

# "If One Fails the Community Fails"

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

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### African American Participation in Elections Is Not an Option but an Obligation



African-Americans demonstrate in favor of a strong civil right plank outside GOP convention hall, Chicago, Illinois, July 1960.

News Flash, Today is Election Day!

As you ponder your response to this somewhat questionable "breaking news," consider the following.

Although for many citizens it is just another day, for African Americans, Election Day has special meaning. Aside from participating in an activity that will determine who will preside over the affairs of our government, Election Day for the African-American

Community affords the rare opportunity to attempt to pay the debt that we owe to those amazing heroes and heroines who fought and died to provide us the privilege of voting. It took the eventual passage of four constitutional Amendments, the 14th, 15th, 19th and 24th and the Voting Rights Act of 1965 before all African Americans could freely vote in the U.S.

According to United States census data, over 66 percent of registered African-American voters went to the polls for the November 2012 election. That's two percent higher than registered White voters, and nearly six percent higher than U.S. voters overall.

Although many view this percentage as positive, given the years of

#### 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.

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pain and suffering endured by our relatives who built this Country, fought its wars and raised its children, we as African Americans, collectively, should be more than ashamed. One-third of eligible African-American voters not voting is unacceptable.

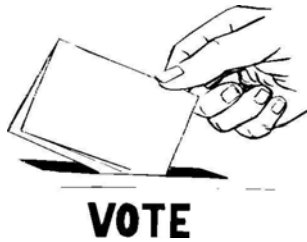


Our forefathers and foremothers did not allow transportation issues, bad weather, bad jobs, political games, illiteracy, threats, bodily injury, assault, etc. to dissuade them from establishing the right to vote.

*Andrew Goodman (20), James Chaney (21), and Michael Schwerner (24). These three civil rights workers were among the many who risked their lives and were murdered registering voters in the South during Freedom Summer in 1964.*

Today, when you exercise your freedom to vote or not to vote, remember who provided the option of that freedom and what they paid.

## "A Ride to the Polls"



"A Ride to the Polls" is a nonpartisan effort to provide accessible rides to the polls on Election Day. Rides will be available throughout Madison between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. To schedule a ride, please access

<https://ridetothepolls2014.eventbrite.com>.

## 10 November 2014 The Fall Gathering



"The Fall Gathering" will be held **5:30-7:30 p.m.**, 10 November 2014, in the **Roosevelt Room** of the **Madison Club**, 5 East Wilson Street, Madison, WI 53703.

The objective of this event is to afford **African-American Professionals in our Community** and **African Americans associated with the University of Wisconsin-Madison** a networking opportunity "to get to know the best of one another."

There is no cost to participate. But, space is limited and advanced registration is required. [Click here to register](#).

## Cesar Chavez Elementary School Awarded

## 2014 Wisconsin PBIS Network School of Merit

The Cesar Chavez Elementary School of the Madison Metropolitan School District (MMSD) was recognized as a recipient of the 2014 Wisconsin Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support (PBIS) Network Award of Merit.



Principal, Linda Allen

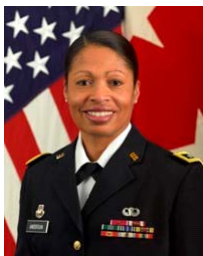
Headed by Principal, Linda Allen, Chavez Elementary was distinguished by:

- Implementing critical elements of tier 1/universal PBIS with fidelity (as measured by the Benchmarks of Quality),
- Using behavioral data (Big 5 data) within a problem-solving framework in order to improve the outcomes of students, and
- Regularly using fidelity tools to self-assess and plan implementation efforts.

Principal Allen and the teachers of Chavez are known for their proactive approaches that establish safe and effective school programs. For many years, Principal Allen and the teachers of Chavez Elementary have supported appropriate student behaviors by explicitly teaching students about good behaviors as part of the curriculum.

The respected, invaluable staff of Chavez Elementary were recognized at the 29 September MMSD Board of Education Meeting.

## 10 & 11 November 2014 Pulse 2014: Diversity's Evolving Paradigm & Practical Approaches



Major General, Marcia Anderson

The free 2014 annual UW-Madison Diversity Forum, hosted by the Office of the Vice Provost & Chief Diversity Officer and Division of Diversity, Equity and Educational Achievement, will be a two-day learning event centering around the discussion of contemporary issues, the changing definition of diversity, potential solutions and practical applications.

This year's forum will be held on Monday & Tuesday, November 10 & 11 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. with registration at 8:30 a.m. A continental breakfast and lunch will be provided.

On the second day of the Forum, Nov. 11, Veteran's Day, we'll open with sessions in the Pyle Center, 702 Langdon St. In the afternoon, we'll be celebrating our military veterans with Marcia Anderson, the first African-American woman to achieve the rank of Major General in

the United States Army Reserve, at the Wisconsin State Historical Society Auditorium across the street.

[View flyer](http://go.wisc.edu/ssgmkn) for additional information. Register today at <http://go.wisc.edu/ssgmkn>.

## 14 November 2014 Partners of Hope Reception: Working together for hope, transformation and justice

The first Partners of Hope Reception will be held Friday, 14 November from 6:30-8:30 p.m., sponsored by the Nehemiah Center for Urban Leadership Development at the Fountain of Life Church, 633 W. Badger Road, Madison, Wisconsin.



The **Nehemiah Center for Urban Leadership Development** serves the under-resourced population of the greater Madison area with a primary focus on at-risk African-American families. Nehemiah addresses the needs of the entire family by focusing on spiritual issues, economic needs and academic success. The Center seeks to inspire transformation by building meaningful relationships, providing coaching and mentoring, creating peer support groups and offering mediation and advocacy. In order to interrupt the cycle of poverty, racism, and discrimination that many families face, the organization concentrates on prevention, early intervention, education and restoration. See <http://nehemiah.org/invited> for more information.



## 15 November 2014 Annual Wisconsin Statewide Omega Psi Phi Luncheon



Dr. Rolland Thorpe

The Men of the Gamma, Gamma Gamma Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., will host the Annual Wisconsin Statewide Omega Psi Phi Luncheon, from 12:00 - 3:00 PM, at the Concourse Hotel, Madison, Wisconsin.

**Note, THIS IS A PUBLIC EVENT.**

The theme of the event is the "State of Emergency, African American Males."

The keynote speaker for the event is Dr. Rolland Thorpe of the John Hopkins University, School of Public Health. Dr. Thorpe will address the importance of Mentoring African-American males and the role that mentoring plays in their success.

Please [click here to register](#) online or contact Langston Evans via phone (608) 338-4016 or email, [inheritors45@yahoo.com](mailto:inheritors45@yahoo.com).

## 22 November 2014 The 5th Annual Scholarship Community Recognition Jazz Brunch



The Madison Metropolitan Chapter of The Links, Incorporated will stage their 5th Annual Scholarship and Community Recognition Luncheon, Saturday, 22 November 2014, at the Sheraton Hotel

Madison, 706 John Nolen Drive, Madison, WI 53713. Social Networking begins at 11:00 a.m., and the Jazz Brunch & Program begin at Noon.

For more information, [click here to view flyer](#).

## 2 December 2014 Community Christmas Celebration in Support of Toys for Tots



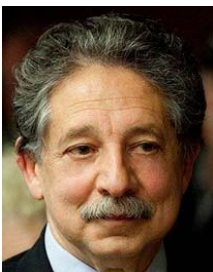
The 4th Annual Christmas Community Celebration in Support of Toys for Tots will be held on 2 December 2014 at the Sheraton Hotel, 706 John Nolen Drive., Madison, WI 53713.

In the last three years, over 6,000 toys have been collected for distribution to needy area youth by the 100 Black Men of Madison.

In lieu of admission fees, attendees are asked to bring an unwrapped gift worth \$15 or more to donate. A Corporate Challenge will again be fused into this year's activity.

Please click here to review [Sponsorship Opportunities](#).

## And Finally ...



At a recent event encouraging voter turnout during the 4 November Election, City of Madison Mayor, Paul Soglin, (joined by City Clerk, Maribeth Witzel-Behl; Civil Rights Director, Lucia Nunez; Senior Center Director, Christine Beatty; and Alder, Lisa Subeck) said, "We are going to exercise our rights to ensure this is a democracy. We are going to vote no matter how many

hardships. We are going to do everything we can do to encourage people to get to the ballot box."

During the conference, the Mayor pointed out that:

- The U.S. Supreme Court has blocked the photo ID law for this election. Remember, you DO NOT need a photo ID to vote today.
- Wisconsin has same-day voter registration.
- Today, if you have not voted before and have lived at your current address for at least 28 consecutive days, you can register right at your polling place.