

President's Column

By Kaytie Pickett



I'm delighted with how our 2022–2023 CABA year has begun. As I have said many times, and has been said many times by my predecessors, CABA accomplishes its work through the selfless service of its committees. I am grateful to all who have agreed to chair a committee this year: *Bench & Bar*: Judge David McCarty & Amorya Orr; *Community Outreach*: Judge Carlyn Hicks & Seth Shannon; *Diversity*: Alicia Netterville & Michael Williams; *Evening Honoring the Judiciary*: Mary Purvis & Leah Ledford; *Golf*: Adam Stone & Adam Porter; *Law Related Education*: John Rouse & Lindsey Roberts; *Small Firm*: Laurel Li Harris, Jason Kirschberg & Michael Cory; *Social*: Madison Keyes & Bud Sheppard; *Strategic Plan*: Will Manuel & Judge Tiffany Grove; *Women's Initiative*: Meta Copeland & Claire Barker; *Library*: Ben Piazza; *Newsletter*: Kate Margolis. If you are interested in serving on any of these committees, please feel free to contact me, your committee chair, or Jane Harkins, CABA's executive director.

Our August meeting featured our municipal bench, and we were honored to be joined by Senior Judge Henry Clay, III; Judge June Hardwick; Judge Taurean Buchanan; Judge Lilli Evans Bass; Judge Kevin Bass, and Nick Coleman from the Metro Public Defender's Office. Former Jackson City Prosecutor Keith Gates did an exceptional job of moderating this distinguished panel. Our panelists shared with us the good and hard work that the municipal courts perform, the challenges they face, and how they overcome those challenges. I know that many of our members (myself included) are civil litigators who've never set foot in municipal court, so the meeting was an illuminating look into a critical part of our criminal justice system.

I'm excited about our upcoming October 18, 2022 membership meeting. This meeting will feature a panel of General Counsels, including Dodds Dehmer of Yates Construction; Mary Clay Morgan of Horne; and Edward Watson of Jackson State University. The panel will be moderated by my law partner, Adam Stone. I have always been curious about what life is like "in-house," and I'm interested in learning how our panelists' perspective on the practice of law changed once they became the clients. I hope you'll join us. ➡

The views expressed in the articles published are solely those of the authors and do not represent the views of CABA, its officers, directors, or staff.

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On Computing:
Perhaps New Apps?

Upcoming Events

October 18

CABA Membership Meeting
Noon • The Capital Club

December 8

CABA Christmas Party
Char Restaurant

February 21

CABA Membership Meeting
Noon • The Capital Club



CABA Membership Luncheon featuring the
General Counsels Panel

Tuesday October 18, 2022

Lunch at 11:30, Meeting at 12:00 • The Capital Club

Free Lunch



SOUTHERN DISTRICT UPDATE

By Terryl Rushing

The District Court for the Southern District of Mississippi has honored several of its members this year.

Magistrate Judge LaKeysha Greer Isaac

First, LaKeysha Greer Isaac, who earned a bachelor's degree from Millsaps College and a law degree from Emory University School of Law in 2000, joined the Court as its newest Magistrate Judge on January 5, 2021. Her swearing-in ceremony was held on May 20, 2022, in the courtyard of the Thad Cochran U.S. Courthouse in Jackson.



Magistrate Judge LaKeysha Greer Isaac, after being sworn in by Judge James Graves of the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Isaac began her legal career with the litigation firm Forman, Perry, Watkins, Krutz & Tardy, PLLC. From 2003 until her appointment, Isaac served as an attorney and later as a senior partner with Cosmich, Simmons & Brown, PLLC. She has been named as a Mid-South Super Lawyer (seven times); Top 50 Women Attorneys in the Mid-South; America's Top 100 High Stakes Litigators; and America's Top 7 Figure Litigators.

Judge Isaac's outside activities are many and varied. She served as President of her sorority, Alpha Kappa Alpha, and was inducted into Omicron Delta Kappa. She recently co-chaired the professionalism committee of the Mississippi Bar Association and as a member of its nominating and diversity committees. Isaac has also served as a past president of the Junior League of Jackson, chairperson of the board of Goodwill Industries of Mississippi, and on the board of directors of the Mississippi Children's Museum. Following her selection, Chief Judge Jordan noted the national scope of her law practice as well as her many civic and community leadership roles. He stated: "LaKeysha is a nationally recognized litigator and a genuinely terrific person. We are thrilled to welcome her to the Court family."

Carlton Reeves, Commissioner, U.S. Sentencing Commission

On May 11, 2022, President [Joe Biden](#) announced his intent to nominate District Judge Carlton Reeves to serve as a member of the [United States Sentencing Commission](#), to fill the position and chairmanship



Chief District Judge Dan Jordan administering the oath of office to District Judge Carlton Reeves as Chairman of the U.S. Sentencing Commission.

left vacant by Judge [Patti B. Saris](#), whose term had expired. On August 4, 2022, the Senate voted to approve his nomination, and he was sworn in the next day.

The United States Sentencing Commission is an [independent agency](#) of the [judicial branch](#), responsible for articulating and promulgating the [Federal Sentencing Guidelines](#). Those Guidelines replaced the prior system of indeterminate sentencing that allowed trial judges to give sentences ranging from [probation](#) to the maximum statutory punishment for the offense. It is headquartered in [Washington, D.C.](#) The Commission lacked full membership from 2014 to 2022, when, in addition to Judge Reeves, six other members were nominated.

The William H. Barbour Conference Room

On August 21, 2022, the Judges of the Southern District formally dedicated the Sixth Floor Conference Room of the Thad Cochran Courthouse to former Chief District Judge William H. Barbour. The William H. Barbour Conference Room serves as the primary meeting room for the Judges of the Southern District. Portraits of prior members of the Court line its walls.

Judge Barbour was nominated by President Ronald Reagan on March 15, 1983, to the seat on the Court that was vacated by Judge William Harold Cox. He was confirmed by the Senate on April 21, 1983, and received his commission on April 25, 1983. Judge Barbour served as Chief Judge from 1989 to 1996 and assumed senior status on February 4, 2006. Barbour indicated that he would take inactive senior status on January 4, 2019, meaning that while he remained a federal judge, he

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Judge Barbour's family pictured with the plaque bearing his name.

no longer heard cases or participated in the business of the court.

Judge Barbour died on January 8, 2021, at his home in Yazoo City.

Several members of Judge Barbour's family attended the dedication, and longtime friend District Judge David Bramlette spoke at the event. He specifically praised the collegiality and professionalism brought to the Court by Judge Barbour and advised those present, when in doubt about a course of action, to "do what William would do."

District Judge Kristi Johnson

Kristi Haskins Johnson was nominated to serve as a judge on the Southern District Court by former President Donald Trump on May 4, 2020, and her appointment was confirmed by the Senate on November 17, 2020. Judge Johnson received her judicial commission on December 1, 2020, and the Court held her investiture on August 22, 2002, becoming the first female to serve as a District Judge in the Southern District.

The oath of office was administered to Judge Johnson by District Judge Sharion

Aycock of the Northern District, and she was robed by both Judge Aycock and Judge Leslie Southwick of the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals. Judge Johnson had served as a law clerk to both Judges.

Judge Johnson received her undergraduate degree at the University of Mississippi. She attended law school at Mississippi College, where she served as Executive Editor of the Law Review and graduated summa cum laude. Following her clerkships, Judge Johnson practiced law with the firm of Ogletree, Deakins, Nash, Smoak & Stewart for three years, after which she joined the staff of the United States Attorney for the Southern District. She later joined the Office of the Attorney General for the State of Mississippi, where she served as the first female Solicitor General.

The Court welcomes Magistrate Judge Isaac and District Judge Johnson and congratulates Judge Reeves and the family of Judge Barbour. 🍀



New District Judge Kristi Johnson, flanked by Judge Leslie Southwick (left) and Judge Sharion Aycock (right).

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2022 HOLIDAYS

November 11 Veteran's Day
November 22 Thanksgiving Day
December 25 Christmas Day

LET US KNOW!

We value your thoughts and want to make sure you don't forget to leave them in our **"Comments"** section under each article on our website.



Start the discussion...



Contemplating A Special Three-Sixty and Telling Its Stories

Editor's Note: Thanks to University Press of Mississippi, we are pleased to present CABA members with this exclusive excerpt from Jimmy Robertson's introduction to his forthcoming book, *Tales from a Lawyer Rambling Around Mississippi's State Lines*. In his introduction, Jimmy reflects on telling stories about our history from all corners of Mississippi.

By James L. Robertson



For decades, my qualitative substantive thoughts about Mississippi began with William Faulkner—and with Faulkner's Nobel Prize for Literature awarded in 1950, or was it 1949? Soon thereafter,

such thoughts had expanded to include the voice of Leontyne Price, the glorious soprano, born and reared in Laurel, Mississippi, who graced the stage of the Metropolitan Opera, and so many other stages around the world. As a young girl, Price gave concerts in towns like my hometown of Greenville, Mississippi, to raise money for her musical education.¹ Later, as an established star, she returned to her home state and performed to raise funds for scholarships at Rust College in Holly Springs, where her mother attended college.²

Of late, we think of John Grisham who grew up in Northwest Mississippi, trained as a lawyer at the University of Mississippi (coincidentally, my student in my law school teaching days), and whose achievements,

contributions, and public service may well supplant all Mississippians who have come before him. America's storyteller without peer in our time, John Grisham has penned and published nearly half a hundred best-selling novels, translated into many languages.³ But there is so much more, sure to come.

When he is not writing, John puts his legal skills and values to service via the Innocence Project and Centurion Ministries, two national organizations dedicating to exonerating and freeing those wrongfully convicted and imprisoned, and educating the doubting thomases so prevalent within our country.

These Mississippi cultural heroes inspired me to tell of more tales, and here they are and in the pages that follow. Hopefully to listeners who are not in a hurry but are imbued with the wisdom to slow down a bit and think and learn more about Mississippi.

And, who at this point along life's paths are prepared to visualize, to accept on faith that, come the close of this read, he or she might sense having had a good journey. Readers who are open to shedding long-held views and accepting that there may be more than a few pages in Mississippi's stories that do us proud.

There are considerable differences between



and among lifestyles and cultures, wherewithal and interests, fortuitous happenings, serene waters that include Pickwick Lake⁴ bounding

1. "A Fine Project," Greenville, Mississippi, *Delta Democrat Times*, 4 (Sept. 12, 1949); "Many Attend Concert," *Delta Democrat Times*, 5 (March 15, 1967).
2. "Rust College to Honor Leontyne Price," *Delta Democrat Times*, 3 (Oct. 1, 1968).

3. www.jgrisham.com/bio; David Marchese, "John Grisham is Still Battling His Southern Demons," *New York Times*, MMii (June 26, 2022).
4. See Quadrant A-10, Official Highway Map of Mississippi (MDOT 2019); also Chart Index Nos.

1 and 5, Tenn-Tom Waterway Chartbook, Yellow Creek, Mississippi to Mobile, Alabama, pages 3, 9 (Duthie Learning, 2014).

Continued on page 5...

extreme northeast Mississippi, and not just its corners, but elsewhere around our three-sixty of choice. Yet there are other waters not so serene but sometimes roiling, rough, roaring, if not downright flooding, and at unforgettable times, a bit bloody—other such waters, bounding the state's far away southwest corners.

Still, some say there's not much difference among the ways of sizeable groups of

the state's people, Delta folks, for one, from the lobby of the Peabody Hotel in Memphis,⁵ then hugging close to The River all the way down to the arguably apocryphal Catfish Row in Vicksburg.⁶ Tombigbee folks in northeast Mississippi have generated a culture and lifestyle and values of their own.⁷

This saga starts at the southwestern most corner of Mississippi and follows me as I meander clockwise about the borders of

the state—telling stories of the places and people, stories that are only loosely woven together by the geography, for the most part, and punctuated by personal recollections. A point is to illustrate the best and the worst of those who have lived and worked here in tales told by one who has resided and meandered in and through this state for eight decades, enough time to collect a plethora of varied experiences. ➡

5. See Quadrant A-6, Official Highway Map of Mississippi (MDOT 2019).
6. See David L. Cohn, *Where I Was Born and Raised* 12 (1948); Quadrant H-4, Official Highway Map of Mississippi (MDOT 2019). The substantive point holds, even should the *Vicksburg Post* have been technically correct in its front-page article entitled, "Despite what you may have heard, Vicksburg doesn't have a Catfish Row," published July 22,

2017. Of course, you can take that one with a grain of salt, given that the author(s) of 2017 were not a gleam in their fathers' eyes when Greenville and Delta native David Cohn was living the life he described in his still cherished book.

7. See, e.g., U.S. District Judge Michael P. Mills' enjoyable work, *Twice Told Tombigbee Tales* (2007). Nothing said here is intended to denigrate the efforts of those who have sought to tell the state's story from

broader or different perspectives. See, e.g., Dennis J. Mitchell, *A New History of Mississippi* (2014); Wesley F. Busbee, Jr., *Mississippi: A History* (2d. ed. 2016); Maude Schuyler Clay and Richard Ford, *Mississippi History* (2015); David G. Sansing, *A Place Called Mississippi* (2d. ed. 2013); Bradley G. Bond, *Mississippi: A Documentary History* (2003); John K. Bettersworth, *Mississippi: A History* (1959).

CABA Membership Meeting August 16

City Prosecutor Keith Gates led a conversation with our Jackson Municipal Judges on the opportunities and challenges faced by our capital city.





By Chad Hammons¹

Gone to Gulfport

GONE ARE THE GROUPEUR, BUT THE ROYAL REDS REIGN

One of my favorite places to go in Mississippi is the Gulf Coast. I've spent quite a bit of time there over the years. Even though I no longer have family there, I still have a few friends who live there, and fortunately have occasional legal business down there, usually in Bankruptcy Court. Recently though, I had a state court hearing on a Monday morning in Gulfport, and went down Sunday afternoon. After all, who wants to fight Hwy 49 traffic coming out of Jackson, when you have to be somewhere on time, right?

Gulfport Lodging

Over the years, I've stayed at a lot of places on the Coast. In addition to places of yore like the Broadwater Beach and the Grand, I've lodged at the Beau Rivage, the White House, and the Doubletree in Biloxi, and have stayed at the Hilton Garden Inn near the Gulfport airport a couple of times. Despite all of these options, when traveling for business in Gulfport, I usually check in at the Courtyard by Marriott on Hwy. 90.

I gravitate to the Courtyard for a couple of reasons, even though I always debate doing so. On the downside, the hotel is a bit tired and could stand some updating to its elevators

and rooms. The beds definitely have a cheap, spring-y feel to them, and Covid seemed to affect the quality of the linens and such. Also, it doesn't have complimentary coffee in the lobby in the morning, and forces you to wait at the understaffed lobby bar, which turns into a coffee shop in the morning.

Despite these shortcomings, it has a few things going for it. To begin with, it is very close to both the federal and state courthouses in Gulfport, so there are no traffic issues on the way to court. Secondly, it is adjacent to two excellent Gulfport restaurants, Chimney's and Salute², in addition to Shaggy's (*see, infra*), all of which are easy walking distance. It is also a short drive to a decent selection of downtown Gulfport restaurants, including a really good steakhouse called Rack House, as well as Half Shell, a well-known seafood restaurant. (Again, *see infra*).

In addition to its proximity to the courts and restaurants, the Courtyard has a bit of an old-school Gulf Coast feel. Most of its life was spent as a Holiday Inn, before being mauled by Hurricane Katrina in 2005. The hotel TV system used to run a loop of a mesmerizing video of the storm surge coming in and inundating the property, but I'm not sure it's on there anymore.

One of the main old-school features is its enormous swimming pool and sunbathing area. They just don't make 'em like that

anymore. It's refreshing to see a real pool at a non-resort hotel, rather than the dinky excuses that pass for pools at business hotels. The same goes for its work-out room. It is in an exterior building, and has multiple treadmills, as well as free weights, a bench, and two Smith machines—a basic one for bench pressing and squats, and another with dual pulleys and a chin bar. (If my weight-room-bro lingo is a bit off here, somebody tell me).

I'm happy to say that the linens seem to have been upgraded since the last time I was there. The sheets actually felt like cotton, as opposed to polyester blends. The coffee situation in the morning is still a hassle though. Better to get some creamer, and use the coffee maker in the room.

Dining: In Search of the Lost Grouper

Several years ago, Rick Bragg wrote an essay for *Garden & Gun* called "Requiem for a Fish Sandwich," about the overfishing of grouper and the loss of the grouper sandwich as a Southern culinary and cultural delicacy and ritual. I came across the piece a couple of years later in his collection "My Southern Journey." I like Bragg's stuff, so I liked his take on how the grouper sandwich was such a "thing" among Southerners, and how this thing was no longer as much of a thing as it

1. Chad Hammons is a partner in the Jackson office of Jones Walker LLP.

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used to be. Truth be told though, I didn't think too long and too hard about it, since I still seemed to be able to find a grouper sandwich occasionally while visiting the Coast, even if it was something less than the behemoth cuts of old from Bragg's pining.

Bragg's observations struck home though, on the recent court run to Gulfport. I checked into the Courtyard around 2:00 p.m. on that Sunday, and went immediately to Shaggy's, which is basically across the street, at the intersection of Hwy 90 and 15th Street. Having forgotten Bragg's essay, and being frozen in time I guess, I scanned the menu for a grouper sandwich. No luck. After thinking about a pound of Royal Reds—a large, buttery, almost lobster-ish type of shrimp that is one of my go-to choices—I settled on a triggerfish sandwich.

In a word, it was... okay. Or as Dom DeLuise said in *History of the World: Part One*:



Nice. Nice. Not thrilling, but nice.

Coincidentally, I met a corporate guy from Shaggy's that night at the Courtyard bar, and mentioned I had eaten there that afternoon. I told him that the sandwich was OK, but was a bit too something-or-other. He agreed and diagnosed the issue: too much fruity sweet stuff on it. He said to get it plain or blackened. He also told me that Shaggy's had a location up this way, near the Rez. I had forgotten about that, and had forgotten that Shaggy's was something of a chain that had migrated from the coast.

Shaggy's isn't the only chain to make that migration. Half Shell is another one. The original two are in Gulfport and Biloxi, but it has since colonized in Hattiesburg, Flowood, and Madison. Hands down, the Gulfport location is the best. The atmosphere definitely has something to do with it, along with the presentation.

The one in Biloxi is good, but the others come across as chain-y, based on my experience and the observations of others.

Sadly though, even the Gulfport location doesn't have a grouper sandwich. I looked for it that Sunday night, but no luck. I've had the Royal Reds there several times, but opted for ½ dozen oysters on the half shell, and a piece of fish for dinner. It never disappoints.

After court the next day, before heading home, I struck out for a local seafood restaurant I had not been to in years, a Gulfport institution called Lil Ray's on Courthouse Road.² My last chance for a grouper sandwich, I thought.

Again, Bragg was prophetic. No grouper sandwich, so I settled for the Grilled Ahi Tuna with fries. Cue Dom DeLuise again. It was good, but even though Lil Ray's hasn't sold its soul to the franchise devil, it just wasn't what I remembered. A friend who lives in Gulfport agreed. Back in the day, you would get a massive platter with fish, fries, etc. Now, it's a diner plate.

I'm not writing it off the list just yet though. I'm going back for Royal Reds at some point, whether I stay at the Courtyard or elsewhere. ➡

2. To my knowledge, there is no courthouse on Courthouse Road. Was the Harrison County Courthouse there years ago, before the brutalist structure on 23rd Avenue was built?

Committee Chair Meeting September 13



CABA leadership met with committee chairs to discuss this year's programs and events.

CABA *Fall* SOCIAL

EVENT
PHOTOS
below!

This event was held on September 29, 2022
at The Terrace at Belhaven Town Center

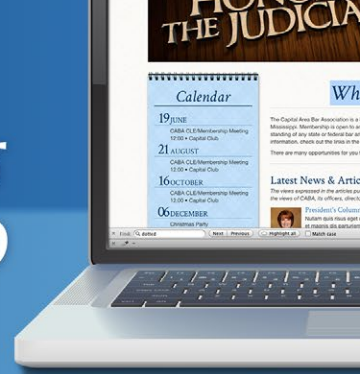


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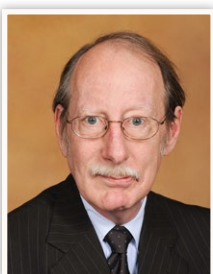


» On Computing

Focused on the Contemporary Lawyer



New and Improved Apps...



By Joel Howell

It has been a while since this column looked at apps. Thanks to the Internet and the usual suspects, here are some new ones and improved oldies.

Weather apps continue to improve. [Weather Strip](#) is brilliant in its simplicity, presenting nothing but a series of line graphs for hour-by-hour temperature, cloudiness, chance of precipitation, and wind speeds. A secondary timeline lets you jump ahead up to seven days, which is really all you need. After a one-month trial, the app costs \$2 per month or \$9 per year, with no ads or tracking.

If you're not into podcasting already, knowing where to start can be intimidating. [Moonbeam](#) can get you rolling by chopping podcasts into short samples and presenting them in a personalized feed. Pick an area of interest, then start swiping until you find something that sounds interesting.

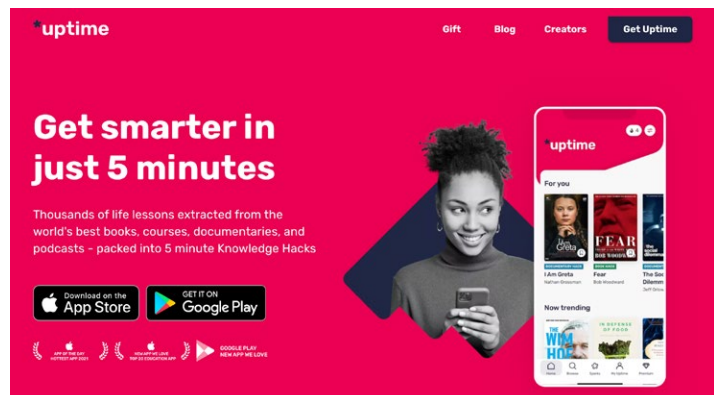
If you listen to Internet radio, you won't be able to stay away from the [DuckDuckGo](#) ads. Its App Tracking Protection feature, now in private beta, runs in the background on your phone and prevents apps from connecting with known tracking servers. DuckDuck's email anti-tracking tools also launched in beta on both iOS and Android earlier this year, letting you hand out special email addresses that prevent senders from learning your true address and learning about how often you open their messages. While Apple offers similar email masking tools for its iCloud+ subscribers, DuckDuckGo is free.

[Simplify Gmail](#) is a browser extension to improve Gmail with additional white space, cleaner compose menus, and the ability to group emails by date. At the same time, it adds new features such as extra keyboard shortcuts, email tracker blocking, and a "hide inbox" mode to help you focus. A two-week trial is free; thereafter, it's \$24 per year.

[Typora](#) is a writing tool that presents a clean space in which to write, along with customizable themes to help you focus. And if you want to start learning Markdown—a basic markup language for formatting text without taking hands off the keyboard—Typora helps by showing you the syntax for any text you've selected. Its formatting options are

basic compared to Word and Google Docs, but that's the point. It costs \$15 for use on up to three devices.

Unless you have unlimited free time, you'll never be able to consume everything that strikes your interest. [Uptime](#) provides a workaround, summarizing popular books, courses, and documentaries into five-



minute "Knowledge Hacks" in either text or audio form. That way, you can glean the main takeaways and decide whether the full content is worth your precious time. After a three-day trial, or there's a free version that provides one curated Hack per day, otherwise, it's \$80 a year.

Feeling buried by all the articles you've saved in read-it-later apps like Pocket and Instapaper? [Alfred](#) will encourage you to block out some reading time with customizable reminders. Just set a weekly reading goal and a preferred reading time, and the app will suggest one article at a time through push notifications. A Tinder-like 3/14 interface also lets you swipe through your queue, so you can easily archive articles you'll probably never get to. The basic app is free, with a \$5 per month or \$40 per year subscription for advanced features such as highlights and habit tracking.

Ever wish you could have a universal search function for all your digital documents? With [Slapdash](#), you can press Ctrl+J (or Cmd+J on a Mac) to search and perform quick commands across Google Drive, Notion, Slack, Dropbox, and more. A complementary Chrome extension also lets you search open tabs and bookmarks. It's a great way to save time once you get in the habit of using it. (The app is free, with an optional \$12 per month subscription for more than five app integrations.)

Continued on page 10...

When you need to send a large file with minimal hassle, [Wormhole](#) can do the job. The free web app lets you upload files up to 10 GB in size and share them through unique links, which expire after 24 hours or 100 downloads. You can even send files to yourself over a local Wi-Fi network, and the app will use a peer-to-peer connection to transfer them instantly.

Instead of cluttering your iPhone home screen with Apple's Phone and Contacts apps, try replacing them both with [Cardhop](#). The free app offers several improvements over Apple's default apps, most notably a history section that lists recent calls, texts and video chats in one place. It also offers customizable home screen widgets and an action bar for interacting with contacts. An optional \$5 per month or \$40 per year subscription lets you see relationships between contacts, adds business card scanning and provides access to Flexibits' also-great Fantastical calendar app.

You don't need Photoshop's fancy content-aware fill feature just to remove unwanted elements from a photo. With [Cleanup.pictures](#), you can simply paint over the area you want to remove, and the site's AI will fill in that space based on the surrounding imagery. It's free for photos up to 720 pixels wide, or \$24 per year for up to 2K resolution.

Although Windows, MacOS, and Chrome OS have their own screen recording tools built in, [Snipclip](#) gives you more options at no extra charge. You can record a single window or browser tab, capture system audio from your computer, and include a thumbnail video of yourself at the same time. Use it to create your own tutorials or demonstrate whatever you're working on.

It's unclear whether the iPad will ever get full-fledged versions of Final Cut Pro or Adobe Premiere Pro, but [LumaFusion](#) can fill the role in the meantime. This industrial-strength video editor for iOS can handle up to six video tracks (with audio) and up to six more audio tracks, along with powerful effects and transitions. A major update this year added video stabilization, external hard drive support, resizable interface elements, and a slew of new audio tools. The app is \$30 one-time purchase that works across iPhones and iPads.

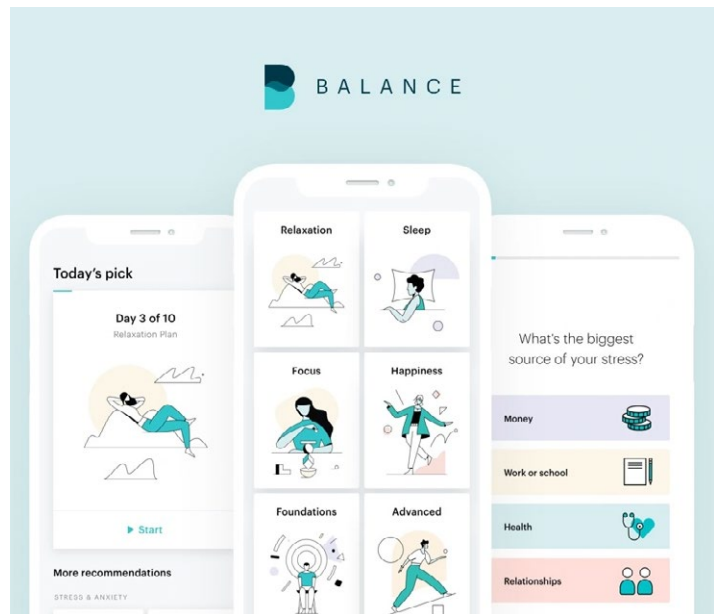
Many browser extensions are designed to hide annoying cookie consent pop-ups, but [Super Agent](#) automatically fills them out, using preferences you've set up in advance. This approach makes websites less likely to break from having their pop-ups hidden, and you can still tell them not to use tracking cookies for ad targeting.

[Hyperweb](#) is a mobile Safari extension that hides ads, blocks tracking cookies, and disables Google's annoying AMP web page format, but it does a number of other things. You can switch to default search engines that aren't built into Safari, run quick price checks on CamelCamelCamel for Amazon product listings, enable picture-in-picture for YouTube links, auto-open Twitter and Reddit links in third-party clients, and more. It's a smorgasbord of improvements that on the whole make Safari a lot more useful.

Among the many privacy-centric alternatives to Google Search, [Brave Search](#) stands out for being realistic. In building its own independent index of the web, it knows that it can't always compare to Google, so it occasionally mixes in results from the search giant and includes a link to your query on Google partway down the

results page. Beyond that, Brave's results are generally useful and pleasing to look at, and they helpfully include a publish date for all articles—something DuckDuckGo still doesn't do. Brave's search engine became the default in the company's web browser last month, but it's also available in any other browser as well.

If you've been overwhelmed by potential exercises in meditation apps such as Calm and Headspace, [Balance](#) is an intriguing alternative. The app, which launched on iOS in 2019 and landed on Android



this year, tries to guide you through the process by asking about your meditation experience, goals, and moods. That makes it a lot easier to get started. The app normally costs \$70 per year, but is currently offering one year for free, with optional contributions.

Instead of wasting more time on social media, explore some new corners of the internet with [Stumbled](#). Developer Kevin Woblick has paid tribute to the classic web service StumbleUpon by curating more than 5,000 weird and wonderful websites, which you can shuffle through by clicking Stumbled's big blue button. You might land on a 1960s take on Google, a collection of interactive 3D art, or a site for self-destructing notes. It's a quirky, engaging reminder of what the web used to be like, and a less anxiety-inducing way to kill time than Twitter.

The next time you're trying to navigate a walkable city, don't ruin the fun of exploration with strict turn-by-turn directions. Instead, check out [Mapless](#), which uses a simple arrow to point you in the right direction. A major update this year added Apple Watch support—for an optional \$1 per month or \$5 per year subscription—along with SharePlay support, so you can talk to a friend while trying to find one another. 📍



Questions or comments?

Drop me an email: jwh3@mindspring.com



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