



VOLUME 10 NUMBER 4

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 1988

# HEATH HERALD

HEATH'S FIRST NEWSPAPER 35¢

## Population Explosion Hits Rowe School

by Karen Brooks, Heath Parent

Uneasiness and a feeling of hopelessness marred the opening of the Rowe School this year. For parents it had become apparent that they had in fact no voice in the operating of their school. A Rowe School Committee meeting had been planned for the middle of August but had been postponed (due to absences of its members) until August 31, the last night before school opened. Two out of three members were present as well as Budge Litchfield, Heath's School Committee representative for Rowe School, Bruce Willard, Superintendent of Schools, and many parents.

The meeting began with everyday business (bids for bread and milk, discussion of roof inspections, etc.) and went on as usual until the issue of personnel hiring began. There were many comments from teachers and parents about the quality of education with the lack of one teacher for grades 3-6. (Presently, the morning sees some 4th graders in the 3rd grade room, some in 5th and some 5th in with the 6th, with Ruth Johnson, the Kindergarten teacher, taking the extra grade in the afternoon). Suggestions were made for the hiring of an additional full-time teacher as well as a full-time aide for Readiness-1 (a new grade created to enable 6-year-olds not fully ready for 1st grade to have an extra year in the 1st grade room rather than merely repeating Kindergarten). There were uncertainties as to the actual numbers of students, both at the upper levels as well as elementary, and a reluctance from the School Committee to ask Rowe for any additional funds this year. One member said that she had had to ask for an additional \$6,500 at the last town meeting and had been met with anger and frustration from the town for having to spend any more on education than they had already spent. Her comment was that for the amount they were spending on their elementary school they could send their children to Harvard or to private tutors.

Presently Rowe has a total school budget of approximately \$500,000. Taking out what Heath pays (approximately \$160,000) and what Rowe spends on Mohawk and the Technical School that still leaves more than \$8,000 per Rowe child (about 30 in Rowe) compared with the approximate \$2,000 per child for the 90 children Heath sends to their school. No wonder there is some hostility! These numbers will improve gradually over the next few years as a new contract is worked out but probably not soon enough to alleviate the hard feelings between the towns. A suggestion was made by Budge (he can only make suggestions as he has no actual vote) to hold a meeting in the near future to discuss short range planning (as opposed to long-range) for Heath and Rowe regarding elementary education. The proposal was agreed to and hopefully issues of increasing class . . . continued on page 3

## WAGON TRAIN 1988

by Beverly denOuden

Carroll Stowe's 8th annual Wagon Train took place on September 23 and 24. Approximately 100 people and 73 animals were camped at the Heath Fairgrounds on Saturday night under clear cool skies. Once again many in the group had been on the road since Thursday, beginning at Ken Demer's farm in Clarksburg, spending Thursday at Frank Sprague's home in Whitingham and arriving in Heath Friday evening - a distance of 35 miles.

Personnel managers from Montevideo, Uruguay, and retired farmers from North Adams are parts of the spectrum of people one can meet on the ride.

The Morse family from Whitingham was there with several generations, all pitching in from pancake making on Sunday morning to brushing and feeding horses.

Acrobatic high jinks were provided by Polly Bartlett of Shelburne Falls and Hattie Ball of Deerfield for entertainment in the evening. Reading aloud from "The Wide Awake Annual Collection of Folk Tales" by Charles E. Graham (1925) was covered by Carroll Stowe at the campfire Saturday night.

Ken Demer's "movie stars" were there providing rides on the wagon for those people without mounts or teams. Ken's Percherons can be appreciated in the rag picker scenes in the movie "Ironweed" with Jack Nicholson and Meryl Streep.

The Wagon Train has developed from five hitches back in 1981 to the lineup of 16 teams, 5 single hitches and 35 outriders this year. The increase in numbers correspond with the rich growth in the mix of people who share a love of horses, a respect for old-time ways and quiet pleasures.



**CARROLL STOWE with ANN CAREY'S HORSE**

Getting ready for Wagon Train  
(Photo by Bev denOuden)



## LETTERS

Continue with the HERALD

To the Editors:

Please make every effort to keep the paper going. I enjoy reading it so much. Help will come, I'm sure. Wish I could assist.

DeSales J. Heath  
West Bridgewater, MA  
-----

To the Editors:

I wish one or more of us were nearer at hand to offer help in future staffing of the paper, which we all enjoy very much. I hardly think you need a foreign correspondent, but you can let me know about that. It has been a wonderful venture which surely deserves a long life span.

R.W. Hulbert  
Paris, France  
[and Avery Brook Road]  
-----

To the Editors:

It is usually a pleasure to see one's name in print (unless it is your obituary) and such was the case when I noted the "Heath People in the News" item relating to the Arms Academy, Class of 1948's 40th reunion in you August/September '88 issue.

However, I must correct one minor error. I am proud to say Marian Patterson is my Mother, not my Grandmother and to be otherwise she would have had to be born before 1890. Now that the record is straight, the reunion was superb. It was great being with Heath Friends again.

Incidentally, I was saddened to read in that same issue that the HERALD may dissolve next April. We hope that such is not the case. We who have left the beautiful Heath Hills, for whatever reasons, look to each issue for "news from home." Please keep publishing!

Bruce Patterson  
Burke, Virginia

## LETTER

To the Editors:

Massachusetts has been a net importer of electricity since 1983. Fifty percent of the electricity we do produce is generated using foreign oil. If the proposition on this November's ballot to close Massachusetts' two nuclear power plants is successful, the state will find itself even more dependent on foreign oil, and the cost will be measured in both environment and financial terms.

Should Pilgrim and Yankee Rowe be shut down, Massachusetts would lose the sources for 20 percent of the state's electricity. Even at today's low oil prices, replacement power would cost about \$350,000 a day. The increased scarcity of power supplies or the further disruption of the international oil market would dramatically increase these costs. Margaret N. St. Clair, former Massachusetts Secretary of Energy, summarized the situation; "Massachusetts is already one of the most oil-dependent states in the nation. Shutting down our state's nuclear plants would make us even more vulnerable."

In addition to the high-cost of oil as replacement power, oil burning continues to be environmentally dangerous. Oil-fired plants used to replace Yankee's and Pilgrim's electricity would put as much as 44 million pounds of sulfur dioxide and 7 billion pounds of carbon dioxide into the air every year - adding to acid rain problems and the Greenhouse effect.

In November, voters will decide on Question 4 how best to bring power to the people. Voting NO on this question will allow the state to provide electricity - responsibly and reliably - for the future.

SHEILA M. LITCHFIELD

## HEATH PRECIPITATION

by Ralph Dickinson  
Observer for Mass. Resources Commission

August precipitation was 5.39 inches; September precipitation was 2.01 inches. The total precipitation for 1988 to September 30 was 33.37 inches.

August had above average rainfall while September was far below the 20 year average. Our annual precipitation is about 5 inches below normal so far this year.



## HEATH HERALD

HEATH'S FIRST NEWSPAPER

VOLUME 10 NUMBER 4 OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 1988

Editorial Staff Pegge Howland  
Caroline Smith

Editorial Assistant Alastair Maitland  
Staff Reporters Beverly denOuden  
Edith Royer  
Susan Silvester  
Alli Thane

Advertising Ray Pettengill  
Circulation & Business Terry Pettengill  
Typography Newland Smith

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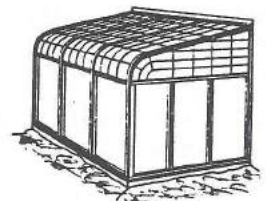
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. . . . continued from page 1

numbers and the need for an additional full-time teacher will be dealt with. A suggestion was made by Bruce Willard that the evening meeting not come to any final decision but that they wait until numbers were known and perhaps funds could be found elsewhere in the school budget to cover the cost of the additional aide time needed. (This suggestion was only made after a vote had been taken to not ask the Town for additional funds for necessary staff and to hire a librarian-kindergarten teacher who was not recommended by 4 out of 5 search committee members including the principal and several staff members).

A meeting two weeks later did in fact find the members being tuitioned by Rowe to the Technical School and Mohawk lower than anticipated and a very organized proposal was submitted by the principal, superintendent and Assistant Superintendent Gwen VanDorp which clearly defined the needs as seen then as well as their proposed solutions. The issues in the proposal included the need to look at the shortages in staff and to watch numbers this year with the understanding that increases in students would demand increases in staff as well as the splitting of Kindergarten. Motions to hire a full-time aide for Readiness-1 and the creation of two separate positions of librarian and Kindergarten aide were passed and it was made public that the previous Kindergarten-aide applicant had withdrawn her application. A petition signed by 80 members of the communities of Heath and Rowe stating that they were supportive of the staff and principal of Rowe School was submitted and formally registered. A feeling of relief was apparent, and in fact the School Committee had listened to its staff and advisors, and we had managed to stave off, at least for another year, the effects of growth in our town.

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## HEATH HERALD MAY CONTINUE

Following the item in the last number of the HERALD indicating that the paper may be dissolved after several members retire next April, a large number of readers expressed their concern. They felt, in general, that some means should be found to continue the publication.

This response is very gratifying, indicating that the paper is filling a useful function in carrying town information. In addition, and even more important, a number of local people have stepped in to volunteer their services, some of whom have contributed significantly to this issue.

One of these volunteers is Arlene Markert who has helped tremendously in working at the keyboard of our computer and producing a large number of articles in this issue in half the time of the regular typographer.

Another volunteer, who felt strongly that the HERALD should continue, is Buck denOuden who was very helpful in collecting news stories from a number of the town offices. Karen Brooks also volunteered to help with the paper and in this number contributed the story on the Rowe School situation. Several other people have volunteered for assisting and it is expected that they will contribute in putting out future numbers of the paper.

The help of these new people is greatly appreciated and is a good start toward continuing the publication. However, an essential position still needs to be filled; a person who can coordinate with other staff members and assure that all copy planned for an issue is collected, edited and given to the typographer in a legible form as well as collecting suitable photographs and writing captions. Also a person is needed to coordinate with the printer, passing on special instructions, delivering and picking up the final copy.

Anyone interested in this essential part of publishing the HERALD should contact us. This is important in order to keep the paper appearing.



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## A FARMHOUSE'S STORY: CLEARWATER FARM, HEATH, MASS.

by Leighton M. McCutchen

Part II of a two-part article  
(Continued from August/September Number)

About 50 feet to the northwest of the house are three sides of a concrete foundation and one beautiful stone wall enclosure. Periwinkle grows prolifically around this ruin. This was the site of one of the two chicken houses owned by the "farmerettes" (the name used at the time), the Misses Grant and Walker in the 1940's. When they moved, selling the then hundred acres, house and barn to the parents of Lee Shepherd's mother, they took their chicken house with them, putting it up again somewhere down in the river valley, to what reception we can only imagine.

The second chicken house foundation lies on the way from the house to our pond, very near the creek. It has three handsome stonewalls for foundations, one quite high. It lies on the west side of an old town road which one hundred years ago and up until recently, turned north in our bar-way, went past the machine shed we built near it, then through a stand of pines. It runs very near a pile of stones which is marked on Miss Maxwell's map of Heath as the cellar hole of Benjamin Farnsworth's house built around 1800.

That old town road joined up with the present "Rowe Road." There was no junction then at the corner of the "school house" with a road from the south. That school was built, we have been told, by the father of Mr. Fontaine: the people of this house gave their portion of the construction owed by town citizens through room and board to the builders.

The name "Clearwater Farm" came from the farmerettes. While working in the tiny bedroom above the pantries to put in some drawers in the kneewall, we found an old packing crate with the name of the Misses Grant and Walker sent to Clearwater Farm, Heath, Mass. (no zip code then). Why they chose that name has come to me in walking the fifty acres that presently surround the house.

Back then under their administration, there were about one hundred acres, "more or less." The house of Paul Dabrody was used by their care-taker. They gave Win Warriner about 40 acres of land (it cost a dollar an acre) because he was one of their regular hands. He recalled working happily for them, filling up the barn with loose hay until you couldn't even walk in; and using a cow-shed that was some 30 feet longer than the present one (to the east). The land was divided up from that time till the purchase by Graebner from Mr. Shepherd. Then the carriage house, school house, a field north of Rowe Road and adjacent acreage were divided off.

At any rate, on the 50 present acres, there are at least six excellent running springs and twice that number of seepage holes that run in April through June, plus the brook. There are many, many more such springs on the hundred acres they husbanded. We have had the water tested and it is pure, clean and clear.

So many people have added to the house, in terms of actual building and repair, but so many have been also emotionally effected by it. For instance, on many a cold January night, I will awaken to a thud, almost an explosion, arising from somewhere in the house. How many people have heard that sound over the almost 200 years it has existed, coming as I suppose from the frost heaves effecting foundation stones in below-zero weather. But what did the different generations make of that sound in the night?

Once, Martha and I had to fight a flood in the old basement. In spite of a drain put into it, running under the entire front yard to the road, the basement was filling up with spring flood water: the drain was plugged. We worked until we all but dropped, bailing. Finally we forced an old sump pump work, one that I had found in a corner. Now clearly that had been used before. In fact, we heard that once an owner came back to find the diesel fuel drums, two-hundred gallon ones, broken off and floating in the basement from five feet of water! That prompted the permanent, if sometimes blocked, drain.

And how has the house coped with its people? One night we awoke to an acrid smell. Running throughout the house, we found no source of the supposed fire. About the third time I ran past the first step to the second floor, I saw the smoldering rags. We had been using them to refinish the freshly stripped pine boards of the floor. As I reached for them, opened the door and flung them outside, they burst into flames.

One of the beautifully paneled old doors we have recently refurbished is covered with claw marks. At one time, an owner kept collie dogs in a room where they did not want to stay. But scratched and scarred, the house survives.

We still have a lot to do to the old place to carry our responsibility through to it. We went at things backward, starting with the roof and walls. Now we have had to face some serious foundation problems and there are more of them to go. For instance, if ten people decided to dance in the music room, and any rhythm at all developed, they would all land in the basement. The floor joists are half-rounds, covered on one side by bark and some very soft to a knife.

But we love the place and it stays welcoming for us. The combining of old and new presents a pleasing challenge.

How to keep some of its farming history alive in a difficult time concerns us at present. Sheep certainly were raised on it at one time as the many beautiful stone walls around the place attest. Chickens have already been mentioned. The cow-shed certainly was a dairy with a small cooling shed off the room where the main water supply stood. We tried pigs and loved it, until we had to load them up and couldn't tell who was running the show. And there have been goats, both Nubian and Alpine. Horses were and are a permanent fixture.

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We were told that hay was harvested off the meadow between the house and the ridge to the west. That ridge is filled with sugar maples which supplied an arch and sugar house located in the nook of a wall on the west side of the upper meadow, on what is now the Thompson sixty acres. Some faint patterns show old roads used by horse or oxen to bring down the sap to the arch.

Quite naturally in this region old apple trees abound. And there are several stands of blackberries, raspberries and wild strawberries; to go to sleep in "strawberry fields" on a summer afternoon, having been on hands and knees gathering....

We have tried to grow corn, but storing it on the ear caused rot; shucking took too long; and silage took more machinery than we had. We have planted hay and continue to harvest that. The cooperative work with neighbors in getting in hay, sometimes off of their fields, has been the high point of communal value to us. There is more than enough woodlot for cordwood, always heating "twice" as they say. And always a garden of some description, starting large when we came and getting smaller in correspondence to the family members living here.

So food and fuel are what we settled on, meaning hay, wood and vegetables. And beef. Until the price of that dropped and people's eating habits changed, we would sell a couple of critters a year to people, help them get it cut up, frozen and in the freezer and labeled. And we still try that though it's hard to market like everything else now.

The house makes no sense to us without a farm around it and vice-versa. A "hobby farm," some dairyman once scoffed, as we bought his John Deere trailing mower, as he was going out. I prefer to think of it as an "amateur farm" in the sense that amateur means someone who loves the work and does not have to do it other than for what it gives back in satisfaction to the worker.

## A NEIGHBOR REMEMBERED

Ralph G. Sumner  
1906 - 1988

*In my Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? John 14:2*

The verse from John seems especially appropriate for Ralph because of the reference to many mansions. Ralph was a builder and, if the many mansions have been around as long as the Bible and longer, they probably need quite a bit of work. Ralph is just the one for the job. He was a great restorer as his home shows.

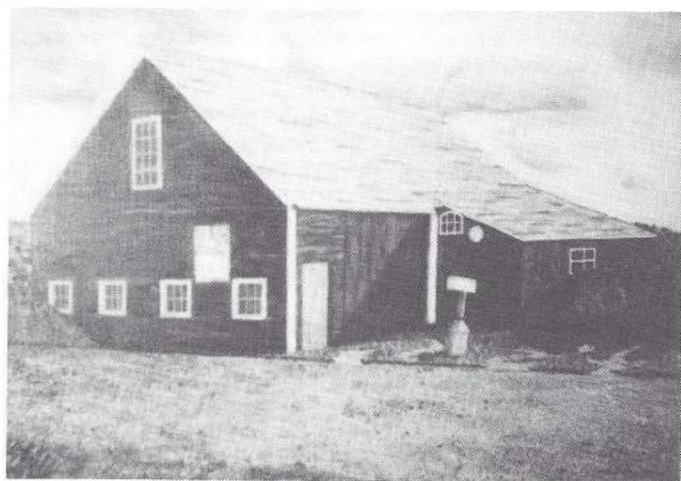
... I wonder how many houses in Heath have bookshelves and cupboards, sheds or additions built by Ralph.

I think about Ralph's hands. He built with them, milked with them, untangled fishing line with them, and he dowsed with them. . . He learned it from Henry Churchill. His grandsons, Eric and Todd, explained to me how it is done. You take a forked rod in your hands and bend the ends straight up. You have to do this firmly enough to hold the other end of the stick in the air, but not so firmly as to keep the stick from moving when it wants to. It seems dowsing isn't something you do as much as something you allow to happen in your hands. That was like Ralph, to allow a thing to happen to his hands. . .

He worked at a lot of things. He was a farmer. He painted and fixed cars. During the depression he moved dirt for the WPA and worked on the road crew, he served as an assessor for the town and later was instrumental in remodeling the old Methodist Church into the present Community Hall. He worked incessantly in building and finishing the new church parsonage. After he sold his cows in 1967 he became a carpenter.

Ralph's life was not all work. He liked to travel with his family and to hunt and fish. But there is something to be learned from the way Ralph worked. He was a hard worker. You cannot farm and not be a hard worker. But he was never one to let the work interfere with the visiting. The good of work was not limited to the work done, it was that it gave you a chance to get acquainted with people, family and neighbors. He worked with Rachel for sixty years. He worked with his children and especially enjoyed working with his grandchildren. What was built or tended or restored in the work was more than doors and cabinets, more than land and cattle, it was family and community, it was home and Heath. . .

[ The above are excerpts from the eulogy delivered by the Reverend Pamela Porter at the service for Ralph Sumner held at the Heath Church on September 14.]



The Barn at Clearwater Farm

(Photo by Martha McCutchen of painting  
by Brooks McCutchen)

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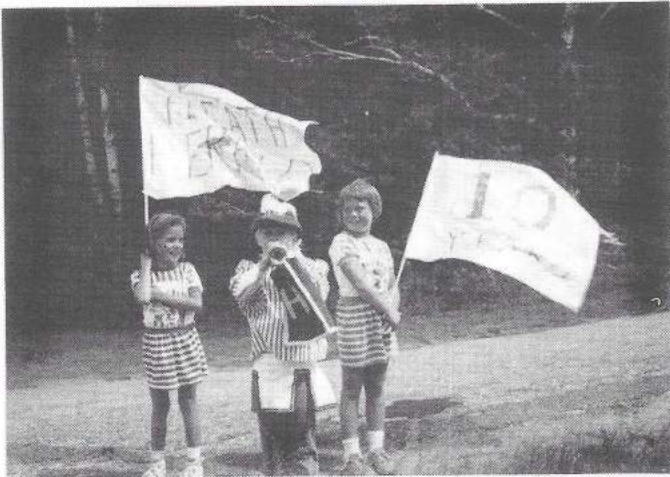
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## HERALD AT THE FAIR

The HEATH HERALD appeared at the Heath Fair with a float in the parade. This was organized and put together by Bev denOuden who had suitably decorated and placed signs on her pickup truck. One of these indicated "All the News that Fits, We Print." The truck carried several staff members who distributed HEATH BAR candles to the crowds. The float was headed by Jesse Porter-Henry, dressed in costume as the HERALD, and Kristin Thane and Katelyn Litchfield as pages carrying banners, one indicating "10 Years."



**HEATH HERALD & PAGES IN FAIR PARADE**  
Kristin Thane, Jesse Porter-Henry (the Herald),  
Katelyn Litchfield

(Staff Photo)

## HEATH FAIR A SUCCESS

by Michael Peters. Vice President  
Heath Agricultural Society

Now that Autumn has arrived, we can start our annual chores that will lead us once again to a Wintertime wonderland. Coming hand in hand with falltime chores is the October Fair meeting on Monday the 17th. After a two month recess everyone is rested up and ready to start working on "Heath Fair 89."

The first meeting of the season will most likely start by everyone saying how lucky we were to get perfect weather two years in a row. This is very true. However, this year's perfect weather seemed to come with a message attached. It was in the form of a very small, very dark rain cloud, surrounded by blue sky, that insisted on dumping its rain over our 15 minute parade. It seemed to moisten us just enough to get the message across that - THIS IS what COULD be happening to YOU all weekend !!! So now with another point on our side we will hope for three in a row with next year being just as beautiful. Second on the agenda will be general opinions of the fair, and possible changes along with any other talk that comes along. Financial standings as of after the fair will be discussed, which are literally, the icing on the cake. We did it !!!

After paying all normal fair expenses plus the additional huge expenses of the lawn mower, electrical job and trailer, we were left with a very nice profit which means, it was a 100% success. With the whole committee knowing and worrying before the fair that the weather could "kill us or cure us", this is a huge relief. To be more specific, we made about four thousand dollars in addition to paying all our debts. This is fantastic news but not quite good enough to keep us from needing additional fund-raisers which were already discussed and agreed upon as a backup for extra money. It does mean, however, we will need only a fraction of what fund-raisers would be needed if we actually lost money and ended up with a negative balance. This could have easily happened, but any way you look at it the Fair was a total success and, on a scale of one to ten, we got a twelve. Good work everyone.

Sometime in between all of this the election of officers will take place. Anyone interested in being on the committee should come to the meeting or call any of the present officers before the meeting. John Henry, President, has stated that he will not be running again but will stay active on the committee. Also Barb Smith will not be secretary this year, which makes two positions open for elections.

The committee would appreciate receiving any comments you may have, pro or con, on how you liked this year's Fair and any suggestions for the future. Send your comments to P.O. Box 10, Heath MA, 01346.

Before closing, the entire committee would like to thank everyone for all their help with making the fair such a success. We'll be looking forward to seeing everyone together again for "Heath Fair 89".

----- Enjoy the Fall.



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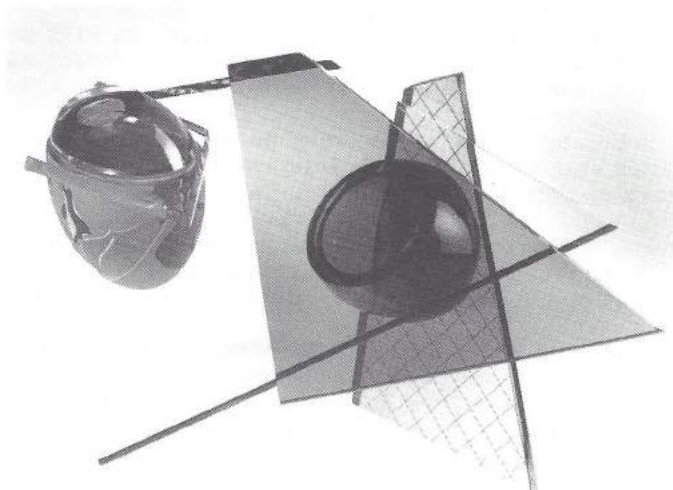
## BOB DANE RECEIVES FELLOWSHIP

by Caroline Smith

Bob Dane is one of the recipients of the 1988 Massachusetts Artists Fellowship program in Crafts and Photography. This program is funded by the Massachusetts Council in the Arts and Humanities, a state agency, and is administered by the Artists Foundation, an independent non-profit organization.

Each year this program awards a total of 58 \$9,500 Fellowships which are based solely on the artistic merit of the work submitted and reviewed by a panel of out-of-state panelists. Bob is using the money toward building a new studio. There are no strings attached to this program and Bob's wife, Jayne, wanted to use the money to go to Florence, Italy but the studio won out.

"Snap, Crackle and Pop", the exhibition of the art work of the Fellowship winners, is currently being held at the Massachusetts Transportation Building, Eight Park Plaza, Boston where four of Bob's glass sculptures are being shown. The exhibition will run until October 8.



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## HELEN MACKIE - ARTIST OF THE MONTH

Now through the end of October the Mohawk Resource Center is featuring as the Artist of the Month Helen Mackie of Heath. Her colorful exhibit of wooden quilts is not only an exciting adaptation of a typical New England craft, it is an innovative and unusual creative endeavor.

Helen Mackie began traditional quilting a number of years ago, and has been making wooden quilts "to warm the soul" for approximately four years. The patterns cut into the blocks of wood are traditional quilt patterns, such as Flock of Geese, Milky Way, Dutchman's Puzzle, Roman Stripe, Maple Leaf, Spinning Spools and Flying Fish. The name of her wooden quilt business is Nary A Stitch, and she operates out of her Heath Center home.

Some of the patterns are painted on the wood, while others are created with rubber stamps that she makes. Still other variations are made with a stippling procedure. A wide variety of colors are used that run the gamut from bold and vibrant to soft, delicate "quilts" that seem like real quilts in texture and tone.

The exhibit is open to the public daily while school is in session. Most of the quilts are available for purchase by contacting Helen Mackie.

Helen Mackie resides with her husband in Heath and has two daughters and one grandchild. She is active in community affairs.

## BOOK BINDERY TO MOVE

by Alli Thane

A cottage industry will be moving out of Heath in early October. David and Dorothy Brooks have sold their Berkshire Bindery on Knott Road to John Scheib of Hartford, CT. The new location of the bindery will be Charlemont Center in a building known as "the old tin-shop". Mitchell Soviecke of Rowe will be the new manager.

The Brooks established the bindery in the summer of 1979 with the binding of 1000 textbooks. They built the business to the extent of binding 7000 textbooks per summer and hiring as many as 12 extra employees at that time. During the winter months they employed 3 full time persons to bind library books and periodicals.

David and Dorothy are planning to take well-deserved time off to finish their house and do some traveling.

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## CHURCH NEWS

"Greetings", A very special thank you to all of you who have given us a warm welcome. We do enjoy your smiles, handshakes, and friendly attitudes. We are looking forward to ministering to this community.

As for myself, I was born and raised in western New York. I worked as a welder, janitor, salesclerk and pipefitter for the Department of the Navy before coming to Massachusetts. The last 4 1/2 years we lived in Maryland where I attended Washington Bible College and earned a B.A. degree in Bible and pastoral ministries. This past January we became Village Missionaries. Village Missions is a non-denominational Christ-centered, missionary fellowship serving rural America and Canada.

My wife Rhodesa is also from the western New York area. She has cared for the elderly and young. She enjoys being a homemaker and a helpmate at home and in our ministry.

We have three sons: Roger Jr., who is 15 and is in ninth grade. He plays soccer for Mohawk and plays the piano. Then there is Jason, who is 12 and in seventh grade. He enjoys music and singing. Last but not least, there is Bradley, who is 10 and is in fifth grade. He enjoys the outdoors and drawing.

Heath Union Church has been busy making plans for the future. In October there will be a membership class for new members. I thank the Lord for those who are interested in joining our church family. Any one interested in membership, please feel free to contact me at 337-5755. On November 6 we will have a special music program during worship hour. Mr. and Mrs. Matthews will be our guests ministering to us through music. All are welcome! We are also making plans to begin Sunday school soon.

On behalf of the members and friends of Heath Union Church, I would like to invite you to our fellowship. If we can be of assistance to you in any way please feel free to contact us. Come and let us worship the Lord together.

God Bless,  
Pastor Roger Peace, Rhodesa and family

## PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION NOVEMBER 8

The Presidential Election will be held on November 8 and the polls in Heath will be open for voting from 7 AM to 8 PM at Sawyer Hall.

The last day to register for this election is on Tuesday, October 11. Citizens wishing to register can do so at the Town Clerk's office or by contacting her at her home on Ledges Road up to 10 PM on that date.

Town Clerk Karen MacDougall expects a record number of voters to turn out for this election as Heath now has approximately 400 registered voters on the official list - up some 20 voters over the election on September 15.

Karen also thanks all of the volunteers who participated in the counting of votes at the September 15 election. Any person wishing to help in this manner for the coming election should contact Karen.

## Another Messenger To All Humanity

by Alastair Maitland

The Reverend Dr. Robert McAfee Brown, the noted theologian and author, was the guest speaker at the Tenth Anniversary Celebration of the Greenfield Pastoral Counselling Center on October 3. His topic was "Spirituality and Politics."

Bob Brown's connection with Heath goes back to the days following his graduation from Amherst College, when he persuaded Oscar Landstrom to hire him as a farm-hand in order that he might pursue his courtship of Sydney Thomson. The courtship was successful and the marriage took place in 1944.

After obtaining a B.A. from Amherst in 1943 Bob Brown received a M. Div. at Union Theological Seminary and in 1951 a Ph.D. at Columbia University. He had meanwhile seen service as a Navy Chaplain in the Pacific theater of operations in 1945-46. His first teaching post was at MacAlester College in St. Paul, Minnesota. In 1953 he joined the faculty of Union Theological Seminary, becoming Professor of Theology; and in 1962 he went to Stanford, to become Professor of Religion, returning ten years later to Union Theological to occupy the Chair of Ecumenics and World Christianity. In 1979 he was appointed to the Chair of Theology and Ethics at Pacific School of Religion at Berkeley, from which he recently retired.

Bob is the author of a score of books. As some of the titles suggest his academic interests have centered on contemporary theology and Christian thought and ethics, while his deepest concerns are the struggle for social justice and the ecumenical movement. He was an official Protestant observer at Vatican II and, more recently, a member of the President's Holocaust Commission.

The essence of Bob Brown's message on October 3 may perhaps be summed up as: "Spirituality involves political action. What we do is part of our spirituality." The message can be illustrated by the following two quotations, which he uses in his latest book, Spirituality and Liberation.

"I have been learning a beautiful and harsh truth, that the Christian faith does not separate us from the world but immerses us in it; that the church, therefore, is not a fortress set apart from the city, but a follower of the Jesus who loved, worked, struggled and died in the midst of the city" (Archbishop Oscar Romero of El Salvador, shortly before he was gunned down while saying Mass "in the midst of the city");

"His spirituality combines heaven and earth...It does not separate soul from body, or mind from unity of our physical and spiritual life. His way is an example of one who does justly, loves mercy, and walks humbly with his God, an example of the unity of worship and living" (the late Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel of the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York City, writing about Reinhold Niebuhr in words which, as Bob Brown notes, are a perfect description of Heschel himself).

[One of Robert Brown's more recent books is a biography of Elie Wiesel. Its title: Messenger to all Humanity]

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CLOTHING



FOOTWEAR



# PHOTO ESSAY OF THE WAGON TRAIN



**CARROLL STOWE LEADING TRAIN OF 73 ANIMALS**

On Number Nine Road  
(Photo by Mike Peters)



**STEVE & TERRY MORSE**

With team and colt and a full wagon  
(Photo by Mike Peters)



**WES HOPKINS & JUDY JUDKINS**

of Plainfield, Connecticut  
(Photo by Mike Peters)



**CARROLL STOWE DRIVING ANN CAREY'S TEAM**

(Photo by Mike Peters)



**JOHN GIDON**

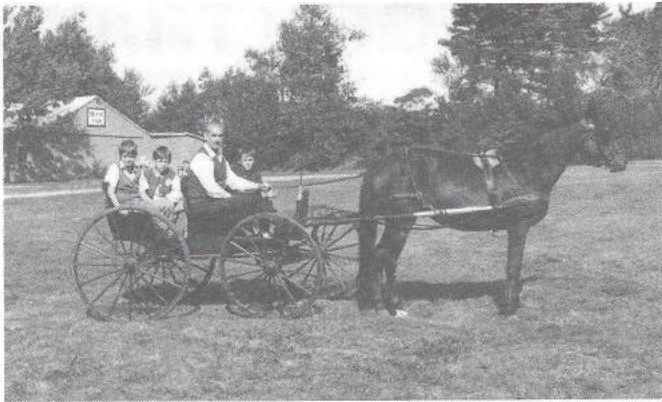
With mule team and covered wagon  
(Photo by Mike Peters)



**KEN DEMERS**

With team and loaded wagon  
(Photo by Mike Peters)





**JOHN PETERS**  
With carriage and young friends  
(Photo by Mike Peters)

## WELLS SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The Fred W. Wells Scholarships have been awarded to four students from Heath for the 1988-89 school year. These scholarships, given on the basis of scholastic ability, extra-curricular activities, need and other factors, were awarded to Susan M. Gruen, Melanie R. Tripp, Roberta M. Tripp and Eric B. Sumner. Congratulations to all of you!

Are you interested in applying for a Wells Scholarship for the 1989-90 school year? Applications will become available during January 1989. Inquire at the Town Clerk's office or call Jean Holdsworth at 337-6611. The deadline for applications is May 1. Only complete applications will be considered. So don't wait until the last minute.

## PLOVER HILL

by Beverly denOuden

The smell of paint and the clatter of lumber assailed my senses as I traveled up the walkway at Plover Hill.

I called a greeting into the house from the open front door and Caleb Kissling advised caution. Wise words as the floor just beyond the entry consisted only of 8" stringers exposing the ground underneath and the fireplace foundations.

We made broad steps, stringer to stringer, while Caleb began telling me of the fine pit-sawn pine he had pulled up and salvaged for new use in his kitchen renovation.

Caleb purchased Plover Hill in February and moved into the house in May. His life's work, to date, has been architectural woodworking and renovation using traditional techniques and often traditional tools. He has plied his specialty in Colorado, Florida, Connecticut and Vermont.

Caleb's second love after woodworking, is sailing and he has alternated intense periods of work with extended time on his 43 foot Franz Maas ketch, wintering in the Caribbean and summering in Maine.

He has parted with his boat now and is directing all of his energies into his new home. He is assisted by his friend Tony Lamuniere who recently purchased the Holmblad house on the corner of 8A and Rowe Road. Together they have completed a new foundation under the ell and converted that space into a pleasant, efficient workshop. The former kitchen, butler's pantry and dining are also being redesigned and renovated.

Caleb has a keen appreciation for the history of the house and its former occupants. He hopes to finish his present projects by this Christmas. We wish him courage for the task at hand and a warm welcome to our community.



**DAVE SCHNIE**  
"Surrey with the fringe on top"  
(Photo by Mike Peters)

## TOWN NURSE

by Sharleen Moffatt, R.N.

The flu vaccine will not be available this year until November. This year's vaccine will consist of a formula three viruses expected to be prevalent: A/Taiwan, A/Sichuan, and B/Victoria. Contact me in November for further information.

## TOWN OFFICE HOURS

(At Town Hall unless otherwise specified)

Selectmen: Tuesdays 7:30 PM  
Assessors: Wednesdays 7 - 9 PM

Town Clerk Tuesdays 6:30 - 7:30 PM  
& Assessors' Clerk Wednesdays 8 - 11 AM  
(Call 337-4268 between 5 & 8 PM for appointment)

Town Treasurer: Tuesday & Wednesday 9 - 11:30 AM

Tax Collector: Mondays 8 - 10 PM  
Wednesdays 8 - 9 PM  
Also call 337-4260 for appointment

Finance Committee: As posted

Planning Board: Mondays 7 PM

Conservation Commission: 3rd Tuesday of month

Heath School Committee: 1st Tuesday of month 7:30 PM

Library Trustees: 3rd Monday of month 7:30 PM

Library: 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

Transfer Station\* Saturdays 9 AM - 5 PM  
\* (Branch Hill Road, opposite Town Garage)

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

FIRE 337-4461  
POLICE 337-4901



## HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

by Susan Silvester, Secretary

The Annual Hike of the Heath and Rowe Historical Societies takes place on Saturday, October 15. We will meet at 9 AM near the Community Hall at Heath Center and will be bussed to our point of departure just south of the Burnt Hill Schoolhouse (where parking facilities are not available).

Our route will take us south on an abandoned road, then southeast to Pocumtuck Mountain in the northeast corner of Charlemont, where we will enjoy what is probably the most magnificent view in all of Franklin County. From there we will travel on old roads east to McLeod Pond on Catamount Hill in Colrain, where we will stop for a picnic lunch. The hike will end up in Shattuckville where Cleon Peters and the Heath school bus will return us to Heath Center.

The hike, including stops will take slightly over four hours and is an easy one with no really steep climbs. There are some fine historic cellar holes on the way, as well as the monument marking the site of the first schoolhouse to raise an American flag in its yard. The scenery is splendid.

All are welcome to join in this hike. Bring a picnic lunch including something to drink.

Rain date: 9 AM Saturday, October 22.

## LADIES AID CHRISTMAS SALE

The Heath Ladies Aid will hold their annual Christmas Sale on November 5 at the Community Hall from 11 AM to 3 PM. Luncheon will also be served.

Gordon E. Taylor d/b/a



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OPEN DAILY

## LIBRARY LINES

by Alli Thane

The library is featuring Christmas craft and recipe books as a reminder that now is the time to start holiday planning. Come in and get started.

We held a Small Town Library meeting in Heath on Sept. 14 with 20 librarians and trustees attending. Mary Cross of Western Massachusetts Regional Library reported that their book budget was decreased from \$60,000 to \$16,000 this year. Therefore, the bookmobile books we borrow must be returned at each bookmobile visit if possible, but surely by their second trip. If not, an overdue notice will be sent, followed by a bill for the book. We must be more careful to return books on time.

The Friends of the Library have donated money to purchase two sets of nature guides, one for adults and one for children. The DeLeuws have again given us a large box of good mysteries and a box of teenage paperback books. We received a sum of money in memory of Leon Stewart from the Litchfield family. This has been added to our trust fund to be invested. We have received three new magazine subscriptions as gifts. These, with the 24 magazines we purchase and the money donations from our patrons, give us a good variety of reading material.

The children's story hour takes place at 3:30 on Wednesday afternoons with Veronica Smead reading as before. Bring your young ones to join us.

Many new books have been added to our collections. To name a few: Cardinal of the Kremlin by Tom Clancy, Alaska by James Michener, Breathing Lessons by Anne Tyler, At Risk by Alice Hoffman, Prime Time by Joan Collins, Garden Birds by Dr. Noble Proctor, You Can Be A Super Quilter! by Hassel, Kids Knits by Leslie Anne Price and several new children's books.

In adding our circulation figures for the yearly state grant, I find that we are down a little from last year. Are books getting longer or summer times busier? Come in and help boost our statistics!

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## SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORT

by Budge Litchfield  
Chairman, Heath School Committee

At our last meeting the Heath School Committee accepted the resignation of Skip Venneri, with the deepest regret. Skip had devoted 6 years of labor to see that the children of Heath receive a quality education. The Committee will miss Skip's experience, ideas and drive. We all owe Skip a heartfelt "thanks" for all he has done in the interest of our children's education.

Our October meeting will be held on the 11th at Mohawk Trail Regional High School at 7:00 p.m. The Rowe School Committee will meet at 7:30 that evening also at Mohawk. This is part of a plan to have as many elementary school committees as possible meet on the same night at Mohawk on an every other month basis. We hope this will result in a more efficient use of the Administrator's time, among other benefits.

The Rowe Long Range Planning Committee recently voted to recommend that the town vote to form a Regional Study Committee with the town of Heath. The Heath and Rowe Long Range Planning Committees have been studying regionalization, town schools and related topics for the past year. The Heath committee will be deciding on recommendations during October.

The beginning of school (although smooth and pleasant for the kids) was a bit rocky for the adult members of the school community. In the end, constructive decisions were made. Let's all remember to communicate, respect and work together in the future.

It is no secret that our town is growing. With the unpredictable, over-the-summer increase in the student population our tuition costs have exceeded our expectations. An also unforeseeable jump in our Special Education budget has led to unplanned-for expenses. Fortunately for us an alteration in the tuition contract and with it the final amount of money paid during FY88, have left us with what amounts to a \$30,000 credit with the Town of Rowe. This has saved our financial hides. Due to this alteration we may well be able to stay within our budget even with the increase in tuition and other costs.

The next School Committee Report will focus on Long Range Planning.

## ROWE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS

by Susan Silvester

The major project for this fall is the culmination of two years of hard work on the part of the staff, administration and community; the school receives a visit from the accreditation team in the final phase of becoming an accredited elementary school. The process is a long self-examination of every aspect of school life. Strengths and weaknesses are identified in all areas of the school and recommendations are made for future changes. The accreditation team will arrive at Rowe for the community potluck supper on October 16 at 6 PM in the gymnasium. The team will then spend several days at the school, departing on October 19.

The Rowe School welcomes new staff member Wanda Musacchio of Heath as the school librarian. Wanda is in the process of moving from Greenfield to Heath, where she and her husband, John, are building a new home. She will be working in the Rowe School library/media center daily from 9 AM to 2 PM. Two additional half-time positions are currently pending.

The annual Open House will be held this year on October 12 from 7 to 9 PM. Parents and members of the Community are all cordially invited to attend.

On September 28 a district-wide release day was held for all school personnel. A one-person, two act play "I Am A Teacher" was presented in the Mohawk auditorium in the afternoon.

On Thursday, October 20, at 2 PM State Commissioner of Education Harold Reynolds will be at Mohawk Trail Regional School to meet with interested school personnel and community members. He will be available to answer questions and discuss educational concerns.

## PARK COMMITTEE REPORT

The Town Park Committee is looking for new members to help in planning and implementing our town playground and park program. Anyone interested is asked to contact Veronica Smead.

## COMMUNITY HALL NEWS

by Debbie Crowningshield

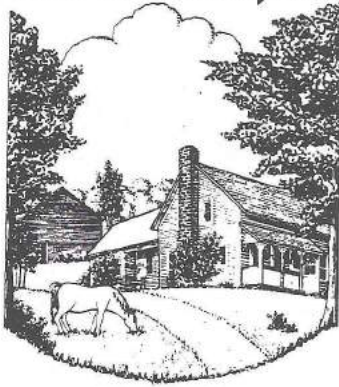
The Hall Committee now consists of: Debbie Crowningshield, Treasurer; Donna Hyytinen, Secretary; Debbie Gilbert, Scheduling; Dolly Churchill, Complaints; Karen Brooks, Maintenance.

To schedule a date for use of the Hall contact Debbie Gilbert at 337-4351.

We will hold a meeting on Tuesday, October 11, at 7:30 for ideas and help in putting on the Halloween Party. If interested, please contact Dolly at 337-6680, Debbie Gilbert at 337-4351 or Karen at 337-6614 during the day and, after 5 PM, Debbie C. at 337-5561 or Donna at 337-4762.

If anyone has questions, feel free to contact any of the Hall Committee.

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## MOHAWK TRAIL REGIONAL SCHOOL NEWS

by Tanya Davin, Grade 12

This year at Mohawk began with a moderate degree of confusion. Due to resignations and leaves of absence there was an unfilled associate principal position. A teacher for the physics course and basic computer course had been hired a mere two weeks before the opening of school. [David Gibbons from Salem, who now resides in Heath, is the new teacher]. However, things have been running smoothly since Michael Rooney was appointed Acting Associate Principal.

The athletic teams this fall include the Mohawk soccer teams (male and female), the girls' field hockey team, the cross country teams, the girls' volleyball team and the boys' football team. All teams have had good starts for the season and are showing marked improvements.

The 1989 senior class is busy with plans for the Booster dance, float, Senior Prom and yearbook pictures, quotes and activities.

Peer educators are making plans for activities for the year on such topics as stress, alcohol and drugs, individuality and stereotyping and teen pregnancy. Peer ed is currently involved in selling candy to raise money to adopt a family at Christmas time.

The music department at Mohawk has finally received new band uniforms. The band will be making their first public appearance in the new uniforms in the Booster day parade on October 8. Band members have been working on new music and routines for the half-time show at the football game, so it promises to be an exciting day! Work has also begun on the Middle School musical "Singing in the Rain."

The word for this year at Mohawk is "busy," but this year is one in which many needed goals will be met.

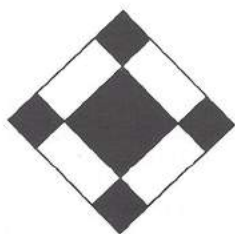
## FOREIGN TRAVEL CLUB

By Susan Silvester

The Mohawk Trail Regional School Foreign Travel Club will go to England and Scotland this year during April vacation. Highlights of the trip include London, a theater performance, visits to York, Oxford, Runnymede, Shakespeare's Stratford-upon-Avon, the castle at Edinburgh, famous Gretna Green on the border of England and Scotland, the Royal Castle at Windsor, beautiful Lake District and optional medieval banquet, as well as many other exciting places.

The base price for the trip is \$939.00, and the deadline for registration and a deposit is October 10.

The trip is open to members of the local community as well as the students and staff of the Mohawk Trail School District. For more information please contact Susan Silvester, Foreign Travel Club Advisor, at the school 625-9811 or at home 337-4491. Previous trips have been to Germany, Spain, Italy, Yugoslavia, Austria, Switzerland, Greece, etc. Next year the group will travel to Russia.



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## HEATH PRE-SCHOOL

by David Schwartz

The Heath Public Preschool reopened its doors on September 19. A morning and afternoon session is held on each Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. At this point there are 21 children enrolled in the school; four are from Rowe and the rest are from Heath.

With the extension of its grant from the Department of Education assured for another year and the return of head teacher Pam Porter, teacher aide Judy Clark and senior aide Ruth Fournier, the school is ready to provide a quality program for the children. In addition this year Susan Regan has been hired as program coordinator. Susan's duties will include coordinating the parent group, disseminating information to parents, grant management, editing the newsletter and a long list of other duties. She has an extensive background in human services and education which includes managing grants, starting a preschool and participating on a legislative task force. Susan will be a great asset for the school program.

Volunteers have been helping to get the building and play yard into shape. The floor has received a fresh coat of paint, the new play structure is completed and many, many weeds have been whacked! A storage shed is scheduled to be built soon. Thank you, volunteers!

The Preschool will hold an open house for the whole community on Saturday, October 15, from 9:30 AM to 12 noon. There will be storytelling at 10 and at 11. Refreshments will be served.

Finally, in case you were not aware of it, the play structure and the rest of the play yard are available for everyone in the community to use. Come and enjoy!



### OPEN HOUSE

Saturday October 15  
9:30 AM - 12 Noon  
Storytelling 10 and 11

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## PERCS, PERMITS AND TRANSFERS

### Percolation Tests

Earl Gleason reports that one perc test, which was a repair, was conducted in July and passed. All perc testing was suspended as of July 15 due to dry weather conditions.

### Building Permits

Albert Pelletier, East Leverett Road, one family; Wendy Luckhurst, Modoc Street, addition to residence; Barry Holstein, Colrain Stage Road, new foundation. Total \$97,960.

### Deed Transfers

David and Caroline Carter to Joshua Stone of New York, NY. Rowe Road. \$72,500.

Edward, Madeline, Normand and Ann D. Terault to Normand and C. Ann Terault, Mohawk Estates. \$1.

Edward, Madeline, Normand and Ann D. Terault to Normand and C. Ann Terault, Navaho Lane, Lots 1 and 40. \$1.

Esther and Joseph Norman Hughes to Jason Anthony and Bernardita Cordero Hughes of Ellsworth AFB, SC, Mohawk Estates, Lot 1, Colrain Stage Road. No consideration.

Walter and Sally Germann to Joseph and Deloris Grochmal of Springfield, Mohawk Estates, Lot 18. \$2,000.

Henry and Olivette Beaudoin to David Chaplin of Erving, Mohawk Estates, Lots 12 and 13. \$12,000.

Stanley Ferris to Donald and Elaine Tatro of Ludlow, Mohawk Estates, Lots 15 and 16. \$3,000.

Raymond Jackman to Witold Ruzik of Boston, Mohawk Estates, Lot 40 \$25,000.

Clement and Marguerite Poitras to Lynn Perry O'Bryan of Greenfield, Mohawk Estates, Lots 45 and 46. \$30,000.

Adolph Pipczynski to Charles and Karen Marney of Northampton, Mohawk Estates, Lot 6. \$4,000.

Craig W. and Amy C. Barry to Richard E. and Beth H. Morel, Main Street. \$140,000.

Jeanne O'Connor to Raymond and Patricia Gagne of Southampton, Mohawk Estates, Lots 1 and 2. \$5,000.

Michael and Judy Rainville to Judy Thrasher, Dell Road. \$10,000.

William & Barbara Alsop and Katherine Dawson to William and Lenore O'Connell, Colrain Brook Road. Lots 23 and 24. \$3,500.

Douglas and Wendy Luckhurst to Wendy Luckhurst, 48 Modoc Street, Mohawk Estates, Lots 47 and 48. \$25,000.

Robert Opsotnick to Robert and June Opsotnick of Springfield, Mohawk Estates, Lot 37. No consideration.

Charles and Karen Marney to Suzanne Jackman of West Springfield, Mohawk Estates, Lot 6. \$12,000.

Harold Hofreiter and Joan L. Kerksenbrock to James and Denise Frank of Oxford, CT, Rowe Road, 4.15 acres. \$24,000.

Dorothy LeMoine to Joanne Kristek of Florence, Colrain Brook Road, Lots 32 and 33. \$15,000.

Harold Hofreiter and Joan Kerksenbrock to John Ellsworth of Greenfield, Rowe Road, 5.541 acres. \$21,500.

Allyn Coombs, Inc. to William and Helen McGoldrick of Deerfield, Underwood Hill Road, Lot 6, 9 acres. \$26,000.

## SOLID WASTE TRANSFER STATION

by Newland Smith

Although Heath continued to use the landfill on Burlington Road for some time after the other two towns of the landfill district had ceased dumping, Heath was required to stop using it after September 17 by the Dump Committee. This was in fairness to the other towns, since they had been using temporary transfer stations and hauling their trash to a Chicopee landfill, paying excessive tipping fees.

Since Heath's permanent transfer station, as planned earlier this year and funded at the Annual Meeting in May, has not yet been constructed, the Selectmen had the town road crew quickly build a temporary ramp adjacent to the Salt Shed and place a bulk container next to it for dumping household rubbish. This was opened on September 24 with Road Superintendent Ray Galippo in charge. A permanent station attendant will be hired by the town shortly, reporting to Ray Galippo. For the present, the only hours the transfer station will be open are from 9 AM to 5 PM on Saturdays. As voted at the Annual Meeting the Selectmen will soon set a users fee and issue permit stickers to Heath residents.

The container of trash will be hauled periodically to the Springfield Energy Recovery Facility and emptied. The town contract with Fluor (operator of this plant) calls for the delivery of 10 tons of solid waste every two weeks. Hauling of this trash in loose bulk form will cost the town substantially more than it will after the compactor is installed since more trips will have to be made.

Construction of the permanent transfer station facility with the compactor has been delayed for a number of reasons. The design of the station, prepared by Berkshire Cleanways of Dalton, was submitted to the Department of Environmental Quality Engineering but approval has not yet been received. Also final transfer of the site from Brenda Clark to the town has just been completed. Berkshire Cleanways, which has the contract for hauling the solid waste, has already delivered the compactor and hopper to be used for dumping and compressing the trash. They will also do the final installation once the site has been prepared by the town.

The Board of Selectmen have issued the following rules for use of the temporary transfer station:

1. Household refuse including recyclable materials will be accepted. Place in the large trucking box for shipment to Springfield.

2. Demolition materials, stumps, brush or metals will NOT be accepted at this time.

3. Identification to show proof of Heath residence is required to dump your trash.

## TAX COLLECTOR'S REPORT

by Betty Beaudoin  
Collector of Taxes

I have recently resumed work on the collection of back real estate taxes. There is approximately \$45,000 owed in real estate tax prior to 1988. This figure does not include those properties already placed in tax title (on which back taxes are also owed).

I have notified those owning taxes for 1987 that the properties involved must be placed in tax title as of November 1, if the real estate tax for 1987 is not paid. This action is being taken primarily to protect the town's right to collect the delinquent taxes even if the property changes ownership. It also provides the town with the option of taking legal title to the real estate involved if the taxes remain unpaid for a period of years.

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## SELECTMEN'S REPORT

by Walter Gleason, Chairman  
Heath Board of Selectmen

As everyone knows we are now up to three people on the Board; last week we welcomed Dave Howland to the Board of Selectmen.

By the amount of rubbish in the box, everyone must know that we have set up a temporary system near the Salt Barn for rubbish. We will have it open just Saturdays for now and we hope that everyone will abide by this so we can keep it clean around there. Last week we got a deed signed for the property that the transfer station will be on so we can start work on preparing the site. Now if we can get the DEQE approval we will be making some progress.

The three-town dump is now closed. The boundaries are now worked out with the Burringtons and the land will be surveyed using these boundaries so we can get the deed finalized. The news on the grant application is "no news," so we have to wait some more.

The bad news is that we are going to ask for more money from the Town. The Assessors overlooked the fact that this is the revaluation year and we are asking for \$5000 to do an in-house revaluation. This will have to be a supplement to their salary.

The town pickup truck has given up the ghost so we are going to try to replace it. We asked for bids on a new pickup and it came to just \$16,000 with plow.

Also the grader transmission is getting worse. Seeing that we are down to one big truck, it is our thought that we should overhaul it before it quits on some big storm next winter. This may cost close to \$10,000.

We still have hope of getting the Community Hall painted this fall and the fire escape rebuilt on the back.

## FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

by Bruce Cromack, Chairman

As the seasons change, so does the business of the town and the make-up of the Finance Committee.

Long time member and most ardent worker, Dave Howland, resigned when he was elected Selectman to fill the unexpired term of Richard Giard. A replacement will be appointed to the Finance Committee at a joint meeting of the Finance Committee and Selectmen. (A notice has been posted at the Town Hall).

The Finance Committee met with the Selectmen in early September to discuss certain needs of the Highway Department and Assessors.

The town pickup is on its last legs, and the International is beyond repair while the road grader transmission needs repairs (an expensive job)!

Last spring we felt some money would be available from flood work reimbursement but this has not been the case. Ways to finance these needs are under consideration.

This year the Assessors have to begin the FY 1990 revaluation (overlooked last year).

Again ways to finance are not easy when there is no margin left in the levy limit for appropriations. Arlene Markert, the Town Accountant was very helpful in reviewing various accounts in an effort to help us meet these needs.

On another front, the increase in Rowe School enrollment is of concern; it is believed the Equal Opportunity fund will be available to meet these costs.

## THE TRIUMVIRATE RECONSTITUTED

The State primary elections on September 15 were marked by widespread voter apathy. In some places the voter turn-out was reportedly as low as 7 percent. A notable exception was Heath, where a Special Election to fill the vacancy on the Board of Selectmen created by the resignation of Richard Giard attracted some 49 percent of the registered voters to the polling booths.

The winner was David Howland with 134 votes. His challenger, Paul Lively, received 47 votes. Four votes were for others; and there was one blank ballot. A review of the back numbers of the HEATH HERALD indicates that the total vote was the largest recorded in any election for Selectman during the past 10 years; which among other things, is a further reminder to us that the population of our Town is growing. (The largest percentage of registered voters participating in a Selectman contest, however, was 60 percent, in 1983, when the tally in a regularly scheduled election was 184).

The new Selectman has many credentials. While living in Windsor, Connecticut, he served on the Town Plan and Zoning Commission and as a selectmen as well as Chairman of the Conservation Commission. David and his wife, Pegge, have owned property in Heath since 1963. They moved here permanently in 1969 from Leverett, where they lived when David was appointed Personnel Officer at Amherst College. He now holds a position in Personnel Administration at Smith College. For the past eight years he has been a member of Heath's Finance Committee. And for the past two years he has been serving additionally on the Growth Task Force.

In his election statement David Howland listed some of the challenges facing the Town: how to manage growth while preserving the quality of life in Heath, the future of our schools, the upgrading and maintenance of our roads, the disposal of solid waste and, as always, how to match our needs with our means. He joins Walter Gleason and Art Schwenger at Sawyer Hall. We wish them all the very best in addressing the needs of Heath.

## Protection of Wells from Herbicides

In response to concern over the future quality of groundwater, the Massachusetts Department of Food and Agriculture has adopted regulations to further safeguard water. The regulations apply to private wells within 100 feet of a utility right-of-way.

Under these regulations use of herbicides within 50 feet of private wells will be prohibited, while applications within a buffer zone extending to 100 feet will be restricted. If you own or use a well within this area you are asked to contact the Heath Board of Health (a Selectman) and report your well location. They will locate your well on a town map and provide this information to the applicators maintaining the right-of-way. Also you should post a sign at the edge of the right-of-way to notify the work crews of your well's location. It must comply with the following specifications:

1. It must be placed at the edge of the right-of-way perpendicular to your well.
2. It must be positioned 5 feet above ground and in plain view.
3. It must read "WELL" and state the distance between the well and the right-of-way.
4. The sign must be blue with white lettering.

If you have any questions, you are asked to contact Mr. Walter Gleason, Chairman, Heath Board of Health at 337-4479 or 337-4934.



## HEATH CONSERVATION COMMISSION

by Bill Lattrell, Chairman

During the last two months the Heath Conservation Commission has processed two Notices of Intent, two Requests for Determination and five site inquiries. As fall replaces summer our schedule becomes still busier and processing takes more time. If anyone has plans that will involve wetland activity they should contact the Heath Conservation Commission as soon as possible. Late applications may not be completed early enough to begin work this fall.

In August we approved a Notice of Intent filed by Roland and Jeanette Persons of Adams, MA. Their request involved building a retainer wall on their beach front property at Mohawk Estates. In September the Conservation Commission approved a Notice of Intent filed by Ray and Sue Jackman of West Springfield, MA. They received permission to build a house and excavate a lot within 100 ft. of a lake.

We also processed two Requests for Determination in September. The Heath Conservation Commission found that a proposal by Cynthia and Matthew Perry would have no negative effect on a resource area protected by the Wetlands Protection Act. The Heath Conservation Commission also reviewed a Request filed by Charles Cooley of Greenfield on a West Brook Drive property and found that he will have to file a Notice of Intent due to the fact that there may be a bordering vegetated wetland in close proximity to a proposed septic and leach field system.

If anyone in Heath has a question regarding Wetlands or the Wetlands Protection Act, please contact Bill Lattrell at 337-5792. The Heath Conservation Commission wishes every Heath resident a pleasant and happy autumn.

## POLICE REPORT

by Chief Guy Silvester

The past month has been basically very quiet as far as police matters are concerned. Regular patrols are being conducted with assistance from the Colrain Police Department. The new police cruiser has been a definite asset to the Department.

Complaints have been issued against individuals as a result of several incidents occurring during the Heath Fair in August.

CPR training for all Heath officers was completed this summer and additional training is scheduled for sometime this winter. The Police Department is still looking for individuals who qualify to become members of the Department.

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## ASSESSORS' REPORT

by Alan Nichols

Steve Belitsos has resigned from the Board. If anyone is interested in an appointment to his unfinished term, please come in and talk with us about it. It could be the final step of a brilliant municipal or real estate career.

We are a little behind schedule making the computer changes and adding new properties but we hope to finish the week of September 23 and so be able to start on the billing process. Don Dekker went to the Assessors' School at the University of Massachusetts last week learning those small bureaucratic things that the rest of us have forgotten. So we may have some hopes of getting through it without major delays.

We have submitted a budget request to the Town Selectmen/Finance Committee for \$5,000 to pay for the next revaluation FY 1990. It is based on recommendations by the State after the last revaluation.

In order to get all this accomplished we need a full board. If you feel you might be interested, please get in touch with us.

## PLANNING BOARD REPORT

by Bob Dane, Secretary

The Planning Board has been meeting virtually every week in an effort to complete the revision of our Zoning Bylaws. Bill Lattrell from the Conservation Commission came to a few of our meetings in August and advised us on the Wetlands and Water Supply District Sections. We are now finishing up the section on Use Regulations and will be moving into Intensity Regulations and Development Review Requirements. In addition to the Planning Board and Task Force members, Gwen Hall-smith and Wally Upham have been attending most of our meetings and offering much needed input and support.

In other Planning Board business, Paul Lemelin brought in a plan for a division of his land for us to sign off. He is dividing his property on Ben Road, forming another lot below his residence. We signed the plan as not needing approval under existing Subdivision Regulations.

The Planning Board will continue to meet every Monday for the next two months. Our regular business meeting is the second Monday of the month, and all requests for ANR's on other business should be brought to us at that time. The other weekly meetings will be devoted exclusively to Zoning Bylaw revision. We meet upstairs in Sawyer Hall at 7 p.m.



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## FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

by Chief Earl Gleason

August and September were busy months with seven requests for the Department. On August 5, we were called to a barn with a barrel of burning fungicide. After consultation with experts on handling the material, it was extinguished, removed and disposed of. The only other August call was to respond with oxygen to a lady who was having trouble breathing. Labor Day weekend saw the EMT's aiding the Colrain Ambulance Saturday as well as the Charlemont Ambulance on both Sunday morning and Monday afternoon. Tuesday afternoon saw the Department responding to a small fire under an automobile on Route 8A. The most recent run was to aid the Charlemont Ambulance with a patient who was having problems after childbirth.

The Department was also busy with the Chicken Barbecue, the First Aid Booth and the Wheel at the Heath Fair. The Department also catered the Yankee Picnic on August and, on September 26, put on a meal for about 40 members of the Western Mass. Fire Wardens Association. One Firemen's Association meeting and one drill were held with several work bees preparing the new truck for service.

The new truck was put in service on September 8. It is a welcome addition to our department and we invite you all to the Station to look it over.

The never ending paperwork and meetings continued with six smoke detector inspections for resale, seven smoke detector placements for new construction. Directors meetings for the Tri-State Mutual Aid and Franklin County Dispatch were attended. Also two meetings were attended for instruction on filing a Hazardous Materials Plan which had to be submitted to the State by October 1. In addition there was a meeting in conjunction with the Franklin County Medical Center for creating an emergency plan for multiple medical casualties.

Shortly you will receive a letter requesting information from your household as to persons with disabilities. Information is needed for our emergency plans but especially for our radiological emergency plan. The Yankee Atomic Plant in Rowe is aiding us in the cost of the mailing and printing. Please make every effort to respond to this request.

I would like to remind you of the effort of the Charlemont Ambulance to recruit new EMT's. Several people have volunteered to take the course but there is still room if you are interested. I also would remind you of their fund drive for rescue equipment, if you have not already donated.

Lastly, I would like to thank the Rowe Nuclear Plant for their donation to our Department. The new fire truck has a radio on the Tri-State frequency and a radio on the Deerfield Valley frequency; we have a new base radio in the Fire Station on the Deerfield Valley frequency as well as eight additional pagers. This represents an amount of \$6,000 and is a continuation of aid given to local fire departments over the years. The Heath Fire Department has much equipment donated from this source.

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## New Shared Administrative Assistant

by Art Schwenger

The Selectmen welcomed Katherina W. Condon as the new shared Administrative Aide to Heath in August. Heath is a part of a new 3-town agreement with Hawley and Charlemont with Heath paying for 12 hours of a 40-hour week (Hawley 8 and Charlemont 20).

Kathy has already begun to take on a number of major projects with the Selectmen. Among these are the transfer station arrangements, dump closing and grant applications.

Kathy brings some very pertinent and useful experience to the job. Her most recent position was Property Manager for the Finch Group, Inc. For 4 years she managed a condominium complex in the Springfield area with 289 residential units. With a \$600,000 budget, this experience had many similarities to the operation of a town the size of Heath.

From 1979 to 1984 Kathy was a Revenue Clerk for the City of Toronto, Canada which involved supervision of staff, preparation of tax adjustments and decisions, and serving the public.

For two years prior to this she worked as a senior Branch Secretary for the Toronto Dominion Bank. She has also had considerable volunteer experience with boys and girls clubs and with children's organizations. She has a degree in Municipal Business Administration from Seneca College in Toronto.

Living in West Springfield with her husband and 2 year old, she will continue to commute to the area. Her regular office hours, Monday through Friday, will be in the Charlemont Town Hall since Charlemont is the administrative agent for the program. Monthly attendance at Selectmen meetings and other necessary meetings are a part of her job. Her phone number at work is 339-8474. Selectmen Walter Gleason and Art Schwenger participated on the interviewing and hiring committee for the position. Art will be the official representative from Heath serving on the Shared Aide Steering Committee with Joe Redmond of Charlemont and Roland Stiles of Hawley.



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## HEATH PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Chuck and Phyllis Kades recently returned from Tokyo, where Chuck spoke on August 29 at the U.S./Japan Bilateral Session: A New Era in Economic and Legal Relations. The Session was sponsored by the People to People Foundation, a nonprofit organization founded by Dwight D. Eisenhower when he was President. Chuck's subject was "The Constitution of Japan as a Foundation for Future U.S. - Japan Relations." Chuck was one of General MacArthur's staff officers during the U.S. Occupation following the war with Japan and was instrumental in drafting the present constitution of Japan.

Jean Holdsworth was featured in the September number of "Pocumtuck Papers." Jean has been a summer intern at the Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association. Her task was to study the feasibility of expanding the small but successful gift shop in the Memorial Hall Museum. She plans to broaden the focus of her career this fall and feels that working at the Museum has been a good transition for her.

Vicky Thane is a freshman at Keystone Junior College in LaPlume, PA, majoring in Dental Hygiene.

Eva Pazmino of Heath has a half-acre organic garden in the back yard of the Oxbow Inn and Restaurant in East Charlemont. She has been supplying the restaurant all summer with vegetables. Beside three kinds of potatoes and the usual vegetables, she grew a 190 pound pumpkin which won second prize for field pumpkins at the Franklin County Fair. Eva expects to continue to supply the restaurant next summer and may even expand it.

John Holdsworth has joined Dr. Harold Toy as an associate in his Bridge Street office in Shelburne Falls. Hours will be expanded and the services will be under the name of "Shelburne Falls Optometric Associates." John now lives in Easthampton but had lived in Heath before returning to school for his optometry degree at the New England College of Optometry. He has a bachelor's degree from Tufts University, a doctorate from BU and last year completed a one year residency at the Veterans Administration out-patient clinic in Boston.

Karen Brooks performed a half hour of her original songs at the Big E and the Franklin County Fair this fall. She was also featured in the local "Song Writers' Concerts" funded by the Arts Lottery Councils in Rowe and Charlemont this summer. Her music includes children's songs and spirituals as well as several songs inspired by farm issues such as "The Dairy Buy Out" which features our town as well as the song "Vote No" which speaks against Question 3, the anti-family-farm initiative which will be on the ballot this November.



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## MILESTONES

by Edith C. Royer

Ashleigh Renee was born on August 11 to Theresa Chaffee and Brandon Peters of Shelburne. Ashleigh is the granddaughter of Dawn and Dennis Peters of Heath.

Pauline Margaret was born on August 30 to Dianne and James Cerone of Heath.

Thomas Robert was born on September 3 to Crystal and Robert Griswold of Buckland. Thomas is the grandson of Teresa and Cleon Peters of Heath, and the great-grandson of Nora Galipo and of Philippine Peters, both formerly of Heath.

Andrea Jean was born on September 9 to Kris and Terry Wilson of St. Joseph, MO. Andrea is the granddaughter of Hazel and Gil Wilson of East Charlemont and the great-granddaughter of Elizabeth Wilson of Heath.

Ruth Avis was born on September 17 to Keith and Hilma Ayers of Columbia, SC. Ruth is the granddaughter of Clyde and Ruth Churchill.

Madeleine Anna was born on September 22 to Nan and David Gibbons at Robbinswood, Heath.

Clifford Wheeler, 89, died on August 19. He leaves his wife, Bertha, and a son Donald of Dover; a daughter, Janice Cormier, of Wilbraham and four grandchildren. Clifford and his wife spent many summers at their home in Dell and wintered in Florida. They celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on July 7.

Elizabeth Russell Bankwitz, 94, died on September 3 in Waterbury. She leaves a son, Dr. Philip Bankwitz, of Farmington, CT, and a daughter, Elizabeth Stebbins of Seattle, WA, two grandchildren and two great grandchildren. Philip has summered in Heath for many years.

Ralph G. Sumner, 82, died on September 4. He leaves his wife Rachel Burrington, a daughter Ruth Corey, a son Richard, both of Heath; a daughter Dorothy Harding of West Townsend; nine grand children and five great-grandchildren. Ralph and Rachel celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on August 8.

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