

Chalkdust: Educational Fair Exhibits Provide Insight Into Schools' Role

With a full month of school now past history, CHALK is beginning to meet up with lots of competitive DUST at school and in the community. To those working for or connected with education, it creates a beautiful halo, because so much of it circles around students. From the now swirling dust at the American Legion's Chowan County Fairgrounds, to the powdery Peanut Festival cloud hovering over the Edenton-Chowan Band Parents Association, to the dust being kicked up on school grounds, students, teachers and parents are deeply involved.

For the past four years now, and since the school system had an Education Fair of its own at the National Guard Armory, the Fair Association has invited the schools to join forces with them by entering a competitive booth, representative of each school, for exhibit judging. This has proved to be successful for the Fair Association as well as the school system. The schools have been afforded

the opportunity, through the execution of their exhibit theme, to let the general public gain a better insight of the basic educational philosophy being emphasized at school. How teachers and students manage to do it is amazing, because every year the quality of their exhibits gets better and better.

If you have not yet done so, you are urged to visit the exhibit hall and see this year's fantastic entries. They cover everything from imagination, aspirations, motivation, and inspiration to fantasy and realism. Auxiliary parent and school club booths become more prevalent each year, as these groups show their main thrust through the exhibit's themes.

From time to time during the year, when teachers get sick or have to attend meetings, it becomes necessary to call in substitutes. The school system takes pride in feeling that its substitutes are as prepared and qualified as possible on these "pinch hit" day. To keep the flow of education

running as smoothly as possible, Substitute Training Workshops are set up, which substitutes must attend to be "certified as substitutes." These training sessions are designed to help these people and in the long run — the students.

Today (Thursday) all new people who signed up as substitutes will attend a workshop from 9 A.M. to 12 P.M. Jim Pressley, director of instruction, will conduct a session on "Good Discipline in the Classroom".

There will be two more meetings scheduled between now and the end of November. Substitute aspirants MUST attend at least two of these three before being allowed to serve in this capacity. At some time, they will also have to "observe" ONE FULL day in a classroom setting.

Marjorie Stutzman, coordinator of the workshop, announced that there are approximately 26 new people who have requested training or substitute certifications.

There are many citizens possibly interested in students and education who perhaps would like to help in some way, but feel that they are not qualified in any way. This is not so. If you would like to offer your assistance and have at least one hour of free time each week, you are eligible to become one of those "Special" people — a school volunteer — who can contribute to a child's education.

Through the Community Schools Act passed by the 1977 General Assembly, a Community Education Program, administered through the Alliance for Progress, has been established here with Mrs. Peggy Ann Vaughan as director. One of the main goals of this year's program will be to expand volunteer services, initiated last year in PTAs, to all students in grades K-6. Beginning this week Mrs.

Frank Sellers and Mrs. Al Howard are joining the staff as school volunteer coordinators at Swain and Walker schools and White Oak and Chowan Schools, respectively. These people will be working diligently with teachers on the recruitment, orientation and evaluation of volunteers. They will also be approaching church groups and civic clubs in their efforts to enlist support.

These leaders have attended training workshops, the latest being in Winton last week, to help them in their endeavors. Once volunteers are found, they will also conduct orientation workshop and training sessions for new personnel.

Every individual, in the community is a prospective, valuable resource for their own special skill and talent. Share yours and your time to help students individually, or by freeing up the teachers time to work individually with students. There's something for everyone!

Much information was gotten out last year concerning the state's Competency Test Program. To recap — this past spring, all juniors in the state took a "trial test" that this year's juniors will take for REAL. The passing of the test, in the areas of reading and language skills and math, will determine whether or not these students will be bone-fide, diplomas receiving graduates at the end of their senior year in 1980, or receive a certificate stating completion of a course of study. However, the State Competency Test Commission determined that juniors failing the tests, which will be administered locally on Nov. 1 and 2, should be given three other chances over the two year period to pass the Competency test.

In the state legislation mandating the test, the stipulation was also included that it would be the

responsibility of local school systems to provide a program of remediation for students failing to pass the tests. For the most part the financial burden of providing remediation program will also fall on local school systems. However, each school system did receive a "stipend" from state remediation funds, which acts as seed money to get a remediation program started. The amount of money each local system received was based on the percentage of students answering less than 70 per cent of the test questions correctly. Chowan County received \$12,000 to apply toward remedial instruction for students.

In comparison with juniors across the state and in our 17 county educational district, Edenton-Chowan students didn't do too badly. Statewide 51 per cent of North Carolina's students, who took the same portion of the math competency "trial" test as our students, answered less than 70 per cent of the test items correctly. Edenton-Chowan students compared with this at 56 per cent. In the 17 county district as a whole, 64 per cent of the students answered less than 70 per cent of the test items correctly. Even though it leaves a lot to be desired, Edenton-Chowan was only 5 per cent away from the state's performance as a whole.

To this end, a remediation specialist, Valerie Sutton, was employed to devise such a program for local students. Her services are being shared by Chowan and John A. Holmes high schools.

In preparation for the statewide testing on Nov. 1 and 2, she has been working closely with junior English teachers in the system. Last week, all juniors took a locally devised diagnostic "trial test", including the types of objectives and skills in which students need to be proficient.

Once these tests are graded, students who fail or

do poorly on the test will receive counseling and be encouraged to voluntarily attend remediation classes. Beginning Oct. 1 she will conduct two, three hour remedial sessions from 2 P.M. - 9:30 P.M., four nights weekly. She will be available to Chowan students on Monday nights and Holmes students on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday nights. There are three times as many juniors at Holmes than at Chowan.

High school students are also provided opportunities during the school day to receive remedial help. Through the ESEA reading labs at Chowan and Holmes and the ESAA funded lab at

Holmes, remedial classes are established in the English curriculum, with interested students participating for an English Credit, in addition to the required English courses. In this manner, high school students can receive a double dose of English reinforcement, rather than being pulled from their regular English class period.

Then there's the Teacher Resource Center, located in the basement of Swain. This area has become a virtual warehouse of sample materials for teachers to duplicate as supplementary classroom aids for all grade levels and all abilities. There are books, library materials

and filmstrips galore for teachers to copy or borrow for classroom use.

Just as our teachers can take advantage of these materials our librarians take advantage of that which the state has to offer. Just this week all librarians in the school system went to the Media Evaluation Center at the State Department of Public Instruction to look at material determined by a State Committee as being the best which can be offered to students.

That halo referred to earlier may appear a little lop-sided and dim at times, but once the DUST is blown off, the true intent has a chance to shine through.

Peanut Festival Horse Show

The Edenton-Chowan Band Parents Association is sponsoring its Third Annual Peanut Festival, October 7-8. The Peanut Festival is designed to provide entertainment for the entire family, and one of the more popular features is the horseshow.

Scheduled to begin at 1 P.M. on October 7 at the American Legion Fairgrounds, one mile south of Edenton on U.S. 17. The following classes are open for entry that will please both riders and spectators.

Two and under Halter, Three and over Halter, Showmanship Halter (19 years and under), Roadster Pony, Western Novice - Go as you please (Open), English Novice - Go as you please (Open), Open Balloon Race, Trail Class, Open Ladies Pleasure, Open Barrell Race, Gentlemen's Western Pleasure and Open Pole Bending.

Also Open Ring Sparring, Youth Western Pleasure (19 and under) Open Mail Train, Open Western Pleasure, Open Ring Sparring, Working Hunter Horse Under Saddle, Open Mail Train, Pony Hunters over Fences (2'0"), Working

Hunter over fence (2'6"), Working Hunters Over Fences (3'0"), Fastest Horse around the Ring.

The judge is Dr. Vernon Bryon of Goldsboro.

Organizer of the horseshow for the Band Parents Association is the Chowan 4-H Horse and Pony Club. For information, contact The Peanut Festival, P.O. Box

25, Edenton, N.C. 27932.

By participating in this phase of the festival, the public will not only have an enjoyable Saturday afternoon, but they will also be contributing to a worthy cause. All proceeds from the festival donated to the Edenton-Chowan Band program.

NEAR MARINA: Brick home with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, liv. room, din. room, den, kitchen, utility room, paneled garage, breezeway, library with fireplace, heat-air, double garage, shop, greenhouse on acre lot.

NEW HOME ON WOODED LOT: 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, fireplace, cen. heat-air, double garage; buyer may select floor covering.

WATERFRONT: Well-planned brick home, 3-4 bedrooms, 3 full & 2 half baths, 2 fireplaces, handsome marble mantel, cedar closets, heat-air, double garage, pool and pier.

CIRCA 1810 HOUSE: 4 bedrooms, large living room, dining room, den, small kitchen, 3 baths, 6 fireplaces, cen. heat; on Court House Green.

NEAR TOWN: 3-bedroom brick home, fireplace, 2 baths, cen. heat-air, garage, on corner lot.

LOTS: Waterfront & other.

114 E. King Street, Edenton.

Nelson P. Chears, REALTOR

(919) 482-8284, 482-3302

LASSITER'S
Building & Repair

★ All Types Home Repairs
★ Commercial And Residential Glass Replacement
★ Storm Windows And Doors
★ Guttering ★ New Additions
★ Aluminum Awnings

**FOR FREE ESTIMATE
CALL BILLY AT 482-4986**

Something exciting is happening this week on Badham Road!

Shop The Albemarle,
Then Come To BB For
The Best Buys!

**Open Monday
thru Saturday
9 A.M. - 9 P.M.**

B B Furniture Outlet, Inc.

**Bigger
Bargains**

★ Low Down Payment

★ Financing Available

Watch For Our GRAND OPENING

Located On Badham Road, Edenton

Phone 482-8082

**Better
Buys**

5,000 Sq. Ft. Showroom Is Loaded With
Furniture Buys That Will Save You Big
Dollars. Selection And Price Is The
Name Of Our Game!