

Local students to participate in 'Super Saturday' program

By SUSAN WOODY
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Students in Burke County will soon get the chance to learn everything from sign language to paper making and photography during six "Super Saturdays" at Western Piedmont Community College.

Elissa Brown, A.G. coordinator for Burke County Schools, started the program after talking to area officials.

Brown decided to start a program like those in other areas that allow school-age children to explore new ideas and meet new people through innovative programs. "Super Saturday is a very special learning program," Brown said.

"Students can take courses in a classroom based on interests," she said.

Super Saturday offers highly motivating courses students otherwise would not be able to take in a classroom setting with other students with similar interests, according to Brown.

All the courses are taught on the campus of Western Piedmont Community College.

"The courses are designed for fun and learning," Brown added.

From a survey distributed out of Brown's office to teachers in the

Burke County School System, Brown organized the course list and found individuals to teach the classes.

The individuals range from school teachers, local craftspeople, WPCC instructors, a local writer, a computer representative, an instructor from the Catawba Science Center, and an instructor from the North Carolina School for the Deaf.

Sponsored jointly by Western Piedmont Community College, the N.C. Cooperative Extension Service, Burke County Center 4-H Program, and the Burke County Parents for the Advancement of Gifted Education (PAGE), the classes begin April 16 and will last six consecutive Saturdays.

Each class runs an hour and is scheduled between 9 a.m. and noon. Students can apply for and take up to three courses.

Each class is \$25 which includes accidental/medical insurance during the dates and hours each student is taking courses. Preregistration by March 28 is required.

The first annual Super Saturday will offer the following classes for students in the following grades:

- **Math in Action - K-3**

Students will use a number of math manipulatives such as tangrams, pentominoes, and number tiles to solve hands-on math prob-

lems. Math concepts covered in this class will include geometry, measurement and map skills. A materials fee of \$3 is due at the first class. Instructor is Janet Miller.

- **Kitchen Chemistry - K-3**

Students will explore many unique scientific properties using everyday items through a number of new experiments following the scientific inquiry method. A materials fee of \$3 is due at the first class. Instructor is Janet Miller.

- **Creative Dance - K-3; 4-5**

This class is suited for beginning dance students or those who have had previous classes. Students will stretch to warm and tone the body, perform across the floor exercises to develop coordination and strengthen the body, communicate their feelings, and express their imagination through various dance activities. Students will create a short dance piece with either a partner or in a small group. Participants should wear comfortable clothing for freedom of movement. Instructor is Maureen Goger.

- **Paper Chase I - K-3; 4-5**

Students can try their hand at the art of paper making. They will recycle construction and art papers into vases, wall hangings, sculptures and more. A materials fee of \$3 is due

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at the first class. Instructors are Debbie McGough and Tiffany McGough.

• **Paper Chase II - 4-5**

This class is a continuation of Paper Chase I. Students will use the art of marbling to decorate their projects created with their own handmade paper. Materials are \$3 which is due at the first class. Instructors are Debbie McGough and Tiffany McGough.

• **Sign Language I - K-3**

Sign language is a unique form of communication. Students will learn the alphabet, basic signs, and greetings. Instructor is Sarah Clowe.

• **Sign Language II - 4-8**

Students will learn everything in Sign Language I plus more. They will be able to receive and send communication and be introduced to a brief history of sign language and the culture of the deaf. Instructor is Sarah Clowe.

• **Drama!Drama!Drama! - K-3**

This class is an improvisational, process oriented form of drama where students will be guided by the leader to imagine, enact, and reflect upon experiences, real or

imagined. Instructors are Cheryl Oxford and Beth Buckner.

• **Junior Naturalist - 4-5**

Students will sharpen their skills as a naturalist by looking at plants, animals, and insects. Students will be able to identify plants and know which ones they can eat. Instructor is Lori Youngworth, with the Catawba Science Center.

• **Origami Secrets - 4-5**

Students will learn the basics of the art or process of Japanese paper folding. As the basic fundamentals are introduced, more time will be given to exploring and developing creative ways to fold and enable students to discover the treasury of origami secrets. Instructor is Teri Preble.

• **Clay Sculpting - 4-5; 6-8**

Students will make pottery they can really use and create sculptures they can display. In this class, participants will use a variety of art forms using hand building techniques to make coil, slab, and pinch pots. They will be introduced to the potter's wheel. A materials fee of \$3 is due at the first class. Class is limited to 18 students. Instructor is Gary Delp.

• **Storytelling - 4-7**

Storytelling is an oral art that

will develop students' listening and language skills and give them practice in visualization. It promotes an appreciation of literature, keeps alive the cultural heritage and fosters a sense of the dramatic. Instructors are Cheryl Oxford and Beth Buckner.

• **Photography - 6-8; 9-12**

This course will introduce students to the history of photography and the camera. Participants will discuss color, composition, light, depth, film types, and operation of the camera itself. Students should provide their own camera and film. The class is limited to 15 students. Instructor is Teri Preble.

• **Basket making - 6-8; 9-12**

This course allows students to participate in an age-old craft. Students will create a market basket to take home at the end of the course. A materials fee of \$8 is due at the first class and includes all supplies students will need to make the basket. Class is limited to 12 students. Instructors are Henry and Christine Cash.

• **Future Problem Solving and Science Fiction - 6-8; 9-12**

Through science fiction, stories, films, etc., students engage in the discussion of future problem solv-

ing strategies (scenarios, cross-impact matrix, futures wheels, FPS, etc.). Critical thinking skills are emphasized in comparison of fiction/fact. Instructor is Candace Yount.

• **Calligraphy - 6-8**

Students will learn simple lettering techniques to make posters and presentations more attractive. They will also learn calligraphy styles which can be used on a variety of projects. A materials fee of \$10 is due at the first class. The fee includes a refillable calligraphy pen with three different nibs, inks, and project materials. Instructor is Laurie Wommack.

• **Me? A Writer? - 6-10**

Students will learn the basics of writing fiction and non-fiction and how to publish their work. A goal of the course is to have work published by the end of the six weeks. Serious writers are encouraged to register. Instructor is Cindy Coleman.

• **World of Computers in the 90s and Beyond - 6-8; 9-12**

Students will be exposed to the current usage of computers in the home and workplace, both now and in the future. Each session will explore a different aspect of person-

al computers, beginning with a look at the predominant operating system, MS Windows, and its impact on the computer industry. Future sessions will look at the use of computers as a hobby. The emphasis of all the classes will be on the enjoyment and excitement of exploring computers as a powerful tool of the Information Age. Students should bring a pen and paper to the first session. Instructor is Ron Duckworth.

• **Creative Writing - 6-9; 9-12**

Students should bring their experiences, thoughts and dreams so they can turn them into a writing collection by using art, literature, and a few surprises. Instructor is Gina Duckworth.

• **Play Production - 8-12**

This is a hand-on course to introduce students to the various crafts of the theater. The course will culminate in a group performance of "The Tiger's Bones," a modern parable by Ted Hughes which is a reminiscent of "Jurassic Park." The play features a master scientist who can make the most elaborate calculations but who is unable to grasp the essential point of any situation. Instructors are Cheryl Oxford and Beth Buckner.

The grade levels recommended for each class are only recommen-

dations, according to Brown.

Parents who feel their children would benefit from a class, but are not in the listed age group can discuss this with the class instructor.

Students will also be chaperoned, according to Brown.

(For more information, to get a registration form, or to volunteer to teach future courses, call Brown or Debbie McGough at 437-1563 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.)