



MISSISSIPPI STATE HOSPITAL

P.O. Box 157-A, Whitfield, MS 39193
Phone (601) 351-8018 Fax (601) 351-8364
www.msh.state.ms.us

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Contact: Adam Moore (601) 351-8262, adam.moore@msh.state.ms.us

FARMER JIM NEAL GOLF EVENT CELEBRATES 10TH ANNIVERSARY

Friends of Mississippi State Hospital is celebrating the arrival of spring with a milestone – the 10th Annual Farmer Jim Neal Golf Event.

The fundraising event will be celebrating its tenth anniversary on Friday, April 15 at Whisper Lake Country Club in Madison when golfers tee off in support of Friends of MSH, a non-profit group dedicated to educating the public about mental illness, the work of the hospital and enhancing the quality of life for MSH patients and residents.

“BankPlus is proud and excited to sponsor the Farmer Jim Neal Golf Event again this year. This is just another way of giving back to our community and those in it who are working to serve others,” said Joel C. Ross, president of the Rankin County division of BankPlus, the title sponsor for the Farmer Jim Neal tournament.

“We're pleased to be a part of this milestone as the Farmer Jim Neal Golf Event celebrates 10 years of helping Mississippi State Hospital care for those in need.”

The charity event is named in honor of popular Jackson personality Farmer Jim Neal. Neal was a popular radio personality in Jackson for decades who dedicated his life to community service, volunteerism and charity.

Also a member of the Mississippi Legislature for 20 years, Neal was an enthusiastic supporter and champion for Friends of MSH who sincerely cared for the patients and residents at Mississippi State Hospital and Jaquith Nursing Home. He passed away in 2006, but the golf tournament named in Neal's honor has become the biggest fundraiser of the year for Friends.

There will be two tee times for the event, a morning flight at 8 a.m. and an afternoon flight at 1 p.m., and there is still time for players to register. The individual player's fee is \$125, but there are several levels of sponsorship available.

In addition to BankPlus, Valley Food Services and the Mississippi Hospital Association are major sponsors of the tournament. The following sponsorships are still available:

- Tee Sponsor – a contribution of \$250. Sponsor receives a tee sign at the tee box.
- Par Sponsor – a contribution of \$650. Sponsor receives one team (4 players)/2 mulligans per member; a tee sign at the tee box; and recognition at the tournament and in the program.

- Birdie Sponsor – a contribution of \$2,000. Sponsor receives two teams (8 players)/2 mulligans per player; a booth display; a tee sign at the tee box; and recognition at the tournament and in the program.
- Eagle Sponsor – a contribution of \$3,500. Sponsor receives two teams (8 players)/2 mulligans per player; a booth display; recognition in MSH’s anti-stigma campaign booklet (5,000 circulation); a company/individual vinyl banner; a banner on MSH’s website; a banner in MSH’s 2011 quarterly newsletter *Mental Outlook*; a cap logo; and recognition at the tournament and in the program.

Winners will be recognized at the end of the tournament, and prizes will also be awarded to winners of longest drive and closest-to-the-hole competitions. For more information or to sign up for the tournament, call Sheila Shows at (601) 351-8377.

MSH, a facility of the Mississippi Department of Mental Health, was founded in 1855 and facilitates improvement in the quality of life for Mississippians who are in need of mental health, chemical dependency or nursing home services, by rehabilitating to the least restrictive environment, utilizing a range of psychiatric and medical services, which reflect the accepted standard of care and are in compliance with statutory and regulatory guidelines. The hospital is accredited by the Joint Commission.