

## EMCC Wins! 2018 Design for a Difference Makeover



**E**MCC will undergo a complete interior makeover thanks to Design for a Difference – Madison. At the Floor360 Spring Into Design event on March 21st, EMCC Executive Director Tom Moen and Assistant Director De’Kendrea Stamps received the 2018 honors.

Design for a Difference – Madison selects one non-profit for a makeover each year. From April through October, a design team will plan and execute the new space. The renovation will include new flooring, paint, furniture and decorative finishes. Last year’s makeover

at Centro Hispano was valued at \$600,000 for donated materials, design time and labor.

Angela Skalitzy, VP Sales and Design at Floor360, says she can envision transforming the Center into “a fun, flexible space that gives energy back to the people who use it.” The goal of Design for a Difference is

to improve the space, shine a spotlight on the nonprofit, and showcase the power of design to make a difference in people’s lives.

The work will be done by hundreds of businesses and individuals who volunteer time, materials and manpower to implement the design. ■

### The Goal

of Design for a Difference is to improve the space, shine a spotlight on the nonprofit, and showcase the power of design to make a difference in people’s lives.

If you’re interested in helping EMCC prepare for the remodeling, contact De’Kendrea Stamps at [dstamps@eastmadisoncc.org](mailto:dstamps@eastmadisoncc.org) to volunteer.



Visit EMCC’s website at [www.eastmadisoncc.org](http://www.eastmadisoncc.org)

**Chili  
Cook-off  
Highlights**  
Pg. 2



**FRC  
Celebrates  
One Year**  
Pg. 3



**Dance  
Groups  
Perform**  
Pg. 4



**Alder Letter:  
Housing  
Shortage**  
Pg. 6



# Competition was **HOT** at the EMCC Nutrition Education Month Chili Cook-Off

The 2nd Annual Truax Neighborhood Chili Cook-Off was held on Wednesday, March 7th in the East Madison Community Center multipurpose room. This event was created last year to kick off National Nutrition Month, provide information to EMCC families about upcoming spring events, and to promote safety over the summer months. This year's event drew over 125 eager community voters to determine this year's Chili Champions! The competition was stiff and creative with one cook creating an innovative Vegan Purple Chili that took home 3rd place. However, it still proved no match to the reigning champions from Hawthorne Elementary School who took home the Chili Trophy again this year. ■



## Chili Cooks

- **FIRST PLACE – Hawthorne Elementary School Teachers: Maria Loy**
- TNT Family Resource Center: Sheray Wallace
- Quentin Sears
- Madison Police Department-North District: Officer Dex
- Madison Police Department-North District: Officer Alex
- Sarah Gilmore
- Malinda Sloan
- Madison Fire Department: Firehouse 8
- Nora Adams
- John Harmelink



## Community Groups in Attendance:

- AIDS Resource Center WI
- MPD C.O.R.E. Team
- Madison Gas & Electric (MGE)
- Books Across the World - Rotary
- TNT Family Resource Center
- MSCR – Senior Walking Group
- Truax Community Garden
- Free Bike for Kids Madison
- Voter Coalition
- UWDC Comprehensive Medical Review
- Isthmus Montessori Academy
- Midwest Environmental Justice Organization (MEJO)



**thanks!**

facebook



**We are on Facebook!** On Facebook, we have our up-to-date schedule of events. You will also be able to see pictures of EMCC events. Give us a "Like", so you stay up-to-date with what is happening in the community.

TODAY NOT TOMORROW FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER: PLAY, LEARN AND GROW...TOGETHER!



## TNT Family Resource Center Celebrates 1 Year Anniversary at the EMCC

Since opening in June 2017, the Family Resource Center (FRC) has been filled with laughter and play of little ones and their caregivers. Families enjoy our open play times from 10am to 4pm Monday through Friday. We have areas of our space set up for specific play.

Puzzles and toys designed for little hands fill the shelves and draw the attention of little one as they enter our doors. Wooden and plastic blocks as well as large



cardboard blocks are often turned into towers and buildings where dinosaurs live with little people figures. Trains, planes and cars make their ways through the imaginative roads that are found among the blocks.

*The Today Not Tomorrow Family Resource Center is a place for you and your little one to Play, Learn and Grow ...Together! Stop in and meet us! Or call 608-268-6968 to ask about any of our activities and family support services.*

Do you love a tea party? Or grilling out or cooking in the kitchen? Visit our imaginative play space that has a kitchen with pots and pans, fruits and vegetables, and even special dessert treats! If the baby doll's clothing or blankets need to be washed there is a washer, dryer, and ironing board in the space.

Nothing makes play more fun than music and dance! And the Family Resource

Center has hand instruments and other musical instruments to play.

Infants also have a special place at the Family Resource Center to enjoy tummy play time! There are lots of rattles and hand toys for the youngest of our guests.

While our age focus in the center is infants to 4 yrs, we have monthly special activities for families and activities for all ages! ■

### Save the Date

#### Mark your calendar for these upcoming EMCC 2018 Events!

- **May 24th – June 28th:** Thursdays, 1-2 pm, MSCR Walking Group
- **June 1st:** EMCC Volunteer & Scholarship Dinner
- **June 18th – July 13th:** Pre-Teen Summer Camp
- **June 30th:** EMCC night at the Mallards Duck Pond
- **July 16th – August 10th:** Teen Summer Camp

#### Also coming in Summer 2018:

- UWDC Comprehensive Medical Reviews
- Biking Around Town – Family Bike Rides

**In addition** to offering times of play and fun family activities, the FRC is a place to receive information and support from the collaborative partners that make up the FRC. Here is a listing of some of our ongoing support services:

#### **The African American Breastfeeding Alliance:**

Breastfeeding support and coaching; Breastfeeding education classes the 4th Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm.

#### **Harambee Village – Pregnancy, Birth and Breastfeeding Support:**

Community Doula Support; Dinner with a Doula the 1st Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm.

**Project Babies:** Support with items of need for infants and toddlers; parenting coaching and support is also offered.

# Performing Ourselves Dance Program Shines Bright at East Madison Community Center



Every Wednesday, a dedicated group of preteen girls and boys work hard perfecting their dance skills, building their confidence, and expressing themselves with the community dance program, Performing Ourselves. Over the past couple of months, the group has created three unique dances that show their versatile styles and personalities. They have showcased their dances multiple times throughout Madison including

at the Madison Circus Space for their "Mishmash" show, the Fit Youth Initiative Family Fun Night, and their big spring performance at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. This culminating performance, entitled "Better Together", took place on May 5th at the UW Dance Department theater. Our preteens showcase their hard work among almost 100 other students from all over Madison. They were so



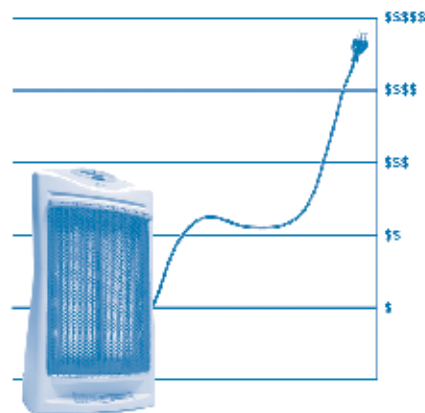
excited to perform under the bright lights for hundreds of audience members, including some parents, brothers, sisters, aunts, and uncles. The show was a huge success and EMCC students did a great job.

EMCC has been participating in this community dance program, Performing Ourselves, for the past 5 years and it continues to grow and develop each new year. Performing Ourselves has served hundreds of youth participants, employed over 30 university students, and impacted numerous



community centers, after school programs, and schools all around the city of Madison. This program's mission is to empower youth and develop leaders through dance, and EMCC's students have shown to be wonderful examples, showing their leadership, confidence, and skills through every class and performance. We look forward for what is to come with these dancing stars! ■

responsible education



## plug and pay

Before you plug in your electric space heater, pay attention to the fact that electric heat costs five times as much as natural gas. That means if you decide to heat your home with electricity instead of gas, you'll see your energy costs go up and up. You may not save money even if you turn the heat way down in the rest of the house. To learn more, pay (it's free) a visit to [mge.com/heater](http://mge.com/heater).

**mge**  
your community energy company

©2015 MGE

Learn more about EMCC programs at  
[www.eastmadisoncc.org](http://www.eastmadisoncc.org)





# FIT YOUTH INITIATIVE: Swim Lessons

On a chilly Friday in February, ten of our preteens began swim lessons over at MATC. Although all ten have been in pools before, none of them were comfortable swimming in water above their heads. With the help of the Fit Youth Initiative, that was no longer the case after our 8 week session.

Equipped with goggles and swim caps, our ten brave pre-teens began their swimming journey February 2, and by the end of March have mastered all eight lessons. From learning how to float and tread water, to kicking and gliding through the water, our kids grew more and more comfortable every day. In April, another group of ten eager swimmers began their lessons. In no time, all of our youth will be expert swimmers, ready to conquer waters of any depth. ■

**This opportunity is made possible by the generous support of the EMCC’s Fit Youth Initiative by the Goodman Foundation.**

## YOUTH WORKER PROFILE



**Alexandria Braddock**

**Age:** 20  
**Job:** Youth Counselor  
**Years at EMCC:** 2 years  
**Favorite EMCC Program:** Learning Center

**Hobbies:** Softball and working out  
**School:** Madison College  
**Role Model:** My Dad

## YOUTH INTERVIEW



**James Moore**  
**School:** Hawthorne Elementary  
**Grade:** 2nd  
**Years attending the EMCC:** 3 years  
**Favorite Program:** Alternatives to Violence  
**Hobbies:** Reading books and playing on the computer.

**Favorite Food:** Hot dogs  
**Favorite Color:** Blue  
**Role Models:** My brother Kelon and my Dad  
**What I want to be when I grow up:** A basketball player or a soccer player



*A letter from...*

## DISTRICT 15 Alderman David Ahrens

### Addressing the City Housing Shortage

**T**he on-going shortage of affordable housing is major problem for about one out of three households in Madison. The problem is not limited to finding housing that's available, but rents that leave renter with sufficient funds to live on.

Too many families and individuals are spending more than one-third to one-half of their income on housing. For a household with three people and one income-earner who is making \$15/hr, their after-tax income comes to less than \$2,000 per month. If they pay \$1,200 per month for a two-bedroom apartment, that leaves only \$800 for transportation, food, phones, etc. Not only is saving impossible, but they are likely in debt.

The "free-market" for building housing is not working. The supply of rentals costing more than \$1,500 per month doubled in the last two years, while the number of units going for less than \$1,000, declined by more than 5,000. Meanwhile, average rents have increased by 50% in just 10 years.



**We approved and contributed millions of dollars for about 1,000 new units that are affordable for households (of four people) with incomes of under \$40,000 per year.**

Unfortunately, the federal government is no longer building homes such as the Truax Houses while at the same time it is squeezing the available number of Section 8 vouchers for subsidized rentals.

In response, families are increasingly "doubling-up" and having bigger families living in smaller units resulting in one or more people sleeping in the living room.

Last year, however, the city took important steps to address both the shortage of apartments and their cost. We approved and contributed millions of dollars for about 1,000 new units that are affordable for households (of four people) with incomes of under \$40,000 per year.

For example, one project will be at the corner of Cottage Grove Road and Monona Drive. This project, called The Grove, will be two buildings with 112

apartments from studios to a few three-bedroom units. Most will be affordable to renters whose income is \$40,000 and under.

Another 40 units will be constructed on Fair Oaks Ave, behind the Madison-Kipp plant.

While 1,000 units are a good start, we will need to continue this level of construction projects each year for the next ten years.

Finally, it is an honor to serve you as a member of the Common Council. If you have any questions or concerns related to city policies or services, please feel free to contact me. ■

**I am interested in hearing your views on this and other issues. If you have questions, concerns, problems or opinions about city policies or operations please feel free to contact me at [district15@cityofmadison.com](mailto:district15@cityofmadison.com) or 608-334-1156.**

# MOST

Madison-area Out-of-School Time

DREAM • EXPLORE • DISCOVER



## AFTERSCHOOL PLANS?

FIND AFTERSCHOOL AND  
SUMMER ACTIVITIES FOR ALL KIDS  
USE THE MOST PROGRAM FINDER

[mostmadison.org](http://mostmadison.org)



## FOOD PANTRY

### The EMCC Choice Food Pantry

is open Tuesdays from 12 noon to 2pm with sign in starting at 10am. Bring identification and proof of residence to get signed up.

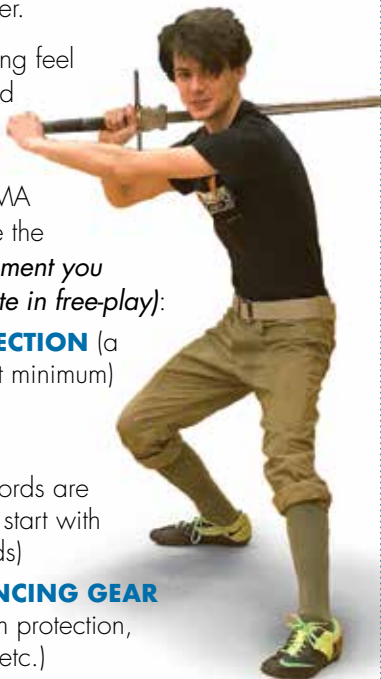
## FACILITY USE GROUP SPOTLIGHT

## WAR SWORD HISTORICAL FENCING

**T**he War Sword Historical Fencing classes at the EMCC consist of a pan European group looking to have a practical focus of the historical western martial arts. The primary weapon we study is the Longsword. We are currently studying German longsword fencing through the teachings of Johannes Liechtenauer & Joachim Meyer.

When you first begin attending feel free to only bring yourself and we will get you started with the basics. Once you've cemented your liking for HEMA you'll want to start to acquire the following *(without this equipment you will not be able to participate in free-play)*:

- **HEAD AND FACE PROTECTION** (a 3-weapon fencing mask at minimum)
- **HAND PROTECTION** (HEMA fighting gloves)
- **A SWORD** (blunt steel swords are preferred, though you can start with wooden or synthetic swords)
- **OTHER PROTECTIVE FENCING GEAR** (ex: leg protection, forearm protection, gorget [throat protection], etc.)



**CLASSES ARE IN THE MULTIPURPOSE ROOM  
ON MONDAYS FROM 7:00PM TO 9:00PM.**

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE PLEASE  
CONTACT LOGAN BLACK AT **512-799-8469**.

# Big Thanks!

EMCC is grateful for continuing financial support from the following organizations:



**STEVE STRICKER**  
AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE  
— foundation —

*and*



**CUNA MUTUAL**  
Foundation

Common Purpose. Uncommon Commitment.

**AMERICAN FAMILY  
INSURANCE®**

American Family Insurance is pleased to help underwrite  
East Madison Community Center's newsletter.

**THANK YOU**  
to American Family for printing Centerpoints!

**SULLY CEFALU**

OWNER/MANAGER

ALL-TRANZ.COM

931 STEWART ST  
MADISON, WI 53713

ALL-TRANZ@SBGLOBAL.NET

**ALL-TRANZMISSION  
SERVICE**

# East Madison Community Center

8 Straubel Court  
Madison, WI 53704

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
MADISON, WI 53714  
PERMIT NO. 1426



Current occupant or

E M C C C E N T E R P O I N T S

## EMCC 2018 VOLUNTEERS

### Youth Volunteers

Nakea Black, Koko (Koriyanna) Fitzpatrick, D'lylah Gowes, Amira Hampton, Keyan Harper, Antuan Haskins, Jelonzo Jackson, Iyonna Jones, James Moore, Adonis Pickett, Nikia Rowe, Chashay Sayles, Heaven Thomas, James Xiong, Maleevong Xiong, Richard Xiong

### Food/Clothing/Household Items Distribution Volunteers

Kenny Brumfield, Calvin Gibbons, Barb Grimm, Pat Haak, Madison College Service Learning Academy, Karen Oliver, Nathan Oliver, Bonnie Raemisch, Quentin Sears, Mylas Sparks, Paul Von Gruben, LC Williams, East Madison/Monona Rotary

### Resource Development

Larry Hamlin, Bunny Lenburg

### Program Volunteers

Meshan Adams, Ali Braddock, Pedro Diosardo, Martha Galston, Malinda Sloan, Amanda Toy, Madison College Service Learning Academy, UW Badger Volunteers

### Board Members

Aaron Blacks, Larry Hamlin, Rosie Haskins, Kristina Kuehl, Tracy Lomax, Dr. Melina Lozano, Meghan O'Dell, Jamal Palmer, Kris Rasmussen, Elizabeth Reyes, Renee Robinson, Tauri Robinson, Marie White-Scott, Mylas Sparks, Sonia Spencer, Sandy Xiong

thanks!



The East Madison Community Center is a member agency of United Way and is funded in part by the City of Madison and the Community Development Division.



CenterPoints is published four times per year and distributed free of charge to a circulation of over 3000 by East Madison Community Center, 8 Straubel Ct. For information on CenterPoints articles, copy deadlines or advertising policies, call us at 608-249-0861.

Executive Director: Tom Moen  
Assistant Director: De'Kendrea Stamps  
Youth Prgm. Mngr.: John Harmelink  
Assistant Youth Program Mngr.: Sarah Schwab  
Admin. Assistant: Typhanny Greene  
Outreach Worker: Sashe Mishur  
Accountant: Bonnie Krattiger  
Office Assistant: Martha Galston  
Youth Workers:  
Dominique Harvey Nathan Savado  
Leah Kutschke Jennifer Xiong  
Erica Peters Panya Xiong  
Mack Rimson Pau Xiong

CenterPoints is designed in kind by Sandy Wagener. Special Thanks to American Family Insurance for printing the EMCC CenterPoints.

