



MISSISSIPPI STATE HOSPITAL

P.O. Box 157-A, Whitfield, MS 39193
Phone (601) 351-8018 Fax (601) 351-8364
www.msh.state.ms.us

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Contact: Adam Moore (601) 351-8262, adam.moore@msh.state.ms.us

CHRISTMAS PARADE KICKS OFF HOLIDAYS AT MISSISSIPPI STATE HOSPITAL

WHITFIELD—Mississippi State Hospital kicked off the holiday season with its annual Christmas parade on Friday, December 7. Floats were made up in a variety of decorations to go along with the theme of “Christmas Around the World,” and the parade also featured marching bands, classic cars, horses, and of course Santa Claus.

The parade kicks off the official holiday season at Mississippi State Hospital. Staff members strive to make sure patients of the hospital and residents of Jaquith Nursing Home, located on the MSH campus, have a happy and enjoyable holiday season while they are away from home. The holiday season at the hospital includes more than 100 volunteer groups from across the state who visit the campus to host dinners and parties, in addition to caroling groups, a Christmas musical, and more.

The holiday season culminates with “Santa Day,” another annual tradition during which several dozen volunteers visit the hospital to hand deliver gift bags to each and every patient and resident at the hospital. In the days leading up to Santa Day, volunteers will also deliver fresh fruit and homemade cakes for residents, and MSH employees will be busy preparing the personalized gift bags to be delivered on Santa Day. This year’s Santa Day will be Friday, Dec. 21 at 10 a.m.

For more information about the holidays at Mississippi State Hospital, or for volunteer opportunities, contact MSH Public Relations at 601-351-8018.

MSH, a facility of the Mississippi Department of Mental Health, was founded in 1855 and facilitates improvement in the quality of life for Mississippians who are in need of mental health, chemical dependency or nursing home services, by rehabilitating to the least restrictive environment, utilizing a range of psychiatric and medical services, which reflect the accepted standard of care and are in compliance with statutory and regulatory guidelines. The hospital is accredited by the Joint Commission.

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PHOTOS ATTACHED:

MSH Christmas Parade 1 –Floats in this year’s Mississippi State Hospital Christmas parade were decorated with the theme of “Christmas Around the World.” This float went with “Christmas from Graceland,” including an Elvis impersonator to complete the look

MSH Christmas Parade 2 – Mississippi State Hospital employees and patients took part in the Christmas parade on Friday, Dec. 7. The Grand Marshal was Bridget Lowery, vice president

of BankPlus and board member of the volunteer group Friends of Mississippi State Hospital. She and other participants enjoyed tossing candy from the floats and other entries to the rest of the onlookers.

MSH Christmas Parade 3 – Entries in the MSH Christmas parade included floats, classic cars, and several marching bands from local high schools. Pictured here is the band from Canton High School.