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CONCRETE is about as gussied up for Christmas as it ever has been, thanks to the school art classes and the younger students who accepted the Cascade Junior Women's Club invitation to decorate the store windows with original drawings. Done in the traditional red, green and white the pictures are varied and interesting as well as showing a lot of potential talent.

The Herald took pictures of most of the windows, failing on a few on which photographic conditions were unfavorable. We plan to run a page of them in the next issue. Space in this paper was limited and only the contest winners are shown.

The "big kids" had the first chance, doing their work on Thursday afternoon as a field-trip class. The younger students worked on Saturday. Overheard after the big kids had finished their work was the critical comment of one of the primary graders who observed "They are pretty good—for high school kids."

On Saturday they tried to top the competition and came pretty close—for grade school kids.

IT MAY be a lot of fun to steal lights from the big Christmas tree at City Hall, but it is very bad manners for this happy time of year. Also very dangerous, says our Town Marshal. The lighting is 110 volts and a wrong move could send a deadly jolt through anyone standing on the wet pavement. Stay alive for Christmas. Leave the lights to make everybody happy.

Kids Paint The Town For Xmas

Christmas came to Concrete in a big way last weekend when over 60 young people of all ages played the part of Santa's elves to decorate windows along Main Street in a contest sponsored by Cascade Juniors.

Fifty-one students from the ninth grade and two advanced senior art crafts classes under Richard Riehl applied their considerable talents on Thursday, and 14 small children painted their Christmas scenes Saturday morning.

First place for the art classes went to Cheryl Harris and Judy Mellom for the snowmen painting on the post office window.

Honorable mentions among the students were won by Bruce Blankinship and Phil Alger, window of the Two Rivers Realty, and Pam Green and Kathleen Young, church scene at the Launderette.

In the 1-6 grade group, Steve Zitkovich won first for the painting of wise men on the Concrete Drug Co. window.

Honorable mentions went to Raymie and Sharon Drake for the snowy landscape at the Cascade Supply Co. and to Chris O'Bryan for his meticulously-painted wisemen riding camels on the window at the entrance to The Hub.

Larry Coggins and Ellen Gay Dellinger divided honors for 9-12 grade entries for their paintings at Kenny's Shell corner. Larry's large life-size painting of Christ is on the east window of the Launderette and Ellen's professional painting in blues of a small child with a candle is on the repair garage window. Ellen is shop assistant for Riehl in the school's art crafts program.

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ENGAGEMENT TOLD



LINDA JEAN WENRICH

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Wenrich of Marblemount announce the engagement of their daughter, Linda Jean, to Thomas B. Paynter, son of Mrs. Fred Paynter of Seattle. The bride-elect is a graduate of Concrete High School, class of 1968, and of Mary Stone Beauty School of Seattle. She is employed now at the Washington Athletic Club in Seattle. Paynter graduated from Roosevelt High School, Seattle, in 1968, and attended Central Washington State College and Bellevue Junior College before joining the service. He is assigned to the 81st Armored Division which is leaving for Viet Nam.

The engagement announcement was made at a buffet supper on Dec. 8 at the Wenrich home with 25 guests present.

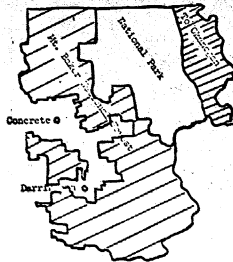
Cement Plant Started On Phase-Out Plan

Schedule for the wind up of operations prior to closing the local Lone Star Cement Corporation plant, as announced to the employees last week, will see the shutdown of all burning operations by December 29.

Finished grinding also will be completed by the same date. The Bear Creek power plant will be closed Dec. 27.

Quarry operations have been stopped with buckets removed from the line.

The grinding of clinkers still remaining at the plant probably will be finished by the end of January, said George George, office manager. Shipping will



Split Of Baker Forest Area

continue through the early part of next year until all remaining material has been removed from the Concrete plant site.

LOSS OF MEMORY CLOUDS CASE OF MISSING CASH FROM TILL AT MARBLEMOUNT STATION

Unconscious body found lying behind the opened cash register in the unattended station. All cash except pennies and checks gone. No witnesses to what happened. This was the situation at Merv's Station at Marblemount Saturday afternoon when station attendant Greg Schimek was discovered on the floor under the above described circumstances by Ed Kirk, a customer, about 2:30 in the afternoon.

Otto Peterson had left to get a bit of lunch about 2:00, leaving Greg alone in the station. He got news of the incident a half hour later. What happened in between is the mystery.

Schimek was taken to the hospital without regaining consciousness and examination fail-

ed to reveal any sign of injury by a blow or gunshot wound. On regaining consciousness he talked only of things that had happened a year before when he had been struck on the head in a surfing accident.

\$200 in cash is missing from the till. An unconfirmed report received by the Sheriff's office was that a car sped away from the station about that time. As of Monday night Greg was still hospitalized and although he recognized Otto Peterson he failed to make any statement as to what had happened. He failed to recognize Bud Lemon, who had worked with him at the station.

Schimek, 21, had worked summers at the Marblemount Ranger Station before taking the job at the service station.

Okanogan Will Share In Forest

Approximately 187,000 acres of the Mt. Baker National Forest has been transferred to the Okanogan National Forest for administrative purposes.

Following passage of P. L. 90-544 creating a North Cascade National Park, that part of the Mt. Baker National Forest east of Ross Lake and along the North Cross-State Highway to Rainy Pass has been transferred to the Okanogan National Forest for administration. The 25 per cent of receipts returned to the counties for roads and schools will not be affected according to H. C. Chriswell, forest supervisor.

The area will still be considered Mt. Baker National Forest land, but all administration and management decisions will come from the Okanogan National Forest, as will personnel.

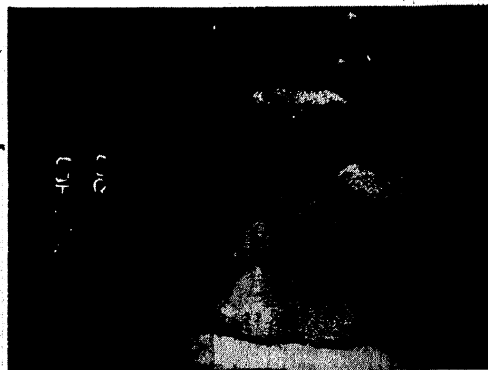
The creation of the Pasayten Wilderness has made it imperative that this entire area be managed as a single unit. Since the Okanogan National Forest had the responsibility for the majority of the wilderness, this part of the Mt. Baker has been turned over to it. The North Cross-State Highway presently under construction will facilitate access from the Okanogan County.

The remnants of the old Skagit Ranger District are being combined with the Baker River Ranger District with Ranger William C. Knechtel of Concrete in charge.

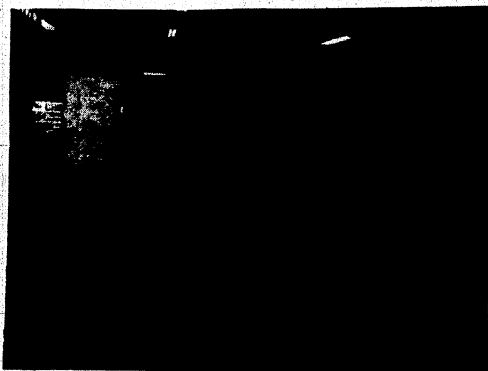
Prize Winning Xmas Window Paintings By Young Artists



FIRST PLACE TIE—LARRY COGGINS AND ELLEN GAY DELLINGER



ART CLASS FIRST—By Cheryl Harris and Judy Mellom



1ST to 6TH GRADE FIRST—Steve Zitkovich