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JAQUITH NURSING HOME HOLDS PUMPKIN DECORATING CONTEST

WHITFIELD —Jaquith Nursing Home (JNH) residents showed their Halloween spirit in a pumpkin decorating contest that was held on Wednesday, October 27.

Residents on all five inns that make up the nursing home showed their creativity in this annual contest by decorating not just their pumpkins, but having a whole theme they and JNH staff set up to impress the judges in one of four categories – most creative, most resident involvement, best presentation and best overall.

"I'm always impressed with the amount of involvement the residents put into these contests," JNH Director Marc Lewis said. "Every year, residents put forth a great effort for what may seem like such a small thing to many of us. They clearly enjoy it, and we're glad to see so many people enjoying themselves."

Jaquith Inn won the award for most creative after judges found a table full of jack o'lanterns involved in a poker game. Jefferson Inn, Building 29, had the most resident involvement, with their pumpkin serving as the cowardly lion in the building's "Wizard of Oz" theme. Building 33, also Jefferson Inn, received the best presentation award for their brightly-colored ladybug pumpkin. Finally, Adams Inn won the best overall award for the festive party they threw.

The pumpkins for this year's event were donated by the North Delta Produce Growers Association, who reached out to Mississippi State Hospital and Jaquith Nursing Home through its work with Alcorn State University.

"It's fun for us, but it is things like this that help our residents feel more at home," Lewis said.

Founded in 1976, Jaquith Nursing Home is a long-term care facility dedicated to serving individuals who are in need of nursing care in a safe and comfortable therapeutic environment. The nursing home is located on the 350-acre campus of Mississippi State Hospital at Whitfield. JNH is accredited by The Joint Commission.

PHOTOS ATTACHED:

PICTURE 1 – Residents of Jaquith Inn won the Most Creative award for setting up a poker game between some of their spooky jack o’lanterns.

PICTURE 2 – Jefferson Inn won the award for Most Resident Involvement when they re-created “The Wizard of Oz,” with their pumpkin serving as the cowardly lion.

PICTURE 3 – This carved pumpkin may be crawling with bugs, but it was the centerpiece of a fun and cheerful party that won Adams Inn the Best Overall award in Jaquith Nursing Home’s annual pumpkin decorating contest.