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**WORLD**

**Boko Haram massacres—world leaders are silent**

By **CHRISTOPHER TORCHIA**  
 Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — Survivors of an assault by Islamic militants that killed hundreds of civilians in Nigeria have described days of relentless violence in which, one witness said, some people were slaughtered “like insects.”

The accounts, reported by Nigeria’s Premium Times newspaper, were given by villagers who fled the carnage in and around Baga, a town in Borno state that lies in the northeastern corner of Nigeria near the border with Chad. The killing unfolded over several days after Boko Haram fighters seized a key military base there on Jan. 3 in a surge of insurgent activity.

U.N. chief Ban Ki-moon as well as the United States and other countries have condemned the Baga bloodshed, which highlights the increasingly brazen tactics of an insurgent movement that holds large swaths of territory in Nigeria’s northeast as well as the inability of the Nigerian security forces to respond

effectively. President Goodluck Jonathan is running for re-election in Feb. 14 elections, but it is unclear how voting can proceed in areas under Boko Haram’s sway.

Boko Haram is also suspected of using a 10-year-old girl to detonate a bomb at a market in Maiduguri on Saturday, killing at least 10 people and seriously injuring others. The bomb exploded after explosives were found under the girl’s clothing during a search, according to witness accounts.

Insurgents have also been implicated in deadly bombings in Potiskum in northern Yobe state, which is adjacent to Borno. One bomb targeted a police building.

Yahaya Takakumi, a 55-year-old farmer, told the Premium Times that he escaped from Baga with one of his wives and spent four days traveling to safety through the bush, but does not know the whereabouts of four of his children, his second wife and his elder brother, a blacksmith in Baga.

“We saw dead bodies especially, on the islands of Lake Chad where



PHOTO COURTESY OF GHANACULTUREPOLITICS.COM

**BOKO HARAM:** The prelude to mass murder.

fishermen had settled,” the newspaper quoted Takakumi as saying. “Several persons were killed there like insects.”

Boko Haram fighters lay in ambush along the water and opened fire on vessels carrying fleeing residents, Takakumi said. He and other survivors fled to Maiduguri, the capital of Borno state.

Another survivor, Ibrahim Gambo, told Premium Times that he did not

know what happened to his wife and daughter. The 25-year-old truck driver said he was part of a civilian militia that initially fought Boko Haram gunmen but was eventually overpowered after promised help from the military did not arrive.

“We came across many dead bodies, some in groups and others by themselves in the bush,” Gambo

PLEASE TURN TO **NIGERIA/5A**

**PALM BEACH**



PHOTO COURTESY OF OIAINTERCULTURALPROGRAMMING.BLOGSPOT.COM

Donna Brazile

By **DAPHNE TAYLOR**  
 Special to South Florida Times

The Riviera Beach Martin Luther King Planning Committee has scored another big one for their 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Martin Luther King banquet. Last year, its inaugural banquet, the keynote speaker was Cornel West, which was a huge success. This year, delivering the keynote speech will be veteran national political strategist Donna Brazile. Brazile will take to the stage, Friday night, January 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Hilton Singer Island Oceanfront, located at 3700 North Ocean Drive, on Singer Island, Riviera Beach. A reception starts at 6:30pm and the program starts at 7pm. Tickets are being made affordable for everyone at a mere \$35.00 each.

“I want everyone to come and join us for this fantastic event. Everyone is excited about it. It’s going to be a great banquet. I want them to see the good things going on in Riviera Beach, and that we try to make the MLK event about everyone!” said Eureka Irvin, chairwoman of the planning committee for the third year.

Veteran Democratic political strategist Donna Brazile is an adjunct professor, author, syndicated columnist, television political commentator, Vice Chair of Voter Registration and Participation at the Democratic National Committee (DNC), and former interim National Chair of the Democratic National Committee as well as the former chair of the DNC’s Voting Rights Institute.

PLEASE TURN TO **BRAZILE/7A**

**STATE**

**Freedom’s quest for slaves and Native Americans is revisited**

By **KYOTO WALKER**  
 Special to South Florida Times

JUPITER — The Loxahatchee Battlefield Preservationists will present the “We R Florida” commemoration services in remembrance of the 177th anniversary of the Seminole Maroon War, which was fought in Palm Beach County in the early 1800s. The commemoration ceremonies will be held Sunday, Jan. 18 at the Loxahatchee River Battlefield Park, 9060 West Indian-town Rd., Jupiter, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. This free event is open to the public and will mark the 20th year the two Seminole war battles that were fought at this site will be remembered with a full day of ceremonial observances which will include lectures and historical displays and battlefield tours. This annual commemoration will also include traditional Native American and African prayers and ceremonies as well as a tribute to fallen soldiers from both sides of the conflict.

Gene “Dinizulu” Tinnie, a member of the Florida Black Historical Research Project, said that the commemoration ceremonies are important because they tell a story many don’t know. “The actual site

of the battlefield was only discovered in the 1990s,” he said. “Many people think the Seminoles are an Indian tribe when in fact they were a combination of black people escaping slavery and Native Americans escaping from European set-



PHOTO COURTESY OF PAUL MANOMAITAS

Carib Tribal Indian Queen Mrs. Catherine Hummingbird Ramirez opens the 2014 Commemoration with a traditional Native American prayer and blessing of the land ceremony at the sacred site of Loxahatchee Battlefield.

PLEASE TURN TO **BATTLEFIELD/7A**

**PALM BEACH**

**Youthful pastor energizing venerable historic Payne Chapel AME Church**

By **DAPHNE TAYLOR**  
 Special to South Florida Times

WEST PALM BEACH — There is a buzz building about the Rev. Henry E. Green III, the energetic young pastor of historic, prestigious Payne Chapel AME Church in West Palm Beach.

For the first time in years, church membership is up significantly. People around town are clamoring to get over to the church to hear Green preach. Many have heard that his sermons are fiery, yet personable, and that he has brought a renewed vigor to the church, previously known for its older congregation and its staunch traditional ways.

In the little more than a year since Green became pastor, he has implemented many changes at 121-year old Payne Chapel, most notably bringing it up to 21st-century standards. The church is now on Facebook, has Wi-Fi, TV screens and a radio ministry. The beautiful edifice recently was painted for the first time in many, many years. Structural changes have been made as well.

Significant change in the church’s giving and outreach also have been apparent,

as Green has given scholarships to those in need, and the church has made numerous donations to area organizations to help beef up the community.

But the biggest change has been the pastor and his passion and vision for the church. At a mere 30 years old when he took over in late 2013, he brought an energy and excitement that the church hadn’t experienced in decades. Some members of many years are excited about their new pastor and are embracing the changes.

Morris Bell of West Palm Beach, a member of the church for 38 years, says it’s an exciting time for Payne. “He is very energetic,” he said of the pastor. “It’s exciting because he has a vision and we, as church members have linked up with his vision. I love the changes he has made, because you can see the results. The proof is in the pudding. What he is doing, works. We have a lot of testimonies of how God has opened up many doors for us,” said Bell, who is steward pro-tem at the church.

Daisy Lanier, retired secretary at the

PLEASE TURN TO **PAYNE/6A**



PHOTO COURTESY OF PAYNE CHAPEL

The newly repainted Payne Chapel



PHOTO COURTESY OF PAYNE CHAPEL

Pastor, Rev. Henry E. Green and family

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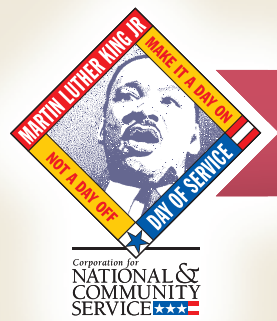




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# Nation

## Supreme Court asked to overturn restriction on guns



PHOTO COURTESY OF WATCHDOG.ORG

Nebraska Attorney General Jon Bruning fires back.

Associated Press

FAIRFAX, Va. — Twenty-five state attorneys general joined Nebraska Attorney General Jon Bruning in filing a brief supporting the National Rifle Association in *Jackson v. San Francisco*. This case challenges San Francisco's ordinance requiring gun owners to lock or disable any firearm inside the home except when the home owner is actually carrying the firearm on his or her person -- an ordinance that directly contradicts the U.S. Supreme Court's holding in its landmark *Heller* decision.

The NRA and other plaintiffs are asking the U.S. Supreme Court to reverse the decision of a three-judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, which upheld San Francisco's ordinance. In their brief, the state attorneys general note that they "have a profound interest in protecting the fundamental constitutional rights of their citizens" and, unless San Francisco's law is invalidated, "responsible citizens will be unable to possess operable firearms in defense of hearth and home."

The brief notes that San Francisco's ordinance is exactly like that previously on the books in the District of Columbia and which was held unconstitutional by the Supreme Court in *Heller*. The *Heller* majority ruled that D.C.'s requirement that handguns be kept locked or disassembled "makes it impossible for citizens to use them for the core lawful purpose of self-defense and is hence unconstitutional."

The NRA thanked Nebraska Attorney General Jon Bruning and his staff for their critical leadership on this brief and the attorneys general of Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, West Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming for their support in this case and their steadfast defense of their citizens' Second Amendment rights.



PHOTO COURTESY OF ROLLCALL.COM

New Members of Congress Pose for Class Photo

## More women and minorities in Congress

By **MATTHEW DALY**  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The new 114th Congress counts more minorities and women than ever, although lawmakers remain overwhelmingly white and male in the Republican-controlled House and Senate.

A record 104 women are in the new Congress, and for the first time, African-American members of both genders and representing both parties are among the ranks on Capitol Hill.

The number of female lawmakers is up slightly from 100 at the close of the last Congress, but represents about 20 percent of the total in Congress. It's far less than the nearly 51 percent of the U.S. population.

A total of 96 racial minorities will serve in Congress, about 18 percent.

There are 100 senators and 435 seats in the House.

The House will have 246 Republicans and 188 Democrats. One seat is vacant following the resignation on Monday of Rep. Michael Grimm, R-N.Y., who pleaded guilty to a felony tax evasion charge.

The Senate will have 54 Republicans and 44 Democrats, plus two independents - Maine's Angus King and Vermont's Bernie Sanders. Both caucus with Democrats.

## Miss Universe Pageant arrives in South Florida



PHOTO COURTESY OF RICHARD SALYER

Miami-Dade School Board Member Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall brought greetings to 88 contestants for the coveted Miss Universe title in the 63rd Annual Miss Universe Pageant taking place Sunday, January 25, 2015 at Florida International University in Miami, FL. Photo (L to R): Miss Tanzania Nale Boniface, Miss South Africa Ziphosakhe Zokufa, Miss Angola Zuleica Wilson, Miss Ethiopia Hiwot Mamo, Miami-Dade School Board Member Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall (D-2), Miss Ghana Abena Appiah, Miss Kenya Gaylyne Ayugi and Miss Nigeria Queen Celestine pose at the private reception held in honor of Miss Universe contestants at Harvest Delights Restaurant in Doral, FL.

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# Caribbean



DAVID J. MUIR/FOR SOUTH FLORIDA TIMES

By CALIBE THOMPSON

This New Year, Florida began allowing gay couples to wed, and I was happy about it. I am an advocate of gay rights. Many from the Caribbean community are not. They might call me ungodly, I might call them bigoted. We would each wave the Bible in the other's face, and then never relent on our point of view.

Growing up in Jamaica, and likely many Caribbean countries, you learn that God hates gays so you should hate gays. But I've always found it hypocritical for our community to react this way for a relationship format that is rarely mentioned in the Good Book, when we strongly advocate for adultery and fornication specifically by men, advocate for lynching when we find it appropriate, and allow lying politicians to buy our votes for a little asphalt and wall paint. We would rally and march in the streets to keep loving gays from marrying, but will turn a blind eye to wealthy older men who prey on young girls, and even laugh about men who beat their women. Sodom and Gomorrah occupied what, a few chapters of the Bible? Murder, adultery, lying and covetousness were etched in stone, yet we pass over them like they're irrelevant in the scheme of our pious self-righteousness.

We class even the most loving as evil and ungodly because they do not conform to our version or normalcy, but think of ourselves as good and righteous even when mommy lives at church judging

## Bibles and bigotry

her neighbor while daddy lives at the rum bar judging short skirts.

In our community, it seems that when Jesus

did away with the death and doom judgment of the Old Testament, he allowed a loophole for rampant discrimination

against homosexuals in His holy name. Other Caribbean communities don't seem to be as visceral in their hatred of the

gay community, but Jamaica is still one of the least accepting communities worldwide. Fortunately, there are many of us who understand that whether you believe a person's actions are sanctified or not, when they're coming from a place of love, then you should probably leave it

for God to judge.

*Calibe Thompson is a personality, author and the producer of The Caribbean Diaspora Weekly. For your free preview of her 2015 collection of writings, Things I Probably Shouldn't Say, visit [www.calibe.net](http://www.calibe.net).*

“THERE IS A SPIRIT,  
AND A NEED, AND A PERSON  
AT THE BEGINNING OF EVERY  
GREAT HUMAN ADVANCE.  
  
EVERY ONE OF THESE MUST BE RIGHT  
FOR THAT PARTICULAR  
MOMENT OF HISTORY  
OR NOTHING HAPPENS.”

- Coretta Scott King

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## Nigeria's Boko Haram is a menace to peace in the region

NIGERIA, FROM 1A

said. "I saw dead children and women, and even a pregnant woman with her stomach slit open."

Nigeria's home-grown Boko Haram group drew international condemnation when its fighters kidnapped 276 schoolgirls from a boarding school in northeast Chibok town last year. Dozens escaped but 219 remain missing.

Amnesty International has described the killing at Baga as possibly the deadliest attack in the history of Boko Haram, which was founded more than a decade ago.

"We're still working to try and find out exactly what happened and how many were killed," said Daniel Eyre, Nigeria researcher for the human rights group. Thousands of people fled their homes around Baga, and some crossed the border into Chad, he said.

Boko Haram has remained in "continuous control" of Baga since it attacked on Jan. 3, Eyre said.

The Nigerian military said in a statement that 14 soldiers were killed and 30 were wounded in the Baga attack, and that it was making a plan to restore "law, order and normalcy" to the area.





Pastor Green and Payne Chapel tithe \$1500 to U. B. Kinsey Elementary School of the Arts on April 18, 2014.

## Pastor's mission is church revitalization

PAYNE, FROM 1A

church, and also a steward and president of the Pastor's Aid Board, has been a member since 1987. She, too, has seen pastors and changes come and go, but concurs with Bell that things have changed for the better.

Green himself "would like to bring the church into what we call 'tomorrow,' and to move it to a church that looks toward the future," the pastor said in a telephone interview. "We want to be in a position to minister to what is to become. We want to minister to all people."

The 31-year old preacher recognizes that he has brought youthfulness to a church that's known for its tradition and older membership, but so far, the members have embraced him. "I have a different kind of energy," he said, "and the congregation feeds off that energy."

Green says he is not abandoning tradition at Payne Chapel. "I don't think that tradition is something we have to break from. It's a great part of our culture. I am a lot younger than the congregation but

I love to bring what's new and mix it with the old," he said.

Whatever the style, Bell said, everyone seems to love it, as well as the fact that Green, who comes from a line of preachers, bishops and clergy, is approachable and doesn't place himself on a pedestal.

Green recently was interviewed by a local TV station while marching with protesters over the killing of unarmed African-American men in Ferguson, Mo. and New York. He and other local ministers showed they are not backing away from social justice issues.

Green said he wants to effect change not only in the church, which is located in the heart of the inner city, but also the surrounding community. He has given college scholarships to deserving students and donated \$1,000 or more to community organizations including the YWCA, Sickle Cell Foundation, Sojourners Cancer Awareness organization, and the nearby U.B. Kinsey Elementary School of the Arts.

The numerous donations over the past year have been made because he believes in tithing of monies the church has raised, Green said. The church has had three major fundraising initiatives and he has tithed into the community based on the funds collected.

"It's important that we tithe back a lot of the money that we raise," he said. "We give 10 percent of what we raise. We hope to get the people excited about tithing and making contributions."



PHOTO COURTESY OF PAYNE CHAPEL

Pastor, Rev. Henry E. Green



PHOTO COURTESY OF IMGKID.COM

## CDC pushes antiviral meds to combat flu

By MIKE STOBBE  
AP Medical Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — In the midst of a worrisome flu season, health officials are pushing doctors to prescribe antiviral medicines.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on Friday sent a new alert to doctors, advising prompt use of Tamiflu and other antivirals for hospitalized flu patients and those at higher risk for complications like pneumonia.

CDC research suggests doctors prescribe antivirals to one in five high-risk flu patients. CDC officials say the number should be higher.

One reason is physician uncertainty: CDC says the drugs reduce hospitalizations and complications, but some researchers have said there's not good evidence that's true.

CDC officials say the flu season may be about half over, though it's hard to be sure. Flu is now widespread in 46 states.

## Health

# Dogs, people reveal the content of their character

By PIERRE B. BLAND, DVM

I started my career as a practicing veterinarian nearly 30 years ago at an emergency clinic in Acworth, a northern suburb of Atlanta. Learning to practice medicine through the hard knocks of overnight and long weekends shift was a great challenge. In time, the medical aspect of the position became less daunting. The challenge of dealing with clients remains a continuous art form in itself.

In an emergency practice, you often see clients during some of the worst times in respect to their pets. Life and death situations, real and imagined, are the norm. Some clients are nice, some not so much, and others defy attempts to categorize them. With this in mind, one unique and career defining experience stands out.

I remember it being an especially grueling overnight shift, even though it was only four hours into the shift. The technician presented the record for the next patient. It was a dog with a short term incident of vomiting and diarrhea, a common case presentation at an emergency clinic. As she handed me the record, she said, "Ummm Doc, there may be a problem with this one." This would be a good time for a bit of back story.

I am African American and have been for a bit over 54 years. This story occurs in 1987. The city of Acworth bordered Forsyth County, Georgia. At this particular time, Forsyth County was infamous in the national and international news for racial unrest resulting from an African-American family purchasing a home in the county. There was a back lash from a sizable and vocal contingent representing the predominately, if not totally, white residents of the county. Civil rights activists from Georgia and around the country were protesting in the county every weekend and had been for several months. The furor even attracted the attention of Oprah, who did several live shows from the county on the controversy. The client in the exam room was a middle age white woman. So how does this play into the story? The dog's name was Nigger Killer.

As I walked down the hall to the exam room, I wondered how I would handle this situation. I assure you, at that time I was not the calmer, more thoughtful, Namaste current iteration of myself. I sighed, took a deep breath, opened the exam room door and in my most officious baritone doctor voice said, "Good evening! I am Dr. Bland. How is Nigger Killer tonight?" I watched the lady's jaw drop and the color drain from her face.

Nigger Killer was a 2 year old, brindle, pit bull mix and one of the sweetest dogs I have ever met, even to this day. I bent over to pick him up and he gave me a big slurpy kiss right on the lips. I exclaimed in my best hypocoristic voice, "What a sweet Nigger Killer you are!" I placed him on the table and continued my examination, which was accompanied by a continuous barrage of kisses. As I asked the owner questions about his condition, I always used his full name: never using a pronoun or declining to use his name whenever appropriate.

After an hour of examination, diagnostic testing, treatment, and dispensing of medications my patient was discharged. My last contact with the lady was a hardy handshake and thanking her for coming in. As they departed, I exclaimed, "Bye-bye Nigger Killer! Hope you feel better soon!" The lady left having received thorough medical care for her pet, all be it



DAVID I. MUIR/FOR SOUTH FLORIDA TIMES

she departed mortified and embarrassed. My technician remarked how impressed she was with how I handled the situation and in fact, I was pretty impressed with myself also. The rest of the overnight shift was uneventful, especially in comparison to this case.

I have told this story many times over the years as an example of how strange and unpredictable practicing veterinary medicine can be. But in hindsight, the events take on a more profound significance.

It dumbfounds me how someone could give such a vile and hateful name to such a sweet and loving animal. I don't think the lady bestowed the name as an act of hate and bigotry, but as the result of her cultural ignorance, isolation, and insensitivity. My response and actions were not born of contempt, but an honest response to an ugly situation. This mutually uncomfortable circumstance was no fault of the dog, so why should he suffer in any way for the offenses of his owner or my feelings of personal injury? My job and onus was to provide my patient medical services to the best of my ability, nothing less. I had shown the content of my character through my actions, just as Nigger Killer had shown his true self by responding to me in such an affectionate way. Yes, words do hurt but through enduring the discomfort and indignities, paths to understanding are revealed. This situation was not about me, but about the unwary lady who was inserted into my life through the illness of her beloved pet. I truly think it was a learning experience for all involved.

Surprisingly, later that week I received an unexpected thank you card from the lady. She expressed her gratitude for my taking such good care or her now recovered dog ...and that she had changed his name to Clarence.

Dr. Pierre Bland is the owner of "Dr. Bland's Vet House Calls". He can be reached at 954-672-8579 or at [doctorblandvet.com](http://doctorblandvet.com).

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## Business

# Desert Storm Navy vet gives back to community



By LEANDA ROBINSON  
Special to South Florida Times

Miguel Pilgram, managing director for the Pilgram Group, is honoring Broward County veterans at the grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremony at New York Subs and Wings in Oakland Park. In collaboration with Rebuilding Together Broward County, Pilgram will present a check to the organization as an ongoing practice of giving back to the community.

The grand opening, ribbon cutting ceremony and check presentation will take place Friday, January 16, 2015, 11:30 a.m., New York Subs and Wings, 1388 E. Oakland Park Boulevard, Oakland Park 33334. Following the ceremony, the veterans and guests will be among the first to enjoy the restaurant's delectable menu selections.

Rebuilding Together Broward County, Inc. (RTBC) is a local affiliate of the nation's largest nonprofit dedicated to the revitalization of low-income homes and neighborhoods. RTBC improves the physical, mental

and emotional health of low-income seniors and veterans through home repairs, safety modifications and exterior home improvements. Engaging over 700 volunteers a year in meaningful community service, RTBC brings volunteers and communities together to improve the homes and lives of low-income homeowners.

For more information about the grand opening ceremonies, please contact Leanda Robinson at (954) 552-0330. 7401 Wiles Road, Suite 139, Coral Springs, FL 33067 [www.Pilgram-Group.com](http://www.Pilgram-Group.com)



PHOTO COURTESY OF THETAKEAWAY.ORG  
Travis Kalanick, Co-Founder and CEO of Uber Technologies, Inc. speaking at the 2014 MassChallenge Awards Ceremony.

# China bans private drivers

By JOE MCDONALD  
AP Business Writer

BEIJING — China has banned drivers of private cars from offering services through ride-hailing apps, throwing up a new hurdle to Uber Technologies Ltd.'s global expansion. Only licensed taxis may use ride-hailing apps, the Ministry of Transport announced Friday. Such apps are hugely popular in China, and the ministry said it needed to protect users.

The ruling could be a setback for Uber, which faces legal challenges in South Korea, India, Europe, California and other markets for using drivers who lack taxi licenses.

"While we encourage innovation, we prohibit private cars from using platforms to participate in the 'hired car' business," said a ministry announcement. It said companies that operate ride-hailing apps will be required to make sure no unlicensed drivers use them.

China's ride-hailing market is dominated by domestic competitors Didi Dache, backed by Internet giant Tencent, and Kuaidi Dache, backed by rival Alibaba Group. Those services are used mostly by taxi companies.

A third Chinese Internet giant, search engine operator Baidu Inc., jumped into the market in December by investing in Uber.

Taxi companies in the United States, Europe and other countries have complained Uber and similar ride-hailing services have an unfair advantage because they are not covered by regulations that affect the established industry.

In December, the Shanghai city government detained and fined 12 unlicensed drivers who received business through the Didi Dache app.

In South Korea, the chief executive of Uber's local subsidiary was charged in December with operating an unlicensed transport company.

Police in New Delhi say they are considering similar charges. A French court has ordered Uber to remove from its app any language suggesting it was legal for its drivers to act like taxis.



PHOTO COURTESY OF WHITEHOUSE.GOV  
President Barack Obama, with Vice President Joe Biden and Dr. Jill Biden, delivers remarks on college affordability at Pellissippi State Community College.

# Tuition free college proposed

By KIMBERLY HEFLING  
AP Education Writer

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama on Thursday proposed making community college free "for everybody who is willing to work for it."

The president planned to formally announce his plan during a visit Friday to Tennessee. He gave a preview in a videotaped message shot aboard Air Force One and posted on Facebook.

"It's not for kids," Obama said. "We also have to make sure that everybody has the opportunity to constantly train themselves for better jobs, better wages, better benefits." Obama provided no details about how he would fund the program.

White House and Education Department officials planned a briefing later Thursday to discuss the president's proposal.

"Put simply, what I'd like to do is to see the first two years of community college free for everybody who is willing to work for it," the president said.

Last year, Tennessee Gov. Bill Haslam signed into law a scholarship program that provides free community and technical college tuition for two years to the state's high school graduates. About 58,000 of the state's roughly 62,000 seniors have applied to participate this fall.

# Riviera honors M.L. King Jr.

BRAZILE, FROM 1A

She is the author of the best-selling memoir *Cooking with Grease: Stirring the Pots in American Politics*. Ms. Brazile is an adjunct professor at Georgetown University, a syndicated newspaper columnist for Universal Uclick, a columnist for Ms. Magazine, and O, the Oprah Magazine, an on-air contributor to CNN, and ABC, where she regularly appears on ABC's *This Week*. Recently she has even delved into acting, and has made two cameo appearances on CBS's *The Good Wife*. Most recently, Donna has appeared on Netflix's new series *House of Cards*. Ask her and she'll tell you that acting, after all, is the key to success in politics!

Aside from working for the full recovery of her beloved New Orleans, which is her hometown, Ms. Brazile's passion is encouraging young people to vote, to work within the system to strengthen it, and to run for public office. Since 2000, Ms. Brazile has lectured at over 150 colleges and universities across the country on such topics as "Inspiring Civility in American Politics," "Race Relations in the Age of Obama," "Why Diversity Matters," and "Women in American Politics: Are We There Yet?"

In August 2009, *O, The Oprah Magazine* chose Ms. Brazile as one of its 20 "remarkable visionaries" for the magazine's first-ever O Power List. In addition, she was named among the 100 Most Powerful Women by *Washingtonian* magazine, Top 50 Women in America by *Essence* magazine, and received the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's highest award for political achievement.

She is currently on the board of the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board, the National Democratic Institute, the Professional Diversity Network, the National Institute for Civil Discourse, Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies, the BlackAmericaWeb.com Relief Fund, Inc. She also serves as Co-Chair for Democrats for Public Education.

In the aftermath of the two

catastrophic hurricanes that made landfall in the Gulf region, Brazile was appointed by former Governor Kathleen Blanco to serve on the Louisiana Recovery Board to work for the rebuilding of the state and to advocate for the Gulf recovery on the national stage.

She is also the proud recipient of numerous honorary doctorate degrees. She has received honorary doctorates from Louisiana State University, North Carolina A&T State University, Grambling State University, Morehouse School of Medicine, Northeastern Illinois University, Thomas Jefferson University, and Xavier University of Louisiana, the only historically Black, Catholic institution of higher education in the United States. Ms. Brazile is founder and managing director of Brazile & Associates LLC, a general consulting, grassroots advocacy, and training firm based in Washington, DC.

Amazingly, Brazile got her start as a young politician at the tender age of nine! At nine, she worked to elect a City Council candidate who had promised to build a playground in her neighborhood; the candidate won, the swing set was installed, and a lifelong passion for political progress was ignited. Ms. Brazile worked on every presidential campaign from 1976 through 2000, when she became the first African-American to manage a presidential campaign.

Irvin said she selected Brazile as keynote speaker because she is an outstanding representative for all people and she has an extensive and impressive body of work. "We were strategizing and I recommended her to the group. She's a highly intelligent woman and is going to be a sensational representative for everyone. The banquet is going to be great," said Irvin. "We are certainly looking forward to having her in Riviera Beach!"

For tickets or for more information, call 561-840-4880 or visit the website at [www.RivieraBch.com](http://www.RivieraBch.com), click on MLK events, and then Banquet.

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# Seminole Maroon War remembered

BATTLEFIELD, FROM 1A

tlers in Florida."

The Black Seminoles are a small offshoot of the Gullah slaves who escaped from the rice plantations in coastal South Carolina and Georgia into the Florida peninsula in the 18th century, according to Yale University educational site, [www.yale.edu/glc/Gullah](http://www.yale.edu/glc/Gullah). The Gullahs, also known as the Seminole Negroes or Black Seminoles, adopted Indian or Native American clothing, while the Indians acquired a taste for rice and an appreciation for Gullah music and folklore. The Gullahs were physically more suited to the tropical climate and possessed an indispensable knowledge of tropical agriculture, according to the Yale University educational site. Without the Gullahs assistance, the Indians would not have been able to cope effectively with the Florida environment.

The Seminole war lasted for six years with former slaves and Native Americans fighting side by side, according to the Yale University report. As many as 1,500 American soldiers lost their lives. "The battlefield (in Palm Beach County) was a turning point in the war," Tinnie said. "The Seminoles were defeated in the battle but they were lured back to Jupiter under the (pretense) of a truce. And then they were captured."

There were a large number of blacks that fought in the war and sometimes outnumbered the Native Americans in the various battles. The American leading the United States

troops, Brigadier General Thomas Jesup, referred to the war as not an Indian war but a Negro war because of this, Tinnie said. Some of the captives were sent to Oklahoma and others were given over to slave catchers, he added.

The two battles of being commemorated we're both fought in January 1838 in Jupiter and seemed to have been symbolic of a transition from of a violent to a nonviolent approach to resolving conflicts over time, Tinnie said. "It's somewhat providential that those two battles, one that was fought on the 18th of January (in 1838) and one that was fought on 24th January (that same year), happened right around the time when the observers of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday is held today," he said.

There are a number of lessons to be learned from these battles including cooperation, inclusiveness and African Americans and Native Americans having a very common understanding of life and survival, Tinnie said. "When we look back on Native American and African American history, they had very profound cultural and spiritual knowledge that sustained them for literally thousands of years," he said. "And that wisdom is something that we need to get back to appreciating."

For information about the remembrance ceremonies call (305) 904-7620 or (561) 748-4014 or visit, [www.fhhrpinc.org](http://www.fhhrpinc.org)

Attention Palm Beach County Minority and Women-Owned Businesses

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Saturday  
**JANUARY 24**

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West County Senior Center

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Belle Glade, FL 33430

2PM to 4PM



Palm Beach County is conducting a Disparity Study to ensure that Minority and Women-Owned Businesses have equal access to contract opportunities.

For more information and to pre-register, please call 561-760-0455 or email [pbcdisparitystudy@mtald.com](mailto:pbcdisparitystudy@mtald.com)



# CONCACAF hexagonal to start in November 2016



Jamaican Soccer Team

PHOTO COURTESY OF CARIBBEANCHARISMA



United States Soccer Team

PHOTO COURTESY OF NOLA.COM



Bahama Soccer Team

PHOTO COURTESY OF PLANTATICO.COM

By Associated Press

MIAMI — The start of the final round of World Cup qualifying in North and Central America and the Caribbean will be moved up by three months to November 2016.

The hexagonal will start Nov. 7-15, 2016, and run through Oct. 2-10, 2017, CONCACAF said Monday. Since the 1998 World Cup, the final round had begun in February or March of the year before the tournament, but CONCACAF had to make a change after FIFA eliminated international fixture dates for February and August 2017.

Just six months after the end of the 2014 World Cup, the first qualifying draw for the 2018 tournament will take place Thursday, when CONCACAF determines matchups for its opening two rounds. Qualifying will start March 23-31 with matches involving the 14 lowest-ranked nations in the region as of last August.

Honduras' Carlo Costly, right, fights for the ball with Jamaica's Demar Phillips.

PHOTO COURTESY OF INSOCER.CA

Seeking its eighth straight World Cup berth, the United States has a bye until the fourth round, when it will be in a four-nation group with double match dates  
 Nov. 7-17,  
 2015;  
 March  
 21-29,  
 2016;

and  
 Aug.  
 29-Sept. 6,  
 2016. Mexico, Costa Rica, Honduras, Panama, and Trinidad and Tobago also have byes until the fourth round.

The top two nations in each of the three groups advance to the hexagonal. While FIFA has not yet announced the allocation of berths for the 2018 tournament, which will be played in Russia, CONCACAF said the top three nations will qualify and the fourth-place team will advance to an intercontinental playoff.

Additional double-match dates for the hexagonal are March 20-28, 2017; June 5-13, 2017; and Aug. 28-Sept. 5, 2017.

Competing in the first round will be Anguilla, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Curacao, Dominica, Montserrat, Nicaragua, St. Kitts and Nevis, Turks and Caicos and U.S. Virgin Islands.

The seven winners of the home-and-home matchups will be joined in the second round by Antigua and Barbuda, Aruba, Canada, Cuba, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Puerto Rico, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, and Suriname. They will be drawn into 10 home-and-home series to be played June 8-16 this year.

Those winners will be joined in the third round by Jamaica and Haiti for six home-and-home series to be played Aug. 31-Sept. 8. Those six teams will advance to the fourth round.

Matchups for the third round and groups for the fourth round will be determined at the World Cup qualifying draw July 25 in St. Petersburg, Russia.

The CONCACAF representative for the 2017 Confederations Cup could have a quick turnaround to get to that tournament, to be played in Kazan, Moscow, St. Petersburg and Sochi from June 17-July 2. The United States will play the winner of this year's CONCACAF Gold Cup for a Confederations Cup berth and will earn the berth without a playoff if it wins the tournament.

PHOTO COURTESY OF ZIMBIO.COM  
 Alejandro Bedoya #11 of the United States in action

PHOTO COURTESY OF ZIMBIO.COM  
 Hepple of the Bahama Soccer team

## Dolphins' hiring of Tannenbaum questioned

By Associated Press

MIAMI — A foundation that promotes the hiring of minorities in the NFL wants a clarification from the league regarding the Miami Dolphins' hiring of Mike Tannenbaum as executive vice president of football operations.

The job appears to fall under the Rooney Rule, which requires teams to consider minority candidates when hiring for senior football operations positions, said John Wooten, chairman of the Fritz Pollard Alliance Foundation.

"What we want to know is what are the duties and responsibilities of Mike Tannenbaum, because he's carrying the title of executive vice president of football operations," Wooten said Saturday. "And that comes under the Rooney Rule."

The hiring of Tannenbaum was announced Tuesday. A day later, the league said the hiring didn't fall under the Rooney Rule because general manager Dennis Hickey retains the final say over the draft and other personnel matters.

The Dolphins declined to comment on Wooten's remarks, and the league didn't respond to requests for comment.

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## NEWS BRIEFS

## Summer Youth Employment Program

Do you know a teen who would like to earn some extra money next summer? Applications for the Summer Youth Employment Program (SYEP) will be available through Jan. 23, 2015 at <http://syep.careersourcebroward.com>.

If you have questions, visit CareerSource Broward at <http://www.careersourcebroward.com>.

## BCPS Awarded grant from Project AWARE

Broward County Public Schools (BCPS) has been awarded a two-year Project AWARE grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. The grant will support the training of school personnel and other adults who interact with youth in both school settings and communities to detect and respond to mental illness in children and youth in the Broward community.

Individuals will be trained in Youth Mental Health First Aid (YMHA), a course that teaches participants how to help youth who are developing a mental health problem or experiencing a mental health crisis. The training will help them to identify, understand and respond to signs of mental illnesses and substance abuse disorders.

## Urgent Inc. students host film series, screening

As part of National Mentor Month, the students of Urgent Inc., Rites of Passage and Film, Art, Culture, Coding Entrepreneurship (FACE) will host a film series and screening that brings attention to social issues that include homelessness and other social barriers.

The event will include screenings of one feature-length film, "Unrealistic," and two short films, "Keeping It On" and "Two Similar Strategies." There also will be a discussion with Jalen James Acosta, director of "Unrealistic."

The activities will take place 11 a.m. Saturday at OCinema 90 NW 29th St, Miami, FL 33127. Cost is \$20 for adults, \$5 for students. For more information, contact Saliha Nelson 305-205-4605 or [saliha@urgentinc.org](mailto:saliha@urgentinc.org).

## Floridians rally to expand Medicaid to nearly 1 million

MIAMI — Patients and health advocates will rally across Florida to urge Gov. Rick Scott and lawmakers to expand Medicaid to nearly 1 million residents.

Thursday's rally is slated to take place in Miami, Tallahassee, Tampa and Orlando and will include a coalition of nearly 100 organizations. They want lawmakers to accept roughly \$50 billion from the federal government over the next decade to offer health coverage to residents who are too poor to qualify for tax credits in the marketplace, yet earn too much to qualify for Medicaid.

The federal government has agreed to pay 100 percent of the costs for three years and start phasing down to 95 percent in 2017. State Republicans have expressed concern that the feds will not make good on that promise, leaving the state on the hook for the tab.

Hospitals, the Florida Medical Association and many business groups all support Medicaid expansion.

Compiled from staff, wire reports

## MIAMI-DADE



PHOTO COURTESY OF ERIC GOODMAN/MDFR

## Fire rescue welcomes 18 graduates

Miami-Dade Fire Rescue, family and friends saluted members of Graduating Class 125 in ceremonies on Friday at training headquarters in Doral. In photo at left, the MDFR training instructors and chiefs are seated on the front row, while the newest department members, 17 men and one

woman stand. The recruits underwent an intense 10-week training at the academy. In the photo, right, a firefighter trainee arrives on scene of the trauma alert, and exits the rescue truck as quickly and safely as possible to give aid to the patient.

## BROWARD

## Nova offers \$1 million for aviation students



PHOTOS COURTESY OF NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY

NSU aviation students will get help with cockpit time as they learn how to fly through a new scholarships from American Flyers. The company is providing 12 scholarships every 18 months.

## Staff Report

DAVIE — Since the day humans took to the skies in flying machines, young boys and girls have dreamed of becoming pilots. Posters of the coolest airplane hanging on the bedroom wall was a rite of passage for many children, and many flight-related video games are among the most popular.

As they grew older, some children saw these dreams fade due to a myriad of factors, including finances. Now, however, thanks to a new scholarship program at Nova Southeastern University, those dreams can be rekindled once again.

"This is an unbelievable opportunity for our students," said Kimberly Durham, Psy.D., dean of NSU's Institute for the Study of Human Services, Health and Justice. "NSU's bachelor's in human services administration, with an emphasis on human factors in aviation, is unique and thanks to our business partner, we can help ensure students who want an education can get one — it's tremendous."

The partner Durham referred to is American Flyers, where NSU students get cockpit time as they learn how to fly. Through this one-of-a-kind program, American Flyers is providing 12 scholarships every 18 months at \$73,000

per student — that's nearly a \$1 million every year and a half, which will be administered by NSU.

The scholarship program will begin for students during the Fall 2015 semester.

"We are very excited about our relationship with NSU," said Andrew Henley, Executive Board Member of American Flyers. "While only in place for a few years, it has been very popular and transformative for our organization."

In order to qualify for the new scholarships, participants must be a fully admitted NSU undergraduate student, successfully complete a 16-week practicum at American Flyers, maintain a minimum 3.0 GPA and provide a 1,000 word essay on why they're interested in the aviation program and why they should be granted a scholarship.

In addition to this new scholarship, NSU aviation students have the opportunity to participate in paid internships, which provide them with real-world learning experiences in the field and the ability to continue to accrue needed flight hours.

Those students interested in the program should contact Kimberly Durham, Psy.D. at 954-262-8601 or via e-mail ([kdurham@nova.edu](mailto:kdurham@nova.edu)). More information about NSU's aviation program can be found online ([www.nova.edu/aviation](http://www.nova.edu/aviation)).

## PALM BEACH

## Spady holds discussion about black life

## Staff Report

DELRAY BEACH — One need only look to social media sites, TV and local newspapers to know that the state of race relations among residents, law enforcement and the judicial system has reached a fevered pitch. Rallies, marches and other forms of public outcry are dictating the need for conversation at all levels.

In Delray Beach, on Jan. 19, the Spady Cultural Heritage Museum will host a panel discussion titled, "Revisiting the Dream: A Community Conversation on Race, Social Responsibility and the Value of Black Life." Held in partnership with the Department of Curriculum Culture and Educational Inquiry of Florida Atlantic University, the discussion will invite residents to talk about solutions to the current state of tensions



COURTESY OF SPADY MUSEUM/CHARLENE JONES FARRINGTON

Delray Beach residents participate in an earlier conversation sponsored by the Spady Cultural Heritage Museum.

and how to foster multi-ethnic and multi-cultural awareness among America's diverse populations.

"This is not the first time, nor will it be the last, that we take a moment to seek answers and ideas to how to bridge a gulf between people. What is happening across the country is a demand for attention to the issues that divide us," said Charlene Jones, museum director. "The Spady Museum has always been a place where different points of views were recognized, shared and celebrated. We view history, art and culture as a collaboration of many people. So if we are going to make a change and produce something positive for the future, we have to talk, listen and collaborate now."

The community-wide panel discussion will be held at 7 p.m. at the Spady Cultural Heritage Museum, 170 NW Fifth Avenue, Delray Beach, FL 33444.

## BROWARD



PHOTO COURTESY OF BRINKLEY MORGAN / PANTRY OF BROWARD

Brinkley Morgan Managing Partner Philip Morgan and Pantry of Broward Director of Development Trudy Reilly

## Brinkley Morgan hosts food drive for Pantry of Broward

## Staff Report

FORT LAUDERDALE — To keep the spirit of generosity and giving alive through the holidays, attorneys and staff at the South Florida law firm of Brinkley Morgan recently held a food drive for the Pantry of Broward, a local non-profit dedicated to serving elderly residents in need.

"We are very grateful to everyone at Brinkley Morgan for supporting our seniors," said Trudy Reilly, director of development for the Pantry of Broward. "The Pantry of Broward survives because of caring people like the attorneys and staff at Brinkley Morgan, who have so graciously

PLEASE TURN TO PANTRY/2B

# Around South Florida



**ELGIN JONES**  
EJones@SFLTimes.com



**ON A HIGH**  
Supporters of the legalization of medical marijuana may have been down, but they are not out. John Morgan, the Orlando attorney and chairman of People United for Medical Marijuana, says they have made changes to the language in the proposed constitutional amendment, and will have the measure back on the ballot in 2016. It was narrowly defeated in 2014.

## Palm Beach County



**BITE VICTIM**  
Mark and Aneth McCarthy operate a wildlife sanctuary in Palm Beach County. The couple has appeared on animal television programs and will be making another appearance soon. This time it will be on A&E to speak about Aneth's experience of being bitten by a cobra while she was cleaning the snake's cage this past June. Yikes!

## HIRING PRACTICES

The Department of Children and Families is coming under fire over its clearance of convicted felon Judy Perlin, aka Judy Schelin to work at a daycare. Perlin was convicted of stealing federal funds from a program that was supposed to provide meals to

low-income kids in daycare facilities. The DCF background check did not reveal the federal conviction and she was subsequently hired by Boca Raton-based Congregation B'Nai Israel. Perlin has now been fired after her past was detailed on the blog Boca News Now.



**TAYLOR**

**FAKE WORKERS**  
Palm Beach County Commissioner Priscilla A. Taylor and her colleagues are warning residents to be wary of people claiming to be workers with the county's Water Utilities Department. Fraudsters have been impersonating utility workers to gain access to homes and/or yards. Anyone working with the county should have a visible ID badge and drive a vehicle that is clearly marked with county decals.

## Broward County



**LOWE**

**LET GO**  
Chan Lowe, the iconic and award-winning editorial cartoonist has been let go from the Sun Sentinel newspaper. Lowe was included in the paper's latest round of about a dozen layoffs. The job cuts weren't a surprise, but Lowe's inclusion in them has left newsrooms around the country in shock.

## BANK SOLD

Pompano Beach-based Stonegate Bank CEO David Seleski has completed the acquisition of Dania Beach-based Community Bank of Broward. Stonegate

paid \$61.2 million; shareholders of both companies approved the deal. It's another community bank that been either sold or shut down in South Florida.

## Miami-Dade County

### JAIL TIME

Stanley Fertil, 20, and his 19-year-old brother Steven Fertil both of Miami, have been convicted in a massive identity theft and unemployment scheme. They stole the identities of more than 4,000 people and applied for unemployment benefits in the names of more than 600 before being caught. Stanley is sentenced to nine years Steven will serve 12 years in prison. They must also payback over \$815,000 in benefits they received and serve three years' probation. Book'em Danno!



**TANNENBAUM**

**DOLPHINS ROONEY**  
The Miami Dolphins have hired Mike Tannenbaum as executive vice president of football operations. No black candidate was interviewed for the position. NFL officials say the hiring does not violate the league's Rooney Rule, which requires teams to interview minority candidates for senior football operations positions.



**MURPHY**

### STILL HIRING

F&E Aircraft Maintenance is still trying to hire aircraft mechanics and technicians. The Miami-based company plans to hire over 200 workers over the next three years as it expands at

Miami International Airport. Finding qualified applicants may be difficult. Father and son company owners Fred and Camron Murphy, say they are now looking to schools and technical facilities to collaborate on a training and recruitment plan.

## Monroe County



**ORNELAS**

**TASERED TEEN**  
Roberto Fausto Ornelas, 18, died after being tasered by Monroe County Sheriff deputies. Ornelas' father called 911 to report his son was acting erratic and smashing things inside the home. Deputies arrived and had to use a taser to control him. He was transported to a hospital where he died four days later. His cause of death is being investigated.



**VELOSO**

**ATHLETE KILLED**  
88-year-old Domingo Veloso, of Sugarloaf Key is charged with leaving the scene of an accident with injury. He is accused of hitting and killing Christopher Dyko, 48, who was riding a bicycle. Veloso kept going, but returned to the scene later and was arrested for leaving the scene and failing to render aid. Dyko, who was visiting from Bremerton, Washington, is a graduate of Washington State University. He was an offensive tackle and was drafted by the Chicago Bears in 1989. He also played in the Canadian and the World football leagues.



**DYKO**

# Brinkley Morgan hosts food drive for Pantry of Broward

## PANTRY, FROM 1A

shared their blessings with our neighbors in need."

The mission of the Pantry of Broward is to provide food and support services to seniors in need who are living on low, fixed incomes, including grandparents raising their grandchildren. The organization provides monthly food boxes to more than 425 clients and provides services such as housing assistance, emergency utility bill payments, food stamp applications, and free eye exams. The organization aims to improve the quality of life for food insecure seniors, grandparents and their grandchildren by lowering their cost of living, which increases the funds they can spend on other necessities.

Brinkley Morgan has been committed to serving the South Florida community since its inception in 1975. The firm's charitable campaign, Brinkley Morgan Cares, supports

local non-profits throughout the year. Recently, the firm has:

- donated and distributed hundreds of new Halloween costumes to pediatric patients at the Children's Diagnostic and Treatment Center;
- donated hundreds of dollars in gift cards to The Lord's Place to help provide food, clothing and other essential items to the homeless community in Palm Beach County;
- organized and hosted a *Suits and Sneakers Challenge* fundraiser to benefit the American Cancer Society;
- donated thousands of pounds of food to Boca Helping Hands, Feeding South Florida, and Kids In Distress of Broward and Palm Beach counties;
- collected school supplies for ChildNet of Broward and Palm Beach counties;

- held a book drive benefiting the Palm Beach Literacy Coalition;
- collected hundreds of ties and shoes for the Broward Partnership for the Homeless to help provide suitable attire for homeless men and women to wear to job interviews;
- sponsored or underwritten many signature fundraising events including the H.O.M.E.S. Invitational Golf Tournament, Broward Partnership for the Homeless Inc.'s Salute to Leadership Gala, The Lord's Place's SleepOut, the Covenant House's Night of Broadway Stars, and more.

For more information about the Brinkley Morgan Cares campaign, visit [Facebook.com/BrinkleyMorgan](https://www.facebook.com/BrinkleyMorgan) or [BrinkleyMorgan.com](http://BrinkleyMorgan.com). For more information about the Pantry of Broward, visit [ThePantryofBroward.org](http://ThePantryofBroward.org).



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# Obituaries

## Andrae Crouch, legendary gospel performer, songwriter dies at 72

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Andrae Crouch, a legendary gospel performer, songwriter and choir director whose work graced songs by Michael Jackson and Madonna and movies such as *The Lion King*, has died. He was 72.

Crouch died Thursday afternoon at Northridge Hospital Medical Center, where he had been admitted after suffering a heart attack, said his publicist, Brian Mayes.

The Recording Academy, which awarded seven Grammys to Crouch during a career that spanned more than a half-century, said in a statement that he was "a remarkable musician and legendary figure" who was "fiercely devoted to evolving the sound of contemporary, urban gospel music."

Crouch and his twin sister, Sandra Crouch, also a singer, lived in the Pacoima area of Los Angeles. They were pastors at the New Christ Memorial Church in the Los Angeles suburb of San Fernando.

"Today my twin brother, womb-mate and best friend went home to be with the Lord," said Pastor Sandra Crouch. "I tried to keep him here but God loved him best."

Born in San Francisco, Crouch wrote his first gospel tune at age 14.

Crouch wrote dozens of songs, including gospel favorites such as *The Blood Will Never Lose Its Power*, *My Tribute (To God Be the Glory)* and *Soon and Very Soon*, which was sung at a public memorial to Jackson.

Debuting in 1960, Crouch helped pioneer the burgeoning "Jesus Music" movement from the late 1960s and '70s that started the spread of contemporary Christian music.

"We've lost a true pioneer and he will be missed," said Jason Crabb, another Grammy-winning gospel singer.

His influence also crossed over into pop music. Elvis Presley performed his song *I've Got Confidence* for a 1972 gospel album, and Paul Simon recorded *Jesus Is the Answer* for a 1974 live album.

Crouch worked with many other stars, from Diana Ross to Ringo Starr, and his gospel albums sometimes featured performers from other musical genres. His 18th solo album, *The Journey*, released in 2011, featured Chaka Khan, Shelia E., Take 6, Kim Burrell and Marvin Winans.

Crouch was one of only a handful of gospel performers to have a star on the Hollywood



PHOTO COURTESY OF EBONYMOMPOLITICS.FILES.WORDPRESS.COM

Andrae Crouch

Walk of Fame.

His choir, The Disciples, sang background for Madonna's song *Like a Prayer*. Crouch helped Michael Jackson arrange the King of Pop's 1987 hit song, *Man in the Mirror*.

He also arranged music for the 1985 film *The Color Purple* — which earned him an Academy Award nomination — and Disney's *The Lion King* in 1994.

His success came despite a lifelong struggle with dyslexia. To create, he would make drawings that allowed him to grasp the concept. For the Jackson song, he drew a mirror with an image in it.

"I memorized everything through sight, the shape of the word," Crouch told The Associated Press in 2011. "Some things that I write, you'll see a page with cartoon pictures or a drawing of a car — like a Ford — or a flag. I still do it on an occasion when a word is strange to me."

"So when I finish a song, I thank God for bringing me through," he continued. "You have to press on and know your calling. That's what I've been doing for all my life. I just went forward."



PHOTO COURTESY OF DALLASCOWBOYS.COM

Jethro Pugh

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Jethro Pugh played alongside Hall of Famers Bob Lilly and Randy White in a long career as a defensive tackle for the Dallas Cowboys, which may explain why he was among the most unsung Super Bowl winners in the franchise's storied history.

Pugh, who played in the first four Super Bowls for Dallas and was part of a "Doomsday Defense" that won two of them, died Wednesday. He was 70.

The team said Pugh died of natural causes four days before the Cowboys were to play their first postseason game in Green Bay since the famous Ice Bowl in 1967. Pugh was blocked on Bart Starr's quarterback sneak for the game-winning touchdown in Dallas' 21-17 loss in the Ice Bowl that sent the Packers to the second Super Bowl.

"He was loved and appreciated by his teammates and Cowboys fans for decades, and his spirit will be felt when our team travels to Green Bay this weekend," owner Jerry Jones said.

Pugh was the first Dallas player to lead the team in sacks five straight seasons (1968-72). DeMarcus Ware, the franchise sacks leader, was the only other to do it. Pugh is sixth on the team's list with 95 1/2 sacks. His 14 seasons are tied for fourth in club history.

"He was a terribly unsung person among that bunch of great players

he had," said Gil Brandt, who was the personnel director when the Cowboys drafted Pugh in the 11th round in 1965.

Brandt said Pugh was a 20-year-old graduate of Elizabeth City State in North Carolina when Dallas drafted him. He became a starter the year of the Ice Bowl and started his five-year streak of leading the team in sacks a year later.

Pugh played on Dallas teams that beat Miami and Denver in the Super Bowl after the 1971 and 1977 seasons. He was on teams that lost to Baltimore and Pittsburgh.

The final season for Pugh was 1978, when he played in 13 regular-season games but missed the playoffs, including a loss to Pittsburgh in the Super Bowl.

"He would have been a top 10-type player in the draft today," Brandt said. "He was big, long arms, very athletic, very fast. Just a great competitor. Smart. He was well beyond his years."

Pugh never made the Pro Bowl, while teammates Lilly, White, Mel Renfro, Cliff Harris and Chuck Howley combined for 42 all-star appearances. Pugh was second-team All-Pro in 1968.

After football, Pugh had a successful career as a businessman through a company that runs airport concessions.

### RANGE FUNERAL HOME



**BERNICE JOHNSON BETHEL**, 85, Retired Cosmetologist, died December 23. Funeral was held December 30 at St. Philip Neri Catholic Church.

**MARY ALICE KINSEY**, Retired Railroad Employee, 95, of Miami died Jan. 8 at North Shore Hospital. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at St. Luke M. B. Church.

**J.C. SEARS**, 74, Retired Truck Driver, from Atlas Moving Company, died January 11. Viewing 4 to 7 pm Wednesday at Range Chapel.

**ULYSEE 'RED' THOMAS**, 53, Funeral Attendant, died January 6, at North Shore Hospital. Funeral will be held 12 pm Saturday at Range Chapel.

### HADLEY DAVIS FUNERAL HOME - MLK



**EDNA JACKSON**, 90, Retired Restaurant Worker, died January 8, at North Shore Hospital. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at Gamble Memorial.

**GERALDINE PHILLIPS**, 68, Prep Cook, died January 8, at Cross Garden Care Center. Funeral 12 pm Saturday at MLK Chapel.

### ROY MIZELL & KURTZ FUNERAL HOME



**HERBERT LEE BURKE**, 95, of Fort Lauderdale, died December 30. Funeral was held January 10 at Mt. Hermon A.M.E. Church.

**HERBERT V. BURROWS**, 77, of Fort Lauderdale, died January 12. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at St. Mark's Episcopal Church.

**HELEN GENEVA CARTER**, 93, of Fort Lauderdale, died January 6. Funeral was held 10 am Tuesday at Roy Mizell & Kurtz Worship Center.

**WAYNE DAVIS**, 55, of Fort Lauderdale, died January 1. Funeral was held January 10 at Roy Mizell & Kurtz Worship Center.

**REVEREND ROBERT C. FRANKLIN**, 72, of Fort Lauderdale, died January 3. Funeral was held January 10 at Mount Hermon A.M.E. Church.

**CECIL GRIMES**, 53, of Fort Lauderdale, died December 30. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at Primitive Baptist Church.

**MINNIE LEE JOHNSON**, 83, of Fort Lauderdale, died January 1. Funeral was held January 10 at Zion Rest Church of God by Faith.

**LIZZIE MELLS**, 85, died January 12. Funeral will be held 11 am Sunday at Mt. Olivet Seven Day Adventist Church.

**MARY SCOTT**, 87, of Fort Lauderdale, died January 5. Funeral will be held 1 pm Saturday at Roy Mizell & Kurtz Worship Center.

### WRIGHT & YOUNG FUNERAL HOME



**EDWINA COVINGTON**, 43, Cashier, died January 3. Funeral will be held 2 pm Saturday at Peace M.B. Church.

**ERIC FORBES**, 28, died December 31. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at St. Mark M.B. Church.

**DARLENE GLASS**, 50, died January 8. Funeral will be held 2:30 pm Saturday at West View Baptist Church.

**LASCELLES HIBBERT**, 26, died January 7. Funeral 11 am Saturday at Peace M.B. Church.

**BERNESTINE IVERY**, 74, died January 10. Funeral 11 am Saturday at 93rd St. Community Baptist Church.

**TAWANDA JENKINS**, 64, died January 10. Funeral will be held 1 pm Saturday at Antioch M.B. Church of Liberty City.

**TYRONE SMITH**, died January 4. Funeral 10 am Saturday at Mt. Calvary M.B. Church.



### HADLEY DAVIS - Miami Gardens



**NICHOLAS KELLY**, 53, Correctional Officer, died January 3, at Mt. Sinai Hospital. Funeral will be held 10 am Saturday at Word Of Truth Church.

**LATOYA MCKENZIE**, 29, Home-maker, died January 7, at home. Funeral will be held 1 pm Saturday at 79th Street Baptist Church.

### JAY'S FUNERAL HOME



**SHARON CAMPBELL**, died January 13. Arrangements are incomplete.

**RUDOLPH DAVIS**, 86, Engineer, died January 2. Arrangements are incomplete.

**MARY C. JOHNSON**, 84, died January 8. Arrangements are incomplete.

**JEAN PAUL**, 75, Entrepreneur, died January 12. Arrangements are incomplete.

**LARRY WILLIAMS**, died January 13. Arrangements are incomplete.

### PAX VILLA FUNERAL HOMES - Miami



**SAINT EVA FRANCOIS**, died December 27, in Miami, FL. Funeral will be held 10 am Saturday at Haitian Evangelical Baptist Church (Homestead, FL).

### MANKER FUNERAL HOME



**CARLETHA GRIMSLEY-JACKSON**, 58, Mail Carrier, died January 10, at Treasure Isle Care Center. Funeral will be held 11 am Saturday at New Mount Calvary Baptist Church.

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### PAX VILLA FUNERAL HOMES - Broward



**WILNER JACQUES**, died January 9, in Fort Lauderdale, FL. Services are incomplete.

**BABY GIRLS AVA & EVA LOUIS JEAN**, died January 1, in Plantation, FL. Services were held.

**NACELIA LOUSSAINT**, died January 9, in Coral Springs, FL. Services are incomplete.

**MILAGROS PADILLA**, died December 28, in North Lauderdale, FL. Services were held.

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# Prayerful Living



THE REV. DR.  
WALTER T. RICHARDSON

## “Lead Me, Guide Me”

“Show me your ways, O LORD, teach me your paths; guide me in your truth and teach me, for you are God my Savior, and my hope is in you all day long.” ~ Psalm 25:4, 5 (NIV)

In 1953 Doris Akers penned the words of a song that would become thematic in my home church. “I am weak and I need Thy strength and power, to help me over my weakest hour. Let me through the darkness Thy face to see. Lead me, oh Lord, lead me!” I can hear Brother Roosevelt Leggett singing in his powerful tenor voice, “Lead me, guide me along the way. For if you lead me I cannot stray!” There would be no resolutions made on Watch Night Service. But members and visitors would give brief testimonies of victories and accomplishments for the past year. Then around 11:45pm the lights in the sanctuary would be cut off one by one as testimonies would now be overtaken with the congregation individually praying aloud. Prayers of thanks, and prayers of expectations. Then just before the New Year rang in, all of the lights were shut off until the appointed timekeeper would signal for the light controller to turn on all the lights. The old year concluded with prayer, and the New Year began with prayer.

Most people want to start the New Year off right, with fresh starts, and new beginnings. And resolutions are expressed, goals are set, and promises are made each year. According to reports, the 10 top resolutions made

each year are spending more time with family and friends, getting in physical shape, losing weight, quitting smoking, enjoying life with less stress, quitting drinking, getting out of debt, learning something new, helping others, and getting organized. But according to Christian pollsters, not very many people ask for the Lord’s guidance when making resolutions.

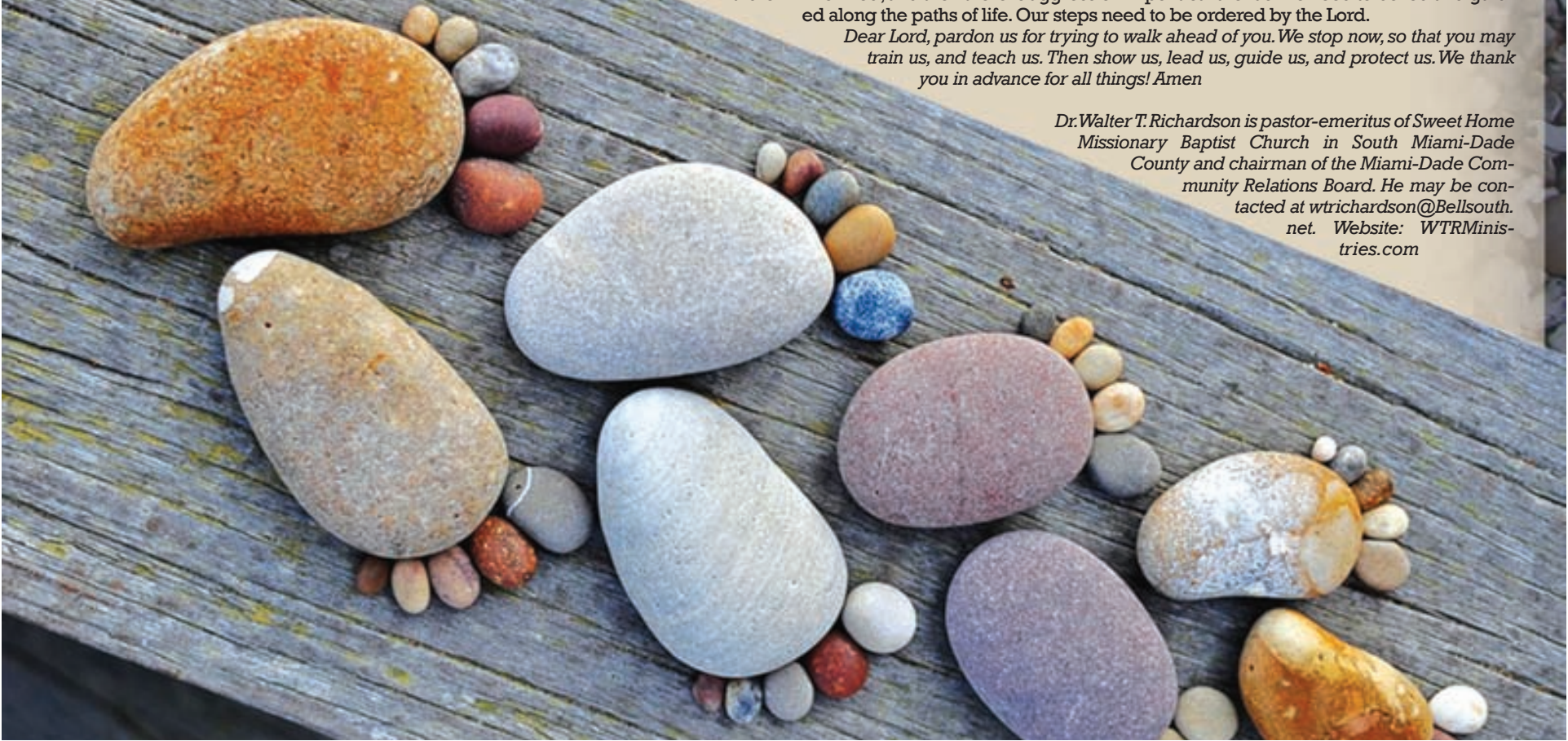
David had not requested the Lord’s guidance as much when he became successful after being appointed the king. He eventually gained wealth, but lost regard for others respect for himself. David even lost control of his family life, and his oldest son Absalom rebelled against him greatly. His circumstances were dire, and he hardly knew which way to turn, so he turned to Jehovah God. As he discovered that his path moving forward would be filled with more trials, troubles, and terror, he meditated and wrote a prayer which is Psalm 25.

Psalm 25 is so powerful that it is memorized for use in many Jewish worship services. There are 22 verses in this prayer that form what is known as an acrostic; each verse beginning with a letter of the Hebrew alphabet to facilitate memorization and recitation. There are only ten such scriptures in the entire Bible.

Psalm 25 covers the agonies and ecstasies expected this year. Already we seem to be suffering from contagious societal illnesses. Many of the problems and challenges we are facing in 2015, whether financial, communal, or political ... are the result of human greed, and arrogance. There is recession, which of course is economic sickness. There is a digression in good manners, sound judgment, and critical thinking. There is general blatant indiscretion in daily conduct. Even public expression is conveyed through vulgarity and violence. There is the growing obsession with power, prestige, and possessions. There is the noticeable suppression of voices that advocate for the dispossessed and disinherited. There are unapologetic transgressions even from the informed, and then there is aggression in political arenas. We need to be led and guided along the paths of life. Our steps need to be ordered by the Lord.

*Dear Lord, pardon us for trying to walk ahead of you. We stop now, so that you may train us, and teach us. Then show us, lead us, guide us, and protect us. We thank you in advance for all things! Amen*

*Dr. Walter T. Richardson is pastor-emeritus of Sweet Home Missionary Baptist Church in South Miami-Dade County and chairman of the Miami-Dade Community Relations Board. He may be contacted at wtrichardson@Bellsouth.net. Website: WTRMinistries.com*



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# technology

# In with the new: Snappy apps for 2015

NEW YORK (AP) — Uber, Facebook, Instagram — sure, they've been all the rage, but in 2015 we're all ready for something fresh. From ride-hailing to photo sharing, here are a few up-and-coming apps and startups to watch. Which will be the breakout hit of the new year?

## TELL A STORY

Instagram, which is owned by Facebook Inc., now has 300 million users — more than Twitter. Scrolling through its snapshot feeds gives users a quick glimpse into the lives of friends and strangers. (At least the parts that include empty beaches, cappuccinos with perfect foam hearts and smiling babies in clean clothes.) Its simplicity is part of its appeal. But what if you want to tell a longer story?

Enter Storehouse, a mobile app that promises to let you share “your stories, as they happen.” Instead of sharing one-off photos, Storehouse lets users combine photos, videos and words to share anything from a detailed recipe, to travel memories or a first-person documentary on the Yakuza. Storehouse was founded by Mark Kawano, who previously worked at Apple as a User Experience Evangelist, helping developers design iOS and Mac apps.

“Writers always had a great platform for blogging,” Kawano said recently. “But that hasn't happened with photographers yet.” Other photo apps, he said, are just status updates in a visual form. Storehouse hopes to change that.

## HAIL A RIDE

If you haven't heard of Uber, you must never leave your house or watch the news. Many people also are familiar with Uber's smaller rival Lyft, which burnishes its kinder, gentler image by slapping huge pink mustaches on the front of its cars. But more companies are queuing up to squire you around town.

In 10 cities in the U.S., including San Francisco, Seattle, Chicago and Los Angeles, you can order up a Sidecar. The service differentiates itself by letting passengers input their destinations when they book rides and sort drivers based on price, shortest ETA and favorites. In Los Angeles, there's also Opoli, which lets drivers bid for your ride so you can decide which one to go with. You can pick your vehicle too, and make a reservation. Unlike many other app-based car services, Opoli also allows its drivers to work for competitors. Opoli doesn't take a commission on a fare; its drivers pay a subscription fee to use the service.

## COOK A MEAL

Food-ordering apps such as Seamless have made it easy to order in. And if you want to venture outside, OpenTable and smaller competitors such as Reserve help you quickly book a table with their smartphone apps. But if you'd rather give your loved ones the personal touch, new DIY services will provide carefully measured ingredients and detailed recipes for even the clumsiest of cooks.

Sites such as HelloFresh, Plated and Blue Apron deliver weekly boxes of raw ingredients — even including spices and, at least in the case of HelloFresh, water. The only things you're assumed to have in your pantry are salt, pepper, oil and possibly butter. An upcoming “family plan” box for Blue Apron, for example, features chicken under a “brick” with rosemary, roast potatoes and broccolini; New England-style shrimp rolls with warm potato and kale salad; fresh pappardelle Bolognese with romaine, celery and apple salad and two-cheese pizza with iceberg chopped salad. The meals are quick to prepare, so if you're tired of takeout and live in their delivery location, these services could spice up your diet. Or maybe help with that “eat-healthy” New Year's resolution?

## CHIT CHAT

You've heard of WhatsApp, the nearly-free messaging app that Facebook paid \$22 billion for a few months ago. And there's Facebook's own messaging tool, which was the year's most-downloaded app (likely because you had to download it if you wanted to message people using Facebook).

That's all so 2014. Why message people you know when you could instead check out Ethan, a messaging app that lets you do just one thing — message a guy named Ethan. He “may message you time to time” but cautions that he “can't respond when he's asleep.” Nothing if not honest, Ethan doesn't want you to message him in an emergency, and will advise you not to fall in love with him. But want to plan a dinner-and-movie night? No problem. “Should I get Italian or Chinese for dinner?” (Answer: Italian) and “Gonna watch a movie on Netflix, what should I go for?” (Answer: *The Room*.)

## PUT THAT PHONE DOWN

If your New Year's resolution is to stop being so rude with your phone and talk to your friends face-to-face every once in a while, there's an app for you, too. It's called Moment, and it tracks how much you use your iPhone and iPad each day (sorry, no Android version yet).

If you are trying to cut back on your screen habit, you can set daily limits and the app will notify you when you exceed them. Moment Family, meanwhile, lets you monitor your whole family's phone use — by looking at your phone.



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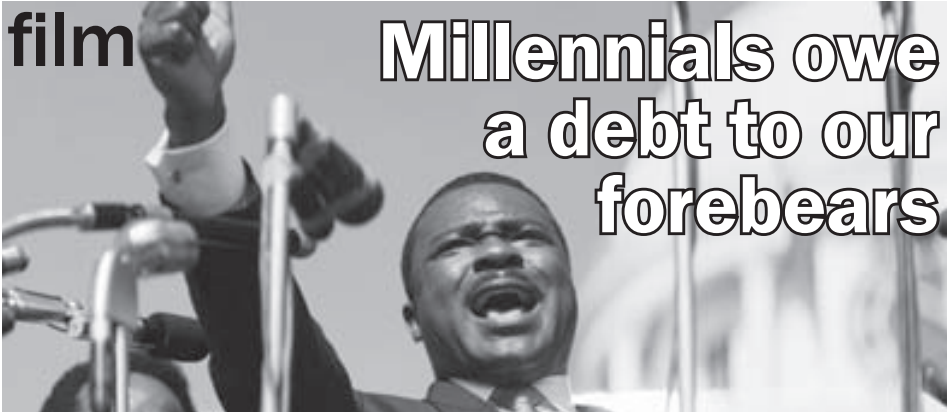
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PHOTO COURTESY OF LAVENDARANDLOVAGE.COM

Hello Fresh; sample box of 5 meals for two people

# film Millennials owe a debt to our forebears



David Oyelowo as Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

PHOTO COURTESY OF SELMAMOVIE.COM

By **KIMBERLY GRANT**  
Special to South Florida Times

In *Selma*, screenwriter Paul Webb and director extraordinaire Ava Duvernay (with Oprah Winfrey and Brad Pitt amongst the producer roster of the film) have set out to tell the story of Dr. Martin Luther King's historical march from Selma to Montgomery, Ala., to protest unfair voting restrictions against blacks in the south. Once in Montgomery, Dr. King (played by David Oyelowo) will give a speech on the steps of the residence of Alabama Gov. George Wallace's (Tim Roth). This march was the catalyst for the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

The film also stars Carmen Ejogo as Coretta Scott King, Common as James Bevel, Winfrey as Annie Lee Cooper, Wendell Pierce as Rev. Hosea Williams, and Cuba Gooding, Jr. as Fred Gray.

*Selma* has been given great reviews and honored with four Golden Globe nominations; which it deserves and more. But, high praise is not the point of the film. It's to raise awareness, especially in young people — to remember where they came from and take their right to vote more seriously. The theory is that when you have the right to vote, you can select a candidate who is qualified and willing to make things better within your community.

During a Q&A after a special screening of *Selma*, Bill Diggs, CEO of the (Alonzo & Tracy) Mourning Family Foundation, said: "There's a tragic disconnect between the generations. The young people need to go out and get the information for themselves and learn to re-educate the community. But, you can't learn it in 130 characters on Twitter."

Before the freedom young people take for granted was declared unencumbered by the passing of the Voting Rights Act, in order to vote in Selma, blacks had to: get a registered voter to vouch for them, then pay a hefty voting tax, and their name and address would be listed in the newspaper so the lynch mob would know where to find them.

As a Millennial myself, I can give voice as to why young people don't vote. The candidates are all crooked and it's hard to pick the lesser of two evils. Voting will guarantee that you'll get jury duty. There's no time to

vote, because we have Instagram accounts to upload pictures to, Vine compilations to watch, and other social media to keep abreast of our every move and feeling. Lastly, one less vote won't matter.

However, *Selma* explains why all of the above reasons are not good enough reasons to not vote. The young people of the African-American community are standing on the shoulders of their grandparents and great-grandparents who endured unspeakable violence or death for the right to affect change by submitting a voting ballot: that piece of paper that meant so much to those who couldn't get their hands on it. In essence, *Selma* is one of those great movies that comes along where the audience owes it to themselves to see the film and start a dialogue with the younger crowd about race relations back then and today.

Many blacks have fought for the ease of registering to vote, because it was a way to elect good representation within the judicial and legislative branches. During the same Q&A, City of Miami Commissioner Keon Hardemon stated: "The film made me think about domestic terrorism, which was a tactic to produce terror to keep people from voting ... to truly make change in our community, we have a responsibility to vote."

Some of the harsh violence in the film, which includes protestors being beaten with night sticks and whipped like they're on a plantation, reminds us that things have not changed much when it comes to police brutality. With the media coverage of the rise of police-involved killings of unarmed black males, *Selma* is quite a timely film. Young and old are protesting in the streets today, but is that enough? In order to really make a statement, we need to focus on who we are electing. Those individuals can create laws and procedures to enforce those laws.

As we Millennials age and the social media generation comes to adulthood, we are slowly and surely becoming the next leaders of our world. Nevertheless, if *Selma* has taught us anything, it's that to affect change, we have to go beyond the latest trending topic in the social media universe and actually get involved.

✉ KAliciaG@aol.com  
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CHRIS HEMSWORTH

blackhat

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pop culture

# MALTZ JUPITER THEATER PROMISES SPIRITED PERFORMANCES IN THE WIZ



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALICIA DONELAN  
Destinee Rea stars as Dorothy.

Staff Report

JUPITER — Dorothy, Toto and friends touch down in the northern reaches of Palm Beach County in early 2015 as they try to meet the Wizard in the Tony Award-winning Broadway sensation *The Wiz*.

South Florida theatergoers can ease on down the road with the spirited rock gospel and soul musical based on the beloved classic *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, which plays through Feb. 1 at the Maltz Jupiter Theatre. Featuring the hits *Ease on Down the Road*, *Home and Believe in Yourself*, promoters say this family-friendly stage phenomenon is the smash hit of the New Year.

Directed by the Theatre's producing artistic director, Andrew Kato, promoters say *The Wiz* will come alive with the exhilarating theatrical elements of full-stage projections, imaginative puppetry, aerial flying and evocative scenery to tell the story of Dorothy's quest to Oz. *The Wiz* invites audiences to marvel at the spectacle of a stunning onstage tornado and enchanting illusions and movement, featuring choreography by Jennifer Werner

and music direction by Eric Alsford. Costume designer Leon Dobkowski has designed original costumes that have been built specifically for this production. This Broadway hit is perfect for all ages.

"This soul-infused Blockbuster will take you on a journey you won't soon forget," Kato said. "This iconic and universal story will take us back to a time when we believed there was something special at the end of the rainbow, where monkeys could fly, and where good witches used their magic power to get us home. *The Wiz* has all the staging sorcery to take you to there."

With music and lyrics by Charlie Smalls and book by William F. Brown, *The Wiz* is a retelling of L. Frank Baum's timeless tale in the context of African-American culture. Featuring vivacious beats and an unforgettable musical score, the 1975 Broadway production swept that year's Tony Awards, winning prizes for Best Musical and Best Score, among others.

The roles of Glinda and Aunt Em will be played by Tony-nominated legendary actress Brenda Braxton, seen in NBC's musical drama *Smash* and on Broadway in *Chicago*, *Smokey Joe's Café*, *Jelly's Last Jam*, *Dreamgirls*, *Cats* and more. The roles of The Wiz and Uncle Henry will be played by veteran performer Kingsley

Leggs, whose Broadway credits include *Sister Act*, *The Color Purple* and *Miss Saigon*. The Tinman will be portrayed by prominent actor Tyrick Wiltez Jones, known for his roles on Broadway in the recent revival of *Finian's Rainbow* and *Hairspray*. The production will star New York-based actress Destinee Rea as Dorothy.

*The Wiz* is a musical for everyone, including children and teens. The Theatre's annual School Spirit Night is back on Friday, Jan. 16, at 7:30 p.m. Students 18 and under can buy a mezzanine ticket for only \$20 with a post-show dessert meet-and-greet with the cast. School Spirit Night is sponsored by RBC Wealth Management and supported by Kilwin's of Jupiter.

There will be a special family performance on Friday, Jan. 30, at 6 p.m., followed by a post-show dessert meet-and-greet with the cast in the lobby after the performance. Family Show

Time is supported by Whole Foods Market and Kool 105.5 FM.

The theatre's Sixth Annual Gay Pride Night is Saturday, Jan. 31. Hors d'oeuvres will be served in the lobby at 7 p.m., followed by a performance on stage of *The Wiz* at 8 p.m. Then join the cast in the Conservatory for a post-show dessert meet-and-greet. Pride Night is sponsored by Morgan Stanley and supported by *South Florida Gay News*, 900AM *The Talk of the Palm Beaches*, Compass and Kilwin's of Jupiter.

Tickets for *The Wiz* start at \$54.

For additional information, call (561) 575-2223 or visit [www.jupitertheatre.org](http://www.jupitertheatre.org). For more information on bringing your group to the Theatre, contact group concierge Shannon Murphy at (561) 972-6117.



PHOTO COURTESY OF JUPITERTHEATRE.ORG  
Cast of *The Wiz*

## So Good for the Soul: A Tribute to Music of Motown

Staff Report

AVENTURA — When the swaying rhythms and smooth harmonies of Berry Gordy's Detroit hit-making factory came on the scene, it changed the course of music forever — as showcased in the blockbuster tribute, *So Good for the Soul: A Tribute to Music of Motown*, featured at 8 p.m. Saturday at the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center, 3385 NE 188th Street in Aventura..

Featuring nearly 30 non-stop hits in all, this musical extravaganza includes all the favorites, such as *My Girl*, *I Heard it through the Grapevine*, *Reach Out*, *Shop Around*, *Dancin' in the Street*, *Stop, in the Name of Love*, *Ain't No Mountain High Enough*, *Ain't Nothing Like the Real Thing*, *How Sweet It Is (To Be Loved By You)*, *Uptight* and more.

This box office bonanza includes a cast of former band members from The Jones, Main Ingredient, The Spinners and The Marvelettes, peppered with Broadway-savvy performers who had leading roles in *Dream Girls*, *Showboat*, *Porgy & Bess* and other hit shows.

Critics have raved about the show that pays tribute to some of the greatest groups and songwriters of all times, such as the Four Tops, The Supremes, Smoky Robinson, The Temptations, Mary Wells, Marvin Gaye and Stevie Wonder.

"Captures the essence of America's own music in an evening of sheer fun," lauded the *Washington Post*; and "Bring your dancing shoes and bring the whole family; this is a show for everyone," exclaimed *Entertainment Review*.



PHOTO COURTESY OF AVENTURA ARTS CULTURAL CENTER  
Performers of the tribute to the music of Motown.

Tickets are \$49.50.

Tickets can be purchased online at [aventuracenter.org](http://aventuracenter.org); by phone at 877-311-7469; in person at Ticketmaster outlets or at the Aventura Arts & Cultural Center box office Tuesday through Saturday from noon to 5 p.m. and 90 minutes prior to each performance.

## Second City performs with mix of classic humor

Staff Report

MIAMI — Chicago's legendary sketch and improv comedy theatre troupe comes to South Florida with a show that takes aim at our home turf!

The Second City players perform at South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center in "The Second City Hits Home" a new show featuring hilarious sketches, songs, and improvisation about Miami as well as material from the famed Second City archives. This is a must see night of comedy featuring some of Chicago's brightest comedy stars in a special one-night engagement.

South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center presents *The Second City Hits Home!*, at 8 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 22 at 8pm. Tickets are \$35. Contact the Box Office by calling 786-573-5300 or online at [SMDCAC.org](http://SMDCAC.org). The Center is

located at 10950 SW 211 Street, Cutler Bay.

Doing what they do best, The Second City finds laughs in everything from Miami's history, events and hot button issues to headlines from *The Miami Herald* and mixes these with a generous portion of classic Chicago-style sketch and improv created by some of Second City's most lauded alumni including Tina Fey,



Second City Players

Stephen Colbert, Steve Carell, Gilda Radner, Bill Murray and more. The Second City celebrates 54 years of cutting edge satiric revues and continues to deliver the leading voices in comedy while touring the globe. The South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center, designed by an internationally-acclaimed design team that includes Arquitectonica International, Inc. (architects), Fisher Dachs Associates, Inc. (theater design), Artec Consultants, Inc. (acoustics), and AMS Planning & Research Corp. (theater management), provides, for the first time, a state-of-the-art cultural venue and community gathering place in the southern part of Miami-Dade County. Located at 10950 SW 211th Street in

Cutler Bay, the Center is an integral part of the economic and cultural development of the area, offering quality artistic programming and community accessibility. The Center features prominent works of art created by Miami artist Robert Chambers who was commissioned by Miami-Dade County's Art in Public Places program to design a kinetic light wall and sculptures for the theater.

The South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center is managed by the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs, with funding support from the Office of the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners. The Center is dedicated to presenting and supporting arts and culture and providing access to the arts to the entire Miami-Dade County community. More information about the Center and its programs can be found at [www.smdcac.org](http://www.smdcac.org).

## AVENTURA ARTS & CULTURAL CENTER

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2015

### Upcoming Highlights



**So Good For The Soul: A Tribute to the Music of Motown**  
January 17



**Back on Broadway**  
Celebrate the Magic of the Great White Way  
January 23



**The Doo Wop Project**  
The greatest Music in American and Rock History  
February 7



**The Bronx Wanderers**  
50s, 60s and 70s Rock N' Roll Experience  
February 19



**The Fella Sings Ella**  
An evening celebrating the First Lady of Song  
February 21



**Earl Turner's Box of 45's**  
Multi-talented songwriter, musician and dancer  
March 29

TICKETS at [aventuracenter.org](http://aventuracenter.org)  
Aventura Center Box Office  
Ticketmaster 877.311.7469  
Groups 954.660.6307



#aventuracenter



## travel



## Zora Festival celebrates rhythms of the Diaspora

PHOTO COURTESY OF 106FOTO

Fans dancing to Maze featuring Frankie Beverly at the 25th annual ZORA! Festival in Eatonville FLA.

By **ANDREA ROBINSON**  
arobinson@SFLTimes.com

EATONVILLE, FL — The festival dedicated to a Floridian who was a literary superstar during the Harlem Renaissance will celebrate the music and creative genius of the African Diaspora, giving locals and those who travel afar a delicious mélange of sounds.

Organizers of the 26<sup>th</sup> annual Zora Neale Hurston Festival of Arts and Humanities say visitors can expect an exciting nine-day celebration based on the theme “Rhythms of the Diaspora. The event, also known as ZORA! Festival will be from Jan. 24 to Feb. 1 in Eatonville and other venues in the surrounding Orange County in Florida.

Festival patrons will enjoy the diverse mix of music, including Gospel, Caribbean music and Latin American rhythms throughout the entire Festival. Fans can travel back in time to dance to Swing Jazz and Bebop at Club ZORA!, the Festival's costumed event set in a Night Club during the World War era. Aficionados of straight-ahead Jazz will relish the tribute to Eatonville's jazz legend Bernie Lee, and those who love smooth jazz will not want to miss the live performance by international saxophonist and flautist Najee.

Mississippi Delta blues will hold the stage at The Dr Phillips Center for the Performing Arts in Orlando. The spotlight will be shone on Memphis Soul during the video presentation of the 1972 Wattstax Music Festival at the Enzian Theater and Hip Hop will be given its due during “Roots to Rap: A Musical Revue.” The popular



PHOTO COURTESY OF ZORA! FESTIVAL

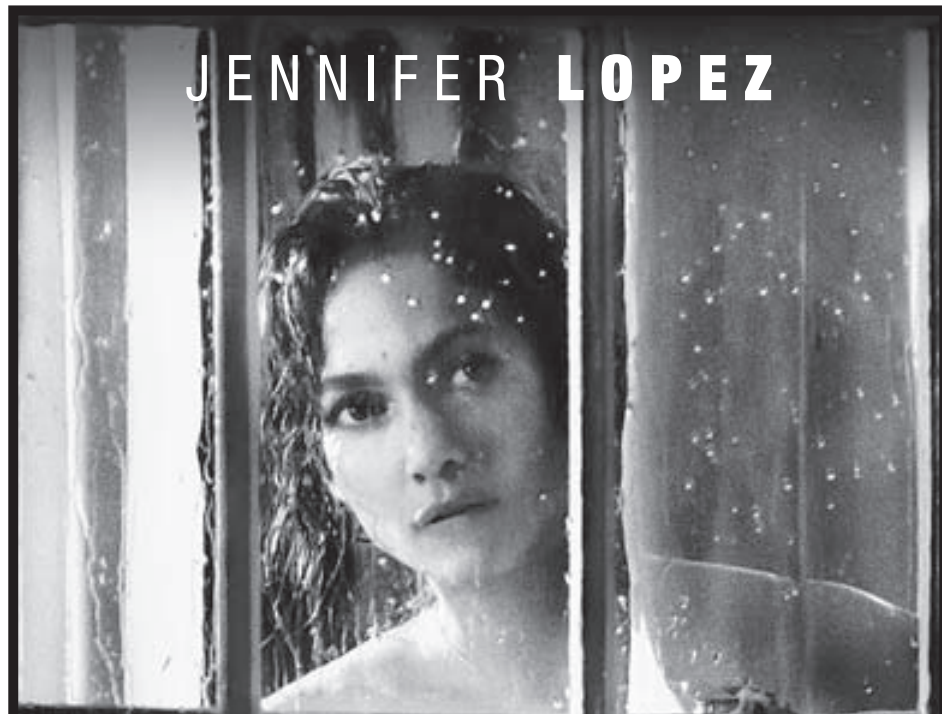
Najee

band Maze featuring Frankie Beverly will return to Eatonville to perform their style of R&B, soul and funk in the final weekend of the Festival.

Hurston was born Jan. 7, 1891, in Notasulga, AL, the fifth of eight children. She moved with her family to Eatonville when she was a small child. After her mother's death in 1904, Hurston fled north and finished grade school in Maryland. She attended Howard University, where she became one of the earliest members of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority. She graduated with an associate's degree from Howard, and went to New York, where she earned a bachelor's degree in anthropology at Barnard College. In NYC, she wrote essays and short stories and became a noted writer of the Harlem Renaissance.

ZORA! Festival is presented annually by The Association to Preserve the Eatonville Community, Inc.(P.E.C.), a 501(c)3, historic preservation and cultural arts organization, first organized in 1987. The Festival celebrates the life and work of 20th century writer, folklorist and anthropologist Zora Neale Hurston; her hometown, Eatonville, the nation's oldest incorporated African American municipality; and the cultural contributions people of African ancestry have made to the United States and the world. The mission of the Association to Preserve Eatonville Community (P.E.C.) is to enhance the resources of Eatonville, to educate the public about the town's historic and cultural significance, and to use the community's heritage and cultural vibrancy for its economic development.

ZORA! Festival is funded in part by Orange County Government through the Arts & Cultural Affairs Council. Major underwriting is also provided by Community Partners, including World Conference of Mayors; the University of Central Florida (UCF) Office of the President, Office of the Provost and the College of the Arts & Humanities; InGlor Inc.; TeKontrol Inc.; Visit Orlando; Bright House Networks; VITAS; and Local 6. The Festival schedule and tickets are available at [www.zorafestival.org](http://www.zorafestival.org).



JENNIFER LOPEZ

## THE BOY NEXT DOOR



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**STARTS FRIDAY, JANUARY 23** CHECK LOCAL LISTINGS FOR THEATERS AND SHOWTIMES

# events calendar

COMPILED By **MARISSA CLARKE**  
Special to South Florida Times

## January 15 - 22

### January 15

**All Arts Open Mic:** Comedian Richy Lala hosts this open mic event, which features local singers, spoken word artists, comedy and more! 9 p.m. at The Funky Buddha Lounge, 2621 N. Federal Highway. \$3 or two canned goods for charity. 561-512-8472.

### Jan 16



PHOTO COURTESY OF RADIO.COM

**Art Garfunkel:** The singer performs his favorite hits along with a few stories from his new book and tunes written by favorite songwriters including Randy Newman, A.C. Jobim, and Jimmy Webb. Garfunkel will answer questions about his legendary career following the performance. Guitarist Tab Laven accompanies the singer. 8 p.m. at the Aventura Arts & Cultral Center, 3385 NE 188th St., Aventura. \$39.50-\$75. 305-466-8002 or www.aventuracenter.org.

### January 16

**The Beethoven Project:** In celebration of the Bailey Hall's Steinway Grand Piano, Gustavo Romero will perform Beethoven's piano sonatas in a series of eight concerts. 8 p.m. today and 4 p.m. Sunday at Bailey Concert Hall and Fine Arts Theatre, 3501 Davie Rd., Fort Lauderdale. \$15-\$35. 954-201-6884 or baileyhall.org.

### January 16

**Festival of Laughs:** Get your laugh on with some of the top comedians in the game right now. Mike Epps, Bruce Bruce, Sommore and Earthquake are all scheduled to perform at this fest. 8 p.m. today and Saturday at the James L. Knight Center, 400 SE Second Ave., Miami. \$51-\$127.

**Miserere:** Seraphic Fire performs in an evening of western music. Lit by candlelight, the choir will perform ancient Latin paired with melodies which were once sung in 11th century monasteries. 7:30 p.m. at St. Philips Episcopal Church, 1121 Andalusia Ave., Miami. \$40. 305-285-9060 or www.seraphicfire.org.

### Jan 17



PHOTO COURTESY OF FLAVORWIRE.COM

**Alonzo King LINES Ballet:** The San Francisco based dance company comes to town. Expect bold dance moves from this group, which pairs music from all over the globe with innovative dancing. 8 p.m. at the South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center, 10950 SW 211th St., Cutler Bay. \$25-\$45. 786-573-5300.

### Jan 17

#### Beaux Arts Festival of Art:

Listen to live music as you view art displayed by more than 220 fine art exhibitors at the 64th annual event. Arts and crafts for children and dining options available. 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. today and Sunday in front of the Lowe Art Museum, 1301 Stanford Dr., Coral Gables. Free admission and parking. 305-668-8499 or www.beauxartsmiami.org.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MIAMI.EDU

### January 17

**One-Minute Play Festival:** The third annual event features local playwrights and actors in short-form performances. Dominic D'Andrea, producing artist director, selected the more than 40 works developed by local playwrights, including David Jay Bernstein, Brian Cohen, and Theo Reyna. This is the third annual event. 8 p.m. today, 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Sunday at the Deering Estate at Cutler Bay, 16701 SW 72nd Ave., Miami. \$20. 305-235-1668, ext. 233.

### Jan 17



PHOTO COURTESY OF PARADISECOAST.COM

**Riverwalk Stone Crab & Seafood Festival:** Get a taste of local seafood restaurants, including Grille 401, Kelly's Landing-New England Seafood, Shuck N Dive, and Nacho Bizness. From fresh stone crab claws to fish, if you love seafood this is the place to be. Listen to music, play games and more at the fourth annual event. 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Esplande Park, 401 SW Second St., Fort Lauderdale. Free. 954-468-1541, ext. 205.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GORIVERWALK.COM

### January 18

**The Purple Palace:** Orchestra Miami perform this show with music by Bruce Adolph and book by Louise Gikow. The show follows the selfish Princess Purple who banishes every other color from her kingdom. The princess eventually realizes that her actions were misguided and invites the other colors to return. Elaine Rinaldi, conducts. Children ages 4 and up are sure to enjoy this show. 4 p.m. Pinecrest Gardens, 11000 SW 57th Ave., Pinecrest. \$12, \$8 kids.

**North Miami Concert Band:** The 35-piece band will perform a mix of show tunes, marches, and classical music for a Fun Filled Sunday of Music. 2 p.m. at Gwen Margolis Community Center, 1590 NE 123rd St., North Miami. \$5. 305-667-4925 or www.northmiamiconcertband.org.

### January 19

**Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Parade:** Local high school bands perform in the annual event which ends with a festival at Martin Luther King Jr., Park, 6101 NW 32nd Ct., Miami. Expect arts and crafts and performances for children, food booths and a vendor market place. 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. The parade takes place along Northwest 54th Street between 10th and 32nd avenues Miami. Free. 305-835-2464.

### January 21

**Anthony Robles:** The NCAA Championship Wrestler and author will share his experiences to motivate attendees to overcome any odds that may be stacked against them. Robles was born without his right leg, but didn't let his disability stop him for reaching his goals. A question and answer session follows the talk. Presented by Broward College. 7:30 p.m. at Broward Center for the Performing Arts, 201 SW Fifth Ave., Fort Lauderdale. \$75. 954-462-0222.

### January 22

**Concert Under the Stars:** Enjoy music by the University of Miami Frost Opera Theater. Listen to the music while enjoying wine, dessert and coffee sponsored by Whole Foods Market. 7 to 9 p.m. at the Bonnet House Museum & Gardens, 900 N. Birch Rd., Fort Lauderdale. \$40, \$35 Bonnet House members. 954-703-2614.

**Democratic Women's Club of NE Broward:** The group celebrates the 42nd anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision. There will also be a discussion on what to expect in the 2015 Florida legislature. Refreshments will be served. 7 p.m. at the Emma Lou Olson Civic Center, 1801 NE Sixth St., Pompano Beach. Free. 954-942-8711.

food

# Breakfast and Beyond



**FAMILY FEATURES** — A great day starts with a balanced breakfast filled with healthy ingredients fit for the whole family. Enticing the youngest family members to enjoy as many food groups as possible at the morning meal — including veggies — may be challenging, but it's an important step to ensuring a well-rounded diet all day long.

The experts at Birds Eye frozen vegetables offer up these tips to get kids to eat more vegetables, starting with the breakfast table and continuing throughout the day.

1. Look for dining occasions for vegetables throughout the day, including breakfast. While veggies are often only thought of at dinnertime, parents can help ensure their kids get the proper amount of vegetables by combining Birds Eye frozen fruit and veggies into other meals and snacks, such as smoothies. These are a great start to the morning and an easy way to work in extra servings of fruits and vegetables. Another option is combining many ingredients, including veggies, into a single breakfast dish, such as

the Baked Eggs with Peppers and Breakfast Sausage recipe below.

2. Whether frozen or fresh, it's important to get veggies in every meal. Nine out of ten Americans don't eat enough vegetables on a daily basis, so incorporating them into each meal is important. From a nutritional perspective, there is little to no difference between fresh and frozen vegetables. For example, at Birds Eye, they flash freeze their veggies within four hours after harvest, locking in peak freshness, nutrients, taste and color. Easy to store in the freezer, they make it a snap to have nutritious ingredients on hand for any meal.

3. Mix up the veggie and flavor profiles to keep meals exciting. It's easy to become bored with the same meals or flavors, so mix up mealtime. Birds Eye offers more than 40 unique vegetable varieties year round at affordable prices, allowing families to change up their meals regardless of the season.

With a little creativity, you will have the kids in your family eating more vegetables at every meal, beginning with breakfast.

## Baked Eggs with Peppers and Breakfast Sausage

6 ounces breakfast sausage (if links, remove from casing)  
 1/2 bag Birds Eye Recipe Ready Tri Color Pepper & Onion Blend  
 4 large eggs  
 Salt and ground black pepper  
 1/4 cup whole milk or heavy cream  
 1/2 cup shredded Monterey Jack cheese  
 Chopped fresh parsley for garnish

Preheat oven to 325° F. Lightly grease four 8-ounce ramekins with nonstick cooking spray.

Brown sausage over medium heat in nonstick skillet, stirring and breaking up sausage, about 5 minutes. Stir in peppers and onions and cook, stirring occasionally, 5 minutes or until vegetables are tender.

Evenly divide vegetable mixture among prepared ramekins. Gently break one egg into each ramekin and season with salt and pepper. Evenly top each egg with milk and cheese. Place ramekins on baking sheet. Bake 10-12 minutes or until egg white is opaque but yolk is still soft. Garnish with parsley and serve.

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# Passing the TORCH

## Martin Luther King Jr. Special Section

Dream Defenders  
carry MLK's legacy



# Passing the TORCH



# Receiving the Torch

By **MICHELLE HOLLINGER**  
Special to South Florida Times

Martin Luther King Jr. was a youthful 15-years old when he was admitted to the prestigious Morehouse College; graduating from the all-male Atlanta institution four years later at the age of 19. His powerful orations, deep philosophical and spiritual beliefs and his bold actions to compel this country to change some of its racist practices through peaceful, thought-provoking measures were made even more poignant because of his tender age. King was a mere 26 when he led the Montgomery Bus Boycott in 1955 and was only 34 when he delivered his iconic *I Have a Dream* speech during the March on Washington.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MICHELLE HOLLINGER

Michelle Hollinger

Despite progress, King's dream of a country in which the content of its citizens' character prevails seems as unrealized

as it did when he delivered his famous speech in 1963. The seeming epidemic spate of unconscionable, logic-defying murders of unarmed black men and the system's failure to hold those responsible for their deaths accountable is prompting an emergence of young leadership reminiscent of King and his contemporaries. And to amplify the synchronistic tone of the movement, along comes Ava Duvernay's masterful film, *Selma*, the timing of which feels divinely orchestrated.

The film offers an emotionally charged, complex view of the historic shoulders upon which today's movement rests; shoulders that the 21<sup>st</sup> Century activists proudly embrace. Young, mostly black college students are utilizing old school techniques of marching and protesting to illuminate societal ills that seem to have been modernized, but are no less brutal; while combining social media and technology with a savviness and consistency necessary to sustain their efforts.

The rumblings of a new movement surfaced when 14-year-old Martin Lee Anderson died in 2006 while incarcerated at a Florida juvenile boot camp. Several college students from Florida A & M University, Florida State University and other colleges staged a sit-in demanding the arrests of the guards responsible for Anderson's death.

Those rumblings subsided somewhat, but resurfaced with a vengeance when self-proclaimed neighborhood watchman George Zimmerman killed Trayvon Martin and remained free for 40 full days following the Miami teen's killing. Zimmerman's ability to avoid arrest ignited a collective obligation within several college students who took a stand and demanded Zimmerman's arrest.

Borrowing a protest technique from their elders, the students marched peacefully from Daytona to Sanford, Florida; linking arms to block the entrance of the Sanford police station and issuing an ultimatum: "either arrest us or arrest Zimmerman."

Although he was ultimately acquitted of Martin's murder, the young adults' actions and their savvy use of technology and social media were instrumental in having Zimmerman to at least stand trial; unlike the police officers responsible for the deaths of Michael Brown, Eric Garner, Tamir Rice, John Crawford and others.

Those deaths and the freedom of those responsible for them have sparked nationwide protests in a manner unseen since the Civil Rights Movement; which brings us to the theme for this year's MLK Special Section: 'Passing the Torch.'

Who are the young leaders to whom the civil rights torch has been figuratively passed? How are they like King? What are the differences? There are many who have emerged across the country; some are new to activism while other "veterans" are being reenergized by the recent events.

One group with a nationwide presence that is headquartered in Miami is Dream Defenders. The group recently convened its second congress where nearly 200 activists from around the country, Africa, Brazil and Mexico convened to talk strategy, re-energize and move forward.

In this special section, we introduce you to Dream Defenders, a brilliant, energetic and remarkably optimistic group of young adults who are diligently seeking justice and the achievement of King's dream.



PHOTO COURTESY OF VOSTOCK-PHOTO.COM

The all-star cast has been assembled for Paramount's powerful re-telling of one of Martin Luther King Jr.'s most noble and notable deeds.



Ahmad Abuznaid Esq. testifying before the InterAmerican Commission.

PHOTO COURTESY OF FLORIDALEGAL.ORG

# Analyzing and changing policy key focus for activists

By **MICHELLE HOLLINGER**  
Special to South Florida Times

Although his lawyers did not evoke it in his defense, many believe that Florida's Stand Your Ground law was instrumental in the acquittal of George Zimmerman, the man responsible for shooting and killing unarmed teen, Trayvon Martin, in 2012.

It is one of several legal policies that makes little, if any sense, to Ahmad Abuznaid, legal and policy director for Dream Defenders.

Abuznaid, 30, said that SYG is dangerous because it "allows people to escalate from zero to a hundred and it gives it legal backing to do so."

It has no place in a civilized society, he said, because it also, "allows folks to act on a whim, recklessly, increases possibility of loss of life, danger to all, and really doesn't create the type of society where we're all in a village building it together," he explained.

In addition to taking aim at dismantling the Stand Your Ground law, Abuznaid said policies that criminalize black children are also under the group's radar, especially those that result in a child's suspension from school for acts that once upon a time resulted in a strict reprimand by an authority figure.

"For our youth, the zero tolerance policies in schools have led to arrests for minor infractions, where maybe a youth should be spoken to by their teacher, counselor or principal as opposed to being arrested," said Abuznaid.

Outgoing U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder also took issue with "zero-tolerance" policies that prematurely involve the criminal justice system for non-criminal infractions like truancy and smoking. "A routine school disciplinary infraction should land a student in the principal's office, not in a police precinct," Holder said last January.

A March 2014 report from the U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights offered data that support Abuznaid's assertions that the "school to prison" pipeline disproportionately targets black children. The report shows that while black students represent 16 percent of student enrollment, they represent 27 percent of students referred to law enforcement and 31 percent of students subjected to a school-related arrest.

The trend towards taking drastic measures to address what many view as typical childhood antics is also an issue for black children as early as preschool. According to the Dept. of



Education report, "black children represent 18 percent of preschool enrollment, but 48 percent of preschool children receiving more than one out-of school suspension. In comparison, white students represent 43 percent of preschool enrollment but 26 percent of preschool children receiving more than one out of school suspension."

The report also indicates that while black boys are suspended at a higher rate than any other race or gender, black girls are also disproportionately impacted. Boys receive more than two out of three suspensions, however, black girls are suspended at higher rates (12 percent) than girls of any other race or ethnicity and most boys.

Abuznaid said that it's time for lawmakers, educational leaders, parents and the general public to take a strong stand for creating school systems where the priority is on educating, not criminalizing, all children.

"We're all growing and developing as human beings and to punish people under the age of 18, 15, 13 so heavily based on mistakes and bad choices just seems so ludicrous, but people do it and there's legal backing for it," he said.

As it relates to systemic reform, Abuznaid said that the collective movement across the country is happening now because people are waking up.

"I'm extremely confident. We have to stay vigilant [because] this process and success doesn't happen overnight. What we're seeing across the country is a booming state of consciousness. People are starting to question and take action, there's a real uprising."

He said that the momentum is growing and that people have more power than they realize to create change.

"I have no doubt in my mind that it will continue. Sooner or later these systems will cater to the will of the people or the people will create their own systems."

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All programs, artists, dates and times are subject to change.

# Phillip Agnew models activism after King

By **MICHELLE HOLLINGER**  
Special to South Florida Times

His calm demeanor, deep insightfulness, ability to empathize with others and even his choice of fraternity (Alpha Phi Alpha) are reminiscent of Martin Luther King Jr. Phillip Agnew may shy away from such comparisons. However, the executive director of Dream Defenders — a group of young college graduates determined to either change the system or create a new one — could very well be one of his generation's leaders instrumental in making King's dream a reality.

When a reporter approached him about being featured in an article for the MLK special section, Agnew resisted, requesting that the feature include all seven members of the Dream Defenders' team. In addition to featuring his brilliant team, this section shines a spotlight on Agnew, 29, whose insightful explanation about the need to be organized in order to achieve systemic reform was captured on video during a PBS town hall meeting and promptly set social media abuzz.

He was one of seven young leaders from around the country to meet with President Obama, Vice President Biden and Attorney General Eric Holder in December following a Missouri grand jury's failure to indict police officer Darren Wilson for the murder of Michael Brown.

"As young people of color who are often criminalized for our mere existence, we are the experts in how our communities are treated by law enforcement," said Agnew. "We accepted the president's invitation so that we could present our expertise and needed policy changes to the nation's top leader."

Agnew was among those who protested the 2006 death of 14-year old Martin Lee Anderson at a North Florida boot camp facility. The Chicago native went on to graduate from Florida A & M University in 2008, landing a job in sales. It didn't last long because within weeks of Trayvon Martin's killing, Agnew said he gave up his \$52,000 salary (\$63,000 with bonuses) because "he had to do something" to address Florida's Stand Your Ground law, as well as other systemic issues that adversely affect blacks.

PBS convened a town hall meeting following the grand jury's refusal to indict Officer Darren Wilson in the shooting death of unarmed teen, Michael Brown. Agnew took part in the forum that explored the question: What does the unrest in Ferguson reveal about the state of race relations in America? In the clip of the video with him in it that went viral, he explained the motivation behind creating Dream Defenders.



PHOTO COURTESY OF GREGORY SAMMS

Gregory Samms

"The people that are murdering the people in our communities are very organized. And so if you want to mount an ample resistance to those forces, then you must be organized. We started Dream Defenders with that in mind," he said.

Civil Rights Attorney Greg Samms, 55, said that Agnew is on point and that, "Dream Defenders is the perfect example of the kind of organization we need because they are the type of young leadership that will inspire other youth, as well as my generation, to help them."

Samms said if there is going to be any institutional change, it will happen because of insightful young leadership like Agnew. "Vietnam was stopped by young people," said Samms, who is a former board member of the National Police Accountability Project and a former president of the Wilkie D. Ferguson Bar Association (formerly the Black Lawyers Association).

## Empathy necessary

In that same video, Agnew explained that because the system and the media often depict blacks as angry and dangerous, he can understand why someone like George Zimmerman would assume the worst about blacks. He is willing to delve into an emotionally explosive topic like Zimmerman and offer a perspective that may make some blacks cringe while causing non-blacks to at least consider the hows and whys behind their opinion of blacks.

When asked to explain his approach to engaging others in a way that doesn't make them defensive, he said, "That's the approach." In order to help others to understand where he and his team are coming from, Agnew surmised that they must make a genuine effort to also understand others' point of view.

The approach appears to be the foundation for the continued discussions between Agnew and Ross Kaminsky, the white columnist in the PBS video to whom Agnew responded when Kaminsky said the neither he nor his parents should be held responsible for slavery because it happened more than 400 years ago. The two went out for drinks and continued talking after the PBS town hall. They have exchanged phone numbers and have spoken since.

"As I told Phillip, I don't know a lot of people like him so I think it took some conversation for each of us to have some trust in the other. What impressed me about Phillip was that he was willing to give me the opportunity to demonstrate that even though he and I don't agree on everything, or maybe not even on many things, I'm not the enemy and we do have areas

Passing  
the  
TORCH



of common interest such as police reform," Kaminsky said via email.

## Self-determination key

Creating space for authentic conversations with others with different viewpoints is one aspect of what Agnew does. In his role as executive director, he is also charged with organizing Dream Defenders and raising funds to carry out the work of helping communities of color to organize, as well. The group relies on private donations and foundation funding to operate the Miami-based organization.

"We want for poor and oppressed people to have true self determination with the ability to decide the destiny for themselves and their communities. Liberation from the economic system that we're in right now that puts profits over people," Agnew shared.

## King the rebel

He has deep reverence for King, whom he calls "a revolutionary, a rebel, somebody who wasn't afraid to speak up and speak out. And somebody who was building."

"We want to get to the point where we are building campaigns and building movements that win," he said. "And that's something that we look up to, and Dr. King and Ella Baker and Fannie Lou Hamer, women and men who fought for us to get to where we are."

Agnew shared what now appears to be a prophetic statement by the late civil rights leader, "One of the last things that Dr. King said before he died, was that he feared that he had brought us into a burning building."

Many believe that the "burning building" has been smoldering for years and is now fully engulfed, resulting in a palpable, widespread determination to create change.

"There's a sense of urgency that's felt by more people, but one that's always been felt by black people in the ghetto, poor people, Latino people, migrants in this country that have been living on the margins since the founding of this country," Agnew explained. "The level of police brutality, police repression, state violence that's happening in our communities have now reached a fever pitch so there is a great, great sense of urgency."

He said that everyone has a role to play.

"If people of conscious don't stand up and do something in this moment, then we're really doomed to see another era in this country where corporations run everything. And there is no rights for the community, no democratic rule, really no hope for anyone that doesn't have capital already," he said.



Phillip Agnew

PHOTO COURTESY OF DREAM DEFENDERS.COM



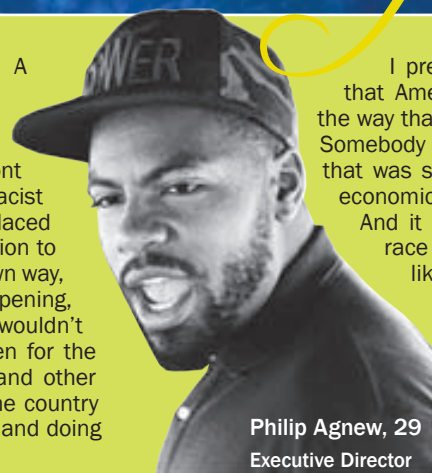


# Dream Defenders reflect on King

By MICHELLE HOLLINGER  
Special to South Florida Times

While each Dream Defender joined the organization for unique reasons, they all convey a profound reverence for Martin Luther King Jr., who continues to influence them deeply. Their knowledge of King extends beyond his 'I Have a Dream' persona. They've studied his life, his speeches and most importantly, his thinking. The King that they speak of is the King who courageously opposed the Vietnam War and who sought to eliminate poverty in black communities. What follows are some of the Dream Defenders' thoughts on King, in their words.

"Dr. King was a champion for equality. A champion for folks that weren't being spoken for and their voices weren't being heard. He was able to bring a national consciousness that forced the country to confront what it was, which was a racist place with racist institutions and a system of racism and placed them in the gutter. He was able to call attention to that and I know that we're doing that in our own way, calling attention to the deaths that are happening, calling attention to the plight of people that wouldn't otherwise been talked about had it not been for the presence of people like Dream Defenders and other organizations and individuals from around the country and the world that are doing the same work, and doing it very well."

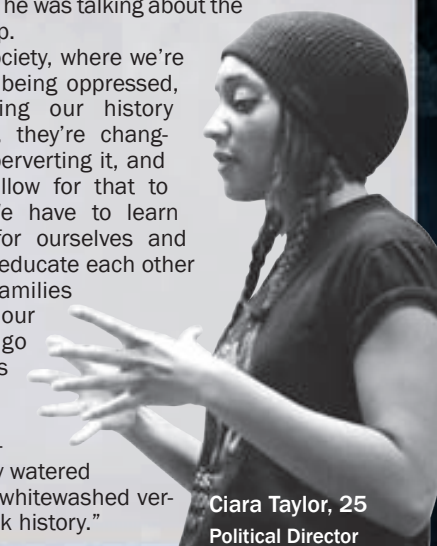


Philip Agnew, 29  
Executive Director

I prefer to remember Dr. King not in the way that America tries to make him out to be, but in the way that he truly was and the reason that he died. Somebody who spoke against the war, somebody that was speaking out for people that are poor and economic classes that weren't being spoken up for. And it was bigger than just race, you know that race is the reason that a lot of these systems like capitalism, imperialism and colonialism flourished, but we also know that until we break down areas that divide poor people along racial lines, and unite those people, then we'll never truly crack the power structure and the concentration of power that we have in this country right now."

"We've allowed our education system and political system to hijack the memory and the legacy of all of our civil rights heroes, most importantly Martin Luther King. I encourage the readers to really learn the history for themselves. To read the readings for themselves, to not just stop at 'I Have a Dream' but to continue on and find out what Dr. King was talking about when he was talking about the mountaintop."

In this society, where we're continually being oppressed, they're using our history against us, they're changing it and perverting it, and we can't allow for that to happen. We have to learn the truth for ourselves and we have to educate each other and our families and not let our children go to schools where they're just learning this very watered down, very whitewashed version of black history."



Ciara Taylor, 25  
Political Director

"I think a lot of times we only see it as Martin Luther King Jr. and not the people that were also there beside him, thinking about representation and being appreciative of this interview. It's important to remember them."



Jonel Edwards, 24  
North Florida Regional Organizer

"We studied Martin Luther King heavily, not just his speeches, but him as an organizer. He had a very innovative style of community organizing. So he believed in the traditional, organize the community locally to achieve concrete change, and he also saw the big picture, the need to build a narrative; change perceptions and win people's hearts and minds. I think also, King was able to tap into something in the American consciousness, a moral high ground. Often times our communities come from a place of anger, but Dr. King really taught us that our work must be grounded in love."



Curtis Hierro, 27  
Field Organizer

We have a challenge, a lot of the problems that we see in society today are still very deep, but they're not necessarily as in your face as the 1960s. Where it was like you as a black person cannot drink from this water fountain. You as a black person cannot sit here on this bus. Now it's much more hidden or not as in your face, so things like the prison industrial complex or the fact that we have a mass system of incarceration that targets black and brown folks. So how to take a lot of those tactical approaches and how to organize against something that isn't as in your face."

Our communities know it's real but it's a lot easier for white America and more affluent folks to not pay attention, they don't necessarily see it every day like the signs that say you can't drink at the water fountain. It's an opportunity for us to engage in that history in a real way and think about how it applies to our work today."

## MEET THE DREAM DEFENDERS

By MICHELLE HOLLINGER  
Special to South Florida Times

They're young. They're fearless. They're optimistic college graduates who are a part of what many are calling this generation's civil rights movement. The 2006 death of 14-year old Martin Lee Anderson at a North Florida boot camp got their attention; however, the 2012 death of Trayvon Martin at the hands of George Zimmerman shook them to their core.

"When Trayvon Martin was killed, it really hit home. I come from a working class family, living in the suburbs, and so the thought of being killed by a neighbor because of the way that you look really scared me," said Ciara Taylor, Political Director for Dream Defenders.

When forty days elapsed without Zimmerman's arrest, Taylor, 25, was among over 100 young adults who convened on a conference call to talk strategy. They decided to take a page from the Civil Rights Movement by marching for three days from Daytona to Sanford, Florida, the city Trayvon, who was from Miami Gardens, was visiting when he was killed.

"When we got to Sanford, six of my comrades locked arms and blocked the doors of the Sanford

police station in an act of civil disobedience saying, "if you're not going to arrest George Zimmerman, arrest us," said Curtis Hierro, Dream Defenders' field organizer. Hierro, 27, explained that the group's civil disobedience created a dilemma for the police department, which did not appear interested in the negative publicity that arresting the young adults might garner.

"We found that within two days, Zimmerman would be arrested, and by the end of the week the Sanford police chief would step down for a leave, which was one of our demands."

"I went to the first Dream Defenders congress and [they were] talking about mass incarceration and the system and how we went from slavery to Jim Crow and how, as much as things have changed, they have stayed the same," said Jonel Edwards, Dream Defenders' North Florida Regional Organizer.

"Last year, I went to a conference and Angela Davis was speaking... about the school to prison pipeline," said Edwards, 24, who added that school is no longer a place for children to be nurtured and encouraged, "but now it's a place that tells you that you're less than and you're a criminal."

In order to galvanize the community around issues like dismantling the school to prison pipeline, Taylor said that people in those communities must first believe that they deserve equality.

"When we talk about reform and policy and legislation, our people, our society is really broken and traumatized. I'm not sure if people truly

believe that they deserve justice, that they deserve to live freely and that they deserve for their lives to matter," she said.

Along with deep compassion for the communities that they serve, Dream Defenders voice a willingness to not only to step outside of the box, but are also exploring the creation of new containers.

"Since I've been in Dream Defenders, the way that I look at change and reform has shifted. A lot of time we try to go through avenues that already exist. What does it look like to say that your system isn't working, so I'm going to create a different one," said Edwards.

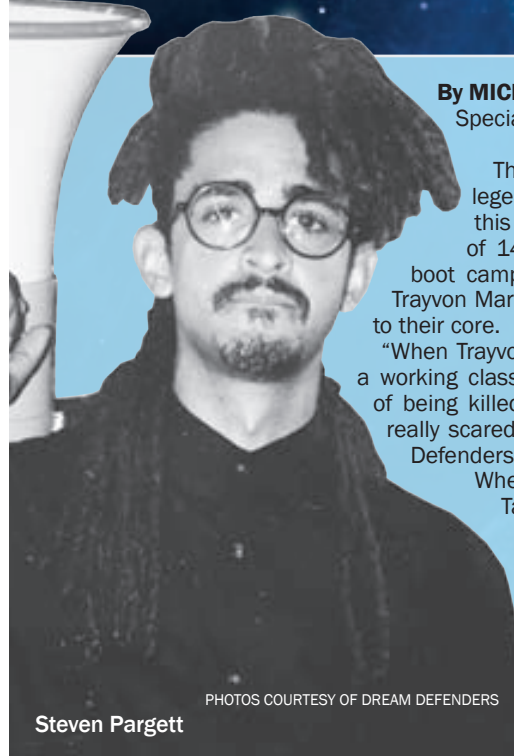
Each Dream Defender has a unique reason for joining the movement. What is consistent throughout the group is a very high level of optimism that their work will achieve its desired outcomes.

"I'm very optimistic. A few of our Dream Defenders...are relentless and they will not stop until we win or they have no breath left," said Sherika Shaw, 26, Dream Defenders' South Florida Regional Organizer.

Rounding out the group are Steven Pargett, communications director and Phillip Agnew, the group's executive director.

Pargett said that reforming the system will require changing policy and legislation, but so much more.

"The way that we're going to solve all of these problems is if we all truly find ourselves and what we're supposed to be doing; and through the process of us doing that on an individual level, we will rebuild our communities." Pargett pointed out that although there has been a groundswell nationally, "the revolution is local."



Steven Pargett

PHOTOS COURTESY OF DREAM DEFENDERS



**Gospel Gala featuring The Clark Sisters**  
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A Kravis Center Community Outreach Event

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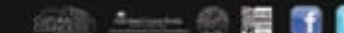




PHOTO COURTESY OF POINTSOFLIGHT.ORG

Target volunteers pack car kits filled with necessities.

# Young generation no slouches at volunteering



PHOTO COURTESY OF POINTSOFLIGHT.ORG

Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service 2013

By **CONNIE CASS**  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Tired of hearing people grouse about a tuned-out, apathetic younger generation?

Well, here's a comeback: Today's young Americans are more serious about giving back than their parents were.

In fact, those under age 30 now are more likely to say citizens have a "very important obligation" to volunteer, an Associated Press-GfK poll finds.

The embrace of volunteering is striking because young people's commitment to other civic duties — such as voting, serving on a jury and staying informed — has dropped sharply from their parents' generation and is lower than that of Americans overall.

Among six civic activities in the AP-GfK poll, volunteering is the only one that adults under 30 rated as highly as older people did.

"I want to make my city where I live a better place," Morgan Gress, 24, of Washington said after sorting and hanging donated clothes with co-workers who chose to volunteer in lieu of an office holiday party. After you volunteer, she said, "You never walk away feeling you didn't have a great time, or help someone out, or learn something new."

Today's young adults grew up amid nudges from a volunteering infrastructure that has grown exponentially since their parents' day, when the message typically came through churches or scouting.

Gress doesn't find it unusual that her employer, a hub for tech startups called 1776, encouraged workers to sort clothes at Bread for the City during office hours. Most of her friends work at companies with some sort of volunteer program, she

says. Community service was required at her private high school in Buffalo, New York, like many other schools across the country. Volunteer opportunities were plentiful as a student at American University.

In the decades since President George H.W. Bush championed America's volunteer groups as "a thousand points of light" at his 1989 inauguration, the number of nonprofits has skyrocketed. The Martin Luther King Jr. holiday and Sept. 11 have become days of service. Individuals launch community projects through social media, instead of hanging posters and making phone calls.

Twenty percent of adults under 30 volunteered in 2013, up from 14 percent in 1989, according to census data analyzed by the Corporation for National and Community Service. It seems likely that the Millennials' volunteering rate will climb higher, because past generations have peaked in their 30s and 40s, when many parents give their time to schools, youth groups or community improvements.

"We're on the cusp of something big, because these Millennials are going to take this spirit of giving and wanting to change communities and they're going to become parents soon," said Wendy Spencer, CEO of the Corporation for National and Community Service. "I am very encouraged by what we're seeing."

The vast majority of Americans believe citizenship comes with an array of responsibilities. But the strength of that conviction has weakened since the General Social Survey asked about obligations of citizenship in 1984.

Seventy-seven percent say reporting a crime you witness is very important, down from 90 percent three decades ago in the survey conducted by NORC at the University of Chicago. Three-quarters call voting in elections very important, about the same as in the 1984 survey, though only about 36 percent of eligible voters cast ballots in November's midterms.

The biggest decline among the six obligations tested? Keeping fully informed about news and public issues. A



PHOTO COURTESY OF POINTSOFLIGHT.ORG

Adults also participated in Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service 2013.

majority — 56 percent — of Americans considered that very important in 1984; now only 37 percent think so.

Young adults are even less interested in keeping up. Despite unprecedented access to news and information, 28 percent feel no obligation to stay informed.

A similar number say there's no obligation to volunteer, but the trends are moving in opposite directions.

The share who call volunteering very important has climbed 10 percentage points, while staying informed dropped 15 points. The importance of voting, jury duty, reporting a crime and speaking English as obligations of citizenship also declined among young adults.

Peter Levine, associate dean for research at Tufts University's college of citizenship, said while the nation was building up its institutional support for volunteering, many of the organizations that promote political and civic involvement, including labor unions, churches and newspapers, were shrinking.

Could experience gained while volunteering lead more young people to other civic roles, such as banding together to solve local problems, following national issues or joining political parties?

There are some positive signs.

Kaleigh Gordon, a junior at the University of Southern Mississippi, has a history of volunteering but says she hasn't followed politics much because "there's so much negativity." Now, a trip to Washington to help care for homeless people has her thinking about how to solve some of their underlying problems, such as untreated mental illness.

"This is different from anything I've done before. It's been very shocking," Gordon, 21, said before serving lunch at So Others Might Eat. "The government should do more — we need more funds — and people in the community need to be stepping up to do more, too."

But Rutgers University Professor Cliff Zukin, who studies civic engagement, sees little prospect that volunteering will lead to a strong return to political participation and other civic virtues that were in decline well before today's young adults came of age.

"They're starting at a very, very low point," he said. "And each generation seems to have peaked at less than the previous generation."

The AP-GfK Poll of 1,044 adults was conducted online July 24-28, 2014, using a sample drawn from GfK's probability-based Knowledge Panel, which is designed to be representative of the U.S. population. The margin of sampling error for all respondents is plus or minus 3.4 percentage points.

Respondents were first selected randomly using phone or mail survey methods and later interviewed online. People selected for Knowledge Panel who didn't otherwise have access to the Internet were provided access at no cost to them.

# Ava DuVernay and David Oyelowo on their journey to 'Selma'

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Ava DuVernay doesn't like historical dramas — especially those of the civil rights variety. Their conventions, their sentimentality, their lack of texture or edginess, and their insistence on either hero worship or takedown just aren't her style.

It's a wonder she ever considered boarding *Selma* in the first place. Not only is it one of the most important chapters in civil rights history — having led to the passage of the 1965 Voting Rights Act — it's also one that's still in the living memory of many (including her father).

Toss in the fact the project had been in development for years with a host of different directors, that it's the first significant portrayal of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on film, and that DuVernay had mostly directed small independent features, and the whole feat becomes even more unlikely.

Now, it seems impossible to imagine the film with anyone but DuVernay behind the camera. With her confident direction, *Selma*, which opened wide on Jan. 9, gives audiences a layered look at King, the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and the campaign leading up to the historic 54-mile march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama.

Today, DuVernay, a former publicist, may also make history by becoming the first African American woman ever to be nominated for a best director Oscar.

And yet she always seems to be deflecting praise with a self-deprecating aside or by refocusing it on one of her collaborators. At the first public screening of *Selma*, after a lengthy standing ovation from the jam-packed theater, DuVernay still took the opportunity to poke fun at her own job qualifications, joking that she was “more of a black indie hipster romance kind of gal.”

Ultimately, her friendship and trust with the man who would be stepping into King's shoes pushed her to the project. “I was like, well, I've got Dr. King and I know he's amazing. From there, we're just telling a story about people,” she said of star David Oyelowo.

To portray Dr. King, in addition to a dramatic physical transformation, the U.K.-born Oyelowo would certainly need to lose the British accent.



PHOTO COURTESY OF BLOGS.INDIEWIRE.COM

Ava DuVernay

## Passing the TORCH



Sitting together in Beverly Hills the morning after the first screening last fall, Oyelowo and DuVernay recounted the time she tried to test him by catching him off guard with a phone call after he landed in Atlanta for the shoot. Oyelowo surprised her and answered in perfect King-speak.

“You're going to play Dr. King in Atlanta? I can't go around talking like this,” said Oyelowo, sounding “very Royal Shakespeare Company,” as DuVernay describes it,

“Acting is confidence,” the actor continued. “You need to feel like you know



PHOTO COURTESY OF SUSHI NISHIJIMA/PARAMOUNT PICTURES CORPORATION  
Oprah Winfrey and Lee Cooper in *Selma*.

what you're doing. If there are people looking at you going 'yeah, but I just saw him in the lunch line sounding very much like a tea-drinking Brit...’”

When DuVernay signed on to the project in July 2013, the first thing she did was go back to the script, tightening and refocusing Paul Webb's take on King and the people who surrounded him, including President Lyndon B. Johnson (Tom Wilkinson).

“We wanted to give it scale, but also intimacy,” she said. “I think the best positivity is complexity. I wasn't trying to not show him (King) smoke, or not show that he had some issues with his wife (Carmen Ejogo). You have to show a full, multifaceted point of view in order for it to be real.”

She also wanted to make sure she was representing who was actually there. The initial script made composites out of some figures. For DuVernay, who majored in African-American studies at UCLA, that was unacceptable.

“It's important to me that that stuff is right. Anything you can make up is not as good as what really happened,” she said. “There's some creative license we took to get people in the same room or same place together, but overall, I think it will stand up to some fact checking.”

In recent weeks, *Selma* has stirred debate over whether or not its representation of Johnson's involvement in the movement — or lack thereof — is accurate and fair. DuVernay strongly defended her film on Twitter, encouraging audiences to “interrogate history” for themselves.

She also rejects the notion that last year's big Oscar winner *12 Years a Slave* could hinder *Selma*'s awards chances because of a repetitive appearance, even if it did help push *Selma* into production.

“They are about American history through a black lens,” she said in last fall's interview. “And it could very well be that people feel like it's repetitious. But it's criminal. ... The two films are just completely different.”



PHOTO COURTESY OF ATSUSHI NISHIJIMA/PARAMOUNT PICTURES CORPORATION

Carmen Ejogo and David Oyelowo in *Selma*

# Passing the TORCH

## Making meditation a part of the movement

By **MICHELLE HOLLINGER**  
Special to South Florida Times

Taking a minute to pause is a good idea regardless of your line of work. Taking a minute to pause, alone, in the silence, otherwise known as meditating, takes on increased importance when your work involves preventing the deaths of blacks at the hands of the police, dismantling the “school to prison pipeline” and bringing attention to other injustices that may have been gone unnoticed if not for social media and cell phone cameras.

After years of poo-pooing the practice, the medical community has finally accepted meditation as a part of a person’s overall wellness regime. The practice also has street cred within the new civil rights movement; viewed as a vital component of self-care for people involved in what can be relentless, fatiguing, emotionally draining work that frequently produces no immediate returns.

At its December conference in Fruitland, Florida, Dream Defenders incorporated meditation into the three days of organizing, teaching and planning for the nearly 200 individuals that attended.

Phillip Agnew, executive director of Dream Defenders said that affording activists healing space and time “where they weren’t thinking about the work and everything that is going on in the world and [give them the chance] to center themselves,” was a critical aspect of the conference and is essential to the work that Dream Defenders and others are doing.

Charles Taylor is the interim senior minister at Universal Truth Center, a nondenominational New Thought spiritual center in Miami Gardens. Taylor, who has been meditating for over 30 years, says that incorporating meditation into the new civil rights movement is vital, for a number of reasons.

“We’re facing what some are calling a crisis, and in every crisis there’s a message that is meant to be heard. Crisis is really nature’s way of forcing change, hopefully for the good. Breaking down old structures, shaking loose negative habits so that



PHOTO COURTESY OF  
CHARLES TAYLOR

Charles Taylor

something new and better and transformative can take their place,” he explained.

Agnew said that extending meditation beyond activists and helping people in the communities to recognize the practice as essential to their well-being is a priority, since many people, “especially black people...don’t provide that space for themselves.”

He said that the practice is so important that regardless of how busy they are, people should make time for it.

“We don’t have time. We’re running, trying to make ends meet. Tired at the end of the day, in the morning we have rushed out,” he said. “We’re trying to infuse into our culture that folk take time to reflect, to think critically, and to think deeply and to listen to themselves at some point during the day, hopefully at the start of the day.”

Taylor concurs, adding that “meditation helps one to really step back and take care of themselves, mentally, emotionally, so that they can come from a clean space and show up in a healthy way.”

Meditation equips those who are working to transform society with what Taylor calls “mindful awareness” that helps them to remain grounded in spirit, “so that they come from a space of love and not fear when they are engaging in...protesting or demonstrating.”

According to The Art of Living, a wellness website, meditation has two primary benefits for people: to prevent stress from getting into the system and to release accumulated stress that is already there; benefits that can help people to deal with trauma that Agnew said is often minimized in communities of color.

“People every day are going through traumas, going through pain, going through hurt. We don’t think about it often. We just kind of keep moving and walk it off,” he explained. “People don’t think about how important it is to center and get closer to one’s self and to cast out any of the traumas and cast out any of the hurt and pain. That can be done through meditation.”

Taylor said that the practice has an even deeper purpose.



Dream Defenders and friends

PHOTO COURTESY OF DREAM DEFENDERS

“Meditation helps us to stay connected to that which is changeless, which is spirit, God, the universe. And it helps to purify our motive. We have got to be very clear on our motive when we are engaged in any type of transformative work,” said Taylor. “It helps us to explore on a deeper and deeper level why. Why am I doing this? Why am I showing up? Why am I engaging in protests? Am I coming from a space where I hope to bring about transformation for the greater good of everyone concerned, even those against whom I may be protesting?”

He said that empathizing with others who may not share their point of view is

important for activists; and it’s a perspective that Agnew embraces.

“We want to bring about a world that works for everyone. Even though we may view ourselves as being oppressed, we don’t want, in turn, to become the oppressor in this new transformative world we are attempting to bring about,” Taylor explained.

Nevertheless, Agnew urges all people to choose a side.

“This is a moment where we can’t afford to be silent. Silence is betrayal. People have to decide which side they’re on and we hope that people will be on the side of the people and community and on the side of love and equality and justice,” Agnew shared.



*Gregg L. Mason*  
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# Broward College donates \$96,000 for MLK Day

Staff Report

FORT LAUDERDALE — With funding from the Florida Legislature, Broward College — in partnership with the MLK Day of Service Advisory Board, comprised of Broward County citizens — has organized several special volunteer opportunities to transform Monday, Jan. 19 into a day of volunteerism in the local community and to honor Dr. King's legacy.

Broward College campuses are hosting several public events honoring Dr. King, including:

**MLK Day of Service: Peace Garden Planting, Monday, Jan. 19, 9 a.m. to noon**  
**Oriole Elementary School 3081 NW 39th St., Lauderdale Lakes**

In partnership with the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, North Campus students, faculty and staff will help plant a peace garden at Oriole Elementary School in Lauderdale Lakes.



PHOTO COURTESY OF POINTSOFLIGHT.ORG

**Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority pack toiletry kits**

Attendees are required to register at <http://tinyurl.com/BCNorthMLKOriole>. For more information, contact [BCNorthMLKDay@gmail.com](mailto:BCNorthMLKDay@gmail.com).

**The MLK Health and Safety Fair Monday, Jan. 19, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**  
**HOPE Outreach Center, Inc., 4700 S.W. 64th Ave. (Davie Road), Suite A, Davie**

Faculty from the Bachelors of Science in Nursing program and representatives of the



communication department, ESL department and behavioral sciences department will unite with local agencies to deliver the Health and Safety Fair at Hope Outreach Center. For more information, contact [Claudia Sahagun](mailto:Claudia.Sahagun@broward.edu) at 954-201-6404 or [csahagun@broward.edu](mailto:csahagun@broward.edu).

**MLK Memorial Garden Thursday, Jan. 15 through Monday Jan. 19, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.**  
**Broward College North Campus, 1000 Coconut Creek Blvd., Coconut Creek, Bldg. 46**

The North Campus will beautify the building 46 entrance by creating an "MLK Memorial Garden" using native flowers and plants, as well as installing a permanent sign that highlights Dr. King's legacy. For more information, contact [Joseph Pickering](mailto:Joseph.Pickering@broward.edu) at 954-201-2009 or [jpickeri@broward.edu](mailto:jpickeri@broward.edu).

**Marine Science Education Service Learning ProjectMonday, Jan. 19, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

**Judson A. Samuels South Campus, 7200 Pines Blvd., Pembroke Pines, Bldg. 65**  
 Under the direction of staff from the Reef Ball Foundation, Broward College students will construct artificial reefs to be deployed in South Florida to help restore ailing coral reefs. Students will collaborate with Kids Ecology Corps, presenting an educational program to increase community awareness of coral reefs and the effects of humans on the environment. For more information, contact Assistant Professor Henri Liauw A Pau at 954-201-8923 or [hliawap@broward.edu](mailto:hliawap@broward.edu).

For more information about any of the MLK Day of Service projects, visit [www.broward.edu/MLKservice](http://www.broward.edu/MLKservice).

## JANUARY 16

**SOUTH DADE BUSINESS EXPO:** Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust and West Perrine Community Development Corporation (CDC) will host the third annual MLK Business Expo, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Palmetto Bay Village Center, 18001 Old Cutler Road, Palmetto Bay, Florida 33157. The expo is held in association with the West Perrine 34th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MIAMIDADE.GOV

**South Dade community participate in 2nd annual MLK Business Expo**

## JANUARY 17

**MLK FIELD DAY:** for children ages 5-12, Pompey Park, 1101 NW Second St., Delray Beach. 8:30 a.m. registration; 9 a.m. exercise/warmup, 9:15 a.m. individual events, 10:30 a.m. team events; 11:30 a.m. awards and lunch. Free. Call 561-254-7355.

**OPA-LOCKA WALKS:** Commissioner Joseph L. Kelley and special guest, the

Miami Heat Dancers, lead the 32nd Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. walk, at 9 a.m. beginning on the corner of 151st Street and 27th Avenue. Walkers will proceed west to President Barack Obama (Perviz) Avenue then south to Sherbondy Village.

**MIAMI GARDENS:** Mayor Oliver Gilbert III and Rick Party of HOT 105 will host a Martin Luther King Jr. Community Celebration that includes community resource information, live entertainment, bounce houses, food trucks, and fun! The event starts 2 p.m. at the Betty Ferguson Sports Complex, 300 NW 199th St.

## JANUARY 18



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHURCH OF THE OPEN DOOR

**Sons of Mystro will perform at the Church of the Open Door in Miami.**

**CHURCH OF THE OPEN DOOR:** The church presents the Sons of Mystro, a pair of violinists, in a concert titled Music Fit for a King, 4 p.m. at the 6001 Eighth Avenue in Miami. Call Kervin Clenace at (954) 559-0927 for tickets and information.



PHOTO COURTESY OF MOUNTOLIVE.ORG

**Dr. Marcus D. Davidson**

**NEW MOUNT OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH:** The members of Zeta Alpha Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity will celebrate MLK's legacy with the 39th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Service at 4 p.m. at the church, 400 Northwest Ninth Avenue, Fort Lauderdale. This year's celebration will include a musical extravaganza with selections from The Voices of New Mount Olive Baptist Church, the Dillard High School Chorus and Minister Eddie Robinson, minister of music, at New Mount Olive Baptist Church. Dr. Marcus D. Davidson, Senior Pastor of New Mount Olive Baptist Church, will be the guest speaker.

## JANUARY 19

**ANNUAL MLK CELEBRATION BREAKFAST:** 8 a.m., Delray Beach Golf Club, 2200 Highland Ave., Delray Beach. Includes poetry contest conducted by the Palm Beach Poetry Festival,

music by Pasco Baker Concert Choir, buffet. Presented by the Spady Cultural Heritage Museum. \$20. Reserve. Visit [spadymuseum.org](http://spadymuseum.org) or call 561-279-8883.

**MLK CELEBRATION:** 8 a.m., Ceremonial program, Ebenezer Baptist Church, 200 Ruby St., Boca Raton; 10 a.m. Community March from the MLK Memorial to Hughes Park, 200 NE 14th St; noon, Celebration Program and Family Day at Hughes Park featuring speakers, music, kids activities, picnic. Free entrance. Call 561-393-7827.

**ANNUAL MLK BREAKFAST:** The Spady Museum welcomes the public to its 15th annual Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast. The breakfast will be held at 8:30 a.m. at the Delray Beach Golf Club, 2200 Highland Ave. Cost: \$30 in advance, \$35 at the door; event includes a full breakfast buffet and beverages. For more information, call 561-279-8883 or visit [www.spadymuseum.org](http://www.spadymuseum.org).



PHOTO COURTESY OF SPADY HERITAGE AND CULTURAL MUSEUM

**Participants enjoy the 2014 community breakfast sponsored by Spady Heritage and Cultural Museum in Delray Beach.**

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