

# Getting Armed with Information



United States Air Force recruiter and Technical Sergeant Damian Bumm (at right) explains to Holmes County Central High School senior students Kyelah Chambers (at left) and Aniyah Haymore, the benefits of joining the air force during the Holmes County Consolidated School District's College and Career Fair on Tuesday, March 19. See more photos from the event in this week's paper on page 8!

(Photo by Matthew Breazeale)

## Send in your news!

The Holmes County Herald welcomes reader submissions for news, events and photos for publication in our weekly newspaper. To submit items, email to:

[hcherald@gmail.com](mailto:hcherald@gmail.com)

Please include all pertinent details, dates, location, name of the event or occasion, all associated people, organizations or groups, reason for event or occasion and **NAMES OF ALL PEOPLE PICTURED IN ANY PHOTOGRAPH.**

We look forward to hearing from you!

-Holmes County Herald Staff

## Political advertising available in the *Herald* for 2019 elections

All political advertising/announcements are on a first come, first serve basis.

All advertising must be paid in full before being published in the Holmes County Herald.

- \$200 - Page One political announcement (one run only):
  - 400 words with picture
  - 500 words no picture
- \$300 - Page One top banner - must run minimum four times
- \$5/week for name only listing in political strip
- All other advertising at local rates. Call 662-834-1151 for more information.

**DEADLINE TO SUBMIT ALL CONTENT FOR ADS IS FRIDAY BY 5 P.M. FOR THE FOLLOWING WEEK'S PAPER.**



### \*SOTC Address

(Continued from page 1.) project resolved.

“At our lift station and lagoon we received substantial damage so with the help of MEMA and FEMA we were able to rework and replace some of our components from the Storm. This was a total of \$42,350.00. As of this date we have reimbursed and have completed paying this invoice.

“During the tornado our substation received major damage. Entergy came in and analyzed our system and along with Kosciusko, Greenwood and the city of Durant employees had the majority of the city back with power in about a week. The total cost of this project was initially tagged at \$1,000,000. But through reconciliation, Entergy adjusted this cost to approximately \$500,000. I can say that on February 26, 2019, we received a payment from MEMA and FEMA in the amount of \$204,339.11,” Robinson continued. “With the tornados that hit Alabama and the flooding we’ve experienced recently in other parts of the state, we have been placed on hold again, but we remain persistent in recouping monies from FEMA and MEMA.”

Durant buildings that also were damaged during the same storms including Durant Library, city hall, Ameripride, city barn and the former city hall, are nearly repaired or are in the process

of being repaired. “We met with library officials and our goal is to finish making final repairs by June 2019 to have the library 100% operational,” said Robinson.

An estimated date of completion for renovations being done on the former train depot was also given.

“Since 2009 Mrs. Sharon Cauthen and Mrs. Geraldine Sturgis along with the Historical Preservation Committee have spearheaded the work at the depot,” Roberson said. “We are happy to announce that after 10 years, this project is slated for completion in September 2019. This project has a cost estimate of \$750,000. We have been blessed to received grants and assistance from North Central Planning, Mississippi Department of Transportation and others.”

Other funds granted to Durant include “a major infrastructure project, the city of Durant was awarded \$2,135,866.00 in low interest loans and \$3,864,134.00 in grants for a total of \$6,000,000.00. This project is an improvement grant to improve our sewer system,” said Robinson. “This project is slated for completion in October 2019. We ask that (citizens) be patient with this project. We hear you and know that this has created rougher rides, dust and other problems, but once the project is completed, Hemphill Construction will repave the areas where they worked.”

Robinson’s comprehensive list also highlighted the downtown striping and repaving on Depot Street, “at a total cost of approximately \$93,000.00, the (Holmes County) board of supervisors agreed to pay half the cost,” said Robinson; the Blue Cross Blue Shield Healthy Hometown Heroes Grant, \$25,000.00 for the “purchase playground equipment/fitness equipment to be installed in Browne Park, Bankhead Park and the playground on Martin Luther King,” Robinson added; and the “Mississippi Delta Health Alliance Grant, \$3,500.00... to appoint a health coordinator who will help us to document the health activities we conduct here in the city.”

Other issues Robinson announced, “In the coming months I plan on asking the board (of aldermen) to reconsider annexation, the demolition of Durant Electric downtown, and we will aggressively clean city property and will continue to work with our constituents in eradicating abandoned properties and improving the overall cleanliness of the city in order to move forward. Ladies and gentlemen, we can no longer be complacent with being just pretty good, we must always strive to make improvements to every facet.

“We have received in excess of \$20,000,000 in assistance and grants,” said Robinson, “since 2017 and we assure the best is yet to come.”



Durant Mayor Henry Robinson (pictured at podium) gives the first state of the city address of his administration, lauding over \$20,000,000 in grants and funding assistance on a myriad of projects and town improvement. The address was given to a full house at Durant’s newly completed senior citizen building on Depot Street, on Thursday, March 14. (Photo by Matthew Breazeale)

### \*Dave Says

(Continued from page 4.) emergency fund at the debt. Both of you can also pile up cash between now and the big day, so that when you’re “official” you’ll have even more cash on hand.

Congratulations, and may God bless your lives together!

Dave

#### Length of coverage?

Dear Dave,  
My husband and I are 24, we’re debt-free, and we’re just a few weeks of saving away from having a fully-

funded emergency fund. Each of us has a 401(k) plan at work, and right now we’re concentrating on life insurance purchases. You always recommend term insurance, but how long should the coverage last?

Jenny

Dear Jenny,  
Congratulations on being super smart with your money! It sounds like you two are starting out on the right foot.

Generally, I recommend 15- or 20-year level term policies—unless you have children. Since you didn’t

mention any kids, I can only assume they’re not in the picture at this point. However, if you two decide to grow your family in the future, I’d advise converting those to 30-year term policies. You’ll want the insurance there to protect everyone in the family, until the kids are grown and out on their own. In the years after, continued saving and wealth building will lead you to a point where you’re both self-insured.

You two have done an excellent job with your finances. Keep up the good work!  
—Dave