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Legislative Appreciation Food Truck Day



By: Julie Cox

On Thursday, March 28, Friends of Mississippi State Hospital, Inc., and MSH staff participated in Mental Health Day at the Capitol. Friends provided a food truck lunch for our State Legislators and staff in appreciation for all they do for Mississippi State Hospital.

This year, Friends served over 60 legislators from the House and Senate, in addition to the Legislative Budget Office, Capitol Police, and staffers from the House and Senate. T and J Concessions of Forest provided the food truck. While visiting with Mr. James G. “Bo” Chastain,



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Legislative Appreciation Continued from Page 1

MSH Director, and Friends members in the Rotunda, several legislators conveyed their appreciation for the work performed throughout the year by the staff at MSH.

Friends of Mississippi State Hospital, Inc. was created as a volunteer organization whose primary function is to promote awareness of mental health issues and raise funds for projects that enhance the quality of life for individuals served at the hospital throughout the year. Employees, volunteers, advocates, and other members of the Friends group host the event each year to thank lawmakers for their work in the legislature and for their continued support of the Mississippi Department of Mental Health.



Serendipity Sneak Peek at the Mississippi Museum of Art

By: Julie Cox

Serendipity is an annual exhibit and auction featuring artwork created by participants in art classes at Mississippi State Hospital. It is an opportunity for patients and residents to see their art framed and on display, and earn some money when their art is sold during the auction. Serendipity is always held the first Thursday in September, which falls on September 5 this year. Bidding opened online August 1 at www.myminiauction.com/serendipity.

This year, the Mississippi Museum of Art (MMA) hosted a Serendipity Sneak Peek. The Serendipity exhibit opened on Thursday, June 6th, with a special reception for the artists. Artists arrived at the museum and were greeted with an impressive display of their artwork. Each piece was hung and identified by a museum label that included the artist's name, name of the piece, materials of the work, and a quote from the artist.

Wyatt Waters, renowned watercolor artist, made a surprise visit and viewed the entire collection of artwork. After the viewing, the artists gathered in the Community Room of the MMA for refreshments and were presented with a certificate of recognition mounted in a special Serendipity Sneak Peek folder with a photo of their artwork and personal quote printed inside. The certificates were presented by Lydia Jasper, Assistant Curator of the Permanent Collection and 35th Serendipity Guest Curator, Ceci Whitehurst, MSH Art Services Supervisor, and Ricky Shelby, MSH Art Instructor. Afterwards, Waters worked his way around the room discussing various art topics with the MSH artists.



Wyatt Waters, renowned watercolor artist, and Ceci Whitehurst, MSH Art Services Supervisor, discuss the elements of the artwork on display as part of the Serendipity Sneak Peek exhibit.



Wyatt Waters, renowned watercolor artist, Ron Lindsey, former MSH Art Instructor, Ceci Whitehurst, MSH Art Services Supervisor, and Ricky Shelby, MSH Art Instructor discuss the Serendipity Sneak Peek exhibit and the customized certificates presented to the artists.

Serendipity Sneak Peek was held in conjunction with the “What Became of Dr. Smith” exhibit by Noah Saterstrom. The Serendipity Sneak Peek exhibit ran from June 6 until August 12. The “Dr. Smith” exhibit will be open until September 22.

Through the Access for All: Free First Saturdays initiative, the MMA is offering free admission to all exhibits on the first Saturday of every month until the end of 2026. This initiative is made possible through the Art Bridges Foundation’s Access for All program, a transformative three-year funding initiative that aims to increase access to museums across America and foster engagement with local audiences.



Lydia Jasper, Assistant Curator of the Permanent Collection and 35th Serendipity Guest Curator, and Ricky Shelby, MSH Art Instructor, present certificates to each Serendipity Sneak Peek artist.

2024 NURSE APPRECIATION: *We Need S'MORE Staff Like You!*



Lease Brent, Kathy Pack, Judith Jones, Kimberly Holifield, William Boykin, Kimberly George, Angela Howell, Chiquita Boyd, Angela Ransom, Kewan Ewing, Davina Smith, Brandi Barwick, Kamekia Grant

In the mental health industry, Nurse Appreciation Week holds special significance as it recognizes the tireless efforts and compassionate care provided by nurses in this challenging field. Mississippi State Hospital (MSH) Nurses play a crucial role in the well-being of individuals facing mental health issues. They are often a source of hope for those in distress by providing emotional support and understanding, while tending to the medical needs of their patients.

These dedicated professionals work tirelessly to ensure the comfort and safety of their patients, often in environments that can be emotionally taxing. Their compassion is not just seen in the medical care they provide but also in the way they listen, comfort, and uplift spirits during difficult times. They provide invaluable support to patients and their families, ensuring they receive the best possible care.

During Nurse Appreciation Week, we honor and celebrate our MSH nurses. They are the backbone of health care, providing comfort, care, and hope to those in need. This year's luncheon was decorated in a camping theme, to tell our nurses, "Thanks for making us such happy campers!"



It is because of your efforts and willingness to embody the spirit of compassion that makes the true difference in our health care settings. Thank you to all of our MSH Nurses, for the steadfast support and dedication provided to our patients, residents, colleagues and our community.

--Angela Howell, Nurse Executive

Nurse appreciation is a great time to express our admiration and gratitude to our nurses who work in a tough profession both physically and emotionally.

-Angela Ransom, RN, DON





I'm pleased to be part of the team of nurses here at MSH/JNH! One of the main characteristics of the nurses is their work ethic. They demonstrate great dedication and high standards of quality in their work at all times. They take care of our patients and residents with a serving and compassionate heart! Thank you for all you do!

– Kathy Pack, RN, JNH Nurse Administrator



Wednesday, May 8, 2024 was set aside at MSH for Nurse Appreciation Day to acknowledge their dedication of going above and beyond for the patients.

Happy Nurses Week!

–Kamekia Grant



Nurse: just another word to describe a person strong enough to tolerate everything and soft enough to understand everyone.

– Brandi Barwick, DON



Nurses are the heart of healthcare, the backbone of compassion, and the epitome of care.

–Ashley Lilley, DON



Building 34/28 – Jennifer Cashion (LPN), Angela Ransom (RN/DON), Ann McDaniel (RN)



Building 201 Ward 1 – Terry Garletts (RN), Marty Hardin (RN), Wonda McKie (RN), Chiquita Boyd (RN/DON), Jordan Sutton (RN), Jessica Harrell (RN)



Building 45 – Haley Greer (LPN), Will Covington (RN/CN), Sarah Blackmon (RN)



Building 203 Ward 4 – Melissa Griffin (RN)

Shows is Newest Officer on the MSH Police Force

By: Julie Cox

Charles Shows is the newest MSH police officer to graduate from the Mississippi Law Enforcement Officers' Training Academy (MLEOTA). He graduated with Class #273 on March 21, 2024. But Shows is no stranger to MSH, he has worked in the maintenance department since 2022. He was recruited by Assistant Chief Nathan Craft, who thought Shows would be a good fit in the MSH police force. Shows previously worked offshore, but has always had an interest in law enforcement.

Before entering MLEOTA, Shows was already self-disciplined in his physical fitness routine, incorporating Chief Jeff Luckey's MSH Law Enforcement Training Academy Readiness Program before he joined the MSH police force. Although, he did admit that the MLEOTA fitness regimen was the hardest part of the academy's program.

Shows was most intrigued with the active shooter and traffic stop components of his training. He shared, "The active shooter training interested me the most, learning how to clear a room and what to look for were interesting." Beyond that, he felt that learning



about the proper, step-by-step approach to traffic stops will help him in his position at MSH. He is confident that his many years of firearms experience helped him successfully complete the target shooting activities.

Shows grew up in Simpson County, attending Magee High School and Hinds Community College, where he studied Electronic

Communications. He now lives in Smith County with Tina Crumpton Shows, his wife of nearly three years. He has three children, Treston Crumpton, C.J. Shows, and Sheyenne Shows, and two granddaughters. In his free time, he enjoys hunting and fishing.

Easterling New DON for Buildings 23 and 81

By: Julie Cox

Joseph Easterling has been named the new Director of Nursing (DON) for Oak Circle Center (Building 23) and Substance Use Services (Building 81/Female). He previously served as an emergency room nurse at the University of Mississippi Medical Center and St. Dominic's Hospital. In his position at MSH, he looks forward to broadening his knowledge of the nursing profession as he manages the day-to-day nursing operations of the patients in the buildings under his care. Angela Howell, MSH Nurse Executive, remarked, "Nursing Services would like to welcome our new Director of Nursing Mr. Joseph Easterling. We look forward to working with you and through your leadership achieving great things together!"

Growing up in Smith County, Easterling

attended Raleigh High School. He then spent 25 years as a mechanic, first at the local Ford dealership and then opened his own mechanic shop. Looking for a change of vocation, Easterling attended Hinds Community College and UMMC, where he earned his Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN). He has been a nurse for nine years, including holding positions as a supervisor and manager.

Easterling has been married to his wife, Melissa, for 25 years. They have three children and two grandchildren. Melissa and two of their children also serve as nurses. When not working, his hobbies include hunting, fishing, woodworking, and farming. The Easterlings live in Pelahatchie, but also maintain a farm in Smith County.



DEARMAN APPOINTED AS NEW SUPPORT SERVICES DIRECTOR



By: Julie Cox

Carla Dearman has been appointed as the new Support Services Director. Dearman joined the MSH family in February 2020, as the Director of Fiscal Services where she was responsible for the Cashier's Office, Post Office, and Patient Accounts. In her new role, she is responsible for the Physical Plant, Fiscal Services, Environmental Services, and Information Technology.

Dearman grew up in Cato, MS and graduated from Puckett High School. She attended William Carey University, earning Bachelor's degrees in both Accounting and Marketing and a Master's of Business Administration (MBA). She has been employed with the State of Mississippi for 18 years in various roles with the Department of Public Safety, Attorney General's Office, Office of the State Auditor, and Hudspeth Regional Center. She enjoys the family atmosphere

at MSH and feels that the family-friendly environment is a huge benefit to its employees.

Since assuming her new role on June 1, Dearman has spent some time exploring the campus, learning about the buildings, and looking at the construction projects from angles beyond the fiscal side. As far as ongoing building projects, she's spent some time learning about the features and functions of the new Forensics unit/ Building 63 and is impressed with the rapid progress that has occurred recently. She's also familiarized herself with the Anti-Ligature Project and renovations currently taking place on Building 203, noting that once Ward 3 is complete, work will continue onto the next ward. Next up for improvement will be a new roof and air quality enhancement to control humidity in the James C. Stubbs Food Service Facility/Building 56. Once

JNH Family Council Holds Summer Meeting

By: Julie Cox

The Jaquith Nursing Home (JNH) Family Council met on Saturday, June 22 in the Conference Room on Building 71. Mr. Lee Varner, Nursing Home Director at JNH, spoke with about a dozen family members regarding recent and upcoming activities at JNH.



that project is complete, Dearman expects to pinpoint other buildings on campus to target for air quality improvement and identify HVAC system issues that need to be addressed. In the next few weeks, she anticipates awarding bids for Forensics Offices/Building 62.

Hospital Director, Mr. James G. "Bo" Chastain noted, "Carla is well prepared through her training and experience to serve our hospital well as Director of Support Services. We are fortunate to have such a capable and conscientious person to serve in this role. Carla has definitely hit the ground running."

As she settles into her new position, she sees herself spending more time out and about around campus in an effort to build relationships with departments and employees, and seek ways Support Services can better support all areas of service. In the employees she's interacted with so far, she shared that, "The advocacy for

patients and residents is impressive across all services." Our staff is familiar with and genuinely concerned about the well-being of our patients and residents and that reflects the family oriented atmosphere at MSH.

Carla and her husband, Wayne, have been married for eight years and call Pearl their home. Wayne is a retired Mississippi State Trooper, with 25 years of service. In his retirement, he is "living his best Jimmy Buffett life" by renting boats and selling gasoline and supplies at the Main Harbor Store, owned by The Dearmans. Carla and Wayne have two children, Carley and Blake. Carley just finished her first year at Holmes Community College and Blake is employed with the Department of Public Safety. When they are not working, Carla and her family can be found on the water. They own a houseboat on the Ross Barnett Reservoir and enjoy spending their summers there.

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2024 April, May & June 20+ Years of Service Recognition

April

**MICHAEL GORDON**

PSYCHOLOGIST I

BUILDING 78, A-SHIFT

Michael Gordon of Clinton was recognized for providing 20 years of service to the hospital. Mr. Gordon attended Provine High School, Jackson State University, and Mississippi College, where he earned a Doctorate in Professional Counseling. He likes connecting with patients and his peers at MSH. In his free time, he enjoys going to the gym and spending time with his family. He is a Psychologist I in Behavioral Health Services at Jaquith Nursing Home and has been employed at MSH since 2004.

PATRICIA MAHAFFEY

LAUNDRY WORKER TEAM LEAD

BUILDING 54, A-SHIFT

Patricia Mahaffey of Pearl was recognized for providing 20 years of service to the hospital. Ms. Mahaffey attended Crystal Springs High School. She likes her co-workers at MSH. In her free time, she enjoys visiting family and watching movies. She is a Laundry Worker Team Lead in Environmental Services and has been employed at MSH since 2004.

May

**SHEMECKA WILLIAMS-JOHNSON**

ADMIN SUPPORT ASSISTANT IV

BUILDING 22, A-SHIFT

Shemecka Williams-Johnson of Brandon was recognized for providing 20 years of service to the hospital. Ms. Williams-Johnson attended Pelahatchie High School, Hinds Community College, and the University of Southern Mississippi, where she earned a Bachelor of Arts degree. She has enjoyed the many people she has met over the years and the medical staff she serves at MSH. In her free time, she enjoys reading, shopping, and spending quality time with her family and friends. She is an Admin Support Assistant IV in Clinical Services and has been employed at MSH since 2004.

**VERA MAE KNIGHT**

*LAUNDRY WORKER TEAM LEAD
BUILDING 79, A-SHIFT*

Vera Mae Knight of Pearl was recognized for providing 30 years of service to the hospital. Ms. Knight attended Carter High School in Brandon. She likes the challenge of repairing patients' clothes at MSH. In her free time, she enjoys sewing and shopping. She is a Laundry Worker Team Lead in Environmental Services and has been employed at MSH since 1994.

VERONICA L. MITCHELL

*SUPPORT CARE PROFESSIONAL III
BUILDING 45, A-SHIFT*

Veronica L. Mitchell of Edwards was recognized for providing 20 years of service to the hospital. She is a Support Care Professional III in Nursing Services and has been employed at MSH since 2004.

June

**SONIA YVETTE LOUIS-JUSTE**

*FOOD SERVICE TEAM LEAD
BUILDING 34, A-SHIFT*

Sonia Yvette Louis-Juste of Jackson was recognized for providing 20 years of service to the hospital. Ms. Louis-Juste attended Provine High School and Hinds Community College, where she majored in Paralegal Studies. She likes making the residents happy at MSH. In her free time, she enjoys writing poems and reading. She is a Food Service Team Lead in Jaquith Nursing Home Food Services and has been employed at MSH since 2004.

**JENNIE B. MINER**

*CUSTODIAN SUPERVISOR
BUILDING 79, A-SHIFT*

Jennie B. Miner of Jackson was recognized for providing 40 years of service to the hospital. Ms. Miner attended Summer High School and Utica Junior College. She likes helping others at MSH. In her free time, she enjoys watching television and cooking. She is a Custodian Supervisor in Environmental Services and has been employed at MSH since 1984.

MSH April Employees of Month



DIRECT CARE
LYDIA TAYLOR
BUILDING 46, A-SHIFT

Lydia Taylor has been named Mississippi State Hospital's April Employee of the Month for Direct Care.

A resident of Jackson, Taylor attended Raymond High School and Hinds Community College. She enjoys taking care of her patients at MSH. She serves as a Support Care Professional Team Lead in IPS and has been employed at MSH since 2003.

"Every minute of every day Lydia exemplifies each and every core value of MSH. Her respect for both residents and fellow employees is beyond reproach. She is diligent in establishing relationships that embodies teamwork and diversity. She upholds accountability in every task she performs. Her dedication is unmatched. Ms. Taylor is always willing to lend a hand to anyone in need. She personifies the work ethic of a five-star employee," said William Boykin, who nominated Taylor.



CLINICAL SERVICE
ASHELY BUTLER
BUILDING 45, C-SHIFT

Ashely Butler has been named Mississippi State Hospital's April Employee of the Month for Clinical Service.

A lifelong resident of Jackson, Butler attended Jim Hill High School, Alcorn State University, where she earned a bachelor's degree in Accounting, and Hinds Community College, where she earned her Licensed Practical Nursing degree. She enjoys interacting with her patients at MSH. She serves as an LPN in IPS and has been employed at MSH since 2022.

"Ms. Butler is an extraordinary nurse and is the definition of compassionate. She comes to work with a positive attitude and brightens everyone's day. Working in the psych field comes with its daily challenges, but working with a nurse that shows respect and kindness to all co-workers and residents definitely makes the challenges easier. Ms. Butler is always there to lend a helping hand to all residents in need. One of her most noteworthy traits is the time she sets aside to speak to each resident that has an issue that needs to be addressed. She makes sure to offer those residents comfort and passes their concerns on to the team. She goes above and beyond, and she does it with a smile on her face," said Brandi Barwick, who nominated Butler.



SUPPORT SERVICES
DOLLY HAWKINS
BUILDING 61, A-SHIFT

Dolly Hawkins has been named Mississippi State Hospital's April Employee of the Month for Support Services.

A resident of Canton, Hawkins attended Velma Jackson High School and Tougaloo College. She enjoys having the opportunity to help other people at MSH. She serves as a Human Resource Generalist II in Personnel and has been employed at MSH since 1997.

"It is with great pleasure that I nominate Ms. Dolly Hawkins for her outstanding work with Mississippi State Hospital. Ms. Dolly has an outstanding attitude. She is very soft-spoken, but you can hear her well. She understands policies and procedures and completing her work in a timely manner is no problem for her. She will not complain but speaks well to all, while assisting managers, supervisors, or employees with program and individual needs. She always finds time to assist when needed in the office by staff. Her consultations and advice is high desirable. She always has an open door and an ear for all who need help. I feel the hospital is fortunate to have such a pleasant and outstanding employee on the hospital team," said Susan Chandler, who nominated Hawkins.

Executive Services Certification Program Graduates Brenda Brent and Tammie Newsome



Brenda Brent, Administrative Assistant to the Director of Human Resources



Tammie Newsome, Administrative Assistant MSH Police Department

By: Julie Cox

On Tuesday, June 4, in a ceremony held at the Mississippi Agriculture & Forestry Museum, Ms. Brenda Brent and Ms. Tammie Newsome graduated from the Executive Services Certification Program (ESCP). This program, along with the Administrative Services Certification Program (ASCP), is administered by the Mississippi State Personnel Board (MSPB) to provide comprehensive training to staff who support the program areas of governmental agencies. ASCP is the first level of certification that focuses on helping support staff better understand themselves, their organizations, and their relationships with co-workers. The ESCP certification, developed in 2011, encourages administrative professionals to cultivate existing skills, contribute to the vision of their organization within their individual roles, and enhance leadership skills.

In addressing the graduating class, Ms. Donna Boykin, President of the Mississippi Administrative Assistant Professional Society (MAAPS), and Executive Assistant to Mr. James G. “Bo” Chastain, Mississippi State Hospital Director, encouraged graduates to stay involved and continue to learn. Reminding them that graduation is not just an end goal, but instead part of a new journey of life. Boykin shared, “Lifelong learning is good for your brain, mental well-being, and self-esteem. Taking new classes will help you gain practical skills and continued education can lead to beneficial career advancements.” She also added, “By exploring new passions, you can connect with like-minded individuals. Always embrace the opportunity for growth. And be sure to nurture your relationships, success is seldom achieved alone.”

Ms. Brenda Brent serves as the Administrative Assistant to the Director of Human Resources and has been employed at MSH since 2000. While Brenda’s primary responsibility is to the Director of Human Resources, she wears many hats. She serves as a Time Keeper and Policy Coordinator. She also assists with contract employees and fills in for the Administrative Assistant to the Hospital Director and the Switchboard as needed. Bo Blanks, Director of Human Resources stated, “Ms. Brenda has been a great team player at the hospital, and the Personnel Department is proud of her for obtaining her ASCP and ESCP certifications.” Brenda enjoys working at MSH because every day is a different task.

Brenda was raised in Jackson and graduated from Lanier High School. She attended Holmes Community College and Jackson State University. She has four children and nine grandchildren. However, her “baby” is a four-year old Yorkie named Scooter. In her free time, Brenda enjoys reading, traveling, spending time with friends, and being social. She also reads her Bible and is a member of Greater Tree of Deliverance MB Church. Several times a year, she travels to Texas with her sister to visit their other two siblings and is an avid Dallas Cowboy fan.

Ms. Tammie Newsome serves as the Administrative Assistant in the Campus Police Department and has been employed at MSH since 2006. Tammie began her service at MSH as a Pantry Worker, and has served as a supervisor in Housekeeping. She joined the Police Department two years ago. Her responsibilities include timekeeping, purchasing of uniforms and supplies for the building, generating

reports for incidents and calls, scheduling officers for MANDT, CPR, and Mississippi Law Enforcement Officers’ Training Academy (MLEOTA), keeping minutes of department meetings, issuing vehicle decals, planning various events for the department, handling all paperwork for applicants and new hires, and many other duties.

Tammie was born, raised, and still resides in Mendenhall. She graduated from Puckett Attendance Center. She was married to her high school sweetheart, Ronald, for nearly 34 years. He passed away in 2022. They share two children and two grandchildren. In her free time, Tammie enjoys being with family and friends, walking, listening to music, shopping, watching movies, and gardening. At MSH, she likes gaining knowledge and working with great people. Chief Jeff Luckey stated, “Tammie has been a valuable asset to the MSH Police Department. She transferred to us from the Maintenance Department and has learned everything she can about the Police Department. She handles everything that is asked of her and helps us function in an efficient manner. We are very proud of her accomplishments.”

The ESCP curriculum included reading Stephen Covey’s, 7 Habits of Highly Effective People and taking the StrengthsFinder 2.0 assessment. Brenda learned her strengths are: empathy, discipline, activator, ideation, and significance. Tammie learned her strengths are: strategic, discipline, significance, ideation, and wow. Tammie also learned that she is an extrovert, which would come as no surprise to anyone who has been around her. Participants in ESCP quickly learn that working as a team is important, in the coursework and in their careers. By actively listening to other members of the team, everyone has a chance to share ideas and thoughts, and that attribute creates a positive work environment. The final assignment of ESCP requires each participant to write a paper highlighting what they learned in ASCP and ESCP combined. Tammie shared, “I have a desire to make a difference by motivating and allowing others to speak out and be heard in all situations. Creating a work environment where employees are engaged, understood, and feel valued is essential to boosting motivation and job satisfaction.” Brenda added, “My journey through the ASCP and ESCP programs has contributed to my ability to serve in other areas of Mississippi State Hospital as well as my community. I stand by MSH’s values of diversity, respect, relationship, accountability, and teamwork. I’m motivated when I get the opportunity to learn something different and accept new challenges.”

FARMER JIM NEAL GOLF CLASSIC



By: Julie Cox

Under crisp blue skies and perfect temperatures, thirty teams competed in the 2024 Farmer Jim Neal Golf Classic held at Whisper Lake on Friday, April 12. The FJN Golf Classic is the largest annual fundraiser for Friends of MSH, whose primary function is to promote awareness of mental health issues and raise funds for projects that enhance the quality of life for individuals served at the hospital throughout the year.

The C Spire team of Adam Panetta, Philip Thornton, Zachary Lambert, and Steven Barbati claimed first place in this year's tournament. Second place went to the Carruth team of Chris Hall, Larry Carruth, Andy Wogoman, and Rhonda Pearson. The Thad Williams team of Bruce Kemp, Joe Redmond, Jr., Thaddeus Williams, and Howard Ashford secured third place.

Friends is so thankful for all of our sponsors that made the tournament a success. Sponsors include: Title Sponsor – BankPlus; Platinum Sponsor – Cura Hospitality; Eagle Sponsor – Mid South Rehab Services, Inc.; Golf Cart Sponsors – Brandi's Hope Community Services, Brown & Root, and



Blue Water Architectural Products; Par Sponsors – Bank of Yazoo, Carr, Riggs and Ingram, LLC, Codaray Construction, LLC., Hinds Behavioral Health Services, The Power Source, PLLC, and Mark S. Vaughn, Architect; Beverage Cart/Tent Sponsors – Wally Majors, Mississippi Hospital Association, Terry Services, Inc., and RJ Young; Tee-Sign Sponsor – Mississippi Hospital Association; Gift Donors – AHA

Donuts and More, Amerigo, Bass Pro Shops, Buffalo Wild Wings, Chick-fil-A, C Spire, Cowboy Maloney, Donna Brown, Half Shell Oyster House, Home Depot, Lost Pizza - Flowood, Mangia Bene Restaurant, Moss Creek, Mug Shots, Newk's, Revell Hardware - Pearl, Sheila Shows, Saltines, Table 100, Van's Sporting Goods, Walmart, and Walker's Drive Inn. A special thanks to AMG Recruitment, BankPlus, Ben Nelson

Golf Carts, Dennis Bledsoe, C Spire, Cura Hospitality, Cowboy Maloney, Discovery Christian School, Mid South Rehab Services, Inc., Hole in One International, Richard Womack Construction, and Whisper Lake Country Club.

Committee members include Jeremy Allen and Jonathan Robinson with CURA; Bill Bobbs, Tony Gomillion, Bobby Stephens, and Ray Wallace from the Friends of MSH Board; Tommy Bradley and Anna Lauren Hatchett from the Neal Family; Kyle Sisk, Whisper Lake Pro; and Joel Ross, BankPlus, and Bo Chastain, MSH Director, serving as co-chairs. Kathy Denton and Sheila Shows, Public Relations, served as tournament coordinators for the hospital. Our amazing volunteers from Mid South Rehab Services, Inc. and Bank of Yazoo keep things running smoothly and make the day more enjoyable.

The tournament also heavily depends on MSH staff to assist with getting all needed supplies (tables/chairs/grills/coolers/tents, etc.) to the event, set up and then taken down and returned to MSH. Members of this group have also traditionally been part of the cooking team. Representatives from the Maintenance Department included Craig Martin, Ryan VanGordon, Riley Savell, Chase Middleton, and Andrew Sistrunk. MSH Police Officer Derrick Berry was also part of the support team. Thank you to all of them for their work to make this event successful!

An extra special thank you to the family of Farmer Jim Neal who continue to allow Friends to use his namesake for this tournament. Thank you to Anna Lauren Hatchett and Tommy Bradley for serving as Honorary Chairmen and attending to represent the Neal family to be a part of this day of good food, good friends, and a great day of golf!



1st Place – Cspire Team - Adam Panetta, Philip Thornton, Zachary Lambert, Steven Barbati



2nd Place - Carruth Team - Amy Carruth, Chris Hall, Larry Carruth, Andy Wogoman, Rhonda Pearson



3rd Place - Thad Williams Team - Bruce Kemp, Joe Redmond, Jr., Thaddeus Williams, Howard Ashford

JNH Celebrates Skilled Nursing Care Week with Sock Hop

To celebrate National Skilled Nursing Care Week, Jaquith Nursing Home (JNH) residents held a Sock Hop, complete with Coke Floats! With the DJ playing music of the era, residents danced, took photos by the juke box, and enjoyed reminiscing their younger years. One resident exclaimed, "I grew up to this music!" Therapeutic Recreation and Nursing staff served hamburgers, French fries, and coleslaw, then topped the meal off with a Coke Float.

National Skilled Nursing Care Week celebrates the essential role that skilled nursing care centers play in providing safe and effective 24-hour nursing care to millions of individuals each year. MSH is so thankful for our nursing staff at JNH and the care they provide for our residents throughout the year.



Clay Therrell Named Project Manager

Clay Therrell has been named Project Manager in the Support Services Department. Clay began his new duties on May 20, 2024. He is new to MSH, so he's spent quite a bit of time the last few weeks becoming oriented with the campus and getting briefed on ongoing projects.

Clay attended Hinds Community College majoring in Landscape Construction. He has worked in the private sector and most recently served as the Grounds Director at Hinds Community College in Pearl for eight years. His first priority has been to become familiar with current ongoing projects, including the renovations of Building 63, which is the new Forensics building, and the ongoing Anti-Ligature Compliance project. Part of his responsibilities will be to walk with contractors and the Bureau of Buildings through every step of these projects, monitor progress, facilitate

walk-throughs, and handle any issues that may arise.

In addition to overseeing building and renovation projects, Clay will administer the Trustee Program on campus. We've seen many improvements to the campus in the months that Trustees have been working here, including pressure washing sidewalks and the planting of flowers and new trees. With his background in grounds construction, a passion for Clay is to put together a complete registry of trees that may produce any hazards that might arise with proximity to power lines, buildings, etc.

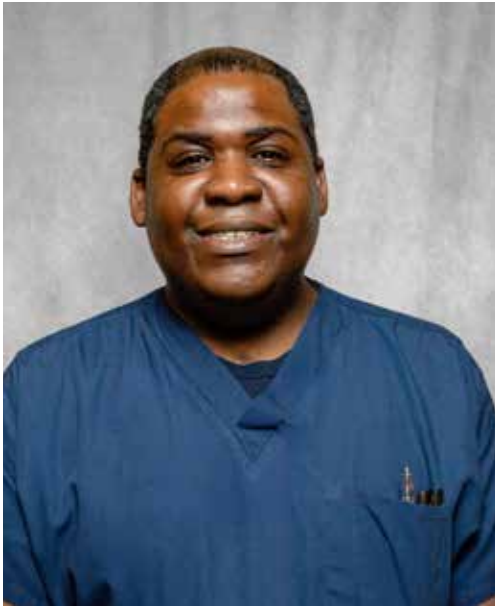
Also in his sights, is a complete overhaul of the fleet program at MSH. Getting a detailed inventory of what is on-hand and documenting the condition of each vehicle is important to getting the fleet program on track to be the most productive it can be.

Clay will work hand-in-hand with the Director of Support Services, especially as he navigates his first few months and continues to learn his duties and responsibilities. Support Services

Director, Carla Dearman noted, "Clay hit the ground running on day one to learn about our campus and our ongoing and upcoming projects and build positive working relationships with staff and project contractors. He brings a fresh perspective to our team and will take this role to new heights. I am excited to work alongside him to make a positive impact and move MSH forward." Clay is excited to be a part of the MSH family and has enjoyed meeting his coworkers. He loves the layout of the campus and looks forward to tackling the challenges ahead.

Originally from Brandon, Clay and his wife, Lauren, moved to Puckett with their three daughters four and a half years ago so his children could experience the country lifestyle he enjoyed while growing up. He and his girls enjoy deer and turkey hunting, fishing, running trot lines, hanging out on the sandbar, swimming, and going to the beach. A true "Girl Dad", he enjoys watching his girls play softball, volleyball, cheer, and participating in Future Farmers of America (FFA). As a family, they are very involved in their church, Antioch Baptist Church, where Clay serves as a deacon.

MSH May Employees of Month



DIRECT CARE
HENRY OWENS
BUILDING 203/3, B-SHIFT

Henry Owens has been named Mississippi State Hospital's May Employee of the Month for Direct Care.

A lifelong resident of Jackson, Owens attended Jim Hill High School. He enjoys interacting with the patients at MSH. He serves as a Support Care Professional Team Lead in IPS and has been employed at MSH since 2004.

"Henry has consistently demonstrated exceptional performance as shift leader. His hard work, dedication, and attitude has provided structure to the building. Henry is knowledgeable of his staff's strengths and leads them to provide the upmost quality of care. He is observant and able to notice the smallest changes in his patients' behavior. He is the person they always come to. When something is off, he promptly jumps into action to find the best course of action. Not only does he possess outstanding leadership qualities, but he is also a team player. Henry regularly helps out with providing coverage on other shifts when they are short staffed and is always making sure the next shift is covered, set up, and prepared," said Torrance Key, who nominated Owens.



CLINICAL SERVICE
DONNA CHAPMAN
BUILDING 65, A-SHIFT

Donna Chapman has been named Mississippi State Hospital's May Employee of the Month for Clinical Service.

A resident of Byram, Chapman grew up in Waynesboro where she attended Waynesboro High School and Jones County Junior College in Ellisville. She enjoys seeing nursing students who were scared during clinical rotations come back to work at MSH after graduation. She serves as a Nurse Affiliation Coordinator in Staff Education and has been employed at MSH since 2003.

"Donna has been a dedicated employee for over 20 years. She is always the first to arrive and is often the last to leave. She can do almost every job in Staff Education. Donna has a gift for communicating with others and always makes visitors and nursing students feel welcome. There have been several times she has spent the night on the building to provide a place for others to stay during inclement weather. Many times if someone needs to find out how something is supposed to be done, we will answer with, "that is a Donna question"," said Elisabeth Allen, who nominated Chapman. Donna's supervisor, Kewan Ewing added, "Donna remains a dependable person in Staff Education and a valuable resource for the campus."



SUPPORT SERVICES
GLINDA BOURNE
BUILDING 46, A-SHIFT

Glinda Bourne has been named Mississippi State Hospital's May Employee of the Month for Support Services.

Born in Sunflower, MS, Bourne now lives in Raymond. She attended John Marshall Harlan High School in Chicago, IL and Jackson State University, where she earned a bachelor's degree in Social Work. She enjoys being part of our patients' development at MSH. She serves as a Social Services Specialist III in CTS and has been employed at MSH since 2021.

"Mrs. Bourne is a genuinely kind and respectful employee. She has wonderful relationships with all disciplines and staffing around campus. Mrs. Bourne shows to be accountable by always doing what she says she is going to do. She exemplifies teamwork by always being willing to assist patients and staff with any activities or something that can benefit the patients. She is an example of diversity because no matter what challenges we may face, she is able to smoothly adjust to any situation or obstacle. Mrs. Bourne has a heart of gold because she is very compassionate about the patients she serves, she thinks of others first, and is always willing to help in any way she can to make sure the job gets done for our patients," said Carla Hammond, who nominated Bourne.

MSH June Employees of Month



DIRECT CARE
LISA JOHNSON
BUILDING 46, A-SHIFT

Lisa Johnson has been named Mississippi State Hospital's June Employee of the Month for Direct Care.

Raised in Vicksburg, Johnson now makes her home in Pearl. She attended Warren Central High School and Hinds Community College. She enjoys working with and caring for the patients at MSH. She serves as a Support Care Professional Team Lead in IPS and has been employed at MSH since 1995.

"Lisa always has a smile on her face even when patients are acting out. She leads by example and is always ready to assist staff in any situation. Lisa treats all patients with respect and kindness," said Bruce Parker, who nominated Johnson.



CLINICAL SERVICE
DENA RAST
BUILDING 81, A-SHIFT

Dena Rast has been named Mississippi State Hospital's June Employee of the Month for Clinical Service.

A resident of Pearl, Rast grew up in Lena where she attended Carthage Christian Academy and Holmes Community College. She enjoys helping others by teaching them about their disease and seeing her patients become clean and sober at MSH. She serves as a LPN/Nurse Educator in IPS and has been employed at MSH since 2021.

"Dena is a dependable nurse on the female building. She is proactive in her approach to fulfilling her daily duties. As soon as Dena clocks in, she begins working. Dena is efficient and very knowledgeable concerning services offered on Building 81. She represents the best qualities needed to be nominated for Employee of the Month. She deserves it," said Sharla Karabelen, who nominated Rast.



SUPPORT SERVICES
MONA TAYLOR
BUILDING 79, A-SHIFT

Mona Taylor has been named Mississippi State Hospital's June Employee of the Month for Support Services.

A resident of Pearl, Taylor grew up in Fannin where she attended Northwest Rankin High School. She enjoys meeting new people at MSH. She serves as a Housekeeper in Environmental Services and has been employed at MSH since 2011.

"Ms. Taylor always works hard and strives for excellence. She is always happy and eager to help anyone. In Public Relations, we are constantly hosting events on the building, so the building's cleaning needs are great. Our building shines and that is due to the hard work of Ms. Taylor. She is a positive asset to Mississippi State Hospital," said Donna Brown, who nominated Taylor.

April 2024 Service Awards



L to R: Michael Gordon, Latrina Hawthorne, Amanda Matson, Misty Purvis

May 2024 Service Awards



L to R: Lisa Robinson, Shemecka Williams-Johnson.

June 2024 Service Awards



L to R: Sonia Louis-Juste, Ricky Shelby, Carla Hammond, Kina Woods, Rushell Reid, Jennie Miner, Vera Mae Knight (May)

April, May, June Service Award Recipients

APRIL

NAME	YRS
FAITH L MOSS	1
MELANIE K YANKLOWSKI	1
ZAKIYYAH S DILLON	1
BRIDNEY ALEXANDRIA BAILEY	1
EBONY DELORIS MINOR	1
JANA MARIE HINTON	1
WALTER EVAN DEJUAN WHITE	1
MELISSA LUCILLE GRIFFIN	1
LATRINA JONES HAWTHORNE	1
JOSE RICARDO VELARDE	1
KISHELITA HILLIARD SPARKS	1
HERBERT CHRISTOPHER COLEMAN	1
KAYLA THOMPSON GHEE	1
COURTNEY GABRIELLE DENSON	5
PATRICIA D OWENS	5
ANGELA DRANE	5
VINCE LANGSTON GIBBS	5
AMANDA MICHELLE MATSON	10
ERICA T. GHOLAR	10
MISTY D PURVIS	15
PATRICIA ANNETTE MAHAFFEY	20
MICHAEL DESHAUN GORDON	20

MAY

NAME	YRS
JERAMY ALANDUS GRAYER	1
TRACIE LYNNE GUISE FIELDS	1
MACKINZIE NELSON LEE	1
GRACE ALYN HIGH	1
LYNISSA GININE WASHINGTON	1
GERICA NACHELLE HILL	1
LISA JEANNINE ROBINSON	1
ROBIN ELIZABETH BRINSON	5
MELODIE CAROL VICK	5
COSHERRY LYVETTE EPTING	5
CARA RENEE CUMBERLAND	5
HEATHER LANE WATKINS	5
KENNEDY ELAYNE COLLIER	5
SAME'AS TIESHA HOWARD	10
CHIQUITA T RICHARDS	10
CASSANDRA RETHA KITCHENS	10
CARROL J FANCHER	15
LANIECE F WALKER	15
SHEMECKA WILLIAMS-JOHNSON	20
VERONICA L. MITCHELL	20
VERA MAE KNIGHT	30

JUNE

NAME	YRS
CAROLYN MARIE TUCKER BECK	1
HANNAH GAYLE RICHARD	1
HOLDEN BLAYNE LEE	1
MARIAH MAXINE BOHL	1
PATRICK MICHAEL WHITE	1
GERRI ANNE WILSON	1
TYLER ANTHONY MENZIES	1
WILLIAM H COVINGTON	1
CODY ROBINSON KNIGHT	1
JASMINE LEIGH WALKER	1
ASHANTI SAMONE DAMPIER	1
TIFFANY CORSER	1
ANDREA D RENNIE	1
KHOLADA ELOIS QUICK	1
PENCY ANNELL BANES	1
JOHN WESTBROOK NORTON	5
CARLA MARIE HAMMOND	5
RICKY SHELBY	5
RUSHELL L REID	10
MARY A TYLER	10
ALLYSON L PIGG	10
JEFFREY REECE LANDRUM	10
KINA X WOODS	15
SONIA YVETTE LOUIS-JUSTE	20
ALAN W. MEANS	20
DEBORAH LEE CROSBY	20
JENNIE B. MINER	40