

Magnificent 20th Anniversary Celebration

On Saturday February 22nd there was a great event held at Shiloh Baptist Church, celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Eddie Washington Center, a transitional home for men. the achievements of African Americans in Lake County IL.

The program included testimonials from Alumni Jessica Gonzalez a Staben House alumni and Cody Speno from the Eddie Washington Center (EWC). Representatives Rita Mayfield reflected on the late Eddie Washington who was the first African American elected official of District 60. Congressman Brad Schneider was happy to be invited and to inspire members of the community to help the center .

Key note speaker was Apostle Harry Stackhouse, senior pastor of The Sign Of The Dove Church and President of Dove Ministries International. Though he spoke powerful words of encouragement to the congregation, his message was clearly directed to the men at the EWC. His message was centered around a very well known parable of “The Lost Sheep” taken from Luke 15:3-7. He made the EWC men feel special, loved and appreciated, just like the lost sheep when brought back rejoiced over a second chance at life. It was a piercing message of hope, mercy and grace, attributes that clearly identifies the Eddie Washington Center. Residents who heard the message said they felt encouraged, motivated and excited. EWC residents felt blessed to be a part of such a wonderful program as the Eddie Washington Center.



Supervisor Jones presenting Pastor Francis a Certificate of Appreciation for years of support provided by Shiloh Baptist Church has provide to the Eddie Washington Center.

Contact Us

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424 South Ave
Waukegan, IL 60085

(847) 244-0805

Visit us on the web at
www.waukegantownship.com

Eddie Washington Center

424 South Avenue
Waukegan, IL 60085

Advisory Council
Dr. Phil Carrigan, Chairperson

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Newsletter



The Late Honorable Milton E. Staben
Waukegan Township Supervisor
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EDDIE WASHINGTON CENTER

A Waukegan Township Publication



The Late Honorable Eddie Washington
State Representative
2003-2010

THE PHOENIX

Eddie Washington Center Newsletter

Fall/Winter 2014

A Message from the Director

As we transition from season to season and the morning chill of the fall is replaced by the cool breeze of winter, the sounds of rustling leaves are drowned out by snow plows, it allows us an opportunity to reflect on the year that is behind us, and to look forward to the future events ahead of us.

This year, we have enjoyed many successes, our graduation in March saw 20 men successfully complete the program and transition to full independence. All gainfully employed, with permanent housing (page 2)!

In February we had a magnificent 20th anniversary celebration held at Shiloh Baptist Church, where a day of celebration and dining was enjoyed by all, highlighted by a moving keynote address from Apostle Harry Stackhouse (page 6).

Perhaps the most important story within this edition of “The Phoenix” is the opportunity to read Alumni Rickey Jackson’s Testimonial about how the Center was able to provide him the structure, tools, and knowledge to leave a life of incarceration and drug abuse to become a family man, and a supervisor at his job. These are the reasons we do what we do, people like Mr. Jackson are a great example of how we are able to change lives one person at a time (page 3).

Additionally, since August we have enjoyed the annual Eddie Washington Center golf outing, and a special program sponsored by the Sign of the Dove church (page 4 and 5). We invite you to read these articles and really get a feel for the good work that is happening within the Eddie Washington Center. Enjoy!

Marc Jones, Director of the Eddie Washington Center



Representative Rita Mayfield
Speaking at the E.W.C. Graduation
Celebration held on Saturday March
8th, 2014 at Park Place



Supervisor Patricia Jones and E.W.C. Staff
members sit with graduates after the Graduation
Celebration on Saturday March 8th, 2014.

Patricia Jones

Township Supervisor

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Annual Graduation Celebration

The Eddie Washington Center Graduation Celebration, March 22, acknowledged those 23 men who persevered and endured various internal and external challenges that come with life. The ceremony was a time to reflect on the living accomplishments of the 23 Graduates' and applaud their resilience and self-determination. Each graduate demonstrated courage while facing their personal faults, which allowed the program to transform their character.

The Honorable John T. Phillips, Chief Judge of the Nineteenth Judicial Circuit, the keynote speaker, focused on organizations and mission statements. He quoted the Eddie Washington Center's mission statement, "Making a difference in Lake County one life at a time." He said the Eddie Washington Center is living up to their motto everyday. These ideas and common themes sound great, but they mean more when we put these ideas into action. So he challenged the current residents, graduates and the entire audience to live up to their own mottos and beliefs. Adapt a self-motto, ending hopelessness an act at a time and attempt to leave a positive impact on everyone you interact with.

Carlos Gonzalez, one of the graduates, spoke about the mental, physical, and spiritual healing that occurred within him while he was a resident at the Eddie Washington Center. Carlos explained how the Center taught him principles and values; skills that he needed to help him prioritize things in his life. The Center equipped him with tools to manage his emotions, change his behavioral patterns, and he gained the self-confidence to put his best foot forward everyday.

State Representative Rita Mayfield, one of the guest speakers, discussed her personal experience with the Eddie Washington Center. She spoke about her brother, who was also a resident of the Eddie Washington Center, and how far he has come since leaving the Center. Her words were inspiring and demonstrated her support for the program. Rita Mayfield is truly passionate about the success of the Center and has recently secured a state grant, which is a huge blessing to the men at the Center and will allow for the center to provide more services.

The Eddie Washington Center is no doubt, one of the best transitional housing programs in Lake County.



On Friday, December 8th, Waukegan Township hosted its annual Home For The Holidays Gala at the Milan Banquet Hall. The event was attended by several local community leaders; including members of the faith community, business owners, and elected officials from Lake County. A festive night of 200 guest coming together to help others in need. Hon. Lake County Circuit Court Judge George Bridges was the keynote speaker at the event.

This years' event was chaired by Sam Johnson-Maurello. Sam, along with the committee succeeded with its goal to raise funds for both the Staben House and Eddie Washington Center. Special thanks to this year's Gold Sponsors: Haapanen Brothers Inc, College of Lake County, Consumers Credit Union, and Roquette America. We would also like to thank the many businesses and individuals who purchased ad space in the program book, as well.

This year we honored ten fabulous honorees which include: Caring Women's Connection, Sign of the Dove Church (Pastor Cory Ratliff), Village Quilters, Prince of Peace Church in Gurnee, Shiloh Baptist (Priscilla Circle), 1st Midwest Bank, YWCA, St. Anastasia's Church, State Representative Rita Mayfield, United Methodist Church of Libertyville. Waukegan Township proudly thanks each honoree for all their active involvement helping the Staben House and Eddie Washington Center become better places to help build families in our community.



Park Place sign Welcoming guest to the Graduation Ceremony.



Residents posing for a picture with their certificates of completion.

The Eddie Washington Center
Kindly accepts
donations everyday. Below
is a list of things needed to bet-
ter lives.

Toothpaste
Shampoo
Wash Cloths
Detergent
Dental Floss
Bottled Water
Socks
T-Shirts
Under Garments
Kitchen Utensils
Dishes

Please call us at (847) 244-0805 if you have any ques-
tions.



Waukegan Township
Patricia Jones, Supervisor



Keynote Speaker
Bishop Cornelius Woods
Mobile, AL



Local Speaker
Pastor Henry Woods
Christian Valley Baptist
North Chicago, IL

**Ramada Inn - 200 N Green
Bay Rd, Waukegan, IL**

TICKETS \$20

Purchase tickets at Supervisor's Office, 149 S.
Genesee St or Park Place, 414 S. Lewis Ave. Paypal/
Credit Card Payment Available.

For more information:

Call 847-244-9242 or email

lpable@waukegantownship.com

WAUKEGAN TOWNSHIP SUPERVISOR'S OFFICE • 149 S. GENESEE ST. WAUKEGAN, IL •
(847) 244-4900 - Trustees: Katherine Rothwell -Francis • Percy L. Johnson • Jeff McBride • Charles "Chuck" Willms

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Dreamers Breakfast

This year we will celebrate on MONDAY!



Monday, January 19, 2015 - 10:00 a.m



TRIBUTE
Reflections for
President Nelson Mandela
Pastor John I. Caples Jr.
Jesus Name Apostolic Church



Drum Major Awards Recipients

Choice Harris - Christian Faith Fellowship, Round Lake
Father Fred Pesek - St. Patrick Church, Wadsworth
Henry Johnson - Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist
Julie & Jim Donovan - Habitat For Humanity
Lee Zachary Maxey - First Baptist Church, North Chicago
Mark McCorley - The House of Prayer, Gurnee
Rev. Eileen Shanely-Roberts - Christ Episcopal Church
Rick Bueno - Frontline Street Interventions
Robert Brown - New Beginnings Baptist Church
Solomon Smith - Mount Moriah Christian Center
Terry Atwater - North Shore Church of Christ
Todd Woodson - Christian Valley Church



**Waukegan Township & Partners Present
The Artis Yancey Historically
Black Colleges & Universities Tour**

Youth Fundraiser & Ribbon Cutting Ceremony



**Jesse White
Is Coming To Lake County!**



Keynote Speaker
Secretary of State,
Jesse White

Tuesday, February 03, 2015

5:00pm - 7:00pm

Waukegan Yacht Club in Waukegan, IL.
199 North Harbor Place, Waukegan, IL 60085

★ Tickets \$50

We will continue the exciting endeavor of the 2nd Annual
Historically Black Colleges and Universities Tour.

This event will be landmark! This Educational Tour has been
renamed the **Artis Yancey Historically Black College and University
Tour!** We will visit the following schools: North Carolina A&T
University, Bennett College, Norfolk State University, Virginia State
University, Virginia Union University, University of DC, Howard
University, Bowie State University, Morgan State University.

Join us on February 3, 2015 for the official ribbon cutting fundraiser
ceremony.



Waukegan Township
Supervisor
Patricia Jones

**Your support gives students the opportunity to gain access to
valuable information and connections that will boost their careers.**

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

[] \$1000 Club Member...[] Platinum Sponsor \$500...[] Gold Sponsor \$250

**For Sponsorship Opportunities or HBCU tour information:
Call 847-244-4900 or email tsprings@waukegantownship.com**

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Secretary of State...**

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cash bar, live
entertainment, silent
auction and a 50/50
raffle...

\$500 Guarantee!!!

Proceeds will benefit
the HBCU tour.



Township office is a certified Passport site, including pictures.



Not Only For Seniors

All trips include transportation from Park Place.

- Curb Side Service
- Pick Up & Drop Off At Front Entrance
- Leave The Driving To Us!

Myrtle Beach Melodies; March 2015 \$1398 per person

(Double Occupancy) 10 Days of vacation featuring: Ocean Front hotel stay on "Grand Strand", 3 fabulous shows, a local guide on Cape Fear Coast, and enjoy shopping and a stroll along Myrtle Beach.



Las Vegas, Grand Canyon, Arizona; June 10, 2015. \$2397 -

10 Day Excursion featuring: Laser Magic of the Fremont Street Experience in Las Vegas, explore Pipe Spring National Monument, spend 2 nights inside Grand Canyon National Park, enjoy a Four-Wheel-Drive Jeep Tour through Monument Valley, and Embark on a Narrated Tour of Zion National Park.



New England Autumn Foliage Rails and Sails;

October 2015. \$2198 per person (Double Occupancy) 10 Day Excursion featuring: A City tour of Boston with a local guide, Cruise along Maine's rocky shoreline and wooded islands of Casco Bay, Enjoy a delicious lobster dinner with all the fixins' on Cape Cod, and Ride the Conway Scenic Railway through New Hampshire's White Mountains.



Chicago Auto Show



West Side Story



Black Violin

Redefining the music world-one string at a time! **Black Violin** at the Genesee Theatre. **Friday, February 20th** cost: \$48 (Loge) Orchestra Pitt . Bus Departs 7:30pm.

Chicago Auto Show - Tuesday, February 17th

Get your motor running at the world's largest auto show! If you think that the only thing to do at the Chicago Auto Show is look at cars, then you haven't been down to the show for quite some time. Strewn among the sleek and shiny cars are multitude of tactile, visual, and physically interactive displays. Trip includes transportation and admission to the show. Fee will be \$26 per person. Trip departs at 8:30 a.m. from Park Place.

West Side Story - Drury Lane Theatre Thursday, February 26th

One of the Worlds greatest love stories. Story features an electrifying Latin and Jazz-infused score. Trip departs Park Place at 10am. Fee of \$80 includes tickets, lunch and transportation.

**For Information or to RSVP Call 847-244-9242
or email lpable@waukegantownship.com**

THE CENTER CHANGES LIVES

Ricky Jackson entered the Eddie Washington center on April 1, 2012. Mr. Jackson had been through decades of struggle and hardship. He was ready for a positive change in his life. Ricky had battled addiction, had recently been released from IDOC, and swore to himself and his finance that "this was it." He was determined to have a fresh start and a positive life. Ricky walked into the program and was a man on a mission. He wanted to the opportunity he found at the Eddie Washington Center and used it to focus on bettering himself, finding stable employment, saving his money, and becoming an independent, productive member of society. Ricky found employment with Good Foods Inc, Pleasant Prairie, WI. within the first month of his residency and maintained his job throughout his months living at the Center.

Ricky had initially intended on keeping to himself, and not really socializing much since he was "here for business." Over time, Ricky took on a leadership role, mentoring the younger residents, and being a calm voice defusing conflicts within the house. Ricky was center just under five months but, during that time he was able to save a substantial amount of money, secure an apartment, and leave in good standing as one of the top residents at the Eddie Washington Center.

Ricky continues to return to the Center as much as possible to stay connected with staff, residents, and to impact others positively. It has now been nearly a year since Ricky graduated from the program. Ricky has maintained his full -time job, has recently gotten engaged, and just purchased a new car! He credits his time at the Eddie Washington Center for "Teaching him how to live again". We salute Mr. Ricky Jackson, for his many successes and the wish him continued prosperity in the years to come!

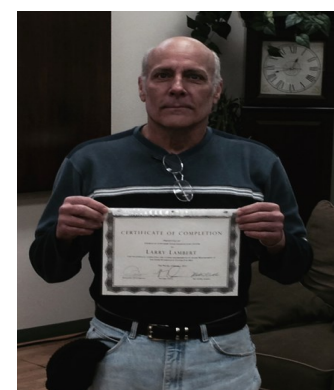
RICKEY JACKSON



Mr. Jackson posing next to his new vehicle he just purchased.

Introduction of the Resident of the Month Award

Last December the Eddie Washington Center staff suggested a new award program to residents who exemplify what it means to follow protocol. Winners receive a Letter, Certificate of Appreciation from the Director of the Center, a Gift Certificate and his photo placed on a frame at the entrance to the building with the recognition of "Resident of the Month". Here are some of the past recipients of the award.



On Feb 14, 2014 our Residents received a gift box with personal hygiene items. Residents Carlos and Robert posed for a picture with Erik a staff member at the center.

A Night of Giving Back



Eric Reyes a member of the Sign of the Dove Church gave a wonderful Spoken Words Speech



Members of the Community enjoying the program



Members of the Community enjoying the program

What a wonderful and joyous event! On Sunday August 24th, 2014 at Park Place in Waukegan, The Sign Of the Dove Ministries and Postured for Praise under the direction of Minister Cory Ratliff left the audience in awe as they ministered in song, praise dance and the spoken word. The theme for the evening was **“Look what the Lord has done”** A theme that echoed the appreciation and gratitude the Eddie Washington Center and the Staben House expresses to anyone who takes the time to give back and bless our facilities.

It was in that vein of giving back to our community in our fight against the challenges of homelessness in Lake County, that Pastor Cory wanted to host this fundraiser. He said, **“I just want us to go outside these four walls of the Sign of the Dove Church and bless the people out there”** That was the birth of this great event.

The music was inspiring, the praise dancers were superb and Mr. Eric Reyes, one of the members of Postured For Praise, had everyone in the building on the edge of their seats with a powerful, motivating piece he titled. **“Don’t count me out”**

Everyone in attendance was truly blessed by the testimonies of residents of the Staben House and the Eddie Washington Center, Raquel Smith and Jesus Lopez Fuqua. They were truly heartfelt and inspiring. John Love, a resident at the EWC was acknowledged for his artistic abilities and he had an opportunity to expose some of his wonderful pieces of art to the public for the first time.

In attendance was our very own Waukegan Township Supervisor, Ms. Patricia Jones, who gave a hearty thank you to Pastor Cory and all those ministering. She took the time also to recognize the leaders of the Sign of the Dove Ministries, Apostles Harry and Deborah Stackhouse who were also in attendance and gave some inspiring words of wisdom. She then spoke from her heart and enlighten the audience on the seriousness of the ills we have in our society, like homelessness and the importance of each one getting involved, by doing their part and exercising their given right to vote.

Over all the event was a huge success and we were able to raise funds that will go towards enhancements at both the Staben House and the Eddie Washington Center.

Eddie Washington Center & Staben House 10th Annual Golf Outing



The Waukegan Township Trustees and Supervisor Jones posing for a picture with former Chicago Bears player, Desmond Clark.



The 10th annual golf outing celebrating the Eddie Washington Center and Staben House was held, on August 15, 2014, at Midlane Golf Course. What started out as a cloudy, and rainy day evolved into a bright, sun-filled, outing enjoyed by all. Over 75 golfers were in attendance highlighted by the attendance of former Chicago Bears tight end, Desmond Clark. Desmond joined the many other community leaders, supporters, and donors of the Eddie Washington Center and Staben House for this worthwhile fundraiser. Midlane golf course provided a wonderful backdrop for the day, complete with perfect greens, accentuating stands of mature oak trees, well watered fairways, and a challenging 72 par golf course. This is a golf outing for a very worthy cause, but the competitive spirit of each golfer in attendance was on full display. Everyone was chasing the "Waukegan Township Cup" which is a 3ft trophy with the names of each years winners, engraved on the side of the trophy.

At the Golf Banquet, Desmond Clark, was the keynote speaker and spoke eloquently on how he himself, was considered a statistic, and overcame many obstacles, to become an NFL player. He went on to speak on how many strong mentors were in his life that helped lead him down the right path, and away from many negative influences. He also stated "A lot of people consider NFL players, but the people in this room who help people every day, are the real hero's".

If you were unable to join us this year we hope that you will be in attendance for the 2015 Golf Golf Outing.



Keynote Speaker
Desmond Clark

