

TOWN FATHERS' FORUM
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1975

Chairman Powers convened the 98th session of the Town Fathers' Forum at 8:00 p.m. and introduced Mrs. Linda Buxbaum of the 1974 Town Report Preparation Committee, who announced and introduced the winners of the 1974 Town Report Art Contest.

Awards were made as follows:

Principal Illustration Award Certificates:

Kindergarten Elizabeth Coe, 14 Churchill Street	"OVER THE RIVER AND THROUGH THE WOODS"
First Grade Perry Kellstedt, 22 Mill Pond Road	"MAKING FRIENDS"
Second Grade Carole Landers, 32 Willow Road	"SITTING IN THE SCHOOLHOUSE"
Third Grade Clark Goff, 269 Concord Road	"MINUTEMEN"
Fourth Grade Mandy Whiteman, 272 Concord Road	"SOME OLD THINGS IN MY HOUSE"
Fifth Grade Billy Connally, 25 Elsbeth Road	"A REAL OLD BARN"
Sixth Grade Mark Poletti, 148 Woodside Road	"MARCH TO CONCORD"
Seventh Grade Claire Stanley, Nashoba Road	"GIRL"
Eighth Grade Lorraine Dudley, 30 Wagonwheel Road	"MARY AND HER LITTLE LAMB"
Special Education Peter Wigandt, 37 Kay Street	"SOLDIERS ENCAMPMENT"
High School Andrea Roessler, 559 Peakham Road	"COLONIAL HEARTH"
<u>Award of Merit</u>	
Nina Kottler, Hadley Road Age 6, Grade 1	"THE INDIAN SHOWING THE MAN HOW TO GROW CORN"
Jon David, 70 Thunder Road Age 13, Grade 8	"GRANGE HALL"
Rudi Blaser, 57 Jarman Road Grade 2, Age 7	"THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION"

Heather Rae White, 30 Barnet Road
Age 6, Kindergarten

"SOLDIERS MARCHING BY DAKIN
FARM"

Susan Azzolino, 25 Blacksmith Drive
Grade 2, Age 7

"200 YEAR OLD FIREPLACE IN MY
GRANNY'S HOUSE"

Todd M. N. Gray, 4 King Philip Road
Grade 1, Age 6

"STAGECOACH"

Michael Thome, 219 Willis Road
Grade 4, Age 9

"GATE AT THE WAYSIDE INN"

Chairman Powers made the following announcements concerning the Selectmen's activities during February:

- The forty-six article warrant for the 1975 Annual Town Meeting has been ordered and the Selectmen's and other articles have been reviewed. The Board will meet later this evening with other groups on the subject of two articles by petition, which relate to flood insurance.

- The Board has met with the Police Auxiliary, the Police Association, and the Police Chief and has held a public meeting on the subject of the arming of the Police Auxiliary, and will vote on the matter later in the evening.

- The Board has agreed to sell an easement for an access road to the Housing for the Elderly development for the sum of \$3200.

- Selectmen have appointed the Board of Registrars as census takers for the March 1 State Census.

- Collective bargaining negotiations have begun with the Labor Relations Counsel and the bargaining units.

- The Selectmen have filed a first-round application for participation in the ambulance program under the Emergency Medical Services Office (State Board of Health). This action places the Town on a priority list for reimbursement but does not obligate the Town to expend any monies.

Chairman Powers reported on the meeting of the Middlesex County Advisory Board relative to the County Budget, stating that there has been failure on the part of the County Commissioners to cooperate and there is still no finalized budget. Chairman Powers stated that the Advisory Board is attempting to hold hearings on the proposed budget in the Town of Concord.

Chairman Powers reported that Town Counsel has filed an Amicus Memorandum of Law with Brockton and Sudbury asking the Court to grant relief requested by the petitioners of Malden and four other cities, relative to the Appellate Tax Board's appeals action reducing Boston's equalized valuation from \$4.6 to \$2.6 billion.

Chairman Powers reported that Town Counsel would, on February 25, initiate court action relating to unauthorized earth removal in the Bowker V Land Grant subdivision.

Chairman Powers introduced Thomas French, Assistant Town Counsel, stating that Mr. French would be available in Town Counsel's office daily between 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. He also announced that the Town Hall staff had been joined by Planning Director Emmanuel Tiliakos and his assistant, James Morgan, who will be available in the Planning Board office daily between 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

SELECTMAN TAFT

Selectman Taft reported that an eighteen-member advisory committee on local affairs has been appointed by Governor Dukakis, of which he was pleased to be a member. Selectman Taft stated that the purpose of the Committee is to discuss local legislation issues and State activities which affect local government.

Selectman Taft requested that any particular problems in State relationships be brought to his attention, so that he might, in turn, present them to the Committee.

Selectman Taft also reported on a Department of Public Utilities hearing on the petition of citizens for expanded toll-free service to contiguous towns, which was held on January 10, 1975, in the Town Hall and continued to February 3 at the DPU offices at 100 Cambridge Street, Boston. He further reported that the matter was still before the DPU and that the issue has come down to the fact that the Telephone Company has ceased to upgrade contiguous service.

REPRESENTATIVE ANN GANNETT

Representative Gannett reported that committee work on legislation is continuing, but that no major legislation has yet been passed. Representative Gannett congratulated the Town on the operation of Sudbus.

REPRESENTATIVE GENEVRA COUNIHAN

Representative Counihan congratulated those who had been instrumental in the Sudbus operation and stated that she look forward to its inter-town connection with Concord.

Representative Counihan reported on pending legislation relating to the possibility of lowered assessment of open land to be kept in its natural state and used for recreation and conservation purposes.

Representative Counihan further reported on the filing of several bills concerning candidate positioning on the ballot.

MRS. HARRIS - CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Mrs. Harris reported that to date there have been twenty-eight interested persons who have indicated their interest in the community garden.

MRS. HUSE - LONG RANGE CAPITAL EXPENDITURES COMMITTEE

Mrs. Huse reported that the Long Range Capital Expenditures Committee will meet with the Board on March 3 to present its preliminary capital improvement program.

MRS. LEDGER - PERMANENT LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE

Mrs. Ledger reported that the Permanent Landscape Committee's activities will begin next month.

MR. MIRANDA - SUDBURY HOUSE AUTHORITY

Mr. Miranda reported that the Housing Authority is out to bid and on March 19 will receive bids for general contract and will award it shortly thereafter. Mr. Miranda reported that the Authority is looking forward to Spring construction.

MR. WILSON - TOWN ACCOUNTANT

Mr. Wilson reported that work is being completed on the capital improvement program with information from the Town boards and committees, and that Frank Gleason, a public service employee, has been instrumental in putting together much of the information received.

MR. BUXBAUM - SUDBUS - SUDBURY BUS TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Mr. Buxbaum thanked the Town officials for their participation at the opening of Sudbus service and stated that bus schedules will be available this week.

Mr. Buxbaum stated that the name of the Sudbus contractor was Big W and that the telephone number to call for information was 881-6427.

Mr. Buxbaum reported that maps and tickets are available in various stores and that each household will receive, by mail, an explanatory letter and two free tickets.

MR. GOGOLIN - FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Gogolin reported that the Finance Committee has completed its budget and article hearings.

MR. SHERMAN - MODERATOR

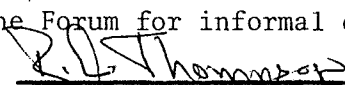
Mr. Sherman announced the appointment of Leona Johnson, 301 Old Lancaster Road, to the Committee for the Preservation of Ancient Documents.

Mr. Sherman requested that the Board set the date for the annual warrant review, and the Executive Secretary responded that it would be March 31 (since changed to April 2).

MRS. HARDING - TALENT SEARCH COMMITTEE

Mrs. Harding reported on the receipt of new names of those who have indicated interest in serving on Town boards and committees.

At 8:50 p.m. Chairman Powers adjourned the Forum for informal discussions and coffee.


Attest: Richard E. Thompson

1485