



*Herman C. Ragin Center
Building Dedication*

**1200 MAIN STREET
PERRY, GA**

JANUARY 14, 2007



Mr. and Mrs. Herman C. Ragin, Sr.

Herman C. Ragin Sr. was born in Houston County and attended school in Perry, graduating from the Perry Training School in 1945. He attended Johnson C. Smith University on an athletic scholarship and received his Bachelor's degree in 1949.

Because of his strong commitment to family and his community, Mr. Ragin moved back to the Perry community in 1953 to teach, coach and raise his family. He taught science and coached at the high school level from 1953 to 1964, becoming the first black head football coach and athletic director in Houston County. In 1964, Ragin became the first principal at King's Chapel Elementary and remained there until his retirement in 1980.

He taught the values he believes in- self reliance; self-improvement; devotion; drive; discipline; temperance; hard work; thrift and personal responsibility. He taught that these values are established through education – the pathway that drives his basic optimism about life – and a faith in free will and individual confidence. Mr. Ragin believes that through sweat and smarts each of us can rise above the circumstances of our birth.

He married Gloria Mason of Knoxville, Tennessee, who also taught in the Houston County School System. She retired after 31 years. Mrs. Ragin touched many students' lives with passion, love, and the belief that each child she encountered could become a productive citizen. A devoted and caring wife, mother and church member, she too is loved by many.

Mr. and Mrs. Ragin have been married for more than 57 years. They have three children - Herman Jr., Keith and Wayne - two daughters-in-law, seven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Order of Events

Opening Remarks Danny Carpenter
Superintendent of Schools

Master of Ceremonies Michael Roberts
Houston County Training School Class of 1966

Invocation Rev. Dewayne Wade
Pastor, St. James Christian Methodist Church

Introduction of Guests Mr. Roberts

Coach and Teacher William "Billy" Brown
Houston County Training School Class of 1960

Principal Mrs. Inez Brewton
Kings Chapel Elementary, 1964

Community The Honorable Larry Walker
Former Georgia State Representative

Special Presentation and Remarks The Honorable Jim Worrall
Mayor, City of Perry

Special Presentations

Acknowledgement Herman C. Ragin, Sr.

Plaque Unveiling Former Students
Houston County Training School

Refreshments will be served following the program. Please join us to fellowship
and celebrate the contributions Mr. Ragin has made to Houston County.

“No man can be a good teacher unless he has feelings of warm affection toward his pupils and a genuine desire to impart to them what he believes to be of value.”

~ Bertrand Russell

“Herman Ragin is a man of character who had a tremendous impact on education in Houston County before, during and after integration.”

~ Superintendent Danny Carpenter



Houston County Board of Education

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Danny Carpenter, Superintendent