

Greater Texarkana Branch Newsletter

P.O. Box 1275 • Texarkana, Texas 75504

July—September 2017

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DATES TO REMEMBER

Banquet Ad Deadline

Extended until
October 11, 2017

Freedom Fund Committee Meetings

October 11, 2017
October 18, 2017
October 25, 2107
6:30 pm

Texarkana College
BCT Building, Rm 4

2017 Texas State NAACP Convention

October 12-14, 2017
Shiloh Inn Suites
Hotel
Killeen, Texas

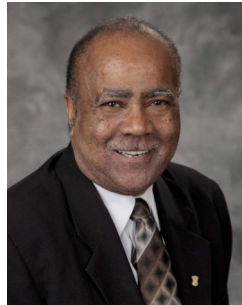
Free Flu Shots

October 18, 2017
11:00 am - 3:00 pm
Truman Arnold Ctr
Texarkana College

LifeShare Blood Drive

October 18, 2017
11:30 am - 5:30 pm
Truman Arnold Ctr
Texarkana College

PRESIDENT'S PEN



To the Members of the Greater Texarkana Branch of the NAACP,

It is my honor to serve as the President of the Greater Texarkana Branch. The Branch's membership has heighten as well as our community exposure. We have accomplished many goals: 1) the Branch hosted the first state convention in Northeast Texas, October 2016; 2) we have met and networked with other Branches in Northeast Texas; and 3) we are intensely working to keep the community inform of who we are and what we do. However, we must persevere because there is still a lot to accomplish in health care, education, political awareness and justice for all. I hope and pray that we continue to persevere and maintain our vision for this year and that next year will be better. Thank you for your continued support of the Branch.

Robert A. Jones

President, Greater Texarkana Branch

FREEDOM FUND AWARDS BANQUET KEYNOTE SPEAKER

REPRESENTATIVE MARVIN L. ABNEY



Marvin L. Abney has honorably served the residents of Newport and Middletown Rhode Island in District 73 since his election in November 2012. Rep. Abney is chairman of the House Finance Committee, the Veterans' Affairs Committee, and the Health, Education and Welfare Committee. In 2015, Rep. Abney was chosen to serve on the Governor's working group that is examining the state's criminal justice system in order to improve public safety and

**DATES TO
REMEMBER...cont.**

**Banquet Tickets,
Tables & Friends/
Patron Donations
Deadline**

October 20, 2017

**Freedom Fund
Awards Banquet**

October 28, 2017

6:30 pm •

Meet and Greet

7:00 pm • Banquet

Texarkana

Convention Center

**Next Monthly
Meeting**

November 4, 2017

(Every 1st Saturday
of the Month)

10:00 am

Oak Street Baptist
Church

KEYNOTE SPEAKER...CONT.

reduce costs. He is a Texarkana native son who graduated from Dunbar High School in Texarkana, Texas in 1968. He completed his bachelor's degree in public administration at Stephen F. Austin State University in 1975. Representative Abney earned a master's of management from Webster University in 1982; a master's of business administration from the University of Rhode Island in 2000; and a certificate of advanced graduate study in educational leadership from Johnson and Wales University in 2005. In addition to the many accolades that he has achieved throughout his career. He also attended the Command and General Staff College in Munich, Germany in the late 1980s. He is a retired Major of the United States Army after a 20-year Army career.

FREEDOM FUND BANQUET AWARDEES

- ◆ **Mr. Melvin Banks**
Dr. Calvin Rolark Business and Economic Award
- ◆ **Ms. Taryn Chambers Wells**
A. E. Alton/Mott Mosley Educational Award
- ◆ **Dr. L. E. Cole**
Religious Affairs Award
- ◆ **Matt and Corey Graves**
Community Support Award
- ◆ **Mrs. Barbara Golston-Larry**
Dr. G. W. Thompson Award
- ◆ **Mrs. Willie Ray**
Benjamin Dennis President
Award
- ◆ **Mrs. Tina Richardson**
Trailblazer Award
- ◆ **Mrs. Johnnie Wallace**
Torch Bearer Award
- ◆ **Ms. Treva West**
John Jay Jones, Sr. Community Service Award



DUNBAR HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION

Special thanks to the Dunbar High School (DHS) National Alumni Association who graciously agreed to host the Pre-event Reception (Social Hour) for Representative Marvin L. Abney, the keynote speaker, at the NAACP Freedom Fund Awards Banquet. *Malvin A. Patterson, President, DHS National Alumni Association*

HOW TO FILE A GRIEVANCE WITH THE BRANCH

Please contact the Branch via naacp.texarkana@gmail.com to obtain a Grievance/Complaint form to submit an official grievance/complaint. Completing this form does not constitute an official complaint with a legal authority. At this time, the Branch/NAACP is only seeking information to assist you concerning your grievance/complaint.

The Legal Redress Committee shall: (1) investigate all cases reported to it; (2) supervise all litigation in which the branch is interested and; (3) keep the national office and the branch informed on the progress of every case. It shall not give legal advice.



"Sometimes, I feel discriminated against, but it does not make me angry. It merely astonishes me. How can any deny themselves the pleasure of my company? It's beyond me."
— Zora Neale Hurston

PRESS RELEASE
NAACP RESPONDS TO DALLAS COWBOYS OWNER'S
COMMENTS ON PLAYERS' RIGHT TO FREE SPEECH



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 10, 2017

Baltimore, Maryland-The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), the nation's original civil rights organization, today responded to the assertion by Jerry Jones, owner of the Dallas Cowboys, that players on his team who choose not to stand for the National Anthem will not be allowed to take the field.

"This is not an issue about our flag, this is an issue about police brutality, (racism, and the ability of members of the NFL whose communities are disproportionately impacted by police misconduct to peacefully say enough," said NAACP interim President and CEO Derrick Johnson. "This is not simply a Black issue due to the number of white people also killed by police, but we know historically that when justice occurs for African Americans, all other members of our society benefit as well," added Johnson.

Despite representing around 13 percent of the population, African-Americans are account for nearly a quarter of those individuals killed by police.

"Jerry Jones' comments are more than tone-deaf, more than misinformed and misguided – they are a public commitment by an NFL owner to violate his players' Constitutional right to free speech – one of the principles on which our nation was founded. They are proof that athletes like Colin Kaepernick who have quietly and peacefully used their platform to protest violence against communities of color do so at their own peril," said **Tony Covington, former NFL player and Senior Director of Corporate Affairs at the NAACP.**

Following Vice President Pence's decision to walk out of a game in which players chose not to stand during the national anthem – at President Trump's insistence – the NAACP believes that the NFL has an obligation to take a strong stance on behalf of its athletes and their rights. We have asked to meet with Commissioner Goodell in order to determine how he can best protect his players. We hope that he will work with us and the Players' Association to forge this critical path forward.