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## **WM Councilman Contributes Southland Charity Funds to Goldsby Scholarship at MSCC**

Councilman James Holt believes the city of West Memphis should be more involved in educational efforts of Mid-South Community College, and he recently made it official by contributing to the Goldsby Scholarship program.

Holt used half of his “Charity Days” funds from Southland Park Gaming and Racing to demonstrate his support for MSCC and the innovative scholarship which has saved area parents nearly \$7 million.



“This is just a small thing that I did; the big picture is how much the college gives back to the community,” Holt said. “This is something I plan to do as long I am a councilman, and I will probably increase my contribution to the college.”

“I wish other city council members would get more involved with the programs at MSCC. I feel like the college is a very important entity, and we should use this resource more as a city and as a county. I really appreciate what the college is doing.”

MSCC President Dr. Glen Fenter said Holt’s contribution to the Thomas B. Goldsby Jr. Scholarship is an important one.

“Every dollar invested in the Goldsby Scholarship fund is multiplied many times over in our efforts to maximize educational and training opportunities for the people of our region,” Dr. Fenter said. “We greatly appreciate Councilman Holt’s vision and commitment to this unique and innovative program that has already touched thousands of lives in our community.”

“One of the most important things we can do for our region is increase the college-going rate, and this scholarship is a tremendously powerful model to accomplish that. Our hope is that Councilman Holt’s contribution will motivate and encourage others to make similar investments in the future of our young people.”

Holt said several members of his family have benefitted from learning opportunities at the college.

“Mid-South Community College has positively influenced my daughter’s life and the lives of my grandchildren,” he pointed out. “I have given funds to other organizations in the past, but with my children and grandchildren taking courses at MSCC, I see first hand what the college is doing to help our community.”

“MSCC is an open door for kids and adults who want to better their education. I am a strong believe in education, and the college offers some great opportunities. I wish other city council members, in West Memphis and Marion, would visit the campus and see what’s happening there.”

The Goldsby Scholarship allows qualified students to enroll in general education college classes that count toward high school and college graduation. Students who succeed in two college classes each semester of their junior and senior years of high school can complete the equivalent of almost a full year of post-secondary education.

Through the 2010 Fall Semester, the scholarship program had helped students earn 11,320 total credit hours since its creation – the equivalent of about 90 bachelor’s degrees. Goldsby Scholars have used their MSCC credits to attend more than 130 prestigious colleges and universities throughout the nation. They have earned more than 100 master’s, bachelor’s, and associate’s degrees and certificates of proficiency.

To contribute to the Goldsby Scholarship or the MSCC Foundation general fund, please contact Director of Advancement Patti Coleman at (870) 733-6764 or [pdcoleman@midsouthcc.edu](mailto:pdcoleman@midsouthcc.edu). Donations can also be made online on the college website, [www.midsouthcc.edu](http://www.midsouthcc.edu).