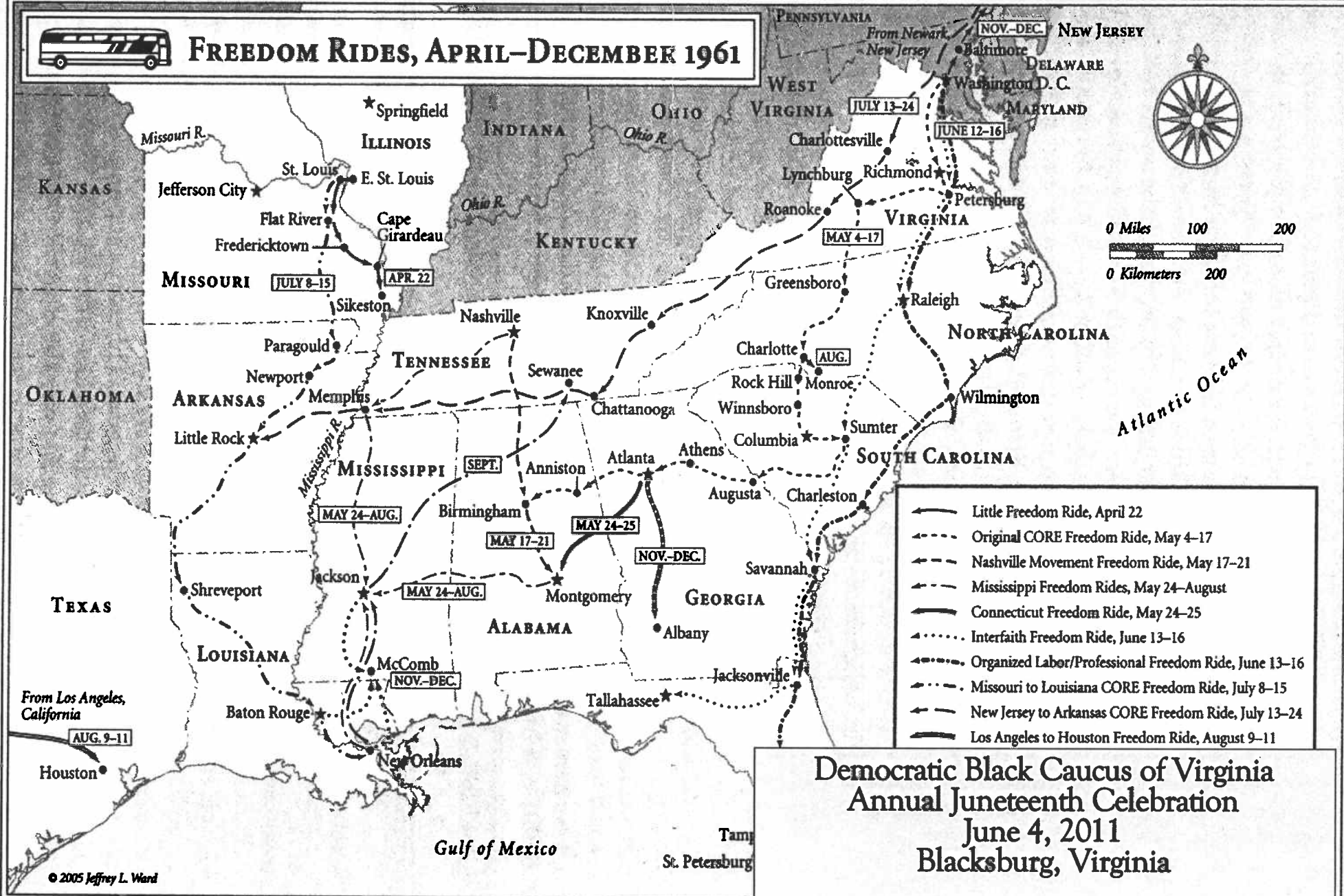




FREEDOM RIDES, APRIL-DECEMBER 1961



Program Committee

Pat Lightfoot

Thomas Francis

Evelyn Morris-Harris

EJ Scott

Betty Squire

Gaylene Kanoyton

Tyee & DPVA

Valerie Morrison

Chairman's Welcome

On behalf of the Democratic Black Caucus of Virginia, I welcome you to our annual Juneteenth Celebration and our reflections on the "Freedom Rides".

Over the past few years we have had the opportunity to celebrate and sponsor events with you and many other good Democrats in several different places in Virginia. The support we get at these events allows us to support our Democratic candidates. And, fortunately we have been able to give several thousands of dollars. Last year our Juneteenth Celebration was in historic Charlottesville and our Fall Festival in Portsmouth along the banks of the beautiful Elizabeth River. Both events were successful and attended by statewide candidates, state and local elected officials..

Our annual Juneteenth Celebration, while its purpose is fundraising, is also to recall that day, June 19th, 1865, when the slaves in Texas, the last group of slaves in these United States informed that not only was the war between the States over, but, in fact they were freedmen. It is also our opportunity to recognize special people from all over Virginia for their roles in exemplifying the goals of the DBCV.

To our former DNC Chairperson and former Governor, but soon to be a US Senator of this great Commonwealth Tim Kaine, our Senators Webb and Warner, our Congressmen, all of our Democratic state and local officials, and last but not least the Great State Party of Virginia, we thank all of you support and for what you do. We are so very proud of you.

To all who have joined us here in Blacksburg, we thank you. We certainly need and appreciate your support so we can continue to help get Democrats elected

Sincerely,

Evelyn Morris-Harris, Chair

Democratic Black Caucus of Virginia

The 11th Congressional District Democratic Committee
and

Congressman Gerry Connolly



Salute and Thank
**The Democratic Black Caucus
of Virginia**

for
**Your Support and Hard Work
on Behalf of Democratic Candidates**

"You Epitomize the Best of Democratic Values and Principles"

Paid for and Authorized by the 11th CD Democratic Committee, George Burke, Chair

**Juneteenth 2011
Commemorative Luncheon**

11:30 AM
Master of Ceremonies
Delegate Onzlee Ware

Welcome
Honorable Brian Moran
Chairman, DPVA
Honorable Penny Franklin,
Montgomery County School Board

Occassion
Honorable Betty Squire

Invocation
Delegate Lionel Spruill

Lunch

Recognitions
Honorable Gaylene Kanoyton,
Vice Chairman, DPVA

Greetings
Candidates

Comemorations
"Freedom Riders"
Ms. EJ Scott, DBCV

Obama Update
Ms Brandyn Keating

Awards Presentations
Honorable Josephine Marshall Award
Mr. Thomas Francis
Chairman Evelyn Morris-Harris

Thank you for your generosity and
support

Democratic Black Caucus of Virginia

Event Sponsors

Legislative Black Caucus of Virginia

Table Sponsors:

8th Congressional District Committee
Democratic Black Caucus of Virginia

Event Supporters

Democratic Party of Virginia

Penny Franklin
Montgomery School Board Member

Senator Henry Marsh

Monica Wiley



Juneteenth is the oldest known celebration commemorating the ending of slavery in the United States. On June 19th 1865, two and a half years after President Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation had become official, Union soldiers led by Major General Gordon Granger landed at Galveston, Texas with news that the war had ended and the enslaved were now free.

One of General Granger's first orders of business was to read to the people of Texas, General Order Number 3 that began most significantly with:

"The people of Texas are informed that in accordance with a Proclamation from the Executive of the United States, all slaves are free. This involves an absolute equality of rights and rights of property between former masters and slaves, and the connection heretofore existing between them becomes that between employer and free laborer."

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

Statement by the President on the Observance of Juneteenth

On this day 145 years ago, the people of Galveston, Texas, received word from members of the Union Army that those slaves who remained captive were now indeed free. More than two years after President Lincoln had signed the Emancipation Proclamation, the order read by Major General Gordon Granger made plain that the relationship between "former masters and slaves" would now be one of "employer and free laborer."

General Granger's pronouncement was one step in our continuing effort to perfect our union and live out the ideals of our Founders. While we know it would be many years before African descendants in America achieved the full rights offered through Lincoln's proclamation, that day in Texas, former slaves were offered the hope of embracing the American Dream as their own.

This occasion, which became known as Juneteenth, is now celebrated here in America and around the world and is a time not only to celebrate the rich heritage and many accomplishments of African Americans in our country, but also a time to reflect on the common values and ideals that we share as Americans.

Our nation is stronger because of the generations of struggles for equal rights and social justice, and our culture is richer because of the contributions of African Americans throughout our history. This is why Juneteenth, while rooted in the history of a people, can be celebrated by all Americans.

Democratic Black Caucus of Virginia

Fall Jubilee

Food
Entertainment
Democratic Candidates

October 8, 2011
1:00 PM ~ 5:00 PM

Join us in
Richmond

Sponsorships Welcome

Pat Lightfoot
703-314-1727 cell
plightfoot@qcsit.com

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The Freedom Rides

The first Freedom Ride began on May 4, 1961 Led by CORE Director James Farmer, 13 Riders (seven black, six white) left Washington, D.C on Greyhound and Trailways buses. Their plan was to ride through Virginia, the Carolinas, Georgia, Alabama,

and Mississippi, ending with a rally in New Orleans, Louisiana. Most of the Riders were from CORE, and two were from SNCC. Many were in their 40s and 50s.

The Freedom Riders' tactics for their journey were to have at least one interracial pair sitting in adjoining seats and at least one black Rider sitting up front (seats usually reserved for white customers only), while the rest would sit scattered throughout the rest of the bus. One rider would abide by the South's segregation ideals in order to avoid arrest and to contact CORE and arrange bail for those who were arrested.

Only minor trouble was encountered in Virginia and North Carolina, but John Lewis was attacked in Rock Hill, South Carolina, and some of the Riders were arrested in Charlotte, North Carolina, Winnsboro, South Carolina, and Jackson, Mississippi.

Violence in Alabama was organized by Birmingham Police Sergeant Tom Cook (an avid Ku Klux Klan supporter) and police commissioner Bull Connor. The pair made plans to bring the Ride to an end in Alabama. They assured Gary Thomas Rowe, an FBI informer^[5] and member of Eastview Klavern #13 (the most violent Klan group in Alabama), that the mob would have fifteen minutes to attack the Freedom Riders without any arrests being made. The final plan laid out an initial assault in Anniston with a final assault taking place in Birmingham.

On May 14, Mother's Day, in Anniston, Alabama, a mob of Ku Klux Klansmen, some still in church attire, attacked the first of the two buses (the Greyhound) and slashed its tires. They forced the crippled bus to stop several miles outside of town, and it was firebombed shortly afterwards by the mob chasing it in cars. As the bus burned, the mob held the doors shut, intent on burning the riders to death. Either an exploding fuel tank or an undercover state investigator brandishing a revolver caused the mob to retreat, allowing the riders to escape the burning bus. The riders were viciously beaten as they fled the burning bus, and only warning shots fired into the air by highway patrolmen prevented the riders from being lynched.



When the Trailways bus reached Anniston and pulled in at the terminal an hour after the Greyhound bus was burned, it was boarded by eight Klansmen, who proceeded to beat the Freedom Riders and afterwards left them semi-conscious in the back of the bus. When the bus arrived in Birmingham, it too was attacked by a mob of Ku Klux Klan members, aided and abetted by the police under the orders of Commissioner Bull Connor. As the riders exited the bus, they were mercilessly beaten by the mob with baseball bats, iron pipes and bicycle chains. Among the Klansmen attacking the riders was FBI informant Gary Thomas Rowe. White Freedom Riders were particularly singled out for frenzied beatings; James Peck required more than 50 stitches to the wounds in his head. Peck was taken to Carraway Methodist Medical Center, which refused to treat him; he was later treated at Jefferson Hillman Hospital.^{[11][12]} When reports of the bus burning and beatings reached US Attorney General Robert Kennedy, he urged restraint on the part of Freedom Riders and sent an assistant, John Seigenthaler, to Alabama to try to calm the situation.

Despite the violence they suffered already and the threat of more to come, the Freedom Riders desired to continue their journey. Kennedy had arranged an escort for the Riders in order to get them to Montgomery safely. However, radio reports told of the mob awaiting the riders at the bus terminal, as well as on the route to Montgomery. The Greyhound clerks also informed them that their drivers were refusing to drive any Freedom Riders anywhere. The Riders agreed that their efforts had already called great attention to the civil rights cause and that if they encountered any more delays, then they would miss the rally in New Orleans. Taking all this into consideration, the Riders decided that their best option was to abandon the rest of the Ride and fly directly to New Orleans from Birmingham.

Nashville student and SNCC leader Diane Nash felt that if violence were allowed to halt the Freedom Rides, the movement would be set back years. She pushed to find replacements to resume the ride, and, on May 17, a new set of riders, 10 students from Nashville, took a bus to Birmingham, where they were arrested by Bull Connor and jailed.^[9] These students kept their spirits up in jail by singing freedom songs. Out of frustration, Connor drove them back up to the Tennessee line and dropped them off, stating, "I just couldn't stand their singing." They immediately returned to Birmingham.

**Honorable Penny J. Franklin,
Montgomery County, School Board**



Penny J. Franklin, a life-long Montgomery County resident and now the grandmother of two has developed a reputation for protecting the underdog.. And she is no stranger to hard work and heavy lifting. For years, she has supported herself and her children by working on a loading dock. And over the past decade she has further developed her strength by becoming an elected official, community leader and philanthropist.

In addition to serving as chair of the Montgomery County Public School Board, Franklin is an advisor for the Community Foundation of the New River Valley, which serves Virginia's New River Valley (Floyd, Giles, Montgomery, Pulaski counties, and the City of Radford). She is also a past president of the Montgomery County, Radford City, Floyd County Chapter of the NAACP and sits on the NAACP State Executive Board. And she is President of IUE/CWA Local 82160. Franklin founded the New Mountain Climbers giving circle to nourish her philanthropic side and is co-founder of "The Community Group."

Franklin became involved in public service in her late 30s when her children began having problems at school, which she felt were rooted in the racial inequities in the school system. 'Introverted', but refused to allow people to keep "messing with my kids" and she began to question those inequities in the area.

Franklin says she knew that God had something she was supposed to do. She worked night shifts on the docks for 10 years while her two children were growing up. When a day shift opened up, she was able to get more involved in the community. Later she became president of the local chapter of NAACP, and then was approached to run for school board. Penny was elected to the Montgomery County School Board in 1999, making her the first African American ever elected to office in Montgomery County.

**Honorable Brian Moran,
Chairman, Democratic Party of Virginia**

Brian was born in Natick, Massachusetts and grew up in a middle-class family of seven children. At 9, he marched 20 miles with his sister Mary to protest hunger. At 13, he took the train to Washington to watch the Watergate Hearings. And as a teenager, he bagged groceries, rode a paper route and worked a graveyard shift at a gas station

After law school, he became a prosecutor in Arlington County, working on cases ranging up to rape and murder. At the suggestion of Mark Warner, he left the prosecutor's office after 7 years and ran for the House of Delegates in 1995.

After being elected, he served on the Transportation, Courts of Justice, and Health Welfare and Institutions Committees. He is a repeat winner of Mothers Against Drunk Driving Legislator of the Year, a recipient of the Tech-10 award from the Northern Virginia Technology Council. He was a member of the Virginia House of Delegates from 1996 until 2008, representing Northern Virginia's 46th district.

In December, 2008, Brian resigned from the House to campaign full-time for Governor. And on December 4, 2010, Brian was elected Chair of the Democratic Party of Virginia, defeating Peter Rousselot of Arlington County.



Democratic Black Caucus of Virginia ***Honoree***

Honorable Onzlee Ware **Delegate** **11th District**



Onzlee Ware was born and raised in Greensboro, North Carolina in a single parent home. His mother taught him to respect all people equally, regardless of their race, wealth, religion, or handicap. He graduated from North Carolina A & T University and received his law degree from North Carolina Central School of Law.

Onzlee first came to Roanoke in 1985 to work as a member of the Blue Ridge Mountains Executive Council of the Boy Scouts of America. He fell in love with the Roanoke Valley and has been here ever since.

Onzlee is the founder and principal of the Law Offices of Onzlee Ware, which he opened in 1988. *The Roanoke Times* calls him "One of Roanoke's most influential attorneys."

One of the most active members of the community, Onzlee has served on many boards, including Opera Roanoke, Goodwill Industries, and Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital. He currently is a member of the board of the Taubman Museum of Art, and he donates his time to many community organizations. He also is the founder of the Juneteenth Freedom Day Foundation, Inc.

Governor Mark Warner appointed Onzlee to the Commonwealth Transportation Board in 2002. In 2003, he announced his candidacy for the Democratic nomination in the 11th House district and was successful in defeating a better-funded opponent and won the Democratic primary election. With no opposition, Onzlee became the first African-American delegate west of Charlottesville.

He has focused his efforts in the Virginia General Assembly on creating higher paying jobs, improving the public education system and providing affordable health insurance to the citizens of the 11th house district and all citizens of the Commonwealth.

Democratic Black Caucus of Virginia ***Honoree***

Levar Stoney **Democrat**

**Changing the world
'one vote at a time'**



Levar Stoney is a 2004 graduate of James Madison University (JMU). He has acquired a title that not too many people have during their twenties: executive director of a political campaign. On February 11, 2006, he became executive director of the Virginia Democratic Party, making him the first African-American to occupy the position in the state's history. After serving as the executive director of Virginia's democratic party, a post he left to run the campaign of gubernatorial candidate Creigh Deeds, Levar was hired as executive assistant to another former gubernatorial candidate and former chair of the Democratic National Committee, Terry McAuliffe. . Stoney's close connections around the state, honed from a political career that included a stint as Democratic Gubernatorial nominee Sen. Creigh Deeds' political director, was part of what recommended him. 'He knows everybody,' McAuliffe said."

Levar was born to a 15-year-old mother in Long Island, N.Y. When he was in first grade, his family moved to Yorktown, Va., where he was raised primarily by his grandmother because his father worked around the clock to support the family. Stoney became active in student government during this period, serving as student body president in middle school and high school.

Levar Stoney's life symbolizes one of the most important changes in American history. The descendant of slaves from Africa's Rice Coast, Levar served as the executive director of Virginia's Democratic Party. Leading a political system that once enslaved his ancestors, his success is a historic paradox that defines positive change. With a moral foundation taught by his grandmother and a strong work ethic from his father, Levar, a natural leader, brought change to JMU continues to change the world — **one vote at a time.**



HENRY MARSH

Our Senator. Our Voice.

Henry Marsh knows firsthand how difficult the journey has been in the fight for equal opportunities for all Virginians.

From winning landmark cases desegregating classrooms to fighting discrimination in the workplace, Henry Marsh is a champion for civil rights.

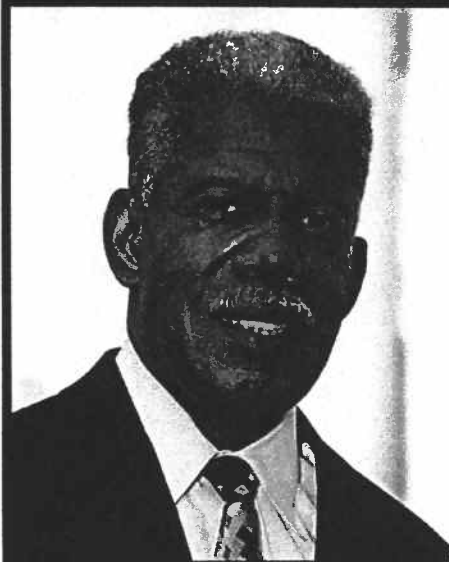
His work didn't stop in the courtroom. As our senator, he has fought to fully fund education, expand economic opportunities, and ensure access to health care for our most vulnerable citizens.

His leadership is why he is one of the most respected members in the Virginia Senate.

**The Honorable Henry L. Marsh, III
is proud to support the
Democratic Black Caucus of Virginia's
Annual Juneteenth Celebration**

As our voice in the Senate, Henry Marsh's results-driven leadership and experience has made a difference as he works to expand opportunities for all Virginians. Senator Marsh has worked hard to:

- Fully fund K-12 public schools and higher education.
- Champion legislation to create jobs and protect existing jobs.
- Protect health care services for the young, elderly, disabled, and mentally ill.
- Ensure that pension benefits for state and local government employees are protected.



In the Aug. 23rd Democratic Primary, Re-Elect:

Our Senator. Our Voice.

HENRY MARSH

Proven Leadership. Real Results.

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Paid for and authorized by Henry L. Marsh III

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