

IN AND AROUND  
LEXINGTON

BY LEONA (LENA) FIELDS



The Holmes County TRIAD met Wednesday, April 3 at 10 a.m. in the Multi-Purpose Building in Lexington. The sheriff gave information on the schools and gave the crime update. Sheriff March also had met with the Holmes County Consolidated School superintendent. Baseball teams are to be organized to give area kids something to do. School will be opened this summer for all children. The sheriff also discussed the bus shooting incident. He said the bullet went in the bus under a window. It's still not known who did the shooting.

Over 200 people came for the March 27 TRIAD fish fry. If over 200 people can come to a fish fry, over 200 people can attend a regular TRIAD meeting. Seniors, TRIAD gives a lot of helpful information. So join the crowd and attend the monthly meeting. The sheriff and others are making plans now for the annual TRIAD luncheon.

A shooting was on Beall (Yazoo) Street. Just so happened Mrs. Mary McGee was out of her car, as the bullet hit her car. Also there was another shooting in town; however, I was unable to get any information on that.

You can be given 30 days in jail if you choose not to work off your fine. The judge can sentence you. According to Sheriff March, judges should not hide behind the law, but let it work.

Law enforcement officials were in Pickens looking for an armed robber. They entered one house and found a lady smoking marijuana with her children in the house.

A truant officer will contact parents if a child misses ten days from school without a legal excuse. The parent

can be carried to jail. So parents, please keep your child/children in school every day. Also, assaulting a teacher is a felony as bullying is a problem in the schools.

If anyone calls the schools with a threat they will be charged with a terror threat not a bomb threat, which means more jail time.

Jannie Pearl Richmond, a former Holmes Countian, had open heart surgery in Iowa. One of her cousins said when she woke up from the surgery she wanted something to eat. I pray that is a sign that she will get back to good health.

**Intended for the week of April 4:**

Mertis Anderson passed recently. She was a retired teacher and central officer worker. Keep the Anderson family uplifted in prayer.

Mr. Joe Russell passed recently. He worked for Fleetwood a long time. His last job was school janitor at Mileston Middle School. Keep the Russell family uplifted in prayer.

Mr. Charles Wren of Tchula had a son to pass recently. He will be brought home for burial. I don't know where he lived. Keep the Wren family on your prayer list.

Prayers for all housebound, nursing home and sick people wherever they might be. People can be gone before we realize it. When they are gone it's too late to do good things for them. I'm sending a special thank you to Mr. Lee Henry Wright and others who stayed in contact with me during the loss of my mother. I haven't heard from Mr. William Wright in a few weeks. The last I heard he was back in a hospital. Pray for him.

To get your news in this column call 662-834-1489.

Card of  
Thanks

I would like to thank the people who kept my family in prayer during the illness and death of my mother Rachel Kee. Thank you for all the visits, phone calls, donations, food and for attending the services, etc. May God bless you.

Leona Fields and  
The Kee Family

**Lexington native inducted to Phi Kappa Phi**

Sherese Redmond of Lexington was recently initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society. Redmond was initiated at Jackson State University.

Redmond is among approximately 30,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

Phi Kappa Phi was founded in 1897, the society has chapters on more than 300 campuses in the United States and the Philippines. Its mission is "To recognize and promote academic excellence in all fields of high-

**Learning center receives government funds to combat discrimination**

**Press Release**

United States Representative Bennie G. Thompson (D-MS) announced on Monday, April 8, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) through the Fair Housing Initiatives Program (FHIP) has awarded \$125,000 to Community Students Learning Center located in Lexington.

These funds will provide direct assistance to individuals who feel they have been discriminated against while attempting to purchase or rent housing, FHIP also has initiatives that promote fair housing laws and equal housing opportunity awareness.

**Mississippi teacher group eyeing protest asks about walkout**

**Associated Press**

One of Mississippi's state-wide teacher organizations asked supporters Thursday if they're interested in protests over teacher pay and Republican education policies, even asking about an indefinite "walkout."

The Mississippi Association of Educators, the state affiliate of the National Education Association, posted the survey Thursday online. President Joyce Helmick said the organization has heard strongly from teachers since the 2019 regular session of the Legislature adjourned that they're angry over lawmakers' decision to provide only a \$1,500 raise to teachers beginning July 1. Helmick said teachers were also angered because Republican Lt. Gov. Tate Reeves pushed lawmakers to spend \$2 million more to subsidize private school tuition for special education students, with many lawmakers not discovering the spending until after they voted to pass the bill.

"The educators and the citizens are really upset," Helmick said. "You can tell they're upset and they're calling for action."

The survey asks about support for possible actions including a rally at the state Capitol on a Saturday, after-work picketing, campaigning for candidates, and boycotting business that donate to "anti-public education candidates." The survey also

er education and to engage the community of scholars in service to others."

asks about a one-day sickout and whether teachers could "walkout on a specific day and refuse to return for an indefinite amount of time." Helmick said that's a synonym for a strike.

Mississippi has had only one significant teacher strike, in 1985, and as part of a deal giving teachers a \$4,400 pay raise over three years, lawmakers wrote stringent language outlawing any future strikes.

Teacher groups can be fined \$20,000 a day for disobeying a court order against a walkout. Striking teachers are supposed to permanently be barred from public school teaching unless a court reinstates them because of "public necessity." Local school boards are barred from closing schools during a strike "as long as practicable" and are required to report names of strikers to the attorney general. For violations, school board members can be convicted of misdemeanors and fined up to \$250 a day.

"MAE is not putting in there that we are going to strike," Helmick said, although she said teachers should be legally able to strike.

Helmick's group has 7,000 members, of whom 5,000 are teachers and full-time school employees. It's

the second-largest teachers group in the state, behind the 13,500-member Mississippi Professional Educators, which has no union ties. The executive director of the larger group, Kelly Riley, described dissatisfaction with the raise and the "sneaky and underhanded" insertion of the \$2 million as "a nuclear bomb for teachers."

"I have never seen our members as engaged and frustrated," Riley said, adding she's been deluged with emails, phone calls and texts.

Riley said her group isn't coordinating with MAE or the small state chapter of the American Federation of Teachers. She said members would have to make their own decisions about strikes, but warned that officials would use the anti-strike law to crack down.

"I think anything illegal is going to be met with the statutory response by state policy leaders," Riley said.

Riley said she said she supports legal protest actions, and said her members will hold lawmakers accountable in August or November. However, in many cases, teachers could arrive to the polls and find no one is running against disfavored candidates. At least 22 state senators and 53 state House members face no major-party opposition for election.

**Harland Creek  
Community Water Association**

**will have its annual meeting  
Monday, April 15, 2019, 7:00 P.M.  
in the Coxburg Community Center.**

**Sweethome Water & Sewer District  
Board of Commissioners**

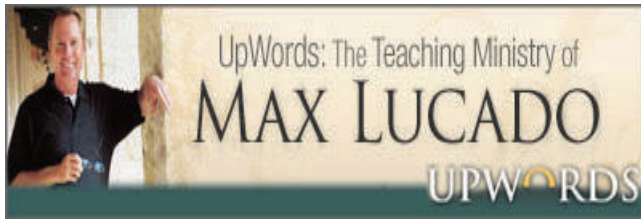
**will hold their**

**Annual Membership Meeting  
Tuesday, April 16, 2019 @ 5:00 p.m.  
at 201 Spring Street, Lexington**

**All members are encouraged to attend.  
All personal matters should be addressed at  
regular Board Meetings held the 1st Monday  
of every month at 6:00 p.m. at the  
Business Office  
at 201 Spring Street in Lexington.**

**Robert Seals - Chairman  
Peggy Mayfield - Vice Chairman  
Mary Archer - Secretary  
Austry Kirklin - Commissioner**

**"Working together for a Better Sweethome"**



**He Makes a Difference**

We get what sin is. But, what we struggle with is how to make up for it?

To put it simply—we're not good enough!

If I lose my temper in traffic, can I make up for it by waving at the next four cars? If I'm greedy one year, how many years should I be generous?

The truth is, I don't know the answer to those questions. There's no price list. No rule sheet. Is God some kind of heavenly deal broker who sells packages of grace? Is that the kind of God we have? Is that the kind God we want? Actually, God's standard is much higher.

Romans 3:23 says, we fall

short of the glory of God. Way short! We're not good enough—but He is!

It's Christ in us that makes the difference!

Copyright (W Publishing Group, 2003) Max Lucado.

Listen to UpWords with Max Lucado at OnePlace.com.

*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 and downs of everyday life.*

*Reading daily devotions provides strength and encouragement in your daily walk with Jesus Christ.*

*Used by permission.*