

Get yourself ready for old Jack Frost

Are you prepared to cope with Old Man Winter and cold weather emergencies?

Home economist Elaine Glasser of the Cooperative Extension Service of Oakland County suggests that you prepare your home, your car and yourself for the severe weather that's approaching.

In the home:

- Check flashlight batteries and make sure a flashlight is stored near the phone along with important and emergency phone numbers.
- Have your chimney cleaned. Persons who burn wood need to prevent chimney fires caused by a buildup of creosote.
- Have gas or oil furnaces serviced. Burners, belts, bearing and filters should be checked. Do you have a spare fuse for the blower motor, a spare fan drive belt?
- Plan a winter fire escape route. Have you practiced your fire escape plan with your family recently? Can you open your storm windows from inside the house in case you have to make an emergency exit?
- Be cautious with portable heaters and extension cords; avoid overloaded electrical circuits.
- Do not use flammable liquids of any kind to start wood fires.
- Be able to prepare adequate food for your family that can be fixed without cooking in case you lose power in bad weather.
- Be able to drain your water system to keep it from freezing in the event of a power failure involving loss of heat.

IN THE CAR:

- Put together an emergency kit with flashlight, warm gloves and hats, blankets, shovel, food that won't freeze, road flares, fire extinguisher, first aid kit, gas line anti-freeze, matches, toilet paper, tow chain, battery booster cables.

Visiting artists come to conduct workshops

Christine Unwin, a member of Farmington Artists Club, will be bringing eight renowned artists from throughout the country to conduct workshops for Detroit-area artists here in 1984.

The series begins Jan. 23-26 with watercolorist Tony Couch who started his career drawing a weekly comic strip for Navy Times while he was a pilot during the Korean War. He is now an elected member of the Hudson Valley Art Association, Knickerbocker Artists, Academic Artists, Society of Marine Painters and Midwest Watercolor Society.

All of the sessions Unwin plans follow pretty much the same format, with demonstrations in the morning, painting sessions in the afternoon and then a critique by the visiting artist on each of the four-day workshops.

Carole Myers, who specializes in watercolors and acrylics, will be visiting artist for February. Sandra Freckleton, author of "Dynamic Still Lifes in Watercolor," will lead a workshop in early March, and Al Brouillette will do so in late March.

Miles Batt, whose specialty is airbrush, leads the workshop in early May, and Keith Lindburg, from Carmel, Calif., will be here for oil painters in mid-May.

In August, Unwin has scheduled Christopher Schink who is author of "Mastering Color and Design in Watercolor."

FOR SOME of the series, participants must sign up for the complete four-day session; others have options for artists to sit in on a daily basis.

Most of the workshops are scheduled to meet in Fair Lane mansion, on University of Michigan-Dearborn campus, where participants will be painting both inside and out-of-doors. Other one-day sessions are scheduled for Tel-12 Mall in Southfield.

Unwin's most recent award came to her after judging in Farmington Artists Club's pre-Christmas exhibit. Her work can be seen this month in a one-woman show in Farmington Branch Library on State and Liberty.

Registration forms for the workshops will be sent on request by calling her at 278-9808.

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