

Individual Needs Basis For New Reading Program

White Oak School, this fall, has implemented a new continuous progress reading program. The need for this type of instruction in reading was discovered last winter and spring as the faculty and administration at the school underwent a thoughtful analysis. In that process, the development and implementation of such a reading program was determined to be the top priority instructional need for the students enrolled at White Oak School.

Project PEGASUS seeks to accelerate students' reading achievement by operating a personalized, process-oriented program of continuous learning which has been developed and implemented in the city schools of Tuscaloosa, Ala. Operating the program requires determining entry in reading and communicating skills, diagnosing skills in which instruction is needed, grouping and sub-grouping children according to established needs, instructing them on this personalized basis, and conducting formative evaluation of specific skills. A variety of approaches to reading instruction are

employed. The PEGASUS curriculum structure consists of specific reading performance objectives within each of 17 sequential elementary levels, Kindergarten through Junior High School. Teachers determine students' entry levels in reading and communication skills and diagnose the skills in which instruction is needed. Learners are grouped and sub-grouped according to their established needs, and one-to-one instruction is provided as needed. Teachers conduct formative evaluation of specific skills and use a graphic chart to keep track of each student's mastery at a given level.

As a student masters the particular group of skills included in one level, he progresses to another. At level 4, for instance, a student must be able to demonstrate competence in performing 30 objectives which are organized in 3 skill areas: word analysis (basic vocabulary, phonetic analysis, structure analysis, word meaning and usage); comprehension (main idea, details, sequence and inference); and study skills

(following directions, locating and organizing information, and oral and silent reading).

One of the most important contributions of the effectiveness of the PEGASUS approach is the development of a resource file of Plans for Skill Development Activities, which are organized for the rapid, average and slower attaining student. Through participating in a reading program with a continuous progress organization such as PEGASUS, learners can experience success, which is so vital to the development of a positive self-concept. One performance objective developed by a teacher to build the students' competence and proficiency in mastering this skill combines arts, geography, history and local custom. Following a class discussion about the state of Hawaii, students made leis by pasting paper petals together. Each petal has a word printed on it, which the children must arrange in alphabetical order. Teachers evaluate the students' degree of mastery while they are performing the task as well as during a follow-up exercise requiring them to determine the correct alphabetical order of a memographed list of words.

The project recognizes that learning is multi-dimensional, and places more emphasis on the progressive, continuous building of reading skills than on specific instructional materials. For this reason, the approach of PEGASUS can be used with any basic series or other approach to reading instruction. Personalized interaction between student and teacher is stressed; classroom organization or space requirements are not.

Project PEGASUS was developed with assistance from the United States Government in the form of a grant under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, Title III.

In adopting project PEGASUS at White Oak, Edenton-Chowan Schools joined two other systems in North Carolina who are also implementing this program this fall. They are Caldwell County and Gaston County. Nationally, we are joining such systems as Lamar County, Alabama; Fayette County, Alabama; Dallas County Texas; Twiggs County, Georgia; and other systems in the states of Kansas, Michigan, South Carolina, and Washington.

Locally the implementation of this program is being directed

and coordinated through the efforts of Don Lassiter, director of instruction, John Guard, principal and Carolina Banks and Helen Mitchell, teachers at White Oak School. These four have all visited the site in Alabama where the program was developed.

New Books At Local Library

New books received at Shepard-Pruden Memorial Library include the following:

Adult Fiction
 "Desmonde" by Archibald Cronin; "Dragonfly" by K. R. Dwyer; "Earthsound" by Arthur Herzog; "Spoil" by E. G. Perrault; "The Ballad of Kintillo" by Sally Rena; "Blue Meadow" by Mary Wallace; and "The Partisan" by Simon Watson.

Adult Non-Fiction
 "Ships Through the Ages" by Douglas Lobley; "Preserving Foods" by Lena E. Sturges; "Fiction Writer's Handbook" by Hallie Burnett; and "The Railway Bazaar" by Paul Theroux.

Juvenile Fiction
 "The Grey King" by Susan Cooper; "The Winter Bear" by Ruth Craft; "Strega Nona" by Thomas De Paola; "What Happened at Midnight" by Franklin W. Dixon; "When Light Turns Into Night" by Crescent Dragonwagon; "Louie" by Ezra Jack Keats; "Agatha's Alphabet" by Lucy Floyd; "My Dentist" by Harlow Rockwell; "Jeff's Hospital Book" by Harriet Sobol; "My Quitting Deal" by Tobi Tobias; and "My Uncle Podger" by Wallace Tripp.

Juvenile Non-Fiction
 "You Can't Eat Peanuts in Church and Other Little-Known Laws" by Barbara Seuling; "Arthur Mitchell" by Tobi Tobias; and "In Chains to Louisiana" by Michael Knight.

Library Doings
 Mobiles! Mobiles! Mobiles! The library is filled with Christmas mobiles from all schools in the Chowan County area. The mobiles, judged by Mrs. Kermit Layton, are a vivid array of Santa, reindeer, gift wrappings, Christmas trees, candy canes, and angels. Prizes were awarded to the following winners from each grade level: Kindergarten-Karen Sawyer-D. F. Walker-Mrs. Stallings, teacher; Gradel-Kevin Forehand-D. F. Walker-Mrs. Satterfield, teacher; Grade 2-Toni Cooper-D. F. Walker, Grade 3-Cindy White-Chowan Academy; Grade 4-Gwen Bunch-Swain School; Grade 5-Rodger Smith-Chowan Academy. The library gives a big THANKS to all children who contributed mobiles.

The library will be closed Wednesday Dec. 10 because of a regional staff meeting.

Variety Show Is Rescheduled At Center Hill

By popular demand the variety show which was held in Swain School Auditorium on November 21 and 22 will be presented in several county community buildings.

This is the show which was arranged by Andrell Henry, Albemarle Area chairman of the United Cerebral Palsy Campaign. The show is basically country-western and gospel, but includes other variety artists.

Music is very capably provided by the Don Madre Band. Featured singers are Melissa Lewis and Barbara Layden. The show also includes authentic Hawaiian and Tahitian dances by Carol Evans, tap dancing by Barbara Layden, clogging by Patricia and Lynn Perry and others, a comedy song routine by Rose Hand, II, and magic by Andrell Henry.

Definite arrangements have been made to present the show this Thursday at the Center Hill Community Building at Center Hill-Tyner. Other locations may be the Whiteston Community Building and the Belvidere Community Building. It is hoped that arrangements can be made to have the show in Pasquotank and other counties.

If anyone can suggest a building in Pasquotank and other counties please contact Henry, Route 1, Box 230, Belvidere: Phone 297-2333.

The show, this Thursday at the Center Hill Community Building will start at 7:30 P.M.

Admission is by donations of \$2 for adults and \$1 for students. Proceeds go to the United Cerebral Palsy Fund.

CARD OF THANKS
 We want to thank everyone for their prayers and concerns before the birth and after the death of our little daughter, Lori Anne. May God bless each one of you.
 Jerry and Linda Byrum Noel

Mustang II Stallion



From snarling cats to stampeding stallions, that's the most recent transition in the career of W. P. Benton, Ford Motor Company vice president and Ford Division general manager, shown here with one of Ford Division's new youth-oriented cars for 1976, a Mustang II Stallion. Until his recent promotion, Mr. Benton was general manager of Ford's Lincoln-Mercury Division. Ford dealers will have a stable full of Pinto, Mustang and Maverick Stallions.

December Meeting Of Roads Council Set

RALEIGH—The N. C. Board of Transportation and Secondary Roads Council will hold their December meetings in Raleigh.

Both meetings are scheduled for Friday in the board room of the Highway Building in Raleigh. The board will meet at 9:30 A.M., and the council will begin its session at 2 P.M.

The meetings are open to the public, and interested

area residents are encouraged to attend. The board, in its meeting, will consider the bids opened during the November 25 bid openings. The council will act upon road additions, abandonments, and improvements programs for the N. C. secondary road system.

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This year, crime against business may reap \$23.6 billion, according to Norris A. Lynch, director of the consumer goods and services division, U.S. Department of Commerce.

In a recent speech, he put this figure in perspective by pointing out that sales for the three largest department store retailers were \$22 billion in 1974. "Crime," he said, "makes more money than Sears, Montgomery Ward and Penney's combined."

Mr. Lynch added that the \$23.6 billion cost of business crime, calculated on a per capita basis, spread across the U.S. adult population, would come to \$165 per person.

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