

TOWN OF MENDON
AMERICAN REVOLUTION
BICENTENNIAL
1776 - 1976



Part 1

Compiled for Mendon Historical Society
E. Jane Coleman, Librarian

Mendon Selectmen Grant Pole Location Permission

MENDON — A public hearing was held last night in the office of Selectmen and permission was granted the telephone company and Mass. Electric for the location of two poles on Asylum Street at the intersection of Southwick Street. There were no objections registered. Joseph Melpignano represented the telephone company.

In other business the Selectmen appointed Mary and John N. Grady Sr., Uxbridge Road; Fred Pironti, North Avenue and Anthony Nardi, Northbridge Road to the Bicentennial Commission to make plans for the country's anniversary celebration in 1976. Nardi is a senior at Nipmuc High School.

The Board has postponed a meeting scheduled for Wednesday night with Mr. Symonds of the Milford Water Company, members of the town water Commission and Gen-Wal Construc. who are seeking a tie-in to the existing water mains located on

Bates Street where a proposed sub-division is in the planning. The new meeting date has been set for Oct. 17.

The Board announces plans have been completed by William Porter of Maple Street for the Red Cross Bloodmobile to be in town Oct. 26 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m., located in the upper Town Hall. The purpose of this drive is to continue the building up of a blood bank for Mendon residents. Porter is coordinator of the drive.

Selectmen have set two hearings for Oct. 21, on the request of Ted and Mary Marszalkowski, 250 Burnt Swamp Road, Cumberland, R.I. to remove 1000 yards of loam on property located on Providence Street in town at 7.30 p.m. and for the removal of a gravel bank at 7.45 p.m.

The Board will not meet next week due to the holiday. The next meeting will be Oct. 21 at 7 p.m. in the Town Hall.

Milford Daily News Oct 8, 1974

Mendon Bicentennial Coordinator Appointed

MENDON — Fred Pironti, North Avenue has been named by Selectmen as co-ordinator to formulate plans for the Town of Mendon for future bicentennial cativities.

The first organizational meeting was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Grady Sr., Uxbridge Road with the following officers elected: Fred Pironti, chairman; John Grady, publicity; Mary Grady secretary and Anthony Nardi, member.

Plans were discussed for the improvement and renovation of Founders Park as a central theme for the bicentennial celebration. This idea will be further investigated after meeting with members of the Park and Conservation Commissions, Selectmen, Historical Society and local service organizations.

All service clubs and organizations will be contacted for future plans. This includes the Historical Society, Lions Club, Boy and Girl Scouts, Police and Fire Associations, School Representatives, Brothers of the Brush, American Legion, Bright Oaks Club, Four H Club, church groups, Conservation and Park Commission, Mendon Jr. Baseball League and any group or persons interested.

The Commission feels that Mendon, being the 'Mother' town in this area, should work closely with other area committees and will also invite the State Bicentennial committee to attend future meetings.

Anyone interested in helping with the forming of plans for future celebration are welcome to attend the next meeting, Jan. 9 at 7.30 p.m. in the Town Hall.

Milford Daily News
December 30, 1974

Fred Pironti, chairman of the towns Bicentennial Commission met with selectmen to discuss, a meeting place, storage area and funding for postage etc. for the commission.

Selectmen told Pironti that Thursday evenings was a good time to use one of the offices in the town hall as there are no board meetings for that evening the board will also arrange for filing space in one of the existing office filing cabinets at the town hall, however any funding request would have to be brought up at the annual town meeting in order to establish a new account.

Pironti told the board that E. Jane Coleman of the Mendon Historical Society had agreed to work with the Bicentennial Commission.

Donald and Louisa Wheeler, Mary Drive, were appointed to the Bicentennial Commission by selectmen at last night's meeting.

Milford Daily News
December 31, 1974

Selectmen last night appointed five new members to the Town's Bi-Centennial Committee. They include Edward Lamothe and Evelyn Lamothe, Millville Street; Elden Barrows, Bates Street, Mrs. Cynthia Donatelli, Uxbridge Road and James Till, Jr. North Avenue.

Milford Daily News
January 14, 1975

Mendon Bicentennial Group Enlisting Aid Of Organizations

MENDON — The second meeting of the Mendon Bicentennial Committee was held in the Assessor's room at the Town Hall with over 20 in attendance.

Chairman Fred Pironti opened the meeting and welcomed the new members. Minutes of the initial meeting, held last week in the Town Hall were read by Secretary Mary Grady.

Pironti informed the group that he was in the process of contacting all local organizations in order to enlist their support for the celebrations planned by the Committee through July 4, 1976.

Edward Lamothe assured the group that the Mendon Lions Club would support the Bicentennial Committee in their endeavors.

Main topic of discussion for the evening was the forming of the children's militia. James Till Jr., North Avenue will investigate the possibility of forming a Fife and Drum Corps. This could consist of students from Mendon and Upton, as the schools are regionalized. This would be in addition to organizing the children's militia.

Mrs. Cynthia Donatelli, Uxbridge Road, displayed patterns and a boy's militia costume that she designed, to the group. This consisted of a white shirt with an inverted collar, and sleeves cut off just below the elbows. The trousers were dark corduroy cut off just below knee with elastic sewn to hold the pant legs. A

light colored vest completed the outfit. Mrs. Donatelli stated that this was a simple costume and easy for parents to make, but that they could make them more elaborate if they wished.

Five members of the Upton Militia, dressed in costume attended the meeting. They displayed the costume of the Upton militia, and members included: Capt. William Milligan, Major George Klink and Sgt. Lloyd Hamm. Displaying the ladies costumes were Jane Milligan and Rose Klink. Both Upton women gave the instructions for making a knitted Liberty Cap to Mrs. Donatelli in lieu of the tri-cornered dress hat, worn by the men of the militia.

Major Klink gave the group a very interesting discourse on the clothing, uniforms, and accessories worn and used by the people in 1775. He stated that the Upton Militia would help Mr. Till in the training of the Mendon Militia.

Another out-of-town visitor to the meeting was Arthur Rainville, General Chairman of the Northbridge Bicentennial Committee. He spoke of combining adult area militia men into the forming of one large regiment. The main purpose of his visit was to incorporate a car tour map of area towns with historical sights pointed out. He also invited the local committee to a joint Bicentennial Committee meeting

of all towns, Monday, Feb. 10 at 7.30 p.m. in the Northbridge town hall.

Elden Barrows, chairman in charge of opening day activities gave a brief summary of the activities planned for the Mendon Bicentennial Celebration the weekend of April 18-21. He stated that the kick-off will be a Costume Ball, sponsored by the Mendham Brothers of the Brush, Friday, April 18 with a hot buffet, to be held at Patrick's in Uxbridge. A meeting to further the plans of opening day activities, will be held at his home on Bates Street, Jan. 21 at 7.30 p.m. Attending this meeting will be Opening Day Sub-Committee members; Edward Lamothe, Millville Road; Donald Wheeler, Mary Drive; and Fred Pironti, chairman of the Mendon Bicentennial Committee. Philip Harding of George Street has agreed to help the committee with the opening day activities.

Mr. Barrows showed pictures of the Mendon Tri-Centennial celebration in 1967 to the group.

Mary Grady, secretary, will send a letter to the Selectmen requesting that they appoint three new members to the Committee: Marion Corcoran, Millville Road; Arline Taylor, George Street and Robert Carlson, Quisset Road.

The next meeting of the Bicentennial Committee will be held Jan. 30 at 7.30 p.m. in the Mendon Town Hall.

Milford Daily News January 20, 1975

Selectmen have appointed three new members to the Bicentennial Commission. Mrs. Marion Corcoran, Millville Street; Mrs. Arline Taylor, George Street; and Robert Carlson, Quisset Road.

Milford Daily News
January 21, 1975

10 Attend Mendon Bicentennial Meeting

MENDON — The initial meeting of the Bicentennial committee was held in the selectmen's room at the town hall with 10 residents in attendance.

Chairman Fred Pironti opened the meeting and welcomed new members. Minutes of the first meeting held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Grady, Uxbridge Road were read by Secretary Mary Grady.

Pironti then requested suggestions and ideas from the group. He stated that he would like to see Mendon's celebration locally inspired centered and supported. He also noted the possibility of renovations and improvements to Founders' Park which were discussed at the organizational meeting.

There was much discussion with suggestions for a Children's Militia, family picnic, costume balls, etc among the main topics.

Pironti appointed Eldon Barrows, Bates Street, as chairman in charge of opening activities. It was planned to officially open Mendon's Bicentennial celebration the weekend of April 18-21. Also appointed to the sub-committee were Edward Latmohe, Millville Road and Donald Wheeler, Mary Drive.

Miss Jane Coleman, Providence Raad attended the meeting as a representative of the Mendon Historical Society, and has agreed to work with the committee in that capacity. She informed the group that the Historical Society does not have another meeting until May but the directors could meet before then if required to vote on any suggestions for the Founders' Park project. She also told the group that the Museum will conduct open house during the opening activities.

Pironti appointed James Till Jr., North Avenue, to be in charge of organizing the Children's Militia. Mrs. Cynthia Donatelli, Uxbridge Road was also appointed to this sub-committee. Pironti also stated that he would attempt to find a sponsor for this militia, but that the initial work should be performed by the committee due to the shortness of time before the opening activities. It was proposed that the militia be comprised of children of all ages from Mendon and that the costumes and equipment be provided by parents. The committee will

provide the required information to the parents at a later date.

Chairman Pironti said that he along with the aid of Miss Coleman will do the Historical Research required for the committee.

Pironti is in the process now of contacting all local organizations in order to enlist their support for the celebration. Barrows a member of the Mendham Brush Assn. said the support of the Brush Assn. was a foregone conclusion.

He noted that the Brush Assn. was having an executive board meeting this week and he would have more information after that meeting.

The Mendon Lions Club has already agreed to support the Bicentennial and Edward Latmohe is chairman.

Pironti also noted that the Fire and Police Associations would be contacted before the next meeting.

The next meeting of the Bicentennial Committee will be Thursday night at 7.30 in the Town Hall.

William Milligan, of the Upton Militia, will attend the meeting talk with members and display the militia costumes. All interested residents are invited to attend.

Mary Grady, secretary, will send a letter to the selectmen requesting that they appoint five new members to the Bicentennial Committee, Eldon Barrows, Bates Street; Edward Lamothe and Evelyn Latmohe, Millville Road; Mrs. Cynthia Donatelli, Uxbridge Road and James Till Jr., North Avenue.

Milford Daily News Jan. 13, 1975

** meeting held Thurs. Jan. 9, 1975*

Bicentennial Group Organizes In Mendon

MENDON — The Mendon Bicentennial Committee met in the Town Hall to organize committees and discuss opening day activities.

Mrs. Mary Grady, secretary of the group read the minutes from the previous meeting.

Eldon Barrows, opening day activities chairman informed the group that the following will serve on his sub-committee. They include: Tom Irons, Davis Knights, Philip Harding and Edward Lamothe. Barrows gave the group an outline of the opening activities scheduled to date.

Fred Pironti, chairman of the Bicentennial Committee read a letter from Arthur Rainville, chairman of the Northbridge Bicentennial Committee inviting members of the Mendon Committee to a joint meeting of all area committees to be held Feb. 10 at the Northbridge Town Hall. Committee members plan to attend the meeting. Pat Harrington of Boston a representative of the Mass. State Bicentennial will address the gathering.

Robert Carlson, Quissett Road has been named treasurer of the local Bicentennial Committee and Eldon Barrows heads the Activities Committee. Edward Lamothe, Millville Road was appointed Chairman of the Fund Raising Committee. Ed states that anyone willing to help may contact him at his home.

Mrs. Grady will forward a letter to the Board of Selectmen requesting they appoint Barbara Paradiso of Taft Avenue to the Committee.

The next Committee meeting

will be Feb. 6 at 7.30 p.m. in the Town Hall.

Letters are being prepared by Mrs. Grady and will be sent to all local organizations in town in order to set up a mass meeting between representatives of these organizations and the town Bicentennial Committee. It is the hope of the town committee that all organizations will be able to attend this meeting. The date of the meeting will be announced when the letters are sent to organizations.

Milford Daily News Feb. 3, 1975

** meeting held Thurs. Jan. 30, 1975*

Mendon Bicentennial Plans Children's Militia

MENDON — The Mendon Bicentennial Committee met this week in the Town Hall accepted and approved all sub-committee activity reports presented by chairpersons.

Chairman Fred Pironi conducted the meeting and Mrs. Mary Grady, secretary read minutes from the previous meeting.

Major General James Till, Jr. informed the group of his proceedings in the forming of the children's militia. Major Till stated there will be introductory letters for the children in the elementary schools explaining the organizational program that is planned for the junior militia.

Mrs. Cynthia Donatelli and Major Till stated there will be an organizational meeting of parents and children at the Clough School Sunday Feb. 6 at 3 p.m. The forming of the militia and costume designs will be programmed.

Elden Barrows gave a report on his opening day program. He also outlined the future plans of his newly activities committee.

Edward Lamothe, chairman of the fund raising committee noted that his sub-committee has been formed and is presently working on fund raising projects.

Robert Carlson, Quissett Road submitted the treasurers report.

Chairman Pironi closed the meeting with a request that all committee members be at the Town Hall tonight at 7 p.m. as the Mendon Committee will be

attending a joint meeting of all area Bicentennial Committees to be held at the Northbridge Town Hall at 7.30 p.m. Pat Harrington, Mass. State Bicentennial representative will be there to address the gathering and answer questions pertaining to future planned programs.

The next meeting of the Committee will be ~~Feb. 14~~ at 7.30 p.m. in the Town Hall. Feb. 20

Milford Daily News Feb. 10, 1975

**meeting held Feb. 6, 1975*

Mendon Bicentennial Group Urges Town Involvement Milford Daily News Feb. 21, 1975

19 Civic, Social Groups At Session

By LOUISE WHEELER

MENDON — Nineteen civic and social groups were represented at a meeting of the Mendon Bicentennial Committee held last night in the upper Town Hall.

Committee Chairman Frederick Pironi told the gathering of over 35 that the committee's main objective is to get as many of the townspeople involved in the country's 200th anniversary celebration as possible. He noted the committee would like to have a lot of small local activities in commemoration of the bicentennial and hope to have at least one activity a month after the kick-off events scheduled for the weekend of April 18 through 20.

Details of the dance and parade will be announced later.

Chairman Pironi stated the committee would welcome any and all ideas from the civic and social organizations in town, noting that the Mendon Bicentennial Committee will have the job of coordinating all ideas.

Elden Barrows, chairman of the activities committee noted many ideas have been discussed including a colonial craft fair, colonial dance lessons, an information center, firemen's muster, slide program, family picnic and musical programs.

Barrows also noted that the committee would like to have as many of the townspeople as possible wear colonial type costumes.

Other ideas discussed at the meeting included a town wide cleanup, tree planting, the re-opening of a general store, fund raising events, historical plays and ecumenical services.

Major General James Till gave a brief report on the children's militia and the possibilities of forming a fife and drum corp.

F. Blaine Hawkes, chairman of the Conservation Commission reported the Commission will have approximately 1000 seedlings available for planting through the Soil Conservation program in the Southern District. Any group wishing to plant trees is asked to contact Chairman Pironi for further information.

Chairman Pironi asked that all civic and social groups planning to hold activities in connection with the bicentennial celebration notify the Bicenten-

nial Committee before scheduling activities in order to prevent conflicting events.

Elden Barrows told the groups the committee would like to bring back the community spirit of the days of 1965-66 when the townspeople worked closely together.

Anyone in town who might have old historical items such as tools and other implements and would like to donate them to the committee for displaying during the celebration can donate them to the Historical Society for their collection.

Anyone with items is asked to contact the Bicentennial Committee.

Civic and social groups represented at the meeting include the following: Cubmaster Roger Pouliot, Cub Scouts Pack 1; Cliff and Beverly Eisner, Ted and Esther Cichanowicz, Andy Duquesnay and Barbara Winn, Friendly C. B'er Radio Club; Mr. and Mrs. Donald Kearsley, Subordinate Grange; Scoutmaster Donald Phillips, Boy Scout Troop 1; Richard Grady, St. Michael's CYC; F. Blaine Haawkes and Mr. Grady, Conservation Commission and Mr. Hawkes and Mrs. Diane Irving, 4-H Club.

Also E. Jane Coleman, Mendon Historical Society; Mendham Brush Assn., Tom Irons, Robert Frey, Council on Aging; Edward J. Lamothe, Tom Irons, Lions Club; Sandra Dwyer and Arlene Morton, Misfits Bowling League and Anita Pezzella and Natalie Thompson, St. Michael's Catholic Woman's Club.

Mrs. Lorna Rhodes, Mendon Jr. Baseball League and Bernadette Leoncini, Girl Scouts and Woman's Softball League; Tom Deutch, Nipmuc High, Class of 1976; Robert Frey, First Parish LRY; Peter Denton, Park Department; and Harold Dunbar, Garden Club.

Mrs. Lorna Rhodes was appointed chairman of the sub-committee which will begin research on the history of Mendon.

Refreshments were served following the meeting by Mrs. Barbara Paradiso.

The next meeting of the Bicentennial Committee will be held March 6 at 7.30 p.m. in the Town Hall.



THE MENDON COMMISSION

MENDON TOWN HALL
Mendon, Massachusetts 01756

FREDERICK J. PIRONTI
Chairman

March 1, 1975

Historical Society:

Dear Members:-

First I would like to thank you on behalf of our chairman Fred Pironti and his committee for attending our meeting Feb. 20th, and offering your assistance in any way we need it. Because we all love our Mother Mendon, we want to become a part of this celebration, and we want our contribution to the birthday to be a lasting one.

Our theme as you know is centered around Founders Park and the Museum. We thank you for keeping this historical setting a very special area throughout the years, and now we would like to help you in some way to do something you would suggest that needs to be done. We would like to meet with you either at one of your meetings or at one of ours and discuss with all members as to what these needs may be. Also at that time we would appreciate any knowledge you may have of families in Town with any letters, tools, etc. that are in the period of 1775 and 1776, so if you approve, we might ask them to display them in the Museum on our opening week-end and through out the celebration.

Would you send a reply to us by mail or attend our meeting March 6 and we can get started toward our birthday goal.

Thanking you again, I am,

Gratefully yours,

Mary A. Grady
Mary A. Grady
Secretary

March 5, 1975

Mrs. Mary A. Grady, Secretary
Mendon Bicentennial Commission
Mendon, Mass. 01756

Dear Mrs. Grady,

Although I shall be unable to be present to represent the Historical Society at your March 6 meeting, I would like to make the following suggestions for the needs of Founders Park and the Historical Museum in behalf of our Society members.

The Museum building should have a thorough inspection for structural defects, with necessary restoration being made to insure a sound building. How the new State Building Code relates to such a project needs to be investigated. The roof of the building leaks badly, and the Selectmen have been notified, since the building is a town building. (See Town Records Vol. 10 for 1920, 1921, also Selectmen's Records for same years.)

The walk to the Museum from the sidewalk steps is in poor condition and could be restored to a more appropriate style of walk for an 1825 building.

Small flower beds near the Museum and Founders monument would be welcomed, as would flowering trees or shrubs. Before planting of any kind is done, the Park Commission should be consulted. Enclosed is a copy of how Founders Park came into being. You may keep it with your records for necessary reference.

According to our Society records, there has never been any exhibit of household or farm artifacts of the 1775-1776 era at any of our meetings by anyone native to this area. Nor has there ever been any presentation of old letters, diaries or documents relative to those years in Mendon. So many of our old farms and buildings no longer exist and the farm families have gone from the area also. However, it may well be that in private collections in town, there are household or farm artifacts, diaries, letters, etc., representative of the New England area at the time of the Revolution. Perhaps the following people could be asked about such items: David B. Lowell, Mrs. Grace Hackenson, Mrs. Mildred Hummel, Atty. Shelley D. Vincent, Dr. Ronald Lukert, Taft's Orchards, Peter Denton, Richard C. Varney.

The Historical Society would be very happy to display any items in the Museum on the opening week-end and throughout the celebration, perhaps on a rotating basis, as our display area is rather limited.

Sincerely yours,

efc
Librarian

Mendon Bicentennial Group Makes Further Arrangements

MENDON — Members of the Mendon Bicentennial Committee met in the Town Hall to further plan for the towns participation in the bicentennial celebration. There were 16 members present and reports were given by sub-committee chairman.

Fred Pironti, presided at the meeting and introduced Mrs. Margarite Henderson a member of the Upton Commission to the group. Mrs. Henderson brought along articles which she displayed including tri-cornered hats, bonnets, coloring books, balloons with flag markings, bicentennial pins and key-chains made of bronze.

Reports were given by Robert Carlson, treasurer; Eldon Barrows, activities chairman; Maj. Gen. James Till Jr., and

Cynthia Donatelli, Militia committee; and Edward Lamothe, fund raising committee. Many events are being planned by the various committees with details to be announced later.

The Mendham Brush Association will hold a dance April 18 at Patrick's and tickets are now on sale.

A meeting has been scheduled for Sunday afternoon at 2 in the Clough School for all children and parents interested in joining the children militia. Those who have signed up for the militia can do so at the meeting. Maj. Gen. Till would also like to form a mens militia and asked that all interested men contact him at his home or attend Sundays meeting. The 4H Club will conduct a

mobile food sale Saturday, March 22 in connection with the Bicentennial and all proceeds will go to aid this committee. Anyone interested in donating to the sale may contact Mrs. Diane Irving, Blackstone Street or Mrs. Laura Taylor, Carpenter Street. There is no town appropriated funds for the Bicentennial Committee and the Committee members asks that all townspeople support this activity in order to raise funds to assist with the towns participation in the celebration.

The General Store, sponsored by the Bicentennial Committee will be open soon and wil display costumes of the 1775 and '76' era along with a variety of souvenirs as well as hats and bonnets.

Six new members have been appointed to the Committee by the Board of Selectmen namely Barbara Paridiso, Mary Dunbar, Anita Pezzella, Natalie Thompson, Diane Irving and Lorna Rhodes.

Chairman Pironti announced that the next committee meeting will be March 20 at 7:30 p.m. in the Town Hall. At the present time there are 26 members of the Mendon Bicentennial Commission and Chairman Pironti stated he would like to have the entire town become involved in this celebration by attending the next meeting.

* meeting held March 6, 1975

Bicentennial Plans Furthered In Mendon

MENDON — Members of the Bicentennial Committee are furthering plans for the mother town "Mendon's" participation in the countries celebration. Reports of committee chairmen including Elden Barrows, activities day chairman; Edward Lamothe, fund raising committee; and Lorna Rhodes, chairwoman of the historical research committee were given at the meeting and committee members are gaining enthusiasm in plans for the scheduled activities.

The committees are working on plans to make the Mother Town of Mendon's participation in the 200th celebration a memorable one. Announcements will be made prior to each event

by the respective committee heads.

Louis Carpenito, Neck Hill Road was appointed captain of the militia to work under Maj. Gen. James Till and Barbara Paridiso was appointed to handle all publicity for the militia committee.

The next meeting of the committee will be April 3 at 7.30 p.m. in the town hall. Fred Pironti is general chairman of the committee.

News Briefs

Tickets are now available for the Colonial Ball being sponsored by the Mendham Brush Association. Ticket sales are going well and there are only a limited number of tickets left. Those who plan on attending the April 18 event at Patrick's Uxbridge should contact either Elden Barrows, Charles Salvia, Mrs. Arlene Taylor or any member of the Brothers for tickets. The dance will be held from 8 p.m. until 1 a.m. and door prizes will be featured. Costumes are optional.

CCD classes will be held at 6.. tonight at St. Michael's Church for grades 7 and 8 and at 7.45 p.m. for grades 9 thru 12. Daily masses will be at 7 a.m.

Sponsors Movie

The Mendon Bicentennial Fund Raising Committee will sponsor the movie "1776" a four-star musical comedy April 15 at the Milford Cinema. There will be advance ticket sales only and the shows will be at 7 and 9.30 p.m. This movie is a Tony Award winner and is rated G. The following members of the Fund Raising Committee can be contacted for tickets. Edward Lamothe, Millville Street; Mrs. Anita Pezzella, Myrtle Street; Mrs. Helen Salvia, Myrtle Street; Warren Goodnow, Miscoe Road and Mrs. Derna Rostcheck, Teresa Drive. Tickets are also available from any member of the town bicentennial committee.

Fund Raising Committee

The fund raising committee for the bicentennial celebration in town announces the official opening of the general store will be April 19. The general store will be located in the center of town next to Warren's Barber Shop and articles will be taken on consignment at 15 percent. The fund raising committee is presently selling tickets for the movie "1776" which will be shown at the Milford Cinema April 15 at 7 p.m. The committee will only profit from tickets purchased in advance. Tickets may be purchased from any of the following members of the fund raising committee; Edward Lamothe, chairman; Anita Pezzella, Derna Rostcheck, Helen Salvia, Warren Goodnow or Raymond Ricard.

Milford Daily News
March 24, 1975
meeting held
March 20, 1975

Milford Daily News
March 26, 1975

Milford Daily News
April 9, 1975

Mendon's Bicentennial Celebration Opens In April

Milford Daily News Apr. 3, 1975

200 Years After Start Of Revolution

MENDON — Journey for a moment, back thru history to the town of Mendon, in the spring of 1775. Elected as selectman that March were: Joseph Dorr - Esq.; Lieut. Joseph Gibbs; Henry Benson, Ens. Seth Taft and Ichabod Thayer. Joseph Dorr would also serve as Town Clerk and Treasurer. Elected as Constables were: Darius Daniels, Joseph Benson, Jr., and Josiah Nelson.

Mendon at this point in history is already over one hundred years old and consists of what is now Mendon, Hopedale, Milford, Blackstone and Millville.

The birth of a new spring is upon the town and the countryside is resplendent with new growth and the advent of a new season. As this agricultural community prepares for this new season, it moves, inexplicably towards another new birth, the birth of a new nation.

April 19, "The shot heard around the world" will echo from Lexington and Concord. The town of Mendon will respond for a call for assistance, by sending 164 men to aid our valiant compatriots in this initial act of defiance against the tyrannical English occupation.

Mendon may bear justifiable pride in the history of its town, and, of its quest for independence.

It is now 1975 and this participation of Mendon, in the quest for independence is what we recall. This past history what is celebrated in this Bicentennial Celebration of these United States. Mendon will commence our participation in the celebration exactly 200 yrs. from its inception.

The Mendham Brush Association will sponsor a dance April 18 at Patricks in Uxbridge. The Colonial Ball will open a weekend of activities which is only the

first of several such events, being planned for the bicentennial year. Tickets for the dance are on sale, and are available from members of the Brother's of the Brush or the Mendon Commission for the Bicentennial Celebration.

April 19 at 9 a.m. Mendon will send a rider to Hopedale and Milford to warn the eastern precincts of the impending conflict at Lexington and Concord.

The Mendon Historical Society will hold an open house at their quarters on Founders Park, both Saturday and Sunday, between the hours of 1 to 4 p.m. All are encouraged, and welcome, to view the collection of Historical Americans which has been entrusted to the Association.

Saturday afternoon at 2 p.m. the newly formed militia will muster on Founders Park and dedicate a tee to the original participants of the Mendon call to arms. They will then march to the library where the Brothers of the Brush will dedicate the Liberty Tree Bicentennial News Board. Paul Revere will be dispatched to the precincts of Blackstone and Millville and the Bicentennial Flag will be presented to the selectmen by Fred Pironti, chairman of the Mendon commission. The store for bicentennial memorabilia will be opened by Edward Lamothe and Tea Tax Tags will be on sale the entire weekend, to offset expenses of the celebration.

April 20, a parade will be held at 1:30 p.m. The regular Memorial Day parade route will be followed except that it will culminate at Founders Park, where the militia will re-enact the actual call to arms that occurred in Mendon in April of 1775.

The committee for the opening weekend of activities, announces

that Mr. & Mrs. Henry Clough have consented to participate, as Grand Marshal's for the parade. They will be the guests of the committee for the occasion.

Further and additional information on the opening weekend activities will be announced as they are finalized. The general chairman for the celebration is Fred Pironti. The militia is under the direction of Gen. James Till and the Opening Activities Committee consists of Edward Lamothe, Davis Knights, Tom Irons, Philip Harding and Elden H. Barrows.

Band Boosters

Members of the Band Boosters Club will meet April 9 at 7:30 p.m. in the music room at Nipmuc Regional High School. This will be a discussion on ways in which to raise money to help support the elementary and high school bands in the School District. All parents of band students are asked to attend this meeting, voice their opinions and help support their children in this endeavor.

Movie

The Bicentennial Fund Raising Committee will sponsor a movie 1776 at the Milford Cinema April 15. There will be two showings at 7 and 9:30 p.m. Advance ticket sales can be obtained from any member of the fund raising committee which includes Edward Lamothe, Elden Barrows, Anita Pezzella, Helen Salvia, Raymond Richard, Warren Goodnow, or Derna Rostcheck. Tickets are also available from members of the bicentennial committee. The movie is a 4-star musical comedy and of interest to the entire family.

Milford Daily News
Mon. April 14, 1975

MENDON HOSTS BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION THIS WEEKEND

Activities Will Start Friday Night

By LOUISA WHEELER

MENDON — The center of town will become a busy place this weekend as the Mendon Bicentennial Committee will hold a two-day kick-off celebration.

There will be many activities during the weekend which will be of interest to residents as well as visitors expected to stop to view the various events.

Friday evening the Mendham Brush Assn. will hold a colonial ball at Patrick's in Uxbridge. A cold buffet will be featured at 8.15 p.m. followed by dancing from 9 until 1 a.m. to the music of the Romy-T Quartet. Door prizes will be awarded during the evening.

Charles Salvaia is chairman of the event and will be assisted by Paul Grant, Louis Benotti and Howard Miller. Costumes are optional. Table reservations can be made by calling Paul Grant or Charles Salvaia.

Saturday events will include the opening of the Historical Museum between the hours of 1 and 4 p.m. The museum will also be open the same time Sunday.

At 9 a.m. Saturday a rider will be sent to the eastern precincts to warn them of the impending conflict. This is being done in conjunction with the Milford celebration being held the same day. Participating for Milford will be John Moran as Paul Revere and Anthony Brenna, general chairman of the Milford Committee and Mrs. Jean Gagnon, committee woman.

Mendon Selectmen, Frederick Pironti, chairman of the Mendon Bicentennial Committee and Peter Denton and Elden H. Barrows of the Mendham Brush Assn. will be on hand to send them off from Mendon.

A tea tax sale will be held during the day with Edward Lamothe, chairman of the fund raising committee in charge. Leonard Mellen will portray Paul Revere for Mendon.

The church bells will be rung at 2 p.m. Saturday by Mrs. Lorna Rhodes and the Militia will begin

to gather on Founders Park. The Militia will be in charge of Major Gen. James Till.

Paul Revere will arrive with the news of the British attack at Lexington and Concord, portrayed by Mellen and a welcome will be extended to the guests by Chairman Pironti.

A tree dedication ceremony will take place shortly after with the tree being dedicated to the original Mendon militia men. The youth militia will then proceed to the Town Hall area.

The next activity will be the dedication of a bicentennial news board, by the Brothers of the Bursh with the following members in charge: Staxley Chapin, Paul Grant, Fred Pironti, Douglas Taylor and Elden H. Barrows.

Chairman Piranti will then present a bicentennial flag to the selectmen to be flown over the Town Hall and Paul Revere will be dispatched to warn the southern precincts of Blackstone and Millville, which were once a part of Mendon.

The general store will also officially open Saturday.

Sunday has been set aside for the parade which is scheduled to get underway at 1.30 p.m. The parade will march from Kimball's Garage, Providence Street to Maple Street, to the monument near Lowell's Dairy, then down Route 16 to Founders Park.

All parade participants are asked to be at Kimball's Garage by 1 p.m. Chairmen will be placed on Founders Park so that elderly residents will be able to enjoy the parade. All members of the Mendham Brush Association will be marching in the parade and residents in costume are also invited to participate in the parade.

The program at Founders Park will include an invocation by Robert G. Beard, pastor of the Baptist Church, band selection, America, welcome by the selectmen, re-enactment of April 19, Mendon Militia, bells will ring and the fife and drum corps will play during the reading of the original list of the

militia men from Mendon. The program will conclude with the band selection.

Other events planned for the weekend will include the Mendon Garden Club spring flower show entitled "Spirit of '76" which will be held at the Unitarian Church parish hall from 1 to 6 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday. Tickets will be available at the door.

By LOUISA WHEELER

MENDON — Many flower and garden enthusiast attended the second annual spring flower show "Spirit of '76" presented by the Mendon Garden Club and held in the parish hall of the Unitarian Church.

This years attendance at the two-day show larger than seen at last years and included visitors from surrounding towns in Worcester County and garden club members from Marlboro and Providence clubs.

The lecturers proved to be interesting as well as informative for those in attendance.

Dean Wieggers of Mendon Green House spoke on propagation and noted that plants need not be long and lanky in order to bloom, for with proper care they will blossom even when small and young. He illustrated his point by showing a fuschia which was only five inches tall and in bloom.

Mrs. Helen Congdon, Washington Street, brought a hive of honey bees and explained the making of a hive and how fascinating a hobby such as this can be. She noted the importance of the queen bee and the respect shown to her in the hive.

Terrariums

Roy Fizell of Upton spoke on terrariums and amazed the audience with his dexterity in placing various small plants into a narrow necked bottle. Fizell also told the gathering that African violets and episcias are very good plants to be put into a terrarium. After he completed the terrarium he awarded it to Gert Callery.

Mrs. Shirley O'Connor spoke on the historical significants of herbs. She told of how they were used many years ago for cooking and medicinal purposes. She made a sachet jar of various layers of herbs. Mrs. O'Connor awarded a plant of thyme to Mrs. Marjorie Shattuck.

Mrs. Phyllis Clark, Tom Thumb's Shop, also described ways in which terrariums are built. She used a wide mouth jar and stressed the correct type of soil, how to water and the impor-

tance of avoiding direct sunlight. The terrarium made by Mrs. Clark was awarded to Tracy Graveline.

Flower Arrangements

Mrs. Stanley Gardner of Cape Road, spoke on flower arrangements. She made two types of arrangements, one a fan shape to be used against a wall and the other a balanced arrangement which could be viewed from any angle. She also explained that arrangements should be carefully completed so that the prominent color flowers are not all at the top of the arrangement.

Mrs. Gardner awarded flower arrangements to Mrs. Erickson and Judy Davenport.

Richard Bethel spoke on the many ways in which property can be improved. He brought along evergreens, such as junipers, spruce, Japanese yew, azalea and forsythia. He also noted the value of perennial gardens and the upkeep.

Charles Reneau explained the importance of dormant spraying and the care one must take to know the type of tree to be planted on their property. He also talked briefly about the value of DDT even though it has been banned and noted someday it may once again be in use.

Door prizes were awarded to the following by the club: Beverly Barrows, Ann Coccoli, Susan Maynard, Rose Kane, Althea Johnson, Robert Smith, R.G. Modrak, Earl Johnson, Alden Lawson and Harold Moran.

Lloyd Dillon of the Home National Bank, Milford awarded a leather covered memo pad to Mrs. Florence Smith.

Three companies had displays downstairs in the parish hall and awarded prizes to Mrs. Dolly Murch, Blanche Thomas and Mrs. Louisa Wheeler.

The Garden Club extends thanks to all members, lecturers, donors, contributors and visitors for making this years' show such a success.

The next meeting of the club will be held May 29 at 7.30 in the home of John Boomer, Cape Road.

Milford Daily News
Toes. Apr. 22, 1975
'SPIRIT OF '76'
FLOWER SHOW IN
MENDON



Milford Daily News April 17, 1975

MENDON KICKOFF — The Board of Selectmen in Mendon purchases bicentennial buttons, to officially kick-off the bicentennial weekend planned by the local committee. From left to right, Selectman Ernest S. Thomas, Edward Lamothe, chairman of the bicentennial fund raising committee accepting payment from Harold C. Barrows Jr., chairman of the board; and Selectman George S. Phipps. Events will be held Saturday and Sunday, sponsored by the Bicentennial Committee, including a tea-tax sale, tree planting and dedication of a bicentennial news board and a parade. (Daily News Photo by John Lemish)



Milford Daily News April 19, 1975

200TH WINDOW DISPLAY — Dressed in Colonial garb, students at the Henry P. Clough School, Mendon, stand proudly in front of their decorated window. From left are Lawrence O'Donnell, Edward Till, Christopher Donatelli, Michael Merolli, Kevin Lynch, Cindy Scott, Trudy Butler, Jeannie Ricard and Thomas Barlow. The students are in grades five through seven. Costumes were worn in connection with class project. (Daily News Photo by John Lemish)

Area Residents Enjoy Mendon Bicentennial Salute

Two-Day Observance Attended By Many

By LOUISA WHEELER

MENDON — Hundreds and perhaps thousands of Mendon and area residents were on hand over the weekend to view the two-day bicentennial celebration kick off in observance of the country's 200th birthday which will be held next year.

Although the weatherman failed to smile on Mendon over the weekend it had very little effect on the spirits of those who participated in the various events or the on lookers.

The activities culminated with a 25 unit parade featuring four marching bands and many other entries.

Other activities during the weekend included Paul Revere's ride through Mendon which was attended by a good size crowd, the tea-tax sale held Saturday morning by members of the Youth Militia, a tree planting and dedication ceremony held on Founders park with 70-member Youth Militia. The tree was dedicated to the 164 men who answered the call to arms in 1775.

The bicentennial news board, which will list coming events of the bicentennial celebration, was dedicated by Elden H. Barrows, president of the Mendham Brush Association, assisted by brothers, Douglas Taylor, Philip Harding, Stanley Chapin and Fred Pironti.

Flag Presented

Fred Pironti presented the bicentennial flag to the town of Mendon and accepting the flag was Chairman of the Board of Selectman Harold C. Barrows. The flag will be flown over the Town Hall. Also participating in the presentation was Selectman George Phipps.

A ribbon cutting ceremony was held by the Fund Raising Committee to officially open the general store, located in the center of town. Participants in the ceremony were Selectman George Phipps, Edward Lamothe, chairman of the fund raising committee and committee members Anita Pezzella, Derna Rostcheck and Helen Salvia. Sales at the general store, far exceeded any expectation on the part of the committee.

Saturdays events were held under rainy skies, but many spectators attended the activities in colonial costume.

The Historical Museum was open during the weekend and many Mendon and area residents took time to stop and view the historical items being displayed. Hostesses, dressed in colonial costume, were Miss Martha Lowell, Mrs. Emily Coleman, Mrs. Francis Morrison and Miss E. Jane Coleman.

The second annual flower show, "Spirit of 76" sponsored by the Mendon Garden Club drew many visitors and many door prizes were awarded during the two-day event.

Many students from the H. P. Clough School made a surprise trip to the Sunrise Apartments (Housing for the Elderly) dressed in colonial costume. Friday has been set aside by school officials as bicentennial dress up day.

Colonial Ball

There were 300 in attendance at the Colonial Ball held at Patrick's in Uxbridge, sponsored by the Mendham Brush Association. A large percent of those attending the ball were dressed in costume.

The largest crowd was seen at yesterday afternoons parade as Mendon and area residents lined Providence, Maple, Hasting Streets and Route 16 to view the marching units in spite of the cold weather.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry P. Clough, Providence Street were grand marshals for the parade. Mr. Clough is one of Mendon's most distinguished citizens, and the former Center School on North Avenue bears his name. He was an educator in town for many years before retirement and served on the towns tricentennial celebration committee in 1967.

Four Bands Featured

Four bands were featured in the parade including the Blackstone-Millville Regional High School Band, which was named the number one band out of 120 at the Cherry Blossom Band Festival in Washington, D. C. Also featured were the Nipmuc Regional High School Band, Mendon-Upton Elementary School Band and Hopedale High Band.

The Blackstone-Millville Band received a big round of applause following their precision drill presentation in the center of town.

Two units of the Commonwealth Fife and Drum Corp, from Uxbridge participated, members of the Board of Selectmen, Chairman Barrows, and Selectman George Phipps and Ernest Thomas also participated.

The Mendon Police Department Color Guard, Mendon Fire Department, Legion Color Guard, Mendon Boy Scouts of Troop I, Mendon Girl Scouts, 70-member Mendon Youth Militia, and the Milford Youth Militia also participated.

The Grange entered a pony drawn wagon, and other units in the parade, the 4H Club had several units in the parade, and Leonard Mellen was Paul Revere.

Also participating were Clarence Begeley and oxen, Milford Selectwoman Mrs. Marie Parente, and members of the Holliston, Norfolk and Mendham Brush Association which were crowd pleasers.

Special Ceremony

Special ceremonies were held at Founder's Park to culminate the days activities. Robert Beard, pastor of the Baptist Church gave the invocation followed by a selection from the Nipmuc High School Band. Thomas Irons, was master of ceremonies and introduced Chairman Pironti of the bicentennial committee who gave the welcome address.

Selectwoman Parente, of Milford, gave a few remarks and thanked Mother Mendon for the birthday card received from the bicentennial committee by Milford Selectmen. She also read a poem relating to Milford's separation from her mother town "Mendon."

Selectman Phipps, representing the town gave a few remarks and welcomed all to the celebration. Mr. Clough was introduced as one of Mendon's most distinguished citizens and received a round of applause.

Members of the Blackstone-Millville Regional Band played a selection which was followed by a call to arms, given by Maj. Gen. Till of the Youth Militia.

The names of the original militiamen from Mendon were read and the call was answered by the four units of the militia present at the event. During the reading of names the Fife and Drum Corp. played a selection. Mrs. Lorna Rhodes rang the bells during the two-day events.

The program concluded with the National Anthem.

Elden Barrows, chairman of the opening day committee extended thanks to his committee, Edward Lamothe, Philip Harding, Davis Knights, and Tom Irons for organizing weekend festivities which proved to be very successful.

* Attendance for both days, 19th & 20th, totaled over 325
Tree planting Saturday, April 19th - cold and raining
Parade on Sunday, April 20th - cold and windy



Milford Daily News April 21, 1975
 Nipmuc Regional High School marchers are led through the
 center of Mendon by a modern day Paul Revere as the Bicentennial
 Main St. near Post Station

Leonard Mellen
 parade winds its way past Sunday afternoon crowd. (Daily New
 Photo by Joseph R. LaPlante)



Millford Daily News April 21, 1975

THE PARADE IS COMING — As the parade approaches, Andrew Chace, 4, son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Chace of North Avenue, Mendon, clammers on the top of the war memorial for a better view of the marchers. (Photo by Joseph R. LaPlante)



April 21, 1975

BEAT OF THE DRUM — There was plenty of music as the national award winning Blackstone-Millville Regional High School band stole the Mendon show. (Daily News Photo by Joseph R. LaPlante)



Hastings Street—
April 21, 1975—Milford Daily News
HITCHING A RIDE — While some marched others opted for the convenience of two-wheeled buggy in Mendon event. (Photo by Joseph R. LaPlante)



Milford Daily News April 22, 1975

TIMELY ATTIRE — If it weren't for the new school building in the background of this picture, you could believe that it was taken during colonial times. Kindergarten through third grade students at the Clough School in Mendon marked the nation's bicentennial by coming to school one day last week in colonial period costumes. Even the teachers joined the students in recreating the atmosphere of 200 years ago. (Daily News Photo by John Lemish)



Milford Daily News Apr. 21, 1975
FREEDOM TREE — John Moran, riding as "Paul Revere," stops off in ~~Mendon~~^{Hopeville} at liberty tree, an evergreen donated by Dr. Thomas DePalo, as he prepares to begin his ride. (Photo by David Leedham)

Mr. Moran also appeared in Mendon.

Mendon Meeting Scheduled

MENDON — The next meeting of the Bicentennial Committee will be May 15 at 7.30 p.m. in the upper Town Hall. At the last meeting reports were made by the various sub-committees and it was noted that tickets for the June 6 dance are now on sale. The dance is being sponsored by the Fund Raising Committee under the chairmanship of Edward Lamothe.

The dance will be held at the K. of C. Hall from 8 p.m. to 12 with a breakfast to be served at midnight. Further details will be announced by Chairman Lamothe. The Bicentennial Committee has sent over 40 thank you letters to the various groups and organizations responsible for making the April 20 parade such a success.

Many members of the Bicentennial Committee were represented at the Torch Lighting ceremony in Uxbridge. All who have slides or movies of the April 20 parade are invited to bring them to the next meeting for viewing.

Milford Daily News May 5, 1975

Mendon Bicentennial Committee Makes Plans

MENDON — The Fund Raising Committee of the Bicentennial Committee is furthering plans for a dance and midnight breakfast to be held June 6 at the K. of C. Hall, Milford.

Dancing will be from 8 to midnight and breakfast will be served at midnight. The menu will feature ham, scrambled eggs, rolls, doughnuts and coffee.

Music will be provided by the Romy-T Quartet and door prizes will also be featured during the evening.

Tickets are available from Edward Lamothe, chairman; or other members of the Committee including Anita Pezzella, Helen Salvia, Derna Rostcheck, Raymond Ricard or Warren Goodnow. Tickets are also on sale at Warren's Barber Shop or Fred's Package Store. There are a limited number of tickets available. Costumes are optional.

The Fund Raising Committee also reports that many new items have been added to the stock at the Country Store, located near Warren's Barber Shop in the center of town. Bumper stickers will also be on sale soon. The design for the stickers was specially made by a Nipmuc Regional High School student. The store is open Wednesday from 1 to 4 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m.

The next meeting of the committee will be June 2.

Milford Daily News May 14, 1975



THE MENDON COMMISSION

MENDON TOWN HALL
Mendon, Massachusetts 01756

FREDERICK J. PIRONTI
Chairman

Mendon Historical Society
c/o E. Jane Coleman
Providence Road
Mendon, Mass.

Dear Ms. Coleman,

Please accept this Commission's thanks for your participation
in our Opening Weekend Activities.

We knew from the beginning that your society would be a valuable asset to the success of the Bi-Centennial Celebration in Mendon, and it has so far proven to be the case.

I hope we can expect the same fine cooperation in the future months.

Thank you again.

Frederick J. Pirenti
Chairman

FJP/lt

rec'd May 5, 1975
EJC



Milford Daily News May 14, 1975

IN THE SPIRIT — Members of St. Michael's Church Junior Choir dressed in the spirit of the Bicentennial Celebration. Standing from left in the back row are Elizabeth Tysen, Jody Irving, Elizabeth Hanlon, Maria Iacovelli, Margaret Tysen, Verna Palmer, middle row Vera Hazard, Lisa Ershcen and Mary Tysen; and front row, Joan Hanlon, Kathy Houlihan, Cynthia Hanlon, Kim Irving and Jennifer Palmer. Adult leaders are Mrs. John Palmer and Mrs. William Hanlon. The junior choir sings each Sunday at the 10 a.m. mass and is made of girls in grades three through six.

Bicentennial Committee Makes Activitiy Report

MENDON — Members of the Bicentennial Committee met in the town hall with various sub-committees present report on their activities.

Edward Lamothe, chairman of the Fund Raising committee noted that there are still tickets available for the dance June 6 from 8 to midnight at the K of C hall, Milford Dancing until midnight and a breakfast will be served at that time.

Costumes are optional and door prizes will be awarded during the evening. Tickets can be purchased from Mr. Lamothe or any member of the Fund Raising or general committee.

Other reports were made by the secretary, treasurer, militia and historical research chairmen. The committee also discussed the upcoming Milford parade to be held June 15.

Mrs. Maryann Porter and Mrs. Arlene Taylor showed slides of Mendon's April 20 Bicentennial.

The next committee meeting will be May 29 at 7.30 in the upper town hall. The Youth Militia will meet Saturday morning at 10 at the Clough School.

*Milford Daily News
May 19, 1975*

meeting held May 15, 1975



Memorial Day Parade, near Old Cemetery, Mendon
 Monday, May 26, 1975 *Milford Daily News* May 27, 1975

Mendon Residents To Participate In Parade

Milford Daily News June 13, 1975

MENDON — Several residents of Mendon will be participating in Milford's Bicentennial Parade Sunday.

Students in the Mendon-Upton Elementary Band and Nipmuc Regional High School Band will be participating rain or shine. High School and Elementary Band pickups will be at the Memorial School, Upton at 12:45 and the Clough School, Mendon at 1 p.m. The starting point will be the K-Mart Plaza Route 109, Milford and starting time has been set for 3 p.m. The length of the parade has been estimated at two and a half to three hours and will end at the Fruit Street Extension (McDonald's). The bus will meet band members at the end of the parade and parents should pick up band members at either the Clough or Memorial School to avoid confusion at the end of the parade at approximately 6:30 p.m.

Also participating in the parade will be the Mendon Junior Militia a float and marching unit from

the Mendham Brush Association, a horse and wagon from the Grange and Clarence Bagley, Millville Street, oxen and cart.

Members of the Mendham Brush Association are to assemble at the Fire Station at 1 p.m. Sunday.

Miss Martha Lowell, Mrs. Jennie Daunt and Mrs. Gertrude Berube will represent the Grange at the parade.

James Till head of the Junior Militia request that all those youngsters planning to march Sunday must be at the Clough School at 12:30 Sunday and they will return to the school around 6:30 p.m. Parents are to pick them up. Any young child who might not be able to march the entire route may be placed in the parade or taken out at any time the parents see fit.

Plans are being made to bus the children to the parade area. There will be a practice of the Junior Militia Saturday morning at 10 and all those planning to march must attend the rehearsal.



Milford Daily News May 28, 1975

YOUTH MILITIA — Four members of the Mendon Youth Militia place a wreath at the Old Mendon Cemetery during a special ceremony on Memorial Day. They spent the day in authentic colonial period costumes and carrying early American flags. (Daily News Photo by John Lemish)

*Memorial Day celebrated May 26
May 28 1975*

MENDON — Members of the Mendon Bicentennial Committee met with Earl Rogers and Homer Sanborn of the Milford Community Chorus.

Rogers and Sanborn brought along tapes of a recent concert which they played for the committee. They expressed a desire to perform a concert for Mendon residents and further discussion will be held on the matter.

The committee also talked about the 4-H Fair to be held in connection with the Bicentennial. The fair is planned for September and details will be announced by the committee in charge.

Plans were also discussed for a family picnic to be held July 5 at Lakeview Park. Further information will be announced by the picnic committee.

Reports of the various committee heads were made and the next meeting has been set for June 26 at 7.30 p.m. in the upper town hall.

*Milford Daily News
June 18, 1975*

Picnic Planned In Mendon

Milford Daily News June 27, 1975

MENDON — An old fashion family picnic is being planned for July 5, sponsored by the Mendon Bicentennial Committee. One of the featured attractions at the picnic will be a band concert between the hours of 2 and 4 p.m.

The 26-member Milford Concert Band will present selections of popular and contemporary music under the leadership of Donald Iacovelli. All Mendon residents and their families are welcome to attend the picnic to be held at Lakeview Park. Childrens games will begin around 10.30 a.m. and are being co-ordinated by the Mendon Elementary P.T.A.

The musical program will feature the following numbers: "Washington Post March," Souza; "Latina," Bencrisutte; "Tunes of Glory," Cacausas; "When Johnny Comes Marching Home," "Yesterday," Beatles; "Semper Fidelis," Souza; "Kentucky 1800", Grundman and "The Thunderer", Souza.

There will be a short intermission with the following selections featured during the second part of the concert "March and

Procession of Bacchus; "Fandango, Perkins; "Battle Hymn of the Republic," "Killing Me Softly," "Oye Come Va," Santase; "Dogma of the Past," "This Land Is Your Land," Guthrie and "Cohan Salute," Cohan.

This concert is being partially sponsored by a group of local merchants.

Picnic lunches will be enjoyed between 12.30 and 2 and each family will bring their own food. The concession stands will be open at the park. Swimming will be available, but there will be a fee for use of the beach and bath house facility. The Bicentennial Committee will sell badges during the day to help defray the expenses of the event.

Mendon Bicentennial Committee Completes Family Picnic Plans

MENDON — Members of the Bicentennial Committee are finalizing plans for the family picnic scheduled for Saturday at Lakeview Park.

This will be an old fashioned picnic and all residents of town are invited to join in the day's activities. Each family will be responsible for their own picnic lunch and concession stands will also be open at the park.

A field day for the children will begin around 10.30 a.m. and is being co-ordinated by the P.T.A. Picnic lunches will be enjoyed between 12.30 and 2.

At 2 p.m. the 26-member Milford Concert Band will present a two hour concert featuring popular and contemporary music selections.

The Bicentennial Committee extends thanks to the following merchants who contributed part of the cost for this concert for the enjoyment of Mendon residents.

Contributions were received from J.A. Ballou, farm equipment; Stanley Gardner, florist; Carlton L. Goss, builder; Joe Tex Auto Body; Donald B. Lowell, Insurance; Al Comolli, electrical contractor; Maple Farm Dairy and Taft Orchards.

Also Pioneer Carpet, Gerri-Coe Builders, Arcudi Oil Co., Vin's Cabinet Shop, K.C. Equipment, Mendon Auto Salvage, Whitten Lumber and Supply, O'Grady's Service Station, Whitten Corporation, Warren's Barber Shop, Mendon Gulf Station, Milford Tool and Die, 1820 Shop and Gibson's Cesspool Service.

Following the concert water sports will be featured with the Norfolk Brush challenging the Mendham Brush Association. The picnic is also open to all residents of towns once a part of Mendon.

Milford Daily News
June 30, 1975

2—Milford Daily News, Monday, July 7, 1975

Mendon Family Field Day Held At Lakeview

MENDON — Over 300 Mendon residents and guests attended an old fashion family picnic held at Lakeview Park Saturday and sponsored by the Mendon Bicentennial Committee.

During the morning a field day was held for the children with ribbons awarded to first place winners. The field day events were co-ordinated and run by members of the Mendon Elementary PTA.

Winners in the pre-school age group were Dominic Castellano, Brian Wheeler and Karen Grady.

Danny Kelley took three first place wins in the first through fourth grade group with Susan Matott taking two first place spots. Craig Grant Mark Matott and Michael Brown also won ribbons.

Winners in the fifth through eighth grade group were Joseph Baldiga two first place, Maureen McLaughlin, Andrea Matott and Susan Hanlon.

Also Maggie Kelley, Fred Kelley and Christine Donatelli.

Other games enjoyed during the morning were volleyball and wiffle ball.

Following the picnic lunch residents enjoyed a concert presented by the Milford Concert Band under the direction of Donald Iacovelli. Popular and contemporary music was featured during the two hour concert.

Residents also enjoyed swimming and sun bathing.

The final activities of the day proved to be very enjoyable to all as they watched the Mendham Brush Association defeat the Anvil's of Norfolk in water events, including canoe jousting, log rolling and tug of war.

J. Peter Martini proved to be the champion in the log rolling and canoe jousting.

The activities Committee of the Bicentennial Committee extends special thanks to William F. Green, owner of Lakeview Park for full use of the facilities at no charge for this special activity.

Green Thanked For Use Of Lakeview

Milford Daily News July 11, 1975

BY FREDERICK J. PIRONTI
General Chairman

Mendon Bicentennial Commission

I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank Mr. William Green, owner-manager of Lakeview Park in Mendon for the generous donation of his beach, picnic grounds, bathhouse and all the attendant facilities of this park for the use of the Mendon Bicentennial Commission for the "Family Picnic and Band Concert" held last Saturday, July 5, 1975.

This Commission agreed, at its inception, that we would celebrate the 200th birthday of our country without government money.

No application for appropriations have been made, nor will be made

from the town, state, or federal government.

We feel that the Town of Mendon assisted this country at its birth through the public spirit of its citizens, and that the 200th anniversary of this birth should be celebrated the same way.

It is through the very generous support we have received so far from individuals, organizations and businesses that our celebrations to date have been possible.

Once again, Mr. Green, on behalf of the entire Mendon Bicentennial Commission and all of the men, women and children who enjoyed themselves that day - Thank You.

Mendon Country Fair Slated For October 4

*Milford Daily News
July 28, 1975*

By LOUISA WHEELER

MENDON — The Activities Committee of the Mendon Bicentennial Committee announces the date for the Country Fair planned for this fall has been changed to October 4. The event will be held at the old airport, corner of Millville Road and Route 16. The site is being made available through the generosity of Wesley and Earl Rogers, owners of Ashway Farms and Jesse White.

At a meeting of the Bicentennial Committee the Activities Committee gave a report on the picnic and band concert which was held at Lakeview Park and attended by close to 300 residents. Elden Barrows, chairman of the activities committee was given special thanks for his efforts in making the event a success.

The Activities Committee plans to contact representatives of all local organizations to coordinate their participation in the country fair. The committee will meet July 31 at 8 p.m. in the Legion Home with the representatives of town organizations to discuss the fair.

It is the hope of the committee that the fair will become an annual event in town and this is the reason for seeking support and participation from all local organizations.

The 4-H Club, Grange, Mendon Lions Club, Mendham Brush Association are among the groups already scheduled to take part in the fair and all other groups are now being contacted.

The Milford Concert Band, under the direction of Donald Iacovelli will be on hand to present a concert during the fair.

The next event being sponsored by the committee will be a free concert featuring the Milford Community Chorus. This event will take place around the Thanksgiving holiday and the use of Nipmuc Regional High School's auditorium has been requested by the committee for the event. The concert will be donated to the people of Mendon by the Community Chorus, Gerard Matthews, president; and will provide a musical tribute to America. The dates and times for this event will be announced.

The newly formed Heritage Committee reported they are now making plans to improve the Mendon Historical Society Museum and the beautification of Founders Park. This committee is headed by Elden Barrows, who will be working closely with the Mendon Historical Society.

The help of local groups is being sought to underwrite some projects. Chairman Fred Pironti, of the Bicentennial Committee notes the committee is presently working on ideas which could have a big effect on the town.

The fund raising committee, headed by Edward Lamothe, is planning to hold another breakfast dance in the fall. Further details will be announced later.

Chairman Pironti reported that

John Hogarth, president of Industrial Foundry, Inc., of Uxbridge on behalf of his company has donated 50 sand cast aluminum commemorative dishes to the Bicentennial Commission. These dishes feature an eagle design on the bottom, corn shaped filigree handles and the inscription "Mendon Mass., 1667, USA Bicentennial 1776-1976 around the rim. The dishes will be available at the General Store,

located in the center of town. The Bicentennial Committee extends thanks to Mr. Hogarth and the Industrial Foundry Inc., for their donation.

The next meeting of the General Committee has been scheduled for September 18 at 7:30 in the Town Hall.

Mendon Heritage Committee Plans Beautification Projects

Milford Daily News July 31, 1975

MENDON — The newly formed Heritage Committee, part of the Mendon Bicentennial Commission has formulated plans for the Bicentennial Commission's commitment to the town's heritage in the form of improvements and beautification projects of the Mendon Historical Society Museum and Founders Park located on Main Street.

As a Bicentennial Community, the town has pledged, through the Bicentennial Commission to honor the past and provide the future citizens of Mendon with something of lasting value. Both of these commitments will be met through the Heritage Committee.

The Bicentennial Commission has agreed to concentrate this work in the Historical Museum and Founders Park Area. Commission members note that next to the town's citizens, the richest asset is history. By helping to preserve, protect and proclaim Mendon's history, the past will be honored and the future protected.

The Historical Society building was erected in 1825 as a bank. It has been used as a law office, a private school, dwelling, and town record room, the public library and since 1920 the little

brick building has been used as the Historical Museum, located in what is known as Founders' Park, the site of the town's first three meeting houses built in 1668, 1680 and 1690.

It was in this park, 200 years ago, April 19, 1775 that 164 Mendon Minute Men gathered and marched off to aid the sister towns of Lexington and Concord.

The Museum, and the land it presently sits on, contains the town's heritage, and the Bicentennial Commission, through the Heritage Committee, and with the assistance of the Mendon Historical Society has dedicated itself to the task of properly preserving it.

Many ideas were discussed at the meeting and plans have been initiated and research started on a project. The Heritage Committee will have reports on this project at a later date.

More immediate projects discussed by the committees were listed as follows.

Replacement of the walk from Main Street to the front entrance of the Museum. This new walk will be constructed with the age of the building taken into consideration.

Wiring, lighting and electric service for the building is being planned. Wooden shutters for

the windows and replacement of the wooden bulkhead door, shrubs and trees in the vicinity of the building and flowers and flower beds along the new walk are also being considered.

The Heritage Committee is seeking help from any individual, business, or organization who would be willing to sponsor any of the above proposed projects.

Anyone who would like to help is asked to contact any of the following members of the Heritage Committee.

Elden Barrows, chairman; Fred Pironti, general chairman of the Bicentennial Commission; Dr. Ronald Lukert, Mrs. Elizabeth Noonan, James Rostcheck, Philip Harding or John Hogarth.

Mendon Bicentennial Committee To Sponsor Country Fair Oct. 4

Milford Daily News Aug. 18, 1975

MENDON — The Bicentennial Committee will sponsor an old fashion Country Fair, Oct. 4 at the site of the Old Mendon Airport, adjacent to Jesse White's office building.

The committee will be assisted by the following organizations: 4-H Club, Grange, Mendon Garden Club, Mendon Historical Society, St. Michael's Church, First Baptist Church, Unitarian Church, Mendham Brush Assn., Boy Scouts of Troop 1, Rogers Brothers Farm and the Lion's Club.

Oct. 5 has been set aside as a rain date. The Fair will open at 10 a.m. and continue until dusk, open to Mendon residents only.

Members of the 4-H Club will be in charge of all live stock displays. Anyone who would like to place livestock on display must contact either Mrs. Diane Irving,

Blackstone Street, Wesley Rogers or F. Blaine Hawkes, Pleasant Street for details.

A milking contest will be featured and a variety of articles involving livestock and their care will be on display. Livestock will also include goats, rabbits, etc. as well as cattle. Pries will be awarded in various groups.

The Garden Club will be in charge of plants, vegetables and produce displays along with the pumpkin growing contest. Anyone who would like to enter this category should contact either Harold Dunbar, Myla Thayer or John Boomer.

The Grange will have charge of the pie baking contest, preserves and canning. Those planning to enter this category should contact either Mrs. Jennie Daunt or Donald Kearsley.

The three local churches will

sponsor the arts and crafts exhibit and Martha Grady can be contacted for details.

The Historical Society will sponsor a unique display of Mendon related antiques only and Jane Coleman can be contacted for details. All antiques will be on loan to the Society for the day and will be returned that evening to owners.

A pet contest is also being planned and Joseph Testa can be contacted for information.

Other events for the day will include a square dance exhibition, band concert featuring the Milford Concert Band under the direction of Donald Iacovelli and an Indian Dance by the Boy Scout of Troop 1.

A special attraction will be the display of the official Mass. Conestoga Wagon, scheduled to be at the Fair.

Refreshments will be supplied by the Mendon Lion's Club and the boy scouts will have charge of the soft drinks. The Mendham Brush Assn. will take charge of games and contests during the afternoon.

Ribbons will be awarded to winners in the various categories at the Fair.

A horseshoe tournament is planned and Douglas Taylor can be contacted for details. Many other activities are also being planned for the day.

The next meeting of the Bicentennial Sub-Committee will be held Sept. 4 at 7.30 p.m. at the Legion Home and all interested residents are welcome to attend.

2—Milford Daily News, Tuesday, Sept. 2, 1975

Mendon Committee Discusses Plans For Oct. 4 Country Fair

MENDON — Members of the activities committee a sub-committee of the Bicentennial Committee will meet Thursday evening at 7.30 in the Legion Home to discuss further plans for the Country Fair to be held Oct. 4 from 10 a.m. until dusk at the old Mendon Airport on Route 16.

Representatives from the various organizations participating in the planning of the Fair are asked to attend the meeting. The fair will be open to the general public and there will be no admission charge.

The following groups will be participating in the Fair, 4H-Club will be in charge of the livestock exhibitions, and the pumpkin and milking contest; Mendon Garden Club, plants, vegetables and produce displays; Grange, baking contest, preserves and canning exhib,

Lions Club, food; Boy Scouts of Troop 1, softdrinks; Mendham Brush Association, games.

St. Michael's, the First Baptist and Unitarian Churches will coordinate the Arts and Craft exhibits and the Mendon Historical Society will be sponsoring a display of unique Mendon antiques. A Band Concert is planned from 2 to 4 p.m. and there will be a square dance exhibition. There is also a possibility that arrangements will be made for a

country and western concert to be held sometime during the day.

A pet show is scheduled for the day with Joseph Testa in charge of arrangements. All representatives of the various organizations along with any other interested townspeople are invited to attend Thursday nights meeting to further plans for the fair.

Even though the country fair is being hosted this year by the Bicentennial Committee there is a possibility that the fair may become an annual event for the town.

The Bicentennial Committee is striving to get as many people in the community active in the bicentennial celebration as possible.

Mendon Country Fair To Be Held

On Historical Spot

Site Originally Farm With Over 100 Acres

By LOUISA WHEELER
MENDON — The Mendon Bicentennial Commission has chosen a historic spot for the Country Fair to be held Oct. 4. The fair, which is being held at the "Old Mendon Airport", Route 16 will have an old fashioned, country home theme with old fashion exhibits, games and prices.

The fair grounds, originally a farm which comprised over 100 acres of level land, has had a rich history.

In 1680, when the town was resettled after the King Philip's bands of Indians razed it during the King Philip's War, a section of this land was set off to Reverend Grindall Rawson, the town's second settled minister.

Farmhouse Erected

Colonel Calvin Smith erected a large colonial farmhouse in 1777 and a few years later one of the largest barns in Worcester county was built as well as other out-buildings to house livestock. This farmhouse and the other buildings stood where the business of Jesse F. White, Inc. is now located.

The property has had a varied succession of owners over the years. From the Smith family to the Honorable Seth Hastings, Honorable Jonathan Russell, James Arnold, Eli Pond, Hiram Butler, Albert Darling, Phineas A. Millis, the Wiersma Brothers and present owner Jesse F. White.

Honorable Seth Hastings was a congressman and noted lawyer. He built and was the president of the Mendon Bank, present Mendon Historical Society Museum located on Main Street. He donated the land for and subscribed to over 10 percent of the cost of building Mendon's fifth meeting house the present state Unitarian Church.

Successor

His successor to the farm was the Honorable Jonathan Russell. Mr. Russell came to Mendon at the end of a long, diplomatic career around 1818. He had been a U.S. Minister in Paris, London and Stockholm. He was one of the commissioners who signed the treaty of Ghent. The house, under the Russell ownership was beautifully appointed and the family entertained lavishly the rich Boston merchants and the Rhode Island planters.

Albert N. Darling was a New York jewelry manufacturer who transformed the colonial farmhouse into a gingerbread Victorian summer house. This is

how most Mendon people remember it before it was razed in 1964.

In 1927, Phineas A. Millis bought the place and started a flying school and airport. The Darling Farm, as it was known was on a straight compass line between New York and Boston. Mr. Millis tore down some out-buildings and erected hangars and offices. The old house was transformed into apartments. The 1938 hurricane took down the elms and shrubs. Mr. Millis sponsored the first flight from Mendon during the National Air Mail Week, May 15 to 21, 1938 and many residents still have the souvenir envelopes from this notable occasion.

Training Field

During its long history, the field has also been used as a training field for soldiers in the Continental Army, and the War of 1812. The last time the field was used as a training field was in 1861 when soldiers from Southern Worcester County received their training there during the Civil War.

The Wiersma Brothers took over the property in 1952 from the late P.A. Millis and used the field as cropland.

Two of the largest commercial buildings ever built in Mendon were erected in 1969 at the site by Jesse F. White, Inc.

The Fair will be held Oct. 4 with the rain date set for Oct. 5. There will be exhibits of Mendon antiques, canning and preserves, livestock, pets, games, flowers, vegetables, house plants and other local arts and crafts. Details on entering any of these exhibits will be made available in the next few days.

There will also be a band concert by the Milford Concert Band, Country and Western Music by the group "Country Love", and square dancing by the Valley Stompers.

The Bicentennial Commission hopes that everyone in town will attend or participate in this event. There will be no admission fee nor any entrance fee to any of the exhibits. Ribbons will be awarded by the Bicentennial Commission to the winners.

The research on the history of the old Mendon airport was compiled and submitted by Frederick Pironti, North Avenue who is chairman of the Bicentennial Commission. He was assisted with research by Miss E. Jane Coleman of the Mendon Historical Society.

Miss Coleman Compiled History

MENDON — The research on the history of the old Mendon airport was compiled by Miss E. Jane Coleman from the Mendon Historical Society's collection of historical data written by the late Marcus M. Aldrich and Florence J. Aldrich of Mendon, and submitted by Frederick Pironti of North Avenue, who is chairman of the Bicentennial Commission.

It was incorrectly stated in Friday's edition that the research was submitted and compiled by Pironti.

Milford Daily News
September 15, 1975

Plans Continue For Mendon Country Fair

Milford Daily News Sept. 11, 1975

MENDON — Plans are being furthered by the Activities Committee of the Bicentennial Committee for the old fashion country fair to be held Oct. 4 at the old Mendon airport, Route 16.

Frederick Pironti, North Avenue has been appointed publicity chairman for the event and all publicity material should be submitted to him by the various organizations participating in the event.

Serving on the grounds committee for the fair will be Thomas Irving, Wesley Rogers, F. Blaine Hawkes, William Hackenson, and Thomas Pezzella. They will be responsible for organizing and setting up of the fair grounds.

The program committee will include Mrs. Diane Irving, Mrs. Vonnie Schneider, Mrs. Arlene Taylor, Mrs. Terry Bishop and they will be in charge of setting up all programs and the scheduling of events and activities for that day.

The Bicentennial Committee will have a booth at the Fair for those seeking information, programs or interested in giving donations to help defray costs of the event.

A band concert will be featured from 2 to 4 p.m. with the Milford Concert Band and from 4 p.m. on the Country Love will provide a country and western concert. Members of the Country Love group are Lou Morton from Mendon and Joe DePtola, Scott Clancey, John Beccia, area residents.

Groups participating in the fair include the 4-H Club, in charge of the baking contest, livestock ex-

hibitions, pumpkin and milking contest.

Mendon Garden Club will have charge of plants, vegetables and canning exhibitions; Lions Club, food; Boy Scouts of Troop I, soft-drinks; Mendham Brush Association, games; Grange, apple pie baking.

St. Michael's, the First Baptist and Unitarian Churches will coordinate the art and craft exhibits and the Mendon Historical Society will sponsor a display of unique Mendon antiques; Joseph Testa will be in charge of arrangements for the pet show and other activities are also being planned.

Mendon Grange To Sponsor Old Fashioned Fair Exhibits

Milford Daily News Sept. 17, 1975

MENDON — The Mendon Mrs. Daunt or Kearsley for further details.

Grange will sponsor the apple pie baking contest and canning and preserve exhibits at the old fashion country fair to be held Oct. 4 at the site of the old Mendon Airport, Route 16.

The fair is being sponsored by the Bicentennial Committee.

Officials for the pie baking and exhibits are Mrs. Jennie Daunt, Maple Street and Donald Kearsley, Hartford Avenue West. The following rules for these exhibits are listed. The event is open to residents of Mendon.

Apple pie baking: pies must be baked by the exhibitor from a "scratch" recipe and must be baked in a nine inch aluminum pie plate.

Canning and preserves: each exhibitor must show 2 jars of each entered commodity. The judging will be in the following categories, fruit, vegetables, pickles and relishes.

All exhibits must be in place at the fair grounds by 9.30 a.m. Oct. 4. The fair will open at 10 a.m.

Any exhibits donated to the fair will be auctioned off at 4 p.m. that day with proceeds going to the Bicentennial Commission. Anyone not wishing to donate his or her exhibits must remove them from the fair before 4 p.m.

Prizes will be rosettes and ribbons donated by the Bicentennial Commission. There is no entry fee for the above exhibits. Anyone planning to enter any of the above contests should contact

Mendon Garden Club To Exhibit

Milford Daily News Sept. 18, 1975

MENDON — Members of the Mendon Garden Club will sponsor the flower and produce exhibits at the old-fashioned country fair to be held Oct. 4 at the Old Mendon Airport, Route 16. The exhibits are open to all Mendon residents.

The pumpkin judging, open to all with a prize to be given for the heaviest pumpkin, largest, oddest and smallest pumpkins.

All exhibits must be entered by 9 a.m. that day at the fair grounds. Exhibits must be removed between 3.45 and 4 p.m. and those not removed by 4 p.m. will be sold with proceeds going to the Bicentennial Commission which is sponsoring the entire fair.

The prizes for the exhibits will be rosettes and ribbons to be donated by the Mendon Bicentennial Commission. Judges for the flower exhibits will be Mrs. Maude Clough, Mrs. Doris Naughton, Mrs. Louise Giatas.

There will be a sale of plants donated by members of the Garden Club with proceeds to be given to the Bicentennial Committee.

Lawn prizes awarded by the Mendon Garden Club will be announced at the Fair.

The following categories for the exhibits are listed as follows: Potted plants, flowering. Class one six inch pots and over; class two, under six inch pots.

Foliage, class one, six inch pots and over and class two under six inch pots.

Succulents, no restrictions.

Flower arrangements: real flowers and real greenery (no artificial such as plastic, wax, paper etc. can be used). Class one, vases and class two, low containers.

Dried arrangements: no artificial materials.

Vegetables and fruits: any



REMEMBER WHEN? — This is a photo of the old airport in Mendon, off route 16. It was shut down about 20 years ago and the acreage converted into a cornfield. It was one of the oldest airports in this area. Soon after, the Hopedale Airport was built, a one-runway black-top strip constructed by Guido Sabatinelli. The Mendon airstrip was unpaved, mostly a flat field with planes landing in all directions. (Daily News Photo)

Pet Show Planned For Mendon Country Fair

Milford Daily News Sept 20, 1975

MENDON — Another featured attraction at the old-fashioned country fair scheduled for Oct. 4 will be a pet show sponsored by Joseph Testa of Providence Road. The pet show will be held at 1 p.m. and 10 classes will be featured.

Classes include the following, best dog in show, best groomed dog, best cat, best groomed cat, largest dog in show, smallest dog, smallest cat, best pet other than cat or dog, best groomed pet other than cat or dog and most unusual pet.

All pets must be leashed or in show cages. One entry per person per class and all animals must be under the control of their handler. Handlers must bring their own food and equipment needed for the day. Water will be available.

Prizes will include rosettes and ribbons donated by the Mendon Historical Commission and anyone wishing to enter their pet in the fair should contact either Mr. Testa or Terry Bishop, Bates Street for further details.

The fair will be held at the old Mendon airport, Route 16 and many other exhibits and events are planned for the day. The fair grounds open at 10 a.m. and there is no admission charge. The fair is being sponsored by the Mendon Bicentennial Commission.

Horse Show Scheduled For Mendon Country Fair Oct. 4

Milford Daily News Sept. 23, 1975

MENDON — A horse show is planned for the country fair to be held Oct. 4 at 11 a.m. at the old Mendon Airport and is being sponsored by the two 4-H groups.

The officials for the show will be Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Mellen, Blackstone Street and Mr. and Mrs. James Ruhan, Park Street. Judging will be done by William Hadley.

Classes for all ages will be featured from "walktrot" by gymkhana".

The Bucking Broncos 4-H club will sponsor the junior division for ages up to 12 and the Jeans and Jodphurs will sponsor the senior division, ages 13 to 19.

Prizes will be rosettes and ribbons donated by the Bicentennial Commission of town. There will be no entry fees.

The horse show will feature the following classes: Junior fitting and showing, open to 4-H members only 12 and under.

Senior fitting and showing open to 4-H members only 13 to 19 years of age.

Sit a buck and egg and spoon will be open to all.

Walk-trot is open to 4-H members 12 and under only.

Senior equitation will be open to 4-H members from 13 to 19 only.

Other classes also include junior trail, senior trail, senior barrel race, senior switch rider race, junior costume, senior ground pickup, senior flag race and good sports class, juniors who have not won.

A negative coggins is required to enter the fair grounds. No stallions will be allowed to enter. All open classes may be entered by any local youth who owns or

has the use of a horse or pony.

Anyone wishing to enter must contact either Mrs. Mellen or Mrs. Ruhan.

Each entrant will be responsible for the care and feeding of his or her own animal. Water will be available at the fair grounds.

Arts, Crafts Exhibit Planned At Old-Fashioned Mendon Fair

Milford Daily News Sept. 25, 1975

MENDON — An Arts and Crafts exhibit will be featured at the old-fashioned country fair to be held Oct. 4, at the Old Mendon Airport and sponsored by the Bicentennial Commission.

Many crafts will be on display for the viewing of all who attend the fair. The three local churches, St. Michael's, First Baptist and Unitarian Church will have many items on exhibit and sale during the day.

There will be a table featuring crafts made by Mendon residents which will be judged and the winners presented rosettes and ribbons donated by the Bicentennial Commission.

One feature of the arts and craft exhibit will be a quilting demonstration. Anyone wishing to display or demonstrate crafts at the fair should contact Mrs. Martha Grady, North Avenue. The exhibits are open to all Mendon residents.

Old-Fashioned Mendon Fair

To Offer Dairy Cattle, Show

Milford Daily News Sept. 29, 1975

MENDON — A dairy cattle show will be held Saturday at the old-fashioned country fair being sponsored by the Mendon Bicentennial Commission.

Wesley Rogers of Ashway Farms will be in charge of the dairy cattle for the fair and the Mendon 4-H Club is in charge of the dairy cattle show which is open to all residents of town. Residents of any age may participate. Cattle of any age or breed may be entered.

Any or all judging will be done on an entertainment basis rather than competitive one. Classes of cattle will be judged on age rather than breed. Prizes will be rosettes and ribbons donated by the Mendon Bicentennial Commission.

Holding facilities and water will be provided at the fair, however each entry must bring their own feed either hay or grain and their own pails or buckets.

In order to plan for the amount of holding area needed residents are asked to inform the committee as to the number of animals they plan to enter.

Entries should be in before Thursday and should be mailed to Wesley Rogers, Mowry Street.

The fair will be held at the site of the old Mendon Airport and begins at 10 a.m. Saturday and will continue until dusk.

The fair is open to the public although all exhibits will involve Mendon residents only.

Mendon Garden Club To Award Ribbons At Fair

Milford Daily News Sept. 30, 1975

MENDON — Members of the Mendon Garden Club made final plans for their participation in the old-fashioned country fair being sponsored by the Bicentennial Commission at a meeting held at the home of John Boomer. The fair will be held Saturday from 10 a.m. until dusk at the site of the Old Mendon Airport, Route 16.

The Garden Club will award ribbons for various exhibits including flower arrangements and vegetable displays.

Three winners of the Garden Club sponsored "lawn prizes in town" will be announced at the fair. Judges for the lawn prizes have had a difficult task in selecting the winners due to the fact that there are so many well kept properties through out the town.

The Club has compiled the following rules in selecting the winners. The lawn must be neatly cut and cared for, some flowers should be a part of the landscape scene either as foundation planting or plants and flowers in pots, urns or both. Home and property should look neat and colorful, spring, summer, fall and winter. The final rule states that the property should be cared for entirely by owners, without professional help.

Mendon Group To Meet

MENDON — The Activities Committee of the Bicentennial Commission meet at 8 tonight in the Legion Home. All committee members as well as representatives of the various organizations in town, sponsoring events in Saturday's fair are to attend the meeting.

The group will go over final plans for the old-fashion country fair being sponsored by the Bicentennial Commission. The Fair begins at 10 a.m. Saturday.

All members of the grounds committee should report to the old Mendon airport tonight and tomorrow evening as early as possible to begin setting up booths for the event.

*Milford Daily News
October 2, 1975*

Mendon Group To Have Booth At Fair

Milford Daily News October 1, 1975

MENDON — The Mendon Bicentennial Commission will have an information booth at the country fair to be held Saturday at the site of the Old Mendon Airport, located on route 16.

Many articles from the Bicentennial general store will also be on sale including the newly arrived official Mendon Bicentennial Bowl. This engraved, cast pewter bowl will be Mendon's official tribute to America's birthday.

Orders for the bowl will be taken at the Commission's booth at the fair. The quantity is limited and will be a first come basis. These bowls are being made available through the generosity of John Hogarth of Elm Street and Industrial Foundry, Inc. of Uxbridge.

The local 4-H Club will sponsor a poultry and rabbit exhibit and anyone interested in showing in either of these exhibits should contact Gilbert Powell, Hartford Avenue West for poultry entries and Anthony Ambrosino, Mowry Street for rabbits.

The local Lion's Club will have charge of the food and coffee wagon on the fair grounds and the Boy Scouts of Troop 1 will sell soda and 4-H Club will have milk available.

The Mendon Youth Militia will have an exhibit and will also be selling candied and baked apples. The apples have been donated to the Militia by Taft Orchards of town.

The Mendon Historical Society, with Miss E. Jane Coleman as chairman will have an interesting display of unique Mendon antiques. Antiques on display will feature household utensils used in town by residents within the last 100 to 150 years, including items related to cooking, butter making and laundry.

The local PTA will have a booth at the fair in which the organization will be conducting a membership drive and raffle.

There will also be a special display of pictures and articles from the Old Darling estate which stood where the business of Jesse F. White, Inc. is now located.

Three mystery items will be featured and a prize, donated by

the Mendon Historical Society, will be given to the person who identifies correctly all three items.

Hostesses for the Mendon Historical Society will be in costume.

Joseph Testa, sponsor of the pet show, announces that all last minute entries will be accepted up to 12.30 p.m. on the date of the fair. Judging will be done on a fun basis.

Trophies

Leonard Mellen announces that in addition to the rosettes and ribbons to be awarded by the Bicentennial Commission to winners in the horse show, two trophies will be awarded.

Trophies will be awarded to the high point winner in the senior

and junior divisions. These trophies have been donated by Mr. and Mrs. George Mongiat of Hopdale.

Requirements for the horse show entrants are listed as follows: negative coggins required, 4-H classes open to 4-H members with membership cards only, all other classes open to all.

Also registration at the fair grounds between 10 and 11 a.m. Saturday hard soled shoes or boots must be worn (no sneakers or loafers).

The 4-H Club will have water available but all entrants will have to provide their own buckets, etc. Entry to any and all classes is free to any resident of Mendon.

Baked Goods

Baked goods has always been a must at country fairs and the committee hopes that many of the towns' best cooks will come forward with apple pies for the apple pie contest and baked goods to be entered in the following categories: cakes, pies, yeast bread, quick breads and cookies.

There will be junior and senior classes. All entries must be made from scratch and accompanied with a recipe. After judging of classes, entries may be put in the auction with proceeds going to the Bicentennial Commission.

Anyone seeking further information regarding the baked goods can contact Mrs. Alma Hawkes, Pleasant Street.

Mrs. Jennie Daunt, Maple Street or Donald Kearsley, Hartford Avenue West, can be contacted for information regarding the apple pie contest, canning and preserves.

All entries will be accepted at the fair grounds at 9:30 a.m. Saturday.

Displays

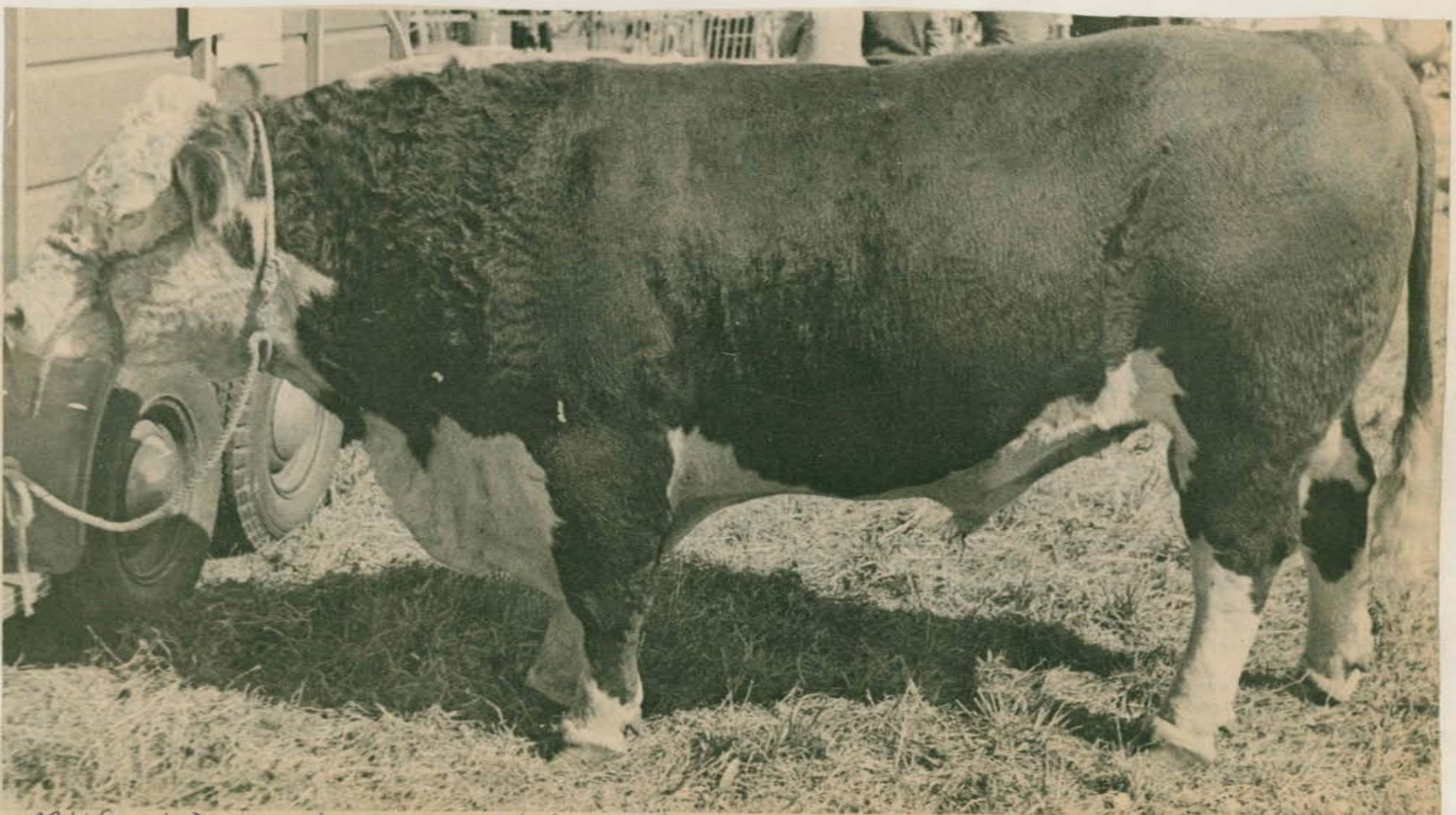
Livestock exhibits will be featured at the old-fashioned country fair Saaturday, at the old Mendon Airport, Route 16. The local Udder 4-H Cattle Club will participate in a dairy and beef show as well as other town entries.

Classes will be arranged as entries indicate: Beef, six months and under, six months to one year, one year to 18 months, 18 months to two years, anything over two years; champion beef and dreamest beeper.

Sheep: Classes same for any breed ewe lambs, yearlings, ewes, aged ewes, ram lambs, yearling rams, aged rams, champion ewe, champion ram and handsomest ram.

Members of the 4-H Baconers will have swine classes as follows:

Light weight market hog 150 to 180 pounds, medium weight market hog 190 to 225 pounds; heavy weight market hog 225 and over; champion hog, prettiest hog in town.



Milford Daily News Oct. 6, 1975

Steer clear of this bruiser. There were many animals at Saturday's fair but this mass of beef ruled the show. (Daily News Photo by

Joseph R. LaPlante)

Goats will be entered and exhibition entries can be made for all above animals by contacting F. Blaine Hawkes, Pleasant Street.

Everyone is responsible for their own feed and containers, water will be available.

Old-Fashioned Mendon

Country Fair Attracts 2,000

Event Sponsored By Bicentennial Group

By LOUISA WHEELER

MENDON — Ideal weather provided the perfect setting for the old-fashioned country fair held Saturday at the site of the Old Mendon Airport. The fair was sponsored by the Mendon Bicentennial Commission.

It was estimated that as many as 2000 stopped at the fair during the day to enjoy the old-fashioned atmosphere, take part in some of the events and activities or just browse around.

The Lion's Club was in charge of food at the fair and several times during the day club members had to replenish the supply of hot dogs, hamburgers and rolls because of the unexpected size of the crowd.

Many families came and spent the entire day at the fair, which offered such events as a horse show, cattle show, pet show, games square dance exhibition, band concerts along with the other articles on display by the various organization in town.

All exhibits were limited to residents of Mendon and all organizations participating in the fair were from town.

Dunk Tank

A special attraction at the fair, which drew large crowds and much cheering, was a dunk tank game sponsored by the Mendham Brush Association. Residents of town, especially the youth, enjoyed dunking such citizens as George Phipps a member of the Board of Selectmen, Police Chief Kelsie E. Townsend, Tax Collector Thomas Guerra and David Lowell.

The Valley Stompers of Hopedale presented a square dance exhibition and the Milford Concert Band provide music during the afternoon. The Country Love a local country and western band provided music during the late afternoon.

Fair goers were also able to taste homemade ice cream, prepared on the fair grounds by members of the 4-H Club. The Boy Scouts of Troop 1 and the Mendham Brush Association kept the spectators up to date on the progress of the Red Sox baseball game.

Contest winners in the country fair are listed as follows.

4-H Sponsored Contests

William Rogers was winner of the dairy class Holstein event and placing second was Bruce Rogers. Stacey Boucher took a third place ribbon and Wendy Rogers was awarded a participation ribbon.

William Rogers also received a first place ribbon for the yearling heifers and placing second was Peter Hawkes. Bruce Rogers finished third and Tracy Powell and William Powell received participation ribbons.

Scott Christianson was winner of the two-year old Holsteins event and Bradley Christianson placed second.

William Rogers picked up another ribbon placing first in the Holstein cows. Peter Hawks was second, Earl Rogers third and B. Starrett and Bruce Rogers received participation ribbons.

Laura Pironti placed first in the Jersey calves and Susan Wright was second. James Wright took a first place in the Jersey cows and Bill Powell in the dairy crossbreed.

Peter Hawks received a first place ribbon for crossbred calves, Paul Pironti was second, Wayne Kreson third and receiv-

ing participation ribbons were Donna Pironti, and Bill Powell.

Jennifer Smith took first place ribbons in the market class beef and Tracy Powell was third. Peter Hawks received a participation ribbons.

Buddy Starrett took a first place in the Angus yearling and Peter Hawks was first in the crossbred steer.

Ken Curley took first and third place ribbon in the Herford bull calf event and A. Rosati was second.

Jennifer Smith was awarded a first place ribbon for the dreamiest beef in Mendon.

Frank Halsing and Arthur Wright tied for the bull weight guessing event with matching guesses of 1900 pounds. The bull weighed 1903 pounds.

Leah Lowell took a first place ribbon in the goat grade doe, goat aged doe and goat one year old buck grade.

William Ambrosino was first in the goat one year old toggenburg doe and Carl Ambrosino second.

Swine

Scott Brundige took a first place in light weight hog and Randy Hall second.

Charles Hawkes took a first place in swine medium weight and Bradley Christianson was second.

Steve Taylor won the sweetest hog in Mendon contest.

Shirley Kempton took first place in the pie baking contest, other apple and Kim Larson and Jennifer Taylor finished first in the cake baking contest.

Virginia Pickern won the cookie baking for adults, Jennifer Taylor took first for junior cookie baking contest and Kim Irving was third. Lynnette Lamothe received a participation ribbon.

Ethel Wiersma placed second in the quick bread baking contest.

Horse Show

Winners of the horse show sponsored by the 4-H Club are listed as follows.

Junior fitting and showing, first Tracy Leclair on Lady Wilma; second Joey Castelano on Heidi and third Jonathan Ruhan on Princess.

Senior fitting and showing, first Michele Lizotte on Thistle Green, second Lori Howarth on Pocco Smoky Stan and third Linda Howarth on Sheba.

Sit a buck, first Carol Wiersma on Tasha; second Melisa Tougas on Sampson and third Betsy Hawkes on Bet Bet.

Egg and spoon, first Kathy Fowler on Trigger; second Michele Lizotte on Thistle Green and third Maggie Kelley on Major.

Walk trot equitation junior 4-H, first Tracy Leclair, Lady Wilma; second Jonathan Ruhan, Princess and third Carol Whitman, Lady.

English senior equitation, first Michele Lizotte, Thistle Green; second Linda Howarth, on Sheba; and third Maureen Tomaso on Turkish Raffy.

Western senior equitation, first Lori Howarth on Poco Smoky, second Laurie Mellen on Keema and third Kathy Fowler on Trigger.

Junior trail, first Carrol Whitman on Lady, second Tracy Leclair, Lady Wilma; and third Danny Kelley on Little Black.

Senior trail, first Michele Lizotte, Thistle Green; second

Laurie Mellon on Keema and third Kathy Fowler on Trigger.

Senior barrel race, first Daniel Malia on Windjammer Mist, second, Melissa Tougas on Sampson and third Kathy Fowler, on Trigger. Senior switch rider, first Laurie Mellen on King William, second Maggie Kelly on Major and third Dean Mellen on King William.

Junior costume class, first Jonathan Ruhan on Princess, second Tracy Leclair on Lady Wilma and third a tie between Betsy Hawkes on Bet and Carol Whitney on Lady.

Senior ground pick up, first Laurie Mellen on Keema; Daniel Malia on Windjammer Mist and third Melissa Tougas on King William.

Senior Flag race, first Kathy Fowler on Trigger, second Laurie Mellen on Keema and third Dean Mellen on King William.

Open pleasure, first Michele Lizotte on Thistle Green, second Kathy Fowler on Trigger and third Maureen Tomaso on Turkish Taffy.

The junior champion trophy

was awarded to Tracy Leclair and the senior champion to Michele Lizotte.

Winners of the Ashway Farm sponsored Contests are listed as follows.

Milking Contest

Boys division, first Ronnie McKeage, second Michael Watt and third Brian Andreola.

Mens division, first George Phipps, second Walter Butler and third Kelsie Townsend.

Girls class, first Tracy Powell, second Chris Donatelli and third Vicki Schofield.

Women's division, first Barbara Ambrosino, a second Carol McLaughlin, and third Josephine D'Onofrio.

Mendon Grange sponsored contest winners are as follows. Apple pie baking, first Jean Rogers, second L. Morelli, and third Jennie Pickering.

Canning, vegetables, first Linda Chace, second Mark Coutu and Peter Martini, third Karen McFetridge, Anita Pezzella, Mark Coutu, and Viola Nuttal.

Canning, pickles, first Diane Grant, Marsha Ledoux, Lois Taft and Linda Chace; second Dana Armour, Alma Hawkes, and third Linda Chace.

Preserves, jelly first Linda Chace, second Alma Hawkes and third, Kathy Shirley, Mrs. Dana Armour, and Thomas Rondricas.

Pet Show Winners

The pet show was sponsored by Joseph Testa and winners are listed as follows.

Most unusual pet, first Beth McCann, second Missy Bishop and third Richard Joiner.

Best groomed pet other than cat or dog, first Missy Bishop, second Richard Joiner and third Paul Demers.

Best pet other than cat or dog, first Heidi Fay, second Richard Joiner, and third Lisa Webb.

Smallest cat, first Kerry Armour, second Kim Irving and third Deserie Isbell.

Best groomed cat, first Heather Fay, second Kim Irving and third the Grady children, Charlene, Cheryl, Karen and Jake.

Best cat, first Lisa Mitchell, second Barbie Dawes and third Christina LaMothe.

Smallest dog, first Kim Irving, second Debbie Lou Ferrucci and third Brian Testa.

Largest dog, first Jimmy Wuirk and second Bob Thayer.

Best groomed dog, first Mary Taxiera, second Harold Carlson, and third William Scott, Jr.

Best dog, first David Denenberg, second Bob Thayer and third Kim Irving.

The Mendon Historical Society sponsored a contest in which fair goers were asked to guess three mystery antiques. The three items were a straw slitter, tool for taking pies from oven and ice shaver. No one was able to guess all three items, however Dick Hicmott, Olive Demarini and Charles Ward all guessed two of the items. Prizes were donated

by the Mendon Historical Society and awarded to the winners.

Mendham Brush

Mendham Brush Association contest winners were as follows: greased pig contest for ages 12 to 18, Gilbert Powell; greased pig ages up to 12, Edward Dwyer.

Horse show pitching: doubles, first Philip Harding and Elden Barrows and second Arthur Paddock and Leonard Boyd. Horse show pitching singles, first Bill Porter and second Leonard Boyd.

Bull throwing contest, first Mark Tetreault, second Thomas Pezzella and third Kenneth Chamberland.

Log sawing contest, first Wesley Rogers and Hubert McFetridge and second Albert Chamberland and Kenneth Chamberland.

Cannon ball toss, first Mark Tetreault, second Kenneth Chamberland, and third Ron Purdy.

Cannon ball toss for ages up to 12, first Mark Bunnell, second Ronnie McKeage and third Roy McKeage.

Mendon Garden Club sponsored contests winners include the following.

Foliage plants, low containers, first Charles Hawkes and second Paul Pironti. Foliage plants, over six inch pots: first Priscilla Pironti.

Flowering plants, hanging: first Arlene Taylor.

Pumpkin-field, first Bradley Christiansen, second Scott Christiansen and third Scott Brundage.

Pumpkin-sugar, first Carol and George Whitney and second Paul Pironti.

Root vegetable, first Jerry Campbell; green vegetable, first Jerry Campbell.

Squash, first Viola Nuttal and second Daniel Gilmore.

Squash display, first Robert Frey.

Special event for the Mendon Garden Club was the awarding of cash prizes to three residents in town who have the best kept home grounds. First, Thomas Perna, \$25; second Thomas Guerra, \$15 and third William McTurk, \$10. Money prizes were donated by the Mendon Garden Club.

Church sponsored events, featuring arts and crafts winners were: crocheted and knitted items, first Verna Palmer, second Jennifer Taylor and third Cheryl Grady.

Crafts, first Jacqueline Moriarty, second Laura Pironti and third, George Whitney and Carol Whitney.

Sewing, first Karen McFetridge, second Laura Pironti and third, George Whitney and Carol Whitney.

Sewing, first Karen McFetridge, second Beth Donatelli and third Christine Donatelli.

All ribbons were donated by the Mendon Bicentennial Commission and presented to winners in the various categories. Any participants who did not receive ribbons to which they are entitled, including participation, can claim them by contacting any member of the Bicentennial Commission.

There will be a special meeting of the Bicentennial Commission Thursday night at 7.30 in the Town Hall and all organizations who participated in the fair are to have representatives attend the meeting.



Dressed in period garb, Joyce Gilmore of Hasting Street, Mendon, demonstrates a hand quilting project. (Daily News Photo by Joseph R. LaPlante)

Daily News Photos
By Joseph R. LaPlante



Myla Thayer tends her plants display.



Dressed in period garb, Jane Coleman watches over display of colonial tools and wares.



David Lowell had a hard day sitting atop a target. A near miss. A hit and he's on his way. And a wet recovery.

Material Given to Display Chairmen
for Planning the Fair

MENDON

OLD FASHIONED

COUNTRY FAIR

OCT 4 1975

RAIN DATE - OCT 5,

10:00 AM TO DUSK

OLD AIRPORT
RTE 16

FREE
ADMISSION

GEN. INFORMATION

1 PUBLICITY CHAIRMAN = FRED PIRONTI

EACH ORGANIZATION IS URGED TO SUBMIT NEWS RELEASES AS EARLY AND OFTEN AS POSSIBLE.

PLEASE CHANNEL ALL INFORMATION AS REGARDS TO NAMES, ACTIVITIES AND PARTICIPANTS, THRU THE PUBLICITY CHAIRMAN.

2 GROUPS COMMITTEE

- WHAT IS NEEDED?
- ARRANGEMENT OF [?]BOOTH^s & GROUNDS
- SIGNS
- TABLES, CHAIRS
- ELECTRICITY
- SOUND
- RUBBISH (MYT)?
- EACH ORGANIZATION IS TO SET UP AND CLEAN THEIR OWN AREA
- GEN. CLEAN UP DETAIL

BILL HACKENSON
WES ROGERS
*TOM IRVING CHAIR
TOM PEZZELLA
BLAINE HAWKS

Call Mr. Irving to tell him space needed for exhibition, etc.

2

3 PROGRAM COMMITTEE

*DIANNE IRVING CHMN.
ARLINE TAYLOR

ARRANGE PROGRAM

SPEC. EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

PRINT PROGRAM ?? BAND PROGRAM
SEE ME

4 RIBBONS — ACT. COMM.

HOW MANY?
ARE NEEDED

5 COSTUMES ? OPTIONAL

6 CONTRIBUTIONS —

7 POSTERS — (OK)

8 JUDGING — FA ORGANIZATIONS IS
REQUESTED TO SECURE
THEIR OWN JUDGES.
not necessarily from
Mendon

3

PARTICIPANTS

4H

DIANE IRVING
WES ROGERS
BLAINE HAWKS

LIVESTOCK EXHIBITIONS

(PUMPKIN JUDGING)
to garden club

MILKING CONTEST

PUBLICITY — PRIZES — AREA — PROGRAM.

MOMMY
GARDEN
CLUB

JOHN BOOMER
MAMRS OUNBAR
DORIS NAUGHTON
MYLA THAYER

PLANTS

FLORAL DISPLAYS

VEG. & PRODUCE

INSTRUCTIONS &

EXHIBITIONS
PUMPKIN CONTEST

PUBLICITY — PRIZES — AREA — PROGRAM

CANING

BELLE DAUNT
DON KEARSLEY

PIE BAKING CONTEST
CANNING

PRESERVES

PUBLICITY — PRIZES — AREA — PROGRAM

4

CHURCHES

MARTHA GRADY

ARTS
AND CRAFTS

PUBLICITY — PRIZES — AREA — PROGRAM

HIST. SOCIETY

JANE COLEMAN

UNIQUE
MENDON
ANTIQUES

PUBLICITY — AREA — PROGRAM

MONAHAN BROWN ASSOC

DOUGLAS TAYLOR
& COMMITTEE

EM BARRONS

GAMES - ETS

BEER CONCESSION

PUBLICITY — PRIZES — AREA — PROGRAM

PET SHOW

JOE TESTA

BEST IN SHOW?
BEST DOG ?
BEST CAT ?
MOST UNUSUAL ?
SMALLEST ?
BIGGEST ?

PUBLICITY - PRIZES - AREA - PROGRAM

2-4 PM

BAND CONCERT

ACT. COMMITTEE

SQUARE DANCING EXHIBITION

DICK CHASE - J. TILL

FOOD CONCESSION

LIONS

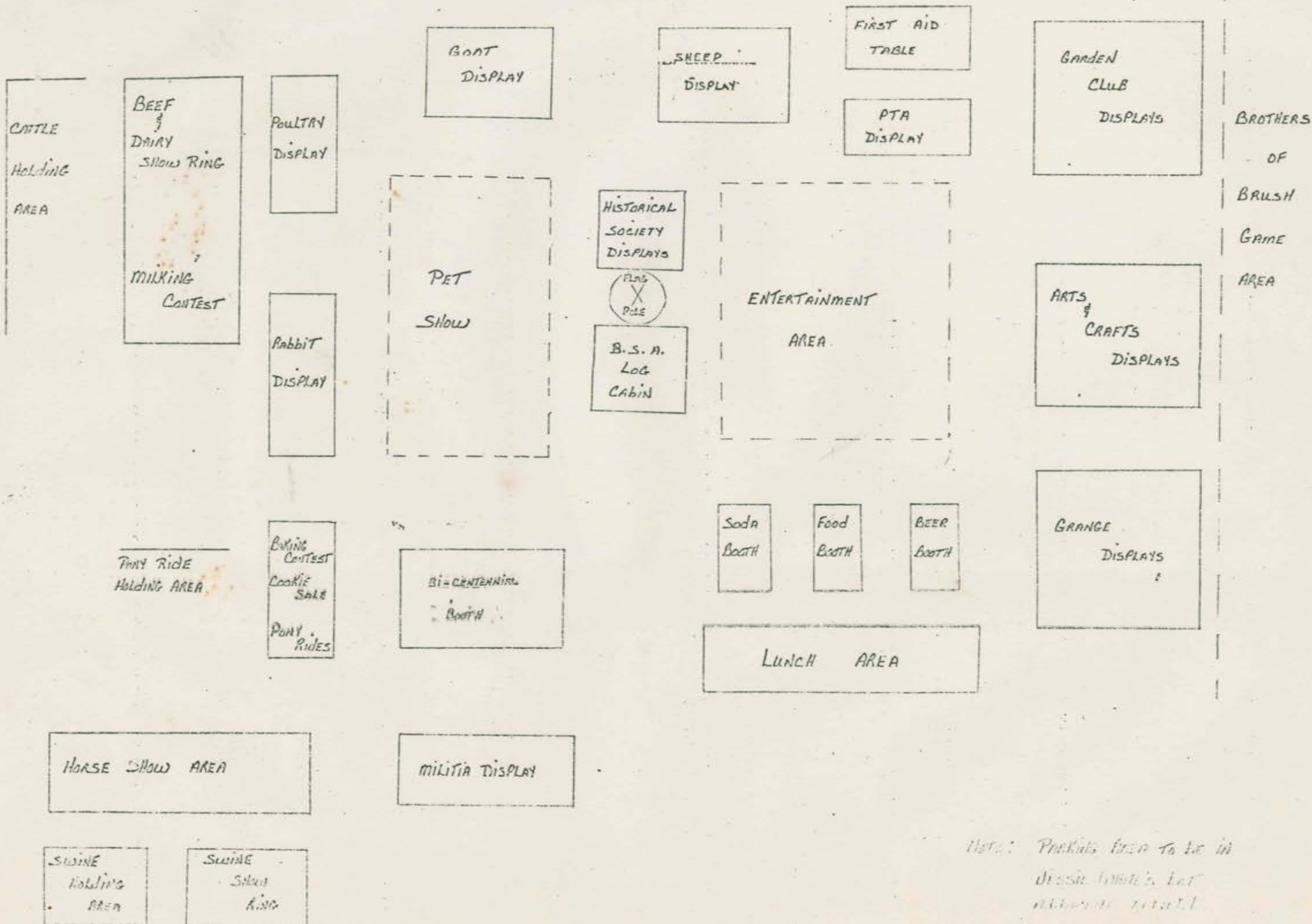
SOFT DRINK CONCESSION

SCOUTS

COUNTRY MUSIC ?

LOU MORTON

ROUTE #16



Notes: Pickets Area to be in
dinner house let
admission tickets



THE MENDON BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

PRESENTS

THE

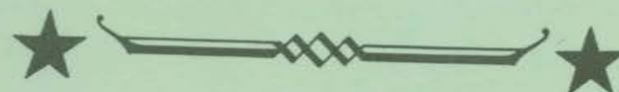
MENDON


BICENTENNIAL

COUNTRY FAIR

1975

A MENDON BICENTENNIAL ACTIVITY





THE MENDON BICENTENNIAL
COMMISSION IS PLEASED TO OFFER
THIS ACTIVITY TO THE COMMUNITY
AS A CONTINUATION OF ITS DETER-
MINATION TO PROVIDE AN ENTERTAIN-
ING RE-FLECTION OF OUR PAST, WITH
SOMETHING OF INTEREST FOR ONE AND
ALL.



PLEASE, HAVE A HAPPY DAY

FAIR SCHEDULE

9:00-----ALL EXHIBITS IN PLACE

10:00-----OPENING OF THE FAIR AND
JUDGING OF THE FOLLOWING:
BAKING ITEMS
PIES
PRESERVES AND CANNING
HANDICRAFTS
PLANTS ETC.
DAIRY
SWINE

11:00-----OPENING OF THE GAMES
PENNY TOSS
DUNK TANK
HORSE SHOE PITCHING

11:30-----HANDICRAFT DEMONSTRATION
LOG SAWING CONTEST

12:00-----ANNOUNCE THE WINNERS OF THE
PUMPKIN CONTEST AND THE
GARDEN CLUB WINNERS.

12:30-----SQUARE DANCING DEMONSTRATION
JUDGING OF THE FOLLOWING:
BEEF
RABBITS
POULTRY

1:00-----PET SHOW

2:00-----BAND CONCERT
MILKING CONTEST

3:00-----BULL THROWING CONTEST
ICE CREAM DEMONSTRATION

4:00-----GREASED PIG CONTEST
COUNTRY MUSIC
AUCTION

THE MENDON BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE WISHES

TO THANK THE FOLLOWING MENDON MERCHANTS WHO
GENEROUSLY CONTRIBUTED TO THIS CONCERT, FOR

YOUR ENJOYMENT

J. A. BALLOU - FARM EQUIPMENT
STANLEY GARDNER - FLORIST
C. L. GOSS - BUILDER
JOE TEX - SUTO BODY
DONALD B. LOWELL - INSURANCE
AL COMOLLI - ELEC. CONTRACTOR
HOODS GARAGE - H & L SERVICE
MENDON TOOL & DIE
WHITTEN CORPORATION
SOUTHWICK ANIMAL FARM
MENDON AUTO BODY
MAPLE FARM DAIRY
JESSE F. WHITE
GUIDO'S PACKAGE STORE
TAFT ORCHARDS
GERRI-COE - BUILDERS
PIONEER CARPETS
1820 SHOP
MENDON GULF STATION
VINS CABINET SHOP
ARCUDI OIL
GIBSONS CESSPOOL SERVICE
MENDON AUTO SALVAGE
K. C. EQUIPMENT
O'GRADYS SERVICE STATION
WHITTEN LUMBER SUPPLY
WARRENS BARBER SHOP



MILFORD CONCERT BAND PROGRAM

MEN OF OHIO-----MARCH-----H. FILLMORE

AMPARITO ROCA-----SPANISH MARCH-----J. TEXIDOR

LUSTSPIEL-----OVERTURE-----KELER - BELA

LATINA -----LATIN AMERICAN DANCE-----F. BENCISCUTTO

LARA'S-----THEME FROM 'DOCTOR ZHIVAGO'-----M. JARRE

THEM BASSES FEATURING BRASS SECTION-----G. H. HUFFINE

CHA CHA FOR BAND-----GLEN OSSER

TOO FAT POLKA-----R. MAC LEAN

INSTANT CONCERT-----H. L. WATERS

MOON OVER NAPLES-----B. KAWMPFERT

KENTUCKY - 1800-----C. GRUNDMAN

SPANISH FLEA-----J. WECHTER

NOCTURN-----R. HERMANN

DIXIELAND MARCH BILL BAILY-----Z. VAN AUKEN

BYE BYE BIRDIE-----A BROADWAY MUSICAL-----C. STROUSE

NEW COLONIAL MARCH-----R. B. HALL

INTERMISSION

NATIONAL EMBLEM MARCH-----E. E. BAGLEY

THEMES FROM OFFENBACH-----ARR. C. W. JOHNSON

BEGUINE FOR BAND-----GLENN OSSER

ON THE MALL MARCH-----E. F. GOLDMAN

"OLD TIMERS" WALTZ-----ARR. M. L. LAKE

BREEZE AND I-----E. LECUONA

CAROUSEL-----BROADWAY MUSICAL-----R. RODGERS

THE STARS AND STRIPES FOREVER-----MARCH-----SOUSA

BATTLE HYMN OF THE REPUBLIC-----ARR. J. P. POLYAR

MR. U. S. A.-----MARCH MEDLEY-----G. M. COHAN



ORGANIZATION :

EVENT :

CONTESTANTS

MENDON COUNTRY FAIR, WINNERS LIST FOR
PUBLICATION. PLEASE COMPLETE FOR EACH
EVENT HELD AND RETURN TO EITHER, FRED
PIRONTI, OR E. H. BARROWS.

ORGANIZATION :

EVENT :

WINNERS

1ST

2ND

3RD

SIGNATURE

MENDON HISTORICAL SOCIETY
MYSTERY ITEMS

1975

at the Mendon Country Fair October 4

1 correct answer: straw slitters

answers given: mouse trap
thread or wool carder
yarn comb
yarn holder
tool for making leather shoestrings

2 correct answer:
tool for taking pies from oven

answers given: lifting hot kettle covers
digging corn meal
fireplace cooking holder
lifting hot plates
meat hanger
jar holder for canning
moving logs in fireplace
hay bale hook
back scratcher

3 correct answer: ice shaver

answers given: carpenter's tool-chisel
tack puller, nail puller
food chopper
ice cutter
garden tool

Mendon Historical Society

Mendon, Massachusetts 01756

November 10, 1975

Mr. Fred Pironti, General Chairman
Bicentennial Commission
Mendon, Mass. 01756

Dear Fred,

The members of the Mendon Historical Society were most pleased to hear about the interest of the Bicentennial Commission in preserving our Mendon heritage. Your letter was read and discussed at our Annual Meeting, October 15th.

It was the general feeling of the members present that, at the present, our organization could not accept a gift of a "new" home as our present membership could not afford to support a larger building. However, the members do not discard your ambitious idea, but feel that if, in the future, our membership should expand enough to warrant such an undertaking, the project would be accepted by the Society. We realize that after 1976 the project would necessarily have to be under an entirely new sponsorship.

The Society members appreciate and accept your present list of improvements and beautification projects planned for the Historical Museum and Founders' Park.

Sincerely,

EJC



THE MENDON COMMISSION

MENDON TOWN HALL
Mendon, Massachusetts 01756

FREDERICK J. PIRONTI
Chairman

October 12, 1975.

Miss E. Jane Coleman
Chairperson
Mendon Historical Society
Mendon, Massachusetts

Dear Jane

As you know, the prime objective of this Commission is to celebrate our nation's 200th birthday.

We have been chosen by the United States Bicentennial Commission as a "Bicentennial Community" because of our planned program of providing a celebration which will honor our past, provide for our future, and celebrate today.

Our chosen way to both honor our past and provide for our future is to help the Mendon Historical Society which is the richest source of our heritage's preservation.

Mr. Elden Barrows as chairman of our "Heritage Subcommittee" has conducted meetings of his committee made up of people who are very interested in Mendon's past and future. Members of this committee are Dr. Ronald Lukert, Mr. Philip Harding, Mrs. Elizabeth Noonan, Mr. John Hogarth.

This committee, with your help, has come up with a list of improvements and beautification projects planned for the



THE MENDON COMMISSION

MENDON TOWN HALL
Mendon, Massachusetts 01756

FREDERICK J. PIRONTI
Chairman

- 2 -

Historical Society Building and Founders' Park in 1976.

Such things as electrification of the building, a new brick walk, minor repairs etc. are planned. As well as flower and shrub planting around the immediate building area. No project will be undertaken without the approval and support of the Historical Society.

One very ambitious idea discussed at these meetings has been the seeking out and possible acquisition of a "new" home for the Historical Society. This project would probably only be started in 1976, but a Town wide campaign could be kicked off. The "new" home of course would have to be an historic building, centrally located, and large enough to serve its purpose.

This ambitious idea has not been publicly announced because of the large burden this would place on the Mendon Historical Society. Such things as maintenance, upkeep, heat, lights, etc. will have to be kept in mind. So, the question I'm putting to you, and your membership, is "Would you be interested in receiving a "new" home if one could be obtained for you?" Could the membership support a larger building?

If you feel that your organization could not afford such a gift, now or in the future, we will drop the plan and concentrate



FREDERICK J. PIRONTI
Chairman

THE MENDON COMMISSION

MENDON TOWN HALL
Mendon, Massachusetts 01756

- 3 -

on the aforementioned improvements of the existing building only.

I await your answer.

Respectfully,

Fred Pironti
General Chairman

P.S. Please extend my thanks to your membership for their help in our recent "Country Fair".

P.S.A. I would like to apply for membership in your society for me and my wife, Priscilla; as I am very interested in History, and in my Beautiful home town's history, in particular. Please inform me of my obligations for membership.

Mendon Bicentennial Group Plans Free Concert Nov. 22

Milford Daily News Nov. 10, 1975

MENDON — The Mendon Bicentennial Commission announces the presentation of a free concert by the Milford Community Chorus for all residents of town, will be held Nov. 22, at Nipmuc Regional High School auditorium beginning at 7.30 p.m.

"A Musical Tribute to America" will be presented under the direction of Donald Thatcher. There are only 303 seats in the auditorium so residents desiring to see the concert should obtain their tickets in advance. There is no charge for admission, but a ticket must be secured in order to have enough seats available.

Tickets for the concert may be obtained from Elden Barrows, Fred Pironti or any other member of the committee or at Warren's Barber Shop in the center of town.

The program of music is being donated by the Milford Community Chorus, which includes members from surrounding

towns as well as Mendon.

Most of the chorus members will be attired in colorful colonial costumes. The Mendon Youth Militia will take part in the opening flag ceremony.

The Milford Community Chorus is a part of the Community Use Program at Milford.

MENDON — The Mendon Bicentennial Commission will sponsor "A Musical Tribute To America" with the Milford Community Chorus in concert Saturday evening at 7.30 in the auditorium at Nipmuc Regional High School. The event is free, but tickets are required for admission to the concert and can be obtained from members of the Bicentennial Commission.

The Milford Community Chorus is under the direction of Donald Thatcher with John Griffin, accompanist and Michael Matthews as narrator.

The program will include the presentation of the colors by the Mendon Youth Militia.

The following selections will be presented by the chorus: Chester, written by William Billings (1746-1800) and arranged by Dwight Gustafson; Johnny

Has Gone For a Soldier (revolutionary folk song) arranged by Alice Parker with Phyllis Wallen, soprano.

Also the Toast, written by Francis Hopkinson (1778) arranged and directed by Donald Sanborn; The Star-Spangled Banner, written by Francis Scott Key. The audience will be asked to join in the singing of the national anthem.

Also Pledge of Allegiance, written and directed by Donald Sanborn; The Erie Canal (early American work song) arranged by Tom Scott, Donald Sanborn baritone; Sweet Betsy From Pike, Wagon Song of Early California, arranged by Robert A. Choate; Elijah Rock (traditional spiritual, arranged by Jester Hairston; Alleluia, written by Randall Thompson.

Also I've been Working on the

Railroad, traditional folk song, arranged and directed by Donald Thatcher; George M. Cohan patriotic fantasy, arranged by Walter Ehret and Paul Yoder; and Scott Joplins Ragtime Piano.

A patriotic medley, The Marine's Hymn, The Navy Hymn, The Caissons Go Rolling Along, arranged by Johnny Mann; Up, Up and Away, written by Jim Webb and arranged by Zane Van Auker; Abraham, Martin and John, written by Dick Holler, arranged by Ed Lojeski, with Phyllis Wallen, soprano.

Also This Land is Your Land, written by Woody Guthrie, arranged by Aden G. Lewis and Jack E. Platt; From Sea to Shining Sea, (American The Beautiful Fantasy), words by Katherine Lee Bates, music by Samuel A. Wood and arranged by

Maurice C. Whitney.

The program will close with the Battle Hymn of the Republic (as performed by the Mormon Tabernacalle choir) words by Julia Ward Howe, music by William Steffe, arranged by Peter J. Wilhousky. The audience will be asked to join in the singing of the final chorus.

The Milford Community Chorus is one of the Milford Community School Use Program.

Members of the chorus scheduled to participate include: Soprano: Karen Boucher, Beth Bower, Anne Marie Cadorette, Lucille Damon, Pamela D'Arcangelo, Ruth Francis, Cecile Masterson, Janet Moore, Helen Sanborn, Holly Sanborn, Phyllis Wallen, Cyndee Weigel and Gert Wood, costume coordinator.

Bass: Robert Bowen, Tim

Francis, Gerard J. Matthews, stage manager; Michael Matthews, narrator, Earl Rogers, Donald Sanborn, associate director; Donald Thatcher, music director and Jim Waite. Pianist: John Griffin.

Alto: Kathleen Allegrezza, Nancy M. Apicella, Rita Boerger, Carla M. Borelli, Ruth D'Archangelo, Susie Deutch, Regina Frabotta, Shirley Guadagnoli, Michele C. Loncar, Marge Marino, Darlene M. Pitio, Charlotte Rogers, Sharon Sanborn, Jody Smith, Stephanie Smith, Barbara Swift, Kathy Trotta, Doris Waite and Susan Weigel.

Tenor, Norman Andersen, Charles Salaki, publicity director and Gerard J. Matthews, Jr., president.

Milford Daily News
Nov. 20, 1975

TOWN OF MENDON
AMERICAN REVOLUTION
BICENTENNIAL
1776-1976



Part 2

Compiled for Mendon Historical Society
E. Jane Coleman, Librarian

Mendon "Shines" For Holiday

Milford Daily News Dec. 17, 1975

MENDON — The center of town has been decorated for the Christmas holiday season by members of the activities committees of the Mendon Bicentennial Commission. This may be the first time that decorations of this type have enhanced the center of Mendon in its 308 year history.

The Mendon Fire station has been decorated in past years and is again outlined with lights, however decorations have been placed in the center this season for all to enjoy.

The Taft Public Library and Town Hall have been decorated with wreaths and garlands, although the wind in the past few days has caused some of the decorations to require repairs.

A tree has been placed and decorated in the island in the center of town and another tree located in Founders Park has been decorated with homemade items. There are no lights on the trees.

All decorations used on the trees were made by pupils in grades kindergarten through seven at the Henry P. Clough School.

Several store front windows in the center have also been painted with Christmas or winter scenes and this was done by school children from the Clough School. Decorated windows include Warren's Barber Shop, the Postoffice, and Fred's Package Store.

A large Christmas card, extending holiday greetings to residents of Mendon, has been placed on the Bicentennial News Board located between the Town Hall and Library and Christmas carols are being played over a loud speaker during the daytime for the enjoyment of the townspeople and visitors.

The Bicentennial Commission extends thanks to the following who helped to make the undertaking of this activity a success. Miss Debbie Humes a high school student who assisted with decorating of the barber shop window, students who decorated the trees, Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Taylor of the activities

committee, Mrs. Naomi Howarth, Mrs. Cynthia Donatelli, Daniel Malloy, Miss Hayward and Catherine Cournoyer, teachers who served as liaisons between the school department and the Bicentennial Commission.

Special thanks go to the Selectmen who gave permission for decorating of the center of town, to Postmaster Frank Dudley, Warren Goodnow, and Kevin Trundy, for the use of their store front windows.

Thanks also go to David Lowell for permission to run the sound equipment for the playing of carols, to Andrew Nealley for installation of the sound equipment, Rockwell International of Hopedale for loan of the sound equipment and to Fire Chief Linwood E. Lowell and the fire department for assistance in decorating the library and town hall and to Ken Curly and the Mendon Greenhouses for their help.

In Observance Of Nations Birthday

Milford Daily News Feb. 6, 1976

MENDON — With the celebration of our country's 200th birthday nearly at a close the Mendon Bicentennial Commission and sub-committees have been working diligently since January of last year to bring meaningful programs to Mendon, "Mother Town" in commemoration of the great occasion.

In winding up Mendon's tribute to America's birthday activity chairman Eldon Barrows and his committee have made tentative plans for a Colonial Ball to be held sometime in July. The time, place and other details will be announced later.

Members of the Commission are making plans to bring at least one more big event to the people of Mendon in observance of the celebration.

Two hundred years ago, all festivities included family type entertainment, picnics, concerts, fairs and events that included the entire family, and also getting together with neighbors and old friends.

In the Commissions program throughout the past year the committee has depicted all of this since the opening day celebration in April of last year.

The committee would now like to bring to Mother Mendon something that hasn't been done for a number of years, but assistance is needed from the residents of town.

Minstrel Show

Many residents may remember the old time minstrel shows that brought so much fun and joy to the townspeople in Mendon.

The committee would like to recapture those good times, get them going again and perhaps make it an annual event, but cooperation of everyone who can help is needed in order to make arrangements for a minstrel or variety show.

The committee is seeking advice from those who have had the pleasure of being part of one in the past years. They would like to have residents lend their voices for a chorus, need good humor to help put on skits and people young and old to participate in any way they might be able to in order to bring back the spirit of the good old fashioned type of a show.

A meeting has been planned for Feb. 12 at 7:30 p.m. in order to formulate plans for this event. Suggestions from any residents will be greatly appreciated by the committee.

Help Sought

Without the cooperation of townspeople it will be impossible for the committee to fulfill their plans for the minstrel show and therefore they ask that anyone interested in helping in any way attend the meeting to get plans underway.

4—Milford Daily News, Wednesday, Feb. 11, 1976

Mendon Bicentennial Groups To Discuss Special Event Plans

MENDON — There will be a meeting of the Mendon Bicentennial Commission and all sub-committees Thursday evening at 7.30 in the Legion Home to discuss plans for special events in observance of the country's 200th birthday celebration.

The committee will discuss plans for a colonial ball to be held sometime in July and a minstrel show. They wish to recapture some of the good old times enjoyed in past years when minstrel shows were so popular. The committee is seeking advice and help in planning such an event. Voices are needed for a chorus, humor is needed for putting on skits.

Any resident who has had past experiences is invited to share

their knowledge with the committee and all others interested in participating in the event in any way are asked to attend Thursday night's meeting.

Without the assistance of the townspeople it will not be possible for the Bicentennial Commission to present this program to the public.

Deadline In Mendon For Cover Design Is March 1

MENDON — The deadline for submitting drawings for the town report design cover contest is March 1.

The contest is a joint venture between the Selectmen and Bicentennial Commission. The Selectmen initiated the idea and asked the Bicentennial Commission to take charge of the contest. Residents of Mendon of all ages are invited to enter the cover contest.

Theme of the design should center around the country's 200th birthday celebration. The name of the artist will appear on the cover of the annual town report along with the design and prizes will be awarded.

Applicants are requested to submit the drawings and their name on a separate sheet of paper. Specifications for the drawings are as follows: pencil, black ink or ballpoint pen, no multi-color sketches will be accepted. Theme must be of a bicentennial nature.

Drawings should be mailed or left off at the home of Elden Barrows, Bates Street.

Winner Of Mendon Town Report Contest Announced

Milford Daily News March 3, 1976

MENDON — John N. Grady, Sr., Uxbridge Road was named winner of the town report cover design contest co-sponsored by the Mendon Bicentennial Commission and the Board of Selectmen. The selection was made at a meeting of Selectmen held last night in the Town Hall.

Receiving honorable mention for their drawings were Madeline Taft, Neck Hill Road; Humphrey Germagian, Washington Street; Mark Taylor, Providence Street, a student at Nipmuc Regional High School; Margo Good, Kinsley Lane; Nancy Morin, George Street, a student at Nipmuc Regional High and Janet Boucher, Millville Street.

The winning drawing will be placed on the cover of this year's annual town report along with the name of the winner. He will also receive a saving bond presented by George Phipps, Mendon Auto Body. The Bicentennial Commission plans to present a bicentennial bowl to Grady, Sr.

Judges for the contest included Chairman of the Selectman Ernest S. Thomas, Thomas Guerra, tax collector-treasurer; Thomas Hackenson, building commissioner; William F. Ober, chairman of the finance com-

mittee and Louisa Wheeler, reporter.

Elden Barrows, presented the drawing entries to Selectmen last night. Each drawing had a number and after the selections were made the numbers were matched and the names revealed.

The Bicentennial Commission will announce a date at which time the presentation of the savings bond and bicentennial bowl will be made.

Selectmen plan to send each person a thank you letter for entering the contest.

Called In Name Of Mass. Bay

First Independent Mendon Town Meeting Held In 1776

MENDON — Although Mendon is 309 years old the town meeting of May 27, 1776 was the first in its 109 year history not called in his majesty's name and the year of his reign.

The town meeting was called in the name of the government and people of Massachusetts Bay, according to records taken from Metcalf's Annals of Mendon, Lancaster and Plumb's book of the Revolution and Rutman's,

The Morning of America 1603-1789. Facts regarding Mendon's first town meeting as part of an independent country were compiled by Fred Pironti, general chairman of the Mendon Bicentennial Commission.

The reason for this change in the meeting probably stems from the publication and wide circulation of Thomas Paine's "Common Sense" in January of that year.

This pamphlet changed the patriots' attitudes toward King George III. Previously, all the colonies troubles were blamed on the Parliament and not the King. Thomas Paine castigated King George as "The Royal Brute" and spread thoughts of "independence and republican government across the land."

Representative

Mendon chose Joseph Dorr, Esq. for their representative

and instructed him in the following patriotic and eloquent terms: "Voted that the town advise and instruct their representative to acquaint the general assembly that if the Honorable, the Continental Congress shall think it for the Benefit and Safety of the United American Colonies, to declare them independent of the kingdom of Great Britain, said town will approve the measure and, with their lives and fortunes, support them therein."

This brave little article in which the people of Mendon pledged their "lives and fortunes" on the town meeting floor exemplifies the spirit of independence prevalent in the town at that time.

This town, which sent 164 men to answer the alarm at Lexington, another 100 plus men to the siege of Boston, food, clothing, guns, powder, ammunition, blankets and medical supplies to Washington's army around Boston, was voting, in May of 1776 to support the Declaration of Independence two months before it was written.

Order

Their wish was realized because July 17, 1776 the town clerk received the following order from the Mass. Revolutionary Council meeting in Watertown.

"Ordered that the Declaration of Independence be printed and a copy sent to the minister of each parish of every denomination within the state and that they severally be required to read the same to their respective congregations, as soon as divine service is ended in the afternoon, on the first Lord's Day after they shall have received it. And after such publication thereof to deliver the said Declaration to the clerks of their several towns or districts, who are hereby required to record the same in their respective town or district books, there to remain as a perpetual memorial thereof."

There is also in the records for the town of Mendon on that day in history, in the bold and beautiful handwriting of Joseph Dorr Esq. Town Clerk a complete copy of the Declaration of Independence.

Mendon Bicentennial Group Plans To "Roast" Selectmen

Milford Daily News March 4, 1976

MENDON — Members of the Bicentennial Fund Raising Committee have completed preliminary plans for the "Celebrity Roasting" of the Selectmen to be held April 9 at the Coachman's Lodge in Bellingham.

The event will be a take-off on the Dean Martin Show and should prove to be enjoyable for all who attend especially the three members of the Board of Selectmen.

Music for dancing will be provided by "Something Ketchy" a part of the Romy T Quartet. The Committee announces there are three dinner selections to choose from, Italian style chicken, roast beef or lobster saute. When purchasing tickets this should be kept in mind as prices vary depending on the selection. Dinner will be at 7:30 p.m.

The Committee has encountered a few problems securing local volunteers to take part in the actual roasting of the Selectmen. The Selectmen have already consented to appear at the event in keeping with the spirit of the Bicentennial celebration.

Committee members are seeking stories, anecdotes or humorous notes relative to the honorable Board of Selectmen.

Anyone who has any notes that would add to the festivities of the event is asked to contact Edward Lamothe, Millville Street, chairman of the fund raising committee.

Tickets of the Celebrity

Roasting and dinner dance may be purchased from any member of the Bicentennial Commission or from the following members of the fund raising committee; Lamothe, Raymond Ricard, Warren Goodnow, Anita Pezzella, Derna Rostcheck or Helen Salvia.

"Roasters" Selected For Mendon 200th Fund-Raiser

Milford Daily News March 17, 1976

MENDON — The Fund Raising Committee of the Bicentennial Commission has secured several townspeople as roasters for the Celebrity Roast to be held April 9 at the Coachmen's Lodge in Bellingham.

When the idea of roasting the three man board of Selectmen was first presented to townspeople the Committee had a difficult time securing residents to serve as roasters for the program.

However the following have agreed to participate in the program: Mrs. Geraldine Wallace, clerk of the Selectmen; James Rostcheck, secretary of

the Planning Board; Patrick Dunlavey, Philip Harding, former tax collector; Clarence Phipps of Upton a former member of the Mendon - Upton Regional School Committee; Mary Auty, Norman Rogers, member of the Planning Board and Thomas Irons, secretary of the Lions Club. Allan J. Byrne, assistant principal of Nipmuc Regional High School will be master of ceremonies.

A surprise guest roaster will highlight the evening and should prove to be interesting to all who plan to attend.

The three member Board of

Selectmen, Ernest S. Thomas, chairman; George Phipps and Harold C. Barrows, Jr. have agreed to appear at the celebrity roast in keeping with the spirit of the Bicentennial year.

Tickets are available from any member of the Fund Raising Committee, Bicentennial Commission or at Warren's Barber Shop located at the rear of Lowell's dairy.

There are three menu selections to choose from, chicken, roast beef or lobster and those planning to purchase tickets should note their menu selection at that time.

Ticket returns should be made by April 6 which has been set as the deadline for reservations. Anyone wishing to reserve a table for a number of persons should contact Edward Lamothe, Millville Street for details.

Music for dancing will be provided by the "Something Ketchy" and the speaking program is expected to last about one hour.



Goodnatured kidding and occasional sharp jibes were aimed at the Mendon Selectmen last night during "roast" held at the Coachmen's Lodge, Bellingham. From left are Master of Ceremonies Allan Byrne, Selectmen Ernest Thomas, and Buddy Barrows, Bicentennial Commission Chairman Fred Pironti, and Selectman George Phipps. (Daily News Photo by Sandra L. Glynn)

Milford Daily News April 10, 1976

Selectmen In Mendon 'Roasted'

MENDON — "Roast the Selectmen" was the name of the game at last night's fun-filled Bicentennial affair sponsored by the Mendon Bicentennial Commission and held at the Coachmen's Lodge in Bellingham with 160 in attendance.

Allan J. Byrne was master of ceremonies for the evening and introduced head table guests which included three-man board of selectmen and their wives, chairman of the board and Mrs. Ernest S. Thomas, Selectman and Mrs. Harold C. Barrows Jr. and Selectman and Mrs. George Phipps.

Also seated at the head table was Mrs. Suzanne Byrne and chairman of the Bicentennial Commission and Mrs. Fred Pironti.

Chairman Pironti expressed his thanks to the fund raising committee namely, Edward Lamothe, chairman; Derna Rostcheck, Helen Salvia, Anita Pezzella and Warren Goodnow; and special thanks to Elden Barrows of the bicentennial activity committee for his efforts in connection with the event.

Master of Ceremonies Byrne

kicked off the evening with a humorous recitation on town government concluding with the selectmen.

Speakers of the evening who so aptly roasted the selectmen all in fun, were Mary Auty, Clarence Phipps, Norman Rogers, Thomas Irons, Philip Harding and Warren Goodnow portraying a little old lady.

Other roasters included Patrick Dunlavy, James

Rostcheck, and Geraldine of the audience.

Wallace. Maurice Lamothe a former resident performed a dinner was enjoyed and dancing followed to the music of comedy routine to the enjoyment the 'Somethin' Katchy'.

Bicentennial Historical Commissions Outline Projects Proposed In Milford

Milford Daily News March 10, 1976

William Consoletti, a member of the Milford Historical and Bicentennial Commissions, has outlined two specific proposals in connection with the nation's 200th birthday.

Consoletti has detailed both proposals in prepared outlines to the board of selectmen. Consoletti indicated at Monday's meeting that between \$600 and \$700 in funds will be needed to implement the plans.

The first proposal deals with the opening of a Bicentennial booth in Draper Park for the summer.

Plans proposed include:

- An enclosed booth in a downtown location to foot traffic and be visible to road traffic.
- Local news and radio for advertisement of operating hours

and film schedule.

- Local educational facilities for audio-visual hours and film schedule.

- Use local merchants as sponsors for special items in booth or as vendors if no sponsors available.

- Contact Park department for use of benches, temporary lighting fixtures and bulbs for booth.

- Local Bicentennial and Historical Commissions as agents for professional contacts and sponsor of article in warrant.

Consoletti hopes to have the booth open Fridays and Sundays between June and Labor Day, as well as Monday, July 5.

Hours would be 6 to 9 p.m. Friday night and 1 to 4 p.m. Sundays. The total number of hours the

booth would be open for will be 113, Consoletti said.

The Commissions have also proposed that a Bicentennial worker be hired through the Division of Employment security at a salary of \$3 per hour. The wages would be paid for through Town Meeting funds, by soliciting funds from businesses, or conduct a special fundraising event.

Pink Granite

The second proposal calls for pink granite Bicentennial Memorials to be placed in Milford, Hopedale and Mendon. The granite is available on town-owned land off route 495.

The proposed sites are:

- Calzone Park, Milford; to be erected on left side of the present statue, visible to foot and motor traffic.

Mendon Historical Society

Mendon, Massachusetts 01756

April 1, 1976

Mr. Fred Pironti, Chairman
Mendon Bicentennial Commission
Mendon, Mass. 01756

Dear Mr. Pironti,

On behalf of the members of the Mendon Historical Society, we wish to convey to you our approval of placing a Bicentennial Memorial of Milford pink granite on Founders' Park in Mendon, including a plaque suitably inscribed to the memory of our town's founders.

We would prefer to have the Memorial placed either to the left or right of the top of the stairway leading from the sidewalk to the entrance of the Museum.

Sincerely yours,

Secretary

Mrs. Francis D. Morrison, President
Mrs. Ian O. Denton, Treasurer
Mrs. Albert S. Coleman, Secretary

etc
Executive Comm.

Draper Park, Milford, opposite from former Sons of Italy memorial and on left of walkway entering from Main Street.

Mill River, Hopedale; on Rockwell International land on the dam of the Mill River off route 140, just over the Milford line, visible to foot and motor traffic.

Founder's Park, Mendon, off route 16, site to be chosen by Mendon selectmen.

Consoletti hopes to have the final selection of sites confirmed by April with digging and laying of cement footings in May.

In June, the Commissions hope to place the plaques into stones and hold dedication of memorials on July 4, as part of multi-town celebration of Independence Day and nation's 200th birthday.

BICENTENNIAL COMMISSIONS MEET IN HOPEDALE Milford Daily News April 19, 1976

HOPEDALE — The local Bicentennial Commission hosted a meeting at the Community House which included members of the Bicentennial Commissions of Mendon, Blackstone, Milford and Hopedale.

Plans were made for the "Big Four Weekend" which will find the four towns conducting special activities, beginning July 1 to observe the nation's birthday.

On July 1 at 7.30 p.m. Blackstone will host an Ecumenical Service at Friends Meeting House believed to be one of the oldest meeting houses in the state.

Because the building is small, plans are being made to hold an outdoor service with loudspeakers being in use to enable all to hear the service. A coffee hour will follow. Stanley Haines, Betty Blanketship and Joyce Palanterra will be in charge of arrangements.

July 2, the Mendon Bicentennial Commission will sponsor a Bicentennial Ball at Lakeview Ballroom in Mendon. The Romy-T Quartet Plus 4 will furnish music for dancing. Dress will be optional but it is hoped that a number of people will consider wearing attire of the early era.

Fred Pironti, Eldon Barrows and Arlene Taylor are in charge of arrangements for the ball.

July 3, Milford's Commission will host a Bicentennial Fair and Band Concert. Anthony Brenna and William Consoletti are chairmen of that committee.

July 4, all towns will be hosted by the local Bicentennial Commission at Town Park when a field day will be held. Many events are planned with competition between the towns to be featured. All events will be for those who are 18 years and over, and will include canoe races, log rolling, sack races and others. The featured contest will be a special type of pie tossing contest between Bicentennial Commission chairmen and committee members.

A band concert by the Blackstone - Millville Regional

Band will conclude the weekend activities. It is hoped that this will be one of the largest, if not the largest, observances to be held in Massachusetts that week.



Milford Daily News April 19, 1976

SHOWING OFF THEIR WORK — April Bandy, left, and Lori Doyle show off the work of their fourth grade classmates at the Clough School in Mendon. The project, an embroidered wall hanging, was done in conjunction with a bicentennial program under the direction of teachers Mrs. Harriet Fougere and Miss Alyce Youngson. (Daily News Photo by John Lemish)

Mendon 4th Graders Make Wall Hangings

Milford Daily News April 17, 1976

MENDON — As part of the Bicentennial program pupils in the fourth grade at the H.P. Clough School made wall hangings. Each child drew and embroidered their own square and the squares were then joined together by fourth grade teachers, Mrs. Harriett Fougere and Miss Alyce Youngson.

Pupils taking part in the special project were April Bandy, Joanna Bradley, Lori Doyle, Lisa Erschen, Tammy Gilpatrick, Joan Hanlon, Kimberly Marquis, Sharon McLaughlin, Laura Pionti, Kim Powell, Kimberly Thibeault, Carol Whitney, Dwight Grimes, Carl Haling, Mark Hood, Daniel Kelley, Peter Morin, Jeffery Nichols, Robert O'Grady, Thomas Smith, and Richard Victor.

Also Pamela Atwood, Audna Coalts, Bernadette Dawes, Rene English, Kathleen Houlihan, Ann

Kingdon, Susan Matott, Elizabeth McCann, Carolyn McCarthy, Lisa Mitchell, Kelly Swanson, Gretel White, Brian Allard, Richard Chace, Jeffery Charlmers, David Denenberg, Anthony Donatelli, Daniel LaBastine, Leonard Lamothe, Erik Nelson, Michael Porter and Thomas Shea.

The wall hangings were displayed at the May 12, 1976 meeting of the Mendon Historical Society, courtesy of Miss Alyce Youngson, Maple St., Mendon.

from History of the Town of Milford-Adin Ballou 1882
Franklin Press Boston

Chapter XVII Our Centennial Celebrations pages 430-447

Note-Adin Ballou extracted from the Milford Journal's issue of July 5, 1876 what he deemed the most important and suitable portions for this chapter.

The one hundredth anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence was, on Tuesday, appropriately and patriotically observed in every part of the United States. From the forests of Maine to the mines and gardens of California, in populous cities and scattered villages, everywhere, the people seem impressed with the centennial fitness of the demonstration; and an unprecedented observance of the day was carried out. In foreign countries and at foreign courts, wherever Americans found themselves, the stars and stripes, as bright and glittering as when only a day old, were raised, and saluted in the style peculiar to the "universal Yankee nation."

In Milford was held the most successful and imposing Fourth of July celebration ever witnessed in this vicinity. Nearly all the residents remained in the town during the day, and the neighboring vicinity sent large delegations to witness the ceremonies. From the booming cannon's opening roar at sunrise, until the last rocket in the evening, the exercises were carried out in a manner most thoroughly interesting and satisfactory. The committees in charge labored with indefatigable zeal to make the day's doings successful. The music was excellent....As a whole, the parade far exceeded our anticipations. Dinner and speaking were really excellent. Rev. Ballou's address....worthy of preservation as an historical document. In the evening the fireworks attracted a great crowd, who expressed universal satisfaction and approval.....

After the morning exercises, there was a short respite; but after breakfast the streets began to be crowded again, soon presenting an unusually animated appearance. Those who had business to attend to, hurried by; while those on pleasure bent promenaded up and down, gazing in at the gayly-decorated, rainbow-hued stores, dressed in holiday grandeur.

Early in the forenoon there was a gathering in the vicinity of the park, near the Mansion House; and the several divisions of the procession began arriving....

The route of march was through Main St., to Hollis, South Main, Main, South Bow, North Bow, Main, Exchange, Congress, Pine School, Pearl, to the town hall...The procession arrived at the town hall shortly after eleven o'clock...Rev. Ballou delivered the oration of the day.

The oration occupied forty-two minutes, and received the closest attention of the audience...The procession was reformed at the town hall and the line was up Pearl St., Walnut St., down Congress St., to the park.

The Yale tent, located near the Congress St. side of the town park was supported by four centre poles, and had a seating capacity of one thousand persons. It was placed in position on Saturday; and from that time until open to the public, was visited by many curiosity-seekers. The culinary department occupied a temporary building just east of the tent, and proved itself capable of satisfying the hungry processionists who were present.

A new and permanent band-stand was also erected in the park, paid for by citizens about there. The grass being trimmed down, and free rein given to the boys to amuse themselves, the grounds were the great rendezvous of the juveniles; and the cracking and whizzing of the festive fire-crackers, and other amateur pyrotechnics, were continuously heard from early morn until the before-mentioned juveniles were safely tucked in their little beds, "Tired 'most to death," and dreaming of our next centennial.

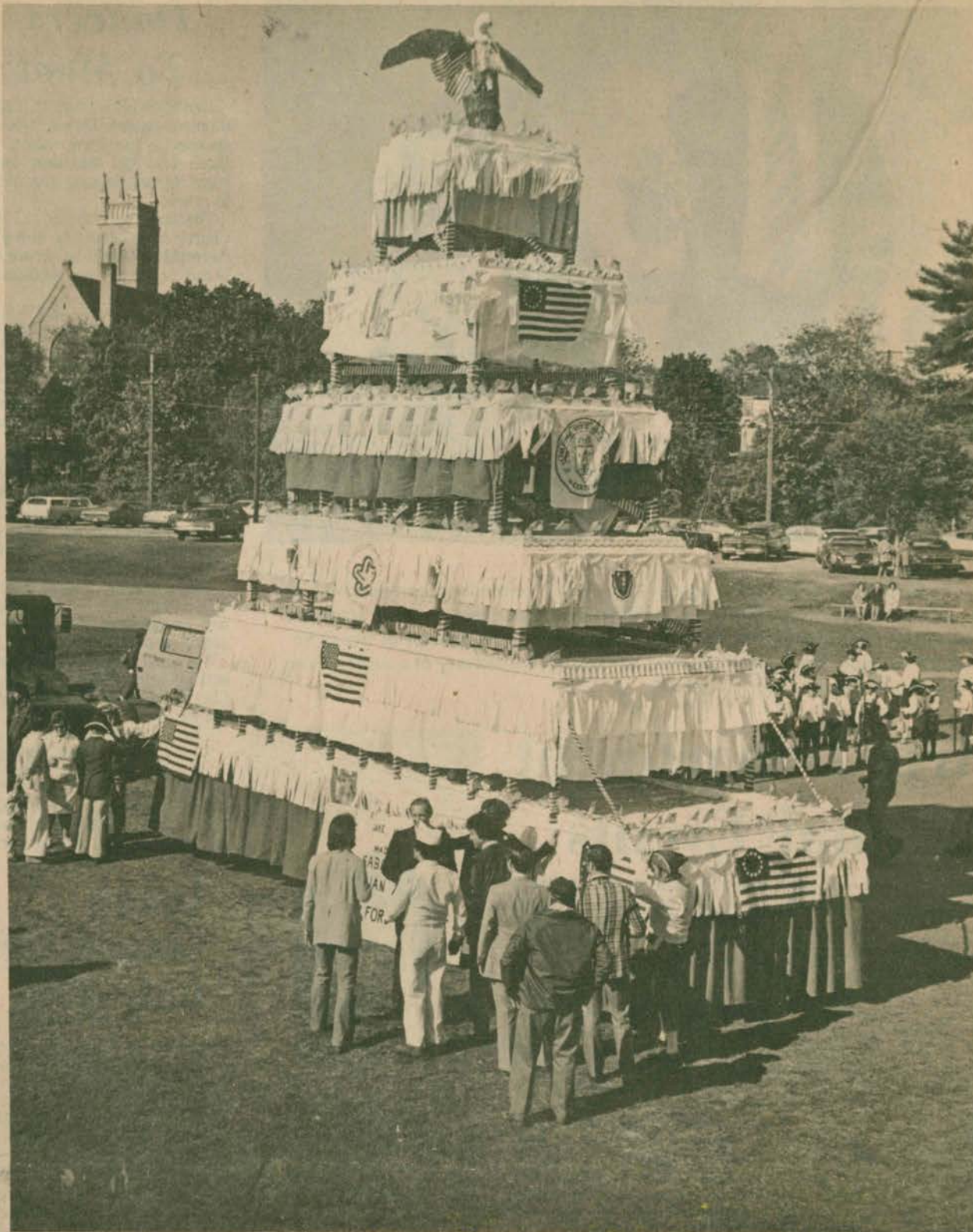
Arrived at the tent, Rev. Vinton asked the divine blessing; and dinner was then partaken of by four hundred or more persons, and was a repast not calculated to reflect discredit upon the caterer, S. Mathewson. Clams and clam chowder, cold meats, vegetables, pastry, tea and coffee, comprised the bill of fare.

After dinner...there followed fourteen toasts. The toasts were interspersed with music by the band, singing, and firing of the cannon. Each toast, and its response, was heartily and enthusiastically applauded.....

At an early hour people began to return to the park, and soon it put on its populous appearance of the afternoon. The peddlers of peanuts vociferated, the cannon roared, the festive firecracker snapped, and the hard-hearted small boy with his excruciating tin horn was on hand; carriages and pedestrians mingled in confusion, and not pleasantly,--at least nor for those on foot, who were continually in imminent danger of being run over by the teams.

Never before was there such a brilliant display of fireworks in town; the twenty-one pieces being very worthy of special notice.. P. M. Hunt had the charge of this feature...

The general good order that was preserved during the day added much to the enjoyment of the occasion, and there were but few exceptions to the good behavior.



Milford Daily News May 13, 1976

It was a festive occasion at Fino Field annex this morning when the town's Bicentennial cake was unveiled for a television taping. Under all the bunting and wrapped around a wooden frame is a cake, which is expected to break the Guinness Book of World's Records. The total weight of the creation is estimated at 10,000 pounds. (Daily News Photo by John F. Lemish)

The World's Tallest Cake

Milford Daily News, May 13, 1976

The town of Milford has "Bicentennial cake fever."

It was a circus atmosphere this morning when the Bicentennial Commission unveiled its 30-foot, six-tier cake, which is supposed to break the Guinness Book of World Records mark.

After it took nearly two hours to assemble the three-section cake, a Boston television film crew began video taping a seven-minute segment to be shown on Channel 5 tomorrow morning.

With a crowd of about 1,000 jamming around the confectionery skyscraper, you had to wonder "who's working?"

The long morning began shortly after 6 a.m. when the Highway Department headed for Fino Field annex from the town barn on Central Street. It took three trips to move the 10,000 pound monster.

While the trucks crawled up East Main Street commuter traffic was slowed to a snail's pace. For early morning drivers it was an unusual way to wake up.

By 7.45 a.m. the first two sections of the cake were in place at the annex, between Fino Field and the Municipal pool. Slowly, a crane donated by the Consigli Construction Co. lifted the second two sections into place while the crowd gasped.

Sabatino Scafuto, the key man behind the creation, worked from the Fire Department's "cherry picker" as he guided the two-by-four frame into place.

A minor problem developed when the crew

attempted to lower on the top two layers — the crane was slightly out of position and Scafuto was unable to complete the job. After moving the crane ahead (with the layers still suspended) the crisis passed. Shortly after 8.30 a.m. the world's tallest cake was in one piece.

The next scene was a bit hectic for Milford District Court Judge Francis J. Larkin.

Judge Larkin, who was dressed in a three-piece suit, was hoisted to the top of the cake with a tape to make the official measurement. Not counting the eagle, the cake measured exactly 30 feet, breaking the Guinness record by seven feet.

A number of town officials were in attendance to authenticate the height. Among them were Selectmen Emilio E. Diotalevi, John V. Fernandes, and Mrs. Marie J. Parente.

Other groups participating for the TV performance were the Milford Youth Militia and Milford High School Band. The taping was still going on late this morning.

Frame Expensive

The Commission had hoped to make the frame in a home carpentry shop, but when the size of the cake became apparent the task was carried out at the highway barn.

Used to make the wooden frame was 1,000 feet of two-by-fours. Also 50 sheets of plywood, two-by-twos and two-by-eights. In order to support the weight, the frame had to be carefully built.

The only major concern was a 25-mile per hour wind blowing from the northwest. The construction of the frame allowed most of the air to pass through the cake, averting any disaster. When the crew began assembling the cake it was only 35 degrees.

A number of figures are being tossed around, but one seems certain about the actual cost. The lumber cost about \$800. Anthony J. Brenna, chairman of the Bicentennial Commission, said the cake would cost the town under \$1,000.

Scafuto said if he were to sell the cake retail, it would be worth as much as \$12,000. It was estimated that about 500 man hours were needed to complete the project. It took about three working days to piece the cake together and frost it.

Basically, the cake is red, white and blue, with flag decorations and jimmies. Red and white crepe paper is stretched around the entire cake with red, white and blue paper around the wooden beams. The cake is resting on flat bed trucks donated by the highway department National Guard.

Once the television taping is finished, the crew is expected to take the cake apart and transport it back to the highway dept. garage. Scafuto said the cake would be fresh for Sunday afternoon's party. "You won't even realize when it's been baked," said Scafuto. "We have used special ingredients."

The five other bakers are Norman Martell, Rick

Auger, Nicholas Oliva, Bruce Blair, and Mario Scafuto.

Sunday's party will be held in downtown Milford from 1 to 4 p.m. In addition to the cake, children will receive free ice cream and lollipops. Eight booths will also be set up on Main Street.

Party On TV Tomorrow Morning At 9

If you were at Fino Field today you'll get a chance to see yourself on television tomorrow morning on Channel 5.

A seven-minute segment filmed by a mobile crew will be shown on the Good Morning show, which goes on the air at 9 a.m.

A spokesman for Channel 5 said the Milford cake segment will probably be shown at about 9.15 a.m.

A reporter from the station dressed in Colonial garb handled the interviews at this morning's mock party.

Judge Francis J. Larkin, Bicentennial Commission chairman Anthony J. Brenna and the baker of the cake, Sabatino Scafuto, were all interviewed.

The Bicentennial Commission agreed to stage the party after the television station expressed interest in the story.

Photographers from the major wire services were also at this morning's ceremony. If the cake does in fact break the Guinness record the Bicentennial Commission hopes to have pictures transmitted around the world.

Many school children who attend classes in the area were dismissed for an hour to view the cake.



Joseph M. Grillo

Mirror On Milford

"The Cake" - - - 3-Part Drama

Describing yesterday's Bicentennial cake madness is no easy task.

I mean, you had to be there to believe it. Where else but in Milford would 1,000 people turn out on a cold morning to watch a television taping?

Sunday's party may be just that — a party — but yesterday morning's circus was strictly "show bizz." I figure it was a three-part drama.



cruiser, crawling along at about five miles an hour.

SCENE 2 — After a trip from the highway barn that must have seemed like eternity to the drivers, the three trucks arrive at the grove of the municipal swimming pool. Right next to the Little League field. About 10 men are working on the roof of the old Stylon building. They're simply trying to believe their eyes. A mobile TV truck arrives and promptly tells the crew to move the cake a couple of hundred yards to Fino Field Annex.

SCENE 3 — A 70-foot crane moves into position. Everyone is hoping the operator has the steadiest hands in the world.

ACT II: SCENE 1 — By now everyone is half frozen. "Well, I guess a lot of nuts besides me came out here to watch this," said Lou Rizoli, who lives in the Plains section. The crane is ready and up goes Sabatino

ACT I: SCENE 1 — A bright May sun is gleaming over the Sacred Heart Church steeple. Out of the sunrise come three flat-bed trucks carrying the world's biggest piece of sugar, otherwise known as the Bicentennial cake. Traffic is backed up. Commuters are trying to dodge their way around the cake. No chance because Patrolman Lou Costanza is leading the mini-parade in his

Scafuto in the Fire Department cherry picker with Joe Niro at the controls. "Sabby," as the cake creator is called by his friends, grabs the frame holding the second two tiers and guides it into place.

After a bit of pulling, tugging, and coaxing the wind to cooperate, Sabby has the section in. He raises his right hand to the crowd. Loud cheers.

SCENE 2 — The nervous spectators start to worry. A few of the comments go like this; "They'll never get those two sections on top." "The wind will blow the thing over for sure." "Watch the eagle go flying off." "If it falls we'll be covered with cake."

One small problem develops. The crane has been parked too close to the cake and Sabby can't line up the top tiers. "Back it off," he says. "Move it over more."

A noticeable roar comes from the crowd when the top layer starts to sway in the wind. The frame is spinning, swaying and tilting. People are holding their breath. Suddenly, Sabby has the frame in his grips and carefully lowers it on top of tier three and four.

The crowd breaks into a loud clapping spree. "I have tears in my eyes," says Tony Brenna, chairman of the Bicentennial Commission.

SCENE 3 — Judge Francis Larkin doesn't really want to jump into that cherry picker and go up in the air 30 feet. But Judge Larkin has civic pride and community spirit, so he agrees. By the time he reaches the very top of the cake he's a bit shaky. Judge Larkin manages to stretch the tape to the highest chunk of frosting and measures 30 feet. It's a new mark in the Guinness Book of World Records. (The cake still has to be certified by Guinness officials in New York)

ACT III: SCENE 1 — Sabby is standing with his five bakers and gazing up at the monster. "I'm looking at the thing and I still can't believe it," said Scafuto. "I've never tried anything like this in my life. We've been under a lot of pressure to finish this job. We must have baked for seven straight days. Then it took another three days to put the thing together. The only thing I'm afraid of is the wind. The frame is good and solid, though."

SCENE 2 — The people are still feeling the carnival atmosphere, but Crick Bowen, the TV producer is going crazy. "Come on, get back, will ya," said the producer. "If you don't have anything to do with the cake please get back," he yells to the crowd.

Behind the row of people is a mobile van with a television camera mounted on top. The cameraman and director are waving their arms trying to communicate with the producer and reporter, who are now stationed in front of the cake.

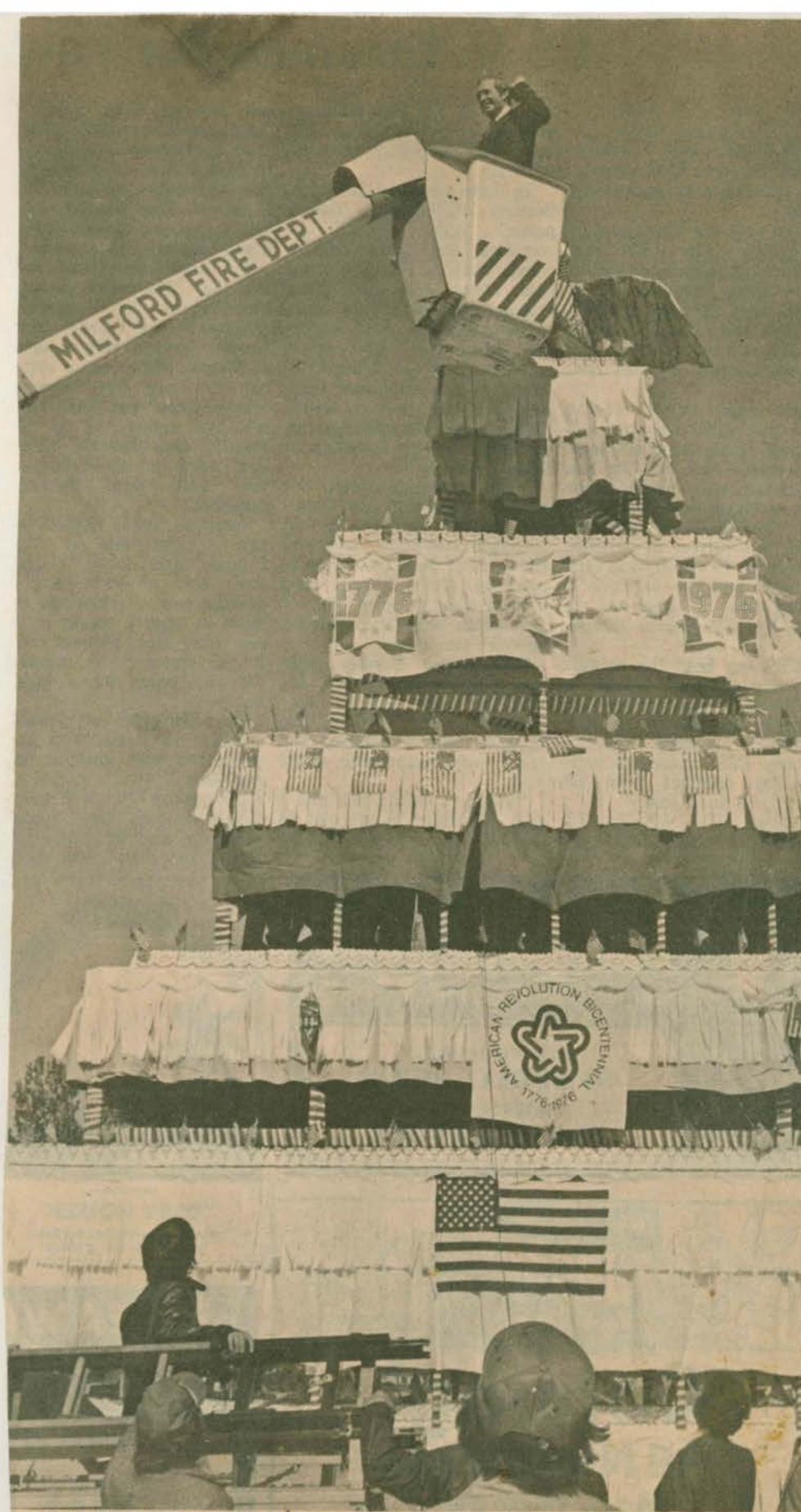
TV really knows how to stage it. The Milford High flag corps is moved in a circle at the left of the cake. Six youngsters dressed in ballet outfits are lined up back of the interview site. They are told to hold down the crepe paper that's flapping around in the stiff breeze.

SCENE 3 — "OK, Tony Brenna, Sabatino, and Judge Larkin," said Bowen. "Let's get ready. Here we go," shouts the producer. While 1,000 people mill around Scafuto, Judge Larkin and Brenna are interviewed with the cake as a backdrop. The Milford Youth Militia is standing at attention to the left of the cake, directly in front of the MHS band. "Happy Birthday" is played and the singing starts.

Everybody's happy. The kids got out of school. Sabatino got plenty of publicity. The photographers got their pictures. The highway department crew had an easy day. The town got its cake on TV.

"Now all we have to do is figure out how to cut the thing," says Sabby.

See you at the party Sunday.



Milford Daily News May 14, 1976

A LOT HIGHER THAN THE BENCH — Milford District Court Judge Francis J. Larkin was the man with the tape measure yesterday morning when he authenticated the Bicentennial cake at Fino Field annex. Judge Larkin, shown at the top of the cake in fire department "cherry picker," measured the top layer at 30 feet, reported to be a new Guinness Book of World Records. Tape measure can be seen down side of cake and in front of flag. (Daily News Photo by Joseph M. Grillo)

Five-Ton Milford Cake, The Recipe

A lot of Milford residents have been wondering just what it took to make the six-tier Bicentennial cake.

The biggest ingredient did not come in a package — that's time. Sabatino Scafuto, the man who directed the baking, said six men worked nearly full time for a week on the project.

Once the 600 cakes were baked, it took another three days to assemble the frame, lay in the cake, and frost it.

Not that you'll ever need it, but here's the recipe for a 30-foot high cake.

Cake Mix

Sugar — 770 pounds
Flour — 600 pounds
Shortening — 300 pounds
Salt — 19 pounds
Baking powder — 21 pounds
Milk — 60 quarts
Water — 210 Quarts
Eggs — 2,160

Frosting Mix

Shortening — 500 pounds
Sugar — 240 pounds
Confectionery Sugar — 120 pounds
Egg whites — 800
Rum — 2 gallons
Vanilla — 1 gallon
Lemon — 1 gallon
Jimmies — 60 pounds
Just mix all that up and you have the world's largest cake.

All you have to do if you want to taste Scafuto's pride and joy is show up Sunday at the free party in downtown Milford.

Happy calorie watching.

Milford Daily News May 14, 1976

a larger cake was made in another state



Milford Daily News May 17, 1976

Sunday, May 16, 1976, downtown Milford, Mass. — a crowd of 5,000 jams Main Street at the "first in the nation" Bicentennial party. World record 30-foot cake is shown at right. Main Street was

blocked from Park Street to Lincoln Square. (Daily News Photo by Richard M. Tosches)

Mendon Seeks Area Residents To Take Part In July 4 Events

Milford Daily News June 10, 1976

MENDON — The Mendon Bicentennial Commission is seeking residents to participate in the Tri-Town Bicentennial Events scheduled for July 4 in Hopedale. Other towns participating will be Milford and Hopedale.

Anyone interested in participating in the following events, canoe races, log rolling, sack race or soap box derby finals is asked to contact Elden Barrows, Bates Street.

The following age group is eligible to participate in the canoe races, 19 through 26, and 26 through 36 and 37 and over, both male and female. Two people will be in each canoe and there must be a life jacket or cushion for each person in the canoe. Each age group will race once.

The two-some finishing first will receive 10 points, second five, third three and fourth, two. Following the three races, the town with the most points will be designated as the winner.

In the log rolling event contestants must be at least 18 years of age, male or female. Pairings will be made at the time of the contest and this will be a single elimination event.

The sack race contestants must also be at least 18 years old and needed are two males and two females as this is a relay race.

The soap box derby finals will be held at 11.30 July 4.

July 2 the Bicentennial Commission will sponsor a Bicentennial Ball to be held at Lakeview

Ballroom. Tickets are now available at a nominal fee. The next meeting of the Committee will be June 10 at 7.30 at the Legion Home.

2—Milford Daily News, Monday, June 14, 1976

Mendon Bicentennial Ball Set

MENDON — The Mendon Bicentennial Commission activities committee will sponsor a gala Bicentennial Ball July 2 from 8 to midnight at Lakeview Ballroom. The Romy T Quartet Plus Four will be featured and costumes are optional.

Food will be available during the evening, and tickets for the ball have been kept at a nominal fee so that more people will be able to attend the event to celebrate the country's 200th birthday.

Elden Barrows is chairman of the Bicentennial Ball. Tickets are now available from Chairman Barrows, at Warren's Barber Shop, located at the rear

of Lowell's Dairy or from any member of the bicentennial commission.

July 4, Mendon residents have been invited to participate in the tri-town events to be held in Hopedale. Anyone seeking further information on the canoe races, log rolling event, sack race, and soap box derby finals may contact Elden Barrows for details. Hopedale, Milford and Mendon will be competing in the above mentioned events which will be held in Hopedale.

Mendon To Host Bicentennial Event

Milford Daily News June 17, 1976

MENDON — The town of Mendon will be participating in the July 4 bicentennial weekend, along with the towns of Milford, Hopedale, Mendon and Blackstone by hosting a bicentennial ball Friday, July 2.

The ball will be held at Lakeview ball room and will be appropriately decorated in the bicentennial theme.

Costumes are optional and will afford many of the area residents a opportunity to display the beautiful and unique costumes which have been made in order to make this once in a lifetime bicentennial celebration memorable.

Dancing will be provided by the Romy-T-Quartet, plus four, from 8 p.m. until midnight. This unique combination of the Romy-T-Quarter, plus the Something Ketchy group will provide the celebrants with an evening to remember of old and new musical hits. Several area residents are learning the minuet so they will be able to join with Mr. and Mrs. Edward Roy of Uxbridge in taking part in this dance of the 1776 era.

Food will be available during the evening for a nominal fee.

Admission for the ball has been kept at one dollar in order to encourage a larger attendance and to cover expenses only. Tickets are available from Warren's Barber Shop, The Mendon Selectmen's Office, Mendon Town Clerk's office, Elden Barrows, chairman of the ball; Fred Pironti or any member of the commission.

Tickets can be purchased from Jerri Fafard in Hopedale and Anthony Brenna in Milford.

Field Day

Mendon residents will be par-

ticipating in the field day to be held in Hopedale.

At 11.30 a.m. the finals of the soap box derby will be held. At the present time no one has shown an interest in this event from Mendon although Tom Pezzella hopes someone will come forth before Sunday when the application deadline is reached. Anyone interested in this special event should contact Pezzella as soon as possible for details, rules and regulations.

At 2.30 p.m. the canoe races will take place and each town must supply its own canoe. There will be three age groups, 19-25, 26-36 and 36 and over male or female.

Around 3 p.m. the log rolling contest will be a featured with participants being 18 years of age, male or female. This will be a single elimination event.

At 3.45 p.m. sack races are expected to start and participants must be 18 years or over with three males and two females needed for each team.

The pie tossing contest will be held at 4.15 p.m. and will involve four bicentennial commission members from each town.

A old times softball game is planned for around 4 p.m. at the Hopedale Town Park, with a team from Hopedale and Mendon scheduled to play Blackstone and Milford.

This is strictly a fun game and will end at the completion of the sixth inning regardless of the score. Each town can have minimum of 10 players and a maximum of 20 players on their roster.

During the game five players from each town must be in the lineup and free substitution will be allowed.

Players are not to wear spikes, golf shoes, or cleated type shoes.

All players must be 30 years of age or older in order to participate in the game. Equipment will be provided by Hopedale and slow pitch rules will be in effect. Ten positions will be occupied in field during the game.

MENDON — Mr. and Mrs. Edward Roy, Uxbridge, were special guests at the bicentennial commission meeting held in the Legion Home with many in attendance. Mr. and Mrs. Roy were on hand to instruct those in attendance in the proper way to dance the minuet, one of the most appropriate dances of the 1776's.

Many are expected to join Mr. and Mrs. Roy in dancing the minuet at this evenings Bicentennial Ball, sponsored by the Mendon Bicentennial Commission and slated to start at 8 in Lakeview Ballroom.

The Romy-T-Quartet Plus Four will play for the dance. Along with the minuet other special performances are expected including some from the Red Coats era.

Four towns will be represented at tonight's ball, Milford, Hopedale, Blackstone, and Mendon and others are also planning to join in the festivities.

Door prizes will be awarded and drawings will take place during the evening. The ball room

will be appropriately decorated in the Bicentennial Theme and tickets will be available at the door at a nominal fee.

Participating in the minuet lessons at the bicentennial commission meeting were, Mr. and Mrs. Roy of Uxbridge; instructors; Mrs. Robert Hammond of Hopedale; Mrs. Elinor Allan, Hopedale; Mr. and Mrs. Al Fetting of Hopedale; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Barrows, Hopedale; Mr. and Mrs. Elden Barrows, Mendon; Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hackenson, Mendon; Mr. and Mrs. Douglas Taylor, Mrs. Richard Grady, Mrs. Thomas Stevens, Fred Pironti, Robert Carlson, James Rostcheck and Mr. and Mrs. John Grady, Sr., all of this town.

Night Before

Firefighters will host the annual night before the fourth horrible parade Saturday evening at 7. The parade will be formed at the intersection of Emerson and Maple Street and march to the Town Hall parking lot where judging will take place. Three prizes, first, second and third, will be awarded in the following categories: most original, funniest, and best decorated vehicle. Following the presentation of prizes, hot dogs and punch will be

served to the youngsters with all members of the department assisting in the program. There will be a kettle in the parking lot for any residents who wish to donate to the Fire Department to help defray the expense of the annual program for town children.

Four Towns To Attend Mendon Bicentennial Ball

Milford Daily News July 2, 1976

New England Cleans Up After Holiday Parties

Milford Daily News July 6, 1976
By United Press International towns, including Chelmsford, New Englanders put aside the Duxbury, Hyannis, Wakefield red, white and blue trappings of and Winthrop, Mass., had the long, special Fourth of July parades as part of their July 4 holiday and went back to work a weekend activities. Monday night, fireworks displays were held in South Boston, Barnstable, Fitchburg, and Wakefield, Mass.

The final touch on the Bicentennial celebrations was being performed by cleanup crews scouring the sites of the many parades, fireworks displays and other outdoor gatherings.

Broom-pushing was heavy in Boston along Storrow Drive and the Charles River, where some 400,000 persons left an estimated 34-40 tons of trash after celebrating the nation's 200th birthday by attending an outdoor concert and fireworks display. The crowd was the largest ever to gather in Boston for any reason.

A crowd estimated at up to 300,000 persons gathered in Bristol, R.I., Monday for the nation's oldest continuously held Independence Day parade. The event was marred by some violence as it ended, with at least nine arrests made and several injuries reported.

On the grim side, at least 27 persons died in New England accidents over the four-day weekend.

In a stirring Boston ceremony at the historic Old North Church Monday, 312 persons took oaths to become American citizens in naturalization ceremonies.

"This occasion is special because of your," said Andrew A. Carrey, the U.S. District Court chief judge who administered the oath. "Like millions naturalized before you, you are the symbols of the continuing rebirth of the nation 'conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.'"

Elsewhere Monday, several

Mendon Church Workers Plan Bicentennial Quilt

Milford Daily News July 21, 1976

MENDON — Members of the Unitarian Church Kraft Klub are working on a bicentennial quilt which will be on display at Saturday afternoons annual lawn party being sponsored by the church. The lawn party will begin at 2 and continue through 8 p.m. on the church grounds. The quilt will be raffled off at the old country fair to be held Oct. 2, at the old Mendon airport, Route 16.*

The bicentennial quilt is made up of 20 squares including patchwork and embroidery work, depicting many of the historical spots in town.

Some of the squares will include the following designs, Historical Museum, Main Street; the old store and postoffice, Taft Public Library, Founders Park (plaque), Lake Nipmuc, trolley, King Phillip War boulder, Unitarian Church, minuteman, Indian, the Morrison Home, one of the oldest homes in town and the Henry P. Clough School.

Members of the Kraft Klub working on the quilt include Maude Clough, Martha Lowell, Gladys Morrison, Rita Paddock, Ernestine Phipps, Ann Boudreau, Helen Taylor, Lorna Rhodes and Helen Congdon.

Anyone interested in tickets should contact any of the above committee members. They will also be on sale Saturday at the lawn party.

News Briefs

Members of the Mendon Bicentennial Commission have extended thanks to several local merchants who donated door prizes for the gala bicentennial ball, sponsored by the committee, and held at Lakeview Ballroom earlier this month. They include Stanley Gardner, florist; Mendon Greenhouses, Mendon Royal Pizza, Warren's Barber Shop; Milly Mitchell's N.E. Steak House, Lowell's Dairy and Fred's Package Store.

* Country Fair Oct. 9
won by an Upton woman, Mrs. Carron

WASHINGTON, D.C. (AP) - WHEN AMERICAN COLONISTS TURNED THEIR DEFIANT "NO TAXATION WITHOUT REPRESENTATION" INTO A GREAT RALLY CRY, THEY WERE PAYING ABOUT \$1.20 PER CAPITA YEARLY IN TAXES TO THE BRITISH CROWN. (200 YEARS LATER) 2

...THE WAY I FIGURE IT, WE CAN PAY OUR PROPERTY TAX IF WE SELL OUR CAR AND WE CAN PAY OUR INCOME TAX IF WE SELL OUR PROPERTY...

NEWS ITEM:
LIN ROBERTS
MONROE, CONN.

