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# "If One Fails the Community Fails"

THE PUBLICATION OF THE

## African American Communication and Collaboration Council (AACCC)

[AfricanAmericanCommunication.com](http://AfricanAmericanCommunication.com)

October 2012

Greetings, Floyd.

### Calendar of Events

[Click here](#) to view the  
entire AACCC  
Calendar of Events.

### The November Election - A Debt to Be Paid

This election will have a profound impact on our country's place in the world, our economic future, our healthcare and educational costs, and much more. We know how important each and every vote will be in determining the outcome. The election in November will impact all of us. The stakes are too high to let others decide for us.



**I NEED YOU**

### Vote now!

Here are a few important tips:

- If you need to vote absentee, please visit <http://gab.wi.gov/elections-voting/voters/absentee>. The request for an absentee ballot by mail, e-mail or fax must be received by your clerk no later than 5:00 p.m. (CST) on Thursday, 1 November, in order for an absentee ballot to be mailed to you.
- In-person, early voting started Monday, 22 October, in Wisconsin. Registered voters do not need to give a reason to vote early and can vote early up until Friday, 2 November. Ballots must be cast in person at the voter's municipal clerk's office (<http://gab.wi.gov/clerks/directory>).

Early voting frees you up on Election Day to help others get to the polls.

**Many died to provide the opportunity and privilege to vote. Please do everything in your power to ensure that they did not die in vain.**

**27 October**  
A Kappa Night of Mystery & Mystik Costume Party

**6 November**  
Election Day

**15 November**  
Annual Simpson Street  
Neighborhood Reunion Video  
Showing

**16 November**  
African American Youth  
Summit

### MISSION

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

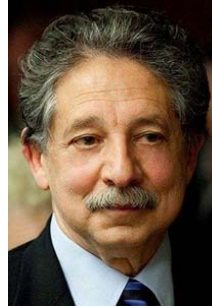
To establish mutually beneficial relationships between African American organizations of Greater Madison, Wisconsin; and

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

**CONTACT  
INFORMATION**

## Madison Mayor Takes Budgetary Steps to Positively Affect the African American Community

In his proposed 2013 Capital Budget, Mayor Paul Soglin has added \$2 million for community neighborhood centers. This money would be used for acquisition and/or construction or renovation for new centers. Possible uses of this money would be for:



- Renovation of one or two apartments in the Brentwood Neighborhood to be used for youth activities, meetings and planning for residents. This is intended to be a first step until the City has more resources to develop a more appropriately sized neighborhood center for the high number of youth and growing educational and enrichment needs of the area.
- The purchase and renovation of a duplex on Jacob's Way (in the Teresa Terrace area) on Madison's Southwest side to be used as a small center for residents to conduct planning activities for youth, neighborhood meetings, etc.
- The creation of a McKenna Park facility (in the Shorewood Hills community), which would serve as a neighborhood center for youth activities, meetings, planning events, etc.
- Expanding the Meadowridge Library Branch.

The facilities listed are all in areas that are disproportionately poor and serve larger numbers of ethnic minorities. "My hope is that by putting meeting places in the neighborhoods listed, a greater sense of community will be promoted, and more opportunities for youth programming and educational enrichment can be experienced. We know a disturbing trend exists - that there is a lack of community meeting space in the City's most challenged neighborhoods. I hope to address this with this initiative." said Mayor Soglin.

All of the proposed efforts are contingent upon Common Council action and a Neighborhood Center Study conducted by the City's Community Development Division.

To learn more about the proposed 2013 City of Madison budget, visit <http://www.cityofmadison.com/finance/budget/2013/>.

## Grading Wisconsin's Schools

*Wisconsin DPI Issues Report Cards*

*by Guest Columnist, Interim MMSD Superintendent, Dr. Jane Belmore*



On 22 October the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (DPI) issued a report card for every public school in Wisconsin. The school report cards confirm our knowledge about how our schools are doing on increasing student achievement, closing gaps and preparing our students for college or career.

To see which of our schools are meeting or failing expectations, according to the state, visit <http://dpi.wi.gov/reportcards/madison.html>.

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Our work does not stop with this measure. We will not be satisfied until each of our students is achieving and on the path to meeting expectations. The school report cards will be one of many tools that the Madison Metropolitan School District plans to use to make improvements and close gaps. Along with other assessments and data, the school report cards will help bring clarity and focus on that path to improvement.

Contact your school or the MMSD central office with questions and feedback by calling (608) 663-1879.

## Christmas Community Celebration in Support of Toys for Tots

4 December 2012 - Fitchburg Community Center - Fitchburg, WI

The 2012 Christmas Community Celebration in Support of Toys for Tots will be held 4 December from 5:00-7:30 p.m. This activity of 100 Black Men of Madison, Inc. is a community-driven event. In lieu of admission fees, attendees are asked to bring an unwrapped gift worth \$15 or more to donate to the United States Marines Corps' Toys for Tots program.



Last year, the 100 Black Men of Madison collected more than 1,200 toys for area youth.

The Fitchburg Community Center (Stoner Prairie Dining Room - lower level), 5510 Lacy Road, Fitchburg, Wisconsin, will be the location of this year's activity. Refreshments will be served.

Individual and group registrations are available. This event is **OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**. For more information and to RSVP your attendance, please visit <http://100bmmcccst4t2012.eventbrite.com/>.

## 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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