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Mississippi State Hospital's 2024 Christmas Parade



Bandmaster's Award: Pearl High School

By: Julie Cox

Mississippi State Hospital's annual Christmas Parade rolled through campus on Friday, December 6 with 17 floats/car entries, two guest/antique cars, three motorcycles, Pearl Police, and six bands (Pearl High School, Jim Hill High School, Northwest Middle School, Canton High School, Lanier High School, Raymond High School) for a total of 29 units. This year's theme was "A New Twist on an Old

Tale", revisiting childhood fairy tales, nursery rhymes, and children's stories and adding a Christmas twist. Participants decorated their floats with themes such as Charlotte's Web, Peter Pan, Wizard of Oz, Winnie the Pooh, The Three Little Pigs, Little Red Riding Hood, Humpty Dumpty, and more. Award winners were determined by how well they depicted their chosen story and added a Christmas twist.

Friends of Mississippi State Hospital board

members served as parade judges. Awards were presented in the following categories: Most Enchanting Award, Christmas Star Award, Most Spirited Award, Most Hilarious Award, Most Surprising Award, and Best Support Services Award. The judges were so impressed they added two awards, Honorable Mention and the Most Adorable as well as two band awards.

CHRISTMAS PARADE WINNERS:

- HONORABLE MENTION:**

The Wheels on the Bus,
Jaquith Nursing Home

- MOST ENCHANTING AWARD:**

The Little Engine that Could,
Whitfield Medical Surgical Hospital
Best represents parade theme
& visually tells the story

- MOST SPIRITED AWARD:**

*Rub A Dub Dub, the Village
People in a Tub,* Forensics
Entry with the most
enthusiastic participants

- MOST HILARIOUS AWARD:**

The Three Little Pigs, Receiving
Entry with the most
humorous display

- MOST ADORABLE AWARD:**

I'm a Little Tea Pot, CURA

- BEST SUPPORT SERVICES ENTRY:**

Winnie the Pooh, Administration
Stands out among non-patient
unit entries

- MOST SURPRISING AWARD:**

Little Red Riding Hood,
Hinds Behavioral Health Services
Most unexpected and quirky entry

- CHRISTMAS STAR AWARD:**

Wizard of Oz, Utilization
Management Best overall
creativity, appearance,
and originality

- BAND AWARDS:**

- Best Showmanship Award:*
Jim Hill High School
(Best Visual Performance)

- Bandmaster's Award:*
Pearl High School
(Competition Ready Band)



Bandmaster's Award: Pearl High School



Christmas Star Award: Wizard of Oz, Utilization Management



Honorable Mention: *The Wheels on the Bus*, Jaquith Nursing Home



Friends of MSH, Inc. board members served as the 2024 Christmas Parade Judges. Pictured left to right seated: Vicki Everett, Lynn Dilmore, Amy Walker, Abby Blair, Danielle Kitchens-WAPT, Betty Harp & Donna Boykin. left to right standing: Bobby Stephens, Ray Wallace, Tony Gomillion, Bill Bobbs, Gale Martin, Dee Payne, and Marilyn Garth.



Best Support Services Entry: Winnie the Pooh, Administration



Most Adorable Award: I'm a Little Tea Pot, CURA



Best Showmanship Award: Jim Hill High School



Most Hilarious Award: The Three Little Pigs, Receiving



Most Surprising Award: Little Red Riding Hood, Hinds Behavioral Health Services



Most Enchanting Award: The Little Engine That Could, WMSH





The Christmas House

Patients and Residents Visited & Toured

By: Julie Cox

This year's Christmas House hosted over 125 patients and residents for a fun-filled tour, followed by engaging activities. Our 2024 games included a Reindeer Ring Toss, Gumball Throw, Chase the Ace card game, and Visions of Sugar Plums guessing game. MSH Art Services hosted a greeting card craft while everyone enjoyed cookies and hot chocolate/coffee. Santa's Park Bench was the perfect spot for a commemorative photo.



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2024 Christmas Donors

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| 1. Blackwell, James and Lilly | 14. Evergreen Christian Community Church - Women Ministry |
| 2. Breland, Kelly | 15. GFWC-MFWC - Florentine Club - Florence |
| 3. Brooks, Tom and Robin | 16. Greater Northside MB Church |
| 4. Pickett, Channing | 17. Greenville Garden Club |
| 5. Sullivan, Meagan, Joni, Corey | 18. Holmes Community College ADN Program |
| 6. Weeks, Tammy | 19. Mt. Wade Missionary Baptist Church |
| 7. Curtesteen, Terry | 20. Rankin County Embroidery Club |
| 8. Walker, David and Pam | 21. Rho Lambda Omega Chapter-
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. |
| 9. Coahoma Community College - Division of Health Services | 22. Sand Hill Baptist Church |
| 10. Daniel Memorial Baptist Church | 23. The Salvation Army |
| 11. Delta Chi Zeta - Zeta Phi Beta Sorority | 24. Traxler Construction, LLC |
| 12. Delta State University School of Nursing | 25. Union Baptist Church - Jackson County Community |
| 13. DMH - Central Office | |

2024 Christmas Monetary Donations

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| • Anderson, Linda and Buck | • Kegley, Glynn | • Raymond Garden Club |
| • Barnes, Shelby | • Kellum, Mary W. | • Bethel Baptist Church |
| • Barrett, Bill | • Lewis, James and Leslie | • Happy Hearts Sunday School Class |
| • Barry, Bettye | • Lott, Hope | • Estes Mill Homemakers Volunteer Club |
| • Boles, Mr. and Mrs. James | • Madison, Doyle E. | • Adams County MHV |
| • Boyd, Betty Jo | • Mayar, Maria | • Mt. Olive Baptist Church |
| • Bray, Martha | • McCaskill, Morris | • Springhill Baptist Church |
| • Briggs, Gladys | • McCullouch, John | • Crystal Springs Floral Club |
| • Burford, Robert E. | • McGee-Rosser, Sheila | • Terry Service, Inc. |
| • Collins, Gregory and Nancy | • Nalls-Hopson, Mrs. K | • Quota Club of Jackson Area Charitable Trust |
| • Cox, Kendal R. | • Peden, Janet | • Wards Rehab and Vending |
| • Creekmore, James H. | • Quinn, BB | • Church Women United |
| • Croxton, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley | • Randal, Roxanne | • Hollandale First Baptist Church - SS |
| • Davis, Catherine | • Reeves, Shirley | • Mississippi State Department of Mental
Health Board |
| • Davis, Mary | • Richards, John | • Batesville Woman's Club |
| • Delong, Amy S. | • Richardson, Lakeisha | • The Jimmy Bullock Family |
| • Dilmore, Mr. and Mrs. Mike | • Rosenblatt, Mary Ellen | • Brandon Methodist Church -
Joy Sunday School Class |
| • Dorsey, Leonia | • Scott, Wanda | • Pilgrim Home MB Church |
| • Edwards, Jennifer | • Scott, Jori | • Tea Rose Foundation |
| • Evans, Deon | • Shannon, Loretta M. | • Beruk Dental Services |
| • Fortenberry, Gwen | • Simpson, Valerie | • Port City Adult Daycare Inc |
| • Fulton, Jamelda F. | • Sims, Barbara | • Mt. Carmel MB Church |
| • Garth, Marilyn | • Smith-Nelson, Dorothy | • Church of the Redeemer |
| • Granon, Mary | • Sneed, Robert W. | • Greenville - New Hope First Baptist Church |
| • Gray, Sadie | • Strong, Angela | • Zion Baptist Church |
| • Griffin, Cynthia | • Taylor, Beatrice | • Mt. Horeb M B Church |
| • Hansell, Marilyn | • Thomas, Julia | • Mercy Seat MB Church |
| • Hardy, Mary | • Tolbert, Loistine | • Calvary Presbyterian Church |
| • Harris, Maxinne | • Watkins, Helen | • New Jerusalem MB Church |
| • Haynes, Charles and Margaret | • Weathersby, Florence | • E Taylor Chiropractic LLC |
| • Hilton, Kathy | • Weir, Elizabeth Odel | • Florentine Club |
| • Hoover, Mr. and Mrs. Jerry | • Whalen, Mazie B. | • Mt. Pleasant Baptist Churchj |
| • Hughes, Lynda | • Woods, Earlean C. | • Noxubee Couty Council MHV, Inc. |
| • Jackson, Evelyn | • Yates, Patricia D. | |
| • Jackson, Paula | • Young, James and Kathleen | |
| • Jaquith, Bill | • Young, Bill | |
| • Jelks, Janice | • Old Silver Creek Baptist Church | |



Terry Curtesteen



Brooks Family



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Greater Northside MB Church



Delta State University School of Nursing



The Jimmy Bullock Family



Mt Wade MB Church



Sullivan Family



Zeta Phi Beta



Greenville Women's Club



Holmes CC ADN Program



Traxur and Lambert



Quota Club of Jackson



Jackson County Retired Teachers



Church Women United



Rankin County Embroidery Club

Florence Florentine Club Assembles Candy/Snack Bags



(left to right): Florence Florentine Club Members – Jeannie Pittman, Jessie Buckley, Betty Harpe, Dee Payne, Marilyn Garth

By: Julie Cox

Several members of the Florence Florentine Club gathered on Building 71 to assemble bundles of snacks that were included in each patient/resident's Christmas gift bag. Christmas gift bags are provided to every patient and resident of MSH as part of the mission of The Christmas House and Santa Day. These two Christmas events were established by former Director of Volunteer Services, Jerald D. Ball, to ensure that MSH patients and residents were not forgotten during the Christmas holiday season.

The Christmas House is a collection point for donations, but it is also a wonderland of Christmas lights and decorations located throughout Building 71. In November, patients and residents toured The Christmas House and engaged in games and crafts during their visit.

Santa Day was held on Thursday, December 19. On that day, business leaders, legislators, and others dressed as Santa Claus personally delivered Christmas gift bags to every individual served by the hospital. Patients, residents, and staff look forward to both of these Christmas activities every year.

We are so thankful for the support we receive year-round from the ladies of the Florence Florentine Club.

Therapeutic Recreation Hosted a Christmas Sing-Along

By: Julie Cox

On December 10, Therapeutic Recreation hosted a Christmas Sing-along for our patients and residents. Ms. Stacey Davis, Director of Therapeutic Recreation, welcomed everyone and then turned the program over to the MSH Music Department, which played some timeless Christmas carols mixed with some new favorites. Ceci Whitehurst, Art Services Supervisor, led everyone in some fun tunes such as “Deck the Halls”, “Jingle Bell Rock”, and “Rocking Around the Christmas Tree”, sprinkled with some traditional songs including “Away in a Manger” and “I’m Dreaming of a White Christmas”. Chaplain Dennis Spivey took the helm for a few songs during the program leading seasonal hits such as “Joy to the World”, “Go Tell It On the Mountain”, and “Jingle Bells”. A special performance of “Jesus, What a Wonderful Child” was delivered by one of our talented patients. A crowd favorite was “This Christmas”, led by Tyrone Crawford, MSH Music Department. The “12 Days of Christmas” provided some interactive fun when volunteers from the audience held up visuals on stage as the song progressed through the lyrics. Chaplain Spivey closed out the special time by leading the crowd through a joyful finale of “We Wish You a Merry Christmas”. A special thanks to our MSH Music Department, Denesha Evans, David Putnam, Tyrone Crawford, for providing beautiful, live music during the sing-along.



2024 Mississippi State Hospital Santas

By: Julie Cox

Santa Day, one of the most exciting events of the year at Mississippi State Hospital, was held on Thursday, December 19, 2024.

Santa Day was started by James “Jimmy” Stubbs, who was MSH director from 1975-88. On Santa Day, volunteers, elected officials, and MSH employees dressed as Santa Claus visit each and every patient and resident building on the campus to personally deliver holiday gifts. Each MSH patient and Jaquith Nursing Home resident receives a gift bag with clothing, games, and activities.

A multitude of volunteers have visited the campus this year and provided nearly 30 holiday parties for the patients and residents served at MSH. Some groups do caroling, and others bring food and gifts. Santa Day is the culmination of those holiday activities.



Sitting (l to r) – Gene Miller (Volunteer), Gale Martin (Past President and Friends of MSH Board Member), Senator Hillman Frazier (District 27), Johnny Beck (Volunteer), Representative Lance Varner (District 62), Mason Lambert (Traxler Construction)

Standing (l to r) – Billy Morehead (Mississippi College), Martin Keil (First Senior Vice President, Community Bank), Jeff Luckey (Police Chief, MSH), Carl Mangum (UMMC School of Nursing), Senator Brian Rhodes (District 36), Patrick Fontaine (Fontaine Insurance Services), Daniel Elliott (President, Rankin County Market, Candence Bank), Bo Chastain (Hospital Director, MSH)



2024 Christmas Party Providers

Brown Hill Missionary MBC Society
Circle of Love
Delta Sigma Theta
Evangelist Temple Church of God in Christ
Fairview MB Church
Gallman Baptist Church
Good Hope Baptist Church - Florence
Grandview Baptist Church
Greater Mt Zion Church
Greater New True Light Baptist Church
Griffith Baptist Church
Meadowbrook Church of Christ

New Hope Missionary Baptist Church - WMU -Jackson
New Prospect Baptist Church
New Strangers Home Baptist Church
Parkview Church of Christ
Pine Grove Baptist Church
Rankin County Kiwanis Club
South Liberty Baptist Church
St. Columb's Episcopal Church
St. Luther Missionary Baptist Church
St. Matthew MB Church - Jackson
St. Peter Baptist Church



Brown Hill Missionary MBC Society



Circle of Love



Delta Sigma Theta



Good Hope MB Church



Fairview Baptist Church



Gallman Baptist Church



Evangelist Temple Church of God in Christ



David & Pam Walker



Greater Mt. Zion Church



Greater New True Light



Griffith Memorial Baptist Church



Meadow Brook Church of Christ



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New Prospect Baptist Church



New Strangers Home Baptist Church



Parkview Church of Christ



Pine Grove Baptist Church



Rankin County Kiwanis Club



South Liberty Baptist Church



St. Columb's Episcopal Church



St. Luther Missionary Baptist Church



St Matthew Missionary Baptist Church



St. Peter Baptist Church



MSH Utilization Mgt