

Heritage Commission 2020 TOWN REPORT

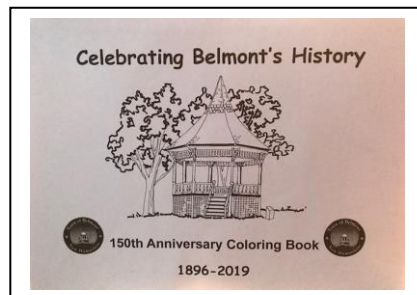


Last year March came in like a lion and left us with a pandemic that shut down our everyday lives. We can't help but look back

We cancelled our February and March meetings and then held meetings outside in the spring and summer. The Mill provided a nice open space in the cooler fall months, and we just kept making safe, but slow steps in continuing our projects to combine the old with the new in supporting the heritage of Belmont.

Our specially designed Coloring Book, which was created to teach 4th graders at Belmont Elementary School of what the Town of Belmont was like years and years ago.

A special presentation was to be given to the students from a heritage member but the books were mailed out instead to the students who had to work remotely.



Community Heritage Awards were still presented, but from a distance. The awards were given to Gretta Olsen- Wilder, Polly Murphy and Raine Wilkins for bringing special aspects of their background to enhance the town's history.



Gretta Olsen-Wilder

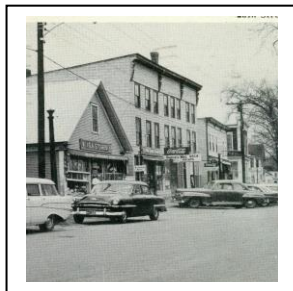


Pauline Murphy



Raine Wilkins

A special Heritage project, years in the making, proved to be very endearing. The interviewing and videotaping of several elder members of Belmont gave us wonderful insight and stories from the past. The answers they gave to questions about how the town has changed, what it was like going to school and growing up in Belmont were interesting and sometimes very humorous. Then the videotaping of interviews had to stop in 2020. We are creating a questionnaire that will be mailed out to continue gathering information from residents who want to provide past knowledge of their families and their stories from long ago. This historical video project and data collection will be available to the schools and the town library when completed.





**So here's to this March, which hopefully goes out like a lamb and brings us
a community of healthy and safe months ahead.**

Heritage Commission Members

Vicki Donovan (Chairman)
Jack Donovan

Claire Bickford (Vice -Chairman)
Jillian Rolfe

Priscilla Annis (Secretary)
Ben Rolfe

Sonny Patten, Jr. (Ex- Officio) **Victoria Riberio** (B.H.S. Student Rep.)