



Volume 2 Number 3 August-September 1980

HEATH HERALD

HEATH'S FIRST NEWSPAPER

25¢

THE UNION EVANGELICAL CHURCH

By Harriet Read

A new steeple on an old church brings history to mind.

The building was erected by the Congregationalists in 1833 when Heath flourished with a population of 1199. David Snow, the contractor, built it with such sturdy timbers that steel braces were needed to support them. So satisfied was Snow with its construction that "he stood on his head on the ridge pole".

To raise funds for the construction, pews were purchased for \$24 to \$60. This practice continued until 1892 when the Church became The Union Evangelical Church, the one place of worship for the united churches of Heath.

The early church had two side aisles and 13 rows of 4 pews each. On either side of the pulpit, two sections of 3 pews each were later replaced by the raised organ alcove and the vestry. The back west pew had been reserved for slaves owned by certain residents. As the population dwindled, a balcony was removed and "the little room of the church" replaced several of the back rows of pews.



... and away.

The bell, weighing about a ton, was forged in 1858. Its wheel served well until 1975 when a new wheel was constructed by Bruce Cromack and Newland Smith with the assistance of Ralph Riddle. It was completed and installed in time for our country's Bi-Centennial.

The Johnson organ, built in 1851, was purchased from the Whately Congregational Church in 1915. Presumably, it is one of the oldest Johnson organs still in use.

The old steeple survived many storms until 1961 when lightning inflicted severe damage which was never satisfactorily repaired. This year the new Steeple of extraordinary craftsmanship was raised into its position on June 24th to the intense interest of many onlookers. On its top, the weathervane, long dull of color, now brightly points into the prevailing winds.



Up ...



Up ...

READERS' COMMENTS

Miss Frances Malone - "Keep up the good work"

Mrs. Robert Pomeroy - "The HEATH HERALD is one of the best things among many others in Heath".

Chouteau Merrill - "I'm always very happy to receive my copy of the HEATH HERALD. It brings news of my favorite part of the country. Keep up the good work."

— Precipitation —

By Ralph H. Dickinson, Observer
for Mass. Water Resources Commission

Rainfall in June: 5.97 in.

Rainfall in July: 2.29 in.

Total January through July 1980: 25.87 in.

The average annual precipitation over the past 13 years is 50.4 inches here in Heath.

We are a little under the norm for the first seven months of this year.

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Heath Herald

Volume 2 Number 3 August-September 1980

Editorial Staff

Pegge Howland
Caroline Smith
Alli Thane

Advertising and Business

Art Design
Circulation

John Read
Harriet Read
Terry Pettengill

Contributors to this issue:

Edith Royer
Brenda Sumner
John Read
Richard Giard
Jane Churchill
Amy Barry

Photographs in this issue by

Janice Boudreau

Photographs in June issue by John Read

Address all comments, suggestions, and inquiries to P.O. Box 54, Heath, MA 01346.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT

By Paul Lively
Chairman

Heath Board of Selectmen

Sawyer Hall A final inspection by Building Inspector Ed Crafts is scheduled for Thursday, August 7. We are working on getting the steps fixed. After the steps are repaired, landscaping will be done by volunteer help.

Dump The Landfill Committee had its first quarterly meeting July 8. We discussed the complaints of the State and Heath residents on the way the landfill is being managed. The Heath representatives made it clear that we expect the needed improvements to be made very soon. The responsibility now rests with Sherman Pike, Committee Chairman, and the landfill personnel to get the job done.

Roads The Highway Department has been occupied with scraping dirt roads and patching black top roads. They recently installed a large culvert pipe on Judd Road, greatly improving that section of the road.

Dogs The Selectmen recently met with Dog Officer Michael Smead and agreed on the following regulations:

1. Dog owners who have not licensed their dogs will have two weeks after notification to get it done, or their dogs will be picked up. The dogs will be held for 10 days, during which time the owner may get the dogs back by paying the license fee and the dog boarding cost. After 10 days the dog will be disposed of.

2. Dog owners whose dogs are repeatedly picked up for straying will be fined \$10 for the second offense with a \$5 increase in the fine for each additional offense. The period of time on which offenses are accumulated is one year from the date of the first offense.

Jury Selection The Jury Selection Box needs one additional name for this year's selection. Anyone willing to volunteer should contact Paul Lively.

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THE COST OF SAWYER HALL

At his time the total cost of rebuilding Sawyer Hall is not known since there is still work to be done and all funds appropriated have been expended. The town records indicate that over \$90,000 have been spent so far on this project which was originally estimated to cost \$55,000. In 1975 the town voted this amount "to remodel and reconstruct existing Town Hall and Library, including equipping and furnishing same".

The funds have been appropriated at a number of town meeting and have come from several sources (all taxpayers' money):

Nov. 3, 1975 Special Town Meeting
 \$40,000 borrow for 10 years
 \$12,000 transfer from Revenue
 Sharing
 \$ 3,000 transfer from Available
 Funds
Dec. 20, 1977 Special Town Meeting
 \$ 8,000 to be raised by taxation
May 1, 1978 Annual Town Meeting
 \$14,000 to be raised by taxation
May 7, 1979 Annual Town Meeting
 \$ 3,000 to be raised by taxation
July 8, 1980 Special Town Meeting
 \$ 7,723 transfer from unexpended
 accounts

In addition some \$3400 was expended in 1975 for preliminary studies and architects' fee. Also several thousand dollars have been expended and charged to other town accounts. Thus, when interest charges on the loan are added in also, it appears that the total to date is well over \$90,000.

In the spring of this year the library and town offices were gradually moved back into the rebuilt building, after having been seriously disrupted during the extended construction period. The library is a pleasant, greatly improved area, with expanded facilities. The town offices are also much enlarged over the old Sawyer Hall, but still remain to be "equipped and furnished". The exterior of the building itself is well painted and attractive, but grading around the building and entrance steps need to be completed. The basement vault, designed for safekeeping of town records, cannot be used due to water conditions. It has been said that major roof repairs will soon be required and that the underflooring is deteriorating.

SAWYER HALL (continued)

Nevertheless, after five years of work and dedicated effort on the part of many townspeople, Heath has a "new" library and town hall. The cost, however, is more than was expected. It is doubtful that Ellsworth Sawyer and the other contributors, who in 1897 raised \$1400 to put up the original building, would recognize it today.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY MEETING

The annual meeting of the Heath Historical Society was held in the Community Hall on July 26. About 40 people heard Amy Barry, the Curator of the Society, give an interesting talk entitled "The Romance of Old Things".

Following the talk the business meeting was held which included a discussion on the proposed revision of the bylaws. These revisions provided a stated length of term with provision for rotation of directors and officers. After several changes in the proposal, the revised bylaws were approved by the membership.

The election of directors and officers was held under the terms of the newly adopted bylaws:

Directors: William Wolf, Elizabeth Eldridge, Grace Landstrom, Bruce Cromack.
Officers: John A. Read, President; Sophie Coe, Vice President; Teresa Peters, Treasurer; Hazel Porter, Secretary.
Appointed Officers: Amy Barry, Curator and Director; Dolores Churchill, Custodian; Edward Calver, Historian.

Following the lengthy meeting refreshments were served by Elizabeth Eldridge and Caroline Smith.

On July 4, the Society held a bazaar on the lawn of the Old Town House Museum. A perfect sunny day drew a sizable crowd and more than 60 persons visited the two museums. Flea market items donated by members, book sales, and refreshments netted the Society about \$225. It is planned to have a booth at the Heath Fair again this year.

— New Town Clerk Hours —

New office hours for the Town Clerk are:
Monday, Thursday, and Friday 8:30 AM - 12
Wednesday 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM.

COME TO THE FAIR!

By Dot Scofield

The big event of the year for the Heath Agricultural Society, and for the entire Town of Heath, is the 1980 Heath Fair coming on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday August 15, 16, and 17.

The first big feature of the Fair is a new one this year - tractor pulling. This will begin at 1 PM on Friday. There is an entry fee of \$5.00, with six classes to enter, and five prizes awarded in each class. From all indications to date, there is much excitement about this new event, and it is expected to be the beginning of many successful tractor pulls at future Heath Fairs.

The new Small Animal Building is nearing completion and will be ready for use at the opening of the Fair. This building will house all rabbit and poultry exhibits, and is another step in upgrading the Fairgrounds.

Exhibit entry forms are now available at Peters' Store and at the Heath Post Office. An effort is being made to list the ages of those participating in the Children and Youth entries. So those of you who are under 17 years of age are asked to write your age on the entry forms. All entry forms are to be returned to Dorothy Scofield, Sumner-Stetson Rd. (mail address to Colrain, MA 01340). Be sure to read the rules and regulations carefully, to avoid any disappointments at Fair time.

Many plans have been made for a variety of entertainments - something for everyone! So be sure to get a copy of the program, and don't miss out on the fun and excitement of a real country fair. Now it's time to groom those animals, select your best produce, pick your finest hand-made pieces, and come to the Heath Fair.

See you there!

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FINANCE COMMITTEE ACTIONS

By David Howland

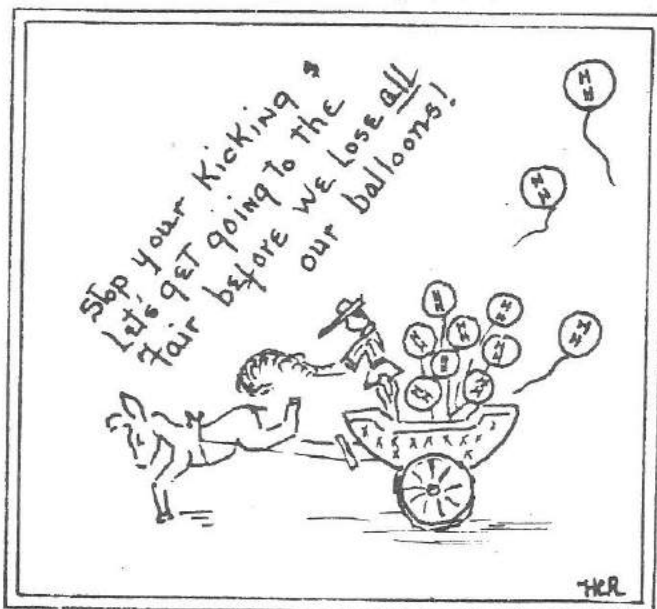
The Finance Committee, consisting of Bob Gruen, Chairman, Dave Howland, Secretary, and Walter Gleason, has held four meetings since the annual meeting. One meeting held with the Selectmen and Town Treasurer discussed plans for (1) the appointment of an auditor, (2) cash flow and investment policy of town funds, (3) tax delinquency monitoring, and (4) inventory/capital expenditure practices. It is expected that the audit, which will include the establishment of a new bookkeeping system, will provide data helpful to the planning process. Other meetings were held to make recommendations on articles for the special town meeting and to approve the transfer of funds from the Reserve Account for overages in the Dump and Vacation Pay Accounts. The Dump expenditures were \$359 for Heath's share of dump services and \$412 for bulldozer repairs. The vacation pay adjustment was \$35. It is expected that the Committee will meet soon to review its progress and to begin work on next year's budget.

CHURCH NEWS

By Catherine Cromack

As you can see, the new steeple and dome have been put in place on the Church. It is beautiful. Bruce Stetson is to be congratulated for a job well done. The financial help from the Ladies' Aid on this project is much appreciated.

The auction on July 19 was very successful. A food sale was incorporated with the lunch counter, and the entire day benefited the Building Fund by \$1517.



PLANNING BOARD REPORT

By John Holdsworth

At the Town Meeting in May, John Holdsworth was re-elected to a five year term on the Planning Board. At the June meeting of the Board, Sue Gleason was elected chairman, Ton Lively was re-elected secretary, and John Holdsworth was re-elected representative to the Franklin County Planning Board. Earl Gleason, and Don Churchill are the other two Board members.

The last official contact between the Planning Board and U.S. Windpower, Inc. was at the end of May. At that time more engineering and site information was promised. This was apparently not sent. Unofficial word has been received that U.S. Windpower has reached an agreement with representatives of Otis A.F.B. on Cape Cod for development of a windfarm there. A letter has been sent to the company asking that the town be reimbursed, as previously agreed upon, for expenses it has incurred during the special permit process. U.S. Windpower has also been asked to withdraw its special permit application so that Heath will not be publicly seen as denying a permit request for this type of project. (the permit is automatically granted if no action is taken)

The Planning Board has begun a review of the town Zoning By-laws. Many of the existing by-laws are ambiguous and confusing; some may no longer be pertinent. The intention of the Board is to put all necessary by-laws in reasonable language and to organize them according to a sensible plan. The Board also desires that zoning restrict personal liberty as little as possible. If no other time consuming projects come up in the interim, the Board hopes to have the revised by-laws ready for presentation at the next annual town meeting. Any persons with specific interests in zoning are urged to attend future Planning Board meetings: the second Monday of each month at 8 PM in the Town Hall.

HEATH CANCER DRIVE OVER THE TOP

The office of the American Cancer Society in Greenfield reports that Heath has exceeded its 1980 goal of \$230 by 50% with a total raised of \$347. This is broken down as house-to-house \$229, residential mail \$25, memorials \$30, and special gifts \$63.

The dedication, hard work, and generous response of the people of Heath is much appreciated.

THE JAGUAR AND THE FALCON — Fall Lecture series —

There will be something new to go with the autumn colors in Heath this October. Amy Barry will be offering an evening lecture and discussion course on the civilizations of Ancient Egypt and the Maya of Mexico. Having taught Anthropology for ten years at Northfield Mount Hermon School, Amy is enthusiastic about sharing her knowledge and insights about these two fascinating societies.

In spite of the fact that the Egyptians and the Mayas are widely separated by time as well as by geography, they both stand as outstanding examples of what one archeologist has called the "revolution without revolutionaries". Mrs. Barry's objective will be to reconstruct the personality and world view of these civilizations by using evidence from their art, their religion, and their writing.

The course will begin on Tuesday, Oct. 7, and will continue every Tuesday through Oct. 28. It will be held in the Barrys' home in Heath Center from 7:30 to 9:30 PM. Due to the size of the room and the instructor's desire to maintain a small group atmosphere, enrollment will be limited to 10 people. Anyone interested in participating in this educational experience should contact Amy Barry at 337-4411.

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THE MOHAWK ESTATES DEVELOPMENT

Until quite recently Heath had no zoning laws. As with many small towns it was felt they were unnecessary, and so it seemed in the quiet little town of Heath. In 1967 this all changed when a man bought 350 acres in the eastern part of town on the former Henderson-Davenport place. He divided this land into 750 $\frac{1}{4}$ -acre lots, put in roads, rebuilt a dam on the brook, and dredged the pond. Calling this Mohawk Beach Estates, Read Scarborough started selling the lots under the name of World Waterfronts. He based his enterprise on a similar development in Connecticut, and was a real entrepreneur, selling lots easily, with many promises, not all of which were fulfilled.

The state soon became aware of the violations of the sanitary code, and finally the town awoke to the fact that zoning laws were imperative if a second World Waterfronts was not to become a reality in the town. In 1969 the Zoning By Laws were voted in and in 1975 Scarborough pulled out, having done well financially but leaving many problems behind him.

However, the lot owners rallied around and formed the Mohawk Estates Property Owners Association. Armand Clavette, the President who comes from Bristol, Conn., and an 11 member Board of Directors meet once a month. The Association owns the roads, and is assessed by the town on nine lots and 18 acres (the lake, picnic area, and beach) plus the community building. None of the roads have been accepted by the town, although one main access road is plowed by the town in winter and scraped in summer. Each landowner pays \$25 annual dues to the Association, which covers maintenance of the roads, beach, etc. Most maintenance work is done by volunteers, including patrol.

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There are now 423 landowners in Mohawk Estates, many of whom own more than one lot. The majority of these camp out on their land or live in recreational vehicles. The families come mainly from Connecticut and the Springfield area with some from Vermont. Four of these families live there year round, and three spend the whole summer there. There are 30 permanent wood frame houses. Three children attend the Rowe School and two are in Mohawk.

The beach is open only to the Association members. However, bingo games and a recent square dance with the Stump Jumpers held in the Association community building were open to the townspeople.

As a result of this subdivision, the town has gained a significant amount in its tax base, since the land is taxed as individual lots instead of farm land. Last year this produced over \$17500 more in tax revenue than the town would have had without the subdivision. And this does not include the taxes received on buildings.

So far the demand for increased services has not been too great. Beside the small increase in school population, there have been several serious house fires in Mohawk Estates over the past several years to which Heath volunteer firemen responded.



Papoose Lake



A Mohawk Estate

HOUSE BY THE SIDE OF THE ROADS

By Earl Gleason

(First in a series of articles about older houses in Heath)

The Gleason homestead was built about 1810 on a road leading from the present E. Thanes' to C. Stowes'. It passed just east of the Gleason house and the present door from the dining room to the kitchen was the front door. Later the road was changed to lead to the present Branch School and the ell on the front of the house was moved to its present location. In the late 1890's the present 8A road was built. My father always referred to the section of road from our house past Ken Crowningshield's as the "new road".

One of the early owners was Deacon Coats who was noted for his several wives and 13 or 14 children. Edmond Gleason bought the place in 1868 and finished off the upstairs into bedrooms. The rooms are extremely small because he had an intense dislike for sloping ceilings. So the walls are placed at the seven foot height on the slope of the roof.

Edmond did some farming and was a horse trader. Fred, his son, farmed and was a teamster, and his son, Frank (my father), was a teacher and did most of his farming on the present Walter Gleason farm. This brings us down to the present owner who did not inherit any of the talent of "Trading, Teaming, or Teaching". The house in the early 1900's housed the North Heath Post Office, and for several years was the central office of the Heath Telephone Co. During the building of the power line through North Heath, in the 1920's, the upstairs was used by power company supervisors. This was during prohibition and there was a possibility it was used for other than company business, for on a Sunday afternoon it was raided by government agents.

After the 1938 hurricane the house was rented to the Lane Construction Co. for some of the engineers who were building the new bridges in town. In 1979, the Heath Library held hours in the house while Sawyer Hall was being renovated.

When my father was a boy there were still mulberry bushes growing in the yard, the result of an early attempt to raise silkworms.

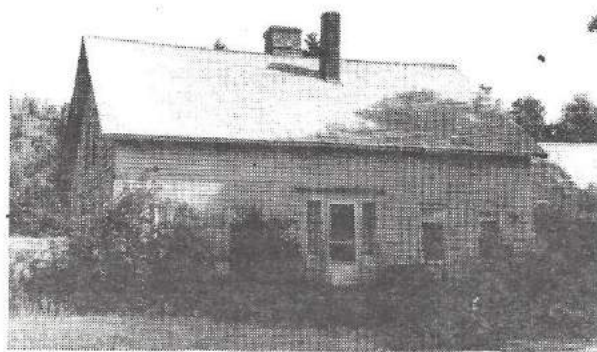
Not only has the house seen the roads that pass it change three times, but it has also seen two school houses on the

GLEASON HOUSE (continued)

property. The first was about 100 yards down the Jacobs Road. This school house was later moved to the Thane place and was torn down when I was a boy. The second was the Branch School where Mary Howe now lives, built about 1880.

Probably many of the interesting tales about this house have been forgotten, but it is just a small section of the lore of Heath.

Editors' Note: The HEATH HERALD is starting a series of stories on the older houses in Heath, as told by their owners. It is planned to feature one house in each issue. The first of these stories is on the Gleason place on Route 8A in North Heath.



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ASSESSORS WIN TWO, CONCEDE ONE

By Richards Steinbock

As reported in our last column, we appealed our 1980 equalized valuation of \$16.9 million and got the state to come down to \$15.2 million - not quite the \$13.6 million we were hoping for. After further consultation with the state and other local assessors, we reached the conclusion that further pursuit of the issue would cost more than we would get out of any greater reduction. The town's increase in valuation is now lower than the statewide average. The consensus is that we should consider it fortunate that the state saw things our way to the extent that they did. Our equalized valuation on residential is now about where we thought it should be.

We managed to talk the state into a good increase on their valuation of the H.O. Cook Forest, which should result in about a \$2700 increase in state aid to Heath. When we will see this \$2700 is another matter, however.

Our tax maps should be ready in August. These will be invaluable to us as an aid to bringing our open land valuation and classification into line with 100% valuation. Once the Assessors have gone over the maps, we will issue a public invitation so that anyone may come and inspect them. Ed Calver is to be commended for the job he has done. He has put in many hours of dedicated work on this project.

"Proposition 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " will be on the ballot this November. Essentially this limits the amount of money a town can raise by taxation to 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ % of its "full and fair cash value", with no more than a 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ % increase each year. Rough calculations indicate that Heath would be able to raise about \$320,000 under this law, which is just about the current amount raised. We would lose about \$11,000 per year in auto excise which would have to be made up by adding another 90¢ or so to the tax rate, or by spending less. A lot, of course, depends, on what form the law takes after it passes through the Legislature, should it pass. It would appear though that, other than increased paperwork on the part of town officials and an overload on the round file, the effect of "Proposition 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " on Heath would be minimal.

My own personal feeling is that we would all be better off if the state would just go away and leave us alone.

LIBRARY NOTES

By Edith Gleason

During June, Alli Thane, Teresa Petten-gill, and I attended a four session library workshop in South Deerfield. The topic we studied was Library Administration for Trustees and Librarians. We found it very informative, as it spelled out in detail the duties and rights of both parties. We also found that we were not far behind in using many of the approved practices.

The Library was well attended last month. If you haven't visited us yet, we hope you will soon. Bring in your special requests. If we don't have your book, we will get it for you, if at all possible. In 14 years I have had only one request I could not fill and that was because the lending agency was closed for repairs.

Our A-V equipment has been having a lot of use. In the past month more than 100 persons have seen at least two films a piece.

New books at the Library:

Guthrie - Big Sky, Lorenz - King Solomon's Ring, Singer - Old Love, Jackson & Woods - Sierra Madre, Howatch - Sins of the Fathers, Craven - Again Calls the Owl

Big Sky and King Solomon's Ring are reprints by Time-Life. The latter is a study conducted by the author that deals with wild birds which are attracted to his home, but not confined. Old Love is a collection of essays about Polish and Russian Jews at the time of World War II. Again Calls the Owl is a biography of the author which describes how she came to write I Heard the Owl Call My Name.

Did you know July 17, 1980 was the 86th anniversary of the founding of the Heath Library? Kudos!

THE JAGUAR AND THE FALCON

A lecture/discussion series on the Civilizations of Ancient Egypt and the Maya of Mexico

Amy C. Barry, Instructor

To be held on four consecutive Tuesdays
7:30-9:30pm, October 7 through October 28

Enrollment fee: \$10.00 per person
Contact Amy Barry at 337-4411

HEATH PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Bernard Den Ouden, of No. 9 Road, has published his second book, "The Fusion of Naturalism and Humanism". Dr. Den Ouden is chairman of the philosophy department at the University of Hartford.

Susan Gleason has returned from a two week stay at Goddard College in Vermont where she was accepted into an adult degree program of independent study. She is working toward a bachelor's degree in liberal arts.

Ken and Dot Stetson have returned from four weeks seeing the United States. They toured through 27 states, Mexico, and Canada.

Brooks McCutchen narrowly escaped a tragic accident when he was pinned between a "shaker" and a front-end loader in central Alaska. Brooks is working on a project screening the tailings of old gold mines. He spent some time in the hospital, but has now recovered and he is back on the job.

Mrs. Ethel Schmidt, of Colrain Stage Road, is in the Franklin County Hospital after a fall at her house.

The annual reunion of the descendants of Frederick and Josephine Churchill was held on August 3 at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Churchill in Heath. There were 100 members present and 12 guests. During the meeting, Mr. and Mrs. Alan Davenport, of Bangor, Maine, reported they their genealogy of the Churchill family. They traced they family back to the year 1055 in France.

Robert Gruen is the director and has the lead role in Fanny, the last production of the season at the Arena Civic Theater, to be given August 12-16 and August 19-23, Tuesday through Saturday. Bob was scheduled only to direct Fanny, but his leading man dropped out. As no replacement could be found, Bob stepped into the role. He has been taking singing lessons and, much to the delight (?) of his family, he has been practicing around the house, as he has never been in a singing role before. The production should be outstanding with Bob's talent both as a director and as an actor.

FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

By Chief Earl Gleason

Recent Fire Department drills have included working with 2½" attach lines and testing and repacking the hose on the new truck. The most recent drill was fighting oil and gasoline fires. Dick Giard's efforts resulted in two 3-hour classes on radiological monitoring. About 20 persons from Heath and surrounding towns attended.

At this time the Firemen's Association has just completed working their booth at Yankee Doodle Days, and is now planning to man the First Aid Booth, the Firemen's Booth, the Firemen's Games, and the Parade at the Heath Fair. Volunteers, as usual are welcome.

The State of Mass. has a new Arson Hot Line manned 24 hours a day. The toll free number is 1-800-682-9229. Anyone who has any information about suspected arson is urged to call this number. The information will be forwarded to the proper local authority. The State Fire Marshal requests that people note this number.

A request for a Young Firemen's Group has been received from a few young people. Anyone interested in forming such a group should contact E. Gleason 337-4948.

The increased rat population in town has brought to our attention another problem. On two occasions rats have chewed off the insulation on electric wiring in buildings. A word of warning - wherever possible, if you have a rat problem, check your wiring.

The Department meets on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 8 PM.

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BOY SCOUTS SURVIVE CAMP

By Todd Sumner

Troop 86 is having an active summer. The week of July 13-19 was spent at Chesterfield Scout Reservation in Goshen, Mass. Scoutmaster Bill Thane and seven scouts spent an action packed week with swimming, archery, rifle and shotgun practice, ecology, crafts, and cooking - to name a few activities. Of the seven scouts attending, four had never been before, so they had a lot to learn about camp life. The vigilante discipline enforced by the older scouts whose vivid imagination, aided by scoutmasters and staff, came up with some exotic punishments for chronic offenders. All in all, it was a successful week; everyone worked hard; the weather was good and everyone came home with badges to speak for their efforts and a little richer for the experience.

GIRL SCOUTS

By Brenda Sumner

A hot dog and hamburger concession at the Rowe Old Home Day, run by parents and leaders of Girl Scouts in Heath and Rowe, was successful in adding \$275 to the Scout treasury. Girl Scouts also made and sold somoas and added \$25 more on their project. Proceeds of the day will finance a camping trip to be held in Rowe on August 12-14.

SIXTH GRADE TAG SALE

Proceeds from the Tag Sale at the Heath Fair will go to the 6th grade class for their annual class trip. If you have any donations, call: Bob and Susan Gruen at 337-4235 or David and Phyllis Thane at 337-4759.

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SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

By David Howland

At a special town meeting held on July 8 about 20 citizens voted on eight articles. Five of the articles dealt with transfer of funds to cover over-expenditures in the past year's budget for town building services, printing of the annual report, street lights, vacation pay, and Sawyer Hall. The transfers totaled about \$12,000, the largest two being \$7722 for Sawyer Hall construction costs and \$3500 for fuel bills for town buildings.

There was considerable discussion over the status of the Sawyer Hall project and the fact that its total cost is over \$90,000, considerably more than the original \$55,000 estimate. The Selectmen reported the work is essentially completed but that the building has not yet been inspected for certificate of occupancy.

The town was fortunate to be in a position to transfer money for these two costs from the Franklin Co. Technical School, Police, and Highway accounts.

Three other articles were taken up which increase the 1981 fiscal budget. It was voted to appropriate \$3000 for the Refuse Disposal Account (turned down at the annual town meeting) subject to closing by the Heath Board of Health, if certain conditions are not met by the Dump Committee. These conditions are that the dump be covered regularly in compliance with state codes, rodent control measures maintained, and that quarterly public meetings be held. It was also voted to increase the salary of the Librarian by \$1000 to \$2500. This invoked some discussion, pro and con, about the rising trend of payment for services of elected and appointed officials. Also, \$400 was appropriated for expenses in preparation of tax maps by Ed Calver who is generously donating his time in this work for the Assessors.



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WELLS TRUST FUND BENEFITS HEATH

This year the Fred W. Wells Trust has made available to the Heath Agricultural Society \$400 to be used for premiums at the Heath Fair. Under the terms of Mr. Wells' will, the awards will be made for agricultural exhibits to "youths" under 21 years of age.

Also the Wells Trust has awarded an educational scholarship to Hannah Lively, daughter of Fred Lively of Number 2 Road. Hannah graduated from the Mohawk Trail Regional High School in June and plans to attend Berkshire Community College in the fall to study environmental Science.

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POPULATION EXPLOSION IN HEATH?

Preliminary figures from the 1980 census indicate the population of Heath has increased 26% in the past ten years to 484 people. If Heath continues to grow at this rate, it will exceed its earlier peak in population of 1199 (reached in 1830) by the year 2020!

The census figures also show there are 63.5 % more houses in than there were in 1970.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S CONSUMER PROTECTION UNIT TO HOLD OFFICE HOURS IN AREA TOWNS

District Attorney Thomas G. Simons announced on 7/15/80 that the Consumer Protection Unit of his Office will soon begin holding regular office hours in communities of Hampshire and Franklin Counties to allow residents to bring problems to the Consumer Protection staff.

The Consumer Protection Unit began on a part-time basis in 1973 and has expanded rapidly to a full-time staff of five with offices in Northampton and Greenfield.

Joan Sammel Weston is Director of the Agency. Other staff members are Susan Grant and Ellisa Hovaglimian in the Northampton office and Richard Steward and Cecile Dion in Greenfield.

Consumer Protection handles a wide variety of consumer complaints such as debt collection, utilities, repairs and services, sales and rentals, insurance, landlord/tenant, and wage claims. The staff also provides Small Claims counseling and broad referral information.

In making this announcement, District Attorney Simons and Ms Weston said they hope that consumers, who may formerly have felt isolated from the Consumer Agency, will now avail themselves of its services.

- Correction -

Under School Notes in the June issue, the HERALD wishes to correctly state the following. Daniel Gleason and Todd Howe, who graduated from the Rowe School, will attend Franklin County Technical School. Nathan Clark graduated from the Mohawk Trail Regional High School.

MILESTONES

Andrea Ann was born to Pamela and Robert Belval on July 4. Andrea is the granddaughter of Jeannette and Howard Crowningshield.

Erik Luis was born to Susan and Fred Pazmino on June 20. Erik is the grandson of Eva and Luis Pazmino.

Elizabeth Marie was born to Sharon and Raymond Rice on June 20. Elizabeth is the granddaughter of O'Dell and Francis Rice.

Alison McAfee Brown was married to Paul Ehara on June 29 in ElCerrito, Cal. She is the daughter of Sidney and Robert Brown.

Lisa Cromack, the daughter of Catherine and Bruce Cromack, was married to Norman Davenport on July 5. He is the son of Martha and Russell Davenport of Shelburne.

Andreas Royer celebrated his 87th birthday on July 27.

Alice Woznack and Paul Dabrody were married on August 2 at a home ceremony with a reception following.

Mrs. Hilma Borklund, mother of Mrs. Clyde Churchill and a patient in Poet's Seat Nursing Home, will celebrate her 94th birthday on September 8.

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NO TURN ON RED!

By Chief Lorin S. Gowdy

As of Jan. 1, 1980, Massachusetts has allowed a right turn on a red light. Although the Town of Heath is not effected, I have been asked several times about the new law. Basically the new law only effects one out of ten traffic light controlled intersections. The other nine are posted "No Turn On Red". At the few intersections where right turn on red is allowed, the operator must still treat it as a stop sign; that is, the vehicle must be brought to a complete stop before making the turn. The primary reason for the lack of right turn on red intersections is the fact that pedestrians have the right of way. For more information, information pamphlets on the new law have been placed at Peters' Store.

C L A S S I F I E D

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Additional copies of the HEATH HERALD may be purchased at Peters' Store news stand.

Last call for the missing names of the Carpenter Prize winners. Years 1939, 41-60, excluding 56. The names are to be placed on a specially prepared plaque for posterity.

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