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all the editorial content and pre-typed information. I place it onto the digital pages in a fancy font (Transitional 511 BT and Arial, if you must know) with lots of nice pictures, and then it gets forwarded for printing.

The deadline for Beacon submissions is the 23rd of each month. Place it in the drop-off envelope at the AI General Store. Photographs can be sent (by the same deadline date if possible) via Laurie at the Store. I'll scan and return it.

Printing is done off the island on the first or second of the month. As we insist on high quality reproduction over an absolute "need for speed", it takes a couple days to get it back. Given those limitations, you can usually expect to see the Beacon in the Store between the 2nd and the 4th of the month. In addition to all this, Leslie mails out well over 100 Beacons a month to our mail subscribers- a daunting task indeed!

Best wishes for a productive and enjoyable summer!



Amherst Island SS #3, class picture taken at the Agricultural Fairgrounds, year unknown. In the background on the left: Farnham, formerly the home of Robert P. Maxwell and now of Janet (nee Apps) Grace. (from the collection of Elsie Willard)

Do you know any of these children or any other information about this picture?

Individual close-ups appear throughout this issue.

THIS ISSUE

-Tom Richmond

Generally, I am the Beacon layout guy: Ian and Co. write and proofread

NEIGHBOURHOOD

- Lyn Fleming

Get Well wishes this month to Audrey Miller, Lillian Miller and Stanley Burke, who all spent time in hospital. Continued good health wishes to Greg Hudson, Phil Silver, Sally Bowen and Lynn A'Court. Michael and Bobbi Shaw recently returned from a month in England walking on country lanes and coastal paths, and visiting friends and family. They were treated to magnolias and camelias in full bloom (only to come back to snow!). They were in London the day of the Queen Mother's funeral. Congratulations to Stephanie Fleming, who was part of a St. Lawrence College team that produced a corporate video that won 3 Greg Awards (the "Academy Awards" of St. Lawrence!). Congratulations to Talia Fleming and Laurel Brady, who won the public speaking competition for their respective levels and will go on to the District Competition in May.

**AMHERST ISLAND
WOMEN'S
INSTITUTE
-Nancy Dunn**

The regular monthly meeting of the Amherst Island W.I. took place on April 17, 2002, at 7 p.m. at the home of Nancy Dunn. Nancy Henshaw greeted 12 members and a guest, Elsie Willard, who by evening's end had become a new member. Welcome, Elsie. After the singing of O Canada and the ode and the saying of the Mary Stewart Collect, the roll was answered by the paying of our annual dues which are ear-marked for district, area and national fees. The minutes of the March meeting were read and accepted and the financial report was received. The latter included a list of the year's donations to various charities. The "good cheer" convenor had sent several cards to ailing Islanders over the month. Public Relations officer (P.R.O.) Nancy Dunn reported that the members had contributed over 1300 volunteer hours during the year which ended March 31. Two other standing committee members were absent so no reports were received from them.

Mary Kay Steel has written a W.I. page for the website <amherstisland.on.ca>, which can be accessed by clicking on our logo. It will be updated as needed. The district annual meeting will be held at St. Paul's church hall on May 15. A committee in charge of catering to the approximately 50 women expected has matters well in hand. Two people indicated they would attend a gathering of the Maple Ridge branch on April 29 at Selby Hall. It is in support of projects for the Associated Country Women of the World. The AIMS/Neilson Store/Museum committee House Tour on June 22 will be supported by the Institute through helping with the strawberry social and "hosting" in the display homes. **BAKE SALES** on the Fridays of the summer's long weekends are on again this year. They will take place at the General Store from 3:45 'til gone on May 17, June 28, Aug. 2 and Aug. 30. Come early for a great selection of pies, tarts, breads, cookies and other delectables. After the regular business the annual meeting was conducted. The financial statements have been examined and found in good order. Freda Youell was in charge of installing a new slate of officers: Pres. Joyce Haines; Past Pres. and V.P. Nancy Henshaw; Sec. Mary Kay Steel; Treas. Freda Youell; Education Co-ordinator, Kirsten Bennick; P.R.O. Nancy Dunn; Standing committee convenors: Leslie Gavlas, Marian Glenn, Jackie Sylvester. The district director and



alternate are Anna Hitchins and Beth Forester with the district annual delegates being Joyce Haines and Anna Hitchins. Mary Kay Steel is the area annual delegate. The hostess served a light lunch following which Beth Forester, with skills gleaned from her sometime job at Gordon's, expertly auctioned off items donated by members and wrapped in brown paper bags. A good sum was realized from

this little fund-raiser, the proceeds of which go into our "pennies for friendship" pot. The evening closed with the singing of "God Save the Queen" and the announcement that the May 22nd meeting will be a pot-luck supper at the home of Claire Jenney. There will be a plant exchange. All women welcome.

**A.I.P.S.
-Lyn Fleming**

Public Speaking - the winners of the Intermediate and Junior Public Speaking competition at A.I.P.S., will go on to the District Public Speaking Competition on May 2nd at the Prince Charles School, Napanee. Congratulations: Talia Fleming (Junior - subject - September 11); and, Laurel Brady (Intermediate - subject - Eating Disorders). Other winners at our school competition were: Intermediate level - Brendan Brady (2nd), and David Albertan (3rd); Junior level - Ashley McGinn (2nd), and Brittany Sneep and Beth Albertan tied (3rd). In the Primary level, the winners of the story telling competition were: 1st, Cole Barrette; 2nd, Brooke Reid; and, 3rd place was Ben Whitton. Chess Tournament: Intermediate winner was David Albertan, while Brendan Brady, William Reed and Justin Hutchings tied in points for 2nd place. Junior winners were: Talia Fleming (1st), Beth Albertan (2nd); and, Caitlin McDonald (3rd). Primary level winners were: Ben Whitton (1st); Aaron Sneep (2nd); and, Zackary Neville (3rd). These and other students participated through the winter in a noon hour Chess Club, supervised by Mrs. Scott.

Mr. Peter Morgan spent many noon hours helping and coaching the Chess Club. On May 2nd, three students from the Senior Class will attend a Young Author's Conference in Ottawa. They will participate in various workshops with published authors.

Lafarge Cement Co. in Bath has again donated a tree to the school in recognition of Earth Day.

The Canadian Hearing Association will visit the school and do a presentation with all students on May 3. The Grade 8 students will attend an open house evening at NDSS.

Loyalist Township Fire Safety Officer, Derrick Ethridge spent a morning at AIPS doing fire safety with the students. Derrick will be working with the grade six students, (with permission from school boards, principals and parents), as part of a study of about 200 children in our area, to determine how well children hear smoke alarms while sleeping. This is apparently a concern of children this age for various reasons. The Fire Marshall's Office, Queen's University Sleep Lab and the Canadian Hearing Society, have all expressed interest in the results of this study. Students in grades 3 and 6 will take part in the annual province wide testing during the week of May 6 - 10. Grades 5- 8 will be going to NDSS to see a high school production of "Crazy for You" on May 1. On May 9, from 6:00 - 7:30 p.m., Amherst Island Public School will hold a "Science Open House". There will be student projects on display as well as science activities.

"Readin', Ritin', and Rockin'"

- Lyn Fleming

On Thursday, April 18th, the students at A.I.P.S., presented a musical by Janet Gardner - "Readin', Ritin', and Rockin'", to a full house. The musical portrayed life in school, and was personalized by the students humorous portrayal of teachers and staff at our school in particular. Many of the students - from grades 3 to 8 - performed solos, all students took part in skits and the choir. The students, under the direction of head teacher Cathy Donaldson, have been working very hard for several months, through lunch hours and recesses on the music, sets and props for the play. Every student had their moment on the stage and everyone was amazing. I never get over the talent we have in our school, whether it is the Musical, Chess Club or Public Speaking, our small student body always makes us proud! Congratulations to students and teachers for a very entertaining evening.

JANET'S JOTTINGS

- Janet Scott

April Oh to be on Amherst, now that April's here See the grass is greening and hear the Blackbird's cheer Listen to the Peepers and watch the flowers bud See the goose and gander swimming in the flood. Watch for newborns in the field and owlets in the tree Everywhere new growth appears for any eye to see Oh come and visit Amherst so early in the Spring, Come and hear the bird life as joyfully they sing .

April has come and with it a cacophony of sounds . You cannot step out your door but your ear is attacked with trills and calls and hoots and quacks . The migratory birds have returned , some to nest and some to rest before



travelling on their northward way . The wide range of temperatures and such a variety of weather situations have brought birds to their nesting sites only to lambaste them again with cold and snow. During the first part of April one of my Birding friends dropped in to report a 45 Owl day . He saw 6 Snowys, 33 Short-eared Owls, 1 Great Horned on a nest in the Owl Woods, 2 Long-eared Owls and 3 Saw-whets in the Owl Woods. He also reported two freshly killed Long-eared so I guess our resident Goshawk was still at it . This did not include the nesting Great Horned Owls at Raymond and Madeline's site so you see even in April we have Owls on Amherst. By the middle of April we seem to have lost our Snowy Owls but what a sight it was as they gathered in the Road Garage/ Fire hall area . You could see as many as eight . A Snowy eats ten voles a day . There were at least ten Snowy Owls here from November to April . That means 10 Owls times 10 voles a day times 160 days (approx.) Equals 16,000 voles less on Amherst Island . Now isn't that an encouraging bit of news for gardeners . That doesn't include the voles that coyotes , foxes, herons, gulls, cats, kestrels , pigs, etc. eat . The Short-eared owls have been frequenting the Sylvester evergreen plantation at the eastern end of the Island so we may get nesting owls there . They seem to choose Wolfe one year and then us another year so their mating dances that I saw in early April made me think this is our turn. They fly and hunt in daylight but dusk against the setting sun is the most impressive time as they flop like Moths and clap their wings underneath their bodies . Other birds as well as Owls have been reported . Helen Bulch was thrilled to see a Solitary Vireo in her yard with his spectacles . The elegant Pintail Duck has been sailing serenely in the slough on the Stella Forty-foot . The clown-like Buffleheads, those tiny



black and white ducks have been bobbing and diving off the south shore and our regal Osprey is back on the platform at the foot . Did you see the many Bonaparte Gulls that were feeding on the floating Midges ? That's fun to watch . The children on Lyn's bus I hear got to watch Cock Pheasants fighting and not moving off the road . Everyone is "Twitterpating" and the Purple Martins are back at Bulch's so all is well with our world ! Good Birding

COUNCIL GLEANINGS

- Ian Murray

The expenditure for the RIDE program mentioned in the last Beacon is covered by a grant from the Min. of the Solicitor General. So the money came through provincial taxation and not from municipal taxation. Councillor Duncan Ashley has been appointed to be a Council representative on the Cemeteries Committee in Councillor Lowry's absence. A motion was passed directing staff to send a letter to Benn Construction requesting that their vehicles slow down on Amherst Island. A motion was passed - moved by Councillor Ashley- that the existing Ward System be continued and that staff prepare a by-law to this effect. There was a recorded vote with only Councillor R. Bresee voting against. A motion was passed that Closed Session items be dealt with and voted on in Closed Session. An amendment, moved by Councillor Bressee and seconded by Councillor Ashley, stating that motions passed in Closed Session be read out in regular session was not passed. There will now be two sets of minutes, one for Open Session and one for Closed Session.

COMMENTS On CLOSED SESSIONS

- Ian Murray

I know, from experience, that there are times when Council must go into Closed Session to consider matters

that must be kept private - issues involving an identifiable employee, union negotiations, some legal matters, and so on. I also know, from experience, that there can be a tendency for a Council to become a bit too comfortable conducting business away from the public. I am curious as to why Council voted against the amendment to read out in Open Session resolutions that were passed in Closed Session. Perhaps the Reeve or Deputy Reeve will send us a reply that could go in the next Beacon. The township CAO, Diane Pearce, has assured me that all expenditure of money will remain public record.

AMHERST ISLAND FARMERS' MARKET & FLEA MARKET

- Brian Grace

The response of Islanders to the proposed Island Farm Market has been very positive. Most people who have given their opinion have been very much in favour of combining the market with a Flea Market. These suggestions were discussed at the second last AIMS meeting and I am pleased to say, there was great support for holding a combined Farmers' Market & Flea Market.

It was pointed out that Amherst Island is a treasure trove of antiques, collectibles and interesting "stuff" which should attract browsers both from the Island and from the off-island community.

The most recent proposal of the AIMS group is that Amherst Island hold its first combined market on Sat. May 25 from 8am until noon (or whenever). Produce, plants, baked goods, etc. will be available at the Memorial Park, and the Flea Market tables will be adjacent to Neilson's Store. This is a great opportunity for Amherst Island to put itself on the map. The Men's Society will organize the market and we expect lots of potential buyers. It is, however, up to you Islanders to stock the tables to make the project an initial and continuing success.

By the May long weekend many people will be looking for garden plants and flowers to fill window boxes and hanging baskets. Start now! Look into the basement, the attic and that back cupboard for interesting stuff that you haven't used for years but which may well be a treasure to Flea Market customers.

Some of you may wish to combine resources. Others (and I can think of some) have enough to run their own market. Remember that the success of this venture depends on the support and participation of members of our Island community. Come to the Market. Sell and buy and make a little pocket money (or a lot!!)

Questions, comments and suggestions are always welcome. Call Brian Grace at 384-0912, leave a note at the store or speak to any member of AIMS.

ANSWERS From The PLANNER

- Ian Murray

There is a rumour that 14 or 15 houses or more will be built on the Island this summer. I phoned Murray Beckel, Loyalist Township Planner, about this and he said, in effect: "Three house building permits have been issued so far and there appears to be 2 or 3 in the works."

What are the township related costs involved in building a \$100,000 house on a \$20,000 lot? 1) building permit: \$1000 (1% of the cost of building the house itself). 2) entrance permit: \$253) culvert, if needed: \$600 (usual size, longer ones cost more). 4) development charge: \$2500. 5) 911 sign, if needed: \$206) plumbing, \$2/fitting: say, \$307) parkland levy if a new lot is created, 5% of value of unimproved lot: \$1000.

This makes a total of \$5200 to the township for a \$100,000 house on a \$20,000 lot. There are, of course, costs involved in creating the lot: severance fees and survey & miscellaneous legal costs.

Electrical & sewage related permits are not a municipal responsibility.

An adequate potable water supply must be obtained before a building permit is issued. The Cataraqui Conservation Authority will be involved if there are environmental concerns involving the house location on the lot.

DEDICATION OF NEW ORGAN At ST. ALBAN'S

- Michael Shaw

The former Primate of Canada, Archbishop Edward Scott, officiated at the dedication of the newly-installed



organ at St. Alban's Anglican Church, which was purchased as the result of support from a wide range of Island residents as well as off-Island donors. A total of 80 people contributed to the purchase of the fine Ahlborn-Galanti organ.

With Archbishop Scott here following the dedication service are the rector, Rev. Andrew Chisolm, and wardens Dorothy McGinn and Dr. Harley Smyth. Many donors were

present at the choral evensong service on Sunday, April 21, when Dr. Smyth and Rev. Carol Finlay assisted the archbishop and rector. The organ was played by Dr. Robert Hunter Bell, former director of music at St. George's Cathedral, Kingston. A reception followed at the home of Harold and Erna Redekopp. The dream of a new organ for St. Alban's became a reality as a result of the initiative and energy of Carolyn McIntyre-Smyth and Diane Heatt. A committee of Carolyn and Diane, Karen Miller, Carol Finlay, Erna Redekopp, Claire Jenney and Bobbi Shaw followed through to organize the organ dedication celebration.

AIMS Report for May Beacon

-Neil Johnston

The Amherst Island Men's Society started their April 13th meeting with an excellent breakfast of pancakes and sausages prepared and served by the senior students who are earning money for their June trip to Quebec. Again the collection was turned over to the students. The Neilson Store sub-committee reported that the Andre Scheinman

Feasibility Study document has been received, and will be submitted to potential government grant sources. To address the need for incorporating the Neilson Store project as a non-profit limited liability corporation under the name of Neilson Store Museum and Cultural Centre Inc., Gian

Frontini offered his services to act as Chief Operating Officer and Robert Mackenzie will arrange legal council. David Brady is sourcing a Chartered Accountant. A number of fund raising activities are in the works to fill the

coffers for the Neilson Store project. The inaugural Farmer's Market opens in the Centennial Park on MAY 28TH. All Islanders who have extra plants and vegetables started,

spring produce like rhubarb, preserves, baking, or arts and crafts are urged to contact Brian Grace at 384-0912 to arrange a display table. The Island Homes Tour has been arranged for SATURDAY JUNE 22ND. The tour will include six visits and end in a Strawberry Festival and Art

Showing at Farnham, the Island residence of Janet and Brian Grace. Three homes scheduled to date are Michael and Bobbie Shaws' renovated schoolhouse on the south shore, and the classic McMullen, and the historical Fowler

homes on the north shore. Tickets at \$25.00 each will soon be available from AIMS members. A sub-committee has been assembled to develop an Amherst Island Day the weekend of AUGUST 2/3. John Kuti is chairing this project.

In November, the men of AIMS are developing a pie contest. Follow our progress in future issues of the Beacon. Two more AIMS members rose to the occasion to tell us how they came to Amherst Island. Our first speaker Paul Henshaw was born in Hamilton and raised in Toronto during the fabulous 40's and progressed towards his first

career by taking math and computer science courses. Paul met and courted Nancy in high school. In his early 20's

Paul worked for the CIBC as a computer programmer while keeping up with his night courses and entered 'main stream banking' in 1965. Over the next two decades, Paul served as a branch manager at full service banks in Ottawa, North Bay and Toronto. Entertaining now, but not when it was happening, Paul had to contend with some six holdups and extortion attempts. With guns pointed at him and potential bombs placed on his desk, our Paul survived his branch banking career. Then it was back to Ottawa in 'high end private banking' and remaining in Ottawa to end his banking



career (other than treasurer of AIMS) in commercial banking from 1990 to 1995. When age and years of service totalled 85, it was time for a change. The lure of the sea and some prompting from Nancy's brother, the late Barry Gartner and his wife Laura brought the Henshaws to Amherst Island and his second career as crew on the Frontenac II. Paul and Nancy have two thirty something sons, Craig and Stephen, plus 2 ½ grandchildren. Our second speaker was Don Pepper who was born in Dresden, Ontario but moved closer to the water in Sarnia with his six surviving, of eight birth sisters. His father worked on building three minesweepers. After the war, the family moved to Vancouver but could only stand the rain and snow for one year, so it was back to Sarnia to the same street and house they had left a year ago. Don worked at the Capital Theatre through high school and spent a lot of time at the candy bar where a lady named Pauline from Petrolia worked. After high school, Don joined Sarnia Bridge and spent the next few years running back and forth between Toronto and Sarnia. Don and Pauline married in 1955. When Sarnia Bridge was sold to Anthes Imperial, Don and Pauline moved to Toronto as soon as they frantically finished building a home on Lake Huron. Further consolidation through Runnymede Steel rewarded Don with the responsibility for logistics in moving 500 tons of materials per day via 16 trucks and drivers. Dominion Bridge, famous for the Sky Dome in Toronto, was Don's last stop for 11 ½ years as a production administrator, until the company shut down. Armed with some 24 courses he had completed including industrial engineering, Don set out on his own specializing in building dams, bridges, and tunnels on golf course projects. The company grew to 14 employees in Toronto and Gravenhurst. The Peppers brought their Front Road Island property 'sight unseen' in '69 through an associate They didn't make the

decision to locate here until Don was diagnosed with diabetes three years ago. Don and Pauline agreed to 'stop and smell the Amherst Island roses' after they had their home framed so Don could 'putter' (Pauline's word) and finish the interior. In semi-retirement, Don still has two operating companies, or maybe that should be three, with his commitment to finishing Pauline's home. Finally the Pepper's have bragging rights to their son Mark who owns and operates a successful retail furniture operation in Bowmanville. All Island men are invited to attend

AIMS next meeting at 8:00am on Saturday May 11th.

AUTHORS

- Ian Murray

Seeing John Kuti's book at the store - the Beacon bought a copy - got me thinking about how many Island residents have published books. The list so far is: John Kuti, Tom Sylvester, Stanley Burke and Peter Trueman. Soon to be resident, Terry Culbert, has also written a book. Who have I missed? The Beacon welcomes reviews of any of these books.

4-H NEWS

- Candace Youell & Brittany Sneep

This 4-H project was very busy. Our main focus was to study and make healthy foods. Our leader for this club was Freda Youell and the assistants were Candace Youell and Ashley McGinn. The group decided our name, it was 'Lookin' for Cookin'. We talked about how important it was to maintain a healthy diet and how important it is to balance our eating habits. We have made many tasty treats like: oatmeal cookies, chocolate chunk cookies, fruit and veggie dips and, our favourite, pizza! At the end of our project we each get a book containing each of our recipes. We had a great time learning and cooking healthy foods.

FARMING, FISHING & ROOFING

- Ian Murray

This is the time of year when the grass is really greener on the other side of the fence. Livestock all over the Island are peering though the fence at the lush greenery just out of reach. The woven wire, barbed wire and electric fences make for good neighbours and frustrated herbivores. Keith

Miller is concerned that the snow and frost last week may have injured the alfalfa plants that had been encouraged to grow by the 3 or 4 summer temperature days just before the snow. He is encouraged that there is enough moisture in the ground for seed germination when, with luck, planting happens. The commercial fishermen have caught some perch but prices are so low that it is hardly worth doing. Roofing has, so far, been little affected by the strike by Ontario civil servants which is about 6 weeks old now. However, some new construction has been held up and that will eventually have an effect on roof work.



MORE ICE CAPADES - Zander of DUNN INN

In the hope that my adventures on the ice in years past will inspire others to share their experiences, I bid winter "farewell" with these stories. One Sunday prior to the ice break-up in 1964 I set out to walk from Millhaven to Stella. The thaw had begun. The ice was several feet from the shore. Mr. Amos, of Millhaven, saw me walking along the water's edge trying to decide where to jump onto the ice and offered me his advice and help. After all, he had seen many winters on the lake. With a long pole he pointed to a place in the ice that looked strong enough to hold me. "There's a good spot", he said. "Try that." He poked with his pole and speared through the punk ice. "No, that's not a good spot," he confessed. He led me to another launching point and declared that it would take my weight. When the pole didn't go through I took him at his word and jumped on. He threw me the pole with the warning to use it every so often to test the ice. I walked the ice poking as hard as I could with every step I took. I kept going to my right because the ice didn't look good toward Stella. I was not far from Fish point when the pole went through the ice at my feet. Instinctively I rose up and tiptoed toward shore. Only when the pole stopped going through the ice did I realize how silly I had been. My best approach was to walk flat-footed on the ice to better distribute my weight. I did that and finally arrived on land. When I got to the Front Road there was Art Drumgoole waiting for me. He had seen me tramping the ice and had come to drive me home. Speaking of Art Drumgoole reminds me of the time I set out with him on his sled behind his horse to go to the mainland to collect the mail. It was raining lightly when we left. A third of the way across the wind began to scream and the piercing rain had soaked us. The West wind became so savage the horse and sled were no longer heading across

the ice toward Millhaven but had swung around and were pointing West. The horse was losing ground. We were being pushed toward the foot of the Island. We had to get back! The horse and sled kept facing West - parallel to the Island. The horse walked forward but went backwards! We felt ourselves fortunate to gain land again around Stella Bay. The last story concerns my old '52 Ford which I had adorned with chains to grip the roads and the ice. On one trip across the ice from Millhaven to Stella the car got stuck. When I tried to get it to move, the chains on the rear

wheels cut through the ice like a buzz saw. There was the car, up to its axle in the ice and going nowhere. I jacked the monster up. But then what was I to do? I had nothing to put under the wheels and I couldn't let them go back down into the ruts they had cut into the ice. I did the only thing I could think of. I took several runs and, like a football lineman, hit the car with body slams. The jack collapsed in slow motion. The jalopy came down outside of the ruts. I slipped into the Ford and backed it up slowly. Then, in low gear, I drove outside of where the wheels had been and willed that bucket of bolts over the ice to Stella. Those were the good old days. "Don't try such things today."

LETTER HOME - Christopher Kennedy

After the green grass and flowers in England it was slightly depressing to return to Canada at the beginning of April to find snow banks still around and the grass a dirty, greyish beige. Still, the sheep were well and the Island seemed to have managed quite well without me. Perhaps we are not as important as we sometimes think we are. We were all somewhat apprehensive about the departure of the Frontenac II for a month. Nobody was quite certain just how bad it would be. However, we have all had a reprieve with the Ontario government workers being on strike, and the Wolfe Island ferry therefore not going away for servicing. We must try not to feel too smug about our ferry continuing to run as usual, even if we do have to pay. I'm sure that the strike is no fun for the workers or those affected by it. I really thought we were in for an early spring when we had those balmy days in the middle of the month. The ground began to dry up, and the grass started to grow, but now it has slowed right down again, and we are back to more normal temperatures, and some rain. Tomorrow the shearer is coming to clean up the last four hundred ewes, and of course there is a forecast for heavy



rain and a cold wind. We have to get the job done though, as we start lambing next week. The shearer was due last weekend, but trod on a nail earlier in the week, and had to take a day or two off to recover. For the first three weeks of May we should be busy with lambs. We have the same crew as last year to help in the barn, so we hope it will all run smoothly. A lot will depend on the weather, if we are stomping round in rubber boots and rain-gear, or work-boots and a light shirt in the warm sun, like last year. By the next time I write we should have just about finished, and all the sheep should be out on pasture.

Second Edition

Thursday, April 30, 1970.

Island Beacon Amherst Island, Ontario.

Municipal Affairs Council Corner:

Four ferry crew changes were approved at last council meeting. Congratulations to Bill Kilpatrick, who received his mate's papers and will now operate in that capacity. Lloyd Strain is a new captain, Ed McCormick is purser, and Ted Wemp is a new crew member, as deckhand oiler. Other applications received will remain on file for future consideration when a position is open.

Council's bid on the fire tank truck was accepted, so the island now has to arrange for adequate housing of this much-needed equipment. Chairman of the fire protection committee, Glenn Sheil, is making plans, for getting our new acquisition home and for getting progress on the following responsibilities:- organizing a volunteer fire department, remodeling the town hall for a fire hall, and instruction on the use of the equipment, etc. A public meeting may ensue, in this connection. Next issue will have more news on this vital topic.

Council met in Special Session, recently, to consider the effect that 'sub-divisions' will have on our community. An amendment was passed to our by-law to, hopefully, further control the proper building on these proposed sites. The addition of tax dollars to our coffers can be of much benefit to the overall economy of the island but council is

determined to oversee, wherever possible, the projects to ensure that they are a boon, and not a detriment, to our society. Keith Miller chairman of the new buildings' committee, and Bruce Robinson building inspector, are, in council's opinion, doing a conscientious job in this regard.

There's been some difficulty in procuring the services of a bulldozer to push back the dump, and as soon as it is possible to do so, it will be done.

Road work continues and the forty-foot will be paved in '70 is the motto of the road committee. Amalgamation is being discussed, county-wise. Council members are studying brochures on this subject, hoping to find that - in spite of the overall picture now (no visible advantages for a township of our particular geography, being an island), that if it is inevitable in the future, we won't suffer loss of control of our rights and privileges. ...Marj. Aitken.

Rabies Clinic The Department of Agriculture through Dr. Rivington announces there will be a rabies clinic in June, the date to be set in next issue.

Amherst Islander The motorship Upper Canada recently left her regular run at Wolfe Island to replace our ferry for two days. The Amherst Islander was in Kingston shipyards for repairs. Slight load restrictions were in force while the Upper Canada maintained the regular schedule. ...Donna Willard.

Women's Institute News
Election of officers for W.I. 1970-1971.
Pres.- Mrs. Henry Hitchins.
1st Vice Pres.- Mrs. Wilfred Miller.
2nd Vice Pres.- Mrs. Wilbert Willard.
Sect. & Treas.- Mrs. Clinton Baker.
Dist. Director- Mrs. Marshall Glenn.
Alternate- Mrs. Lulu Strain.
Pianist- Mrs. Frank Fleming.
Pub. Relations & Press- Mrs. Lulu Strain.

Curator of Tweedsmuir History- Mrs. Vince Aitken.
Auditors- Mrs. Vince Aitken and Mrs. Fred Neilson.
Conveners of standing committee Home Ec. & Health-
Mrs. Edwin McDonald.
Citizenship & Education- Mrs. Ernest Fleming.
Agriculture & Can. Industries- Mrs. Fred Neilson.
Good cheer- Mrs. Ernest Filson.
Resolutions- Mrs. Lorne Veech.

The W.I. expect to canvass again this spring for the Cancer Fund.

The Safety Campaign Posters awards will be donated by the W.I. to the school children.

Church News The members of the Roman Catholic church will be glad to know their services will be held every other Sunday at 11:00 a.m. with the next service held on May 3rd.

The Presbyterian Church services will be each Sunday at 11:00 a.m. The members are pleased that a permanent minister will come to them in August. Rev. Gordon Reid conducted services on Sunday April 26.

The Anglican Church services will be as follows: Holy Communion, 11:00 a.m. May 3rd, and Morning Prayer, 9:00 a.m. May 10th.

The Amherst Island Community Sunday School begins May 3rd at 9:50 a.m. at the school. All children are welcome to attend. Superintendent is Mrs. Wilbert Willard, Secretary-Treasurer is Mrs. Raymond Wemp. Teachers for various classes will be Mrs. Allan Glenn, Mrs. Earle Tugwell, Mrs. Wilbert Willard, Mrs. Royce Eves, Miss Joyce Wemp and Mrs. Glenn Sheil. No attendance awards or achievement awards of any kind will be made this year. It is expected that a Sunday School picnic will be held later on and a Christmas Party for the children would conclude the season.

Dr. E. Andrews of Queens University has been appointed as supervising minister for Stella United Church.

Out Our Way

Mrs. A. Cole is a patient at K.G.H. We all wish you better health and a speedy recovery.

We have been hearing of Eddie Fleming's anxiety to get home again and we hope he will be able to return to Stella when the warmer weather comes.

Mrs. Henry McGinn was buried on the island Saturday, April 18th. She will be missed by her family and friends.

The news of the recent passing of Anna Neilson was received with sorrow. Funeral services will be held at St. Alban's Anglican Church on Thursday, May 30th at 2:00 p.m.

Irv. Tugwell is getting along well at the H.D.H. after a lengthy period of illness.

Mr. Hugh Drumgoole has just returned home from a stay in the hospital

. Wedding Bells

Miss Nancy Reynolds, daughter of Mr. Morris and Mrs. Hazel (Strain) Reynolds was united in marriage to Mr. Rob't. Innis which was held in Bridge St. United Church, Belleville, Saturday, April 25.

Births

Born to Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Franklin of Millhaven, a daughter Sherrie Leanne. Mrs. Franklin is Barbara, of the Bath Royal Bank, and is well known to all of us. ...Marion S. Fleming.

Friendly Faces

It may be of interest to know that a former teacher at Amherst Island Public School, Miss Cathy Sylvester, will return to her summer residence in Stella for the summer. She plans to take a summer course in Kingston and will commute back and forth. I'm sure the many friends she made while a resident of the island will be delighted to hear this.

Mr. & Mrs. Frank Brady and children Colin and Holly, residents of Ottawa spent the week-end of April 25th at their summer cottage in Stella. It was very nice to see them once again after the long winter. ...Janice Willard

Driving Club

The Beacon looks forward to some copy from the Driving Club. This organization has certainly proved their worth to our community and at this time of year, with the racing season opening soon, there would seem to be a real demand for track news and other information.

Mr. Milt Wells, a long time friend of Edwin Hogeboom, visited last weekend and mentioned that the Aurora Horse Show will be held on the second Saturday in June. He spoke very highly of this show.

Where Was The Fiddle & The Fire Water?

After darkness had swept her inky feathers over our island on Saturday, April 18 most rustic souls had settled down for the quiet pause that usually culminates the long work-filled week.

Suddenly spring's atmosphere of lethargy which had pervaded every fibre was shattered with the jangle of the telephone, "Fire in the marsh behind Royce Eves' farm!"

Almost instantly the soft evening sky was pierced with headlights and the smokey dust hung like mist over the township roads. The last laneway stretched into the darkness defying haste until finally searching eyes caught the faint glow of distant fire.

The farm yard was choked with cars but word had returned that a north-east wind was pushing the blaze out of harm's way toward the bay.

Friendly faces flashed in the darkness, murmuring relaxed greeting and exchanging pleasant talk. The grimmer thoughts of only a short while ago were lost and

I turned to begin the drive home with my family. However it was soon evident that this was not to be attempted so easily for several vehicles filled the narrow laneway.

There remained little to do but wait. As I sat my thought drifted to the whimsical note of a make-up house party rocking amid dancing and loud talk mingled with music and mirth. Would not a Charlie or a Bob of bygone days have produced a fiddle from "God-knows-where" and sawed off "Hail, hail, the gangs all here", or "There'll be a hot time in the Old Town tonight"?

Highschool News

These last few weeks at the school have been relatively quiet. On Friday night, however one of Canada's best bands "The Five Man Electric Band" was at Napanee. Greg Stewart, disc jockey for CKWS was M.C. at this dance, to which a couple of girls from the island went.

This Friday and Saturday night is Napanee's annual Variety Night. The title this year is "Starship N.D.S.S." Tickets cost \$1.25 for adults; .75 cents students and .50 cents for children.

The highschool girls are getting anxious again to play baseball. One of the physical education teachers at N.D.S.S. may come over to play for one of our teams, so there will likely be a scramble to see whose team she will be on. ...Laurie Kilpatrick. Chalk Talk (Public School News)

Spring fever seems to have hit the school but within the remaining two months we will achieve the impossible task of cramming in six months work.

Spring is the time for the Easy Rider on a bicycle and hikes and since no-one wishes to spoil this happy time with an accident, a representative of Ontario Provincial Police Department will be reminding students of rules and regulations Friday, May 1st. Dance

On Friday, April 24th. there was a dance at the school which was attended by many. Decorations were handprints and footprints made by Grade 4 & 5.

March of Dimes: Recently the school held a campaign to collect money for the March of Dimes. Mrs. Aitken reports collection totaled \$15.63, a commendable effort.

Miles for Millions:

This Saturday, May 2nd, students will be walking to aid the YM-YWCA in their collection of money for various organizations. If you wish to sponsor a pupil by contributing a small amount per mile please phone the school. For this 27 mile walk, transportation is needed to and from the Memorial Centre in Kingston. It will be necessary to be there at 8:00 a.m. Anyone wishing to help in any way please contact the school.

Students in Action:

Within the next two weeks we hope to organize our baseball season. It is our pleasure to announce an upcoming special school event. A special committee of the Principal's Association of the Lennox & Addington County Board of Education has organized a county track and field competition commencing in May. Pupils from all schools will compete in an attempt to win a position in the semi-finals to be held at the three high schools in the county. The winners of the semi-final series will then go to the final series early in June. We look for some pupils to win for the glory of Amherst Island.

The school was pleasantly surprised to receive a new Yamaha piano on Monday, April 27th.

Reminder: Next Monday, May 4, is Professional Development for the staff and a holiday for the students.

Both Mrs. Murray and I have received some very interesting and well done projects on spring and young animals.

By the way what ever happened to good old "Arbor Day"? ...Miss P. Abrams & Mrs. H. Murray

ANNOUNCEMENT

-Caroline Yull

I am pleased and proud to announce that I have now met all the requirements to become a lawyer, and my name is listed for the May 23 Call to the Bar. I will be opening a general law practice with a partner, Richard Bourdeau, who also graduated from Queen's Law in 2000. We will be happy to provide a free, half-hour consultation to anyone seeking legal advice or representation. I will be able to come to those who wish to be seen at home rather than in our offices in town. Our office location has not been finalised, but will be announced soon.

The firm name will be YULL BOURDEAU

Mature, experienced volunteer rider needed

to exercise / trail ride an 8 year old quarter horse gelding. Please contact Lynn de Haan at 389-6647 if interested.

"An object, after all, is what makes infinity private."

Joseph Brodsky - Watershark

HOLIDAY WEEKENDS BAKE SALES

Fridays 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! May 17, June 28, Aug. 2 and Aug. 30.

FOOD BANK DRIVE

Once again the Brownies, Girl Guides and Pathfinders will be canvassing for the Food Bank. Door to Door or drop off at the store on Wednesday, May 15th. from 4:00 to 5:45 pm. We would also like to let the residents of Amherst Island know that there is a box for dropping off used Ink cartridges from computers at the Amherst Island Community Centre and that by recycling printer cartridges money is donated to the Food Bank. Thank you for your continued support.

HAM DINNER

St. Paul's Presbyterian Church Mother's Day Ham Dinner Saturday May 11 5 pm to 7 pm Amherst Island Community Centre Adults: \$10; Children 5-12: \$5 For tickets contact: Bonnie Caughey 389-5729 Carol Glenn 384-7480

BASEBALL ANYONE?

The Amherst Island 4-H Club is organizing a Community Baseball Game on Saturday, June 1, from 4-6pm. There will be a BBQ from 6-7pm with hot dogs, pop, etc. available. Everyone is welcome. Please bring your own glove. Rain date is June 8.

EUCHRE

Friday night Euchres being held. Watch for the household mailer announcing the dates and times.
A I.R.A.

Happy Second Anniversary Kitten.

Many more to come. Bob

EMERALD SOCIAL & ATHLETIC CLUB

Info wanted... I'm interested in learning about this club for a future Beacon article.
Sally Bowen at 634-3841.

WOMEN'S RECREATIONAL VOLLEYBALL

Monday Nights, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. at the Community Centre, starting Monday, January 28, 2002.
Come out and join for fun and fitness. Encourage a friend to come along. Teams change each week, so you are not

obligated to attend every week. For more information, call Susie @ 389-2012 Sponsored by Amherst Island Recreation Association (AIRA).

I am collecting used stamps -

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

Phone Book Update

Please contact Jackie Sylvester at 389-1320 to add new names & or numbers to the next edition of the AI Phone Book

ARTISTS ARE COMING . . .

Some members of the Society of Canadian Artists will be staying on the Island for the weekend of June 7-9, 2002. The artists will be here for a meeting and to paint, sketch, photograph and otherwise just enjoy



a visit to our wonderful Island. Of course, private property will be respected but you might see painters on the roadside, on the dock, in the village, or wherever. This short note is just to let you know that . . . artists are coming . . . Peter Large, 9820 Front Road

"The Smiling Wilderness"

You may live near, you may live far - We can't remember who you are But would you please take time to look In case to you we lent our book. Like us it's likely slipper your mind Just look inside - our names you'll find! Please come and have another visit And we'll find which friend is it? Jean Tugwell

NEWS From the GENERAL STORE

We start summer hours on the Victoria Day weekend. Store hours will be: Friday May 17 - 9am-9pm Saturday May 18 - 9am-9pm Sunday May 19 - 10am-6pm Monday May 20 - 10am-6pm.

New movies in right now are:

Riding in Cars with Boys - Drew Barrymore

Zoolander - Ben Stiller

Artificial Intelligence - Haley Joel Osment, Jude Law

Hardball - Keanu Reeves

Bandits - Bruce Willis, Billy Bob Thornton

"O" - Julia Stiles, Josh Hartnett

Requiem - Ellen Burstyn, Marlon Wayans

The One - Jet Li

Captain Corelli's Mandolin-Nicholas Cage, Penelope Cruz

and for the kids we have:

Balto II

Hunchback of Notre Dame II

Cinderella II

and many more.

Have a great Victoria Day 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.

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Keith Miller 389-2588

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