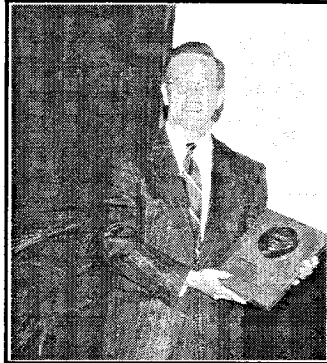


ALPHA honors public health professionals

The Alabama Public Health Association recently recognized persons and agencies from across the state who demonstrated exceptional merit during the past year in the field of public health. The following individuals were presented awards at the annual meeting at the Florence Conference Center April 28.

Jim L. Mysinger, deputy general counsel of the Alabama Department of Public Health, was presented the D.G. Gill Award. Mysinger was praised for providing "professional reasonable and workable legal solutions" for environmental and public health problems. In a letter of support, Gov. Don Siegelman stated that the recipient's "compassionate manner in dealing with the people of our great state leaves no doubt that he is a rare gem—one that puts others before self."



Jim L. Mysinger

Among the qualities setting him apart from others are his "dedication to his profession, his compassion for others, and his ability to resolve conflicts." A respected attorney in the legal office, Mysinger was credited with passage of the Vital Statistics statute which requires "protecting the confidentiality and integrity of Alabama's vital records." Alabama is the only state in the nation that has a vital records system that can be accessed from any county in the state. He was also credited with protecting the public from many potential health threats which would likely have become real hazards.

This prestigious award is presented to an individual who has made an exceptional contribution to public health in Alabama which is statewide in scope. In recognition of this award, the governor declared April 28 Jim Mysinger Day and on May 6 the Alabama Legislature passed a joint resolution honoring him.



Teresa Young

Teresa Young was selected as the recipient of the Virginia Kendrick Award. Ms. Young has worked 22 of her 24 years of public service in the Alabama Department of Public Health. Co-workers praised her for being a dedicated public employee who has a strong religious faith.

One letter of support stated that Ms. Young "exhibits loyalty, integrity and willingness in all aspects of her work." Another said, "She has always been able to pass on to those with whom she has contact a contagious uplifting attitude of life, the consistency of which I find rare."

The Virginia Kendrick Award goes to an individual who has provided notable service to the people of Alabama while serving in a supportive position in

public health.

The Guy M. Tate Award was presented to the Video



Shown are, first row, left to right, Sandra Blakely and Darlene Coleman, second row, Michael Smith, Julian McLendon, Nick Moss, Mack Carmack, Danny Williams and Henry Roddam.

Communications Division of the Bureau of Health Promotion and Information. The division staff was credited with producing high quality educational programs while always going the extra mile. The division is a "recognized national leader in public health satellite conferencing" which displays both professionalism and teamwork.

The Video Communications unit has saved millions of dollars in travel and per diem as department employees receive inservice and continuing education programs via satellite conferencing. This allows public health professionals to improve their knowledge and skills without having to travel. With satellite conferencing they participate in programs at their offices.

Division employees include **Sandra Blakely; Julian McLendon; Nick Moss; Henry Roddam; Darlene Ruffin; Michael Smith, division director; and Danny Williams. Mack Carmack**, director of Broadcast Communications at the University of Alabama Birmingham School of Public Health, works with the Video Communications Division.

The Guy M. Tate Award is awarded annually to a public health employee, group or agency with 10 years or less of service for contributions to public health beyond the job assignment which promote and protect public health in Alabama.

Frances Holder, area clerical director of Public Health Area 1, was presented the Frederick S. Wolf Award, which is given to an individual active in public health at the



Frances Holder

ALPHA.....continued on page 7