

# HEATH HERALD

HEATH'S FIRST NEWSPAPER 35¢

## THE 1985 HEATH FAIR - AUGUST 16-18

by Barbara Smith

The 68th annual Heath Fair, wanting to wish Heath a happy 200th birthday, has come up with some plans to help celebrate.

For those anxious to exhibit we have six special bicentennial categories to choose from; a bicentennial quilt, a bicentennial decorated cake, photography, a bicentennial flower arrangement, an embroidery commemorative and a pair of bicentennial dolls.

We would like to inform the young people in town of the Ken Crowningshield memorial fund set up exclusively for Heath's young people. The details of the fund are printed in our Fair premium book. Be sure to get your copy!

Some of the basics for this year's fair are food concessions, flea markets, food sales, a baby barnyard (on Sunday only), and for all three days, amusements, rides and games.

Some of the events for the different days will be on Friday a pony pull, a garden tractor pull, and a 4x4 pull in the evening; on Saturday a sheep show, rabbit judging, and a cattle show. The exhibit hall will be open to the public after the judging is completed. The Heath Fire Department will put on a chicken barbeque featuring their homemade root beer.

The horse drawing should start up sometime around 11 AM and then at 1 PM we are pleased to announce the return to this year's Fair of the children's folk group, Rozenshontz. The children's games will follow the Rozenshontz concert and will include an ice cream eating contest this year. (I sure hope there is an adult class in this event!)

Saturday evening there will be a square dance on the grounds featuring the Catamount Mountain Boys with Doug Wilkins calling until midnight. (That can certainly burn some calories from the ice cream!)

Sunday opens with a church service on the grounds. Later in the morning there will be a 4H ox-cart class, youth sheep show, youth rabbit judging, youth cattle show and the beginning of the ox drawing.

The very popular fiddlers show will also be on Sunday. Other musical features on Sunday include the Mohawk Dance Band playing tunes. Then in the parade will be the Shelburne Falls Military Band and the Shriners Drum and Bugle Corps.

The parade for this year is really taking some new looks. We are also encouraging families to enter a float in the parade and to get their entries in to Karen McDougal as soon as possible.

Sunday evening will feature David Grover from Stockbridge at 6 PM; then Pat and Tex LaMoutain at 7:30 for your musical entertainment. Our grand finale this year will be a fireworks display at 9:30 in honor of Heath's birthday.

· · · . . continued on page 2

#### **FORT SHIRLEY**

by Pat Leuchtman and Sue Silvester

Fresh flowers adorned the buffet table and the Community Hall responded with the clang of dishes, and enthusiastic laughter as a congenial group of Heathens and guests laden with baskets of old fashioned delicacies gathered to celebrate the Bicentennial with yet another potluck supper on the auspicious occasion of July Fourth.

The cuisine ran the gamut from soup to Shepherd's Pie and cornbread replete with homemade butter churned in a modern blender. The conglomeration of edibles rivaled only the variety of people as babies and grandparents dined side by side in the warmth of community fellowship.

Following dessert the kitchen was hastily tidied and children vanished to the playground to be seen again only intermittently. An enthusiastic audience pulled chairs closer to enjoy a duo of local historians entertain with stories surrounding the rise and demise of Fort Shirley. The grand unveiling of Bill Thane's model of the Fort was at hand.

Fort Shirley was built in 1744 off, what is now known as Hosmer Road, and was dismantled in 1755. A detailed authentic-looking diorama of the Fort has been painstakingly built this past winter by Bill Thane. Based on research and factual documentation, the scale model represents the fortification for the area, now Heath, in the once strong line of forts along the northwestern Massachusetts frontier.

First Dr. Michael Coe, President of the Heath Historical Society and Professor of Anthropology at Yale, delighted the audience with tales of the "River

. . . . . . continued on page 3



Fort Shirley Diorama
with Michael Coe and Bill Thane
(Photo by Sue Silvester)

#### CARD OF THANKS

In June the Heath Preschool had a picnic at Rowe beach. I am sorry that I was unable to attend. I am taking this way to say Thank You to all you nice Parents and to all of my Little Friends for the lovely hanging plant and the apron with all those handprints and autographs printed on it. I cherish

Wishing the best to all of my friends that are

entering kindergarten class this September.

Thanks to Deb Porter Henry and Judy Clark for their support at work. I am looking forward to September. Ruth Fournier

. . . . . . continued from page 1

There is a program in your HEATH HERALD so check for the times of these events. For those of you not aware of our raffle, be sure to buy your tickets before August 18th. They will be on sale at the Fairgrounds. The proceeds will benefit our horse and oxen draws which always put on a fine show. The tickets are \$1.00 each; First prize is \$100, the second prize is \$50 and third prize is \$25.

The Agricultural Society makes an effort to deliver premium books to most residents. If we miss you, you can pick up a copy at the Heath Post Office or Peters

Store. Be sure to send in those entries!

If you need more information or need a premium book, call Barbara Smith 337-5563 evenings.

See you at the FAIR!!!

# HELP NEEDED FOR HEATH FAIR

Anyone wishing to help sell tickets at the fair is asked to contact Peter Smith. If you can donate time in the exhibit hall, please contact Sophie Coe; or if you prefer the food concessions, contact Fred Crowningshield. For helping in other areas, contact Walter Gleason or Barbara Smith.

#### HEATH HERALD

Volume 7 Number 3

August - September 1985

Editorial Staff

Pegge Howland Caroline Smith Alli Thane Helen Nichols Edith Royer Susan Silvester Pat Leuchtman

Editorial Assistant Staff Reporters

Advertising and Business Circulation Typography

John Read Terry Pettengill Newland Smith

The HEATH HERALD is published six times a year in April, June, August, October, December and February One year, \$3.50 (payable in SUBSCRIPTION RATE advance by check or money order)
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

#### MILESTONES

by Edith Royer

Robert Harold was born on May 30 to Donna and Robert Tanner Jr. of Jacksonville Stage Road. Robert is the grandson of Roy and Mildred Decker of Heath.

Richard Matthew was born on June 8 to Mark and Sandra Hatch of Greenfield. Richard is the grandson

of Richard and Claire Hatch of Heath.

Lisa Jean Dobosz of Shelburne Falls was married to Martin Peters of Exeter, NH on June 1. Martin is the son of Dennis and Dawn Peters.

Alison Martin of Number Nine Road was married to Dana Rice of Heath on June 15. The ceremony took place in the Federated Church of Charlemont. Alison and Dana are living on Number Nine Road.

Douglas Crowningshield, son of Howard Crowning-shield, was married on June 22 to Diane Betit of Whitingham. Rev William Wolf and Rev. Pam Porter performed the service. Douglas and Diane are living on Colrain Road.

Mr. and Mrs. Earl Warriner Sr. announce the engagement of their daughter Melodie Rae to Mark Steven Peters of Buckland. A 1987 summer wedding is planned.

# **HEATH PEOPLE IN THE NEWS**

Karen and Sienna Chrisman have moved to their new home, the former Galipo house on Burrington Road. Barry and Carolyn Holstein have bought the Chrisman place on Branch Hill Road as a vacation home. The Holsteins live in Amherst with their two sons. Barry is a professor of physics and astronomy at University of Massachusetts.

The <u>Richard Housner</u> family has moved to North Amherst for a year to be closer to their present activities. While they are away their place on Hosmer Road has been rented to Don and Joan Brownlee and their two children from Virginia. Don is the new manager of Radio Station WPOE in Greenfield.

Paul Dabrody and Alice Woznack have returned from a five week trip to Peru where they climbed San Juan, a 19,200 ft. mountain in the Cordillera Blanco range of

the Andes. Michael Coe with his son Andy have returned from a

week-long trout fishing trip in Labrador.

Rachel Summer is undergoing more treatment at Mary Hitchcok Hospital in Hanover NH. She is responding well and expects to be back at Franklin Medical Center soon for therapy before returning home.

#### HEATH PRECIPITATION

by Ralph Dickinson, Observer for Mass. Water Resources Commission

June precipitation was 4.04 inches; July was 4.13 inches. Total precipitation for January through July 1985 was 21.21 inches.

We had two good rains recently. The lack of snow and winter rains still make our moisture for the year far below normal.

# CHARLEMONT TV, INC.

Zenith

Sales & Service

High Street, Charlemont

Tel: 339-6685

#### . . . . . continued from page

Gods" who comprised the ubiquitous Williams family. He expounded on factual information regarding the historical and cultural significance of the era when the Fort flourished and rum flowed freely.

Then Bill Thane gave an articulate account of his model of Fort Shirley. Some times as you look at dry ledger pages, indentations in the ground or bits of rotting timber we forget the humans who made or used these items. Bill reminded us of the men who laid out Fort Shirly directly on the survey line as they were supposed to do, even though that line went through a swampy patch of land and even though there was drier ground just a little further up the hill. As a result the men suffered over time for following orders so carefully because they then had to build drainage ditches above the Fort. They also had to build a wooden parade ground because soldiers practicing and drilling within the enclosure turned the center into a quagmire. This wooden parade ground was a unique and distinguishing feature of the Fort.

Although existing records indicated precisely what and how much material was utilized in the construction, details such as the location of the flag plole were left to speculation based on research on similar fortifications. The reproduction reflects its designer's fine craftsmanship, patience and attention to historic detail.

It was also interesting to note that the reason each Fort in the line was five and a half miles from the next was that a courier could cover that distance of rough ground without collapsing.

Before the evening was over we were all reminded that we can make that kind of trek ourselves on October 12 when Bill Thane and Michael Coe will lead a band of intrepid Heathens, and their guests, from Fort Shirley to Fort Pelham in Rowe.

## **BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE REPORT**

by Paul Lively, Chairman

Before looking ahead to what is coming up, I want to mention some recent successful events of our Bicentennial celebration: The old house tour with antique cars under the leadership of Alicia Tripp and Jack Cable; Thanks to Carroll Stowe for organizing the Beard Growing Contest; The excellent supper put on by the Agricultural Society; The enjoyable concert featuring Arnold Black and associates of the Mohawk Trail Concerts Association and the Gather Round Singers; Our thanks to Eric Grinnell and Art Schwenger for bringing this about.

Also we thank Debbie Porter and the Playschool Group for providing refreshments on the day of the house tour and strawberry shortcake after the concert.

On a beautiful Sunday a very successful Edwardian Garden Party was held, thanks to the effort of James Coursey and his dedicated committee.

Now we look forward to celebrating the Bicentennial Heath Fair on August 16, 17, and 18. Come and celebrate what will propably become a century event! See you there.

K.R. Jeweler

17 Chapman Street @ Greenfield, Ma. 01301

Fine Solection of Watches & Jeweley Watch & Jewelry Repair

#### **GREAT-GRANDMOTHER BURRINGTON**

Here in Heath is a great-grandmother of eight children. Hannah Burrington, who has lived in Heath since 1911, visits with all her families but her home base is really with Catherine and Bruce Cromack. The grandchildren of Catherine and Bruce are the youngest of Hannah's great-grandchildren.

Mother's Day, May 12th, was a very special day for Hannah when three grandchildren of Catherine (great-grandchildren of Hannah) were christened in the First Congregational Church in Shelburne. Elise Catherine, daughter of Debbie and Chuck Washer; Maegan Lynn, the daughter of Lisa and Norman Davenport; and Nathan Allan, the son of Cynthia and Allan Smith were all born within 32 days this past winter. Hannah proudly watched as the three babies were christened in an impressive service conducted by Rev. Lorain R. Giles. She also enjoyed the potluck dinner after the service with family and friends.

When Hannah is staying with the Cromacks on Burrington Road, she is alone all day while her son-in-law and daughter work. Her vision is impaired and she cannot read at all, but she enjoys talking with people and reminiscing about old times in Heath. She is always delighted to have vistors stop by. Her faith and cheerfulness are contagious and these three latest great-grandchildren are fortunate to be near their great-grandmother whose love and influence will always remain with them.



Great-Grandmother Hannah Burrington with her three youngest Debbie Washer at right (Photo by Catherine Cromack)

1785 - HEATH - 1985

#### FOREST MANAGEMENT

Planning \* Improvement \* Marketing

Many Local References

WILLIAM D. UNDERWOOD ASSOCIATES INC.

W.D. Underwood 413-648-9560 Chapin Road Rt. 1 Box 176 Bernardston, MA 01337

# **HEATH TOWNSHIP, PENNSYLVANIA**

by Pegge Howland

[Editors' Note: This is the third and last article in a series on places named Heath, a joint Bicentennial project of the Heath Historical Society and the HEATH HERALD. It was adapted for publication from material provided by Frieda Blose, Secretary of Heath Township.]

Heath Township lies in Jefferson County in the western part of Pennsylvania on Route 949 between Sigel, about 5 miles to the southwest, and Ridgeway 25 miles to the northeast. Aside from the state road the Township has only 16 miles of road, five macadam and 11 of stabilized dirt, which are maintained by Township supervisors. The Township has no fire department of its own and relies on the neighboring towns of Polk, Eldred and Warsaw for protection.

The Township of Heath was named for Elijah Heath, a prominent lawyer and judge from nearby Brookville. It was formed in 1847 and the main industries at the time were logging, lumbering and rafting. Sawmills appeared in 1883 and by 1905 nearly all of the timber had been removed from the land - the area was "one big slashing." Forest fires were common and for years new growth consisted mainly of raspberries, rhododendron, laurel and honeysuckle. In 1912 oil and gas rigs dotted the landscape, some as close together as 500 feet, and the gas company became the main employer in town.

Clear Creek State Park is located in Heath Township and is named for the crystal clear stream that flows through it. The Park occupies 1208 acres and together with an adjoining 1992 acres, managed by the Bureau of Forestry, form an extremely popular recreation area. In 1933 Clear Creek Park became the home of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). The Corps built Clear Creek Lake, an impoundment of over an acre, roads, trails and 22 log cabins as well as a Nature Center, a maintenance shop and storage sheds. Thousands of spruce trees were planted and today they make a beautiful setting for swimming, picnicing, camping, hunting and fishing that attract thousands of wisitors to the Park every year.

of visitors to the Park every year.

The permanent population of Heath has always been small and only about 152 people live in the Township year-round. There are two churches both of which are Methodist and they share the same pastor. The children of Heath attend school in Brookville and are transported the 15 miles by bus. Most Heath residents are descendents from Irish, Dutch, English, Scotch, German and Norwegian immigrants who came to the county in the 1800's. Frieda Blose came to Heath from Germany in 1953 as a war bride. She has been Secretary-Treasurer of Heath Township since 1982 and her family loves the area and its people. She says Heath is quiet except on weekends when the many hunting camps and summer homes fill up with folks from the cities and towns. The rugged terrain prevents a lot of building, so Heath is almost certain to remain sparsely settled in the future and therefore a quiet place to live.



C. W. KAISER



Poultry and Eggs

Route 8A Heath, MA 01346

Tel: 337-5397

# FRESH AIR CHILDREN

by Sue Silvester

The sleek air-conditioned coach wheeled into the Greenfield High School parking lot this year just a bit late amid July showers. The children slated to journey to Heath were Michele Clarke, age 9, from Staten Island, who again stayed with the Karen and John MacDougall family, Shamika Robinson, age 7, who visited Ed and Betty Decker's family in North Heath, Simone Robinson of Brooklyn, age 8, (not related to Shamika) who spent her two weeks with Karen and Michael Chrisman and Denise Rojas from the Bronx who stayed with us again this summer.

It was indeed a wonderful, hectic, fun-filled two weeks. I think in one way we're all relieved that everyone is safely back on the bus, but in the same breath it's also rumored that not only will these four families probably take Fresh Air Children again next summer, but others have also expressed an interest in hosting an underprivileged child. There are certainly highlights to having a little visitor stay with you for two weeks - like learning to share when there is only one kitten to pat, rediscovering the Bridge of Flowers and Potholes, spending a well earned quarter at The Magical Child or skimming rocks across the beaver pond. For the children this experience in the country is a major diversion from the city life to which they are accustomed.

Shamika says that she especially enjoyed feeding Grace Crowningshield's cows and cleaning the barn, watching the fireworks and parade in Rowe and attending Bible School. She liked swimming lessons a lot and can "dog paddle pretty well." "This is fun," says Shamika, "but I still like New York City better." She has been out of the city five times now, but this is the first opportunity she has had to pat a cow. The Deckers, like the rest of the host families, have been "on the go constantly." They attended the Fresh Air Fund picnic at Camp Lion in Greenfield and took advantage of all the activities such as swimming lessons and Bible School, a real favorite with the children. Betty Decker had read an article about the Fresh Air program in the West County News before speaking with veteran Karen MacDougall about the details. At home the whole family discussed the possibility of inviting a child from the city to join them for two weeks, and ultimately it was a unanimous family decision. The Deckers feel that "everybody gains from this experience" and that it creates lasting positive memories for both the family and the child.

Michele emphatically states that "The best was the Bible School and the parade ...it was real fun being here". Denise says she likes the cats in Heath and all the dogs, "I like to swim and go horse riding. I like to go to houses and see people." Simone sums it

all up when she states that, "I liked it all."

For more information about the program area coordinator Ruth Anderson in Shelburne Falls may be contacted.

**GREENFIELD CINEMAS 1-2-3-4-5-6** 

Route 2 Mohawk Trail Greenfield, MA

24 Hours Movies

Phone 772-0298

#### A WHIFF OF ELEGANCE

by Alastair Maitland

Newland Smith's multi-billion dollar High Frontier time-machine was once again put to good use on Sunday June 30, when we were transported back to the Edwardian (well, sort of) Era, in a magic house set in an enchanted garden in the hills of South Heath — The Manse, built for Parson Jonathan Leavitt in the late 1760's and now the property of James Coursey.

The sense that we were rolling back the scroll of time was immediately conveyed by the denial of ordinary vehicular access to the scene of operations. The Present, in the shape of the ubiquitous automobile, had been banned. We were delivered in instalments, by shuttle, from a launching pad at the fairgrounds to a site where, in keeping with the Edwardian spirit of the occasion, the only visible vehicle was horse-drawn.

James Coursey had been kind enough to open up his splendid house and to allow a small army to tramp through it. One wished that, as Jonathan Swift said, the walls had tongues, for they would have had an intriguing tale to tell. Does the ghost of Parson Leavitt still linger there? I think not. An altogether more generous and kindly spirit now inhabits the place. Nonetheless, it was possible to imagine that the parlor still faintly resonates with the sound of the Parson's voice as he rehearsed his weekly sermon before a captive congregation of wife and children.

Outside, under the ancient maples, the tableau that presented itself (there were hints of the Ascot scene in My Fair Lady and of Sunday in the Park with George) could in all candor scarcely lay claim to being authentically Edwardian. But one could recognize the intent and aspiration. Sartorially, the over-all style was what art historians call Eclectic - ranging from the Flapper Era through Edwardian and what might be described as Edwardianto Victorian, Indiana Jonesian, preppy punk seersucker and just plain nondescript. And yet, the spectacle of the ladies in their flowered hats and ample skirts, carrying their parasols, and the gentlemen in cut-aways and silk hats or chapeaux melons, swinging their silver-topped canes, as they chatted and strolled on the lawn and in the walled garden beyond, could hardly fail to provoke a slight twinge of nostalgia. To one elderly male observer the rustle and sway of the ankle-length skirts recalled the lines of the poet Robert Herrick: "Whenas in silks my Julia goes, Them, them, methinks, how sweetly flows The liquefaction of her clothes!"

Is there a moral in all this? We all, of course, profess a preference for substance over style. But, as one contemplated the scene in that country garden and mentally contrasted it with the prevailing tastelessness and dreariness of the sartorial landscape in the real world outside, where the hucksters and admen have converted us into a nation of perambulating billboards, with our T-shirts, baseball caps and designer jeans, one could not help feeling that a touch of elegance and grace here and there might well give a lift to the spirit.

The Party was truly an occasion for young and old. The seven ages of man (and woman) were represented, from great-grandmothers to infants, and there was plenty to occupy the small fry, from horse-drawn carriage rides to rolling hoops, croquet and, in one case, a game of badminton played with all the passionate intensity of a McEnroe. The proceedings

were enlivened by the peppy brass and the strings of the Pioneer Valley Symphony Orchestra, under Robin Stone, as well as by a bevy of wood nymphs (or nymphets), led by Marisa Housner, who performed a series of informal demonstration dances and who would have been seen to better advantage had there been some more clearly defined focal point for the <u>fêtes</u> champêtres, where music and dance could have been more closely related.

No account of the Party would be complete without a word about the slaves who labored unseen - though not un-appreciated - in the kitchen (Elsa Bakalar, Flora Sampson, Beverly DenOuden and others) preparing and delivering a non-stop supply of Edwardian delicacies to a large number of people with modern American appetites. According to a well-placed source no less than 1400 cucumber sandwiches disappeared within the first hour.

I can hardly wait for the Tricentennial.



At the Elegant Garden Party (Photo by John Read)



Elegance at the Garden Party
Carroll Stowe driving with the McCutcheons
(Photo by Sue Silvester)

# **Howard Crowningshield**

**Building & Remodeling** 

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

## THE BOOK OF HEATH: BICENTENNIAL ESSAYS

by Sue Silvester

It was a cold winter's night and a thousand crisp little stars punctuated the sky. We were almost out the door when the phone rang and Michael Coe's enthusiastic voice outlined a special project he had in mind. I knew his eyes were twinkling on the other end of the line, so I said sure, I would collect the twelve essays, read them and find a publisher to print them. Meantwhile Christmas and Valentines Day danced across my calendar.

The essayists were hard at work reading, researching, typing, checking Webster's, proofreading their print-outs and finally there they were - all twelve of them. Each is a masterpiece unto itself, describing an unexplored aspect of Heath's colorful past. In his marvelous biographical sketch of Heath's artistic visitor, Robert Strong Woodward, Alastair Maitland writes that in his paintings Woodward "eschewed the grandiloquent and magnified the familiar." And it is this latter attribute that characterizes the Book of Heath with harmony and style. The vernacular is captured in Delia Gleason's personal diary when she records quite simply, "Fred drawed [sic] up ice, forty eight cakes." It was January 7, 1916, and the temperature was six above zero that day. Readers will succumb to a wave of nostalgia as the bustling scene at the oak grove unfolds for the Heath Fair, and they will giggle with delight at the escapades of the summer people that Newland Smith describes in his lively article.

We ride the crest of a snowdrift with Clyde Churchill and sail high enough to touch the telephone wires as the sled passes beneath them. And we explore the theme of self-sufficiency as it relates to the culinary endeavors of the townspeople. Ernest Smith remembers his father kept meat frozen in a trunk on the porch, and Nora Galipo recalls canning chickens quart jars for three hours a batch, as preserved for posterity by Sophie Coe in her essay on Heath's food.

The Book of Heath is as inspirational as it is entertaining. Full of historical lore and legend, it is indeed a tribute to the Heath that we all love. The table of contents is listed below:

Foreword Michael Co	e
In Search of the Original Mohawk TrailWilliam Wol	f
Farliest Heath Michael Co	e
Why the Town Was Named for General Heath	
William Wol	f
from this Mountain House: The Story of Two	
Heath MissionariesAmy Barr	'n
Schooling in Heath Eric Grinnel	1

The <u>Book of Heath</u> is offered at a special prepublication price of \$10.00 per copy. The price after publication in late August will be \$20. To order your copy, send a check for \$10.00, payable to the Heath Historical Society, and mail to Susan Silvester, Editor, P.O. Box 32, Heath, MA 01346.

# **BICENTENNIAL GARDEN TOUR**

by Pat Leuchtman

All the clouds and threatening weather blew away and Saturday, July 13 dawned bright enough to gladden any gardener - or any garden tourist. There was unusual activity in Heath Center as over sixty people picked up or purchased their garden maps and set off to find cultivated beauty behind houses, hedges and walls.

The Bakalar garden is well known for the large variety of perennials blooming in British profusion, but each garden on the tour had its own delight.

The Nichols family has the only "Lethe House" in Heath, a semi-circle of poles garlanded with hop vines whose center is filled with soporific herbs while the outside center is lined with tea herbs.

The Danes have a walled herb garden, a garden so artfully designed that it looks as though anyone could do it and many eager gardeners left ready to plant thyme and field mallow.

Plover Hill, cared for by John and Harriet Read, has been restored to the grace and grandeur of an earlier era. They even have a stone bench and tea table ovelooking green vistas and flowering borders.

Lucianna Ross greeted vistors who admired the flowers and the woods carpeted with myrtle at Faraway.

The Green Bough garden was specifically designed to be enjoyed from a deck that sits above the garden, but those who strolled next to the border got a close look at the plants growing exhuberantly and were not disappointed.

Afternoon gardeners assembled in the Center and dispersed to the walled garden at the Manse then travelled across town to the End of the Road Farm where at least the roses bloomed weedlessly and perfumed the summer air.

Ed Calver dispensed information and fascinating stories about the unusual plants in his raised bed and about the "common" wildflowers that make his site so uncommonly beautiful.

The tour ended at the trio of Litchfield gardens in Dell. Bruce and Sue collected as much information as they gave out and are filled with inspiration for next spring's planting. Sheila and Budge showed off vegetables and herbs as well as many flowers and some of those who concluded the tour at Carolyn and Ken's green fastness refreshed themselves with a boat ride as Master Tucker rowed them around the pond.

# FRANKLIN-WARE

SHELBURNE FALLS

Fuel Oils Propane Gas Coal Heating Supplies Gas Appliances Burner Service

# LYLE H. HALL, INC.

Colrain, Mass

#### **BUILDING LUMBER**

HARDWOOD AND SOFTWOOD SLABS

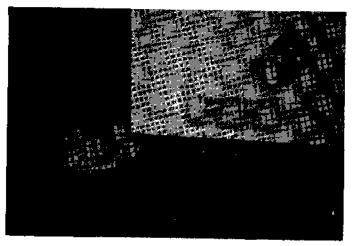
Mitchael Coo

# HOUSE TOUR MARKS INTERNATIONAL HEATH RECOGNITION DAY

by Pegge Howland

You may remember from a previous issue that in February, at the start of Heath's Bicentennial year, the selectmen signed a proclamation declaring June 29th as International Heath Recognition Day. The date was chosen to coincide with a variety of Bicentennial events planned for that weekend including an Old House Tour and the Mohawk Trail Concert on Saturday, and the Edwardian Garden Party on Sunday.

The House Tour included the Howland house in Heath Center where visitors were greeted by a United Nations display reminding them of the significance of recognizing our friends and neighbors the world over.



international Heath Recognition Day

## **MIRIAM POMEROY**

Miriam Pomeroy of Ben Road, Heath and Collinsville CT, passed away December 9, 1984 after a brief illness. She had been a part time resident of Heath since 1965, spending frequent weekends and vacations at the Pomeroy camp on Ben Road. She was a member of the Heath Historical Society.

Miriam retired in 1982 from the field of psychiatric councelling and social work. She is survived by a son David of Gig Harbor, Washington. A memorial service will be held at the Heath Church on Monday, August 19, at 7 PM. Rememberances may be sent to the Heath Historical Society or the Heath Union Church.

LARRY'S

of Shelburne Falls

CLOTHING FOOTWEAR

A.L. AVERY & SON

**GENERAL STORE** 

Charlemont • 339-4915

# BICENTENNIAL HOUSE TOUR AND OLD CAR SHOW

by Sue Silvester

The morning of June 29th promised dismal weather for the day, but almost sixty people travelled all or part of the House Tour route undaunted by the threat of showers. The day's events were organized and orchestrated by the team of Alicia Tripp and Jack Cable, assisted by Sandy Gilbert, Grace Cable, Linda Marcotte, Richards Steinbock and the Playground Committee who provided lunch under the direction of Debbie Porter.

A caravan of seven antique cars provided browsers with a bit of nostalgia on the Common; they had journeyed to Heath from Bernardston, Greenfield and Northfield.

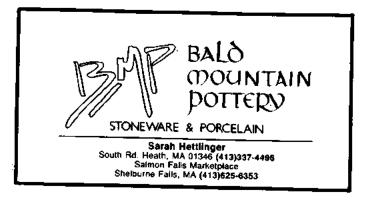
The House Tour included the yellow Howland House in Heath Center, The Michols' home, Pondside in Dellowned by the Litchfields, Ed Calver's Erica Hill, the Beaudoin house, the Stone Cottage owned by the Goffs and the Tripp residence on Burnt Hill as well as the two buildings of the Heath Historical Society in the Center and the Heath Church, where visitors were treated to a rehearsal as musicians prepared for the evening concert. In spite of the weather, guests had a wonderful time touring many of Heath's fine historic buildings.

#### **ALASKA**

by Guy Silvester

Alaska is a land of vast wilderness with pockets of civilization scattered throughout the state. Its immense size and climatic differences are difficult for us to comprehend. The state of Alaska carefully protects all of its natural resources including its animal population. Bears are just one of the many animals that may be hunted. The Alaska Department of fish and Game (ADF&G) has divided the state into twenty-six game management units. Annual bear surveys determine the total population comprising each unit. This method ensures that adequate numbers of bears are protected and that the bear population in a particular zone does not become a problem. ADF&G tries to balance the bear population with other animals, the environment and man. Hunters may harvest one brown bear once every four years because the present bear population in Alaska is very sound. Due experience still exists in Alaska.

[Editors' Note: Guy Silvester took a hunting trip to Alaska in May. He returned after shooting a large, 1600 pound, grizzly 150 miles from nowhere and at an altitude of 10,500 feet. The bear skin will soon adorn his office in Heath.]



# SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORT

by Budge Litchfield, Secretary Heath School Committee

The biggest school news of the summer is the resignation of Dr. Anita Page as principal of the Rowe Elementary School. The School Committee appreciates Dr. Page's work over the past four years and wishes her well in her new position in South Hadley. The search for a new principal is underway. We expect to review applications at the next Rowe School Committee Meeting (August 8). If we are unable to hire a principal by September, Superintendent Bruce Willard has assured us that he and other central administrative personnel will fill in until a principal is hired.

Some very good news on the financial front. Due in large part to the good fiscal management of our transportation accounts by business manager David Newell, the school committee was able to return a significant about of money to the town. The money was

both needed and appreciated.

Money was also an issue as we began plans for next year's sixth grade class trip. A committee made up of a parent from each town (CC Sherman from Heath), a school committee member from each town (Budge Litchfield from Heath), the principal and the sixth grade teacher met in June to begin planning the trip. After considereing cost, the success of this year's trip and other practical concerns, we decided to visit Boston for four days. As a new method of fund raising this year we will try to have each family involved directly responsible for paying the \$125 it costs per child to participate. We suggest that each family save \$15 per month. Some fund raising will be done to provide scholarships for those who need them.

#### PARK/PLAYGROUND NEWS

by Catherine Nichols

The Parks and Playground Committee has been working with Susan Wright on a landscaping plan. When complete, the blueprint will be on display in the Town Hall. The Summer Youth Crew will start working on August 4. We will be looking for donations of plants, shrubs and trees.

Susan has also designed a button, pictured here, which will be sold at the Heath Fair to raise funds

for the Park.

We did very well with our Strawberry Shortcake sale at the Bicentennial Concert and apologize to anyone who thought the shortcake was free!



## WANTED

The Parks Committee is looking for a sturdy power lawn mower which will cut well on rough terrain. If you have such a mower and would be willing to donate or sell at a reasonable price call Catherine Nichols 337-6665

# Alan L. Nichols Wooden Chairs and Tables

South Rd., Heath, Ma. 01346 Tel. (413) 337-6665

#### **SCHOOL NEWS**

by Sue Silvester

At their sixth grade graduation in June, Rowe students Laura Holdsworth and Chrissy Gilbert received awards. Laura's citation for academic excellence was an award based upon her high scholastic record, and Chrissy was awarded the Carpenter prize. Both students received a monetary stipend with the awards. Certificates of appreciation for assisting during the past year were awarded by the Heath Playschool to Heather Gruen, Laura Holdsworth and Chrissy Gilbert.

The Mohawk Regional School has announced the following schedule for the opening of school: Tuesday, September 3, Grade 7, orientation program all day, no classes for students in 8-12.; Wednesday, September 4, Grades 8-12, orientation and classes all day, no classes for grade 7 students; Thursday, September 5, all grades (7-12) report for class, full day. Note also that the telephone numbers for both the Mohawk Trail Regional High School and for the Superintendent of Schools Office have been changed to 625-9811. This number connects all school offices.

# 1985 WELLS SCHOLARS FROM HEATH

The Fred W. Wells Trust Fund, established at his death, is represented by Jean Holdsworth as Trustee from Heath. Jean recently announced the following recipients of scholarships for this year: Sandi Galipo, taking a secretarial course at Bay Path Jr. College; Richard Housner, enrolled in the social work program at Smith College; Martha Lively, an Arts major at Dean Jr. College; Arlene Thane, at Leslie Jr. College studying for a Masters Degree; and Roberta Tripp, entering the American International College majoring in Education.

# **WELLS SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS**

Christine Marie Gilbert was awarded the Frank E. Carpenter Prize at her graduation in June from the Rowe Elementary School. The prize was awarded to Christine for her scholastic and social accomplishments during her elementary school year.

# **HEATH COUNCIL ON AGING NEEDS HELP**

by Sheila Litchfield

Many local towns have an organized group of people interested in their town's older persons. The Mass. Department of Elder Affairs finacially supports these groups in whatever they have identified as their focus in helping elders. For example, funding provided for transportation, visitation programs to shut-ins, newsletters, etc. Heath has approximately 60 elders and there is a need to develop a group of persons interested in such a program. Contact Sheila Litchfield (337-4957) to assure that Heath will have an active Council on Aging.

The Smiths'

NORTH END FARM

for

MAPLE SYRUP

Phone 337-5535 or 337-5563

#### **LIBRARY LINES**

by Alli Thane, Librarian

Now that my first month as librarian has passed, I am delighted to say that the library is an extremely busy place. I had no idea that so many of our townspeople visit the library regularly and, better yet, bring their children with them. For example, one Monday evening recently, our circulation of books and magazines was 95!

The Bookmobile came on July 24 and my able helpers Edith Gleason, Terry Pettengill, Helen Mackie, Ruth Fournier and I selected several hundred books and records including home decorating, crafts, cookbooks, trucking, personal health, woodworking, lots of good fiction, large print books and many, many more.

I want to thank Mary Smith for her service to the shut-ins. Mary carries a "Traveling Library" of large print books to her home-care patients. If there are any other shut-ins who would like to read and cannot come to the library, call me and I'll be glad to deliver the books to your home.

The regional library is sponsoring a summer program entitled Name Your Fantasy and already 30 children have signed up. The program includes a log of books read, which will be taken to school in the fall. If your child hasn't joined our group, please come in and sign up. Any age is welcome.

As usual, the children's story hour is held on Wednesday afternoons at 2 PM. Chrissie Gilbert and Olga Peters have been a wonderful help in showing filmstrips and reading books to the children.

At the Heath Fair this year I would like to exhibit a collection of books by authors from Heath, past and present. If you have such books that you would be willing to lend, I would appreciate it.

As soon as the conference room upstairs in Sawyer Hall is completed, the library is loaning our large library table. In its place we will have a small couch and coffee table to serve as a reading room. The Pettengills are donating these two pieces. Eventually, we would like to include a soft armchair or two.

New books: <u>Cider House</u>, Irving; <u>Iacocca</u>, Iacocca; <u>Women Coming of Age</u>, Fonda; <u>Proof</u>, Francis.

Finally, I welcome suggested titles for ordering new books. Come in and tell me what you would like to have in the library.

## LADIES AID FAIR A SUCCESS

by Edith Royer, President Heath Ladies Aid

We held a very successful fair on July 31 making a profit of about \$700 for the Ladies Aid. The Church supper, organized by Catherine Cromack following the fair, was sold out.

We also had a table at the Historical Society Bazaar on August 3.

We will start meeting again regularly on September 26. I would like to thank everyone who has helped make this such a successful year.

# BRUCE A. CROMACK

General Carpentry Restoration a Speciality

**Burrington Road** 

Tef: 337-4350

#### **CHURCH NEWS**

by Amy C. Barry

The Rowe-Heath Vacation Bible School has just completed its third successful season. Approximately 40 children from the two towns attended the week-long session. On Sunday, July 28, the Bible School children took part in a Joint Service at the Rowe Church and afterwards there was a Family Picnic at Pelham Lake. We thank all those who donated punch and cookies for snack time and all those who helped with teaching, crafts, games and music.

teaching, crafts, games and music.

On Heath Fair Sunday, August 18, there will be a Joint Church Service at the Fairgrounds at 10 AM.

Rev. Allan Comstock, a former pastor of the Heath Union Church, will conduct the service.

Pam Porter will hold her last services here on August 11 as interim minister of the Heath and Rowe Churches. She will be returning to her studies at Episcopal Divinity School in her final year there. Pam is a dedicated and caring person who will be greatly missed in Heath.

#### **ROLLO KINSMAN AT HEATH CHURCH**

by Alli Thane

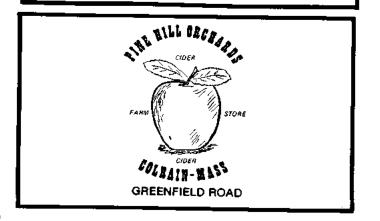
Rollo Kinsman, native of Heath now residing in Alexandria, Virginia, entertained in concert at the Heath Union Church on July 27. His repertoire included classical and spiritual music such as selections from Camelot, Desert Song, Carousel, Man of La Mancha; old favoites, Scarlet Ribbons, Trees, Without A Song; spirituals, The Holy City, How Great Thou Art and more wonderful songs.

Between selections Rollo greeted old friends and related amusing stories of by-gone days in Heath. He was accompanied on the grand piano by Dolores Ecklund, also from Virginia. Bruce and Catherine Cromack were in charge of refreshments at intermission. About 85 people enjoyed a most delightful evening of beautiful music.

compliments of

Wells Corner Country Store

CHARLEMONT 339-6632



HISTORICAL SOCIETY HOLDS

ANNUAL MEETING

The Heath Historical Society held a well attended annual meeting in the Community Hall on Saturday, August 3. The main highlight of the evening was a fascinating talk by Dr. Abbott Lowell Cummings on Old Houses of Heath and New England. Dr. Cummings is the Charles Montgomery Professor of the History of Art at Yale and former Director of the Society for Preservation of New England Antiquities. In his interesting talk, Dr. Cummings brought in a number of slides taken of some of the older houses of Heath and elsewhere in New England.

At the brief business meeting the annual election of officers took place for those whose terms had expired. Dominic Musacchio was reelected as a director and Susan Silvester was elected as secretary

replacing Alice Woznack.

President Michael Coe announced that Amy Barry has resigned as Curator of the museums. Over the past eight years Amy has accomplished a great deal in organizing, cataloging and restoring the museum collection. She is responsible for the fine condition of the museum displays today. Her work is to be carried on by Bill Thane who was appointed Curator by the Directors. Bill has shown a great interest in the activities of the Society and is responsible for the research and construction of the Fort Shirley diorama which he presented with a talk on July 4.

The business meeting also included a brief report by Pegge Howland of her research on "other Heaths" and her visit to Heath, England. She then presented to President Coe a pair of iron pony shoes from the Heritage Society of Heath, England, and also a portfolio of English Heath houses and buildings.

Other events of the day on Saturday included a successful Bazaar on the Town Common in front of the Museums and a potluck supper preceding the evening meeting which was enjoyed by many members and visitors.

In other news of the Society, there have been many comments on markers recently erected at 16 historic sites in town. A number of residents have said they never knew where Whittemore Spring was before! The signs were constructed and erected by Dominic Musacchio with the help of John Read and Jayne Dane.

It has also been announced that there will be a joint meeting of the Heath and Rowe Historical Societies on September 21 in Rowe. This will include a potluck supper followed with a talk on Fort Pelham and Fort Shirley by Michael Coe. Also on Saturday, October 12, there will be a hike from Fort Shirley in Heath to Fort Pelham in Rowe following the old military trail. This will be led by Bill Thane and Michael Coe.

BURNT HILL FARM

Jack and Grace Cable

Heath, Mass. 01346



Sweet, Wild Blueberries Pick your own - Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays August 2 through August 25

> Help wanted for Harvesting Call 337-4454 after July 15th

Happy Birthday to the Town of Heath!

#### **ALL PRAISE**

by Charles H. Miller

All praise to highland Heath so pure beneath the moving clouds, a place of timbered slopes and tumbling streams, high capital of loggers, with space for the arts!

Refuge of wildlife, professors' retreat!

Come view our clover meadows, green beyond stockades of history, where condos will not block our logging roads nor cheapen our fine colonial homes, nor industry darken our snowy hills nor blacken our blue-berried heights.

Let the young as well as the old come here in faith, like deer that cross new roads toward old plots of wild apple trees, acquiring new traits of life in our ancient highland Heath.

#### C Charles H. Miller

[Editors' Note: The above poem was written for Ed Calver's Now and Then and first read by Charlie at the performance on May 24, 1985 in the Community Hall. It was later set to music by Arnold Black and presented at the Bicentennial Concert in the Heath Union Church by the Mohawk Trail Concerts on June 29.

All Praise is reproduced here with the permission of the author]

#### **TOWN OFFICE HOURS**

(At Town Hall unless otherwise noted)

Selectmen: Mondays 7 PM
Assessors: Mondays 7 PM
Town Clerk: Mondays 7 - 9 PM

Wednesdays 9 AM - 12 noon, Saturdays 9 AM - 12 noon

Town Treasurer | Mondays 7 - 9 PM, Tuesdays,

Tax Collector | Wednesdays & Thursdays 8-11:30 AM

Town Accountant: Mondays & Thursdays 8:30 AM -12 noon

Finance Committee: As posted

Planning Board: 2nd Monday of month 8 PM

Heath School Committee:

1st Wednesday of month 7:30 PM

<u>Library Trustees</u>: 1st Monday of month 7 PM <u>Library</u>: Mondays 6 - 9 PM Wednesdays 1 - 5 PM

Saturdays 9 AM - 1 PM

Town Nurse: Moridays & Wednesdays 9 AM - 11 AM

Post Office: Monday through Saturday

9:30 AM - 1:30 PM <u>Dump:</u> Mondays 10 AM - 2 PM Wednesdays 1 PM - 7 PM

Saturdays 9 AM - 5 PM lown Telephones: Town Hall 337-4934

Community Hall 337-4847 Town Garage 337-4462

# Richard A. Sumner

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

#### FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

by Chief Earl Gleason

The Department started out the month with a car fire on Number Nine Road on June 1. The DeLeeuw property was completely destroyed upon the arrival of firefighters on June 3. Several personnel aided the Charlemont Ambulance with a person who had a siezure. July 3rd saw eleven firefighters respond to a 5:45 AM alarm from an automatic smoke detector set off by toast burning! A busy weekend commenced with the request of the tanker to Charlemont for an early morning house fire on July 12. Mike Peters took Engine One to the Old Home Day Parade in Rowe on the thirteenth and later that day three members responded to Burrington Road to assist the Shelburne Falls Ambulance with a bee sting reaction. Before one the next morning three EMT's worked with the Charlemont Ambulance at a Ben Road home for a patient with chest pains. July 20th saw 13 firefighters respond to Summer Stetson Road for a fire in the rubble of the old barn on the Russo property.

Four plans were reviewed and smoke placement approvals were made during June and July. Also one smoke detector inspection for a property sale was made. Steve Marcotte and Mike Smith attended a course on emergencies in power line accidents. Mary Howe, Tim Lively and Earl Gleason attended a farm machinery accident course in Colrain. Also two department drills were held.

A crisis was averted by the persistence and determination of Sue Gleason. Upon learning of the difficulty of the Department in obtaining root beer extract. Sue visited nearly every store in Greenfield and Shelburne Falls to locate the elusive extract. After making several trips to a Greenfield supermarket she obtained eight bottles of the precious elixir. Thus the firemen were able to make 40 gallons (not the usual 100) of the famous Heath Fair Root Beer!

Gordon E. Taylor d/b/a



#### BLACKMER INSURANCE AGENCY

R. E. Blackmer Joseph J. Judd

On the Mohawk Trail Shelburne, MA

Marion J. Taylor

Tel: 625-6527

INSURANCE AGENCY INCORPORATED

377 Main Street • Greenfield, MA 01302 • Tel: 413-772-0251

#### PLANNING BOARD REPORT

by Robert Dane

One of our major goals in the last two months has been to update our Open Space Plan for the town. We reissued our questionaire of five years ago to get input from townspeople on what their desires are in terms of town planning, including open space. The response has been quite good already. After one week 10 percent of the total questionaires mailed have been returned. If you haven't filled yours out yet, please do so and return it to the box in Sawyer Hall or to one of the Planning Board members. This will greatly help us properly evaluate the needs and desires of the town as a whole.

There has been some special permit activity recently. Michael and Carolyn Armstrong have applied for a special permit to build on a landlocked piece of property on Rowe Road. A hearing was held July 8, and the permit was granted.

#### **ASSESSOR'S REPORT**

by Richards Steinbock, Chairman Heath Board of Assessors

There is nothing really earth shattering to report at the moment. The Fiscal 1985 tax rate of \$16.60 has been sent to the state for approval, which we anticipate in another week or so. If all smoothly, the 1985 bills should be out around the first of September. The recent \$5000 appropriation at the special town meeting delayed billing by about three weeks.

The Fiscal 1986 bills should be out sometime in early October.

#### **NEW RESIDENTS ASKED TO REGISTER**

All new residents moving in to Heath are asked to register with Town Clerk Joanne Fournier. This is important in keeping the town street list up to date, and should be done whether or not you wish to register for voting.

The Town Clerk is available during her normal office hours at Sawyer Hall.

> BOOKKEEPING SYSTEMS

TAXES TAX PLANNING

SMALL BUSINESS CONSULTING

Paul J. Dabrody, M.S.

Accountant

Jacksonville Stage Ad. Charlemont, MA. 01339 Phone: 413-337-4818



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

#### **SELECTMEN'S REPORT**

by Art Schwenger, Secretary Heath Board of Selectmen

The selectmen have been pleased to have a number of interested citizens sit in on several of their recent meetings. Questions and comments from observers have been welcomed and have added new perspectives to the business of the town.

Some notable actions were taken recently by the Board:

- The flat tax rate of \$16.60 was established after recommendation by the assessors who predict that tax bills (FY '84-'85) will be mailed before August 31.

- The Selectmen voted to write the Selectmen of Hawley and Ashfield supporting the citizens of those towns in their negotiations with the US Air Force regarding the proposed antennas. Concern was expressed about the potential loss of agricultural land and the apparent arrogance shown by the USAF by not informing local, state and federal officials of their plan.

- The Selectmen responded to citizen concerns regarding a dangerous dog expelled from the Town of Rowe. To date, the dog has not been reported in Heath, although there were fears that it might be kept at the home of the owner's relative who lives in town. The Selectmen, the police, and the dog officer are prepared to respond should the dog be sighted.

- Sheila Litchfield was appointed to head up the new Hall Committee. Lynn Miller was appointed to the committee and other members are being sought. Sheila has already taken the bull by the horns and seems to be well in control.

- The Highway Department, John Churchill reported, has been spending its major efforts in scraping and grading the roads throughout town, digging bleeder ditches and drainage, clearing and clipping brush.

- The following remarks were delivered by Art Schwenger, on behalf of the Selectmen, after a salute to Heath's Bicentennial at the Pops Concert in Rowe on July 14:

From Heath to sibling Town of Rowe Thanks for your good wishes For your gala birthday celebration For your music, song and scrumptious dishes.

Congratulation! We wish <u>you</u> well. Two hundred years we've been together. Mow-sweet hay and amber syrup, Stoneboats, carriage wheels, harness leather.

As Sweden sings in birthday rhyme,
"I hope you live out a hundred years.
Of course you shall live out a hundred years!"
Happiness to us all, good neighbors!



TRUCKING . EXCAVATING

# J.M. BLASSBERG

NORMAN R. SESSIONS President 5 MECHANIC ST. SHELBURNE FALLS, MASS. BUSINESS (4(3) 625-2531 RESIDENCE (4(3) 337-5756

## OVERRUNS AND TAX BILLS HIGHLIGHT SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

by D. F. Howland

Moderator Ed Calver gavelled a bare quorum of voters to order at the Community Hall on July 11, 1985. The seven townspeople present decided on the transfer of about \$20,000 to various accounts and raised taxes for FY 1984-85 by \$5000.

The transfers were necessary due to overruns in the accounts for highway materials, interest, highway wages, insurance, highway machinery, police department, and town buildings. The Finance Committee expressed concern about the magnitude of the overuns and noted that only the good fortune of available funds in the school budgets prevented a substantial increase in taxes. The FinCom was especially critical of the administration that permitted the interest account to go over the budget by \$9288. interest on borrowed money for the year was \$10,788. Primarily, this was due to lack of cash flow which in turn was caused by late tax bills and, to some The FinCom degree, to tax collection problems. expressed their opinion that monies being spent to adjust the interest account could have been used to purchase equipment or put into free cash to better meet the needs of the town.It was noted that tax bills for the 1984-85 year are not out yet and bills for 1985-86 are supposed to be out in October. Some lively discussion ensued led by newly elected Selectman Art Schwenger. The selectmen indicated that in the future meetings were going to be held with all town committees and departments to promote more effective planning of town affairs, both fiscal and Guy Silvester of the FinCom administrative. expressed satisfaction with the selectmen's positive approach to the problems, noting that it was the first time he had participated in such constructive dialoque.

The last two warrant articles represented alternatives as to how to pay \$5000 of an overrun of \$5900 in the town building account. (Expenditures for work on the sait shed and the garage were causes of the deficit.) Town Accountant Catherine Nichols expressed the "belief" that there was money in an appropriation for a highway project voted five years ago. David Howland reported he had checked with Tom Scanlon, the town's professional auditor, who indicated that this money was not available based on normal accounting practices. Dave explained that the town cannot pay bills on "belief"; i.e., either there is money in the checking account or not... Further, he said, if there is no money available, then the \$5000 should be raised through taxation for the budget year 1984-85. He said that to add money to the tax levy for FY 1985-86 was probably impossible without a town override vote, because the maximum levy (under Proposition 2 1/2) had been voted at the annual town meeting in May. Selectman Schwenger expressed that it was a "catch - 22" situation and reluctantly favored the article that appropriated the money. The FinCom said that the town could absorb an increase in taxes better in FY '85 than in FY '86 because of a much lower tax rate. The article to transfer nonlower tax rate. existing monies" was passed over and another article was voted to raise taxes to cover the \$5000 overrun.

(Note: Since the meeting the tax rate for FY 1984-85 has been set at \$16.40 or 2 1/2 % over the rate for FY '84.)

#### CIRCUIT RIDER REPORT

by Susan Wright

As Circuit Rider for the Town of Heath, I was asked by the HERALD to share with you some of the projects I have been working on since my arrival in January. As you may know, my office was initially based in the Assessors' office in the Town Hall. Before I began the position I was warned of the winters up here in the hills. With the snowy days that followed, I soon experienced first hand the thrill of getting halfway up Burrington Hill Road and going no further. Needless to say, I have learned my way around Heath!

Working for the town has been very interesting and over the past few months many projects have been started. At present I am working with the Heath Planning Board on an Open Space and Recreation Plan. Such a plan is useful in setting goals for the preservation of open space and the development of recreational opportunites for the townspeople. Open space preservation needs a place in all town planning where too much development can cost a community more in services such as schools, roads, police and fire protection than it recives in property taxes.

The plan will identify the important scenic and fragile resources of the town and identify potential recreational opportunity. Local residents have received a survey asking for input which is extremely helpful in determining their desires and needs for recreation. Once the plan is complete, the town will be eligible for two grant programs: the Self-Help Program which can assist a town in acquiring conservation land and the Land and Water Conservation Fund which can provide funds for the development of outdoor recreational facilities.

Another interesting project has been working with the Heath Park Committee to develop a design plan for the area adjacent to Community Hall. We have been meeting weekly to discuss park needs, measure the existing lot, review design plans and develop a variety of fund raising projects. It is hoped that the design plan will be completed and on display by August. There will also be a crew again this summer, working on some of the proposed improvements.

Another project has been the preparation of a Massachusetts Small Cities Program Application for the Towns of Heath, Colrain and Monroe. The proposed program will address the needs for housing rehabilitation and economic development in the three towns. The housing component of the program would feature low-interest or non-interest loans to income eligible property owners for rehabilitation work on their homes. Up to \$12,000 could be made available to property owners who qualify for the program and, if funded, would also bring a great deal of work to local contractors in the area.

The other aspect of the program is an economic development study of the town's present economic base and future potential. This is extremely important with the recent plant closings in Monroe and Colrain. Also, a small business loan pool would be instituted for use by local business people to expand and upgrade their businesses through the purchase of equipment or rehabilitation of space. This could help stimulate the development of new businesses such as bed-and-breakfast inns and the expansion of existing stores, agricultural operations and industries.

This application is due on August 9, 1985, and it is hoped that we will have a decision by late September. This grant could have a substantial imppact on the Town of Heath and I urge you to write to state Senator Olver (Suite 511, State House, Boston MA 02133) and to Representative Healy (Room 33, State House, Boston MA 02133) for their support in the funding of our proposal.

Many of my initial projects are close to completion and results, and there are many others on my list which I am looking forward to working on. I can usually be reached at 625-9831 Monday through Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:30 PM. Please do not hesitate to call or stop in at my office in Shelburne Falls at Memorial Hall on Bridge Street. I would love to hear from you!

## REPORT FROM THE TAX COLLECTOR/TREASURER

by Linda Marcotte

It has been a busy time getting familiar with all the duties involved in being Town Tax Collector and Treasurer. I keep all books and records at the Town Hall, and I am usually there Monday evenings, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings.

I will be attending a four day conference for Collectors/Treasurers being held in Amherst in August. Due to all the concern about the town's outstanding tax situation, I plan to attend the first year classes for Collectors. Also, there is an audit being performed on the tax collector's books which will generate an up-to-date list of all outstanding taxes. Hopefully this fall we can start collecting

this outstanding money.

The only other news is for the people who use the town photocopier. I plan to revise the Copier Journal (the book in which each use of the copier is recorded). The new book will contain the following sections: a Cash section for those who pay when they make their copies; a Town Department section where the Town Clerk, Selectmen, Planning Board, Assessors, etc. record the number of copies they make; and an individual section for each of those town organizations or individuals who get billed for the copies they make. Before you can charge copies, you should see me for approval.

There is also a change in the cost of copies. The first 25 copies will always cost 10 cents each but each additional copy made at the same time will only cost 5 cents each. The new prices and Journal will be

effective on August 15, 1985.



## **GOOD NEIGHBORS**

by Pat Leuchtman

One the benefits of living in a small town is being surrounded by good neighbors who will celebrate good fortune with you, and lend a helping hand when times are hard. Still, neighbors are often separated in a small town by fairly long distances and busy schedules that don't allow much time for visiting. Sometimes we don't know when people are experiencing difficulties.

Ruth McDowell of Charlemont saw how much people could use a good neighbor and with the cooperation of the Federated Church she began the good neighbors project about four years ago. The group, no longer associated with the church, has about 45 members including Karen McDougall of Heath.

The Good Neighbors serve the Charlemont, Hawley, and Rowe area, providing holiday meals at Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter as well as casseroles for families in a time of need.

Karen MacDougall is the Heath contact person and those who are interested in donating non-perishable foodstuffs or money, or to be available to make casseroles can call her at 337-426B. She says "Our aim is just to say we're here, we care about you and you are not alone in a time of crisis."

Together with Lynn Dooley, Karen organized a Tupperware sale at the Community Hall and the proceeds will go toward buying Christmas toys for the families who might not be able to provide a very festive Christmas for their children. Another fund raising project is underway. The Good Neighbors Group will soon be taking orders for hand-made advent calendars.

Jack and Karen MacDougall moved to Heath with their daughter Magen (6) two years ago and immediately became involved in the life of the community. Karen is active in numerous Heath organizations and is now serving as Parade Chairman for the Heath Fair.

# **BICENTENNIAL POSTAL STATION**

There will be a Bicentennial Postal Station in Heath featuring a special bicentennial cancellation honoring Heath's 200th anniversary. The Station will operate at the Fairgrounds on August 17, 1985 from 9 AM to 4 PM. The special cancellation will cost \$1.50. A collector's cachet is available at \$1.50 also. Send your check or money order to Marcella R. Lively, Heath CPO, Heath MA 01346.



Bulk Rate U.S. POSTAGE PAID Permit No. 1 Heath, MA 01346

MAIL TO:

HEATH HERALD Box 54, Heath, MA 01346

# HEATH ARTIST'S EXHIBITION

by Robert Dane

Plans are well underway for the Artists' Exhibition, another event in a series of exciting and stimulating programs celebrating Heath's Bicentennial Year. The work of over 20 of Heath's resident artists and craftspeople will be on display from August 30 through September 7 in the large front second floor room in Sawyer Hall. This will be the inaugural event for the room, the renovation being almost complete.

The diversity of artistic endeavors in Heath is unique for a town of this size. Among the mediums represented are clay, glass, wood, photography, painting and poetry. We hope that you will come to the opening of the exhibition Friday night, August 30 at 7 PM, and help us celebrate the creative efforts of your fellow townspeople. In addition to the opening reception, the exhibition will be open on the following dates: August 31, 10 - 2; September 1 & 2, 11 -3; September 4, 1 - 5; and September 7, 9 -1.

#### **TOWN NURSE**

by Sheila Litchfield

Our town nurse, Sharleen Moffatt is available regularly for a variety of health needs. To utilize her time better townsfolk wishing to see her on her scheduled days here should call at her home phone (625-2829) between 7 AM and 8:30 AM to set an appointment. In addition she leaves a schedule at the Town Hall with either Macella Lively, or the town officers when she is out making home visits in Heath.

To clarify, Sharleen's 24 hour on-call availablity is primarily a service to taxpayers in Heath and Rowe giving them an additional medical resource by telephone. When medically necessary she will make home visits at night. We are extremenly fortunate to have such a qualified, dedicated nurse available to provide services that are not always covered by other local nursing services.

#### CLASSIFIED

FRESH WINDS FARM Paul and Marcella Lively & Sons Excavating - Loam - Sand - Stone 337-4331

SEAVER AND WADHAM, Inc. Renovations, additions, kitchens, bathrooms, porches, solar greenhouses. Quality workmanship - reasonable prices 337-4866

HEATH FAIR COOKBOOK . . . . . Box 63, Heath MA 01346 . . \$6.00 by mail or \$5.00 from Alli Thane 337-4852

# 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