

**HERALD  
BRIEF**

**County egg hunt set for this Saturday at library**

The Holmes County Chamber of Commerce Easter Egg Hunt will begin this Saturday, March 24 at 1 p.m. The hunt for eggs is geared toward children ages three to ten and will be held at the grounds of the Lexington Public Library.

This event is free and children should bring their own Easter baskets to hunt eggs. Parents are encouraged to bring their cameras for a fun and egg-citing day.

**Youth foundation banquet set for April 21**

The Wesley Youth Foundation in Tchula will hold its 7th Annual Scholarship/Recognition Banquet on Saturday, April 21 at 6 p.m. at the former Mileston Middle School 147, Head Start Road. Graduating students from of Holmes County will be awarded for academic achievements.

**REVIVALS**

**TRINITY M.B. CHURCH**

Trinity M.B. Church in Lexington will have its Spring Revival/Passion Week from Monday, March 26 through Wednesday, March 28 at 7 p.m.

**GALILEE TREADWELL**

Galilee Treadwell U.M.C. will hold Resurrection Revival Nights on Wednesday, March 28 and Thursday, March 29 at 7:00.

**WALDEN CHAPEL UMC**

Walden Chapel U.M.C. will be having its Passion Week Revival Services from Monday, March 26 through Wednesday, March 28 at 7:00 nightly.

**ROCK OF AGES**

The Rock of Ages Church of God in Christ in Tchula will hold its Spring Revival Services through Friday, March 23 at 7:30 p.m.

**UNION GROVE M.B.C.**

Union Grove M.B. Church in Lexington will observe Passion Week with revival services on from Monday, March 26 through Friday, March 30 at 7:00 nightly.

**Lexington, UM announce M Partner Community Partnership Accord**

*Initiative aims to leverage full range of university resources to enhance quality of life in Lexington*

By Michael Newsome  
University Communications

The city of Lexington has joined the University of Mississippi in a new venture, M Partner, a project that matches university capabilities with locally identified projects to tackle community goals and challenges.

The M Partner initiative in Lexington was announced Tuesday at a news conference in which Mayor Robin McCrory and UM Chancellor Jeffrey Vitter signed a partnership agreement.

Lexington joins Charleston and New Albany as pilot

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University of Mississippi Chancellor Jeffrey Vitter (pictured left) and Lexington Mayor Robin McCrory sign the M Partner agreement at Tuesday's press conference at Lexington City Hall. (Photo by Matthew Breazeale)

**Hearing for robbery suspect continued to April 6, interview video questioned**

By Matthew Breazeale

A seventeen-year-old boy appeared before Durant Municipal Judge Jim Arnold during a preliminary hearing on Friday, March 16, facing two counts of armed robbery, a felony, at Dollar General, attempt to commit robbery at Family Dollar and also felony taking of a vehicle at Dollar General.

Haymon was represented by Assistant Public Defender Adrienne Wooten.

Holmes County Prosecut-



OTARIUS HAYMON

ing Attorney Chuck Edwards filled in for Durant Prosecuting Attorney Tina Herron, who was unavailable.

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**New health rankings show Rankin on top, Holmes on bottom**

Mississippi Today

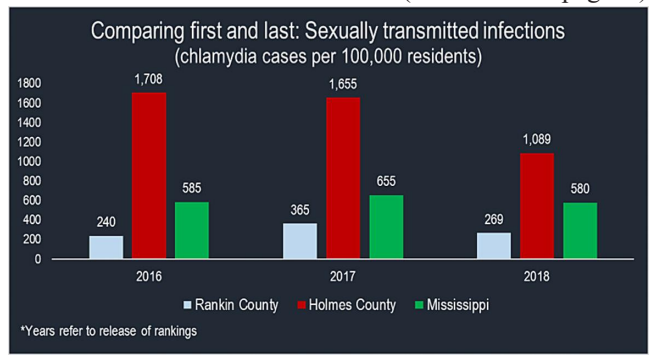
By Alex Rozier

New health data released today reinforces an all too familiar narrative of the counties in Mississippi: Those in the Delta struggle, while the affluent communities remain

on top.

The County Health Rankings, a system that uses a variety of statistics to measure health factors and outcomes, listed Rankin as the healthiest county (unseating

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**Parents oppose school restructure, April 15 deadline to keep teachers**

By Matthew Breazeale

Parents and stakeholders of Durant Public School District were on hand at the March 8 board meeting of the Holmes County Consolidated School District to vent their frustrations about a recent decision to move students.

The board made a decision to bus high school students, grades 9th through 12th, from Durant to attend at Holmes County Central High School in Lexington.

Current board members of the consolidated school board are Glennie Carlisle, consultant, Dr. Angel Meeks, interim superintendent, William Dean, Jr., Rayford Horton, April Jones, secretary, Louise Winter, vice-president, and Anthony Anderson, president.

Dean and Carlisle were not present at the March 8 meeting.

During the public comments portion of the meeting the board heard from those upset by the restructure.

Anderson had announced to those present that public comments were limited to three minutes for each speaker.

David Creamer, from Durant first addressed the board.

"I was informed that not only is the (Holmes County) school board to consolidate," said Creamer, "but also bus the (Durant High School) students to Holmes Central (High School in Lexington). The bill stated that the new consolidated district could have as many schools as it wanted to. What is the objective of bringing the students from Durant to Holmes Central, anyone?"

Anderson replied that the public comments portion of the meeting was not a question and answer session.

"When it was voted on was it discussed then?" Creamer asked.

Creamer continued "We are paying taxes and that school should remain open."

Denita Dawson, current school board member in Durant and whose grandchildren attend Durant, addressed the board.



DAVID CREAMER



DENITA DAWSON



TASHA DAVIS



SHERRI REEVES



ANTHONY ANDERSON

"These kids lives are already going to be disrupted," said Dawson, "A lot of them are scared and don't want to

come over here. Durant High for years has accommodated K through 12...We understand that we're going to be Holmes County Schools, but my plea tonight is to please reconsider and leave our children at home.

"Y'all have made the decision for ninth through twelfth to come over here" Dawson continued. "These kids are going to be terrified. They're going to have to fight and I know this to be a fact. Years ago when I moved to Durant my kids had to fight. These schools have been rivals for years. It's not stopping just because (of consolidation)."

Tasha Davis, former Durant mayor and whose children attend Durant, was present.

"I'm very displeased at this moment because I requested to be placed on the board agenda," said Davis. "I went through the proper procedure and I went through the proper steps. Yet, I was advised, first, by the superintendent's secretary that it wasn't a regular board meeting, so I couldn't be placed on the agenda. Found that to be false. The I talked to the board president, he advised me, that they weren't making any decisions at this time. Well, I found that to be false. Because as of now, there's a policy in place that moves our kids grade nine through twelve, to Lexington, beginning in August.

"My question is, and I know you all are not going to answer me because you would not allow me to be placed on the agenda, I feel that's not being fair to me as a parent. If you all are big and bold enough to make these decisions, I feel that you should be big and bold enough to answer for them. What is the plan? I want to know the plan! I have an eighth grader and a senior next year. I need to know the plan!

"You all told me that I had to come before public comment and I don't feel it's fair...you're just sitting up there looking at me and I feel out of place," said Davis.

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<b>Thursday</b> Sunny 67/48 Precip. Chance 10%	<b>Friday</b> Partly Cloudy 72/54 Precip. Chance 0%	<b>Saturday</b> Cloudy 78/61 Precip. Chance 10%	<b>Sunday</b> Cloudy 78/62 Precip. Chance 20%	<b>Monday</b> P.M. Showers 78/60 Precip. Chance 50%	<b>Tuesday</b> Showers 72/59 Precip. Chance 50%	<b>Wednesday</b> Showers 73/59 Precip. Chance 50%

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