

KELLY'S CORNER

by Jan Kelly

The peepers are late this year, April 2nd. This follows the schedule of January bringing the first snow. When the seasonal clock begins late, it continues late. First snow in January can bring you snow late into April, the temperature is the clock of nature, so consider the spring peepers "on time" whatever the date.

We in the sophisticated twentieth century try to reschedule nature with nursery-ready plants exotics and pre-grown sod. I think the regreening of Provincetown is the most ambitious of all in this reforestation, reflation of town. Blacktop is the enemy. Treeless, plantless, flowerless blacktop makes regreening members' eyes gleam with possibilities. The latest venture is the Fishermen's Memorial Park at the parking lot at MacMillan Pier. Regreening dovetails with the Provincetown Beautification Committee and the balance of talent and insight of both groups works well together and works well for Provincetown. This particular undertaking of the Fishermen's Memorial Park is ambitious and requires contracting coordination. Barbara Rushmore of regreening and Bill Whitney of beautification, have by representation of each group, formed a feasible plan for the project.

The Fishermen's Memorial Park will be the continuation of the master plan leading from Lopes Square, a completed part of the plan. In the MacMillan parking lot, south side facing the harbor will be set, raised flower beds of wood construction, 8' x 4'. Trees will also be planted. This is the modest start. More flower beds with seating will be planted as the budget allows. The statuary commemorating those fishermen lost at sea will then be placed.

Mal Newman has submitted his work to the arts, a four-man piece of statuary realizing four types and periods of fisherman and reminiscent of the *Burghers of Calais* by Rodin in Calais, France. The plan is to have several pieces of statuary commemorating fishermen and also to have a fountain. The seating will be such that people can look out at the harbor and its activity or look toward town to tourist-watch or look for awaited friends. This park will continue the environment begun at Lopes Square where the benches and greenery there, lead you to the next respite. The idea is for this environment to continue through

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the parking lot and on towards Town Hall and Ryder Street. This loop will be a pleasant area for relaxing and will subdue the noise and litter that barren places fall prey to.

At 10:00 Tuesday morning, Frank Hurst, master plumber, met with Barbara and Bill to discuss and finalize the planning of a water source for the plantings in this park. Frank is an old hand at it with more than 50 years in the business and the only thing he knows better, is jokes. There is no entertainment tax on his bills but there could be and a lot easier to pay than plumbing bills. Who wouldn't rather spend their money on humor than hardware?

Frank Hurst will now team up with the water department to complete the water supply faction of



proud granddad Frank Hurst



Halcyone

the project. By the way, watch out for Frank Hurst's 7 year old granddaughter, Halcyone. She not only looks like her grandpa, but has that same string of jokes. She can hold you up on Commercial Street with 10-15 minute long variations on the chicken crossing the road or the elephant footprints in your refrigerator jokes. I wonder if little Halcyone wants to be a plumber, too. It's a good combination.

Are you wondering about the name Halcyone? From Greek mythology, Halcyone threw herself into the sea when her husband drowned. In sympathy the gods changed Halcyone and her husband Ceyx into kingfishers or halcyones. The breeding time for kingfishers is winter solstice, December 21st. Zeus forbade the winds to blow for seven days before and after winter solstice, to ensure a safe and peaceful breeding. Hence, the expression "Halcyone Days." Days of peace. But little Halcyone is named for her grandmother and auntie. Grandma was Halcyon Cabral before she married Frank Hurst and we all know the Cabral penchant for unusual names: Reginald, Earl, Vaughn, Candice, Brock, Thadd, Crane, Ashley, Gretchen, Courtney, Kabral, and Hurst. They are set apart and special from birth.

Plumbing faction discussed and mapped out, Barbara Rushmore went on to a regreening meeting. The regreening is about to incorporate with the guidance of attorney Peter Campbell. The by-laws will be revised and a liaison person will be chosen for regreening and beautification. Officers were elected: Ghee Patrick, chairman; Wendy Hackett Everett, treasurer; and

Paula Roda, corresponding secretary. Spring plantings were discussed and plans for Arbor Day.

Arbor Day was first enacted by Julius Sterling Morton of Nebraska in 1872. It is nationwide and is most usually celebrated with school children planting trees. The exact date varies from state to state because of local climates and planting seasons. In Massachusetts it is celebrated on the last Friday in April. The group will go to Weston Nurseries to inspect and purchase trees. If you want to volunteer to help with the plantings or have any suggestions for possible plantings, Barbara Rushmore would welcome your call and interest.

I was told the aspirin bottle was literally grabbed at the library last Thursday since the count of toddlers at 10-11 story time peaked at 35. Ear plugs and aspirin next week.

Provincetown has become so political this spring that Reagan and his Iran arms sales would fit in barely noticed.

And congratulations, Francis and Mimi Alves on their 50th, their golden wedding anniversary. Francis and Mimi were born 6 hours apart and less than a mile apart. It has been a long, steady, and happy relationship. They now live in the house Francis was born in. They lived in Mimi's for years before. Francis is a surveying engineer and Mimi, a teacher. Now both retired, you can see them early mornings; as you're heading out, they are returning from their nature walk. So the 26th of April is a special day for the Alves, 50 years of marriage. We of Provincetown wish you 50 more years of the same.