Street, Dayton, OH 45417  
Tel. No.: 937-279-9343, Fax: 937-279-9342  
Toll Free: 1-844-679-9343  
email:bcfchurch@swohio.twcbc.com

**Rev. Dr. William E. Harris, Jr. Senior Pastor**

Sunday Service.....9:30 a.m.  
Church School - Sunday.....8:45 a.m.  
& Wednesday.....1:00 p.m.  
Bible Study/Prayer Meeting - Every  
Wednesday starting at.....6:00 p.m.

Check out our website: www.believers-christian.org  
Listen to our weekly radio show every Sunday at 8 am on 98.7 FM

**Zion Baptist Church**  
"And I, if I be lifted up from the Earth, will draw all men unto me."



**(937) 275-6906**  
**Fax 276-6267**

**Reverend Rockney Carter, Senior Pastor**

**Sunday**  
Church School.....9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m.  
Tues. Bible Study.....6:00 p.m.  
Wed. Prayer Meeting.....6:00 p.m.

**Other Ministry**  
email: rockney.carter@gmail.com  
1684 Earham Drive • Dayton, OH 45406

**Bethel Missionary Baptist Church**  
401 S. Paul Laurence Dunbar St. - Dayton, Ohio 45407  
Rev. Xavier L. Johnson, Senior Pastor  
937-222-4373 - Office - Email: offices@bmbcdayton.org




**SUNDAYS**  
Church School      9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship      10:45 a.m.

**WEDNESDAY**  
Bible Study      12:00 noon  
Word & Worship      6:30 p.m.

Bethel services are aired on DSTV Time Warner Wednesdays at 3:00 p.m. and Saturdays at 9:00 p.m. Time Warner Cable 992

**ZION HILL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Rev. Dr. Junior F. Greenlee - Pastor  
Church School .....9:00 AM  
Morning Worship.....10:55 AM  
Wed. Prayer Service.....6:00 PM



**ZION HILL BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE**  
Mondays & Fridays - 6:00 p.m.

"Forever Learning And Not Coming To The Full Knowledge Of Truth"  
263-6104 or 837-2486  
Fax 263-0627  
1900 W. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Way

**Ethan Temple Seventh Day Adventist Church**  
4000 Shiloh Springs Road, Clayton, Ohio 45315  
(937) 837-9326 • www.ethantemplesda.org



Services Each Saturday:  
Sabbath School      9:15 a.m.  
Morning Worship      11:00 a.m.  
Mid Week Prayer Service      7:00 p.m.  
Dr. William T. Cox, Sr., Pastor

**SHILOH BAPTIST CHURCH**  
3801 Fairbanks Avenue  
Office: 937-268-6711 Fax: 937-221-8040



**Rev. Dr. Marcettes Cunningham, D.Min., Pastor**  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.  
Wednesday  
Prayer/Bible Study, 12:00 & 7:00 p.m.  
Evening Prayer, 6:30 p.m.

**Dixon United Methodist Church**  
1691 Infirmary Rd. - Dayton, OH 45417



Church Phone:  
(937) 835-3366  
Email:  
Dixonumc1691@gmail.com  
Website:  
Dixonumcdayton.org

Sunday School.....10:00 a.m.  
Sunday Morning Worship.....11:00 a.m.  
Midweek Bible Study- Wednesday.....  
6:00-7:30 p.m. Via Zoom  
Prayer Meeting - Saturday.....10:00 a.m.  
Text In Prayer Request 1-888-646-9678

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Weekly News**

# Religion

## Black History Month (2025)

### Tragedy at Reagan National... Continued from Page 3

traveled to Kansas to hunt waterfowl. The other six who had perished in the crash are Jesse Pitcher, 30; Steve Johnson, 45; Alexander Huffman, 34; Charles McDaniel, 44; Jonathan Boyd, 40 and Tommy Clagget, 38.

Jesse Pitcher  
Jessie Pitcher, who owned a plumbing business, was part of the hunting group. He was described in Facebook posts by those close to him as a "true friend".

Grace Maxwell  
Grace Maxwell, 20, was a Wichita native who was on the flight after attending the funeral for her grandfather, Charles Andrew Winter, in Kansas. She was studying biomedical engineering at Cedarville University in Ohio.

"Grace was a quiet person with a keen interest in helping others through engineering," said Dr Tim Norman, who served as her secondary adviser, to WBNS.

"We had game nights every Sunday at 5pm, and she was always the first person there," Riley Blair, Maxwell's friend and roommate, told the Dayton Daily News. "She could just play games with us for hours if we let her. She loved it so much, and that's one of my favorite memories of her."

Wendy Shaffer  
Wendy Shaffer was a mother to two children, ages three and one. Her husband, Nate Schaffer,

described her as "the best wife, mother, and friend that anyone could ever hope for".

Kiah Duggins  
Kiah Duggins was a lawyer with the Civil Rights Corps and was scheduled to begin teaching at Howard University School of Law this fall. Her death was confirmed in a statement by the university.

In her job, she was known to challenge "un-constitutional policing and money bail practices in Tennessee, Texas and Washington DC". She also previously worked with the ACLU of Northern California and challenged "police misconduct and other harms of the criminal legal system".

Elizabeth Keys  
Elizabeth Keys was an attorney who was killed on her birthday in the crash. She had just turned 33 when she was killed in the collision, her partner, David Seidman, said. The pair had met at Georgetown Law School.

Lori Schrock and Robert 'Bob' Schrock  
Lori Schrock, 56, and her husband, Robert "Bob" Schrock, 58, are among those who died in the midair collision. The Schrocks lived in Kiowa, Kansas, about 90 miles south-west of Wichita near the Oklahoma border, where Bob was a farmer.

Grace Cantrell, a childhood friend of Bob and Lori Schrock's daughter, Ellie, told NBC News she was heartbroken by their loss, calling the pair "gifts from God".

Sarah Lee Best

Sarah Lee Best was an associate at the Wilkin-son Stekloff law firm in Washington DC. She was married to her husband of almost 10 years, Daniel Solomon. The couple had first met at Vanderbilt University in Nashville. Solomon said they had been planning to finally take their honeymoon this May in Hawaii, where Sarah was born, to celebrate what would have been their 10th anniversary.

Pergentino Malabed Jr  
Col Pergentino Malabed Jr was a Philippine police official who was in the US to inspect equipment for the national police. His death is a "profound loss", police spokesperson Col Randulf Tũaño said to Newsweek, praising his dedication and integrity.

Vikesh Patel  
Vikesh Patel was an employee for GE Aerospace, an American aircraft engine supplier. He is remembered as a "cherished" colleague by Larry Culp, the company's chair and CEO.

"This is a tragedy not only for our industry, but also for the GE Aerospace team," the company said on X. According to his LinkedIn, Patel has worked at GE Aerospace for over 11 years.

Melissa Jane Nicandri  
Melissa Jane Nicandri, 28, of Brooklyn, was also among those killed in the American Airlines crash, New York City's mayor, Eric Adams, said in a post on X.

Nicandri was traveling back to New York after a work trip in Kansas and had a connection through

University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff (UAPB) Founder, Dr. Joseph Carter Corbin, will be on exhibit at College Hill Community Church, PCUSA in Dayton, Ohio and featured during the "Tell Your Own Story" Black History Youth Seminar on February 22, 2025.

\* \* \*

KISS TV Show with Bishop Clarence Norton (Dayton Access TV - DATV) will air "Almost Lost to History: The Legacy of Joseph Carter Corbin ... an interview with Dr. Gladys Turner Finney. (February 10th at 2:00 P.M. and February 13th at 10:00 P.M.) The show can also be seen at KISS TV Show at YouTube.com@kisstvshow6443

\* \* \*

Memorial funds will be solicited during the month for Professor Joseph Carter Corbin Memorial Scholarship at Ohio University and the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, UAPB.

https://uapb.tfaforms.net/31 ... Choose the designation: The Corbin Scholarship.  
https://giving.ohio.edu ... Choose the designation: Joseph Carter Corbin Memorial Scholarship Fund under the College of Arts and Sciences, College-wide Funds.

Reagan National airport, her mother, Stacie Nican-dri, told Gothamist .

"She was an amazing woman, she was an amazing girl and had so much going for her," she said.

Flight crew victims  
Jonathan Campos  
Captain Jonathan Campos, 34, was the pilot of the plane. His aunt, Beverly Lane, shared with the New York Times that her nephew had wanted to be a pilot since he was three years old.

"I think he wanted to be free, and be able to fly and soar like a bird," Lane said.

Sam Lilley  
Sam Lilley was the other pilot of the plane. His father, Timothy Lilley, wrote on Facebook : "I was so proud when Sam became a pilot. Now it hurts so bad I can't even cry myself to sleep." He shared that his son was engaged to be married in the fall.

"It is so devastating to lose someone that is loved

so much," he added.

Ian Epstein  
Ian Epstein was a flight attendant for American Airlines. His death was confirmed by his wife, Debi Epstein.

"It is with a very heavy heart and extreme sadness that myself along with our children Hannah Epstein and Joanna Epstein ... inform you that Ian Epstein was one of the flight attendants on American Airlines Flight 5342 that collided last night when they were landing in DC," Debi Epstein wrote on Facebook . "Please pray for Ian and our family as we travel to DC."

Danasia Brown Elder  
Danasia Brown Elder was a flight attendant working on the flight. Several of her friends have posted tribute messages to her on social media, describing her as a "beautiful spirit".

Helicopter victims  
Ryan O'Hara  
Ryan O'Hara, 28, was the helicopter's crew

chief. He is survived by his wife and one-year-old son.

"Ryan is fondly remembered as a guy who would fix things around the ROTC gym as well as a vital member of the Rifle Team," Parkview high school, where he graduated, wrote in a statement.

Andrew Loyd Eaves  
Chief Warrant Officer Andrew Loyd Eaves, 39, was confirmed to have been onboard the helicopter.

"Our deepest condolences go out to all the families and friends impacted during this tragedy, and we will support them through this difficult time. Our top priority is to assist in the recovery efforts, while fully cooperating with ... investigative agencies to determine the cause of this tragic incident," the US army wrote in a statement .

The name of the third soldier is currently being withheld at the request of the family.

## Veteran Stood Up to Segregation



Joe Lewis at Friends Care in Yellow Springs in January 2024

Loud As The Rolling Sea is WYSO's series that began with a community oral history project in Yellow Springs more than a decade ago. It highlights the stories of local civil rights activists born in the 1920s and 30s.

In honor of Black History Month, we are airing a new episode of Loud as the Rolling Sea every Friday for the next month.

This week we present a conversation with series producer Dr. Kevin McGruder and the late Joe Lewis.

Kevin McGruder: After World War Two, President Harry Truman took significant action to combat racial segregation and discrimination in the United States, including within the military. In 1948, Truman signed an executive order mandating equal opportunities in the armed forces regardless of race. That was an important change that benefited Joe Lewis.

Lewis grew up in the Clinton County, Ohio in the farming community of Sabina that he described as open, indicating that his black family lived side by side with white families, which wasn't the case in some other small Ohio communities during that era. After graduating from high school in 1948 and working for a year, he began considering his next step. He loved flying.

Joe Lewis: I said, 'Well, I think I'll join the Air Force.' So I was able to be in the career

field that I wanted to go into, which was electronics and radar. And then I went to Japan and I was in an air rescue squadron. They maintained the air crews in Korea to pick up downed airmen. And if one of my planes was down over there and had radar problems, I would fly over to Korea and fix the airplane and radar and come back home, back to Japan. And that happened a couple of times, but the experience was very good.

McGruder: You were in the Air Force for about how long?

Lewis: Four years. I went in August of 1950 and came out in August of 1954. And when I came out, I went to work at Dayton Air Force Depot, which no longer exists. About less than a year after I was over there, there was a new radar coming online for us to repair, and they were looking for people to go to school on it. Well, I was single, so I was free to go. And the school was in Mississippi at Keesler Airforce Base. So I went down there and spent one whole summer on this new radar system: a Doppler radar, which was new to the Air Force.

McGruder: What was Mississippi like on base? Off base?

Lewis: Well, Mississippi was the heart of the south. And on base, it was just like any place else. Off base, you had Mississippi laws, which you had to be aware of.

When you got on a bus, you were supposed to ride in the back of the bus and whatnot. And I, having lived in Ohio all my life, born and raised in Ohio,

that didn't sit well. So I remember one day I said, 'well, before I go back home, I'm going right up front.' And I did. And I didn't make the bus driver happy.

McGruder: How did you get that impression? Did he say something?

Lewis: He said, 'You're not supposed to ride up here, you're supposed to ride in the back.' And I said, 'Well, as long as I'm in uniform, and I paid \$0.25 like everybody else, I will ride any damn place I want to ride.'

Well, that made him very upset. But I said, 'Well, there's not much you can do about it.' So I didn't want to aggravate him anymore. So I just walked out and he went on. But I said to myself I was going to do it. And I did.

I paid \$0.25 like everybody else, I will ride any damn place I want to ride.

McGruder: The training that Lewis gained during his service prepared him for a lifelong civilian career, mainly at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, where he eventually focused on computer coding for advanced logistic systems. In 1963, Lewis and his wife Frances, moved to Yellow Springs, where they raised their children Lorraine, Joe and Diane. At Joe Lewis's funeral, his friend Governor Mike DeWine, recounted Joe's 1950s encounter with the Mississippi bus driver.

Loud As The Rolling Sea is produced at the Eichelberger Center for Community Voices at WYSO.

# Editorial & Comments

## Something to Consider:

### Doing Our Best to Thrive

By: Brenda Cochran  
Contributing Writer

We often hear people speak of the fact that there are people who are working diligently just to survive, but often we hear the need for people to work hard in order to thrive?

If we are working diligently to thrive. The word thrive means to actively taking steps and putting in effort to flourish, grow, and reach our full potential in life, embracing challenge and adapting to circumstances to achieve a positive and fulfilling state of being; essentially trying to live a life that is not just surviving, but actually flourishing and progressing.

Though the sentences provide a firm description of the word thrive, do we really understand the meaning? If you look up the word in the dictionary, you find two definitions; you first find that it means to grow or develop well or vigorously and you may also find that it means to prosper or flourish.

There are a number of key words that stand out in these definitions and is the word grow, develop, prosper and flourish, but one interesting points is thriving means a lot of different things to different people. We probably each have our own definitions of what thriving really means to us.

Think about this definition: One person could ask you – what does thrive mean to you. You could say – “A couple of years



Brenda Cochran

ago, I would say “financial freedom which means that I would have assets rather than shouldering liabilities. Basically, thriving means I could travel and work from anywhere instead of having to be in one place with set hours of work. It also means that I would continue to improve myself and my skills.”

According to Maya Angelou, well-known poetess, “My mission in life is not merely to survive, but to thrive and to do so with some passion, some compassion, some humor and some style.”

Thriving can tell us a lot about ourselves and reflect our personality in several ways. What about Bill Gates? Most have heard of him and I wonder what he would say if you asked him – “What does it mean to thrive?” All we would have to do is to look at what he has achieved? We would find it is his success in business, what he has achieved financially; he's pretty famous, but more

than that, he owns assets – like stocks and shares because he has invested in private companies.

Now, here is a question – What does thriving people have? You could ask several people. The first one would be financial freedom. Those who are considered to be thriving are often thought to be associated with having an abundance of money. They are also believed to own a number of assets.

In other words, thriving folks are known as owning a lot of things such as cars, or houses, but assets could also include stocks and shares (financial assets). Thriving people are further known as having the freedom to travel when ever they want or for however long they want and they have a lack of money worries, troubles, struggles, or if they do have them, money worries don't seem to last for long, or hit them very hard.

The most important description of thriving people is that they have the confidence in self-belief to be successful. Here are four other possible answers:

!) **Success**, 2) **Freedom**, 3) **Happiness**, 4) **Good Health**.

**Surviving is Important – Thriving is Elegant**

## Think Spring with DML's Garden Programs

Begin planning for spring gardening and such with Dayton Metro Library's programs.

Starting Seeds Indoors: Learn from a master gardener how to begin seeds indoors, add greenery indoors, and take care of indoor plants.

Friday, February 7, 2-3 pm, Kettering-Moraine Branch

Tuesday, February 25, 2-3 pm, Miami Township

Branch (registration is required for this session)

Rain Barrels with Montgomery Soil and Water Conservancy District, Thursday, February 13, 2-3 pm, Miami Township Branch: Mike Mullen will share the benefits and uses of rain barrels (reducing stormwater runoff, saving money, and storing water for gardening). Registration is required.

Orchids 101, Thursday,

February 13, 6:30-7:30 pm, Vandalia Branch:

A master gardener will discuss the cultural requirements and needs for growing Orchids. A demo of repotting a typical Orchid is included. Registration is required.

For more information and to register if required, visit DaytonMetroLibrary.org or call the Library's Ask Me Line at 937.463.2665.

## What Is Black History Month? Past, Present, and Future

Black History Month began as “Negro History Week” in 1926, created by historian Carter G. Woodson and the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH). Woodson, often called the “Father of Black History,” wanted to highlight the achievements of African Americans, whose contributions were often ignored in mainstream historical narratives. He chose the second week of February to coincide with the birthdays of Abraham Lincoln (February 12) and Frederick Douglass (February 14), both of whom played significant roles

in Black history.

The week gained widespread support from Black educators and communities, leading to its expansion. By the late 1960s, during the rise of the civil rights and Black Power movements, there was a push to extend the celebration. By 1976, the celebration expanded into Black History Month, recognized by the U.S. government and celebrated every February.

Now, you'll see schools, businesses, and even some of your favorite brands (hello, limited-edition BHM merch) acknowledging Black excellence.

Why Black History Month Still Matters

Black culture is still being appropriated, and systemic racism isn't just a thing of the past—it's alive and well. Not to mention, the history books

in schools are failing us.

Black History Month isn't just about looking back; it's about educating people, celebrating our wins, and acknowledging

the work still left to do, because if we don't do it, no one will.

How We Celebrate Black History Month  
Educating Ourselves &

Others – Whether it's reading books by Black authors, watching documentaries, or attending local events, learning is key.

Supporting Black-Owned Businesses – We buy Black year-round, but February is a great time to be intentional about where your dollars go.

Honoring Black Excellence – From historical figures to present-day icons, give them flowers by acknowledging their contributions

Speaking Up & Advocating – Black History Month is also a reminder to keep pushing for justice and equality.



# Health

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**9:30AM - 11:30AM**

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## Black Women Face Higher Risks of Developing and Dying From Cervical Cancer

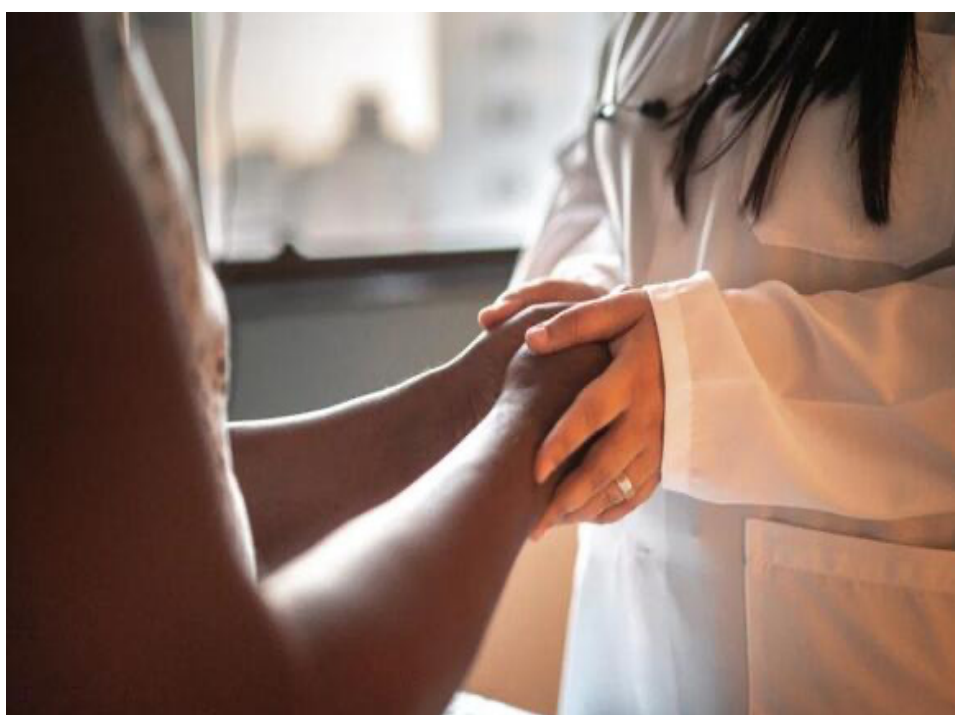
Research explores why Black women face higher risks of developing and dying from cervical cancer.

New research highlights how much more vulnerable Black women are to developing cervical cancer and facing higher mortality rates from the disease than any other group.

On Wednesday, BlackDoctor.org unveiled findings from the St. Jude HPV Cancer Prevention Program, which show how cervical cancer disproportionately affects Black women. Studies show that Black women are 41% more likely to develop cervical cancer than white women and are 75% more likely to die from it.

St. Jude identified three key factors contributing to the higher cervical cancer mortality rate among Black women: medical mistrust, insufficient follow-up care, and limited awareness about HPV vaccinations and the virus itself, which is the leading cause of cervical cancer. Black women are more likely to receive a late-stage cervical cancer diagnosis, contributing to lower five-year survival rates for a largely preventable disease.

One key factor behind delayed diagnoses is a generational mistrust of the medical system. Another factor is that Black women have the lowest follow-up rates after abnormal screenings. According to Human Rights Watch, these issues worsen with age, with Black women over 70 being three times more likely to die from cervical cancer, even though screening guidelines end at 65.



Many people are unaware of how HPV is transmitted and the importance of HPV vaccinations. The virus, primarily spread through sexual contact, is the leading cause of cervical cancer. While most HPV infections cause no health issues, certain high-risk strains can develop into cervical cancer if not detected and treated early.

HPV has more than 100 strains, with some considered high-risk because they can lead to abnormal cell changes in the cervix.

“If someone has one of those, a lot of times there are no symptoms. It can just continue to affect the cervix, leading to abnormal cells,” Joyce Idehen, MD, said.

“Over time, if there’s no detection or awareness, it

can continue to develop and eventually turn into cancer.”

Another contributor to disparities is medical racism and implicit bias within the healthcare system. Primary care providers (PCPs) can deprioritize or overlook preventive screenings for Black women, leading to delayed diagnoses and worse health outcomes.

Studies have shown that Black patients are less likely to receive timely screenings, proper pain management, or referrals to specialists compared to white patients. Researchers stress the importance of tackling these systemic issues just as much as promoting individual health advocacy.

When it comes to pre-

vention, cervical cancer is preventable through regular Pap smears, HPV vaccination, and safe sexual practices. Both men and women should take an active role in their sexual health by engaging in open conversations and advocating for early detection. Raising awareness and ensuring equal access to preventive care can save lives.

“For women, take ownership of your preventive care—get your routine Pap smears and, if not vaccinated as a child, get vaccinated now,” Dr. Idehen suggests.

“For men, get vaccinated and take responsibility for your sexual health. Prevention is key, and it’s never too late to make these health changes.”

## February Blood Drives in Montgomery County

As February begins, Charles Borromeo Parish, 4500 Ackerman Blvd., Kettering, OH 45429.

Keller Williams Hometown Realty, Saturday, Feb. 8, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Vandalia Recreation Center, Special Events Room, 1111 Stonequarry Drive, Dayton, OH 45414.

Upcoming blood drives in Montgomery County include:

Fairhaven Church Blood Drive: Saturday, Feb. 1, from 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Fairhaven Church, 637 East Whipp Road, Centerville, OH 45459.

Centerville Community Blood Drive: Monday, Feb. 3, from 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Centerville Community, 500 East Franklin St., Centerville, OH 45459.

City of Riverside Blood Drive: Monday, Feb. 3, from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at City of Riverside, 5200 Springfield St., Riverside, OH 45431.

Kettering Health Washington Township Blood Drive: Monday, Feb. 3, from 11:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Kettering Health Washington Township, 1997 Miamisburg-Centerville Rd., Centerville, OH 45459.

Miamisburg Christian Church Blood Drive: Tuesday, Feb. 4, from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Miamisburg Christian Church, 1146 East Central Ave., Miamisburg, OH 45342.

Kettering Health Dayton Blood Drive: Wednesday, Feb. 5, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Kettering Health Dayton, 405 Grand Ave., Dayton, OH 45405.

Living Water Lutheran Church Blood Drive: Wednesday, Feb. 5, from 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Living Water Lutheran Church, 667 Miamisburg-Centerville Rd., Centerville, OH 45459.

Austin Landing Blood Drive: Thursday, Feb. 6, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Austin Landing, 10100 Innovation Drive, Miamisburg, OH 45342.

St. Charles Borromeo Parish Blood Drive: Saturday, Feb. 8, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at St.

Charles Borromeo Parish, 4500 Ackerman Blvd., Kettering, OH 45429.

Keller Williams Hometown Realty, Saturday, Feb. 8, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Vandalia Recreation Center, Special Events Room, 1111 Stonequarry Drive, Dayton, OH 45414.

YMCA at The Heights, Monday, Feb. 10, from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. at YMCA at The Heights, Parking Lot, 7251 Shull Rd., Huber Heights, OH 45424.

Incarnation Church Blood Drive: Monday, Feb. 10, from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Incarnation Church, 55 Williamsburg Lane, Centerville, OH 45459.

Oakwood Community Blood Drive: Wednesday, Feb. 12, from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at Oakwood Community, 105 Patterson Rd., Oakwood, OH 45419.

St. Peter Catholic Church, Saturday, Feb. 22, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at St. Peter Catholic Church, School Cafeteria, 6185 Chambersburg Road, Huber Heights, OH 45424.

Centerville Police Department Blood Drive: Monday, Feb. 24, from 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at Centerville Police Department, Training Headquarters, 155 West Spring Valley Pike, Centerville, OH 45458.

City of West Carrollton Blood Drive: Tuesday, Feb. 25, from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at City of West Carrollton, 300 East Central Ave., West Carrollton, OH 45449.

Danis Blood Drive: Tuesday, Feb. 25, from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Danis, 3233 Newmark Dr., Miamisburg, OH 45342.

Walk-ins are welcome, or you can make an appointment by calling (937) 461-3220. To register online, please visit our website at [VersitiDayton.org](http://VersitiDayton.org).

For 60 years, we have proudly served our community as the Community Blood Center, and we are now Versiti Blood Center of Ohio. Our commitment to helping neighbors in need remains unwavering.

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