Alternative Transportation Champion: Peter H. Dudley

Vital Information: Greenfield resident, Artist, 73 1/2

I bicycle mostly all over Greenfield to family, and to Foster’s Market. I walk, but I hate walking, and call it “trudging.”

I have been a constant cyclist since age nine when I was given a lovely Raleigh sports: black, “brooks” leather saddle, fully enclosed chain guard, generator lights from the hub – nobody in 1949 except the French and Italians knew what a drop bar road bike was. I bought a Raleigh “Lenton” racing bike in college – no underclassmen were allowed to keep cars on campus.

I have to keep myself moving – if I want to live at least 20 more years. I can put over a hundred dollars worth of groceries on my cycle in 4 saddlebags front and rear – and a rack pack.

Know the rules of the road. Remember that as a cyclist you are totally invisible to many drivers – or that you are a pedestrian. Don’t ever “push it” with moving motorists. I’ve cycled in: Providence, RI; Durham, Dover, and Portsmouth, NH; western MA; and greater Hartford. Most people are considerate if you are observant and patient. Worst case scenarios: 1) Being “door-ed.” A driver, parked parallel, may open their car door in your path. 2) A driver may pull past you and turn right immediately in front of you.

You can do it too! To learn how, visit massbike.org