

# Seeking grant for bike racks

**by Faye Raymond**

Bicycle racks at Proctor School will be replaced, thanks to the efforts of the local Topsfield Rail Trail Committee. When Proctor School Principal Kerry Kaplon was discussing the possible rerouting of the proposed rail trail behind the school, he pointed out the deplorable condition of the bicycle racks that are used by students each day. They are stationed beside the school for those who ride their bicycles to class each day.

In discussions with the Metropolitan Area Planning Council MAPC, it was discovered that grants are available for communities to install bicycle racks in town. All that will be needed is some community funding to ship

the newly fabricated bicycle racks to Topsfield, Rail Trails Committee Chairman Joe Geller told the selectmen last week.

So with the approval to seek a \$1,614 grant, the town would be able to secure six bicycle racks, four racks for the Proctor Elementary School, one for Steward Elementary School, and another to be located behind town hall.

The Recreation Commission will pay for the shipping, and the Park and Cemetery Commission has agreed to take care of the installation of the new fixtures.

Geller pointed out that this endeavor has nothing to do with their proposal to build and maintain a bicycle and walking trail on the former railbed that runs through town.