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Staff Report

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M Partner, Lexington Celebrate Spring with Festival and Health Fair

Organizers plan day of fun and educational activities

MAY 2, 2019 BY STAFF REPORT

The Lexington Spring Festival is set for 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the town's Courthouse Square. Lexington is part of M Partner, a University of Mississippi initiative to align university capabilities with priority projects in partner communities.

LEXINGTON, Miss. – The Lexington community is celebrating the spring season by celebrating local resources through food, art and music. Local vendors, artists, craftsmen and musicians will join together Saturday (May 4) to celebrate all that the community of Lexington has to offer.

The Spring Festival is set for 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on the town's Courthouse Square.

Lexington is part of M Partner, a University of Mississippi initiative to align university capabilities with priority projects in partner communities. Through M Partner, Lexington has identified projects to promote economic development and healthy living, utilizing community resources such as its historic downtown and vibrant tourist opportunities.

"We are looking forward to a fun-filled day and seeing everyone," said Robin McCrory, the town's mayor. "It will be a great day filled with community spirit."

"We are grateful to everyone who has played a role in the planning and development of our festival, along with all of our vendors and our many sponsors."

Ouokarie Addoh, UM assistant professor of health, exercise science and recreation management, and graduate students from the departments of Health, Exercise Science and Recreation Management and Nutrition and Hospitality Management will offer health screenings and nutrition demonstrations as part of the event.

"I have had the pleasure of working with some of the best students and partners this semester, and we are excited to be in Lexington on May 4," Addoh said. "The scope of the event has turned out to be much more than we anticipated."

"It has been a tremendous learning experience for us and we hope to contribute meaningfully to the city of Lexington during the Spring Festival and beyond."

Students enrolled in courses such as Organization and Administration of Health Promotion Programs and Community Nutrition collaborated with McCrory and various partners to develop the details for the festival.
health fair that will take place during the festival. The health fair, which runs 8 a.m.-1 p.m. on the Courthouse Square, will offer free health checks, nutrition information, a fresh food demo, health information and more.

Sponsors for the health fair include the university’s M Partner initiative, School of Applied Sciences, Wellness Education office, University Museum and Miss University of Mississippi Scholarship Pageant; the Delta Health Alliance, including the Delta Pre-Diabetes Program and the Healthy Pregnancy Program; The Partnership for a Healthy Mississippi’s coalition of Madison, Yazoo and Holmes counties; The Action Children’s Business Fair; Mississippi State University Holmes County Extension; Holmes Community College’s nursing program; The Boys and Girls Club of the Mississippi Delta; and the University of Mississippi Medical Center at Holmes County.

Sponsors for the Spring Festival are Willis Engineering, Waste Pro and Gardner Engineering.