

# "If One Fails the Community Fails"

## THE PUBLICATION OF THE African American Communication and Collaboration Council (AACCC)

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April 2015

### Historic Election

*Four African Americans now serve as Madison Alders*



Samba Baldeh  
District 17



Sheri Carter  
District 14



Maurice Cheeks  
District 10



Barbara McKinney  
District 1

For the first time in the 177-year history of Madison, the City Council will include African American women and be comprised of four aldermanic seats held by African Americans.

The April Spring Election resulted in the elections of Samba Baldeh, Sheri Carter and Barbara McKinney, who were involved in competitive races, and Maurice Cheeks, who ran unopposed.

Twenty percent of the Madison City Council is now African American.

Aside from this being a "watershed" moment in the history of Madison, a more admiring consideration is that none of the Districts represented by the four African-American Alders are predominantly African American.

The elections of Alders Baldeh, Carter, McKinney and Cheeks echo volumes about their capabilities and capacities. And equally important, it expresses a clear, positive message about the wisdom of those who elected them.

#### 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

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### Ray Allen Appointed Secretary State of Wisconsin DFI



Ray Allen was named Secretary of the State of Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions 27 February 2015, by Governor Scott Walker.

Mr. Allen has worked for the Department for eighteen years, the last four as deputy secretary. He replaces Peter Bildsten, who served four years in the position.

Mr. Allen is a Milwaukee native who earned a journalism degree from UW-Madison and worked as a marketing representative for the John Deere Company before embarking on a career in state government. He served three terms on the Madison School Board and owns The Madison Times, a weekly newspaper serving the African-American community.

## **Dr. Ruben Anthony Named New Leader of Urban League of Greater Madison**



On Friday, 27 March 2015, the Urban League of Greater Madison board of directors announced Dr. Ruben Anthony as its new Chief Executive Officer. Dr. Anthony lives in Madison and has a rich 27-year background in business and transportation management and applying his expertise in the fight for civil rights.

"We have reviewed applications from across the U.S., but have found the perfect fit right here in our backyard in Dr. Anthony," said Nia Trammell, the chairwoman of the Urban League's executive board. "Ruben has strong ties to the Madison community and understands completely its cultural strengths and the challenges that lie ahead."

Dr. Anthony founded RowJAC Consulting firm in 2013, which specializes in civil rights compliance related to government contracting. He also served as a disadvantaged business enterprise adviser to Milwaukee County, Milwaukee Sewerage District, the Minnesota Department of Transportation and the Dulles Airport in Washington D.C. Prior to these ventures, Dr. Anthony served 19 years as a manager with the Wisconsin Department of Transportation, ending his career as the Deputy Secretary overseeing 3,600 employees and a budget of more than \$3.25 billion.

## **African American History Challenge Bowl**

***11 April 2015 - MMSD Doyle Administration Building***

The 100 Black Men of Madison African American History Challenge Bowl (AAHCB) is an educational program designed to enhance the study of African-American history. The AAHCB is open to all Madison-area middle school students with the goal to encourage pride, self-worth and an appreciation of the African-American legacy and culture. It also is a challenging and fun way for students to expand their knowledge of African-American History in highly competitive local and national competitions.



The 2014 winner of the local competition was the team from Badger Rock Middle School (pictured above).

To attend this event, [please click here to register](#).

## Party with the 100

*18 April 2015 - UW-Madison Pyle Center*



On behalf of the 100 Black Men of Madison, Inc., you are invited to come Party with 'the 100' 7:00-11:00 p.m., 18 April 2015, in the Alumni Lounge of the Pyle Center, 702 Langdon Street, Madison, WI 53706.

This will be a good ole' fashioned party with everything you need for a good time.

[Click here to register](#).

## And Last ...

*The Assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.  
... how could we forget?*



Many view the personal impact of a historical event by recollecting what they were doing when the event occurred or how the event changed their lives.

And for many, but not nearly enough, 4 April marked the forty seventh (47) anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., arguably an individual who impacted and changed the lives of millions.

Some of his accomplishments include:

- **The 1963 March on Washington** involving more than 200,000 people at the Lincoln Memorial, where he delivered the historic "I Have a Dream" speech, which called for an end to racism.
- **The Montgomery Bus Boycott**, stimulated by the arrest of Mrs. Rosa Parks, that lasted over a year and eventually led to a Supreme Court ruling that dubbed segregated buses unconstitutional.
- **The Founding of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC)** in which Dr. King served as the first president. Under Dr. King's guidance, the SCLC peacefully organized mass protest campaigns, voter registration drives and fought for equality.
- **The initiation of the Birmingham Campaign**, which was a strategic effort to end Birmingham's segregated civil and discriminatory economic policies. The campaign began with a boycott on local businesses to pressure them to desegregate. When the boycott initially failed, Dr. King and the SCLC started "Project C," a series of sit-ins and marches. Although protests turned violent at some points, with Birmingham police

using brutal force to control protesters, the campaign was an immense success. King's reputation improved, Jim Crow laws ended and public businesses and restaurants became more open to African-American patrons.

- **Co-authoring the 1965 voting rights bill**, a landmark of federal legislation that prohibits racial discrimination in voting. Designed to enforce the voting rights guaranteed by the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments to the United States Constitution, the Act resulted in the mass enfranchisement of racial minorities throughout the country, especially in the South. According to the U.S. Department of Justice, the Act is considered to be the most effective piece of civil rights legislation ever enacted in the United States.
- **Being a winner of the Nobel Peace Prize at the age of thirty five.**

*Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. did so much for so many.*

*Do we need a holiday to remember the passing of one of the most influential individuals of the 20th Century?*

*How could we forget?*

*Shame on us ...*

## 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](mailto:president@africanamericancommunication.com).

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