

New superintendent heralds building of a new high school

By Matthew Breazeale

The incoming superintendent for the Holmes County Consolidated School District was presented to a crowd of district staff, administrators and stakeholders during a meet and greet event on Thursday, May 24 in the Holmes County Central High School gymnasium.

Dr. James Henderson, who officially takes office on July 1, energized attendees while speaking on the future of the district.

"I'm determined to turn this district around," said Henderson. "...It will be done but I am not God. It's going to take you. You. You," Henderson continued while mo-

tioning to the crowd.

Henderson said he is prepared to go on a listening and learning tour.

Several changes and improvements were listed by the Holmes native that he proposed to implement for the district including improving teacher recruitment and salaries, offering a "gifted and talented magnet academy, a school with in a school," enacting Spanish instruction for grades K-12 and the building of a new high school.

"It has to happen," said Henderson, "the science lab (Continued on page 12.)



Williams-Sullivan School Principal Dr. Shem Whigham (pictured front center) speaks with Dr. James Henderson (pictured left) during Thursday's meet and greet event. Henderson took time to meet with all in attendance at the Holmes County Central High School gymnasium with many school district staff, administrators and stakeholders present. Henderson proposed many upcoming changes to the county's sole public school district including the building of a new high school and the instruction of Spanish through K-12. (Photo by Matthew Breazeale)

Vacation Bible School Held at Lexington FBC



Lexington First Baptist Church held Vacation Bible School recently for area youth at the church. Pictured above are Kate Riley, Natalie Winstead, Anna Duke and Francie Smith. See more photos on page 8. (Photo submitted)

County bridges remain closed amid lawmakers' slow progress

Staff Reports

Eight bridges of the 128 throughout Holmes County are currently listed on the Mississippi Office of State Aid Road Construction web site as closed to thru traffic.

The sub-structures of each bridge are the worst rated components for each listing.

The issue of closing bridges to traffic statewide stems from legislators not being able to agree on long term plans to put more money into improving highways and bridges.

Last week a Mississippi

judge said he would not order Governor Phil Bryant to reopen local bridges in Jasper and Smith Counties that are in poor condition, according to the Associated Press.

Supervisors in those counties filed a lawsuit May 2, saying Bryant "overstepped his authority," said the AP. The suit asked a judge to block the governor's action.

Bridges closed in Holmes County are: Yazoo Street at tributary to Big Black River; Springhill Road at tributary to Cypress Creek; Webster

Creek Road at branch of Big Cypress Creek; Eulogy Road at Harland Creek; Kimbrough Road at Long Creek; Howard Road at Owens Branch; Rayner Road at Black Creek; and Harrison Road at Tarrey Creek.

The list was last updated on Monday, May 21.

The three lowest rated bridges for sufficiency ratings are Howard Road, 21.5; Kimbrough Road, 24.5; and Eulogy Road, 28.2, according to the state listings.

The Eulogy Road bridge (Continued on page 4.)



The bridge on Howard Road at Owens Branch is listed as the most structurally unsound according to the Mississippi Office of State Aid Road Construction web site. The bridge is picture above, not long after it was closed in early 2017. (Photo by Matthew Breazeale)

Veggie Vendors Set for June 8 Market Day



Market Day is set for Lexington's Farmers Market on Friday, June 8 at the Multi-Purpose Building, according to Market Manager Algenia Adams. Market Day will be from 7 a.m. to noon with vendors on hand offering cabbages, rutabagas, onions, tomatoes, cucumbers and more. Pictured above, Anthony Day (at left) purchases squash from a vendor with Tucker Farms in Vaiden during the farmer's market in 2016. (Photo by Matthew Breazeale)

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20%



Sunday
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80/68
Precip. Chance
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Monday
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Tuesday
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Wednesday
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