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# CHICAGO PEOPLES VOICE

The 2020 Most Influential African Americans of Lake County

Pastors Robert & Debbie  
**Richards**





## BLACK HISTORY MONTH ORIGINS

THE E. REED REPORT

**W**e just celebrated Black History Month in our nation. Locally, there were several black history month celebrations. The Most influential African Americans of Lake County is one of them we celebrate the here and now achievements of African Americans in our community.

I just recently learned that the origins of Black History month began in an YMCA in downtown Chicago, Illinois just to the south of us. Let me tell you the story.

The Wabash Y was the second of twenty-four African American YMCAs constructed

in response to a funding challenge by Julius Rosenwald, president and part-owner of Sears, Roebuck, and Co. Segregation barred African Americans from using the downtown YMCA, so when Rosenwald offered \$25,000 for every community that could raise \$75,000 for an African American YMCA, black leaders across the country quickly rallied support.

"Rosenwald claimed that he was motivated by sympathy for the victims of discrimination. Having experienced the indignity of anti-Semitism, he felt compassion for those who suffered from racism... While Rosenwald shared neither race nor religion with African-Americans in the YMCA, he did share with them a belief in personal improvement and self-help."

Between 1916 and 1970, 6 million African Americans migrated from the South to the North seeking economic opportunity and relief from racial prejudice.

By 1920, Chicago's African American population had grown 148%. Many of my relatives from Arkansas and Mississippi were among that exodus from the fields to the stock yards and factories of the North. For many of these new arrivals in Chicago, the Wabash Y was their orientation center, offering temporary accommodation, job training and placement, and other services. The influx of African Americans combined with increasing racial tensions ignited the Race Riots of 1919. The Wabash Y became an emergency pay station for stockyard workers who could not travel north to collect their paychecks due to the violence.

The Wabash Y also served as a social and recreational hub, facilitating clubs, athletic leagues, entertainment activities, and community volunteering. One of the great historic legacies of the Wabash Y is the birthplace of Black History Month. The "Father of Black History" Carter G. Woodson stayed in the Wabash Y when visiting Chicago, one of the few places African Americans could stay at the time.

Surrounded with other intellectuals and activists, it was here that Woodson formed the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History in 1915 and announced the first Negro History Week in 1926.

Rosenwald shared with them his belief in personal improvements and the African American community informed him of the self-help model that was instituted at the Wabash Y. Woodson spent the rest of his life publishing, teaching, and promoting the idea that Black History is American History and it is largely due to his early advocacy that Negro History Week became a month-long national celebration in 1976.

In the April 1926 Journal of Negro History, Woodson wrote: "If a race has no history, if it has no worthwhile tradition, it becomes a negligible factor in the thought of the world, and it stands in danger of being exterminated."

Inside the Wabash Y ballroom is a mural painted by William Edouard Scott in 1936 entitled "Mind, Body, and Spirit," which highlights the many programs provided by the YMCA. Now considered one of the most important African American artists of his generation, Scott chose to paint scenes infused with optimism and hope for black Americans and rejected the more common images of them as laborers and slaves.

After decades of declining membership, the Wabash Y closed in 1979 and fell into disrepair. In 1992, Patricia Abrams along with the leadership of four historic Bronzeville Churches: Quinn Chapel AME, St. Thomas Episcopal Church, St. Elizabeth Roman Catholic Church, and Apostolic Faith Church began an 8-year initiative to save the building from demolition, raising nearly \$11 million for the cause.

Today the former YMCA has returned to its original purpose: supporting individuals who are working toward a better life. The historic building now houses The Renaissance Apartments and Fitness for Life Center, providing permanent housing for formerly homeless individuals, workforce employment programs, and comprehensive wraparound services to help them reach self-sufficiency.

-Information for this article was provided by MG Media

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# 2020 Most Influential African Americans

## Pastors Robert & Debbie Richards



Pastors Robert and Debbie Richards are joined at the end of the program by friends, church members and family as they are celebrated for their leadership in the community.

Spirit-filled, loving, and business savvy are three terms that may describe this talented couple who have been icons and leaders in the Lake County communities for more than 40 years. In 1990, they founded and built the New Way of Life Church of God in Christ in Waukegan and just recently merged with Debbie Richards's father's, church naming it the New Way Faith Tabernacle Church of God in Christ of Zion.

Dr. Robert Richards is a Certified Herbalist in the study of Iridology, reflexology, anatomy and health building principals. He received an associate degree in nutrition from Global Institute for Alternative Medicine in Naturopathy, in 2004.

Dr. Richards is also the owner and Broker of Hallmark Mergers and Acquisitions LLC in Waukegan.

Dr. Richards received his Bachelors of Theology from Trinity Theological Seminary in Indiana. In 1988, he received a Master of Divinity from Suffield University and in 1989 went on to receive his Doctorate of Divinity from McKinley Theological Seminary in Jackson Mississippi.

Debbie Richards is the founder and owner of the Debbie

Richards Realty Group, which is licensed in, Illinois and Wisconsin. She is also a principal in the DeLeon Sheffield Real Estate Company, which is licensed in Florida. DeLeon Sheffield, a noted singer, actress, and radio personality is their daughter.

A State of Illinois Real Estate Pre-licensing instructor, Debbie has assisted many individuals in obtaining their real estate license.

Debbie has received numerous real estate broker awards and was inducted into the Century 21 Hall of Fame for garnering the title as Mega Centurion. She closed 60-70 transactions per year for 5 consecutive years without assistance. She is a Real Estate "Million Dollar Club" member. Debbie and her daughter, DeLeon were featured in a cable network reality series, Sheffield Real Estate.

Debbie is founder of WOOO "Women One On One" a complete womens support group, and founder of "Your Friend Debbie Ministry". Through these ministries, Debbie has mentored and encouraged thousands of women.

Debbie's favorite scripture is Phillipians 4:13, "I can do all things through Christ that strengthens me."

The couple have one daughter, and four grandchildren.

# The 2020 Most Influential African Americans of Lake County



Left to right; Pastor Eugene Roberson – Master of Ceremonies, Evelyn Alexander – Lifetime Achievement Award, Norma Ivy Venable – Community Service Award, Michael Hargett, Ph. D., Religious Leadership Award, Carolyn Jean Pope – Lifetime Achievement Award, Renee Whitehead – Entrepreneurial Leadership Award, Marvin McBride – Religious Leadership Award, Harriet Holly – Humanitarian Award, The Most Influential Couple, Pastors Robert and Debbie Richards, Colette Davis – Community Service Award, Jeff McBride- Lifetime Achievement Award, Mary Ross Cunningham – Lifetime Achievement Award, Hershel A. Ryales – Lifetime Achievement Award, Carole Steward – Lifetime Achievement award, Elroy Reed – Founder of the Awards program, Yvonne Mason Turnage – Educational Leadership Award. Not pictured are Dr. Sharon Sanders Funnye – Educational Leadership Award, and the Honorable Roycealee J. Wood – Lifetime Achievement Award.

The 24th Annual Most Influential African Americans of Lake County Awards was a huge success. Held in the new Community Action Banquet Hall in downtown Waukegan, the sold-out program honored eight of the County's most celebrated icons with lifetime achievement awards, and nine others in various categories, who had demonstrated outstanding contributions to the community over the last few years. The Billy Hutchinson Band were the featured musical guest with a pleasant solo performance by the talented Tina Hutchinson. The Reverend Robert Richards and his wife, Pastor Debbie Richards were named the 2020 Most Influential African Americans of Lake County.

Sponsors were North Shore Gas, The Honorable State Representative Rita Mayfield, The College of Lake County, Coroner Howard Cooper, The Mason Family, and The 10 Congressional District Democratic Organization.

An annual event, the Most Influential African Americans awards program is held to spotlight the positive contributions of leaders in the community. Recipients are selected on a color blind basis and are nominated based on their leadership within the African American communities of Lake County. The various awards were presented as outlined in the photo above and their biographies as well as pictures from the event are displayed throughout this special edition of The Chicago People's Voice Newspaper.



Bishop Todd & Kathryn Gordon and Otis and Donna Linder were special guests at the event.

# Mary Ross Cunningham & LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



Mary Ross Cunningham is the recipient of the 2020 Most Influential African Americans of Lake County Lifetime Achievement Award.

Lake County Commissioner Cunningham was born on November 19, 1945 in Coatopa, Alabama. Mary has seven children (Dr. Emerson Ross, Jackie Cunningham-Bailey, Mayor Samuel D. Cunningham Jr., Alvin Cunningham (Deceased), Levi Finch, Beverly Ann Finch and Noehmi Finch. In

the early 1970's, Mary went on to pursue a career in nursing at the College of Lake County and later became employed with Veteran Administration Hospital (James Lovell Center) in North Chicago, IL.

Mary enjoyed a career in nursing at the Veteran Hospital for 20 years, then worked at Great Lakes Naval Base Food Service Department as a Supervisor before running for public office. In 2001, she became the second African American woman in Lake County elected as a County Board member.

She has served on a number of boards including Catholic Charities, Community Action Partnership, VISTA Health Medical Center, Pads Homeless Shelter, Women of W.O.R.T.H., and US Senator Mark Kirks African American Advisory Board.

She has received numerous awards and achievements.

Two of the most prestigious accomplishments that Commissioner Cunningham has achieved is coordinating a Driver's License Pilot program to allow Lake County citizens to retain their driver's license. Commissioner Cunningham played a key role with having Dr. Martin Luther King Day recognized as a fixed holiday for Lake County Employees.

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## Robert Collins ENTREPRENEURIAL AWARD

Robert Collins is the recipient of the 2020 Most Influential African Americans of Lake County Entrepreneurial Award.

Collins is a Retired Navy Veteran. He is Owner and President of Rob's Delight Catering Inc. and a Robert Morris University Graduate. He has 27 years of Food Service experience in the Military and Civilian sectors. He founded and manages Youth Age Culinary, a food service training program for youth and adults with a goal of training them on ways to experience a healthier way of life.



# Harriet Holly & HUMANITARIAN AWARD

Harriet Holly is the recipient of the 2020 Most Influential African Americans of Lake County Humanitarian Award.

Harriet was born in Little Rock, Arkansas to the late Ella Anderson and Harry Anderson. She is six of ten children and was educated in the North Little Rock Arkansas school system. Harriet attended Senn High School in Chicago, Illinois and studied at Truman College.

Harriet is the founder and president of Grandparent and Kids Raising Children Lake County, a non-profit organization. Their mission is to assist in the successful development of children being raised by grandparents or relatives. Additionally they provide support and advocacy ensuring a strong community for children and families.

Harriet has owned several successful businesses over the years; Holley and Holley Daycare, CHV Enterprise and Charity Beauty Supplies and



*Rev. Roberson, Lauren Beth Gash, Harriet Holly, Glenda Duncan, and Elroy Reed*

Salon. Harriet is a Rotarian with the Illinois Beach Sunrise Rotary Club and is the former President of the Zion Citizens Law Enforcement Advisory Commission. She was appointed by the Mayor of Zion and the City Council.

Harriet Holley is a resident of Beach Park, Illinois. She is married to the love of her life, Clarence Holley. They have four children and seven grandchildren.



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Through the leadership of the Illinois Legislative Black Caucus, this grant is funded by the State of Illinois through the Illinois Community College Board.

\* Limited number available. Visit website for eligibility and grant terms.



# Evelyn Alexander @ LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Evelyn Alexander is the recipient of the 2020 Most Influential African Americans of Lake County Lifetime Achievement Award.

Evelyn's entire adult life has been dedicated to serving her community.

Evelyn served for 17 years as a school board member in North Chicago Districts 63, 64 and 123. She holds the distinction of never losing an election.

On June 19, 2012 the State Board of Education appointed Evelyn as a member of the Independent Authority for North Chicago Unit School District 187. She remains on the Independent Authority, today. Evelyn also serves on the College of Lake County Lakeshore Campus Advisory Board; where she is a past chairman and currently longest serving member of the board.

She is past President of the North Chicago Rotary, a Paul Harris Fellow, and is noted for being the driving force behind the creation of the Northeast Illinois Tee program.

Evelyn has worked 28 years at the City of North Chicago in various posi-



tions, including dispatcher/police matron, health commissioner, and chief of staff to the Mayor Bobby E. Thompson. Evelyn was also a legislative aide for Senator Terry Link for more than 10 years. She also served as a Commissioner on the North Chicago Housing Authority and the Lake County Community Development Commission

Evelyn is a member of the Eureka Temple #1172

She has received numerous awards, including the YWCA Women of Achievement Award, and the 1977 "Mom of the Year," nominated by her daughter, Cynthia, at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

On June 30, 2017 North School in North Chicago was re-named Evelyn Alexander Elementary School.

She has four children, eight grandchildren and nine great grandchildren.

She has been an active member of the First Corinthian Missionary Baptist Church of North Chicago for more than 30 years.

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Yvonne and Jerome Turnage

## Yvonne Mason-Turnage EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD

Yvonne Mason-Turnage is the recipient of the 2020 Most Influential African Americans of Lake County Educational Leadership Award.

Yvonne followed in her trailblazing mother, Martha Mason's footsteps to become an educator.

She attended Illinois State University earning a B.S. Degree in Education, and later earned two additional Masters

Degrees in Language Arts and Administration and Supervision. Yvonne has been an inspirational and dedicated educator for the past 35 years in Zion School District #6. Not only to her students, but to their parents as well as her colleagues. She has taught 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 6th grades, and has been a

STEM teacher, teaching over 400 students weekly from kindergarten through 6th grade. Yvonne has also been an Assistant Principal.

She started and coordinated an afterschool program called "Charm Club". It gave 3rd through 6th grade girls the opportunity to learn how to make wise healthy choices, carry themselves with confidence, integrity, dignity and grace. Many women quest speakers from the community partnered with her to give back to these girls. Charm Club ran from October through May ending with a Large Fashion Show showcasing all 50 girl's beauty both inside and out.

Yvonne is a business owner, Creative Creations by Yvonne. Through this organization, she has planned, coordinated and designed many large family functions, weddings, church celebrations, fashion shows and events. Her work is impeccable and done with a "Spirit of Excellence."

One of her most notable events is an annual "Lady's Night Out" fellowship. Which she has held for 15 years, with up to 85 ladies in attendance. She wanted to promote love and fellowship among women in Lake County.

Yvonne is retiring from the Zion Elementary School District #6 at the close of the 2020 School year after 35 years of service.

## Norma Ivy Venable & COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Norma Ivy Venable is the recipient of the 2020 Most Influential African Americans of Lake County Community Service Award.

She has been a counselor and therapist for 20 years and currently serves as Program Coordinator for the Addiction Treatment Clinic of Lake County Health Department.

Norma has lead a number of Lake County's therapeutic and behavioral rehabilitation programs, such as Lake County's Williams Consent Decree Assertive Community Treatment Team, Lake County Health Department Group Home, and the Women's Residential Services facility in Vernon Hills.

She is the founder of a youth group called Girls of Character.

She is married and has one high school aged daughter.

*Pictured with Norma (center) are Glenda Duncan, Rev. Eugene Roberson, Pastor Gregory Randle, Robbie Randle, and Norma's Daughter and Husband.*





WAUKEGAN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

# JOB FAIR

Saturday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Whittier Elementary School  
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## The LOCKHART-WHITE REPORT

March 2020

*A communique of the Community Action Partnership of Lake County*

### Did You Know?



Mary Lockhart-White  
Executive Director

On January 9, 1961 two black students, Hamilton Holmes and Charlayne Hunter, entered the University of Georgia campus to register for classes. Their registration was the end of a long court battle to integrate the university that began a decade earlier when another student, Horace Ward, tried to gain admission into the law school. Holmes and Hunter were represented by an NAACP law team, as was Ward, who earned his law degree from a different university.

Both Holmes and Hunter attended Turner High School, an all-black high school in Atlanta, Georgia where Holmes graduated at the top of his class, was the captain of the football team, and senior class president. Hunter finished third in her class, was the lead editor on the school's paper, and was crowned Miss Turner. For almost two years the University of Georgia gave many reasons why they denied these students' applications. While the legal battle continued, the students began their education at different schools.

On January 6, 1961, U.S. District Court Judge William Bootle stated "the two plaintiffs are fully qualified for immediate admission" and "would already have been admitted had it not been for their race and color." On January 9 as the new students walked through the all-white school, they were met by mobs of people yelling racial slurs. On their third night in school, another mob of students headed towards the residence hall where Holmes and Hunter lived. The rioters threw bricks and bottles at the building before the Athens, Georgia police ended the riot.

Later that night, the dean of students, J.A. Williams, pulled Holmes

and Hunter aside and told them that he was withdrawing them from the school "in the interest of your personal safety and for the safety and welfare of more than 7,000 other students at the University of Georgia." More than 400 faculty members immediately signed a petition asking for the return of the two students to the university.

After the students returned, they met another Turner High School alumnus, Mary Frances Early, transferring to the University of Georgia from University of Michigan to offer moral support and earn her master's degree.

The desegregation of the University of Georgia, although initially meeting with extreme racist backlash, was nonetheless a major step toward desegregating colleges and universities in the deep South. The decision to readmit the students and keep the school open was a direct and successful challenge to Georgia legislation that terminated funding for state-run, integrated universities. The school administration continued to run for a short period without the ability to pay its administrators, faculty, and staff until the Georgia legislature repealed this statute.: The Holmes-Hunter Academic Building located on North Campus, the academic building was renamed in 2001 in honor of the first two African students admitted to UGA, Charlayne Hunter (now Hunter-Gault) and the late Hamilton Holmes.

Subjects: African American History, Events Terms: 20th Century (1900-1999), United States - Georgia, Education - Colleges and Universities, Racial Conflict - Race Riots

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# Renee Whitehead @ ENTREPRENEURIAL AWARD

Renee Whitehead is the recipient of the 2020 Most Influential African Americans of Lake County Entrepreneurial Award.

Renee worked for about 10 years as a nurse's assistant at St. Therese Hospital and then decided to attend the McCoy's Barber School in Chicago and

join her dad in his shop. She is the owner of Whitehead's Barbershop in Waukegan and has worked there for 30 years.

As one of only a handful of female barbers, Renee has cut hair for



young kids, preachers, businessmen, blue collar, even famous football players like Neil Anderson and Roland Harper both of the Chicago Bears. She says that all her customers are important regardless of their status in life.

Renee is a member of the First Baptist Church of North Chicago. She likes to travel. Her most fond traveling experience was a

Caribbean Cruise to Aruba. She says that it is nice to see how other people from around the world live. Renee has one adult son and one grandchild.


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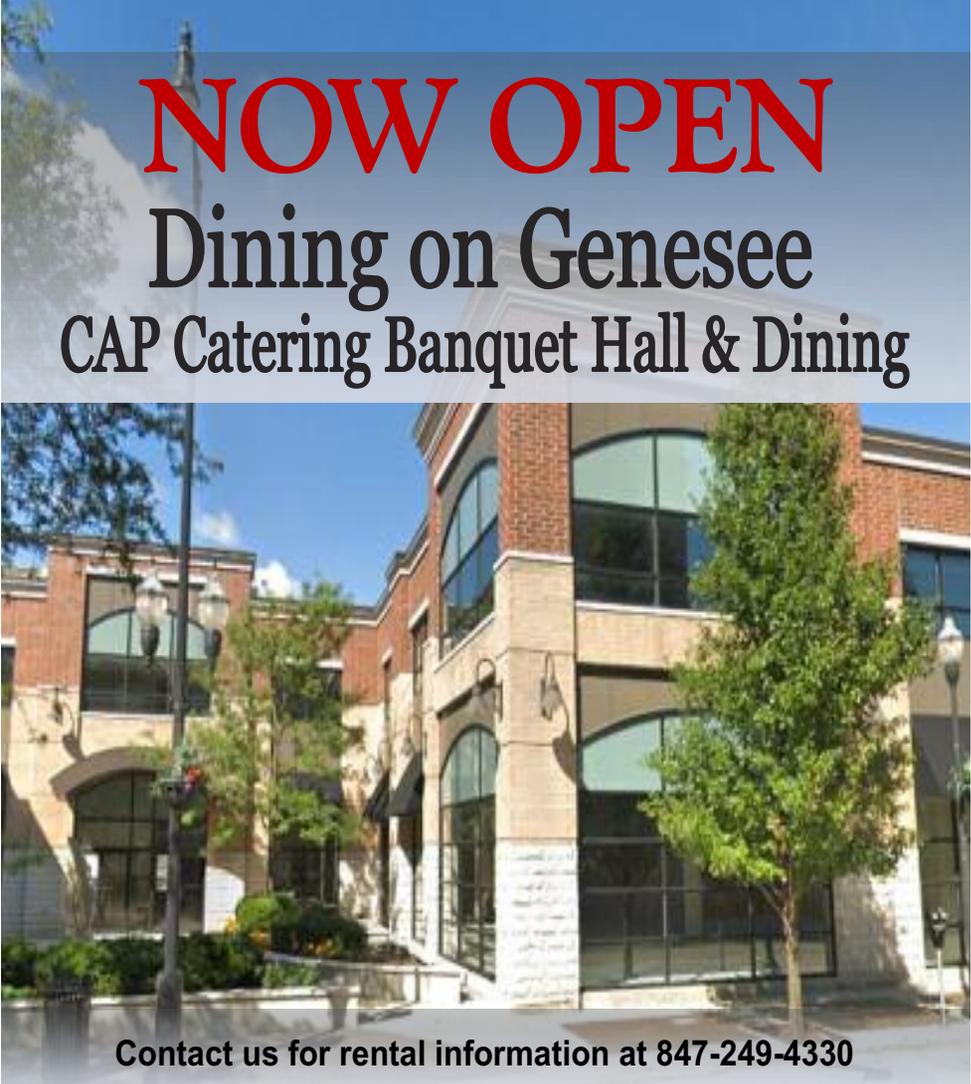
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Want more information on the Walk, Volunteering, Pledge Forms, or Sponsorships, contact Lisa Hayes via 847-249-4330 or [lisa.hayes@caplakecounty.org](mailto:lisa.hayes@caplakecounty.org).

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## Jeff McBride LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Jeff McBride is the recipient of the 2020 Most Influential African Americans of Lake County Lifetime Achievement Award.

Jeff McBride has a rich history of public service. He has served as a basketball referee, to facilitating 3-on-3 Basketball tournaments for young children through an organization that he founded, South Side Positive Youth.

His resumé of community service includes working at the Great Lakes Naval Training Youth Center as a Youth Counselor.

When the Rainbow Skating Rink on Clark Street in Chicago closed, Jeff was able to get them to donate the skates to the YMCA on Sheridan for a local skating program. He has also worked with the Boys and Girls Club, and Citizens Against Drugs and Alcohol. He has served on the Waukegan Township Board of Trustees, The Waukegan Library Board, and on the Waukegan Public Schools District #60 School Board for several terms.

“My most significant achievement was starting the Southside Positive Youth,” says Jeff McBride. “We did quite a bit with this organization.”

His involvement in shaping the lives of young kids through the Southside Pos-

itive Youth organization garnered them an invitation from the Major League Baseball (MLB) Association to attend a training camp. Officials of the MLB presented him with a pitching machine, gloves, bats and uniforms to be used in his program.

The often-invisible community engagement that Jeff is known for includes his dedication to the North Shore Church of Christ, where he met his current wife, Kim. Often, Jeff can be seen mowing the lawn on Saturday mornings, working at the food pantry, and serving in the soup kitchen where the North Shore Church of Christ, under the leadership of Minister Terry Atwater serves hundreds of meals to the homeless, and Thanksgiving baskets to families who could use a little extra help during the holidays.

Few people see the sick, dying and destitute people with whom Jeff has sat and encouraged in their hour of need. Few people are aware of the women, who were on link, but could not afford diapers for their babies, and how Jeff scraped up money to buy supplies so that their children could have dry pampers.

This region-wide knowledge of the good works of Jeff McBride led to an unusual situation. When he ran for the Waukegan Public School Board, after being the top vote-getter, his candidacy was contested due to a 30 year-old felony conviction for stealing an air conditioner. A new law in Illinois states that individuals who have a felony can not run for or serve in public office. The only way for Jeff to stay on the school board was to have his felony pardoned by the Governor of the State. Community leaders came together and petitioned Bruce Rauner, the Governor at the time, to pardon Jeff. Out of approximately 64 clemency petitions reviewed by Governor Rauner, 59 were denied, and five were granted. Jeffrey McBride was one of those five which Rauner approved for pardon.

Jeff continues to serve on the Waukegan Public School District Board of Education as a senior board member.

## Colette Davis & COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Colette Davis is the recipient of the 2020 Most Influential African Americans of Lake County Community Service Award.

Colette Davis grew up a military child, born in France and lived in the Philippines among other places. She has a passion for diversity and community service. Since moving to Illinois, her desire has always been to serve in a capacity where she would have a direct impact and make a difference for future generations. She is a board member with the Coalition for Healthy Communities. Colette is a 2012 graduate of the Zion-Benton Leadership Academy where she currently serves as

Co-Chair of the program. The program recently added 8th-12th grade students. Her vision is to help others achieve their goals, maximize their full potential and pay it forward.

Most recently she is serving as a Mortgage Advisor at Baxter Credit Union. She has over 30 years mortgage lending experience. She counsels and educates the importance of being a good steward with finances.

Colette has a love for learning about and embracing other cultures, traveling and swimming. Davis lives in Zion, Il with her husband. They have 5 children and three grandchildren.



# Marvin McBride RELIGIOUS LEADERSHIP AWARD

Marvin McBride is the recipient of the 2020 Most Influential African Americans of Lake County Religious Leadership Award.

Marvin McBride is retired from the Ann Kiley Center after 30 years and 8 months of service. He is Union President of AFSCME Local 785 for 10 years at the Ann M. Kiley Center. As Union President, Marvin worked to negotiate union contracts for state workers for 12 years.

After retiring, McBride started a cleaning business in 2013 called the Man Mc Cleaning Company.

Marvin is an Elder of the North Shore Church of Christ where he has served as the Youth Minister Director for 25 years. According to church leadership, McBride has had a tremendous positive impact upon the Church's youth. He helps to facilitate the Midwest Youth Conference and has worked with NFL Players like Rashan Melvin, and Barry Minter to implement youth oriented programs in the church.

He is married to Lori Devon McBride, and they have four children, Saqueen, Antoine, Marvin and Melvin.



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**Pastor and First Lady  
Eugene Roberson**

## Carolyn Jean Pope Lifetime Achievement Award

Carolyn Jean Pope is the recipient of the 2020 Most Influential African Americans of Lake County Lifetime Achievement Award.

Jean is a previous Human Resource Abbott Laboratories employee who brings over 30 years of floral experience to Lake County as the now retired Owner of Pope's Florist, Ltd.

She handled the day-to-day operations of the local full-service florist, as well as created floral designs for every occasion. She was recognized by Lake County Community Action Project as the "Small Business Person of the Year" in 1997. She was also awarded the Minority Business Award in 1985 from the Lake County League. She was awarded the Eagle Award in 2004 from the People's Voice Most Influential program.

Jean is dedicated to Lake County through numerous organizations and volunteer work. She is a past member of Partners in Business, The Waukegan Up-

town Lions Club, The Black Chamber of Commerce and Waukegan Chamber of Commerce. Jean previously taught Floral Design for the College of Lake County for eight years.

She is an active member of the First Corinthian Missionary Baptist Church where her Pastor is Reverend Eugene Roberson. She has served in several capacities including the Missionary Ministry, and the Senior Usher Board. She is Founder of the Vessels of Praise Dance Ministry and is a former Sunday School Teacher.

Her education includes the College of Lake County, Barat College, Southern Illinois University and the American Floral Art School.

Jean has been a resident of North Chicago and Waukegan area for over 69 years. She was married to the late Arthur Pope for 35 years and together raised two daughters, Kim Forbes and Rachael Miller. She has five grandchildren.



## Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot, 1st Year Anniversary Speech

Friend, one year ago yesterday, I was humbled and grateful to take first place in the general election for Chicago Mayor and move on to the runoff election. We've had an incredible nine months since the inauguration and it has been an honor to serve as your Mayor for every single one of those days. The rest is not yet history, but we have already managed to fulfill many of the promises of our campaign.

One of the first priorities of my administration was to implement a plan to stop the bloodshed before the height of the summer season. We mobilized CPD and public safety teams and worked with communities to reduce violence, deploying city resources to those neighborhoods most impacted by violence. Shootings and murders were down significantly through the summer, but there is still much work ahead.

On my first day, I took concrete steps to crack down on aldermanic prerogative, which has been at the center of so much corruption and mistrust in our city. We reformed the workers' compensation program, strengthened our ethics code, and proposed more oversight and transparency for TIFs. We're also taking aggressive action to end the cycle of poverty. Our city was addicted to fines and fees that drive people into bankruptcy and destroy their ability to earn a living and contribute to the economy. We put an end to this so residents could get their driver's licenses back and earn a living, and we increased the minimum wage to \$14 in 2020 and \$15 an hour next year.

We also ended the stalemate on Fair Workweek, passing the nation's most expansive scheduling legislation, which will provide stability for hundreds of thousands of hourly workers and their families. I'm particularly proud of INVEST South/West, a

collaborative of government, businesses, philanthropies, and community leaders that will align more than \$750 million in public funding over the next three years toward ten neighborhoods on Chicago's South and West sides.

On education, we secured a historic contract with our teachers that increases pay and create new support staff positions. We appointed a highly qualified and diverse new school board. And our 2020 CPS budget directs more than \$600 million in capital investment covering over 300 schools across the city. We've made great strides on public health, affordable housing, homelessness, transportation, Sunday library hours and the environment. We accomplished all this while also closing an \$840 million budget gap, without a significant tax increase.

None of this could have happened without your support. I am thankful for your faith in me and I look forward to celebrating many more milestones with you.



Regards, Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot.

# Herschel A. Ryales

## LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Herschel A. Ryales is the recipient of the 2020 Most Influential African Americans of Lake County Lifetime Achievement Award.

Herschel is a Registered Pharmacist, licensed in Illinois, Missouri, and Indiana. He served in the US Air force during the Vietnam- Era. Ryales has been active in many professional and com-

munity organizations including board member of the US selective service, and Area Family and Aging Service.

He is a past Steward and Class Leader at the Trinity African Methodist Episcopal Church. He served as Chairman for the Commission on Age and Disability Services, and is the former President of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity.

Herschel obtained a pharmacy degree from St. Louis College of Pharmacy, 1967, and a Masters of Science in Health and Wellness Management from University of Wisconsin, 2020.

Regional Office of Education

Roycealee J. Wood

Regional Superintendent of Schools



**Lake County**

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### CHURCH SCHEDULE

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION 10:00 A.M.

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP 11:30 A.M.

4TH SUNDAY, WOMEN'S MINISTRY 11:30 A.M.

TUESDAY FAST & PRAYER 7:00 P.M. ·

THURSDAY- BIBLE STUDY 7:30 P.M.

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Sunday Evening Service 7:00 p.m.

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Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. -John 3:3

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# Dr. Sharon Sanders-Funnye

## EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD



*Dr. Sharon Sanders Funnye with CLC Colleagues and Friends*

Dr. Sharon Sanders-Funnye is the recipient of the 2020 Most Influential African Americans of Lake County Educational Leadership Award.

Sharon is an Educator-Leader, Mentor, and Dream-Scaffolder. Currently, Sharon is Director of TRiO Educational Talent Search Scholars Program, a pre-college access and postsecondary enrollment program, at College of Lake County in Grayslake, IL. She has also worked as an adjunct professor at Trinity International University in Bannockburn and at College of Lake County in Adult Education. Dr. Funnye has worked in youth development for the non-profit sector for more than 25 years.

Sharon has presented scholarly work at numerous conferences, including the American Educational Research Association Conference in Vancouver, British Columbia and the National Council for Opportunity in Education Conference in both Washington, D.C. and in Chicago, IL. Dr. Sanders-Funnye co-authored a scholarly, peer-reviewed article in the *Journal of Transformative Education* and is published in two books, one of which includes narratives on modeling, mentoring, and othermothering. Sharon was voted Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.'s (Lambda Nu Omega Chapter) Soror

of the Year in 2015 and has served as Vice President and Chaplain for her sorority's chapter.

Dr. Sanders-Funnye has been the recipient of several awards including; Distinguished Program of the Year Crystal Award from the National Drop-out Prevention Network, North Shore's Top Ladies of Distinction Organization for her service to youth, Florida After School Alliance Volunteer Award of Excellence for her work in developing successful, collaborative partnerships for afterschool programming in Lake County, IL, and the NAUW Educator of the Year Award,

Prior to becoming an Educator-Leader, Sharon held various roles, e.g., Scientist, Manager, and Associate Director for Kraft Foods (now Heinz), a Fortune 500 Company.

Sharon received her Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from Savannah State College (now university) in Savannah, GA. She earned her Master of Science degree in Food Science from Alabama A&M University in Huntsville, AL; and her Doctoral degree in Curriculum and Social Inquiry from National Louis University in Chicago.

# Crossword Puzzle

THEME:

## March Madness

### ACROSS

1. Cutlass or Delta 88, for short
5. Passports and driver's licens
8. Bit of smoke
12. Narcotics agent, for short
13. Type of coffee maker
14. Sashay
15. Austin Powers' antagonist
16. Creole cuisine staple
17. Designer Calvin
18. \*Last year's winning coach
20. Red-encased cheese
21. Prepared
22. Drunkard's sound?
23. Source of white meat
26. They are often grand
30. "Ever" to a poet
31. Mrs. Potts of "Beauty and the Beast"
34. Cough syrup balsam
35. Russians, e.g.
37. A shot could prevent it
38. Up and about
39. Lake \_\_\_\_caca, South America
40. Plant disease
42. \*Member of University of Utah team
43. Autumnal zodiac sign
45. Rooster, e.g.
47. Rare find
48. Campus VIPs
50. Razor-\_\_\_\_
52. \*Lowest seed
54. In good health
55. 2017 Oscar-winning animated film
56. "\_\_\_\_ for thought"
59. Essential oil derived from iris
60. Nasal input
61. Pre-swan state?
62. \*NCAA basketball team with most titles
63. \*7 seed opponent in round 1
64. Prospector's mother

### DOWN

1. \*Top seed
2. Abbreviation on a bathroom door
3. Precedes drab
4. Part of an eyeball
5. Vexed
6. Eastwood's \_\_\_\_\_ Harry
7. Quarrel
8. \*Lowest seeded team to win championship
9. Part of ideal
10. Fit for a skinny one
11. Mightier than sword?
13. Give to St. Vinny's
14. Yarn store unit
19. Does like Matryoshka
22. \*An airball doesn't do it to either rim or net
23. Outdoes
24. Thing of the past
25. One of the Muses
26. \*Final \_\_\_\_\_
27. India's sacred flower
28. \*Like last eight
29. More sure
32. Like Bob Ross' hair
33. Layer
36. \*Cavaliers' state
38. Make amends
40. Slow-witted

CROSSWORD															
1	2	3	4			5	6	7			8	9	10	11	
12						13					14				
15						16					17				
		18		19							20				
			21							22					
23	24	25						26				27	28	29	
30				31		32	33				34				
35			36			37				38					
39				40					41			42			
43				44					45		46				
			47				48	49							
	50	51					52					53			
54							55					56		57	58
59							60					61			
62							63					64			

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41. Demosthenes, e.g.
44. Waits for approval, e.g.
46. Being of service
48. D in LED
49. Former prisoner
50. Rigid necklace
51. Catapult
52. One from Glasgow
53. Canceled
54. Olden-day French coin
57. Goes with borrowed and blue
58. Indigo extract



*Donna Linder, State Representative Rita Mayfield, Pastor Eugene Roberson, The Honorable Roycealee J. Wood, and Glenda Duncan, Mistress of Ceremonies.*

# Roycealee J. Wood

## Lifetime Achievement Award

She is the past president of Great Lakes Region of Navy League of U.S. and has been active in the organization for 40 years.

She serves on a number of Boards including the Allendale Association, A Safe Place, NICASA, and the Mothers' Trust Foundation.

Mrs. Woods has also served for 3 years as Chair of the Board of Directors for the Illinois Crossroads Council of the Girl Scouts of America responsible for 24,000 girls and 8,000 volunteers.

She has served the North Chicago, Illinois Public Schools at all levels. She has worked in the roles of teacher, guidance counselor, assistant principal, guidance director, and assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction.

Roycealee J. Wood is the recipient of the 2020 Most Influential African Americans of Lake County Lifetime Achievement Award.

Ms. Wood is the Illinois Regional Superintendent of Schools for Lake County and has served in that capacity for 18 years. She is responsible for all 45 Lake County School Districts.

Roycealee Woods holds an Master of Arts in Education degree from Northwestern University in Evanston.



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# College of Lake County to Fill Open Trustee Position

The Board of Trustees of the College of Lake County Community College District 532 (CLC) is in the process of filling a vacancy on the Board created by the recent resignation of one of its members, Dr. Catherine M. Finger. Dr. Finger was elected to the Board in April 2017, and her term of office expires in 2023. The individual who fills this vacancy will be appointed by the members of the current Board and will serve as a trustee until a successor is elected to serve the remainder of the unexpired term at the next Consolidated General Election for open trustee positions on April 6, 2021.

CLC is governed by a seven-member Board of Trustees elected by the voters of Community College District 532. To be eligible to serve as a trustee, applicants must be: (1) a citizen of the United States; (2) 18 years or older; and (3) a resident of Illinois and District 532, which includes most of Lake County, Illinois, for at least one year immediately preceding the appointment.

Interested persons should send a one-page letter (fax, email, delivery, or mail) to:

Dr. William M. Griffin, Chair, Board of Trustees  
 c/o Karen Senase, Executive Assistant to the President  
 College of Lake County  
 President's Office, Room L223

19351 W. Washington St.  
 Grayslake, IL 60030  
 Fax: (847) 543-3017  
 Email: ksenase@clcillinois.edu

The letter should state why the individual is interested in serving on the Board, their relevant qualifications and experience, and any relationships or affiliations they have, or have had, with the College. Applications must be received by the College by 4:00 p.m. March 26, 2020, in order to be considered. It is anticipated that the Board of Trustees will appoint an individual to fill the vacancy at its April 7, 2020 Board meeting. Applicants with questions about the process should contact Karen Senase at (847) 543-2200.



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Bro. L. C. Jones; Bro. Isaiah Henry;  
 Bro. Victor Gaston; Bro. Duke Albama

### ~ WORSHIP SERVICES ~ & CLASSES

#### Sunday:

Bible Classes 9:30 AM  
 Worship Services 10:45 AM & 6:00 PM  
 Mid-week Bible Study  
 Wed. 7:00 PM Thurs. 9:30 AM

#### Thursday

Youth Life & Learning Center—7:00 PM

### ~ COMMUNITY SERVICES ~

Substance Abuse Programs  
 Sunday; Tuesday; Friday;  
 Saturday, — 7:00 PM  
 Saturday  
 Food For Body & Soul (Soup Kitchen)  
 11:00 AM—12:45 PM

# Carole Stewart & LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Carole Stewart is the recipient of the 2020 Most Influential African Americans of Lake County Lifetime Achievement Award. Carole says that "at the age of self-actualization, my life's mission is to work for God, to spend time with my family with encouragement, and love. Also, to continue to help others in the nursing profession through mentoring, tutoring, and scholarships".

She is a retired Registered Nurse with 25 years of service at the V.A. Medical Center, North Chicago, IL., She is also a retired Army Nurse Corps Officer at the rank of Captain (O-3) after 20 years of service.

She earned several awards from the Army. The combat Service Ribbon, Viet Nam Veterans Ribbon the National Defense Service Ribbon, Army Meritorious Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, Army NCO Professional Development Ribbon and the Army Service Medal.

Carole worked as an adjunct instructor in the Electroconvulsive Therapy Program at Rosalind Franklin School of Medicine and co-published two articles in the Journal of psychiatric Medicine. She has also taught at the College of Lake County for 15 years.

Carole is a charter member of NU PHI Chapter, Inc., Chi Eta Phi Soror-



Carole Stewart (center) with members of the Chi Eta Phi Nursing Sorority, family and friends.

ity, Inc., a sorority of registered professional nurses where she has held several offices including president, and regional secretary.

She is a member of First Baptist Church in North Chicago where she serves as president of the Nurses Board.

Carole is a mother, grandmother, and great grandmother.

# Michael L. Hargett, Sr. PhD RELIGIOUS LEADERSHIP AWARD

Apostle Michael L. Hargett, Sr. PhD is the recipient of the 2020 Most Influential African Americans of Lake County Religious Leadership Award.

He has over 30 years' experience as a Lay Leader, Worship Leader, Volunteer Manager, Program Director and Pastor. Educationally, he attended American Military University, Texas Central College, earning a Bachelor of Science Degree with DeVry University in Project Management. He was conferred a Doctorate in Theology from Open Arms International Bible College and Seminary, Atlanta, GA in 2009.

He is the Servant Leader of Eternal Life Fellowship, a growing discipleship ministry headquartered in Waukegan, IL. He was consecrated and installed as Bishop by the late Apostle Dr. Jerry Herron, Presiding Prelate of Open Arms International in October 2010. Under his leadership,

Eternal Life Fellowship has instituted a host of Millennium Ministry Concepts (MMCs) that has contributed the building of God's people throughout Lake County and around the world.

Apostle Dr. Hargett is a board member of the Saint Isidore Foundation which donates computers and equipment to underprivileged young people and non-profit organizations throughout Lake County. He serves part-time as Executive Director of Mary's Mission where he advocates for the homeless community and provides housing and supportive services.

Apostle Dr. Hargett is married to his high school sweetheart, Katie Dickerson. They have one child.

He and his family live by Matthew 6:33 (NIV) "Seek first kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you."





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