

Portrait of An Artist



MARTY MIM MACK, 8, of Santa Clara, Calif., is no Sunday painter. The 1970 National March of Dimes Poster Boy devotes the same serious attention to painting that he does to school and sports. The March of Dimes, serious about prevention of birth defects, supports a year-round program of research, education, patient and community services. Birth defects strike 250,000 American babies annually. You can help by giving to the March of Dimes in January.

Sub-Zero Temp Freezes Pipes, Closes Schools

The idyllic holiday snow scene turned into a nightmare last weekend when below freezing temperatures and impassable roads created havoc in many areas.

Temperatures dropped to record lows all over Western North Carolina during the week and stayed there, causing several emergency situations to develop. The Yancey County Country Store on Burnsville's Town Square recorded a low of -6 degrees below zero on their front porch, but reports from the Green Mountain area indicate that the temperature dropped to -10 to -12 degrees below zero in that area. A spokesman at the Mt. Mitchell station said the temperature on Mt. Mitchell reached -24 last Wednesday night. A strong

wind, blowing at the same time temperatures were dropping, contributed to the excessively cold weather.

According to Mrs. Dora Roberts at City Hall in Burnsville, sixty to seventy-five people called in to report frozen water pipes since Saturday morning. Bobby Angel, whose welding machine was pressed into emergency service, provided the safest and speediest means of thawing out the pipes. He and his assistant worked through the weekend, and are still working on frozen pipes throughout the area.

One of the places most disrupted was the Yancey County Child Development Center - a Day Care Center for the children of working mothers. The center had to send the children

home early last week when the pipes froze. Since the hot water heater was connected with the furnace, there was danger of the boiler exploding. The furnace was temporarily shut down to eliminate this hazard, but the welders had difficulty clearing the pipes and were unable to thaw the ice as late as Monday. The children all showed up Tuesday morning at the unheated building and had to be sent home again.

According to another report received, Principal of Burnsville Elementary School, Ed Hunter, "babysat" the water pipes at that institution for two consecutive nights. He was apparently successful in keeping the pipes in working condition.

A main water pipe in back of the Post Office in Burnsville froze. When the welding machine finally thawed the ice, a jet of icy water gushed from a break in the pipe and flooded the area. Many men had to work hours in the freezing water to repair the break.

Reverend McDonald reports that in the First Baptist Church building one of the heating units froze. After successfully repairing the unit, the repairman announced that there was a flood in the boiler room. Four water pipes were found to have burst from ice pressure.

Knowledgeable people in the area let their water taps run all night during the freezing weather to prevent ice from forming. Those who didn't, and woke up one morning to find themselves without water, certainly are more knowledgeable now. Life without water - for any length of time - poses innumerable problems.

Schools in Yancey County have been closed since Tuesday, January 6th. Roads are considered too hazardous for the school busses to attempt to pick up the children, especially in the more rural areas. Ice patches have had no chance to melt during the past week.

Looking on the bright side of the "cold spell", at least the kids are happy to have this unexpected holiday; and if nothing else good can be said about the frozen water situation, it has made us appreciate water for its multiple, taken-for-granted uses in our home.

Gospel Singing

Buncombe County March of Dimes is sponsoring a gospel singing at the Asheville City Auditorium on Saturday night, January 24, 1970. There will be no admission charge, but there will be a free will offering taken for the March of Dimes. One hundred percent of the proceeds will go to the Buncombe County March of Dimes with all singers and all who are working on the project donating their time.

We invite all gospel singers from Western North Carolina and Eastern Tennessee to take part in this singing and the public is urged to attend. Ed Ball is to be Master of Ceremonies.

\$100 Reward Is Offered

A \$100.00 Reward is being offered to anyone with information leading to the Arrest and Conviction of person or persons damaging the newspaper racks of the Asheville Citizen Times.

For further information call the Sheriff or the Police Department in Burnsville.

Agriculture Commissioner Announces That NC Will Not Register DDT For Some Uses

The North Carolina Department of Agriculture will not register DDT and related pesticides for certain uses in 1970, Agriculture Commissioner J. A. Graham has announced.

The commissioner said he has notified manufacturers and distributors of pesticides that the Department will not register during this year the label of any DDT product for the following:

--All uses on shade trees, including elm trees for control of the elm bark beetle which transmits the Dutch elm disease.

--All uses on tobacco.

--All uses in or around the house, except limited uses for control of disease vectors as determined by public health officials.

--All uses in aquatic environments, marshes, wetlands, and adjacent areas, except for those which are essential for the control of disease vectors as determined by public health officials.

Graham also said that DDD (TDE), aldrin, dieldrin, heptachlor, chlordane and lindane would not be registered for use on tobacco. He explained that this action was made "in the light of recent recommen-

dations by the North Carolina Department of Agriculture's Pesticide Advisory Committee and/or the North Carolina State University's Pesticide Advisory Committee.

He explained that the action on all these products was taken for four reasons:

1) Recommendations by North Carolina State University indicate that suitable substitutes are available.

2) North Carolina's export tobacco markets may be adversely affected by the presence of residues of these pesticides on tobacco.

3) Some pests will no longer be effectively controlled by some of these materials to which they have built up a resistance.

4) Residues of these pesticides have persisted and are now present in detectable quantities in many target and non-target segments of our environment.

The North Carolina insecticide law requires registration and label approval by State Department of Agriculture and the commissioner warned that anyone selling the products labeled for these uses in 1970 will be in violation of the law and subject to its penalties.

"I also urge farmers and other users of insecticides to refrain from using any stocks of these materials on hand, or illegally labeled for such uses," he said.

School Survey Now Completed

Landrum Wilson, Superintendent has informed the Yancey Record that the School Survey has been compiled. Official copies have been placed in each school. Interested citizens are encouraged to contact the school principal in your district to check out a copy to read and evaluate. A few copies can be checked out at the Superintendent's office.

Contents of the survey cover the following topics: The Yancey County Community, School Finance, school population and projection, school facilities and the school system, summary and recommendations.

A public hearing will be conducted March 13, at 7:30 in the court room. All citizens are invited and encouraged to attend. Various Department of Instruction personnel will be in attendance.