

"If One Fails the Community Fails"

THE PUBLICATION OF THE

African American Communication and Collaboration Council

(AACCC)

AfricanAmericanCommunication.com

January 2016

Greetings!

100 Black Men of Madison Member, Reverend Everett Mitchell, Candidate for Judge



Everett Mitchell is running for Branch 4 of Dane County Circuit Court, which will handle juvenile cases. Amy Smith is retiring. Currently, Attorney Mitchell has no opponents.

Everett Mitchell previously served as a Dane County Assistant District Attorney, handling hundreds of cases at a time. Tim Kiefer, a former colleague and ADA, shared "Mitchell was a well-respected prosecutor who could be counted on to take difficult cases."

As an Assistant District Attorney, Mitchell worked on cases with people accused of battery, bail jumping, obstructing an officer, prostitution, damage to property, criminal damage, burglary, criminal trespass, AND endangering safety by use of a dangerous weapon. When he transferred to the domestic violence unit, his prosecutions dealt with aggravated battery, false imprisonment, strangulation and suffocation, and intimidation of witnesses. Mitchell also worked with victim advocates to support those who suffered domestic abuse.

Everett practices as a pro-bono attorney for those in need of representation, and has authored and implemented strategies to cut recidivism rates for ex-offenders. He and his wife Mankah live in Sun

MISSION

To provide support to positive efforts that are conducted with and on behalf of the African American Community of Greater Madison, Wisconsin;

To establish mutually beneficial relationships between African American organizations of Greater Madison, Wisconsin; and

To establish ongoing dialogue concerning common issues of the African American Community of Greater Madison, Wisconsin.

CONTACT INFORMATION

The South Madison Initiative

A Bold and Necessary Vision



Dr. Jack Daniels,
President
Madison College

During a 15 December, Community Forum, Madison College President, Jack Daniels, outlined "the South Madison Initiative" in the Atrium Room of the Village on Park Mall.

Dr. Daniels explained that the "South Madison Initiative" focuses on populations that have been traditionally underserved who also face other significant barriers in accessing post-secondary education. The goal is to eliminate, as much as possible, those barriers and establish a local presence that provides opportunities to complete a degree or certificate program coupled with other services to maximize opportunities for success. Additionally, the "South Madison Initiative" is the actuation of the concept to assure that area residents who seek post high school education and training can obtain that education irrespective of their financial strata.

Further, Dr. Daniels outlined the Madison Promise, a framework that provides tuition funding to those high school graduates who don't have the ability to pay. This framework is currently being developed with a "roll-out" scheduled for Spring, 2017 at the latest.

Given that Madison College serves the second largest urban population in our State, which involves a substantial number of students who live at or below the poverty level, the potential impact of the "the South Madison Initiative" is significant.

For many of these students, "the South Madison Initiative" can turn the dream of a college education into reality.



By the year 2020, more than 50% of jobs in Wisconsin will be "middle skill." Middle-skill jobs require more than a high school diploma, but not a bachelor's degree - exactly the types of career skills individuals can access through Madison College.

President Daniels also shared that the average age of a current Madison College student is twenty (28) eight which infers that possibly

Floyd Rose, Ph.D.,
President

P.O. Box 8577
Madison, WI 53708-
8577

(608) 241-5858

[E-Mail](#) | [Website](#)

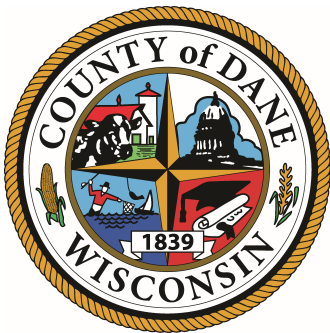
Join Our Mailing List!

many of these students are the "head of a household."

Equity and Inclusion in Dane County!



The NEW Office for Equity and Inclusion is scheduled to take shape in 2016. The Office for Equity and Inclusion furthers Dane County's ongoing commitment to addressing racial, gender, and disabilities disparities. The impetus for creating the New Office for Equity & Inclusion emerged from key recommendations in the 2015 Dane County Racial Equity Analysis conducted by the Center for Social Inclusion and the Government Alliance on Race and Equity. The report suggested that the County, "create infrastructure for overall implementation of report recommendations by creating a new office for racial equity and social justice". The Office for Equity and Inclusion will be charged with meeting many of the goals and recommendations contained in the report.



In launching new initiatives for equity, the office will guide Dane County's Equal Opportunity, Affirmative Action, Contract Compliance, and Civil Rights Compliance functions. In addition, the new office will serve as a resource for all County departments around issues of equity, disparities, conflict resolution, staff development and best practices. In an age where much attention is being placed on racial disparities, the creation of this office demonstrates a long term commitment to address these issues and institutionalize the work of heightening awareness, eliminating disparities, and achieving equity. There will be more details to come as the year begins in 2016. For more information contact Wesley Sparkman at (608) 266-5623.

7 & 11 January

Parent Engagement Sessions



The Madison Metropolitan School District will host two parent engagement sessions to increase awareness and gather parent feedback, 5:30 to 7:30 pm, Thursday, 7 January, at **Mount Zion Baptist Church**, 2019 Fisher Street, Madison, Wisconsin, and Monday, 11 January, at **Christ Solid Baptist Church**, 1502 Parkside Drive, Madison, WI

53704. [Please see flyer for additional information.](#)

[Please click here to register](#) for the Parent Engagement Session, 7 January at **Mount Zion Baptist Church** and [please click here to register](#) for the for the Parent Engagement Session, 11 January at **Christ Solid Rock Baptist Church**.

12 January

January Monthly Luncheon



Madison Network of Black Professionals

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Madison Central Library, 201 W. Mifflin St., Madison, WI 53703, sponsored by the Madison Network of Black Professionals.

The Madison Network of Black Professionals is a diverse group of individuals, interconnected by heritage, education, business, technology and social activities with the purpose of networking and sharing information of interest to African Americans in the Greater Madison area.

Please register at <http://madisonblackprofessionals.com/cms/?p=440>.

12 January

NAACP Dane County

Branch Membership Meeting



6:30 p.m., Urban League of Greater Madison, 2222 S. Park Street, Suite 200, Madison, WI 53713.

The mission of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Dane County Branch, is to ensure the political, educational, social and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate race-based discrimination.

15 January

Fresh Perspective Opening Reception



A reception celebrating the show, Fresh Perspective will be stage in the Overture Playhouse Gallery on Friday, January 15 from 6-9 PM with live performances on the Rotunda Stage. The Fresh Perspective Art Collective has

united to present a fresh male African-American perspective. As fathers, husbands, businessmen and mentors, these emerging and established Wisconsin visual artists seek to curtail the negative portrayal of black men in the media today. This collaboration is designed to expand creative opportunities and tear down barriers that limit success for many of these men and their families. There is no charge for admission and all ages are welcome.

16 January

30th Annual "I Have a Dream" Scholarship Ball



6:00-11:00 p.m.
Monona Terrace, Madison, WI
Formal Attire
Reservations required by 6 January
Hosted by Women in Focus, Inc.

For information and to make reservations please

visit <http://www.womeninfocus.net>. Fifty percent of the \$80 ticket price is tax deductible. [Click here to view flyer.](#)

17 January

32nd Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Outstanding Young Person Breakfast



8:00-10:00 a.m.; Edgewood High School, 2219 Monroe Street, Madison, WI; Tickets are \$10. For more information and registration, please

visit <http://www.ulgm.org/mlkevents>.

18 January

MLK Youth Day of Service and 36th Martin Luther King, Jr., Celebration



MLK Youth Day of Service

9:00 AM; More than 300 students from across Dane county participate every year; Wisconsin Institutes for Discovery; 330 N. Orchard Street, Register

at www.ulgm.org/YSD2016.

36th Martin Luther King, Jr., Celebration

Capitol Rotunda, Madison, WI; The event will illumine the role of women in the Civil Rights Movement then and now.

The City-County Observance will take place on Monday, January 18, 2016 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. at the Overture Center for the Arts, in downtown Madison, Wisconsin. This year's observance continues the popular tradition of kicking-off with a "Freedom Songs Sing-in" from 5:00 to 5:30 p.m. in the Rotunda of the Overture Center. The City-County Observance will then take place beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Overture Center's Capitol Theater. The Observance will also feature presentation of the Madison-Dane County Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Award by Dane County Executive Joe Parisi and Madison Mayor Paul Soglin. Annette Miller, Emerging Markets and Community Development Director with Madison Gas & Electric will serve as M.C.

18 January

31st Annual City of Madison & Dane County King Holiday Observance



Overture Center, 5:00 p.m. Freedom Songs, 6:00 p.m. Program;
Keynote Speaker: Ernest Green.

The Madison/Dane County King Coalition is pleased to announce that the 31st Annual City of Madison & Dane County observance of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday will feature Earnest Green, one of nine students, known as the "Little Rock Nine" to first integrate Central High School following the 1954 U.S. Supreme Court decision in Brown v. Board of Education. Several books, movies and documentaries have been produced chronicling

Mr. Green and his eight classmates' historic year at Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas-the most recent being The Ernest Green Story, produced and distributed by the Walt Disney Corporation. Mr. Green went on to a successful career in finance. He served as Assistant Secretary of Labor for Employment and Training during the Carter Administration. Mr. Green has been recognized as one of the "Top 25 African Americans on Wall Street" and as one of the "75 Most Powerful Blacks on Wall Street."

Mr. Green, along with the other eight students, was presented by President Clinton with the highest honor this nation gives to a civilian-the "Congressional Gold Medal"-for his outstanding bravery during the integration of Little Rock Central High School in 1957. In 2005 Mr. Green and the other Little Rock 9 were honored with a commemorative stamp by the United States Postal Service, and in 2007 President George Bush signed an Executive Order authorizing the U. S. Mint to issue a one-dollar coin commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the "Little Rock Nine."

2016 Community Calendar



**African American Communication
and Collaboration Council**

Currently, the African American Communication and Collaboration Council (AACCC) is in the process of establishing a comprehensive Community Calendar for 2016.

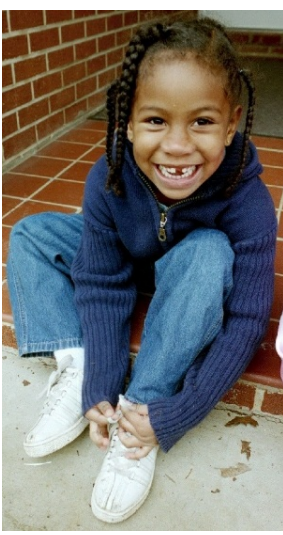
Often, attendance at important activities has been reduced due to scheduling conflicts. Although some conflicts cannot be avoided, an expression of what has been scheduled provides an opportunity to mitigate such conflict.

Community-based organizations, fraternal, civic, religious, etc. are requested and encouraged to forward meetings and events that have been scheduled for 2016 in which notice or promotion or involvement is sought.

Please forward information and questions to president@africanamericancommunication.com.

The Shoes-in-Boots Project

Make a difference in the life of a deserving little girl ...



Many, many years ago, a second-grade little girl was asked by her teacher to come to the front of the classroom and write a word on the blackboard. Although she was more than able to satisfy the academic request, the little girl was reluctant to come forward. Still, she complied.

As the little girl finished writing and placed the chalk back into the tray, she could feel the teacher's eyes fixed on her feet. "Won't you please remove your boots [galoshes]?" the teacher asked. (The teacher recognized that it was late spring and not raining outside.) Now, the eyes of everyone in the classroom were fixed on her feet.

Pushing her embarrassment down, the little girl politely answered, "No thank you. I would rather keep them on.

What the teacher and her classmates did not realize was that the little girl wanted to remove her boots but she opted to keep them on because they were holding her dilapidated shoes together. Without the support of the boots, the second grader might as well have been barefoot.

This story is not an urban legend; it is a true story that occurred about 68 years ago. The little girl was my Mom. By the grace of God, my Mom transitioned from a child of poverty to a very productive and satisfying life, and she is now 98 years young.

In her honor and to provide assistance to other second-grade girls who may be experiencing a similar fate, The Shoes in Boots Project was created.

The objective of this Project is to provide a new pair of shoes or a new pair of boots to a deserving area second-grade girl. The only requirements, aside from the qualifications of



being in the second grade and able to demonstrate need, is for the recipient second grader to write a letter of thank you, in her own handwriting, to my Mother (Lula Rose) within a week of receiving

the shoes/ boots and supply a picture of her wearing the shoes/boots.

Note, this project is privately funded by Floyd and Mary Rose. Donations are not sought, only the information about the second grade girls who could use a new pair of shoes or boots.

[Click here to take action](#) and nominate an area second-grade girl who is deserving of a new pair of shoes or boots.

Now Accepting Articles & Photos

We are currently accepting stories and photographs for future issues of "If One Fails the Community Fails." Please submit your stories and event photos for consideration. Submission does not guarantee placement in this publication.

Stories should be 200 words or less and electronic photos should be 300 DPI or better in JPG format (NO SCANNED PHOTOS). Include captions for each photo (who, what, when, and where). Photos without captions WILL NOT be considered.

Submit your stories and photos (with captions) to
president@africanamericancommunication.com.