



# HEATH HERALD

HEATH'S FIRST NEWSPAPER 25¢  
HEATH FAIR ISSUE

## "COME TO THE FAIR"

by Lewis L. Nichols

(Editor's Note: This article is one of over 3000 "Topics of the Times" written by "Nick" and published regularly in the New York Times over many years. This particular article was no doubt partly inspired by the Heath Fair, which Nick enjoyed for many years as a summer resident of Heath. It appeared in the Times on September 26, 1953.

Fortunately, the Heath fair did not fall into the demise of other country fairs at that time, but has grown into a much larger affair enjoyed by many more people.

We are indebted to Nick's wife, Helen Nichols, for permitting the HERALD to reprint this article.)

To the practical minded, progress no doubt is a good thing. The airplane is faster than the car, and that in turn can beat the horse. So can the tractor, on the farm. To the practical all of this is good, for speed is time and time is money, and there is indeed little enough of that commodity lying about free for the picking. But progress renders old friends obsolete, removing them from their labors and placing them in museums, there to attract only the pitying eye of the sentimental. Consider the children, just under their 'teens, whose view of the world is one based on speed and TV. How many of them have ever seen a team of work horses, let alone that even more vanished thing, a yoke of oxen? In history books, yes, along with pictures of departed statesmen and battles, and of the ruins of other civilizations. But in experience, in life, very few, and of those few almost all in the country and probably on only a single day of the year. For work horses, even oxen, still come to the village fair, a traditional part of a tradition that continues to live, if alas, but feebly. For the fair, too is growing obsolete, and its numbers lessen.

There are, of course, many big fairs and exhibitions state fairs or those of region or country. But in addition there used to be thousands taking place in tiny villages, not imitative of the big ones, but with a life of their own. They took place in late summer, a day's break in the harvest, and on fair day even the smallest hamlet seemed to throb like a city and to be about to burst at the seams. But largely they have gone now, the victims perhaps to progress, or perhaps to mere indifference. Where once a couple dozen teams tested their strength against a load of stone, there are but one or two today. And do the horses themselves

(continued on page 4)

## HEATH FAIR BEGINNINGS

"The idea was first suggested by certain Heath Youths, Geo. Peon among them, and the idea took pattern from a small town in Wales where we once witnessed such a fair"

... Flora White

The above note in penciled form appears on the back of the Historical Society copy of a typed letter sent to Heath residents in 1916, inviting them to participate in what was to later become the present Heath fair.

The White sisters, "Miss Flora" and "Miss May", were leaders in Heath activities in those days, and they were the chief instigators of the Heath Historical Society begun in 1900. Their interest in agriculture prompted them to install George Peon in their "farm-house" to work their farm. Then, through the Historical Society, they initiated the first "Heath Gathering". A copy of this interesting letter from the Committee of the Society is printed below.

You are cordially invited to cooperate with the Heath Historical Society in trying to make the Heath Gathering, that is planned for the 30th and 31st of August, a marked success.

(continued on page 3)



Mountain View Farm Exhibit - 1936 Heath Fair

Barbara Dixon and Ada Landstrom  
(Photo from Grace Landstrom)

Beverly den Ouden has begun a new business, Prints, Ltd., in which she coordinates artwork designs for homes and commercial locations. The art collection includes limited edition prints, reproductions, antique engravings and posters.

Prints, Ltd. brings the gallery to the customer. Beverly designs the hand cut beveled mats and selection of hardwood frames to compliment the client's decor, and will supervise hanging of the prints to insure proper placement.

She points out that "Individuals spend hundreds of dollars on carpets and furniture but often neglect the areas which most frequently greet the eye, the walls. Prints and accessories can create a unified design of color and style to enhance these major decorating areas."

Beverly makes presentations in a commercial office, to group design workshops or private home consultations.

This is a business for busy people; individuals who appreciate the personal attention that is difficult to find in many retail stores today. Beverly will start with your interests and needs, drawing on her diverse collection of prints, and either assist you in your selection or design an entire proposal based on your art budget.

## KEVIN PETTENGILL AWARDED

Sgt. Kevin L. Pettengill has been awarded the U.S. Air Force Commendation Medal for "meritorious service as an aircraft Crew Chief, Maintenance Coordinator, and a Computer Files Maintenance Technician, 363rd TFW Shaw Air Force Base, S.C. His superior professional skills and initiative have contributed directly to the successful performance of numerous missions reflecting credit to himself and the USAF."

This is one of the highest peace time medals given. Sgt. Pettengill and his wife Sgt. Jo Ann Pettengill have both been recently promoted to Staff Sergeant. Kevin is the son of Ray and Terry Pettengill of Heath.

## HEATH HERALD

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To the Editors:

Now that we have all been able to rest our minds from the election and annual town meeting activity of this spring, it is time that I point out some things that happened in the election campaign for selectman that were less than ideal.

First, the Greenfield Recorder, according to its own policy, was supposed to publish the political statements of the candidates, namely Anne Steinbock and myself, four publication days before the election so there would be time for public rebuttal by the candidates. They published the statements on a Friday preceding the Monday election with no time for rebuttal.

Secondly, Anne Steinbock waited until that last minute in the election campaign to respond to issues that were the basis of my seeking election. The issues were personal use of town equipment by the Road Superintendent and a new culvert installation policy. In her Greenfield Recorder statement, Anne Steinbock indicated without explanation that the Road Superintendent had always been allowed personal use of highway equipment and that the culvert pipe policy is the same as it has always been. I must say that it is not true. My explanations and reasoning on these matters are documented in my past letters to the HEATH HERALD. Those statements by Anne Steinbock in the April 29 issue of the Recorder contradict what my awareness of the facts are and I call upon her to publicly explain those statements so that the public can be informed rather than misled.

Thirdly, I learned from reliable sources that members of the Highway Dept. were spreading the word that they would all quit their jobs if I were elected. This was an apparent attempt to create the illusion of upcoming trouble so that voting for me would not be desirable.

In my campaign I called for a spirit of community to be brought about through communication by dialog. We have a long way to go in this regard, but I will keep promoting this idea and I hope that, if there is a political contest this coming May, no one will be reaching into the bag of dirty tricks to promote their cause.

PAUL LIVELY  
Heath

## CARD OF THANKS

To all the people who made my retirement a very pleasant time to remember, those who sent cards, expressed their good wishes and presented me with gifts, I will take this medium to give my thanks.

EDITH GLEASON

## HEATH PRECIPITATION

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

June precipitation was 2.66 inches; July precipitation was 3.30 inches. The total January through July precipitation was 37.15 inches. We have had more than our normal average precipitation for this portion of the year, but the past two months have been so hot and dry the lawns are turning brown.

## HEATH FAIR BEGINNINGS (Cont'd)

The object of this gathering is to increase community feeling and to advance community welfare. Addresses will be made by men of national reputation on subjects that concern community life - the farm, the school, the church, the boy and girl, the home, et cetera.

There will also be music and other forms of entertainment. All this will be generously provided through those who come to us.

On our part it is proposed that we have an exhibition of our farm products and live stock. Your name is solicited as one who is willing to help. Please keep this in mind during the spring and summer and be ready to show on the 30th and 31st of August what you have been doing. Samples of your crops will be wanted in whatever stage of growth they may be at that time.

Your horses and work wagons will be needed for our Work-Team Parade and you are urged to exhibit the best thing in live stock that you have bred on your farm.

If we pull together and do our best, we can make the Heath Gathering of 1916 an event to be long remembered.

Yours very cordially,  
The Committee for the  
Heath Historical Society  
Mary Abby White  
Mary K. Hicks  
Edward P. Guild

The first "Heath Gathering" was held on August 30 and 31, 1916. The exhibits of farm and garden produce were displayed in Sawyer Hall according to Grace Landstrom. Among the prominent speakers who gave talks at this first Fair, was the Hon. Dana Malone, then Attorney General of Commonwealth of Massachusetts and a summer resident of Heath.

Following the first Heath Fair in 1916, the Heath Agricultural Society was formed and the Fair became an annual event. From then on it was held on the Dickinson farm in the oak grove and mowing on South Road. Exhibits were displayed under a tent and speakers were attentively listened to under the shade of the oaks.

At the 1933 Fair, Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr declared in his speech that "a world war within ten years is inevitable, or even sooner if the Nazis dare challenge France before that time." He praised President Roosevelt for his courageous program for national recovery but doubted its success because of the current state of affairs internationally. Dr. Niebuhr had recently returned from a visit in Germany which he described as a nation gone "hopelessly insane."

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In those days there were no fakirs, no outside concessions, it was strictly a Heath agricultural event. The balloon vender, denied entrance to the grounds, parked on the road and youngsters spread word of his presence with sales quickly following. The parade, always a highlight of the day, would form at the Center and march down South Road to the Oak Grove. There were always many floats in which both the natives and the summer people participated.

Hannah Burrington recalls a float in an early parade made up by her husband, Ted. "It needed two men to activate it, one in the rear and one in front. The rear one could activate the tail of a horse, which was made up of binder twine. The body was made of barrel hoops and covered with burlap grain bags. The front man could activate the head, which could move up and down and around. The ears were of stiff carpeting and stood erect. The eyes were black door knobs and gave the animal a very alert look. He was completely harnessed and hitched to a two wheel gig that old 'Sen' Thompson used to use. Oscar Thompson drove the 'animal' and Clyde Varney led him along the parade course. The two men inside the horse will have to remain anonymous. A whip was generously used, which caused comment during the parade."

In 1962 the Agricultural Society had the opportunity to acquire the present Fairgrounds, so it moved and has expanded its facilities and activities to become the big 3-day event which now attract visitors from all parts of New England.

## HEALTH SERVICES AVAILABLE

by Caroline C. Smith

Both the Western Franklin Public Health District Nurse, Janet Bliss, and the Visiting Nurse and Health Service provide health services to the people of Heath.

Janet Bliss serves as nurse to Hawlemont School, conducts flu and blood pressure clinics and, on a doctor's referral, helps patients with generalized nursing procedures. In the home she gives bed care, takes pressure and offers many other invaluable services. There is no fee for any of these services as they are supported by the District and the cost is an item in our annual town budget.

The Visiting Nurse and Health Service in Franklin County provides a more comprehensive service. It offers nursing home health aides, physical, occupational, and speech therapy - a complete home care package. Another program is maternal and child health focusing on teaching, prevention and guidance in the area of parenting. The organization also serves patients in the F.C. Hospice program. VN & HS is a not-for-profit health agency which charges on a sliding scale depending on the ability of the individual to pay.

With these two services, the people of Heath are well served. To reach Janet Bliss call 339-4906 between 8-8:45 AM or 12 noon-1 PM, or visit her office at the Charlemont Town Hall. The number for the VN & HS is 774-2302 or visit them at 50 Miles Street in Greenfield.

## FRANKLIN-WARE

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## HISTORICAL SOCIETY HOLDS ANNUAL MEETING

by Ruth Law, President

The annual meeting of the Heath Historical Society was held on August 6. Members met for a pot-luck supper prior to the meeting in the Community Hall. This was attended by about 75 members and visitors.

The highlight of the evening was a slide talk on "Nineteenth Century Portrait Painters of Franklin County", given by Suzanne Flynt, Assistant Curator of the PVMA in Deerfield. Her talk was well received and evoked many questions following.

At the meeting both the restored Emerson portrait was displayed and also the finished cherry hutch made and donated by Dominic Musacchio to be raffled at the Heath Fair.

At the business meeting, Alice Woznick was elected Secretary to replace Beverly den Ouden who had resigned. Elected to fill the position of Director vacated by retiring Grace Landstrom was Edith Royer.

In other news, the Society had a very successful Festival on July 16. Many people took the opportunity to visit the Museums and about \$200 was raised from the sales.

At the Heath Fair, the Society will have a table on the midway where flea market items, books, and tickets for the raffle will be sold. Remember, the more tickets you buy, the better your chance of winning this fine piece of cabinet work. The drawing will be made on Sunday afternoon, August 21, by Chief of Police Lorin Gowdy.



Musacchio with Hutch to be Raffled

## HEATH FAIR COOKBOOK NOW ON SALE

by Sophie Coe

Do you ever wonder what goes on in those houses you pass along the roads of Heath? What happens in those houses you don't see, the ones tucked away out on their own roads in the hills and hollows? Now you can find out!

What goes on the stove and in the oven in all these mysterious houses is an open book to anyone who has the Heath Fair Cookbook, now available at Peters' Store for \$5.00, or \$6.00 by mail from P.O. Box 63, Heath, MA 01346. Everything from soap (page 113) to nuts (chocolate midnight madness, page 93).

Send them to the family, to absent Heathens, would-be Heathens and everybody you can think of.

## "Come To the Fair" (Cont'd)

seem somewhat smaller, less capable of pulling an honest load? Perhaps, perhaps. After they have struggled to move it the required few feet a tractor so easily brings it back to the starting point. In that unhappy fact there lies the full story and inevitable conclusion. But, regardless, a few teams are still entered, and a few village fairs yet remain. For this year, if with no guarantee for the future.

The chores are started early on fair day. A farm in summer is no place in which ever to lie in bed, but on fair day the lights of the barn seem never to have been extinguished. For the herd this day is composed not only of cows, but of cows which well may win a blue ribbon or two. These likely individuals must be cleaned and combed within an inch of their lives, and if there is any expression more surprised than that of a cow being polished for fair day, that expression is not known. The job accomplished, the herd is then taken to the fair grounds, and as another proof of what has happened, it nowadays is taken there by truck. Other products of the farm are arranged, and by the hour for the fair to open it is obvious that everything in sight will deserve, if not finally win, a blue ribbon. For everything is the best of the best.

With the actual opening the changes that have overtaken the fair are all too obvious. Instead of the band - small, a little unsure of itself, but still a band - there is a public address system, playing phonograph records. Instead of the dozen or so floats which once made up the body of the parade, there are now just one two, and these are set on trucks. In the row where of old numerous manufactureres of farm equipment displayed their brightly painted wares, there are but three. Half the fun of fair day used to lie in collecting literature about these displays and in watching never ending demonstrations. Now the demonstrators seem to go through their motions merely as though they were paid to do it, without any love of the work. Blue ribbons are still blue ribbons, of course, and it is indeed fine to win them. To win them at what too unhappily may be the last of the village fairs.

## BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

by Paul Lively, Chairman

It was voted to allow the Heath Historical Society to handle the Bicentennial Calendar. Our Committee is not in a position to come up with the front money for this project. The profits on this project will go to the Historical Society.

At our last meeting, a suggestion was presented to the Committee that an official street map of Heath be made up showing all current roads with proper names to be published and sold; also, possibly 1785 and 1885 street maps for comparison. This suggestion came from Catherine Nichols and she has agreed to be in charge of the project.

Also, at our last meeting, representatives from the Planning Board and the Park Committee were present to explore the possibility of developing a town swimming and recreation area as a Bicentennial project with all townspeople and organizations involved. The Committee voted in favor of exploring this idea further. The Planning Board is to research possible sites in town for such a development with their relative advantages and disadvantages and, hopefully, some information about cost. They will report back in a couple of months. The Bicentennial Committee would like to know how the people of Heath feel about this idea. So, if you have some opinions, let us know about them.

## JAPANESE BEETLES

by Ed Calver

Individually they are beautiful, with a metallic sheen. Some years ago my place became infested. They destroyed a row of soybeans and were so avid for an ornamental grape originating in the Orient that I got rid of it. They also favored Boston ivy (likewise Oriental) and ate leaves of other plants. Gardening friends advised that preserving the appearance of the garden foliage (which turns brown or gray) would be helped by collecting them once a day or oftener. I used a can of kerosene and water but a solution of detergent is also effective. Collecting is easy (with some misses) because their only defense is to drop. One learns what additional plants they like; mine were: roses, raspberries, swamp pink, bayberry, heather, elm suckers, pussy willow, and a certain fern. Collecting did help preserve the foliage but did nothing to reduce their numbers in the following year; a never ending chore in late summer. I did not try traps.

Then I came across a biological control developed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and sold commercially. This is a powder containing "milky spore disease," which attacks and kills the larvae, which develop where the eggs are laid, underground in lawn grass. One scatters a spoonful at four-foot intervals, and it needs time to spread through the topsoil. I did this three years ago. Last summer I still went about my collecting route, coffee can in hand, but the beetles were fewer. This season I have seen no more than a dozen, too few to bother with. Nor has there been any evidence of skunks, which as the season for emergence approaches dig in the lawn for the grubs in the night time.

## HEATH BENEFITS FROM WELL FUND

by Jean Holdsworth

In June the Fred W. Wells Trust announced its annual awards to benefit agriculture, health and education. Several town residents and the Heath Fair received awards.

Scholarships were awarded to four Heath residents who will be attending college this fall. Tami Neison will be studying recreation at Greenfield Community College. Diane Stowe will receive secretarial training at Baypath Junior College. Eric and Todd Sumner received scholarships to study liberal arts at GCC. They plan to complete their studies in agriculture.

An award was made again to the Heath Fair. This year's award to the Fair was \$800 to be used for premiums in the youths exhibits

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## THE BEAR CAPER

by Marcella R. Lively

The first sighting of the Savoy Bear by Skip Churchill was on April 26. As he was passing Cromarty's, something caught his eye - and lo and behold it was a bear with a collar around its neck. The bear was meandering through the pasture on an adventure all its own. He notified the game warden of the sighting.

On May 3rd, Skip spotted the bear in the Howland's driveway - it seemed unafraid. It went between the Howland and Read property, down below the brook. When David Clark came along, he seemed to startle the bear and it went toward Blueberry Hill. They again notified the game warden of the sighting.

On May 4th, Skip went to play pool at the Tripps'. As he approached Cable's flat, he saw the bear sitting in the road. He got out of the truck and walked within five feet of the bear. The bear was unafraid and Skip thought it might be ill. He started talking to the bear and it grunted back at him. It rose on its hind legs, walked across the road and stood with its back against a beech tree. Skip left in his truck and Dolly decided to call Anne Steinbock to warn her daughter, Nicole, who jogs in the evening, that she might be joined by the bear.

On May 5th, the man from Amherst, who collars several bears from the Connecticut River to the New York line, came up. Anne happened to come along at that time and they all heard the "beep-beep" of the bear's collar from his monitor. They were within one quarter mile of the old schoolhouse at the time. The man from Amherst told them it was a female bear who had been in Savoy and she was about four years old. They stayed around awhile and it appeared to be in a resting state, so it seemed that the Savoy Bear was all right after all.

Perhaps she got bored in her previous home, or was only trying to find a friend, and along came Skip.



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## FROM THE LIBRARY

by Jane Wishart, Librarian

I'd like to thank all for the warm welcome I've received as the new Town Librarian, and I hope readers will offer their suggestions for titles and services that will make our Library as useful as possible.

The children's collection will soon be updated and I hope to see more younger readers. New adult fiction and non-fiction titles are being added to the shelves.

Beginning Saturday August 27, the Saturday hours will change; the Library will be open from 9 AM until 1 PM.

## NEW LIBRARIAN APPOINTED

by Alli Thane, Chairman  
Board of Library Trustees

The Trustees of the Heath Library announced the appointment of Mrs. Jane Wishart as Librarian, effective July 1, to replace Mrs. Edith Gleason who retired after 17 years of service in that position.

Mrs. Wishart comes well qualified for this work having been educated at Stoneleigh Burnham School and Middlebury College. She has also taken graduate courses at the Universities of New Hampshire and Massachusetts as well as at Our Lady of the Elms College and Westfield State College. Her professional career includes five years as instructor at Stoneleigh Burnham and seven years as Library Manager at the Buckland-Shelburne Regional School.

We welcome Jane to Heath, and invite all townspeople to visit the Library to become acquainted.

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## CHURCH NEWS

by Amy C. Barry

The Rowe and Heath churches joined together the week of August 1-5 in a Vacation Bible School held at the Rowe Church Parish Hall.

Twenty-two children, ages 4 1/2 through 12 years, participated in a program of music, bible studies, crafts, and recreational activities. The week ended with a family cookout at the Rowe Church. Teachers in the Bible School included Karen MacDougall, Deb Porter and Amy Barry of Heath; Faith Loomis, Dawn Kenney, Cathy Snyder, and Kathy Sprague of Rowe; and Rev. Lynn Dooley.

If you remember reading in the HERALD about the historic organ in the Heath Church, then August 28 is the date to remember. On that Sunday at 7PM Horace and Marion York will give an organ and voice recital for the benefit of the Heath Church Talent Fund. The concert will be followed by an old fashioned ice cream "social" on the Church lawn. Watch for posters with more details soon.

September 11 will be a special Sunday in the Heath Church. The children will celebrate the beginning of Sunday School with a short program of songs and memory verses learned in Bible School this summer. Mrs. Dooley will also hold a baptismal service for infants, children, and adults. All candidates for baptism and parents who wish to have their infants baptized are asked to attend the pastor's class on Tuesday, August 30 at 7 pm at the Church. Call Rev. Dooley at 337-5755 for more details.

## HEATH FAIR - 1983

by Barbara Smith, Secretary  
Heath Agricultural Society

It's HERE! August and the 1983 Heath Fair!

Our separate program flyer in each HEATH HERALD almost says it all. Some things new have been added and there are some old favorites.

One addition since our programs were printed is a performance by David Green and his banjo. He will be on the grounds Saturday afternoon to play his instruments for all.

Heath Fair premium booklets will be delivered to residents of Heath. If you do not receive one, they will be available at Peters' Store and at the Heath Post Office.

The Agricultural Society also has advance Fair tickets on sale; five adult tickets for \$8.00 and a family ticket for two adults and all children under 16 years for the price of \$5.00. Tickets are available by contacting Barbara Smith, 337-5563.

We hope to see one and all at the Fair!

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## PLANNING BOARD REPORT

by John Holdsworth

The Planning Board is continuing its revision of the Subdivision Regulations. As was the case with the Zoning Bylaws, this work will consist mostly of reorganization and rewording to clarify areas of ambiguity and confusion, but there will be little substantive change.

The Board met with the Police Chief and one of the Selectmen to discuss the feasibility of placing stop, yield and speed limit signs on some of the town roads. At some intersections there have been accidents that might have been avoided had the road signs been in place. The town could be liable in a case where accidents have occurred with some frequency at the same place, and complaints about the lack of road signs have been increasing. The Planning Board will discuss the problem at the August 8 meeting and make recommendations to the Board of Selectmen.

Several years ago, the Soil Conservation Service conducted a resource inventory in Heath; a part of this inventory identified potential swimming/recreation areas in town. As a result of the warm weather this summer, there has been a renewed interest in development of a town swimming and picnic area. Members of the Planning Board met with the Bicentennial Committee to inquire about the possibility of pursuing such a project as part of the Bicentennial celebration. The aim would be to have a site ready for use, after an appropriate dedication ceremony, in the summer of 1985. The Planning Board will seek more assistance from the Soil Conservation Service in the form of engineering studies and cost estimates for potential sites. A preliminary report will be made at the October meeting of the Bicentennial Committee. Ideas and suggestions from interested persons will be welcome at the Planning Board meetings held the second Monday of each month at 8 PM in the Library.

## COMMUNITY HALL NOTES

A reminder to the users of the Community Hall in Heath Center:

There is a fee of \$5.00 per day to all users of the Hall except for town officers or town boards, or where there is a yearly fee of \$25.00.

If you wish to use the Hall more than five days per year, it may be more feasible to pay the annual fee. This fee, of \$25.00, is good from Jan. 1 through Dec. 31 regardless of when you rent the Hall. It does not extend from the first time you use the Hall to a date one year later.

All appointments to use the Hall must be made through Mrs. Mary Smith at 337-4733. All fees are also paid to her.

All users are required to clean up after themselves according to the rules posted in the Hall. If you cannot or do not wish to, you must pay a fee to Mrs. Smith for cleaning services.

The Community Hall roof, which had developed a leak, has been repaired by Budrewicz and Duprey.

### Howard Crowningshield

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## FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

by David F. Howland, Chairman  
Heath Finance Committee

The fiscal '84 state budget represents one of the most successful municipal efforts in recent years. There is ample evidence that Proposition 2 1/2 has forced the legislature and the governor to shift funds to cities and towns thereby helping property owners who pay most of the taxes. Some of the highlights of the new budget that are reflected in the new Cherry Sheets are: 145 million in local aid, 6.2 million to fully fund regional school transportation for the first time, 2.5 million for additional assistance to libraries.

For Heath this means \$6143 additional local aid and \$140 more for the Library. Some of the local aid, however, was funded by Chapter 70, which means that the schools receive the funds but are supposed to pass it through to the towns in reduced school assessments. It should work this way, but the school committees have to act on it and that hasn't happened yet. In any event, Heath should realize some benefit this year and depending on the final figures, put some of the money away for capital funding while maintaining a stable tax rate.

Other favorable financial news is that possibly some of the anticipated increase in school aid resulting from Rowe's withdrawal from the district may start this year rather than in FY '85. Also, the tax bills have finally been sent out which should improve the cash flow. There are several large town payments that have to be made this time of year, so cash flow is important to avoid borrowing. Nevertheless, late tax bills cause problems and exacerbate the Free Cash deficit figure of July 1. This means that tax collections have to be good so that Free Cash will be available comes town meeting time; again in order to maintain a stable tax rate.

## RICHARD HOUSNER COORDINATES "THRESHOLDS" PROGRAM

Richard Housner, of Hosmer Rd., has been chosen to be Program Coordinator for "Decisions - Thresholds", funded by United Way. The Thresholds program of decision training grew out of a jail experience of an inmate who realized most volunteer programs in the jail were not reaching the inmate and were not providing him with skills he needed to face and deal with difficult situations in his life.

This program aims to change the thought process of the self-defeating individual, so he can think clearly and decide knowingly whatever his goals may be.

Volunteer counselors are needed to work with these people in an effort to help them redirect their lives in a constructive manner. The next scheduled training weekend will be September 24-25 in Greenfield. Contact Richard Housner at 337-4047 for more information.

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## FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

by Chief Earl Gleason

I am happy to report no emergency responses during the two months of June and July.

To continue this good record let's consider the following:

### Things to Do

1. Sit down with your family and make step-by-step plans for emergency fire escape.
2. Buy a smoke detector for each level of your home.
3. Have your furnace serviced by a professional to make sure it's in good working order for the coming season.
4. Clean and inspect your chimney.
5. Check clearance around wood heating appliances and smoke pipes. Distance from walls for stoves is three feet and, for walls and ceilings with smoke pipes, the distance is three times the diameter of the pipe. Distances between heating appliances and walls may be eighteen inches, if an approved heat shield is installed. Specifications for approved heat shields may be obtained from the Fire Dept. Ask for material on safety from your Fire Dept.

## ROAD SIGNS FOR HEATH

by Lorin Gowdy, Heath Police Chief

Almost daily I am asked what can be done to make it safer to travel the roads in Heath. No fewer than fifty people have expressed concern over the speed on various roads and at least that many have complained about how dangerous our intersections are.

On July 11 I met with the Selectmen and on July 18 I met with the Planning Board and I found that they too are concerned about the unmarked intersections.

It was decided at these two meetings, that with guidance from the state, Heath would eventually have signs placed at the intersections indicating "Yield" or "Stop", speed limits posted, and a few other assorted traffic control signs.

Signs are not the only answer but it's a start - the rest is up to you. Stay on your side of the road, slow down, and look at every intersection.

### HEATH HAS A NOTARY

Our Town Clerk, Catherine Nichols, has recently been appointed an official Notary of the Public. Besides taking care of official town business she will be glad to notarize signatures and documents for individuals for a small fee.

### FOREST MANAGEMENT

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## SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

by D. F. Howland

On the balmy summer evening of Wednesday, June 29 a special town meeting had been called for 8 PM. When the hour arrived there were six citizens of the town present including Moderator/Selectman Ed Calver and Selectman Tinker Warriner. Jim O'Neil, Director of the Technical School, was there as a visitor but didn't count as a seventh citizen, the magic number for a quorum. Further complications developed: Ray Galipo's horse was loose! Normally this is not of great concern to a town meeting, but in this instance Ray, as Constable, had to deliver a signed copy of the town warrant showing that the business before the town had been properly posted. Panic did not set in, however. Tinker went on a scouting trip and brought in passer-by Sheila Litchfield, a qualified voter from Dell. Then Ray ran in, huffing and puffing, with the warrant in hand. So, at 8:20 PM the meeting was convened.

The first four articles dealt with year-end transfers of monies from accounts with excess cash to the overdrawn account of Machinery. There had been a sizeable repair bill for the loader of about \$6000. Thus transfers were proposed from the Printing Account of \$346, Insurance Account - \$2600, Interest Account - \$800, and the FCTS Account - \$2254. All passed unanimously. The fifth article involved lengthy changes in the agreement amongst the nine regional school district towns relative to the withdrawal of Rowe from FCTS. The withdrawal means there will be an increase in the distribution of state aid funds to the remaining eight towns. This is because the formula used to compute aid resulted in less benefits due to Rowe's high property values and low student population. Heath was the last town to vote on this matter; it approved the article.

At 8:26 PM the meeting was adjourned. The horse was still loose.

## TAX BILLS

By Sandra Gilbert, Tax Collector

Finally! Our actual tax bills for second half payments were finally issued and sent out by mail August 2 and 4. Payment is due on these within 30 days. If you do not receive your bill soon, please notify me.

Also an audit is scheduled for the tax records to start August 8. After completion of the audit, I plan to continue work for the tax taking of unpaid taxes. If you owe back taxes, please try to clear these up now before notices of tax taking are done.

I will not hold office hours August 15-22 due to vacation. You can make payments during this period directly to the Town Treasurer, Catherine Nichols.

Gordon E. Taylor d/b/a



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## NEWS FROM TOWN HALL

by Caroline Smith

Ray Galipo resigned as Road Superintendent as of August 3. He served in this capacity for about 2 1/2 years and the Selectmen are most appreciative of his good work. Ray will work on an hourly basis when needed. Gordon Hathaway will serve as acting Superintendent until a replacement is made. Applications for this position will be accepted until August 15. The Selectmen stated that they expect to make the appointment by the end of this month.

Nathan Clark resigned his position on the Road Crew. A replacement is expected to be appointed shortly.

The Selectmen have announced the appointment of Ray Galipo as Town Constable. They also have appointed George Fournier, of Hawley, as Inspector of Plumbing.

The positions on the Council on Aging have not been filled. Any towns person interested in this volunteer work is asked to see a Selectman.

The Selectmen report they are trying to find time for the Road Crew to do the grading around Sawyer Hall.

Additional work needs to be done at the Center Cemetery. The spoil is to be removed and birch trees planted as well as thinning a strip of trees along the stone wall.

## NEW PARKS COMMITTEE

by Catherine Nichols

The first meeting of the newly appointed Parks Committee was held in June. The Committee members are: Christopher Burke, Debbie Porter, Pat Fielding, Doug Wilkins and Catherine Nichols.

We discussed many possible recreational uses for the site adjacent to the Community Hall. It was decided to concentrate our efforts this summer on clearing the site, fund raising, and designing a climbing structure to be built this fall.

After two work bees, the area is noticeably more open again. A bake sale at the Heath Historical Society bazaar netted us over \$60.

Our next meeting is set for August 24 at 8 PM at the Community Hall. All interested people are invited. The Park should be a community project.

## HEATH REVENUE SHARING SURVEY

The Town Treasurer reports that the 1982 General Revenue Sharing Survey and the 1982 Survey of Local Government Finances have been filed with the Bureau of the Census and copies of these reports are available for public inspection at the Treasurer's office.



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## NEW MOTORCYCLE FOR HEATH POLICE

by Lorin Gowdy, Heath Police Chief

In June, the Police Department added a new 1982, red Suzuki, off-road motorcycle to its inventory. This new vehicle was purchased primarily for the regular security checks of the part-time homes, but has also been used for delivering messages and other duties which don't require all the equipment in the cruiser. I wish I had it when we conducted that search awhile ago.

A complete security check of all part-time homes used to take about ten hours and ten gallons of gas to complete. With the motorcycle I spend very little time walking, as it will go almost anywhere, and I can now complete the job in about half the time. I am not sure how much gas it will take to do a complete check, but I have driven about 200 miles so far on the two gallons of gas put in it.

The motorcycle was purchased from funds remaining in the 1982 police budget. After discussing the purchase with the Selectmen, I requested bids from three dealers. They all submitted low prices, and the choice between the different makes was difficult. It was finally decided, that for our \$1199, the Suzuki was the best buy.

Come and see the bright red motorcycle at the Heath Fair!

Also by fair time we should have a new telephone system installed for receiving police calls. The telephone company has agreed to place an extension of 337-5505 at Lee Shepherd's so, when you make a call, the phone will ring at both locations. I have had a new number installed in my home for personal calls; the number is 337-4803. This should avoid the confusion of trying to remember two numbers when you want the police department.

I appreciate the support of all Heath residents, full and part time, for the Police Department. The reporting of suspicious persons and vehicles has helped immensely. While other areas of the county have had an increase in criminal activity, your continued surveillance has helped keep this activity to a minimum.

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## MILESTONES

by Edith Royer

Mathew Robert was born on June 3 to Debra and Steven Crowningshield. Mathew is the grandson of Jeanette and Howard Crowningshield.

Olivia Pearl was born on June 16 to Linda and Joseph Judd of Shelburne. Olivia is the granddaughter of Pearl Churchill of Shelburne and the great granddaughter of Grace Landstrom.

David Nathaniel was born July 24 to Susan and John Purkis.

Edith Miller was married to Richard Sweet on June 4 in the Heath Church with a reception at the Fairgrounds.

Rosalie Rainville died on June 29. She leaves two daughters, Jennie Giard of Colrain and Dolores Churchill of Heath; two sons, Wilbert, Jr. of Shelburne Falls, and Michael of Westminster; 13 grandchildren and 14 great grandchildren.

Francis P. Galipo died on July 16. He leaves his wife, Nora, and three sons, Gerald of Monterey, Arthur of Claremont NH, and Raymond of Heath, and five daughters, Anna M. Coombs of Guilford VT, Margret Bartlett of Northfield, Teresa Peters of Heath, Yvonne Allen of Mariposa CA, and Ezilda Streeter of Crevecoeur MO; 18 grandchildren and seven greatgrandchildren.

## THE PASSING OF A NEIGHBOR AND FRIEND

Francis Galipo was the head of a fine family and an example of dedication and reverence to his church, his town, his family and friends. He was a pleasure to work with, never a shirker, and he had a grand sense of humor.

His home was always a place of beauty for everyone to enjoy as they passed, with lovely lawns, beautiful flowers and the flag of his country flying all over.

Farewell, Francis.

..... A Neighbor



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## HEATH PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Marine PFC Laurel C. Fink, daughter of Donald and Lucia Fink, graduated from the Engineer Equipment Operators course at the Army Training Center, Fort Leonard Wood, MO.

Malvin Lively and Ian Galup are still at the National Guard Camp at Fort Benning, GA. Mal finds it interesting, but the weather is terribly hot and humid. There have been a couple of deaths in his unit related to the heat. They will be returning about August 26 and are looking forward to coming home!

Robert McAfee Brown is the author of a new book, "Elie Wiesel: Messenger to All Humanity." The book gives an insightful and often impassioned account of Wiesel's themes, preoccupations and development. Bob and his wife, Sidney, are now on a trip to Australia.

William Wolf was the speaker at the 25th anniversary meeting of the Rowe Historical Society. The title of his talk was "Looking Forward to Two Bicentennials, Heath and Rowe, 1785 - 1985."

Rachel and Ralph with Ruth and Ron Corey have returned from an 8000 mile automobile trip to British Columbia and the northwestern part of this country. They especially enjoyed the rain forest and the coastal areas.

Roy Smith, son of Ernest and Mary Smith, has returned home from Texas and Oklahoma where he has been working for quite a few years. He was with the telephone company, laying underground cables.

Todd Sumner played in "The Fantasticks" at the Ox-Bow Theater. He had the role of a fatherly farmer.

Seamus Doherty ran the 4-mile road race at Rowe Old Home Days. It was his first race and he ran it in 41 minutes 36 seconds.

Nicole Fogarty qualified in National Track and Field Junior Olympics held this month at Duke University.

Esther Crowningshield, Leonard Brown, and Win Wariner are in the Franklin County Public Hospital.

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