



# MISSISSIPPI STATE HOSPITAL

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## **For Immediate Release**

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## **12<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL FARMER JIM NEAL GOLF TOURNAMENT IS APRIL 12**

WHITFIELD— With the arrival of spring, Friends of Mississippi State Hospital is gearing up for its signature event of the season.

The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Farmer Jim Neal Golf Classic will be Friday, April 12 at Whisper Lake Country Club in Madison. Anyone who would like to tee off in support of Friends of MSH is welcome to register for the tournament and help support the volunteer organization that dedicates itself to raising funds and promoting awareness for Mississippi State Hospital.

The charity event is named in honor of “Farmer” Jim Neal, a former radio personality in Jackson who was popular across the state. On the airwaves for decades, he was a strong advocate of community service, volunteer work and charity. In addition to his radio work, Neal was a member of the Mississippi Legislature for 20 years.

During his career, Neal was an enthusiastic supporter and champion for Friends of MSH, and he sincerely cared for the patients and residents at Mississippi State Hospital and Jaquith Nursing Home. He passed away in 2006, but the golf tournament named in his honor continues on with the support of his family. It is the largest fundraiser of the year for Friends of MSH.

There will be two tee times for the tournament, a morning flight at 8 a.m. and an afternoon flight at 1 p.m. The individual player’s fee is \$125, and there are several levels of sponsorship available, ranging from \$250 to more than \$1,000. Title sponsors for this year’s tournament are BankPlus and Valley, and Birdie Sponsors are Mississippi Hospital Association and Ergon.

Winners will be recognized at the end of the tournament, and prizes will also be awarded to winners of longest drive and closest-to-the-hole competitions. One lucky person will receive the chance to shoot for \$1 million.

For more information about sponsorships or to register to play, contact Sheila Shows at 601-351-8377. Everyone is welcome to join in supporting Friends of Mississippi State Hospital by playing in this tournament.

*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 that reflect the accepted standard of care and are in compliance with statutory and regulatory guidelines. The hospital is accredited by the Joint Commission.*