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A Real "Hero" will visit the next meeting

When the Framingham Amateur Radio Assn. meets Dec. 4, there will be a real "hero" visiting. It is the property of Cal, WLLPF, an operator from Clinton and it is actually a small robot.

Cal built Hero Jr., the smaller brother to the original Heathkit Hero robot, from a kit given to him by his wife a couple of years ago. The result of the kit-building effort is a programmable robot that can be taught new series of commands and actions through a keypad on its "head."

It took some time for Cal to carefully build Hero Jr., but, now that he has built him, Hero Jr. is making the rounds of organizations and nursing homes in this area. Cal programs Hero Jr. to perform for the various "audiences" he plays to. For Halloween, for example, Hero Jr. entertained more than 100 children at a party; and, Hero has also performed for various clubs and groups, as well as at other facilities.

As you can see then, to many people Hero Jr. is a Hero. Some, come and see him at the meeting at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 4 at the Danforth Museum.

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Holiday meeting means homebaked goodies

If Hero isn't enough to get you out to the meeting, there's another strong incentive, homebaked goodies. Since this is the holiday meeting, FARA's YL's are contributing homebaked goodies for the social hour after the meeting.

The goodies aside, there will be other business at the meeting, including preliminary discussions about participation in a tentative communications drill with ARES.

Also, there will be committee reports to be heard.

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ARES Airings

The regular monthly meetings of the Framingham Amateur Radio Emergency Service unit continue and each month seems to add

another operator. And at December 10's meeting, the group hopes to keep up its record.

Specifically, the December 10 meeting will discuss an upcoming communications event with the Framingham Civil Defense Unit, as well as other issues.

In other business, radio amateurs have been asked to help provide communications later this year for the New England Esquadrielle's fly-in. All that is known at the moment is that it will be held in the late summer or fall. But, if you're interested in seeing classic war birds, then plan to help out. There will be more information as it becomes available.

Keep a weekend open in June when we will help out with Framingham Appreciation Day communications.

Finally, a reminder, if you want to become involved in ARES work just come to the meeting. But, even if you're not interested, you can still help us by passing telling your town's officials about how we can help them in an emergency. Just give us and them names and let us handle it from there. And, if you know of any events where communications help might be needed, let N1BLH know.

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The FramingHAM Circuit is published monthly by the Framingham Amateur Radio Association, Inc., P.O. Box 3005, Saxonville Station, Framingham, MA. Club meetings are held the first Thursday of every month at the club's headquarters and station at the Danforth Museum, Lexington Street, Framingham. Amateur Radio Emergency Service meeting are held there also on the second Wednesday of the month. FARA meets monthly with the exception of July and August. It sponsors the Framingham 147.150 MHz repeater; Novice and general classes; the Dr. Carlton Crosby Memorial Scholarship, and two semi-annual Flea Markets and exam sessions.

#### Officers

|                                 |                       |
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| Director .....                  | Lew Nyman, K1AZE      |

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## President's Corner

As the year quickly draws to a close, let's take just a moment to think of some of the things we did and some of the things we wanted to do.

Let's make this coming year a little better than the last and rededicate our best efforts toward making 1987 a year filled with all our fulfilled goals and dreams.

I would like to wish you all the very best holiday greetings for a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year.

73, Burt, N1DDO

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## Heard 'round the Circuit

Congratulations to George Cleveland's WA1QGU, son David for passing his Novice tests. George is ecstatic about it and we're fairly certain that granddad Larry, WA1QPT, is also thrilled. George is ecstatic for another reason, his YL, Carole, passed her Novice test a couple of weeks ago and is also awaiting her ticket. We've also heard the Sara, 3, is also learning...Well, at least she knows the Morse for "S."

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The Education Committee has done it again, it has graduated its earliest class of Novices in the many years the classes have been held. Chairman Ed Weiss, W1NXC, deserves a hearty round of applause from the club for his teaching and dedication. This year he was assisted by Jim Boates, WA1UEH, whose home in Hopedale is shaping up.

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It was a pleasure seeing Jim Boates, WA1UEH, at classes on Saturdays. He fired Morse Code at prospective Novices and helped some other people with their code speed. Jim had been a regular fixture at classes for years until he moved from the immediate

area. Hopefully, we won't be so long in seeing him again. He was the "Elmer" to many, many hams -- your editor included.

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Anne Bacchiocchi, N1ECI, is bouncing back quickly from her surgery. Anne was operated on for a recurring knee problem that resulted from a car crash. Last week, the doctor removed the cast and put her leg into a brace which is another step toward recovery. She will be starting physical therapy soon to strengthen her leg.

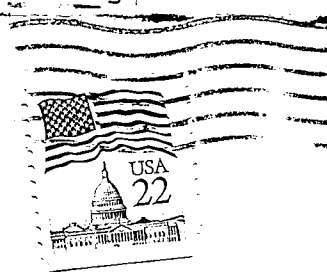
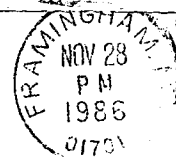
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### Swap and Shop

For sale: electronic typewriter/printer. A mint condition unit, this serial interface device will work well with any computer system that has a serial communications port. It will also serve as a portable typewriter and can fit in a briefcase and operate from batteries. Asking, \$100, call Marc, N1BLH, on the repeater or drop a note to the club box.

For sale: one B&W three-position antenna switch. Asking \$15, contact Marc, N1BLH.

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FARA wishes everyone a:

Merry Christmas  
Happy Hanukah  
Happy New Year

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