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## FRIENDS OF MSH HONORS VOLUNTEERS AT ANNUAL MEETING

BY MIKE CHRISTENSEN



*The Friends of MSH Board includes (right to left): Sheila Shows, Tim Durr, Bobby Stephens, Bridget Lowery, President Gale Martin, Kim Fortner, MSH Director James Chastain, Betty Harpe, Bill Bobbs, Marilyn Garth, Jessie Buckley, Larry Swarengen, Dee Payne and Bradley Sanders.*

The spirit of volunteerism came through in the words of Janet Peden, a member of the Daniel Memorial Baptist Church WMU that received an award at the Friends of Mississippi State Hospital, Inc., Annual Meeting in late August.

“We feel both honored and blessed to volunteer at Mississippi State Hospital,” Peden said. “We always leave feeling wonderful.”

The Friends organization presents special awards each year to recognize significant contributions to its

mission made by volunteers. Awards for 2016 went to Daniel Memorial’s WMU and Brotherhood organizations (the Nancy B. Foreman Award); Kirk Hill (the Vivian Shivers Helping Hands Award); Tim and Jacque Phillips/T & J Concessions (Together We Make a Difference Award); and Diane Croxton (Mississippi Hospital Association’s MSH Volunteer of the Year).

“When we give, that’s when we receive,” said MSH Director James Chastain, who announced the winners before a large crowd in the Con-

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# ASPIRE

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## MISSISSIPPI STATE HOSPITAL

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## PRODUCTION

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**VISION**  
Mental wellness in every life, in every home,  
and in every community.

**MISSION**  
To help the individuals we serve achieve mental wellness by encouraging hope, promoting safety and supporting recovery while utilizing resources efficiently.

**OUR GOALS**

1. To provide a comprehensive, person-centered and recovery-oriented system of care for individuals served at Mississippi State Hospital.
2. To ensure patients and residents receive quality services in safe settings and utilize information/data management to enhance decision making and service delivery.
3. To provide administrative oversight and management to effectively and efficiently administer services.

**CORE VALUES**  
Respect – Relationships - Accountability -  
Teamwork - Diversity

**MEMBER OF**  
Mississippi Department of Mental Health  
American Hospital Association  
Mississippi Hospital Association  
Southern States Psychiatric  
Hospital Association

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ference Center on Building 71.

Also at the Aug. 24 meeting, Gale Martin was named the new President of the Friends Board of Directors, Joel Ross was named Vice-President and Tim Durr and Kim Fortner were introduced as new Board members. The Nancy B. Foreman Award, named for one of the founding members of Friends, is given each year to an individual or group who has demonstrated through their service, their commitment to enhancing the quality of life for persons with mental illness.

Daniel Memorial, located in South Jackson, held its first worship service in 1935, and its members have faithfully volunteered at the hospital for over 35 years. The late Elbert Hutto, who died in 2006, and other church deacons initiated the first visit. In the early days, they came with Kool-Aid, cookies and ice cream. Nowadays, the Brotherhood and the WMU will host different holiday parties on the same day, bringing gift bags, party foods and lots of good cheer to MSH patients and Jaquith Nursing Home residents.

The Helping Hands Award, established in 2006, honors an individual or group who represents the volunteer spirit and sets the standard for future generations. The Friends

Board in 2009 voted unanimously to rename this award in honor of Vivian Shivers, a former nurse at the hospital and longtime Friends member.

Hill has volunteered the past five years to use his antique cars to chauffeur the Grand Marshal in the MSH Christmas Parade. The Model T – one of the six Hill owns -- serves as a fitting showcase for the hospital's special guest. Hill is a retired math and science teacher and a Vietnam veteran whose hobby since childhood has been restoring antique cars. He drives approximately 35 miles one way in his Model T to get to the MSH campus for the parade.

"It's a lot of fun, it really is," said Hill, who lives in Mendenhall. He said he knew little about MSH before his first visit and was amazed by the beauty of the campus and the dedication of the hospital's staff and other volunteers. "I hope to keep doing this as long as I possibly can," he said.

The Together We Make a Difference Award recognizes a business or organization in the community which has given exemplary service to MSH.

Jacque Phillips, a Nurse Director in the Psychiatric Department at UMMC, and her husband, Tim, operate Morton-based T & J Concessions, which for several years has

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served as the food vendor for two major hospital events, MSH Day and the Independence Day celebration. As a contribution each year to MSH Day, T & J prepares a hot lunch for approximately 400 patients and residents at cost, making no profit on those meals. Friends' MSH Day fund covers the cost.

"It's an honor to receive this award, and we appreciate it very much," Tim Phillips said. He noted that he was amazed by the turnout at his first MSH Day. The long lines, which speak to the quality of the food, have been alleviated with the addition of more stands.

Croton, a lifetime Friends member, worked countless hours in the

Friends Gift Shoppe and has been an active participant on Santa Day, one of MSH's biggest and busiest events. She comes dressed as one of Santa's "elves" and usually brings along a few more elves – her nieces and their friends – as a way of demonstrating the importance of volunteering to the younger generation.

"What an honor," Croton said. "We have so much fun at Santa Day. How easy is it to volunteer by dressing up as an elf and acting silly? How great is that?"

Croton will be honored again with a special pin at the MHA Hospital Auxillians and Volunteer Society Luncheon on Oct. 9.

In other business at the Annual Meeting, it was announced that the Friends Membership Committee has been reinstated and a push to increase membership is under way with a goal of reaching 600 members by the end of the year.

"You guys make a difference," said Bridget Lowery, the outgoing Friends President.

Chastain stressed the importance of the Employee Recognition Program, one of the many campus projects funded by Friends.

"It really builds morale," he said. "We couldn't have that program without Friends of Mississippi State Hospital."



Outgoing Friends Board President Bridget Lowery (far left), new President Gale Martin (second from left) and MSH Director James Chastain (far right) present members of Daniel Memorial Baptist Church with the Nancy B. Foreman Award.



*Friends Board President Gale Martin (far left), outgoing President Bridget Lowery (second from left), MSH Volunteer Services Director Sheila Shows (second from right) and MSH Director James Chastain (far right) recognize Diane Croxton as the Mississippi Hospital Association MSH Volunteer of the Year award.*



*Friends Board President Gale Martin (far left), outgoing President Bridget Lowery (second from left) and MSH Director James Chastain (far right) present Kirk Hill with the Vivian Shivers Helping Hands Award.*

*Friends Board President Gale Martin (far left), outgoing President Bridget Lowery (second from left) and MSH Director James Chastain (far right) present Tim Phillips of T & J Concessions with the Together We Make a Difference Award.*



## KATINA RANKIN DELIVERS SPECIAL MESSAGE AT MSH'S OAK CIRCLE CENTER

BY MIKE CHRISTENSEN



**K**atina Rankin's message was simple and clear: "Dream, follow, believe, become."

Rankin, a Magee native and former TV news anchor at WAPT and WLBT, visited Mississippi State Hospital's Oak Circle Center in August and read from her book "Up North, Down South: City Folk Meet Country Folk."

She also gave an inspirational talk, telling her own story of growing up poor in rural Mississippi, discovering her passion – communications – and chasing her dream even as some people tried to discourage her.

"What is your passion? That is something you must begin to think about today," Rankin told the group from OCC, the child and adolescent unit at MSH.

Rankin, now an anchor at a Memphis, Tenn., station, has a bachelor's degree in mass communications from Alcorn State University and a master's in broadcast communication from Jackson State University.

She has received a number of journalism awards and other honors.

"You matter just the way that you are," she told the OCC group. "Tell yourself every day, 'I am important. I am somebody. I am loved.'"

She went around the room, telling the kids, one at a time, "I believe in you."

Each member of the OCC group received a personalized autographed copy of Rankin's book.

"Up North, Down South" is described as a book for children from Pre-K through 5th grade that addresses still-too-common misconceptions about the South. The central characters in the book are 9-year-old McKennley and his 7-year-old sister Kendall, who live in New York City and take a summer vacation trip to rural Mississippi.

All they know of the state are rumors they've heard about how Southerners talk, dress and act. "Folks from

the South talk funny. They say y'all and wave at everybody they pass on the street. They don't have regular pets like cats and dogs. They only have cows, goats and chickens. And, sometimes they act like cavemen." Once the children spend some time in the country, they begin to realize that city folk and country folk aren't so different after all.

"This book takes children on a journey across Mississippi, while addressing still-too-common misconceptions about the state in an age-appropriate manner. This book entertains the reader while showing that Mississippi is a wonderful state with wonderful people. I believe this book will instill pride in Mississippi's children, as well as help the children outside of our state gain an appreciation for Mississippi," said Marcus L. Thompson, Chief Administrative Officer at the Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning, in a review.

# JAQUITH NURSING HOME FILLED A CRITICAL NEED IN 1976

BY MIKE CHRISTENSEN



Jaquith Nursing Home turned 40 years old this year.

Founded by Dr. William Jaquith and James Stubbs, JNH opened its doors in the summer of 1976. Jaquith, long-time director at Mississippi State Hospital, was executive director at the Department of Mental Health at the time, and Stubbs was his successor at MSH.

“Both men demonstrated unconditional and unyielding compassion for people who couldn’t care for themselves,” a 2006 article in “Health Keys,” an MSH in-house publication, stated. “They worked hard to establish a nursing home on the MSH campus to provide care for the hospital’s aging patients who didn’t receive the care they needed in the community.”

An article in a Jackson newspaper from Feb. 18, 1959, titled “Many Whitfield Beds Tied Up With Aged, Not Mentally Ill” gives some historical perspective on the need for public

nursing home care.

At the time, according to the article, there were no separate facilities in the state “for the care of an increasing aged population.” The article notes that the governor, J.P. Coleman, vetoed a bill in 1956 that would have created such a facility, at a cost of \$500,000, at Whitfield (MSH), saying the care of the aged was the responsibility of the individual’s family, not the state.

In 1951, MSH had adopted a policy, which was much criticized, that no patient over the age of 65 could be admitted unless a bed was available. Jaquith is quoted as saying, “Many patients who are brought to the institution are suffering from long term chronic illnesses. They are not mentally ill. Their families, welfare agencies, and communities have no place to send them. Since there are no chronic nursing facilities, they constantly bombard this institution for admission. Many of them are admitted in good faith and after they are

admitted, they never leave the hospital. With each chronic case the hospital keeps, another treatment bed is lost and those who suffer from a mental disorder and who need treatment are deprived of this care.”

Twenty-five years later, in 1976, the opening of a nursing home on the MSH campus addressed this problem. Jaquith Nursing Home was officially licensed by the Mississippi Department of Health on Aug. 4, 1976. A 30th anniversary celebration was held on June 8, 2006, which was declared by Gov. Haley Barbour as JNH Day in Mississippi. A number of state dignitaries attended the event.

In a June 6, 2006, article in the Rankin Ledger about the 30th anniversary, then JNH director Marc Lewis said, “There was a great need. That’s why (Jaquith and Stubbs) founded it.” The article also quoted Dr. Jaquith’s brother Cecil: “Jaquith Nursing Home and Mississippi State Hospital were the loves of his life. He enjoyed being there more than any-

thing else.”

Jaquith retired to the campus nursing home after suffering a stroke in 1979 and lived out his life there.

JNH is managed by Mississippi State Hospital but is separately licensed and accredited. JNH is not a “psychiatric” nursing home; it operates like a private nursing home, accepting individuals in need of long-term care. JNH accepts both private-pay and

Medicaid-eligible residents.

It provides residents with individualized care planning, medical care, psychology services, recreation, pastoral care services, beauty/barber services and individual and family counseling.

JNH considers its residents’ family members/responsible parties to be customers as well as important sup-

port for the residents. Family members are encouraged to participate in care planning and activities with their loved ones. A Family Council meeting is held quarterly on the MSH campus.

In 2006, there were 479 beds and 370 Certified Nursing Assistants on the six inns (11 buildings). Today, there are 379 beds and 220 CNAs on five inns (nine buildings) serving 413

## JERONE LACKING’S PATH LEADS TO MADISON INN

BY MIKE CHRISTENSEN

If Jerone Lacking’s career at Mississippi State Hospital had a theme song, it might be the old Hank Snow hit “I’ve Been Everywhere.”

Lacking recently was named Nursing Home Administrator for Jaquith Nursing Home’s Madison Inn, Buildings 28 and 34. The McComb native started working at MSH in 1992 as a Direct Care Worker on Building 82.

In between, Lacking has worked on Buildings 23, 77, 73, 74, 49, 39, 45, 87, 63, 81 and 84. He has been a Mental Health Technician, a Unit Coordinator, a Night Administrator, a Unit Director and, most recently, Service Administrator on 81 and 84, the Substance Use Service.

“I’ve been all over this place,” he says, laughing.

Lacking graduated from McComb High School in 1988 and attended Mary Holmes Community College on a basketball scholarship. From there, he went to Jackson State on an academic scholarship, majoring in psychology.

A professor at JSU steered him to MSH.



“I had originally planned to go straight on to graduate school,” Lacking said, “but the professor advised me to come here and work first, to see the different diagnoses. I wound up getting one promotion after another here and delayed graduate school.”

Lacking earned a master’s degree in Health Service Administration from

Mississippi College in 2001.

Lacking’s wife, Regina, used to work at MSH.

Lacking said things are running smoothly on his new job, which is similar to his previous one, though there are “some different guidelines that govern the nursing home side.”

# SERENDIPITY

## ART SHOW KEEPS PATRONS COMING BACK

BY JENNIFER GRAVES

*What is serendipity?*

*noun ser-en-dip-i-ty \,ser-ən-'di-pə-tē\ : luck that takes the form of finding valuable or pleasant things that are not looked for*

Mississippi State Hospital's annual Serendipity art show and silent auction is one of the most anticipated circle-the-date events within the MSH and local community, and it's more than luck that has kept everyone coming back over the past 27 years.

The annual event, featuring work by MSH patients and Jaquith Nursing Home residents, was held on Thursday, Sept. 1, in the Building 71 Conference Center.

Both on- and off-campus visitors are welcome, and several hundred typically attend the show over the course of the day, some traveling several hours from other cities throughout the state. Attendance at this year's event exceeded 300.

"I drive up every year to view the show, be inspired, and add to my growing collection of treasures. I look forward to discovering the unexpected at Serendipity," said one patron, who made the yearly trip from her home in Hattiesburg. All of the work in this unique show is created by MSH patients, both adults and children, and JNH residents who participate in the hospital's Art Services program. "The artists really look forward to Serendipity," said MSH Art Services Director Evelyn Carpenter.

This year's show included pieces from 96 patient and resident artists who produced 239 original works of art, including ceramics. "Moon and Stars" received the coveted Friends of Mississippi State Hospital Purchase Award, which includes a \$100 prize to the artist and a place in the hospital's permanent collection. All proceeds go directly to the artists themselves, a benefit that encourages continued participation in the art therapy program.

For many, art is an important part of the therapeutic process as it gives them a chance to express themselves through their artwork. "It's a real self-esteem builder for them to see their work matted, framed and presented," Carpenter said.

The pieces on display and up for auction included ceramics, scratch-board art, pencil drawings and paintings in various mediums. Bidders in the silent auction write their name, number and bid down next to a piece in which they are interested in purchasing. Serious bidders have learned to be at the show at closing time to ensure they have the highest bid on the artwork they want. You only get one opportunity, and some works are so desirable that being the final bidder can't be left to serendipity alone.

"It's a different show every year," Carpenter said. "Different people take part every year, and even those who participate regularly, they grow or change as an artist as they go through our program."



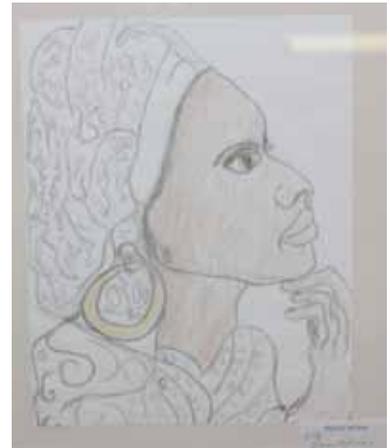


Guiding the artists along are MSH art instructors Ron Lindsey, Ceci Whitehurst and Francine Sutton.

Many return bidders collect similar works from their favorite artist and enjoy displaying their eclectic Serendipity artwork in their private home or office.

“Most of the people who come to the show know what to expect,” Carpenter said. “We have some who’ve come literally every year. They know they can get interesting, quality art at a very good price. And this kind of art is very popular right now.”

And the artwork provides the essential contribution to the success of the annual event, which has become a treasured tradition at MSH.



# PAINT IT PURPLE: MSH, JNH GET CREATIVE FOR THE CAUSE

BY MIKE CHRISTENSEN



On Building 60, they sported purple umbrellas and sang “Purple Rain,” the vocals enhanced by a gnarly air guitar performance. They “painted” it purple on Building 81, with purple paint cans “spilling” purple tissue paper onto the sidewalk, which was plastered with artwork done in purple. On Building 78, they were “Raisin Awareness” as they danced to the strands of “Heard it Through the Grapevine.” Purple balloons arranged as bunches of grapes adorned the front of the inn.

As a show of support for Alzheimer’s disease awareness, Mississippi State Hospital held its annual Paint It Purple Challenge on Sept. 16. Employees conceived a theme for their building and decorated appropriately. Purple was everywhere.

The contest winners were B-78 and B-34 for “Best of Show,” B-31 for

“Most Creative” and B-39 for “Most Unique.” The winners, who receive a \$50 gift card, will be formally recognized at the October Department Directors Meeting on Oct. 12. All participating buildings receive a certificate.

The song was the thing on Building 34, where staff and residents, all decked out in purple Caring Hearts T-shirts, belted out “We Are the World.” The theme was “Memory Matters.”

Staff on Building 31 created the “Purple Park of Memory,” highlighting memories of different activities residents might have experienced. There was a purple badminton set, horse shoes and frisbee. They even served up grape juice for the judges.

Dorothy, the Tin Man, Cowardly

*Building 81*



*Building 31*



Building 78

Lion and Scarecrow adorned the banner on Building 39, and a “purple brick road” led to the door. The theme was the “Wizard of Alz.” The message: “Somewhere Over the Rainbow There is Hope.”

On Building 21, posters proclaimed that “Memories are Worth Fighting For.” The door to Building 27 was decorated like a cellphone, “sending” messages of hope and inspiration. On Building 69, they held a “sack race” to play up their theme: “Racing to End Alzheimer’s.”

Cutouts of purple hands illustrated the “Helping Hands” theme on Building 23. On 46, they displayed purple flip-flops for the “Walk to End Alzheimer’s.”



Building 39

On Building 25, cutouts of Charlie Brown, Winnie the Pooh, Curious George and others promoted the “Paint it Purple” message.

For Buildings 29 and 33, the Jefferson Inn units, the theme was “A Drive for the Cure: Take a Step in the Right Direction,” with pictures of monster trucks used to drive home the point.

On Building 41, where the main decoration was purple records, they danced and sang along to classic hits, taking a trip “Back Down Memory Lane.”



Building 34

Paint It Purple is an international event sponsored by the Alzheimer’s Association. World Alzheimer’s Day is Sept. 21 every year.

Paint It Purple raises awareness for Alzheimer’s, which affects thousands of Mississippians. According to the National Alzheimer’s Association, warning signs of Alzheimer’s disease include memory loss that disrupts daily life, challenges in planning or solving problems and difficulty completing familiar tasks, among other symptoms.

## MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD ON ELECTION DAY, NOV. 8

BY DIANA S. MIKULA  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

As November approaches, there is one thing happening that I know will capture the attention of almost everyone in our state, and that is the 2016 election. We all know the election is happening on Tuesday, Nov. 8. I'm sure we have all seen our share of the coverage that has been dominating the news for more than a year. The time is quickly approaching when we will actually be able to exercise our right to vote.

I would like to encourage all of our DMH employees to exercise that right. This is our chance to truly make changes and to have our voices heard. In our state, someone age 18 or older can register to vote through the mail or in person at one of several places, including your local circuit clerk's office, your city clerk's office, or the Department of Public Safety. If you have access to a computer, you can find everything

you need to know about registering to vote at Y'all Vote, a web page set up by the Secretary of State's office. You can access it at [www.yallvote.sos.ms.gov](http://www.yallvote.sos.ms.gov).

If you are registered to vote, you can use that site to update any of your registration information that is outdated. If you haven't registered, there is a mail-in voter registration application you can download, complete, and mail to complete your registration. You must be registered at least 30 days before the election. Time is running out, but you still have until Oct. 8 to register.

There is no doubt that the presidential election this year will be what most people are energized about and the reason most people go to the polls. I hope we won't lose sight of the other races that are taking place this year. We will be voting

for our Representatives to Congress this year, for Mississippi Supreme Court justices, Appeals Court judges, county election commissioners, and county school board members. At some point, the people elected to these posts will make decisions that can affect us as Mississippians. This is our chance to make sure we have a say in the future of our communities, our state, and our nation.

Please register to vote. I hope all of us working here at the Department of Mental Health and in our state will take the time and the effort to go stand in line on election day and vote for the candidates of our choice.



## MSH EMPLOYEE WELLNESS FAIR MAKES A COMEBACK

BY JENNIFER GRAVES



*(first row, left to right): Ian Cranfield, Sabrina Silas, Jennifer Graves, Lashunda Burkes, Officer Charlene Smith, Anita Green; (second row, left to right): Peter Soileau, DJ Dawn Smith, Mark Kanger, Dianne Wheaton, Christina Brown, Officer Justin Harper, Teresa Ryals; (third row, left to right): Donnie Golliday, Ann White, Andy Wogoman, Shryl Leonard, Chris Allen. (not pictured): Danica Buchanan, Jerry Johnson, Michael Creager, Misty Morgan, Kina Woods, Suzanne Pegues, Robert Dixon, Officer Anthony Kinard, Officer Darrell Robinson, Officer Cordaryll White, Officer Jared Downs, and Officer Nathan Craft*

Employees delighted in the opportunity to trade a few hours of their regular work routine for activities that were not only educational but also active and fun at the Mississippi State Hospital Employee Wellness Fair on Sept. 14 in the Building 202 Gym.

It was the first campus Wellness Fair organized in several years thanks to the efforts of Ann White of Employee Health, Danica Buchanan of Staff Education and numerous MSH

staff volunteers who offered their services to make the event a success. The fair drew a crowd of over 300 participants.

Although some chose to literally “roll the fitness dice” for giveaways, gambling with your health is not a game. As the saying goes, “an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure,” and knowledge is the key to increasing our odds for lifelong wellness. Over 30 campus and community vendors set up tables to pro-

mote wellness awareness and engage guests in various forms of activity that included an obstacle course, line dancing, aerobics class sampler and even an Angry Birds game.

Adults become less active and wellness-minded due to life’s demands and forget that they also need play in their daily lives as much as children to maintain physical and mental strength.

“Our goal was to create a fun atmo-



sphere for employees to gather information, socialize, enjoy a healthy snack, and to get moving,” said White, Employee Health Department Director.

Active participation was the primary purpose of the fair, which included glucose and diabetes screenings, blood pressure and heart rate assessment, and height and weight evaluations. Alternative therapies such as chiropractic care, on-site massage therapy, and yoga techniques for stress management were also represented. Those are especially important if you work in an office environment with limited opportunity for physical movement.

One of the most unique approaches to playful education was a smoothie station sponsored by Alcorn State University. It not only provided a demonstration on how to make the nutrient-dense treat, but required guests to pedal a stationary bicycle with an attached blender that was fueled by the kinetic energy generated by the rider. Creativity played a significant role in engaging participants and at the same time encouraging healthier caloric intake and energy expenditure.

The MSH Employee Wellness Fair is dedicated to bringing together employees and the community in a mutual effort to improve the wellness needs of its patients, residents and staff. Employees are encouraged to participate in this type of event, which reminds staff to be proactive in caring for themselves so they may continue to offer exceptional care for others in their personal and professional life.





## CONGRATULATIONS SEPTEMBER EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH



**Direct Care**  
**Tamela Sanders,**  
**IPS, B-63, A Shift**

Tamela Sanders was named Mississippi State Hospital's September Employee of the Month for Direct Care.

Sanders, a Bolton native who grew up in Jackson, is a Mental Health Technician in Inpatient Services and works on Building 63, Female Receiving.

Sanders has worked at MSH for 17 years, and the hospital is the first place she ever worked.

"Talk about multi-tasking. Tamela's new assignment includes laundry, clothes, monies, errands to name just a few," said Linda Kirk, who nominated Sanders. "Yet she is always smiling, and she is always patiently meeting our patients' needs, whether it's a size 10 shoe or an outfit appropriate for an interview . . . ."

"She is a team player, having worked in Ward I with patients in crisis and unstable. . . . She demonstrates a helping hand to all who ask with a kind heart for the mentally ill. She contributes to the high quality of patient care demanded by MSH on a day-to-day basis."



**Clinical Service**  
**Roger Scott,**  
**IPS, B-201, A Shift**

Roger Scott has been named Mississippi State Hospital's September Employee of the Month for Clinical Service.

Scott, from Camden, is a Licensed Practical Nurse II who works on Building 203, Male Receiving. A Hinds Community College graduate, he has worked at MSH for 15½ years.

"Nurse Scott is a vital asset to our organization," said Angela Howell, who made the nomination. "He is well-rounded within the Male Receiving and Community Integration Programs. He is the nurse educator for all three Male Receiving units and holds additional duties such as obtaining supplies, doing environmental rounds and assisting with the facilitation of building needs."

"Nurse Scott also provides nursing coverage for our Community Integration Program, teaches groups and assists in obtaining supplies, as well. . . . He is courteous and treats all patients and staff respectfully. He is always understanding of the ever-changing organizational needs and pleasantly always willing to lend a hand."



**Support Services**  
**Billy Ray Thompson,**  
**IPS, B-201, A Shift**

Billy Ray Thompson was named Mississippi State Hospital's September Employee of the Month for Support Services.

Thompson, from Morton, is a Client Care Support specialist I and works on Building 201, Male Receiving. He has been employed at MSH for nine years.

He was selected for nomination for employee of the month by consensus of the Service Management Team of Male Receiving.

"He continually demonstrates the MSH core values in his work," said Marcus Bailey, Service Administrator. "He is respectful to clients and staff alike. He has developed relationships particularly within the framework of a very diverse Male Receiving house-keeping team and embodies teamwork in his daily duties."

"His willingness to help others has been observed by members of the Service Management team on multiple occasions and led to his selection as a service nominee."