

Stop what you're doing!

Renaissance West Community Initiative [info@rwci.org]

Sent: Monday, December 07, 2015 7:04 AM

To: [Steve Johnston](#)

RENAISSANCE WEST
**COMMUNITY
INITIATIVE**

Donate Today!



Dear Steve,

STOP WHAT YOU'RE DOING! Shopping online, making grocery lists, or worrying about when relatives arrive - just stop! Amid the hustle and bustle of the holiday season, we'd like to offer you the opportunity to slow down and reflect. How did you get to where you are today? What steps did you take? What's your story? Has your journey been difficult, or relatively simple? Are you thankful for what you have, and proud of what you have achieved? We'd like to share with you the story of a very special woman whose journey has led her here, to The Retreat at Renaissance.

Take a break and enjoy!

From Attorney to Community Advocate - How The Retreat Found a Voice

Rosha McGill was one of the first residents to move into The Retreat at Renaissance when it opened in 2013. After receiving her J.D. from Georgetown University, she had a successful legal career advocating for people living in poverty and victims of domestic violence. A series of health problems forced Rosha to close her private practice and continued to interfere

with her ability to maintain employment in the years that followed. Evicted from her apartment because of inability to pay rent, Rosha finally found a home - and a calling - at The Retreat.



Advocate for Seniors Rosha McGill

When she settled here, she wanted to do something to benefit the mental and physical health of her friends and neighbors. Noting that retired and elderly people often struggle to find purpose in later life, Rosha endeavored to help them find it. Working closely with RWCI Director of Programs Christian Friend, Rosha coordinates exercise classes, book clubs, Bible study, and other social events for the residents. Rosha knows from personal experience that it can be difficult for the elderly to stay motivated and engaged when they are no longer working, so she has dedicated her time to helping her neighbors find passion and purpose. **To read Rosha's full story, [click here.](#)**

Laura Clark is Keynote Speaker at Asheville Housing Summit



RWCI Executive Director Laura Clark speaks at the Asheville Housing Summit

RWCI is influencing the national approach to affordable housing and community revitalization

RWCI Executive Director Laura Clark spoke proudly about what's already been accomplished, and honestly about what still needs to be done for children and families in North Carolina.

Clark's guiding principle: "Children don't come in pieces and parts. We support children by supporting communities."

"We need to accept the fact that when we abandon a community for decades, it may take \$100 million to revitalize them and undo that damage. We have to own that." [Click here for full article.](#)

Do you know why it's so [important to have a point person in charge of community revitalization?](#)

PGA Tour Shines Spotlight on Purpose Built Communities

East Lake Golf Club is at the center of Purpose Built Communities' first revitalization project, The Villages at East Lake.

RWCI is a [Purpose Built Communities](#) network member.

[Click here for full article.](#)



East Lake Golf Club in East Lake, Atlanta, GA

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We all order from Amazon.com. Make your orders count by shopping through **Amazon Smile for RWCI**. Simply bookmark [this link](#) and start from there when you shop at Amazon.com. When you check out, a portion of proceeds will be donated to RWCI. How easy is that? Happy Holidays!

As always, we welcome you to visit The Renaissance and see for yourself the amazing transformation taking place on West Boulevard. [Donate today.](#)

Sincerely,
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