

BOSWELL REGIONAL CENTER'S BULLETIN

Vol. XXV No. 4 • August 2022



An afternoon of fun at the park and the lake

Boswell Regional Center's

The Boswell Bulletin is published to inform the public, employees, family members and friends on Boswell Regional Center's activities, programs and progress. This publication also seeks to provide information to those interested in the work conducted by Boswell's employees to enrich the lives of those with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD).

Clint Ashley, Director
Kara Kimbrough,
Editor



Boswell Regional Center
1049 Simpson Highway 149 N.
P. O. Box 128
Magee, MS 39111

ON THE COVER:

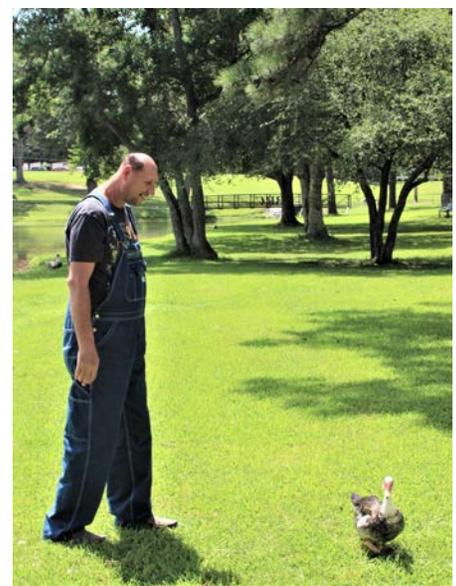
Nothing's more refreshing on a summer day than a sno-cone. Steve and Nathan recently "beat the heat" by enjoying ice-cold treats underneath the shady trees in Green Park.



'It's the simple things' that make life fun!

Pictured on the cover and below, Boswell staff work hard to find ways for individuals to have fun while staying as cool as possible. Riding around campus in the open-air Star Cart, sitting under the large trees near the lake to watch the ducks and enjoying frosty sno-cones in Green Park are just a few of the ways they were able to get fresh air and sunshine without getting overheated.

Recreation therapist Maci Taylor, pictured driving the cart, turned a recent outing into one the individuals at Ridgeview enjoyed to the fullest.



Board of Mental Health Announces Leadership Roles

The Mississippi Board of Mental Health has named new leadership roles for the state fiscal year that began July 1, 2022. Dr. Sampat Shivangi of Ridgeland has been named Chair and Stewart Rutledge of Oxford has been named Vice Chair.

Shivangi represents the physician category on the Board of Mental Health and Rutledge represents the First Congressional District. The board is composed of nine members appointed by the governor of Mississippi and confirmed by the State Senate. Members' terms are staggered to ensure continuity of quality care and professional oversight of services.

By statute, the nine-member board is composed of a physician, a psychiatrist, a clinical psychologist, a social worker with experience in the field of mental health, and one citizen representative from each of Mississippi's five congressional districts as existed in 1974.

Dr. Shivangi has been a member of the board since he was appointed in 2009. During his time on the board, he has taken an active role in efforts to promote suicide awareness and prevention, particularly those efforts related to postpartum depression awareness and treatment. In addition to his role on the board, he currently serves on the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's Center for Mental Health Services National Advisory Council.



Mr. Rutledge is a licensed attorney and real estate developer with a focus on developing affordable housing. He is also family member of an individual who receives mental health services. He previously served as Chairman of the Mississippi Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee, and he served on the Mississippi Supreme Court's Commission on Juveniles. He has also served as Mississippi's representative on the Federal Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice in Washington, D.C.



Spotlight On...

Summertime at Boswell is always full of fun activities

The longer days of summer provide time for more fun and outdoor activities than at any other time of the year. Our individuals look forward all year to swimming in the pool, fishing at the lake, going on trips and spending time enjoying the fresh air and sunshine.

Campus parades were held during the pandemic to allow family members and friends to visit Boswell individuals when campus was closed. Individuals enjoyed it so much that it's now a regular activity on special holidays.

A Fourth of July parade was held recently to allow families and staff to drive through campus. The parade passed by campus buildings and unit green spaces filled with individuals, allowing them a perfect view of the passing parade. Cars, trucks and golf carts decorated with balloons and personalized signs were a festive sight.

Other activities during the month were watermelon cuttings, swimming and a luau hosted by Kare-In-Home for Pinelake individuals.





Spotlight On...

Summer fun, continued...



Kare-In-Home hosts Hawaiian luau for Pinelake

Nothing is more fun than a festive luau with grass skirts, leis and of course, plenty of Hawaiian-style fruit, flavorful punch and other colorful snacks. The event was hosted by Jessica Cockrell, patient coordinator with Kare-In-Home, who regularly treats Pinelake individuals with special things to brighten their days. The luau was enjoyed by individuals and staff. Thank you, Jessica and Kare-In-Home!



Copiah-Lincoln nursing students tour Boswell, holds LPN Pinning Ceremony in Auditorium



Boswell and Copiah-Lincoln Community College have enjoyed a mutually-beneficial partnership since the Simpson County Center opened in 2006. Besides hosting the center's Spring Commencement and LPN Pinning Ceremony, nursing students annually visit Boswell to shadow nurses, learn about medications and patient care and obtain valuable on-the-job training.

Prior to this year's July Pinning Ceremony at the culmination of their coursework, students and one of their instructors arrived on campus for the annual visit. An orientation session on State of Mississippi employment and the benefits of working at Boswell was conducted by Public Relations and Medical Services.

Additional stops included campus units and community group homes to view firsthand the different client populations and learn about daily activities from nurses and social workers. Students were treated to lunch in the LeGrand Café by Friends and Family Association.

The following week, Boswell was honored to host the students' July 14 Pinning Ceremony in the historic Auditorium.



Students gathered in front of Boswell's Auditorium for a group photo before the Pinning Ceremony. Class instructor Hope Berry, RN, is pictured in the center.



After touring the State Farm Apartments in the community, the class and one of their instructors, Lynda Finstad, RN, back row, far right, gathered for a photo..

The ceramic lamp presented to students is a representation of Florence Nightingale's "rounds at night" and her dedication to patients. The lighting of the lamp also symbolizes the knowledge that is passed from instructor to graduate nurse.



Community nurse Brittany Ducksworth, RN, center, talked to the students about nurses' duties in the group homes and answered questions related to patient care.



Pinelake social worker Kay Adcox, far left, provided information on the care received by individuals at the campus unit.



Job Well Done!

We said good-bye to several employees in June

It's hard to say good-bye when the time comes for employees to retire and focus on the next chapter of their lives. Several long-time staff members decided to move on after faithfully serving individuals on Boswell's campus, in the community and at Mississippi Adolescent Center.

Boswell's Friends and Family Association presented each one with an engraved trophy and funded small receptions for those who desired to gather one last time with their co-workers.



Goodwater Group Home staff and most especially, the individuals who reside at the home, were sad to see three dedicated employees retire at the end of June. Pictured with group home director James Randolph, second from left, are Mattie Rogers, Glenda Gray and Diann Harper.

Richetta Durr, right, served quietly at Boswell for 25 years. She never sought the limelight, so it wasn't surprising she declined to have a retirement reception. However, fellow employees were able to shoot a quick photo of her as she walked out of the door for the last time.



Employees of the Quarter named

Named top employees for the second quarter of the year were:

Campus – Larissa Sims
Support/Professional – LeTonia Womack
Community – Phyllis Smith
Community ICF – Lonia Brown

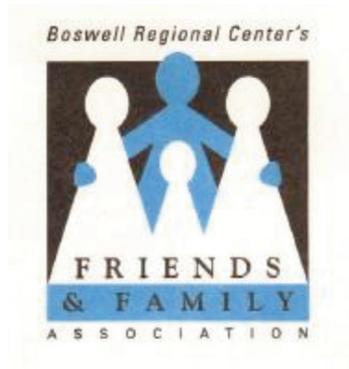
Each employee received \$25 from Friends and Family and framed certificates.



Mississippi Adolescent Center HR Director Rachel Britt retired at the end of June. Friends and Family hosted a retirement reception in her honor highlighted by the presentation of a copy of a framed photo of her father, former DMH board member William Buford, pictured above, left, with Rachel. Rachel's family members are pictured in the background. She also received an engraved trophy from MAC Director Jamie Prine, above right



Pictured with Ricky Grimes, far left, assistant director, and Clint Ashley, far right, director, are Lonia Brown, Larissa Sims and LeTonia Womack. Not pictured is Phyllis Smith.



**Become a Friends and Family member...
It benefits you - and the individuals we serve!**

A sample sample of the "extras" funded by Friends and Family:

**New/Current
Employees-**

* Coffee and supplies for New Employee Orientation and Training Classes

**Staff
rewards**

* \$25 each for Employees of the Quarter - Boswell and MAC
* \$100 each for Employees of the Year - Boswell and MAC
* Retirement and Employee of the Year trophies
* Supplies for Employee recognition events
* Other employee incentive-related rewards

Individuals

* Events and meals for those in need
* Miscellaneous expenses that occur throughout the year, including Christmas events and gifts as needed

Call Public Relations at Ext. 75078 to obtain a membership form and learn about different membership levels.

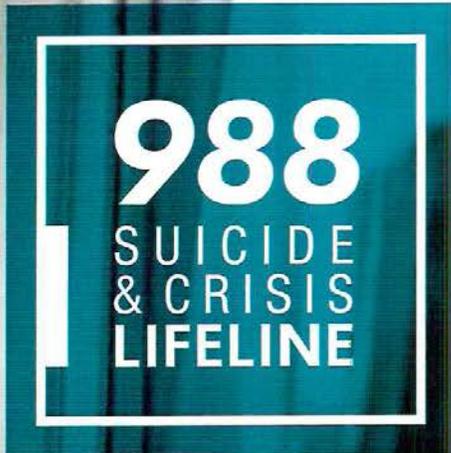
MPA

MASTER OF
PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

PROGRAM
TUITION
NOW \$9,975!

**MOST AFFORDABLE
PROGRAM IN REGION!**
BELHAVEN UNIVERSITY

988 Launched July 16 in Mississippi



In 2020, Congress designated the new 988 dialing code to operate through the existing National Suicide Prevention Lifeline.

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) is the lead federal agency, in partnership with the Federal Communications Commission and the Department of Veterans Affairs, working to make the promise of 988 a reality for America. Moving to a 3-digit dialing code is a **once-in-a-lifetime opportunity** to strengthen and expand the existing National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (the Lifeline).

Of course, 988 is more than just an easy-to-remember number—it is a direct connection to compassionate, accessible care and support for anyone experiencing mental health related distress – whether that is thoughts of suicide, mental health or substance use crisis, or any other kind of emotional distress. Preparing for full 988 implementation requires a bold vision for **a crisis care system that provides direct, life-saving services to all in need.**

SAMHSA sees 988 as a first step towards a transformed crisis care system in much the same way as emergency medical services have expanded in the US.



In pursuit of this bold yet achievable vision, SAMHSA is first focused on strengthening and expanding the existing Lifeline network, providing life-saving service to all who call, text or chat via 988. Longer term, SAMHSA recognizes that linking those in crisis to community-based providers—who can deliver a full range of crisis care services—is **essential to meeting crisis needs across the nation.**



Developed in collaboration with the
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

326310-D

SAMHSA
Substance Abuse and Mental Health
Services Administration