For Immediate Release

www.msh.state.ms.us

May 13, 2010

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

NWR STUDENT DONATES TO MISSISSIPPI STATE HOSPITAL

WHITFIELD—Northwest Rankin High School student Bonnie Goodson recently used her senior project as a chance to make a donation to Mississippi State Hospital.

Goodson studied the benefits of art therapy on those receiving mental health treatment for her senior project, and as the fundraiser portion of that project, she designed her own t-shirts and sold them, then donated the funds to MSH Art Services. Over the course of her senior project, she spent 11 hours at the hospital, observing art instructors and the classes they teach to patients on the hospital campus.

"I thought it was a lot of fun and I got to meet a lot of people," Goodson said. "I didn't know what to expect, but it is a beautiful campus and it was a great experience. I got to be friends with patients and staff members."

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: Northwest Rankin High School student Bonnie Goodson (right) presents a donation to Volunteer Program Manager Lynn Dilmore. Goodson studied for her senior project at Mississippi State Hospital and sold t-shirts as a fundraiser, donating the funds to MSH Art Services.