

BOSWELL REGIONAL CENTER'S BULLETIN

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Job Well Done!

Employees of the Month

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).

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ON THE COVER:

The first signs of spring are finally peeking through the ground to signal that winter's almost over. The yellow daffodils were grown from bulbs donated to Boswell from Keep Simpson County Beautiful. Over 200 bulbs were planted around campus to brighten the landscape for staff and the individuals we serve.



Pictured with Director Clint Ashley are, from left, Employees of the month Trusie Eubanks, Community, Lynn Williams, Support/Professional and Tara Dickerson, Support/Professional.

JOB WELL DONE!



Boswell never closes, so being able to travel to and from work in inclement weather so our individuals are cared for around the clock is part of the job. Recently, three direct support professionals volunteered to work past their regular shifts when staffing shortages occurred due to the threat of icy weather. Boswell's Friends and Family Association presented each employee with \$25 as a small token of thanks for their dedication to the individuals we serve. Pictured above from left are Clint Ashley presenting Bobby Hubbard with \$25; Tamara Easterling receiving her money from Assistant Director Cindy Womack; and Zach Hollins receiving \$25 from Will Beeson, Director of Campus Living.



2018 GOVERNOR'S SERVICE AWARDS



Receiving Governor's Service Awards from Clint Ashley are, from left: Nina Magee, 10 years; Chiquita Price, 10 years and Mashonda McDonald, 20 years.



Another service anniversary recipient is Willie Willis, right. He was awarded a 10-year certificate from Clint Ashley.

Suzie Wilder, right, has served as Boswell's HR Director for 20 years. She is pictured with Clint Ashley.



Gwen Mack, right, pictured with Nutritional Services Director Jennifer Chennault, left, retired in February after 20 years of service in Nutritional Services. Ms. Gwen did not want a "big fuss," so instead, a small group of her coworkers gathered to send her off with gifts and food that she - for once - didn't have to prepare. Sampling "Gwen's fried chicken" was one of the many reasons guests and visitors looked forward to attending Boswell events. Ms. Gwen will be greatly missed by everyone.



Sonny Everette, right, has been a valued employee at Boswell for 30 years. He received his certificate from Clint Ashley.





Spotlight On...

A look at some of our favorite winter activities

The first few months of 2019 were a busy time at Boswell for both our individuals and staff. Valentine's Day, Mardi Gras parade, Boswell retirement reception and other special events kept everyone busy and entertained.

Here are a few scenes from some of our favorite events.



In honor of Dr. Seuss Day and IDD Month, Jamie Prine, back row on left, visited Magee Elementary School to read a Dr. Seuss book to Mrs. Teater's first grade class. Her daughter Kelsey, is a student in the class. Jamie is director of ICF group homes.



Community Services recently moved to the renovated second floor of the Nutritional Services Building after being in a downtown Magee office for several years. To allow everyone to get acquainted with the department and new location of each staff member, Director Ronald Britt and his staff held a reception and open house complete with refreshments. Pictured in the new offices at the event are, from left: Daisy McLaurin, Renee Sullivan, Ronald Britt, Valerie Puckett, Edrick Smith and front, far right, long-time Community individual Flora Mae.



Dr. Kathleen Patterson, right, Director of Psychology, retired in February after many years of devoted service to our individuals. She is pictured at the official Boswell reception with Steven Allen, left, Deputy Director of DMH.



Suzie Wilder, right, HR Director, pins a corsage made with flowers grown on Boswell's campus onto Dr. Patterson's lapel at the beginning of the reception.

Campus units were asked to decorate entrances, hallways and bulletin boards with Valentine décor for the enjoyment of individuals residing in the homes. Oakbrook won first place with its innovative bulletin boards and décor.



Boswell was represented at the Governor's EmployAbility Job Fair, which was geared to jobseekers with disabilities. Kerry Bynum, left, was interviewed by WAPT-Channel 16 about Boswell's job opportunities.



Hanna Duran, HR assistant, also attended the Job Fair and was shown on the TV newscast. Cindy Quick, Director of Staff Development, was also present.



Spotlight On...

More photos from winter activities



Everyone – staff and individuals alike - joined together to march and ride on floats in the 2019 campus Mardi Gras Parade. The parade was a fun event of the past that was revived this year by Recreation Director Cindy Sanders.



Individuals from every campus unit decorated floats with assistance from Recreation and rode in the Mardi Gras parade. Mardi Gras beads were also thrown to those who chose to watch the fun from the sidelines.



Employees' four wheelers and other recreational vehicles were a fun part of the Mardi Gras parade.

2019 IDD Month

Boswell and Mississippi Adolescent Center participated in IDD Month activities throughout March, including meeting with city officials and conducting tours of its facilities. Both centers will participate in IDD Day at the Capitol on March 26.



Magee Mayor Dale Berry, front row, is pictured signing a proclamation naming March as “Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Awareness Day” in Magee during the March 5 Board of Aldermen meeting in honor of Boswell Regional Center’s contributions to the community. Also pictured are, front row from left: Alderwomen Angel Brister and Whitney Barnes Baker, Boswell individual K. Moorman holding a piece of pottery in the shape of Mississippi made by individuals and donated to the city and Alderman Patrick Brown. Back row from left are Alderman Matthew Hickman, Ronald Britt, director of Boswell’s Community Services division, Boswell individuals C. Jarrard and M. Copeland, Alderman Lane Steele and City Attorney Bruce Smith.



Brookhaven Mayor Joe Cox, front row, is pictured signing a proclamation naming March as “Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities Awareness Day” in Brookhaven in honor of Mississippi Adolescent Center’s contributions to the community. Also pictured to Cox’s immediate left and right are individuals served by MAC. At far right is MAC Director Ricky Grimes.

Boswell officials attend Friends of MSH and HRC Legislative Lunch



District 35 Senator Chris Caughman, standing, shares a laugh with Clint Ashley, seated, at the legislative lunch.

Ricky Grimes, center, Director of MAC, is pictured at the lunch with guest speaker and former Secretary of State Eric Clark, left, and Eric Brown, MAC’s director of professional development.



Clint Ashley, left, visited with District 90 Representative Noah Sanford, right, at the lunch.



Pastor's Corner



BRO. RUDY JACKSON
Patient Advocate/Chaplain

Seasons of Sufferings

1 Peter 4:12 "Beloved think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as some strange thing happened unto you."

Someone once said "Seasons of sufferings have often been seasons of sifting in which the Christian has lost his chaff and the hypocrite has lost his courage."

Peter seems to be saying that suffering is many times a needful tool in the life of a Christian. That leads us ask the question, in what way can problems in life benefit me in my Christian walk?

First of all, it could be for Correction.

It may cause us to examine our life and see if there is a sin that needs to be repented of. God says in his word he only deliberately chastens those for correction who belongs to him for the same purpose any father would discipline their child.

Secondly, it could be for Instruction.

Jesus allowed his disciple's to enter many storms in which he either delivered them through or from, but there was always lesson to be learned from the experience. God is more interested in growing us in our faith toward him than he is in us living a problem less life. It is in the midst of the fiery trials that we will always grow the most.

My challenge to you is to try to see your trials from Gods perspective.

A Success Story from Boswell's SUCCESS program



- It's always heartwarming to learn about happy endings from individuals who are admitted to Boswell's SUCCESS program, which offers immediate care for those who may be in crisis situations. Deborah, pictured in the forefront, came to SUCCESS from an abusive family situation. Her sister Theresa, back row, and niece Lisa, right, were also in need of a safe place and were admitted after Deborah. After transitioning nicely into Boswell's program, they were able to be discharged and are now living near each other in north Mississippi, thanks to the waiver program and a strong support system. The photo was taken during a visit arranged by Boswell's staff prior to the ladies finding permanent homes. (Submitted photo)

2019 Election Year

Mississippi Voting Information

As many of you are probably aware, 2019 is a statewide election voting year in Mississippi. Some candidates for statewide office began campaigning last year, and if you have not seen your local candidates begin campaigning, they will probably be starting soon.

Remember that as campaign season begins in Mississippi, you will have to make sure you are registered in order to vote in the upcoming primaries and elections. Here are some dates to keep in mind:

- **The primary voter registration deadline is Monday, July 8 at 5 p.m.**— If you are registered to vote by this date, you are eligible to vote in the August primaries.
- **Primary election day is Tuesday, August 6.** — Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
- **Runoffs will be Tuesday, August 27.**— If a runoff is required, they will be three weeks after the primary.
- **The general election voter registration deadline is Monday, October 7 at 5 p.m.**— If you are registered to vote by this date, you are eligible to vote in the November election.
- **General election day is Tuesday, November 5.** — Polls are open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

How To Register to Vote

You can find everything you need to register to vote at the Secretary of State's Y'all Vote online portal: www.sos.ms.gov/vote.

You cannot register to vote online, but you can find a mail-in application, verify your registration, and locate your polling place.

As an engaged voter, you can visit candidates' web sites to learn about their views, or attend an event in person.

If you aren't sure what district you live in or who your elected officials are, you can find them at www.openstates.org. Candidates will be asking for your votes throughout the year — remember that as a citizen, it is your right to speak to your legislators and candidates for office about any questions or concerns you have.