

Luci Baines Johnson Will Head March of Dimes Teen Program

Luci Baines Johnson, America's most famous teenager, will be honorary chairman of the 1965 March of Dimes Teen Age Program against birth defects. Luci, who has some very strong opinions about young people and their place in society, is leading a task force of thousands of young people in the fight against birth defects.

"There are a lot of good and useful things we can do right now—without waiting to turn 21," she says.

Her opinion is confirmed by March of Dimes spokesmen. "Teen-age volunteers are among our most dedicated workers. Their interest, their contribution of time, talent and energy has been impressive. There can be no doubt that they have played a significant role in the conquest of polio."

Cites New Hope

"The victory over polio gives us heart and hope that answers can be found in an infinitely more complex disease area—birth defects. It is a problem in which young people have a special stake—not only because of the large percentage of babies born to mothers under 20 but because of the relationship of the health of teenagers to that of their future children," Luci points out.

More than a quarter of a million seriously defective infants are born in this country each year—one every other minute—700 a day. The problem of birth defects is far greater than polio ever was.

Young people who have joined the Teen Age Program of the 1965 March of Dimes fight against birth defects will shoulder many responsibilities.

Many are helping to carry out the public education program against birth defects. Others are assigned to help in various ways with the Mothers' March for the March of Dimes. Some help out at one of the more than 3,000 local chapters of The National Foundation-March of Dimes.

The purpose of the Teen Age Program (TAP) of the March of Dimes is to acquaint teenagers with the problem of birth defects—a major health problem which affects them, their families and their communities in which they live.

TAP also gives young people the opportunity to help solve these problems through year-round programs of education, service and fund raising.

Most TAP volunteers work through school or club groups, teaming up to work on planned projects or to initiate programs of their own.

Help Plan Programs

March of Dimes educational programs provide material for club and organization meetings. Films, publications and exhibits on the subject of birth defects are available for meetings. Local chapters can help plan a program and supply a speaker to discuss the problems of birth defects, new treatment techniques and research breakthroughs.

Through a program of Health Career Awards, many chapters of The National Foundation offer March of Dimes scholarships to attract students to the health fields. Ranging from \$100 to \$500 per year, these awards are "starter incentives" to help students begin their first year of professional study in the fields of medical social work, medicine, physical therapy, occupational therapy and nursing.

TAP service projects range from helping to distribute literature to being of service to patients and to helping raise funds for research and patient care.

Dances, Games Help

Teenagers have raised money for the March of Dimes by putting on dances, basketball games, contests of all sorts and sales of everything from balloons to garden seeds. Much of this money has gone into the establishment of 50 March of Dimes birth defects centers throughout the country.

These birth defects centers make diagnosis, evaluation



LUCI BAINES JOHNSON, the President of the Teen Age Program, at her desk in the White House, as she began her duties as honorary chairman of the Teen Age Program of the 1965 March of Dimes.

and treatment available to their communities. So great is the birth defects problem, however, that the nation needs triple that number of centers, according to Dr. Daniel Bergsma, medical director of The National Foundation-March of Dimes.

As energetic members of The March of Dimes Teen Age Program, young people have proved that they are capable and eager to take greater responsibility in public service. With marriage and a family in their future, teenagers have a great personal interest in solving the problem of birth defects—these "accidents of nature" which add up to the biggest child health problem in this country today.



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Court Appoints Board Members

Four appointments to three boards were made by the county court at its meeting Wednesday, Judge Paul Jones said.

W. C. Rosewall was reappointed to the Pioneer Memorial hospital board for a 5-year term that will expire in 1970.

Paul Hisler was named to the county fair board for a 5-year term, succeeding Al Fetsch, and Maxwell Jones of Irrigon was reappointed to the board. Just recently Orville Cutsforth resigned from the fair board and Floyd Jones was appointed to fill the unexpired term which ends in 1966. Other members on the board are Bernard Doherty and Mrs. Jane Rawlins, both of whose terms expire in 1967.

Marion Green was appointed to the county budget committee for a 3-year term. Other citizen members are Paul Slaughter of Irrigon, whose term expires in 1966, and Jasper Myers, whose term expires in 1967. Members of the county court complete the budget committee.

HOSPITAL NEWS

Patients admitted to Pioneer Memorial hospital during the past week, and still receiving medical care, include the following: Nellie Mahon, Heppner; Hazel Hulett, Kinzua; Robert Dobbs, Heppner, and Edward Larch, Condon.

Those who were admitted for care, then dismissed, include the following: Peggy Sue Kennedy, Mayville; Laurie Childers, Ione; and Curt Sager, Lexington.

Mr. and Mrs. Roger Asher, Spray, are receiving congratulations on the birth of a New Year's baby. Born Friday, January 1, and weighing 8 pounds, 4 ounces. He has been named Todd James, and joins two sisters and one brother at the Asher home.

Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Way of Lexington became parents of a second child, a boy, born Monday, January 4. He has been named Bruce Allan and weighed 8 pounds, 2 ounces at birth. He joins one sister, Lou Ann, at home.

A son Craig Wayne, was born Tuesday, January 5, to Mr. and Mrs. Larry Bunten of Ione. The baby weighed in at 7 pounds, 15 ounces.

Research Urged On Conservation

Ken Turner, a supervisor of the Heppner Soil Conservation district, urged a "crash research program" on soil conservation in a talk to the Heppner-Moerow County Chamber of Commerce December 28.

He said that damage of the recent flood to the Northwest and northern California will be more than \$2 billion, not including soil damage.

"We're killing the goose who lays the golden egg," he said and declared, "we have to close ranks and radically change the type of tillage we do."

Saying that accelerated erosion is continuing despite conservation efforts, Turner said that chemical fallow (using chemicals to control weeds and grass, and seeding in stubble without plowing) is one possibility and planting of grass is another. Steps will be proposed following a meeting with Ralph McEwen of the Oregon Wheat Commission, he said.

"We hope Governor Hatfield will join us. We may have the opportunity to see Secretary of Agriculture Orville Freeman when he speaks at the national Wheat Association meeting in Portland," Turner concluded.

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Cards to Resume League Schedule

Coach Gene Dockter's Ione High School basketball team resumes league action this weekend with two games away from home. The Cards travel to Riverside Friday night and then go to Athena Saturday night to play McEwen High.

In their first league game, prior to Christmas vacation, the lone team downed Weston, one of the league favorites. In non-conference action they won an abbreviated jamboree game and defeated Wishram, thus currently running undefeated.

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