



# HEATH HERALD

## Heath's First Newspaper

\$1.00

Volume 26, Number 4

October/November 2004

### Wild Ramblings



The vibrant colors of the hardwood forest stimulated memories of a recent science class. He remembered learning that when leaves were green each leaf cell contained chlorophyll and carotenoids. As the summer sun waned, less chlorophyll was produced and the carotenoids remained producing the bright yellow and some of the lighter orange leaves found on ash, birch, and hickory. The bright reds were the result of the leftover sugars within the leaf cells that produce anthocyanins (pigments producing red and blue coloring.) Adam liked the notion of leftover sugars within the leaf cells. Somehow it reflected sweet memories of summer, no longer with him, but likeably present in his mind, nonetheless. Trees such as the red maple, sumac, and sugar maple were ripe with these sugars that make the leaves appear to be bright red and orange.

For Adam, this scientific explanation, curiously, explained the reason for the autumn show of colors, but did nothing to reflect the true beauty and elegance of the fall landscape. His grandmother had a better explanation for that.

Adam ran the half mile or so along the trail to his grandmother's house. The cool air entering his lungs with each deep breath seemed to exhilarate him. In less than five minutes he stood on his grandmother's stoop. The crisp smell of apple pies cooling on the windowsill caught his attention. He thought, once again, that this just might be the perfect day.

### Sweet Autumn Day

Adam knew that this would be a special autumn day. His grandmother had called the night before to tell Adam that a visit by him in the morning might yield a piece of fresh baked apple pie. When Adam awoke, he could see through his frosted window that it was bright and sunny, and the sky was painted as blue as a jay's back. Through that same window he could see the brilliant red leaves on the branch of a soft maple that brushed against the panes of glass. In the distance the hillside was a show of autumn colors that he knew would not last for long. But they were there in all their glory on this day and he intended to absorb each and every visual delicacy so that he could recall this day at some time in the future when he needed these memories during the harsh days of the winter ahead.

After dressing in a red flannel shirt and dungarees, Adam went downstairs and stood by the woodstove while his mother scooped out some oatmeal from the pot that simmered on the stove. A quick breakfast and he was out the door to the backyard where, in between an ash tree ripe with golden leaves and a split rail fence, he found the head of the trail that led to his grandmother's house.

The woods were slippery with dew, and everything seemed to glisten as the rays of the sun peeked through the limbs of the trees. Not too far into this very short journey he came across an old apple tree. He grabbed an apple and took a bite of the nearly frozen fruit. There was a snapping noise as his teeth bit into the apple. The cold, sweet juice of the fruit, only slightly tart, ran down his throat as he chewed the meat of the apple. One bite was enough. The real treat was only a short distance away through the heavily forested trail.

(*"Wild Ramblings"* continued on page 2)

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(“Wild Ramblings” continued from page 1)

As Adam entered the kitchen he saw his grandmother standing in her floral dress and white apron. This was standard attire for this woman nearly in her seventies. Her dark skin, reflecting her part-Abenaki ancestry, stood in stark contrast to the white apron. She smiled as Adam rushed into the kitchen making a beeline for the windowsill that held the cooling apple pies. There they were, two of them, so perfect that they seemed, for the moment, the center of his universe. The light-brown crusts were perforated with holes that were shaped to look like an apple tree. Steam rose through the perforations permeating the room with the smell of cinnamon and apples. Some of the juices from the pie ran between the bottom of the upper crust and the pie tin.

Adam just knew that these apple pies were made from the Baldwin apple tree in grandma’s backyard that only bore fruit every other year. This was just another reason that made the experience so special.

Adam watched intently as his grandmother took one of the warm pies from the windowsill. She carefully cut two pieces and carefully placed each piece on a plain white china plate. Each piece, a perfect triangle, was garnished with a piece of sharp cheddar cheese. The cheese melted slightly as it lay on top of the hot pie.

“You know where the autumn colors come from, don’t you Adam?” asked his grandmother. “Tell me, grandma,” Adam replied. And his grandmother told him the story that he had heard every year since his fourth birthday. This was the story of Abenaki hunters in heaven who after a full summer of hunting managed to kill a bear so large that it could feed and clothe the entire village for the whole winter. The great bear bled when it died and dripped blood over the forests coloring the leaves with red. And when the Abenaki women cooked the meat, the fat melted and dripped from the heavens coloring some of the forests with golden browns and bright yellows. In this way, the people who still lived on earth could be reminded of the great bounty in the heavens, and could celebrate the autumn harvest.

Adam carefully listened to his grandmother tell this story as he ate the hot pie. And as his mind wrestled with the myth, he realized that it held a place in his heart that made him whole. As he watched his grandmother tell the story, it occurred to Adam that perhaps her sweetness was reflected in the color of her bronze skin, much like the red leaves of autumn.

And, for Adam, this realization made this the perfect day.



# THE HEATH FAIR 2004



## On Friendship..Via Grumbling

This is a sandwich story - friendship, grumbling, friendship - except the meat is on the outside.

In the last issue of our newspaper, I had the sad-but-happy job of writing a memorial tribute to my fine friend and neighbor, Lorin Gowdy. Over the last week or so, with the deadline for articles looming, I kept banging around in my head for another story that would be enjoyable for me to write and interesting for you to read.

I had one idea after the next, but then chucked each one out. How about an article on a splendid walk to Pike's Camp? or in the Maitland Woods? or along the Dickinson



Trail, I thought? But then I figured scores of people would know those walks far better and tell them more truly than I could. Today, on a hike up the abandoned Boston-Albany Post Road behind my home, I saw thirty different types of mushrooms pushing up everywhere after the recent rains, and I thought of telling about them. But I was sure Bill Lattrell could do a much better tale, and besides, I could only describe their

various beauties, shapes, and colors (including those two mushroom brothers standing quietly in their small amphitheater of a stump). I know zip about their names, the botany, their secret lives - well, I do know some about their quiet, lovely ways.

Around this time, it dawns on me how awful it must be to have to dredge up an idea once a week or - horror! - once a day, and then write thoughtfully and well about it. Pity the poor newspaper columnists-except for sportswriters who must be so totally into their game that it's an easy home run every day, or so I think. I vow not to say a nasty word ever again about the failings of columnists! But still the big fat blank. My head is empty of one worthy idea. So I go back to where I started, mulling over what gave me the energy and spirit to do that last article. Why, it was about celebrating friendship!

So, to friendship. It brings discovery, comfort, and joy to our lives, that sense of being connected to people we love beyond family. Family chooses us; we choose friends. If we are open, friends tumble into our lives in all sorts of ways, mostly unexpected - a chance meeting, a chat at the store, the brother you shared a room with, a common interest...and all we have to do to gain their warmth and take them in as friends is to open our arms.

In her book *Families*, June Howard writes with thoughtful grace about friendship in these days when most of us don't have extended family or childhood-on-up friends nearby. Count your blessings, native Heathans, you who are lucky enough to live in the same place for lifetimes or generations. But the achieved friends-friends by choice-that Howard writes about can come to any of us. "An achieved friend, a friend of

the heart, is one who perceives me as one of the better versions of myself. We make good music, this friend and I, and we make good silences, too. Talk we can take or leave. As for politeness, we don't confuse it with generosity." Aristotle had this to say: "Wishing to be friends is quick work, but friendship is a slowly ripening fruit." This is my parting grace to you: here's to the fine friends you already treasure; and to your friends to be, waiting in the wings to be nourished into friends of your heart.

~ Kathy Stein

## A Cactus Growing in Heath?



In case you think this is a tall story, believe me it is true. Come and visit us at 31 Jacobs Road and check it out.

Three years ago last July, Alli and I traveled to Iowa with my son Neil and his wife to see our new great-

grandson. While there in the Heartland we visited a few sights in the region.

On one trip we visited Blue Mountain Park just a few miles north in southern Minnesota. A few minutes walk away from the parking lot was a spectacular view of the region looking northeast. On the walk up the rocky ground to the lookout area, we saw many different flowers and native flora. We were fascinated by this low-growing flower that had the appearance of a prickly cactus.

We had a plastic bag with us, so, we each, my grandson's wife and Alli and I, very carefully dug up these shallow rooted plants that seemed to be very cozily nestled around the outcropping of the rocky area. With T.L.C. we safely returned to Heath with our specimen.

Remembering that in its natural habitat it was thriving close to natural outcropping rocks, we picked out a spot on the back side of the lawn that has numerous ledges that make it tricky to mow. Being very careful that fall to make sure it was taking root before winter, we took an old wire egg basket and turned it bottom side up for protection from over-zealous lawnmowers as well as possible nibbling by rabbits, woodchucks, or four-footed grazers.

The following spring we were surprised to see it sprouting new growth after the long, brutal Heath winter. Each year since then it has grown until it has now outgrown the egg basket guard, and it blossomed for the first time in July this year.

Strangely enough our grandson's wife potted hers and put it in the house to "protect" it from the cold and it died.

Perhaps a hundred years from now, Heathans will curse the Minnesota cactus that has taken over the pastures and fields as the multiflora rose now has.

Come and see the Minnesota cactus that is thriving in North Heath where oak trees don't even grow.

~ Doug Stetson



## State Structural Deficits and Heath A Commentary

"Structural Deficit" is a term often used by politicians and economists to define chronic State budget shortfalls and too often without much explanation and/or details. It is as if they are describing a disease that we have to live with; often the prescribed treatment is doses of higher local taxes that force cutting back on family and town/city government needs. A typical state budget deficit occurs when government expenditures exceed government revenues over a relevant time span; a structural deficit is a deficit that would occur even if the economy were at full employment. Economists are usually more concerned with the latter due to the automatic increases in a major government program(s) leading to chronic deficits. In the case of Massachusetts the word deficit is a bit of a misnomer because annual budgets of the State and communities must be in balance. That does not stop the impact of shortfalls on the budget process however.

In the September 17, 2004, issue of "The Rosenberg Report" Senator Stan Rosenberg states "that a State budget structural deficit of about \$700 million is due to health care...fueled by runaway prescription medication costs." Just about every time I have heard the Senator address budget issues he mentions "structural deficits" with reference to health care costs and that they delimit advances in other areas of government. He is very hardworking on behalf of the State and his constituents and has great expertise in the legislative and budget processes, yet in the same Report he mentions with pride increasing spending on five health care programs for FY05.

The Massachusetts Taxpayers Foundation issued a report on August 9, 2004, wherein it was argued "a balanced budget remained a distant goal despite a \$725 million surplus in FY04." It went on to state that "clearly the fiscal situation is improving, but we are raising a major caution flag because we have not yet achieved a structural balance, which is the key fiscal issue." Later, in this same issue, House Ways and Means Chair John Rogers is reported to have told legislators in a closed door session on January 13, 2004, of a likely deficit of \$1.75 billion estimated by the Romney Administration and that Medicaid was a "black hole in the State budget" that crowds out spending in other areas.

Medicaid is federal health insurance that helps people who can't afford medical care with some or all of their medical bills and is administered by the States. In Massachusetts it is administered by the Executive Office of Health and Human Services (EOHHS), which includes the additional programs of Office of Children, Youth, and Family Services, Office of Disabilities and Community Services, Office of Health Services, Department of Elder Services, and Department of Veterans Services. Altogether these services account for nearly half of the State's budget of some

\$22+ billion. The Federal Government pays for about half of Medicaid's annual cost of some \$7 billion. History shows that Medicaid expenditures continually exceed cost-of-living (COL) increases, sometimes at double and triple the rate. Such a government commitment presupposes a growing economy at both the State and Federal levels of major proportions. While Medicaid may be a "black hole" there are other State operations that require at least COL changes annually such as labor contracts (that Governor Romney recently vetoed), pensions, and other services, but Medicaid, which admittedly is a huge and important benefit to people in need and puts many people to work in nursing homes and the like, is a major part of the health care cost picture and well defines the State's structural deficit problem. It is essentially out of control. Thus, Local Aid to cities and towns and Chapter 70 Aid for public schools, for example, suffer, especially when recessions adversely affect State revenues. (Chapter 70 Aid has more than doubled to some \$3 billion since 1993 when Massachusetts Supreme Court rulings forced Education Reform upon us. Another court ruling is pending to add fuel to rising education costs.)

The State Budget tends to be perceived as something rather ethereal in the never-never land of Boston that is overly complex and wrapped up in the politics of the Governor and Legislature. It is difficult to influence, much less control; major, mandated programs make it difficult to understand. Consequently, the little town of Heath, which is but one of 351 cities and towns that make up the political subdivisions of the Commonwealth, is profoundly affected by the legislative actions of elected officials who represent us and court rulings that dictate what we will pay for certain services. As a result of severe budget cuts in Chapter 70 Aid and School Transportation in FY04 and then level funding in FY05, substantial increases in the Mohawk Trail Regional School District and Franklin Tech Schools assessments have forced major increases in our local taxes. Education funding is our local "structural deficit" at work. The goal of Chapter 70 is equity and adequacy in our public education system, but equity is fraught with difficulties of a one-size-fits-all formula and adequacy is ill defined and needs better-understood, local control.

Heath has deferred projects, paid less attention to employee needs, compromised on administrative services...all in the interest of meeting education costs. However, somehow we have to take back control of our local budgetary needs in a fiscally responsible way. So, I expect some difficulty in dealing with FY06 if we are to move in that direction because it means facing up to the shortcomings of our limited tax base and being tougher with our "structural deficit" monsters both at the State level and locally.

~ D.F. Howland



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## Heath Historical Society

The Solomon Temple Barn was the featured attraction at the Heath Historical Society's Annual Meeting on August 28 at the fairgrounds. This being the 10th anniversary of the restoration of the Barn, a meeting was held to commemorate the event during which a video, taken, at the time,



*The Reverend and Mrs. Richard Gary in the barn they donated to the HHS.*

by Mike Peters, was shown of its disassembly and reassembly. Pegge Howland read the names of all those who participated in and donated to this effort.

Fred Burrington, the featured speaker, explained the disassembly and restoration process as well as the Barn's outstanding features.

This was followed by a great potluck supper in the Exhibit Hall. Alli Thane-Stetson, Doug Stetson, Jane deLeeuw, Dave and Pegge Howland, Eric Grinnell, and I prepared the hall and barn for the meeting. Music was supplied by banjo-picking Dave Gott.

The Annual Meeting began with an In



*Dave Howland giving his report.*

Memoriam to Society members who died during the past year and a prayer offered by the Reverend Murray Newman. The Directors announced the completion of fence, signage, and cleanup at Fort Shirley. People who have seen the site say it should be called "Fort Shirley Park" - more about this in the next *Heath Herald*. And thanks in part to the Dickinson Fund, there is a new roof on the Center Schoolhouse.

Election of officers followed: Jack Cable, president; Jane deLeeuw, vice president, and Alli Thane-Stetson and Charlene Churchill, directors. A vote of thanks was given to Dot Gary who is stepping down from the Board after many years of service. Pegge Howland read the list of new acquisitions, and the raffle winners were drawn.

Thanks to all for an outstanding year! If you are not already a member, come and join us and enjoy the history of Heath.

*~ Jack Cable, President*



## Rafting at The Academy at Charlemont

On September 10, the students and staff of The Academy at Charlemont went to Zoar Outdoor for their annual rafting trip. We go to Zoar for the day and go rafting down the Deerfield River. With 117 people we had 21 boats with an average of six people per boat and an instructor/guide. Everyone divides into groups of six to form their raft. They can be of any age, any gender and it offers the opportunity to get to know people better. This event is a great way to start off the school year before we get embroiled in the academic part of the year.

In your group you can decide if you want to be a peace boat or a war boat. A peace boat is just paddling down the river, looking at the scenery and not getting too wet; a war boat is having water fights with other boats and getting really wet. There are certain spots on the river where we have water fights. Each boat has a bucket in the bow that we fill it up with water and throw it at other boats. Sometimes people use their paddles to splash people also. Halfway through the trip we stop to picnic at the Zoar picnic area. After lunch we go through the Zoar Gap, which is so much fun, and there is someone there who takes pictures of us while we're going down. When we get back to Zoar they show us a slide show of each individual boat going down the Gap. Thanks Zoar and thank you to The Academy at Charlemont, we had a great time!

*~ Grace Phillips*

## Town of Monroe

Every Heathan must be aware that, to the extent people have heard of Heath at all, they tend to imagine that it is extremely remote, probably somewhere above the Arctic Circle. But Heath is a bustling metropolis compared to Monroe, which figures only vaguely in the awareness of many Heath residents. In order to get better acquainted with this little town, what better way than to rip off *Harper's*

### Monroe Index

Population, 2000 Census: 93

Registered voters: 65

Residential tax rate, in dollars per thousand: 16.25

Duration of this year's town meeting, in minutes: 27

Articles on the warrant: 22

Number passed unanimously: 22

Number of elected town offices: 39

Number of individuals holding those offices: 19

Number of surnames of elected town officials: 10

Births in 2003: 1

Marriages: 0

Deaths: 0

Cemetery plots sold: 0

Students graduated from high school in 2003: 3

Difference in elevation, in feet, between upper and lower town garages: 820

Fee for a body art establishment permit, in dollars: 150

Hours the Historical Society was open in 2003: 4

Number of visitors: 1

*~ Michael Wilmeth*

## Selectboard's Report

The Selectboard meets every other Tuesday night at 7:00 p.m. in Sawyer Hall.

**Fall Meeting Schedule** - The Board has resumed its customary schedule of Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m.

Meetings will be every other Tuesday, (10/5, 10/19, 11/9, 11/30, 12/14, 12/28) The meeting schedule may be increased to weekly during the winter months.

**Community Hall** - Work is nearing completion. Exterior drainage work has been completed, the new front steps are done, and the parking area is about to be paved. Interior and exterior painting is being completed.

**Three-Town Landfill** - A meeting was held on Wednesday, September 1, at Mohawk Park Restaurant to hear and discuss a proposal from Yankee Atomic Electric Corporation to assist the three towns with the closure of the landfill in Heath. Yankee offered to pay for engineering services for the design of the capping operation, provide clean fill material if needed, and furnish equipment and operators to shape the site for capping. In return Yankee will ask the towns of Heath and Charlemont for permission to use their roads for trucking of demolition debris in the event that there is a disruption of traffic on the current route through Vermont. The company does not intend to alter its current trucking route but would like assurances that they could travel through Heath and Charlemont, under the same restrictions as proposed last time the issue was discussed.

It has not been determined that additional fill material is needed at the landfill site. The engineering of the cap will determine the need. Yankee stated that if fill material could be located closer to the landfill they would be willing to truck that material instead of bringing it from Rowe. If no additional material is needed they will grade the site as required by the engineering design using the existing fill.

Questions regarding liability, monitoring of material for hazardous substances, safety issues, review and approval of the various governmental agencies, schedules, costs and abutters concerns will be addressed in future discussions and negotiations. Mark Reich of Kopelman & Paige, Town Counsel for both Heath and Charlemont, will be reviewing the proposal and discussing it with Yankee's attorney and making a recommendation to the Selectboard.

No radioactive or otherwise contaminated material would be considered for placing at the landfill. It is against the law to dispose of such material in any place other than a licensed disposal facility. In the event we might need it for the capping, the material offered by Yankee is being excavated from a site outside of the plant footprint. The extent of the excavation is about 10,000 cubic yards or 400 to 500 truckloads.

**Town Coordinator** - The Board has hired Joy Fynmore as the new Town Coordinator. Joy has recently moved to Heath after many years of work in the banking industry. We look forward to working together with her on the many challenges facing our Town.

**Conservation Commission Appointments** - The Board is seeking to appoint two new members as soon as possible. Anyone who would be interested in serving should contact

Joy Fynmore, the Town Coordinator, at 337-4934 or call a member of the Selectboard to discuss the appointment.

**Heath On-line** - Take some time to visit the Town's home page [www.townofheath.org](http://www.townofheath.org). You'll find Selectboard meeting minutes, school information, and much more. The home page is a work in progress. Thanks to the computer committee for getting this project up and running. Contact the Board at [BOS@townofheath.org](mailto:BOS@townofheath.org). Send messages to any board or individual via the e-mail address, or visit the Heath home page.

~ Heath Selectboard  
Thomas Lively, Chair  
Brian De Vriese  
Sheila Litchfield

## Community Calendar

### OCTOBER

- October 8** - Library Story Hours - Fridays from 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. through December 17.
- October 15** - Family movie night, Heath School, 7:00 p.m.
- October 17** - The Academy at Charlemont Admissions Open House - 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
- October 21 and 22** - Heath School Parent-Teacher Conferences - 12:30 p.m. dismissal
- October 29** - Heath School In-Service - No school.

### NOVEMBER

- November 2** - Presidential Election, Sawyer Hall, 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.
- November 06** - Ladies Aid Holiday Sale, Heath Union Church, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
- Cornucopia Auction, The Academy at Charlemont, 7:00 to 10:00 p.m.
- November 7** - Community Hall Open House, tour and potluck supper, 4:00 p.m.
- November 17** - The Academy at Charlemont Fall Awards Ceremony, 2:00 p.m.
- November 18** - Friends of the Heath School Library - Third Annual Book Fair - 8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
- Senior Luncheon - Community Hall, 11:45 a.m.  
- The Academy at Charlemont - Science Fair Exhibit, 6:30 p.m.
- November 19** - Family Movie Night, Heath School, 7:00 p.m.
- November 25** - THANKSGIVING



## Library Lines

### Summer Reading Program

By Charlene Churchill

Every summer public libraries throughout Massachusetts sponsor a summer reading program to encourage kids to read books they enjoy while they are on school vacation. The theme this summer was: "explore other worlds @ your library." Our library had twenty-two participants who completed the program. Readers keep track of approximately how many minutes they read each day and turn in their reading logs at the end of the summer.

In late June and July we also held three craft evenings at the Heath Fairgrounds. Don Purington, our library assistant, created some fun activities with papier-mâché. The kids made things and then decorated them. Some of these creations even were entered in and won ribbons at the Heath Fair! This picture shows some of the fun when the children were painting their projects.

In early September, we held a drawing for two tickets to the Royal Lippizzan Stallions of Austria, which were won by Lillian Boyd, and two tickets to the "Big E," which were won by Sam Rode.

We would like to thank the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, the Western Massachusetts Regional Library System, the Friends of the Heath Free Public Library, the Franklin County Family Network, the Heath Agricultural Society, the North Adams Public Library, and the Eastern States Exposition for helping to make the summer reading program a resounding success!

New Books at your library: *Blackbird House* by Alice Hoffman, *Dead Water* by Barbara Hambly, *Dress Your Family in Corduroy and Denim* by David Sedaris, *Eats, Shoots and Leaves* by Lynne Truss, *Home Body* by Gerry Boyle, *Olivia Joules and the Overactive Imagination* by Helen Fielding, *R is for Ricochet* by Sue Grafton, *Sam's Letters to Jennifer* by James Patterson, *Skinny Dip* by Carl Hiaasen, and *2nd Chance* by Danielle Steel.

**Planning and Design Grant Update** - We issued our Request for Qualifications (RFQ) in mid-August and held a briefing session on August 25 for architectural firms that were interested in submitting proposals for the preliminary design for a new library facility. We received proposals from eight firms by the deadline on September 8.

By the time this is published, the Library Building Committee will have read the proposals, interviewed the firms they determine to be the best candidates, and be on the way to signing a contract with the firm chosen by the committee to do the schematic design.

All meetings of the Library Building Committee are posted in Sawyer Hall and are open to the public. We welcome your comments and suggestions as we move forward with this grant.



*Seneca Underwood, far right, working on projects with Ann and Emily Pacino.*

### As The Wheels of Progress Turn

We of Heath are very fortunate in having a library which has been and still is blessed with many people who have been involved with making it so useful. I cannot even begin to tell you about all these people and what they have contributed or all the features now available to the public. I can only say if you have not visited your library for some time, please take time to do so.

The material that follows was gleaned from the information available on the town library home page. (<http://www.townofheath.org/library.html>) Many thanks are due Charlene Churchill and Don Purington for making this page into a site that all of Heath can be proud to have up on the Internet as part of the Heath town page. Charlene wanted me to point out that Don Purington deserves credit for all this work.

#### **Charlene Churchill - Library Director**

Charlene has been the Director of the Heath Free Public Library since July, 2001. She completed the Simmons College MLIS program at Mount Holyoke College in June, 2004. Charlene lives in Heath on the farm which once belonged to her great-grandparents.

#### **Don Purington - Library Assistant**

Don has been the Library Assistant at the Heath Free Public Library since November, 2001. He has a BSCE degree from the University of Massachusetts. He lives in Colrain with his wife Cathy and their two children.

#### **Welcome to the home page of the Heath Free Public Library**

*Located on the first floor of*  
Sawyer Hall  
One East Main Street  
Heath, Massachusetts 01346  
413-337-4934

*Hours*  
Monday: 4-8 p.m.  
Wednesday: Noon - 7 p.m.  
Saturday: 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.



MASSACHUSETTS CULTURAL COUNCIL

"This publication is supported in part by a grant from the Heath Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency."

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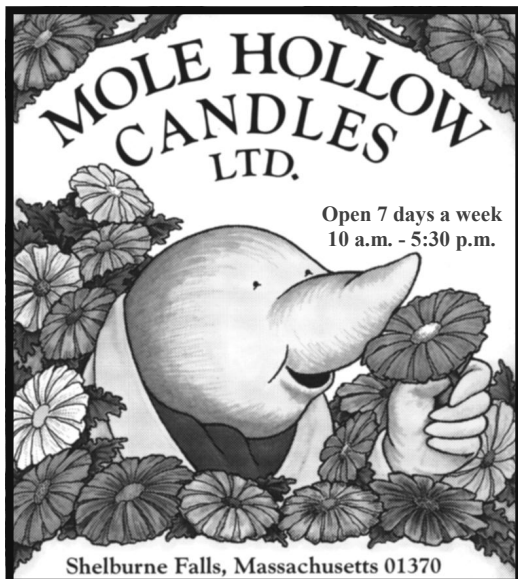
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## Richard C. Bishop Elder Law Attorney

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01302

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### New Town Coordinator

## Welcome Joy!

By Pat Leuchtman

Joy Fynmore, our new Town Coordinator, was born in the Adirondacks and has always loved the outdoors and the beauty of nature.

She grew up loving the wilderness, but when it came time to start earning her own living she went to the city. She moved to Syracuse and there she stayed for 24 years, working in banking during that frenetic period of mergers and acquisitions. It was while living in Syracuse that she married and had three children, Kevin, Theresa, and Bridget.

However, those mergers and acquisitions hit her bank, and she was laid off in a round of downsizing, which was difficult because she was near retirement age. It was also a time of shifts in her personal life. It was time to leave Syracuse.

By this time her daughter Theresa was living in Granby, Connecticut, which was a fairly small town. She persuaded Joy to come and live near her. "I love to be outdoors, and to be able to take long walks so it was good," Joy said. She found a job at Open Solutions, a software developer, in Simsbury and for more than three years was quite happy. But developers found Granby and the town was growing.

"The town was changing. There was a big development push, so much so that I knew I needed to get away," Joy said. Then began the search for a new home.

"I started searching the Internet for affordable housing and after nine months I found Heath. I came up and thought, I remember this environment. This is what I need."

Joy bought a house in Mohawk Estates. The very same week she moved in with her partner Howard Pond, the job of Heath Town Coordinator was advertised. Joy applied immediately.

Sheila Litchfield of the Selectboard said they were very happy to find Joy. "She had already committed herself to Heath by moving here and she had lots of really good administrative experience. She's used to working with all kinds of people and we think she has the ability to meet all the different situations that come up in the day-to-day business of the town."

Joy said she has been pretty busy since she moved to town. The house she bought had been vacant for two years so there is a lot of work to be done. She is also slowly finding her way around the area because she is new to Massachusetts, and to our own corner of the county.

In spite of being busy on the home front and getting settled in a complex new job, Joy said she is enjoying the relaxed and relaxing environment. "I'm truly looking forward to meeting everyone and doing a good job for the town and the people."



### Rays of Interest

## Whump! Whump!

By Raymond Pettengill

This story takes place in a small town called Weld, Maine, where I lived for the first 18 years of my life. The school for the town had four rooms. Two of the rooms were on the first floor. One housed grades 1,2,3, and 4 and the other 5,6,7, and 8. The second floor housed grades 9,10,11, and 12. Of the seven students, four girls and three boys that started in the 9th grade only two graduated, I and one other boy. All the girls married early, and one of the boys joined the army. I was the valedictorian but like to tell the story that I was the salutatorian so when people would say, "That was great! How many people were in your class?" I'd say, "Only two." While I was in my senior year the first of the federal school lunch programs was started. At this school this consisted of the mothers of the attending students making hot soup at their homes. The soup was put in a five-gallon milk can that had to be carried to the school by me and my other classmate come rain, ice, sleet, snow, or blizzard. I used to tell my kids that I had to walk five miles to this school from home and that it was uphill both ways, but actually I rode in the school bus. The school bus was a station wagon with wood benches built into the back that was owned and driven by my father.

I used to like to rattle (some people spell it "wrestle") by the time I was in my junior year. I weighed about 135 pounds and could beat all but one boy and one girl. The boy who could beat me was a cousin of mine in his senior year and weighed about 190. The rules of the game were: no biting, no pulling hair, no hitting below the belt, and when you yelled "quits" your opponent had to let you up. The girl who could beat me did not follow the rules. I hated to get pinned so when my cousin was trying to hold me down and make me yell "quits" my shirt would get torn up pretty bad. We did not have mats or a gym and the rattling match was usually outside the schoolhouse in the yard. I only got to rattle with my cousin twice because the second time I went home with my shirt torn. I was told by my mother that the next time you come home with a torn shirt you're going to get a whumpin. My mother was a large woman and could give you a pretty good whumpin when you needed it.

This was okay for a while until I was walking home one day and saw this porcupine heading up a big pine tree on the side of the road. At that time there was a 50 cent bounty for killing porcupines and, as 50 cents back then would buy a lot of candy, I picked up a chunk of wood and took off up the tree after him. After the porcupine was about halfway up the tree he crawled out on a limb and by the time I could reach him with the chunk of wood, the limb broke and down we went. I was pretty shook up so gave up chasing the porcupine, and as my shirt was torn on the branches in the fall I knew I was in big trouble when I got home. As soon as my mother saw my shirt she said "Bend over." I said, "But mom, I was chasing a porcupine and fell out of the tree." WHUMP! WHUMP!



## Heath Business Directory

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337-6665

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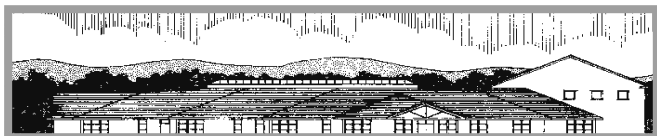
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**Heath School News**

By Susan Todd

It seems that every year we at the Heath School must report so much change. Beloved staff leave, and gifted educators join us. We adjust and hope that we can provide engaging and rich learning experiences for our children, knowing that the students in our charge are young for a very brief time. This year there were eight staff who left and six new people who joined us. We were especially sad to lose Stephen Bechtel and Suzanne Taylor, who were both at Heath when it first opened its doors in 1996, as well as other staff numbers who contributed in very important ways to the life of our school. The following is a brief synopsis of those changes:

**Alexis Walendzik** comes to us from Buckland-Shelburne and is our second/third grade teacher. She worked with Deb Porter at Gill, and Deb credits Alexis with teaching her an enormous amount during those early years. It's fun to see how she's already won the hearts of her class.

**Diane Kraichnan** has been our violin teacher for two of the three years of our strings program. She is replacing Sandy Carter as our classroom music teacher, as Sandy is now at Buckland-Shelburne following Eva Otten. Diane brings to our students years of exceptional music teaching and performing. We feel particularly fortunate to have a professional musician in our midst.

**Virginia Gary** comes to us from the Colrain School, but she has been a summer citizen of Heath since her birth. (She and Tim Lively grew up together.) She is providing Title I writing and math supplemental instruction, as well as coordinating Parent Involvement activities and additional Title I grant management support for the district. It's as though she's always been here.

**Diane Rogers** was at Heath from 1999 to 2001. She was drawn back to our school this fall to work as a one-on-one instructional assistant. Many of you will remember her as Diane Crowningshield, and when it was announced that Diane was returning there were many smiling faces from all those who knew her and her work with children.

**Danielle Kadinoff** is our new speech/language pathologist. For several years we have provided these services in very inventive ways with Peter Guidod, Alice Thomas, and Catherine Ishi cooperatively supporting our students. Having an experienced and dedicated SLP available at our school two days a week has brought a collective sign of relief among our entire staff.

**Tom Dean** has served as an instructional tutor for nearly four years. This year, having completed his master's in special education services and reading, he will coordinate our severe needs program at Heath. He is widely respected by our community and will bring tireless support to all those with whom he works.

**Brittani Sprague**, Kathy Sprague's daughter, is our new after school coordinator. She is developing a rich program of exercise, study, and activities for the participants. We plan on providing tutoring Tuesdays and Thursdays and invite any community member who would like to contribute one or two hours a week to call the school.

Two of our most important school goals this year include strengthening our literacy instruction and broadening our after school enrichments. Robin Jenkins and Trish Archambault, in connection with our very active PTP, are working with Brittani to provide an array of athletic and cultural opportunities for children. Again, if you have a skill or talent that you would like to share with our students, we would love to hear from you.

And so, once again, in the face of ongoing challenges, our school has begun this new year with much vitality and remarkable optimism. We never lose sight of our essential responsibility - providing the best possible education we can for your wonderful children.

**Friends of the Heath School Library****MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

The Friends of the Heath School Library in conjunction with the World Eye Book Shop will hold their third Annual Book Fair at Heath School on Thursday, November 18, 2004, from 8:30 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

**COME AND DO YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING AND ENJOY THE CHILDREN'S ENTHUSIASM AS THEY CHOOSE THEIR BOOKS!**

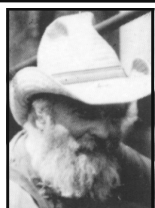
The individual classes will attend during the day, and we will be there until 8:00 p.m. to accommodate the parents returning from work and/or picking up their children.

There will be a selection of hardcover and paperback books for children and for adults as well as 2005 calendars and beautiful bookmarks made by Helen Mackie. In addition, there will be a special collection of books in the library for those wishing to give a holiday gift to the library.

For those who plan ahead and have special requests, call in your list to Jane deLeeuw at 337-8594 or give it to Librarian Wanda Musacchio at the school, and we will order your selections for you.

**ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO PURCHASE BOOKS FOR THE HEATH SCHOOL LIBRARY TO HELP MAKE SURE THAT, IN THESE TIMES OF UNDERFUNDED LIBRARIES, OUR SCHOOL LIBRARY COLLECTION WILL CONTINUE TO GROW.**

Thanks to all who donated to and bought at our Heath Fair tag sale.



## ***The Way It Is In The Country***

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

### **A Horse, A Cat, and Three Rabbits**

By Carroll Stowe

This story can be penned because some years back my wife and daughter made a deal for a saddle horse for some monetary exchange. The people were leaving the Charlemont area and needed to lessen their load so the horse had to find a new home. In the bargain there were also a mostly-black Manx cat and three rabbits.

The story was that horse and cat were most beloved of pets. It sounded very reasonable. The horse and cat seemed unable to really trust a human. The rabbits were just rabbits. It was in the time frame of five years before the equine and feline felt they were able to trust the Sumner Stetson Road people. The rabbits lived rabbit lives and were gone. The cat outlived the horse and seemed to enjoy our presence.

After the three species of animal had been here and adjusted, my wife's brother, Robert Nelson, who had lived in this area, set out to seek his fortune elsewhere and ended up in Tennessee.

At a point in time a bit ago Peggy was given a pair of small hens, adding to our menagerie. This small poultry flock lived in the barn and were always entertaining and rid the yard area of much insect life.

This past Mother's Day, within a several-day period, Peggy's brother, the cat, and the poultry all left life as we know it on earth. Our daughter in consultation with her mother took on the task of dealing with the arrangements for bringing her Uncle Robert Nelson's ashes here to Heath to be buried later at the family plot in Rowe's West Cemetery.

During this most confusing period, Diane was looking on the Internet to find a Manx cat to fill the void caused by the loss of our beloved Hoppie, the bobtailed Manx. Diane checked out over 400 potential replacements. This was a very dedicated effort on her part. It was a very empty household without our bobtailed cat. A great number of people would have scoffed at putting so much time and effort towards a cat replacement.

With the passing of Peggy's brother in Tennessee it was felt that at some point a trip would be made to that southern state to collect and direct his personal effects most judiciously. The search for a cat found that a Manx cat was available in Virginia. So a combined trip was planned to Tennessee and to Virginia. A vehicle was engaged to haul all that would come this way, which turned out to be a trailer, needed to accommodate the various personal belongs.

The dedication of animal rescue people is one of always going above and beyond. This was the sincere effort of the woman Diane made contact with in Virginia.

Diane and her friend Bill Drouin and mutual friend Shawn Lukman set out for Seversville, TN. It was a long drive and rather tiring but, all things considered, a very successful and rewarding travel. The folks in Tennessee were very friendly and helpful. Those who had befriended Peggy's brother had done much to be good Samaritans to her distant brother. With the trailer loaded and thanks and good-byes said in Tennessee, the group from this area headed towards home. It was with very little out-of-the-way travel that the New England threesome was able to make contact with the animal shelter. This woman was most helpful, and Diane is still in touch with her seeking advice and moral support. It was a ten-hour ride home from Virginia and all went very well. Mother and Dad were most anxious awaiting their arrival. As they had planned, they were here at 10:15 p.m., tired and happy that the trip was behind them.

The new cat seems to be willing to call Heath home and has set out to train us as to his wants. He's a lot of fun and seems truly worth the effort to get him.

A job well done, Diane and friends.



Copies of  
***Carroll Stowe's The Way it is in the Country***  
are available.

Send \$6.00 plus \$1.00 for postage if needed to:

*The Heath Herald*  
P.O. Box 54  
Heath, MA 01346

## Heath Historical Commission

Thanks to a cooperative project involving The Academy at Charlemont and the Heath Historical Commission (HHC), the town of Heath now has a photographic record of 123 of its historic properties. The digital photo archive complements HHC's growing descriptive inventory of Heath's historic dwelling places.

The photographs were taken by Kurt Wilkins, an Academy senior who lives in Heath, as part of a study project under the



*Kurt Wilkins*

supervision of Kerlyn Conyngham of Charlemont, who teaches art at The Academy. The properties were identified by HHC members during an all-day driving tour of Heath's highways and byways in April, 2004. This "windshield survey" of Heath's historic heritage was conducted by Delores Viarengo, HHC chairperson,

and Christopher Skelly of the Massachusetts Historical Commission (MHC).

Commenting on the project, Mrs. Viarengo expressed HHC's gratitude to The Academy and to Eric Grinnell, founding headmaster of The Academy and an HHC member, who coordinated the project. "We think this is just the right kind of joint undertaking in a community like ours, one that benefits both the educational objectives of The Academy and our Commission's efforts to document the many historic properties in Heath," Mrs. Viarengo said.

Todd Sumner, headmaster of The Academy, was also supportive of the project. "It's a happy coincidence that one of our best photographers comes from Heath and can take this opportunity to do this work in and for his own hometown," Mr. Sumner said.



*61 Sumner Stetson Road house*

The joint photography project is part of the HHC's work of presenting to town residents a proposal for the historic buildings in Heath Center to be designated in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). HHC has received a grant to prepare this proposal from the Highland Communities Initiative, a program of the Trustees of Reservations.

Once the proposal is completed, the Commission will hold two public information meetings to explain to Heath residents the nature of this listing, with presenters from the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission and the MHC. Any listing in the NRHP of a district in the town of Heath must be approved by the Heath Selectboard.

The National Register of Historic Places, maintained by the U.S. Secretary of the Interior, is the list of individual buildings, sites,

structures, and objects, as well as districts, considered to be important in American history, culture, architecture, or archaeology. Listing in the NRHP does not limit an owner's use of included property unless public funding is used, according to MHC guidelines. NRHP designation recognizes that the listed area is historically significant, and makes available to owners of income-producing properties certain federal tax incentives for renovation. In addition, NRHP listing provides some limited protections from adverse effects by federally funded, licensed, or assisted projects.

NRHP listing also means that properties or districts are automatically included in the Massachusetts Register of Historic Places, which provides similar limited protection from state projects, along with opportunity for owners of municipal or private nonprofit properties to apply for 50% matching state grants for renovation through the Massachusetts Preservation Projects Fund.

Dates of the two public information meetings will be announced by the HHC, with notices posted in the Sawyer Hall and published in local newspapers.

*~ Don Freeman*

## PTP News

The PTP is off to a good start in the school year. The one beautiful sunny day of the Fair was good to us, many raffle tickets were sold, games played, and a good time was had by all who helped with our float. We decided this year to thank Bob Delisle for his wonderful idea and efforts in bringing a skating rink to Heath! "WE CAN SKATE UNTIL THE COWS COME HOME" was the theme of our float. Thank you, Bob Delisle.



We received a generous donation from the Beamers Motorcycle Club that will be put toward school enrichment activities. A well-attended "Back to School" potluck was held on September 2 that concluded with a magical performance by Ed the Wizard.

Family movie nights began on Friday, September 23, at 7:00 p.m. at the school and will be held every third Friday of the month.

A wrapping paper and gift fund-raiser will be starting soon, so that orders will be back for the holidays. Call the school if you would like to view a catalog.

This year the PTP meetings will be held the first Thursday of the month, alternating monthly at 3:30 p.m. or 6:30 p.m. meeting times. Our next scheduled meeting will be on Thursday, October 7 at 3:30 p.m. in the School Library. All are welcome!

*~ Robin H. Jenkins Co-chair*

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### Town Nurse Notes

## Insomnia



By Joanne Fortune, RN

Do you have trouble failing asleep? Or is it easy to doze off but you wake up four hours later and toss and turn until an hour before the alarm? These difficult issues, along with drifting in and out of a restless, unsatisfactory sleep, are called insomnia. The causes include an irregular sleep-wake schedule (working the night or swing shift), physical disorders, drug use or withdrawal, drinking excessive alcohol in the evening, emotional problems, and stress. Often the cause is anxiety, nervousness, depression, or fear. Some people have chronic insomnia that has no apparent relationship to any of these causes. About 10% of adults have chronic insomnia, and about 50% have occasional insomnia.

Older people may think they have insomnia when they don't. As people age, they tend to sleep less at night and nap during the day. Also, older people awaken more during the night which is normal.

For most insomniacs, some simple changes can help.

- (1) Exercising regularly makes it easier to fall asleep and contributes to a more sound sleep. Finish your exercise at least three hours before bedtime.
- (2) Eat a light dinner at least two hours before bedtime. Warm milk, tuna, and turkey contain the amino acid L-tryptophan which helps you get sleepy. Drink an herbal tea before bedtime such as Sleepy Time.
- (3) Alcohol and caffeine (coffee, tea, cola, and chocolate) interfere with sleep. Too much alcohol in the evening can cause you to wake up too early. If you have trouble falling asleep, avoid caffeine eight hours before bedtime. Appetite suppressants and diuretics should be taken in the morning. Nicotine is a stimulant which will cause difficulty falling asleep and staying asleep. Many over-the-counter drugs and prescriptions disrupt sleep. Talk to your medical care professional if you suspect a medication is affecting your sleep.
- (4) Follow a regular sleep schedule. Go to bed at the same time each night and, more important, get up at the same time each morning, even on weekends. This sets the body's circadian rhythm of sleep/wake cycle. If you must nap during the day, nap for 30 minutes or less before 3:00 p.m.
- (5) Follow a bedtime routine of a regular pattern of activities such as listening to quiet music, brushing your teeth, washing your face. These set the mood for sleep. Take a hot shower or bath to relax tense muscles.
- (6) Make the environment conducive to sleep. Your bedroom should be dark and quiet and not be used for activities associated with wakefulness such as watching TV, paying bills, or eating. Ideally, the bedroom should be used only for sleep and intimacy. A slightly cool room mimics the internal temperature drop of your body during sleep. Make sure your bed, sheets, and pillow are very comfortable. Think how much time you spend there! It's better for your physical self and your daily well-being to sleep in comfort.
- (7) We all know that stress and worry are major impediments to sleep. Those who are not sleepy at bedtime can relax by light reading or taking a warm candlelit bath. Add chamomile bubble bath to your bath water. Consciously leave your problems outside the bedroom door by jotting down your concerns and worries during the day. Avoid mental stimulation (the 11:00 news!) during the hour before bedtime.
- (8) Wear earplugs to mask sounds you can't control.
- (9) When falling asleep takes longer than 30 minutes, get up and do something relaxing in another room. Don't agonize over falling asleep. You'll keep yourself awake.
- (10) When you awaken during the night, don't look at the clock. It gets your mind working.
- (11) Take a look at the root of your anxiety, nervousness, depression, or fear. By really facing all the aspects, you can weaken their hold on you.

Come see my new office on Tuesdays from 12:00-1:00 p.m. at the Community Hall. If you or anyone you know would like a visit, please call me at 774-2958.

**You are cordially invited to attend  
 the Grand Opening of the Heath Senior Center  
 for a "COMMUNITY POTLUCK SUPPER"  
 and Tour of the New Facilities  
 4:00 P.M. - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7**





## Milestones

**Jean W. Wilkison Coates** of Colrain died on August 18, 2004. Born in Bridgeport, CT, on January 22, 1942, she was the daughter of Thomas and Jean Porter Wilkison.

For many years, she was an office secretary in Greenfield.

She is survived by her husband, Richard Coates; a son, John Dawid Jr., of Stratford, CT; a daughter, **Mari Craig**, of Heath; a brother, William Wilkison, of Kissimmee, FL; a half-brother, Thomas Wilkison, of Connecticut; two half-sisters, Dale Bearb and Donna Lee Montgomery, both of Florida; two stepsisters, Dixie Johannes of Warsaw, NY, and Vicky Wright of Virginia Beach, VA, and four grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to either Baystate Visiting Nurse & Hospice, Box 482, Sunderland, MA 01375, or the Oncology Department, Franklin Medical Center, 164 High Street, Greenfield, MA 01301.

**Arthur W. Crowningshield** of Heath died on August 25, 2004, in Heath. Born April 11, 1953, he was the son of Frederick and Esther Arno Crowningshield.

He attended elementary school in Heath and was a 1972 graduate of Mohawk Trail Regional High School and a 1992 graduate of the Technical Careers Institute of Windsor, CT. During the 1970s, he served in the US Air Force.

He was employed by Devon Farm Equipment of Belcher-town before joining his father on the family farm. He also worked for the former Kendall Mills of Griswoldville.

Survivors include his wife, **Michelle A. Daniels**; his father **Frederick** of Heath; two daughters, Judy Crowningshield of Connecticut and Amy Crowningshield of Greenfield, a sister, Phyllis A. Crowningshield, of Greenfield, and a granddaughter.

Funeral services were held August 29, 2004, at the Colrain Community Church with burial at the North Heath Cemetery.

Donations may be made either to the Colrain Community Church, Main Road, Colrain, MA 01340, or to the American Diabetes Assn., 813 Williams St., P.O. Box 61210, Longmeadow, MA 01116-1210.

**Richard Steven Lively** died on August 1, 2002. Born in 1966, he was the son of the late **Leon Lively** of Heath and Yolanda Messina Lively Paquin of Worcester.

He is survived by his daughter, Kera Leigh Lively, of Phoenix, AZ; two half-brothers, Roland Lively of Pottstown, PA, and Benjamin Lively of Hawaii, and his stepmother, Rosalind Lively, of Pottstown, PA. He was the nephew of **Thomas Lively** and **Marcella Lively**, both of Heath; Hormidas Lively of Greenfield, Michael Lively of North Adams, Bernard Lively of Williamstown, Mary Blackstone of Kansas City, MO, and Felix Lively of Tarpon Springs, FL.

**Jack F. Nicholson** of Greenfield died September 3, 2004. Born October 13, 1921, he was the son of Joseph and Helen Harney Nicholson.

He served in the US Army during World War II and was employed by Pratt and Whitney Aircraft for over thirty years

He is survived by two sons, **John Nicholson**, of Heath and Robert Nicholson of Northampton; a sister, Margaret Ann Van Buren of Newburgh, NY, and three grandchildren.

**Doris Irene Metzler Sanders** died on August 21, 2004. Born in Springfield on November 4, 1917, she grew up in the Mount Tom and Greenfield area.

She trained as a dental hygienist at the Forsyth Dental College in Boston and practiced in both Springfield and Wethersfield, CT, for over 35 years.

Survivors include her daughter, Jane Sanders, of Berlin, CT; her brother, Bill Metzler, of Greenfield; her niece, **Amy Metzler Clough** of Heath; a grandson, and a great-granddaughter.

Memorial Donations may be made to the Connecticut Chapter of the Alzheimer's Assn., 96 Oak St., Hartford, CT 06106.

## Requiescat in pace

## Heath Deed Transfers

Joan K. Apt, Lesley A. Apt, Vivian P. Apt, Donald J. Disbrow, and Vivian Disbrow to Tamara L. Miller, Timothy A. Miller, Bruce C. Wilde, and Linda A. Wilde, 250 South Rd. \$99,900.

Frank L. Barker and Caleb J. and Seth T. Snow to Gwen E. Miller, 50 Waterfall Drive. \$118,500.

Joseph A. Boucher to Alan J. Boucher, Craig S. Boucher, David M. Boucher, and Gary J. Boucher, Mohawk Estates. \$1.

Anthony J. Bys to Linda J. and John A. Schmitter II, Pa-poose Lake Drive, Lot 31. \$5,000.

Anthony J. Bys of Brimfield and Henry J. Bys of Norfolk, to John E. Gallivan and John A. Gallivan of South Hadley, Cascade Drive, Lot 4. Less than \$100.

Anthony J. and Ruth Andrew Bys to John A. Gallivan and John E. Gallivan, Cascade Drive, Lot 5. \$7,500.

William E. and Gloria M. Card to Eric L. and Ann M. Floriani, 2 Colrain Brook Rd. \$10,000.

Amos J. Cavallo to Marie and Mark W. Zenick, 15 Rowe Rd. \$25,000.

Michael A. Chrisman and Vicki L. Sterling, to Peregrin J. Schwarzer of Charlemont, Burrington Road, Parcel 8. \$25,000.

Tammie A. Decker to Tammie A. and Kyle O. Decker. 60 Jacobs Road. \$1.00.

Cornelius and Anne Doris to Mohawk Estates Property Owners Association Inc., Mohawk Estates, Lots 28 to 30. \$1.00.

DW Forestry Consultants Inc. to Scott Fisk of Bradford, VT., Hosmer Road in Heath, Colrain Stage Road in Heath and Colrain (and Adamsville Road in Colrain). \$245,000.

EMC Mortgage Corporation of Texas to Howard M. Pond, Jr. and M. Joy Fynmore, 32 Deer Run Path. \$74,500.

Richard Festante, James W. Tintle and Keith M. Tintle and Mark E. Tintle, Jr. to Michael S. and Kerry S. Kennedy, 11 Long Hill Road. \$37,000.

David L. Freeman to David L. Freeman and Michael Freeman, 283 Number Nine Road. \$1.

(*"Heath Deed Transfers"* continued on page 18)

("Heath Deed Transfers" continued from page 17)

Hosmer F. Hanscom, Jr., of West Springfield, to Richard R. Syriac, Sr. of Summerfield, FL., and Steven A. Syriac of Belchertown, Mohawk Estates, Lot 8. \$2,700.

Dennis L. Kratt to William L. and Helen O. Duffy of Athol, 69 Chickasaw Street. \$9,900.

Jolanta H. and Jan A. Kusy to Todd and Jeannie Bousquet, 48 Papoose Lake Drive. \$38,000.

Paul J. Labrie to Burnt Hill Road Realty Trust, Patricia A. and Paul J. Labrie, Burnt Hill Rd. \$10.

Patricia A. Lentz to Joanne Giguere, 220 South Road. \$262,500.

Connie M. and James J. Levens to David and Jamie L. Muenkel, 221A Number Nine Rd. \$95,000.

T.S. Mann Lumber Co. Inc. of Athol to George Gordon of Phillipston, Avery Brook Road. \$39,000.

Karen Markert to Karen and Robert Markert, 11 Ledges Road. \$1.

Richard and Terry Mercier to Thomas McBride, Mohawk Estates, Lot 6. \$3,750.

Gary X. Pelletier and Katherine E. Hogan to Jonathan Matarese, 43 Swamp Road. \$30,000.

Don Powell and Tammie Decker to Tammie A. Decker, 60 Jacobs Rd. \$2,000.

Constance T. and Donald J. Rosinski to Peter and Theresa M. Kendra, Mohawk Estates. \$38,000.

Rural Development Inc. to Ann S. Pacino, 2 East Brook Drive. \$100,380.

Susan B. Sylvester to John Michael Schnorr and Lisa M. Wexler, 117 Colrain Stage Road. \$315,000.

Normand A. Terault of Gardner to Jeffrey and Gina Simmons, 16 East Brook Drive. No Consideration.

United States of America, Housing and Urban Development and Citiwest New England Inc. to Kurt A. Blaha and Gretchen M. Nartowicz, 2 Waterfall Drive. \$55,000.

Mickey L. Woolard and Karen E. Antroll to Richard P. and Cheryl A. Andrews, 23 Number Nine Road. \$85,000.

~ Compiled by Pegge Howland



24 West Main Street, Heath, MA 01346 p/f 413 . 337 . 5736

## Heath People In the News

### Baseball - Away Games

Heath resident Gordon Cutter has become accustomed to driving 100 - 150 miles to play baseball games against other teams in western Massachusetts. However, his recent trip to Florida to compete in the Battle of the States II, racked up an all-time personal record for an away game, 2400 miles.

Over the weekend of August 27-29, Gordon traveled to the

Houston Astros Baseball Complex in Kissimmee, FL where he played for Team New England.

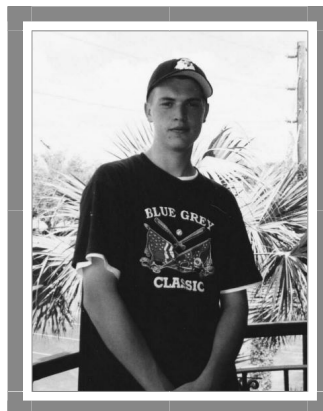
Ten teams from the East Coast competed in the three-day tournament. The players were eager to showcase their outstanding baseball talents, while being observed by college and major league baseball scouts who attended the event.

The competition was fierce, due to the advanced skill levels and abilities of the individual players. Many of the players reside in states where baseball is played year-round, plus many were accustomed to the 95-degree heat. Both were disadvantages for Team New England, however, they overcame those odds and won three of the five games they played. The tournament title was eventually awarded to the Mid-Atlantic Team, which was mostly comprised of players from Florida, Alabama, Georgia, and North Carolina.

Gordon has been an avid baseball player since the age of five. He has played for various teams and leagues, including Little League, Youth, Babe Ruth, Mickey Mantle, and Connie Mack. For the past three years, Gordon has played for the Eagles, the high school team at Franklin County Technical School. He is a Team Captain, and his primary positions are pitcher and third base.

Gordon is a senior this year at Franklin County Technical School and takes Computer Technology as his vocational shop. He hopes to pursue a career as a police officer.

~ Michelle Cutter



Gordon Cutter



Repaired, and painted, the cupola has been returned to its rightful place atop the Heath Community Hall.

## News From North-Forty

"Jack's Favorite" at the Heath Fair was a great success with more entries than past years. Even though I am no longer a blueberry farmer, in my heart, I am and will continue the "Jack's Favorite" at the Fair. Three prizes were given in each category-taste and art. First for art was Jane Wegscheider; second, Bob DeLisle; third, Bertha Akley. Taste first was Camille Freeman; second, Carol Ann Eldridge, and third, Nancy Thane.

The Solomon Temple Barn had many visitors and the scything event on Sunday was well attended. Thanks to Roger Chapman from Montgomery, Walter Sherman from Charlemont, and Art Schwenger and David Gott from Heath for showing their skills at this "way it used to be." A "Barns" video was played in the building. A



Scything event: Foreground - Art Schwenger. Back right - Roger Chapman, and Back Left - Walt Sheuman.

"thank you" to all who volunteered in the barn- especially, as always, to David and Pegge Howland.

~ Jack Cable



### "Jack's Favorite" Prize Winners for Taste Heath Fair 2004



First prize went to Camille Freeman for her **Blueberry Pizza**; second to Carol Ann Eldridge's **Heath Blueberry Muffins**, and third to Nancy Thane for her **Blue-Straw Berry Pie**.

### Blueberry Pizza

#### Crust

1 cup butter  
1 1/2 cups sugar  
2 eggs  
2 3/4 cups flour  
2 teaspoons Cream of Tartar  
1 teaspoon baking soda  
1/4 teaspoon salt

Mix together,  
Bake at 400 degrees for ten minutes

#### Topping

8 ounces cream cheese  
1/2 cup sugar  
2 tablespoons fruit juice 2  
(peach)

Mix together

Spread topping on crust. Add blueberries and peaches. Drizzle with peach juice cooked with cornstarch. Cool and enjoy!

## Heath Blueberry Muffins

Cream together: 1/4 cup butter and 1 1/4 cups sugar.  
Add and mix well: 2 eggs.  
Sift together: 2 cups flour  
2 teaspoons baking powder  
2 teaspoons grated lemon peel.  
Add sifted dry ingredients alternately with 1/2 cup of milk to creamed mixture.  
Fold in: 2 1/2 cups blueberries.  
Pile high in greased muffin tins.  
Sprinkle with sugar.  
Bake at 375 degrees for 25-30 minutes.  
Yield: one dozen or two dozen small.  
Cool in pan thirty minutes before removing.

## Blue-Straw Berry Pie

#### Pastry for 9-inch single crust pie

Combine 1/2 cup canola oil and 4 tablespoons very cold water.  
Whisk until light.  
Stir in 1 1/2 cups flour and 1 teaspoon salt until mixed completely.  
Do not overwork the dough.  
Pat dough evenly into a 9-inch pie pan.  
(repeat for a top crust, if desired.)  
Fill.

#### Berry Filling

1/3 cup flour  
2 cups fresh blueberries  
2 cups fresh strawberries  
1/2 teaspoon nutmeg (optional)  
1 tablespoon lemon juice

Heat oven to 425 degrees.  
Prepare pastry.  
Mix sugar, flour, and nutmeg.  
Stir in blueberries and strawberries.  
Turn into pastry-lined pie plate.  
Sprinkle with lemon juice  
Cover with top crust, if desired. Leave spaces or cut slits in top.  
Cover edge with 2-3-inch strips of aluminum foil to prevent over-browning.  
Remove foil during last 15 minutes of baking.  
Bake until crust is brown and juice begins to bubble, 35 to 45 minutes.



*Not even for a moment do  
things stand still ~ witness  
color in the trees.*

*Haiku Poet Seiju (1776 - age seventy-five)*

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### Heath Emergency Services News

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

- 7/31/04 - Rt. 8A North - Motorcycle Accident
- 8/08/04 - Rt. 8A South - Motorcycle Accident
- 8/12/04 - Rt. 8A South - Bicycle Accident
- 8/14/04 - Number Nine Road - Medical
- 8/16/04 - Rt. 8A North-Medical
- 8/21/04 - Taylor Brook Road - Motor Vehicle Accident
- 8/25/04 - West Branch Road - Tractor Accident
- 9/04/04 - Lake View Drive - Medical

Despite all the rain the first two days of the Fair, EMTS still handled a couple of emergencies and some bumps/bruises. One emergency did not happen at the Fair, but the people drove to the fairgrounds looking for some help. Thanks to Robin Booth for her help at the First Aid booth.

~ Timothy Lively, EMT

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