

NEWS FROM THE C . R . A . F . T .

FALL/WINTER 2020

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James Stevenson

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Gloria Hamilton

Helena Rogers

Founder

Rev. Hezekiah Brady, Jr.

1929-2004

Help C.R.A.F.T. Unwrap Some Gifts!!

Even though this has been a challenging year, C.R.A.F.T. has continued to serve the youth in the Pembroke/Hopkins Park area and we are humbled by the fact that God has chosen us to be a light in the community. We have served many children who are indeed gifts from God. We feel that each one of the children/youth that we interact with through our various programs are “wrapped gifts” that we have been charged to unwrap. We feel that through our acts of love and support we are unwrapping the untapped potential, talents, and skills of the youth who are our future. We know that these precious gifts include our future President of the United States, the doctor who will discover the cure for cancer and the common cold, the scientist who will find the solution to the world’s global warming, the musician who will create the next unforgettable symphony, and the child who will create the vaccine that will cure the next global pandemic.

As you make plans for Christmas 2020 and the New Year 2021, please include C.R.A.F.T. in your prayers and in your budget so that we can continue to unwrap the gifts that God has placed in our lives.



Unwrapping Gifts

“Children are a gift from God” Psalms 127:3)

Gifts received-

But left alone-

Remaining wrapped

Are blessings unknown

Our children are gifts

From our Father above.

But gifts to unwrap

Through our acts of love.

Let’s unwrap gifts-

Reveal what’s inside

Society will be blessed

And God glorified.

Hezekiah Brady, Jr. 10.20.01

C.R.A.F.T's Annual Awards Ceremony

While in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic on Friday evening, July 24, 2020, the C.R.A.F.T. Board of Directors still celebrated the 14 scholars who were the recipients of the 2020-2021 Student Assistance Funds for the fall semester. Although the ceremony was held virtually there was still a celebratory atmosphere among the students and their family members. The Words of Inspiration were given by Ms. Mikayla Jones, a past Hezekiah Brady Jr. Scholarship recipient. Mikayla graduated May 2020 with honors from Eastern Illinois University. She majored in Biology and is planning to continue her education to become a physician's assistant.

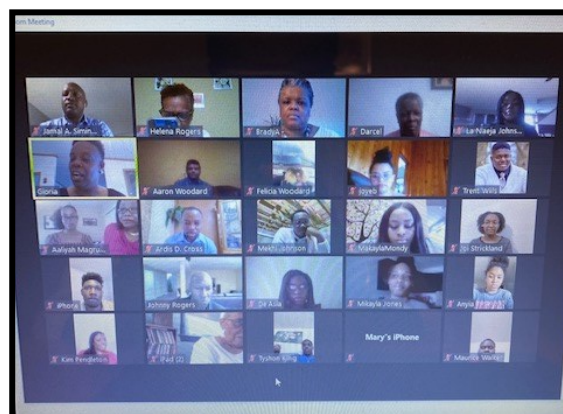
Congratulations to the 2020-2021 Student Assistance Fund Scholars

Juniors

Garriett Pendleton - Maryville University (Sports Management)
Mekfii Sexton Olivet Nazarene University (Computer Science)
Maurice Walker Central Methodist University (Sports Management)

Sophomores

Ke'Mya Jones - Illinois State University (Graphic Design)
Tyshon King - Northern Michigan University (Marketing)
De'Asia Love - Southern University- Baton Rouge (Chemistry)
Aniya Jones - Kankakee Community College (Psychology)
Joi Strickland - Illinois State University International Business

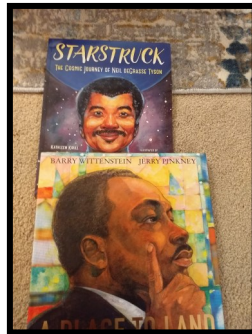


Freshmen

Giannah Boice - Kankakee Community College (Early Childhood Education)
La'Naeja Johnson - Kankakee Community College (Nursing)
Aaliyah Magruder - Grand Canyon University (Psychology)
Makayla Mondy - Savannah State University (Biology)
Trenten Wills - University of Arkansas-Pine Bluff (Business Administration-Finance)
Aaron Woodard - DePaul University (Health Sciences)

Books, Books, Books, and More Books

The C.R.A.F.T. organization has partnered with the Lorenzo Smith School in Pembroke for over 30 years through the Eagles Program. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic we have not been able to work with the students in the school building, but we were determined to be a source of support and encouragement for the students. As a result C.R.A.F.T. purchased and donated books from an African American non-profit organization, Young Black and Lit (<https://www.youngblackandlit.org/>) to two classes in the school where each student received two books of their own. The books were donated to Mrs. Darlene Williams' 1st grade class and Ms. Christine Foster's 8th grade class. Both Mrs. Williams and Ms. Foster are alumni of C.R.A.F.T.'s Student Adoption Program.

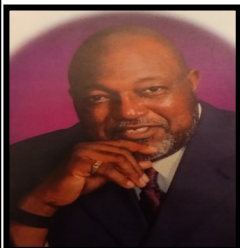


In Memoriam

The C.R.A.F.T. Board of Directors remembers and celebrates the lives of two members of the C.R.A.F.T. organization family. While our hearts are saddened, we rejoice for we know they are safely in the arms of our Lord.



We praise God for the life of **Mrs. Margaret Stevenson** a faithful supporter of the C.R.A.F.T organization where she contributed to the Day at the Market by baking her delicious rolls.



We also praise God for the life of **Mr. Jimmie Stevenson** who faithfully served on the Board of Directors for many, many years. We will miss Bro. Jimmie's faithfulness.

We do ask that you remember the children of Jimmie & Margaret Stevenson who are mourning the loss of both parents in less than a year.

Add C.R.A.F.T. to your prayer list:

- A minimum of 100 additional donors to contribute a minimum of \$50 per month
- Educational success for students in the Student Adoption and Eagles Programs

Visit the C.R.A.F.T. website (craftinc.org)

- You can donate electronically
- You can view videos of C.R.A.F.T.'s Faces of Success
- Learn more about our programs

“And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name JESUS: for he shall save his people from their sins.” Matthew 1:21

Blessed Christmas

C.R.A.F.T. Board of Directors

**I would like to help C.R.A.F.T. continue in its mission to
be a light and blessing to our youth.”**

Enclosed is my tax-deductible gift.

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____ Zip Code_____

Please select one of the following: (☐) \$25 (☐) \$50 (☐) \$75 (☐) \$100 Other_____

This is a (n): (☐) One-time gift (☐) Annual Gift (☐) Quarterly Gift (☐) Monthly Gift

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