



- WHEREAS, Gaston County is proud to commemorate the life and legacy of Lt. Marshall Schuyler Cabiness, Sr., a Tuskegee Airman, for his bravery and service to our country; and,
- WHEREAS, Mr. Cabiness is remembered as one of our local leaders, mentor, native son and real-life hero; and,
- WHEREAS, Mr. Cabiness was a graduate of Highland High School in Gastonia and Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia and was considered a pillar of pride in Gaston County and surrounding communities; and,
- WHEREAS, Mr. Cabiness married the granddaughter of Booker T. Washington, notably known as the Founder of the Tuskegee Institute, now known as Tuskegee University; and,
- WHEREAS, Mr. Cabiness was the first Black person in the Gaston County area to earn a pilot's license in the 1930's and a member of the Tuskegee Airmen who were the nation's first Black military pilots in the final years of World War II; and,
- WHEREAS, the Tuskegee Airmen played a substantial role in the desegregation of the U. S. Armed Forces by proving no shortage of intelligence, skill, courage or patriotism for such an endeavor among African Americans; and,
- WHEREAS, Mr. Cabiness was one of hundreds of Blacks who flocked to volunteer for the 99th Pursuit Squadron when the first all-Black squadron was formed in 1941.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Gaston County Board of Commissioners proclaims April 22, 2023 as

MARSHALL SCHYULER CABINESS, SR., DAY

in recognition of Mr. Cabiness' many contributions to our Country and for the respect and honor he brought to Gaston County. The Board further urges all citizens in Gaston County to remember and honor the valor of the Tuskegee Airmen.

Chad Brown, Chairman

Cathy Cloninger

Kim Johnson

Allen R. Fraley

Tom Keigher

Bob Hovis, Vice-Chairman

Ronald E. Worley

Adopted the 25th Day of April 2023