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HOLMES COUNTY

# HERALD



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LEXINGTON, MISSISSIPPI 39095

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## U.S. and Iran announce a deal to end the war and reopen the Strait of Hormuz

NPR/Greg Myre  
President Trump and Iran declared they've reached an agreement intended to end more than three months of war in Iran and reopen the Strait of Hormuz.

formally signed Friday in Switzerland, marks a major breakthrough in the conflict that set the Middle East aflame and shook the global economy.

"The Deal with the Islamic Republic of Iran is

now complete. Congratulations to all!" Trump wrote on social media on Sunday evening.

Iran's Supreme National Security Council said the deal was reached "following a difficult and intensive pe-

riod of negotiations lasting several months."

If the agreement works as planned, several key developments are supposed to happen almost immediately.

The U.S. and Iran will end the sporadic attacks that have been taking place (Continued on page 8.)

## Four people shot at Lexington apartment complex, sheriff says

LEXINGTON, Miss. (WLBT) - Four people were shot early Sunday morning at an apartment complex in Lexington, according to Holmes County Sheriff Willie March.

The shooting occurred be-

tween 1 a.m. and 1:30 a.m. at the Leawood Apartments in the southeast side of Lexington.

All four people were taken to a hospital in Jackson and are currently listed as being (Continued on page 7.)

## Holmes County, Miss. was tired of just being for homes



Holmes County, Miss. Supervisor Debra Mabry and County Administrator Tiffany Williams present their industrial park development plan May 27 at the Rural Leaders for Economic Mobility Capstone in Washington, D.C. Photo by Charlie Ban

Without any major employers based in the county, many residents travel 40-50 minutes to go to work, in other counties. While they're there, they're eating and shopping in those other counties, generating tax revenue in those other counties and then coming home, tired and full.

When Supervisor Debra Mabry and County Administrator Tiffany Williams saw the opportunity to apply for technical assistance and a \$50,000 planning grant

through the NACo Rural Leaders for Economic Mobility program, they saw an opportunity to pave the way for local jobs. The program is funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and chose 10 teams that include county elected officials and staff.

"We're not necessarily looking for 500 or 600 jobs all at once, but just 50 jobs will make a difference for Holmes County," Mabry said. "If we have these jobs, you'll see other business

open to support them. You'll have a hotel, then a restaurant, then a service station."

Since its peak of 40,000 residents in 1940, the population of Holmes County has declined 57% to 17,000 in 2020, due in large part to disinvestment. Its poverty rate of 40.2% is more than double the 10% statewide average, and only 44% of the working-age population participates in the labor force.

"Our county has a sort of (Continued on page 11.)

## New chief seeks to bring stability to Lexington Police Department

Mississippi Today by Mina Corpuz

After becoming the fourth police chief in six months and following a federal investigation that led to policing reforms, Lexington's new leader, David Simmons, said establishing trust in the community is a major goal of his.

The Board of Aldermen appointed Simmons as chief May 5, less than three months after appointing Kenneth Gee, an officer in the department, as interim and beginning a search for a permanent chief.

Simmons acknowledged the lack of stability in police leadership during the first half of the year, and he said he was brought on to rebuild trust within the police force and the community.

"The community needed someone that they could trust and build a relationship with. They knew me from the past, everyone knew me from around here," he said Tuesday. "They wanted someone they could trust and be treated right by."

Simmons has worked in law enforcement since 2005 in police departments



David Simmons, left, was appointed chief of the Lexington Police Department on May 5, 2026. He has worked in law enforcement since 2005 around Holmes County, including as a patrol officer for Lexington police. Photo: Courtesy of David Simmons

around Holmes County and in Yazoo City. Simmons was also a patrol officer in Lexington in 2008.

Since becoming chief, he said he has worked on re-vamping the department's policies and procedures. He is also looking for ways to attract and hire more offi-

cers, which requires higher pay.

Simmons became chief of the Cruger Police Department in 2015 and will continue to serve in that part-time capacity. The Holmes County town of 368 is about 20 miles from Lexington.

(Continued to page 6.)

\$1.00 Single Copy



Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Thunderstorms	Thunderstorms	Scattered T-Storms	Scattered T-Storms	Isolated T-Storms	Scattered T-Storms	Scattered T-Storms
74/84	68/81	72/87	74/89	72/93	71/89	71/86
Precip. Chance	Precip. Chance	Precip. Chance	Precip. Chance	Precip. Chance	Precip. Chance	Precip. Chance
87%	80%	54%	54%	33%	41%	44%

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