

NAACP WEEKLY NEWS RECAP



TheGrio: [Black voters and their historical disenfranchisement take center stage in Virginia's redistricting referendum](#)

"This vote is about more than maps, it is about whether Virginians will hold extremist leaders accountable for the high gas prices, skyrocketing healthcare costs, the cost of living, and attacks on our democracy," said Derrick Johnson, president and CEO of the NAACP. "The Trump administration has tried to rewrite our history, cut public education, erase civil rights protections, and fire thousands of federal workers. And now they want to weaken our votes."

WTVR: [Virginia leaders react as redistricting referendum passes](#)

"They sent lies to our doors," said Rev. Cozy Bailey, President of the NAACP Virginia State Conference. "They tried to confuse us, discourage us, and keep us home. But we came anyway — and in numbers that could not be ignored. Tonight, Virginia has a

message for every extremist lawmaker in this country who thinks they can rig the rules and silence our communities: we see you, and we defy you.”

Mother Jones: [A Republican Dark Money Group Blankets Virginia With Deceptive Mailers Ahead of Redistricting Vote](#)

Civil rights groups have sharply criticized the mailers sent by the Justice for Democracy PAC. “We denounce the manipulative mailers sent by a MAGA-aligned political action committee aimed at deterring Black voters from supporting this referendum, which falsely compare this important measure to Jim Crow—a brutal system that stripped Black Americans of their voting rights,” the NAACP Virginia State Conference said in a [statement](#). “This referendum addresses the manipulation of congressional seats, designed to imbalance representation and secure conservative wins ahead of the November midterm elections. We cannot stand idly by and allow these reprehensible racist tactics go unchallenged.”

Democracy Docket: [Obama and Holder clarify their support for Virginia redistricting in new videos](#)

“Now, let me be straight with you. These ads are deceptive. They’re disgraceful and they’re deeply racist. And to add insult to injury, they are lying about President Obama,” said Holder. “This is the real deal: President Obama, Gov. Spanberger, the NAACP and black leaders across the Commonwealth are urging Virginians to vote ‘Yes.’ I am urging you to vote ‘Yes.’”

Futurism: [NAACP Sues Elon Over His Noxious AI Data Center](#)

The oldest civil rights organization in the United States has named Elon Musk’s AI company, xAI, in a new lawsuit, alleging that the turbines powering its “Colossus” data center violate the Clean Air Act of 1970.

Black Enterprise: [NAACP Sues Elon Musk’s xAI Over Alleged Pollution From Southern Data Centers](#)

The NAACP has filed a lawsuit against Elon Musk’s artificial intelligence company, xAI. The lawsuit accuses xAI of violating federal environmental laws by operating unpermitted gas turbines at a data center in the South.

POCIT: [NAACP Sues Elon Musk’s xAI Over Pollution From Data Centers Affecting Communities In Memphis and North Mississippi](#)

“The NAACP has consistently challenged MDEQ’s lack of transparency and stands with residents within the region. We continue to call for the prioritization of people over billionaires and unvetted corporate expansion,” Abre’ Conner, NAACP Director of Environmental and Climate Justice said.

Peace & Riot: [AI’s Fossil Fuel Future](#)

“We’ve been sold the products of AI—not the infrastructure,” Conner said. Conner has been tracking how data center expansion is unfolding nationally. At NAACP, she is working to build a picture of the environmental, water, and energy burdens of these facilities. She advocates for equity-based frameworks, pushing back against “[dirty data centers](#)” and their narrative of a people-first future.

Legal Planet: [Can Sustainability Be Abundant, Safe, and Affordable?](#)

Costs are not the only challenge facing the grid. Another is community opposition, especially towards data centers and the grid buildout required to service them. Abre’ Conner, who has worked extensively with communities impacted by the power needs of data centers, raised community benefits agreements as one potential solution. These agreements can center community needs in the grid buildout conversation and can also provide “ratchets” to ensure enforceability.

First Alert 4: [NAACP calls for pause on approval process for Ferguson Data Center Project](#)

The NAACP St. Louis County Branch is calling for a pause on the approval process on the Ferguson Data Center Project.

ARL Now: [Arlington looks toward two congressional districts after local voters overwhelmingly back change](#)

“Our ancestors prayed for this right, marched for this right, suffered for this right, and in many cases died for this right,” local NAACP president Rev. DeLishia Davis said in an email. “We honor them not only with remembrance, but with action.”

NBC6: [NAACP demands investigation into Fort Lauderdale officer after alleged racist remarks](#)

A local chapter of the NAACP is claiming that a Fort Lauderdale Police officer made racist accusations about some of his own colleagues, and now leaders of the group want an independent investigation into the officer’s behavior.

Fox2: [NAACP Detroit Branch hosting 71st annual Fight For Freedom Fund Dinner](#)

The NAACP Detroit Branch is hosting its 71st annual Fight For Freedom Fund Dinner on Sunday, April 16th at Huntington Place.

The Columbus Dispatch: [Columbus NAACP names civil rights attorney Sean Walton as new president](#)

“We’re excited that there are leaders in place that are willing to continue advancing civil rights and social justice forward,” said Danielle Sydnor, a national NAACP board member and treasurer for the Ohio Conference of the NAACP. “The full state and national association are here to support those leaders.”

NAACP NEWS AND UPDATES

- [NAACP Steps in to Protect New Jersey Voter Records from Improper DOJ Access](#)
 - [NAACP Joins Growing Coalition of Over 120 Organizations to Issue Travel Advisory for 2026 FIFA World Cup](#)
 - [NAACP Files Amicus Brief Opposing Department of Justice Overreach in Michigan, DOJ is Demanding Sensitive Voter Data](#)
 - [“Weaponized by Dangerous Forces”: NAACP Warns as DOJ Targets Southern Poverty Law Center](#)
 - [NAACP Celebrates Virginia’s Vote to Defend the Country](#)
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117TH NAACP NATIONAL CONVENTION



[Registration is OPEN for the 117th NAACP National Convention!](#) We are heading to Chicago from July 18–22, 2026. Join us and thousands of leaders in a city defined by resilience and creativity as we come together under this year’s theme, **We The People**, to help build

pathways to justice. This is your opportunity to engage with top voices, influence crucial policy, and celebrate Black excellence. A [schedule-at-a-glance is now available on our website](#), offering an early look at general programming and key moments throughout Convention week.


[Convention housing is now OPEN](#) through our official partner, Maritz. We encourage you to reserve your accommodations early for the best rates and availability. Hotel reservation deadlines begin June 28, 2026.

We're offering [special travel discounts](#) through **Delta**, **United**, and **Southwest Airlines**. Visit our website to learn more and plan your trip at naacp.org/convention.

Keep an eye out for important updates on speakers and more in the months ahead.

Stay Tuned

IT'S STILL DRY ICE OVER HERE!



NAACP

DEAR CONGRESS,

A nation that believes in liberty and justice for all must ensure that its policies reflect integrity, fairness, and respect for citizens, lawful residents, and families who contribute every day to the fabric of this country. This is how trust is built, and how the American promise is sustained.

Michelle Stewart
Syracuse, New York

#DRYICE

The Senate GOP just voted to begin work on a budget plan that could funnel tens of billions of dollars into ICE and Border Patrol. If their plan succeeds, this funding will only further escalate the fear, confusion, and harm that's already devastated communities across the country.

Nationwide, we've seen the real consequences of ICE's destructive practices: families torn apart, communities living in fear, and lives shattered.

[Take action today. Urge Congress to reject this dangerous funding plan. Every voice matters, and time is running out.](#)

No New Funding for ICE

SCHOLARSHIPS

A vertical poster with a rainbow gradient background. At the top, the NAACP logo is visible. Below it, the text "INSPIRE INITIATIVES" is written in white. A yellow banner with the word "SCHOLARSHIP" in black, handwritten-style font is placed over the text. Below the banner, the word "OPPORTUNITIES" is written in large, white, bold, sans-serif font. Underneath, a paragraph of text reads: "Funding is available for exceptional students interested in STEM, marketing, communications, art, and more." Below that, the text "APPLY NOW" is written in yellow, followed by "APRIL 13 - MAY 22, 2026" in yellow. At the bottom, the website "NAACP.ORG/SCHOLARSHIPS" is listed in white. A small asterisked note at the very bottom reads: "*Scholarship recipients will be announced in the Summer of 2026".

NAACP

INSPIRE INITIATIVES

SCHOLARSHIP

OPPORTUNITIES

Funding is available for exceptional students interested in STEM, marketing, communications, art, and more.

APPLY NOW

APRIL 13 - MAY 22, 2026

NAACP.ORG/SCHOLARSHIPS

*Scholarship recipients will be announced in the Summer of 2026

Education is the key to unlocking your potential, and we are here to help students open the door.

Through the NAACP Inspire Initiatives program, we offer need-based and merit scholarships for outstanding undergraduate and graduate students. We are committed to ensuring equity in educational opportunity to help our communities succeed in school, work, and life.

Visit naacp.org/scholarships to find the right fit for your future!

Review the individual eligibility requirements and apply now through May 22, 2026:

- [The Agnes Jones Jackson Scholarship](#)
- [The Empowering A Better Tomorrow Scholarship, Powered by Walmart](#)
- [The James Weldon Johnson Scholarship](#)
- [The Hubertus W.V. Willems Scholarship](#)
- [The Ed Dwight Scholarship](#)
- [The NAACP x Society Awards Scholarship](#)
- [The Edmund & John Kelly Scholarship](#)
- [The Emanuel & T. Thomas Fortune Scholarship](#)
- [The Dr. Eliza & Dr. Richard Grier Scholarship](#)

Apply Now

NAACP EVENTS



The NAACP stays active, creating spaces to organize, learn, celebrate, and take action. From national observances to community-driven programs, there are many ways to stay engaged and connected.

Explore our Events page for timely events and special observances, including:

- April 1-30: [Financial Empowerment Month](#)

NAACP is hosting a series of virtual and in-person events throughout April to help

individuals build financial knowledge, strengthen credit, explore homeownership, and access career opportunities, offering practical tools to support long-term financial stability and generational wealth.

- **April 1-30: [Earth Month](#)**

During this month, NAACP is hosting events across the country and virtually to engage communities in environmental and climate justice, offering opportunities to learn, connect, and take action on issues impacting Black communities.

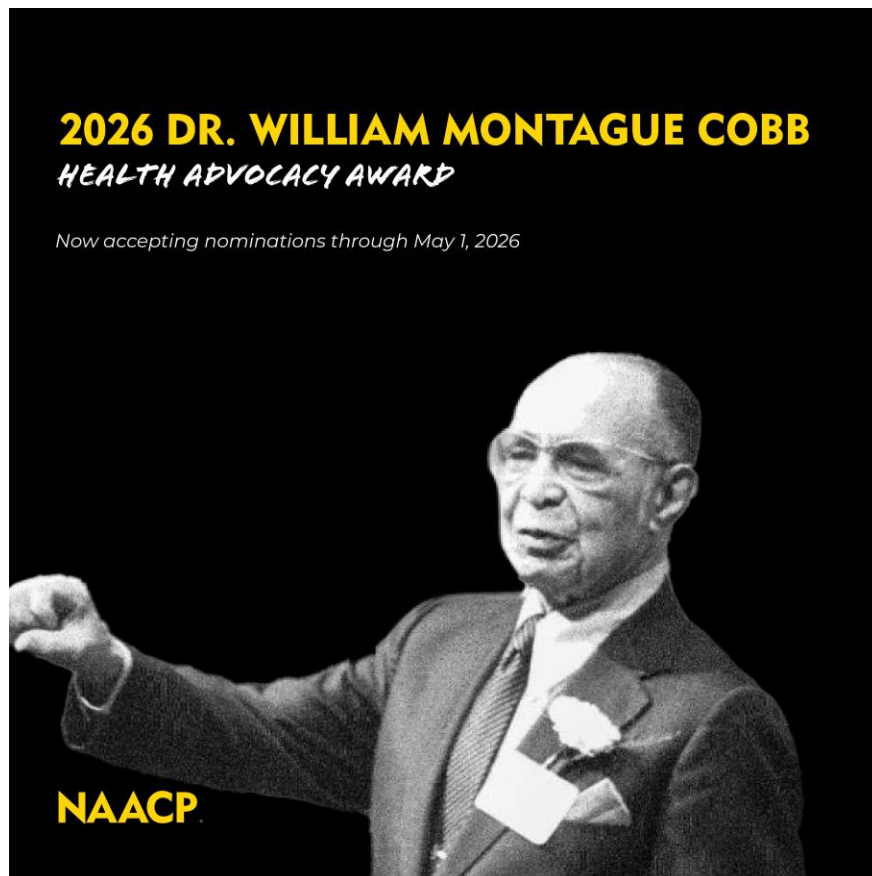
- **April 29: [Virtual Career Fair](#)**

The [NAACP Virtual Career Fair](#) connects candidates with employers committed to building more inclusive workplaces. Participants can explore opportunities across fields such as sales, marketing, business, government, and healthcare while engaging in one-on-one conversations with recruiters and learning about open roles.

- **And more.**

Explore

2026 DR. WILLIAM MONTAGUE COBB AWARD



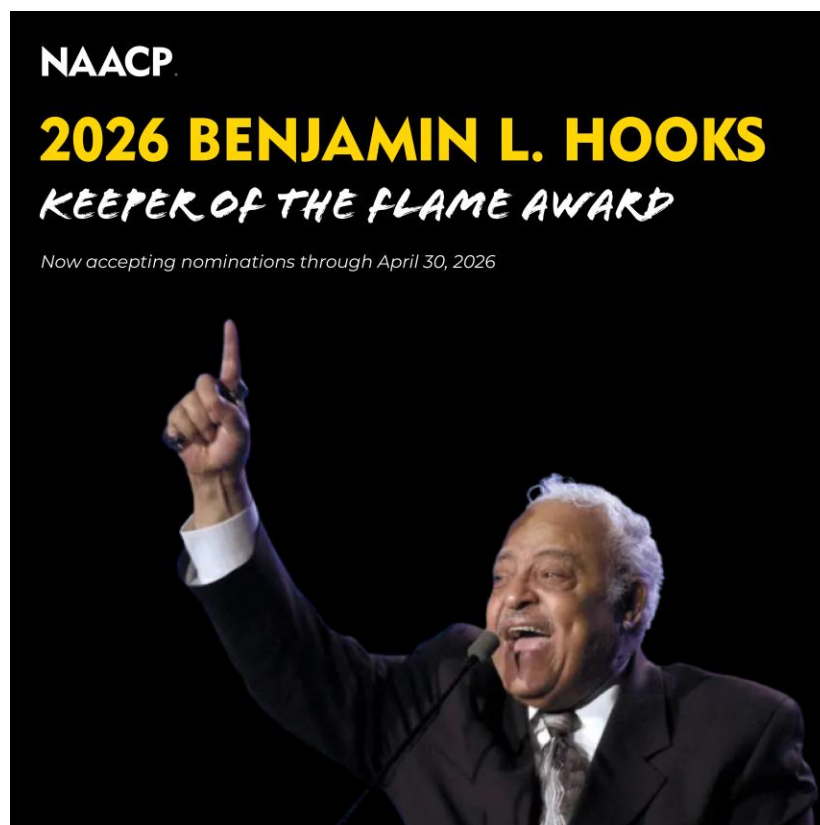
The [Dr. William Montague Cobb Award](#) was established to honor individuals and organizations that have made a significant impact in the field of health in recognition of the extraordinary social justice advocacy and legacy of Dr. William Montague Cobb, who served as the President of the NAACP from 1976 to 1983.

This award is presented annually to a national figure, state health committee chair, and/or local individual to recognize special achievements in Health and Social Justice Advocacy, Health Education and Promotion, and/or Health Fundraising and Research.

Submit your nominations to recognize the contributions of the trailblazers working toward health equity for Black people across the nation today by **May 1, 2026**.

[Submit Now](#)

2026 BENJAMIN L. HOOKS “KEEPER OF THE FLAME” AWARD



The [Keeper of the Flame Award](#) was established in 1992 in honor of the late Benjamin Lawson Hooks, the fifth Executive Director of the NAACP (1977-1992). This award recognizes

individuals who demonstrate exceptional service in advancing the objectives of the NAACP and the labor movement.

Submit your nominations to recognize the contributions of the trailblazers leading racial equity efforts in the labor movement by **April 30, 2026**.

[Submit Now](#)

NAACP

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Please pass this email on to someone you know who needs to be part of this movement for justice and equality.

Was this email forwarded to you?

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