

# CHILMARK

JANE N. SLATER  
645-3378  
(slaterjn@capecod.net)

There is an interesting article in this month's Yankee Magazine about the deaf people of Chilmark. The author, Jamie Kageleiry, interviewed Joan Poole Nash, who has studied the subject, and using her extensive knowledge of the Chilmark deaf folk along with pictures of her signing, described the life of the deaf people in Chilmark in the 18th and 19th centuries. The article, *The Island That Spoke by Hand*, is illustrated with photos taken by Doug Mindell and includes a picture of Joan's great grandmother, Emily Poole, who taught Joan her first lessons in sign language. Some of us still remember having deaf friends and relatives in Chilmark and the ease with which we communicated with them. Joan Poole Nash is the daughter of Everett and Virginia Poole of Quitsa.

VINEYARD GAZETTE

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1999