



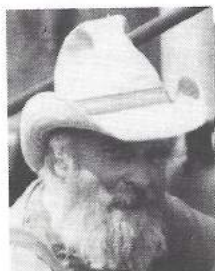
VOLUME 18 NUMBER 6

FEBRUARY/MARCH 1997

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**

LUCKY

"Sent from heaven" or "heaven sent" are terms often used to describe an event. This event was the arrival of a large black puppy at the Dickinson farm two years ago. "Lucky" was named by Road Boss Jack Cable. Lucky he was to have found the Dickinson family. Lucky they were to have him find them.

Lucky appeared at the Dickinson saw mill one day, and as they didn't feel the need of a dog tried hard to find him a home. Lucky had found his home. My sincere feelings are that Lucky was an envoy sent to help Ralph and Howard deal with losing their beloved sister. With Esther's declining health and passing, Lucky has been able to temper their grief immensely. It has been a great experience for me to watch Lucky teaching them to love him. With his thrashing tail and pleading eyes I don't want to have anything to do with anyone who wouldn't love him.



DICKINSONS AND LUCKY
(Photo by Jack Cable)

Lucky loves to ride in the car or truck and takes much pleasure watching the unfolding scenery. His main tak in the winter is to keep the squirrels away from the bird feeders. Sometimes he'll catch and destroy one. Then he has a toy to play with for a few days. Lucky's ears are always tuned for some exciting activity. He loves to go to the woods with Howard and Ralph. There's a unique snap to the disengaging of the hand clutch on a John Deere tractor and Lucky can appear most disinterested about anything till he hears that snap and feels an interesting trip to the woods is coming his way.

Howard has to check the second house on the left below their place and Lucky will go with Howard on his rope leash and carry the rope in his mouth. He has a very proud look about himself walking with his buddy.

Most visitors at the Dickinson farm are most taken with Lucky's great temperament. He seems a most sincere "meet and greet" figure.

There are countless stories of animals ministering to people. Lucky is Heath's own ambassador of good will, and he has an abundance to give.

ANNOUNCING HEATH'S NEW ROADS SCHOLAR

by Eileen A. Tougas

Heath's Board of Selectmen received a letter January 15 from the Department of Civil Engineering of the University of Massachusetts announcing that Jack Cable has achieved the rank of Roads Scholar in their Baystate Roads Scholar Program. The program requires that the applicant complete seven workshops in a two year period.

In the letter, the program manager stated, "Jack has come to all our workshops ready to learn. With a genuine interest in improving operations in the Town of Heath, Jack has shown us that he is a professional who is serious about improving himself and the way he accomplishes his work."

To achieve this rank, Jack completed six-hour workshops entitled Coaching and Leadership, Pavement Foundations, Soils, Pavement Rehabilitation Choices, Road Drainage, Hot Mix Asphalt, Roadways and Water Quality.

Congratulations, Jack, for another job well done!

LIBRARY LINES

by Laurie Wheeler Burrington

"In the bleak midwinter..." five intrepid souls co-zied up to the Heath Public Library's computer for the first session of Internet classes offered by the library. The classes went well, we lost no one "out there somewhere" on the Net and the "ringers" in the class didn't fluster the instructor too much. An introduction to basic information retrieval on the Internet, the participants were shown ways to access information from libraries and the World Wide Web. A second session covering the same material will be held on March 9 and 15 at 10 AM, both mornings.

We have the start of a new series of videos from Rabbit Ears Productions, a program usually heard on National Public Radio, on Monday afternoons. A gift from Helen Mackie, these videos have taken oral storytelling into the realm of the visual; each video features a familiar tale, told by a famous actor or actress, with music played by music greats, and made visually appealing by various artists. The titles include: John Henry, Johnny Appleseed, Peachboy, Brer Rabbit and Boss Lion, The Fool, and Jack and the Beanstalk. Good storytelling is not just for kids either, so you adults can take these out too.

Storytelling is happening at the library as well. Story hour has begun on Saturdays at noontime. Parents and children are invited.

How about another kind of story? Nothing soothes

the "winter-wearies" more than the thought of brown earth, green plants and getting to indulge in both. To nurture such dreams a Gardener's Corner has been started. At present it is located in the front of the library; there are magazines and books to borrow, extra seed catalogues to share and, in time, a bulletin board on which to place gardening notes or happenings. If anyone has suggestions for said corner, stop by the library.

Wait a minute! Isn't this supposed to be about books? The definition of what a library is continues to change, as additional forms of media become part of the grand scheme. Its basic role remains the same, and these new mediums of communication are merely tools, meant to supplement and enhance the ability of the written word to enlighten, inform, and delight. There is room for all.

HEATH UNION CHURCH NEWS

by Pastor Colin Lucid

Our church is excited about the upcoming Valentine's Day Family Dinner, February 14, 6:30 PM at Heath Elementary School. The menu is pot roast with gravy, baby herb potatoes, buttered corn, salad bar, homemade oatmeal and cinnamon bread, beverages and dessert. We have lots of fun entertainment planned throughout the evening. The cost is \$6.50 for adults and \$4.00 for children. This is an opportunity for everyone to come and enjoy the fellowship of family, friends and neighbors. This is a non-profit event. For reservations, call Anne-Marie Lucid at 337-5755 or Hilma Sumner at 337-4845.

On Wednesday, March 5, we will begin our "Kids Club" at Heath Elementary School. All children K-6 are invited to join us in learning about different character qualities through animal friends. Come and join us for crafts, games and teaching. Children should be picked up by 4:30.

As we look forward to celebrating Easter, we are planning a mini-series on March 26 and 27. We will be studying the last days of Christ's ministry before His crucifixion and ending with a Good Friday service at Community Bible Church in Charlemont. On Easter Sunday we will have the annual Easter Cantata during our morning worship service. We hope you will join us.

During the Easter season, please keep in mind these words from the heart of Scripture, John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whoever would believe in Him would have everlasting life."

RAY'S OF INTEREST

by R. C. Pettengill

"WORDS OF WISDOM TO MARRIED MEN:
IT'S A GOOD IDEA NOT TO START SOMETHING
THAT YOUR WIFE CAN'T FINISH".

HEATH HERALD

HEATH'S FIRST NEWSPAPER

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HEATH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS

by Philip O'Reilly, Principal

One year ago this month, I began as principal of the Heath Elementary School. Though the work has been time consuming and there seems to be endless important pieces that need my attention I have found great rewards in working with this community to establish a school with a solid foundation and worthy set of goals. Many of my friends and colleagues talk to me about the process of beginning a new school. As I reflect with them and think myself, I am struck with the amount we have accomplished and yet, I am unnerved with the amount that has yet to be done.

Though we have established a Statement of Purpose, with an identified core curriculum and set of essential skills, the real challenge is in my work with teachers as we create together a challenging and continuous academic curriculum. I believe that much of our effort now should be focused toward materializing the ideas expressed in our Statement of Purpose into a living and breathing document represented in purposeful and meaningful teaching and learning.

Of equal importance is the necessity for us to continue to work together to further develop a caring, supportive community so that all of us feel safe to take the necessary risks that learners need to take in order to grow and develop. We do this by working together as a team, with an agreed upon direction and open communication. I know this will not happen in a school community that is fraught with disharmony, poor communication and second guessing.

The School Council now meets twice monthly and is a perfect planning setting for much of this work yet to be accomplished. In our next few meetings we will be discussing some outside supports that can assist us in these great tasks outlined above. We will be visiting ideas written in a recent report by Ernest Boyer, commissioned by The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. Boyer writes about "The Basic School" as an

idea that is appropriate for every elementary school. Such a school attends to four priorities: community, curriculum coherence, climate and character. Another possible support for the school could be a two year professional development model that focuses on student literacy called, "The Learning Network". The goals of this program are to establish quality, to maintain school-wide consistency, to develop school capacity, and to promote the independence of students and faculty. Either one of these "supports" will help us with the next steps of infancy. In addition, we will have the opportunity to receive funding from the Commonwealth that will underwrite the work that will occur with either of these successful models.

Please feel free to join the Council as we discuss these ideas in the next two months. Our next meeting will be February 20 at 4:30 PM. Our 90 minute meetings will continue each first and third Thursday of March, April, May and June. Call the school for the exact meeting times. The meeting times are also posted at the Town Office.

I look forward to this next year as principal as we "cut our teeth", taking our next steps, and move toward "toddlerhood"!

Other interesting notes...Nearly two months ago we were visited by a reporter from Channel 10 news in Albany, who stayed at the school for an afternoon to get a "feel" for the type of school we were operating. He interviewed staff members, community members, parents and children. Two weeks ago a short segment was aired on the 6 PM newscast. If you happened to miss the broadcast and have an interest in seeing it, please call the school and arrange to borrow the video. I think the "angle" was very favorable for this great town.

A COMMUNITY SCHOOL BUILDING

by Deborah Phillips

Our beautiful new school is being greatly appreciated by its students, teachers and community-at-large. Outside of school functions, locals are putting it to good use. The following events are currently in place on a regular basis in the gymnasium:

Tuesday	6:00 - 7:00	Pick-up Basketball, 4th - 8th graders
Tuesday	7:00 - 9:00	Pick-up Basketball, Adults
Wednesday	6:45 - 7:15	Low-impact Aerobics
Wednesday	7:15 - 8:00	Stretching and Toning
Thursday	7:00 - 9:00	Pick-up Basketball, Adults
Friday	7:00 - 10:00	Volleyball

All members of the community are welcome to join in any of these events at any time. All you need to do is show up! If there is a particular function that a town member or local organization would like to have held at the school, please call Kathy Sprague for more details at 337-5307 during school hours.

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HEATH PRESCHOOL NEWS

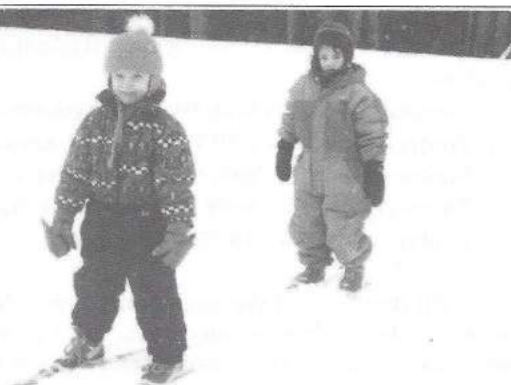
by Suzanne Crawford

Recently we have been enjoying the special kind of play that winter brings. Even in this winter with less than average snowfall, the children have been able to delight in shoveling, sledding, making angels and snow men, and generally having fun romping in the snow. We have filled several spray bottles with water tinted with food coloring, and this adds a special touch to our snow sculptures. The small hill down to the playing field is a perfect gentle grade for young sledders, and we're all enjoying that. We have had one delightful day of cross-country skiing and hope to ski again when the conditions permit. It is wonderful to have every child be successful on skis.

Indoors, we've been having fun acting out several wonderful folk tales. We have enjoyed dramatizing (and cooking and eating) "Stone Soup," as well as "Caps for Sale." "The Mitten" is the next story we plan to act out. We have also been enjoying using the gym on Tuesday mornings, often with our indoor slide and mats. Active play and movement are an important part of a young child's learning, as they develop coordination, strength, and increasing body awareness. We are looking forward to the Heath Highway Department visiting to tell us about their work plowing snow, and we will follow it up with some imaginative "snow plowing" inside. We are also planning to have a "beach" day when we pretend it's summertime!

The preschool is once again planning to sell lunches as a fund raiser at the Heath ski race. Although the weather has not been promising so far, we are being optimistic and making our plans. We hope to see you there with your hungry appetites! Many, many thanks to all the families and community members who help us out.

I am beginning to collect names of potential students for next year's preschool class. Children who are 3 or 4 by August 31, 1997 are eligible to attend. Please let me know of any eligible children, even if they may not choose to attend. You may reach me at work at 337-5307 or at home at 339-4265. Pre-registration will be later in the spring.



YOUNG SKIERS
(Photo by Suzanne Crawford)

OUR HEATH BROCHURE

by Middle South

At the Heath School, we are called "Middle South". We are a classroom of second and third graders. Our teacher is Robbie Murphy. We were talking about "audience" in our writing. We were studying "community" in our social studies theme. We thought about how we might share information about the Heath community with people from out of town. Hilma Sumner, Ruth's mother, drove two students around town, and they used the digital camera to take pictures of some buildings in Heath. Other pictures were drawn by students. The result is a brochure about the town of Heath, MA. Here are some excerpts:

"Heath is in Franklin County, Massachusetts. It has lots of ponds, rivers and brooks. And if you like country, there are farms, hills, trees, forests and flowers. It's a cool place!"

"There are lots of things to do in heath...in Fall, you can rake, play and jump in leaves...in Winter, you can go ice-fishing...in early Spring, people make maple syrup from the sap in maple trees...The Heath Fair is in August."

"As you drive around Heath, you might see wild animals or domestic animals...cows, goats and horses are lawnmowers!"

"There are some nice buildings in the center of Heath. Some of them are very old...The Community Hall is where they have pot luck suppers. It used to be a church. The Pre-School used to be there. It was built in 1872."

"The spirit of the land and the spirit of the people are what makes Heath so special."

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CONNECTIONS

by
PAT LEUCHTMAN

NEW DEVELOPMENTS AT THE DANES

Bob and Jayne Dane came to Heath in 1982 and started sinking deep roots into the community. Those roots have borne beautiful fruit over the past couple of years as Bob, who is famous for his glass sculptures and functional works, designed and cast the beautiful glass wall that is such a showpiece in the new Heath School. The wall contains glass blocks with the handprints of Heath's elementary school children in Heath, and the handprints of Alli Thane, Budge Litchfield, Carroll Stowe and Catherine Heyl.

Some of the blocks feature art work done by the children depicting seasonal elements, Valentine hearts and bright autumn leaves. Recently Bob put the last coat of polyurethane on the wooden frame and the wall is officially completed.

Most of Bob's other works aren't as visible to the larger community although his December studio sale is always eagerly awaited, but his reputation reaches far beyond our little town. Over the years he has had solo exhibitions of his sculptures in New York City, Philadelphia, Palm Beach, Atlanta, Baltimore and Scottsdale. He has participated in group exhibitions in many cities including Boston, Stockbridge, Chicago, Milwaukee and Los Angeles, as well as in Japan. His work is in the collections of a number of museums including the American Craft Museum in New York, the Corning Museum of Glass in Corning, NY, the Glasmuseum in Ebeltoft, Denmark and the Philadelphia Museum of Art.

As distinguished as his sculpture career has been, Bob and Jayne decided to take on a big new project last year. While visiting friends on Nantucket they realized there was no glass gallery there. That discovery led to the birth of the Nantucket Glass Works which opened in April of 1996. Jayne, resigned from the Academy at Charlemont where she had been teaching music and set aside her basket-making to become the gallery manager, selling not only Bob's glass, but also the work of other area glass artists, Ed Branson, Jonathan Winfisky and Scott Lesure. The gallery also sells Alan Nichols' furniture and Steve Smithers' metalwork.

In fact, Bob and Steve Smithers have been collaborating on lighting fixtures. Bob makes glass shades for some of Smithers' lamps and together they create lamps with glass bases and metal fittings, including some that make use of Ashfield stone. They are also making lamps with handpainted paper shades created by Suzanne Moore, formerly of Ashfield who recently moved to Salem.

Since the Nantucket Glass Works closed on Christmas Eve, Bob and Jayne are taking a little time to

breathe easier, review their first year, regroup and think about the season coming up. However, they laugh at the idea that they are in vacation mode. Bob spent time in January working at the furnace, making special orders that had been requested. In March they will be off to the American Craft Council Winter Market in Baltimore, a big wholesale show for glassmakers, where they will be buying for the gallery. After the Baltimore show Bob will return to the furnace to start blowing the glass that he'll be sending to Nantucket. About half of the glass in the gallery is Bob's but the rest is bought from other glass artists.

As successful at the new enterprise has been, and as much as they both enjoy the summer seaside, Bob and Jayne want to quash any rumors that a "For Sale" sign will go up outside their house. They have no plans to pull up their roots. "We love the Heath community," Bob said. "We love our house and have wonderful friends here. We love the winter - when there is lots of snow for skiing. We cannot imagine leaving."

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WILD RAMBLINGS

by **BILL LATTRELL**

Successful Winter Journey

Winter is an excellent time of year to visit some favorite haunts in the wild. One of my favorite places to wander is the upper Saunders Brook watershed. Located on the northwest side of H. O. Cook State Forest in Heath, this beautiful area is always a treat to explore. While I have hiked this area dozens of times in all seasons, I never visit the area without experiencing new lessons in natural history. Below is a description of a recent journey through the area, and some of my thoughts as I rambled about through the watershed.

It is late afternoon on a clear, windy January day. The temperature is cold, but I choose to wear only a polartec jersey as I know the hike will be vigorous enough to keep me warm. As I begin my sojourn into the watershed I am struck by the ripples in Saunders Brook. Clear and gleaming, the water rushes downstream through bedrock banks overhung by snow covered hemlock bows. A thin, four inch layer of snow on the ground gives me good cover for tracking. I caution myself to not get totally absorbed in the fresh tracks when I encounter them. Sometimes I get so involved with tracking that I miss every other wildlife sign around me. I have been known to loose the concept of time while tracking, and since it is late afternoon I want to be aware of the setting sun.

As I work my way upstream I examine the small balsam fir saplings that appear to be recently gnawed. The pattern of some indiscript tracks in the area, melted by the sun, give me a clue that snowshoe hare were delicately nibbling at these evergreens. Nearby, a neat trail of parallel tracks wander in and out of the brook. Along icy patches within the boundary of the brook smooth trail slides can be seen in the snow. No doubt it is the track of the river otter in search of brook trout in these clean clear waters. I am envious of his meal, thinking back to spring when I had my last taste of this native fish.

Not far into my journey I encounter a beaver dam. Abandoned four years ago, two beavers reinhabited the area two years ago repairing the dam and inhabiting the existing beaver lodge. The beaver pond created by the dammed up stream is small, perhaps an acre and one half in size. Normally this area would not have been inhabited for at least several more years, but the number of beaver in the area has put pressure on any available habitat. Along the edge of the pond there is a good deal of beaver sign. All of the small willow shrubs have been cut and utilized as winter forage. The beavers harvest this sapling and store it in front of the lodge under the ice. It is the availability of this and other shrubs that determine whether beaver can inhabit the area through the winter. I remember that the edge of the pond is covered with bunch berry in the spring, a beautiful wildflower in the dogwood family that blooms in January. I try to make a mental note to return to this spot at that time of the year.

As I continue my journey upstream I enter a large conifer bog. This area is covered with the bows of balsam fir, black spruce, and hemlock. The snow cover is thin due to the thick overstory of branches. It is a natural deer yarding area. Years of use by the white tailed deer can be seen in the nipped buds on both evergreens and the few deciduous shrubs in the area. In the summer this area is covered by a stunning sea of sphagnum moss. I remember that the contrast of the yellows, reds, and light greens of the different peat moss is striking during the early afternoon when the sunlight can penetrate through the thick canopy. In August, when the black flies and mosquitoes have thinned out I occasionally come here. It is refreshing to lay in the cool moist peat moss on a 90 degree August day. It occurs to me that it is like wrapping your entire body in a cool, wet, compress.

A blast of cold, wind driven air restores reality. At eye level I notice a balsam canker. This wild growth, found on balsam trees, is sometimes spurred by injury, sometimes by disease. It appears to be an area of tangled root growth protruding from the side of the tree. The many short branches are held stiff by the sap of the balsam, a clear thick substance that reminds me of insects trapped in their ancient ambers during prehistoric times. I decide to cross the brook and look for an apple tree that the beavers have been gnawing on for the twenty years I have been observing the area. Although this tree is long since dead, it is still standing. The beavers

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apparently use the hard apple wood to keep their rodentia teeth cut back. These teeth never stop growing and rodents must constantly chew to keep them from growing too long which frequently proves to be fatal. As I cross the western side of the brook, I encounter three sets of coyote tracks. Two of the sets of tracks are large, and one is small. There is little question that they have a destination in mind. There is no wandering from side to side, the tracks carve a direct path along the brooks' edge. I decide to follow these tracks for a short distance since they appear to be fresh. Not far upstream I encounter blood spattered snow. White hair is everywhere. I look across the nearby hillside and see snowshoe hare tracks coming from a low, thick, cover of balsam fir. There is no indication that the animal had any idea that his demise was forthcoming. There is no sign of run or chase, only sudden death. For the coyote, the hare is a good meal and far more satisfying than its more common diet of voles, mice and berries. I wonder if the hare was shared among the three. It is obvious that the hare was consumed right on the spot. I begin looking around and I note that two of the sets of tracks are apparently involved in eating the prey, and a third set of smaller tracks appears to cautiously wait around the perimeter of the kill. My question is answered.

The sun is now below the horizon and I know that I will be walking back to my truck in the dark. A sound, first low, and gradually rising can be heard throughout the watershed. The sound is repeated first once, and then twice. It is the howling of the coyotes after a successful hunt.

I try howling back to embrace their success and to celebrate my own successful journey. There is no reply.

OF HERBS AND HEIRLOOMS

by Laurie Wheeler Burrington

By definition, an herb is simply any useful plant, wild or cultivated. As a challenge I decided to look up ways to use a plant which, by the very utterance of its name, *Artemisia vulgaris*, causes me to growl. Calling it invasive is kind. Calling it a thug is truthful, and I pull it out by the bucketful. It is found growing near water, or in wasteland, or, as in my garden, anywhere I once foolishly dumped my bucketsful.

While researching this I was, begrudgingly, surprised. On the historical, mythical front, Maude Grieve gives a fascinating view of the herb. One of its names, *Cingulum Sancti Johannis*, she writes, indicates a belief held during the Middle Ages that mugwort was the girdle worn in the wilderness by John the Baptist. Magically, when worn on the person it is reputed to keep away disease and evil spirits. When dried it may be put into dream pillows, tiny pillows tucked under your regular pillow, to promote clear dreams. I once did use it in a dream pillow. My dreams became quite lucid, but definitely stranger than I expected.

Medicinally, its actions are described within "The Holistic Herbal" as a stimulant, emmenagogue, nerve tonic, and a bitter tonic. Translated, this means it may be used to help stimulate sluggish digestion, balance female complaints, and calm nerves.

Alma R. Hutchens, who wrote "Indian Herbalogy of North America", discusses use of its leaves in teas and with other herbs to help remedy colds and cold-related illnesses, rheumatism, kidney or bladder infections, externally for wounds and bruises, and as an emmenagogue.

Nicholas Culpeper recommends its fresh juice as a remedy to the overindulgence of opium, which presently doesn't appear to be a problem in our community.

None of the medicinal uses have I personally used. Next garden season I will harvest some of it, as I am already pulling it from every bed anyway, and try it. Perhaps I shall change my thinking about mugwort. I'll keep you posted. And if you decide you must have this plant, come over and get some of it, but plant it in a barrel, or in a forgotten corner of your garden.

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SELECTMEN'S REPORT

by Eileen A. Tougas

As we begin a new year, many of us have made New Year's resolutions hoping we'll be successful in keeping them. It is certainly a difficult task, but with perseverance, it can be done. The satisfaction that's derived proves that the effort is always worthwhile.

The Heath Board of Selectmen continues to remain resolute in our commitment to serve the people of Heath. We will confront the challenges of 1997 with the same zeal and enthusiasm as we have in the past and dedicate ourselves to the principle that the town's best interest will always be our number one priority.

Budget hearings will commence in February in order to allow adequate time to prepare the warrant articles to be presented at the Annual Town Meeting to be held on Saturday, May 10.

Town Coordinator, Janice Boudreau has been compiling information for the Annual Report. We would like to remind all Town Boards and Committees that it is essential that you submit your written report to Janice as soon as possible.

As you may have heard, the state is dissolving county government as we know it. On June 30, the state will take over the jail, the registry of deeds and the county courthouse. Franklin County will no longer exist as such, instead, it will be known as "Franklin Region". The new regional government would continue to perform regional planning functions and advocate for the region, as well as develop cooperative programs like purchasing and engineering services to help towns.

The Franklin Regional Charter Commission was formed and charged with the task of designing, creating and formulating a viable Franklin Council of Governments. Last fall, the BOS appointed Dave Howland as our representative to the Regional Charter Commission to represent the Town's interest. In the event of Dave's absence, Chuck Mackie was appointed as an alternate. Both of our representatives have been doing an excellent job in keeping the BOS informed on the Commission's progress.

The question regarding the Charter for the Franklin Council of Governments will come to ballot at the Annual Town Meeting in May. It is important to note that there are 26 towns involved and in order for Franklin Regional Council of Governments to succeed, it must pass by a majority vote in 14 out of 26 towns.

Construction for the Handicapped Access Project at the Community Hall is well underway and the inside work should be completed by this printing. You will be pleased to note that other than the obvious changes necessary to put us in compliance with Federal regulations governing "handicap access", every possible effort was made to preserve the historical integrity of our Community Hall. Please note that until this work is done the building is closed and all persons are advised not to enter the building.

Veratec was allowed to withdraw its appeal for an adjudicatory hearing with regards to its petition to apply sludge on the former Morse property. As part of their reapplication process, a "draft work plan" was prepared by Veratec and submitted to both the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the Heath Board of Health (BOH). The BOH was given thirty days to review and comment on this plan before the deadline date of December 27, 1996. Seeking expertise in this field, the BOH hired Mr. Ward Motts, a hydrogeologist, to function as a technical expert for the Town of Heath. Mr. Motts reviewed Veratec's proposed plan and submitted his written comments to the BOH. This statement, along with the BOH's own response were submitted to DEP by the deadline. As of this date we have not received any response from the DEP.

On January 14, Sue Silvester, Executive Director of the Mary Lyon Education Fund presented the BOS with a check in the amount of \$64,393.47. These donations were raised by the Mary Lyon Education Fund and Mohawk Trail Regional School District Capital Campaign Committee for the Heath Elementary School. This money will be matched by a state grant at 72%. The BOS would like to express their appreciation to this outstanding Committee whose efforts made this possible and to all of the Heath residents and summer residents who contributed to make this fund raiser such a success. Please note, it's not too late if you wish to donate. The state will continue to match donations until the amount of \$75,000 is reached by the cutoff date of April 1997.

Special thanks to Sue Silvester who took the initiative and restored the original plaque of the Frank E. Carpenter Award. This award was established in 1932 to honor students of academic and social excellence. You will be able to view this plaque at its new location, the Heath Elementary School.

The BOS regretfully accepted a letter of resignation from Margo Newton. She has resigned from positions held on the Police Department, Community Hall Committee and Franklin County Technical School Representative.

We are pleased to announce that we have filled two vacated positions. Joe Corbeil has been appointed to represent Heath on the School Committee and Chuck Mackie was appointed to the Finance Committee. Joe and Chuck will serve in their respective positions until the next town election.

The BOS has received many complaints about people driving out of Jacobs Road the wrong way. Jacobs Road is a one way street and is marked as such. Driving out the wrong way is especially dangerous during the winter months when snow banks narrow the passage and...it's illegal.



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MILESTONES

By Edith Royer

Heath native Luke Alexander Housner, son of Richard and Marlene Housner of Roswell, New Mexico, was married to Carmelita Chu, daughter of Howard and Regina Chu of Kowloon, Hong Kong, on September 30, 1996 in Collingswood NJ. December 27 was marked by a celebration dinner for family and friends at Deux Cheminees in Philadelphia. The bride and groom were acquainted at Oberlin College Conservatory of Music, where they were in the same piano studio. They have both been free lancing and teaching in the Philadelphia/South Jersey region and just recently have begun concertizing as a piano duo. In early January, they returned to western MA and dropped by to see the Bakalars in Ashfield and the Carters in Heath.

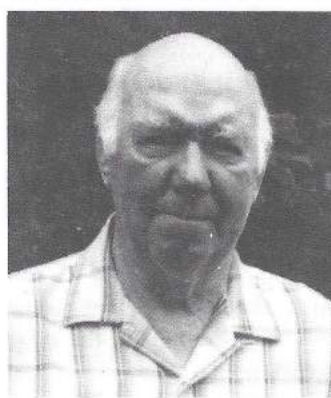
A son, Madison Tripp, was born November 22, to Roberta (Tripp) and William Baker of Rowe. Grandparents are Alicia and Robert Tripp of Heath and Jacqueline and John Baker of Shelburne. Great-grandparents are Grace Baker of Shelburne and Jeannette Hebert of West Palm Beach, FL.

Born December 6, a son, Lucas Stephen, to Nancy (Grechel) and Roger Purington, Jr., of Colrain, grandson of Mary Jane and Gary Miller of Colrain, Stephen Grechel, Sr., of Charlemont, and Roberta and Roger Purington, Sr. of Heath, great-grandson of Thelma and Raymond Miller and Arlene and John Grechel, all of Colrain, and Ruth and Richard Bousquet of Shelburne, great-grandson of Elzina Bousquet of Shelburne.

Born December 30, a daughter, Laura Ruth, to Jana (Gallop) and Michael Purington of Colrain, granddaughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Purington of Colrain and Mr. and Mrs. Richard Gallup of Heath, great-granddaughter of Ellen Gallup of Brooklyn, CT.

Winifred E. Hulbert, a resident of Westwood since 1939, died Tuesday, December 3, 1996, in the Emerald Court Nursing Home in Norwood, MA. She was 104. Born in Marietta, Ohio, she earned her teaching degree from the American College for Girls in Constantinople, Turkey. During World War I, she was a volunteer for Canteen Services with the YMCA in France. In 1939 she started teaching in Westwood in the primary grades, but taught for most of her career at the Thurston Junior High School until her retirement in 1960. Miss Hulbert was the founder of the World Organization Study Club, known as WOSC to thousands of Westwood Junior High School students. Primarily a social studies and world

current events club, the organization is still popular at the school. Students are rewarded for their efforts and faithful attendance at WOSC with a school year end trip to New York City. The trip, initially a one day affair, now spans several days. Miss Hulbert took her last trip with the group to New York City in 1982, at the age of 90. She was a member of the Society of Companions of the Holy Cross, the Every Saturday Literary Club in Newton, and St. John Episcopal Church in Westwood. Sister of the late Kathryn Hall, she leaves several nieces and nephews, including Richard Hulbert of Brooklyn, NY. She was an occasional summer resident of Heath for 40 years at her house on the Avery Brook Road, often putting her house at the disposal of others. Burial will be in Dartmouth Old Cemetery, Hanover, NH.



Clyde H. Churchill, 85, of Jacksonville Road, died Sunday, January 26, 1997 at the Anchorage Nursing Home in Shelburne. He was born in Charlemont, August 25, 1911, the son of Charles and Avis M. (Taylor) Churchill. He was a World War II veteran serving with the 267th Army Air Force Base unit with tours of duty in

Africa and Italy. He was a recipient of the Good Conduct Medal. Churchill was director of the Western Franklin County Veteran's Service Center in Shelburne Falls for 12 years before retiring in 1982. He previously retired from CPC International Company. He was employed as a bookkeeper in the Charlemont and Shelburne Falls stores of Wirthmore. Previous employment included the former Potter Grain Company in Charlemont where he was also a bookkeeper. While living in Charlemont, he was a Boy Scout Troop Leader for about 10 years. He was Noble Grand and recording secretary of Union Lodge Odd Fellows No. 242 and was a 50 year member before it disbanded. He was also a trustee of the former Shelburne Falls Savings bank. He served two terms as selectman in Charlemont before moving to Heath in 1956. He also served two terms as Heath selectman as well as serving as town moderator. He was a member of the Union Evangelical Church of Heath and a former member of Heath Grange. He was also a member of the Heath Historical Society. For many years Churchill raised and lowered the American flag on Heath Town Common and only resigned this act when advancing age forced him to do so. Survivors include his wife of 46 years, the former Ruth H. Borklund; two daughters, Charlene E. Churchill of Gray, Maine, and Hilma A. Sumner of Heath; a sister, Helen Davenport of West Springfield; two grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews. Services were held in the Heath Union Evangelical Church with Reverend Colin Lucid officiating. Burial will be in the spring in Leavitt Cemetery, Charlemont, with date and time to be announced. Memorial contributions may be made to the

Shepherd Excavation



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FIRE AND GRATITUDE

by Pat Leuchtman

Carol Sartz and Art Schwenger and their son Olin spent hours on the road as they returned from their Thanksgiving holiday, fearing that their homecoming would give them very little for which to be thankful. They had received a call letting them know that there had been a chimney fire at their Burrington Hill home; they could not imagine how much damage had been done.

Considerable damage was done, but they found they had more to be thankful for than they ever imagined. "Ever since the fire, there has been such an outpouring of love, support and care from the whole community," Carol said. "We have received so many gifts, and they continue to arrive."

Carol explained that the greatest damage occurred in the western portion of the main part of the house. The el which contained their kitchen and mudroom was uninvolved. She described the efficiency of the firemen who punched a hole in the roof so that the fire went up, and did not spread across the house, and limited the damage substantially. However, there was so much water and smoke damage that the house will need to be gutted and then rebuilt.

Art and Carol have lived in that house on Burrington Hill since the mid-70s, filling it with photos, paintings, books and the work they do at home. Carol said when they arrived home they found that Budge and the other firemen had saved boxes of family photos and they were scattered all over town, to friends who laid them out to dry. Janice Boudreau and Paul Turnbull who are professional photographers, took charge of all the negatives to give them the care they needed.

Carol said she could hardly believe the thoughtfulness and generosity of so many of their neighbors. Julie Rocke took paintings and photos that had been framed and hung on the walls, to dry them out and remat them.

Carol teaches in the Early Childhood Education program at Greenfield Community College (GCC), doing lots of her work at home on her own computer. Linda Marcotte took away that water-logged computer and was able to retrieve Carol's work from the hard disk, even though the computer no longer operates properly.

Almost all their books were destroyed by fire or water. Carol says GCC is helping her rebuild her professional library, as they start to rebuild their personal library.

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Bev DenOuden and Martha McCutcheon thought of the small things that get lost in such a disaster; they invited some of Carol's friends to a party where they presented her with earrings and cookbooks.

Ever since their return Carol and Art have been busy with the exhausting work of cleaning up, inventorying what was lost, what was saved, and making plans. At the end of January work finally started on the house. The roof was removed and a cap set in place. "It's wonderful to see work start," Carol said, "but it is going to take months before we can move back in."

In the meantime, the three of them have settled into Pondsides, in the Dell. "It's a wonderful house, and we have just taken it over. We are so grateful to the Litchfields for inviting us," Carol said.

Carol says she, Art and Olin can never fully express their thanks to all of those who have helped them - and continue to help them - as they begin the job of rebuilding.

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IMAGES BY PAUL TURNBULL AND JANICE BOUDREAU

by Laurie Wheeler Burrington

A blustery winter's afternoon recently found me in the eclectic, most inviting, passive-solar home of photographers Janice Boudreau and Paul Turnbull of Heath. (People may also know Janice from her work as Heath's Town Coordinator.) With strong senses of individuality and artistic passion these two have created a place for their art, business, studio, and home in Heath during the past two decades.

Paul began his career as a U. S. Navy Photographer's Mate, followed by work as an industrial photographer in Boston, MA. In 1975, he moved to Heath, after selling his thriving Tec-Art Studio of Photography in Chelmsford, MA, to take on a teaching position at the Hallmark Institute of Photography in Turners Falls, MA. His reasons, he said, were "to have a chance to teach, and get away from the craziness of urban living, to be independent and to simplify...". He worked at the school as Department Head and Instructor from 1975-1978, Executive Director from 1978-1986, and finally, as President and Treasurer, from 1986-1992.

Janice graduated in 1977 from the Colby-Sawyer College and went on to become a student at Hallmark Institute of Photography from 1977-1978. She was a portrait photographer in Fitchburg, MA from 1978-1980, as well as a free-lance photographer and student at the University of MA from 1980-1982. In 1982 she returned to Hallmark as the Director of Admissions, Financial Aid Officer and Instructor. In 1990 she became Business and Operations Manager and Instructor at the school.

In 1992 both made the decision to become independent photographers, and together began to develop a multi-faceted photography business, in which art and commercial photography are closely related.

Their strictly commercial work is done by both

Paul and Janice, where they are asked to go to various sites and photograph specific subjects by companies for their advertising purposes. Janice also does photography for weddings and social events, as well as portraiture.

"Stock photos", a "bridge", as Janice explained, between the strictly commercial photography and their art, play an important part in their business. They regularly shoot photographs which are kept on file in their current library of 35,000 images. When people have need of specific "type" images, Paula and Janice are called upon to check these files and send what they believe would best suit the client's needs. Clients include Vermont Life Magazine, Doubleday Books, Essex (U.K.) Countryside Magazine, Georgia Pacific Paper Company, Smithsonian...and many others.

They specialize in rural New England photographs, with many of the images recognizable to local eyes. They are also developing a series of Caribbean and Jamaican images, several of which have just recently been used by the Los Angeles Times.

In all of their work their artistic sensibilities are present, and all areas of their art are met with professionalism and creativity. Janice explained that they want their work "to have a level of dignity, and that they are always trying to give their best, something of quality, that people can enjoy."

So many artists strive for this, but are often times forced to make decisions based not upon their artistic needs, but the "fast dollar". Paul and Janice have struck a fine balance of creating commercial photography that does not compromise their artistry, and art photography that is highly saleable.

While looking at their images came the realization that they are also creating lasting records. Living and breathing this area they are creating a chronicle of rural New England. Perhaps in future years we may wish to look at images such as these, wishing someone had captured it on film, and we could go to the Turnbull and Boudreau Photographers, and find it there, in glorious color.

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Heath Union Church, Organ Restoration Fund, Heath, 01346.

Hannah E. (Landstrom) Burrington, 95, a resident of Anchorage Nursing Home, Shelburne, formerly of Heath, died Tuesday, February 4, 1997 at the nursing home. She was born in Waltham, September 10, 1901, daughter of Victor and Anna (Larson) Landstrom. She attended Heath Grammar School and the former Charlemont High School. She was a 1922 graduate of Waltham Nurses Training School. She was a private duty nurse companion prior to retirement several years ago. Mrs. Burrington was a member of and former organist at the Heath Union Church. For many years she was Sunday School Superintendent and teacher. She was past president of the Ladies Aid and was a member of the former Heath Grange. She was also a member of the Heath Historical Society. In the 1950s she served on the Heath Community Hall Committee. She was the widow of Frederick W. Burrington, who died May 30, 1961. Survivors include one son, **Paul F.** of Heath, two daughters, Catherine A. Cromack of Millers Falls and Erma J. Lowd of Middlebury, VT; 20 grandchildren, 24 great-grandchildren, and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by a son, Lawrence, who died October 9, 1983, and a daughter, Jane Loomis, who died in October 1962.



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ASSESSORS REPORT

by Don Dekker

As you may have noticed, the tax bills produced on the new computer system are now itemized. All the buildings on your property should be on your bill separately. We look at your property at least once in every five years, so we are pretty current. However, let us know if there are any errors and we will correct the matter. We must use whatever exists on our computer program. Some types of buildings in Heath are not on the program, so we use whatever square foot costs are appropriate. Our consultant used "cabana" in some cases. This seems right now, minus 0 degrees, not quite right, but there was no correct category available.

Value is determined by RCNLD - replacement costs new, less depreciation; and based on value tables. This means that whatever it costs today to build, and then minus a depreciation from the year it was built. Since building costs have increased rapidly, this may mean that the value of something today may be much more than what it cost you to build it originally. Realtors tell us that if you build a new house and then need to sell it, it may not be possible to get as much for your house as it cost to build. New construction costs are that high. Please call or write to us if you have any questions.



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THE RING

by Jack Cable

An engagement ring was purchased by a young man to give to his fiancée at a special place in Paris, France in July 1996. The ring didn't make it to France nor did the young man. They were both on TWA Flight 800 which exploded over Long Island Sound on July 17, 1996.

Andy Krukar worked for the Torrington Company Engineering Department in Torrington, CT. I knew Andy as I also worked in the Engineering Department at the company. He was from Goshen, CT - site of the Goshen Blueberry Festival which, of course, use Burnt Hill blueberries. His parents have been coming to our Farm for many years to "pick-their-own". Andy was the young man on the plane. On July 30, his body was recovered.

The ring was found floating all by itself in the miles of ocean, the day after the crash. It had been wrapped in bubble packaging and placed in its jewelry box. Miraculously it had survived the explosion, crash, fire and water and was found! Andy's fiancée, Julie Stuart, was told "he made sure that it was found and that it found you." Mr. Krukar was flying to Paris for the Torrington Company on business with the Renault Automobile Company and had planned to mix business with pleasure by having his fiancée join him in Paris two days later and ask her to

marry and give her the ring.

Unbelievably, a French newspaper photographed the ring's recovery and published it in their newspaper. A contact at Renault saw the photograph and called Andy's associates at the Torrington Company otherwise no one in the United States would have known about the ring. Julie immediately contacted the FBI but they would not give her the ring. Armed with eleven pages of documents, the jeweler and her lawyer they went to New York and identified the ring. Even a plea to President Clinton didn't help. Anxiety and frustration ensued until just before Christmas when the FBI gave Julie her ring. At a news conference Julie, displaying the ring on her finger, tearfully wished the young man had put it on her finger.

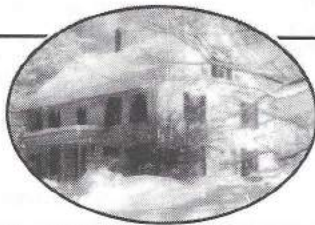
Upon awakening Christmas morning, I saw a bright star - it looked like it was hanging on a pine limb outside the window. I called Andy's parents...

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Mary Sherman celebrated her 91st birthday on January 10 at her home on Judd Road.

Ruth Sherman of Charlemont, Dohn Sherman's mother, currently at Branson Rehab Unit in Westfield is recovering from a stroke.

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