



# HCWA Currents

NEWS AND PUBLIC INFORMATION FOR CUSTOMERS OF THE HENRY COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY

VOLUME 21, ISSUE 1 ♦ WINTER 2021

## HCWA Celebrates a Historic Election of Officers

The Henry County Water Authority (HCWA) celebrated a historic election of officers during its January meeting, as the first woman and African American was elected to Chair the utility's policy Board, joined by the first female African American Vice Chair and a female African American Secretary, to complete the current slate of officers.

The timing of the election of HCWA officers could not have been better, coming a few weeks before the celebration of February's Black History Month and Women's History Month in March.

The HCWA Board of Directors elected Cletonya Stidom as Chair, just prior to her reappointment by Henry County Commissioner Dee Clemmons. Chair Stidom has represented District II for the last two years on the Authority Board. The HCWA election of officers also included Sandra Rozier as Vice



(L to R) A historic election of African American female officers for the HCWA Board of Directors for 2021-22 include: Siddiqia Gibson as Secretary, Cletonya Stidom as Chair, and Sandra Rozier as Vice Chair.

Chair and Siddiqia Gibson as Secretary.

Mrs. Rozier and Mrs. Gibson are newly appointed Members of the HCWA Board, representing Districts IV and V, following their appointments by Henry County Commissioners Vivian Thomas and Bruce Holmes, respectively.

Rounding out the 2021-22 HCWA Board is Jimmy Carter, Past Chair who will continue to serve District III, and Warren Holder, who will continue to represent District I.

Board Members Rozier, Gibson and Holder were sworn into office during the January meeting, while Chair Stidom and Board Member Carter were sworn in during the February meeting.

For the complete feature on this historic HCWA election of officers, as well as profiles on all HCWA Board Members, please visit our website at [www.hcwa.com](http://www.hcwa.com).

## HCWA Wins Excellence Awards for Water Distribution and Sewer Collection

The GAWP Fall Conference, held virtually over several weeks in November and December, featured statewide industry awards for water/sewer utilities to close out the year. The Henry County Water Authority (HCWA) was recognized among the best of the best in operations of both water and sewer systems in Georgia.

GAWP recognized the HCWA with the Collection System Platinum Award of Excellence as well as the Water Distribution System Platinum Award.

This past year marked the fourth consecutive year the HCWA has received the GAWP Collection System Platinum Award, which requires five consecutive years of operations at a grade of 95% or higher, as judged by fellow water professionals.



GAWP Collection System Excellence Awards recognize those utilities in Georgia that strive to continually improve their systems through proper

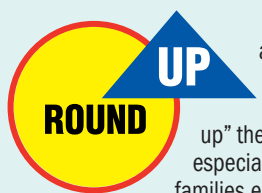
management, maintenance, and operations.

In addition, the HCWA also received the Water Distribution System Platinum Award. This award recognizes water utilities for operating in an outstanding manner, with excellence in management, operations, and maintenance of water distribution systems.

This is the second year the HCWA has received the Platinum Award for its Water Distribution System, as it represents five consecutive years of recording a grade of 95% or higher on the annual system evaluation by industry judges consisting of fellow water professionals.

For the complete feature on GAWP Awards for the HCWA, check out our website at [www.hcwa.com](http://www.hcwa.com).

### Please Consider "Rounding Up" for Charitable Assistance



Many HCWA employees and customers contribute to our Charitable Assistance Program (CAP) by "rounding up" their monthly bill. Donations are especially timely today, with many families enduring financial hardships due to the pandemic.

With your authorization, your bill will "round up" to the nearest dollar, with these extra cents going into the CAP

Fund to help local families with their monthly water/sewer bill payments.

A bill of \$26.43, for example, would round up to \$27.00, with 57 cents dedicated to the CAP. Although your contributions may be small, the rewards are tremendous!

You can sign up to round up by filling out a form located on the Charitable Assistance Program page under the Customer Care tab of our website at [www.hcwa.com](http://www.hcwa.com). Or for more information, contact us at 770-957-6659.

### "HCWA Cares" About its Community in Many Ways

The "HCWA Cares" initiative is the Authority's payroll deduction donor program benefitting selected charities, which this year are: Caring for a Cause, the Haven House, St. Jude's Children's Hospital, Henry County Cancer Services, and A Friend's House.

Other examples of how "HCWA Cares" include:

- ◆ Employees who are HCWA customers "rounding up" their bill for the Charitable Assistance Program.
- ◆ Providing Thanksgiving meals and Christmas totes/containers for residents of A Friend's House.
- ◆ Donating Christmas presents for children through the Salvation Army's Angel Tree.
- ◆ Donating Christmas presents for a family of five children who lost their mother to breast cancer.
- ◆ Sponsoring a drive-thru Christmas Party for local children in need.
- ◆ Purchasing gift cards for foster parents to provide necessities for their foster children.

For the complete "HCWA Cares" feature, please visit our website at [www.hcwa.com](http://www.hcwa.com).



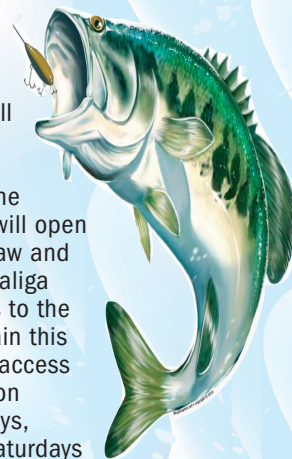
Among many acts of kindness this past holiday season, HCWA employees donated Christmas presents for children through participation in the Salvation Army's Angel Tree.

### Fishing Season Runs from March — November

The HCWA has released its 2021 Fishing Season Schedule, as local anglers will have an opportunity to enjoy fishing, boating, canoeing and kayaking, on two of the Authority's drinking water reservoirs this year.

The 2021 HCWA Fishing Season will run from March 3 – Nov. 28. The Authority will open its Tussahaw and Upper Towaliga Reservoirs to the public again this year, with access available on Wednesdays, Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. (daylight saving time).

For more information on Reservoir Use Permits, Rules and Regulations for public fishing at the HCWA, please visit our website at [www.hcwa.com](http://www.hcwa.com).





Fix a Leak Week Features Customer Appreciation

Mark your calendars for this year's Fix a Leak Week celebration, which is March 15-21, 2021. During this week, on St. Patrick's Day March 17, the HCWA also will be sponsoring a customer appreciation by giving out "pots of gold" to customers who visit the Drive Thru Window that day. (We've even added a second Drive Thru Lane for your convenience.)



Fix a Leak Week  
March 15-21

These "pots of gold" will be bags of goodies that will include a water efficiency kit, water conservation and leak detection tips, and some additional giveaways. We also will be conducting a drawing for one lucky winner to receive a free WaterSense (water saving) toilet.

Fix a Leak Week, which is a public outreach event of the U.S. EPA WaterSense Program, is an ideal time to find and fix water leaks inside and outside of your home. Household leaks waste nearly 1 trillion gallons of water annually, nationwide. You can save money on your monthly water bill if you can take care of those leaks today!

For more information on Fix a Leak Week, as well as how and where to check for household leaks, please visit our website at [www.hcwa.com](http://www.hcwa.com) or visit [www.epa.gov/watersense/fix-leak-week](http://www.epa.gov/watersense/fix-leak-week).

HCWA Announces "Imagine a Day Without Water" Art Contest Winners

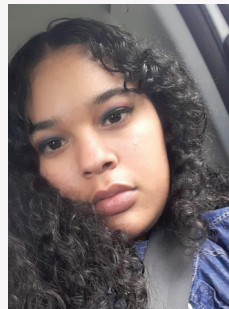
The HCWA would like to extend congratulations to the following winners of the 2020 HCWA "Imagine a Day Without Water" Art Contest:



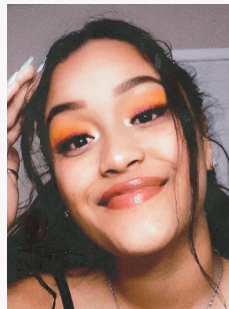
Madison Barney, winner of the K to 2nd grade division.



Jeremiah Green, winner of the 3rd to 5th grade division.



Alisha Orengo, winner of the 6th to 8th grade division.



Aracelys Santana, winner of the 9th to 12th grade division.



Rylee Nobles, winner of the People's Choice Award.

- 👉 K-2nd grade division winner – Madison Barney, 1st grader at Tussahaw Elementary School; Melvin Willis, Art Teacher.
- 👉 3rd-5th grade division winner – Jeremiah Green, 3rd grader at Dutchtown Elementary School; Denise Howard, Art Teacher.
- 👉 6th-8th grade division winner – Alisha Orengo, 8th grader at Luella Middle School; Christine Thompson, Art Teacher.
- 👉 9th-12th grade division winner – Aracelys

- Santana, 11th grader at Luella High School; Christine Thompson, Art Teacher.
- 👉 People's Choice Award – Rylee Nobles, 11th grader at Strong Rock Christian School; Cindy Ellis, Art Teacher.

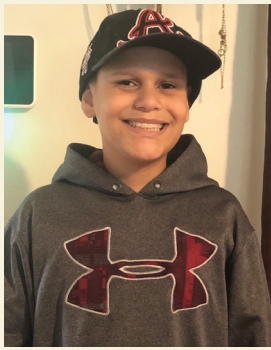
- 👉 Winner of the Teacher Drawing – Marcia Baker, Pleasant Grove Elementary School.
- Check out our photo gallery from the Art Contest, which includes images of the winning artwork, on our website at [www.hcwa.com](http://www.hcwa.com).

HCWA Announces Winners of Georgia Model Water Tower Competition

- The HCWA would like to congratulate the following winners of the 2020 Henry County, Georgia Model Water Tower Competition:
- 👉 First place prize of a \$300 gift card goes to Carter Ivey, a student of Ms. Goddard and Ms. Collier at Locust Grove Middle School, for his "Up, Up & Away" water tower. Carter also won another \$25 gift certificate for the "Most Artistic" Award.
  - 👉 Second place prize of a \$200 gift card goes to Caeden Henry, a student of Ms. Sanders at Austin Road Middle School, for his "The Pumpkin" water tower.



First Place Winner Carter Ivey.



Second Place Winner Caeden Henry.



Third Place Winner Daniella Ramos.



Winner of the Best Engineering Design Award: Abby Crowe.

- 👉 Third place prize of a \$100 gift card goes to Daniella Ramos, a student of Ms. Ellison at McDonough Middle School, for her "Sorting Hat" water tower. Daniella also won another \$25 gift certificate for the "Outside The Box Imagination" Award.
  - 👉 The "Best Engineering Design" Award and a \$25 gift certificate went to Abby Crowe, a student of Ms. Goddard and Ms. Collier at Locust Grove Middle School, for her "HCWA Tower" entry.
- Check out the photo gallery from the GA Model Water Tower Competition on our website at [www.hcwa.com](http://www.hcwa.com).

Does Your Home Make WaterSense?

WaterSense labeled appliances and fixtures make it easy for you to find and select the most water-efficient products to save money on your monthly water bill, while helping to protect natural resources through water conservation. Just look for products bearing the WaterSense label at your local retailer.



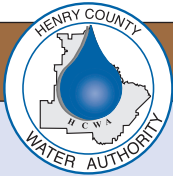
WaterSense labeled products are backed by independent, third-party certification and meet EPA's specifications for water efficiency and performance.

For more information, please visit [www.epa.gov/watersense](http://www.epa.gov/watersense).

ADMINISTRATION AND LEADERSHIP

Cletonya Stidom	Chair
Sandra Rozier	Vice Chair
Siddiqa Gibson	Secretary/Treasurer
Jimmy Carter	Member
Warren Holder	Member

Lindy D. Farmer, Jr.
General Manager
Kimberly Turner
Osborne
Clerk



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