

HEATH HERALD

HEATH'S FIRST NEWSPAPER 25¢

PREPARING FOR THE HEATH FAIR

By Pat Leuchtman

The garden is producing and last year's Heath Fair premium list has supplanted Michael Innes as my bedtime reading. During the day I whisper encouragement to the beans and at night I consider which crops promise to be of championship caliber. For the first time I plan to exhibit vegetables at the Fair and I want to put my best foot - and vegetables - forward.

Judges look for vegetable specimens of high quality. This means they should be fairly young, the skins smooth and the color healthy and fresh.

Next to quality they look for vegetables that are in good condition. There should be no evidence of disease or insect injury or bruises from dropping the tomato on the floor while anxiously arranging the perfect display plate. (With this contingency in mind, it's a good idea to bring along a few extra specimens of any vegetable being exhibited.)

There are also certain conventions to observe when exhibiting vegetables. They should not be washed, but only wiped clean of loose dirt. Short stems should be left on squash, melons, cucumbers and beans, but removed from tomatoes. Tap roots should not be removed from root crops, but leaves should be cut off about 1/2 inch from the root.

Specimens should be uniformly sized and this may mean pulling up 10 or 15 beets or potatoes to make a plate of high quality, undamaged vegetables that are pretty much the same size. It is also important to read the premium list carefully and prepare plates with the exact number of specimens required.

Fair time is that happy time of year when all the effort, knowledge and skill that goes into every aspect of life in Heath is recognized and applauded. The real wealth of the town is on display; a wealth not measured in dollars alone, but in goods produced in the fields and in the home whether hay, maple syrup, hooked rugs or cotton aprons. Animals, fruits and vegetables are raised on a land that is beautiful and productive, then brought into the house to be preserved and to glow softly on pantry shelves like jewels in Ali Baba's cave against the dark days of winter.

The Heath Fair is a harvest celebration, but as we give thanks for the harvest, we also celebrate the intelligence, energy and skill of those who brought it in successfully, even if we can't all win blue ribbons.

HEATH HIGHWAYS AND ITS PROBLEMS

Money! Time! Bureaucracy! - This seems to be the crux of all problems, be they individual or local, county, state or federal government. Each has its own priorities of interest just as does every individual.

None of us wishes to pay higher taxes to pay the price of inflation, but each of us is guilty of not wanting to give up the comforts we are used to, and we also like to have our life comforts improved in a progressive manner.

The priority of this article brings us to the road conditions in Heath. Nearly every conversation raises a complaint - or two - about how rough they are, where the worst pothole is, the largest bump, etc. Naturally each person involved is most concerned about the section of road he uses daily.

When questions were asked of Ray Galipo, our new Highway Superintendent, and Paul Lively, Chairman of the Selectmen, this reporter thought the answers would be simple. Instead it appears that the Highway Department is in a very complex and confusing situation. All work is dependent on so many things, the biggest of which is Money! Next is Time and Bureaucracy, not to mention all the minor problems that beset most departments in any category.

This spring thousands of dollars - Money - were spent in repairing a major part of the town machinery. That also meant Time in waiting for the work to be done.

Next the Highway Maintenance fund of \$75,000 looks great, but actually has to be spread very thinly to cover all categories within it, such as payroll, sand and gravel, salt, hot patch, hiring outside equipment, culverts, and whatever other materials might be needed to repair and maintain existing roads. Also, here again, there is a waiting period of Time for bids to come in for the lowest prices on materials - Money.

Just recently Mr. Galipo's crew reduced a dangerous "hi-rise culvert" bump on the Adamsville Road, but he had to wait over four weeks for an outside contractor with a backhoe to take up the culvert and dig deeper to relay it so that it wouldn't heave again. That same "bump" is rumored to have caused expensive damage to the cars of several unsuspecting motorists.

The road crew has also done some hot-patching, cutting back of road shoulders, and hauling and dumping of fill in the past several weeks. But again Mr. Galipo says there is never enough Time for one reason or another to take care of every road in town (he mentioned over 100 miles of them).

. . . continued on page 3

MILESTONES

David Andrew was born to Carol and David Howland on April 19. David is the grandson of Pegge and David F. Howland.

Sarah Jane was born to Sula and Lewis Nichols of Big Sur, California in July. Sarah is the great granddaughter of Helen and Lewis L. Nichols.

Tracy Elaine was born to Donna and Philip Reilly on July 15. Tracy is the granddaughter of Patricia and Henry Leutchman.

Jennella Porter and David Tilden were married on June 11 in the Heath Church. A reception followed at the home of the bride's mother, Hazel Porter.

Mildred and Louie Giard celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary on June 13. A family party was held at the home of their daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Fournier.

Ruth and Philip Fournier celebrated their 35th wedding anniversary on June 20 with a family party at the home of their son and daughter-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Fournier.

Andy Royer, the oldest resident of Heath, celebrated his 88th birthday on July 27.

HEATH PRECIPITATION

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

June rainfall: 2.96 inches July: 5.42 inches
Total precipitation from Jan. 1 - July 31, 1981 is 27.65 inches. The July rains bring us up to the normal average precipitation. Last year was so dry the underground water that keeps our wells and springs flowing is still low.

The Heath Ladies Aid extends their appreciation to everyone who helped make their Annual Sale on July 29 so successful.

HEATH HERALD

Volume 3 Number 3

August - September 1981

Editorial Staff

Pegge Howland
Caroline Smith
Alli Thane

Advertising and Business

Art Design
Circulation
Typography

John Read
Harriet Read
Terry Pettengill
Newland Smith

Contributors to this issue:

Edith Royer, Rachel Sumner, David Howland
John Read, Catherine Nichols, Terry Pettengill

Photographs: Fred Gilbert, John Read

The HEATH HERALD is published six times a year in April, June, August, October, December and February. SUBSCRIPTION RATE - By first class mail: one year \$2.50 (payable in advance by check or money order only). ADVERTISING RATES - Display Ads: \$3.50 per column inch (Discounts on six or more insertions). Classified Ads: \$1.00 per line. Send all correspondence to Box 54, Heath, MA 01346

LETTERS

To the Editors:

We love the HEATH HERALD.....Through our visits with our son, Eric, we have become attached to Heath, its land, its houses, above all its wonderful people, and the HEATH HERALD keeps us in touch and up to date and makes three thousand miles that separate us seem not quite so far.

And this last issue (June)! I'm sure you can understand how thrilled we were to read about the Academy at Charlemont, and the exceedingly well done and delightful report on the trip to Greece by Todd Sumner.....

JANET A. GRINNELL
San Diego, California

To the Editors:

I sat with my wife and daughter Sunday morning on the Beach at Pelham Lake in Rowe to hear Rev. Geer's last sermon for the towns of Heath and Rowe.

It goes without saying that it is a breathtaking spot for a church service. Ann Geer spoke about the beauty of the backdrop of the hills and the lake, of her association with the towns and how we have all grown from this closeness. There was hardly a dry eye there.

I couldn't help thinking, as I sat there and heard the Babcock Family Choir do a fine vocal labor of love, what others there must be thinking as we watched and listened.

My thoughts kept turning to my close friends Ralph Sumner, Ralph Dickinson, and Ronald Corey and the tremendous amount of work they have done on the new parsonage here in Heath. How unfortunate it is that the Geers were unable to spend any time there. I meant not to slight any of the others that have worked on the parsonage but these three good people were almost at my elbow.

It is bittersweet to have good friends pull up stakes and leave. I feel that everyone that Ann Geer's goodness touched is richer for it. I am sure that the people of these two small hill towns wish the Geers much success in their new endeavor.

It is said that all good things must come to an end and so it is as the Geers leave this area. As Ann Geer completed her last service here she asked everyone to form a prayer circle. That is a closeness that is hard to explain until it is experienced.

CARROLL B. STOWE
Heath

LARRY'S

of Shelburne Falls

CLOTHING

FOOTWEAR

A.L. AVERY & SON

GENERAL STORE

Charlemont • 339-4915

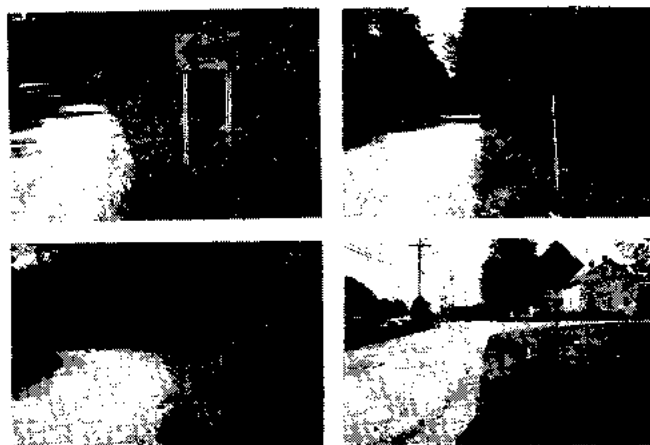
HEATH HIGHWAYS (continued)

In the Highway Construction Department there is much greater evidence of confusion and complexity. Here the "State" is in command as to where, what, how, and why a piece of road is rebuilt. Plans must be submitted by the selectmen (whether designed by them or by a hired highway engineer) to the state for approval. The state decides whether to fund it partially or fully. The state also tells the town what materials to buy and where to buy them. This year a portion of Dell Road is to be a special project. The road from Dell Pond to the sliding bank, which has already been cut back, will be reconstructed to provide better drainage, so the bank won't undermine as rapidly and the roadside wash as badly. Even though, the construction is late in starting and the material bids still have not come in from the state.

The next construction project this year is Avery Brook Road, which Mr. Galipo and many others say is the worst road in Heath. The work will start at the Charlemont line and work toward Heath Center, rebuilding and widening the road considerably. All state approvals are in, but now there has to be approval from the Environmental Protection Agency because of the brooks involved near the road. Also the material bids are not available yet. Sometimes approval is also needed from the Wetlands Act for these construction projects - another "wait and see" time. Avery Brook Road is a three to five year project because the state allots only so much money a year. One section may cost more to reconstruct than another section of the same road, so there can be no definite length planned each year.

Mr. Roger Smith, a Charlemont Selectman, was questioned about progress on their end of the Avery Brook Road where partial construction was finished a year ago. He said there is a year of waiting for a road to settle before tarring it. The money for it was available before July 1, 1981, but apparently Time has not been on the side of the Charlemont road crew. He is sure it will be tarred soon.

Colrain Stage Road is the third road on the agenda for the near future. Mr. Lively says there are no state funds requested for finishing that road because an application for federal funds was submitted two or three years ago, and the town still has not been informed whether they will be available.



A Forest of Heath Road Signs

In the course of this study on road problems, our reporter uncovered two other related issues - CETA and Road Signs.

No application was made in Heath this year for CETA workers to cut back roadside brush. Selectman Lively's explanation was (1) a cutback of federal funding for CETA, (2) no guarantee that local residents participating in the CETA program would get the jobs in their own town, and (3) the Road Superintendent would have to supervise the workers and do more paperwork, therefore increasing his own workload.

There has been some controversy and rampant rumor about the new road signs recently erected around the town. Mr. Lively explained that the signs are a state funded project but must be maintained by the town. Apparently a form was sent to the selectmen giving a choice of having or not having the signs. The form somehow got lost and was not returned to the state refusing the installation. Later Mr. Lively sent a letter requesting removal of the signs. The state replied they would look into the matter. The signs are still here. Mr. Lively's personal opinion is that the signs look new and shiny now, but weather and accidents will soon change that. The snowplows of winter will accidentally knock many down and the maintenance will be more than it is worth. He also pointed out that the signs are not equally distributed. If we all drive as cautiously as we were taught, there should be no need for such an abundance of signs.

Money! Time! Bureaucracy!

SCHOOL COMMITTEE NEWS

By the Heath School Committee

Even though school is not in session, the Heath School Committee continues to be quite active. The Rowe School principal search team led by Wells Foshay has been conducting interviews throughout July but at this time no selection has been made, although we have met some very fine candidates. Another committee is screening applicants for the Mohawk vice-principal vacancy.

To economize, the central office is moving from the Crittenden Building to Mohawk Regional. Speaking of economy - good news - Heath will be receiving approximately a \$7500 reduction from its Mohawk assessment due to excess money over 5 % in surplus funds. This excess surplus enables each member town to match the shortfall based on Charlemont's under appropriation while still supporting our Regional School at full funding level.

The kindergarten transportation contract is still under negotiation, one reason being that our budget appropriation was based on our ability to conjoin with Rowe. This more thrifty method is not feasible this year because of the particular route that Rowe will have.

The Heath School Committee meets the second Monday of each month at Sawyer Hall at 8:00 PM. The public is surely welcome.

FRANKLIN-WARE

— SHELBURNE FALLS —

Fuel Oils
Propane Gas
Coal

Heating Supplies
Gas Appliances
Burner Service

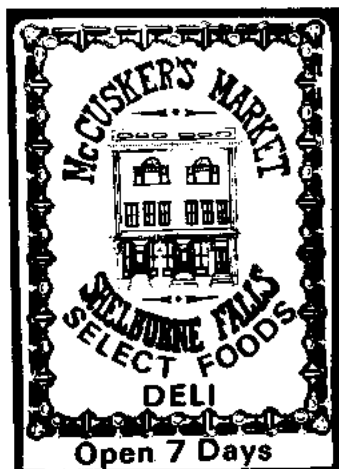
EDITH AND ANDY

Married 40 years and together most of the time in a small house, they are comfortable, without friction. They enjoy each other's company. Visting them is a pleasure. They are not alike. Edith is placid and unflappable. Andy is peppery, being French (and christened Andreas). His hair is still black; his eyes snap; he will not be put upon. And he is both sharp and witty--spur of the moment witty. Shrewd too, being French. He is not a native; he was aged 3. Edith has "roots" in Heath.

Edith gets out a little. She relieves Esther at the postoffice (but has her turn at Ladies Aid) and does the shopping. It was a sight-seeing event when Phil Fournier took her along as he was delivering on his paper route. Andy has infirmities. His hearing is not good; he can't see to read for long; his legs are so unreliable that he is almost but not entirely housebound. Though now and then he does a few dance steps. Besides being witty he is cheerful, and that makes all the difference.

There isn't much for him to do. His favorite sitting place commands 2 windows, from which he can see and interpret the traffic on 3 roads (school busses, Town trucks, identifiable cars) and count over the 8 cows pastured across the road. There are at least 5 thermometers. He lets the cat in and out and controls the draft on the heating stove, using his cane. Edith does the fueling since he is top-heavy. They have a prolific garden. "That's her department"; he does his part at long distance but threatens to get out with the hoe or to use the scythe, which alarms her. At such times he refers to her as "the Warden". They don't watch TV much, mostly news. He enjoys eating--canned oysters almost every evening. His interest includes politics, national somewhat, state more, local intensely--and critically. It was once his game to stir up hornets' nests at town meetings. And he still cares.

They have many friends. Christmas and birthday cards (for his birthday--88 this year) may number over a hundred. For many years Edith was head cook at community suppers (she still furnishes pies); Andy held court and sold tickets at the door; he knew everybody. They were active in the Grange while it was going and among other things made up Christmas packages for the school children. They also served food at the Fair.



Both are clear-eyed observers of human nature, especially of foibles. Until lately they did jobs for summer people and they comment with amazement and amusement. About the one who after they had set out a row of tomatoes wanted them moved over 6 inches. About the one, grown elderly, who had them move her and 6 cats for the winter to a house on a plowed road. When they arrived, the cats were all tied by strings to the legs of chairs, and all of them, 3 people and 6 cats (still restrained on strings), rode in the cab of the pickup. Later they chloroformed most of the cats, the elderly lady being an M.D. She once got him over at 5:30 in the morning because her garage door wouldn't open. It was locked. He has his own foibles; he can't find a razor to suit him and he has accumulated many.

His experiences in World War I have left their mark. Each year the Royers plant a red geranium in front of the memorial on the common. While he was Commander of the local Post of the Legion, he had the distinction of introducing Gov. Saltonstall. Not yet naturalized at that time, he enlisted in the Royal Canadian Fusiliers. They had no training. Put into uniform (the uniforms were slow in coming and he took French leave for 11 days but was caught) they were shipped out. His regiment numbered 1100. Sixty-eight came back. He doesn't talk much about the horrors--"We survived." Four hundred were killed by a bomb when "some fool" lit a cigarette during a talk by the chaplain.

He is the sole survivor of 13 children. He is also the oldest resident of Heath and doing better than most people his age.

They are a remarkable pair. They know how to live. As for him, "...that which should accompany old age/ As honor, love, obedience, troops of friends"--those things Andy has.

Ed Calver (with an assist from Shakespeare)

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

A special town meeting was held on June 29 to act on 11 articles. About a dozen citizens attended. The first nine articles approved transferred monies from accounts with unspent balances or from Reserve to accounts overexpended. The largest transfers were \$2800 from Reserve to the Town Building Account for unexpectedly high energy and maintenance costs, \$1900 from the Town Highway to the Machinery Account, and \$2209 from the Auditor, Printing, and Legal Accounts to the Insurance Account for additional premium costs. Transfers from Reserve can be authorized by the Finance Committee, but because of the size and number of transfers the Committee thought all actions should be brought to the attention of the Town.

The final two articles dealt with a proposal to establish a health care plan for highway employees. State law requires that a town adopt Chapter 32B before voting in a plan. Moderator Edward Calver reported that a technicality was discovered requiring that Chapter 32B could only be voted on by ballot at an election; consequently both articles were passed over.

Howard Crowningshield

Building & Remodeling

Tel: Heath 337-4406
P.O. Charlemont, Ma. 01339

FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

By Chief Earl Gleason

The past two months have been quiet with only one incident, which was a tree struck by lightning. The tree was about 3/4 of a mile from Hosmer Road and it took about three hours to locate and extinguish the fire. We were happy to welcome these young people who helped locate the tree: Michael Smith, Kenny Thane, Glenn Gleason, and Danny Gleason.

A new incident reporting system is being initiated by the State Fire Marshal. At present about two thirds of the states are using this system. The information from these reports is fed into a computer. For instance a well known coffeemaker was found to cause many house fires, and the manufacturer was asked to correct the defect. These reports are somewhat involved and the Chief spent three evenings at school to learn how to fill out the computer codes.

Seven firefighters and several citizens have been certified in CPR, Rescue Breathing and Choke Saving. Fire school at Charlemont has resumed after a brief delay because of no state budget.

The Fire Association will be happy to see you at their booth at the Heath Fair and to have you enjoy yourselves at the wheel. Also we invite you to try our homemade root beer. - See you at the Fair!

HEATH YOUTH GROUP NEWS

By Eric Sumner

The Youth Group has been busy preparing for yet another clash between the two Western (Mass.) superpowers, the Heathans and the Rowemans. Although our two previous attempts at defeating the Rowemans in basketball and croquet were unsuccessful, we are all excited about this new encounter - a softball game, scheduled to take place later in August. We'll have the game at the Rowe School, and all are invited to attend. If you're interested in going, let me know and I'll inform you as to when we'll be playing.

The annual Youth Group campout was a success this year. We picked a beautiful, clear night to have it. As usual, we all had a lot of fun, but didn't get much sleep. Hopefully we can have another one before the end of the summer.

Probably the most exciting part of being in the Youth Group is watching the growth. Within the past two months we've received seven new people into our fellowship, whose names are: Elizabeth Reilly, Sherry Lenois, Shelli Galipo, Michelle Howe, Nicole DenOuden, Ree Sumner, Kenneth Cole.

Any other Heathans who wish to visit us at our meetings, or join the group, are more than welcome.

compliments of

Wells Corner Country Store

CHARLEMONT 339-6632

SELECTMEN'S REPORT

By Paul Lively, Chairman
Heath Board of Selectmen

Highway Dept. The loader overhaul has been completed and it is now working well. At the moment all the road machinery is in pretty good shape.

Work has begun on Dell Road, but there is a temporary delay while the state makes a selection of bidders for materials such as culvert pipes. On Avery Brook Road all is go, except with the state environmental agency. They have asked for more detailed plans which we are preparing. A public hearing will then be held and then we will be ready to start construction work.

Ray Galipo is making an evaluation of all non Chapter 90 roads which will result in a proposed five year plan for improvement and resurfacing. This plan will also be helpful in the budgeting process.

Jerry Lemay has been hired as a highway employee to replace Earl Warriner who resigned.

Revaluation The Selectmen have signed an agreement with the Assessors spelling out the general procedure to be followed and the Assessors have started the job of revaluation.

Community Hall Ed Crafts recently inspected the building and found several minor items that need attention. The Hall Committee will make the corrections and an inspection certificate will be forthcoming.

Work on the drainage problem should commence shortly. We have yet to make a decision on changes in the heating system.

NEW TOWN COUNSEL

The Selectmen have appointed Greenfield attorney Edward W. Pepyne, Jr. to serve as town counsel. Pepyne replaces Craig W. Barry, Jr. who resigned last month.

TOWN COPYING MACHINE

The Town of Heath has purchased a high quality copying machine as a result of a vote at the last town meeting. It is now available at the town hall, not only for town business, but also for public use. It is under the supervision of the Town Clerk and copies can be made any time during her office hours - Mondays 8:30 AM to noon, and 7-10 PM; Thursdays and Fridays 8:30 AM to noon. A charge of 10¢ per copy is made, which is reduced to 5¢ per copy for 50 or more copies.

CHARLEMONT TV, INC.

Zenith

Sales & Service

High Street, Charlemont

Tel: 339-6685

K.R. Jeweler

17 Chapman Street • Greenfield, Ma. 01301

*Fine Selection of Watches & Jewelry
Watch & Jewelry Repair*

HELP THE POLICE TO HELP YOU !

By Chief Lorin S. Gowdy

It would be nice to report that all is well in Heath and that there will be no more crime to contend with, but I believe that we all know better.

In June the "bedroom" community of Heath experienced a rash of daytime burglary. The homes of several residents were broken into while the occupants were away during the day. Because of information received from residents of Heath and other communities, evidence at the crime scenes, and the recovery of some of the stolen property, suspects have been questioned by officers investigating these burglaries. No arrests have been made yet, but hopefully soon arrests will be made.

Because the Heath Police Department is a part time department, there are no daily office hours or 24 hour constant patrols, and no one to answer the phone at all hours - day or night. This is a minor inconvenience for normal people, but a big advantage for the lawless. No police department can function effectively without the concerned assistance of responsible citizens, but because of our part time status it is even more important that citizens report suspicious activity promptly. If you have anything to report to the police and you cannot reach Lee Shepherd (337-4215) or myself (337-5505), call the State Police. The State Police are just as interested as we are in information that you may have concerning any activity. If you have an emergency, try to call us first as we can normally respond faster if we are in town.

When you do call, keep the following list in mind:

WHAT HAPPENED ?

WHEN ?

WHERE ?

IS ANYONE INJURED ?

VEHICLE LICENSE NUMBER ?

VEHICLE DESCRIPTION ?

DIRECTION OF FLIGHT ?

DESCRIPTION OF PERSONS ? (When describing persons notice age, race, sex, height, weight. Compare your weight and height with theirs. Pick out some unique characteristic which will help you identify the person in the future.)



RALPH E. BLACKMER
Insurance Service

Gordon E. Taylor

Joseph J. Judd

Shelburne Falls

TEL. 625-6527

POLICE (continued)

WHAT IS SUSPICIOUS ?

Anything that seems even slightly "out of place" for the area or during the time of day in which it occurs.

The most obvious things to watch for and report include:

The stranger entering your neighbor's home when it is unoccupied may be a burglar.

The scream heard anywhere may mean robbery or rape.

Offers of merchandise at ridiculously low prices can mean stolen property.

Anyone removing accessories, license plates or gasoline from a car should be reported.

Anyone peering into a parked car may be looking for a car to steal or valuables displayed in the car.

Persons entering or leaving a business place after hours may be burglars.

The sound of breaking glass or other loud explosive noises could mean an accident, housebreaking, or vandalizing.

Persons loitering around schools, parks, secluded areas, or in the neighborhood may be sex offenders.

Persons around the neighborhood who do not live there could be burglars.

The direct reduction of crime in our community is partly your responsibility. Help reduce the possibility of your becoming a crime statistic. We need your eyes and ears to help decrease these opportunities to commit crime. Call the police immediately when anything suspicious occurs.

(The above lists were provided by the Municipal Police Institute and the Massachusetts Criminal Justice Training Council)

KAYEN'S Jewelers
220 MAIN STREET GREENFIELD, MASS.
01301

**UNISEX STYLING AND
HAIR CARE CENTER**

Hazel's

Complete Beauty Services
for Hair & Skin

100 Federal Street
Greenfield, Mass. 01301
Phone: 773-8683



HEATH FAIR - 1981

By Dot Scofield

Fair-time again! That wonderful country tradition is happening here in Heath on August 14, 15, and 16.

Some changes, some additions, and the unchangeable. This year Eric Goodchild will play the bagpipes on Friday and Saturday afternoons. Dennis Avery will be back on Saturday evening at the Fairgrounds. He is very talented with very enjoyable music. The Stump-Jumpers will be at the Community Hall on Saturday for those of you who feel your feet have "minds of their own".

The "unchangeable" drawing contests have been changed! This year the horses will draw on Sunday and the oxen on Saturday. Please pass that word around to all, loud and clear. Our second tractor pull is on Friday.

Something "new" - a wood chopping demonstration, by two gentlemen who are active in the national wood chopping competitions. We don't suggest you cut your cordwood the way they do, but why can't we "enjoy doing a hard job"?

Our traditional Exhibit Hall will have wonderful things to see and prizes to be won - is that afghan finished? Have you made that special jelly yet? How does your garden grow? It's great to enter into the competition, and a nice surprise to win.

The Hall will be under the direction of Mrs. Sophie Coe this year. She is looking for volunteer workers for cleanup on Thursday, set up on Friday, and general assistance on Saturday and Sunday. Can you help her? Call her at 337-4924.

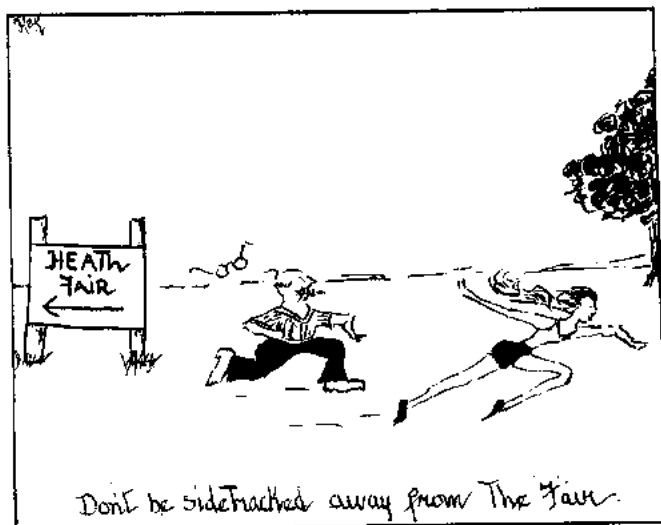
The 1981 Premium Books are being distributed, late this year, but with some good changes. Note the increases in dairy and beef cattle premiums, and also in some Exhibit Hall classes.

Also the Secretary wishes to point out the two entry forms in the center of the book. Do NOT use old forms. Additional entry forms are available at Peters' Store, The Postoffice, and from the Secretary. Just ask.

So let's all go to the Fair and have a wonderful time. See you there.

FAIR WORK BEE

There will be a Heath Fair Work Bee on August 8 at 10:00 AM at the Fairgrounds. Volunteers needed!



HEATH HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

A reception was held Sunday afternoon, July 5, at the Old Town House museum for the new members who had joined the Society this summer. So far this year 46 new names have been added to the membership.

On July 18 the Society sponsored a successful bazaar organized by Dolly Churchill on the common in front of the Old Town House. Volunteers gave generously of their time and articles for sale including baked goods. The people involved are too numerous to mention here, but the Society is sincerely grateful to each one. Almost \$200 was realized from the event.

The Annual Meeting of the Society was held in the Community Hall on August 1. A large number of members and guests attended. During the proceedings William Wolf told of the removal of Ann Norton's gravestone from the Fort Shirley site to prevent its loss by vandalism. Michael Coe explained the process used in making a replica of this stone by a Yale student as his thesis in archeology. The original will be kept in the museum and the replica will be placed at the grave at Fort Shirley.

The terms of office expired for Bruce Cromack and William Wolf as Directors. The members elected Michael Bakalar and Newland Smith to replace them. Alli Thane was elected Secretary to replace Hazel Porter who resigned in July.

Newland Smith commented on the preservation work in progress on the old flag of the Heath Rifle Company. David Howland, Chairman of the Development Committee, presented to President John Read for the Society a framed roster of the contributors to the Flag Fund. The total raised is over \$620.

The meeting adjourned to the lower hall where refreshments donated by Harriet Read, Sophie Coe, and Esther Dickinson were enjoyed. The table was decorated with flowers from Elsa Bakalar's garden.

The Society will again be on the midway at the Heath Fair offering historical books and maps, as well as miscellaneous articles for sale. Volunteers will be most welcome for an hour or two on either Saturday or Sunday. Call 337-4927 or 337-4900.

ERRATA - 1981 HEATH FAIR PREMIUM BOOK

Page 15, bottom of page should read:

OXEN: Inspection time, 9 AM to 11 AM. Show oxen will be judged same day as oxen drawing. Premiums, all classes except #1(D)2, \$8, \$6, \$4.

- No. 1. (A) Shorthorns and Herefords, 1. Oxen 5yr old and up, 2. Oxen 4yr old and up.
(B) All others, 1. Oxen 5 yr old and up, 2. Oxen 4 yr old and up.
(C) All Steers, 1. Steers 3 yr old and up, 2. Steers 2 yr old and up, 3. Steers 1yr old and up, 4 Steers, Calves (Youth Only) a. over 6 mo. c. under 6 mo.
(D) Youth and 4-H Only, 1. Trained Steer 2. Cart Class, Ribbons only.

Page 51 top of page should read:

- No. 58 Arts and Crafts for Children Only, \$3, \$2, \$1.
(Prefix C to class) (a) Painting, (b) Paper (c) Clay, (d) Collage.

PONDSIDE AT DELL

By Frederic D.H. Gilbert

(This is the seventh in a series on the older houses in Heath. Bishop Charles K. Gilbert, Fred Gilbert's father, owned several of the places in Dell at various times. Pondsides remained in the Gilbert family until it was sold to the Litchfields in 1964.)

Few passersby who stop to admire Pondsides, the Litchfields' neat red house overhanging the millpond in Dell, know that during most of its history this building served very different purposes and presented a very different aspect.

The building dates back to at least 1821. In that year, according to Calver's Heath History, Hugh Maxwell, Jr. and one David Allen built a dam upstream from the upper millpond together with "a ditch from said dam to the shop...sufficient to carry...light machinery." (The spelling is theirs.) The muddsill and the stone abutments of the "dam" were still in place until 1938. The "shop" is the present Pondsides described in the Maxwell-Allen deed as "joining on Hasting's upper mill dam so-called", and appears to have been already standing when the dam that was to supply it with power was built. The "ditch" can still be traced from the dam-site down to the Litchfields' garage.

Maxwell and Allen used the "shop" as a carding and spinning mill. By 1882 it was being used as a saw mill, obviously still obtaining its power from the upstream dam and ditch. In the 1920's, when I first saw it, it was being used by Willson W. Judd as a bolting mill, where logs of maple, ash and oak were sawn into short square bolts and sold to the dovel factory in Charlemont to be turned into chair legs and the like.

Let me describe the scene as it was in the 1920's. Visualize the road - now Route 8A - as a narrow rutted dirt road which, after crossing the brook by a narrow wooden bridge, then located very close to and parallel with the dam, passed within eight or ten feet of the front of Pondsides, twisted sharply to the left to avoid a huge elm, then sharply to the right as it climbed the steep pitch out of the Dell. A wide barn door opened out of the building directly on to the road at the lower level. Looking in, one could see the forge and anvil where, I was told, a blacksmith once plied his trade. Up the hill and around the bend, a wagon track led off to the right on to a bridge of logs and planks which, spanning the present driveway, took one through another wide doorway into the second story and straight on to the big, powerful bolting saw.

Will Judd, the owner of this establishment, was a licensed steam engineer who hailed, as he rarely failed to remind you, from "Canton, St. Lawrence County, New York, where I was born'n raised". He had come into the area to operate the steam-driven machinery at the old Davis Mine and after it closed down he stayed on and bought the Pondsides property to use for his bolting mill. He powered it, of course, with a steam engine. I remember it well, standing on its concrete foundation in what is now the Litchfields' living room, with its big, black cylinder, polished piston and huge flywheel, an impressive sight at any time but quite awesome when in operation. The boiler that provided the steam, a huge, rusty hulk, stood in a ramshackle shed located where the porch now is, with a tall metal smoke-stack guyed to nearby trees with wires.

Will Judd may have been a New Yorker born and bred but he did not lack Yankee ingenuity. On the steep slope up to the road, he had a sugarcane house, but did not boil his sap with wood fires as others did; he ran pipes from his boiler into the sugar house, coiled them around the vats, and boiled his maple syrup with live steam, giving his product a smoothness and clarity all of its own.

In the 1930's Judd died, deeply in debt, and the Pondsides property was taken in foreclosure. My father, who had previously acquired the Clifford J. Hager property in Dell, including the old grist mill and the lower and upper millponds, bought it from the mortgage holder, paying, as I recall, the munificent sum of \$150 for the building and the quarter-acre lot on which it stood. His original thought was to tear down the building as an eyesore, but it was still a stout structure with a uniquely picturesque site and he decided instead to turn it into a summer home which he could either rent or sell or use himself.

Starting work in the middle 30's he spent most of his summer vacations on it for the next five years, working at it for the most part single handedly.

The rest is modern history. My father used Pondsides for many years as his summer home. After his retirement in 1950 he spent the greater part of each year in Dell, using the Hager house, which had central heating, in spring and fall and Pondsides in the summer. With the Felix Frankfurters renting the Hager house summers, the Sherman Johnsons across the road, Bill Spofford and later Ed Calver just up the hill on the other side of the brook, it was an interesting little community. With the years, of course, the people have changed, but except for the loss of the lovely old elms that shaded it, the scene has not; the neat red house overhanging the upper millpond in Dell and mirrored in its still waters is still admired by the passersby, few of whom have any idea of its long and varied history.



Pondsides at Dell in the 1880's

Sawmill (center) was supplied with waterpower from an upstream dam. Built in 1821 by Maxwell and Allen, it was first used as a carding and spinning mill. Building to left is old fulling mill.

PLANNING BOARD REPORT

By John Holdsworth

The Planning Board has not heard much from the telephone company since notifying NET&T Co. that a special permit would be required to install the transformers on South Rd. The transformers are needed to boost power and permit the installation of more private phone lines in Heath. It is possible that at some point no more private lines can be installed in town until the transformers are in. However, the phone company has still not applied for a permit.

A special permit application has been received for a hydroelectric project in Dell. A public hearing for this was held at the Community Hall Aug. 3.

Regular Planning Board meetings have been spent on the town zoning bylaws. Some possible changes are being discussed in the following areas: overall organization will be changed to conform to the state zoning bylaws; the section on definitions should be extended to permit clarification of some of the terms used in the bylaw; the table on use regulation would be more straightforward if it contained a table showing the uses permitted, those definitely not permitted, and specific uses requiring special permits; in the section on administration, it has been recommended that provision be made for the appointment of alternates on the Board of Appeals in the event of conflict of interest (three of the five members might have been in conflict if the US Windpower permit had gone to the Board of Appeals).

The Planning Board is still hopeful that a first draft of the bylaws will be ready this fall. The next regular meeting of the Planning Board will be Monday, August 10, 1981, at 8 PM.

NEW ACADEMY TO OPEN

The Academy at Charlemont begins its first season for grades 7 through 12 on September 14. The minimum enrollment necessary of 20 students was reached by July 16 with applications continuing to be received at the rate of two per week, according to Eric Grinnell the school's headmaster. Lucille Joy of Buckland has been hired as office head, and Philip Babcock of Hawley as custodian. Dianne Dewhurst of Whittingham and Patricia McKay of Charlemont have joined the faculty, and a math/science teacher is being sought. Part-time teachers have been engaged and several more are needed. Staff members, friends and students are at the Academy every day, scraping, painting, and readying the building for the first day of school.

HOME: 774-2613
OFFICE: 774-3722
774-3635

LOIS L. BUCHIANE
REAL ESTATE BROKER

AREA REALTY
180 FEDERAL STREET
GREENFIELD, MA. 01301

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

By D. F. Howland

After an unprecedented delay the Massachusetts legislature recently approved a budget that included an additional \$265 million in state aid to municipalities. Local newspaper reports indicate that Heath will receive about \$17,800 from this special allocation for school aid and general purposes. In addition, Heath's portion of the final Mohawk school budget reflects a \$6800 decrease from the amount appropriated at the town meeting. It is premature to calculate the effect of these changes on the tax rate until the cherry sheets are received and the assessors have considered all the figures. Nevertheless these are encouraging signs that taxes will be stable and, perhaps, may be less barring unforeseen circumstances.

During July, Finance Committee members met with the Selectmen to discuss plans for the year. The agenda covered many subjects - cash flow and investment policy, several management recommendations made in the special auditors report, legislation that will help reduce costs to the towns, bid procedures for service/supply purchases, and developing of regional finance committee interests. It was noted that Treasurer Catherine Nichols is investing available town funds in appropriate high interest accounts where \$3400 was earned in the last quarter.

CHURCH NEWS

Both the Heath and Rowe Churches suffered a great loss last month when Reverend Ann Geer resigned to accept a call at the Chicopee Methodist Church. She will be missed as she had made many friends here, not only in the churches but throughout both communities. The interest of the Geers in this area continues, however, and they are keeping in touch through their subscription to the HEATH HERALD which is now mailed to Chicopee.

Last week the Deacons from both Heath and Rowe Churches met with the Baptist and Congregational area superintendents to plan the search for a replacement minister. It is expected that the search and selection will take some time. This starts with demographic profiles of both churches, members, and the communities, and the preparation of a position description for the minister. In the meantime church services will be conducted at the regular hours by supply ministers from the area.

A joint service of the Heath and Rowe Churches will be held at the Fairgrounds at 9:30 AM on Sunday, August 16.

The Church held a very successful auction on July 25 at the Fairgrounds. It resulted in a net of about \$1100 for the parsonage fund. Another public supper for the benefit of the parsonage will be held on August 22 at 5:30 PM. For reservations call 337-4732.

Work on the new parsonage is progressing well. The inside painting is now being done. Soon the inside casings, trim and finished flooring will be installed, and the basement floor poured.

*The ANTIQUE CENTER of
OLD DEERFIELD*

10 Shops on Rt. 5-10
Open 10 to 5 Daily

Diane Peterson - always buying

Tel: 774-5197

FROM THE LIBRARY

By Edith Gleason, Librarian

We are now in the midst of summer activities. Our story hour has been recessed until after the beginning of school. The newest attraction is the Monday Evening Film Strips being shown at 7:15 PM every week. These are adult video tapes which we purchased from the National Geographic recently. All who have seen them are very enthusiastic. The general subject is The Universe and it is in six parts. You are all invited and the admission is free.

Among our new books Gorky Park is probably the most popular. Clowns of God and Mornings on Horseback are among the other new titles which are about evenly divided among all age groups.

We are sorry that we have had to drop some of our magazine subscriptions because of price increases. We tried to keep those which are most popular. Call me if you have any magazines you do not want to keep, as the Library may be able to use them.

It is state report time and it is a pleasure to give you this part of the report: "Due to your patronage our circulation, for the second consecutive year, has increased nearly fifty percent".

Our book sale at the Historical Society Bazaar was profitable. Vickie Thane and Michele Howe were very competent sales ladies. They also conducted a book sale at the Ladies Aid Fair.

We have received a number of gift books and magazines this summer. We hope to get them all catalogued and in the library. I am grateful for all gifts, whether they are materials or time.

When we resume story hours we will need volunteers to supervise the group. Usually there is a story and a video tape. The program last an hour, and with four volunteers each would be needed only once a month. The children look forward to this time, so please sign up as soon as you can. I am sure you will find it rewarding.



**The Baker
Pharmacy**

YOUR REXALL STORE

Tel: 625-6324

Week Days 8:30AM - 9PM

Saturdays 8:30AM - 6PM

Sundays & Holidays 9AM - 12 Noon

52 Bridge Street

Shelburne Falls

Return Undelivered Copies to:
P.O. Box 54 Heath, MA 01346

POSTAGE

U.S.

MAIL TO:



HEATH PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Alan Nichols showed his furniture at the Old Deerfield Craft Festival in July where it was well received.

Margaret Howland is participating in the New England Studies Institute at Dartmouth College.

Jean Petkevich's Mithelm Freyja won the Sporting Group at the St. Francis Kennel Club in Bromont, Quebec. She is now a Canadian Champion. Jean's horse, Greystone's Cindy Love, was the five gaited champion at the American Saddle Bred Association of Maine.

Misha Petkevich has been named Composer in Residence at Elliot House at Harvard. This summer he is teaching figure skating at the Olympic Arena in Lake Placid.

Martha Howland has moved from Cleveland and is now living at home with her parents. She is attending G.C.C.

Jennifer Fogel-Songer starred with two other actresses in "Vanities" at "Theatre '81" at the Candlelight Resort Inn, and received rave reviews for her performance.

Robert Gruen has been recuperating at Cooley Dickinson Hospital after an accident resulting in a leg infection incurred while cutting cord wood.

CLASSIFIED

FRESH WINDS FARM Paul and Marcella Lively & Sons
Excavating - Loam - Sand - Stone
Also Horse and Stock Hay, \$1.00 a bale 337-4331

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

Richard A. Sumner

Journeyman Electrician
Mass. License #E22622
Vermont License #J1245
South Road, Heath
413-337-4930

BRUCE A. CROMACK

General Carpentry
Restoration a Speciality

Burrington Road

Tel: 337-4350

PETERS' GENERAL STORE

The ONLY Store in Heath

ALL YOUR WANTS SUPPLIED
WHAT WE DON'T CARRY WE GET

We Sell Alcoholic Beverages

Satisfaction Guaranteed

Raymond and Pamela Galipo

Tel: 337-5501