

Holmes' 4-H agent receives award named in honor of former Holmes County agent



Holmes County's very own 4-H and Mississippi State Extension Agent Betsy Padgett (Picture above center) was recognized for her career and work being named for the Dr. Duane H. Tucker 4-H Livestock Program Award. Padgett received the honor during the MSU Extension Annual Conference 2019 on the campus of Mississippi State University on Wednesday, October 30. The award is named for Dr. Duane H. Tucker. Dr. and Mrs. Betty Tucker lived in Lexington from the early sixties to approximately 1970 while Mr. Tucker, at the time, served Holmes County as one of the 4-H agents. Mr. Tucker was responsible for getting the livestock barn built that is on Jaycee Drive in Lexington and building the 4-H Livestock Program that still exists today in Holmes County. Dr. Tucker left Holmes County for a promotion to 4-H State Livestock Specialist at MS State that was instrumental in starting the Dixie National Livestock Show in Jackson. Padgett said she was elated to be named for the award as Dr. Tucker was her 4-H agent throughout her 4-H career. Pictured above is (from left): presenter Dr. Gary Jackson, Padgett and Betty Tucker. (Photo submitted)



One of my favorite creations in our world is that thing we call a "day." You know, that 24 hours that comes to an end only to begin another 24 hours. Now I know it doesn't take much to intrigue me, but this has always been something that I have given thought to. And if you think about it, it is one of the most refreshing things about life.

In hunting or fishing it doesn't matter what yesterday was like, today is a new day. It doesn't matter that I never saw a deer yesterday, today will be better. It doesn't matter if I didn't

catch any fish yesterday, today may be the day they turn on. Again, if you really think about it, hunters and fishermen are men and women of optimism. If we were not, we would never get up the next morning and do it all over again. Today is a creation that is meant to be one of promise and hope, not dread and despair. It is meant to be a time for leaving the disappointments and discouragements of yesterday and holding on to the possibility of something better. It is also an opportunity to forget about the failures of days past and embrace new mercy.

There is a very important verse in the Bible that says this; "Great is His faithfulness; His mercies begin afresh each day." I really, really like that..... and you should too. Let me tell you why. Some of you right now really messed up yesterday. You made a promise that you broke. You perhaps succumbed to temptation. The determination you thought you had, left you yesterday. The self-control that had been your ally suddenly abandoned you yesterday. But that was yesterday. Today is today. It is new. You do not have to bring the failures of yesterday with you today. God's mercies begin afresh each day! You now have a choice; you can either run from God, ashamed of the failures of the past, or you can run to Him with a heart-felt confession, knowing His faithfulness is great and that He has new mercy that He longs to show to you, afresh, beginning each and every day.

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Living With Children

By John Rosemond

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Q: Our 7-year-old son recently stole two small model cars from a playmate while he was at the playmate's house. Apparently, he wanted to trade one of his toys for the two cars, but the playmate refused, so he stole them. When we found them, he claimed his friend had given them to him. We absolutely know that's not true, but it's been over a week and our son refuses to admit to the theft. He's changed his story, then changed it back, so we know he's lying, but still he refuses to budge. Nothing like this has ever happened before and we're at a loss. We called an acquaintance of ours who's also a therapist. She said that children who steal are often compensating for some insecurity and that punishing him could make matters worse. We have no idea what insecurity our son is dealing with or what to do about the theft and his lies.

A: With all due respect for the therapist you consulted, I know of no research that connects childhood stealing with insecurity. Her suggestion is purely speculative, as are almost all psychological theories of human behavior. It amounts to what I call a "psychological boogeyman" – an unprovable hypothesis

that does nothing but cause parents to think their child's misbehavior is the result of some ongoing parenting sin.

The fact is, children are notorious for doing odd, inexplicable things. A random misbehavior is generally the result of a sudden impulse as opposed to some psycho-emotional deficiency. The most brilliantly insightful explanation I've ever come up with for these occasional anti-social impulses is "children are impulsive." Kidding aside, asking a child to explain a lie, theft, or any other sneaky behavior is almost always unproductive. The most likely answer is "I don't know," which is usually the truth.

This episode is probably nothing more than a "one-off." The problem is that a drama has now developed around the incident. Such dramas increase the possibility that the misbehavior in question will happen again.

With that in mind, my first recommendation to you is that you stop talking to your son about this. Stop asking him to explain himself. Stop pressuring him to admit to what you already know is true. Stop holding mini-seminars on interpersonal ethics. Simply tell your son that

you know he stole the toys from his friend (at this point, completely ignore any denials) and that until he admits to the theft and apologizes to his friend, he is confined to his room, which you must strip beforehand of any "entertainment value." He can come out of his room to attend school, church, family meals, do chores, and accompany one or both of you when you leave the home. During his confinement, put him to bed, lights out, immediately after dinner. The purpose is to establish a permanent memory, one that will cause him to think at least twice the next time he wants something that belongs to someone else.

If my experience serves me well, he will spill the beans within a week. If he's more than typically stubborn, it might be two. Regardless, this experience will give him a new appreciation for the property rights of others. (And contrary to what a therapist might tell you, confining a child this age to a nice but boring room will not leave psychological scars. During the time your son is so confined, he will still lead a better life than at least fifty percent of the world's children.)

When he admits and apologizes, put the matter to rest. Let him out of his room, restore it to its former glory, and move on."

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NOTICE
SOUTH HOLMES
WATER ASSOCIATION
 will be having their next
Annual Business Meeting for Members on
Tuesday, November 12, 2019 at 5:00 P.M.

Location:
6489 Highway 17 South, Pickens, MS
(Blue building on corner of Highway 17 and
Highway 14 to Ebenezer).
Members are encouraged to attend
and ask questions.

Notice of Closing
 We will be closed all day
Monday, November 11
 in observance of
Veterans Day

We will reopen Tues., Nov. 12 at normal banking hours.




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