



VOLUME 21 NUMBER 1

APRIL/MAY 1999

# HEATH HERALD

HEATH'S FIRST NEWSPAPER

75¢

## A VISION OF HEATH IN 20 YEARS

by D.B.Schnelle

The Town of Heath Visioning Committee has been hard at work all winter and has come up a preliminary "Vision of Heath in 20 years" and some specific recommendations in the next step of the Town Plan process. The Visioning Committee will hold an open Forum on Saturday April 24 at 9 a.m. at the Community Hall to review the specific reports and proposals of the Committees that have involved the work of over 70 Heath residents over the past five months.

In addition to some specific by-law changes that must be approved at the Annual Town Meeting on Saturday, May 8, the Visioning Committee has specific projects and programs that need to be addressed or need more study. The overwhelming feeling in the Reports are of a broad commitment to maintaining, preserving and encouraging the rural character of Heath, and efforts to protect and increase the well-being of farmlands, water and other natural resources, while celebrating the diversity of the people who live in this community.

The Reports show that there are still many areas that require more study and consideration, and these are projects and volunteer groups that can and will grow out of this effort. "The major result of this planning effort has been the enthusiastic participation of over seventy citizens in various aspects of the process. It has been an affirming, empowering, community bonding experience of the entire group", according to Committee chairs Bob Gruen and Bob Viarengo.

If you would like to know more about these Reports, copies are available at the library, from Liz Johnson in the Town Office or by contacting a member of the Visioning Committee.

*Happy Spring! - from your friends at the  
Heath Herald.*

## CULTURAL COUNCIL AWARDS

by Laurie Wheeler Burrington

The Heath Cultural Council has just received notification of approval of its FY99 grant recommendations. The following individuals or groups' projects have been approved for funding: \$300 to the New England Antiquities Research Association, for continued study of Heath's Burnt Hill standing stone site; \$400 to the Heath School Community Partnership for a community contra dance at the elementary school by Rhubard Pie String Band; \$500 to Mohawk Trail Concerts for summer classical music concerts; \$300 to the Mary Lyon Education Fund for a children's literature festival; \$50 to the Ashfield Community Theater for a production of the play *The Crucible*; \$175 to Pothole Pictures for film series at Memorial Hall Theater; \$550 to Yankee Notions for a local concert of New England folk music; \$20 to Jim Douglas for an Internet Directory of school performing artists; \$200 to the Partnership for the Arts in Western Mass (aka The Art Bank) for scholarships for local residents to attend art classes; \$35 to the Shelburne Falls Military band to purchase a state flag to be used by the band in parades; \$600 to the Heath Agricultural Society for a swing dance party band at the Heath Fair; and, \$300 to the Heath Agricultural Society for traditional agricultural demonstrations and displays at the Heath Fair.

---

### IN THIS ISSUE:

Fair News	Page 3
Town Elections	Page 7
Town Finances	Page 10
Mapping Notes	Page 12
Milestones	Page 15



## A NOTE FROM THE HERALD STAFF

As the town is gearing up for annual town meeting, I think about towns in which this is a thing of the past. Its an unfortunate loss, for it is a time for townspeople to get together, and in a public forum make decisions about our futures, or at least make our views known. Its a pretty direct line to our local government.

Always there is a lot of hard work done prior to town meeting. Extra meetings, budget presentations and the hammering out a budget by the finance committee and board of selectmen, preparation of the town report and articles for the town warrant. This year some interesting issues are due to come up for discussion. The town's fiscal picture is uncertain at the time of this writing, in large part due to the idiosyncrasies of state government and trying to fund our school district budget. David Howland of the finance committee has written an in-depth article about this.

Following months of work by the planning board, visioning committee and six task forces, the town will be asked to approve of a town plan and vision for the future, which will help steer the town in future decisions for its growth. D.B. Schnelle, of the planning board, explains a bit about this in his article.

Every year is like turning a corner. We, as a town, have much to decide. Even if you don't get to any other meetings this year, this is one you don't want to miss. Do I sound like a movie advertisement, or what?

And lastly, regarding this newspaper's Letters to the Editor space. This is an important part of any paper, and this is where letters or the occasional opinion piece from residents are published. We do our best to publish those submissions, as space allows. While we do not necessarily agree with or endorse all that is published, as that is not a newspaper's job, we do encourage the letters to the editor and their varying viewpoints.

Happy Spring!  
-LWB

*Heath Elementary School is looking for parents or community members to become Co-Chairs of their Heath School Community Partnership or become a member of our Local Education Council. Come to our next HSCP meeting on Monday, May 3rd for more information.*

**Bob DeLisle**  
**Electrician**

Prompt, Courteous, Reasonable

Lic. #E344969

337-5716

## HEATH EMERGENCY SERVICES NEWS

by Timothy Lively

The following EMT calls were answered since the last issue of the Herald:

1/16/99 - Number Nine Road - Medical  
1/17/99 - Avery Brook Road - Medical  
1/28/99 - Fire Station - Stand-by for smoke in building  
1/29/99 - Route 8A - Medical  
1/31/99 - Route 8A North - Medical  
2/5/99 - Judd Road - Medical  
2/9/99 - Number Nine Road - Medical  
2/10/99 - Route 8A North - Medical  
2/19/99 - Bray Road - Stand-by for smoke in house  
3/9/99 - Number Nine Road - Medical

At this time ten fire department personnel have become recertified as First Responders and three have also become certified in the use of the Defibrillator. Congratulations to all. The Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Association is also looking for people who are interested in becoming Emergency Medical Technicians. If you would like any information please let me (Tim at 337-4742) or Chief Mike Smith know.

## HEATH HERALD

### HEATH'S FIRST NEWSPAPER

Managing Editor	Susan Silvester
Assistant Managing Editor	Laurie Burrington
General Ed. & Layout	Chloe Allaire
Consultant	Pegge Howland
Staff Reporters	Laurie Burrington
	Edith Royer
Copy Editing	Jane DeLeuw
Columnists	Elsa Bakalar
	Michael Coe
	Bill Latrell
	Pat Leuchtman
	Carroll Stowe
Advertising	Deborah Phillips
Circulation & Business	Deborah Phillips
Typography	Diane Cote

The Heath Herald is published six times a year in April, June, August, October, December and February.

**SUBSCRIPTION RATE** - One Year: \$6.25 (payable in advance by check or money order)

**ADVERTISING RATES** - Display ads: \$4.80 per column inch (discounts on six or more insertions)

**CLASSIFIED ADS** - \$2.00 per line.

Send all correspondence to:

The Heath Herald, P.O. Box 54, Heath, MA 01346-0054.



## HEATH FAIR NEWS

by Robert Gear

The Heath Agricultural Society has been active all winter, holding regular meetings and planning for the 1999 Fair. This is a departure from tradition. The Society normally takes a break through the winter months but this year, enthusiasm was so high that we continued to hold meetings and the results have been worth the effort. We have had two regular Fair Committee meetings and one meeting of the Building Committee so far this year and have made a significant start towards this year's fair.

The primary goal for 1999 will be to undertake and finish several improvements and restoration projects focused on the old original barn which houses, among other things, the kitchen. These projects include: complete remodeling of the kitchen to bring it up to code and to increase its efficiency while reducing maintenance; installing a new galvanized steel roof, siding, more windows, and creating secure and efficient offices for the Fair Secretary and the Treasurer, adding a clean gravel floor in the main room, along with a new sliding door and new siding.

When the work is completed, visitors to the fair will be greeted by an attractive building which along with the silo and area landscaping will be something to be proud of that will reflect the efforts of everyone associated with the fair.

Last year we experimented with keeping vehicles out of this area and it was a big improvement. Along the new white fence on the outer edge off the road there will be signs designating parking spaces for specific vehicles such as Fire Chief, Police Cruiser, EMT Vehicle, Fair President and Fair Maintenance Truck in order to insure access and use of these vehicles.

One of the areas in which much progress has been made this year is in the selection and programming of music. After many years of dedicated service, John Henry is taking a break from the chores involved with booking the music acts and publicity. This part of fair operations has been taken on

by Joanne Fortune and Bob DeLisle. Of course, they are no strangers to anyone who has been active with the fair. So far they have come up with an excellent lineup; this year's music will have a lot of varied surprises including everything from Bluegrass to Dixieland Jazz by way of Reggae, Rock, Country, Bagpipes and more. Music will be featured on Friday night as well as the usual Saturday and Sunday slots and will be programmed to fit the time of day and the rhythm of the fair, (that was a pun).

Projected building projects are nearing completion. After dealing with this year's barn project, the only things left undone will be finishing the shed over the scales at the pulling pit and providing some smaller structures for our proposed baby barnyard which will be sited immediately to the west of the livestock judging barn.

We are now considering ways to make the fairground more attractive with landscaping. The most obvious improvement will be the planting of more shade trees. This is an area that will be a lot of fun to work with. Please give us your suggestions.

We have many more "Big Ideas" but they take not only cash resources but people power. Please try to come to our meetings that are held usually on the third Wednesday of each month (the exact dates will be posted in the West County News) in the school while the weather is brisk but will later be at the fairgrounds when it warms up.

We have a new Rides Concession since our old standby, Candiano, retired at the age of ninety. The new people look really good and have promised to establish a more family-oriented program. Along this line of thought, we have made an arrangement with the insurance company to allow local residents who want to have a booth on the midway to obtain low cost insurance through a rider on our policy. I think Bonnie Wodin can fill you in on this if you are one of these people. However, this does not include people who want to sell food!

I want to thank all the members of the Building Committee who are such a great help to me. These include: Howard Crowningshield, Donnie Moore, Bob DeLisle, Conrad Halberg, Harold Tombs, Design Consultant Sue Josefiak, and much appreciated new member David Cote.

### SUBSCRIBE TODAY! HEATH HERALD

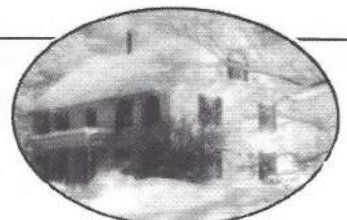
For only \$6.25 a year, 6 issues of the Heath Herald will be delivered to your home.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- Keep abreast of local happenings
- Give it as a gift to friends or family
- Support your local paper

The Heath Herald, POB 54, Heath, MA 01346

## Maple House



### The house on the hill with the view of yesteryear

Reward your friends and relatives with a restful night's sleep high in the hills of Rowe. They'll awake to a hearty homegrown breakfast in a 200-year old inn and family farm. See the stars, breathe clear fresh air, relax in the quiet beauty of spectacular views of the Berkshire Hills.

**Lodging and Breakfast from \$45. Call for Reservations.**

Middletown Hill Road (413) 339-0107 Rowe, MA 01367



## ASSESSORS' REPORT

by Henry Leuchtman

The assessors want to remind everyone of how the timing of assessments and tax bills works. The state has set up this timetable for us. In the fall, the tax collector sends out the first half tax bills for the current fiscal year. These years run from July 1 of one calendar year to June 30 of the next and start in the previous calendar year. For example, FY2000 starts on July 1, 1999 and ends June 30, 2000.

So the bills you receive in the fall of 1999 are for the first payment for FY2000, the year that starts on July 1, 1999. The bill you receive in the spring of 2000 will just be the second payment of that fiscal year's bill.

To complicate matters even more, however, the state requires that property assessments be based on the calendar year, starting on the *previous* January 1. This means that the FY2000 bills you receive in the fall of 1999 (and the following spring, since it is just a second payment) are based on how things stood on January 1, 1999. This is always confusing to taxpayers, as in the spring of 2000, they will be making a second payment on the value of the property as of January 1, 1999!

Please note that abatements must be applied for within 30 days of mailing of the fall bill.

The tax collector can help you with when and how your payments should be made, and we, the Assessors, are happy to help you with any questions you have concerning the assessed value of your property and the timing of assessments. We are in the office on Monday mornings from 9:30 a.m. to Noon. You can also call Henry Leuchtman at 337-4316.



**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

A COLLEGE PREPARATORY DAY SCHOOL AT AN  
AFFORDABLE TUITION FOR GRADES 6-12 AND POSTGRADUATE

**THE ACADEMY  
AT CHARLEMONT**

MOHAWK TRAIL, CHARLEMONT, MA 01339 • 413-339-4912  
FAX 413-339-4324 • E-MAIL academy@shaysnet.com

## LIBRARY LINES

by Laurie Wheeler Burrington

Another dress rehearsal behind us! Despite what we thought was an effective case we did not receive the building feasibility grant for which we had applied. There were many good projects that needed funding, and we were but one among 46 applicants.

Taking it in stride, we at the library are looking forward to a bit of time to do more planning, talk with more people and have a chance to further implement some of the goals set in the long range plan. We'll spend time looking at the most efficient usage of our current space, but, because of our crowding and that of the overall crowding of the town's municipal buildings, we'll keep working on future plans.

We've also heard of the possible creation of a larger buildings committee, should the town agree on it at annual town meeting, which would continue the work of the space task force by looking at town municipal buildings, their usage, and possibly consider an historic town center district. We do live in interesting and exciting times!

We are lining up some great summer programs, all as part of our adult, young adult and children's "Contact, at Your Public Library" programs. It was not all firmed up at press time, so watch for publicity in various other news places.

There are some very cool new ways to access information at the library, for those of you who are not cruising through for good books. We are in the process of installing the Encarta Encyclopedia, which allows incredible cross-referencing capabilities and provides internet connections to each query. Our thanks to the Mary Lyon Education Fund, which made this software available to all of the area libraries! In addition to our "old" stand-by Searchbank, which allows access to health, business and academic references, and magazine articles from thousands of magazines, we can now access the Boston Globe, a Contemporary Authors database, an "electronic library" which can get information from such sources as magazines, radio and television broadcasts, books and a photograph database. If a research project is due, and we have enough notification, we can usually find something supplemental to our regular book collection. These electronic resources are all provided by the Western Mass Regional Library System, the people from which also very kindly fix our computer when it needs a tune-up!

If possible please call ahead of time to sign up for computer usage during any of our open hours; Mondays 5-8 p.m.; Wednesdays 12-5 p.m.; and Saturdays 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

**A.L. AVERY & SON**

GENERAL STORE

Charlemont • 339-4915



## HEATH UNION CHURCH NEWS

by Colin Lucid

Psalms 92:1 It is good to give thanks to the LORD, and to sing praises to Your name, O Most High. We, at Heath Union Church, would like to thank the Lord God for providing the funds we needed to reach the first goal of getting into our church on Easter Sunday. We would also like to thank all those in our community who helped us reach this goal by coming beside us with funds and helping with the work. We are praying that God will bless you greatly. In the near future we will also be setting the next goal in our endeavors to make our building fully functional so that we can serve the greater community.

### YOU ARE INVITED

*Our Spring and Summer schedule is as follows:*

- Sunday worship service: 9:00 a.m.  
Children's church: 9:00 a.m.  
Youth Group: 3:30 p.m. on Sunday at Heath school.  
Bring your favorite snack and wear sneakers. Ages 6th grade through High School are invited.
- Bible Study and Prayer: Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. at the parsonage.
- Monthly prayer meeting: The first and third Sunday of each month at the church at 7:00 p.m. Childcare will be at the parsonage.
- Girl's Friendship Club: Meets every Friday at Diane Crowningshield's home, from 3:30 - 5:30. Girls in grades 3-8 are invited.
- Vacation Bible School: June 28th-July 2nd. 9:30 a.m.-12:00 noon at Heath Church. Crafts, Bible Stories, Songs, Skits, Snacks, and fun time for ages K-6.

Sugar on Snow is Saturday, April 17th, 6:00 p.m. at the Community Hall. For tickets call Hilma Sumner 337-4845.

We pray that you will all have a blessed and safe Spring and Summer season.

### 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

## PERCS, PERMITS AND TRANSFERS

### Percolation Tests

Perc tests suspended until April except for repairs.

### Building Permits

No building permits have been reported for this period.

### Deed Transfers

Litchfield Financial Corporation of Williamstown to Theodore T. Brand of Easthampton. 102 Sadoga Road, \$13,000.

Frederick A. Crowningshield to Gerald L. and Angie Turner, A.L. Stetson Road, 1.21 acres, \$2,000.

David S. Green and Virginia Shaw to John W. Buscaglia and Susan A. Shaw of Wyoming, RI. Jacobs Road, five parcels, \$100,000.

Chloe M. Marchese to Sabrina A.M. Bradway of Chicopee. Cheyenne Street, Mohawk Estates, Lots 10 and 11. Only \$4,500.

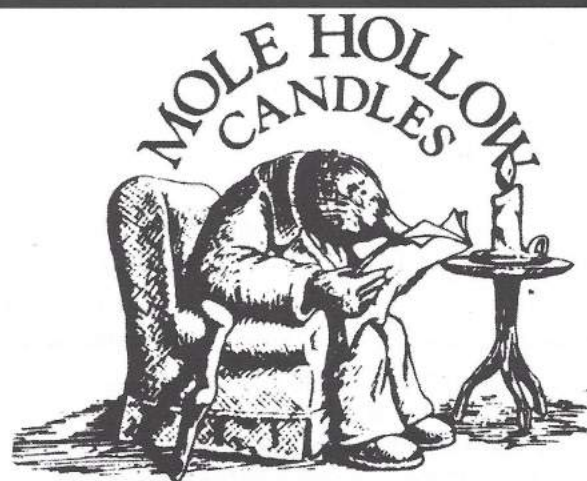
Enrique Garay to Michael R. and Bonnie G. Patterson of Somers, CT. Mohawk Estates. Only \$7,000.

Virginia J. Gunganig to Donald P. and Helen T. Studd of Silver Creek, NY. 104 Burrington Road. \$69,900.

Alexander C. Pertzoff Trust, John P.M. and Ellen M. Higgins Trustees to William H. and Jean M. Gran. Royer Road and South Road, Parcel A, 275 acres (land also in Charlemont), \$125,000.

Town of Heath to Ronald K. and Elaine E. Doherty, 5 Jacobs Road. Only \$500.

Town of Heath to William A. and Michael J. Glinka, Navaho Lane, lots 19-21, \$3,000.



Downtown Shelburne Falls  
Overlooking the Falls  
and the "Glacial" Potholes

625-6789 • 625-6337 (Manufacturing)

"OPEN 7 DAYS"



## SELECTMEN'S REPORT

by Eileen A. Tougas

Spring has finally arrived! No need to put your boots away just yet as mud season is upon us. After several months of dealing with snow and ice our highway department will, at least for a few weeks, be waging a battle with muddy rut filled roads. As the saying goes "hope springs eternal" and we can now look forward with anticipation to the warmer weather, sunshine, flowers and longer days ahead.

This is always a busy time of year for all of us involved in town government. Many hours have been devoted to contemplating the budget request of each town department. This is a difficult task at best. Town needs continue to grow and money is an ever present necessity in supplying desired services. Ever mindful of how the town's budget will affect your budget, we know we must be prudent and selective in our request. Ultimately, the decision will be yours at the Annual Town Meeting to be held on Saturday, May 8th.

We have been hearing a great deal about Y2K lately along with the various scenarios that could take place when our clocks strike midnight on December 31st, 1999. While no one can accurately predict what will happen, or the possible consequences that may be encountered as a result of Y2K, it is in our best interest to be prepared both as individuals and as a community. We are happy to report that our Civil Defense team has been attending informational meetings and are developing plans and strategies in the event of Y2K problems or any other emergency situations that could arise in our town. Our Civil Defense Director, Bob Tanner, and Deputy Director, C. Richards Steinbock, have compiled a list of supplies and equipment that should be purchased in order to provide relief when it is needed.

Library Trustees and Librarian, Laurie Wheeler Burrington, have submitted "long range plans" as required for a grant application that would be used to assist in financing a feasibility study. This study would help determine what options are available for the library's future growth. Should the library be awarded this grant, two articles will need to be presented at Town Meeting.

One doesn't have to look too closely to see that both Sawyer Hall and the Community Hall are in need of repair. Town Building Manager Deb Huff presented the Board of Selectmen (BOS) with a list of projects that should be done to protect these buildings from deteriorating any further. A few of the major problems at the Community hall that need to be addressed are drainage, siding and roofing. At Sawyer Hall siding and replacement or repair of the steps at the main entrance are needed.

Preliminary Estimates of FY00 School Spending Requirements from the Department of Education indicate an increase of \$115,871 over last year's figure of \$181,340. This amount, simply put, translates to an approximate increase of

\$2.50 in our tax rate. The BOS has sent a letter to the Deputy Commissioner, Joseph J. Chessey, Jr., of the Department of Revenue (DOR) requesting that the Minimum Contribution figure be reduced by \$98,588 as was promised by the Permanent Waiver given to the Town in FY99. It is our hope that DOR will respond positively to our request.

Many thanks to Town Accountant June Day, for alerting the BOS that Heath has not received the 75% state reimbursement due for benefits paid to Veterans since FY99. The amount of reimbursement due Heath is \$18,483.09.

After further investigation, the BOS found it necessary to call an emergency meeting of the Western Franklin Veterans Service Center District Committee (this committee consists of a Veterans Representative from each town in the ten town district). Veterans District Agent John Evans, disclosed at this meeting that he had not submitted any documents to the state as required for reimbursement.

Mr. Evans submitted a letter of resignation to the committee but offered to complete the required documents and submit them to the state by the agreed upon deadline of March 29th. This has been accomplished with the assistance of Leo Parent, Director of the Department of Veterans Services for the Central Franklin County District. Leo Parent was temporarily appointed to act as agent for the West County until such time as a new agent is hired. Approximately \$50,000 is owed for Veterans reimbursements within ten town district.

The BOS has regretfully accepted the following resignations. Cathy Tallen submitted her resignation from both the Parks Committee and the Cultural Council; Veronica Smead from the Parks Committee, and Valerie Kaempfer from the Planning Board. We wish to extend our gratitude to each of these dedicated people for the services they rendered to our community.

With the end of my three-year term quickly approaching, this will be my final report as a Heath Selectman. I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to my fellow selectmen and to all of you who supported and encouraged me when times were difficult. Your support and encouragement have been greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Annual Town Meeting - May 8th!

Dave Farrington  
Jacksonville, VT  
802-368-7456

38 Years of Experience

### J.W. AUTO

Auto and Light Truck Repair

Elvis Presley Blvd., Rt. 100 S., 1/2 mile from center

ASE Certified Master Mechanic

Air Conditioning, Service Engine Lights, Auto Transmission



## TOWN ELECTIONS

by June Day

The Town Election will be held on Friday, May 7th, at the Community Hall from 1:00 to 7:00 p.m. There were very few who took out nomination papers so our ballot will have many blank spaces for the voters to fill in. The ballot will have the following names you can "X":

Library Trustee	Kim Richter	Incumbent
Assessor	Henry Leuchtman	Incumbent
Constable	Charles Kaempfer	Incumbent
Constable	Robert Tanner	New candidate

We also do have the following who have come forward to run as write-in candidates:

Moderator	Doug Wilkins	Incumbent
Finance Committee	David Cote	Incumbent
Finance Committee	Ray Pettengill	New candidate
Planning Board	John Henry	(Recently appointed)

Now we come to the open positions. I hope that there will be more candidates who will come forward that are also willing to be write-in candidates for the following positions:

Selectman	3 year term
Planning Board	5 year term
Dog Officer	1 year term

It is unfortunate that the papers have to be taken out so far ahead of Election Day, with a margin of nearly two months. I notified incumbents by mid-February. Following the reminder memo they do have until mid-March to pick up the nomination form. It must creep up on those that are planning to run and then there are those that must be urged! I hope that this note is persuasive to a potential Selectman, Planning Board member, and Dog Officer.

### **STEVE CROWNSHIELD'S HOME MAINTENANCE SERVICE CARPENTRY PLUS**

**SNOW  
PLOWING**

**LAWN  
MOWING**

**BRUSH  
HOGGING**

Reg. #123769  
Fully Insured

(413) 337-5561

25 Groll Rd.  
Heath, MA

### **North River Winery**



**Open 7 Days — 10 am to 5 pm**

*FREE TOURS LATE MAY - DECEMBER*

**Located on Route 112, Jacksonville, Vermont  
30 Minutes North of Shelburne Falls, MA  
802-368-7557**

### **FRESH WINDS FARM**

**Paul & Marcella Lively & Sons**

**Excavating - Loam - Sand Stone 337-4331**

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

### **FRANKLIN-WARE**



**27 Bridge Street  
Shelburne Falls  
625-6470**

*Transitions*  
*come change with us*  
**A FULL SERVICE SALON**

**625-6855**

**39 BRIDGE ST. • SHELburne FALLS, MA • 01370**

### **Richard A. Sumner**

**Journeyman Electrician**

**Mass. License #E22622 • Vermont License #J1245**

**20A Eight A South • Charlemont, MA 01339**

**(413) 337-4845**



## 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

### OUR ROAD CREW

Mike, Dohn, David and Jason. A very dedicated and multi-talented work force. As every resident prepares to leave town for their respective jobs in bad weather the road crew should be the unit most appreciated. This work force, along with the hired trucks, are a most valued team. If the storm is plain snow, as is seldom the case, the plow rigs leave in all directions like spokes in a wheel. Perhaps if there were to be a heavy snow with harsh winds these public servants would have to alter their direction to get a tree out of the path of a school bus, or if as sometimes happens, the water will begin to run with the rising temperature and a plugged catch basin will present itself. With the lay of this far flung town the crew cannot always be in the proper place at any given moment.

Somewhere during a day when everyone felt that a plow cutting edge would make one more storm and it didn't, a new one had to be installed. This operation can take up to an hour; a delivery truck got in trouble so someone was dispatched to help that situation. The trucks that Dohn and David drive are medium heavy duty Internationals, and a pair of great rigs for plowing snow and dump work. This size truck is as big a unit as any highway department would need. These trucks, although they look alike, have vastly different personalities. Its not common knowledge that equipment have greatly differing personalities. These trucks are not racehorses and have gear ratios to make them nicely fit the job.

To all who read this piece please understand that this equipment and the crew who ply our roads are your ticket to get to work and it would please the crew if time would be spent understanding the work our road crew deals with.

Back in the mid 1960's the town plowed with 2 trucks, a crawler tractor with vee plow and wings and a bucket loader. The roads were not made of so much pavement and not so many people had to get out of town to a job. Not nearly as much sand was used. Progress has changed the needs of a lot of Heath's people but they still need the dedication of a most faithful road crew.

This could be your place for an ad...

by contacting Deborah Phillips at 337-8513  
for more information.

## RAYS OF INTEREST

by R. C. Pettengill

### "SPOOKY"

Abraham Lincoln was elected to Congress in 1846.  
John F. Kennedy was elected to Congress in 1946.  
Abraham Lincoln was elected President in 1860.  
John F. Kennedy was elected President in 1960.  
The names Lincoln and Kennedy each contain seven letters.  
Both were particularly concerned with civil rights.  
Both wives lost their children while living in the White House.  
Both Presidents were shot on a Friday.  
Both were shot in the head.  
Both were assassinated by Southerners.  
Both were succeeded by Southerners.  
Both successors were named Johnson.  
Lincoln's secretary was named Kennedy.  
Kennedy's secretary was named Lincoln.  
Andrew Johnson, who succeeded Lincoln, was born in 1808.  
Lyndon Johnson, who succeeded Kennedy, was born in 1908.  
John Wilkes Booth, who assassinated Lincoln, was born in 1839.  
Lee Harvey Oswald, who assassinated Kennedy, was born in 1939.  
Both assassins were known by their three names.  
Both names comprise fifteen letters.  
Booth ran from the theatre and was caught in a warehouse.  
Oswald ran from a warehouse and was caught in a theatre.  
And, Booth and Oswald were both assassinated before their trials.

Who's to say what is coincidence, and what is not?

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

*Quality Foods*

**Check out our vegetarian  
lasagne on Tuesdays!**

**Open daily at 7:00 a.m.  
625-9411**



## FISHING IN A TROPICAL EDEN

By Michael D. Coe

I should have looked where we were heading, instead of worrying about hooking fish. There I was, standing in an aluminum boat and casting flies, on a Bolivian jungle river about 17 degrees south of the Equator. The current was powerful, sweeping us through a drowned forest thick with rotting but still upright trunks. Suddenly the boat turned sideways to the river, and slammed into a tree. It was like a bad dream, as I flew from the boat and into the water, still clutching my precious flyrod, but I had a dreamlike sense of unreality: this couldn't be happening to me! I felt and managed to grab a snagged branch, but the flyline had wrapped itself around my head and body. Immediately my much younger fishing companion, Jeff (a Montana lodge owner and expert fishing guide, here on a busman's holiday) jumped into the water and helped me scramble back in the boat, bloodied but unbowed.

Why would anyone subject himself to such punishment, and pay good money for the pleasure? You have to be absolutely obsessed to the point of madness with catching fish on a fly, and you have to love to travel to exotic places to fish for exotic species that few people in this country have seen or even heard of. One of these fish is the peacock bass, and that is what I was in Bolivia for. Although it resembles our own bass, it is not a bass but a cichlid, a widespread tropical group that includes aquarium fish like the Jack Dempsey and the oscar. Peacocks have broad vertical stripes, a black spot on the tail, and intensely red eyes. They prey on other smaller fish-even their own young-and when they hit a streamer fly, do it aggressively, with a loud chugging noise. In the past, I've caught them up to 19 lbs, which is a lot of fish for a lightweight flyrod.

The Bolivian fishing camp was on the Mamore River, a tributary of the mighty Amazon, in the midst of a 50,000 acre tract of the most magnificent rain forest I've ever seen. I and my fellow sports flew north to it from Santa Cruz, a city of 1 & 1/2 million people that has been made prosperous by, among other things, cocaine; we were told on a good authority that during the Iran-Contra affair, the famous Colonel North had a large cocaine-manufacturing lab in the zone! Scattered through this forest were a number of huge, shallow lakes, connected to each other by vegetation-clogged rivers and waterways. The lakes were teeming with peacock bass (at one point, with only a dozen casts, I hooked and landed an equal number of these brutes). But, as soon as they detected the commotion we were making, pairs and even pods of pink, freshwater dolphins would come in for the feast, dining voraciously on the peacocks that we had released. No amount of noise that we made had much effect in chasing away these intelligent, carnivorous mammals. They've been fishing these waters long before humans were heard of.

The sheer amount of wildlife in this enormous tract

was astounding. As we motored quietly along the waterways, troops of monkeys swung and crashed through the trees, feeding on fruit. At various times, we came across three species: the incredibly noisy howler monkeys (which roar like lions), spider monkeys hanging by their tails, and the smaller capuchins-the very same kind that used to accompany organ grinders in the early part of this century. Every morning we would see dozens of pairs of brilliantly colored macaws. These magnificent birds, most of them of the blue and yellow variety, are mated for life, and were nesting in the hollow tops of dead palms. I must have seen over a thousand macaws in my week on the Mamore. Eagles and hawks of many species often flew overhead. On the edges of the water lurked black caimans, a crocodilian which can reach 20 feet or more in length.

An unusual mammal that I had never come across on my travels is the capybara, the world's largest rodent, which can reach up to four feet in length. We came across an entire extended family of these creatures, feeding and sunning themselves near the lake shore; they looked to me like the pygmy hippos that I have seen in the Bronx Zoo. Like all the wildlife that inhabits this tropical Eden, they were incredibly tame, not moving off until we approached them closely. Being nocturnal, jaguars failed to show themselves on our daytime fishing trips, but their tracks can be seen everywhere, as can the trails made by enormous tapirs.

I have called this an "Eden", for such it is. This wildlife has never been shot at, nor have the loggers and oil exploration companies yet come in to despoil this prime wilderness. The Colombian and Bolivian owners know that they have an ecological treasure, and are eager to see it saved from the sad fate that has been the lot of rain forests throughout the world's tropics. We discussed all the possibilities with them every evening at suppertime. We all agreed that the future of such conservation efforts lies in ecotourism; and although we were all fanatic fishermen, this should take precedence over anything else, including our beloved angling.

I have been in tropical forests the world over, yet I have never seen anything to equal this - to me, it was like being in a zoo without bars, moats, or glass, but a zoo of incomparable beauty. While catching peacock bass was indeed fun, this earthly paradise was something one sees only in dreams.

(Editor's note: Dr. Coe's book, "The Maya" has just been reprinted in its fully revised and expanded Sixth edition. It was first published in 1966.)





## FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

by D.F. Howland

This is annual budget time for all the towns in Massachusetts and it seems as if there is never a lack of fiscal crises to make life interesting and aggravating. Good for the over-the-counter medication business.

The Mohawk Trail Regional School District's (MTRSD) budget is again the subject of controversy and concern primarily because of Ed Reform calculations that level funded Chapter 70 aid money and fouled up the assessment picture again by voiding Heath's Permanent Waiver granted just this past year. Further, there has been some confusion about what base numbers to use in creating the FY00 budget because of misunderstanding about changes and compromises made at the last minute to resolve the FY99 budget impasse. While the School Committee voted to support the FY00 budget on March 10th, everyone knew it was a budget that no one could support. (The vote was necessary to meet a legal requirement.) Superintendent Alan Genovese has called it a work in progress that will be altered after appropriate reviews by the School Committee and the Mohawk Municipal Advisory Committee, (MMAC).

Mr. Genovese and David Fraser, the new district business manager, have prepared excellent reports and have worked in concert with these two Committees. Essentially there are two issues with the Ed Reform numbers that are causing difficulty. One is the fact that the District's Net School Spending number is higher than the State's Foundation Budget number, which says that the Towns are quite able to meet their education costs without any increase in Chapter 70 aid. Thus, the level funding of Chapter 70, when the expectation was to receive more as has happened in previous years. Currently there is a major effort to review MTRSD data submitted to the State to see if some adjustment in the Foundation Budget can be made to rectify this problem.

The other problem involves Heath's waiver and a huge increase in its Minimum Contribution number of some \$115,000 which automatically ups our tax rate by \$2.50 plus whatever additional costs are incurred with the new budget. On the one hand, the State did not give us full credit for our Excess Debt (read that as construction costs) and on the other, gave only lip service to the Permanent Waiver granted last year in the amount of \$98,588. Again, the higher Net School Spending number is a major culprit, but there also appear to be legal and technical issues between the Department of Education (DOE) where the Ed Reform numbers are computed and the Department of Revenue (DOR) where the Permanent Waiver was validated and awarded. It seems that the DOE does not or will not recognize legislation that set up the DOR process. The Selectmen of Heath have written the DOR to appeal the situation and Mr. Genovese is talking to the State people as well. As of the date of this article we do not know

how it is going to work out. Further, the high Minimum Contribution of Heath skews the assessment figures for all the Towns and puts Heath back where it was several years ago with regard to school costs. We thought we had a permanent solution to our school cost problems and regret having to report the current state of affairs. There will be much more said about this to be sure.

Elsewhere on the FinCom front, Karen Moore has been participating as our representative to the Visioning Committee. Important meetings are coming along prior to the Annual Town Meeting on May 8th. Permit us to encourage everyone to become involved in this important endeavor.

The Board Of Selectmen and FinCom have been meeting with department heads to prepare the Town's budget for FY00. It is too soon to even speculate how things will come out, especially considering the school budget which represents a good 50% of the Town's budget. A substantial increase in pension costs for FY00 are impacting the budgets of the Town and MTRSD as well. Through the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG), efforts are being made to get help from the Legislature on this matter.

Jim Cerone and David Cote met with a representative of MIIA (Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Association), the town's insurer, in January. As only two of the five members of FinCom were present there wasn't a quorum, but it was an informative meeting. The Assessors shared a comprehensive proposal for a mapping study with the FinCom, but to date no decision(s) have been made in that regard. The FinCom supported June Day and the BOS with efforts to resolve the problem of reimbursing the Town by the State for veteran's aid awarded locally. The local veteran's agent has resigned and measures have been initiated to correct the situation. It is not known if we can get all the money back that is due us from the State. Brian Vilbon attended meetings of MMAC in January.

There has been publicity about the State's proposed reduction of highway money to the towns, but official notification has not been received to date. Again, FRCOG is gearing up to fight this battle. The State has been reasonably generous in this regard in recent years which has enabled the towns to do a much better job maintaining and upgrading local roads.

We are pleased to report that David Cote will seek reelection to the Fin Com, but there is still one vacancy due to Dave Howland's previously announced plans not to continue on the Committee.

### **Heath Brook Studios Glass and Baskets**

"Bob and Jayne Dane"

**By Appointment Year-Round In Heath Center**

**337-5736**



## ADDENDUM TO FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

As of April 11, 1999

Once again Heath has a crisis in funding its school budget. In the report above we noted that the Town did not receive the benefit of the "permanent" waiver of \$98,588 for FY00 as was granted earlier by the Department of Revenue (DOR). The Board of Selectmen appealed to the DOR and received a sympathetic reply, but no immediate solution to the problem was offered. The essence of their reply is that the wording of Chapter 70, Section 2, used by the Department of Education (DOE) in calculating the Ed Reform formulae, is in conflict with the language of Chapter 43, Section 182 used by the DOR to grant waivers. The numbers derived by the DOE were such that Heath is not getting the benefit of either its Excess Debt or the waiver, both of which enabled us to have a reasonable budget for FY99. The DOR believes it cannot act unilaterally in this matter, but will support our application for (1) "Pothole" money and/or (2) legislation correcting the conflict between Chapters 70 and 43. The DOR acknowledges it did not anticipate ever having such a problem.

In the last two weeks there has been a flurry of activity in the Superintendent's Office to address the major FY00 issues: (1) reductions in the District's budget, (2) resolving the pattern of incorrect assessments of Charlemont and Hawley and (3) obtaining reasonable Minimum Contribution numbers in the Ed Reform date from the DOE. The first two problems have been largely settled. New data was submitted to the DOE, but the results especially for Heath were worse. There are wild swings in these numbers for at least four of the towns. Negotiations with the DOE are continuing.

At this time the BOS, FinCom and Local Education Council (LEC) are reflecting on the impact of the budget changes and how to proceed at this year's Annual Town Meeting (ATM). Our local legislative representatives are being contacted regarding Pothole money and/or initiating legislative action to correct the Ed reform numbers problem. Our options appear to be (1) submit a level funded budget at the ATM and change it later when it is possible, (2) recess the ATM until June in hopes of having a sensible school budget and (3) do nothing on the school budget and let the District force the Town to do something. Number 3 is an option, but not one for reasonable people. Both number 1 and 2 are quite conceivable. We will keep you posted. Patience!



**Charlemont Pizza House**  
Main Street - Route 2  
Charlemont, Mass.  
Phone: 339-4472



**Wanda**  
Mooney  
REALTOR®  
CRS, GRI

*Buying or Selling, Call Wanda!*

413-337-8344

email: wmooney\_gri@aol.com

REAL ESTATE  
**BENCHMARK  
& PRATT**

## Equity Credit Loans?

Best Rates In  
Franklin County!



**GREENFIELD  
SAVINGS BANK**

Corner of Main & Bridge Street

Since 1869



**SHELBURNE FALLS 625-9827**

Member  
FDIC/DIF

[www.greenfieldsavings.com](http://www.greenfieldsavings.com) • [info@greenfieldsavings.com](mailto:info@greenfieldsavings.com)



**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

**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



## MAPPING COMMITTEE NOTES

by Henry Leuchtman

The Mapping Study Committee was formed last spring by members of the boards of assessors and health, Conservation Committee and Planning Board along with a member of the Fire Department, and our representative to the Franklin County Council of Governments. We got together to look into whether the mapping needs of the town are being met and what we could do about them if not.

As part of my role as an assessor, I initiated the process as the town was coming up toward our FY1999 revaluation (reval) certification by the state Department of Revenue (DOR); in the past the lack of "approved" tax maps in the town had been an issue with the DOR. For years, the assessors have been relying on a very helpful map put together by Ed Calver back in the 70's when he did the town history.

The map has been very useful over the years, but during previous reval certifications, the DOR representative had said that it was not acceptable as a tax map and that the town had to "do something" about its maps. As this is not an inexpensive proposition, the assessors didn't push it as long as the DOR didn't actually require that they do so.

In my investigations, I found that there seemed to be mapping needs expressed by members of other town boards, so we formed the committee.

Our work over the last year has focused on how maps are made of towns, what maps we already have, and what information needs of our boards could be met by having better maps of the town. We also looked into how much new maps would cost.

There are maps and there are maps. We found bundles of them in Sawyer Hall, some quite helpful and some less so. There are collections of septic plans, soil type maps from the soil conservation service, incomplete maps of wetlands and copies of parcel surveys. The registry of deeds also has a room of "charts" that contains all registered surveys of land in Franklin County and a number of parcel sketches. Presumably, Ed did a lot of work there.

What we have found is that the first step of mapping all of the various types of information about the town is to have a good set of parcel maps — we need to know ownership first, before we can discuss well placement or septic issues between neighbors. We need to know whose land lies in a designated wetland (with some precision) in order to consider that aspect in assessing value. We decided that it may well be time for the town to get a true set of tax/parcel maps.

One reason for saying this is that in order to make a full set of parcel maps, you need a "base map" of where the roads, streams and other landmarks are in the town, and we may have an opportunity to get a cheap one. Historically, a town would need to have a "flyover" and subsequent "planimetric" (very exact) map drawn to get a base map. This could

cost \$30,000 or more — just for a base map. That doesn't even start to include the cost of the actual parcel mapping, which means fitting surveys into the base map and creating parcel maps from deed descriptions, a very time-consuming process.

An alternative base that may become available, for free, in the next year or so is coming about from a project the state has undertaken. They have flown this whole area and are in the process of developing "orthophotos" from the aerial pictures taken. Orthophotos are adjusted for topographical changes and are so exact that they, themselves, can be used as a base map for "fitting" parcels. And it's free!

This, of course, assumes that the state does what it says it will.

We met with a salesman from a mapping company and he estimated, very roughly, that it shouldn't take much more than about \$20,000 to do the parcel maps for the town. This is similar to an amount mentioned about 25 years ago when some folks working for the town last looked into parcel mapping.

As a result, we on the committee are asking that an article be put on the warrant for town meeting to set aside \$10,000 this year toward a fund to make parcel maps for the town. This is just a first step and we do not recommend proceeding further if the state does not do its part, but we feel that there is an opportunity now.

This is a pretty complicated project and we are learning as we go. We will have an information sheet at the town meeting and will be happy to answer as many questions about this as we can. We hope that you will help us by letting the town know how you feel about this project — pro or con — at the meeting!

### HEATH SCHOOL KITCHEN

**Now Serving:** Cinnamon Buns, Pizza,  
Cookies, Cakes and Breads.

All items available frozen; call ahead for freshly-baked.

**337-5307 GAIL HALL**

The cafeteria is open to the Community for lunch at just \$2.25!  
Join us at noon. If you can, call a day ahead or that morning.

Your independent Insurance Agency. . .

For all your insurance needs.



**Blackmer  
Insurance  
Agency, Inc.**

1000 Mohawk Trail  
Shelburne, Massachusetts 01370  
Tel. 413-625-6527





# Heath Business Directory

Members of the Heath Enterprise Council

Bald Mountain Pottery  
625-8110

Brian's Carpentry  
Building/Remodeling  
337-4347

Nancy Burrington  
Evergreen Information  
337-4425

Cable's Burnt Hill  
Blueberries  
337-4454

James Cerone  
Builder  
337-4210

Coursey Design  
Interior architecture, design  
& decoration - 337-4751

D.C. Builders  
Branch Hill Road  
337-4705

Robert Delisle  
Electrician  
337-5716

Russel E. Donelson  
Design / Construction / Cabinetry  
337-4460

Girard-Peters  
SUGAR HOUSE  
337-5501

Earl M. Gleason  
Fire Equipment  
337-4948

Heath Brook Studio  
Glass and baskets  
337-5736

L & S Enterprises  
Liesure Furniture Manufacturer  
337-5505

Patricia Lentz  
Indigo Glassworks  
337-5375

Maple Ledge Farm  
Maple Syrup Year Round  
337-4705

John Mooney  
Custom Remodeling  
337-8344

Wanda Mooney  
Realtor  
337-8344

Alan Nichols  
Furniture Maker  
337-6665

Russlin Saw  
Power Equipment  
Sales & Service  
337-8704

Richard Steinbock  
Graphic Design  
337-4746

Stor-A-Dor Corp.  
Pocket door hardware designs  
337-0211

Sunny Day  
BLUEBERRY FARM  
Burnt Hill  
337-8369

Phyllis E. Thane  
Book Binding  
337-4759

Tripp's Blueberries  
Taylor Brook Road  
337-4964

Paul Turnbull  
Janice Boudreau  
Commercial / Wedding  
Photographers  
337-4033

Bonnie Wodin  
Custom Gardens & Landscapes  
337-5529

## Support Your Local Businesses

If you would like more information about how to become a member of the Heath Enterprise Council,  
please call Alicia Tripp at 337-4964



## VIEW FROM BURNT HILL

(An opinion piece by Jack Cable)

Beverly and I attended the 1999 Massachusetts Farmers Direct Marketing Conference and Trade Show held March 4 in Boxborough, MA. After being welcomed by commissioner Jay Healy, the conference had speakers on: consumers romantic view of farming; Massachusetts Agricultural Task Force, now in its second year of research and development in marketing opportunities and networks for marketers. Other subjects were: Improving Your Business and Writing a Business Plan; plus making a profit at Farmers Markets and Display Techniques.

We have recently completed a course at GCC titled "Agricultural Business Planning and Entrepreneur Training." It was an agricultural people course made up of experienced farmers who had as many insights to give each other as suggestions from instructors and speakers.

Our Agricultural Protection Right (APR) is in the closing stage of the process to forever preserve Burnt Hill Farm. We expect to sit down soon with Rich Hubbard, Director of the APR Program, and Mark Zenick of the Franklin Land Trust. I have been a participant in the Open Space/Agricultural Historic Preservation of the Visioning Master Plan. We need to strive to preserve our beautiful open spaces, vistas and scenic byways before they are gone forever. Where I grew up in Connecticut, it was all dairy farms and beautiful views and historic homes. Now all the farms are gone and on farms where I milked cows are a Wal-Mart, Extenda-Care Facility, and the farm across from my family's farm is being bull-dozed for an industrial park. The entire area is gone-developed and buried under asphalt and one half acre residential houses. Not only were the natural features gone, but many of the historical homes and features are gone. Here in Heath development has required a new school and our municipal services are in critical condition. Open spaces, forests and scenic areas do not cause raised taxes-development does! Every dollar a homeowner pays in taxes costs us about a dollar and a quarter-every dollar of open space only costs us less than thirty cents. Residential development of farmland does not generate net tax benefits for communities. Let's preserve our land and not let our tax burden be more by selling houselots!

## Herald Staff We're looking for you!

**Anyone interested in reporting, typing,  
computer layout, photography, etc.,  
please call Laurie Wheeler Burrington  
at 337-4302.**

## SPRING VISIONING/TOWN PLAN PROJECT INFORMATION MEETING

April 24, at 9-10:30 a.m.  
at the Community Hall!

This meeting will provide a public forum  
prior to Annual Town Meeting  
for Townspeople to discuss  
recommendations for a Town Plan  
for Heath's Future!

### Richard C. Bishop Elder Law Attorney

Massachusetts, Florida, Arizona

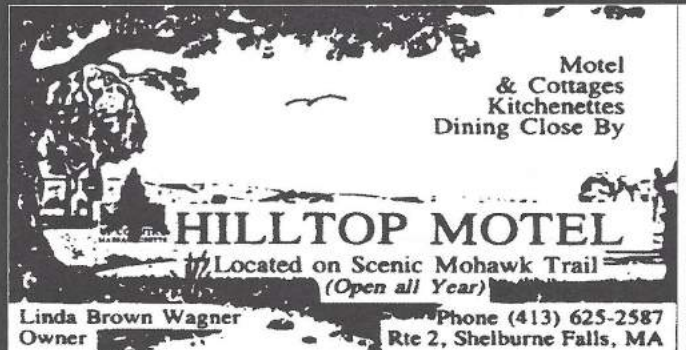
P.O. Box 121, Shelburne Falls, MA 01370  
413-625-2574 / fax 625-8321

40 School St., Suite 5, Greenfield, MA 01302  
413-773-1818 / fax 773-1881



### ROWE CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTER

Located in the beautiful Berkshires,  
Rowe is widely respected as one of the finest small  
conference centers in the country. We offer weekend  
retreats with renowned leaders including John  
Bradshaw, Malidoma & Sobonfu Some, and Alberto  
Villoldo this season. For a beautiful free brochure  
please contact: Rowe Conference Center  
22 Kings Highway Road Rowe, MA 01367  
(413) 339-4954



Motel  
& Cottages  
Kitchenettes  
Dining Close By

## HILLTOP MOTEL

Located on Scenic Mohawk Trail  
(Open all Year)

Linda Brown Wagner  
Owner

Phone (413) 625-2587  
Rte 2, Shelburne Falls, MA



## MILESTONES

By Edith Royer

.....

Born on February 22, 1999, a daughter, Delaney Rose, to Marijean and Roger "Dutch" Powell of Taunton, MA. She is the granddaughter of Maryjean and Joe Del Rosso of Heath, MA.

Born on March 12, 1999, a son, Zachary Taylor, to Tammy Beckwith and Todd Sessions of Ashfield. He is the grandson of Judith and Byron Beckwith of Bernardston, and Francis Sessions of Greenfield. Great grandson of Natalie Flagg of Bernardston, and Dorothy Sessions of Heath.

Born on March 25, 1999, a daughter, Emma Caroline, to Eric and Jennifer Holman of Wisconsin. She is the great-granddaughter of Newland and Caroline Smith, formerly of Heath.

.....

Karen Snider Smith, 34, of North Aurora, IL, died February 12, 1999. She leaves her husband, Arthur Crosby Smith, grandson of Newland and Caroline Smith, and a daughter, Jessica.

Mary (Larry) Sherman, 93, of 29 Judd Road died Tuesday (2-23-99) at the home of her son and daughter-in-law, Leland L. and Cecelia Sherman, at 35 Judd Road. She was born in Providence, RI, on Jan. 10, 1906, the daughter of John Dewitt and Rosa Helen (Chadwick) Larry. She was a 1924 graduate of East Providence High School, and was employed in the direct mail advertising business with her mother in the Express Audit Co. in Providence until in 1927 when she married Alfred C. Putney. She moved to Heath in 1951 with her second husband, Elmer L. Sherman, whom she had married in 1937. He predeceased her in 1994. As cafeteria manager, Mrs. Sherman set up and started the cafeteria program at the former Branch School in Heath. In the 1960's, she was town clerk and treasurer, as well as secretary to the Heath selectboard for 10 years. She was active in the Heath Ladies Aid for many years until arthritis prevented her from sewing and knitting. At the time of her death, the joy of her life was attending the Charlemont Senior Center every Wednesday and joining in the activities there. She enjoyed knitting, and is especially known for knitting mittens for her grandchildren, as well as cooking and canning and was an avid reader. Her favorite authors were Dick Francis, Agatha Christie, Joseph C. Lincoln, Tony Hillerman, the author of the Asey Mayo series, and James Herriot. Her comment at 92 was, "I've outlived my favorite authors". She was greatly loved by her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Besides her son, she leaves two daughters, Patricia D. Guilbault of Turners Falls and Dr. Martha R. McDonough of Potomac, MD; seven grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. A daughter, Mary L. Sherman, predeceased her in 1964. A memorial service took place March 13 at the Charlemont Federated Church with the Rev. Allen Comstock, pastor, officiating. Burial will be in Center Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

.....

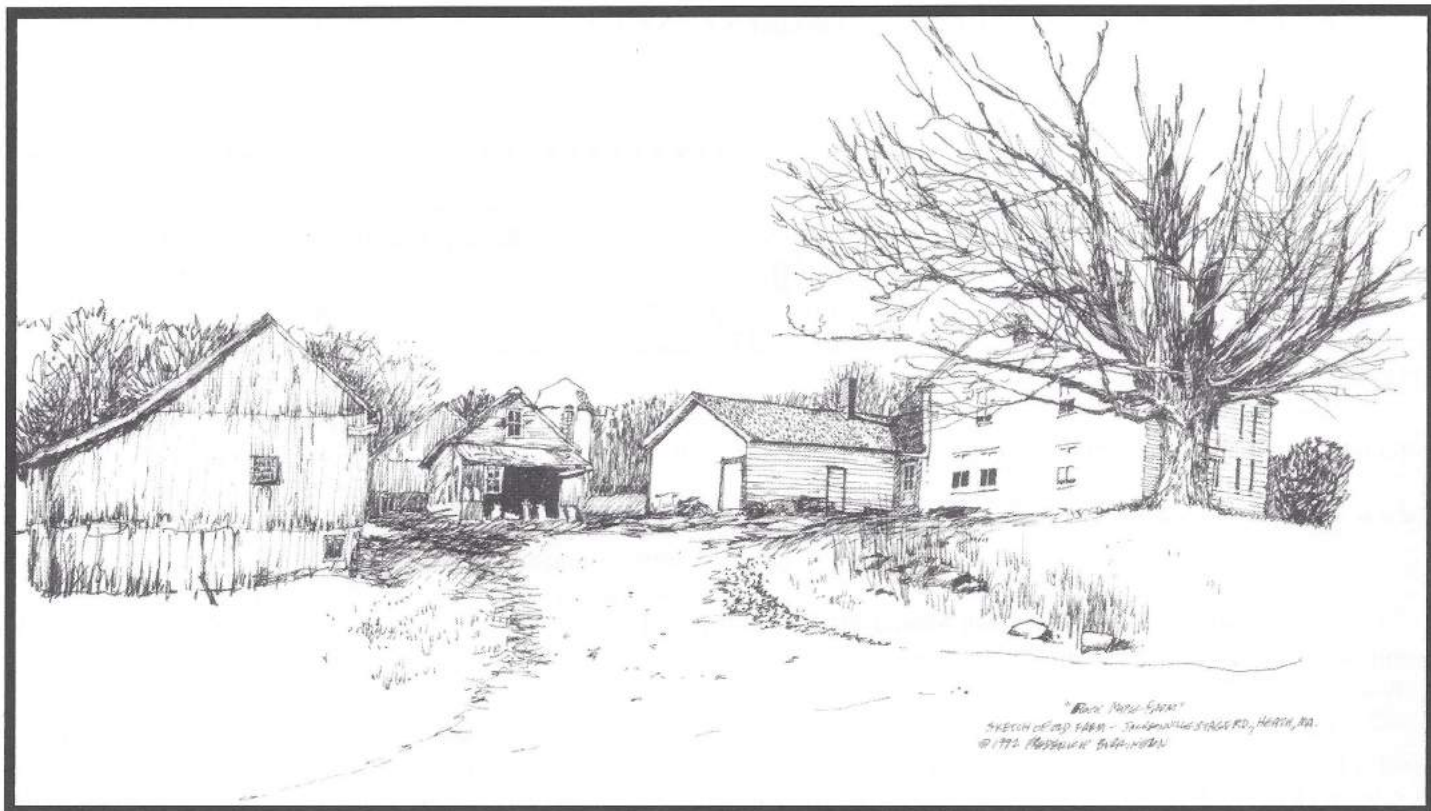
## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

**Peter Brown**, has received Life Magazine's 1999 Alfred Eisenstadt Award for magazine photography in the category of "Best Essay Depicting The Natural World". The photographs are images of the Great Plains. Mr. Brown's book, "On the Plains", is due to be published in the very near future. In the meantime, however, his work can be found on pages 66-67 of the Spring 1999 issue of Life magazine.

**Fred Burrington**, local artist, has been accepted for an internship at the internationally known WoodenBoat School in Brooklin, ME. He will begin his internship for the summer in late May of 1999. Hoist the Main'sl!

**Ray Allaire**, has taken on a new job down in sunny, hot Florida. His family will join him in July. Ray is also a local musician who will be following his dreams in Florida as well.





**Frederick M. Burrington** **Artist**  
Photorealism in Watercolor, Pastel, Color Pencil,  
Ink, and Pencil.

Commissions Welcome

P.O. Box 96, Heath, MA 01346  
Tel. 413-337-4426 Fax 413-337-0221

*Ink Drawing of the Old Chatten Farm*

*Do you recognize it now?*

# **HEATH HERALD**

P.O. Box 54  
Heath, MA 01346

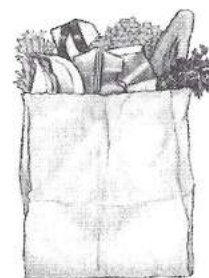
FORWARDING & ADDRESS  
CORRECTION REQUESTED

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

# **PETER'S GENERAL STORE**

Debbie and Paul Plante, Proprietors  
Number Nine Road, Heath  
337-5501

- ◆ Fresh Produce
- ◆ Freshly-baked pies
- ◆ Blue Seal products
- ◆ Family Videos
- ◆ Penny Candy
- ◆ Soda, Grinders, Ice Cream
- ◆ Beer, wine, liquor
- ◆ All food essentials



## **STORE HOURS**

Monday – Saturday, 8 a.m. – 7 p.m.  
Sunday, 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.