



HEATH HERALD

HEATH'S FIRST NEWSPAPER 25¢

ACID RAIN, NUCLEAR-FREE ZONE, COUNCIL ON AGING PASS TOWN MEETING

by D. F. Howland

About 60 citizens of Heath met on Monday, May 2, in the Community Hall to hear the results of the elections and to consider 19 articles on the town warrant. All the articles were passed and in less than two hours Moderator Edward Calver gaveled the 1983 Annual Town Meeting to adjournment.

Outside of a reduction of \$464 in the Rowe School budget, there was no change in Article 3, the budget appropriation, and \$448,524 was voted. Funds from Free Cash were used to increase the Stabilization Fund (\$10,000) and to reduce the Insurance Account and Taxes (\$10,000 each). Revenue sharing funds were voted to fund an audit of the town's books (\$5000) and to purchase Fire Department equipment (\$4400). Depending on state aid and other variables, property taxes may increase about \$1.00 per thousand. The fact that the FY 1982-83 tax rate has not been set makes it difficult to forecast the levy limitations in accordance with Proposition 2½.

There was considerable discussion on three other articles; the creation of a Council on Aging, a resolution to control and reduce acid rain and a declaration to make Heath a nuclear-free zone. Some concern was expressed about future costs and the need in Heath for a Council on Aging but it was voted in 35 to 17. Judith Hibshman provided background information on the acid rain proposal which passed 41 to 6, and the nuclear-free zone proposal was carried overwhelmingly by voice vote. Also voted was the establishment of a Park Committee to develop an area south of the Community Hall as a playground at no cost to the town.

Sixty percent of the town's 304 registered voters cast ballots in the elections. Anne Steinbock was re-elected Selectman over Paul Lively by a vote of 132 to 52. There were no other contested races. Bruce Cromack was elected to the Finance Committee by a write-in vote. (Walter Gleason did not renew his bid for the post.) Three appointees to town boards were elected: Linda Marcotte, Finance Committee; John Moriarty, Board of Assessors; Patrick Veneri, School Committee. Other incumbents who were re-elected were Susan Gruen, School Committee; Teresa Pettengill, Library Trustee; Newland Smith, Auditor.

An important change in the makeup of the Planning Board was voted. Henceforth members will be elected by ballot rather than nominated at the Town Meeting. This will provide more time for people to consider participation in this important function.

All in all, a Town Meeting nicely in the tradition of the founders of our town and country.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY PLANS

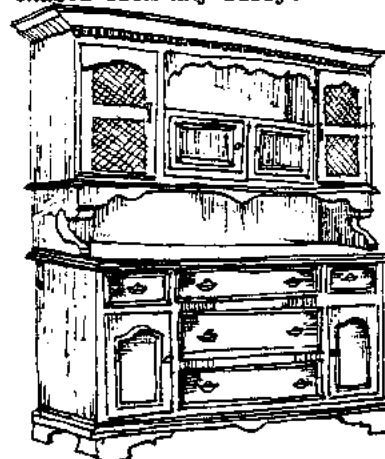
by Amy C. Barry

The Heath Historical Society is planning several events for the summer. The annual Society's "Festival" will be held on the town Common Saturday, July 16, from 10 AM to 4 PM. There will be flea markets, craft and baked goods, and the one and only HHS tag sale that promises to tempt even the most prudent with its delightful variety of articles at rock bottom prices. During the Festival both museums will be open and the newly restored Emerson family portrait will be on display in the Old Town House.

The Curator is working on several other special exhibits for the museums. A folk art exhibit will be set up in conjunction with the Emerson painting restoration project. Be sure to see the large and varied collection of old boxes, including a keg for drinking water that is 200 years old. The Holy Bible presented as a "Thankoffering" to St. Faith's Summer School in 1913 will also be on display. And you should not forget to visit the Center Schoolhouse Museum for a look at the recently restored Heath Rifle Company Flag and the other military articles.

The annual meeting of the Heath Historical Society will be held on Saturday, August 6, at the Community Hall. The guest speaker will be Mrs. Suzanne Flynt, Assistant Curator at the Memorial Hall Museum in Deerfield. She will give a slide talk on portrait painting in early New England. The meeting will be preceded by a potluck supper and an opportunity to visit the museums.

The fundraising drive to pay for the restoration of the Emerson family portrait is now in full swing. Raffle tickets for the cherry hutch will soon be on sale at several locations in Shelburne Falls and Greenfield as well as at Peters' Store. The hutch will be raffled off at the Heath Fair on August 21. Tickets sell for \$1.00 each and can also be purchased from Amy Barry.



Hutch, made by Dominic Musacchio is 72" high 62" wide and 20" deep.

(Drawing by
Richard Housner)

LETTERS

To the Editors:

A recent Friday was a frightening day for the Litchfield family. Once again we felt the warmth and concern of our neighbors in this wonderful town of Heath. We all believed that our 84 year old "Grampa" (Leon Stewart) had wandered away into what could be thousands of acres of woodlands. How could we find him? The citizens of our town rose to the occasion.

Led by Earl Gleason and the Heath Fire Department and our own Lorin Gowdy, plus three State troopers and a trained dog, more than forty men and women, young and old, gathered to comb the woods. For more than five hours these wonderful people walked through the area. Finally at dusk, one last effort by Norman Sessions took him up Vincent Road; there he found "Grampa" coming out of the woods.

We all had a joyful reunion, but "Grampa" was not sure why there was such a fuss! He had been "cutting brush"! Thank you to all of you who helped look for him, and those who prayed for us on that day. Our family has been a part of Heath for seventeen years. We are proud to be a part of this beautiful community and hope in time we can return to Heath some of what it has meant to us.

The Litchfield Family

To the Editors:

After reading a current issue of the HEARALD, I am interested in your articles on the older houses in Heath. I am wondering if there has been a report on the dairy farm on Sumner Stetson Road? I enjoy the HEATH HERALD very much. . . .

Debra J. Lavigne
Marlboro, Mass.

Alan L. Nichols Wooden Chairs and Tables

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HEATH HERALD

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MILESTONES

by Edith Royer

Sarah Jean was born on February 18 to Karen Brooks and Chris Burke.

Kara Lynne was born on May 9 to Debbie and Douglas Seibert of Greenfield. Kara is the great granddaughter of Rosalie and Wilburt Rainville and of Anita and David Giard.

Heather was born on May 9 to Dawn and Shawn Ryan of Fort Lauderdale, FL. Heather is the great granddaughter of Michael Bakalar.

Kari Selina was born May 23 to Sue and Harley Hunkler of Papoose Lake Drive.

Laura Erica was born on May 25 to Sandra and Lorin Gowdy. Laura is the granddaughter of Jeanette and Howard Crowningshield.

Mark Squier was born on April 5 to Carole and David Howland. Mark is the grandson of Pegge and David Howland.

Pegge and David Howland have announced the engagement of their daughter Martha Lee Howland to James Taylor of Rowe, the son of Doris and Edwin Taylor of Greenfield. An August wedding is planned.

Caroline Kades, daughter of Charles Kades, was married to Peter Foster-Bunch on May 7 in Sidney, Australia. Phyllis and Chuck flew to Australia for the wedding and stayed to watch preparations for a round-the-world honeymoon on a catamaran.

Ralph Riddle celebrated his 90th birthday in February. Ralph was a long time summer resident living on South Road and now lives with his son and daughter-in-law in Annapolis, MD.

Mrs. Marion Patterson celebrated her 80th birthday on May 4.

Mrs. Frances B. Coursey died on April 7 in Hopkinsville, KY. She was the mother of James B. Coursey of Bassett Road.

Mrs. Mildred Crowningshield of Heath and Charlemont died on April 17. She leaves four sons, Frederick and Howard of Heath, Francis of Brandywine, MD, and Earl of Charlemont; 15 grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

Rev. John W. Harris died on April 29. A service was held on May 7. He was a summer resident for many years living on the west side of the Oxbow.

HEATH PRECIPITATION

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

April precipitation was 9.32 inches; May precipitation was 5.85 inches. The total January through May precipitation was 31.19 inches. We had 16 inches of snow in April, and several snow flurries in May. Total snowfall for the 1982-83 season was 84½ inches.

The best description of the weather in April and May is wet !

SEARCH FOR LIBRARIAN

by Alli Thane, Chairman
Heath Library Trustees

The Library Trustees received three applications for the position of Librarian which were opened on June 6. Following interviews a Librarian will be appointed by June 15 to be effective on July 1.

HEATH GRADUATES

by Edith Royer

The HERALD extends its congratulations to each of the following Heath students who have graduated from their respective schools.

Graduating from Rowe Elementary School are: Angela Churchill, Scott Cole, Tanja Davin, Luke Housner, Lee Anne Howe, Lark Miller, Chris Poisson, Arlo Seaver, and Karen Venneri.

Graduates from Mohawk Trail Regional High School are: David Clark, who may pursue a career in carpentry; Matthew Denouden, who will attend the University of Hartford; Sheri Ann Galipo, to attend Katherine Gibbs School; Peter Kain; Tena Smith, to attend GCC; Diane Stowe, who will attend Baypath Jr. College; and Eric Sumner, who will attend GCC.

Graduating from Franklin County Technical School are: James A. Fournier, to attend Technical Careers Institute in Enfield, majoring in diesel mechanics; Matthew T. Lively, who will continue working on the Shearer farm in Northfield; Michael J. Peters, entering the US Air Force in the electronics field; and Dale M. Sessions, who will pursue a career in art.

Faye Hamilton graduates from the East Charlemont Bible School.

Jerome Lively graduated from the Acadamey at Charlemont. He will be working and preparing for college.

Graduating from GCC are: Jean M. Holdsworth, Martha L. Howland, Robin H. Law, John M. Porter, and Katherine Reilley.

Awards were given to the following graduates at the Mohawk Trail Regional High School: Diane Stowe, Excellence in Accounting; Eric Sumner, the Pratt prize for the student making the most of his opportunities, DAR award in Citizenship, award for Excellence in Spanish, Audio-visual award, Student Government award, Service to Class as President of his class.

Jean Holdsworth was one of five honored by the GCC Foundation for her academic achievement.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE NEWS

by Richard Housner, Chairman

At the May 10 meeting, the Heath School Committee reorganized electing Richard Housner, Chairman; Patrick Venneri, Vice-Chairman; Susan Gruen, Secretary. The time of meeting continues to be the second Tuesday of the month at 7:30 PM.

Highlights in Rowe School during May include the California Achievement Tests for grades 3 through 6, the grade 6 Washington trip, a visit to Hancock Shaker Village by grades 4 through 6, visit to the Deerfield Planetarium by grades 1 through 3, a viewing and discussion of the film "And Then One Year", which centers on pre-adolescent physical development with Susan Gruen moderating discussion and answering questions for parents.

The graduation exercises at Rowe Elementary School will be held on June 14 at 7 PM.

Richard A. Sumner

Journeyman Electrician
Mass. License #E22622
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EVENING WHITES FOR THE GARDEN

by Pat Leuchtman

My days are often spent away from my Heath hill and I spend the weekends working around the house and garden so it is only in the evening that I have a chance to admire the garden. I know this is true for many of my neighbors and friends in town.

Because I know I will promenade in the evening I've planted a number of white flowers in my border. White flowers stand out in the gloaming and seem to illuminate from within, each blossom a fairy lantern.

Right now I have a few white perennials in the garden, mounds of shasta daisies that look like clouds of stars; Miss Lindgard's phlox, pale spires piercing the night; white Siderian iris, a ghostly shimmer; and silvery artemesia. I even have creamy white foxgloves growing beneath my apple tree.

None of these is difficult to grow. They multiply abundantly every year and are almost trouble free. They are not only beautiful in the garden. They make excellent cut flowers for the house and the plants left in the garden will be inspired to another flush of bloom.

There are many other flowers I could - and will include as my garden expands, which it seems determined to do. I already have Miss Lingard but there are other white phloxes, Rembrandt, Snowball and White Admiral are just a few. There are white campanulas and columbine, billows of baby's breath and delicate candytuft. Even the common white petunia seems fragile and special by moonlight.

I'm tempted to grow a moon vine and fat and fuzzy lamb's ears would be worth growing just to see the grandchildren's reactions.

I do have white lilacs; this spring I am planting a rose, White Dawn, that I hope will climb and festoon an old apple tree that is located in the middle of my border. Someday I am going to get a white wisteria and white lilies (not day lilies) maybe Juliana or Moonlight Strain.

Other white flowers that have a marvelous fragrance are the sprawly, night-blooming nicotiana and night scented stocks. I don't find them particularly gorgeous, but their scent on the evening air is delightful.

There are many other white flowers. I have admired the tall spikes of cimicifuga in Ed Calver's gardens and at the last Heath Fair people entered scabiosa alba, a white liatris. There is even a white bleeding heart. I'm sure everyone could name favorite whites that I haven't mentioned. I love white flowers and find them useful because they bring a luminescence to the evening garden and a lightness and grace to mixed bouquets brought into the house.

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DEDICATED LIBRARIAN RETIRES

by John Holdsworth

"May I help you?" For 17 years and more, that softly spoken question from Mrs. Edith Gleason has greeted new and old visitors to the Heath Public Library. In July a different voice will greet us and Mrs. Gleason will step down as the full-time Librarian, freed of the time restrictions of the library job to do the many other things she wants to do.

Mrs. Gleason has always been a reader and user of libraries, but her first "professional" association came in 1959 when she was elected to the Board of Library Trustees in Heath. She was a trustee through 1966. Then, as now, the board members would also assume the librarian's duties on occasion, and Mrs. Gleason recalls that stoking the wood stove was one of those duties until the floor furnace was installed in the early 1960's.

Susan Gleason was Librarian in 1966. In September, Sue resigned to raise a family and a number of people filled in until the end of the year when Edith's husband, Frank, died and she agreed to take the Librarian's position on a trial basis until April. She has been the Librarian ever since and, to many of us, the library without Mrs. Gleason won't seem quite like the Heath Public Library.

As a trustee she oversaw a change from wood to gas heat - a real time-saver for the Librarian, and an increase in the library collection from about 600 to over 3000 books. The hours of operation increased to 10 per week in 1963 as the library was opened Monday and Wednesday evenings and Saturday afternoons. Heath joined the Regional Library System in 1962. The bookmobile made a stop at the Branch School and, in the summer of 1964, bookmobile books were distributed from Peters' Store.

In 1966, the library was cleaned, varnished and reorganized to more efficiently use its tiny space; the front section was a reading area, as now, with a small table and wall shelves; the back section, ending where the second door now enters the library, had wall shelves, three stacks and the Librarian's desk. Beyond the back wall was a small, understairs closet for supplies and magazine back issues. Beyond the closet was the old dining room, unheated and useable only in summer, although Mrs. Gleason would put on her coat and go out there in winter to hunt for requested books. Beyond the dining room was the old kitchen and then, yes, the bathroom facilities with three seats and no running water and the well remembered draft.



Edith Gleason Retires - 1983
(Photo by Alli Thane)

LIBRARIAN RETIRES (continued)

Through the years, Mrs Gleason has attended numerous library workshops given by the Regional Library System and, in the summers of 1971 to 1974, she took a course in Library Science at the University of New Hampshire. With the knowledge derived from these courses she directed the change and growth of the Heath Public Library.

In 1973, the library changed from Wednesday evening to Wednesday afternoon to better serve young readers. Monday evenings the library became a meeting place and most of us can remember the pleasant gatherings there as people waiting to see the Selectmen would come in to browse and chat with patrons.

Then a State Inspector condemned Sawyer Hall in 1974 - the beginning of an odyssey for the library that few librarians would have borne. The boxing of books began in 1977; summer 1978 saw many boxes stored in Bradbury's garage, paperbacks at the Community Hall and a real library set up in Bill Wolf's garage.

Winter came on and Mrs. Gleason ran the library, with normal hours, from her house. Summer of 1979 saw the library again operating from Wolf's garage. Finally, late that fall, Sawyer Hall was declared ready; shelves were moved back into the new and larger library; new shelves and a children's table were built; the books and magazines were brought back, sorted and shelved (All those who know her can remember or imagine Mrs. Gleason, feisty as ever, lugging cartons of books around.) and Mrs. Gleason finally had some space to work in (and a real, heated bathroom).

All of the organizing and cataloging since then has consumed many hours. The Librarian is in the library about 10 hours each week but gets paid for 15 hours to compensate for essential work outside library hours. Mrs. Gleason devotes about 20 hours each week to library work - the demands of the job are greater than most people realize.

As Librarian, Mrs. Gleason has been responsible for book and magazine procurement and for development of an audio-visual facility with a large collection of filmstrips, tapes and a projector and with a cassette recorder and many fine cassettes. The library now houses over 6000 books, many circulating records and cassettes and receives about different magazines by subscription and donation.

Heath is a small town but it possesses a library of exceptional quality and much of the credit for that is due to Edith Gleason. We look forward to seeing her as a substitute Librarian and library patron and wish her the best in her new endeavors.

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HEATH CANCER DRIVE A SUCCESS

The American Cancer Society house-to-house drive has brought in \$426 so far, which is a large amount for a small town. Nine volunteers worked hard to cover the town - Helen Nichols, Jayne Dane, Marcella Lively, Hazel Porter, Alli Thane, Phyllis Thane, Evelyn Hillman, Sandra Gilbert, Caroline Smith.

The American Cancer Society is grateful to all of the Heath citizens who gave to this worthwhile cause and to the volunteer workers who helped in this year's campaign.

LADIES AID

by Edith Royer

The Heath Ladies Aid will entertain the Shelburne and Rowe Ladies on June 9.

The memorial money given for Mildred Crowningshield will be used to renovate the Sunday School rooms in the Church.

HISTORICAL NOTE

by Grace Landstrom

A work bee was held at the South Cemetery on May 28th. Relatives and friends of loved ones buried there spent the afternoon repairing fallen and broken stones and cutting brush along the boundary walls.

This is the oldest cemetery in the Town of Heath and has in it a monument in memory of Col. Hugh Maxwell of the Revolutionary War as well as flags marking the graves of veterans of the Civil and later wars.

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AUTO INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE

by Lorin Gowdy, Heath Police Chief

The following information has been prepared by Mr. Alan Mackey the Mass. Registrar of Motor Vehicles to clarify aspects of the new automobile inspection and maintenance program that have created the most confusion.

1. During the initial year of the program (Apr. 1, 1983 - Mar. 31, 1984) every owner of a Mass. registered motor vehicle shall submit the vehicle for inspection in accordance with the schedule outlined here. The last number in the number portion of the registration plate determines the month in which the vehicle is to be inspected. Vehicles with all letter plates are to be inspected in November, state and municipal vehicles in December, and antique cars in June.
2. Certificates of inspection issued after April 1, 1983 are valid until such time as they expire or ownership of the vehicle is transferred.
3. Mass. registered motor vehicles displaying a blue fall inspection sticker and vehicles without such stickers are in conformance with present Mass. inspection regulations until the vehicle is required to be inspected according to the above schedule.
4. Within 7 days of the date on which a vehicle is first registered to a new owner, the vehicle must be submitted for inspection.
5. A vehicle may be legally inspected early, although out of sequence.
6. Motor vehicles that fail the initial emissions and safety inspection receive a reject sticker which allows the operator a 20 day grace period in which to have the necessary repairs completed and return for retest.

It should be noted that trailers are no longer required to be inspected, but are still required to meet the safety standards as before.

Any person who operates a motor vehicle that fails to meet the safety standards established by the registrar shall be punished by a fine of twenty-five dollars.

Any person who fails to have a motor vehicle owned by him inspected for the combined safety and emissions inspection as required shall be punished by a fine of fifty dollars.

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SELECTMEN'S REPORT

by Anne Steinbock, Chairman
Heath Board of Selectmen

The Selectmen will meet with the Selectmen from Hawley and Charlemont on June 13 in Heath at 8 PM to discuss Charlemont's problem concerning the landfill. All interested citizens are welcome and encouraged to attend.

On Monday, June 20 at 8 PM at the regular Selectmen's meeting, Roger Seward from the Franklin County Regional Housing Authority will hold a public hearing on the Erving Six Town Block Grant Application. All interested people or organizations are encouraged to attend.

E 911 According to the County Commissioners, E911 is still being studied. There are two pieces of enabling legislation, one in the legislature and another still being written. The first bill would amend state law to allow counties, as well as cities and towns, to contract for a 911 system. The second would allow the telephone company to charge up to \$1.00 a month to all subscribers to pay for operation of the 911 system. Commissioner John Basset suggested a non-binding referendum to seek public opinion.

Highway Department The Selectmen and Road Superintendent are still struggling with the problem of water supply at the town garage. The generous offer of the Clark's did not work out, so we are back to reworking the problem.

Road Rebellion We don't have a lot of information on the Selectmen's Road Rebellion at this time but we hope for favorable news from the state within the next couple of weeks. Jay Healy has been keeping us posted on developments and reports that the information he has been getting looks positive. Work will not begin on Avery Brook Road until we receive positive word from the state in the matter.

Council on Aging The newly formed Council on Aging needs members. Susan Gleason has volunteered to be the first member. Any interested citizen is asked to see the Selectmen. It is a job that could take as much or as little time as the members have to give.

Visiting Nurse Dorothy Garvin, Executive Director of the Visiting Nurse and Health Services of F.C., made a presentation to the Selectmen of the services available from the organization and urged that their availability should be widely known. These include skilled nursing services, home health aides, homemakers, a maternal and child health program, and other services. Between July 1982 and February 1983, seven Heath residents received a total of 45 visits. The cost of these amounts to about \$950. The town will reimburse the organization for services not covered by any other source; there is a sliding fee scale for patients to purchase services privately.

SELECTMEN MAKE APPOINTMENTS

The Heath Selectmen have announced the following appointments for the current year.

Chairman, Selectmen	Anne Steinbock
Secretary, Selectmen	Edward Calver
Selectmen's Clerk	Catherine Nichols
Chairman, Board of Health	Anne Steinbock
Veterans' Representative	Edward Calver
Dump Committee Representatives	Earl Warriner
	Anne Steinbock
Franklin Co. Regional Transit Authority Representative	Earl Warriner
Chairman, Liquor Commission	Edward Calver
Road Superintendent	Raymond Galipo
Fire Chief	Earl Gleason
Police Chief	Lorin Cowdy
Forest Fire Warden	Earl Gleason
Civil Defense Director	Jack Purkis
Animal Inspector	Paul Lively
Reporter of Diseases	Janet Bliss
Veterans' Agent	Edward Russell
Zoning Board of Appeals	
(Alternates) Jaimye Ingraham, Brenda Clark	
Wiring Inspector	John Rossi
Inspector of Gas Piping	Kenneth Henderson
Registrars of Voters	Catherine Cromack
Don Decker, Alice Woznick, Catherine Nichols	
Constables	Francis Galipo
	Catherine Cromack
Community Hall Committee	Alli Thane
Teresa Pettengill, Dolores Churchill, Teresa Peters, Cleon Peters	
Dog Officer	Michael Smead
Building Inspector	Stephen Judge
Arts Lottery Representative	Robert Gruen
Deputy Tax Collector	Stuart Sumner
Fred W. Wells Trustee	Jean Holdsworth
Parks Committee	Catherine Nichols
Debbie Porter, Doug Wilkins, Pat Fielding, Chris Burke	

I wish to thank the people of Heath for re-electing me Selectman. I will do my best to justify your faith in me.

Anne C. Steinbock



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PLANNING BOARD REPORT

by John Holdsworth

In review of the subdivision regulations, the suggestion was made that a section be added to require subdivision owners to have percolation tests done on lots to be sold as house lots, prior to transfer of the property. This is contrary to the Yankee tradition of "buyer beware" in commercial dealings, but the town would benefit by avoiding a replay of the Mohawk Estates case where many properties cannot be built upon because they can't pass percolation tests (particularly there because of small lot size). The Planning Board does not contemplate many other changes to the subdivision regulations.

Following the Town meeting, Tom Lively was re-elected chairman of the Planning Board and representative to the Franklin County Planning Board. There is some question about what might happen to the County Planning Board under the county reorganization plan; Fred Muehl's job as county planner has been eliminated and some county officials want to severely limit the size of the County Board.

Members of the Heath Board who have attended County Planning Board meetings have felt that issues were dealt with in a reasonably fair and efficient manner and that the Board in its present form has not been unwieldy, and has provided an essential and direct forum for exchange of ideas for decision-making by all the towns.

For the summer months, the Planning Board meetings will commence at 8 PM (rather than 7 PM) in the Heath Library.

The town zoning bylaws are posted at the Town Hall, the Community Hall and Peters' Store; copies can be obtained at the Town Hall.

OUTSTANDING TAX COLLECTIONS

by Sandra Gilbert, Tax Collector

Work is being done to update records on the outstanding tax situation we have. I hope to start "Notice of Tax Taking" procedures in the near future. This procedure will consist of sending each person having outstanding taxes a legal letter by certified mail, listing taxes due and serving as their notice. This method will eliminate the use of a deputy collector who only allows a short period of time and adds fees to each year of taxes owed. Along with this letter will be their Notice of Taking, all prepared and predated ready to go. The costs to the tax payers will be the costs of sending these certified letters, the cost of publishing the Notice in a local newspaper and the recording of the Notice at the Registry of Deeds. At this time the cost is about \$ 32.00 per case. Anyone owning back taxes is strongly urged to get caught up as soon as possible to avoid this next step.

The assessors are still working on preparing our next or second tax bills. The sooner these bills are issued to me to send out, the better. If monies can't be collected through taxes regularly, the town is forced to borrow money at added cost for interest. Let's hope this work will be completed soon.

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FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

by Chief Earl Gleason

On April 7 the Department responded to a reported explosion in a cellar. This turned out to be an overheated boiler causing the relief valve to fill the cellar with steam. Six days later, five firefighters quickly extinguished a grass fire in Dell. We responded to chimney fires on the 17th and 20th. The Heath Police, State Police, and Fire Dept. organized a search for a missing person on May 6. About 40 volunteers responded with one half hour and before the two and a half hour search was over more than 65 volunteers had shown up. At 3:01 AM on May 10 nine firefighters rolled out of bed and responded to a mutual aid fire in Rowe. The weary firefighters returned at 6:10 AM. The final response for this report was to a car fire in front of the fire station when ten firefighters were alerted shortly after 11 PM on May 28.

The Fire Association annual election was held on May 5. Tom Lively is the new president. Steve Marcotte will serve as vice-president and Richards Steinbock will continue as secretary-treasurer. The priorities committee will be Jack Purkis, Walt Gleason, Steiny and Mal Lively. It was also voted to expand our activities at the Heath Fair this summer. As this is one of our major fund raisers, we could use volunteers even if you are not active in the Department. At this time we are looking for people to make root beer, sell root beer, prepare and serve food. Also needed are officials and timekeepers at the firemen's games and people with first aid background to work at the First Aid booth. If you have a couple of hours you can donate call Tom Lively (7-4061) or Earl Gleason (7-4948).

If you have seen the lights on in the meeting room and more activity than usual around the fire house, the reason is our teenage members are planning the firemen's games for the Fair and practicing for games in other towns. I am very happy to see that this room is being used for such purposes.

As the Heath Fair approaches, I would like to remind everyone that the twenty or so firefighters roll out of bed at the worst of all hours, face rather unpleasant circumstances, and try to serve you in the best way we know how. If you would like to put a smile on the face of a firefighter, donate a little time, energy, or talent toward our activities at the Fair. Thank you.

COMMUNITY HALL CLEANUP

The Heath Food Co-op and the Heath Play School volunteers did an excellent job of cleaning the Community Hall on June 4. The Community Hall Committee extends thanks for a job well done.

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CHURCH NEWS

by Amy G. Barry

The Heath Union Church has a full calendar of events scheduled for the summer. On Saturday, July 9, members of the Heath Church will help with the Strawberry Shortcake Booth at the Rowe Old Home Day. The proceeds from the Booth will go to the Rowe and Heath Vacation Bible School. Anyone willing to devote some time to picking, cleaning, baking or selling is asked to call Rev. Dooley at 337-5755.

There will be a joint worship service at Pelham Lake at 10 AM on Sunday, July 10, as part of the Old Home Days celebration. A choir from both churches is expected to sing at this service as well as at the Heath Fairgrounds service on Sunday, August 21. On July 30, the Heath Church will hold its annual auction at the Fairgrounds. This event will benefit the building fund and as usual donations of articles are being solicited. Last year's auction was a great success and it is hoped that it will go as well this year.

The Heath Church and the Rowe Community Church are sponsoring a Vacation Bible School August 1-5 to be held at the Rowe Parish Hall from 9:30 to 12 each morning. The school is for all children from kindergarten age through sixth grade. The daily lesson plan will include Bible study, crafts, and recreation. The week will conclude with a family picnic on Aug. 5. The program is offered free of charge, but pre-registration is necessary in order to help the teachers with their planning. Forms have been sent to all parents in Rowe and Heath.

Sunday School ended on May 29 and in the summer months there will be a story time for the children during the sermon. The Church thanks the Sunday School teachers Dawn Kenney, David Dooley, and Ree Sumner for their effort and interest on behalf of the children during the past year.

ASSESSORS' REPORT

by Richards Steinbock, Chairman
Heath Board of Assessors

Information for updating our records is on its way to the computer. As soon as we get a final valuation update the recap sheet will be off to the state for approval, and as soon as we get that the fiscal 1983 final bills will be winging their way to you. Estimated time of arrival is mid to late June.

As we mentioned in the Town Report, these will be the last pre-revaluation bills. Except for new construction your bills should look like 1982's.

Our preliminary figures indicate that the tax rate will be somewhere between last year's \$24.70 and \$25.00 per thousand. We spent a little more money this year, so probably the rate will be closer to \$25.

Now that we've gotten these bills out of the way, we can plunge back into the revaluation full steam.

If you have any questions when you get your bill, you can come and see us any Monday night. However, bear with us if we can't put our finger on the right information immediately. What with half a dozen different projects going at once, the office is beginning to resemble a federal disaster area. Once we start wrapping up all the facets of the reval, things should start returning to normal.

This month you will see people out measuring houses, asking for tours and taking pictures, as we try to wrap this all up. We all have identification and you won't hurt our feelings if you ask to see it

FARMING WITH OXEN IN HEATH

by Caroline C. Smith

On a rare sunny May day, we went over to see the logging operation of the Clarks on Long Hill Road. We arrived just in time to see two pair of oxen come roaring down a very steep hill, each dragging a huge skid load of logs sliding almost faster than the oxen could move. They came to a halt at the brook beside the road where they delicately (for such large animals) sipped some water. With slender sticks Bill Clark and his brother, Darwin kept them under control.

Tony - 9 years, Mike -13, Tom -14, and Greg -6 are very handsome animals. Tony and Mike each weigh around 1600 pounds and have to be careful not to over eat! Tom and Greg weigh 4700 pounds as a pair. Each pair downs 200 pounds of grain a week when working and the Clarks keep them very busy. They use them for plowing, spreading manure, haying, hauling firewood, logging, sugaring and other uses. Oxen live to be at least 20 years old, so they are a good investment. Other oxen in Heath are owned by Ernest Smith, Peter Smith, Roger Clark, and Phyllis Thane. Perhaps more of us should invest in this oil-saving farm power instead of tractors!



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BICENTENNIAL PLANNING

by Paul Lively, Chairman

With the approval of our request for \$1000 by vote at the Town meeting we now have a total of \$2000 plus interest in a special account - we cannot use any of it until next year.

Pat Leuchtman came up with the idea of having a bicentennial calendar and she has been delegated to develop the idea. Hopefully there will be one ready for sale at next year's Heath Fair.

Steve Marcotte has been given the go-ahead to plan a cross country ski race for the bicentennial. The estimated cost to put on this event is \$600 but it is expected that this amount will be offset by entry fees.

Eric Grinnell is working on setting up several concerts for the bicentennial by the Mohawk Trail Concert Association.

Esther Dickinson has sent out about 40 requests for letters by former Heath residents relating their memories of the town. She has received responses from about half of them.

There will be a beard-growing contest. Carroll Stowe is in charge of this activity.

Bill Thane is gathering information on old houses in town which he will use to produce a booklet for the bicentennial.

Newland Smith, representing the Heath Historical Society, has brought in some suggestions which we are working on. One is to research the life of General Heath and his association with Col. Maxwell. Another is to mark the historical sites in town and also to change the names of town roads back to their original names. There were additional suggestions which will be reported as implementation progresses.

In the coming months we will be meeting with representatives of the Fire Department, the Heath Agricultural Society, and other organizations to learn of their plans of participation in the bicentennial.

NEW PLANS FOR 1983 HEATH FAIR

by Barbara Smith

Hard to believe it's almost Fair time, but in just a few weeks it will be here.

The Heath Agricultural Society is putting the finishing touches on a program that will fill the three day Fair with something to do and see for everyone!

Starting Friday, August 19, there will be a local talent show, a tractor pull, and something new added this year - a garden tractor pull.

The remaining two days of the Fair will contain things to do and see such as cattle shows, sheep shows, a sheep shearing demonstration, the Heath Fair parade, a horse draw, an ox draw and ox parade, children's games. A baby barnyard has been added this year. Also we hope to have a horse show and some bands for entertainment. A "Man of Many Songs", Doug Wilkins, will be there to entertain on Saturday and then, on Saturday night, there will be a square dance at the Community Hall.

This year's Fair will also have refreshments, a flea market, a chicken barbeque, and the exhibit hall with its many forms of art.

This year for the first time the Agricultural Society is offering pre-fair tickets for sale. Admission to the Fair is \$2.00 for all over 12 years of age. We have a strip of five tickets now on sale for the price of \$8.00, a saving of one \$2.00 admission.

For anyone needing information concerning the Fair or for pre-fair tickets, call Barbara Smith, 337-5563. Hope to see you all at the 1983 Heath Fair.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

June 11	8pm	Square Dance, Community Hall
June 14	7pm	Rowe School Graduation
June 18		Dinner, Community Hall, benefit Heath Agricultural Society
June 25-26		Balloon Festival & Crafts Fair Oxbow Motel, East Charlemont - launchings 7-8am & 1n pm on the 25th.
July 3	7-11am	Mohawk Estates Breakfast - all you can eat, \$2.00
July 9-10		Rowe Old Home Days
July 10	9:30am	Joint Church Service, Pelham Lake
July 16	10am-4pm	Heath Historical Society Festival and Tag Sale, Town Common, Museums open
July 27	3pm	Ladies Aid Fair, sale & supper Community Hall
July 30		Heath Church Auction Fairgrounds
Aug. 1-5	9:30-12n	Heath/Rowe Vacation Bible School, Rowe Parish Hall
Aug. 6	8pm	Historical Society Annual Meet- ing, Community Hall, preceded by pot luck supper - Museums open
Aug. 19-21		HEATH FAIR
Aug. 21	PM	Drawing for Historical Society Raffle at Fairgrounds
Aug. 21	9:30am	Joint Church Service, Fairgrounds
<u>All Summer</u>		
Each 2nd Sat.	8pm	Square Dance, Community Hall
Each Sat.	7:30pm	Mohawk Estates Association - Bingo
July 1 -Aug. 29		Oxbow Dinner Theatre East Charlemont
(various nights)		
July 15,16 22,23		Mohawk Trail Concerts, Federated Church, Charlemont
29,30		- also Special Event, July 3 in Atwater Barn, E. Charlemont
Aug. 5,6 12,13 19,20		Historic Deerfield, guided tours - 12 historic houses
Mon.-Sat. 9:30-4:30		Bear Swamp Pumped Power Plant
Sunday 11-4:30		Visitors Information Center
Weekdays 10-4		



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 8 PM

Tax Collector: (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

Library: Mondays 7-9 PM Wednesdays 1-5 PM
Saturdays 1-5 PM

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

Dump: Mondays 10 AM - 2 PM Wednesdays 2-7 PM
Saturdays 9 AM - 5 PM

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FOR LEASE: The "Stone Cottage" in Heath Center - 3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, Country Kitchen, Living Room with Fireplace & Tempwood stove, Basement Family Room with woodstove. Gas furnace, lovely surroundings, partially furnished. Available July 1st - \$350/month. Phone Lois Buchiane 772-0891 or 659-3973.

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HEATH PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Rachel Green, daughter of David Green, gave a performance on May 28 at the Folkways in Peterborough, NH. She also performed at the Iron Horse in Northampton on May 31 and at Passim's in Cambridge on June 2. Rachel and her partner, called the "Chanterelles" accompany their singing with guitars and recorders.

Dale Sessions, son of Joan and Norman Sessions has designed pictures of covered bridges for the annual calendar of the Franklin County Technical School.

Marisa Housner, daughter of Marlene and Richard Housner, will be holding dance classes on Thursdays in July and the first part of August at the Community Hall. In the afternoons she will have a ballet class for children and from 7-8 PM for adults. From 8-9 PM she will hold a class in aerobics.

Janice Boudreau has joined the staff at the Hallmark Institute of Photography serving as admissions and public relations director. Janice is a graduate of U. Mass. and has an associate's degree from Colby-Sawyer College.

Alastair Maitland and John Porter have returned from a trip to Jerusalem, also visiting in Paris and London.

Eric and Diane Grinnell have returned from a trip to Greece, leading a group as part of the study-travel program at GCC.

Ruth Law is leaving on June 14 for a two week geological trip, sponsored by GCC, across the Rocky mountains to the Grand Canyon and the National Parks. For four days she will be in charge of part of the group while the others go down the Colorado River on a raft.

Doug Wilkins arranged the square dance held on June 4 for the benefit of the Community Hall.

Sidney and Robert Brown will spend a good part of the summer in Australia.

Bill Wolf is the editor of a new book entitled "Anglican Spirituality". The book is a home project of the Episcopal Divinity School faculty.

David and Lynn Dooley are in Florence, Italy, where David is presenting a paper at the First International Conference on Bioinorganic Chemistry. His talk is entitled "Inhibition of Amine Oxidases by Copper Complexes and Anions." The Heath and Rowe Churches have each contributed generously for Lynn's trip.

Nicole Fogarty, a member of Mohawk's Track Team, finished the 1983 season undefeated in the 880 yds. for the second year in a row. On May 30 Nicole won the Division I 880 at the Western Mass. Track and Field Championships in 2:23.7. She was also the first leg in the winning mile relay team which had the best time of both divisions for the day. The team finished second overall.

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