

# "What They See Is What They Will Be"

*News from the 100 Black Men of Madison, Inc.*

**December 2011**

## Calendar of Events

[CLICK HERE](#) to view the entire 100 BMM 2011 Calendar of Events.

### December 2011

#### 6 December 2011

Adoption of Orchard Ridge Elementary School Reading Program

#### 8 December 2011

Executive Committee Teleconference

#### 8 December 2011

Christmas Community Celebration in Support of Toys for Tots

**17 December 2011** General Membership Meeting

#### 20 December 2011

Adoption of Orchard Ridge Elementary School Reading Program

## Christmas Community Celebration in Support of Toys for Tots

*Thursday, 8 December 2011 - The Edgewater Hotel - Madison, WI*



The **2011 Christmas Community Celebration in Support of Toys for Tots** is a community-driven event supported by 100 Black Men of Madison, Inc. In lieu of admission fees, attendees are asked to bring an unwrapped gift worth \$15 or more to donate to the United States Marine Corps' Toys for Tots program.

The event is from **5:00-7:00 p.m. at The Edgewater Hotel in Madison, Wisconsin**. Refreshments will be served.

Individual and group registrations are available as well as an opportunity to donate if you are unable to attend the event, **which is open to the public**.

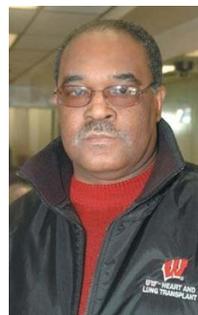
For more information and to RSVP, please visit <http://2011christmascommunitycelebrationattend.eventbrite.com/>. If you plan to attend, please RSVP via the above link as soon as possible.

## Where Campus Meets Community: Celebrating the Life of LaMarr Billups

*11 December 2011 - Edgewood College*

A celebration of the life of LaMarr Billups will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, 11 December 2011, at St. Joseph Chapel, Edgewood College, 1000 Edgewood College Drive, Madison, Wisconsin.

In addition, a memorial fund has been set up at the Urban League of Greater Madison. Checks can be made payable to "Urban League of Greater Madison - LaMarr Billups Memorial" and sent to Urban League of Greater Madison, 2222 S. Park Street, #200, Madison, Wisconsin 53713.



## La Follette African American Achievement Team Recognition



One of the goals at La Follette High School (LHS) this year is to engage more African American parents in the school. To help accomplish this goal, La Follette, in partnership with the United Way, held an African American Parent Kick-off Night on Tuesday, 15 November, from 6:00-7:30 p.m.

## MISSION

The Mission of the 100 Black Men of Madison, Inc. is to improve the quality of life within our communities and enhance educational and economic opportunities for all African Americans.

## VISION

100 Black Men of Madison, Inc. seeks to serve as a beacon of leadership by utilizing our diverse talents to create environments where our children are motivated to achieve, and to empower our people to become self-sufficient shareholders in the economic and social fabric of the communities we serve.

## VALUES

100 Black Men of Madison, Inc. is committed to the intellectual development of youth and the economic empowerment of the African American community based on the following precepts: respect for family, spirituality, justice, and integrity.

At the Kick-off event, LHS highlighted many of their amazing African American students and the organizations/clubs they are a part of, such as the African American Achievement Team, Dollars and Sense, Black Student Union, Right Track, and Student Athletic Advisory Committee.

The evening started with a BBQ dinner and a short program followed, when LHS recognized students and informed parents of all the wonderful opportunities for African American students LHS has to offer. Also during the program, LHS staff introduced parents to attending members of the 100 Black Men of Madison (The "100") and elaborated on the great work LHS and The "100" do together for the benefit of their children.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

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## Pending Legislation - Assembly Bill 286

Assembly Bill 286 is an act to repeal statutes relating to permitting an employer to refuse to employ or bar from or terminate employment an individual who has been convicted of a felony.



The current state fair employment law prohibits discrimination in employment based on arrest or conviction record. This bill specifies that it is not employment discrimination for an employer to refuse to employ or to bar from or terminate employment of an individual who has been convicted of a felony and who has not been pardoned for that felony, whether or not the circumstances of the felony substantially relate to the circumstances of the particular job.

Also under Assembly Bill 286, home rule or the ability for cities or villages to determine its own local affairs, such as compliance or rejection of this law, will not apply. As such, this Bill prohibits any county, city, town or village from adopting any provision that conflicts with this law.

Note, many troubled African American youth, who are charged with an offense and have no money for an attorney nor parental support, plead to a lesser offense to avoid jail time and become felons before they turn twenty years old.

This law, if passed in its current form, would deny many of those youth an opportunity for legitimate employment for the rest of their lives.

## 2011 "Remember to Believe" Summit for African American Male Students



The "Remember to Believe" Summit for African American Male Students was presented by the 100 Black Men of Madison on 18 November at the headquarters of American Family Insurance Company in Madison, Wisconsin.

The purpose of the Summit was to address the ongoing concerns that the parents, students, schools and community are wrestling with today: attrition rates, academic achievement, social and personal responsibilities, suspension, and incarceration rates of our youth.



It is our belief that if we wait for others to address our youth and their issues, the outcome will be what we see now: low self-esteem, lack of goals and dreams, and poor academic motivation, thus



creating frustration, which leads to aggressive behaviors and results in incarceration or death (both physical as well as psychological).



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