

JANUARY 13, 2017

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# **TRIBUNE** **CONTENTS**

**PUBLISHER'S STATEMENT \_\_\_\_ 5**

**YOUNG, GIFTED & BLACK \_\_\_\_ 7**

**REV. JESSE L. JACKSON, SR. \_ 8**

**EARLY DETECTION \_\_\_\_\_ 10**

**THORTON TOWNSHIP \_\_\_\_\_ 12**

**MYTT MENTORING \_\_\_\_\_ 14**

**CHA PROFILE \_\_\_\_\_ 17**

**PRESIDENT OBAMA \_\_\_\_\_ 18**

**DUSABLE MUSEUM \_\_\_\_\_ 23**

**MLK CELEBRATION \_\_\_\_\_ 24**

**WATSON TAXES \_\_\_\_\_ 25**

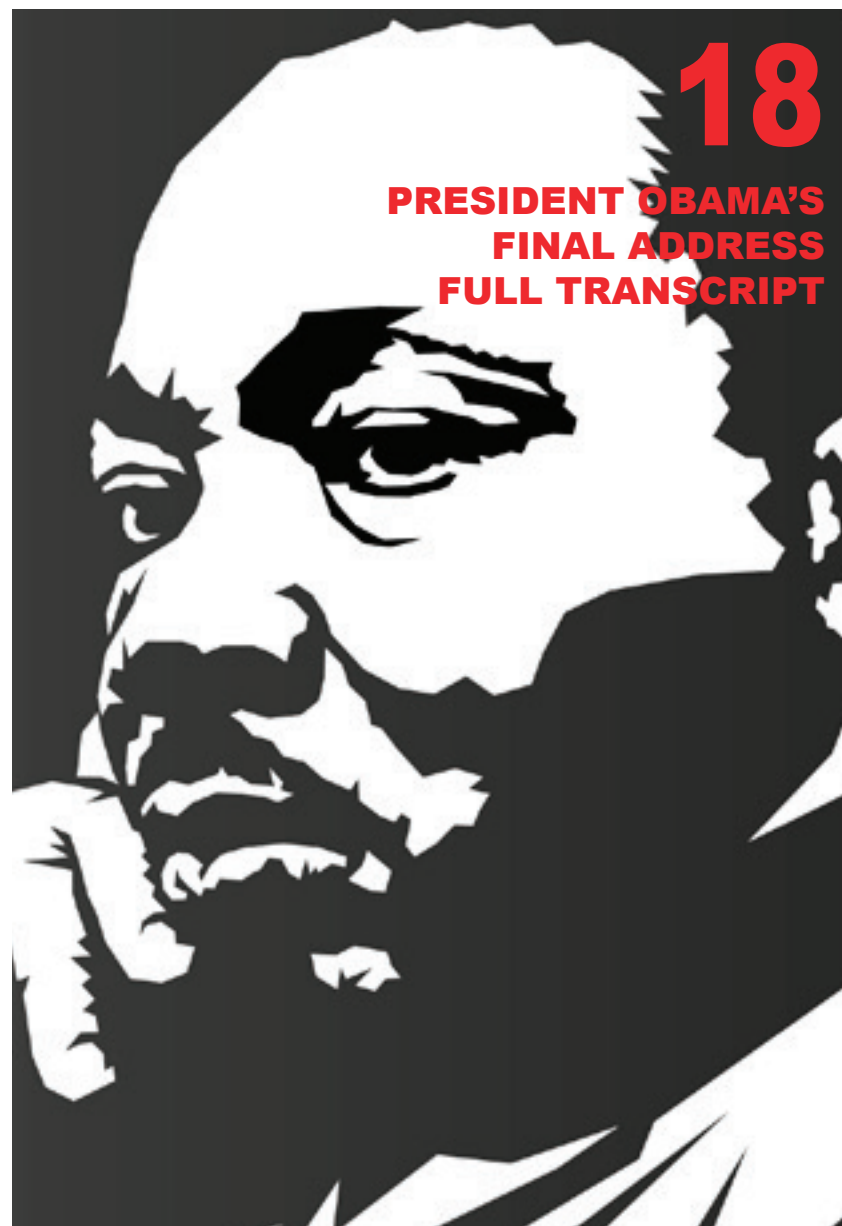
**2017: MOVE FORWARD \_\_\_\_ 26**

**FORD, MEN OF COURAGE \_\_\_\_ 27**

**CHURCH DIRECTORY \_\_\_\_\_ 28**

**BUSINESS DIRECTORY \_\_\_\_\_ 29**

**RESTAURANT DIRECTORY \_\_\_\_ 34**



**18**

**PRESIDENT OBAMA'S  
FINAL ADDRESS  
FULL TRANSCRIPT**

## **TRIBUNE**

**JANUARY 13, 2017**

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## About Dr. Julie Morita

Born and raised in Chicago, Dr. Morita was appointed by Rahm Emmanuel as Commissioner of the Chicago Department of Public Health in 2015. Under Dr. Morita's leadership, CDPH launched **Healthy Chicago 2.0**, a four-year plan to advance health equity by addressing the social determinants of health.





# PUBLISHER'S STATEMENT

## I Still Have A Dream...Yes We Can!

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and President Barack Hussein Obama prepared us for such a time as this.

As the nation and the world pause to celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., we must admit the truth spoken by President Barack Obama in his Farewell Address in Chicago, "race remains a potent and divisive force in our society"

As Barack and Michelle Obama walked off the stage at McCormick place on Tuesday night, my mind flashed back to the video of April 3, 1968, when Martin Luther King, Jr. said in his Final Address, "I may not get there with you, but we as a people will get to the promised land."

I Still Have A Dream...Yes We Can!

On January 20, 2017, "the peaceful transfer of power from one freely elected President to the next" will take place.

Donald J. Trump will become President of The United States of America.

If the Trump Transition Team has given us any indication of the direction of our nation, symbolized by the Cabinet selections, it is that we are headed backwards in race relations and all the progress that we have made is severely threatened.

In his first 100 days, President Trump has committed to reverse many of the executive orders put in place by President Obama, repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act that has provided health insurance for more than 20 million people, appoint a Supreme Court Justice to tilt the scale back to a right wing, conservative agenda, develop a data base to monitor Muslims in America and begin to create a wall to keep immigrants from Mexico out of America.

I Still Have A Dream...Yes We Can!

Both King and Obama challenge us to be "vigilant". Both King and Obama encourage us to fight for "a fair, just, inclusive America."

Both King and Obama inspire a faith and hope for a better future for all.

I Still Have A Dream...Yes We Can!

So, as Dr. King asked in one of his books, "Where do We go from Here?, Chaos or Community."

Now is the time to unite as a community against the forces of evil determined to turn back the clock of progress.

Now is the time become advocates for fairness and justice and "Lift Every Voice" and sing a song of resistance.

Now is the time to stand up, speak out, sit in and show up in the fight for freedom, justice, equality, parity and fairness.

I Still Have A Dream...Yes We Can!

Dr. King said "The true measure of a man is not where he stands in times of comfort and convenience but where he stands in times of challenge and controversy."

I Still Have A Dream...Yes We Can!

The Electoral College determined that Donald Trump had enough electoral votes to become President. But the majority of Americans, more than 65 million, voted against the direction Trump wants to take us in.

That majority must remain vigilant in the effort to protect the gains and the progress that we have made as a nation, as we continue to make America a more Perfect Union.

I Still Have A Dream...Yes We Can!

I have no fear of the Trump Administration. God did not give us the spirit of fear. However, we must be on guard to protect the gains that we have made in the progressive movement. God delivered us through slavery, segregation, Jim Crow, Bull Conner, George Wallace and all kinds of racism. He will direct us through The Trump Administration.

I know that there will be an increase in jobs and economic development but I also know that Justice is in jeopardy and fairness and equality are on the ropes.

Therefore, we must not get weary in well doing. We must not give up, give in or give out. We must commit ourselves to the struggle, to the fight for equal rights, civil rights, voting rights, fair housing, adequate funding for public education, access to healthcare for all, religious freedom, criminal justice reform, common sense gun laws, jobs, economic development, political empowerment, an immigration plan with paths to citizenship and liberty and justice for all.

I Still Have A Dream...Yes We Can!

*Rev. Tyrone Crider*, Publisher  
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# YOUNG, GIFTED AND BLACK

## CAMRON P. GREER

Camron P. Greer attends Rich Central High School. Currently ranked number 1 in his class with a Weighted GPA of 5.0. He is also currently attending Prairie State college through the S.T.E.M. program part time where he is on the Dean's List taking Calculus, Biology and Philosophy. With these courses taken at Prairie State and his AP courses taken at Rich central, he will graduate from High School and enter college as a Sophomore in College. Currently he has been accepted to 9 Universities and has received Academic Scholarships from the University of Missouri, The University of Ohio, Akron University, University of Illinois, Alabama A&M, Southern Illinois University and Rust College. He plans to study Chemical Engineering.



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# AS OBAMA DEPARTS, WE OWE HIM OUR THANKS

by Rev. Jesse L. Jackson, Sr.

**T**he final days of the Obama presidency are upon us. His popularity is rising with the economy, and with the increasingly stark contrasts to his successor. It is worth being clear about the legacy that he leaves behind.

Obama came to office facing the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression. The global financial system teetered on collapse; the auto industry faced bankruptcy; the economy was shedding 400,000 jobs a day. He also inherited the catastrophe George Bush had created with the debacle in Iraq and government misrule dramatized by the shame of Katrina and New Orleans.

Now, eight years later, the economy nears full employment, with more than 15 million jobs created and private sector jobs growth at a record 81 consecutive months and counting. Wages are beginning to rise, after long years of stagnation or worse. The auto industry has enjoyed some of its most prosperous years.

This isn't an accident. Obama helped rescue the economy by passing the largest stimulus in

history, the most ambitious financial reform since the 1930s, and daring and direct intervention to save the auto industry. Economic growth helped lower the annual budget deficit to less than half the level he inherited.

Obama also passed the largest health care reforms in six decades, providing health insurance for 20 million Americans. His reforms saved those with pre-existing conditions, provided the young with protection under their parents' programs and, although most Americans don't realize it, slowed the rise of health care costs dramatically.

Running for re-election in 2012, Obama recognized that income inequality had become "the defining issue of our time." With his progressive tax reforms both in his health care plan and in the partial repeal of the top-end Bush tax cuts, and with expanded tax credits for low-income workers and families with children, Obama made a significant beginning in addressing that inequality.

Abroad, Obama struggled against great opposition to reduce America's exposure in the wars without end in the Middle East. His nuclear agreement with Iran not only dismantled its nuclear weapons capable facilities, it also provided the most comprehensive and aggressive verification mechanisms in the history of arms control. In opening relations with Cuba, he helped reduce America's iso-

lation in our own hemisphere and made the historic turn from a policy of embargo that had failed for five decades.

His most historic contribution was to understand the clear and present danger of catastrophic climate change. The agreement with China and subsequent Paris Accord cemented a global consensus on the need for bolder action on global warming. On his watch, America began to reduce its reliance on coal and its greenhouse gas emissions.

Obama won a majority of the votes in both his election and re-election, something neither his predecessor nor successor achieved. He governed with grace and dignity, despite grotesque and too often racist provocations. His family provided a model for all Americans, with Michelle winning hearts across the country. He and his administration were remarkably free of scandal. His administration demonstrated once more that competence could be valued in Washington.

He did all of this while facing unprecedented, unrelenting partisan obstruction, with the Republican leader of the Senate opposing him at every turn, intent on making him a one-term president. In part because of that opposition, much remained undone. The stimulus would have been larger and the recovery stronger except for Republican opposition. The national minimum wage would have been raised. A nation-

al infrastructure project to rebuild America would have been launched. Progress on making America the leader of the green revolution, the next global industrial revolution, would have been greater. Guantanamo, the shameful prison in Cuba, would have been closed. The Voting Rights Act would have been revived, and much more.

For most Americans, the recovery was slow; for many it was invisible. Donald Trump won election promising working people a better deal. He appealed to our weariness with war, suggesting a less interventionist policy. He played upon divisions, rousing fears about immigrants and Muslims. He pledged to "make America great again," in part by undoing everything Obama.

So it is worth marking what Trump will inherit, as we head into what is already a rocky and tempestuous presidency. Unemployment under 5 percent. Eighty-one months of jobs growth and counting. Average wages rising at 2.4 percent over the last year. Growth at 3.5 percent over the last full quarter. Inflation at 2 percent. 20 million more Americans with health insurance. America one of the global leaders in the green industrial revolution. A president respected at home and abroad, known for his thoughtfulness and his great eloquence. Let us hope that Trump can build on that legacy, and not lead us into a far deeper hole.





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# WINNING THROUGH EARLY DETECTION

Marilyn D. Willis', memoir and guide, *WINNING through Early Detection and the Beauty Behind It!* was written to assist women that have been recently diagnosed with breast cancer and are confused about their diagnosis and/or feel overwhelmed. It also provides an inside view to women that dislike, are too busy, or are fearful of taking a mammogram; women who want and need *real* information about early detection from someone who has been there and is not afraid to share it all.



Marilyn was inspired to write her book based on knowledge gained while going through this chapter of her life. She felt it was her responsibility to share the knowledge in hopes that at least one woman would change her mind about getting screened, learn more about why early detection is important and educate those who

need a better understanding of the process.

*WINNING through Early Detection and the Beauty of It!* provides a very insightful look into the author's journey on her plight to conquer, move forward and breathe with a peace of mind knowing that she's made the right decision. Keeping faith at the forefront, being surrounded by family, supportive



friends and an amazing team of doctors, the author was able to overcome her fears and move forward. After accepting her diagnosis, she decided to become more educated on the process and her treatment options. Marilyn's motto: when you know what to do, it's easier to accept and do.

*WINNING through Early Detection and the Beauty Behind It!* was also

designed to show women that a breast cancer diagnosis can be a very scary obstacle. However, for many, it is also nothing more than a brick used to build the foundation of their bridge to a bright and amazing future!

Words of advice: **GET SCREENED.** You can't fix a problem if you don't know the issue. Breast cancer is not a problem that just goes away; it grows, it steals, it kills and it destroys. Don't wait, *get screened.*

*WINNING through Early Detection and the Beauty Behind It!* can be purchased on Amazon.com by searching for Marilyn D. Willis.

Marilyn D. Willis is available for speaking engagements and group discussions.

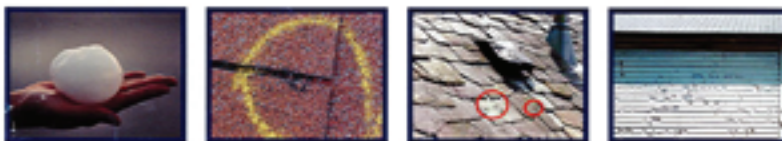
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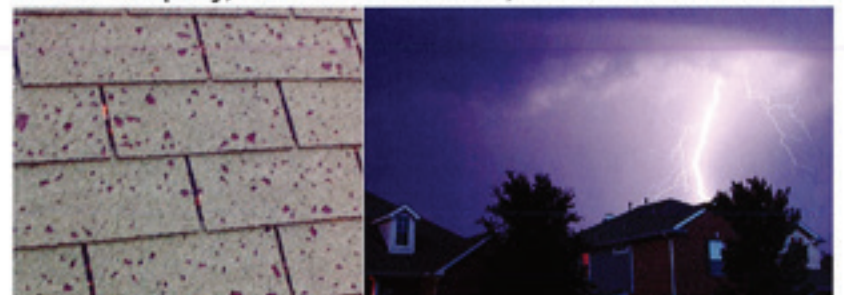


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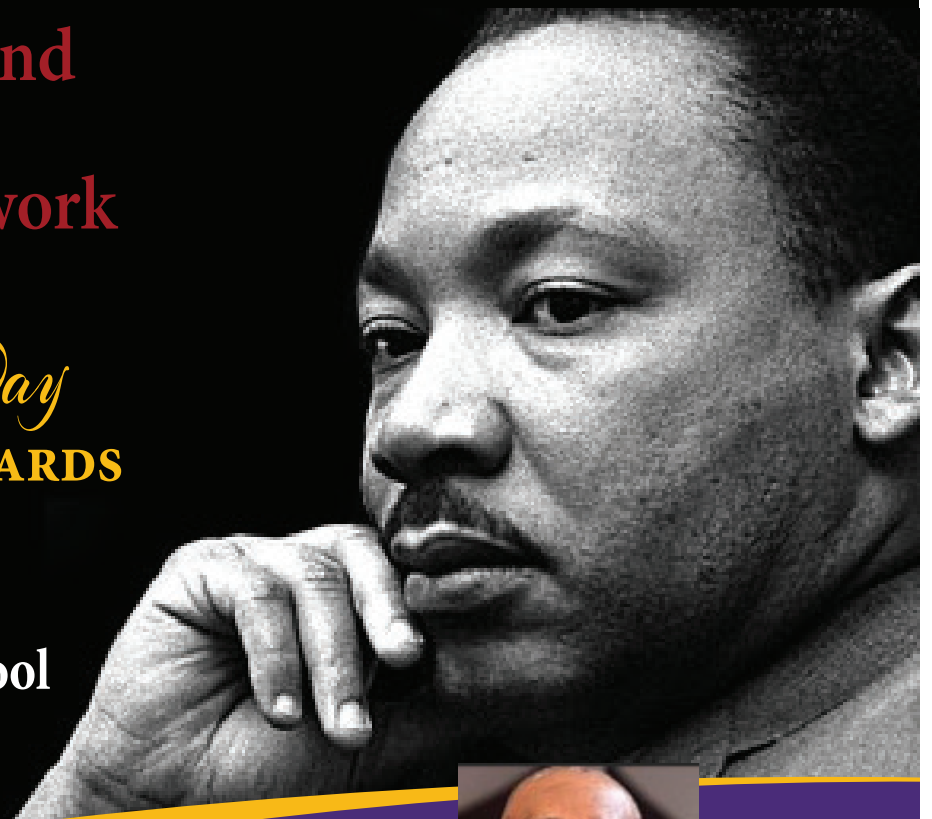
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# Thornton Township Wins TOWNSHIP OF THE YEAR



Thornton Township recently received the Illinois Township of the Year award at the annual Township of Illinois Annual Educational Conference in Springfield. The township received the award previously in 2004 and 2008.

“We are very proud of the hard work our staff does to provide the highest quality of service to our community,” said Frank M. Zuccarelli, Thornton Township supervisor. “Our motto is people working with people and we truly believe that township government is at the ground floor of providing the necessary programs that communities need. We are honored and humbled by this award and that the Township of Illinois recognizes the hard work we have put in this year to help our local residents.”

The largest township in Illinois, Thornton Township is made up of all or part of 17 south suburban communities. The township provides general assistance program offering financial relief for qualified residents. In addition, the township registers voters, helps with homeowners and senior citizen homestead exemption, food assistance program, free family counseling, after school homework tutoring



and weekly senior programs.

Thornton Township received the award for many of the programs that continue to run and expand during the past year. Many state run Meals on Wheels programs have cut down the number of days they offer food with many seniors on long waiting list for services.

But at Thornton Township’s Food Assistance Center, they currently serve more than 3,000 families per month with more than 350 boxes of nourishing food delivered each week directly to the homes of senior residents who are shut-ins. the food assistance team continuously talks to residents and asks them about the type of foods they need.

Because of state funding many organization can no longer offer transportation services for seniors. Just this year, Senior Services Plus, which was a bus transportation for seniors, shut down for the first time in 43 years. Some of the Catholic

Charities USA around the Chicagoland area had to cut or alter their senior transportation services.

However, the township has filled that void by record number of rides to medical appointments and grocery stores. The Senior Transportation Department provides trips for the people of the Township that are 60-years of age and older. That population, the “Baby Boomers” over 60, is growing every day. For the last three consecutive years, Senior Transportation had broken records for completed trips every year. The township averages picking up more than 160 seniors each weekday.

“We understand the importance of working together for a common goal,” added Zuccarelli. “We are here to serve the people and make sure that we build each other up and we build our communities up. We are able to accomplish this because we have a strong board of trustees who care about the community and a

strong management team in all areas working to make sure we provide the best services possible.”

In addition, with employment higher than the national average in south suburban cities and towns, the township has helped match unemployed residents with purposeful, long-term job opportunities. During the past eighteen months, around 110 township residents have found meaningful, long-term positions and are no longer on General Assistance.

Understanding that in times of budget crunches, collaboration becomes even more important, this aggressive effort is being done in collaboration with South Suburban College, which provides skills-building workshops to help participants develop and present better job interview capabilities. The township also runs GED programs where students can receive more personal attention because we focus on smaller class sizes.





The township also has a robust youth and adult program that features free family counseling and after school tutoring and programs in Dolton and Riverdale.

“Over the past 14 years, Thornton Township has provided After School and Summer Enrichment Programs. These programs have provided mentoring, tutoring, arts and crafts, computer lab and technology education and other cultural and educational enriching events,” said Dr. J. L. Weems, director of the Youth and Family Services Department. “These programs have also provided job training, job placement, and volunteer opportunities for hundreds of Thornton Township youth residents. We have experienced a number of success stories from program participants over the years.”



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The East Garfield Park community on Chicago's West Side is known mostly for its high crime, gang and drug activity. In many neighborhoods, it is common for individuals- without abundant opportunities, to struggle in school, drop out, or become fated to fill the shoes of relatives who are either chronically unemployed, gang members or incarcerated. Randle Carter grew up in one such neighborhood, and faced academic challenges, but his parents intervened. They understood how a lack of direction could thrust him into a lifestyle most youths in the community found to be inescapable. During dinner discussions, his parents asked each child about his career interests. When asked what he wanted to become as an adult, Mr. Carter quickly provided a different answer every night. He found it difficult to identify a specific vocation because he knew he wanted to be an entrepreneur, but lacked the help to make his dream a reality.

He maintained the spirit of entrepreneurship while employed as a mailroom clerk. As a clerk, he experienced many computer malfunctions, resulting in Carter becoming familiar with a friendly computer engineer. After several failed attempts to get Mr. Carter involved in learning to repair the equipment, the engineer intentionally left the computer parts in disarray and told him to reassemble it-and he reluctantly obliged. The engineer continued to provide Carter with tasks, and his curiosity continued to develop. Before long, Mr. Carter began to rebuild computers and became so adept at repairing computers he ascended from mailroom clerk to desktop engineer-doubling his salary quickly.

Randle Carter was motivated to ultimately start his own technology consulting business, and



**“Technology is the hook-the mentoring piece is a bigger part of what we do.”** -Randle Carter

successfully managed a number of large projects, including database management systems, redesigning network infrastructures and more. His work as a consultant led to him building the IT infrastructure of many companies, and allowed him to travel around the world. Technology changed his career path, but he wanted youth to be provided with the same opportunities in the technology field.

Mr. Carter channeled his passion for technology and exposing youth to opportunities into a 501(c) 3 not for profit organization, Mentoring Youth Through Technology (MYTT). Its mission is to shift the next generation from technology consumers to innovators by helping them to become entrepreneurs and inventors of technology; and to significantly impact the success of companies, products, and brands. Armed with an understanding of how some youth have no idea what they want to be when they grow up, Carter is committed to being a catalyst for change. It is an organizational belief that youth are the leaders of innovative exploration and technology is the tool of aspira-

tion. As a testament of his commitment, youth enroll in MYTT without any prior technological exposure. After being exposed to the robotics program, participants have conveyed career interests in mechanical engineering, IT, game development and entrepreneurship.

Located at South Suburban College/University & College 16333 S. Kilbourn Avenue, Oak Forest Il., MYTT offers training in Robotics, Coding, Game Development, 3D animation, Graphic Design, Web Design, Application Development, Network Engineering, Computer Hardware and much more. This innovative approach to date has led MYTT to serve thousands of youth in the Greater Chicagoland community, with locations expanding to Mississippi and Tennessee. The organization also offers Robotic workshops, Robotic Clubs, STEAM summer camps, STEAM expos, enhanced after school STEAM programs, annual Youth Technology conferences, an Engineering After School Program, and a Young Entrepreneurship Program currently in development.

Mr. Carter has extensive experience in the IT field and continues to demonstrate his commitment and willingness to give back, as demonstrated in his ongoing efforts and community outreach to provide internship opportunities to college students, and training to those with a career interest in technology. He also has a clear understanding that some youth are not college bound, which is why he is obligated to utilize technology to inspire and educate youth in underserved communities, and create opportunities for entrepreneurship. Mr. Carter is a visionary, and he desires to prepare our youth because some careers have becoming obsolete, and there is a need to empower youth with skill sets to become productive citizens in an ever changing economy and world.

*Mentoring Youth Through Technology* is designed to inspire, educate and mentor our youth with the use of technology. Now, more than ever, young boys and girls need mentoring. Equally as important is mentorship being provided by someone who has overcome many of the limitations our youth struggle with daily. Mr. Carter has built strong community and professional relationships to better address the complexities of at-risk youth in under-served communities. His keen ability to tap into the creative minds of our youth, coupled with a team of dedicated staff and volunteers provides youth with the communication, critical thinking skills, problem solving, and life skills needed for continuous learning and the leverage to be the leaders of tomorrow. His passion remains to mentor youth through technology- inspiring, educating, motivating and preparing our youth to become future leaders.

-Jasmine Jackson





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# Chicago Housing Authority Profile

The Chicago Housing Authority (CHA) is the second largest housing agency in the country with a unique opportunity to demonstrate the impact innovative affordable housing initiatives can have on Chicago communities.

As we observe and honor the legacy of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. CHA continues its successful strategy of building, rehabbing and acquiring affordable housing for its residents and learns from its past efforts, the agency is striving to be a role model for the future. Strategic partnerships are an essential part in our success. CHA's work with non-profits, city agencies, elected officials and countless stakeholders has resulted in unprecedented opportunity for CHA families and residents.

As a result of approximately \$500 million investment by CHA since the Plan for Transformation began, there is more affordable housing available to CHA and other low income residents than there was in the year 2000, when the federally-or-

dered demolition of the high-rises began.

Since then, CHA has delivered 23,423 of the promised 25,000 public housing units, with the remainder to be completed by the end of 2017. In addition, CHA has, with private sector and non-profit partners, delivered an additional 2,324 affordable units (to low and middle income families and 3,007 market rate rental or for-sale units.

But the agency's work goes beyond that. In 2000, CHA was only able to offer Housing Choice Vouchers (HCV) to 30,000 families, CHA has since made nearly 17,000 additional vouchers available, and today provides vouchers to a total of nearly 47,000 families.

These vouchers, apartments and homes not only provide safe, affordable shelter, but with parallel CHA investments in schools, libraries, grocery and other retail endeavors, they add to the robustness of neighborhoods and sustainability of communities.

2016 marked a year of great success at CHA, with the agency embarking on an innovative partnership with Chicago Public Library, under Mayor Rahm Emanuel's leadership, to combine library space and affordable housing.

CHA also marked the opening of a new community arts and recreation center at Ellis Park in Bronzeville, and worked extensively with a number of partners to bring a new Mariano's grocery store to the Bronzeville community that now employs nearly 100 CHA residents.

CHA's first ever mixed-income development in Chicago's Pilsen community was dedicated in 2016, along with the newest mixed income rental property as part of the redevelopment of the Cabrini Green community. CHA also joined its partners and the City of Chicago to dedicate the newly renovated historic mixed-income Rosenwald Apartments, bringing 120 new apartments for CHA seniors with another 111 affordable and market rate apartments, and Mayor

Emanuel announced that a new and much-needed branch library will be built at Altgeld Gardens on the Far South Side.

CHA's work goes beyond the bricks and mortar to provide as many new and unique opportunities for our residents. Most recently, CHA expanded the breadth of youth programming available to CHA's youngest residents as part of the 2016 Year of the Youth that culminated with a successful citywide youth summit with Mikva Foundation. The success of the 2016 summer youth opportunities resulted in nearly 3,000 youth participating and earning \$2.9 million working at 340 unique sites around the city.

As 2017 gets underway, CHA is continuing this momentum, and looking ahead with renewed commitment and optimism toward new opportunities for affordable housing in every neighborhood. CHA also remains committed to providing services to residents so they can have better lives.



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A photograph of President Barack Obama standing at a podium, speaking into microphones. He is wearing a dark suit and a light-colored tie. The podium features the Presidential Seal. Behind him are blue curtains and an American flag is visible on the right side.

# President Obama's 'Farewell' Speech to the Nation

## FULL TRANSCRIPT

It's good to be home. My fellow Americans, Michelle and I have been so touched by all the well-wishes we've received over the past few weeks. But tonight it's my turn to say thanks. Whether we've seen eye-to-eye or rarely agreed at all, my conversations with you, the American people – in living rooms and schools; at farms and on factory floors; at diners and on distant outposts – are what have kept me honest, kept me inspired, and kept me going. Every day, I learned from you. You made me a better president, and you made me a better man.

I first came to Chicago when I was in my early 20s, still trying to figure out who I was; still searching for a purpose to my life. It was in neighborhoods not far from here where I began working with church groups in the shadows of closed steel mills. It was on these streets where I witnessed the power of faith, and the quiet dignity of working people in the face of struggle and loss. This is where I learned that change only happens when ordinary people get involved, get engaged, and come together to demand it.

After eight years as your president, I still believe that. And it's not just my belief. It's the beating heart of our American idea – our bold experiment in self-government.

It's the conviction that we are all created equal, endowed by our creator with certain unalienable rights, among them life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

It's the insistence that these rights, while self-ev-

ident, have never been self-executing; that We, the People, through the instrument of our democracy, can form a more perfect union.

This is the great gift our Founders gave us. The freedom to chase our individual dreams through our sweat, toil, and imagination – and the imperative to strive together as well, to achieve a greater good.

For 240 years, our nation's call to citizenship has given work and purpose to each new generation. It's what led patriots to choose republic over tyranny, pioneers to trek west, slaves to brave that makeshift railroad to freedom. It's what pulled immigrants and refugees across oceans and the Rio Grande, pushed women to reach for the ballot, powered workers to organize. It's why GIs gave their lives at Omaha Beach and Iwo Jima; Iraq and Afghanistan – and why men and women from Selma to Stonewall were prepared to give theirs as well.

So that's what we mean when we say America is exceptional. Not that our nation has been flawless from the start, but that we have shown the capacity to change, and make life better for those who follow.

Yes, our progress has been uneven. The work of democracy has always been hard, contentious and sometimes bloody. For every two steps forward, it often feels we take one step back. But the long sweep of America has been defined by forward motion, a constant widening of our founding creed to embrace all, and not just some.

If I had told you eight years ago that America would reverse a great recession, reboot our auto industry, and unleash the longest stretch of job creation in our history...if I had told you that we would open up a new chapter with the Cuban people, shut down Iran's nuclear weapons program without firing a shot, and take out the mastermind of 9/11...if I had told you that we would win marriage equality, and secure the right to health insurance for another 20 million of our fellow citizens – you might have said our sights were set a little too high.

But that's what we did. That's what you did. You were the change. You answered people's hopes, and because of you, by almost every measure, America is a better, stronger place than it was when we started.

In ten days, the world will witness a hallmark of our democracy: the peaceful transfer of power from one freely-elected president to the next. I committed to President-Elect Trump that my administration would ensure the smoothest possible transition, just as President Bush did for me. Because it's up to all of us to make sure our government can help us meet the many challenges we still face.

We have what we need to do so. After all, we remain the wealthiest, most powerful, and most respected nation on Earth. Our youth and drive, our diversity and openness, our boundless capacity for risk and reinvention mean that the future should be ours.

But that potential will be realized only if our de-



mocracy works. Only if our politics reflects the decency of the our people. Only if all of us, regardless of our party affiliation or particular interest, help restore the sense of common purpose that we so badly need right now.

That's what I want to focus on tonight – the state of our democracy.

Understand, democracy does not require uniformity. Our founders quarreled and compromised, and expected us to do the same. But they knew that democracy does require a basic sense of solidarity – the idea that for all our outward differences, we are all in this together; that we rise or fall as one.

There have been moments throughout our history that threatened to rupture that solidarity. The beginning of this century has been one of those times. A shrinking world, growing inequality; demographic change and the specter of terrorism – these forces haven't just tested our security and prosperity, but our democracy as well. And how we meet these challenges to our democracy will determine our ability to educate our kids, and create good jobs, and protect our homeland.

In other words, it will determine our future.

Our democracy won't work without a sense that everyone has economic opportunity. Today, the economy is growing again; wages, incomes, home values, and retirement accounts are rising again; poverty is falling again. The wealthy are paying a fairer share of taxes even as the stock market shatters records. The unemployment rate is near a ten-year low. The uninsured rate has never, ever been lower. Health care costs are rising at the slowest rate in fifty years. And if anyone can put together a plan that is demonstrably better than the improvements we've made to our health care system – that covers as many people at less cost – I will publicly support it.

That, after all, is why we serve – to make people's lives better, not worse.

But for all the real progress we've made, we know it's not enough. Our economy doesn't work as well or grow as fast when a few prosper at the expense of a growing middle class. But stark inequality is also corrosive to our democratic principles. While the top one percent has amassed a bigger share of wealth and income, too many families, in inner cities and rural counties, have been left behind – the laid-off factory worker; the waitress and health care worker who struggle to pay the bills – convinced that the game is fixed against them, that their government only serves the interests of the powerful – a recipe for more cynicism and polarization in our politics.

There are no quick fixes to this long-term trend. I agree that our trade should be fair and not just free. But the next wave of economic dislocation won't come from overseas. It will come from the relentless pace of automation that makes many good, middle-class jobs obsolete.

And so we must forge a new social compact – to guarantee all our kids the education they need; to give workers the power to unionize for better wages; to update the social safety net to reflect the way we live now and make more reforms to the tax code so corporations and individuals who reap the most from the new economy don't avoid their obligations to the country that's made their success possible. We can argue about how to best achieve these goals. But we can't be complacent about the goals themselves. For if we don't create opportunity for all people, the disaffection and division that has stalled our progress will only sharpen in years to come.

There's a second threat to our democracy – one as old as our nation itself. After my election, there was talk of a post-racial America. Such a vision, however well-intended, was never realistic. For race remains a potent and often divisive force in our society. I've lived long enough to know that race relations are better than they were ten, or twenty, or thirty years ago – you can see it not just in statistics, but in the attitudes of young Americans across the political spectrum.

But we're not where we need to be. All of us have more work to do. After all, if every economic issue is framed as a struggle between a hard-working white middle class and undeserving minorities, then workers of all shades will be left fighting for scraps while the wealthy withdraw further into their private enclaves. If we decline to invest in the children of immigrants, just because they don't look like us, we diminish the prospects of our own children – because those brown kids will represent a larger share of America's workforce. And our economy doesn't have to be a zero-sum game. Last year, incomes rose for all races, all age groups, for men and for women.

Going forward, we must uphold laws against discrimination – in hiring, in housing, in education and the criminal justice system. That's what our Constitution and highest ideals require. But laws alone won't be enough. Hearts must change. If our democracy is to work in this increasingly diverse nation, each one of us must try to heed the advice of one of the great characters in American fiction, Atticus Finch, who said "You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view...until you climb into his skin and walk around in it."

For blacks and other minorities, it means tying our own struggles for justice to the challenges that a lot of people in this country face – the refugee, the immigrant, the rural poor, the transgender American, and also the middle-aged white man who from the outside may seem like he's got all the advantages, but who's seen his world upended by economic, cultural, and technological change.

For white Americans, it means acknowledging that the effects of slavery and Jim Crow didn't suddenly vanish in the '60s; that when minority groups voice discontent, they're not just engaging in reverse racism or practicing political correctness; that when they wage peaceful protest, they're not demanding special treatment, but the equal treatment our Founders promised.

For native-born Americans, it means reminding ourselves that the stereotypes about immigrants today were said, almost word for word, about the Irish, Italians, and Poles. America wasn't weakened by the presence of these newcomers; they embraced this nation's creed, and it was strengthened.

So regardless of the station we occupy; we have to try harder; to start with the premise that each of our fellow citizens loves this country just as much as we do; that they value hard work and family like we do; that their children are just as curious and hopeful and worthy of love as our own.

None of this is easy. For too many of us, it's become safer to retreat into our own bubbles, whether in our neighborhoods or college campuses or places of worship or our social media feeds, surrounded by people who look like us and share the same political outlook and never challenge our assumptions. The rise of naked partisanship, increasing economic and regional stratification, the splintering of our media into a channel for every taste – all this makes this great sorting seem natural, even inevitable. And increasingly, we become so secure in our bubbles that we accept only information, whether true or not, that fits our opinions, instead of basing our opinions on the evidence that's out there.

This trend represents a third threat to our democracy. Politics is a battle of ideas; in the course of a healthy debate, we'll prioritize different goals, and the different means of reaching them. But without some common baseline of facts; without a willingness to admit new information, and concede that your opponent is making a fair point, and that science and reason matter, we'll keep talking past each other, making common ground and compromise impossible.



Isn't that part of what makes politics so dispiriting? How can elected officials rage about deficits when we propose to spend money on pre-school for kids, but not when we're cutting taxes for corporations? How do we excuse ethical lapses in our own party, but pounce when the other party does the same thing? It's not just dishonest, this selective sorting of the facts; it's self-defeating. Because as my mother used to tell me, reality has a way of catching up with you.

Take the challenge of climate change. In just eight years, we've halved our dependence on foreign oil, doubled our renewable energy, and led the world to an agreement that has the promise to save this planet. But without bolder action, our children won't have time to debate the existence of climate change; they'll be busy dealing with its effects: environmental disasters, economic disruptions, and waves of climate refugees seeking sanctuary.

Now, we can and should argue about the best approach to the problem. But to simply deny the problem not only betrays future generations; it betrays the essential spirit of innovation and practical problem-solving that guided our Founders.

It's that spirit, born of the Enlightenment, that made us an economic powerhouse – the spirit that took flight at Kitty Hawk and Cape Canaveral; the spirit that that cures disease and put a computer in every pocket.

It's that spirit – a faith in reason, and enterprise, and the primacy of right over might, that allowed us to resist the lure of fascism and tyranny during the Great Depression, and build a post-World War II order with other democracies, an order based not just on military power or national affiliations but on principles – the rule of law, human rights, freedoms of religion, speech, assembly, and an independent press.

That order is now being challenged – first by violent fanatics who claim

to speak for Islam; more recently by autocrats in foreign capitals who see free markets, open democracies, and civil society itself as a threat to their power. The peril each poses to our democracy is more far-reaching than a car bomb or a missile. It represents the fear of change; the fear of people who look or speak or pray differently; a contempt for the rule of law that holds leaders accountable; an intolerance of dissent and free thought; a belief that the sword or the gun or the bomb or propaganda machine is the ultimate arbiter of what's true and what's right.

Because of the extraordinary courage of our men and women in uniform, and the intelligence officers, law enforcement, and diplomats who support them, no foreign terrorist organization has successfully planned and executed an attack on our homeland these past eight years; and although Boston and Orlando remind us of how dangerous radicalization can be, our law enforcement agencies are more effective and vigilant than ever. We've taken out tens of thousands of terrorists – including Osama bin Laden. The global coalition we're leading against ISIL has taken out their leaders, and taken away about half their territory. ISIL will be destroyed, and no one who threatens America will ever be safe. To all who serve, it has been the honor of my lifetime to be your Commander-in-Chief.

But protecting our way of life requires more than our military. Democracy can buckle when we give in to fear. So just as we, as citizens, must remain vigilant against external aggression, we must guard against a weakening of the values that make us who we are. That's why, for the past eight years, I've worked to put the fight against terrorism on a firm legal footing. That's why we've ended torture, worked to close Gitmo, and reform our laws governing surveillance to protect privacy and civil liberties. That's why I reject discrimination against Muslim Americans. That's why we cannot withdraw from glob-

al fights – to expand democracy, and human rights, women's rights, and LGBT rights – no matter how imperfect our efforts, no matter how expedient ignoring such values may seem. For the fight against extremism and intolerance and sectarianism are of a piece with the fight against authoritarianism and nationalist aggression. If the scope of freedom and respect for the rule of law shrinks around the world, the likelihood of war within and between nations increases, and our own freedoms will eventually be threatened.

So let's be vigilant, but not afraid. ISIL will try to kill innocent people. But they cannot defeat America unless we betray our Constitution and our principles in the fight. Rivals like Russia or China cannot match our influence around the world – unless we give up what we stand for, and turn ourselves into just another big country that bullies smaller neighbors.

Which brings me to my final point – our democracy is threatened whenever we take it for granted. All of us, regardless of party, should throw ourselves into the task of rebuilding our democratic institutions. When voting rates are some of the lowest among advanced democracies, we should make it easier, not harder, to vote. When trust in our institutions is low, we should reduce the corrosive influence of money in our politics, and insist on the principles of transparency and ethics in public service. When Congress is dysfunctional, we should draw our districts to encourage politicians to cater to common sense and not rigid extremes.

And all of this depends on our participation; on each of us accepting the responsibility of citizenship, regardless of which way the pendulum of power swings.

Our Constitution is a remarkable, beautiful gift. But it's really just a piece of parchment. It has no power on its own. We, the people, give it power – with our participation, and the choices we make. Whether or not we stand up for our free-

doms. Whether or not we respect and enforce the rule of law. America is no fragile thing. But the gains of our long journey to freedom are not assured.

In his own farewell address, George Washington wrote that self-government is the underpinning of our safety, prosperity, and liberty, but "from different causes and from different quarters much pains will be taken...to weaken in your minds the conviction of this truth;" that we should preserve it with "jealous anxiety;" that we should reject "the first dawning of every attempt to alienate any portion of our country from the rest or to enfeeble the sacred ties" that make us one.

We weaken those ties when we allow our political dialogue to become so corrosive that people of good character are turned off from public service; so coarse with rancor that Americans with whom we disagree are not just misguided, but somehow malevolent. We weaken those ties when we define some of us as more American than others; when we write off the whole system as inevitably corrupt, and blame the leaders we elect without examining our own role in electing them.

It falls to each of us to be those anxious, jealous guardians of our democracy; to embrace the joyous task we've been given to continually try to improve this great nation of ours. Because for all our outward differences, we all share the same proud title: Citizen.

Ultimately, that's what our democracy demands. It needs you. Not just when there's an election, not just when your own narrow interest is at stake, but over the full span of a lifetime. If you're tired of arguing with strangers on the internet, try to talk with one in real life. If something needs fixing, lace up your shoes and do some organizing. If you're disappointed by your elected officials, grab a clipboard, get some signatures, and run for office yourself. Show up. Dive in. Persevere. Sometimes you'll win. Sometimes you'll lose. Presuming a reservoir of goodness in others can be a risk,



and there will be times when the process disappoints you. But for those of us fortunate enough to have been a part of this work, to see it up close, let me tell you, it can energize and inspire. And more often than not, your faith in America – and in Americans – will be confirmed.

Mine sure has been. Over the course of these eight years, I've seen the hopeful faces of young graduates and our newest military officers. I've mourned with grieving families searching for answers, and found grace in Charleston church. I've seen our scientists help a paralyzed man regain his sense of touch, and our wounded warriors walk again. I've seen our doctors and volunteers rebuild after earthquakes and stop pandemics in their tracks. I've seen the youngest of children remind us of our obligations to care for refugees, to work in peace, and above all to look out for each other.

That faith I placed all those years ago, not far from here, in the power of ordinary Americans to bring about change – that faith has been rewarded in ways I couldn't possibly have imagined. I hope yours has, too. Some of you here tonight or watching at home were there with us in 2004, in 2008, in 2012 – and maybe you still can't believe we pulled this whole thing off.

You're not the only ones. Michelle – for the past twenty-five years, you've been not only my wife and mother of my children, but my best friend. You took on a role you didn't ask for and made it your own with grace and grit and style and good humor. You made the White House a place that belongs to everybody. And a new generation sets its sights higher because it has you as a role model. You've made me proud. You've made the country proud.

Malia and Sasha, under the strangest of circumstances, you have become two amazing young women, smart and beautiful, but more importantly, kind and thoughtful and full of passion. You wore the burden of years in the spotlight so easily. Of all that I've done in my life, I'm most proud to be your dad.

To Joe Biden, the scrappy kid from Scranton who became Delaware's favorite son: you were the first choice I made as a nominee, and the best. Not just because you have been a great Vice President, but because in the bargain, I gained a brother. We love you and Jill like family, and your friendship has been one of the great joys of our life.

To my remarkable staff: For eight years – and for some of

you, a whole lot more – I've drawn from your energy, and tried to reflect back what you displayed every day: heart, and character, and idealism. I've watched you grow up, get married, have kids, and start incredible new journeys of your own. Even when times got tough and frustrating, you never let Washington get the better of you. The only thing that makes me prouder than all the good we've done is the thought of all the remarkable things you'll achieve from here.

And to all of you out there – every organizer who moved to an unfamiliar town and kind family who welcomed them in, every volunteer who knocked on doors, every young person who cast a ballot for the first time, every American who lived and breathed the hard work of change – you are the best supporters and organizers anyone could hope for, and I will forever be grateful. Because yes, you changed the world.

That's why I leave this stage tonight even more optimistic about this country than I was when we started. Because I know our work has not only helped so many Americans; it has inspired so many Americans – especially so many young people out there – to believe you can make a difference; to hitch your wagon to something bigger than yourselves. This generation coming up – unselfish, altruistic, creative, patriotic – I've seen you in every corner of the country. You believe in a fair, just, inclusive America; you know that constant change has been America's hallmark, something

not to fear but to embrace, and you are willing to carry this hard work of democracy forward. You'll soon outnumber any of us, and I believe as a result that the future is in good hands.

My fellow Americans, it has been the honor of my life to serve you. I won't stop; in fact, I will be right there with you, as a citizen, for all my days that remain. For now, whether you're young or young at heart, I do have one final ask of you as your President – the same thing I asked when you took a chance on me eight years ago.

I am asking you to believe. Not in my ability to bring about change – but in yours.

I am asking you to hold fast to that faith written into our founding documents; that idea whispered by slaves and abolitionists; that spirit sung by immigrants and homesteaders and those who marched for justice; that creed reaffirmed by those who planted flags from foreign battlefields to the surface of the moon; a creed at the core of every American whose story is not yet written:

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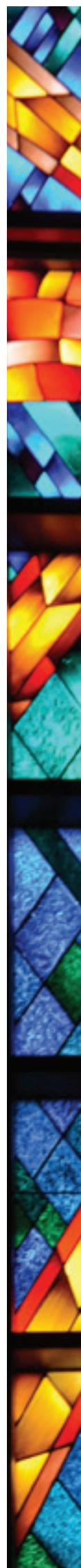
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*Founded in 1829, McCormick Theological Seminary is accredited by the Association of  
Theological Schools of the United States and Canada.*

The DuSable Museum of African American History is proud to announce the election of five new Board of Trustee Members and a new Chairman of the Board. **Joyce Johnson-Miller**, the Executive Vice President of Quadrum Global, will now serve as the Chairman of the Board of Trustees after being elected by the Board on Monday, November 21, 2016.

Among the newly elected Board Members is **Chancellor “Chance the Rapper” Bennett**, the highly popular American hip hop artist who recently made history by receiving seven 2016 Grammy Award nominations including, “Best New Artist” and “Best Rap Album” for “*Coloring Book*,” a first for a “streaming-only” album. Hailing from the West Chatham neighborhood, Bennett has become one of music’s most prominent and prolific artists and was named a 2015 ‘Chicagoan of the Year’ by *Chicago Magazine*. Thanks to his work actively combating gun violence in Chicago, Chance the Rapper has been a champion for promoting racial justice throughout the city and the nation.

**Dr. Eric E. Whitaker** is a prominent Chicago-based physician investor whose works intersects healthcare, public health and financial services. Dr. Whitaker is Chairman and CEO of TWG Partners LLC. He is also the former Executive Vice President, Strategic Affiliations and Associate Dean of Community-based Research at the University of Chicago Medical Center and served as the Director of the Illinois Department of Public Health, and as an attending physician in Internal Medicine at Cook County Hospital in Chicago.

Also joining the Board is **Ken Bennett**, a former Obama Administration aide and current Senior Advisor of Policy and Community Affairs at Choose Chicago. Bennett, Chance the Rapper’s father,

has been a champion for Chicago since his start in politics as an aide to the late Chicago Mayor, Harold Washington. His deep commitment to public service has helped to enhance the economic development of tourism within the city of Chicago and he will be a wonderful asset for the DuSable Museum.

**Wilbur Milhouse, III**, has been a staunch supporter of the DuSable Museum. As the Founder, President and CEO of Milhouse Engineering and Construction, Inc., Mr. Milhouse has created a full-service engineering and architecture firm serving both the public and private sector. With a stellar reputation in Civil, Mechanical, Electrical and Structural Engineering, Milhouse Engineering & Construction works to ensure that they are improving the communities they serve.

Also a new Board Member and sharing in Mr. Milhouse’s expertise in construction and community re-development is **Lisa Pilot Livingston**, one of Chicago’s premier African American female experts in the industry. Born and raised in Hyde Park, Pilot Livingston is currently the CEO of LCP Management Inc. and has built properties in Hyde Park, Kenwood and Bronzeville, and her contributions to the Southside of Chicago have been unprecedented. Lisa Pilot Livingston’s commitment is not to just building buildings, but building the community as well.

“We welcome these exciting additions to our board and they join a group of Trustees who are dedicated to the success of the DuSable Museum and our mission to educate all people,” said Perri Irmer, President and CEO of The DuSable. “Our role is now more important than ever and we are energized and inspired to pursue the goals of the African American spirit...excellence, culture and resilience.”

### **Members of the DuSable Museum Board of Trustees include:**

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# THORNTON TOWNSHIP TO HOST MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. CELEBRATION

It has been nearly 50 years since Martin Luther Jr died, but his commitment to civil rights continues.

The Thornton Township Human Relations Commission, South Suburban College and Thornton Township High School District 205 present a Martin Luther King Jr. celebration 10 a.m. Monday, Jan. 16 at South Suburban College.

Titled Love and Unity Conquers Hatred and Violence, the free event not only commemorates the life and legacy of Dr. King but features speeches about coming together as a community.

“People should attend the MLK Celebration because it is the day that we recognize and honor one of the most dynamic African-

American figures in American history,” said Loretta Wells, chair for the event and a member of the Thornton Township Human Relations Commission. “It is a day that we teach our youth about the contribution Dr. King made and his struggle for equality.

We should all remember that this is not a “Day Off” but a “Day On.”

The annual event takes place at the Kindig Performing Arts Center at South Suburban College, 15800 South State Street.

“Dr. King said ‘We must learn to live together as brothers or perish together as fools,’” said Frank M. Zuccarelli, Thornton Township supervisor and South Suburban College board chairman. “We have to trust each other, love each other and

work together.”

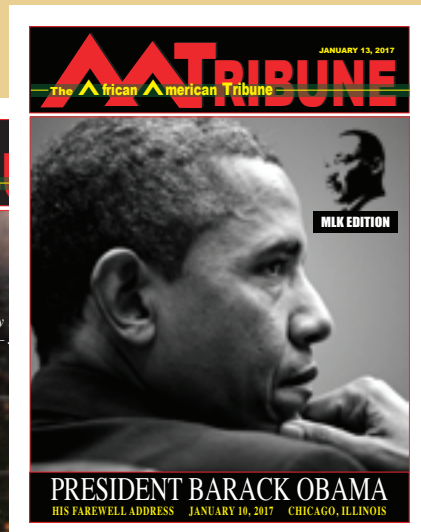
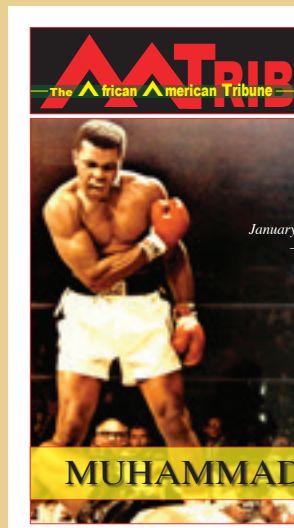
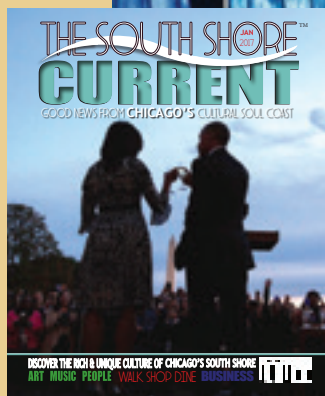
The celebration features Keynote Speaker Congresswoman Robin Kelly and performances by students from District #205, including singers and steppers.

“The Annual MLK celebration is necessary because it is an important reminder of Dr. King’s life, dream, legacy, and the contribution of those that helped make his vision a reality,” added Wells. “This year’s theme “Love & Unity Conquers Hatred & Violence” was chosen because we want to remind everyone, especially our youth that Dr. King was able to overcome hatred by preaching love and unity. We must strive in today’s society to return to that basic message.”

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for your business. The most common types are sole proprietor, partnership and corporation. The type of business you choose will determine which tax forms you file.

**Business Taxes.** There are four general types of business taxes. They are income tax, self-employment tax, employment tax and excise tax. In most cases, the types of tax your business pays depends on the type of business structure you set up. You may need to make estimated tax payments. If you do, you can use IRS Direct Pay to make them. It's the fast, easy and secure way to pay from your checking or savings account.

**Employer Identification Number (EIN).** You may need to get an EIN for federal tax purposes. Search "do you need an EIN" on IRS.gov to find out if you need this number. If you

do need one, you can apply for it online.

**Accounting Method.** An accounting method is a set of rules that you use to determine when to report income and expenses. You must use a consistent method. The two that are most common are the cash and accrual methods. Under the cash method, you normally report income and deduct expenses in the year that you receive or pay them. Under the accrual method, you generally report income and deduct expenses in the year that you earn or incur them. This is true even if you get the income or pay the expense in a later year.

**Employee Health Care.** The Small Business Health Care Tax Credit helps small businesses and tax-exempt organizations pay for health care coverage they offer their employees. You're eligible for the credit if you have

fewer than 25 employees who work full-time, or a combination of full-time and part-time. The maximum credit is 50 percent of premiums paid for small business employers and 35 percent of premiums paid for small tax-exempt employers, such as charities. For more information on your health care responsibilities as an employer, see the Affordable Care Act for Employers page on IRS.gov.

*Constant W. Watson III, CPA, CTRS, is both a Certified Public Accountant and a Certified Tax Resolution Specialist. He is one of only three Certified Tax Resolution Specialists in the State of Illinois who is certified by The American Society of Tax Problem Solvers, (ASTPS). He has over 30 years of income tax and accounting experience. For a Free Con-sultation, call (708) 206-9900 or visit [www.constantwatsoncpa.com](http://www.constantwatsoncpa.com).*

**U**nderstanding your tax obligation is one key to business success. When you start a business, you need to know about income taxes, payroll taxes and much more. Here are five IRS tax tips that can help you get your business off to a good start:

**Business Structure.** An early choice you need to make is to decide on the type of structure




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# 2017: Move Forward and Don't Look Back

By Ernst Lamothe Jr.

New Year, New You. That seems to be the overused mantra for people who want to change who they are or something about what they do. And with the new year here, it also makes people evaluate their lives and start creating their annual New Year's Resolution. Often, these resolutions are mocked because of how quickly they become abandoned promises of the past. Packed gyms and fitness centers on New Year's Day often empty out by Valentine's Day. That pledge to limit TV and social media so you can concentrate on reading a Bible chapter each day starts with good intentions and ends with a boulevard of broken dreams. But there is something important about the idea of a starting fresh. Whether it is a new year, your birthday, an anniversary or the first day of the month, you feel that time on the calendar gives you a launching pad to make real changes in life even though change can happen simply by waking up and pledging to be better today than you were the day before.

The reason resolutions often fall flat is be-

cause of how they are constructed and how we go about achieving our goals. Often when deciding to make big goals or changes, people make ambitious claims that require ambitious execution. That's where the epic fail occurs.

If you didn't work out at all or barely did in 2016, making a resolution to work out five days a week most likely will leave you falling short and disappointed; maybe even causing you to abandon your determination. However, if your goal is to eventually work out five days a week then work backwards when crafting your goal. Maybe that means a four -week plan to get you to that level meaning working out twice a week during the first week and then increasing that by a day each week until you reach your five-day a week goal.

If being alive and eating dessert are two of the main reasons why you are excited God wakes you up every day, a resolution to go the first 31 days without eating dessert will likely cause you to crash and burn around Martin Luther King Jr. Day or earlier. A better, more effective alternative for someone who might eat dessert five days a week is to slowly de-

crease each day the number of days you eat dessert.

By the time January ends, you will be down to once a week eating desserts at the same time that you are now achieving your goal of working out five days a week. That's the best way to get an early victory and sustain it throughout the year.

I believe in nutrition and wellness because that's the number one change that everyone should consider making for themselves in the new year because you can't do anything without having good health. It's doesn't have to be as extreme as going on the Paleo diet or cutting all carbohydrates but changing your mentality. It's all about making positive steps to improving your life mind, body, and soul little steps at a time. Instead of simply New Year, New You. Your 2017 mantra should be move forward and don't look back.

*Ernst Lamothe Jr. is a 15-year journalist as well as a public relations specialist in health-care, government and education. If you have any questions or follow-ups, you can email him at [elamothe25@gmail.com](mailto:elamothe25@gmail.com)*

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# FORD MOTOR COMPANY CREATES ALL-STAR CAST TO EXPAND MEN OF COURAGE PROGRAM ACROSS U.S. ON MLK HOLIDAY

**WHAT:** Ford Motor Company Fund is rolling out a national program, Men of Courage, to unite black men and boys and encourage them to tell their stories and share their experiences. The Program features national and local celebrities from diverse fields. These men share a commitment to advance the narrative of black men, develop solutions for shifting public perceptions, improve their economic and social potential and create positive social change. To challenge Black Men to host similar gatherings nationwide to strengthen their communities, the Fund is releasing a digital tool kit that can be downloaded at [www.menofcourage.com](http://www.menofcourage.com). Participants can also access #menofcourage for updates.

**WHERE:** 1871 – Chicago's Center for Technology and Entrepreneurship- located at 222 W. Merchandise Mart Plaza - Suite 1212

**WHEN:** Martin Luther King Holiday, Monday, Jan. 16, 2017 – 2PM – 7PM

2:00 PM-2:30 PM	Registration
2:30 PM-3:00 PM	Program Introduction
3:00 PM-4:30 PM	Storytelling
<b>(closed-door session and is not open to the media)</b>	
4:30 PM-5:30 PM	Vision Board
5:30 PM-6:45 PM	Action Pacts
6:45 PM-7:00 PM	Closing

**Media check-in begins at 1:30 PM. To reserve media credentials contact Melody McDowell at (312) 371-8917**

**WHO:** High-profile notables who will participate in the Men of Courage program include:

- Shawn Wilson, manager, multicultural and community engagement, Ford Motor Company Fund
- Nate Sutton, Sutton Ford-Lincoln, Chicago area
- Dave Bing, NBA Hall of Famer and former Detroit Mayor
- DeAndre Levy – Detroit Lions Linebacker
- Dr. Anthony Hamlet – Superintendent of Schools – Pittsburgh, Pa
- Barrington Irving, aviator and the youngest to pilot a plane around the world solo
- Shaka Senghor. author and criminal justice advocate
- Daquan Oliver, Forbes 30 under 30

**WHY IT'S IMPORTANT:** Ford Men of Courage was launched in Detroit in September 2015 to connect diverse black men from local communities with a growing list of renowned advocates and celebrities. Inspired by the positive reception to the program, Men of Courage was held in Baltimore and Atlanta with equal success. The program has now grown into a national platform as part of Ford Motor Company Fund's commitment to building communities and finding common ground to create positive social change. Ford Fund is the philanthropic arm of Ford Motor Company.

Ford's support of the African American community dates back to the early 20th century when Ford was the largest employer of African Americans in the auto industry. Ford is building on that century-long support with other signature initiatives that include Men of Courage, the annual Ford Freedom Award and the Ford HBCU Community Challenge Competition, which is conducted in partnership with the Tom Joyner Morning Show.

## **MEDIA OPPORTUNITIES:**

Photo/video opportunities, interviews, live social media posts available with the following:

- Shawn Wilson - manager, multicultural and community engagement, Ford Motor Company Fund
- National and local notables involved in the Men of Courage program
- Local and national men and boys participants
- National Ambassadors include:
  - Sean (Big Sean) Anderson – Sean Anderson Foundation
  - Dave Bing – Bing Institute
  - Jerome Bettis, NFL Hall of Famer
  - Van Jones, CNN Contributor
  - John Hope Bryant, Founder of Operation Hope
  - Hill Harper, Actor/Philanthropist
  - Troy Carter, Tech Mogul

## **SOCIAL MEDIA HASHTAGS/HANDLES:**

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter with the following handles - #menofcourage, #MLKDAY17, #fordfreedom (@fordfreedom), #fordfund (@fordfund)

## **MEDIA CONTACTS:**

Melody McDowell  
Ntouch Communications (Chicago)  
312-371-8917  
[melodypr@aol.com](mailto:melodypr@aol.com)

Lisa Wilmore  
Ntouch Communications (Detroit)  
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arnettchapel@gmail.com  
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### MOUNT PISGAH BAPTIST CHURCH



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Harvey, Illinois 60426  
708-333-2233  
[www.nehemiahccm.org](http://www.nehemiahccm.org)  
Worship Time 10:00 AM

### NEW BEGINNINGS CHURCH



**Pastor Corey Brooks**  
6620 S. King Drive  
Chicago, Illinois 60637  
773-326-4200  
[www.nbccchicago.com](http://www.nbccchicago.com)  
11:00 am

### NEW COVENANT MISSIONARY B.C.



**Pastor Stephen J. Thurston**  
740 E. 77th Street  
Chicago, IL 60619  
773-846-3700  
Worship Services:  
7:30 am, 11:30 am & 6:00 pm



### NEW MOUNT CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH



Pastor Franklin Morris  
1850 W. 67th St.  
Chicago, IL  
773-737-1116

Worship Service 11:30 AM

### NEW MOUNT OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH



Pastor Ferlander N. Lewis  
15643 Wood Street  
Harvey, IL 60426  
708-333-4589  
708-333-0521  
fnlministries.net  
Worship Service 9:00 AM

### NEW MOUNT PILGRIM MB CHURCH



Pastor, Dr. Marshall E. Hatch  
4301 W. Washington Blvd.  
Chicago, IL 60624  
773-287-5051 Phone  
773-265-0312 Fax  
Worship Services:  
8:00 AM & 11:00 AM

### NEW SPIRITUAL LIGHT BAPTIST CHURCH



Pastor Walter Turner  
7566 S. Shore Drive  
Chicago, IL 60649  
773-734-5483

12:00 Noon and 4:00 PM  
Services

### OAKDALE COVENANT CHURCH



Pastor D. Darrell Griffin  
9440 S. Vincennes Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60643  
773-779-9440 Phone  
773-779-9757 Fax  
Worship Services:  
7:30 am & 11:00 am

### OLIVET BAPTIST CHURCH



Pastor John L. Smith  
3101 South King Drive  
Chicago, IL 60616  
312-528-0124  
olivetbaptistchurchchicago.org  
Sunday Worship 10:45 AM

### PEOPLE'S CHURCH OF THE HARVEST COGIC



Pastor Michael Eaddy  
3570 West Fifth Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60624  
773-533-6877 Phone  
773-533-1345 Fax  
Worship: 8:00 am 11:00 am  
6:00 pm

### PILGRIM MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH



Pastor Charles L. Emery  
1301 West 21st Avenue  
Gary, IN 46407  
219-944-8161  
219-944-3266  
info@pilgrimmbchurch.org  
pilgrimmbchurch.org  
Worship Services  
7:45 AM & 10:50 AM

### PLEASANT GROVE MB CHURCH



Pastor Charles A. Hamilton  
741 S Sacramento Blvd  
Chicago, IL 60612  
773-638-0485 Phone  
Sunday School 9:00 AM  
Sunday Worship 11:00 AM  
Wed Prayer/Bible Class 7:00 PM

### PRAISE DELIVERANCE CENTER



Pastor Steve Jones  
134 East 111th Street  
Chicago, IL 60628  
773-221-7740 Phone  
773-221-9455 Fax  
10:45 AM Worship Service

### PROGRESSIVE BAPTIST CHURCH



Pastor Charlie Dates  
3658 S. Wentworth Ave.  
Chicago, Illinois 60609  
773-268-6048  
progressivechicago.org

### PROVIDENCE M. B. CHURCH



Rev. Dr. William Foster, Jr.  
8401 S. Ashland Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60620  
773-238-5831  
773-238-2414  
Worship Services:  
7:45 a.m. 10:45 a.m.

### PROVISO BAPTIST CHURCH



Pastor John F. Harrell  
1116 South 5th Avenue  
Maywood, IL 60153  
708-865-7389

### ROCK OF AGES BAPTIST CHURCH



Pastor Marvin E. Wiley  
1309 Madison Street  
Maywood, IL 60153  
708-344-0704  
www.rockofagesbc.org  
Worship Services: 7:30 am  
9:30 am 11:30 am

### SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH



Pastor Wallace Sykes  
436 South 13th Street  
Maywood, IL 60153

### SECOND MOUNT OLIVE MISSIONARY B.C.



Pastor Kenneth Giles  
5729-43 West Chicago Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60651  
773-921-2063  
generalinfo@mmobc.org  
www.mmobc.org

Worship Service 11:00AM

### SHILOH MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH



Pastor Rodney Patterson  
10540 S. Halsted  
Chicago, IL 60628  
773-779-4990

Worship Service 11:00 am

### ST. JAMES CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST



Pastor Willie James  
Campbell  
11750 S. Lowe  
Chicago, IL 60628  
773-291-0200 Phone  
773-291-9916 Fax  
Worship 9:00&11:45 am 8:00 pm



### ST. JOHN MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH



Pastor A. Edward Davis, Jr.  
211 E. 115th Street  
Chicago, IL 60628  
773-568-7589  
773-568-9037  
Worship Services:  
7:30 AM & 11:00 AM

### ST. MARK MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH



Elder Edwin Harris  
14618 Lincoln Avenue  
Harvey, Illinois 60426  
708-333-2800  
stmarkmbchurch.org  
Worship Time 10:00 AM

### STONE TEMPLE MISSIONARY B.C.



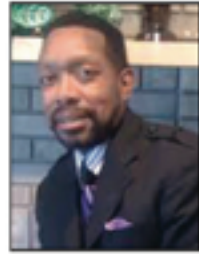
Pastor Derrick M.  
Fitzpatrick  
3622 W. Douglas Blvd.  
Chicago, IL 60623  
(773) 762-0013 Office  
(773) 762-0900 Fax  
Worship Service: 10:50 am  
www.stonetemple.org

### ST. SABINA CATHOLIC CHURCH



Father Michael Pfleger  
1210 W. 78th Place  
Chicago, IL 60628  
773-483-4300 Phone  
773-483-7583 Fax  
Worship Services:  
8:30 am & 11:15 am

### THE LIGHTS OF ZION BAPTIST CHURCH



Pastor Charles Mickens  
11636 S. Halsted  
Chicago, IL 60628  
773-785-2996  
773-786-3319  
www.lozministries.com  
11:00 AM Worship

### THIRD BAPTIST CHURCH OF CHICAGO



Pastor Alan V. Ragland  
1551 West 95th Street  
Chicago, IL 60643  
773-445-8500  
info@thirdbaptistchicago.org  
www.thirdbaptistchicago.org  
Worship Service 10:55 AM

### TRIEDSTONE FULL GOSPEL BAPTIST CHURCH



Bishop Simon Gordon  
1415 W. 104th Street  
Chicago, IL 60643  
773-881-7710 Phone  
773-881-9778 Fax  
Worship Times:  
9:00 am & 12:00 Noon

### TRINITY UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Pastor Otis Moss, III  
400 W. 95th Street  
Chicago, IL  
773-962-5650  
773-962-0164  
Worship Services 7:30 a.m.,  
11:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m.

### TRUE LIGHT BAPTIST CHURCH



Pastor Larue Franklin Kidd  
7300 S. Maryland Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60619  
773-994-1381 phone  
TrueLightChurchBaptist.org  
SundayWorship: 10:00 am

### UNITED BAPTIST CHURCH



Pastor Wilson Daniels  
4242 West Roosevelt Rd  
Chicago, IL 60624  
773-722-4357  
ubc1@comcast.net  
unitedbaptistchicago.net  
Worship Service 11:00AM

### VALLEY KINGDOM MINISTRIES INTERNAT'L



Apostle H. Daniel Wilson  
708-535-7500  
5300 151st Street  
Oak Forest, Illinois 60452  
Sundays at 10:30 am  
1102 E. 154th Street  
South Holland, Illinois 60473  
Worship Sundays at 7:30 am

### VICTORY APOSTOLIC CHURCH



Rev. Andrew D. Singleton, Jr.  
20801 Matteson Avenue  
Matteson, Illinois 60443  
708-283-0383 - Phone  
victoryapostolic@vachurch.net  
www.victoryapostolicchurch.org  
Worship 9:00 AM and 11:30 AM

### VICTORY CHRISTIAN INTERNAT'L MINISTRIES



Apostle Carl White  
Robert Frost Middle School  
2206 W. 167th Street  
Markham, IL 60428  
10:00 am  
708-596-9673

### WEST POINT BAPTIST CHURCH



Pastor L. Bernard Jakes  
3566 South Cottage Grove  
Avenue  
Chicago IL 60653  
773-538-7590  
www.wpmbc.org

### ZION HILL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH



Pastor George Waddles  
West 78th Street  
Chicago, IL 60620  
773-651-2622  
Worship Service 9:00 AM

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