

Perquimans People

With artist in the schools

Program brings art to eager county elementary students

By VAL SHORT

Students at Central Grammar, Hertford Grammar and Perquimans Union schools are learning more than the "three r's" this semester with the new arts program, now underway.

Taught by local artist Rebecca Spivey, the program is now in its third week. "The children are just elated," commented the instructor.

The program came about through a community challenge grant from the North Carolina Arts Council, according to Susan Winslow, elementary school coordinator, who wrote the proposal for the grant.

Matched with county school funds, the arts program will continue through the end of the school year only. Winslow said the grant provides funding for one semester only for schools in need of cultural arts programs.

Spivey plans to spend about four weeks at each school, providing about 10 art lessons for each class. Each student is seen from two to three times each week, according to Spivey.

Spivey and her "classroom on wheels," a rolling cart containing instructional materials and art supplies, are eagerly anticipated by the young students. "The children are loving it. It's like they are

starved for it," said the instructor. Spivey said her students are attentive and cooperative — even the kindergarten groups. "Age makes no difference in attitude," she commented.

Spivey is using basically the same outline in teaching all of her classes. Students are learning about basic shapes, color theory, values and design during the art classes.

Understanding simple elements of design, learning to identify light and dark in art work, recognizing the difference in pure and mixed colors and becoming aware of geometric shapes are all among Spivey's objectives for the art classes.

Spivey said the program is very beneficial for the children. "Children need the opportunity to express creativity and to explore new ways of expressing themselves," she said.

"Young children don't know that they cannot do something, so they do. They are not molded into a standard art form and are not afraid to express themselves," she continued.

Self-expression is not the only benefit of the program, however. Spivey said, "Art goes a long way toward helping students in the area of self-image."

Many of the art lessons serve as reinforcement for lessons in other

classes, said Spivey. For example, students also learn about color theory in science and geometric shapes in math.

Students in Spivey's art classes will have an opportunity to show examples of their work at an art show scheduled Thursday night during the Central Elementary PTA meeting. Each child will have at least one example in the show, which will be held in the auditorium.

Spivey is a 1977 graduate of Elizabeth City State University, where she majored in Art Education. She has also taught art in the Franklin County School system as well as through the College of the Albemarle continuing education program. She and her COA art students are responsible for the mural being painted on the Hertford Hardware building on Church Street.

Married to the Rev. Ken Spivey and a native of Randolph County, Spivey said she really enjoys teaching art to young students, but that "students of any age have their own special qualities."

Spivey's contract will expire June 30 and she hopes to implement a short summer program after school closes. "I just wish there was more time. Ten lessons is such a small exposure," she said.



A one semester art program is now underway at three of the Perquimans four schools and Rebecca Spivey, instructor

for the program, is currently working at Central Grammar School. The program is

funded with a challenge grant from the N.C. Arts Council matched with county funds.

People briefs

Mrs. Hattie T. Riddick, a retired school teacher of Perquimans County and CDR Shirley Wiggins Yates have recently returned home from a 14 days Holy Land Tour. Their itinerary included Amman, Jordan; Tiberias and Jerusalem, Israel; Cairo, Egypt; and Athens, Greece.

Mr. and Mrs. Saint Clair Basnight of Nags Head were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Fenton Britt.

Mrs. Monnie Ross and son, Jason, of Raleigh were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Haywood Divers.

Dow Jones, Jr., of Plymouth and Allen Jones of Greenville were guests of Mrs. Addie Keegan.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Amis and family of Pittsburgh, Pa., and Carolyn

Brinkley of Plymouth were guests of Elizabeth Tucker and Virginia Tucker.

Mr. and Mrs. Randy Hedrick and family of Raleigh were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Estes Copeland of Belvidere.

Mr. and Mrs. Julian Matthews and Mrs. Jack Stafford spent some time with Mrs. Everett Babb of Whiteville.

Mrs. G.R. Tucker, Jr., of Henderson is a guest of Mrs. G.R. Tucker, Sr.

Dr. Price Monds of Rocky Mount and Perry Monds of New Bern were guest of Mr. and Mrs. R.S. Monds.

Mrs. Hubert Dale of Raleigh spent some time with Louise Chaulk.

Sarah Goodwin of Winston-Salem is spending the school break with Mrs. Earlie Goodwin.

Sue White of Va. Beach was a guest of Mr. Julian White.

Mr. and Mrs. George Lattimore, Jr. of Raleigh visited in Hertford.

Mrs. Earlie Goodwin, Mrs. D.L. Meyers and Sarah Goodwin were guests of Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Myers.

Mr. and Mrs. Doward Jones of Plymouth were guests of Mrs. Addie Keegan.

Hospital Notes

Mrs. Kathleen Brennerman and Mrs. Laura Fesperman are patients in Chowan Hospital.

Library provides tax info

By TERRY BOSSLEY

JK Lasser's Your Income Tax is at the library as a guide for all taxpayers. This book is the most popular and widely used tax guide in America. It provides tax planning ideas, with a review of tax shelter plans, and saving techniques for home owners, securities, and real estate investors, retirees and families.

Also we have all the federal tax forms and schedules you need for filling out your taxes. Copies can be made for 10 cents a copy.

You can now return your overdue books to the library on Sunday, by way of the bookdrop, and fines will not be charged to you. Think of Sunday as your grace period. This change is implemented to "get back" as many overdue books and to cut down on Monday morning paperwork. As usual, a fine of 2 cents per day will be charged unless you call to have them renewed.

Selected new books: "CPR: It Could Save Your Life" by Armellino,



RN Laymen can learn the technique to save lives. Over 675,000 people die from heart attacks each year. Over half of these deaths occur within the first 2 hours of the initial onset of pain, before the victims are brought to a hospital. This book is a guide to the basic techniques of life-saving, to help victims of sudden heart attack, choking, electric shock, car accidents, drowning and smoke inhalation.

"Contemporary Poetry of N.C." edited by Guy Owens and Mary C. Williams, this book is one of the

many fine books purchased with funds provided by the Thomas G. Skinner Trust Funds. "Good poetry creates its own landscape, but sometimes a locale, a place, exerts a subtle influence as well," says the editors. The 63 poets represented here differ widely in style and subject matter, but there are some common threads: a sensitivity to nature, a sense of place and history and the use of colloquial speech patterns that can only enrich the language of poetry from N.C.



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