

APTV
Birmingham, AL
PBS Quarterly Program Topic Report
April 1, 2021 – June 30, 2021

American History/Biography

Series Title: PBS NewsHour
Episode Title: Episode 201
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 4/7/2021 6:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: News (live news only)
Segment Length: 00:08:43

Jimmy Carter lost his White House re-election bid over 40 years ago and his presidency is often remembered for hard economic times and the Iran hostage crisis. But author and historian Jonathan Alter argues in his latest book, "His Very Best," that Carter is perhaps the most misunderstood president in American history. Alter joins Judy Woodruff to discuss.

Series Title: American Masters
Episode Title: Amy Tan: Unintended Memoir
Length: 120 minutes
Airdate: 5/3/2021 9:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 1:53:28

Explore the life of the groundbreaking author of "The Joy Luck Club" in this intimate portrait. Archival imagery, home movies, photographs, animation and original interviews create a vivid, colorful journey through Tan's inspiring life and career.

Series Title: PBS NewsHour
Episode Title: Episode 253
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 6/18/2021 6:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: News (live news only)
Segment Length: 00:06:26

On this first federal Juneteenth holiday, Author and Historian Annette Gordon-Reed talks to Jeffrey Brown about the importance of this date through her personal history growing up in Texas. This reporting is part of NewsHour's arts and culture series, CANVAS.

Culture

Series Title: PBS NewsHour
Episode Title: Episode 198
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 4/2/2021 6:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: News (live news only)
Segment Length: 00:07:21

A new documentary series by Ken Burns and Lynn Novick called "Hemingway" premieres Monday on PBS. It's about one of America's most famous and influential writers. In New Mexico, an unusual audience is watching, reading, and writing along. Jeffrey Brown has the story for our arts and culture series, "CANVAS."

Series Title: PBS NewsHour
Episode Title: Episode 219
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 5/3/2021 6:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: News (live news only)
Segment Length: 00:04:53

In our news wrap Monday, people across Mississippi spent the day cleaning up after multiple tornadoes struck on Sunday. The daily average of new COVID-19 cases in the U.S. is below 50,000 for the first time since October. President Biden says the U.S. will admit 62,500 refugees through September. In Elizabeth City, North Carolina, Andrew Brown Jr.'s funeral led to fresh calls for police reform.

Series Title: American Masters
Episode Title: Ballerina Boys
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 6/4/2021 8:30:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:44

Discover Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo (The Trocks), an all-male company that for 45 years has offered audiences their passion for ballet classics mixed with exuberant comedy. With every step they poke fun at their strictly gendered art form.

Environment/Nature/Natural Disasters

Series Title: NATURE
Episode Title: The Leopard Legacy
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 4/14/2021 8:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:44

Follow the story of a leopard mother as she raises her cubs near the Luangwa River, facing a constant battle to hunt successfully, defend her territory and protect her cubs against enemies.

Series Title: Greta Thunberg: A Year to Change the World
Episode Title: Episode 2
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 5/5/2021 7:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:44

Follow Greta's journey from the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, to Poland, where she speaks with miners who have lost their jobs. She also visits the UK, where she meets with one of her inspirations -- Sir David Attenborough.

Series Title: Life at the Waterhole
Episode Title: Episode 3
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 6/2/2021 7:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:44

Waterholes are vital to the African ecosystem; bustling oases where elephants, lions, leopards and hundreds of other species meet and compete for water. But little is known about how they support so much life. Now the BBC Studios Natural History Unit and PBS are working with Mwiba Wildlife Reserve and local communities in Tanzania, to build the world's first waterhole with a built-in specialist camera rig. With half-submerged and weather-proofed remote cameras, Dr. M. Sanjayan leads a team to uncover the complex dynamics of the waterhole for the very first time. Filming will take place across 3 dramatic periods: the middle of the dry season, the hottest time of year and the height of the first rains to gain unique insights into the lives of some of Africa's most iconic animals. As warthogs, giraffes, monkeys and big cats all jostle for position at the new waterhole the team uncovers the increasingly important role of water in Africa as its wildlife faces the growing impact of climate change.

Family/Marriage

Series Title: My Grandparents' War
Episode Title: Helena Bonham Carter
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 4/4/2021 7:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Interview/Discussion/Review
Segment Length: 00:56:44

Follow actress Helena Bonham Carter as she explores the heroism of both sets of her grandparents during WWII -- her grandmother, an air warden and outspoken politician, and her grandfather, a diplomat who saved hundreds from the Holocaust.

Series Title: PBS NewsHour
Episode Title: Episode 223
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 5/7/2021 6:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: News (live news only)
Segment Length: 00:08:25

Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren is working with President Biden on infrastructure, education and a number of other issues. She also just released a new book, "Persist," about her own campaign experiences and plans. It emphasizes her personal stories as a working mother. She joins Judy Woodruff to discuss Biden's policies, and the experiences that inspired the book.

Series Title: PBS NewsHour
Episode Title: Episode 240
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 6/1/2021 6:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: News (live news only)
Segment Length: 00:05:53

The last year has been one of grief and sorrow for so many around the world. A new book by acclaimed author Chimamanda Adichie explores her recent personal loss after the death of her beloved father, and the multi-faceted grief she "was not prepared for." Jeffrey Brown talked to her from her family home in Lagos, Nigeria for our arts and culture series, CANVAS.

Health/Healthcare

Series Title: PBS NewsHour
Episode Title: Episode 197
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 4/1/2021 6:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: News (live news only)
Segment Length: 00:07:39

Even as the U.S. sets records for daily COVID-19 vaccinations, disparities in availability persist. We cover the stories of some medically vulnerable people, most of whom are still waiting for their shot. And for more on the reasons behind the wait, William Brangham speaks to Jen Kates, the Senior Vice President and Director of Global Health and HIV Policy at the Kaiser Family Foundation.

Series Title: PBS NewsHour
Episode Title: Episode 220
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 5/4/2021 6:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: News (live news only)
Segment Length: 00:04:11

In our news wrap Tuesday, the White House plans to distribute more COVID-19 shots to states where demand is higher as it aims to vaccinate 70 percent of U.S. adults with at least one dose by July 4. An elevated train track collapsed late Monday in Mexico City, killing at least 24 people. U.S. intelligence analysts warn that Afghan women will suffer greatly if the Taliban regains power.

Series Title: Extra Life: A Short History of Living Longer
Episode Title: Behavior
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 6/1/2021 8:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Demonstration/Instructional
Segment Length: 00:56:44

Discover the little-known story of the innovations in science and medicine that doubled the human lifespan in less than a century, and celebrate the unsung heroes of public health who believed change was possible and acted on it.

Minorities/Civil Rights

Series Title: PBS NewsHour
Episode Title: Episode 199
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 4/5/2021 6:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: News (live news only)
Segment Length: 00:09:49

The Derek Chauvin trial resumed Monday, with the prosecution arguing the former Minneapolis police officers' use of force did not follow protocol. The city's chief of police testified on the matter. Special correspondent Fred De Sam Lazaro has our report and Uzodima Frank Aba-Onu, a civil attorney and president of the Minnesota Association of Black Lawyers, also joins us to discuss the matter.

Series Title: Tulsa: The Fire and the Forgotten
Length: 90 minutes
Airdate: 5/31/2021 9:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 01:26:44

Learn about the 1921 Tulsa Race Massacre, on the 100th anniversary of the crime, and how the community of Tulsa is coming to terms with its past, present and future.

Series Title: PBS NewsHour
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 6/21/2021 6:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: News (live news only)
Segment Length: 00:08:48

COVID-19 has taken a disproportionate physical toll on people of color – especially Black Americans, who are nearly three times as likely to be hospitalized and twice as likely to die from it than whites. Experts are now also warning of the longer-term mental health toll this last year has taken on those same communities and historical disparities it highlights. Stephanie Sy reports.

Science/Technology

Series Title: NOVA
Episode Title: Picture a Scientist
Length: 120 minutes
Airdate: 4/14/2021 8:00:00 PM
Service: PBS-NPS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 01:53:28

Women make up less than a quarter of STEM professionals in the United States, and numbers are even lower for women of color. But a growing group of researchers is exposing longstanding discrimination and making science more inclusive.

Series Title: Human: The World Within
Episode Title: Birth
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 5/5/2021 9:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:44

Human: The World Within explores the incredible universe inside each and every one of us. Through an examination of diverse personal stories around the world, Human reveals how our everyday lives, our passions, and our goals are powered by the amazing systems that define our biology as a species.

Series Title: American Experience
Episode Title: Mr. Tornado
Length: 60 minutes
Airdate: 6/29/2021 9:00:00 PM
Service: PBS
Format: Documentary
Segment Length: 00:56:44

Meet pioneering meteorologist Ted Fujita, who transformed our understanding of tornados. His technological advancements saved lives and helped Americans prepare for and respond to dangerous weather phenomena.

Alabama Public Television
Quarterly Issues & Programming Report
April - June 2021

Capitol Journal

4/1/21, 10:30pm, 30 minutes Issues discussed: Government, health, education

We reported on the Senate passing a bill that would limit the governor's authority to extend emergency orders. We also reported on the Senate approving legislation that would allow churches and businesses to stay open during a pandemic. We were joined by Rep. Jeremy Gray of Opelika, who discussed his bill to lift the ban on yoga in public schools stalling in a Senate committee. And Rep. Wes Kitchens of Arab was with us to talk about his Daylight Savings Time bill.

4/2/21, 7:30pm, 1 hour Issues discussed: Government, health

We reported on Gov. Ivey announcing the expansion of vaccine eligibility to ALL adults. We were joined by State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris, who said an increased vaccine supply makes the expansion possible. Senator Linda Coleman Madison of Birmingham was with us to talk about a new Democratic push for Medicaid expansion in the state. We were joined by Congressman Mo Brooks of Huntsville, who discussed his new campaign for the U.S. Senate. And Tuscaloosa Mayor Walt Maddox talked with us about the first month of his new fifth term in office and whether he might have higher political aspirations.

4/5/21, 11pm, 30 minutes Issues discussed: Government, education, health, economic

We reported on an upcoming committee public hearing for a new bill that would allow K-12 students to enroll at ANY school in the state – for a fee. We also reported on expected committee action on medical marijuana. We were joined by Rep. Tashina Morris of Montgomery, who discussed her bill dealing with mental health training for K-12 employees. We were also joined by Dr. Ileeia Smith with the Alabama Department of Mental Health, who talked about a helpline focused on pandemic support. And Alabama Tourism Department Director Lee Sentell was with us to discuss a major uptick in tourism after the effects of the pandemic.

4/6/21, 11pm, 30 minutes Issues discussed: Government, education, health

We reported on a Senate committee approving a new 'open enrollment' school bill. We also reported on another Senate committee approving a bill that would ban curbside voting in the state. We were joined by Rep. Shane Stringer of Citronelle and Rep. Brett Easterbrook of Fruitdale, who discussed their growing concerns over a deadly highway in their districts. And Alabama Hospital Association Executive Director Dr. Don Williamson was with us to discuss our current low COVID hospitalization rate and fears that it could start going back up.

4/7/21, 11pm, 30 minutes Issues discussed: Government, economic, health

We reported on the Senate taking up a lottery bill; on a medical marijuana bill clearing one House committee; and on Gov. Kay Ivey announcing a new 'slimmed down' COVID health order. We also reported on Secretary of State John Merrill announcing he won't run for the U.S. Senate or any other elected office next year. We were joined by Rep. Corley Ellis of Columbiana, who discussed his election bill. And Rep. Joe Lovvorn of Auburn was with us to talk about his storm shelter tax credit legislation.

4/8/21, 10:30pm, 30 minutes Issues discussed: Government, health, crime

We reported on the House giving final passage to a bill that would create lifetime concealed carry permits in the state. It's House sponsor, Rep. Poncey Robertson of Mt. Hope, joined us to talk about the legislation. We also

reported on the Senate approving a bill that would ban so-called 'vaccine passports' in Alabama. We also reported on reaction to an affair controversy surrounding Secretary of State John Merrill. And we were joined by Rep. Debbie Wood of Valley, who discussed her bill that would require healthcare providers to allow one caregiver or visitor per patient during public health emergencies.

4/9/21, 7:30pm, 1 hour Issues discussed: Government, economic, crime, health

We were joined by Sen. Jim McClendon of Springville, who discussed a delayed vote on his lottery bill. Senate Minority Leader Bobby Singleton of Greensboro talked with us about his caucus' support of a more comprehensive gaming plan. Congressman Barry Moore of Enterprise joined us to discuss capitol security, border security and his concerns with the president's infrastructure plan. And State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris talked with us about the end of the statewide mask mandate.

4/12/21, 10:30pm 30 minutes Issues discussed: Government, economic, health, race

We had a preview of the upcoming legislative week, including possible Senate action on a proposed state lottery and another scheduled House committee vote on a medical marijuana bill. We were joined by Sen. Clyde Chambliss of Prattville, who discussed his lottery concerns and a bill he's working on that would use existing tax revenue to continue to fund Confederate Memorial Park as well as black history sites. And Alabama ABC Board Administrator Mac Gipson talked with us about bills that would both allow home delivery of alcohol and direct wine shipments.

4/13/21, 10:30pm, 30 minutes Issues discussed: Government, economic, health, crime

We reported on the lottery issue looming large over state Senate; Alabama joining a national 'pause' of the J & J vaccine over 'rare' side effects; the Attorney General saying 'no comment' on a Democratic call for a probe of Sec. of State John Merrill, but says his office will review any criminal complaint that might come to its attention; Rep. David Standridge of Hayden was with us to talk about his bill that would have the Sec. of State conduct one-time post-election audits; and Rep. Mike Ball of Madison also joined us to discuss his bill to repeal the grand jury secrecy law.

4/14/21, 10:30pm 30 minutes Issues discussed: Government, health, race, economic

We reported on a committee public hearing on a bill that would legalize medical marijuana. We also reported on another committee public hearing on legislation that would increase the penalties for removing historical monuments. Rep. Gil Isbell of Gadsden joined us to discuss Senate passage of a comprehensive gambling bill and whether there is enough time to see it through to final legislative passage. And Rep. Merika Coleman of Pleasant Grove was also with us to discuss gambling and a Democratic push for Medicaid expansion.

4/15/21, 10:30pm, 30 minutes Issues discussed: Government, health, crime, youth, education

We reported on a House committee approving a bill to legalize medical marijuana, sending it to the House floor. We also reported on the legislature giving final passage to a major bail reform constitutional amendment. We reported on the Senate approving both a bill to block federal gun control laws and a bill to ban transgender youth from competing in K-12 female sports. We were joined by Rep. Rod Scott, who discussed his bill that would give students credit for learning opportunities outside the classroom. And Rep. Tracy Estes of Winfield was with us to talk about his bill to create a state terrorism registry.

4/16/21, 7:30pm, 1 hour Issues discussed: Government, economic, education, health

Sen. Jim McClendon joined us to discuss the comprehensive gambling plan passed by the Senate. Robbie McGhee with the Poarch Band of Creek Indians was with us to herald both the plan's approval and a possible tribe compact

with the state. Sen. Rodger Smitherman joined us to discuss his support of the gaming plan and his bill that would delay the 'hold back' clause in the Alabama Literacy Act. And State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris was with us to talk about pausing the use of the Johnson and Johnson virus vaccine.

4/19/21, 10:30pm, 30 minutes Issues discussed: Government, crime, education, youth

We reported on Gov. Kay Ivey saying that her private lease prison construction plan would continue, even after a key underwriting firm pulled out. We previewed the upcoming legislative week, including expected Senate committee action on the education budget and a possible Senate floor vote on a bill to ban curbside voting. We were joined by Rep. Wes Allen of Troy, who discussed his curbside voting ban legislation. And were also joined by Alabama Secretary of Early Childhood Education Dr. Barbara Cooper, who talked about the state's First Class Pre-K Program being named the nation's best for the 15th consecutive year.

4/20/21, 10:30pm, 30 minutes Issues discussed: Government, crime, race.

We reported on some lawmaker calls for Gov. Kay Ivey to abandon her private lease prison plan and Ivey suggesting that she would be open to seeking legislative support for a bond issue. We were joined by Sen. Andrew Jones of Centre, who said he supports moving away from the private lease prison plan. We reported on the Senate approving a bill to prohibit racial profiling and require police to keep records of traffic stops. We also reported on the House considering a bill that would allow drive through beer and wine purchases. And we were also joined by Rep. Prince Chestnut of Selma, who discussed his bill to bring more uniformity to judicial pay.

4/21/21, 10:30pm, 30 minutes Issues discussed: Government, education, crime, race.

We reported on a House committee public hearing on the record 7.6-billion-dollar education budget. A vote was set the next day. We also reported on another House committee approving a bill that would forbid Alabama enforcement of any new federal gun control laws or orders. We were joined by Rep. Rex Reynolds of Huntsville, a retired law enforcement officer, who discussed the Derek Chauvin verdict and how the case has influenced some of his police bills. And Rep. Rolanda Hollis of Birmingham was with us to talk about her legislation that would require schools to provide free feminine hygiene products, as well as her opposition to a bill that would strengthen the Memorial Preservation Act.

4/22/21, 10:30pm, 30 minutes Issues discussed: Government, education, crime

We reported on the record education budget passing a House committee and heading to the floor. We also reported on the Senate approving several election bills, including one that would prohibit voting both in Alabama and in another state. The Senate carried over a bill that would ban curbside voting in Alabama. We were joined by Rep. Alan Baker of Brewton, who discussed passage of his bill to update absentee ballot application deadlines. And we were also joined by Rep. Corey Harbison of Cullman, who talked with us about the failure of his local bill that would have made pistol permits free in his home county, and about other pending gun bills.

4/23/21, 7:30pm, 1 hour Issues discussed: Government, crime, economic, education, health

We reported on Gov. Kay Ivey signing into law a controversial transgender athlete bill. We were joined by Sen. Greg Albritton of Atmore, who discussed a financial snag for the private lease prison plan and the prospects for a comprehensive gambling measure that he supports. We were also joined by Bureau of Pardons and Parole Director Cam Ward and Ingram State Technical College President Dr. Annette Funderburk, who discussed a new collaboration on inmate job training and reducing prison recidivism. And State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris was with us to talk about a slight uptick in COVID hospitalizations and a slacking off in the vaccination rate.

4/26/21, 10:30pm, 30 minutes Issues discussed: Government, economic, health

We reported on news from the Census Bureau that Alabama would not lose a congressional seat. We also reported on a busy week ahead for lawmakers, including possible final legislative passage of both state budgets and scheduled House committee action on a gambling bill. We were joined by Sen. Tim Melson of Florence, who discussed possible upcoming House action on his bill to legalize medical marijuana. And Dr. Ken Finn, a noted Colorado medical marijuana author and consultant, was with us to discuss his concerns over the issue.

4/27/21, 10:30pm, 30 minutes Issues discussed: Government, education, crime

We reported on the House approving the record 7.7-billion-dollar education budget and a Senate committee approving the 2.4-billion-dollar General Fund budget. We also reported on a House committee advancing a pair of gun bills. We were joined by Rep. Chris Pringle of Mobile, the co-chair of the Joint Legislative Committee on Reapportionment, who discussed the new census data that prevents Alabama from losing a congressional seat. And Barry Matson, the Executive Director of the Alabama District Attorneys Association, was with us to talk about legislation important to DAs.

4/28/21, 10:30pm, 30 minutes Issues discussed: Government, economic, crime, health

We reported on the prospects for a gambling plan to be passed in the final days of the legislative session. We were joined by Rep. A.J. McCampbell of Gallion, who is among the lawmakers working with Gov. Kay Ivey on the gambling issue. He discussed those efforts and the governor signing into law his law enforcement database bill. We were also joined by Stephanie Bryan, the Chairwoman of the Poarch Band of Creek Indians, who talked with us about the tribe's hopes that a gambling deal can be reached. And we reported on a group of state district attorneys asking House members to vote against a medical marijuana bill.

4/29/21, 10:30pm, 30 minutes Issues discussed: Government, education, economic, health

We reported on final legislative passage of the record 7.6-billion-dollar education budget. We also reported on Senate approval of the record 2.4-billion-dollar General Fund budget. We were joined by Rep. Allen Farley of McCalla, who discussed House members being sent home for the weekend with new information on a comprehensive gambling package that is expected to be before them next week. We were also joined by Sen. Chris Elliott of Fairhope, who said that he hoped that the House in the next week would pass the medical marijuana legislation that the upper chamber had already approved.

4/30/21, 7:30pm, 1 hour Issues discussed: Government, economic, health, crime

We were joined by House Majority Leader Nathaniel Ledbetter of Rainsville, who discussed the prospects for gambling and medical marijuana in the final days of the session. House Minority Leader Anthony Daniels of Huntsville was also with us to talk about those issues and about voting and criminal justice reform legislation. And State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris joined us to discuss a continued decline in our vaccination rate.

5/3/21, 10:30pm, 30 minutes Issues discussed: Government, economic, health, youth

We previewed the upcoming legislative week, including House committee action on gambling bills and possible House floor action on medical marijuana and transgender youth medical bills. We were joined by Labor Secretary Fitzgerald Washington, who discussed continually declining jobless numbers and some employers having a hard time filling jobs. And ADECA Director Kenneth Boswell was with us to talk about the state's census effort that helped us avoid losing a congressional seat.

5/4/21, 10:30pm, 30 minutes Issues discussed: Government, health, economic

We reported on passions running deep on both sides as the House took up medical marijuana; a House committee approved the main bill in the comprehensive gambling plan; Rep. Reed Ingram of Montgomery joined us to discuss his opposition to medical marijuana and his opposition to a proposed gambling plan; and Rep. Thomas Jackson of

Thomasville joined us to discuss his support of medical marijuana and his reservations about the gambling measure.

5/5/21, 10:30pm, 30 minutes Issues discussed: Government, health, economic, crime, education

We reported on preparations for a very busy penultimate day of the legislative session, including expected House action on both medical marijuana and gambling. We were joined by Rep. Jim Hill of Moody, who discussed both issues, as well as his criminal justice reform measures that he hoped the Senate would tape up the following day. We were also joined by Rep. Terri Collins of Decatur, who discussed medical marijuana, gambling, proposed changes to her Literacy Act legislation, and final passage of her direct shipment wine bill.

5/6/21, 10:30pm, 30 minutes Issues discussed: Government, health, economic, crime

We reported on the House approving the bill to legalize medical marijuana and on the last-minute negotiations over a comprehensive gambling plan. We were joined by Rep. Allen Treadaway of Morris, who discussed his support of medical marijuana, his concerns with the gambling plan, and his disappointment over the death of his riot bill. And we were also joined by Rep. Jim Carns of Vestavia Hills, who discussed his opposition to medical marijuana and his concerns with the gambling plan

5/7/21, 7:30pm, 1 hour Issues discussed: Government, economic, health

Speaker of the House Mac McCutcheon joined us to discuss the gambling plan stalling and it's future prospects. Senator Tim Melson of Florence was with us to talk about final passage of his bill to legalize the use of medical marijuana in the state. Congressman Gary Palmer of Hoover joined us to discuss a power struggle for a key U.S. House leadership position. And State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris talked with us about continued vaccination declines and the prospect of virus herd immunity.

5/14/21, 7:30pm, 1 hour Issues discussed: Government, crime, economic, needy, health, youth

We previewed the upcoming final day of the legislative session. Sen. Clyde Chambliss of Prattville joined us to discuss a possible special session on prison construction - if a private lease deal falls apart. Labor Secretary Fitzgerald Washington was with us to talk about the state ending its participation in federal pandemic unemployment compensation programs. And State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris joined us to discuss new masking recommendations and vaccine eligibility for adolescent children.

5/21/21, 7:30pm, 1 hour Issues discussed: Government, economic, health

Senate President Pro Tem Greg Reed of Jasper joined us to look back on his first legislative session as Senate leader. Senator Del Marsh of Anniston was with us to discuss plans to bring back gambling legislation next year, after it failed to pass this year. Attorney General Steve Marshall talked with us about his concerns over both gambling and the medical marijuana measure that was signed into law that week. And State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris joined us to discuss the passage of a bill to ban on so-called 'vaccine passports' in the state.

5/28/21, 7:30pm, 1 hour Issues discussed: Government, education, health, youth

We reported on the governor vetoing a bill to delay a Literacy Act hold back provision. We were joined by Rep. Wes Allen of Troy, who discussed his bill to ban curbside voting in the state becoming law. We were also joined by Rep. Ginny Shaver of Leesburg, who talked about the governor signing into law her so-called 'born alive' legislation. Alabama GOP Chairman John Wahl of Athens joined us to discuss the passage of party priority bills including one that bans vaccine passports. And State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris was with us to talk about the looming end of the governor's pandemic health orders.

6/4/21, 7:30pm, 1 hour Issues discussed: Government, crime, health

Rep. Steve Clouse of Ozark joined us to look ahead to a meeting he and other legislative leaders would soon have with Gov. Kay Ivey to discuss options for building new state prisons, after Ivey's private lease deal fell apart. We were also joined by Congressman Jerry Carl of Mobile, who talked about a bill he was drafting that would call for the resignation of President Joe Biden's chief medical advisor, Dr. Anthony Fauci. And Alabama Hospital Association President Dr. Don Williamson was with us to talk about what MIGHT could cause our stable COVID numbers to start spiking again.

6/11/21, 8:30pm, 1 hour Issues discussed: Government, crime, race, health

Senate Majority Leader Clay Scofield of Guntersville joined us to discuss the effort to put together a new prison construction plan. Senator Jim McClendon of Springville was also with us to talk about an expected fall special session on redistricting. Representative Merika Coleman of Pleasant Grove joined us to discuss putting together a commission to work on removing racist language from the state constitution. And State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris talked with us about mounting concerns over our low COVID vaccination rate.

6/18/21, 7:30pm, 1 hour Issues discussed: Government, crime, economic, needy, education, health

Senate Minority Leader Bobby Singleton of Greensboro joined us to discuss our prison problems and his dismay that Alabama's federal COVID unemployment benefits were ending that weekend. Rep. Terri Collins of Decatur, chair of the House Education Policy Committee, was with us to talk about the debate over whether to teach Critical Race Theory and further implementation of her Alabama Literacy Act. Rep. Shane Stringer of Citronelle joined us to discuss his considering running for sheriff in Mobile County, after his losing his job in the department over his support of certain gun legislation. And State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris talked with us about his fears that a COVID variant could become dominant in Alabama.

6/25/21, 7:30pm, 1 hour Issues discussed: Government, crime, youth, health, education

Secretary of State John Merrill joined us to discuss his recent affair controversy and the voting rights debate that week in Washington. Senator Garlan Gudger of Cullman was with us to talk about our prison problems and about his bill to ban transgender girls from taking part in female school sports. Representative Jeremy Gray of Opelika joined us to discuss state schools being able to offer yoga starting this fall, thanks to his legislation. And State Health Officer Dr. Scott Harris talked with us about virus variant concerns and the upcoming first meeting of a legislative pandemic commission.

Spotlight on Education

4/29/21, 8pm, 1 hour Issues discussed: Education, government, health, economic

House education budget chairman Bill Poole of Tuscaloosa joined us to discuss the record 7.6-billion-dollar spending plan receiving final approval. We were also joined by Superintendent of Education Dr. Eric Mackey, who discussed school masking, pandemic learning loss and teacher challenges. Alabama Community College System Chancellor Jimmy Baker was with us to talk about a tuition freeze and a return to normal operations this fall. And Wallace State Community College President Dr. Vicki Karolewics joined us to discuss a new virtual diesel technology training program.

Spotlight on Agriculture

5/6/21, 9pm, 1 hour Issues discussed: Economic, health, government

'First Generation Farmers.' There is new interest in farming today, and people who have never farmed before are growing row crops, poultry, beef cattle, and organic vegetables. Restaurateurs such as Birmingham's Frank Stitt are also growing food that they then serve in their restaurants. What are the opportunities, and what does it take to succeed?

Monograph

6/30/21, 9pm, 30 minutes Issues discussed: Culture, education

The design/build program at Rural Studio in Hale County is visited. It's an initiative of the Auburn University School of Architecture. Featured is Aaron Sanders Head, a textile artist who resides in the backyard of the Rural Studio in Greensboro, Alabama, and self-taught illustrator Lo Harris of Bessemer, Alabama.

The Fire in Anniston: A Freedom Riders Story

5/14/21, 8:30pm, 1 hour Issues discussed: Culture, education, race

A compelling historical account of social injustice, the fight for equal rights, and the reckoning of a small southern town that wanted the cruelty to end. Little did they know, but the bravery of 13 visionaries on a Freedom Riders bus that was set ablaze in Anniston would kick-start a movement that was seen and heard all over the world. 'FIRE IN ANNISTON' goes beyond the details of the attack to explore day-to-day life in racially segregated Alabama.

Discovering Alabama

5/10/21, 9pm, 1 hour Issues discussed: Culture, education, youth

The fossil record in Alabama goes back millions of years and includes dinosaurs, giant whales, and the evolution of the shark. The program takes us to where children and adults can look for fossils today, such as the University of Alabama's Harrell Station Paleontological Site in central Alabama, and the world-famous Steven C. Minkin Paleozoic Footprint Site in northwest Alabama.

DIY Science Time

4/2/21, 3:30pm, 30 minutes Issues discussed: Education, youth
'Surface Tension.' Host Mister C and the Science Crew create a square bubble.

4/9/21, 3:30pm, 30 minutes Issues discussed: Education, youth
'Kitchen Science.' Host Mister C and the Science Crew explore recipes designed to make learning fun.

4/30/21, 3:30pm, 30 minutes Issues discussed: Education, youth
'Density.' How does a lava lamp work? Host Mister C and the Science Crew explore density.

5/7/21, 3:30pm, 30 minutes Issues discussed: Education, youth
'Polymers.' Host Mister C and the Science Crew create stretchy, gooey slime.

5/14/21, 3:30pm, 30 minutes Issues discussed: Education, youth
'Thermal Energy.' Host Mister C and the Science Crew explore temperature and more by making ice cream.

5/21/21, 3:30pm, 30 minutes Issues discussed: Education, youth
'Air Pressure.' Host Mister C and the Science Crew build a barometer to measure air pressure.

5/28/21, 3:30pm, 30 minutes Issues discussed: Education, youth
'Inertia.' Host Mister C and the Science Crew build an inertia wand and a centripetal force board.

6/4/21, 3:30pm, 30 minutes Issues discussed: Education, youth
'Friction.' Mister C and the Science Crew build hovercrafts to explore friction.

6/11/21, 3:30pm, 30 minutes Issues discussed: Education, youth
'Kinetic and Potential Energy.' Experimenting with pendulums, marble tracks and more.

6/18/21, 3:30pm, 30 minutes Issues discussed: Education, youth
'Optical Illusions.' Mister C and the Science Crew make science exciting with optical illusions.

6/25/21, 3:30pm, 30 minutes Issues discussed: Education, youth
'Static Electricity.' Exploring static electricity.

Alabama Gospel Roots

4/3/21, 8pm, 1 hour Issues discussed: Culture

Musical guests included Gordon Mote of Nashville, TN; The Emmanuel Reese Chorale of Birmingham; KC Moore and Unity from Carrollton, GA; Dawna Swinton of WJOU Radio in Huntsville; Golden Vessel honoree Thelma Corbin of Birmingham.

4/10/21, 8pm, 1 hour Issues discussed: Culture

Musical guests included The New Concerted Voices of Tupelo, MS; Gordon Mote of Nashville, TN; Rebecca Allen; Nate Fortner and ReJeana Leach; Gospel DJ Lynn White of Chicago, IL; Golden Vessel honoree Jimmy Worthey of Maplesville.

4/17/21, 8pm, 1 hour Issues discussed: Culture

Musical guests included Shawn Moore and New Fellowship from Huntsville; The Junior from Newton, MS; The Sound from Detroit, MI; Michelle Norwood; Robert Barnes of WGSR Radio in Birmingham; Golden Vessel honoree Carvin Marsey.

4/24/21, 8pm, 1 hour Issues discussed: Culture

Musical guests included The Dennis Family from Millbrook; Chosen from Wilkesboro, NC; Girls of Grace from Mobile; Gospel DJ Richard Lee Frazier of Moody; Golden Vessel honoree Rayburn Willingham.

5/1/21, 8pm, 1 hour Issues discussed: Culture

Musical guests included Brothers Together from Clayton; Clearvision from Oxford; Nichole Young from Ashland; Anthony Hill and Nu of Saginaw, MI; Chaplain Curtis Browder of Montgomery; Golden Vessel honoree Vertia Mack Killings.

5/8/21, 8pm, 1 hour Issues discussed: Culture

Musical guests included Lance Driscoll; Fields of Grace; Day Three; The Connells; Charlie Sexton and Homecoming; Greg Sullivan; Pastor Josh Franks; Gospel DJ Dave Taylor; Golden Vessel honoree Sam Blair.

5/15/21, 8pm, 1 hour Issues discussed: Culture

Musical guests included The Detty Sisters from Ohio; Daniel Newton from Huntsville; Jelisa Ransom from Birmingham; Tonia Rose from Nashville, TN; Dr. Valerie Harris from Birmingham; Gospel DJ Darrell Gibbs from Nashville, TN; Golden Vessel honoree Leola Robertson.

5/22/21, 8pm, 1 hour Issues discussed: Culture

Musical guests included Chronicle from Denham Springs, LA; Ricky Luster Sr. from North Carolina; The Hindmans from Cedar Bluff; Righteous from Arkansas; Golden Vessel honoree Sadie Hanks from Tuscaloosa.

5/29/21, 8pm, 1 hour Issues discussed: Culture

Musical guests included Elder Robert Lee and Unified from Troy; Clearvision from Oxford; Resound Music from Red Bay; Allen Pruitt Jr. and Called to Worship from Birmingham; Pastor Jeremy Ragland from Dora; Coach Reginald Raffim from Miles College; Golden Vessel honoree Cleatha Ryans .

6/19/21, 8pm, 1 hour Issues discussed: Culture

Musical guests included Tina Wakefield from Calera; The Detty Sisters from Ohio; Patience from Montgomery; Danny Newton from Huntsville; Pastor William Walker from Birmingham; Golden Vessel honoree Ricky Luster Sr.

6/26/21, 8pm, 1 hour Issues discussed: Culture

Musical guests included Billy Walker from Tallahassee, FL; Warren Sweeney from Alabaster; Gabriel's Horn; Lance Driscoll; Gospel promoter Kristy Leverett from Columbus, GA; Golden Vessel honoree Gail Driskell of Thorsby.

Alabama Upstarts

4/18/21, 1pm, 30 minutes Issues discussed: Economic, education
Alabama entrepreneurs and inventors pitch their ideas to venture capitalists.

4/25/21, 1pm, 30 minutes Issues discussed: Economic, education
Alabama entrepreneurs and inventors pitch their ideas to venture capitalists.

5/2/21, 1pm, 30 minutes Issues discussed: Economic, education
Alabama entrepreneurs and inventors pitch their ideas to venture capitalists.

5/9/21, 1pm, 30 minutes Issues discussed: Economic, education
Alabama entrepreneurs and inventors pitch their ideas to venture capitalists.

5/16/21, 1pm, 30 minutes Issues discussed: Economic, education
Alabama entrepreneurs and inventors pitch their ideas to venture capitalists.