

Western Wayne County NAACP
Celebrating 75 Years | 1947 - 2022

25th Anniversary

FREEDOM FUND Celebration & Dinner

Accelerating Change Despite the Odds

Keynote Speaker



Laura Dickerson
UAW Region 1A Director

Keynote Speaker



Byron Brooks
Ex. Dir. - From the Hood For The Hood

Sunday, October 16th, 2022

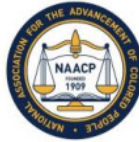
Crystal Gardens Southgate
16703 Fort St. Southgate, MI 48195

Doors open at 4:00 PM
Celebration begins at 4:30 PM

WHEN WE FIGHT, WE WIN!



Pastor V. Overman
W/WC NAACP Interim President



NAACP

Michigan State Conference

Celebrating ... "86 Years" of Ensuring Equal Rights for All



Yvonne M. White
State President

Kyra L. Mitchell
Youth & College Division
President

October 16, 2022

Locations:

- Albion
- Albion College
- Ann Arbor
- Battle Creek
- Bay City
- Cass Technical High School
- Central Michigan University
- Detroit Central
- East Detroit
- Eastern Michigan University
- Everett High School, Lansing
- Ferris State University
- Flint
- Grand Rapids
- Grand Valley State University
- Grosse Pointes/Harper Woods
- Hamtramck
- Highland Park
- Jackson County
- Kalamazoo
- Lake & Newago Counties
- Lansing
- Lenawee County
- Michigan State University
- Monroe County
- Muskegon
- Niles
- Northern Macomb County
- Northern Oakland County
- Oak Park High School
- Olivet College
- Port Huron
- River Rouge/Ecoise
- Saginaw
- Southwest Detroit
- Southern Macomb County
- Southern Oakland County
- Southfield/Farmington
- Three Rivers
- Twin City Area
- University of Michigan
- Van Buren County
- Wayne State University
- Western Michigan University
- Western Wayne County
- Ypsilanti/Willow Run

Dear NAACP Freedom Fighters & Supporters:

On behalf of the officers and units of the NAACP Michigan State Conference, it is with great pleasure that I extend heartfelt greetings to you on the grand occasion of your 75th Branch Anniversary and 25th Freedom Fund Dinner Celebration themed; *"Accelerating Change Despite The Odds!"*

More than a century after the right to vote was declared fundamental, that right is now under attack. Efforts to make it harder for minorities and others to participate in the political process are increasing all across the country, including Michigan, and we're fighting those efforts in court. However, we must be engaged as stakeholders and policymakers, and not just bystanders in this democracy. We must continue our vigilant work in protecting voting rights for not just our own sake, but for the sake of our children and for the sake of the next generations to come.

Voting is critical to the integrity of our democracy, which is why our voting rights must be protected in Michigan's constitution. The Proposal 22-2 ballot initiative will help to protect our fundamental right to vote and ensure Michigan elections are free from intimidation, interference or harassment. The NAACP Michigan State Conference is proud to support this important effort to ensure that regardless of what candidate or political party you may support, and regardless of what we look like or where we live, everyone will have unfettered access to the ballot box. Voting is Power! Power your vote on Election Day, November 8.

So today, as you briefly step away from the front lines of the fight for social justice to reflect on the great work you are doing, we wish to express a world of gratitude to the entire NAACP Western Wayne County Branch leadership, and the many members and volunteers who work daily to defend the principles and mission of this great Association. A very special "Thank You!" for all that you have done to help advance our NAACP social justice work in Michigan. Let the passion in your hearts continue to be your guide as you uphold the freedom and justice fight for all Americans.

Congratulations on 75 years of accelerating change despite the odds and best wishes for a successful event. When We Vote, We Win!

Yvonne M. White
President, NAACP Michigan State Conference
Asst. Treasurer, NAACP National Board of Directors

[#MIVotesPower](#)

Stay Connected:



WESTERN WAYNE COUNTY
NAACP



Greetings

Welcome to the 75th Anniversary celebration of the Western Wayne County NAACP representing 24 communities with over six hundred thousand residents. As we look forward to being in person for the 1st time since 2019; I can sense we are all ready to experience tonight's celebration of the many brilliant facets of our Diamond Anniversary. Our Freedom Fund Leadership Team, under the excellent leadership of Dakima Jackson and Marvin Franklin, has worked relentlessly to prepare an evening that you will not soon forget.

We have collectively experienced a year of firsts in 2022. We saw the first South Asian, Black, and Multi-racial Vice President in Kamala Harris. We saw the first Black Woman appointed to the United States Supreme Court in Justice Katanji Brown Jackson. I am proud to say that in 2022, The Western Wayne County NAACP has continued our tradition of being 1st by being comprised of visionary trailblazers who excel to greatness. Many of our Executive Committee Members accepted the challenge to lead by example by running for political office at the state and local levels. Tonight, for the very 1st time, we will have two keynote speakers that are also the 1st in their respective careers.

We have had an extraordinary year supporting the work in our many communities in helping to address the issues surrounding Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. We were there at the forefront when inconsistency in Law enforcement towards people of color by bringing community conversations to the table to retrain community awareness. We hosted town halls conversations around the bigotry that still lingers in our public schools. We provided education about racial disparities in healthcare through our webinars and social media. We held a month-long call to action with Faith leaders in Western Wayne County to strategize around mutual aid for our communities. Our committees are strong, and we have worked tirelessly to provide information and resources for COVID-19 vaccinations. We will continue to work to reduce healthcare disparities throughout Wayne County through our various partnerships. Yes, the WWC NAACP is about the work!

When I think about our Diamond Anniversary and the process of becoming a Diamond, the pressure that coal is placed under to produce the many beautiful, brilliant facets, only serves to validate the influence of our collective voices in the Western Wayne County NAACP.

We look forward to another 75 years of fellowship and celebration as we remain in the fight toward liberation.

Please enjoy the evening and may God Bless you and yours.

www.westernwaynecountynaacp.org

Pastor Velma Jean Overman
Western Wayne County NAACP
Acting President



MESSAGE FROM THE FREEDOM FUND DINNER CHAIRPERSON

DAKIMA JACKSON



Greeting Members, Supporters and Friends,

Accelerating change, despite the odds. Change is a continuous process, and we must continue the process of improving our communities. I thank every one of you for helping us to make the vital changes starting at this very moment.

Systemic racism is a plague which harms us all, even more the Descendants of Slaves Black Americans fighting to thrive in a system of problems lasting over 400 years. Together we are here to make the necessary investments and improvements in our economic system, education, housing, workforce, environmental, businesses, agriculture, health, and justice systems with the goal of eradicating injustices.

75 years of Advocating, the Western Wayne County Branch is continuing the Freedom Fight and 25 years at recognizing the work being done during our Freedom Fund events. Part of the work is investing in our future by awarding our young people withscholarships to assist with their educational goals. We continue our work with community partnerships by recognizing everyday people who are working every moment to help our communities thrive. The work is seen by many through each of our honorees Freedom & Justice - **Judge David Perkins** , Exceptional Leadership **Rev. Arthur Willis Sr.** – Trailblazer, **Tarence Wheeler** – Great Expectations-**Peyton Kitchen and Eldridge Ross**, Community Partner—**Black Family Development**, Lifetime Achievement—**Mable Stroman** and – Elected Official Service Award—Senator **Erika Geiss**

To our gracious Master of Ceremony, Marvin Franklin, thank you for giving us your precious time to commemorate this event. To our friends **Byron Brooks & Laura Dickerson**, we thank you for sharing your passion, voice, wisdom and presence with us for this special moment. Furthermore, this event could not have happened without a team, our freedom fund committee members who have given themselves unselfishly to coordinate this in person event. To our interim- president **Pastor Velma Overman**of the Western Wayne County Branch, thank you, you are heaven sent.

A Special thank you to our **all of sponsors**.

As always, I am grateful to be in the moment with our courageous members, supporters, and sponsors that have given your commitment to making this event happen today, thank you.

In closing, we thank you, and I hope you enjoy our 75th & 25th.

Dakima Jackson
2022 Freedom Fund Chair

**Congratulations to the
Western Wayne County NAACP
on your 75th Anniversary
from**



Vicki Dobbins & Ronnie Dupree

*Continue to make an impact in
our region*



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

DEBBIE DINGELL
12TH DISTRICT
MICHIGAN

Dear Friends,

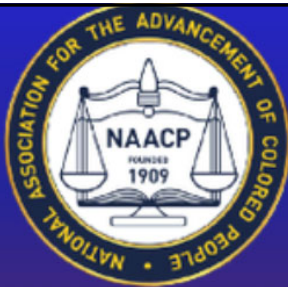
It is my privilege to welcome you all to the 2022 Western Wayne County NAACP Freedom Fund Dinner. The success of this dinner over the years has proven how valuable the Western Wayne NAACP is a partner in our fight for social justice. This year's dinner is special for two reasons: it is the first in-person dinner since the COVID-19 pandemic and we are also celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Western Wayne Branch.

We live in a time when many people take for granted the rights secured for us by members of this great organization. We have been reminded by recent events, both across the country and here at home, of the necessity of continuing the struggle for civil rights. With the hard-earned gains we have made, we must remain vigilant against those who seek to turn back the clock, and I know that our Western Wayne Branch of the NAACP remains committed to this task.

We owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to the NAACP and our Western Wayne Branch will remain a point of pride in this community. Enjoy this evening spent with good friends and never lose sight of our goal: a full realization of the American Dream for every person.

Sincerely yours,

Debbie Dingell



WESTERN WAYNE COUNTY NAACP

Congratulations on your 2022 Freedom Fund Dinner

&

75th Anniversary

from the Ladies of
Inkster Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.



Vivian L. Kirkland, President

Karen Braxton, Social Action Chair Donna Wilson, Social Action Co-Chair

#IACElevateOurPresence #DSTVotes #ForwardwithFortitude

ELEVATE

Our Presence

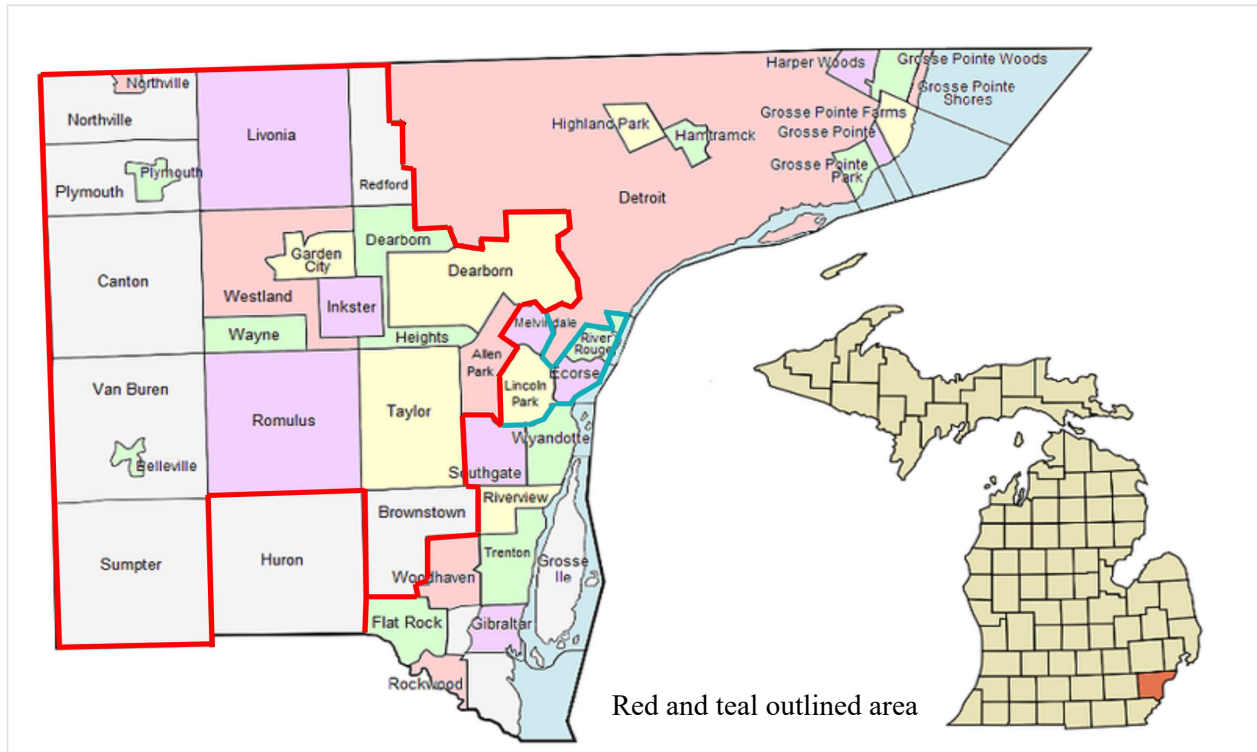
ENHANCE

Our Sisterhood

EMPOWER

Our Youth and Communities

WESTERN WAYNE COUNTY NAACP COVERAGE AREA



NAACP - Western Wayne County Branch CITIES REPRESENTED

About NAACP Western Wayne County Branch

The NAACP Western Wayne County Branch was founded in June 1947 as the Inkster Branch. The branch represents 24 cities and Townships which include; Allen Park, Belleville, Brownstown, Canton, Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, Ecorse, Garden City, Inkster, Lincoln Park, Livonia, Melvindale, New Boston, Northville, Plymouth, Redford, River Rouge, Romulus, Sumpter, Taylor, Van Buren Township, Wayne, Westland and Wyandotte.

THE INKSTER MINISTERIAL ALLIANCE CONGRATULATES THE WESTERN WAYNE COUNTY NAACP BRANCH ON YOUR 25th FREEDOM FUND EVENT

OFFICERS

President—Rev. John Hearn, Jr.
Christian Faith Ministries

Vice-President—Rev. Dr. John Duckworth
Gethsemane Missionary Baptist Church

Secretary—Rev. Velma Jean Overman
Christ Temple /Operation Refuge

Treasurer—Rev. George Williams
National Christians in Action

Where there is Unity, there is Strength

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
LAURA DICKERSON
UAW REGION 1A DIRECTOR



Laura Dickerson was elected UAW Region 1A Director at a special convention on Aug. 27, 2021. She fills the remaining term of former Region 1A Director Chuck Browning, who was unanimously elected by the UAW International Executive Board to the position of Vice President and Director of the UAW Ford Department. Dickerson is the first African American woman in the history of the UAW to be elected as Regional Director and to be promoted to Assistant Director of a Regional UAW Office. She was appointed Assistant Director of Region 1A in 2020. Region 1A covers most of Wayne (including part of Detroit), Monroe and Washtenaw counties, and extends to the Ohio border.

Dickerson joined the UAW in 1997 as a member of UAW Local 600. She was elected Chairperson of her unit for three terms (2002-2010) and to the Bargaining team in 1999. She was elected delegate to the 34th and 35th UAW Constitutional Conventions and was selected to serve on the 35th UAW Constitutional Convention Resolutions Committee, where she was elected and served as Chairperson. Dickerson has served as President of the UAW Local 600 Technical, Office and Professionals (TOP) Advisory Council

and held an elected position on the UAW National Community Action Program (CAP) Advisory Council in 2010. She served on the 2011 UAW Ford National Negotiations team and served as Project Manager for UAW Staff Voluntary Employees' Beneficiary Association (VEBA) transition in 2014. Dickerson served as UAW Staff Council Vice President, negotiating the Staff Council agreement in 2016 and 2020; and as the UAW-Ford Enhanced Care Program Pilot Lead in 2012.

As part of her many roles with Local 600, she has been a regular volunteer in the Detroit Central United Methodist Church's Feed the Homeless initiative, as well as the UAW-Ford's Feed the Homeless project for Labor Day. A breast cancer survivor herself, Laura has been an avid participant in the Susan G. Komen "Race for the Cure" for many years.

Laura holds both a Bachelor's and Master's degree from Central Michigan University. Her Bachelor's degree is in Industrial Supervision and Management with a minor in Industrial Safety, while her Master's degree is in General Administration with a concentration in Health Services Administration. She was honored with the Women of Excellence Award from the Michigan Chronicle in April 2021.

Rotary
Club of Dearborn



CELEBRATING 100 YEARS
of Service Above Self • 1923-2023

The Rotary Club of Dearborn would like to *congratulate* the Western Wayne County NAACP on their 75th Anniversary!

Save The Date Saturday • March 18 • 2023

We invite you to join us for a special and remarkable evening to recognize 100 years of service in our community and around the world. This anniversary celebration will help fund a project to benefit Dearborn's wonderfully diverse community. Scan the QR, or visit www.dearbornrotary.org to learn more. Additional details to come!



KEYNOTE SPEAKER
BYRON BROOKS
ACTIVIST—SOCIAL ENTREPRENEUR



A proud native Detroiter, statistics would say that by his age, Byron D. Brooks (He/Him/His) would either be dead or in jail. Born in prison, and formerly homeless. Brooks was raised by his great-grandparents, Roscoe and JoEsther Corner, and through faith and perseverance, he was able to show society that he is more than a statistic. As an activist, philanthropist, social entrepreneur and transformational Speaker, Brooks is passionate about youth, black economic and community development, fighting homelessness, and being an advocate of change! He currently holds degrees and certificates from Henry Ford College, Ferris State University, Harvard, and is currently pursuing two masters degrees from The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor of which he will receive in December of 2022. He is also a proud member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc.

Brooks is passionate about social justice, equity, and bridging the gap between race, faith, and justice. Known as "MoSoul The Hood Preacher" Brooks was licensed as a Minister of The Gospel at Dexter Avenue Baptist Church of Detroit on July 30, 2017 and is an advocate of Black Liberation Theology. He is a proud member of Hopewell Baptist Church in Detroit where KC Pierce II is his Pastor. He is particularly interested in exploring ways to dismantle systemic racism from marginalized communities, and the educational system, while living out the vision of the talented tenth to promote social equity. Currently Brooks serves as the Founder of 501c3 From The Hood For The Hood and is Chief Hood Officer of Hood Black & Educated Consulting Group. His hope is to be a living example, and spread the spirit of the African Proverb, Ubuntu: I am because We Are!

Gwendolyn Patrick
Notary Public

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**Don't Forget
to**



CONGRATULATIONS
WESTERN WAYNE COUNTY
NAACP
ON YOUR
75TH ANNIVERSARY

MICHIGAN GUARDIAN
SERVICES


Joya Garland, Executive Director
20372 Eureka
Taylor, MI 48180

(734) 288-3805—Office
(734) 288-3585—Fax



**THE MONTHLY
GENERAL
MEMBERSHIP
MEETINGS HAVE A
DIFFERENT LOOK
AS WE LIVE
THROUGH COVID 19.**


**FROM MEETING
WITH OUR FRIENDS
AND PARTNERS AT
CHRISTIAN FAITH
MINISTRIES
CHURCH TO
MEETING ON ZOOM**




Kari Walker C.E.O.
The Guidance Center

A Conversation on Mental Health
The Guidance Center

Access services regardless of ability to pay
Career options
Telehealth and COVID
Q&A




**WESTERN WAYNE COUNTY
NAACP**



Laura Huot C.O.O.
The Guidance Center

NAACP GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
Monday Sep 13, 2021
07:00 PM Eastern Time
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84236089707>

Meeting ID: 842 3608 9707
One tap mobile
+13126266799,,84236089707# US (Chicago)



Gina Wilson Steward President

Please join us at our **General Membership Meetings** via ZOOM on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00pm. The Member ID Link is <https://bit.ly/wwcnaacp1>. The call in number is **312 626 6799**. We will meet via ZOOM throughout the year with this information.



GARY PETERS
U.S. SENATE



**WESTERN WAYNE COUNTY
NAACP**

General Membership Meeting
Topic: WWC NAACP MEETING
Time: Jun 8, 2020 07:00 PM

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84454179978>

Meeting ID: 844 5417 9978
One tap mobile
+13126266799,,84454179978#



**Gina Wilson Steward
President**

Congratulations

Western Wayne County NAACP celebrating 75 years of
fighting for the liberation from injustice!



PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY

Save The Date

CHRIST TEMPLE CITY OF REFUGE

Pastor Mack A. Hall Jr.

SENIOR PASTOR



"The LORD directs the steps of the godly. He delights in every detail of their lives. Though they stumble, they will never fall, for the LORD holds them by the hand. - Psalm 37:23-24 NLT

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2022|
4:00-6:30 PM

CRYSTAL GARDENS
6703 FORT ST, SOUTHGATE, MI

LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING

Songwriters: J. Rosamond Johnson & James Johnson

Lift every voice and sing
Till earth and Heaven ring
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise,
High as The list'ning skies,
let it resound loud as the Rolling sea

Sing a song
full of faith that the Dark past has taught us,
Sing a song
full of The hope that the present has brought Us;

Facing the rising sun
of our new day Begun,
Let us march on till victory is Won.

Stony the road we trod,
Bitter the Chast'ning rod,
Felt in the day that hope
Unborn had died;
Yet with a steady Beat,
Have not our weary feet,
Come to the Place on which our fathers sighed?

We have Come
over a way that with tears has been Watered,
We have come,
treading our path Through the blood of the slaugh-
tered,

Out from The gloomy past,
till now we stand at Last
Where the white gleam
of our star is Cast.

God of our weary years,
God of Our silent tears,
Thou who has brought us thus
Far on the way;
Thou who has by thy Might,
Led us into the light,
Keep us Forever in the path, we pray

Lest our feet
Stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee,
Least our hearts,
drunk with the wine of The world, we forget thee,

Shadowed beneath the Hand,
May we forever stand,
True to our God,
True to our native land

An advertisement for 'The Bishop of Credit' app. It features a portrait of Shameka Bishop, the app's creator. The text reads 'The BISHOP OF Credit' and 'Be Educated about your Credit'. It includes logos for Google Play and the App Store, a QR code, and a list of services: '*Credit Repair', '*Credit Education', '*Credit Enhancement', and '*Garnishment Support'. At the bottom, the websites www.Bishopofcredit.com and www.Anygarnishment.com are listed.

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about your
Credit

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Download on
App Store

Shameka Bishop

Specializing In:

- *Credit Repair
- *Credit Education
- *Credit Enhancement
- *Garnishment Support

www.Bishopofcredit.com
www.Anygarnishment.com

MASTER OF CEREMONIES MARVIN FRANKLIN



Marvin was raised on the Northwest side of Detroit. As a graduate of Cass Technical High and an All-City/All-State Track student-athlete, he learned the importance of work ethic and time management. Running track also provided a life blueprint exemplifying the notion that hard work is a common denominator of success.

Afterwards, he graduated from Kentucky State University with a degree in Education. There were offers all over the United States for an African-American Male teacher, but he was inspired to give back to the city he knew could use his expertise and presence. He loved the connection to

the students while teaching, but was motivated to do more.

Marvin enrolled at Wayne State University and earned his Masters' of Arts degree in School Administration. Upon graduation, he immediately went into administration. He spent 11 years as an administrator, 8 of those years as a principal. He merged schools and effectively improved the academic performance of a low performing school in just 2 years.

Over the last 25 years, Marvin has coached youth and high school basketball, taught youth chess, Sunday School and hosted a podcast, Say It Loud!



Four Reasons to Join the NAACP

1. The fight for freedom is not free! Your membership will help fund initiatives and programs to support our mission of racial equality and equal justice.
2. A membership in the NAACP is your opportunity to give back to the organization that has done more to change this country for the betterment of people of color, women and the disenfranchised than any other in the nation's history
3. Your membership in the NAACP makes you part of a force of 300,000 people who stand for the freedoms guaranteed in our nation's constitution
4. Your membership in the NAACP makes a direct and positive impact in your community when you join your local Unit.



Alexander Legacy Private Wealth Management is a 100% black owned and women led investment firm that is determined to help 100,000 individuals and families create, protect, and transfer multi-generational wealth.

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- **Investment Management** – We leverage a disciplined investment process which includes transparency of information, seamless proactive service and the trust and accountability to pursue your financial objectives.
- **Risk Management** – We identify any potential risks, savings and opportunities within your portfolio and offer insurance solutions.
- **Investment Education** – We can help you discover where your life and financial goals intersect to help you achieve your financial dreams and priorities.
- **Legacy Planning** – Our Advisors will help you align your estate plan with your financial plan, which includes beneficiary reviews, creating a will and trust, regular updates, reviews and more.

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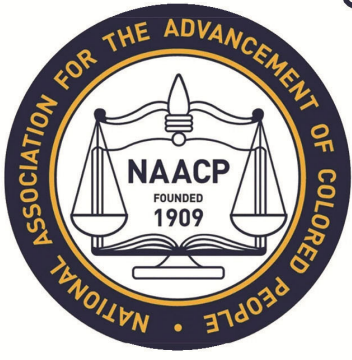


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Rashida
DEMOCRAT FOR CONGRESS

Congratulations



**WESTERN WAYNE COUNTY
NAACP**

on your **75th**
year
ANNIVERSARY
1947-2022

Thank you for your dedication, hard work, and fight for change.

Paid for by Rashida Tlaib for Congress



Congratulations, Mable Stroman!

THE MEMBERS OF ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA SORORITY INC.® , ETA IOTA OMEGA CHAPTER, INKSTER, MICHIGAN, SALUTE YOU AS THE WESTERN WAYNE COUNTY NAACP 2022 LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD RECIPIENT.

AS A PAST PRESIDENT, GRADUATE ADVISOR, AND 59-YEAR MEMBER OF ALPHA KAPPA ALPHA, WE ARE PROUD TO CELEBRATE THIS PRESTIGIOUS HONOR WITH YOU. ®

Judith R. Mand. President of Eta Iota Omega
Cicely King. Secretary of Eta Iota Omega



2022 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS



JESSIKA KENNEDY—YOUTH CHAIRPERSON, DR. FLEDA FLEMING—SCHOLARSHIP CHAIRPERSON, FATIMA ZIADAN—\$500.00, SOHAIR HOLMAN—\$1,000.00, (BOTH FROM CRESTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL AND GINA WILSON



SHENEICE HOLMAN—\$500.00
RIVER ROUGE HIGH SCHOOL



ZHARIA JOHNSON - \$1,000.00
RIVER ROUGE HIGH SCHOOL

For more information on the scholarship process, reach out to Dr. Fleda Fleming and the Scholarship Committee at naacpwwc@gmail.com

NAACP – Western Wayne County Branch

2022 Freedom Fundraiser

October 16, 2022

“ Accelerating Change Despite the Odds”

PROGRAM

Welcome Pastor Velma Jean Overman
Invocation and Introduce Master of Ceremonies- Pastor John Hearn Jr.
Master of Ceremonies Marvin Franklin
Greetings
“Lift Every Voice and Sing”
Freedom and Justice Award Judge David Perkins
Exceptional Service to Community Black Family Development
Lifetime Achievement Award Mable Stroman
Introduction of Keynote Speaker.....Darwin Griffin
Keynote Speaker Laura Dickerson
Blessings of the Dinner Pastor John Hearn, Jr.
~~~~~ Dinner ~~~~~  
Overview of Western Wayne County NAACP  
Recognition to the City of Inkster ..... Pastor Velma Jean Overman  
Introduction of Elected Officials ..... Ruby D. Richards  
Elected Official/Service Award .....Senator Erika Geiss  
Exceptional Leadership Award ..... Rev. Arthur Willis Sr.  
Recognition of Scholarship Recipients ..... LaWanda Hines  
Remarks from Sponsors  
Introduction of Keynote Speaker..... Pastor Bernard Jackson  
Keynote Speaker ..... Byron Brooks  
Great Expectations ..... Payton Kitchen & Eldridge Ross  
Trailblazer Award ..... Tarence Wheeler  
President’s Award ..... Pastor Velma Jean Overman  
Acknowledgements ..... Dakima Jackson  
Closing Remarks ..... Gina Wilson Steward  
Benediction

# NAACP WESTERN WAYNE COUNTY LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

## Golden Heritage

Minnie Anderson\*  
Smith Chapel  
Dolga Patterson  
Eugene Thompson  
Inkster Delta Alumnae

William Anderson  
Dorothy Cooper\*  
Jess Sanders  
Top Ladies of Distinction  
AKA Sorority

William Ezell  
Art Thomas  
Ann Chisholm

## LIFE MEMBERSHIPS (Old) (paid in Full)

|                           |                     |                       |                      |
|---------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Ruth Anderson             | Karl Abrue          | Crystal Deyampert     | David Deyampert      |
| Dr. Edmond Beverly, Ph.D. | Henry Ballard       | Joseph Davis, Jr.     | Reasther Everett*    |
| Clifford Ford             | John Franklin       | Ina Jane Ezell        | Daisy Truss          |
| Pauline Hampton           | John Hearn Sr. *    | Lucille Flint-Johnson | Dr. Callie Hester    |
| John Jackson              | Nancy Landingham    | Baynton Milton        | Pauline Milton       |
| Howard Mitchell           | Delos Raymond       | The Citadel           | Mary Ross            |
| Rev. David Murray         | Dr. Paul Young, DDS | Sarah Young           | Joseph A. Flint, Sr. |
| Joseph A. Flint, Jr.      | Steven A. Flint     | St. Clements AME      | Min. Earl Truss*     |
| Karry Coats,              | Edna Parker         | WCHB Radio Station    | Richard White        |
| Edith Allen               | Lafayette Allen     | Minnie Anderson       | Paul Ezell           |
| William Anderson          | Billy E. Baker      | Edmond Beverly        | Leon Carroll         |
| Joe Davis                 | Sedalia Dennis      |                       |                      |

## SILVER LIFE MEMBERSHIPS

|                   |                           |                     |                       |
|-------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Jancice Blackmon  | Windell Buckley           | John Diamond        | Vivian Gebstadt       |
| David Gibbons     | Vernita Gilkey            | Anthony Greene      | Ernest Hendricks      |
| Arlington Hicks   | Patrica R. Williams*      | Rev. Larry O. Hines | Hattie Prince         |
| Milliscent Lawson | Paul Rutheburg            | January Bivens      | Miriam Poe            |
| Neri Mark, DDS    | Dr. Darrell Williams, DDS | Joseph Gausee, Jr   | Gina Wilson Steward   |
| Tonya Melton      | Rhoda Littles             | Natie Mosher        | Juanita Singleton     |
|                   |                           |                     | Now & Forever Flowers |

## SUBSCRIBING SILVER LIFE MEMBERS

|                    |                      |                         |                              |
|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Carmen Mitchell    | Diane Burton         | Carl Johnson *          | Rev. A. Higginbothan         |
| Kathleen Trent     | Altanette Williams   | Thomas Maycock          | Ashanti Bell- Patterson      |
| Danny Van Scholack | Shawn Gear           | Alan Lambert            | Kathy Wade                   |
| Willa Williams     | Mable Stroman        | Paula Turner            | Eric Truss                   |
| Sylvia James       | James Hederson       | N. Yarbrough            | Loretta Robson Morgan        |
| Robert Claypool    | Rev. John Hearn, Jr. | Pentecost MBC           | Lonnie Turner                |
| Keith B. Steward   | James Worthy         | Bishop Walter Starghill | Victor Marsh , Sr.           |
| Taquana Gilmore    | William Gilmore      | Robert Kennney          | William Anderson             |
| Albert Ward        | Operation Refuge     | Telegram Newspaper      | Inkster Ministerial Alliance |

\* Denotes deceased member



## GREAT EXPECTATIONS HONOREE PAYTON KITCHEN



Payton Kitchen is 15 years old and a scholar tenth grader at Canton High School where she is a varsity athlete in track and field, as well as plays basketball while maintaining a 3.9 GPA.

As an aspiring lawyer with a passion for entrepreneurship and favorite hobbies of cooking, crocheting, and crafting, Payton serves as the secretary of the Black Student Union at her school, President of the Jack and Jill of America, Inc., Ypsilanti Chapter Teens, and Teen Committee Chair of the Jack and Jill Midwestern Region. She has earned the Silver Award from the Girl Scouts of America and is currently planning to obtain the Gold Award.

Payton embraces challenges to implement change pertaining to social justice and encourages those around her to be their best self.

## GREAT EXPECTATIONS HONOREE ETHRIDGE ROSS



Graduated from Thurston High School in Redford in 2022 and is currently attending Schoolcraft College with a focus on General Studies. He has plans to attend Michigan State University to major in Public Policy

He served as Youth Trustee for Redford Township from 2020-2022. His term ended upon graduation from high school. He is currently a Legislative Aide for State Representative Mary Cavanaugh. During the summer of 2022, he worked with the Michigan Democratic Party as a Field Organizer for the Gretchen Whitmer Campaign

He serves on the Executive Board of the Redford Democratic Club as Media Consultant. He organized a Get Registered to Vote Rally at Thurston High School and arranged for Steele Hughes, former Legislative Aide for Mary Cavanaugh, to speak. About 100 students registered to vote that day. He also organized a workshop to help High School students understand the importance of voting. He arranged for Judy Neal, Chair of the Redford Democratic Club, to speak to the students.

He believes in the power of canvassing. He says, 'I will continue to canvass for candidates that he supports.

# LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT HONOREE

## MABLE STROMAN



Mable Pittnan Stroman was born in Spartanburg, South Carolina to educators, William and Maude Pittman, and relocated to Detroit at the age of 10. Her father retired from Ford Motor Company and her mother retired as a dietician. Mable's innate dedication to her neighborhood comes from her mother, who planted seeds for her to follow in those same footsteps. Being a very spiritual and strong-willed woman, she learned early in life that being involved in helping people to make the world a better place would be the center of her life's work. A graduate from Allen University in Columbia, South Carolina, she earned a B.S. in Elementary Education with a minor in Mathematics; obtained a M.A. from Eastern Michigan University in Special Education with a concentration in Emotional Impairment; she then went on to Marygrove College to earn a Master's in The Art of Teaching.

Mable has always had a passion for serving her community and has been around the world taking different classes for leadership skills, but never pursued a career in it. She became a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated in 1963 at Allen University, Mu Chapter, having continued her membership in Eta Iota Omega Chapter (Inkster) since 1972 and is still very active. She proudly continues to serve in the following organizations: Top Ladies of Distinction (Michigan Metro Chapter), City of Inkster (Board of Elections); Two time-appointee to Inkster Housing Commission; Inkster Task Force (Co-Creator of the Unity in the Community), Democratic Club, Western Wayne NAACP, Inkster Community Foundation and volunteers wherever needed within other organizations. She has been associated with the NAACP since her youth having participated in the ACT-SO program; served as a youth advisor; aided with voter registration duties; taught literacy classes for the Prison Program; collaborated with groups for Health Fairs in Inkster and advocated for the children/students in the Van Buren Public School system. She was the first and only black woman to serve on the Board of Education in the now defunct Cherry Hill Public School District. Mable is the proud mother of Anson J. Stroman, of South Carolina, who she expressly touts as the first black drum major in the Cherry Hill School District.

She is also a proud mother-in-law to Sharon, grandmother (4) and great grandmother (4). She truly believes in the philosophy, "Intentional living is the art of making our own choices before others". Our choices make us. Mable's mantra is "Live everyday extraordinary because when your intentions are pure, so too, will be your success." Mable is a member of St. James United Methodist church where, before COVID, she headed up the children's programs. She appreciates everyone





# COMMUNITY PARTNER HONOREE BLACK FAMILY DEVELOPMENT KENYATTA STEPHENS



Kenyatta Stephens serves as Chief Executive Officer of Black Family Development, Inc. Black Family Development, Inc. (BFDI) is a comprehensive, restorative, non-profit family counseling agency created in 1978 by the Detroit Chapter of the National Association of Black Social Workers, committed to equity and supporting families throughout the lifespan. BFDI staff maintain their training and implementation of Restorative Practices. Kenyatta has 28 years of Human Service experience. Kenyatta has a passion for education, equitable access to resources, and youth. Her personal mission is to build hope, health, and healing for communities, by helping families achieve optimal wellness within strong networks of support. She serves as a 2019 gubernatorial appointee for the Early Childhood Investment Corporation Board of Directors. From 2008-2019, Kenyatta served 3 Governors on the Michigan Committee on Juvenile Justice as a Subject Matter Expert. Ms. Stephens was blessed to attend Harvard University Business School's 2015 class of Performance Management for Non-Profit Organizations. In 2013 she attended the Georgetown University's Juvenile Justice Reform Certificate Program. Kenyatta acquired her Master's in Psychiatric Mental Health Nursing, Child and Family, from the University of Pennsylvania, and Bachelor's from the University of Michigan. She is married, the mother of three children, and active at Middlebelt Baptist Church in Inkster. She enjoys researching information and outdoor activities

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Western Wayne County

### NAACP

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Democratic Club**

Meetings are the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of every  
month 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM.

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For more information email us  
at [Redford.democrats@gmail.com](mailto:Redford.democrats@gmail.com).

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## LEADING THROUGH SERVICE/ELECTED OFFICIAL HONOREE SENATOR ERIKA GEISS



State Senator Erika Geiss has a proven track record of fighting for Michigan families and her policies are centered in equity and justice. Senator Geiss previously served two terms in the Michigan House of Representatives, during which she served on the House Standing Committees of Commerce and Trade, Health Policy, Michigan Competitiveness (Democratic Vice Chair), Workforce and Talent Development and the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules. She currently sits on the senate standing committees of Economic and Business Development, Education, Insurance and Banking, and Transportation and Infrastructure, of which the latter two, she is the Democratic Vice Chair. Geiss is also the Senate Democrats Caucus Chair, Executive Vice Chair of the Michigan Legislative Black Caucus, Co-chair of the Black-Jewish Unity Caucus, Co-chair of the Michigan Environmental Justice Caucus, and member of the Michigan Legislative Latino Caucus. During her tenure as a state legislator, she has participated in two national legislative leadership fellowship programs, earned multiple awards for her legislative work and advocacy, presented at several conferences, had three bills signed into law, and was instrumental executive orders or departmental policy changes that were developed and based upon legislation that she introduced.

Before joining the legislature, Geiss wore multiple professional hats including as an adjunct faculty member at several institutions of higher education, and in her field in museum curatorial work and education. She also has an extensive publication history as an author and editor of non-fiction books and articles.

Geiss also has been an active local community member, having served on Taylor's Master Plan Steering Committee and its Cultural Arts Commission. She also served for nearly a decade on the PTO at her children's former elementary school. She is currently a member of four civic organizations in Taylor and the metro-Detroit area. Geiss earned her bachelor's degree in developmental psychology from Brandeis University and her master's degree in art and architectural history from Tufts University. She and her husband, Doug, live in Taylor, Michigan and have two teen-aged children.

## FREEDOM AND JUSTICE AWARDEE JUDGE DAVID PERKINS



Judge David A. Perkins was elected by the citizens of Wayne County to the Wayne County Probate Court Bench in November of 2018. Prior to this election he was appointed to 36<sup>th</sup> District Court in January 2014 and elected by the people of Detroit in November 2014 and then re-elected in 2016. Judge Perkins served as a Wayne County Juvenile Court Referee for 17 years, Magistrate for the 30<sup>th</sup> District Court, Assistant Corporation Counsel for Wayne County, and Judge Advocate for the Michigan National Guard. Judge Perkins earned his Juris Doctorate from Howard University and a Bachelor of Arts, Biological Sciences from Rutgers University.

Judge Perkins in 2020 was re-elected to The State Bar Board of Commissioners for the State Bar of Michigan. He is also a member of the Judicial Division of the American Bar Association. Judge Perkins Chaired: The Coalition on Racial and Ethnic Justice of the American Bar Association (ABA); Chaired the Michigan Young Lawyers and served on various Committees of both the ABA and State Bar of Michigan. He has been a Past President of the Association of Black Judges of Michigan and The D. Augustus Straker Bar Association. He is a lifetime member of the NAACP, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, a member of the Detroit Chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen. He presently serves on Board of Directors for: Wayne County Dispute Resolution Center; The Black United Fund of Michigan; the Reggie McKenzie Foundation and as a lay minister in his church. He has been actively involved with many community and labor groups. While a Referee he volunteered as a jurist for a teen-court program and presided over Juvenile Drug Court. He currently works as an adjunct professor at WCCCD. Judge Perkins has been given numerous awards for his community work. He often mentors at risk youth. Judge Perkins believes that all young voices, shall have a forum for their voices to be heard. He strives to help make a better way for our young people and all citizens of Wayne County and the City of Detroit. He is married with one son



## TRAILBLAZER HONOREE

### TARENCE WHEELER



Tarence Wheeler is a highly respected professional with over 20 years of experience in community relations and philanthropic activities, specializing in community and corporate partnerships and relationship building. He currently serves as Director of Corporate & Community Affairs for the River Rouge School District. He is a former Mayoral Appointee, serving as the community relations liaison for Mayor Dave Bing and the City of Detroit.

Mr. Wheeler has extensive experience in community outreach, mentoring, and fostering partnerships to support educational achievement. During the pandemic, he led the effort to distribute over 8.3 million meals to the downriver community via a partnership with Forgotten Harvest. He founded the All-Star Giveback Thanksgiving Turkey Drive, which currently provides over 3,000 turkeys with all the trimmings to families in need.

Although Mr. Wheeler has been seen serving on a national level with celebrities and the like, his greatest passion is in helping to enrich the lives of at-risk young people in communities throughout the Metropolitan Detroit area. He is often inspiring and motivating students at Detroit-area schools, using a transparent and authentic approach to reaching young people and ‘meeting them where they are’. His first-hand knowledge and experience with growing up in a less-fortunate environment increased his ability to make a direct connection with his young audience.

Mr. Wheeler has received numerous awards and honors including: Michigan Chronicle Men of Excellence Award, C.L. Trone Community Outreach Award, Community Health Unsung Hero Award, Native Detroiter Community Leader Award, FBI Director’s Community Award, NAACP Image Awards Hometown Champion, Pac-12 Conference Hall of Honor, NCAA Celebration of Champions Award, Alice H. Parker Mentor Award, Michigan Community Service Commission Volunteer of the Year Award, GMAAN Community Enrichment Award, and the FCAAN Community Champion Award. He was also featured as WXYZ Channel 7 Person of the Week.

Mr. Wheeler graduated from Southwestern High School. He received a basketball scholarship to Arizona State University, and he graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice. He earned a Master of Business Administration Degree from the University of Detroit Mercy. He also received a Certificate in Advanced Educational Leadership from Harvard University Graduate School of Education. He serves on various boards including: Youth Solutions Board of Directors, Vanguard Community Development Corporation, Detroit Public Television Advisory Board, and the Salvation Army Advisory Board.

## COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP HONOREE

### REV. ARTHUR WILLIS, SR.



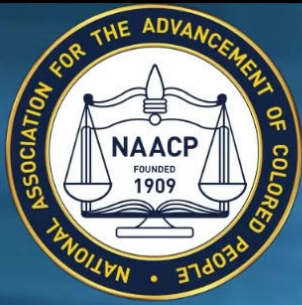
Reverend Arthur C. Willis, Sr. graduated from Murray Wright High School in 1971. He attended Wayne State University under the (SIP) Program. He graduated from Liberty Bible College with a degree in Biblical Counseling.

Rev. Willis is very active in the community. He is the President of The Romulus Ministerial Association, former board member of the Romulus Boys and Girls Club, Chair of Romulus Mayor’s Drug Task Force and the President of The PEN Enrichment Community Center. Rev. Willis is the former President of the Concerned Pastors and Ministers Council of Detroit & Vicinity. He also served on the Advisory Board of the Salvation Army and is the Commander of Detroit Public School’s Police Department Chaplin Core. He has hosted Financial Literacy Programs for the community, fed the community and provides Community Service opportunities for people who need a second chance.

Rev. Willis accepted his calling into the ministry in March of 1988 under the leadership of Pastor J. H. Johnson, Jr. of Greater Middle Missionary Baptist Church. He was a faithful member and served in numerous areas and was ordained in 1989. Rev. Arthur C. Willis, Sr. has served as pastor of Pentecost Missionary Baptist Church in Romulus for over 32 years.

For all of his contributions to the community, the city of Romulus named April 26<sup>th</sup> as Arthur C. Willis Day and he was selected as Person of the year for the City of Romulus by the Chamber of Commerce in 2009.

Rev. Arthur C. Willis, Sr. is married to Janice Willis. They have been married for over 50 years. They have five beautiful children and 13 grandchildren.



WESTERN WAYNE COUNTY NAACP

YOUNG ADULTS COMMITTEE  
PRESENTS

# MILLENNIALS IN POLITICS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21ST  
6:00 PM

with **SPECIAL GUEST**

David Sanchez - One Campaign for Michigan  
Mike McDermott - Westland City Council  
LaGina Washington - Inkster City Council  
Ranjeev Puri - MI State Representative

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<https://www.facebook.com/groups/WWCNAACP>





*In 2012, the Westland Police Department established a non-profit organization called "The Westland Police Community Partnership Committee". This non-profit charitable organization is used to enhance the philosophy of Police/Community Partnership, Community Outreach, and for Community/Schools safety awareness.*

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- Reproductive freedom
- Quality public schools
- Voting rights

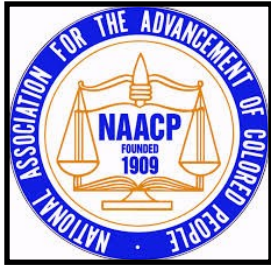
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# OPERATION REFUGE

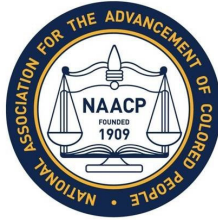
## CELEBRATES WESTERN WAYNE COUNTY NAACP **75<sup>TH</sup>** ANNIVERSARY



### L.I.T. Leaders in Training



Pastor Velma Jean Overman  
Executive Director



WESTERN WAYNE COUNTY

# NAACP

## ELECTION DAY: NOVEMBER 8, 2022

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- Elect candidates who support policies that improve Black lives;
- **Elect US Senate and Congress members** that pass laws that impact the right to vote and police accountability.
- **Elect your next Governor, Lt. Governor, Attorney General, and others** who make decisions on distributing federal funds and appointing state judges.

**Elect legislators at the county, city, and municipal levels** that make decisions from regular trash pickups and broken street lights to what crimes are prosecuted and the quality of education children in your community receive. You can elect your next mayor, city/county council member, sheriff, district attorney, or school board member. Don't sit these out!

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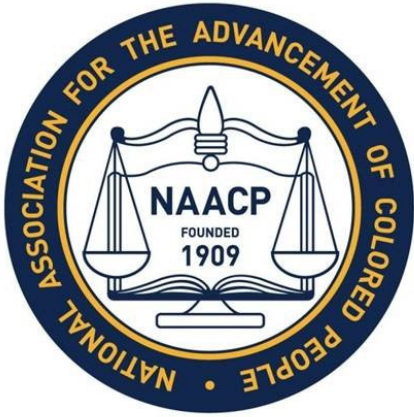
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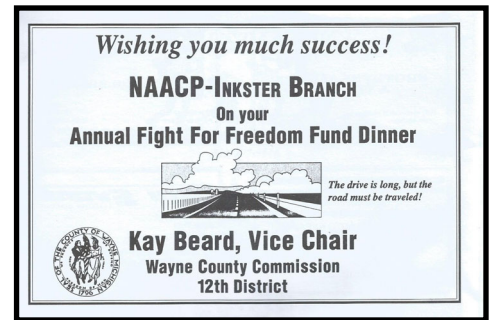
# WESTERN WAYNE COUNTY NAACP

## History of NAACP Western Wayne County NAACP

The branch was chartered as the Inkster Branch of the NAACP on June 28, 1947.

Joseph Davis, who served as Mayor of the city of Inkster served as President. Mr. William Clark served as branch President in the 1950s. Mr. Clark was well loved in all the branches throughout the state, often attending events hosted by other branches. He always wanted people to know that the Inkster Branch was “in the house.”

On June 11, 1959, the branch’s name was changed to Inkster – Wayne Branch because they were following up on issues outside of the City of Inkster



From 1961 – 1970; Mr. Roy Wilson served as President. During his tenure the branch negotiated with NBD bank to hire black employees. The bank, which served a primarily black population, did not have any black employees at that time.

From 1971-1974, Edward Bivens, Jr., who was mayor of the city of Inkster was President. During this time, meetings were held at the Inkster Police Department’s Auxiliary Office.

In 1993, Karen Williams was elected President. At this time, she was the youngest person, and only female to be elected branch president. During Ms. Williams presidency efforts were made to reestablish the youth council. Mr. Earl Truss served as youth adviser and was awarded the Adviser of the year award from the Michigan State Conference. Daisy Truss served as the youth council president.

From 1995 – 1996, Reverend George Williams who was a member of the Inkster School Board of Education was President.

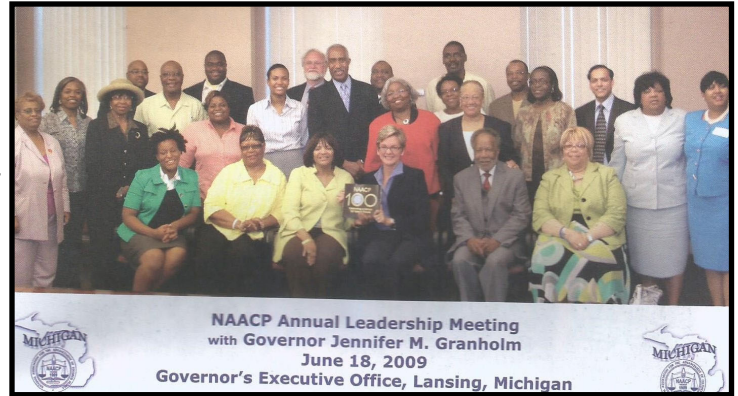
In 1997, Attorney Leonard Mongo served as President. During his tenure the branch met at the Malcolm X complex in Inkster. During his presidency, the name of the branch was officially changed to Western Wayne County. This was part of an effort to grow the branch outside of the city of Inkster and stimulate membership throughout the other cities the branch served.



Attorney Mongo resigned from his position early and the branch’s 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Minister Earl Truss became President. Minister Truss was later elected President in 1999. During his presidency meetings were held at Smith Chapel AME Church in Inkster and Waynecorse Church of Christ in Romulus. During Mr. Truss’s presidency Western Wayne County was the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest branch within the state.

Reestablishing the youth council was again seen as a high priority. It had been believed that the youth council had received its own charter in 1947. When it was learned that it never had a separate charter from the branch, it was reorganized. The youth branch finally became its own entity with its own unit number of 3911.

From 2003 to 2009 former branch treasurer Lucille Flint was elected President. Highlights of Ms. Flint's presidency include hosting civil rights activist Dick Gregory for a Freedom Fund Dinner and starting a Women in the NAACP (WIN) committee. Two highly successful ACT-SO competitions were also held with Attorney Raymond Mullins serving as the ACT-SO chair.



Aaron Sims, former 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President and youth adviser was elected President in 2009. He was the youngest person to serve in that capacity since Karen Williams. During Aaron's tenure some of the branch's meetings were held at Middlebelt Baptist Church in Inkster. However, for the first time in years the branch also had its own office space, housed in the law office of Nabih Ayad & Associates at 2200 Canton Center Rd. #220 in the city of Canton. In 2010, the branch won 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in the Lucille Black Award in the Class 1-C Division at the 101<sup>st</sup> Annual NAACP National Convention. The award was presented to the branch that had the highest total membership production from January 1, 2009 – December 31, 2009.

In 2012, the branch fell out of compliance with the national office. It had to be completely reorganized. New officers were elected in April 2013 with the assistance of Michigan State Conference President Yvonne White and officially sworn into office by the Honorable Hilliard Hampton, mayor of the city of Inkster. The new officers were Bishop Walter Stargill, Jr. - President; Lucille Flint 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President; Daisy Truss 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President; Gina Wilson Steward – Secretary, Rev. John Hearn – Treasurer. Executive Committee members included Lori Parks, Richard LeBlanc, Sherita Thomas, George Williams, Julie Claypool and Robert Wilson.

The Branch general membership meetings were held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mondays of every month at Christian Faith Ministries in Garden City while executive committee meetings are held the fourth Tuesdays of every month at Wayne Road Church of Christ in Romulus, MI. Currently efforts are being made to grow the membership and be more visual in the community.

A speaker from the community is invited to every general membership meeting to address various issues. The branch's goals was to have a presence throughout all the 18 cities that the branch serves. The branch designated that once a quarter, the General Membership meetings will be held offsite in one of the four quadrants to help increase the awareness of the branch in other communities.

President Starghill and the branch hosted a Town Hall in Westland that consisted of the Police Chiefs from twelve of the cities that we serve. The branch also hosted the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter State meeting at Wayne County Community College in Van Buren Township.



In 2017, the new officers elected were Gina Wilson Steward - President, Daisy Truss – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Lisa Robinson Martin – 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, LaDarla Morris – Secretary, Shirley Hankerson – Assistant Secretary and Evelyn Clark Treasurer and Judy Neal- Assistant Treasurer. The branch won the LayDown from the State of Michigan for the most new members in 2017. The youth branch was reestablished.

In 2018 the branch hosted a Candidate Forum for the 13<sup>th</sup> Congressional District Candidates in the City of Inkster. The seat was vacant after the resignation of Congressman John Conyers, Jr. The GOTV efforts of the branch resulted in a 100% increase in voter turnout in the targeted areas. Michigan State Conference President named the Western Wayne County NAACP as the Branch of the Year. The Branch partnered with the Delta Sigma Theta Inkster Chapter and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sororities on the GOTV efforts.



In 2019 the new officers were; Gina Wilson Steward – President, Pastor Velma Overman – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Vicki Dobbins – Secretary, Shirley Hankerson – Assistant Secretary, Evelyn Clark Treasurer and Judy Neal- Assistant Treasurer. They fulfilled the National MOUs with Delta Sigma Theta, Zeta Phi Beta and the NNPA. The membership doubled in size from 2018. The attendance at the monthly meetings reached a milestone of 72 members at the December meeting. It was also the Census Kick Off meeting- I Matter. Count Me In.

The Economic Sustainability Committee began hosting a Series of Financial Workshops in the community with various partners.

Other projects they worked on were an Ex-pungement Fair with the Delta Sigma Theta Alumni Chapter and Voter Registration Drives with various school districts.

The branch paid for one delegate to attend the Regional Training in Indiana, the six delegates to attend the National NAACP Convention held in Detroit and three delegates to attend the State Convention in Saginaw.



The Freedom Fund Dinner was held at the Prestige Banquet Hall in Allen Park. Lt. Gov. Garlin Gilchrist was the keynote speaker. There were a record 30% of attendees who were Millennials

The Religious Affairs Committee created the first Champion of Faith competition. The winner was Christian Faith Ministries whose church had the most members in 2019. They received the trophy during the sold out crowd at the Freedom Fund Dinner. The branch hosted the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter State meeting at Wayne County Community College at the Downriver location in Taylor. It was the most attended State meeting in 2019.

The branch kicked off their Street By Street Campaign to connect with more people for the election and the 2020 Census. They partnered with the State of Michigan to reach more people in the region.

Then comes the COVID-19 Pandemic in early 2020 and life as we knew it has changed. As we followed the guidelines of the National office of the NAACP and the Michigan department of health, we learned how to use ZOOM. Our general membership meetings, Executive Committee meeting and events were all held on ZOOM. We learned to always have a mask handy. The Health Committee and the Religious Affairs Committee held numerous events on living with Covid and dealing with Mental Illness. The branch partnered with Western Wayne Family Health Center to offer Covid –19 testing in the neighborhoods of Ecorse, River Rouge, Romulus and SW Detroit



The partnership with Conference of Western Wayne for the Partnership for Progress Listening Tour started in person, but had to move to virtual meetings. The relationships with the Police Chiefs and Mayors in 13 of the cities in our region helped to create more of a proactive approach to building community policing relationships.

The Freedom Fund Event in 2020 was a virtual event with actress Lonnie Love as our keynote speaker. This was exciting as the branch experienced a different way of still having an impactful evening and still honoring people from our communities.

The officers elected to lead the branch for the next two years were; President—Gina Wilson Steward, 1st Vice-President—Velma Overman, 2nd Vice President—John Hearn, Jr., Secretary—Vicki Dobbins, Asst. Secretary—Ruby Richards, Treasurer—Shirley Hankerson and Asst Treasurer—Ruby Richards.



The branch redesigned their website—[www.westernwaynecountynaacp.com](http://www.westernwaynecountynaacp.com) and increased their social media footprint.



**REGINA  
TRIPLETT**

---

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Judge Candidate  
Wayne County**

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Wayne NAACP  
on 75 Years!**

*25th Anniversary Freedom Fund Celebration & Dinner*



**WESTERN WAYNE COUNTY  
NAACP**





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of  
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# WESTERN WAYNE COUNTY NAACP

2020– 2022

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

ACTING PRESIDENT  
PASTOR VELMA OVERMAN

1ST VICE PRESIDENT  
PASTOR JOHN HEARN JR.

2ND VICE PRESIDENT  
MARVIN FRANKLIN

SECRETARY  
VICKI DOBBINS

ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
RUBY D. RICHARDS

TREASURER  
EVELYN CLARK

ASSISTANT TREASURER  
GWENDOLYN PATRICK

### STANDING COMMITTEE

HEALTH COMMITTEE  
ASHANTI BELL PATTERSON

RELIGIOUS AFFAIRS  
PASTOR JEAN OVERMAN

FREEDOM FUND  
DAKIMA JACKSON

VOTER EDUCATION  
LAWRENCE BIGGS

YOUTH ENGAGEMENT  
JESSIKA KENNEDY

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
SONYA WEAVER

EDUCATION  
MARVIN FRANKLIN

YOUNG ADULT  
PASTOR BERNARD JACKSON

MEMBERSHIP  
LASHANNA MITCHELL STINSON

SCHOLARSHIP  
FLEDA FLEMING

LABOR RELATIONS  
DARWIN GRIFFIN

PRESS/COMMUNICATIONS  
CASSY JONES MCBRYDE

We meet the 2nd Monday of  
each month at 7:00pm  
on ZOOM

Meeting ID Link is  
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www.westernwaynecounty  
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CONGRATULATIONS WWC NAACP  
ON CELEBRATING

“75 GOLDEN YEARS”

And Your  
25th FREEDOM FUND DINNER

THE INKSTER TASK FORCE OF  
INKSTER, MICHIGAN OF  
WESTERN-WAYNE COUNTY  
ENCOURAGE THE NAACP TO CONTINUE  
THE WORK,  
FIGHT FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF  
COLORED PEOPLE

Co-Chairs - Byron Nolen, Connie Mitchell  
Treasurer - Octavia Smith  
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# CHARISE ANDERSON

FOR 3<sup>RD</sup> CIRCUIT COURT JUDGE

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charise anderson

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[supportcharise@chariseandersonforjudge.com](mailto:supportcharise@chariseandersonforjudge.com)

Vote

NOVEMBER 8TH, 2022

PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT CHARISE ANDERSON

## Education:

- Western Michigan Thomas M. Cooley Law School
- Wayne State University
- Cass Technical High School

## Experience:

- Attorney for 14 years
- Senior Associate Counsel, Michigan Attorney Grievance Commission
- Former Assistant Prosecuting Attorney, Wayne County Prosecutor's Office
- Former Solo Practitioner, Southeastern Michigan

## Affiliations:

- Advisor Member, State Bar of Michigan Character & Fitness Committee
- Member, Board of Ethics Canton Township
- Member, Brightmoor Christian Church
- Member, NAACP
- Former District H Chairperson, State Bar of Michigan Character & Fitness Committee

The information provided is for biographical data only. The views expressed are those of the candidate and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Attorney Grievance Commission, the Grievance Administrator or the Michigan Supreme Court.

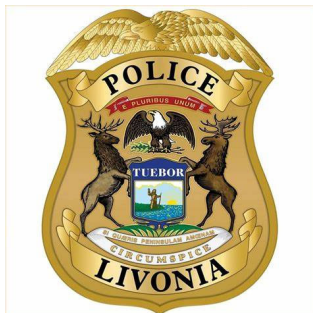






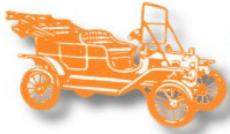
**THE WESTERN WAYNE COUNTY NAACP BRANCH PARTNERED WITH THE CONFERENCE OF WESTERN WAYNE FOR A PARTNERSHIP FOR PROGRESS LISTENING TOUR.**

**THE TOUR IS DESIGNED TO GIVE COMMUNITY MEMBERS, POLICE DEPARTMENTS AND CITY OFFICIALS AN OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS SYSTEMIC RACISM.**



**THE  
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NAACP BRANCH**

**AND YOUR 25th FREEDOM FUND EVENT**



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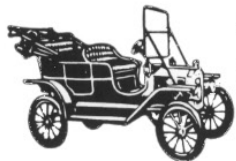
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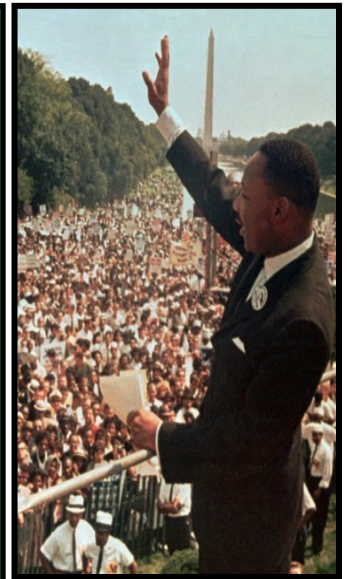
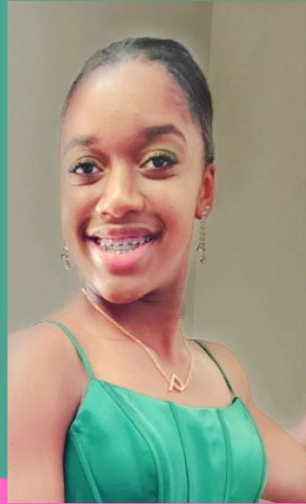
**INKSTER TASK FORCE  
OPERATION REFUGE**



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Aunts/Uncles, Siblings, and Cousins



*Sen. Dayna Polehanki*

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**VOTE**  
**TELEGRAM**  
CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF SERVING DETROIT AND THE DOWNRIVER COMMUNITY

**City of Inkster to Host Celebration Honoring City's 50th Anniversary**  
By Sherrie Johnson, Special Contributor

**Community takes to Visger to Stop the Violence**  
By Sherrie Johnson, Special Contributor

**National Coalition on Black Civic Participation Launches 10-Day Voter Education and Mobilization Countdown**  
By Sherrie Johnson, Special Contributor

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Telegram News  
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telegramnews

**President Obama Acts to Ease Student Loan Debt**  
page 5A

**Wayne Metro announce new summer food program**  
page 7A

**50th TELEGRAM**  
CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF SERVING DETROIT AND THE DOWNRIVER COMMUNITY

**Eight Albums by Black Artists That Changed the Scope of Music**  
By Sherrie Johnson, Telegram Newspaper Staff

**Telegram Newspaper to celebrate their 70th Anniversary**  
By Sherrie Johnson, Telegram Newspaper Staff

**Summer Gas Rates Take Effect Sunday, June 1, 2014**  
State inspectors continue to inspect Michigan cars being provided of the program

**Gov. Rick Snyder signs bill to help provide substance abuse treatment**  
The right occupational licensing, already has

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**CONGRATULATIONS  
TO WESTERN  
WAYNE NAACP FOR  
75 YEARS OF  
SERVICE TO OUR  
COMMUNITY**

**THE TIME IS  
ALWAYS RIGHT TO  
DO WHAT IS RIGHT**



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**FREEDOM FUND DINNER!**

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WAYNE COUNTY SHERIFF RAPHAEL WASHINGTON AND THE WAYNE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE CONGRATULATE THE WESTERN WAYNE COUNTY NAACP ON ITS 2022 FREEDOM FUND DINNER. BEST WISHES ON YOUR 75 YEAR ANNIVERSARY AND TO MANY MORE YEARS OF "ACCELERATING CHANGE DESPITE THE ODDS!"

# JOIN OUR TEAM!

BE THE CHANGE WE ALL WANT TO SEE IN THE FUTURE! JOIN THE WAYNE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE TODAY. SIMPLY SCAN THE QR CODE OR GO TO: [WWW.SHERIFFCONNECT.COM/JOIN](http://WWW.SHERIFFCONNECT.COM/JOIN) YOUR FUTURE STARTS NOW!

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SHERIFF RAPHAEL WASHINGTON



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DTE is honored to support the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual NAACP Freedom Fund Dinner. By working together to bring forth innovative and bold ideas, we can inspire a community improving the lives of all people—And That's Power!



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