

HEATH HERALD

Heath's First Newspaper

\$2.00 Volume 42, Number 6 February/March 2021



Heath Herald Volunteers Editorial Staff

Managing Editor: Nancy Thane, nancythane@yahoo.com, 413-337-5580 Soliciting Content: Deb Porter, debporterhenry@gmail.com, 413-337-4715 Graphic Design: Rachel Grabelsky, rachel.grabelsky@gmail.com, 413-337-8513

Layout: Cathy Tallen, tallen@valinet.com, 413-337-5770

Business Management

Bookkeeper: This could be you!

Subscriptions and Advertising: Mary Sumner, msumner13@verizon.net, 413-337-5330

Copy Editing

Jack Estes, estesj@gmail.com

Technical

Nina Hofkosh-Hulbert, *theheathherald@gmail.com* Website: Nina Hofkosh-Hulbert, *nina.hh1@gmail.com*

On the Cover

Sugarhouse at the old Fink place a.k.a. Bruce Phillips' house. Photograph by Bruce Phillips.

The Heath Herald Logo

The *Heath Herald* proudly features a reproduction of the original *Heath Herald* logo design by Harriet Read for the *Heath Herald*'s first edition in April 1979.

Payment Questions

If you have questions regarding payment, please contact Mary Sumner. Contact information above.

Correspondence

There are three ways to submit your letters to the editor, articles, and/or subscription forms:

- Send to our email address: TheHeathHerald@gmail.com
- Send to our PO Box:

Heath Herald, PO Box 54, Heath, MA 01346

• Drop off at our Town Hall box: Residents can drop a letter or subscription form into the black box on the wall to the left of the post office boxes in the vestibule (no postage needed).

Submission Deadlines

January 5 for inclusion in February/March issue March 5 for inclusion in April/May issue May 5 for inclusion in June/July issue July 5 for inclusion in August/September issue September 5 for inclusion in October/November issue November 5 for inclusion in December/January issue

Photo Credits

If you would like a photo credited, please identify the source when you send the photo to the Gmail account. Some uncredited photos courtesy of Getty Images.

Display Ads

\$5 per vertical column inch* for black & white \$6 per vertical column inch* for color

Please note with your ad:

black and white, or color

2 or 3 vertical inches

*A vertical column inch=one column width by one inch height

Our staff will be happy to work with you to create your ad at no additional cost. Advertisers receive a free PDF subscription to the *Heath Herald*. Ads can be placed by sending your information with payment to our PO Box.

Subscriptions

The annual subscription rate for six issues is \$12 at time of renewal. Subscription forms may be found near the *Heath Herald* Direct Sales box in the hallway of the Town Hall and on the back page of every issue. Send form with payment to our mailing address or leave in the black *Heath Herald* box to the left of the post office boxes in the Town Hall vestibule.

Color Sponsorship

The color photographs and images in each issue of the *Heath Herald* are funded by you, our readers. Through the sponsorship of generous individuals, we are able to showcase the vibrancy of life here in Heath in such a way as would not otherwise be possible. Consider becoming a \$25 Color Sponsor for an upcoming edition of the *Heath Herald*. Should you wish to add your support, be sure to note "Color Sponsor" on your check so that we can acknowledge your contribution in a future edition.

The views expressed in the Heath Herald are solely those of the authors and may not reflect those of the Heath Herald staff or advertisers.

Winter Hardships During Colonial Times

Selections from The Christian Patriot

Some Recollections of the late Col. Hugh Maxwell by A Daughter, 1833

In 1773, Hugh Maxwell and his family moved to Charlemont, then in Hampshire County. By the division both of town and county, it is now Heath, Franklin County.

Here, my father had purchased a small farm; a few acres were cleared, there was a small house of one room and a closet. In this house, with the addition of one small room, his family found shelter till after the close of the Revolutionary War. It was poorly built, open and uncomfortable; often, in the winter's morning, would they find themselves covered some inches deep with snow, that had drifted through the chinks in the roof. The country around was newly settled.

When my father joined the Army, he left his family in that small house, without barn or shed; we were on a new farm with only a few neighbors, all in the same situation, that part of the town being but little cultivated; his wife had the charge of seven children, the eldest daughter 10 or 11 years old, and the oldest son about three, the youngest scarce a week old; with no man to assist or do anything for us, and no security or provision for the future. Water was 20 rods from the house; grain must be procured from a distance of seven or eight miles, and carried five miles to mill, which must be done by mother or daughters.



[However] a kind Providence seemed to watch over his helpless family, far beyond their expectations.

Helpers were raised up; the neighbors were as

kind as they could be; with their help they continued to raise every year a little patch of corn, and another of potatoes; of the last they always had a supply, so that they never came to actual want.

Our family, who had been left in such trying circumstances, soon realized the effects of war in a different way. Besides the deprivations, hardships and anxieties,

news soon came, that their husband and father was dangerously wounded in battle. Through the blessing of God and the good management of Dr. Hart, he recovered—although he was never afterward able to do the work of a farmer. While recuperating at home, he made some preparations for winter, engaged a man to provide wood for the family, had a shed built to shelter his little stock, consisting of two cows, a horse and a few sheep, which made it more comfortable for his family to take care of them. When he left home to rejoin his company, it was against the remonstrance and tears of his wife, who could not bear the thought of being left again in such circumstances of privation and hardship.

Again, cattle must be attended to daily, and no one to do it but his wife and children. Winter came early that year. Twice a day someone must go to the barn to keep the cattle from perishing. There was no road, and no track but our own, which the drifting snow would instantly fill. Many times we had to go on hands and knees over the highest snowdrifts; our hands rolled in our aprons, and spread out, which served to keep them from sinking deep in the snow; we would return home almost exhausted with fatigue, with our clothes frozen and our hands and feet frosted. Then we would say, "Ah, this dreadful war!"

But he considered the call of this distressed country paramount to every other; and he tore himself away from his helpless family, after commending them to the care of that God who had made it his duty to leave them. Oh, where would have been the liberties of America, if their sons had taken counsel of domestic affection, or selfish ease? And so, when anyone would ask whether it was the duty of the farmers and mechanics of New England to make the sacrifices they did, and to tear themselves from their homes, and leave their families to suffer such hardship; let him look at the benefits which America has already yielded to the world since her independence, and to the richer blessings, temporal and spiritual, which she is yet to yield, and then say, which was better, to have lost all these, or that these hardships should have been incurred?



Hugh Maxwell while serving as major in the Continental Army. Pen and ink drawing by Frederick Chapman, 1781.



Wild Ramblings

—Bill Lattrell

Quiet Message

A distinct black shadow is cast on the white snow-covered ground among the myriad of dark hazy blurs as the sun passes through the trees in this hardwood forest. I look up and see that a raven is hopping from branch to branch, seemingly interested in my presence in his forest. This large, very black, bird is very familiar to me. It can be distinguished from the other local ravens by its enormous size. It has a wingspan that easily exceeds four feet and the feathers on its neck seem to be perpendicular rather than flat along the contour of the spine. I call him Ponki which is short for Ponki-mkazas, the Abenaki word for raven.

For more than a decade three or four times a year Ponki seems to locate me. He has found me in the deep woods south of our homestead. He has found me in the large swamp to the east of Hosmer Road. I even encountered him once along Sanders Brook just south of the Vermont line in H.O. Cook State forest. You might say Ponki and I have a thing going on.

Ravens and crows are considered messengers in the Abenaki way of thinking. They carry messages between our world and the other side. Ponki often appears when I am thinking of my departed sister. Of course, he never has anything to say to me directly, but his visits leave me with thoughts that are often related to my life in the present. I usually give him a message to bring back to my sister, something simple like telling her to be well and not to worry about this part of the universe—that I have it all under control. Of course, this is seldom true, but I am sure it gives her a good laugh.

On this day he is being an atypical raven. He sits on a branch about fifty feet off of the ground in front of me and makes a deep plinking sound akin to a drop of water falling into a metal bucket that is half full of water. Now I am no expert in the language of ravens, but it has been my experience that this is a sound that is used to locate other ravens. In this case there were no other ravens around, and I wondered if it was simply an acknowledgment from Ponki upon finding me.

Ponki loves looking at you out of one eye, and then

the other. He tilts and cocks his head with his beak pointing at an angle towards the ground looking out of his right eye and then twists his neck into the same position on the opposite side so that he is looking at me out of his left eye. He moves from one branch to another branch with a single flap of his wings, keeping one eye on me the entire time. This typically goes on for about four or



five minutes and then he slowly beats his massive wings and flies in what seems like slow motion to the north. It is always to the north.

On this day I immediately have a random thought about my child-hood. I am about seven years old and standing on a highbush blueberry hummock in a swamp surrounded by a sea of peat moss. I

can hear my older sister calling, but I don't want to be found. I am torn because I don't want her to worry about me. The sun is setting and dark is near. I wait. She calls once more. I call back to her and she yells out to me to meet her at the big oak tree. It takes me about ten minutes to navigate through the swamp to the edge of a winding trail that wanders through a pine grove where brown needles cover the ground, a small area of birch and cherry saplings with a dewberry covered understory, and finally into a mature forest where monumental trees hover over the entire tract of woods. The trail I am on hooks into an old, rutted fire road, and at the intersection there is an ancient white oak, perhaps four to five feet in diameter and limbs that stretch out fifty feet in all directions. My sister is standing there leaning against the oak and holding a brown paper sack. The sack contains two fresh-baked blackberry muffins. She knows why I'm there but doesn't say anything. She has been there too. I eat a muffin and ask her if she wants the other one. She shakes her head side to side. She knows I've been out in the swamp for the entire afternoon. She takes my hand and tells me everything will be okay.

And here I am nearly 63 years later, and I still can feel her presence more than five years after her passing. I am forever grateful for her guiding me through my child-hood. I remain grateful that she watches over her loved ones long after her passing.

The day is short. I decide to head back down the hill through our snow-filled forest as I meander in no particular hurry back to our homestead. As I travel, the air fills

with a sudden snow squall. Snowflakes fall slowly, floating on air currents that make them dance and do whirligig motions as they find their way to the ground. After I travel for about a half a mile, I see a large raven with some disheveled feathers on the top branch of a large hemlock. I raise my hand as if I am waving, acknowledging his presence. Ponki waits for a moment looking at me out of one eye and then quietly flies off to the north in the direction of our house.

Ponki seems to know his message has been delivered.

—Bill Lattrell

Heath's Sugarhouses

In anticipation of the sugaring season, below and sprinkled throughout this issue of the *Herald* you will find photographs of just a few of the many sugarhouses in Heath. *Photos by Bruce Phillips*.



Matt and Devin Clark 's sugarhouse, Route 8A.



The Mezzacappa's sugarhouse, Route 8A.



Nature Note

—Susan Draxler

Sap Season

One of the sights that I look forward to seeing in late winter is that of a squirrel balancing on the end of a broken maple branch to nibble the sap dripping from it. It's a sign that sap is rising, which means that spring is not far off. This is the season that sugar makers look forward to, but it is also welcomed by many species of wildlife. One of the best known is a woodpecker that has perfected a system of extracting sap; the aptly named yellow-bellied sapsucker.



Mass Audobon

The sapsucker's neat rows of drill holes are a familiar sight. The holes are drilled into the inner bark, the layer through which the rising sap travels, and each hole becomes a well of sap. Sapsuckers drill into many trees and then spend their time making the rounds, just as maple farmers tend to the taps and

sap lines in their sugar bush. As they visit their trees, the sapsuckers lap up the sap in these wells with their bristly tongues and also keep a lookout to defend their precious food supply.

A wide variety of insects such as moths, caddisflies, beetles (several species even have the nickname "sap beetles"), and butterflies are attracted to the sap wells. The real thieves are the large number of bird species that

feed on both the sap and the sap-eating insects. Ruby-throated hummingbirds are known to time their migration in the spring



with that of the sapsucker so that they will be sure to have a food source when they arrive up north, even if it is too early to find many blooming flowers. Look for hummingbirds in the early spring wherever you see sapsucker drill holes. They are such fans of sap that they often nest near sapsuckers and have even been observed helping them to defend the sap wells against other birds.

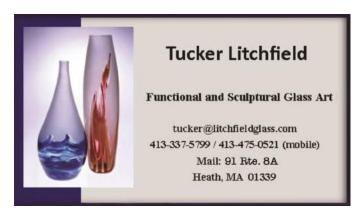
Artisanal Cheesemaking Workshops

Learn the basics of making artisanal cheese at home

Custom-designed classes



Sheila Litchfield Dell Farm, Heath, MA (413) 337-4957







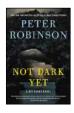


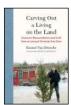
Library Lines

—Donald Purington

Mid-winter is a great time to check out our cookbook collection for something new to try. We have a wide assortment of recipes for cuisines from around the world, as well as the hyper-local Heath Fair Cook Book. We don't serve food from our takeout window, but a cookbook will give you a good start to making your own mouthwatering meals.

The library takeout window at the front of Sawyer Hall is open Monday 2 to 7 p.m, Wednesday 2 to 5 p.m, Thursday 2 to 6 p.m, and Saturday 2 to 5 p.m. Request materials by calling 337-4934, ext. 7, or emailing heath.library@gmail.com, or come to the window and we will help you find what you want. Please wear a mask when you come to the window.







A Few of the New Items at the Library

Use the New Titles link at *heathlibrary.org* to see all new library items added in the previous two weeks.

Fiction Books for Adults: *Not Dark Yet* by Peter Robinson, *Outlawed* by Anna North, *The Wife Upstairs* by Rachel Hawkins

Non-fiction Books for Adults: Farm Song by Carol Purington, The Book on Pie by Erin McDowell, Carving Out a Living on the Land: Lessons in Resourcefulness and Craft from an Unusual Christmas Tree Farm by Emmett Van Driesche, When the Light of the World was Subdued, Our Songs Came Through: Anthology of Native Nations Poetry edited by Joy Harjo

Books for Young/Teen Readers: The Silver Arrow by Lev Grossman, Primer: a Superhero Graphic Novel by Jennifer Muro

Children's Picture Books/Boardbooks: We Are Water Protectors by Carole Lindstrom, The Little Mermaid by Jerry Pinkney

Audiobooks on CD: *The Searcher* by Tana French, *One By One* by Ruth Ware



The next Pre-school Story Hours hosted by the Heath Library via Zoom will be on:

- Friday, February 19 at 10:30 a.m.
- Friday, March 19 at 10:30 a.m.

Contact the library if interested in attending, and we will email you the Zoom invitation.

Spotted Around Town



A new trailhead for the hiking trail on Flagg Hill Road that the Heath Parks Committee is creating for us to enjoy.



Cross-country ski lessons in north Heath.

L to R: New Heath resident, Roberta Lewis, Heather Row, Rachel Grabelsky



Red-bellied woodpecker in snow.

—Julieanne Hallman

ATTENTION HEATH RESIDENTS

Don't miss out on Heath Broadband's drop credit. The deadline for sign-up is February 28, 2021. Visit *wiredwestfiber.com/heath* to sign-up today!

Contact Sheila Litchfield at 337-4957 for more information.



Town Nurse

—Claire Rabbit, RN

COVID-19 Vaccine

As I write this, these two vaccines, Pfizer and Moderna, have been given Emergency Use Authorization. Emergency Use Authorization means that the emergency nature of the COVID-19 pandemic justifies the use of these vaccines that have not undergone the same type of review as an FDA-approved vaccine. There is scientific evidence showing the product may be effective in preventing COVID-19 and that the "known and potential benefits of the product outweigh the known and potential risks of the product." Clinical trials of these vaccines continue and have shown they are effective to prevent COVID-19 after two doses. The Pfizer Vaccine for people 16 years of age and older, is administered in two doses, three weeks apart. The Moderna Vaccine for people 18 years of age and older, is also administered in two doses, four weeks apart. Whatever vaccine is received in the first dose must be the same type of vaccine given for the second dose. A vaccination card with the return date for the second dose will be given to the recipient.

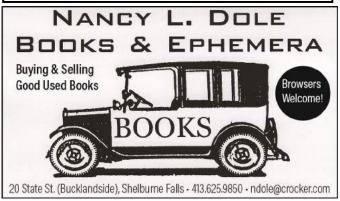
Because these vaccines are new to all of us, recipients should be prepared to have a longer wait time upon administration in case of allergic reaction after vaccination. More frequent and less severe side effects may be: Injection site pain, tiredness, headache, muscle pain, chills, joint pain, fever, injection site swelling and-or redness, nausea, and swollen lymph nodes. After leaving the vaccine clinic, if you think you are having an allergic reaction, go to the nearest hospital or call 911. If you have concerns about side effects call the vaccine provider or your health care provider.

In early January, we were hearing complaints about the slow roll out of vaccine, but I am confident it will get to us. I plan to get it and hope most people that do not have conditions that contraindicate the vaccine will get it. Information will be coming regarding how the Hawlemont Emergency Dispense Site Clinics will be done and will distribute any forms that can be completed ahead of time. Some of the information is changing as more is learned. To access the most recent Fact Sheets for recipients and caregivers go to www.cvdvaccine.com.











Wanda

Serving your real estate needs throughout Franklin County since 1993





Hager's Farm Market

Our store is open for shopping, or you can order from our website for quick pick up!

ESPRESSO DRINKS • MAPLE SYRUP • HOMEMADE PIES, BREADS & BAKED GOODS • LOCAL PRODUCTS

Open Every Day • 7:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Grill open Sunday—Thursday • 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
www.hagersfarmmarket.com

1232 Mohawk Trail, Shelburne, MA • 413-625-6323



The house on the hill with the view of yesteryear Reward your friends and relatives with a restful night's sleep high in the hills of Rowe. They'll awake to a hearty homegroun breakfast in a 200-year old inn and family farm. See the stars, breathe clear fresh air, relax in the quiet beauty of spectacular views of the Berkshire Hills.

Lodging and Breakfast from \$60. Call for Reservations.

Middletown Hill Road (413)339-0107 Rowe, MA 01367

Richard C. Bishop Elder Law Attorney

Massachusetts, Florida, Arizona

P.O. Box 121, Shelburne Falls, MA 01370 413-625-2574 • Fax: 413-625-8321

40 School Street, Suite 5, Greenfield, MA 01302 413-773-1818 • Fax: 413-773-1881



The Way We Love to Eat

—Deb Porter

Beyond Pancakes

If you search the web, you will probably discover what many Heathans already know; that the uses of maple syrup go far beyond the simple pancake. Maple syrup in fact could be well described as a Heath staple, finding its way into a wide variety of dishes, from simple salad dressings to hearty main dishes. At any potluck gathering, you might find maple syrup in the baked beans, the roasted vegetables, on fish or chicken, in the salad dressing, or on corn bread; all before you even get to the desserts.

We could probably do a whole year's worth of recipes on that wonderful golden sweetness that many begin to yearn for this time of year. The following are but a few of the wonderfully delicious ways to make the most of maple syrup. The recipes are two simple ways to use maple syrup but are only the tip of the iceberg, so to speak, when it comes to its use on the dinner table. I feel confident that many readers have their own favorite recipes. If so, I encourage you to send them to us and we can post them on our website or Facebook page. It might be as close as we can get to a typical Heath potluck dinner in this time of isolation. E-mail your recipe to theheathherald@gmail.com

Maple Glazed Salmon

Adapted by Cathy Tallen from a recipe in Cooking Light Magazine

Yield: four servings (serving size: one fillet) Ingredients:

- 1 teaspoon paprika
- 1/2 teaspoon chili powder
- 1/2 teaspoon ground chile powder
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cumin
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt
- 4 (6-ounce) wild salmon fillets
- Cooking spray
- 2 tablespoons maple syrup

Preheat oven to 400 degrees.

Combine first six ingredients to create a rub.

Rub mixture evenly over flesh side of fillets.

Bake the fish for about 15 minutes, depending on how thick the fillets are.

Pull the fish out and brush it with the maple syrup. Return to oven for another minute.

Cathy puts together a big batch of the spice rub and keeps it in an airtight container; use it to add flavor to meat and fish on weeknights.



Maple Pickled Beets

from *The Pudding Hollow Cookbook* by Tinky "Dakota" Weisblat

Ingredients:

Small beets, cooked and peeled, as needed to put in two pint jars

3/4 cup maple sugar

3/4 cup vinegar

1/4 teaspoon (scant) kosher salt

Pack the beets into sterile jars, filling the jars within 1/2 inch from the top.

Combine the remaining ingredients in a saucepan and bring to a boil.

Pour over the beets and seal the jars. Process for 20 minutes. Or store in the refrigerator for more immediate use.





Heath Agricultural Society News (HAS)

At this quiet time of year we don't have very much to report. We will resume digital meetings for the winter and spring months with the February and March meetings held on the second Monday of the month, both on the eighth at 5:30 p.m. We are hopeful for the opportunity to resume with our 103rd Heath Fair on Aug 20, 21, and 22 of 2021 but we will not know for sure if that is possible until we are well into spring. As we did in 2020, we will make a final decision with the health and safety of our community in mind. Meanwhile, we will continue to work to plan for what is possible and attend to special projects on the grounds when the weather permits.

In the early part of the year we will finalize plans for infrastructure improvements that will take place over 2021. The improvements we aim to make are made possible in large part from the generosity of the Dickinson Family Fund which provides funding to the HAS to ensure we are able to continue to offer our beloved Fair including funds to support premiums to fair participants and investments in necessary upkeep to the grounds and buildings to ensure safety and access for patrons and livestock. Last year the funds that were intended to support premiums, if we had been able to hold the Fair, were allowed to be reallocated to support a larger infrastructure project at the Fairgrounds.

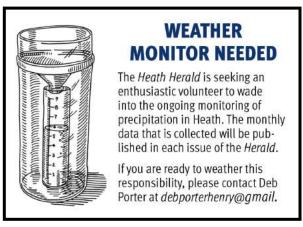
After much discussion, the membership focused on re-siding the Exhibit Hall to come more in line with the look and feel of the rest of the Fair's buildings. You can't drive by the grounds without thinking, "one of these things is not like the other"... and that "thing" is the blue metal building known as the Exhibit Hall. Our plans for re-siding the building include wood siding more akin to that of the beautiful Solomon Temple Barn, sited adjacent to the Exhibit Hall. This type of project is not something the HAS would be able to prioritize if it were not for the generosity of the Dickinson Fund. Pending final approval, the members remain excited about the potential for this project to take place this year. When not being used for the Exhibit Hall at the fair, the re-sided building will prove more desirable for our event rentals (ex: weddings and family reunions) throughout the year. We hope the building will become a community resource for years to come.

Keep an eye out for our April/May update or visit our website or Facebook page for more up-to-date information on the Fair and other activities of the HAS. We invite you to join and-or attend an upcoming meeting and get involved however you can. It really does take a whole community! For upcoming Zoom meeting invitation information, email *heathagsociety@gmail.com*. If you do not have a computer or internet access, please remember that you can call in to the meetings via phone.

Stay safe and be kind to others, —Jessica O'Neill, President



Solar panels installed on the pulling pit roof.





The Pazmino-Donelson Sugarhouse, Sumner Stetson Road.



Green Thoughts

—Pat Leuchtman



Starting From Seed

The seed catalogs are filling my mailbox. I'm starting to make lists of vegetables to grow, including winter squash and root vegetables like beets. Of course, I need lots of veggies like lettuces, green beans, and tomatoes.

Many of the vegetables I plant get seeded right in the garden, but I usually buy a few flats of seedlings to get a head start on the harvest. Besides, it is so encouraging to see things growing all in one day. I have had success starting perennials from seed, and I always start some herbs like basil, and annuals like zinnias and marigolds from seed.

Some of the seed catalogs sell all kinds of equipment including seed starting equipment. The list of things you can buy is really seductive, and it's even worse when you go to our local garden centers and see the bags of seed starting mix right next to the seedling trays, the planting cells or planting flats, the acrylic domes to turn your array into a tiny greenhouse, heat mats and the peat pots and peat pellets.

All of these supplies make it very easy to grow your own seedlings. While some of these supplies are very inexpensive and all can last for more than one year, none of them is necessary if you want to start your own seeds. You can also use a whole variety of small plastic containers and plastic wrap instead of a dome. I will say that the leakproof seedling trays help in corralling all the containers, and provide an easy way to keep your seeds watered.

Different vegetables are started at different times, usually between four and eight weeks before the time you will want to plant them outdoors. Catalogs and seed packets will tell you the best time for setting out or planting directly in the soil. Some plants like lettuces and broccoli are cool weather crops and can go into the garden much earlier than warm weather crops like squash and tomatoes. Perennials and annual flowers should be started in February and March.

As tempting as the catalogs and seed starting displays are, patience in planting outdoors is still required. Frost can be a danger into May depending on our own domestic micro-climates. No matter what the crop, seedlings will need to be hardened off before they are planted in the soil. Hardening off is the process of toughening the plant gradually to withstand full sun and breezes. This is done by reducing watering inside for a week, then bringing the flats of seedlings outdoors on a mild day and placing them in a sheltered and shady spot for a few hours the first day, the third day longer, and the fifth day longer still. Bring the seedlings indoors at night. Hardening off is a gradual process; don't rush it. In seven to 10 days they are ready to be planted in the garden. Keep them watered!

The snow is deep, but spring is slowly getting closer.

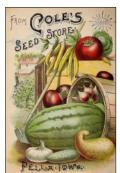
—From Pat's blog at commonweeder.com

The Art of Seed Catalogs

Before the beginning of the 20th century, seed catalogs were designed without images and looked rather plain. To attract customers, seed companies began decorating seed packets and publishing catalogs considered so beautiful they became collectible works of art. Here are just a few examples for your enjoyment.















Sugaring Season is Almost Here

Ever since I was little, my family has tapped a few sugar maples each spring so that we could make our own maple syrup. Everyone in our family hung out a bucket, and my Mom would boil the sap down on the wood cookstove in our kitchen. As a little kid I loved climbing over the snow bank to tap a maple tree I picked out. We would gather our buckets using our toy wagon filled with 5-gallon plastic pails, and hauled the sap back to the house. Pretty soon, we went from having one or two buckets each, to having three or maybe four. And my Mom continued to boil it all on the kitchen cook stove. My sisters and I always wanted to tap more trees, but boiling it down on the wood stove kept a limit on how much we could tap.

When I was about eight years old our neighbors, Doug and Cathy Wilkins, loaned us a small barrel rig. This consisted of a two-foot by three-foot evaporator pan that sat on a drum. They had used this with their family and thought we might enjoy it too. Now that we had a bigger 'operation' for the boiling part, we didn't have enough buckets. But another neighbor, Howard Dickenson, gave us some of his old sap buckets and spigots. I couldn't wait for sugar season!



L to R.: Austin Sumner, age 10, and sisters Lilly and Kaylin with the barrel rig.

Every season since then we added more to our 'operation.' Another neighbor and sugar maker, Dave Freeman, hearing of my interest in sugaring gave me some old plastic sap tubing to play around with. Slowly, I kept collecting more used buckets, and buying different styles of spigots and tubing to try. And soon, I was tapping more trees and gathering more sap than we could boil down in the barrel rig we were still using.

I have been told by many sugar makers that sugaring can become an addiction, and I was addicted. We were tapping about 72 taps at that point, usually had more sap than we could keep up with, and were starting to use our winter fire wood supply to boil in the sap, but I still wanted to go bigger. I researched buying a bigger, used evaporator, and spent time in the forest around our home counting maple trees to estimate how many taps I could have. I worked with different people that I knew to learn how to set up a tubing system.

Sugar season 2019 came, and I worked to make the small barrel rig more efficient. Our barrel rig was an alloutdoor operation set up in our driveway, so there was a lot of heat loss, and on rainy days I had no way to cover the evaporator while we boiled, so I was always working against the weather. To increase the efficiency, I lined the barrel with fire brick, and installed a fan and that cut our boiling time down. We had a great season, and as a family we decided we wanted to continue with sugaring and get a bigger operation.

I had a general idea on the number of taps we could have from our land, and I went back to trying to find an affordable used evaporator, and we began planning to build a small sugarhouse. I went to visit a few small backyard sugarhouses to see their evaporators and learn about their operations. That led to finding a used 2x6 evaporator and a small Reverse Osmosis Machine. Now with that in mind we designed a sugarhouse, accordingly, and picked out a spot to build it. I also purchased tons of more sap tubing, and planned to set up a tubing system behind our house.

In the summer and fall of 2019, our family spent every weekend we could building the sugarhouse, and setting up tubing. We managed to get everything finished and ready just in time for the 2020 sugaring season. We ended up with 380 taps, and made 70 gallons of



Austin setting up the plastic tubing collection system.

syrup. We are currently making improvements to the sugarhouse, getting set up for the coming season, and yes, adding more taps!

—Austin Sumner



To expand the sugaring operation, the Sumner family spent every weekend in the fall and summer of 2019 building a sugarhouse.



The sugarhouse was completed just in time for the 2020 sugaring season.



Austin and Kaylin boiling in the new sugarhouse.



Running low on maple syrup? Contact the Sumners at 337-5330 or email *msumner13@verizon.net* to purchase some.





Archival photos of sugaring in Heath. Bill Clark collects sap on a sled pulled by horses and delivers it to Howard Thompson's sugarhouse.



Heath Fiberoptic Broadband Answers to Some Common Questions

With the advantage of soon having high-speed broadband for your home, you may have a few questions about your options. This article will address some common questions, but please refer to the complete list of FAQ's found at www.whipcityfiber.com/heath/ for additional information. Also, there is a new section to the Town of Heath Broadband website page called "Broadband Information for Heath Residents." This is a "virtual kiosk" where you can find informative downloadable files. The virtual kiosk can be found on the webpage townofheath.org/Broadband-MLP

What is the relationship between Heath Broadband, WiredWest, Whip City Fiber and Westfield Gas & Electric (WG&E)?

During the construction of our fiber network, you will be interfacing primarily with members of the Heath Broadband Committee, Heath MLP Manager and representatives from the contractors assisting us with this construction project (WG&E and TriWire). Once construction is complete and your service has begun, trouble-shooting and customer service will be done by Whip City Fiber by calling customer service at 1-833-991-9378. When in doubt, always call customer service first.

Heath is a member of the WiredWest consortium of towns working together to achieve cost savings to our members through bulk buying and cost sharing wherever possible. WG&E is the Owners' Project Manager building the fiberoptic networks in each of the WiredWest towns. Whip City Fiber is a branch of WG&E that provides internet service to the WiredWest towns. Whip City Fiber will be Heath's Internet Service Provider (ISP).

Once I have the new service, can I keep my current email address?

Usually, you will not need to change your email address. If you have Gmail or another "forever" email (Yahoo, AOL, Hotmail), you'll continue to receive your email. If your email is through your previous ISP you may be able to keep that as well, but you should contact them directly to learn if you'll need to do anything to keep your email address. This may be a good opportuni-

ty for you to consider creating a "forever "email address, one you'll never have to change again. You can download information about how to do this from the town website at "Broadband Information for Heath Residents" or from the FAQ's found at www.whipcityfiber.com/heath

Will I be able to watch TV through my internet connection?

Yes, you can, by using any of several available streaming services. You could save hundreds of dollars a year by transitioning from satellite TV to streaming.

What is Streaming?

Streaming allows you to watch your favorite entertainment over your internet connection instead of through a satellite or cable TV service. Your new Whip City Fiber high-speed connection is perfect for watching favorite TV shows, movies, and sports. You will need to purchase a streaming device and establish a subscription to a streaming service provider such as Netflix+, Hulu, ESPN+, Disney+, etc.

While there is a great deal of free content available for live and on-demand streaming, you'd have even more options available with a streaming subscription. The streaming service provides the channels and programming you like to watch, and often without having to pay for programs you don't want. For instance, take a look at the following article; "The Cord Cutter's Guide to Streaming NCAA Basketball" at cordcutting.com/how-to-watch/ncaa-basketball/. For more information see "Beginners Guide to Streaming" by downloading the flyer from the Town website, "Broadband Information for Heath Residents," or from the FAQ's found at www.whipcityfiber.com/heath. Copies will also be available to pick up in the vestibule at the Heath Town Hall.

Where can I get information about streaming programs applicable for my children?

The following web link provides a "Parents Guide to best streaming services for families": www.parents.com/fun/entertainment/television/beststreaming-services-for-families/



Don't miss out on Heath Broadband's drop credit. Deadline for sign-up is February 28, 2021

What is digital phone service?

You can choose to add on Premier Phone Service for \$19.99/month (when purchased in conjunction with one of our internet service plans) or Standalone Premier Phone Service, without internet service, run through our fiber network for \$49.00/month. Both of these services provide phone calls over the internet (digital) and are similar to, but not the same as, a traditional landline. Premier Phone Service includes free long-distance calling in the U.S., Canada, and Mexico, 911 service, call blocking, voicemail, and more. If you have a medical device, such as a pacemaker or medic alert call system, adjustments may be necessary to ensure it will continue to work through digital phone service. Contact the medical device provider to learn if the device is digital compatible. In addition, if you don't have a generator, you may want to consider purchasing a backup uninterrupted power supply unit to ensure your new router will have power in the event you lose power at your house.

Can I keep my current phone number?

Yes, your number can be "ported" from your existing home phone service. You will need to keep your existing telephone service active until your current provider completes the porting process. If you cancel your current service before the process is complete, you run the risk of losing your current home telephone number.

Please note that subscribers should expect to receive a short series of informative email messages from WG&E with details on service options.

-Sheila Litchfield, Heath MLP Manager



ANNOUNCEMENT

There is a new section to the Town of Heath broadband website called "Broadband Information for Heath Residents." It is a "virtual kiosk" where you can find informative downloadable files such as a graphic to show how fiber connects to your home to provide internet. There is also a flyer explaining what "streaming" is about. Visit the virtual kiosk at:

https://townofheath.org/g/49/Broadband-MLP

Go Safely Into Sawyer Hall

For the safety of all, the town recently installed new handrails on the steps to Sawyer Hall.







Heath resident Scott Prior leaving Town Hall.

Bridge of Flowers Business Center



CoWorking & Private Offices

Office Space • Cubicles • Desks • Work Stations Conference Room • Business Class Internet Commercial Quality Networked Printer/Scanner/Copier 5 State Street, Shelburne Falls • 413.834.3477 bridgeofflowersbusinesscenter.com

413-625-6623

HAIRMHANA

102 Bridge Street - Shelburne Falls, MA 01370

Rowe Camp & Conference Center PO Box 273 Rowe, MA 01367 413-339-4954 www.rowecenter.org

A magical place to explore new horizons, heal, make new friends, have fun, be a part of community or find your place in the world. We offer weekend retreats on a wide variety of topics as well as space for private retreats.

Retreat O Relax O Reflect O Relate O Revitalize



339 Amherst Road
Sunderland, MA 01375
800-287-2492
www.ostermangas.com

RUSSELL E. DONELSON

61 Sumner Stetson Rd Heath. MA

Design/Construction/Cabinetry
To New and Existing Buildings

413-337-4460

Licensed/Insured

The Baker Pharmacy

31 Bridge Street • Shelburne Falls Tel: 625-6324 Weekdays: 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturdays: 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. Holidays: 9 a.m.-12 noon



Support your local, independent pharmacy.

An Independent College Preparatory Day School for Grades 6—12 and Post Graduate



OUR STUDENTS LOVE SCHOOL. SHOULDN'T EVERYONE?

1359 Mohawk Trail Charlemont, MA 01339 413.339.4912 + charlemont.org



SINCE 1934

Protection • Selection Great Service • Competitive Pricing

(413) 625-6527

1147 Mohawk Trail, Shelburne MA

Select Board Report

Select Board Meetings during COVID-19 Pandemic

The Select Board continues to meet via Zoom teleconference for the immediate future. The public may join these meetings by internet or telephone. For access information, go to *townofheath.org* and click on the Select Board Agenda.

Town Offices at Sawyer Hall Temporarily Closed

After some weeks of discussion of complaints about COVID-19 safety at Sawyer Hall, and investigation into the success or failure of safety measures taken there, the Select Board has voted to continue the temporary closure to the public of town offices on the second floor of the building. Town employees may have access to the office space only after 2 p.m. weekdays and Saturdays, and on Sunday, when the Post Office is closed. Those employees who are able to do so have been encouraged to work at home. For those for whom this is not practical because they lack adequate internet connection or are obliged to do business with the public, the town will provide temporary office space at 18 Jacobs Road. Public town business will be conducted at that site and the mailboxes for town committees and boards will be temporarily relocated there as well. This decision will be reconsidered at the end of June, based on the status of the pandemic.

The Post Office, Library, and Office of the Police Chief, whose hours of operation do not overlap, will remain at Sawyer Hall. This ensures that only those doing business with the Post Office will be present during its hours of operation. The restrooms in the building are closed to the public until further notice. All notices are removed from the large notice board in the downstairs hall. The Community Hall is open only for appointments with the Town Nurse.

The Board's priorities in making this decision are, first and foremost, to protect the safety of our town employees and residents by reducing the possibility of exposure to COVID-19; second, to ensure the least interruption and expense in the operation of town business; and third, to protect the continuing operation of Heath's branch Post Office.

The building at 18 Jacobs Road has the capacity to provide a separate office for all employees needing one, separate employee restrooms, and the ability to provide window service for town business. There is good visibil-

ity at the entrance from the front office and into the building common areas. There is an electronic door latch with a camera and intercom system at the entrance. Finally, the mechanical ventilation system is now fully operational in all parts of the building. Expenses for these repairs have been charged to the CARES Act.

Town Coordinator Leave

The Town Coordinator will be out of the office for a couple of weeks. Nancy Thane and Mary Sumner will be filling in to cover Town Clerk and Town Coordinator duties until Hilma Sumner returns. Anyone needing to contact them should do so by calling the Town Hall (phone number 337-4934) or by emailing <code>bos@townofheath.org</code>. Hours of service may not be regular, but someone will get back to you.

Green Communities Grant

The insulation project for the Community Hall was sent out to bid, bids due 1/19. The Heath Solar Feasibility Study has been delayed by the need for the state legislature to pass the climate bill, which has now passed and is awaiting Governor Baker's signature. The work on the feasibility study will be done shortly.

Reopening Town Buildings

Sawyer Hall will remain closed to the public. Access to the Post Office will continue as in the past weeks. Patrons are required to wear masks and observe social distancing. One person at a time permitted at post office boxes and at the post office door

The Community Hall remains closed except by appointment with the Town Nurse. The Heath Library continues to offer window service, only.

Learning Hub

The Learning Hub at 18 Jacobs Road continues to be available. It serves Heath residents who are teachers and students who need internet access for remote learning. Contact the Town Coordinator for information. As area schools move to a hybrid learning model, the need for the Hub will diminish, but for the time being the town will hold the space in case conditions require a temporary return to fully remote learning.

Heath Online

Take some time to visit the Town's NEW website at www.townofheath.org. You'll find Select Board meeting minutes, committees and boards information, school information, and important announcements. The Town website is also a good place to check for updates on the current status of COVID-19 developments in Town. You may contact the Board at BOS@townofheath.org

Submissions From Our Readers: Neighbors Working Together

Heath: A Habit of Mind

Submitted by Bob Viarengo, the following is a reprint of the introduction to a calendar published by the Heath Historical Society in 1985 marking some notable dates and images of Heath's 200 years of history.

"It is not the commission of glorious deeds that makes Heath what it is today, but it is the habit of mind and a generosity of spirit.

"Someone once commented to an old-time resident that it must have been inspiring to have heard the noted theologian Reinhold Niebuhr preach in the Union Church when he summered here. The response was slow and thoughtful, "Well, he had his ideas—but we have ours." No weight of reputation could make a man change his views, yet he held fast to the right of another to hold to different principles.

"Narrowness of mind has never taken root in our soil. Something happens to people as they climb the hill home to Heath. Baser attributes seem to fall away; perhaps these cannot survive in the beauty of the natural land-scape or the purity of our hilltop air.

"Here in Heath wind and rough weather are our only real enemies. Neighbor must ally with neighbor because none of us knows when he will need a tow out of a snowbank or muddy rut, water when the well is dry, or a loan of a sump pump during the spring rains.

"Whatever our personal philosophy, Heathans have been quick to work for the common good. The town is governed by conscientious neighbors who take turns in office and on committee, protected by a volunteer fire department and improved by those who call a work bee to build a parsonage, tidy a cemetery, create a play yard, or organize a food co-op. And there is hardly a soul who does not participate in the annual Heath Agricultural Fair.

"The photographs in this calendar record a lifestyle and a landscape that nurtures a populace characterized by cooperation and respect."





Heath Center: A History of Change

Before anyone living today was born, there was Heath. A town with a rich history. A town that in the mid-Nineteenth Century boasted nine schoolhouses within walking distance of the children's homes. A town whose historic center had three protestant churches: Episcopal, Methodist, and Baptist. By the end of the Nineteenth Century, the Baptist church was torn down, and the three churches combined into the Union church as it still exists today. A town that by the turn of the Twentieth Century had emerged from its existence as a quiet settlement of farmers and parsons and doctors to embrace the influx of summer residents seeking temporary respite from city life to enjoy fresh air, natural locally grown food, and the beauty of the surrounding hills. And after everyone living today is gone, there will still be Heath. Life is change. What will be our contribution to future generations living here?

Over time, the Town of Heath has seen many changes. The Center is no exception. In the more than two centuries of its existence, Heath Center has experienced change, both to its appearance and its life. Its first building in 1785 was a schoolhouse, erected on a lot where the Community Hall now stands. Three years later, town meetings began to be held in the building. The first meeting house, erected in 1786, stood on a one-acre lot that became the town common. It was demolished in 1834 after the new meeting house (now the Union Church) was built in 1833. Part of its materials may have been used to erect the town house for public meetings. In the Nineteenth Century, the Common was used for haying and was surrounded by houses, a creamery, shops, liquor stores, horse sheds, a blacksmith, an inn, schools, and churches.

Edward Calver's history [Heath Massachusetts; a History and Guidebook, 1979] records the many changes the Continued on next page



These pen and ink drawings were done by Sandra Denis from photographs found in a calendar published by the Heath Historical Society in 1985.

Continued from page 18

Center has experienced. Houses were built, torn down, or burnt. When the Baptist Church was dissolved in 1884, Hugh Maxwell bought the building and moved it to his house on West Main Street to use as a barn. The shop selling fertilizer became a shop selling matches and then a private dwelling. By the Nineteenth Century, its Common was not only haved for livestock, but sported town scales for local farmers to weigh their produce on the way to market, and was the site of stocks for public exposure of people who had committed some or other infraction against the town and its people. It had an active grocery store and post office until 1956 (now the home of the Gruens.) The Red House Inn and Tavern, the center of many gatherings and activities, was torn down in 1897 to become the site of the town library and Grange at Sawyer Hall. The Grange attracted many local events and sported a private pool room for members until by 1979 it was suffering decline. The Methodist Church, built in 1872, rented out the lower level for use as a store. In 1923, summer residents raised money among themselves to purchase the then-empty building, and the Historical Society took the responsibility of converting it into a community hall, with ongoing events including square dancing, town suppers, talks, exhibitions, and the site for election voting. According to Calver it was "a slow process because contributions were small, the building was not much used, and when World War II came, materials for improvement were unavailable. In 1955 the project, in actuality too much for the Society to manage, was transferred to the town." It housed a pre-school from 1982 to 1996 and became the location of the Senior Center in 2004. The Historical Society has converted the Old Town House and Center Schoolhouse into museums to display and store its collection, the Heath Union Church remains active in its location on Main Street, and there are several private homes.

Today, the Historic Center is less active as a gathering place for community activities. Sawyer Hall stopped functioning as a Grange whereupon town offices were moved into the building in 1980. With the grocery store no longer in existence, the post office was re-located when Esther Dickinson was postmistress to what is now Sharon Brauer's place on South Main, before it moved into its current quarters in Sawyer Hall. Events still take place in the Community Hall, notably the annual Art Exhibit and the Historical Society's Dining with History

programs, monthly senior luncheons and programs, and it is the current location of the town nurse. However, it has limited occupancy space for major events, and needs restorative work to bring it up to state code. Sawyer Hall is also in need of renovation, repair, and reimagining.

So, how to enliven the Historic Center? To do nothing is not an option if we want to secure a positive and fiscally workable future for our town. We do not yet know how the coming of broadband will affect our future; whether with more families moving to Heath or the possibility of attracting much-needed business opportunities to enhance our tax rate. But whatever ensues, Heath needs to respect, renew, and add to its rich history by revitalizing Heath Center. The only way the Center has ever survived is by changing with the times and needs of the town. Change is an opportunity. Let's work together to brainstorm a strategic plan for the Historic Center—and Heath's future as a whole. What do we need to do to bring that to pass?

—Submitted by *Margaret Freeman*



Esther Dickinson, former Heath postmistress, raising the flag at the old post office on South Main Street.



The former Heath grocery store and post office on Main Street, which is now the Gruen's home.

Obituary

Carol Anne Purington

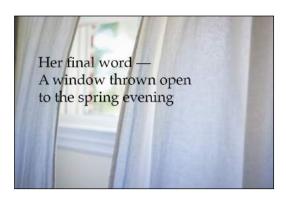


Carol Anne Purington, of Colrain, passed away on December 8, 2020, at home, with family by her side after a period of declining health. She was 71 years old. Carol

was the sister of Heath's library director, Don Purington.

Polio may have crippled Carol's body, but it didn't control her mind or spirit. Carol's legacy is a testament to the indomitability of the human spirit. For someone so physically challenged, yet so accomplished as a writer and a person, she should be an inspiration to all, to strive in spite of what limitations we have, to make the best of the life we are given. Her most recent book of poetry, Farm Song, along with her other books of poetry, can be found in the Heath Public Library.

It is traditional for a haiku writer to leave behind a death poem:



Read Carol's complete obituary in *The Recorder* at legacy.com/obituaries/recorder/obituary.aspx?n=carol-annepurington&pid=197259788

Blackberry ramble Memory on memory until the pail brims

The staff of the Heath Herald extends its heartfelt sympathy to Don Purington and the Purington family.

Honoring Carol Purington

The Griswold Memorial Library staff, trustees, and Friends of the Library share in grieving Carol Purington (1949-2020). Carol was an ardent supporter of our library. In recent months, she would call the library to hear us read the Poem of the Week. Kate Barrows, Assistant Library Director, shared that her last conversation with Carol was reading her the poem "Earthworm," by Robert Francis. "She said she loved it and that memory warms my heart."

In honor of Carol's support for our library, and great love of poetry, we are starting a new program, the Carol Purington Poetry Collective, a group that will meet monthly to share poems aloud, beginning February 6 at 6 p.m., via Zoom (see page 21). Please email us at griswold@colrain-ma.gov for details or call us any time during service hours to hear the weekly poem.

—Chelsea Jordan-Makely Griswold Memorial Library Director

"Earthworm"

Robert Francis

My spading fork turning the earth turns
This fellow out—without touching him this time.
Robbed of all resistance to his progress
He squirms awhile in the too-easy air
Before an ancient and implicit purpose
Starts him traveling in one direction
Reaching out, contracting, reaching out,
Contracting—a clean and glistening earth-pink.
He has turned more earth than I have with my fork.
He has lifted more earth than all men have or will.
Breaking the earth in spring men break his body.
And it is broken in the beaks of birds.
Has become and will again become
The flying and singing of birds. Yet another spring
I shall find him working noiselessly in the earth.



When I am earth again he will be there.





Girard's sugarhouse, Number Nine Road.



The Smith's sugarhouse, Sadoga Road.



Heath Union Church

Neil Stetson, Interim Pastor Dennis Ainsworth, Organist Sunday Morning Worship at 10 a.m.

All Are Welcome

Church phone to leave a message: 413-337-4019 For further information, contact a member of the Board of Deacons.

Board of Deacons

Hilma Sumner, Chair, 337-4845 Claudia Ainsworth, 624-8952 Dana Blackburn, 413-221-0961 Victoria Burrington, 337-4425 Walt Gleason, 337-4479

The Heath Union Church is pleased to welcome Neil Stetson as our interim pastor. Many of you will remember Neil, who grew up here in Heath.

Find us on Facebook at Heath Union Church.

WE SEND OUR
THOUGHTS AND
PRAYERS TO
DAVE HOWLAND
FOR A SPEEDY
RECOVERY.



Hilma Sumner, we wish you a full and speedy recovery!

Important Notice:

Due to COVID-19, many events usually listed on Ongoing Calendar have been postponed. For updates, check notices around town—the outer room of the Town Hall, the Transfer Station— or the town website at townofheath.org

Community Calendar

Feb **Poem of the Week**

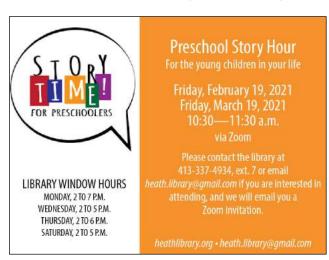
5 Carol Purington Poetry Collective 6 p.m. via Zoom Contact Griswold Memorial Library at 624-3619 or email griswold@colrain-ma.gov to register.

Feb Virtual Preschool Story Hour

19 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Contact library to sign up to receive Zoom invite, 413-337-4934, ext. 7.

Mar Virtual Preschool Story Hour

19 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Contact library to sign up to receive Zoom invite, 413-337-4934, ext. 7.





Ongoing Calendar

Community Yoga

Online classes are happening now!

Contact Kate at *kate@highlandyoga.studio*Check out the website: *www.highlandyoga.studio*

High-speed Internet Access

Town Center and at 18 Jacobs Road, the former Heath school building.

HEATH LEARNING HUB

Adult use of high-speed internet is currently only available outside of Heath town buildings.

For information on children's internet access to Heath's Learning Hub, please see page 17.

For updates on Hub availablity, visit townofheath.org



Heath Library Window Hours:

Monday: 2 to 7 p.m. Wednesday: 2 to 5 p.m. Thursday: 2 to 6 p.m.

Saturday: 2 to 5 p.m.

A world of books, audiobooks, movies, and so much more awaits.

Check us out: 1 E. Main St. • 337-4934, ext. 7 heathlibrary.org • heathlibrary@gmail.com



Don't Neglect Your Feet

The Heath Foot Clinic is available to all residents age 60 and older, and those with foot-related health problems.

For information and appointments, contact Eileen Lively at 337-4742.

Heath Town Offices

1 East Main St, Heath, MA 01346 Phone: 413-337-4934, Fax: 413-337-8542 www.townofheath.org

Town Coordinator, Hilma Sumner

bos@townofheath.org

Mon./Wed. 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Tues./Thurs. 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Fri. 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Select Board, bos@townofheath.org
Tuesday 7 p.m., Sawyer Hall
Brian DeVriese, 413-337-5525
Robyn Provost-Carlson, 413-337-5316
Gloria Fisher, 413-337-6626

Town Clerk, Hilma Sumner

townclerk@townofheath.org
Tuesday and Thursday 9 a.m. to noon
Or call for appointment 413-337-4845

Accountant, Dave Fierro

accountant@townofheath.org No regular hours 413-337-4934, ext. 5

Tax Collector, Elizabeth Nichols taxcollector@townofheath.org Monday 4 to 6 p.m. or call for appointment 413-337-6665 413-337-4934, ext. 2 / Fax: 413-337-8542

Treasurer, Melanie Medon Monday 4 p.m. or by appointment *treasurer@townofheath.org*

Boards and Committees

Board of Assessors

Wednesday 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. 413-337-4934, x3 assessors@townofheath.org
Alice Wozniak, Assistant Assessor
Robyn Provost-Carlson, Heidi Griswold,
Heather Hathwell

Board of Health, 413-337-4934

Betsy Kovacs, Chair, 413-337-5346 Mary Sumner, Clerk Armand Clavette, Henry Godek, Susan Gruen, John Palmer, Gene Garland (ex-officio)

Finance Committee

Ned Wolf, Secretary, 413-337-4476 Ken Gilbert, 413-337-4461 Jan Carr, Alice Wozniak, Will Emmet

Library Board of Trustees

Deborah Porter, Chair, 413-337-4715 Emily Cross, 413-337-4816 Maureen O'Malley

Planning Board

Calvin Carr, Chair, calvinccarr@verizon.net Douglas Mason, Sec., dougmason@hughes.net Robert Viarengo, viarengo932@crocker.com Jo Travis, jtravis156@verizon.net Bill Gran, whgran@gmail.com

Agricultural Commission

Jessica O'Neill, 413-339-4820 Doug Mason, 413-339-4756 Nina Marshall, 413-339-4756 Sean O'Neill, 413-339-4820 Haynes Turkle

Cemetery Commission

Jerry Gilbert, Central Cemetery, 413-337-4355 Claire Rabbitt, North Cemetery, 413-337-8309 Eric Sumner, South Cemetery, 413-337-5330 Matthew Lively, Sexton, 413-337-4331 Hilma Sumner, Burial Agent, 413-337-4845

Conservation Commission

Brian DeVriese, Chair, 413-337-5525 Dennis Peters, 413-337-4014 Bernard "Buck" den Ouden, 413-337-4002 Jessica O'Neill, 413-339-4820

Historical Commission

Heather Hathwell and Jayne Dane, co-chairs Susan Gruen, Nina Marshall

Community

Public Library, Don Purington, Director Lyra Johnson-Fuller, Library Assistant www.heathlibrary.org, heath.library@gmail.com See page 22 for Window Hours; 413-337-4934 ext.7

Post Office Manager, Charlene Reynolds Monday to Saturday, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. 413-337-4934, ext. 4

Schools

MTRSD School Committee Representative
Budge Litchfield, 413-337-4957
Barbara Rode, brode@mtrsd.org, 413-337-5352
Franklin County Technical School Representative
Art Schwenger, 413-337-4077
Hawlemont Elementary School
Lindsay Rodriguez, Principal, 413-339-8316

Town Nurse, Claire Rabbitt, RN

Office hours, Senior Center, 413-337-4847 Tuesday 12:15 to 1:15 p.m. and Thursday 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Voicemail: 413-337-4934, ext. 109 Home phone: 413-337-8309

Senior Center/Community Hall, 413-337-4847 Eileen Lively, Senior Coordinator, 413-337-4742

Public Works and Safety

Animal Control Officer, Kyle Dragon, 413-768-0983, or if not available, call Shelburne Dispatch 413-625-8200. All emergencies, dial 911

Highway Department, Jeffrey Johnston, Road Superintendent; 413-337-4462; cell, 413-406-4516

Police Department, John McDonough, Police Chief Office hours: Tuesday 6 to 8 p.m. 413-337-4934, ext. 108, or call Shelburne Dispatch at 413-625-8200 to have paged. All emergencies, dial 911

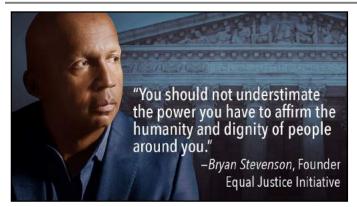
Transfer Station, Ken Erho, Attendant Wednesday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Volunteer Fire Department

Nick Anzuoni, Fire Chief, 413-337-4461, or 911 for an emergency

Emergency Management Team, EMT

Tim Lively, Sheila Litchfield, BOH, Select Board





HEAR YE VOLUNTEER YE!

The Heath Herald is seeking an enthusiastic volunteer to join our staff and provide simple bookkeeping for the newspaper. No formal bookkeeping experience is needed. Training will be provided.

This is an opportunity to work with a great group of people, to laugh a lot, and to contribute to a valued community resource.

Contact Nancy Thane, Managing Editor, at 337-5580 or email nancythane@yahoo.com.



follow us on facebook @ heathherald

Special Thanks to Our Color Sponsors for This Edition!

Jean and Bill Gran
Hair by Hana
Bruce Patterson
Dawn Peters
In memory of Jackie Tiffany,
gift of Claire Rabbit

Please consider a gift of color for the *Heath Herald*.

Simply send your check for \$25 made payable to the *Heath Herald*, P.O. Box 54, Heath, MA 01346. Note "Color Sponsor" on the check.

Thank you.



HEATH HERALD

Heath's First Newspaper

RESERVED PICK-UP PROGRAM

Because of COVID-19, the *Heath Herald* is limiting its Reserved Pick-Up program to those subscribers with a Heath post office box. For the time being, all other reserved copies will be mailed to subscribers.



Support Your Local Newspaper

Get six issues of the *Heath Herald* for only \$12 Subscribe today!

Name:			
Address:			
Phone:			Email:
Yes! Pl	ease send me	six issues	of the <i>Heath Herald</i> for just \$2 an issue by (check one):
	Mail	_ PDF _	Reserved pick-up at Town Hall
Pleas	e make your ch	eck for \$12 p	ayble to the Heath Herald, P.O. Box 54, Heath, MA 01346