



SOUTH SUBURBAN CHICAGO CHAPTER *Newsletter*

Jan/Feb 2017

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President's Letter



Happy New Year and Abundant Blessings in 2017

I truly enjoy December for many reasons as it marks the end of an era which causes many of us to begin planning for the new upcoming New Year. I love the Holiday cheer, the festive music, parties, songs and wonderful comradery amongst friends and family. During this time various television stations and programs will have programs focused on the highlights of the year. As a Christian I take the time to see the "highlights" in my own life, how I have been blessed and how God has continued to bless my family and my loved ones. No matter how challenging the year has been, I am always able to find the "testimony" in my test. And the funniest part is that often times the "test" that I initially thought was challenging really was not that difficult now that it is behind me.

When I review the highlights of South Suburban Chicago, I am delighted to recall the wonderful achievements and events we have experienced this past year. We have continued to "think" outside of the box and it while it has been challenging, it has been rewarding.

As a chapter I have witnessed our amazing growth. I have witnessed us provide support to members who have lost love ones, pray with one another, provide meals to those who are recovering and simply check in with members because as one mother told me, "God put you on my heart"! As we embark on 2017, I pray for where you are and for where God longs you to be, I pray that our children become the leaders we strive for them to be, I pray for the health and safety of our families and ultimately I pray for peace and happiness because where there is "true" peace, there is also "happiness."

Happy New Year,
President Stokes

Soirée 2017: A Pink and Blue Affair

Make sure to get your tickets and tell your family and friends about our upcoming fundraiser on March 17th. Enjoy an afternoon of spring breezes, chic elegance, pink and blue everywhere, live music, socializing with friends, the ultimate day party, all for a good cause: investing in our youth.

Click below to purchase tickets online. Ticket sales end January 15th.
[Soiree 2017: A PINK and BLUE Affair Fundraiser](#)

Up the Hill

Thanks to all who submitted to our Up the Hill publication. Below is the collage that the Publicity Committee sent on behalf of our chapter. It beautifully showcases our group activities, legislative event, fundraiser, holiday party, community service, college tour, and young authors.



Jack and Jill
OF AMERICA, INCORPORATED
SOUTH SUBURBAN
CHICAGO CHAPTER



Community Service Corner: MLK Day

South Suburban Chicago Celebrates MLK Day, Founders Day and Associates Recognition with a Day of Service on Sunday, January 15th at the Holiday Inn-Matteson at 4 p.m.

In addition to recognizing our Chapter Founders and our Associate Members, there will be service projects appropriate FOR ALL AGES at this event. Our evening will conclude with a light meal and fellowship.

This event is for South Suburban Moms, children, tweens, teens, Associates and Guests. (The monthly Teen Meeting will be held in Salon D, after which they will join us for service and fellowship.)

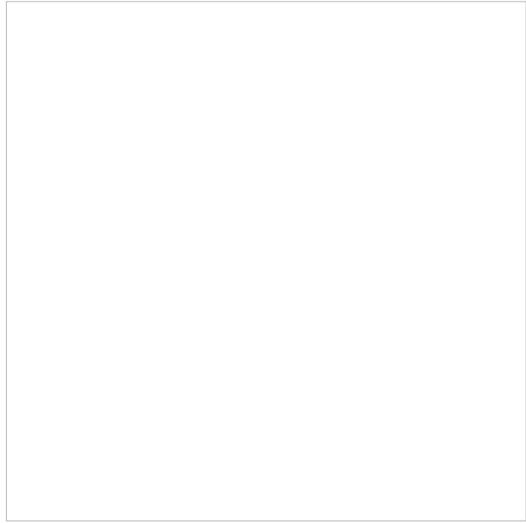
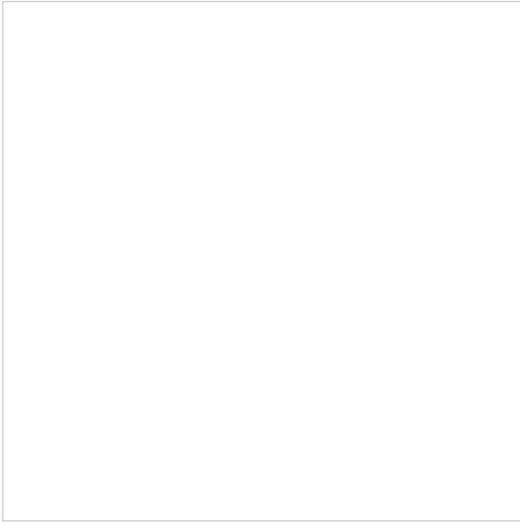
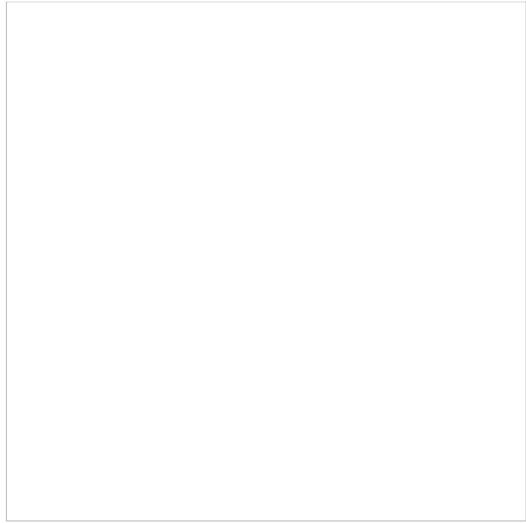
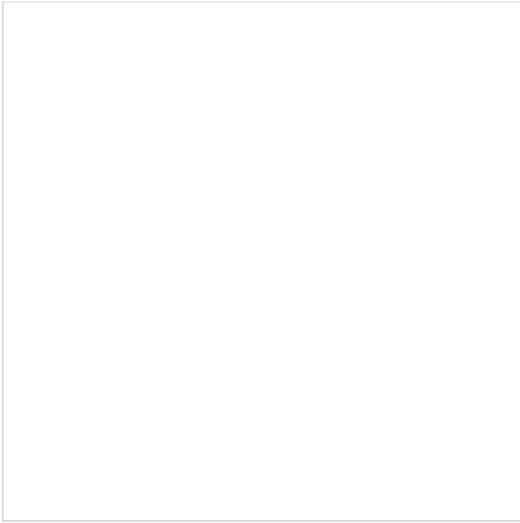
RSVP by TODAY January 10th - The event is free for all active South Suburban Moms, children, teens, and Associates.

All guest over the age of 2 y.o.- \$15/person (3y and up)

"All labor that uplifts humanity has dignity and importance and should be undertaken with painstaking excellence." - Martin Luther King, Jr

Featured Activity: Holiday Party

"Holiday Magic: A Jack and Jill Celebration" was held on Sunday, December 4, 2016 at the Olympia Fields Country Club in Olympia Fields, Illinois. Over 200 guests (adults and children) attended. As the kickoff event to the holiday season, guests were immersed into the spirit of the holidays from start to finish. Upon arrival, guests were greeted by Carolers and treated to refreshments during the cocktail hour. Santa made a surprise visit to the delight of many of the children in attendance. After a lively program and committee presentations, the 2016 Holiday Committee performed "All I want for Christmas" and passed out souvenirs to all Jack and Jill South Suburban Chicago Mothers in attendance. At this year's "Fun Zone," our children and guests were treated to a room of Activity Stations where they made various crafts, saw awesome magic tricks from a magician, ate treats at the sweet table, took funny pictures at the photo booth and danced the evening away. What a great way for our families and friends to celebrate the start of the holiday season! "Holiday Magic: A Jack and Jill Celebration" was a successful event and we helped make the season a little brighter for many children. Click [here](#) to view more pictures from the Holiday Party.

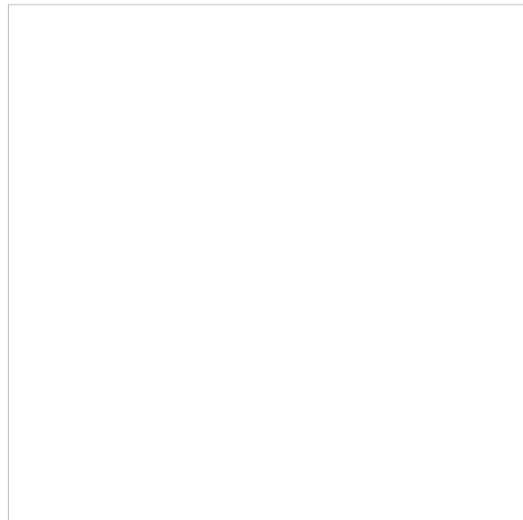
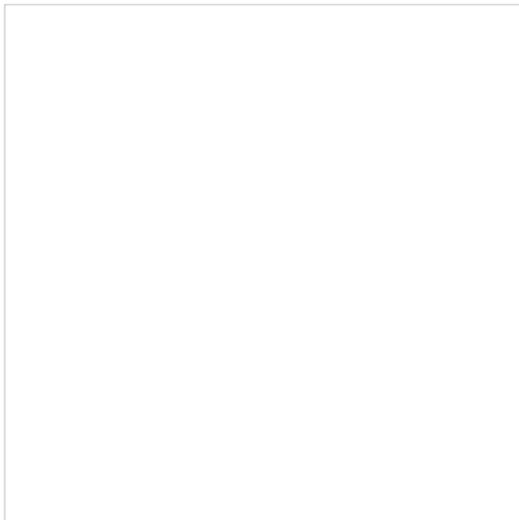


Holiday Wishes Fulfilled

For the 2nd year in a row, as part of the Holiday Party Community Service Initiative we adopted the Boys and Girls Club of Ford Heights and helped to bring some holiday magic to the kids. Thanks to your generosity, we helped to fulfill Christmas wishes for 125 kids, far exceeding our 2015 numbers. Although we were challenged to support a higher number of kids, we rose to the occasion! With a participation rate of 85%, we provided gift cards, headphones, dolls, footballs, remote control helicopters and cars, kitchenette sets, pajamas, art supplies, nail kits, a bike, and so much more. Each child's gift was personally wrapped and labeled with love by our teens, who have had an ongoing presence at the club over the past few years. There was not one kid that left the club without a smile on his or her face.

Additionally, thanks to our guests in attendance, we will also be able to donate close to 40 new books to the club. These books will be a great addition to the library that the chapter is looking to build at the club site later this year.

Once again, we have shown why we are the chapter that, "Keeps Rising to the Top."



2017 Chapter Election

The Nominating Committee will open the election and campaign season on January 11, 2017. Please keep in mind the following dates that will be pertinent to the election:

January 11-January 17, 2017

Call for Nominations

Send out Candidate Forms

January 18-24, 2017

Confirm Nominee Acceptance

February 7, 2017

Candidate Forms Due

February 14, 2017

Call for Nominations from the Floor

February 28, 2017

Final Deadline for declaring to run for office

March 14, 2017

Present Final Slate of Candidates

March 31, 2017

Deadline to submit a statement or electronic flyer for newsletter distribution

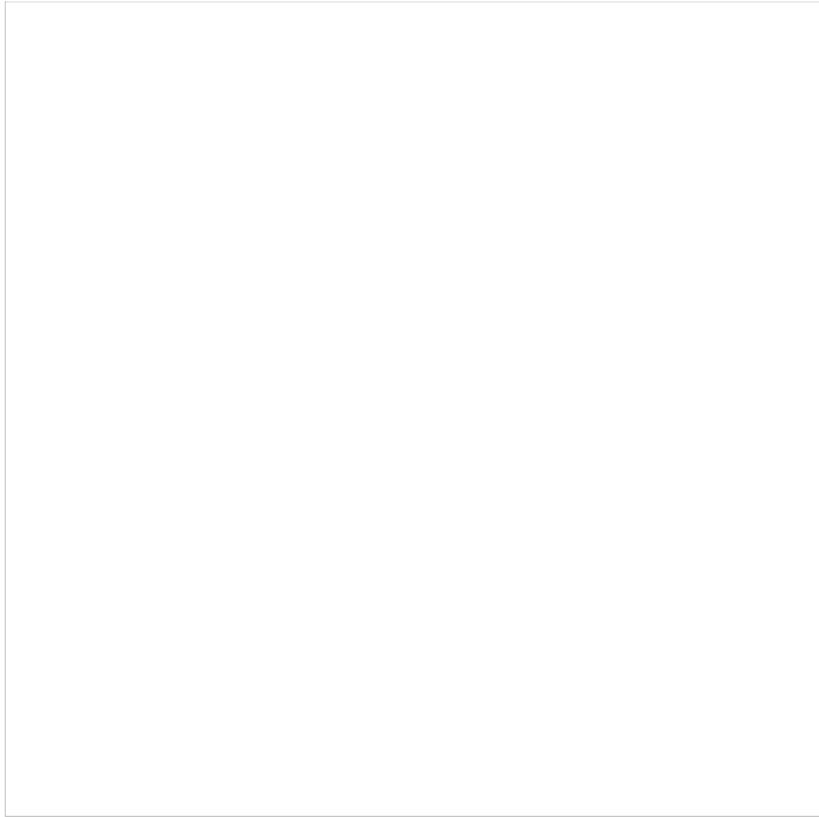
April 11, 2017

Speeches and Election Day

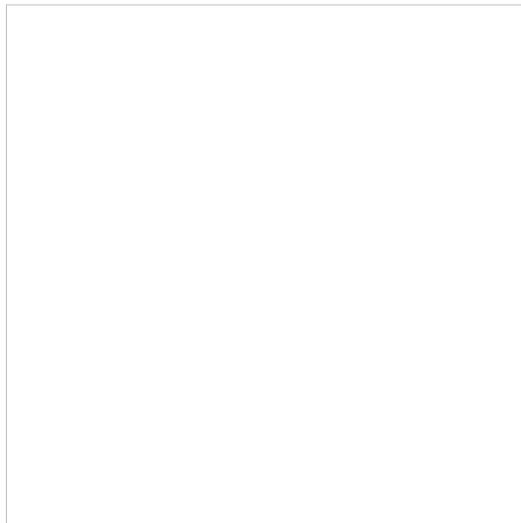
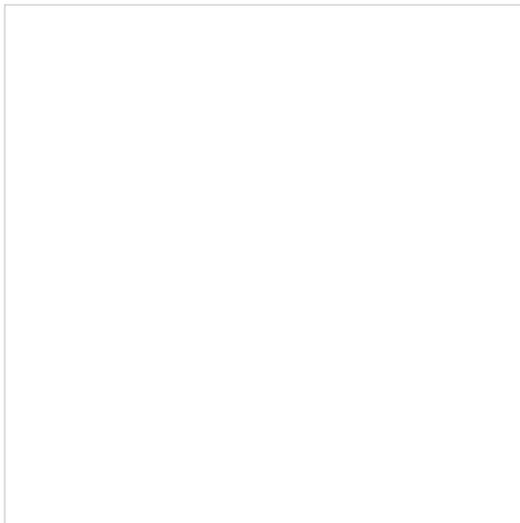
Visit the [Resources](#) page on our website for more information. Please [contact the Nominating Committee Chairman](#) directly with any questions, concerns, or comments.

Kudos Corner

Group 4 Trailblazer Elias Mayes is featured in yet another commercial! In this commercial for Gatorade, Elias plays a young Dwayne Wade in his hometown of Chicago. Wade's vision for the commercial was to highlight the importance of basketball in a child's life, especially when there is danger lurking on every corner. Titled "Sounds of Hope," the clip is a metaphor for how Wade used basketball, specifically the sound of dribbling, as a positive outlet to keep him focused on his goals and away from negative influences. Great job Elias!



Congrats are also in order for two more Trailblazers and Homewood-Flossmoor Junior Viking Cheerleaders, Emma Leak and Almeda Wallace. They competed in the United Youth Football and Cheer Competition in Tampa, Florida on December 10, 2016, and won FIRST PLACE in the NATIONAL Championship! Go Emma and Almeda!



Chaplain's Corner

SOUTH SUBURBAN



CHICAGO CHAPTER

Prayer FRIDAYS

PLEASE JOIN US FOR CORPORATE PRAYER THAT WILL
TAKE PLACE WEEKLY ON FRIDAY MORNINGS AT 6 AM.
APPROXIMATELY 10-15 MINUTES WEEKLY

DIAL-IN NUMBER
712.775.7031

ACCESS CODE
920.256.173

Do you have information or news to share with our chapter?

If you'd like to contribute to the monthly JJSSCC newsletter, please send your
information to editor@jackandjillsscc.com.



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