

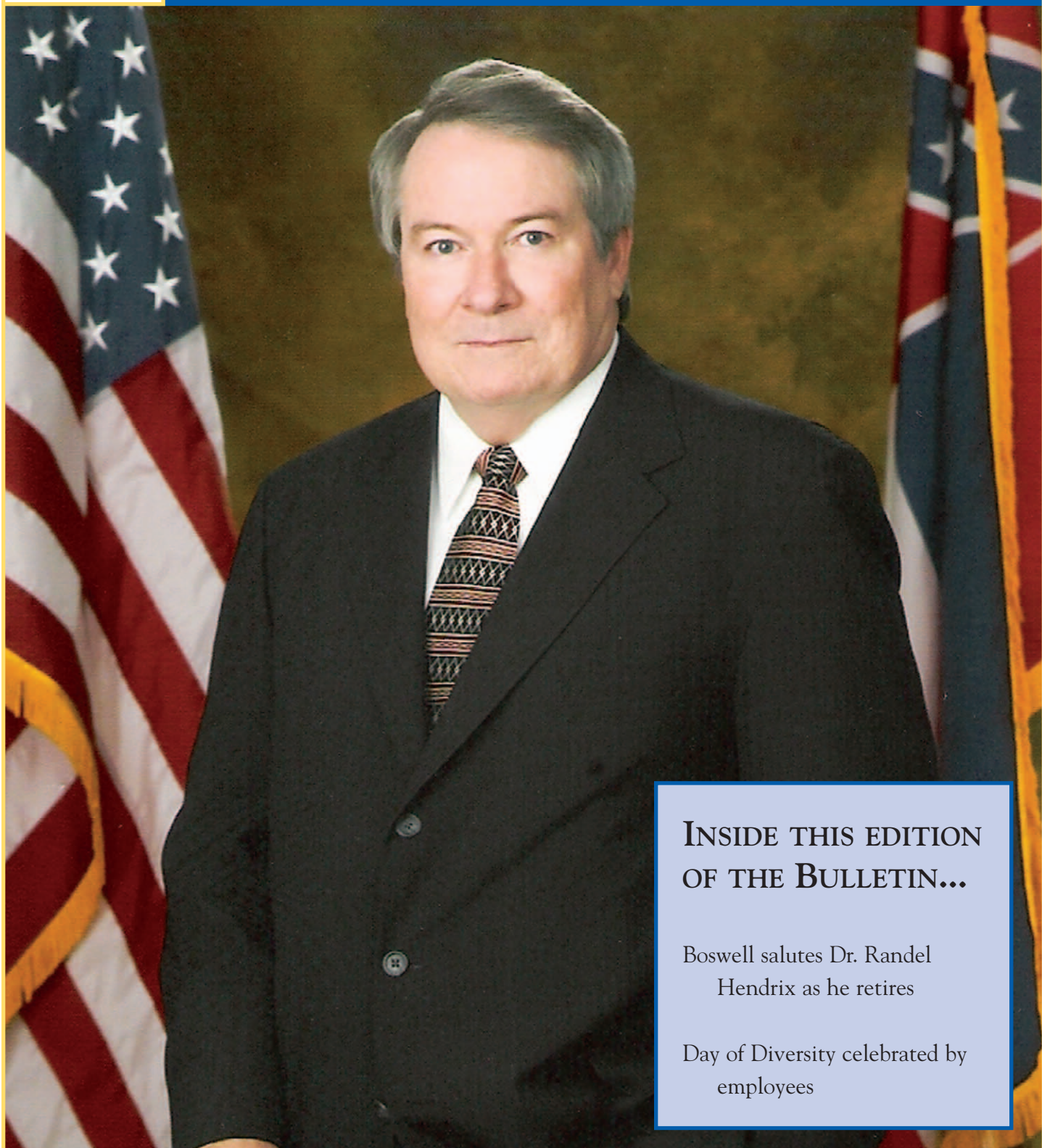


# BOSWELL REGIONAL CENTER'S **BULLETIN**

**VOLUME V**

**FALL 2006**

**NUMBER 3**



## **INSIDE THIS EDITION OF THE BULLETIN...**

Boswell salutes Dr. Randel  
Hendrix as he retires

Day of Diversity celebrated by  
employees

## DIRECTOR'S COLUMN



Raymond Johnson

In this issue of the Bulletin, Boswell bids a fond farewell to not only our long-time Executive Director of the Department of Mental Health, Dr. Randel Hendrix, but also to a faithful friend.

Dr. Hendrix has been on hand on our campus for numerous groundbreaking ceremonies and employee of the year banquets, but the most important role he has played in the life of Boswell has been the tremendous support we have received on a day-to-day basis.

Throughout his long career in the mental health field he has been a champion for mentally challenged and developmentally disabled individuals in our great state. For the past 20 years, he has sat at the helm of the Department of Mental Health, leading us into the 21st century.

Together we've faced a long history of changes, challenges and opportunities. The following pages chronicle the life and accomplishments of Dr. Hendrix.

We can look forward to a bright future and know that in

part it has been made possible through the leadership of Dr. Hendrix.

So, it is with some sorrow, but a host of well wishes that we dedicate this issue of the Bulletin to our good friend, Dr. Randel Hendrix.

On page 5 of the Bulletin, we feature pictures from our Day of Diversity held in October. This event is a coordinated effort by the Department of Mental Health Multi-Cultural Task Force to invite people throughout the state to join together to dialogue on the diverse nature of individuals in our state. This was our first year to participate in this event, but we plan to make it an annual day of observance on our campus.

May each of you have a blessed Christmas and a safe New Year. We look forward to the coming year and the challenges that will come our way.

## BRC BULLETIN

The Boswell Bulletin is a publication of Boswell Regional Center. The Bulletin is published free of charge to inform the



public and interested family members and individuals about Boswell Regional Center activities, policies and progress. This publication also serves to provide information to those interested in mental retardation and the clients served at BRC.

**Raymond Johnson, Director**  
**Kathy Lee, Editor**

It is the policy of the Mississippi Department of Mental Health and each facility to recruit, employ, and promote qualified employees and applicants without regard to race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin, or disability. The Department of Mental Health/Bureau of Mental Retardation complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990. It is the sole purpose of this act to provide a clear mandate for the elimination of discrimination against individuals with disabilities.

## COVER PHOTO

This edition of the Bulletin cover features Dr. Randy Hendrix, long-time Executive Director of the Department of Mental Health, who is retiring after a distinguished career of 35 years in the area of mental health.

Boswell thanks him for his many years of service, wishes him well in the future and dedicates this edition of our newsletter to him as a way of showing our appreciation.

# *Dr. Hendrix Retires After 35 Years of Dedicated Service*



Dr. Randy Hendrix is a native Mississippian, born and educated in Panola County. He is a combat veteran of the United States Armed Forces, having served in Vietnam from 1969 to 1970. Following his Army discharge, Dr. Hendrix returned to Mississippi to complete graduate studies at the University of Mississippi, where he completed his Master's Degree in 1971, and at the University of Southern Mississippi, where he completed his doctoral degree in 1979. Dr. Hendrix has completed the Executive Education Program at Duke University, the Executive Development Institute of the John C. Stennis Institute of Government at Mississippi State University, and the Certified Public Managers Program.

Hendrix was appointed Director of the North Mississippi Regional Center in Oxford, Mississippi. At the age of 28, he was the youngest director of a major facility in the nation. While in Oxford, he was also a professor of Special Education and an adjunct professor in Healthcare

Administration at the University of Mississippi. In November of 1986, Dr. Hendrix assumed his current responsibilities as Executive Director of the Mississippi Department of Mental Health, the state's largest agency. Dr. Hendrix is the longest serving

Mississippi Developmental Disabilities Council, member on the Governor's Council on Aging, and is currently the Chairman and

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Executive Director of Mental Health services in the nation.

During his career with the Department of Mental Health, Dr. Hendrix has served on many Boards and Commissions including Chairman of the

longest serving member of the Mississippi Board of Rehabilitative Services, Past Chairman and member of the State Interagency Coordinating Council for Children and Youth with Severe Emotional Problems, Member of the Mississippi Disability Resource Commission, Children's Trust

*continued on page 4*

*Dr. Hendrix is pictured at the grand opening of the LeGrand Café on Boswell's campus on Nov. 8, 2003. The facility serves as the center's employee dining hall and special events area.*



## DR. HENDRIX RETIRES

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Fund Advisory Council and Statewide CDC Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Planning Advisory Committee. He is a member and former officer of the Mississippi Chapter of the American Association on Mental Deficiency, Board Member of the Association of Mental Health Administrators since 1987, and has served as Executive Director for the Mississippi Arts Fair for the Handicapped since 1980.

Dr. Hendrix was selected as State Administrator of the Year, Herman C. Glazier Award Winner in 1990, recipient of the Agency Leadership Award of the National Association of Superintendents of Public Residential Facilities for the Mentally Retarded in 1992, recipient of the Governor's Stennis Award for Excellence in Government in 1994, and selected for Honorary Membership in Pi Alpha Alpha in 1997. Dr. Hendrix is also a member of the Honorary Scholastic Organization of Phi Theta Kappa, Phi Kappa Phi, and Phi Delta Kappa.

Dr. Hendrix and his wife, Sandy, are the parents of four children, Jo Ellen Hendrix Townsend, Sarah, Randel, and Sandra and the grandparents of Grace, Jessica and Jeffrey Townsend.



*Dr Hendrix is pictured third from left back row, at Wesson's Ribbon Cutting ceremony in February 1998. Also pictured are front, from left: Sister Dorothy Heiderscheit, Dr. Suzie Lassiter, Michael Terry and Robert Landrum. Pictured on the back row, from left are Mr. Ed LeGrand, Billy Buford and Dr. Hendrix.*



*Dr. Hendrix is pictured above right with Cindy Allbritton, BRC's Employee of the Year for 2002 at the Employee of the Year Banquet.*



*Dr. Hendrix is pictured above at the dedication ceremony for Boswell's State Farm Apartments, May 13, 2005. Also pictured are: Simpson County Supervisor, Sammy Welch; Simpson County Supervisor Curtis Skiffer; Dr. Hendrix; apartment resident and BRC individual Connie Green; Raymond Johnson, BRC Director; Bradley Sanders, DMH board member; Clint Rotenberry, state representative; Anthony Grayson, Smith County Circuit Clerk, and Robert Landrum, DMH Board Chairman.*

# *Boswell celebrates Day of Diversity*

Staff celebrated a Day of Diversity on Oct. 13th in conjunction with other Mental Health Centers in the state. The event featured a film with Dr. Hendrix explaining the origins and other aspects of the event which was shown each hour throughout the day.



Laurie Magee, Staff Development, pictured above, registered employees, passed out brochures and green ribbons to employees.



Employees view the various displays from different countries.



Employees learned interesting facts about ingredients contained in some of the native foods prepared.



Randy Robinson, Maintenance, reads about the origin of the carnation. A variety of flowers and their origins were featured and later given as door prizes.



Sheila Bryant, Dietary, pictured at right, discusses recipes with fellow employees used during the day's event.



Red beans and rice originates in South America, but was definitely a Southern favorite with many Boswell employees.

# Dr. Albert Randel Hendrix

## HONORS AND AWARDS

### 2006

**Northwest Mississippi Community College 2006 Alumni of the Year Award**

**Bradley Sanders Service Award**

**Paul D. Cotton Leadership Award**

**Jimmy Stubbs Volunteer Award**

**Albert Randel Hendrix PhD Leadership Award**

**Award for Outstanding Contribution To The Field of Mental Health**

National Alliance for the Mentally Ill – MS Chapter

**Outstanding Service On Behalf of Mental Health**

Social Workers Education Conference

**Richard B. Dillard Award For Outstanding Leadership**

Southeastern Region of the American Association on Mental Retardation

**First Annual Albert Randel Hendrix Award Of Excellence For Service and Commitment**

Mental Health Association of the Capitol Area

**Larry D. Scott Award For Outstanding Agency Leadership**

Southeastern Region of the American Association on Mental Retardation

### 2005

**Embracing Mississippi System of Care Award –**

MS Families As Allies for Children's Mental Health

### 2004

**Award For Outstanding Contribution To Mental Health Services**

North Mississippi Mental Health Consumer's Conference

**Distinguished Legislative Achievement Award**

Mississippi Psychological Association

**Award For Outstanding Contributions to Mental Health Services**

Central Mississippi Mental Health Consumer's Conference

### 2002

**Honorary Membership**

Mississippi Society of Certified Public Administrators

**Service Award For Outstanding Service**

Singing River Mental Health/Mental Retardation Services

**Special Recognition Award**

Region VIII Mental Health/Mental Retardation Center

**Special Recognition Award**

Timber Hills Mental Health/Mental Retardation Center

**Distinguished Service Award**

The Mississippi Association of Personnel Administrators

### 2001

**Resolution For Service**

Timber Hills Mental Health/Mental Retardation Center

## **1998**

### **Bradley A. Sanders Leadership Award**

Mississippi Chapter - Association of Behavioral Healthcare Administrators

## **1997**

### **Award For Exemplary Service And Commitment**

School of Social Work – Jackson State University

### **Award For Service and Dedication To Children**

Mississippi Families As Allies for Children's Mental Health

### **Honorary Membership in Public Administration**

Pi Alpha Alpha, Mississippi State University

## **1996**

### **Service Award For Enriching Lives Of Individuals With Disabilities**

Sesquicentennial Committee - University of Mississippi

## **1994**

### **Stennis Award For Excellence In Government**

Governor, State of Mississippi/State Personnel Board

## **1992**

### **Service Award – National Council on Disabilities**

## **1991**

### **Agency Leadership Award – National Association of Superintendents of Public Residential Facilities for the Mentally Retarded**

### **Service Award – Mississippi Arts Fair for the Handicapped, Inc.**

### **State Administrator of the Year**

### **Herman C. Glazier Award**

MS Chapter for the American Society for Public Administrators

## **1990**

### **Alumnus of the Year**

School of Education, University of Mississippi

### **The Richard B. Dillard Distinguished Agency Leadership Award**

American Association on Mental Retardation, Southern Region

### **Support of Community Mental Health Award**

Mississippi Community Mental Health & Mental Retardation Council

## **1970**

### **Vietnam Service Medal**

## **1969**

### **Army Commendation Medal W/ Palm**

### **Civil Action Medal**

### **National Defense Service Medal**

### **Vietnam Gallantry Cross W/Palm**

### **Vietnam Campaign Medal**

United States Army

# IN MEMORIAM

Boswell grieves the loss of long-time employee Peggy Raley, who retired from Boswell in 2003. Mrs. Peggy Raley, formerly known as Peggy McCain, lost her fight with leukemia in August 2006. Just six short months prior to her death, she married her sweetheart of sixteen years, Boswell employee, Mr. Ike Raley. Our hearts and prayers go out to Ike, her children and extended family. She will be deeply missed.

We were also deeply saddened by the loss of Effie Marie Clark, 102, long-time director of the Preventorium, the children's unit of the Sanatorium, who died on August 16, 2006 in Hattiesburg. She served as Preventorium director for 33 years, from 1935-1968 and was known as "Miss Effie" to almost 3,000 children during her tenure. She began her career at the Preventorium in 1931 as a teacher. After a total of 37 years at the Preventorium she retired in 1968.

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*Raymond Johnson, Director*