



# From football fans to followers of faith, inside the 'Buckeye Revival'

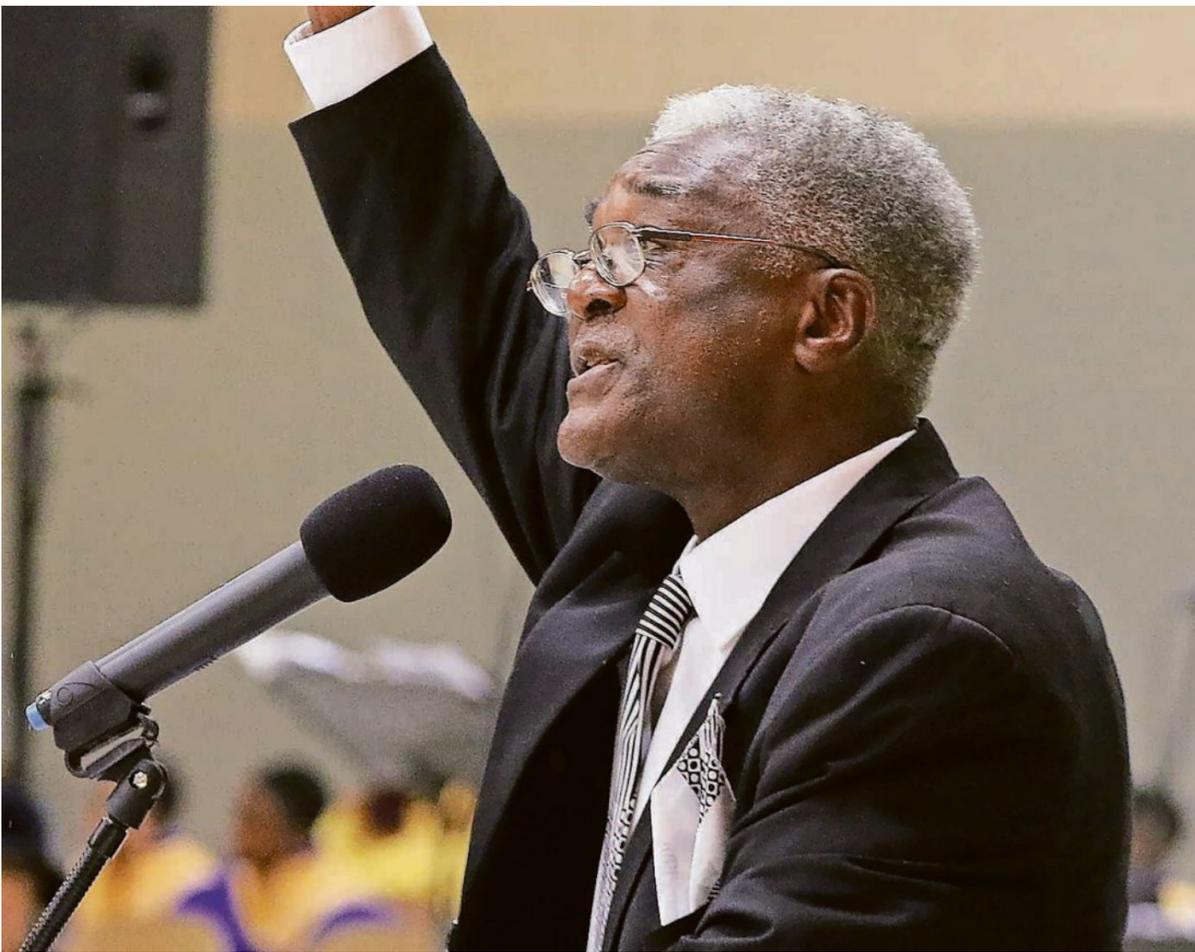
FAITH & FAMILY, 6A

# The Gaston Gazette

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## Gaston County groups to celebrate MLK Day



Keynote Speaker Rev. Thomas Gillespie talked about Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. during the Gaston County NAACP Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration held on Jan. 15, 2018, at the Erwin Center on North Pryor Street.

MIKE HENSDELL/THE GASTON GAZETTE

**Chloe Collins**  
Gaston Gazette  
USA TODAY NETWORK

On, Jan. 19, the United States will observe Martin Luther King Day, a holiday established to honor the civil rights leader around the time of his birthday.

Gaston County residents looking for a place to celebrate can find events in Dallas or Gastonia in 2026.

### Dallas

Starting at 11 a.m. Jan. 19, the town of Dallas and Dallas Parks and Recreation will host a Martin Luther King celebration at the historic courthouse, 131 N. Gaston St. The event will feature keynote speaker Rev. John Spencer from St. Paul Lutheran Church, the presentation of the MLK Lifetime Achievement Award and light refreshments.

### Gastonia

Starting at 2 p.m. Jan. 19, The Erwin Center, located at 913 N. Pryor St., will host a celebration inspired by King's last book titled "Where Do We Go From Here: Chaos or Community." The event will include oratorical, visual, and performing arts by youth from

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## Police arrest disabled man

**Kara Fohner**  
Gaston Gazette  
USA TODAY NETWORK

A Mount Holly-area family says that officers from the Gaston County Police Department and N.C. Probation and Parole showed up at their house to arrest someone, but arrested the wrong person, a 35-year-old man with severe intellectual disabilities who lacked the verbal skills to explain who he was.

The wrongful arrest is alleged to have occurred Jan. 12.

In a surveillance video of the encounter, which occurred at a home near Old Hickory Grove Road, an officer knocked on the door of the home, and when it opened, he said, "Hey, missed you, buddy! Been looking for you. Where you been?"

The officer does not make an attempt to identify the person he is talking to, who replies, "I don't know."

"Come on and step out for me. Turn around. Put your hands behind your back," the officer said.

The man protested, saying, "No!" And the police officer, joined by other officers, grabs the man and drags him out of the house.

"Stop fighting!" A female officer said.

They pin the man to the ground, then take him away. In a different video, as they lead the man to the waiting vehicle, the man screams in fear.

Franklin Clark, a relative asked to speak on behalf of the family, said that police were looking for a different person, the brother of the man who was arrested.

The man they were looking for had a warrant for his arrest and was accused of violating the terms of his probation.

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## Trump threatens Insurrection Act in Minnesota

**Christopher Cann, Thao Nguyen and Jeanine Santucci**  
USA TODAY

President Donald Trump on Jan. 15 threatened to invoke the Insurrection Act, which would give him power to deploy armed forces domestically, as tensions ratcheted up yet further in Minnesota following a second shooting involving a federal agent.

The agent shot a person in the leg in Minneapolis on Jan. 14 after allegedly being assaulted during an arrest, the Department of Homeland Security said.

"If the corrupt politicians of Minnesota don't obey the law and stop the professional agitators and insurrectionists from attacking the Patriots of I.C.E., who are only trying to do their job, I will institute the INSURRECTION ACT," Trump wrote in a Truth Social post.

He made similar threats during protests in Los Angeles in June 2025.

Homeland Security Secretary Kristi Noem said that she has discussed the use of the Insurrection Act with Trump.

"He certainly has the constitutional authority to utilize that," she told reporters. "My hope is that this leadership

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