



Boswell Regional Center Bulletin

# August 2013

A Publication for Employees, Family and Friends of BRC

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# All American Arts Fair

Each year, Boswell Regional Center's individuals and staff look forward to the Arts Fair. This year's theme was "All American." Well, if you attended the performance you would surely agree that it was "All American." The auditorium was filled with an array of red t-shirts which were worn by individuals and staff. Some even had on camouflage to put that extra twist on the reality side. As the curtains opened, the crowd watched a slide show that centered around our troops. Yes, I am proud to be an American!

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, August 2013 Issue.





# All American Arts Fair

continued

We were entertained by the Soggy Bottom Boys, Elvis, James Brown and Beyonce to name a few. It is always a pleasure to hear and watch the individuals sing, laugh, clap and dance to their favorite tunes. Great job everyone! Thanks to everyone who worked behind the scenes and the committee for making this another successful year. God Bless the USA!



## Employee Training

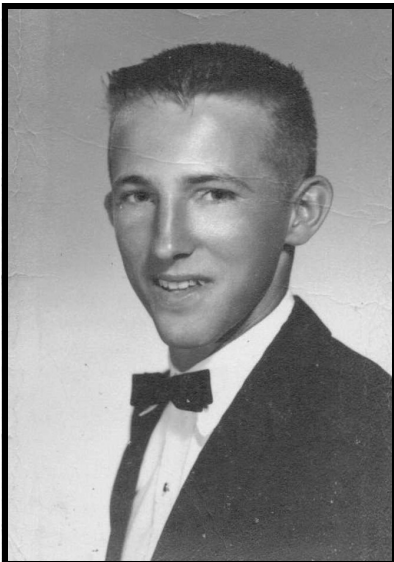
On August 2, 2013, Gene Rowzee; Senior Attorney for The Department of Mental Health; and Cynthia T. Eubank; Special Assistant Attorney General, conducted a presentation on several topics such as workplace etiquette, workers compensation, HIPAA, and the different Federal Laws prohibiting job discrimination.

It is the willingness of individuals like you with expertise in the various fields of interest and needs of employment that makes the workforce effective and worthwhile for our staff and the ones we serve. On behalf of administration and staff, thank you again for your time and effort in extending your knowledge in the various areas presented.





# Spotlight on: David Tedford



Young David Tedford the year he was elected "Most Handsome" at Magee High School.

After graduating from the University of Southern Mississippi with various business degrees, he returned to Magee to work with his family at the famous "Ted's Swap Shop." Thousands of people in the area can say they bought something for their home at the store. The business gave David an opportunity to help others in the community and around the state. As the vice-president of the region's Jaycees, he, along with Dr. Paul Cotten, helped establish the Jaycee Evaluation Center at Ellisville State School, which is still in operation.

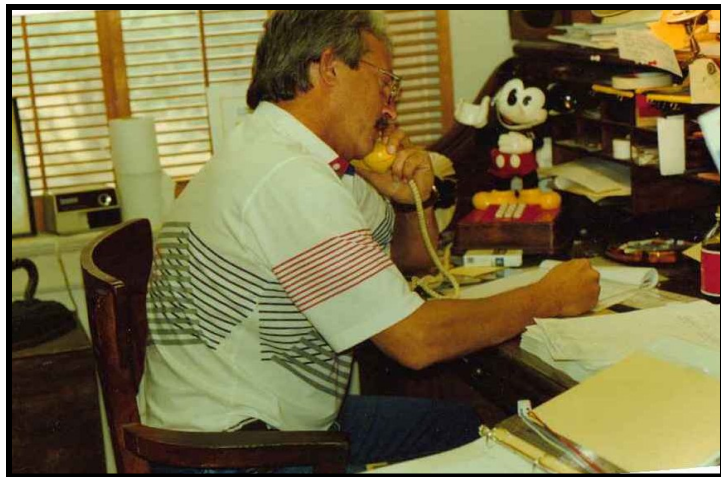
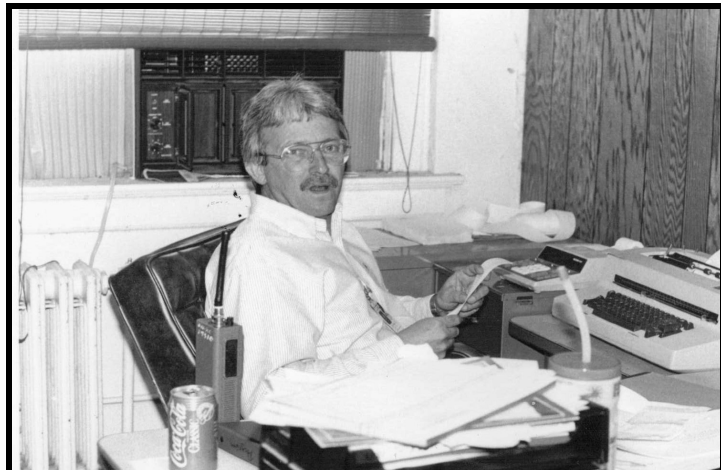
David came to work at Boswell in 1985 as Director of Vocational Services. At the time, individuals were working on arts and crafts projects, but Dr. Paul Cotten, Director of Boswell at the time, wanted the individuals to be involved in "real work." Through a lot of hard work, both his own and that of his staff, David turned the vocational program into one of the most productive in the United States. David Tedford has a very good business head and good rapport with both private and public businesses. Companies now seek him out for contracts because of his long standing reputation for excellent work.

David Tedford still has an ongoing business relationship with Dr. Cotten. About every three months he hosts a group of Dr. Cotten's students. He has also gone to local high schools to share his abundant knowledge about business. Because of his reputation for excellence, Mr. Tedford not only regularly shares his experience with Mississippi's students, he also has gone on trips out-of-state to show large organizations how to set up their workshops.

David Tedford was born in Glendale, California, the son of L.D. and Pat Tedford and little brother of JoAnn. Shortly after David's birth, his family returned to Magee, MS, where he grew up. David lived just across the railroad tracks from what was at that time the Mississippi State Tuberculosis Sanatorium and was a frequent visitor on the grounds. He played with the children in the Preventorium, went to movies at the Auditorium, and even played golf with Dr. Boswell. David's mother helped establish a Boy Scout Troop. Boy Scouts played a very important role in David's early years. At the time, he was the youngest boy ever to be named an Eagle Scout.

David was the envy of all the guys during his teenage years, with his good looks and fancy cars. He was elected Most Handsome at Magee High School and was also a star player for the Magee High School Trojans. David was also a NASCAR fan when nobody else would admit to it. David has continued to be a "Car Guy" and can tell you more about classic cars than you would ever care to know.

After graduating from the University of Southern Mississippi with various



David Tedford in his early days at Boswell.



## Spotlight on: David Tedford *continued*

David Tedford expects excellence from his employees. He expects his employees to be 100% excellent and sets high standards because he believes they have excellence within. “He’s a leader,” says Bill Blair, Director of MRQA, who was once supervised by David Tedford. “He taught me about organization, accountability, and initiative.”



Mr. Tedford speaking with Dr. Cotten (middle) at Boswell Industries.



Mr. Tedford gives a tour to a group of Dr. Cotten's students.

Some may not know that even though David Tedford runs a tight ship, he also has a good sense of humor and a knack for storytelling. “He’s a good hearted person,” says Orlando Rankin, director of recreation, who has known him for many years. During the Christmas season, he spreads cheer by loading up the individuals and staff to go look at Christmas lights. He may also throw a pizza party and always keeps the “candy jar” full. “He’ll give you the shirt off his back if you need it,” says Angelia McDonald, who has had a working relationship with Mr. Tedford for almost 20 years.



Left: David Tedford sits in “jail” as part of a fundraiser where he gets out after enough money has been raised. Right: Mr. Tedford uses his decorated Jeep to pull a Santa Claus float during a BRC Christmas parade.



## *Spotlight on: David Tedford* continued

Last of all, we certainly must not forget David Tedford's part in establishing the Sanatorium Museum on BRC's campus. Even though Mr. Tedford shrugs off the title "campus historian," he is a walking encyclopedia of the varied history of Boswell Regional Center, formerly the Sanatorium. He was able to locate and place many of the items you will see when you pay the museum a visit.



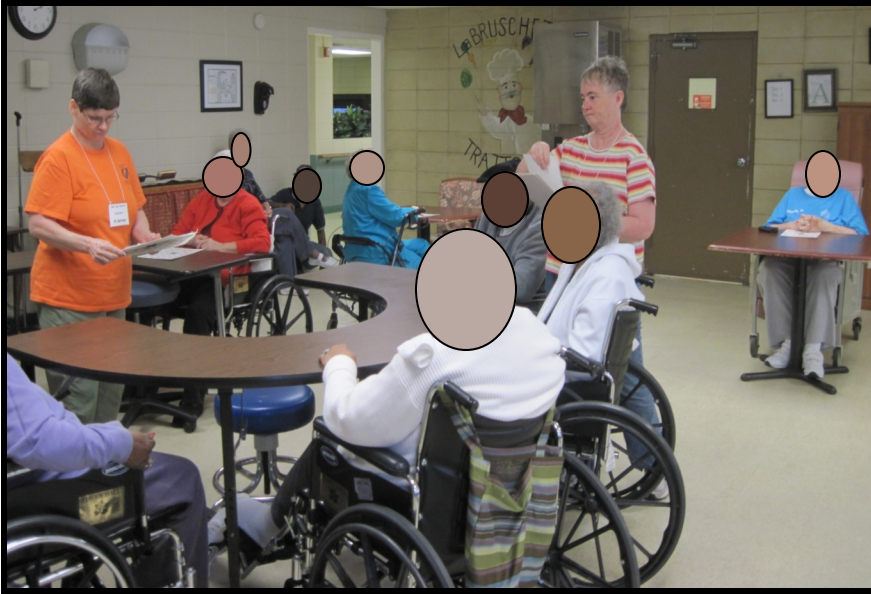
David Tedford examines some of the memorabilia located at the Sanatorium Museum.



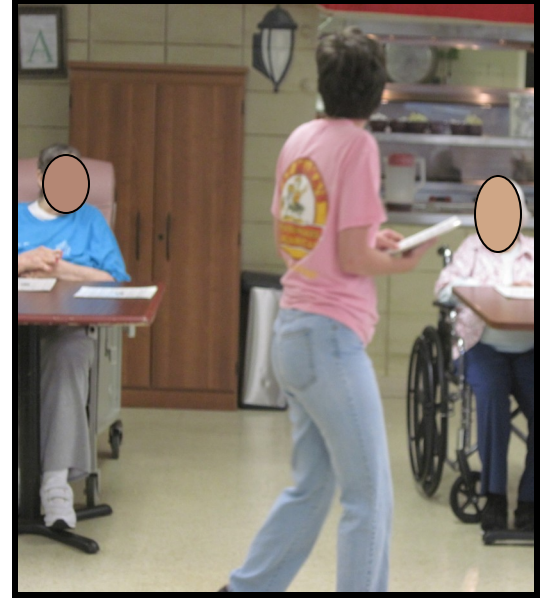
Left: The early days of Vocational Services that was started by Mr. Tedford. Right: Mr. Tedford receiving an award from Dr. Randy Hendrix, former Director of the Mississippi Department of Mental Health.



# A Heart to Serve



**M.Harrison (orange shirt) & R. Johnson (striped blouse) passing out Bingo cards to the elderly ladies at Haven Hall nursing home.**



**S. Smith proudly looks around to make sure the elderly ladies have Bingo cards and says, "I'm bringing your chips sweetheart."**



**K. Henley at St. Andrews Thrift Store sitting behind the counter. She's checking plastic bags for holes. The good bags get used for customers' purchases.**

Some of the individuals from Boswell's Autism Services program and Wesson Group Home have become volunteers. Their first volunteer mission was to a local nursing home where they were introduced as "Boswell Volunteers." They passed out bingo cards and chips, making sure that everyone had their supplies. They also made sure that all who wanted coffee had sweeteners and cream along with napkins and stirrers.

An individual from the Autism Services program has found her place at St. Andrews Thrift Store. There she does activities such as straightening racks and sorting through plastic bags, making sure those with holes are discarded.

The volunteer work is not only helping those who receive the services, but it is also helping the individuals from Wesson Group Home and Autism Services become more socialized. Many people diagnosed with Autism have difficulty interacting socially with other people. Staff member Theresa Humphrey, who plans the volunteer trips, uses the community interactions as social learning opportunities. She noted she has seen improvement already with at least one volunteer who, out of her normal character, raised her head and gave a big, "Good Morning," to one of the directors at a volunteer location.

The volunteer work also happens to promote Goal 1 of the DMH Strategic Plan. This plan seeks to, "dispel stigma and increase mental health awareness." When people in the community have positive interactions with people who have a mental health diagnosis, the stigma, or social unacceptability, weakens.



# Governor's Service Awards



Boswell Regional Center employees receive Governor's service awards. They were recognized for the dedication to BRC at the August directors meeting. Pictured are: Jeanette Garner of Mize, MS (Medical Review Quality Assurance) and Joyce Powell of Magee, MS (Community Service).



# Employees of the Month

Each month Boswell selects employees for this honor. These recipients exemplify one that goes above and beyond the call of duty. These employees are now eligible to be selected for Employee of the Year at Boswell Regional Center.

Congratulations! Pictured are:  
Linda Chain of Mount Olive, MS (Medical Review Quality Assurance)  
Gary Runnels of Mize, MS (Ridgeview)



# National Hug Your Boss Day!

August 23rd was National Hug Your Boss Day. The statistics on the National Hug Your Boss Day website indicate that a good relationship with the boss makes employees more productive. It also makes them more likely to give their boss a hug. Given that information, we can infer from all the hugs that there are a lot of happy and productive employees at Boswell.



## 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.**

*Where Dreams Can Become Reality*  
BOSWELL  
REGIONAL CENTER



# Alzheimer's Conference



The 14th Annual Conference on Alzheimer's Disease and Psychiatric Disorders in the Elderly was held on Aug. 14 - 16 in Meridian, Mississippi, at the MSU Riley Center. Topics included dementia, non-traditional treatments, and PTSD in the elderly. Hundreds of people attend every year, including many from Boswell Regional Center. Pictured above is (l) Cindy Womack, Assistant Director of Boswell Regional Center, with JoAnn Nelson, winner of the BRC Alzheimer's Scholarship Award; (m) Lisa Braxton Toliver, Carol Carter, Tiffany Wyatt, and Dawn Anglin of Community Services; (r) William Gates, Kathy Pittman, and David Sullivan.

# Repair and Renovation



Bureau of Buildings staff members visited Boswell Regional Center on August 13, 2013, for a Repair and Renovation (R&R) tour. They toured the Jaquith and Dexter buildings. Members in attendance included Representative Tom Weathersby, (R) District 62, and Senator Albert Butler, (D) District 36. Pictured from left to right: Rep. Tom Weathersby; Cindy Womack, BRC Assistant Director; Sen. Albert Butler; and Steven Allen, BRC Director.



# Mississippi Fire Academy



A group of individuals from Boswell Region Center's Community Day Program and Campus Day Program went to the Mississippi Fire Academy. The instructors at the academy said they appreciated the opportunity to share a fire safety message.

# National Dog Day

National Dog Day was on Aug 26, 2013. National Dog Day is also known as International Dog Day or Dog Appreciation Day. It was established in 2004 as a way to celebrate dogs and encourage their humane treatment. The National Dog Day website gives 50 ways to celebrate the day, including volunteering at a shelter, walking a dog for an elderly person, buying your dog a stylish outfit, and having your dog certified as a therapy dog. Boswell's certified therapy dog, Donna Vella, spent the day at Dr. Williams Veterinary Clinic getting her checkup. She got great news that a problem with her paw was all healed. Afterward she got to spend the evening with her family at State Farm. She curled up in her favorite rocker with her stuffed dog and went to sleep until dinner. Then later she had a late night walk with Mr. John Roberts. By the way, for all you cat lovers out there, National Cat Day was established the following year in 2005 and is celebrated in October.







**Dr. Zarr's Amazing Funk Monster Band was in Magee on August 2nd at the Magee Sportsplex for the first annual Party at the Park event. Many staff and individuals served by Boswell came out to enjoy the fun.**





*Faced with challenges we could not have foreseen...*

**You rose to the occasion  
with  
dedication and devotion**



*As we remember August 29, 2005*

## **Hurricane Katrina**



*we salute the  
heroes of*



**Boswell  
Regional  
Center**

# **Our Employees!**

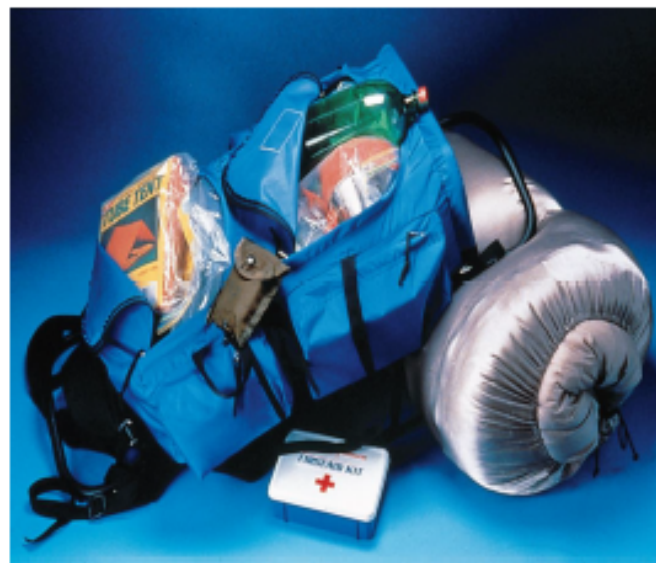


## Are you Ready? Mississippi Hurricane Preparedness

“The First 72 are on you!” means residents should have enough supplies to sustain their families for three days, 72 hours after a hurricane makes landfall. It could take that long for public assistance to reach you. Whether you live near the Gulf Coast or well inland you should review preparedness plans and be ready for the season.

### Before the Hurricane Season

- ✓ Determine safe evacuation
- ✓ Learn locations of official shelters.
- ✓ Check emergency equipment, such as flashlights, generators and battery powered equipment such as cell phones and your NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards receiver.
- ✓ Buy food that will keep and store drinking water.
- ✓ Buy plywood or other material to protect your home if you don't already have it.
- ✓ Trim trees and shrubbery so branches don't fly into your home.
- ✓ Clear clogged rain gutters and downspouts.
- ✓ Review your insurance policy.



### EMERGENCY SUPPLY KIT

- Flashlight(s) with extra batteries
- Pet supplies (food, leash & carrier, vaccination records).
- Sanitary supplies.
- Toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, cleanser, bleach, towelettes, toilet paper, trash bags, feminine hygiene products.
- Copies of important documents.
- Driver's license, SS card, proof of residence, insurance policies, wills, deeds, birth and marriage certificates, tax records, medical records, family pictures, etc.
- Cash, enough to fill up your vehicle with gas and travelers checks.
- Emergency generator.
- Portable radio with extra batteries.
- NOAA Weather Radio.
- Non-perishable food for at least 3 days.
- Bottled water (1 gallon per person per day).
- First Aid Kit with prescription medications.
- Bedding and clothing for each family member.
- Blankets and towels.
- Plastic dishes/eating utensils.
- Sun screen/sunglasses/mosquito repellent.
- Bicycle Helmet.





## Take control of your health: Get tested for breast cancer.

Getting a yearly mammogram is one of the most important actions a woman can take to find breast cancer early when the disease is most treatable.

### The American Cancer Society recommends the following for finding breast cancer early in women without symptoms:

- **Mammogram:** Women age 40 and older should have a mammogram every year and should keep on doing so for as long as they are in good health.
- **Breast exam:** Women in their 20s and 30s should have a breast exam as part of a regular exam by a doctor or nurse, at least every three years. After age 40, women should have a breast exam by a doctor or nurse every year.
- **Be familiar with your breasts:** And report any breast changes to your doctor without delay. Breast self-exam (BSE) is one way to be familiar with your breasts and find changes.



To learn more about breast cancer, visit the American Cancer Society's Web site at [cancer.org](http://cancer.org) or call us at 1-800-227-2345. We want to help you stay well.

THE OFFICIAL SPONSOR OF BIRTHDAYS.®





# Masquerade™

*Experience the Frenzy!*

**\$5** Jewelry  
and Accessories  
**SALE**

**Monday &  
Tuesday**

**Sept. 30 & Oct. 1**

**7:00 am – 6:00 pm & 7:00 am-3:00 pm**

**Boswell Regional Center  
Training Center**

**Cash, Credit/Debit Cards & Payroll Deduction**

**Sponsored By: BRC Friends &  
Family Association**



**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