LEXINGTON

BY LEONA (LENA) FIELDS

County Chapter of the Al- sive Outpatient Program. Oh corn Alumni held their an- boy! Fun, fun! The social nual picnic at the Holmes worker lottery tickets were County State Park. Their given. Games were played, Alumni along with people One game was cornhole they invited had an enjoy- baseball. To play this game, able time before it started to we had to pitch small bean rain. They had fun games, bags through a board with trivia and prizes were given holes. The holes 1st base, for Bingo and the trivia ques- 2nd base, 3rd base, hometions. They had prizes people run and grad slam. We also could actually use; not just sang a song. Then we played look at. I managed to win guessing games and did Bitwo of the prizes. They had ble trivia. Our snacks were plenty of food. The guy that popcorn, peanuts and candy. grilled the meat was a superb The menu was hamburgers grill master. A few minutes or hotdogs, chips, a homebefore they loaded their made dip, cake and pops. trucks and cars to go home, The Senior Citizens Feeding it started sprinkling rain. We Program was closed Thurssaid God kept the rain until day for picnic. It was also the picnic was over.

On Tuesday, June 12, the Mr. Paul Edward's funeral. Senior Citizen Feeding Pro- Elder the same day.

Program attendees went to 16. a picnic/barbeque given by

On June 9, the Holmes County Senior Adult Intenclosed Friday so we could

Leslie gram attendees at the Multi- passed. Keep the Benson Purpose Building in Lexing- family on your prayer list. ton celebrated five birthdays Elder Benson pastored the in a joint party. The June St. James C.O.G.I.C. for birthdays were Perrine Ar- many, many years. He was cher, Bessie Brown, Mary a Salt Council Member of Wesley, Coy Henderson and the Holmes County TRIAD. Leona Fields, this writer. By profession, he was an Last Year Mr. Henderson and elementary school teacher. I found out we were born on He retired from teaching at L.E.S. now William Dean On Thursday, June 14, Elementary School. He was the Senior citizens Feeding funeralized Saturday, June

Terry Bigbee passed rethe University of Mississippi cently. He worked at the



Department. Keep the Bigbee family uplifted in prayer.

Fred Horton of Tchula was carried to one of the hospitals in Jackson on Monday, June 11. He is in the rehab in Yazoo City. His mother Mrs. Katie Horton went to the doctor Tuesday, June 12. Pray for Fred and his mother. Her health is not A-one.

Thank God Emma Carnegie is able to drive a short distance after her wreck. Pray that she does not move around too early after the ac-

Keep Ternishia March in prayer as she had a death in her family recently. That's why she missed the Alcorn picnic.

Mary Reed's son was at home second Sunday week-

Mr. Mack Anderson eats at the Senior Citizen Feeding Program. While we were at the UMMC picnic/barbeque, we found out Mack has been a professional baseball player. He is a Vietnam War veteran. He gets around in a wheelchair. He has part of one leg off. We made pictures with him.

One of Lee Arthur Cox's brothers passed. Pray for the Cox family.

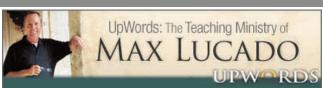
Remember the Farmer's Market is open on Friday

procurement funding, the bill would help remove uncertainty from the defense industrial base and ultimately save taxpayer dollars.

Naval readiness. The bill would take steps to prevent accidents like those involving the USS John S. McCain and USS Fitzgerald in the Pacific last year, which took the lives of 17 American sailors. The bill would adopt provisions from the "Surface Warfare Enhancement Act," which I authored with Sen. John McCain and which calls for the implementation of better maintenance, training, and management, just as the Navy recommended after its investigations of the col-

Guard and Reserve parity. Our nation continues to ask more of our National Guard and Reserve, yet these service members do not have all of the same benefits as those in our military's active-duty components. The defense bill would correct two of the remaining gaps, by offering bonuses for Guardsmen and Reservists who deploy frequently and protecting federal civilian workers from pay reductions

because of their deployment. More Junior ROTC programs. As a former ROTC cadet, I can attest to the benefits these programs offer young people during a formative time in their lives. Participation in Juwill face in the future.



The Beggar and the Bread

A beggar came and sat before me. "I want bread," he

"How wise you are," I assured him. "Bread is what you need. And you have come to the right bakery." So I pulled my cookbook down from my shelf and began to tell him all I knew about

I spoke of flour and wheat, of grain and barley. My knowledge impressed even me as I cited the measurements and recipe. When I looked up, I was surprised to see he wasn't smiling. "I just want bread," he said.

"How wise you are." I applauded his choice. "Follow me, and I'll show you our bakery." Down the hallowed halls I guided him, pausing to point out the rooms where the dough is prepared and the ovens where the bread is baked.

"No one has such facilities. We have bread for everv need. But here is the best part," I proclaimed as I pushed open two swinging doors. "This is our room of inspiration." I knew he was moved as we stepped into the auditorium full of stained-glass windows.

The beggar didn't speak. I understood his silence. With my arm around his shoulder, I whispered, "It overwhelms me as well." I then leaped to the podium and struck my favorite pose behind the lectern. "People come from miles to hear me speak. Once a week my workers gather, and I read to them the recipe

from the cookbook of life." By now the beggar had taken a seat on the front row. I knew what he wanted. "Would you like to hear

"No," he said, "but I would like some bread."

nior ROTC at high schools has been linked with higher graduation rates and a lifelong dedication to service and leadership. The defense bill includes my provision to add 100 Junior ROTC programs, giving more high school students in rural and underserved areas the chance to participate.

Mississippi is a valued contributor to our military, home to strong defense manufacturers and many men and women who volunteer to serve. The new defense bill would strengthen those contributions, recognizing that the strategic steps we take now are essential to keeping our nation safe and our troops prepared for the many challenges and threats we

"How wise you are," I replied. And I led him to the front door of the bakery. "What I have to say next is very important," I told him as we stood outside. "Up and down this street you will find many bakeries. But take heed; they don't serve the true bread. I know of one who adds two spoons of salt rather than one. I know of another whose oven is and downs of everyday life. three degrees too hot. They may call it bread," I warned, "but it's not according to the

The beggar turned and began walking away. "Don't you want bread?" I asked

He stopped, looked back at me, and shrugged, "I guess I lost my appetite."

I shook my head and returned to my office. "What a shame," I said to myself. "The world just isn't hungry



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for true bread anymore."

I don't know what is more incredible: that God packages the bread of life in the wrapper of a country carpenter or that he gives us the keys to the delivery truck. Both moves seem pretty risky. The carpenter did his part, however. And who knows -- we may just learn to do ours.

Read more from A Gentle Thunder.

Listen to UpWords with Max Lucado at OnePlace.

UpWords, with Max Lucado is a popular daily Bible devotion. This Max Lucado devotional offers wisdom and insight for applying Biblical truths to the ups Reading daily devotions provides strength and encouragement in your daily walk with Jesus Christ.

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HOLMES COUNTY **HERALD**

Periodicals postage paid at Lexington, Mississippi by Holmes County Herald, Lexington, Mississippi. POSTMASTER:

address changes to: Holmes County Herald, P.O. Box 60, Lexington, MS 39095. Published each Thursday at 308 Court Square, Lexington, MS 39095. Telephone 662-834-1151; Fax 662-834-1074; Email hcherald@ gmail.com; Website www. holmescountyherald.com Matthew Breazeale....Editor Julie Ellison...Gen. Manager SUBSCRIPTION RATES In Holmes County - \$35.00

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THE WICKER REPORT By: United States Senator Roger Wicker

Wicker Looks Toward Wins in Defense Bill

Passage Would Signal Strong Support for Fleet Buildup, Readiness

act is one of the most conse- move the defense bill forquential bills that Congress ward. Passage of the bill considers each year. The bill would add to the bipartisan sets forth a comprehensive tradition that has pushed the plan to meet our military's bill across the finish line for needs and to keep our na- nearly six decades. Congress tion safe. Working on this is sending the President a legislation is one of my re- thoughtful and coordinated sponsibilities as a member of plan to reinvigorate our milithe Senate Armed Services tary and maintain its status Committee. As chairman of as the most capable fighting the Seapower Subcommit- force in the world. Part of tee, I am particularly en- the plan would also include gaged with the protection a significant pay raise for our and the promotion of our na- service members – the largtion's maritime interests.

This year's bill would reverse some of the damage visions in this year's bill to caused by the defense bud- advance our defense stratget cuts of the Obama Ad- egy and support the role that ministration. The bill would Mississippi plays in our naincrease defense funding to tional defense. These provi-\$716 billion, in keeping with sions would help achieve: the budget agreement signed by President Trump earlier bill would accelerate the this year. It also follows the buildup of our naval fleet advice of the National De- with the authorization of \$23 fense Strategy authored by billion for shipbuilding, in-Defense Secretary James cluding the construction of Mattis. That strategy seeks to 11 new ships. The pursuit of preserve America's military a 355-ship fleet became our superiority amid the growing national policy with the pas-

The defense authorization Congress is working to est in nine years.

I championed several pro-

Maritime strength. The influence of China and Rus- sage of my "SHIPS Act" last year. In supporting advanced