



**LEXINGTON NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, MAY 14 NOON @ THE WEST LAWN OF THE HOLMES COUNTY COURTHOUSE**

20			21		22						
23			24								
			26					28	29	30	31
32	33										
36					37						38

**Five Letter Word for Xbox Enthusiast? See Crossword Puzzle ON PAGE 4!**

Serving Holmes County Since 1959

**HOLMES COUNTY**

# HERALD



THURSDAY, MAY 7, 2020 ONE SECTION LEXINGTON, MISSISSIPPI 39095 VOLUME 62 - NUMBER 19

## Caring COVID-19 Heroes

REGISTERED NURSE



Bunnie Thompson, from Kosciusko, is a registered nurse working in the COVID Unit at the University of Mississippi Medical Center Holmes County emergency room. Thompson, who has worked the past 20 years at the former Holmes County/Lexington Hospital, is focused on calming fears in patients that are diagnosed with COVID-19 and their families as well. Vital signs, respiratory issues, compromising health issues are all part of the assessments Thompson administers to see how sick a patient is. She helps them weigh their options for treatment, encourages patients to take their medications and therapies as prescribed. She lets them know help is available in Holmes County and people can always come back if needed.

REGISTERED NURSE



Taylor Bethany, of Lexington, is a registered nurse at St. Dominic Hospital in Jackson. She soothes both hearts and minds as she works in the cardiovascular nursing unit. Patients recovering from heart related procedures are currently not allowed to have family or visitors with them, making it a lonely recovery process. Bethany ensures patients can reach out to their loved ones by phone, internet or Facetime. Bethany is taking on a more empathetic approach by spending extra time with each patient, giving assurance and being a go-between for patients and their families. In face of continued increased stringency, Bethany adheres to constant hand washing and strict sanitation practices. "I love being a nurse even through a crisis," said Bethany.

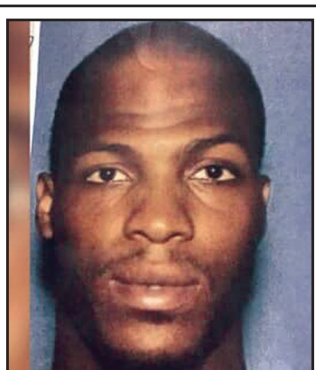
RESPIRATORY THERAPIST



Amanda Rogers, of Coxburg, is a respiratory therapist at the University of Mississippi Medical Center Holmes County. Her role is essential with the global pandemic of COVID-19 being an viral respiratory infection. Rogers has been at her post since 1998, evaluating cardiac stats, breathing and heart functions in patients. Teamwork is required with doctors, nurses and other health care workers to reassure patients of their health concerns. "We want them not to feel like they're alone," said Rogers. Concerns of Rogers own family, her elderly mother and grandbaby, drive her to encourage others in practicing social distancing, increased sanitation practices, wearing face masks in public and staying at home if possible for public health.

### Escapee, robbery suspect captured

**Staff Report**  
An escaped inmate from the Holmes-Humphreys Regional Correctional Facility was recovered over the weekend, according to the Holmes County Sheriff's Department. Ronnie Madison was apprehended, May 2, with the assistance of cooperating law enforcement agencies, U.S. Marshall Task Force, the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, Neshoba County Sheriff Eric Clark and Neshoba County Sheriff's Department. Madison escaped the Holmes County Jail on April 20.



**RONNIE MADISON**  
Madison is facing charges on two counts of aggravated assault and armed robbery.

### Audit of DHS reveals millions wasted

*Auditor's office questions over \$90 million in spending of welfare grants and other funds*

**Press Release**  
Millions of dollars of grants from the Mississippi Department of Human Services (DHS) were misspent, converted to personal use, spent on family members and friends of staffers and grantees, or wasted, according to an audit released on May 4 by State Auditor Shad White. "This completed audit of DHS for the previous year shows the most egregious misspending my staff have seen in their careers at the Office of the State Auditor," said White. "When you read this one-hundred-plus page audit, you will see that, if there was a way to misspend money, it seems DHS leadership or their grantees thought of it and tried it." The audit of DHS came as a part of the Office of the State Auditor's yearly Single Audit of federal money (Continued on page 4.)

50¢ Single Copy



<b>Thursday</b> Partly Cloudy 73/57 Precip. Chance 10%	<b>Friday</b> Thunderstorms 66/45 Precip. Chance 80%	<b>Saturday</b> Partly Cloudy 67/43 Precip. Chance 0%	<b>Sunday</b> Mostly Sunny 74/49 Precip. Chance 10%	<b>Monday</b> Sunny 75/51 Precip. Chance 0%	<b>Tuesday</b> Partly Cloudy 79/56 Precip. Chance 0%	<b>Wednesday</b> Mostly Sunny 83/61 Precip. Chance 10%

**How to reach us**  
PHONE • 834-1151  
FAX • 834-1074  
EMAIL  
hcherald@gmail.com