

Veteran Professionals in Politics, Business, and Public Service to be Honored for Contributions Towards Making Middle Georgia More Livable at Black Business & Community Expo

MACON, GA – The **Central Georgia Coalition of Black Businesses** and the **Macon-Middle Georgia Black Pages** will host their first annual **Black Business & Community Expo** at the **Macon Coliseum Saturday, August 19 at 11am.**

With “Together We Rise” as its theme, the expo is also a Bicentennial Partnership event with **Macon 200** using a holistic approach since the needs are many towards building and maintaining a mid-state environment anchored by a healthy, educated, financially secure, unified citizenry Perry and Habersham agreeingly shared.

CGCBB’s Executive Director **Brittney Brisco Perry** says the expo is a way for all in attendance to access resources designed to make their lives better. MMGBP founder **Alex Habersham** says it’s time to leverage the billions of dollars of disposable income circulating in the Black communities of the mid-state in constructive ways and he feels the expo could be an effective way of doing so.

In addition, veteran Macon-Bibb County Commissioner **Elaine Lucas**; renowned businessman **Billy Pitts**; and revered researcher, educator, and historian **Muriel Jackson** – local pioneers in politics, entrepreneurship, and public service - will be honored with a Humanitarian Award for their long-standing contributions towards making Middle Georgia more livable. “These unsung, humble heroes of community service have favorably impacted Central Georgia for years. It’s our honor and privilege to bestow this award on them in a venue that will maximize on further highlighting their service,” said Habersham.



Elaine Lucas

Lucas has several decades of experience in politics as a member of Macon City Council and as the first female member of Macon-Bibb County government. The founding member and first president of the Bibb County Voters Registration League; and NAACP, SCLC, and Democratic Women of Bibb County member has also been involved civically in Macon for years - chairing the Martin Luther King Commission, and serving on the Cherry Blossom Festival and Fort Hawkins Commissions, and Macon Cemetery Preservation Board to name a few. A retired Bibb County School educator, Lucas opened EL High School in 2011 where over 1,000 students have obtained degrees.

Insurance and investments are Pitts’ specialty. His professional accomplishments include membership to Million Dollar Round Table, which encompasses the top six percent of all Sales Producers in the world. He owns Mutual Financial Group and is the Special Marketing Developer for the Principal Financial Group. Pitts has been with MetLife for 22 years, but still found time to serve the community as a member of the Board of Tax Assessors, a founding member of the Macon-Middle Georgia 100 Black Men, and chair of the Macon Economic Development Commission.



Billy Pitts

Middle Georgia Regional Library’s Genealogical & Historical Middle Georgia Archives Division is headed by Jackson where she has assisted the public with finding its family roots since 1994. Through her effort that began as a genealogy librarian she has helped users by providing basic instructions in beginning genealogy research and tracing family history through the usage of various resources (census records, city directories, newspapers, marriage and death records, etc). Jackson is an astute historian with an acute knowledge of Middle Georgia and go-to in her field.



Muriel Jackson

For more information on the Humanitarian Award activity, vending, co-sponsoring, and attending the Black Business & Community Expo visit www.CGCBB.org or call 478-464-0074.

