



Boswell Regional Center Bulletin

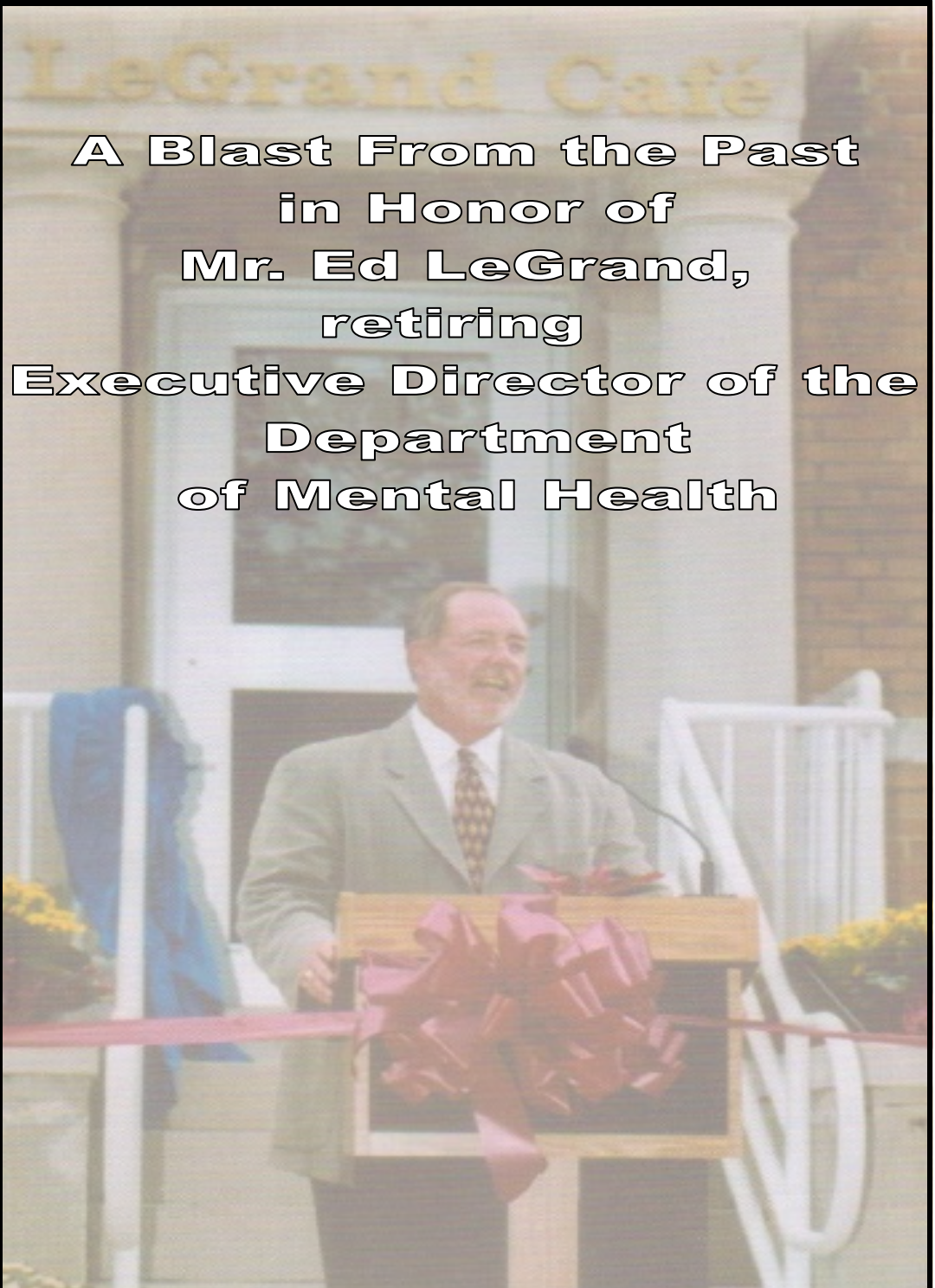
April 2014

A Publication for Employees, Family and Friends of BRC

Inside this issue:

Front Page: Grand Style	
MAC's New Director	4
Autism Awareness	5
Wheelchair Donation	7
Smithsonian Exhibit	8
Wrestlemania XXX	10
Prom 2014	11
Relay for Life	12
Employees of the Month	13
Governor's Service Awards	14
Wellness Committee	15
Friends and Family	16

The publication of the BRC Bulletin is made possible by the contributions of our dedicated and talented employees. The articles and pictures were written, taken and formatted by BRC employees. Their contributions are greatly appreciated! We sincerely hope that you enjoy this edition of the Boswell Regional Center Bulletin, April, 2014 Issue.



A Blast From the Past in Honor of Mr. Ed LeGrand, retiring Executive Director of the Department of Mental Health

LeGrand Café

LeGrand Café opens in 'grand style'



Boswell Regional Center held a dedication and ribbon-cutting ceremony Nov. 8 at its Magee campus for the LeGrand Café, named in honor of Ed LeGrand, deputy executive director of the Mississippi Department of Mental Health.

LeGrand, who was recently named to the post by DMH executive director Dr. Randy Hendrix, also serves as mental retardation bureau chief over BRC and similar facilities across the state.

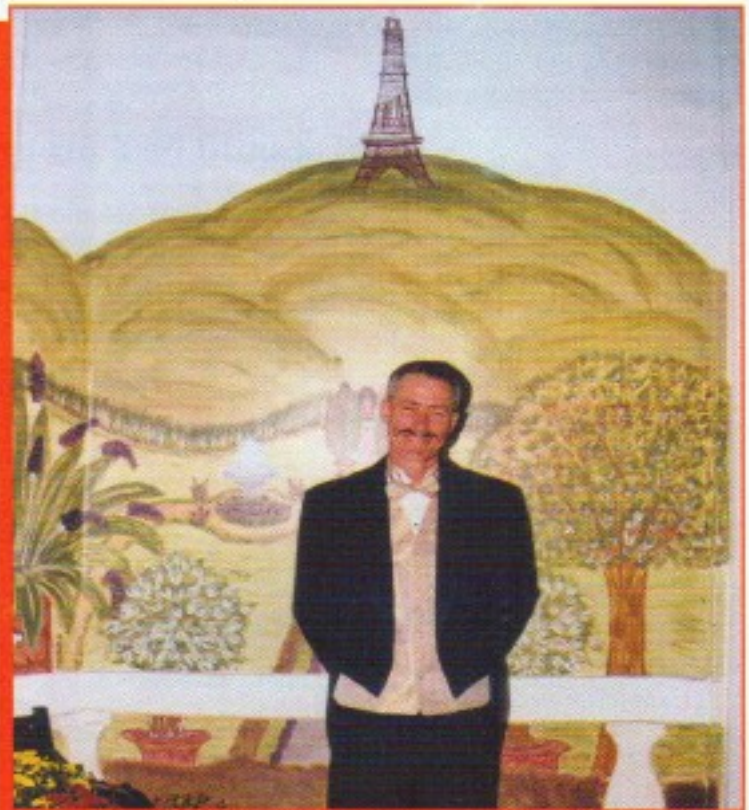
Pictured cutting the ribbon to open the LeGrand Café, are from left: William Buford, chairman of the Board of Mental Health; Magee Mayor Jimmy Clyde; emcee Walt Grayson, WLBT; Simpson County chancery clerk Donnie Caughman; State Rep. Clint Rotenberry; honoree Ed LeGrand; Dr. Randy Hendrix, executive director of DMH; State Rep. Joe Warren, BRC Director Raymond Johnson; Bradley Sanders, Board of Mental Health; Smith County Sheriff Charlie Crumpton; Smith County circuit clerk Anthony Grayson; C. Gary Crumpton, Smith County chancery clerk; and LeGrand Café mural artist Lynn Sullivan, BRC Recreation Department.



An official portrait of the LeGrand Café's namesake was unveiled at the ceremony and now hangs in the café. Admiring the photo are, from left: Dr. Randy Hendrix; Cathy Prince, Ed LeGrand and Raymond Johnson.



Comfortable wrought iron tables and chairs were used to carry out the "Paris Café" theme of the murals and provide employees with a casual, relaxed atmosphere.

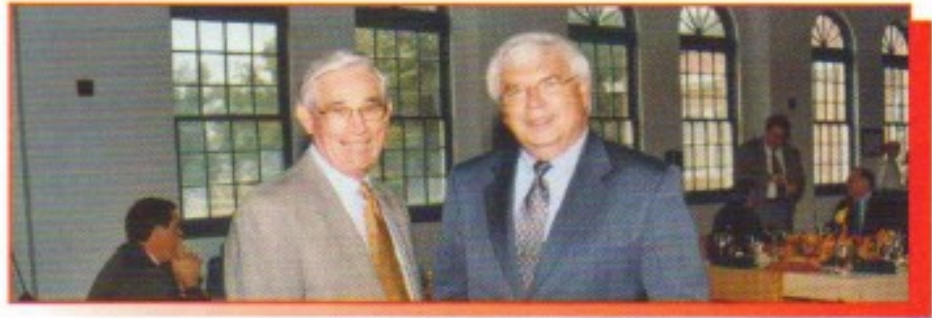


Bobby Prince, who served as a waiter at the reception following the ribbon-cutting ceremony, is pictured in front of the Eiffel Tower, just one of many Paris scenes created by artist Lynn Sullivan on the café's walls.

LeGrand Café

The LeGrand Café, created through campus renovation efforts, is located in a wing of BRC's main dining area for clients. The new facility will serve as the center's first-ever employee dining hall and special events area.

WLBT-Channel 3 anchor Walt Grayson served as master of ceremony at the event, which was attended by mental health professionals from across Mississippi; state and area dignitaries; and BRC business associates and supporters.



Bradley Sanders, left, a member of the Board of Mental Health, enjoyed visiting with WLBT anchor Walt Grayson, right, who spent the day at BRC to participate in the special activities.

The LeGrand Café provides an outlet to relax and enjoy a hot meal without leaving campus grounds.



The first full day of operations for employees was a tremendous success – over 200 employees took advantage of the delicious as well as economical meal. The café has continued to draw a steady business from employees and campus visitors.



Employees Janice Fortune, left, and Sheri Allen, right, enjoyed being able to relax and enjoy a hot meal without having to leave the main campus.



Dietary employees were a study in synchronicity on opening day as they strove to take care of the masses who stood in line for the first meal. From far left, Shannon Austin is pictured at the cash register ringing up customers; Deanne Clark hands dessert over the line; Ethel Turnage, foreground, prepares takeout boxes, and in the background, dietary director Laurie Watts checks to make sure plenty of supplies are on hand.

The MAC Gets a New Director



William Gates, new director of the Mississippi Adolescent Center

Boswell Regional Center is pleased to announce the promotion of Mr. William Gates to role of Director for the Mississippi Adolescent Center located in Brookhaven, MS. The Mississippi Adolescent Center began operations in 1999 as a Department of Mental Health Facility and is dedicated to providing comprehensive services to adolescents with intellectual and developmental disabilities in a specialized setting. The goal of MAC and its staff is to return each person their home to lead a fulfilling and productive life.

As Director, Mr. Gates' responsibilities will include the overall success of the Center and managing all aspects of the Center's operations. Additionally, Mr. Gates will be responsible for new program development and service and support growth in southwest Mississippi.

"Until the opportunity to lead the Mississippi Adolescent Center came along, I had never seriously considered leaving Boswell. I admit it's bittersweet leaving Boswell, but I was attracted by MAC's goal of creating and delivering incredible services and helping Mississippians in need. Ultimately, this led me to join The Mississippi Adolescent Center. I am extremely grateful and thankful for the opportunity afforded to me by Mr. Allen, my Boswell colleagues over the years and the Department of Mental Health. I look forward to this new chapter in life and I'm equally excited to be a new member of the Brookhaven and Lincoln County community."

Mr. Gates joined Boswell 1991 as a Direct Support Professional and previously held numerous management positions during his tenure. A licensed Nursing Home Administrator and Mental Health Administrator, William received his Master in Business Administration from William Carey University, and his Bachelor of Science in Business Management from Belhaven University. Additionally, he is a Certified Public Manager through the Mississippi State Personal Board and the National Consortium of Certified Public Managers, a graduate of State Executive Development Institute sponsored by The John C. Stennis Institute of Government at Mississippi State University and a graduate of the Mississippi Department of Mental Health's Accelerated Leadership Development Program.



Mission Statement

Boswell Regional Center offers Specialized program options to Mississippians with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. These programs are designed to identify the necessary supports for successful community transition.

With collaboration between the individual, family, and community,

dreams can become reality.

**BOSSWELL
REGIONAL CENTER
Where Dreams Can Become Reality**

Autism Awareness

April has been celebrated as National Autism Awareness Month for years. Magee's Mayor Jimmy Clyde signed a proclamation in honor of the ones we serve. Friday, April 25, 2014, was Autism Awareness Day for Boswell Regional Center's Autism Services. This event was held at Morton Group Home. The activities kicked off with Mayor Clyde signing the proclamation, and the fun kept going with painting, bean bag toss, ring toss, basketball free throw contest, sensory room and a cookout to name a few. Autism Services provides an environment and support for success in a community setting and are located in Simpson County and Lincoln County.



Pictured: Magee's Mayor Jimmy Clyde, seated; J. Cooley (services recipient), standing; Calvert Sims, Jr. Director of Autism Services and Steven Allen, Director of Boswell Regional Center.

BRC Autism Awareness Day

Photo Highlights





Wheelchair Donation

By: Whitney Barnes of PriorityOne Bank

Ronald Britt with Boswell Regional contacted PriorityOne Bank on Thursday April 3rd asking if we would be interested getting involved with a very specific community service project; one of his residents was in desperate need of a new wheelchair. He stated that they had exhausted all of their avenues for finding her one and needed help; we immediately answered yes, we would be more than happy to help.

On Friday morning, we contacted Brinson Polk with Gene Polk's Pharmacy to see about getting one ordered and to make sure that we would be able to make this happen for the Boswell individual. Brinson Polk was more than willing to help and let us know that he actually had just what she needed sitting in his store at the time.

I called Ronald Britt to inform him that PriorityOne Bank was honored to let him know that we had Ms. Evelyn a new wheelchair. Ronald and his staff were as excited as we at PriorityOne Bank were. We made arrangements to present the wheelchair to Ms. Evelyn. The wheelchair was presented on April 9th.



Smithsonian Exhibit "The Way We Worked"

On Friday April 25, 2014, Life Connections and Life Links participants visited a traveling exhibition at Copiah- Lincoln Community College. The exhibition was sponsored by the Smithsonian Institution and the Mississippi Humanities Council. The title of the exhibition was, "The Way We Worked." The exhibit highlighted past and present everyday Americans working on farms, factories, in homes or at desks. There were many artifacts to view and interactive displays that described why and how we work. Boswell Regional Center was highlighted in the exhibit with information about the Mississippi Tuberculosis Hospital. After touring the exhibition, the participants enjoyed dining at Poppa's Fishhouse in Brookhaven, MS.

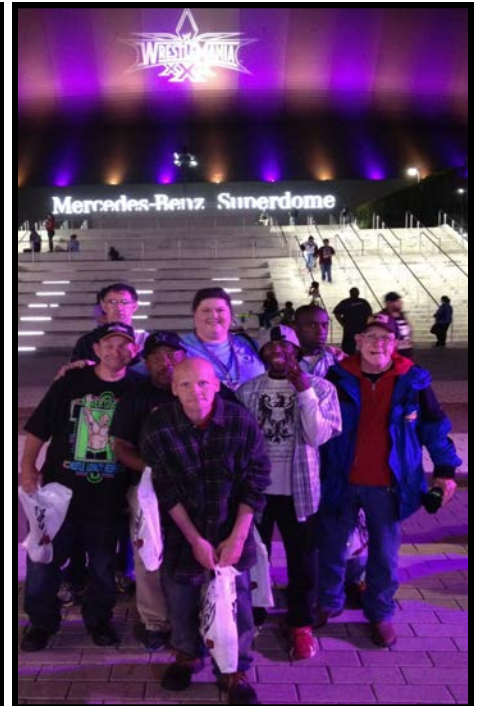
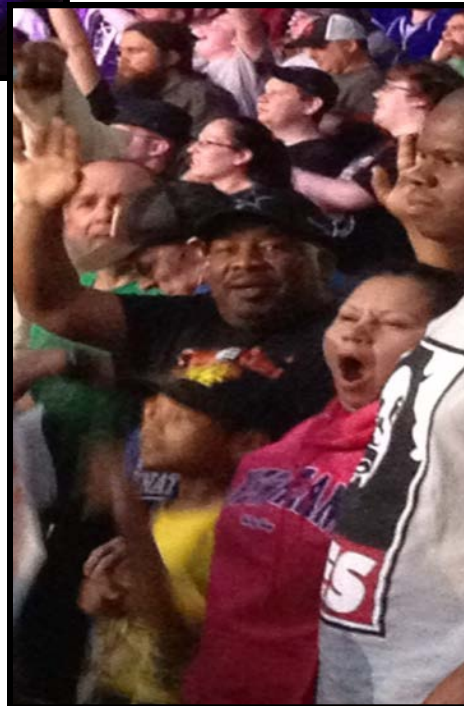
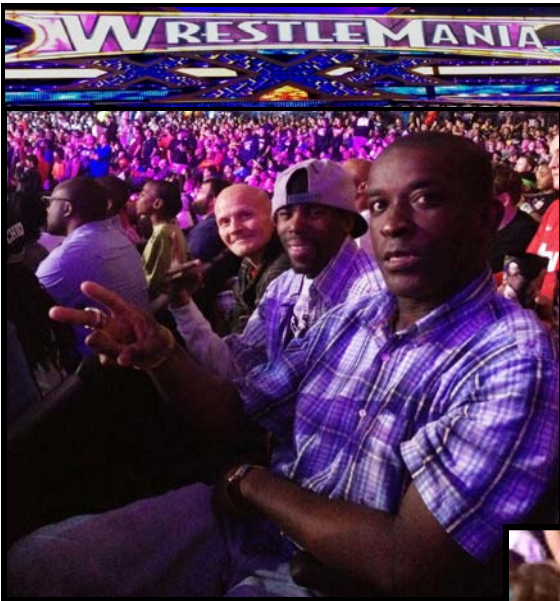


"The Way We Worked" Photo Highlights



Wrestlemania XXX

On April 6, 2014, a group of Community Services individuals participated in a dream-becoming-reality trip. Their dream trip was to attend Wrestlemania, which is equalivnt to the superbowl for wrestling fans. The event was held in New Orleans. One highlight of the outing was being in the crowd of 75,167 people that witnessed Wrestlemania live and in person. The group had the opportunity to see some of their favorite wrestling characters and cheer for them to win. The group witnessed Brock Lesner end the Undertaker's winning streak, which was a total shocker to the group. The group had a chance to see different wrestling legends. One particular legend they got to see was the Ultimate Warrior prior to his sudden death. John Cena put on a magnificent high octane, high flying display during his bout. An additional plus was visiting the Mercedes-Benz Super-



Prom 2014

By: Kay Adcox

The BRC Prom presented by Pinelake Geriatric Services, spearheaded by Denise Brown, was a night for fun, laughter, and fellowship. On April 3, 2014, the Prom was held at the Magee Civic Center. All that attended had a wonderful time as the pictures below attest. The goal of the Prom is to provide our individuals a night out to remember. Pinelake's motto is to provide our individuals a meaningful day everyday and that includes nights. The theme of the Prom this year was, "A Night In Paris." The color theme was Turquoise, Silver, and Black. In addition to music, balloons, food, and dancing, two Eiffel Towers were provided by Boswell's own Randy Robertson. The towers were beautifully crafted and painted by Randy to add a touch of class to our Prom. Kerry Bynum, Lisa Westbrook, Brett McDonnieal, Jennifer Cole, Jarrod Lee, and Kay Adcox had fun decorating the Civic Center for the event. Pinelake Geriatric Services would like to thank the many volunteers and staff who help make the night one to remember.



Relay for Life



Boswell was a sponsor of Relay for Life this year at the Magee Sportsplex on April 25, 2014. Beth Luper of Boswell Regional Center presented a check to Debra Smith, American Cancer Society partner. Boswell funds were generated through staff donations, with a total of \$247.38 raised. Boswell Individuals were invited to participate in the presentation of colors for The American Cancer Society's Relay for Life of Simpson County. The individuals served by Boswell who presented the colors are all cancer survivors themselves.

March Employees of the Month



During the April Director's Meeting, Boswell Regional Center recognized Employees of the Month in the area of support/professional staff: Employees of the Month for March are Greg Amason, Maintenance; and Syble Thornton, Residential Services.

Governor's Service Awards





Boswell Regional Center employees received Governor's service awards in recognition of a total of 60 years of state service. They were recognized for the dedication to BRC at the April directors meeting. Pictured are Rhonda McCallum (10yrs), Sherron Barnes (30yrs), Shylah Jones (10yrs) and Keri East (10yrs).

Seven Safety Suggestions for Summer Work

Outdoor jobs expose workers to heat stress and ultraviolet (UV) radiation, poisonous plants and creatures, and pest-borne diseases. Appropriate training and adequate protection can go a long way toward keeping workers safe outside.

Here are seven suggestions to help you stay a bit safer as you work.

- 1) **Schedule your workload.** While you can't always choose your hours or work locations, you may be able to plan your workload to avoid overheating. Schedule your heaviest work for the coolest parts of the day. In the summer, 10 am and 4 pm is the hottest part of the day. Take your breaks during those hours, someplace cool and shady. Avoid direct sun whenever possible.
- 2) **Get into summer fashion.** Wide-brimmed hats, sun glasses with side panels, and pants tucked into socks may not get you on the fashion runway, but they can prevent any number of burns, stings, and bites. Full-length pants and long-sleeved shirts reduce bites and minimize skin contact with poisonous plants. Hats and sunglasses protect your skin and eyes from UV radiation. To stay cooler, wear light-colored clothing that is loose-fitting and breathable. 
- 3) **Know your plants.** Poison oak, ivy, and sumac are found throughout the United States. The sap oil from these plants can cause painful allergic reactions. Learn to identify them so you can avoid them as you work outside. Wear long sleeves, long pants, boots, and gloves to shield your skin from contact.
- 4) **Drink enough of the right things.** When it's hot, you have to be careful to drink enough. Hard work and high temperatures lead to quick dehydration. Drink before you get thirsty. If you are thirsty, you are already beginning to dehydrate. Avoid drinks with caffeine, alcohol, and large amounts of sugar. Water is still the best thirst quencher, but if you are sweating a lot then drink a sports beverage to help replenish your electrolytes and prevent heat cramps.
- 5) **Slather yourself in sunscreen.** Wear sunscreen with a minimum of SPF 15. SPF refers to the amount of time you will be protected from a burn. An SPF of 15 will allow a person to stay out in the sun 15 times longer than they normally would be able to stay without burning. The SPF rating applies to skin reddening and protection against UV exposure. Sunscreen performance is affected by wind, humidity, perspiration, and proper application. It should be reapplied at least every two hours. 
- 6) **Respect the creepy crawlies.** Tall grass, leaf litter, rocks, wood piles, and bushes are favorite hiding places for [spiders](#), [ticks](#), and [snakes](#). Where possible and practical, stay clear of these areas. Wear gloves when handling brush or debris. Wear boots, pants, and long sleeves when working in tall grass or underbrush. Cut grass and remove dried leaves from around the worksite to reduce tick populations. Be cautious near piles of undisturbed materials where snakes or spiders may be.
- 7) **Watch out for your coworkers.** Monitor your own physical condition, but also keep an eye on your coworkers. Learn the symptoms of heat-related illness, and watch for them in yourself and others. Be aware that protective clothing or personal protective equipment may increase the risk of heat stress. Also, brush up on your first aid so you can help a coworker who may need immediate help if suffering from heat stroke. For more information and recommendations for safer work this summer, visit the NIOSH [outdoor worker](#) pages.



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™

works 24/7 saving lives and protecting people from health threats to have a more secure nation. A US federal agency, CDC helps make the healthy choice the easy choice by putting science and prevention into action. CDC works to help people live longer, healthier and more productive lives.

Boswell Regional Center's Friends & Family Association is a non profit all volunteer organization that works to ensure **Boswell** individuals are valued and loved.

All monies received from memberships are donated to the organization to purchase items for the individuals served by **Boswell Regional Center**.

Donations

Donations may be made in memory or honor of a loved one:

In Memory In Honor of

By: _____

Acknowledgement should be sent to the following:

Name: _____

Address: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: () _____

Email: _____

Purpose

To promote and support the individuals of Boswell Regional Center

To foster the development of programs on their behalf

To recognize and reward the efforts of employees of Boswell Regional Center

To raise and receive funds for the accomplishment of the above purposes.

Fundraisers

Some examples of fundraisers that have been held are:

Scrub Sales

Jewelry Sales

Book Fairs

RADA Knives

T-shirt Sales

Special Hosted Events



Friends & Family Association



How to become a member...

Membership Information

Indicate at right which type of membership you wish by placing a check mark in the appropriate box.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: (_____) _____

Email: _____

Please make your check payable to:

Friends & Family Association
P.O. Box 128
Magee, MS 39111

Annual Membership Fees 2012-2013

- Single/BRC Employee - Free**
- Single/Non-employee \$5** Membership Card
- Bronze \$25** Membership certificate designating level of giving
- Silver \$50** Membership certificate designating level of giving
Name on all Friends & Family sponsored events
- Gold \$100** Membership certificate designating level of giving
Name on all Friends & Family sponsored events
Recognition in each issue of the Bulletin newsletter
- Platinum \$500** Membership certificate designating level of giving
Name on all Friends & Family sponsored events
Recognition in each issue of the Bulletin newsletter
Publicity in local media
Boswell 35th Anniversary cookbook