



HEATH HERALD

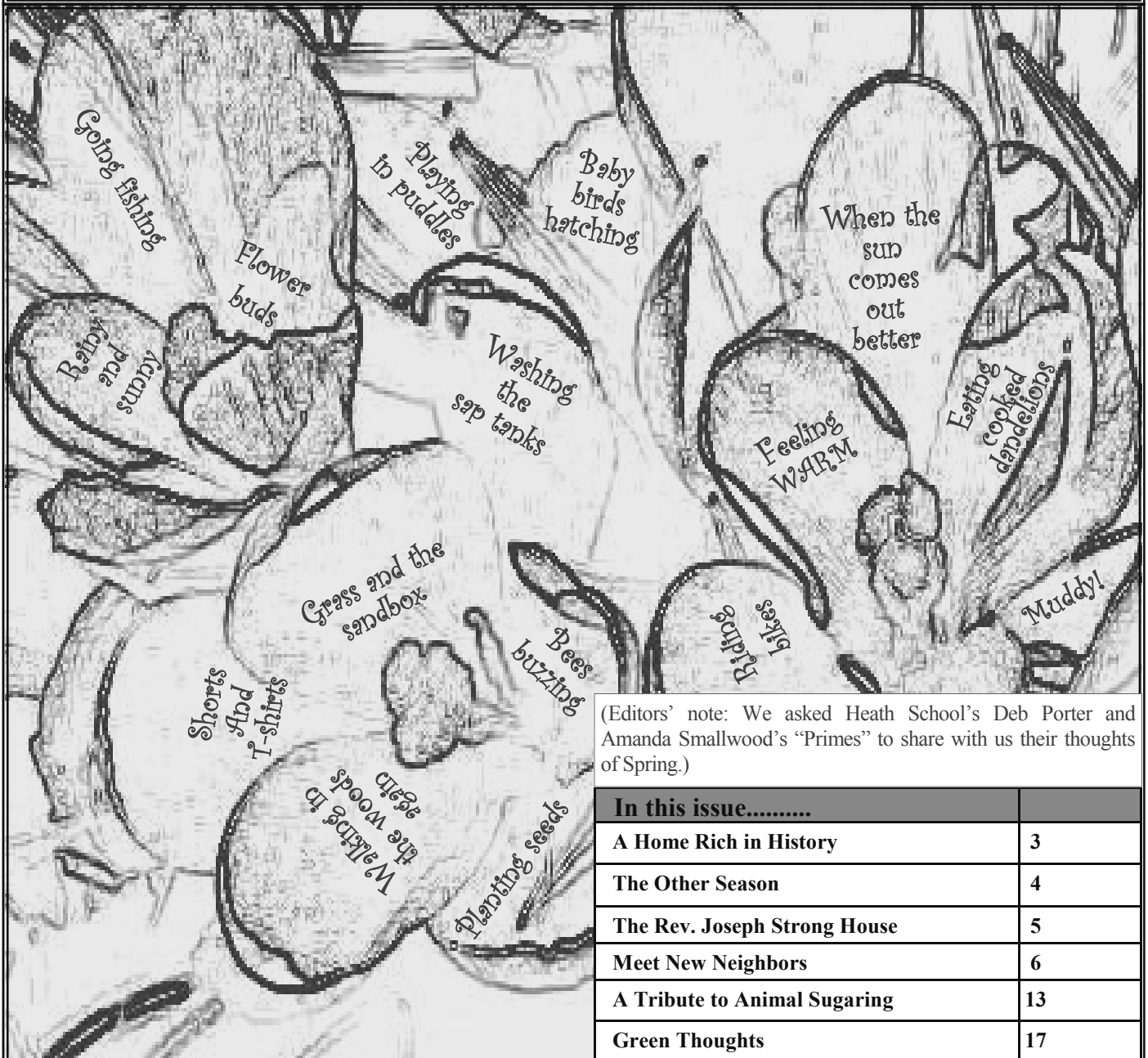
Heath's First Newspaper

\$1.00

Volume 25, Number 1

April/May 2003

Welcome Spring!



(Editors' note: We asked Heath School's Deb Porter and Amanda Smallwood's "Primes" to share with us their thoughts of Spring.)

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Heath Union Church News

Now in the Lenten season, we look forward to Easter week and Easter Sunday services in April. Easter is late (April 20) this year. We are holding a Maundy Thursday service at 7:00 p.m. on April 17. For Good Friday, in the past, we have joined with other local churches for joint services. This year we will meet at the Colrain Baptist Church at 7:00 p.m. A sunrise service will take place at 6:00 a.m. at Ruth Corey's wonderful setting to celebrate Easter. Bring a warm coat and a breakfast treat. Morning coffee follows at Ruth's house. The regular service will be at the church at 10:00 a.m.

We have good news and bad news for local folks. The good news is the work in the basement of the church is progressing. As soon as the floor covering can be laid, the toilets can be finished, and, Lord willing, by summer the Ladies Aid and church social activities will be able to take place. Work bees continue on Thursday evenings at 7:00 p.m. and on Saturdays at 9:00 a.m. Stop by and see what has happened.

Now for the bad news. Pastor Dave and June Roselund are tentatively leaving on April 6. They have purchased a home in Connecticut and are hoping to relocate as soon as all the details are ironed out. They are looking forward to a more relaxed retirement. We all wish them well and pray for the strength needed for the move. If you see them, wish them Godspeed. We will miss them in this community.

The Deacons will be tackling the problem of a new pastor soon. Please keep the future of the Heath Union Church in your prayers.

~ Douglas Stetson



Heath Weather

**One-Hundredth of
An inch of precipitation
(Rain or melted snow) Snow**

2002

October	507	04
November	530	14
December	251	19

2003

January	283	23
February	290	16
March (to 12 th)	121	04

I wouldn't say we have had all that much snow but very little of what fell has melted (as of March 12) due to the relentless, but not extreme cold.

~ Alan Nichols



The original homestead - Circa 1935

A Home Rich in History

It was one lucky day, indeed, when I found my lovely little home in the Dell a decade ago. This was one of the early homesteads in town, back when we were part of Charlemont. The now-abandoned road up the hill behind me became the Boston-Albany coach road. That would have astonished the family who first carved out their little farm in the woods near the brook, pushing the edge of the wilderness!

Old-timers will recall Ed Calver, from whom I bought my home. Among his many contributions to Heath, Ed wrote the town history, and the little drawing on the cover shows the original homestead. This is a photo from 1935 shortly before the original house was torn down. Wouldn't it be wonderful if it were still here as part of our heritage! My present home is off to the right of the original place and it probably started off as a barn. Ed insisted on living a simple life here, and I'm glad I've carried on his way. Let me tell you a little about that, along with more history.

In contrast with my hectic working life, flying to big, noisy cities to untangle transportation problems, my time in Heath is peace itself. I heat and cook with wood, light with kerosene, get my water from a spring up the hill--still coming partway in a wooden pipe--and I'm blessedly free of a phone. Without electricity and other modern conveniences, I've learned to live according to the daylight and the seasons. Not the most patient person, I've gotten used to doing chores at a measured pace. Chop wood, stoke the stoves, fill up lanterns before nightfall, get up in the middle of the night to feed the stove when winter winds blow strong.

My reward is a home free of mechanical sounds--no refrigerator hum, no furnace clanking on and off--all those clicks and whirrs and buzzes that are so much a part of modern life that we don't even hear them most of the time. On the other hand, I realize the full meaning of that line from "The Night before Christmas" about "she in her kerchief and I in my cap." When it gets really cold on winter nights, on goes the hat! And I've gotten used to the three-hour routine when I come in to a cold house and get the fires going: first hour, parka; second hour, vest; third hour, shirtsleeves.

When the weather is warm, I use a sun shower -- water in a bag that's clear on one side and black on the other. After it sits in the sun a few hours, it makes a perfect shower hung from the flagpole. Wouldn't my city slicker friends be amazed -- showering outside and singing to the woods and the sky!

The original date my land was settled isn't known--it was likely around 1765. Champion Crocker, with his wife Joanna and two young children, cleared six acres, built the small house, and dug the well shown in the picture. I had wondered about his first name--was Champion a name chosen for its strength and promise? It turns out that this splendid first name was his mother's maiden name. Like many early settlers of our area, he came up that great avenue into the interior, the Connecticut River, from established settlements like Norwich, CT, where he was born. Champion proved true to his name, leaving his family and his small farm to fight in the Revolution, serving three hitches for the cause of independence.

I am fortunate to have the heritage of this homestead, with its rich history and its quiet, spare beauty. I'm doubly fortunate to be surrounded by treasured Heath friends here in our lovely, hidden away hills.

~ Kathy Stein



The homestead as it looks today

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The Other Season

It's probably a good thing that the cycles of nature inform our choices. I could easily see problems arising if I were faced with the dilemma of having to decide between biking and cross-country skiing. For certain, my family would never see me if I could pursue both in the same season. So instead, I pedal many miles on my bike absorbed in thoughts about the snow covered trails I skied just months earlier. And right about now, given the incredible blessings of snow this year, I've traveled again in my mind over the many biking miles I logged last season.

Last year between March and November, I biked 2,005 miles. Some trips took me through the Finger Lakes region of New York, the rolling hills of Amish farms in central Pennsylvania, and a short foray on the cyclist and pedestrian-clogged rail trail in Washington, DC. But by far, most of the miles covered were here in our neighborhood—the hills of Heath, Whitingham, Rowe, and other parts of western Franklin County. I developed a passion for hills that left me in the company of, well, myself, as friends politely begged off proposed rides that somehow included more up than down. But that's okay. Riding solo provided the opportunity to ride early (or late) and experience a quiet not possible when traveling in a pack, no matter how small.

Several times, though, I found my solo rides to be not so solitary. Quiet early mornings and waning afternoons are when much of our local fauna are also moving about. Early in the season I was pedaling through Rowe and had just come over the last rise on Lesure Road crossing into Whitingham. Coming over the crest I saw a doe on the right side of the road. The road started to dip, so I stopped pedaling and began to coast, assuming the deer would turn back into the woods. As I closed in on about a 10- yard gap, I gently applied the brakes, which of course squealed, and she bolted across the road. The staccato clap of her hooves on the pavement made me jump. I mused for miles about the *sound* of this all- too- common scene for drivers in this area. Before this moment I'd only absorbed this as a visual event. The fullness of the sound was a subtitle in a foreign language film, beneath a familiar image. Each time I passed that spot in later rides I was certain I could still hear the solid hooves reverberating on the damp cool pavement.

Taylor Brook Road, just down from the center of town, was most certainly a favored spot of an owl that frequently swooped in front of me on late afternoon rides. Three times the sleek flap and glide of powerful wings on a diagonal path caught my eye, almost always in the same area. Each time my startled heart thumping was the only sound to be heard. I wondered if the owl, (if it was the same owl), was enjoying its ever increasing ability to startle me nearly off the bike! I wondered if it lay in waiting for my approach. Would it get bored if too many days passed without my riding through?

Some encounters were shared with fellow bikers. One hot summer evening my husband and I were slowly pedaling up Mountain Road in Charlemont—an unforgiving incline. My head down, watching the pavement creep slowly beneath the bike, I methodically pushed with burning muscles, stroke after stroke. Gary was just ahead of me and had the presence of mind to look

up occasionally. Fortunately he looked up in time to see a bear crossing right in front of him! The bear, entirely unfazed by our presence, sauntered across the road, down the embankment, and then made its way over to a bird feeder in the yard below. I passed just to the side of the bear as it lumbered down the embankment, and I swear I could smell it, or maybe that was the scent of primal fear—mine. I wondered if I could pedal downhill faster than a bear could run downhill, recalling sage advice that I was never really sure held any truth.

By far though, the greatest encounter happened late in the season--the point in my training when my bike and I had become one. The fit and feel of the bike from riding so many miles was so utterly complete; like wearing a pair of well-worn slippers that you have to look down at your feet to see if you actually have them on. I had headed out for a daylong ride on a cool September Saturday and was cruising down Route 8A just beneath the Dell. Having just started out, my mind was still working through the details of my



“to do” list that I had successfully ignored as I slipped out of the house early. The wheels of bike and mind spinning in unison, I barely registered the flicker of movement off to my right. At this point, the road runs alongside of the stream and is several feet above the stream bed. Glancing down and back over my shoulder, I saw a blue heron perched on a rock in the middle of the stream, lazily flapping its wings. Incredible! Having been yanked to the present moment, I quickly turned my attention to the road, eyes ahead. Moments later movement again off to the right. Now the large bird was in flight following the stream, and was directly across from me. The bird's wings flapped once, twice then glided on the air. I pedaled once, twice, then coasted. We moved through air and space side by side. Our shared flight lasted about a mile before the bird flapped a bit harder, lifted higher, and then was gone. But the moment was surreal and a sense of time and distance had disappeared. A heady sense of floating, gliding, lingered for the rest of the day's ride.

From the look of the well- packed XC trails, there's plenty more time to revel in musings of last year's biking. But I am getting anxious. I slipped my biking shoes on the other day, just to see how they feel. My bike sits on its stand in the basement, a familiar friend urging me to come by for a visit. But nature says wait—the formal invitation has not yet arrived.

Side note: Last year a small group of willing women and girl cyclists met on Wednesday evenings for short rides in Heath, starting at the Heath School. Watch for signs come spring. We choose moderate routes. No experience necessary, and fondness for hills not required! Call Judi if you would like to join us. 337-8311

~ Judi Singley



The Rev. Joseph Strong House

(This is the second in a series of articles the *Herald* is running at the request of the Historic District Study Committee on the historic architectural treasures of our town.)

This “very substantial” house, located in Heath Center on the corner of East Main Street and Bray Road, was built in 1791 by the Rev. Joseph Strong, a native of Granby, CT, and a graduate of Yale, who was ordained to the ministry in 1790 (at the time, “ordained” meant to be installed as the settled minister). He served as town minister until 1803 until forced out by a disgruntled congregation. According to one report, Strong’s wife Sophia, whose brother had just completed the building of a similar “handsome” house in South

Hadley, might have influenced the design of the Heath dwelling. The Strong family occupied the house until 1800 when it was sold to Dr. Benjamin Dickinson of Whately.

The Rev. Joseph Strong House, as it hereafter was known, passed through the hands of six owners during its first 100 years, all but one, prominent citizens who served their community well. Each of the owners made their imprint on the house, and today it retains its late eighteenth century grace and proportion.

In 1835, David Gould (1797-1869) bought the house. He was a prosperous Burnt Hill farmer who served the town as selectman for three terms and as state legislator for one term. He and his wife, Sarah Green, had twelve children, one of whom, Louisa, (1837-1905) married Hugh Maxwell IV (1836-1918), the great-grandson of Lt. Col. Hugh Maxwell, one of the founders of the town. In 1853, Gould retired from farming and moved to the center. It appears the Maxwells lived with him and inherited the house.

Hugh Maxwell served as postmaster and, in 1890, when the state legislature passed an act “to provide the establishment of free public libraries,” not only provided the lot (the site of the Red House, now Sawyer Hall) for the town library for which he was paid \$25.00 but was listed among the library’s most generous donors. In addition, he served as selectman for four terms.

In 1884 when the Baptist Church in the center was dissolved, Hugh Maxwell bought the building and had it moved to the north of the house to serve as a barn. It was torn down about 1940. A shed was erected to the east of the house. Now used as a garage and for wood storage, it housed the town fire truck for a number of years.

After her parents’ deaths, the house passed to their daughter, Mary (Miss Mamie) (1867-1955) who was both the town’s postmistress as well as a schoolteacher. She resided in the house until 1945 (although in later years, only in the summer), when she sold it to Clyde and Ruby Austin.

According to Ed Calver’s account, Ruby Austin “bought and restored Parson Strong’s house in the center.” The “extensive” restoration included rebuilding the chimneys, replacing the glass in the windows, and creating a new front door. Mrs. Austin sold the property in 1970 and since then it has had three additional owners including Craig and Amy Barry. At present, it is the home of Sam A. Michel and Flournoy Holland and their two children, Ben and Phoebe. They purchased it in 1996 and have since added greatly to its charm.

For the Heath Historical Commission
By Jane Birney deLeeuw

(Sources included Ed Calver’s *Heath Massachusetts, a History and Guidebook* (1979) and *History of the Connecticut Valley in Massachusetts* (1879)





Don and Margaret Freeman with Jessie

Meet New Neighbors Don and Margaret Freeman

If the word "retired" conjures up in your mind pictures of long days spent in the summer garden and leisurely winter afternoons reading before the fire – eagerly anticipated pursuits after years of intense activity – dismiss them, at least as far as new neighbors, Don and Margaret Freeman, current owners of "Myrifield," are concerned. .

Indeed, Don and Margaret, both professors of English and Linguistics, are officially retired from their respective California academic institutions, but life for them continues to be one of intense activity in their chosen fields. In addition to writing, Don on Shakespeare, Margaret on Emily Dickinson. (Margaret was a founding member of the Emily Dickinson International Society and served as its first president), they will continue to travel widely, attending conferences and giving

lectures in Turkey, Portugal, and Spain this summer and next year in China, Japan, and Israel. In their spare time they are in process of restoring their new home.

After a delightful tea (with freshly baked scones!) and talk with Don and Margaret during which I took copious notes, I realized I was not up to the task of doing justice to the very full and varied lives of these English professors of world renown. So I asked them to summarize their careers, putting the emphasis where they wanted it to be. They very generously and graciously complied and what follows is in their own words.

Margaret and Don Freeman hail respectively from Old and New England. Born in Leicester and a Manchester University graduate, Margaret came to the United States in 1962 for a (then) four-college American Studies program at Smith College. After working in publishing in New York, she returned to the Pioneer Valley to complete her PhD in English at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Most of her career has been spent teaching at State University of New York College at Old Westbury and at Los Angeles Valley College.

Don was born in Boston and is an alumnus of Mount Hermon School. He completed college and graduate work at Middlebury College, Brown University, the University of Connecticut, and M.I.T., and founded the linguistics department at the University of Massachusetts where he taught for eight years and where he and Margaret met. Don has held visiting academic appointments in Canada, England, Austria, Germany, and Spain, and during a hiatus from academe, ran the internal professional development programs for Sherman & Sterling, a New York law firm, and later for the international firm of Baker & McKenzie. He spent the last fifteen years of his teaching career at the University of Southern California. He is the father, by a previous marriage, of Elizabeth Freeman, who teaches English at the University of California, Davis, and Roger Freeman, who is a financial analyst in New York.

When they are not at work on continuing Dave and Pegge Howland's work on restoring "Myrifield" to its former glories or continuing their research and writing, Don and Margaret are actively engaged in following their other interests that include raising and enjoying the company of border collies. Margaret likes hiking, tennis, and swimming. Don is following his historical and railroad interests by working with the Heath Historical Commission and the Shelburne Falls Trolley Museum.

On their return to the Pioneer Valley from southern California, the Freemans did not anticipate encountering the coldest and snowiest winter since the Retreat of the Glaciers. But when they first saw the view across the Deerfield Valley from "Myrifield" a year ago, and later, when they sat in Brian De Vriese's beautiful architectural realization of the Heath Elementary School and heard Elizabeth Sifton's elegant and powerful talk about the summer theological community in Heath during the 1940s, they knew they had come to the right place. Through all the snow and cold, that conclusion has endured.



View of Deerfield Valley from Myrifield

*~ Jane Birney deLeeuw and
Don and Margaret Freeman*

Heath Police Department

As spring and summer approach, many are beginning to take walks and ride their bikes. I urge all drivers to slow down and pay attention to what is up ahead. Everyone seems to be in a hurry. There are roads you can "hurry" along on, but they aren't in Heath.

The Executive Office Of Public Safety (EOPS) has granted the Town of Heath \$15,500 for the purchase of equipment to help enhance the capability of the police department to prevent, prepare for, and respond to acts of terrorism. Originally the grant was approved for the purchase of four emergency generators by March 31, 2003. Recently, EOPS has approved a change allowing for the purchase and installation of emergency generators and has extended the deadline for spending until the end of the year. Work continues on the purchase agreements and hopefully generators will be installed at key locations during the summer.

People have expressed their concern about the cutbacks in routine police patrol, and local police response. As funds continue to be in short supply for the Heath Police Department, we have increased our use of the State Police to provide law enforcement coverage. As we become more dependant on outside agencies responding to our emergencies and other calls, there are two things you must be aware of. First, you don't know who will respond, and, second, they don't know you. My advice: write down the name of the police officer who responds to your call, the date, and the time. If you have trouble getting information later, I can help track them down. It is imperative that you place your house number where responding agencies can see them. Reflective numbers close to the road work best. Could someone find your house if they had only a number and a street name?

Questions continue to be asked about pistol permits (LTC) and Firearms Identification Cards (FID). The Gun Control Act of 1998, enacted in September of 1998, made significant changes in the possession of all firearms. If you possess a gun and don't have an ID with a picture on it, you are in violation of the law. I am available most Tuesday evenings to issue firearms licenses. Most licenses take about two-to-three weeks to process; there is no grace period. Plan accordingly when renewing your LTC or FID. If you have moved into town and have not filed a change of address with the Town of Heath, the town and the state you have moved from, you are subject to revocation or suspension of your LTC or FID. Massachusetts General Law states, in essence, that you shall notify in writing the licensing authority within 30 days of moving. You may contact me for a "Change of Address Notification Form."

~ Chief Lorin S. Gowdy

Community Hall

The Community Hall is now open for use. Anyone wanting to use the hall, please contact Dolly Churchill at 337-8680 for reservations. It will remain open for public use until June 30, 2004. At that time usage will be changed, due to the restrictions

on the grant. We will announce the changes at a later date.

We had water problems in the hall this winter, but they have been repaired. Ray Pettengill has a computer set up in the hall for the townspeople to use. If interested contact Ray at 337-4804.

Senior meals continue to be received very well. We hope in the spring (if we have a spring) to start having them twice a month.

~ Val Kaempfer

Annual Town Election Candidates

The month of May brings in our annual town election and town meeting. This year the election will be held on Friday, **May 9**, in the Community Hall. The polls will be open from 12 noon to 7:00 p.m. The Annual Town Meeting will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Saturday, **May 10**, at the Heath Elementary School. The last day to register to vote for this election and for the Town Meeting will be **April 21**.

The following is a list of town offices and the length of term that will be included on this year's ballot. Also listed are the names of the candidates for each office. With one exception, all the candidates are incumbents. For the office of Assessor, Michael Wilmeth is running for a first term. Don Dekker has served faithfully in this office for 15 years and has decided to make the big leap into retirement.

Position & Length of Term - Candidate

Selectman, 3 yr.	Hilma Sumner
Assessor, 3 yr.	Michael Wilmeth
Town Clerk, 3 yr.	Hilma Sumner
Finance Committee, 3 yr.	David Cote
Finance Committee, 3 yr.	Budge Litchfield
Finance Committee, 3 yr.	Edwin Wolf
Library Trustee, 3 yr.	Deborah Porter
School Committee, 3 yr.	Robert Gruen
Planning Board, 5 yr.	Deborah Phillips
Dog Officer, 1 yr.	David Cote
Constable, 1 yr.	Robert Tanner, Jr.
Constable, 1 yr.	Vacant

~ Hilma Sumner
Town Clerk



Please Note

The rising expense of printing the *Herald* has made it necessary to increase the cost to \$1.00 per issue.

The yearly subscription rate of \$6.25 will not be affected.



The Cherry Tree at Heath by David Birney deLeeuw (1965-1998)

There's a big cherry tree
in Massachusetts
Absolutely magnificent

Down below the clearing
in front of my house.
I used to look up into its huge branches.

Once, a long time ago,
I saw a flock of red birds
there, two opposite colors
in perfect harmony.
(bird/leaves
red/green)

I used to go down
across the long grass
toward the tree and see my own shadow
become very small against
the enormity of the tree

The branches were too high to climb
I would often wish
that I could be half-human, half-bird
so I could go up into
the cherry tree.

When the leaves came out
in the spring
I jumped back
into life.

Last weekend
I saw the stars come out
in infinite glory
above the branches

David was a true child of Heath. He was conceived in Heath, spent his childhood and teenage summers here, and died here on 22 May 1998.

The poem was written while he was working with a New Jersey poet. Even when away from here, he kept Heath in his heart.

The Tree was our totem, our family mark, and was the subject of countless paintings and drawings by my artist husband and visiting artist friends.

~ Jane Birney de Leeuw

Heath Happenings - 20 Years Ago (From *Heath Herald* April/May 1983)

Four Years of the *Herald*

- Heath Precipitation - total '82-'83 snowfall = 69.25 inches
- "Where Does the Money Go?" by Dave Howland
- Candidates for office: Paul Lively, Anne Steinbock,
John Moriarity, Linda Marcotte, Susan Gruen,
Patrick Venneri, Teresa Pettengill, Newland Smith
- Selectmen's "Road Rebellion"
- Community Hall Benefit Dance
- Rowe School Arts Infusion Program
- Heath Historical Society's Emerson Family Portrait
- Heath Union Church's "Talents Investment Program"
- "Our Old Farmhouse" by Marcella Lively
- Milestones - Births: Aaron Richard Blinn,
Caleb Andrew Giard, Brandon O'Malley Lattrell,
Amie Marie Pettengill, Rebecca Lynn Wright

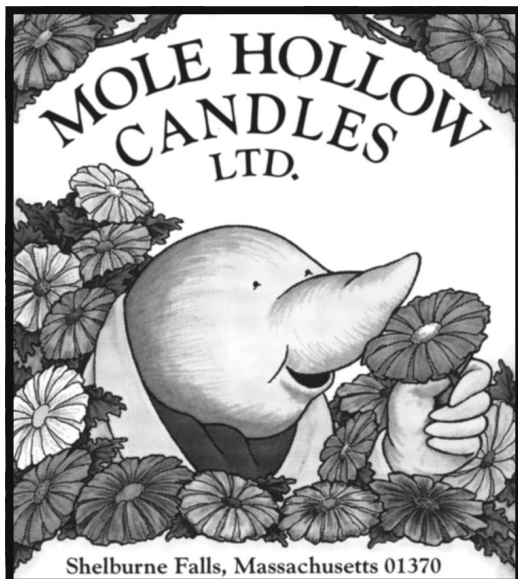
A THANK-YOU NOTE

I am constantly amazed at the neighborly concern that is demonstrated by Heathans when one of their own is in need. My recent heart attack and subsequent double bypass surgery is a good example. I never expected such an outpouring of getwell cards, flowers, and food on my behalf. It was very heartwarming, to say the least. I especially want to mention the swift and loving care administered by our EMTs and our Town Nurse. My deepest thanks to each and everyone for your kind thoughts and prayers.

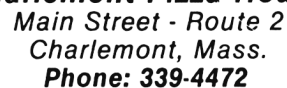
~ Pegge Howland

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Town Nurse Notes

Some Hints to Help With Smoking Cessation



By Joanne Fortune, RN

I've heard people say, "Quitting smoking is easy, I've done it many times." Most smokers want to quit. Here are a few facts to help.

- ☐ Tobacco kills more *nonsmokers* each year than AIDS, illegal drugs, and teenage drinking.
- ☐ Tobacco costs the American public over \$100 billion each year.
- ☐ One out of every six deaths in the United States is related to tobacco.
- ☐ More Americans die each year from tobacco than from fires, car accidents, illegal drugs, murders, and AIDS combined.
- ☐ Cigarettes are more addictive than heroin because taking smoke into the lungs immediately produces a profound drug effect in the brain.
- ☐ More than 400,000 chemicals, including 200 known poisons such as DDT, arsenic, formaldehyde, and carbon monoxide, are housed in tobacco.
- ☐ The children of smoking parents have many more respiratory illnesses (like asthma) per year than those of nonsmokers.

Here are some ways to help you to quit smoking:

Know that every attempt at quitting increases your chances of success next time. Give yourself credit for trying. Frequent quit attempts before succeeding is the norm, not the exception. Quitting is a process.

While you're thinking about quitting, when you smoke, try to become very conscious of your smoking. Go outside, take some deep breaths and pay attention to your lungs.

Check in with your lungs regularly to see how they feel while you're climbing stairs or going for a walk.

When you smoke, just smoke. Try to get as much pleasure from the cigarette as possible. The idea is to change your consciousness around smoking. This will stop the "robot" approach that is the basis for the habit.

During the day, be aware of when you smoke and why. Think of something else to do that's fun. If something regularly occurs that makes you want to smoke, look for ways to stop that from happening.

Weight gain is not an inevitable part of smoking cessation. The only reason people gain weight is that they are substituting one addiction for another.

Get support. Join Smokers Anonymous or another group. Quit with a friend and support each other. Check out the Web site www.trytostop.org.

I see town residents in their homes on Tuesdays and keep office hours on Tuesdays from noon to 1 p.m. My phone number is 774-2958.



News from the Heath Fire Department

The Heath Fire Department has both young and old members. Juniors must be at least 14 years old and serve as volunteers just like adult members. Junior firefighters play a crucial role in the success of a Heath Fire Department. They allow the firefighters to stay focused on the task directly related to the call by carrying out tasks such as getting tools, changing air-packs, and running certain pieces of apparatus. They receive many different types of training, some of which can be applied while juniors, and other training that can be used once they become firefighters.

This past year, juniors have learned how to draft water from streams and dry hydrants, use portable pumps and pumps on the trucks, use self-contained breathing apparatus, including refilling tanks, and finally use the thermal imager. Juniors have their own turnout gear and pagers.

At this time there are four juniors on the department- Chris Vilbon, Cabe Delisle, Robert Tanner, and Joel Singley, But we could use more! Since we need to rely on parents to get juniors to the scene, we need committed family members to help us fulfill our duties to the department. For more information please contact Chief Mike Smith.

~ Joel Singley

Heath Business Directory

Bald Mountain Pottery
625-8110

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337-4210

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337-5716

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Earl M. Gleason
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337-4948

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Glass and Baskets
337-5736

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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
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337-6665

C. Richards Steinbock
Graphic Design
337-4746

Tripp's Blueberries
Taylor Brook Road
337-4964

Paul Turnbull
Janice Boudreau
Commercial/Wedding Photographers
337-4033

Bonnie Wodin
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337-5529

Support Your Local Businesses

If you would like more information about the Heath Enterprise Council, please call Alicia Tripp at 337-4964

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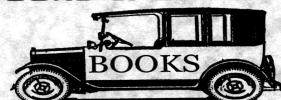
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The Way It Is In The Country

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

A Tribute to Animal Sugaring

By Carroll Stowe

By the time this is read maple syrup season will most surely be in progress. It makes very little difference to most folks that I feel displeased that the faithful teams of horses and yokes of cattle are missing from the scene.

As a youth of perhaps early teenage I was allowed and trusted with a great sap-gathering team of farm horses. Chub was a bay horse, a Percheron Belgian cross, and Dick, a full Percheron. These good horses would be the laughing stock of today's horse trade business. I never knew what breed of horse I was using at that early age.

If I am allowed to consider myself an honest person a lot of my influence would have come from my days spent with these great animals. I've worked many thousands of dollars worth of various heavy equipment in my 70 plus years and nothing can match the thrill and pride I experienced working those great hay burners.

I hark back to seeing my Dad creating the track the team would use to gather sap on. His method, when snow was deep the first of the season, was to hitch the team to the doubletree and stand on the evener and walk the team through the area where the maple trees were. They only had to deal with breaking roads without the hindrance of a sled behind. I never saw anyone else use this process.

When it came time to put the buckets out the team's work was much easier. We didn't have a large maple tree area. We put out about 200 buckets so it wasn't an exhausting operation to gather this area. I was allowed to gather all alone at times and I fancied myself a big help to the operation.

Our sugarhouse was below road level. In order to be better able to unload the gathering tank it helped to elevate the hose of the sled so it could drain into the storage. We used a timber to pull the hose of the sled up onto. It was some pleasing to me to be able to guide those good horses onto that timber and stop properly. Those days provided some simple pleasures.

I was able at times in years past to be able to help my dear friend Howard Thompson with his syrup operation. He had the very simple way of breaking his sugar roads. In the fall when he set out to cut the next year's firewood he was able to keep his roads broken by using them to haul in his wood. This way every few days he traveled his entire sugar lot so it was much easier to start his early spring operation.

It is a difficult task to try to describe to anyone who has never seen how helpful a good working pair of horses or a yoke of cattle can be in the sugar lot. To be able to stand beside a sugar road and have a good faithful team come up to you as you wait to empty your pails of sap, and often move up without being asked. Again what a simple pleasure.

Some years back a sugar maker told Bill Clark that he could gather more sap with a crawler tractor sled and tank than Bill could gather with his oxen. The Clarks had several yoke of cattle that knew how to work a sugar lot. Bill told the fellow to show up at their operation and he would take him up on his challenge. The fellow never showed up.

Annual Town

Election

May 9

12 noon - 7 p.m.

VOTE

Heath Emergency Services News

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

1/09/03 - Rt. 8A South - Medical
1/15/03 - Sherman Dr. - Medical
1/24/03 - East Main St. - Medical
2/08/03 - Rt. 8A South - Medical
2/11/03 - Avery Brook Rd. - Medical
2/18/03 - Papoose Lane - Medical
2/21/03 - East Main St. - Medical
2/28/03 - West Branch Rd. - Stood by
at a reported trailer fire

On February 20, a class was held in Heath for all Firemen and EMTS on rope-rescue techniques and equipment (Part 1).

~ Timothy Lively - EMT

Selectboard's Report

The Selectboard meets every Tuesday night at 7:00 p.m. in Sawyer Hall.

Department of Public Safety Grant

Police Chief Lorin Gowdy has been successful in obtaining a \$15,000 grant from the state Department of Public Safety to purchase and install emergency generators in town buildings. Details of the generator installations are to be determined. The Board thanks Lorin for his efforts in pursuing this grant.

Sawyer Hall

Drawings and specifications for the elevator addition to Sawyer Hall have been completed and the project has been advertised for bids. We should be receiving bids in April and will be awarding a contract to the successful bidder shortly after. Construction will be scheduled to begin in the late spring and be completed before the first of next year.

Budget Hearings

The Board has been meeting with town boards and departments to hear requests for next year's budget. For the most part, requests for increases have been modest. We have had some significant increases in the Highway Department budget this year due to the severity of the winter. The big question before us is the Mohawk District assessment. The preliminary information shows the district losing over a million dollars in aid from the state. In addition, assessments to the towns will be affected by yet another change to the formula by the Department of Education that eliminates excess debt credits from school spending requirements. The Mohawk School Committee passed a budget that is an increase of 25% over last year's. Our preliminary figures indicate an increase of 25% in Heath's FY04 assessment. This will be a huge increase for all the towns in the district if it goes forward as voted. Appeals need to be made to the Governor and the Department of Education to restore funding and to look at the fairness of the cuts to districts across the Commonwealth.

Landfill Closing

Efforts are underway to set up a meeting with the Department of Environmental Protection, the Selectboards of the three towns, and the legislators to work out language problems in the legislation authorizing funds for the closing of the former landfill. The three towns are under pressure from the DEP to move on to the next phase of monitoring and closing process. It will be difficult to proceed with the closing without access to these funds.

Heath On-line

Take some time to visit the town's home page www.townofheath.org. You'll find Selectboard meeting minutes, school information, and much more. The home page is a work in progress. Thanks to the computer committee for getting this project up and running.

Contact the Board at BOS@townofheath.org. Send messages to any board or individual via the E-mail address, or visit the Heath home page.

~ Heath Selectboard
Thomas Lively - Chair
Brian De Vriese
Hilma Sumner



From the Desk of the Town Coordinator

By Rebecca Jurek

As you may already know, it's the busiest time of year at Town Office. Town officials are doing everything to provide a budget to maintain, or, as necessary, improve the level of service that the residents of Heath deserve.

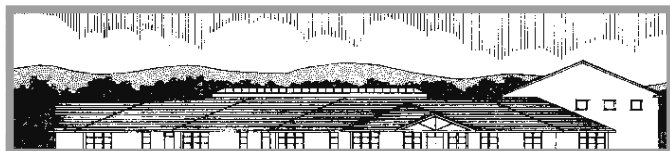
In addition to recent awards from the Executive Office of Public Safety, we are due to receive funds through the Massachusetts Emergency Management Association for our Emergency Management budget. Thanks to staff, the upcoming budget for Emergency Management is entirely grant-funded. The Selectboard has also recently approved adopting our participation in a Loss Control Incentive Program as offered through our insurance carrier. All town officials will be involved in this program that has been established to assist in promoting safety and awareness. I will be coordinating this program with the goal of saving nearly \$2,000 in insurance costs.

The handicapped accessibility project continues to move closer to the next phase at the Town Office with the project going out to bid the second week in March, and I anticipate an April signing date for the block grant (\$236,486) for the Senior Center improvements. I will also be working with the members of the Council on Aging on securing \$2,500 to help defray operating expenses at the Senior Center through the Elder Affairs grant application process again this year. If you haven't participated in the monthly senior meals program offered at Community Hall (first Thursday of the month), you must make the time in your busy schedule. Not only do you get a hot, delicious meal served with many smiles, but you are afforded the opportunity to visit with your neighbors in a casual atmosphere. Keep in mind that meals are open to Heath residents of all ages, as well as to residents of surrounding towns. For reservations, call Dot Sessions at 337-4896.

On the warrant at Annual Town Meeting will be the request for funding for the Heath Preschool. Speaking as a parent, I think it is extremely important that no child who has the opportunity to attend a preschool program be turned away due to financial constraints. The efforts that are put forth on a daily basis year after year from the educators in the Heath

("From the Desk of the Town Coordinator" continued on page 15)

Heath Elementary School News



By Susan Todd

As I am beginning the Heath School message this month I am fresh from two inservices on the subject of writing. All schools in the district benefit from several early release days in order to focus on professional development topics. We work frequently and productively with other schools in the district, but there is something very special about working with our own colleagues here at the Heath School. Having the luxury to reflect on teaching practices with those whose responsibility it is to teach the same children at different points in their lives is very meaningful.

Several years ago, when I was working on my Master's Degree in Education, I had the privilege of interviewing Elsa Bakalar. We discussed all manner of topics concerning teaching and at one point we were even pondering what was luxury in education and what wasn't. (Elsa had taught at the School of Ethical Culture in New York where the luxuries involved maids bringing snacks, as well as teachers having the time and freedom to create their own curriculum. This was in contrast to her English school experience where wet clothes were strung all around the classroom and she had to stand on a ladder to light a gas lamp!)

Elsa brought out a large dictionary, and we realized that the root meaning of luxury was abundance. She so appreciated having the time and freedom at Ethical Culture to develop lessons and then implement them - without interruption. Having the luxury to speak as a collegial staff means having the time and freedom to look at children's work, evaluate their progress with peers, and figure out ways to help them (and ourselves) grow.

The other meeting as a staff was with Noy Holland. Noy, as many of you know, is a Heath resident, parent of Ben and Phoebe, a writer, and a teacher of writing. She engaged us all in a discussion of how to help children maintain their own voices while learning how to develop a topic and learn the conventions of writing. Having the time to meet with someone who could guide us in thinking about the very delicate trust of teaching writing to children is really not just a luxury - it's essential.

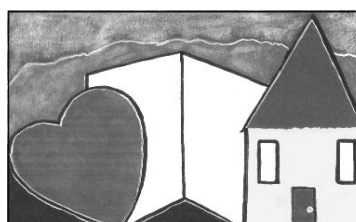
Other notes:

Winter Enrichment. Heath students loved using the Heath Fairgrounds Cattle Barn for ice skating this winter. Many thanks to Bob DeLisle for his vision and hard work and to Carroll Stowe for fires and stories and to Dave Gott for grooming the rink and to Ted Watt for environmental lessons and to the PTP and the Parks and Recreation Committee for their \$500 contributions. Thanks also to everyone in the Heath School community who helped make all of our winter enrichment days so invigorating, both in Heath and at Berkshire East.

Sarah Pirtle Collaboration. Thanks to the very generous donation of a new Heath resident, Peter Schriber, of National Evaluation Systems in Amherst, we will be able to invite Sarah Pirtle to the Heath School next fall to collaborate with the students and staff in a celebration of community. Sarah is a songwriter and

teacher of children and adults. She mingles community building and Earth Science, music and poetry, and conflict resolution. She will visit the school this spring for observation, participate in planning with the staff during one of their retreat days, and then join the life of the school in September as we lay the foundation for the New Year.

Interactive River Museum. The great white walls that formed our water museum last year are back again. This year we would like to make the museum more interactive and to that end classes will be mounting their exhibits at different points throughout the spring. Please come by and visit. We will begin with a tribute to the community, to the neighbors who surround us, organized by Jane Wegscheider. The other displays will revolve around the environmental studies we have been pursuing as part of our EIC focus this year.



The Friends of the Heath School Library

PLEASE SUPPORT the Friends of the Heath School Library's upcoming events:

- **Annual Town Meeting Continental Breakfast** - May 10
- **Heath Fair Raffle**-August 17 and 18

We hope to have another **Book Fair** in November.

And all during the school year, buy books for the library through the **Celebration Book Club** in honor of family members and friends. Please check Wanda's wish list in the library.

The FHSL has purchased the World Book Encyclopedia 2003 for the library. **Donate a volume of your choice or share the cost (\$40.00) with friends!** Proceeds thus realized will go to buy more books for the library!

("From the Desk of the Town Coordinator" continued from page 14)

school system rely on support from the community. Town meeting offers the opportunity for you to express that support.

I would like to take a moment to express a thank-you to residents and coworkers for supporting the Town Coordinator article at town meeting in January. Town Office is now open every weekday - Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m., and Tuesdays 2:00 p.m. until the Selectboard meets at 7:00 p.m. I would also be remiss if I did not extend a thank-you to Helen Mackie for offering to provide office assistance to staff at Town Office on a volunteer basis. Thank you, Helen, for being generous with your time - it is greatly appreciated every week.

Heath residents offer a true sense of community, and, combined with town officials utilizing resources and pulling together towards common goals, it is very obvious why the townspeople have a tendency to grow on one. Hope to see you at the Annual Town Meeting on May 10.

Solid Waste District Information

The Franklin County Solid Waste District recently posted information on cell phone recycling to its Web site at www.franklincountywastedistrict.org. Cell phones contain heavy metals and are best kept out of disposal facilities. Many old cell phones can actually be refurbished and reused.

Two programs linked from the District's Web site provide refurbished cell phones to victims of domestic violence. Two other programs provide refurbished cell phones to United States residents in economically deprived areas or to citizens in developing countries. You may be able to count a donation of your old cell phone as a tax deduction to a charity. Each cell phone recycling link has specifics about their program. Check out the "recent news" box on the District's home page for a link to this information. Call us with questions about this or other District programs at 413-772-2438 or E-mail us at info@franklincountywastedistrict.org.

Heath School Parent-Teacher Partnership

The Partnership along with many children and their families enjoyed a wonderful afternoon of skating at the Heath Fairgrounds skating rink. Thanks to Bob Delisle for the construction and maintenance of this wonderful rink, The Partnership sponsored a community skating party on February 8. Hot chocolate and music were provided by the Partnership and Carroll Stowe kept us warm with a fire. A great time was had by all, and many children and families are continuing to use the rink. We look forward to many years of skating!

The Partnership is presently making plans for a town-wide yard sale to be held June 7. More information will be available soon. You may contact the school or look for notices around town. We are also busy making plans for our booth at the Heath Fair. The Partnership meets the third Thursday of each month at 3:30 p.m. in the Heath Elementary School Library.

~ Robin Jenkins, Co-Chair

The *Herald* encourages all Heath writers and those who have never thought they could but have been itching to give it a try to submit their creative efforts on any subject of their choosing.



Library Lines



By Charlene Churchill

We have received the final version of the *Heath Free Public Library Building Program* from Vandermark Consulting. A copy is available at the library for people in the community to read. The Building Program reviews the history of our library, outlines the current library facilities and our community situation, and analyzes our library needs for the next twenty years. A copy of the Building Program is being submitted to the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners for review by their staff.

We are now working on our Request For Qualifications which will outline the specific tasks the architect we hire will complete as part of our Planning and Design Grant. We will also be preparing ads for interested architects for placement in local newspapers and a statewide publication called the *Central Register*. In addition, we will also be developing a timeline for completion of the Planning and Design Grant, and I will be updating our Long Range Plan which was compiled in 1998 by Laurie Wheeler Burrington.

The new adult fiction books include: *King of Torts* by John Grisham, *Final Justice* by W. E. Griffin, *The Cat Who Brought Down the House* by Lillian Jackson Braun, *The Confessor* by Daniel Silva, *Flashback* by Nevada Barr, and *The Master Butcher's Singing Club* by Louise Erdrich. New adult non-fiction books are: *Changing Prospects: The View From Mount Holyoke* by Marian Doezema, *Hydrogen Economy* by Jeremy Rifkin, *Phobias: Fighting the Fear* by Helen Saul, *Our Posthuman Future: Consequences of the Biotechnology Revolution* by Francis Fukuyama, and *Population 485: Meeting Your Neighbors One Siren at a Time* by Michael Perry.



24 West Main Street, Heath, MA 01346 p/f 413 . 337 . 5736



Green Thoughts

by
ELSA BAKALAR

Someone asked me recently if I didn't think the time had come to retreat to a warmer, gentler clime. I replied stoutly that I enjoy all four seasons, and winter was certainly among them. February, however, overdid it a bit this year, wouldn't you say? I turn to Joseph Wood Krutch (1893-1970) for the last word. He was a fine naturalist and essayist, and not generally thought of as a humorist, yet this is what he wrote about fifty years ago: "The worst charge that can be brought against New England is not Puritanism, but February."

Merely heading a sheet of paper with the words April/May can make my heart beat a little faster, I know, I know; awful weather can happen - and has been known to happen - in April and even in May, but look around you. The sun comes in through windows it couldn't reach a week or so ago. Day by day we count our gains as the natural world around us seems to put on a spurt on its way to spring.

Any time now gardeners will lay aside the books they used for winter daydreaming, and turn serious attention to the nursery catalogs arriving in great numbers. Even if you're not planning to order much by mail this year it's always interesting to see what's new. We are fortunate that in our part of western Massachusetts we do not lack sources for seeds and plants. The mail-order catalogs have always been and are lifelines to gardeners in parts of this huge country, where great distance makes personal buying difficult or impossible.

In my 40-or-so years of gardening here I have seen so many small local nurseries spring up and develop into well-stocked centers that now draw crowds from neighboring states and further away. Some have attracted the attention of the national media. The best of these are run by experienced "dirt under the fingernails" gardeners and customers come away with advice every bit as vital as the plants themselves. (But don't, please, corner these busy folks for a long chat about your garden on one of their busiest days).

I have a special respect and admiration for nursery owners who maintain gardens so that you can see how certain plants will take their place in a border or a bed in the garden - your garden, in fact. Ideas gained from these are a bonus.

What about growing from seed? Seed packaging is improving all the time, and seductive displays of racks of these little "packets of hope" can make one go overboard. A word of advice for a beginning gardener: do think about the classification of flowers. Annuals: usually bloom and die in the space of one year. (Note how long from germination to flowering - is there time enough for this year?) Perennials: be prepared to wait until their second year for bloom. Biennials: a trickier group, often a wait of a year, but their beauty in the early summer garden is well worth it. Visualize Sweet William, Canterbury Bells, English Daisies; buy some plants all ready to bloom in your garden almost before the ground is workable.

HORRID WARNING: do not tramp about on heavy, wet soil. It's a good way to make bricks! Wait, wait, wait! Surely there's something else that needs doing? Of course. There always is.

What about those pots of bulbs you started or were given? Certain forced bulbs may have spent their life force on blooming for you, and won't do it again. You might be surprised to know that forced hyacinths, put out in the garden after blooming, can behave like outdoor bulbs, and reappear another year. They won't be low, fat little cones of brilliant color, but I have some that bloom on taller stems and are very welcome in a woodland area. Gift primroses, too, will naturalize.

When we lived in New York City my husband and I were a salvage team of two, "rescuing" pots of bulbs thrown out on the streets for collection. Planted in the garden at Heath, many of them are still going strong.

Attention!

The Heath Elementary School PTP is offering the community the opportunity to benefit the school by registering at Schoolpop.com when ordering on-line from hundreds of sites such as Amazon.com, L.L. Bean, Staples, Wal-Mart, etc.

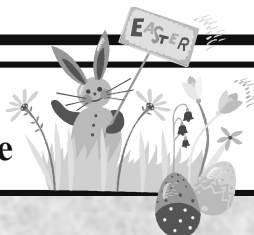
Just go to our Web page, www.heath.k14.mass.edu and click on Schoolpop at the bottom of the page or click on Schoolpop.com directly.

**A percentage of every purchase will go to the children of Heath.
Thank you very much!**

Every source of revenue during these times is very much appreciated.

Hilltown Tastes

Easter Fare



Ham Pie to use your leftover ham and Easter eggs, Nisu for Easter brunch, and Chocolate Truffles from Jodi Walsh for your Easter baskets. The first two recipes are from *The Heath Fair Cook Book* (1983) by Lucia Fink and Alli Thane, respectively..

Ham Pie

- ¼ cup butter
- ¼ cup flour
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ¼ teaspoon dry mustard
- 1/8 teaspoon pepper
- 1 teaspoon instant minced onion
- 2 cups milk
- 2 hard cooked eggs, chopped
- 2 ½ cups diced ham
- 1 cup cooked peas

Melt butter. Blend in flour, salt, mustard, and pepper. Add onions and milk. Cook until thick. Add ham, eggs, and peas. Pour into 2 quart casserole. Place pastry (recipe below) on top. Bake at 425° for about 20 minutes. Makes 4 - 5 servings.

Cheese Pastry

- 1 cup flour
- ½ cup grated Cheddar cheese
- 2-3 tablespoons water
- ¼ teaspoon salt
- ¼ cup shortening

Mix flour, cheese, salt and shortening. Add water and proceed as with regular pastry. Roll out to fit casserole.

Nisu (Finnish Coffee Bread)

- ½ cup scalded milk
- ¼ cup butter
- ¼ cup sugar
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 2 beaten eggs
- 3 ¼ cups sifted flour
- 4 crushed cardamom seeds
- 1 yeast cake softened in ½ cup warm water

Combine butter, sugar, salt and milk and let cool to luke-warm. Add yeast, eggs, flour, cardamom. Mix and let rise until double, about 1 hour. Punch down and let rise 30 minutes. Divide in half and knead until not sticky. Divide each portion into three strips and braid. Let rise until double. Bake at 375 degrees for 45 minutes. Brush with maple syrup and sprinkle with sugar, or decorate with icing and nuts.

Chocolate Truffles

- 1 cup heavy cream
- 4 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 2 teaspoons light corn syrup
- 1 pound finely chopped semisweet chocolate, plus 12 ounces for dipping

Bring cream, butter, and corn syrup to boil. Turn off heat. Add one pound chocolate. Swirl pan to cover chocolate with cream. Let stand five minutes. Whisk to combine. Then refrigerate for one hour, stirring every five minutes. Form one-inch balls onto baking sheet. Chill until ready to dip. Place remaining chocolate in bowl over pan of simmering water, stir occasionally until chocolate melts. Cool slightly. Dip chocolate balls into melted chocolate, then roll in a bowl of cocoa powder. Refrigerate five minutes.

Council on Aging Report

Join us. We are having our Senior Luncheons on the first Thursday of each month. Call Dorothy Sessions at 337-4896 on the Wednesday morning before and reserve. (It is very important to make a reservation so that the Committee knows how much food to order). The cost is \$1.75 per person. Also, if you are interested in receiving the "Brown Bag" of food which is distributed the third Wednesday of each month, call Dorothy for information. The cost is \$3.00 per bag.

Bus transportation is still offered every other Friday to Shelburne Falls and Greenfield if we have at least four people interested in traveling. Call Joanne Fortune at 774-2958 for this information.

We are seeking interest in bus tours. These would probably be day trips to flower shows, plays, etc. Let us know if this appeals to you.

It is time to write our annual grant for C.O.A. The one new item we are requesting is for funds to help the elderly with snow plowing and lawn mowing. Any other ideas? Let us know. Call me at 337-4852.

We would like to extend sincere thanks to the town highway crew who have helped several seniors with sand for their walkways and driveways.

This has been a winter where a helping hand with a bucket of sand has indeed been appreciated.

Now, let's all THINK SPRING!

~ Alli Thane-Stetson

Milestones

Mary Nussbaum Boyd, daughter of Anna and the late Emil Nussbaum of Colrain, and Eric Sumner, son of Richard Sumner of Heath and Brenda Stafford of Shelburne, were married on February 15 in Heath.

Todd Sumner, Justice of the Peace, officiated, and Lilly Boyd was the flower girl.



Marilyn Alice Brown Ball of Turners Falls died on February 3, 2003. Born in Wilmington, VT, on March 25, 1934, she was the daughter of Leonard J. and Ida Rachel Sparrow Brown. She was employed by Mohawk Orchards, Shelburne, and, before retirement, at the former Cains Pickle Company in South Deerfield.

Her husband, Wallace J. Ball, died June 21, 1989.

Survivors include her daughter, Pamela of San Antonio, TX; six brothers, Frank Brown of Buckland, Roy Brown of Whitingham, VT, Leonard Brown of Rowe, **Wendell Brown** of Heath, Reginald Brown of Colrain, and Roger Brown of Readsboro, VT; four sisters, Annette Lee of Whitingham, VT, Janet Nido of Wilmington, VT, Lillian Benz of Greenfield, and Eleanor Maynard of Charlemont, and several nieces and nephews.

Burial will be in the Green River Cemetery, Greenfield, in the spring.

It is suggested that donations be made either to the American Heart Association, 1111 Elm Street, Suite 9A, West Springfield, MA. 01089-1540 or to the American Lung Association of Western Massachusetts, 393 Maple Street, Springfield, MA 01105.

Bert E. Lee of Suffield, CT died February 7, 2003. Born in Shelburne Falls, on June 20, 1921, he was the son of Lucius and Evelyn Newhall Lee.

A graduate of the former Arms Academy of Shelburne Falls and from the former Casey Jones School of Aeronautics, Newark, NJ, he served in World War II and was employed by the Pratt & Whitney Company for 38 years.

Survivors include his wife, Hazel Bowles Lee; two sons, Richard of Somers, Ct, and Craig of Suffield; a sister, Dorothy Lee Stetson, of Heath, and four grandchildren.

Kendall Duane Litchfield of Heath died February 16, 2003. Born on September 16, 1925, in Scioto, IL, he was the son of Otto and Anna Painter Litchfield.

A graduate of Western Illinois State University, he earned a Master's degree in special education from Columbia University where he completed the Lexington School for the Deaf teacher training as well as a School Administrator's degree.

Following service in World War II, Mr. Litchfield worked briefly at the Illinois School for the Deaf and then the New York School for the Deaf, White Plains, NY, for 37

years, first as a teacher and ending as principal and headmaster.

He was a founding member and first president of the New York Association of Educators for the Deaf, a member of the Convention of American Instructors for the Deaf, of the Conference of Administrators Serving the Deaf, and the Alexander Graham Bell Speech Association.

In 1997 Mr. and Mrs. Litchfield retired to their Heath summer home. Mrs. Litchfield, the former Carolyn Stewart, died on December 27, 1999.

Survivors include two sons, **Budge** of Heath and Bruce of Warwick, NY; a daughter, Nancy Thane of Groton, NY; a sister, Carole Baird of Cleveland Heights, OH; four grandchildren including **Tucker** and **Katelyn** of Heath, and several nieces and nephews.

A Celebration of Life was held February 22 at the Heath Union Church; burial will be in the Heath Center cemetery in the spring.

Memorial gifts may be made to the Kendall D. Litchfield Scholarship Fund, NY School for the Deaf, 555 Knollwood Road, White Plains, NY, 10603.

Lydia Kaempfer, 44, of Shelton, CT died Monday, February 24, 2003, at home after a brief illness. She was a special education teacher for many years in the Bridgeport area. Survivors include her husband Frank, and son, Maxwell. She was the daughter-in-law of **Bud** and **Val Kaempfer** of Heath.

Ruth Mary Pogozelski Horr of Rowe died March 10, 2003. Born May 16, 1936, in Williston Park, Long Island, NY, she was the daughter of Anthony and Hedwig Strauss Pogozelski.

A graduate of Sewanaka High School, Floral Park, Long Island, she was employed at the Equitable Life Insurance Company, New York City, and most recently at the Sperry & Rand Company of Great Neck, NY, as an engineering librarian clerk.

She moved to Rowe in 1986.

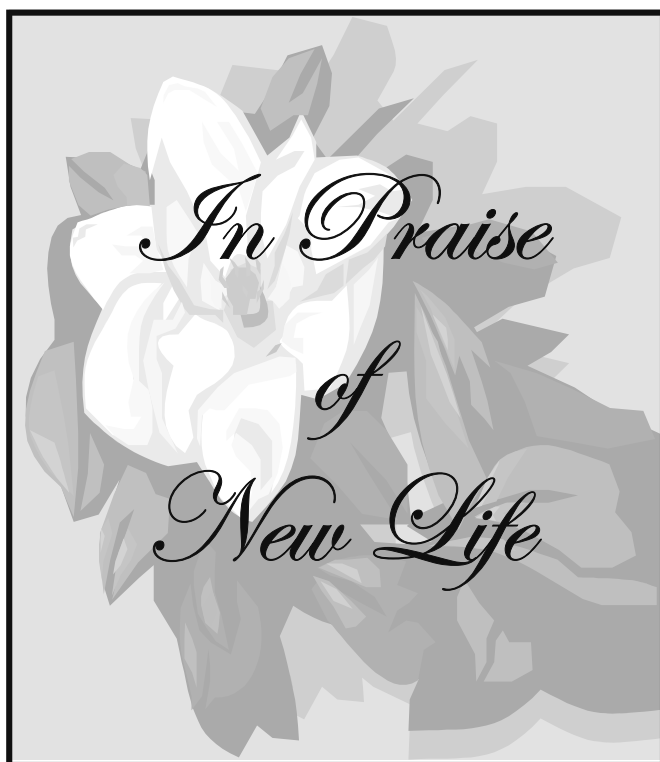
She is survived by her husband of 42 years, Kenneth G. Horr; a daughter, Elizabeth "Beth" Mary of Vernon, CT; two sisters, Dorothy Eichler of East Islip, NY, and Elizabeth Cannata of Glastonbury, CT, and two brothers, Anthony Pogozelski of Medford Lake, NJ, and Thomas Pogozelski of Pitman, NJ.

Helen E. Newton Kavanaugh of Northfield died March 6, 2003. Born in Greenfield on March 24, 1919, she was the daughter of George and Anne Jacob Newton. She spent her early life in Heath, attending its schools. She then moved to Northfield and was a graduate of the former Northfield High School.

Her husband of 50 years, Philip Kavanaugh, died in 1989. Survivors include a son, Gerald, of Vernon, VT; two daughters, Patricia Robins of Northfield and Joan Hansen of East Corinth, ME; a brother, Donald Newton, of Berne, IN, and two grandchildren.

Memorial contributions are suggested to the charity of the donor's choice.





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