



HEATH HERALD

HEATH'S FIRST NEWSPAPER 35¢

TOWN MEETING '87 MAY 8 & 9

The annual town meeting this year is to start on Friday, May 8, with the election by ballot of town officers at the Community Hall. All registered voters will have an opportunity to vote for the candidates of their choice between 1 and 7 PM. The last date for new voters to register for this election will be on April 19.

The actual meeting will be called to order by Moderator Ed Calver at 9 AM on Saturday, May 9. This change in meeting schedule is in accord with the vote of the last town meeting. After the election results are announced, Moderator Calver, who has served in this office since 1974, will turn over his gavel to the newly elected moderator. The articles on the town warrant including Article 3, the omnibus budget article, will be taken up and voted. Following the meeting, a potluck lunch will take place in the dining room at the Community Hall.

Free child care, in the downstairs Community Hall, will be offered by the Heath Playschool Parents during the annual meeting on Saturday.

It is expected that the 1986 Annual Town Report with a copy of the Town Warrant inserted will be distributed to all Heath households prior to the Annual Meeting day.

An informational town meeting will be held a week before the regular annual meeting on Thursday May 1 to answer any questions that voters may have on next year's budget and other warrant articles.

In this year's election the offices indicated below will appear on the ballot together with the names of persons who have filed nomination papers. Although none of these positions is contested, a voter can indicate by write-in any other citizen of his choice. Statements of all candidates running for office are printed elsewhere in this issue of the HERALD.

| Position | Term (yrs) | Candidate |
|-------------------|------------|--------------------|
| Moderator | 3 | * no nominee |
| Selectmen | 3 | * Richard Giard |
| Assessor | 3 | * Stephen Belitsos |
| Assessor | 1 | Christopher Burke |
| Town Clerk | 3 | Karen MacDougall |
| School Committee | 3 | * Linda Marcotte |
| Finance Committee | 3 | * Guy Silvester |
| Planning Board | 5 | no nominee |
| Library Trustee | 3 | * Edith Gleason |
| Auditor | 1 | * no nominee |
| Tree Warden | 1 | no nominee |
| Constable | 1 | no nominee |
| Constable | 1 | no nominee |

* Present incumbent

... continued on page 15

WALKING HORSES IN HEATH

by Joan Brownlee

Betty Beaudoin of South Road in Heath is known to most Heathens as the Heath reporter for the West County News. Fewer residents know that she trains, shows and breeds Walking Horses. Betty has traveled to horse shows with Walking Horse breed classes in Maine, New Hampshire and New York. She has raised and trained a mare, Shires Legacy Sun, who won the New England Plantation Championship in 1985 and the Reserve in 1986.

In addition to training and showing Walking Horses, Betty has undertaken breeding as a means of bringing more Walking Horses into the area. She believes that the Walking Horse is a wonderful pleasure animal with good disposition and an unsurpassed ride.

In a sense Betty's Walking Horse breeding operation began when she acquired her 21 year old stallion, Sun's Successor. She heard of this stallion's availability through a friend and bought him, sight unseen, based on his sterling bloodlines. Sun's Successor is the direct son of Midnight Sun, twice World Grand Champion in the 1940's. Bloodlines such as these are of great interest to Plantation Horse breeders who now look to the older bloodlines to breed natural gaited horses.

Last summer Betty traveled through Kentucky, Tennessee, Illinois and Iowa visiting horse breeders. She hoped to find a stud colt to complement her stallion. She was concerned that the advanced age of her stallion would necessitate a replacement, and also hoped to find a colt with a different conformation. However, she was unable to find a satisfactory colt on this trip. In the process she met with a number of pleasure horse breeders and learned a great deal about the breed and the availability of breeding stock. continued on page 15



Betty Beaudoin on her Champion
Shire's Legacy Sun

LETTERS

To the Editors:

My wife and I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank John Churchill and the Heath Highway Department and the State Trooper who, last March 2, rescued our moving van stuck along Route 8A and, by their efficient and valiant efforts, enabled us to move in despite wretched weather conditions.

It is reassuring to discover that we have moved into a caring community whose members "go the extra mile" to help a new neighbor!

Walter J. Seibert
Number Nine Road

OTHER COMMENTS FROM READERS

... It [the HEATH HERALD] is being forwarded so we're enjoying your paper here in Florida. ...

Kenneth W. Henderson
Charlemont, MA

I renew my subscription happily! You do a wonderful job of capturing the special and unique flavor of Heath.

MRS. SHERMAN DANE
Marshfield, MA

CARD OF THANKS

A big thank you to my family, friends and neighbors for the lovely cards and the wonderful party which made my 80th birthday truly an extravaganza.

EDITH M. GLEASON



HEATH HERALD

HEATH'S FIRST NEWSPAPER

Volume 9 Number 1

April/May 1987

Editorial Staff

Pegge Howland
Caroline Smith

Editorial Assistant

Helen Nichols

Staff Reporters

Beverly denOuden
Edith Royer
Susan Silvester
Alli Thane
John Read
Terry Pettengill
Newland Smith

Advertising and Business

Circulation

Typography

The HEATH HERALD is published six times a year in April, June, August, October, December and February
SUBSCRIPTION RATE - One year, \$3.50 (payable in advance by check or money order)
ADVERTISING RATES - Display ads: \$3.50 per column inch (Discounts on six or more insertions)
Classified ads: \$1.00 per line.
Send all correspondence to Box 54, Heath, MA 01346

LETTERS

To the Editors:

There has been a lot of commotion about the Heath Preschool recently, so I thought I might as well put in my two cents worth.

We moved to Heath from southern Connecticut about four and a half years ago coming here newly married and looking for a good place to raise our children. We had decided that it was better for children to grow up in an isolated, beautiful place than to have all the cultural advantages of a bustling suburban life, though I have to admit our first winter was a bit of a shock!

It was a real surprise to find an active preschool within walking distance and a library with a story hour each week. I have found the older people to be very patient with the influx of younger people moving in, and the presence of the preschool in the community hall is an example of this.

Other towns would not have been so generous, and I hope we don't abuse this feeling of goodwill or forget where the good neighborliness comes from. The residents of Heath owe a lot to the people who stuck together here year after year - it is their way of life that brought so many of us here and has kept Heath special, a place of beauty and tolerance with a strong sense of community spirit, without which we really have very little.

And isn't it wonderful that even though the drive is farther here, the wind blows colder here, and summer is about half as long, our children can still come to kindergarten as stimulated and socially ready as any other kids in the country?

KAREN BROOKS
Long Hill Road

To the Editors:

Have you ever watched the Preschool parents at work setting up and cleaning the school room, selling T shirts or raffle tickets, or manning a flea market table at the Fair? I have, and a busier group of young people are hard to find. They have built a great little playschool for their youngsters. The children are happy, busy, enthusiastic and above all learning skills and habits which will cushion the blow of leaving hearth and home when they graduate to kindergarten.

Now these parents are asking for support. Not financial support because this grant that they are seeking will be of no cost to the Town of Heath. Our neighboring towns of Charlemont and Colrain have taken advantage of this opportunity and established their preschools. Why not us?

ALLI THANE
Jacobs Road

HEATH PRECIPITATION

by Ralph Dickinson, Observer
for Mass. Water Resources Commission

February precipitation was .75 inches; snowfall was 9 inches. March precipitation was 3.58 inches; snowfall was 6 inches.

Total precipitation for the first three months of 1987 was 9.48 inches. Total snowfall for the season is 110 inches.

It was the driest February in over 20 years. March too was dry until the last two days. The deep snow melted slowly and there was little run-off until the heavy rains at the end of the month.

LIBRARY LINES

by Alli Thane, Librarian

A year or so ago, the Arts Council of Franklin County awarded the Heath Library a grant for the purchase of books about historic houses. These books are now in the library and are well worth borrowing. A few of the titles are; Big House, Little House, Backhouse Barn, Restoring Old Houses, and Old New England Homes.

The Children's Reading Hour will no longer be held on Saturday mornings but will take place each Wednesday afternoon at 3.30. Anyone wishing to volunteer as a reader may leave their name at the library.

To celebrate National Library Week, April 5 to 11, the library is awarding McDonald's hamburger and french-fry coupons to any youngsters reading five books of their age level within the week. These coupons were donated by the Zee Enterprises for redemption at the Greenfield McDonald's.

In doing spring cleaning, I would like to appeal to all our patrons to search for overdue library books. We have many that are well overdue. Please help me out by checking your shelves and returning these strays.

CHURCH NEWS

by Paul Snyder

Easter in the Berkshires, a time of regeneration and new growth. Once more we celebrate the bittersweet passion of the crucifixion and the defeat of death in the resurrection. The Heath/Rowe joint Maundy Thursday will be held at the Heath Community Hall at 6 PM, April 16, and will be followed by a covered dish supper. Heath people are asked to bring a hot dish or hot breads and the Rowe people are asked to bring a salad or dessert. The joint Easter Sunrise service will be held in Rowe at 6 AM (Daylight time) on April 19 at Howard Truesdell's field on Petri Road. This will be followed by a breakfast at the Rowe School. The regular Easter morning service will be held at 11:00 AM in the Heath Church. Easter flowers may be donated as a memorial by calling Esther Dickinson before Tuesday, April 14.

Pastor Pleas has announced with regret that he will end his ministry at the Heath and Rowe churches in June 1987. The process of selecting a new pastor will be set in motion soon and present plans are to greet him with a vigorous program of church growth, youth activities and outreach. With the help of God we can continue to build caring and sharing churches to serve the community in peace and understanding. We could use your help too.

QUALITY CARS & TRUCKS SILVESTER'S

Colrain Stage Road Heath, MA 01346
413-337-4491

SPECIALS

1984 Toyota 4 X 4 Truck
Low Mileage, Long Bed, 5 Speed
Air Conditioning, Tilt Wheel, Window Package
One Owner
also
1987 Ford F150 4 X 4 Truck

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

by Pat Leuchtman

The 1987 edition of the World Book Encyclopedia, along with a world atlas, has arrived at the Heath Library and is being put to good use by the students in town. The Friends of the Library thank all the official and unofficial friends who worked and contributed to make this important purchase possible.

Right now the Friends are looking forward to working with John and Nancy Clark to put on a jazz concert this summer. The Clarks moved to Heath last year and are eager to participate in the life of the community. John is a professional musician and has played french horn with the Paul Consort and other well known groups. We are very lucky that he is willing to share his talent and enthusiasm with us.

While thinking about the concert, we are also planning a bake sale that is tentatively scheduled for the Memorial Day weekend and will be held at Sawyer Hall. We'll be looking for volunteers to bake as well as customers to buy.

Now that the snow is melting and the mud season is upon us, I want to ask all you energetic folks who are spring cleaning to please keep the Friends of the Library in mind when you dust and weed your bookshelves. We plan to hold the Second Annual Book and Bake Sale at the Heath fair this year and we will be looking for donations of books.

Finally, I'd like to ask for volunteers to help out at the Library. Circulation is increasing all the time, but the number of hours that our Librarian, Alli Thane, works does not. The magazine room is in disarray and needs weeding and organizing; the library shelves are almost always in need of straightening, and extra hands are always welcome on Bookmobile Wednesdays.

If you have any time you can give to the Library on a regular or occasional basis, please talk to Alli or give me a call at 337-4316.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

by Susan Silvester, Secretary

The officers of the Heath Historical Society met March 23 to discuss the progress of the Capital Campaign. The total amount donated thus far for the restoration of the Old Town House is \$11,188. Capital Campaign Committee members Craig Barry, Dominic Musacchio and Dave Howland will soon meet to discuss results of the fund-raising effort. The goal of \$15,000 has not yet been reached and donations are still being accepted. Contributions may be sent to Craig Barry, Treasurer, Heath Historical Society, Heath MA 01346.

The next major project will be the restoration of the Old Town House. Extensive plastering and painting will be required to complete the repairs begun this past fall by local contractor Bruce Cromack.

GREENFIELD CINEMAS 1-2-3-4-5-6

Route 2 Mohawk Trail

Greenfield, MA

24 Hours Movies

Phone 772-0298

ON PRESCHOOL GRANT APPLICATIONS

by Susan Silvester

Several neighboring towns are in the process of applying for funding under Chapter 188 or have already received money for a preschool program.

The Buckland-Colrain-Shelburne Regional School District has applied for and received a planning grant for a preschool program in those respective towns. A consultant has been hired, and a needs assessment is in progress, according to Early Childhood Coordinator Lois Holm.

The Hawlemont Regional Elementary School has also received a planning grant for a preschool program. Additionally an implementation grant has been awarded. A teacher and co-teacher have been hired, and the Hawlemont preschool program is currently in operation in the post office building on Main Street in Charlemont.

At the present time the town of Ashfield has a private preschool program, but may submit an application for Chapter 188 funding next fall.

Chapter 188 money for preschool planning and implementation grants is awarded on a priority basis, with low income sites receiving 75% of the funds. The town of Heath does not qualify as a low income site but is still eligible to apply for the other 25 % of funds as a non low income model program.

No one knows for sure how long the Chapter 188 money will be available. If funding is received, it appears towns are under no obligation to continue programs started with this money. Funds were first available under Chapter 188 in January 1986; this money has already been allocated to towns under the first rounds of funding. The next funding, which is included in the new state budget, is expected to be passed by the legislature in July and would be available in September.

[Editors' note: Information for this article was obtained primarily from Lois Holm, Early Childhood Coordinator for the school district]

FOR A PUBLIC PRESCHOOL

by Parents for a Public Preschool

The Heath School Committee has been very busy of late! For the past month their newly appointed advisory council has researched and prepared an implementation grant for a public preschool in Heath. The school committee must now consider whether to accept this council's proposals that were presented at the April 7 school committee meeting, and whether to apply to the state for a grant to establish a public preschool in Heath for the 1987-88 school year. The council has asked for a decision by April 14.

A group of townspeople, Heath Parents for a Public Preschool, approached the Heath School Committee on February 3 to voice their concerns and their views on the future of the private Heath Playschool, Inc. This meeting led to our formal presentation on February 17 and recognition of the following:

1. The preschool is important to early childhood development.

2. The privately run Heath Playschool, Inc. will have difficulty opening in fall '87 due to competition from state funded programs already established through this grant in neighboring towns.

3. State grant money may be available to the Town of Heath to establish and operate a public preschool for at least one year but there is no assurance that it will be appropriated by the state legislature.

4. The grant can be written to include all costs to operate the preschool - THERE WILL BE NO COST TO THE TOWN OF HEATH.

5. No one has yet offered a substantive reason why a public preschool should not be established in the Town of Heath.

The advisory council was asked to verify: 1) that the town would be under NO OBLIGATION to continue the preschool if state funding is discontinued; 2) to confirm that the preschool would not limit Heath's educational options or restrict our choices regarding regionalization; and 3) to give consideration to including Rowe children in this program.

The present private Heath Playschool will continue to operate for the remainder of the school year. On February 12 this parent group met to review and to discuss the above information. Based on this they voted not to open in fall of '87 pending successful application for and establishment of a public preschool in Heath. They also agreed to devote all their efforts as part of Heath Parents for a Public Preschool toward securing the commitment of the Heath School Committee and of the Town of Heath in applying for a state grant to establish a public preschool for the 1987-'88 school year.



OPEN HOUSE

APRIL 11, Sat., 9:30 am. - 12:30 pm.
Community Hall

Videos of Preschool Classes will be shown
Refreshments will be served
Everyone is Welcome!

Heath Preschool, Heath, MA 01346



TRUCKING • EXCAVATING

J.M. BLASSBERG
CORP.

NORMAN R. SESSIONS
President

5 MECHANIC ST
SHELburne FALLS, MASS.
BUSINESS (413) 625-2531
RESIDENCE (413) 337-3756

Gordon E. Taylor d/b/a



BLACKMER INSURANCE AGENCY

R. E. Blackmer

Joseph J. Judd

Marion J. Taylor

On the Mohawk Trail

Shelburne, MA

Tel: 625-6527

EFFECTS OF NOT PARTICIPATING IN THE PUBLIC PRESCHOOL GRANT PROGRAM

by Joan Brownlee

Should the Town of Heath choose not to apply for a public preschool grant, that decision and the existence of public preschool programs in surrounding communities could have three potential effects in Heath. First, Heath's private preschool will suffer a decline in enrollment. Children from the towns of Charlemont, Shelburne Falls and Colrain will have access to tuition-free preschool programs in their own towns and will be less inclined to enroll in a Heath private preschool. An example of this is that, as of March 1987, several children have left the Heath Playschool to attend the public preschool offered in Charlemont. Loss of these students might strain the preschool budget and lead to higher tuition rates.

In addition, the public preschool programs in the surrounding communities have a state mandated head teacher salary that is far in excess of what the Heath preschool can offer. As a result the private preschool either will be unable to compete and employ a head teacher, or will be forced to equal this salary by raising tuition rates. This will place the school beyond the means of many Heath families.

Finally, and perhaps more importantly, the lack of a preschool program will make Heath a less desirable area to settle in for young families. The existence of a town preschool is likely to be important to parents hoping to locate in the isolated areas of West Franklin County. These families might be drawn to our neighboring communities and away from Heath.

THE HEATH PLAYSCHOOL

by Joan Brownlee

Children attending the Heath Playschool have been learning about the different types of transportation. They have been making cars, trucks, etc. out of blocks, playdough and Legos, and each child has made a rocket. They are also learning about wind, a good preschool topic for spring! They have made windmills from construction paper to watch the wind blow outside.

June Ahearn, the playschool head teacher, is continuing to teach table manners and sewing skills. She is happy to report that all the children are able to serve themselves and pour their own juice. She hopes that parents are reinforcing the skills at home.



C. W. KAISER



Poultry and Eggs

Route 8A Heath, MA 01346

Tel: 337-5397

CHARLEMONT TV, INC.

Zenith

Sales & Service

High Street, Charlemont

Tel: 339-6685

THOUGHTS ON THE HEATH PRESCHOOL

by Debbie Porter

I was asked by preschool parents to say a little on why preschool is important. There are numerous studies that could be quoted but because of limited time I would like to simply focus on why preschool has been important in our community.

The preschool is the only town service for children with the exception of the town library. As such it provides families with a community focus they might otherwise miss. Living in an isolated rural community can be isolating. Out of this focus the preschool has met the needs of many families by providing parent education in child development and parenting issues, and by providing community support for families in need.

From an educational point of view, through its play curriculum and its emphasis on a developmental approach, the preschool has provided a safe, happy environment for young children to develop their abilities. The educational approach addresses the whole child's needs (social, emotional, intellectual and physical) and provides a strong foundation for later academic success.

Making the preschool affordable for as many families as possible has always been a goal of the Heath Preschool. Now with the possibility of a tuition-free public preschool, there is a chance to include all Heath preschoolers, broadening the positive effect the preschool has already had.

Many of the points above were all key concerns the state had in writing this legislation (Chapter 188) and it certainly would be in Heath's best interest to expand this existing program to include all Heath children.

FRANKLIN-WARE

— SHELburne FALLS —

Fuel Oils
Propane Gas
Coal

Heating Supplies
Gas Appliances
Burner Service

A.L. AVERY & SON

GENERAL STORE

Charlemont • 339-4915



**BALD
MOUNTAIN
POTTERY**

STONEWARE & PORCELAIN

Sarah Hettlinger

South Rd. Heath, MA 01346 (413)337-4496
Salmon Falls Marketplace
Shelburne Falls, MA (413)625-6353

SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORT

by Skip Venneri, Chairman
Heath School Committee

There were many interesting - not necessarily good, but interesting - happenings last month which concerned the School Committee. The most important issue was the scare about the Rowe School roof. The supporting roof braces in the gym started cracking; luckily there were no children in the school and the school was closed until shoring timbers could be placed to protect the rest of the structure. Consultants have been called in and the effort to repair the damage and ascertain what caused it is underway.

Teacher negotiations are still in progress but a Rowe budget was voted upon which allows Heath the opportunity of preparing its budget. The state wide basic skills testing found children in the Rowe School to be equal to the state and local levels of competency and much improved over the last testing. Our congratulations to the staff and administration.

On March 26 the Rowe School children went on a field trip to the Children's Museum and to the Boston Aquarium. The last school trip to the Science Museum proved such a success they decided to try another.

The combined school committees will be in touch with all parents in both towns in the middle of April to arrange a presentation on children's issues (such as molestation and abuse) and we would like to see a particularly strong showing of community support on the presentation. These children are very precious to us both as parents and educators and we cannot stress too strongly how important this meeting will be.

Our own local PAC (Political Action Committee) has industriously labored and lobbied for the formation of a public Heath preschool. The School Committee has authorized the formation of a sub-committee to write an implementation grant which will be presented to the Committee at its April meeting.

Please, parents and citizens, if you have any problems with educational matters, come to our meetings which are held on the first Tuesday of each month.

K.R. Jeweler

17 Chapman Street • Greenfield, Ma. 01301

*Fine Selection of Watches & Jewelry
Watch & Jewelry Repair*

Richard A. Sumner

Journeyman Electrician
Mass. License #E22622
Vermont License #J1245
South Road, Heath
413-337-4930

BRUCE A. CROMACK

*General Carpentry
Restoration a Speciality*

Burrington Road

Tel: 337-4350

NEWS FROM THE ACADEMY

by Sara Wishart

The Academy at Charlemont has completed the second trimester exams. This trimester was especially busy with rigorous academics and with a full calendar of events.

Through support from the Business Fund for the Arts of Franklin County and student poinsettia sales, the Academy was able to obtain two members of Shakespeare and Company from Lenox to be directors-in-residence. The directors chose to stage Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream." The cast included twenty-three students, ranging from eighth to twelfth grade, who were chosen by the directors in informal try-outs and readings.

During February, the players practiced at least three times a week using the methods the Shakespeare and Company actors use themselves. The methods focus on understanding the sometimes confusing Elizabethan lines, and trying to interpret the emotions behind them.

The play was performed February 27 and 28 at the Ashfield town hall. Through the hard work and dedication of the players, and the faith of the directors, it was a fantastic success.

From February 10 to 15 a group of exchange students from Ransom Everglades School in Miami, Florida, came to visit the Academy. During January, a group of Academy students had traveled to Miami to visit the Ransom Everglades School. The students from Florida not only experienced academic life in Charlemont, but also took part in downhill skiing and sledding. The night before their departure they enjoyed a special Fifties-Sixties dance put on by the Academy Science Department. The Ransom Everglades students seemed to enjoy their stay (snow and all!) as much as the Academy enjoyed having them.

A group comprised of Academy family and friends toured China. The group led by Dianne and Eric Grinnell included six students, all sophomores. The 15 day journey took in such famous attractions as the cities of Shanghai, Canton, Beijing and Hong Kong, as well as the imperial burial site at Xi'an which is known for its eight thousand life-size terra cotta warriors and horses.

The Academy now enters its third and final trimester. Although it will probably not be as busy as second trimester, the Academy hopes it will be as successful.



Ready for Sugaring
Michael Girard's Sugar House
(Photo by Michael Brown)

SPECIAL EDUCATION - RUTH WHIPPLE

by Susan Silvester

Retired teacher Ruth Whipple has observed many changes in the field of special education. Ruth, who retired in 1975, lives with her husband Olin on Schoolhouse Road in South Heath. Her career began as a classroom teacher in a one-room schoolhouse in Minnesota where she taught for five years. Locally she taught for two years in Buckland Center in a two-room schoolhouse before joining the faculty at the Buckland-Shelburne Regional Elementary School where she retired after 17 years of service to that district.

The many aspects of public education today present a vast array of terms, titles and processes. Title IX, Chapter 188, Gifted and Talented, Block Grant, Middle School, Chapter 766, Title I and special needs represent just the tip of the iceberg of educational jargon.

One area in particular that is frequently misunderstood is special education, outlined in Massachusetts by the Legislation of Chapter 766. This important state law has been in effect since 1972 and was the forerunner of federal legislation. Students with a physical, mental or emotional handicap are eligible to receive help under this multifaceted law. Any child between the ages of three and twenty-one who has not yet received a high school diploma is eligible for assistance through the local school district. Special Education Director Kevin Courtney, whose office at Mohawk Trail Regional School serves students in our nine-town area, estimates that approximately half a dozen Heath children in grades K-12 receive some form of assistance through this program. Mr. Courtney supervises a staff of 16 teachers in six schools with an additional 20 aides working with students in various capacities.

Ruth's special education classroom was self-contained for 15 years. Although she felt the self-contained classroom provided a better climate for nurturing a sense of community among her students, she feels that the special education population needed socialization and that mainstreaming the students into the regular educational programs of the school was definitely advantageous. Ruth states that, "An integrated approach to educating special education students promotes the child's complete development and facilitates his/her integration into society."

In her self-contained classroom in the early years of special education Ruth taught educable, mentally retarded students. In the same classroom, for lack of any other educational environment, she taught a diverse population of students with such handicaps as cerebral palsy. A test usually determined whether or not a student would be placed in a special needs classroom; as time progressed, testing became more sophisticated.

Ruth has noted the gradual changes of the family unit in society. She feels that children are enormously adaptable and that those whose primary caretakers are other than the parents are not necessarily harmed. Sometimes a more competent, self-reliant child is the result of this, she states.

Ruth is impressed by the children in the Heath community and the children in turn sense her concern for their well-being. One of the favorite places to "Trick-or-Treat" on Halloween night is Ruth Whipple's house! At 82, Ruth maintains a keen interest in the youth of our community.

MOHAWK TRAIL REGIONAL SCHOOL NEWS

by Tanja Davin, Grade 10

Mohawk is a bit past the midway point of the third quarter. Things seem to be running smoothly.

The All School Musical, "The Music Man", was a huge success. It ran March 20, 21 and 22. Although the Music Department does a superb job every year with its play, this year's production was special as it was a remake of the very first all school musical at Mohawk.

Earlier this month Associate Principal Frank Zak left Mohawk to accept the job of principal at Mahar High School in Orange. Feelings were confused as he gave his farewell speech in the Mohawk auditorium. Some were understandably sad to see him leave, while others were happy and proud to see him further his career. He will be missed by all. English teacher David Chula is temporarily taking over as associate principal.

Spring has finally arrived. And, although at home you may still see snow outside your windows, at Mohawk spring is in full bloom. The warm weather athletic season has begun. Baseball, softball, tennis and track teams have been meeting after school for a week already, and golf players will begin soon.

The student government travelled to Hyannis where they spent two days at a conference and attended seminars.

Mohawk faculty and students are looking forward to a very happy and exciting spring.

ROWE SCHOOL NEWS

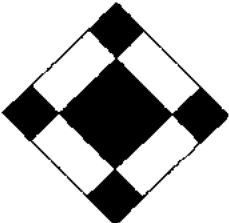
by Susan Silvester

On March 26 children in Grades 1-6 journeyed once again to Boston; this time to visit the popular Children's Museum and the New England Aquarium. Located on Museum Wharf next to the gigantic milk bottle, the Children's Museum features outstanding cultural exhibits such as an authentic Japanese house and a native American home. At the Aquarium, Rowe students were treated to the entertaining water show where live bottle-nosed Dolphins and a California sea lion performed, much to the delight of their audience.

Fifth and sixth graders displayed their completed science projects at the annual Science Fair on Thursday, April 2, at 1:30 and 7:30 PM. Topics included chemistry, life sciences and physics. Each student prepared a written report and an experiment for the fair.

At the March school committee meeting the school's revised philosophy of education and objectives were approved.

The staff is presently conducting a reassessment of all curriculum areas. This evaluation will be completed in early May, marking the halfway point of the accreditation process.



WOODEN QUILTS
TO WARM THE SOUL

NARY A STITCH
SPECIAL ORDERS WELCOME

HELEN J. MACKIE
HEATH, MA 01346 - 0026

MAMMOGRAPHY The Breast Test

by Sharleen Moffatt, R.N.
Town Nurse

The American Cancer Society, in association with the American Medical Association, is mounting a major state-wide campaign designed to inform women about the value of mammography in the early detection of breast cancer, and to encourage them to have regular examinations. In April, a toll-free number will be set up to assist women with qualifying for a quality low-cost mammogram to be offered by various hospitals during the week of May 11.

A mammogram can detect a cancerous lump in the breast before it can be felt, when it is as small as a freckle or a dot. The test is more than 88% accurate. The exam is directed to women age 35 and over and it is strongly encouraged that it be made a part of the yearly medical examination. When a tumor is diagnosed in its earliest, most curable stage, a woman's chances for survival are greatly improved because the cancer is less likely to have spread to other areas of the body. Women with a smaller lesion can often be treated with lumpectomy, a lesser surgical procedure which enables the removal of the lump while preserving the breast.

In a standard test, two radiographic images of each breast are taken. With modern equipment, the radiation risk of this procedure is minimal, approximately equivalent to the radiation one receives during a cross-country airplane flight. The breast is examined from top to bottom and side to side, thus providing a full view of all tissue.

Please look for further information regarding the toll-free number soon. I will also have literature available to all interested persons as soon as I receive it from the American Cancer Society. This examination will be made available to all participants at a greatly reduced cost, guaranteed not to exceed \$50.

LYLE H. HALL, INC.

Colrain, Mass.

BUILDING LUMBER

HARDWOOD & SOFTWOOD SLABS

compliments of

Wells Corner Country Store

CHARLEMONT 339-6632

MILLERS TAKE ANNIVERSARY TRIP

Charlie and Lynn Miller were married in the highland village of Tepoztlan, Morelos, Mexico, in 1967 and this year they finally returned to that very pleasant village for a brief vacation. "We were very welcome there, because of the film 'Tepoztlan' which we made there after our marriage," says Lynn. Their son, Loren Lark, went with them and he was glad to see in person the persons and scenes he'd observed in the film. "We are always welcome in the village, because we lived there for two years, we speak Spanish and we have a real rapport with Hispanic people," says Charlie.

Tepoztlan is about the size of Shelburne Falls and is slowly losing many of its local farmers.

After Tepoztlan, the Miller family visited friends and places in Mexico City and in the fishing village of Zihuatenejo on the Pacific coast, where Lynn and Charlie spent a brief honeymoon in 1967. "All in all it was a wonderful anniversary trip," said the Millers.

MAY DAY DANCE TO BE HELD

The Playschool Parents are sponsoring a May Day dance to be held on Friday, May 1. at 7:30 PM in the Community Hall. There will be both live and taped music of the '20's to the '80's and doorprizes will be given. Admission is \$5.00 for couples and \$3.00 for singles.



Briar & the Rose

Lingerie & Fine Clothing
by Catherine Nichols

Wooden Furniture
by Alan Nichols

Daily Hours: Tues., Thurs., Fri., Sat. 10 - 5
Sunday 12 - 5

Salmon Falls Market Place
Shelburne Falls, MA

ELEGY

by Alastair Maitland

There cannot have been many among us who were not affected by Carroll Stowe's moving tale of the life and death of an ox (HEATH HERALD, February/March 1987).

I myself cannot lay claim to any close acquaintanceship with Tony. But I used to admire him and his work-mate - from a respectful distance. The farther away the better, for they were an intimidating pair, with the warily menacing look of a brace of Sumo wrestlers.

They were, of course, at their most impressive when on the job. It was then that one could see what can happen when man and beast are in harmony and when they share a measure of mutual respect. The almost insolent ease with which the twin bovine colossi strolled through their assigned tasks was hardly less striking than the magisterial control of their handler. Is it utterly fanciful to suggest that Tony and his comrade took a certain pride in their performance?

As Carroll Stowe said: Who would be friends with an ox? And yet there is no doubt that Tony's death has left a void, and not only in the purely physical sense. There is a special edge to the grief that we humans feel at the loss of a companion whom we choose to call a dumb animal. To those in search of solace at such times I commend the story of Platero and I - a celebration of the intimate bond between man and beast - told by the Spanish poet, Juan Ramón Jiménez. Platero is a burro, a little trotting donkey, "hard as steel, soft as a silvery moonbeam [hence his name], with eyes like mirrors of black glass." He accompanies the poet on his travels and is the confidant of his most intimate thoughts.

Platero and I, although the work of a poet, is not a piece of verse but rather a prose poem, in some 130 cantos, chronicling the partnership of a man and his four-legged companion as they face together the vicissitudes of life in an Andalusian village. There are occasional flights of lyricism. (One day, the poet tells us, at the hour of the Angelus, he and Platero return home. The sky is glowing with color, and the little clouds look like roses. Platero's eyes, in which the last rays of the sun are reflected, look like roses too). But the prevailing tone is one of gentle melancholy for, as everyone knows, nature is less than even-handed in the life spans accorded to man and beast. The intimations of mortality are there from the start.

And so it is that one morning the poet comes to rouse Platero. But the burrito no longer has the strength to pick himself up from his bed of straw.

A little later the poet writes: This evening I went with the boys of the village to visit Platero's grave, which lies at the foot of the ancient round pine tree in the orchard of La Piña. All around us April had decorated the moist earth with a host of lilies. Up above, in the sky-blue cupola, the birds were in full throat. The elegant mockery of their song carried far and wide through the golden air of the balmy evening like the bright dream of young love.

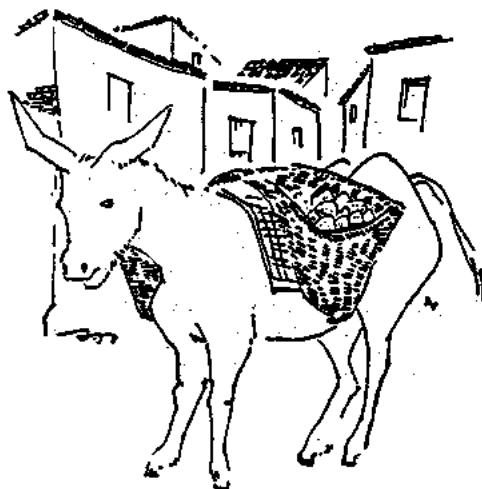
The boys, as we drew near to the place, suddenly fell silent. Then, softly and solemnly, their flashing eyes looking into mine, they plied me with anxious questions.

"Platero, my friend," I said to him as I looked down on his grave, "if, as I believe, you now live in a lush pasture in Heaven where you carry cherubs,

instead of me, on your velvety back, perhaps you have forgotten me. Tell me Platero. Tell me, do you still remember me?"

And, as though responding to my question, a delicate white butterfly, which I had not noticed until that moment, appeared and began to flit, just like a soul, from lily to lily.

Footnote: Juan Ramón Jiménez wrote Platero and I in 1916. In 1956 he was awarded the Nobel Prize for literature.



Platero

Drawn by Zamorano
(Reproduced from the book Platero and I)



NEW ENGLAND FORESTRY FOUNDATION

Forest Resource Management

offering a program of complete
Forest Resource Management

plus

permanent forest conservation
through our
Memorial Forest Program

Mary K. Wigmore

Resident Forester

RD No. 1, Box 215

Williamsburg, MA 01096

(413) 628-4594

For more information, please call our
Main Office at: 85 Newbury Street
Boston, MA 02116, (617) 437-1441

Professional Forest Managers since 1944



Heath Sap Buckets - not full - 1987

(Photo by Michael Brown)

1987 SKI RACE

by Carol Sartz
Heath Park Committee

A spirited post-race celebration gave thanks to volunteers and marked the end of the 1987 ski race activity. Most importantly the 1987 race raised \$900 for the Heath Community Park. Much to the surprise and delight - of the Park Committee, the annual race is becoming not only a popular area-wide winter event but also a potentially terrific fund-raiser (weather and conditions permitting . . . of course). Race organizers look forward to a fourth, despite the odds!

In the meantime the money generated this year will help to build a basketball court. We look forward to a productive year for the Park.



Automobile and Truck
Maintenance & Repair

STEPHEN'S GARAGE
HEATH, MA 01346

Stephen P. Bellisio
(413) 339-6616

GM & ASE CERT.
Master Mechanic

**Gilmore
and Watters**
INSURANCE AGENCY INCORPORATED

377 Main Street • Greenfield, MA 01302 • Tel: 413-772-0251

CONTRACT FOR HEATH'S WASTE DISPOSAL

by Newland Smith

A 25 year contract for the disposal of Heath's solid waste at the Fluor/Vicon Energy Recovery Plant, now being completed in Agawam, has just been received from the Springfield Department of Public Works who have been most cooperative in helping Heath with its disposal problem.

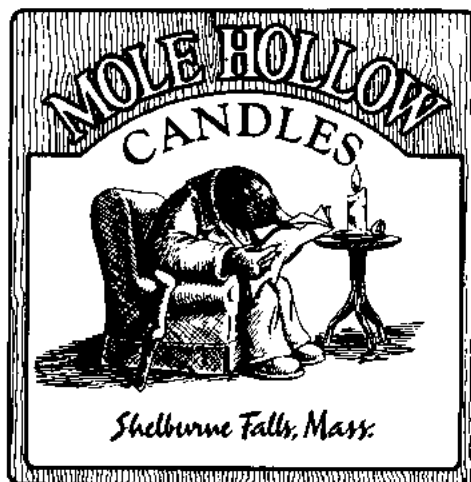
This contract was recommended and was negotiated by the Heath Solid Waste Task Force over the past six months. It represents the only feasible solution to the town's solid waste problem brought on by the closing of the present three-town landfill in January 1988. The contract is similar to one negotiated by the town of Greenfield. It has been carefully reviewed by Task Force member Charles Kades who recently retired from his New York law firm and was instrumental in obtaining this agreement.

Although the special town meeting in January authorized the Selectmen to sign this agreement, it is expected the actual signing will not take place until after the annual Town Meeting, May 9, when the appropriation of funds for implementing the new waste disposal program will be voted upon.

The contract is to take effect as soon as the Vicon plant is completed, which now appears to be early 1988. It calls for a guaranteed annual waste from Heath of 260 tons, or 10 tons every two weeks.

Although the cost to Heath for disposal at the Vicon plant is considerable, the major part of the cost will be in the handling and hauling of the waste to Agawam. A trash compactor and transfer station must be built and operated in town. Together these costs will amount to about \$20,000 per year at current prices.

In order to explain this new proposed method of handling the town's solid waste, the Selectmen have arranged for a talk and slide presentation on the subject at the Community Hall on Monday, April 13, at 8 PM. This demonstration will be presented by Richard Gagnon, President of Commercial Disposal, Inc. of Springfield. All townspeople are urged to attend and ask questions.



**Excellent selection of seconds
at 40% to 80% off**

In the center of Shelburne Falls overlooking the
scenic glacial potholes

Spring hours: Thurs., Fri., Sat., Sun. 10 to 5

FARMING PROFILE: GRACE CROWNSHIELD

by Beverly denOuden

Grace Crownshield has been a farmer all her life. Born, the oldest of five girls, on a 200 acre farm in Marlboro, VT, she was her father's "right hand man." Grace's parents, Bertram and Marion Akley, milked a dairy herd, engaged in field work to support that herd and operated a 700 bucket sugaring business. In addition her father worked for the Marlboro highway department. He was a man who favored oxen over horses to assist in the farm work and Grace was frequently the driver of her father's oxen team. My own thoughts went to the quiet of the sugar bush, the scrape of metal buckets, crunch of snow and splash of sweet liquid. Grace likes the finite structure of sugaring. "It's not like haying which seems to go on and on."

At the age of eight, Grace and her family lost their farmhouse. Mr. Akley, who was doing the morning milking, saw the flames and saved his wife and daughters, but all else was lost. The family lived in a nearby vacant house and while the farming continued lumber was cut from the woods for a new home. Grace was again the oxen driver as her father skidded logs and, by the time she was twelve years old, the family was back on their farm in a new house. Grace's sister, Bertha, lives in this house today and the 200 acres of land is owned by relatives of the family.

Grace continued to farm with her father in her early twenties and also worked the 7AM to 3PM shift as a waitress at the Skyline Restaurant. It was also during this time that Grace met Ken. It was at a square dance in East Dover that they were first introduced and, after approximately one year of courting, they were married in Wilmington, settling on "High Mowing Farm" nearby where Ken was employed as a test milker. The farm was owned by a man from New York and the business employed six people; a farm manager, four herdsmen and one test milker. The herd was comprised of Guernseys. Each cow was milked three times a day with careful monitoring of milk volume and butterfat content. Some individual cows in the herd were valued at \$10,000 each and had accommodations to meet their status; separate stalls of varnished 2 X 6s.

Grace was never far from the farming process during their stay in Wilmington. Her principal summer activity was helping with the hay gathering and she recalls the Farmall M which she drove at that time.

After one year Ken and Grace got a better offer from the Churchill Ranch in Westmoreland, NH. This was an owner-operated farm. Grace and Ken had their own small house near the main house. Ken was the herdsman. He went to the barn the first morning in a clean suit of work clothes. Upon returning for breakfast, considerably besmirched, he said to Grace, "Don't unpack yet." It seems sawdust was in short supply at the time of Ken's arrival and his first project was to improve the "barn keeping."

Grace and Ken made an attractive couple, no doubt, for any large farm looking for help. Both understood farm ways and farm work. Grace helped Mrs. Churchill with the household chores and in the afternoon cleaned and prepared the milking equipment. Grace's face shines with pleasure as she describes her duty of bringing in the cows from their pastures along the Connecticut river.

In addition to Ken and Grace, there was one older man who lived in a small dwelling on the Churchill farm. He had been with the farm for most of his working years as milker. He now tended the calves.

After one year on the Churchill farm, Ken's parents mentioned the possibility of a 50 acre farm on 8A in Heath owned by Charlie and Sybil Stafford who were ready to sell. Ken and Grace secured their financing and on April 16, 1954 moved to Heath. They started their herd with a little bull and twin heifers brought from the Churchill farm. The "twins" accompanied Ken and Grace on the ride from Westmoreland in the back of a 1939 Ford sedan. The rear seat was removed and Grace says the calves stuck their heads out of the window and took in the sights through Brattleboro.

The farm house in Heath was built in 1910 and was originally wired for a Delco battery system. Ken and Grace again focused their farm on dairying. Ken supplemented their income with outside work, first with the Heath highway department and later at Kendall Mills.

Their early herd numbered around 15 head and their milk was stored in a can cooler. Farmers bought the required cans for \$18 a piece and, with each milk truck stop, the cans were replaced with empties.

When Ken was working off the farm he would milk the two cows who were prone to kicking and Grace would milk the remainder of the herd.

Ken and Grace have run a variety of enterprises on their farm including the sale of Blue Seal feeds, roadside sap collection and resale to the Coombs farm in Vermont as well as the raising of rabbits.

Today Grace is carrying on with her farm life on a smaller scale. Ken passed away in 1982 after a struggle with diabetes. Grace had an auction of her farm equipment and most of her animals. She is now raising a Holstein heifer and a few pigs for resale. There are 60 rabbits in the rabbit barn, some of which will be sold for meat, others for lab research and, with Grace's characteristic light-hearted touch, a few of the rabbits are there simply because Grace likes their colors.



Grace Crownshield
with "Sleepy" and "Pigen"

BED & BREAKFAST

Y'ALL COME

Forest Way Farm

Heath, Massachusetts

Route 8A

413-337-8331

FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

by Chief Earl Gleason

The Department responded to four emergency calls, all of them in March. On the ninth two EMT's responded to Number Nine Road to aid a woman who had reportedly broken her knee. One EMT went with the Charlemont Ambulance to the hospital. Four firefighters, one EMT and a crew on the Charlemont Ambulance responded March 12 to a man calling for help in the woods. It turned out to be a man with failing eyesight who had become turned around in the woods and he was directed out of the woods by one of our firefighters. Twelve firefighters responded to a chimney fire in the evening of March 16. One additional firefighter manned the radio at the station during the incident. The last response was aid to the Charlemont Ambulance on March 23 to help load a man who had fallen in his home. Two EMT's responded on this call.

A Fire Association meeting was held March 5 and drills were held in both February and March. The March drill was a presentation by Hornidas Lively of the Greenfield Fire Department and the Mass. Fire Academy on car fires.

The Chief was busy with meetings during the two months attending two Fire Wardens' meetings, one Western Mass. Fire Chiefs' meeting, a hazardous materials workshop put on by the Extension Service, a pesticides workshop put on by the Franklin County Planning Board, and a propane emergency school put on by the Wilmington, Vermont, Fire Department. In February the Tri-State Mutual Aid Annual Meeting was held and I was named Assistant Secretary and Treasurer. I attended my first directors' meeting in March.

One smoke detector inspection for a property sale was made and one smoke detector placement in new construction was also done.

REPORT FROM THE TAX COLLECTOR/TREASURER

by Linda Marcotte

While preparing my report for the Annual Town Report, I was surprised to see how great the collections have been, not only on the older years but also on the more recent tax mailings. Although there is still much to be accomplished, I hope with next year's annual report to be able to start omitting some lines, indicating that all has been collected.

Due to my efforts to collect the older outstanding taxes and the Assessors getting approval to mail out the Estimated 1987 tax bill, we were able to get through 8 1/2 months without borrowing. During March I did have to borrow, but as the revaluation appears to be progressing smoothly, I hope that once the final bill is mailed we will be able to pay off the loan.

We have received state approval to spend our computer software grant money. This money will be used to purchase software specifically designed to handle a town's books and tax records.

During the next couple of weeks, I plan to change my work schedule. Although I have maintained town hall office hours, I also have spent a great deal of time at home working on the various town books. At the present time the new office hours will be Monday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons from 1:30 to 5:00. If these hours are not convenient, please call to make an appointment.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

by David Howland

The FinCom can generally forecast by this time of year what the property tax situation will look like next fall but this year we cannot do so. It is not that selectmen, town officers, department heads and various committees have not been working diligently on their respective tasks. Rather it seems that data preparation just gets more complicated and that we have both new and ever increasing demands on our resources. The main one is still property taxes. Some of our concerns are a \$50,000 increase in the Rowe School budget, a \$10,000 increase in insurance, the costs of the new waste disposal system and the closing of the old dump, the need for a special road maintenance program and, finally, the long range impact of a preschool program.

On the income side there has been an increase in state aid, the Equal Opportunity grant for the Rowe School is up, free cash should be better than last year and the tax base should be somewhat broader due to new home building.

The new budget has to be completed within the next three weeks so that the warrant can be prepared for the Annual Town Meeting on May 9. The FinCom will make its recommendations as usual and we will augment them with explanations if it seems called for.

ASSESSORS' REPORT

by Stephen Belitsos
Heath Board of Assessors

During the past two months the Board of Assessors has completed the update of the property record cards with new valuations and has withstood a site visit by the property valuation team of the Bureau of Local Assessment of the Department of Revenue. With a few minor exceptions, the review team found our work to be in order and thus gave their certification to our revaluation effort.

The Property Record cards will be sent to LHS Associates who will generate a current valuation list which will be posted for public review. The tax rate will then be set and final bills will be mailed out, hopefully before mid-May. Ed Calver is revising our tax map to reflect any changes/corrections in property boundaries.

In preparation for the FY 1990 revaluation, the Assessors have asked the town to fund a part-time clerk so that the Assessors can concentrate their time on more technical aspects of property valuation. It is felt that this position, plus the inclusion of the Property Card data in the town computer system, will allow successful and orderly full revaluation of property at a minimal expense to the town.

It is with great regret that the Board announces the retirement of Dennis Peters after six years of service. Dennis did a marvelous job of providing the necessary continuity between past boards and the current panel with its two "fresh" members. He will be sorely missed on Monday nights at the assessors' office.

Howard Crowningshield

Building & Remodeling

Tel: Heath 337-4406
P.O. Charlemont, Ma. 01339

HEATH CONSERVATION COMMISSION

by Bill Lattrell, Chairman

In February the Heath Selectmen appointed Dawn Peters as a new Conservation Commissioner. Dawn attended her first meeting in February and seems excited to get her feet wet.

Robert and Diane Rodes of Somers, CT, submitted a Notice of Intent for the location of the old Hoxie estate on Stone Hill Road. They are asking the Commission to review a permit to build a bridge across Burton Brook and build a house and septic system within the buffer zone of a wetland. The hearing on this application, set for March 20, was continued until April 3 at the request of Robert and Diane Rodes. Apparently they needed to prepare some necessary information for the hearing. The Conservation Commission has 10 days from the April 3 date to make a decision.

We expect a lot of activity this spring in connection with the review of building within the buffer zone of wetlands. Several potential applicants contacted the Commission during February and March as a result of the pamphlet we sent out in late winter. The pamphlet, prepared by Shared Administrative Assistant Susan Wright, explained the Wetlands Act and the responsibilities of the Conservation Commission.

PLANNING BOARD REPORT

by Robert Dane, Secretary

During the past two months the Planning Board has continued to work on revising the Subdivision Regulations, and we have completed the second draft. We have sent copies to the Franklin County Planning Office for their comments and criticism. The Selectmen, the Conservation Commission, the Planning Board Task Force, and Susan Wright also received copies for review. After we have assimilated their comments into our draft we will hold a public hearing to get final input before the regulations are adopted.

The Planning Board Task Force is continuing work on the Master Plan project. They are in the process of gathering data and organizing maps with the help of Susan Wright. They hope to put together a series of overlay maps of Heath, including a soil map, road map, aquifer map, and others, to be posted in Sawyer Hall for use by the various boards, and the general public.

In other business, we signed a plan as not requiring approval under Subdivision Regulations for David Adie and Jaime Ingraham.

FOREST MANAGEMENT

Planning * Improvement * Marketing

Many Local References

WILLIAM D. UNDERWOOD ASSOCIATES INC.

W.D. Underwood
413-648-9560

Chapin Road
Rt. 1 Box 176
Bernardston, MA 01337

SELECTMEN'S REPORT

by Richard Giard, Chairman
Heath Board of Selectmen

Well, it is that time of year again when we try to take every town board, committee and department wish list and convert it into a town budget.

We, along with the Finance Committee, have jointly met with different boards and committees since the end of February trying to find the needs of each and then to set priorities for their requests. Now we are trying to match those needs with the limited amount of funds available under Proposition 2 1/2. There may be a few areas where we may ask you for your support to use extra funds.

We appointed an Insurance Task Force to review the town policies and coverage. They will make their recommendation to us on April 7. We had this done in anticipation of a large premium increase. They are also looking to see where we should extend our coverage where we are not presently covered.

The Highway Task Force made a preliminary report to us on March 31. They explained their findings and made recommendations. It is the beginning of a long range plan to repair and reconstruct our roads. We will hold an informational hearing for the general public before the town meeting in May. We have signed the S.T.R.A.P. grant for work on Route 8A and are working on the procedure for installing the box culverts on Colrain Stage Road.

We have received approval for road signs from the state DPW to erect STOP and YIELD with a few speed limit signs in the Center and near Peters Store. We are applying for a grant to purchase these signs with the help of Susan Wright, the Shared Administrative Assistant.

We met with Chief Gowdy on February 24 to discuss the situation with the Police Department. It was mutually agreed to give Chief Gowdy a 75 day leave of absence. For the interim period Guy Silvester was appointed Acting Chief. A telephone answering set has been installed in Guy's house.

We hope to see all of you at the informational town meeting on Wednesday, April 29, at 8:00 PM and at the Annual Town Meeting on Saturday, May 9, at 9:00 AM.

We need volunteers to organize the potluck lunch that will follow the town meeting at the Community Hall.

Bart's Ice Cream Cones
are here

...at McCusker's



at the Bridge of Flowers!



MCCUSKER'S
MARKET & DELI
SHELburnE FALLS, MASSACHUSETTS

Quality Foods

OPEN DAILY 8 A.M. - 8 P.M.

CANDIDATE'S STATEMENTS

MODERATOR - Douglas Wilkins

I am interested in running for moderator, as a write-in candidate, for several reasons. First, I wish to help out with town government but lack the time for one of the more involved positions. Second is that I enjoy town meetings and feel they are an important part of town government. I feel that I will do a good job because I can get up and speak to large groups and I believe in the principles of town meetings such as fairness, freedom of speech, in accord with 'Moderators' Rules and Robert's Rules of Order.

SELECTMAN - Richard R. Giard

I would like to put the experience I have gained from my first three year term as selectman to work for the town with a second term.

I find the job challenging and enjoyable. There are some projects just started that I would like to help to finish. I would appreciate this opportunity to do so.

TOWN CLERK - Karen McDougall

I am running for the position of Town Clerk. I have held several clerical jobs since graduating from high school. I have also completed several courses at Greenfield Community College toward an Associate's Degree in Accounting.

I am active in the Heath Church, Treasurer of the Heath Agricultural Society, Vice President of the Franklin County 4-H Association and a member of the Heath Ladies Aid.

FINANCE COMMITTEE - Guy Silvester

I would like the opportunity to continue to serve the Town of Heath in the capacity of Finance Committee member. There is a good working relationship between the present Finance Committee and the Board of Selectmen, and I believe we can accomplish a great deal through mutual cooperation.

ASSESSOR (3 year term) - Stephen Belitsos

I am running for a three year term on the Board of Assessors. During the past year I have only begun to learn and understand all of the laws, procedures and responsibilities involved in the assessor's job and have done what I could to add my input to the Board.

I am currently taking the basic course in assessment administration as offered by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue and so expect by early summer to become a certified assessor, thereby providing the Heath Board with the minimum requirements for staffing the office.

The information offered by this course is allowing me to cut through the fog surrounding the difficult job of assessor and to make a more concrete contribution to the Board.

I have enjoyed working with Alan and Dennis during the past year and meeting and serving numerous townspeople (no matter what the circumstance) and believe that the current Board made significant improvements in the general operation of the Assessors' office. I look forward to continuing in this tradition for an exciting three more years.

ASSESSOR (1 year term) - Chris Burke

I and my family have lived here in Heath for just a few years, but long enough to appreciate the effort that many people have made to make the town viable. Heath is certainly the home of many good hearted folks. For myself, it's harder to sit on the sidelines and watch than it is to pitch in and help. Last month I submitted papers, volunteering to run for assessor. If the voters see fit to take me up on this, I'll work hard with the assessors to see that the job is done with great concern for fairness.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE - Linda Marcotte

As a candidate for re-election to the Heath School Committee I look back on the last three years as a learning experience in how the Heath School Committee functions.

I have been actively involved in what is happening at Mohawk for the past two years. The first year, in addition to attending the regular monthly meetings, I was on the Budget and Education Standing Subcommittees. This year I am on the Personnel Subcommittee and I am the Chairperson of the Transportation Subcommittee.

I have always been concerned about children and education. I have been pleased to see the parent participation with the school committee in the last few months and hope it will continue in the future. I hope all parents know that if they have any concerns regarding their child's education, they can contact their school committee so that we can resolve the problem.

AUDITOR - Douglas Wilkins

I wish to run for town auditor. This past year has been a good one for the town. The new accounting system is near implementation and we have excellent people in the office who take good care of our money and make sure it is spent wisely. In times like these, the need for an elected auditor in addition to a hired professional auditor seems nil; but there may come a time when we are not so lucky as we are now, and having another set of eyes on the books could be VERY important. I will keep a close eye on the accounting in town, and if there is any hint of trouble, I will do whatever is necessary to make sure our tax dollars are being spent correctly, according to the wishes of the voters at the town meetings.

POLICE REPORT

by Guy Silvester

The Heath Police Department has resumed regular activities and patrols. The phone, 337-5505, is being answered either by an officer or answering service. If you have an emergency and the machine comes on, please call the State Police for assistance at 625-6311.

In March court news (Heath arrests): one conviction for operating under the influence, one for assault and battery, and one for restitution of property were obtained.

Radar is being utilized to help monitor the speeds of motor vehicles on our roads. If any Heath resident has recommendations or concerns regarding the Police Department, please contact the Selectmen or me.

TOWN MEETING.... continued from page 1

+Although no nominee will be on the ballot for the positions of Moderator and Auditor, Douglas Wilkins is running as a write-in candidate for both jobs.

Since no one filed for the positions of Planning Board member, Tree Warden, or for either of the two Constable positions, these offices will be filled by a write-in vote or else, if no one is elected, by selectmen's appointment. The Planning Board member whose term has expired is Susan Gleason. The positions of Tree Warden and Constables have not appeared on the ballot for a number of years and accordingly have been filled by appointment. The present incumbents are Tom Lively, Tree Warden, and Constables Ron Corey and Newland Smith.

Be sure to VOTE on MAY 8 and attend the Town Meeting on SATURDAY, MAY 9.

HEATH'S CIRCUIT RIDER REPORTS

by Susan Wright

As many of you know, Heath has a shared administrative assistant who works ten hours a week for each of the four towns in the program: Buckland, Colrain, Heath and Shelburne. Often referred to as the Circuit Rider Program, it has been in existence since January 1985.

In November 1985, the towns of Colrain, Heath and Monroe received a grant for a housing rehabilitation and economic development program. The programs have been underway for about a year and a half and have been quite successful.

The housing rehabilitation program is administered by the Franklin County Regional Housing Authority and provides low-interest and no-interest loans to income eligible homeowners to rehabilitate their homes. There are still funds available and residents should call me at 625-9831 for information and applications.

The economic development loan program is administered by the Franklin County Community Development Corporation and provides low-interest and deferred payment loans to small businesses in the three towns. To date several loans have been made and businesses interested should contact Nancy DuBosque at 774-7204.

Other projects that I have been working on include a Small Town Road Assistance Grant for \$150,000 for reconstruction and safety improvements along a one mile section of Route 8A (Jacksonville Stage Road); a Management Information System Incentive Aid Grant of \$5,625 which will be used to purchase computer software for the offices of tax collector, accountant and assessors; completion of the \$2,120 Conservation Commission Training Grant which was used to provide training reference materials, maps and public information for the Heath Conservation Commission and a \$2,500 grant to fund the purchase of STOP, SPEED LIMIT and YIELD signs to be erected at approved locations in town.

I have also begun work on a set of maps for the town which would document natural resources.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about these projects. I can be reached at 625-9831 or you may stop by the office in the Shelburne Town Hall.

**BE SURE TO VOTE ON MAY 8
AND COME TO THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MAY 9**

HORSES... continued from page 1

At the present time Betty has four mares and one yearling filly as well as the stallion. Two of the mares will foal next month. In addition she hopes to have a couple of riding horses available for sale next month. Betty welcomes visitors to her farm and enjoys showing what Walking Horses can do.

Betty and her husband, Dennis, have two children, Christina, age 5, and Andrea, age 3. Prior to moving to Heath three years ago when they bought the former Ralph Riddle place, Betty studied microbiology and immunology at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst. She holds two Master's Degrees, one in Plant and Soil Science and one in Microbiology.

HEATH FLOWERS INSPIRE TALK

Elsa Bakalar was the speaker at the annual spring luncheon of the Moline/Rock Island (Illinois) and Davenport (Iowa) Tri-City Garden Club on March 17 at the Black Hawk Hotel in Moline. The lecture and slide presentation was entitled "Six Months of Color in a New England Border." Elsa exclaimed, "Now that's a garden club - 150 people at the luncheon."

While in Moline, Elsa was given a guided tour of the John Deere corporate headquarters. In driving between Moline and Davenport, she crossed the Mississippi River which Elsa reports "was brown and muddy and had whitecaps from the stiff breeze one day."

HEATH FAIR PLANS 1987

by Barbara Smith, Secretary

The Heath Agricultural Society is very busy making plans for this year's Heath Fair.

One of our main concerns at this time of year is planning the Heath Fair premium book for printing. Anyone wishing to place an advertisement, business or personal, in this year's premium book please contact Barbara Smith at 337-5563, evenings, before the end of April.

Also anyone interested in helping on the Fair Committee is urged to come to the meetings which are held on the second Monday of each month at 7 PM in the Community Hall. The next meeting will be on Monday, April 13.

LARRY'S

of Shelburne Falls

CLOTHING

FOOTWEAR



**The Baker
Pharmacy**

YOUR REXALL STORE

Tel: 625-6324

Week Days 8:30AM - 9PM

Saturdays 8:30AM - 6PM

Sundays & Holidays 9AM - 12 Noon

52 Bridge Street

Shelburne Falls

HEATH PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Catherine and Bruce Cromack have returned from a holiday visiting Williamsburg, VA and other historic places as well as enjoying the Skyline Drive. They also attended the wedding of Bruce's nephew, Charles Cromack, in Fairfax, VA.

Nicole Fogarty qualified as an All-American runner for the third time but for the first time in indoor track. The other two honors are for cross country.

Dianne and Eric Grinnell have returned from their trip to China where they led a group of students and friends.

Marty Eckwall Beasley, recently visited friends in Heath. She and her family now live in Newburyport.

Rachel and Ralph Sumner and Ruth and Ron Corey traveled to Virginia for a visit with Ralph's brother.

Buck denOuden left on April 6 for another trip out of the country continuing his work with the TCR Education Foundation Consulting Group in Alexandria, VA. He will be working in India and Kenya for four months.

The Philadelphia Museum of Art is the recipient of a glass sculpture created by Bob Dane. The sculpture is the gift of Mr. and Mrs. Harold Pote of Philadelphia who are art collectors. Bob recently attended a four-day conference of the Glass Art Society held at the Port of History Museum in Philadelphia.

MILESTONES

by Edith C. Royer

Twins were born January 30, a daughter, Alyssa Rae, and a son, Chad Tyler, to Laurie and Michael Giard of Jacksonville, VT. They are great grandchildren of David Giard, Sr. and Wilbert Rainville of Heath.

William Bahan was born February 14 to Joan and Donald Brownlee of Hosmer Road.

Christopher Dylan was born March 30. Christopher is the son of Peter and Gretchen Law of Montague and grandson of Ruth and Russell Johnson of Heath.

Edmond L. Croteau of Chicopee died February 17. He leaves a son Edmond of Heath and two granddaughters.

John Wolf of Rochester, NY, died February 27. He was the son of William and Eleanor Wolf of Heath and Cambridge. He leaves his wife, Julie, and two daughters, Emily and Catherine of Rochester. They spent much time in Heath over the years.

Henrietta L. Mackie of Brighton died March 19. She was the mother of Charles Mackie, Jr. of Heath.



MAIL TO:

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

HEATH HERALD Box 54, Heath, MA 01346

TOWN OFFICE HOURS

(At Town Hall unless otherwise noted)

Selectmen: Tuesdays 7:15 PM
Assessors: Mondays 7 - 9 PM

Town Clerk & Town Accountant: Mondays 8:30 AM - 12 noon & 1 - 4 PM
and by appointment, call 337-6665

Town Treasurer & Tax Collector: Mondays, Wednesdays & Thursdays
1:30 PM to 5:00 PM
and by appointment, call 337-4394

Finance Committee: As posted
Planning Board: Mondays 7 - 9 PM
Heath School Committee:

1st Tuesday of month 7:30 PM

Library Trustees: 3rd Monday of month 7:30 PM
Library: Mondays 6 - 9 PM Wednesdays 1 - 5 PM
Saturdays 9 AM - 1 PM

Town Nurse: Wednesdays 8:45 - 10:45 AM
Fridays 12:45 - 2:45 PM
(call 625-2829 between 7 - 8:15 AM for appointment)

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

Dump * : Mondays 10 AM - 2 PM Wednesdays 1 - 7 PM
Saturdays 9 AM - 5 PM
* (Permit required - see Town Clerk)

Town Telephones: Town Hall 337-4934
Community Hall 337-4847
Town Garage 337-4462

BE SURE TO VOTE ON MAY 8
AND COME TO THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MAY 9

CLASSIFIED

FRESH WINDS FARM Paul and Marcella Lively & Sons
Excavating - Loam - Sand - Stone 337-4331
* * SCREENED LOAM A SPECIALTY * *

SEAVER AND WADHAM, Inc. Renovations, additions,
kitchens, bathrooms, porches, solar greenhouses.
Quality workmanship - reasonable prices 337-4866

Additional copies of the HEATH HERALD are available
at Peters Store newsstand. . . & at the Heath Library

PETERS GENERAL STORE

The ONLY Store in Heath

INSTANT LOTTERY TICKETS
NOW AVAILABLE

We Sell Alcoholic Beverages

Satisfaction Guaranteed

Michael Peters

Tel: 337-5501