

# Greetings

## MAGAZINE

Your Relo Guide  
to Central MS  
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# Homeschooling Options for Mississippi Families



**H**omeschooling options have significantly evolved in the last ten years. Homeschooling no longer means just mom and kids at the kitchen table. The resources for families whose educational plans extend beyond the traditional public/private school are vast. The online options alone are immense. Yet, Jackson families (and those in the greater Jackson area) have some amazing opportunities right here in our backyard!

From one-day-a-week co-ops to hybrid co-ops (at school 2-3 days a week, homeschool the other 2-3 days), supplemental programs, organized field trips, a homeschool sports league, proms and formals... the list goes on and on. Our local homeschool community is bursting at the seams with possibilities.

Lele Rooks, mother of four and homeschool mom for the last 6 years knew from the start that she wanted an educational plan that included others. She has used online instruction, paired with various local opportunities, all six years. Currently, she and her children are a part of Magnolia Homeschool Program, a Ridgeland based co-op that meets for class on Fridays. Here teachers teach classes on Fridays and assign work for the students to do at home the other four days of the week. Students have access to a large variety of academic subjects from grades 5th – 12th. In this program they can pick and choose which classes they take. That has given the Rooks family a lot of freedom and control over schedules and ability to coordinate with extra-curricular activities. Lele shared, "I wanted to give the kids the best of both worlds... to be at home but have the ability to be in smaller classes with other kids."

Jackson resident, Carrie Howie, also sings the praises of partnering with a co-op when it comes to homeschooling her four children. The Howie children have been attending Jackson Classical Homeschool Program for 8 years. This hybrid program meets two days a week with a set schedule on those days and teacher chosen curriculum. That was exactly what Carrie was looking for. "Jackson Classical took a huge burden off of me by selecting the curriculum."

For those families wanting to utilize a more supplemental approach, there are programs such as The Friday Program which also meets on Fridays in Jackson. Director, Karen Canevaro, describes TFP as "a Christian, classical, enrichment homeschool program for elementary-aged students. Children study art, music, creative writing, logic, history, geography, science, and Latin. TFP is unique in that it offers a full day of academic courses while still allowing parents to choose the best core academic curriculum for their children."

These are just a small sampling of the options available to Jackson families. How can a parent learn about and sort through all of them? CHEC (Christian Home Educators Connection) is a great place to start. Through this online site president Jamie Stricklin hopes to support and encourage home educators by providing information as well as educational and social opportunities. CHEC has been a Jackson homeschool staple for the last 23 years. It currently has a membership of over 500 families. CHEC provides opportunities for members that include a formal high school graduation ceremony, nationally recognized honor societies, national interests clubs, formal dances, science fairs, and many more events generally associated with traditional schooling. An added benefit to CHEC membership is the ability to ask questions in the online community at large. Whatever aspect of homeschooling you may have a question about, here is a resource 500-parents-strong that is willing and able to answer. If you are a family just beginning your homeschool adventure, or a seasoned parent wanting to add a new element to your lesson plan, Jackson has so much to offer.

**Jessica Morgan** is a Central Mississippi native. She and her husband Step locked eyes at Twin Lakes Camp and Conference Center 20 years ago and haven't blinked yet. She is a former teacher and current homeschooling mom to her five children. She enjoys writing about the sweet adventure/sometimes runaway train that is their life together.

# 2021 Parents & Kids Magazine's Family Favorites

## Overnight Summer Camp

Twin Lakes  
Camp of the Rising Son  
Camp Bratton Green

## Summer Day Camp

The Children's Academy of Madison  
Twin Lakes  
Lindsey Claire Dance Company

## Preschool

The Children's Academy of Madison  
Little Footprints

## Daycare

The Children's Academy of Madison  
Little Footprints

## Tutoring Program

Jackson Education Support  
The Children's Academy of Madison

## Sports Program

Soccer Shots  
Metro YMCAs

## Swim School or Teacher

Maley Swim School  
Metro YMCAs

## Dance School

Lindsey Claire Dance Co.  
Miss Metropolitan Ballet

## Martial Arts

Tiger Rock

## Gymnastics / Cheerleading Program

Lindsey Claire Dance Co.  
Courthouse Gymnastics

## OB-GYN

East Lakeland Ob-Gyn  
Jackson Healthcare for Women

## Pediatrician Group

Children's Medical  
Trustcare Kids Group  
The Children's Clinic

## Dentist

Milling Pediatric Dentistry  
Mississippi Smiles

## Orthodontist

Eugene Brown  
Milling Pediatric Dentistry

## Dermatologist

Magnolia Dermatology  
Belle Meade Dermatology

## Vision Care

Crawford Eye Care  
Jackson Eye Associates  
Optical 2000

## Hospital Labor & Delivery

Baptist Health Systems  
Merit Women's / River Oaks

## Hospital Overall

Baptist Health Systems  
St. Dominic

## Counseling

Canopy Children's Solutions  
Cornerstone Counseling

## Rehabilitation Therapy

Beyond Therapy  
Laskin Therapy Group

## Veterinarian

Madison Ridgeland Animal Clinic  
Hometown Veterinarian Clinic

## Car Wash

Mister Car Wash  
Go Shine

## Oil Change & Tire Specialist

Big 10

## Car Dealership

Patty Peck  
Carmax

## Realtor

Kevin Partridge

## Florist

Green Oak  
Willow Blu

## Fitness Facility

Metro YMCAs  
Baptist Healthplex

## Kids' Haircuts

Noble Barber

## Banking Service

Regions  
BankPlus

## Pet Goods & Services

Wee Paws  
Chipper & Coco

## Recreational Center

Pump It Up  
YMCA

## Playground or Park

Pump It Up  
Winner's Circle Park

## Museum for Kids

Miss Children's Museum  
Miss Ag & Forestry Museum

## Family Festival / Special Event

KidsFest Ridgeland

## In-State Destination

Miss Gulf Coast  
McLain Farms

## Out of State Travel Destination

Orange Beach, AL  
New Orleans, LA

## Place to Visit Santa

Bass Pro  
Highland Village

## Source for local Info

Parents & Kids Magazine  
Facebook / Google

## Website for Parenting Information

Parents & Kids  
Facebook / Google

## Best Kids Menu

Sal & Mookies  
Eats Diner

## Burger Place

Five Guys Burgers and Fries  
Eats Diner  
Mugshots

## Locally Owned Retail Shop

Apple Annie's  
Sweet Dreams

## Sporting Goods Stores

Academy Sports  
Dick's Sporting Goods

## Kids' Retail Clothing Store

The Children's Place  
Sweet Dreams  
Old Navy

## Kids' Shoe Store

Shoe Choo  
Stride Rite

## Kids' Consignment Store

Leap Frog  
Once Upon a Child

## Source for Kids Books

Lemuria (Oz Books)  
Barnes & Noble

## Kids' Furniture

Play Pen  
Miskelly's

## Local Source for Toys & Games

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Brandon, MS 39042  
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# SPORTS GUIDE

**Academy of Kung Fu**  
626 Ridgewood Rd  
Ridgeland, 601-856-5051

**Ace Cheer Company**  
769-234-3815  
Acetribe.com/ace-jackson

**Ballet Magnificat!**  
5406 I-55 N  
Jackson, 601-977-1001  
balletmagnificat.com

**Ballet Mississippi**  
201 E Pascagoula St, Ste 106  
Jackson, 601-960-1560  
balletms.com

**Between the Pines Disc Supply LLC**  
601-506-0974  
betweenthepinesdiscs.com

**Brandon Parks & Recreation**  
601-825-3047  
brandonparkandrec.com

**Clinton Parks & Recreation Youth Programs**  
300 Jefferson St  
Clinton, 601-924-5474  
clintonms.org

**Courthouse Gymnastics Co**  
601-932-6680  
courthousegymnastics.com

**Deep South SCUBA**  
1060 East County Rd, #11  
Ridgeland, 601-957-3483  
deepsouthscuba.net

**Fannin Lanes**  
601-919-8001  
fanninlanes.com

**Funtime Skateland (Clinton)**  
Funtime Skateland of Clinton, Inc.  
931 Highway 80 East  
Clinton  
funtimeclinton.com

**Jackson Futbol Club**  
601-800-2009  
jacksonfc.com

**Judah School of Performing Arts**  
731 S Pear Orchard Rd, Ste 30  
Ridgeland, 601-257-0330  
For general inquiries:  
judahperformingarts@gmail.com

**Lindsey Claire Dance Company**  
4149 S Siwell Rd  
Byram, 601-398-3786  
www.lcdanceco.com  
Lcdanceco@yahoo.com

**Madison County Gymnastics**  
577D Hwy 51  
Ridgeland, 601-853-2480  
Madisongymnastics.net

**Madison/Ridgeland Youth Club**  
601-853-2039

**Maley Swim School**  
501 Lake Harbour Dr  
Ridgeland, 601-898-7946  
Fax 601-898-0873  
swimmaley.com

**MS Basketball and Athletics**  
601-832-5840  
mbahoops.net

**MS Junior Golf Association**  
601-939-1131  
Missgolf.org

**MS Metropolitan Dance Academy**  
110 Homestead Dr  
Madison, 601-853-4508  
msmetroballer.com

**MS Sports Hall of Fame**  
1152 Lakeland Dr  
Jackson, 601-982-8264

**North Jackson Youth Baseball & Softball**  
601-906-2430  
njybb.com

**Northwest Rankin Athletic Association**  
Nwraa.net

**Okatoma Outdoor Post**  
1-888-OKATOMA

**Premier Tumble and Cheer**  
109 Hazelton Cv  
Madison, 601-898-0221  
premiertumbleandcheer.com

**Soccer Shots of Jackson**  
Brandon, 769-233-7445  
jackson.soccershots.com

**Sunkist Swim Team**  
601-664-6814  
Sunkistswimteam.com

**USGA/LPGA Mary Ann Edge Girls Golf School of MS**  
www.mississippigirlsgolf.org

**YMCA**  
400 Lindale St  
Clinton, 601-924-5812  
690 Liberty Rd  
Flowood, 601-664-1955  
6023 Lakeshore Park  
Brandon, 601-992-9118  
metroymcams.org  
Ages: 5 – 12



# PARTY PLANNER

**Bounce-A-Roo**  
601-624-8787  
bouncearoo.com

**The Bounce Palace**  
Pearl, 601-933-1116

**Break It**  
200 Bass Pro Dr.  
Suite 460  
Pearl, 769-572-7880

**Bricks 4 Kidz MS**  
646-853-3375  
bricks4kidz.com

**Buck-a-Roo Parties**  
601-942-7035  
buckaroo parties.yolasite.com

**Chuck E. Cheese**  
601-956-5218  
chuckecheese.com

**Connection City ePLEX**  
200 Bass Pro Dr. Suite 200  
Pearl, 601-932-0111

**Fannin Lanes**  
601-919-8001  
fanninlanes.com

**Funtime Skateland of Clinton**  
931 Highway 80 E  
Clinton - 601-924-6500  
funtimeclinton.com

**Defy Trampoline Park**  
769-208-3008  
defy.com/locations/defy-jackson

**Jackson Zoo**  
601-352-2580  
jacksonzoo.org

**Madison County Sports Zone**  
601-898-3347  
mcsportszone.net

**Maley Swim School**  
501 Lake Harbour Dr  
Ridgeland, 601-898-7946  
swimmaley.com/party-info

**MS Agriculture & Forestry Museum**  
1150 Lakeland Drive  
Jackson, 601-432-4500  
msagmuseum.org

**MS Braves**  
1 Braves Way  
Pearl, 601-932-8788  
mississippibraves.com

**MS Children's Museum**  
2145 Museum Blvd.  
Jackson, 601-981-5469  
mschildrensmuseum.org

**MS Museum of Art**  
380 S. Lamar St.  
Jackson, 601-960-1515  
msmuseumart.org

**MS Sports Hall of Fame & Museum**  
1152 Lakeland Dr  
Jackson, 601-982-8264  
msfame.com

**Painting With A Twist**  
601-398-1927  
paintingwithatwist.com/jackson-flowood

**Pump It Up**  
1576 Old Fannin Rd, Ste P  
Brandon, 601-992-5866  
www.pumpitupparty.com/brandon-ms

**Rolling Video Games of MS**  
3316 Oxford Ave  
Jackson, 601-398-1027  
rollingvideogames.com  
Mobile Video Game Truck

**Sal & Mookie's**  
200 District Blvd  
Jackson, 601-368-1919  
salandmookies.com

**Shiloh Splash Park**  
601-824-9509  
Brandonparkandrec.com

**Space Jump of Jackson**  
109 Priestler Dr  
Pearl, 601-932-2341  
spacejumpofjackson.com

**The Little Gym of Jackson at Renaissance**  
1000 Highland Colony Pkwy, Ste 5202  
Ridgeland, 601-856-4854  
thelittlegym.com/jacksonMS

**YMCA**  
400 Lindale St  
Clinton, 601-924-5812  
690 Liberty Rd  
Flowood, 601-664-1955  
6023 Lakeshore Park  
Reservoir, 601-992-9118  
metroymcams.org

Go to every local festival and event you can find. These events are tons of fun, low cost, and a great snapshot of “real life” Mississippi.

# Moving to Mississippi



# Mississippi? Y'all Come!

It doesn't take long to feel at home in Mississippi. The pace of life, laid-back culture, beautiful landscapes, affordable cost of living, and, of course, Southern hospitality create an atmosphere that welcomes you in and beckons you to sit and stay a while. And before you know it, you've grown roots here -- roots that run deep and strong.

But let's let these Mississippians tell you themselves what they love about our state...

"The people are friendly, and the food is amazing!" - Sydney Huddleston

"I have lived in Mississippi my whole life. I love the diversity. I like raising my kids in an environment that has different cultures and ethnic backgrounds. I feel it prepares them better for when they get out in the world on their own." - Trey Butts

"I love that the whole state feels like one small town. So friendly and inviting." - Stewart Moody

"Our family has enjoyed all the outdoor activities available in our state and local parks. From the beach at the National Seashore on Ship Island to the rock climbing in Tishomingo State Park, there is always a way to enjoy the outdoors with your family. Thankfully, there are plenty of lakes and streams to cool off, too. We enjoy Ridgeland's abundant walking and biking trails, especially the Natchez Trace Multi-purpose Trail. The beautiful local parks and their playgrounds also provided entertainment for our family on many days when our children were young." - Janet Shearer

"Manners and unfailing courtesy; music bringing together different groups of people; storytelling and traditions; and Southern food." - Bridgid Berry

"The people, the food, the beaches, and the Delta Blues." - Richard Garziano

"Our fair city, Ridgeland, offers so many amenities, festivals, events, and natural outlets, and we feel fortunate that we landed here when we moved here 21 years ago. Now Mississippi is the place we have lived the longest, and it feels like home. One of my favorite things is the Ridgeland Wildflower Field, where the arts and nature intersect and everyone is welcome." - Jan Richardson

"I need the relaxed pace of home [in Mississippi] and the soothing void of scheduled events. I need a fire and easy conversation on a back patio." - Eric Lanford

"I moved to Austin, TX after college and moved back [to Mississippi] after a year. It was the best decision I have ever made. I'm lucky to be teaching at the school that brought me so much joy. Growing up, I loved going to the parades in Biloxi with my grandparents. I can remember my grandpa pulling my brother and me in the red wagon down Holley St. to the parade of the day. As an adult, I enjoy attending the Krewe of Neptune Coronation Ball and their family-friendly parade." - Alex Gibert

"I love the trees, the green grass, and the smell of nature, especially after being in a city." - Stephanie McClain Fairly

"My husband is from Texas and in the Navy. We aren't raising our children in Mississippi, but when we go to my family home in Eudora, we all have roots. My kids identify with our history. They feel belonging. Generations of living in that community resonates with them. [My husband] and I are beginning to dream of our 'forever home' post-Navy. Mississippi just seems the obvious choice." - Robin McMurry

"One thing that is great about living in Mississippi is that no matter where you go in this state, you can make a connection with someone, whether you know some of the same people, went to the same school, or maybe you are distantly related. Another great thing about living here is there is always a good cook making great food wherever you are." - Nanci Sanders

"The people! THE best anywhere!!" - Ladye Alice Proctor

If you've recently moved to Mississippi, WELCOME! If you're considering moving to Mississippi in the future, we look forward to meeting you! And if you've lived in Mississippi for years, well, y'all are already family. So pass the sweet tea, please.

**Carrie Bevell Partridge** and her husband Kevin live with their five kids in Ridgeland, MS. Read more from Carrie at [carriebevellpartridge.com](http://carriebevellpartridge.com), where she writes words of encouragement and support for marriage and family. Carrie is also in the process of writing a book on practical ways to seize teachable moments with your kids.

## Moving to Mississippi? What to Know:

- Nothing smells sweeter than a Mississippi Magnolia tree.
- Hearing "Yes, ma'am" or "Yes, sir" doesn't mean you're old; it means you're respected.
- Stories are best told--and heard--from a rocking chair on the front porch.
- Our seasons have more to do with sports and hunting than actual weather.
- The best watermelons and tomatoes are bought on the side of the road out of the backs of our farmers' pickup trucks.
- Humidity is real, and all hair products are not created equal.
- The fried catfish will make you want to slap your mama, which is a compliment.
- The tone in which "Bless your heart" is said makes a difference.
- It's y'all, not ya'll. And all y'all includes more people.
- Much wisdom can be gained by shelling peas with your grandmother.
- A drive down the Natchez Trace can help clear your head and give you perspective.
- We are not in a hurry, and we don't want you to be, either.
- Sweet tea pairs well with anything.



# Family's Day

A prime destination for a family adventure, museums are one of the few attractions that can be equally enjoyed by the young and old alike. Museum visits are proven to be extremely beneficial for children, as they provide unforgettable, immersive learning experiences, present unfamiliar subject matter, and incite imagination. Fortunately, central Mississippi is no stranger to museums that are suitable for visitors of all ages. Covering an array of subjects – from trains to Kermit the Frog – you and your family will have a blast exploring the following museums. And just to make things a bit easier, we've included any pertinent details regarding each museum's COVID-related guidelines.

## McComb Railroad Museum (McComb)

A must-visit for train enthusiasts of all ages, McComb Railroad Museum has been dubbed the "best rail museum south of Chicago." Definitely deserving of the recognition, the museum boasts an unparalleled collection of more than 1,500 artifacts – and that's just on the inside! Outside, there's a restored steam locomotive and other rolling stock as well as a train-themed play area. For more information, visit the museum's website: <https://www.mcrrmuseum.com/>

**Know Before You Go:** In order to observe COVID safety guidelines, the museum encourages visitors to social distance. Masks are not required, as the mask mandate has recently been lifted by the state.

## Landrum's Homestead and Village (Laurel)

Step back in time and take a walking tour of the past at Landrum's Homestead and Village! A living history museum, it's a re-creation an 1800s settlement. The 30-acre site includes over 85 buildings along with several displays. For more information, visit the Landrum's Homestead and Village website: <https://landrums.com/>

**Know Before You Go:** The COVID-19 hours of operation are Thursday – Saturday, from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. Groups are by appointment only.

## Canton Movie Museum (Canton)

Unbeknownst to many, several movies have been filmed in the small town of Canton. It's true, and you can learn all about the city's cinematic accolades at the Canton Movie Museum. Offering a unique behind-the-scenes look at your favorite films, the museum contains a variety of props, memorabilia, and intricately detailed sets from hit movies, such as *A Time to Kill* and *My Dog Skip*.

**Know Before You Go:** Museum tours are by appointment only. To schedule a tour, call the museum at 601-859-1307.

## Biedenharn Coca-Cola Museum (Vicksburg)

It's practically common knowledge that Coca-Cola was invented in Atlanta. However, many are unaware that Coca-Cola was first bottled in Vicksburg, but it was – and you can learn all about Mississippi's role in bringing America's favorite soft drink to the masses at the Biedenharn Coca-Cola Museum. A sweet treat for all ages, the museum features a variety of exhibits as well as an authentically restored candy counter – complete with ice cream, fountain Cokes, Coke floats, and a wide selection of Coca-Cola souvenirs. For more information, visit the museum's website: <http://www.biedenharncoca-colamuseum.com/>

**Know Before You Go:** Masks are required for all museum visitors.

## Mississippi Agricultural and Forestry Museum (Jackson)

Don't let the name of this museum fool you. Sure, it features exhibits that cover 500 years of Mississippi's agricultural history, but that's just the beginning. The 39-acre museum boasts nearly two dozen exhibits, covering a plethora of topics. One of the museum's most beloved features is Small Town, Mississippi – a life-sized replica of a small town from the 1920s. Pretty elaborate, Small Town, Mississippi features everything from a schoolhouse and blacksmith shop to a fully-functioning general store. For more information, visit the museum's website: <https://www.msagmuseum.org/>

**Know Before You Go:** Social distancing is required throughout the campus, personal protective equipment (PPE) is encouraged, and hand sanitizer is provided.

## Birthplace of Kermit the Frog Museum (Leland)

The world's most beloved amphibian, Kermit the Frog, has only one birthplace – and it's Leland, Mississippi! The small town pays homage to its most famous resident and his creator, Jim Henson, with a museum stocked with Muppet memorabilia. Though small, the museum is jam-packed with Muppet memorabilia. Even better, there is no admission fee. Of course, donations are accepted and very much appreciated. For more information, visit the museum's website: <https://www.birthplaceofthefrog.com/>

**Know Before You Go:** Masks are preferred, but not required. Also, tours for 10 or more people are available upon request only.

## Mississippi Children's Museum (Meridian)

One of the state's newest additions, Mississippi Children's Museum – Meridian opened in March 2021. Sure to delight kids (and kids at heart), the 25,000-square-foot facility boasts 9,500 square feet of indoor exhibits as well as an additional 25,000 square feet of outdoor experiences. All exhibits are designed around educational initiatives, ensuring every visit is both fun and educational. For more information, visit the museum's website: <https://mschildrensmuseum.org/meridian/>

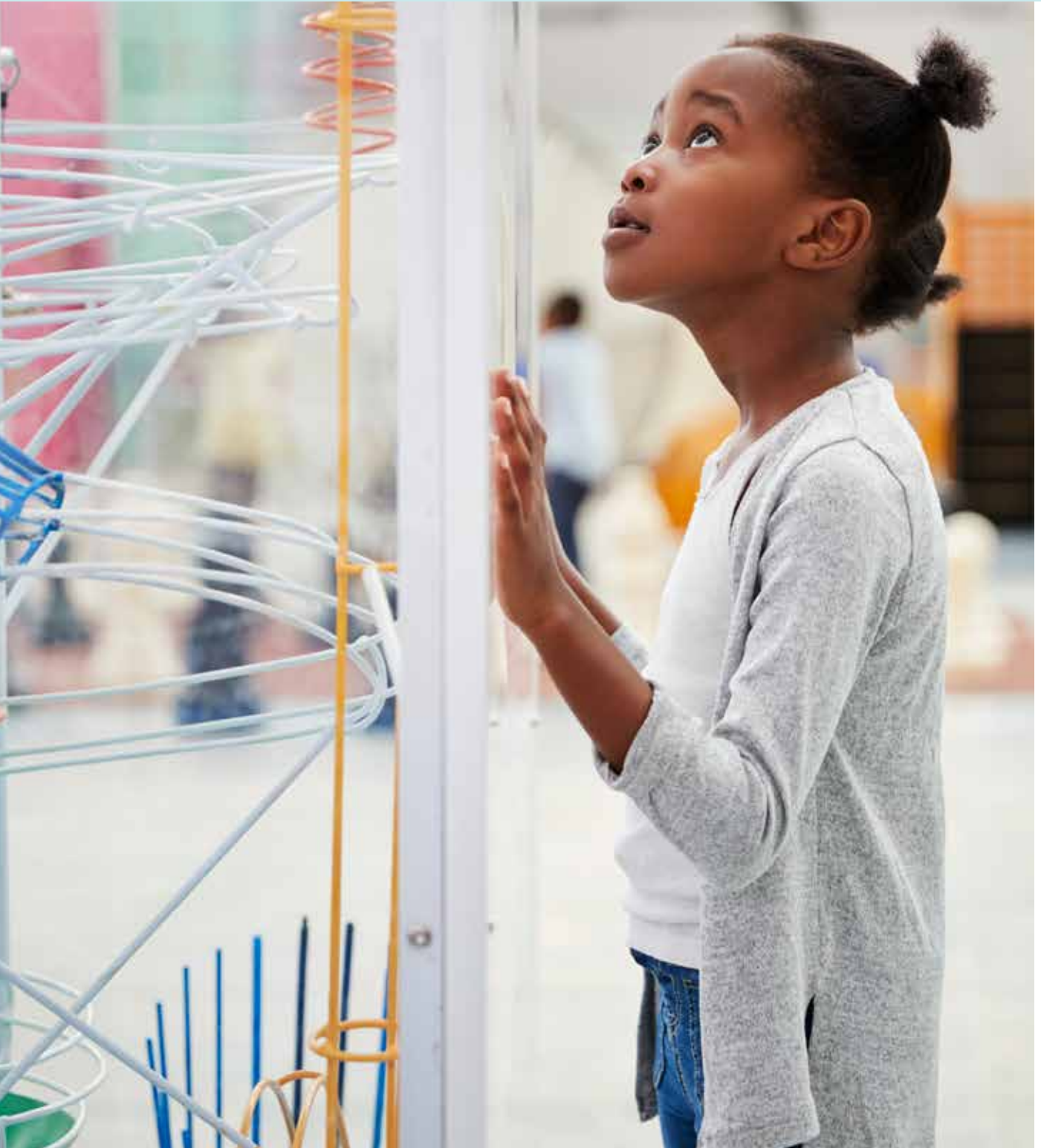
**Know Before You Go:** Although the city of Meridian is no longer under a mask mandate, the museum strongly encourages guests to wear masks to ensure the safety of all visitors.

Enabling families to have fun together, a day at any one of these museums is a day well spent!

**Daniella Di Rienzo** is a self-proclaimed southerner who graduated from the University of Southern Mississippi in 2011 and has been working as a freelance writer ever since.

# Out

MUSEUMS THE WHOLE FAMILY WILL LOVE



# SCHOOL GUIDE

## **PRESCHOOL/DAYCARES**

### **Little Saints Academy**

1411 Robinson St  
Jackson, 662-845-4282

## **PRIVATE SCHOOLS**

### **Canton Academy**

1 Nancy Dr.  
Canton, 601-859-5231  
cantonacademy.org

### **Christ Covenant School**

752 S Pear Orchard Rd.  
Ridgeland, 601-978-2272  
Ccs.ms

### **First Presbyterian Day School**

1390 North State Street  
Jackson, 601-355-1731  
fpds.org

### **Hartfield Academy**

1240 Luckney Rd  
Flowood, 601-932-5333  
hartfield.org

### **Jackson Academy**

4908 Ridgewood Rd  
Jackson, 601-362-9676  
jacksonacademy.org

### **Jackson Preparatory School**

3100 Lakeland Dr  
Flowood, 601-939-8611  
Jacksonprep.net

### **Madison Ridgeland Academy**

7601 Old Canton Rd  
Madison, 601-856-4455

### **Mt. Salus Christian School**

1580 Clinton-Raymond Rd.  
Clinton, 601-924-5863  
mtsalus.org

### **New Hope Christian School**

5202 Watkins Dr  
Jackson, 601-362-0912 (Preschool)  
601-362-4776 (Elementary)  
newhope-christianschool.org

### **New Summit School**

1417 Lelia Dr  
Jackson, 601-982-7827  
newsummitschool.com

### **St. Andrew's Episcopal School**

370 Old Agency Rd  
Ridgeland, 601-853-6000  
gosaints.org

### **St. Anthony Catholic School**

1585 Old Mannsdale Rd  
Madison, 601-607-7054

### **St. Joseph Catholic School**

308 New Mannsdale Rd  
Madison, 601-898-4800  
stjoebruins.com

### **St. Richard Catholic School**

100 Holly Dr  
Jackson, 601-366-1157  
Strichardschool.org  
Grades: PreK3 - 6th

### **St. Stanislaus High School**

304 S Beach Blvd  
Bay St. Louis, 228-467-9057  
ststan.com

### **The Montessori Academy of Jackson**

1525 Lelia Dr  
Jackson, 601-345-1431

## **SCHOOL DISTRICTS**

### **Canton Public School District**

403 E Lincoln St  
Canton, 601-859-4110

### **Clinton Public School District**

201 Easthaven Dr  
Clinton, 601-924-7533

### **Hinds County School District**

13192 Hwy 18  
Raymond, 601-857-5222

### **Jackson Public School District**

662 S President St  
Jackson, 601-960-8700

### **Madison County School District**

476 Highland Colony Pkwy  
Ridgeland, 601-499-0800

### **Pearl Public School District**

3375 Hwy 80  
Pearl, 601-932-7921

### **Rankin County School District**

1220 Apple Park Pl  
Brandon, 601-825-5590

## **SPECIALTY SCHOOL/TUTORING**

### **After Zone , The**

184 American Way  
Madison, 601-898-9900 (office)  
theafterzone.com

### **Auditory Processing Center, LLC**

541 Hwy 80 W Ste C  
Clinton, 601-488-4189  
https://www.auditorycenter.com

### **Brentwood Behavioral Healthcare of Mississippi**

3531 Lakeland Drive  
Flowood, 601-936-2024  
www.brentwoodjackson.com

### **Canopy Children's Solutions**

1465 Lakeland Dr  
Jackson, 800.388.6247  
mycanopy.org

### **Jackson Education Support**

2637 Ridgewood Road  
Jackson, 601-724-2152  
www.je411.com/schedule

### **Laskin Therapy Group**

207 W Jackson St, Ste 2  
Ridgeland, 601-362-0859  
laskintherapygroup.com

### **Magnolia Speech School**

733 Flag Chapel Rd  
Jackson, 601-922-5530  
Magnoliaspeechschool.org

### **Metropolitan YMCAs of MS**

Clinton, 601-924-5812  
Flowood, 601-664-1955  
Reservoir, 601-992-9118  
www.metroymcams.org

### **Mississippi College Dyslexia Education Center**

500 West Madison St  
Clinton, 601-925-7766  
Dyslexia@mc.edu

### **Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science**

1100 College St  
Columbus, 662-329-7670  
www.themsms.org

### **MS School for the Blind**

1252 Eastover Dr  
Jackson, 601-984-8200

### **MS School for the Deaf**

1253 Eastover Dr  
Jackson, 601-984-8000

### **MS School of the Arts**

308 W Cherokee St  
Brookhaven, 601-823-1300

### **Psycamore Psychiatric Programs**

2540 Flowood Dr  
Flowood, 601-939-5993  
1-877-PSYCH-4-U  
Psycamore.com

### **Vital Hearts, LLC**

1888 Main St. Ste. C-103  
Madison, 601-473-1950  
vitalheartslc.org

Healthcare is the metro area's largest industry.



# AFTER-SCHOOL ENRICHMENT

**After Zone, The**

184 American Way  
Madison, 601-898-9900  
theafterzone.com

**Babcock String Studio**

662-322-3369

**Ballet Magnificat!**

5406 I 55 N  
Jackson, 601-977-1001  
balletmagnificat.com

**Ballet Mississippi**

201 E Pascagoula St, Ste 106  
Jackson, 601-960-1560  
balletms.com

**Baptist Healthplex – Clinton**

102 Clinton Pkwy  
Clinton, 601-925-7900  
healthplexclinton.com

**Beyond Therapy**

950 E County Line Rd, Suite E  
Ridgeland, 601-853-9747  
beyondtherapykids.urpt.com

**Blue Ribbon Riding Academy**

439 E Sowell Rd  
Canton, 601-842-0564  
blueribbonridingacademy.com

**Boys & Girls Club – Walker Unit**

601-372-9090

**Boys and Girls Club of Central Mississippi**

601-969-7088  
bgccm.org

**Bricks 4 Kidz**

2103 Main St  
Madison, 646-853-3375

**Clinton Tumble & Cheer**

1261 Springridge Rd  
Clinton, 601-431-8777

**Clinton Parks & Recreation Youth Programs**

300 Jefferson St  
Clinton, 601-924-6082  
Clintonms.org

**Defy Jackson**

2280 Lakeland Dr  
Flowood, 769-208-3008  
defy.com/locations/defy-jackson

**Drum Lessons with Doug Thomas @ Morrison Brothers Music**

217 Industrial Dr, Ste C  
Ridgeland, 601-940-8775

**Funtime Skateland**

931 Highway 80 E  
Clinton - 601-924-6500  
funtimeclinton.com

**GBTC Child Care & After School Programs**

1411 Robinson St  
Jackson, 662-845-4282  
littlesaintsgbtc.com

**Girl Scouts of Greater Mississippi**

1471 W County Line Rd  
Jackson, 601-366-0607  
gsgms.org

**Impression Books**

5417 Lakeland Dr  
Flowood  
impression-books.com

**Jackson Zoo**

2918 W Capital St  
601-352-2580  
jacksonzoo.org

**Kids Kollege After-School Program**

Jackson State University (College of  
Education and Human Development)  
601-979-2238

**Laskin Therapy Group**

207 W Jackson St, Ste 2  
Ridgeland, 601-362-0859  
laskintherapygroup.com

**Lindsey Claire Dance Company**

4149 S Siwell Rd  
Byram, 601-398-3786  
www.lcdanceco.com

**Little Saints Academy**

1411 Robinson St  
Jackson, 662-845-4282

**Major Scales Music School**

509 Springridge Rd Ste J  
Clinton, 601-476-2854  
info@majorscales.net

**Maley Swim School**

501 Lake Harbour Dr  
Ridgeland, 601-898-7946  
swimmaleys.com

**MS Children's Museum**

2145 Museum Blvd  
Jackson, 601-981-5469  
mschildrensmuseum.org

**MS Children's Music Theatre**

Jackson, 601-201-8558  
mschildrensmusictheater.com

**MS Boychoir, The**

P.O. Box 16395  
Jackson, 601-665-7374  
Msboychoir.org  
Info@msboychoir.org

**MS Girlchoir, The**

msgirlchoir.org

**Miss Metropolitan Dance Academy**

110 Homestead Dr  
Madison, 601-853-4508  
msmetroballet.com

**Miss Sports Hall of Fame and Museum**

1152 Lakeland Dr  
Jackson, 601-982-8264  
msfame.com

**MS Museum of Art**

380 S. Lamar St.  
Jackson, 601-960-1515  
msmuseumart.org

**MS Youth Symphony Orchestra**

1701 N State St  
Jackson 601-376-9760  
mysoms.org

**Museum of MS History**

601-576-6800  
mdah.state.ms.us

**National Alliance on Mental Illness**

2618 Southerland St  
Jackson, 601-899-9058

**New Stage Theatre**

1100 Carlisle St  
Jackson, 601-948-3533

**New Summit School**

1417 Lelia Dr  
Jackson, 601-982-7827  
newsummitschool.com

**Orpheus String Studio**

jacksonviolinlessons.com

**Pearl Public Library Children Events**

2416 Old Brandon Rd  
Pearl, 601-932-2562

**Premier Tumble and Cheer**

109 Hazelton Cove  
Madison, 601-898-0221  
premiertumbleandcheer.com

**Repeat Performance Dance Studio**

133 Dees Dr, Ste A  
Madison, 601-605-4456

**Rhonda Whitehead's Studio of Dance & Gymnastics**

111 Grant's Ferry Rd  
Brandon, 601-992-0490

**St. Andrew's Episcopal School**

4120 Old Canton Rd  
Jackson, 601-987-9300  
gosaints.org

**Soccer Shots of Jackson**

Brandon, 769-233-7445  
jackson.soccershots.com

**St. Matthew's United Methodist Church Preschool and After School**

7427 Old Canton Rd  
Madison, 601-856-9581

**Sun Rise Development Center 24 Hour Nursery and Preschool**

2101 W McDowell Rd  
Jackson, 601-371-4200

**That's a Wrap**

1867 Crane Ridge Dr #125B  
Jackson, 855-219-8854  
thatsawrapactingstudio.com

# Still Uninsured and Unaware?

## There is No More Excuse

WellsFest, in September, is a great alcohol-free music festival that benefits local charities.

**M**any people rely on their employers to provide health insurance as part of the benefit package. According to Kaiser Family Foundation, a non-profit organization focusing on national health issues, about 49% of Americans are insured through employer-sponsored plans. Yet we do not live in a uniform world: some people work for private companies who do not offer insurance plans, others can only work part-time, and some are self-employed. What happens then? A lot of these people shrug their shoulders unaware that there are other options available to obtain healthcare; and those who are aware of these options often find the prospect of shopping for healthcare a bit daunting. Let's face it: medical insurance is not exactly an easy or exciting topic to navigate through.

To gain a better understanding of the possibilities in this field, I interviewed an expert on this subject. Mark Perkins is the director of Novel Financial Solutions located in Ridgeland, MS. He has been in the business of insuring people for over 18 years and has done "just about everything under health and life insurance realm" as he puts it in his own words.

"When people come to us for help, the first thing we try to do is look for exchange plans under Affordable Care Act (ACA), also known as Obamacare," - says Mark. Affordable Care Act provides tax credits that can cover insurance payments. There is hardly anything this type of insurance would not cover; most of these plans include preventive care, pregnancies, rehab services, medications, etc. Qualification is based on the household income which has to fall between 100% and 400% of the poverty level as outlined by the federal guidelines. So there are minimums to qualify. Those at the 100% mark might qualify for as low as \$0 premium and \$0 copay. As the income goes up, the deductibles and premiums go up as well.

Those families whose income is too high to qualify for Affordable Care Act can still purchase private insurance and have plenty of alternatives. In their case, everything depends on their personal goals, explains Mark. Whether they want to cover just catastrophic events or have more detailed care, there are options for just about anything. Besides regular medical plans, there are also options such as short-term medical plans, supplemental plans, hospital policies, etc. so it is possible to accommodate all kinds of scenarios. Mark believes that "this industry is really not "one size fits all." Each family is unique and deserves individual approach."

To apply for insurance you can start by filling out an application through a website called Marketplace at [www.healthcare.gov](http://www.healthcare.gov). Usually the open enrollment is November 1 - December 15. However, this year due to Covid-19 pandemic, it has been re-opened and extended through August 15. Once the application is complete and it is determined that you qualify for ACA, you would be directed further to shop for a healthcare plan. If you or any members of your family qualify for a state-sponsored Medicaid coverage, you would also be notified and your information would be automatically forwarded to the State Division of Medicaid which will, in turn, contact you directly. Mississippi Division of Medicaid provides insurance coverage for infants, children, pregnant women and disabled individuals with income under a certain limit. Their website is [www.medicaid.ms.gov](http://www.medicaid.ms.gov) where you could also apply directly.

You can apply yourself or you can find a qualified insurance agent instead to help you through the process. Agents do not charge customers for their services as they receive administrative fees from the government to help their clients. Mark says he was even able to help some families whose employers were offering family coverage, but the premiums were too high to afford.

Your health is in your hands, and in the 21st century your healthcare is literally at your fingertips. Hope you get insurance and stay healthy, so you'll never need it.

**Jane Vazquez** is a Certified Financial Counselor. She is a co-owner of a Mississippi-based company that provides services of financial consulting, bookkeeping, and tax return preparation, among others. You can reach her at [www.srvcvazquez.com](http://www.srvcvazquez.com).

**FITNESS**  
has never been this  
**FUN!**



# FITNESS FEST



Sept 11 • Mississippi Trade Mart • 10am – 3pm

Admission: \$2 per person, \$10 max per family.  
(Free passes at [www.fitnessfest.ms](http://www.fitnessfest.ms))

- 60'x40' Indoor healthy food choice maze
- Your kids can walk, jump, dance, and play their way to fitness
- Zumba, martial arts & dance demonstrations & classes
- Fun for the **WHOLE FAMILY!**
- Sanitized by **Jani-King**

*The King of Clean*

For More Information: [WWW.fitnessfest.ms](http://WWW.fitnessfest.ms)  
601-366-0901

parents  
& kids

SAFE  
KIDS  
MISSISSIPPI



# SUMMER FUN

## **AREA ATTRACTIONS**

**Children's Therapy Center**  
1050 N Flowood Dr  
Flowood, 601-345-4180  
Childrenstherapycenter.org

**Clinton Community Nature Center**  
617 Dunton Rd  
Clinton, 601-926-1104

**Craftsmen's Guild of MS**  
950 Rice Road  
Ridgeland, 601-856-7546  
Craftsmensguildofms.org

**Enter/Locked Escape Rooms**  
6718 Old Canton Rd  
Ridgeland, 601-665-3299  
enterlocked.com

**Farmers Table Cooking School in Livingston**  
1030 Market Street  
Flora, 601-506-6821  
Farmerstableinlivingston.com

**Impression Books**  
5417 Lakeland Dr  
Flowood 601-622-7121

**Laskin Therapy Group**  
207 West Jackson Street, Suite 2  
Ridgeland, 601-362-0859  
Laskintherapygroup.com

**Michaels Craft Store – Camp Creativity**  
175 Grandview Blvd  
Madison, 601-898-4078  
712 MacKenzie Ln  
Flowood, 601-992-9441  
michaels.com/camp-creativity

**MS Agriculture & Forestry Museum**  
1150 Lakeland Drive  
Jackson, 601-432-4500  
Msgmuseum.org

**MS Braves Camp Day Games**  
1 Braves Way  
Pearl, 601-664-7607  
mississippibraves.com

**MS Museum of Natural Science**  
2148 Riverside Dr  
Jackson, 601-576-6000  
mdwfp.com/museum.aspx

**MS Museum of Art – The Museum School**  
380 S Lamar St  
Jackson, 601-960-1515  
msmuseumart.org  
Ages: 3 and older

**Sal & Mookies New York Pizza & Ice Cream Joint**  
The District at Eastover  
200 District Blvd E  
Jackson, 601-368-1919  
Salandmookies.com

**The Pearl Pool**  
3500 Dawn Dr  
Pearl, 601-936-5862

**TrustCare Kids Clinic**  
101 Lexington Drive, Suite A  
Madison, 601-707-3771  
Trustcarehealth.com/kids

**Young Film Maker's Camp**  
Canton, 601-859-1307  
Cantontourism.com

**SPLASH PADS**  
**Shiloh Splash Park**  
322 Shiloh Rd  
Brandon

**Mississippi Children's Museum**  
2145 Museum Boulevard  
Jackson

**Mississippi Museum of Art**  
380 S Lamar St  
Jackson

**CAMPS**  
**After Zone, The**  
184 American Way  
Madison, 601-898-9900  
theafterzone.com

**Ballet Magnificat! Children's Summer Dance Camp**  
601-977-1001  
balletmagnificat.com

**Ballet Mississippi's Summer Workshops**  
201 E Pascagoula St, Ste 106  
Jackson, 601-960-1560  
balletms.com

**Blazers Soccer Camps**  
Belhaven University Soccer Bowl  
1500 Peachtree St  
Jackson  
https://blazers.belhaven.edu

**Bricks 4 Kidz MS Lego S.T.E.M. Camps!**  
2103 Main St  
Madison, 646-853-3375  
bricks4kidz.com/mississippi-brandon-madison/

**Camp Bratton-Green**  
1530 Way Rd  
Canton, 601-859-1556  
graycenter.org

**Camp Cade**  
Cade Chapel MB Church  
1000 West Ridgeway St  
Jackson, 601-750-0142  
cadechapel.org

**Camp Invention**  
Various locations throughout the area!  
800-968-4332  
invent.org/camp

**Camp of the Rising Son**  
444 Lake Rd  
French Camp, 662-547-6169  
campoftherisingson.com

**Craftsmen's Guild of MS**  
950 Rice Road  
Ridgeland, 601-856-7546  
Craftsmensguildofms.org

**Farmer's Table Cooking School in Livingston**  
1030 Market Street  
Flora, 601-506-6821  
Farmerstableinlivingston.com

**First Presbyterian Church of Jackson**

VBS Summer Program  
601-353-8316  
Fpcjackson.org

**Girl Scouts of Greater MS**

1471 W County Line Rd  
Jackson, 601-366-0607  
gsgms.org

**Hartfield Academy**

1240 Luckney Rd.  
Flowood, 601-992-5333  
Hartfield.org

**Jackson Academy Summer Camps**

4908 Ridgewood Rd  
Jackson, 601-362-9676  
Jacksonacademy.org/summer-camps

**Jackson Education Support, LLC**

2637 Ridgewood Rd  
Jackson, 601-724-2152  
www.je411.com

**Jackson Futbol Club Soccer Skills Camp**

221 Westbrook Rd  
Jackson, 601-800-2009  
jacksonfc1@aol.com

**Jackson Prep Summer Camps**

P.O. Box 4940  
Jackson, 601-939-8611  
www.jacksonprep.net/camps

**Kenwood Stables**

3680 Hwy 80 E  
Brandon, 601-201-6620  
facebook.com/KenwoodStablesLLC/

**Lindsey Claire Dance Company**

4149 S Siwell Rd  
Byram, 601-398-3786  
www.lcdanceco.com

**Maley Swim School**

501 Lake Harbour Dr  
Ridgeland, 601-898-7946  
swimmaley.com

**MS Braves Camp Day Games**

1 Braves Way  
Pearl, 601-664-7607  
mississippibraves.com

**MS Children's Museum Summer Camp**

2145 Museum Blvd  
Jackson, 601-981-5469  
mschildrensmuseum.org

**MS Metropolitan Dance Academy**

110 Homestead Dr  
Madison, 601-853-4508  
msmetroballer.com

**MS Museum of Natural Science**

2148 Riverside Dr  
Jackson, 601-576-6000  
mdwfp.com/museum

**MS School for Mathematics and Science**

1100 College St  
Columbus, 662-329-7670  
www.themsms.org

**MS Museum of Art – The Museum School**

380 S Lamar St  
Jackson, 601-960-1515  
msmuseumart.org

**New Stage Theatre**

1100 Carlisle St  
Jackson, 601-948-3533  
Newstagetheatre.com  
mail@newstagetheatre.com

**The 2021 Saints Summer Experience**

St. Andrew's Episcopal School  
gosaints.org/summer  
601-487-2748

**Soccer Shots**

jackson.soccershots.com  
Brandon, 769-233-7445

**Twin Lakes Summer Camp**

155 Milner Rd  
Florence, 601-845-6858  
twinlakescamp.org

**YMCA Summer Camps**

Clinton YMCA Summer Camp:  
Ages 5-12  
400 Lindale Road Clinton, MS  
601-924-5812  
Reservoir YMCA Summer Camp:  
Ages 5-12  
6023 Lakeshore Park Brandon, MS  
601-992-9118  
metroYMCAs.org/summer-youth-  
programs

**Young Film Maker's Camp**

Canton, 601-859-1307  
Cantontourism.com

**SPECIALTY CAMPS**

**Camp Hopewell**

662-234-2254  
camphopewell.com

**Camp Kandu**

601-957-7878  
msdiabetes.org/our-work/childrens-  
programs

**Camp Sickle Stars**

601-366-5874  
Mssicklecellfoundation.org

**Camp Wesley Pines**

601-892-2341  
Wesleypines.com  
chap@wesleypines.com

**Gray Center and Camps**

1530 Way Rd  
Canton, 601-859-1556  
graycenter.org

**Hope Hollow Ministries Day Camp**

601-859-5290  
Hopehollowms.org

**Kids Company/Harvard Christian Academy**

3809 W. Northside Dr.  
Jackson, 601-982-1604  
kidscompanym.com

**Psycamore LLC**

2540 Flowood Dr  
Flowood, 601-939-5993  
877-PSYCH-4-U  
psycamore.com

Ridgeland, MS, is a very bicycle-friendly city. Check out their riding trails!

Day trips, whether to someplace new or to an old favorite, are inexpensive and offer a chance to reconnect as a family. The eclectic arts town, Ocean Springs, makes a fun and relaxing day trip for family members of all ages who live in other parts of southern Mississippi. The drive is brief, and the payoff is big!

Ocean Springs, located on the 62-mile scenic shoreline of the Mississippi Gulf Coast, charms visitors with its southern hospitality and walkable small town feel. It’s known as the “City of Discovery,” and offers visitors plenty of white sand, good food, shopping, and local art.

“I love spending the day in Ocean Springs with my children,” said Tina Rutland, a repeat visitor who drives over from Alabama. “We spend the morning on the beach or riding bikes, then grab lunch downtown. Next we head to the Little Children’s park then end the day at the beach to watch the sunset.”

**Here are some must-sees in Ocean Springs:**

**1. Front Beach and Fort Maurepas Park**

Nothing beats a day spent basking in the sun at Front Beach in Ocean Springs. The beach stretches from the Biloxi Bay Bridge to Ocean Springs Harbor. Front Beach has everything you need for a perfect beach day, from a fishing pier to Fort Maurepas Park, which is a fun-filled ship playground and splash pad.

**2. Walter Anderson Museum of Art**

The Walter Anderson Museum of Art features the work of Walter Inglis Anderson and his brother Peter Anderson. Come see his beautiful watercolors, drawings, oil paintings, ceramics and carvings. Make sure to stop at the Little Room, where the walls are made of Anderson’s creations that were revealed to the public after his death. The museum also houses creative artworks of cats, making it a pleasant stop for children.

**3. Shearwater Pottery**

Shearwater Pottery is the home of the works of master potter, Peter Anderson. Here you’ll find gorgeous pottery, figurines, decorative tiles and ceramics made from different pieces of clay found in Tennessee, Mississippi and Alabama.

**4. Gulf Islands National Seashore**

The Gulf Islands National Seashore runs from Florida to Mississippi, covering the beaches and the small barrier islands that dot the coastline. During your visit, you can fish, bike, hike, enjoy a picnic or bird watch. Be sure to keep little ones close when exploring the marsh area because alligators do inhabit the waters.

**5. The Fontainebleau Nature Trail**

The Fontainebleau Nature Trail is located on the Mississippi Sandhill Crane Wildlife Refuge. The trail is a mile and a half in length and has two observation platforms and is open during daylight hours.

**6. Twelve Oaks Walking Trail**

Located off Hanley Road in Ocean Springs, and maintained by the Land Trust for the Mississippi Coastal Plain, Twelve Oaks Walking Trail combines several habitats, including a mixed oak and pine forest, a seepage slope forest, headwater bay swamps and tidal marsh. The loop trail is just over half a mile long and houses an observation deck that gives visitors a view of the marsh and waterway.

**Ashley Karcher** is a freelance writer who lives in Ocean Springs with her husband and four children.

*You’ll also find all sorts of boutique stores and local restaurants in downtown Ocean Springs. Most notable for families are:*

**The Candy Cottage**, 702 Washington Avenue

**Miner’s Doll & Toy Store**, 927 Washington Avenue

**Buff City Soap**, 705-A Washington Avenue

**Pop Brothers**, 800 Cash Alley

**Bike Rentals: TriHard Sports**, 438 Porter Street

**Golf Cart Rentals: Downtown Cart Rentals**, 1316 Government Street





# In Our Own Backyard

DAY TRIP TO OCEAN SPRINGS

# Best Local Dog

**O**ur furry friends deserve some special attention, don't they? Luckily, the metro area is teeming with pawsome locales that you and your furry friends can enjoy together. From dog parks and pet stores to dog-friendly attractions, a visit to any (or all) of these spectacular spots is sure to result in the best doggone day ever!

## A Day at the Park

Opened in the fall of 2019, Clinton's Bark Park is still fairly new but already a favorite of dog owners – and it was a long time coming. Bark Park spans two acres and features play structures, water fountains for pets, and separate spaces for dogs under 30 pounds and dogs over 30 pounds, providing a safe green space for pets of all proportions. Bark Park is located adjacent to Kid's Towne Park and is open from dawn until dusk. Before visiting, make sure to check out Bark Park's rules and regulations at [www.clintonms.org/barkpark](http://www.clintonms.org/barkpark).

## Fun in the Forest

Not your typical forest, the Mississippi Petrified Forest is filled with huge trees that have been transformed into stone. If that doesn't impress you, maybe the fact that the forest is millions of years in the making will do the trick! And as one of the only forests of its kind in the eastern United States, it's truly a must-visit for all residents – even 4-legged ones! Fortunately, leashed pets, who are "accompanied by responsible pack leaders," are permitted. But according to past visitor Mike L., pets aren't just permitted, they're welcomed with open arms. He went on, "We checked online to see if dogs were welcome. They were, but we never anticipated how welcome! They even had a dish of water and a little kibble at the end of the self-guided nature trail." For more information, visit the Mississippi Petrified Forest website at [www.ms Petrified Forest.com](http://www.ms Petrified Forest.com).

## EmBARK on a Journey along the Trace

No list of animal-related fun would be complete without a mention of the Natchez Trace Parkway, which has been awarded many accolades throughout the years, including "Mississippi's top pet-friendly attraction." Dogs are permitted on the trails and the viewpoints that line the parkway. To really make the most of the parkway's pet-friendly sites, stop by one of the Trace's visitor centers and pick up a BARK Ranger booklet. Once you and your 4-legged travel companion complete all the activities in the booklet, bring the booklet back to a visitor center and your pooch will receive an official BARK Ranger dog tag. And remember, pets must always be on a leash that's 6' or shorter. To learn more about the Natchez Trace, visit the National Park Service website at [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov).

## Go for a Dip

Did you know that pets on a leash up to 6' are welcome in all Mississippi state parks and campgrounds? It's true! One park that you and your pooch will want to explore is D'Lo Water Park, a natural water park – complete with a swimming hole that's perfect for cooling off on a hot summer day. Tucked away in D'Lo, a tiny town about 40 minutes from Jackson, it's a secluded paradise, where crowds aren't the norm and peace and tranquility is. This is sure to be the ultimate treat for your furry friend, especially during the sweltering days of summer. For more information, visit the D'Lo Water Park website at [www.dlowaterpark.com](http://www.dlowaterpark.com).

**Daniella Di Rienzo** is a self-proclaimed southerner who graduated from the University of Southern Mississippi in 2011 and has been working as a freelance writer ever since.



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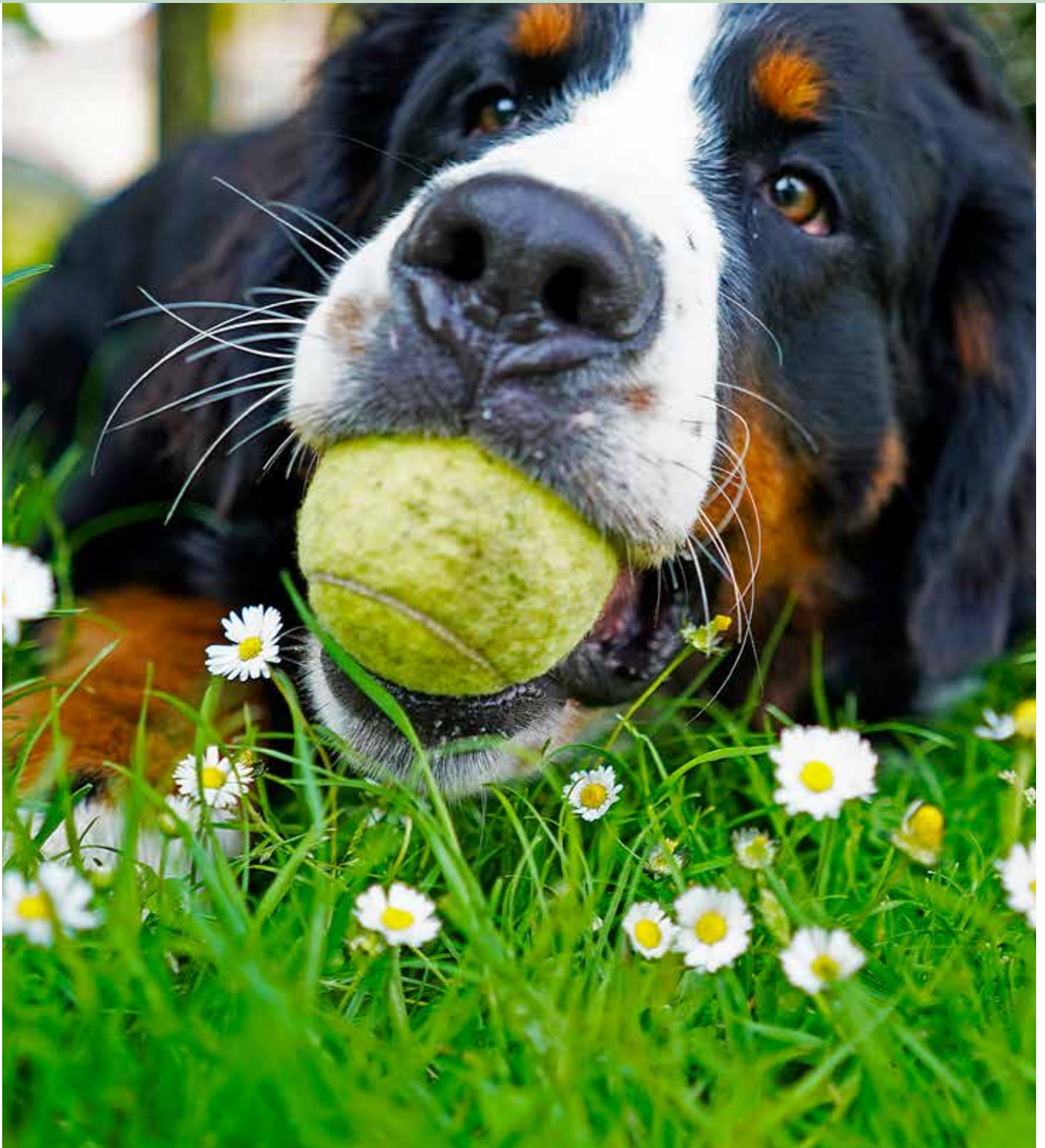
[www.mskayskids.com](http://www.mskayskids.com)

601-906-0808

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# Parky





Canopy Children's Solutions is Mississippi's largest, most comprehensive nonprofit provider of children's behavioral health, educational and social service solutions. Founded in 1912 as the Mississippi Children's Home Society, the organization began with the mission to connect children with loving forever homes. Through its more than 100-year history, the organization has grown and evolved to meet the changing needs of children and families in Mississippi. Annually, Canopy serves more than 5,000 children and their families statewide with a staff of over 450 mission-focused employees. Canopy believes when given the right tools every child can be a success story.

Today, 1 in 5 children experience a behavioral health challenge that impacts their daily life. As concerns over mental health continue to rise, Canopy has developed a comprehensive continuum of care helping children and families facing mental and behavioral health challenges.

**Behavioral Health Solutions**

Canopy Behavioral Health Clinics treats common mental health challenges in children and adolescents including ADHD, depression, anxiety, trauma and mood disorders. Equipping children and families with the right tools to handle these challenges is essential for maintaining strong families and cultivating safe, healthy coping behaviors in children and teens. Therapists utilize state-of-the-art, evidence-based therapies which help the child build rapport, identify triggers, self-regulate, practice healthy coping skills and restructure detrimental thinking. While in most cases non-medicating solutions are preferred and often utilized, board certified psychiatric nurse practitioners are available for medication management. The clinics, located in Hattiesburg, Gulfport and Jackson, serve children ages five to 21.

**Autism Solutions**

For families with children on the autism spectrum, Canopy Early Intervention Autism Clinic provides applied behavior analysis (ABA) therapy for children 18 months to 8 years old. Each child receives an intensive and individual behavioral identification assessment to determine their unique strengths and challenges, as well as detect

any barriers to learning. ABA has been cited as a "best practice" in the treatment of many of the core features of autism by the US Surgeon General, the Centers for Disease Control, and the National Autism Center. Typically, a child receives 20 or more hours per week of therapy, utilizing evidence-based procedures selected based on the child's individual needs. As such, a variety of practices, including discrete-trials teaching, naturalistic environmental teaching, incidental teaching, and others are frequently employed by our highly-trained staff of therapists. The Canopy Early Intervention Autism Clinic is located in Jackson.

**Educational Solutions**

Canopy's CARES Schools are accredited, non-public schools designed to meet the educational and behavioral needs of students whose behavior prohibits participation in the public school setting. The goal of CARES School is for each student to live and learn effectively. CARES Schools provide quality, individualized instruction that meets the needs of each student. While attending CARES School, the child learns social, life, and leisure skills to maximizing their academic achievement. With small class sizes of eight to ten students, students get personal attention so they can attain their best. A licensed teacher and a behavioral specialist work in collaborative in each classroom. With a multi-disciplinary strengths-based approach, each student participates on a child and family team to coordinate academic and behavioral health supports. Each CARES School also has classrooms dedicated to children on the autism spectrum. Schools are located in Hattiesburg and Jackson and are accredited by the Mississippi Department of Education. The work completed at the CARES School is fully transferable to Mississippi public schools.

When your child needs mental health care, finding help can be overwhelming. If you think your child may be struggling with mental health or educational challenges, Canopy's Care Coordinators can help. Care coordinators guide you through the treatment process and are responsible for helping you find the services your child needs, while managing your child's progress in treatment and helping coordinate service needs with the clinical team through engagement activities. For more information, call 800.388.6247 or visit [mycanopy.org](http://mycanopy.org).





*Canopy Children's Solutions Believes  
Every Child Can Be A Success Story*



# PEDIATRIC HEALTH GUIDE

## **GENERAL FAMILY / PEDIATRIC HEALTH**

### **Auditory Processing Center, LLC**

541 Hwy 80 W Ste C  
Clinton, 601-488-4189  
Info@auditorycenter.com

### **Baptist Family Medicine**

1490 W Government St, Ste 10  
Brandon, 601-825-1936  
1887 Spillway Rd  
Brandon, 601-992-5532  
7275 Siwell Rd  
Byram, 601-373-7722  
106 Clinton Pkwy  
Clinton, 601-924-9005  
6250 Old Canton Rd  
Jackson, 601-957-1015  
Baptist Belhaven  
1200 N State St, Ste LL 10  
Jackson, 601-362-7280  
401 Baptist Dr, Ste 104  
Madison, 601-605-2383  
2173 Main St  
Madison, 601-605-3858  
1201 Highway 49 S, Ste 1  
Richland, 601-973-1576  
151 East Metro Parkway, Ste 3  
Flowood, 601-992-3288  
102 Lexington Dr.  
Madison, 601-973-1688  
401 Baptist Dr. Ste 206  
Madison, 601-978-1583  
3011 Greenfield Rd.  
Pearl, 601-825-9000

### **Beyond Therapy for Kids**

950 East County Line Rd, Ste E  
Ridgeland, MS 39157  
601-853-9747  
Fax 601-898-4761  
Beyondtherapykids.urpt.com

### **Brentwood Behavioral Healthcare of Mississippi**

3531 Lakeland Drive  
Flowood, 601-936-2024  
www.brentwoodjackson.com

### **The Children's Clinic**

2946 Layfair Dr  
Flowood, 601-420-8233

### **Child Development Clinic UMMC**

2500 N State St  
Jackson, 601-984-5236

### **Children's Medical Group, PA**

Jackson: 1867 Crane Ridge Dr, Ste 101B  
Madison: 7726 Old Canton Rd  
Clinton: 539-C Hwy 80 W, Ste 101 B  
childrensmedicalgroup.net

### **Children's of Mississippi:**

#### **Batson Children's Hospital**

2500 N State St  
Jackson, 601-815-8010

#### **Children's Cancer Clinic**

(inside Batson Children's Hospital)

2500 N State St

Jackson, 601-984-5220

#### **Children's Clinic at Jackson Medical Mall**

350 Woodrow Wilson Dr  
Jackson, 601-984-1000

#### **Children's North Clinic**

5965 I-55 N

Jackson, 601-815-5300

#### **Children's Specialty Clinic**

421 S Stadium Dr

Jackson, 601-815-4400

#### **Eli Manning Children's Clinics**

2500 N State St

Jackson, 601-815-8010

#### **University Physicians at Select Specialty Hospital**

5903 Ridgewood Rd, Ste 106

Jackson, 601-984-4465

#### **University Physicians Grants Ferry**

1010 Lakeland Pl

Flowood, 601-815-0600

#### **University Physicians Lakeland Medical**

764 Lakeland Dr

Jackson, 601-984-6800

#### **University Physicians Pavilion**

1410 E Woodrow Wilson Ave

Jackson, 601-815-4775

#### **Wiser Hospital for Women and Infants**

2500 N State St

Jackson, 601-984-1000

### **Children's Therapy Center**

1050 N Flowood Dr  
Flowood, 601-345-4180

### **Ear, Nose, and Throat Surgical Group**

970 Lakeland Dr, Ste 40  
Jackson, 601-200-4850

### **GI Peds @ GI Associates & Endoscopy Centers**

2510 Lakeland Dr  
Flowood, 601-355-1234  
106 Highland Way  
Madison, 601-355-1234  
1815 Mission 66  
Vicksburg, 601-638-8801  
Gi.md/pediatrics

### **Internal Medicine & Pediatrics Associates**

6919 Old Canton Rd  
Ridgeland, 601-956-0911  
impacares4you.com

### **Madison-Ridgeland Children's Clinic, PA**

401 Baptist Dr, Ste 101  
Madison, 601-856-2598  
mrclclinic.net

### **Merit Health Rankin**

350 Crossgates Blvd  
Brandon, 601-825-2811  
merithealthrankin.com

### **Merit Health River Oaks**

1030 River Oaks Dr  
Flowood, 601-932-1030  
Merithealthriveroaks.com

### **MS Asthma & Allergy Clinic, PA**

1513 Lakeland Dr Ste 101  
Jackson, 601-354-4836  
msaac.com

### **MS Thrive!**

601-815-6382  
mississippithrive.com

### **Rankin Children's Group, PLLC**

1405 Crossgates Dr W  
Brandon, 601-825-0925  
151 E Metro Pkwy, Ste 102  
Flowood, 601-992-2292  
rankinchildrensgroup.com

### **Ridgewood Clinics**

1059 Ridgewood Pl  
Jackson, 601-957-3211  
Webpsychmd.com

### **TrustCare Clinics/TrustCare Kids**

601 Highway 80  
Clinton, 601-708-1480  
1645 W Government St, Ste F  
Brandon, 601-8259-6600  
1710 Old Fannin Rd  
Flowood, 601-487-9191  
1051 Highland Colony Parkway, Ste E  
Ridgeland, 601-707-3737  
786 Lake Harbour Dr  
Ridgeland, 601-499-0022  
4880 I-55 Frontage Rd N  
Jackson, 601-487-9199  
6176 US Hwy 98  
Hattiesburg, 601-475-0444  
1067 Highland Colony Pkwy Ste G  
Ridgeland, 601-707-3490  
1337 Montclair Rd, 205-203-8226  
Birmingham, AL

### **Trinity Pediatric Clinic PLLC**

1860 Chadwick Dr #205  
Jackson, 601-376-2857

### **UMMC - Department of Pediatrics**

2500 N State St  
Jackson, 601-984-2905

### **VISION**

#### **Belle Vue Specialty Eye Care**

4500 I-55 North Ste 218  
Jackson, 601-487-1089  
Bellevuesec.com

A Special Needs Directory can be found at  
parentsandkids.com

Children entering a Mississippi school (from pre-kindergarten to 12th grade) for the first time are required to have had the following vaccinations: • Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis (DTaP), • Polio (IPV), • Hepatitis B • Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR), • Chickenpox (Varicella)

#### **Jackson Eye Associates**

1190 North State St, Ste 403  
Jackson, 601-353-2020  
401 Baptist Dr, Ste 408  
Madison, 601-853-2020  
102 Clinton Pkwy  
Clinton, 601-924-9750  
jacksoneye.com

#### **Professional Eyecare Associates**

Brandon: 601-825-8300  
Canton: 601-859-3464  
Madison: 601-605-2259  
Ridgeland: 601-957-9292  
optical2000.com

#### **20/20 Vision Care**

100 Airport Rd  
Pearl, 601-939-3753  
2020visioncareonline.com

#### **DENTISTS / ORTHODONTISTS**

##### **Beavers Pediatric Dentistry**

312 Fountains Dr  
Madison, 601-856-5313  
beaverspediatricdentistry.com

##### **Brister Orthodontics**

3007 Greenfield Rd  
Pearl, 601-824-5878  
bristerorthodontics.com

##### **Dogwood Pediatric Dentistry**

151 E Metro Dr, Ste 201  
Flowood, 601-992-0007  
dogwoodpediatricdentistry.com

##### **Jolly Orthodontics**

1000 Highland Colony Pkwy #7201  
Ridgeland, 601-605-2400  
jollyortho.com

##### **Madison Pediatric Dental Group**

7728 Old Canton Rd, Ste A  
Madison, 601-856-1511  
madisonpediatricdentalgroup.com

##### **Mississippi Smiles Dentistry**

1189 E County Line Rd, Ste 1010  
Jackson, 601-308-2022  
mississippi-smilesdentistry.com

#### **Pearl River Dental**

209 Riverwind E  
Pearl, 601-936-6161  
pearlriverdentalgroup.com

#### **Pediatric Dentistry of Brandon – Dr.**

**Henry Cook**  
142 Gateway Dr  
Brandon, 601-824-1950  
pediatricdentistryofbrandon.com

#### **Pediatric Dentistry PA**

5315 Hwy 18 W  
Jackson, 601-922-0066  
smileinspector.com

#### **Smart Smile Orthodontics - Dr. Britton Montgomery, D.M.D, M.S.D**

219 Garden Park, Ste 100  
Madison, 601-853-1307  
mysmartsmile.com

#### **Dr. Eugene C. Brown Jr. – Orthodontics Exclusively**

5800 Ridgewood Rd, Ste 103  
Jackson, 601-957-1711  
dreugenebrown.com  
125 Jones St  
Madison, 601-853-0303  
1344 Sunset Dr  
Grenada, 662-226-7640  
Dreugenebrown.com

#### **Smiles on Broadway Dental**

5442 Watkins Dr  
Jackson, 601-665-4996  
smilesonbroadwaydental.com

#### **Wren and Bryant Pediatric Dentistry**

25 Eastgate Dr, Ste B  
Brandon, 601-824-0093

#### **MATERNITY / OBSTETRICS**

**Childbirth Classes - Baptist Medical Center**  
601-948-6262

#### **Childbirth Classes - St. Dominic**

601-200-6934

#### **East Lakeland OBGYN Associates**

1020 River Oaks Dr, Ste 320  
Jackson, 601-936-1400  
eastlakelandobgyn.com

#### **Jackson Healthcare for Women**

291 E Layfair Dr  
Flowood, 601-936-9190  
jhcw.com

#### **Merit Health Woman's Hospital**

1026 N Flowood Dr  
Flowood, 601-932-1000  
merithealthwomanshospital.com

#### **Mothers' Milk Bank of Mississippi**

4209 Lakeland Dr #395  
Flowood, 601-939-5504  
msmilkbank.org

#### **Southern Women's Health**

1020 River Oaks Dr, Ste 310  
Jackson, 601-932-5006  
swhealth.net

#### **The Lactation Center at Merit Health Woman's Hospital**

601-933-6180  
The Woman's Clinic  
501 Marshall St, Ste 400  
Jackson, 601-354-0869  
401 Baptist Dr, Ste 402  
Madison  
twc-ms.com

#### **Wiser Hospital for Women and Infants**

2500 N State St  
Jackson, 601-984-1000

#### **BEHAVIORAL**

##### **Brentwood Behavioral Healthcare of Mississippi**

3531 Lakeland Drive  
Flowood, 601-936-2024  
www.brentwoodjackson.com

##### **Canopy Children's Solutions**

1465 Lakeland Dr  
Jackson, 800.388.6247  
mycanopy.org

##### **Caring Hands PPEC**

Ridgeland/Vicksburg  
Ridgeland: 601-398-0171  
Vicksburg: 601-629-0505  
Caringhandsppec.org

#### **Crossroads Counseling**

Pearl/Brandon: 601-939-6634  
Clinton: 601-351-9877  
Ridgeland: 601-605-4084  
Laurel: 601-939-6634  
Hattiesburg: 601-939-6634  
Crossroadslink.com

#### **Diamond Grove Center**

12356 MS-15  
Louisville, 662-779-0119  
diamondgrovecenter.com

#### **Hinds Behavioral Health Services**

3450 Hwy 80 West  
Jackson, 601-321-2400  
24/7 Mobile Crisis Line: 601-955-6381

#### **Laskin Therapy Group**

207 W Jackson St, Ste 2  
Ridgeland, 601-362-0859  
laskintherapygroup.com

#### **Psycamore, LLC**

2540 Flowood Dr  
Flowood, 601-939-5993  
psycamore.com

#### **RTS Counseling Center**

601-923-1645  
rts.edu

#### **Summit Counseling Services**

431 N State St  
Jackson, 601-949-1949

#### **UMMC Communicative Disorders Clinic**

2500 N State St  
Jackson, 601-984-1000  
1410 E Woodrow Wilson  
Jackson, 601-815-6064  
umc.edu

#### **Upside Down Family Therapy**

505 Cobblestone Ct, Ste A  
Madison, 601-707-5045

# Beat the Heat!

## Splash Pads in Jackson Area

There simply isn't a better way to cool off in the summer months than playing in the water! Splash pads to the rescue! Here are a few your children will enjoy this summer.

Splash Pad at the Mississippi Museum of Art, Jackson (free)

Splash Pad at the Jackson Zoo (free with zoo admission)

Splash Pad at the Mississippi Children's Museum, Jackson (free)

Splash Pad right outside Berry Berry Good Frozen Yogurt, Flowood (free)

Shiloh Splash Park, Brandon (\$5 per person)

Flo-town Splash Pad, Florence (\$5 per person)

Clinton Community Nature Center Outdoor Play Area (free, but \$2 per child donations appreciated)

YMCA Outdoor Pools at Reservoir and Flowood locations (free for members or \$5 per non-members)

### Helpful Tips

- It's always a good idea to call before you go and make sure the facilities are open and available for use.

- Some facilities allow snacks and drinks, but others don't allow bringing food in. Drinks are typically OK. It's always a good idea to check.

- Most public Splash Pads don't have a bathroom on site. So it's a good idea to come prepared. Typically you'll be able to find a bathroom nearby, within a few minutes of walking.

- With all that water and sunscreen, it does get slippery. It's a good idea to have the kids wear water shoes with sturdy non-slippery soles. Otherwise being barefoot is the only other good option.

- Adults need to accompany their minors. You hold full responsibility for the health and safety of your water babies.

- It's always a good idea to have a bag with towels and a change of clothes for the kids in the car. It's especially helpful when you go to the Children's museum, the Zoo or the Museum of Art, completely oblivious to the fact the kids cannot and will not stay away from the water, if they see it.

## Bike Trails of Mississippi

Explore other bike trails throughout Mississippi:

Nester Trail, in Trace State Park

Blue Trail, in Petal River Park

Bayou Point Mountain Bike Trail, in Hernando

For more details on bike trails in Mississippi, check out MTBProject.com. You can search trails by location, terrain, and difficulty; plus, each trail page lists current trail and weather conditions.

## Cool Things to See and Do in Mississippi

- B.B. King Museum (Indianola) - [bbkingmuseum.org](http://bbkingmuseum.org)

- Beauvoir: The Jefferson Davis Home/Confederate Presidential Library and Museum (Biloxi) - [visitbeauvoir.org](http://visitbeauvoir.org)

- Bill Waller Crafts Center (Ridgeland) - [mscrafts.org](http://mscrafts.org)

- Biloxi Lighthouse (Biloxi) - [biloxi.ms.us/visitor-info/museums/lighthouse](http://biloxi.ms.us/visitor-info/museums/lighthouse)

- Birthplace of Kermit the Frog Museum (Leland) - [birthplaceofthefrog.com](http://birthplaceofthefrog.com)

- Delta Blues Museum (Clarksdale) - [deltabluesmuseum.org](http://deltabluesmuseum.org)

- Elvis Presley's Birthplace and the Elvis Presley Museum (Tupelo) - [elvispresleybirthplace.com](http://elvispresleybirthplace.com)

- Eudora Welty House and Garden (Jackson) - [welty.mdah.ms.gov](http://welty.mdah.ms.gov)

- Geyser Falls Water Theme Park (Choctaw) - [geyserfalls.com](http://geyserfalls.com)

- Grammy Museum (Cleveland) - [grammymuseumms.org](http://grammymuseumms.org)

- Gulf Islands National Seashore - [nps.gov/guis](http://nps.gov/guis)

- Hattiesburg Zoo (Hattiesburg) - [hattiesburgzoo.com](http://hattiesburgzoo.com)

- INFINITY Science Center (Pearlington) - [visitinfinity.com](http://visitinfinity.com)

- Institute for Marine Mammal Studies (Gulfport) - [imms.org](http://imms.org)

- Jackson Zoological Park (Jackson) - [jacksonzoo.org](http://jacksonzoo.org)

- Lynn Meadows Discovery Center (Gulfport) - [lmdc.org](http://lmdc.org)

- McClain Lodge and Safari Tours (Brandon) - [mclain.ms](http://mclain.ms)

- Medgar Evers Home Museum (Jackson) - [civilrightstrail.com/attraction/medgar-evers-home](http://civilrightstrail.com/attraction/medgar-evers-home)

- Mississippi Agriculture and Forestry Museum (Jackson) - [msagmuseum.org](http://msagmuseum.org)

- Mississippi Braves Baseball (Pearl) - [milb.com/mississippi](http://milb.com/mississippi)

- Mississippi Children's Museum (Jackson) - [mschildrensmuseum.org](http://mschildrensmuseum.org)

- Mississippi Civil Rights Museum (Jackson) - [mcrm.mdah.ms.gov](http://mcrm.mdah.ms.gov)

- Mississippi Museum of Art (Jackson) - [msmuseumart.org](http://msmuseumart.org)

- Mississippi Museum of Natural Science (Jackson) - [mdwfp.com/museum](http://mdwfp.com/museum)

- Mississippi Petrified Forest (Flora) - [mspetrifiedforest.com](http://mspetrifiedforest.com)

- Mynelle Gardens Arboretum and Botanical Center (Jackson) - [mynelle-center.edan.io](http://mynelle-center.edan.io)

- Natchez Trace Parkway - [nps.gov/natr/index.htm](http://nps.gov/natr/index.htm)

- Ohr-O'Keefe Museum of Art (Biloxi) - [georgeohr.org](http://georgeohr.org)

- Old Capitol Museum (Jackson) - [mdah.ms.gov/oldcap](http://mdah.ms.gov/oldcap)

- Ross Barnett Reservoir (Madison and Rankin Counties) - [therez.ms.gov](http://therez.ms.gov)

- Ship Island Excursions (Gulfport) - [msshipisland.com](http://msshipisland.com)

- Tennessee Williams' Birthplace and Home (Columbus) - [pw.org/literary\\_places/tennessee\\_williams\\_birthplace](http://pw.org/literary_places/tennessee_williams_birthplace)

- Tupelo Automobile Museum (Tupelo) - [tupeloautomuseum.com](http://tupeloautomuseum.com)

- U.S.S. Cairo Gunboat and Museum (Vicksburg) - [nps.gov/vick/u-s-s-cairo-gunboat.htm](http://nps.gov/vick/u-s-s-cairo-gunboat.htm)

- Vicksburg National Military Park (Vicksburg) - [nps.gov/vick/index.htm](http://nps.gov/vick/index.htm)





# Hit the Trails at

If your kids are bored with the same old neighborhood bike routes, or if your newly-planted flower beds need a break from adventurous pedal-pushers, check out the numerous bike trails around Mississippi. Brookhaven's Mount Zion bike trail is a popular destination, not only for locals, but for biking enthusiasts across the country.

Situated just over ten minutes off I-55, Mount Zion is a quick hop off the freeway, where you can swap your car for a bike or your own two feet. At the trailhead, you'll find a covered gazebo, sitting areas, and restrooms. There's ample room to set up camp for the day and it's set far enough away from the road that parents can relax on the swings around the firepit while the kids explore the trails.

There are five trails within Mount Zion's 100 acres, each varying in length and difficulty. There's a kids' track, a beginner loop, a 10-mile race track, a perimeter loop, and an RC track with multiple features like see-saws and raised bridges. Wooden paths carry riders through the twists, turns, rises, and dips, that flow with the natural topography

of the area. Nestled along the trails are Blue Jean Alley, a grouping of hanging jeans that visitors can sign, and Boneyard Alley, decorated with deer and cattle skulls and bones. The trails weave around two small ponds on the property, and there's an old barn you can ride through on Knotthead Loop.

Johnny Smith, a Brookhaven photographer, started building this trail after his favorite biking spot was closed because of Hurricane Katrina. "With no clue as to how to build a bike trail, I began with a machete and a hoe on my free Saturdays, and chopped away until I had four miles." He, along with several friends, joined a mountain bike race series in order to check out other trails, and brought home ideas to implement at Mount Zion. It's now considered one of the top 20 biking trails in North America and is the best trail in Mississippi, according to the biking enthusiast website, Singletracks.

"It's common to see a school bus or two parked at the trailhead in the afternoons during cross-country season; several local schools train here. Also, boy scout troops from Mississippi and Louisiana spend weekends at Mount Zion earning badges, camping, and fishing. Sundays after church on fall days are wonderful. Families can bike or hike on any of the trails, though the Kids Loop and Beginner Loop seem to be the favorites. Many even picnic afterwards. Occasionally we even have birthday parties. Families are encouraged to come anytime."

Claire Snow, a Brookhaven native, brings her daughter and two dogs out to Mount Zion whenever the weather permits. "We've been coming out here for several years now. As my daughter, Eva, has gotten older, we've graduated from walking the shorter trails to the longer ones. It's nothing but you, nature, and your family out here. It's wonderful."

The trail is free! There's a donation box at the trailhead, and all the funds are used for the upkeep of the property. It's clear that it's a labor of love for the caretakers, who have made it an incredibly welcome place for everyone from the mom trying to burn off her toddler's energy to competitive mountain bikers. Trails are open dawn to dusk, and only closed when conditions are too wet. Be sure to check local weather or text 601-754-7785 before you head out.

So check your tire pressure, strap on your helmet, and start a new adventure this spring with your family at Mount Zion!

**Sarah Lowman Reynolds** is a freelance writer living in Brookhaven, MS. Visit her blog [www.SouthernFriedLove.org](http://www.SouthernFriedLove.org) to get to know her better.



 **pediatric dentistry  
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We focus on preventive care to help each child grow a healthy smile that will last a lifetime. Our office serves infants, children, teens and children with special health care needs.

[info@pediatricdentistryofbrandon.com](mailto:info@pediatricdentistryofbrandon.com)  
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# Mount Zion





# What's growing faster than our kids? Expanded pediatric services at Baptist.



Mississippi Baptist Medical Center is proud to announce the expansion of our pediatric services. Now, parents can ask their pediatrician to use Mississippi Baptist Medical Center. Our full range of pediatric services includes:

- Dedicated pediatrics unit with playroom
- Staffed by pediatric physicians 24/7
- Nurses with an average of 25 years pediatric experience
- Pediatric specialists in asthma & allergy, cardiology, endocrinology, gastroenterology, hematology, neuro muscular, otolaryngology and plastic surgery
- Other specialties coming soon



[baptistonline.org/mbmc\\_peds](http://baptistonline.org/mbmc_peds)

**Get Better.**