

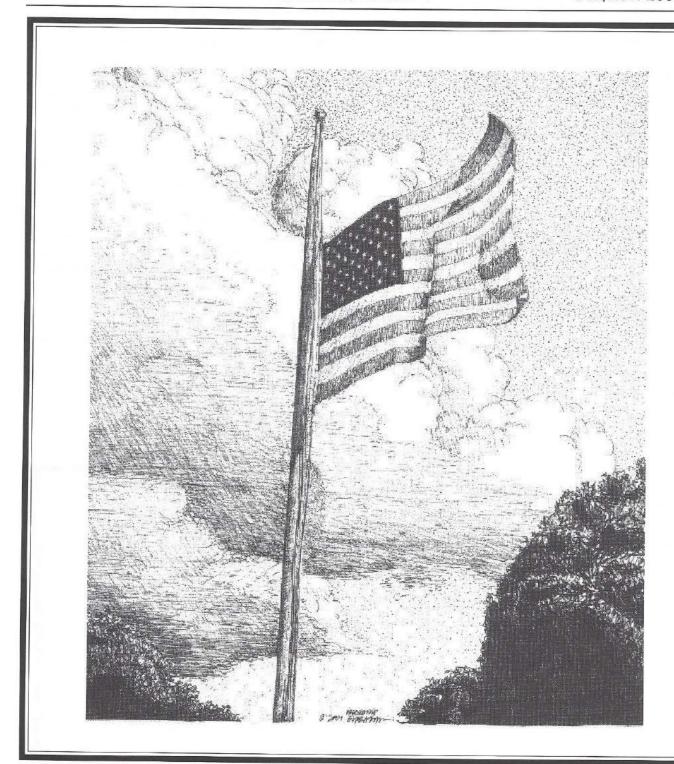
HEATH HERALD

Heath's First Newspaper

75¢

Volume 23, Number 4

Oct./Nov. 2001





From the Editor ~

Hilltown Rambles

Sitting here, looking out on one of the most fantastic autumn displays ever, I need to put world events into perspective.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to all of those who were affected personally by the senseless tragedy that happened September 11. That date will be forever etched upon our minds. Shock, horror, grief, anger, confusion, and pain are only a few of the mixed emotions one feels or has felt since then. Our world has been turned upside down. We are forever changed. As the events slowly recede over time, our emotions and the way we react haven't receded nor should they.

The Heath Herald (as well as the New York Times and Washington Post!) gets published and comes out with some regularity. We're all still going to our jobs, picking up kids after school in the car pool, exercising...or not, going to movies, paying bills, painting our houses, putting our gardens to bed for the winter, reading good books, and

The point I'm trying to make is that we all are affected and that we have to carry on. The staff at the Heath Herald is profoundly influenced by all of this as the whole nation moves forward. We can only hope that every one has the support of a wonderful community like Heath. Smile more. Help out by calling up a friend who is lonely. Do good deeds. Be in touch with each other.

Our sincere gratitude to Fred Burrington for our beautiful cover.

Elsa Bakalar returns with her gardening wisdom in Green Thoughts. Her engaging report is of the recent Heath summer. We also have a new columnist in our Library Director, Charlene Churchill, who pens Library Lines. She tells us the library took an active part in the Hilltown Library Project which won first place in the Juvenile Division of the Franklin County Fair parade. Pat Leuchtman writes about Eric Grinnell and the Academy of Charlemont. It will be his last year as headmaster.

This summer saw the passing of two of Heath's residents - two losses that affect the equilibrium of the community very much. Ned Wolf writes a remembrance of Bob Brown while Buck den Ouden memorializes Paul Lively.

We all enjoyed the fair this year and have a few pictures for your enjoyment.

Until next issue,

Lea Banks Bohrer

Heath Herald

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Mike Smith

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Fred Burrington

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Green Thoughts

ELSA BAKALAR

There have been some unusual effects in my Heath garden this summer. With deep snows lying so late, it was mid-June before it was possible to get on the garden at all. The gardener may have been delayed, but the weeds suffered no such setback and grew to alarming proportions.

For years now, after my lectures, I've answered questions about deer with a breezy "Sure, we have deer; I see them at the edge of the woods or drinking at the pond, but they don't trouble the garden." They say pride goes before a fall. Well, deer took every budded stem of phlox and munched fall asters down almost to a groundcover. Delphinium, that had come through the winter in great shape, had their stately flower stalks (loaded with buds) chewed off.

The worst shock of all was the condition of the twenty-year-old lavender hedge. Confident that four feet of snow would have protected it well, I hadn't counted on the effect of water beneath the slow-melting snow, and many stems were rotted. What a sorry sight! I clipped it back hard, and promising green shoots appeared on the most unpromising old gray stems, but the gaps were pitiful. Clearly, it was not going to be the undulating purple glory of past years, but I found a solution. I remembered a modest little annual candytuft, *Iberis umbellata*, with its profusion of flowers in shades of rose and purple, and scattered seed throughout the tattered lavender. It's quick to germinate - and to bloom - and some of its seeds are already providing a second generation.

Another river to cross (very nearly literally, since my driveway was showing an alarming tendency to rush down and join the town road below): this was the yearly trek from Ashfield, where I had so many annuals growing under lights in the basement. Almost bursting out of their little boxes were dozens and dozens of snapdragons, zinnias, tobacco flowers, heliotrope, and (new to me this year) an engaging crimson mop-head called 'Red Plume.' I can't say too much about this sprightly annual gaillardia. Remember it, when you peruse your seed catalogs next year.

So there is everything, safely in Heath, but waiting for a little rain to soften the hard baked top crust. Transplanting, usually a pleasing chore, this year resembled hard labor and once in, the little plants needed water. With one eye always on the level of water in our pond, I measured out small, life saving drinks. Most of the little plants pulled through the heat and drought, but quite a few were washed away by the relentless rain that came, presumably in answer to our prayers for gentle, overnight showers.

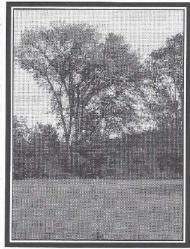
Why, you ask, at the midway point in September, do I go over this melancholy calendar of events? It's because I suddenly remembered my own advice, so freely given to garden students and visitors: "Gardens, or I should say plants, are more forgiving than we realize. Have faith; by October everything will look much the same as it always does." And so I look out and marvel at the brave show on my hillside and in so many of Heath's gardens. Annuals, now richer and deeper in color, stand up through cold nights with temperatures shuddering between thirty-five and forty degrees. Perennials, late by design, give us their splendid show, and the garden winds down to its close, once again.

Our Elm Tree

By Pat Leuchtman

Because we have all bemoaned the demise of the majestic old elms for decades, I was shocked when it was pointed out to me that here at End of the Road Farm, at the edge of the road, we have a majestic American elm.

Years ago I was talking to a friend about watching our honeybees come into their hive and mentioned the pollen I had seen them carrying in the little pollen bas-



kets on their legs. The weather was warm, but it was early in the spring and I couldn't imagine where the pollen came from. My friend looked around and up, and said casually that it was probably elm pollen because the insignificant elm flowers bloomed very early in the season. I looked up at the very tall tree above me and acknowledged that it did have the graceful and unique vase shape of the elm. The branches, dark against the blue spring sky, did not appear to be flowering, but it was so.

This elm is probably the tallest tree we have, certainly the tallest near the house. So tall that I never really bothered to look closely at its leaves. I only noticed its height and graceful arching shape. I cannot guess its age, but it appears to be healthy. At this season its leaves turn to gold and I consider it one of our great treasures.



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View from Burnt Hill

Farewell To All

By Jack Cable

As I was writing this column, the attack on the United States was going on - God Bless America - and we pray for all those victims and survivors and all the people of America. Pray.

It was a very emotional blueberry season this year as we said "goodby" and "thank you" to all our loyal customers. I will miss the pick-your-own people the most as many have been picking here for all our 35 years. The Gangells from Connecticut only missed one year. I had always had a watermelon for them to add to their picnic. The Hollisters from Whitehall, NY, whose father and mother from Jacksonville, VT, started the annual ritual, and the Tuttles, Millers, Grands from the Worcester area, plus the many from all over New England - I will miss them all.

Carl Ayers is the champion blueberry picker of Burnt Hill Farm, and possibly New England, as he rewarded me in this, our last year, by picking 110 boxes of blueberries in one day. Each box was a <u>full</u> 20 pounds measure which totals 2,200 pounds of the blues. He was helped by drinking Beverly's "switchell," an old-fashioned "Gatorade" drink used by men haying.

As of this writing we have not sold the farm, but we have purchased a home in Chester, VT. It's an 1810 federal design, on the historic register, located on Main Street in the center of this Victorian village which is locked in time- no malls, superhighways, McDonalds, etc. Our phone number is 802-875-1911 and address is 330 Main St., Chester, VT 05143.

Yankee Candle Car Museum is closing its doors on November 1, a sad ending to me of one of one of the best car museums in the world. The investment firm which purchased Yankee Candle figures that it doesn't make enough money per square foot so will replace the museum with more merchandise, "made in China." I have voiced my displeasure with this decision with executives in the company plus in the newspaper. I'll be assisting the staff in returning the cars to their owners as most of them are on loan from private collectors - my 1911 Maxwell included.

Thanks to all who have made my time in Heath the best years of my life.

Franklin County
Tech School
Brian Crowningshield
Class of 2001



Selectboard's Report

Town Business

The Selectboard meets every Tuesday night at 7:00 p.m. in Sawyer Hall.

Sad Times

Since the last issue of the Heath Herald was published a number of sad events have transpired. The World Trade Center towers were attacked and collapsed causing tremendous loss of life; the Pentagon was attacked and badly damaged with many killed and wounded; four passenger jets were hijacked and deliberately crashed killing all aboard. It is remarkable how many people in Heath have friends, family, or other acquaintances that were in the areas at the time or knew people who were. Events like this make us realize how connected to the rest of the world we really are despite the geographical separation. Many of us are contributing to the relief effort by donating blood, money, or time and intellectual energy to help alleviate the suffering of the survivors and families of victims.

Closer to home, two friends of Heath have passed away, Paul Lively, a neighbor, former selectman, farmer, inventor, and excavation contractor, and Robert McAfee Brown, an internationally renowned teacher, author, human rights activist, and longtime summer resident. Their passing leaves a large void in our Town.

Community Hall and Sawyer Hall

A public hearing and a Special Town Meeting were held in August to review and approve the Community Development Block Grant application for repairs and improvements to the Community Hall and Sawyer Hall. The Town has been working on this with the Franklin County Housing and Regional Development Authority over the past few months. All the grant requirements have been met and the application has been submitted. We should know sometime in November if our application has been approved. If we are successful, the next steps will be to hire an architect and put the job out for bids.

Town Accountant Resignation

The Board accepted with regrets the resignation of Tim Robinson as Town Accountant. Tim and his family have been building a new home in Wendell and will be moving there soon. Although only with us a little more than a year, he helped to initiate a new accounting system that is more of a standard in the Commonwealth and may simplify the job of future accountants and treasurers. We appreciate his good work and wish him well in his new home and future pursuits.

New Town Coordinator and Accountant

The Selectboard welcomes Rebecca Jurek of Colrain as our new Town Coordinator and Accountant. Becky has worked for the town of Colrain, Toyota of Greenfield, and Sweeney Ford in similar positions.

Three-Town Landfill

Almer Huntley, the consultant-engineering firm, has begun testing and monitoring work at the former landfill. New test wells will be driven in various locations to give a clearer picture of the water quality in the area and what measures might be needed to mitigate any actual or potential environmental impact.

Home Improvement Loans

Low interest home improvement loans will soon be available through the Franklin County Housing and Redevelopment Authority under the Community Block Grant program. More information will be available in the coming weeks. Contact the Selectboard if you are interested in obtaining information about the program. Additional information will be posted on the web page as soon as it becomes available.

Heath On-Line

Take some time to visit the Town's home page www.townofheath.org. You'll find Selectboard meeting minutes, school information, and much more. The home page is a work in progress. Thanks to the computer committee for getting this project up and running. Contact the board at BOS@townofheath.org. Send messages to the Board or individual via the E-mail address, or visit the Heath home page.

~Heath Selectboard Thomas Lively - Chair Brian De Vriese Hilma Sumner

Assessors' Report

Every third year the State requires the Board of Assessors to revalue all parcels. The current fiscal year, FY2002, is the year for Heath. We have completed most of our work with the help of a consultant and soon will submit the new values to the townspeople for their information. Anyone interested in the new value for their property should come by or call during the time set by the Assessors. As soon as we can, we will announce the schedule in the West County News and post signs in the town hall and at Peter's Store.

We are required by law to have 100% valuation that is based on sales in the town during 1999-2000. We knew that values would be going up since ALL sales in 2000 were above their assessed value. This indeed happened, and just about all properties have increased by 10 to 20%. Our consultant, using the sales figures and the required formula, submitted on spreadsheets the new values to the State Bureau of Local Assessment. We have received preliminary approval of these figures.

After review by the town residents, we will submit to the state the changes and final valuations. If accepted, they will become the values for the next three years for taxing purposes.

To remind you, all properties will go up in value. This increase should cause the tax rate to go down provided the amount to be raised remains about the same. Thus, even though your property is valued higher, you should pay about the same in taxes.

If you have any questions, come by or call when we have the week of hearings.

~Don Dekker



Connections

Eric Grinnell And The Academy

By Pat Leuchtman

As he begins his twenty-first and final year at The Academy at Charlemont, Eric Grinnell, founder and headmaster, has been reflecting on the school's history and development. "I think any good teacher thinks about starting a school," Eric said. He added that for him the idea of starting his own school never got beyond cocktail party conversation until Proposition 2-1/2 which set a cap on tax increases was passed in 1980. The day after the November election there was a meeting at The Academy Board of Directors President David McKay's house of people who feared what this would mean for the quality of public school education. Within a week, The Academy was designed for students in grades 9-12. The catalog went out in May and the first student enrolled in July.

Eric Grinnell said it was a tremendous risk. The initial faculty had resigned their tenured positions and there was a \$44,000 budget. But, by September 12, 1981, when the first classes began, 24 students were enrolled, three of whom made up the first graduating class.

Life changed radically for Eric. In 1972 he had started as a substitute teacher at Mohawk Regional High School and then accepted a full-time position there in 1975. This was his first teaching position. Over the years he taught history, English, French, Latin, and geography.

Starting a school, designing a curriculum, and working with faculty and students to create an exciting new enterprise took teaching to an entirely new level.

With his wife Dianne, Eric has overseen many changes at the school. In response to requests, seventh and eighth grades were added, and for ten years they even taught fifth and sixth graders.

The Academy started out in the old Charlemont High School building and moved to its present location in 1989. Ten years later the building next door was purchased and renovated. It now serves as an arts and athletic center. In addition to changing rooms and showers, the new building includes musical practice rooms, art studios, and a teaching darkroom. New playing fields have also been added.

Literature and drama have always been important parts of The Academy curriculum. Dean of Students and Director of Drama and Music Gerrit White's productions have become famous in the area. A play is put on every school year, and there is a summer workshop which now involves over 40 kids. Productions range from original adaptations of Genesis and Orpheus to fairy tales like Rumplestiltskin. Admission is free and open to the public, including to local summer camps and other schools. The audience is always packed, enjoying the drama, the humor, the dramatic spectacle, and the enthusiastic acting of the young thespians. Regarding the dramatic productions and other aspects of The Academy's

program, Eric said, "We're trying to practice what we preach to students by being an integrated part of the larger community, not an isolated island."

The mandatory sports program is another way that students support their school and involve themselves with other schools. On one hand kids often have to be prodded if not forced to try something, and that 'something' turns out to be a later passion. At the same time in such a small school, (there are 87 students enrolled this fall) students need to support the desires and needs of other students. For this reason every student is required to participate in one competitive sport like soccer or lacrosse every year. This insures an adequate team so that a schedule can be set up with other local private and public schools.

Another major change was prompted by a student. Eric said they thought that if they designed a classical curriculum which includes four years each of English, history, and a modern foreign language, as well as at least three years of math and science, not to mention Latin and art, which attracted students who desired a fine education, they would have a successful school. But something was missing. After three years of operation, it was a student who said that what the school needed was a constitution and an honor code. It took a year of school meetings chaired by a sophomore before a constitution was adopted unanimously in 1986. Every year since, all students have signed the honor code and have participated in the all-school meetings.

This spring there was a special 20th anniversary party and many students returned to their alma mater. Eric said that over the years students have gone on to more than 60 colleges and universities, including some of the most outstanding institutions in the country. He added that very few former students have found their way into boardrooms and banks, but that they have gone on to the Peace Corps, Americorps, the law as public defenders, and have become teachers, scholars, and psychologists. Some of those attending the reunion did not hold an Academy diploma. They had been asked to leave before graduation, but from their adult perspective they now said they had a different realization of and appreciation for the education, the course of study, and the community that continues to grow at The Academy.

Eric said that community grows slowly, but they espouse the idea that "we are greater than the sum of our parts." This year, as he prepares to hand over leadership of the school to Todd Sumner of Heath, he said that the past three years have been a time of extraordinary growth. "This year we have the strongest faculty and the strongest partnership with the students. A great synergy!"

Eric said he and Dianne have found enormous joy at The Academy, and that there is nothing they would rather have done with their lives than contribute to the formation of caring, loving, thoughtful, and knowledgeable adults. "It is not easy to leave," he said, "but we know it is the right time. When school begins next fall, in 2002, Dianne and I will be in Venice. We have already booked our flight. We will be out of reach - and it will be Todd's turn."

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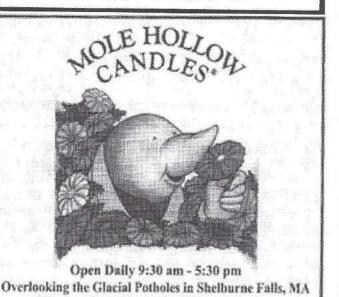
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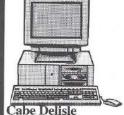
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Town Nurse Notes

Fun - Do We Get Enough?

When we're children, we have fun by playing. We imagine keeping a house; we play cowboys. We build forts and tree-houses. We play in the sand making castles or towns with our trucks and front-end loaders. We play in the water pretending to be fish or sharks. We run in the fields, explore the woods, go sledding, skiing, watch a spider spin a web or catch a fly, turn over a rock to look for bugs. We get scratched, cut, bruised, dirty, and it's all fun.

Teenagers view fun differently. Their job is to separate from their parents. They need to rebel and do what they want to do (or what their friends want to do). Some like to work on go-carts or cars; some enjoy driving fast, some want to see what it's like to emulate their parents' idea of fun so they drink. Some play video games, watch TV, go hunting or fishing, hang out with their friends, sleep until noon, eat pizza.

As adults, we forget what it was like to sit in a treehouse planning our next adventure. We might enjoy a hot soak in a bubblebath with candles or savor a book in an overstuffed chair. We go on vacation which is supposed to be fun. Some vacations are active with hiking, biking, canoeing. Some people prefer museums, looking at the sights, or shopping. There are people who think their job is fun which is really a good deal and smart planning. Some people enjoy cleaning house or puttering in the garden.

Whatever our desire, it's therapeutic to laugh, relax, get exercise, marvel at the beauty and scent of a flower. It would be good for us to slow down on this merry-go-round of driving and working. My own idea of fun is to watch a sunset as the sky turns all those different shades of color, watch the moonrise and the stars, lie in a hammock listening to the birds, hike in a pine forest on a hot day with the smell of the pine needles, be in the woods in the autumn when the yellow, orange, and red leaves are falling, dance to rock 'n roll music, drift down a river in a canoe, sit on a riverbank talking about life with a friend, plant seeds, listen to an elder talk about their childhood, laugh at a well-told joke. As Willie Wonka once said, "A little nonsense now and then is cherished by the wisest men." Do we put aside enough time for fun?

I have discontinued my office hours. I will see you in your home by appointment. My home phone is 413-337-5716.

~Joanne Fortune, RN

Library Lines

Remembering Heath

By Charlene Churchill

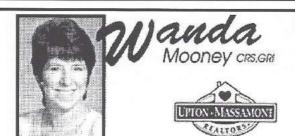
It's great to be back in Heath again after an absence of twenty-three years in the wilds of Maine! It is even greater to be writing my first column as the Director of the Heath Free Public Library. I do have a hard act to follow, and I would like to thank Laurie Wheeler Burrington for her six years of dedicated service to the library and for all the help she has given me during the training and transition period.

I have met some of the people who have moved to Heath in the time I have been away and have become reacquainted with a lot of old friends during the past few weeks on the job. If you haven't stopped in at the Library yet, please stop and say "Hi."

Our library took part in the Hilltown Library Group's summer project to create characters from the Wizard of Oz. Special thanks to Mary Boyd and Laurie Wheeler Burrington and all the others who participated for all their work on the Wicked Witch of the West. All the characters got together on a float in the Franklin County Fair parade, and the Hilltown Libraries float took first place in the Juvenile division!

The library has copies of "Remembering Heath" Tapes I, II, and III available for borrowing. These tapes star some of our friends and neighbors talking about their lives in Heath. The tapes are part of the Goals 2000 Oral History Project and were funded by a grant from the Heath Cultural Counsel. The Heath Public Library sponsored this portion of the project.

Among the new Children's books at the library are Pumpkin Moonshine by Tasha Tudor; Stranger In The Woods by Carl Sams and Jean Stolick; Brave Martha by Margot Apple; Two Little Trains by Margaret Wise Brown; That's What You Get by Rick Walton; Cats, Cats, Cats! by Leslea Newman; A Name on the Quilt - A Story of Remembrance by Jeannine Atkins, and Take A Trip To A Building Site. The new Adult Nonfiction books include John Adams by David McCullough; The Boys-The Story of 732 Young Concentration Camp_Survivors by Martin Gilbert; The Lost Memoirs of Edward Cayce by A. Robert Smith; Heart Fitness for Life by Mary P. McGowan, MD; When Broken Glass Floats-Growing up Under the Khmer Rouge by Chanrithy Him; A Midwife's Tale - The Life of Martha Ballard Based on Her Diary 1785-1812 by Laura Thatcher Ulrich, and Conscious Breathing - Breathwork for Health, Stress Release, and Personal Mastery by Guy Hendricks. See you at the library!



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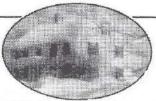
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Selectboard member Hilma Sumner, Anne and Ernie Marwick

Local Artist Donates Prints

Summer resident and artist Anne Marwick has donated four framed prints of her watercolor creations to the Town of Heath for display in the town office and two prints to grace the walls in the children's reading area of the library.

Anne has always enjoyed sharing her artistic talents with others and, to her credit, has been invited to display her paintings in various businesses in Massachusetts, Connecticut, and Florida and at Yankee Stadium with the Joe DiMaggio memorabilia. Seven of her paintings are now on display at Famous Bill's Restaurant in Greenfield.

As a young high school student during World War II, Anne sketched up to two hundred pinup girls with colored pencils for servicemen overseas. In 1947, Anne attended and studied oil and still life painting at the Hartford Art School in Connecticut. She is a member of the International Association of Fine Artists of the World, the Strawbridge Art League in Melbourne, FL and the Water Color Society of Brevard, FL.

Anne and her husband Ernie enjoy summers in Heath at their residence by the lake on Papoose Lake Drive in Mohawk Estates and, in the fall, migrate back to Melbourne Beach, FL.

~ Eileen Tougas

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Letter From The Heath Elementary School Principal

Dear Friends,

Thank you for the opportunity to greet you in the Heath Herald and for the warm welcome you have given me since my appointment as interim



principal at the Heath Elementary School in July. The sense of community you have created in your town around this building is extraordinary. I congratulate you for all you have achieved in the creation of this school.

You must all know what a dedicated staff this school has. They work long hours and in very creative ways to make certain they are providing the best possible education for children. It has been a pleasure to get to know each and every one of them as we have prepared for the school year.

Our goals this year are centered around the LEC School Improvement Plan. These include revisiting the discipline plan, strengthening our communication links, and developing a school-wide theme for an integrated study. The staff and students have been discussing ways to treat one another and our property with respect and to find ways to help the routines of the day go smoothly. A group has also begun meeting to revitalize our school's technology, which is becoming quite outdated.

There are always many ways to help in a school. If any of you would like to volunteer in some fashion, large or small, we invite you to call the school. This year has begun with a sense of excitement and anticipation for a great learning experience in the coming months.

Sincerely yours, Susan Todd

Frederick M. Burrington

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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."

My Country Thoughts

By Carroll Stowe

The 2001 Heath Fair is history and it appears to have been a success. It most surely should have been as there was a tremendous effort put to it.

As I sat in the bucket loader at the pull pit I could see the potential for some great introductions as various people crossed my line of vision. I derive great pleasure as I go through my week helping people of my acquaintance to meet others it is my honor to know.



In one's life or lifetime, there are countless chances to put those of our friends into the circle of other friends.

It is my pleasure several times a week to breakfast at various eating places. I wish often that I could sit one group of breakfast friends down amongst another. Most breakfast times are all too short for me. To me it is a treasured time to be allowed to join these early morning gatherings.

I've been asked often when telling how I enjoy getting folks together, how I would feel if an introduction didn't work out. Everyone has to work at a relationship. As yet I know of no backfires.

My first thought when I realize two people ought to know one another is how cheated each one has been for a long time not to have known the other.

As I ate breakfast in the pull area, I was honored by the visit of two Charlemont farmer brothers. Here again our time together was all too short. Others' lives could only been enhanced by being at that table in the company of these fine folk.

It does no good but I try to never miss the chance to explain how cheated people have been not to have know our late dear friend, Howard Thompson.

I've recently crossed paths with a fellow who is heading up the project of upgrading the structures on the large power line through North Heath. His home area is Waddington, NY, which is near Messena, NY, where our beloved Minister and family now live. What a great list of different experiences have been had by this fellow. So far in my thinking, he is a treasure to know. One point in his favor was his comment

about really enjoying our Heath Fair. It is my lookedforward-to-hope to be able to get this fellow introduced to the two brothers and lucky dog just out of Heath Center. This treasured experience though has been a long time coming. All three have lived too long without the knowledge of the others.

At Rowe's Old Home Day blast I was fortunate to give a wagon ride to a recently retired couple. Our feelings and attitudes seemed to have clicked and it is great to be allowed their friendship. I can only hope to never betray such. I will always count it time well spent to be part of people's conversations describing their life's struggles. Seldom do we ever have insight into the arrival of our next friendship potential. I truly look forward to another to add to my treasury. We should always give friendship a chance and a push or even a shove.

Highway Department News

Over the past few weeks, we have been regrading our gravel roads in preparation for the coming winter and because we will be losing our grader for two weeks in late October to have a wing plow installed on it. C.N.Wood in Whately will be doing this work. We expect to have the grader back by the first of November.

We have wrapped up Chapter 90 work for this year. South Road finally got paved. And portions of West Branch Road, Branch Hill Road, and Colrain Stage Road all got some chip seal work. We still have one large project left to do. A box culvert on Long Hill Road will be replaced in late October or early November. Mackin Construction was awarded the bid for this job.

Some smaller jobs that I hope to get to this fall include improving drainage structures on Number Nine Road and on Brunelle Road as well as continuing with the never ending task of brush cutting.

All in all we had a very productive summer. While the lack of rain has caused dust problems on the gravel roads, it has allowed us to accomplish much of what we needed to do without interruption.

~ Michael D. Smith



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Hilltown Tastes

Heath Fair Winners



These are recipes that are the past and present of prize winning Heath Fair entries. The first is this year's "Jack's Favorites" and the second and third are Hilma Sumner's entries from years gone by.

Jack Cable says "An annual event at the Heath Fair is "Jack's Favorites" contest. I choose two winners in the flavor and art categories. My 2001 flavor favorite was Hagar Farm's Maple Blueberry Bars using Hagar maple and Cable blueberry products. Yum! Thanks Sherri!"

Maple Blueberry Brownie Bars

Cream these ingredients together:

1 cup butter

3/4 cup white sugar

3/4 cup maple sugar

2 eggs

1 teaspoon salt

1 teaspoon baking soda

Add 2-1/2 cups flour. Spread in a greased 9" x 13" pan. Drizzle 1/2 can sweetened condensed milk. Layer 2 cups of blueberries on top. Mix 1/2 cup flour, 1/4 cup butter, and 3/4 cup maple sugar. Sprinkle this mixture on top of the brownie mix.

Bake in a 350 degree oven 30-45 minutes until brownies are done.

Snickerdoodles

1 cup shortening

1-1/2 cups sugar

2 eggs

1 teaspoon vanilla

2-3/4 cups sifted flour

2 teaspoons cream of tartar

I teaspoon baking soda

1/2 teaspoon salt

Mix together in large bowl the shortening, sugar, eggs, and vanilla. Sift together the last four ingredients and add. Stir thoroughly to blend ingredients. Roll into small balls, then roll in mixture of 2 tablespoons sugar and 2 tablespoons cinnamon. Place on ungreased cookie sheet and bake in a 350 degree oven for 8-12 minutes.

Pecan Pie Bars

Crust:

3 cups flour

1/2 cup sugar

1 cup butter

1/2 teaspoon salt

Filling:

4 eggs, slightly beaten

1-1/2 cups light or dark corn syrup

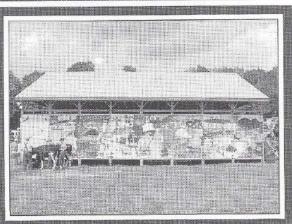
3 tablespoons butter, melted

1-1/2 teaspoon vanilla

2-1/2 cups chopped pecans

Grease bottom and sides of 15" x 10" baking pan. Prepare crust. In large bowl with mixer at medium speed beat flour, sugar, butter, and salt until mixture resembles coarse crumbs. Press firmly and evenly into pan. Bake in a 350 degree oven for 20 minutes. While crust is baking, prepare filling. In large bowl stir eggs, corn syrup, sugar, butter, and vanilla until blended. Stir in pecans. Spread evenly over hot crust. Bake in a 350 degree oven 25 minutes or until set. Cool. Makes 48 bars.





Aspects of Paul Lively's Uncommon Intelligence

By Bernard den Ouden

The passing of our neighbor and friend Paul Lively, brings to the fore the fact that in our midst was a man of striking abilities. I knew Paul best through his interests in well-designed machines and through his fine sons who are carrying on his knowledge base as excellent mechanics, engineers, and craftsmen.

When Paul needed a particular machine, he often built it rather than buying it. Among his early designs from the 1960s were a loader and attachments including a blade, bucket, hay fork, cement mixer, hay pusher, and stone digger. All of these were sound if not striking designs, but particularly ingenious was the stone digger. It consisted of a frame, a large hydraulic piston, and the plowing moldboard and shares from two Oliver plows. It loosened the stone or huge rock so that it could be pushed off a hay field. A tool such as this requires very sophisticated design for strength but also appropriate angles for cutting under a rock.

Even more striking was the backhoe he designed and used in the early years of his excavating business. He built it in the winter of 1971-72. Paul used this hoe for two years and then purchased a Massey Ferguson to replace it. A backhoe functions much like a human arm. It must swivel and go up and down from the tractor. It has a joint like an elbow about halfway down its length and a bucket that digs, curls, and releases. Each of these movements requires a hydraulic piston that powers and directs it with considerable precision. Stand beside a backhoe sometime, watch it carefully, and reflect on what it would take to design and build one. Doing so, you may catch a glimpse of Paul's uncommon intelligence.

Another machine which many of us who cut silage wished we had was his side dump wagon. This device could be pulled behind the ensilage cutter and then could be filled, dumped into another wagon, and refilled. With this ingenious conveyance, one did not have to hitch and unhitch wagons and their hydraulic attachments. One person could cut corn; another could haul it and dump into the pit. Again, Paul put into practice his sophisticated knowledge of hydraulics but also of weight, angles, and balance.

Another machine, which has been used for over 25 years is the motor power screen for processing gravel and sorting out stone. Paul hauled to it many loads of gravel from Win Warriner's bank. Material from this bank had a lot of stone in it. This screening plant sorts out stone to ¾, 1.5, 3, and 6 inches. The 1.5-inch stone was used most because of its function in the many septic systems he installed. This wonderful machine saved Paul and his sons countless trips to

Northfield where stone and gravel can be purchased.

Paul created machines appropriate to our environment in Heath. These clever designs responded to the needs and resources of our hill town community. They saved fuel and helped us build our homes and driveways. We could always go to him for advice when we were building or repairing equipment. His sons are carrying forward the best of his legacy. He is already missed, but he will be remembered.

Milestones

Paul L. Lively of Heath died August 14, 2001, at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield. Born in Heath on February 13, 1936, he was the son of Roland A. and Marie-Rene Choquette Lively. He attended local schools and graduated from the former Arms Academy in Shelburne Falls and summa cum laude from the University of Massachusetts where he was a member of the Army ROTC.

In the Arms Academy's last year, he taught agriculture and general science and was instrumental in starting an agriculture course at Franklin County Technical School

In 1972, Paul Lively started an excavation business "Fresh Winds Farm" in Heath, designing and building his own backhoe.

Active in town affairs, he served on and as chairman of the Selectboard and as Caretaker of the two town cemeteries. He was a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church and sang in the choir.

He is survived by his wife, the former Marcella R.Vigneault, six sons, Matthew P., Adam J., and Jason A., all of Heath, Dominic S. of Greenfield, Anthony J. of East Dummerston, VT, and Jeremy J. of Charlemont; five brothers, Bernard and Michael of Williamstown, Felix of Connecticut, Hormidas of Greenfield, and Thomas of Heath; a sister, Mary Lively of Ocean City, NJ, a grandson and a granddaughter, and several nieces and nephews. His eldest son, Malvin Jude, died in 1985.

Services were held August 17 with burial in the Heath Center Cemetery

Robert McAfee Brown of Palo Alto, CA, and a longtime summer resident of Heath, died September 4, 2001, at a nursing home in Greenfield. Born in Carthage, IL, in 1920, he was the son of the Rev. George W. and Ruth McAfee Brown. Raised in Summit, NJ, he was a graduate of Amherst College and attended Union Theological Seminary in New York City. After serving as a World War II Navy chaplain, he earned his doctorate at Union and Columbia University.

Bob Brown, a Presbyterian minister, was a theologian, educator, writer, and activist. He taught at Macalester College in St. Paul, MN, at Union Theological Seminary, at Stanford University, Palo, Alto, CA, and at the Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, CA, from which he retired in 1985. As an activist in both the civil rights and ecumenical movements, he worked to involve the faith community in the issues of peace and justice, was jailed as a Freedom Rider, and

("Milestones" continued on page 15)

served as a Protestant Observer at the Vatican Council in 1963. He was a member of the President's Holocaust Memorial Commission and was involved in the anti-Vietnam War protest as well as with liberation theologies in Latin America.

Throughout his life and side-by-side with his wife Sydney Thomson Brown, Bob Brown was a strong presence in his many books, articles, and teachings for the poor, the disenfranchised, and the oppressed.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by three sons, Peter of Houston, TX, Mark of Mountain View, CA, and Tom of Chester-field, MA; a daughter, Alison Brown Ehara of Richmond, CA; two sisters, Harriet Brown Baldwin of Hanover, NH, and Elizabeth Brown McAfee of Berkeley, CA, and six grandchildren.

A memorial service was held on September 15 at the Charlemont Federated Church with the Revs. Allen Comstock and Pamela Porter officiating.

Births

Born August 1, 2001, a daughter, Kirsten Elizabeth, to Heidi (Crowningshield) and Kelly Griswold of Heath, granddaughter of Jeanette and Howard Crowningshield of Rowe and Joyce and Ken Griswold of Shelburne; greatgranddaughter of Louise Newland of Naples, FL, and Roberta and Archie Ainsworth and Eunice Griswold, all of Shelburne.

~ Edith Royer

Heath Historical Society Notes

The Historical Society has been busy with events and projects. At the Fair we had our barn open for displays and sold books and memberships. Historical Society members hosted the exhibits plus we had the Center Schoolhouse open Saturday afternoon.

We had a crosscut saw event on Saturday using a saw borrowed from Smead Hillman. Floyd, Dohn, and Walter Sherman demonstrated the cutting with Dohn teaching people from the crowd the proper technique.

Scything took place on Sunday with Robert Gear, Carroll Stowe, Art Schwenger, Alan Booth all showing their skills, but the champ was a young man from the crowd who had the finesse, as he has participated in contests throughout New England and Canada. Thanks to all who made these events interesting.

Our annual dinner and meeting were held at the Heath School on Saturday, September 22. The Community Hall Committee provided the dinner. Following the annual meeting, Mary Vilbon and Jane Beatrice Wegscheider reviewed the Heath Community Heritage Project.

~ Jack Cable, President

Remembering Bob Brown

By Ned Wolf

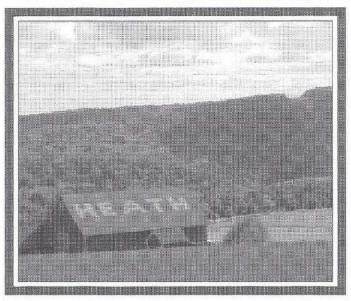
I met the Browns as a five-year-old who ran with Bob and Sydney's son Peter ahead of our parents and hid under a bed. We could then listen to them talking in the living room without their knowing we were there. The talk led to the Browns' living just up the hill from us in the summers. Bob was a distinguished looking man with kind words for kids in love with baseball. An athlete himself, Bob encouraged the Brown and Wolf boys (Peter, Mark, Ned, John, and Steve) with batting tips while helping us to convert a pear orchard into a ball field. He built a chicken wire backstop, lay down base paths as we petted Howard Thompson's heifers, and cleared enough brush for us to find most of the balls both fair and foul. Taking turns with my father Bill Wolf, he drove us down to Charlemont in the evenings for Little League. While Sydney kept Tom and Alison busy on the swings, Bob cheered us on. Years later, Bob served as Commissioner of Baseball for the Heath Pickerels, a motley group of children, grandchildren, and their friends. Of Heath Pickerel games Bob said, "They are the closest thing to the Kingdom of Heaven because no one strikes out, you're always safe, and everyone wins."

He was helpful around the house. After Bob and Sydney worked with an architect on the design, I watched him join other carpenters to build the house. His carpentry included bookshelves, kitchen cabinets, a tree house, a tree fort, and an eight-year-old's cabin. To get their spring water, the Browns depended in the late 50s on an electric pump in the woods. Bob once spoke of being driven to tears by the tendency of this pump to lose its prime regardless of when company was expected. We would march down to the spring for the rite of re-priming.

Bob enjoyed mowing without ear protection around the apple trees, gathering work bees to free the blueberries from hardhack, and clearing a swath along Ledges Road so that his prized birch trees were more visible. After an evening meal with family and friends the conversation moved to the kitchen where Bob would wash the dishes.

He, John Porter, and Bill Wolf, who became friends at Union Seminary, inspired me as scholars with a sense of humor and a constant concern for people in need. My father and I laughed over the writings of the fictitious St. Hereticus. When Bob preached at Amherst College, where I was a student, he filled the chapel with a clear resonant call to social justice. In less formal settings, he offered thoughtful prayers that made our hard times more bearable. After my father's death, Bob and his family gave my mother and me much love and support. Even when his own health was failing, Bob could deliver beautiful prayers for gatherings at home.

Picnics were other opportunities for joining Bob and Sydney in singing, whistling, or just humming. His favorite instrument was the cello. One summer his granddaughter Caitlin on her violin and I on my clarinet joined Bob on his cello to play tunes of Ralph Vaughan Williams. Bob Brown's life inspires people around the world and especially in Heath.



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Heath Emergency Services News

The following calls were answered since the last issue of the Herald:

6/26/01 - Rt. 8A South - Bicycle Accident

7/21/01 - Taylor Brook Rd. - Accident

7/24/01 - Bassett Rd. - Medical

7/28/01 - 8A North - Medical

8/07/01 - Branch Hill Rd. - Medical

8/18/01 - Number Nine Rd. - Accident

I would like to thank my fellow EMTs/First Responders, as well as Robin and Joanne for their help at the First Aid booth during the fair. We handled a number of emergencies during the fair this year (13 in all), as well as giving out some Band-Aids.

~ Timothy Lively, EMT

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