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THIS ISSUE

- Ian Murray

AIMS is a great idea. As well as doing good works and providing a way for male Island residents to get to know each other, AIMS provides the Beacon with lots of copy. I particularly enjoy the member profiles. Like many rural people, I like to know something about the people in the neighbourhood. A reader has suggested that photographs should be included.



An activity that will begin sooner than we care to think about ...Bringing the bales home. DT Photo

Deborah Kimmett is another Island resident to add to the list of authors.

Missing Grindstones: issue 24, vol. 18, December 23, 1971; issues 2 to 7, vol. 19. The last issue we have is #8, vol.19, April 20, 1972. We don't know if this is the last issue in which there was a Beacon.

The job of Beacon reporter for municipal affairs is still open. Wages and benefits are nil but travel costs are negotiable.

Zander has another story this issue. Hopefully others will contribute their experiences.

Just got off the phone with Janet Scott - an oriole question - and she said that there has been a confirmed case of Lyme's disease in the Presquille area. This disease is spread by deer ticks. I plan to keep my pant legs tucked into socks while anywhere that a deer may have been.

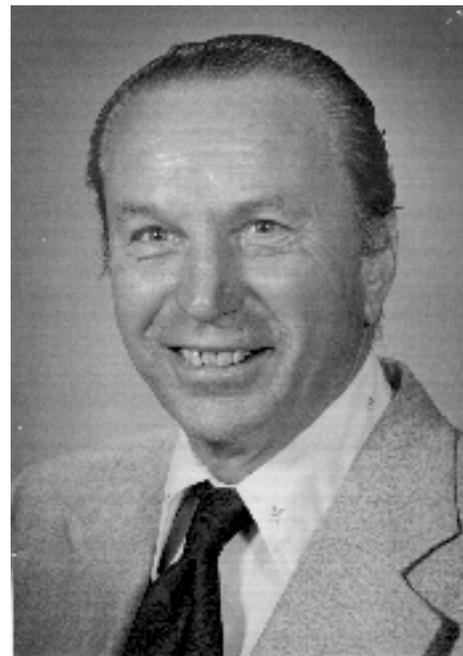
SAMUEL CHESTER TUGWELL: 1916-2002

- Betty Windsor &
Norma Wing

Samuel Chester Tugwell, the son of Mabel McGinn and Irvin Tugwell, was born on Amherst Island on the 27th of February 1916. He attended the 3rd Concession elementary school

and the village secondary school. In 1939, at the beginning of the war, he joined the Canadian Air Force and made it his life long career. He earned his wings and was transferred to the RAF in 1941 and made 25 bombing missions over Germany as a Lancaster Bomber Pilot.

While stationed in Scotland he met and married a young Scottish lass by the name of Grace Anderson who later bore him a son, Anthony. They returned to Canada in 1946 at which time he took his release from the forces but was only out a short time and was re-enlisted at the same rank of Squadron Leader. His career took him back to Germany with his





**Chester Tugwell's office during the war-
Lancaster bomber, c. 1941**

family in 1957 for a tour of duty at Ramstein Air Base and on his return was appointed the Commanding Officer of the Parent Quebec Pine Tree Line Radar Station.

He was transferred to NATO and retired in 1964 as a Wing Commander in Montreal. During his career he was awarded the following medals: Air Force Cross; 1939-45 Star; Aircrew Europe Star; Defence Medal; CVSM & Clasp; War Medal 1939-45 with Mention in Dispatches Clasp; Canadian Forces Decoration & Clasp; Operational Wings.

On his release from the forces he stayed in Montreal and went into Real Estate. After the break-up of his marriage, he returned to Amherst Island and resided in the house in the village which his father had built and where his brother Earl now resides.

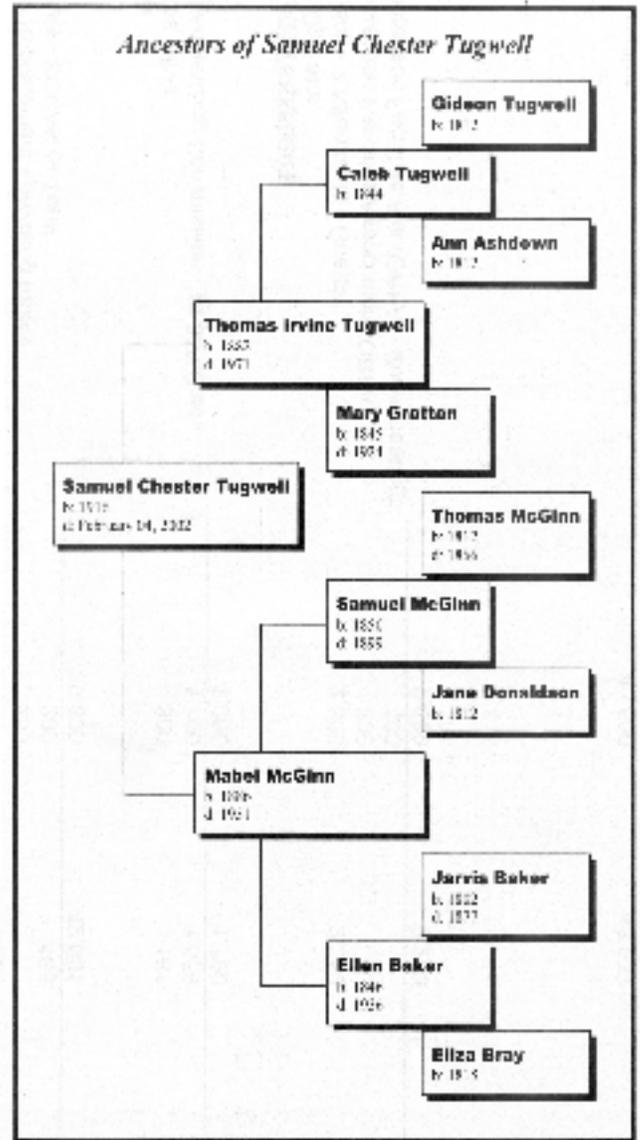
He was very active in the community taking a tour as Reeve and Councillor. He was also a Warden of the Anglican Church where he did a lot of work cutting lawns and painting. He was always an avid hunter and in his younger days a scratch golfer and always enjoyed the game. His son, Anthony, died in 1988. He re-married in 1976 to Tina Maleska and after her death in 1997 he resided in Rideaucrest Home in Kingston until his death on February 4th from a long bout with cancer. [CVSM: Canadian Volunteer Service Medal]



CHESTER

- Ian Murray

I served with Chester on Council but never knew him well enough to call him "Tony" as Tina and many Islanders did. I found him to be a decent and honourable man whose knowledge of the Island and Islanders often guided Council towards wiser decisions than would have been made otherwise. His interest in converting the Township Dump to a Landfill Site, and his leadership in doing so, I believe, saved us some hefty fines.



THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

- Lyn Fleming

Get Well wishes (& happy birthday) to Peter Wittveen, who had to spend his 98th birthday in hospital this year. Get well also to Phil Silver and Brendan Brady, who have both spent time in hospital this month. Continued good health wishes to Sally Bowen, Greg Hudson, Earl Tugwell and Lillian Miller.

Mark Ritchie's dad is visiting from Scotland. Duncan and Coralie Marshall are entertaining company from England. Welcome back to our "snow birds" and summer people, slowly trickling back, despite the cool, wet spring.

St. Paul's PCW held their Mother's Day Ham Dinner, and by the turnout, it looks like quite a few mothers and their families enjoyed an evening out and dinner cooked for them.

The Amherst Island Rec. Association held their annual Spring Dance and Fish Fry. A sold out crowd enjoyed another great fish dinner (thanks to Diana and Rodney) and music by Complete Music (thanks to Chris Staley). ISLE held a Community Breakfast as a fund raiser for the school.



WOMEN'S INSTITUTE REPORT

- Nancy Dunn

On the lovely evening of 22 May, 2002, the Amherst Island Women's Institute gathered at Hollyhock Farm, home of Claire Jenney (commonly known as the Daniel Fowler place). After a sumptuous repast in the form of a potluck supper the meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by President Joyce Haines. There were sixteen members and two guests present. After the usual opening, roll call was answered by a super snake story" - the theme for the night being gardening (and by extension - denizens of the garden I presume). Amusing and terrifying accounts of brushes with reptiles were heard from all but one member who chose instead to share the story of her recent encounter, in her bathroom, with a large black bird - an experience for her which was much more frightening than being confronted by a mere snake.

The minutes were read and approved as was the financial report from the treasurer, Freda Youell, who stated that our first bake sale of the season, held on Fri. 17 May, was a resounding success. This prompted one member to confess that she had been so busy that week that she got no further than making the pastry for her proposed proferring of pies. (For shame!) After she was soundly chastised it was decided by consensus that her penance would be to make double the quantity for the next sale on 28 June.

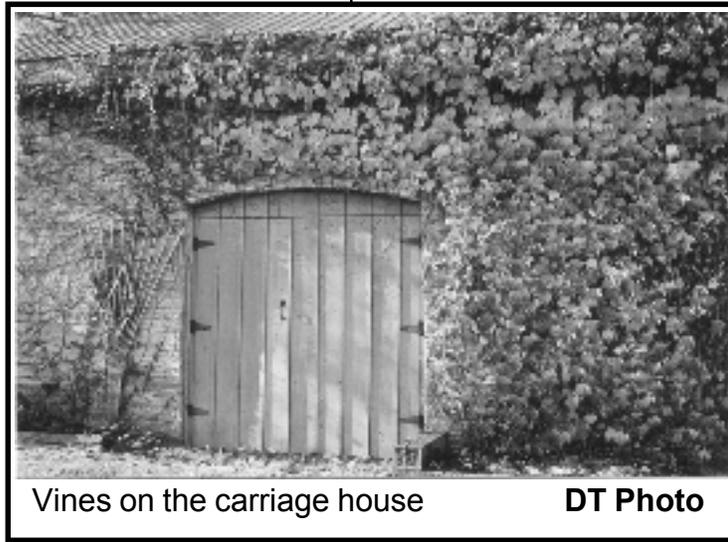
The Good Cheer convenor reported only one get-well card sent in the past month - a good sign we hope. The Lobbying convenor mentioned two recent resolutions prepared by other branches: one on the need for home care reform and the other on the disturbing proliferation of child pornography. Members are encouraged to write letters on these two topics to our MPs and MPPS. Convenor, Jackie Sylvester offered to assist anyone wishing to formulate a resolution on a pressing subject for consideration by the national organization.

Correspondence included thank-you notes and a request for names of any interested in helping to form a local osteoporosis society. There were also invitations to two events of the Hawley W.I.: on Sat. 1 June there will be a garden tea and sale from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. at their hall on county road 22 and on 7 July from 1-4 p.m. at the same venue there will be a pork Bar-B-Q. Mary Kay Steel has the number to call for tickets for the latter. Another

advance notice was regarding a play entitled "For Home and Country" which is being produced in Peterborough from July 3-28.

Tweedsmuir convenor, Leslie Gavlas, whose job is to act as historian, read an interesting excerpt from the Napanee Express of 1937. It concerned a meeting of the A.I.W.I., mentioning women by their husbands' names or initials, of course, e.g. Mrs. Ernest Fleming. Included in the write-up was a mention of Miss Vera Miller (who later was to become Mrs. M. Hogeboom) as well as several other familiar Island names.

Plans were made to provide refreshments at the Farmers' market opening day, 25 May; to help with the AIMS House Tour on 22 June and to consider participation in the Canada Day Parade. Refreshments will also be provided at the auction to be held at the recently sold Ernest Fleming residence on 8 June.



After the collections were received Jackie Sylvester gave an informed and informal demonstration on creating a beautiful container garden in a basket. She used some new (to most) and interesting plants, explaining their properties and advantages and offered the finished product for auction with the money raised going to our "Pennies for Friendship" project. At the end of an excellent evening with lots of laughs, as we exited, many selected a pot

or two of plants which had been brought by various members for exchange. Few went home empty-handed - whether it was left-over food or new specimens for the garden or both.

The next meeting will be on Wed. 19 June at 7 p.m. at the home of Nancy Henshaw

A.I. WOMEN'S INSTITUTE HOSTS DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING

- Nancy Henshaw & Mary Kay Steel

Our branch of the Women's Institute had the honour of hosting the Lennox and Addington District Annual Meeting of the Institute on Wednesday May 15, 2002. The meeting was held at St. Paul's Church. The 56 women participating represented the 13 branches in the area including Amherst Island. Our responsibility involved providing a comfortable venue for the day-long meeting, coffee and muffins during registration, lunch and mid day entertainment.

They all arrived on the 8:30 a.m. boat (along with the normal flat beds and dump trucks) to a bright, sunny day on Amherst Island. There were 11 of our members to greet them and the day-long session proceeded with words of welcome from our new

President, Joyce Haines and the singing of I Love Amherst Island by our members. Some of our members took part in the meeting, although most were helping in the kitchen or were delivering hot food for the noon meal. It was a tight squeeze in the church hall, but we managed to serve everyone a delicious hot lunch consisting of homemade (of course) quiche, salad, rolls, cheese, fruit, squares, coffee & tea.

Following lunch, the students of A.I.P.S. arrived to give us a sampling of their recent musical "Readin', Ritin' and Rockin'". The children were warmly received by our guests who gave them a standing ovation.

The afternoon session finished about 3:30 p.m., allowing the ladies to return to the mainland on the 4:00 p.m. ferry. Thanks to all our members who worked so hard to make this a successful and memorable day.

LOYALIST COUNCIL GLEANINGS

- Ian Murray

There were almost 2" of pages relating to the May 13 Council meeting - almost all of it to do with budgeting. (There was once speculation that computers would reduce the need for paper.)

If I were a more energetic person, I would pore through the many pages of numerals and text in order to enlighten the taxpayers of this Island regarding the use of our tax dollars throughout the township. That would, I think, bore the reader and myself, so here are the basics that involve Island residents. Those who wish more details can contact Loyalist Township Office.

Increase in tax rates to farms and residents: 2.8%.

Increase in tax rates to commercial properties: 1.5%.

Current Value Assessment for 2002: \$742.6 million. The township is worth significantly more than this figure as the municipal infrastructure - roads, sewers, parks, fire halls, and so on - is not included.

Total property tax burden: \$14.7 million.

Where the money goes: Loyalist Township, \$4.4 million; Lennox & Addington County, \$4.7; million; and, education, \$5.6 million.

Where does the money come from: farms & residents, \$8.2 million; multi-residential, \$0.6 million; and commercial/business/industry, \$5.9 million.

"The ferry expenditures of \$1.66 million are offset partially by continued funding from the Province and by user fees. The overall 90% funding has been reduced by an amount equal to the extra costs of operating the Frontenac II on a year-round basis."

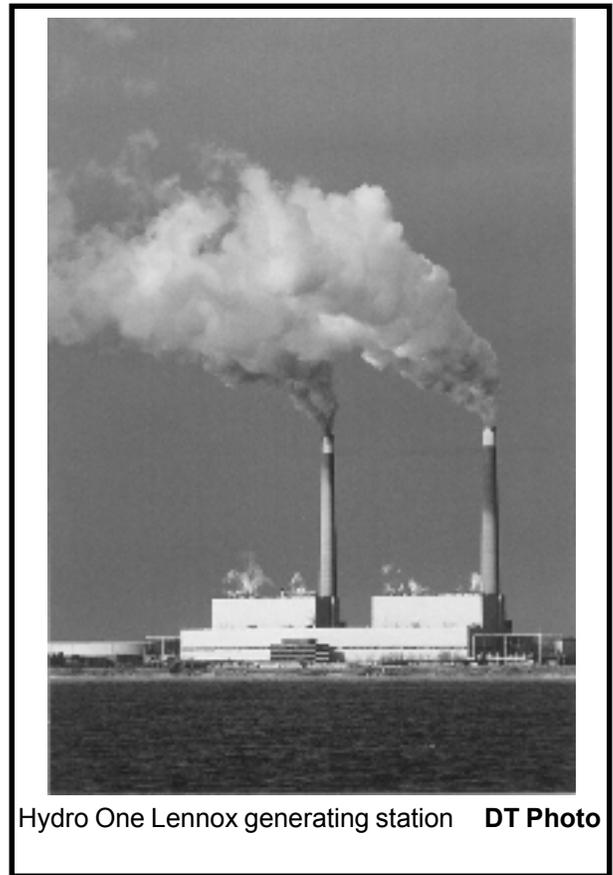
"\$10 thousand has been budgeted for design work for repair at the Stella dock (timber wall)."

"\$ 60 thousand has been budgeted for preliminary work related to local improvements on shore roads, Amherst Island." Engineer David Thompson says that about half of this money will be spent on improvements to specific problems and the rest on trying to figure out who owns what on the shore roads.

There is a mind-boggling amount of information in this budget. The attention to detail is very impressive and I'm very glad that I - unlike Council and Staff - do not have to spend hours and hours working out and understanding and weighing all the facts that went into the budget.

Letter from KOSA (Millhaven Fibres) to Hydro One (with a copy to the Township).

This company is unhappy with the service provided by Hydro One - too many power interruptions and too many periods of low-voltage. "Power interruptions are presently the number one reliability issue facing the Kingston site."



Hydro One Lennox generating station DT Photo

The local plant has had far more power interruptions in the past 5 years than any one of the 5 KOSA sites in the USA. The company suggests that Hydro One should take some responsibility for the costs incurred by businesses due to power interruptions as an incentive to improve its service.

I have included this item because when companies like KOSA leave this area the property tax base is reduced and more jobs head south making all of us somewhat poorer.

COUNTY COUNCIL BUDGET

- Ian Murray

Total budget expenditures: \$41.6 million.
Lenadco Home for the Aged: \$6.7 million.
Social Assistance: \$17.2 million.
Social Housing: \$3.8 million.
Child Care: \$1.7 million.
Roads & Bridges: \$5.4 million.
Ambulance Services: \$1.7 million.
Information Services: \$1.3 million.
KFLA Health Unit: \$0.8 million.
Property Assessment: \$0.5 million.
Sources of Revenue: property taxes, \$12.0 million; provincial grants, \$17.8 million; other revenue, \$11.8 million. Major items in "other revenue": provincial offences, \$1.2 million; Lenadco resident payments, \$2.1 million; recovery from P.E. County, \$3.4 million; rent payments by Social Housing Tenants, \$1.5 million. \$0.545 million will be added to the Lenadco Home Reserve Fund for the construction of a new facility by 2006. The balance in this reserve fund will exceed \$5 million by the end of this year.



JANET'S JOTTINGS for JUNE

Colour is everywhere as the songbirds in breeding plumage return and begin their nest building in the trees, fields, nooks and crannies of our Island. Peggy reports Indigo Buntings on the South Shore with their unmistakable Peacock Blue Ink colour, for those of us who still remember the ink bottles in our wooden desks and those straight pens. They feast on weed seeds and are attracted to Niger seed feeders. This is the peak time for migration as they move into our area to nest. The Indigo Bunting is the fourteenth most common nesting bird in the Kingston Region and makes a wonderful contrast to our bouncing Goldfinches at this time of year.

The Goldfinches are everywhere and appear like dandelions taking flight as they jump out of a patch of the yellow flowers. They are a seed eaters so have a conical bill for crunching seeds unlike our other familiar Yellow Warbler which is an insect eater and has a finer beak. The Yellow Warbler is nesting now and does not have black wings but you may notice orange streaking on the breast. The Goldfinch enjoys the freedom of early summer and nests later with the cycle of the Thistle using the down for nests and the seed for feeding.

I had the thrill of watching a Northern Oriole building its hanging nest in a tree at Whittons. Jim reports it used a blue string in the early stages of this engineering feat as it wove from inside, a nest safely shaped to keep eggs and babies safe as the wind rocks the cradle. Many times you don't realize you have an Oriole nesting nearby until the leaves drop in the Fall and you see the abandoned nest. In the days when every farm had stately Elms you would see these hanging baskets left high in the tips of the umbrella trees.

Stuart Reed reported a sighting of a Pileated Woodpecker on the South Shore and anyone who spots one easily sees where Woody Woodpecker got his red crest. This large, noisy woodpecker is about the size of a crow and requires a large territory of deciduous woods for its nesting area.

The Birdwatchers in the Kingston Area are excited about a Snowy Plover that is visiting the ponds at the K.F.N. property at the foot. It is usually among some Wilson's Phalarope and is small, about 5 inches and is white with gray back and dark legs. This bird is more of a Western bird so its very rare here.

A Glossy Ibis was reported earlier this month so Amherst Island continues to furnish Birders with surprises and rare sightings.

The variety and wonderful colours and shapes and sizes of bird life here on Amherst Island continue to amaze me and leave me with a sense of gratitude and awe that I ended up here amidst all God's Glory. [Note: the Northern Oriole is the new name for the Baltimore Oriole and the Bullock's Oriole as DNA testing proved that they are the same bird and hence the new name.]

AIMS

- Peter Trueman

The Amherst Island Men's Society held its regular breakfast meeting on Saturday May 11 in St Paul's Presbyterian Church Hall. The Society, which acts as an independent service club for the Island, now has 42 paid-up members and is engaged in a number of projects.

AIMS has four standing committees designed to help the elderly and others who may have difficulty managing on their own. Ralph Woods' Transportation Committee will drive people to doctor's appointments or the grocery store who have no other means of getting there. Allan Glenn's Manual Labour Committee assists with home repair and yard work, and three Islanders have been helped since the last meeting.

Peter Trueman's Caregiver/Companion Committee is available to relieve caregivers, and John Kuti's Emergency Care Committee is standing by to prepare meals for those who are just home from the hospital or who are otherwise temporarily incapacitated.

David Brady reported that the process of incorporation for Neilson Store Project has begun, with help from Robert Mackenzie. By the end of April, AIMS should be ready to proceed with grant applications for assistance in renovating the old store and setting it up as a combination museum, Weasel and Easel Gallery, and cultural centre.

Hugh Jenney circulated copies of a flyer advertising the AIMS Amherst Island House Tour to take place on Saturday June 22, from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. The cost will be \$25 per person, and for mainlanders will include transportation from the ferry dock to the seven houses on the tour.

Eight members of the Transportation Committee have offered

their services as drivers, to transport mainland ticket holders from house to house, and five vans and drivers were volunteered at the meeting. Dick Dodds offered to approach a transportation company to see if it would donate a bus for the afternoon. Lyn Fleming had already volunteered her services as a driver.

Hugh reported he had met with representatives of the Women's Institute, which will be helping with the tour. Male volunteers are needed to help with security. The 4H Club and Dorothy McGinn will take care of the strawberries for a shortcake festival at Farnham at the end of the tour, and the WI will bake cakes.

The AIMS sponsored Farmer's/Flea Market is scheduled to open Saturday, May 25, and Islanders are welcome to set up tables to sell plant seedlings (and later, garden produce) as well as the contents of attics, basements and garages that are considered to be surplus to homeowner's requirements.

Brian Grace confessed uneasiness about the inevitable gap between developing the concept and implementing it. It was agreed that we should limit advertising to a local flyer and the sign on the ferry dock to avoid disappointing mainland customers expecting more than we could deliver. There was some debate about whether or not AIMS itself should have a table at the flea market, and there seemed to be general agreement that it should.

John Kuti had prepared an impressive list of contests for a projected Amherst Island Day celebration, but it was generally agreed that interesting as the idea sounded, AIMS might be biting off more than it could chew if the idea were attempted this year. Members agreed to consider the concept again next year.

Marc Raymond announced that he had ordered more tree seedlings than he could handle and that he would be prepared to sell them after the meeting for \$2 to \$4 each, proceeds to be donated to the Neilson Store project.

Bruce Burnett prepared Island maps dividing our roadways into sections capable of being cleaned-up by one person. Members signed up for various sections of roadway, and will do a spring litter pickup in each section when the ditches are a little bit drier. The dump usually accepts such litter free of the usual charge.

At each meeting, two members of AIMS speak briefly about their lives and the circumstances which brought them to, or kept them on, Amherst Island. On this occasion, the speakers were Bruce Burnett and David Brady.

Bruce Burnett was born in 1944, in Newfoundland/Labrador, while his RCAF father was ferrying aircraft back and forth across the Atlantic. As a child of a military family, Bruce moved to a variety of air bases, including those at Rockcliffe, Trenton, Gimli, Centralia, Uplands and France.

He went to a dozen different schools and made many friends. After high school, with a diploma in engineering technology,

Bruce took a "temporary" job with the Canadian Government Exhibit Commission and stayed there 30 years. During that period, Canada developed considerable expertise in the business of mounting audio visual displays at World's Fairs, trade shows and even air shows, and became known for it all everywhere. As the audio visual medium evolved from mechanical to electronic technology, Bruce took time to get another diploma.

His job took him all over the world. He worked on Paris air shows for 17 years, the Canadian Discovery train, trade shows in China and elsewhere, and the RCMP Centennial. He was the technical coordinator and director for Canadian pavilions at many World's fairs, including Knoxville, New Orleans, Japan, Vancouver (the N.W.T. pavilion), Brisbane, Seville and Korea. He was responsible for Imax theatres in two pavilions, one of which included a 48 frame per second projector. This was so successful that in Seville, they had seven-hour line-ups, in which 7,500 people would be waiting to see the film.

Bruce lived in Ottawa all that time, and has a son who graduated in computer mathematics, and a daughter who is about to graduate from Lisgar High School. Bruce also worked on projects for departments other than Trade and Commerce, including one called Newsreel and Broadcast Reporting in Canada, at the Museum of Science and Technology. There he met Andrea Cross, who needed his help with the hardware for the exhibit. Intended for a 6-month life span, the exhibit went on for 7 years. At the opening, Bruce and Andrea met one of those featured in the exhibit, former CBC National News anchor Stanley Burke, who was accompanied by Peggi Coulter. They introduced Bruce and Andrea to Amherst Island.

The government had closed the Exhibition Commission by this time, thereby abandoning a field in which Canada had led the world. Bruce and Andrea bought their south shore property at auction in 1996 and began making arrangements to work from the Island. They love it and don't plan to leave.

David Brady, the second speaker, was born in 1947, in Timmins. His mother took him to Toronto when he was 13. He was a rebel, he said, with no respect for authority. When he was 16, he worked on the floor of the Toronto Stock Exchange. He also played drums, and when he was 19, moved to California to produce rock and roll. There, he entered the fast lane.

By the time he was 21, he went to work for a brokerage house, and got married. The marriage didn't last long. At that time, David met Peter Trueman, and decided that the media life was for him. He took a mass media course in British Columbia and started making films, many of them very successful. In the mid-1980's he had a tremendous financial loss on a movie, and the shock caused him to re-evaluate his life and his priorities.

Up to that point, money, property and prestige had headed the list. Dave told AIMS he had apartments in Malibu, New York and Toronto, and a house in Vancouver, but no long term relationships and no stability. While he was beginning to get a grip on things, he was managing a company with offices in Vancouver and Los Angeles. Then he met Deborah Kimmett. It

was not love at first sight, apparently, at least for Deborah. Dave says he had to pursue her for more than a year. He says he is very grateful that she is in his life today.

They have two children, Brendon and Laurel. Both children had problems to begin with. Born 26 weeks after conception, Laurel was one of the youngest premature babies ever to survive. She was not expected to live, and if it hadn't been for the fact that on the weekend she was born, all of the neo-natal specialists in Canada were in London with a new drug, Laurel wouldn't have made it. Now, both children are happy and healthy here on Amherst Island.

Looking at his children again forced David to re-examine his priorities, and they changed. About 12 years ago, in February, David came to the Island to try to persuade Peter Trueman to do a documentary with him. It was a raw and foggy day, and when Peter told David that on a good day the view was great, David says he figured that his old friend was brain dead, done in perhaps by all those years in "Moscow on the Rideau".

But Deborah's people lived in the Napanee area, and they began spending time in this area during the summers. After staying at Bruce and Susie Caughey's Poplar Dell B&B three or four years ago, they began to rent cottages, during both summer and winter. They loved the peace and quiet, but Dave says now it was the people they got to know who made them glad to be here.

He feels Islanders are unique, whether they were born here, or came here later. He says he has been exposed to new points of view. He has expanded his horizons and has a peace he'd never known before. He is giving up his past, is looking forward to the future, and is in touch with his own spirituality. He's written a book in the last year. In short, he has made a major shift in his life. Although he'll never be an Islander, he says, he is grateful that

he's been welcomed into the Fire Department and the First Response team. "Every summer of my life until I was 13", he concluded, "I was raised on a farm. I love being back to a place I once was." The next AIMS breakfast meeting will be held Saturday, June 8, at 8 a.m., at the St. Paul's Presbyterian Church Hall. David Brady will chair, and Dick Dodds and Doug Williamson will tell their stories. All Island men are welcome. Breakfast is \$5.

WILL AMHERST ISLAND ROADS BE PAVED THIS SUMMER?

- Bill Harris

Last August we noticed some of our neighbours were paving their private roads!

Now there is certainly no zoning law that prohibits roads on the Island being paved. In the rest of Loyalist Township you see paved roads everywhere, public and private.

But I always thought we Islanders preferred to enjoy the sweet smell of dust from the car ahead, the slippery grip on of tires on mud and the sense that, well, this is the way it always has been.

Apparently not.

Quite a number of people last year, under Ralph Wood's leadership, made a deal with Wilmac Paving to pave their private driveways. There is no restriction in Canada against private enterprise for road maintenance as there is for private health care. If the government won't do it, we just do it ourselves. That's the pioneer Canadian way, isn't it?

Last year Wilmac charged about two dollars a square foot, more if they had to build your driveway from scratch. I thought it would be neat if we could get them to do all of Front Road, but my calculations soon put an end to that idle thinking.

So I guess I'll just content myself with paving my own driveway this summer. I understand several other people are also interested. We could cooperate to get better prices from a couple

Carr's School, Front Road, Amherst Island, c. 1955

Teacher: Jack Kerr

Back, L-R: Dennis McGinn,
Donald Fleming, Elmer Willard,
Mitchell McGinn, John McGinn.

Front, L-R: Kaye McGinn, Wade
Gibson, Bruce Taylor, Bob
Gibson, Tom Miller, Howard
Wolfreys, Donald Kearney, Ted
Wemp, Clinton Kilpatrick

This was the boys class picture taken by Jack Kerr- does anyone have a copy of the girls class picture?

*From the collection of
Clinton Kilpatrick.*



of companies if we had enough business. If you don't like pavement, rest assured, we won't be paving public roads! Telephone me, 384-2407, if you too would like to enjoy some mud free space in front of your home.

AMHERST ISLAND BOATING STORIES

- Zander of DUNN INN

When I was appointed minister of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church on Amherst Island and the new Presbyterian congregation in Amherstview in 1962 I was making \$3100 a year. We lived in the refurbished manse on Amherst Island but the growing congregation with a future was in Amherstview. The ferry stopped running at 6 p.m. so I knew I needed two cars and a boat to get about to my people on the mainland. Parishioners in Amherstview helped me find a '52 Ford for \$50 and a 20 foot wooden boat with a 30 horsepower Johnson outboard motor for which I paid \$1,000. I've already shared some of my car stories, so let me tell you some stories about the boat.

The front part of the boat had a covering but the rear of the boat was open to catch the rains. Almost every time I took a trip in that boat I had to pull the plug at the back of the boat and let the water drain out as we drove along. But the boat had to be going at full speed with the nose up before the water could rush to the back and out the drain hole. That meant, when I was alone in the boat, I had to leave the steering wheel, go to the back and remove the plug. I did this once in a dense fog on the way to the mainland. When I regained the wheel I was closer to land than I expected to be and couldn't recognize anything. During my time at the back of the boat it had turned 180 degrees and had headed back toward the Island. I had never seen that part of the Island before so couldn't figure out where I was. It wasn't until Stuart Miller came out and waved at me that I realized I was going the wrong way. I turned around for the mainland.

One night in the fall of 1962, about three months after Scott had been born, Nance and I arranged for a baby-sitter and prepared to take the boat at night across to the mainland to join the Social Club at Amherstview Church for a Bowling Party in Kingston. It was dark and a bit choppy but I knew I could find my way to Millhaven by heading for the red light on the ferry dock. Both Nance and I kept an eye on the light but we didn't seem to be getting any closer to the mainland. After forty-five minutes Nance moaned that our son would become an orphan if we didn't get to land soon. I stopped the boat, listened intently and observed the red light moving away from us. I realized we had been following the port light of a tanker ship down the strait. I made a sharp turn. We were late for the bowling but scored enough strikes to make the outing worthwhile. My nautical skills became a standing joke in Amherstview.

On a Saturday afternoon I had some business at the Mooneys' home. But the boat did not co-operate in getting me there. The motor kept stopping and I had to fiddle with it several times before paddling the craft to shore. I arrived at the Mooneys' home at the same time as Mr. Beezer, their "sanitation engineer",

arrived to collect his monthly payment for his services. (This was the same Mr. Beezer who advertized his "Used Food Service" and whose motto was: "Satisfaction Guaranteed or Double Your Garbage Back"). He was resplendent in suit and tie. I was a mess, in old clothes made dirty from my temperamental motor. When Ed and Marg Mooney introduced me to him as their minister he took one look at me and said, "I should be the minister. You should be the garbage collector." Agreed.

FARMING

- Ian Murray

It was quite a surprise to open the May 16 Whig and see Adam Miller staring at me from the front page. Adam's ongoing attempt to keep his farm alive was used to highlight the fact that there has been a dramatic decrease in the number of dairy farms in this area in the last few years.

Keith is quoted: "I think we're going to see the end of the family farm as we know it."

ISLAND HOME TOUR

- Hugh Jenney

On June 22nd, Amherst Island Men's Society (AIMS) is inviting 200 guests to tour seven Amherst Island homes and partake in a Strawberry Reception with live entertainment at historically significant Farnham House. The proceeds from this event will contribute to the restoration of the Neilson Store into a museum & cultural centre.

Your afternoon begins at Millhaven dock where patrons board the Frontenac II starting at 12:30PM and every hour on the half hour thereafter for the 15 minute cruise to "The Jewel of Lake Ontario". To avoid paying the \$5.00 round trip fee, vehicles may park at the Millhaven dock and passengers can then board for free. On arrival at Stella, guests will be greeted by chauffeured vans that will conduct a leisurely drop-in visit to seven selected homes. Five homes have been chosen for their historical significance while the remainder show the creativity in design and construction by newer residents to Amherst Island. Driving from home-to-home, one quickly gets the feeling of stepping back in time to a much simpler way of life!

Following the three hour tour, guests will arrive at Farnham House on Front Road overlooking Stella Bay. Beneath century old maples on the wide lawns of this magnificent century home, guests will be served at a traditional Amherst Island Strawberry Social. For your listening pleasure, lively music will be provided by the Frontenac Community Concert Band. And if one wants to bring a bit of the Island back to the mainland, local Island artists' work will be for sale at Shirley Miller's Art Gallery.

As capacity is limited, the men of AIMS hope that you will reserve your \$25.00 passport for the afternoon of Saturday, June 22nd and visit Amherst Island. Each passport contains line illustrations and biographies of the houses you will be visiting.

Tickets are available at the Amherst Island General Store, Bath Gallery, Marc Raymond Optician, Novel Idea Book Store, Stradwick Carpet One, Tara Natural Foods or from any Amherst

Island Men's Society member.

For off-island reservations or further information, please contact Hugh Jenney (384-7830) hcjenney@hotmail.com or Neil Johnston (389-5389).

From SPRING HAS SPRUNG FOR L&A BUSINESSES

- Paul Blais,

Manager of Economic Development, L&A County

There has been a tremendous amount of activity in the commercial sector in the last month so without further adieu let's get into it.

In April, Loyalist Township reported one of its best months in several years for new commercial activity. Seven commercial construction permits valued at \$1.3 million were issued. Some of the biggest projects include:

A new medical centre is being constructed at Loyalist Plaza in Amherstview. The \$2 million 8,000 sq. ft. facility, will house 8 doctors' offices and laboratories. To accommodate the new building, Taj and Ameena Jaffer have demolished a portion of the west end of their Plaza.

The building was designed by H.M. Sardinha Inc. and is being constructed by T.A. Andre & Son. Six doctors from the neighbouring medical centre will be relocated and an additional two doctors will move into Amherstview. The existing office building will be available for rent.

Later this year Bath's Main Street will be home to Maddens', a new restaurant. Tom and Louise Madden want to 'wow' their customers with an original menu that will include local produce, meat, beer and wine. Chef Tom has 22 years of experience and claims it is his personal challenge to locate the best local ingredients he can find. The 40 seat restaurant will offer guests an evening Table d'Hote and a simple lunch menu.

However, those who want to sample Madden's will have to wait. Tom and Louise have not set a firm opening date as they renovate 360 Main Street, which they purchased in late winter. The owners are busy working with professional designers on the kitchen and dining room. The Maddens also insist that they will promote the historical nature of the property and have begun research on its history which dates back to the mid-1800s.

Across the street from Madden's is another new business, Main St. Creamery. Opened on April 27th, owner Leslie Mayville already has the neighbourhood kids returning day after day for her homemade waffle cones, hard and soft ice cream, frozen yogurt, sundaes and smoothies.

Leslie, with a Loyalist ancestry herself, wanted to link her business with The Loyalist Parkway and the history of Bath - thus the name 'Creamery'.

Andy Williams will soon be moving his Williams Auto Service from the east end of Amherstview to the four-way stop at County Roads 6 and 23. Andy is building a new 4,000 sq. ft., 5 bay service

garage, on land that was previously owned by Loyalist Township. The new centre will open July 1st. Now in its 33rd year, Williams Auto Service will offer its customers a new Drive Clean Emission Testing service and add another employee. The vacated property on The Loyalist Parkway will be converted to a Pioneer Gas Bar which will offer conveniences in an 800 sq. ft. oversized kiosk.

The car service business must be good these days because another County operation is expanding. Cornell's Repair Centre located at 76 County Road #20 between Wilton and Harrowsmith is adding a new office/reception area. Owner Cornell Berghout, in business for 14 years, says that the expansion is needed to accommodate a growing repair and used car sales business and will be completed by June.

If you need your body serviced, the Amherstview Therapy Clinic on Speers Boulevard may have what you need. Owner Cindy Lazenby has expanded her health services to include acupuncture by hiring Pauline Vaughan who is also experienced in traditional Chinese medicine.

In other Napanee news, GT Machining & Fabricating has recently purchased the vacant 16,200 sq. ft. building at 59 Kellwood Crescent. Gord Carter, President of GT, one of the area's most successful locally-owned manufacturers, says that the purchase was feasible due to a new fabricating contract agreement with another locally-owned manufacturer, Fire Training Systems (FTS).

FTS' sales have expanded rapidly in the post-September 11th era that stresses more highly trained emergency and security personnel. Their systems, which come in various forms such as modular buildings and platforms, simulate live fire experiences for firefighters in a controlled environment. Fires are ignited electronically through the release of propane, butane or natural gas and non-toxic smoke can be added for greater realism. George Aslanian, Technical Director of FTS, says that the systems are extremely safe and reduce emissions from standard training systems by 90%.

George states that 95% of the company's sales are US-based, however, the company has worked on some interesting overseas projects such as an 8 container facility to simulate a marine environment for the Panama Canal Authority and a 3 module residential simulator for Dobbins Air Base in Atlanta. FTS is growing at a controlled pace, but already in the three years since moving to Napanee they have increased from 3 to 8 people.

The Human Resources Centre of Canada for Students is now opened! If you need summer help or if you have any questions please contact Devon at 354-0182.

"Every generation laughs at the old fashions but religiously follows the new."

-Thoreau.

LETTER HOME

- Christopher Kennedy

May is always an interesting month on the farm, and this May was no exception. We had almost 100 mm. of rain, that's about four inches, in the first fifteen days. The ground had started to dry up towards the end of April, but then we had lots of cold, driving rain, timed perfectly with the start of the ewes lambing on pasture. We lamb the main flock, about 850, through the barn and we did not have too much trouble with them. The barnyard turned to mud, but we had room to keep the new-born lambs inside for the worst of the weather. It was the yearlings, lambing on pasture, that had a hard time. Most years the weather is mild enough in May that the odd rainy night is no hardship, but three days of heavy rain was very hard on the new-born lambs.

Fortunately the weather has cleared up now. Once a lamb is up and dry, with a belly full of milk it can take a cold night with no problem, so the fields are starting to fill up with young lambs. This Sunday there were often cars stopped beside one of the lambing fields next to the road, with the cameras out. I suppose it is not common in Canada to see new-born lambs in the fields. I don't think, however, that it is particularly good advertising for the final product, lamb chops.

The main flock lambed quite well; plenty of lambs, and the ewes seem to be milking well. The last 25 laggards have been sent out to pasture to lamb on their own. Now the barn is all packed up, and we can get on with the myriad of other jobs that had been put on hold during lambing.

I have to extend my sincere thanks to the barn crew, Beth, Caroline, Dianne, Krista and Leah for remaining cheerful in the mud. Don was unable to help this year following his cataract operations and we sure missed his easy going manner. I know Ian had a difficult time with the pasture lambing ewes. One good thing about all the rain is that there is plenty of pasture at the moment, which is a relief after last summer's drought, and we may get a hay crop. However, seeding on the Island has been badly held up by the wet ground and there may not be much of a grain crop. By the time I next write we should be well into haying.

THANK YOU NOTES

Tom's and my many thanks to all our relatives, neighbours, and friends, for all the food, flowers, cards and calls during my recent illness. Special thanks to our First Response Team. Amherst Island is a special place with many special people. Thanks again & God Bless.
Audrey Miller.

Hello Islanders ! Hello Island ! Hello World !

I'm back from hospital and so grateful that I'm shouting joyous greetings to everybody and everything !

After a heart attack which was too close for comfort, Peggie and I want to thank all those hundreds of people who literally saved my life and helped bring me back to health.

First, there are the angels of mercy in the emergency response team - Tom Richmond, David Fleming, Leslie MacDonald, Donnie Miller, and David Brady - who came in five minutes with oxygen when I was fighting for every breath! Then I must

thank the ferry crew and ambulance.

Then there are all the people who prayed, visited, sent cards, flowers, and beamed energy to me -- AIMS, Women's Institute, the Presbyterian and Anglican churches and from so many others friends and neighbours. Finally, and above all, I thank Peggie for her strength and love. In many respects, she suffered more than I. I love her and all the people who make up the unique spirit which exists on this Island ! Going into the operating room, I felt literally surrounded by a bubble of love and entered without fear. It was close though ! The hospital people said I had about 30 minutes left when we arrived.

But it's all over and I am experiencing intense pleasure in everything - at the beauty of the waves, at birds at the feeder, and the family cats. I am even moved by the simple wonder of the day's first cup of coffee and the marvel of two poached eggs ! Once again I'll never forget all the wonderful neighbours who made it possible ! Heart-felt thanks !

The New and Improved Stanley Burke

WATERSIDE SUMMER SERIES CONCERT 2002 PROGRAM

**June 30 Summer Songs St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Sunday night, 7:30PM Bruce Kelly, baritone, Dina Namer, piano ... Exquisite classical songs, opera and piano music.

** July 6, An Evening of Gilbert & Sullivan

St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Saturday night, 7:30 pm Ruth Paren, The Voice Studio and Associates...Selection of humour and beauty from the operettas.

** July 27 Organ Recital

St Alban's Anglican Church, Saturday night, 7:30 pm Maxime Thevenot visits from New York City... Beautiful organ music from three centuries.

** Aug 17 The Romantic Flute

St. Alban's Anglican Church, Saturday night, 7:30 pm Pascal Margely flute, Pat Hiemstra cello and Jane Perry piano
An evening of delightful music from this Ottawa trio

** Aug 31 The Swinging Sevilles

St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Saturday night, 7:30 pm Barber and the Sevilles... Vocal and Swing Jazz with Kingston musicians.

WaterSide has offered quality music entertainment in the friendly rural setting of Amherst Island since 1994. For more information visit us at www.AmherstIsland.on.ca Email InkaJSBach@sympatico.ca Telephone 613-389-3525

4H DRAW

Tickets for our annual fund raising draw are on sale from any 4H member, A.I. General Store or our table at the Farmers' Market. Great prizes. Don't forget - you can't win without a ticket: \$2 each. Draw to be on July 1st after the parade. We appreciate your support.

FOR SALE Large oak office desk: 30" x 60"; 2 file size drawers; 2 other drawers; keyboard shelf. In excellent condition. Price to be negotiated.

Contact Helen Bulch, 5755 Front Road, phone 389-2411.



BURNING QUESTIONS!

- Are you between the ages of 19 and 60?
- Are you either male or female?
- Are you breathing?
- Then why aren't you a member of the Fire Department?
- Think it can't happen to you?
- How about your neighbour?
- How about some friend visiting from the mainland who has a medical emergency while here?
- How about the delivery fellow who brought you that new couch ?
- Or the service man who fixes your furnace?
- Or your child?
- Have you considered the possibility of a serious accident while driving our quaint rural roads?
- In an emergency would you know what to do?
- Would you know who to call?
- Would it be all over by the time help arrived from the mainland?

WOULD THERE BE ANYONE TO HELP YOU?

This is the annual Fire Department article to remind all island residents of their mutual responsibility to one another. As time does march on, members leave the department and need to be replaced. In big villages like Odessa, there are well over two-dozen firefighters & a waiting list to join. Unlike us, mainland stations have another department only 10-15 minutes away to lend a hand when needed. Out here, we are at the end of a very long and thin lifeline, especially during the daytime. We have 9 firefighters & 6 EFR personnel. DO NOT assume they are all on the island 24 /7. Except for 2am to 6am, we are shorthanded all the time, more so when people are lost from the membership, which is the case at this time.

What do you get from getting involved? A warm fuzzy feeling inside. An opportunity to do good. And nearly \$18/hr in pay from the Township. We have no waiting list.

More bluntly put, you get a chance to keep your neighbours barn or house from burning to the ground. You get the chance to learn how to save lives and go to less funerals. You get the chance to get all the proper firefighting training you need to act when the time comes. You get the right to look your friends in the eye and say that you did all you could do.

And that's all anyone can ask.

TR

Amherst Island General Store

Finally the nice summer weather has arrived and the lilacs are in bloom. Summer hours have started once again and they are:

Mon-Thurs 9am - 6pm,

Friday & Saturday- 9am-9pm Sunday- 10am-6pm

New movies we have in right now are:

-Harry Potter

-From Hell - Johnny Depp

-Oceans Eleven - George Clooney, Brad Pitt\

-K-Pax - Kevin Spacey, Jeff Bridges

-The Order - Jean-Claude Van Damme

-13 Ghosts

-Black Knight - Martin Lawrence

-Snow Dogs - Cuba Gooding Jr.

Many more to choose from. New releases \$3.50 +tax, Older movies \$1.49 +tax.

We will be open throughout the Canada Day Weekend: Fri 28th & Sat 29th 9am-9pm; Sun 30th 10am-6pm; Mon 1 July 10AM-5pm.

Have a safe and happy holiday weekend!

Painting lessons: Pay as you paint lessons.

Phone Shirley Miller at 389-2588.

Cottage for Rent: 3 bedrooms on North Shore.

Good swimming, very private. Call 634-1212.

Two Cottages for Rent

North Shore July & August by the week Off season rentals can be by the week-end or short stay.

Phone Susie, 389-2012

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

Babysitter available!

-After school and weekends

- Responsible

- Red Cross Babysitting Certificate

Call Whitney Fleming at 389-9869



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Great wedding gifts

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Phone 389-3444 for an appointment

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www.topsyfarms.com

The Back Kitchen Restaurant

389-7200 . . . *Burgers & Fries & Homemade Pies*

Full menu all day and evening. Specials: 5 - 8 PM

Hours of Operation:

May 31 - September 08 Weekends: Friday, Saturday & Sunday Plus

Holiday Mondays: July 1, Aug 5 & Sept 2. 11 AM - 8 PM

Your Hosts: Garry & Susan Filson

Painting, wallpapering, tiling

Home Maintenance and Repairs

Free estimates. Island References.

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

Phone 634-5404

Thomas A. Richmond, Certified Electrician

Home, Farm & Commercial wiring and repairs,

right here on the island. Ontario Electrical Safety Authority

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Country Seats

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

Mr. Fix-It

Anything you need done, I will do it. Fix anything -
Automobiles, Minor plumbing and electrical, Landscaping,
Painting, Carpentry. Reasonable rates Call: Rich at 389-6022

Holiday weekends bake sales

Fridays June 28, Aug. 2 and Aug. 30 at 3:45 p.m. until sold out the
Women's Institute will hold bake sales at the store. We have two
new members who are great cooks so come and buy!

The online Amherst Island Beacon

is readable with Adobe Acrobat 5.0 Reader, which is available FREE
OF CHARGE at the website: <http://www.adobe.com> So join the
twenty-first century and get your free 5.0 reader now!

"Banned from the Boat, but still going strong!"

A I Tourism Brochure- THIRD PRINTING ... 2002!

Over 2400 in circulation to date.

Those interested in helping to cover the cash only,
nonprofit printing costs of the new batch should contact
Tom Richmond (634-1855) by **June 12th.**

This deadline is NOT flexible, SO DO NOT DELAY!