

Icy road causes two accidents on Old Post Road in Worthington

3-7-80

WORTHINGTON — Two accidents occurred in rapid succession yesterday morning on an icy stretch of Old Post Road between the Tyler Farm and the Chesterfield town line.

The driver of one vehicle, Joan Mollison of West Street, was trapped in her car for over an hour. She is now a patient in the intensive care unit of the Berkshire Medical Center in Pittsfield. No report of her condition was available this morning.

Miss Mollison, 19, was traveling east on Old Post Road when she lost control of her vehicle on an untreated icy patch of road at approximately 10:15 a.m., according to a report from the Russell State Police.

Her car slid sideways, hit a guard rail and then a tree. The driver's side door and the roof were so damaged that an emergency team was unable to move her until jaws of life equipment was brought to the scene by the Dalton Fire Department.

Worthington and Dalton fire department members and the Huntington ambulance crew worked together to free Miss Mollison.

There was another accident shortly before but no serious injuries resulted.

A car containing Irene Baker of Huntington Road and the driver, Beata Panagapoulos of 48 Graves Ave., Northampton,

hit the same stretch of ice. The vehicle flipped over and came to rest upright in a nearby shallow pond. Kenneth B. Pease of Old Post Road and Phil Mason of Huntington Road stopped at the scene and helped the two women from their car, according to local police officer LeRoy LaRock. According to a neighbor, who assisted Mrs. Baker, the group was standing on the roadside when the second accident occurred.

Highway Superintendent James Pease said that the town sander was in use at the time of the accidents and was at the town garage being loaded with sand for Old Post Road. Pease added that the highway crew

began work at 5:45 yesterday morning with the town's only sanding vehicle. It takes 10 hours to sand the whole town, he said.

Five members of the Worthington Fire Department responded to the scene to wash gasoline off the road.

Madeleine Provost and William Clarke, both of the Worthington Medical Center, treated Miss Mollison at the scene before the Huntington ambulance arrived.

Officer LaRock said that Dalton owns the nearest jaws of life equipment. The next closest one available is located in Northampton. He said the scene was not cleared until 1:45 p.m.

Annual meeting last night

Finances reported healthy at Worthington Medical Center

By JANET DIMOCK
WORTHINGTON — Suzanne Kulik, treasurer of the Worthington Health Association, reported at the annual meeting last night that the Old North Road medical center had a "good year financially despite a major shift in personnel."

Some 40 members attended the meeting at which Stanley Cowell of Cummington and Beverly Smith of Worthington were re-elected for three years to the board of directors. Susane Stone and Darrell Shedd, both of Worthington, were elected for three years. Mrs. Kulik of Worthington was re-elected to the board for one year and one year as treasurer. Harriet Osgood of Worthington was elected secretary for one year.

During the last year, Dr. William Shevin left the center to be replaced for five months by Dr. Ann McIntosh. Two new doctors will join the staff in July.

Of the total \$184,093 income for 1979, \$85,000 was from the federal Department of Health, Education and Welfare Rural Health Initiative Plan, \$80,000 from patient fees and \$11,753 from membership fees and individual and municipal contributions. This breaks down

to 46 percent from the grant, 44 percent from clients, 6 percent from donations and 4 percent from miscellaneous accounts, Mrs. Kulik explained.

Reinstatement of door-to-door solicitation may mean an increase in donations, Membership Drive Chairman Ida Joslyn suggested. The membership is down by 106 members this year. She attributed the drop to the uncertainty generated by changes in staff and to the general state of the economy. Volunteers willing to help with the drive effort are to contact Mrs. Joslyn.

Executive Director Mark Allan reported that six candidates for the two staff physicians positions were interviewed before Dr. David Katz and Dr. Matthew Swartz were hired.

Dr. Swartz will join the staff on July 10 and Dr. Katz on July 21.

Full-time health services will be provided through the next five weeks until the doctors arrive, Allan pointed out. Supervision for the physicians' assistants and three residents from the Berkshire Medical Center in Pittsfield is provided by Dr. Charles Wahl of the Berkshire Medical Center. Physicians' Assistants William

Clarke and Gail Higgins will provide 24-hour, on-call service.

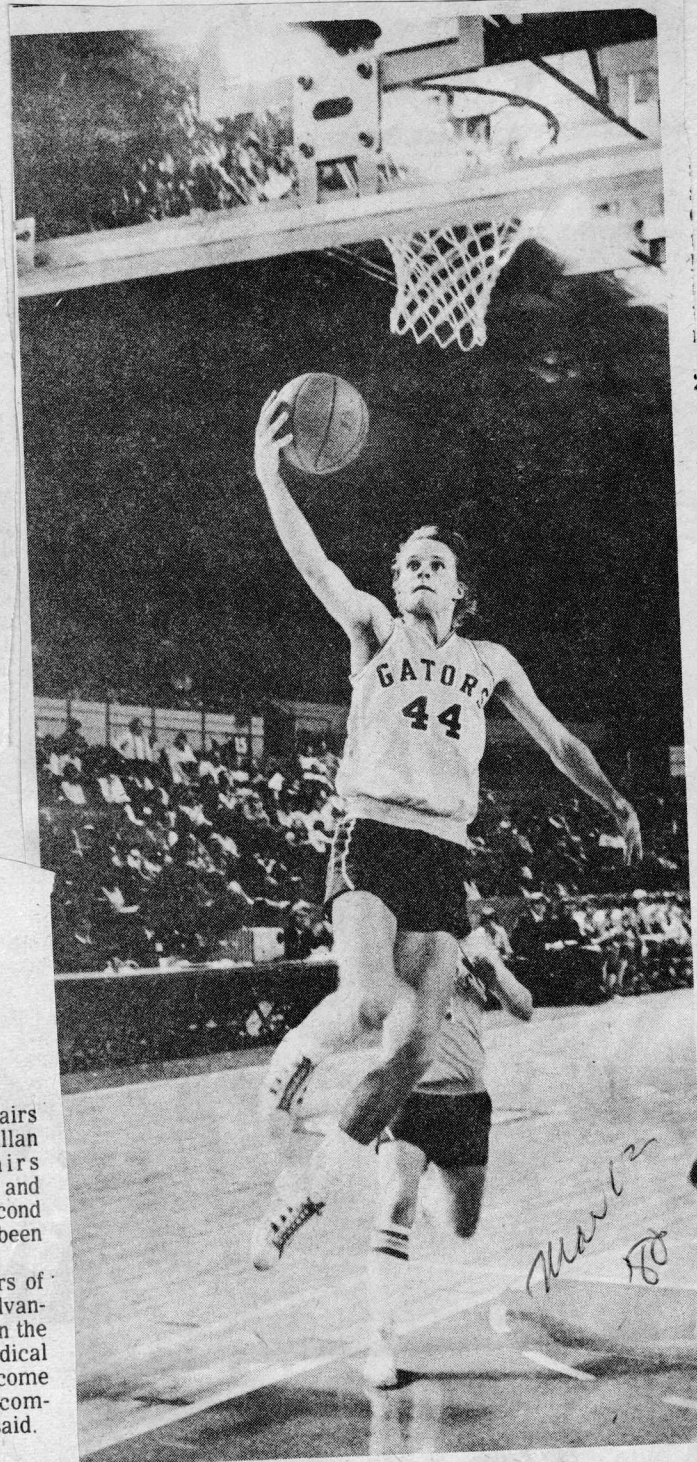
Physicians' assistants Clarke and his wife Susan Clarke will leave the center staff in July, after the doctors arrive, Allan explained.

Eight area dentists have responded to a search for a part-time staff member, he continued. Dentists service should be instituted "sometime this summer," Allan said.

Renovation work will continue

this year, with major repairs scheduled for the roof, Allan added. The downstairs renovations have been done and plans for turning the second floor into office space have been made.

Allan also urged members of the community to take advantage of the suggestion box in the waiting room at the medical center. "We really welcome suggestions, thoughts, complaints or any input," he said.



Nominated

Gateway Regional High School's all-time leading scorer, Bob Brodrick, has been nominated to the 1980 McDonald's All American High School Basketball Team and may be chosen to the 20-member All American Team for 1980. Bob, who averaged nearly 27 points a game, is shown in action in the Western Massachusetts championship game Saturday. (Richard Carpenter photo)

10 Daily Hampshire Gazette, Northampton, Mass., Fri., April 25, 1980

Ruth Ann Dunlevy becomes the bride of Richard H. Slater

WORTHINGTON — Ruth Ann Dunlevy and Richard H. Slater exchanged marriage vows on April 19 in St. Thomas Church, Huntington. The Rev. Richard McIntyre officiated at the 2 p.m. ceremony.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Dunlevy of Huntington Road. The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. William Slater of Skyline Drive, Middlefield. Attending the couple were Judith Whitman of Hancock sister of the bride, and Arnold Ravella of Westfield.

A reception was held at the home of the bride's parents.

The bride is a graduate of Gateway Regional High School and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, N.Y. She is employed as a salesperson. The bridegroom, also a graduate of Gateway Regional High School, is employed as an electrical engineer for Combustion Engineering.

Mr. and Mrs. Slater are residing at 3 Lovely Drive, Enfield, Conn. 06030.

Worthington Town Meeting:

Voters approve 8% budget hike, turn down fire system

May 5 1980

By JANET DIMOCK

WORTHINGTON — Voters turned down a proposed \$9,513 fire dispatch system, but approved the purchase of a sander on Saturday at the annual Town Meeting.

A total town and school budget of \$472,675 was approved for fiscal 1981 which begins on July 1. This is an increase of about 8 percent over the present budget.

Of that amount, \$452,800 will come from tax dollars, almost a 17 percent increase over the amount raised at the 1979 annual Town Meeting.

The budget is \$1,063 over the 4 percent spending increase limit mandated by the state, according to Town Clerk Joan Donovan. Mrs. Donovan explained that under state guidelines, only certain relevant appropriations are considered in the increase. Voters approved exceeding the spending ceiling.

The total budget figure has increased due to a drop in available federal aid which was used in past years to offset the money needed from taxation.

School budget passes

The Gateway Regional School budget was passed without question. The total school assessment is \$275,319. Vocational school costs are estimated at \$52,000 of the total figure. The total budget figure will decrease when state aid figures are subtracted when those figures arrive in a few months. This is a \$29,319 increase over the amount appropriated at the 1979 annual Town Meeting.

Every \$18,500 spent equals about \$1 on the tax rate of \$15 per \$1,000 valuation. Due to a last minute recommendation from the Finance Committee, \$10,000 in free cash (cherry

sheet money that is refunded to the town each year from the state) was set aside to offset the tax rate.

No purchases this year are to be paid for from borrowed funds. A total of \$19,875 will come from federal revenue-sharing money, overlay surplus and the machinery earnings account.

Present system supported

Voters decided to stay with the present local telephone calling dispatch system for the volunteer Fire Department following a half-hour debate on the question. Moderator Ralph Moran tallyed 44 against and 22 in support of a new system.

Volunteer firefighter Richard Smith explained that the new system would route emergency calls through the dispatch center at the Amherst Fire Department and members would be notified by voice and tone pagers or by walkie talkie. Response time would be cut from the present seven minutes needed to "in the range of 28 seconds," he said. The pager system would reach firefighters who are not at home, he pointed out.

Voters in opposition questioned the need for such a time saving, since most local fires are not life endangering.

The system was supported by the Finance Committee and the selectmen.

A sum of \$5,480 was voted, over Finance Committee objections, for the purchase of a body-mounted sander for the highway department. There were few dissenting votes.

Highway Superintendent James Pease termed it "money well spent."

Sander recommended

Pease requested the sander on the grounds that it will add more

service years to the resenter and it will cut down on the time needed to service town roads. The second piece of equipment will be helpful when roads must be sanded in a hurry, such as following an early morning ice storm, he said. Pease estimated that one sander must return to the town garage 10 times for more sanding material in order to cover all roads after a snowstorm.

Finance Committee member Edward Harvey said that his committee opposed the idea because it only takes four hours to sand all paved roads and the present sander is not old enough to need a standby.

Three two-way radios will be ordered this year for the Police Department. An amendment to buy just one radio this year was defeated.

In response to lengthy questioning from voters, Police Chief Grant Knapp explained that citizen band units cannot be used because they do not communicate with all parts of town and radios are needed by officers to contact the ambulance, fellow officers and other emergency equipment.

Officer Leroy LaRoc pointed out that use of such a radio trimmed 15 to 20 minutes from the ambulance response time to a recent accident.

Knapp pointed out that without a radio, the officer must leave the scene of an emergency to use a telephone.

Each officer will be equipped when the three units are purchased, Knapp said.

No stabilization fund

A stabilization fund will not be established this year. The Finance Committee proposed that \$5,000 be set aside for use toward a capital expenditure at some future date. The money

could only be appropriated at an annual Town Meeting, and it would earn more interest in a special bank account than the town is currently paying out in interest on borrowed money, Harvey explained.

Moran called the plan one that would "save now and pay later, as opposed to buy now and pay later."

George Ulrich of Old Post Road called it a "bad piece of legislation in inflationary times" because taxpayers should be left with money to spend to stimulate the economy.

The motion was defeated, 20 in favor, and 25 against.

Support was also given for the Huntington Lions Club ambulance. Club member Joseph Beatty of Huntington explained that the \$3,875 will pay for the salaries of two emergency medical technicians and for "several extraordinary expenses" that must be paid to keep up with state licensing regulations.

A base radio station must be set up this year, Beatty said. The Lions Club funds equipment expenses, he said. The ambulance service costs about \$3.75 per person, Beatty added.

"Those that need the emergency service should pay for it," Robert Lucey of Ring Road objected.

Despite many questions from voters, the motion passed.

The membership of the Historical Commission was expanded from three members to five. More members are needed to help with the on-going survey of local historical buildings, sites and all cemeteries, Clerk Lois Ashe Brown explained.

The term of moderator was changed to three years, effective at the next annual election. The present one-year term

means that the moderator must "run around with a petition each year, and in this case it's his

wife," explained Selectman Julia Sharron, spouse of ailing Moderator Cornelius Sharron.

70 percent of voters turn out for election

By JANET DIMOCK

WORTHINGTON — Dorothy Mason of Christian Hollow Road was re-elected to the Board of Selectmen with 223 votes in the annual election on Saturday at which 70 percent of the voters cast ballots.

Mrs. Mason won her seat by a 75-vote margin over Fred Emerson of Old Main Road who received 148 votes.

Voter turnout was high this year, according to Town Clerk Joan Donovan. A total of 376 ballots were cast out of 534 registered voters.

Three other contests were also decided.

Board of Health member Gail Higgins kept her post by a 4-vote margin over challenger Darrel Shedd of River Road.

Dorothy Nelson of Buffington Hill Road won a three-way race for one year as tax collector. She received 299 votes while challengers Mary Jane Carey of Indian Oven Road received 45 and Carol Labonte of Scott Road, 20.

Mrs. Nelson was also elected town treasurer for two years with 350 votes in an uncontested race.

School Committee member Cynthia Watson of Buffington Hill Road was re-elected to the Gateway Regional School board with 250 votes. Carmen Greitzer of Williamsburg Road received

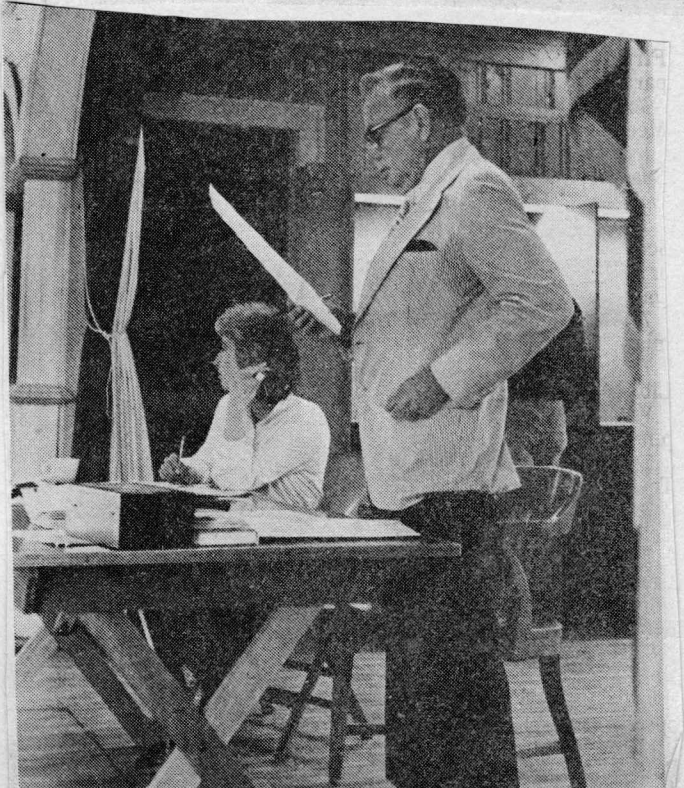
84 votes for the post.

Grant Bowman of Witt Hill Road won on write-ins for three years as cemetery commissioner with 20 votes. Donald Newton Jr. of Sam Hill Road won the three-year term on the Finance Committee with five write-in votes. His father, Donald Newton Sr., also of Sam Hill Road, was returned to the Finance Committee for three years with 293 votes.

The following uncontested positions were also filled: Moderator Cornelius Sharron of Buffington Hill Road (one year), Carol Pease, Old Post Road, Finance Committee (two years), Byron Knickerbocker of Witt Road, assessor (three years) John Reagan of Harvey Road, assessor (one year), Steve Strom of Huntington Road, tree warden (three years), Alice Knickerbocker, Witt Hill Road, to the School Committee (three years), Stephen Kulik of Thayer Hill Road, Planning Board (five years), and Rebecca Okrent of Buffington Hill Road, Planning Board for two years.

Voters also were in favor of a referendum question on insurance coverage for municipal officers who are sued in the course of fulfilling their official duties.

The question was approved 217 to 72.



Worthington voters approved a 17 percent increase over fiscal 1980 of funds to be raised from tax dollars at the annual Town Meeting on Saturday. Ralph Moran served as moderator and Town Clerk Joan Donovan recorded results of the motions decided. (Photo by David Dimock)

July 3, 1980

Contractor in wetlands act violation, written plans not submitted to panel

By JANET DIMOCK

WORTHINGTON — Written plans for reconstruction work on Lindsay Hill Road which violates the state Wetlands Protection Act, have not been submitted to the Conservation Commission, Chairman Steven Strom said last night at a special meeting.

The deadline for submission of plans by Patten Realty of Stamford, Vt., was Friday. The plans were to have been submitted in response to a cease and desist order issued by the commission.

A letter requesting "written determination as to the applicability" of the Wetlands Protection Act to road work was received by the commission from Richard Fitzpatrick of North Adams, attorney for the realty firm.

Fitzpatrick stated that Patten Realty has owned the abutting land on Lindsay Hill Road since June 2 and that his client agreed to carry out the road work plan made with the town by previous owner Allyn Coombs, Inc. of Amherst.

Coombs agreed to spend between \$5,000 and \$10,000 on the road which had been abandoned by the town for over 20 years.

In a letter to special counsel for the town, the firm of Growhoski, Callahan and Niles of Northampton, and in a separate letter to the commission, Fitzpatrick said the work is being done under the supervision of the superintendent of roads and that \$5,000 has been spent. He also said that if a washout should occur while the work is halted, his company

Worthington

would suffer "significant monetary loss." He said his client would "look to the town" for compensation.

Highway Superintendent James Pease reported to the selectmen several weeks ago that he has not been contacted or consulted in any way about the work.

Strom said last night that the commission recognized the fact that money has been invested and hopes that the matter can be resolved as quickly as possible.

Commission members agreed that a determination of applicability is not in order at this time because the cease and desist order clearly indicates

that the work does fall under the state law. Such a determination is only sent in response to preliminary inquiries before any work has taken place.

The next step will be for Patten Realty to submit detailed plans of the construction work and a \$25 filing fee, the board affirmed.

A letter stating the commission's stance will be sent to the company and its attorney.

Commission member Carmen Almeida-Smith reported that she and Tom Orzak of the state Department of Environmental Engineering regional office in Amherst, inspected Lindsay Hill Road yesterday. Ms. Almeida-Smith reported that Orzak supported the board's contention that a fresh water stream has been disturbed by the work.

Six-year court battle over trailer ends in win for town of Worthington

By JANET DIMOCK

WORTHINGTON — A lengthy court case over a trailer located on Sam Hill Road ended in a victory for the town, but as Appeals Board Chairman John Modestow told selectmen Tuesday night, "the town gets the bill."

Modestow gave the selectmen official court documents and the bill of \$920 from Town Counsel Edward McMahan.

Since there is not enough money in the law account to pay the charge, the board decided that the money will have to be allocated at a special Town Meeting at a date to be announced before the end of the fiscal year.

In February, a superior court decree ordered Edward Moriarty

of Westfield to remove his trailer which has been an object of controversy since 1974. Modestow noted that an out of court settlement could not be reached and court dates were delayed several times due to Moriarty's ill health.

The board agreed with Mrs. Sharron's summation of the lengthy and expensive affair. "If we didn't go through with it, what good would our zoning laws be?"

Transportation needs

Public transportation in rural areas and the duties of the town clerk were also discussed this week by the selectmen.

The Lower Pioneer Valley Regional Planning Commission (LPVRPC) is ready to begin a

study of the need for public transportation in the towns of Chesterfield, Cummington, Goshen, Huntington, Plainfield, Southamptton, Westhampton, Williamsburg and Worthington.

A local contact person is needed to work with the LPVRPC. Anyone interested is asked to contact one of the selectmen.

In other business, Town Clerk Joan Donovan outlined the duties of her office. "There's a lot more to it than just initialing a license," she said.

In addition to being in charge of all licenses, the town clerk is also in charge of all town records, including vital statistics, Town Meeting records, and committee reports and also must issue burial permits. Many monthly reports

must be sent to various agencies.

The town clerk is also clerk to the board of registrars and is in charge of voter registration.

Responsibilities are blurred
The need for such a definition arose due to Mrs. Donovan's resignation from the post of town clerk. Responsibilities for the two offices have become blurred. Mrs. Donovan has held both for several years.

The selectmen also took the following action: announced the need for a civil defense director, issued a Class 2 used car license to Arlene Granger and Son of Old North Road and gave permission to the local Grange to use the Town Hall for a bazaar and meal on Aug. 23.

WORTHINGTON

Reconstruction plans for Lindsay Hill Road submitted by Patten Realty Corp. of Stamford, Vt., were approved this week by the conservation commission, and 18 wooded lots can now be sold on either side of the road.

Work on the long unused road can now resume, provided the realty company follows several conditions voted by the commission.

The construction work must go on under the direct supervision of the highway superintendent, all fill must meet the superintendent's approval, tree cutting must adhere to guidelines set in the state Scenic Roads Act, dam-

3-11-80

Philip S. Dodge, 77, former Hilltown official

WORTHINGTON — Philip S. Dodge, 77, of Route 112, a former selectman and constable here, died Tuesday in The Cooley Dickinson Hospital, Northampton.

Dodge served as selectman from 1939 to 1946 and as constable from 1932 to 1956.

Born in Worthington on Nov. 15, 1902, he was the son of the late George T. and Jennie (Bird) Dodge. He was a lifelong resident of this town.

A self-employed carpenter, he

also was employed by the General Electric Co. in Pittsfield for 20 years before his retirement in 1965.

He was a cemetery commissioner for the Ringville Cemetery for several years and a member of the Worthington Rod and Gun Club.

He is survived by his wife, the former Grace Barrett; a son, Frederick J. Dodge of Grafton; a daughter, Marion Warner of Haydenville; two brothers, Chester H. Dodge of Peru and Homer D. Dodge of Concord, N.H.; 11 grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

There will be a memorial service on Saturday at 2 p.m. in the Worthington Congregational Church.

The burial will be in Ringville Cemetery at the convenience of the family.

There are no calling hours at the Charles A. Bisbee Funeral Home of Chesterfield, which is handling the arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Worthington Congregational Church, in care of Harriet Osgood.

May 9 1980

26—The Berkshire Eagle, Worthington officers appointed

WORTHINGTON — The Selectmen on Monday reappointed for the coming year Building Inspector C. Raymond Magargal, Police Chief Grant Knapp, and Civil Defense Director Stephen Kulik.

Also, compactor custodian, Howard Mollison; custodian of Town Hall, Henry Dassatti; dog officer, Walter O. Fritz Jr.; fire chief, Gary F. Granger; food stamp coordinator, Lucie Mollison, and forest fire warden, Gary F. Granger.

Also, gas inspector, Thomas Noska; inspector of animals, Ernest Nugent; delegate to Lower Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, Albert Nugent Jr.; plumbing inspector, Henry Bartlett; highway superintendent, James E. Pease; Dutch elm and gypsy moth control superintendent, Steven W. Strom; town office clerk, Althea Mason; veterans' agent, Cornelius Sharon, and wiring inspector, William Wilson.

Officers appointed by the annual town meeting to serve one year each were field drivers and fence viewers, John Sawyer, Howard Mollison and Jeffrey Mason; surveyors of wood and lumber, Lawrence Dingmond, Joseph Sena and Christopher Powell, and Almoners of the Whiting Street Fund, Elizabeth Correy, Kenneth B. Pease and Esther T. Kerley.

An article on the town meeting warrant seeking to change the term of office for the moderator from one year to three years was approved.

Elizabeth Wster

WORTHINGTON — Elizabeth Brewster, 76, of meadow, formerly of this (died Friday at her home).

A native of Sjeid, she was a long-time resident of Worthington where father and other relative born.

Born on June 5, she was the daughter of the Judge Elisha and Alicompson) Brewster.

She was a member First Congregational Church of Worthington.

She leaves a Alice Sturtevant of Longow, and two nephews.

There will be private graveside service row in the Center etery, Worthington.

The Dickinsoneeter Funeral Home in field is in charge of arrants.

Memorial donathay be made to tFirst Congregational ch in Worthington.



A SUBSTANTIAL increase in population in the various Hilltowns plagues their police departments and strains their budgets. Worthington Chief Grant Knapp says that breaking and entering cases lead the list. (Photo by Richard Carpenter).

One church group spreads the word

July 11, 1980

By JANET DIMOCK

WORTHINGTON — Ten times each year the latest word on community happenings goes out to those close at hand and to others far away in the form of a colorful newsletter called the "Parish Word."

Published with volunteer labor, the decade-old venture is "free to anyone who wants it," Marge Moran of Huntington Road recently explained.

The one-page sheet is written, printed, folded, stapled and addressed by hand by a closely-knit, yet loosely-organized, group. There is no chairman, no boss, but the work gets done on time due to what Mrs. Moran calls "a flexible organization of friendly cooperation."

She is responsible for mailing the "Parish Word" and, with the help of her husband Ralph, she folds the staples each copy.

The folding and stapling is very routine, she said. She has helped with the newsletter since 1972.

Routine or not, it is apparent to an onlooker that the job receives a hefty time commitment. Demand for the newsletter has grown since the first issue was sent out in September 1970.

"We sent out about 420. That's a round figure," Mrs. Moran estimated.

About 250 are sent to Worthington residents and another 100 copies go to other Massachusetts residents.

The other 60 newsletters fill an important function — allowing former residents in 19 states to know what is happening in town. Those far from Worthington regularly read the brightly-colored sheet to keep in touch with old friends. The "Parish Word" is sent to the other five New England states plus New York, Florida, Illinois, Ohio, Texas, North Carolina, North Dakota, Colorado, California, Maryland, Washington, Kentucky, Georgia and Arizona.

Despite rising costs and increased circulation the "Parish Word" is self sustaining. Contributions must pay all the bills, which include \$13 in postage for each mailing, \$40 for paper plus \$40 each year for the bulk mailing permit. Eight years ago postage costs were only \$4 per mailing, Mrs. Moran pointed out.

Pleas for funds have always been answered. "Money appears from all kinds of sources," Mrs. Moran said.

The community has been so supportive that the paper has never had to fall back on money from its sponsor, the First Congregational Church of Worthington, according to the newsletter's founder Anne Jones of Old North Road.

Over the years, requests for donations were mentioned in the "Parish Word" — with no specific amount stated — and the

needed money would come in "almost to the penny," Mrs. Jones recalled.

She stopped working on the project in 1977, but she related how the "Parish Word" began.

Shortly after Mrs. Jones and her husband Chester moved here from St. Louis, Mo., she realized that she was missing out on some community and church activities. Sometimes it was a matter of just finding out too late. The answer, she thought, was a regular reminder that people could post on the refrigerator.

Drawing upon her knowledge of a church newsletter published in her former community, she gained the approval of the then-pastor, the Rev. Jerome Wood, and then set off in search of volunteers.

Response to the idea was enthusiastic. "Whoever I asked wanted to help," Mrs. Jones recalled.

The format of the "Parish Word" has changed slightly since then. Mrs. Jones saw it in part as a vehicle for "a little promotion" of the local church. Christian education was combined with news on social events and meetings. Events such as the 550th anniversary of the death of St. Francis of Assisi and a brief explanation of his beliefs were noted.

"Now it's a general community paper, which I think is wonderful," Mrs. Jones said.

Her work as news reporter and writer was taken over by Harriet Burr of Kinney Brook Road. Mrs. Burr knows how out-of-towners look forward to the "Parish Word," because she received it

when she lived in Westminster.

The process involves a coordinated system of volunteers. After the news letter is written, the copy is then typed. Louise Rantilla and Beverly Smith alternate the job of typing the mimeographed stencil.

The Horace Bartlett family of Old Post Road takes the mimeograph machine out from under the bed and run off the copies. The Morans fold and staple, and the copies are all addressed by hand one morning at Lucie Mollison's home on Huntington Road.

Addressing the "Parish Word" is a long-standing tradition.

"They like to address by hand. They know where everyone is," Mrs. Jones explained. Offers of an addressograph have been repeatedly turned down. This way the group can keep track of a recipient's location or point out a new address.

"The process of all this takes about a week, usually the last week of the month," Mrs. Moran said. The "Parish Word" comes out only once in December and January and July and August.

"Through the years there were a lot of people who worked on it," she added.

The reason the bright pink, green or yellow flyers still come out after all this time is explained simply by Mrs. Moran. "Everyone involved enjoys the work," she said.

Enjoyment and community spirit have been combined so that those close at hand and others who are far away can share in both the day-to-day and the special events of one small Hilltown community.



ADDRESSING the "Parish Word" by hand is a tradition in Worthington. Performing that task are from left, Marge Moran (with back to camera), Barbara Dunlevy, Elizabeth Payne and Lucie Mollison. The newsletter is 10 years old this year. (Photo by David Dimock)

Alice G. LeDuc

WORTHINGTON — Alice G. LeDuc, 85, formerly of Chesterfield, died yesterday at The Cooley Dickinson Hospital, where she had been a patient for the last two weeks.

A Chesterfield resident for many years, she was an active member of the Chesterfield Congregational Church and she sang in the church choir.

She was the widow of Lester C. LeDuc, who died several years ago. All of their married life was spent in Chesterfield.

Before her marriage Mrs. LeDuc taught music in Hilltown schools.

Born in Worthington on Dec. 7, 1894, she was the daughter of the late Horace and Caroline (Graves) Bartlett. For the last few years she had lived in Worthington with her niece and family, the C. Raymond Magargals. She had lived at "The Spruces" on Williamsburg Road — the house where she was born.

Mrs. LeDuc was a member and past master of the Worthington Grange and later of the Chesterfield Grange. She also belonged to the Hillside Pomona Grange and the Cumington American Legion Post Auxiliary. She was a past member of the Chesterfield School Committee and a trustee of the Chesterfield Library.

Mrs. LeDuc, who was the last of her generation of the Bartlett family here, is survived by several nieces and nephews.

The funeral will be tomorrow at 2 p.m. in the Chesterfield Congregational Church. The Rev. Worth Noyes, pastor, will officiate.

The burial will be in the Center Cemetery, Chesterfield.

The Charles A. Bisbee Funeral Home of Chesterfield is in charge of arrangements.

There are no calling hours.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Chesterfield Grange through Grange members or in care of the Bisbee Funeral Home.

Donovans given farewell

WORTHINGTON — About 100 friends and relatives gathered Sunday night for a potluck supper and farewell party for Joan and Winston Donovan and their children.

Ronnie and Bonnie Keivitt acted as masters of ceremonies for an informal farewell program. Songs by a mixed group of singers parodied episodes in the Donovans' lives. Gifts were presented from the town and the church.

The Donovan family leaves next week to live in Boston.

Highland Club marks 225th

WORTHINGTON — At the 225th meeting of the Highland Club in Worthington on Monday night, secretary Roswell Merritt read reports of meetings held in August 1905 and August 1930. At that time the club had all day meetings with dinner at noon instead of the present-day supper meetings. The group had afternoon speakers of more than local fame; in 1905, Kingman Brewster, a Worthington native and father of former Yale president Kingman Brewster, appealed to parents to make every sacrifice to send their sons to college, while in 1930 Judge John Lyman of Easthampton urged more training for good citizenship.

Doctors will be welcomed

WORTHINGTON — Two new Worthington Health Center doctors will be welcomed at a potluck supper on Sunday from 4 to 7 p.m.

Dr. Matthew Swartz, internist, and Dr. David Katz, family practitioner, both started practicing at the center this month. The event will also be a farewell to William Clark, who has been serving as a physician's assistant and is planning to further his education.

The event is open to the public.

Queen of England confers degree on Worthington man

By JANET DIMOCK

WORTHINGTON — Over 50 years of work as an attorney in the import-export field has led to an award from Queen Elizabeth for Attorney Allerton de Cormis Tompkins of this town.

Membership in the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire in the rank of honorary officer has been conferred upon him by the queen. British Ambassador Nicholas Henderson informed him last week. Tompkins will receive the award at a special ceremony in Washington, D.C., in the fall.

This is the highest award given to an American citizen in the commercial field, Tompkins said. The honor allows him to place the initials OBE (Order of the British Empire) after his name.

"I've always been interested in Britain and British trade," he said. "I was their customs adviser for many years," Tompkins explained this week. His work was to "avoid unnecessary duties and complications for important merchandise," he added.

Began work in 1947

He began work for the British Embassy on behalf of importers and exporters in 1947 and continued in that capacity for 20 years. He performed the same services for the French Embassy for about 10 years.

Tompkins specialized in customs law and worked for private companies as well as for foreign governments until his retirement to Worthington last April. He set up his law practice in New York City in 1930. The partnership of Tompkins and Davidson was formed in 1970. The business now consists of four law partners and six associates. "It now takes 10 of them to do the work that I used to do. I was busy," he said with a smile.

"I have tried more cases before the U.S. Customs Court than any other U.S. attorney," Tompkins said. More importantly, he pointed out, he has also won more cases before that court than any other attorney in the country. The statement also applies to the U.S. Court of Customs and Patent Appeals, he said.

Work in the Customs Court on behalf of various exporting firms and foreign importers brought Tompkins and his wife Marjorie to many parts of the United States. "We went from one end of the country to the other," she said. "Wherever my clients wanted me to go, I went," Tompkins added.

Court travels

The Customs Court is official-



ALLERTON TOMPKINS

ly based in New York City, but a phrase in the U.S. Constitution allows the court to travel from place to place to hear complaints, he explained. All ports are entitled to fair and equal treatment under the law, so the nine judges travel to hear cases.

The Tompkinses have been as far away as Hawaii and Alaska and have traveled to Puerto Rico to represent clients. Tompkins estimated that he appeared before the court at least 10 times each year.

Over the years Tompkins has held several offices and is listed

in "Who's Who in New York." He was both a representative and a delegate to the United Nations for the U.S. Council of the International Chamber of Commerce. From 1974 until his retirement he was the customs counsel to the National Customs Brokers and Forwarders Association of America.

Formed customs committee

He joined the British-American Chamber of Commerce in 1947 and formed a customs committee, and he served as committee chairman from its formation until this year. He was also a director of that organization from 1950 until his retirement, the longest term of office for a director.

He has also served as an arbitrator for the American Arbitration Association.

All of his involvement with customs work led to his being mentioned in a New York Times newspaper editorial on May 25, 1955. On that occasion, Tompkins spoke before a Congressional committee, which he often did, considering changes in tariff regulations. The tariff laws are revised every few years, he explained. "That's why we need customs attorneys."

Locally, he has served as president of the Worthington Golf Club from 1956 to 1958 and as a director there for many years before his resignation a few years ago. He is also associated with the Worthington Swim and Tennis Club.

Coffee group earns Good Citizens' Award

WORTHINGTON — The Town Hall was filled when Worthington Grange No. 90 held a public meeting to honor the coffee hour group as "Good Citizens of the Year."

After a welcome by Grange Master Verna Borst, Esther Kerley was called on for a history of the group. Started by Eurma Tower in 1962, a group of women have met weekly and from a small donation and a few extra activities, have steered thousands of dollars into service projects.

At first helping the Health Center by donating needed equipment ranging from an examining table to a floor polisher, and \$3,000 for the center endowment fund, the group has also financially helped nearly every local organization, as well as the Huntington Ambulance fund.

A plaque of appreciation was presented by state Grange Chaplain Truman Cahill and accepted by group leader Evelyn Powell.

There was singing by the "Sweet Adelines" of Pittsfield, and solos by Michael Martin.

Sherry Mason graduates

WORTHINGTON — Sherry B. Mason, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Harley N. Mason of Huntington Road, has been awarded an associate in science degree with honors from Holyoke Community College. She graduated from the hotel-motel and food service management curriculum.

Phoebe Rackham

WORTHINGTON — Phoebe (Nicklien) Rudd Rackham, 68, of Huntington Road died last night at her home after a long illness.

Born in Berlin, N.Y., on Jan. 14, 1912, she was the daughter of the late Frank and Kathleen (Contoise) Nicklien. She had lived in Williamstown and Lanesboro before moving to this town 20 years ago.

She was a member of the Independent Baptist Church in Adams and had been employed by the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Leeds for many years.

She also took care of the elderly in her home for many years.

She is survived by her husband, Ernest R. Rackham; five daughters, Mrs. Keith Dodge of Greenville, Ala., Virginia (Rudd) Shogry of Dalton, Mrs. Thomas Johnson of Greenfield, Mrs. George Buckley Jr. of Lanesboro, Rebecca Rudd of Savoy; two sons, George W. Rudd Jr. and Thomas A. Rudd, both of Worthington; a stepdaughter, Roberta Rudd of Florence; a stepson, Richard Rackham of Northampton; a brother, Frank Nicklien of Williamstown; 22 grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

The funeral will be Saturday at 1 p.m. in the United Church of Christ, Congregational, of Worthington.

The burial will be in North Street Cemetery, Worthington.

Calling hours at the Dery-Foley Funeral Home, 890 Main St., Dalton, will be tomorrow from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m.

Dickinson Hospital after suffering a heart attack at home.

Born in Northampton on June 17, 1932, she was the daughter of Richard Pierce of Northampton and the late Lettie (Loven) Pierce. A long-time resident of Amherst, she was a graduate of Amherst High School.

She moved to this city shortly after her marriage in 1950.

She had been employed in the Medical Records Department of The Cooley Dickinson Hospital for several years up until the time of her death.

She was a member of Christ United Methodist Church, Northampton.

Besides her father and her husband, she is survived by three sons, Kevin and Michael O'Brien, both at home, and Terry O'Brien of Easthampton; and a grandson.

The funeral will be Saturday at 2 p.m. in the Amherst Funeral Home. The burial will be in the Quabbin Park Cemetery, Ware.

Calling hours at the funeral home will be tomorrow from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, in care of Richard Finn of the Amherst Savings Bank.

The funeral will be Saturday at 10 a.m. in the George F. Reynolds Funeral Home.

The burial will be in Spring Grove Cemetery, Florence.

Calling hours at the funeral home will be tomorrow from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m.

Herpetologists survey Worthington

WORTHINGTON — The Western Massachusetts Herpetological Society, meeting Aug. 3 at the "Blueberry Hill" home of Jean Robillard on West Street, surveyed the area for its records. Several species of salamanders were found, as well as a red-bellied snake and common toads.

Meetings of the Herpetological Society are held on the last Friday evening of each month at the Science Museum in Springfield. New members are welcomed. Mrs. Robillard is serving her second term as secretary of the group. The day ended with a picnic supper

Church names new treasurer

WORTHINGTON — Members of the First Congregational Church, at a business meeting on Sunday, voted to authorize the trustees to use the interest from invested funds whenever it is needed. The church cabinet accepted with regret the resignation of treasurer Louise Rantilla who has moved from town. William Chamberlin was elected to take her place.

24 Daily Hampshire Gazette, Northampton, Mass., Wed., August 20, 1980

Brenda S. Bartlett wed to William D. Arnold

WORTHINGTON — Brenda S. Bartlett became the bride of William D. Arnold on Aug. 2 in the Worthington Congregational



BRENDA and WILLIAM ARNOLD

Church with the Rev. Floyd McAuslin officiating at the noon ceremony. Sandy Epperly of Worthington was the organist and Wanda Freeze of Huntington the soloist.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Bartlett of Dingle Road. The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. David Arnold of 414 North Federal St., Riverton, Wyo.

Tammy Messeck of Chesterfield was matron of honor. The bridesmaids were Carol and Ellen Bartlett of Worthington, sisters of the bride, and Terry Bartlett of Madison, N.C., cousin of the bride.

Keith Davies of West Springfield was best man. Serving as ushers were Jeff Bartlett of Worthington, brother of the bride, Richard Schoolcraft of West Springfield and Mark Weaver of Shutesbury.

The bride wore a gown of poly-peau designed with a fitted bodice of silk Venice lace, long fitted sleeves with lace inserts and a Watteau back terminating in a chapel-length train. Her long veil was attached to a lace cap. She carried an arm bouquet of roses, baby's breath and fern.

A reception was held at the Worthington Town Hall. After a wedding trip of unannounced destination, the couple will reside in Southampton.

Worthington voters approve 400-foot frontage on lots

By JANET DIMOCK
WORTHINGTON — Over 60 voters doubled the amount of road frontage needed for a building lot and discontinued portions of nine dead end roads Thursday night at a special Town Meeting in the Town Hall. The road frontage increase to 400 feet was proposed by the planning board as a temporary measure to modify the division of large tracts of land. "The planning board feels that the 400-foot frontage would help protect the town," board Chairman Robert Cook said. He explained that several large parcels of land were recently sold to land developers who "use the road frontage available and divide them into long, narrow lots."

Cook said that the continued, unregulated development of this type would affect the character of the town.

"We do not see this (the frontage increase)" as a solution," Cook emphasized. He added that the planning board is exploring other options.

The measure passed in a 39 to 12 vote, a 5-vote margin over the needed 2/3 majority.

Voters also moved to discontinue portions of nine dead-end roads following a lengthy discussion.

Future ownership of the roadways, responsibility for damages incurred to those traveling on the roads and access to pieces of land that would no longer have frontage on a public way were discussed.

"The abutters own to the center of the road, but abutters

farther along the road will have an easement," Selectman Dorothy Mason said. She added that the town is no longer receiving state highway funds for any of the roads.

No action was taken on the proposed discontinuance of Starkweather Hill Road due to complaints from abutter Esther Sena of Buffington Hill Road.

Objections to the road closings were voiced by Timothy Sena of Witt Hill Road. In Sena's opinion, it is unfair for the town to discontinue these roads and he wondered who would be responsible for land value decrease along them. He also objected to the fact that abutters were not notified in writing.

According to Mrs. Mason,

abutters do not have to be notified under state law.

Voters also decided to establish a second constable's post to be filled at the annual Town Meeting in May 1981.

Two bushes planted at school

WORTHINGTON — The Gateway Cafeteria Association has bought and had planted at the Russell H. Conwell school two lilac bushes as a memorial to the late Barbara LaRock. Mrs. LaRock, who was cafeteria manager for 14 years, was also one of the founders of the association.

Grange installs new officers in Worthington

WORTHINGTON — Grange officers for the coming year were installed Monday at the Town Hall by Deputy Earle Bond of Williamsburg.

Taking office were: master, Verna Borst; overseer, Hazel Pratt; lecturer, Florida Granger; steward, Dorothy Granger; assistant steward, George Fowler; lady assistant steward, Donna Guyette; chaplain, Marjorie Fowler; treasurer, Russell Borst; secretary, Frances Fowler; gatekeeper, Arthur Guyette; Ceres, Barbara Porter; Pomona, Mary Champion; Flora, Leah Mollison; and executive committee for three years, Kenneth Porter Sr.

Worthington library spends \$7,000

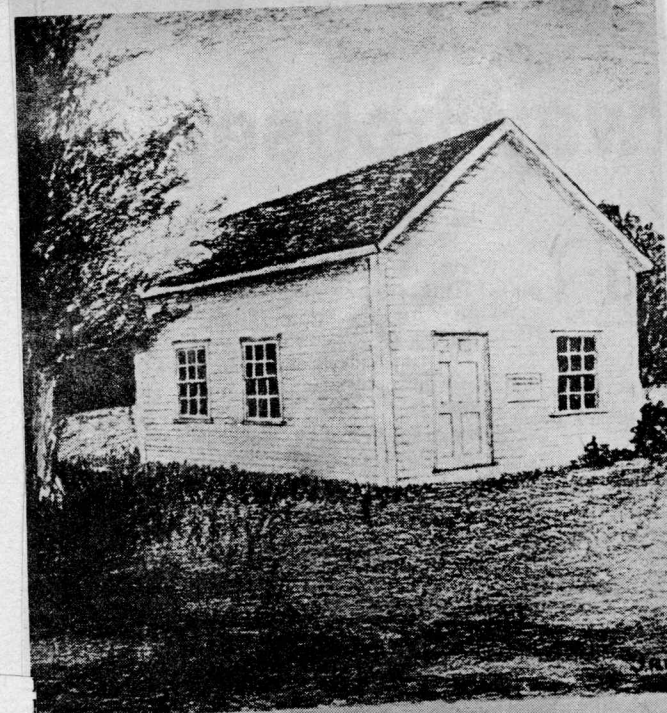
WORTHINGTON — President Damaris Fernandez-Sierra reported to the Worthington Library Corp. annual meeting that almost \$7,000 was spent on capital expenditures for the year. She told those at the Thursday meeting that the new children's room and repairs to the library chimney have been completed and a dehumidifier has been purchased. The book, bake and plant sale netted \$159.

Hours at the Fredrick Sargent Huntington Library are Wednesdays from 3 to 7 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., it was reported by Librarian Julia Sharron who is assisted by two paid aides and several volunteers.

A bylaw review committee was set up which includes Cornelius Sharron, Gertrude Lucey, Barbara Dunlevy and Harriet Burr.

Officers for the coming year are: president, Damaris Fernandez-Sierra; vice president, Ida Joslyn; clerk, Cornelius Sharron; treasurer, Dorothea Hayes; and directors, Lucie Mollison, Steven Kulik and Susan Ulrich.

The family film, "Tom Sawyer," will be shown tonight at 7:30 in the library.



Annual Report 1979 TOWN of WORTHINGTON Massachusetts

Winner

A sketch of the Capen-Riverside school house graces the cover of the award winning 1979 Annual Town Report for the Town of Worthington. The report has won second prize in a statewide contest run by the Massachusetts Municipal Association. The school house was drawn by local artist Jimmy Albert. (Photo by David Dimock)

Worthington voters to determine road status

By JANET DIMOCK
WORTHINGTON — Voters will decide if 10 unused roads should be discontinued at a special Town Meeting set for Sept. 25 at 8 p.m.

According to Selectman Dorothy Mason, the roads have not been maintained for many years and are not used as public ways. With one exception, they are all dead-end roads.

Voters will also consider a change in the zoning bylaw. The planning board has suggested that the minimum road frontage needed for a building lot be increased to 400 feet. The minimum is now 200 feet. The bylaw change would not affect existing lots registered at the

Hampshire County Registry of Deeds.

"It's not the solution to Worthington's problems, but it is a temporary measure until something else can be done," Planning Board Chairman Robert Cook explained to the selectmen this week. Cook said that if the current trend of division of large tracts of land into smaller building lots continues "everything will look the same" and there will be no distinction between agricultural and residential areas.

The selectmen have proposed that the following roads be discontinued:

Corbett Road (Fitzroy Road), at a point 0.37 of a mile from its

intersection with Route 112; Elderberry Lane, at a point 0.06 of a mile from its intersection with Williamsburg Road; Paul Road (Fairman Road), at a point 0.25 miles from its intersection with Prentice Road; Osgood Hill Road, at a point 0.1 miles from its intersection with River Road; Ring Road (Will Smith Road), at a point 0.12 miles from its intersection with Huntington Road; Sam Hill Road, at a point 1.96 miles from its intersection with Huntington Road; South Worthington Road (Old Main Street), at a point 0.13 miles from its intersection with Chesterfield Road; Starkweather Hill Road, at a

point 1.04 miles from its intersection with Ridge Road and 0.14 miles from its intersection with River Road; Sawyer Road, at a point 0.13 miles from its intersection with Cummington Road; and Rice Road, from its intersection with Buffington Hill Road to its intersection with Starkweather Hill Road.

Voters will also consider the addition of a second constable's position, to be filled at the annual election in May. The second constable would serve when the regular constable is unavailable.

A sum of money will also be requested for the law account, to come from unappropriated available funds (free cash).

Wins prize for management

WORTHINGTON — Toni Packard, daughter of Postmaster and Mrs. Cullen S. Packard of Buffington Hill Road, was recently selected as "Outstanding Manager of the year" by the McDonald Corp.

The award was presented at the Northeastern division managers seminar in Wakefield where 366 managers gathered for the presentation by McDonald's corporate staff. Miss Packard is a business graduate of Holyoke Community College and has been in the McDonald Management Training Program since December, 1977, and a manager for 10 months. She is manager of a McDonalds in Marlborough.

Return from FFA meeting

WORTHINGTON — Wendy Sherman and Gail Mason have returned from Kansas City where they attended the national conference of the Future Farmers of America, representing Smith Vocational High School. The school animal science dairy judging team won first place in the judging, with Wendy rating fifth highest individual. Other members of the team were James Pomeroy, Westfield and Rob Wentworth from Amherst.

Worthington air show attended by 500

WORTHINGTON — The mini air show went on as scheduled at the Albert Farms Airstrip Saturday, despite less than ideal conditions. High winds and strong gusts held attendance to about 500.

Church organist Sandra Epperly, who headed the air show project, reported more than \$1,000 raised toward the organ restoration fund goal of \$20,000.

Features included a stunt-flying team from Northeast Airshows headed by Peter Esposito of North Adams. And Sky Shows of Northampton sent three sky-

divers who jumped from 3,000 feet and landed within 10 feet of another on the target.

By prior arrangement an A-10 jet belonging to the Air National Guard based at Barnes Airport in Westfield flew over.

Rides were donated by pilot Robert Epperly in his four-seat Cessna 182 and by William Boutelle of West Chesterfield with his 1947 Indian motorcycle with a sidecar.

On exhibition were an antique Piper super cruiser owned by Eugene Washburn of Montgomery, a turboprop Mitsubishi owned by Albert Farms and a Benson Gyro Glider owned by H.E. Brown of Worthington.

Esposito provided stunt flying in a homebuilt 650-pound Pitt Special biplane. He and Al Lancto of Adams, who announced the events, both donated their services.

The Rev. Molly Kitchen and Patricia Nugent, garbed as outlandish clowns, sold balloons.

Fuel for the planes and use of the airstrip were donated by Albert Farms. Profits from the foodstand were given by Bradford Fisk and the Girl Scouts. The cleanup crew was organized by Horace Bartlett and Albert Nugent.

Worthington air show benefits church \$900

By JANET DIMOCK

WORTHINGTON — Despite gusty winds and threatening skies, some 300 people attended Saturday's air show to benefit the First Congregational Church organ restoration fund.

Church organist Sandy Epperly said today that over \$1,000 was taken in and about \$900 will be given to the fund after expenses are paid.

Stunt flying, sky diving and airplane rides were featured. Various aircraft owned by local people were on display.

Pete Esposito of North Adams thrilled the crowd with his skillful stunt flying done in a home-built 650-pound biplane. Esposito and announcer Al Lancto of Adams, both of Northeast Air Shows, donated their services.

Spectators also enjoyed the sight of an A-10 jet fighter from the Air National Guard at Barnes Airport in Westfield

which flew over by pre-arrangement.

Three sky divers from Sky Shows of Northampton jumped from 3,000 feet, and although the conditions were not ideal, they landed on the airstrip off Route 112 within 10 feet of each other.

Robert Epperly of Huntington Road donated his time for public aides over Worthington and Chesterfield in a four-seat Cessna. Most rides were postponed until yesterday because of weather conditions.

On display were a gyrocopter owned by Harold Brown of

Elderberry Lane, an antique Piper owned by Gene Washburn of Montgomery and a turboprop owned by Albert Farms.

Donations were also received for rides in the sidecar of a 1947 Indian motorcycle owned by William Boutelle of West Chesterfield.

Gasoline and use of the airstrip were donated by Albert Farms as were the proceeds from food stands run by the Corners Grocery and by local volunteers.

Bartlett family hosts Worthington concert

WORTHINGTON — The family of C. Raymond and Helen Bartlett will present a musical evening with vocal and instrumental performances Friday at 7 p.m. at The Spruces, their home on Williamsburg Road. Donations will go to the organ fund of First Congregational Church. In case of bad weather, the benefit event will be held at the church.

Members of the family have gathered this week to take part in the program, arranged by Helen Bartlett Magargal, as their contribution to the organ restoration project. They are descendants of Horace F. Bartlett and Caroline Graves Bartlett, who were active members in the earlier days of the church.

Through the years, the Bartlett family has contributed especially to the music of the church and community. The late Alice Mosher Bartlett organized annual community Christmas caroling that is now a local tradition.

Horace Bartlett sang in the

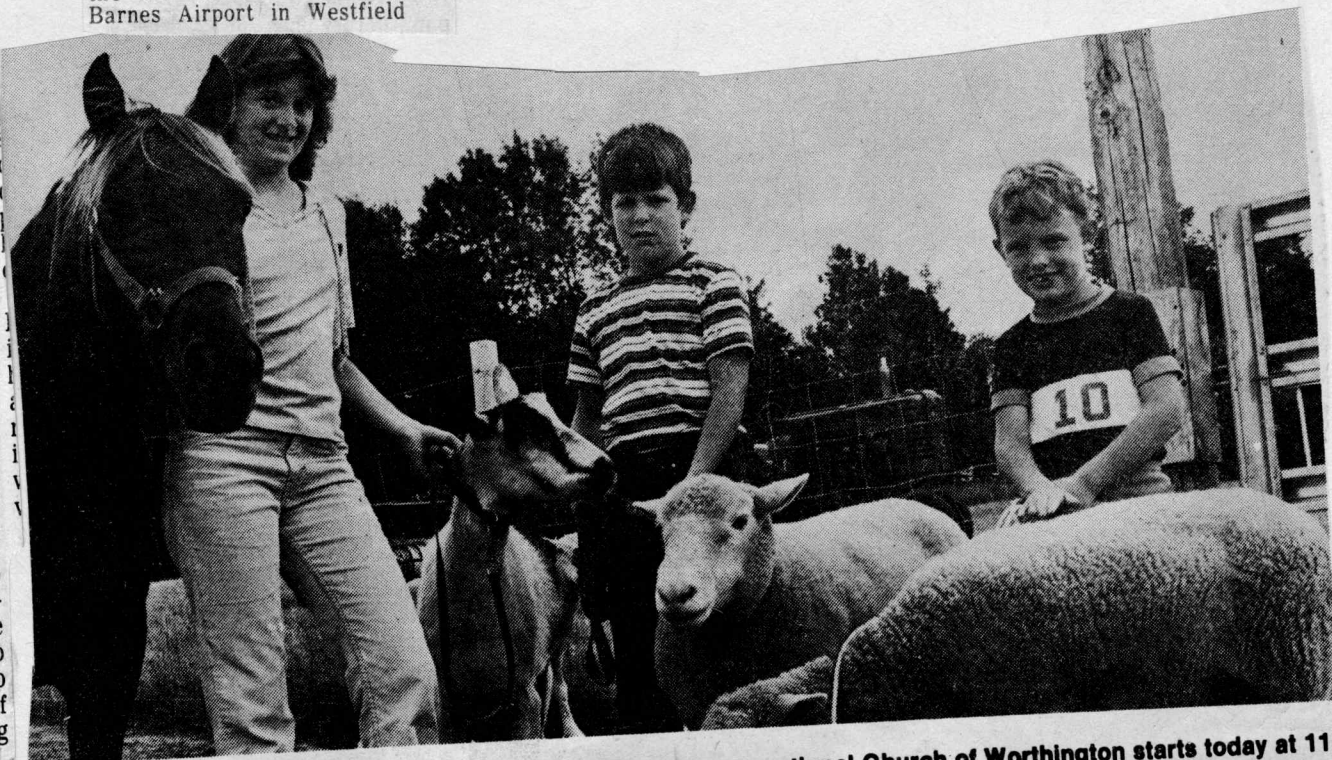
choir for many years, as does his grandson who bears his name. Several other family members are also longtime members of the choir and charter members of the Hilltown Choral Society.

Worthington fair earns women \$985

WORTHINGTON — The Women's Benevolent Society of the First Congregational Church met Wednesday for a potluck luncheon at the home of Esther Kerley on Buffington Hill Road.

During the business meeting that followed, treasurer Madeline Smith reported that \$985 was earned by the society at the annual summer fair and this amount has been turned over to the church for general maintenance.

The Rev. Molly Kitchen announced that Sept. 28 will be marked as "Soap Sunday," with each member bringing a bar of soap to church to be given to Church World Service for shipment to needy countries. The Friendship Guild has voted to buy and send 10 bed blankets to Church World Service instead of sponsoring the usual clothing drive. 9-20-80 Ezg



Petting zoo

The annual fair at the First Congregational Church of Worthington starts today at 11 a.m. and will feature an alternative foods snack bar, a frog-jumping contest and foot races. There will be a petting zoo for youngsters as shown by, from left, Judy Mason and Josh and Travis Rhodes, all of Williamsburg Road. (Photo by David Dimock)



MUSIC OF THE Big Band era will be featured in a benefit show on Friday and Saturday night in the Worthington town hall. Discussing last minute plans are performers (left to right) Greg and Ralph Conz, Pete Packard, Priscilla "Pip" Bartlett and Gary Chamberlin. (Photos by David Dimock)

Musicians will perform for church's benefit

WORTHINGTON — Local musicians have pooled their talents for a special benefit tribute to the "swing era" to be presented Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. in the Town Hall on Huntington Road.

Listeners can toe-tap to the tunes made popular by the Glenn Miller, Benny Goodman and Tommy Dorsey "big bands." Some Dixieland jazz favorites will also be featured.

All proceeds will benefit the First Congregational Church organ restoration fund.

The event marks the return to the stage of Priscilla "Pip" Bartlett in the role of Louis Armstrong. She will also appear as a special "surprise star."

The following local musicians will also perform: Greg Conz, piano; Ralph Conz, trumpet; Chet Dragon, trumpet, Gary Chamberlin, guitar; Frank

Pyko, drums and Brad Fisk, vocals.

Master of Ceremonies for the evening is Pete Packard.

Seating for the cabaret style show is by reservation only. Wine or punch and cheese and crackers will be served.

Arrangements can be made at the Corners Grocery Store or with Mrs. Greg Conz of Old North Road and Mrs. Horace Bartlett of Old Post Road.

Saturday in Town Hall

Hooked on Dixieland

By JANET DIMOCK

WORTHINGTON - The first time local pianist Greg Conz heard the "Big Band" sound during his teenage years, he knew he was hooked.

"I just took to it," said the 29-year-old musician who lives with his wife, Claire and son, Teddy on Old North Road.

Despite his full-time occupation as an engineer for Digital Equipment in Westfield, Conz manages to find time to indulge his musical yearnings for songs from another era.

On Saturday night, Conz will gear up his seven-member jazz band - The Greg Conz Dixieland Band, specially formed for the occasion - and offer a night of dancing in the Worthington Town Hall from 8 to midnight.

Conz said his group, which includes three additional members to his regular four-piece band, will play a variety of music on Saturday. The Dixieland show was prompted by the popularity of a performance given by the group in October to benefit the First Congregational Church's organ restoration fund.

In addition to the regular band members, Frank Pycko of Indian Oven Road, Dave Fontana of Greenfield and vocalist Chris Kelley of Springfield, Conz has asked his father, Ralph Conz, Jim Brown and Art Gilmore to fill out the needed musical components.

Change of pace

Conz's regular band does not usually play Dixieland music, but the leader says he is looking forward to the change of pace. A certain combination of instruments is needed to achieve the right sound, something not possible with his four-piece group, he explained.

Although he has been playing at dances since high school, "This is the first time I have sponsored one myself," referring to this weekend. He decided to take the step because he was so "psyched up" after the October performance. And by happy coincidence, all seven members were free for Saturday night, despite a busy holiday schedule.

Conz's involvement with the music world is not surprising, considering the fact that his father is an experienced musician. The senior Conz played trumpet with the Springfield Symphony and the Charlie Miller Band while his son was growing up.

Although the younger Conz said he could have had, "all the trumpet lessons in the world," he found himself attracted to the piano keyboard and arranged lessons from Charlie Miller.

As a teenager, he associated his father's playing with two things - classical pieces heard at the symphony and the endless practice scales played by his father's students. Conz said he has very little exposure to his father's evening band work and his acquired love of the big bands did not come from his home environment.

Instead, Conz discovered Benny Goodman, Harry James and the like, when he opened a box containing a stack of old 78 rpm records. Something about the style of music attracted his attention. "Plus Charlie Miller taught me a style of music that lends itself to big band melodies," he added.

'Atypical' band

Conz liked what he heard so much, that he formed a band, one he called "atypical" of the kind of music usually played by high school musicians. Most of the tunes played by the quartet were aimed at what was then an "older crowd."

Conz, Fontana and Pycko have all been together since those early days. "We've been together a long time... We go back a long way," he reminisced. Things haven't been all roses however, and the pressures of fulltime careers colliding with their part-time music brought a break-up of the group three years ago.

"Jobs lead to jobs," he explained, "and in the past, the band had so many engagements each week there was no time for our families."



GREG CONZ

However, the band has reunited and is playing on a limited basis. "We get together on the side," he remarked.

Another aspect

The dedicated musician also devotes one evening each week to another expression of his love for music - piano lessons. It is a rewarding experience, he says, because he can watch the talents of others grow as the lessons progress.

Tickets for the special Dixieland performance are available in advance. Snacks and drink mixers will be available. For more information, contact Mrs. Conz or Mrs. Pycko.

Worthington history buffs have big plans for future

Sept 19

Each year the Worthington Historical Society has one formal meeting for the election of officers and to hear papers delivered by members about famous people and about early settlers of the community in the Capen-Riverside School, a building which it owns.

The group also has work parties scattered throughout the warmer months of the year, since there is no heat or running water at the former schoolhouse.

The 50 members pay annual dues of \$1, sponsor food sales in the summertime and accept memorial contributions as a means of promoting their work which they hope will culminate in turning the schoolhouse into a museum.

And some day the group hopes to collect the stories given at annual meetings in a book, "Papers on Worthington History." About 50 such papers have been written to date, three of which were given at Saturday's annual meeting in the building.

The Capen-Riverside School was given to the society by Henry Snyder of Old Post Road. The school was one of the first in Worthington and when it ceased to be a school, the building became the property of the owner of the land of which it stood who ultimately was Snyder.

The historical society added the name Capen as an honor to Arthur Capen who went there as a student and taught for many years. He is now at the Hampshire County Hospital in Leeds.

Famous sons talked about at Saturday's meeting were Russell H. Conwell, Col. John Worthington and the Rev. Frederick Sargent Huntington.

Conwell was, among other things, a famous preacher and lecturer. He delivered his famed "Acres of Diamonds" lecture 6,000 times and gave the money earned to help nearly 10,000 needy students get a college education. In his lecture he said that "if a man opened his eyes to what was needed and used the resources at hand to supply that need, he would find an acre of diamonds in his own backyard."

Worthington, with four other men, bought at auction 1,200 acres of land which was sold to settlers and which later became the town of Worthington.

Mr. Huntington was a minister in the town who left a sum of money when he died in 1888 to build a town library which is named for him and which was built in 1914.

— Lucie Mollison

Dimocks take offices in Worthington group

Sept 1980

WORTHINGTON — A husband-and-wife team will serve the civic activities of John as president and secretary of the Worthington Historical Society for the second time in recent years.

Janet Dimock took office as president and her husband, David, as secretary at the annual meeting last Saturday. The late John Payne and his wife, Elizabeth, served in those capacities two years ago. Mrs. Payne now heads the editorial board, the group assigned the task of compiling a town history.

Lois Ashe Brown was elected to a three-year term as a director, and Marian Sweeney will serve out the two years left of Alice Fairman Nahill's term as a director. Jennie Scott Fairman was re-elected to a three-year term and will again head the committee for the society's annual food sale. Dorothea Hayes was re-elected to a one-year term as treasurer.

Saturday's program included three reports on the lives of men whose names are in everyday

use today. Janet Dimock told of the civic activities of John Worthington, for whom the town is named; Marian Sweeney traced the life of Russell H. Conwell, for whom the town's elementary school is named, and Julie Sharron, present librarian, read a paper prepared by Elizabeth Payne on the life of Frederick Sargent Huntington, a pastor of the First Congregational Church a hundred years ago, for whom the local library is named.

Jennie Scott Fairman was hostess for the social hour that followed in the old Capen-Riverside School, which is now the headquarters of the Historical Society.

Tyler Farm being sold for lots

Dec 20
'80

By JANET DIMOCK
WORTHINGTON — Efforts by the local planning board, the state Department of Food and Agriculture, and the privately-owned Massachusetts Farm and Conservation Land Trust to preserve the former Tyler Farm on Old Post Road were rejected by the new owner, and the land is on the market for residential use.

Planning Board Chairman Robert Cook told the selectmen Tuesday night that an offer of \$700 an acre from the land trust was first verbally accepted by Harry Patten of Patten Realty in Stamford, Vt., but later was rejected before an agreement could be signed.

One of the last

The 310 acre farm, one of the last full-time working farms here, was sold to Patten on Nov. 14 by former resident David Tyler. The land was split into 20 lots, ranging from 5 to 45 acres in size. All have at least 400 feet of road frontage.

According to local real estate agent Mary Carey of Corners

Realty, only seven parcels remain on the market. Seven have been sold and agreements signed for the remainder. Some agreements were arranged before the property legally changed hands, she said.

Five successful percolation tests have been done on the Tyler property. Board of Health Chairman Camille Smith said this week. The tests were done despite a temporary ban enacted by the health board due to dry weather conditions. This was considered to be an emergency situation because the sale of the parcels could not take place before the testing, she explained. Testing has been halted for the winter months.

Cook told the selectmen that the planning board became concerned with the situation even though land conservation, "is not the assigned task of the planning board." Because of the recent activity of land developers elsewhere in town, large parcels on Lindsay Hill and Parish Roads were divided and sold by Patten Realty earlier this year.

Lack of tools

A lack of tools and resources on the state and local levels contributed to the loss of the farm as agricultural property, Cook contended.

"We need more legal tools to deal with these things," he said. The current state subdivision control law has little effect on the activity of land speculators in rural areas, and there are no land use lawyers available through a Western Massachusetts state or federal agency, he added.

Cook explained that Tyler expressed an interest in selling the farm's development rights to the state before an agreement was signed with Patten. Cook said that there was no one available at the state Department of Agriculture to assist Tyler with the lengthy paperwork involved. This contributed to the subsequent sale. "There wasn't enough money or enough people," on the state level, Cook said.

There was also little aid on the local level, because volunteer

board members were hard pressed for time to work on the subject. "When people work on doing things on nights and on weekends, things go too slowly," Cook said.

A generous offer

Contacted this week at his office in Beverly, land trust spokesman Davis Cherington said that the \$700 offer was made for 225 acres of what he termed prime farmland. "We considered that to be an exceptionally generous offer," Cherington said.

The trust is a non-profit charitable organization dedicated to the preservation of farmland. "We work with the Department of Agriculture to buy farm property that is threatened with development," he explained.

If the Tyler transaction had been successful the trust would have sold the development rights for the land to the state and then sold the property to an interested farmer. Cherington said the land trust's role is that of a "middleman."

Five College appointment

Carter policy aide to teach here

Dec. 18, 1980

By ALICE DEMBNER

AMHERST — When the Carter foreign policy team goes its separate ways in January, one member will be coming to the Five College area to share his experience with others.

W. Anthony Lake, who has bought a farm in Worthington, will teach international relations at the Five Colleges under a three-year appointment beginning July 1981.

Lake, 41, is currently tying up the loose ends of his four years of work as director of policy planning in the U.S. State Department framing policy decisions for Cyrus

Vance and Secretary of State Edmund Muskie on issues including the conflicts in Poland, Afghanistan and Iran.

He says there is always more continuity in the country's foreign policy than is apparent during the change of administrations in Washington.

"Four years ago we overstated how much of what we were doing was new when in fact any new administration makes changes in only 5 percent of our policies and most of those are in the margin," he said. "American interests are quite clear."

While Lake says he has enjoyed Washington, he is not too disappointed to be leaving public life.

"I promised my wife we'd stay only four years," he told the Gazette in a telephone interview yesterday from his Washington office. "Besides, after about four years, you start repeating yourself as far as ideas and approaches. That is clearly not the (outgoing) President's view but it is true within other levels of the bureaucracy."

Based at Amherst

Although Lake will be based at Amherst College during his term as Five College Professor in International Relations, he plans to live in Worthington on a farm he fell in love with last year while on a visit to relatives in Sandisfield.

"Last spring I talked to Amherst College about teaching there," he said. "I became excited about the people and the

geography of the area. I can't think of any other area that combines a rural life with such an interesting group of people." Negotiations for the position were concluded last summer, he said.

Lake has never had any formal teaching experience though he has made the college lecture circuit. Educated at Harvard College, Cambridge University in England and Princeton University (from which he received his Ph.D. in international relations in 1974), Lake has experience with the college scene.

He says he is excited about teaching undergraduates whom he finds challenging and full of original thoughts.

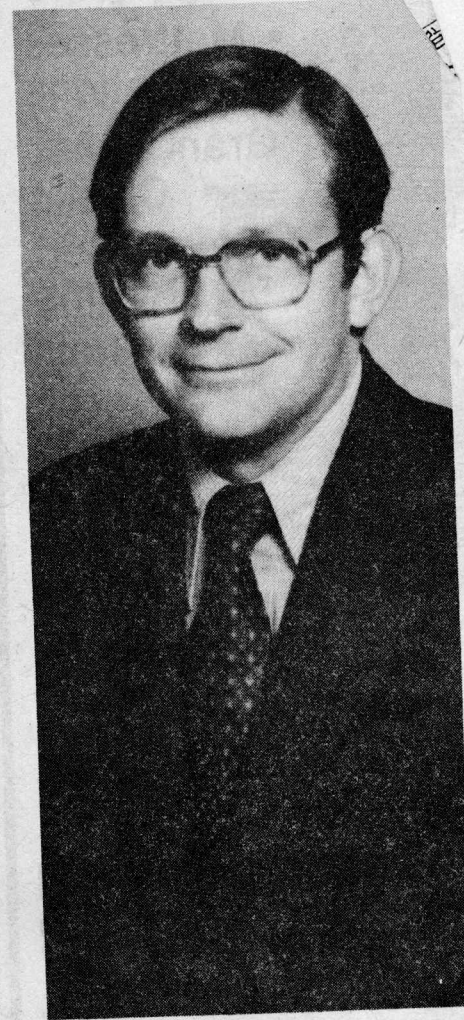
"They generally haven't yet had patterns of thought imposed to the extent that they know not to ask certain questions. Those questions that shouldn't be asked are often the most interesting."

Lake is prepared to be asked many questions about his experience in Washington which has also included eight years as a foreign service officer, one year as special assistant to National Security Adviser Henry Kissinger, and a stint as foreign policy coordinator for Muskie during the 1972 Presidential primary campaign.

Question of secrecy

There are limits on how many specifics Lake can reveal about portions of American foreign policy but he says that will not interfere with his teaching.

(Continued on page 9)



W. ANTHONY LAKE





THE LAYING ON of hands is the art of healing used at the Fare-Thee-Well Wholeness Center in Huntington. Spiritual leader Floyd McAuslan, at left, demonstrates the art to member Nancy Huff. (Photo by Peri Sossaman)

In Huntington

Center dwells on whole person

By PERI SOSSAMAN

HUNTINGTON — Oneness of mind, body and spirit is the philosophy of Fare-Thee-Well Wholeness Center members as they work and congregate in and around an herb drying shed at the center on Route 66.

"Fare-thee-well means a state of perfection," explains member Nancy Huff, "a being in attunement with life and energy all around."

Spiritual leader Floyd McAuslan goes on to say "we feel we are a part of all living things, animals and plants. I believe there is energy in all these things and we must be co-partners."

Mrs. Huff and McAuslan see gradual changes in attitudes about the mind, body and spirit. They are encouraged that more and more studies are being done on extrasensory perception. They feel many people are returning to natural foods and herbal medicines, and more people are accepting meditation for both spiritual and physical benefits. McAuslan sees this as a sign of the coming of the Aquarian Age.

Founded in 1974

McAuslan, one of the founders of Fare-Thee-Well in 1974, practices and instructs in the art of healing through the "laying on of hands."

"He explains that's from the belief that there is energy all around, the healer becomes, through total concentration, receptive to that energy and then becomes the vehicle through which the energy flows to the receiving person. McAuslan said that he uses a particular color as his

means for total concentration and of connecting with the other person.

While spiritual benefits are an important aspect of Fare-Thee-Well, members are quick to stress their other activities at the drying shed that overlooks the field where the dozen original members first came together.

Today members work together to raise the consciousness of the individual to all of life by participating in organic gardening, learning about wild and cultivated herbs, running a cooperative buying and distribution center, and preparing Saturday night "natural foods suppers" open to the public. Mrs. Huff, pointed out that "everything is done on an 'I want to' basis."

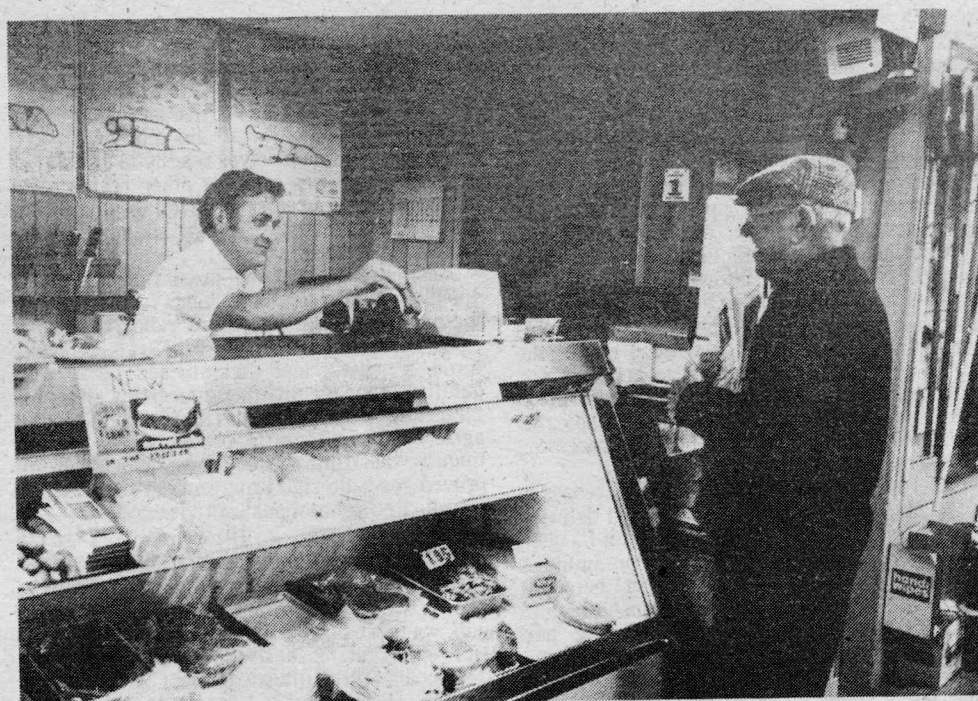
Classes available

She also noted that classes are available to the public in the art of healing, meditation, natural foods and herbs, and that discussion groups are held on "the here and the hereafter."

All these efforts contribute to the goal to develop a village on the 22 acres of land using natural sources of energy such as wood, wind, water and solar power to live and work by.

"As we approach the new age, the village will be the nucleus. We will be able to meet the needs of the people to become in tune with their surroundings," says McAuslan.

"The village would be involved in all aspects of life from being a spiritual community to being a work place providing self sufficiency for its members as they prepare for the future," he concluded.



BRAD FISKE, proprietor of the Worthington General Store, waits on Roy Wood at the meat counter. Small businesses like this one form the backbone of the Hilltown economy, the Hilltown Project discovered.

**People
and
life**

Robelyn R. Schrade is bride of David James

WORTHINGTON — Robelyn Reynolds Schrade, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Warren Schrade of Worthington and New York City, became the bride of David Frank James, son of Mrs. Edward Frank James of

Gisborne, New Zealand, and the late Mr. James, on June 24 in the South Worthington Church. The Rev. Douglas Small officiated at the 3 p.m. ceremony. Shari and Kelly Fisk and Jennifer Small, all of Worthington, presented the couple with three

lace-covered horseshoes for good luck, which is a New Zealand custom.

Katherine Dunn of Georgia was the maid of honor. The bridesmaids were Rhonda-Lee, Rolisa and Rorianne Schrade, all sisters of the bride, from Worthington and New York City.

The bride's brother, Randolph Schrade of Worthington and New York City, was best man. Serving as ushers were James Bleecker of New Canaan, Conn., and William Wolfram of New York City.

The bride wore a Victorian gown designed with a high neckline, fitted bodice, long fitted sleeves with ruffle cuffs and a full-length bouffant skirt. She wore a floor-length mantilla and carried a nosegay of summer flowers.

A reception was held at the Sevenars Academy, a concert hall founded by the bride's parents. Bradford Fisk of Worthington sang during the reception and wedding ceremony. The couple left on a wedding trip combining concerts with vacation.

A concert pianist, the bride, who will retain her maiden name professionally, received her bachelor's and master's degrees from the Juilliard School of Music in New York City. She is a 1972 graduate of the Chapin School, New York City, and was a member of the Junior Assembly. She serves on the music committee of the National Arts Club.

The bridegroom, also a concert pianist, is a graduate of Auckland University, New Zealand. He received his master's degree from the Peabody Conservatory of Music in Baltimore, Md. He also did graduate work at the Juilliard.



ROBELYN SCHRADÉ JAMES

W e d d i n g s

Nancy Norton, Lyndon Brown marry

WORTHINGTON — Presented in marriage by their parents, Nancy J. Norton and Lyndon L. Brown exchanged their vows on June 17 in the Old Methodist Church, Monroe, Wis. The Rev. James LeCount, pastor of Shalom Fellowship, Madison, Wis., assisted by Art Hermann. Petra Jones and Louis Smith, all elders in the fellowship, officiated at the 1 p.m. ceremony written by the bride and bridegroom. The guitarists were John MacDonald and Bruce Lemarr and the singing was led by the couple.

The bride is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. John L. Norton of 1800 Lake Drive, Monroe Wis. The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold E. Brown of One Elderberry Lane, Worthington.

Attending the couple were

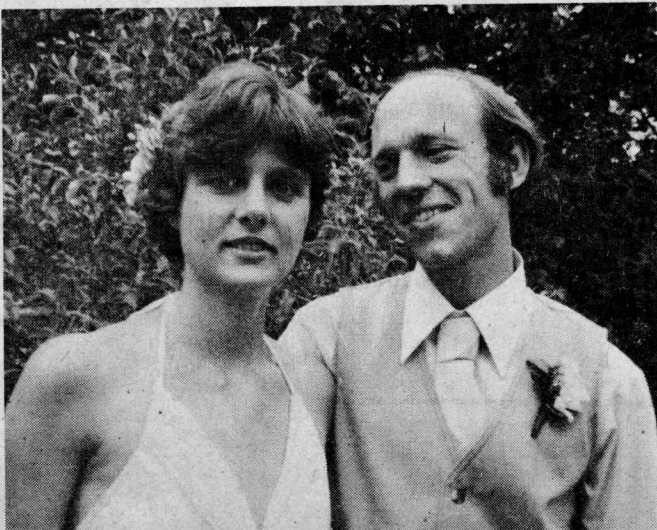
Bette Norton, sister of the bride, and Arthur Hermann. Serving as ushers were John Jr. and Patrick Norton, brothers of the bride, Mark Beatty, brother-in-law of the bride, and Stanley Schauch.

The bride wore a classic Grecian-design gown of ivory nylon jersey and a mantilla of lace, with flowers in her hair. She carried a colonial bouquet of white roses, carnations, and daisies and baby's breath.

A reception was held at the home of the bride's parents. After a wedding trip to Montana for the month of July, the couple will reside in Madison, Wis.

The bride received her B.S. in secondary education and communication arts in 1978 from the University of Wisconsin. She will be teaching in the Madison area. The bridegroom is a 1969 graduate of Gateway

High School and is a student at where he is studying to be a the University of Wisconsin, physician's assistant.



NANCY and LYNDON BROWN



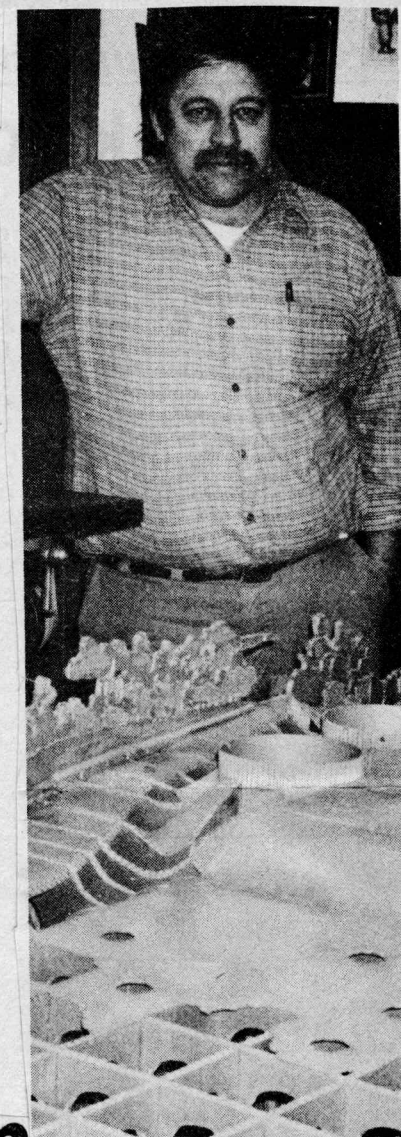
DEANE RYKERSON of Worthington is shown with his solar-powered wood kiln — the only one of its kind in the Northeast. The kiln is used to season hardwood so that it may be used to make finished wood products, like furniture.

Worthington artist sets his sights on Springfield water filtration site

By JANET DIMOCK
WORTHINGTON — Inspiration for artistic endeavors comes from many sources, and rural settings have traditionally provided a wealth of subjects. However, local artist Peter McLean has picked an unusual sight in the countryside for the subject of his latest work — the municipal water filtration system for the city of Springfield.

Struck by the unusual sight of acres of manhole covers at the West Parish filtration system — and the even more intriguing concrete structure hidden from view below ground — McLean decided to translate his impressions of the place into an elaborate corrugated board sculpture. After 800 hours of precise cutting and fitting, the piece is finished and will be on display through Saturday at the water works main building, located on Granville Road in Westfield.

McLean lives on Sam Hill Road with his wife, Lene, and their three children, Kristin, Rebecca and Peter. He is an associate professor at the Hartford Art School, a division of the University of Hartford in Connecticut.



PETER MCLEAN

father-son consulting team

Jan 1981

WORTHINGTON — LOCATING A business in the Hilltowns might be "getting away from it all" to some, but for Newton Associates in Engineering Inc., this town of 950 is a central location.

"We located in Worthington because it is central to everything we do," senior engineer Donald Newton explained.

Although the firm does consulting work for customers in other parts of the country Newton Associates' customers are based within an area bounded by Boston, New Hampshire and Vermont, central New York State and Long Island. Newton says Worthington is the ideal place because it is the geographic center of the company's normal business area, said Newton.

"Our work is primarily industrial. We bill ourselves as plant engineers," he said. Newton Associates deals with problems ranging from the design and redesign of buildings to energy conservation to the design of electrical systems, to the proper disposal of chemical plant waste water.

"Just about everything you can imagine, we do — as far as engineering goes," he said.



— FATHER AND son engineers Donald Newton Jr., left and Donald Newton Sr. look over plans for one of the company's projects. They began their own consulting firm in 1966.

Deaths and funerals

Arthur G. Capen, 99, a former librarian in Worthington

Arthur Granville Capen, 99, of Old Post Road, Worthington's oldest resident and the town's librarian for 67 years, died Saturday in the Hampshire County Hospital in Leeds.

He had been a patient at the Leeds hospital for three years.

A man who was active in almost every aspect of Worthington life, he had been an organist at the church, a teacher in the school, a clerk for the water district, a writer of the town's news and a member of the Worthington School Committee.

Most of his life was spent in Worthington. He spent one year of his youth in Austin, Texas, where he taught under the American Missionary Board at the Tillotson School for underprivileged blacks. He later taught school in Enfield until that town was submerged beneath the waters of the Quabbin Reservoir.

It was through his influence while serving as librarian in Enfield that the Frederick Sargent Huntington Library in Worthington benefitted both in money and books when the Enfield library was discontinued.

Capen retired from his post as the librarian of the Worthington Library in 1976. He then was 94.

He was the organist for the Worthington Congregational Church for more than 60 years and was called back as a substitute long after he retired.

As the clerk for the water district, he collected water bills for 36 years.

He taught school in Worthington for 27 years and served on the school committee for 24 years. He also served as chairman for the building committee for the Russell H. Conwell School and for an addition to the school ten years later.

He joined the First Congregational Church in his youth, and walked to church for many years.

In 1904, he joined the local Grange, and had been its oldest charter member. He also was a member of the Hillside Pomona Grange and of both the state and national granges.

For 21 years, he was the Worthington correspondent for the Berkshire Eagle in Pittsfield, and his scrapbooks and albums of local events now form a valuable source of reference material on the town.

He became a life member of the Hillside Agricultural Society



ARTHUR G. CAPEN

in 1911, and had been a member of the Highland Club since it was organized in 1903. As a charter member of the Worthington Historical Society, he helped draw up the group's by-laws and got the society incorporated.

He was born in Worthington Dec. 4, 1881 in a house on Capen Street now owned by the Gerard Doherty family. He was the only child of the late Granville Daniel and Hattie Maria (Blackman) Capen.

He is survived by several cousins who live in the Hilltowns.

After cremation, his ashes will be placed in the family lot in the Bridge Street Cemetery in Northampton.

There will be a memorial service in the First Congregational Church here Saturday at 2 p.m. The Rev. Molly Kitchen, the pastor of the church, will officiate.

There are no calling hours at the funeral home. The Bisbee Funeral Home in Chesterfield is in charge of the funeral arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the organ fund of the First Congregational Church of Worthington in care of the treasurer, William Chamberlain.

*Berkshire Eagle
Jan. 19, 1981*

Obituaries and Funerals

Arthur G. Capen, 99; was organist for 67 years, Worthington librarian

WORTHINGTON — Worthington's oldest citizen, Arthur Granville Capen, 99, formerly of Old Post Road, who served the local library 67 years, died early Saturday morning at the Hampshire County Hospital in Leeds, where he had lived for the past three years.

Born on Dec. 4, 1881, he was the only child of Granville and Hattie Blackman Capen in the house on Capen Street now owned by the Gerard Dohertys.

His Capen grandparents came to Worthington in the mid-1800s. His maternal grandparents came to town in the same period from Peru, settling on a farm near the Guard Four Corners.

While he leaves no close relatives, he has cousins and common ancestors in many area families.

While he lived nearly all of his life in Worthington, he was away for a year in his youth when he

went to teach in Austin, Texas, under the American Missionary Board. Later, for about 10 years, he taught school in the town of Enfield before that town went under the waters of Quabbin Reservoir. While in Enfield he served as town librarian, and it was largely through his influence that the Worthington library benefited both with books and money when the Enfield library had to be discontinued.

He served as librarian of the local Frederick Sargent Huntington Library for 67 years, retiring in 1976 at the age of 94.

As organist of the Worthington Congregational Church for 60 years, he was called back to substitute long after he retired.

He put in 36 years collecting water rents for the Worthington Fire District and served 24 years on the local school board, besides being chairman of the building committee for the con-

struction of the Russell H. Conwell School. Ten years later he was chairman of the committee for the addition that doubled the school's size. He taught school for 24 years here, in addition to the years of teaching in Austin and Enfield.

Mr. Capen joined the Grange in 1904 and has long been its oldest charter member, besides holding membership in the Hillside Pomona Grange and the state and national Granges. He attended state and national Grange meetings many times in his lifetime.

He became a life member of the Hillside Agricultural Society in 1911 and was a member of the Highland Club for more than 70 years.

He was Worthington correspondent for the Berkshire Eagle for 21 years. His scrapbooks of Worthington news items now form a valuable source of reference.

A memorial service will be held at the First Congregational Church Saturday at 2 p.m., with the pastor, the Rev. Molly Kitchen, officiating.

Following cremation, Mr. Capen's ashes will be placed in the family lot in the Bridge Street Cemetery, Northampton, where his parents are buried. Memorial gifts may be made to the organ fund of the First Congregational Church in care of the treasurer, William Chamberlain.



Lois Brown
Arthur G. Capen

Church gives \$5,000 to community

WORTHINGTON — At the recent annual business meeting of the First Congregational Church it was reported that in 1980, the church gave more than \$5,000 in help to those in the community and world, something The Rev. Molly Kitchen termed, "A remarkable achievement for a church of this size."

The annual business meeting was held on Jan. 18 at the close of the regular Sunday service. Printed reports from officers and committees were presented and the 28 voting members voted to accept the reports as printed.

The approved 1981 budget of \$19,696 is \$600 more than the year before and the rise was attributed to the increasing costs of "everything" used by the church.

Members also spent considerable time discussing the organ repairs needed for the 100-year-old, manual-tracking Odell pipe organ. Several fundraising affairs have been given to pay for the needed repairs, but the total remains short of the necessary \$20,000 estimate. After much thought on the subject, the trustees were authorized to have the work done and pay for it from church funds.

The stained glass windows are also in need of repair it was reported. Since they are very valuable and irreplaceable, a committee consisting of Robert and Judy Speiss, Harriet Osgood, George Bartlett and Elizabeth Payne, was appointed to investigate the cost of the repairs.

New church officers were also elected at the meeting. They are as follows: Walter Markert, moderator; Madeline Smith, clerk; William Chamberlin, treasurer; Doris Smith, benevolence treasurer; Don Bridgeman, deacon; Harriet Burr, deaconess; Pat Nugent, trustee; John Morris and Grant Bowman, Christian education; Olive Cole, benevolence; Janet Dimock, music committee; David Dimock, nomination committee; Judy Speiss and Albert Nugent, conference delegate; and Dorothy Mason, Harriet Osgood and Esther Kerley, association delegate.

Dinner to aid church organ fund

WORTHINGTON — The final fund-raising event of this year to benefit the Worthington Congregational Church' organ repair fund will be held on Dec. 4, when a roast beef dinner will be served at 7 p.m. Tickets are available in advance only at the Corners Grocery or from Sandy Epperly.

The pipe organ, almost 100 years old, has groaned and thumped when it was played, but money was scarce and repairs to the instrument are expensive.

However, last year there was new enthusiasm for repairing the organ. Under the direction of the music committee, food sales were held, suppers were cooked, the Women's Benevolent Society gave proceeds of last July's Fair for organ repair and many donations were made. Shortly after Easter, the organ was dismantled and removed, to be restored and renewed. All summer long events have been held for this benefit. It is hoped the organ will be back in place by Christmas, according to the music committee.

WBS pledges \$1,000 to elderly housing project

WORTHINGTON — The Women's Benevolent Society voted to donate \$1,000 to the elderly housing project at last week's luncheon meeting. Postmaster Cullen Packard spoke to the group about the planned housing for the elderly and how it is progressing. The money donated by the WBS will be used toward the preliminary planning and work to prepare for the actual construction. The Department of Housing and Urban Development is financing the \$660,000 project. The WBS members will replenish the club's treasury from proceeds from the next two annual fairs.

Thirteen members attended the Wednesday meeting held at the home of Olive Cole and Clarissa Henry.

Jennie Fairman reported that a table has been rented at the Parent Teacher Organization's fair for the WBS to sell its members' handwork.

It was reported that Sandy Epperly will make a new curtain for the choir alcove. And members voted to hold a Christmas potluck lunch at the home of Dot Mason on Dec. 9 with a gift exchange. Members of the Friendship Guild will be invited.

Fifty-two bandages were rolled; old sheets are needed for this work.

Worthington tax bills mailed

WORTHINGTON — All tax bills are in the mail and payment is due 30 days after the bills are postmarked, tax collector Dorothy Nelson has announced.

The bills reflect a \$3.80 rise in the tax rate over last year. The rate is currently \$18.80 per \$1,000 valuation.

The rate increase is the result of state mandated increases in the valuation of all structures and property over 10 acres in size, according to assessor Robert Mason. This year's assessments show a 10 percent increase in the valuation of all structures and a 50 percent increase in the value of land, after the first 10 acres.

The tax rate was also affected by a decrease in available state aid and a higher county assessment, Mason added.

The total assessment of the town is \$21 million and the average home is valued at \$29,000.

Feb 5 1981

Worthington Health Center receives \$247,500 gift

By JANET DIMOCK
WORTHINGTON — Worthington Health Center officials were shocked to learn recently that the rural medical facility would receive one quarter of a million dollars in a "no strings attached" bequest.

The \$247,500 amount, which represents more than the Health Center uses in operating expenses in one year, was willed to the center by a Pennsylvania woman and Smith College graduate who apparently never lived in the Hilltowns.

A woman with an obvious charitable bent, Mary Pardee Allison left a hefty chunk of her \$8 million estate to 21 different charities across the country when she died at age 98 three years ago.

"We were floored," by the

large donation, Beverly Smith, chairman of the center's board of directors said yesterday.

Plans for the funds are tenuous, Mrs. Smith said. For the time being the directors plan to spend only the income received on the principal. The board voted a few weeks ago to use the interest from the money "to expand the services of the center," Mrs. Smith reported. No special projects have been targeted at this time.

If the need ever arises, the money could be spent on day-to-day operating expenses or for other projects, she said. While there are no strings attached to the money, it is being treated as an endowment.

Mrs. Smith is not sure what Miss Allison's connections to the center were, but believes she

was a friend of the late Florence Bates, a Worthington resident and public health nurse, and one of the original Health Center founders.

Miss Allison did donate some Smith Kline common stock to the center, "way back," probably when the building on Old North Road was under construction, Mrs. Smith recalled.

The directors treated the money as a regular contribution, and declined to "make a big splash," over the large amount, out of respect for others who have supported the facility.

Gun Club to meet tonight

WORTHINGTON — The Rod and Gun Club will meet tonight at 8 p.m. in the home of Zack Donovan. Any townspeople interested in wildlife, hunting, fishing or conservation are invited.

Mar 2 1981

Rev. Kitchen to Florence

FLORENCE — Rev. Robert A. Kitchen of Northampton has been named the minister of the Florence Congregational Church.

Mr. Kitchen will preach his first sermon at the church Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

For 10 months last year, Mr. Kitchen served as the interim minister at the Williamsburg Congregational Church. From 1976 until 1979, he taught religion courses at Springfield College in Springfield.

The new minister also has assisted his wife, Rev. Mary-Ellen Kitchen, with her duties as the pastor of the Worthington and Peru Congregational churches.

Before coming to this area, Mr. Kitchen was an associate pastor of a Methodist church in Baltimore. He also served as the pastor of four small Methodist churches in western Maryland.

Mr. Kitchen, a graduate of Springfield College, received a master of divinity degree in 1973 from the Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, Calif. He also earned a master's degree in Semitic languages from Catholic University.

8/2/81

Worthington musician boosts the twentieth century

By JANET DIMOCK

WORTHINGTON — Thursday night, concert-goers will be able to hear three works by local pianist-composer John Newell, and in turn the artist will have the chance to express his appreciation for contemporary works by other composers. The concert will be at 8:15 p.m. in Amherst College's Buckley Recital Hall, with tickets available at the door.

"One of my main interests as a pianist is the contemporary repertoire," Newell said in an interview in his home on Harvey Road. He and his wife, Lyn, an artist who teaches at Berkshire Community College, came here in 1978. They have a 21-month-old son, Spencer. A North Carolina native, Newell earned a Ph.D. in composition from the State University of New York in Buffalo.

Newell will perform two of his own compositions, "Horizons" which he completed in 1974, and his latest piece "Knossos," as well as a Sonata by Igor Stravinsky, the Piano Suite by Arnold Schoenberg and four Mazurkas by Karol Szymanowski.

Guest artist, harpist Susan Allen of Boston, will perform Newell's composition "Aardvark Processions" which was specially written in 1979 for her Carnegie Recital Hall debut.

The composer described "Horizons" as "very regular," in comparison with his latest work "Knossos" which is filled with "a lot of tension, a lot of rhythmic drive." The title refers to the ancient capital of Crete, an area Newell sees as mysterious, a labyrinth filled with secrets unknown to the modern mind.

The unusually-titled "Aardvark Procession" is "a set of character pieces for the harp" written expressly for Ms. Allen. "The piece is really for her," Newell said. The two met while



COMPOSER-PIANIST John Newell looks over a score in his living room in preparation for Thursday's concert. (Photo by Janet Dimock)

Newell was a graduate student at California Institute for the Arts in Valencia. Ms. Allen is in the process of making her first solo recording, which will include Newell's work.

The other pieces to be performed may not be familiar to concert-goers, the pianist noted, although they are the works of major composers of the 20th century. He termed them "very important pieces by very important composers that aren't part of the usual concert repertoire."

Finding the time for his dual capacity as performer and composer — sandwiched between his duties as a member of the

adjunct faculty of Williams College and teacher at Mt. Greylock Regional High School in North Adams — is "a juggling act," he said.

Newell hopes to alleviate some of his current job pressures in the near future and find more time for his own creative endeavors by turning to private teaching. Plans call for three studios — in Worthington, Pittsfield and in Williamstown.

"I want to do more playing," Newell said. "My first training was as a pianist." His serious composing began "rather late," he said, when he was an undergraduate in college.

Newell has also written works for his high school chorus at Mt. Greylock as well as for the Brazilian ensemble, Percussion Agora, which toured the United States last year.

He sees composition not only as a form of self-expression, but also as a method of self-knowledge. "You get to know yourself better and better," Newell remarked, adding that the final outcome of a piece can be totally different from where the composer thought it was going to go.

• Eunice & George Bartlett mark 45th

WORTHINGTON — Mr. and Mrs. George Bartlett were surprised on Sunday afternoon when over 100 friends and relatives joined them in celebration of their 45th wedding anniversary. Refreshments were served, and they received many gifts, including a money tree made on a small live tree which they will plant on their grounds.

George Bartlett and Eunice

Kenyon were married on Easter Sunday, April 12, 1936, in New York. They have lived much of their married life in Worthington where Bartlett worked for the state until his retirement last year. They have two children, Carolyn Wailgum of Westfield and Gerald of Worthington, and six grandchildren.

The party was planned by their children.



Town talk

EDITOR'S NOTE: Town Talk is a weekly column designed to bring together short items about people, happenings and trivia from the suburbs as gathered by the correspondents there.

• **MACROBIOTICS MEAL** — The macrobiotic philosophy of Michio Kushi has taken root here in Worthington at the home of Winston and Joan Donovan of Huntington Road. Those who are looking for a homecooked macrobiotic meal, a dietary consultation or are just curious about the subject can find what they are looking for at the only local macrobiotic center.

"We would really like our home to be a macrobiotic center where people can join when they want to," Mrs. Donovan said.

They opened their home earlier this year for a luncheon one day a week. The meal is served on Thursday from noon to 2 p.m. While reservations are not needed business is usually brisk as up to 30 customers in one day have come enjoy and all natural meal.

A scheduled "spring and summer cooking" course is Mrs. Donovan's latest offering. Six classes will be held beginning Tuesday in the morning and evening. Each class will prepare a full meal — the advantage for the morning class being that the cooking will be done in time for lunch. It is not necessary to attend all classes, but preregistration by Sunday is required.

Also popular are the Friday evening family-style dinners, which are often followed by conversation and discussion. Seating is very limited and reservations are required by Thursday noon.

Those interested in macrobiotics can come for Donovan's dietary consultation, which he studied last fall at Boston's Kushi Institute or are welcome to come and dine on other days. An advance call is all that is needed to find some oriental philosophy in the Hilltowns.

on, Mass, Fri., April 17, 1981

Worthington

Fire destroys four buildings and 30 acres

By JANET DIMOCK

WORTHINGTON — A fire of unknown origin yesterday destroyed four abandoned buildings and 30 acres of orchard, field and blueberry bushes at Hibiec Orchards near the Chester town line.

The six-hour blaze apparently started in a small, fallen-in house located next to the barn according to firefighter and department secretary Linda Mason. There were no signs of previous outside burning or obvious signs of human occupation.

Several fire reports were called in at about 1 p.m. The orchard has been abandoned since December 1977 when a fire started by a wood stove destroyed

the caretaker's home. A second fire last fall totally destroyed the once-stately stone mansion which has been unoccupied for a number of years. That fire was determined to be of suspicious origin.

Twice yesterday firefighters saved a large barn from the spreading flames. "It's the only thing left," Ms. Mason said.

Donald C. Shaw

WORTHINGTON — A funeral will be held Thursday in Northampton for Donald C. Shaw, 64, of Starkweather Road, an engineer at the WWLP television station in Springfield.

Shaw died Friday at his home. Born in Springfield Feb. 1, 1917, he was the son of Jesse and Lillian (Smith) Shaw.

A World War II veteran, Shaw served as a first lieutenant in the field artillery. In addition to working at Channel 22, he was an amateur radio operator.

He is survived by his mother; and four cousins, John Barbery of Bedminister, N.J., Thomas Barbery of Laguna Beach, Calif., Robert Morton of Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, and Mrs. Lawrence Kucher of Ontario, Canada.

Henry E. Bartlett

WORTHINGTON — Henry Edward Bartlett Sr., 72, of Kinney Brook Road, died today at his home. He was a resident here for the past 29 years.

A self-employed plumber for the past 50 years, Bartlett served as the plumbing inspector for the town of Worthington for the past two years.

Born Nov. 12, 1908 in Uxbridge, he was the son of Peter and Lydia (Roy) Bartlett.

During his years in Worthington, he was a member of the Rod and Gun Club.

Bartlett is survived by his wife, the former Eleanor Samay; three sons, Henry Bartlett Jr. of Pittsfield, David Arthur Bartlett of Pennsylvania, and a step-son, Ernest Beals of Georgia; four daughters, Marilyn DePriest of Kentucky, Kathryn Warner of Haydenville, Linda Broga of Goshen, and Therese Nikituk of Otis; 18 grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

The funeral will be held tomorrow at 10 a.m. at the Charles A. Bisbee Funeral Home in Chesterfield.

The burial will be in St. Mary's Cemetery in Northampton.

Calling hours at the funeral home

will be tomorrow from 7 to 9 p.m.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Worthington Health Center.

May 15 '81

Worthington father and son found unhurt

WORTHINGTON — A 36-year-old local resident and his four-year-old son, lost overnight in the Berkshire Hills, were found unharmed this morning, state police said.

Michael Newman of River Road told troopers he went for a walk in the woods with his son, Jesse, about 6 p.m., yesterday and lost his way.

The pair spent the rainy and foggy night in a cave, according to Trooper Thomas Dion.

"They were wet, hungry and a bit tired, but otherwise unharmed," when they were found wandering on a logging road in the woods at 6:45 a.m. this morning by Trooper Thomas Burnickas and Chester Police Chief Ralph Phillbrook, Dion said.

After Newman's wife reported the pair missing, state and local police and firefighters, aided by canine units from the state police, the Berkshire County Sheriff's Department and the Rensselaer County (N.Y.) Search and Rescue Squad, combed the rocky hills for most of the night, he said.

Bloodhound teams were called into action about 1:30 a.m.. John H. Watson and David Ferry of Otis volunteered the services of their bloodhound team for the search. A foot search by volunteers from the Worthington Fire Department was about to start when the two were located shortly before 7 a.m. The foot search had been delayed until daylight because of foggy weather conditions in the area.

The father and son were found about 3½ miles into the woods and "headed away from civilization," Dion said.

Worthington woman starts an antiques and gift shop

By JANET DIMOCK

5/21/81



JACQUELINE BRIDGEMAN

WORTHINGTON — Jacqueline Bridgeman has opened the Country Cricket, an antiques and gift shop, next to her home on Route 112.

She said the shop is an expression of her preference for antiques that can be used and enjoyed. "I deal more in the practical aspect" of antiques, she explained. Furniture dating from the 1700s usually is "too delicate" for everyday use so most of the items for sale in her shop date from about 1850 to the turn of the 20th century.

Mrs. Bridgeman also plans to carry "a few Victorian pieces, but not in depth."

Her specialties are furniture and primitives, such as augers, irons, bells and tinware. "I'll try to carry tinware," she added.

She also deals in china.

Giftware, such as crystal and glassware, china cups and teapots, as well as kitchen and dining accessories also are for sale.

And there is a "craft corner," a place for area craftsmen to show their wares. So far, there are quilts, stuffed dolls and animals, and toddlers' clothing there.

The items must "fit the theme" of the shop, but the owner added, "I'd like the town to get involved in the store."

While the Country Cricket is a fulfillment of one of Mrs. Bridgeman's dreams, the rest of the family has caught her enthusiasm.

"We've done everything ourselves, from floor to ceiling," she said as she pointed out the custom-made shelving and the natural wood finish decor. Her daughters Heather, 8, and Katie, 7, have provided encouragement during the long process of getting things ready.

She also has received encouragement from the older generation. Her mother, Rose Kropp of Old Post Road, pitched in and sewed the shelf covers for the kitchenwares section.

In fact, it was her mother's influence while growing up that sparked the shop owner's interest in antiques. "I grew up in a house full of antiques," she explained. As a youngster, she soaked up plenty of atmosphere while living in a 22-room house in rural Vermont.

Her interest in old items carried on in her adult years and prompted her to open a part-time, by appointment only, antiques business at her former home in Westfield.

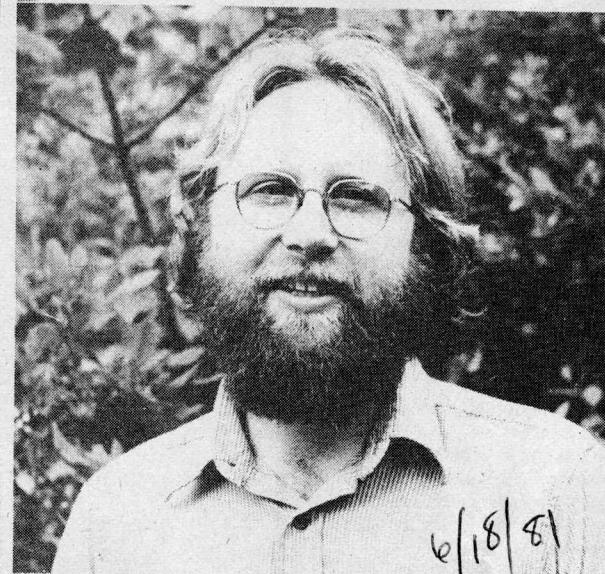
The Country Cricket "will change its personality as I get different things," Mrs. Bridgeman commented. The shop will be open Tuesdays through Sundays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

ROOF RAISING HELD

On Thursday morning on Harvey Road there was a vacant lot with just a cellar foundation; at 4 p.m. an entire house, clapboards, roof and doors, stood on the foundation, a very attractive dwelling. Arriving on two large trailers, the house was moved onto the foundation and fastened securely together in a short time.

Walter and Joyce Mollison, who have owned and operated Echo Valley Farm for the past 28 years, have sold the farm to Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Marshall of Florida, who have moved in and are busy putting in a large garden. Walter and Joyce, at present in a family camper, are busy supervising the finishing of the house, plumbing and electricity. The family expects to move in within the week.

• WORTHINGTON GUIDEBOOK — Do you know when the Frederick Sargent Huntington Library was built? Or how to get a burning permit? Or who administers the Scenic Roads Act?



STEPHEN KULIK

6/18/81

Answers to these and other questions are now available in the new *Guide to Town Government* compiled by Thayer Hill Road resident Stephen Kulik. Researched, written and published during the last year, the book strives to answer questions about the duties of various town boards and officials and serve as a basic source book with answers to the most-frequently asked questions.

The work, funded by a \$1,500 grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, notes in its introduction that the demands on local government have increased dramatically in recent years.

An example of that growth is the fact that in 1910, the town had 11 boards and officials. Today, there are 40 boards and commissions and twice the number of town officials.

The books are available at the town office, the Frederick Sargeant Huntington Library and the post office.

Church scholarships awarded

June 18/81

WORTHINGTON — At the Sunday morning service of the First Congregational Church, the Rev. Dr. Alfred Williams, president of the Mass. Conference, United Church of Christ, was the guest preacher.

The John Payne Memorial scholarships were given to Stephen, Thomas, and Ruth Wood; Keith, Janine, and Shelley Modestow; Robert and Scott Broderick; Shawn Speiss; Brenda Knapp; David Bowman; Ramona Sharows; Sherry Mason; and Kim Stevens.

Besides the 12 Worthington graduates from Gateway Regional and five Smith School graduates, two women, Laurie Trudell and Elizabeth Heiden, graduated from the Smith School practical nurse course.

BAPTISMAL FONT DEDICATED

At the morning service of the First Congregational Church on Sunday, the new baptismal font was dedicated. This was given to the church by Arthur Q. Smith in memory of his wife, Kathryn. The dedication address was given by Madeline Smith.

The children's sermon was given by Patricia Nugent, assisted by her confirmation class. Confirmed at this service were Bradford Fisk, Mark Speiss, Judi Mason, Sally Knapp, Amy Cianciola, Shari Fisk, Kristin McLean, Melissa Dragon, Kimberly Dragon, and Carol Recore, with the rite of baptism given to Bradford, Shari, and Kelly Fisk. Coffee hour followed the service.

Tufts University

June '81

WORTHINGTON — Kathleen Higgins, daughter of M. and Mrs. Michael Higgins of Chesterfield Road graduated magna cum laude from Tufts University on May 31. Ms Higgins is a 1977 graduate of Gateway Regional High School in Huntington where she received several scholarships. Tufts, she earned her B.A. in American Studies.

To protect Conwell School

Voters add clause to budget

By JANET DIMOCK

WORTHINGTON — The Gateway Regional School budget was approved last night at the annual Town Meeting, but only after a controversial amendment was tacked on to the approved appropriation of \$262,113.

Douglas Small of Witt Hill Road introduced an amendment stipulating that the Worthington's share of the school budget would be paid upon written execution of a legally-binding document stating that a two-thirds vote of the townspeople would be required before the Russell H. Conwell Elementary School could be closed.

"If you don't agree to keep our school open, then don't expect any money," was the message delivered during the 2½-hour meeting at Town Hall.

Small termed the action, "a little security," for the school located on Huntington Road. There are 60 students served by the school.

"What I'm trying to do is just re-establish what was in the (school committee) policy book," he continued.

Earlier this year, the school committee rescinded a policy that required a vote of approval from local townspeople before an elementary school could be closed. The Middlefield Elementary School was shut down fol-

lowing a vote of the regional school committee and the question was not brought before the town.

The present contract with the town, as read by Moderator Cornelius Sharron, does not stipulate that the school be kept open for classes. However, the building must be maintained by the district and be open for community use until the current lease expires in 1988.

"We either stand up now, or

proved a pager alert system for the volunteer fire department.

Nearly 100 voters crowded into the Town Hall to consider the \$455,359 budget for fiscal 1982, which begins July 1. All business was quickly dispatched.

The total budget is down \$17,316 from the current budget approved last year.

Under the tax-cutting Proposition 2½ restrictions only \$341,315 can be raised through property

Town Meeting report

end up like Middlefield — without a school," George Ulich of Old Post Road contended.

Legal ramifications of the action taken were questioned by voters, but a motion made to reconsider was defeated.

Paul Boucher of Huntington Road pointed out that it is important to note the amendment asks that the school board intends to keep the facility open.

Small admitted that the action, "does put the school committee in a terrible bind," but added that he could not see no other recourse for the town.

The motion was passed with few dissenting votes.

Voters also decided to turn off most of existing streetlights as a cost saving measure and ap-

proved a pager alert system for the volunteer fire department. Nearly 100 voters crowded into the Town Hall to consider the \$455,359 budget for fiscal 1982, which begins July 1. All business was quickly dispatched.

The \$114,044 gap between what will come from property tax dollars and what was appropriated last night will be filled by other accounts, including \$5,538 in state flood reimbursement money; \$15,644 in federal revenue sharing money; \$5,300 in interest earned on short term investments and on the Cemetery Trust Fund account; \$19,000 received in excise tax payments, \$1,500 form license fees; and by \$26,140 in anticipated cherry sheet returns.

A sum of \$2,549 was appropriated from the machinery earnings account; \$48,000 in existing free cash in the treasury; and \$2,000 was transferred from the Overlay surplus account to establish a Reserve Fund to be used in case of emergency. It was voted to leave \$12,000 in the overlay account (from expected cherry sheet returns) to pay for tax abatements during the coming year.

Pager alert system approved
Approval of \$3,500 toward a new pager alert system for the fire department was greeted with applause and preceded by little discussion.

The funds will be used for partial payment of 10, one-way pagers and four portable walkie-talkies tuned to the Amherst Dispatch Center. The remaining funds needed will be raised by the department.

The "red phone" emergency system which relies upon six telephones in private homes will be discontinued.

Last year, the proposal generated lengthy discussion and eventually was defeated at both the annual Town Meeting and a special Town Meeting.

The purchase of \$1,200 for up-to-date equipment to fight chemical and gasoline fires with foam was also approved. The equipment now in use was termed "inadequate and incompatible with new chemical foam available," by firefighter Robert To-

maskowicz of Huntington Road. The action was unanimous.

These were the only capital expenditures approved last night.

Street light cutbacks

The streets will also be darker at night due to action taken to turn off all but eight of the existing streetlights. Fifteen lights in all were marked for removal, with only one dissenting vote.

The remaining lights are located in the Corners area, the town center, and one at the intersection of Route 112 and Old Main Road in South Worthington. Lights will also remain at the intersection of Routes 143 and 112 at the Corners.

Those to be removed are in the following locations: five on Old Post Road, two on Route 143, two in South Worthington, one in Ringville and two near the town hall.

The strongest objections came from Robert Lucey of Ring Road who made a motion that all streetlights be removed.

"I don't think they're necessary. If you're going to shut off one, then shut off all of them. I think that they all should be treated equal," he commented.

An expected savings of \$120 each month will be realized immediately, selectman Albert Nugent Jr. reported. However, a fee of about \$300 must be paid to the electric company for discontinuing contracts made on the

lights when they were installed. Streetlight expenses this year totalled \$2,100.

The requested highway budget was unanimously approved. This year, \$85,100 was appropriated for general and winter highway work and for workers' wages; \$11,038 for garage maintenance and notes and interest on highway equipment; and a total of \$18,000 for machinery maintenance.

Highway Superintendent James Pease explained that the machinery maintenance account will pay for fuel, tires and repairs. About \$10,000 is ear-

marked for diesel fuel payments.

A state law allowing police department participation in a mutual aid program with surrounding towns was also adopted. The law allows cooperative response to emergency calls among participating towns, Police Chief Grant Knapp said. Chester, Huntington and Russell already belong to the program, he said. No cost is involved.

Caterpillar control defeated
A bid for \$2,600 to combat the infestation of leaf-eating caterpillars in West Worthington was narrowly defeated.

Insect Pest Control Superin-

tendent Steven Strom called the infestation of "saddle prominent" caterpillars "a major problem right now."

The funds would pay for aerial application of a biological control for about 200 acres effected.

Robert Cook of Bashan Hill Road said that there was "serious dieback" on maple, yellow birch and apple trees that were defoliated last year.

The request was defeated by vote of 33 to 37.

Concerns about the long range effect of the bacterial treatment and funding source for the project were the main objections raised.



WORTHINGTON TOWN MEETING voters Ida Joslyn and Gertrude Lucey discuss one of the issues privately during last night's annual Town Meeting at the Town Hall. (Photo by Vince DeWitt)

Worthington Town Meeting tomorrow

Proposed budget cut by \$17,316

By JANET DIMOCK

WORTHINGTON — After many hours spent putting the finishing touches on the proposed fiscal 1982 budget, the finance committee and the selectmen will make their presentation tomorrow at 7 p.m. at the Annual Town Meeting.

Held in the Town Hall, participants in the Town Meeting will be faced with a pared-down budget as a result of the tax-cutting Proposition 2½ law passed last year.

The proposed budget for next year — \$455,359, down a total of \$17,316 from this year — is "as bare as a bone," according to finance committee co-chairman Donald Newton Sr.

The state-mandated restrictions were met by denying raises to all elected and appointed officials, cutting town hall expenses by closing the building during the winter months, planning to turn off more than half of existing street lights, making no capital expenditures for the highway department, eliminating special

funds for secondary road improvements, and in general trimming dollars wherever possible.

The biggest difference over the current budget can be seen in the amount to be paid for through tax dollars. The state imposed tax levy limit (which restricts the amount of money that can be raised and appropriated at the Annual Town Meeting) is set at \$341,315, a hefty \$111,485 less than last year's figure.

The tax rate for the next fiscal year, which begins July 1, will be nearly \$4 less than the current rate, according to Assessor Robert Mason. The state Department of Revenue has set the rate at just under \$15, he said. The current rate is \$18.80 per \$1,000 of valuation.

The \$114,044 gap between what can be paid for with tax dollars and what the two boards see as necessary expenses will be filled by using \$48,000 in the unappropriated available funds (free cash) account; \$15,644 in federal revenue sharing money; \$26,140 in expected cherry sheet receipts;

\$5,300 is interest from the cemetery account and from short term investments; \$1,500 from license fees; \$19,000 from excise taxes; \$2,459 from machinery earnings; \$7,555 received in state reimbursement for flood damages to highways; and \$2,000 from overlay surplus.

In addition, \$12,000 will be left in the overlay account to pay for excise and property tax abatements during the coming year and \$5,000 will remain in the free cash account to cover unforeseen expenditures. Normally, at least \$15,000 is left in the free cash account to be used in case of emergency.

This is the first year that the finance committee and the selectmen have agreed on all budget allocations, selectman Julia Sharron noted.

She also pointed out that many of the items are fixed costs that cannot be altered, such as insurance and bonds, interest on borrowed money, and county retirement funds. These accounts, for example, total \$18,079.

Selectmen complete appointments

WORTHINGTON — The annual task of making appointments was completed this week by the selectmen.

Two new town posts were created this year by the board and selectman Albert Nugent Jr. was chosen local hazardous waste coordinator, a post established at the request of the state Department of Environmental Quality Engineering. Selectman Dorothy Mason will be the town's representative to the Hampshire County Action Commission's board of directors.

The following appointments have also been made:

Lower Pioneer Valley Regional Planning Commission alternate delegate, Constance Dorrington; Council on Aging, Barbara Porter; Dog Officer, Walter Fritz Jr.; Custodian of the Town Hall, Henry Dassatti; Plumbing Inspector, Henry Bartlett; Superintendent of Roads, James Pease; Town Office Clerk, B. Althea Mason; Veterans Agent, Cornelius Sharron; Wiring Inspector, William Wilson; Superintendent of Dutch Elm Disease and Gypsy Moths, Steven Strom; and Energy Coordinator, Stephen Kulik.

Gateway Regional High graduates are profiled

Gateway evaluating test results

By PERI SOSSAMAN

HUNTINGTON— Low scores in both writing and math on a basic skills test given to Gateway sixth grade students have left administrators and the school committee unsure how to interpret the test results.

A report to the school committee by basic skills chairman Robert Spear showed 38 percent of the sixth grade class failed the math and 28 percent failed the writing test. He noted however, students did well on the reading test with more than 94 percent passing.

All three tests were developed by a Gateway teacher-advisory group for each subject. Spears cautioned that it could take years to determine the reliability and validity of the scores. The testing program is the result of a state mandate to implement minimum competency testing in math, reading and writing this year throughout the Commonwealth. While all third graders, sixth graders and ninth graders are required to be tested there is no state standard for passing, according to Spear.

The standard of pass or fail has been left up to the community, which makes interpreting the

test results more difficult and certainly makes the comparison between school districts inappropriate, Spear said. Gateway has chosen to use the state test for the secondary level and has created its own tests for the two elementary levels.

While the sixth grade scores are of concern, Spear told committee member Fay Piergiovani of Chester, who found the scores "upsetting," that now comes the period of evaluation.

"The basic skills committee now has to ask — Is it the test...is it that they (the students) don't know the work...or is it that we expect too much?" she remarked.

Superintendent Stephen McKinney pointed out that the tests would be administered to other sixth graders in other school districts. He added that sixth grade scores on the Stanford Achievement tests in reading and math indicated that the Gateway sixth graders were at or above the national average.

Results from the local tests showed that on all three grade levels, writing skills seemed to be the weakest area.

In the third grade, 92 percent passed math; 96 percent passed

reading and 84 percent passed writing.

In the ninth grade results, 97 percent passed the math test, 93 percent passed reading and 74 percent passed writing.

Spears stressed during his presentation to the school committee that a major concern of the testing program is for the individual development and learning. Because of the tests given this year, a number of problem areas have been identified and a possible change in the curriculum will be part of the review process.

Spear said one area that needs more emphasis, especially on the third grade level is the ability to tell time. From third to sixth grade, emphasis must be placed on fractions and ninth graders need more work in simple formulas, geometry and map reading.

The tests also show a need for more work in writing skills, including spelling, punctuation, paragraphing and use of appropriate language. Reading skills should be stressed including those used in drawing conclusions, making generalizations, finding the main idea and figuring out a sequence of events.

ing squad.

From Worthington — Carol Bartlett, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Bartlett, was a member of the madrigals and Vocal Ensemble. She will attend Southeastern Academy.

Scott Brodrick, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert N. Brodrick, was a member of the basketball, baseball, and cross-country teams. He received the John Payne Memorial Scholarship and will attend Amherst College.

Shelley Modestow, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. John Modestow, was a member of the varsity field hockey, basketball, and softball teams, as well as a representative to the school committee and the Student Advisory Council. She will attend Springfield College.

Thomas Payson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Payson, was in the cast of several school plays. He will join the United States Navy.

Ramona Sharon, daughter of

Cornelius Sharon, was a member of the basketball, field hockey, and softball teams. She received the John Payne Memorial Scholarship and will attend the University of Massachusetts.

Robin Sheldon is the daughter of Gary and Janice Sheldon.

Kimberly Stevens, daughter of Susan M. Stevens, was a member of the cross-country team. She received the John Payne Memorial Scholarship and will attend the University of Massachusetts.

Ted Syron, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Syron, was a member of the baseball and basketball teams. He will attend University of Maine at Orono.

Ruth Wood, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jerome H. Wood, was a member of the field hockey, basketball, and softball teams as well as the student council. She will attend Springfield College.

Also a JCP Scholarships

also a JCP

Health Center makes report, elects new board of directors

June 12
1981

By JANET DIMOCK

WORTHINGTON — Worthington Health Association Inc. members will return to the polls on Monday to break a tie vote in the annual election of directors.

John Driver of Cummington and Carol Morris of Worthington, both first-time candidates, are tied for the three-year position on the board of directors. The original vote was held last week as part of the annual Worthington Health Association Inc. meeting.

Polling in the special election will begin at 8 p.m. in the Town Hall. The regular monthly meeting of the board will begin at 7:30 p.m.. Association members who cast ballots at the annual election will be free to vote again.

Re-elected to the board for three years were Gertrude Lucey and Suzanne Kulik of Worthington, Wesley Brown of Cummington and Eleanor Harvey of Chesterfield. Helen Wells of Cummington will fill the one-year post of secretary, and Mrs. Kulik the one-year post as treasurer.

William Gaitenby of Huntington was elected to the board for three years.

Last week the 30 members of the association approved a list of revisions in the corporation's bylaws, including a federally-mandated provision that members will no longer be required to pay the annual \$5 dues.

Objections were raised by members that the elimination of the membership fee might open the meeting to those persons not necessarily interested in the Association.

However, director Brooke Lynes of Cummington pointed out that the provision is mandated by the federal government and its adoption necessary for the Health Center to continue receiving government money.

Members attending the meeting were also informed of several changes expected in the professional staff at the Health Center, located on Old North Road.

Dr. Alex Lippert, a family practitioner from Utica, N.Y., is expected to join the staff next month, Association president Beverly Smith announced. He will replace Dr. Matthew Swartz who left the health center in May to continue his education.

A full-time dentist, Dr. Martin Wohl of Racine, N.M., will begin work in August.

Mrs. Smith summed up the Worthington Health Center operations by saying, "We do have new faces up there, but it is functioning smoothly."

The board has also received the resignation of Outreach nurse Madeleine Provost, who leaves at the end of June. Mrs. Provost has worked at the Center for about four years.

According to Mrs. Smith, the position will not be filled immediately due to uncertainty over the amount of federal funds expected next year.

The \$247,500 bequest received

from the estate of Pardee Allison of Pennsylvania is being treated as an endowment and has been invested, Mrs. Kulik reported. Only the interest earned on the money will be spent, she added. The bequest was received in January.

Membership is up by 13 this

year, for a total of 427, fund drive chairman Ida Joslyn reported.

The directors are working with Huntington residents on the possibility of providing service to that community, which is currently without a physician, Mrs. Smith also reported.

Masons have 60th

June
1981



ETHEL and STANLEY MASON

WORTHINGTON — An open house celebrating the 60th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Mason of Old Post Road was held recently at the home of their son and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Harley Mason of Huntington Road.

The former Ethel May Haskell and Stanley Smith Mason were married at the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Haskell of Old Post Road on July 2, 1921. The Rev. Newton Jones, then pastor of the First Congregational Church, officiated.

Except for a few years spent in New York State, the couple have lived all of their married

life in Worthington, where Mr. Mason farmed and was superintendent of roads for the town. He retired several years ago from a position on the Massachusetts Turnpike. Mrs. Mason spent several years in charge of the school cafeteria.

The couple has five children, Glendon of Coxsackie, N.Y., Stanley Jr. of Amherst, Dorothy Schott of Huntington, Joyce Mollison and Harley Mason of Worthington. They also have 18 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

About 100 friends from this and neighboring towns attended the open house.

Town office is relocated

9-1-81

WORTHINGTON — The phone number may be the same, but the place sure has changed.

Things have really moved lately. The town office has moved from the second floor at the Town Hall to the Russell H. Conwell Elementary School across the street.

While the main floor of the Town Hall will still be in use until winter weather sets in around the end of October, all town business will now be transacted at the new location in the school. During the winter months, the school cafeteria and kitchen area will be available to community groups for meetings and social functions. Arrangements for use of either area can be made through Town Clerk Althea Mason.

The move to an unused classroom located off the cafeteria was proposed by the selectmen as a money and energy-saving measure prompted by Proposition 2½ budget constraints. Selectman Julia Sharron estimates that about \$4,000 will be saved by keeping the 150-year-old Town Hall closed during the winter months.

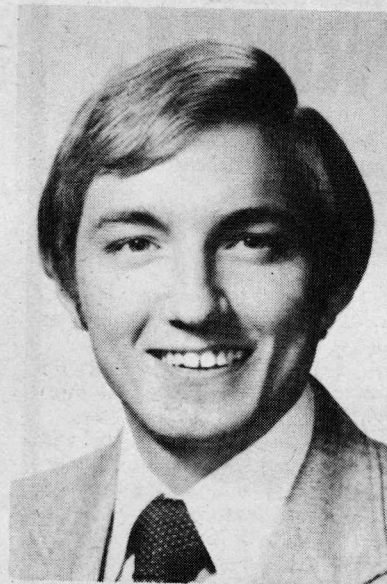
Access to the new office is through the school's side entrance from the main parking lot. The new quarters are accessible to the handicapped.

People in the news....

9-3-81

McCarty inducted into law association

WORTHINGTON — Christopher K. McCarty, a second year student



CHRISTOPHER McCARTY

at the Albany Law School of Union University, has been recently inducted into the Junior Bar there. Selection to the Bar is rigorous, with membership extended to those first year students who display superior oral advocacy skills. In addition, the student's legal thought processes and writing expertise are considered.

As a result of his appointment, McCarty has been invited to participate in the Gabrielli Moot Court competition which will be held in the fall. The prestigious competition presents realistic, but unresolved legal issues to the young advocates who must conduct thorough research and then construct sound arguments for their "clients." Later, they will present them to the Moot Court Board under courtroom conditions.

McCarty is a 1980 Cum Laude graduate of Union College, Schenectady, N.Y., and a 1976 Cum Laude graduate of the Williston-Northampton School. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. William D. McCarty of South Worthington.

Town advised of legal options in paying Gateway

By PERI SOSSAMAN
WORTHINGTON — The legal implications and options available to Worthington related to a controversial condition added by voters when approving the town's share of the Gateway Regional School budget was discussed Tuesday evening at an informal meeting.

Town Meeting members approved the Worthington share of \$264,000 of the assessment contained in the \$3.89 million Gateway Regional School District budget, but added the condition that payment was contingent upon keeping the Russell H. Conwell Elementary School open unless two-thirds of the town's voters indicated otherwise.

The condition was added in response to the regional school committee's earlier action rescinding a policy that required a vote of approval from local townspeople before a school could be closed. Immediately following the change in policy, the school committee voted to close the Middlefield Elementary School.

Town counsel Robert Corash advised the selectmen and the nine residents at the meeting to accept the notice of intent issued to the town by the school committee last week declaring that funds have been allocated and the Conwell school will remain in operation for this coming

school year. He also recommended the town stipulate that each of the four installments of the town's assessment will be paid only if the school is in operation at the time. This would give the town some breathing space to pursue other avenues of assurances that the local school remain open.

Town voters will meet on July 28 to decide whether to pay the first school assessment in light of the fact that the school committee will not enter into any agreement that binds them to a school more than one year at a time.

"With the economic situation in the state," said Superintendent Stephen C. McKinney, "it would be very difficult to give an honest and straightforward guarantee to any school for the next 20 years."

"We want to keep the school open," assured school committee chairman William Denault. But, he told Douglas Small, author of the amendment passed at the town meeting, "the school committee cannot accept those strings. In another year, another town would set its own conditions for approval of the budget."

Options limited

Corash told town voters that the town's options were limited because of the statutory obligation to provide funds for education and the contractual

agreements that bind the town to the Gateway Regional School District. Other options for the town would be to either pay the assessment with no strings attached or to pay a lesser payment or no payment.

However Corash cautioned that no payment would surely lead to litigation. "There is an inherent danger in not appropriating the money," he said. While the courts could force the school district to keep the school open, it is also likely that the court would support the school district because ultimately the primary obligation to pay for education falls on the town.

Both Denault and Corash suggested that the town, after passing this year's assessment, approach the other six towns in the district to change the regional agreement for assurance that all the elementary schools in the district remain open.

Corash did suggest that there were some underlying questions in the regional agreement as he read it. In his view, the document does not indicate the beginning or end of the regional agreement. He told Denault that he would like to know whether "the agreement is from year-to-year or does it run concurrently with the lease agreements or is there some oversight in the writing of the agreement?"



BOB KITCHEN of Florence was an official at the National Sports Festival in Syracuse, N.Y.

Bob Kitchen was one of the top race walkers in this country throughout the 1970s. In 1972 he just missed qualifying for the Olympic team in Eugene, Ore.

Kitchen, now 32, had a best time of 1 hour and 32 minutes in the 20-kilometer race and 4:13 in the 50-kilometer race back in 1972 when he was at the peak of his career.

Worthington

Pete Packard won his sixth club men's club championship at the Worthington Golf Course by defeating Greg Pease in Sunday's 36 hole match.

Packard won his first championship in 1954.

In the second division, George Torrey bested Frank Lasky with Ed Figiela beating Dave Fobes for the third division crown.

James Ryan took the junior championship by defeating Ed Figiela Jr.

Sherry Webb defeated Fay Lemee for the women's championship. Dottie Figiela bested Martha Glidden in 20 holes to take the second division crown.

The annual President's Cup Prizes were won by Gary Dassatti who shot a 63 and by Doris Smith who carded a 64 in low net play.

7/11/81
Board assures Worthington s

School will remain open
By PERI SOSSAMAN
HUNTINGTON — Worthington has received assurances from the Gateway Regional School Committee that the Russell E. Conwell Elementary School will remain open this coming school year.

The school committee voted Wednesday night to formally notify the Worthington selectmen that funds for operating the school have been allocated in the fiscal 1982 budget.

Last month Worthington approved its \$262,113 assessment of the \$3.89 million Gateway budget with the condition that the school committee provide a written guarantee not to close the Conwell school now, or in years to come.

Result of discussions
School committee chairman William Denault said that Wednesday's action was the result of discussions between the legal counsels for both the school and the town and was basically a "reaffirmation of what the school committee had done during budget time to keep the school open."

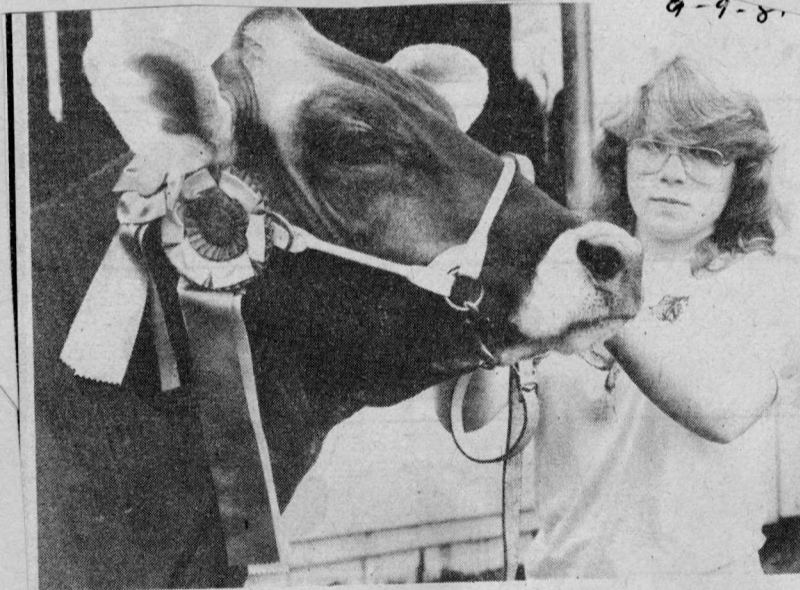
The school district, comprised of seven towns, is faced with an unresolved budget because of the Worthington resolution and Middlefield's outright rejection of its \$88,000 assessment.

Worthington's conditional approval of the school budget and Middlefield's rejection have raised some legal questions.

Superintendent Stephen C. McKinney explained that under the terms of the regional agreement, the seven towns have an obligation to provide funds for the school operations. The first payment is due in August. "We hope that we will be in receipt of that," said McKinney.

Denault will be meeting with the Worthington board of selectmen Tuesday, and a special Town Meeting is scheduled for July 28 to consider the payment of the assessment. Middlefield is also expected to reconsider the school budget the later part of the month, according to McKinney.

Chairman of the Worthington Board of Selectmen, Julia Sharon, said she hopes Tuesday's meeting with town counsel and Denault would clarify "those things the town can do and



Wendy Sherman of Worthington holds the grand champion Brown Swiss that won the blue ribbon for her in the youth cattle exhibit this weekend at the Three-County Fair.

Oct 1 1981
Worthington

Grange wins third place at fair

WORTHINGTON — The members of Grange #90 met on Monday night and heard the news that the chapter's Grange exhibit won third award at Great Barrington Fair, bring the total to more than \$350 won by the exhibit this year.

New dentist to begin work at Health Center

WORTHINGTON — Full-time dental care will again be available to Hilltown residents beginning this week at the Worthington Health Center.

Health Center officials have announced that Dr. Martin Wohl is scheduled to begin work today at the Center, located on Old North Road.

He will provide a range of dental services including education, preventative care, oral surgery plus restorative and specialty services.

The Health Center is expanding its dental services in response to an overwhelming demand in the Hilltown area, according to executive director Laurie Doyle.

Dr. Wohl brings with him five years of experience, including recent work in rural New Mexico. He plans to settle in the Hilltown area with his wife and two children. Appointments can be made by calling the Center between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Health center to open Tuesday

By PERI SOSSAMAN
 HUNTINGTON — "We think it's great" appears to be a typical response to the planned opening on Tuesday of the Family Health Center on Main Street. "Now we have somebody in town we can go to," said Nicholas Gregory one of the "regulars" at the senior meal site at the Town Hall.

The Family Health Center an affiliate of the Worthington Health Center will be serving residents of Blandford, Chester, Montgomery and Russell as well as Huntington with comprehensive medical services two days a week, Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Dr. Alexander Lippert, M.D. a specialist in family medicine, will provide comprehensive family-centered health care at the Center in Huntington including pediatrics, health education, adult medicine, gynecology, family planning, obstetrics, and 24-hour emergency care. He will be assisted by Diane Howe, certified medical assistant.

The focus of these services, Dr. Lippert said will be on the "whole person" care, where the physician manages the total health care of the individual, within the context of their family and community.

Several residents expressed a need for this kind of focus in the community. Diana James of County Road, who was excited about the opening of the new center said she hoped the doctor would be well known to the community so that "we will have something secure," so we will be able to build up a bond with a family doctor.

Others said that they have missed that family doctor relationship that they had with the late Dr. Huffmire. "We were used to going to Dr. Huffmire for everything" said



THE NEW FAMILY Health Center in Huntington is scheduled to open on Tuesday to serve the needs of residents living in Blandford, Chester, Montgomery and Russell as well as Huntington. (Photo by Peri Sossaman)

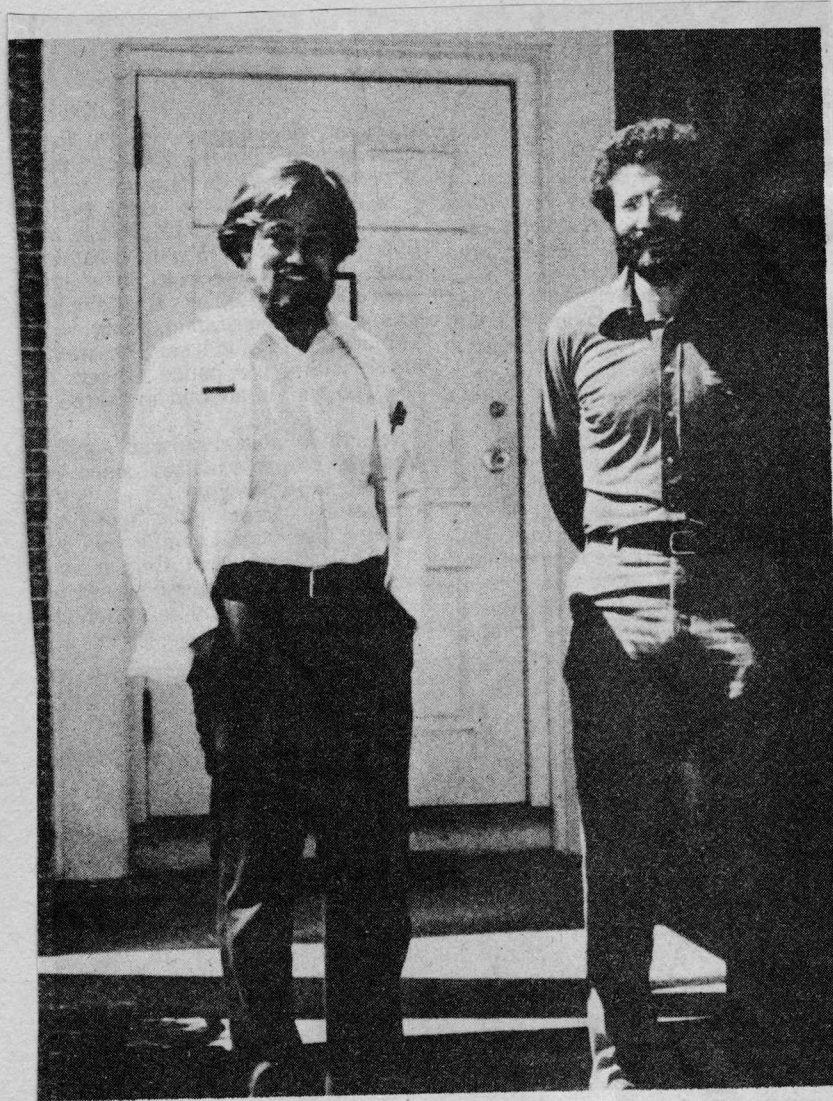
Lawrence Balanger who is very glad to see the Center open.

The Center has been redecorated and outfitted with new equipment and will have office hours on Tuesdays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Thursdays from 1 to 7 p.m.

All forms of health insurance will be accepted, in addition to Medicare and Medicaid. Fees can be adjusted

for low income individuals and families.

Back up medical services, as well as dental, podiatric, and counseling services will be provided through the Worthington Health Center on Old North Road in Worthington. Appointments for the Family Health Center can be scheduled through the Worthington Center.



NEW WORTHINGTON Health Center doctors, from left, are Dr. Alex Lippert and Dr. Martin Wohl. (Photo by Andrea Strom)

Architect hired for Worthington project

WORTHINGTON — A preliminary survey of the location for 12 units of housing for the elderly was reviewed Tuesday night by Worthington Senior Housing Inc.

Vice President Mrs. Franklin Burr announced that architect Henry Schadler of West Hartford, Conn., and his partner, Andrew Dragat, were hired by the board of directors to design the housing units. The housing project will be located on Old North Road on a five-acre lot adjacent to the Worthington Health Center.

According to housing secretary Judy Speiss, the firm was chosen from a field of six candidates because its work is "closest to what we wanted in architectural design for Worthington." Speiss added the design planned by Schadler would fit in with the colonial design of nearby homes, and his company has experience with HUD grant work.

The private non-profit housing group has received \$661,100 in mortgage funding from the federal department of Housing and Urban Development. Mrs. Speiss said that preliminary drawings are expected to be submitted to the board of directors before the end of November.



VICE PRESIDENT of Worthington Senior Housing Inc. Mrs. Franklin Burr talks with newly hired project architect Henry Schadler of West Hartford, Conn. The town has received a \$661,100 federal grant to finance the 12 units of elderly housing. (Photo by Janet Dimock)

In Worthington

Road name changed by voters

Dec 14 '81

By JANET DIMOCK

WORTHINGTON — A one-quarter mile section of a local road has been re-christened, thanks to a vote at a recent Town Meeting.

Ireland Street South is the new name for that section of road formerly known as Highland Street. The road runs easterly from its intersection with Route 112 in South Worthington. At the Chesterfield town line it becomes Ireland Street.

The name change was requested by local residents to eliminate confusion about its proper name. Many people refer to the road as Ireland Street.

Addition of the word "south" to the common name helps differentiate the section of road in each town. The alternatives were to "an-

nex them (the residents along the road in question) to Chesterfield or annex Chesterfield to us," if the differentiation is not made, Lois Ashe Brown of Elderberry Lane pointed out. "We need those people down there very much," Mrs. Brown added.

The question of road names brought out at the meeting prompted the Board of Selectmen to set up a special committee to look into the matter. Robert Lucey of Ring Road said that a portion of Dingle Road has been "mis-signed" and should actually be known as Capen Street.

Those interested in serving on such a committee can contact the selectmen or Mrs. Brown.

An amendment to the local zoning bylaw setting up a flood plain zone

was also approved at the meeting. The new law restricts use of property within a 100 year flood zone as defined on a flood zone map drawn up by federal officials.

Property along Parrish Road on River Road in West Worthington are the only sections which have been surveyed and defined as flood hazard areas at this time. The map is available at the town office.

Agricultural, conservation and recreational activities are not restricted. Temporary structures may be erected, but a special permit must be obtained from the Board of Appeals for year round buildings or other activities in such areas.

The definition of the term "side-yard" to include all sides of a structure except that with road frontage, was also approved.

Worthington Health Center: New staff doctors advocate family care

By ANDREA STROM

WORTHINGTON — The staff of the Worthington Health Center (WHC) was increased by two recently with the addition of Dr. Martin Wohl, a full-time dentist, and Dr. Alex Lippert, a family physician. The doctors join Dr. David Katz, a physician who has been practicing at the WHC for several years.

Dr. Wohl comes to Worthington with five years of dental experience. Several of these years were spent in rural settings. His said his desire to be "where he is needed" led him to develop a dental practice in a rural area of New Mexico.

When asked how he chose Worthington as the place to continue his work, Dr. Wohl explained that both he and his wife were originally from the east coast and that they had decided that they wanted to return to their roots.

"A friend, who lives in Amherst, told us about the opening in Worthington. And I decided to look into it. The details worked out and we moved 2,000 miles for this specific position," Dr. Wohl said.

He is not only enthusiastic about building his dentistry practice in Worthington but is enthusiastic about his practice in general. His apparently innate interest in people and concern for their dental needs have caused him to be the recipient of several awards, including an award for preventive dentistry and

the Outstanding Young Man of America.

One of his trademarks is the set of three balls he juggles to put some of the younger and more nervous patients at ease. And where did he learned the art of juggling? "I learned while I was in dental school," he smiled.

One young patient who said that she doesn't care too much for dentists seemed delighted with the WHC's new dentist. She commented "Dr. Wohl is really nice and he's very gentle and tells you everything that's going on. I liked that."

Those considering a visit to Dr. Wohl are forewarned to beware of flying balls, gentle and concerned hands and a lively, winsome individual.

Also new to the WHC is Dr. Alex Lippert, who, by coincidence, also found out about the opening through an Amherst contact.

The hazel-eyed, bearded young doctor seems reserved and almost aloof at first. But his deep concern for others naturally animates him in conversation and in his practice.

The outside interests of both men add roundness to their practices and influence their approaches. Dr. Wohl enjoys camping, tennis, fencing and woodworking, and he does some stamp and coin collecting. Dr. Lippert is interested in the arts, is also an outdoors person and a nature lover, and is a budding guitar-

ist who is looking for a guitar teacher at present.

Family practice stressed

Both men also have a deep interest in preventive and family practice. Dr. Wohl mentioned that he felt that those who have devoted their lives to health care are moving again toward real concern for the individual and his health and away from just their own financial gain. Dr. Lippert said that the trend is more toward family practice, which encourages treatment of the person as a whole entity.

Dr. Lippert noted that the outdated approach of just treating the physiological symptoms as an end in themselves is no longer viewed as being an acceptable way of healing the patient, as it generally fails in some way to meet the patient's need.

"For example," he said, "if a patient has an ulcer and was treated just for the ulcer but the gestalt wasn't taken into consideration the patient would more than likely be back in the near future with another ulcer problem."

The 'gestalt' is defined as "any of the integrated structures or patterns that make up all experience and have specific properties which can neither be derived from the elements of the whole nor considered simply as the sum of these elements." (Webster's)

"Family practice takes into consideration as many factors as possi-

ble in order to deal with the stresses causing this ulcer in order to provide the most effective treatment," Lippert added.

Dr. Lippert also mentioned his interest in a primary care system which acknowledges that a person is not just another number or case. "People shouldn't be shuffled around from specialist to specialist without regard for them as human beings," he said. "This is not even healthy for the patient, it does not aid in his healing to be treated this way."

"Primary care would mean that the attending physician would see the patient through to the end of that treatment."

Doctor's attention important

Certain research is being conducted now which indicates that it is not so much what a physician prescribes for his patients that heals them as it is his genuine concern for and attention to his patients which brings about healing. If this is true then the new trend in medicine toward Family Practice and primary care systems could be interpreted to be a good sign for those who require medical attention.

At present the Worthington Health Center is increasing its dental practice to three days a week in its move toward full-time dental care. Its sliding fee scale for patients does not apply to dental care at this time.

Annual library meeting held

WORTHINGTON — The annual meeting of the Worthington Library Corporation was held in the library on last week. All reports were accepted.

President Damaris Fernandez-Sierra in her report announced that the library is doing well financially, with no cut in hours open. The building has been painted and the grounds landscaped. A new roof will be installed in the near future. Elizabeth Payne is sorting all the material in the Rice Memorial room, making more space for other material.

Two paintings have been given to the library, one a portrait of the late Emerson Davis by Lyder Frederickson, and one a rural scene by the late Helen Fogg, for many years a resident of town. These will be framed and hung in the main room.

Librarian Julia Sharron reported that circulation has increased, due probably to the many new residents in town. Movies are shown the first Wednesday of each month, afternoons for the children and an adult movie in the evening. Steven Kulik makes this possible, transporting the films and showing them.

A large three-volume set of the life and works of Russell H. Conwell has been presented to the library by the author, professor Joseph Carter of Temple University

Three other books have been given by the authors: "All About Baseball," Daniel Okrent, and "How to Get Your Kids to Eat Right," by Barbara Richert, both town residents, and "A Feast of Words," by Cynthia Wolff, a former resident.

The following officers were elected, president, Damaris Fernandez-

Sierra; vice-president, Cornelius Sharron; clerk, Elizabeth Payne; treasurer, Dorothea Hayes; Auditor, Winifred Arcouette, Directors Ida Joslyn and Lucie Mollison, having served for many years in various offices, retired from office and Karin Cook and Cynthia Watson were elected directors for three years. Lois Ashe Brown was appointed to head Friends of the Library.

Local woman honored for years of public relations work

WORTHINGTON — Helen Crowley Carr of Cummington Road was guest of honor at the annual sponsors luncheon of the American Society for Engineering Education held on Nov. 10 at the United Engineering Center in New York City.

Mrs. Carr is being honored for her many years of service to the American Society for Engineering Education in Washington, D.C., while she was a senior public relations specialist with the Western Electric Company in New York City. The programs of the ASEE are supported by Western Electric funds.

While she worked for Western Electric, Mrs. Carr was instrumental in setting up a Black Engineering Colleges Development Committee which has administered a program of fellowships for strengthening the faculties of black engineering colleges. In recognition of Mrs. Carr's efforts in establishing active contacts with other industrial corporations for the support of this project, and for her service on the Faculty Interchange Committee, a series of fellowships have been established in her name.

Mrs. Carr is the widow of Robert D. Carr, who died in 1978. They began living year-round in Worthington when he retired in 1969 after many years with the sales department of Howard Johnson and she after 27 years with Western Electric.

The former Helen Crowley of North Adams, she graduated from the old North Adams Normal School, later returning there to complete requirements for her bachelor's and master's degrees from North Adams State College. She received her doctorate from Fordham University.

Local astronomer

Worthington's window to the stars

By ANDREA E. STROM

WORTHINGTON — A group of earthlings sat around a spluttering, sizzling, camp fire, the tents but growing shadowy shapes looming in the gathering dusk. The shared evening meal tasted even more delicious than it would have had it been served inside one of the planet's permanent dwellings.

Finally a number of stars and planets were sighted as the sky darkened. The Summer Triangle appeared directly overhead and huge Cygnus (the swan) of astronomical proportions, with neck outstretched and wings powerfully pulling it through billions of stars, flew on her way through the triangle on her way southwest toward Scorpius.

Science Fiction? No. Science fact. And Ronald Woodland, an amateur astronomer and recent returnee to Worthington, is eager to share all manner of celestial phenomena with others from the area who have a strong interest in astronomy.

Woodland said he hopes to organize a variety of local talent and interest in this field. The range might include optics, electronics, and photography to building telescopes and, of course, actual observation.

Longtime interest

Woodland's interest in astronomy dates back to his school days in

Valtham when, as a senior in high school, he lived across the street from a street light which made it almost impossible for him to pursue his interest. He discovered a switch box way up the pole and began switching off the light during the times that he used his telescope.

"Finally," he chuckled, "I got tired of climbing up and down the pole and I tied a very long string to the switch which I could pull from the ground. It worked pretty well."

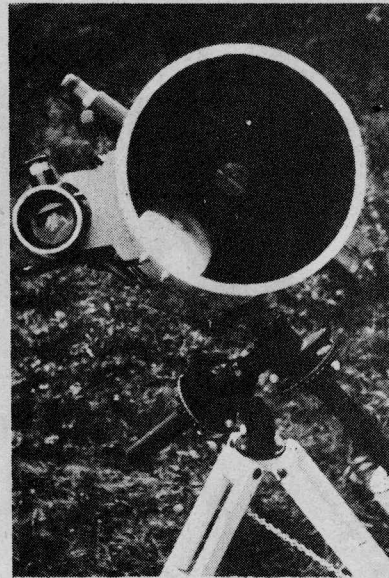
With his eight-inch telescope pointed skyward, Woodward pointed out the Summer Triangle, composed of the stars Deneb, Altair and Vega, and then turned his attention to a concentration of stars in an area of stellar dust and cloud. It is those areas, Woodland said, that astronomers believe to be the birthplaces of stars.

He explained that Alberio, the head of Cygnus the swan, is actually a binary star or two stars, rather than the single star it appears to the naked eye to be.

An aging star with the telltale sign of losing its hydrogen gas envelope was clearly visible through the Woodland telescope. The outward expanding envelope looked like a halo and is caused by the star's collapsing helium core. The collapse increases the radiation of the star which is absorbed by the envelope, this in turn is heated up

by the radiation. The heat causes the hydrogen gas envelope to expand outward.

With years of experience of peering through the eyepiece of the telescope, Woodland said he would most like to discover "...definite signs of extraterrestrial life and a comet." And when asked what the most amazing thing he's seen to



A STAR'S eye view of Ronald Woodland's eight-inch telescope.

date is he stated emphatically, "There is nothing more spectacular than a total solar eclipse. And to see the huge shadow sweeping through the air at thousands of miles per hour is pretty breathtaking."

The comet Kohoutek's visit

In retrospect Woodland recalls that events surrounding the 1973-74 comet Kohoutek stand out most

vividly to him. "The press had played the comet up really big. People expected that it would be much brighter than it turned out to be," he recalled.

At the time Woodland was connected with a number of programs put on by Acadia to sight the comet. The morning they were scheduled to get their first glimpse of Kohoutek it was frigid and intermittently sleeting and raining. Woodland chuckled, "People called to see if we were still going ahead with the program, and a few people actually showed up on that raw winter morning!"

"Finally in January we were able to observe the comet," he said. "Long lines of people turned out and waited to use the telescopes. One woman got to the scope, peered through it and saw the faint smear of light which was Kohoutek. It just wasn't at all what the press had predicted. The poor woman, half frozen, standing there in the early morning (3-4 a.m.) was apparently very incensed and said, 'Is this what I've been getting up every morning so early to see?' and stomped away."

Information collectors

"Amateur astronomers," Woodland says, "can contribute greatly to the variable star information available today. And many comets are discovered by amateurs." He noted also that a three- or four-year-old program has been set up by amateurs to search for asteroids.

Woodland is scheduled to teach a four-week, credit-free astronomy course at the University of Massachusetts in October through the Division of Continuing Education. More information can be obtained by contacting UMass.



RONALD WOODLAND of Worthington makes some preliminary adjustments to his telescope before darkness falls and his hobby of watching the stars begins. (Photos by Andrea Strom)

Firefighters receive new paging equipment

By JANET DIMOCK

WORTHINGTON — The volunteer Fire Department will step into the electronics age next month when an alerting system which relies on individual pagers is implemented and the traditional "red phone" system is laid to rest.

"We're looking forward to Nov. 1," Fire Chief Gary Granger said with obvious enjoyment last week as he officially handed out the new equipment to department members.

The new system cost approximately \$6,000, \$3,500 of which was allocated at the annual Town Meeting in June. The remainder was raised by department fund raising activities. Purchased were 14 tone-voice pagers and four two-way radios. Firefighters will be alerted through the Amherst Dispatch Center, a 24-hour emergency center associated with the Amherst fire department.

The new equipment will "cut response time from minutes to seconds," Department Secretary Linda Mason pointed out.

The purchase of the small, red pagers — which resemble transistor radios more than sophisticated communications equipment — was promoted by the department on the grounds that the pagers will cut response time from 7 minutes to less than 10 seconds.

Assistant Fire Chief Gerald Bartlett pointed out earlier this year that not only will the pagers help the department respond faster, but that it will operate more efficiently. Use of the pagers and radios will eliminate confusion about the location of the fire truck and the number of firefighters responding. Faults of the current system were brought out this year when two brush fires were reported at the same time and there was a considerable delay before one fire was reached, he said.

The pager system won approval of Town Meeting voters this year after two unsuccessful requests last year. The equipment purchase was turned down after lengthy and sometimes heated debate at the annual Town Meeting and a special Town Meeting in 1980.

It was approved this year after only a brief presentation by the department and little discussion by the voters.

Until the end of this month, all emergency calls must be made on the local emergency number, Granger said. When the new system is adopted, calls will be relayed

locally through one of the new radios. Calls cannot be sent out by the pagers.

Firefighters will keep the pagers with them at all times and will be able to be alerted when they are at work in nearby towns, Firefighter Richard Smith affirmed.

The 14 department members without pagers will be alerted by telephone, Granger said.

Each household will be contacted and given new telephone stickers and emergency cards before the end of the month, Granger said.

The local emergency number will remain in operation until Dec. 1. Calls will be referred by a recording for one year, Granger said.

Under the current system, firefighters are reached exclusively by telephone. The local emergency number is connected to six "red phones" in private homes.

The department is only testing the equipment this month and all emergency calls must be reported locally until the dispatch center begins receiving Worthington calls on Nov. 1, Granger reminded local residents.

Harriet Osgood: 25 years of dedicated post office service

By JANET DIMOCK

WORTHINGTON — She's a familiar sight to the many folks who stop in daily at the Worthington Post Office next to the Corners Grocery Store to pick up their mail.

Harriet Osgood's 25 years of dedicated work was rewarded recently when U.S. postal officials presented her with a silver service pin in recognition of the many days of sorting mail, selling stamps, weighing packages and other duties that fall on a post office employee in a small town.

And though she admits to an occasional thought about retirement, but says she would miss the social life of the post office. "I like people," she explains.

Suburban spotlight

"In a post office like this, you have to know every single thing," she observed. Unlike her postal counterparts in more metropolitan areas, she has had to be familiar with all the tasks at hand and occasionally fill in for the postmaster.

She began working in the small, Worthington office on Sept. 17, 1956 at the invitation of then Postmaster Merwin Packard. Packard was looking for an additional worker and he approached Mrs. Osgood. With her oldest daughter working and her two other daughters in high school, she decided to take the job, especially since she could walk to work from her nearby home on Old Post Road.

However, she was not so sure that her late husband Kenneth would be as enthusiastic. "Ken didn't think that women should



HARRIET OSGOOD, left, accepts a 25-year service pin from Worthington Postmaster Cullen Packard recently. The occasion brought out many memories of the years she has spent selling stamps and keeping the post office running smoothly. (Photo by Janet Dimock)

work," she explained. Thus, she turned to Packard to speak to her husband on her behalf. As it turned out, Osgood thought the whole thing was a "good idea."

Looking back over the last quarter century, there have been a few changes around the post office — including the location. People used to call for their mail inside the store where an ice cream freezer now stands, Packard said. In fact, the postal facility has changed location within the store five times in all, until it came rest in the store's addition.

The volume — and the kind of mail — along with the number of customers has increased through

the years, Mrs. Osgood noted. "There's a lot more paperwork than there used to be," she said.

"Star routes (the rural delivery routes) are four times what they used to be," the postmaster observed. And Mrs. Osgood said that people are receiving fewer packages percentage-wise plus "a lot more junk mail." Demand for locked postal boxes has really jumped in the past few years to the point where there now is a waiting list, something which never happened in the past, she said.

In those early days, those that did not have their mail delivered on a rural route could call for their mail at the service window.

Letters would be handed to them by the post office worker. There were no individual locked boxes for people to open, she said.

More time was spent boning up on post office regulations, however, now the changes come too fast to even keep track of them. "We used to study the rules, they didn't change like they do now. You can't keep up with it," she lamented.

The rural post office also has to deal with bulk mailings and issuing private postal meters, a job that didn't exist two decades ago.

Mrs. Osgood has expressed satisfaction with her job and says she never hankered for advancement, even when she had the chance to be post mistress for a spell.

She took over temporarily when Merwin Packard retired after 40 years on the job. After six weeks on the job, she gladly turned the reins of the post office over to Packard's son, Cullen 'Pete' Packard.

Mrs. Osgood does admit however that she has one regret. The town has grown so fast in recent years that she no longer knows all the people who come here. "You don't know anybody any more," she said. Packard added that at one time he could recognize anyone at the post office window without even turning around. Customers became so familiar after awhile that they could all be recognized by the sound of their voice.

After years of sorting mail, and selling thousands — perhaps millions — of stamps, Mrs. Osgood summed up her 25 years behind the post office window. "It's kind of fun."

Another old farm dies

500-acre Worthington tract being subdivided

By Lois Ashe Brown

WORTHINGTON — Another of Worthington's old farms has been taken over by a developer and is being cut into numerous parcels for resale, but only after the failure of an 11th-hour campaign initiated by local officials to keep the land in agricultural use.

Maplehurst Farm on Old Post Road, home of David and Florence Tyler for the past 25 years, was sold to Harry Patten, president of the Patten Realty Co. of Stamford, Vt., for about \$250,000.

Patten did his homework. Before he took title to the property, comprising close to 500 prime acres, he had had it surveyed and plotted into parcels on a plan he submitted to the Planning Board for approval.

16—The Berkshire Eagle, Monday, Dec. 29, 1980

"Because his plan conformed to the town's zoning bylaws for frontage and lot size, the Planning Board reluctantly initiated it," Chairman Robert Cook said earlier this month.

The Tyler property was divided into 22 parcels ranging from 5 to 45 acres. Sales of these are being handled by The Corners Realty of Old Post Road. Reportedly, most of them are already sold.

David Tyler, son of a wealthy New Jersey couple who summered in Pittsfield, had been regarded by Worthington residents as a "gentleman farmer," raising Hereford beef cattle on his land by choice, not necessity. There were up to 100 head on the farm at any one time, and dealers would come some distance to buy them. Tyler was also active in local affairs, having served as Selectmen

chairman and chief of police, so his departure from town about four years ago and subsequent sale of his farm to a developer was doubly wrenching to many townspeople.

The Selectmen and the Planning Board tried to get the state to buy the development rights so the land could be sold for less to area farmers interested in buying it. How those efforts failed in the end was recited by Cook at a Selectmen's meeting two weeks ago.

An adjoining property, a former horse farm known in recent years as the Fred Brown place, was part of the proposed deal, and was also owned by the Tylers. The sale of both properties was precipi-

Worthington farm being cut up
Continued on Page 16

Worthington farm being cut up

Continued from Page 1

tated by a divorce settlement between David and Florence Tyler.

Tyler has since remarried and now lives in Benson, Vt., near the southern tip of Lake Champlain, where he owns a 700-acre farm.

He told a reporter early this month that he had tried to sell the two properties here as farms a year ago when he placed them in the hands of local realtors, R.B. Smith, but when no one showed any interest after six months, he decided to sell to Patten.

Tyler said he had received an application from the state under the agricultural preservation restriction act but had no concrete offers before he agreed to sell to Patten.

Cook told the Selectmen that Planning Board members became even more concerned after Patten had bought the Parish and Bates places — two former dairy farms in West Worthington — earlier this year and cut them into many parcels, most of which have now been sold to individuals.

The Planning Board chairman cited the subdivision control law as inadequate in

such cases to protect open land and prime farm land.

"Patten has been careful to plot these farms so that all the parcels conform to frontage and lot sizes as required by the local zoning bylaws, so there's no stopping him," Cook said.

"While direct purchase or purchase of development rights is really the work of the Conservation Commission instead of the Planning Board," he said, "it's the concern of the whole town."

In the case of the Tyler farm sale, Cook first approached the state Department of Agriculture and was told that the owner himself must apply, so an application was sent to Tyler in Vermont. To expedite the application, Cook offered to get help from the state and to take care of the local details himself. He was told that the state already had too many applications to go out looking for any more. Meanwhile, Tyler was doing business with Patten through a Rutland, Vt., realtor, and the sale to Patten was closed.

Next, Cook contacted the Massachusetts Farms and Conservation Trust, which promptly sent representatives to look at the land and to have it appraised. They came up with a figure of \$700 an

acre for the farm land, minus the buildings and some land parcels that Patten already had under buy-sell agreements. On that basis, Patten was offered \$167,000 for about 225 acres by the trust, "a figure," Cook said, "that was inflated by the price of the land sold here in the past year by Patten Realty after the Parish and Bates farms were cut up."

According to Cook, "Patten agreed verbally to the deal, but on the day the papers were to be signed in Boston, bad weather ensued and instead of flying there, Patten and other parties concerned conferred on the telephone."

The usual red tape of such transactions caused the deal to fall through, Cook said, and Patten proceeded to go through with the several buy-sell agreements already in his hand.

More legal tools are needed to deal with such situations, Cook advised the Selectmen, asserting that resources in terms of people knowledgeable in land-use laws are essential if farm and open lands are to be protected from development.

He suggested, as he has before, that the town needs someone working full time — or at least with regular hours — to keep up with pending sales of large

1982 begins

12 units for elderly

Housing permit unanimously supported

By JANET DIMOCK
WORTHINGTON — A permit for 12 units of housing for the elderly was granted Thursday night to Worthington Senior Housing Inc. by a unanimous vote of the Board of Appeals.

Some 30 people gathered at the Town Office to review plans for the project and express their opinions on the matter.

The one-bedroom, wood-frame apartments will be located next to the Worthington Health Center on Old North Road. The housing board, a non-profit private organization, has received a \$661,100 mortgage allowance from the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Support for the housing was given by the Board of Health, Council on Aging, Selectmen and Planning Board.

The one-story buildings will be colonial in design to blend with the predominant type of housing in the area, housing board Secretary Judy Spiess said. The exterior will be clapboard. The access is by a circular drive. The apartments are designed for one or two occupants and two apartments

will be specially designed for the handicapped. Each building will contain four apartments. A community room will be attached to the third building.

Mrs. Spiess noted that the intent of the board is to "create an attractive type of housing in keeping with the area."

"I feel there's a need for this in Worthington. It isn't just a low-income project," Elizabeth Payne of Huntington Road said. This type of housing will be appreciated by those unable to keep up their own homes, she added.

Opposition to the project was voiced by Mr. and Mrs. John Olson of Route 143 in West Worthington. "I think it's immoral to use taxpayers' money. We're selling our children and grandchildren down the river," Mrs. Olson contended. She objected to the use of government mortgage funding and the use of subsidized rents in some of the units. She questioned why the project could not be built with private funding.

Housing board Vice President Mrs. Franklin Burr said that the possibility of using private funding sources had been investigated

by several people in past years, but they concluded that such a project could not be profitable.

Mrs. Burr also explained that the board is made up of volunteers and the members are not working for profit or a salary.

Her objections stem from the principle of government participation and use of tax dollars, not from personal feelings toward this plan in particular, Mrs. Olson explained.

The problem of poor percolation tests on this site was solved by plans for a supplemental treatment plant, Mrs. Burr explained after the meeting. The housing board is waiting for state approval of one of two plans for on-site sewage treatment. One is a sand filter system and the second a chemical treatment plant, she said. The estimated cost ranges from \$20,000 to \$30,000.

The board decided to stay with the original site despite the poor test results because it is an ideal location, Mrs. Burr said. A second site also tested was voted against because it would use agricultural property now being farmed and is not protected from the prevailing

winter winds by stands of trees, she said.

Project architect Henry Schadler of West Hartford, Conn., noted that the apartments will not be connected by doorways and there will not be interior corridors, to diminish the feeling of a "bar-racks type of architecture," he said. The use of rigid and blanket insulation and double-paned thermal windows is planned to cut down on energy consumption. A woodstove may be installed in the community room. The choice of heat has not been made and oil and electric heat are being considered, Schadler said. A washer and dryer will be available in the community room.

The units will be managed by a management firm, with a resident manager if possible, Mrs. Burr said. Day-to-day maintenance and rent collections would be handled by the firm, but the housing board would do all tenant selections, she said.

Taxes paid will be based on 5 percent of the amount of rent collected annually, Mrs. Spiess said. The contractor is David Tierney Inc. of Pittsfield.

John F. Shea

WORTHINGTON — John F. Shea, 85, of Kinne Brook Road, died yesterday at his home.

He was a resident of Chicopee for 73 years, and a long-time member of that city's school committee.

He had made his home in Worthington for the past 12 years.

Born in Chicopee April 19, 1896, he was the son of the late John F. and Johanna (Moran) Shea.

Shea attended St. Patrick's Gram-

mar School in Chicopee Falls, and Cathedral High School in Springfield.

He first was employed at the former Fisk Rubber Co. plant in Chicopee Falls.

And in 1925, he founded the Shea Milk Co., which he operated until he retired in 1970.

During his years in Chicopee, he served 14 terms on the Chicopee School Committee, beginning in 1936. His last term on the school board ended in 1964.

While on the committee, he served at various times as its vice chairman, chairman, and representative to the Chicopee Board of Aldermen.

Shea was an active member of the Democratic Party, serving on both the party's city and state committees.

He was a charter member of the Elder Council of the Knights of Columbus in Chicopee Falls.

Shea was a communicant of the St. Thomas Church in Huntington.

He is survived by his wife, the former Nellie R. Hederman; a son, James L. Shea, with whom he lived; and a daughter, Sister Michael Joanne of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur in New Britain, Conn.

He also leaves two sisters, Gertrude Vevier of Springfield and Irene Zajchowski of Chicopee Falls; and two grandchildren.

The funeral will be Saturday at 9 a.m. from the Tylunas Funeral Home in Chicopee Falls. A liturgy of Christian burial will be celebrated at 10 a.m. at the Holy Name Church in Chicopee.

The burial will be in St. Patrick's cemetery in Chicopee Falls.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, or to the St. Thomas Aquinas High School development fund, 74 Kelsey St., New Britain, Conn. 060 51.

Jeremiah J. Robinson

WORTHINGTON — Jeremiah J. Robinson, 87, of West St., died yesterday at the Bay State Medical Center in Springfield after a long illness.

Robinson was born in Fall River Nov. 30, 1894. He had lived in Worthington for most of his life.

He was Worthington's last veteran of World War I.

Robinson was married to the former Evelyn Higgins. She died in 1972.

For many years, Robinson was employed by the Oleksak Lumber Co.

He was a member of the Worthington Rod and Gun Club, the Royal Arcanum Club, and the American Legion Post of Cumming-

Shirley A. Fisk

HUNTINGTON — Shirley A. (Dassatti) Fisk, 44, of Worthington Road — a resident here for 27 years — died Wednesday in the Holyoke Hospital in Holyoke.

She had been the owner and operator of the Carriage Barn Gift and Antique Shop for the past 16 years.

She was the wife of Wayne Fisk. Born July 31, 1937 in Windsor, she was the daughter of Henry and Beatrice (Mongue) Dassatti of Worthington.

Before becoming the owner of the gift shop, she was employed as a teacher's aide in the Gateway Regional School District.

Mrs. Fisk was a member of the Federated Church here, and of the Huntington Historical Society.

Besides her husband and parents, she is survived by two sons, Gregg S. Fisk of Chester, Conn. and Mark D. Fisk of Enfield, N.H.; a daughter, Stephanie L. Fisk, at home; and a brother, Gary Dassatti of Worthington.

The funeral will be tomorrow at 2 p.m. at the Federated Church.

The burial will be in the Norwich Bridge Cemetery in Huntington.

Calling hours at the F.C. Haley Funeral Home in Huntington are being held today from 2 to 4, and 7 to 9 p.m.

Donations may be made to the Shirley A. Fisk Memorial Fund, in care of the Gateway Regional High School in Huntington.

Barbara M. LaRock & David M. Flynn



BARBARA LA ROCK

WORTHINGTON — LeRoy L. LaRock of Clark Hill Road announces the engagement of his daughter Barbara M. to David M. Flynn, son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Flynn of Birch Road, Wakefield, R.I. Miss LaRock is also the daughter of the late Barbara L. LaRock.

Miss LaRock, a graduate of Gateway Regional High School, is employed as a computer operator at Metro Property Management in Springfield.

Flynn, a graduate of St. Mary's High School, is employed as a sales correspondent at Reed National Corp. in Westfield.

A Sept. 25 wedding is planned at the First Congregational Church of Worthington.

Worthington voters pass override

By JANET DIMOCK

WORTHINGTON — A request to override Proposition 2½ budget restrictions by a sum of \$77,234 won approval of the voters Saturday with a slim four-vote margin over the two-thirds majority required by law.

A total of 172 votes of approval and 73 in opposition were tallied on the election ballot. A separate override question asking for \$8,503 in additional funding was also passed, with 190 votes for and 55 against. A simple majority vote was required for the smaller amount, which will be disregarded as the higher amount takes precedence, Selectman Julia Sharron said.

Use of the fiscal 1981 tax levy percentage of 1.88 gained the approval of voters on the annual Town Meeting floor, further expanding the budget picture for the town for the next year. Following a 20-minute debate on the complex budget issues raised by the state-wide tax-cutting measure, permission to use the 1981 figure was given with only a few opposed.

The combination of the override

approval and the switch to the 1981 levy limit figure raises the amount that can be raised from taxation by the voters to \$434,361.

Some 70 residents gathered for the opening of the annual Town Meeting promptly at 10 a.m., and then one half hour later, voted to adjourn the meeting until June 5. The delay was asked for by the selectmen so that a proposed budget could be written in compliance with the override amount, and state aid figures not yet announced by the state.

Use of the 1981 percentage amounts, instead of the 1979 figure as originally stipulated by state law, increases the amount that can be raised by taxation by approximately \$22,400. The amount the voters can raise and appropriate is set by the state Department of Revenue by multiplying the full and fair cash value of all property in town (currently set at \$22,675,000) by the levy percentage.

The town was put in a financial bind by use of the 1979 percentage of 1.4 because in that year taxes

were reduced, Finance Committee member Edward Harvey explained. For fiscal 1979, an excess of federal anti-recession funds and regional school aid reduced the tax burden on the town. What was a break for property owners one year has become a liability, he said. This is the only year the town will have the option of adopting the later figure.

"We're just basically matching inflation, we're not providing any new services. We're never going to be up to the 2½ limit as far as I can see," Harvey said.

Objections that use of the higher levy amount will raise taxes in years to come were raised by Victor Tomaselli of East Windsor Road.

Raising the limit will give the voters more of a choice when budget items are considered in June, Cullen Packard of Buffington Hill Road commented. The tax rate is determined by the amount allocated by the voters at the annual Town Meeting, not by the levy limit, moderator Cornelius Sharron reminded those present.



CAROL BARTLETT

Carol Bartlett, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Bartlett, left last week for Huntsville, Alabama, where she will be employed by South Eastern Airlines. Miss Bartlett graduated from Gateway Regional High School in 1982 and recently from the South Eastern training course.

Joan I. Hobart & Richard S. Demagall

WORTHINGTON — Joan Ivamy Hobart and Richard Steven Demagall were married Nov. 20 in the South Worthington Methodist Church. The Rev. Carol Hartley Bellows officiated at the 1 p.m. ceremony. Sandra Epperly was the organist. The bride was escorted by Bruce Reynolds of Chester.

The bride is the daughter of Joan Hartley Hobart of Skyline Trail, Middlefield and the late John Lord Hobart. The bridegroom is the son of H. Blanche Wick Demagall of Old North Road, Worthington and Richard Demagall of Notch Road, North Adams.

Jennifer Downer was matron of honor for her sister. Emily Rachel Donovan, niece of the bride, was the flower girl.

Roger Gunn was the best man. Serving as ushers were Bradford Hudkins, Jarrett Hobart, brother of the bride, Bruce Reynolds and Ronald Laplante.

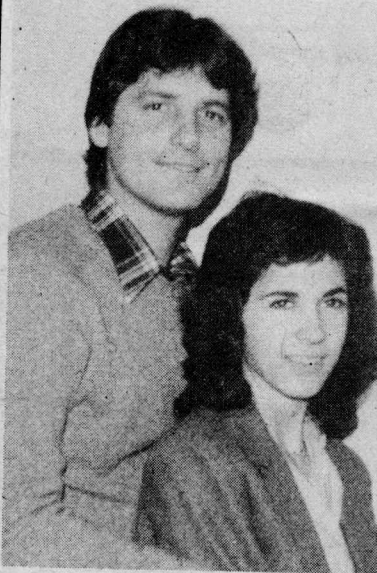
The bride wore an off-white gown and an amethyst necklace which belonged to the bridegroom's great-grandmother. She carried a bouquet of heather, roses, euphrasia and baby's breath.

A reception was held at Bucksteep Manor in Washington.

The bride is a graduate of Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst. The bridegroom, a graduate of Gateway Regional High School, is a millwright at Stevens Saw Mill.

The couple will live in Worthington.

Jane Bartlett & Stephen Fisk



STEPHEN FISK and JANE BARTLETT

WORTHINGTON — Mr. and Mrs. Horace F. Bartlett of Old Post Road announce the engagement of their daughter, Jane, to Stephen John Fisk, son of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon E. Fisk, of Worthington Road, Huntington.

Miss Bartlett, a 1975 graduate of Gateway Regional High School, is employed in the cardiology department of the Cooley Dickinson Hospital.

Fisk is a graduate of Gateway Regional High School and a 1979 graduate of Worcester Polytechnic Institute. He is employed by Daniel O'Connell's Sons as an engineer.

An August 7 wedding is planned at the Worthington First Congregational Church.

Aida Cholakian & Jimmy Albert

WORTHINGTON — Announcement is made today of the engagement of Aida Anie Cholakian of Worthington, daughter of Ms. Ardash Cholakian of 576 West 261 St., New York, and the late Silva Cholakian, to Jimmy Albert, of Huntington Road, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard M. Albert of Old North Road.

Miss Cholakian, an archaeologist, graduated from Halsted School, Yonkers, New York, in 1971, and from Boston University with a bachelor of arts degree in 1976. She attended graduate school at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst.

Albert, a horticulturist, is the

owner of Topographic Gardens. He graduated from Gateway Regional High School in 1974 and attended Highline Community College in Seattle, Wash.

A May 15 wedding is planned at the Worthington Congregational Church.

Volunteer firefighters now available for accident calls

WORTHINGTON — Members of the local volunteer Fire Department are available as back-up personnel for emergency calls involving accident and personal injury, department members decided this week.

The Huntington Ambulance Service should be called first for aid in medical emergencies, but the firefighters are also available as "moral support, to let someone know help is coming," department secretary Linda Mason said. "We're not a rescue unit or an ambulance service," she said, but many of the firefighters are certified "first responders" meaning that they have had first aid and CPR training.

In cases of trauma or accident local department members can be reached through the Amherst Dispatch Center. The department adopted a pager notification system in November.

Negotiations to establish a formal procedure are currently going on between the Worthington department and ambulance officials. Representatives from the ambulance service have expressed an interest in firefighters routinely responding to all car accidents for fire protection and to act as back-up personnel, according to Ms. Mason.

\$4.1 million budget outlined for Gateway

By PERI SOSSAMAN

HUNTINGTON — A \$4.1 million gross budget for the Gateway Regional School District was outlined Wednesday evening by Superintendent of Schools Stephen F. McKinney to the regional school committee.

McKinney explained that the budget, which shows a 5.7 percent increase over last year, also included a reduction of four teaching positions in the district.

The proposed budget of \$4,127,491 is \$234,835 more than the \$3,892,656 gross budget set for fiscal 1982.

Suburban

Bear tracks spotted in Hilltown

By JANET DIMOCK
 WORTHINGTON — A visitor heralding the coming of spring dropped in at Lester Champion's house this past weekend, but fortunately or unfortunately, depending on one's point of view, no one was at home. Champion could tell that an unexpected guest had come to his home on Old Post Road Saturday afternoon by the large, clear prints left behind on the snowbanks along the driveway. Footprints usually are not cause for alarm, or even much interest, except that these were the calling card of a full-grown black bear.

With a little quick thinking and a handy can of hobby plaster, Champion was able to preserve an impression of the distinctive prints. Champion's guess that the inquisitive guest was a bear was confirmed by the local game warden, who estimated the beast's weight at 150-200 pounds.

Champion added that he had never seen a bear, and plans on keeping the plaster memento as it will "probably make a good paper weight."



THE CALLING CARD left by a black bear, in the form of a trail of footprints in the snow, is examined by Lester Champion. The bear came to call at Champion's Old Post Road home Saturday afternoon while Champion was away. (Photo by Janet Dimock)



ARTHUR MILLER's "All My Sons" will be performed Friday and Saturday in Worthington Town Hall. The cast includes, from left, Nina Gramarossa, Daniel Cary, Michael Labossiere and Janet Dimock.

Hilltown Drama Club presents 'All My Sons'

WORTHINGTON — The three-act drama "All My Sons" by Arthur Miller will be presented Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. in the Town Hall as the first major production of the year by the Hilltown Drama Club.

The production is directed by Meg Breyman and stars Daniel Carey as Joe Keller, Janet Dimock as his wife Kate, Michael Labossiere as their son Chris and Nina Gramarossa as Ann Deever. Also appearing are Steven Smith as George Deever, Alex Lippert as Dr. Jim Bayliss, Sherri Mason as his wife Sue, Jeff Fowler and Vicki King as the neighbors Frank and Lydia Lubey, and 7-year old Justin Smith as Bert.

Originally produced in 1947 under the direction of Elia Kazan, "All My Sons" was Miller's first successful play, earning the New York Drama Critics Award that year. The story

takes place shortly after World War II in a small American town. It explores the relationship between two families who are old friends and how the war has changed their lives forever.

This is the drama group's fourth major production and its first involvement in serious modern drama. Past productions include the staging last fall of the Broadway version of "Dracula", several plays for children, melodramas and light comedy. The actors and director have spent eight or more hours in group rehearsal each week for the past nine weeks in preparation.

Lighting will be by Jonathan Ginzberg of Cummington. Set design is by David Dimock. Tickets will be sold at the door and refreshments will be available.

Dance classes to be offered in Worthington

WORTHINGTON — Ballet and modern dance classes will be both in Worthington and in Huntington this summer. All classes will be taught by Brenda Knapp from the school of the Hartford Ballet.

In Worthington, the classes are sponsored by the Worthington Recreation Committee and will be held at the Russell H. Conwell School.

Classes will start on June 5, and will run for 13 weeks. There will be a fee, and parental permission is required. Ages run from 3 years old up. Papers are available showing times for classes and costs, or anyone may phone Brenda Knapp in Worthington.

Huntington classes will start on June 1 and run for 13 weeks, and will be held at Gateway Regional School, with fees and permission slips required. These are sponsored by the Huntington Recreation Commission. If you need more information phone Brenda Knapp, Worthington.

Joan D. Mollison & Edward D. Bancroft

WORTHINGTON — Joan D. Mollison and Edward D. Bancroft were married May 6 in the First Congregational Church of Worthington. Rev. Jerome Wood, the pastor of the Plainfield Church, officiated at the 7:30 p.m. ceremony. Russell Bisbee of Chesterfield was the organist and Bradford Fiske of Worthington, the soloist.

The bride is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Howard C. Mollison of Windy Hill Farm in Worthington. The bridegroom is the son of the late Winston and Mary Bancroft, formerly of Chesterfield.

The maid of honor was Cheryl A. Wheeler of Worthington. Bridesmaids were Dianne E. Vanderstine of West Cummington and Bonnie Sampson and Robin Sheldon, both of Worthington.

Sidney Bancroft was best man for his brother. Serving as ushers

oes, N.Y.

were John and Jerry Mollison, brothers of the bride, of Worthington, and Douglas Bancroft, cousin of the bridegroom, of Chesterfield.

The bride wore a gown of ivory Chantilly lace styled with a Queen Anne neckline. She wore a mantilla of matching Chantilly lace. The bride carried a bouquet of white roses and yellow chrysanthemums.

A reception was held at the Hickory Hill Touring Center in Worthington.

The bride is a graduate of Gateway Regional School in Huntington and the St. John's School of Business in West Springfield. She is employed at Charles Freadman Steel Inc., in Pittsfield. The bridegroom, a graduate of Smith Vocational High School, has served for nine years in the U.S. Navy. He is employed by E.P. Hayes Inc., of Dalton.



Gateway award winners

Among the award recipients at last night's sports awards night at Gateway Regional High in Huntington were, from left: Charlie Macutkiewicz, winner of the Alan Kenyon Award for outstanding achievement in basketball; Melissa Sharron, winner of the Richard K. Sullivan Award for academic and athletic achievement; and Todd Coon, cited as contributing the most to athletics during his four years at the school. (Photo by Richard Carpenter)

Aida Cholakian & Jimmy Albert

WORTHINGTON — Aida Cholakian and Jimmy Albert were married May 15 in the Worthington Congregational Church. The Rev. Molly Kitchen officiated at the ceremony. Dayton Tynan of Dalton was the organist.

The bride is the daughter of Ardash K. Cholakian of 576 W. 261 Street, New York City, N.Y., and the late Silva A. Cholakian. The bridegroom is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Barnard M. Albert of Old North Road, Worthington.

The best man was Benny Albert, brother of the bridegroom. Serving as ushers were Peter and Daniel Kievett, nephews of the bridegroom.

The bride's gown of imported Swiss rayon was designed by Ju-

dith Fine of the Gazebo in Northampton. It was styled with a low neck, a bodice of French Chantilly lace and featured handmade antique buttons. Family lace bordered the hemline. The bride wore an heirloom necklace and carried a wildflower nosegay.

Following a garden reception held at the home of the bridegroom's parents, the couple left on a wedding trip to Nantucket Island.

The bride graduated from the Halsted School in 1971 and received a bachelor of arts degree in anthropology from Boston University in 1976. She attended graduate school at the University of Massachusetts and is employed as

an archaeologist. The bridegroom graduated from Gateway Regional School and attended Highline Community College in Seattle, Wash. He is a horticulturalist, artist and the owner of Topographic Gardens in Worthington.

Traci L. Donovan & Robert M. Higgins

WORTHINGTON — Traci Lee Donovan and Robert M. Higgins were married July 31 in First Congregational Church in Worthington. The Rev. Douglas Small performed the 4 p.m. ceremony. He was assisted by the Rev. Michael Twardzik of Springfield. Beverly Bowman was the organist.

The bride is the daughter of Winston and Joan Donovan of Huntington Road, Worthington. The bridegroom is the son of Michael and Gail Higgins of Williamsburg Road, Worthington.

Janet Bush of Colorado was the maid of honor. Bridesmaids were Deborah Sadoski, cousin of the bride, of Whately, Kathy, Karen and Jennifer Higgins, sisters of the bridegroom, and Sheri Allaire of Huntington. Christy and Carrie Lensch, twin cousins of the bridegroom, were the flower girls.

Timothy Ryan of Springfield was the best man. Serving as ushers were Teddy Adams and Peter Cary of Springfield, Chris and Luke Higgins, brothers of the bridegroom and Michael Donovan, brother of the bride. Adam LeBeau of Worthington, cousin of the bride, was the ring bearer.

The bride's gown, made by Karen Higgins, sister of the bridegroom, was styled with a ruffled white eyelet skirt and full lace bodice. The bride carried a single white rose.

A reception was held at Hickory Hill in Worthington.

The bride, a graduate of Gateway Regional High School, is employed by Ann August of Northampton. The bridegroom attended Gateway Regional High School and is employed as an auto mechanic at Beetle Service in Northampton.

The couple will reside in Amherst.

Rural clinic finds workload increasing

By JANET DIMOCK

WORTHINGTON — Directors of the Worthington Health Association filled five board positions this week and heard from health group administrators that the demand for mental health services has increased dramatically.

In general business at the health center on Old North Road is on the upswing, according to Executive Director Laurie Doyle. Health care appointments are up by 15½ percent over last year, she told the group of 45 people assembled.

The most dramatic growth at the center in the past year has been in the demand for mental health services, Counselor Holly Bishop reported. "The clinic load has almost doubled," she explained. In April, 53 appointments were made with the two mental health staff members. One year ago only 35 appointments were made during the same time period.

Growth was also seen in the dental practice and obstetrical care at the center. Dental care is now available three days a week and evening hours will be added by the end of the summer, staff dentist Dr. Martin Wohl reported.

Two treatment rooms in the dental wing have been refitted with new equipment. A dental hygienist will be added to the staff later this year to help meet the increasing demand on the dental facilities, Dr. Wohl added. A series of educational programs were sponsored by the center in local schools as part of an outreach effort in preventive care, he said.

Nine babies have been delivered by staff physicians Dr. David Katz and Dr. Alex Lippert since obstetrics was added to the services at the center, Dr. Katz reported. Both doctors have

privileges to treat adult, pediatric and maternity patients at The Cooley Dickinson Hospital.

An increase in new patients was also seen due to the satellite office opened in Huntington last October. Dr. Lippert is available at the office on Route 112 each Tuesday and Thursday. A total of 260 new patients and 660 appointments were made through the new facility.

Plans for the coming month call for a series of outreach programs on a variety of subjects outlined by Ms. Doyle. Projects include a "five-step health check" at the Cummington Fair to assess health risk factors, several "well baby clinics," a parenting class, a support group for new mothers, additional individual counseling and an alcoholism weight loss group.

Also new to the center is the services of Jonathan Ginzburg of Acupuncture Treatment. Appointments call for acupuncture treatment days each week.

Doyle told the members the center is striving for an emphasis on self-help, adding that for the health facility has been

New directors are Worthington and Robert Plainfield were elected for three-year terms. New Nordstrom of Perle year seat on the board.

Directors Lucille Cummington and Robert Sohn of Worthington were re-elected to three-year posts. Suzanne Kulik of Worthington and Secretary Helen Cummington were returned to their posts.

Town Meeting votes new truck, pager purchase

By DEBORAH HOECHSTETTER
 WORTHINGTON — Town Meeting voters here Saturday approved a total fiscal 1983 budget of \$503,439, with more than half that figure earmarked for the ateway School District assessment.

Voters did not challenge the ateway assessment of \$268,845 — Worthington's share of a \$4.1 million regional budget. Five of the seven member towns must approve the budget for it to take effect. Huntington and Middlefield approved their assessments and Middlefield approved a reduced amount. School Superintendent Stephen C. McKinney, present at the Town Meeting, was questioned about the assessment.

Saturday's light turnout of only 580 from last year, is expected to be attributed by some to the heavy rain, while others mentioned that the Grange did not serve the traditional noon meal.

The total budget of \$502,439, up \$500 from last year, is expected to raise the current tax rate of \$15.75 per thousand valuation to \$18.75, said Byron Knickerbocker, chairman of the Board of Assessors.

Voters also approved the purchase

of a new truck for the highway department and five pagers for the volunteer fire department.

As prepared by Highway Superintendent James E. Pease, the town unanimously decided to purchase a new 1982 GMC cab chassis, with gas engine, from Springfield Truck Inc., for \$19,617. The Springfield Truck Inc. bid was the only one received, Pease said. Compared to bids received in recent years, Pease said it was reasonable. Of the total price, \$5,000 will be raised and appropriated and \$14,617 will be borrowed over three years.

Voters clearly supported the volunteer fire department's request as made by Paul Cianciola, for \$1,500 for five pagers, bringing to 22 the number of pagers owned by the department. There are 29 active firefighters in the department.

Finance Committee member Donald Newton Sr. opposed the purchase "this year because of financial consideration" and because "no urgent need has been demonstrated" for the additional pagers.

The town's electronic alerting system is tied in with the Hampshire Dispatch Center at Amherst

which "beeps" Fire Department members in case of emergency. The department, working toward complete independence from the telephone, claims an average response time of 8.82 minutes.

Worthington

By a vote of 42 to 9 voters went along with the Selectmen's request to take \$5,000 from available funds to establish a Stabilization Fund. "Most towns have such an account," Selectman Chairman Julia Sharron pointed out, "to help offset major expenses." Voters rejected a similar proposal two years ago.

Despite the confused state of the town's financial records, officials are confident there is that amount in free cash.

The longest and liveliest topic of the almost three hour meeting focused on a nuclear arms freeze resolution.

Proposed by Ronald Woodland of Lindsey Hill Road, the resolution "calls upon the United States and the U.S.S.R. to adopt an immediate mutual freeze on all further testing, production and

deployment of all nuclear warheads, missiles and delivery systems." The motion was passed as amended by Moderator Cornelius Sharron (who turned over the chair at that point to Grant Bowman) calling for the freeze "to be immediately followed by a mutual reduction of all nuclear weapons systems to a level where they no longer pose a threat to the world."

Though Anthony Lake of Kinnebrook Road pointed out the resolution calls on only the United States and the U.S.S.R. and not on other nuclear powers to freeze production, voters agreed the intent of the resolution was clear.

Flood plain zoning, which restricts certain construction within a 100-year flood zone without a permit was added to the town's bylaws by a vote of 56-3. According to Planning Board Chairman Robert Cook, the zoning is necessary to protect the safety, lives and land of the people of Worthington. "It is not clear that people are smart enough not to build on a flood plain," he said.

Flood plain zoning was approved by voters at a special Town Meeting held last fall by the Planning Board. However, the adoption of the bylaw amendment

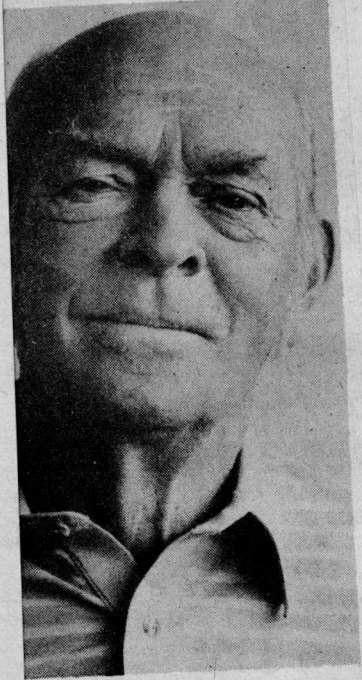
was disallowed by the State Attorney General's office, according to Cook, because the legal notice of the preliminary hearing was not published within the legal time limit.

Only a small percentage of Worthington is affected; Cook named three principal areas affected, Parish Road, River Road, Dingle Brook Road and Huntington Road.

Another addition to the bylaws, approved by a vote of 49-1, pertains to the term "sideyard" as used in the town's Protective Zoning Bylaws. The definition of "sideyard" includes all sides of a lot except the front yard. The 35-yard sideyard zoning requirement is already in the bylaws and the definition makes the zoning requirement clearer for an odd shaped lot.

Like the flood plain zoning proposal, this amendment was passed by voters but disallowed by the Attorney General's office because of hearing notice requirements.

Voters also decided 41 to 9 that, in the future, the annual Town Meeting will be held the Monday evening following the first Saturday in May. The annual elections of officers will continue to be held in the traditional first Saturday in May.



Merton Ashley Cottrell

WORTHINGTON — A memorial service will be held tomorrow at 3 p.m. in the Worthington Congregational Church for Merton Ashley Cottrell, of Buffington Hill Road.

Cottrell, 73, died Friday at the Cooley Dickinson Hospital in Northampton after a long illness.

Born Jan. 28, 1909, in Middlefield, he was the son of the late Frank A. and Laura (Waite) Cottrell. Cottrell graduated from the former Chester High School, and from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture (now the University of Massachusetts).

Until his retirement in 1971, he was employed as a personnel director by the Eastern States Farmers Exchange in West Springfield, now the Agway supply firm.

On Aug. 22, 1936, he married the former Mari Ellen Birnie. The couple lived in West Springfield during most of their married life.

They eventually moved into the former Clarence Pease home on Old North Road in Worthington in 1959.

Her first wife died in October of 1973.

On Aug. 3, 1974, he married the former Muriel Hixon. They have spent their winters in Largo, Fla., and their summers in Worthington since then.

In West Springfield, Cottrell was a member of the Mittineague Congregational Church, and former chairman of the church's board of trustees.

In Worthington, he served as a director of the Worthington Health Association, and past president of the Worthington Golf Club. He also was a member of the Worthington Rod and Gun Club, the Congregational Church, and the Worthington Library Association.

He also was a 32nd degree Mason, a member of the Chester Lodge, and of the Scottish Rite Masonic group in West Springfield.

Besides his wife, Cottrell is survived by a daughter, Mari Joan Cottrell Kelly of Largo, Fla., and Cashiers, N.C.; and a son, Merton Bruce Cottrell, of Colorado Springs, Colo.

He also leaves a sister, Frances Prew of Hinsdale; eight grandchildren; and a great-grandchild.

A private committal service was held today in the North Cemetery.

The Rev. Jerome Wood, the former pastor of the Congregational Church, will officiate at tomorrow's memorial service.

The Charles A. Bisbee Funeral Home in Chesterfield was in charge of the funeral arrangements.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Cottrell Memorial Fund of the Worthington Congregational Church, in care of the treasurer of the church, William Chamberlin.

Historical Society holds annual meeting

WORTHINGTON — The annual meeting of the Historical Society was held on Saturday at the Capen-Riverside school. There was a very good attendance, about 30 with one visitor, Thelma Packard, who was accompanied by Mrs. Ruth Smith Tower of South Hadley, who was the last teacher of this school. Mrs. Tower spoke about the school and pupils as she knew it in 1935.

The treasurer's report was given, also the secretary's report. Election of officers was held, electing Marian Sweeny director for three years, and Linda Gunn clerk for one year.

Elizabeth Payne reported that there are copies of papers in the library for reference use, and she has all the scrapbooks in order, and the library has turned over an upstairs room for the group's use.

The program consisted of two papers, one by Mrs. Payne on early town affairs, from 1768 to 1824, telling of early road work, early marriages, and naming the men who were officials in these years. Much was said about Alexander Miller, who had much to do with the town, and Dr. Moses Morse, a famous tory.

Mrs. Carl Joyce wrote a paper on the influence of the English government on the colonies in those days.

Refreshments were served and a social hour enjoyed, and the directors met and elected Marian Sweeny, president.



LYCEUM HALL IN WORTHINGTON

Lyceum Hall topic of special Town Meeting

WORTHINGTON — Voters will be asked to renounce all claims to Lyceum Hall at a special Town Meeting tomorrow at 7:30 in the Town Office.

The hall on Buffington Hill Road was on loan to the town for a number of years but was returned to its owners in 1977, according to Selectman Julia Sharron. That year annual Town Meeting voters decided not to invest any more money in the upkeep of the structure. The building was returned to the tax books, but an official vote to relinquish all claims by the town was not taken.

The vote is requested by Mr. and Mrs. Edward Chamberlin of Buffington Hill Road, who are buying Lyceum Hall from its current owner, Mr. Michael Sissman of Williamsburg. The Chamberlins' lawyer has asked for the vote in order to clear the title, according to Mrs. Chamberlin.

Lyceum Hall was first used as a District One School and later for a recreation center. It was also the first site used by the Worthington Health Association for medical visits.

SENA, a retired farmer and pioneer from Worthington, been in charge of organizing Saturday's Arlo Guthrie concert, which will benefit the ateway ambulance fund. He is that Guthrie, who is also a town resident, knows that Hilltowns "have got to take care of themselves — we can't turn to Northampton or Middlefield." (Photo by Teresa Lafiore)



SUMMER EXCURSION takes on a grim tone when bodies start appearing in the Hilltown Drama Club production of Agatha Christie's "Ten Little Indians." Caught up in an argument is (from left): Anthony Marston (Paul Baines), William Blore (Gary Chamberlin), Vera Clayborne (Laurie Doyle) and Philip Lombard (Marty Wohl).

Thriller to open tomorrow night

WORTHINGTON — Halloween may be over, but Hilltown residents should prepare for some extra chills.

The curtain will go up tomorrow night and again Saturday night on the Hilltown Drama Club production of "Ten Little Indians" by Agatha Christie.

The 1930's mystery thriller begins at 8 p.m. each night at the Worthington Town Hall on Route 1.

The play is produced and directed by David Dimock of Thayer Road. Stage manager is Faith Ford of Blandford. Lighting design is by Jonathan Ginzberg of

Cummington and Lynda Gunn of Chesterfield. Set design is by Dimock and Vito Gramarossa of Huntington Road. Sound technician is Gary Chamberlin of Buffington Hill Road.

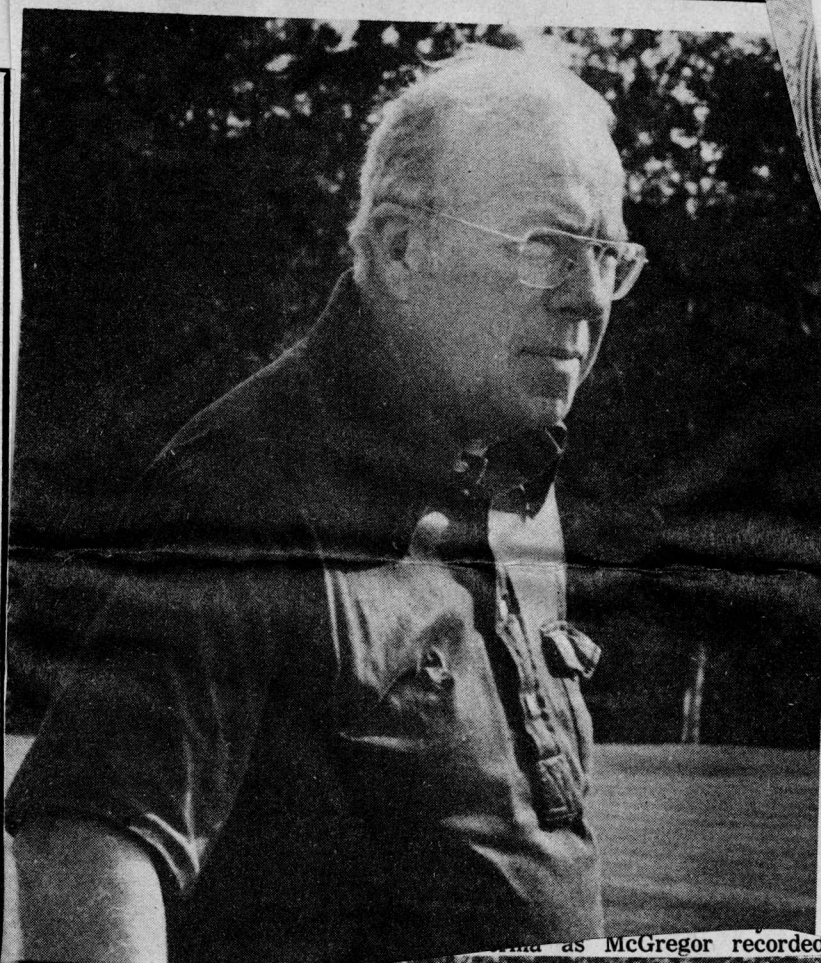
The cast includes residents of Blandford, Westhampton and Northampton as well as Worthington.

The cast is, in order of appearance: Jerome Wood as Rogers, Lisarose Laurie as Mrs. Rogers, Dimock as Narracott, Laurie Doyle as Vera Claythorne, Marty Wohl as Phillip Lombard, Paul Baines as Anthony Marston, Chamberlin as William Blore, Richard Mansfield as General Mackenzie, Glenda Donovan as

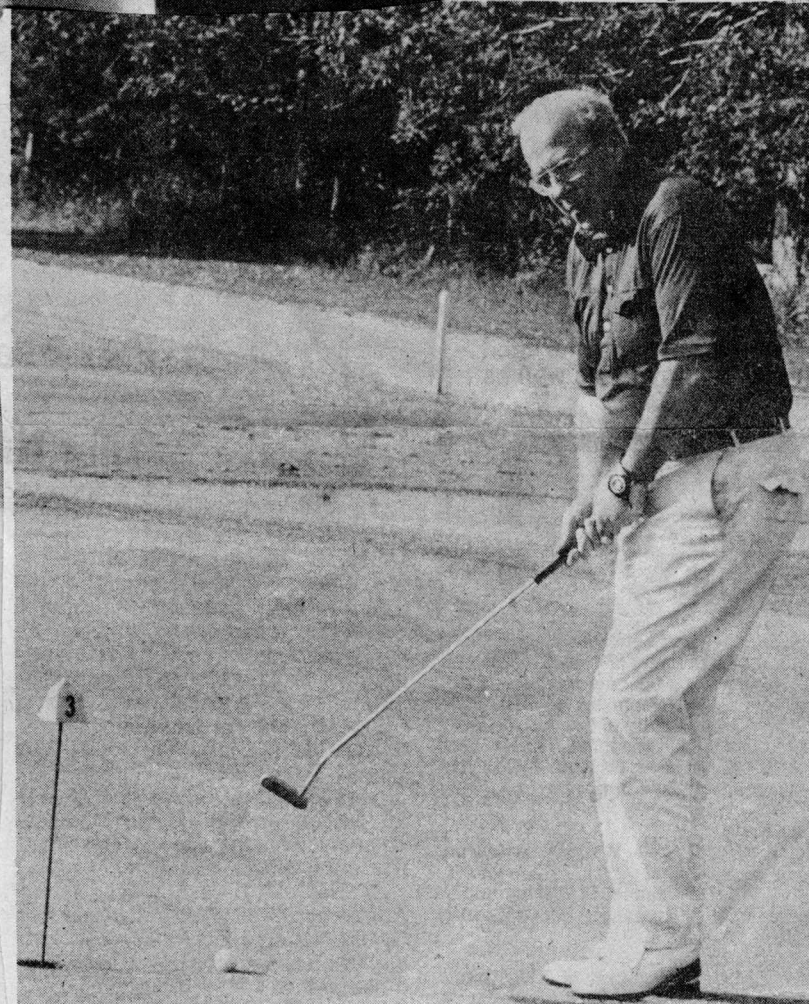
Emily Brent, Meg Breyman as Lady Margaret Wargrave and Michael Labossiere as Dr. Armstrong.

The plot involves 10 very different individuals invited for a holiday on Indian Island, a remote place off the coast of England. In a typical Christie setting, a few shadows from the past have come along for the trip and the guests get a little more than they bargained for when the bodies start turning up unexpectedly.

This is the Hilltown Drama Club's fifth major production. Admission is at the door and refreshments will be available.



... as McGregor recorded



Affairs of state wait

Secretary of State designate George P. Shultz was at Worthington Golf Club during the holiday weekend working on his golf game. Shultz, who maintains a home in Cummington, is a member of the club. In top photo, Shultz leans on his clubs, which he carted around himself. Below, the potential Cabinet officer watches a putt roll toward the cup. (Photos by Stephen Mease)

East meets West in Seitan

By JANET DIMOCK

WORTHINGTON — A vegetarian food with origins in the Far East and New Englanders with roots firmly planted in Yankee soil may seem an unlikely combination, but for Winston and Joan Donovan the mix works well.

Under the name "Upcountry" they are busy producing seitan, a high gluten product introduced to this country from Japan, made from organic whole wheat flour and simmered in a tamari soy sauce broth. In their shingled colonial-style home on Huntington Road is housed the only commercial seitan production spot in the Northeast. The only indication of their business venture is the wooden sign by the roadside.

Donovan, a carpenter by trade, and his wife, who served as town clerk for 17 years, came to be in the seitan business through their interest in macrobiotic philosophy. Macrobiotics stresses the use of whole grains, beans and native foods in the diet and the exclusion of red meats and dairy products.

They first got involved with macrobiotics several years ago when Donovan was ill with heart and kidney problems. In addition to traditional Western medical treatment, the couple also adhered to a macrobiotic diet, which they credit as the main reason for Donovan's recovery.

Seitan is popular with vegetarians because of all vegetable-base protein sources; it tastes the most like meat. "It satisfies the craving for meat," Donovan remarked. Its texture is spongy, somewhat like bread dough but more tender, yet firm enough to hold its shape in cooking.

In the conversion process most of the starch and some bran — and most of the carbohydrate content — in the flour is washed away. One four ounce serving of seitan, approximately one-quarter cup, provides 15 grams of protein, one gram each of fat and carbohydrate, and some vitamins and minerals, for a total of 70 calories. In contrast,

according to U.S. Department of Agriculture figures, one-quarter cup of whole wheat flour contains 4 grams of protein, less than one gram of fat and about 20 grams of carbohydrate for a total of 100 calories. Five pounds of flour will result in 4.2 pounds of seitan.

Those interested in a balanced protein intake should eat seitan with a food high in the amino acid lysine, such as beans. The result will be "as fully complete a protein as in eating meat," said Mrs. Donovan.

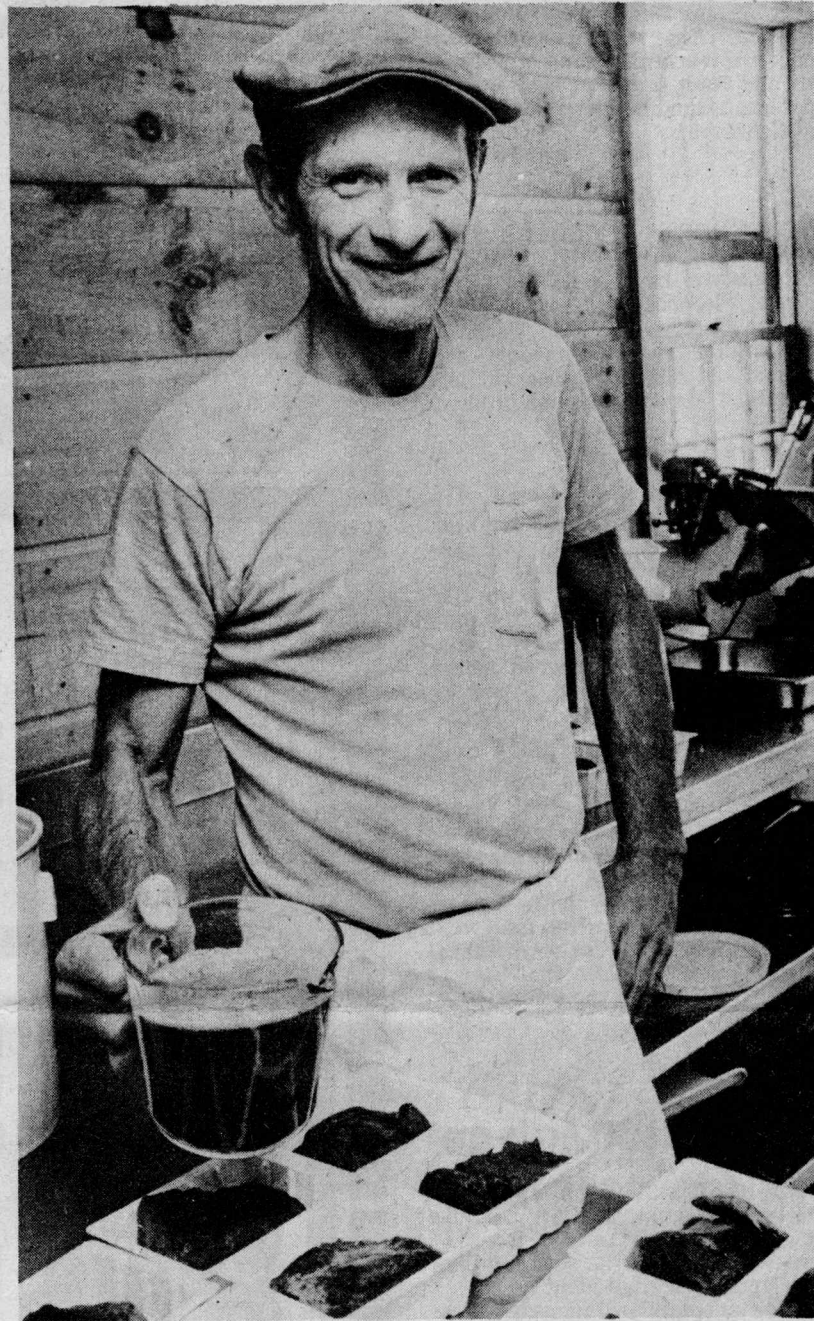
The firm-textured seitan, which Donovan likens to "the muscle out of the wheat," is sliced and packed in tubs decorated with the Upcountry logo — a stalk of wheat.

The whole process takes "a good eight hours" for each batch, Mrs. Donovan estimates. They are putting out an average of 400 pounds a week, and sometimes as much as 600.

All of the work is being done by the Donovans with the assistance of their son, Michael, age 15.

Although new in this country, seitan has an ancient history. The word is Japanese, but the product originated in China as a "travel food" meant to keep for long periods. In Japan it is made in very small pieces and flavored with a great deal of tamari soy sauce. The Donovans have modified the seasoning and shape to fit the American diet.

Seitan is a near-cousin to the more familiar "wheat meat" often sold in vegetarian restaurants shaped as burgers and other cuts of meat. The "wheat meat" is also sold canned or frozen and often contains other ingredients not found in the Donovan's seitan such as white flour, vegetable oil and chemicals to prevent spoilage. "It's an entirely different product," the Donovans said.



WINSTON DONOVAN puts the finishing touches on a batch of Seitan in his Worthington home where he and his wife, Joan manufacture the wheat-based vegetarian specialty food. (Photo by Gordon Daniels)

Who needs electricity? Not Cooks

By MAUREEN FITZGERALD
 WORTHINGTON — Karin and Robert Cook came here a dozen years ago, looking for "some land in the country" where they could camp in the summer. Vacationing with the kids had become expensive.

They found a "very good buy" on a beautiful 100-acre plot on Bashen Hill Road here. And a crude 19th century house without running water or electricity was "thrown in," Mrs. Cook said.

This is another in a series of accounts by a Gazette reporter as she bicycled through Hampshire and southern Franklin counties.

After spending weekends and vacations there for a couple of years, "it got harder and harder to go back to the city" of New Haven, she said.

So, in 1974, the family packed up and moved into the middle of the woods on a nearly deserted dirt road in the northwest part of Worthington.

The family still lives here without electricity in that old wooden house. And Mrs. Cook said they draw up to half of their income from the land by selling maple sugar products and operating a small Christmas tree business.

"We believe in, and enjoy doing, things for ourselves," said Mrs. Cook as she took a break from her gardening to chat last week. "But I would be naive to think we could be totally independent. We would have to live in poverty," said the tall, sun-tanned woman, who doesn't look her 47 years.

Her 48-year-old husband works about half of the year doing high



ROBERT AND KARIN COOK, who moved to Worthington eight years ago, earn about half of their income from their maple sugar and Christmas tree businesses on their 100 acres of land here. (Photo by Maureen Fitzgerald)

steel construction, putting up the steel frames of buildings all over New England.

As for Mrs. Cook, it depends on the time of year.

"Now is gardening, about August it is canning time." In the fall, Mrs. Cook makes Christmas wreaths which are sold at a restaurant in Northampton.

"And then there is a few months in there for us to get the bookwork ready for the taxes on this place. That is a chore," she said.

"Then we get ready for syruping which is full-time" in February and March, and sometimes through April, she said.

She said they process between 300 and 400 gallons of pure maple syrup from the 1,400 taps on their trees.

"Then it takes some time to clean up. And then it's time to cut wood and then it's back to gardening again.

"There is always something to do, I never have enough time to do everything," she said. "It is a lot of work, but there are also a lot of rewards.

"We are very isolated out here, and we really like that. And I've come to learn a lot about nature." She said she had to learn "from scratch" when they moved to Worthington because she had lived in cities and suburbs all of her life.

"It was like going back a century" when they first moved in, she said, describing the outhouse, the kerosene lamps and the effort involved in lugging buckets of water from the nearby spring.

"Everything was so much work, and so slow," she said.

"Now it seems quite civilized...maybe not to you," she added with a smile. "I've been here so long I forget what it's like out in the real world."

They dug and laid pipes to the nearby spring to provide running water, and they manage to live surprisingly comfortably without the electric power most Americans could not envision being without.

The spring is higher than the house, so the water just runs down to the house. "It just runs on a

(Continued on page 13)

— Who needs electricity?

(Continued from page 1)

gravity system," she said.

The house is heated with wood, and propane gas runs the refrigerator and the stove and a small generator that powers a few 12-volt appliances, including a record player.

Her husband rigged up an outside hot-water shower, where the water is heated with sticks of wood.

"Everything here is from the junkyard," said Robert Cook, who arrived home from a construction site in Holyoke in the late afternoon. He demonstrated how the Cooks put the wood beneath the old gas heater, which heats the water, and then the steam forces the hot water into the pipes and down through the shower.

"I can't stand inside showers after this," he said of the wooden cabinet situated among the trees. Inside is a mirror and soap and shampoo and shaving utensils.

Ironically, their 23-year-old son Chris, who recently graduated from college, works and lives in Manhattan, and "just loves it there," she said.

He has to come back to Worthington to visit, because his mother refuses to go into the city.

"I couldn't go there," she said. "I have a hard enough time going to Pittsfield."

Their other son, Benjamin, will go Cornell University in the fall.

*t of his tuition and spending



ROBERT COOK shows off the outdoor woodburning hot-water shower, which he assembled from things he found in a junkyard. (Photo by Maureen Fitzgerald)

money comes from the profits he earns from the eggs he delivers around the community on the back of his motorcycle.

"He takes good care of the chickens," his mother said. "And he's glad to have the extra money."

It wasn't a hard decision for the family to make to move to the country, Mrs. Cook said, taking a visitor on a tour of the gardens, the maple sugar house and the pond with a picnic table situated in the shade of a white pine tree.

"We thought about it...We saw we could actually live here...and we just decided that it made much more sense to stay here...We've always liked the idea of doing things for ourselves.

"But, we have learned that there are some things that machines can do better — no matter what you believe in. It is just stupid to kill yourself.

"I've never regretted it for a minute," she said. "I just wish I had more time to do everything there is to do here."

Walter Henry Tower, 86, ^{Dec} maple sugar producer ¹⁸⁷

WORTHINGTON — A graveside service was held today at the North Cemetery for Walter Henry Tower of Williamsburg Road. He had lived almost his entire life in the white farmhouse he was born in, on 50 acres of land his father owned nearly a century ago.

Tower, 86, died yesterday at the Hampshire County Hospital in Leeds, where he had lived for the past eight years.

"The Tower place," as it was known to many long before street addresses became commonplace in this Hilltown community, was the site of a large maple sugar orchard. For 50 years, Tower and his wife, the former Eurma Eddy, worked together in the sugar house making maple syrup and maple sugar which was shipped to every state in this country and abroad.

In 1957, photographs of Tower's hemlock-timbered sugar house, smoke curling out of a tiny chimney on the peaked roof, appeared in the Saturday Evening Post. The pictures were later reproduced in the Curtis Publishing Co.'s volume, "Faces of America."

Tower kept a close eye on changes in his hometown. He saw the closing of some old village industries, such as the local creamery and cheese factory, and regretted it. "It's the little man who gets knocked down by progress," he remarked in a 1972 interview. He watched the newcomers arrive in the Hilltowns. "I could walk into the general store today and not know a single soul," he once said.

Nor did developments outside of Worthington escape his attention. He wondered if some unusual summer weather 10 years ago was brought on by "all that doggone nuclear testing." And he had reservations about "all that doggone horsing around on the moon. Man shouldn't tamper with Nature."

Tower was born in Worthington Dec. 23, 1896, the son of the late Henry and Cynthia Tower. He at-

tended the former Riverside School, where he was a pupil of the late Arthur Capen. Capen, who taught school here for 27 years, died in 1981.

On June 12, 1918, Tower married the former Eurma Eddy in South Hadley. The couple celebrated their 64th anniversary this year. Mrs. Tower is the granddaughter of Civil War hero Samuel Eddy, who was posthumously awarded a Medal of Honor in ceremonies held in Chesterfield in September.

In addition to his farming work, Tower also was a self-employed paperhanger and housepainter, and the town's first civil defense leader. He also was a member of the Worthington Historical Society, the Rod and Gun Club, and a volunteer member of the Worthington Fire Department.

Besides his wife, Tower is survived by a daughter, Dorothy Beebe of Worthington; two granddaughters; and two great-grandsons.

The Rev. Worth Noyes, pastor of the Chesterfield Congregational Church, officiated at today's service.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Huntington Ambulance Fund.

The Charles A. Bisbee Funeral Home in Chesterfield was in charge of the arrangements.

Fund, the Worthington Volunteer Fire Department, the United Way, the Girl Scouts, the South Worthington Church and other groups in town.

Two fund-raising events occur on a yearly basis to supplement the weekly donations. A Silent Auction and Stanley Home Products sale usually add between \$100 and \$200 to the treasury.

Besides donations to the Health Center and other community groups, the Coffee Hour makes a point of sending cards and/or flowers to group members who may be ill, and gifts to new mothers. Occasionally, a baby shower is held. Once each year, the group gathers in an area restaurant for a luncheon, which often draws former members who may be living in other towns; and an annual pot-luck meal is held at the Schrade's. Each week, a door prize is given, and the winner brings in next week's gift.

The Thursday morning get-togethers are open to all women in town, and there is no requirement to host a Coffee Hour or attend on a regular basis.

Coffee hour ^{Nov} is a tradition ¹⁸²

By Nancy Brenner

WORTHINGTON—Nineteen years ago, in the fall of 1963, eight Worthington women decided to get together on Thursday mornings to have coffee and enjoy each others' company. Organized by Eurma Tower, still an active member, the group also decided to act as an auxiliary to the Worthington Health Center by raising and donating small amounts of money and by helping out wherever they could.

The Worthington Coffee Hour Group has been meeting weekly, on Thursdays from 10 to 11 a.m., ever since that time almost two decades ago. Now a strong tradition in Worthington, usually about 25 women attend the "coffees," which are generally hosted in individual's homes. In 1980, for example, the group met on 50 Thursdays and there were 42 hostesses during the year. Six of the meetings were held at the Town Hall, 10 at the Worthington Golf Club and one at the Drummer's Club.

All but one of the original members of the Coffee Hour Group are living today, but only a few still live in Worthington. According to Evelyn Powell, who has been chairperson of the group since 1971, "Our coffee hour is offered to bring people together: young and old; and newcomers and long-time residents of Worthington. Other towns have welcome wagons, but I think this is an unusual tradition."

Mrs. Powell hosted last week's Coffee Hour in her Witt Hill home, where 25 guests sat in front of fireplaces and woodstoves while they sipped coffee, ate coffeecakes and chatted. Of the 25 women there, about seven were under age 35. There were two children in attendance, as well. When a mother of young children hosts the group, the tendency is for more young mothers and their children to attend.

One woman at the coffee explained that the hour limit on the gathering makes it easy for people to attend without feeling they have to make a large commitment. The group is a good way to meet people and particularly beneficial to new residents in town. It is also a place where different generations can come together to share a common experience.

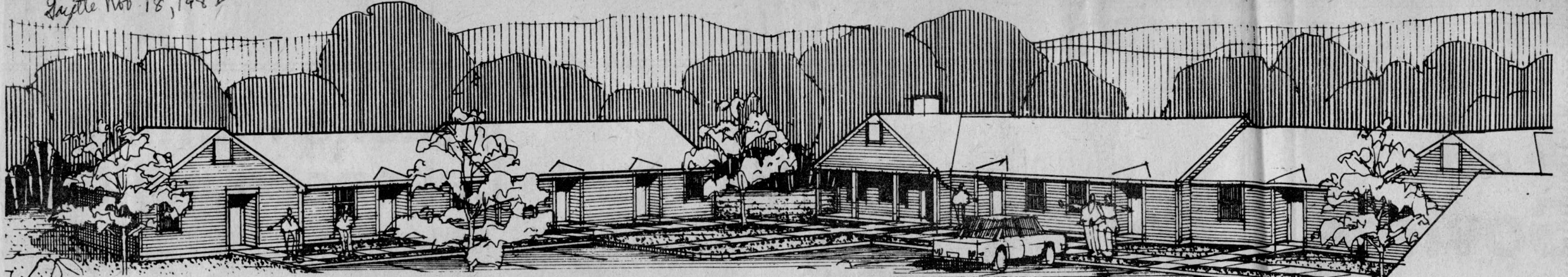
Each week, 35 cents is collected from the women in attendance, and added to the group's treasury: "Thirty-five cents really adds up," said Mrs. Powell. "Inflation hasn't caught up with us yet." In 1981, the group's treasury held about \$8000, which was spent on equipment for the Worthington Health Center and on donations to other community groups.

In 1980, the Coffee Hour Group received the Worthington Grange's Award for Public Service and Citizen of the Year Award for their "personal commitment and involvement as a servant of the people." Monetary donations during the past years have been given to the Parish Word, the Huntington Ambulance



Hostess Evelyn Powell, standing, serves guests at her Witt Hill home during last week's coffee hour. (Photo by Nancy Brenner)

Cont.



Paperwork pays off in housing

By JANET DIMOCK

WORTHINGTON — Mrs. Franklin Burr flirted with a case of muscle cramp Friday as she initialed 250 pages of plans and specifications and signed her name to 50 documents.

It was more than a monumental exercise in penmanship. As the president of the board of directors of Worthington Senior Housing Inc., it was her job last week to sign the

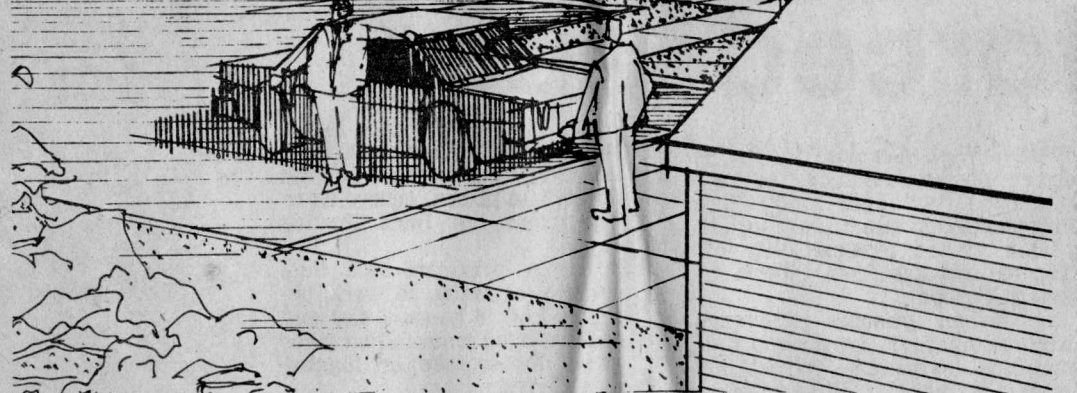
papers which accepted \$617,900 in mortgage money from the federal government for the town's 12 apartments for the elderly.

The paper-signing in Boston Friday came at the end of more than a year's worth of volunteer work by an 11-member board of directors, backed by a community effort to provide local apartments to senior citizens with low and moderate incomes.

The site was cleared last month for the housing on Old North Road, next to the Worthington Health Center. And construction is well on its way. It is expected to be finished in March.

Overseeing the project is Worthington Senior Housing Inc., a private, non-profit corporation formed by Worthington residents in March of last year.

(Continued on page 16)



ARCHITECTS' drawing of housing for the elderly project in Worthington.

— Worthington looks out for its older folks

(Continued from page 1)

Nine Worthington residents, a former resident and the town's minister serve as directors. All are volunteers.

Began in March 1981

The housing project began with a quiet meeting on a spring morning last year, Mrs. Burr explained. She and three other women — Judy Spiess, Rev. Molly Kitchen and Esther Sena — sat down to talk about how to provide housing in Worthington for seniors with moderate incomes.

In early 1981, three Hampshire County towns — Cummington, Huntington and Easthampton were selected for new housing for the elderly projects, under the auspices of the Hampshire County Regional Housing Authority.

Undaunted by Worthington's failure to be named as one of the sites, and their own lack of expertise in seeking government grant applications or in managing housing projects — the women's plans gained momentum.

Within six weeks, more board members were recruited and \$5,000 in cash was raised. By mid-May, Worthington Senior Housing Inc. was born.

The Worthington group gained the aid of the New England Non-Profit Housing Development Corp. in Concord, N.H., and of Massachusetts Samaritan Inc. to assist with the incorporation process, government paperwork and to provide consultants. The Worthington project was the first for Massachusetts Samaritan, which is modeled after a non-profit housing agency in Connecticut.

The 12 apartments and communi-

ty room will be divided among three buildings arranged along a circular driveway. Six acres of land for the project were donated by Kenneth W. Paul of Old North Road. There will be 11 one-bedroom apartments and one two-bedroom. Two special units for handicapped persons are included.

The project is being built by Pittsfield contractor David J. Tierney Jr. Inc. at a cost of \$484,000. The rest of the money will pay for a \$36,000 septic system and the architectural and consulting fees.

The apartments will be managed by Elderly Housing Management of Connecticut, not by the local housing board, Mrs. Burr said.

The mortgage money which was received Friday came from Chapter 202 of the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). And the approval of a Section 8 federal subsidy arrangement will allow rent subsidies for any low-income residents.

Rents for the apartments have not been released yet, Mrs. Burr said, but will be comparable to rents at housing for the elderly projects in Cummington and Huntington.

It is expected that most tenants will be eligible for a subsidy that sets their rent at 30 percent of their monthly income.

Private financing for the housing project was investigated, but found to be unworkable, Mrs. Burr said.

Mountains of paper

This plaque, which will be hung

Going up

month before the apartments are ready to be occupied.

Questions about applications can be answered by the directors.

And brochures explaining the project will be available soon.

Applications will be accepted later.

An applicant's financial eligibility will be determined by employees of the Connecticut management firm, giving the applicants "a degree of anonymity" in Worthington, Mrs. Spiess said.

The applicants should be "capable of living in a community and independent living," Mrs. Spiess said.

After the buildings are completed, the board members plans to develop an area for gardens and nature

trails in the wooded lot behind the site.

Broader knowledge gained

Knowledge of a broader kind also has been gained from the project. Both Mrs. Spiess and Mrs. Kitchen have participated in a number of workshops on housing management, enabling them to deal more efficiently with the local project. And both also have applied for certification in housing management by taking a national test.

Neither has any immediate plans to become a housing manager, but both agreed they gained a lot from the experience. The training classes exposed them to different types of housing plans and different people throughout the United States.



WORTHINGTON'S first housing for the elderly project got another look this week from Worthington Senior Housing Inc. board members, from left, Robert Cook, Judy Spiess and contractor David J. Tierney Jr. of Pittsfield. (Photo by Janet Dimock)

Jan - Feb. 1983



Glenda Donovan (Photo by Teresa Bellafiore)

The topic for the day's program was "Children's Rights." Glenda Donovan, the talk show's producer and host, used

radio

Highway department seeks \$122,455

WORTHINGTON — A highway department operating budget request of \$122,455 plus a request for a new pickup truck were received last week by the selectmen and the finance committee.

A salary increase of "just over 7 percent," \$5,000 in secondary road improvements and a suggestion to replace one wall of the town garage were items submitted by Highway Superintendent James Pease.

All budget requests for the next fiscal year, which starts July 1, are being reviewed by the selectmen and the finance committee and will be voted on at the annual Town Meeting in May.

The highway budget includes \$53,280 for salaries for the three-man crew and costs for part-time help for snow plowing, \$18,500 for winter highways, \$24,000 for general highways, \$3,600 for garage maintenance, and \$18,000 for machinery maintenance.

Pease added that the east wall of the garage near the road salt stor-

age area is "slowly deteriorating" and should be replaced. Finance Committee Chairman Donald Newton Sr. will meet with Pease at the garage to discuss the work before the next meeting.

Pease added that by his "rough estimate," a new diesel pickup truck would cost the town \$16,000 and a gasoline-powered vehicle, \$15,000. A sum of about \$5,000 would be allowed on trade-in of the vehicle now in use, he said.

Police Chief Grant Knapp submitted a request for \$2,800 in police department expenses, including wages for the four-person part-time force and all office costs.

Knapp added that the two boards should consider future planning for the purchase of a police department vehicle. He explained that he has always been opposed to the purchase of a town police vehicle due to the expense involved. Knapp said that he sees no immediate need for such a purchase but explained that police officers are "putting a lot of miles on vehicles" while on duty.

Worthington

The Dingle Road disposal area will be closed for the rest of the winter, by order of the Selectmen, and the open hours previously set up with Kevin Porter in charge have been suspended. Anyone wishing to dispose of brush or building debris there in the meantime may get the key from Howard Mollison or Porter.

Constance Dorrington of Scott Road was named president by the trustees of the Frederick Sargent Huntington Library in a special meeting Thursday night.

The resignation of president and board member Damaris Fernandez-Sierra was accepted with regret. The trustees expressed appreciation for the many hours of volunteer work donated by Mrs. Fernandez-Sierra during her years on the job, trustee Elizabeth Payne said following the meeting.

Mrs. Dorrington will serve until the annual library association meeting and election in the fall.

Dr. and Mrs. Wells W. Magargal and daughter, Wrisley Anne, of Baltimore, Md., are spending a few days in Worthington with his parents, C. Raymond and Helen Magargal at "The Spruces."

Gerald Bartlett of South Worthington has resigned from the local Highway Department to accept a job at the Veterans' Hospital in Leeds. He is assistant fire chief of the Volunteer Fire Department here and will be working as a firefighter at the VA hospital.

Worthington couples on concert tour 2/25/82 of New Zealand

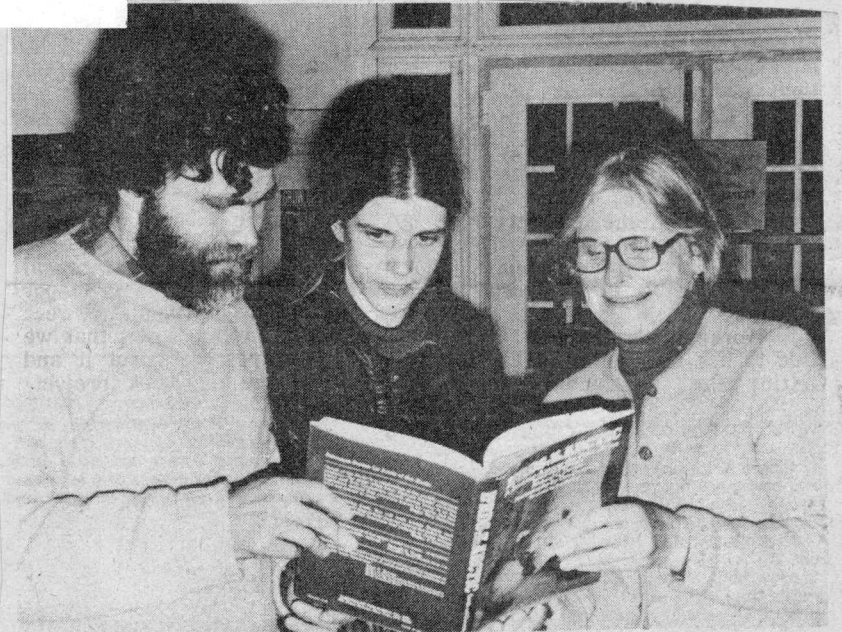
WORTHINGTON — Robert and Rolande Schrade and their son-in-law and daughter, David and Robelyn James, will leave for New Zealand early in March for a month-long concert tour.

David and Robelyn were received enthusiastically there a year ago and have been invited back this time with the Schrades. All are concert pianists who spend their summers here and present a summer concert series at their South Worthington Sevenars concert hall.

Schrade teaches piano at Chapin School and at Manhattan School of Music in New York City and Mrs. Schrade teaches piano at Allen Stevenson School there. In their absence next month, their youngest daughter, Rorianne, will take over her father's classes and their son, Randolph, will teach his mother's classes.

Rorianne graduated from Chapin School last June and is a freshman at The Juilliard School in Manhattan, and Randolph is a junior at Yale.

Mrs. G.W. Humphrey of Old Post Road has been called to Mineola, Long Island, by the serious illness of her daughter, Rowena. She was accompanied by her daughter, Robin Bernoski of Blandford. Rowena was elected "Miss Massachusetts" in 1978 and represented the state in the Miss America pageant in Atlantic City that year. She is the wife of James DiBenedetto.



POLAR BEARS were the subject of a recent meeting of the Naturalist Club in Worthington. Shown looking over some literature on the bears are, from left, Ron and Sue Woodland of Lindsay Hill Road and lecturer Joan Mendelsohn. (Photo by Janet Dimock)

Arctic adventure recounted for natural history group

"Country Cricket" for Gifts and Antiques



JAQUELINE BRIDGEMAN

"I wanted a cozy feeling, a country nook, and that's how I came up with the name Country Cricket," Jaqueline Bridgeman, with a fluff of brown hair and a beige corduroy skirt, explained. "Now my husband calls me the 'Crazy Cricket.'"

Working seven days a week, 10-12 hours a day does take a kind of crazed devotion but Mrs. Bridgeman, the owner, buyer, saleslady,

Photos by Gordon Daniels & Sandra Doucett

display artist, bookkeeper and cashier of this Worthington antique and gift shop, says she's having fun.

"It's something I've always wanted to do and I never find it a chore. The long hours are there but that doesn't make any difference."

Mrs. Bridgeman's original intention was to sell antiques only, an interest she developed from her mother, but she says that her unique combination of carefully selected giftware and top quality an-

tiques have made her shop work.

"They balance each other; right now the shop is about 50/50 of each," she noted.

Mrs. Bridgeman's talent at selecting and displaying her merchandise gives the gift store an atmosphere of country class. The new gift items are selected with the same attention to quality and simple elegance that distinguishes the antiques.

Also featured are handmade crafts such as the dried floral decorations, toleware and painted brick doorstops.

The shop is a browser's dream. Each nook is filled but not cluttered from the ceiling to the floor in a way that invites the customer to poke and pick up and purchase.

Mrs. Bridgeman and her husband, a Westfield College professor, and their two daughters moved to Worthington five years ago. She opened the shop nearly two years ago. The shop is growing at a steady pace and she is already thinking of expanding.

"But I don't ever want to get too big where I can't enjoy it," she insists.

Her enthusiasm and optimism make it nearly impossible for Mrs. Bridgeman even to think about the problems that face a new Hilltown business.

"I know if I were in the city I'd make a lot more money, but I don't want to live in the city so I don't see it as a problem."

She estimates that about half of her customers are local residents with the other half tourists. Located on Route 112 in the center of town, The Country Cricket is approximately 25 miles from Westfield, Northampton and Pittsfield.

As the seasons change the scenery, Mrs. Bridgeman also adapts the interior of her shop. In the fall months the emphasis is on giftware, while in the summer the antiques are more prominently displayed.

The Country Cricket also features individualized customer services such as a bridal register, custom-order dried flower bridal bouquets and custom lampshades.

This past December Mrs. Bridgeman sent out gay red and white flyers inviting customers who have signed her guest book to three special events in their honor including a Ladies' Night, Men's Night and a Cinnamon Bear Punch for the children, who are also welcomed customers in the shop.

"I know where I'm at. I'm in the country, and I think that people here are interested in things that are different, unique and special."

Replacement tanker truck arrives tonight in Worthington

By JANET DIMOCK

WORTHINGTON — A long-awaited tanker truck for the volunteer fire department is due to arrive here tonight, Fire Chief Gary Granger reported last night to the Board of Selectmen.

The 1,000 gallon capacity fuel truck is a used vehicle received free from the federal Environmental Protection Agency. It will need some modification before it can be used for water storage, Granger said. The truck is in Amherst and will be picked up today by firefighter Michael Lucey.

Department members applied for a used federal vehicle suitable for use as a tanker last summer. The second tanker is needed to supplement the supply of water available at a fire and for use in mutual aid

situations. Local firefighting efforts were hampered in November at the Elizabeth Nelson property on Old North Road when the department's only tank truck broke down before reaching the scene.

Granger also submitted a \$4,130 budget request for the next fiscal year which begins July 1. The request includes the purchase price of two voice-tone pagers for use by department members. A total of 23 pagers are now in use. Emergency calls are relayed to department members with pagers by the emergency dispatch center in Amherst. The budget also covers the cost of firehouse heat and maintenance and vehicle upkeep.

The question of filling the town treasurer and tax collector posts by appointment instead of election will

be put to a special town meeting vote on March 1, the selectmen decided.

The measure is recommended by the board so that the office holders can be directly accountable to the selectmen. That way job performance can be more closely watched, the board agreed.

Removing the position from the election ballot may encourage those who are interested in serving the town, but not in the pressures of politics to seek office, finance committee member Fred Emerson pointed out.

Finance committee members support the change of the treasurer's post but question changing both at once. Gradual change may be more acceptable to the voters, committee member Donald Newton Sr. said.

The selectmen decided to put both questions before the voters to gather opinion on the matter. If the change is approved a petition requesting home rule must be approved by the state legislature.

Voters will also have the chance to dissolve the town loan fund, a long-standing inactive account. Some \$17,000 tied up the account may be returned to the general account.

Feb 7 1983

Mar 29 '83

Damage set at \$500,000 in blaze

By JANET DIMOCK

WORTHINGTON — A potato warehouse, ravaged by fire early Sunday morning, was declared a complete loss by insurance inspectors yesterday.

Damage estimates for the 90-by-350-foot steel structure and the 180 tons of potatoes, grading equipment and two forklifts stored there were set at about \$500,000.

Ronald Keivitt, office manager of the Albert Farms warehouse and operations on Route 112, said today that nothing can be salvaged from the debris.

The cause of a warehouse fire remained unknown this morning. A spokesman from the state fire marshal's office in Northampton said their office has not been contacted by the Worthington fire department to begin an investigation.

Worthington Fire Chief Gary Granger had indicated earlier he planned to call on the state fire marshal to look into the cause of the fire. Granger has said he does suspect foul play.

Firefighters from several Hill-towns responded to the early morning blaze which was spotted at about 4 a.m. Sunday by a Cummington dairy farmer.

Firefighters worked for two hours before finally bringing the fire under control. Their efforts were ham-

pered by massive amounts of foam insulation on the walls and ceiling which broke loose and drifted on the wind. No injuries were reported as a result of the fire and employees had not been at work since Friday.

Plans for rebuilding the warehouse are still up in the air. "We'll have to go back to the drawing board. This is probably going to be a month-long deal," Keivitt said today. He said yesterday that the insurance coverage would not be

sufficient to replace the building.

The potatoes stored in the building were destined for local potato chip manufacturers, Keivitt said, and their loss would not have an effect on this year's potato market.

However, the effect of losing the storage space next fall during the harvest. "We still have three (other) warehouses," Keivitt pointed out. Those warehouses are located in Worthington, Cummington and Plainfield.

3/30 '83

State fire marshals inspect warehouse

WORTHINGTON — The cause of a weekend warehouse fire at Albert's Farm on Huntington Road should be determined soon, according to a state fire marshal's office spokesman.

State trooper Jay Bowman of the Northampton Barracks said he will visit the site again today and "hopefully put all the puzzle pieces together." Fire marshals inspected the gutted warehouse at mid-day yesterday, but their findings were inconclusive.

Foul play has never been a consideration as the cause of the fire, local fire Chief Gary Granger emphasized. He explained the fire marshal's office is routinely called when the cause of a fire is unknown.

There was a slight delay before investigators came to the site, Granger explained yesterday, because he understood that they had been notified through regular police channels.

Investigators came to Worthington soon after he called them yes-

terday morning.

The Sunday morning fire caused an estimated \$500,000 worth of damage to the 90-by-350-foot metal warehouse and its contents. Some 180 tons of potatoes — a relatively small amount compared to the total harvest — destined for local potato chip makers were destroyed.

Plans to rebuild are uncertain at this point, according to Albert's Farm office manager Ronald Keivitt.

Mar 2 '83

In Worthington

Two elected positions changed, stabilization fund created

By JANET DIMOCK

WORTHINGTON — The posts of tax collector and treasurer last night were removed from the upcoming election ballot by voters at a special Town Meeting.

The positions now will be filled by appointment by the board of selectmen. Although the action was the subject of a 20 minute discussion, there was little opposition among the 23 voters present.

Voters also established a stabilization fund using \$17,000 in money previously kept in the Worthington Town Loan fund. The special loan account, once used by the selectmen to aid local residents, has not been used in about 30 years.

Removal of the tax collector and treasurer position from the election ballot was "the best of two evils," Finance Committee member Fred Emerson said. There will be a loss in choice for the voters but increased accountability by the job holders. Indirect control of the appointed officers can be expressed by the voters by the election of select-

men "who can always be replaced," Emerson pointed out.

The action was requested by the board of selectmen.

An amendment proposed by Robert Lucey of Ring Road to require that the tax collector and treasurer be Worthington residents was narrowly defeated. Lucey suggested that the two posts not be filled by the same person, an idea supported by the selectmen.

Lucey also expressed the lone dissenting vote against dissolving the town loan fund. "We're picking a dead man's pocket," he said. Funds set aside in the past that did not come from recent tax dollars should not be appropriated for other purposes, he said.

"This fund is just sitting there doing nothing," reported selectman Dorothy Mason. Mrs. Mason was applauded by the group for her research through old town records.

The fund originated in the late 1700 and early 1800's from church funds and continental money. Church and town funds were divided

in the 1860's and the loan fund was taken over by town officials, she reported.

The last loans were made in the 1950's and one \$130 debt is still on the books, according to selectman Julia Sharron.

Town officials have been investigating ways to dissolve the fund for about five years. Officials of the state department of revenue recommended that the Loan Fund be added to the general fund, however, Cullen Packard of Buffington Hill Road, proposed that the fund be put into a stabilization fund. "It could be spent for specific purposes not dispersed willy-nilly (as part of the general fund)," Packard said. The amendment passed with little opposition.

Voters also approved a transfer of \$4,000 to the interest on loans account from the overlay surplus account, a transfer of \$966 to the accountant's salary account from overlay surplus and the appropriation of \$4,000 to the machinery maintenance account. Packard said.

Delinquent taxpayers face legal action

WORTHINGTON — Legal action against delinquent taxpayers will be taken next month, Tax Collector Beverly J. Bowman announced this week. An effort will be made to collect over \$80,000 due in back taxes, some due since 1974.

The funds are due on real estate, motor vehicle excise, personal property and farm excise bills due through June 1982.

All unpaid real estate taxes due through that date will be subject to tax-taking by procedures outlined by state law.

Payments due on estimated bills issued in November 1982 are not included in this action.

Legal notice will be published in area newspapers with descriptions of properties to be taken starting in April, Mrs. Bowman said.

Overdue personal property motor vehicle and farm excise taxes will be given to the deputy tax collector for collection.

Special office hours for the tax collector will be held tomorrow from 9 a.m. to noon. There will be no tax collector's hours on Wednesday. Regular office hours will resume March 23. Persons who received state auditing notices during the past year are especially urged to contact Mrs. Bowman.

3/11/83

Business

Computer service hopes to serve towns

By JANET DIMOCK

WORTHINGTON — Two women are pooling their talents and experience with small town government, accounting and computers in a new Hilltown building. Working by the green glow of a display and the beeps and growls of computer circuits are Beverly Bowman of Witt Hill Road and Nancy Hewes of South Street in Chesterfield, the owners of B and H Computer Services.

Tucked away in Mrs. Bowman's old farmhouse is a business-size computer that its owners hope to use to aid small business and communities.

Equipped with a Radio Shack brand model 12 micro-computer plus an attached dot matrix printer, the pair are already at work updating voting lists for a half-dozen towns, printing mailing labels and developing data files for their customers.

They have been in operation since April 1 — April Fool's Day, they laughingly point out. The only advertising done so far has been by word of mouth.

"People are very receptive to having it close to home. For only

being in (business) for a month we've done very well," Mrs. Hewes said about the number of customers.

The goal of the business is to provide computer services for small towns and businesses that do not have the knowledge, personnel or resources to develop a system of their own, Mrs. Bowman explained.

Customer lists, population files, school census lists, tax and real estate records and other data are stored on small magnetic discs, replacing the volumes of paper that would be needed otherwise. All information is copied and stored in two locations for safety. Information stored there will be given to another party only with the contractor's express permission, Mrs. Bowman said.

At the contractor's request those files can be sorted into categories or calculations made for a number of uses. For example, voting lists may be broken down by party designation, or customer lists by name or street address. "With a computer you can do a lot of things as long as you have data files," Mrs. Bowman explained.

The attached printer performs a

variety of functions. Mailing labels for a local gift shop and voting lists for recent elections are two of the print-outs it has produced so far. Printing can be done on all types of paper, ranging from large sheets to high quality bond pages to the small labels. "We hope to do tax billing for the towns in the future," Mrs. Bowman said.

Asked what brought the two into the computer business, Mrs. Hewes remarked, "It was all Beverly. When she asked me to go into business I hadn't even put a finger on a computer....It was a long hard decision."

The two are learning more about the business every day. Mrs. Hewes, who is the town accountant for Worthington and Chesterfield, has accounting experience. Mrs. Bowman, Worthington's tax collector and assistant treasurer, was introduced to the computer world through her duties as the assistant elementary school principal for the Gateway district. She left her post there last fall.

First-hand observation of the administrative use of computers prompted her to take a course in basic computer language and buy a

small computer for her use.

Inspiration for the venture came from a story about a former selectman in the state of New Hampshire who started his own business printing tax bills for small communities. The next step was a trip to New Hampshire to see that operation first hand. Then came the decision to try it for themselves.

Starting your own computer business takes more than the equipment and a manual, though. "There's a lot of research and development that goes into it," Mrs. Bowman said, and knowledge of basic computer language is essential.

One other very important element is a more human quality — patience. Dealing with a computer "brain," wading through fat instruction manuals and even remembering the list of code words needed to call on various computer functions takes a great deal of that commodity, they both emphasized.

They are optimistic about their business. "The potential use of a computer to solve some of the problems of small towns is great," Mrs. Bowman said. "There seems to be a ready market within the small towns."



FORMING A NEW computer services company are Beverly Bowman, right, of Worthington, and Nancy Hewes of Chesterfield. (Photo by Janet Dimock)

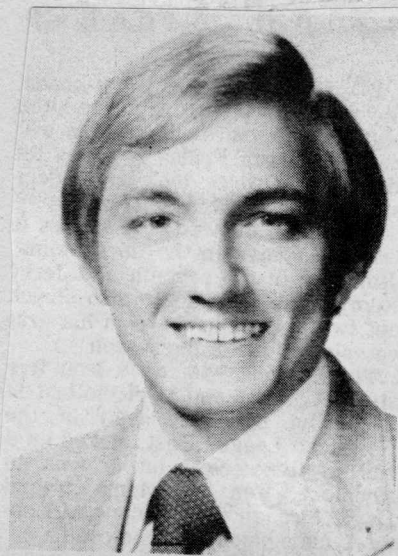
Alberts celebrate 40th

WORTHINGTON — Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Albert of Old North Road celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary June 12 at a surprise party given in their honor at the Worthington Golf Club.

About 40 guests attended the morning brunch, hosted by the couple's children. Four of the couple's six children, Bonnie Kievitt, Benny Albert and Jimmy Albert of Worthington, and Doreen Warjiasz of Plainfield, and their families attended, along with Mrs. Albert's mother, Mrs. Theresa Donovan of Huntington, and Mr. Albert's mother, Mrs. Stella Albert of Greenwich, R.I.



FRANCES and BERNARD ALBERT



CHRISTOPHER K. McCARTY

Worthington

• Christopher K. McCarty earned his Juris Doctorate degree from the Albany Law School of Union University in commencement ceremonies held on June 4. The graduation ceremonies for the 132nd class of the Albany Law School were held at the Saratoga Performing Arts Center. New York State Governor Mario M. Cuomo, the father of an Albany Law alumnus, gave the commencement address.

Rejection of override leaves boards looking for cuts

May 12
183

By JANET DIMOCK
WORTHINGTON — Voter rejection of two budget override questions on Saturday has left town officials with a \$29,000 deficit budget dilemma that somehow must be solved before the June 6 annual Town Meeting.

The selectmen — including new board member Stephen Kulik — and the finance committee met Monday to review budget trimming options, most of which will affect available town services in some way.

There is approximately a \$29,000 difference between the amount needed to cover the proposed budget items and the amount that can be raised and appropriated from tax dollars on the Town Meeting floor. Under Proposition 2½ restrictions only \$433,961 may be raised from taxation. That amount may be increased only by election ballot and cannot be changed by action on the Town Meeting floor, chairman of the selectmen Julia Sharron explained.

The board got some good news Monday when it learned the recent state audit will cost \$15,000, not the \$25,000 estimated previously. But that was immediately offset by news that \$10,000 in anticipated cherry sheet revenues has been earmarked for direct transportation aid to the regional school. "So we're not any further ahead," Mrs. Sharron explained.

Marked for probable deletion from the \$520,422 proposed budget Monday night were a \$5,000 stabilization fund, \$5,000 in secondary road improvements and \$7,000 in Town Hall maintenance. The only other source for such a large amount of money is the highway budget, finance board chairman Donald Newton Sr. said.

He added that an \$18,000 increase in the school budget is also affecting the situation. About \$29,000 is asked for by the Gateway Regional School District for the coming year. That sum cannot be changed by the town, according to Mrs. Sharron. If a majority of communities within the district approve the appropriation then all the towns are required to pay. In the Gateway district the approval of five towns is needed.

Voter rejection of the overrides was attributed to the fact that the tax bills were sent out only a few weeks ago and showed an increase of about 20 percent over last year. Those that willingly approved an extra \$77,000 last year were not willing to approve any amount another year, finance member Shirley Rida pointed out.

It was also emphasized that the town does not have any available free cash to use toward next year's budget and the federal revenue sharing funds have been reduced from \$16,000 to only \$4,500.

Both boards concluded that members should spend the next week carefully reviewing the proposed budget and come to the next meeting with definite proposals in hand. How long the process takes will depend upon how well the members "do their homework" Newton added.

If budget solutions cannot be found soon then the annual town meeting warrant will be posted without budget figures, an action that all agreed was undesirable.

By then, selectmen hope that official cherry sheet figures will be distributed by the state. The figures are usually set in April. The cost of the audit will be immediately subtracted from those revenues by the state.

Timber sales to help Worthington

By JANET DIMOCK
WORTHINGTON — A substantial amount of salable hardwood standing on 50 acres of landlocked town property may yield needed revenues for the town, the selectmen learned last week.

Standing timber on a 50-acre lot off Ring Road is worth \$5,000 to \$10,000, according to Christopher Powell of Harvey Road.

Acting as a representative for Bay State Forest Service, Powell told the board that the land has "a substantial amount of hardwood timber that could be cut and generate income for the town." The property has no road frontage and therefore "it probably has no real value as real estate except to an abutter," Powell said.

Powell added that he could mark all mature trees suitable for use, advertise for bids for the lumber and the work involved, and supervise the actual cutting for 9 percent

of the gross profits.

The trees would be selectively cut, leaving some large timber to harbor wildlife. No out-of-pocket expenses would be asked for from the town. And if the work is done properly enough timber will be left for another cutting in 10 to 15 years.

In addition, Powell said he will do deed research on the piece, make arrangements for right-of-way access and do a woodland survey for "no more than \$200."

Powell added that if the project does not go through due to right-of-way problems he will not charge the town for the time spent.

The selectmen unanimously agreed to the project and signed a work order allowing Powell to begin. He expects to mark the trees during July and August so that lumbering work can be done during the dry season or the winter. Powell said that he will report his progress to the board.

George W. Humphrey

WORTHINGTON — Former publisher and publicity agent George William Humphrey, 65, of Old Post Road, died yesterday at The Cooley Dickinson Hospital in Northampton after suffering a heart attack.

Among his survivors are his wife, Jean Van Buskirk Humphrey, a former ballet dancer with the Radio City Music Hall in New York City, and his daughter Rowena diBenedetto, who was Miss Massachusetts in the 1978 Miss America beauty pageant.

Born in Youngstown, Ohio, March 13, 1918, he was the son of the late Glen and Stella (Woodford) Humphrey. He and his family moved to Worthington 27 years ago.

Humphrey was a Marine Corps veteran of World War II.

In the late 1950s, Humphrey owned the Christopher Publishing Co. here. The firm primarily produced yearbooks and catalogs for high schools and colleges. Humphrey also worked at various times as a publicist and press agent.

In September 1957, Humphrey was arrested by U.S. Treasury agents in connection with a counterfeiting operation which authorities at the time said produced some \$80,000 in bogus bills in the basement of his home.

Humphrey was sentenced to a term in the federal prison at Danbury, Conn., on the counterfeiting charges.

Besides his wife and daughter Rowena, he is survived by three sons, Paul R. Humphrey of Pittsfield, Richard E. Humphrey of Portland, Ore., Ronald W. Humphrey of Worthington; two other daughters, Robin A. Barnoski of Blandford and Roberta L. Humphrey of Boston; a sister, June Dulude of North Miami Beach, Fla.; and four grandchildren.

A private funeral will be held at the family's convenience.

The Charles A. Bisbee Funeral Home of Chesterfield is in charge of arrangements.

There are no calling hours.

Fire destroys Worthington cabin

WORTHINGTON — Firefighters responded to an early morning fire yesterday at the Henry Donovan residence on Starkweather Road. The two-room cabin was completely gutted.

No one was home at the time of the fire, Fire Chief Gary Granger said. When members of the volunteer fire department arrived at 3 a.m. the building was fully engulfed, Granger said.

Granger said the fire apparently started on the porch of the small home near some stored cleaning materials.

Donovan was not at home when the fire occurred and was staying with neighbors Robert and Sarah Bartlett.

The fire was reported by Carol Feinstein, who said she heard what sounded like a truck backfiring at about 3 a.m. Two other small explosions followed and prompted her to look out her window and see flames coming out of the cabin's windows.

Over 20 Worthington firefighters and three fire trucks were called to the scene. The Cummington Department responded with two trucks and about 10 firefighters. The Plainfield department responded with one truck but their assistance was not needed.

Firefighters stayed on the scene for about three hours. Granger said it is not clear if the state fire marshal's office will be called in.

The Starkweather Road fire is the second house fire in five weeks, Granger pointed out. The Huntington Road home of Steven Strom and his family was gutted by flames on May 31. Faulty wiring was cited as the cause of the fire.

Ms. Feinstein also provided snacks and coffee for the firefighters at yesterday's fire.

Priscilla Bartlett, 58, of Worthington; local entertainer, Girl Scout leader

WORTHINGTON — Priscilla (Sage) Bartlett, 58, of Old Post Road, died yesterday at The Cooley Dickinson Hospital in Northampton after a long illness.

Born in Hartford, Conn., June 20, 1924, she was the daughter of the late Preston R. and Priscilla (Newcomb) Sage. Her mother died two weeks ago.

She was the wife of Horace F. Bartlett.

She was educated in Hartford schools and graduated from the Hartford School of Nursing as a licensed practical nurse.

In her youth she had taken tap dancing lessons and for a time taught tap dancing to Worthington youngsters. She was a popular entertainer in local talent and variety shows and was especially noted for her impersonation of Louis Armstrong and his trumpet.

She was superintendent of the Congregational Church Sunday School for several years.

She was also a Girl Scout leader. Besides her husband she leaves four daughters, Anne B. Pease, Alice B. Fritz and Jane B. Fisk, all of Worthington, and Jean B. Graves of Florence; two sisters, Barbara Gustafson of Orlando, Fla., and Niantic, Conn., and Betty Trombley of Manchester, Conn.; an aunt, Ann N. Rausch, with whom she lived when she first came to Worthington in 1946; four grandchildren and 24 nieces and nephews.

The funeral will be tomorrow at 2 p.m. at the First Congregational Church in Worthington with the Rev. Molly Kitchen, pastor, officiating.

The burial will be in the North Cemetery.

Calling hours at the Charles A. Bisbee Funeral Home in Chesterfield are today from 7 to 9 p.m.

Contributions in her memory may be made to the Worthington Health Center.

Fire leaves Worthington family homeless

By JANET DIMOCK

WORTHINGTON — An effort to collect clothing and money to help a Worthington family of four whose home was destroyed by fire yesterday afternoon began today.

A midday fire gutted a major portion of the home of Steven and Patricia Strom of Huntington Road. Firefighters from Worthington, Cummington and Plainfield responded to the fire at 11:45 a.m. yesterday.

Alex and Regina Lippert of Huntington Road, neighbors of the Strom family, said today they will accept donations of clothing and household articles to help the family. Mrs. Lippert said persons wishing to donate items should call before coming over. John and Carol Morris of Route 112 are also accepting clothing and household items for the Stroms.

A fire fund was also started at the Corners Grocery to help the family. Donations can be sent to or left at the store located in the center of town.

Mrs. Strom and their two children, Jesse, age 1½, and Steven, four months old, are staying with relatives in Easthampton.

Strom, who is the town's tree warden, stayed with friends in the area last night and could not be

(Continued on page 11)



WORTHINGTON FIREFIGHTERS yesterday removed furniture from the second floor of the Steven Strom home on Huntington Road after controlling a midday blaze that gutted a major portion of the home. (Photo by Janet Dimock)

— Fire leaves

(Continued from page 1)

reached for comment today.

Fire reported at midday

Twenty volunteer firefighters from Worthington and three trucks responded to the call shortly before noon. The fire went undetected for some time, although Strom and several workmen were nearby working outside at the site. Mrs. Strom and the children were not home when the fire broke out.

According to Fire Chief Gary Granger, the blaze apparently started at the north end of the building in the older section of the home built in the 1840s. Strom discovered the fire and called the department from a neighbor's home.

Although firefighters were on the scene within minutes, most of the house could not be saved.

The fire spread rapidly, Granger said. "Once it got going, it really went." At one point, flames were leaping out of the house and scorched the sides of nearby trees. Although the major flames were extinguished within an hour, smoke and smoldering fires within the walls continued to be a problem.

The cause of the fire has not been determined, Granger said, and investigators from the state fire marshal's office in Northampton were at the site today. A damage estimate has not been received and information about insurance coverage was not available.

The inside of the two-story living and bedroom area was completely

charred and most of the family's personal possessions and furnishings were destroyed or severely damaged. "There's really nothing left inside," Granger said.

The kitchen and a new addition, under construction, intended for a small garden shop, escaped the flames, but suffered smoke damage.

Firefighters donned portable air packs to enter the building and used saws and hooks to gain access to fire behind the walls. The rear wall of the house was destroyed by fire and only the blackened support beams were left standing. Windows on the north side were broken by the heat of the fire and exterior clapboards were scorched by the flames.

The two Worthington tank trucks on the scene supplemented the water supply from a nearby hydrant. Tankers refilled at nearby Ward's Brook, using the portable pump.

Mutual aid given

Assistance was received from the Cummington Fire Department which responded with two trucks and three firefighters. The Cummington ambulance brought replacement air tanks and stood by at the scene. There were no injuries reported. Plainfield firefighters also responded to the call with a truck. Electrical service to the house was disconnected by Northeast Utility workers.

The Worthington fire truck was back in service by 5 p.m. Firefighters returned to the scene later to pump out the cellar.



In the saddle

Three-year-old Melissa Mason of Kinne Brook Road, Worthington, was in the driver's seat Saturday at the First Congregational Church of Worthington's annual fair. Leading the pony is its owner, Darlene Millman of Willow Farm on Old Post Road. (Photo by Janet Dimock)

7/12/83

The Maples

Worthington housing dedicated

By JANET DIMOCK

WORTHINGTON — Residents gathered this weekend to celebrate the dedication of "The Maples" housing for the elderly — an occasion that was in tune with the spirit of the Fourth of July.

The 12-unit complex, which cost \$600,000 to build, stands as a symbol of community spirit and the long hours of volunteer work given by the board members of the Worthington Senior Housing Inc. which coordinated the project.

The six-acres of land, located next to the Worthington Health Center, was donated as were a variety of other items from furniture to coffee pots for the community room.

The project, from conception to completion took a little over two years, and according to Massachusetts Samaritan director David Rockwell, a non-profit corporation which sponsored the local housing group, the timing of the project was a decided advantage.

"It's a blessing for Worthington that we got this housing built when we did," Rockwell said. New federal budget restrictions call for "bare bones, no frills" housing, he said. Department of Housing and Urban Development guidelines have eliminated two-bedroom apartments, dishwashers, and call for more studio apartments. Many of the elements that make "The Maples" so

attractive may no longer be available in public housing, Rockwell said.

Stained clapboards and door painted a soft blue give the complex the air of a private home. Around it are the tall, shady trees it was named after. Careful arrangement of the apartments give the occupants privacy, yet easy access to social contacts.

"The Maples" officially opened its doors May 1. Five apartments are already occupied and three are still available. Residence is limited to those with low or moderate income. All must be independent living and enjoy life in a small community. Applications are accepted from handicapped persons of any age, but others must be age 62 or over.

"I love it up here," Evelyn Boucher said recently. Mrs. Boucher left her home on Petticoat Hill Road in Williamsburg to be near her daughter and son-in-law Marilyn and Robert Bartlett and their family.

Ethel and Stanley Mason, the only married couple, celebrated their 62nd wedding anniversary Saturday in their new home. Of those years together only six were spent living out of town.

Both are quick to say that they enjoy "The Maples," especially the convenient lay-out and the special design in their two-bedroom apartment for the handicapped. Mrs.

Mason is partially handicapped due to a hip injury several years ago.

One person who has made the adjustments much easier is site manager Judy Spiess. Mrs. Spiess "treats us like family," Mrs. Boucher said. She likened the manager's attitude to that of a shepherdess looking out for her flock.

The manager herself is much less outspoken about the hours of work she had donated to the project. She had been involved in it from the start as a housing board member. In addition to the time spent on paperwork, telephoning, and other tasks, Mrs. Spiess also attended workshops on housing management and took a national test to become a certified housing manager.

She is employed by Elderly Housing Management of North Haven, Conn., the non-profit organization in charge of the complex's management.

In order to see the project open Mrs. Spiess took a leave-of-absence from her job as a dental hygienist.

But she quickly points out the long list of donations received. Lamps and silverware for the community room, plants and shrubs, even a load of manure for the garden area have all been donated. "The attitude of the community has been really great," she said.

Lucie Mollison, 84, teacher and Gazette correspondent

WORTHINGTON — Lucie (Glass) Mollison, the Worthington correspondent for the Daily Hampshire Gazette for more than 14 years, died yesterday at the Berkshire Medical Center in Pittsfield.

Mrs. Mollison, 84, had moved to the Maples apartments for senior citizens in May, leaving her home of 58 years on Huntington Road.

Born in Swampscott July 11, 1899, she was the daughter of the late Joseph and Ida Glass.

She had been a resident of Worthington for 63 years.

A graduate of Lynn English High School, she graduated from the Salem Normal School in 1918.

She taught school in Cummington and Goshen before her marriage to Harry W. Mollison in 1920. He died in 1968.

Although she grew up in a city, Mrs. Mollison readily adapted to country life. "She threw herself into the community," one friend said. "You'd never know she hadn't lived here forever."

She and her husband operated one of the largest dairy farms in Worthington for many years. "I raised my family on a farm. I don't think I could ever go back to living in the city," she said in a Gazette interview in May.

She and her husband also delivered the mail at one time, beginning in the days when letters still were delivered by horseback.

Active in many of the town's organizations, she was described as "an inspiration to a lot of people."

"People looked to her, both for her energy and for her frame of mind," recalled a long-time friend, Assistant Worthington Postmaster Harriet Osgood. "She was a fighter, an optimist. She had some hard times, but never let it get the better of her."

"She was a very intelligent woman. She read constantly," Mrs. Osgood recalled. She distributed the "special books for people in town," which were delivered regularly to her front porch.

In hard times and easy times, friends remembered her "cheerful nature. She always saw humor in situations," recalled another old friend, Lois Brown. "She was devoted to her family, but she also was involved in the town. As one of the oldest citizens, people leaned on her for a lot of information," Mrs. Brown said.

She was an avid gardener and provided her friends and family



LUCIE MOLLISON

with the fresh and preserved harvest of her berry patch and garden. The garden was "much bigger than she ever needed herself," Mrs. Brown said. "She was of the old school, never letting anything go to waste. She could make a silk purse from a sow's ear every day."

Mrs. Mollison brought her knowledge of the town and its people to her position as the Worthington correspondent, a job she assumed in May 1969. She kept the town abreast of the day-to-day activities of the town's various clubs and organizations, some of which met in her centrally located home.

She was a long-time member of the First Congregational Church.

Mrs. Mollison was a director of the Worthington Historical Society, and a member of the Women's Benevolent Society, the Friendship Guild, the Worthington Grange No. 90, the Highland Club, and the Worthington Library Association.

She also was a Gold Star mother. She is survived by two sons, Walter C. Mollison and Howard C. Mollison, both of Worthington, seven grandchildren, and nine great-grandchildren.

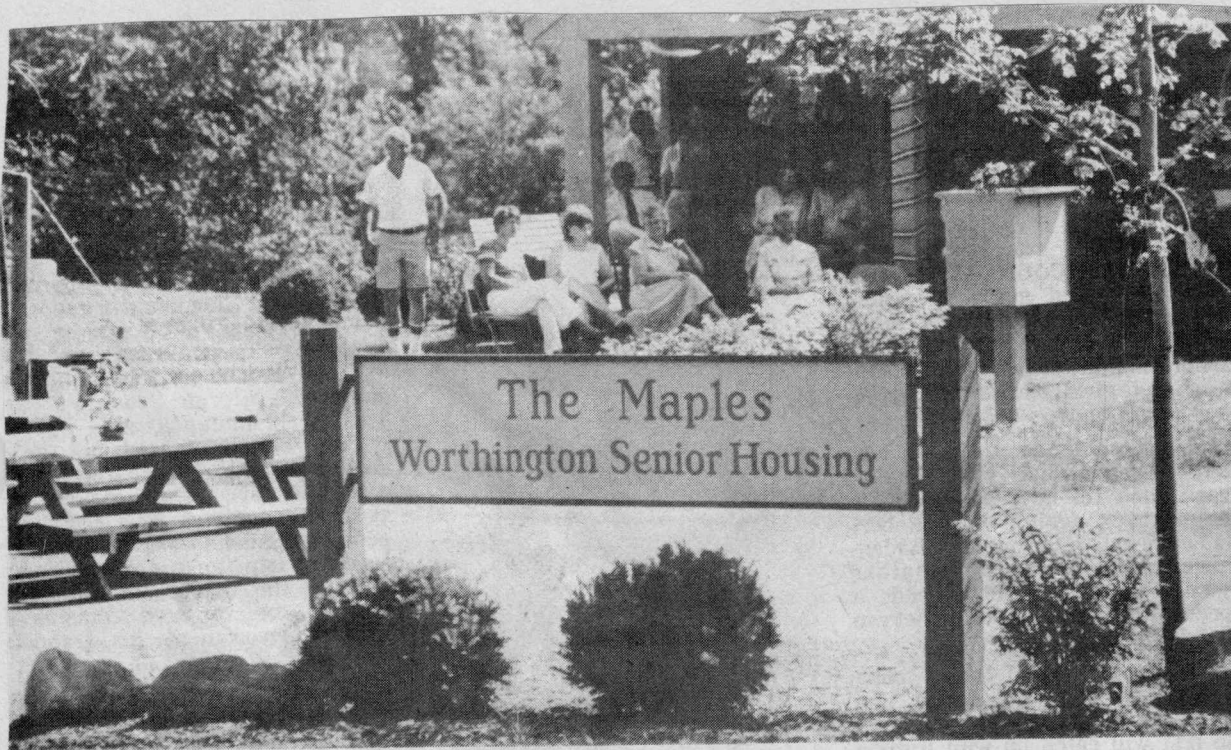
A third son, Donald W. Mollison, was killed in action on Guadalcanal during World War II.

Memorial services will be held in the Worthington Congregational Church on Thursday at 2 p.m.

The burial will be in the Center Cemetery in Worthington at the convenience of the family.

There are no calling hours. Contributions may be made to the Worthington Church or to the Maples Senior Housing in Worthington.

The funeral arrangements are being made by the Charles A. Bisbee Funeral Home in Chesterfield.



THE MAPLES, housing for the elderly on Old North Road, was dedicated Sunday with speeches by officials and an outdoor picnic on patio of the community room. (Photo by Janet Dimock)

She died July 19, 1983

Gazette July 9 '83

Edith Nagler: A devotion to painting nature is honored

By DENNIS SUMAN
HUNTINGTON — For the past 55 years, Edith Nagler has come to her stone home on a hilltop overlooking the Westfield River each summer to pursue a lifelong calling — painting the surrounding scenes of nature.

Friends and admirers recently honored the longtime Huntington resident and nationally recognized artist with an exhibit of her work.

Held in the Main Street annex of Paulson's Books, the event was sponsored by the bookstore and the Hilltown Community Development Corporation.

Barbara Cunningham Paulson, proprietor of the bookstore and agent for Mrs. Nagler, explained it was the right time to hold the gathering.

"I wanted to give people an opportunity to see her and her work," Mrs. Paulson said. "Mrs. Nagler has had such a long, active and successful life, she serves as an inspiration to all of us."

Mrs. Paulson spent several months gathering the hundreds of etchings, woodcuts, prints and

watercolors in the exhibit. She said the lack of oil paintings was due to their being in the hands of private collectors and the permanent collections of museums, such as the Wadsworth Atheneum in Hartford, the Highland Park Mu-

Suburban Spotlight

seum in Dallas and the Metropolitan Museum of Art and the George Walter Vincent Smith Museum in Springfield. The Federal Court House in Boston also owns several works.

Of the dozens of Huntington residents, friends and neighbors who came out to honor Mrs. Nagler, the artist said: "I only wish I knew each one individually."

Mrs. Nagler was born in a Greenwich Village brownstone in 1892. She said she always wanted

to be an artist and remembers cutting out paper dolls for herself and her sisters at a young age. She attended Morris High School in the Bronx and then spent three years at the National Academy of Design in New York City where she met her husband, Fred, who is a renowned artist in his own right. Together they attended the Arts Student League from 1913-17. She studied with Robert Henri and for two years won scholarships to work under Frank Vincent Drummond.

Mrs. Nagler's long professional career began with work submitted to judged gallery exhibitions in New York City. Her first piece accepted by such an exhibition was a pastel portrait accepted by the Grand Central Gallery.

"After that, my work was very often accepted," Mrs. Nagler said.

She was soon successful enough to have her own exhibitions, and in the late 1920s opened her own studio in New York where she

worked for 60 years before moving to Texas with her husband to escape the northern winters and be with her children.

In 1928, the Naglers decided to come to Huntington to spend their summers and built the stone home they still live in on a hill that overlooks the Westfield River.

"This is intimate, sweet country," Nagler said. "The East branch of the Westfield River is probably the most beautiful stream in the country. You can never tire of it."

The couple will celebrate their 55th wedding anniversary next month.

Although Mrs. Nagler's career has spanned many artistic movements throughout the century, they did not influence her to any great extent, nor stop her from developing her own individual style.

"I've always gone my own way," she said.

Mrs. Nagler's work reflects a



FRED AND EDITH NAGLER

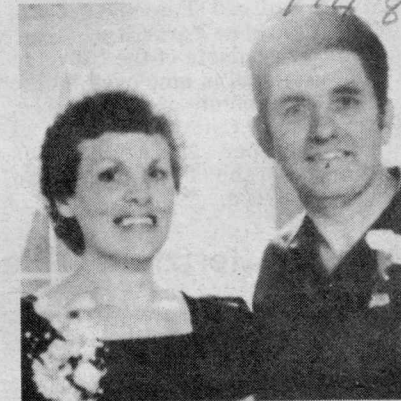
love and understanding of both nature and people. Her landscapes are rich and full of detail and often include scenes of rural life. Her watercolors of flower groups are renowned for their technical accuracy and balance.

Recent illness had not stopped Mrs. Nagler from continuing to paint. Both she and her husband still regularly set up their easels and can be seen capturing on canvases the flowers and woodland that surround their home.

Frews celebrate 25th

7/14/83
WORTHINGTON — Marjorie and Forrest Frew of Huntington Road celebrated their 25th wedding anniversary at a surprise party held June 20 at the Worthington Golf Club on Ridge Road.

The Frews were married June 22, 1958, at the Goshen First Congregational Church. They have lived in Worthington all their married life. About 60 guests attended the anniversary celebration.



MARJORIE and FORREST FREW



JULIE VUKOVICH of Chesterfield and **Stephen Kulik** of Worthington are participating in a two-year program to promote leadership skills among people in rural New England. Kulik also recently became the Western Massachusetts director of the state's energy program. (Photo by Sandra Doucett)

Worthington man has state energy post

By JANET DIMOCK

WORTHINGTON — Western Massachusetts in general — and small towns in particular — have a new spokesman in state government in Stephen Kulik of Worthington, the regional director for the state Executive Office of Energy Resources.

As the director for Western Massachusetts — from the New York State line to Worcester — Kulik will oversee all of the state's energy projects.

Kulik lives on Thayer Hill Road in an energy-efficient home, which he and his wife, Suzanne, helped build. Residents of the town for about seven years, the Kuliks have a 10-month-old son, Samuel.

An interest in new energy technology and the special problems faced by small communities are two of the concerns Kulik plans to bring in the job he assumed in April.

His interest in alternative energy and rural life is evident in his home. The house is tucked away off a dirt road, and finished in gray-hued, weathered clapboards. It also is warmed by a passive-solar system and wood heat.

The job was established three years ago, and Kulik's office is in Springfield.

Kulik has a varied background in energy issues and in government. He is a former director of the Hilltown Energy Project and the Hampshire County Energy Resource Center. He also worked as an energy and economic development specialist for the lieutenant governor's office.

He is a member of the Massachusetts Rural Development Committee

and is treasurer and a founding member of the Hilltown Community Development Corp.

He wrote the "Worthington Guide to Town Government" and he is chairman of the local Democratic Committee. He also is the primary author of a soon-to-be-published guide to natural areas in New England.

In April, Kulik was elected to a three-year term as a selectman.

Kulik already has some plans for his new state job. "Under the new administration, the focus of the job is going to change a bit," he said. In addition to supporting the usual grant programs, he also wants the office to be more responsive to small communities and to take a more active role on utility rate issues.

And, because small communities often have trouble in taking advantage of energy programs as a result of a lack of manpower, Kulik wants to "streamline the grant process, both in applying for and administering grants."

A disproportionate amount of the

money now goes to cities and suburban towns that have full-time officials, he said.

Kulik also hopes to provide support for the emerging advances in energy technology.

A number of new energy programs are being planned. A new "solar and conservation bank," offering lower interest loans for residential projects, should be available soon through local banks. About \$1.7 million was allocated across the state. Federal subsidies are used to lower the interest rates, he explained.

Also in the works are an institutional conservation program for communities; an alternative energy property program to install alternative energy devices; and an energy extension service to administer federal money for educational uses and demonstration projects.

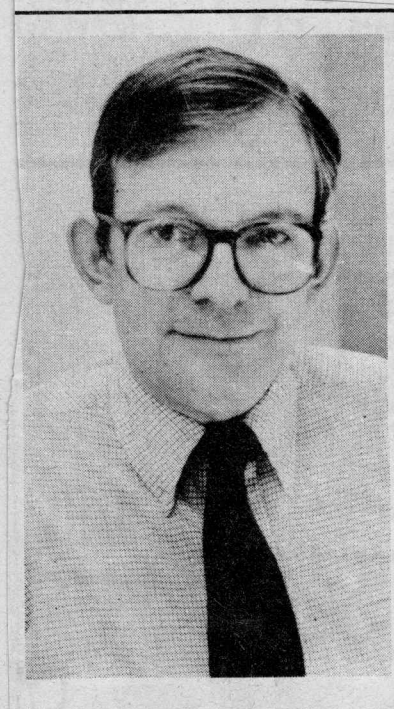
Creating jobs through these alternatives is an additional advantage, Kulik said. "If you can decrease the amount spent on energy, then there is more money left in the local economy for job development," he said.

● Anthony Lake:

Apr 30
183
W. Anthony Lake, 44, is a Five-College professor of international relations based at Amherst College. He moved to Worthington two years ago after a State Department career that spanned 18 years.

Stationed in Vietnam for two years in the early 1960s, Lake later became a special assistant to National Security Adviser Henry Kissinger. He resigned in 1970 over President Nixon's decision to extend the war in Indochina by invading Cambodia.

After being out of government for several years, Lake served under President Carter as the State Department's director of policy planning from 1977 to 1981.



In Worthington

Two wells polluted by Temik

By HAL LANGFUR

WORTHINGTON — The wells of two families here have been found to be polluted by Temik, a highly toxic pesticide often used in potato farming.

And the preliminary results from the testing of water drawn from other private Worthington wells indicates the Temik problem may be "more serious than people thought," according to the technician who conducted most of the tests.

With a number of tests still incomplete, water taken from four of seven wells on which Temik tests have been done by an Easthampton firm have been found to contain detectable levels of aldicarb, the active ingredient in Temik, the technician, Carol Sacco, said in a telephone interview this week. Ms. Sacco works for Tighe and Bond, an engineering consulting firm.

Temik, which is manufactured by the Union Carbide Corp., has been used on potato farms in Worthington

Financing help offered for testing of wells

WORTHINGTON — A group rate for those interested in having their wells tested for Temik residue has been obtained by a special town committee.

Committee Chairman Jeff Fowler has announced that the group is taking names of those interested in the testing for aldicarb, a residue of a pesticide used by potato farmers in Hampshire County in recent years. Testing by the state pesticide board in June found residue in two wells in the Radiker Road area. State officials are still studying the situation and have not announced plans for more tests, Fowler said.

Testing of this kind is expensive but if six or more tests are done participants will save almost \$40

each, Fowler said. The \$125 cost per test will be reduced to \$87.50.

Letters announcing the opportunity have been sent to those that the committee determined live in the vicinity of a potato field, but tests will be done for anyone interested.

The committee was appointed earlier this month by the selectmen. Members plan to keep in touch with state officials to investigate funding sources to pay for the costs of the tests. It is intended to supplement the efforts of the selectmen and the Board of Health. More information is available from Fowler of Bashan Hill Road, Laurie Doyle of Cumington Road, Donald Ives and Ellen Caputo of Radiker Road.



THIS PHOTOGRAPH of a gathering of residents of the Worthington area, taken around 1900, has been donated to the Worthington Historical Society by Marguerite Zarr.

Recorded now for posterity

Worthington's history book: half century in the making

By HAL LANGFUR

In honor of its 50th anniversary, the Worthington Historical Society plans to complete the work which began in 1933 on a town history, but the high cost may delay the publication.

If enough money can be raised, the book, titled "Papers on the History of Worthington," will be available in time for Christmas, a member of the editorial board, Elizabeth Payne, announced at the society's annual meeting last weekend. A final typing of the 365-page manuscript now is being prepared by another member, Betty DeVecca of Old North Road.

Because of the expense, the plans to publish a typeset, hardbound edition have been abandoned. Even a photocopied, paperbound edition of the book will be difficult to finance, Mrs. Payne noted.

The Pioneer Valley Printing Co. of Easthampton has estimated the cost of printing 500 copies at nearly \$9,000. If every copy is sold at the proposed price of \$10, the society will have to come up with about \$4,000.

Mrs. Payne hoped that money from the treasury and private contributors would solve the problem. "We'll get it published one way or

another," she said.

The president of the society, Marion Sweeney, also has begun looking for state and private sources of grants. "Monies are available," said Mrs. Sweeney, "and sometimes it shakes me to see how well endowed our local universities are while we have such little money to work with."

"A book as valuable as this is certainly worth more than \$10," said another member, Julia J. Sharon. She recommended raising the price to \$15 a copy. In a unanimous show of hands, the nearly 30 members who attended Saturday supported the higher price.

"Our problem is not to have more material than we can afford," said Mrs. Payne. The book has been cut down and condensed to save money.

The book is based on letters, diaries, account books, and legal papers which have been collected by society members since 1933, when the project originated. The chapter headings include "The Early Settlers," "History of Early Industries in Worthington," "Worthington's Outsiders," and "Worthington in the Wars."

The book will describe significant people and events in the town's past and will contain a detailed chronology.

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"Some parts will make interesting reading; others will serve as records and reference sources," Mrs. Payne said.

In other business, these officers were elected: Dorothea Hayes, treasurer; Linda Gunn, secretary; and Peg Rolland, Jenny Fairman and Marcia Feaks, directors. Lois Ashe Brown will continue as a director and Mrs. Sweeney will continue as president.

After the meeting, a reception was held for some of the society's benefactors: Henry H. Snyder, Lawrence B. Shepherd, Marguerite Zarr, and Dorothy Beebe.

Snyder has donated a half acre on Old Post Road as the site for the relocation of the Capen-Riverside School, the headquarters for the society. Shepherd has pledged a "substantial donation" toward the relocation of the schoolhouse and for publication of the town history. Mrs. Zarr donated a historic print of residents of Worthington and its contiguous communities taken around 1900. And Mrs. Beebe has presented an oil painting of the Capen-Riverside schoolhouse in memory of her father, Walter Tower.

Worthington

• The Worthington Library Corp. has held its 84th annual meeting and elected these officers:

Cynthia Watson of Bullington Hill Road, president; Cornelius Sharron of Buffington Hill Road, vice president; John Sweeney of Conwell Road, treasurer; Elizabeth Payne of Huntington Road, clerk; and Winifred Arcouette of Hill Road, auditor.

The former president of the corporation, Constance Dorrington of Scott Road, and Stephen Kulik of Thayer Hill Road, were elected to three-year terms on the board of directors. And Janet Osborn will complete the year which remains on the term of the late Lucy Mollison.

Cynthia Watson, elected president

Markerts celebrate 50th

WORTHINGTON — Walter C. and Frances Markert of Old North Road, formerly of Amherst, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary Sept. 4 at the Whale Inn in Goshen.

About 100 guests attended the celebration given by their children, Walter C. Markert Jr., of Ballston Lake, N.Y., and Gertrude Leland, of East Hampstead, N.H.

The former Frances Emery of Easthampton and Walter C. Markert of Holyoke were married Sept. 4, 1933, in St. Phillip's Episcopal Church in Easthampton.

Markert retired from Amherst College in 1978 as assistant director

of the physical plant after 43 years of service. He served for 11 years as selectman in Amherst and was president and honorary life member of the Hampshire County Selectmen's Association. He was the past master of Pacific Lodge of Masons in Amherst and Deputy Sheriff of Hampshire County. The couple are members of Worthington Congregational Church, and Markert has served as moderator for the past eight years.

The couple have six grandchildren.

9/15/83

Voters approve furnaces for Town Hall, fire house

WORTHINGTON — Special Town Meeting voters Tuesday approved the purchase of new oil-fired furnaces for the Town Hall and the fire house on Huntington Road.

Support for the \$5,197 purchase was almost unanimous. There was only one vote opposing the Town Hall purchase. The funds for the equipment will be transferred from the overlay surplus account. The overlay money is set aside by the assessors to pay tax abatements.

The bid for the furnaces was awarded to R. Lamothe Heating and Air Conditioning of Easthampton. The amount includes installation, thermostats, wiring and equipment guarantee.

The fire house furnace will have a 175,000 BTU input and costs \$2,356. The Town Hall Furnace will have a 280,000 BTU input and costs \$2,841.

The fire house furnace now in use cannot be used for another heating season. The Town Hall furnace now in use is a converted coal burner and is inefficient to run, according to the selectmen.

Stanley S. Mason 9/16/83

WORTHINGTON — Stanley S. Mason, 81, of Old North Road, died yesterday at the Berkshire Medical Center in Pittsfield, after a short illness.

Born in Rochester, Jan. 16, 1902, he was the son of the late Howard N. and Edith (Smith) Mason.

Mason worked for 11 years for the Massachusetts Turnpike Authority until his retirement in 1968. Previously, he had been a 20 year employee of the Worthington Highway Department.

He was a 50 year member of the Worthington Grange and also belonged to the Hillside Pomona Grange, and the Worthington Rod and Gun Club.

Mason was a member of the Worthington Congregational Church.

He is survived by his wife, the former Ethel Haskell; three sons, Glen Mason of Coxsackie, N.Y., Stanley Mason Jr. of Amherst, and Harley Mason of Worthington; two daughters, Joyce Mollison of Worthington and Dorothy Schott of Huntington; a brother, Donald Mason of Northampton; a sister, Winifred Johnson of Huntington; 18 grandchildren and 15 great-grandchildren.

The funeral will be tomorrow at 2 p.m. at the Worthington Congregational Church.

The burial will be in the Ringville Cemetery in Worthington.

Calling hours at the Bisbee Funeral Home in Chesterfield are today from 7 to 9 p.m.

Contributions may be made in his memory to the Maples Housing for the Elderly in Worthington or to the Huntington Lion's Club.

12 Daily Hampshire Gazette, Northampton, Mass., Fri., September 16, 1983

Suburban

Worthington sets higher valuations on most property

By HAL LANGFUR

WORTHINGTON — The Board of Assessors report that most Worthington residents will face a "substantial" increase in their property values in fiscal 1984. However, they expect that a simultaneous drop in the tax rate will offset much of the impact of the recent revaluations.

Most residents therefore should expect a "slight, if any, increase in their overall property taxes," according to one assessor, Robert E. Mason.

However, an especially dramatic increase is being proposed in the assessments placed on various types of land.

John E. Reagan, the chairman of the assessors, said today that at this point he cannot speculate about how much more an average resident might have to pay.

The raise in property values has resulted from the recent revaluation of residences and other buildings which — depending on the type of property — have yielded from 7 to 33 percent higher values than the current assessment.

The value of all land in the town, both developed and undeveloped, also has been reassessed.

The new property values have received a preliminary approval from the state Department of Revenue, according to Mason.

"The state has given us initial approval that these prices reflect the fair and full market value of the land," said Reagan said.

To inform people about the new values being placed on their properties, the board will send out "impact notices" as soon as possible, according to Mason.

The assessors then will set a public hearing, probably early next month, at which residents may discuss the new values.

Reagan said that after that meeting, the board will submit the new property values to state officials for final certification.

The new values are based on a report submitted in December by

Spencer-Fitts, Inc. of Belchertown, a consulting firm hired by the assessors.

The firm's report calls for these increases:

— Twenty-seven percent on a one-story house with a finished attic with under 2,100 square feet;

— Seven percent on all other houses with less than 2,100 square feet, regardless of the number of stories;

— Thirty three percent for all other houses with greater than 2,100 square feet.

— However, one-story houses with attics and more than 2,100 square feet will be valued at 9 percent less than their current value after the reassessment.

These values "reflect the fact that the larger homes are generally of a higher grade than the smaller homes and their higher desirability is reflected in the sales prices," the report says.

But only two or three houses in town fit the category which will be cut in value, Reagan said.

In addition to the increases, the assessors also have set new values on land. They are:

— Two-acre developed house lots in the town's water district, \$9,000, up from \$6,000;

— Two-acre developed house lots not using town water, \$8,000, up from \$4,500;

— Two-acre undeveloped properties, a new classification, building lots, \$6,000; — Woodland, up to 40 acres, \$400 an acre, up from \$150; additional woodland over 40 acres, \$300 an acre, up from \$150;

— Tillable land, \$600 an acre, up from \$300; open pastureland, \$500 acre, up from \$225;

— Wasteland, a new classification, \$100 an acre.

The new building values will be combined with the new land values to determine the final assessment for fiscal 1984. The values will be based on the most recent assessment, the one done Jan. 1, 1983, the board said.

September 8, 1983

35 cents

Tax collector is going after unpaid taxes

By Janet Dimock

WORTHINGTON—Tax Collector Beverly Bowman has started legal proceedings in an attempt to collect \$10,694 in unpaid property taxes.

Tax taking proceedings against 10 parties will begin Sept. 21 unless payments are made. A list of delinquent taxpayers and the amounts owed was published as a legal advertisement last Thursday in the *Daily Hampshire Gazette*.

"It does not mean that people are going to lose their home or property," Mrs. Bowman explained. "Tax taking is the equivalent to a mortgage to the town of Worthington." Property will not be seized, homes auctioned off or the families left homeless. Instead, the property owner must make payments to the town treasurer after that date.

"It's a way of ensuring that the town of Worthington can collect on the loan," she said. On Sept. 21, the tax collector will formally announce the property owners and parcels involved. Then a certificate will be filed with the Registry of Deeds. After that regular payment must be made to the treasurer. Property owners may face foreclosure proceedings if adequate payments still are not made. In this situation, only one parcel involves a year-round dwelling, she said.

Tax taking proceedings have not been initiated since the mid to late 1970s, the tax collector said. She has served in that post for one year. Mrs. Bowman added that she was reluctant to start the proceedings but said "legally the collector is bound to collect taxes when they are due."

Tax taking procedure is not a pleasant situation for either party. "It's a stressful situation for the taxpayers and it's a stressful situation for the collector," she added. All parties owing back taxes and who have not been making payments were notified recently about the legal advertisement by certified letter so that they are all aware of the action.

Despite the unpleasant side of the process, Mrs. Bowman is optimistic that most of the money due the town will be paid. Since the announcement last spring that names would be published and legal proceedings initiated against delinquent taxpayers, many overdue accounts have been paid. Mrs. Bowman did not have the figures immediately available but said that a considerable amount has been collected. She also expects more accounts to be taken care of before the deadline. "There are quite a few that will be paid up," Mrs. Bowman predicted.

Worthington artists win awards

WORTHINGTON—Two local artists received awards recently at the opening of the Sixtieth Annual Pittsfield Art League exhibition at the Berkshire museum on South Street in Pittsfield.

Karin Cook of Bashan Hill Road received a Newman Memorial Award for her watercolor "The

Jarvis Line." Jimmy Albert of Huntington Road received an award of excellence and an award of \$100 in recognition of his pen and ink drawing entitled "Reflections." A total of 40 works and four sculptures are on display at the exhibition which will run through the end of this month.

Worthington assessments fuel a lively public hearing

By HAL LANGFUR

WORTHINGTON — The assessors this week disclosed a plan that involves substantial increases in property valuations, leaving many residents confused and angered.

A public meeting last night drew more than 60 property owners whose land, in some cases, has doubled in valuation on the town's tax rolls.

The assessors emphasized that a simultaneous drop in the tax rate will offset much of the impact of the recent revaluations, and they insisted the new values reflect the fair market worth of each property.

"We have tried in the past to keep lower land values," said one assessor, Robert E. Mason. "Now, they've finally caught up with us and we're sorry," he said.

However, many residents vehemently opposed the increases being placed on land values.

Kenneth Baul, a vehement critic of the plan, accused the assessors of "going by top market values, not fair market values." Baul this week learned his more than 100-acre property has been revalued at \$218,000, up from \$150,00. He said he has been trying since May to sell the land.

"You haven't convinced me that those prices reflect fair market value," said another taxpayer.

Mason explained that the new figures are based on a report submitted in December by the now defunct Spencer-Fitts Inc. of Belchertown, a consulting firm hired by the assessors. "And the revaluation has been accepted by the state Department of Revenue," added John E. Reagan, the chairman of the assessors.

The new property values include these increases:

— Twenty-seven percent on a one-story house with a finished attic and under 2,100 square feet;

— Seven percent on all other houses with less than 2,100 square

feet, regardless of the number of stories;

— Thirty-three percent on all other houses with greater than 2,100 square feet.

In addition to these increases, the assessors also have set these values on land:

— Two-acre developed house lots in the town's water district, \$9,000, up from \$6,000;

— Two-acre developed house lots not using town water, \$8,000, up from \$4,500;

— Two-acre undeveloped properties, a new classification, \$6,000.

— Woodland, up to 40 acres, \$400 an acre, up from \$150; additional woodland over 40 acres, \$300 an acre, up from \$150;

— Tillable land, \$600 an acre, up from \$300; open pastureland, \$500 an acre, up from \$225;

— Wasteland, a new classification, \$100 an acre.

The total assessment for all town land is just over \$29 million, a figure that is more than 25 percent higher than the previous assessment of \$23 million, Mason said.

The Department of Revenue based its approval of the assessments on three factors, Reagan said. These factors were the previous valuation of land in the town, the prices of recent land sales in the area, and the proposed valuation of land, he said.

Many residents were upset by what they considered the arbitrary nature of the new figures.

"You're taking a formula and applying it to property regardless of its location," Baul told the board.

Other residents objected to the substantial difference between the 7 percent increase in the valuation of houses with less than 2,100 square feet and the 33 percent increase for homes with more than that square-footage.

However, the board maintained the reassessment had been done as fairly as possible.

Defending the assessors, Robert Cook, the chairman of the Planning Board, said, "We've been watching land values for a long time, and have felt that the assessors were undervaluing land." He termed the new values "very fair."

At their meeting Nov. 3, the assessors will send the new values to the state Department of Revenue in Boston for final approval. Then, a tax rate will be set, and the tax bills will be mailed, Mason said.

Then, if any property owners believe their land has been unfairly assessed, they can apply to the board for an abatement, Mason said.

Gary Granger, whose property has doubled in value in one year from \$3,000 to \$6,000, said, "I think a lot of our minds would be set at ease if you could tell us what the tax rate will be."

Although the exact tax rate has not been established, Mason said it probably will be less than \$15 per \$1,000 of assessed value. The current rate is \$18.25.

After the meeting, Mason said, "We feel that we are justified in what we have done. By the time people get their tax bills, I think they'll be satisfied."

Suburban

Worthington

• Scott Brodrick of Harvey Road is one of 49 students from 24 colleges and universities participating in the "Instep Semester" program at the Institute of Political and Economic Studies in London.

The project is sponsored by Beaver College in Glenside, Pa.

The group left from New York Sept. 4. In England, they had an orientation period before living with a British family for a week, sharing daily experiences as a member of the family.

The four-month, four-course program offers an inter-disciplinary approach to the study of contemporary British and European political, economic, and social institutions. Its main theme is the growing interrelationship of political, cultural, and economic understanding in modern society.

A political science major, Brodrick is a student at Amherst College.

Emerson feted upon retirement

WORTHINGTON — Fred C. Emerson of Ireland Street was honored Oct. 30 by more than 200 friends on the occasion of his retirement from the state Department of Public Welfare.

Many public officials were among the guests, including Hampshire County Sheriff John Boyle and former Agawam selectmen Walter Kerr and Andrew Galano.

Henry H. Snyder of Worthington was chairman of the event. He was assisted by Clarence Jordan of Cummington, R.A. Smith of Huntington, and Roy Rida, Roger Gunn and Fred Smith, all of Worthington. Vincent Caroleo of Agawam, deputy commissioner of the state Department of Commerce, was master of ceremonies. Raymond Fontana of Springfield gave a testimonial.

Another party for Emerson was held earlier by the staff of his Greenfield office.

Emerson has served as Agawam selectman in the 1950s, been a member of the Worthington Finance Committee and served on Worthington's Bicentennial Committee in 1968.



JAMES ALBERT shows his "Reflections," a pen and ink drawing, one of 20 which will be exhibited Saturday. (Photo by Hal Langfur)

• A local artist, James Albert, will hold the first public showing of his pen and ink drawings Saturday.

It will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Town Hall.

The exhibit, which is being sponsored by the Friends of the Worthington Library, will include a wide range of the artist's work, including original drawings of historical homes, landscapes, and other scenes familiar to Worthington residents.

"I'm having this show because the townspeople know my work and have asked to see it," Albert said in an interview at his home on Sam Hill Road where he lives with his wife, Aida.

Albert said he has concentrated on pen and ink drawings for the past eight years, although he has been interested in art since he was six years old. The full-time artist, who has spent his entire life in Worthington, now divides his time

equally between his pen and ink drawings and his commercial art work in advertising and logotype design.

Ethel M. Britt

WORTHINGTON—Ethel M. Britt, 84, formerly of Worthington, died last Saturday at the Berkshire Hills North Nursing Home in Lee.

Born in Worthington Nov. 16, 1898, she was the daughter of the late Ernest and Delana (Jones) Thayer. She was the widow of Raymond J. Britt who died in 1968.

Prior to entering the nursing home, Mrs. Britt lived for several years in Pittsfield where she was a member of the Pittsfield Senior Citizens group.

She is survived by two nieces.

The funeral was Wednesday at the Charles A. Bisbee Funeral Home in Chesterfield. The burial was in the North Cemetery in Worthington.

Arts and entertainment



COMPOSER AND pianist John Newell says the process of composition remains a mystery. He will be performing some of his own and other pieces tomorrow evening in the Russell Conwell School. (Photo by Hal Langfur)

Worthington
Huntington composer John Newell

Inhabiting music's mazes

By HAL LANGFUR

Knossos, an ancient city in North-Crete, was a magical and mysterious place. There, at the center of a vast and intricate labyrinth, lying in wait for unsuspecting prey, lived the Minotaur, half-man, half-beast.

"Knossos" is also the title of a composition for solo piano by Worthington pianist-composer John Newell. The title suggests both the mysterious nature of the piano piece and of the art of composition.

In an interview last week at his home on Harvey Road, Newell played excerpts from "Knossos." Like the ancient city, the short piano piece evokes labyrinthine mysteries. Emotionally charged, and at times harsh and disorienting, the piece was composed two years ago after Newell had read about the once-great Cretan civilization.

Knowledge of the Cretans, Newell learned, has come to us only in fragments. Similarly, his piano piece consists of a myriad of disconnected fragments. Long silences, crashing chord clusters and alluring melodies interrupted unexpectedly by unsettling dissonances confuse, then hypnotize the listener.

Like the legendary labyrinth, "you can't get out of this piece," said Newell. "One of the functions of this composition and of art in general is to challenge people and make them a little uncomfortable," he said.

He finds the process of composing as mysterious as the mythical maze. "You never know where the idea for a composition comes from."

Sometimes he feels an emotion that can only be expressed through music. Sometimes a poem inspires him. Sometimes he begins with a melody, and sometimes with just a rhythm.

On a penciled sketch of an unfinished composition, Newell pointed out scattered musical ideas — melodies without rhythms and rhythms without chords — that he had scribbled between staves and in margins.

These ideas, he said, are often written into the piece at places completely different from where they were conceived.

The final product results from a slow, grueling process that combines the artist's search for self-knowledge and self-expression with his desire to communicate with others.

"There's a movement among contemporary composers to be more accessible, and that doesn't necessarily mean a compromise must be made," said Newell. "For instance, I'm not writing music that only a virtuoso orchestra could play. A civic or university orchestra could play my music," he said. "Nobody wants to hear the world's most difficult piece, so I don't write it."

Nevertheless, the composer said it has been difficult getting people to hear his music, although his skill as a concert pianist has helped. This year for the first time, Newell is playing solo concerts, and in February, as part of his plan to make more public appearances, he will tour North Carolina, his native state, and Virginia.

Newell, who in 1978 settled here with his wife, Lyn Horton, and 4-

year-old son, Spencer, left North Carolina after graduating from Duke University and earned a Ph.D. in composition from the State University of New York in Buffalo.

He has appeared throughout the United States as composer, pianist, conductor and lecturer. His compositions have been performed in the U.S., Europe, and South America.

"The average concert pianist doesn't get as far as I do into the 20th century repertoire," said Newell, who plays the entire range of 20th century music. In this century, there have been more new styles than in all of music history, he said.

His own compositions range in style from a harp solo, titled "Aardvark Processions," which had its premiere in New York at Carnegie Recital Hall in 1980, to a piano solo called "The Caprice of Death in 1982," which Newell composed in memory of those who died that year in the Middle East, Afghanistan, and El Salvador.

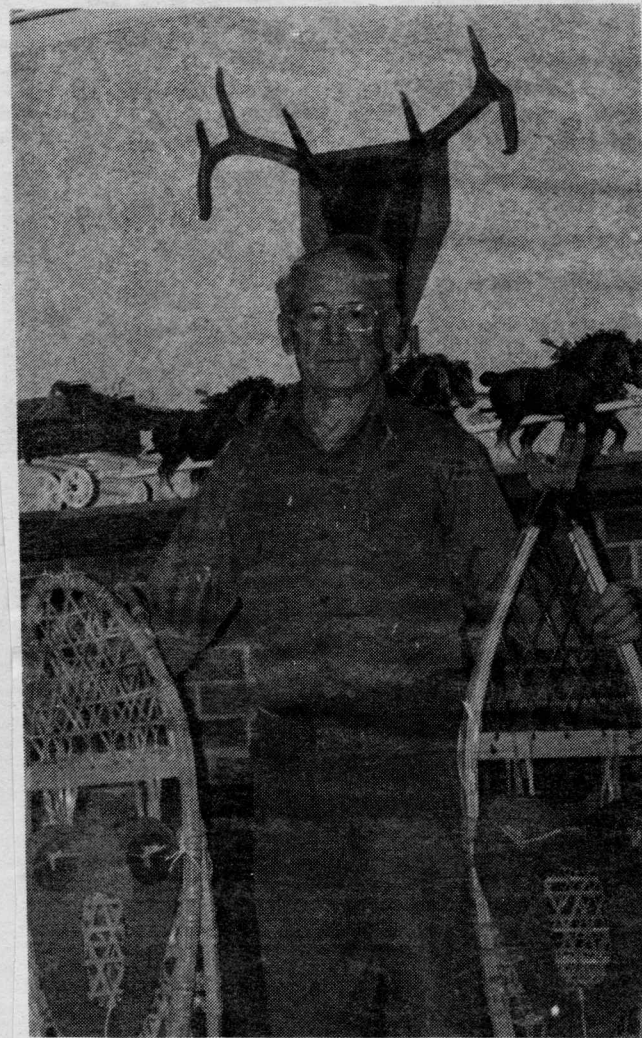
Newell will play both of these pieces, along with a third composition, titled "A Pleasant Fugue," at a performance tomorrow at 7:30 p.m. in the multipurpose room of the Russell H. Conwell Elementary School on Huntington Road. He will also play works by Claude Debussy and Leos Janacek.

Following his performance, the artist will speak on the art of composing. "I want to give people an idea of where my ideas come from," said Newell.

The performance and talk will be given in appreciation of the Worthington Arts Council, which recently gave Newell an \$86 grant.

thursday, december 8, 1983

Making snowshoes



Handmade snowshoes are a special hobby enjoyed by Ralph Smith of Middlefield. He exhibits his craft in the photo shown above. (Photo by Janet Dimock)

Sport shop to open at Worthington site

WORTHINGTON — A sporting goods store will open here in time for deer week in December.

The shop in the home of Harley and Althea Mason on Huntington Road will carry a range of hunting equipment, including guns and ammunition, bows and arrows, knives, boots and other outdoor clothing.

Mrs. Mason is the town clerk in Worthington, and her husband works for the Stanley Home Products Co.

"There are lots of hunters here, and no local supply stores to serve them," Mrs. Mason noted.

The Masons are completing a small addition to their home to house the shop and have applied for a permit to allow the store to open.

A public hearing will be held Oct. 20 at 8 p.m. at the Town Hall to decide on the permit.

To sell munitions, the shop has to be licensed by the state and federal government, Mrs. Mason noted. She hopes those licenses will arrive by December. If not, the Masons will open anyway, but without any bullets or gunpowder in their inventory.

The shop will be open during the evenings on Wednesdays through Fridays, on Saturdays and, possibly, on Sundays during the day.

Oct 12 1983

Timber sale to net more than \$8,000 this winter for Worthington

By HAL LANGFUR

WORTHINGTON — The selectmen last night said the town will make more than \$8,000 on the sale of town timber this winter.

The board unanimously chose high bidder John B. Lynch of Chesterfield to run the selective timber harvesting operation on 50 municipal acres off Ring Road. Lynch bid \$10,000 for the timber.

Lynch said today that he plans to begin logging the land in January, after he finishes his Christmas tree sales.

Local logger Christopher Powell of Harvey Road proposed the project to the board earlier this year on behalf of his employer, Bay State Forestry Service of Shutesbury, which will receive 9 percent of the sale price (\$900) for its assistance.

Another \$1,000 will go to Chesterfield abutter Karl Davies for improvements to a private road leading to the timberland, the selectmen said.

The land lies in the area known as Jackson Swamp and will be ready for another profitable timber harvest in 10 years, according to Powell.

In other business, the selectmen discussed several zoning technicalities with members of the Board of Appeals and the Planning Board and the town building inspector, Ray Magargal.

The boards decided that an addendum will be attached to all future applications for zoning variances, requiring applicants to submit a

plot plan for the proposed development of a site, in compliance with the town's protective zoning bylaws, showing exactly how far back from each road a building must be to meet zoning requirements.

Planning Board Chairman Robert Cook said a road plan should be made, because variances must be controlled more strictly on certain roads, such as Routes 112 and 143, the two state highways that pass through town.

Cook asked the selectmen to help finance the project, which he estimated will take Clerk Phyllis Dassatti about 25 hours to complete. The selectmen agreed to the plan, but asked for a more detailed proposal from the Planning Board.

All three selectmen attended last night's meeting.

The bylaws ask applicants to show the location of all buildings,

parking areas, traffic access and circulation drives, open spaces, landscaping, and any other pertinent information that may be necessary to determine if the proposal meets town requirements.

In the past, applicants have not included detailed plot-plans with their variance requests and have left town zoning boards with much guesswork, the officials said.

The Planning Board also suggested that the town develop a detailed plan of town highways and roads,

Fred Nagler, renowned artist and summer resident, dies

By Rick Mosey

HUNTINGTON—When prominent artist Fred Nagler left his stone summer house on Nagler Cross Road in September, he took a long wistful look around his property.

"When we came to pick him up to take him to the airport, he was looking out over the hill," said Betty Tucker, a close friend of Mr. Nagler and Edith, his wife of 65 years. "I think he knew it was going to be his last summer here."

Mr. Nagler, 92, died in a nursing home in Dallas on Nov. 24. Born in Springfield, Mr. Nagler has spent his summers in Huntington for 65 years. He and Edith honeymooned at their Goss Hill home.

"Fred was originally from Springfield and he loved the area," said Mrs. Tucker, who spends summers in North Chester with her husband, John. "He met Edith and the Art Student's League in New York City and introduced her to the area. You always think of the two of them together—they were always together."

Mr. Nagler was widely known for his etchings, sculpture and portraits. He was also known for his religious motifs. His works are on display in museums, galleries, churches and universities throughout the country including the Childe Hassam, American Academy of Arts and Letters; the Halgarten Prize, National Academy of Design; John Barten Payne, Virginia Museum; Clark Prize, Corcoran Gallery, Washington, D.C.; Altman and Carnegie Prizes, National Academy of Design; Lamont Prize, First Prize, Museum of Springfield and First Prize, New Haven Museum.

The summer house, known simply as "The Stone House," sits on 200 acres with an appropriately inspiring view. The Naglers helped design the home themselves and oxen were used to drag the stones up the hill. The house was designed to serve as a studio with high windows and a cathedral ceiling. The ownership of the house has been transferred to his son, Joe, who lives in Texas.

Mr. Nagler remained active as an artist until recently. Since his wife, also an accomplished artist, recently broke her hip and has cataracts, Mr. Nagler did all of the errands, cooking and the wash.

May Smith of Montgomery recalled that last summer Mr. Nagler called her searching for a recipe for peanut brittle. Cathe DeLano of Bean Hill Road also received a call.

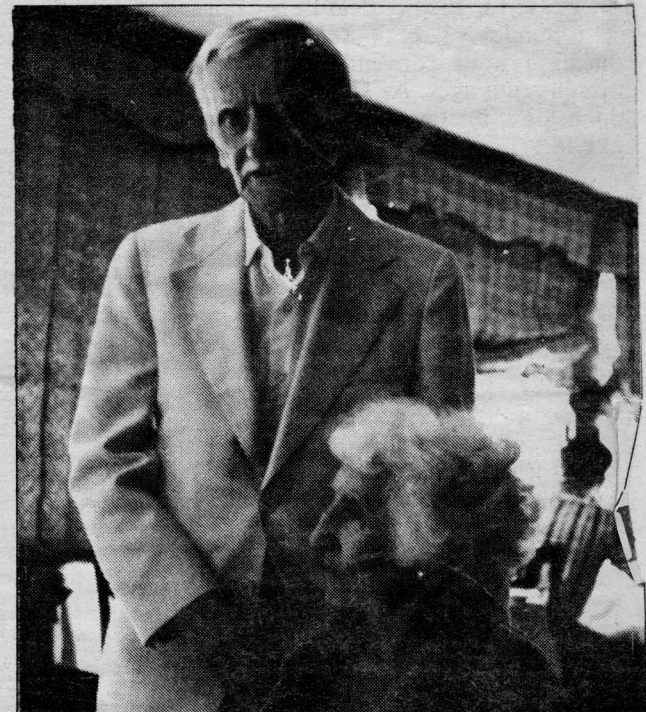
"He was calling all over for a recipe," Mrs. DeLano said. "He ended up using his own recipe—it was awful."

Mrs. DeLano, also a close friend of the Naglers, said Mr. Nagler "was one of the most Christian men I've ever met. He influenced everyone he met."

Mr. Nagler, especially during the last 10 years, led an active social life in the Hilltowns. He held parties for 60 to 70 guests at places like the former Page One Restaurant in Westfield and the Log Cabin in Holyoke.

"He would invite a diverse group of people that you would never think would mix at all," Mrs. DeLano said. "But Fred could get away with it because of their respect for him. He said it was good to mix up different kinds of people because some of one rubs off on the other."

Mrs. DeLano said that a memorial service will be held in Huntington in the spring. She suggested that donations be made in Mr. Nagler's name to a favorite charity.



Fred Nagler, attending his wife's 93rd birthday party this summer, at The Rapids Restaurant in Huntington. (Photo courtesy of Cathe DeLano)

Mr. Nagler lived in Springfield until 1914, when he went to study at the Art Student's League in New York City. After graduation in 1917, he moved there. He moved to Dallas 10 years ago.

He is survived by his wife, Edith (Kroger) Nagler of Dallas; a son, Joe of Dallas; a sister, Elsa Nagler of Springfield; and two grandsons, Paul and John.

The funeral was Monday in Dallas. Burial will be at the convenience of the family.

Uniform tax rate kept, businesses laud choice

By HAL LANGFUR

WORTHINGTON — To the applause of a dozen local small business owners, the selectmen last night unanimously voted to keep a uniform tax rate for town residential and commercial property.

This action, the last step to setting a town tax rate for fiscal 1984, means that owners of all types of properties in the community will be taxed equally.

The Board of Assessors, which attended last night's tax classification hearing, has not yet set the tax rate, but predicted it will be less than \$15 on every \$1,000 of taxed property. The current rate is \$18.25.

The assessors will determine the new rate this week and send it to the state Department of Revenue in Boston for certification, according to Assessor Robert E. Mason.

A lower tax rate was promised by the assessors this fall after a substantial increase in local property valuations angered many town residents. The lower rate will offset much of the impact of the recent revaluation, which set a total as-

essment for all town land at just over \$29 million, a figure that is 26 percent higher than the previous assessment of \$23 million.

At present, residential property owners pay 91.8 percent of Worthington's total tax bill, while commercial property owners pay 8.2 percent, Mason said.

"In the extreme case," these figures could have changed to 87.6 percent for residential tax payers and 12.4 percent for commercial tax payers. In that case, residential property owners would have been taxed at \$14.18 on every \$1,000 of taxed land and commercial property owners at \$22.27 on every \$1,000 of taxed land, said Mason.

This would have saved residential property owners about 70 cents on every \$1,000 and cost commercial property owners just over \$7 more on every \$1,000, he said.

Although the assessors would not reveal the final tax rate, based on these figures it apparently will be set at about \$14.88 on every \$1,000 of property owned.

WORTHINGTON REAFFIRMS SUPPORT FOR *NUCLEAR FREEZE*



*Some of the residents and friends
who endorse the resolution below:*

“There can be no winners in a nuclear war. Because we love this planet and wish to see it preserved for ourselves and especially our children, we continue to call upon the President and the Congress to seek a bilateral, verifiable freeze on nuclear weapons and to work to end the arms race.”

Dorset Anderson
Kathleen J. Andries
Bruce J. Barshefsky
Karen J. Barshefsky
Laura Bowen
Beverly J. Bowman
G. Grant Bowman
Karen Bowman
Nancy Brenner
Margaret E. Breyman
Donald Bridgeman
Jacqueline D. Bridgeman
Lois Ashe Brown
Lyndon L. Brown
Ken Burns
Harriet A. Burr
Gary Chamberlin
Holly Chamberlin
Deborah Charren
Paul Cianciolo
Susan Clarke
Muriel B. Cottrell
Karin Cook
H. Blanche Demagall
Betty Devècca
Timothy Diehl
David Dimock
Janet Dimock
Michele Dodge

Martha Donoghue
Tim Donoghue
Ginger Donovan
Glenda Donovan
Gregg Donovan
Winston Donovan
Connie Dorrington
Christine Douglas
Laurie Doyle
Jack Dunn
Anders Eide
Susan Erickson
Marcia Feakes
Bradford Fisk
John Fosnot
Paul Jefferey Fowler
Mordicai Gernstein
Frederick P. Gibson
Joan M. Goldsmith
Paul Grafstein
John Green
Susan Yard Harris
Gay Houldsworth
Rick Houldsworth
Donald Ives
Sara C. Ives
Carl S. Joslyn
Idas Joslyn
David Katz

G. Randall Kehler
Michael Kerans
Esther Kerley
David Kielson
Gail Kielson
Leslie Kielson
Karen Kinnon
Kevin Kinnon
Mary-Ellen Kitchen
Stephen Kulik
Suzanne Kulik
Josephine Lagerstrom
Anthony Lake
Antonia Lake
Nellie Lake
Timothy Lake
Dorothy Levens
Lewis B. Lappin
A. Lippert
David Lippert
Regina DeFalco Lippert
Henry Livingston
Joan Livingston
Janet MacAusland
Bill McCarty
Phyllis McCarty
Betsy L. McGinnity
James McGuire
Florinda R. McIlveen

Richard Mansfield
Joan Mendelsohn
Darlene E. Kuzon Millman
Jack Millman
Eric Myrvaagnes
Naomi Myrvaagnes
John Newall
Lynn Horton Newall
Michael Newman
Janet M. Osborne
Ken Paul
Elizabeth S. Payne
Greg Pease
Robert N. Perkins
Barbara Quinn
Tom Quinn
John E. Reagan
Carol Recore
Richard R. Rhodes
Barbara Richert
John L. Roske
Mary Ann Roske
Judy Sena
Paul Sena
Elizabeth Schultze
Stèphen P. Schultze
Karen Shedd
Douglas Small
Judith M. Small

Carmen M. Almeida-Smith
Madeline Smith
Ralph W. Smith
R. Scott Smith
Peter Spinelli
Andrea Strom
Barbara Sweeney
John Sweeney
Marion Sweeney
Cynthia Tebo
Norman W. Tebo
John Turell
A. Colin Walker
Barbara Walker
Caroline Warner
Susan Warner
John P. Welch
Marian Welch
Susi Westwood
Catherine Whitcomb
David Whitcomb
Martin Wohl
Jerry Wood
Madeline Wood
Robert Wood
Sally Wood
Thomas Wood
Ronald S. Woodland

Ronald B. Woodland & G. Grant Bowman, Worthington, MA



A package to the citizens of Sarmany in the Soviet Union got a send-off Saturday from the Worthington post office. Postal employee Harriet Osgood looks over mailing regulations with Sally Wood (right). (Photo by Janet Dimock)

Worthington package on the way to town in the Soviet Union

By Janet Dimock

WORTHINGTON—A package of photographs, letters, information and goodwill was sent on its way Saturday to the Soviet Union.

The package was delivered to the local Post Office by members of a nuclear freeze group who hope that the information will improve communication between the United States and the Soviet Union. The package was sent to Sarmany, a small community near the Ural Mountains. Project Chairman Sally Wood said that the package weighed in at just under five pounds.

The group has also begun a new project aimed at making the town a nuclear free zone. That would pro-

hibit the production, planning or transportation of nuclear weapons - related items through the town.

Petitions for support of the idea are being circulated, according to Richard Mansfield of West Street. The group hopes to put the question before the voters at a Town Meeting, where the issues can be debated. A similar proclamation was passed earlier this year in the town of Leverett.

If passed, the resolution would also prohibit participation in nuclear defense and crisis relocation planning. Although there are no plans at this time for any other community to relocate here in case of a crisis, the Worthington group is opposed to this type of plan because they see it as misleading.

"(This type of) Civil Defense planning gives validity to the myth that there is a survivable nuclear war, that all you have to do is leave town for a few days. We don't want to have any part of that myth," Mr. Mansfield explained.

The resolution reads as follows:

1. We reaffirm the endorsement of the Nuclear Weapons Freeze and reduction as voted by the town of Worthington in June 1982.

2. No nuclear weapons may be designed, produced or deployed in the town.

3. The town will not participate in nuclear defense or crisis relocation planning.

4. Transportation or storage of nuclear weapons or nuclear material intended for weapons use will not be permitted in the town of Worthington.

More information on the resolution is available from Mr. Mansfield or other members of the freeze group.

Letter to Soviets is circulated

WORTHINGTON—A letter of greeting and common purpose to the people of Sarmany, a small town in the Soviet Union, is being circulated as part of a community profile to be mailed this Saturday.

Those interested still have a chance to sign the letter, according to Grant Bowman of Witt Hill Road. A letter is posted at the Corners Grocery Store. It reads: "The people of Worthington and Sarmany are united through the Ground Zero Project, through our love for our towns, and through the hopes we share for our children's futures. Yet, if there is a nuclear war, all that we value would be destroyed. As people who live in this Massachusetts Hilltown community, we pledge ourselves to work to prevent nuclear war, an unthinkable horror that must be prevented. Our two nations must work together to create peaceful means of resolving conflicts and take steps to reduce the danger of nuclear war. We are working for these goals in our country and would like to be united with other people as they work for these goals in their countries."

More information on the project is available from Mr. Bowman and from Sally and Jerry Wood of Williamsburg Road.

Small computer service hopes to help other small businesses in the area

By Janet Dimock

WORTHINGTON—A small business, based on its owners' ambition to help other small businesses, has found a place in the Hilltowns.

B & H Computer Services has received a prompt response for services in its first six months of business, something that has made owners Beverly Bowman of Worthington and Nancy Hewes of Chesterfield very happy. The two have combined their interest in and knowledge of computers, their accounting and book-keeping experience and their interest in small town government to make a computer business tailored toward small businesses and communities.

The business offers a range of computerized services including maintenance of data files, accounting, billing, payroll accounts, direct mailing and advertising and mailing lists. Voting and street listings have been compiled for several communities. "We're doing a lot with mailing lists and we've done some postcard advertising recently," Mrs. Bowman said.

Client information is recorded by a Radio Shack model 12 computer and printed by the attached dot matrix printer. Facts and figures are stored on discs (a duplicate is made of all records) and can be pulled out for a variety of uses.

Customer listings can be relied upon for different categories of information, for example. Customers who live in a certain town or even on a certain street may be pinpointed with ease with the aid of a computer. As long as there is enough information on hand, the computer operator can develop data files to suit the customer's needs. One B & H customer was able to compile a list of her own clients according to their birthdate so that she can send each one a card, Mrs. Bowman said.

The two women were initially attracted to the computer business as means to help small towns deal with increased paperwork demands. Both are familiar with the workings of small town government through their own involvement. Mrs. Hewes is the town accountant for the town of Chesterfield (she also filled in as Worthington's accountant for one year) and Mrs. Bowman is Worthington's tax collector.

Mrs. Bowman became acquainted with the potential of computers when the machines were introduced to the Gateway school system, where she worked as the assistant elementary school principal. She resigned her position a year ago to pursue her new career.

B & M Computer Services was formally formed seven months ago on an auspicious date, the two women jokingly point out, April Fool's Day. Since then they have been busy serving an increasing number of customers. "For not advertising we've done extremely well," Mrs. Hewes pointed out. "There's been a project going all the time. Now there's usually more than one," her partner added.

A large part of their business demand has been to compile street listings and voter registration lists for four towns in the Gateway district. Through use of a new program, street listings referring to each house according to its location can be printed even if the houses are not numbered. These lists are especially valuable to local fire departments, Mrs. Bowman said.

Over the past months they have refined and improved their "town clerk's package" to include not only street and voting lists, but also a school census and dog lists.

New offerings for towns are also in the works. "We are in the process of developing an accounting system for municipalities and we are really excited," Mrs. Bowman said. "It will be a service at an affordable price." Developing an accounting system is probably one of the biggest problems that face small towns due to the high salary cost involved, she said. A full-time



Businesswomen Nancy Hewes, right, and Beverly Bowman work at their Radio Shack model 12 computer. (Photo by Janet Dimock)

accountant with the necessary expertise can cost a town a lot of money. With the new program, B & H Computer may be able to perform that service at a much lower cost. It will be available in the near future.

Originally they planned to offer printing of municipal tax bills right away, but have found that the project is quite involved and that the computer software is not readily available. "We're working up to that—it is very complex," Mrs. Bowman said. They plan to make that service available for fiscal year 1985 tax bills.

The rest of their work has more than met their expectations, however. "We're finding that there really is a need for computer services among the small businesses," Mrs. Bowman said. A few of their customers are from outside this area "but the majority of business has been in the Hilltowns." Small business owners are "easy to work with" and the women enjoy tailoring a computer package to fit the customer's needs. "Our motto is, we emphasize service," she explained.

In the future they plan to add a daisy wheel printer to produce typewriter quality letters for their

customers. If business keeps increasing they may even add another computer. A modem, which enables the computer to send and receive information over the telephone, was recently purchased.

"What we're doing at the moment is continuing to expand our services, expand our research and development and we will expand our software as the need arises," Mrs. Bowman said.

One new step is postcard advertising—for themselves. The women feel that they have diversified and expanded their offerings to the point that they can take on a number of new customers.

After seven months on the job, the two still find the work enjoyable. "Our offerings are pretty diverse, that's what makes it so much fun. We're not doing the same thing day in and day out," Mrs. Bowman said. "It's challenging," Mrs. Hewes added. "It makes you feel good when people come back."