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APRIL/MAY 2000

HEATH HERALD

HEATH'S FIRST NEWSPAPER

75¢

KAREN BROOKS "Follow the Dream"

by Elizabeth LaPointe and Jane deLeeuw

On Saturday April 1st Memorial Hall in Shelburne Falls, residents of Heath and of the surrounding communities were treated to a concert by Heath singer, songwriter, and guitarist Karen Brooks, whose recently released CD "Follow the Dream" is a gift of spirit to the listener. She was joined by her sister Leslie and friends Jill Friedman, Dianne Marr, Deanne French.

Karen seemed at ease with her audience, and her audience seemed to know her well, showing a great amount of enthusiasm for her songs. "Believe" and "Sarah's Song", dedicated to her three-year-old daughter, particularly caught my attention. Her songs reflected beauty, love and encouragement. The mellowness and softness of Karen's songs brought memories of singers such as Jim Croce, Cat Stevens, and Joan Baez. Karen sang most of her songs from the CD.

The song "Bumblebee" written as a warmup for the Hawlemont School chorus, amused the young as well as the old, and invoked audience involvement. Karen loves to have her audience sing harmonies. Her melodic and soft music eased us all into singing harmony with her. She feels this is a great way to promote a sense of community. Karen's songs are simple and the messages in them resonate loud and clear. Her songs were accompanied by her own guitar playing, Daniel Einbender on the Conga drum, and Joe Murney on the saxophone and harmonica.

"Harvest Time" really impressed me. Accompanied by harmonica, her lyrics described the end of fall and the coming of winter. A memorable song, "Where Are the Children", surely brought a few tears. Karen wrote this song last year dedicating it to the people of New Guinea and the 5,000 men, women and children who died when a tidal wave hit them in June of 1998. When bodies were recovered, it was mostly adults they found. Not only do Karen's songs show love, but they show a sense of hope and consciousness. Through her songwriting she hopes to promote social change. Ending the hour-long celebration, Karen sang "Good-bye My Friend", a dedication to Phil O'Reilly, Heath School's first principal.

Born in Tokyo, daughter of a blues singer and a Broadway performer, Karen has been writing songs and performing them for most of her life. After spending seven years on the road as a migrant worker and musician, she sang with the Hudson River Sloop Singers for twenty years, then with the Hudson River Hummingbirds, a Women's trio until 1993. During that time she joined the crew of folk singer and activist Pete Seger's boat, the "Woody Guthrie". She shared the stage with many well-known musicians: among them Paul Winter, Odetta, Holly Near, Tom Paxton, Ronnie Gilbert, and Sweet Honey in the Rock. For the last few years she has been a member of People's Music Network, an organization of over three-hundred singers, songwriters, and musicians who effect social change through music.

A resident of Heath since 1982, and lives on Long Hill Road with her children: Sarah, 17, a junior at Mohawk; Liza, 15, a sophomore at PVPA (Performing Arts Charter School) in Hadley; Loren, 12, in the seventh grade at Mohawk; and Patrick, 9, a student at the Heath School. Recently she has begun performing for the public again while "trying to stay sane as a single parent." She teaches music and leads workshops for adults and children. This month, Karen will be traveling in Europe promoting her CD. She loves to get an audience to sing in harmony because, "I have always felt that this is a gift I have been given, something I am meant to give back in some way, and there is no better way in the world to create community than through music."

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CONNECTIONS

by
PAT LEUCHTMAN

INTRODUCING OUR NEW EDITOR - LEA BANKS BOHRER

It is with great pleasure that the Heath Herald introduces Lea Banks Bohrer to our readers. Although she is one of Heath's newest residents, she has already started to knit herself into the fabric of town life and activity.

Lea quickly found her way to the Heath Library, and it did not take her long to become a devoted patron and admirer of our librarian, Laurie Wheeler Burrington, who is giving up the editorship of the paper because of her burgeoning academic career. It only took a brief moment of hesitation before Lea agreed to become the Heath Herald's new managing editor. As she says, "I wanted to become a real member of the community which has been so welcoming, and it seemed that by working for the Herald I'd get to know and understand what's going on in town."

Lea said she first came to western Massachusetts years ago when she accompanied her father to the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, where he was giving a reading. She was so taken by the rural nature of the area that she expressed her desire to live here in the country someday.

"Someday" took awhile in arriving. Before then, Lea had had many adventures, living in a tiny town in New Hampshire as well as in New York, in Boston, and in London. She had managed a bookstore and had worked as a social worker and in banking.

"Someday" arrived last fall when she and her husband David, and their twelve-year old daughter, Sarah, decided to leave Greenfield where they had lived for six years and move to the country. Unlike his wife, David Bohrer already had deep roots in this corner of Massachusetts having grown up on Old Main Street in Deerfield where his father taught at Deerfield Academy for forty-five years. David is a sales rep for Sandri Oil's Industrial Lubricants division.

Both Lea and David remember that first long drive up Sumner Stetson Road with the real estate agent. Lea wondered if they were going to the North Pole and not North Heath. Although this first drive made Heath seem distant and isolated, the reality was very different. While living in Greenfield, Lea said she barely knew her neighbors whereas immediately after moving to Sumner Stetson Road, she and her family were invited to go caroling and to join neighbors in potluck suppers.

Now settled in a wonderful house on a hill surrounded by fields and woods, Lea, who works for Serve New England, a

non-profit community development organization, has set up her home office and enjoys the flexibility offered by the electronic cottage. "The drawback is that sometimes I get a phone call at 7:30 in the morning while I am in my bathrobe, and at lunch time I realize I am still not dressed. On the other hand, I can take a break and pick up Sarah at the Academy at Charlemont and enjoy a long walk when I wish"

Her responsibilities as Regional Manager for Serve New England include overseeing seventy-five host sites, some as near as Charlemont and Shelburne Falls, others as distant as Connecticut. In addition, Lea puts together a monthly newspaper for the organization. She especially enjoys writing a column and inventing recipes for the food page. In fact, cooking is one of her passions and she hopes to put together her own cookbook someday.

In the meantime, she is looking forward to putting her enthusiasm, energy, and skill at the service of the Heath Herald. If you have any news, ideas, or suggestions, Lea invites readers to give her a call at 337-0217.

Or, at...saleda@crocker.com

HEATH HERALD

HEATH'S FIRST NEWSPAPER

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Contributors This Issue Elsa Bakalar, Jane deLeeuw, Joanne Fortune, Sarah Banks Hartshorne, Elizabeth LaPointe, Pat Leuchtman, Anne-Marie Lucid, Colin Lucid, Ray Pettengill, Edith Royer, Carroll Stowe, Todd Sumner, Ned Wolf

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Between Neighbors...

Sometimes it's difficult to concentrate here. It is hard at times for the very reason we moved our family from the "big city" of Greenfield to Heath. We were looking for a quiet, peaceful community that contributed to its own. What we found in addition was a town that offered country living, little distractions, less outside influence. A town where we could get involved with the community, smell clean air, walk dirt roads, go skiing on untrammelled paths. A town where the population itself was very special, almost unequaled in its closeness. But I find it hard to concentrate still. I want to go on nature walks, frolic in the fields like a kid, play in the dirt and create gardens. This is dangerous! I suddenly feel compelled to take naps, draw outside the lines, stare longingly at the sunsets, and reinvent myself.

As Pat Leuchtman stated in her very fine interview, I felt a little like our realtor was showing us a place in North Alaska, not North Heath! The Planning Board is readying Heath for the 21st Century by proposing an amendment regulating the siting of cell towers. Our fearless Copy Editor, Jane DeLeeuw, and newcomer, Elizabeth LaPointe wrote an article on Heath's own songstress, Karen Brooks. Carroll Stowe penned, in addition to his monthly column, a story about maple sugaring, while Terry Pettengill matched her regular food column Hilltown Tastes, to delicious-sounding maple recipes. We're introducing a "Teenager's Corner" of sorts called The Popcorn Brigade by Sarah Banks Hartshorne, a 7th grader at the Academy. Green Thoughts by Elsa Bakalar makes one think of Heath in the spring, while we have the pleasure of presenting our first article by Bob Viarengo, a longtime resident of Heath, who never lets us forget that snow isn't too far behind us! We welcome Anne-Marie Lucid who joins her husband Pastor Colin in writing about the Heath Union Church news. A welcome back is in store for Todd Sumner writing about the Academy at Charlemont again.

Heath inspires me with all its creativity, artistry, inventiveness, and skill. Loggers, lawyers, glass-blowers, writers, theologians, importers, auto mechanics, carpenters, nurses, teachers, painters, editors, therapists, receptionists, the list goes on and on. I feel lucky to be part of such an amazing community of people and will try with the Herald's dynamic, hard-working staff to live up to the expectations of the town. To get the "pulse" of Heath, to give readers what they truly want to read, and to carry out a tradition started by Michael Bakalar in April 1979 is our lofty goal. Laurie Wheeler Burrington did an excellent job of finishing up the 21st year anniversary with her editing skills. She's leaving me pretty big shoes to fill. "I believe in equality for everyone, except reporters and photographers." I always thought this quote by Mahatma Gandhi was funny until I realized we *needed* reporters and photographers!

Until we meet again,
Lea Banks Bohrer

RAY'S OF INTEREST

by Ray Pettengill

Online Credit Card Safety

Following these guidelines will help protect you from fraud when you shop online.

Tip 1-Use only one credit card online to make it easier to identify fraudulent charges. **Tip 2-**Use only a credit or charge card - never a bank debit card - for online purchases. Under the Fair Credit Billing Act, consumers are liable for a maximum of \$50 if a credit card is used fraudulently and have the right to dispute charges under certain circumstances and temporarily withhold payment while the creditor is investigating them. Debit cards don't offer such protection - using one online puts your entire checking or savings account at risk. **Tip 3-**Be sure to print a copy of your purchase order and confirmation number for your records. **Tip 4-**Check your bills carefully each month and cancel the card immediately if you find any bogus charges. **Tip 5-**Assume that any credit card you use online can be stolen. It might not, but that way you'll have account numbers handy to simplify and hasten the process of canceling the card. **Tip 6-**Use caution when using smaller online retail sites, which tend to use off-the-shelf e-commerce software and have fewer resources to devote to security. **Tip 7-**Send e-mail to a retail site asking whether users' credit card information is stored by the company. You can ask the company to remove your data from its database. Or, if you like the convenience offered by Web sites that keep your card numbers on file, ask if the site encrypts your personal information before it's stored. If the answer is "no," you should shop elsewhere. **Tip 8-**Don't provide credit card information in response to a solicitation. **Tip 9-**Regularly check your credit history through a credit-reporting company.

(Source: MSNBC research)

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HEATH HISTORICAL SOCIETY MILLENNIAL CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

by Ned Wolf

The Heath Historical Society invites one and all to help celebrate its 100th birthday this summer. You may know distant relatives of these first charter members: Miss Flora White, Miss Mary White, Mrs. Felicia Emerson Welch, Mr. E. Edward Miller, Mr. William A. Dickinson, Mr. Hugh Maxwell, Mr. William H. Burrington, and Mr. Edward P. Guild. If you are related to or descended from any of these persons, or you know of anyone who is, please tell us. While the society was officially organized on August 11, 1900, the town had voted on November 7, 1899 to lease the "Old Town House" to a "proposed historical society." Conditions of the vote were that the building be kept in good repair and not be used for a purpose other than "the collection and safe keeping of articles of historical interest to the town of Heath." Since that commitment the Society has aimed to preserve the genealogical records of old families and to keep alive the best traditions of the town. In 1932, the Constitution was modified. The goals now include acquiring and protecting of historic spots in Heath as well as encouraging research.

So when is the party? The dates are the July 22-23 weekend. Heathens of all ages will be encouraged to participate in one or more of a variety of activities still being planned. You will have an opportunity to explore the Old Town House, the Old Schoolhouse, and, of course, the Solomon Temple Barn Museum.

WILD ANIMAL SIGHTINGS

by Lea Banks Bohrer

I have seen more wild animals in the short 4 months of living here than I've seen in my 40 years. Deer abound. All over Heath, they cut across my line of vision while I'm driving down a dirt road. A buck leaps over a cacophony of briars, fallen brushwood, abandoned farm machinery, but not without a keen proud mini-second stare in my direction. Everything from moles and voles, shrews and skunks, red squirrels and gophers, fat opossums, raccoons and rabbit.

Turkeys are my favorite sightings. I always stop my car to gaze as they're scurrying across the road. The other day I spotted a male in full regalia courting two females. His 'fluffing' of tailfeathers was like a flashing of gold chains while the unappreciative females fed on the kernels of corn. The sun created an iridescent red wattle; imposing and impressive. This morning we had turkeys on our lawn. Our dog chased them off and four butterballs escaped their fate hurling forward like projectiles!

On a foggy, mushy day in February I noticed a shape in a tall pine tree in back of my house. Through my binoculars, the shape morphed into the biggest, palest Barred Owl I had ever seen. It had the color of a Snowy Owl and the size of a Great Gray. It remained there for hours peering out over the field for lunch; sometimes looking back into the woods like Linda Blair did in the *Exorcist*, spinning his head round and round. He finally tired of this futile exercise; the mice and rabbits were hiding out and I was not letting my cats out. He finally soared, majestically and silently away.

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HEATH UNION CHURCH NEWS

by Pastor Colin Lucid

Psalm 19:7 "The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul; The testimony of the Lord is sure making wise the simple."

Our church family would like to invite you to our services where we explore the law of the Lord during Wednesday evening Bible study and Sunday School. We hear the testimonies of the Lord during our Sunday morning worship service.

On March 19 we began our Forty Days of Forgiveness. During these forty days we are asking God to bring to mind those people who have been hurt by Heath Church during its' past history. We have also contacted by mail past members and others as part of this process. These forty days also include a time of personal reflection where God can open our hearts and minds to areas in our lives that need His forgiving touch where we have suffered personal hurts.

On April 30th the focus of our worship service will be forgiveness and healing. During these forty days we invite you to come and resolve any issues you may have from the past with our church.

Sunday Schedule

Sunday School - 9:00 a.m.

Worship Service - 10:00 a.m.

Children's Church and Nursery 10:00 a.m.

Youth Group at Heath School - 3:30 p.m.

All teens in 7th - 12th grade are invited. Please wear sneakers and bring a favorite snack.

Wednesday

Bible Study and prayer time at the parsonage - 7:00 p.m.

Thursday

Boy's Fire Cadet Club at the Fire House - 3:30 - 5:30 p.m.

Grades K-8th are invited. .50 dues.

Friday

Girl's Friendship Club meets at Diane Crowningshield's home 3:30 - 5:30 p.m. Grades 3rd - 8th are invited. .50 dues.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US

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GIRL'S FRIENDSHIP CLUB

by Anne-Marie Lucid

The Girl's Club is a ministry of Heath Church. It is a special (and crazy!!!) time when approximately 10 young ladies and four leaders from the community meet at Diane Crowningshield's home. (Thanks always, Diane.) During our time together we pray, make crafts, have a Bible study and enjoy snacks.

The girls have reached into the community with their special Christmas stockings and carols going door to door to some of our elderly and to others who have been sick during the year or who have lost a loved one. We usually meet after our Christmas caroling for lunch and something hot to drink. The girls are now planning our second Ladies Easter Tea scheduled for Sat., April 22nd, 10:00 a.m. at the Community Hall. Ladies of all ages are invited.

During our weekly meetings we have learned about "Silver Linings". Silver Linings was initiated years ago by a woman named Florence Liteur. The girls took little jewelry boxes and wrapped them in silver with silver bows. They included words of encouragement and the girls have given encouraging notes to their family members and friends. They have also memorized some Bible verses, learned many crafts to take home, and made big messes in Diane's kitchen cooking some of our delicious snacks.

With thanks to the Thaness' we were able to take a two-day field trip to Lake Champlain where we camped out, went swimming, took a ride on the ferry, and visited some local sites. We appreciate all of the parents who have allowed your girls to join us. They are all very special in our eyes. All girls in grades 3 - 8 are welcome to join us.

Easter Services

April 20th - Maundy Thursday Service, 7:00 p.m.

April 21st - Good Friday Service, 7:30 p.m.,
Colrain Community Church.

April 22nd - Saturday 10:00 a.m., Ladies Easter Tea
at the Community Hall.

April 23 - Sunrise Service at Burnt Hill, 6:00 a.m.,
Breakfast following.

Easter Cantata, "Lamb of Promise", by the Heath Church
Choir, at 10:00 a.m.

April 30th - Forgiveness and Healing,
10:00 a.m. worship service.

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THE POPCORN BRIGADE

~a movie review~

by Sarah Banks Hartshorne

Cider House Rules is a beautiful film, shot in parts of Old Deerfield and Northampton.

Dr. William Larch (played by Micheal Cain) is a kind, extremely skilled physician who is the director of the St. Cloud's Orphanage. This seemingly normal orphanage is a haven for pregnant women, desperate to rid themselves of their child. Dr. Larch will deliver their children and put them in the orphanage or perform clandestine, illegal abortions.

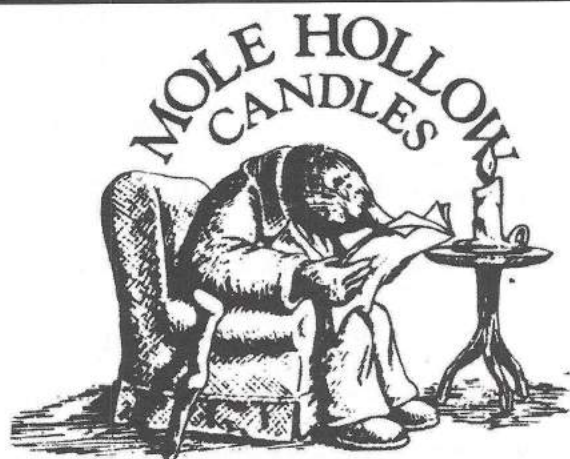
The other main character is Homer Wells. Homer was a completely naïve young man who was born and raised in the orphanage. Dr. Larch took a liking to him when he was a baby, and decided to raise him in the orphanage as a doctor. Dr. Larch trained Homer and taught him everything he knew. Homer learns how to deliver children as well as perform abortions. However, he refuses to perform abortions, as he does not agree with Dr. Larch's morals.

When Candy Kendall (Charlize Theron) and her Air Force boyfriend, Wally Worthington (Paul Rudd) come to the orphanage for an abortion, Homer asks them if he can go with them when they return to their hometown. No one at the orphanage is happy to see Homer leave, particularly Dr. Larch, however eager Homer is.

Homer takes a job as an apple picker at the cider house, run by Wally's mother. He works along side migrant workers and learns a whole new style of life.

With Wally away at war, Candy becomes lonely, and this leads to something more than friendship with Homer. He is battling out his conflicting feelings with her as well as helping Rose, a young migrant worker, cope with an incestuous pregnancy. In the end, Homer must decide where he wants his life to go.

(Popcorn Brigade continued on page 7, second column)



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TOWN NURSE NOTES

by Joanne Fortune, RN

People often ask me what blood pressure means. Here is an explanation. The heart pumps blood into the arteries under high pressure then it relaxes. Blood pressure is the force exerted by the blood against the vessel walls. The top number for a blood pressure reading (Systolic) is the maximum pressure when the left side of the heart pumps blood out of the heart into the body, or in technical terms, when the left ventricle pumps blood into the aorta. The bottom number (Diastolic) is the minimum pressure against the arterial walls at all times and is when the ventricles relax.

Blood pressure reflects the balance between the output of the heart, the volume of blood, the resistance within the body's blood vessels, and the thickness of the blood. These impact the blood movement and pressure of the body. High blood pressure (hypertension) occurs when the pressure of the blood against the artery walls is higher than normal and it usually has no symptoms. It increases risk of stroke, heart attack and kidney disease. Normal blood pressure for people over 18 years of age is below 130/85. High normal is a reading between 130/85 and 139/89. High is over 140/90.

These are some things you can do if your blood pressure tends to run high:

- (1) Lose weight. A weight loss of only 10 pounds can lower BP.
- (2) Exercise regularly (which will also help to lose weight).
- (3) Reduce salt intake. High sodium prepared-foods include sauces, frozen dinners, canned soups and vegetables, salad dressings. Our bodies need 500mg. of sodium per day.
- (4) Make sure you get enough calcium (dairy products, tofu, soy milk, broccoli, greens, calcium-fortified orange juice); magnesium (leafy green vegetables, whole grains), and potassium (orange juice and potatoes).
- (5) Stop smoking! Smoking increases risk of heart disease and stroke.
- (6) Reduce saturated fat in your diet (meat, whole milk, cheese) which will lower risk of heart disease.

If you are interested in having your blood pressure checked or monitored regularly, please call me at 337-5716.

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SELECTMEN'S REPORT

The Board of Selectmen meets every Tuesday night at 7:00p.m. in the basement of the Community Hall

Special Town Meeting and Annual Town Meeting

The Board of Selectmen called a Special Town Meeting on Tuesday, April 4th to seek approval for the FY2000 budget. Having finally received the Cherry Sheets and the Pothole Grant from the State, we are now able to finalize this year's budget and set the tax rate accordingly. The last Annual Town Meeting voted to level fund the budget even though we faced a huge increase in the education assessments from the Mohawk District and Franklin County Technical High School. This was necessary because the financial awards from the State for FY2000 were not known.

The Annual Town Meeting is scheduled for Saturday May 6 at 9:00a.m.

Pothole Money Application

The Town of Heath was shaken by the announcement by the Department of Education that our "Pothole Money" grant would be \$29,000 of the \$176,000 that was requested in our application. Thanks to a valiant effort on the part of the Finance Committee, Board of Selectmen, Town Coordinator and David Howland, and with help from Representative John Merrigan and Senator Andrea Nuciforo, a successful appeal was made. The D.O.E. granted an additional \$125,000 bringing the total to \$154,000. It is less than the amount we needed but it helps a lot. On to next year's budget difficulties!

Joint Meetings with the Finance Committee

The Finance Committee has been meeting weekly, struggling with two very difficult budgets. We hope they will be able to get back to a more relaxed schedule after the Annual Town Meeting.

Round Table Meeting

The Roundtable meeting on February 1, 2000 of all Town boards was well attended and helped all of us become familiar with the issues before each board or office holder. Moving

ahead with the "Open Space and Recreation Plan," repairs and renovations to town buildings, a cell tower amendment to the zoning bylaw, revitalization of the Historical Commission and a school improvement plan at the Heath Elementary School, were some of the items discussed. We look forward to continuing to hold Roundtable meetings on a regular basis.

2000 Census

The Board of Selectmen wishes to encourage all households to respond to the Census. Full participation is important to assure that our town receives equitable political representation and our fair share of public monies and services.

Heath on Line

The Town now has an email address heath@townofheath.org and a home page www.townofheath.org. Send messages to any board or individual via the e-mail address or visit the Heath home page. The Town's Home page is a work in progress.

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(Popcorn Brigade, continued from page 6)

Cider House Rules is a brilliant adaptation to the novel by John Irving. The acting is wonderful, particularly Tobey Maguire. There is passion and love, but the writers are not shoving it down the audience's throat. The love story is mixed in with serious emotional issues. The scenery is beautiful and realistic, and the orphanage is painstakingly accurate.

This movie is rated PG-13 for sexuality, violence, substance abuse, mature thematic elements and nudity.

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Green Thoughts

by
ELSA BAKALAR

It's not usually a compliment to call something (or someone) old-fashioned, but today when people speak of old-fashioned gardens, there's a certain longing and wistfulness to it, suggesting something we want to preserve or, having lost, to find again.

Think of nursery catalogs. Bombarded with claims of BIGGER! BETTER! NEW AND IMPROVED!, some part of us is unsatisfied, a part that wants to say "But I remember..." What are those flowers that we recall with such nostalgia? Of all our senses, smell is most often the key that unlocks memory. A whiff of fragrance can take us back to a garden we visited or played in years ago as children. It might be an ordinary lilac, an old rose or exquisite but fleeting beauty, a cluster of violets announcing their presence though still hidden. Could they have been as beautiful as we remember them?

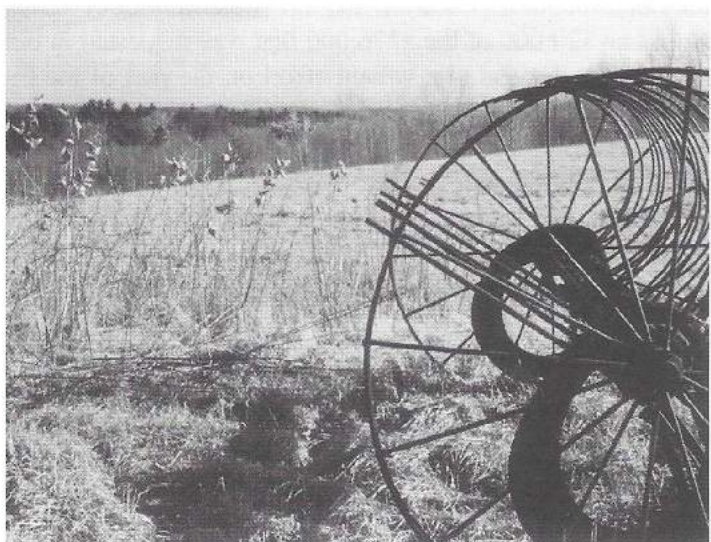
I don't want to get too sentimental about this. "Old" doesn't necessarily mean "good," nor does "new" mean "bad." So many times there's a trade-off: some of the old flowers give wonderful fragrance that's missing in modern hybrids. What is the point of a rose that doesn't smell like a rose? Never mind that it may grow taller and have bigger flowers of a bold and brassy color (or, horrors, of two brassy colors). In my own garden, there's an old, un-named, sprawling rose with little, faded pink flowers. It perfumes the air for one wonderful week in June, then its all over for the year. Nearby, a modern *grandiflora* rose, "Queen Elizabeth" (no chauvinism implied) is fragrant and gives three flushes of bloom — the first in June, one in the unlikely months of August/September, and last, and most miraculous of all, in October. There's plenty of room for both roses.

As for novelty, do we want a blue (really blue) rose? A yellow *forgetmenot*? Are we longing for a *scarlet delphinium*

(it exists, by the way)? How do you feel about a ten-inch sunflower on an eight inch stem? This is not a beautiful picture.

There are so many choices. Will it be a clear-eyed single flower or a richly ruffled double? A pendulous blossom hiding under its leaves or an upright, bold, assertive flower? More annuals burst upon the scene every year, but I hope we can keep the modest mignonette (*reseda odorata*), the stately single hollyhock (never mind "powder puffs") and the blowzy but properly-named old-fashioned pinks (*dianthus*).

So, thank goodness for gardens, among the last places where we can indulge our personal preferences. Which of the remembered beauties might we grow in combination with modern hybrids, and how will they fit in with today's houses and landscapes? We can welcome the new without shouldering out the old-fashioned favorites. We can preserve the best of yesterday while availing ourselves of the best of today — and tomorrow. Remember, we create our own Edens.



Heath scene by David L. Bohrer

ALANSON L. NICHOLS

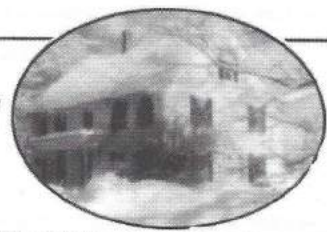
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NEWS FROM THE ACADEMY AT CHARLEMONT

by Todd Sumner

Here are a few highlights from a busy winter.

ON THE STAGE: The all-school winter drama production was an original adaptation of the Greek myth *Orpheus and Eurydice*. More than twenty students participated in the production, which was directed by Gerrit White. The *West County News* began its review by saying "Clever, original, witty, entertaining-the encomiums one might choose for the Academy at Charlemont's latest production are numerous, but they are also largely inadequate to describe its quality."

ON THE ROAD: Academy students and teachers were traveling all over the world during spring break. Some Spanish students participated in an exchange with a school in Merida, Mexico; some French students spent ten days in France. Four students, including Maya Rocke of Heath, participated in an exchange with a school in London. While in London, the Academy students did internships in London firms. In April, students from the UK will stay with Academy families as they do internships in Western Massachusetts businesses.

CAMPUS EXPANSION: Last summer the Academy purchased the property that abuts our campus on the east. Two major projects are under way next door, each of which will support and enhance current programs. The first is construction of a new full-sized playing field. The drainage and fill are in place and the large piles of loam visible from the highway will be spread and seeded this spring. The second project is a wholesale renovation of the former residence on the property. This building will house a new art studio and dark room, music practice rooms, classrooms, and locker rooms.

LIBRARY LINES

by Laurie Wheeler Burrington

Never at a loss for words, or at least rarely, these days I am striving to be a bit more succinct. Here goes!

We are planning for a trip to the "Open Frontier," our Summer Reading Program, part of which will be a program with storyteller Mary Quintano and tales of our past. This is funded by the Heath Cultural Council.

There are many new and replacement books for all ages, and particularly books for those who are reading in the young adult years. So, start queuing up for those summer reads! We have a list of current accessions available.

As we go to press, the Heath Elementary School's Goals 2000 Project and the Library have embarked on a joint project for a Homework Center at the Town Library on Wednesday evenings from 5-7 p.m. The Homework Center will be staffed by teachers from the Heath School.

An incredible book that I just couldn't wait to mention was given to us by Jane deLeeuw. The book, "Geeks, How Two Lost Boys Rode the Internet Out of Idaho" by Jon Katz, will be reviewed for next issue.

While making the collection of materials at the Library more inviting, we have also been creating a more accessible collection. While by no means a final answer to the space question, we are doing our best to make the space easier to get about in. Stop by and take a look!

It is our loss that Paul Wood, who has been our Library Assistant for the past year, has resigned from the position. We wish him the absolute of best wishes in his teaching endeavors.

And, too, Maureen O'Malley is leaving The Board of Library Trustees, on which she has served for the past two terms. Maureen's unfailing humour and ability to sense what is right will be missed.

Watch for updates on our April 22 Earth Day Celebration!

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HILLTOWN TASTES

by Terry Pettengill

It's maple sugar time, so here are a couple of recipes that are easy and taste good, as well as some Easter favorites.

MAPLE NOG

1 tbs maple syrup
1 cup milk
1 oz sherry or brandy
Beat milk & syrup together. Add sherry or brandy. Grate nutmeg on top.

MAPLE FROSTING FOR CAKE

3 eggs, if large, otherwise 4 eggs-separated
1 cup maple syrup
1 cup granulated sugar
Beat egg whites until stiff and put aside.
Put maple syrup and sugar in pot to boil while stirring.
Boil until syrup strings from spoon. Cool slightly.
Gradually add sugar mixture to egg whites, beating on medium to high until frosting peaks. This will be good on a spice cake or the pumpkin cake from last issue.

GLAZED HAM

1 fully cooked bone-in ham (6 to 8 lbs.)
1 tbs ground mustard
1 tsp ground allspice
3/4 cup orange marmalade or apricot jam or 1/2 cup brown sugar mixed with maraschino cherry juice. Use cherries for garnish. Score the ham. Combine mustard and allspice: Rub over ham. Place on a rack in a shallow baking pan. Bake uncovered, at 325 degrees for 2 and 1/2 hours or until meat thermometer reads 140 degrees. Spread glaze on ham during last hour of baking. Baste occasionally. Makes 12 to 16 servings.

BAKED ONIONS

6 large sweet onions sliced 1/2 inch thick.
(Or use only as many as you need.)
1/3 cup maple syrup or honey.
1/4 lb butter or margarine, melted.
Layer onions in a greased 13 x 9 x 2 inch baking dish.
Combine syrup and butter. Pour over onions. Bake uncovered at 425 degrees for 40 to 50 minutes or until tender.
Makes 8 to 10 servings.

DILLY DEVEILED EGGS

1 small cucumber, shredded
1 tsp salt
6 hard cooked eggs
1/4 tsp dillweed
Fresh dill and/or parsley
Combine cucumber and salt, let stand 15 minutes. Drain and squeeze out excess liquid. Set aside. Slice eggs in half-length wise. Remove yolks and set whites aside. In a bowl, mash yolks, stir in sour cream, and dill weed. Add cucumber. Evenly fill egg white. Garnish with dill and/or parsley, if desired. Chill until ready to serve. Makes 1 dozen halves.

HEATH EMERGENCY SERVICES NEWS

by Timothy Lively

We started the new "Millennium" with the following Medical calls:

1/3/2000 - Number Nine Road - Medical
1/15/00 - Route 8A North - Motor Vehicle Collision
1/24/00 - Flagg Hill Road - Medical
2/10/00 - Route 8A North - Medical
2/20/00 - Number Nine Road - Medical call #1
2/20/00 - Number Nine Road - Medical call #2
3/4/00 - Number Nine Road - Medical

Due to a "typo", Russ Hamilton's name was left off the list of First Responders in the last issue of the Herald. Thank you, Russ.

Heath Luncheon Club meets every first Thursday at the Community Hall. 10-1. Call Dot Sessions at 337-4896 to make reservations.



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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

I subscribe to a large magazine called "*The Small Farmer's Journal*" printed in Sisters, Oregon. It is edited by one great human being, Lynn Miller, by name. This publication should be required reading in every public school throughout the country. The reason for writing this column is to describe my trip with two good friends to Ithaca, New York to a seminar at Cornell University. *The Small Farmer's Journal* editor, Lynn Miller, conducted this seminar about the use and appointing of a team of horses for agricultural use. I had met Mr. Miller at the New England Organic Farmers Association conference 5 years ago at Hampshire College in Amherst, Ma. I was invited there to tell stories and put on a hand mowing demonstration.

On Friday, March 3, I was picked up at 3:30 a.m. by my good long-time friend Mernie Clark, from Chesterfield, MA. We traveled to North Bennington, Vt. and met Thomas Lively's nephew, David Lively, who was to provide the long distance transport. We left Bennington at about 4:30 and made good time to Bainbridge, New York. Breakfast was at a very popular restaurant. Good food well prepared and prompt. On the road again and were at Cornell at 10:30. We had no schedule as to time for the seminar to start. From the time we left Bennington till we reached our destination, we, David and I were well entertained with real life stories by Mr. Clark. Mernie has had some most ??? and hair-raising stories. Spellbound could never describe his life's experiences.

Alli Thane had e-mailed Steve Thane to let him know that we would be on the campus mid day. We had no knowledge of where the seminar would take place but, we found ourselves at a large conference building, Morrison Hall. We had

time to kill and were able to sit and hear some more Mernie stories. He, in a few minutes, had an interested audience. As we waited, we soon watched Steve Thane come to look us up. What a thrill to see a familiar face and pass some time with an old friend.

If there should be any question about why I would write this for the *Heath Herald*, its to try to lay out how Mr. Miller puts forth the simplicity of his ideas to help create a more agrarian lifestyle on a half acre or on a hundred whether in Heath, Ma. or in Vermont. I was most pleased that a very detailed article in the last issue of "*The Small Farmers Journal*" about planting and caring for raspberries most impressed a life time Heath resident.

I always share my Journals with anyone that I feel can make use of the lessons contained within these easy reading pages. I would be less a human being if I didn't wish to share this great Journal and its editor with all interested in what it and Lynn Miller offers.

Mr. Miller has been most kind in allowing my letters to appear in his Journal. He sells through his book service a book entitled *Ten Acres Enough* which describes an approach to self-sufficiency on ten acres of land in most any area of this country or in most others. This book receives great comments in most every Journal issue.

Friday evening, March 3, Steve and Nancy Thane very graciously invited us out to supper. We were treated to most delicious food in pleasant surroundings. After our meal we returned to Morrison Hall to hear Mr. Miller's keynote presentation.

Lynn's talks are easy to understand and convey only that he would be most pleased to learn of more people being able to provide themselves with a more homegrown lifestyle. All of Lynn Miller's lessons are aimed at an unselfish desire to hear of those within his vast readership being able to more and more create their own food supply with hopefully enough to sell to help with expenses. His teachings are simple but they take courage and faith in one's ability to break the corporate food chain, and do most with an animal power for fraction effort. I've known and loved some tremendous four-footed horse power in my lifetime but I am an infant compared to Mr. Miller's finesse.

Saturday, after a good night sleep, we were able to hear more about harness and the various ways to allow animals more comfort as they provided power for the food chain. We left Cornell about 2:30 p.m. Saturday and headed towards Bennington and our several homes. As we traveled east more stories from our great co-pilot, Mernie Clark.

If I am allowed, I would be pleased to coach any one with desires to lead the lifestyle described to say that I am honored to have been allowed the companionship of David Lively and Mernie Clark does not cover it but that's how I truly feel. We experienced a great two days, and we'll always cherish our time together.

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CRUNCHY SNOW

by Bob Viarengo

Nature never ceases to surprise us. In 1998, its new trick was to abolish early winter. In Heath, where snow in September is commonplace, Indian summer took up permanent residence. I prepared for the wintry blasts that never came. The tractor and weed whacker were stored for the winter. Snow rakes and shovels were pulled out of storage, and arrayed at the side of the house where they faced flowers that continued to bloom into December.

The apples were picked on schedule, and then the cider makers failed to appear. I resigned myself to feeding them to the deer, but they merely lost some moisture in the warm afternoons until we made cider seven weeks later on a still frostless Thanksgiving day. What rich sweet cider that proved to be. Christmas day dawned on a bare brown landscape. Finally, just before the New Year, fluffy snow arrived.

I love the cycles of the seasons and never yearned to banish winter by moving to Florida or Arizona. I really cherish that first snowfall with its magical transformation of familiar landmarks, the softening of the hard edges of nature. Yes, I will admit that by late April I also pine for the appearance of snowdrops and daffodils.

A few days into the New Year, by another quirk of nature, sleet fell while the thermometer read fifteen degrees. Now a crust covered the soft snow. I had been nursing a post-holiday cold, drinking lots of water, sleeping, coughing and getting a bit out of sorts. So when I awoke the next morning to a blue sky, I knew I had to get out of the house, stretch my muscles, and get some positive energy flowing through my body. It was one of those achingly bright winter mornings. The snow covering the meadows was coated with an icy sheen. It gave off a dazzling sparkle of tiny particles as I crunched it underfoot.

I had wanted to visit the Shapiro land for some time and decided that the perfect morning had arrived. Some years ago, Mr. Shapiro donated about 60 acres of land to the town. There was a lot of discussion at Town Meeting as to what to do with the land, but eventually public sentiment prevailed, and it was put into conservation. Today I wanted to see what all the fuss was about.

For years, snowshoes followed a variety of Indian designs but basically consisted of a wood frame with some type

of webbing inside it and a harness to which one attaches his hiking boots. Some were fat for maximum support, some long and lean for fast striding. On this day's icy surface they would all be suicidal, their smooth wooden bottoms sliding precipitously on any degree of grade.

Driving to the southeast corner of Heath, I parked at the end of the road where Richards Steinbock (Stiney) lives surrounded by the Shapiro property. He directed me down a logging trail that cuts across the property. Dressed in cross-country clothes, breath condensing in the cold, I crunched my way gently downhill.

The silence was impressive. Not even a breath of wind broke the spell although I could see a few clouds scudding across the sky through the bare branches. No track, whether human or animal, disturbed the pristine glistening surface. Only the absence of tall trees revealed that this was not a virgin wilderness. It was probably logged about forty years ago and the trail subsequently maintained by recreational users. Occasionally an older tree appeared, its crooked trunk or difficult-to-reach location having spared it from the rasping saw. The usual mix of birch, ash, maple, black cherry, and white pine prevailed. The northern side of their trunks was still rimed with ice from the storm.

Snow softens the landscape. Rocks are hidden. Graciously sculpted, curved forms breaking the flat planes of glistening frozen snow signal their presence. The usual deadfall detritus cover on the forest floor is now hidden. Icy white mantles blur nature's sharp edges on the trees' spreading branches.

To my left I noted a red blaze on the side of a tree, turned toward it and saw another and another beyond. I broke trail into the woods following the marked lines of trees. Slowly, I became aware of a sound. Water was flowing under the snow. Using my cross-country ski poles for balance, I worked my way down a steep hill toward the sound. The small stream

(continued)

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(Crunchy Snow continued)

was completely covered by layers of ice and snow, its secret revealed only by the bubbling sound of water striking the rocks in its path.

On my reverse course I soon noticed another walking path and followed it to a field devoid of trees. It's not uncommon in this area to have ledge lying right on the surface. In fact, this is a perfect situation for the proliferation of wild blueberry bushes providing one of Heath's few commercial enterprises. On the edge of the field was a rusting hay mower, abandoned perhaps more than a quarter of a century ago. Perhaps if I return in late spring, I'll find a cellar hole nearby.

I wonder how many more mysteries these woods hold. My final discovery was the remains of a very old wood wagon. Iron wheel rims had separated from the rotting wooden wheels. The hardware looked primitive to me. The trees around the wagon were quite mature. I'm pretty sure that when the wagon was first abandoned on this spot it was an open field, but try as I might I cannot imagine it so.

Stiney's house came into view and with it the end of my walk in the crunchy snow. He is a consummate outdoorsman and had just returned from winter camping in Vermont. I went in and visited with him for a bit and this makes for a perfect ending to this little adventure.

DEED TRANSFERS

Flora N. Sampson and Margarita Sampson Ockendon of Fort Pierce, FL, to Flora N. Sampson, Trustee 319 Avery Brook Road. (Land also in Charlemont). \$1.00.

Roy H. Sampson of New York City, to Flora N. Sampson Funding Trust, Flora N. Sampson, Trustee. Avery Brook Road, 30 acres. (Land also in Charlemont). \$1.00.

Charles H. Martens of Montclair, NJ, and Christine L. Martins of New York, NY, to Charles H. Martens as life tenant; Charles Andreas Martens; and Eric John Martens of Montclair, NJ and NY. Oxbow Road, 10 acres. \$1.00.

Frank C. Brower, Jr. to Sharon O. Brower, Rowe Road, two tracks. No consideration.

Robert Hudson and Kathleen Stein, to Kathleen Stein of Brookline. Saunders Road, two parcels, 6 acres. \$1.00.

Janice E. Wheeler of Wilbraham, to John T. Jefferson Irrevocable Special Needs Trust, Neal A. Winston, Trustee. 2 Vincent Road. \$69,000.

David W. Knott of Lancaster, to David W. Knott and Rose Marie Knott of Lancaster. Rowe Road, 22 acres. \$1.00.

Marion V. Mascolo to Phyllis Carlson of Greenfield, Jacksonville Stage Road, 8.14 acres. \$115,000.

Phyllis T. Kades, to Jewell Bickford and Nathaniel J. Bickford, both of New York City; Laura C. Bickford of Los Angeles, CA; Emily B. Lansbury of New York City; and William C. Wooten of Lauderdale Lakes, FL, 3.636-percent interest each with herself. 51 and 61 Colrain Stage Road. Less than \$100.

Donald P. Studd, by attorney, Paula M. Henderson, Attorney, and Helen T. Studd, to Helen T. Studd. 104 Burrington Road. \$1.00.

Kyle J. Scott and Richard Young of Turners Falls, to Ryan M. Archambault and Patricia M. Archambault. Underwood Hill Road, Lot 5B. \$115,000.

Peter G. Smith and Susan M. Smith of Colrain, to Michael D. Smith and Crystal A. Smith of Charlemont. 250 Route 8A North. \$1.00.

Alfred R. Hillman, to David L. Bohrer and Lea B. Bohrer. 162 Sumner Stetson Road. \$123,000.

Richard W. Hines of Avon, CT., to Richard W. Hines, William C. Hines and Jennifer A. Sullivan, Brunelle and Bolton Roads, 4 parcels, 12.09 acres. \$1.00.

Raymond H. Gagne and Patricia I. Gagne of Southampton to Mary L. Worcester of Northampton, 1 Shawnee Drive, lots 1 and 2. \$21,000.

Brown Family Trust, Robert M. Brown and Sydney T. Brown of Palo Alto, CA., trustees to Brown Family Trust, Robert M. Brown and Sydney T. Brown, trustees, 60 percent interest; Peter T. Brown, 10 percent interest; Mark M. Brown, 10 percent interest; Alison Ehara-Brown, 10-percent interest, and Thomas S. Brown, 10 percent interest, Ledges Road, 2.87 acres. No consideration.

Brown Family Trust, Robert M. Brown and Sydney T. Brown, trustees, to Brown Family Trust, Robert M. Brown and Sydney T. Brown, trustees, 20 percent interest; Peter T. Brown, Mark M. Brown, Alison Ehara-Brown, and Thomas S. Brown, 20 percent interest each, 27 and 30 Branch Hill Road. No

consideration.

Brown Family Trust of Palo Alto, CA., Robert M. Brown and Sydney T. Brown, trustees, to Brown Family Trust, Robert M. Brown and Sydney T. Brown, trustees, 20 percent interest; Peter T. Brown, Mark M. Brown, Alison Ehara-Brown and Thomas S. Brown, all 20 percent interest each, all from Palo Alto, CA., Branch Hill/Ledges roads, 2.87 acres. No consideration.

Mary B. Smith to May B. Smith (Churchill), 361 Route 8A. \$15,787.

SUGARING

by Carroll Stowe

Sugaring season here in Heath has been in full swing for a bit. There's very little likeness to the maple syrup seasons of years past. For example, pipeline has taken over almost completely. With the high cost of labor and the advancing years of the maple operators, buckets are less popular. There's one team of horses that gathers sap here in Heath now. Years past, horses were a very common sight in the maple industry.

Here in Heath, school closed for a two week wood season and for the most part sugaring was centered around that mud time. The sap was boiled over wood fires entirely and there were no reverse osmosis innovations to reduce the moisture of the sap.

The harvest of maple products here in Heath went a long way towards paying the taxes and for other money expenses. Many years ago, Peter's Store took countless gallons of maple sweetness in trade on the grocery bill. In this modern Heath the face of the maple industry changes often. The changeless thing is that the maples still produce the sap.

Burnt Hill Site Hike, Sun. 4/30. Tour the standing stones site and surrounding area with researcher Colgate Gilbert. For details call (603) 363-8112, or stop by the Town Library.



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MILESTONES

by Edith Royer

Born Feb. 23, 2000, a son, Hunter Riley, to Joni and Craig Sessions of Buckland, grandson of Ralph and Francis Joy of Colrain and **Norman Sessions** of Heath, great-grandson of Gertrude Scott of Colrain, Margaret Joy of Buckland and **Dorothy Sessions** of Heath.

Born Feb. 23, 2000, a son, Matthew Charles to Donna M. Tanner and Matthew C. Sullivan of Charlemont, grandson of **Donna and Robert Tanner** of Heath, Agnes Sullivan of Charlemont and John Sullivan of Greenfield, great-grandson of **Mildred Decker** of Heath, Charles Handschuch of Florida, Nancy and John Sullivan of Greenfield, and Lula and Joe Lawrence of Hawley.

.....
The parents of **Andrea Marie Lucid** and Andrew Scott Gilbert announce their engagement. Andrea is the daughter of **Pastor Colin and Anne-Marie Lucid** of Heath. She graduated from Mohawk Trail Regional School in 1997 and received her Associates Degree from Lancaster Bible College in 1999. She is employed by Fashion Bug in Greenfield. Andrew is the son of Kevin and Deborah Gilbert of Colrain. A 1998 graduate of Mohawk School, he is employed by the Slowinski Pallet Shop in Colrain. A Sept. 2 wedding is planned.

Jack MacDougall of Shelburne Falls and **Karen Therault** of Heath announce the engagement of their daughter, **Megan Lynn MacDougall**, to Bradley James Peace, the son of Roger and Rhodesa Peace of Lockport, NJ. Megan is a 1997 graduate of Mohawk Trail Regional School and is employed by Massamont Insurance in Greenfield. Bradley is a 1996 Mohawk graduate and is employed by Doorcraft of Vermont in Ludlow, VT. An April 2000 wedding is planned.

.....
Paul Stephen Brouthers, 47, of Heath died Jan. 24, 2000. He was born in Springfield the son of Paul E. and Edna (Parker) Brouthers. He attended schools in Munson and the University of Massachusetts. He co-owned and operated Dragon's Garden, an organic produce and plant business in Heath. He leaves his mother of Munson, one brother, Wayne P. of Munson, five sisters, Susan Tocman of Matthews, NC., Joan Smith of Brimfield, Nancy Vining of Munson, Sandra Jamrog of Dalton, and Carol Beaulieu of Munson; two aunts, one uncle, nieces, nephews and cousins. He also leaves his companion of thirteen years, Dino Schnelle of Heath. A memorial service was held at All Soul's Church in Greenfield.

Grace M. (Porter) Hart Fournier, 91, of Highland Village died Mar. 15, 2000. She was born in Saxtons River, VT., July 12, 1908, the daughter of Marshall and Mildred Porter. She had lived in Heath twenty-four years before moving to Shelburne Falls in April, 1999. Her first husband, Philip B. Hart, died in 1949. Her second husband, Rodolph A. Fournier, died Jan. 9, 2000. Survivors include a daughter, Phylis Hart Guilford of Conway, two stepsons, Robert L. Fournier of Greenfield and Rodolph A. Fournier, Jr. of Plainfield; three stepdaughters, Luella M. Benson of Rowe, Doris E. Rand of Old Lyme, CT., and Jean E. Thackery of Goshen; four grandchildren, thirteen great-grandchildren, and seven great-great-grandchildren. Services were in Shelburne Falls with the Rev. David Neil officiating. Burial was in Arms Cemetery.

Jeannette G. (Bissonette) Syriac, 80, of Mohawk Beach Drive died Feb. 26, 2000 at the home of her daughter in West Warren. She was born in Lewiston, ME., the daughter of Joseph and Sophie Bissonette, and lived in Ludlow for many years before moving to Heath in 1981. She was a member of the Mohawk Beach Estates Association. Her husband Clarence Syriac died in 1992. She leaves two sons, Ronald of Warren and Kenneth of Southampton; two daughters, Victoria Berry of West Warren and Donna Garstka of Southampton; a sister, Theresa Lacasse of Hemeth, CA., twelve grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. A son, Robert, died in 1998. Services were held at the convenience of the family.

Martha Elizabeth Smith Gilbert died March 2, 2000, at Sweetwood in Williamstown, MA., where she had lived since 1986. She had moved there from her home in Somers, NY. She was the wife of Frederic Dan Huntington Gilbert who predeceased her in 1980. He was a New York attorney and the son of Bishop Charles K. Gilbert of Manhattan. Born in Olivet, MI., in 1908, she was the daughter of Helen Sisson and Newland F. Smith. After public education in Danville, KY and Charleston, SC, she entered Mount Holyoke College and graduated in 1929 with an BA degree in chemistry. She then served as a graduate assistant in the Chemistry Department, and earned an MA degree. She then studied at the University of Wisconsin where she received the Ph.D. degree. Later she rejoined the Mount Holyoke Chemistry Department and taught there until 1946 when she married Frederic Gilbert, an early friend who summered in Heath. Both families had summer homes in Heath from the early 1920s. After her marriage, Dr. Gilbert took further graduate courses at Columbia University in New York City and then taught at Sarah Lawrence College for a number of years. She is survived by a daughter, Elizabeth Gilbert Napier, of Schenectady, NY and a son Charles Bixby Gilbert, of Watervliet, NY; and three grandchildren. Also surviving are her brother, Newland F. Smith, Jr. of Hanover, NH and two nephews. A memorial service and burial at the West Branch Cemetery, Colrain, MA. is planned for a later date.

WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS TOWERS-A PROPOSED ZONING BYLAW

by the Heath Planning Board

The Heath Planning Board has drafted a proposed zoning bylaw amendment regulating the siting of wireless communication towers. A public hearing to answer questions regarding the proposed amendment will be held Thursday, April 13 at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Hall in Heath. The document is comprehensive and we ask that you read it ahead of time in order to formulate questions and voice your concerns. Copies will be available at the library, with Town Administrator Liz Johnson or posted downstairs at the Town Hall, at Peter's Store and at the Heath Elementary school. This is your opportunity to provide meaningful input as changes can still be made before the proposed amendment is submitted for town vote.

Personal Wireless Service Facilities - Summary of Proposed Amendment

Purpose and Intent

- Minimize the visual and environmental impacts of personal wireless service facilities.
- Preserve the character and appearance of the Town while simultaneously allowing adequate wireless communication services to be developed.
- Regulate the siting of towers in an effort to aid the provision of communication services.
- Insure that no discrimination occurs within competing providers.

Key Provisions

- A special permit will be required in almost all instances. (6.5.0)
- Preference will be given to those willing to locate on existing structures. (6.5.1)
 - Where possible co-location will be encouraged. (6.7.5.1)
- Within certain limitations, these facilities could be located anywhere in Heath. (6.30)
- Height limitations vary with location. The limit is 110 feet, with discretion of the Planning Board. (6.5.3.1)
 - Siting and design requirements are spelled out. (6.7.4 & .5)
- Personal wireless service facilities shall not be located within open areas that are visible from public roads, recreational areas or residential development. (6.6.4)
 - Camouflage is required. (6.6.1)
 - Environmental standards are defined. (6.6.6)
 - Monitoring of radio frequency radiation is required. (6.8.1)
- Performance bond to insure eventual cost of removal must be posted. (6.8.3.3)

TOWN ELECTIONS: May 5, 12-7 p.m.
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING: May 6, 9 a.m.

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STORE HOURS

Monday – Saturday, 8 a.m. – 7 p.m.

Sunday, 9 a.m. – 7 p.m.