

## Virtual Town Hall *Continue from page 1*

Mississippi work for children and families living in poverty. Of particular interest were the subjects of obesity in children and the high rate of HIV infections in the Mississippi Delta.

Dr. Vincent Venturini, chair of the Department of Social Work, said the project had two origins. "Social work is one of the academic programs that receives funding from the United States Department of Agriculture," he said.

"One of the USDA objectives," according to Venturini, "calls for us to prepare students to design more effective programs to serve rural communities." He also cited the inclusion of a high tech town meeting as a critical activity in the Senior Methods Course "to prepare our students to learn to use cutting edge technologies in the delivery of social work services to rural communities." The Council on Social Work Education (CSWE) which is the accrediting body for academic social work programs requires the use of such technologies in social work curricula.

Other participants in the workshop from Leflore County included Kimberly Kelly and Tasha Reed, baccalaureate social work students; Melanie Williams, social work supervisor, and Hardy Franklin, WIC Supervisor, Department of Health,

District III; Mayor Sheriel Perkins Greenwood; Elmus Stockstill, Sr., field representative for Congressman Bennie Thompson; and Dr. Catherine Singleton-Walker, MVSU assistant professor of social work.

Holmes County participants included Prikeeta Fort, Corie Jordan, both MVSU baccalaureate social work students; and Ms. Bernell Saffold, principal of S.V. Marshall Elementary School in Tchula.

Representatives from Sharkey County included Lachandria Tubwell and William Houzah, baccalaureate social work students; Karen Womack, district health educator, Department of Health, District V; and Jowilla Secoy, Health Network Group.

Mayor Sheriel Perkins suggested that the dialogue started in the meeting continue. MVSU officials assured participants that it will. A virtual conference, using the distance technologies, will take place early in 2009 focusing on rural child welfare workers. The meeting will include child protective services and social workers in Mississippi and North Carolina.

## 2009 Health Risk Assessments

Adult participants age 18 and older must complete a new health risk assessment (HRA) on or after Jan. 1, 2009, prior to a wellness/preventive visit, in order to be eligible for the \$1,000 wellness benefit for calendar year 2009. Covered wellness/preventive services for adult participants residing in Mississippi are not subject to the calendar year deductible and must be provided by an AHS State Network provider in order to qualify for benefits. For a complete list

of covered wellness services, please visit the Plan's Web site at <http://knowyourbenefits.dfa.state.ms.us>. If you do not have internet access, you can call Blue Cross Blue Shield of Mississippi at 800-709-7881 to receive a copy of the list. Remember, if you do not complete an HRA, you will not be eligible to receive any adult wellness and preventive service benefits.

## CommuniQue'

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## MVSU Holds Health Issues Virtual Town Hall Meeting

The Mississippi Valley State University Department of Social Work hosted the University's first virtual town hall meeting on Dec. 1 at the J.H. White Library.

Students enrolled in the class, Methods of Social Work Practice III, used distance learning technologies to meet simultaneously with educators, political leaders and health department officials in Leflore, Holmes and Sharkey counties. The theme of the meeting was "Health Issues Affecting Children in Rural Mississippi."

Course instructor, Dr. Catherine Singleton-Walker, and her students coordinated the event. Students selected the theme and invited representatives from the various counties. James Bartlett, a graduate assistant in the MVSU Master of Social Work (MSW) Program, moderated the meeting. Participants were able to share their thoughts and concerns in real time on how to make health care systems in

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A virtual town hall meeting was hosted by the Department of Social Work at Mississippi Valley State University. Participants in Leflore County included (from l to r) James Bartlett, MSW student; Kimberly Kelly, BSW student; Melanie Williams, social work supervisor, Department of Health- District III; Dr. Vincent Venturini, Chair, Department of Social Work; Hardy Franklin, WIC supervisor, Department of Health-District III; Dr. Catherine Singleton Walker, professor of Social Work; Sheriel Perkins, Mayor of Greenwood; Elmus Stockstill, Sr., Office of Congressman Bennie Thompson and Tasha Reed, BSW student.



Dr. & Mrs. Roy C. Hudson  
cordially invite you to attend the annual  
Mississippi Valley State University  
Faculty and Staff Christmas Party  
On Friday, December 19, 2008

7 p.m.

Ramada Inn  
900 W. Park Avenue  
Greenwood, Mississippi



Mississippi Valley State University



## FACULTY/STAFF ORIENTATION ANNOUNCEMENT

**MONDAY, JANUARY 5, 2009**  
 1:30 p.m. - 5 p.m.  
 SOCIAL SCIENCE  
 AUDITORIUM  
 (All returning faculty/staff are expected to attend)

**NEW HIRE ORIENTATION**  
 Scheduled  
**TUESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2009**  
 9 a.m. - Noon  
 BUSINESS EDUCATION  
 AUDITORIUM

## MVSU INDUCTS 10 INTO ATHLETIC HALL OF FAME

Mississippi Valley State University recognized 10 of its former outstanding athletes over the weekend with a banquet and pre-game ceremonies.

MVSU Interim President Roy C. Hudson and Dr. Walter Nichols, Acting President of the MVSU Athletic Hall of Fame Committee, presented plaques of commendation and the coveted MVSU Hall of Fame Green Jackets to former football, basketball and volleyball players, two former coaches and one athletic trainer.

Members of the 2008 Class include:

Greenwood native Ms. Mary Hope Brisco Sanders played basketball for Valley from 1978 to 1982. The Health, Physical Education and Recreation Major and 1982 MVSU graduate is now basketball and track coach at Leland High School. Representing her sister was Geri Quinn of Greenville.

Coach John Dickerson influenced many men and women during his coaching career at Valley from 1963 to 1965. The Columbus resident is now enjoying retirement.

Joe Bridges of Hattiesburg was among the five linebackers from 1983 to 1987 known as "Tons of Fun" in front of Willie Totten and Jerry Rice. Joe graduated from Valley with a degree in Health, Physical Education and Recreation. He presently works for the United States Housing and Urban Development's Approved Housing Counseling Center.

David Holts, formerly of Itta Bena, served all Valley sports as athletic trainer from 1969 to 1972. The Health, Physical Education and



Mississippi Valley State University interim President Roy Hudson and Dr. Walter Nichols, acting president of the MVSU Athletic Hall of Fame Committee, presented plaques and the coveted MVSU Hall of Fame Green Jackets to the 2008 inductees, seated, from left, Greenwood attorney Alix Sanders representing his brother, the late Cottie Sanders Jr., Tenicka Strown of Maryland and Bobby Lewis of Hartsville, Tenn.; standing, Dr. Hudson, Dr. Nichols, Geri Quinn representing her sister, Mary Brisco Sanders of Greenville, Isaiah Peterson of Mound Bayou, Joe Bridges of Hattiesburg and Itta Bena native David Holts of Pine Bluff. Not pictured is John Dickerson of Columbus. Also honored posthumously were the late Tommie Ellis and the late Lugen Turner.

Recreation Major currently serves as athletic trainer and instructor at the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff.

Isaiah Peterson of Mound Bayou played basketball at MVSU from 1965 to 1967. The Health, Physical Education and Recreation Major now coaches basketball for Coahoma County High School.

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## EVENT CALENDAR

### DECEMBER

14 – Women's basketball at University of Texas, El Paso  
 15 – Men's basketball at Arkansas State University, Jonesboro  
 19 – Women's basketball hosts Paul Quinn University, Harrison HPER Complex, 5 p.m.

19 – Faculty/Staff Christmas Party, Ramada Inn, Greenwood, 7 p.m.  
 20 – Men's basketball vs. UT Chattanooga, Greenville, MS  
 22 – Women's basketball at Lamar University, Beaumont, Texas, 6 p.m.

23 – Christmas break begins  
 29-30 – Women's basketball at Georgia State Tournament, Atlanta

### JANUARY

5 – Faculty/Staff Orientation, Social Science Building, 1 p.m.  
 5 – Residence Halls Open for All Students  
 6 – Registration at Greenwood Center, 5:30-7:30 p.m.

6-8 – Registration for All Students, Charles Lackey Recreation Center, 8 a.m.-8 p.m.  
 7 – Registration at Greenville Center, 5:30-7:30 p.m.  
 9 – Classes Begin. Late Registration Fee Assessed

19 – Martin Luther King Holiday Observed



## Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Delta Phi Chapter, Fulfills Scholarship Pledge

The Brothers of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., Delta Phi Chapter, presented its final payment of \$12,000 to complete its \$25,000 pledge to the MVSU Lester Smith Endowed Scholarship. Dr. Roy Hudson accepts the check from members, kneeling, from left, Thomas Brown, Ezzard Beane, Ron Lott, Keith Parks, Anthony Anderson, Arnold Holliman, Craig Ratliff Sr., Tobey Bartee, Vaughn Franklin and Herman Hill; second row, from left, Thomas Edwards, Darrell Hendrix, Darrick Hawkins, Cory Dixon, Samuel Miller, Dr. Roy Hudson, Lester Smith, Vincent Copeland, Benard Minor, Michael Terrell, Mario Parson Sheldon Williams and Dwain Carter; back row, from left; Harvey Jones, Bernard Thompson, Joey Cooley, Donald Williams, Quincy Armstrong, Larry Howard, Theophilus King, Michael Harvey, Derrick Wilson, Dallas Reed, assistant vice president for MVSU Development; Stanley Sisney, Julius Anderson, Jerome Hannah and Craig Ratliff.

## HALL OF FAME *Continue from page 2*

Bobby Lewis played both football and track and field for the Delta Devils from 1958 to 1961. The Health, Physical Education and Recreation Major is a retired coach and school teacher residing in Hartsville, Tennessee.

Birmingham, Alabama native Tenicka Strown played volleyball, basketball and track and field for the Devilettes. Strown is also known for scoring the winning basket in overtime in competition against Delta State. The biology major is now vice principal at a middle school in Maryland.

Three men were inducted posthumously into the Hall of Fame. Cottie Sanders Jr. of Greenwood, played football for MVSU from 1961 to 1965. He graduated with a degree in industrial technology. Accepting his brother's induction on behalf of the Sanders Family was attorney Alix Sanders of Greenwood.

Also inducted into the Hall of Fame is the late Tommie Ellis, a football standout, and the late Lugen Turner, a Valley track star.

## PEOPLE TO KNOW



### Gloria W. Turner

**Position/Title:** Office of Development-Prospect Researcher/ Database Manager

**Responsible for:** Maintain and manage various donor databases, process gifts and donations made to the university. Ensure donors are properly receipted and acknowledged for their donations.

**Hometown:** Itta Bena

**Hobbies:** Spending time with family and friends, reading

**Philosophy on Life:** Strive to do your best even if the task seems trivial

**Quote to Remember:** "Only what you do for the Lord will last."