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# Dayton Daily News

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## EXTENDED COVERAGE: DAYTON OREGON DISTRICT SHOOTINGS



**Megan Betts,**  
24, of Bellbrook



**Monica  
Brickhouse,** 39,  
of Virginia Beach



**Nicholas  
Cumer,** 25, of  
Washington, Pa.



**Beatrice Warren-  
Curtis,** 36,  
of Dayton



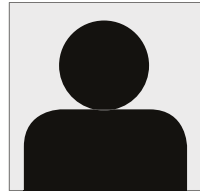
**Derrick Fudge,**  
57, of Springfield



**Thomas  
McNichols,** 25,  
of Dayton



**Lois Oglesby,**  
27, of Dayton



**Saeed Saleh,**  
38, of Dayton

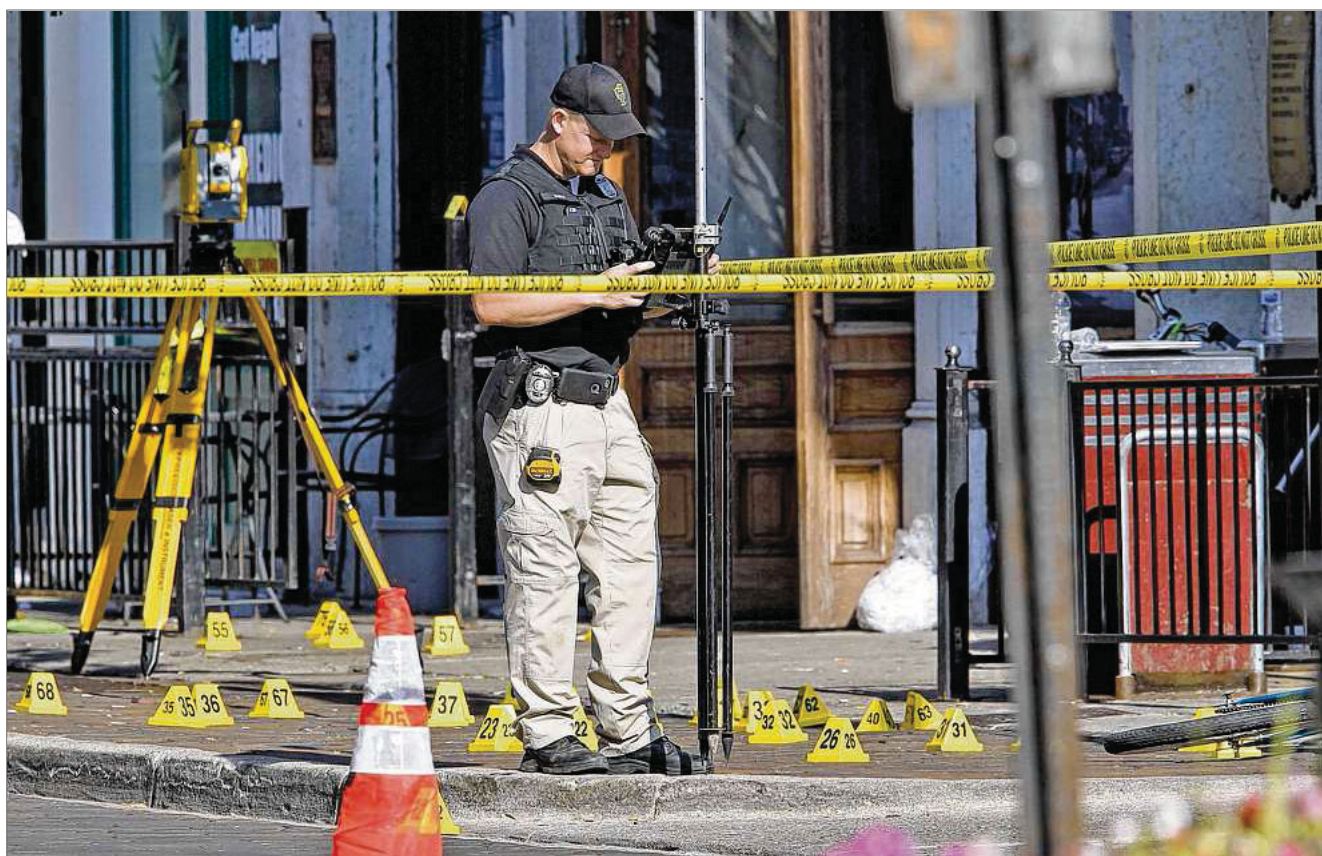


**Logan Turner,**  
30, of Springboro

# 'THIS IS A MIAMI VALLEY VALLEY TRAGEDY'

9 people killed, 27 others wounded by gunman in Dayton's Oregon District.

Gunman wore bulletproof vest, mask; victims were from all corners of region.



Scene in the Oregon District where 10 people were killed, including the shooter, in a mass shooting that also injured more than two dozen others. The shooting took place in the 400 block of East Fifth Street at 1:07 a.m. TY GREENLEES / STAFF

By Katie Wedell  
Staff Writer

In less than 60 seconds, a gunman murdered nine people in Dayton's Oregon District early Sunday morning, injured dozens more and ripped a hole in the heart of this community.

"This is a Miami Valley tragedy," said Gov. Mike DeWine at a press conference Sunday after touring the crime scene. Although the shooting happened in downtown Dayton, the victims were from all corners of the region. The historic district – home to restaurants, bars and shops – is one of Dayton's crown jewels and draws visitors from all over.

"To know someone would target a place so many of us go to as a place of community and love tears my heart apart," said district resident Allie Swanson. "We all know a victim. We all know someone who is grieving, because Dayton is grieving."

Wearing a mask and bulletproof vest, police say 24-year-old Connor Betts killed one person in an alley next to Blind Bob's bar then turned right onto East Fifth Street and opened fire on the crowd of entertainment district patrons killing eight more people and wounding 27 before police officers shot and killed him.

The shooting happened just after 1 a.m. when the popular district was full of bar patrons, many of whom were enjoying the warm evening on outdoor patios along the street. Surveillance videos show friends exchanging hugs and people chatting

Shooting continued on A8

## Hundreds flock to Dayton to be part of vigil

By Cornelius Frolik and Jeremy P. Kelley  
Staff Writers

Hours after Sunday morning's mass shooting in the Oregon District, about 250 community members gathered just blocks from the scene and vowed not to let hate win.

Tears ran down the cheeks of some visitors to the Levitt Pavilion Dayton during Sunday afternoon's vigil, as people sang songs and hymns and talked about the importance of uniting and helping the community heal.

Many of those gathered at an informal prayer vigil urged not to let fear win.

"We will not succumb to fear," said Caleb Ingram, the executive director of Declare Worship Community. "I don't want to hear people say, 'Oh, we can't go to Dayton anymore, we are afraid of what might happen. We can't go to Levitt Pavilion anymore, we are afraid. We can't go to the Oregon District anymore. We are afraid.' We are not going to give fear an opportunity."

The venue is located across from the Dayton Convention Center, a meeting place for family members who had loved ones involved in the mass shooting that sent shock waves through the community.

"Just don't stop loving people," Burton said after the vigil.

Vigil continued on A9

### FOUR PAGES OF EXPANDED COVERAGE INSIDE

The Dayton Daily News, WHIO-TV and WHIO Radio are working to get the latest information on the mass shooting in Dayton's Oregon District. Here's how you can stay updated today:

**Online:** Continuous updates, stories on the victims and heroes, and new details on the investigation at DaytonDailyNews.com.

**Speak out:** Tell us what you are thinking on our Dayton Daily News Facebook page.

**Notifications:** Sign up for notification in our Dayton Daily News and app.

**WHIO Radio:** 1290 and 95.7 WHIO will air a special edition of Miami Valley's Morning News from 5 to 10 a.m. today, as well as a special call-in show from 3 to 6 p.m., hosted by WHIO Radio's Todd Hollst and Dan Edwards.

**WHIO TV:** Special coverage today from 4:25 to 8 a.m. Latest news at noon, 5, 5:30, 6 and 11 p.m. on Channel 7.

#### ALSO INSIDE

- » Trump, DeWine, Whaley, others react, **A6**
- » Victims of tragedy remembered, **A7**
- » Oregon District has a special history, **A8**
- » How parents can talk to kids about incident, **A8**
- » Dragons delay game in wake of shootings, **C1**



Brittany Mitchell of Dayton (left) is embraced by Celeste Pickett of Dayton at a prayer vigil Sunday downtown at the Levitt Pavilion. LISA POWELL / STAFF

## In 30 seconds, 6 cops saved 'hundreds'

By Josh Sweigart  
Staff Writer

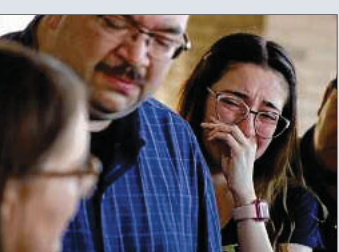
Police say Oregon District gunman Connor Betts' shooting rampage started around 1:05 a.m. Sunday in the alleyway next to Blind Bob's Tavern, where he fatally shot his sister and wounded her companion.

He then emerged onto Fifth Street, turned right and unleashed a barrage of firepower from a modified semi-automatic rifle affixed with a 100-round barrel. Witnesses say the large-caliber rounds sounded like someone pounding on a metal dumpster.

Nine people were killed and 27 were wounded. Dayton police officers were nearby and charged toward the gunfire. Within 30 seconds, a sergeant with 22 years on the force and five officers – each only three years or less on the job – opened fire on Betts as he attempted to barge into Ned Peppers bar. He fell and died on the bar's front steps.

"They engaged the suspect who was actively firing and attempting to enter a crowded liquor establishment," Dayton Police Chief Richard Biehl said. "The threat was neutralized within approximately 30 seconds of the suspect firing

30 seconds continued on A9



### NATION & WORLD, A3 Feds to handle El Paso as domestic terrorism

Authorities are weighing hate-crime charges in a shooting that killed 20 people Saturday at a crowded shopping area.

### LOCAL & STATE, B1 Tornado victims face aid deadline in 2 weeks

FEMA and the Small Business Association set the registration deadline for survivors in the 11 affected Ohio counties as Aug. 19.

### SPORTS, C1 Barnhart bails out Reds' bullpen in 10th

Cincinnati's catcher blasted a three-run homer off new Atlanta closer Shane Greene to lift the Reds to a 6-4 road win Sunday.

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