



Left to right: Macon School Superintendent Jacqueline Brooks, District Judge Deborah Biggers, Harris Barrett School Museum Board's President Grover Fountain and Treasurer Alphonso Moore.

HARRIS BARRETT SCHOOL MUSEUM BOARD OF DIRECTORS SUPPORT BOARD OF EDUCATION'S REGIONAL MOBILE LIBRARY PROJECT FOR CHILDREN WITH \$1,000 DONATION!

Things are really changing in Macon County when Administrators and community citizens realize that problems exist and get busy identifying the problems, isolating their symptoms and developing solutions to address them.

This is the situation with the reading levels of too many children in this county. According to School Superintendent Jacqueline Brooks and Judge Deborah Biggers, too

many of our children are reading below expected levels.

Consequently, rather than standby and watch the problem persist, Judge Biggers secured a \$20,000 Grant from the State of Alabama, and Dr. Brooks donated three retired school buses to be painted and retrofitted to serve the younger children in the County, especially in the rural communities.

The busses will be converted to mobile libraries, and stocked with

relevant books and other educational equipment and materials to meet the needs of the younger students.

The buses were painted blue, lavender and green.

The Blue Mobile Library Unit will service Tuskegee and the eastern area of the County; the lavender unit will serve the Town of Natasulga and central Macon County; and the Green: the Town of Shorter and children in the western area

of the County.

The Harris Barrett School Museum's Board of Directors did exactly what other organizations and well-to-do people ought to do; they voted to make a \$1,000.00 contribution to help make the Mobile Library project a reality.

It is people like Dr. Brooks, Judge Biggers, Harris Barrett School Museum's Board, and others who will improve our children's chances of competing in this society.



MERRY CHRISTMAS '21

*The Cooper Family
of Tuskegee, Alabama*

has been selected as a

2021 Family of the Year

You are cordially invited to the

**33rd Annual Families of the Year
Awards Ceremony**

Sunday, November 21, 2021
6:00 p.m. (CST)

to be held via Zoom at the link below:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83120902989>

Program Sponsors:

Family Guidance Center of Alabama, WSFA, Aronov, Synovus, River Region Parents Magazine, Cumulus Broadcasting, The J K Lowder Family Foundation, Minuteman Press



CONGRATULATIONS!

**THE
PANDEMIC
+
SANKOFA**



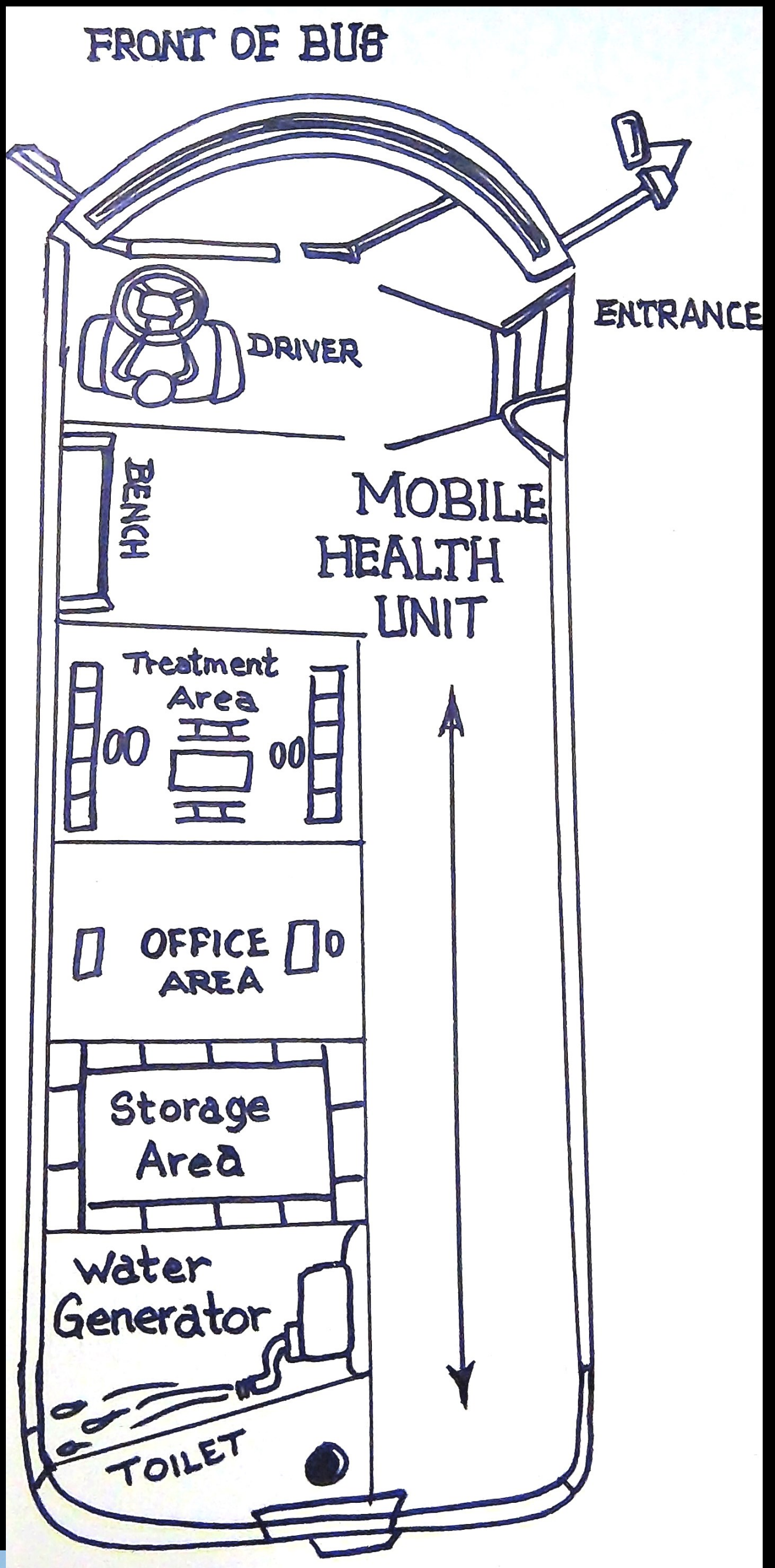
**+
CRITICAL
RURAL NEEDS**

=

**A "MOBILE
HEALTH CARE
UNIT" FOR
MACON COUNTY!**

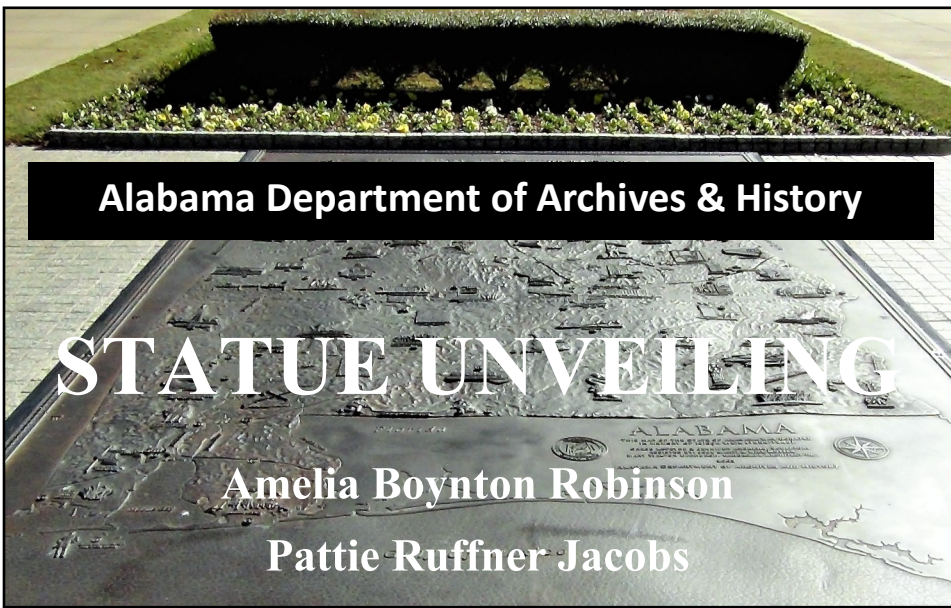


"Looking back at Booker T. Washington's Jesup Bus to educate the masses then, to move forward with better healthcare in rural areas throughout Macon County today."



NOTICE

The proposed "Mobile Health Unit" is recommended to the Macon County Commission for two-year funding from the \$1.75 million received from the COVID-19 related "American Rescue Plan Funding." A FREE school bus will be retrofitted for the purpose of servicing rural communities just as Dr. Washington and Dr. Carver did with their "Jesup bus for Education."



Y'all STILL DON'T GET IT!!

REPRINT from Facebook



Artist Clydetta Fulmer



By Leon E. Frazier
 Amelia Boynton Robinson was the first Black woman to have her Bust unveiled in the Alabama Department of Archives & History's Statuary Hall, along with a white woman, Pattie Ruffner Jacobs, on November 8, 2021.
 Mrs. Boynton Robinson is



"We're the only people on this entire planet who have been taught to sing and praise our demeanment. 'I'm a bitch. I'm a hoe. I'm a gangster. I'm a thug. I'm a dog.' If you can train people to demean and degrade themselves, you can oppress them forever. You can even program them to kill themselves and they won't even understand what happened."
 Dr. Frances Cress Welsing



The Event was moderated by Delores R. Boyd, standing. Seated from right to left: Governor Kay Ivey; Dr. Marlene Rikard, who introduced Mrs. Jacobs; The Artist, Marlene Fulmer; and Louretta Wimberly, who introduced Mrs. Boynton Robinson.

recognized for her leadership and personal sacrifices in the Black Voting Rights Movement.

Mrs. Ruffner Jacobs was recognized for her leadership in the Women Suffrage Movement.

A native of Birmingham, she founded the Alabama Equal Suffrage Association (AESA), which later transitioned into an affiliate of the League of Women Voters in 1920.

Mrs. Boynton Robinson, along with her husband, Mr. Samuel W. Boynton was a force for the white supremacy of Selma and Dallas County, AL to reckon with as they broke through the voting barriers that prevented Black



Gov. Ivey unveils and stands near Mrs. Jacobs' Bust.

people from voting in the area, just as elsewhere in Alabama.

Her personal sacrifices and suffering contributed to the Voting Rights Bill of 1965.

Both women's legacies are deserving of these Awards, and this is a good step forward for the State of Alabama.



TUSKEGEE UNIVERSITY

A few facts about the greatest University in America, which is located in the "Biggest-Little City in the World: Tuskegee, Alabama!"

President: Dr. Charlotte P. Morris

Mayor of the City of Tuskegee: Mayor Lawrence "Tony" Haygood

Student to faculty ratio at Tuskegee University is on par with the national average of 14 students for every one instructional faculty member, at **14:1**. This ratio is a standard metric used to gauge the number of teaching resources a school provides for its students.

You will need about average high school grades to get into Tuskegee University. The average high school GPA of the admitted freshman class at Tuskegee University was 3.1 on the 4.0 scale indicating that primarily B students are accepted and ultimately attend.

Students at Tuskegee University are mostly Black with a small Asian population. The school has very low racial diversity. Racial demographics of Tuskegee University students.

Student Population by Gender: At Tuskegee University, 3,289 students are enrolled for academic year 2017-2018 including in undergraduate and graduate schools, full-time and part-time status. By gender, the school has 1,236 male and 2,053 female students.

The acceptance rate at Tuskegee University is 53%. In other words, of 100 students who apply, 53 are admitted.

SAT/ACT: As of spring 2017, UNF no longer requires the essay section of the SAT or the ACT for either admission or scholarship decisions. UNF is now offering the ACT On-Campus test (formerly ACT Residual). It's important to note, that ACT On-Campus scores can only be used for admission into, and scholarship opportunities at, the University of North Florida.

A Bit of History: Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute was founded in 1881 by Booker T. Washington, an educator and former slave who became one of the most influential African American leaders in the United States. The institute later became Tuskegee University.

Not Making The Grade: School funding policies in 8 Southern states fail students of color and those living in poverty, new report says!

October 25, 2021

Funding for public schools across the South continues to lag far behind the rest of the nation, a failure that is having an outsized impact on students of color and students living in or near poverty, according to a new study by Education Law Center (ELC) and the Southern Poverty Law Center.

The report – Inequity in School Funding: Southern States Must Prioritize Fair Public-School Spending – examines school funding in Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee and Texas, based on criteria established by ELC’s national Making the Grade report, an annual state-by-state analysis of public-school funding. The report ranks and grades each state based on three key measures: funding level, funding distribution and funding effort.

“We are currently in a place where partisan politics, not data or evidenced-based practices, are driving school policy,” said Bacardi Jackson, interim deputy legal director for the SPLC’s Children’s Rights Practice Group. “These efforts are steeped in white supremacy and seek to undermine public schools.”

The impact of unfair school funding in the South is deeply rooted in the region’s history of racial segregation, which continues to influence education politics and policymaking and can be seen in the proliferation of private school vouchers and resistance to culturally responsive and inclusive teaching. This history means that Black and Latinx students and those living in or near poverty – groups that are overrepresented in public schools throughout the South – are more likely to bear the consequences of poorly resourced public schools.

The report found that the eight Southern states examined have “woefully insufficient” school funding levels, and most of them fail to equitably distribute additional funds to high-

poverty school districts.

“Southern states have a long history of neglecting public education, depriving students – especially students of color and those from low-income families – of the opportunities that would help them succeed in school and life,” said Danielle Farrie, who is the ELC research director and the report’s author. “It is past time for lawmakers in these states to move beyond political distractions and prioritize investments in public education.”

When Southern schools are compared to those in other states, the report found that:

- All eight states score in the bottom third for school funding. Alabama, Tennessee, Florida and Mississippi scored in the bottom ten, all spending more than \$3,000 (and for Florida and Mississippi, more than \$4,000) less per child each year than the national average.
- Alabama, Florida and Texas have regressive funding practices, meaning high-poverty school districts receive less funding than low-poverty districts. On average, high-poverty districts in Florida and Alabama receive about \$1,500 less than low-poverty districts.
- Georgia barely meets the report’s conservative definition of progressive funding, with high-poverty districts receiving, on average, only 8% higher per-pupil funding than low-poverty districts.
- Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee have “flat” funding distributions that disadvantage students in high-poverty districts because they do not provide additional resources to help close persistent economic and racial achievement gaps.
- All eight states reduced their effort to fund public schools in the last decade, resulting in a combined loss of \$189 billion in state and local revenue. Florida, Georgia and Alabama all lost out on more than \$2,000 per pupil by allowing school revenue to lag economic growth.

The report defines fair funding as “the funding needed in each state to provide qualified teachers, support staff, programs, services and other resources essential for all students to have a meaningful opportunity to achieve the state’s academic standards and graduate high school prepared for citizenship, postsecondary education and the workforce.”

“The use of profanity does not add to your character or intelligence. As a matter of fact, it does just the opposite!”



BETHEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH HONORS ITS MILITARY VETERANS

Pastor Kenneth G. Jones, recognizes Bethel’s Military Veterans: L-R: Henry Walker, Arthur Caffey, Paul Phillips, Leon E. Frazier, Jackie Lewis White, Preston Frazier, Jr., David Randall, John W. Hicks, Jr., Bernice Dawson, & seated: Deborah Cannon.

Pastor Kenneth G. Jones of Bethel Missionary Baptist Church honors all Military Veteran members of his Congregation. These Ceremonies are organized annually by Sgt. Bernice Dawson (Ret.).



SPECIAL NOTES:

1. The idea for a countywide newspaper was conceived by the Macon County Community Partners Task Force. The purpose of the newspaper is to keep County residents apprised of the ongoing threats of the Coronavirus Pandemic, especially rural residents who may not be computer literate.

The newspaper project is funded by the City of Tuskegee, Macon County Health Care Authority, Inc., other organizations of MCCPTF and donations from the community.

2. Any concerns (problems or compliments) about the Haynes Ambulance Service should be forwarded to: Bernice L. Frazier, MCHCA, P. O. Box 830214, Tuskegee, AL



Tuskegee Police Department relocated to the old TIMS School, 1809 Franklin Road, 36088.

The Tuskegee Police Department moved into the old National Guard Armory at 1106 Notasulga Road in the 1990’s. The structure was unsuitable for the police operation at that time. Yet, it operated at that location until recently, after Macon County School Superintendent Jacqueline Brooks abolished educational programs at Tuskegee Institute Middle School, and moved the student population to other schools. City Officials, including Police Chief Lloyd Jenkins were able to negotiate moving the Police Department to the newest wing of the school building.



Meet a few Macon County Community Partners Task Force Members who met on Zoom for more than 1-1/2-years every Saturday Morning to discuss, plan, and fight the Coronavirus Pandemic. This spirit of unity and cooperation HAD NOT been present in this County since the "old days." ZOOM to the RESCUE!

This is our season to build, to raise up, repair and restore the vision!

We have a reason to be excited this season, as chestnuts are roasting on an open fire. God is moving mightily, shifting and shaking the earth. It appears to the person without a vision that the enemy is winning. Be assured, there are many people of faith, believers, dreamers, and those being saved. The past is gone, the future to be seen, but the present is now. "It is called present, because it is a gift!"



God gave us spiritual gifts to service others, but some are more focused on themselves and "what is in it for me!" In the past, our ancestors gave their lives for the benefits that we enjoy today - the right to an education, to vote, and live and work in previously forbidden places.

Let us unite to lift the VEIL OF IGNORANCE that has fallen over this historic City of Tuskegee and Macon County. Did you know that Mr. Lewis Adams, unselfishly asked for funds to hire a teacher to educate our people? Together, we can read and run with the vision (Habakkuk 2:2, 3) of Mr. Lewis Adams, Dr. Booker T. Washington and Dr. George Washington Carver.

This is our season to build the old waste places, raise up the foundations of many generations; be called a repairer of the breach, the restorer of paths to dwell in. (Isaiah 58:12) With your help we can

build a Dream Center so that our young people (and families) will have a place to train and develop into future leaders who impact our world.

Let's PRAY Tuskegee! We train from the ground (agriculture) to the sky (aviation)!

Katrina Love, Pastor
St. John AME Zion Church
Tuskegee Institute

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MACON - RUSSELL
Community Action Agency

PROVIDES ASSISTANCE WITH:

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EMERGENCY
TRANSPORTATION
501 S. School Street, Tuskegee
334-727-6100

1113—2nd Place So. Phenix City
334-298-6672

"LOVE IS THE CURE FOR THE HATEFUL DISEASE PLAGUING THE WORLD!"

MACON COUNTY PUBLIC SERVICE DIRECTORY

Macon County Commission
334-724-2606

Louis Maxwell, Chairman
Miles Robinson, District 1
Edward "Coach" Huffman, District 2
Ernest Magruder, District 3
Robert "Mike" Berry, District 4

Macon County Sheriff's Office
Jail Address: 246 County Road 10,
Tuskegee, AL 46083
334-727-2500
Andre' Brunson, Sheriff

Emergency Management Agency
334-724-2626
Frank Lee, Director

Revenue Commissioner
334-724-2603
Iverson Gandy, III

Probate Judge
334-724-2552
Judge James Cooper, II

Macon County Health Care Authority
334-727-5900
Bernice L. Frazier, Chair

Ray D. Martin, Presiding Circuit Judge
County Courthouse, Room 204
125 North Broadnax
Dadeville, AL 36853
(256) 357-2066

Steven R. Perryman, Circuit Judge
County Courthouse #2
Lafayette Street
Lafayette, AL 36862
(334) 864-4328

William Isaac Whorton, Circuit Judge
County Courthouse #2
Lafayette Street
Lafayette, AL 35010
(334) 755-6080

District Judge
334-727-6110

Judge Deborah H. Biggers
Tuskegee District Court

Macon County Clerk of Courts
334-724-2614
David R. Love, Jr.

Macon County Schools
334-727-1600
Dr. Jacqueline Brooks, Superintendent

City of Tuskegee
334-720-2514

Mayor Lawrence "Tony" Haygood
Chris Lee, Mayor Pro Tem
Norma McGowan Jackson, District 1
Johnny Ford, District 2
Orlando Whitehead, District 3

Tuskegee Municipal Court
334-720-0581

Judge George Bulls, III
Prosecutor, Katy Smith Campbell

Town of Shorter
334-727-9109

Mayor Willie Mae Powell

Town of Notasulga
334-257-1454

Mayor Tommy Miller

Town of Franklin
334-727-2111

Mayor Henry Peavy

Macon County Health Department
334-727-1800

812 Hospital Road, Tuskegee, AL

Utility Board of Tuskegee
334-720-0700

101 Fonville Street
Gerald Long, General Manager

Tuskegee Medical and Surgical Center
334-727-5900

301 Wright Street, Tuskegee, AL

Tuskegee University
334-727-8011

Dr. Charlotte P. Morris, President



NEW COVID-19 VARIANT DISCOVERED IN SOUTH AFRICA!

REPRINT: November 25, 2021

A heavily mutated COVID-19 variant is confounding researchers in South Africa, where it has spread quickly in recent weeks after being first identified in Botswana. Since then, it has been identified in at least 81 samples collected in the country (and one in Hong Kong, in a traveler from South Africa), with scientists expressing concerns over its spike profile.

The strain — currently known as B.1.1.529 — contains more than 30 variations of the SARS-CoV-2 spike protein, which is responsible for how the virus enters into host cells and spreads person-to-person. Still, researchers say it's unclear whether or not the new variant is more transmissible than the Delta variant, which has greater potential to infect people. (The people at greatest risk from the Delta variant are the unvaccinated and every vaccine approved in the United States has shown efficacy against Delta.)

Richard Lessells, an infectious disease physician at the University of KwaZulu-Natal in Durban, South Africa, told reporters at a Thursday press briefing, per Nature: "There's a lot we don't understand about this variant. The mutation profile gives us concern, but now we need to do the work to understand the significance of this variant and what it means for the response to the pandemic."

In the Thursday briefing, Lessells said researchers in South Africa are studying whether the new variant causes more severe cases of the virus, or if it poses a threat to the

effectiveness of vaccines. The World Health Organization panel met to assess the variant Friday, officially naming it "omicron" and classifying it as a highly transmissible virus of concern (the category that also includes the delta variant).

The B.1.1.529 variant is currently designated by the WHO as a variant "under monitoring."

Though it's still being studied, officials in many parts of the world are taking precautions against the new variant. Six African countries were added to England's travel "red list" this week and several other European Union nations are attempting to halt incoming travel from South Africa as a means of containing the spread of the new variant.

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HUNDREDS OF FedEx PACKAGES FOUND DUMPED IN RAVINE IN BLOUNT COUNTY, AL.

FedEx crews arrived Thanksgiving morning to pick up hundreds of

packages that were tossed into a ravine in Blount County. FedEx issued a statement Thursday in response to the discovery: "The security of our customers' shipments is a top priority and we are committed to treating our customers' packages with the utmost care. We are taking steps to recover and transport the affected packages as quickly as possible.

In addition to cooperating with law enforcement, we are conducting a review of this situation and will take the appropriate action. Customers with questions about their shipments can track their packages by visiting <http://fedex.com>."

Authorities says 300 to 400 boxes of packages were thrown off of the ravine at River Oak Trail.

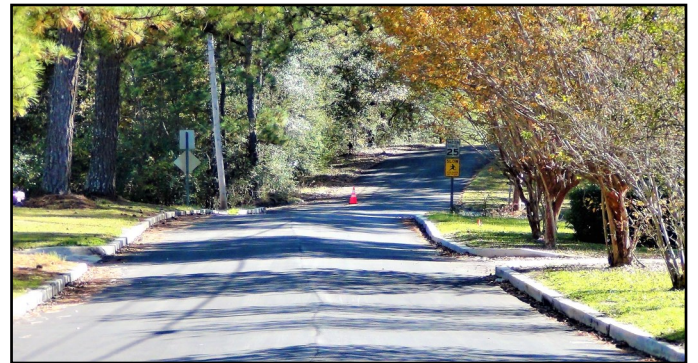
"There's a river down by this area and it was down the ravine. Down towards the river. None of the packages made it to the river. The packages are obviously have not been there longer than one or two days," Sheriff Mark Moon said. One family who lives nearby is missing four packages including an X-box. The family says they work too hard for something this to happen.

"It's heartbreaking that someone would take advantage of people. When they're supposed to be delivering kids toys to them for Christmas and people don't care and would just drop our hard-earned money...thousands of dollars worth of things just off in a hole. I don't see what kind of person can do that," Andrea Finchum, who is missing packages said.

"The price of everything is going up and we just sit here and work, work, work trying to take care of our families and you get stuff like this and its kind of a slap in the face. That people don't have the respect for other people's goods. They just throw them off in a ditch somewhere," Chris Finchum, a resident said.

We reached out to FedEx for more information. The sheriff's office is working with FedEx to try and track

down the driver. The sheriff tells us FedEx will be back Thursday morning to pick up the packages. Meanwhile, a deputy will be there overnight to keep thieves away.



BIBB STREET'S UPGRADE IN TUSKEGEE NEEDS COMPLETION FOR SAFETY!

The Bibb Street upgrade in the City of Tuskegee, Alabama was repaved and underwent infrastructure upgrade more than a month ago. Yet the street remains a safety hazard because patch work is still required in some spots, and the lanes have not been marked.

The contractor whose failure to divide the lanes with a "Center Line" before declaring the job complete, poses a danger to all motorists who travel the street.

It seems that contracts to repave and upgrade the infrastructure of 1.1 miles of city street, and the cost of \$1.7 million would not have left these kinds of problems behind.

This is another reminder to City Officials that something ought to be done to correct this situation before "the tragedy occurs that is waiting to happen!"

COMMUNITY ALERT

During this Winter Season, please be extremely careful with how you use electric heaters! THEY SHOULD NOT BE LEFT "ON AND UNATTENDED." Moreover, a fire extinguisher should be kept in the same area!

COMMUNITY ALERT!

U. S. SPANISH FLU PANDEMIC: 1918-19 DEATHS: 675,000

COVID-19 DEATHS in U. S.—2020-2021 CASES: 48,095,228 DEATHS: 776,574

ALABAMA COVID-19 UPDATE As of November 26, 2021

CASES: 844,594—DEATHS: 16,115

MACON COUNTY COVID-19 UPDATE CASES: 2,447 DEATHS: 64

GET HELP

GET TESTED

GET FOOD

GET SUPPLIES

GET FACTS

GET NEWS



Macon County Community Partners Task Force

www.maconcares.org




MACON CARES

Macon Means

Macon County Food Distributors Round Table



December 2021 Free Food Distribution Schedule

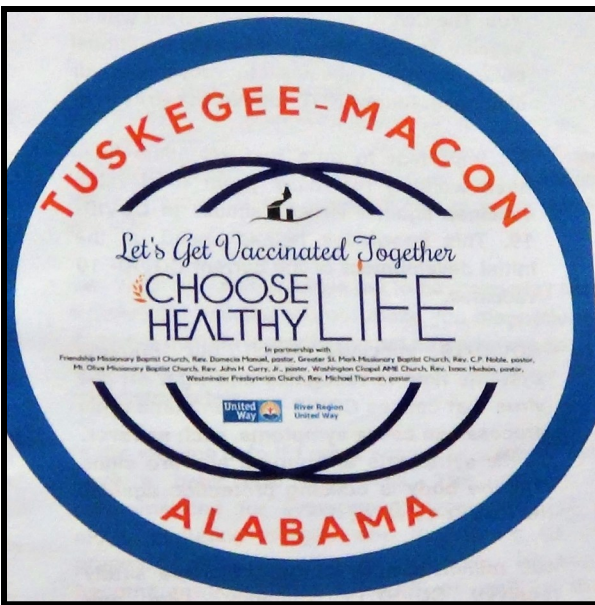
| S | M | T | W | Th | F | S |
|---|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | 1 11:00 Helping Hand Ministry Rev. A. Williams | 2 | 3 | 4 10-1 Covid Clinic Prairie Farms Ctr U.S. Hwy 80 Tysonville |
| 5 | 6 | 7 9:30 AKN (Red Chief) 4771 Hwy 199 11:00 Helping Hand Ministry Rev. A. Williams | 8 | 9 11 Bowen UMC 2107 W Mtg Rd Seniors Food | 10 | 11 |
| 12 12 Macon Food Distributors Roundtable Zoom Meeting | 13 | 14 | 15 10 Boxes of Blessing Shiloh AME CR24 11:00 Helping Hand Ministry Rev. A. Williams | 16 | 17 Because We Care (Food Boxes For Children) DC Wolfe, BTW HS & Notasulga HS | 18 |
| 19 | 20 9 Macon Co Food Pantry Daly St Last Names P to Z | 21 | 22 11:00 Helping Hand Ministry Rev. A Williams | 23 11 Bowen UMC 2107 W Mtg Rd Seniors Food | 24 | 25 Christmas Day |
| 26  | 27 | 28  | 29 | 30 | 31 New Years Eve |  |

The Macon Food Hotline: (334) 724-2550



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