

RECIPE FOR  
LEMON POPPY SEED  
MUFFINS  
ON PAGE 5



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Four Letter Word for  
Sword Type?  
See Crossword Puzzle  
ON PAGE 4!

Serving  
Holmes  
County  
Since  
1959

HOLMES COUNTY

HERALD

THURSDAY, JUNE 4, 2020

ONE SECTION

LEXINGTON, MISSISSIPPI 39095

VOLUME 62 - NUMBER 23

# Transmission rates high in county for COVID-19 as businesses open

**Staff Report**

Cases are still on the rise and Holmes County remains on the list for “an increased risk for transmission of COVID-19,” according to Governor Tate Reeves.

Reeves Executive Order No. 1493 extends social distancing in public and in businesses, symptoms screening for employees, face coverings worn in public, gatherings limited to 10 participants indoors and 20 participants outdoors.

Customers and employees both are mandated by current and extended executive orders to wear face coverings in businesses that are open. Hand sanitizer is also to be provided by businesses that are open to customers. Strenuous sanitation practices are also ordered, including wiping down all high touch services and door handles.

Lexington Mayor Robin McCrory said that there are

consequences for failure to follow and enforce the guidelines from the executive orders.

McCrory provided the Mississippi Code to the *Herald* that states what penalties could be imposed.

Miss. Code. Ann. 33-15-43 states any person, including business owners and managers “violating any provision of this article or any rule, order, or regulation made pursuant to this article shall, upon conviction thereof, be punishable by a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars (\$500.00) or imprisonment for not exceeding six (6)

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# School district highlights projects from past school year

**Press Release**

The Holmes County Consolidated School District has announced its end of school year completed projects.

1. District-issued email accounts for every parent and student.
2. District wide Internet Access via nine mobile internet stations and hotspots throughout the county.
3. Online Virtual Learning Program provided over 1,494 families a computer for students to continue learning and complete their assignments via Google Classroom and Zoom. Using several software programs such as Freckle, Edgenuity, and Study Island, students were able to actively engage with the classroom teacher and their lessons. Teachers were trained to deliver online instruction and many earned their Google certifications.
4. 21st Century Virtual After-School Program operated in April and May. Students enjoyed highly interactive, reading, math, coding, dance, and STEAM classes for six weeks.
5. Virtual Summer Flight to serve approximately 400 students in four-week Summer

Flight Program via instruction by Nearpod, a nationally recognized online software program.

6. 6000 meals delivered daily to students at home due to school closure.
7. \$120,000 STEM grant awarded to WDJE, WSE, DES, and SVME to purchase computers and coding equipment for students to learn computer science and robotics. The award supports teacher training and travel to competitions. Nissan is our partner and Ray Holt, founder of Mississippi Robotics, is providing training.
8. Two Get2College Delta Mini Grants awarded to support College and Career Readiness.
9. Mississippi Action for Progress, Inc. and Head Start partnered with HCCSD to fund our four PreK classrooms.
10. IBM to implement the Watson Care Manager program that assists the district in connecting students with wrap-around services in the community in partnership with HCCSD.
11. Online Student Registration available through Active Parent. Tutorial video

# Lexington gives out face masks, hand sanitizer



The city of Lexington, through the Mississippi State Department of Health, has distributed 1,260 bottles of hand sanitizer and 6,500 face masks/coverings, during two separate drive through events. The supplies were donated by MSDH to Lexington and other municipalities throughout the state. Durant also held two drive through events on May 29 and May 30. Pictured above, cars are lined up in the turning lane on MS Highway 12 in Lexington on Saturday, May 30. The Lexington Multi-Purpose Complex parking lot served as the location for the drive through events. (Photo Submitted)

# Website launched to help small businesses recover from COVID-19

**Press Release**

On Friday, May 29, Governor Tate Reeves announced the launch of the Back to Business Mississippi Grant Program website to help small businesses receive financial support quickly to recover from the devastating economic impacts of COVID-19.

Since establishing the Back to Business Mississippi Grant Program just over a week ago, Governor Reeves has been working with the Mississippi Development Authority (MDA) to administer the grants to small businesses as quickly as possible.

“We are working to quickly get out funds from the CARES Act to small busi-

nesses. We are launching a website: [backtobusiness.ms.gov](https://backtobusiness.ms.gov) which outlines eligibility requirements and paperwork to compile to get access to this grant program,” said Governor Tate Reeves at the press briefing. “The team at MDA is reviewing the competitive bids to administer these funds—those were due today—and should have all the details out by the evening. Then they can put out the application as soon as next week if all goes according to plans.”

To jumpstart the process of businesses preparing their applications, [backtobusiness.ms.gov](https://backtobusiness.ms.gov) was launched to outline eligibility requirements and necessary paper-

work to compile until the applications go live.

Features of the website include email signup to receive notifications when applications are open and a FAQ section as well.


Businesses in Mississippi with 50 or fewer employees will be able to apply to the grant program for help recovering from the pandemic, including operating expenses and salaries.

Governor Reeves also announced the additional social distancing measures implemented to limit transmission in counties identified at a higher risk will be extended until June 8.


“We continue to see more and more cases across the state, and it is a reminder that this is not over. A flat curve does not mean a community free of transmission—it means we are spreading it out over more time. The risk

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Thursday  
Scattered T'Storms  
87/71  
Precip. Chance  
60%




Friday  
Scattered T'Storms  
90/71  
Precip. Chance  
40%




Saturday  
Partly Cloudy  
91/72  
Precip. Chance  
20%




Sunday  
P.M. Thunderstorms  
86/73  
Precip. Chance  
40%



Monday  
Thunderstorms  
86/73  
Precip. Chance  
80%



Tuesday  
Thunderstorms  
86/73  
Precip. Chance  
80%



Wednesday  
Scattered T'Storms  
89/71  
Precip. Chance  
50%

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