HEATH

HERALD

HEATH FAIR ISSUE

25¢

LITTLE FAIR IN THE OAK TREES

By Ken and Grace Crowningshield

Many years ago as kids there were two things we always looked for - school vacation and the Heath Fair. It was more of an old home day then. Most all of the exhibitors were from Heath. The balloon man had to sell his birdie-on-a-stick and balloons on the town highway because he didn't come from Heath. The premium money was very little then. As we grew up, many of us went into the service of our country. When we came home, it was still the little fair in in the Oak Trees.

Then in 1962, Mrs. Carol Malone offered to sell the present fair grounds at a very reasonable price. So it was decided to pick up the building and move. The consession stand was jacked up and two farm wagons rolled underneath it. We let it down onto them and we were off up the road to the Malone property. It was a slow process but everything got there in good shape. Once there it was unloaded and set up ready for business. With a place to eat we now had to have an exhibit hall. With donations of money, nails, lumber, and lots of free labor, it wasn't long before we had the exhibit hall. Next came a driven well and bathrooms which improved things a whole lot!

We were still a one-day fair then, so the State said if you want more premium money you must have the fair on Friday also. Most of the older generation had a fit. The middle generation said it was a good idea to have a little progress. The younger generation loved the idea.

With the extra time and a little more premium money (\$400) we drew more exhibitors and needed a new exhibit hall. That's when the State gave us \$10,000 from the Agricultural Purpose Fund for the big blue hall.

More cattle showed up so rather than have them stand in the sun all day we applied for a barn 30' x 130', and the State allowed \$8000 for that.

A pair of ponies ran away down at the horse pulling pit so next we applied for and got a chain link fence to put around it at \$1800 more of State money.

We still needed more premium money but the State said "3days or no more money". So now we are classified as a Major Fair and our premium money is up to \$3500.

With the extra exhibit money we attracted a lot of people with sheep. We applied for money for a sheep barn 20' x 120' The State gave us \$8900 for that. We had been having six or eight entries of sheep. With the new barn we had over 150 entries the first year.



1945 BILL KIRK, SPEAKER

The cattle and sheep people were fairly well taken care of, but now the horse and ox pulling people wanted a roof over their heads. So last year we put up a building for them at a cost of \$6700. The State gave us \$4000 towards it.

One more building has been applied for that will be for rabbits, chickens, and other small stock.

Through the years people have made contributions for the use of the grounds and the big blue hall for picnics, wedding receptions, and reunions. The grounds are open to anyone by appointment.

cont'd p.2

LITTLE FAIR cont'd

In just a few years we've come from the little fair in the oak trees with an attendance of 500-600 people to a major 3day fair, with an attendance of 8000 or better. It's still a country fair with fun for all - not much shade yet but a lot of fresh air. So why not come to see us this year, August 17th, 18th, & 19th. The donkeys will be back plus cattle, sheep, and all. We hope the exhibit hall will be full. Saturday there will be a chicken barbeque and horse pulling. Sunday is Oxen Day with ox drawing, a parade, and the fire companies' annual water fights. This year something new has been added. The Fiddlers are going to have a fiddling contest on Sunday from 2 PM on through the evening. A baked bean and hotdog supper is also scheduled for Sunday at 6PM. Saturday at 8 PM there is a square dance at the grounds until 12.

So, after reading this, you had better join us at the Fair and bring a friend.

HEATH HERALD?

Volume 1 Number 3

August 1979

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HEDALD

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LETTERS

To the Editors:

We think that the Heath Volunteer Fire Department should be commended. They are a group of interested and dedicated men and women. Heath should be proud of Earl Gleason and his team.

Lee and CC Sherman

To the Editors:

In June 1978, in anticipation of a new library, the librarian and trustees, with the cooperation of several townspeople, moved all library contents out of Sawyer Hall. Through the kindness of Dr. William Wolf, we have been able to use his garage as a temporary library and Jay Bradbury's barn as a temporary storage area. Temporary we thought! Thirteen months later, we are still imposing on their generosity. Dr. Wolf must be inconvenienced by the loss of his garage space, and the Bradburys are in the process of selling their property so need their barn emptied.

Thus we are appealing to the townspeople of Heath for action to get the contractors to finish Sawyer Hall immediately. They have certainly had adequate time!! As you can see, our library has suffered, although Edith Gleason has done an excellent job under the circumstances. The Selectmen and the Trustees have done their best to get this project finished; perhaps en masse we could somehow force or embarrass the Whiteman Brothers to finish the building as they have promised monthly since October 1, 1978.

Alli I. Thane
Teresa C. Pettengill
Library Trustees

LIBRARY NOTES

By Edith Gleason

We have been enjoying seeing you at the "Red Library at the top of the world" - or our little part of it. The name was supplied by Heather Gruen and it is certainly appropriate.

Work on the "new" library is progressing but much remains to be done. I am sure that you have all noticed that it has been painted on the outside. At this writing, the inside is waiting for the finishing touches from the carpenter, plumber, and electrician.

Carpeting has been ordered and shelving is in the planning stage. Soon, we hope to be able to tell you that we are ready for volunteers to complete the work. We will need woodworkers, painters, furniture refinishers, etc. to ready the room for books and library materials. Call a trustee or the Librarian, if you can help.

New books include: Year of the French, Last Enchantment, Magic with Everyday Objects, Hanta Yo, Forbidden Forest, Heath Mass. History and Guidebook, Art of Natural History, and Wild Shores of North America.

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SAWYER HALL UPDATE

Ken Cole, First Selectman, reports that Bruce Baker, the painting contractor, has finished painting the outside of the building using 25 gallons of primer and 18 gallons of paint. He is now ready to tackle the inside walls. However Whiteman Brothers, the building contractor, has left construction materials lying around as well as several doors to be hung so that Bruce Baker can not begin his inside work. All of this involves the Library side of the building which is being given priority. Ken Cole reports "things look good".

HEATH FAIR PREMIUM BOOK

Because of the gasoline shortage, Premium Books for the Heath Fair will not be delivered this year, but will be available at the following locations: Peters' Store, the Post Office, the Library, and Mohawk Estates Recreation Hall.

PLANNING BOARD REPORT

By John Holdsworth

The Planning Board is spending much of its time in developing a five-year plan that will satisfy State requirements. In order to qualify for certain grant funds, the Town must have a five-year Conservation and Natural Resources plan on file with the State. The Planning Board will also be considering many things besides conservation and natural resources in the plan.

The recent survey indicated Town interest in a recreation area, preferably at the Fairgrounds, and a Town swimming area. The Board has discussed several possibilities for each of these; some recommendations may be made at a future date.

The Planning Board has been asked to compile a list of existing and potential 'low-head' dam sites in Town. The idea is that some sites might have sufficient capacity for operation of small (one- or two family) hydroelectric generators. The Board would like to hear from anyone who thinks he has an acceptable site.

Communications has been an issue at several Planning Board meetings. It is essential that all interested townspeople receive timely notification of any meeting or function. Methods discussed by the Board all have merit, but also disadvantages that cannot be ignored. This newspaper may be one of the best means for promulgation of public announcements. The Board would appreciate having some suggestions and ideas on this subject.

Meetings will be held monthly for the remainder of the Summer: the 2nd Monday of each month at 8PM in the Community Hall. Minutes are posted at Peters' Store and at the Post Office after each meeting and include agenda for the following meeting so anyone interested in one of the agenda topics can be aware and can plan to attend.

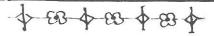
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HISTORICAL SOCIETY BAZAAR

A Success

The Heath Historical Society Bazaar held on July 7th on the lawn of the Old Town House was a success, according to President John Read, in spite of other events going on in the area.

Dolly Churchill organized the tables of flea market items exhibited by Alli Thane, Teresa Pettengill, Mr. and Mrs. George Brunelle, Catherine and Brenda Cromack, Evelyn Hillman, Sandy McCloud, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Krasky, and Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Crosier.

Harriet Read was responsible for the Society's tables with the able assistance of Amy Barry, Helen Nichols, Caroline Smith. Many generous donations of food and tag sale items were made by Grace Landstrom, Phyllis Kades, Ruth Churchill, Elsa Bakalar, Sophie Coe, Peters' Store, and Pegge Howland, to name a few.

Dr. Edward Calver sold and autographed over 40 copies of his "History of Heath", and several copies of "The Christian Patriot" by Priscilla Maxwell were also sold.

To appease the appetite and thirst of the citizens at the Bazaar, Dolly Churchill dispensed hot dogs, donuts, coffee, and cold drinks.

The exhibitors and others said the Bazaar should be an annual affair. The President of the Society couldn't agree more since the Society netted over \$500.

* IMPORTANT NOTICE *

* * * * * * * * *

The first printing of three hundred copies of Ed Calver's book, Heath, Mass.

A History and Guidebook, was completely sold out within a month. The second printing is in process and copies are expected to be available at the Heath Historical Society booth at the Fair for \$ 8.00. Don't miss out this time!

* * * * * * * * * *

TOWN MEETING VOTES TRANSFER OF FUNDS

A special Town Meeting on July 16 voted to transfer funds from a surplus in the insurance account to balance three other accounts which were overdrawn for the 1979 Fiscal Year. These included \$65.60 to the Holiday Pay account, \$15.40 to the Vacation Pay account, and \$2924.22 to the Highway Machinery account. The large overdraft of the Machinery account, as explained by the Selectmen, was due to unusual amounts of sand and salt purchased to take care of excessive icing on roads during the past winter and also the purchase of a new highway brush.

The Finance Committee reported that it had previously approved the transfer of \$315.93 from the Reserve Fund to cover an overexpenditure in the Refuse Disposal account. This still left an unused balance in the Reserve of almost \$2700, and the Town will end up with a substantial surplus from its overall appropriation for Fiscal Year '79.

Only nine voters attended this meeting, all of whom were elected Town officers. The meeting lasted five minutes.

THE HILLTOP GARDENER

Field-dug Chrysanthemums Ready to Bloom This Year 337-4416

WELLS SCHOLARSHIPS GO TO CROMACK AND GRUEN

Lisa Cromack and Susan Gruen have just been awarded scholarships from the Fred W. Wells Trust Fund.

This is the second year of awards from the Wells Trust which uses the income from a \$1,500,000 fund left by Mr. Wells to benefit the residents of 15 Franklin County towns in education, health, and agriculture. This year 77 awards, ranging from \$100 to \$1000, were made from 204 applicants.

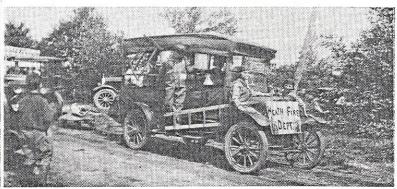
Lisa Cromack will use her scholarship in hersecond year at Greenfield Community College where she is enrolled in the Management/Data Processing Program.

Susan Gruen, already a Registered Nurse and working with Franklin County Home Health Care, Inc., will study for 20 weeks in a course at Albany Medical College to become a Nurse Practicioner.

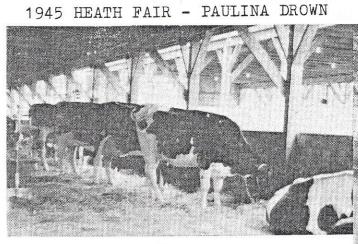




1925 HEATH FAIR PARADE



1924 HEATH FAIR PARADE - ANGUS DUNN'S STATION WAGON



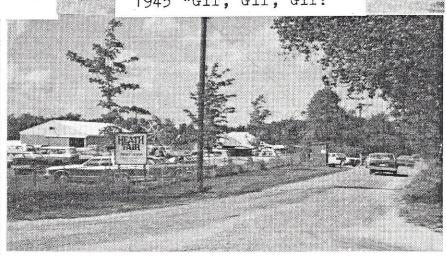
1978 THE NEW COW BARN



1945 "GIT, GIT, GIT!"



1978 HORSE DRAWING GRANDSTAND



1978 HEATH FAIR

OF BEARS AND BEES by Michael D. Coe

I've been keeping bees on our place in North Heath since 1972, and have gotten some wonderful crops of goldenrod honey. I have learned a great deal about beekeeping from my late friend Myron Newton of Rowe, the top apiarist in the area.

Because of the long, cold winters, it is not easy to winter over bees in these hills, and some of my colonies did not survive into the spring of 1978. Then diaster struck again in late April of that year: one of the remaining hives was completely destroyed by a bear, and the rest were pushed over. So, I was forced to start over again with very expensive packaged bees shipped in from the South. I did get a crop the following fall, but it was not exactly bountiful.

That fall a bear, perhaps the same one, came back. He tried unsuccessfully to get into a hive on the edge of the hayfield, and in his eagerness to get at the honey, bees, and larvae (they like these best of all), he had raked his claws down the front of the hive, leaving gashes up to a half inch deep.

This past spring was worst of all. In mid-April I installed two more packages of bees, but we had to spend the next week in New Haven. Between April 18 and 20, one or more bears visited my hives. This time they smashed all six of them, scattering supers, frames, bottom boards, and covers all over the landscape. My newly installed bees had either died in the aftermath, or had taken off for a new and safer location.

I have reluctantly concluded that you can't keep bees in North Heath. A tall. electric fence might keep out the bears, but it would be prohibitively expensive, and ungly to boot. What is hapening is that as farmland and pasture return to foreast, nature is returning to them larger populations of wild creatures like bears and raccoons (we have removed over 50 of these pests from our cornfield in the past nine years). We are at the edge of the State Forest, and on summer evenings we often hear howling from a family of what are either small wolves or very large coyotes. At the turn of the century, much of this forest was sheep pasture.

The sequel to the tragedy is that I reconstituted two hives from what the bears had left, bought two more packages, and now have two flourishing colonies. They're not in Heath, though, but in the garden in back of our house in downtown New Haven, where I don't think there are any bears! July has been a busy month for the Heath Church.

The deed was received from Earle and Martha Beasley for the purchase of the site of the new parsonage on Bray Road. Plans are formulating, permits have been obtained, and work has begun on clearing the land.

July 21st an auction was held at the Fairgrounds for the benefit of the Church building fund. Bud Holland of Whitingham, VT did a great job as auctioneer. Many books were donated as well as a variety of other items, large and small, old and new. One old ice chest brought \$175 while an old "hand push" lawn mower brought \$5. A food booth operated during the day where hamburgers, hot dogs, soda, home-made root beer, and home-made donuts, bars, and brownies were sold. About \$1700 was realized as a result of the efforts of many.

July 25th was the Ladies Aid Fair, an annual event which netted the organization about \$700. This Fair consists of an afternoon sale of home-baked food, vegetables, fancy articles, plants, root beer, and a white elephant table. This year, during the afternoon, Edith Gleason, our Librarian, entertained the little people with a showing of cassette film strips. The day concluded with a ham supper featuring homemade rolls and assorted home-made pies.

Thanks to everyone who helped to make the month of July a financial sucess for the Church.

Doubtless you all remember the widespread publication of Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr's Prayer of Serenity. Mrs. Niebuhr has given to countless publications the prayer as Dr. Niebuhr wrote it:

"God, give us the grace to accept with serenity the things that cannot be changed, the courage to change the things that can be changed, and the wisdom to distinguish the one from the other."

The USO printed millions of copies during World War II and the prayer was erroneously attributed to a number of commanding officers, including Admiral Nimitz.

The prayer was first given by Dr. Niebuhr at a Sunday service which he conducted in the Heath Union Church, and we remember it well - we all had copies made of the wording.

Pearle T.

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ART NEWS

Bob Gruen of Heath played the role of Noah Curry in the Arena Civic Theatre production of "The Rainmaker" at the Roundhouse on the Franklin County Fairgrounds in Greenfield in July.

Bob was last seen on the Roundhouse stage playing the leading role in "The Prisoner of Second Avenue". He also has appeared in "Death of a Salesman" and "How the Other Half Loves". He studied theatre with Robert Modica at Carnegie Hall in New York City and has played in community theatre productions of "You're a Good Man Charlie Brown", "Flowers for Algernon", and "A Man for All Seasons".

Bob resides in Heath Center with his wife Susan and children, Heather and Colin. He teaches at the Rowe Elementary School.

Richard Housner, former Heath Selectman, and teacher of painting and sculpture at Greenfield High School, is having an exhibition in the Art and Music Department of Forbes Library in Northampton. He is displaying colored plaster sculptures which are sprayed with irridescent lacquers.

Charles Miller, who bought the old parsonage in Heath Center, is completing a literary book scheduled for early production.



William Grinnell Landon 1892--1979

His life was gentle and he rests in peace.

POLICE REPORT

By Lorin S. Gowdy

With the advent of the energy crisis, the ecology movement, and physical fitness the motorized bicycle has made its appearance on the roads in Heath. I urge every motorist to use extra caution when meeting or passing motorized bicycles, and remind the operators of motorized bicycles that they too are to obey the traffic laws of the Commonwealth, including the use of hand signals. The operator of a motorized bicycle should ride on the <u>right</u> with the flow of traffic, ride single file, carry no passengers (except on approved baby seat), and check brakes often.

In order for a motorized bicycle to be operated in Heath it must have a sticker affixed to the rear fender. These stickers may be obtained from the Registry of Motor Vehicles upon payment of a \$3 fee for up to two years or until the ownership of the vehicle is transferred. To operate a motorized bicycle, the operator must have a valid drivers license or a learners permit.

For additional information on motorized bicycles contact the Heath Police Dept. by phone at 337-5505 or 337-4215.

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7

By Harriet C. Read

Mr. Christopher Seaver of South Road was presented "The Carpenter Prize" at this year's graduating ceremonies of the 6th grade at Rowe Elementary School.

About the Prize and its founder: The Prize has been in existence since 1932 and was created by Mr. Frank E. Carpenter. Mr. Carpenter was born in Heath Center and spent his childhood in the area. Fondness of this hill town led him to return in 1921 with his family to spend the summer months until his death in 1935.

In the belief that encouragement inspires the incentive to succeed, he established a monetary award to be presented annually to a Heath student who shows the most scholastic and over all improvement during the school year.

After Mr. Carpenter's death his wife continued the award in his memory and it became known as "The Carpenter Prize". Since Mrs. Carpenter's death in 1962 the prize has been perpetuated by his daughter, Harriet Carpenter Read.

Miss Caroline Knott, now Mrs. David Carter of Buckland, received the first prize which was awarded in the year 1932. At that time there were four schools in our town. Each school with only one teacher teaching the 1st grade through the 8th.

Following are some of the students who have received "The Carpenter Prize":

1933 Lucy Smith

68 Hilma Churchill

61 David Thane

72 Omar J. Smith

62 Beverly Thane

73 Laurel C. Finck

63 Fred Pazmino

74 Hannah Lively

64 Raymond Rice

76 Todd A. Sumner

65 Arthur Smith

77 Eric Sumner

67 Deborah Stetson 78 Martha Lively

If any of our readers know of names that should be included in the above list from 1934-1960 and for the years 66, 69, 70 and 75, please contact Harriet C. Read, Plover Hill, Heath or 337-4927. This information would be very helpful in completing this list of exemplary young people in Heath.

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FIDDLERS' CONTEST

This year the Fair will present an innovation in the form of a Fiddlers' Contest. Wynn Fay, Director of Hilltown Fiddlers and Pickers Picnics, announces the first annual Hilltown Fiddlers' Picnic and Contest to be held at the Fairgrounds on Sunday, August 19 at 2 P.M.

The contests are organized into four groups: Little Juniors (ages 2-12), Juiors (ages 13-17), Open (ages 18-59) and Seniors (ages 60 and over). Prizes range from \$5 to \$40 in the Little Junior to Junior categories, and \$20 to \$80 in the adult classes. A \$2 entry fee will be returned to a contestant. A Fiddler will be judged on note accuracy, timing, clarity, and audience reception. A contestant will play three tunes of his own choice. One must be a walz.

For more details on entries, see Ken Crowningshield.

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FINANCE COMMITTEE ACTIONS

The Finance Committee has met three times since the May Town Meeting. The main items given attention were: preperation of the State form for tax "cap" certification, a review of over expended accounts that required Town Meeting approval in three cases and the use of the Reserve Fund to cover an overage in the "dump" account.

Also consideration was given to the need for the selection of an outside auditor, and planning for joint meetings with the Selectmen and Assessors when the tax rate for FY '80 is to be determined. The Town Treasurer has agreed to prepare periodic financial statements for the Selectmen and the Finance Committee to facilitate the planning for future needs and the disbursements of Town appropriated funds.

Newland Smith was elected Chairman and Robert Gruen was made Secretary. David Howland completes the three member Committee.

KID'S BASEBALL

Kids' baseball is very similar to Little League, the only difference being certain technicalities. There are two teams, "A" and "B". The kids come from Heath and Rowe.

Kevin Sprague, coach for the A Team, has had many years of baseball experience. He loves the game and enjoys coaching, and intends to continue next year. Eric Stetson is an occasional base coach and a tremendous help.

On the A Team are: Danny Boehmer, Billy Cascone, Jeff Croland, Eric Gallagher, Jim Gallagher, Tim Jodoin, John Kain, Mike Laffond, Chris Lively, Mike Platek, Buster Reed, Chris Seaver, Floyd Smith, and Jim Vivier.

Here are the reactions of two players. Danny Boehmer says "we have to work hard but we enjoy it". Billy Cascone states "we have a great coach - we've learned a lot and the work is hard".

The A Team season ended with 6 wins and 4 losses. Billy Cascone, Chris Lively, Jim Vivier were chosen for the All Star Team and our Division won the game.

Once again Jon Poisson is the B Team coach, and is doing a great job. The team is a lively crew of novice and veteran players (ages 7-10) eager for every game.

The members of the B Team are: Jim Boehmer, Lenny Cascone, Mike Cascone, Kenny Cole, Scott Cole, Kenny Lenois, Rusty Manz, Carl Newsome, Chris Poisson, Jon Poisson, Arlo Seaver, Larry Sherman, Dana Staub, and Kenny Thane.

Jon Poisson stated he was most pleased with the boys' enthusiasm and willingness to try. They listened well and did what they were told. He grately appreciated the help received from the parents this year. When asked if he planned to coach again next year, he stated "Yes - I enjoy coaching the boys".

The season ended in 10 wins and 3 losses. The boys chosen for the All Star game were Lenny Cascone, Kenny Cole, and Carl Newsome. Our division lost the All Star game 7-6.

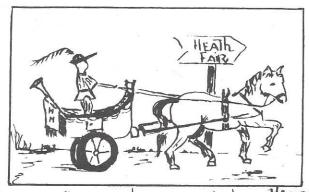
The B Team became the champs in our Division and met the Pirates of Shelburne Falls in the playoffs. They lost the game 4-1.

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Who NEEDS O.P.E.C. ! HIR.

TAX DEADLINES

The following is a calendar of tax deadlines which everyone should clip and save:

Mar. 1 - Filing of 3ABC forms unless extended to April 1 with Assessors' permission.

- Farm animal excise returns due.

- Form of list due (Personal property statement). Without a Form of list on file the Board cannot consider a personal property abatement request.

May 1 - Report forest products returns on classified forest land.

By Oct. 1 (or within 30 days if the tax bills are mailed after Sept.1) application for abatement must be filed, as well as applications for exemption under Clauses 22D, 41A, 42, and 43. The filing of an abatement application does not alter your obligation to pay taxes when due.

By Dec. 15 (or within 3 months if the tax bills are mailed after Sept.1) application for exemption under Clauses 17, 22, 22A, 22B, 22C, 22E, 37, and 41 must be filed.

A daughter, Donna Michelle, was born to Robert and Donna Marie Decker Tanner on May 28. A son, Tucker John, was born to Budge and Sheila Maguire Litchfield on June 17. A son, Max Ernest, was born to Ralph and May Smith Churchill on June 21.

There were five marriages. Robert Elliot IV and Laurel Finck were married on June 9 in the Heath Union Church. They are living in Marlboro, Vermont where Robert works for his father's trucking concern. Darryl Cutter and Michelle Rice were married on June 30 also in the Heath Union Church. They are living in Charlemont. Mrs. Weeks and Edward O'Brien were married on June 30 in the Heath Union Church. Mrs. O'Brien is Jay Bradbury's mother. The O'Briens live in Harry Terrill's house in the summer and in New Rochelle. N.Y. in the winter. Matthew Sykes and Margaret Manz were married on July 21 at Margaret's home in North Heath. Jack Cable was married on July 4 in Connecticut. There was a reception for them in the Community Hall in Heath.

Mrs. Mabel Wolf died on June 15 in Hartford, Connecticut. Mrs. Wolf was the mother of Rev. William Wolf and Wilda Wolf. William G. Landon died on July 16. He was the husband of Dorothea Robbins Landon.

Editors' note - The newsstand price of the Heath Herald is 25¢. By mail it is 15¢ a copy more for postage plus 10¢ a year for labor. Thus \$2.50 for a years' subscription to 6 issues.

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The Heath Fire Dept. brought home two trophies from the Rowe Old Home Day this year. The 1977 fire truck took second place in the parade, and the water polo team, consisting of Rich Steinbock, Mike Peters, and Earl Gleason, took third place.

The Department has been busy readying the booth for Yankee Doodle Days and the Heath Fair. These are the major fund raising efforts of the year for the Fire Association and the Association is always looking for volunteers to work for a few hours at either event.

As usual the Department is manning the First Aid booth and sponsoring the Fire Department games at the Heath Fair. This year the games will be held on Sunday in the drawing ring between the ox drawing classes, so that the spectators may sit in the comfort of the bleachers while watching. Won't you join us?

CLASSIFIED

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Additional copies of the Heath Herald may be purchased at Peter's Store news stand.

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