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OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 1999

HEATH HERALD

HEATH'S FIRST NEWSPAPER

75¢

JUNE DAY

by Eileen A. Tougas



How can we adequately find the words to thank someone who has contributed so much to the Town of Heath personally, professionally and publicly? I am hard pressed to find an answer to this very question as I write this article about our Town Clerk/Town Accountant June Day.

In 1989 June purchased the property on Burnt Hill formally owned by Jake and Alicia Tripp and made Heath her home. Hardly having proper time to settle in, June willingly accepted an appointment as Assistant Tax Collector and soon after assumed the duties of Town Accountant. Subsequently she took on the additional (elected) position of Town Clerk. She became an important member of the administrative team in the Town Hall and provided invaluable assistance with budget preparation, school construction and finance data, "pothole" money requests and all kinds of special reports.

In the ten years June has worked for the town we could always count on her to be working at her desk or busily entering data on the computer. She was always helpful to the people who visited the Town Hall with her patient, courteous way. It seemed like she was always there except during blueberry season when she was managing the operation of her successful business, Sunny Day Blueberry Farm.

It will be quite an adjustment for those of us who have worked with June to enter the town office and not have the pleasure of being greeted with a welcoming smile and a cheerful "Hello." If you needed an answer to a question, you could always count on June. If she didn't have an immediate answer, she would get back to you or give detailed information on who to contact to get the information needed.

June had the uncanny ability to remain cool, calm and collected, even through times of crisis both in the town or of a personal nature. She was always stalwart in keeping

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NEW PERSPECTIVES

Students On the Go

by Pat Leuchtman

When people first come to Heath they often think the town is very isolated - off the highway, up the hill, open to the wind and far from the madding crowd. However, Heath is not provincial, with no thought to the world at large. In recent months several of our young people have returned from studying and traveling in Europe.

An English Jaunt

Emily Nichols, a student at Smith College, returned from her Junior Year Abroad which she spent at York University in England. She had made a brief trip to England to visit her English relatives after high school graduation. At that time she became fascinated with York because it combined the old and the new in a pleasing fashion. Her passion is history and archaeology, and she loved the old city walls and the Minster, the cathedral. She felt all her interests came together in York and so chose to return during her junior year.

History remains an interest, but Emily admits that during this past year her interest was more "social." In York she met not only the English but a whole community of international students. She spent some time in London and traveled around England with classmates and visited again with English relatives. She also traveled to Germany and France with friends, and visited Ireland briefly.

Emily enjoyed her studies, especially an oral history project which took her to a nursing home where she had many conversations with women about their experiences during World War II.

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HAPPY HALLOWEEN! FROM THE HEATH HERALD

RAYS OF INTEREST

by R.C. Pettengill

LUNCH WITH GOD

There once was a little boy who wanted to meet God. He knew it was a long trip to where God lived, so he packed his suitcase with Twinkies and a six-pack of root beer and started his journey.

When he had gone about three blocks, he met an old woman. She was sitting in the park just staring at some pigeons. The boy sat down next to her and opened his suitcase. He was about to take a drink from his root beer when he noticed that the old woman looked hungry, so he offered her a Twinkie. She gratefully accepted it and smiled at him. Her smile was so pretty that the boy wanted to see it again, so he offered her a root beer. Once again, she smiled at him. The boy was delighted! They sat there all afternoon eating and smiling, but they never said a word. As it grew dark, the boy realized how tired he was and got up to leave, but before he had gone more than a few steps; he turned around, ran back to the old woman and gave her a hug. She gave him her biggest smile ever.

When the boy opened the door to his own house a short time later his mother was surprised by the look of joy on his face. She asked him, "What did you do today that made you so happy?" He replied, "I had lunch with God," but before his mother could respond, he added, "You know what? She's got the most beautiful smile I've ever seen!"

Meanwhile, the old woman, also radiant with joy, returned to her home. Her son was stunned by the look of peace on her face and he asked, "Mother, what did you do today that made you so happy?" She replied, "I ate Twinkies in the park with God." But before her son responded, she added, "You know, he's much younger than I expected."

-Author unknown

I had a dog once named Who. He used to look hungry all the time. He used to smile every time I fed him too. I wonder????

-Mr. Pettengill

HEATH EMERGENCY SERVICES NEWS

by Timothy Lively

The following medical calls were answered since the last issue of the Herald:

7/19/99 - Avery Brook Road - Medical
7/22/99 - Burrington Hill Road - Medical
8/4/99 - Papoose Lake Drive - Medical
8/13/99 - Flagg Hill Road - Medical
8/29/99 - West Main Street - Medical
9/8/99 - Avery Brook Road - Motor Vehicle Accident

The Heath Fair went well, with only a few injuries tended to at the First Aid booth. I would like to thank Nurse Joanne Fortune and Nurse Robin Booth for helping out in the First Aid Booth. I would also like to thank Dave Cote and Gary Singley and any other First Responder who helped out: it made my job easier.

At this time we have one First Responder enrolled in the EMT class at Mohawk. Last but not least we were lucky not to have any medical emergencies during "Floyd."

HEATH HERALD

HEATH'S FIRST NEWSPAPER

Managing Editor & Layout	Laurie Burrington
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FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

by Karen O. Moore

It was a quiet summer as we made the transition from Dave Howland's leadership. Ray Pettengill was welcomed to the group and Karen Moore was elected Chairperson. Committee assignments are as follows: Jim Cerone, Space Task Force; Brian Vilbon, Mohawk School District budget; Dave Cote, Highway Department. and Ray Pettengill, Town Budget.

Our goal will be to work closely with the Board of Selectmen to stay on top of issues. The most critical concern facing the town, of course, is resolution to the increased Mohawk School District assessment based on the Education Reform formula (which gives new meaning to the word formula!). Until the state resolves its budget, the towns will not be able to apply for "pothole" money to pay the school district. Currently Heath's town budget is level-funded from last year until things change. Any town committee or individuals with concerns regarding funding should contact the Board of Selectmen or the Finance Committee. No accounts can exceed the amount approved without FinCom discussion and/or a town vote.

We were disappointed to hear of June Day's resignation and pending status change.. We will continue to work closely with her as we straighten out FY 2000 problems and sincerely hope her replacement has time to learn from her extensive experience and knowledge of the town budget.

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Green Thoughts

by

ELSA BAKALAR

Garden Journal, September 16 - 18, 1999

Sept. 16

Right — that does it! Not enough that my garden has been blistered by high temperatures and burning sun, deprived of rainfall, trampled by moose (one, only, to be honest, but a very heavy one), and nibbled by deer, chipmunks, and voles. I will not describe what bears have done to the blueberry bushes, and a porcupine to next year's raspberry shoots. Now it's finished for sure; torrential rain and fierce winds are delivering the coup de grace.

Sept. 17

A walk around the garden, treading gingerly for fear of sinking, confirms my worst fears. Large plants in full bloom, their stems flat on the ground in starbursts, deep craters carved out of where roses and other strong-stemmed plants were blown round and round as if a cyclone had hit them, and plants so tangled together that it's hard to see where they come from. Unwinding a willowy salvia "Indigo Spires," caught on the strong thorns of a Queen Elizabeth rose, is painful. Untangling tall phlox from the lavender daisies of *Aster frikarti* is frustrating. Plants reckless enough to bloom on tall spires have gone down like ninepins. Nothing for it but to salvage blooms of flowers like delphinium, monkshood, meadowsweet, and bring them into the house to spend a day or two in a vase.

Sept. 18

But wait. Where is the faith? That special gardener's faith. The day is sunny, with a light, drying breeze, just the kind that's needed. First to dry out are the glowing cone-flowers, *Echinacea purpurea*, still upright on their strong stems, their re-curved, rosy petals seeming to shake themselves dry. (No wonder they once blanketed the prairies.) The fall asters have opened their flowers again to bring back color in the borders. *Aster novae-angliae* 'Alma Potschke,' battered but beautiful as ever in deep rose, is set off by a spiky purple 'Hella Lacy.' New buds open on the silvery pink Japanese anemone, and the tiny flowers of *Boltonia asteroides* twinkle again, as they did before the storm. Sweet Autumn Clematis, its starry flowers blown into an untidy cloud two days ago, seeks the light with new tendrils. A honeysuckle that covers an old post holds up a fresh cluster of red and orange flowers, and out of a drift of fallen leaves appears a miraculous blue *Anemone coronaria*.

(continued from page one)

Travel itself teaches, and Emily said that one thing that particularly struck her was "the fluidity of convention. Everything can be different from what you are used to, from how you open cans, how you make your bed, everything! And this in a country like England where we share a language and consider that we share a history and culture. I've learned not to make assumptions about what is normal or proper."

Emily was also impressed by England's commitment to higher education. Only recently have there been any tuition charges at university. She explains that their educational system is much different than ours with "O" level exams at age 11, GCSE exams at about 17, and then "A" levels. How you do on these different exams does affect your educational opportunities, but once you get to college there is very little cost.

One of the friends she made at University is Paul Cooper who returned with her to visit in Heath and see some of the United States as well as visit his relatives in Austin, Texas. Paul is from Reading, west of London and he is studying philosophy. This is his third trip to this country, but his first to New England. He feels that New Englanders are most English-like in that they are quite reserved. But even here he says, "I like Americans because they express themselves freely, say what they think without worrying about embarrassing or upsetting others. I think it's healthier."

And, In Germany

Keith Cerone, a student at Greenfield Community College, spent three weeks visiting relatives in Germany with his grandmother this summer. This was his first trip abroad, but he said Germany didn't seem too exotic. There were several reasons, notably the preponderance of American music and American movies. Although the movies are dubbed into German, he was amazed by the vast number of people who spoke English. He also noticed that American stores are starting to be more common.

At the same time he did notice the "fluidity of convention" that Emily mentioned. He said the breakfasts

were very different from ours, with the makings of open faced sandwiches being set out on platters, sliced ham, sausages, cheeses, butter and jams. Of course lots of coffee. "In the middle of the morning there would be a break for coffee and cake. I never had such good cake as I had there. And more cake and coffee in the middle of the afternoon."

Keith would be out sightseeing during the day and would usually stop for bratwurst (a kind of hot-dog) that was not served in a bun but with a small square of bread, "just enough to hold the end of the sausage while you ate it."

It was certainly strange to see everyone driving Mercedes and BMWs, and see how fast they drove on the autobahn.

One of the most unusual and sensible differences that struck Keith about Germany was that Germans are allowed to drink beer when they are 16, but they cannot drive or drink hard liquor until they are 18. "By the time they are 18 the appeal of getting drunk has worn off, so they are not as likely to drive drunk. Besides, every group always chooses a designated driver. That never happens here."

In Venezuela, A World Apart

(by LWB)

Christina Beaudoin spent eleven months in the town of Barquisineto, Venezuela, living with a host family as a part of the American Field Service Program. "I saw a lot, experienced a lot, learned a lot," Christina said.

(continued on page five)

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(continued from page four)



Christina's Venezuelan family: Zulyma, Christina, Mama Zuly, Vanessa and Papa Manuel Blanco Maldonado

Christina described her life with her host family as “a normal Venezuelan life; I went to school, I went out with friends, and my family took me on lots of trips, so I saw many parts of Venezuela.” Her homebase was a small city about the size of Greenfield she said. Her absolute immersion in the culture gave her an excellence in speaking Spanish; one person even told her she had almost lost her American “accent.” She met a culture in which the people she found “are really warm, really nice and friendly.” She described how when you say hello or goodbye to your friends, or when you go into your classroom in the morning that you must kiss them on the cheek.

Some of her experiences included visiting the Grand Savannah, which is located 18 hours away from Barquisineto, and crossing into Brazil; she also met Venezuelan Indians who spoke the Taurepan language. She

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experienced a difference in levels of poverty, saying that “the poor people there are much poorer than here. Some of them are like living in gutters.” She explained that there is no animal control; when she explained to people that cats are pets in the United States, it was explained to her that cats in Venezuela are considered pests like rats. Dogs they do like, she said.

Her adjustment back to life in the States, she returned at the beginning of August, was “a reverse culture shock.” Ms. Beaudoin found herself speaking Spanish to people in the airport upon her return, and discovered that people stateside are not quite so demonstrative in showing their affections for one another as the people she had left.

Among with her souvenirs, she left with a number of strong friendships and an avid interest in the native people, their language, their culture, and strong desire to make Venezuela her home.

Other young people, with whom catching up with was not quite so easy, were Colin Gruen and Justin Lively, who both visited a friend who was studying in Italy; they spent 2 and 1/2 weeks visiting Rome, Venice and the Italian Alps. A side trip to Switzerland was of course in line as well. Colin will continue his travels and will be attending the James Cook University in Townsville, Australia, for a year beginning in January 2000. Betsey Silvester has been in Scotland for quite some time now.

These students have brought their new perspectives back to Heath. Their knowledge of new landscapes, new characters and new ideas keep Heath aware and connected to the greater world.

(June Day continued from page one)

her cool and objectivity during what most of us would consider adverse and stressful situations.

When June arrived in Heath in 1989 she immediately joined the Heath Historical Society, became an avid supporter and for the past several years served as vice president of the Society.

How do you properly thank a person who has given so much? She has our warmest best wishes for the future.

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## HILLTOWN TASTES

October is "cleaning up the garden" month and one thing many of us have an abundance of is zucchini. Many of us just toss the huge ones in the compost which is fine- however, there are actually many delicious recipes that can be made from the solid flesh of them. Simply cut them up and remove the seeded portion, then grind, shred or slice the firm part to make pancakes, soups, casseroles, relishes or even cakes and breads. Of course the same can be said for the winter squashes and pumpkins.

### Zucchini Pancakes

From: "The Zucchini Cookbook"

- 1 whole egg
- \* cup unsifted flour
- 1/8 tsp. salt
- 1 tsp. sugar
- 1 cup grated zucchini

Beat egg well, mix flour, salt and sugar together. Sift over zucchini and fold into the egg. Drop from tablespoon on greased griddle. Flatten with back of spoon. Cook until golden brown. Turn and brown other side. Cook until done through. Serve with honey or sugar or apple sauce. A good way for kids to eat vegetables.

### Pumpkin Soup

From: "Lip Smacking Good Recipes"

- 2 cups cooked pumpkin, sieved
- \* cup tomato puree

- 3 tbsp. grated onion
- 3 egg yolks
- 5 cups milk
- ~ tsp. nutmeg

Mix first three ingredients. Simmer 5 minutes. Beat egg yolks, add milk and cook till slightly thickened in double boiler, add pumpkin mixture and seasoning. Heat to boiling point, serve immediately with slices of cucumber. (Serves 8)

### Squash Biscuits

From: "The Hawley Bicentennial Cookbook"

- \* cup winter squash, steamed and strained
- ~ cup sugar
- \* tsp. Salt
- \* cup scalded milk
- 1 yeast cake (dissolved in ~ cup warm water)  
(or 1 envelope of dry yeast)
- 2 1/2 cups flour
- ~ cup butter

Add squash, sugar, salt and butter to milk. When luke-warm, add dissolved yeast cake and flour. Mix, cover and let rise overnight. Shape into biscuits, let rise and bake in 375 deg. oven for 25 minutes. (makes 12 to 18 biscuits)

### And just one more...

#### Grape Pie

From Beverly Cable

- 1 good pie crust, top and bottom
- 3 pounds Concord grapes
- 1 cup sugar
- 2 tbs. cornstarch
- 3 tbs. tapioca
- 2 tbs. butter
- cinnamon to taste

Preheat oven to 400 degrees F. Separate skins. Sieve pulp (to remove seeds). Recombine. Mix other ingredients and add grapes. Fill 10 inch pastry - lined pie pan and cover with top crust. Bake about an hour.



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## HEATH SCHOOL COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP KICKOFF

by Cheryl Handsaker

The Heath School Community Partnership (HSCP) held its first meeting of the new school year on September 9th to welcome our new principal Tim Luce, and to set our goals as a group. Mary Beth O'Dea has been elected to serve as a co-chair, replacing Deb Porter. The HSCP has already benefited from Mary Beth's tremendous energy. We spent time remembering accomplishments of the past and brainstorming goals for the future. It is amazing what this group has done! We created a goals survey to allow a large number of people to participate in setting our direction. It will be available at Open House, the school office, Peter's Store and the library.

The Heath Preschool and the Partnership jointly held our summer fundraising raffle and spritzer sale at the Heath Fair. It was a wonderful success in spite of the pouring rain and cold temperatures, earning over \$500 each for the Preschool and the HSCP. The Partnership also sponsored the miniature golf course provided by the Phillips family, which raised an additional \$220. A heartfelt thank you to all the volunteers who made this event possible: the generous businesses and community members that provide the raffle items, the people who made up and distributed tickets, the many, many people who bought and sold the tickets, and the hardy crew of folks who set up, cleaned up, and staffed the booth

(HSCP continued)

with good humor despite the weather.

The HSCP will be holding our annual wrapping paper and gift item sale until October 12th. This has traditionally been a major fund-raiser for us. The money raised allows us to sponsor many educational, cultural and family activities. Also, look for the new Heath School Gift Catalogue near the end of October. This joint fund-raiser for the Partnership and the Heath Preschool features the work of local artists, craftspeople and specialty food producers. Each has generously agreed to donate a portion of the proceeds to the school. Gift catalogue items and wrapping paper will be delivered in time for holiday gift giving.

Our next meeting will be held on Monday, October 4th at 3:15 p.m. in the Heath School Library.

We will begin with an informal social time featuring Gail Hall's wonderful cookies from the Heath Bakeshop. The business portion of the meeting will begin at 3:40 p.m. We will be discussing plans for the Halloween party, the results of our goals survey, the Heath School Gift Catalog, and the progress of the wrapping paper fund-raiser. Childcare will be available. All members of the community are invited and encouraged to attend.

**Haunted Hayride Bus on Oct. 30 leaves the Heath School at 6:30 p.m. Call Lorin Gowdy @ 337-5505 or Mary Beth O'Dea @ 337-8683 for info.**

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## SELECTMEN'S REPORT

by Brian De Vriese

The Board of Selectmen has resumed its weekly meeting schedule, Tuesdays at 7 p.m. at Sawyer Hall.

### Selectman's Vacancy

Hilma Sumner has resigned from the board effective August 25, 1999 in order to pursue other career interests. Her resignation was accepted with regrets. The Board of Selectmen wishes her well in her future pursuits and also to express profound gratitude for her years of service to the town.

The Board of Selectmen has voted to call for a special election to be held as soon as possible to fill the selectman's vacancy. The law requires a minimum of 64 days between calling for the special election and the Election Day. Any one interested in this position should see the Town Clerk about taking out election papers. The special election is set for Tuesday, November 30, 1999.

### Town Clerk and Town Accountant Vacancies

June Day has resigned as Town Clerk and also as Town Accountant. The Town Clerk vacancy will occur on September 30, 1999 and the Accountant vacancy as of December 31, 1999. (We have been assured that this has nothing to do with Y2K). We owe a debt of gratitude to June for many years of dedication to her work above and beyond the requirements of her positions. A potluck dinner was scheduled for Saturday, October 2, 1999 to honor her for her service to the Town.

The selectmen appointed Hilma Sumner, one of three interested candidates, to fill the Town Clerk position until the Annual Town Meeting. A vote will be taken there to elect a Town Clerk as required by the Laws of the Commonwealth. The Town Accountant position is posted for interested candidates to respond to the Board of Selectmen. We hope to have the position filled by December 1st to allow for a smooth transition.

### Roundtable Meeting

A Roundtable Meeting was held on Tuesday, September 30, 1999 between all interested Town boards

and committees to review the Space Task Force report as summarized for the group by Paul Turnbull. It was well attended and gave everyone a chance to familiarize themselves with some of the issues and recommendations presented by the Task Force. Another meeting will be scheduled in about a month to continue the discussion. The work of the Space Task Force will continue with the appointment by the Selectmen of a permanent Town Facilities Management Committee.

### Repairs to Sawyer Hall and the Community Hall

The entry stair to Sawyer Hall has been rebuilt by the master Tibetan stonemason Sonam Lama of Greenfield. The work looks great and should last for many years. Repairs to the Community Hall are more complicated and expensive. Bidding specifications will need to be prepared before the work can be undertaken. This may be the first task of the soon to be appointed Facilities Management Committee.

### Traffic Control Signs

The Heath Police Department has completed a survey and list of existing traffic control signs in town and has presented the list to the Selectmen for review and approval. The list will need to be approved by a vote of the Board of Selectmen.

## CULTURAL COUNCIL NOTES

by Laurie Burrington

All of the FY 2000 Cultural Council grants are in! The council will be meeting on October 30 at 2 p.m. at the Heath Free Public Library to discuss and decide on this cycle's funding. The public is invited to attend, of course!

We are currently changing our board membership; Laurie Burrington has resigned as chairperson, and Pam Porter has agreed to step into that position; Del Viarengo will act as treasurer; Helen Mackie as secretary; Karen Brooks has joined the council, and there are several people who have agreed to join the HCC in the near future.

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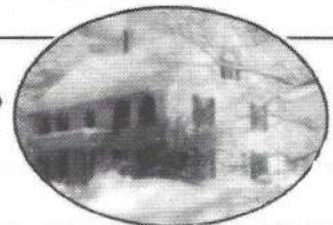
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## HISTORICAL SOCIETY ANNUAL MEETING AND SUPPER

by June Day and Pegge Howland

The 99th Annual Meeting of the Heath Historical Society was held on August 29, 1999, in the Community Hall with about 50 persons attending. Following a tasty chicken and biscuit supper served by the Community Hall Committee in the lower room, the Society members moved into the upstairs room for the Annual Meeting and program.

President Pegge Howland listed highlights of the Society's activities during the year. In May the Society participated in the Franklin County History Sampler sponsored by the Historical Society of Greenfield. A new Collections Management Policy was adopted by a unanimous vote of the Board of Directors at their meeting of August 12, 1999. The Heath Fair proceeds were over \$354 this year despite a complete "washout" on Saturday. Laurie Burrington and June Day were cited for their work on the garden on the south side of the Solomon Temple Barn Museum. Conservation of the Society's textile collection is under way and three wedding dresses from the collection were on display that evening, one worn by Hannah Landstrom Burrington in 1924, one worn by Anna Howes Burrington in 1901, and one worn by Ella A. Purrington Hager in 1884. Cataloging of the objects in the main collection is progressing. The Society is looking ahead to the "Millennial Centennial" of the Society in the Summer of 2000. Plans include rehabilitating the Fort Shirley site using funds received from the Dickinson Family Fund for Historical Heath. It is hoped to develop a weekend of activities in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Society.

The following slate of officers were elected unanimously: Vice-President, Jack Cable; Secretary, Ned Wolfe; Treasurer, Dave Howland; and three new Directors, Eileen Tougas, Jane DeLeeuw and Alli Thane. We thank them all for their commitment to the Historical Society. Retiring board members Vice-President, June Day, Secretary, Alice Kinsman and Director, Fred Burrington were given a vote of thanks for their dedicated and loyal service to the Society.

Following the business meeting, Iona Lincoln, recently retired Curatorial Associate for Textiles at Historic Deerfield described the 18th century costumes in that collection and illustrated her talk with slides. She also gave us some very valuable hints on how to preserve and protect our own textiles into the millennium.



## HEATH UNION CHURCH NEWS

by Pastor Colin Lucid

Psalm 139:14 says, "I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; marvelous are Your works, and that my soul knows very well." What a great verse of scripture to meditate on and realize our self-worth in the mind and heart of God. This psalm speaks of our worth not in what we know but in who we know and who created us. David, the psalmist, encourages us to praise God as our Creator because of the value that He places on our lives and in the fact that we can have a personal and dynamic relationship with God.

### You are invited

All are Welcome - Our Winter time change has begun.

Sunday Worship Service - 10:00 a.m.

Children's Church and Nursery - 10:00 a.m.

Youth Group meets at Heath School - 3:30 p.m.

All teens in 7th - 12th grade are invited. Please wear sneakers and bring a favorite snack.

**Boys Club** began on October 7th at the Fire House at 3:30 p.m. Grades K - 8th grade are invited. Fifty cents dues will be collected.

**Bible Study and prayer time** at the parsonage - 7:00 p.m.

**Prayer Meeting** is every other Thursday night at the parsonage - 7:00 p.m. October 7th and 21st.

**Girls' Friendship Club** meets at Diane Crowningshield's home. - 3:30 p.m. Girls in grades 3 - 8 are invited. Fifty cents dues will be collected.

Thanks to all of the ladies who came to our first Lady's Prayer Breakfast. Our next one will be in November. Our 1st Day of Prayer will be Saturday, October 16th, 1999 at Heath Church and the Community Hall. We will be praying for the needs of our families, communities, churches and schools. We will meet from 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. and will have a continental breakfast at the Community Hall and lunch sponsored by our Church. ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN US.

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## HEATH FAIR NEWS

by Robert Gear

Well, it finally happened, or at least almost. On Saturday of the fair we were nearly rained out. Attendance for that day was a quarter of what it would have been had it not rained and overall attendance for the weekend was about half of our normal attendance.

No matter, it was a great fair. Everyone who came had a good time, and people seemed to stay once they got here. Saturday's crowd hung around all day and simply went under the tent when the rain got heavy and, although the fireworks were postponed until Sunday night, the Saturday crowd stayed around until late. For the first time we stayed open through Sunday evening until the fireworks display, and this seemed to work out well.

A real highlight of this year's fair was the wide range of music, from reggae to polka and everything in between. It seemed like there was always a good crowd in the tent especially for the polka band which drew the biggest turnout I've ever seen for a band at the fair. Next year we are hoping to bring it back and to have a Polish food concession as well.

Turnout for both the Horse Draw and the Ox Draw was excellent, both competitors and audience and the Tanners were constantly busy at the back end keeping fairgoers fed. Sunday's Horse Show was excellent. The weather kept a few people away but those who competed were serious, and the level of the show was high. Special thanks to my staff for helping me make the show a success. The cattle and sheep shows, both youth and adult, were well attended as were the poultry and rabbit shows. This was the first year we featured a petting zoo, and, in spite of the weather, it went well. Thanks to Sandy McCloud and family for setting up and operating the barnyard. Next year will be bigger and better.

The fair would be impossible without the many volunteers who turn out every year, year after year, to make it a success. Of course, we all see the fair from our own perspective depending on how we are involved. My view of it being the fairground itself and all that goes with it. Because this is important to me, I especially want to thank the following people who made it work for me: Building Committee Chair Howard Crowningshield, the Tombs family, Steve Crowningshield, Ed Croteau, the DeLisle family, Bonnie Woden, John Henry, Tyler McCloud, and my mowers: Steve Marcotte, David Howland, and Carroll Stowe; local businesses: Paul Lively and family, Russlin Saw, and especially the Plante family at Peter's Store and Margo Newton and Loren Gowdy for the use of their equipment. I know there are others and I apologize if I have left you out. Thanks also to the other members of the Board of Directors for all your help coordinating the fair before, during, and after, especially Darlene Corbiel and Mary Smith in the office.

Saving the best 'till last, it's one thing to get ready for the fair and work through the actual fair but waking up on

Monday morning to the clean-up job is something else again, a lonely and tedious undertaking. Many thanks to Howard Crowningshield and Bob Tanner and family for showing up and really making a difference on Monday and Tuesday.

The response to my fudge contest was nearly twice as big as last year. Next year I plan to increase the premiums so that there will be more winners and also to have two separate categories, one for chocolate fudge and another for any other flavor.

Please check the West County News for the date of our Annual Meeting in November. This is the time when we elect officers and adopt policies for the forthcoming year. This meeting is normally held on a Sunday and always features a potluck buffet before the meeting which will most likely be held at the school in the cafeteria.

Well, we are already planning next year's fair. In fact, I have all of my projects planned, and I'm starting to think Spring!

### HEATH FAIR HORSE PULL/OX DRAW RESULTS

Horse pull 3200 lb. class:

Bill Clark took 5th place with John & Woody

Ox draw 2400 lb. class:

Kyle Clark took 1st place with Mick & Lou

Kyle Clark took 5th place with Bear & Don

Dave Cote took 8th place with Tim & Tom

Ox draw 2800 lb. class:

Dave Cote took 6th place with Jack & Jed

Ox draw 3200 lbs. and over Free-for-All:

Nathan Clark took 1st place with Buck & Bear

Kids Class Distance with steers:

Daniel Clark took 2nd place with Dick & Sam

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## TOWN NURSE NOTES

by Joanne Fortune

I am maintaining the right side of the bulletin board in the hallway of Sawyer Hall (on the left) as a place for you to get information on diabetes, blood pressure, flu and pneumonia shots, et cetera. Any information you'd like to take, feel free to do so.

Townpeople have been giving me equipment for you to borrow. There is a TENS unit, crutches, walkers, glucometer. Give me a call if you need anything; I just may have it. I may be reached at 337-5716.

Flu and pneumonia shots will be available in late October and early November. I'll be giving shots at these three times:

October 28 from 11:00 a.m.- noon (Ladies Aid Meeting)

November 3 both from noon -1:00 p.m. and from 6 p.m. - 7 p.m.

November 5 from 10 am - 11 am at the Heath School in the Nurse's office.

During this time of year with the weather changing and so many people getting colds, it is important to remember to wash your hands often and drink 8 glasses of water each day to stay healthy. Have a great fall.



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Pharmacy**

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Saturdays 8:30AM - 5PM  
Sundays & Holidays 9AM - 12 Noon

52 Bridge Street

Shelburne Falls



## 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 GREAT 1999 HEATH FAIR

The 1999 Fair is a part now of Heath history. I am inclined to think it was as good as any yet. I really enjoy working animals. Those that in years past built this area logged the forests, cut acres of hay for theirs and the dairy cattle's winter feed needs.

I was told Monday after the fair that it gets smaller each year. I think perhaps it could be smaller in some ways but to really see the better forms of the fair look to the area of the working cattle. I was so impressed with the young people and their young broke yokes of cattle. As a young boy I longed to be able to have a pair of working cattle. It never happened for me so it was with a great deal of appreciation that I watched the young people at the Fair who showed the effect of long hours of attention to a great deal of specialty breaking. Two pair of calves did their trainers proud. A small yoke of Holstein calves worked by voice command as did a pair of Devon calves. It didn't seem to me that these two small pairs of calves were old enough to have and accepted the amount of training that was evident with their performance. When I observe a young person pound a dirt path on a motorized dirt bike around and around, I feel these young people with the well-trained steers have more to show for their time.

Another pair was shown by a young lady who likewise had spent many hours with a larger and older yoke of black and white steers and they performed so well I hope she was as pleased with them as I was for the way they did. She brought them into the pulling pit and took their yoke off and maneuvered them with the whip lash and voice commands very nicely. I had never seen what she did before. She turned one steer around to face the opposite direction and one went backwards and the other forward. This is so remarkable to me. Then she got them the other way around and did the same with them. This was to me a high point of the Fair.

It seems to me that the electronic age and our fast paced attitudes rule most aspects of most daily lives but I most sincerely appreciate the love and bonding that those young people showed with these working cattle. It could only be hoped for that this training and patience could be continued always in their live's.

**Did you know that the Art Bank of Shelburne  
offers scholarships supported by local cultural  
councils? Give a call at 625-6235!**



## VIEW FROM BURNT HILL

by Jack Cable

Blueberries were the creation of great news for us this year. Even though the drought took its toll on crops and people's water supplies, there was enough moisture on this hilltop to gave us good crop of berries. About 30 tons filled our sorting barn and our orders.

We had a small, but great and efficient crew, both in the sorting barn under the supervision of Hilma Sumner and in the fields supervised by Carl Ayers. Carl, even though he was field supervisor, managed to pick a record amount of berries in one day. Our best record to date was 52 boxes or 1,040 pounds, but he topped that by picking 60 boxes or 1,200 pounds. Then, a week later, he picked 80 boxes or 1,600 pounds and still supervised the crew!

Blueberries are the number one antioxidant food by forty percent over the next best food. Tests throughout the United States and Europe have discovered blueberries to be the "fruit of life." Not only are they good for you but they taste great too.

The Dickinsons' Farm and our farm are now locked into being saved forever from development. We both have agreed to sell our development rights to the Franklin Land Trust. This means that these farms *cannot ever* be developed into house lots, etc. and always have to be in agriculture. Since I purchased this land thirty-three years ago, I have tried to find a way to preserve it. Now its done. Many years ago, at a special town meeting which was about the utility companies putting windmills on Burnt Hill (which I objected to and still do!), I promised the townspeople that the top of Burnt Hill would always look the same from the center of Heath as long as I owned it. Now it will *forever* look the same! Interesting that looking from Burnt Hill to the Dickinsons' will *always* look the same.

Newly created Heath Town Common  
Sweatshirts, by Eileen Tougas, will be available at the Ladies Aid Craft Fair. Proceeds to go to funds for the Community Hall. See you there!



### ROWE CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTER

Located in the beautiful Berkshires, Rowe is widely respected as one of the finest small conference centers in the country. We offer weekend retreats with renowned leaders including John Bradshaw, Malidoma & Sobonfu Some, and Alberto Villoldo this season. For a beautiful free brochure please contact: Rowe Conference Center  
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## PERCS, PERMITS, AND TRANSFERS

by Pegge Howland

### Percolation Tests

No report was available to the Heath Herald for this period.

### Building Permits

No building permits were issued this period.

### Deed Transfers

June I. Guild Day to Henry K. Godek and Jo M. Travis of Greenville, MS. Flagg Hill Road, 56.84 acres, \$130,000.

Garry and Janet Scotto Helyer of Glastonbury, Conn., to Donna Weber of Rowe, 96 Taylor Brook Road, \$73,000.

Donald G. and Janie L. Churchill to Gregory R. and Nicole B. Yeziarski, 51B Taylor Brook Road, \$120,000.

International Paper Co. of Montvale, NJ by attorney, L.H. Ronnie Jr., attorney, to Julie A. Sidon of Magnolia, Jacksonville Stage Road, approximately 315 acres, \$160,500.

George E. Daviau to George E. Daviau Jr. of South Hadley; Glenn E. Daviau and Greg E. Daviau of South Hadley; Rosemarie E. Mitchell of Marblehead and Pamela J. Joseph of Walpole, Mohawk Estates, lots 11 and 13, less that \$100.

**Frederick M. Burrington** Artist  
Photorealism in Watercolor, Pastel, Color Pencil,  
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# Heath Business Directory

Members of the Heath Enterprise Council

Bald Mountain Pottery  
625-8110

Brian's Carpentry  
Building/Remodeling  
337-4347

Nancy Burrington  
Evergreen Information  
337-4425

Cable's Burnt Hill  
Blueberries  
337-4454

James Cerone  
Builder  
337-4210

Coursey Design  
Interior architecture, design  
& decoration - 337-4751

D.C. Builders  
Branch Hill Road  
337-4705

Robert Delisle  
Electrician  
337-5716

Russel E. Donelson  
Design / Construction / Cabinetry  
337-4460

Girard-Peters  
SUGAR HOUSE  
337-5501

Earl M. Gleason  
Fire Equipment  
337-4948

Heath Brook Studio  
Glass and baskets  
337-5736

L & S Enterprises  
Leisure Furniture Manufacturer  
337-5505

Patricia Lentz  
Indigo Glassworks  
337-5375

Maple Ledge Farm  
Maple Syrup Year Round  
337-4705

John Mooney  
Custom Remodeling  
337-8344

Wanda Mooney  
Realtor  
337-8344

Alan Nichols  
Furniture Maker  
337-6665

Russlin Saw  
Power Equipment  
Sales & Service  
337-8704

Richard Steinbock  
Graphic Design  
337-4746

Stor-A-Dor Corp.  
Pocket door hardware designs  
337-0211

Sunny Day  
BLUEBERRY FARM  
Burnt Hill  
337-8369

Phyllis E. Thane  
Book Binding  
337-4759

Tripp's Blueberries  
Taylor Brook Road  
337-4964

Paul Turnbull  
Janice Boudreau  
Commercial / Wedding  
Photographers  
337-4033

Bonnie Wodin  
Custom Gardens & Landscapes  
337-5529

## Support Your Local Businesses

If you would like more information about how to become a member of the Heath Enterprise Council,  
please call Alicia Tripp at 337-4964



## MEMORIES OF THE GREAT STORM

by Michael D. Coe

The recent news about Hurricane Floyd and its aftermath reminded me of my own first brush with a major tropical storm. I have been through many awesome hurricanes and typhoons — the latter experienced while I was stationed for a year on one of the Chinese Nationalists offshore islands during the Korean War. I have even weathered a North Atlantic hurricane in an 8,000 ton freighter. But the one I remember best was the great New England Hurricane of September 1938.

I was then a nine-year-old student at Fay School in Southboro, a small Massachusetts town between Worcester and Framingham. Fay was (and still is) a boarding school, at that time for boys only, and was founded back in the 1860s to train its young inmates for eventual entrance to prestigious preparatory schools like St. Marks, St. Pauls and Groton. It had wonderful teachers and I have always felt that I received 90 percent of my education at Fay.

School had not been long in session in the fall of 1938, when rumors began to circulate among the boys that a hurricane might be approaching - at least one of the masters (this is what we were obliged to call our teachers) had heard this on his radio. By mid-afternoon on that September day, the sky began to noticeably darken, and the wind began to pick up, but this failed to discourage us from roller skating on the concrete outside the clapboarded main building where we studied, slept and ate. There were about 50 boys boarding in the school, plus a handful of 'days boys,' mostly sons of faculty at nearby St. Marks. These returned home at the end of each day, but we boarders were obliged to attend evening study hall.

The study hall was a large room with assigned desks in rows, facing a raised platform and desk where sat the master who was expected to supervise us (i.e. stop us from getting into mischief like throwing spitballs or using peashooters). Above him were portrait photographs of the school's founders and a large and incongruous moose head. I was seated right next to a very large, plate glass picture window facing south across the school's tennis courts and grounds. It was not long after study hour began that the building (which dated from slightly after the Civil War period, when the school had been established) began to shake and shudder with each powerful gust of the steadily increasing wind, and leaves were being stripped from the great trees swaying back and forth on the school grounds.

A little later, I glanced again at the great window immediately on my left, and saw that the sky was as black as midnight. But I saw something else which made me tremble. I had always thought of glass as an absolutely rigid substance, but with each mighty gust it was bulging in about a half inch towards me! And each bulge was progressively more severe

than the last. I raised my hand to attract the master's attention, but he must have thought I wanted nothing more than to go to the bathroom, and ignored me. Admittedly, I was very small even for my young age and maybe he didn't see me. At last I spoke up, and told him that I thought the window was going to break in on us. After pooh-poohing my worries, he at last decreed that the first two rows paralleling the sinister window would be evacuated and he sent us to wait with our books and assignments in a small classroom at the rear of the building.

After about ten minutes or so, we heard an ear-shattering crash and doors slammed throughout the old building. My prediction was right on the mark: the plate glass window *did* blow in and large, jagged pieces of glass skimmed clear across the study hall. To this day I am amazed that the only casualty was a boy who almost had the back of his hand taken away; that no one was decapitated was nothing short of miraculous. All through this excitement, we could hear the ominous noise of trees and tree limbs crashing to the ground outside.

The following morning, as is typical when such horrific storms pass through, the sky was blue and the sun shone brightly. In the light of what we had all experienced, Mr. Fay, our kindly headmaster, decreed a holiday - no classes. If we wished, we were free to go outside and play - and what a sight greeted us! Every mighty elm, every huge maple, had been leveled to the ground. To us this was a great lark, as we bounded like monkeys through the limbs and foliage of these giants. But then our spirits were considerably dampened as Mr. Fay told us what had happened to one of our schoolmates and why he had to leave us, if only temporarily. This boy's family had a summer home on Watch Hill on the Rhode Island shore. A huge wave had taken the house away, along with his mother and two sisters, an example of the tremendous loss of life that the Great Hurricane of 1938 brought to so many New England families.

The fact was that nobody was then aware of the tremendous destruction that great cyclones could wreak and no one was prepared. Such a tremendous tropical storm had never been seen in New England since early Colonial days. There was no satellite tracking system or weather planes to fly into the storm's eye. Six decades ago, when the radio said that a hurricane could hit our area, people put it down as an unfounded rumor and went on with their business. At the end of the 20th century, we realize that we ignore such threats at our peril.

### Heath Brook Studios Glass and Baskets

"Bob and Jayne Dane"

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## MILESTONES

by Edith Royer

.....

**Elizabeth Mae Wilson**, 95, of Charlemont, died Aug. 10, 1999. She was born in Brooklyn, NY, Dec. 7, 1903, the daughter of Archibald and Edith Whelpley and attended schools in Rye, NY. She moved to Heath with her family in 1945 and was a trustee of the Heath Library for several years. Her husband, J. Gilbert Wilson, died Nov. 2, 1972.

Survivors include her son, J. Gilbert Wilson, Jr. of Charlemont, with whom she lived; a grandson, 2 granddaughters, six great-grandchildren and a nephew. A graveside service was held in the Heath Center Cemetery.

.....

## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Among the usual visitors this summer to (our very own) **Bob and Jayne Dane's** Nantucket Glass Works/Dane Gallery was Hillary Clinton, who stopped by their gallery during her visit to Nantucket on August 20. She was given a tour of the gallery by Bob and Jayne. When not running their gallery on Nantucket the Danes may be found at their Heath Brook Studio in Heath Center.

Local artist **Fred Burrington**, away at Maine's Woodenboat school for the summer, has returned from his journeying, and is again painting. His work, as well as **Julie Hall Rocke's** paintings continue to be shown at the Shelburne Artisan's Cooperative in Shelburne Falls.

The annual reunion of the descendants of Frederick and Josephine (Willis) Churchill was held on August 1 at the family homestead, now the home of **Hilma (Churchill) Sumner and Richard Sumner**. In attendance were 147 family members and guests. The oldest member present was **Ruth Churchill**, 87, of Heath and the youngest was Cameron Joseph, two-month old son of Aimee (Churchill) and Lyle Mouton of Tarpon Springs, FL. Those traveling the farthest were Karolyn and Gary Churchill and their infant son Dean, of Martinez, CA. Officers elected for the 2000 reunion were: president, Barbara Churchill; secretary, Charlene Churchill; food committee, Williamstown Churchill families; and children's entertainment, Nancy Richardson and children. Next year's reunion will be held at the same location on the first Sunday in August.

.....

## HAPPENINGS

### LADIES AID CHRISTMAS SALE

The Ladies Aid Christmas Sale will be Saturday, Nov. 6, at the Community Hall from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be crafts, decorations, and a bake sale, and lunch will be available. Come and look around and visit with friends. There may be other craft tables upstairs. Watch for more information as the date gets closer!

### ART BANK NOTES

The Art Bank, in Shelburne Falls, is pleased to announce an exhibition of hand-printed photographs by master photographer Elliot Faye. Working from negatives first shot for the book "The Fifth Gospel," Mr. Faye has reprinted a select group of images representing decades lived in Israel and Eastern Europe. These thirty images give a sympathetic but not romantic view of life in latter-day Palestine and the historic and spiritual background against which it is lived. Mr. Faye's work testifies for both the acuity of his artist's eye and for the remarkable craftsmanship of his camera and darkroom technique.

Mr. Faye has exhibited throughout the US and Israel and has taught on the faculty of Haifa University in Jerusalem. This exhibition will run from October 14 through November 20, 1999, and will be open for public view during our regular gallery hours which are noon to 5:00 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday. We are located at 22 Bridge St., Shelburne Falls, MA. For more information, please call (413) 625-6235.

### POTHOLE PICTURES SCHEDULE

Oct. 22 and 23, "The Man Who Would Be King"; Oct. 29 and 30, "Young Frankenstein"; Nov. 5 and 6, "King of Hearts"; Dec. 11 and 12, "It's a Wonderful Life". Call 625-2526 for more information.

### HAUNTED ORCHARD HAYRIDE

Oct. 22, 23, 29, 30, 31 from 6-9 p.m. at Pine Hill Orchards. Sponsored by the Colrain Lions Club, Colrain Snowdrifters, and Pine Hill. Adults \$5.00 and children under 42" tall \$2.50. Proceeds will be used to purchase a photocopier for the Griswoldville Memorial Library.



## LIBRARY LINES

by Laurie Wheeler Burrington

### Story Hour!!!

We are offering a story hour for infants and toddlers (children under 4 years of age) every other Monday morning from 10:30-11:30 a.m. The dates are as follows: Sept. 27, Oct. 11, Oct. 25, Nov. 8, Nov. 22, Dec. 6, and Dec. 20. Each story hour has a special theme and craft.

The story hours are being funded by the Franklin County and North Quabbin Family Network. Join in the fun!

### Surveys Update

The library has had a great number of responses to the survey we've been conducting during the past several months. As it was neither easy nor quick to fill out, many thanks to all who made the effort to get their surveys back to us. The Library Trustees have begun to look at the results. With this survey we will begin to better understand what our community needs are, and will fulfill a state requirement for feasibility or building study grants.

### New Books

Among the recent additions to the library are: Pearlman's Ordeal, Brooks Hansen; Those Who Favor Fire, Lauren Wolk; Safe Harbor, Eugene Izz; Blind Side of the Hearth, Michael White; Anonymous Rex, Eric Garcia; Circus at the End of the Earth, Travels of the Great Wallenda Circus, Charles Wilkins; Before Deportation, Hertha Feiner; Dark Song, Graham Joyce; New Song, Jan Karon; Mammy, Brendan O'Carroll; Girl Who Loved Tom Gordon, Stephen King; Hearts of Atlantis, Stephen King; The Agony of Alice, Phyllis Naylor; updated Nancy Drew mysteries; a girls' sports trilogy "The Broadway Ballplayers"; Beneath The River, A Underwater Exploration of the Connecticut River, video.

Our collection of Step-Into-Reading and Chapter Books has increased with thanks to support from our Friends

of the Library. Included are titles from the "Little House," "Arthur", "Berenstein Bears", "Petsitters Club", "Road to Reading", "Winnie the Pooh First Readers", and "Henry and Mudge" and a number of Robert Munsch titles.

Our many thanks to the people who have been so generous with their book, audio and gifts to our library!

### Did You Know?

We have a large number of large print books, audio books and two audio cassette players. And, if a person cannot get to the library because they are unable to get out of his or her house, we deliver! Just give us a call and we'll try to work out an arrangement.

### Current Hours

We have maintained our summer hours, for at least the time-being. We are open Mondays from 4-8 p.m., Wednesdays Noon-7 p.m., and Saturdays 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

### MOON AND STARS ALMANAC

Oct. 24 Full Moon in Taurus, 5:02 p.m. EST

Oct. 31 Waning Half Moon in Leo, 7:04 a.m. EST

Nov. 7 New Moon in Scorpion, 10:53 p.m. EST

Nov. 16 Waxing Half Moon in Aquarius, 4:03 a.m. EST

Nov. 22 Full Moon in Gemini, 6:19 p.m.

Nov. 29 Waning Half Moon in Virgo, 6:19 p.m. EST

### HEATH SCHOOL KITCHEN

**Now Serving:** Cinnamon Buns, Pizza,  
Cookies, Cakes and Breads.

All items available frozen; call ahead for freshly-baked.

**337-5307 GAIL HALL**

The cafeteria is open to the Community for lunch at just \$2.25!  
Join us at noon. If you can, call a day ahead or that morning.

### HEATH HERALD

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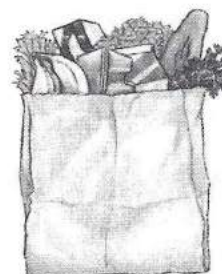
### PETER'S GENERAL STORE

Debbie and Paul Plante, Proprietors

Number Nine Road, Heath

337-5501

- ◆ Fresh Produce
- ◆ Freshly-baked pies
- ◆ Blue Seal products
- ◆ Family Videos
- ◆ Penny Candy
- ◆ Soda, Grinders, Ice Cream
- ◆ Beer, wine, liquor
- ◆ All food essentials



### STORE HOURS

Monday - Saturday, 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Sunday, 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.