

# MACON COUNTY COMMUNITY PARTNERS NEWSPAPER

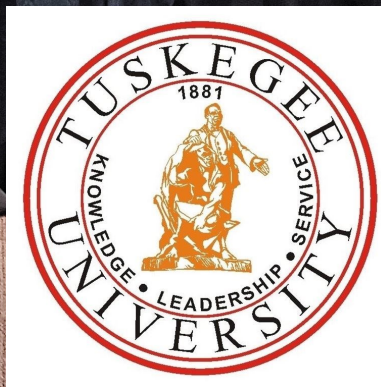
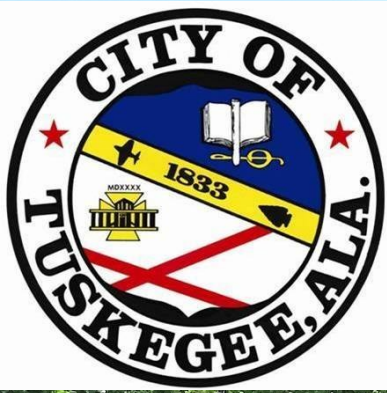


A MONTHLY PUBLICATION  
AUGUST 2022

**FREE**

VOLUME 1      ISSUE 11

"This Newspaper Features Relevant Facts on Health, Safety & History."



See story on page 6.

**BLACK HISTORY: "ALWAYS & FOREVER!"**



For the past several years, under the coordination of Rep. Pebblin W. Warren, District 82, community organizations and social groups have planned and sponsored a successful BACK-TO-SCHOOL BASH. The teachers and students of the Macon County School District have all been recipients of loads of school supplies in preparation for the new school term.

This year's BACK-TO-SCHOOL BASH is scheduled for:

- Date: Saturday, August 6, 2022
- Time: 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Locations: Booker T. Washington High School; Notasulga High School; and D. C. Wolfe Elementary School.

Please go to your attending or area school site; Do not cross over to other sites, for your new back pack loaded with supplies will be distributed at your attending school site.

Rep. Warren and the Coordinating Team are issuing a call to all organizations (Religious, Social, Community, etc.) to contribute \$500 each to support this unusual and necessary effort. Of course, any amount will be graciously received. The School System will purchase all supplies with assurance of universal and common distribution.

Please make checks/money orders PAYABLE TO: The Macon County Board of Education and note in MEMO: 2022 BACK-TO-SCHOOL BASH.

For further details or questions, contact: Cheryl Ferguson @ 421-9054; or Dr. Elaine C. Harrington @ 727-7798. Let's make this a County-wide BASH!! Released by Dr. Elaine C. Harrington, Reporter



**MACON M.E.A.N.S AND HELPING HANDS MINISTRY CONTINUE THEIR EFFORTS TO SATISFY THE FOOD NEEDS OF MACON COUNTY RESIDENTS. Pictured above is the food distribution team taking a break on July 20, 2022, after serving approximately 100 families.**





# Congratulations

KETANJI BROWN JACKSON

ON BECOMING THE FIRST BLACK WOMAN ON THE  
SUPREME COURT

[WWW.WOMANISTJOURNEY.COM](http://WWW.WOMANISTJOURNEY.COM)

## **Associate Jackson's Appointment to the United States Supreme Court is a Blessing!**

As Black People celebrate Associate Justice Jackson's appointment to the Supreme Court, let us not lose sight of the fact that we need more Black people representation in all areas or the Criminal Justice System (CJS). This is the area of society that has the most impact on Black communities.

This fact is often misunderstood by too many people of color, who see ONLY the police, prosecutors, and correction and probation officers as CJS officials.

Another fact is, the CJS includes everything that have power to make and enforce laws: security guards at the corner grocery store to the President of the United States of America.

Consequently, the CJS must be viewed and critically analyzed as it is. This means that Black people must infiltrate all or the following entities, agencies and governments: local police, courts and city governments; county sheriff offices, clerks, courts and commissions; state police, legislations (House & Senate), courts, correction facilities; and federal law enforcement agencies, courts, legislative bodies (House & Senate).

Laws are legislated at city, county, state and federal levels. Federal laws are signed by the U. S. President after passage by both the U. S. House of Representatives and Senate.

Therefore, it is clear that one additional Black on the U. S. Supreme Court is certainly something to be PROUD of, but it will not solve the many problems that impact Black communities across this nation.

Black people must infiltrate every entity, agency and political body within the CJS. This is the only way that relief, fairness and justice can improved for Black people.

And law enforcement agencies are areas where some relief can be ensured. This is within all areas: Security officers, local police, sheriff offices, park rangers, state police, federal bureau of investigations, secret service, U. S. marshals, border patrol, homeland security, and etc.

Law enforcement positions provide a significant amount of discretion on how power and authority can be used. i.e., A stolen car is stopped by the police with four teenage boys who are joyriding. Who gets arrested, the thief, or all four boys who may have been picked up later for the ride?

Another example: Who made the laws that power cocaine convictions could be discretionary, but crack cocaine required mandatory sentencing? Why?

More Black people must seek employment in positions throughout the entire CJS!



**TUSKEGEE'S MASK ORDINANCE IS STILL IN EFFECT!**  
**ORDINANCE NO. 2020-05**  
**"An Ordinance to require masks in public in the City of Tuskegee during the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency and Recovery."**  
**Adopted: August 11, 2020**



**Tuskegee Advancing Health Literacy Grant Sponsors Senior Activities**

Exercise is a crucial component for staying healthy; and it is an excellent way to lower the risks of adverse health conditions, such as heart disease, obesity, and even anxiety and depression. Staying active can improve the quality of life for seniors, reduce the risk of falling injuries, and improve mental perception. To live long, productive lives; it is essential for seniors to keep their bodies moving, fueled with proper food and adequate sleep. The Tuskegee Advancing Health Literacy Grant (TAHLG) sponsored fitness awareness activities at two Tuskegee senior living communities, Sojourner Apartments on June 23 and E.D. Nixon Apartments on June 24. Greetings were given by TAHLG Outreach Coordinator Dorothy Webber.

The City of Tuskegee Recreation Director, Marcus Jones, guided seniors in appropriate low-impact exercises. He shared simple, daily activities to help improve fitness. Participants enjoyed a health Bingo Game crafted and called by TAHLG Outreach Coordinator David Lunn, Jr. Retired Nurse Practitioner, Georgia Simpson, took blood pressures at both sites. Bingo game winners received TAHLG giveaways from Kim R. Ortiz, Grant Project Director, and new, state-of-the-art fitness trackers were given to all senior participants, to monitor their blood pressure, heart rate, and physical activity. Additional gift bags containing masks, hand sanitizer, and COVID-19 literature were sponsored and provided by a collaboration between the Tuskegee University College of Agriculture, Environment and Nutrition Sciences, Center for Global Health Innovation, and Team Black Belt South-Tuskegee. Closing remarks were given by Maxine Caldwell, SEASHA Services Coordinator.

The TAHLG Outreach Coordinators, David Lunn, Jr., and Dorothy Webber attended a Health Fair in Gordonville, Alabama, on June 25, 2022. First aid kits were distributed to seniors. The Alabama Department of Public Health provided COVID-19 testing, vaccines, and boosters. The TAHLG Team provided gift bags and fitness trackers to seniors and gift bags to all attendees. The Alabama Conference of Black Mayors provided dental supplies gift bags. For COVID-19 and health literacy information, please visit the Advancing Health Literacy Grant Website at [www.tuskegeeahlgrant.com](http://www.tuskegeeahlgrant.com).

For more information about the Tuskegee Advancing Health Literacy Grant, contact Kim R. Ortiz, Project Director; at [krortiz@tuskegeealabama.gov](mailto:krortiz@tuskegeealabama.gov);

Dorothy Webber, Outreach Coordinator, at [dwebber.tuskegeeahloutreach@gmail.com](mailto:dwebber.tuskegeeahloutreach@gmail.com); or David Lunn, Jr., Outreach Coordinator, at [dlunn.tuskegeeahloutreach@gmail.com](mailto:dlunn.tuskegeeahloutreach@gmail.com).

**"A GREAT SOCIETY BEGINS WITH YOU." THIS MEANS THAT YOU MUST DO YOUR PART TO BE A 'STRONG LINK, RATHER THAN A WEAK ONE!'**



**PROVIDES ASSISTANCE WITH:**  
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**334-727-6100 334-298-6672**

**"WE MUST STOP THE KILLING!"**

**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  
 District 4 (OPEN)

**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) 755-6080ino**

**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

## Lessons From My COVID Experience

D. J. Manuel

On Saturday, July 16th, I awakened to a headache, body aches, and dizziness. That afternoon, I tested positive for COVID-19. During my time in quarantine, I've had several thoughts about my experience and I'd like to share a few with you.



### It could've been worse.

I'm vaccinated but remember, vaccination doesn't prevent a person from contracting COVID. It gives your body the fighting chance to fend off COVID so you hopefully won't have a severe reaction that leads to hospitalization or even death. The real danger comes from contracting COVID while being unvaccinated. On August 23, 2021, WSFA quoted the Alabama Department of Public Health stating 94% of Alabama COVID-19 deaths were among unvaccinated people. And still, for me personally, it could have been worse.

I have 3 of the most prevailing underlying health conditions that contribute to extreme COVID responses. These underlying health conditions are called comorbidities.

You can learn more about comorbidities on the Macon County Community Partners Task Force website, [www.maconcares.org](http://www.maconcares.org). I felt the effects of one of my comorbidities even though I'm vaccinated. I have hypertension and the first two days of COVID my smart watch repeatedly reported a high heart rate notification. If I were not vaccinated, it could have been worse.

### Testing can save lives.

I was scheduled to perform a funeral on that Saturday afternoon but elected to pass on that responsibility to another minister. I'm glad I did because I could've turned the funeral into a super spreader event. What if there were people at the funeral that were unvaccinated? It's possible my presence at the funeral could've caused others to become sick and die from COVID-19. I shudder to think about how I would feel to hear someone at that funeral died of COVID after being in contact with me. Getting tested isn't for our benefit. It's for the benefit of those around us.

It's important to know our status so we do not spread sickness and death to others. It's important to be sure we have a negative test before re-entering our jobs, schools, churches, and public spaces. Be sure to get tested even if you remotely feel you have been exposed to COVID-19.

### Rely on your resources.

During my quarantine, Joyce German from the Task Force Health Committee contacted me. I revealed to her my test results. She immediately directed me to the Task Force website. In particular, she directed me to a document shared by Erica Muhammad titled "Keys To Self-Healthcare, Maintenance, and Survival." That document on the Task Force's "Get Facts" page is amazing. It details everything a person needs to do to increase their chances of survival. Instead of searching the internet and combing through pages of information on various sites, I was able to get the information I needed, curated and written by people I know and trust in one place.

COVID-19 isn't gone and I'm living proof. It is surging in our state even though the media isn't reporting on it. For this reason, it is imperative that we arm ourselves with information and resources to combat the spread of the virus in Macon County. The Macon County Community Partners Task Force is a resource we cannot afford to ignore. Visit the Task Force website [www.maconcares.org](http://www.maconcares.org) to learn ways to keep yourself and your community COVID safe. END

## POEM: Love Works

By Joshua X Lewis, Macon County Minister's Council

*"Father Help your children  
And don't let them fall By the  
side of the road, and teach  
them To love one another;  
That Heaven might find A  
place in their hearts  
Cause Jesus is love..."  
The Commodores.*



Whether you consider yourself religious, non-religious or spiritual, most, if not all of us, can agree on at least one thing: In this very moment we need love. There are so many different definitions of love. Let us define love as intentional affection and protection through dedicated action. That is something that we all can do - be affectionate to others while always seeking to make sure that others are safe.

Sometimes I wish that the Commodores song didn't say "FATHER, help your children," but rather it had said "Fathers, help your children... and teach them to love one another."

For truly it is not just the job of the Creator, but it is our human responsibility as fathers and mothers; and elders and leaders to teach our children how to love, how to show affection and protect one another, and how to love what and who they see in the mirror as well as who they see passing them in a hallway. But it comes without saying that it is hard or nearly impossible to properly demonstrate love when love has not been shown to you.

The good news is that it is not to late to feel loved, cared for, and safe. I know that may be hard for you to believe because over the last month or so, Macon County has not felt safe for many citizens. Tuskegee has experienced violence upon violence. It has been everything but safe. Murder after murder! Harm after harm! It does not help that the local political and socio-economic climate creates an atmosphere conducive to such a level of poverty and violence. Yet as nuanced as our city's problems may be, one could strongly conclude that what we are witnessing in the city (violence, harm, murder) is self-hate on full display.

We are witnessing a horrible stage play of black self-hate. The stage is set by aggression and the curtains are pulled back by the lack of critical thinking skills and problem-solving abilities. Ignorance and rage serve as dim lighting as we inflict violence on one another for an audience of children to take notes and put into practice later. The play of hate must end and a show of love must begin. We won't pretend as if we know all there is to know about every person acting in violence, nor should we rush to excuse these acts.

What we must do, however, is find the solution to the problem of hate and harm. These feelings of hate coupled with past harm serve to create a breeding ground for harmful and rage-induced actions as we have experienced as a community recently— children being shot, brothers being murdered, spouses being killed...killing those who look just like us.

This self-hate that was drilled into us so long ago and reinforced through systemic miseducation can only be eradicated through love. Revolutionary love that is both taught and caught. We will teach the so-called unloving what it is to be more loving.

We will show the unloved how to love and show them what it is to be loved! We must educate on love and demonstrate in love. We plan to demonstrate and educate through what we call "Love Works." Love Works will consist of events, programs, lessons and initiatives that will be held by the Macon County Ministers' Council in conjunction with other groups and organizations who share a heart for LOVE.

This movement will span across Macon County. We, as the Ministerial Council, are encouraging everyone who wants to demonstrate love to join us. We will come together as safely and often as possible to celebrate one another and show love to each other.

This is a purposeful, unified effort that all can and should be a part of. We aim to do more than yell "stop the violence". We will start the love!

We stop the hate and start the help. We don't all need to do the same thing the same way. We all need to do our thing in conjunction with one another with affection and protection as the bond. To add passion to such unified expressions of love would be to expedite this city's elevation to her rightful place as a city on a mountain.

We do not deserve the violence. After 400 years of inflicted violence, we as a people, deserve all the peace. You deserve to be whole; we deserve to be free; our children need to laugh, learn, and feel love once more.

What, but love, will compel students, mamas and daddies, sisters, brothers, next-door neighbors, play cousins, or young people rocking skinny jeans, to take to the streets of Tuskegee to ensure that all feel the affection they need and get the help and safety that they deserve!

We, as the Minister's Council, are convinced that together, we are unstoppable as a people, a city, and a county. If we get on the wave of action together, we will love the hate out of our city, one person, family and street at a time. What we need is not more cops.

What we need is not martial law. We don't need another rally for clout. We don't need another slow song. What we need is more love!

If you're interested to know more about what you can do and what we all can do to make Love Work, contact Macon County Ministers' Council by sending an email to [info@maconcouncil.org](mailto:info@maconcouncil.org).

It's time to take a stand and pull together to support, protect and encourage one another in our community to stop this harmful behavior.

Let's not only live together, but let's love together because love works.

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**A PROCLAMATION**  
Establishing a Twin City Relationship with the  
City of Tuskegee and Mbuji Mayi

**WHEREAS** the City of Tuskegee and the City of Mbuji Mayi desire to establish a Twin City relationship; and

**WHEREAS** the cities have determined that such relationship would be mutually beneficial to both communities and would enhance the strategic and historic partnership between the United States and the Democratic Republic of the Congo; and

**WHEREAS** the cities seek to share developments in agriculture, engineering, technology, education, trade, travel, tourism, sports and culture, and other areas of benefit; and

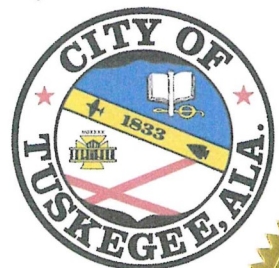
**WHEREAS** the cities seek to promote value-added investments and to establish leadership in the green and renewable energy technology, green finance, and financial technology; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED** that the officials and leadership of each city commits to establish a formal relationship for our present and future growth and development.

**DONE** this 15<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2022.

**CITY OF TUSKEGEE, ALABAMA**

*Lawrence F. Haygood, Jr.*  
Lawrence F. Haygood, Jr.  
Mayor



**CITY OF MBUJI MAYI**

*Ntumba Tshiapota Louis*  
Ntumba Tshiapota Louis  
Maire De Mbuji Mayi

*Eddy Mundela*  
Eddy Mundela  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice President of Senat, DRC



**TUSKEGEE CONNECTS TO THE MOTHERLAND!**

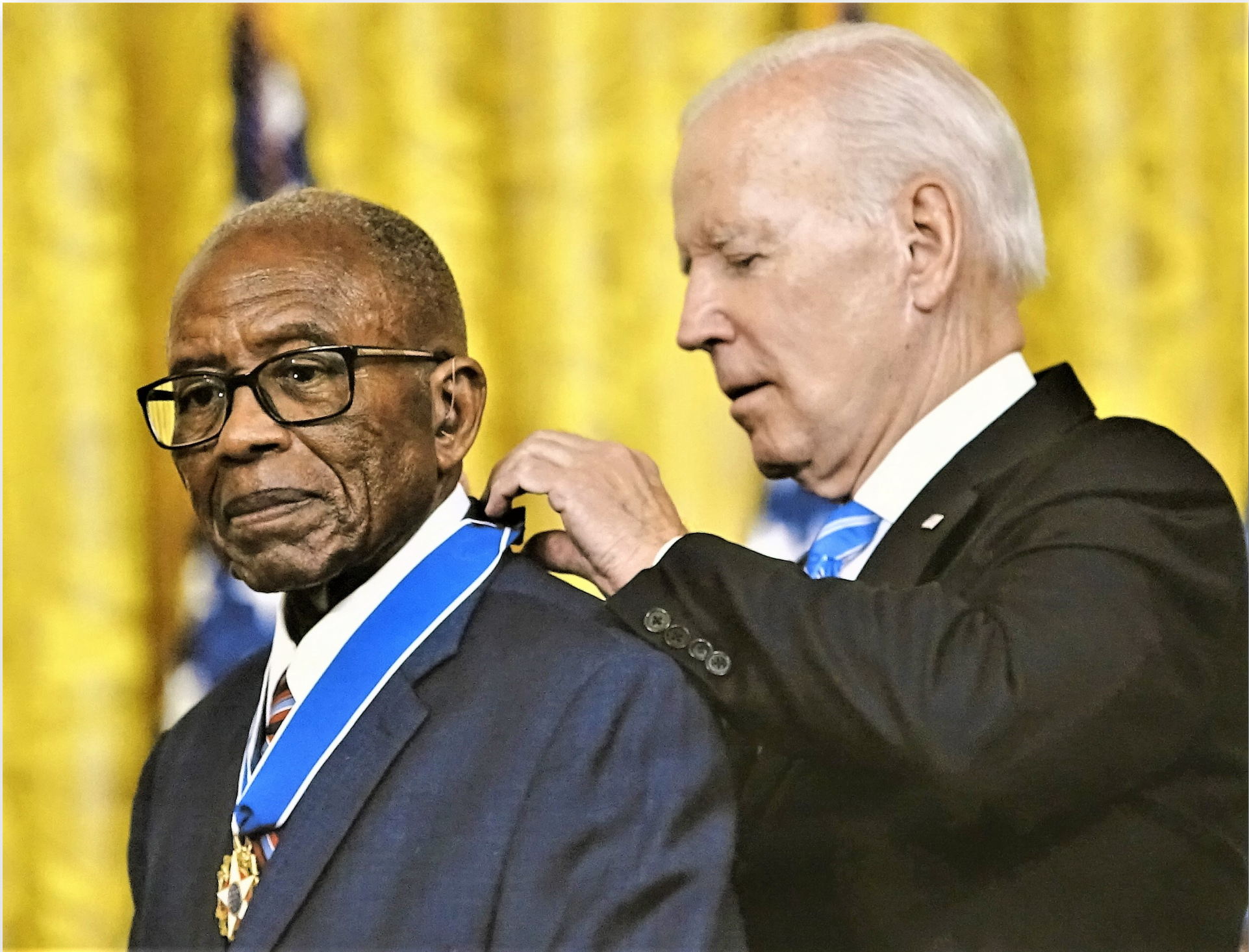
City of Tuskegee Mayor Lawrence “Tony” Haygood’s invitation to the Governor Mundela says: “As Mayor of the City of Tuskegee I am pleased and honored to extend an invitation to you and your delegation to visit us here in Historic Tuskegee, Alabama, USA. We have been working for some time to establish a Sister City Relationship with Mmujiabi, DRC. The visit to Tuskegee will provide the opportunity to begin the process of exploring the areas of opportunity that our two cities can experience sharing and exchange; to include tourism, trade, education/cultural exchanges, and communications of ideas that may improve to be mutually beneficial to our cities.

The delegation included: Honorable Senator Eddy Mundela Kanku, DRC; Personal Secretary to Senator Kanku; Honorable Desire Matala-Tala, Special Advisor to DRC President Felix Tshisekedi Tshilombo for International Commerce; Guy Mundela, US/DRC Governmental Liaison to the Office of Senator Mundela; Jules Basubi Masubi, Director of Cabinet for Ministry of Regional Integration; Reagan Kikwa, Assistant to Director of Cabinet Jules Bsubi Masubi; Anne Marie Balimaka; Agnes Chilufya Bwalya; Joseph Kahmere Mukenzi; Leontine Mafuta-Boyd, President Coopagel DRC; Atusameso Udissasa, Architect; Lukusa Mutobola Didier; and Lokemba Poncelet Caroline.

The DRC Delegation was introduced to Macon County Commission Chairman, Louis Maxwell and Judge of Probate James Cooper during their tour of the city; and University Deans: Dr. Walter Hill and Dr. Ramble Ankumah, during a tour of Tuskegee University.

The delegation participated in meetings in the city, as well as on the University Campus. And after all were said and done, they signed the above Proclamation establishing a Twin City Relationship between the City of Tuskegee and Mbuji Mayi. The agreement was signed, on June 15, 2022.





**CONGRATULATIONS!**  
 Attorney Fred D. Gray, Sr., for groundbreaking legal work on major civil rights cases through the years that warranted you receiving a Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Joseph Biden on July 7, 2022.



# 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual One Health Symposium 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Phi Zeta Research Day



**Theme:**  
Strengthening Health Systems to Improve Medical Needs for Underserved Communities



September 19, 2022  
9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. (Symposium)

September 20, 2022  
9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. (Phi Zeta)

**Virtual  
and  
In-Person  
Patterson Hall  
Auditorium**

**REGISTER HERE**

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*Deadline 8/29/2022*

Must be registered and attend event to receive meal voucher

Inquiries E-mail: [thughley@tuskegee.edu](mailto:thughley@tuskegee.edu)

**Tuskegee University  
College of  
Veterinary Medicine**



## "IGNORANCE OF THE LAW IS NO EXCUSE!" So, let us Be and Do Better!

**Comments from the Sheriff:  
Macon County Sheriff Andre' Brunson**



**Are You Ready to Breathe CLEAN INDOOR AIR??**  
If Yes, then get a

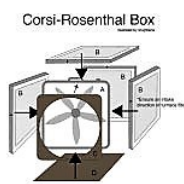
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| Air Borne Allergens |                   |

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Contact: [info@tuskegeesafehaven.org](mailto:info@tuskegeesafehaven.org)  
(334) 226-0272  
[www.maconcares.org](http://www.maconcares.org)

## ANNOUNCEMENT

Macon County Sheriff Andre' Brunson announced the creation of a mounted horse unit for the Sheriff's Office. The idea stemmed from a conversation that the Sheriff was having with newly appointed Charles Clark, Jr., who dreamed of being a part of such a unit since he was a 10 year-old boy. He described how he approached a white mounted policeman at age 10 and asked how fast could his horse run? The officer told him to run and he could see for himself.

The sheriff believes that the horse patrol will add to the efficiency and effectiveness of the department. Horses can be very effective in search and rescue activities, parades, youth and other public relations initiatives, as well as crowd control, Sheriff Brunson says.



<https://youtu.be/vXtN32xW8hM>



## MONKEYPOX ON THE INCREASE IN AMERICA!

REPRINT from CBS News

CDC expects monkeypox cases will continue to climb through August

Federal health officials are warning that they now expect that the number of monkeypox cases will continue to swell through at least August, as the Biden administration says it is changing the way it will ration out vaccines to combat the growing outbreak.

As of Thursday, at least 1,470 cases have been tallied by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. New York makes up the largest share of cases, with 414 tallied by the agency in the state.

"Now as we closely monitor cases, I would like you to all understand that we anticipate an increase in cases in the coming weeks," CDC Director Dr. Rochelle Walensky told reporters on Friday.

Some of the looming uptick will simply be the result of better testing for the disease and streamlined paperwork for states to report new cases to the Biden administration, Walensky said.

However, given the sheer number of cases of the virus, which can lead to weeks of painful rashes and scarring, health authorities expect many early infections have not yet been detected.

"We know monkeypox's symptoms usually start within three weeks of exposure to the virus. So we anticipate we may see an increase in cases throughout the month of July and then to August," Walensky said.

### What's known about cases so far

Walensky said that the CDC's insight into the details of the outbreak, which now spans at least 43 states as well as the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico, remains limited.

While monkeypox is a "reportable" disease for health departments, the agency cannot compel state and local health authorities to collect and report additional demographic details around each case.

CDC only has demographic details like gender and age for less than half of the cases to date. The "vast majority" of those known cases were in men who have sex with men, though a small handful of women have also tested positive.

The average age in the outbreak, among known cases, is 36 years old. Patients range in age from 18 years old at the youngest to 76 at the oldest.

"We are working with our state and jurisdictional partners to work through data use agreements so that we have that information, but right now, it is voluntarily reported," Walensky said.

### Ramping up vaccinations

Walensky said the Biden administration was moving to a new phase of its strategy to allocate doses of vaccine around the country, acknowledging that demand still far outstrips available supply for Bavarian Nordic's two dose Jynneos vaccine.

"The updated strategy will now prioritize vaccine allocation to areas with increasing case burden, while still providing vaccine to all jurisdictions with individuals at increased risk for disease," said Walensky.

That new formula will govern the distribution of 131,000 more doses of Jynneos vaccine that are now being made available to health departments after being delivered to the country's stockpile this week.

The new strategy comes as the Biden administration has faced heavy criticism from local officials in communities now facing a spike in monkeypox infections, who have been demanding more vaccines.

Federal health officials rebutted accusations that the Food and Drug Administration had dragged its feet on an inspection of a new production line spun up by Bavarian Nordic to produce some 786,000 doses of vaccine still awaiting release by U.S. regulators. "Contrary to missing a chance for approval, FDA actively reached out using its contacts with the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority to actually move up the submission that was necessary, and all of the other events that were necessary, to get those doses to be able to used," the FDA's Dr. Peter Marks told reporters.

Marks acknowledged that the agency's European counterparts had already signed off on the facility, but said the FDA did not have an agreement for "mutual recognition of vaccines inspections for initial licensures in from other countries."

A spokesperson for Bavarian Nordic said in a statement that the company had initially planned to submit paperwork by August for an inspection of the new part of its facility scheduled in the fall, but accelerated the process as the outbreak grew. Previous doses shipped to the U.S. had been filled and finished into vials by a contractor, the company said.

An FDA spokesperson said the regulator had completed the physical part of its inspection of the new production area with no major red flags, allowing health officials to "pre-position" doses in the U.S. pending the final sign-off.

Combined with an additional U.S. order announced Friday of 2.5 million doses of vaccine to be filled into vials from U.S. stocks, the Biden administration says it hopes to have "nearly 7 million doses by mid-2023."

"While the supply of Jynneos vaccine has been limited in recent weeks, we are starting to see supply increase, and as it does, we are going to continue getting those doses out as quickly, efficiently and equitably as possible," Dawn O'Connell, the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, told reporters.

### Cases in Alabama

Report by ABC News on July 15, 2022

Two cases of monkeypox virus infection were confirmed in Alabama Friday, according to the Alabama Department of Public Health (ADPH). The health department said it identified the first case along with the Mobile County Health Department. Both organizations said they remain on alert for additional cases.

The second case was confirmed in Jefferson County by the ADPH Bureau of Clinical Laboratories. ADPH officials said the first patient's specimen was also tested by the ADPH Bureau of Clinical Laboratories (BCL), which is part of the Laboratory Response Network (LRN) that responds to public health emergencies.

In this outbreak of monkeypox in the United States, approximately 1,470 cases have been identified in 44 states and more are expected. ADPH officials said monkeypox does not spread easily from person to person. But close, intimate, skin-to-skin contact appears to be the primary mode of transmission in the current global outbreak. It is possible that contact with materials used by infected persons, such as clothing and linens, can be a way to contract the virus. The virus typically enters the body through broken skin, respiratory droplets, or mucous membranes (eyes, nose, or mouth).

Symptoms in this most current outbreak have not been as typical as in previous cases of monkeypox. Instead, persons will have a rash that starts out as flat spots, followed by raised spots, then vesicles that are deep-seated, have a tiny spot in the middle of the vesicle, and may be itchy or painful.

ADPH officials said the rash may only be on one part of the body. Some people may only have the rash and not develop other symptoms such as fever, flu-like illness, headache, muscle aches, or fatigue.

The time between exposure to the virus and when the illness begins is about 7-14 days but can be as long as 21 days. ADPH said some people who have had monkeypox have been men who have sex with men, but any person exposed to a person with monkeypox and close skin-to-skin contact can be infected.

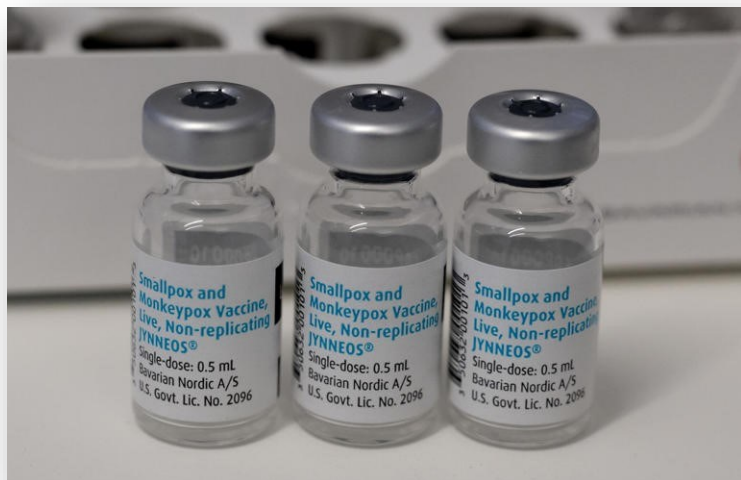
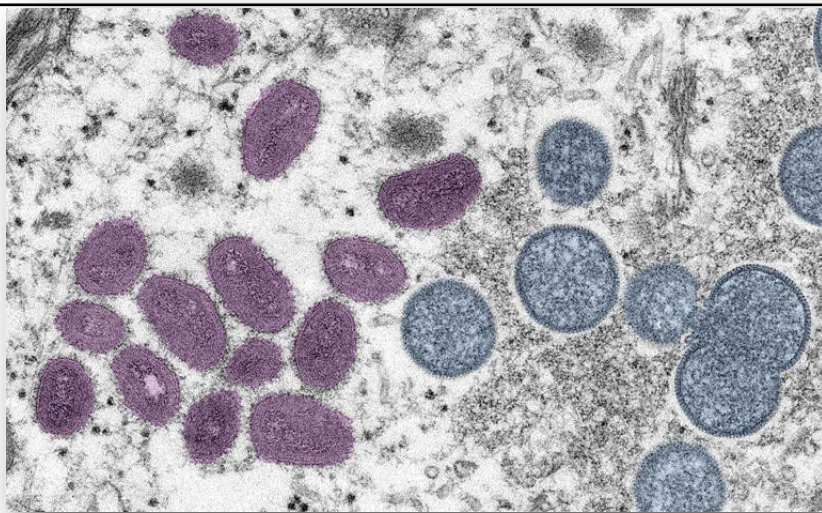
### Steps to help prevent monkeypox include the following:

1. Avoid close, skin-to-skin contact with a person who has monkeypox.
2. Do not handle or touch the bedding, clothing, or towels of a person who has monkeypox.
3. Have persons with monkeypox isolate away from others.
4. Wash hands often with soap and water or use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer, especially after contact with ill people who have monkeypox.
5. Avoid contact with animals that could have the virus (such as animals that are sick or that have been found dead).

ADPH officials said you should not hesitate to get in touch with your healthcare provider if you believe you may have monkeypox or have had close intimate contact with someone with a monkeypox rash.

Testing for monkeypox can be done at the ADPH BCL and some commercial laboratories. An effective vaccine against monkeypox exists, but at this time there is no recommendation for vaccination for those with no known exposure to confirmed cases. Antiviral treatment can be considered in persons who have certain high-risk conditions, such as immunosuppression.

For more information about monkeypox, visit the ADPH monkeypox webpage at [alabamapublichealth.gov/monkeypox](http://alabamapublichealth.gov/monkeypox) or the CDC monkeypox webpage at [cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/index.html](http://cdc.gov/poxvirus/monkeypox/index.html).





## Sammy Younge, Jr Serenity Park

(Dedicated to the life and legacy of  
Sammy Younge, Jr.)

By Norma McGowan Jackson,  
**Samuel Leamon Younge**

**Jr.** (November 17, 1944 – January 3, 1966) was a [civil rights](#) and [voting rights](#) activist who was murdered for trying to desegregate a "whites only" restroom.<sup>[1]</sup> Younge was an enlisted service member in the [United States Navy](#), where he served for two years before being medically discharged.<sup>[2][3]</sup> Younge was an active member of the [Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee](#) (SNCC) and a leader of the [Tuskegee Institute](#) Advancement League.<sup>[4][5]</sup>

Younge was the first [African-American](#) university student to be murdered in the United States due to his actions in support of the [Civil Rights Movement](#).<sup>[4][6]</sup> Three days after his death, SNCC became the first civil rights organization in the United States to oppose the [Vietnam War](#), partly on the grounds that like Younge, innocent civilians should not face deadly violence.<sup>[7]</sup>

The preceding is an excerpt from Wikipedia, and gives the facts of Sammy's life and his tragic death at the hands of a white man, who was later acquitted by an all-white jury. There is a marker at the site of his murder in downtown Tuskegee.

As a child, I lived on Scott Street, and my childhood babysitter lived around the corner on Logan Street, just across the way from Sammy's childhood home. My childhood innocence was fractured for the second time (the first being on November 22, 1963), when we arrived at school on the morning of January 3, 1966 to learn that Sammy had been murdered. Since that time, I have longed to see a lasting memorial to his life. In 2000, while working with the young people of the Amandla Chapter of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Youth Leadership Movement, we received a grant from the Ford Foundation to establish Technohouses in the Alabama Black Belt counties. Our young people voted unanimously to name our center in honor of Sammy, and for three years the Sammy Younge, Jr. Technohouse operated on the Square in downtown Tuskegee.

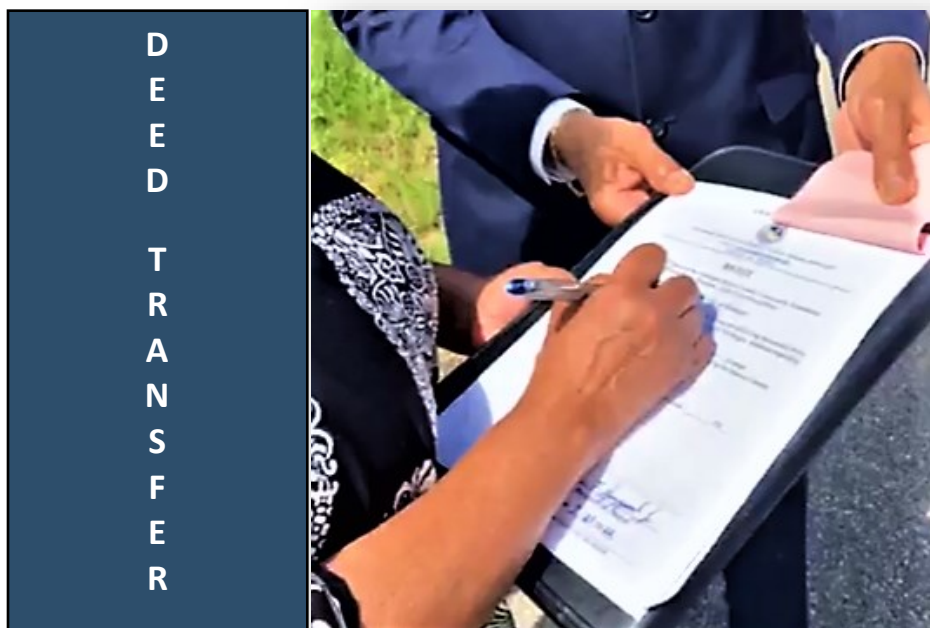
Once I won my election to the Tuskegee City Council in 2020, a local business person contacted me about a small piece of property that he wanted to donate to the community. At the time he was under the impression that the property was privately owned, but as it turned out the City of Tuskegee actually held the title. A small group of Greenwood residents petitioned the City to deed this small piece of land to the Tuskegee Macon County Community Foundation for the express purpose of establishing Sammy Younge, Jr. Serenity Park. The request was granted by adoption of Resolution 2022-02 on April 12, 2022.

The creation of Sammy's Serenity Park has the intention of celebrating his life, in particular his childhood and young adulthood as a child of the Village of Greenwood. Just around the corner from his childhood home on Logan Street, at the apex of Clark Avenue, Scott Street, and Penny Street, the park will be a place of beauty and tranquility; a place to pause on a spring or fall day and read a book, or to meditate, to do Tai Chi or yoga, or to allow a child to play.

Juriel Rogers, a young Tuskegee University graduate, (class of 2009), has volunteered her services to serve as site designer. Ms. Rogers furthered her studies at Mississippi State University, with a Master's Degree in Landscape Architecture. She made her first site visit from Mobile, Alabama to proposed park in December of 2021, and returned for a community Design Charrette on July 23, 2022. We look forward to engaging Tuskegee University students (especially those in the Departments of Architecture and Agriculture) in the development of the park.

Once the site design is complete, the crowdfunding campaign will ensue. We truly hope that the Tuskegee community, both at home and abroad, will embrace and support this very worthwhile effort!

Norma M. Jackson is Councilwoman representing District 1. She is a Tuskegee native, and daughter of the Village of Greenwood



## "ATONEMENT OR GENOCIDE!"

What will it be?

By Scott & Erica Muhammad, SEED, Incorporated, July 20, 2022

*"To live the real religious life is in some measure to share the character of God. The word "atonement," which occurs in the Bible again and again, means literally at-one-ment. To be at one with God is to be like God. Our real religious striving, then, should be to become one with God, sharing with Him in our poor human way His qualities and attributes. To do this, we must get the inner life, the heart right, and we shall then become strong where we have been weak, wise where we have been foolish." —Dr. Booker T. Washington.*

*"First of all, the idea is good. The thought of Atonement is also good. How Atonement is the proper spirit for us to be in as we try to get our people to awaken to a reality that we've been running away from." — The Honorable Minister Louis Farrakhan 8/23/2021*

Dear Fellow Citizens,

We pray this letter finds you in the very best of health and spirit. We are writing to invite students from Macon County and the surrounding areas to participate in a direct-action initiative designed to address the crisis of murder in our community and serve as a model for other communities suffering similarly, or worse.

SEED Inc has been collaborating with Dr. Charlotte Morris and Tuskegee University on an Atonement Banquet for the families of Tuskegee's murder victims. The banquet will feature the exhibition of "Life Affirmations" — brief life affirming biographical sketches — for each murder victim written by high school and university students. These narratives represent slain community members, some of whose families have planted fruit trees in their memoriam in the SEED Atonement Memorial Garden located in Tuskegee's Ridgewood Community. To produce these narratives, writers will interview family members for life-affirming reflections of their loved-one's life.

The Atonement Banquet will be held this fall and attended by the "Gold Star" families of the slain. We envision a ceremony allowing the presentation of the framed narratives to the families by the students who wrote them as a part of a healing for our Tuskegee families.

When we were at Booker T. Washington High School during our 2019 WOMB Conference, we read through the list of murder victims at that time and asked the students to raise their hands whenever they heard the name of someone they knew. Nearly all the hands were raised. In fact, some of the students were related to the victims and put us in touch with the mothers—on the spot.

Project Life Affirmations represents a critical part of our effort to reintroduce and restore our slain back to the community under our own terms, which assists in the process of healing and closure and provides a means for self-expression. The project also gives students a tool to effectively engage the social problems that beset them.

This effort is being spearheaded by Students for Education and Economic Development (SEED Inc) on behalf of the Tuskegee community, which has seen 80 murders from the year 2000 to the present, as part of an atonement for our collective contribution to the culture of death that permeates our community.

We host weekly Zoom classes on journalism taught by Final Call Newspaper Contributing Editor James Muhammad for student participants to hone their writing skills for this project. The Final Call is the largest black owned publication in the world.

Due to the escalating murder rate, we need of more writers.

If your family has lost a loved one to murder, or if you know someone on this list please have their families to contact us. Our loved ones deserve more than a five-line mention by the local news — if they're mentioned at all.

SEED also hosts a weekly meeting every Saturday for the Gold Star Families of the slain. We call you Gold Star Families for the same reason that the U.S. armed forces call the families of soldiers killed in war "Gold Star Families." Our people are being killed at rate only seen in war. The difference is the location of the battlefield.

We hope this initiative will spur a writers' renaissance in Tuskegee's underserved communities. As you know, writing and journaling provides a healthy outlet for the expression of negative emotions and has tremendous therapeutic effects for those working through trauma. The nurturing of our students' ability to communicate through the written word is one of the missing pieces in ending our murder dynamic. We deeply appreciate your support of this project as we move onward towards Booker T. Washington's vision of a refined and productive community.

Sincerely,

Scott Muhammad, Co-Director and Erica Muhammad, Co-Director

# Macon Means

## Macon County Food Distributors Round Table

### August 2022

### Free Food

### Distribution Schedule



**S M T W Th F S**

1

2

3

4

5

6



11:00 Helping Hand Ministry  
Chisholm Center  
3031 Co Rd 69  
Little Texas  
Rev. A. Williams

10 Bowen UMC  
2107 W Mtg Rd  
Senior's Food



Back To School BASH!  
10am - 1pm  
BTW HS  
DC Wolfe  
Notasulga HS

7

8

9

10

11

12

13



MACON SCHOOLS OPEN

11:00 Helping Hand Ministry  
District 4 Center  
1200 CR 27  
Franklin, AL  
Rev. A. Williams

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

9 Macon Co Food Pantry  
Daly St  
Last Names H to O

9:00 AKN  
4771 Hwy 199  
11:00 Helping H Vegetable Stand  
16675 Hwy 80 W  
Shorter, AL

10 Bowen UMC  
2107 W Mtg Rd  
Senior's Food

Children's Food Distr.  
Brownville, Notasulga,  
Shorter, Tuskegee  
Warrior St/Cotton V

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

12 Macon Food Distributors Roundtable Zoom Meeting

11:00 Helping Hand Ministry  
Committed to Christ Ministries  
145 Co Rd 20  
Shorter, AL

ALL MACON COUNTY DAY

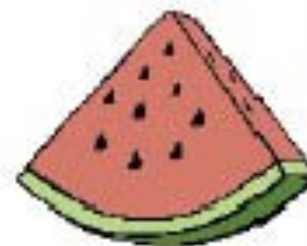
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31

11:00 Helping Hand Ministry  
Solomon Chapel  
4214 W MLK Hwy



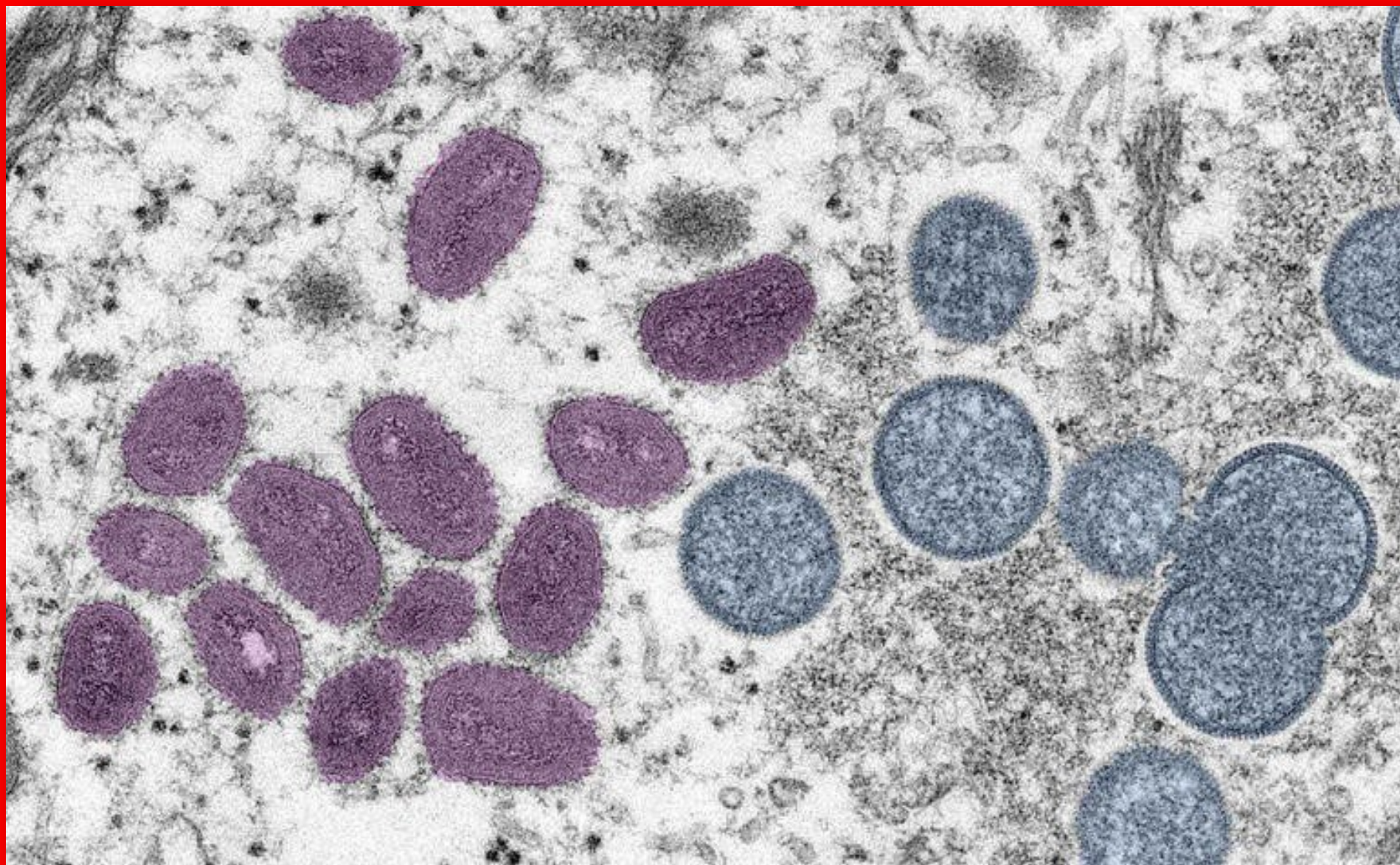
**The Macon Food Hotline: (334) 724-2550**

[https://youtu.be/BPL\\_EqhQxpu](https://youtu.be/BPL_EqhQxpu)

### DO YOU NEED FOOD ASSISTANCE?

If your answer is yes, there is no reason to go hungry! Just show up at the above listed sites, on the specified dates and Macon Means and associated partners will be there to assist those of you who need assistance. This is about people helping people!

**PLEASE CALL THE ABOVE LISTED TELEPHONE NUMBER FOR INSTRUCTIONS.**



### NOTICE!

**Monkeypox is on the rise in America, with several cases reported in the state of Alabama! "Don't drop the Ball, stay alert and continue practicing good health measures to protect yourself and your family!" Story on page 9.**

GET FOOD

GET NEWS

GET TESTED

GET HELP

GET FACTS

GET SUPPLIES

[www.maconcares.org](http://www.maconcares.org)



# MACON CARES

### COMMUNITY ALERT!

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

**COVID-19 DEATHS in U. S.—2020-2022  
CASES: 90,578,923 DEATHS: 1,027,369**

**ALABAMA COVID-19 UPDATE  
As of May 23, 2022**

**CASES: 1,419,075 DEATHS: 19,890**

**MACON COUNTY COVID-19 UPDATE  
CASES: 4,375 DEATHS: 86**

### THE FACE OF HUMAN ENEMY #1!

The Enemy that reminds us of God's Goodness!  
PLEASE PAY ATTENTION & "DON'T DROP THE BALL" ON HEALTH & SAFETY!

The Macon County Community Partners Task Force created this publication following the devastating impact of the Coronavirus Pandemic. Task Force members pondered the best ways to alert and educate county residents of the best health related methods of protecting themselves from catching COVID-19; as well as how to socialize safely and eat better to strengthen their immune systems to protect against the virus. Weekly Zoom Meetings, a website, and Newspaper were determined to be the best methods of reminding county residents that COVID-19 will be with us for an undetermined time and encourage people not to "drop the ball" on safety, cleanliness and socialization habits. This **FREE** Health Newspaper is managed by the Macon County Health Care Authority, Inc. and published by L & B Consultant Services, Leon E. "Chief" Frazier, President, and Diane Kenney, Editor. The Task Force presented funding requests to the City of Tuskegee, Macon County Commission, Community Outreach Organizations; as well as county residents who care about the situation in their communities. You can support this newspaper by sending donation, ads, or articles for publication to: Macon County Health Authority, P. O. Box 830214, Tuskegee, AL 36083. Email: [maconhealthauthority@gmail.com](mailto:maconhealthauthority@gmail.com) Publisher's Telephone: 334-492-4047.