VOLUME 10 NUMBER 1 ARRAI

NEWSPAPER 35¢ FIRST HEATH'S

ON SUGAR HOUSES

by Carroll B. Stowe

By the time this is read the sugar houses of this area will have stopped spewing out steam and their famous nectar called maple syrup.

All sugar houses have a special character of their

own and each is unique.

I have always enjoyed being inside a sugar house as it was at work. There are sounds within its walls that are not heard anywhere else at any other time of year. The crackling roar of a hot wood fire and the rolling bubbling sound as the fire forces the steam from the increasing sweetness. The slam as the arch doors are shut from a new load of wood. The sap as it comes from the storage tanks makes a pleasant gurgle as it is controlled by the float arrangement. The float system regulates the amount of sap allowed into the pan as steam is taken out.

Those who inhabit sugar houses are artists at their trade. These men and women have to orchestrate the evaporator's intake of sap along with the continuous feeding of the fire and, as the sweetness nears the syrup stage, they must be ready to draw off and make sure that all operations go very smoothly and keep from burning the pan for a momentary shortage of liquid. These actions are all part of the sugar makers' talent. All different, all related and all part of a spring ritual that has been going on for centuries in various parts of this country.

Syrup of the maple variety and of good quality tastes very much the same from one sugar house to the other, but I will always feel that sap hauled to the sugar house with a team of horses or yoke of cattle makes a better tasting product. A team of horses or a yoke of oxen standing outside a sugar house lends a bit more character to the entire opera-

To be sure all sap could not be hauled by horses or oxen because some sap might travel 25 miles before it's boiled. We see sap making its way from the tree to storage by way of plastic sap line. This is a much easier way of sugaring but, to me, not as picturesque as sap going to the sugar house by animal power.

I would have to confess that a favorite sugar house of my recollection was that of the late Oscar and Howard Thompson. They were assisted with the operation by the late Harry Terrill. These three people helped to create a maple syrup memory that will last my lifetime.

Sugar houses of this area are all alike, all unique and all very different, and all create a product that has no equal.

These are my feelings about a spring rite, about a seasonally used building just plastered with a tremendous country charm that will last as long as there are pan cakes, flapjacks or waffles.

TOWN MEETING AND ELECTION '88

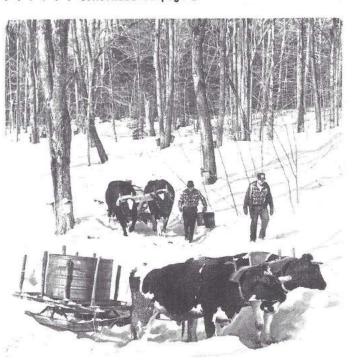
The annual town meeting this year will start on Friday, May 6, with the election by ballot of town officers. All registered voters will have an opportunity to vote for the candidates of their choice at Sawyer Hall between 1 and 7 PM.

The actual town meeting will be called to order in the Community Hall by Moderator Doug Wilkins at 9 AM on Saturday, May 7. This date is in accordance with the vote of the last annual meeting which continued the Saturday meeting date. All articles on the town warrant including Article 3, the omnibus budget, will be taken up and voted at this time.

It is expected that the 1987 Annual Town Report with a copy of the Town Warrant inserted will be distributed to all Heath households prior to the Annual Meeting day.

In this year's election the town offices listed below will appear on the ballot together with names of the persons who have filed nomination papers. Although. none of these positions is contested, a voter can indicate by write-in any other citizen of his choice. Statements of candidates running for office are printed elsewhere in this issue of the HERALD.

. . continued on page 3



Sap Gathering with Oxen Bill and Roger Clark (Photo by Dick Tower)

LETTER FROM JOHN HOLDSWORTH

In response to a request from the Herald for an update on John Holdsworth's activities, the following letter was received recently.

"I graduated from the New England College of Optometry in May 1987; since then I've been working as the optometry resident at the Veterans' Administration Outpatient Clinic in Boston (next to that City Hall building that looks like it's upside down). My residency ends on July 1, 1988. I am already job hunting in Franklin, Hampshire and Hampden Counties and hope to have my next job lined up by April. I should be a lot closer to Heath than I am now.

"Right now I'm living south of Boston and commute into the city by train; each six-car train carries as many passengers as the population of Heath. Some days, it feels like there are that many in the car I'm

riding in.

"General Heath was born about a mile from where I'm now living and is buried just a half mile away in the Forest Hills cemetery. He has a very impressive stone with a large plaque giving some historical details. It stands by itself on a pretty knoll at one edge of the cemetery".

The Editors have written John for more details on the General Heath monument and, hopefully, a photograph which can be printed in the paper. In any case the HERALD congratulates John on achieving his degree and we hope to see more of him when he locates in this part of the state.





Volume 10 Number 16

April/May 1988

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Advertising Circulation & Business Typography Ray Pettengill Terry Pettengill Newland Smith

The HEATH HERALD is published six times a year in April, June, August, October, December and February SUBSCRIPTION RATE - One year, \$3.50 (payable in advance by check or money order)
ADVERTISING RATES - Display ads: \$3.50 per column inch (Discounts on six or more insertions)

Classified ads: \$1.00 per line.

Send all correspondence to Box 54, Heath, MA 01346

LETTER

To the Editors:

I would like to use this space to thank all of the people of Heath and Rowe for their prayers and thoughtfulness in recent weeks. Patrick is home right now awaiting the next operation. We are doing fine now although the disorganization is at time frustrating for us. You never realize how special people are until you are embroiled in a trial as we have faced. Each and everyone has been so considerate with the changed appointment times, changed hours and decreased visibility in general. It did not go unnoticed. Also, I would like to extend a special thank you to the mysterious duo who have twice left bags of goodies in my otherwise barren kitchen shelves. I love you both. Keep us in your prayers . . .

Sharleen Moffatt

THE HERALD'S 10th YEAR

With this issue, the HEATH HERALD enters its tenth year of publication. This is cause for celebration and a chance to look back and to look ahead to the future.

Although this is the beginning of our Volume 10, the tenth birthday of the HERALD will not occur until next year at the start of Volume 11. In any case the idea for Heath's First Newspaper was conceived and the first number published 10 years ago, in April 1979.

We expect the HERALD to continue to present unbiased news, important information and stories of our town as we enter Volume 10. After Volume 10 is complete, it is hoped that a fresh staff can be found to replace some of the original members who are becoming old and weary.

ERRATA

The February number of the HEATH HERALD contained two misstatements which the Editors wish to correct.

In the article on Town Personnel Policy it should have been stated that the maximum of 15 days of paid vacation is granted after 11 years of employment.

The report on Heath Precipitation incorrectly showed the average annual precipitation for the past 20 years as the actual amount in the year 1987. The correct average since 1967 is 50.79 inches. The 1987 value is 51.44 inches.

HEATH PRECIPITATION

by Ralph Dickinson, Observer for Massachusetts Water Resources Commission

February precipitation was 4.20 inches; snowfall was 29 inches.

March precipitation was 3.25 inches; snowfall was 10 1/2 inches.

The precipitation for the first quarter of 1988 was 10.32 inches. The average precipitation for the first three months of the past 21 years is 11.53 inches. Total snowfall for this season is 105 1/2 inches. We have had less snow than last year, but more than average. Since 1956 we have had six Aprils with no snowfall. Yet in 1961, 1972 and 1982 we have had 19 inches, 19 1/2 inches and 18 1/2 inches respectively in the month of April.

. continued from page 1

Position	Term (yrs)		Candidate
Selectman	3		Arthur Schwenger
Assessor	3		no nominee
Town Clerk	3		Karen MacDougall
Town Treasurer	3	*	Linda Marcotte
Tax Collector	3		Elizabeth Beaudoin
School Committee	3	*	Budge Litchfield
Planning Board	5		no nominee
Planning Board	4	+	Helen Mackie
Finance Committee	3		David Howland
Library Trustee	3	*	Patricia Leuchtman
Town Auditor	1		no nominee
Constable	1		no nominee
Constable	1		no nominee
Tree Warden	1		no nominee

* indicates present incumbent is candidate + filling unexpired term of Earl Gleason who

resigned

Since no one filed for the positions of Assessor, Planning Board member (5 year term). Tree Warden, Auditor or either of the two Constable positions, these offices will be filled by a write-in vote or else, if no one is elected, by selectmen's appointment. The present incumbents in these offices are Tom Lively, Planning Board member and Tree Warden; Constables Ron Corey and Newland Smith; Assessor Chris Burke; and Auditor Doug Wilkins. Tom Lively has indicated that he intends to run for reelection to the Planning Board and that he will do so now as a write-in candidate. His statement on this appears elsewhere in the HERALD.

Be sure to <u>VOTE</u> on <u>May</u> 6 and attend the Annual Town Meeting on Saturday, <u>May</u> 7.

LAST DATE FOR TOWN MEETING ARTICLES

The Selectmen have announced that the last day to submit an article to be included on the warrant for this year's Annual Town Meeting is Saturday, April 16. This deadline is necessary in order to give sufficient time for review by the Selectmen and recommendation by the Finance Committee before final typing and posting.



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TIME'S PASSING

Reminiscences of Hannah Landstrom Burrington

by Beverly denOuden

"My name is Hannah Burrington and I was ten years old when I first came to Heath."

Thus began a two hour conversation with Hannah during which she related her childhood recollections of home, farm and school, principally between the years of 1911 and 1920.

Hannah travelled by train from her birthplace in Waltham, Mass., along with her parents, Victor and Anna Landstrom, and her brother, Oscar. Victor and Anna had immigrated from Sweden in the 1880's as young people and had settled in the Waltham community. Victor had been employed there by a Mr. Paine. His daughter, Ethel Paine, had become acquainted with Heath through her visits to Dr. Grace Wolcott's Myrifield retreat.

Ethel Paine was very much taken with Heath and purchased the Manse so that she might spend more time in the town. Shortly after she settled in the Manse, the Town Farm was also up for sale, with prospective buyers indicating a desire to log off all the timber. Ethel, not wishing to view the scarred fields, also purchased the Town Farm acres.

The properties needed a manager/farmer. Ethel Paine appealed to her father and the Landstrom family agreed to move to the Town Farm in 1911.

Hannah's earliest recollection was the wonder and fascination of exploring the big farmhouse upon their arrival. She was particularly intrigued by the fire-places and little cupboards above the mantels. In spite of the fact that Hannah and Oscar had "city ways" they adapted quickly to their new rural life and Heath "felt like home from the beginning."

Victor Landstrom assumed all farming responsibilities for the Town Farm and the Manse, haying the meadows, growing grain, milking the dairy herd and providing all the wood for the two households. He was assisted by his son Oscar, a hired man, Max Churchill, and young city boys hired as summer help by Ethel Paine. Mr. Landstrom and surrounding neighbors engaged in cooperative harvesting, moving from farm to farm to bring in the crops.

Mrs. Landstrom, with the help of a neighboring farmer's wife and Hannah, would provide the dinner for the harvest crew. Hannah's sister, Judith, was ten years her senior and was home one harvest season to assist her mother. Judith had been working for a family in Boston who lived very "fine." Hannah related that at one harvest dinner Judith cut the bread in "fine" thin slices, and her father was embarrassed as he wished to present a more hearty fare for his neighbors.

Hannah has great respect for the diversified tasks her father had to handle. When he hayed, the field was raked clean. Victor Landstrom filled the haylofts on both farmsteads and, when the loft on the Town Farm was empty in winter, he had to haul the hay from the Manse in small bobsled loads for the road was very steep through the ravine. Hannah's father laid out and built a new road plus a bridge with a gentler grade to enable him to haul larger hay loads between the two farms.

Ethel Paine was interested in the evolution of the machine age. She purchased a 7 HP motor from a plumber in Charlemont and a corn cutter. There were only two or three motors in Heath at that time and they were much in demand at harvest time. She also purchased a reaper and a binder.

Hannah and Oscar continued their schooling at the Heath Center School. Mrs. Katherine Sherman drove the "school team" and picked up Oscar, Hannah, Fred (Ted) Burrington and Murtie Tanner at the South School. The children were "bussed" to and fro each day in the wagon. The schools commonly closed for several weeks during the winter and mud season.

School was a place to learn and play for Hannah; "it was a joy." The children at the Center School, numbering approximately 15, played softball together with accommodations for all ages and abilities. One student, who had suffered from polio, played along so he had his own first base which he could reach by stepping once, falling and extending his hand. The first grade children had yet another first base. There were different rules for nearly every player that came up to bat.

Hannah described it as a school of human relations. There were few distinctions between children; they all had little or nothing, the boys wore overalls and the girls wore dresses which their mothers had "made over."

Hannah particularly enjoyed the music. Her teacher, Miss Clark, would print out musical scales for the children and from these the children learned to identify notes, clefs and rhythm. Their music director from Colrain came every few weeks on a white horse with a twisted leg. His visits were greatly anticipated by the children.

Miss Clark lived at the Creamery with her aunt, Mrs. Stetson, and she walked to school each day. The teachers in those days had to "go the extra mile," planning for several grade levels and all the special events. A superintendent would visit the school every two weeks to see that the teacher was keeping pace with the established program of progress for each age level.

It was traditional for the school children to prepare a service for Memorial Day. The parents would join the children at the South Cemetery and lay flowers on the graves. The children then presented recitations, such as the "Blue and the Gray" or the "Gettysburg Address." Hannah said she was quite sure her husband, Ted Burrington, could recite the "Gettysburg Address" to the end of his life.

During the winter recess from school Hannah loved to work in the barn. She would help with the cleaning and the animal feeding. If she did her brother's chores while he was in high school, he paid her a portion of his "chore money," twenty-five cents.

Hannah continued her education at Charlemont High School. She and Oscar drove a horse carriage or sleigh every day. There was a severe snowstorm on one occasion which forced the children to stay several days in Charlemont. This circumstance greatly worried Hannah's parents, so they suggested that after she completed one year of high school she should remain at home until age eighteen. At that time they would support her additional education. Hannah had long desired to become a nurse and hers was one of the last classes admitted to the Waltham Nurses' Training with just one year of high school. Hannah completed the course of study and worked in Waltham for two years in the hospital and in private duty. A 24-hour duty nurse would be paid \$25 per week.

In 1924 Hannah returned to Heath as Mrs. Fred (Ted) Burrington. The young couple lived with Ted's parents on the Burrington Meadows Farm. Their first child was born there in the month of March. The doctor got as far as the present A-frame houses [on the Trail] and had to be met with a horse and sleigh. Hannah said her mother-in-law was very patient with her and the nurse's methods of bringing up a baby.

Those were the days when feeding and baby care responded to the passage of time - every three hours.

The growing family moved to the present Chrisman home and then settled in the present day Cromack home. Hannah's brother, Oscar, meanwhile had continued farming on the Town Farm, bequeathed to him by Ethel Paine.

Hannah stated, "We were not born Heathens, but we were grafted on to the old Heath families" - the Burringtons for Hannah and the Gleasons (Grace) for Oscar.

Hannah raised her family while serving as an active member of the community. She recalled a comment made by Bishop Dun, then a summer resident at a 1950's community gathering in which he described Heath as an oasis in the hills, "where every man is known and respected for what he is, not for what he has." This creed lies close to Hannah's heart.

Hannah is currently residing at the Anchorage Nursing Home in Shelburne. She has a slight dimming of vision but otherwise, in all respects, is in good health.

The writing of her reminiscences can give us a glimpse of Heath's past but, sad to say, it cannot wholly reveal Hannah's lovely turn of phrase or her continuing enthusiasm for life.

[Additional reminiscences of Hannah Burrington will appear in a future number of the HERALD]



Nurse Hannah Landstrom
1922
(Photo courtesy of Catherine Cromack)



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CANDIDATES' STATEMENTS

PLANNING BOARD MEMBER (5 yr. term) - Thomas S. Lively

I would ask the voters for their support in the upcoming election by writing me in for the Planning Board.

I have been on the Board for 10 years now. We are presently in the midst of our most important work during my tenure and I would like to remain on the Board to see it through to completion. I'm speaking, of course, of our zoning bylaw work.

Please write me in as follows: Thomas S. Lively

PLANNING BOARD MEMBER (4 yr. term) - Helen J. Mackie

I am running for the position on the Planning Board vacated by Earl Gleason, a 4-year term.

After being summer and weekend folk, my husband, Chuck, and I decided to see if we could survive a Heath winter. We did. It was 19 years ago we moved into downtown Heath. Our girls attended Rowe Elementary where I worked in the Library for 9 years.

In our time here Heath has had many changes. My interest to serve and help plan the future of Heath will be brought about by the position on the Planning Board. I look forward to the opportunity.

LIBRARY TRUSTEE - Patricia Leuchtman

For the past three years I have been a trustee of the Heath Free Public Library and I have watched the circulation and traffic increase and increase. More than ever the Library needs an active trustee who will lobby to get the needs of the Library and its patrons met.

During my term I worked on the state grant that funded the Hilltown Video Cassette Circuit. Video equipment is now available in the library as well as for circulation. The response from patrons has been positive and enthusiastic, but it has meant even more work for our dedicated librarian, Alli Thane. People coming into the library to check out a video tape also take a few minutes to check out a book. This means that we have got to think about increasing our librarian's hours and finding her a circulation assistant.

One of the realities of living in a beautiful rural area is that the town budget is always tight. However, none of us is eager to give up the benefits of a good education, the availability of current information and the pleasure of entertainment. We want to have all these things right on our Heath hill and the library is extremely important in meeting these needs and desires.

I look forward to the opportunity to continue as your Library Trustee so I can advance the needs of the Library with the town government and help find additional ways to support its financial needs.

FINANCE COMMITTEE MEMBER - David F. Howland

I would be pleased to serve the Town of Heath for another three year term. The issues of growth, the problems of planning schools and roads and ways of satisfying the needs for services, will challenge our resourcefulness. I hope that the experience I have gained from my past years on the Committee will encourage voters to support my candidacy.

TAX COLLECTOR - Elizabeth Beaudoin

I am currently the acting Tax Collector having been appointed to fill the remainder of Linda Marcotte's term when she resigned last year. I have therefore been serving as Collector since November 1, 1987.

Having learned all the paper work that goes with the job, I am willing to continue for the coming three years. I hope to complete the job of collecting back taxes which Linda has made so much progress with. I would also hope to use the town computer to bring some of the tax records into a little better organization.

TOWN CLERK - Karen MacDougall

I have enjoyed working for the town during the past year. I have finally gotten to know what is going on in the office and I know who can answer the questions that may arise. I look forward to the next three years, if reelected, as Town Clerk.

SELECTMAN - Arthur Schwenger

Serving as Selectman for the past three years has been a satisfying and energy-generating effort. It has also at time been tedious and frustrating. I am happy to report that it has <u>not</u> been thankless. In fact it has been more than rewarding enough to make me want to do it again.

This is an especially momentous time for Heath. There has been a large growth in population. There has been a reduced ability to provide for dramatic increases in the costs of road maintenance, schools and effective town management. There has been a renewal of active interest on the part of residents as evidenced by good turnouts at the recent re-zoning workshops. I would like the opportunity to continue to be involved in the shaping of the major decisions facing the town. Long range planning for the schools, long range planning for the road systems, strategic decisions for future development and zoning and long range planning discussions ("Blueprint 2000") with the state are all activities in which I would like to keep working as Selectman.

The Board has made special efforts to become more open, accessible and responsive to community comment. There have been actions to better inform the voters of the activity of town government. I would want the Board to further improve on these aspects.

The job of Selectman is manageable for a person. With help from the Selectmen's Clerk and the Shared Administrative Aide, with a very respectful, dedicated and task-sharing group of Selectmen, and with responsible and cooperative town officials and boards, being Selectman has felt more a pleasure than a burden. I believe that promoting openness and tolerance in the workings of the town has been helpful

I ask for your vote. Any comment about the role I have played would be appreciated.

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FAREWELL TO PLOVER HILL

The HEATH HERALD had its earliest beginnings in the living room of Plover Hill so I'm inclined to use it as a means of expressing a few of my thoughts now that I must move away.

My husband, Johnny, and I spent many happy years at Plover Hill. We had never given any serious thought to ever having to leave it but nothing lasts forever, so now I must hand Plover Hill over to a new owner. I sincerely hope this owner will get as much enjoyment from the place as my family and I had for the past 56 years.

I will be taking so many memories and impressions with me that, although leaving is mighty hard for me to do. I'll never feel I've completely lost Plover Hill. The memories of walking through the open fields covered with a myriad of wild flowers; of lilac time and awakening in the mornings with the delicate lilac fragrance coming in on a gentle western breeze from the lilac bushes that reached up just outside our windows; of old fashioned roses bending low under their weight of blossoms; of foxgloves persistently jumping from one place to another; the wall gardens established by our gifted friend, Elsa Bakalar -- all these memories fill my mind in colorful array. When Johnny passed away so suddenly I could not have survived those very trying days but for all that our friends did for me. Their kindness and thoughtfulness were and will forever be a comfort to me.

I'll be remembering too summers way back in the days of playing "horse shoes" in Henry Churchill's driveway, square dancing in Sawyer Hall with the then young Andy Royer as caller and his mother and father gliding through the intricate dance steps with such ease and complete enjoyment; hikes up Pocumtuck mountain for picnics and thrilling to the magnificent Pocumtuck sunsets that spread across the western skies with Mt. Greylock silhouetted at the horizon, its blackness in complete contrast to the brilliance surrounding it; attending the Heath Church where, on occasion, my father filled in at pumping the organ and a choir of six or eight singers sang hymns played by Mrs. Pearle Tanner, her perky little hat always at a rakish angle on her head, where Edith Coates Royer walked down the aisle behind her mother, her long black curls hanging so prettily down her back (how I envied those curls); visiting the Center School House before leaving for the winter where Ernest Kinsman expertly flipped spit balls up onto the ceiling; and a time at Rachel Burrington Sumner's house, when going out into the barn with her, I found myself face to face with their ferocious looking bull and my trying so desperately not to show how terrified I was. Yes, these memories and many more I will take with me.

What a pleasant experience it was for me to have lived in an old house surrounded by the beauty of its mellowness and comforted by the feeling of permanence and stability, the latter being so very true at Plover Hill because of its many associations with my family and our dear Ella. There is really no better place to live than in a small town high in the hills for there one can enjoy the peace of an uncluttered environment and one can feel entirely apart from worldly problems, if one so wishes. Unfortunately, I'm afraid our town's officials have little opportunity to indulge in such feelings of freedom, being plagued, as they are, by ever growing local problems due to growth and expansion. They are to be complimented for their conscientious efforts to solve these overwhelming problems.

And so I say goodbye to Plover Hill and Heath. How thankful I am for being "a country gal" during the years I lived in that lovely spot.

. . . . Harriet C. Read

CHOLESTEROL LEVELS

by Sharleen Moffatt, R.N. Heath Town Nurse

In recent years the "normals" for serum cholesterol levels have dropped drastically. Several years ago a total serum cholesterol level of 300 was acceptable. We now realize that a total serum level of 180-200 increases your risk by up to 20 percent. A recent study has shown that serum levels in excess of 220 increase your risk by 400 percent. Just a few years ago this would have been thought to be normal.

Do you know what your cholesterol level is? In a time when many Americans seem to be very health conscious, it is surprising to find that very few (estimated at under 10%) people have ever had their cholesterol level checked. If you are unsure, ask your physician. A serum cholesterol check should be part of a complete medical examination. Your doctor needs to gather more information than a random blood test. My last total serum cholesterol was 169; what is yours?



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On the Mohawk Trail

A SECRET EXPOSED

by Alastair Maitland

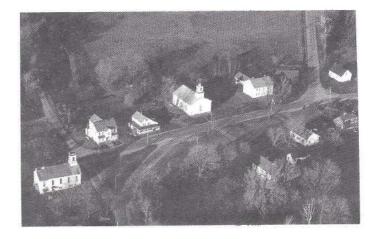
The United States Postal Service, obviously much concerned about the devastating effect upon Scotsmen (and other like-minded persons) of the recent 3 cent increase in the first-class letter rate, has been recommending the use of postcards, the postage on which has gone up by only 1 cent. This is a helpful and clearly well-meant recommendation, even if it is of only limited application. (Postcards are, alas, not of much use in paying property tax bills, for example).

Amongst the postcards that can be used instead of first-class letters are the pictorial ones now on sale at Peters Store. They offer a splendid bird's eye view of Heath Center, an entertainment/historical/cultural/religious/educational complex, which is also the

seat of the Town government.

The aerial view is the combined product of Michael Peters' twin passions: photography and aviation. The picture he offers is an autumnal one. The trees are dressed in gold. And the field behind the Church bears the traces of the wheels of those who gathered the rowen crop.

Each card costs 25 cents, or 20 cents if you buy five at a time: more than the cost of an envelope and a sheet or two of notepaper. Did the Postal Service take this into account in making its recommendation? Perhaps not. But this postcard is special. It contains a message to the addressee, about "the friendly people, scenic roads, rolling hills and fresh brooks of one of New England's best-kept secrets." Even the thriftiest Scot will surely reckon that the trade-off is a worthwhile one.



DOWNTOWN

(Aerial photo by Michael Peters)

Howard Crowningshield

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ROAD MAP OF HEATH

The HERALD is glad to include with this issue a detailed road map of our town including much of the surrounding area. This map is taken from a much larger map of Franklin and Hampshire Counties recently published by the D.H. Jones Real Estate Com-

The cost of printing and including it with the HERALD is supported by Realtor Bob Robertson and the D.H. Jones Company. It is hoped that the map will be of help to residents and visitors in locating parts of town new to them. Extra copies of the map have been printed and will be made available later at Sawyer Hall.

PERCS, PERMITS AND TRANSFERS

February and March 1988

Percolation Tests

There were no Percolation tests conducted in this period. Richard Giard reports that the perc test season will resume on April 15, 1988.

Deed Transfers

James Cerone, Robert Dobek, Walter Seibert and Kenneth Horr, partners doing business as H.T. Associates, to Charles and Lea Shattuck, Number Nine Road, Lot 3B, \$161,500.

David and Margaret Howland to Martin and Susan Saylor, Colrain Brook Road, \$1,800.

Margaret Patterson to Michael and Bonnie Patterson of Springfield, Mohawk Estates, Lot 18, \$1.

James Cerone, Robert Dobek, Richard Caracciolo and Kenneth Horr, partners doing business as H.T. Associates, to Robert Dobek of East Longmeadow, Number Nine Road, Lots 1A and Parcel 1, \$21,000.

James Cerone, Robert Dobek, Richard Caracciolo and Kenneth Horr, partners doing business as H.T. Associates, to Robert Dobek of East Longmeadow, Number Nine Road, Lot 6A, \$122,500.

James Cerone, Robert Dobek, Richard Caracciolo and Kenneth Horr, partners doing business as H.T. Associates, to Robert Dobek of East Longmeadow, Number Nine Road, \$12,500, includes land in

Harriet C. Read of Greenfield to Caleb Kissling, Main Street, \$187,000, land and buildings.

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SKI RACE COLD BUT SUCCESSFUL

by Beverly denOuden

The annual Heath ski race in 1988 was not for the faint hearted. Forty mile per hour winds and temperatures in the low teens trimmed the registrants from last year's 200 skiers down to 164 for the February 21 competition.

The send-off at noon was nonetheless enthusiastic and in less than one hour (53 minutes, 51 seconds) Vince O'Connell of Plainfield, the overall 15 K winner, was back in Heath Center accepting ice water and muffins from volunteers at the race's end. The first woman to finish the 15 K course was Kathy Swanson of Plainfield whose time was 1:17:56.

This was the first year that the Park Committee had to move to their alternate snow date due to lack of snow on February 7. The trail groomers went to work early Sunday morning, the 21st, to prepare the granular snow left after rains earlier in the week. Skiers reported the surface fast, but quite icy for those coming later on the trail. Civility meshed with competition, however, as several 15 K skiers reported that on the trail those set for the long haul helped one another by standing aside for passersby and taking turns on slick downhill runs.

Participants came from Vermont, Pennsylvania, New York, New Hampshire and Connecticut along with thirteen Heath residents. The majority of skiers were from the surrounding West County towns.

Steve Marcotte and Jayne Dane were the first male and female Heath finishers in the 15 K race, and Chris Seaver and Sheila Litchfield were the male and female residents to finish the 7.5 K trek.

Twenty-one percent of the skiers were in Classes VI, VII and VIII - that's the over forty set. Two 15 K finishers, Polly Bartlett of Shelburne Falls and Peter Sackman of Lunenburg were registered in Class VIII and timed 2:35:38 and 2::04:10 respectively and respectably!

The Park Committee and all other Heath volunteers netted a tidy profit of around \$1200 for the next project at Heath Center's playground. Much of the cost of putting on the race was underwritten by Mc-Cusker's and Mole Hollow Candles of Shelburne Falls. Work will continue this spring and summer on the proposed basketball court at the playground.



HEATH TIES TO WINTER OLYMPICS

by Beverly denOuden

Heath had no hot dog ski jumpers or svelte figure skaters on the television screen, but one of its own was honored for her design work for the Olympic biathlon team.

Neena Burrington, daughter of Paul and Nancy Burrington of Jacksonville Stage Road, designed both the pin and T-shirt worn by the U.S. Biathlon team at the

Winter Olympics in Calgary.

Currently a resident of Saxton River, Vermont, Neena works at the Kurn Hattin Home as an assistant house parent. Based on her earlier design work, the biathlon marketing director asked Neena to do the T-shirt. She and her brother, Fred Burrington of Heath, also entered the open competition for the team pin. Neena's pin design was the winner.

Neena is self taught and plans to continue her design work on a free lance basis. The world-wide exposure of biathlon designs is a fine start.

Congratulations and good luck, Neena.





T-shirt Design

Pin Design

OLYMPIC BIATHLON WINNERS

Richard A. Sumner

Journeyman Electrician Mass. License #E22622 Vermont License #J1245 South Road, Heath 413-337-4930

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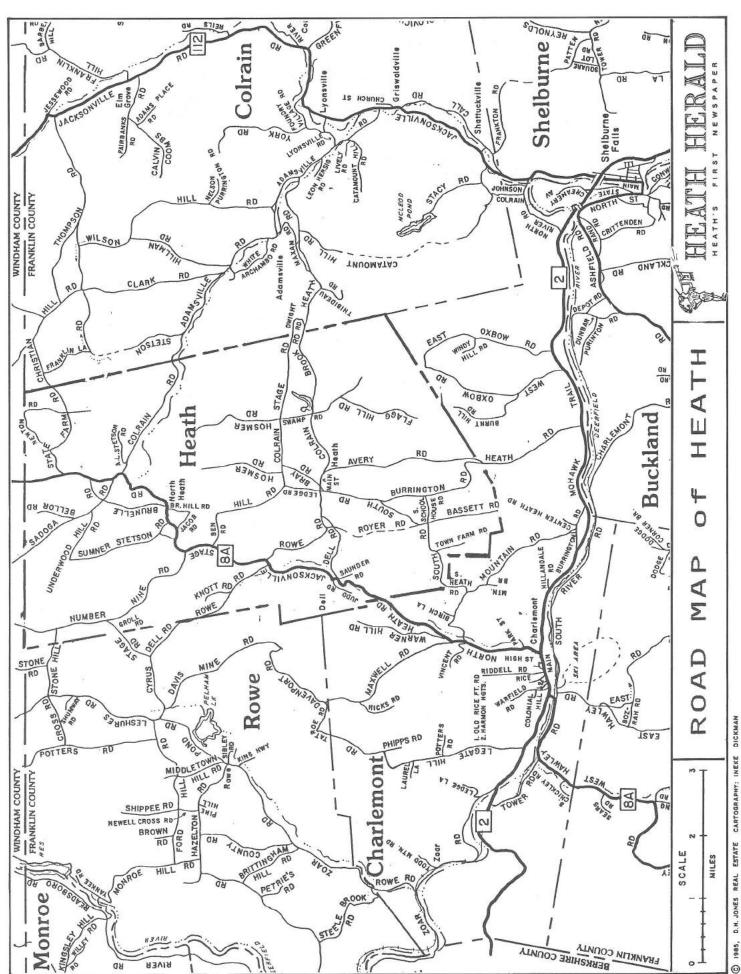
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UPDATE ON SAWYER HALL RECORD

In a follow up to the article in the last HEATH HERALD about the names on an old wood section found in the Town Library, Irmarie Jones, who we're glad to see reads the HERALD, gives this interesting information in a recent issue of the Recorder.

Ernest Kelly of Greenfield reports that Charles Hawks (whose name was signed on the old piece of wood found in Sawyer Hall) was a mason who lived in Charlemont and later moved to Greenfield. Kelly states, "He was an accomplished mason, my mother's uncle. He built what was once the only brick house on Silver Street." Thanks go to Irmarie Jones for her good reporting.

The HERALD is still looking for information on the second name signed in Sawyer Hall in 1896, "A. Rollins Bullock builder and carpenter."

HEATH LADIES AID

The Ladies Aid will meet on Thursday, April 14, at the Community Hall and will continue meeting every other Thursday. All are welcome.

COMMUNITY HALL NEWS

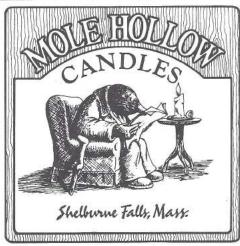
The Community Hall Committee expresses its appreciation to the Heath Pre-School for raising \$300 for the Hall from the food sale at the time of the cross-country ski race.

The Committee is looking for more members as it is still very small.

SMALL BUSINESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Franklin County Community Development Corporation is offering very low interest and flexible term loans to start-up and existing businesses in the town of Heath. The program, now in its second year, is actively working to stimulate business growth and job creation and to increase local industry and community services.

Applications for this program will be accepted through June of this year. To find out more about eligibility requirements, free technical assistance, or simply to discuss your business idea call Nancy Du-Bosque at the FCCDC 774-7204.



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HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

by Susan Silvester, Secretary

The Board of Directors of the Society met in February to discuss preservation efforts.

Curator Pegge Howland discussed the Ruby Austin material, explaining that the donation would be sorted and items distributed to their best appropriate locations. The Colrain material would be given to the Colrain Historical Society; books would be donated to the Heath Library; and the Bruffee genealogy material would be given to the Bruffee family in Greenfield.

In November, Pegge Howland and Michael Coe made a survey of the perishable paper, textiles and paintings in the Society's collection. A rough count was taken at that time of all items believed to be in need of immediate attention.

In January, Pegge went to the Northeast Conservation Center in Andover to discuss preservation costs with experts there. About 45 items need some sort of preservation work. The portrait of Mrs. Spooner was examined and it was advised that this piece be taken to the Clark Institute. Estimates for preservation at the Andover facility range from \$200 to \$225 per item

It was decided to begin preservation efforts with the Spooner portrait. Pegge will take this first item to the Clark Institute in Williamstown. Mike suggested we then examine the remaining portraits, manuscripts and finally other printed material.

A vote of thanks was given to Dominic Musacchio for the work he will do on the Schoolhouse door and for the shutters on the Town House.

CHURCH LADDER LOST

The high step ladder belonging to the Heath Church has disappeared over the past year.

The person who borrowed the ladder is asked to return it to the Church as it is badly needed for work being done in the building. Anyone knowing of its whereabouts is asked to contact Rachel Sumner.

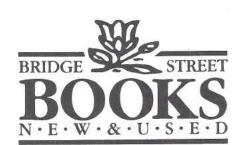
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NEWS FROM THE ACADEMY

by Olga Peters '94

The Academy's second trimester has just come to a close with exams and a great sigh of relief. There has been a lot of hard work as well as enthusiasm in the sports department. The skiing season has ended and the lacrosse, track and tennis season will be starting.

One of the most exciting events that happened this trimester was the 7th Founders' Day. To celebrate this year's Founders' Day, the school went to Pittsfield to watch a production of <u>Hamlet</u> by Shakespeare and Company. The play was very enjoyable as well as an educational experience. After the play the school held a winter carnival at Berkshire East, with skiing races, both cross country and Alpine, and relay races. The day was topped off with ice cream for all.

Now that exams are over, everyone can enjoy two full weeks of R & R.

MOHAWK TRAIL SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

The Mohawk Trail Regional High School has announced that the following Heath students are on the 2nd quarter honor roll:

Junior Honors: Tanja Davin, Karen Venneri

Freshmen Honors: Brian Sackett

7th Grade High Honors: Caroline Barry

7th Grade Honors: Valerie Belval, Jeffrey Gilbert, Joel Porter-DeVries, April Tanner



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MOHAWK TRAIL REGIONAL SCHOOL NEWS

by Tanja Davin

With the arrival of spring Mohawk is bustling with activity. Spring athletic programs have begun including track and field, baseball, tennis and softball.

The all-school musical, <u>Little Shop of Horrors</u>, was a huge success with wonderful performances by the entire cast. Planning has already begun on this year's Senior play.

The Music Department is in the final stages of planning for the trip to Florida during April vacation. A Valentine's Day dance was finally held on March 3 after being postponed twice because of snow. This was a major fund-raising event for the band and chorus; they will compete in Florida again this year.

Also during the April vacation 29 members of this year's Foreign Travel club will journey to sunny Spain for nine days, including a ferry ride across the Straits of Gibraltar to Tangier.

Spring vacation is the week of April 18 - 25.

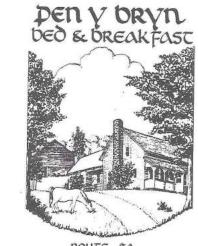
As the end of the school year pulls into sight, the 1988 graduating class is beginning to make plans. Students are receiving college admissions letters and looking forward to all the final class activities that will take place in May and June. There are approximately two months left before graduation day.

MOHAWK SEVENTH GRADE NEWS

by Valerie Belval, Grade 7

The seventh grade is doing really well in school. There are so many students on the honor roll this quarter, I can't count them all or name them.

Our teachers have been real nice and have planned, a whale watch. We are going on May 19. Our class is going down on a Peter Pan luxury bus, eating at a sit-down restaurant. Then we are going on a three hour whale watch. After that we are going to a Burger King or McDonald's. Then we will be returning to school at 9:15 PM. I would like to say thank you to all the people who bought calendars to help support the 7th grade whale watch.



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SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORT

by Budge Litchfield, Secretary

This report will focus on the long-range educational planning process which has been going on in our area for over a year. Beginning last winter, school committee representatives from each of the nine towns in our school district have been meeting to discuss the long range educational needs of their towns. It quickly became obvious that almost every school had space problems, that almost every town was having a hard time funding education and that our very complicated "district" organization structure was probably hurting in many ways. Both Skip Venneri and I represented Heath during this phase of the process. By this time last year the committee representatives and administrators had decided to continue this process in a more formal way and to hire Dr. Gwen VanDorp as our Director of Planning.

There are two groups developed by Dr. VanDorp: a local long-range planning committee from each town or regional school district, and a task force composed of educators from each of our schools. Information from these groups will be funneled into a district-wide committee composed of representatives from each local long-range planning committee, educators and administrators. This committee will explore whether or not there are realistic multi-town solutions to the needs described on a local level.

This whole process is intended to be open-ended and therefore not directed to any one solution. There may or may not be multi-town or coordinated solutions which are acceptable, reasonable and responsive to the needs of our towns.

The Heath Long Range Planning Committee has been meeting since October 1987. We have mailed a letter to Heath residents describing who we are and what we plan to do and recently circulated a draft of our "needs statements." If you have any comments or if our mailings missed you, please contact a member of the committee (Art Schwenger, Pam Porter, Peter Smith, Sue Lively, John Henry and myself).

Why should Heath be looking at long-range educational needs? In my opinion these are some of the stronger reasons: Our current tuition relationship with Rowe, while having many positive aspects, leaves us without a permanent elementary school "base," without any voting control over our children's education and with a very low level of state aid, since the Department of Education does not favor tuition-paying systems. Our recent growth spurt seems to make the need for a permanent school facility (one we could add to as need be) more pressing. Do my comments here mean that a solution involving Rowe is out of the question? No. There are other ways our two towns can structure their relationship, or we may find that in the end the "status quo" is the best we can get. Exploration of whether or not the needs of Heath and Rowe can be met together is one of the next tasks for the committee. We hope to have begun this very important discussion with Rowe by Town Meeting. At the same time we are continuing to gather information about regionalization, school construction projects, state funding, Department of Education policies and, most importantly, the thoughts of our neighbors regarding education.

I will wrap up this report by responding to some of the commonly asked questions about this planning effort. The first question could be worded like this: "Won't a regional school district mean a gigantic elementary school in the Shelburne Falls area?" Not necessarily. The agreement that forms a regional school district is written by, and must be approved by, each of the member towns. Therefore, if continued use of existing local schools and some level of local control are important issues in the member towns, guarantees about these issues can be written into the agreement. In my discussion with Heath residents and residents of neighboring towns, I have not found one person favoring a large centrally located elementary school. One must assume that a regional agreement would reflect those feelings.

Second question: "Isn't this whole process just a "snow job" leading toward a town school or leading toward a large region?. The answer to each is "No." This process was designed to be open-ended and your planning committee is working hard to keep it that way. We plan to explore each and every reasonable option using the needs statements as a yardstick to help evaluate each option.

Third question: "How could we regionalize with Rowe? Doesn't their "wealth" make that financially impossible?" The current ground rules for state and regional school districts would not favor a Heath-Rowe region. But there could be ways of working around that and, if Rowe is at all interested, we would begin exploring those possibilities.

Last question: "Won't the state just tell us what to do anyway?" No, but ... The Department of Education does not have the authority to order towns to build schools or form regional school districts. What they do have is a very powerful carrot to dangle in front of us. Money. The Department of Education policies regarding a variety of state aid are weighted in the directions the Department would like to see towns travel. In this way towns can be led in certain directions due to the need for a higher level of state aid.

So far our committee feels very good about the work we have done and the challenges ahead of us. We are working for you and need your input. Please share your ideas and questions with us.

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UPDATE ON THE UPHAM-KIEHN HOUSE

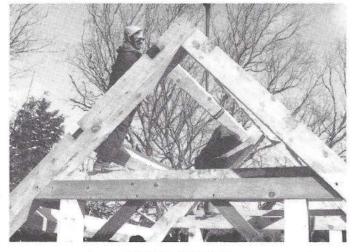
by Beverly denOuden

I stopped back to visit with Wally Upham to see how his home building project was progressing [see August 1987 issue of the HERALD, page 7]. He was preparing a fascia board for the trim around the solar green house — spring will come and along with building one must prepare garden plantings.

Wally and Karolyn had a rafter raising get-together on December 5. Friends and neighbors offered the muscle and with the assistance of a powerful crane the 10"x10" pine beam rafters were positioned and secured. There are four up to the peak on each slope, with tiers of tapered 10"x10" beams serving as cross members. It took about two hours to prepare the deck, picking up the plastic and cutting the bird's mouth which serves as the fitting for the eight rafters. Once the crane was in action the entire framework was in place in another two hours.

Several more weeks were needed to get the roof panels in place. Ernie Thane and his tractor were an integral part of the relay team that was needed to lift and transfer the 4x10 foot panels of "stres-skin" into place. These panels are comprised of three layers; plywood, styrofoam insulation and sheetrock. Carroll Stowe, Steve and Jason Morrissey, Will Herd, Les Kiehn, Sam and Andrea Cohn, Earl and Walt Gleason were all present to get the roof in place on one project or another.

The next step is to close in the gable ends. Mean-while Karolyn is envisioning the finished rooms and preparing the wood for the deck off their second floor. Wally is planning the massive chimney structure to come up through all three levels while also laying out his dream for a Japanese garden. Plans and projects have plenty of latitude at Spring Meadow Farm.



RAFTER RAISING
Steve Morrissey fitting beams in place
at Spring Meadow Farm
(Photo by Wally Upham)



HEATH CONSERVATION COMMISSION

by Bill Lattrell, Chairman

Recently the Conservation Commission has received six or seven inquiries regarding Notices of Intent and Requests for Determinations. We would like to take the opportunity to ask people who are planning to file with the Commission not to wait until the last minute. It can take six to eight weeks to process an application with publishing, hearings and responses being all part of a detailed process. Also each application requires a site review. This is a process that takes a lot of time. It will lead to quicker processing if your applications are spread out over time instead of being lumped into the May and June rush.

In February the Commission issued an Order of Conditions to the Mohawk Estates Association in response to the Notice of Intent they filed regarding their aquatic nuisance vegetation control project. The Commission also issued a Certificate of Compliance to Robert Rodes of Stone Hill Road. The Heath Commission would like to thank Mr. Rodes for his cooperative effort in filing a Notice of Intent and following the Order of Conditions issued. We wish the best of luck to the Rodes family in their new home,

Lastly, the Conservation Commission is required to post legal notices in regard to hearings, etc. It has come to our attention that some notices have been inadvertently removed before the hearings are held. We would like to remind everyone that these notices are for the benefit of the public and must remain posted until the date of the hearing. Only Heath public officials may remove these legal notice postings.

A Happy Spring to all of the fine residents of Heath.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT REPORT

by Ray Galipo, Superintendent

As the days grow longer and the sun gets higher in the sky, sap buckets hang on the trees and the smell of evaporating sap, coming from the old sugar house once owned by Francis Galipo of Heath, tells the road crew that the long hours and wear on their bodies and equipment is nearing the end of another winter season.

In generalizing, it has been pretty much of an open winter with time to breathe between storms.

Taking into consideration the age of our equipment and the long, hard, grinding hours that it has had over the years, I feel it has been an inexpensive winter as far as machinery goes, even though we did have to purchase a sander engine and a ring and pinion in one of the trucks.

Now that everyone has gone through most of the winter with spinning of tires and slipping on the ice, we can relax and smile knowing that all that is left before a beautiful summer is splashing in the mud and jumping from one rut to another.

Hopefully it won't warm up too fast and, with the help of some trap rock gravel, things will go smoothly.

As soon as the trucks can get on dirt roads, you will see us carrying gravel to different areas of town finishing up the FEMA project which must be completed by October 1988. Upon completion of this project you should see a big improvement in the dirt roads.

A special thanks to the men - Dohn Sherman (Donnie Duke), Pete Smith (Briar Rabbit) and Fred Lively (Gramps) - for a job well done.

Hope all of you will be with me for another year.

PLANNING BOARD REPORT

by Bob Dane, Secretary

The Heath Re-zoning Project is underway. Three zoning workshops have been held thus far covering open space residential development, commercial zoning and natural resource protection. These workshops have been well attended with an average of 45 people attending each one. Kitchen meetings are being held as a follow up for the workshops. If you are interested in learning about the different zoning options available to us in Heath and if you would like to talk about this project, please call a member of the Planning Board or the Task Force.

In other Planning Board business we have received a letter of resignation from Earl Gleason. He feels that he doesn't have enough time to devote to the Board in addition to his duties as Fire Chief and running his fire equipment supply business. We will be addressing this situation at our next meeting.

We held a public hearing for a special request by Arthur and Arlene Galipo for permission to build on their land-locked property between Dell Road and Long Hill Road. Craig Barry and Donna MacNicol, attorneys for the Litchfields over whose right of way the Galipos proposed to have access to the property, gave their opinion that this special permit request was not under Planning Board jurisdiction and that the applicants would need a variance from the Zoning Board of Appeals. This opinion was confirmed by our town counsel and the county planner and we acted accordingly.

The next zoning workshop will be held Monday, April 25 at 7:30 PM at the Community Hall. The topics to be covered include phased growth bylaws and large development review. Hope to see you there!

ASSESSORS' REPORT

The Assessors are currently working to ensure that the FY'89 tax bills are sent out on time in the fall.

With the loss of one assessor, this very difficult task becomes even more taxing on the remaining two individuals. We are therefore looking for someone who is interested in filling the vacancy which will occur when Chris Burke retires.

The Assessors do have quite a bit of new construction to look over and the usual large amount of paperwork to complete. The ideal candidate would have a significant amount of time to devote to the Town.

Anyone interested in the position is welcome to visit the office on Wednesday night to see what the assessors' job is.

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FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

by David F. Howland

When one's income is relatively fixed at a modest level it often requires hard choices and planning to pay the bills and yet put something aside for longer term goals. Can the washing machine be repaired so that it will last two more years? Shall we paint the house ourselves so we can plan for a better car? How about education for the kids? This is budgeting at home and it is not all that different in the Town. At this time the FinCom is reviewing the day to day operating budgets and trying to balance these with long term objectives. We started the planning for FY 1988-89 in a hopeful, positive frame of mind but, as often happens at home, something comes along to alter one's best laid plans.

We knew there were several new items to consider in the budget for next year - a concrete pad for the new dump site, new dump containers, hauling and tipping fees at the incinerator in Agawam, cost of closing the old dump, a new truck (we hoped) for the Highway Department and renewal of auditing fees. Then, of course, there are also the usual services that need attention and the largest budget item - schools. The project we really wanted to support was the long range road maintenance program so badly needed for our Town. It looked as if we might be able cope with all these. However, we have incurred serious problems with the interpretation of equal opportunity grant funds, some \$40,000, from the state. These monies. which are to be used to increase per pupil expenditures at Rowe School according to state education department criteria, are included in the Cherry Sheet as reimbursements to the Town. We planned on these for the current fiscal year, but now a move is being made by the State to allocate them for next year. The matter is too involved and unclear at this time to explain, but it has a significant adverse impact on our planning. Further, in setting the tax rate for this year these funds were not considered in the usual way - again on some advice from the state. This is one reason the tax rate came out better than expected. The end result of all this may be that we will not be able to do the things we had hoped to do next year.

In any event we expect a substantial increase in taxes next year, hopefully without an override vote because of the increased levy limit voted last year and new valuation (growth) experienced this year. For further details come to the Annual Town Meeting, May 7, and the Information Meeting, April 26.



FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

by Chief Earl Gleason

The Department responded to nine calls during February, starting with a chimney fire on February 5 followed by a structure fire at the James Herzig residence on February 8. As the Herzig fire was controlled our tanker responded to a mutual aid structure fire in Colrain and our third call of the day was to a rekindle of the Herzig house in the evening. On February 15 four firefighters responded to a chimney fire on Brunelle Road. On the seventeenth a structure fire destroyed Robert Tripp's barn. The next morning we of the Tripp barn. The were called to a rekindle evening of the twenty-second saw the firefighters responding to a chimney fire on Royer Road. The last call of the month was to aid an elderly man who had fallen and was later transported by the Colrain ambulance. Thankfully, there were no calls in March. Three drills were held during the period. Two of these were put on with the cooperation of Yankee Atomic Electric Company and the Massachusetts Civil Defense. The subject was radiation and the firefighter.

The Fire Chief attended three organizational meetings and one fire wardens meeting. Four smoke detector inspections were made.

A new truck arrived at the fire station, or at least new to the Town of Heath. The Fire Association has purchased a 1961 Ward LaFrance 750 GPM pumper built on an International chassis. The truck has a 1000 gallon tank and will replace the 1947 American LaFrance Ford fire truck. It is expected that the town will be asked to accept the purchased pumper to be turned over to the Town in the near future. It needs painting before being put in service.

Along this same line the Fire Chief and Selectmen requested some assistance from Yankee Atomic Electric Company for our communications. As a result, new radios are being purchased for the new truck as well as considerable other radio equipment, an investment of nearly \$6,000.

TOWN ACCOUNTANT

Arlene Markert, our new Town Accountant appointed after the resignation of Catherine Nichols in January, has quickly mastered the complexities of the job as well as the computer system and the accounting programs. In addition to producing the weekly town warrant and other regular accounting forms, she has set up the new budget accounts for the Selectmen and Finance Committee.

During March, Arlene attended a three-day seminar at the University of Massachusetts on town accounting principles. She will also attend a software users' group meeting in Sturbridge on May 6 to learn more of the applications of our software programs.

Arlene's commitment to the job has been shown by her arriving at the Town Hall on foot (2 1/2 miles each way) on Monday mornings when ice, snow or mud have prevented automobile travel.

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TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

by Elizabeth Beaudoin Collector of Taxes

Tax bills for Fiscal 1988 were mailed out the last Monday in March. Normally taxes for a fiscal year are divided into two payments, due six months apart. In this case the bill for the first half of the fiscal year (which should have been due November 1, 1987) was printed so late that it was necessary to mail it together with the bill for the second half of the year (due May 1, 1988). Both bills, the entire tax for FY'88, must be paid by May 1.

Many people have been confused about the actual amount they owe. Your total tax is shown on the second line at the extreme right hand side of the bill, in the box labeled Total Tax and Assessments. Your half payments (in the left column of the green bill and the right column of the purple bill) should equal this figure. Unless you have made a prepayment, the Total Tax and Valuation is the amount that you now owe.

Some people will remember that they made a tax payment last fall. This payment was made for the second half of FY'87 (also mailed out late). The bill for 1988 had not been issued at that time.

If you are confused or have questions my office hours at the Town Hall are Monday and Wednesday evenings from 8 to 10 PM and by appointment. You can also contact me at home at 337-4260.

A DESK FOR THE TAX COLLECTOR

In our Christmas 1987 issue the Tax Collector reported that the town budget was too tight to provide her with a desk at Sawyer Hall. She appealed to anyone with a spare desk to donate or loan it to the Town. The HERALD carried a classified ad with this appeal in two successive issues.

The HERALD and the Tax Collector are happy to announce that a desk has now been made available to her, on indefinite loan, by a generous reader, who wishes to remain anonymous.

USE OF TOWN HALL BULLETIN BOARD

The Selectmen have again restated the policy regarding the Town Hall bulletin boards.

The bulletin board in the outside lobby of the Hall is to be used <u>only</u> for official town notices posted by a town officer. These notices are not to be removed by anyone except the Town Clerk or other town officer.

The bulletin board on the inside lobby at the Town Hall is provided for personal and other non-official notices.



SELECTMEN'S REPORT

by Heath Board of Selectmen

The Selectmen have been meeting jointly with the Finance Committee on preparing this year's budget. After five sittings, a total was still not settled on as of this writing. However, all indications are that the budget requirement will be high. No actions have been decided yet, but it is possible that exclusions from Proposition 2 1/2 or an override may be requested. Increases requested for operating costs by many town departments, town building repairs, equipment purchases and significant road repairs will demand new

An aggressive long range road building and maintenance program is being developed this year. With a concentration on drainage and planned construction following on the heels of the flood repairs to be completed this season, the Selectmen are optimistic that over time, with a commitment from the town, real gains will replace the usual yearly losses.

There will be an information meeting on Wednesday, April 26, in anticipation of the May 6 election and the May 7 Annual Town Meeting. This session will be another opportunity to ask questions and otherwise

sound out the budget proposers.

The information meeting on April 26 will follow directly after a special town meeting which will start at 7:30 PM in the Community Hall. The special town meeting will ask the town to accept a gift of property to be used as the site of the Refuse Transfer Station. Also permission to accept the property at the present landfill will be asked. This latter vote would allow the town to qualify for a grant to help close the landfill. It would also clarify the burden of any possible future problems at the site. The formation of a 3-town district to own and manage the property is being investigated. In any event, shared responsibility will be continued with Charlemont and Hawley.

With the able help of Shared Administrative Assistant Susan Wright, bids for the purchase of a transfer station were drawn up and published. Five bids were received and the field has been reduced to two companies. Cost of the equipment will be in the neighborhood of \$20,000. Construction of the site is hoped to

be completed before July.

The Selectmen will be presenting an article at the Annual Town Meeting to create a mandatory recycling program. The action will be part of an agreement with the Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) in Springfield under which a 40 yard bulk container will be given to the town plus individual recycling containers for each household to make participation easier. All aluminum and tin cans and glass bottles can be combined together; most paper and cardboard will be placed in a separate compartment of the town's bulk container. The purpose is to save money for the town in tipping fees by reducing the amount of solid waste from the town.

The Selectmen hope you will plan to come to the Annual Meeting. As a result of much citizen activity this year, some significant decisions which could make for great differences in our town's future will be discussed.

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TOWN OFFICE HOURS

(At Town Hall unless otherwise specified)

Selectmen: Assessors: Town Clerk:

Tuesdays 7:15 PM Wednesdays 7 - 9 PM Tuesdays 6:30 - 7:30 PM Wednesdays 8 - 11 AM

& 6:30 - 8:30 PM

(Call 337-4268 between 5 & 8 PM for appointment)

Town Accountant: Town Treasurer: Tax Collector:

Mondays 9 AM - 12:30 PM Tuesday & Thursday 1:30 - 5 PM Tuesdays 7:30 - 10 PM

Wednesdays 8 - 9 PM

Also call 337-4260 for appointment

Finance Committee: As posted

Planning Board: Mondays 7 PM April 18, May 16

Heath School Committee:

1st Wednesday of month

Library Trustees: Library:

3rd Monday of month 7:30 PM Mondays 6 - 9 PM Wednesdays 1 - 5 PM Saturdays 9 AM - 1 PM

Town Nurse:

Wednesdays 8:45 - 10:45 AM (call 625-2829 between 7-8:15 AM for appointment)

Post Office:

Monday through Saturday 9:30 AM - 1:30 PM

Dump*

Mondays 10 AM - 2 PM

Wednesdays 1 PM - 7 PM Saturdays 9 AM - 5 PM

* (Permit required - see Town Clerk or Postal Clerk)

Town Telephones:

Town Hall 337-4934 Community Hall 337-4847 Town Garage 337-4462

FIRE POLICE 337-4461 337-4901

DOG LICENSES

Town Clerk Karen MacDougall is now issuing the 1988 dog licenses. All dog owners are asked to contact her at the Town Hall office as soon as possible to obtain their licenses during her regular office hours. Owners are reminded that they must present a certificate of rabies vaccination before a license can be issued in accordance with the state law. A rabies clinic will be held at the Rowe Town Hall on April 23 at which time anyone can bring their dog for vacci-

Dog owners are also reminded that unlicensed dogs are subject to fines if picked up by the Dog Officer.

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MILESTONES

by Edith C. Royer

Michael Anthony was born on March 2 to Melissa and James Wright of Burleson, Texas. Michael is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Wayne Decker, the greatgrandson of Mildred Decker and the great-great grandson of Rudolph Fournier of Heath. The Wright family plan to visit Heath in the near future.

<u>Lisa Marie</u> was born on March 8 to Diane and Douglas <u>Crowningshield</u> of Colrain Road, Heath. Lisa is the granddaughter of Jeannette and Howard Crown-

ingshield of Heath.

<u>Nicole Marie</u> was born on March 17 to Cheryl and Ernest <u>Wright</u> of Shelburne Falls. Nicole is the grand-daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Wilbert Rainville, Jr. and great-granddaughter of Wilbert Rainville of Heath.

<u>Jamie Lee</u> was born on April 5 to Leigh <u>Bakalar</u> and Danny Jennings of Chesterfield, VA. Jamie Lee is the great-granddaughter of Elsa and Mike Bakalar of Heath.

Molly Anne was born on April 6 to Linda and Donald Chapin of Northfield. Molly is the granddaughter of Evelyn and Smead Hillman of Heath.

Helen Nichols went to Palisades, NY, for the wedding of her granddaughter, <u>Amanda Louise Burrell</u>, to Stephen Craig Hutchinson on February 13. Amanda is the daughter of Mary Louise Burrell.

Mary Louise Burrell was married in March to Arthur John Lenna. Mary Louise is the daughter of Helen

Nichols.

<u>Pegge and David Howland</u> celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on March 26 with a party at the Shelburne-Buckland Community Center followed by a trip to Bermuda.

Harvey Lawrence of Glastonbury, CT, died in Febru-

ary. He was a summer resident of Heath.

<u>Crystal Lea McCloud</u> died March 28. She was the 6 month old daughter of Sandy and Jerry McCloud of Heath Stage Road and the granddaughter of Evelyn and Smead Hillman of Heath.

HEATH VOTES ON SUPER TUESDAY

Almost a third of Heath's 364 registered voters turned out to vote at Sawyer Hall in the presidential primary election on March 8. Those voting in the Democratic Party outnumbered the Republicans two to one.

In the Democratic party Dukakis and Jackson tied, each receiving 33 votes, with Simon receiving 4 votes and Gore 2. Republicans gave Bush 23 votes to Dole's 14 votes.



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HEATH PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Pat and Henry Leuchtman have returned from a trip to Santa Monica, CA, where Henry attended a software users group meeting. Following the meeting they drove up the coast to San Jose to visit Pat's son. Henry is Manager of Information Systems for the Development Office at the University of Massachusetts.

Nicole Fogarty placed second in the 3000 meter run at the Greater Boston Track Championships. Nicole, a senior at Brandeis University, ran the distance in a time of 9 minutes, 40 seconds, three seconds behind the winner.

<u>Hannah Burrington</u> is now living at the Anchorage Nursing Home in Shelburne. Shortly after moving there she had a pacemaker installed and is now getting along well. She welcomes cards and visitors.

COMING DATES ON TOWN CALENDAR

April 16 Deadline for Town Meeting Warrant

April 25 Rezoning Workshop 7:30 PM

April 26 Special Town Meeting & Information Meeting 7:30 PM

May 6 Town Election 1 - 7 PM

May 7 Annual Town Meeting 9 AM

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