

**MEMORANDUM**

To: Honorable Peggy Henson
11th District Councilmember

From: Chris Ford 
Commissioner of Social Services

Date: November 9, 2017

RE: Rebranding the Day Treatment Center
In honor of Audrey Grevious (1930 – 2017)

As a follow-up to our recent presentation before the Council's General Government and Social Services Committee on October 10th, we have further studied options for rebranding the Day Treatment Center. Please allow me to recommend renaming the Lexington Day Treatment Center in honor of the late Audrey Grevious.

Ms. Grevious was a Lexington native and life-long resident. Professionally, she began her teaching career at a school for delinquent youth, the Kentucky Village Reform School (also later known as Greendale). Ms. Grevious would eventually serve as Principal at the school. Civically, Ms. Grevious' leadership as President of the Lexington NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People), was instrumental in guiding the community through the tumultuous era of desegregation, and in the battle for social justice.

The Lexington Day Treatment Center operates on a model of collaboration with local government (LFUCG); our public school district (Fayette County Schools); and Kentucky Department for Juvenile Justice. Ms. Grevious' legacy as a local educator and civil rights activist aligns perfectly with the mission and purpose of the Lexington Day Treatment Center. She exemplified the spirit and commitment of our educators, social workers, and staff members who strive to provide comprehensive, nurturing, supportive services for Day Treatment students.

I have enclosed Ms. Grevious' biographical information for your reference. Please find me available in the interim to discuss next steps, in anticipation of the upcoming Committee meeting on December 5th. Thanks for your consideration, and please advise. CAF

Cc: Stephanie Hong, Director of Youth Services
Hilary Angelucci, Legislative Aide

Enclosures





Audrey Grevious, a civil rights activist from Lexington, was interviewed in the KET documentary *Living the Story: The Civil Rights Movement in Kentucky*. - KET

Prominent Lexington civil rights activist, teacher Audrey Grevious dies

BY MORGAN EADS AND BETH MUSGRAVE
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JANUARY 09, 2017 04:30 PM

UPDATED JANUARY 10, 2017 03:21 PM

Prominent Lexington civil rights activist and longtime educator Audrey Louise Ross Grevious died Friday. She was 86.

Grevious was elected president of the Lexington NAACP chapter in 1957 and is credited with organizing numerous protests and sit-ins in Lexington during the civil rights movement in the 1960s.

Robert Jefferson, a former Urban County Councilman and Grevious' brother, said Grevious had battled Alzheimer's disease for the past seven years.

Jefferson said his sister had a lifelong passion for helping people — either through the civil rights movement or as a teacher.

“She was an individual who are cared a lot about people,” Jefferson said.

Grevious worked closely with E.C. Hale, who was Lexington's police chief during the civil rights movement, according to [The Kentucky African-American Encyclopedia](#). Their work together is credited for keeping Lexington's movement more peaceful than in some other cities.

The movement for civil rights in Lexington was largely ignored by the two local papers at the time, the Lexington Herald and the Lexington Leader. In 2004, Grevious was interviewed as part of a Herald-Leader series highlighting the aspects of the movement that were not covered.

She told the Herald-Leader about her experience at a Lexington lunch counter sit-in in 1960 when a waitress dumped a cold glass of Coca-Cola all over her.

Grevious also talked about a protest where she and others stood behind a chain at a downtown Lexington business. A manager flicked the chain repeatedly across Grevious' shins, but she would not move and just sang "Yield Not to Temptation." She had to be helped out after the stand-in and, at the time of the 2004 series, still had pain in her shins.

"One of the things that a lot of the time people forget is just how racially segregated Lexington was during that time and the real racial oppression that existed in this community," said Rev. Gerald L. Smith, a University of Kentucky historian. "Here was a woman who confronted this problem. When I think about her, I think about her and the number of other African-American women who were engaged in the local struggle."

She confronted segregation with dignity and strength, said Smith, who was Grevious' pastor at Pilgrim Baptist Church.

"She was very classy, very articulate, very determined," he said. "She embodied non-violent direct protest, and she embraced that philosophy as president of the NAACP."

Grevious was never worried about how many people were at a protest, Smith said. She counted on herself and could be "an army of one" if she needed to be. "She fearlessly confronted oppression. She was clearly more than a foot soldier, she was more than willing to get out front and take charge," Smith said. "She had a presence that you knew she meant business. She was willing to look evil in the face and ready to face the consequences if necessary."

Jefferson said his sister became a leader in the civil rights movement because she experienced injustice.

"It was just the inequality that existed at the time," Jefferson said.

Grevious received a degree in education from what is now Kentucky State University, then called Kentucky State College. She worked as a teacher and principal at Kentucky Village, a reformatory school for delinquent boys. After the school closed, Grevious became a teacher at Maxwell Elementary School in Lexington.

Amanda Ferguson, a former Fayette County Public Schools board member, had Grevious as a sixth-grade teacher at Maxwell.

“She was just strong, but quiet and gentle with the kids,” Ferguson said. “I guess it was a quiet strength. She was never rattled. She was a calm spirit.”

Ferguson didn’t find out until years later that Grevious had led marches and been an instrumental civil rights advocate in Lexington.

“She was fighting battles, but she never let that get to the kids. She always did her job and taught the children,” Ferguson said.

Grevious was also an avid bowler, acquiring many trophies throughout her lifetime.

“She started locally and then started going to tournaments,” Jefferson said.

Grevious was inducted into the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights Hall of Fame in 2012.

Visitation for Grevious will be held at Pilgrim Baptist Church from noon to 1 p.m. Thursday with the funeral immediately after, according to Fender Funeral Directors. A Delta Sigma Theta sorority service will be held at the church before the visitation, starting at 11:30 a.m.

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No statues of women in Lexington? Here are eight who deserve the honor.

BY TOM EBLEN

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SEPTEMBER 05, 2017 02:19 PM

UPDATED SEPTEMBER 06, 2017 04:59 PM

Lexington has many statues of men and horses — and even a bronze sidewalk plaque memorializing a dog. But, as reporter Beth Musgrave wrote recently, there seem to be no public statues of notable women.

That's a shame, because there are many women from Lexington who have accomplished important things and should be honored and remembered.

Here's my list to get the conversation started:

Mary Todd Lincoln (1818-1882). She may be Lexington's most famous woman, thanks to her marriage to Abraham Lincoln. Her girlhood home on Main Street is a museum. But she often gets a bum rap as a crazy woman, both because of her hot temper and the fact that her son tried unsuccessfully to have her committed late in life. Lincoln was intelligent, cultured, well-educated, politically savvy and unwilling to put up with nonsense from men. She was a strong woman who endured more tragedy than most of us could imagine.



[@tomeblen](#)

Tom Eblen is a columnist for the Lexington Herald-Leader who writes about life, people and issues in Lexington and Kentucky. A Lexington native, Eblen was the Herald-Leader's managing editor from 1998 to 2008.

Madeline McDowell Breckinridge (1872- 1920) became a national leader in the fight for women's suffrage and social reform. The most influential Kentucky woman of her era, her work included lobbying for compulsory school attendance, better health care and creation of the juvenile justice system. She fought for public parks and against child labor. She was a persuasive writer. Her most famous line, in a letter to a governor who was against women voting: "Kentucky women are not idiots, even though they are closely related to Kentucky men."

Sophonisba Breckinridge (1866-1948), Madeline's sister-in-law, was a nationally known social scientist, reformer, economist, women's rights activist, educator and diplomat. She was the first woman to earn a law degree and Ph.D. in political science and economics from the University of Chicago and was the first woman admitted to the Kentucky bar. Breckinridge led the creation of the academic field of social work. She authored several influential books on social science. A civil rights activist, she was an early member of the NAACP.

Laura Clay (1849-1941) and **Mary Barr Clay** (1839-1924), daughters of the fiery emancipationist Cassius M. Clay, became national leaders in the women's rights movement, working for both suffrage and laws protecting women's property rights. Mary was elected president of the American Woman Suffrage Association in 1883. At the 1920 Democratic National Convention, Laura became the first woman to have her name placed in nomination for president at a major party's convention.

Mary Ellen Britton (1855-1925) was a teacher, journalist, activist and physician. Educated at Berea College, in 1902 she became the first black woman physician licensed in Lexington. She was an outspoken crusader for women's rights and civil rights. She was president of the Lexington Women's Improvement Club, an original member of the Kentucky Negro Education Association and helped start the Colored Orphan Industrial Home. She openly challenged segregation by writing newspaper columns, testifying before the Kentucky General Assembly and confronting white supremacists at the 1893 Chicago World's Fair.

Audrey Louise Grevious (1930-2017) was a teacher, school principal and civil rights leader in Lexington. Educated in Lexington's segregated black schools and at Kentucky State University, she became president of the Lexington NAACP and vice president of the Congress on Racial Equality. She led protests to desegregate Lexington businesses before civil rights laws were enacted, and she worked closely with Lexington Police Chief E.C. Hale to keep those protests peaceful.

Julia Amanda Perry (1924-1979) [became one of the first American black women to distinguish herself as a composer and conductor of neoclassical music](#). She studied at the Juilliard School of Music in New York and in Italy on two Guggenheim Fellowships. She wrote orchestral, choral and opera music and taught music at Atlanta University and Florida A&M. She conducted many orchestras, and her work was performed by the New York Philharmonic and other major orchestras.

My initial list includes only deceased women, and those whose accomplishments were more noble than notorious. Other suggestions?

Tom Eblen: 859-231-1415, [@tomeblen](#)

Audrey Grevious

Audrey Louise Grevious (née **Ross**; September 30, 1930 – January 6, 2017) became one of the central leaders in the local civil rights movement in Lexington and the Commonwealth of Kentucky.

Contents

- Early life**
- College years**
- Educator and civil rights activist**
- See also**
- References**
- Additional resources**

Early life

Audrey Louise Ross was born in Lexington, Kentucky. As a young child, Grevious lived a one parent home which she shared with her mother, Martha Ross from Monticello, Kentucky and younger brother, Robert Jefferson.^[1]

Her father was from Lexington but did not live with them and she described her upbringing as being raised not only by her mother, but the entire African American community. "When I hear people talk bad about what happens to children who are raised by one parent, you know, I look at them like they're crazy ... I can look at myself and at my brother and say that our mother did an excellent job of raising us, as many of the other mothers did in our neighborhood during that time.^[2]

Grevious spent most of her youth helping her mother and trying to stay out of trouble. Her mother was a domestic servant: "I guess you would call her a nanny, but she was not called a nanny then. But she did the things that the nannies are doing now and being paid very well for. She raised up children."^[2] Grevious attended Constitution Elementary School and then Dunbar Junior and High School, both segregated schools, almost always bringing home good grades. She credited her mother with giving her the drive and self-confidence to succeed: "She instilled in us that we needed to be the very best that we could. That we needed to have a goal and that that goal would mean that we had to depend on other people to help us get there; which meant we couldn't waste our time and energy doing stupid things, getting into trouble.^[1]

Grevious participated in Girl Scouts and was involved in many social functions at the Charles Young Community Center, including dances, arts and crafts activities and talent shows. From an early age, she was inspired to become a teacher, citing her math teachers at Dunbar, Mrs. Claire Winda Taylor and Mrs. Ada Taylor ("the unofficial principal of Dunbar High school"^[1]) as her role model for a future career in teaching. Grevious graduated in 1948 and remained active in fundraising efforts of the Dunbar Alumni Association which offers scholarships to promising students.

College years

After graduating from Dunbar she enrolled in Kentucky State University in Frankfort, Kentucky in the fall of 1948. She would travel home every weekend, and seeing how tired her mother was from trying to support her, she quit school the following year to get a job. She worked as a secretary in the printing shop for the *Town Crier*, a Black newspaper in Lexington. It was during this time that Grevious began to realize the depth of racism and everyday discrimination in Kentucky: "It made me aware of how limited black America was within Lexington's society"^[3]

In 1955, after her brother returned from military service he had enough money to send himself, his wife and his sister to Kentucky State. Grevious graduated in 1957 with a degree in elementary education. During her college years she had become a member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) branch chapter in Lexington, elected as secretary, and she was forced to give up her job at the *Town Crier* as well as another job she had at a department store.

When she graduated from college, she became president of the Lexington NAACP. She attended the NAACP national convention in New York, and with some members from Ohio, agreed to participate in an experiment that would test White America's racism. She agreed that she would travel with some male NAACP members by car from New York to Lexington through Virginia and Maryland—and back again to New York. On the way to Kentucky, they drove "a fairly good little old car, not fancy or anything, just a good, old running car" and were dressed in their regular business professional clothes. Grevious described the reactions from White business owners when they stopped: "We weren't served any place. Now a couple of places said they would fix us some food in a box, in a sack if we came around to the back door to get it. Of course, naturally you were not going to do this. Then the plan was to get back to Lexington, the NAACP rented a limousine for us, furs for me, jewelry -- not African dress like they do now so much, but different. And I was to sit in the back, one young man was to be dressed up in a suit all the time and the other was to be the chauffeur. And we were to head back and stop at the very same places all the way back to New York. And we were served at every place that we stopped except one. And the conclusion that we came to was that they weren't quite sure who I was. Same people, we were still clean when we went before only this time I had some furs in the hot summertime wrapped around me and jewelry... so they were quite sure whether this was a foreigner coming through and they served us. ... this is what really got me into the serious part of making a change ... got me into the Movement one hundred and ten percent!"^[1]

Educator and civil rights activist

Grevious started teaching at a school for delinquent youths, Kentucky Village Reform School—later called Greendale Reformatory (now the Blackburn Correctional Complex). While teaching grade school there she noticed how segregated the institution was and challenged the "separate but equal" policy by going with her students to eat lunch in the Whites-only cafeteria. Although she met with the superintendent many times, she was never fired, and eventually earned the position of head principal.

While working at Kentucky Village, Grevious remained an active member of the NAACP and led many "picket line" protests against Lexington businesses that refused to hire or serve Blacks. In doing this she spurred a movement that led African Americans to positions they never held before. She was able to do all of this free of any crowd violence. Grevious worked closely with Julia Lewis, president of the local Congress on Racial Equality (CORE) chapter, and eventually became the vice-president of CORE also, bringing the two organizations together in order to establish social and economic justice.

After leading many protests that displayed the inequality of African Americans in Lexington, Mrs. Grevious was able to accomplish what had not been possible in most areas across the south. She retired from teaching after she became principal at Maxwell Elementary School, and she remained an active NAACP member. Audrey Grevious recalled her legacy in several oral history interviews conducted by the Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History at the University of Kentucky Libraries. She died on January 6, 2017 at the age of 86.^{[4][5]}

See also

- NAACP in Kentucky

References

1. "Audrey Grevious." Interview by Betsy Brinson. April 13, 1999 The Civil Rights Movement in Kentucky: Oral History Project (http://205.204.134.47/civil_rights_mvt/util.aspx?p=1&pid=14984) Archived (https://web.archive.org/web/20110704105734/http://205.204.134.47/civil_rights_mvt/util.aspx?p=1&pid=14984) 2011-07-04 at the Wayback Machine, Kentucky Historical Society Digital recordings; accessed December 5, 2010 (Note: A transcript of the recordings is available [here](http://205.204.134.47/civil_rights_mvt/media/KCRF20.B.21.Grevious.pdf) (http://205.204.134.47/civil_rights_mvt/media/KCRF20.B.21.Grevious.pdf)).

2. "Mrs. Audrey Grevious." Interview by Boyd L. Shearer and Harold BarkeDigital recording. April 23, 1997.The Daily Aesthetic: Oral Histories(<http://www.uky.edu/Projects/TDA/orals.htm>) Accessed December 5, 2010.Audio (<http://www.uky.edu/Projects/TDA/orals/grev1.wav>)(Note: a media player is required to listen to this 485kwav file.)
3. Graham, Arthur. "Ethnicity in Lexington Oral Hstory Project." Interview of Audrey Grevious by Arthur Graham, February 19, 1985. Print. Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History,University of Kentucky Libraries, Lexington, Kentucky.
4. Lytle, Alan (January 10, 2017)."Local Civil Rights Icon Audrey Grevious Dies"(<http://wuky.org/post/local-civil-rights-icon-audrey-grevious-dies#stream/0>) Retrieved 2017-01-10.
5. Eads, Morgan; Musgrave, Beth (January 9, 2017)."Prominent Lexington civil rights activist, teacher Audrey Grevious dies" (<http://www.kentucky.com/news/local/counties/fayette-county/article125470449.html>)*Lexington Herald Leader*. Retrieved 2017-01-10.

Additional resources

- "Living the Story: The Civil Rights Movement in Kentucky – Audrey Grevious"Kentucky Educational Television: Education, Public Affairs, Arts and Culture, Online Video. Ed. Betsy Brinson, Tracy K'Meyer, Arthur Rouse, and Joan Brannon. Kentucky Oral History Commission, 2001. Accessed 16 September 2010.
 - Johnson, Larry. "An Unsung Hero: Audrey Rice Grevious."Kentucky Women in the Civil Rights Era. Accessed December 5, 2010.
 - "NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People)'Notable Kentucky African Americans Database, University of Kentucky Libraries. Accessed December 5, 2010.
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REBRANDING OF DAY TREATMENT CENTER

*General Government and Social Services Committee
Division of Youth Services
October 10, 2017*



LEXINGTON DAY TREATMENT CENTER



Intro of Youth Services

- Day Treatment Center
- Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)
- Juvenile Probation and Court Services
- Youth Development Center
- Summer Youth Job Training Program



Day Treatment Center

1177 Harry Sykes Way

26,000 square feet
Constructed in 2005

Model of Collaboration

Division of Youth Services:

Administrative oversight of the program, including administrative staffing, facility maintenance and transportation services.

Fayette County Public Schools:

Educational curriculum and staffing, including teachers and classroom support personnel.

Kentucky Dept. of Juvenile Justice:

Grant funding partner in support of Clinical Social Workers who provide mental health treatment services for youth enrollees.

Who are Our Youth Enrollees?

- 91 Enrollees in Fiscal Year 2017
- 69% male population
- Racial and Ethnically Diverse
- Referrals by Cabinet, DJJ or Courts system

Of the 24 Day Treatment Programs statewide,
17 operate and identify as “Day Treatment”

Services for Youth Enrollees

- Individual Counseling – *at least 1 hour / week*
- Group Counseling – *3 times a week*
- Behavior Management Program
- Academic Reciprocity – *all grades and credits are transferable to any public schools*
- Mentorship and Parental Engagement

LEXINGTON DAY TREATMENT CENTER



Questions?