

# LETTER TO THE EDITOR



Dear Editor,

It is spring time. It is time to do some spring cleaning in our towns and county. It is time for our city leaders to make Durant do some spring cleaning around town. Get property owners to fix up or clean up around their property. The city should clean up the Liberty Garden, cut the crepe myrtle trees or trim them up and put some flowers in the flower beds. I think red, white and blue periwinkles. The city should put up a sign on the gazebo to keep people from loitering, \$500 fine.

It's nice to see the new building on south Depot Street. It would be very nice, if they would open the train station. It is time to finish the work. I am hoping the crew would come back and redo the streets, clean out the side ditches, fix our driveways, walkways, and my fence they knocked up.

My opinion on the census, we should want to fill it out, it is not hard. They just want to know how many live in your house, The census is very important, it helps the counties get money for the towns' and county's needs. It helps with schools, roads and storm damages. In order to get the one billion everyone in the county and towns need to fill out the census. One billion for twelve months or a year and 20 billion for the next ten years. Just think if Holmes County could have one billion dollars for twelve months, Durant could get all the streets done right, get a supermarket, another drug store, build some family homes, build a shelter for homeless people, bring in new businesses to the industrial park on the Interstate 55. I am thinking it would put Holmes County on the map and we won't be the poorest county in the nation.

I am challenging all of the supervisors to challenge the mayors in their district. The mayors to challenge the aldermen in their towns to get a count of all of the people in their wards that have not filled out the census. This is my idea, the supervisors, mayors and aldermen want to know how many have filled out the census. The aldermen can report to the mayors, the mayors to the supervisors. This way everyone is counted and Holmes County could get 20 billion dollars for the next 10 years. At city hall, there could be a large thermometer in the lobby with all wards on it. Each aldermen would have the number of census forms completed in each ward. At the top of the thermometer, would be how many people in town have filled out the

census. If Durant has 3,000 people, that would be at the top of the thermometer, that has filled out the census. The counties need all of the businesses in there district to support the census. They did not do that in Durant in 2010. I hope everyone will fill out the census, Holmes County needs the money.

On the coronavirus, when I heard about the coronavirus in China, I said it was coming to America if it was in China. I don't think anyone thought it would spread across America in that short time. I don't think the president thought the coronavirus would get out of hand. Some people say President Trump thought it was a hoax. People have criticized and thrown him under the bus; and took his statements and twisted them. I think it is a shame. I feel like the president stepped up to the plate. He got companies to do their part. I think if Hillary was president, she probably would be sitting in the White House crying because she would have a hard time getting companies to work with her. Those companies probably would rip America off. I feel the coronavirus is calling the shots or running the show. It is unpredictable. What President Trump or others say today, tomorrow it's a different story. The head doctor has changed some statements he said earlier. I think the leaders should let the coronavirus run its course. President Trump should stop saying when the country is going back to work. I know some people are ready to go back to work and need to go to work.

My heroes are the truckers. They are the ones keeping America open, keeping America moving. I thank all the truckers in America. I pray for other workers out there.

Everyone knows President Trump has his own language. He says what rolls off the top of his head.

The citizens of Lexington should be proud of Mayor Robin. She is doing her job, what I hear. I heard her on the radio talking about the coronavirus and what her office is doing in Lexington. Finding out why the businesses are jacking up prices in Lexington and Durant. It is a shame the businesses in Durant and Lexington are ripping us off, jacking up the prices. We are loyal customers, we cannot go out of town to shop. There are businesses helping their customers like Walmart. Walmart donated 25 million dollars, other businesses are lowering the prices on gas, 99 cents a gallon and giving away free food. There

# MSU faculty use 3D printers to produce face shields for Meridian medical personnel

## Mississippi State University

With personal protective equipment in short supply nationwide, a team of engineers and researchers at Mississippi State University is turning to an unlikely combination of 3D printers and office supplies to aid medical personnel tackling COVID-19.

The team, led by faculty from MSU's Bagley College of Engineering and researchers at the university's Center for Advanced Vehicular Systems, is producing face shields by combining 3D-printed head bands with transparent plastic sheets and elastic bands generally found at office supply stores.

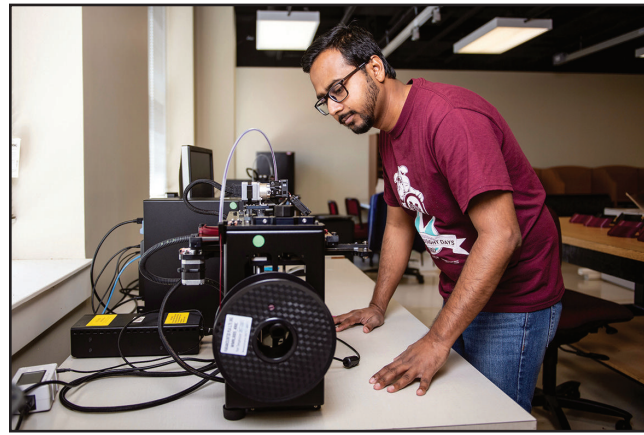
The head band for each face shield takes approximately two and a half hours to print. Using 10 different 3D printers, the team is producing approximately 250 shields per week using polylactic acid filament. The first batch was donated this week with over 100 going to both Rush Foundation Hospital and Anderson Regional Medical Center in Meridian, where they are being used by medical professionals caring for patients with coronavirus.

"We are in complete awe of the outpouring of support and donations we've received from residents and community businesses," said Rush Health Systems Chief Executive Officer Larkin Kennedy. "The donation of these face masks from Mississippi State University helps ensure our front-line staff remains safe while caring for patients."

Face shields are generally used in conjunction with surgical masks and protect the eyes, nose and mouth from splashes and sprays. The MSU team developed two prototypes before working

are people also doing acts of kindness. I have had strangers to be kind to me, by giving me money or paying for what I got, what a blessing. I think we all can be kind when we go through a drive-thru with the people at the windows.

I am very disappointed with the bank in Durant. We are loyal customers at the bank. We have to go to the Kosciusko bank drive-thru. In my opinion, the bank is taking care of their workers. The bank could have made a way for the loyal customers to come or call the bank. When you go to the Kosciusko bank, there is a long line. I went to the Durant Post Office, they have a long plastic shield going across the window. They could do the same thing at the bank or build another drive-thru in Durant.



**Abdullah Al Mamun, an MSU industrial and systems engineering doctoral student from Bangladesh, works to 3D print face shields in McCain Hall.**

(Photo by Logan Kirkland)

with Kennedy to determine the best option for the Rush Foundation Hospital medical staff.

Working on the project are Linkan Bian, who holds the Thomas B. and Terri L. Nusz Professorship in industrial and systems engineering; Steve Elder, professor of agricultural and biological engineering; Wenmeng Tian, assistant professor of industrial and systems engineering; Tyler Hannis, research engineer at CAVS; and Abdullah Al Mamun, an industrial and systems engi-

neering Ph.D. student from Bangladesh.

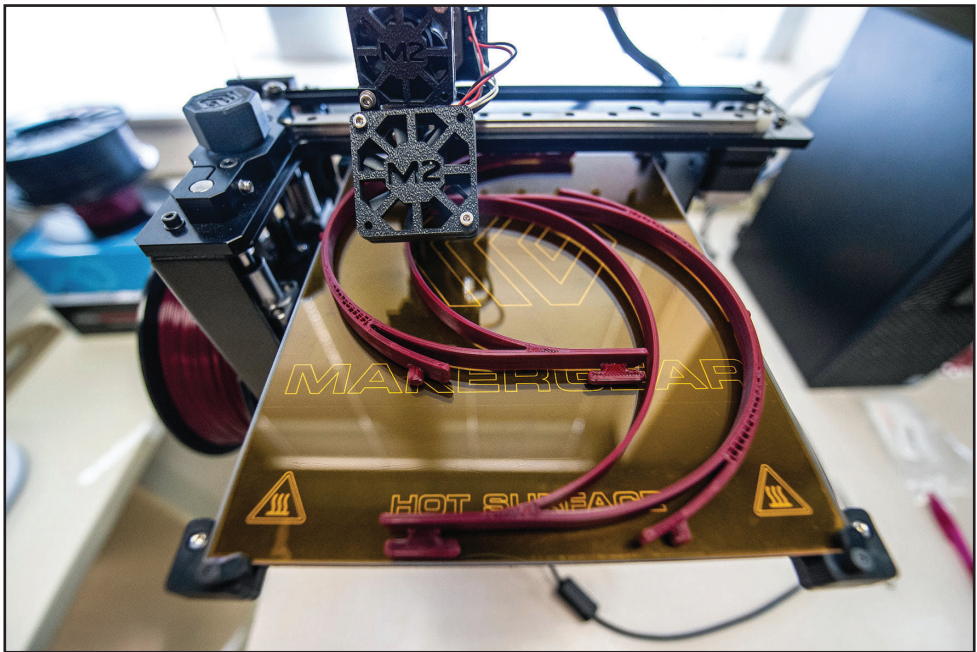
Bian said other university employees also have expressed interest in contributing to the project, including faculty and staff from both MSU's College of Business and Mitchell Memorial Library.

"This has been a tremendous team effort so far," Bian said. "We would not be able to move at our current pace without the efforts of Steve, Wenmeng and Tyler. We've also been contacted by others on campus who have 3D

printing capacity, and they want to know how they can help. It is really encouraging."

The project came about thanks in large part to research partnerships developed as part of Mississippi State's Faculty Research Advisory Committee. When hospitals began to face shortages of personal protective equipment, Bian, a past chair of the group, contacted Carlton Young, professor of healthcare administration at Mississippi State's Meridian campus and MSU-Meridian's committee representative, to ask how he could help. Young connected Bian to Kennedy to launch the project.

"Dr. Bian reached out to me and said there was a group at Mississippi State that was willing to 3D print face shields for the hospitals in Meridian. They are now producing hundreds of them," Young said. "Their expertise, public spirit and passion truly embody the heart of Mississippi State and our mission to serve the people of Mississippi."



**A 3D printer in McCain Hall at Mississippi State produces parts that will be used to make face shields for medical professionals.**

(Photo by Logan Kirkland)



- April 30** - Elizabeth Wynne, Drayton Spell, Madeline Frank, Teri Ables, Cody Giles
- May 1** - Clementene Jordan Cooper, Patsy Rogers, Craig Carson, Randi

I am hoping and praying for everyone, to keep their distance and wash their hands.

The cities need to help the homeless people who need water and sanitizer. They go into businesses too.

I am praying for the people that went through the Easter Storm.

Frances Patterson  
Durant

Parrish Miller, Arthur Ables, Jr., Wirt Hayes, Nell Turner

- May 2** - Melinda Hodges, Monica Thomas, Ovella Granderson, Beadie Pierce, Haylie Hammett, Skye Cain
- May 3** - Trudi Loffin, Tommy Mitchell, Jr., Mason Hood, John Christian Gardner, Sherry Bonds, Todd Wilson, Ethan Ables, Shelby Irby Ward, Tara Melton

**May 4** - Jerry Ja'Keem Purnell, Patricia Porter, Bree P. Nolan, Michael Meeks, Bobby Yates Bruce

**May 5** - Shelly Ledbetter, Carlye Kimble, Marvin Russell, Timothy Y. Ross, Judy Austin, Elliott Johnson, Pierce Jones, Anna Bryce Meeks, Lisa Alexander Rogers

**May 6** - Walterine Hodge, Scharleen Horton, Tara Howell, Peter Belk, Derrick Coleman



- April 30** - Phil and Lisa Williamson
- May 2** - Ricky and Brenda Tate
- May 3** - George and Anita Tate
- May 4** - George and Amy McLellan, Auburtin and Marion Swinney
- May 5** - Cody and Kelly Strider

To add your birthdays and anniversaries to our list, please send your information by mail to P.O. Box 60, Lexington, MS 39095; fax 662-834-1074; email to hcherald@gmail.com; or stop by our office at 308 Court Square in Lexington. No phone calls, please.