



The Herman Ragin Center

Formerly known as Perry Elementary School, this building is dedicated to Herman C. Ragin, Sr. Born 1928 in Houston County, he attended school in Perry and graduated from the Perry Training School in 1945. He received an athletic scholarship to attend Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, North Carolina, from which he graduated in 1949. After teaching and coaching in Lumberton, N.C. from 1949 to 1953, he returned to his hometown to become the first black athletic director in Houston County, coaching football, basketball, and track. He coached and taught all of the sciences at the high school grade level from 1953 until 1964. In athletics, he built a tradition for excellence in all sports that captivated and inspired the community. His winning tradition established an enviable winning percentage with the former Georgia Interscholastic Association (GIA) before the merger with the Georgia High School Association (GHSA). He was mostly revered as the football coach of the, "Houston County Indians."

- 98 wins and 12 losses – a 91.6 winning percentage
- 11 Straight GIA Class A District Championships
- 1 GIA North GA Class A Regional Championship, 1960
- Runner-up State Champions, 1960

A firm believer in continuing education, he received his Masters Degree in Education Administration at Atlanta University and became the first principal at Kings Chapel Elementary from 1964 until his retirement in 1980.

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"A Man of Character who had a tremendous impact on Education in Houston County before, during, and after Integration."

His strong belief in Community Service continues to guide his service in the Houston County community and is represented by his memberships in the following organizations: Director, Community Center South; Director, Security Bank; St. James CME Church; NAACP; Director, Perry area Chamber of Commerce; Perry Housing Authority; Houston County Board of Equalization; Houston County Hospital Authority; Houston County Board of Health; and Georgia Teachers Education Association.

Former Students and alumni of the Houston County Training School, Perry citizens, and the Ragin Family appreciate the naming of this building, *The Herman Ragin Center* by the Houston County Board of Education. We are grateful for the support of Danny Carpenter, Superintendent of Schools, and board members, Chairman Pamela Greenway, Vice Chairperson Jim Boswell, Griff Clements, Skip Dawkins, Dr. Charles Hill, Tom Walmer, and Fred Wilson for their unanimous vote of approval on November 14, 2006.