

THE NEWS RECORD

SERVING THE PEOPLE OF MADISON COUNTY

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60 Homes Still Have Frozen Pipes

By JIM STORY

Despite efforts by crewmen of Marshall to get water into some 60-70 homes in Marshall, the pipes are still frozen beneath the ground. The main deep freeze is across the French Broad River from Main Street, including the area behind the Island, on Cotton Mill Hill, the Marshall Housing Project units, and the entire section in that vicinity.

Tuesday marked the 13th con-

secutive day these homes have had no running water.

Town crewmen, firemen and others have been busy trucking water to numerous homes in hopes that eventually the temperatures will rise enough and long enough to thaw out the main feeder pipes and solidly frozen pipes to individual homes.

Workmen labored last Thursday on the main water line beneath the French Broad River bridge in hopes of getting water to flow but to no avail. Numerous leaks, caused by frozen pipes, were welded across the bridge but hopes for much-needed water were dispelled when it was found that the water lines beyond the bridge were solidly frozen.

Rising temperatures Friday gave some hope that the frigid conditions were improving but sub-zero temperatures Friday night resulted in the continued hardships.

Last Saturday the sun shown brightly and a great deal of the ice-covered streets were somewhat melted. But, the sudden drop in temperatures Saturday afternoon dropped the thermometers from 48 degrees to 20 degrees in a matter of a few hours. Strong 30 mph winds added to the misery and during the frigid spell, it was discovered that the main water line to the Marshall Elementary School on the Island was frozen solidly.

Not only the families across the river have been without water but hundreds of homes throughout the county have had the same hardships and problems. In addition to lack of

water in homes and some firms, a few local stores had too much water — but in the basements. Water pumps have been kept busy pumping out basement water while there was little, if any, water in the pipes for drinking, washing, etc.

Plumbers in Marshall have been called on day and night and although they did the best they could it was impossible to answer all the calls.

For almost a month the French Broad River has been frozen solid with occasional channels being made during the day only to freeze solidly at night. The frequent snows on top of the mush ice presents a picturesque scene which has attracted many visitors here to take pictures. However, citizens have been apprehensive about the eventual melting off of ice which affects the height of the "run-off". The recent ice jams are the most severe since 1958 when Marshall narrowly escaped being flooded when melting ice caused the river to reach near flood stage.

Also in danger during these last weeks were the mobile homes located near the edge of the river at Rollins. Hayes Run creek, which flows under the railroad at Rollins has also been too deep, at times, for vehicles to go under the overpass at Rollins.

Bright sunshine and higher temperatures last Sunday brought hope to residents. Deep snow and icy roads were somewhat relieved although on north sides, driving was still

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SCENES



TYPICAL scene in Madison County during the past few weeks. Above picture made last Thursday at intersection of Stackhouse Road and Lonesome Mountain Road. (Photo by Terry Gunter)



IGLOO IN MARSHALL — An igloo six feet tall with a six-foot diameter has attracted much attention in Marshall. The unique "ice house" was built by Jeff Metcalf, 16, top left; James Brigman, 15 top right; and Wayne Ogle, 13 (looking out "door"). The head of Danny Ogle, 8, can barely be seen to the left of Jeff. The igloo is located in the Mashburn Trailer Park where the youngsters live. (Photo by Jim Story)

Schools Open Tuesday

Madison County schools, with the exception of Marshall Elementary School on the Island, reopened Tuesday morning for only the third day since the Christmas holidays. Schools operated on Jan. 3 and 6 but otherwise have been closed due to severe weather conditions.

R. L. Edwards stated that the Marshall Elementary School was unable to reopen Tuesday due to frozen water pipes.

Mrs. Anderson Takes Office

TVA Backs Cleanup Of French Broad River

Officials and citizens from Madison County, including representatives from the county board of commissioners, mayors and aldermen and Mars Hill College, heard Aubrey J. Wagner, chairman of the board for the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) pledge TVA's continued support of the French Broad River cleanup project in Region B on Wednesday night of last week. Wagner was the featured speaker at the annual dinner meeting of the Land-of-Sky Regional Council in Hendersonville.

In addition to Wagner's talk, the meeting also included the installation of new officers for the council including Mrs. Virginia Anderson, chairman of the Madison County Board of Commissioners who was installed as treasurer. Chairman Ed Todd of the Henderson County Board of Commissioners, who was installed as the new chairman of the regional council, spoke of the good work done in the past by the regional agency and the work ahead for it in the future.

James T. Ledford, a member of the Madison County Board of Commissioners and former chairman, was presented a plaque in recognition of his untiring efforts as vice-chairman and enthusiastic member of the regional council.

Wagner pointed out that the federal power and research agency has pumped some \$200,000 into the river cleanup project over the past two years and in an agreement signed at the meeting between TVA and regional council officials, the TVA pledged another \$100,000 toward the project.

Some 65 miles of the river have already been affected by this project. The river flows through the four counties that make up Region B — Bun-

combe, Madison, Henderson and Transylvania. The regional council is made up of elected and appointed officials from the municipal and county governments within the region.

"I applaud your dedication and perseverance toward the goal of improving the entire North Carolina reach of this great river," Wagner said. "I

5 Madison High Band Members In All-State

Auditions for the 1977 Western District All-State Band were held on Jan. 22 at Tuscola High School in Waynesville.

Five Madison High band members were chosen in this competitive audition to participate in the clinic to be held on Feb. 11 and 12 at Mars Hill College. The five were Susan Cox, trumpet; Chuck Clark, mallet percussion; Paul Babelay, mallet percussion; Eric Knisley, alto saxophone; and Steve Lambert, alto saxophone.

There are three performing groups in the All-State Band Clinic. They are the workshop band, grade 3; the clinic band, grade 5; and the wind ensemble, grade 5. Our students will participate in the workshop band except for Paul Babelay, who will play in the wind ensemble. The wind ensemble is the most advanced group. Babelay's name has been submitted to audition for the Statewide All-State Band in Raleigh.

Wagner referred to the river cleanup project as a good example of a proper partnership relation between local governments and federal agencies in his speech entitled "A Partnership for the Future."

Wagner spoke of increased population projections in Region B and in the Tennessee Valley and said this partnership relation will be necessary at all levels of government to meet future demands brought about by the increased population. The population projections predict that there will be 30 percent more people in the four county area by the year 2000 and that there will be two million more people in the Tennessee Valley which includes Western North Carolina, by the end of this century.

Rep. Liston Ramsey introduced legislation Friday to hold all state primary elections, including the state's presidential primary in early May.

The primaries for state officials were moved from May to August and the presidential primary from May to March by the 1975 General Assembly.

Rep. Ramsey has long been an opponent of both changes.

"The General Assembly

shouldn't be shuffling the dates around just to give either party, or a candidate, an advantage," Ramsey said.

Several bills have already been introduced in both the Senate and House, moving the election date for state and county offices back to May from August. Ramsey's bill is the first to include the presidential primary.

Besides wanting to put an end to the shuffling, Ramsey said he didn't think the state should spend an extra \$516,000, the cost of the 1976 presidential primary election, for a separate election.

The decision to split and move the presidential and state primary dates for the 1976 election came after considerable maneuvering in the 1975 session of the legislature.

Some backers of former Gov. Terry Sanford then

Land-of-Sky officials want to develop the river as a recreational source in the four county area and a riverside park has already been developed on the river in Buncombe County at the intersection of US Highway 191 and the Blue Ridge Parkway where the parkway crosses the river.

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Jurors Named For Civil Court

The February term of superior court for the trial of civil cases will begin here Monday morning at 10 with Judge Robert E. Gaines presiding.

Cases scheduled to be heard on the trial calendar include: Board of Transportation, plaintiff, vs. George Woody, et al., defendants.

Claude Honeycutt, et ux, plaintiffs, vs. Board of Transportation, defendants.

Raymond J. Holcombe, plaintiff, vs. N. E. Holcombe, defendant.

Grover Gentry, plaintiff, vs. Charlie Arsemus Duck and

James David Storey, defendants.

Edward Silvers, plaintiff, vs. Board of Transportation, defendant.

Tom L. Merrill, et ux, plaintiffs, vs. Andrew Jackson Bridges, by co-administrators, defendants.

Zade Merrill, et ux, plaintiffs, vs. Etta Thomason Rice, defendant.

Frances C. Riddle, plaintiff, vs. Foy Riddle, defendant.

Franklin Ray Frisby, plaintiff, vs. James T. Norris, defendant.

Motions: Eva Forester, plaintiff, vs. Zella Freeman

Marler, Admx., defendant. Jurors drawn follow: Troy McDevitt, Faye M. Lloyd, Carmel Clark, Marie Wright Cook, Jane D. Thomas,

Jeanette Proffitt, Sophia Navy, Howard Lee Allen, James Sam Houston, Marie

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