



MISSISSIPPI STATE HOSPITAL

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FARMER JIM NEAL GOLF EVENT RAISES \$40,000

WHITFIELD—Thirty teams teed off on Friday, April 16 at Whisper Lake Country Club in Madison for the 9th Annual Farmer Jim Neal Golf Event, a benefit tournament for Friends of Mississippi State Hospital.

In the end, teams from BankPlus, the title sponsor of the tournament, took home prizes for both first and third place after playing in the morning and afternoon flights, and second place went to MSH Director James G. Chastain's team. The real reason for the tournament, though, was to raise money for Friends of Mississippi State Hospital, and the event was a resounding success in that regard; at the conclusion of the afternoon, Janna Neal Bradley, daughter of the late Farmer Jim Neal, presented a check to Friends of MSH for \$40,000.

“This tournament benefits a wonderful organization,” Chastain said. “Since its inception in 1987, Friends of Mississippi State Hospital has been dedicated to providing programs and activities that enrich the lives of people living with mental illnesses and those in long-term care.

“I assure you that the money raised here today will make a difference in many people's lives.”

Chastain also thanked the sponsors of the tournament, BankPlus, Valley Services, Mississippi Hospital Association and Siemens.

The tournament is named for Farmer Jim Neal, who was for decades a radio personality in central Mississippi, as well as a member of the Mississippi Legislature. The golf tournament had its inaugural year in 2002, named after Farmer Jim Neal because of his long-time service to and support of Mississippi State Hospital.

“He passed away in November 2006, but his memory and dedication to community service and volunteerism will live on through this tournament,” Chastain said.

Friends of MSH is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting the work of Mississippi State Hospital and informing the public about mental illness and the needs of the mentally ill. The organization helps enhance quality of life by offering a variety of events and programs for Mississippi State Hospital's patients, staff, Jaquith Nursing Home residents and those who receives services through Community Services.

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.

- 30 -

PHOTO ATTACHED: Members of the Neal family presented a check to Friends of Mississippi State Hospital at the conclusion of the tournament Friday. Pictured are (l to r) James G. Chastain, Mississippi State Hospital; Ray Wallace, Friends of MSH; Mrs. Ann Neal; George Ardelean, Valley Services; Joel Ross, President of Rankin County division, BankPlus; Steve Lesley, Mississippi Hospital Association; Jim Neal, Jr., Tommy Bradley and Janna Neal Bradley.

FIRST PLACE – BankPlus won both first and third place with teams in the morning and afternoon tee offs. Pictured are the first place winners, (l to r) Shawn Schoenrock, Willie Richardson, Will White and Joel Ross.

SECOND PLACE – MSH Director James G. Chastain’s team won second place in the 9th Annual Farmer Jim Neal Golf Event. Pictured are (l to r) Steve Younger, Chastain, Bob Bane and Bradley Sanders.

THIRD PLACE – From left are Hunter Travis, Shawn Schoenrock, Will White and Joel Ross, who were on the second BankPlus team, which won third place in the tournament.