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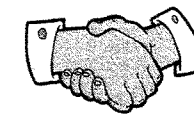
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THE WOODSONIAN

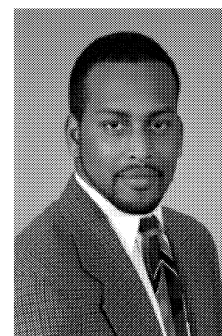


The official newsletter of the Carter G. Woodson Scholarship & Community Service Foundation, Inc.

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Farwell from the President by Langston P. Evans



Friends of the Woodson, it is with great pride and satisfaction I humbly announce the end of my three-year tenure as the president of the Carter

G. Woodson Foundation. I have collaborated with so many generous corporations and individuals sincerely committed to improving the Madison community. Each corporate grant, community partnership and individual donation has been a cherished blessing. We have allied to give Dane County's children a chance at a better tomorrow. Thank you to all who have supported me as I've guided the Carter G. Woodson Foundation's efforts to implement effective programs that have improved the daily lives of our most deserving neighbors.

Over the last three years, we have aggressively addressed the needs of the disadvantaged and downtrodden in Dane County. Three years ago, I pledged to fight for better educational opportunities for our children. The Woodson Foundation has awarded over \$2,500 in scholarships and book awards to graduating high school seniors. I salute these young men and women who have proven their mettle in high school, and I want them to know that their successes are all of our successes. Our RIF Book Distribution

Program, chaired by Charles Brown, has distributed 1,000 books to elementary and middle school students. I would like to thank Principal Nancy Evans at Wright Middle School, and Marcia Hendrickson of the Boys & Girls Club of Dane County for working with us to give local children the gift of reading.

Since 2004, we have doubled our commitment to the Thanksgiving Food Drive. Working with Mt. Zion Baptist Church and Second Baptist Church, we have identified hundreds of families who would not have had the opportunity to enjoy a traditional Thanksgiving meal. We have committed to this project with our hearts as well as our pocket books. Foundation members have taken time away from their families to package and deliver these meals. The Woodson Foundation is committed to direct and personal service.

On March 25, 2006, we hosted a fabulous Community Service Fundraiser at the Edgewater Hotel. The Perry Wilson Quartet graced us with a wonderful performance of R&B, jazz, and soul music. Guests dined and danced as they supported the good work of the Foundation. This event allowed the Woodson Foundation to not only entertain our supporters, but to communicate our vision for a better tomorrow.

Looking forward, I see many challenges for the Woodson Foundation. In Madison, like many other places, basic social safety nets are

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The Woodson Foundation, Inc. Executive Board of Directors

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Motto

Education
+
Community Uplift
=
An Improved Quality of Life

Who Is Carter G. Woodson?

Dr. Carter G. Woodson, for whom the foundation is named, was born to former slave parents on December 19, 1875 in Buckingham County, Virginia. Although his parents were illiterate, Dr. Woodson autodidactically learned to read and write by the time he reached 17 years of age. He earned his high school diploma at the age of 23 in 1897. Dr. Woodson earned a Bachelor of Literature degree from Berea College in 1903, a Master of Arts degree from the University of Chicago in 1908, and a Ph.D. from Harvard University in 1912. On September 9, 1915, he founded the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH). The purpose of this organization was the documentation and chronicling of

facts and figures about Black history and promoting the study of all aspects of Black life for the betterment thereof. On January 1, 1916, Dr. Woodson began publishing the Journal of Negro History, a quarterly publication dedicated to the promulgation of Black history. In 1926, he initiated the celebration of Negro History Week. It was intended to be a celebration of the accomplishments and contributions that Blacks have made to the world throughout history. In the 1970's, Negro History Week was expanded from one week in February to span the entire month of February; thus, the celebration was renamed Black History Month. Dr. Woodson was a prolific writer. His literary compendium consists of 18 books on

various aspects of Black life and Black history. His preeminent work was the Mis-Education of the Negro. It was published in 1933 and was an analysis of the failure and shortcomings of the traditional methods of educating Black people and why those methods did more to perpetuate the second-class citizenship status of Blacks rather than elevate them to first-class citizenship. Dr. Woodson made his eternal transition on April 3, 1950. His body rests in Lincoln Memorial Cemetery just outside of Washington, DC. Dr. Woodson's legacy is one of perpetual pursuit of knowledge and history of Black people.

Thanksgiving Food Drive

On Tuesday, November 21, the Social Action Program will sponsor its Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive at the Mt. Zion Baptist Church in South Madison. Food baskets containing turkeys and other non-perishable goods will also be made available to Second Baptist

Church. Some volunteers at the drive make themselves available to deliver baskets to individuals with handicapping conditions. The foundation has sponsored the food drive for 10 years now and has made a real difference in the lives of less fortunate families and

individuals at this special time of year. American Family Insurance has been a major sponsor of this event since 1996. If you need more information on the food drive or would like to volunteer, call Lionel Norton, chair, Social Action Program, at 608-347-3452.

Books Distributed

In December 2005 & May 2006, the Reading Is Fundamental Book Distribution Program sponsored two book distributions at the James C. Wright Middle School in South Madison. The program distributed 190 new, high-interest, multicultural books to students in need of reading materials in the home. RIF's approval status requires a motivational speaker at each book distribution. Dr. Bettsey Barhorst, president of Madison Area Technical College, was the motivational speaker at the December distribution. She spoke about the value of reading and shared her experiences and zeal for

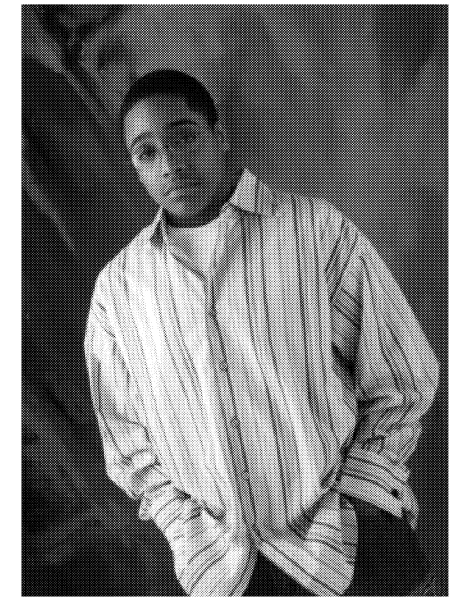
reading as a child in a rural community where she hauled her books home in a wagon. It was a fascinating story. At the May's distribution, Nancy Evans, principal at Wright Middle School, was the motivational speaker. The Book Distribution Program is in the 10th year of its RIF approval status. This special status allows the foundation to receive discounts of up to 75% on its book orders from selected publishers. Moreover, RIF provides other support in terms of fundraising, parental involvement, motivational strategies, etc. RIF is a grassroots network of more than 219,000 volunteers and

serves 3.74 million children at more than 17,000 sites in all 50 states including DC and U. S. offshore territories. Since its founding date in 1966, it has put more than 173 million books into the hands and homes of America's children. The foundation thanks volunteers for their continued support of our goal of fostering reading as a life-long activity among children. If you are interested in helping at one of the distributions, serving on the Book Distribution Committee, or speaking at one of the distributions, contact Charles Brown, chair, RIF Book Distribution Program, at 608-274-0311.

Scholarship Recipient

Jerrell Ritcherson is the 2006-07 recipient of a \$1,000.00 scholarship. He is a graduate of Edgewood High School and is currently attending Columbia College in Chicago where he is studying to become a professional actor. His acting background includes serving as a member of the Edgewood Drama Club, Spring Harbor Drama, and Children's Theater of Madison. Beyond his commitment to honing his acting skills, he has also shown involvement in community service. He has devoted time to Goodwill, the Mt. Zion Baptist Church Homeless Ministry, and Quaker Housing Development. Moreover, he has appreciated the responsibility of serving as a mentor to young students at Queen of Peace School. It is through Jerrell's attainment of goals, academic

achievement, and commitment to the community that make him an exemplary model for future scholarship applicants. Criteria for a Woodson scholarship require that the applicant be a graduating high school senior and plan to attend a recognized two or four-year educational institution; possess a minimum of 2.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale or its equivalent; show evidence of successful community service; and demonstrate financial need. Applications are made available to area high school guidance counselors or minority service coordinators, or interested applicants may write the Woodson Foundation, P. O. Box 1494, Madison, WI 53701-1494, attention scholarship chair, and request an application.



Fundraiser, Successful

On March 25, 2006, over 100 supporters of the foundation convened at the Edgewater Hotel for the Annual Community Service Fundraiser. The educational arena was represented including the Office of the Chancellor of UW-Madison, UW-Platteville, and Madison Area Technical College. There was corporate support from

Alliant Energy, The Capital City Hues and the Genesis Corporation. A number of businesses showed their support by placing an ad in the fundraiser's souvenir book. Governor Jim Doyle sent a congratulatory letter commending the foundation for creating the tremendous partnership with the Madison community.

Madison Mayor David Cieslewicz sent a city proclamation declaring March 25, 2006, as Carter G. Woodson Foundation Day. Proceeds from the fundraiser will be used to help fund the four major programs of the foundation: Social Action, Scholarship, Cultural Enrichment, and the Tutoring/RIF Book Distribution Program.

President's corner continued...

fraying, leaving the most vulnerable among us, children, dangerously alone. School violence is too common, too many poor and minority students are not meeting the grade,

and too often music videos and video games provide the moral compass for today's youth. To meet this challenge, we must walk hand-in-hand with the downtrodden and disadvantaged. We

must follow our charitable donations with charitable actions.

Thank you everyone. The last three years have been challenging but rewarding

