EARLY DEADLINE FOR MEMORIAL DAY ALL LEGALS. ADS AND EVENTS SUBMITTED BY THURSDAY - MAY 21 @ 5 P.M.





CANCELLED **LEXINGTON NATIONAL DAY** OF PRAYER WILL BE HELD THURSDAY, MAY 14

Serving Holmes County Since 1959

HOLMES COUNTY

THURSDAY, MAY 14, 2020

ONE SECTION

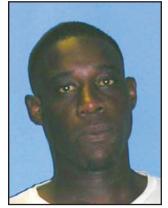
LEXINGTON, MISSISSIPPI 39095

VOLUME 62 - NUMBER 20

Officer shot while responding to social distancing complaint

Three suspects were arrested Friday, May 8, in connection with the shooting of a Mississippi police officer who responded to a call about a party where people were reportedly not practicing social distancing, authorities told a news outlet.

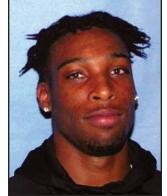
The Lexington police officer drove himself to the hospital Thursday night after being shot while responding to the disturbance call, WLBT-TV quoted Holmes diately release any charges County Sheriff Willie March against the suspects. It's as saying. The officer was unclear whether they have in stable condition Friday, attorneys who can comment news outlets reported.



KIARA BROWN

for them.

Kiara Brown, Jamie Per- Under Mississippi's "safer nell and Ayquanya Brown at home" order, people are were arrested about 1 a.m. still banned from indoor Friday by the Lexington Po- gatherings in groups of 10 lice Department, the Holmes or more, and are required to County Sheriff's Depart- maintain distance of at least ment, the Mississippi Bureau 6 feet (2 meters) from one of Investigation and the U.S. another to protect against the Marshal's Service, the sher- spread of the coronavirus. Groups of 20 or fewer are al-



AYQUANYA BROWN



JAIME PERNELL

Authorities did not imme- lowed to gather outdoors. **Governor Reeves extends 'Safer At Home', reopens** barbershops and salons

to continue safely reopening and their employees. the state's economy while "The human cost of an- Facebook. protecting public health.

Governor Reeves extends broad orders. As we work to out strict social distancing his Safer At Home Order for re-open our economy, that is another two weeks until 8:00 not a signal that the threat of AM on Monday, May 25, in the virus is gone. It is a shift an effort to continue flatten- in strategy because months ing the curve while allowing of making it illegal for small Mississippians to get back to businesses to operate is not work safely. Consulting with sustainable. To the people our state health officials, the of Mississippi: I am asking Governor also lays out strict you—begging you—to exsocial distancing guidelines ercise your personal respon-

salons, barbershops, and Reeves. On Friday, May 8, Gover- gyms to begin reopening now

and sanitation protocols for sibility," said Governor Tate

Governor Reeves nor Tate Reeves announced to restore the livelihoods of nounced his new executive the next stage for Mississippi the small businesses owners order at his daily press briefing, which can be viewed on

other Great Depression is
In this latest executive es and also earned multiple In a new executive order, higher than the benefit of order, the Governor lays academic accolades. He also guidelines to begin the process of slowly and safely reopening salons, barbershops, and gyms, including:

SALONS & BARBERSHOPS

For businesses:

• Before they can reopen, the entire salon or barbershop must be deep-cleaned, (Continued on page 12

Valedictorian and co-salutatorians named at **Holmes County Central HS**

Press Release

Holmes County Central High School has announced the valedictorian and cosalutatorians for the Class of 2020. Issac Randle Jr. has been named valedictorian with Jatoni Donelson and Alexandria Hilliard named co-salutatorians.

Issac Randle Jr. is the son of Issac and Matilda Randle. He lives in Lexington/Acona community. Issac grew up in a blended family of one brother, Jerome Jordan, and three sisters, Lakeyta Jordan, Angela Jordan and Lasade Ragulan. The scholar leads his class academically this year as the valedictorian with a grade point average of 4.151. Issac excels in math, science and technology classes.

In Issac's spare time, he sings in the Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church Choir and serves as a junior deacon. He also lifts weights, enjoys Taekwondo, in which he has earned a 1st degree black belt and he enjoys outdoors sports like hunting and archery.

During his high school matriculation at Holmes County Central High School, Randle was enrolled in numerous advanced placement and college-level dual credit coursparticipated in the National Society of High School Scholars; the powerlifting team; was a member of the ACT 20+ Club; the president of the Superintendent's Student Advisory Roundtable; took part in college pilot programs; attended summer programs at both Ole Miss and Mississippi State; was a member of the Student Dis-



ISSAC RANDLE JR.



JATONI DONELSON



ALEXANDRIA HILLIARD

cipline Committee; and also will not only help me betook pride in volunteering in come another successful various capacities.

At this time, he has received in Holmes County. both a scholarship and a

Jatoni Donelson has the honor of being named one of

the two co-salutatorians of HCCHS's 2020 graduating class. Donelson is the son of Deshanna Donelson and Anthony Hogan. The Tchula native is the big brother of 8-year-old Jadarien Donel-

During his senior year, Donelson was elected as Mr. Holmes County Central High School 2019-2020. Additionally, Donelson is the senior class vice-president; a member of the HCCHS Senior Beta Club; a National Honor Society inductee; an ACT 20+ Club member; and a member of the Superintendent's Student Advisory Roundtable.

After high school, Donelson plans to attend college at either The University of Mississippi or Mississippi State University. Donelson plans to pursue a bachelor of science degree in biological sciences, with hopes of someday becoming a registered nurse. After that, Donelson plans to further his education in the field of science so that he can go to medical school. The time in medical school will assist the future plastic surgeon with obtaining a doctor of medicine degree.

Donelson says, "My goal person from Holmes County, Issac will attend the Uni- but it will hopefully allow versity of Mississippi in Ox- me to be an influence on the ford to major in accounting. several generations to come

This year's second highgrant from the University est average honor also goes of Mississippi. In addition to Miss Alexandria Hilliard. to the University of Missis- The class salutatorian is the sippi, Issac has offers from eighteen-year-old daughter 30+ colleges all over the of Adrienne Neal and Donald Hilliard. She has four

(Continued on page 9.)

50¢ Single Copy





Thursday Partly Cloudy 87/64 Precip. Chance

Friday 87/65

Scattered T'Storms Precip. Chance

Saturday Partly Cloudy 89/67 Precip. Chance



Sunday Isolated T'Storms 88/67 Precip. Chance



Monday P.M. T'Storms 85/66 Precip. Chance



Tuesday Partly Cloudy 87/64 Precip. Chance

Wednesday **Partly Cloudy** 88/66

Precip. Chance

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How to reach us