

# FATH HERAL

FIRST NEWSPAPER HEATH'S 50¢

#### MEMORIES OF THE TREK THROUGH EUROPE

by Melanie Tripp

On June 15, 1942 Robert C. Tripp enlisted into the service of his country at the post office in Springfield, MA. The next day he left his family to go to war as a paratrooper.

He and other enlistees travelled by truck to Ft. Devens, MA for indoctrination. The following day he travelled by train to Camp Croft, SC, his home for the next months. At the end of basic training he was sent to Ft. Benning, GA and then to Ft. Bragg, NC, where he completed his airborne training.

On November 2, 1943 he left New York on a troop ship headed for England. In England, the Allies were forming and training for the Invasion of France. The long and hard training came to an end on June 5, 1944, when the 101st paratroopers boarded airplanes headed for the coast of France. The 502nd Battalion was dropped beyond "Utah Beach" in the area of St. Martin-de-Varrevitte. Their objective was to seize and hold open the roads to St. Mere Eglise and to establish a beach head for the waves of troops landing on the beaches.

The Germans had flooded the area back of Utah Beach, and that was where Tripp floated into France, on the moonlit night of June 5, 1944. He managed to keep his gun high out of the water and with the use of the "cricket" he was able to find other members of the battalion. He fought here for seven days until he was wounded by two bullets in the leg. After field hospital surgery he returned to battle. Infection spread through the wounds and he was sent back to England on June 20 for more surgery.

It took a month to recuperate, after which he was sent back to his outfit in Chilton, England. In Chilton they trained for the jump into Holland. On September 17, they floated into Nijmegen, Holland. For 90 days they fought a hard battle and liberated Holland from the Germans. The unit received orders to Rheams, France for rest and recuperation. A 24 hour pass to Paris was cause for quite a celebration. After that they needed more rest and recuperation.

The 101st left Rheams, December 18, 1944 by truck for Bastogne, Belgium. Bastogne was to be taken to break up German communications and supply roads to the River Meuse. Bastogne proved to be the toughest fight the 101st was to face. They lived in holes in the snow, ate the native cattle and poultry that they killed and were under constant artillery fire from General von Rundstedt's armored division. There were many retreats and conquests, short supplies, bad weather and the casualties were tremendous. General McAuliffe was determined to hold Bastogne.

When the Germans asked for a surrender, General McAuliffe answered "Nuts". Finally, General Patten's armored Division arrived to liberate the surrounded 101st. On January 17, 1945 the Battle of the Bulge was over.

During the battle, Tripp was shot in the leg by a tank gun. After an operation at the field hospital in Bastogne, he was sent to England. It was during these battles that Tripp earned the Silver Star, Bronze Star and Oak Leaf Cluster.

After 2 1/2 months in the English hospital, Tripp crossed the English Channel on a ship and travelled to Austria to rejoin his unit.

They were on "mopping up" operations in the Alps, cleaning out "hold out Germans" and liberating Ger-The war's end found them in Berman POWs. chestgaden doing leisurely duty as occupying forces.

As a high pointer, Tripp was homebound by truck to Marseilles, France and a ship to Boston landing on September 4, 1945.

Continued on page 5



ROBERT "JAKE" TRIPP (Family Photo)

#### EDITORIAL

Two women whose lives were inextricably interwoven into the fabric of this community passed away recently. They were truly the matriarchs of Heath, women who had contributed to their family and community in an altruistic way all their lives. Sophie Coe and Rachel Sumner will be greatly missed by their family, friends, and neighbors. It was a privilege to have known them; I admired them both for their love of nature and their concern for this community. Rachel poured her energy into building a solid foundation for our local church much as Sophie did as she administered the operation of the Heath Fair Exhibit Hall where the displays were admired by thousands each year. I will miss both of them immensely. Yet as I drive past the church in the center of town or watch a child enter his first exhibit at the Heath Fair, I will remember that Sophie and Rachel have made an indelible imprint on the face of this earth.

#### CARD OF THANKS

Rachel Sumner touched many lives in the past 84 years. Her great love for the community in which she lived and her great desire to make things ever better were all a vital part of her love for life.

To each of you who touched her life in some way over the years, thank you.

For your support, expressions of sympathy and prayers at the time of our great loss thank you.

God bless you, each and every one.

Her family



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Columnists

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#### CARD OF THANKS

Sophie Coe would like to thank everybody who sent her cards, flowers, and well wishes during her hospital stay.

NOTE: This card of appreciation was requested by Sophie when she returned home from the hospital. We are sure she greatly appreciated hearing from her Heath friends.

#### **HEATH LADIES AID**

by Edith Royer

Our Summer Sale will be at the Church Craft Fair on Saturday, July 23. It will be held at the Heath Fairgrounds.

#### Richard A. Sumner

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#### ALAN'S ALMANAC

by Alan Nichols Observer for Mass. Division of Water Resources

Precipitation of March through May is as follows:

March 5.43" precipitation

4.15 average

21.9" snow

3.59" precipitation

4.30 average

May\* 4.15" precipitation

April

5.06 average

\*through May 23, 1994.

The snow had melted from our field around April 12 though it remained in the woods and shady areas weeks longer. The pears were blooming on May 20 and the apples on the 24th. Quite late. The apples usually precede the dandelions into bloom. One wonders how many pollinating insects survived the winter. The black flies seem to be un-endangered.

## RACHEL'S ROSE A LIVING SYMBOL OF BEAUTY AND STRENGTH

by Pat Leuchtman

There's a rose in my garden named Rachel.

Last summer Rachel Burrington Summer heard of my interest in old roses and invited me to come to her house and dig up two of the roses growing there. She didn't know their names but thought I would love them as she did.

As I arrived I passed her two adult grandsons who were dashing off to a wedding leaving Rachel and me alone in the big old farmhouse that had seen so much life, so many weddings and births — and grieving, too. She gave me a tour of the farmhouse that she had come to as a bride. She explained all the work that her husband had done over the years before he died in 1988, and proudly pointed out the photographs of her children and grandchildren.

Then she took me outside to show me the roses, which were no longer in bloom because it was so late in the season. Armed with my tough leather rose gloves and a shovel I set to work while Rachel returned to her chair in the kitchen.

It took me a while to dig up those roses. They were thorny and their roots went as deep and wide into the heath soil as Rachel's did.

The rose growing in the front yard had spread into a large thicket and had proved its indomitable hardiness. Rachel said it had been covered with two or three feet of soil during one major house renovation and the resulting hill was never moved. The rose disappeared but in time worked its way back to the surface where it continued to grow and spread and bloom.

I didn't know Rachel well. I didn't know her when she was a strong young woman taking her place in the community, working on the farm, raising a family and working down at the high school office. When I met her she was already becoming frail, but still involved. Whenever I had to arrange to use the church Rachel was the one I had to talk to.

Usually we only met at the Heath Fair. She'd ask about my garden and tell me of her pleasure in the new minister.

Before I returned home with Rachel's roses I stopped at the Corey's because Rachel's daughter Ruth had promised me a root of the famous spiny Heath yellow rose. Ron dug it up for me and told me to plant it where it would be mowed regularly to keep it in bounds.

Once home I planted the three roses carefully and kept them watered as well as I could, but the summer was very dry and the roses took a beating. By the time winter was in sight I wondered whether those roses would survive.

Early this spring I went out into my pasture, collecting "meadow muffins" and put the manure around Rachel's roses so they would get a good start on the season - and sure enough there is new growth. They are taking hold.

It strikes me that the roses Rachel gave me are very like her - beautiful and strong. They have endured crushing blows, and bloomed again. They'll flower and perfume the air no matter what, but they'll give pleasure to the people around them - as long as those people stop long enough, and are wise enough to notice.

My rose garden started with antique roses, often named after nobility, Konegin von Danemark (Queen of Denmark, Comtesse de Murinais, Duchesse d'Angouleme.

I've been fortunate to have friends give me roses, as a token of friendship. Most of these gifts were unnamed, but I tend to think of them in terms of the giver so I have Alli's Pink, Charity, Fred's Rose and Fred's Other Rose. There's Mabel, Marie, and Mrs. Herzig. Now there is Ruth and Rachel.

Kate knew she was giving me a root of Belle Poitvine, as Mary Kay knew she was giving me the Apothecary Rose, and Sandy the Periere, but I usually think of them as Kate, Mary Kay and Sandy, reminders of the people around me.

I think of these roses as my "farm girls", but most of us women know that whether we are royalty or farm girls, we'd better be sturdy, tenacious and determined or we'll be destroyed by summer's heat and winter's bitterness. There will be nothing left to name a rose after.

I watched the new growth appear on Rachel's rose this spring and hoped it would come along fast enough so that I could invite Rachel over to see how well it had settled in and how happily it was blooming. Rachel died last week and now I won't have that opportunity, but I won't admire the roses alone. Our youngest daughter is being married in the rose garden in June. Family and friends will join us for this joyous celebration. We'll admire the bride and groom – and look to the rose named Rachel for inspiration as they begin their new life.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Reprinted with permission from The Recorder.



RACHEL SUMNER (Family photo)



## Green Thoughts

ELSA BAKALAR

#### SOPHIE AT THE FAIR: A REMEMBRANCE

I suppose each of us has a special way of remembering a friend or colleague who has left us. Today I was planting out some annuals I had grown from seed. They were plants I was quite proud of - salmon-colored godetia, a kind of clarkia not seen too often.

As I was thinking of making a display of them for Heath Fair, I found I was thinking more about Sophie, and suddenly knew it wouldn't be half as much fun without her comments. What might she have said? (Indeed, what might she not have said, for they are a bit gaudy.) She would have known what they were, of course, even if they were not to her taste: Sophie could be a sharp critic of flowers. Not for her the trendy and sometimes unreliable novelty plant. "Upppity," she would have said, and gone on her way.

As Superintendent of Hall - and how amused she was by that grand title - she was determined to bring order into the incredibly diverse collection of objects brought in by their proud owners. As her helpers, we would do our best to answer questions about our "specialty", whether it was pies or preserves, vegetables, flowers, hooked rugs, or children's hobbies. But when we failed, as we often did, on entry day, you'd hear "Sophie!" across the hall, and there she'd be, weighing the pros and cons and making decisions worthy of Solomon himself.

Working in the flower section, receiving entries and arranging them by class, I enjoyed her knowledge of plants and their taxonomy. We usually agreed about the designation of the entry forms, but when we didn't there was humorous compromise. Sophie had humor in large degree. I can hear her now, as some venerable potted plant was trundled in for the umpteenth time: "Dear old thing — looking quite good this year, don't you think?"

My only dread was of having to clamber up on benches atop the tables to hang some trailing monster from a high hook. In fact, I gave up two years ago because I'd lost my nerve. Not Sophie, though. She had already shamed me many times by her readiness to jump up and balance on some precarious board with a heavy plant in one hand.

For the duration of the Fair, Sophie was first every morning and last to leave when the hall was locked at the end of the day. The more I think of it, the more I mean to make a special effort with my flowers this year. I hope many people will. We can think of it as a tribute to Sophie Coe, our indefatigable Superintendent of Hall.

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#### SOPHIE COE

by Alli Thane

When I was asked to write a paragraph or two about Sophie, I said to myself, "Where shall I begin?" Sophie was so many people. She was an author, an anthropologist, a lecturer, an educator, a gardener, a cook, a mother, a friend. She held a Ph.D. in anthropology from Harvard University and she grew the best raspberries and tomatoes. That was Sophie. She was a city person and a country person rolled into one.

Sophie died on May 25th of cancer, surrounded by her family, Mike, Nick, Andy, Sarah, Peter, and Natalie.

In Heath, she will be remembered for her contributions to the Heath Historical Society, for her generous donations to Heath Library, and her enthusiasm in Heath Fair activities. I will never forget her excellent organization and leadership in the exhibit hall at the Fair. She worked tirelessly and even when her health was failing, sent a calendar of instructions for me to follow this year. The Fair will go on as usual under her direction but will be so empty without her.

Among her many other accomplishments, Sophie was a writer. She saw her book, <u>America's First Cuisine</u>, published this year and had started another on the history of chocolate which her husband plans to finish for her.

There will be a memorial service for Sophie in mid-June in New York City at the cathedral where she and Mike were married 39 years ago.

Finally, one bit of advice Sophie tossed at me at proper intervals, "Don't worry about it; life is too short." It certainly was for her. She was so full of life and had so many more tasks to finish. Sophie, I will miss you!

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#### A TRIBUTE TO CYRUS ANNEAR, JR

by Mike Peters

Ever since 1963, the citizens of the towns of Charlemont, Heath, Hawley, and Rowe have been able to call for an ambulance and within minutes help was here. Whenever there was a mutual aid call for the Charlemont Fire Dept. to help any surrounding town with a major fire, the Annears were here with a full crew of firefighters. This was made possible by our good friend, father, grandfather, and uncle, "Cy" Annear.

Even though Cy was retired from the Fire Chief position years ago, he still played a major role in helping whoever needed help by going on as many calls as possible until his death on Monday the 23rd of May, 1994.

The funeral service was very touching. The hearse was followed the entire route by Charlemont's pumper fire truck 7-E1. Once at the cemetery the normal military service was followed by the Taps. The bugler was flawless and brought tears to everyone's eyes once again. That was followed by a moment of silence. Then the scream of the pumper truck siren broke the silence and lasted for one minute. Silence remained until the siren wound down and could no longer be heard. Once again everyone broke down when they realized this was meant to be the last time Cy would ever hear his Fire Department's siren.

"Cy" made hundreds and hundreds of emergency calls to all areas of the county and to all types of accidents possible. He lived to help others and in doing so, he touched the lives in one way or another of thousands of people in Franklin County. We are forever indebted to him and the entire Annear family.

His spirit will live with us forever. Thank you, "Cy".

#### LOSS OF A FRIEND

by Earl Gleason

Heath Fire Department lost a friend this week as long time EMT and former Charlemont Fire Chief Cyrus "Cy" Annear passed away on May 23. He came to Heath in both capacities many times and helped me out numerous times. The time I remember best was when at his insistence Charlemont Fire Department wrote a letter to the Feds urging them to consider us for the grant to purchase the 1977 fire truck. "Cy" and my fire service started more than 40 years ago when we both took a fire class taught in Charlemont by Captain Leslie Ackerman of the Greenfield Fire Department. It was my pleasure to serve as fire chief at the same time as "Cy" but to also serve at the same time with both of his sons Douglas and Dennis. "Cy" will be long remembered for his sometimes sharp remarks followed by a grin and the desire to be there to help those who needed assistance.

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Continued from page 1

EDITOR'S NOTE: As we pause to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the D-Day invasion at Normandy, it is only fitting that we recognize one of the brave Heath men who served our country. Jake Tripp is a decorated war hero and was one of the first to parachute into the war zone that day and survive. He received the Good Conduct Medal, Purple Heart, Oak Leaf Cluster, Silver Star Medal and Bronze Star Medal for service to his country.

#### CITATION FOR THE SILVER STAR

Sergeant Robert C. Tripp, 11070943, Parachute Infantry, while serving with the Army of the United States, distinguished himself by gallantry in action. On 3 January 1945 in the vicinity of Monaville, Belgium, he led his squad in an attack against an enemy patrol of approximately fifty men. In the ensuing action, he personally accounted for four enemy dead. Although wounded, he continued to lead his squad, killed five more of the enemy, and succeeded in routing the vastly superior enemy force without the loss of a single member of his squad. On 4 January 1945 he organized and manned outpost positions so skillfully that when a battalion of enemy infantry attacked the positions, they were unable to gain a foothold on the positions. On 9 January 1945 during an attack by his company, he inspired and led his men who overcame a large enemy force. Her personally killed four of the enemy and routed many more with hand grenades and a rocket launcher. After reaching his objective, he directed accurate and effective mortar fire on the enemy. His courage and inspiring leadership exemplify the highest standards of the military service. He entered military service from Massachusetts.

#### CITATION FOR THE BRONZE STAR

Sergeant Robert C. Tripp, 11070943, Parachute Infantry, while serving with the Army of the United States, distinguished himself by heroic achievement in action. On 18 September 1944 in the vicinity of Best, Holland, he established an outpost in front of his company's position and occupied it for eleven hours in the face of heavy and accurate enemy fire. During this time period, the three men who were with him became casualties, yet he remained at his post alone. After the mortar observer became a casualty, Sergeant Tripp personally directed the mortar fire in front of his company. At the close of the day, approximately twenty of the enemy who tried to infiltrate through the company's lines lay dead in front of the position. The outstanding courage, and high devotion to duty of Sergeant Tripp was a major factor in the security of the company's position. His actions were in accordance with the highest standards of the military service.

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### The Way It Is In The Country

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

by CARROLL STOWE

#### AN ADVENTURE TO FEED THE MURRAY GREYS

Back in early April Dave Freeman and I travelled almost to the Canadian border to attend a farm auction. The purpose was to attempt to be successful at buying a round bailer to bail grass silage to create an easier and less labor intensive method of feeding David's new herd of cattle.

We left Heath at 5 AM on the appointed day to reach Newport, VT in time to witness the sale and possibly be a successful bidder for this very good condition bailer.

David had a cooler full of food and drink so time was not lost having to stop to eat. We were pulling a tandem axle trailer with David's 3/4 ton truck to use to bring the machine home if it came about that he could afford the purchase. With only a troublesome leaky lower radiator hose to deter our forward progress we arrived in the border town in plenty of time for the sale.

This farm sale was held on Tuesday which seemed strange to us, but in the experience of farm sale auction people, sales during the week attract those who are potential buyers instead of buyers and lookers if held on a Saturday. As it turned out David was to be the winner of the buy of the day - a bailer of good manufacture and at an affordable price.

As we had a long trip to do we got loaded and were ready to leave at 2 PM. I had the mistaken thought that we would be home around 6 PM. How wrong I was!

We came to a general repair gas station and blew up the trailer tires and decided to have the lower radiator hose installed so's not to be problemed with that. Things worked fine until after a 30 mile stretch. We had a flat tire on the trailer. These tires had not seen much mileage and should have stood the trip well. They were not overloaded but outside of White River Junction we had a second flat tire.

Before we left the auction site a fellow gave David his card and said "I don't wish you any bad luck but if you get into trouble on 91 give me a call." We were dead in the water as we couldn't get very far off the road and didn't wish to leave the trailer to go for help so we waited for a police officer to check us out. The old saying about not being able to find an officer when you need one is so true. We sat and assessed our fix and finally around 8 PM an off-duty sheriff's department officer stopped to see if he could help.

He took David and trailer wheel to Ascutney to look for a tire and found several places that had the proper size tire but these tires were all mounted on 5 hole wheels and David's was a 4 hole wheel. None would agree to change one to his wheel. David finally reached the fellow with the truck and trailer out of White River Junction. I had stayed with the disabled rig and had the flashing lights on and from time to

time I would start the truck to recharge the battery. Well, I fell asleep at the switch. When I woke up and tried to start the truck the answer was NO.

Well, David got back with the sheriff and we had to await other transport. Help arrived around 10 PM and we started the process of shifting the bailer from one rig to the other. This accomplished we were on our way. We travelled the rest of the way without incident. We unloaded the newly purchased bailer at the A frames off Route 2 on Avery Brook Road and left the machine off the road until David could come back in the daylight for it. The trucking charge was in excess of \$300 and was the most expensive flat tire David had ever had.

It was nearly 2:30 AM when I got home and needless to say I wasn't very bright eyed or bushy tailed that day.

With the coming of the hay season the Murray Grey cattle will have a new form of roughage to eat this winter. All in all it was a great adventure in the quest to provide a less labor intensive means of feeding cattle.

#### **CHURCH NEWS**

by Pastor Roger Peace

Maybe there is something in the air - no! Maybe it has something to do with the year - no! Maybe it is a sense of feeling closer to God living in Heath - possibly! Me - I just think it is wonderful. Yes, love is in the air, for just recently I did my first wedding renewal on Harry and Dee Hall's 25th Anniversary - Congratulations. Then there are three weddings being planned this year already. Who knows - there may be more, too!

For those of you who purchased a pizza kit from our youth group - we thank you. Proceeds will go to paint the front of the Heath Union Church. Other work at the church is planned for this year also.

There are two events that I hope you are aware of. In June, on the 25th, we are having an auction at the Heath Fairgrounds. If you have any items that you would like to donate, contact Howard or Jeannette Crowningshield at 339-4406. Hope to see you there. We will also have a tag sale at the same time for the smaller items. Then in July, on the 23rd, the church joins with the Ladies Aid for the Heath Craft Fair and Ladies Aid Sale. Anyone from Heath can display their crafts by contacting Catherine Cromack at 337-4350.

On Father's Day, June 19th, the Sunday School will be leading the entire worship service. This annual event has been not only a lot of fun, but all those who participate have done an excellent job. There will be gifts to some special dads that day - so if you're a father, be sure to be in church that Sunday.

Finally, congratulations to our Heath high school graduates. You have done well and now you may continue your pursuit of what you want to do for the future. May God always be a part of your life and direct your paths.

God Bless.

#### **HEATH FAIR NEWS**

by Mike Peters

The three month countdown for Heath Fair 1994 has begun. We have just received word from our superiors that our request for perfect weather on August 19, 20 and 21 has been approved.

Every year the committee members chuckle at how we get the grass growing nice and even on the fairgrounds, and then we rip and dig it up again for another project.

This year will be no exception. We are planning our biggest project in history to be completed in time for this year's fair.

The project will be a total replacement of the septic system and a large addition onto the existing bathroom and first aid room building. In addition, the entire length of the fairgrounds on the west side will be cut back to the stone wall, stumped, electricity and water installed, and used for trailer parking.

The Agricultural Society has gone into more debt than ever for this septic system job and this has the executives very worried. Every alternative under the sun was discussed and it came down to doing this or closing the Heath Fair. We have received a \$10,000 anonymous donation from a big-hearted summer resident earmarked for this addition but we still have to raise another \$25,000 to repay the loan. The Fair has very, very little cash on hand at this time and has no way of making \$3,000 a year payments towards this upgrading. We need financial help desperately. All donations large or small will be greatly appreciated.

The State has been doing their usual routine of promising money and not coming through. For eight months they have promised us \$2,000 to help pay the \$8,000 we paid out last year for prizes and premiums to the public. We have not seen it yet. Yes, every year we pay \$8,000 directly to citizens of Heath and exhibitors from surrounding towns as well, for cash prizes alone. If the Heath Fair is going to survive the next five years, we are going to need large donations. Please help.

Due to the increase in the number of concessioners last year, we will be using a new midway design this year. We have grown to the point where we have to do this or limit the number that can be accepted. We are also planning extra room for a ferris wheel that should be tall enough to allow you to see over the treetops and have a spectacular view of the mountains. More games and other vendors are also expected.

All of the normal events, entertainment, rides, dances, and so forth have been booked. This year due to special circumstances we will be displaying our biggest show of fireworks ever. This will be significantly larger than our show at the 75th fair two years ago and will have a raindate for Sunday night. This was the result of a price war between our usual company and a new competitor, Atlas. Don't miss it !!!

The barn museum is under way again and should be framed and roofed by fairtime. Good luck to Bruce, Ed, Fred, and Glenn.

This year's June Horse Draw will be June 26th. We had a tremendous crowd last year and we hope for the same this year.

We are very saddened by the loss of our exhibit hall Superintendent, Sophie Coe. She has run the hall professionally for about twelve years now and deserves a huge thank you from all of us. We will never forget her. Alli Thane will become our new hall Superintendent and is well trained for the job under Sophie's watchful eye. Good luck, Alli.

That's all of the new things going on at this year's Heath Fair, so please plan on coming on August 19, 20, and 21.

See You There

#### A SPRING TOUR

by Deborah Phillips

It was a beautiful, sunny morning on Sunday, May 15 during which forty-four motorcycles cruised down Route 8A through North Heath and proceeded to the center of town. They were headed to the Community Hall for a pre-arranged lunch provided by and benefitting the Heath Preschool.

This very successful fundraising event was sponsored by AJ Cycle Shop on Route 2 in Gill, and David Adie of Heath who made the event possible. The group embarked on a 100 mile tour through the hills and mountains of Massachusetts and Vermont which culminated in a luncheon feast at Heath Center. So tune up your bike and polish the chrome, this may be the beginning of a new annual Heath event!



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#### THE FEDERATED CHURCH CALL TO RENEWAL

by Pat Leuchtman

The early histories of Heath and Charlemont are joined; in fact the towns did not exist as separate entities until 1785. Jonathan Leavitt was installed as the minister of Charlemont's – and Heath's – first church in 1767 and his house, The Manse, is located in Heath.

That first church served worshippers in what are now Heath, Hawley and Buckland, as well as Charlemont. The building the Congregational Society built in 1845 now houses The Federated Church, a merger of Methodist, Baptist and Congregational churches. Some Heath residents continue to worship there as the Call to Renewal is sounded in preparation for the 150th Anniversary celebration.

It was to take a look backward at recent history that a dinner was held at the church on Sunday, March 13. In addition to a wonderful chicken dinner prepared by the Ladies Aid, the highlight of the evening was a slide show. Most of the slides were taken by the Reverend William Wakefield during the 40's, 50's and 60's. They vividly illustrated how the life of the community was interwoven with the life of the church. It was very moving to see photos of people building additions to the church, repairing the parsonage, cooking some of those famous suppers, and then in all their Sunday finery at an Easter Sunday breakfast or posed in front of the church for a Family Sunday celebration. Some of the children in those slides, wiggling held under check, or shyly hiding behind a father's trousered leg, are now older than their parents were when those pictures were taken. I pass those children, now grown, when I go about my errands. It gave me a real sense of the continuity of life in our community.

That community life continues well beyond Charlemont's borders today. Members of the congregation work with the Good Neighbors and Trinity Meals. Also, the church building is used by organizations like Alcoholics Anonymous, The West County birdwatchers and the Mohawk Trail Concerts.

As it approaches its 150th birthday the church building itself is in need of renewal, hence the capital fundraising campaign. On April 24, about 20 stewards went out to call on members of the congregation and returned with \$116,000 of pledges in their pockets. As a result, the furnace under the sanctuary is already being replaced and plans are going forward to get a new hot water heater, build a handicapped-accessible restroom, put in new wiring and lighting, replace sections of the roof - and put on a new coat of paint on the church and parsonage exteriors. The fund-raising campaign, which is now reaching out to the larger community for donations, is proving so successful that other much needed building projects may be able to get under way as well.

Karen Brooks who has been working on planning

#### FRESH WINDS FARM

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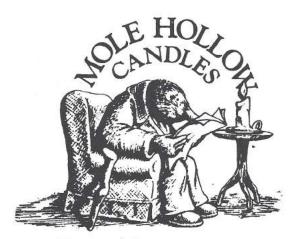
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the renovation project for over a year and a half, is in the process of drafting a design for an addition which could be added on to the end of the building. It would include a code-approved ramp, the handicapped accessible bathroom, and possibly some extra storage.

Happily, the work on the capital campaign has had the added benefit of contributing to another renewal - that of the congregation itself. It has been clear for some time that the burdens of necessary chores have been borne by those who have been doing them for decades. At the same time, the younger population of the church has been growing, those in their forties and younger, and their children. They have recognized the necessity to accept an increasing responsibility for leadership and labor.

The fund drive has provided a chance for people who have not worked together to do so, and to reach out to the broader community as well. Chris Burke, who has his own experience with old church buildings (he's been renovating the church across from the Corner Store) has also been working with the building committee. He says, "I think the fund-raising has been successful because the church has been so important to so many people over the past - for many years. When the call goes out, 'we need you' people respond very generously."





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Tensile Sculpture Workshop - Dan Radin
Photography - Maise Todd
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#### **HEATH GRADUATE**

Elizabeth Reilley, daughter of Pat and Henry Leuchtman received her Ph.D. in Biology from Clark University in Worcester on May 22. Her dissertation topic was on the Microbiological Pretreatment of Industrial Wastewater. Betsy is a 1981 graduate of Mohawk Trail Regional High School. After receiving her undergraduate degree from Clark, she joined the Peace Corps and was posted to the mountains of Kenya near Kitale. There she worked on the installation of a gravity feed water line and the construction of water storage tanks – and became fluent in Swahili.

At the end of this summer she'll leave for Washington, D.C. where she has been awarded a Congressional Research Fellowship.



BETSY REILLEY (Family Photo)

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#### Mohawk Trail Regional High School

by Magen MacDougall

The school year is just about over, finally! The last day will be on June 22, that is five school days over what we should have gone, if it had not been for all of the snow storms this year (without the snow storms we would have gotten out on June 15). The seniors have it the best though. Their last week of school was the week of May 23. The prom was on May 27 at the Hotel Northampton. They had their awards night on June 2. The student council put on a senior farewell dance on June 3, where every senior got into the dance free (and, any of the profits made went to the M.D.A.). Then they graduated on June 5.

A new addition to the school will be in the cafeteria. There was a contest in which anybody could submit a drawing that they drew. Whoever won would get a money prize, get his/her name on the painting. There were many pictures entered and student council narrowed the choices down to three. The three were of an Indian, Jim Morrison, and a drawing of a castle. These three were displayed during a lunch period, where the students voted for the one they wanted to be put on the wall. Jesse Connor, a senior this year, won. He drew the castle.

The middle school went on their competition in the beginning of May. This year the band and the chorus went to Florida and brought back many trophies. They even won a first place trophy this year.

## MOHAWK TRAIL REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL UNDERCLASS AWARDS

Painting & Drawing II - Emily Nichols
Sculpture - Tim Porter-DeVries
UMass Regional Science Fair - Gabe Porter-Henry
Student Government Awards: Certificates of Participation - Adam Almeida, Mary Tuturice, Jim Cerone,
Magen MacDougall; Certificates of Appreciation - Adam Almeida, Jim Cerone.

## THE ACADEMY AT CHARLEMONT SUMMER PROGRAMS

by Mary Kay Hoffman

During the month of July, The Academy at Charlemont will once again offer summer programs for children 9 years old and older. Two week courses include Drama/Musical Theatre, Photography, Pottery, Computer Graphics, Publishing for Kids, Cook it and Eat it! and Tensile Sculpture Workshop Portrature - "Face It!" is a one week course. Fees for courses range from \$75 to \$185 depending on the length and materials involved. To register or to request a brochure, call The Academy at 413-339-4912.

This is the third year of summer programs at The Academy. The school is located on The Mohawk Trail in Charlemont. The Academy is an independent, college preparatory co-ed day school for grades 5-12 with a post graduate year.

#### **HEATH PUBLIC PRESCHOOL NEWS**

by Suzanne Crawford, Director

We have had a happy, busy spring at the preschool. We now have 29 students split between the 2 sessions - just one less than our full capacity - and that alone is enough to keep things lively! We joined many other local people in welcoming the beginning of spring by tapping some sugar maple trees and making syrup. We enjoyed making pancakes and French toast to go with our syrup, and we have some promising young cooks. We enjoyed a field trip to Rowe School to see Starlab - a portable planetarium. It was exciting to see the stars and the constellations, and remarkable to note how much some of these young children already know about the stars. We have had fun watching for signs of spring and having a "natural area" in our water table, complete with logs, moss, wild flowers, and an assortment of plastic insects, reptiles and amphibians. The occasional discovery of a live worm is a real treat! We also planted some grass seed for "hair" in cups with faces drawn on, and got to watch our cup-people's hair grow.

The preschoolers have been authors and illustrators this year. Also the children are making special end-of-the-year books. We have enjoyed a number of visits to the library, and we thank Alli Thane for the stories she has read. We have a number of ways to enjoy stories in our classroom as well. Children can choose to look at books individually, listen to books on tape with headphones, or have books read out loud in small or large groups. We also sometimes act out stories we've read, and that is great fun.

Each spring we visit the elementary schools to have a tour and to learn about the jobs of some of the people who work there. Hawlemont and Rowe Schools both welcomed us and made us feel at home. A highlight of the visits is being able to ride on a school bus.

We are fortunate to have Sheila, a child psychologist, offering 2 workshops for area parents and teachers of young children. The focus is on good ideas and perspectives. Also, we are planning a family picnic on the last day of school as an opportunity to play together while we say our good-byes.

Each year there are so many people who help in so many ways to make the Heath Preschool be a great place for the children. One special person who has shared much with the preschool over the years is Ruth Fournier. As a senior aide she has worked with the children, bringing her skill, warmth and kindness to the program. Ruth is finishing her tenure with the preschool this June. We are grateful for her good work and wish her the best. We also appreciate Judy Clark's gentle wisdom and great understanding of young children, and look forward to next year. Dick Newton began in February as the custodian. He learned the tricks of the trade very quickly and has been doing a great job. As always, the parents have been generous with their time. Our thanks to Robert Gear, Patrick Viencek, Cindy Clark and David Adie for their help with playground maintenance. Thanks also to our loyal volunteers whose help allowed us to go on field trips: Becky Bradley, Denise Colby, Carmen Donelson, Alice Lemelin, Lea Shattuck, Veronica Smead and Mary Vilbon. We also appreciated help with substitute teaching in the classroom from Cindy Clark, Denise Colby, Debbie Gilbert and Mary Vilbon. Everyone did a wonderful job with our energetic schedule of fund raisers, but special recognition goes to the members of the Advisory Council who have given 200% effort: Mary Vilbon, Chairperson, David Adie, Becky Bradley, Deborah Phillips, Jane McHale, and Margaret Woodside.

Each year the preschool applies for a state grant to help fund the program. That process is occurring now, and we hope to receive news of level funding over the summer. The town of Rowe voted at its May town meeting to contribute \$3,000 to the preschool next year. We thank the voters of Rowe for their support. Heath voters will vote on an article to contribute \$10,000 to the preschool at the June town meeting. This past year the preschool only used half of the money appropriated by Heath. A combination of health insurance savings, energetic and successful fund raising efforts, and increased tuition income due to more students allowed us to not need the second payment of \$5,000. We are requesting \$10,000 again because fund raising, tuition and insurance are all uncertain variables. We hope that the preschool's many supporters in Heath will be active in the town meeting votes. Please help another group of young children have the opportunity to play with other children and feel safe and happy in their first school experience.

Next year we expect 19 children from Heath to be eligible to attend the preschool. Pre-registration forms have been sent recently. If you know of any children who will be 3 or 4 years old by August 31, 1994 that I may have missed, please call me at 339-4265. Thank you.



MORNING PRESCHOOL CLASS (Photo by Suzanne Crawford)



AFTERNOON PRESCHOOL CLASS (Photo by Suzanne Crawford)

## CONGRATULATIONS, HEATH GRADUATES

#### **CELIA POLLY PETTINGILL**

Next fall Celia has plans to join the Air Force and travel. While she was a student at Mohawk Trail Regional School, Celia was a varsity cheerleader for three years. She was also an active member of the highly acclaimed Mohawk Ski Team.

#### SARAH ELIZABETH SILVESTER

Betsey graduated in May from Deerfield Academy where she was a varsity skiler, coxwain for the crew team, and involved in many campus activities such as the recording studio. She spent the spring term learning the export business at Hauck Forwarding International in Toronto in an Alternate Studies Program.

#### STACY JETT

Mohawk graduate Stacy Jett lives on Route 8A in Heath with her family. In high school Stacy was a major part of the weekly television show "Along the Trail", producing her own segment of Stacy's Secrets. She was active in the Outing Club, Track and Field, Basketball, Tennis, and the Diversity Awareness Coalition of which she was the Treasurer. Stacy was also on the Senior Prom Committee. She will be attending Lamboth University in Tennessee in the fall to major in fashion design.

BETSEY SILVESTER (Family photo)

#### JOHN DEMECH

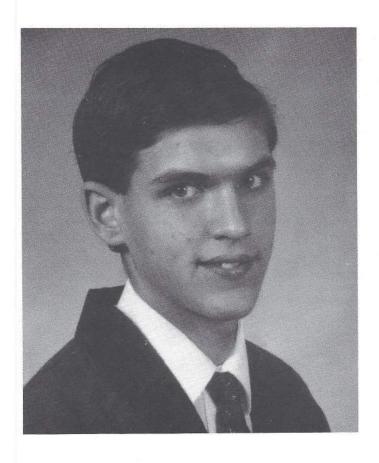
John graduated from Mohawk Trail Regional School this June.



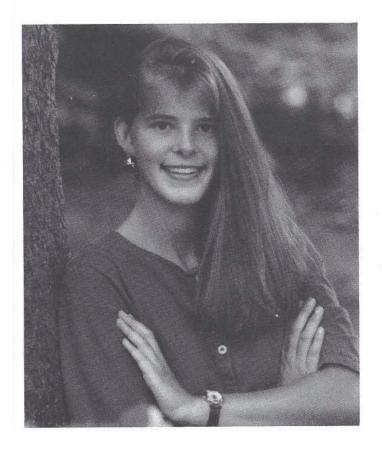
(Family Photo)



STACY JETT (Family photo)



JASON BRADLEY PEACE (Family photo)



JENNIFER GILBERT (Family photo)



SHAWNA HYYTINEN (Family photo)

#### JENNIFER LYNN GILBERT

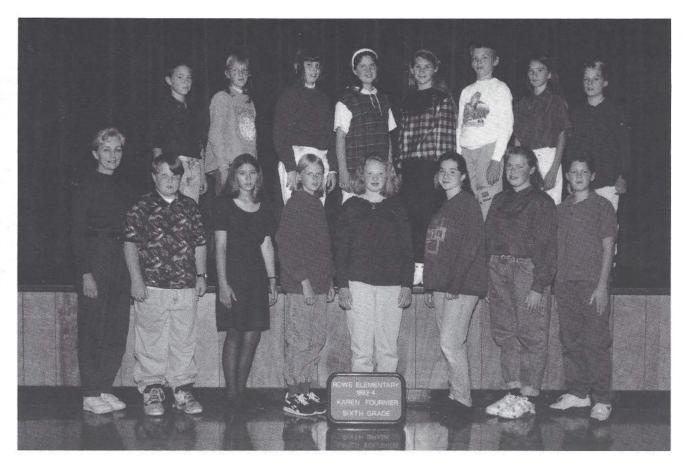
Jennifer graduated from Mohawk with an impressive list of activities including four years of Field Hockey and Tennis, three years on Student Council and two years on the Diversity Awareness Coalition. She was in Varsity M and served on the Float and Prom Committees. Her senior year Jen was Field Hockey Captain. Next year she will attend the University of New Hampshire.

#### SHAWNA LEE HYYTINEN

At Mohawk Trail Regional School Shawna was in the band for three years and on the Tennis Team for two years. She also participated on the Basketball, Cross Country and Track Teams.

#### JASON BRADLEY PEACE

At Mohawk Trail Regional School Jason was involved in Select Chorus, many school musicals, the Heath Youth Group and landscaping. After graduation Jason plans to stay in Heath for another year where he will be doing landscaping and carpentry.



ROWE SCHOOL SIXTH GRADE GRADUATES FRONT, LEFT TO RIGHT: MRS. FOURNIER, ALAN MARKERT TIFFANY REARDON, LARA THANE, CHRISTINA BEAUDOIN CHRISTINA O'DEA, KATELYN LITCHFIELD, DOMINIC MUSACCHIO BACK, LEFT TO RIGHT: COREY LOPES, LINDI DONNELSON CRYSTAL JACKSON, NATASHA GULYBAN, JILLIAN GILBERT

CARL AYERS, EVA VAN AKEN, BEN LENTZ

#### HISTORICAL SOCIETY NEWS

#### by Pegge Howland

Well, the Solomon Temple Barn is being awakened from its long winter's nap at the Fairgrounds! Bruce Cromack and Fred Burrington have sorted through the barn members that were stored there last fall and have evaluated them. Some need to be "ended out" and some will have to be replaced, so Carroll Stowe, Buck DenOuden and Dick Giard have been scurrying about felling and skidding replacement timber and getting it sawn to size by Bill Clark. We can still use more pine, hemlock and some oak for the project.

We have located someone in Vermont who makes cedar shingles, and Bruce Cromack, Ed Croteau, and Glenn Lippard have started to lay the sills on the foundation. So you can see we are well on our way. The plan is to have it ready by Fair time in August.

When you end-out beams, you are left with some chunks of wood. Rather than burn them up, Jack Cable suggested we sell them. So we are offering 200 year-old pieces of wood from the original Solomon Temple Barn (about 8 x 8 x 12 in.) for \$5 apiece. Of course they will be appropriately labeled. Just call me at 337-4980 to reserve your souvenir. Thanks for your continued interest in and support of the Barn.

	COMMUNITY CALEN
JUNE	
20	Sixth Grade Graduation Rowe School, 7 PM
25	Special Town Meeting Community Hall, 8:30 AM
	Annual Town Meeting Community Hall, 9 AM
	Church Auction Fairgrounds
26	Horse Draw, Fairgrounds
JULY	
23	Heath Craft Fair & Ladies Aid Sale Fairgrounds
AUGUST	
19, 20, 21	Heath Fair

#### ANNUAL TOWN MEETING REPORT

by D. F. Howland

Heath's Annual Town Meeting got underway on Saturday morning, May 7 at 9 AM. About 50 voters were in attendance. After election results were announced and other positions such as Field Drivers, were filled, Town Moderator Doug Wilkins proceeded to go through the warrant. All money articles were passed over; they will be considered at the reconvened meeting on Saturday, June 25 at 9 AM. (Please note: there will be a Special Town Meeting at 8:30 AM on that date, too.)

The town approved three changes in the Protective Zoning Bylaw: storage sheds on property without a principal residence will be allowed with a maximum size of 10' x 12'; the phased growth provision was continued for another five years with a reduction in permits from 7 to 6 per year; a typographical error in the backlot development provision was corrected. The bylaw about shared driveways and related set back lines was passed over until June 25 to allow for further clarification of the language.

The town voted to rescind a former vote to transfer \$5,000 from the Stabilization Fund to be used as a deposit for land acquisition for the school. A buy/sell agreement was recently signed with Alli and Ernie Thane without a deposit.

Article 17 received considerable attention. It is a proposal by Charles Mackie to establish a Recall Election bylaw for Heath. There are two ways for such a provision to be created. One is to incorporate the bylaw in a town's charter and the other is to petition the Legislature after a town meeting has approved the action. Heath does not have a charter; hence it must employ the latter method. Approximately 30% of the cities and towns in Massachusetts have a recall bylaw. Because of its complexity and importance in town practices the article was passed over until the June 25 session for more study. In the meantime copies of the "example" referred to in the warrant article are being made available at the town hall with amendments recommended by counsel and also appears elsewhere in the Heath Herald. (The amendments were not adopted at the Annual Town Meeting). Discussion included such remarks as it is better to have a bylaw now and not wait until there is a problem; we need time to review and reflect on the proposal. Concerns that it could be used for frivolous political purposes: there are other ways to vote people out; and, in 200 years this provision was not neces-There is very little written about the experience towns have had with the recall election bylaw. Buckland passed a bylaw a year or so ago when they had a problem; the proposed Heath bylaw is patterned after it.

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#### **ARTICLE 17**

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR RECALL ELECTIONS IN THE TOWN OF HEATH.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

SECTION 1. Any person who holds an elected office in the town of Heath, with more than six months remaining in the term of that office on the date of the filing of a recall affidavit may be recalled from office by the registered voters of said town of Heath, in the manner herein provided.

SECTION 2. Fifty or more voters of the town of Heath may file with the clerk of said town, an affidavit containing the name of the officer whose recall is being sought, along with a statement of the grounds of removal. Said clerk of said town shall provide to the voters, petition blanks demanding such recall, printed forms of which shall be kept available by said clerk. Such petition blanks may be completed either by writing or typewriting, shall be addressed to the Board of Selectmen, shall contain the names of the voters who filed the affidavit and the grounds for recall as stated in such affidavit; they shall demand the election of a successor to that office; and shall be dated and signed by said clerk. A copy of such petition shall be kept on file in the office of said clerk in a record book maintained for such purpose.

The recall petitions shall be returned and filed int he office of said clerk within fourteen days following the date upon which said clerk issued such petitions; they shall contain the signatures of at least ten percent of the total number of voters duly recorded on the registration list of said clerk as of the most recent preceding town election.

Said clerk shall, within forty-eight hours following such filing submit said petitions to the registrars of voters who shall, within five days, certify thereon the number of signatures which in fact are names of voters of said town.

SECTION 3. If the recall petitions shall be certified by the registrars of voters to contain the sufficient number of voter signatures, the clerk of the town of Heath shall forthwith submit such petitions to the Board of Selectmen. Upon its receipt of the certified petitions, said Board of Selectmen shall, within forty-eight hours, give written notice of said recall petitions and the certification thereof the person whose recall is being sought.

If the officer sought to be recalled does not resign his office within five days following the delivery of said notice, the Board of Selectmen shall order an election to be held not less than sixty-five nor more

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55 State Street Shelburne Falls, MA Tel. 625-2345 than ninety days after date of the certification of the sufficiency of the petition by the registrars of voters; provided, however, that if another town election is to occur within one hundred days after the date of said certification, said Board of Selectmen may, at their discretion, postpone the holding of said recall election until the date of such other town election.

If a vacancy occurs in the office after recall election has been ordered, the election shall nevertheless proceed as provided in this section; provided, however, that only the ballots for new candidates shall be counted.

SECTION 4. No officer whose recall is sought may be a candidate to succeed himself at the recall election. The nomination of candidates, the publication of the warrant for the recall election and the conduct of said election shall be in accordance with the provisions of law relative to elections, unless otherwise provided in the act.

SECTION 5. The incumbent shall continue to perform the duties of his office until the recall election is held. If not recalled in such election, the incumbent shall continue in office for the remainder of his unexpired term, subject to recall as before, except as provided therein.

If the incumbent officer is recalled he shall be deemed removed upon the qualification of a successor who shall hold office for the remainder of the unexpired term; provided, however, that if the successor fails to qualify within five days after receiving notification of election, the incumbent nevertheless shall thereupon be deemed removed and such office shall remain vacant for the remainder of the unexpired term.

SECTION 6. All ballots used at a recall election shall contain the following propositions int he order indicated:

FOR THE RECALL OF (NAME OF OFFICER) AGAINST THE RECALL OF (NAME OF OFFICER) Adjacent to each proposition, there shall be a place to mark a vote.

After the propositions shall appear the word "CANDIDATES" followed by the names of all candidates arranged alphabetically by surname.

If a majority of the votes cast upon the question of recall are in the affirmative, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected.

If a majority of the votes cast upon the question of recall are in the negative, the ballots for the candidates need not be counted unless the incumbent officer has previously resigned from office pursuant to section three.

SECTION 7. No recall petition shall be filed against an officer within six months of the assumption of his office. In the case of an officer who has been subjected to a recall election and was not recalled thereby, no subsequent recall petition shall be filed against such officer until at least six months after the date of the election at which such initial recall was

SECTION 8. No person who has been recalled from

an office or who has resigned from an office while recall proceedings were pending, shall be appointed to any town office within twelve months after such recall or resignation.

SECTION 9. This act shall take effect upon its passage.

Recommendations of wording changes by town Coun-

SECTION 2: (last sentence Sec. 2)

"said clerk shall, within forty eight hours following such filing, submit such petition to the registrars of voters who shall within five days of receipt of the petitions, certify thereon the number of signatures which in fact are names of voters of said Town"

SECTION 3. (second paragraph Sec. 3)

"not less than sixty-five nor more than ninety days after the date of the Board of Selectmen's vote to call the election."

SECTION 5: (second paragraph Sec. 5)

"if the successor fails to qualify within five days from receiving notification of election, the incumbent nevertheless shall thereupon be deemed removed and such vacancy may be filled in accordance with the General Laws of the Commonwealth."



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#### SELECTMEN'S REPORT

by D. F. Howland

As a result of the elections on May 6 the make-up of the Board of Selectmen changed. Hilma Ayers of Jacksonville Stage Road replaced Art Schwenger, who served nine years in the post. (Art was given a rousing vote of thanks at the Annual Town Meeting on May 7). Hilma was sworn in on May 24, the delay being due to medical reasons. Dave Howland was elected chair for the ensuing year and Hilma was elected secretary.

Since the vote to support construction of a school, the Board of Selectmen have been considering ways to alleviate the tax burden on property owners. One of them is to draft a letter to Commissioner Antonucci of the Department of Education asking that the percentage of reimbursement for school construction be increased from 71.3%. We believe we have some good arguments for doing so and we have enlisted the support of our local representatives. In addition Senator Jane Swift is requesting additional funding for schools, which if approved, can speed up the availability of monies for this purpose. The letter will be a joint effort of the Board of Selectmen, School Building Committee and the Finance Committee. Also, the Board of Selectmen is establishing a tax Fairness Task Force to review methods of taxation in the state. Anyone interested in this effort should contact one of the selectmen. Finally, the Board of Selectmen, the School Building Committee and the Finance Committee met with representatives of the Farm Home Loan Agency, a division of the Federal Department of Agriculture, and the State Street Bank. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the possibility of obtaining school construction funds from the Farm Home Loan Agency rather than via the municipal bond route. If this can be done it will be financially much less burdensome on the town.

The Board has borrowed \$200,000 to date to pay for architect's fees and related engineering costs for the new school and a buy/sell agreement in the amount of \$75,000 has been signed for the land of Alli and Ernest Thane. We now wait on the state's approval of the application for reimbursement of the project, possibly by August 1994.

The metals bin for the Transfer Station was in place for the Memorial Day weekend. It is amazing how much metal comes out of Heath! There is a new and important federal regulation that defines what can be put in the metals bin. Appliances such as refrigerators and freezers that have freon units and capacitors cannot be trashed. However, there is another alternative. Our local utility, Mass Electric, will pick up old units that are being replaced. Call 1-800-962-3939. The old units should be in working order and cold. If the units do not work call the above number and they can provide the number of a charitable organization that will pick them up. At this time it is unclear what to do with air con-

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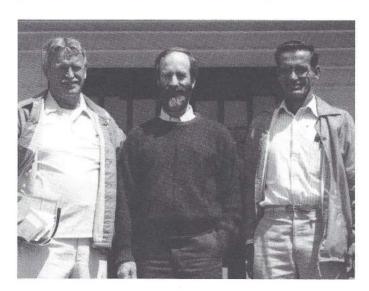
ditioners, but we surmise there aren't too many of them in Heath. Also, with regard to Transfer Station news the town recently received a ten year permit from the Department of Environmental Protection.

The town received \$1,372 from the state as our share of a snow and ice local aid fund. While we appreciate whatever comes our way, the bulk of the money went to large cities, because of lottery distribution criteria. We do welcome a surprising increase of 67% in chapter 90 road money. The new amount is \$349,773 to be awarded over a two year period. The previous award was about \$206,000. In addition, the town can exercise greater discretion in expending this money for highway department purposes - scraping roads, purchasing equipment versus earlier stringent road building criteria. Should help us a lot. Dick Giard is our liaison to the Highway Department and Jack Cable's report on highway matters appears elsewhere in the Herald.

The Board of Selectmen voted to make dental insurance available to eligible employees at their own cost. The town's Master Health Care Plus program with Blue Cross was discontinued effective July 1 and replaced with Master Medical. The Plus plan had become so expensive that the towns in Franklin County dropped it.

Joyce Karpinski, our new Administrative Assistant, has been attending meetings about economic development with the objective of improving Heath's lot in that regard. In addition a meeting was held with Diane Salls of the Franklin County Commissioners' staff and Heath's Committee on Commercial Development to focus on ways to develop Heath's tax base. Joyce has just about completed arrangements for a grant funded consultant operation to perform a personnel study of Heath during FY95.

Debbie Gilbert, who resigned from her part-time post office clerk's position, was replaced by Eileen Tougas of Mohawk Estates. Steve Marcotte resigned from the Highway Department and was replaced by David Clark, who was hired as a temporary employee with the condition he could become a permanent employee. Rhodesa Peace resigned from the Park Committee. We now have vacancies on the Park, Computer and Community Hall Committees. Interested parties should call one of the Selectmen.



OUTGOING SELECTMEN ART SCHWENGER (CENTER)
WHO SERVED NINE YEARS ON THE BOARD
CURRENT SELECTMEN: DAVE HOWLAND (LEFT)
AND DICK GIARD (RIGHT)

#### HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT REPORT

by Jack Cable, Superintendent

The metals bin is available at the Transfer Station through Labor Day. Notice - we no longer can accept refrigerators, freezers and air-conditioners in the metals bin - the freon gas is hazardous and is not accepted by the vendor of our metals. Removing freon gas from the appliances is hazardous and costly plus releasing freon into the environment is threatening the ozone layer - and our very existence. See the Selectmen's Report for further information.

Also a reminder that recyclable cans and bottles MUST BE WASHED - CLEANED before they go into the bin. Bud and Cleon have been alerted to reject the items if not clean. Mercury batteries are still being taken at the station and Town Hall.

The Highway Department is just finishing grading, raking, and graveling spots on all the dirt roads. We have started the South Road reclaiming and paving project and hope to have other Chapter 90 state aid projects this summer. The Massachusetts Legislation is still waiting for the Ways and Means Committee to act on the Transportation Bond. This is holding up construction projects all over the state and with each passing day in this the peak construction season, money is lost to families of construction workers, business losses are mounting and YOU - the user of our highways are losing time. Roads and bridges throughout the Commonwealth are in very bad shape. Heath isn't the only community with bad roads. Forty percent of the bridges in the state are deteriorated and some are unsafe to drive over!

We installed new reduce speed and speed limit signs near Peters Store and we also cut back the brush leading to the store. Drive slow through this area please! Also there is now a YIELD sign on Number Nine Road as you go onto 8A. You must yield for vehicles on 8A. They have the right-of-way.

Anyone noticing a tree or part of one that is in danger of coming down on electrical wires along the highway, please call me. Asplundh Tree Company who is cutting along utility lines will be in Heath throughout the summer and fall season. We would like to get as much done as possible.

With summer comes more traffic on our roads please drive with caution and SLOW DOWN - have a safe summer.

During this time of the 50th Anniversary of D-Day we should give special thanks to those who fought and especially gave their lives so we may live in peace and freedom. Personally, I take my hat off to my fellow blueberry grower who parachuted behind enemy lines on D-Day - Robert "Jake" Tripp. Thanks, Jake.



#### FIRE DEPARTMENT NEWS

by Earl Gleason, Chief

The department responded to nine emergencies since the last report. Three EMTs and one firefighter responded to aid Charlemont ambulance on April 9. This was for a Swamp Road resident who was ill. Later that day three firefighters responded to Charlemont for a structure fire, but were turned back enroute. One firefighter directed traffic at an automobile accident on April 22. On April 23, seven firefighters were called to a grass fire on Route 8A where the owner was burned in attempting to put out the fire. He was transported in Charlemont ambulance to the hospital. April 24 saw seven firefighters extinguish a brush fire that had got away on Bray Road. The firefighters were sent to a Mohawk Estates permit fire that had gotten away, before returning from the first fire. Later that evening thirteen firefighters responded to Charlemont to assist with a forest fire about two or more miles from the nearest road. On May 3, one EMT and five firefighters responded to South Road to assist Charlemont ambulance with a woman down. The department responded to cover Charlemont Fire station while they were at a series of fires along the railroad tracks. In addition two firefighters opened up a plugged chimney on April 5.

The Fire Association met on April 7 and May 5. Drills were held at the station on April 24 and May 19. The EMT Association met at the fire station on April 14.

One firefighter attended an eight hour class held in Charlemont on April 6 and 20 on hazardous materials. Bob Gruen and Bob Tanner completed a flammable gas course by attending the Massachusetts Fire Academy headquarters in Stowe on May 21. The equipment involved with the flammable gas course is rated among the top two in the country.

The Fire Chief attended ten meetings; eight of them out of town and made or gave four permits or inspections.

Have a safe and happy summer.



#### ASSESSORS' REPORT

by Don Dekker, Chairperson

It has been awhile since Ed Calver left town, but every day of work in this Assessors' office reminds one of all the work for this office and the town Ed did. Not only did he create the map of property in Heath for the town, which many people use or know about, but his mark is evident all round the Assessors' office.

On the desk is a box of file cards with deed property transfers, going back many years. This is by roads, so it is possible to see at a glance what has happened in any area, and how land has changed throughout the years. Most of the entries are in Ed's hand. Each summer until he left, he would update the file box from the deeds. He was a storehouse of information about land transfers and areas, and that source is greatly missed.

It was through Ed's effort that the history of the roads in town were kept. The file cards all bear his mark and there again his knowledge is missed. We always thought that Ed would visit Heath one summer again. Then perhaps we could thank him for all the work he did. Unfortunately that did not happen before he died last year. Reminders of his presence are all around, and he is not forgotten here in the Assessors' office.

#### PERCS, PERMITS AND TRANSFERS

#### PERCOLATION TESTS

Earl Gleason reports that there were two new perc tests. One re-perc (over 2 years old), three repairs (one at the Fairgrounds) and two at the site of the new elementary school. All passed.

#### BUILDING PERMITS

Robert Barclay, Rowe Road, shed addition to garage.

Russ & Linda Hamilton, Sadoga Road, one family and garage.

Berkshire Bay Lobster Realty, Sumner Stetson Road, one family.

TOTAL: \$238,520.

#### DEED TRANSFERS

Peter G. Smith to Peter G. and Susan M. Smith of Colrain. Colrain Road and Jacksonville Stage Road, \$1.

David K. Toplon to Hutchen M. and Ann K. Hammond. Underwood Hill road, lot 1. \$35,000.

Shirley Martell to Joseph and Deloris J. Grochmal of Springfield. Mohawk Estates, lots 15 & 17. Less than \$100.

Alfred R. and Dorothy M. Vilbon to Brian E. and Mary J. Vilbon. East Brook Drive, Lots 57 & 58, Mohawk Estates, unit 3. \$75,000.

Kelly Ann Boutilier to Gordon E. and Sandra D. Boutilier of Holyoke. Papoose Lake Drive, Lots 14, 15, & 16. No consideration.

#### POLICE REPORT

by Officer Margo Newton

Spring has given us our much needed break in the weather and the drying out of the mud. Hopefully this will not make for an increase in speed on our town roads. It can be very tempting to increase your speed when the roads are free of ice and holes, and newly paved, as is route 8A. Even though 8A is now a smoother ride it is still a road with many curves and many access roads. If not otherwise posted, the speed on 8A is 40 m.p.h. A more thickly settled area or business district would be 30 m.p.h., and a school district would be 20 m.p.h. Unless otherwise posted these are the speeds that are considered reasonable and proper having regard for traffic, safety of the public and weather conditions.

Coming this spring or summer you will be seeing an increase in stop signs in town. Please be on the look out for these new additions.

The seat belt law is back after being repealed. I know many people have voiced their opinion about this law and that they do not like being forced to wear a seat belt but it is again a law. Another reminder is that your children must wear a seat belt and children up to the age of five must be in a child passenger restraint device. Through my own personal experience I know that the use of a seat belt can prevent serious personal injury. I recommend wearing one even if they repeal the law again.

I understand a letter was sent to Chief Rabbitt commenting on a good job done by Officer Smith. He aided a couple that got their car stuck in our wonderful Heath mud. With the help of a tractor they were set free. Good job, Mike!

As always the police department is available to you by calling County Dispatch at 772-2133.



#### **BURNT HILL FARM**

Jack and Beverly Cable



#### SWEET WILD BLUEBERRIES

PICK YOUR OWN **OPEN AUG. 6 - 7, 13 - 14, 20 - 21** Wholesale & Retail

This is our 28th year. Support the Historical Society's Solomon Temple Baun Project

#### **MILESTONES**

by Edith Royer

Born April 4, a son, <u>Jonathan Charles</u>, to <u>Diane</u> and <u>Douglas Crowningshield</u>, of Heath. He is the grandson of Grace Betit of Whitingham, VT., Barbara Powell, of Florida, and <u>Howard Crowningshield</u> of Rowe. He is also the great grandson of Perley Carruth of Whitingham, VT.

In Oak Harbor, WA, on April 12, a son, <u>Dustin Joseph</u> was born to <u>Janna</u> and <u>Scott Gilbert</u> of Oak Harbor. He is the grandson of Pamela and Joseph Gilbert of Charlemont and the great grandson of Alice and Lawrence Gilbert of Colrain and <u>Odette</u> and <u>Francis Rice</u> of Heath. Edna Cobb of Colrain is the great great grandmother.

On May 12 <u>Ian Michael</u>, a son, was born. His parents are <u>Debora</u> and <u>Brinton Baker</u> of Greenfield. John and Marion Reynolds and Brinton and Gloria Baker of Greenfield are proud grandparents. Ian's great grand parents are Francis and Luella Benson of Rowe, Harriet Reynolds of Amherst, Gordon Downing of Montague and Roger Labor of Turners Falls. <u>Rudolph Fournier</u> of Heath is the great great grandfather.

Michelle Hassey of Deerfield and Charles Shattuck III of Heath announce their engagement. She is the daughter of Barbara Hassey of Deerfield and Michael Hassey of Whately. He is the son of Lea and Charles Shattuck, Jr. of Heath. An August 20 wedding is planned.

Marisa Housner and Glenn Gutmacher of Providence, RI, were married on May 15. The bride is the daughter of Marlene and Richard Housner of Heath. The groom is the son of Ruth and Nat Gutmacher of Scotch Plains, NJ. The ceremony and reception were celebrated at Shadowbrook in Red Bank, NJ. brother of the bride, Luke Housner, planist, provided the processional and recessional music assisted by fellow Oberlin alumna, mezzo-soprano Rebecca Swingle. The newlyweds honeymooned in Arizona and New Mexico. The bride, graduate of Rhode Island School of Design (Interior Architecture), is Director of the Passementarie (ornate trim) Deisgn Division for Robert Allen Fabrics. The groom, graduate of Yale (Psychology), is Media Group Manager for Collegiate Advantage in Boston. Over 175 guests from Franklin County, New York, New Jersey, California and elsewhere enjoyed this radiant event.

<u>Rudolph Fournier</u>, of Heath celebrated his 90th birthday on April 26. A family dinner party was held at the Heath Community Hall with many relatives and friends attending.

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MAIL TO:

Theodore R. Cromack, 88, of Sanford, FL formerly of Shelburne and Bernardston, MA and Whitingham, VT died April 2 in Sanford. He worked in the area and was a well-known square dance caller. He was a member of Shelburne Grange for many years, serving as Master. He also served as Master of the Deerfield

Valley Pomona Grange. His first wife Minnie died in 1976. He later married Helen Worden of Wilmington, VT. They have lived in Sanford several years. Besides his wife he leaves three sons, Theodore R. of Shelburne, <u>Bruce A.</u> of Heath and Duane E. of Amherst, a daughter Mae Moore of Shelburne, 17 grand-children and 30 great grandchildren. A son, Dana died earlier. A memorial service was held in the Shelburne Church at a later date.

Rachel M. Sumner, 84, of South Road, Heath died May 4 at home. She was an active member of the Heath Union Church. She had served on the Heath School Committee for many years and was a member of the former Mohawk Trail Regional School Committee. More recently she had served on the committee to restore the downstairs of the Community Hall. Thanks to her we have a nice kitchen and dining room in which to work. She was the widow of Ralph G. Sumner who died in 1988. Survivors included a son Richard of Buckland, two daughters, Ruth Corey of Heath and Dorothy Harding of Townsend, nine grandchildren, eight great grandchildren and several nieces and nephews. A son Robert died in 1951. Services were at the Heath Church with Rev. Roger Peace officiating. Burial was in South Cemetery.

Sophia Dobzhansky Coe of Heath and New Haven, CT, died in her New Haven home on May 25. Survivors include her husband Michael D. Coe; three sons, Nicholas, Andrew, and Peter; two daughters, Sarah and Natalie; and two grandchildren. A memorial service will be held in Our Lady of the Sign Russian Orthodox Cathedral in New York City on Friday, June 17 at 7 PM.



