

# Albemarle Academy announces test results

Albemarle Academy has released results of the Stanford Achievement Test and the Gates-MacGinitie Reading Tests which were given to students in grades K-12 in early May. The test results, which included scores in mathematics, reading, social studies and science, showed that average grade scores for the Academy exceeded national test scores.

Headmaster Don Parrotte explained that scores on the tests are expressed, for grades 1-8, in grade equivalents on the grade level on which the student is achieving and, for the Upper School, in percentile rank with 50 percent as the national mean. Scores for grades 1-8 included five

grades with average scores over one year above grade level and ranging as high as 21 months above national scores. The scores for high school grades were 10 to 14 percentile points above the national mean of 50 for the average in each class.

In mathematics, grades 1-8 scored up to 10 months above grade level, while high school grade averages ranged from 13 to 22 percentile points above national scores. In English-Reading skills, grades 1-8 scored up to 18 months above grade level, while high school grade averages ranged up to 20 percentile points above national averages.

In science, elementary grade averages were as

high as 17 months above grade level and in high school as much as 17 percentile points above the national average for high school grades. In social studies, grades 1-9 scored up to nine months above grade level, while high school grade averages ranged up to 10 percentile points above national averages.

The Academy's kindergarten students were tested with the Stanford Early School Achievement Test which tested the areas of mathematics, letters and sounds, aural comprehension and the environment. In each case, the grade average for the kindergarten ranked well above the national norm: in mathematics, 19 per-

centile points above; in letters and sounds, 38 percentile points above the national norm; in the environment, 26 points above; and in aural comprehension, 16 points above national figures.

In response to these scores, Parrotte said, "I am well pleased with all of our scores; in fact, contrary to the national trend, the Academy's reading achievement scores and Scholastic Aptitude Test scores have continually risen for the past several years. These scores more than justify the Academy's efforts to return to the skills of basic education."

Parrotte further stated that in compliance with state law the Academy administered the APL Survey Test from the American College Testing Service to all juniors and seniors. The results of both the Adult Survey and High School Survey placed 82 percent of Academy students in the "above average" classification

with the remaining 18 percent in the "average" category. In fact, Parrotte related that 18 percent of the Academy students achieved perfect scores on the tests.

The results of the Gates-MacGinitie Reading Tests show that the average student in every grade level is scoring a minimum of eight months above the national level in reading comprehension. "In fact," said the Headmaster, "the fifth-grade scores led the entire Academy with that class average standing at 21 months above the national level in that category."

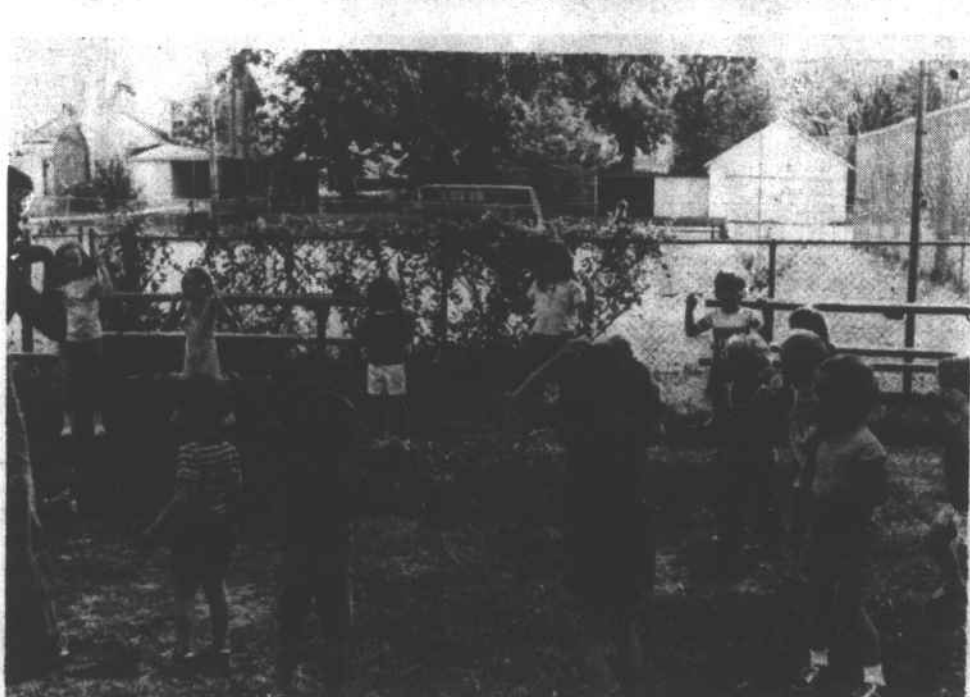
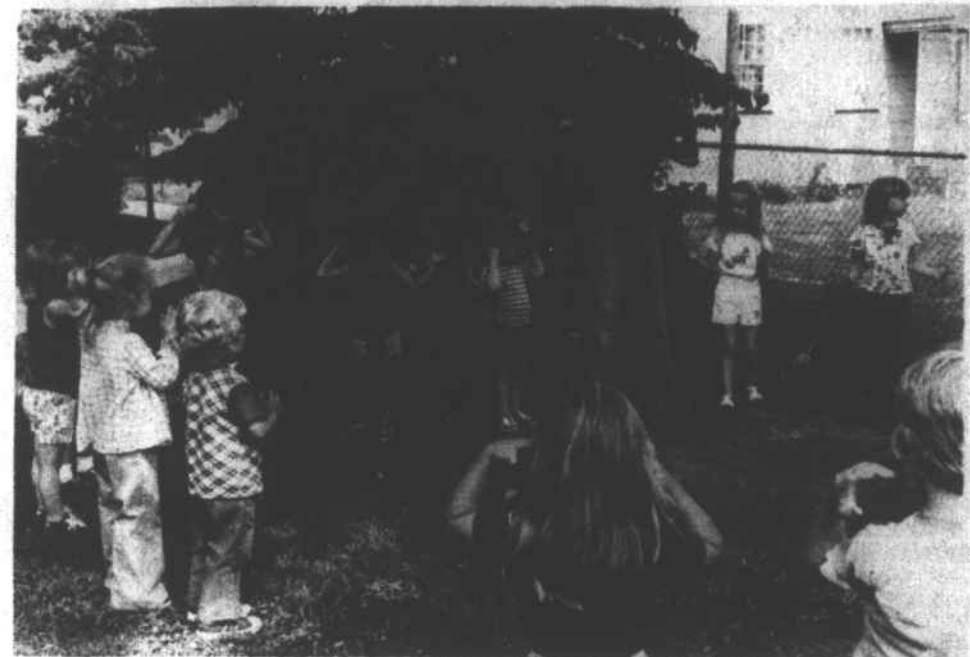
According to the Headmaster, the Academy tests yearly in order to evaluate the educational progress of its students. The battery of tests administered yearly includes the Gates-MacGinitie Reading Test; the Criterion Reference Test; the Stanford Achievement Test and the Otis Lennon Mental Ability Test.



**MUCH TO CHOOSE FROM** — Pictured above are just a few of the items that can be purchased at Punkins Card and Gift Shop including candles, cards, small gift items, and wrapping paper. (Staff photos by Kathy M. Newbern)



**LARGE SELECTION OF CARDS** — Mrs. Kay Knight, owner and operator of Punkins Card and Gift Shop, is shown above putting out some of the many cards and gifts available at the shop which boasts a large selection. Opened Jan. 17, Punkins has enjoyed success in its Hertford location.



**MORE THAN READING** — A trip to the Perquimans County Library on a Friday morning between 10 and 11 a.m. will reveal that the ongoing story hour for preschoolers involves more than reading. In addition to story telling and reading, the youngsters also participate

in games, exercises, and other activities as is shown above. Beginning this summer, the library has expanded the program to include a Wednesday morning story hour for elementary level youngsters. (Staff photos by Kathy M. Newbern)

## New faces, new places:

# Punkins enjoys location

(EDITOR'S NOTE: This is a continuation in a series of weekly articles featuring new businesses and professional people in and around Perquimans County.)

By KATHY M. NEWBERN

"I have had a wonderful response. I'm very well pleased. As a matter of fact, I'm about to outgrow my place."

That's the reaction of Mrs. Kay Knight, owner and operator of Punkins Card and Gift Shop, concerning business since she opened at Harris Shopping Center on Jan. 17.

Punkins features the American Greetings line which includes the popular Ziggy and Holly Hobbie characters.

In addition to carrying a complete line of greeting cards, other items which can be found in the shop include party goods, gift wraps and ribbons, photograph and wedding albums, scrapbooks, stationery, note cards, candles and holders, invitations, and small gift items.

The shop also handles orders for engraved

business cards and personalized matches. Plans for the immediate future are to begin making engraved wedding supplies available, a service which appears to be in demand.

While the couple owns the shop, Mrs. Knight works it, an activity she truly enjoys. She has one part-time employee, Miss Joanne Meads of Hertford. Either is available to assist shoppers during summer business hours, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

The business venture is fulfilling a dream shared by Mrs. Knight and her husband, Vaughn, who is a retired Navy man.

The couple had worked in the printing business while in Charleston, S.C. and through that developed the interest and long range goal of opening a card and gift shop.

And Hertford was their choice of location since the couple has owned a home in the Snug Harbor community for the past 12 years. That opportunity came when the couple retired and became permanent local residents last April.

However, making the shop a reality was not an easy task. It took six months to find a location in Hertford. But Mrs. Knight is quick to point out that the response made the wait worthwhile.

# COA offers swimming classes

The College of the Albemarle has begun its 11th year of swimming and water safety classes for the area residents. Each summer, the college offers swimming courses for beginners, intermediate, advanced, senior life saving and water safety instructor students.

"In our coastal environment, water safety is just as important to us as highway safety," Dr. William Sterritt, health and physical education instructor, declared. "Everyone needs to learn how to swim. Even if they are already swimmers, they should enroll in a class to improve their proficiency in water."

tion credit to high school graduates, Sterritt, a certified Red Cross water safety instructor, believes the classes indirectly benefit those who are too young to participate. "Our swimming programs provide an opportunity for the parents of young children to enroll and acquire proper techniques which they, in turn, can teach their children," he said.

Five classifications are assigned to students according to their skill. They are beginner, intermediate, advanced, senior life saving and water safety instructor.

The latter two courses will be taught during the third Mini-Quarter from July 26 through August 17.

Classes meet at the Elizabeth City Coast Guard Air Station's indoor pool. They are taught five nights each week from 7 until 9 o'clock.

Beginner, intermediate and advanced swimming classes for the second Mini-Quarter will begin Friday, June 30, continuing through Tuesday, July 25. Individuals who wish to enroll may contact Charles Francis, director of admissions, on the first floor of the main building on Riverside Avenue.

Although the courses are included in the curriculum program which awards one hour of physical educa-

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