

Mauney Memorial Library Plans Fall Programs For All Ages

BY ROSE TURNER

The new school year has begun, and both children and adults are getting back into regular routines. Louise Sanders, Children's and Outreach Librarian at the Mauney Library, is planning a new series of programs which will involve all ages in both in-house sessions and outreach. Through these programs, we expect to meet the needs of a larger percentage of the population, and to reach people who do not normally use the library.

To begin the year, the Mauney Library is planning to participate in Literacy Day observance at the Cleveland Mall on Saturday, September 8, from 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m. Booths will be set up in the stage area and library services and programs will be highlighted. Mrs. Sanders and some of her teen

volunteers will conduct children's story hours using books, puppets, and cassettes tapes.

Regular programming for the school year will begin in September. Thursday afternoons are reserved for in-house story times beginning at 3:00 p.m. with a school age program. Regular programming for school age children throughout the year is a new development at the Mauney Library. However, this group responded so well during the Summer Reading Club and it is felt that there is a definite need to continue a library sponsored program for the elemen-

tary school children. Many of these children do not participate in sports, dance lessons, music, or other extra curricular activities, but they need a place to go and something special to do. We feel that the library can help fill this need, and in fulfilling a social need, we can also stimulate interest in books and reading. The first session will be held on Thursday, October 13.

The preschoolers will meet at 3:45 on Thursday afternoons, following the school age program. Because so many parents work and are unable to bring their preschoolers to a morning program, we de-

cidated to experiment with an afternoon program. Both the preschool story hour and the school age story hour will be held weekly throughout the year.

Outreach programs for children will continue at Bolin Day Care, Lynwood Day Care, Trinity PreSchool, St. Matthews Preschool, and Oak Grove Preschool. Mrs. Sanders will visit these centers once a month with a story hour. She will also leave books with them for use throughout the month.

New outreach programs will be added for the school children.

West, North and Bethware Schools have after school day care programs. Mrs. Sanders will visit these schools twice a month with a story hour and books.

For adults, Mrs. Sanders will continue to go to the Senior Citizens Center, the Convalescent Center, and the Kings Mountain Care Center once a month with a reading program. She will also begin a program at the Hospital Extended Care Center once a month.

This year we are going to experiment with an Adult Library Hour the first Wednesday morning of the

month at 10:30 in the Josephine E. Weir Auditorium. Mrs. Sanders has a lot of exciting ideas about programming for the group, and plans a variety of activities. Topics will include reading and discussion of short literary selections, music, art, biography, etc. Adults of all ages are invited to participate. The first program is scheduled for October 3.

A lot of activities encompassing all age groups have been planned for the new year. The library is expanding its vision and its services to more nearly meet the needs of the community.

Head Start Program Is Reorganized

The Cleveland County Head Start program was congratulated by the Vice President of Assessment Technology Incorporated (ATI) in Tucson, Arizona for substantial accomplishments this past year in promoting children's social and cognitive development and in preparing children for success when they enter kindergarten.

The spring assessment results of the Head Start Measurement Battery (HSMB) show that the majority of children in the program achieved significant educational growth in language, math, nature and science, perception, reading, and social development. The gains made by the children indicated that the children learned many intermediate and advanced level skills and concepts in each of these areas of development. The acquisition of these skills and concepts signifies that the children will have a strong foundation of knowledge that will help them to excel in kindergarten.

ATI's transition research with the Ford Foundation and Administration for Children, Youth, and Families has shown that children whose teachers use the educational planning system effectively are more likely to be promoted to the first grade and less likely to be inappropriately and prematurely placed in special education. For example, last year's research indicated that 1 in 5 children are placed in special education by the end of kindergarten. In classrooms where the system is used, only 1 in 71 children are placed in special education.

As a result of using the educational planning system, the Cleveland County Head Start program has been able to document its program effectiveness in promoting children's development and in preparing them to successfully meet the challenges that await them when they enter school.

The average gains made by the children in eight Head Start classrooms this past year indicates excellent educational growth. The greatest gains were in the math area indicating superior educational growth. The gain indicates the amount of growth that the children accomplished from fall assessment to spring assessment.

The local program congratulated Julia Hughes and Mattie Wells, teacher and assistant at Marion School for achieving the highest overall gains program wide. The average gains made by the Head Start students at Marion School indicate superior educational growth.

Head Start To Be Taped

The Cleveland County Head Start Program will once again be taped for the "Good Morning, America" opener to be aired as a part of Head Start Awareness Month on Tuesday, October 23, at 7:30 a.m.

The originally scheduled opener was cancelled due to wind noise in the tape.

PRIDE

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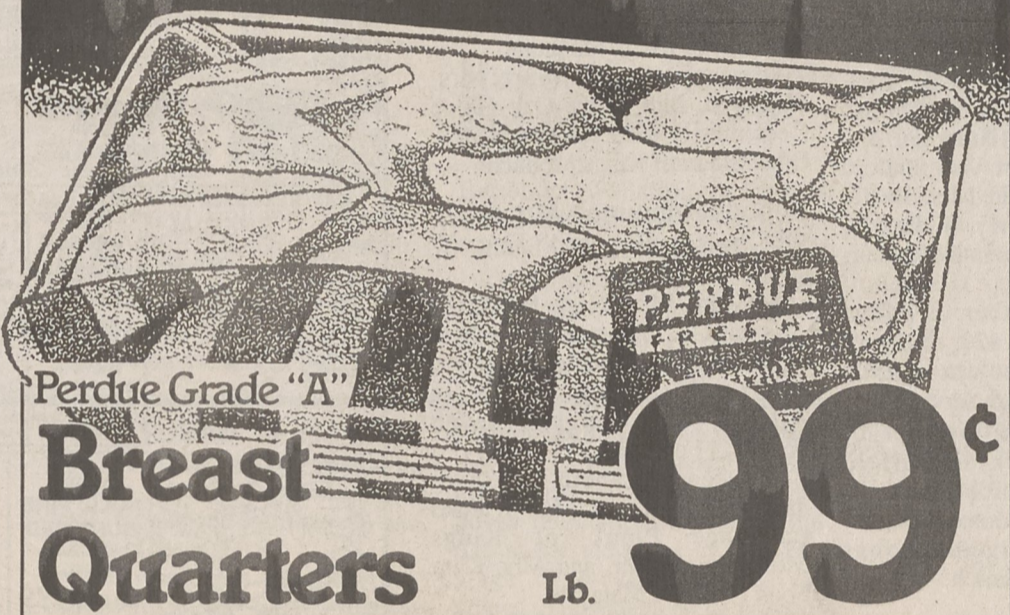
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