

VOLUME 20 NUMBER 4

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 1998

# HEATH HERALD

HEATH'S FIRST NEWSPAPER

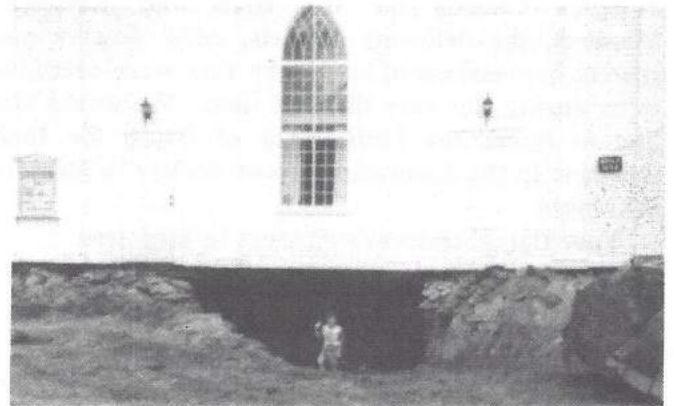
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## HEATH UNION CHURCH NEWS

by Pastor Colin Lucid

Heath Union Church is being uplifted! As you may have seen by driving by, our church building is under repair. Our church family is very excited as we see the first phase of our project begin. This phase is to replace the foundation. When this is done we will then replace rotting floor joists. We expect to be back in the building for service within the next few months. In the meantime, we are meeting in the Community Hall. We would like to say "THANK YOU" to all who have helped in any way to make this project "get off the ground."

*(Continued on page 3)*



*Colin Lucid Junior stands in the Heath Union Church's "new digs", as work began on the church's new foundation.*

## CHURCHILL REUNION

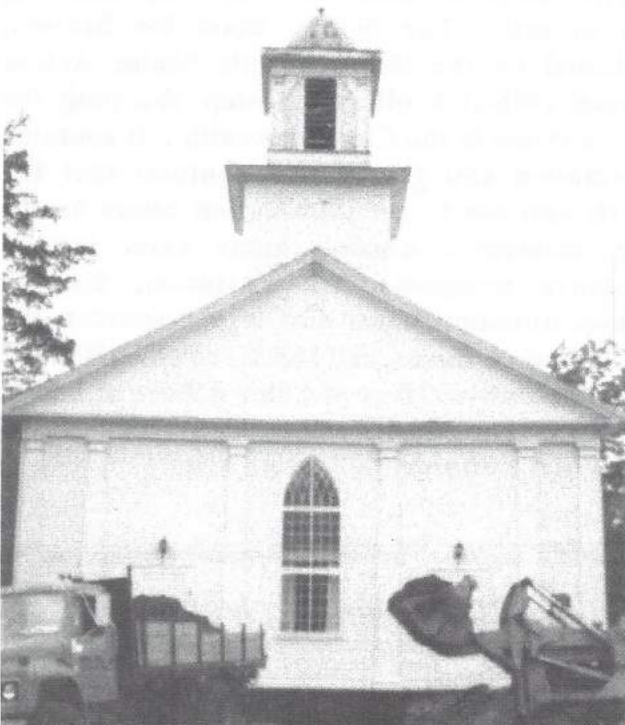
The annual reunion of the descendants of Frederick and Josephine (Willis) Churchill was held August 2nd at the family homestead, now the home of Hilma (Churchill) and Richard Sumner.

There were 124 family members and guests attending. The oldest member present was Ruth Churchill, 86, of Heath and the youngest was Liena Alethea, the four-week-old daughter of Cindy and Douglas Churchill of Greenfield.

The group enjoyed a noon and evening cookout, catching up on family news, horseshoes, volleyball and softball. The children in four age groups hunted for candy and coins in the sawdust pile.

Officers elected for the 1999 reunion were: president, Keith Churchill; secretary, Charlene Churchill; food committee, Craig and Judy Davenport and family; and children's entertainment, Tim Churchill.

Next year's reunion will be held at the same location on the first Sunday in August.





## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear People of Heath,

My family and I would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to our friends and neighbors in Heath for the outpouring of love and consolation extended to us during my husband George's illness and subsequent passing.

It was a wonderful tribute to George and very comforting to my family and I to see St. Joseph's Church filled to capacity during the beautiful memorial service held in his honor.

We would like to extend our thanks to the people of Heath for the generous memorial gifts sent to St. Joseph's Church for the Haiti and Kentucky Missions, the delicious desserts, card, flowers and sincere expressions of sympathy that were extended to us during this very difficult time. We would also like to thank the Ladies Aid of Heath for their donation to the American Cancer Society in memory of George.

Your thoughtfulness will never be forgotten.

Sincerely, Eileen Tougas, Daniel Tougas and Sandra Baker

### HEATH HERALD HEATH'S FIRST NEWSPAPER

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The Heath Herald is published six times a year in April, June, August, October, December and February.

**SUBSCRIPTION RATE** - One year: \$6.25 (payable in advance by check or money order.)

**ADVERTISING RATES** - Display ads: \$4.80 per column inch (discounts on six or more insertions.)

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## RAYS OF INTEREST

by R. C. Pettengill.

Many years ago a conductor on an eastern railroad was notorious for his foul temper. After repeated incidents of abusive treatment of passengers things finally came to a head when he became so enraged at a passenger with the wrong ticket that he killed the man. In court it was decided that his crime was so serious that he was sentenced to death in the electric chair.

On the appointed morning he was brought in and fastened to the device, the fatal switch was thrown and electricity crackled, but in the end he was still alive. On order from the warden a second attempt was made, and a third. After three attempts to put the conductor to death the warden had him brought to his office.

"Under state law I'm forced to set you free after three attempts at execution," he said, "but please tell me why are you still alive?"

"I don't know" said the man, "I guess I'm just a lousy conductor."

I know this would not work for me because the first time my mother heard me use the four letter word she washed my mouth out with soap. Cleaned up my act real quick!

## RESOURCES FOR ELDERS

There is new assistance for seniors who require more services but need help knowing who to call. The Source Book for Seniors, published by the Massachusetts Senior Action Council (MSAC), offers one-stop shopping for elder services in the Commonwealth. It contains information and government contacts that the elderly can use to get information about health care, insurance, nursing home care, income assistance programs, transportation, housing options, nutrition, abuse and legal resources. To obtain Source Books, call MSAC at 617-350-6722 or the Executive Office of Elder Affairs at 1-800-882-2003. The MSAC will make available 6,500 copies of the Source Book at no cost.



## LIBRARY LINES

by Laurie Wheeler Burrington

The Serenity Prayer in Thousand Oaks California, a peek at the National Historical Register, weather, plans for wooden boats, a cruise along the daylily information highway, the latest in "beanie babies", or a stroll through a far away library's resources, without leaving your seat. Stop by and try out our new graphical internet access. Just like Christmas, UPS began dropping off those notorious black and white "cow" boxes, heralding the advent of graphical internet access and Windows '98 at the library.

We've already had a few comments of surprise from people who hadn't realized that Heath had gained this technology; we've actually had text based internet access. Our new connection, through CW/MARS is much easier to use, albeit a bit slower than our text based internet. With a little initial coaching people should be able to move around the Web easily; just point and click!

This second computer was made available to Heath and approximately 70 other public libraries through the Western Mass Regional Library System and the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners as a part of their Strategic Plan for libraries across the state. Libraries are increasingly being asked to provide more information and in a quicker fashion. (I think its just becoming one of those worlds.) This access provides yet another tool for our library users. We also have available a word processing program, paint program, and access (via the MBLC and WMRLS) to a powerful commercial database called Searchbank Infotrac that includes access to health reference, general reference magazine reference, academic subjects, and a general business file. The Friends of The Library are in the process of purchasing for the library a wooden computer desk which will allow for more user comfort.

And lest you think I've "thrown the baby out with the bath water", i.e., "What about our books?", here is a list of recent new book additions:

For adults and young adults: *Dangerous Angels*, Francesca Block; *Rose's garden*, Carrie Brown; *Rainbow 6*, Tom Clancy; *Point of Origin*, Patricia Cornwell; *This Body*, Laurel Doud; *Bridget Jones's Diary*, Helen Fielding; *First Eagle*, Tony Hillerman; *Out to Canaan*, Jan Karon; *Spin Cycle*, Howard Kurtz; *Crooked Little Heart*, Anne Lamott; *Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood*, Rebecca Wells; and a number of new mysteries given to us by Jane Deleuw.

For the children's section: *What Do Babies Do?*; *Farm Animals*; *Baby's Animal Friends*; *Cars* and

*Trucks* and *Things That Go*; and *Time To Keep*, the *Tasha Tudor Book of Holidays*; and *Country Fair*, a picture book adapted from the *Little House* series by Laura Ingalls Wilder given to the library by the Franklin County Fair folks.

Our audio collection, which continues to grow in popularity, has increased thanks to a Council on Aging grant and Dr. Michael Coe. Also new is *The Air and Space* magazine, given by Alan Booth.

We have ordered through interlibrary loan a number of books about Japan and Japanese culture for our enlightenment as the date arrives for the beginning of the elementary school's Japanese visitor's stay with our community.

Last but not least, October is National Dollhouse and Miniatures month. We have on display in the library five plus dollhouses and roomboxes in various stages of completion, as well as a number of books on the subject.

This has been the good news. Our bad news is that Don Dekker has notified us of his resignation as our assistant librarian. I'm trying to figure out a way to talk him out of it, but in the meantime we are beginning the process of hiring a new assistant for the library.

*(Continued from page 1)*

## YOU ARE INVITED

Our fall schedule is as follows:

- ☞ Sunday worship service: 9:00 a.m.
- ☞ Children's church: 9:00 a.m.
- ☞ Youth Group: 6:45 p.m. on Sunday at Heath School. Bring your favorite snack and wear sneakers. Ages 6th grade through High School are invited.
- ☞ Bible Study and prayer: Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. at the parsonage.
- ☞ Monthly prayer meeting: The third Wednesday of each month at the Community Hall at 7:00 p.m.
- ☞ On Sunday, November 1st, we will go back to meeting at 10:00 a. m.

II Timothy 2:15 says "Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." Based on this verse, the Bible study on Wednesday night is to accomplish the purpose of teaching people how to study God's word. The second purpose is to pray for the needs of our church, community and leaders of our country. If you have any prayer requests or needs, please call Pastor Colin at 337-5755.



## FRIENDSHIP

by Buck DenOuden

I have had a life long love for tractors. My first memory of being on a tractor was traveling with my father on a cold spring day to a gravel bank some six miles away from our farm in Minnesota with a two wheel trailer hitched behind an H Farmall. The trailer was loaded by my father with a grain scoop bearing a load of wonderful fine sand for a play area. I was three at the time but still recall the pleasures of my father's company, the refreshing wind, the feel of the cold and the soft swish of the shovel into the sand and the rattling of small pellets hitting the wooden box. Later the sand was placed in a rectangular frame wonderfully situated between two large trees.

My first jobs with a tractor were hauling grain from the combine and cultivating corn. Hauling grain was dusty but fun. I drove a B Farmall which my father purchased with me, cultivating and other tasks in mind. If we left the cultivator on the B for five weeks in the summer we did not have to take off or repeatedly put it back on H Farmall. As thoroughly as Farmall Tractors were designed, their early cultivators were heavy, crude and primitive. They required the greater part of a day to put on with frequently bruised knuckles and occasional foul language.

We cultivated corn four times in those days. The first go through was when the corn was very small and we did so with shields on the cultivators to protect the fragile plants. The corn was checked so that one could cultivate crosswise to kill the weeds between the hills. It was rough going, however, because the cultivator would make ridges so that the second and third times through were like riding a cast iron bronco. The fourth cultivation was done with "hillers" creating a nice mound of dirt around the corn much in the same way we protect our fine Heath potatoes. We always had 70 to 80 acres of corn so that when cultivating started there were only a few breaks in between. At ten acres a day, once you finished one direction, you would start another. Rains were a blessing - much needed for the crops and a little rest. The early 50s were much like this year. We were hit with persistent drought. To supplement their incomes my father and grandfather constructed farm buildings for other farmers. When I was not cultivating I would go along and help. I started cultivating when I was eight - not much different from my father who was the eldest son of an immigrant family. A few years after you walked, you were expected to work. The first tasks were chores, then, as you gained experience, one began to operate machines.

Tractors are some of my friends. They helped us when I was young by assisting us in generating farm income and producing food. Much of the cash income was from custom work which is hiring out a man and a boy with a tractor and a machine attached to it such as a baler or a silage cutter. I share my love of old tractors with my friends Carroll Stowe, Howard and Ralph Dickinson, Ernie Thane, Jeremy Lively, Dohn Sherman, Fred Lively and many other individuals. Carroll, Jeremy and I love H & M Farmalls. The MD that I have was Heath's first diesel tractor coming to town in 1947. The MD helped me earn the money for building our house. It drew all the logs to Wyn Warriner's mill. Fred Lively and I cut all the material for the structure and for the interior wood from his land. The only exception is some oak which I bought from Walt Gleason. On winter nights after Wyn sawed the wood, I would pick up the boards and timbers. Beverly and I then deeply enjoyed sticking up the lumber and fantasizing about our house.



*Carrol Stowe and Friend*

Tractors always helped me earn a living or compliment a modest income. Now I work with them largely for pleasure - even old horses need exercise. It is my responsibility to care for them in their old age. Friends don't abandon each other



because they are not as fast and slick as they used to be. I share a love of A, B, G, 60, 70 and 420 John Deeres with Howard, Ralph, Fred and Dohn. These fine machines have slow running, long stroke motors that love to pull. They are simple in design. I can change the clutch in one of these tractors in half an hour. It takes Howard fifteen minutes. If Ralph had a dollar for every load of hay and trailer full of logs or fire wood he pulled behind a John Deere B, he would be a rich man. Ralph is a man who knows what real wealth is. Wealth is character, knowledge, friendship and generosity of spirit - the Dickinson brothers have all of these virtues. My friends Carroll Stowe, Dohn Sherman, Jeremy Lively and Fred Lively are not short on these essentials either. Jeremy repairs my tractors when there are problems well beyond my rather limited mechanical abilities. Anyone who doesn't appreciate Young Lively's abilities as a welder and as a mechanic has a few cogs missing. Jeremy is also an uncommonly kind young man. My son Matthew has the last H Farmall my father spotted for us in Minnesota. I hope Grandson Liam enjoys it too.

Ernie Thane introduced me to Fordson Majors. I purchased one this summer in Nebraska. A man my parents took in during the dust bowl days located it for me. It is now in his machine shed. Next summer I will find a way to bring it home. The Fordson Major is one way I will remember Ernie. Ernie was an excellent mechanic and a wonderful friend. When the Fordson Major cuts my hay and I have the pleasure of driving it, Ernie will always be with the Major and me.

I plan to end my days in Heath. Beverly teases me about when the time comes burying me with my MD. We'll just have to wait and see.

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## THE HEATH SCHOOL GIFT CATALOGUE

by Suzanne Crawford

The Heath School Community Partnership and the Heath Preschool are working on a new fundraising project. We are creating a gift catalogue that will offer a wonderful variety of handmade and locally produced products by many of the talented artisans, craftspeople, and specialty food producers in our area. These talented neighbors have generously agreed to give a portion of the proceeds from this sale to the Heath School. Besides helping the school, this gift catalogue reminds us of the magic and beauty of our hilltowns, and how we are enriched by our creative neighbors.

This is a great opportunity to support the school and a local artist, while bringing pleasure to the people who receive the items you purchase. Look for these new gift catalogues in mid-October. Orders will be taken between October 20 and November 12. You may contact Suzanne Crawford at the school (337-5307) for more information or to receive a catalogue.



*Mohawk Estates Property Owners Association dedicated their newly renovated "Drum Beat Board" in memory of George Tougas on Sunday, September 6, 1998. Mr. Tougas held the positions of Corresponding Clerk and Newsletter Editor for many years and was instrumental in keeping the members of the association in touch with the happenings and events.*





## The Way It Is In The Country

*"If it's old, works well and has a purpose in life,  
don't change it".*

- by **CARROLL STOWE**

The annual Heath Wagon Train is history for 1998. Someone counted 46 animals on the road on Saturday. This event really makes my year.

People started to camp at the Fairgrounds early in the week before the 25, 26, and 27. Friday saw a number of people arrive from Vermont and Berkshire County. We managed over the weekend to burn a lot of the waste wood from various building projects on the grounds. Didn't get it all. This event has been bigger than it was this year but there were a good number and well watched over. If it gets too big, it is difficult to watch out for the needs of those attending. There are folks from many different walks of life. Every one mingles and are soon on a first name basis.

There was a large group that comes from Groton, Massachusetts, and their group gets larger each year. They are a fun outfit.

The people are very friendly and look after their needs and the needs of many others. The food they bring to share is faultless and of great abundance. The breakfasts at the wagon train are just perfect. It is almost a sure thing that there will be an opportunity to eat to excess. Saturday found the group in the Lively's west field off of Knott Road, with a chance to rest the animals and reacquaint ourselves with those not seen since the year previous.

Sunday was a beautiful day for our trip to Cable's blueberry fields. Diane's friend Bill's family was here to experience this special tour. Bill's father is in a wheel chair. We put him, chair and all, in the wagon I use and I even let the man feel the lines in his hands. This trip to Cable's is always termed unbelievable by many and these folks were most impressed by the area and the view. Until it is seen its hard to express what a treasures spot Cables have. I am always proud to take the nonbelievers up there. A great trip up and most enjoyed. The entire group is most indebted to the Cables.

I get great pleasure watching people, making friends and can only hope the friendships are long lasting. This wagon train is most certainly a labor of love and I can only hope it goes on for years. A great time was had by all.

## VIEW FROM BURNT HILL

by Jack Cable

Burnt Hill Farm hosted "Jillian Day" Aug. 9. Jillian, the 16 year-old daughter of Jerry and Joan Gilbert, passed away Aug. 6, a victim of cancer. Jillian was a past employee of our farm as were her brothers, Jeff and Jeremy, and her father. We had families picking, cleaning and selling blueberries. Other events were pick-your-own and a food sale including fried dough plus music provided by a band led by Jillian's brother. Pastor Lucid and Father Roach were on hand for spiritual comforting. The solitude needed by some was also available. Thanks to all who made this a memorable day. Jillian must have been smiling with a twinkle in her eye.

"Jack's favorite" in the exhibit hall at the Heath Fair again was filled with blueberry entries for the best tasting and best looking blueberry related items. There was also good participation in our scything event. Young and old, novice and experienced, tried their luck at hand-mowing.

The Heath Historical Society's annual meeting on Aug. 30 featured Burnt Hill. Guest speaker Colgate Gilbert, of the New England Antiquities Research Association, gave a presentation on "The Study of Standing Stones of Burnt Hill." based on the three-year study by NEARA which is trying to determine the origin of the stones, their alignments and other features of the property.

The rumors which abound that our farm is for sale are not true! June Day has her farm on the market but ours is not for sale. We are in the process of selling the development rights to the State. Under Land Preservation, selling these rights means that no one can ever develop or build on this property. It will forever remain open space. This mountain top will always look the same. For 32 years I have been trying to find a way to preserve this land. This plan is the most secure of all.

Sadness abounds at our home not only because of the deaths of Beverly's father, Ernie Thane, and Jillian but because Beverly's brother Bill who was struck by a car in mid-July and seriously injured is still a patient at Massachusetts Medical in Worcester. We pray for all who suffer and grieve at this time. Enjoy the fall season in this beautiful area of the world.





## HEATH PRESCHOOL NEWS

by Suzanne Crawford

How great to have the happy sounds of young children at play in the preschool classroom once again! Our school year is off to a smooth start, with 7 returning students and 11 new ones. It is wonderful to see how proud and confident the returning students are to be the "big guys" who already know a lot about the school. We are lucky to be able to offer an extended day again, as we began last January, allowing children to stay for lunch in school.

Even though we have only been in school a short while, we've been able to do some fun activities. This week the children made "zucchini critters." Using overgrown garden zukes, the children added button eyes, twig feet, feathers and popsicle sticks to create special pets/friends. This is a great project since every critter turns out different, but all are charming and appealing. We do need to talk about how these critters have a fairly short life before they go to the compost pile, though! Robin Booth (school nurse and preschool parent) shared with us a wonderful book from 1922 that was her father's that had many more "Kitchen Kriiter" ideas with other vegetables.

We have had a chance to ride tricycles on the basketball court. We have a nice "fleet" of sturdy trikes and scooters as well as bike helmets. All children love to ride, but it is especially nice for families with steep or unpaved driveways or houses close to busy roads. Although trike riding is primarily an activity that builds strong muscles and coordination, we can often build in language and counting skills by pretending to have a take-out restaurant or gas station open for drive-thru business.

We have recently begun a year-long project - using our "journals". These are special books that we'll use throughout the year for drawing pictures and writing/dictating accompanying stories. In addition to giving all the children an opportunity to draw and tell a story on a regular basis, the journals keep all of these papers together. This allows each child and family to have a record of their progress over the year. And of course they are a great keepsake from these special preschool years.

Once again we give our most sincere thanks to the Heath School Community Partnership and the many individuals who worked so hard at the Heath Fair. The raffle continues to offer many beautiful

hand-made items and the new mini-golf game built by Bruce and Deborah Phillips is a wonderful and fun new addition. We also give Bruce a giant thank you for the outdoor toy box that he built last June to hold all of the sandbox toys! We are also grateful for the fundraising support of David Adie and AJ Cycle for the very successful motorcycle ride and luncheon that they sponsored last May. Many people also supported the preschool by buying iris roots for their gardens. There are still some irises available that need a home. It is wonderful for the preschool to have such supportive friends throughout the community.

We look forward to a great year ahead. Please stop by to visit if you're in the school.

## UPPER SOUTH ELEMENTARY NEWS

by Meshia Begin and Grace Phillips

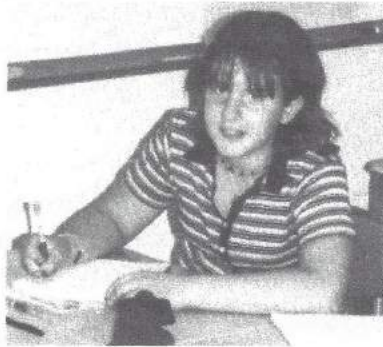
Have you been to visit Heath Elementary School this fall? If you did, you couldn't miss the garden. Last spring, the Primaries, Middles and Uppers planted a garden of pumpkins, gourds, sunflowers and scarlet runner beans. The garden is placed near the entrance of the school grounds. Bonnie Wodin helped us plan the garden. This kind of garden is called a no-till garden.

First we planned where the perimeter of the garden would be and marked it. Then Steve Marcotte spread sheep manure. Jorie MacLeod's class put cardboard and hay on the manure. Then they put well-rotted horse manure mixed with school compost that the Middles made in piles. We planted the seeds in these piles. Each class had a student planting in each pile. We sang The Garden Song.

This fall, we harvested the garden before frost. The Primaries counted all the vegetables. Now we are getting the garden ready for winter. If you have any extra leaves or hay, you can drop them off by our garden to help.

The Uppers have been going in the Northwoods at school for science. We draw or write what we see and hear (and smell, feel or taste?) The Uppers are planning on mapping the woods, and we will have trails and wooden signs that tell about the woods. You will be welcome to come visit our nature trail.

One day the school was working hard on their work. Some kids from Mary Culver's class were writing. The Primaries were outside. Robbie's class was reading. They all saw a moose in the field! They got Mr. O'Reilly, our principal. He got his camera and took a picture of it. The moose was big and



4<sup>th</sup> Grader Ruth Ayers



brown. He was eating apples. He had very big antlers.

If you find a weird bug, bring it to the Heath School on Jacobs Road. We will try to identify it for you.

Just a reminder that many student ride their bikes to school. Watch out for us on those winding roads!

## ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS

by Philip O'Reilly

This is our third year of operation for Heath Elementary School. Surely, we are out of the infancy stage and into the toddler stage of development. Phew!



Mary Culver

A number of new staff have been hired this year. Our 4/5 teacher, Deb McConnell, moved to Georgia this summer. Mary Culver was hired to take her place. Mary is the mother of three children and a recent graduate of Mt. Holyoke

College. Lisa Goodell accepted a full time physical education position in New Hampshire for the coming year. Shelburne resident Judah Hughes was hired for this position. Judah is a recent graduate of the University of Massachusetts and will be working here at least two days per week. Lisa King, a resident of Colrain, and Michelle Howe of Heath have been hired as instructional assistants in Deb Porter's classroom.



Judah Hughes

Heath resident Jill Kuehl was hired for the instructional assistant position open in Kim Gross's K/1 classroom. Diana Chira, a graduate of Harvard



Lisa King

University and American International College, has been recently hired as our new special education teacher replacing Zenya Wild.

A new handbook for parents and another handbook for staff members were completed and published over the summer. These informational handbooks are complete with pictures of children, community and staff members and have been distributed already.

This past summer K/1 teacher, Deb Porter facilitated the completion of our comprehensive discipline policy. Deb worked with staff members and parents further defining Heath School's Rules

and Logical Consequences. She also offered inservice time for staff to finalize implementation strategies and to outline and refine the "Steps to Self Control" created by Northeast Foundation for Children. The staff will continue to work with Deb Porter throughout the year as we come closer to establishing our instructional continuum at the Heath School.



Michele Howe

Principal Philip O'Reilly and teacher Robbie Murphy spent a considerable amount of time writing a Comprehensive School Reform Grant for funds needed to implement the second phase of the teacher-mentoring program which began at the school during the 1997-98 school year. The grant was not supported in the first round of funding, but we are hopeful that if we apply for support in the second round, we will get the money necessary to fully implement this initiative. Members of the Heath Elementary School Council are presently reviewing the recommendations for changes given to us from the Massachusetts Department of Education.

## LIVELY DANCE RETURNS TO HEATH

by Deborah Phillips

Children, teens and adults can continue to take dance classes with our own local resource, Martha Lively. After the first-year success in her directorship of Lively Dance culminating in the fabulous dance recital performed in June, she has returned to Heath Elementary School on Mondays and Wednesdays.

This is a wonderful and accessible opportunity for children and adults alike to learn dance technique, music interpretation through movement, presence, exercise and fun! The cost is just \$5.00 per class hour, you can reach Martha at 628-3805 for more information.

The dance schedule for the year is as follows:

### Monday

Ballet (Ages 5-7) 3:30 - 4:30  
Creative Movement (5-12) 4:30 - 5:30  
Ballet (8-12) 5:30 - 6:30  
Teen Jazz 6:30 - 7:30

### Wednesday

Jazz (Ages 5-9) 3:30 - 4:30  
Modern (5-12) 4:30- 5:30  
Jazz (10-12) 5:30 - 6:30  
Adult Class 6:30 - 7:30



## SEAWARD JOURNEY

by Laurie Wheeler Burrington

"A huge river", a first sighting of the Gulf Stream; setting anchor, setting sail with nothing but ocean around; midnight watch; washing the decks; shark and whale sightings; these are all part of Mohawk senior Kathleen Tuturice's August Upward Bound trip on the 1894 schooner SSV (School Sailing Vessel) Ernestina.

From Sister Margarita in Mohawk's recent Sound of Music, Ms. Tuturice nimbly switched to worthy seahand during a brief stint on the open seas this past summer. She was selected to participate in her ten day sea journey as a result of an essay she had written for the Upward Bound Program at the Northfield Mount Hermon School, of which she has been a part since ninth grade. Only two or three students from each New England Upward Bound program were chosen to go on this summer's journey.

The Ernestina, a former fishing schooner, is a 156 foot sailing ship given to the people of the United States by the Republic of Cape Verde, that has since 1986 served as a living, educational museum. She is also registered as a National Historic Landmark.

As the Ernestina sailed from Buzzard's Bay, around the Elizabeth Islands, Stellwagen Bank, Gloucester and finally into Boston Harbor, students were taught and expected to participate in boat operations. Nautical, marine, and aquatic sciences are among the academic subjects taught on board the SSV Ernestina, but students learned a great deal more than that, according to Ms. Tuturice.

Adjustment to the "weird hours" of boat watches, and a great deal of hard work that became easier as they "learned the ropes" and teamwork necessary; the boat left with certain resources and her "crew" was expected to live within those means. Ms. Tuturice described the trip "as learning to survive. Sometimes we think we need a lot. We learned on the boat we really don't." Ms. Tuturice explained that there was "no shopping, no radios, no contact with the outside world, no breaking of our train of thought. No one worried what they looked like, everyone was working and was able to spend more time learning from each other."

### Upward Bound Program

Upward Bound is a federally funded academic program for first generation college bound young adults who meet certain income guidelines; there are a number of such programs around the country.



*Kathleen Tuturice and Friends Aboard the  
1894 Schooner SSV Ernestina.*

A year round program, the Northfield Mount Hermon Upward Bound draws participation from four schools in Franklin County, and Springfield and Holyoke. Summers include a six week residential program on the NMH campus where academic classes are taken. During the school year the participants are expected to meet with their Upward Bound staff on a weekly basis and to complete 52 hours of community service. During senior year guidance is given to students about college admission and financial aid.

"It gives kids something to strive for. Some come from the backwoods, others from cities. We get to meet, learn skills and communicate. Everyone is on the same level, starting from the same place. All get to raise themselves up." What more explanation can you ask for? Of her ten days on board, "it was the second best experience in my life", she said, "Upward Bound was the first."

Ms. Tuturice hopes to attend the Berkeley School of Music and major in Music performance.

### LADIES AID

The Ladies Aid Christmas Sale will be downstairs in the Community Hall, Saturday November 7<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

Lunch on sale anytime. The Hall Committee will have a craft fair and sale upstairs; same day and same time.

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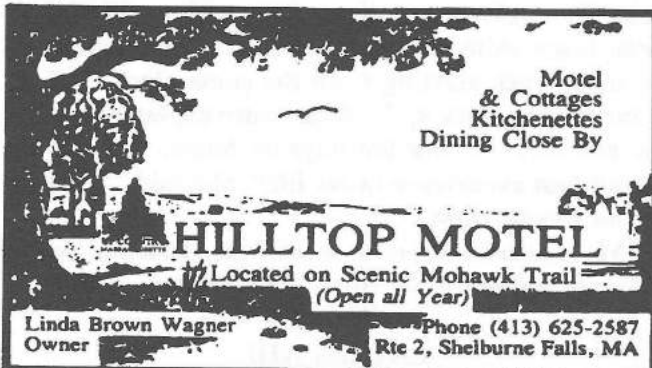
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## FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

by D. F. Howland

This summer has not been without activity for the FinCom. We were participants in the planning and executing of the financing of the final phase of the Heath Elementary School which we are pleased to report was completed September 25. Also, the school building itself was formally accepted when all the minor repairs were done and the lease with the Mohawk Regional School District was accepted by all parties. Whew! The last piece of the school building pie requires the compilation of all expenditures for the State so that a final reimbursement number can be computed. The Town has been receiving School Building Assistance, but it was based on earlier estimates. This is the last phase of the process and it has to be completed by December 1. The School Building Committee, The Board of Selectmen, the FinCom, the staff in the Town and at the Mohawk School District and the voters are to be congratulated for their support of this effort. And recently, Chuck Mackie, the Town's representative to the Franklin Regional Council of Government, has been a driving force in getting things done.

The FinCom voted to transfer \$2,200.86 from its Reserve Fund to take care of adjusting year-end overages in several accounts. It also worked with the BOS in planning a Special Town Meeting (STM). That meeting, which was held September 22, passed five of the six Articles on the Warrant - \$1,000 for a computer, \$673 for the increasing cost of a bond related to school financing, \$8,000 and \$6,055 for final costs related to school financing and approval of a release to the owner of a piece of land on the Shapiro property which has been at issue. The final article asked that \$7,095 be paid to a home owner for well drilling costs, but it was not voted on because a fire call reduced the attendance below the required quorum. Of all the articles only \$1,673 was financed from appropriated funds, i.e. it will affect the tax rate. All the other money articles were financed from available funds.

After the STM a round table discussion called by the BOS was held with many of the town boards and committees in attendance.

The FinCom submitted in writing its Plans and Objectives for FY98. Briefly they include the preparation of a Financial Data Study for the period of FY85 to FY98, participating in the final phases of financing the Heath School, working with the School Committee representatives and the Local Education Council to prepare for the FY00 budget and supporting the Planning Board and Space Committee with their special tasks. It was a worthwhile meeting not only because it set goals for the Town but gave attendees the benefit of the coordinated effort to communicate.

### PERCS, PERMITS AND TRANSFERS

#### Percolation Tests

Perc tests have been suspended until next April, except for repairs.

#### Building Permits

No building permits were issued this period.

#### Deed Transfers

Craig S. Gerry to Julie A. Sidon of Gloucester, Sumner Stetson Road, two parcels, \$1.

Allan R. Goldstein of Hingham to Susan Lawrence, 175 Jacksonville Stage Road, \$25,000.

Wilfred J. and Jeannette B. Gadbois to Sabrina A.A.M. Bradway of Chicopee, Cheyenne Street, \$4,500.

Birdie M. Jiguere and Brenda L. Guarna, to John J. and Jeanne M. Kosciw of Rockville, CT, Mohawk Estates, lots 32-34, \$23,000.

Cersosimo Industries Inc. of Brattleboro, VT to Kevin and Karen Mozalak, Dell Road, 42.07 acres, \$27,900.

William R. Handrich, Jr. to the William R. and Priscilla E. Handrich Family Trust, of Hadley, William R. Handrich, Jr. Priscilla E. Handrich, Trustees. 14G Jacksonville Stage Road, \$1.

William R. and Priscilla E. Handrich to the William R. and Priscilla E. Handrich Family Trust, of Hadley, William R. Handrich, Jr. and Priscilla E. Handrich, Trustees. Jacksonville Stage Road, Route 8A, 10 acres.

Michael J. Peters Estate, Cleon J. Peters and Theresa M. Peters, Administrators, to Paul and Deborah A. Plante. Branch Hill Road. \$80,000.

Dorothy Kenna and Martin Murphy to Virginia C. Esposito of Shelburne. 12 Clearwater Drive. \$1.

Howard C. and Jeannette V. Crowningshield to Kelly and Heidi Griswold. Jacksonville Stage Road, 3 tracts, 11.9 acres. \$38,000.

Barbara A. Miller to Michael R. and Bonnie G. Patterson of Somers, CT. Mohawk Estates, lot 19. \$3,300.

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## HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING

by Pegge Howland

A wonderful time was had by all who attended the 98th Annual Meeting of the Heath Historical Society on Aug. 30. Fifty-six people gathered downstairs in the Community Hall for a delicious meal of sliced baked ham, tuna pasta salad, baked beans, brown bread and a luscious ice cream dessert with blueberry sauce, all beautifully prepared and served family style by the Hall Committee. We even had flowers on the tables! Thank you, Val Kaempfer, Alli Thane, Terry Pettengill, Ruth Corey and others for a delightful repast.

After the meal we adjourned to the upstairs room for the business meeting. June Day read the minutes of the last Annual Meeting which were approved unanimously. Dave Howland, Treasurer, reported a balance of \$11,713.52, but noted that some of this is already committed to the church bass and matching grant funds. President Pegge Howland reviewed the Society's activities of the year which included the cocoa and cookies offered at the Community Hall following the tree lighting and carol sing in December. Over 100 children and parents turned out. Then on July 26 the Old Town House was open for an hour before the concert at the church to benefit the Johnson Organ Restoration Fund. Curator Dot Gary reported that about 30 people stopped in. Pegge also noted that 23 items were donated to the collection by eight different people this year and that we welcomed 13 new members into the fold. Genealogical questions continued to put in during the year and usually ended in a sale of the Calver book. The church bass project is still on hold although we have high hopes of it being completed this year. A new project is the plantings around the Solomon Temple Barn Museum. Fred and Laurie Burrington with the help of Dave Howland and Jack Cable have prepared three terraces along the south side of the building which will, God willing, produce flowers next year in time for the Heath Fair. And finally, Pegge reported that the Society applied for and received a \$1,000 grant from the newly established Dickinson Family Fund for Historical Heath. The money was earmarked for textile conservation and special museum software to automate the collection. Heath Fair receipts continue to be good as we took in \$418 this year which included the sale of 21 publications. All-in-all a very successful year!

Following the business meeting a group of about 70 persons gathered to hear Colgate Gilbert talk and show slides on The Standing Stone Site on Burnt Hill in Heath. Gilbert has been chairing a committee of

the New England Antiquities Research Association (NEARA) which is examining the area and preparing maps of the site to try to determine who erected them and when, and their significance. The audience enjoyed the presentation very much and had lots of questions for him after the talk. It was a fitting ending to a really great Annual Meeting.

## HEATH EMERGENCY SERVICE NEWS

by Timothy Lively

The following calls were answered since the last of June:

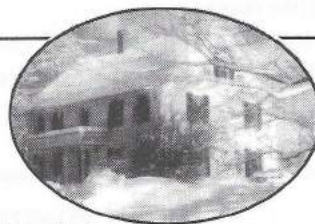
- 5/22/98 - Long Hill Rd. - Medical
- 6/8/98 - Sumner Stetson Rd. - Medical
- 7/4/98 - Sumner Stetson Rd. - Medical
- 7/18/98 - Rt. 8A South - Motorcycle Accident
- 7/30/98 - Number Nine Rd. - Medical
- 8/6/98 - Number Nine Rd. - Medical
- 8/23/98 - Taylor Brook Rd. - Motor Vehicle

### Accidents:

- 8/25/98 - Avery Brook Rd. - Medical
- 9/6/98 - Long Hill Road - Lantern Explosion
- 9/13/98 - Number Nine Rd. - Medical

We had an assortment of scrapes, bruises and blood pressure checks come into the first aid booth at the Heath Fair. We also had a couple of fair visitors who had temporarily lost sight of family members, but all were found safe within a few minutes. We ended the fair weekend with a Motor Vehicle Accident on Sunday evening around 6:30 p.m. Three people were injured in the accident and were taken to Franklin Medical Center by Charlemont and Shelburne Falls Ambulances. Besides the help from fellow EMTs and First Responders, I would like to thank Ruth Sterling and JoAnne Fortune for their help in the first aid booth.

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## SELECTMEN'S REPORT

by Eileen A. Tougas

If you attended the Heath Fair, then you know firsthand what a successful event it was. It takes a great joint effort from a good number of folks, a great deal of dedication and a lot of hard work to pull off something of this scale. We can be proud that we have people of this caliber in the town of Heath.

While the Board of Selectmen has enjoyed immensely the schedule of meeting every other week during the summer, we are back to meeting weekly on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. We would like to encourage your attendance at these meetings to get an inside view of what is going on. If there is a particular topic that you would like to discuss with the Board, then contact one of the BOS so that you may be scheduled and placed on the agenda.

A letter of resignation was accepted with deep regret from our Town Coordinator Catherine Heyl. Her knowledge, expertise and personality truly have been an asset to the Town of Heath and to the BOS. We know that this was a difficult decision for Catherine and would like to extend our best wishes and gratitude for a job well done.

We have also regretfully accepted letters of resignation from the following committees, boards and commissions: Carol Sartz, Zoning Board of Appeals; Todd Sumner, Cemetery Commission; Ray Pettengill, Board of Health; Laurie Wheeler Burrington, Cultural Council; Doug Wilkins, Computer Committee and Jim Cerone, town representative for the Franklin County Inspectors Program (FCIP). All of these people really deserve our thanks and gratitude for their service (in some cases.....years) to our town.

The BOS is pleased to announce that the following appointments have been accepted to fill the aforementioned positions: Bob Gruen, Zoning Board of Appeals; Pam Porter, Cultural Council and Alan Nichols as town representative to the FCIP. We are still in need of more willing and dedicated people to fill the following town positions: the Rowe Yankee advisory board, the Computer Committee, the Board of Health and last but not least a representative to the Franklin County Technical School.

By now you must have witnessed some of the improvements in and around our town buildings. These accomplishments are to the credit of our new Building Manager/Custodian Deborah Huff. Deb has an extensive background in custodial and grounds maintenance. To reserve the Community Hall for use, Deb may be contacted at 625-6577. Welcome aboard Debby!

If anyone has suggestions for Deb, please contact a member of the BOS as all her assignments go through the Board.

Town residents Jean and Bill Gran were instrumental in raising public awareness regarding the power companies' notification that herbicide spraying along the power lines would commence during the month of August. Jean and Bill circulated a petition collecting 141 signatures from concerned citizens requesting that no spraying be done and recommending that alternative methods be used for controlling the growth of vegetation.

A public hearing was held at the Community Hall on Aug. 10 regarding the use of herbicides to clear power line rights-of-way through the town. After a short presentation, Tom Sullivan of New England Electric Systems Company (NEESC) and arborist Norman Taft of Mass. Electric (a subsidiary of NEESC) answered questions presented to them by concerned residents. While some concessions were made not to use herbicides in specific areas, Mr. Taft stated that the electric company has a legal right to maintain its right-of-way.

At present, the Town of Heath is unable to stop New England Power Company from spraying since it is a private company and is governed by State regulations. Nevertheless, the BOS voted to officially oppose the use of herbicides and sent a letter to the power company stating its opposition. Letters were also sent to Representative John Merrigan and Senator Andrea Nuciforo, Jr. requesting their support.

The Board has also been informed that Mohawk Estates Property Owners Association employs Lycott Environmental Inc. to treat Papoose Lake with herbicides once a year in an effort to reduce the growth of nuisance aquatic vegetation.

It is possible that a public hearing may be held in the future to determine what direction the town wishes to take regarding a proposed by-law to address the use of herbicides in our town.

The BOS voted to adopt and sign an 18-year note for the \$198,400 school project loan. This loan will be paid in annual installments of \$16,644 from 1999 to the year 2015. A final installment of \$16,601 is to be paid in the year 2016. The final bond documents were signed by the BOS and sent to State Street Bank of Boston. They will then be sent to Farmers Home Loan Company and to attorneys Ropes and Gray for final certification. We wish to thank everyone who was involved with the research and the assembling of data provided to the BOS for consideration. We would also like to express our gratitude to State Street Bank of Boston for their help and cooperation throughout these efforts.



## INTRUDER AT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

by Laurie Wheeler Burrington

The district and parents reacted in recent months to what has been termed "a wake up call" by Heath parents and school staff, following the intrusion into the Heath elementary school building on Sept. 10 during school hours by a locally unknown man. The man was apprehended on Route 8A by State Police and taken to the state police barracks for questioning, then released.

According to the Heath school's principal Philip O'Reilly a man appearing to be in "a confused state" was in the building on Thursday Sept. 10 in the front area and used a staff bathroom while in the building. When asked if he needed any help, Mr. O'Reilly said, "he had a hard time telling me what was wrong", and told him he was "on a joy ride" and that he was homeless. The man was escorted out of the building and police dispatch called. The school staff was alerted, the outside doors of the building locked up and outside activities for the afternoon curtailed. Mr. O'Reilly obtained the man's license plate number by finding the man's car at Peters Store and called that in to the state police.

Following questioning the man was released and the man was warned by the police not to be near the school or any area school. Any violation would result in a criminal trespass. According to Mr. O'Reilly he was told that during the questioning with state police the man admitted to having masturbated in the school restroom. State Trooper Spencer of the Shelburne Falls State Police Barracks confirmed that the man is not listed on the Commonwealth Registry of Sex Offenders, as was originally believed, but that "with his [the man's] interview he gave indication of inappropriate behavior in the school." According to Trooper Spencer the man said he was in the area looking for employment.

Trooper Spencer explained that because "there was no exposure to the children or any threat to the children" the decision was made to release the man.

Mr. O'Reilly and the Heath school staff began immediately to take steps on how to take steps on how to address the safety of the children and what to say to the children. District superintendent Alan Genovese was also directly notified.

### From the District

Mr. Genovese explained that he has met with all elementary school principals, and all have begun to identify areas within the schools that "might need tightening up." All principals have been asked to meet with their staff and Local Education Councils to review Health curriculum safety strategies and

implementation of practices "to provide another layer of protection to our students."

A few newly implemented practices are a sign-in at the front office for all visitors and signs at the schools notifying visitors that upon arrival at the school they must visit the main office or risk a trespass violation. This last allows persecution should a future incident, such as at the Heath school, occur again. Visitors passes will also be required. Said Mr. Genovese, "From this one incident it certainly illuminates the fact that even rural areas are being effected by the tragic drawbacks of our society."

Letters have been sent to all parents of children in the elementary and middle schools notifying them of the "Heath" incident, and reminding parents that they review safety strategies with their children. "With the past year's tragedies everyone is looking at school safety. We are focusing on a proactive, responsible approach."

### Heath Parents' Response

Fear, disbelief, anger, and a sense of loss, the gamut of emotions were evidenced in the faces and words of the approximately 25 Heath parents as they grappled with the incident had occurred, and that they could not have any identifying information about the school's intruder. At the time of the meeting it was understood that the man was registered as a sex offender; state police later denied this. Parents of the Heath school community first received notification of the incident in a letter from principal Phil O'Reilly dated Sept. 14.

At the meeting Mr. O'Reilly and school nurse Robin Booth outlined procedures being implemented at the Heath school to teach children about strangers and how to be safe, without necessarily explaining the details of the Sept. 10 incident at the school, which has been succinctly explained to children only if they ask "if there was a stranger in the school." Mr. O'Reilly explained that the Heath school will continue to have "a lock down on all secondary doors" and that during outside recess there will be more people supervising the children.

Of primary concern was how to protect the children. According to police chief Lorin Gowdy neither the identity nor a description of the man could be revealed. He stressed that it does not matter as much who this particular man is, but that the overall safety of the children and the community should be looked at. The point was brought up that there are more people in the world like the one who found his way into the Heath school. Mr. Gowdy urged citizens to report suspicious activities, and that more attention be paid to where their children are and their activities. "We all think Heath is immune



to this. We're not. We've taken a lot of freedoms for granted", he said.

Parents' voices were loud and clear at the Sept. 17 meeting at the school. Other concerns expressed were the fear that Heath had been targeted; another parent angrily lamented that he could not give his children six years of freedom without the intrusion of the world; still other parents wondered how to "relearn" their approach to children they did not know at the school. And one parent made the point that "our children are being taught safety in a model community. The world is not a model community. It needs to be bigger than that."

Awareness, especially of personal and children's safety is not always an easy lesson to learn; and in an ideal world these types of incidents would not happen. In this instance a warning note of caution has been sounded, without someone directly being harmed. (As revised from West County News, Sept. 23, 1998)

## COMMUNITY HALL NOTES

by the Community Hall Committee

On Saturday, Oct. 24 at 7:00 p.m., The Community Hall Committee is presenting a night of "Big Band Sounds" by the Shea Swing Orchestra under the direction of Nick Waynelovich. This event is funded by the Mass. Cultural Council as administered by the Heath Arts Lottery Council. Refreshments will be served. Donations for hall equipment are appreciated.

The Community Hall Committee met with the Council on Aging to discuss the use of a recently awarded Council on Aging grant. We are proposing some events to be held at the hall for seniors such as meals, activities and crafts one day a month. As these plans unfold, we will keep the Town informed.

A fund-raiser and potluck supper are scheduled for Nov. 14 at 7 p.m. at the Community Hall to help support the Thane family. Watch for details!

## CULTURAL COUNCIL

by Laurie Wheeler Burrington

Creative? Heath oriented? Interesting? Fun? All these may in store as the Heath Cultural Council begins its busy time of year and begins to read its way through often creative, sometimes surprising cultural council grant applications.

Applications for funding from the Massachusetts Cultural Council for the FY99 arts lottery grant cycle were due on Oct. 15, preceded on Sept. 23 by a public informational meeting at the public library. At this

meeting questions were answered and the public encouraged to bring their ideas.

Last year 25 grant applications were received; a total of \$3,475 was awarded to eleven of those applicants. The Cultural Council invites local participation and programs that will be of diverse and direct benefit to the Heath community. This year the Heath cultural council has been allocated \$3,300 for disbursement.

Following the Oct. 15 deadline council members will study all of the applications and meet on Saturday, November 7 at 2 p.m. at the public library to decide on their recommendations to the Mass cultural council. This meeting is open to the public and applicants are welcome to come explain their grant proposals to the council.

The Heath council's recommendations are due at the MCC by Dec. 15. Decisions are made in March, and notification of approved or disapproved applications from the MCC is sent in late March.

For more information call Cathy Tallen at 337-5770 or Laurie Burrington at 337-4302. Current council members are Del Viarengo, Deborah Phillips, and Helen Mackie. We'd also like to welcome our newest member, Deb Porter.

## TOWN NURSE NOTES

by Joanne Fortune

I've made sixty-three home visits between Aug. 20 and Oct. 1. I take blood pressures at the Ladies' Aid once a month and at a weight-loss meeting once a week.

If you would like to have your blood pressure or blood sugar checked on a regular basis at the Town Hall, please call and I will arrange a regular time to be there each month.

There will be a flu and pneumonia clinic on Oct. 21 from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. downstairs at the Town Hall, Oct. 27 from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. in the Nurse's office at the Heath School and Nov. 7 from 10:00 a.m. to noon at the Town Hall. If you have no transportation, would like to participate and are not already on my list, please let me know.

Since there is more of a need for the services of a Town Nurse than originally anticipated, the Board of Health is working on obtaining grant moneys for the extra hours.

Stay warm these months of changing weather and please don't hesitate to call me if the need arises. 337-5716.





## MILESTONES

By Edith Royer

Born July 25, a son, Carter Alan Gudell, to Paula Jepson Gudell and Scott Acheson Gudell, of Stamford, Connecticut and Heath Grandson of Alan and Betty Jepson, of Milford, Connecticut, and Dolph and Letitia Gudell of Heath.

Born August 16<sup>th</sup>, a daughter, Mackenzie Jean, to Karen and Michael Phillips of Gill. Granddaughter of Helen and William Jacque, of Colrain, Marylon and Michael Morawski, of South Deerfield, Margaret and Robert Phillips, of Ashfield, and Donna and Lee Shepherd, of Heath. Great Granddaughter of Agnes Truesdall, of Ashfield, Mora Dumas, of Colrain and Lesley and William Aldon, of Greenfield. Great-Great Granddaughter of Mildred Wilson, of Greenfield.

Jullian Loris Gilbert, of Groll Road, died August 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Baystate Medical Center, following a brief illness. She was born March 4, 1982, the daughter of Gerard and Joan Gilbert, of Heath.

She was a sophomore at Mohawk Regional High School.

Besides her parents, she leaves two brothers, Jeffrey and Jeremy, both at home. Her grandparents, Dorothy Quinn and Lawrence and Alice Gilbert, all of Colrain, and several Aunts, Uncles and Cousins.

A liturgy of Christian burial was held at St. Joseph's Church in Shelburne Falls with Rev. John A. Roach officiating. Burial was in the Heath Center Cemetery.

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## CALENDAR

Through the Mohawk Valley Health Education Services, a class in Power Walking at the Cowell Gym from 8:30 to 9:00 a.m. Thursdays beginning Oct. 15. The cost of the class is \$20.00 for 12 weeks or \$2.00 per class. The class is free for seniors 60 or over as their fee is covered by a Title Three grant to the Shelburne Senior Center. Please pre-register. Contact Rebecca Bradley at 625-2503.

Pothole Pictures in Shelburne Falls has a number of Fall offerings. All movies are shown on Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. On Saturdays from 7:00 to 7:30 p.m. Movie patrons can arrive a half hour early for free music provided by local musicians. Tickets at the door are \$4.00 for all patrons.

October 16 & 17	West Side Story
October 23 & 24	From Here to Eternity
October 30 & 31	Alien
November 6 & 7	A Taxing Woman
November 13 & 14	The Godfather

As part of the 100th Anniversary Celebration of the state forests and parks system, the drama Giants in the Wilderness will be presented at locations throughout the state including Western Gateway State Park, 9 Furnace St. in North Adams (413) 663-6312 on Sunday, Oct. 18 at 2:00 p.m. Written by Genevieve Cora Fraser, the play showcases the nation's emerging environmental movement in a Colorado setting circa 1896. Following the presentation, there will be a discussion about public and private forestlands in the Commonwealth.

## Peter's General Store

### Under New Ownership

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