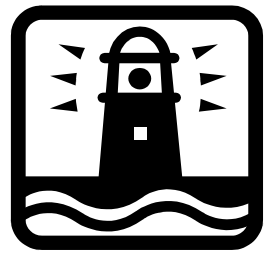


Amherst Island Beacon



Issue 430 *BONA LIBENTER, TRISTIA MAESTITER, MALA NUMQUAM* May 2014

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THIS ISSUE

-Ian Murray, Editor

Our next issue will have a tribute to our respected neighbour Keith McGinn who was buried in Glenwood Cemetery on May 1.

I hope some of our older readers enjoy reading the 20 & 30 year old archives as much as I do. It is astounding how much I have forgotten or mis-remembered. I wish we had a Beacon from May 1974 to include.

Those of us who enjoy these archives owe thanks to Don Tubb who spent many hours scanning old Beacons.

NEIGHBOURHOOD

- Lynn Fleming

Get Well wishes this month to Paul Glenn, Don Miller, Janice McGinn and Doug Willard.

Our sympathy goes out to Cora McGinn following the passing of her husband Keith, and to their children; Terry (Susan), Larry (Trudy), Eric (Janice), Yvonne, Leon (Joanne), and Kelly (Maureen), as well as their grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Condolences also go out to Keith's many extended family members and friends.

Congratulations to Paul and Gwen Laurette, who recently celebrated their 50th anniversary.

Sherry Jensen has just returned from touring Ireland and Scotland with her sisters.

Congratulations to Steve Kennedy and Dan Simpson, who accurately predicted the date and time that the ice would clear the channel: April 16th.

About 45 people participated in the pool held by CJAI's Friday Morning Show host, Larry Jensen.

Artist Jeff Mann spent a day at A.I.P.S., working with students to create some fantastic printed t-shirts and pillow cases - using car parts and paint. Later they created some "Car Part Art" to decorate the fence along the playground.

It seems Spring has finally arrived on Amherst Island. While we haven't had a really warm day as yet, and the breeze is still quite cool, the sun is shining and drying. The ice has finally gone, but not until mid April. Trees and bushes are finally budding, and Spring bulbs are beginning to push up through the ground. Snowbirds are beginning to return, there are new calves in the fields already and soon there will be lambs, fawns, goslings and ducklings. Hopefully, we will soon be complaining about the heat.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

- Mary Kay Steel

Our April meeting was held on Wednesday the 16th at the home of Leslie Gavlas commencing at 7pm. There were eleven members present plus one guest. President Liz Harrison called the meeting to order and we went through our usual opening rituals, followed by approval of the minutes of the March meeting. Good Cheer officer Elsie Willard reported on greetings and other wishes sent recently to community members. Our Advocacy Coordinator Anne Henderson will send a letter of support for keeping our post office open on Saturday mornings, as the authorities are trying to cut hours. Joyce Haines noted that the District Annual Meeting will

take place this year in Napanee on May the 27th. She will attend and others may join her.

Several items of old business were addressed. Of interest to readers is our decision to again sell attractive aprons this summer; they were very popular last year and sold out quickly. Another item discussed was our plans, led by member Andrea Cross, to establish a twinning sort of relationship with the WI in the Ards Peninsula, Northern Ireland, and between our AI school and a school there. Ards is the part of N. Ireland from which many of Amherst Island's early settlers hailed. Under new business, we planned the start-up of our Bake Sales, participation at the Saturday Island Market, and spring clean-up (Adopt-a-Highway Program) of a section of county road 4. Our first bake sale will take place on Friday, May 16th at 3:45pm in front of our post office. Members then thanked Liz Harrison for her fine work this past year as our president, and gave her a rousing three cheers.



Next it was on to our Annual Meeting. Every April we review our past year's work and elect volunteers who will form a new slate of officers for the coming year. Joyce Haines ably chaired this meeting, and after presentation of names, and show of hands, we had a new executive. Many had agreed to hold the same position as last year. We have a new president, Joyce Haines, who kindly offered to stand even though she has carried this responsibility before. Recording Secretary is Sharen English and Treasurer is Debbie Barrett. Other positions were duly filled.

The meeting was adjourned and an enjoyable (as always) social hour and delicious lunch were enjoyed. Next meeting is to be held on Wednesday, May 21st, at the St. Paul's church hall; it will be open to all community members and will feature a speaker on species at risk in our area.

One of our more famous couples, John Monroe and Vickie Keith, has decided to leave the island. We shall miss them both. Not only did they bring fame to the island through their long list of athletic achievements, but also from their unrelenting and at times exhausting support of their favoured causes.

In addition, the emergency responders will be lessened with their departure.

John's musical talents will be missed by the 'Islanders' group as well as their audiences.

Still, we sincerely wish them the best. (David glances at his calendar. It's Sunday as he writes this.) May the fourth be with you.

Here, we see them at a party with a group of friends who gave them a warm send off and a book of tickets – to bring them back. The photo was taken by Brian Little.

JANET'S JOTTINGS

- Janet Scott

Warbler

In Fall we talk about confusing Fall Warblers and I sometimes feel that perhaps we have frightened our new birdwatchers away from the wonderful world of Warblers. Yes they are tiny, tiny birds. Most range from 4 and a half to 5 and a half inches (12 to 14 cm) and weigh about 8 grams. Yes they are, in Fall, very drab and all look so much alike and yes they are little mites of high energy always flitting and moving about in the forest canopy, making it difficult to identify. In SPRING however they are coloured as brightly as any tropical bird and they are hungry after an exhausting flight north from Central America and the West Indies. This feeding frenzy is what allows us to see Warblers.

In order to see Warblers one of your best bets is to sit quietly in a forest opening and watch the treetops at dawn. (Note: Bring tea in a thermos. It can be chilly.) As the early morning rays warm the canopy the sleeping gnats begin to awaken and move around in the warmth. Mixed flocks of warblers dip and dart among the flowers of a Silver Maple or the sticky tips of a White Pine gathering this insect harvest. You will get glimpses of colour that amaze you. There's blue darker and richer than a Bluebird, Chestnut as vibrant as a copper pot, greens in chartreuse or emerald and oranges and reds as warm as flames. It's like bits of silken saris have been scattered in the treetops. As the trees warm the insects awaken in the lower branches and this feeding hoard moves down with the sun spots. This makes them easier to see and they will move back and forth across an opening in the trees which helps as well.

Let's look at a few of the likely sightings:

- Black-throated Blue Warbler- dark blue on the back, white on belly with a black throat and white checks on the wing. These checks identify the female who is all over olive with buffy under parts. One was so friendly that it almost landed on Alex's hand trying to see what the Chickadees were doing. Not all are this curious.
- Blackburnian Warbler- black back, with white markings on the wing and light under parts but on the throat it is bright, fiery orange hence it's other name- Fire Throat. There's a triangular black patch

on the cheek of both male and female but the female's throat and patch are lighter.

- The Chestnut-sided Warbler sports a flashy lemon yellow crown, outlined with black and bright chestnut patches on flashy white sides. His back is streaked with yellow against black.
- The Yellow-rumped Warbler more familiar to older birders as the Myrtle Warbler is a showy black and white bird with yellow on top of the head, along sides and on the rump.
- The Black-throated Green Warbler definitely has a black throat but shows a green back and white sides with black streaking.
- The Northern Parula is identified by the lime-green patch behind its head, blue back and white under parts highlighted by a rufous neckband.
- The Yellow Warbler, more commonly seen in your yard. It is all yellow with bright orange streaking on its breast.
- The Bay-breasted Warbler with black face, creamy under parts and warm brown accents on head and front.

There are many more warbler species with Redstarts and Common Yellowthroats, Blue-winged and Black and Whites but each has small distinguishing attributes that help you identify them. You will need binoculars. I recommend 7x35 or 8x40, anything stronger or with a wider field of vision just doesn't focus fast enough to catch the flitting birds. You will definitely need a bird guide and a chair helps as the wait could be long. Go out one May morning and greet the dawn while these colourful gems delight your eyes, their busy sounds fill your ears and all nature enthral your soul.

Good Birding Everyone.

MAY 2014, AMHERST ISLAND

-Sharen English

The Midges are back.

The temperature is 11 degrees Celsius.

A male and female mallard are eating bird seed at the feeder.

Judy, Janet and Anthony gave me it as a surprise Chanukah gift.

The red winged black birds say "O Ka Ree"

The Mourning Doves coo "Widdlee hoo hoo hoo"

The Turkey Vultures soar and swoop overhead.

The tree and barn swallows fly around my backyard. I heard that there was a Snowy Owl hanging around Susan and Garry's house.

I feel sorry for the Starlings that fly in circles because the star patterns are incorrect here. They are confused. They want to go back to Europe.

They were brought here by a man who wanted all the birds in Shakespeare's plays to be in New York's Central Park.

Thank you to Janet Scott for that information.

Thanks to Janet for all I have learned from her and Bonnie, Deb, Sherri, Judy, Anne Marie, Sally, dJoyce and the other birders.

We are The Motley Crew.

The voles have made holes in our grass, burrowing under the packed snow all winter.

The sheep have been sheared at Topsy and Foot Flat Farms.

The gardeners are lovingly preparing their gardens.

The branches from the windstorm are being collected, put at the side of the road and the road crews are putting them through a wood chipping machine.

Simcha, our dog, refuses to walk again. After a winter of sleeping on a pillow, the idea of a walk is not attractive to him. The gravel is rough on the roads and it is tender on his paws. I try to find a smooth patch for him to walk upon. Once the roads are smoothed we will walk in earnest.

David, me and Simcha.

COUNCIL GLEANINGS

- Ian Murray

From the 6th Session of Council, April 14

Included in the Council Agenda is a 16- page report (plus 9 pages of Appendices):

“Economic Benefit Study

“Amherst Island Wind Energy Project:

“CONCLUSIONS

“The Amherst Island Wind Energy Proposal is a significant construction project designed to provide electricity to the provincial grid from wind, a renewable source of energy. The construction of the project will involve construction costs of some \$227 million dollars. It will require 18 - 24 months to complete and will generate some 76 person years of local employment directly and over 103 person years indirectly. In addition, the local expenditures on

goods, services and accommodation will generate a significant impact on the local economy estimated at almost \$36.7 million dollars in direct economic benefit and over \$80 million dollars in direct, indirect and induced economic benefits. . . .

“From an economic perspective, the construction and operation of the Amherst Island Wind Energy Proposal reflects a local benefit in excess of some \$36 million during construction and an annual impact of nearly \$2.3 million not counting the indirect and induced benefits created for local land owners, the improved infrastructure, the increased economic activity and the promotion of the Island.” [Editor: this report only deals in economic benefits. It does not consider costs.]

From a PRESS RELEASE LOYALIST TOWNSHIP APPROVED FOR FUNDING

The Honourable Jeff Leal, Minister of Rural Affairs, has announced that Loyalist Township's application for Rural Economic Development Funding in the amount of \$20,000 was approved. On April 10, 2014, the province announced that it is providing \$125,826 through the Rural Economic Development Program to six communities in Eastern Ontario to boost tourism, attract investment and create jobs. Among those communities is Loyalist Township. This funding will develop an economic development plan to help Loyalist Township boost local tourism by targeting new markets, promoting branding opportunities and attracting investment. . . .

Loyalist Township Council established an Economic Development Committee in 2013. The Committee's mandate is to establish an economic development vision and strategy. With the approval of the application to the Ministry of Rural Affairs for Rural Economic Development Funding, the costs incurred in undertaking the development of an Economic Development Strategic Plan will be offset.

Mayor Lowry has been the driving force behind the establishment of the Economic Development Committee and states that "Loyalist Township needs a clear vision to move forward in developing the local economy for the benefit of residents and businesses. The funding from this grant provides seed money to get this process underway."

UPDATE ON SAND BEACH PROPERTY FUNDRAISING – APRIL, 2014

-Diane Pearce, for the Sand Beach Fundraising Committee

Thanks to the generous donations from many individuals and some community groups, the Sand Beach fundraising account stood at \$10,400 as of March 23, 2014. We are well on our way to reaching the \$25,000 goal. The generosity of ALL Amherst Islanders and people who support this community has been amazing, as always.

Two conditions attached to the Ontario Heritage Trust's 50% (\$167,000) contribution towards the purchase of the property are the preparation of a Baseline Documentation Report and a Stewardship Plan. The intent is to complete the two studies simultaneously. The Township has received quotes that are being evaluated now and the contract will be awarded soon. The cost of these studies is included in the Township budget.

Council has agreed to appoint an Advisory Committee made up of relevant Township staff, a Council member, one representative each from the

Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority and landowners affected by the acquisition, an Island resident and other parties to be determined.

We all want to know when the public will be allowed to walk on the Beach. It is expected that public access to the beach property will be delayed until the studies are complete and the obligatory conservation easement on the property is registered on title.

In the meantime, while we wait for the studies to be completed – and warmer weather to arrive - donations can be sent directly to Loyalist Township, P.O. Box 70, Odessa, Ontario, K0H 2H0 or dropped off at the Ferry Office during open hours. Any cheques sent to me at the Stella Post Office will be delivered to the Township Office. All cheques should be payable to Loyalist Township. Please note that the donation is for the Sand Beach acquisition. Charitable donation receipts will be issued by the Township.

Thanks to everyone for your interest and continuing support of this very worthwhile project.

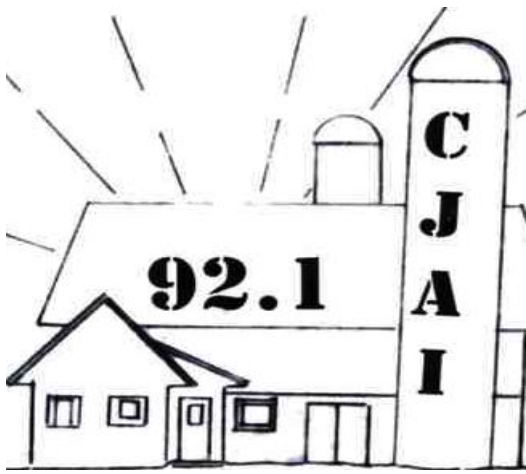


CJAI

Our 'radio station in a milk shed.'

Photo by Brian Little

Please see the next page for details of our annual fund raising drive.



Amherst Island Public Radio

Island Radio CJAI
6th Annual Fund Drive

May 19th to May 23rd, 2014

5 days of LIVE broadcasting, fun and entertainment

The event will be launched on Monday, May 19th at 7am by the hosts of the *Udder Morning Show* and will end on May 23th with the *Friday Night Show*.

This year is especially important as Island Radio is renewing its CRTC licence after completing a successful seven year mandate, thanks to the continued support of the community and the ongoing contribution of our numerous volunteers!

Island Radio is indebted to the community for its unfailing support and, again this year, we ask for your help to make the 2014 Fund Drive a successful and fun event! As we plan for this exciting week, please consider these options for your participation:

If you wish to donate prizes and/or auction items, please contact:
Susan Filson at 613 384-7866 or redandgarry@aol.com

If you have some time to volunteer during the week, please contact:
Dayle Gowan at 613 634-3815 or dayle@kos.net

Throughout the live broadcasting, volunteers will be standing by to take pledges at 613 384-8282. Everyone is welcome to drop in at Canada's smallest radio station for coffee, muffins and cookies where donations will also be accepted in person.

In the meantime, please listen to CJAI 92.1 for details of programming and prizes (auction and daily). You can also get updates that will be posted regularly on the Island Radio's website: www.cjai.ca

You can also find us on social media: Like our Facebook Page: **Island Radio CJAI 92.1 FM**
Follow us on Twitter: **@CJAI921FM**

AIMS

- Anders Bennick

Presentation: This month, our presentation was in the form of an interview by Zander Dunn of Ian Murray

of Topsy Farms. The interview was recorded for future broadcast on the CJAI.

Ian trained as an engineer and in 1969 he got a job in the Department of Highways in Kingston. The only teaching job available for his wife was on

Amherst Island, to where they moved. He arrived on the Island at “slush time” at the end of winter, not the most enticing time on the Island. He saw the remarkable bluffs and talked to Keith Miller who came to check their furnace. Keith had lived in Toronto, where he claimed that there was nothing to do, a statement with which Ian, also a farm-boy, wholeheartedly agreed. In 1974 Chris Kennedy arrived and they started buying sheep including 50 sheep from Manitoulin Island. Searching for a name for the farm that started with a “t” they settled on Topsy Farm.

Many small mistakes were made in the beginning, but if you should pick a “mission statement” it would be a question of “just getting on with it”.

Being practical and stubborn are essential qualities for survival. There are now over 1200 sheep on the farm and his sons are hoping to take over. They were given a real eye opener into sheep farming with the harsh winter we have just been through.

An important aspect of the farming operation is marketing and to do so Sally Bowen spends a lot of her time on the phone. The direct-market lambs are slaughtered at Joyceville, with the rest going to the Ontario Stockyards. The recent arrival of immigrants from sheep eating countries has been a boost to the sales of lambs.

The wool from the shearing goes for processing to Prince Edward Island and from there some it finds its way back as products for sale in “The Woolshed” on the farm.

A lot of changes on the Island have occurred since Ian arrived. When he came there were about 390 inhabitants, almost all old Island families. The land that Topsy now occupies at one time supported 14-15 families.

Ian lives in harmony with his neighbours, he has no dispute with them over the wind turbine project, the problem here in his estimate lies with the government and their policies.

Over the years Ian has provided a lot of public service to the Island, notably as publisher/editor of the Beacon, required reading for anyone living on the Island, but also in other capacities such as Reeve of the old Amherst Island Township.

For Ian some of the attractions of the island include its rural character and the friendliness of the

people as illustrated by the custom of waving to each other as you drive past.

Looking to the future, Ian commented that this is the Chinese year of the horse, which is supposed to signify big changes. One of these changes will be moving the Woolshed due to widening of the Township roadway.

On completion of the talk one question from the audience concerned the impression that many people have that Topsy at one stage was a commune including many draft dodgers from USA at the time of the Vietnam War. Ian replied that there never were any draft dodgers at the commune, but certainly some draft resisters. The majority of communal members were Canadians.

WORSHIP DIFFERENCES

- Zander of DUNN INN

During the first week of April Nance and I enjoyed Freeport, Grand Bahamas, where we were the guests of Anthony Gifford and Judy Bierma. We had won, at the Silent Auction of The St. Paul’s Garden Party in July, their offer to put up the winner of their prize on their yacht in Freeport for a week. Then Judy got the chance to rent a small apartment by the water and arranged for us to be there. It was perfect for us all. We got to spend some time with Anthony and Judy on their sleek “Swan of Tuonela” and we kept out of their hair while we enjoyed the house on the land. We did several things together and got a good look at Grand Bahamas.

Our hosts took us to good restaurants, led us on long walks along the beaches, showed us where the rich tourists gather and introduced us to a garden of flowers, wild birds and animals, unusual trees, a beautiful chapel, a unique labyrinth, many streams, ponds and waterfalls. Judy, who is virtually a missionary, took us to the schools where mentally and physically challenged children are taught. One of their teachers is from Nigeria, another is from Guyana. Later Judy took us to a restaurant where she teaches braille to six to eight blind people. One of her students owns the restaurant. The braille typewriters were financed by money from The Amherst Island Men’s Society and The Amherst Island Women’s Institute. To see Judy at work and Anthony leading in the singing among the sailors

where their yacht is moored reminded me that God works through people.

One of the most interesting events we experienced was Sunday worship at a church called Community at Heart Tabernacle. I was impressed with the emotions, the energy and the enthusiasm of the worshippers. I also found the service of worship a great contrast to what we enjoy at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church here on Amherst Island each Sunday.

First, the church was as big as St. Paul's is small. The edifice had balconies and outside accommodation for overflow. The people were numerous - about 200 in a building which could accommodate 500 and there were many children, teenagers, adults and old folks.

Most of the women wore colourful huge hats, wide and tall. The minister's wife, beautiful in red from flamboyant shoes to magnificent hat, began the service and used her powerful voice to urge us all to sing and wave our hands. Three other women took part in the service, one sang, one read the Scriptures, one did a liturgical dance.

The two male ministers participated in the service with gusto. The minister of the congregation led in prayer and then kneeled and prostrated himself in the chancel as we sang. The Senior minister or Bishop preached a 45 minute sermon.

There were eleven microphones at the front and each one was put to good use by those who sang or spoke or shouted. The Bishop shouted everything into the microphone on the pulpit so we'd sure to hear what he had to say.

There were three screens at the front of the church on which were projected words and pictures so we didn't need a Bible or a hymn book to follow along. The music was led by a grand piano, an organ, a trumpet, a guitar and a powerful set of drums. There was no gowned choir but there were many singers who led us all to proclaim the glory of God. With that dramatic leadership the church was rocking all the time, even during the time for prayer because everybody prayed aloud and individually. Riotous rhythms and booming beats lifted our voices in a joyful noise to the Lord!

The offering involved all of us going to the front to put our money into two baskets which were held by

two women. At one point in the service we were instructed to hug one another. I was enfolded by the arms of gigantic men and buxom women and made to feel at home and appreciated. A special welcome to the four of us visiting white people was extended by the bishop, by a woman elder and by the people around us.

The service concluded with Communion. The elders came to the front, some holding plates of wafers, some holding trays of small cups of grape juice. When we came forward to receive the elements the bishop and the minister anointed our foreheads with oil. We then took the wafers and the grape juice and consumed them there at the front standing up. We disposed of the individual cups in a basket which another elder held and we returned to our seats.

The service lasted two and a half hours. We began at 11 a.m. and finished at 1:30 p.m. The Church bus which had come around to pick us up about 10 a.m. got us back home by two p.m. I observed to Nance, Judy and Anthony that we had all received our money's worth.

Almost everything in that service was different than what we do at St. Paul's. And yet, we did all the same things, just in different ways. There was music and plenty of singing - joyful, forceful, moving and very loud! There was Bible reading - clear and calm. There were devout and physical prayers - by the people and by the ministers. There was an offering - through which we went to the front to show our commitment to God. There was a sermon - strong, stentorian and singular. In that Bahamian church the sermon led to a plea that we repent and show the change in our hearts by coming forward, something we don't do in St. Paul's. We four were welcomed by name and asked to stand so the congregation could receive us with applause.

Hospitality is spoken and displayed in that Grand Bahama church. After the service it was important that we shake hands with the bishop, his wife, the minister and some of the elders all of whom lifted our spirits with warm smiles and lavish greetings.

I left that church building inspired with the way God worked through those people and impressed that in spite of the differences in worship, in theology

and in the colour of our skins, I felt I was part of that fellowship.

God is everywhere and often God is even in the church!

THE CHEESEMAKER'S DAUGHTER:

-Judy Bierma

Memories of Amherst Island in the 60's.

The Bay of Quinte froze every winter then and we drove the ice on a regular basis. I remember Art Drumgoole going out with his horses and sleigh filled with small Christmas trees and setting the route across the bay. My Dad would drive the ice with his Buick. He would not have done that unless he truly trusted the ice and the path that Art set because his car was his first love. My Mom and I and three kids would ride in Art's sleigh sometimes. We would be all covered up with the Buffalo blankets that were in the back and Mom rode up front with Art. Snuggled under the weight of the blankets we would giggle and tickle each other and sometimes fall asleep.

One year I had a sprained ankle from a Basketball injury and was on crutches. I had to walk from the land across the ice to the car or truck. I was coming home from school on a Friday. I remember being worried about getting my crutch caught in the crack at the shore and then I remember worrying about slipping on the ice with the crutches. Neither happened. I safely got over the crack and got into the car. Actually I don't remember what vehicle we rode in when we came home from school. I'm sure each parent did not come to pick their kids up individually. I do remember riding in a truck so maybe Eddie McCormick came and picked us up.

Driving across on the ice was always a big adventure. The students that were in high school had to stay over on the mainland during the week. I think Ida Gavlas said that she came home every night and didn't stay over. I stayed at my cousin Reg's with his wife and two little girls for grade 9 and 10 and then at the home of the man that brought gas to the Island. He had two little girls too that I could babysit. For me it was a lot of fun living in Napanee for the winter and on the Island the rest of the time. I played a lot of sports so it allowed me to go to Basketball and Volleyball practice after school. When I turned 16 I got my license on that very day and drove the old Rambler to basketball practice after that, so missing practices was not a problem anymore - I could drive myself.

Learning to drive on the Island was fun. I started driving when I was eleven. I drove the old truck and the whey truck. Dad used to come with me when I was learning but I think he only came a few times and then I was on my own. One of my jobs was to take the garbage to the dump in the old truck. There were big holes in the floor boards so you got splashed when you went over puddles in the road. There wasn't a key that I remember...the starter was on the floor and of course it was standard. I think it was a GMC, does that make sense? Or maybe a GM.

I loved growing up on the Island. It was different in a good way. Living on the Island was much more interesting than living on the mainland. I always felt we kept more the old ways or the olden days in our everyday lives.

Email me and tell me your memories of growing up on the Island: judybierma@gmail.com

Stella's Café

OPENING: Thurs. May 15

FREE COFFEE on Opening Day
Thurs., Fri., Sat., Sun. & Holiday Mon.
8:30 AM – 6:30 PM

Friday Night: Guest Chef Night
Friday Night: Sing-along

Do you have a cooking talent? Is there a secret recipe in your family? Want to join in on the fun? Guest Chefs are still needed for Friday nights throughout the season.



Roustabout Haley Gordon, about to pick up fleece for shearer Don Metherall – photo by Don Tubb



Roustabouts Carl, Leah and Peggy are relaxing. Photo by Rhéni

GRANT RECEIVED

-Bill Barrett

Great news! Many thanks to the New Horizons for Seniors Program for a grant of \$5045 to the Neilson Store Museum and Cultural Centre to fund new presentation technology for the Internet Cafe, Back Room talks, and Community Events.

"Presentation technology" includes a new projection unit, monitor, podium with microphone, laser pointer, and a secure storage unit. As those of you who have used the current projector know, it is reaching the end of its useful lifespan and there is no backup in the event of equipment malfunction or failure.

The goal of the project is to enable Islanders to learn to use technology together and to facilitate community meetings.

The equipment will be available at Back Room talks and the Internet Cafe at the Museum, loaned to the Women's Institute, AIMS, Recreation Committee, Churches and used for other community events.

Special thanks to the Museum Board and in particular to Andrea Cross, Bruce Burnett, Brian Little, Dayle Gowan, John Schutzbach, John and Sherrill Wright, David Pickering and others who helped to prepare the submission. The support of AIMS and the Women's Institute is also gratefully acknowledged.

A team is working to select the appropriate equipment and hopes to have the new technology in place in June.

The Internet Cafe at the Museum is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 to 11 am and on Wednesdays from 1 to 3 pm. Just drop in and bring your computer, iPad, cell phone, digital camera, or whatever technology challenge you are facing. It's a very supportive and friendly process. The approach is to ask what help you need rather than offer "lessons" or "courses". Bring your technology challenges big or small and volunteers will help you solve them.

You may also come to the Internet Cafe to use the Internet with free access generously provided by Kingston Online Services.

The fee is a nominal \$10 per year or a loonie per visit to the Museum donation box.

Everyone is welcome and coffee is usually available.

Like us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/AmherstIslandInternetCafe>

From ANOTHER PRESS RELEASE

The Council of Loyalist Township is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Robert Maddocks to the position of Chief Administrative Officer for Loyalist Township, effective June 2, 2014.

“Bob comes to Loyalist Township with extensive municipal experience as CAO at the Township of Rideau Lakes as well as a Senior Municipal Advisor with the Ministry of Municipal Affairs. We are confident that Bob will be able to work with Council to fulfill its Strategic Plan and our economic potential,” states Loyalist Township Mayor Bill Lowry. . . .

Bob holds an MPA in Local Government from the University of Western Ontario and a BAA in Urban and Regional Planning from Ryerson University. He is a full member of the Canadian Institute of Planners as well as an active member of the Ontario Municipal Administrators’ Association. .

. .

THANK YOU NOTES

To all my friends and family on Amherst Island.

Words cannot express how grateful Mark and I are for the outpouring of support given to us over the last year.

All of you are amazing --- the meals delivered, the flowers and the cards, made such a difference during what was a very difficult year for us.

We are truly blessed to be living in such a caring community -- Thank you, so, so much.

Cherry and Mark

The family of David Kerr would like to express sincere appreciation and thanks to all of their relatives, friends and neighbours for their kindness, messages of sympathy, floral arrangements, delicious food and charitable donations to Heart and Stroke during the loss of our beloved David, husband, father, son, brother, brother-in-law and uncle.

Thank you to Laurie for your heartfelt eulogy and to Warren, Kevin, Mark, Ron, Matthew and Michael, our pall bearers.

A special thank you to Reverend Dr. Zander Dunn for the funeral service and to the St. Paul's Presbyterian Church Women for the beautiful lunch.

Our thanks and appreciation to the Wartman Funeral Home, Napanee, for their guidance and support.

Sincerely, Brenda, Madlyn, Suzanne and families

Looking for vendors for the Emerald Music Festival. You must provide your own table and covering and we will provide the space.

Good opportunity for Islanders to show off their wares.

Contact Dan Simpson @ 613-389-8297 or email emeraldfestival@gmail.com

The Neilson Store Museum and Cultural Centre presents

A Fantastic Island Fiesta

What have you and your family got planned for Saturday, July 12th, 2014 ?

Do you want to try something different? Do you want to take part in an activity suitable for all ages? Do you want to stay right here on Amherst Island and enjoy activities that happen right here?

Many of our Island Artists and Artisans have volunteered to share their gifts and passions in a

Keep the date open and stay tuned for further news from the Museum.



The Neilson Store Museum and Cultural Centre will be opening again on Friday, May 16th at 7:00 PM with a Backroom Talk by Professor Henk Wevers about "The Kingston Waterworks 1896".

During 2014 to 2015, we will feature John A. Macdonald and his connection to Amherst Island as Canada celebrates the 200th anniversary of his birth. We will look at the Victorian era and the turn of the

series of workshops right here on Amherst Island. The monies raised will help the costs of paying Island Students to act as Interpreters in our museum. The students learn communication skills and raise a little money towards their further education. We at the museum gain their youthful enthusiasm and interest in History. You in the community know that these students are promoting our museum and heritage.

century on Amherst Island. Please come and see exhibits from a long ago era and perhaps have a few nostalgic moments as you stroll through time on the floors of a bygone general store.

Kim's Foot Care - on wheels Advanced Foot Care Nurse Why go off the Island when I can come to you? 613-273-3857 and Cell 613-449-7557

With the end of a long winter, flooding is to be expected. Here we see a shot down Emerald Forty-Foot.

Photo by Brian Little



LAMBING AT TOPSY FARMS

FROM MID-MAY UNTIL
EARLY JUNE

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kids and casual clothes

Cuddle or possibly bottle-
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See hundreds of lambs in
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FROM THE ARCHIVES:

AMHERST ISLAND BEACON: May 15, 1984 -
Volume 3 Issue 76

A JUICY BIT OF HISTORY

One of the truly great figures in Ontario
agriculture who came to upper Canada in 1796 was
not really interested in settling here at all.

No, he was pursuing the woman he loved. We owe
a great debt to Dolly Irwin because she had won the
heart of John McIntosh.

McIntosh discovered 20 small apple trees when
clearing his property in Dundas County, started a
nursery and, with his son, established a product from
one of these trees that has become a world-famous
staple of Ontario agriculture. In fact, in 1912, fruit
growers in the region built a monument to the
original tree, which had died that year.

KIDS' SOFTBALL - AMHERST ISLAND
- Brian Ward

*It is time to start our 1984 softball season and it is
a year of change. The ages of our kids have forced
some changes in the teams that we will have this
year as compared to last year.*

*The teams we will have this year are a Peewee
Team, a Squirt Team and a Grasshopper Team.
Some of the kids will be playing in a division higher
than their age normally would, but it is the only way
we can set it up. Lists of the teams are attached and
schedules should be ready by next week end, the 19th
of May. Most teams will start the last week in May. .
As usual we will need all the help we can get both as
umpires for home games and in transporting our
teams to the games away.*

Peewee:

Nicky McGinn
Steven Ward
Julie Forester
Tessa Fabian
Teddy Binas

Kirk Collins
Ricky Welbanks
Trudy Strain
Donnie Miller
Jamie Miller

Jake Lewis
Sandra Wilson

Jim Belsmith

Squirt:

Jeff deHaan
Peter Horth
Mike Strain
Jamie Thornhill
Laura Wemp
Chad Miller
Richard Dodds

Hugh Filson
Sherry Ward
Reginald Hitchins
Jeff Forester
Mike Horth
Jessie Yull

Grasshopper:

Amy Caughey
Jason Silver
Gordon Thornhill
Jamie Silver
Sarah deHaan
Jason Fleming
Jason Hutchison
Angela Fleming

Tracey Hitchins
Lori Caughey
Ricky Bedford
Douglas Gavlas
Kevin McCormick
Heidi Hitchins *
Crystal Bedford *
* maybe

LIBRARY NEWS

- Diane Gavlas

Thank you to all who turned out and enjoyed Mr. Russ Waller and the Loyalist Diary. Mr. Waller and I were pleased at the numbers for such a stormy night.

A reminder that 150 books will be changed on May 22nd, so if you have not been finding what you want on hand, perhaps some will come with this rotation.

Lyn and I are always available for inter-loan requests. If there is anything you would like please let us know and we will try to get what you would like.

The Library also has 8mm and 16mm films that are available for a small fee. If you or a group want to send for films, just come in and select from the lists at the Library.

SHELL STATION

In April 1984 the Shell Station in Bath was opened under the new management of Bert Nesbitt.

Since the purchase of their farm in March 1980, Bert and his wife May were seasonal residents of the Island. With the acquisition of Bud Peter's Shell, Bert will be living on the Island full time and will be joined soon by his wife and daughter.

Bert plans to keep the station's previous employees as well as maintaining the same quality service and reliability of the past.

CARD OF THANKS

We wish to express a sincere thank you to Judy Miller, Annette Phillips, Betty Wemp, Marie Ward, Tena Tugwell, Lucille Brown, Sandra and Kim Filson, Beatrice Wemp, Helen Miller and all friends and relatives who helped serve and provide the lovely lunch following the funeral of our Uncle Fred Neilson.

A special thanks to Tom Tooke, Donald Miller, Chester Tugwell and Marjorie Brown. We also wish to thank Marg Stevenson for playing the organ and the ladies who sang in the choir.

Earle and Jean Tugwell

FROM THE ARCHIVES:

AMHERST ISLAND BEACON: May 15, 1994 -
Volume 4 Issue 195

REGULAR COUNCIL REPORT FOR MAY 1994

-Christopher Kennedy

All members of Council were present at the regular meeting. The Reeve was wearing his chain of office as Warden of the County. Most impressive.

At the beginning of the meeting Tom deHaan spoke to Council about having the Lot Levy waived on his severance, as he had first applied for a severance before the Lot Levy By-Law was passed.

Ken Alberton then addressed Council on the Lot Levy, pointing out, with figures he had researched, that the 5% figure was much higher than most local municipalities, and that this Levy would put the cost of lots out of reach of many young families. He felt that everyone on the Island, not just severing lots, should contribute to the cost of the Back Beach (one of the main reasons for the new Lot Levy). He felt that some fee was valid, but that 5% of the value of the land was too high.

Council then decided that the fee would not be charged when, as in deHaan's and Alberton's case, approval in principal had been granted before the Lot Levy By-Law was passed.

The Ambulance Service has been very slow to page out the First Response Team, and attempts to speed

this up have failed. Alex Scott, the Deputy Fire Chief, asked for Council's help in speeding up the paging. Also the Ambulance does not seem to be using the grid system for the Island, and last month an ambulance became lost, fortunately not on an emergency call. The Reeve said that he would request meetings with the required people to try to improve matters.

Stuart Miller reported that the Road Crew have been putting gravel on the roads so that they are ready for the calcium.

Council is still working on trying to improve the paint job on the ferry.

M.T.O. has authorised a \$1,034,400 ferry subsidy this year. This is meant to be 90% of the operating costs, the same as in previous years. The Frontenac II is due before the long weekend in May.

The Township has received the rest of the grant for the new Township Roads Shed, and there may be enough left over to pave the yard in front. Council will apply to M.T.O. for supplementary subsidy to cover the cost of repairing the Front Road between the school and the Dump Road and to finish paving the Stella Forty Foot.

The Ministry of the Environment seems to be quite pleased with the dump. There does not appear to be a problem with leachate. If the Township can acquire a buffer more around the dump it may even be possible to enlarge it so that it will take all our garbage for some years to come.

Council is considering applying for funding under the Liberal Government's infrastructure programme to build a new Fire Hall.

The County Budget for this year had been passed with a 0% increase in property taxes.

Five permits were issued by the Building Inspector in April, to Tom deHaan for a demolition and a building (a house), to Ted Wemp for demolition, to Ken Albertan for a renovation and to Topsy Farms for our new workshop.

Council has received several letters from people on the South Shore about road relocation. Council reiterated its position that the new road location would be decided by mutual agreement between the landowners and the Roads Superintendent.

Vaughan McMullen will be hired on a contract basis as cemetery caretaker. Plans are going ahead

for Bill Hedges to rebuild the stone wall at Pentland Cemetery.

*Council the adjourned at about 11 p.m.

THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

- Annette

A very Happy 90th Birthday to Piet Witteveen. Piet will be celebrating with a trip to Holland to visit his family later this month.

Welcome to new residents Samantha Galloway and Jeff Millard (Ken Albertan's cottage) and Colin and Kevin Powick (Millicent Harrison's).

Congratulations to Jacob Murray for winning 5th place in the county public speaking contest.

Best wishes to Lucille Brown and George Mygind, both still in hospital. And although you wouldn't know it to see him, Keith Miller had surgery last week, and is recovering at an amazing pace. A speedy recovery to Donny Miller.

It is with tremendous sadness that we note the passing of seven-year-old Brandon McCormick, following a courageous battle with cancer. Our most sincere sympathy to his parents, Michael and Jill, and sister Deanna. Brandon was the grandson of Helen and a nephew to Paul and Holly McCormick; Pam and Peter McCormick; Penny and Tony deHaan; and Burgess Stevenson; Noel McCormick and Tamara Grant.

4-H NEWS

- Lori Caughey, Press Reporter

A huge thank you to all members of the Amherst Island Women's Institute for their support of our 4-H sewing club. Through their help all seven girls in our club were able to add important supplies to their sewing kits.

Our Achievement Night was in late April in Napanee. Our club gave a mini fashion show as part of our programme.

Around 200 4-Hers and their parents attended from all over L & A County. Our very own, Ida Gavlas won the door prize and came home with a great cake.

Our President's name, Kelly Baker was accidentally omitted from a prior Beacon. We thank her for her leadership.

The 4-H Beef and Dairy Calf Club is organizing this month. If you are interested in joining or have any questions about it, please phone our leader Bruce Caughey at 389-2012 right away.

From SHARPENING THEIR GUARD

- Capt. Kelly Marie Radcliffe

For the first time ever NATO is operating a peacekeeping mission for the UN. For the first time ever, Canadian maritime patrol aircraft are participating in a NATO contingency operation.

There are a number of firsts when it comes to Operation Sharp Guard, a NATO operation being run in support of the UN Embargo against the former Yugoslav Republics. Operation Sharp Guard is presently being supported by 2 Canadian Ships, HMCS Halifax and HMCS Preserver, 2 Sea King helicopters and a 55 person detachment with two long range patrol Aurora aircraft.

The Aurora detachment is based of Sigonella, Italy, and for the first time ever, CFB Comox's crew 6 is flying patrols over the Adriatic to enforce the embargo against the former Yugoslavia. . . .

For Capt. John Gavlas, the acoustician working with crew 6 while in Sigonella, it is not just the lack of merchant vessels that keeps him hopeful, it's also the lack of submarine contacts which encourages him. "Considering that using my Anti-Submarine Warfare skills could mean dropping a torpedo on a sub full of people I don't know, I am not at all disappointed that my skills have not been required."

OPEN HOUSE: THE BACK KITCHEN

Owned and operated by: Susan Sedore, Garry Filson and Kristy Grange

When: Tuesday May 24, 1994

Where: In the Village of Stella

What: New Take out Food Restaurant

Time: 12:30 - 1:30 pm

Complimentary hot dogs, tarts and coffee will be served.

Grand Opening on Wednesday, May 25, 1994 with full menu from burgers and fries to homemade pies.

EMPIRE LOYALISTS

Anyone interested in becoming an associate member of the Empire Loyalists, please contact Leigh Wemp

THANK YOU NOTES

The family of the late Allan Veech extend our sincere thanks to everyone who attended the funeral home, sent cards, or flowers, made phone calls, donated to charity in Allan's memory or expressed their sympathy in so many ways.

Special thanks for the wonderful caring visits on the Island and to Mom in Napanee. Ladies of the ACW and PCW your visits are truly appreciated.

Our sincere thanks for your thoughtfulness.

The Veech family.

I would like to thank all my family, friends and neighbours for all the cards, goodies and visits while I was in hospital and since returning home. I would also like to thank the Legion, Women's Institute for cards and the ladies of the A.C.W. and P.C.W. for their visits and goodies.

Ralph Wemp

I would like to thank all those who sent cards, gifts, phoned and visited following my recent surgery.

Keith Miller

I would like to thank everyone who sent cards and goodies and visited during my stay in hospital.

Special thanks to my Mom, Ruth Andrews and to Caroline Yull.

Your help was greatly appreciated.

Marjorie Baker

From ISLAND BEACON: May 15, 1980 - Volume 3 Issue 28

*SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING - Apr. 21/80
- Ian Murray [& the next 3 items]*

Council passed by-law #3-80, the Zoning by-law.

Darrell Miller was hired for the position of deckhand on the ferry.

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING - Apr. 25/80

This was a joint council meeting with representatives of Pelee Island to discuss ferry operations.

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING - May 6/80 1

1. Harry Filson and Rick Bedford, representing the Fire Fighters' Association, presented plans to

Council for an addition to the township fire hall. The estimated cost is \$1400, with \$700 from Council, \$500 from the "Firefighters" and \$20 from the Amherst Island Mutual Fire Insurance Company. The work is to be done by the "Firefighters" on a voluntary basis.

2. Council agreed to certain amendments to the Zoning By-law (subject to review by the planning consultants.)

3. Council agreed to grant to the ISLE Committee \$100 toward cleaning up the roadsides.

4. Council conducted the usual financial and administrative duties. 5. Various letters were received and filed.

ZONING BY-LAW PUBLIC MEETING - May 13/80

Approximately thirty Island residents attended this meeting at the Public School. The representative of the Planning Consultants handled himself confidently, and the meeting was, I believe, quite productive. The many spirited discussions were carried on without ill-humour or rancor.

AMHERST ISLAND FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION

- Warren Kilpatrick

Members of the Fire Department and Association would like to express their thanks to the Island community and to people associated with the Island. Their support of our last draw made it a profitable success. The winning ticket for the Pioneer chain saw was drawn at the Firehall Open House April 26th. Holly McCormick drew the lucky ticket and the winner was an Islander, Tim Stroud.

We would like to thank all those who showed interest in the Island Fire Department by attending the Open House. Also we appreciated donations made that night. An estimate for the addition to the back of the Firehall has been made by Rick Bedford and total costs of materials come to roughly \$1400.

The Amherst Island Township has given \$700 and the Amherst Island Mutual Fire Insurance Co. has given us \$200, for which much appreciation is due. The other \$500 is being added by the Firefighters Association. All the labour is being supplied by the Firemen of the Island which will cut costs greatly.

Look forward to our annual street dance this summer. It will be a good one!

CARDS OF THANKS

Tom joins me, along with Karen and Debbie and their families, in thanking our many friends, neighbours and relatives for your kind expressions of sympathy after the recent death of my mother, Mary Schwerdfeger.

A special thanks to the ladies of the A.C.W. for your thoughtfulness.

Audrey Miller

We, family members of the late Robert Brown, wish to express our thanks and appreciation to friends, relatives and neighbours for kindness and comfort shown to us, also cards, floral tributes and donations to charity and to Rev. Mr. Lindsay for words of comfort at the time of our brother's death.

Sincerely, Georgia & Gordon Reid

BEE HAPPY BEE SWARMS

- Tom Sylvester

When honey bee colonies become over populous, many of the bees leave the parent hive and fly off with their queen. These bees frequently form a "swarm" or cluster on a tree branch, or some other convenient resting place, and remain until their scout bees have located a suitable permanent nesting place. A transient swarm will usually remain clustered for a few hours to a day or so, and then move on.

As a rule, a swarm does not constitute much of a hazard, as long as it is not disturbed. You may notify us and we will attempt to remove it.

CARD OF THANKS

The family of the late Robert Brown wish to express sincere thanks to all friends, relatives and neighbours for their many acts of kindness, floral tributes, donations and refreshments brought in at the time of the death of a dear husband and father.

Special thanks to all the girls that helped us in nursing Bob while he was home. Without you all we would never have carried on.

Thank you all from the bottom of our hearts.

Lucille and Boys



Do you know what this is? If not – keep reading – this is important!

Deer Ticks and Lyme Disease

- Sally Bowen

Did you know that birds and family pets are very common carriers of the black-legged ticks that are known to carry Lyme Disease? Not all ticks carry the bacteria that can be so devastating, but many do.

Prevention recommendations include wearing long pants and long sleeves and a hat when in the bush or long grasses. Wear your socks rolled up over your pants. Since the little devils can get into just about anything, checking your body and those of your children daily is really important.

I urge everyone reading this to get a tick lifter from a vet or the nearby department of health and make sure everyone in the family knows how to use it. It is fork-shaped so can slide between skin and tick. Don't use violence or tweezers as it will squeeze the mouth parts.

If you find an embedded tick, don't panic. A gentle twist and lift and it is removed. Keep the tick in a clean bottle and take the person and the tick directly to emergency in Napanee or a clinic.

Insist on a single prophylactic dose of oral antibiotic and that the tick be tested. Within 48 hours, that should be sufficient as the possible bacteria won't yet be in the blood stream.

Do NOT accept the suggestion that you wait 2 weeks or so for a bulls-eye rash to appear. They don't always, and by that time, the spirochete are in your system.

Enjoy the wonderful Island fields and woods, but be cautious.

As far as I am aware about 10 people in our population of about 450 have had Lyme disease already.

ADVERTISEMENTS

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Paintings, Prints & Art Classes

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FOR SALE Wooded, hilly, 4-acre-plus, waterfront lot next to the Fowler House. Ask for details. Call Hugh & Claire Jenney 613-384-7830 for an appointment to see the property.

AMHERST ISLAND CHIROPRACTIC 10650 Front Rd. Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. For appointments call 613 328-8892

AMHERST ISLAND STORE Monday - Friday: 9am - 11:30am; 2:30pm - 5pm Saturday: 9am - 1pm (Post Office closes at noon) Sunday: closed

HARTIN'S PUMPING SERVICE: Septic Pumping & Inspection 613-379-5672

BETTY'S HOME COOKING My Market Goodies are available! Plus if you want a full meal to go... a few days notice and your cooking for company is over. Call Betty 389-7907

I AM NOW SELLING WATKINS PRODUCTS AS WELL AS RAWLEIGH PRODUCTS. Catalogues available. To place an order call Marie Ward at 613-389-5767 or via email: bandmward@xplornet.ca

CHILDCARE Looking for a local reliable childcare professional? Recent Early Childhood Education graduate, Brooke Reid is available to look after your children whenever needed. Registered with the College of Early Childhood Education

First Aid/ CPR certified. Contact Info: Home: 613-389-4484, Cell: 613-484-9046

GODDEN'S WHOLE HOG SAUSAGE We would like to thank our faithful sausage customers on Amherst Island for their continued support of our product. Flavours now include: Salt & Pepper; Honey & Garlic;

Sundried Tomato & Oregano; Hot Italian; Sweet Chili & Lime; Maple Breakfast; and Salt & Pepper Breakfast. Now selling packages of 4 sausages!! See more at thewholehogblog@blogspot.com; Facebook, "Godden's Whole Hog Sausage"; or, follow us on "Twitter @Godden Farms". Please call ahead for large orders, 705-653-5984. With Sincere Thanks, Lori Caughey & Family.

FOOTFLATS FARM ACCOMMODATION:

www.footflats.com (613 634-1212) Goodman House (waterfront) - 4 bedrooms, 3 bath - available year round

LOCAL ELECTRICIAN 30yrs exp, \$25 an hour. Also Home Renovations, Tree Removal, Pressure Wash. Call Cary 389-8327.

HELP STILL NEEDED We need the following items for the Lennox and Addington S.P.C.A. Used towels and linens, paper towels and cleaning supplies, pet food, kitty litter, dog and cat toys are always in demand, Canadian Tire coupons and pop cans. There is a large container in my porch for the pop cans and any other items can be left in my porch as well. Thank you for helping to support our animal shelter. Further information needed? Call Freda Youell - 613 384-4135.

ISLAND YOGA *Call Taggett for more information at 613 888-5156

POPLAR DELL FARM BED & BREAKFAST 3190 FRONT ROAD, AMHERST ISLAND Welcoming guests for over 30 years. Also, Cottage Rentals and Godden Sausage sales. Call Susie @ 613-389-2012

TOPSY FARMS WOOL SHED 613 389-3444 Wool and sheepskin products including yarn, blankets, crafts, and individual photos, books and booklets by Don Tubb. Open weekends and most weekday mornings. We also have fresh frozen lamb cuts

WANTED: A laptop computer to purchase, appropriate for a child's use. call Sally [613 389-3444](tel:6133893444)



Tour the Stone Walls of Amherst Island

Saturday, May 24, 2014 • 9am - 2pm

\$50 registration in advance.

Please call 613 634 1388

Get a detailed and informative tour of one of the aspects that makes our island unique. Tour the island with a modern day stone builder. Gain insight into the history and techniques behind our beautiful fences; both the old and the new. There will be snacks provided and a lunch at The Lodge is included.

Provided in association with The Lodge
www.thelodgeonamherstisland.com



Coyote Photo by Brian Little