

# Amherst Island BEACON



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## THIS ISSUE

- Ian Murray, editor

A lot of good material came in this month. I am tucking away some articles for another time.

We intend to use more photos from now on - please keep sending them in..

Laurie at the Store tells me that family charts appear to sell issues. Unfortunately there isn't room this month.

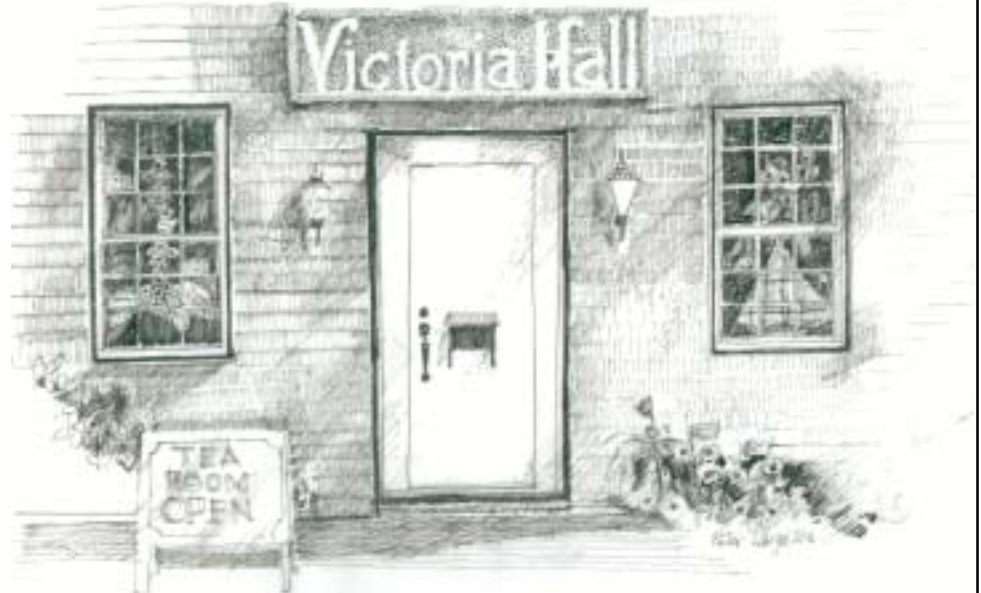
I am grateful to all our contributors but especially to Zander Dunn whose offerings in recent issues capture the feeling of what this Island community was like not that long ago. As I read through his interview with Vera, I realized that there is material there for a whole Beacon with photos and more in-depth coverage of Vera's life and that of her family and friends. Perhaps Dick Dodds will follow his "Schoolhouse Remembered" with articles based on the classroom registers of the period covered in Vera's interview.

Ads are free to Island residents and non-Island ads are not included with exceptions made on a case to case basis. Introductory ads/notices can be long enough to explain your offering but subsequent ads should be as brief as possible.

Please send photos to Tom and everything else to me. My policy is to reply to each e-mail so that the sender knows it arrived. If you don't hear back from me in a day or 2, please follow-up with another e-mail or a phone call.

We at the Beacon strive to keep material out that is controversial in a personal sense. Occasionally, something slips by and offence is caused. Opinions that are not in the nature of personal attacks - direct or indirect - are welcomed. For example, I have stated a few opinions in my "Here and There" article below. Those who disagree or have a different slant are encouraged to send in written comments.

It is a good sign of the health of this



Victoria Hall

Peter Large, SCA

community that the WI, AIMS, ISLE, ACW, PCW, and several other organizations are thriving with the infusion of those who have moved here and wish to contribute their time and energy in various good works.

## NELSON EVES - A PERSONAL REMEMBRANCE

- Leslie Gavlas

I was saddened to read of the death of Nelson Eves, long-time operator of the Simcoe Island Ferry. I never knew him personally, but learned of his exploits from our neighbours, the James Eves' family soon after we moved here in 1956. In those days, once the ice took, the ferries tied up for the winter. A trip to town involved crossing the "ice bridge".

Once it was thick enough a "safe" route was marked with discarded Christmas trees. Islanders often enjoyed the situation as it freed them of the ferry schedule. Workers used old cars without doors and many of us drove with the doors unlatched - just in case!

The ice at Amherst Island was safer than

that at Wolfe and most winters one or more cars went through the ice at Wolfe Island. I don't recall many fatalities. When a car was lost, Nelson Eves got the call. He had a reputation of retrieving cars even in deep water.

In 1963 my husband, joyriding, went through the ice near the Brothers Island where the current weakened the ice. He crossed to Lemoine Point where he was allowed to call home for friends to come and get him. Soon after, on a bright cold day, Nelson Eves arrived with his equipment. A group of men went along to help, including the Anglican priest with his camera. A memorable expletive escaped Billy Bulch when he suggested that the camera be put aside and help given. The car was hauled home, dried, treated to a couple of oil changes, and ran fine.

Nelson Eves was married to Dorothy McGinn's twin sister Doris. He was well known and respected on Amherst Island and will be widely mourned.

[Staff: Mr. Eves was a first cousin of Grace Eves.]

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## NEIGHBOURHOOD

- Lyn Fleming

Get Well wishes this month to Joyce Morgan and Jean Tugwell. Congratulations to Gary and Anne-Marie Hitchins on the birth of their new grandson, Trent, born to daughter Heidi and her husband Terry.

The annual Remembrance Day service was held at A.I.P.S. on November 11th. ISLE held a very poorly attended Community Breakfast earlier this month. ISLE raises a lot of money for extras and supplements to the school allocations as well as field trips, hot lunch program, milk program and much more. It's too bad ISLE fund raisers aren't better supported by the community.

Congratulations to Karen Miller who is now branch supervisor of the Bath Library as well as the one in Stella.

Congratulations to Andrew McDonald, Kyle Murray and Shawna Phillips who were recognized as Ontario Scholars at the NDSS graduation ceremonies.

The Rec. Association joined forces with the A.I. Emergency Services Committee to put on the first Festival of Lights parade the night of the annual Fall Bonfire. There were 4 floats well decorated and lit, private vehicles, fire and rescue vehicles and the school bus. As someone said, "even the fire trucks were more impressive in the dark with lights flashing". Plans are already in the works for next year's parade!

The Holiday season is upon us as indicated by the PCW's annual and popular Tea and Sale on November 23rd.

AIMS held an "Antiques Road Show" at the Community Hall this month. The swans are back at "the Foot" some days & the silver fox has become quite visible again.

And finally, THE FRONTENAC II is back!! Much to the delight of everyone, but especially the daily commuters. The Quinte Loyalist turned out not to be as bad as expected and most "walk-ons" liked the passenger cabin better than the Frontenac's. Driving skills were tested as we maneuvered into the tight spots in order to get as many vehicles on as possible, bringing back memories (some fond, some not) of the Amherst Islander.

Happy Holidays and safe traveling to everyone coming to or leaving the Island over this busy month. \*\*\*\*



## WOMEN'S INSTITUTE - Nancy Dunn

Fifteen members of the Amherst Island Women's Institute gathered around the somewhat extended dining room table at the South Shore home of Kirsten Bennick for their regular meeting on Wed. 20 Nov. After the opening of Ode, Collect and the singing of O Canada the roll call was answered by a description (and sometimes photocopies) of a favourite Christmas recipe. These ranged from goose potatoes, a seasonal dish popular among Islanders of Irish descent, to peppermint patties chosen by a New Brunswick native as a typical "yummy" of that area. Not surprisingly, most of the selections were for sweets!

The minutes and financial reports were accepted and several thank-you letters were read. Nancy Henshaw and Mary Kay Steel gave a brief account of their attendance at



The AIWI 2003 calendar, with all artwork by Island artists. It shows a plethora of Island information, meetings, events, meteor showers, moon phases, etc., and is now available by phone (389-1320) and at the AI General Store. Get yours today!

the "Phone Busters" presentation by a constable of the OPP in Napanee on 21 October. The FWIO (Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario) was a co-sponsor of the program which dealt with the proliferation of scams and frauds by telephone and e-mail. Among other schemes we are cautioned to be on the look-out for requests for help from people who claim to be having trouble getting large sums of money out of several African states. Since 1995 about \$40 million have been bilked out of citizens by telemarketing fraud. 80% of those cheated have been seniors. The callers are very persuasive and very slick. Beware!

Jackie Sylvester presented a mock-up of the "Island Sights" calendar which the group is producing. It is now on sale at the General Store with orders available through WI. members as well. Featuring paintings, drawings and photographs by Amherst Island residents this 2003 calendar has many local events listed and space to write your own appointments. A great gift or keepsake for \$8.00. Supply is limited so don't delay.

It was reported that seven WI members followed fire-fighter Tom Richmond at the head of the festival of lights parade on the blustery evening of 16 Nov. They carried lights and our banner, sang songs and of course waved to the hardy souls lining the route. Besides being on the emergency response team and a part of the Beacon publishing team, our local electrician, the multi-talented Tom, helped create the above-mentioned calendar on his computer and designed our flashy yellow T-shirts which advertise the giant WI. book sale to take place in August 2003. We appreciate all Tom's help.

Two happenings in the nearer future had a prominent place on the agenda: the Antique Road Show in aid of the AIMS museum project on 24 Nov., at which the WI. is providing a food concession and the annual Seniors Dinner on 1 Dec. Both these events will likely be in the past by the time this goes to print. We hope all who participated enjoyed themselves.

When the business portion of the meeting was finished and God Save the Queen had been sung the tables were cleared of notes and reports and recipes to make way for an all too brief session of Christmas craft-making which was not your

ordinary run-of-the-mill stuff. Led by Jackie Sylvester who came well prepared with all the trappings we constructed treats for the birds by using Christmas cookie cutters to fashion the shapes out of bread and then coating them with various types of seeds. While our masterpieces baked in the oven we indulged ourselves in delicious treats for humans provided by Kirsten and Elsie Willard.

The next meeting of the A.I.W.I. will be our Christmas potluck supper and party at St. Paul's church hall on Wed. 11 Dec. at 6 p.m. and the January meeting will be on the 15th. Former Island resident and W.I. member, Jean Baker, will tell us about her trip to Antarctica. All women welcome.

BEST WISHES TO EVERYONE FOR A HAPPY, SAFE HOLIDAY SEASON AND A GOOD 2003.



## Amherst Island Public School News

- Lyn Fleming

ISLE arranged and prepared a float for the Festival of Lights parade and worked with students to decorate it. AIPS students rode on the float in the parade.

Retired teacher and coach, John Hall, held a volleyball clinic for senior class students. He brought 6 students from J.R. Henderson P.S. and did a half day workshop, teaching volleyball skills to our students in preparation for the upcoming Volleyball Tournament in December.

Amherst Island Public School will hold its 2nd annual Christmas dinner for family and friends of A.I.P.S. this month. Guests will be served a traditional Christmas dinner and enjoy entertainment by the students.

Students from the Senior Class will perform at the A.I.W.I.'s annual Senior's Dinner on December 1st.

Children from grades JK to 8 participated in the Health Unit's Jingle Bell Run, held through-out the District on November 29th. Students are given a jingle bell to tie on their coats in return for a food item for the Food Bank, then head out for a walk through the Village "with bells on". This

year's walk took place during our mini-blizzard on the morning of the 29th. Following the walk, hot chocolate awaited as students prepared for the monthly Recognition Awards assembly.

Congratulations to Laurel Brady for her winning design of the Amherst Island P.S. new mascot! We will now be known as the Amherst Island Wave. The wave is significant to our school because - everyone waves on Amherst Island, the waves that crash around our Island and for a wave's ability to roll over and over-power things that get in it's way!

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## JANET'S JOTTINGS

- Janet Scott

We are entering the last month of 2002 and a very busy birding time of year it is. All over North America Christmas Birdcounts will be taking place. The annual census of birds has been occurring for over 100 years and here on Amherst Island we will be counting on Monday, December 30th so if you can help, watch those feeders that day or meet me at the 7:30 ferry to take on

assigned routes with all eyes watching every nook and cranny for our feathered friends. If Owls are your interest then there will be a Kingston Field Naturalists' trip to Amherst Island looking for Owls on December 8th and they'll be on the 8:30 ferry. With all those eyes checking the cedars and pines if there are saw-whets there they'll be found.

I saw my first saw-whet on October 14th and I know there have been as many as 6 Saw-whets and 4 Long-eared reported in the woods although they are finding owl remains along the trails again this year. I have not seen a Snowy yet but I know Will Reed will probably beat me to that sighting as he usually does each fall. Ida Gavlas phoned me to alert me to the seven Swans a-swimming near their shore so watch again this fall for those magnificent birds. Last year down by Garry Filson's or Sneep's was a good place to spot them. These Tundra Swans have made an amazing comeback in this area. Samuel de Champlain reported Swans nesting in the Loughborough Lake area in 1615. In the years between 1853-1877, 17,671 swans were slaughtered on their breeding grounds



*Morning Run, by Fred Werthman.*

This limited edition print, numbered and signed by the artist, is available for \$25 from the Amherst Island Emergency Services Assoc. (phone Tom Richmond at 634-1855). It is in full colour, measures 18" by 22", and is printed on high-quality stock. Own a piece of Island history: This is a beautiful rendition of the *M.V. Amherst Islander*, shown as it is forced through the winter ice in the Bay of Quinte by a tugboat.

There are only a few of these prints left. They make excellent gifts!

and sold by the Hudson Bay Company for their breast feathers so it's not surprising their numbers dwindled. Chris Kennedy reports a Cattle Egret was seen out their way. It likes short grass so sheep are acceptable as companions as well as cattle. The Cattle Egret migrated to South America in about 1880. Birds from Columbia and Guyana pushed northwards and by 1976 were the largest heron breeder along the Atlantic coast. In 1968 Cattle Egrets nested on Pigeon Island and after the decline of heronries there in 1980 due to the killing of the Lilacs by bird droppings, they were found on Little Galoo Island. One of their favourite places to feed is Amherst Island.

I was checking out gulls among the cattle I could see from the road's garage using my binoculars last May because I had heard there might be a Cattle Egret there. When I couldn't spot it I made the comment to my Granddaughter, "Well Rachel they look like all gulls to me!" She replied "Grandma, they're cows." After that for awhile I noticed that she kindly identified cows for me whenever we passed them on Island roads. Poor old Grandma doesn't know a cow. Good Birding!  
PS to Janet's Jottings

November 27th. 4:30pm three Short-eared Owls in fields opposite Road's Garage

## COUNCIL GLEANINGS

- Ian Murray

"The Treasurer, Mr. Ross Troop, indicated that he wanted to publicly, formally and sincerely thank Council for the job opportunity they had provided him over the last 15 years. He noted that he always knew he had the support of Council, that Council created a positive working environment and is a group that works well together. He felt that the Department Heads team works well together also. He advised that there were no negative issues for his leaving but that he simply was looking for a change."

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Wanting to check up on a zoning requirement, I went to the Loyalist Township web site,

"www.loyalist\_township.on.ca", and was able to go into the Zoning By-law and find

what I wanted. This website is easy to use and should make Township information convenient to acquire for those with internet access.

I was excited to see that I could access the approved minutes of Council meetings as this would mean I wouldn't have to depend on someone remembering to pick up the Beacon's copy at the ferry. My excitement dampened considerably when I discovered that the most recent minutes were for August 26.

My only other criticism is that the map of Amherst Island shows a very fanciful road layout.

The problem with web pages is keeping them up to date which is what I should do with our farm web page as soon as this Beacon is completed.



Cliffside on the South Shore

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This year's Ameriks Scholarship money consisted of: \$598.71, interest; \$95.00, Amherst Island Women's Institute; and, \$2000.00 from South Shore Enterprises (Amherst) Ltd. The recipients are: Helen Bell-Smith, Sir Sanford Fleming College; Jill S. Caughey, U. of Guelph; Stephanie K. A. Fleming, St. Lawrence College; Brennan Kilpatrick, St. Lawrence College; Bonnie Marshall, York University; Scott Marshall, St. Lawrence College; Andrew McDonald, Queen's University; Keith McGinn, Georgian College of Applied Technology; Jacob Bowen Murray, U. of Waterloo; Kyle Leith Murray, U. of Guelph; Shawna

Phillips, Queen's University; and Sara Pollock, U. of Ottawa. Each of these students will receive \$224.47.

## Amherst Island Men's Society

- Neil Johnston and Peter Trueman

More than 25 members attended the November AIMS meeting, which opened with applause for Doug and Gayla Williamson on their recent wedding and congratulations to Peter Trueman for his receiving his Order of Canada in Halifax.

The Neilson store museum and cultural project was discussed, but since the Museum Committee has now been incorporated as a separate entity, AIMS has no formal connection with the project beyond the continuing commitment to raise funds for it.

Bruce Burnett reported that he and Andrea Cross attended an Eastern Ontario Heritage Structures Restoration Project (EOHSRP) presentation. The audience consisted of industry people, building owners and trades people. Peter Freud told the attendees that there were no standards or guidelines or records kept for this type of work in Canada, but that a draft #4 was in the works and that it could be studied on 'their' website. Dianne Ross announced that since January 01, 2002, there was a property tax relief program in place with funding coming from the Federal Cultural Ministry. Brian Anthony of the Heritage Foundation told the audience that there has been a 25% loss of heritage buildings in recent years. Don Pepper told the membership that the Neilson Store has been 'winterized.'

Marc Raymond spoke of final plans for AIMS' Antiques Road Show on November 24<sup>th</sup> from noon to 6:00PM. A sign-up sheet was circulated for volunteers to help with set-up, ticket sales, traffic flow, assist AIWI and clean-up. Ross Haines offered to provide name tags and necessary signage.

Under new business, Paul Lauret urged the membership to compare their May and June Hydro bills to discover how they are changing the ground rules. By consensus it was agreed that it was not within AIMS mandate to go public on this subject.

Hugh Jenney advised that plans for the

AIMS sponsored New Year's Dance are well underway and that tickets would be available soon.

In keeping with AIMS practice, member Stanley Burke then shared something of his life and interests in a short 15 minute talk.

Stanley began by thanking members and other Islanders for the prayers and moral support they had offered during his recent heart operation. He and his wife Peggie Coulter had discovered Amherst Island, he said, when they had come down from Toronto to visit Stanley's old friends, Eleanor and Peter Trueman, on a New Year's Eve some years ago.

His path to the Island had been a long one. Before going into the Navy in 1943, Stanley had worked for six months at the Vancouver Province newspaper and was "rather taken by it". He decided at that point that he would return to journalism after the war.

He served in a Fairmile class anti-submarine ship in the western Atlantic until late in the war when he transferred to Motor Torpedo boats in the English Channel. Stanley asked AIMS members to imagine putting 5,000 horsepower and a three-quarters of a ton of explosives under "a bunch of kids". In the channel, he learned something of the strange nature of war. He couldn't recall anyone having uttered a single patriotic word, or a word against the enemy, who were "bloody good", as Stanley put it. The German boats, which would do 47 knots fully loaded, were much better than the Allied equivalent.

After the war he did return to the newspaper business, and he soon won a scholarship to the UN, which gave him a one month internship in New York. He credits the scholarship with prompting The Vancouver Sun to send him to Ottawa and the Parliamentary Press Gallery. Early in his career, Stanley was captivated by a pamphlet that came across his desk by a man named Marshall McLuhan, and he wrote a column about it. He got to know Prof. McLuhan very well after that and became a convert to his thinking. The reason he'd been unable to join AIMS earlier, Stanley said, was that until quite recently he had been working on a book which is really a continuation of McLuhan's thinking. It was in New York, at the UN, that Stanley first met Peter and Eleanor.

He recalled his most memorable experience as a UN correspondent for the CBC. Stanley chuckled wryly as he told how he was improperly cued by a floor director and wound up cursing, on air, coast to coast. It happened during the beginning of the war in the Congo when they were broadcasting live into the news and news specials, and there was a lot of pressure. On one occasion, when he was given the signal to start speaking, he could hear James M. Minifie speaking from Washington in his ear piece. Startled by what he was certain was the wrong instruction, he blurted something like "Christ Almighty, don't cue me!" into a live mike.



Stanley Burke at work

Forty years ago, Canadians weren't as sophisticated as they are now, and Stanley's outburst became a national sensation. He was surprised to receive a letter bearing the imprimatur of the Moderator of the United Church of Canada, and he opened it fearing the worst. But he needn't have worried. The Rev. James Ralph Mutchmor was a man of the world, and he apparently concluded that Stanley had suffered enough criticism. In any event, the letter merely stated how much he admired Stanley's work.

Stanley also recalled how as President of UNCA (the United Nations Correspondents Association), he had been present at a dinner given for heads of state. The Soviet leader, Nikita Khrushchev was humiliated because he couldn't understand what British Prime Minister Harold Macmillan was saying over cocktails. This led to the famous incident in the General Assembly in which Mr. Khrushchev pulled off a shoe and banged it on the desk at his place in the Soviet delegation while Mr. Macmillan was speaking. The Prime Minister stopped, and

merely looked as if he was thinking "that's rather barbaric, isn't it?"

Then he went on with his speech. When Mr. Khrushchev pounded the desk again, Mr. Macmillan brought the house down by asking for a translation. It was "wit triumphing over pugnacity" in Stanley's view.

Stanley's next move was to Paris, as CBC correspondent there. He covered the war of independence in Algeria and came very close to losing his life. He and his crew had just filmed the massacre of 79 unarmed civilians, when one of the killers jammed an assault rifle in Stanley's ribs and demanded the film. Stanley hung on to the film and somehow survived. A Battle of Britain pilot who was a witness to this event later told Stanley that he had seen a lot of men die in his time and he had never been more sure that he was about to see another one.

Eventually, Stanley was appointed to anchor the CBC National News in Toronto, the first real journalist to be given the job. But a weak management had given in to the announcers' and newsmen's unions, and Stanley wasn't allowed to use his journalistic expertise and judgement. He could only read what the unionized news writers put in front of him.

Stanley said that one of his greatest accomplishments as a journalist had to do with the way drivers' licenses were issued in Alberta. Under the existing regulations at that time, Stanley had managed to obtain drivers' licenses for a dog, a goat and a dead duck, and he trumpeted this accomplishment in his newspaper at that time, the Edmonton Bulletin. As a result, the law was changed.

Stanley closed with his recollection of covering a Vatican Council in Rome. He had the camera tilt up to the top of Michelangelo's dome on top of St. Peter's to the crucifix. Stanley was amused to note that above the crucifix workmen had affixed a lightning rod, "not really an act of faith", he concluded, "but reflecting the church's acceptance of realities that had kept it alive for 2000 years".

The meeting adjourned with Don Pepper offering to chair the December 14<sup>th</sup> meeting and Gian Frontini and Bob Thompson agreeing to handle kitchen duties. Speakers on deck are Ed Mooney and Marc Raymond. All Island men are welcome to attend.



# VERA HOGEBOOM, AN INTERVIEW.



- Zander of Dunn Inn

Kerry Hogeboom's mother, Vera, the daughter of Samuel Miller and Hannah Ashdown Tugwell, was born on February 20, 1911, at home on Amherst Island in a house on the Third Concession which no longer exists. She moved, at the age of one and a half years, a short distance into the house in which Donald and Judy Miller now reside.

Hannah Ashdown Tugwell disliked her middle name. Her grandmother was descended from the Ashdowns of England, an aristocratic family, but she had made the "mistake" of falling in love with the gatekeeper and marrying him. She was, of course, disowned so she and her husband left the Old Country for a new start in Canada. Hannah did not like being reminded of her namesake's unfortunate past and also disliked it when one of her children called her "Hannah Ashpan."

Samuel Miller, who was warden of the county in 1921, was a diligent farmer who also enjoyed socializing. He supplemented his income for two or three years by slaughtering a beef cow and driving around the Island to sell the various cuts. It always took a long time for him to make his rounds because he loved to chat with his customers and, indeed, with anybody he met. When he came home it was Vera's job to wash down and clean up the wagon. And the horse that drew the wagon, accustomed to stopping at every gate, insisted, on other occasions, on halting at those same gates so that Vera and her sisters could never get to their destinations on time.

Vera's house was a big one and was heated with coal from Neilson's Store in the furnace at night and wood cut on their own property in the daytime. The kitchen stove, which burned wood, also was used to heat the house. The house was never cold.

The house never lacked excitement either. The boys of the family - Kenneth, Wilfred, John, Douglas and Donald teased and tormented the girls - Arlene, Dorothy and Vera. There seemed to be no end to

the boys' pranks! They did, however, provide the girls with rides in the car (a 1924 Pontiac) their father bought for the family to use. Sam Miller himself never drove the automobile. He stuck with his beloved horses.

How wonderful were the Miller meals! The family cultivated a big garden which



Vera & Maurice Hogeboom in front of the Neilson Store delivery truck

produced every kind of vegetable and pampered their trees and vines which provided them with a variety of fruits. Bins in the cellar were filled with vegetables. Shelves groaned with bottles of preserves. Seldom, if ever, did the family purchase food at a store - they produced all their own. At various times of the year Vera's father would kill a pig or a cow to help feed the family.

The other meat on the table came from turkeys which were Vera's responsibility. Between 40 and 50 turkeys ranged far and wide - from Albert Henderson's farm to the property where Bill and Annette Phillips live

now. Vera walked miles after those wayward turkeys which would wend their way home in the late afternoon, partly to avoid the red foxes which often grabbed them. Many of those turkeys were sold on the mainland after Vera had spent hours plucking them.

The income from turkeys and geese allowed Vera to purchase new clothes in Kingston. One year she went to Kingston with \$10 and was able to purchase a new dress, hat, stockings and dinner and had \$1 left over when she got home.

Vera attended Public School No. 5 which was on the property where Paul and Carol Glenn now reside on the Third Concession. There were about 25 to 30 scholars from grades one to eight in that building. For Vera the best subjects were "Literature and Composition" in which she excelled. In her last year in Public School No. 5 Vera wrote the High School entrance exams and anxiously waited for days until the results were announced. She won the Women's Institute Prize for the highest marks - a large Oxford Dictionary. Vera continues to consult that dictionary and treasures it as one of her best possessions.

Vera remembers the No. 5 school as freezing cold, except beside the big box stove which roasted anybody who got too close to it. When she entered her teens Vera undertook to do the caretaking work for the school for a year. In winter her dad, knowing how she hated the cold, made one of her brothers get up early to warm up the school enough for her to get her cleaning work done before classes began.

When it came time for her to go to High School, Vera rode in the buggy or cutter driven by A. Bruce Caughey. The lively horses often hit unseen impediments which overturned the cutters. The passengers were thrown out into the snow. Those were the days of deep cold and high snowfalls. The sleighs and cutters drove through the fields and over the fences which nobody could see.

Well over 20 students attended the high school on Stella Point, now "The Lodge,"

owned by Molly Stroyman.

All the schools competed in many events at the fall fair. Various displays and marches were organized to keep the kids alert. The adults competed with pies, vegetables, livestock and horse races. Vera's mother baked until two in the morning the night before the Fair and her father polished up the brass fittings on the horses' tackle. At the fall fair Vera would meet and mingle with all the other kids on the Island. No doubt she met Maurice Hogeboom who attended Public School No.3. She also encountered him weekly at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church. Later she went to High School with Maurice but disliked him then.

The young people of the island would attend the family dances at Victoria Hall and in the winter they would drive over the ice by sleigh to dance in Bath. In the summer the youths would go to the dance pavilion in Collins' Bay. One night several young people were stranded there by a sudden storm. Vera remembers the kindness of the pavilion owner who brought out pillows and blankets for them to sleep in. She can only wonder at the worry their absence must have caused their parents.

A special ball was held every November in Victoria Hall. It was important that each young lady who attended the dance should have a new dress. To raise money to buy their new dresses all the girls along the Third Concession went into the cranberry bog back of where Kelly and Maureen McGinn now live. There the Miller girls diligently picked cranberries until they had gathered over 100 pounds of fruit. The men of the families took the cranberries to Kingston to sell. The money from the sale of the berries was used to purchase the new dresses which the young women flaunted at the big dance.

Another place where young people gathered to socialize was St. Paul's Presbyterian Church. There were two worship services each Sunday, a Youth Group meeting every week and a weekly Bible Society meeting where the young people learned the answers to two catechisms. The youths also performed plays both on the Island and on the mainland. In one play Vera had a large



Frontenac II off Stella Dock

DT Photo

speaking part but woke up on the day of the performance with laryngitis. Despite Vera's protests, Min Caughey (A. Bruce Caughey's mother), who was in charge of the play, applied frequent hot linseed poultices to Vera's neck so that by curtain time she was able to tread the boards and speak clearly and strongly.

Maurice Hogeboom (for years the chief clerk at Neilson's Store) and Vera Miller were married in 1939 after going together for ten years. The Rev. R.K. Earls officiated at their wedding on August 26, in St. Paul's Presbyterian Church. The reception for about 70 people was held inside the Miller home. Vera's mother did all the cooking and baking for the occasion.

Vera was among those involved in the first Garden Party at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church 54 years ago. For 30 years she convened the Candy table before turning it over to her niece, Elaine Wolfreys, who has been in charge ever since. The prices were much lower: hot dogs cost 10 cents; bread was 5 cents a loaf; a bar of sunlight soap sold for a nickel.

Vera has seen many changes on the Island. There are so many new people! Vera thinks the Saturday morning market is a good idea and tries to patronize the various tables.

Vera lives in her house on McDonald's Lane where she enjoys puttering, baking, cooking and entertaining visitors. She is grateful to be able to stay on her beloved Island, thanks to the caring attention of Kerry and his wife, Liz. She's thankful for the kindnesses of nieces, nephews and neighbours and for the help of her special chauffeuse. Quite often she gets into Kingston for shopping and a meal out. She

watches little T.V. but is an avid reader who is pleased there is a good library in Stella. Vera maintains a keen interest in the community

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## HERE & THERE

- Ian Murray

Last week the beacon at the north west tip of Amherst Island was dismantled and moved a few feet to its new location. Apparently it had to be moved as it was 14" (yes, that's inches) outside the property owned by the Crown. There was much coming and going of men, construction equipment and helicopters.

\*\*\*

The Frontenac II returned this morning - November 25 - and was a welcome sight to the majority of Islanders. The boat was in Hamilton - the closest dry dock - for its 5 year inspection followed by little vacation run between Kingston and Wolfe Island.

Senior Captain Earl Willard told me with some pride and, perhaps a bit of wonder, that there was to his knowledge, only one complaint made the whole time the replacement ferry was here; and that was by a fellow trucking cattle. Those using the considerably reduced ferry service did so in good spirit adapting to the situation with maturity and understanding. It has been mentioned to me that the crews did an outstanding job during what must have been a trying time for them.

Captain Willard said that it was a very fortunate that we did not get a real blow down the channel when the Quinte Loyalist was here. However, both Captains Willard and Kilpatrick indicated that the

Quinte Loyalist handled much better than they had feared.

The Frontenac II looks spiffy in new paint and is clean and tidy inside and out.

\*\*\*



I said "majority of Islanders" in the above paragraph deliberately as I realize that there are some people here who prefer a small ferry believing that it discourages people from moving over here. There is an even smaller number who would prefer no ferry service at all. And then there are those who want a bridge to replace the ferry service.

As in all communities, there is a wide range of opinions on all subjects, from the trivial to the important. I have noticed that, for the most part, people underestimate this diversity of opinion believing that the opinions expressed within their circle of friends are shared by the rest of the community.

I say this not to insult anyone, or to cause any strife; just a word of caution to anyone who thinks he or she knows the will of the community on any subject. I say this as someone who served on municipal council for 13 years.

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Another very busy season is drawing to a close for the Island roofers. Amherst is still working on 4 major jobs - residences at Queens University and St. Lawrence College, Joyceville Penitentiary and Trenton Air Base. Covertite is finishing off various projects.

Eric McGinn told me how well the young men from the Island have done in this very demanding occupation.

\*\*\*

On November 21, Don and I marvelled

at the huge traffic jam in Toronto: there was a tractor trailer accident on 401 which blocked several lanes. Then the Gardner and Don Valley came to a halt as well.

There may not be much money in farming but the commute is easy.

## NEILSON STORE MUSEUM & CULTURAL CENTRE INC.

- Paul Lauret (& Ian Murray)

**The first annual general meeting was held at Victoria Hall on Tuesday, November 19, 2002 at 7:00 pm.**

The meeting commenced with the acting President Hugh Jenney welcoming the members. His main concern was communicating with all Islanders, that when Bruce Caughey suggested at a AIMS meeting that we try to save the old Neilson Store, AIMS agreed to try, with the help of all Islanders. AIMS members paid for the incorporation of the Neilson Store Museum and Cultural Centre Inc.

Directors are: Hugh Jenney, president; Gian Frontini, vice-president; David Brady, Allen Caughey, Bruce Caughey, Alan Glenn, Keith Miller, Donald Pepper and Eleanor Trueman, directors. Other officers are: Paul Lauret, secretary; Lyn Fleming, treasurer; and, Peter Moes, membership secretary.

The President informed the members on the following items relating to the Company's business. A) Present funding applications made on behalf of the Company. 1) Canada Heritage Fund - \$55,482.00. An application for \$55,482.00 has been submitted and the members were advised that this application will be the first one to be reviewed in 2003 by the government agency. 2) Loyalist Heritage Committee - \$1,000.00 The Company received a \$1,000.00 cheque from the Loyalist Heritage Committee as a donation for the restoration of the Neilson Store Museum and Cultural Centre. 3) Napanee District Community Foundation There has been no word yet on this application. 4) Ontario Trillium Foundaton - \$75,000.00. There has been no word on this application at this time.

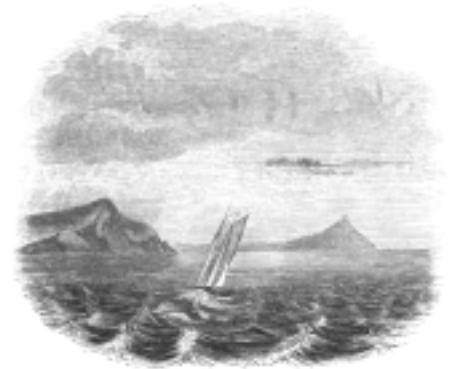
B) The following plans of action were

discussed. 1) Plan A. This plan is based on receiving the donations from both the Ontario Trillium Foundation and Canada Heritage Fund. A five year strategic plan and operating budget was presented to the meeting, of which a copy is attached to these minutes. The project would be carried out by our designated Project Supervisor Don Pepper in conjunction with Gary McDonald, the General Contractor of the project. 2) Plan B. This plan will be an adjusted version of Plan A. This plan is based on the approval of only one donation from either the Ontario Trillium Foundation or the Canada Heritage Fund. 3) Plan C. This plan would be put into effect only if neither of the donations from the Ontario Trillium Foundation or Heritage Canada are granted. In this case a plan will be made to select priorities to the restoration based on available funds. 4) It was pointed out that the roof is in need of repair and that the building should be heated. The President advised the meeting that the Company was now in a position to attend to the necessary repairs immediately.

C) Treasurer's Report. Lyn Fleming reported that the Company had cash on hand of \$3,924.28 as well as \$1,000.00 received from the Loyalist Township. It was noted that the Loyalist Township holds additional funds on behalf of the Company in the amount of approximately \$3,000.00.

Following a discussion of fund raising and other items of interest the meeting was adjourned.

Membership in NSMCC is \$5.00 per year and is open to all Islanders and off-Islanders who have a connection to Amherst Island. So far we have 34 members. Please call our membership secretary, Peter Moes, at 634-2201 to join.





## A SCHOOLHOUSE REMEMBERED

- Dick Dodds

Don't throw out those old textbooks! Don't chop up those old desks! Don't burn those old school pictures! One of the highlights of the restored Neilson's Store will be a permanent display reminding us of the century schoolhouses of the past on Amherst Island and we hope you will share your memorabilia.

Packed away in boxes in the basement or in the barn or in your attic or on your bookshelves, you may have the very things we need to remind us of our past. For example, a few years ago I rescued a century-old teacher's desk and chair from the old Bath Academy. As well, I have a few pupil desks I shall be donating. And, best of all, I bought at Fred Neilson's sale a number of years ago, classroom Registers where all the Amherst Island pupils' names and attendance records were meticulously kept. I know how many times Keith Miller was strapped, how often Helen Marshall was absent from school and the number of times Alan Glenn was suspended (just foolin' about Alan).

Seriously, Beth Forester (389-5582) and I (389-7032) are coordinating the display and we would be pleased to pick up anything you think appropriate for our Century Schoolhouse showing. We are looking for such items as - an original slate chalkboard and frame, chalkboard brushes, wall maps, globes, books and textbooks, the Union Jack, ink wells,



student desks, individual pupil slates, pencil cases, report cards (good ones!), classroom stove, classroom clock, class pictures from the early 1900's, pictures of the Amherst Island schools, etc.. We are especially looking for a picture of Queen Victoria (perhaps someone will see one at a sale or in flea market). **Thank you for looking!**

## LETTER HOME

- Chris Kennedy

When Dianne and I were in Kazakhstan I, inevitably, looked at the farming. Canadian farmers might be having some hard times, but we are doing well compared to the people in Kazakhstan. Before the Soviet takeover much of the population seems to have been nomadic, travelling with their flocks of sheep and horses through the steppe, as they had done for centuries. This appears to have been a surprisingly efficient way of using semi-desert country.

The Soviets settled the people into collective farms, building villages and trying to introduce more intensive agriculture. This may have worked with state control in some of the areas close to the mountains, where irrigation was possible. There were the remains of large scale cattle barns, extensive irrigation channels, and orchards everywhere. It is claimed that the apple was first domesticated in Kazakhstan, and the fruit was certainly very good. Unfortunately without strong central control and pricing the collective farms seem to be coming apart. Many of the barns were empty, and the irrigation ditches dry and broken. I didn't see a tractor that wasn't held together with baling wire, and they all belched black smoke. In some of the villages we saw donkey carts carrying loads of hay. Living in some of the houses when it is -40C must have been pretty grim. Every house was surrounded by a vegetable garden where much of the food is grown. When I asked a Kazakh friend whether they made a living farming she said "They live". She also said that some of the "well-connected" people are taking over land, and are farming it.

In the northeast of the country the Soviets had attempted to grow cotton and wheat on large areas of the steppe, using water that was flowing into the Aral Sea for irrigation. The result of this is one of the ecological

disasters of the world, as the Aral Sea is drying up, leaving a salt desert that is taking over the surrounding steppe. No wonder the Russians launch their satellites from Baikonur in Kazakhstan, as there is little chance of them hitting something if they go wrong.

We did go up into the mountains, where at 10,000 feet there are high pastures that stretch as far as we could see. It seemed that they went right on to Tibet. These are used for summer grazing, and the flocks and herds are moved down the mountains to the lowland for the winter. This pattern of grazing has been used in many parts of the world for centuries. A Golden Eagle flew low over us as we were having a picnic, and it seemed like a separate world.

Now we must get back to farming in Canada. Time to start shipping lambs, now the BIG ferry is back, and soon it will be time to put the rams in.

## THANK YOU

In the context of my Hallowe'en aneurysm anniversary, and having met Jocelyn Leyton at the dump this week, I decided to try and convey my appreciation of this beautiful island and it's inhabitants. There are many pieces in my mental patchwork of appreciation. Only a sample follows:

- early on in our do-it-yourself renovations, Geof Matthews introduced himself & invited us to use his bathroom whenever we wanted;
- Dale & Garnet Willard & a friend pulled our truck out of a snow-filled ditch;
- the ferry crew have been ever-friendly and courteous (even during our blight of old trucks that frequently failed);
- Susie Caughey bringing cakes to John while I was in hospital;
- all of you who, in praying for me, contributed immeasurably to my recovery;
- the Truemans, Albertans & others who supported John throughout his hospital vigil;
- the continuing open friendliness of everyone—including the lovely tradition of waving.

We are truly blessed to have found this

Island home. I am so very grateful for each new day here in such a bountiful human and natural environment. Lynn A'Court

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## ST. PAUL'S CHRISTMAS TEA AND SALE

A special thank-you from St. Paul's to all the Islanders who once again came out to support our Christmas Tea and Sale and to the many who donated and worked so hard at this event. It was a great success and hopefully fun for all.

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## A SPECIAL THANK-YOU

2002 has been a very busy year for the animal shelter and the number of animals needing care and adoption seems to increase so I would like to thank all who have been so kind with donations of clothes and items for the Cats Meow. This is a very important source of funds for the shelter and Amherst Island certainly does a lot for them which is very much appreciated.

Thank-you for helping the animals and a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you all. Freda Youell

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The Amherst Island Rec Association and the Amherst Island Emergency Services Association would like to thank everyone who braved the bitter cold and wind on November 16th to participate or watch the 1st Annual Festival of Lights parade and to those who joined us later for the Bonfire.

Special thanks to the ladies of the Women's Institute who bundled up and walked, with lights a-swinging (!) and to ISLE and the A.I.P.S. students for an amazing float. It was a lot of work planning and organizing, but was well worth it when we saw the parade and especially lots of spectators along the route! Back at the Fire Hall, the hot chocolate and hot dogs were a popular treat as people warmed up, some brave souls ventured out to the Bonfire, but most preferred to watch from the window. Many thanks to Alan Glenn for the entertainment he provided at the Fire Hall.

Again, thanks to all who helped make the evening a success!! See you next year.



## NOTICES



Be sure to reserve your **New Year's Eve Dinner & Dance Ticket soon**. Only \$50.00 per couple (\$25.00 single) for a delicious roast beef dinner followed by last year's two piece band for dancing into the wee hours. **Tickets are available at the General Store, Victoria Hall Crafts and Tea Room and from Hugh or Claire Jenney at 384-7830.** All proceeds for the Neilson Store Museum and Cultural Centre Inc.

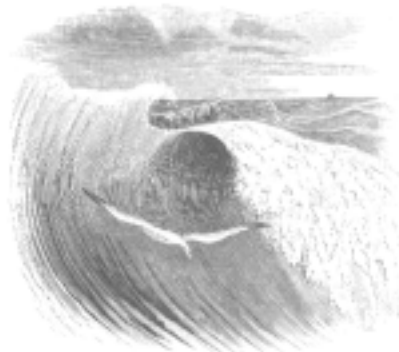
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**Anyone who is considering donating to the Heart and Stroke Foundation**, please wait until the January mailing if you can. The A.I.W.I. will have a specially marked envelope sent out at that time so that credit can go to the Island. Thanks.

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**Happy Anniversary Kitten: 36 to go.**

Love Bob



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## Island Sights 2003 Calendar

Island artists have graciously contributed their visions to the Women's Institute Calendar. Don't miss the boat!! Get your fabulous Island Sights 2003 Calendar before they are all gone.

Our calendar has it all:

- Island art
- our community events and meetings
- moon phases and the best meteor showers
- space for your daily appointments
- holidays.

This calendar is a fund raising project of the Amherst Island Women's Institute.

Available at the Amherst Island General Store & Victoria Hall Tea Room.

To order: please call Jackie at 389-1320 or Freda at 384-4135.

## Book Laundering!

Women's Institute Book Sale – August Civic Holiday, 2003!

When you are clearing out, getting ready for the holidays, the Women's Institute are accepting books towards our fabulous sale next summer. You can get rid of some books and your hubby for a while! We want all books in good condition, (*sorry, no text books*). Donations can be dropped off in the front porch at Freda Youell's (345 Stella Forty-Foot in the village), Judi Harrower (9910 Front Road), or Kirsten Bennick (8875 South Shore Road) or any W.I. member. For more information call Jackie Sylvester at 389-1320. (Hubbies will be returned in the very condition you sent, no substitutions.)

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## A DAY OF CHILDCARE!

Attention Islanders! Would you like a day of experienced care for your children while you finish the last minute Christmas rush? The Amherst Island Pathfinders will be running their annual Babysitting Day at the Amherst Island Community Centre on December 7th from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. \$25.00 a day or \$5.00 an hour. Family rates are available. Pathfinders are First Aid trained or hold Red Cross Babysitting qualifications. For information call Janet Scott 389-4608 or Val Wolfreys 389-8513

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## A Craniosacral and Osteopathic approach to HEALTH CARE -

Cranial-Osteopathy is a very subtle and gentle approach to the whole body. The focus and intention of the Osteopath is to locate the root of the problem and treat the whole person. The natural tendency of the body is to heal itself. Health is the presence of totally free motion and the intention of the Osteopath is to help release the restrictions that prevent this motion. It is an effective and gentle treatment for all ages. Cranial Osteopathy can treat: neck and back pain; headaches; high blood pressure; fatigue; learning disabilities; allergies; anxiety; asthma; arthritis; and, gynecological and gastro-intestinal disorders

I have opened up a treatment space at 9060C Front Road, Stella and will be

working in Amherstview as well. I am a Registered Polarity Practitioner and have been training with the Canadian College of Osteopathy for five years.

Island Fee scale: 1 hr, \$50.00; 1 1/2 hr, \$70.00; 2 hr, \$90.00. Fee is not intended to prevent anyone from receiving a treatment. Receipts may be obtained for tax purposes and applicable to some insurance policies. For an appointment please telephone Jocelyne Leyton 384-6488

### ONE DAY AWARENESS WORKSHOP

This workshop will focus on using the time you have set aside to deepen your concentration skills. We will learn meditative techniques that allow you to develop insight and understanding leading to peace of mind and restfulness in the present moment.

When we develop presence and relax our minds, we can bring a sense of openness, compassion and clarity into any situation.

Time: 9:10 am - 3:40 pm

When: Saturday, December 7, 2002.

Where: 9060C Front Road, Amherst Island

Cost: \$45.00

Registration: as above, 634-6488

**The Amherst Island Community Sunday School** Invites the community to join with it in the presentation of The Nativity Story and the singing of carols on Sunday, December 22nd. at 3:00 pm at the Community Centre.

### From "EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS"

- Paul Blais,

L&A Economic Development Manager

New construction activity in Lennox and Addington County was very strong in the first ten months of 2002. Measuring the value of new construction projects, consider these figures: 1998 (\$22 million), 1999 (\$30 million), 2000 (\$23 million), 2001 (\$21 million) and 2002 (\$30 million).

This figure is most obvious in the number of new housing starts, especially in Amherstview and Bath where homes are being built at twice the rate of last year....

## ST. PAUL'S TALENT NIGHT

- Carol Glenn

A great evening was had by all on Nov. 12 at the 1st (and hopefully annual) St. Paul's Pot-luck supper and Talent night.

The performances were superb; ranging from serious to hilarious and we extend a special thank you to all the stars of the show: St. Paul's Choir, Ashley McGinn, Ben Whitton, Torri Phillips, Beth Albertan, Aaron Sneep, Marlene Kilpatrick, Nancy and Zander Dunn, John Munro and "Bobbie the Clown", Vicki Keith-Munro and Barb Bowman, and to Bev and Bill Harris for the "Grand Finale, a song, 'Amherst Island' which they have written. The lyrics describe our Island beautifully and hopefully this will become an Amherst Island theme song. It is written to the tune of Edelweiss which we are all familiar with. The words are printed below so that it can be shared by all. Again, our thanks to Bev and Bill for writing what will become a permanent piece of island history.

One last special thank-you to Bonnie Caughey who's idea it was to hold a Talent night and who worked so hard to make it happen.

AMHERST ISLE  
Lyrics by Beverley Harris  
2002

Music of "Edelweiss" by  
Richard Rodgers 1959



Amherst Isle, Amherst Isle  
Every season you please me;  
Winter, Fall, hear your call,  
Come, make your home upon me.

Let the winds blow and the ice abound;  
Owls and deer entrance me.  
Amherst Isle, Amherst Isle  
Bless my Island forever!

Amherst Isle, Amherst Isle  
Songs greet me in the mornin',  
Summer, Spring, hear them sing,  
Goldfinch, swallow and robin.

Lilacs and buttercups freely bloom,  
Vibrant and appealing.  
Amherst Isle, Amherst Isle  
Bless my Island forever.

**Loyalist Township Roads and Landfill Division is accepting applications for one (1) full time Operator -Amherst Island Roads and Landfill.** Responsibilities of the position include operating Roads and/or Landfill equipment and providing labour for regular roads maintenance, winter sanding and plowing, landfill operations and other activities.

Duties of this position require availability to report to work on the Island on short notice.

Reporting to the Amherst Island Supervisor-Operator, the successful candidate will have minimum Grade 12 education; possess a valid Class "D" driver's license with Air Brake endorsement (Z), demonstrate ability to operate various types of equipment, experience in and knowledge of road construction and maintenance practices and knowledge of the Occupational Health and Safety Act.

Submit applications to Loyalist Township.

**The Annual Community Christmas Carol Service** will be held this year in St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, on Sunday, December 15th, at 7 p.m. Everyone is welcome.



"Here's a photo of one of my favourite island residents- Tom Miller- in my scary scary basement putting in a new water system. We just bought the house directly to the west of Garnet McDonald, For a caption, how about : "The Man, the Myth, the Dungeon" !??"

Photo by Abigail Connell

## NEWS FROM THE GENERAL STORE

It's hard to believe it's December already and the hustle and bustle of the Christmas season is upon us. Remember to get your letters in to Santa Claus, kids.

Store hours for the Christmas holidays will be:

- \* Tues. Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>: 9 am - 5 pm.
- \* Wed. Dec 25<sup>th</sup>: Closed - Merry Christmas!
- \* Thurs. Dec. 26<sup>th</sup>: 10 am - 5 pm.
- \* Dec 27 - Dec. 30: Regular Hours
- \* Tues. Dec. 31: 9 am - 5 pm.
- \* Wed. Jan 1: Closed - Happy New Year!

Canada Post - Dec. 25 & 26: Closed!  
- Jan. 1: Closed!

These are the latest video rentals we have in right now:

**Men With Brooms** - Leslie Neilson, Paul Gross

**Spiderman** - Tobey Maguire, Kirsten Dunst

**Mr. Deeds** - Adam Sandler

**The Sweetest thing** - Cameron Diaz

**Replicant** - Jean Claude Van Damme

**Changing Lanes** - Ben Affleck, Samuel Jackson

**Star Wars II**

**Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood** - Sandra Bullock, Ashley Judd

**Panic Room** - Jodie Foster

High Crimes - Morgan Freeman, Ashley Judd

From all of us at The Store, we wish everyone a very merry Christmas, good health, happiness, and prosperity in 2003!

Have a great holiday!

### Visit Watercolours Etc.

The studio gallery of Shirley Miller

**We are exhibiting the works of several local artists.**

Paintings, prints & lessons available.

**2545 Third Concession**

**If we are home, we are open!**

Tel. 389-2588

### Frozen Meals Designed for Seniors:

The frozen meals offered by Lennox and Addington Senior Outreach Services are nutritionally balanced and specifically developed for Seniors. There are more than 25 entrees, 13 varieties of soup, & 18 different desserts.

Restricted and special diets can be accommodated. For more information, please contact: Freda Youell at 384-4135 for menus, meal descriptions and prices.

### Godden's whole-hog sausage

Made using the finest cuts of pork including hams, chops, loin, etc. Choose from regular, honey garlic, tomato oregano. \$40.00 for 10lb. box. Available at Poplar Dell B&B  
Phone Susie at 389-2012  
or Lori at 705-653-5984.

## Picnic Tables & Weather Vanes For Sale

Keith Miller 389-2588

### Country Seats

Repairs to woven chair seating Reed & Ash Splint Cane & Fibre Rush Call Johanna MacKinnon at 352-7453

### Summit International Canada

Carpet Manufacturer and Distributor  
Gord Forbes, Sales Agent ...389-8516

### AMHERST ISLAND VIDEO

sponsored by AIMS.  
Available in VHS and CD format.  
You can purchase copies at  
the Amherst Island General Store,  
or through Neil Johnston at 389-5389

I am collecting used stamps- any kind for the guide dogs, clean used clothing and books for the "Cat's Meow." Used towels, cleaning products, A&P tapes and 12" x 12" knitted squares may be left in my front porch or call for a pick-up. The animals really need our help. Freda Youell 384-4135

### Babysitter available!

- After school and weekends  
- Responsible  
- Red Cross Babysitting Certificate  
Call Whitney Fleming at 389-9869

### Babysitting

Torri Phillips- Red Cross Certified  
Babysitter Available early evenings  
and weekends 389-0512

### Babysitter

- Red Cross Babysitting & CPR  
certified - available after school,  
early evenings & weekends.  
Call Beth Albertan: 389-2662

### Seasonal Winter Storage for Boats, etc, right in beautiful

Downtown Stella! Indoor,  
reasonable rates. Dale Gowan,  
634-3815

### NORTH SHORE COTTAGE

for rent year around.  
By the week or week-end.  
Please phone 389-2012.

### SIGNS

Computer generated, vinyl lettering for  
mailboxes, vehicles or small signs.  
Different styles of fonts and colour choices.  
Lyn - 634-2509

## Warm Wool for Cool Weather, from Topsy Farms

Blankets, Wraps, Yarn.  
Phone 389-3444 for an appointment  
or visit the Enchanted Shores on Bath  
Road [www.topsyfarms.com](http://www.topsyfarms.com)



### Painting, wallpapering, tiling by

**Ted Gow**



(retired teacher & full-time resident of  
Amherst Island)

**Home Maintenance  
and Repairs**

Free estimates. Island References.  
634-5404

### Thomas A. Richmond, Certified Electrician

Home, Farm & Commercial wiring and repairs,  
right here on the island. Ontario Electrical  
Safety Authority Authorized Contractor  
Program. 634-1855

### What's Happening at Victoria Hall?

Please note a change in the workout schedule.  
Now from 9 to 10 AM on **Tuesdays**, Wednesdays  
and Fridays to give Bernice and Neil all day Monday  
off...to shop.

Crafts are selling well, come in and browse.  
By popular demand, Tea Room **Gift Certificates**  
are available for 'anyone who has everything else!'

A big thank you to AIWI for operating the Tea Room  
for five days in October. We were pleased to be  
able to assist with their fundraising activities. Again  
thanks to Joyce Haines, Beth Forrester, Nancy Dunn  
and Nancy Henshaw, Elsie Willard, Marion Glenn  
and Anna Hitchins.

Some thirty very interested Islanders attended  
the Neilson Store Renovation annual meeting  
on November 19<sup>th</sup>. As we go to press, the  
Orangemen will hold their quarterly meeting  
in Victoria Hall on Friday November 29<sup>th</sup>.

Drop by for Island Videos @ \$16.95  
or New Year's Dance Tickets (\$50.00/couple or  
\$25.00 singles)...or just to say 'Hello'  
REMINDER:

Afternoon card games please call 389-5389  
**Open Tuesday through Sunday noon to 6pm.**

Please present this 'coupon' for your  
Complimentary Tea or Coffee.  
Victoria hall Crafts & Tea Room  
Valid until Dec.31/02

**A Safe and happy holidays to all**  
Bernice and Neil