



HEATH HERALD

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Style Issue

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On the Cover

Eileen Lively wearing “Chrysanthemum” by Eileen Lively. Photograph by Rachel Grabelsky.

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“Welcome to Heath!” Crash Landing of ‘65

Howard Dickinson, a farmer in Heath, gave this ironic, greeting to a glider pilot after he had descended the 50-foot ladder that Howard had leaned against the shattered fuselage of his airplane that had recently crash landed into the high canopy of a hardwood forest on the day before the Heath Fair in 1965.

It was always very important to present one’s animals to the Heath Fair judges in the best, cleanest, most well-combed and mild-mannered fashion possible, if one wanted to take home a blue ribbon on Fair Day. To that end, one afternoon on the day before the Fair, Steve Wolf and I accompanied our dear farm-boy friend, Buzzy Stetson, on a walk from his parents’ farm on Burrington Hill, to another farm, across an orchard, over a couple of hay-fields, and through a woodlot, to borrow a couple of curry combs so that we could help Buzzy and his brother, Micky, cosmetically comb and prep their yearling calves for the judging the next day. As we walked through the apple orchard, we suddenly heard a weird, high-pitched sound as a massive glider swooped out of the sky over our heads, coming from the Burnt Hill area across a deep valley, and unsuccessfully swooping down to try to catch an updraft. It made a tremendous crashing, crunching sound as it plowed into the forest canopy; at that point the loudest, most disturbing sound I had ever heard. We ran into the woods and found the plane sitting 40 or 50 feet high up in the treetops. The wings had been sheared off, but the fuselage was mostly intact. We yelled up to the pilot who said he was not hurt but asked us to go get help. He told us that he would wait up there and eat his lunch until help arrived. It was an early example of grace under pressure for my young life. This guy had *The Right Stuff* for his present predicament!

We ran to the Stetson’s farmhouse where Doug Stetson called the emergency responders. The Heath Fire Department arrived half an hour later with three men (Carroll Stowe may have been one of them) carrying an enormous wooden ladder across the orchard and fields that they extended up to the cockpit. The pilot finished his lunch and descended the ladder down to the ground where Howard Dickinson shook his hand and pronounced, “Welcome to Heath!” Somehow a reporter from the *Greenfield Recorder-Gazette* got there a little later and took a photo of the plane cradled in the treetops. He interviewed Steve, Buzzy, and me about the crash, and most of what we read in the paper that next

day was incorrect—my first experience with Fake News! I took a piece of the plane’s wing home with me as a souvenir, but sadly one of my parents threw it away in a very rare house-cleaning exercise a few years later.

—Mark Brown

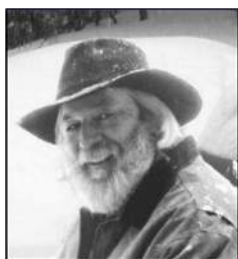


Heath’s Golden Cane Award Goes to... Dave Howland



At the March 2 meeting of the Select Board, it was announced that David F. Howland, as Heath’s oldest resident at the age of 95, was worthy of an Honorary Golden Cane Award from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Dave was present via Zoom as members of the Select Board offered congratulations and commendation. It was said that Dave’s unofficial name could be Mr. Heath, because of all the work he has done for the town over his many years in Heath. The Board observed that, having served the town in various capacities, Dave was a well-respected public servant, for which the town will be forever grateful. Gloria noted that she considers him as having been her mentor, Brian called him a model public servant, having served with him on the Select Board for several years, and Robin said that she was honored to be Chair of the Select Board during this presentation. Hilma Sumner, Town Clerk and Town Coordinator, recalled that when she served with Dave on the Select Board, she was amazed at his ability to understand and explain the new, complex education funding-plan formula. Dave was presented an official certificate and the cane was presented virtually.

—Nancy Thane



Wild Ramblings

—Bill Lattrell

Woodland Choir

On this early morning spring day, I find myself on an old logging trail that meanders in a southerly direction. The deep woods bring me comfort as they come alive with each warming day. Citron-colored leaves are just starting to uncurl, and will soon take their full shape and begin collecting sunshine, converting it into food that will nourish the deciduous trees in this mixed hardwood and conifer forest. A cool northwest breeze tells me that we still aren't completely over the seasonal hump. There will still be nighttime frosts to contend with and chilly days that will linger until we start getting near the summer months ahead.

I find this spring air to be invigorating. Each breath of fresh air I take as I walk along the trail seems to fill me with hope and puts extra bounce in my step that might just help me climb the steep, rutted hill that leads to a long, flat stretch of landscape. This area has filled me with dreams and stories for more than 45 years. This forest is my church. My source of inspiration. It is a place where worship is found easily, and I am at peace with the world around me—holy ground, some might say.

And so, it is fitting that along this trail on this bright, sunny morning I come across a choir. The sound is beyond music to my ears. It is a symphony of life to its fullest. I stop and listen from a distance, for this orchestra is shy and will stop its melody if I come too close to the venue of its performance. I am listening to the sounds of chorusing wood frogs who gather in fresh vernal pools and rejoice in mating season.



These wood frogs use a vernal pool on the east side of the trail. The pool is surrounded by thousands of acres of woods. At this location, the vernal pool is at an elevation of about 1700 feet.

The pool is perched on bedrock and shadowed by red maple trees. Immediately to the east there is a very steep

slope, dropping about 150 feet; so steep it is nearly a cliff. This remote vernal pool goes largely unnoticed and untouched by humans. It is a natural sanctuary where life begins for many vernal pool creatures: wood frogs, peepers, spotted salamanders, fairy shrimp, diving beetles, and, strangely, fingernail clams. I can think of nothing to better signify the beginning of the spring season.

I sit on a decomposing log; the result of a wind-thrown tree that was victim of the strong winds that grace these high elevations. I picture the frogs with their bronze body and a black mask, with a white outline on their face. The chorusing wood frogs are loud, almost raucous. I laugh to myself thinking that this is music to my ears, wondering how the cacophony can be so pleasant, so stirring, and so melodious. It occurs to me that beauty is indeed in the eye (and ear) of the beholder. Truer words were never spoken.

The chorusing is meditative. After a time, I fall back into memories of my childhood. There was a wooded swamp near our house that had a deep end that filled up with water every spring. It was a hiding place for me, and a place where I learned much about the natural world. The wood frogs would gather there, and I would try to sneak up without their noticing me so as to not interrupt their singing. I was never successful. This is an early memory that seems to have been tucked away only to be rediscovered at this moment.

Thirty years ago, we had an extra-large Newfoundland dog named Ella. She would hike this area with me and, in the spring, she would gravitate towards the vernal pool where she would plunge into the icy waters and swim around for a few minutes and lie down in the pool along the edge. Years of decaying leaves and organic materials had created a two-foot layer of muck on the bottom of the vernal pool, and so when Ella exited the pool, the lower half of her thick black fur would be covered with dark mud. She would promptly come over, stand next to me, and violently shake transferring most of the mud onto my clothes. This was something she seemed to rejoice about.

These memories make me want to visit the vernal pool shoreline. But the thought of ending this chorus sends me in a different direction after my short respite on the log. The chorus of the wood frogs fades in the distance as I head back towards our homestead.

My childhood reflections and thoughts about Ella, the Newfoundland dog, remain by the log where I sat near the vernal pool, perhaps to be recaptured later. One can only hope.



Nature Note

—Susan Draxler

Branches of Kittens

For those of us eager for the change of season and on the lookout for signs of spring, pussy willows are a welcome sight. But for pollinators just waking up from winter dormancy, finding pussy willow flowers is a matter of survival. As one of the few sources of pollen at this time of year, pussy willow flowers provide a valuable first meal of the spring for honeybees and native bees like mining bees, bumble bees, and sweat bees, along with flies, wasps, and other insects.

The branches that we cut to bring inside and put in vases are not quite in flower, however. The silver hairs are just a protective covering, like a furry blanket, for the unopened flower buds as they are developing during weather conditions that may still be cold and icy. When the bud opens, the flower, technically called a catkin, will develop.

The word *catkin* comes from the Dutch “katteken” which means kitten. Catkins don’t have petals like other flowers. Each catkin is simply a fuzzy-looking cylindrical clump of either carpels, the female parts of a flower that are fertilized and produce seeds, or anthers, the male flower parts that carry the pollen. Willow trees are either female or male, producing only female or only male flowers. If you keep water with the branches in your vase or go outside and observe the branches on the tree, you will see the buds eventually open and develop into either male flowers with their dusting of yellow pollen, or the greenish female flowers.

There are many ornamental varieties, but our native pussy willow (*Salix discolor*), a small tree that likes to live in moist soils, has the most value to wildlife. In addition to its importance to pollinators, pussy willow is a larval host plant, providing food for caterpillars of many butterflies, and moths such as tiger swallowtails, mourning cloaks, viceroys, and cecropia moths. If you keep water in your vase, you will find that the branches root easily and you will be able to plant additional pussy willows to please the pollinators in your backyard.

Welcome New *Heath Herald* Staff



*Cindie Garland,
Bookkeeper, with her
husband Gene*

Greetings, my name is Cindie Garland. My husband and I moved to Heath in 2018 after my husband retired from the U.S. Navy. Gene and I grew up in the Northeast, so long winters are not unfamiliar to us. We enjoy our summers at Atlantic Beach, NC. Gene is a professor at UMASS-Amherst and I am currently serving in the U.S. Navy Reserves. I look forward to working with the *Heath Herald* family.

—Cindie Garland



*Elissa Viarengo,
Special Projects*

Hello and Happy Spring! My husband, Bill Fontes, and I moved to Heath permanently this past December, after having purchased the old Tripp Blueberry Farm late July. I’ve been lucky enough to have been visiting Heath for the past 25 years while living in Colorado, and most recently NJ. It’s wonderful to finally be closer to my parents, long-time Heath residents Bob and Del Viarengo, and to be able to call Heath “home.”

Billy and I are both looking forward to being active members in the Heath community and for me, helping out with *Heath Herald* special projects has been a great fit to get me started. And to answer the question we have been asked by so many, yes we are indeed working to restore the blueberry fields to their historic roots! We’d love to hear any Jake and Alicia stories you have to share, as we sure did miss out on knowing some wonderful people!

—Elissa Viarengo

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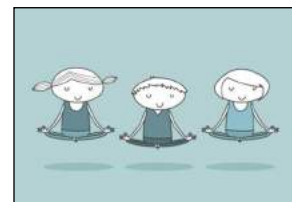
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Mindfulness for Hilltown Kids— Coming Summer 2021!

If this past year has taught us anything, it is that life is unpredictable. There are many things that are out of our control—pretty much everything, in fact! So how do we keep calm, steady, and strong amidst unsettling life events, like what we are living through right now?

One of the ways to cope, and thrive even, is by adopting mindfulness practices, and to start paying attention to what is going on inside of ourselves, instead of worrying so much about what is happening with other people, places, and things. The earlier we learn these tools, the better we become at handling ourselves when we meet up with adversity.

By learning to pay attention to our breath, we can see when we are excited or anxious, and we can calm ourselves down. We can do movement that is linked to our breath that helps expand parts of our bodies, helps us balance, and helps us to find physical strength. We can learn to sit silently (even for just a minute!), and get some space in between the thought that is in our head and the words that come out of our mouths.

This summer, with the support of the Heath Cultural Council, I will be offering a series of SIX (6) mindfulness sessions to hilltown youth from the end of June through July. In these hour-long sessions we will explore mindful movement, breath awareness/control, and meditation. The sessions will be held outside, and all that is needed is a blanket and a yoga mat. Mats can be provided, if needed.

If you know of any kids who could benefit from participating in this program, please email me at kate@highlandyoga.studio.

This program is supported by a grant from the Heath Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

—Kate Peppard
Heath resident, Yoga teacher



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Conserving the West Branch of the Deerfield River

Brook trout habitats are the last remnants of the ancient glaciers. Cold groundwater bubbles up through springs that feed small streams, and steep, forested lands. These streams thread their ways like arteries down to larger brooks and rivers that remain deeply forested, preferably with healthy stands of evergreen trees like hemlocks, spruce, and pine. Rapid flowage that results in deep shelter pools bordered by angulating bedrock, boulders, and large trees that have fallen into the channels all provide essential habitat. The feeder waters of the Deerfield River, which West Branch Brook in Heath is a part of, is just this type of habitat.



Franklin Land Trust (FLT), whose mission is the carrying on of conservation ideals through the years and across the generations, has concentrated for years on the waters that trickle, run, and flow through Deerfield, Shelburne, Colrain, Heath, and

up into Charlemont, Hawley, and Rowe. In partnership with the Massachusetts Department of Fish and Game, and Trout Unlimited, their staff acted to protect the Crowningshield property on the Deerfield's West Branch in 2015. When the floods of tropical storm Irene scoured the biological building blocks of good trout habitat away from many local streams, FLT convened a group of collaborative partners to understand the dynamic forces within these important cold-water resources. This study resulted in the development and implementation of processes to accelerate the healing of the Crowningshield area, among others.

In June of 2020, the Franklin Land Trust took a major step further in the conservation of the Deerfield River watershed when it purchased the 154-acre Gudell property in Heath. This land is bounded on the South by Hosmer Road and on the North by West Branch Brook and FLT's 96-acre Crowningshield conservation area. Together with the 60-acre sanctuary that



is owned by the Massachusetts Audubon Society, this purchase brings the total area protected to 301 contiguous acres of land and more than two miles of frontage along the West Branch of the Deerfield River in Heath.

This purchase is the latest in a long and continuing effort to protect this vital riparian area. Approximately 1500 acres and five additional miles of critical frontage remain to be protected in the immediate environs of the West Branch. Those who love the region and, in particular, who appreciate the magic of brook trout habitat have much to be grateful for in this acquisition.

—Franklin Land Trust

Heath Senior Center News New Air Filtration System Purchased

Eileen Lively, Senior Center Coordinator, is excited to report that the Heath Council on Aging has purchased a full-room air filtration system for the Senior Center, located in the downstairs of the Community Hall. Eileen, who did considerable research to locate an appropriate system that would meet Heath's needs, worked closely with Gloria Cronin Fisher, Select Board member, to secure funding through a Council on Aging grant. The Future Air Filter, using ionization technologies, filters viruses, bacteria, allergens, and mold, and is 99% effective at inactivating COVID-19. It is projected to make the air quality in the Senior Center safe for occupancy both during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

Eileen said that she was motivated to find and recommend this system by the many conversations she has had with Heath Seniors, who have felt very isolated and lonely during this year of the pandemic. While town buildings currently remain closed, it is hoped that when re-opened, Seniors will be able to once again meet comfortably.

—Nancy Thane



The Senior Center's new air filtration system, which is projected to make air quality safe for occupancy both during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

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The Way We Love to Eat

—Deb Porter

Pandemic Cooking

"Cooking is all about people. Food is maybe the only universal thing that really has the power to bring everyone together. No matter what culture, everywhere around the world, people eat together."

—Guy Fieri, Restaurateur

Throughout the pandemic, I have found that my way of dealing with the stress and isolation has been to take to the kitchen. You could even say I have gotten a little obsessive about cooking, or that it has but little consequence in such disquieting times. But the kitchen is the place where I am settled and content; it is where I feel connected to all the people and things that I love and care about, both past and present. Cooking has become my way to both cherish and nurture those relationships. As Guy Fieri, above, says, eating brings us together, and that is of no small consequence in a time of social distancing and political divisiveness. Whether trying a new recipe, or cooking a meal to give to a work-weary neighbor, or in making an outdoor meal for my family, or just plain preparing the daily fare, the cooking and sharing of good food has become a meaningful way to "be" with others while apart, and an antidote to the troubling times we are in. I know I am not alone in finding comfort in the kitchen. Beyond this new-found love of cooking being constantly a subject in the news and on talk shows, I have experienced it first hand in the sweet treats left on our doorstep, in the serious conversations about cake recipes I have had with my nine year-old granddaughter via face-time, in stories of neighbors preparing holiday meals for those celebrating alone, by the lengths families have gone to safely share an outdoor, socially distanced meal, and, alas, by the empty shelves at the supermarket.

After a recent conversation about just this subject, Lynn Perry, of South Heath, shared a recipe she has come to love through her own Covid cooking. She writes:

"I don't know about you, but I've been in the mood to chop and to chew. Add to that the need for fresh vegetables at this time of year, and I've come up with what

I'm calling Super-Slaw. It has two parts, the veggies and the dressing."



Super-Slaw

For the veggies:

It's beautiful: just come up with about six cups of raw, shaved or thinly sliced fresh vegetables of your choosing. I rely on cabbage for more than half, then add a good amount of thinly shaved Brussels sprouts, carrots, celery, sweet red pepper, scallions or red onion (or any onion), and parsley—or ANY fresh veggie you like, in pretty much any amount, which is the beauty of it—to make about six cups. Then I add small amounts of special stuff like dried cherries or raisins, and some chopped almonds or other nuts or seeds.

For the dressing:

Put in a pint jar and shake: 1/4 cup olive oil, 1/3 cup vinegar (I like apple cider), 1/4 cup sugar (or less to your taste), 1 teaspoon salt, 1 teaspoon celery seeds, and 1 heaping teaspoon of a tangy prepared mustard.

That's it. Combine and chill a few hours before serving. It will keep well for a few days. Enjoy!

I will definitely try this, and when I eat it, I will think of the fifty years of friendship I have shared with Lynn, and be happy.



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Green Thoughts

—Pat Leuchtman

Cutting Garden—Annuals

I have always dreamed about having a cutting garden that would enable me to give out endless bouquets to all my friends. One good thing about a cutting garden is that it is not designed to look beautiful in any organized way. A cutting garden has no other design purpose except to give each plant room to breathe. That means flowers can be planted in rows without consideration of whether they will clash with the other flowers around them. Rows and rows of flowers cannot help but be as beautiful in an unstudied mass as they are in considered arrangements.

When planning a cutting garden, I might think of the flowers I like best, beginning with annuals which stay in



bloom over a long season. Zinnias immediately come to mind because they are so easy to grow

and come in so many forms and colors. I am particularly interested in the Profusion series of single zinnias (above) because they have won prizes from the All-America Selections in the U.S. and from Fleuroselect in Europe. Profusion zinnias—yellow, apricot, cherry, pink, orange, white, and more—attract butterflies and bees. The single form gives pollinators a landing strip on the petals pointing to the center of the flower where the pollen and nectar are waiting. Profusion zinnias are about 15 inches tall with an equal spread and will bloom all summer. Cut all you want, and the plant will continue to create blossoms.

Cosmos are taller and have always been a staple in my garden. One reason I like them is because they also attract bees and certain butterflies. They come in many colors: pinks, white, yellow, and gold. There is even a dramatic chocolate cosmos, with deep maroon color and a chocolaty fragrance. *Renee's Garden Seeds* offers a whole palette of cosmos from single flower forms to ruffly double forms. Some have petals that are rolled tubes like a seashell. In addition to the flowers them-

selves, cosmos also gives you lacy, light green foliage. If you don't plant from seed, it is easy to find six packs of seedlings.

The Salvia family is large and includes perennials and annuals. Some of the perennial varieties are sold in our area as annuals, because they are too tender to survive our winters. I always buy at least three little boxes of Victoria Blue annual salvia (below), which I plant around a rose bed in lieu of a lavender edging.



There are also attention-getting red salvias with names such as Salsa, Bonfire and Firecracker. They range in size from one to two feet tall. Salvias are another plant family

that provides nectar to bees and butterflies.

Snapdragons are wonderful annuals that come in a whole variety of colors from pale pastels to rich reds, brilliant golds, and yellow. There are tall varieties, usually two to three feet tall, and dwarf varieties that are only a foot tall. The Rocket series grow to almost three feet tall and are considered an excellent cut flower.

Most of us will buy snapdragon seedlings because they take so long to come into flower, but when we finally get them into our gardens, they might welcome a little bit of shade. They do not like very hot weather.

Even this small list—zinnia, cosmos, salvia, and snapdragon—includes a variety of flower forms and this will make a bouquet interesting.

In addition to flowers, a bouquet needs foliage. Cosmos have their own lacy foliage, but you can also plant annual artemesias like Dusty Miller. Dusty Miller looks like heavy silver lace, and is sold in six packs in the spring. It is valuable for its silver foliage, but it does produce a yellow flower which many people remove. The foliage can be used as a kind of collar around the bouquet to hide the lip of the vase.

If you are bedding out your cutting garden in rows, as I hope to do, it is easy to remove sod if necessary, then add compost to the new bed. Dig the compost in well. When I am starting a new bed, I usually add some greensand to provide potassium, also called potash. When you see commercial fertilizers marked with N-P-K numbers, the last number is potash. Greensand releases potash slowly so there is no worry about harming tender roots.

It is needed for root development and plant vigor because it moves water and nutrients through the plant.

Whenever you are starting a new bed it is good practice to dig in plenty of organic matter, rotted manure, and compost. I am not very scientific, so I add rock phosphate (NOT superphosphate) as well as greensand because both release nutrients very slowly. I do not use commercial 5-10-5 fertilizers which are commonly available at garden centers.

After digging your bed, incorporating any compost and fertilizer, you can plant your seeds or seedlings. Keep them watered while they germinate and become established.

—*Greenfield Recorder, Between the Rows*
April 18, 2015

Walking Trails in Heath

Heath Parks and Recreation Committee has been hard at work clearing and marking the Burnt Hill Catamount Trail. You can access this trail on Flagg Hill Road. Look for the new parking area and follow the trail markers past a beaver pond to a scenic overlook with a platform. It's a wonderful hike for family and friends with plenty to stop and enjoy along the way. In the near future there will be additional signage and maps! We hope many Heathans are able to make it out and explore this new trail.

—*Emily Cross*



Fun old trees to climb along the way on the Burnt Hill Catamount Trail



View from the platform



Town Nurse

—*Claire Rabbit, RN*

May is American Stroke and Blood Pressure Education Month

The American Stroke Association (ASA) campaigns in May to increase awareness that the incidence of stroke, the fifth leading cause of death and leading cause of preventable disability in the U.S., can be greatly decreased with a healthy lifestyle. High blood pressure is the single most important risk factor of stroke. Normal blood pressure is below 120/80. Atrial Fibrillation, another important risk factor, is an irregular heartbeat in which the upper chambers of the heart quiver rapidly and do not circulate blood, so that it may pool and form blood clots that may get into the blood stream, resulting in a blockage in the brain, causing a stroke. Smoking and diabetes are also risk factors. Every two minutes an adult with diabetes in the U.S. is hospitalized for stroke.

Seven ways to prevent stroke:

1. Monitor and control blood pressure.
2. Aim for a cholesterol within normal limits.
3. Be active. This is the time of year to get outside.
4. Maintain a healthy diet such as the Mediterranean or DASH* diet.
5. Lose weight if you are overweight.
6. Control diabetes.
7. Do not smoke.

A recent webinar by a cardiologist at Baystate Medical Center regarding heart problems, included a world map, with countries in red having the most heart disease. The U.S. and Canada were completely red. Then a similar slide was presented of areas with high-fat, high carbohydrate restaurant food. It is not what we like to hear, but our American diet is killing us. One of the comorbidities putting people at greatest risk for dying of COVID-19 is obesity. The ASA did not cite alcohol consumption, but abusing alcohol contributes to high blood pressure. A doctor once told me hypertension is a cardinal sign of alcoholism, perhaps where other risk factors are not obvious. Being healthy always seems to involve what we eat and how much we move.

*The DASH diet is mainly based on fruits, vegetables, whole grains, low-fat or fat-free dairy, fish, poultry, legumes, and nuts.



Alexis Johnson



Maya Jalbert



Jupiter Johnson-Fuller



Heather Row



Auber Jalbert



John Clark



Haris Cross-Jalil



Ned Wolf



Mike Smead



Julianne Hallman



*Maeven Litchfield on the
the look of the season!*



Victoria and Fred Burrington



Claudia Johnson



Harry Hallman



Roberta Le



Colton Johnson



Eric Jalbert

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Verva Jalbert



Nina Hofkosh-Hulbert

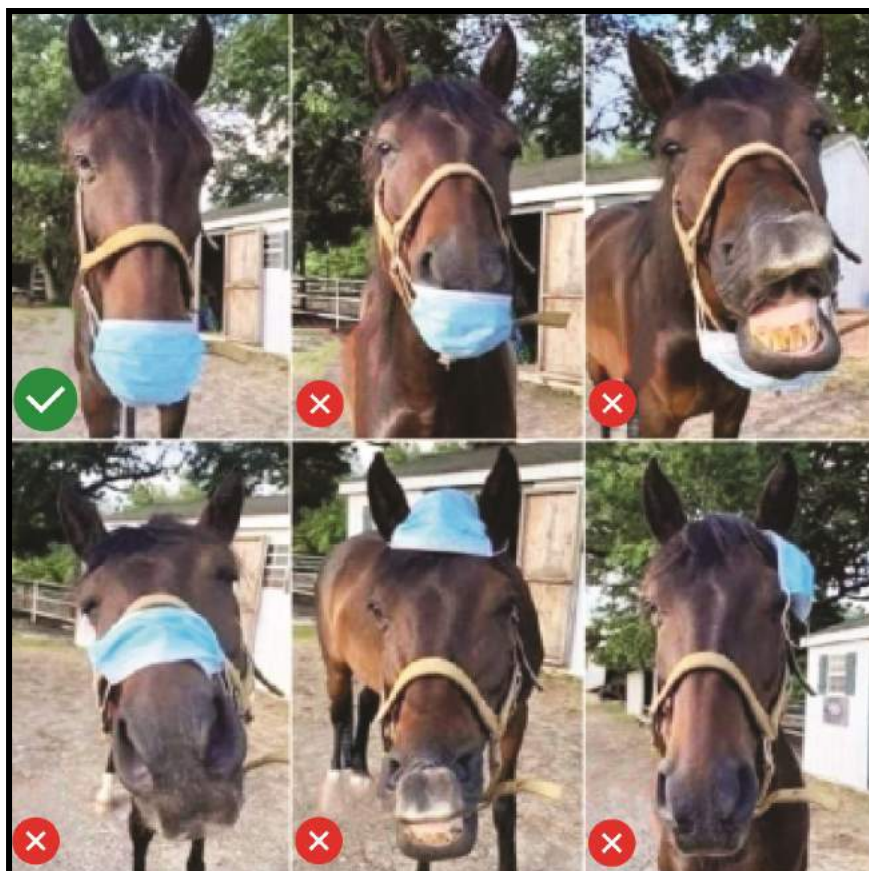
Mask Etiquette For the Neigh-sayers Out There



wis



Lee Lively





Heath Broadband Update

The weather has not been kind to the work crews or the broadband construction schedule, which has now slipped several weeks due to lost workdays. However, the project is moving ahead, and we shall soon have some Heath neighbors with high-speed internet service! Schedule updates are posted on the Town website on the Broadband MLP page.

Below are some of Heath's 2020 broadband milestones:

2020 was a significant year for Heath Broadband as we transitioned from Make-Ready into network construction. The Make-Ready phase in Heath lasted 25 months and involved design planning, and preparation and/or replacement of 1,615 poles. The total Make-Ready cost for the Heath project was \$2,020,500. When combined with the construction cost estimate of \$1.9 million, this nearly four-million-dollar project is the largest capital project the Town of Heath has done. Fortunately, 2.5 million of the costs are covered by the State.

After the Make-Ready phase, the construction of Heath's network began with the selection of an Owners Project Manager (OPM) and construction contractor. Westfield Gas & Electric (WG&E) became Heath's OPM and TriWire Engineering Solutions won the fixed price bid to construct our network. The "hub" of Heath's network began with the delivery and placement on May 28 of a pre-cast concrete structure in the Town Center near the basketball court. Heath's Highway Department added gravel and graded around the hub. An extension to better serve Mohawk Estates was installed in the summer. During this time, Bob Bourke capably served as Heath's Construction Project Liaison until the completion of Make-Ready on August 20.

Oversight and preparations for the construction phase of Heath's project is managed by a team involving the Municipal Light Board (MLB), currently filled by the Heath Select Board, and the Municipal Light Plant Advisory Committee (MLPAC), comprised of Art Schwenger, Chair, Jan Carr, Ned Wolf, Margo Newton, and Sheila Litchfield. Upon the recommendation of the MLPAC and MLB, the Select Board hired Sheila Litchfield as MLP Manager in October. The May 2021 elec-

tions will include selection of a new five-member Municipal Light Board (MLB) elected by Heath voters.

Throughout 2020, the MLPAC met weekly. In addition, the committee met every other week with WG&E until September, when weekly meetings began. Monthly meetings with the State's Last Mile Contingency Liaison have been ongoing throughout the project and will continue until the capital project is declared complete. Because Heath is a member of the WiredWest collaborative, Heath representatives have also participated in monthly WiredWest Board meetings. We are anticipating significant benefits in cost sharing through the WiredWest municipal cooperative.

In 2020 the MLPAC and MLP Manager accomplished the development of the Heath Drop Policy and Drop Credit Policy, reviewed design plans to ensure service to Heath residences, developed and implemented Edge Case agreements with bordering Towns to serve residences on Town borders, managed project finances, approved invoices for payment processing, and interfaced directly with the OPM and contractors. The committee also completed an extensive review of properties for broadband drop eligibility in Mohawk Estates, after discovering that the original design plan had relied on satellite images to determine the presence of structures to estimate locations for drops in the Estates, without consideration to the need for electric power to those properties or whether multiple drops should be installed to each seasonal camper or outbuilding on a lot. This effort included working closely with the Assessors, Tax Collector, Town Clerk, and the E-911 coordinator to clarify property addresses, property ownership, and location of drop-eligible structures.

A major milestone, the construction kickoff meeting, was held on September 25, 2020, signifying the start of Heath Network construction. Strand installation, the heavy-duty cable to support the fiber, began on September 28, and fiber installation began on October 14. By mid-November, strand and fiber placement was complete in Fiber Service Areas (FSA) 1 and 2, and nearly complete in FSA3.


Marketing to encourage Heath subscribership has been ongoing and continues, as the MLPAC and MLB Manager help residents understand the benefits high-speed broadband will bring to their homes. Online information meetings and informative email messages, as well as posted material on the broadband page on the Town website must, due to health restrictions, unfortunately, take the place of in-person informational meet-

ings. The Broadband MLP page at www.townofheath.org provides a link to sign up and download broadband information for Heath residents.

After the fiber has been placed, Multi-Service Terminals (MST's) are installed, splicing work is done, and each network line in a fiber service area (FSA) is tested. Within the fiber cable is a fiberoptic line dedicated to each home. Each individual fiberoptic line is tested from the hub to the MST and back again to ensure an optimal signal. Following network testing, the Owners Project Manager (Westfield Gas & Electric for Heath), spends a couple of weeks going over everything before certifying the network line. Once the line is certified, appointments are made house-to-house to do the interior installation and drop connection from fiber along the road to the house. As each drop is completed, it is lit up for use by the subscriber.

It is a lengthy process, and one that is expected to benefit Heath residents for many, many years. Questions may be directed to Customer Support at 1-833-991-9378 or an MLPAC member or the MLP Manager.


—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>



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.

Preschool Story Hour
 For the young children in your life

Friday, April 16, 2021
 Friday, May 21, 2021
 10:30—11:30 a.m.
 via Zoom

Please contact the library at
 413-337-4934, ext. 7 or email
heath.library@gmail.com if you are interested in
 attending, and we will email you a
 Zoom invitation.

heathlibrary.org • heath.library@gmail.com



Library Lines

—Donald Purington



We have a new flag flying on the front of Sawyer Hall when the library is open. Currently "open" means through the Takeout Window. When you see the flag flying you will know we are ready to help with all your library needs!

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 on the Library website heath-library.org to see all the new items added to our collection in the previous two weeks.

Fiction Books for Adults: *Transient Desires* by Donna Leon, *Dark Sky* by C. J. Box, *Good Eggs* by Rebecca Hardiman, *Band of Sisters* by Lauren Willig

Non-fiction Books for Adults: *Mammal Tracks & Signs* by Mark Elbroch, *Dearly: New Poems* by Margaret Atwood, *An Anatomy of Pain: How the Mind and Body Experience and Endure Physical Suffering* by Russell Bentley

Audiobooks on CD: *The Windsor Knot* by Jane Copeland, *Machinehood* by Deepti Gupta

Books for Young/Teen Readers: *What's Inside a Flower?* by Rachel Ignatofsky, *Ancestor Approved: Intertribal Stories for Kids* edited by Cynthia Smith

Children's Picture Books/Boardbooks: *Cozy* by Jan Brett, *Someone Builds the Dream* by Lisa Wheeler, *Outside In* by Deborah Underwood

DVDs: *Laura Ingalls Wilder: Prairie to Page, Pinocchio, Schitt's Creek: the Complete Collection, Paw Patrol: Dino Rescue*

The next two virtual story hours will be Friday, April 16, and Friday, May 21 at 10:30 a.m. Contact Don or Lyra at the Heath Library to receive the Zoom invitation.

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Heath Agricultural Society News

As we eagerly await warming weather and prepare ourselves for mud season, the membership of the Heath Agricultural Society (HAS) is already thick in the mud of decision making as we try to address what is and is not possible in 2021 regarding our beloved Heath Fair. The ground truth is that we cannot know everything we'd like to know. There is so much uncertainty given the persisting pandemic. Despite these challenges, we are choosing to move forward with the goal of holding a fair this year, even if it looks different from the fairs of our past. Why are we choosing this path? Vaccinations are rolling out with increasing efficiency, rates of infection are leveling off, and state restrictions are beginning to lift. These indicators help to pave a path towards a 2021 Heath Fair. In order to go forward, we must believe that we can hold a fair with reasonable safety measures in place, and plan accordingly. If we don't, we will remain circling in indecision and the results of that can be paralyzing. So we are pressing forward. How are we doing that?

We are gathering information from core constituents. This data will help us ascertain what is and isn't possible. Will our leaders (superintendents) be willing and able to do what they've always done, and if not, how could their roles pivot? Will our volunteer base show up, willing and able to make the fair hum? Will vendors come? Will families enter their cows, sheep, chickens, rabbits, and goats into the livestock shows? Will members of our community enter things into the exhibit hall? And will attendees show up in droves, or be reluctant to come?

There are no guarantees, but to the extent we are able, we will gather input that helps to guide what the 2021 Heath Fair can look like. It may be that we have a shorter, two-day fair. It is likely that some of the higher risk events/attractions cannot take place. We will likely have measures in place like one-way traffic through the barns. Despite these challenges and alterations, we believe something is better than nothing and we are planning accordingly. To support this effort, the Board is now meeting weekly, and we continue to hold monthly All Member meetings on the second Monday of the month from 6 to 7 p.m. via Zoom (call-in options are available). We invite you to chip in and participate however you are

able. We anticipate a drop in volunteerism and we cannot hold a fair without our volunteers. So please consider getting involved. Let us hear from you. Will you help us bring a 2021 Heath Fair to fruition? We hope so. Please contact info@heathfair.org for more information.

Stay safe, be kind, and remain hopeful,

—Jessica O'Neill, President, HAS



We would like to thank Robin Jenkins for her years of service as Superintendent of the Exhibit Hall. She has masterfully executed the hall, making many improvements over the past 10 years. We are so grateful for her leadership.

Robin has stepped down from this role, providing an opening that we must fill. If you have volunteered in the Exhibit Hall before, have experience with the hall, or just have an interest in learning more about the role of Superintendent of the Exhibit Hall, please email: info@heathfair.org. We must place this role ASAP.



ADJUSTMENT TO POST OFFICE HOURS

The Heath Post Office hours for conducting retail business have changed to 9:30 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. After 1:15 p.m., there will be no sales of postage for stamps, outgoing packages, or money orders. There will also be no sales of Transfer Station permits or stickers.

From 1:15 to 1:30 p.m. the Post Office will remain open for pick-up of delivered packages only.

This change is instituted by the managing USPS office to allow staff time to complete daily reporting.



Select Board Meetings during COVID-19 Pandemic

The Select Board will continue 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 Select Board Agenda.

Important Dates

March 25, 2021: Final day to submit warrant articles and file nomination papers for Town Elections.

April 16, 2021: Last day to register to vote for Annual Town Meeting or Town Elections.

May 7, 2021: Annual Town Elections, noon to 7 p.m. Details to be announced.

May 8, 2021: Annual Town Meeting. Details to be announced.

Annual Town Meeting and Elections

The Annual Town Meeting (ATM) is scheduled for May 8, 2021, with COVID-19 restrictions still in effect. The Select Board has yet to determine the ATM venue. Last year, ATM was postponed until August 1 and held under a tent at 18 Jacobs Road.

Last year's elections were held indoors under a strict COVID-19 protocol. This is likely to be repeated this year on May 7. Stay tuned for further details.

Town Offices at Sawyer Hall Temporarily Closed

Town Offices in Sawyer Hall remain closed during the hours of operation of the post office. In-office town business is conducted after 2 p.m., weekdays. Those needing to contact town officials should do so by calling the town offices at 413-337-4934 or by email. Many town employees will continue to work from their homes or at 18 Jacobs Road until the COVID-19 emergency is over. The post office service window will now be closing at 1:15 p.m. due to a change in policy from the Charlemont post office.

The Community Hall will remain closed until further notice due to COVID-19 restrictions, and while insulation work is in progress.

Indoor Hot Spot

Mid-2020, the town accepted an offer of an indoor

Hot Spot at 18 Jacobs Road to provide indoor student and, more recently, public access to high-speed internet service. This program is sponsored by the state and implemented through Westfield Gas and Electric. Separate spaces have been laid out in the gym following recommended COVID-19 safety clearances. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. through 3 p.m. or by special arrangement. Contact the Town Coordinator for details or call 337-5307 during hours of operation. Walk-ins are welcome; sign in with the volunteer in attendance. Alternatively, you may reserve a spot in advance at townofheath.org. Go to the Building Use Committee web page and click on Building Use Calendar and then the Internet Use Request tab and follow the instructions for entering your request. Outdoor access to high-speed internet continues to be available 24/7 in the town center and at the 18 Jacobs Road parking lot.

Learning Hub

As students return to in-person learning, the need for the Learning Hub at 18 Jacobs Road is declining. The state is mandating a full return to in-person learning in April. Some families may still opt for remote learning, however, and the Hub will remain available for as long as it is needed. The Select Board is grateful to the dedicated volunteers who have staffed the Hub since September, ensuring that all Heath's students and teachers have had the access they needed for remote learning.

Green Communities Grant

The contract for the insulation project for the Community Hall has been signed with *Energia* of Holyoke. A schedule for completing the work is under discussion. The engineering analysis for the conversion from the oil-heating system to a more efficient electric heat pump system has been completed and delivered to the Energy Advisory Committee. The engineer has been asked to provide a quote for designing the system.

The Heath Solar Feasibility Study was delayed by the need for the state legislature to pass the climate bill. That bill has now passed and is awaiting Governor Baker's signature. The *Solar Store* will be able to complete its work on the feasibility study shortly.

MLPAC Appointments

Margo Newton and Sheila Litchfield, members of the Municipal Light Plant Advisory Committee, have resigned. Sheila was subsequently appointed the new Municipal Light Plant Manager. The Board extends its gratitude for their many months of hard work helping to

get the broadband system from design into construction. Anne Emmet and Paul Dabrody were appointed to fill these vacancies until the Town Elections, when a permanent five-member Municipal Light Board will be chosen. The Select Board has been functioning as the Municipal Light Board until that time.

School District Regionalization Grant

The Town of Heath has been awarded a grant of \$35,000 from the state to assist with legal and consultant expenses for the continued investigation into joining the Hawlemont Regional School District. Thanks to Budge Litchfield, Bob Gruen, and Ken Rocke for their expertise and tenacity in pursuing this grant.

Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)

The Town has been notified of the award of the FY 2020 CDBG grants. These grants cover housing rehabilitation for income-eligible clients, and are administered by the Franklin County Regional Housing and Redevelopment Authority (FCRHRA). Additional information will be forthcoming. Please contact the Town Coordinator for details.

Town Website

Take some time to visit the town's NEW website at townofheath.org. You'll find Select Board meeting minutes, committee 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.

—Select Board



Popular Music & Culture Class Blends History and Current Interests

In a new course offered at Mohawk Trail Regional School, students in Catherine Glennon's "Popular Music and Culture" class analyze the concepts of what makes something "popular;" what's considered "music;" and how society defines and contributes to culture.

After working with the MTRS Equity Council and

considering ways for students to think deeply about the development of the American experience and diversity, Glennon created this innovative history course. The class provides students with history lessons delivered in an engaging, fun, and relevant way.

"Music seemed to be an obvious place where this could happen," said Glennon. "Bringing a connection between history, music, and modern culture."

According to Glennon, the class was designed for students to dig deeper into the subject matter, but with an academic approach. Students focus on key questions including, what IS popular music? What or who defines what is "popular" or classifies something as "music." In addition to this deep critical thinking and discussion, coursework has included watching a Motown documentary, researching covers of popular songs, and writing music reviews of the work, for example.

During the first week of class, Glennon tasked students with creating a Spotify "playlist of their life"—sharing favorite songs/singers/subjects that resonated with them. From the first day of class, Glennon said she saw a spark in her students, increased student engagement and excitement, even in the remote learning setting.

"This is nothing like I've experienced before with remote learning," said Glennon. "They're turning on their cameras for class; they're engaged; they're making extensive notes in their work and writing music reviews. On the first day, I gave them homework and before the end of the school day, they'd already started turning it in!"

Glennon said for many of her students, they're finding their voices and discovering new talents as well as taking agency and ownership of their work.

Avery DuPree, a junior at MTRS, said the class is a great way to fulfill her passion for music during remote learning. "It gave me the opportunity to talk about music; learn about different genres and artists moving through the decades, things I would not have been exposed to," said DuPree. "It's made me excited to keep learning more."

DuPree said she's even found herself furthering her research after class and doing a deeper dive into daily lessons. And while she hasn't loved every genre she's studied so far, she loves the opportunity to discover new music.

To learn more about the Trailblazer model at MTRS and the courses offered at our school, visit mtrs.mohawktrailschools.org and head over to the Student Services page.

—Mohawk Trail Regional School District

Heath Begins Work on Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Plan

Heath has received a grant from the State to develop a Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Plan (MVP), and to update our current Hazard Mitigation Plan, which will result in the town being designated as an “MVP Community.” This MVP status will allow Heath to apply for implementation grants to build projects and advance work that helps the town be more resilient and prepared for the lasting effects of climate change. Additionally, having an up-to-date Hazard Mitigation Plan will ensure that we are still eligible for pre- and post-disaster funding from FEMA. The Plan will examine both the strengths and vulnerabilities in town, particularly looking from the three perspectives of infrastructure, people, and natural resources. The town will be working with the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG) to complete this project.

Why should we be concerned about climate change in Heath?

According to down-scaled climate data from *resilientMA.org*, the following are the main changes we are expected to see:

- An increase in average temperature, as well as more extreme heat and extreme temperature fluctuations.
- An increase in annual precipitation, and an increase in very heavy precipitation events, where more rain, snow, or ice falls in a short period of time, interspersed at times with very dry periods.
- Stronger storms with higher winds, due to an overall warmer climate with more moisture in the atmosphere.

Damage to roads, bridges, culverts, buildings, and natural habitats are a few impacts that have already been experienced in the region from increased extreme weather. Additionally, ecosystems that are expected to be particularly vulnerable to climate change include cold-water streams and fisheries, hemlock forests, northern hardwood forests, and vernal pools, all of which are plentiful in Heath. Warming temperatures and changes in precipitation will push plant and animal species northward or to higher elevations. Higher temperatures, along with changes in stream flow, will degrade water quality. Cold water species will decline, while an increase in stronger storms leads to more flooding and erosion. A shift to winter rains instead of snow will potentially lead to more runoff, flooding, and greater storm damage along with less spring groundwater recharge.

While climate change will continue to be a major challenge globally, local efforts and decisions have real and lasting impacts on mitigating and adapting to future climate change.

Next Steps

The town will be hosting a series of public meetings over the coming year to collect information from municipal officials and residents to develop our MVP plan. The first series of meetings will focus on identifying which features of Heath’s infrastructure, society, and environment are most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, followed by a meeting to develop an action plan to address identified vulnerabilities. A page will be maintained on the town website to keep everyone up to date on meetings and the planning process. An interactive StoryMap is currently posted, which provides more information on the plan and opportunities to provide input. Please visit the page and complete a survey. We would love to hear from you.

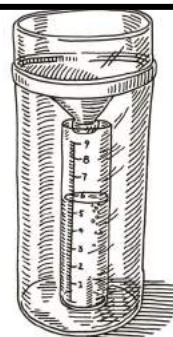
Take the first community survey for this project here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HeathMVP1>

For more information on this important project, please contact Hilma Sumner, Town Coordinator at bos@townofheath.org, or Allison Gage, FRCOG’s Land Use & Natural Resources Planner at agage@frcog.org.

—Select Board



Sadoga Road after Hurricane Irene in 2011



WEATHER MONITOR WANTED

The *Heath Herald* is seeking a volunteer to monitor the precipitation in Heath. The monthly data that is collected will be published in each issue of the *Herald*.

If you are ready and willing to weather this responsibility, please contact us at theheathherald@gmail.com.

Spotted Around Town



I caught this barred owl about to take a nap on my oak tree.

—Henry Josephson



Heath Union Church

Neil Stetson, Interim Pastor

Dennis Ainsworth, Organist

Sunday Morning Worship at 10 a.m.

All Are Welcome

Church services are conducted in the sanctuary each Sunday and anyone is invited to join, either in person, online, or by phone. Links to joining remotely are:

Internet: <http://join.freeconferencecall.com/dainsworth5>

Phone: 1-712-451-0441. Access Code: 841540#.

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

Even in Heath, April brings more signs of spring and the gradual return of all things alive and green. Mixed in with the green are the beautiful colors of early flowers: white, purple, yellow, pink amidst the endless hues.

This year, Easter Sunday will be April 4, when the church will convene outdoors at 12 Schoolhouse Road for its 10 a.m. service. Seating will be in a physically distanced manner with those attending asked to wear face coverings. Rev. Neil Stetson, the church's interim pastor, will conduct the service. Here are some of Neil's thoughts as he reflects on the upcoming time of Easter.

"As a native of Heath, I am thankful for the heritage of a practical life. It mattered that the garden got wet because dinner in January depended on it!

What about Easter? Practical?

John Stott, the British theologian, wrote, 'The problem with the resurrection is not only whether it happened, but whether it matters if it happened because it happened (if it did happen) 2000 years ago.'

Ponder that in true Heath fashion, asking

Does Easter Matter?"

—Hilma Sumner



Three little pigs on Route 8A in north Heath.

—Harry Hallman



Marauders on Sumner Stetson Road.

—Cathy Tallen



Tom Lively swims in white stuff while snow-blowing his pool.

—Sue Lively

Letter to the Editor

I really enjoyed Austin Sumner's article. What an ambitious and determined young man.

—Christine O'Brian

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

- Apr 16 Register to Vote**
Last day to register to vote for Annual Town Meeting or Town Elections.
- Apr 16 Virtual Preschool Story Hour**
10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Contact library to sign up to receive Zoom invite, 413-337-4934, ext. 7.
- May 7 Annual Town Elections**
12 noon to 7 p.m. at 18 Jacobs Road.
- May 8 Annual Town Meeting**
9 a.m. at 18 Jacobs Road.
- May 21 Virtual Preschool Story Hour**
10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Contact library to sign up to receive Zoom invite, 413-337-4934, ext. 7.

HEATH INDOOR HOT SPOT

Adult use of high-speed internet is now available indoors at 18 Jacobs Road.
Hours: Monday–Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Reservations and walk-ins welcome.
For information, see page 18 or visit townofheath.org



townofheath.org

Visit the new town website to connect with Heath happenings.
Meeting Minutes • Committee Information • School News
Important Announcements • and more
To contact the Select Board, email bos@townofheath.org

Ongoing Calendar

Community Yoga

Online classes are happening now!
Contact Kate at kate@highlandyoga.studio
Check out the website: www.highlandyoga.studio

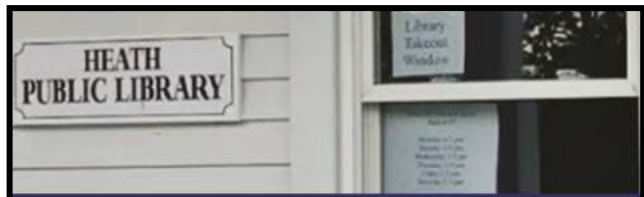


High-speed Internet Access

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

Foot Clinic

For residents age 60 and older, and those with foot-related health problems. This has resumed on a month-to-month basis. Contact Eileen Lively for information and to make an appointment, at 337-4742.




Reading is the Window to the World

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, Anne Emmett

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., dougmaison@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
Henry Josephson

Historical Commission

Heather Hathwell, 413-337-5783, 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, Nurse@townofheath.org

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. Email; Heathfire@townofheath.org

Emergency Management Team, EMT

Tim Lively, Sheila Litchfield, BOH, Select Board

all great changes
are preceded by
chaos.

- Deepak Chopra



IMPORTANT DATES FOR TOWN ELECTIONS AND HEATH ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

April 10: Early voting mail-in ballots available
by written request

April 16: Last day to register to vote for
Annual Town Meeting and Town Elections

May 3: Last day to request a mail-in ballot.
Requests must be received by 5 p.m.

May 6: Early voting mail-in ballots must be
received by 5 p.m.

May 7: Town Election voting from 12 noon to
7 p.m. at 18 Jacobs Road

May 8: Annual Town Meeting starts at 9 a.m.
at 18 Jacobs Road

To request an early voting ballot, email
townclerk@townofheath.org

For more information, visit townofheath.org

Special thanks to our color sponsors!

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