



VOLUME 16 NUMBER 1

APRIL / MAY 1994

HEATH HERALD

HEATH'S FIRST NEWSPAPER 50¢



The Way It Is In The Country

*"If it's old, works well and has a purpose in life,
don't change it".*

by CARROLL STOWE

THE POWER BILL CLARK USES TO GATHER SAP

Our local sawmill operator purchased a young team of horses in the late spring of 1993. Bill has trained and worked steers and oxen for a lot of years but thought he'd like a team of horses.

The team he was able to get had been on rather short rations but were in good health, so as their food intake was increased they began to fill out and look better. One horse had worn a harness a bit but not much.

The patience Bill exhibited with the training of this young team could only have come from one who had spent long hours breaking working cattle.

This team of Bill's is only the second team here in Heath. That is a sad fact when considering that 50 years ago there were a lot of workhorses powering farms and sawmills and such.

We haven't progressed without good teams. This is to say that we are not better off without horse power. Few people understand how they've been cheated by not having gathered sap with a good working team. Bill is using pipeline in some of the old Oscar and Howard Thompson sugar lot. The sap comes to collecting tanks and is hauled out of those tanks to the road to be picked up by Mike Peters' truck to be boiled at Mike Girard's sugar house. Bill does have some buckets so the team Jack and Woody get a bit of the stop and go of gathering from the buckets.

Depending on the location of the storage tank at the sugar house and how the draw off pipe came from the gathering tank sometimes the front end of the sled had to be elevated to help the sap run out entirely. A stick of wood longer than the sled is wide would be placed to the front of the sled runners and the team would bring the nose of the sled up onto that stick.. A very basic simple operation but I always enjoyed watching a team set the sled in that position.

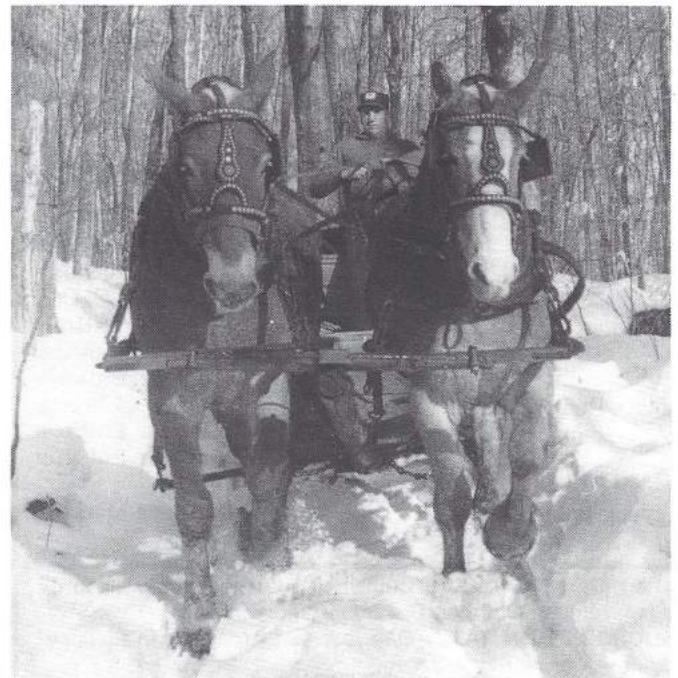
After the team did this trick a few times the stick could be left in place and the power would step over the lift and never disturb it. This is another in the experiences of a teamster that just goes to help endear the team to the driver.

The person that only used sap line to plumb the sweet liquid to the evaporator would never experience these memories.

I walked with Dick Tower to get some photographs of Bill and his team and we encountered a large wet area that is unavoidable to get to the backside of the sugar lot. I related to Dick how I had been coming out of that area one afternoon with Howard Thompson's Dick and Jerry team and the nose of the sled hit the frozen edge of that mud hole and they very easily broke the evenner. It was a long walk out to get a replacement. I told Bill of that problem and he said he'd broke a lot of equipment in that spot with his oxen.

It was good to walk with Dick Tower in an area where I had worked with and enjoyed Oscar and Howard's presence. It is good to arrive at the season of making maple syrup and realize that for the most part the rigors of a trying winter are behind us.

Forceful words to describe how cheated folks are to have missed the honor of knowing Howard and Oscar Thompson are non-existent. Truly impoverished or deprived don't cover this or the missing of maple sap gathered by a good steady team of horses.



**BILL CLARK SUGARING
WITH HIS TEAM**
(Photo by Dick Tower)

STEINWAY PIANO RETURNS

The Steinway piano belonging to the Academy at Charlemont has just been returned from Massachusetts Piano Craft in Worcester, where it has been completely restored in readiness for a concert by Alys Terrien-Queen on Sunday, April 17 at 3 PM.

This instrument is now in a class by itself, so greatly have its capabilities been enhanced. The dynamic spread, the faster response on repeated notes, the purity of tone, command attention.

This great instrument, originally purchased by Maria Gregoire for her own use, has now, as a consequence of the restoration, been designated a recital piano. Some very fine pianists are being invited to play it for the '94-'95 Gregoire Concert series. It will also be used at times for school programs and for regular lessons of piano students at the Academy.

Alys Terrien-Queen says, "When a young person hears really great piano sound, it can affect his or her life forever after."

The Academy is now looking for a "workaholic" piano for general use. A donation of such a piano would entitle the donor to tax credit for a contribution of "gifts in kind." Anyone interested in making such a gift may get in touch with the Academy at Charlemont at 339-4912 or with Elinor Clarke of the Gregoire piano committee at 628-3248.



LETTER

TO THE EDITOR:

A few observations are offered concerning the recent Elementary School votes, and voter interest in town activities.

The Special Town Meeting was well conducted, as usual, by Doug Wilkins, and many people had input into the process. At the vote to proceed with the school, about 25% of the town's registered voters decided to proceed with the project, and this was enough to carry the project.

At the debt exclusion vote on Monday, more voters showed up and decided again to proceed with the project by affirming the debt exclusion article, this time twenty-eight percent did the trick!

Although the elementary school project is certainly the most expensive item this town will vote on for many years, the majority of the registered voters did not show up either time to vote!

Well, we are on track with the school, and the School Building Committee deserves the town's appreciation for their many hours of work on this difficult project.

While the SBC's schedule will be a little lighter and less intense for a while, other town official's tasks are to improve the financial picture over the next few years to make an attractive picture for the issuing of bonds to pay for the school. Quite a challenge!

There is a pattern as to who votes and who does not, and it is important to let the non-voters know that their vote is important to the town. Get involved!

Now that we have committed to a project that will cost \$5 million let's see if we can find a couple of hundred to fix the roads.

Suggestion for future town meetings: A Pledge of Allegiance to the flag at the beginning, and a Forum period to hear from townspeople at the end of the meeting.

Chuck Mackie
Heath



HEATH HERALD

HEATH'S FIRST NEWSPAPER

VOLUME 16 NUMBER 1

APRIL / MAY 1994

Managing Editor
General Editing & Layout
Staff Reporters

Susan Silvester
Pegge Howland
Edith Royer

Columnists

Beverly denOuden
Elsa Bakalar
Michael D. Coe

Staff Photographer
Advertising
Circulation & Business

Bill Lattrell
Carroll Stowe
Pat Leuchtmann

Typography

Michael Peters
Deborah Phillips
Deborah Phillips

Arlene Markert

The **HEATH HERALD** is published six times a year in April, June, August, October, December and February.

SUBSCRIPTION RATE - One year, \$5.50 (payable in advance by check or money order.)

ADVERTISING RATES - Display ads: \$4.50 per column inch (Discounts on six or more insertions.)

CLASSIFIED ADS; \$2.00 per line.

Send all correspondence to Box 54, Heath, MA 01346

HEATH PRECIPITATION

by Alan Nichols

Observer for Mass. Division of water Resources

Precipitation of January through March is as follows:

January	4.55" precipitation	3.59" average
	34.4" snow	

February	2.35" precipitation	3.50 average
	17.0" snow	

March*	4.53" precipitation	4.15 average
	19.9" snow	

* measurements through 3/23/94

The Rev. William Bentley in Salem, MA on February 28, 1805 wrote "The inhabitants talk of old fashioned snow storms." Since 1895 weather trends seem to run in 2-3-4 year cycles so we might be wise to enter next winter with larger wood piles.

MILESTONES

by Edith Royer

On February 21, a son Cody Alan, was born to Pamela J. (Clark) and Robert Belval of Heath. He is the grandson of Juanita and Darwin Clark Jr. of Hawley, Jeanette and Howard Crowningshield of Rowe, and Nancy Belval of Heath. Great grandparents are Dorothy and Darwin Clark Sr. of Hawley, Cleo and Henry Belval of Jensen Beach FL and Louise Newland of Naples, FL.

Julie A. Lee of Greenfield and Jon E. Poisson, Jr. of Fort Indian Town Gap, PA were married on January 23. The bride is the daughter of Mary and Dennis Lee of Greenfield. The bridegroom is the son of Patricia Poisson of South Heath and Jon E. Poisson, Sr. of Santer Lane.

The reception was held at the Elks Club with a disc jockey providing music. The newlyweds took a wedding trip to Pennsylvania. In March they will be moving to that state. The bride is employed at Yankee Candle and the bridegroom is in the Army at Fort Indian Town Gap.

Howard O. Percival, a resident of the Anchorage Nursing Home and formerly of Heath died February 1, 1994. Survivors include, a brother, Keith Percival of Ramona, CA and four nephews and a niece. His wife the former Tina Ladd died in 1981. There were no services and burial will be in Augusta, ME in the spring. The Percivals lived in North Heath for several years.

Genie M. (Ward) Kaiser, 97 years old, died March 15 in a Northampton Nursing home. She was a resident of Goshen, MA. Survivors are two sons: Chester W. of Heath and Ward H. of Whately, a daughter Dora Emerson of Goshen, 10 grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren. Burial will be in Goshen Center Cemetery later.

Hulbert (Jake) G. Denison, 75 of Bernardston died March 7, 1994. Survivors includes his wife, the former Francis Wiberg, two daughters Mary Gilbeam of Brattleboro, VT and Marsha Sessions of Heath, a brother Alan of Wharton, NJ, five grandchildren and two great grandchildren. He also leaves several nieces and nephews. Services were held at the Walker Funeral Home with the Rev. Ralph Jelley officiating. Burial was in the Center Cemetery in Bernardston.

Leon Wallace Churchill, 83, of Keene, NH died on March 13. He was born in Charlemont, the son of Charles and Avis Churchill. He married the former Amelia Green. Survivors include his wife, two brothers Ralph W. of Williamstown and Clyde H. of Heath, a sister Helen Davenport of West Springfield and several nieces, nephews and cousins in this area. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

HEATH RESIDENT WINS GRANT

Deerfield Academy senior Betsey Silvester has been awarded a \$2,100 grant by the National Endowment for the Humanities to study the art of Maya jade through its Younger Scholars Program. Her work will be overseen by Heath resident Dr. Michael Coe, a world-renowned expert on the Maya civilization. He is the head of the Anthropology Department and curator of the Peabody Museum at Yale University. Betsey will investigate how the art of Maya jade reflects the values of the Maya culture, exploring the production and use of jade in Classic Maya society. Betsey will complete this project by the end of August.



CARE OF MAPLE SYRUP

As long as the original container is unopened and kept in a dry, cool place, the syrup will keep almost indefinitely. After the container is opened the syrup should be kept in the refrigerator or heated to the boiling point and sealed in sterilized jars. If sugar crystals for (it is a sign of good heavy syrup) warm the syrup until they dissolve. If a mold should form on top of the syrup, this does not mean that the syrup has spoiled, as is the case with canned fruits and vegetables, but it may be restored to nearly normal flavor by reheating to the boiling point and skimming or draining through several layers of fine material.



SUGARING IN HEATH
(Photo by Dick Tower)

7 AM to 9 PM

Do your Sleeping Bags, Quilts, Comforters,
Bedspreads, Small Area Rugs, Etc., in our
Large Front-Loading Machines.

Village Coin-Op Laundry

55 State Street
Shelburne Falls, MA
Tel. 625-2345



Green Thoughts

by

ELSA BAKALAR

One day of sunshine, sudden escalating temperature, and we all go a little crazy. Especially if the calendar tells us it's spring but we still can't open the side door because there's two feet of snow holding it shut.

I realized it was now or never. I decided to rise above the vagaries of the weather and sent off a nursery order I had started to write two months ago. With any luck, that nursery will have experienced crazy weather too, and won't mail me six dozen plants by return. Information on the order form often promises to send plants "at the appropriate planting time". I always write over it, in red ink, "Not Before May 1". But I'm none too hopeful. One year I had to pot up every plant that arrived in March (where do they think we live?) and keep them all going for over a month until I could step out on the garden without sinking. Are there any gardeners out there who don't know what happens when you walk on a wet and muddy garden? You can make bricks that way! You absolutely must keep off the soil until it dries out (by which time the garden will have gone from a dismal bog to a sea of blooming dandelions -- almost overnight, it seems). If you absolutely have to get out on the garden, at least put down a board to stand on to distribute the weight.

I've been thinking about that first day outside in the garden and what I would do. I've even set down a long number of jobs, in order of importance. A very impressive sight it is, too. There's something comforting about a list; the danger is in the sense it gives you of having done the jobs so neatly described. Much shuffling and rearranging of jobs goes on, but there's one that floats up to the top, no matter how you try to re-arrange things: "Clean Up Garden," it says. And that can be enough to make one decide to read a book or try out a new recipe. There are a few things, however, that it's safe -- even advisable -- to do while the garden is draining.

* Now is absolutely the last chance to send away for some little plants you can't resist, before you do your income tax return. Do treat yourself to a few summer bulbs such as *Galtonia* (summer hyacinth), *Acidantha* (Abyssinian gladiolus), among a wealth of others, for the catalogs seem to list more each year. With no more trouble than the run-of-the-mill dahlias and gladiolus, you can have exotic beauty and fragrance in August, when the garden is looking a little tired.

* Check your stored dahlias. If you're tired of see-sawing between withering because too dry and rotting because too damp, set a few tubers in pots or boxes in very slightly moistened sand or other sterile medium. Once you see where the good sprouts are, you can make a better job of dividing them. At this stage, I like to pot some of them up in good soil for early transplanting and bloom, and hold a few back for later bloom. Whichever technique you use, dahlias will go on blooming until blackened by frost.

* Look out of the window. I know you've been doing a lot of this over the winter, but now take a look with a fresh eye, this time to see where you'd like more color from spring bulbs next year. Make a note to order in summer, when the hardy bulb catalogs come out for delivery and planting in fall. (Now make a note of where you put the note!) If mice, chipmunks, squirrels, or any other of Beatrix Potter's adorable little creatures ate your tulip bulbs (and with such deep snow it was a hungry winter for them) plant daffodils -- they're safe.

* Looking comes high on my list of recommendations for April and May. Spring is a once-a-year marvel, and worth a lot of looking. My annual exhortation is, again, accompanied by the opening lines of W. H. Davis' poem:

What is this life if, full of care,
We have no time to stand and stare?

EDITOR'S NOTE: Elsa's book *A Garden of One's Own* (William Morrow & Co.) will be out in June. Also, Channel 24 (Connecticut Public Television) will broadcast the video *Elsa Bakalar: Portrait of a Gardener*, at 9:30 PM, Friday, May 6.



BED & BREAKFAST

Y'ALL COME

Forest Way Farm

Heath, Massachusetts

Route 8A

413-337-8321

Your New Glasses Are Ready...
And Your Second Pair Is... FREE
Eye Exams Available

WITH THIS COUPON
FREE Second Pair of **EYEGLASSES**

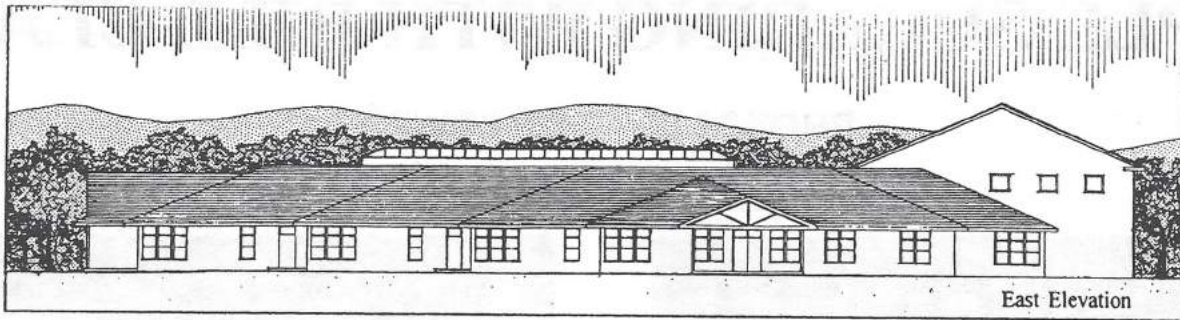
(WITH PURCHASE OF A COMPLETE PAIR)

Buy one pair of glasses at our regular price and get the second pair of the same prescription from our special selection, **ABSOLUTELY FREE!**
Includes first quality frames and single vision, clear, uncoated, 1st and 2nd division lenses. Offer precludes previous discounts.

Hampshire Mall
(across from K-Mart)
Hadley
584-8324

**Vision
Showcase**

36 State St.
(near Bridge of Flowers)
Shelburne Falls
625-9898



SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

by Pat Leuchtman

March 25, 1994 will go down in Heath's history as a turning point. One hundred and seventy-four voters turned out for a special town meeting and voted to build a new school. The final count was 119 to 55, just 4 more votes than the required two-thirds majority needed to build a new school.

Doug Wilkins called the meeting to order and introduced Budge Litchfield of the School Building Committee who presented an overview of the planning process. He also read letters of support from the Superintendent of Schools, Albert Cormier, and Commissioner of Education Robert Antonucci. Margo Jones, the architect, then showed slides of her drawings for the school, including a floor plan and renderings of exterior views. She also described the materials, masonry blocks, brick, and synthetic stucco, which will last for at least 50 years and keep flammability at a minimum. Finally, Catherine Heyl of the Mohawk Regional District office went over the figures for the cost of the school.

Then questions were answered and comments listened to. Veronica Smead and Bill Thane were among those who spoke eloquently in favor of building the school, but others expressed reservations about whether the town could realistically bear the cost.

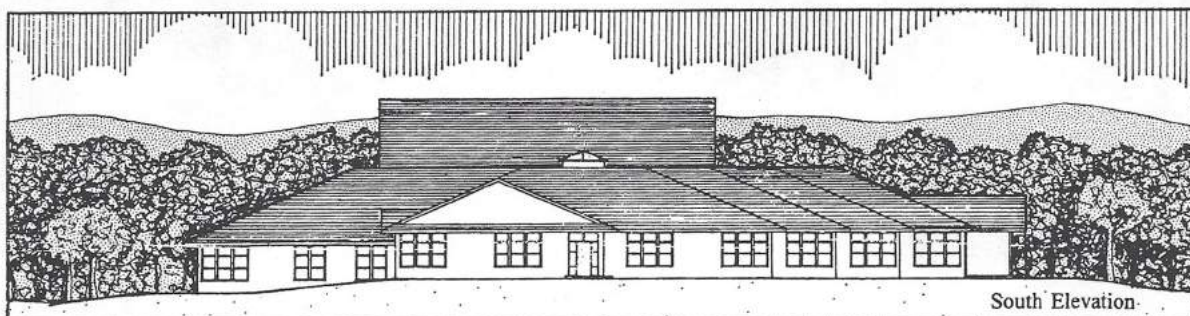
A secret ballot vote was taken, resulting in the passage of Article 1. Clearly it was not an easy decision for people to come to, but the vote passed with the needed two-thirds majority.

After the vote was counted the meeting was called to order at 11:45 for discussion of the final three articles. With a nearly unanimous vote it was decided to authorize the purchase of 12 acres of land on Jacobs Road.

The third article which authorized the appropriation of \$260,000 to build a town library as part of the school construction, contingent on at least 50% of that cost being covered by state or federal grants or gifts, was voted down, but the Library Trustees were asked to work with the Selectmen and others to discuss the library's needs further.

After a brief discussion the fourth article to authorize an expenditure on a preliminary credit rating, was also refused.

The meeting was adjourned at 1 PM, with a reminder that we all need to cast our ballot for the debt exclusion vote on Monday at the polls.



MAPLE SUGARING WITH BILL CLARK

PHOTOS BY DICK TOWER





WILD RAMBLINGS

by BILL LATTRELL

NATURE'S GARDEN

Spring is here, at least on the calendar. As I write this we are experiencing yet another spring snowstorm, but I can't help but think of greener times, hopefully just around the corner. Many people in Heath are now planning their gardens. And many people have even started some vegetables, to be transplanted later into warm soils, with hopes of early edibles so fresh that just thinking of them makes your mouth water. Despite our efforts, most of us will have to wait until sometime in June for these first spring treasures.

For those of you who simply cannot wait this long, I have a wonderful alternative: fresh vegetables, growing right here in Heath. Many will be available by mid to late April. They can be found in many Heath locations; along the bank of a brook, in wet meadows, near the edge of a pond or swamp, and even along the edges of many of our agricultural pastures. These wild plants, many of which are referred to as weeds, can provide some very enlightening culinary experiences. I have been eating these wild edibles since I was a child, and seldom does a spring go by when I do not indulge in several wonderful meals of these springtime treats.

Three of my favorite wild edibles are Cossack Asparagus, Steamed Nettles, and Fiddleheads. All three of these are comprised of wild plants that are plentiful in Heath. They all can be prepared in early spring, and will rival anything that you are able to grow in your garden.

The first, Cossack Asparagus, is made from the fresh shoots of cattails. That's right, cattails. The best time to harvest the cattail for Cossack Asparagus is when the shoots are no taller than eight inches. The shoot should be cut about 2 inches below the ground surface. About 18 to 24 of these will feed three to four people, unless they're named Bill Lattrell, in which case this amount would be a single serving. To prepare the cattail shoot, simply husk the outside green leaf sheath away from the white inner shoot. Soak the shoots in spring water for about an hour, and then steam (not boil) the shoots, much as you would asparagus, for about 6-8 minutes (longer with larger diameter shoots). Most people like to relish the Cossack Asparagus with a coating of butter, although my grandmother preferred to splash on a little vinegar, omitting the butter altogether.

Another one of my favorite springtime wild edibles are fiddleheads. These are quite popular nowadays, and can sometimes be found in the supermarket. Fiddleheads are the shoots of ferns. The most edible, and certainly the most delicious fiddlehead, is the shoot of the Ostrich Fern. These ferns are often found in sandy soils along the edges of wetlands. They are readily identified by their large size and the onion-like skin that covers the coiled plant. They also grow in groups of four to ten individuals.

Ostrich ferns are rapidly becoming a rare find because people do not harvest them sensibly. When picking fiddleheads, one should never pick more than one third of any group. The remaining two thirds will provide enough plants to reseed the area the following fall, producing a healthy crop the following spring. To pick more than a third of the group is irresponsible. To harvest the fiddlehead, you should look for those that are tightly coiled and still enclosed in the onion skin. Cut these shoots off just slightly below the ground. Allow about 10-12 fiddleheads per person. The fiddlehead can be harvested in late April in Heath. Fiddleheads can be prepared in many ways. My favorite is to peel the onion skin off of the shoot. Soak the shoot in spring water for an hour, and then steam these beauties until they start turning a darker green color, about seven or eight minutes. Try not to overcook this wonderful vegetable. It is done when it is tender, and perhaps just a little crunchy.

Another favorite wild edible of mine, believe it or not, is stinging nettles. The stinging nettle is usually found in rich soils that are fairly moist. Often they can be located above the banks of brooks. These can only be picked and eaten when the shoots and leaves are young and tender. At this young stage the nettle's stinging hairs are poorly developed, although I still recommend using gloves to pick and handle them. These are prepared much like spinach. The steam or boiling water will wilt the hairy stingers. Never eat any nettles that are mature, have unwilted hairs, or are uncooked. It will be a most unpleasant experience that might discourage you from eating any wild edible for a very long time. I like to serve nettles exactly like spinach.

To identify any of these plants a good field guide is helpful. Brandford Angier's Field Guide to Wild Edible Plants is an excellent reference. All three of these plants are easily identified.

So while you're out rambling around this spring, consider extending your journey to a location where one of these wild edibles can be found. You won't regret it, and you'll receive a delicious treat long before any bounty that you harvest from your garden.



HEATH LADIES AID

by Edith Royer

We will have our first meeting of this spring on April 21 at the Community Hall. We will be meeting every two weeks until July. Hope to see you there. Everyone is welcome.

FRESH WINDS FARM

Paul & Marcella Lively & Sons

Excavating - Loam - Sand Stone 337-4331

****SCREENED LOAM A SPECIALTY****

CHARLEMONT TV, INC.

Zenith

Sales & Service

High Street, Charlemont

Tel: 339-6685

Howard Crowningshield

Building & Remodeling

Tel: Rowe 339-4406

P.O. Box 286 • Rowe, MA 01367



Charlemont Pizza House

Main Street - Route 2

Charlemont, Mass.

Phone: 339-4472

A.L. AVERY & SON



GENERAL STORE

Charlemont • 339-4915

Richard A. Sumner

Journeyman Electrician

Mass. License #E22622

Vermont License #J1245

RFD #2 Box 517, Shelburne Falls, MA 01370

413-625-8239

• FUEL OIL • KEROSENE • BURNER SERVICE

FRANKLIN-WARE

FUEL - OIL
PROPANE GAS

27 BRIDGE ST. SHELBURNE FALLS, MA

625-6470

NIGHTS, SUNDAYS, HOLIDAYS - 774-2014

Heath Brook Studios

Glass and Baskets

"Bob and Jayne Dane"

By Appointment Year-Round In Heath Center

337-5736

NORTH RIVER WINERY



Jacksonville, Vt.

Come visit the winery, Take our short tour,
And then taste our locally made wines. (No charge)

Late May - Dec.
Open Seven Days
10 - 5

January - Late May
Open Fri., Sat. & Sun.
11 - 5

802-368-7557

MOLE HOLLOW CANDLES



Downtown Shelburne Falls
Overlooking the Falls
and the "Glacial" Potholes
625-6337

"OPEN 7 DAYS"



The Baker Pharmacy

Tel: 625-6324

Week Days 8:30AM - 8PM

Saturdays 8:30AM - 5PM

Sundays & Holidays 9AM - 12 Noon

52 Bridge Street

Shelburne Falls



BALD MOUNTAIN POTTERY

STONEWARE & PORCELAIN

Sarah Hettlinger

South Rd. Heath, MA 01346 (413) 337-4496

28 State St. (Near the Bridge of Flowers)

Shelburne Falls, MA (413) 625-8110

Your independent Insurance Agency. . .

For all your insurance needs.



Blackmer Insurance Agency, Inc.

1000 Mohawk Trail

Shelburne, Massachusetts 01370

Tel. 413-625-6527



RICHARD C. BISHOP

Attorney at Law

Admitted in Massachusetts & Florida


**SPECIALIZING IN WEST COUNTY
REAL ESTATE**

- Real Estate Closings
- Zoning and Land Use
- Taxation of Real Estate Transactions

LEVY - WINER, P.C.

625-2574

102 Bridge Street, Shelburne Falls, MA

 **Frederick M. Burrington**
Watercolor & Pen and Ink Drawing
Commissions Taken

RT. 8A, Charlemont, Ma. 01339

Tel. 413-337-4426



the dragon's garden

P.O. BOX 53 HEATH MA 01346
413 337-5393

shares now available
in our 1994

PARTNERS IN PRODUCE C.S.A.



RETHREADS

FINE NEW & USED CLOTHES

**LARGE SELECTION OF MEN'S
WOMEN'S and CHILDREN'S CLOTHING**

SEASONAL CONSIGNMENTS ACCEPTED

Tues-Sat 9-5

Thurs 9-8

14 Bridge St., Shelburne Falls, MA 625-9759

Sawyer News Co.

Bridge St. • Shelburne Falls

Monday-Saturday 6:30am-5pm

Thursday 'til 7pm

Sunday & Holidays 5:30 am-12:30 pm

**NEWSPAPERS • MAGAZINES
PAPERBACK BOOKS • CARDS
GIFTS • MOVIE RENTALS
ASSORTED CANDIES & FILM**

Tel. 625-6686

Don & Kathleen Upton, Proprietors

A RETROSPECTIVE TRIBUTE TO CHARLES SEAVER (1938-1993)

MAY 5-28, 1994

by Juliet Seaver

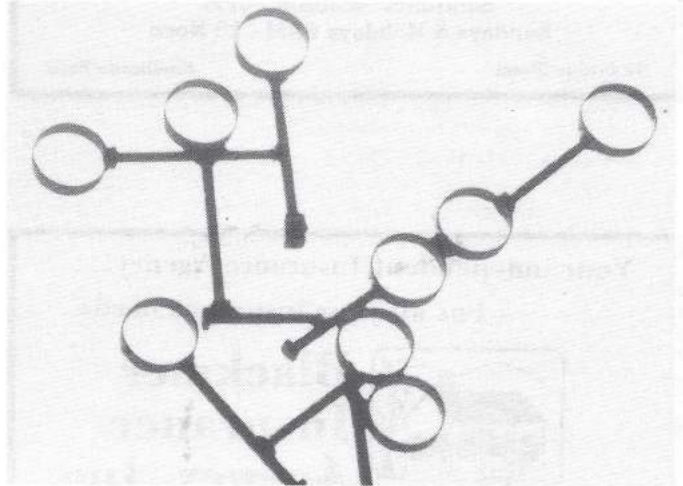
It is the end of March and it is snowing. With all the freezing and warming temperatures, it seems like a good year for sugaring. Charles enjoyed this time of year, the time of his birth. New energy seemed to come to him and the more time he could spend out of doors, the better. He had constructed a small sugaring arch behind the house, protected from the strong westwinds and it was there he would be boiling away, sometimes long into the night. Often classical music would mingle with the steam and smoke which would occasionally clear for a moment to reveal Charles, feeding the fire or sampling the syrup. Charles, a man of so many talents. As well as being a builder of fine country homes, he was a musician, a poet and a sculptor.

From May 5 to May 28 a show of Charles' sculpture and drawings will be on display at the Franklin County Artspace Gallery. I remember how Charles first started carving out of wood when we lived in a tiny three room apartment on New York's lower east side, the artist's quarters. The apartment was in a walk-up tenement on the fifth floor overlooking lower Manhattan. It was filled with sunlight. It was there he carved tall thin graceful Giacometti-style figures out of 2 x 4s. From that time, 1966 until the spring before he died, he would sculpt whenever he could. He explored welding, using mostly old found farm implements. He would fashion the ploughshares and tractor springs into birds in flight or cow's drinking cups into stationary sculpture full of a weightless feeling and graceful as a flower. It was so much fun to watch him laying out a projected piece on the floor of his studio, moving it around and then welding it together.

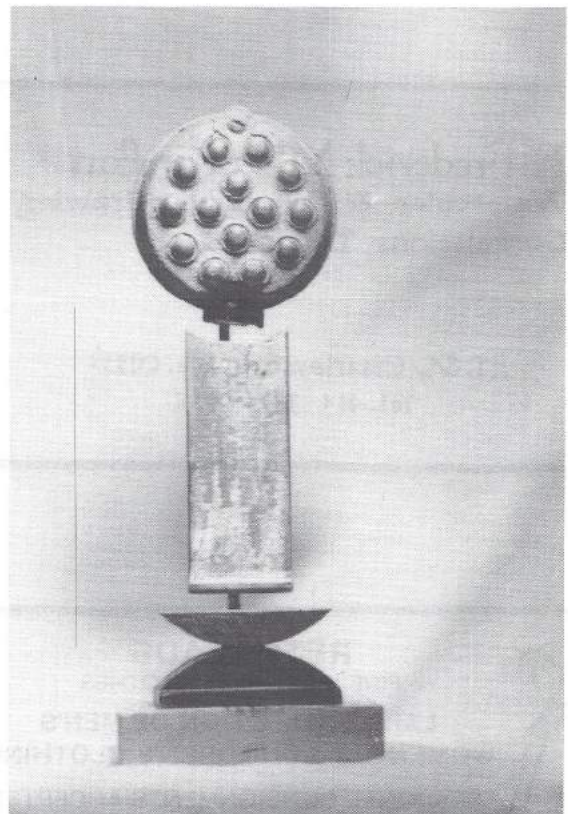
In the mid-seventies Charles worked for the Arts Council in their Artist-in-Residency Program. He was one of the artists who would go to the public schools offering an art enrichment program. It was then he carved huge totem poles with the kids, as well as the drum (on display) and an assortment of wooden icons. Probably, some of his most favorite times were spent in the school bus garage in Ashfield which he rented two summers from Stub Pease. He was able, in those years, to really focus on his art. However, once we moved to Heath and undertook the building of our house and family, in a sense, they became the works of art. I remember once reading a quote of Henri Matisse (I think it was) who said, "Your life is your Art." Charles and I thought that philosophy suited us, especially since all our waking hours were consumed with family, home life, gardens and house. In the ensuing years, Charles found less and less time to sculpt. The piece pictured here was his last. He did continue to make drawings, ideas, plans for sculptures he might make one day upon retiring. I hope you enjoy some of these drawings which have been carefully removed from his notebooks and framed.

There will also be some of Charles' poems on display in advance of a book of his poetry - The Complete Works of Charles Seaver, to be published in the

near future. We are celebrating his life, his many talents, his gentle nature, his ability to let his spirit shine through everything he touched. It is my hope that people come to the Arts Council, take their time, enjoy his works, his words, his sense of fun, whimsy and beauty.



SCULPTURE BY CHARLES SEAVER
(Family photo)



SCULPTURE BY CHARLES SEAVER
(Family photo)

FAVORITE MAPLE RECIPES

The following recipes, along with many others, can be found in Massachusetts Favorite Maple Syrup Recipes compiled and edited by Martha H. Davenport of Shelburne, MA.

NEW ENGLAND SUGAR EAT

Maple syrup (light)	sour pickles
pan of snow	saltines

A real New England Sugar Eat can easily be prepared at home. Put in a saucepan the desired amount of syrup and boil slowly to a temperature of 230 to 232 degrees. Test by spooning a thin stream of hot syrup on the snow. The syrup should stay on the surface. If done, transfer syrup to a pitcher and pour small amounts over the snow.

Lift from the snow with a fork. The syrup should be chewy. After satisfying your desire for sweets, eat a sour pickle or two and then repeat the process until the pitcher is empty!

MAPLE NUT FUDGE

2 c. sugar	1/2 c. milk
1 c. maple syrup	1 c. chopped nuts
2 tbsp. corn syrup	1 tbsp. butter
1 tsp. vanilla	

Cook sugar, maple syrup, milk and corn syrup, stirring constantly to 238 degrees. Remove from heat. Cool to 110 degrees. Add vanilla, nuts, and butter. Beat until thick and creamy. Pour into 8" x 4" pan and cut when cold.

MAPLE SYRUP SPONGE CAKE

1/2 c. shortening	1/4 c. water
1/2 c. white sugar	2 1/4 c. cake flour
2 eggs (beaten light)	1/4 tsp. baking soda
1 c. maple syrup	2 tsp. baking powder
1/2 tsp. ginger	

Cream shortening and gradually add the sugar. Add eggs, water, maple syrup to flour that has been sifted with the other dry ingredients. Mix all together. Bake in a tube pan about 50 mins. in 325 degree oven.

MAPLE WHOLE WHEAT BREAD

2 qts. milk scalded	
6 tbsp. margarine or butter	1 c. maple syrup
2 tbsp. salt	2 oz. dry yeast
20 c. whole wheat flour	
(approximately)	

Melt shortening in milk and set aside to cool. Dissolve yeast in 1/2 c. of warm water. Stir well in large bowl or bread mixer everything but the flour. Gradually mix in the flour. Cover and set aside to double in bulk. Knock down and let rise again. Turn out on whole wheat floured board and knead well. Grease five large bread tins and divide dough into them. Set aside to rise again. Bake 40 minutes in 350 degree oven. Brush tops with margarine, turn out of pans and cover with towel until cool.

MAPLE SAUCE (for ice cream or puddings)

Boil for 5 minutes 1 cup maple syrup. Add 2 or 3 tbsp. of chopped nuts.

Serve hot or cold over ice cream or pudding.

MAPLE PEA BEANS

1 lb. Navy pea beans	1/2 lb. salt pork
1/2 c. molasses	1/2 c. maple syrup
3/4 tsp. mustard	1/8 tsp. paprika
1/8 tsp. pepper	1 tbsp. salt

Soak beans overnight in cold water. Rinse and cook with enough fresh water to cover until the skins start to crack. Pour beans into 2 1/2 quart casserole or bean pot. Cook salt pork partially and drain. Add salt pork and all other ingredients to the beans and mix well. If needed add enough water to cover beans. Cover and bake in 300 degree oven for 5 to 6 hours.

Maple syrup may be substituted generally in recipes for granulated sugar by decreasing the amount of liquid 1/4 cup and adding 1/8 tsp. or less of baking soda.

Maple syrup is 64% carbohydrates, as compared to 100% in granulated sugar.

TEL: DAYS 413-624-8843

NIGHTS 624-3783



STONE'S SUNOCO
COMPLETE AUTOMOTIVE SERVICE
VARIETY STORE
24 HOUR TOWING

ROD STONE

ROUTE #112
COLRAIN, MA 01340

**Shepherd
Excavation**



Rte. 8A, Heath, MA

(413) 337-4215

CHURCH NEWS

by Pastor Roger Peace

It is hard to believe that spring is already here, seeing all the snow still in Heath. But I was assured it was when I went to visit some very close friends of mine, the Dickinson family. You see, Esther has her pepper plants started in her window, and I knew since the plants were up, it will not be real long til planting time again. I think I will trust that more than I will the old groundhog, after all, my family is from Pennsylvania. With spring comes new life, just as we gain new life in our Savior. I am writing this just before Easter, so my thoughts are very much oriented toward the greatest gift that was ever given!

The church is having a potluck supper on May 1, 1994 at the Community Hall. This is going to be a kickoff supper for our Talent Night. No, this is not a talent show, but a chance for our church people to invest their Talents for the Lord. You will be hearing more about this at the church over the next few weeks, so make plans to be at the supper. Of course, with spring upon us, comes spring cleaning. The church is having an auction and tag sale on June 25, 1994. If you have any donations, or questions, contact Jeanette or Howard Crowningshield at 339-4406. If you cannot get in contact with them, call Pastor Roger at 337-5755. Any help will be greatly appreciated. By the way, refreshments will be available.



MOHAWK VALLEY HEATH EDUCATION SPRING PROGRAMS 1994

APRIL

- 12 CPR Layperson's - Sess. I
- 13 Sex and Your Teenager - Sess. II
- 14 Senior Tobacco Education
- CPR Layperson's - Sess. II
- 18 Herbal Health Care for Women
Session - I
- 20 herbal Health Care for Women
Session II
- 28 Video: Eating
- 30 Wildflower Identification Walk

MAY

- 11 Food Supplemental Programs for Low-Income Families
- 14 High Ledges Spring Walk
- 16 Herbal Spring Tonics for Rejuvenation Session I
- 19 Caregivers, Tips and Resources
- 21 Mahican-Mohawk Trail Hike
- HIV Testing & Discussion
- 23 Herbal Spring Tonics for Rejuvenation Session II

HEARABOUTS

by Jesse Seaver

Well, do you think it's going to be an early spring? I am neither one way nor the other. I like skiing and I like mud, but basically I can live with both. I tried to look up what Pucksatony Phil, of Groundhog Day, thought. As far as I know he said that it was going to be Dark, Cold, Windy, and it's going to last you for the rest of your life. It's true, but sad, we all have to stay inside. The brave ones dare to go outside, but hardly ever come back. Yes what do we do about this festival? This guy raps on the door with a stick, pulls the little rat out, talks to him and says that it's going to be a long winter. Great isn't it? When I think of that Groundhog it makes me wonder why human beings, like ourselves, actually LISTEN to a Groundhog. Really, it's sinking pretty low in the books.

Well enough about that. What's going on with this whole ordeal about the Heath School? Once again, I'm neither one way nor the other. Sure, everyone would love to have a school in town. It would be great for the library, for the gym, and for just having a big huge building in Heath that would employ lots of teachers and teach lots of kids how to live their elementary lives. I, being in 7th grade, would not go to the school, but, hey, it's another good school that kids can go to. That is if it is a school of choice.

The other question I have, not being a taxpayer myself, is can we afford it? A couple ones, with six zeros after each one, I don't know. That's one good thing about being a minor. NO TAXES.

Well, it is sure windy out there. You know, I went skiing today and I'm telling you, felt like that measly little piece of metal, that holds the chair on the wire that is 50 feet off the ground, is strong enough. I don't trust it very much but what can I do? Jump off because I am afraid that the piece of metal is going to break and make me fall? I would probably get just as hurt jumping as I would falling. That's kind of weird you know, "jumping" and "falling". What's the difference. I guess you could put it like this. You respect a guy more if he "fell" off the Empire State Building, than if he "jumped" off. Well, I am just talking rubbish here.

Just one more thing, wouldn't it be nice if in this world, if someone was stealing your car radio, instead of calling the police and having a chase you could just say "Um, Umm, you're taking my car radio, that's mine."

I'm Jesse Seaver.



CARLISLE WALLCOVERING

PAPERHANGING & INTERIOR PAINTING

MICHAEL CARLISLE 413-625-9733

Mohawk Trail Regional High School

by Magen MacDougall

March 11 was a big day for both the Mohawk music department and the Mohawk cheerleaders. That Friday night was the opening night of the play at Mohawk, and a cheerleading competition at South Hadley High School.

Guys & Dolls was the 17th annual all-school musical in which there was standing room only on the first two nights of the performance. The play was held in the Mohawk auditorium on March 11, 12, & 13. On Sunday, the thirteenth, there was a matinee. The play was performed at the Greenfield High School on March 19. This play was performed at Mohawk 13 years ago in 1981. The main reason the musical was redone was because of the excellent talent of the male singers and actors. The female actresses and singers were also great. Many Heath students were involved in the play: Adam Almeida as Lt. Brannigan, Tucker Litchfield as Angie the Ox, Emily Nichols, Mary Tuturice, and Kathy Kendrick were Hot Box Girls.

The Mohawk cheerleaders went to their first cheering competition on March 11. It was held at the South Hadley High School in South Hadley. Even though it was their first time competing, they entered into the varsity squad which is for more experienced teams. Mohawk competed against other squads like Smith and the other cheering squads that you have seen during the regular basketball season. Greenfield High School was not in the same division as Mohawk. The cheerleaders performed a great routine, and did very well for being their first competition. They did not come away with a trophy, but were not far behind the top three squads. Members of the Mohawk Cheerleading Squad are: Tammy Donovan, Magen MacDougall, Yvonne Chadwick, Kim Stetson, Paki Morris-Hampton, Meredyth Sandborn, Sara Michonski, Beth Rice, Ashley Bolaski, Tiffany Laroche, Carolyn Bowling, Melissa Rapoza, Willian Morse.



SKI RACE RESULTS

14 Kilometer

Women's division: first, Kathy Swanson; second, Trina Hosmer and third, Abby Kingman.

Men's division: first, Vince O'Connell; second, Lark Miller; and third, David Hosmer.

7 Kilometer

Women's division: first, Kris Nartowicz; second, Martha Morgan; third, Linda Kazimiezczuk.

Men's division: first, Jay Sessions; second, Stephen Marcotte; and third, Garry Krinsky.

Race finishers from Heath included: Kris Nartowicz, Steve Marcotte, Cathy Wilkins and Eric Sumner.

1.5 Kilometer - Youth

first, Olin Sartz-Schwenger; second, Alyssa Sessions; and third, Maggie Duer.

1 Kilometer - Youth

first, Gabe Wilson; second, Keith Eldridge; and third, Amelia Rocchi.

1/2 Kilometer - Youth

first, Miles Warner; second, Rita Marcotte; and third, Kurt Wilkins.

NEWS FROM THE ACADEMY

by Jesse Seaver

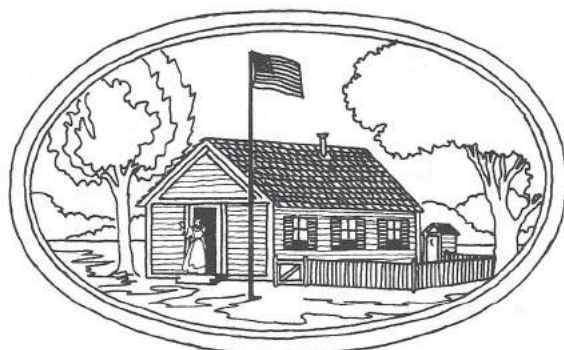
Trimester exams are once again one of the main concerns in the students' minds. But there are other things happening now as well. One of the things that did happen, and was quite interesting, was the dance performance, which by the way included Academy Senior Jason Emrik. All the lifts and twirls and pirouettes were quite fun to watch.

Also some members of the Advanced Computing Class attended an advanced computer tournament on March 16 at 6:30 AM! I was one of those attending the tournament.

I'm sure some of you know that The Merry Wives of Windsor has also gone by. You know that's the one thing about a bimonthly paper, a lot of the news cannot be told until it's over. Unless of course, the writer of the article gets him/herself together and tells you about it in the paper BEFORE, but that does not always happen.

Oh, gosh, what else is there to write about? Well, I suppose we could put a little sports blurb in there but can't seem to find one to write about. I will say one thing though, when the members of the team got up in morning meeting, all they said was, "We would rather not go into detail about the score", which, in my mind can only mean one thing.

Also, the Renaissance Fair is coming up on May 1 (May 15 rain date). The Renaissance Feast will be on April 30.



Summer Programs July '94



1 - 2 Wks.

Portraiture - Polly Anderson
Drama/Musical Theatre - Swish & Gerrit White
Computer Graphics - Dan Radin
Pottery - Jim Salem
Publishing for Kids - Kathy Wilkes
Tensile Sculpture Workshop - Dan Radin
Photography - Maise Todd
Cook it & Eat It! - Ellen Zale
CO-ED PROGRAMS FOR AGES 9-17

For more information please call
The Academy at Charlemont
(413) 339-4912

FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

by Earl Gleason, Chief

The department was called to eight emergencies during this reporting period. The first response was on February 1, when three EMTs and four firefighters assisted Charlemont Ambulance at a Branch Hill Road residence. The next evening seven firefighters and one EMT again assisted Charlemont Ambulance with a baby that was having difficulty breathing at a Clearwater Drive residence. February 13 saw four EMTs and three firefighters respond to a north Route 8A residence to aid Charlemont ambulance with a man who was experiencing general weakness. Nine firefighters responded to an automobile roll-over on Number Nine Road on March 1. Iced tree limbs resulted in pulling the wires off a Colrain Brook Road home resulting in electrical arcing. Six firefighters responded to this incident on March 10. Two days later, four EMTs and one firefighter along with Charlemont Ambulance assisted a man on Number Nine Road who was ill. On March 19, the Chief investigated an illegal fire on north Route 8A. The next evening five EMTs and a firefighter assisted Charlemont Ambulance with a man who lives on Number Nine Road. The man had recently experienced an operation. Later one EMT and one firefighter assisted Mercy Ambulance when the man returned home.

The Department had Association meetings on February 3 and March 10. Highlights of the March meeting were to spend a sum not to exceed \$2,500 to purchase two rescue lift bags and related equipment. The March drill on March 17 was devoted to CPR recertification. Nine firefighters and one EMT were recertified. EMTs and one firefighter were recertified in defibrillator recently at the Charlemont Fire Station.

The Chief signed one building permit, and attended 11 meetings, 10 of which were out of town.

If you can find your brush pile, burning permits may be obtained by calling the Dispatch Center at the emergency number 772-2133 between 8 AM and noon the day you wish to burn. **THE BURNING SEASON ENDS APRIL 30 AT 4 PM.**

Have a safe spring.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT REPORT

by Jack Cable

Many of our newer residents are not familiar with our seasons in this area. We have spring, summer, fall, winter and MUD season. With 50% of our roads made up of dirt, (25 miles) throw in the ingredients of frost, melting snow and rain = MUD. The only real cure is sunshine and patience and a four-wheel drive vehicle. What has surprised me since being Highway Superintendent is people's lack of weather conditions relative to the vehicles they drive. With MUD, an ordinary small car is not designed to negotiate this type of condition. People "in the know" who live on dirt roads leave their vehicles on a hard surface road and walk or 4-wheel drive to their homes. This is a fact of living here. (We park our car in the center). Fred Lively talks about leaving the family's car at Peters Store and using trucks and horses to get people and supplies - including milk from the cows - between the store and homestead. We hope to add gravel to many of our dirt roads this summer, but mud is still a factor. Hard top you say? Average rate to rebuild a mile of road is at least one hundred thousand dollars. Back to vehicles used in this area - almost all of the problems of traversing our roads this winter - skidding, spinning off the road, roll-overs were attributed to the vehicles' TIRES. You need winter tread studded tires in this country - anything less is adding risk and injury to everyone in the area because your vehicle is not safe to be on those roads.

Avery Brook bridges will be replaced this summer - finally the state has released funds for this project - and we are preparing to go out to bid. Many thanks to Jay Healy, Steve Kulik and Jane Swift who made sure our tiny voices were heard and get the project authorized. Some Chapter 90 money will be spent to rebuild the roads between the bridges. Chapter 90 money will be used to reconstruct South Road from the Center to near Dickinson's (was last year's project but delayed by 8A project).

The transfer station is doing well and our recycling is something to be proud of because you residents recycled 39.7% of your waste material in 1993. The world and future generations thank you. Bud and Cleon stress that bottles and cans be cleaned before bringing to the transfer station.

Please note - unless there is an emergency in highway matters, do not call my home - respect my privacy. Hours at the Highway garage are 7 AM to 3:30 PM Monday through Friday. There is an answering machine at the garage, 337-4462.

FREE

APPLE TURNOVER

with this ad
at

**MCCUSKER'S
MARKET & DELI**
SHELburnE FALLS, MASSACHUSETTS

Quality Foods

CALL 625-9411 for Deli Orders



SELECTMEN'S REPORT

by D. F. Howland

The months of February and March were dominated by details relative to the Special Town Meeting of March 26 about the proposed school and with meetings to plan the FY95 budget.

Art Schwenger is the Selectmen's representative to the School Building Committee and has been especially involved in the land acquisition effort. Dave Howland and Dick Giard helped with forecasting the impact of the new school on the town's budget and reviewed articles for the warrant with the help of Town Counsel.

Final budget hearings were scheduled for late March and early April in order to have a budget ready for the annual town meeting on Saturday, May 7. However, important school budget information may be revised and the state's cherry sheets that provide local aid data may not be available until late April. While the K-12 District budget has been approved some towns are not supporting it because the new aid was not shared equally with the towns. There is the possibility of additional aid for FY95; consequently the school budget situation is a bit fluid right now. We will keep you informed. We prefer to avoid a second annual town meeting, if at all possible.

Joyce Karpinski, the town's new Administrative Aide, has been digging into sources of grant funds and attending meetings of such groups as the Executive Office of Communities and Development. She has already made us aware of programs we didn't know about and has raised our hopes for getting money for special purposes. However, obtaining grant funds takes time and patience.

Dick Newton was appointed Building Manager/Custodian of the Community Hall and Town Hall replacing Debbie Gilbert who resigned to take a position at the Charlemont Post Office. Incidentally you should take a look at the office space upstairs in the Town Hall. Joyce with the help of Dick and the Highway Department crew installed new (read that as slightly used) desks and chairs obtained at no charge from the Greenfield Tap and Die Co., courtesy of Mike Kinsman. The reorganization of the office looks neat.

Dog officer Carl Herzig (of Colrain) met with Selectmen to ask that he be permitted to appoint a substitute officer in the event he was not able to answer a complaint. The Selectmen agreed. Further, Carl will continue to refer calls about cats to other agencies. Cat calls are infrequent and he does not have the time or facilities for administering another program.

The Selectmen approved a message of dedication to Ed Culver prepared by former Heath residents Caroline and Newland Smith. The dedication will be attached to Ed's painting of Whittemore Spring and then hung in the hallway of the Town Hall.

Fred Lively has rejoined the Highway Department after a medical leave of absence. We are glad to see Fred really up and around. The town has also received a letter of intent from the State Highway Department in support of replacing the three box culverts on Avery Brook Road.

Finally, Treasurer Kris Nartowicz and Tax Collector Karen Therault have been working on tax collection problems with Town Counsel. The cooperation received from property owners in these difficult times is much appreciated.

TREE WARDEN

by Jack Cable

Hemlocks. - This great softwood has a serious problem called the wooly adelgid. This pest is killing trees in large numbers. Discovered in Connecticut in 1985 after Hurricane Gloria, it is definitely in this area. I saw evidence last summer and noticed its prominence this winter. This pest feeds mainly on the young branches of the hemlocks by piercing the bark, sucking the tree's sap and simultaneously injecting a poisonous spittle. Within a year, hemlock needles dry and fall; and within two years the entire tree dies. The most obvious evidence of infestation in the conspicuous cottony egg sacs resembling the tip of a cotton swab present along young twigs most of the year. By June most eggs have hatched into "crawlers" reddish brown and 3 mm long. Spraying with insecticides is the only care for those pests as they have no natural enemies.

PERCS, PERMITS AND TRANSFERS

PERC TESTS

Percolation testing has been suspended until April except for repairs.

BUILDING PERMITS

No building permits were reported in the past two months.

DEED TRANSFERS

Cameron J. Duquette to Anthony Mancinone of Springfield, Mohawk Estates, Lot 28. \$4,000.

Margaret M. Lively to Rockwell J. and Marilyn K. Lively of Colrain, Heath and Heath Branch roads, land also in Colrain. \$65,000.

Susan P. Gleason of Buckland to F. Walter Gleason, 1 Bassett Road. No consideration.

Transition
come change with us
A FULL SERVICE SALON
625-6855
39 BRIDGE ST. • SHELburnE FALLS, MA • 01370

Bob DeLisle
Electrician
Prompt, Courteous, Reasonable
Lic. #E34969
337-5716

ELECTION SCHEDULE FOR 1994

Saturday	April 9 9AM-1PM at Town Hall 1 PM - 5 PM location posted at Town Hall	Voter registration for town election
Saturday	April 16 2-4 PM & 7-10 PM location posted at Town Hall	Last day to register to vote for town election
Friday	May 6 12 noon-7PM Town Hall	Town election
Saturday	May 7 9 AM Community Hall	Annual town meeting

ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION 1994 OFFICES AND INCUMBENTS

Selectman - 3 years
Assessor - 3 years
Town Clerk - 3 years
Town Treasurer - 3 years
Tax Collector - 3 years
Constables - 1 year

School Committee - 3 years
Planning Board - 5 years
Finance Committee - 3 years

Finance Committee - 2 years
Library Trustee - 3 year
Dog Officer - 1 year

Arthur Schwenger
Donald Dekker
Karen Thereault
Kristi Nartowicz
Karen Thereault
Robert Markert
Charles Kaempfer
Budge Litchfield
Robert Dane
Frank Rocchi
Gerald Gilbert
Karen Moore
Helen Mackie

REMEMBER TO VOTE!

HEATH HERALD
 Box 54
 Heath, MA 01346-0054

Bulk Rate
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 Permit No. 11
 Charlemont, MA 01339

MAIL TO:

PETERS GENERAL STORE

No. Nine Road, Heath, MA • 337-5501



LOCAL MAPLE SYRUP FOR SALE



Video Tapes and VCR Rentals
 Movie Rentals - 2 for the price of 1 on Tuesdays & Wednesdays

• Wine	• Chips	• Ice Cream	• Cough Syrups
• Liquor	• Pretzels	• Frozen Foods	• Aspirin
• Soda	• Popcorn	• Breads	• Bandages
• Cheeses	• Crackers	• Meats	• and more

Deli Case • General Groceries
Snacks • Sunday Papers



Video Tapes & VCR Rentals • Gasoline • Diesel • Kerosene
 Worms and Crawlers • Blue Seal Feeds
 Nuts, Bolts, Nails, General Hardware • Brookville Gloves



HOURS: Monday - Saturday 8 am - 7 pm
Sunday - 10 am - 7 pm

77 Years of Service to the Hilltowns - 1913-1990