

OPEN COURT PROGRAM AT NORTH SCHOOL-South Gastonia Elementary teachers Sharon Cole, left, Linda Smith, Frances Rhodes, North School Principal Joey Hopper and South Gastonia teacher Joye Rankin observe a Kindergarten class being instructed by Marcy Hamrick in the Open Court reading program with students in her class.

Teachers Observe Program At North

Four South Gastonia Elementary teachers observed North School's Open Court Reading Program Tuesday and came away highly pleased with their visits to the K-3 classrooms.

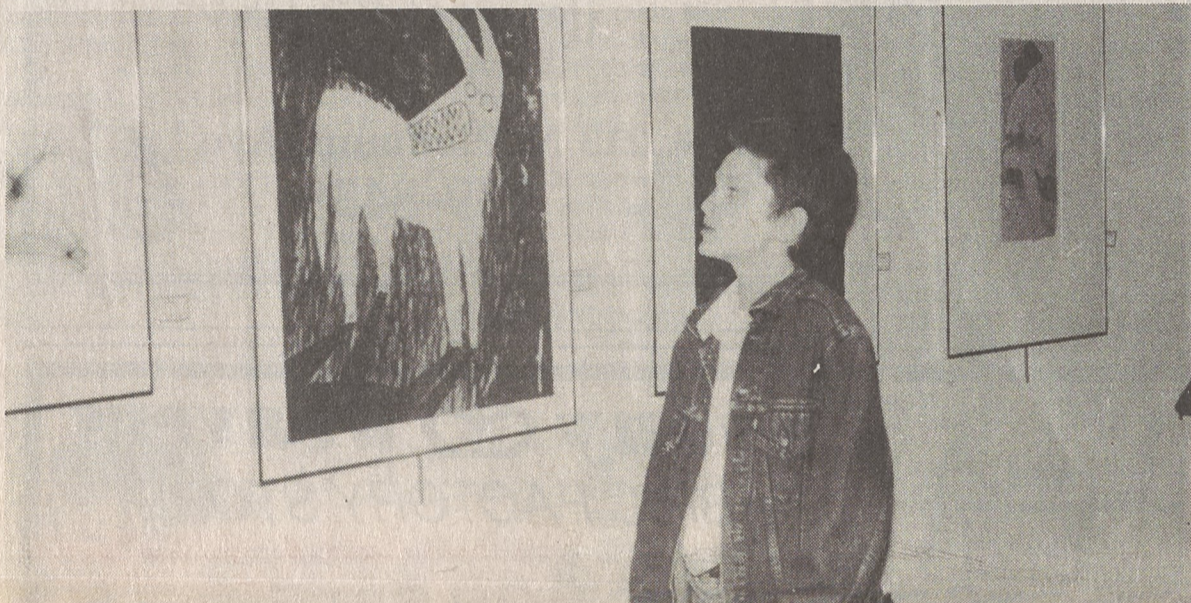
Principal Joey Hopper said North School has been host to numerous visiting teams this year. Open Court focuses on the academic learning areas of language skills and thinking skills and teaches children to work and read independently. He said the program also acquaints children to outstanding literacy selections and provides meaningful correlation of all the language arts. Open Court

emphasizes live teaching structure activities and materials that appeal to the imagination of children.

Paula Goforth, a North School parent says, "It seems to promote enthusiasm for reading- I like it." According to Kathryn Blanton, North First grade teacher, "The program has strengthened our writing by providing the children with the needed skills to write their own compositions." Kristen Miller, a student in Mrs. Tim Gladden's class, said that "Open Court makes our school better. It brings more people into the schools and make our community better."

Hopper says that Open Court uses phonics techniques, including systematic blending activities with multi-censory methods and materials to teach reading and writing. The children are not asked to learn and apply dozens of rules, instead, they inductively discover the basic relationships of the language as they use it daily in the classroom.

Participating in the class visit on Tuesday were Gastonians Sharon Cole, Linda Smith, Joye Rankin, and Frances Rhodes, all teachers at South Gastonia Elementary School where Jake Schrum is principal.



ART EXHIBIT OPEN AT LIBRARY - Ben Connor, above, enjoys an exhibit of prints at Jacob S. Mauney Memorial Library, open to the public through Jan. 31.

Prints On Exhibit At Library

Students visiting the exhibit of 30 prints from the N. C. Print & Drawing Society were enthusiastic about the hand printing techniques and use of graphics in the creative and colorful display.

The exhibit is open through Jan. 31 at Mauney Memorial Library.

A highlight of the exhibit, also free to the public, will be a lecture on the exhibit itself on Sunday afternoon beginning at 2:30 p.m. in Josephine E. Weir Auditorium at the Library. Guest lecturer will be local artist A. B. Snow.

The exhibit has been made possible locally through

the Cleveland Arts Council and First National Bank of Shelby.

Librarian Rose Turner said the exhibit includes the Purchase Awards from the N. C. Print & Drawing Society's juried shows for the last 20 years and show various types of printing media.

"Giant Dog" caught the eye of Ben Connor while Forrest Connor and Sidney Bridges were interested in "The Arsonist" and Jason Leigh and Hart Wells liked "Pigs."

"We invite the community to enjoy this exhibit which is beautifully displayed in our new auditorium in the library," said Mrs. Turner.

288 Citizens Endorse Bond Vote

A total of 288 Kings Mountain citizens signed an advertisement in today's Herald urging local citizens to "Vote Yes For A Safe, Sure Utility System for Years To Come."

The paid advertisement was sponsored by Kings Mountain Citizens For General Obligation Bond

Referendum on Feb. 7.

Councilman Harold Phillips is chairman of a bond committee presenting information to citizens concerning the upcoming referendum at which voters are asked to authorize the city to borrow \$9.2 million in general obligation bonds for utility improvements.

Gas

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quest, Scott Heath told council: "I'm just trying to explain what is happening, not to agree or disagree with it. Since Transco is a regulated monopoly utility they can go ahead and charge the higher rates pending outcome of the request," he said.

Wood, responding to an audience question by Sam Tessnair, said that, should the request be denied by FERC, the city would refund the amount to its customers.

The Transco increase comes about a month after council voted to contract with the firm for up to 30-percent 'transport only,' allowing the city to buy on the spot market. "However, they are holding up on implementing that until after the peak season," Wood volunteered.

In other actions, council approved bylaws for the Parks & Recreation Advisory Commission. Director David Hancock announced meeting of the group at the community cen-

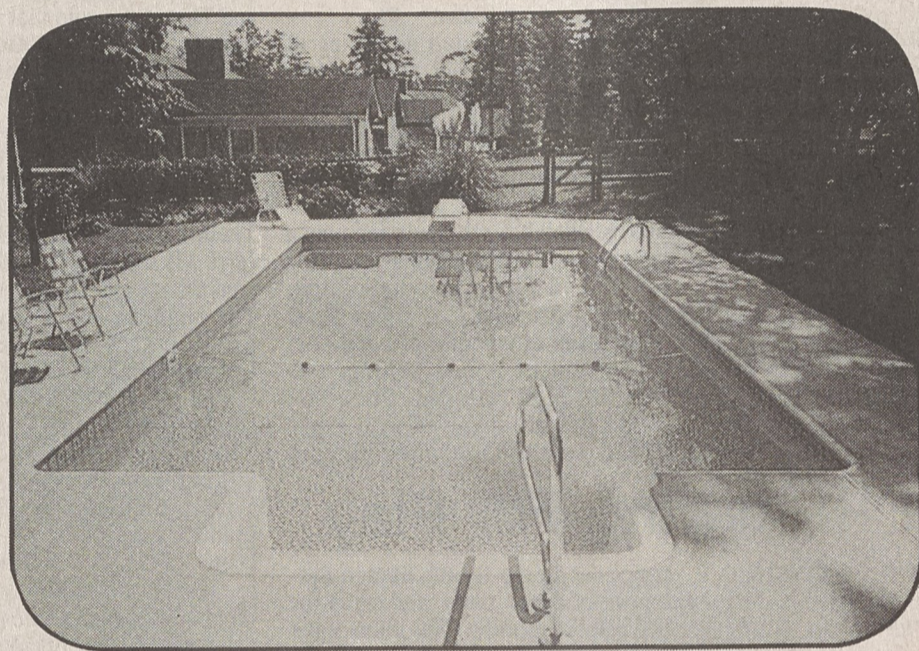
ter Tuesday at 7 p.m.

After public hearing, council voted to annex 6.38 acres of land owned by Thomas and Sarah Durham.

Rev. Wayne Reece, of Emmanuel Baptist Church, gave the invocation. Other city staff present included: Engineer Tom Howard, Personnel Director Charles Webber, Treasurer Marvin Chappell, Aging Director Monty Thornburg, Attorney Mickey Corry, Police Chief Warren Goforth and Fire Chief Gene Tignor.

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