

Chamber of Commerce Small Business of the Year



The Holmes County Chamber of Commerce awarded its Small Business of the Year Award for 2017-2018 to Peak's Quick Food in Tchula. The business was named for its commitment to invest in Tchula and improve economic opportunities in the county, all during the chamber's 29th Annual Membership and Awards Banquet that was held on Thursday, April 5 at Holmes Community College. Pictured above (from left) Holmes County Chamber of Commerce Banquet Committee Chairperson, immediate past chamber president and Mayor of Lexington Robin McCrory, Chamber President Charlie Joiner, Peak's business owners Enis and Powell Rucker. (Photo by Matthew Breazeale)

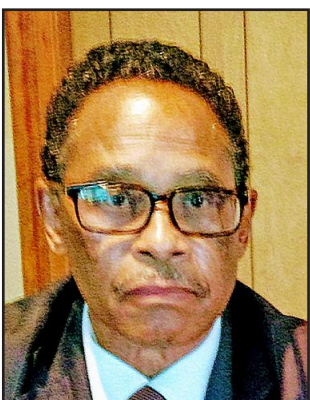
Pickens student named to honor society

Terrell Wynne of Pickens was recently initiated into The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, the nation's oldest and most selective all-discipline collegiate honor society. Wynne was initiated at The University of South Mississippi. Wynne is among approximately 30,000 students, faculty, professional staff and alumni to be initiated into Phi Kappa Phi each year. Membership is by invitation only and requires nomination and approval by a chapter. Only the top 10 percent of seniors and 7.5 percent of juniors are eligible for membership. Graduate students in the top 10 percent of the number of candidates for graduate degrees may also qualify, as do faculty, professional staff and alumni who have achieved scholarly distinction.

The right to be happy

Locals teach the importance of life decisions through school, jail programs

By Matthew Breazeale
Mr. Cedric Seals wants people to know they have the right to be happy. It's a campaign he created and nurtured in 2008 that prompts a person to answer the question why they do what they do.



CEDRIC SEALS

Seals, along with volunteer help from retired judge Jerry Fisher, recently held a 16-week session at the Holmes-Humphreys Regional Correctional Facility (HHRCF) from September to December last year. By pushing understanding of personal actions, Seals leads school students and prison inmates alike to face issues of domestic violence, anger problems, conflict resolutions, disorderly conduct, issues that produce inappropriate behaviors.



JERRY FISHER

By educating "individuals and families on how these problems are caused, thereby empowering them with understanding the due process in order to end these cycles of violations," according to Seals. "Hurt people, hurt people," that is to say, emotionally injured or traumatized people

tend to do the same to others. That is a cause Seals rallies for.

"The pain creates a hard heart," says Seals, "and impacts the way people think, behave and feel, impacts their beliefs and attitudes, decisions and choices. At the end of the day everyone is doing something to be happy. People drink to be happy, eat to be happy, have sex to be happy, but if it's in an inappropriate manner, then you'll have the negative outcomes."

As part of the life skills class taught at the HHRCF, Seals said inmates there are "overwhelmingly receptive to it." "The class has been growing since 2009. I've also taught it to incoming freshman at Holmes Community College," said Seals whose life skills class, Reality Education (Real-Life Experience) is done through partnership with HCC.

Fisher has headed the front lines with high school students speaking at both Central Holmes and Holmes Central High School, among others, on related topics. From traffic tickets



Pictured above is a drawing that was given to Seals by a former Holmes-Humphreys Regional Correctional Facility inmate whose signature appears on the bottom right. The drawing depicts Seals leading an undated session at the local jail with inmates looking on. (Photo submitted)

DURANT NEWS

by Rowena Hill

The Durant School Reunion will be held Saturday, April 21 at Castalian Springs Camp, three miles west of town. Lunch will be available as well as lots of fun.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Mickey Kuykendall. He lived in the Sallis area and attended school there for a long time. Prayers are for the family. I haven't seen him for many years but he rode our bus to and from school in Sallis.

It was good to see and be with Mrs. Katherine Cagle again Sunday. She has been sick for several weeks and a patient in the hospital for an extended period of time. We are sure glad to see her back in church and looking better.

Sympathy is extended to the family of Arthur Keith. He passed away during the week after an illness. Funeral arrangements are not available to this writer at this time.

Prayers and best wishes are for Mrs. Ruth Gill and daughter Ann. They are to move to Hattiesburg this week where they built a new

house. We are for sure going to miss them but hope they will be very happy, if not we would be happy to see the back here with their many friends

We regret that Mrs. Fletcher Shrock has been home sick. I know their patients missed her at the office. Prayers are that she will be feeling well again and back in the office. She is a friend to all and greatly missed.

It was good to see and be with Jean and Milton Hoover in church Sunday. They haven't been well for some time.

The Sallis School Reunion is scheduled for Saturday, May 5 at the old school auditorium. Registration/social time is to be from 11:00-12 noon. Lunch will be available for \$12.00 prepared by the youth of Sallis Baptist Church. Following lunch there will be good fellowship and a time of informal fun in the afternoon. Bring along your musical instruments, funny stories and of course lots of energy. Sallis

Phi Kappa Phi was founded in 1897 under the leadership of Marcus L. Urann who had a desire to create a different kind of honor society: one that recognized excellence in all academic disciplines. Today, the Society has chapters on more than 300 campuses in the United States and the Philippines. Its mission is "To recognize and promote academic excellence in all fields of higher education and to engage the community of scholars in service to others."

and hunting/fishing violations to DUI's and criminal justice cases, all students of life-long learning are exposed to the consequences of poor decisions and the ability to overcome them.

Seals also added that courts in the surrounding counties are aware of the program and offer it to reach anyone who needs help in those areas, including parenting.

"These are not bad people," said Seals, "these people have had bad experiences which in turn lead to bad behavior....All people want to do is change the way they feel and want to be happy."

Seals continues his campaign daily, telling people in airports and wherever he meets them, of their right to be happy.

School students are known for their famous and interesting events, also humorous stories (fiction and non-fiction). Hope to see you there for a time of fun together, May 5 from 11:00 until.

Prayers and best wishes are for Harold Payton. He hasn't been well for some time.

We regret that Coy Miller hasn't been well. He is a very busy man. Hope he is now feeling much better.

Love and prayers are for Plez White that he will be feeling well again and back in Sunday School and church again soon at First Baptist Church. He is very special to all of us.

Bridal Registry

*Hallie Murtagh
Bailey Rutledge
May 25, 2018*

*Molly Sutton
Wesley Dew
June 9, 2018*

*Amanda Jones
Drew Broyles
June 9, 2018*

**Howell & Heggie
Drug Co.**

389 N. W. Depot St.
Durant
662-653-6441

Bunker Hill M.B.C.

Pastor Elvin Garner and the Bunker Hill Church family cordially invite you to our annual Pastor and Wife Appreciation on Sunday, April 22 at 2:00 p.m. The guest speaker will be Rev. A.J. Smith of New Orleans, LA.

******PLEASE NOTE******

Due to construction this event will be held at Serinty located at 94 Lexington St. in Pickens, MS.

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Life Skills Benefit Holmes County

Life skills class was taught at Holmes County Correction Center, by Mr. Cedric Seals, and assisted by retired Judge Jerry Fisher, starting from September to December 2017. Principals and fundamentals of Life, Reality Education (Real-Life Experience). The class activates learning and intelligence when teaching youths. Retired Judge Jerry Fisher also did volunteer work across Holmes County with school students. Believe, trust and obey. Judge Fisher uses these terms to describe how he manages life-to-life things: Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ, Trust and Obey Him. Prayer is the answer to every solution.

Show respect to parents, teachers and others in high authority. Bad attitudes and disrespect were some things not tolerated. They discussed the different personalities and why people tend to act in certain ways. Students were informed on the words drugs, alcohol, caution on driving and the consequences of texting and driving.

Students were given examples of court cases (DUI's) and other types of court cases such as traffic tickets, domestic violence, hunting and fishing violations and many more. Criminal justice cases up to \$3,500 dollars were discussed.

Retired Judge Jerry Fisher talked to students at Central Holmes Christian School, Holmes County Central High School, Durant High School, Holmes County Vocational Center and the alternative school in Tchula, MS.

CEDRIC SEALS JERRY FISHER