



VOLUME 7 NUMBER 4

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HEATH HERALD

HEATH'S FIRST NEWSPAPER 35¢

PICTURES AT AN EXHIBITION

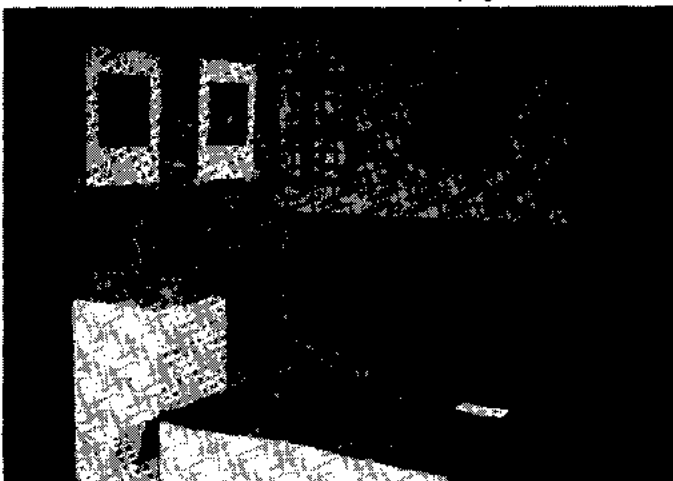
by Alastair Maitland

Heath's rich pageant of Bicentennial events - ranging from the Cross-Country Ski Race curtain-raiser to Ed Calver's very-far-off-Broadway production, "Now and Then," the Mohawk Trail Family Concert, where music went hand-in-hand with poetry, and the Garden and Stately Homes Tours, was further enriched by the splendid Artists Exhibition staged at Sawyer Hall during the week of August 31 to September 7. Inspired by a suggestion from Newland Smith the Exhibition was conceived and mounted by Robert and Jayne Dane, with the help and advice of Catherine and Alan Nichols and of an immense labor of love on the part of a number of anonymous worker bees.

Drama, music, poetry and horticultural sculpture having had their day this time it was the turn of the visual and plastic arts, accompanied by a poetic obbligator, a lyrical triptych from the pen (or can it be - God forbid - the word-processor?) of Charles Miller.

Some of the 20 or so Heath artists represented at the Exhibition were, of course, already familiar to us. A Calver landscape, for example, hangs on the parlor wall of the Robert McAfee Browns' house, and some of us sit on, or dine at, the creations of Alan Nichols. Others have already established a solid regional reputation, and in Robert Dane's case, a national reputation. Nonetheless, to most of us, entering the handsomely refurbished upper room at Sawyer Hall, the Exhibition was a kind of epiphany.

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Art Exhibit at Sawyer Hall

(Photo by John Read)

60 YEARS OF LADIES AID

by Esther Dickinson

The Heath Ladies Aid was organized about 1924 during the pastorate of Rev. Herbert Dixon. It was preceded by a Missionary Society that Mrs. Childs started 10 years earlier, and about 1930 the two groups combined. In the late 1920's Mrs Mildred Crowningshield started a Thimble Club for the ladies living in North Heath. This too merged with the Ladies Aid.

I think the original officers of the Ladies Aid were: Anna Burrington, President; Ella Churchill, Vice-president; Mary Hicks, Treasurer; and Maud Gleason, Secretary. Over the years the following ladies have ably served as our Presidents - Anna Burrington, Hannah Burrington, Mildred Crowningshield, Edith Royer, Belle Dickinson, Mary Sherman, Ruth Churchill and Leslie Bradbury.

In the early years the meetings were held in the homes with the hostess putting on the noon meal. At various times we have met at Sawyer Hall, the Church, and more recently at the Community Hall. During World War II we cut down to one hot dish to be furnished by the Dinner Committee. Recently the Dinner Committee just furnished tea or coffee and dessert, except that the meeting before Christmas and the last meeting in July are "Potluck."

These meetings are primarily work sessions - making items that will be sold at our July Fair or Christmas Sale. In the beginning aprons were our most popular item (in 1930 an apron sold for 65 cents). In 1973 we made and sold seven quilts and tied seven more for others. We have made many rag dolls, quilts, pillow cases, etc. As our membership changes we get many new ideas.

Our annual Ladies Aid Fair on the last Wednesday in July (a few times it was the first Wednesday in August) has seen changes too. The sale was in Sawyer Hall until the new kitchen was made in the Community Hall. (For those of us who think it is hard work to put on a supper - remember the suppers in Sawyer Hall. Bringing the water in 40 quart milk cans, and cooking on an oil stove. The coffee was made in a copper wash boiler). Several years we had plays or some sort of entertainment after the supper. "Our Town" in 1951 was the last full length play. A couple of years we had an evening auction, with Reinhold Niebuhr as auctioneer. In 1924 there was a baby show. (Was there one in 1936?). [Editor's note: We remember a baby beauty contest held here in 1938 with Muriel Stetson and Landie Smith tying for first place.]

The monies earned are spent for the local church -

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HEATH PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Ruth and Clyde Churchill attended a reunion of the 79th Fighter Group, comprising HQ, the 85th, 86th and 87th Squadrons, at the Boston Marriott on August 30 - September 2. About 300 members and wives attended the reunion. They have been meeting together over the past twelve years. Clyde, who was in the Armament section of the 87th, gave the HERALD a graphic description of his experiences in 1942 sailing with 7000 other men on the Mauretania, heading on a most circuitous route around the tip of Africa to Durban. The ship took this route to avoid German submarines in the Atlantic. After spending some time in Africa following up Rommel's defeat, he was sent on with his Fighter Group to Sicily and Italy. He shipped back to the States in 1944.

Cynthia Cole has been appointed as the 6th Grade teacher at the Hawlemont School. Cindy recently received a bachelor's degree from the University of Massachusetts. She was previously a teacher and aide at the Rowe Elementary School. She regrets very much leaving Rowe, but is excited over teaching at Hawlemont.

Richards Steinbock has created an illustration of the Bridge of Flowers in the new promotional brochure for Shelburne Falls.

Bob Gruen recently took the part of Clifford Bradshaw in the production of "Cabaret" at the Arena Civic Theater.

Robert Brown is teaching a one semester course at Dartmouth College entitled "The Theology of Liberation". He and Sidney are planning to spend their weekends in Heath during this time.

Rachel and Ralph Sumner with many of the Sumner family gathered for a reunion at Falmouth on Cape Cod the week that hurricane "Gloria" hit. As a result, they returned home one day earlier.

Ned Wolf, son of William and Eleanor Wolf, has been appointed Professor of Mathematics at the University of Lowell.

Andrew Coe has returned from a trip to Soviet Central Asia. He visited Dushanbe, Samarkand, Bokhara, Tashkent, Frunze and Alma Ata.

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UNITED STATES SENATE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20510

JOHN KERRY
MASSACHUSETTS

August 13, 1985

Board of Selectmen
Town of Heath
Heath, MA 01346

Dear Friends:

I am happy to have the opportunity to congratulate you and the residents of Heath on the 200th anniversary of your incorporation.

Your community reflects the special beauty of Massachusetts as well as the spirit of freedom that helped found this country. On this very special day, I know your thoughts will focus on your friends and family and the quality of life that make Heath so special.

I know you will also reflect on the future and celebrate the history and sense of community that the people of Heath have sustained for the past two hundred years.

Sincerely,

John Kerry

HEATH PRECIPITATION

by Ralph Dickinson, Observer
for Mass. Water Resources Commission

Rainfall for August 1985 was 5.34 inches. Rainfall in September was 6.33 inches. Total precipitation, January 1 through September 30, was 32.88 inches. This is still below normal even though August and September were wetter.

Hurricane "Gloria" gave us 4.29 inches of rain and little wind.

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THE RALPH SESSIONS PLACE

..... continued from page 1

[Editor's Note: This is the seventeenth in a series of articles on the older houses of Heath which have been published in the HERALD over the past seven years. The information for this article was supplied by Dorothy Sessions and from Ed Calver's History. -

The Ralph Sessions house on Jacksonville Stage Road is the oldest in Dell and one of the oldest houses in Heath. In 1783 or earlier Thomas Kendall from Lancaster settled on the lot that is now the Sessions property. There is still an indentation in the front yard where a log cabin may have stood and where the family lived while building the house. The house is outwardly much the same now as then except for the removal of a front door in the summer kitchen and the removal of the half chimney in that room.

The Kendalls did not stay long for in 1789 the farm was sold to John Kandrick also from Lancaster. John, then 40 years old, already had a family. He attempted to raise silk worms in a small room over the the summer kitchen reached by steep steps still there. Mulberry trees were planted to obtain food for the worms. As with other similar efforts elsewhere in Heath it failed. The Sessions after moving here and wanting to see if mulberry trees could be grown in Heath set out a number of them. They found that the trees suffered under the weight of snow and ice and soon died.

Later the place was occupied by George Brown and was owned and lived in by G.W. Lamb, and David W. Temple who sold it to Ira Canedy in 1882 for \$1300. In 1920 Ira sold it to George Bolton who used it as a summer home for ten years and then lived there permanently until 1943 when Ralph and Dorothy Sessions bought it for \$3000.

The Boltons were quite old and the house was left in poor condition. The roof leaked and one could look through cracks in the floor to the basement. Also the ell showed the results of many porcupines gnawing. The Sessions replaced some of the floors although most of the rooms still retain the original wide floor boards. They took out two corner fireplaces backing up to one chimney at the south end and replaced the chimney. The north ell originally contained a summer kitchen with a large fireplace and stone hearth. The fireplace (and perhaps a brick oven) have been closed off with bricks and the chimney removed. Dorothy recalls taking out two large wrought iron hooks used in a smoke oven. A new chimney was put up for the present kitchen. An old dug well to the rear is now covered with a huge iron kettle, formerly used in the kitchen fireplace to heat water. A spring supplied water through a half mile of lead pipe from back on the power line. This went dry during 1980 and a drilled well now provides the water.

The Sessions ran a dairy farm from 1956 to 1971 with 42 Brown Swiss cattle and then raised Holsteins. The milk truck came by every day. They also sugared from 1944 to 1960 using the old sugar house built by Morris Thompson, George Bolton's son-in-law. Elizabeth Canedy, Ira's wife, kept a careful diary of which the portion between October 1908 and February 1910 still survives. The Canedys lived at the end of an era as Elizabeth mentions that an automobile had stopped at their house one day.

The old house still retains its 200 year old solid frame with hand hewn, pegged beams. The roof rafters and floor timbers are rough logs trimmed only along one side and at the ends. The interior doors still have the deep paneling with the original wrought iron door latches and handles.

If Ed Calver's "Now and Then" was a collective exercise in self-revelation and self-examination this Show brought home to us how little we know of the extraordinary talents that such a wide range of our fellow-townpeople possess, and express, in so many ways. The mediums on display included glass, clay, cloth, wood, photography and painting. (There was one example of what might be called artisanal or industrial art - a sleek hand-gun with a beautifully polished stock, the work of the hand and eye of William Thane. The organizers, by the way, have vehemently denied that this item was to have been labelled "Magnum Opus")

To this lay reviewer's eye the most intriguing exhibits were - in no particular order - Helen Mackie's stitchless wooden wall quilts, Janice Boudreau's miniature photographic still life and country porch scene, Karen Chrisman's etchings and Julianne Hall's arresting trompe-l'oeil water-color, depicting a Guatemalan Mayan fertility rite, an explanation of which, in other, more elaborate, circumstances, would probably have occupied a fair amount of space in the catalogue raisonne. Meanwhile we are left with the nagging question: what was the woman listening to on her transistor radio? Presumably not Radio Marti. But was it perhaps some inspirational sermon by a Hispanic Jerry Falwell? Or was it merely a Menudo album? And did the woman's unravelling yarn indicate an Ariadne or a Penelope?

There was a large and enthusiastic attendance on opening night. And the source of much of the enthusiasm was the discovery of the existence in our midst of a talented water-colorist, the youngest exhibitor, and with photographer Howard Dickinson, one of the only two indigenous artists on show. The three pictures by Frederick Burrington - Burnt Hill, the Town Farm and the Dickinsons' porch, are evidence of outstanding artistic gifts. I have little doubt that Robert Strong Woodward, one of whose chalks, lent for the occasion by the Nichols family, was on display, would have appreciated in particular the view of Burnt Hill, where he himself painted so many of his landscapes, and would have been glad to welcome this newcomer into the community of artists. We must hope that Frederick Burrington's talent will have full scope for development.

Meanwhile we are all in debt to Jayne and Robert Dane for the care and imagination, not to mention the effort, that they devoted to this exceptionally successful project and for the opportunity they gave us to discover the lights that Heath seems so effectively to hide under its bushels.



The Ralph Sessions House c. 1783
(Photo by John Read)

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painting, roofs, furnace, etc. The Ladies did many projects for the old parsonage as well as donating \$2,000 toward the new parsonage. They contribute to missions. Many area worthy causes have had gifts from the Heath Ladies Aid.

In the early years it was the Ladies that prepared oyster dinners that preceded the annual December Church meetings. It was the Ladies Aid that planned the town meeting dinners when they were held the first Monday in February. It gave the voters a chance to mingle and visit with their neighbors.

The Ladies Aid is a group of ladies that like to get together, and work together on projects for the Church and Town. Except in the summer we meet every other Thursday at 11 AM at the Community Hall. Our first meeting this fall was September 26, and the second meeting will be October 10. We would love to have you bring a sandwich and join us.

THE EASTERN COYOTE PROBLEM

by David Thane

An informational meeting was held in Buckland, hosted by the Buckland selectmen, to discuss trapping the Eastern coyote which has been causing damage to area farmers' livestock. Representative Jonathan Healy was present to clarify existing laws. A trapping season of this predator would be the most effective way of reducing the problem. Rep. Healy said that under the present laws this is impossible and suggested that a more feasible solution would be to seek re-imbursement for damages done by bear and/or coyote. Deer damage is already compensated.

About 17 landowners attended and related their experiences. It was suggested that the most effective method to bring this problem to the attention of the state legislature is to take photographs of any crop damage or killed livestock as proof.

The evening was video taped for future reference.

NARY A STITCH

At her home in Heath Center, Helen Mackie designs and makes wooden quilts to warm the soul, a new concept in folk art. Helen calls her cottage industry "NARY A STITCH." Each quilt is individually designed and numbered. The quilts can be hung in a sheltered location, by wood stove, pool or office desk, as an accent or statement. She exhibited these quilts at the Deerfield Crafts Fair in September.

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"WAGON HO" 1985

by Carroll Stowe

It's rather difficult to tell of an event before it takes place but hopefully on October 5 and 6 wagons, and teams, saddle horses, and people from many walks of life will be part of the 5th annual wagon train to traverse the back roads of our beautiful town of Heath.

I take a great deal of pleasure and no small amount of pride by being able to shout "Wagons Ho!" - two simple words, "wagons ho", but to look back over a field of wagons, animals and people and get the feeling that others must have had when those two words were sounded many years past is indeed humbling.

Everyone has something that pleases them especially, and I enjoy good honest animals and the same kind of people and, when both are together for a pleasant experience, it is most rewarding to my way of thinking.

This being Heath's Bicentennial year, we thought a hog roast would go well and our plans seem to be going along well. With an event of this kind good food is a must and no one goes hungry.

This event was explained in the New York Times (Sunday, September 29) and for all the coverage we received I don't think the problems caused are worth the grief - what with trying to orchestrate people, rides, food, and directions.

Conway and North Adams are having their fall festivals on the same weekend and that shortens up the horse teams available to propel wagons in Heath.

I sincerely hope that people can go home Sunday afternoon without an ill feeling towards Carroll and Peggy Stowe for an oversight on our part.

The wagon train is planned for a good time to be had by all and, if things materialize the way we want, that is what will happen.

Yours for future wagon trains !



Covered Wagon in Train of more than 40 vehicles and horseback riders rounding the Oxbow Road after skies cleared in time for the four mile ride Saturday afternoon.

LARRY'S
of Shelburne Falls

CLOTHING



FOOTWEAR

HEATHENS GO MOUNTAIN CLIMBING

by Alice Woznick

[Editor's note: Alice and Paul Dabrody left their farm on 8A for six weeks last summer to test their climbing ability on the mountains of South America. This is a report on some of their experiences.]

Paul and I love to go backpacking and we love winter camping so when we learned about this excursion which included mountain climbing and trekking in the Peruvian Andes we jumped at the opportunity. Trekking is really just backpacking, but when you do it someplace exotic like Mexico or the Himalayas, they call it trekking.

We arrived in Lima and took a bus up 10,000 feet in the Andes to the town of Huaras. We stayed there for three days to acclimate and get used to the altitude.

Our trip was actually divided into three parts. First we went trekking in the Santa Cruz and Llanganuco valleys with two other trekkers and a crew that included a guide, plus a cook, a cook's helper, two arroyeros (or burro drivers), four burros and two horses. We only had to carry a small backpack and the burros carried all the rest of the equipment. It was pretty plushy.

During that week we started at 10,000 feet, climbed to 15,500 feet and covered about 60 miles. Most of the time we were between 12,000 and 13,000 feet. At 12,000 feet Paul suffered from altitude sickness and felt bad enough that he had to spend that day on a horse. After that he was fine.

At the end of the trek a bus took us back to Huaras where we were going to begin the second part of the trip. We met six other climbers, the wife of the head guide, the two guides, plus a cook and his helper. Ten burros took our stuff to the base camp and left. We had to carry our stuff from there.

We hiked and set up base camp. There was no snow because it was the dry season. We were going to climb two mountains. Maparan was about 17,000 feet, but because of weather conditions we didn't make it to the summit. Then we returned to base camp and rested for a day.

From the base camp we started to climb San Juan which is about 19,000 feet. We reached the glacier at 15,000 feet and climbed on the snow until we set up high camp on the glacier at 17,000. The next day we planned to go to the summit. It was supposed to take us two hours to get to the summit, two hours back and then we'd break camp and return to base camp all in one day. Only half the climbers attempted the summit, the other half didn't because they were suffering from altitude sickness.

No one made it to that summit either. The hikers went out about a half mile but there were a lot of avalanches and with conditions so unstable we turned around. The time schedule was very tight.

We had to return to base camp that day. One guide acted as route finder, to find a safe way to traverse the mountain. It was too steep to come straight down and there were a lot of crevasses which were covered by snow so you never knew exactly how wide or deep they were. We were roped together, but one man did fall waist deep into a crevasse and it took three of us to pull him out. He could not touch anything below or on either side. I guess if it were easy, you wouldn't do it.

After the climb Paul and I left the group. We went back to Lima and then travelled to Cuzco and Machu Pichu, which really is as spectacular as everyone says. We also went to Lake Titicaca with its floating

man-made reed islands where 1200 people live. They are constantly rebuilding those islands. The water is not very deep and the islands are one meter thick.

We had some wonderful experiences, but we will never think of Peru without remembering the Indian cook on the trek. He was an avid student of Indian culture and every day he played his flute as we hiked and every night he played as we went to sleep. We will never forget the refrains of that Peruvian music echoing from the mountains.

NEW NEIGHBORS

by Pat Leuchtman

Carl and Mabel Holmblad, who have moved into the old west schoolhouse on Route 8A (formerly owned by Kathy and Dave Wheelock), do not seem as if they are ready for a leisurely retirement.

The first time they retired, 22 years ago, they moved to East Harwich on Cape Cod and Carl went into clock design and manufacture. When his partner decided to move to Florida Carl took over the whole business.

Carl intends to continue designing and assembling clocks, especially tile clocks which he invented. These clocks have a face of ceramic tile surrounded by decorative motifs of different kinds. Lawrence Welk once bought 200 tile clocks embellished with golfing motifs.

Mabel finally gave up active nursing practice while on Cape Cod but she is hoping to find some work in our area as a homemaker or health aide.

As the Cape became more crowded and congested the Holmblads began looking for a new home. They wanted to remain in New England because they have such strong ties here; Carl's father was a Congregational clergyman who travelled throughout New England and founded over 60 new congregations. They looked for a rural area where people know their neighbors and they think Heath is very beautiful and fills the bill.

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THE SHELburnE FALLS MILITARY BAND IN HEATH

The Shelburne Falls Military Band, 150 years old this year, and the town of Heath, now celebrating its Bicentennial, have crossed paths many times. No stranger to Heath, the Band played here one hundred years ago when Heath celebrated its Centennial. This year in keeping with tradition, the Band was invited to march in the Heath Fair Parade and give a concert on August 18.

Following the concert, members of the band and their families were honored at a picnic held at the former summer residence of A. Fay Shippee (now the home of his niece Susan Silvester and her husband Guy) who had been a lifelong member of the band. Part-time Heath resident and band member Murray Newman and his wife Janice were among those feted at the picnic. Heath selectmen were invited to represent the town in appreciation of the many years of affiliation. Four anniversary cakes decorated by Sandy Gowdy were cut by President Marvin Shippee and Director Stan Smithers. Heath residents interested in the history of the Band may purchase the recently published booklet The Shelburne Falls Military Band compiled by Shirley Donelson. It is on sale for \$2.00 at the Sawyer News store in Shelburne Falls.



Shelburne Falls Band Leads Fair Parade

NEW NAME FOR MEDICAL CENTER

The Mohawk Valley Medical Center has changed its business name to Mohawk Valley Health Educational Services (MVHES). This emphasizes the services now offered with workshops on a variety of health related topics including weight loss, smoking cessation, first aid, stress management and parenting issues. Child birth classes will be offered in the Shelburne Falls area as well as continuing education courses for nurses and EMTs. The full calendar is available at MVHES.

MVHES rent part of their building on Heath Stage Terrace in East Charlemont to West County Family Physicians, a private physicians' office. The telephone number for MVHES is 625-2503.

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FALL CHORES

by Pat Leuchtman

Elsa Bakalar, the Hilltop Gardener, says that she is almost busier in the fall than she is in the spring. I called her to find out what I ought to be doing in the flower garden right now - even if I don't get every single thing done.

Although spring is thought of as the big planting season, Elsa says the perennial gardener has many plants that must be divided and replanted in the fall, so that they will develop good root systems and be ready to bloom early next spring.

Siberian iris clumps get bigger and more dense every year and they should be dug up and divided every three years before they get totally unwieldy. The roots are fibrous and can be pulled apart or you can hack through the heavy roots with a shovel. It is hard to kill Siberian iris.

Early blooming primroses should also be divided now or they will develop into ever-bigger clumps with less vigor. Dig up the plant and pull the fibrous roots apart where you see the new little leaf whorls developing.

Foxgloves and feverfew (*Matricaria*) will have seeded themselves all over the garden; look for them and replant them where you want them. You may have to search if you have late blooming annuals or dahlias which tend to hide the low seedlings.

Early blooming phlox should be divided now. Dig up a clump and pull it apart, one at a time. If you replant it in clumps of three or five, you will have a generous show, but the plants will not be overcrowded and weak.

The leopardbane daisy (*Doronicum*) and painted daisy (*Pyrethrum*) can be divided in the fall as can the peach leaf campanula which will start to look tacky if it isn't divided. You will be able to see the thick, tufty whorl of leaves lying closely to the ground. Pull the fibrous roots apart and replant.

Coral bells (*Heuchera*) will get woody and unattractive if they are not divided periodically.

Cranesbill, the true geranium, can be divided and bee balm should be tidied up because it tends to send up new shoots where you don't want them.

In the fall you will have had a chance to decide which flowers are working well together in the border and which do not. Move plants now and you will be that much ahead in the spring.

Most of the plants I have mentioned are tough and not difficult to transplant. To insure success I water plants that will be moved the day before and water them well again when they are in their new location. This will help the roots settle in. I also take this opportunity to add a little compost to the planting hole to enrich the soil.

Gardeners are generous but also thrifty. You might want to coordinate your planting chores with a friend or two and share some of those excess divisions and gain new varieties for your own garden.

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HOW A NOVEL IS WRITTEN IN HEATH

William Wolf has just completed two years writing American Judas: A Novel of Benedict Arnold that runs to 574 pages or 175,000 words. Asked what special ties there are to Heath, Bill replied that most of it was written here, that Ralph and Esther Dickinson spent time with Eleanor and him at Fort Ticonderoga. He also roamed for two full days with the late John Porter over the battlefields of Saratoga. In addition, Sophie Coe found for him an old recipe for spruce beer which has been turned by a comic character in the book into "Davy Clark's Terebinthine Spruce Beer." In doing some research on General Heath for the Bicentennial, he decided to have General Heath make an appearance in the novel.

To the inquiry as to how his interest was aroused in Benedict Arnold, he said that it dated back to high school when he first read Kenneth Roberts' ARUNDEL and in the same year guided a boys' canoe camp over much of the Kennebec-Dead River route taken by Arnold's expedition to try to capture Quebec City. Startled by Roberts' virtual apology for Arnold, he resolved to learn the truth for himself someday. He has been building an Arnold library for twenty years, visiting archives and reading contemporary diaries.

He described the writing as only possible when his teaching load was lightened by "retirement." One of the first tasks was establishing a working chronology of Arnold's life, detailed enough in such instances as the treason to bring it down to half hours of the day. A similar time-frame was constructed for John André, Arnold's chief co-conspirator. Research in the General Clinton papers done by Van Doren has established (what Washington and Hamilton did not know) that Arnold's wife Peggy Shippen was in on the conspiracy from the very first, possibly even suggesting it.

The next step was the development of a group of fictional characters about whom Bill wrote short essays to try to make them concrete and credible as human beings before introducing them into the book. He says that the plot was largely built up during sleepless moments in bed over perhaps a year and then written out in an outline divided into chapters. The plot would be altered in the actual writing when the characters themselves seemed to be demanding changes.

Feeling that many "historical novels" are anything but "historical," Bill has given painstaking care to the accuracy of the book. In elaborating the fictional sub-plot he admitted only situations that do not seriously strain historical probabilities. At least he hopes so! Arnold's life and events in which he participated dominate the action, the dialogue and the direction of the narrative.

Alan Walke is the chief fictional character who narrates the book in the year 1804 in the first person. Skilled in Indian languages and also studying for the law, Alan's background in wilderness travel equips him to act as a guide for Arnold. Alan has a long and frustrating romance with a Tory-inclined sweetheart, Ruth Gilbert. He is also attracted by a brilliant young woman, Ann Brewster, who would be a lawyer if custom allowed. An ominous character, Captain Buck, who heads his own espionage ring for the British, marries Ruth largely through pressure from her parents. How things work out must, says Bill, remain a secret. Whereas most treatments of Arnold stop with his treason, Bill carries the traitorous hero (or heroic traitor) to his death in London in 1801. There was life after treason!

Bill estimates that his numerous revisions of the book have taken as much time as the original writing.

Asked which American novelists have influenced him, Bill replies "probably Kenneth Roberts, Melville, and Hemingway." To the question whether there is a story behind the story, he says, "Yes: it's the story of every one of us, of how we deal with good and evil in our own lives and in the lives of others."

Having written his past books with contracts in advance, he deliberately chose not to do so for his first novel, partly to reduce the stress of meeting deadlines. He will be paying the penalty now in searching for a publisher.

FORT SHIRLEY - FORT PELHAM HIKE SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12

As part of the Bicentennial celebration, the Heath and Rowe Historical Societies are sponsoring a hike retracing the military road between Shirley and Pelham, two forts which were part of a Line of Forts stretching between the Connecticut River and the New York border during the French and Indian War.

The hike will be about 5 1/2 miles, and will take place on Saturday, October 12. The meeting place will be on Hosmer Road, Heath; the time will be 8:30 AM. Follow the signs to parking. Transportation will be provided to Fort Shirley, and from Fort Pelham back to Shirley.

PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN PICNIC LUNCH AND A CANTEEN OF WATER.

This hike will entail some bushwacking, but there should be no great climbs. It will be reasonably strenuous, though. Be prepared for wet conditions. If you have any questions, call Mike Coe at 337-4924.

Rain date will be Sunday, October 13.

"CHIMNEY CORNER DESIGNS" IN HEATH

Among the 250 crafts people exhibiting at Deerfield Fall Crafts Fair September 21-22 was Amy Barry of Heath. Amy has begun her own business, "Chimney Corner Designs", mainly centering on original wall-hangings done in calico and felt with hand embroidered details. She also creates cat pillows and doll quilts and is planning to make quilted wall-hangings as well this winter.

Amy will be showing her crafts at the Oxbow Country Fair and Fall Foliage Crafts Fair the weekends of October 5-6 and October 12-14. In December she and her husband plan to exhibit at a crafts fair in Andover, MA.

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COMMUNITY RESOURCE CATALOG PUBLISHED

by Sue Silvester

A third edition of the nine town school district Resource Catalog, updated during this past year, has been published this summer and distributed to teachers in area schools, local libraries and community organizations.

Listed in the catalog are numerous Heath residents who are willing to share their expertise or knowledge with young people in this section of Franklin County. Included are such people as Ruth Johnson, whose brown belt in Judo has fascinated young people for years; Art Schwenger, whose many areas of expertise include fencing, Swedish (he was recently called upon to assist with a Mohawk play in which a Swedish accent was required of one of the characters), canoeing, camping and counseling; Doug Wilkins, who regularly contributes to the use of computers in town; Charles Miller, well known for his movie about Mexico and many fine literary accomplishments; and Budge Litchfield, whose ability to sign for the deaf is of great value.

Just a few of the many people represented in the section on arts and crafts are Bob Dane, nationally acclaimed for his beautiful blown glass; his wife Jayne, who makes her own exquisite baskets from strips of ash; Sarah Hettlinger, who designs her own Bald Mountain Pottery; and Julianne Hall Rocke, a professional artist and free lance illustrator.

Some of the specific categories pertain directly to the town of Heath. One of these is local history and the following people are included: Amy and Craig Barry, Ed Calver, Eric Grinnell, Michael Coe and William Wolf. Studying this catalog one learns there is a book bindery in town owned and operated by David Brooks; Juliet Seaver is available for yoga demonstration or instruction; and Pat Leuchtman writes children's stories. Grace Crowningshield can answer questions about the care of rabbits; Susan and Bob Gruen are interested in weaving and drama respectively; and many residents including Elsa Bakalar, Carolyn Armstrong and Pat Leuchtman share an avid interest in flowers. Travel to foreign countries is a major category and, thanks to itinerant globetrotters such as Eric and Dianne Grinnell, this area is well represented.

Copies of the Catalog are available in local schools as well as at the Heath Library. To volunteer information about your particular interest or expertise, which will be included in the next edition, phone the Resource Center at Mohawk Trail Regional School weekdays when school is in session.

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1985 FAIR A SUCCESS

by Barbara Smith

The Heath Agricultural Society is pleased to report that the 1985 Fair was a great success.

From Friday to Sunday night there was always something going on. Mother Nature certainly did her part in giving us the best fair weather I can remember. But she came in second compared to all the help and support of the volunteers who worked so very hard and the people that exhibited. You were all TERRIFIC!!

We would like to thank the organizations that contributed to the Bicentennial Fair, such as the Heath Fire Department and the Bicentennial Committee. Both organizations sponsored a great deal of this year's entertainment making the 1985 Fair our most successful ever.

The Society members have eagerly begun planning the 1986 Fair. We welcome suggestions or ideas. The Society meets every second Wednesday of the month at 8 PM in the Heath Community Hall - everyone is welcome. If you have any questions or ideas and cannot come to our meetings, call Barbara Smith at 337-5563.



HEATH HERALD Float in Fair Parade

Heather Gruen as the HERALD



**Pages Jennifer Gilbert and Betsey Silvester
lead HERALD Float**

LIBRARY LINES

by Alli Thane, Librarian

The library continues to be a busy place even though school has reopened. Monday evening seems to be the time when young mothers come out for their reading. Wednesday afternoon fills the room with little people, pre-schoolers who have the afternoon free, and Saturday morning is a combination of both.

Again on September 25 the bookmobile left us a great deal of good reading, mysteries, non-fiction, gothic romances, and lots of books for young people.

We received three books on aging gracefully from the Greenfield Community College Foundation. One of these is a very lovely book by Helen Hayes entitled Our Best Years.

New Books: Margaret Mead, A Life, Jane Howard; Help the Poor Struggler, Martha Grimes; A Guide to Halley's Comet; 5 Box Car Children's Mysteries; Zen and the Art of Motorcycle Maintenance, Persig; books on Dollhouses, Carpentry, Wrestling, Microwave Cooking and many children's books.

Ordered and to be received soon: Jubal Sackett, Louis L'Amour; Confessions of a Hooker, Bob Hope; Yeager, An Autobiography; Four of a Kind, Bombeck; Lake Wobegon Days, Keillor; and Frugal Gourmet.

Come in and join us for good reading!

HEATH COUNCIL ON AGING

by Alli Thane

The Heath Council on Aging (Sheila Litchfield, Mildred Giard, Alli Thane) discussed several projects: a monthly blood pressure clinic and, if possible, transportation for this to Sawyer Hall, bus tours, large print books for the library, cassette players and cassettes for lending, and a once a week shopping bus to Greenfield. A questionnaire is being prepared and will be mailed out shortly for comments on these ideas and to give concerned citizens a chance to make other suggestions.

CENTRAL AMERICAN FILMS

The Franklin County Central American Film Series will be given at Trinity Church in Shelburne Falls at 7:30 PM on October 15, 29, November 19 and December 3. These films will be followed by a discussion each night. The films on October 15 will focus on labor; October 29, on Guatemala; November 19, on refugees; and December 3, on Nicaragua. The films will also be shown in Conway and Greenfield. For more information, call Catherine Ishii at 625-2718.

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CHURCH NEWS

by Amy C. Barry

At a joint service in Heath on Sunday, September 29, the members of the Heath and Rowe Churches voted to call Kevin Pleas as their new minister. Kevin is presently in his final year at Andover Newton Theological Seminary and comes to our communities with excellent recommendations. He grew up in Riverside, California and spent four years in the US Coast Guard before attending the University of Massachusetts. While in Amherst he was Youth Group assistant in the North Congregational Church and at Andover Newton he was student assistant minister for Wellesley Congregational Church. Kevin, his wife Pamela and their two children, Sarah and James, are now settled in the Parsonage.

As part of welcoming Kevin and his family to Heath and Rowe, there will be a Pantry Shower for the Pleas family on Wednesday October 16 at 7:30 PM at the Rowe Community Church. For this shower, patterned after the old country custom of "pounding" a new bride by bringing her a "pound" of something for her pantry shelves, people are invited to bring frozen foods, canned goods or harvest vegetables for storage, along with favorite recipes to share. No red meat or dairy products, please.

The Heath Church held its annual meeting on October 1. Craig Barry, Jr. was re-elected to a term as Deacon. The other Deacons are Catherine Cromack, Rachel Sumner and Ralph Dickinson. Among topics discussed at the meeting were the Christmas service, the budget for 1986, and some possible bylaw amendments that will be researched by a bylaw committee headed by Karen MacDougall. This year in honor of our Bicentennial the ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve service will be held in Heath.

OPENING OF HEATH BROOK STUDIOS

Jayne and Bob Dane have announced the opening of their glass and ash basket studios at their home on Rowe Road in Heath Center. They will host an open studio and Christmas sale on Saturday December 7 from 10 to 5. Glass blowing demonstrations will be given all day. A number of Christmas gift items will be for sale including blown ornaments, tumblers, candlesticks, marbles and goblets. Jayne makes hand pounded black and white ash baskets. These will also be for sale along with her herbal wreaths.

Mark your calendars! You are invited to come to watch the glassblowing and enjoy a cup of cider with the Danes. The studio is also open by appointment - call 337-5736.

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SCHOOL COMMITTEE REPORT

by Budge Litchfield, Secretary

The schools are open, busses are running, parents are relieved and most of the vacant positions have been filled. There are many new faces at Rowe this fall, the most notable is Paul Swen (see separate article). The Special Education staff has been completely overhauled with Joanne Guiguere as the new Special Education teacher and Ellen Guistembelli as her aide. We also welcome two new music teachers, Elizabeth Bryant for classroom/vocal music and Ted Wirt for instrumental music. Hawlemont's gain, Cindy Cole as 6th grade teacher, was our loss. We thank Cindy for her many years of work in the Chapter 1 math program. Her replacement should be here at press time.

We have had a number of unique experiences so far this year, the first on opening day at Rowe School. In an effort to prevent some of the problems we had with head lice (pediculosis) last spring, Sharleen Moffat organized a head check for everyone entering the school on opening day. With the help of volunteers and a slight staggering of bus schedules, both the head check and regular opening day activities went very smoothly.

Our "hurricane day" was probably a new experience for everyone; a calling chain that didn't work perfectly was probably not new. During the next few weeks we will do a "dry run" of the phone chain to try to get all the bugs out before winter.

Most of our other work has revolved around finances. At a special town meeting it was decided to accept an Equal Educational Opportunity grant with the stipulation that the school committee would be responsible for refusing to accept that grant if unacceptable requirements are put forth by the state. We are still waiting for final requirements for participation in this program.

At the last Rowe School Committee meeting our tuition rate for the FY '85-'86 was established at \$1657.70 for each "full time student." This is an increase of \$327.09 per student over last year's rate. Even with the increase this rate is below the tuition cost of other schools in our area.

NEW PRINCIPAL AT ROWE SCHOOL

by Sue Silvester

The Rowe Elementary School commenced the school year with a change in administration. Paul Swen, 36, succeeds Anita Page, who resigned this summer to accept a principalship in South Hadley.

Paul brings to the school a rich and varied background. Originally from New York, he was raised in an Air Force family and travelled extensively. Graduating in 1970 from St. Lawrence University, Paul later graduated from the Air Force Officer Training School and the Navigator Training School with honors in flying and scholastic work. He continued his education at the University of Massachusetts and received his Masters Degree in Education in 1983.

Having been a classroom teacher and special education aide for grades K-12 during the past decade, Paul has assimilated a variety of educational experiences. He feels that perhaps the most challenging aspect of his new job is to master a sense of timing; a smooth-running elementary school must coordinate many schedules for programs such as art, music, physical education and lunch. With the assistance of a supportive and professional staff, this has indeed been accomplished.

Although Paul sees himself as a facilitator of change and wants any new direction to come from the staff and communities, he has made minor modifications to enhance communication. The newsletter to parents presents a more structured format to its readers. The budget process is now entirely computerized, and mailing lists have been generated by the school's computer. Paul has also obtained new curriculum material for substitute teachers and invites parental involvement. He urges all members of the Heath and Rowe communities to stop by for a visit or call him to get acquainted. A great deal of his time during the day is spent in classrooms, usually visiting every class on a daily basis.

Paul's own children attend Sanderson Academy, Nathan being in the second grade and Brian starting Kindergarten. Paul and his wife Janet live with their children on Baptist Corner Road in Ashfield.



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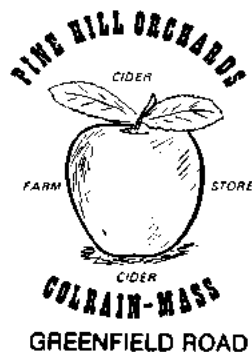
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EDUCATIONAL GRANT TOPIC OF STM

by D.F. Howland

At the special town meeting (STM) held on August 28, it was voted to accept an Equal Educational Opportunity Grant of \$8652 from the state subject to review by the Heath School Committee. Seventeen townspeople, a goodly number for a STM, were convened by Moderator Ed Calver at 7:05 PM in the Community Hall.

The grant was the first article on the warrant. Skip Venneri, Chairman of the School Committee, said the legislation was so new that it was difficult to obtain pertinent information from school authorities, much less make a decision about the matter. He emphasized that the School Committee wanted to do what was best for all children in Heath and Rowe, even though Rowe is not eligible for grant funds. He explained that equal opportunity grants are paid to towns spending below the 85% statewide average per pupil. The Department of Education will notify those towns eligible. Grants are 1/6 of the difference between actual expenditures and the 85% average. Acceptance is by majority vote of the School Committee and the town meeting. Regional schools need a majority vote of their committee and a two-thirds vote of the member towns. Budge Litchfield of the School Committee offered the following amendment: "The School Committee will reserve the right to refuse to participate in the grant program if by the filing deadline, be it 9/15/85 or 10/15/85, requirements are put forth which the School Committee deems unacceptable." The amendment was adopted and the entire article was passed with only one negative vote. (Since the STM, the deadline was extended to October 15 and administrative guidelines have become clearer, but a final decision had not been made as of this time.)

Three other articles on the warrant were dealt with quickly. It was voted to transfer \$226 from the highway wages account to the holiday pay account to correct a budget situation, and to accept \$20,409 and \$18,690 from two different state road programs. All were voted unanimously.

CARPENTER AWARD TO CHRISSY GILBERT

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.

1785 — HEATH — 1985

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NEW EDUCATION LAW — CHAPTER 188

by Sue Silvester

Massachusetts ranks 48th in the country for having a school age population (ages 5-17); a mere 17.3 percent of the state's residents are attending school this year, as compared to 25.4 percent in Utah, for example.

During the past several years the whole educational system in our country, from Maine to California, has come under close scrutiny by educators, parents and diverse community groups. In an effort to combat the problems that plague public education today, the Bay State recently passed a two year \$210 million education reform law which went into effect in September. Many provisions in this law are currently being hotly debated in other states and many of the articles, such as minimum salary for first-year teachers, were recently passed in such states as Oklahoma.

Chapter 188, the new Massachusetts law, calls for beginning teacher salaries to be raised to \$18,000 over the next two years and would make available \$1,100 as salary enhancement grants for veteran teachers, both being subject to local approval. Although key issues such as class size are not addressed, the law provides funding for the development of early childhood, day care and pre-kindergarten programs and does require basic skills testing for students. Also required is competency testing for new teachers.

Areas of confusion are slowly being ironed out at state and local levels for such provisions as the Equal Educational Opportunity Grants which benefit school districts currently spending less than 85 percent of state-wide per pupil average.

ACADEMY NEWS

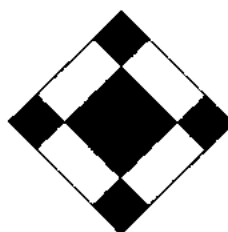
by Karen Venneri

The Academy at Charlemont kicked off yet another year on September 9, 1985. It began with our annual picnic in which we welcomed seventy students to the school. This year we also welcomed three foreign students; Gaelle Yannou who is from France; Aya Miaki from Japan; and Fabrizio Prosperi from Mexico. We also run a new program this year, a transition class which contains eight students and their teacher, Mr. Jeffrey Coulson.

This year in sports we offer Tennis, Soccer, and Bicycling. Mr. Coulson also is participating in the soccer program.

To start off this year's field trips the Freshman Class travelled to Montreal, Canada to visit Ramses II and Picasso exhibits on September 19 through September 21. Over the summer the Mexican exchange program grew to seventeen people in all. This year the Academy will be holding the annual Mountain Day hike. We are looking forward to a prosperous year.

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SELECTMEN'S HIGHLIGHTS

by HERALD Staff

Water storage tanks have been buried on the Common and at Whitemore Spring as a source of water for fire protection in those areas.

The improved section of Avery Brook Road is ready to be paved. Bids have been taken for sand and paving material and it is hoped the work will be completed before winter.

Hurricane "Gloria" inflicted considerable damage to four roads in town and minor damage to two roads amounting to a cost of \$4000 to \$5000 in repairs. The selectmen are investigating the possibility of state aid as the Governor had declared a state emergency.

Anne Steinbock has resigned from the Franklin County Advisory Board and Richard Giar was named as representative from Heath in her place.

The selectmen voted to apply for an Incentive Aid grant with the help of Circuit Rider Susan Wright. Heath would be one of eight towns participating in this \$20,000 grant and the town's share would be used for Planning Board training. A second Incentive Aid grant would be used for Conservation Commission Training. This would help in developing a town conservation program.

The selectmen are also considering re-activating a Historical Commission which was voted at a town meeting some years ago.

In order to clarify town office responsibilities, the selectmen have assigned functions between the Town Clerk, the Town Treasurer and the Town Accountant.

Catherine Nichols has been appointed to the Computer Committee replacing John Holdsworth.

Sick leave and vacation policies for town employees are being reviewed as they need to be clarified.

There will be no selectmen's meeting on October 14 in observance of Columbus Day.

PLANNING BOARD REPORT

by Robert Dane, Secretary

The Planning Board meetings of the last two months have centered on an update and revision of the town's Subdivision Regulations. There were a number of changes in the wording of various sections in order to make the regulations more specific. Aquifer protection and septic system design regulations were also added. A checklist was compiled to help the Board evaluate submitted plans more completely. We should have a final draft of the regulations completed sometime next month.

The Board also held a hearing on September 23 for the special permit application of Homer Stafford to build a permanent residence on his land-locked property on Rowe Road. The Board granted the permit.



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BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

by Paul Lively, Chairman

Since my last report we have enjoyed a very successful Bicentennial Heath Fair under the leadership of Walter Gleason and his committees. The Bicentennial Committee cooperated with the Heath Agricultural Society by sponsoring the Mohawk Trail Regional High School Dance Band, the Shelburne Falls Military Band and shared the cost of the fireworks. Our parade float carried the message "Celebrating 200 Years of Community Spirit" and the Heath Fair is probably the best example of Heath's community spirit because just about everybody helps out and participates.

Also under the direction of Robert Dane many enjoyed the creations of the town's artisans displayed at Sawyer Hall. By the time you read this report we expect that many will have enjoyed a successful wagon train and pig roast, thanks to the efforts of Carroll Stowe and Doug Wilkins.

Now we look forward to the Bicentennial Ecumenical Service on the evening of November 27, which is the day before Thanksgiving, at the Heath Church. Among other, things we will come together publicly to thank the One who has given us the reasons for celebrating 200 years of community.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

by David F. Howland, Chairman

Since the annual town meeting last May the Finance Committee has devoted its energies to issues involving articles on the warrants at special town meetings. Primarily these were budget overrun problems, the town's indebtedness and more recently the financial implications of the state's new education law.

Planning for FY 1986-87 is underway. Four general areas of concern have our attention: alternate proposals for the town dump; fiscal responsibility, i.e. matching income to outgo with cash flow; the school budget, particularly Rowe school; and improving the tax base of the town.

The membership of the FinCom remains the same. Dave Howland was reelected and has been named chairman for the coming year. Guy Silvester, secretary, and Bruce Cromack round out the team. The cooperation of the various boards and committees that help the FinCom with its work is appreciated.

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TAX COLLECTIONS

by Linda Marcotte

Everybody should have received their copy of the tax bills mailed August 28, 1985. They were due in full 30 days from that date. There has been some confusion concerning these bills. In January 1985, bills were mailed for FY ending June 30, 1984. The January bills were over a year late in being mailed. The bills just issued for FY ending June 30 1985 are also very late in being mailed. You should also be aware that we hope to have the first half of the FY '86 bills out by December 31.

The audit of the tax collector's books is just about complete through FY 1983. By the end of October, I hope to have a complete list of all delinquent taxpayers. I will then be sending letters to each person on the list showing the year(s) and amount(s) of taxes our records show are owed to the town. Everyone who receives such a letter, but feels that there is an error, should carefully look for receipts or cancelled checks to prove the tax was paid. Otherwise each person should make arrangements to pay these outstanding amounts in a timely manner.

Eventually I will be starting the legal process of tax taking as provided in the Mass. General Laws. This process includes sending another letter to the taxpayer with a deadline by which they can pay the taxes (including all interest, charges and fees) or their name will be published in a local paper. The published list will give the taxpayers another deadline by which to pay or a lien on their property will be recorded. The lien can be removed as soon as the taxes are paid. The longer the taxpayer takes to pay the outstanding amount the greater the total amount of the bill, as interest, charges and fees must be included (according to Mass. Laws).

I will try to answer questions about the above process, though I might not be able to answer all questions until I have completed the list of delinquent taxpayers. I am normally in the Town Hall (337-4934) Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8 AM to 11:30 AM or I can be reached at 337-4394 on Monday and Friday mornings. If you wish to see me and the above days are inconvenient, please call me and we will arrange something.

FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

by Chief Earl Gleason

The Fire Department's busy two months started with the Firemen's Association meeting the first day of August. Three trucks responded to a fire in the rubble of an old barn on the Russo property on August 7. Five days later Engine 1 responded to an automobile accident on Colrain Brook Road. At 11:45 PM on August 13 our three trucks responded to a structure fire at the Pasquantonios' residence on Number Nine Road. With no water available, tankers responded from Whittingham, Rowe, Colrain, Charlemont and Halifax, with Shelburne Falls sending a pumper to cover the station.

The following morning Engines 1 and 2 responded to a grass fire on the Maitland property on Route 8A across from Coles'. The Heath Fair was the next activity with the First Aid booth, the Chicken Barbecue, the Root Beer, the Firemen's wheel and the Firemen's games, climaxing with the fireworks sponsored by the Fire Department with the Bicentennial Committee donating half the funds. Our last run on August 25 was the first chimney fire of this heating season.

We started September out with the Firemen's Association meeting on the fifth. On the seventh we catered the Yankee Atomic Power Plant annual picnic, which included hot dogs, sausage, hamburger, corn and clam chowder, served from ten in the morning until nine in the evening with a chicken barbecue dinner served at five. Four fighters started cleaning chimneys on September 12. Drill night the following Thursday consisted of trucking three loads of water to partly fill the tank buried on the Common. Three trucks responded to a structure fire in Rowe on the 21st and the following day several firefighters and Engine 3 participated in a joint drill with Charlemont using their four-inch hose. The great hurricane scare resulted with the selectmen, civil defense, fire and police preparing for a disaster. This mainly consisted of preparing base radios to accept power from 12-volt batteries, checking portable generators, alerting trailer owners of the danger and opening the Community Hall for those owners to stay. We had one couple who spent the afternoon there. The next afternoon Engine 1 responded on a Mutual Aid call to Charlemont Fairgrounds for a structure fire which was out on arrival. The Engine stood by until Charlemont picked up the hose and was back in service. The month ended with the Western Mass. Fire Wardens meeting held at the Community Hall. Fireman Steinbock headed up the dinner committee. In addition four smoke detector inspections were made and, as Civil Defense Director, I met with the new Area Civil Defense Director.

After reviewing the preceding two months, it seems that fire prevention should be one of our top considerations and I remind you that Fire Prevention Week is October 5 through 12.

The Fire Chief has many worthwhile booklets that might be worth your time to read, if only to remind you of some of the things that we should do to prevent fires. They are yours for the asking and we will have some available for Fire Prevention Week.

Let's start October with a fire-free and fire-safe season.

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**THE BOOK OF HEATH:
BICENTENNIAL ESSAYS**

IN MEMORY OF A FRIEND

by Harriet Read

Clyde Varney died at the age of 96 on September 17th. Looking back on the 50 years that I knew Clyde brings many memories of a kind and gentle man and a dear friend. His delightful sense of humor, which tickled him as much as it did me, made knowing him a joy.

Clyde did much for his town of Heath by serving as tax collector for 30 years and as constable, P.O. Clerk, and registrar of voters.

He and his wife Florence (also deceased) made a happy home for their four foster sons, all of whom have prospered. They loved and respected the Varneys for the good life they enjoyed with them.

Knowing Clyde was to admire him, and he will truly be missed by all of his friends.

TOWN OFFICE HOURS

(At Town Hall unless otherwise noted)

Selectmen: Mondays 7 PM
Assessors: Tuesdays 7 PM
Town Clerk: Mondays 7 - 9 PM
 Fridays 1 - 4 PM, Saturdays 9 AM - 12 noon
Town Treasurer & Tax Collector: Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays 8-11:30 AM
 and by appointment, call 337-4394
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
Library Trustees: 1st Monday of month 7 PM
Library: Mondays 6 - 9 PM Wednesdays 1 - 5 PM
 Saturdays 9 AM - 1 PM
Town Nurse: Wednesdays 8:45 - 10:45 AM
 Fridays 12:45 - 2:45 PM
 call 625-2829 for appointment between 7 - 8:15 AM
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MILESTONES

by Edith C. Royer

Mallory Jean was born August 9 to Debbie and Douglas Seibert of Greenfield. Mallory is the great granddaughter of Wilbert Rainville, Sr. and of David Giard, Sr. both of Heath.

Liam O'Malley was born on August 26 to Maureen O'Malley and William Lattrell of Taylor Brook Road, Heath.

John Douglas was born on August 30 to Karen and John (Jack) MacDougall of Ledge Road, Heath.

Eric Robert was born on September 9 to Pearl and Robert Burrington of East Charlemont. Eric is the great grandson of Hannah Burrington and is her 9th great grandchild.

Amity Keziah was born on September 13 to Karen and George Giard, Jr. of Colrain. Amity is the great granddaughter of Wilbert Rainville, Sr. and David Giard, Sr. both of Heath.

Joni Joy and Craig Sessions were married, September 21, at a beautiful outdoor wedding at the home of Craig's father, Norman Sessions, on Jacksonville Stage Road. Craig is also the son of Joan Sessions of South Heath and grandson of Dorothy Sessions of Jacksonville Stage Road.

Caroline and Newland Smith celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on August 31. Friends and neighbors held a surprise party for them.

David Dixon died in California on August 19. He was 61 years old. He leaves his wife Margaret and twin daughters Jan and Joy. His father, Frederick Dixon, was the minister in Heath from 1934 - 1944.

Clyde H. Varney died in the Farren Hospital on September 17. He was 96 years old. Clyde was a resident of Heath for many years and held several town offices. He had attended every Heath Fair including this year's Bicentennial.

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