HEATH HERALD

HEATH'S FIRST NEWSPAPER 25¢

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING - MAY 2

Town Meeting Day is Monday, May 2, at the Heath Community Hall. All registered voters will have the opportunity to vote for the candidates of their choice between 1 and 7 PM. Then at 8 PM the annual meeting will be held to act upon the articles in the town warrant.

This year the Town is planning to print the final complete version of the official town warrant separately from the annual report. In this way the annual report will not be delayed until the last minute for the warrant, and all of the final articles in the warrant will be available for the voters to study before the town meeting.

In the election there are eight important town offices to be filled by hallot. These are listed below with the names of the candidates who have filed nomination papers. In addition write-in votes may be made for any other candidate.

The only position contested this year is for the office of Selectman, where Paul Lively, a former selectman, is running against the present incumbent Anne Steinbock. All of the other candidates are presently incumbents. The slot of Finance Committee member has no nominee, since the present incumbent walter Gleason, did not take out a nomination paper. This will be filled by a write-in vote.

<u>Position</u>	Term(yrs)	$\underline{\mathtt{Candidate}(s)}$
Selectman (vote for one)	3	Paul Lively Anne Steinbock
Assessor	3	John Moriarity
Finance Committee	3	(no nominee)
	1	Linda Marcotte
School Committee	3	Susan Gruen
	2	Patrick Venneri
Library Trustee	3	Teresa Pettengill
Town Auditor	1	Newland Smith

In addition to the above officers elected by ballot, a member of the Planning Board is to be nominated from the floor at the Town Meeting and elected for a five year term. The present incumbent, whose term expires, is Thomas Lively.

The last day for new voters to register before the town election is on April 12. You can register at the Town Clerk's office in Sawyer Hall any time during her regular office hours or by appointment up to that date.

Elsewhere in this issue statements are given as submitted by the candidates on their background and qualifications.

(See - 8/8 5)

THE EMERSON FAMILY PORTRAIT

by Amy C. Barry

A group portrait of Dr. Joseph Emerson and his family, painted in Heath in the mid nineteenth century and now belonging to the Heath Historical Society, has recently been treated at the Williamstown Regional Art Conservation Laboratory in Williamstown. The Conservation Laboratory eleaned the painting, relined it and put it on a new stretcher, and treated it with a special resin coating to improve its resistance to humidity fluctuations.

The Emerson portrait was given to the Heath Historical Society in 1916 by Miss Sabra C. Snell who was responsible for clearing out the home of Mrs. Felicial Emerson Welch in Amherst after Mrs. Welch's death. Mrs Welch was the daughter of Dr. Joseph Emerson and is depicted in the painting as the girl seated at the piano. In her letter to the Historical Society, Miss Snell said that Dr. Emerson had allowed a deaf and dumb traveling man to paint the family "out of pity for him" and that the daughters had kept the painting "as a curiosity, not because of any likeness."

Dr. Joseph Emerson, born in Conway in 1782, came to Heath in 1806. In 1824 he married Sarah Cheney, the daughter of the storekeeper in Heath Center. The Emersons had five children; John M. who became a lawyer in New York City, Felicia who married Judge



Emerson Family Portrait c. 1838 (unknown artist)

(Photo from the Heath Historical Society)

LETTERS

To the Editors:

It was with interest and concern that I read the letter in the February/March issue of the HERALD from Mr. Paul Lively (re: the Road Superintendent and the use of town equipment).

I believe that it is a good thing that a forum such as the HERALD exists for the airing of local issues, and I enjoy reading each issue as it appears.

My concern is with the fact that since the HERALD is a bimonthly publication I feel that both sides of the issue concerned should have been presented.

In fairness to all parties concerned, I believe that the HERALD had a responsibility to print comments on the aforementioned subject by the Town Selectmen and the Road Superintendent, as well as the letter from Mr. Lively.

For the majority of your readership, who may not be cognizant of both sides of an issue, I believe this to be a reasonable request.

I realize that space limitations are involved, but I believe that if an issue is important enough to be printed initially, it should be deemed of enough importance for fair treatment.

Thank you.

SHARON R.M. HEIST Charlemont, MA

Editors' Response: Mrs. Heist makes a good point in her letter. The editors recognize that the HEATH HERALD, as a bimonthly publication, may not be able to present both sides of a controversial issue simultaneously. In the future we will try to obtain where feasible and appropriate, an opposing view point on any letter submitted to the HERALD. In this issue all of the letters have been submitted to the Selectmen. In each case they have chosen not to respond. We welcome letters from our readers expressing their viewpoints on town issues and problems.

HEATH HERALD

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April - May 1983

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Send all correspondence to Box 54, Heath, MA 01346

LETTERS

To the Editors:

This letter is to comment on the Selectmen's policy change on November 22 concerning the installation along public ways for access to private property. The new policy is that the landowner will supply the culvert and the town will make the installation.

First let me point out how it has been handled in the past. Up to about 1971 (I am not sure how long before that time) the town furnished the culvert pipe and it was the landowner's responsibility to have it installed. Since 1971 the pipe and the installation was the landowner's responsibility because of the increasing cost to the town for culvert pipes.

This past summer I noticed that the Highway Dept. was installing culvert pipes for landowners and I pointed out to the Chairperson of Selectmen that I didn't think this practice was in the best interest of the town. About a week later on Nov. 22 the Selectmen made official policy of what started as a new practice by the Highway Dept. this past summer.

I am infavor of having the town control the installation of culverts along its public ways - in fact this is necessary to maintain proper drainage, proper grade and finish, and a safe acess to a public way. This can be accomplished by a permit system whereby the landowner requests a permit to construct an access from the public way to his property. The road superintendent could be authorized to daw up specifications, issue to permit, and give final approval of the installation when proper installation is completed.

Here are some of the reasons why I am opposed to the new policy: 1) It takes an expense from the private sector of the economy and puts it in the public sector and it does it at a particularly bad time with the limits of Prop $2\frac{1}{2}$ and a heavy tax load on farmers particularly. 2) It is more energy efficient for the contractor who is installing the driveway to install the access to the public way. (The town has to run a heavy expensive loader over the road to the far end of town to make the installations). 3) The installation service is readily available from several contractors in town as well as from those out of town. 4) Town expense for just one installation would be considerable along places like Dell Road where 4 foot diameter and larger pipes are required. Also a land developer might require many access points along his property. 5) It creats an inequitable situation because those who paid for their own installations now have to pay the cost of installations for other landowners.

> PAUL LIVELY Heath

HEATH PRECIPITATION

by Ralph H. Dickinson, Observer for Mass. Water Resources Commission

February precipitation was 3.70 inches, snowfall was 26 inches; March had 6.83 inches precipitation and 8.75 inches of snow. January through March had 16.02 inches precipitation. Total snowfall this season has been 69.25 inches.

Only in 1979, during the past 17 years, did we have more precipitation during the first quarter of a year. We have had more snow than for the past two years, but we are still below the average snowfall.

LETTERS

To the editors:

I would like to reply to the Selectmen's report in the Feb./Mar. HEATH HERALD.

I feel that the report insinuates that the 911 system study is being conducted in an undemocratic style. A little history may be in order. The 911 study committee was set up at a Franklin County Planning Board meeting. The members of this board are the chairmen of the selectmen of each town, the chairmen of the planning boards of each town, and 15 or so members at large elected by the the Franklin County Planning Board members. Each member has an equal vote.

A little over two years ago a meeting was scheduled for discussing central dispatching and phone service. Police and fire chiefs were invited with no vote. As a result a motion was passed for a study committee to be formed and to report to the county commissioners. The committee was to consist of three selectmen, three police chiefs, and three fire chiefs. I am pround to say I was appointed to that committee, Heath was represented at this meeting by be the planning board delegate as well as the Fire and Police Depts, and three other interested citizens. The Selectmen were not in attendance.

As a member of the study committee, and I may emphasize that it is only a study committee, I have little quarrel with the Selectmen's estimates in their first paragraph. I will argue with the notion that the rates will be set in Boston. Under our proposal they only request that will be made of D.P.U. is to allow the Telephone Co. to collect a sum not to exceed \$1.00 per month per subscriber (not per telephone) and pay such money to the Treasurer of the County of Franklin. Money collected to be used to operate system and pay bond issues for capital outlays. The rate setting committee will be appointed by the F.C. Commissioners. (For instance, a \$.75 rate would generate about \$260,000 per year) The center would operate under a committee set up by the F.C. Commissioners. The above is our present plan and may be revised as the committee progresses.

Other comments I would like to address. "The Greenfield Police and Fire officials call it a lux-ury." Why not? They already have full time paid coverage. It's the smaller towns like Heath that have problems finding volunteers to give full time coverage.

I also have to take issue with the "practical disadvantage of beepers". I know of no system where the chief knows how many are responding. Nearly 80% of the surrounding fire departments are now dispatched by radio paging. It works. Insurance rating systems require all firefighters to be alerted instantly. Our present telephone call system is not acceptable.

The cost figure for the Town of Heath of \$6600 is not correct. The \$.75 monthly rate figures out to \$9.00 per year per subscriber. Heath has approximately 200 subscribers with a total cost of about \$1800 per year.

I will be happy to discuss with anyone ways to improve our red phone system. Our distance from the telephone office in Charlemont limits us to an extent. The power available limits us to 12 units; that is, phones, loud bells, relays for the siren, etc. We are using 11 of those units now, and when all four red phone people answer, it is sometimes difficult to hear because of the load on the line.

LETTERS

Finally I have been accused of being sold on the 911 system. It is true - I believe a good dispatch center and 911 system would be most beneficial to the people of Heath and I know that it will enable the Fire Department to provide better service than we are now able to. I am extremely distressed that the Selectmen feel that the best possible Fire Dept. alerting system is not necessary. A comment made by our Selectmen in a letter to the study committee was made that they would rather spend money on human services. I ask you, what group provides human services in time of need that compares to our paid and volunteer fire departments?

EARL M. GLEASON Heath

To the Editors:

I normally do not respond to a news article that contains errors. (The errors are not yours but they were in the Selectmens' Report given to you in the February/March issue.)

As Chairman of the Franklin County Emergency Dispatch Study Committee for the past year and a half, I feel I must reply to let the people of Heath and their friends know that the Selectmens' Report as given to you was filled with errors, misrepresentations and misleading statements.

During my tenure as Chairman I have met with the Boards of Selectmen in all 26 county towns with a very large percentage of positive responses. This has meant driving many, many miles and thousands of hours of time. I have not received any money but it has been very rewarding and an interesting experience. I have done this because I strongly feel that the people in Franklin County should have this system available to them.

I am not going into the specifics of the article but I would like to inform everyone that this is a dispatch system (not an alert system) for emergencies for all the people of the county, except those that do not have telephones.

There are 14 lines in their report that are in error or have misrepresentation of facts.

The other 25 towns had one meeting each and apparently their selectmen understood what I was saying.

I have been back to Heath three times, twice to meet with the Selectmen and once (at their invitation) to explain the project at a special town meeting.

If need be, I will gladly go back to Heath and meet with any board or groups of people to further explain the project and hopefully to clarify the errors that were in the above named report.

J. ROGER SMITH, Chairman Fr. Co. 911 Study Committee

P.S. I find your HEATH HERALD very interesting and informative.

J.R.S.



EMERSON PORTRAIT (continued)

John Welch, Alma who became the second wife of SamuelMiller, son of Rev. Moses Miller of Heath; Frances, and Laurentia. The Emerson family first lived in the house on Branch Hill Road now owned by William and Eleanor Wolf. It was probably here that the portrait was painted. In 1838 Dr. Emerson built the large house on Bray Road now owned by Robert Berquist.

According to the description furnished us by a contemporary, Miss Anna Maxwell, Dr. Emerson was an extremely popular figure during his 36 years as Heath's principle physician. Dr. Emerson, she wrote, "was a beloved... and skillful physician; an amiable and an upright man." Emerson's early and unexpected death in 1842 was a very great loss.

Mrs. Suzanne Flynt, Assistant Curator of the Memorial Hall Museum in Deerfield, says that the depiction of a family of seven was not attempted by most artists in the early nineteenth century and therefore the Emerson group portrait is very important. She also points out the artist felt very comfortable positioning the family members in an interior setting as they relate well to each other. The vivid geometric patterns on the floor, done in contrasting tones of black and light blue, are very distinctive. The Curator of the Folk Art Center in Williamsburg, VA suggests this floor pattern may represent a simplified ingrained carpet design. It is also possible that the floor was covered with a painted oilcloth, or the design was painted directly on the wood floor

The Emerson portrait can be quite accurately dated Dr. Emerson died in 1842 and his youngest daughter Laurentia, shown seated on her mother's lap, was born in 1836. Therefore the painting must date between these two years. The fact that Laurentia looks no more than two years old in the painting suggests it was done between 1836 and 1838.

Who the artist was remains a mystery. Interestingly enough, according to Mrs. Flynt, there were several prominent deaf-mute portrait painters working in Franklin County during the period of the Emerson portrait. So far, however, there is insufficient evidence to link it to any particular individual.

The conservation of the Emerson portrait is a major financial undertaking for the Heath Historical Society. In order to raise money to cover the cost of the work that has already been done and also to defray costs of properly framing the painting, Dominic Musacchio has offered to build a cherry hutch that will be raffled off by the Historical Society this summer at the Heath Fair weekend. More information about the hutch, the purchase of raffle tickets and the date of drawing will appear in the next HEATH HERALD. Contributions will also be welcomed by the Historical Society.

The Emerson family portrait, once considered a "curiosity" by the Emerson daughters, is now recognized as being artistically and historically important. It has special meaning for Heath, since here it was painted and here Dr. Emerson raised his family and practiced medicine for so many years. The conservation treatment the painting has received at Williamstown insures it will be around to be studied and appreciated for a long time to come.

Howard Crowningshield

Building & Remodeling

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HEATH TO CONSIDER A COUNCIL ON AGING

One of the articles which will appear on the warrant for the annual town meeting will ask whether the voters wish to establish a Council on Aging in Heath. This apparently can be done under the Mass. General Laws "... for the purpose of . . carrying out programs designed to meet the problems of the aging in coordination with programs of the state Department of Elder Affairs."

According to Selectman Anne Steinbock, Mrs. Virginia Taylor, Director of the Council in Charlemont, has met with the Selectmen to describe the benefits of such an organization and its funding.

The Council on Aging would be a group of perhaps five citizens, appointed by the Selectmen, who would organize and administer programs for the elderly such as services for the home-bound aged, resource development, health and welfare programs. Funding for these programs would come through state grants which the Council would make applications for and administer. This would involve preparing reports to the town and to the state with all of the associated paper work.

Whether Heath needs a Council on Aging is up to the voters to decide by voting on May 2.

TOWN OFFICE HOURS

(At Town Hall unless otherwise noted)

Selectmen: Mondays 7 PM
Assessors: Mondays 7 PM

Town Clerk and Treasurer:

Mondays 8 AM - Noon & 7-10 PM
Wednesdays & Thursdays 8 AM - Noon

Finance Committee: As posted

Planning Board: 2nd Monday of month 7 PM

<u>Tax Collector</u>: (at Sandra Gilbert's residence on Avery Brook Road)

Mondays and Tuesdays 9 AM - 12 Noon also by appointment 337-4390

Library Trustees: 1st Monday of Month 7 PM

<u>Library</u>: Mondays 7-9 PM Wednesdays 1-5 PM Saturdays 1-5 PM

Post Office: Monday through Saturday 9:30 AM - 1:30 PM

<u>Dump:</u> Mondays 10 AM - 2 PM Wednesdays 10 AM-4 PM Saturdays 9 AM - 5 PM

FOOD CO-OP

The next nights for the Food Co-op breakdown and pickup are on April 18-19 at the Community Hall



Phone: 773-8683

CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

ANNE STEINBOCK - Selectman

For those of you who might not know me, I have lived in Heath for 10 years with my husband, four children and assorted animals. I am currently employed as a school bus driver, a job which allows me the 15 to 20 hours a week needed to deal with town business as Chairman of Selectmen.

I am running for a second term as Selectman for a number of reasons. One is that I enjoy the job. The town needs some continuity in its officeholders. It has been a few years since the town had a two-term selectman. Since it takes the better part of a term to get to know the ropes, I think that an incumbent's understanding of the job is important. Another reason is that I am able and willing to continue putting the time into the job that's necessary to do it right

I would also like to be around to see projects which we have started come to a favorable conclusion, and am willing to work towards that end. A current one is the Selectmen's "Road Rebellion", of which Heath is a charter member. This is a collective effort of towns to convince the state that our highway money would go a lot further if we did not have to rebuild our roads as super-highways.

At my instigation, the town rejoined the Mass. Municipal Assoc. Aside from saving money through their workmen's compensation plan, we benefit by being part of an organization of most Mass. towns. The weatherization of town buildings has already paid for itself in fuel savings.

As Chairman, I have been active on the County Advisory Board and was appointed as a member of the Board's finance committee.

I have tried to look at all sides of any issue that has come up, and act in a manner that is to the town's best interest. But it is the townspeople, through their input to the Selectmen, who ultimately make the decisions. If re-elected, I will continue to act not only as an administrator but as a selectman responsible to the people.

And finally, the current board has an excellent working relationship with other departments of town government. This is one of the keys to a smoothly functioning government, and if I continue on the Board I will do my best to see that personality conflicts and the like do not get in the way of healthy disagreements in the setting of town policies and actions of the Board.

NEWLAND F. SMITH - Auditor

I am seeking reelection to a one year term as town Auditor, having served in that position for the past three years. Prior to that I was a member of the Finance Committee for two years.

I am concerned over the town finances and want to see that the funds are properly administered and accounted for as voted in the town meetings.

PATRICK VENYERI - School Committee

I have lived in Heath for five years on the Colrain Brook Road. I am running for the three year term of School Board member. I am currently the Yohawk Regional High School representative serving out Amy Barry's unexpired term. I will strive to provide the best schooling possible for the children of Heath Wiletrying, at the same time, to exercise fiscal responsibility. I thank you for your support.

CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

PAUL LIVELY - Selectman

One of the prime reasons for my candidacy is to promote the spirit of community through communication by dialog. A contest for the position of selectman opens the opportunity for the candidates to become more aware of what it is that the electorate expect of their public servants. It also presents the opportunity for the candidates to learn from each other by explaining more completely their differences in how they believe they should represent the citizenry.

Even though in a contest situation I have to refer to Anne as an opponent, I consider her a friend having worked together for two years as selectpersons. Someone once said that a friend is one who loves you and the truth, but will tell you the truth in spite of you. I believe my opponent has excellent qualities for the office she holds and seeks, - a keen inquisitive mind, a sense of humor, and she has the courage of her convictions. However, I believe that in the past six months she has allowed the Board of Selectmen and the Highway Department to become a clique to a degree. In my opinion this diminishes her effectiveness in dealing with that department and in representing the electorate.

In conclusion, I believe that regardless of who wins this contest the town will be better served because of what we will have learned from each other through dialog between now and election day. Then we must join together as a real community with everyone participating in its life.

TERESA PETTENGILL - Library Trustee

I have been a resident of Heath since 1969 and a Library Trustee since 1972. I have had a sincere and, I hope, helpful interest in many town activities. I am currently chairperson of the lommunity Hall Committee, circulation manager of the HEATH HERALD, and treasurer of the Library Trustees. Over the years I have attended several library workshops and have worked to help improve and update the Library in our town.

LINDA M. MARCOTTE - Finance Committee

Resident of Heath since 1979. Associate Degree from Holyoke Community College, 1980. Currently employed at Franklin County Regional Housing Authority in Greenfield with the Community Block Grant Program as Secretary/Data Entry for the Nine-Town Housing Rehabilitation Program. Served on Heath Finance Committee since September 1982. I am interested in the town and would like to continue in this work.

By two year term will be completed this Fay. After many hours of thought, I have decided to run for another two year term.

As a citizen I would like to make sure we get quality education at a reasonable cost. As a parent I would like the best educational experience for my child and for the children of Heath.

If elected, my goals for the ensuing year are to continue an active role at the Rowe Bohool meetings, to revalue current school policy and philosophy, and whenever necessary to serve as a mediator between parent and school.

SUSAN GRUER - School Committee

FOUR YEARS OF THE HERALD

With this issue, the HEATH HERALD starts its fifth year of publication. The support of our readers as shown by their letters and our increasing circulation has been gratifying.

The HERALD HERALD hopes to continue to bring you timely news of Heath, town affairs, and town history. Particularly with the 200th anniversary of the town coming in 1985, it is important to keep our townspeople, former residents and summer residents abreast of plans and events. We look forward to doing this over the next two years.

The HEATH HERALD operates on a non-profit basis supported financially by subscriptions, single copy sales and by advertisements. It is produced and published entirely by a volunteer staff who are interested in better communications within our town.

We would like to increase our staff and encourage anyone who is interested in writing, reporting, layout or typing to contact us. It is an interesting and worthwhile experience for those of you who can spend a few hours a month in this work. Please give us a call.

. the Editors

PLANNING BOARD REPORT

by John Holdsworth

The Planning Board has met with some town officials to discuss the town's standing bylaws and regulations, adopted at town meetings over the last 200 years. A public hearing, followed later by a town meeting, will be scheduled to familiarize townspeople with the bylaws and to receive recommendations for addition or elimination of regulations. The meetings are tenatively scheduled for early summer.

All the town boards have been increasingly interested in cleaning up and finishing the upstairs meeting room in Sawyer Hall. The Planning Board has had exploratory discussions with the Finance Committee and came to the conclusion that some workbees combined with contract labor could be the most economical, if not the most expeditious, approach to the project. It was agreed that any contract work should be overseen by some townsperson with a knowledge of building methods and materials.

The Planning Board is presently reviewing the town subdivision regulations. An optimistic schedule calls for publication of completed standing bylaws, zoning bylaws and subdivision regulations under one cover by the end of the summer. Copies will be available on request at the town hall.

Copies of the zoning bylaws are now posted at Peters' Store, Sawyer Hall and the Community Hall for all townspeople to read.



WHERE DOES THE MONEY GO?

by David F. Howland, Chairman Heath Finance Committee

The theme of this year's report of the Finance Committee in the annual town report is "Where Noes the Money Go ?". The report has a chart showing the distribution of expenditures and the sources of income. For example, 52% of our appropriation for town services of \$451.652 goes for schools and an other 23% for highway operations. The balance is allocated to a variety of services - town buildings, insurance, fire and police protection, etc. There are additional state and county charges and overlay costs that raise the total appropration to \$487.637. To meet these obligations the town will raise an estimated \$335,000 or about 69% of the total appropriation through property taxes. This figure represents the tax levy on which Proposition 22 is based. Another 23% or \$112,000 will come from the state and other town receipts. The balance of about \$40,000 is derived from Revenue Sharing income from the federal government and from Free Cash.

What is in store for us for next year? We think the forecast is more of the same. We are hard pressed to stay within the $2\frac{1}{2}$ guidelines, so it is possible the levy will rise somewhat. The warrant for the town meeting will not be ready for another two weeks so there is still time to reduce some proposed budget items to stay within $2\frac{1}{2}$. The Rowe School and Franklin Tech School budgets are up more than expected and are causing us to hold down other items, notwithstanding a reduction in the Nohawk budget due to a substantial reduction in the number of Heath students. The need for another audit of the town's books and salary increases are the other items having a major impact on next year's expenses.

The Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen have discussed methods to finance long range capital expenditures so that we have some sense of our needs and can plan for adequate reserves to meet those needs. Also the planning of how to use Chapter 90 type highway funds has been discussed. It is possible to get more road work done as well as to have access to monies the Highway Department earns with its equipment for other uses.

Come join with us at the Town Meeting on May 2 where you can have a say as to where your money goes.

HEATH SQUARE DANCES

Phil Fournier reports that square dances are held at the Community Hall every second Saturday, 8 PM to midnight. Music is by the Old Tymers. Raffles and door prizes; refreshments are on sale. The next dance will be held on April 16. Everyone is welcome to come and enjoy the fun.



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PROPERTY TAX BILLS UNDER WAY

by Sandra Cilbert, Tax Collector

Although the revaluation for the town has not been completed, we are in hopes of having our next real estate tax bills sent in the near future. Because the revaluation is not completed and the state is also far behind on approving these, they have allowed the Town of Heath to issue actual bills based on fiscal '82 figures, and to complete the revaluation for next year instead.

The Assessors are stopping work on the revaluation and preparing to get the second tax bill out by mid-May, hopefully sooner.

After spending many hours, the outstanding motor vehicle bills from 1978-82 have been demanded and many of them warranted to my deputy for his collection. For those not aware of the motor vehicle collection proceedures, please read your demands. If a demand is not paid within 14 days, the bill is then issued on a warrant to the deputy for his collection. This adds fees and more interest, etc. which I cannot dismiss. Issuing a warrant then allows the deputy to use authority on collections, and payments must go to him. Please amke arrangements with my deputy, Stuart Sumner to pay these bills. He can usually be reached at his home on evenings at 339-4451.

HEATH FIREFIGHTERS VIRTUALLY UNEMPLOYED

by Chief Earl Gleason

Our services would not have been needed if one of our officers had not had the audacity to schedule his chimney fire on a Friday evening just as several firefighters were about to leave to play volleyball. There was no damage other than a later start of the volleyball!

Although not directly related to the Fire Department, we wish the new Civil Defense Director Jack Purkis well. We also wish to thank Dick Giard for the many hours of work he put in as our past C.D. Director. Recently Jack received an award to the Town of Heath for the Emergency Response Plan so ably developed under Dick's leadership.

Have you noticed the younger faces around the Fire Department lately? Ian Gallup, Todd Howe, Mal Lively and Danny Gleason are our new active members. They are doing a fine job.

Our meeting nights are the first Thursday (Association Meeting) and the third Thursday (Drill night). Both meetings are held at 7 PM.

Burning season ends April 30. Permits may be obtained by calling the Chief at his home phone, 337-4848. Please do not call on the fire phone.

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SELECTMEN'S REPORT

by Anne Steinbock, Chairman Keath Board of Selectmen

The Selectmen have been very busy lately working on the budget, which is almost complete, and preparing for the town meeting on May 2. The Chairman has also been a member of the Finance Committee for the County budget, which is also just about complete.

The Police Chief, Fire Chief, our newly appointed Civil Defense Director, Jack Purkis, and his wife Susan who will be his assistant, and the Chairman of the Selectmen and one Fire Department member attended a one and a half day seminar in Williamstown in March on the emergency preparedness plan. The seminar was sponsored by the state Civil Defense.

The Selectmen's "Road Rebellion" is making progress. The Mass. Selectmen's Assoc. and the Mass. Municipal Assoc. have agreed to take up our cause. We now have towns in Hampshire and Berkshire Counties, as well as interest from the city of Springfield and some suburban towns outside Boston. Our roads will be in much better shape if we can persuade the state to give us our road money back and let us do them our way.

A town wide thank you to Highway Department members, Ray Galipo, Gordon Hathaway, Nathan Clark, and Dohn Sherman for their efforts all winter to keep the roads clear. It has also been another accident free winter for the crew, which is a money saver for the town on Workmen's Compensation.

The most important matter that affects us all at this time of year, not to mention how it affects us all the year, is the Annual Town Meeting and Elections on May 2, 1983. The Selectmen urge everyone over 18 to go to the polls and Yote. If you are not registered to Yote, you have until April 12 to see Town Clerk Catherine Nichols and register. Catherine is very obliging and will register you at almost any time. Then Exercise Your Power and Yote at the Election and Town Meeting. Let us aim for 100% voter turnout.

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FROM THE LIBRARY

By Edith Gleason, Librarian

We have a few innovations to add to our list at this time. On March 9 we hosted the Playschool group at a story hour which was enjoyed by thirteen youngsters and their teachers. Each youngster was sent a away with an Easter bunny they had constructed with help, complete with a fluffy tail. They also enjoyed watching film strips.

Also last month we started a traveling library to people who cannot make the trip to the Library in person. It is still on a trial basis, but it should work this way: At intervals I will pack a box of books which a volunteer will take to the shut-in. The shut-in will pick books from this selection and the rest of the box will come back to the Library. Each book may be kept three weeks with the privilege of renewal. Anyone can have this new service. If you are unable to come to the Library, or if you know of a shut-in and could carry books to him/her, please contact me. We also loan records and magazines.

Have you noticed our magazines lately? Thanks to Bob Gruen, they are now wearing plastic covers. This should keep them looking new longer,

Recent new books are: Master of the Game, Sheldon; Jade, Barr; Farewell to Heroes, Graham (Sports); General's Life, Bradley; Banker, Francis; Path to Power (Johnson), Caro.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE NEWS

by Richard Housner, Chairman

The Heath School Committee will hold its annual public hearing on the 1983-84 school budget Tuesday April 12 at 7:30 PM in Sawyer Hall. The Committee strongly urges the public to attend.

As part of the Arts Infusion Program at Rowe School, Mrs. Rillings' and Mr. Shoenfeld's classes attended the Springfield Museum of Fine Arts and the Museum of Natural History on March 25.

On March 23 the Rum Island Dance Company performed for students at Rowe School. The Heath Cooperative Playschool and Monroe Bridge School were also in attendance.

On Tuesday March 29 a panel discussion was held on "Kindergarten Readiness and the Role of Kindergarten in Your Child's Education." Panel members were Dorthy Schubert, Lois Holm, Deborah Porter and Buth Law.

A student music concert was held at the Rowe School on Monday morning, April 4.

The Rowe chess club visited the B.C.S. School on April i for a tournament. There was super-enthusiasm surrounding this event in both schools and it may become a basis for traditional team matches.



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BOOK REVIEW

by Marion Mascola

The Man Who Lived at the Ritz by A.E. Hotchner is an exciting novel of adventure set in Paris during the German occupation. The central character is Philip Weber, a 38 year old American art historian and expatriate living at the Ritz for many years when the Germans take possession.

The hotel is commandeered as headquarters for such Nazi hierarchy as Goering and Goebbel, allowing resident civilians to continue to occupy their quarters. Since at this time, the United States is not yet at war with Germany and hating to move from his home of 11 years, Weber decides to remain as does his long time friend Coco Chanel. Under the occupation many dramatic changes occur.

Philip meets Herman Coering for the first time upon entering the hotel elevator and soon becomes involved with the Nazi potentate in a plot to secure great works of art from the Rothschilds as well as other wealthy collectors. Through Coco, Philip also meets and falls helplessly in love with a beautiful but evasive woman, unaware that she is an agent working with the French Resistance.

This, along with Goering's preference for wearing women's clothes, his addiction to morphine, his sadism and his mastery of the ambitious Goebbels as well as Hitler himself, is woven into a highly dramatic novel of intrigue during history's most turbulent times. It charts the course of Philip Weber from a ne'er-do-well expatriate to a man committed to the machinations of the French underground.

I found the story absorbing, interesting and thoroughly enjoyable. I definitely recommend it.

COMMUNITY HALL BENEFIT DANCE

by Terry Pettengill

The Community Hall Committee extends a sincere thank you to Phil Fournier, Doug Wilkins, Diane Stowe, Tina Smith, and friends who earned \$90 at a benefit dance for the Hall on March 12th. These proceeds will be used to have the upstairs piano tuned and repaired, and to purchase a large push broom for the upper hall. Plans are in the making for future benefits for the Hall. Anyone wishing to assist and/or attend may contact Phil or Doug.

PRESCHOOL SCREENING

The School Departments of the rine town area of the Mohawk Trail School District are offering developmental screening for three and four year old children in compliance with state and federal law. This screening will assess each child's development and is offered throughout the year by appointment. The purpose of the screening is to identify children who may need special services or a special program before entering school.

A parent orientation meeting to explain the screer ing and to find out what special education services are available will be held on April 22 at 2:30 PM in the library at Mohawk School. Please contact Lois Holm, Early Childhood Coordinator, at 625-2555 if you plan to attend or if you wish to schedule an appointment for screening.

A HEATH EDUCATIONAL SERVICE

Heath has another new business! Litchfield Educational Services was officially founded early this year by Budge and Sheila Litchfield to provide a wide variety of educational services to individuals and organizations. Budge's area of expertise allows him to tutor students with academic needs. Currently he provides this at home for a high school student coaches a family with a deaf child in use of sign language. In the past Budge has taught sign language and interpreted for deaf students at the University of Mass. as well as several years of teaching at Rowe School and Sanderson Academy. Budge holds a Masters Degree in Education from the University of Mass.

Sheila is a registered nurse with a Batchelors Degree, also from University of Mass., and is a health educator with specialty areas in Maternal/Child Health and in First Aid. She is currently providing a Pediatric First Aid course for parents and teachers at Greenfield Girls Club and at Valley Play School as well as one for babysitters at Mohawk High School. These courses are funded under grants from the F.C. Health Education consortium and cosponsored by the Mohawk Valley Medical Center and the school district. Also under this grant, Sheila will provide CPR training to all interested teachers in the Mohawk Trail School District.

For two years Sheila has been leading prenatal and postpartum fitness classes at Greenfield YMCA and she teaches three courses at the Greenfield Girls Club for elementary school students. She has eight years experience teaching first aid and CPR and has provided training to many fire and police departments, and to the general public. Sheila is a health educator with the Mohawk Valley Medical Center currently providing a "Positive Parenting" support group through the Center.

They hope at some point soon to even out the work load with Budge taking on more courses and Sheila fewer. It is surely a unique opportunity to share business and home management activities.

Anyone interested in further information should call the Litchfields at 337-4957.

PANEL ON YOUTH PROBLEMS

There will be a panel discussion on alcohol and drug related problems among young people at Mohawk High School on April 14 at 7 PM. The panel will be composed of Carol Decker from the Beacon Clinic of FCPH, David Grader of Univ. of Mass. Campus Police, and Richard Colgan, Franklin County Probation Officer. All students, parents and community members are invited to attend.

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CHURCH NEWS

by Amy C. Barry

The Heath Union Church has launched a "talent investment program" similar to one undertaken last year in the Warwick church. The Deacons announced the fund drive late in February to raise \$500 in "working capital" by Easter. Church members will be invited to take up to \$50 of the money and use their special talents to see how much they can multiply it. Each investor will be asked to return the seed money and any profit by September 30.

The money raised by this program will be used for repairs to the Church, including new storm windows, and for missionary work in Franklin County. The Church has already raised over \$600 for the fund and the Deacons and our pastor, Mrs. Dooley, are very enthusiastic about the success of the program.

The ordination of Mrs. Dooley will take place May i at the Rowe Community Church. The ordination service will begin at 3 PM and a reception will follow at the Rowe School. Mrs. Dooley's father-in-law, Rev. Marvin Dooley, pastor of the First Baptist Church of Alpaugh, CA will give the ordination sermon. This will be a very special day in the life of both churches and all are invited to attend the service and reception.

CPR COURSE IN HEATH

There will be a three session CPR course held for the public at the Heath Community Hall starting May 17 from 7 to 9 PM.

The course will cover rescue breathing, choke saving, cardio-pulmonary resuscitation and general information on heart disease and heart health. The cost is \$3.95 per person and is recommended for persons 12 years of age or older. Family members taking the course together can share a book and eliminate additional book fees.

You can register by calling Sheila Litchfield at 337-4957. Anyone desiring recertification in CPR should also call so a course can be arranged.

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"SELECT MANS REPORT FOR 1850"

The selectman report at the commencement of the year there was due from the Treasurer to the town the sum of \$921:26

Charged by the assessors to colect of Squire Benson per collector the present year the sum of \$1650.68

School fund from the state	44:15
State Pauper money from the state	25.55
Pedlar license	3.
Charged to collect of D. Temple	8.96
	2653.60
Treasurer's account	1761.76
Leaving a balance due the town of	891.84
Paid surveyors of Highways for repair	
highways and bridges	
Assessors bill	35.06
To Joseph Adams for the year ,49	13.39
John Reid ,49	2,60
John Davenport	5.75
Stephen G. Davenport	5.00
Prentiss B. Stickney	10.90
Otis Temple	12.75
Jerome Thompson	15.00
Abijah Cleason	4.50

Paid David Carrier for damage on horse the sum of 40.00

Costs of suit against D White 10.25

There will on the fourteenth of this month be due to defereant individuals for the support of the

poor the past year	430.00
Paid the present year	130.00 560.00
•	560.00

Due to the several School Districts

the sum of 130.00

Amount of drawn, ___, and not receipted 53.57

Balance due the town 891.84 613.57

Leaving a balance not ordered and appropriated 278.27

All which is submitted by the Selectmen

David Temple David Rugg

11.85

2.25

613.57

Heath March 3, 1851

Joshua Flagg

Henry L. Kendrick

massarihed from the original at the

" Transcribed from the original at the Heath Historical Society by Amy Barry



OUR OLD FARMHOUSE

by Marcella Lively

(This is the thirteenth in a series of articles on the older houses in Heath. The present Lively place is on Number Nine Road across from Peter's Store.)

A Mr. Brown, son of John and Lucy Brown, bought 50 acres from John and Naamah Williams in 1810, with our farmhouse on it. A son George bought the farm from his father, who had enlarged it to 100 acres. A David Roberts was the next owner, followed by Chandler Churchill, who in turn sold it to Paul's grandfather and grandmother, Levi and Mary Lively.

In 1912, Grandfather Lively opened what is now Peter's Store in one room of our farmhouse, moving into two additional rooms plus a large hallway as his business grew.

Sometime later Levi added an addition to the south end of the farmhouse. It includes what is now the kitchen, woodshed and two upstairs bedrooms. The woodshed is also presently used by our son, Mathew, for a sugar house.

When we took down the old plaster in our very large living room, we could clearly see where the room was divided into at least four rooms of various sizes. On the north end was a closed off door casing staring at us from the distant past. I tried to visualize what the rooms were used for. They most likely, at least in the beginning, were used as bedrooms.

It must have been wonderful for the people in the north end of town to be able to shop nearby, especially not to have to brave the snowy or muddy roads for any great distance. What a blessing it must have been! If what people wanted was out of stock, Grandfather would see that they got it as soon as possible. The motto still holds today, "If you don't see it, ask for it". Grandfather was a very thoughtful and thorough businessman, as was his wife Mary.

In 1913, Grandfather moved the store across the road and eventually his eldest daughter Phillipine and her husband, Leon Peters, bought it - hence the name, "Peter's Store."

After all their children left home, Grandfather sold the farm to his youngest son Roland and his wife, Marie Reine, Paul's mother and father. A lot of children moved through its rooms at that time, as there were eight boys and one girl.



Fresh Winds Farm

This picture of the Lively farm taken around 1948 showns the original farm with the farmhouse, barn and shop building. According to Marie Reine, Paul's mother, "the middle rows are the beans, the lower ones are the potatos, then above the beans is pa's tobaca, 2 short tiny rows, then Maurice's corn, just before the barn is my garden.

OUR OLD FARMHOUSE (continued)

Their third son Paul and 'yours truly' bought the farm from his father shortly before he died. The last thing he said to me was "I hope the farm won't be a burden to you in the future".

Perhaps it is, because taxes can be pretty heavy at times, and the old farmhouse does need a lot of work, but it is still home to my husband Paul and our seven wonderful sons.

A house, even the most lavishly appointed, is just a house unless it is peopled with someone - is it not? I figure our house, even if sorely in need of repair, is a haven in the storms of life or of nature, and I hope a home to our children.

I do have hopes that in the near future we will do needed repairs so that it will stand, once again, proudly as I'm sure it did in its younger days. Time and money always seem to be in short supply, but as the old saying goes, "Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home."



Lively Farmhouse about 1960
(Photo from Paul Lively)

LADIES AID

The Heath Ladies Aid will meet again on April 7 at 11 AM in the Community Hall after a winter recess. Everyone is welcome. So bring your sewing basket and a sandwich. Desert and beverage are provided by the members on a rotating basis. The Ladies will be working on articles for their annual fair to be held on July 27.



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ANOTHER VIEW POINT ON WOOD LIFE

by Caroline Smith

I feel that a few remarks on the plus side of heating with wood should be given. Wood stoves to our way of thinking, if properly used, are a useful, practical, and energy saving way to heat.

A good stove, properly stoked, will give the house some warmth over the night, and in the morning will start up quite quickly, in time to boil water and even make toast when the power is off. Also we find by opening a cupboard by the fireplace in the upstairs bedroom a good bit of heat permeates the room.

As far as dryness in the house is concerned, all houses do get dry in the winter. I remember my Mother's house, heated by oil, and because she was old and sedentary she turned the thermostat up high making for us an uncomfortably hot and dry house. A humidifier is essential and kettles on the stoves pour out health giving moisture.

We have one side loading and two top loading stoves and have never burned ourselves. With wood cut the right length and split there should be no problem in loading them.

If the wood is cut on your own property as with us, a by-product of wood burning stoves is the thinning of the forest and the removal of dead trees which all make for better forest management.

PRODUCTS IN A CORD OF WOOD

Different products require different kinds of trees but, for general information, a cord of wood will yield the following quantities of products:

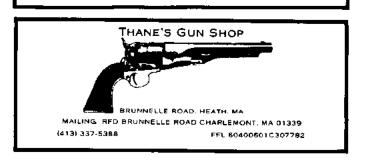
1 cord of wood yields - 7,500,000 toothpicks;
- or 1000-2000 lbs. of paper; - or 942, i lb
books; - or 61,370 standard envelopes; - or.
4,384,000 commemorative size postage stamps;
- or 460,000 personal checks; - or 89,870
sheets of letter size bond paper; - or 1200
copies of the National Geographic, - or 2700
copies of the average 35 page daily newspaper;
- or 250 copies of the Sunday New York Times;
- or 30 Boston rockers; - or 12 dining room
tables.

(One cord of wood equals a pile of wood 4'x4'x8' or 80 cubic ft. of solid wood)

• • condensed from The Forestland Review Winter 1983

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HEATH PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Todd Howe won second prize, a \$100 gift certificate to Berkshire East, at the SKI-A-THON held recently at Berkshire East. The fund raiser, sponsored by the Franklin County Public Hospital, benefited the American Heart Association.

<u>Nicole Fogarty</u>, a member of Mohawk School girls' indoor track team, won the 300-yard dash at the Western Massachusetts High School Indoor Track Championships.Nicole, a Junior, also ran 16th in the 1000-yard event.

The log home owned by Norman and Joan Sessions is featured in an ad by Northeastern Log Homes in the February issue of "Yankee" magazine. The "Yankee" ad features an exterior photograph. The interior shots will be used in calendars and floor plan brochures.

Luke Housner, piano student of Chong Wor Shin, performed in concert at the Brattleboro Music Center on March 27. He played J. S. Bach's <u>Inventions Number 14</u> and <u>Morning Prayer</u> by Tchaikovsky. Luke will be in another concert in Northfield in May.

Friends and neighbors of <u>Grace Crowningshield</u> are urged to support her auction of farm equipment and animals at her farm on May 6.

Eric Summer brought down the roof playing the lead man, Emile, in Mohawk School's presentation of "South Pacific".

Marisa Housner has added another course to the physical education program at the Academy at Charlemont. A few students and staff are learning the art of ballet. Marisa has high credentials having studied ballet for six years, this summer with the Joffrey Ballet and the Ballet School both in New York, and this winter at Williams College.

Millie Giard has returned home from Farren Memorial Hospital and is getting along well.

Ray and Teresa Pettengill recently spent a week's vacation in sunny Bermuda.

Don and Lucia Finck have returned from a recent trip to South Carolina where they attended graduation ceremonies at Faris Island for their daughter, Private Laurel Finck, USMC. Laurie returned home for a few days before leaving for Ft. Leonard Wood, MO for schooling.

PHIL'S PICK-UP

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POSTAGE

S.U

OT JIAM

Bob Dane is showing some of his glass sculpture at the National Glass Show held at the Habitat Gallery in Detroit on April 11. He is also exhibiting his work at the Washington Craft Show at the Smithsonian in Washington, May 6-8. Out of 2000 entries, 100 craft artists were invited to the show which is the first major juried exhibition and sale in Washington to present crafts as a fine art.

<u>David</u> and <u>Lynn</u> <u>Dooley</u> have returned from a vacation in Hawaii.

Jennifer Fogel-Songer recently performed in "The Belle of Amherst" at several places in Jamacia Plai: She will next give this play in Williamsburg, MA on April 30, at the Athol Library on May 11, and in Washington in May.

Eric Summer is the "Senator" from Franklin-Hampshire County in the Student Covernment Day program at the State House in Boston on April 8.

Charles Miller will show his film "Tepoztlan: Birth, Life and Death in a Mexican Village" at GCC on April 13 at 7 PM. Charles and his wife Lynn spent a year filming the traditional, everyday life of this rural village.

MILESTONES

by Edith Royer

Caleb Andrew was born on February 5 to Karen and George Giard Jr. of Colrain. Caleb is the great grandson of Anita and David Giard and Rosalie and Wilburt Rainville Sr.

Amie Marie was born on February 12 to Deborah and Kirk Pettengill of Shattuckville. Amie is the grand-daughter of Terry and Ray Pettengill and Mary and Forest Gleason of Buckland.

Aaron Richard was born on February 15 to Beverly and Erol Blinn of Greenfield. Aaron is the great grandson of Clarence Cutter.

Rebecca Lynn was born on March 6 to Cheryl and Ernest Wright of Shelburne Falls. Rebecca is the great granddaughter of Rosalie and Wilburt dainville Sr.

Brandon O'Walley was born on March 29 to Maureen O'Malley and William Lattrell.

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