

Amherst Island Beacon



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THIS ISSUE

-Ian Murray, Editor

There have been a few (gentle) complaints about the amount of archives that have appeared in recent Beacon issues. So, I have done a more brutal editing of the archives than usual. If you don't find the archives interesting, just skip them.

ISLAND ROADS

-Lynn Fleming

A comment in last month's Beacon, saying an African road "was worse than Island roads, if that was possible" needs to be addressed. Amherst Island is a rural community, with dirt and gravel roads. There have never been any promises that they would be anything but, that I am aware of. In winter, the snow removal is better than many mainland roads, and in summer the roads are constantly graded, graveled and calciumed. Heavy rains and Spring thaws wreak havoc on the roads, but as soon as soon as possible, the road crew is at work on them.

I have been driving bus on the Island for the past 16 years, in every season and weather condition. I can attest to the improvement over the years of our roads, as funds and equipment become available.

A bigger concern for me is the lack of regard for the speed limit in the Village, especially past the school at 2 minutes to the hour, or total disregard for the stop sign in the Village, when someone has 30 seconds to catch the ferry, or wants to beat the next car to that perfect spot in the line-up.

If smooth, paved, multi lane roads is what you want and need to drive on, Amherst Island probably isn't for you.

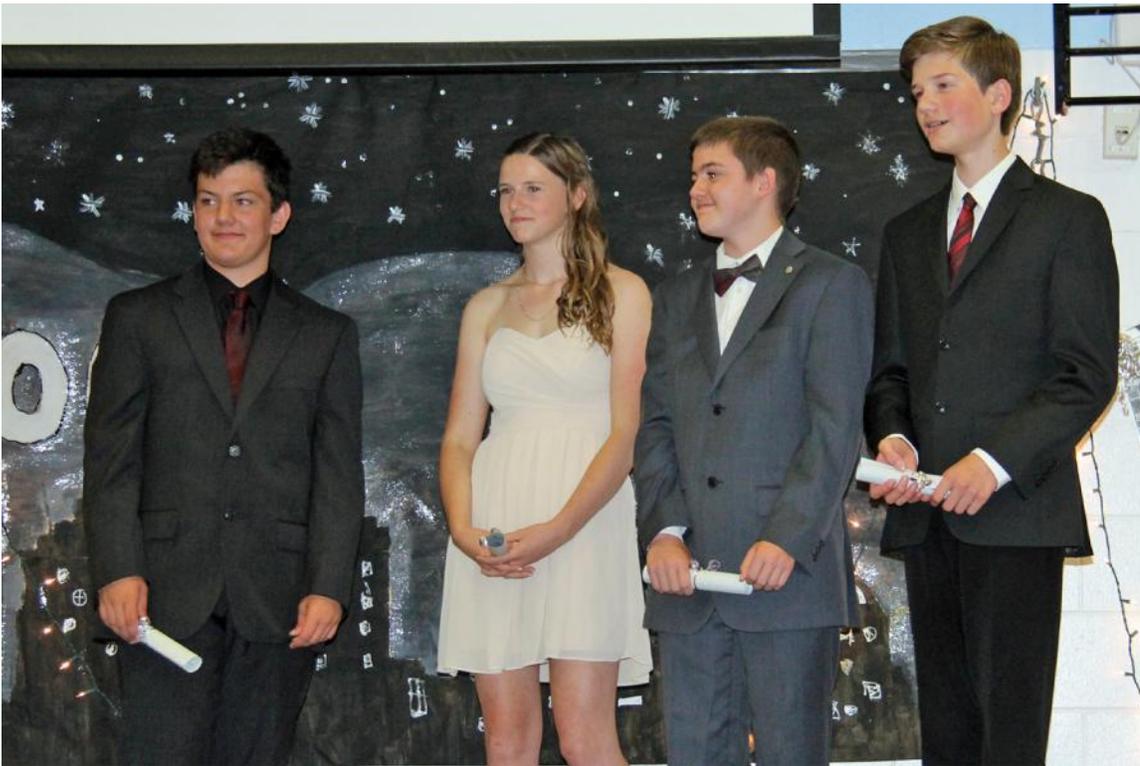
[Editor: Well said Lynn. The improvements in the road system since I moved here have been considerable. Our Island has a very small tax base, Loyalist has been very good to us I believe, and the provincial money going to our ferry service, on an Island per capita basis, is also very generous.]

NEIGHBOURHOOD

-Lynn Fleming

Get well Cherry Allen, Marion Glenn, Elsie Willard

Amherst Island Public School held their annual Graduation and Awards ceremony on June 24th.



We all extend congratulations to our Grade 8 graduating class. Good luck to: Jack Little, Lucie Amson, Angus Little and Mitchell Morgan-Burse. Photo by Brian Little

Congratulations to graduates, Lucie Amson, Angus Little, Jack Little and Mitchell Morgan-Burse. We will miss you at A.I.P.S. next year.

Congratulations to high school grads, Gavin Ashley and Brandon Reid. It is hard to believe these boys are finished high school - it just seems like they started kindergarten a couple of years ago! Wishing all of the grads good luck, good memories and much success as you move on to the next chapter!

Jacob Murray was off to Ireland in late June, to tour and learn about stone fences. He also had the opportunity to catch up with islander, Kitsy McMullen, who is now living in Ireland.

Well, another successful Canada Day is over! Weather forecast was for thunder storms and rain right up until the parade, but Amherst Island had nothing but blue skies. The crowd enjoyed the St. Paul's Strawberry Social in the gym, and music on the tarmac by Dan Simpson and Friends. The strong wind that blew all afternoon, calmed down in time for the fireworks - which were spectacular!

It is finally, officially summer! School is out, and the weather has been pleasant. We have had a few hot and humid days, but lots of sunshine and calm days. We have dodged some of the more severe storms, as they go north or south of us - around "Split Island". Farmers are starting to get their hay cut, and crops in.

Hope everyone has a safe and restful summer! Remember the kids are out in the Village - please leave a few extra minutes to catch the ferry.

Some people will do ANYTHING to get their picture in the paper. Here's a hard working member of our staff, taking the holiday off with STYLE. Way to go Judy!! (From David)





Speaking of cases of extreme style, a nod goes to Lorna Willis (left) who took first place for best armour in this year's Cardboard Wars.

Nothing says STYLE like good quality cardboard.

And for those who think she might just be an aberration, please see the rest of the army below.

Photos by Brian Little



PROVINCIAL ELECTION – AMHERST ISLAND

Hillier PC, 138

MacDonald Liberal, 69

Parkhill NDP, 26

Mather Green, 21

Spoiled ballots, 1

Declined ballots, 7

Total ballots, 241.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

- Judy Greer

The June 18th meeting of the Amherst Island Women's Institute was held at the home of Claire Jenney with 18 members present. Financial reports, collections and general business were discussed and approved. Anne Henderson has acquired a copy of the England WI Book and it is available for anyone to borrow. Correspondence was received re our financial support for Jacob Murray's Dry Stone Wall Project and he will be presenting a Fall Workshop. Debbie Barrett discussed the Lantern Fund reading

project for women in Afghanistan. Our group decided to send a donation. The Lantern Fund could provide a speaker for a future meeting. Anne Henderson, Advocacy Coordinator, received a response to our letter, that Lifestyle Education is already included in the high school curriculum through Family Studies and the PE course. She also reported that the only response to our letter regarding reduction of Post Office hours on Saturday was that there will be a few hours open on Thursday evening.

From the Annual District Meeting Joyce reported that donations were made to 4H and to McPherson House in Napanee. The Seniors Outreach Program L&A needs more volunteers. Joyce represented AIWI at Napanee Riverfest last week where a new district membership brochure was distributed.

Our market cart and bake sales have been successful to date. There is a new magazine table at the market where donations of recent (2 months) magazines are welcomed and recycled at reduced

prices. Aprons and biodegradable bags are still for sale. AIWI volunteers are maintaining planters at the dock and in the village with help from AIMS. The Ards Ireland Twinning Project continues to develop with communication between the schools. Our group approved a donation to McPherson House, Napanee to enable them to function over the summer. We also decided to take out a membership in the L&A Historical Society which distributes a newsletter (to be located at our museum for everyone's use). At the request of Topsy Farms a letter will be sent to the Rural Economic Development Program of the Ontario Government. Topsy will be applying for a grant.

Our program was provided by Sharen English who made an enjoyable presentation on her trip to Peru. Members were treated to a delicious snack thanks to Claire and Liz.

Next Meeting: Business Picnic Meeting
 July 16th, 2pm, at Debbie Barrett's
 Members are encouraged to bring a guest and an item for the Food Bank

Role Call: "Your Favourite Picnic Memory"

Next Bake Sale: August 1st @ 3:45pm.



W.I. Road Cleanup, 2014
 Left to right:
 Judy Greer, Deb Barrett,
 Andrea Cross,
 Claire & Hugh Jenney,
 Marilyn Pilon, Joyce Haines,
 Liz Harrison.
 Gopher & photographer:
 John Harrison

AIPS NEWS
 - Lynn Fleming

It's hard to believe that another school year has come to an end! As always, the months of May and June have been exceptionally busy.

In May, students in grades 5 to 8 spent the day at Historica at Queen's MacArthur Hall, with their heritage projects. We are proud to say that 3 of our students won awards for their projects.

We held our annual "Jump Rope for Heart" event to raise money for the Heart and Stroke Foundation. A.I.P.S. students raised more than \$1400 in the community and families.

Instead of a Spring Production this year, we produced a Talent Show. We have many talented

students here, both on stage and behind the scenes! We had hula hoop and dance routines, comedians, skits, piano, guitar and vocals.

The 1000 Island Playhouse, Young Company returned for their annual production in May. They bring complete sets, and put on an hour long play for our students, with a question and answer period following. Thanks to I.S.L.E. for sponsoring this once again.

Senior Class students spent a day at Queen's Recreation facility at the annual Queen's Sports Days for public school students, where they participated in a variety of activities. A couple of favorite activities that are chosen each year are water polo and fencing.

Our students have represented our school well this Spring in Track and Field, with 2 students moving on to District Competition for Long Jump and Shot Put. At the NDSS Road Race, one of our midget girls won the race for her division, and our midget girls team won the silver medal!

Our Senior Class was off to Toronto for 2 days for their year-end trip. While there, they visited the ROM, CN Tower, Ripley's Aquarium as well as the Princess of Wales Theatre to see a production of the Lion King.

The Primary Class spent the day in Kingston for their year-end trip. They visited the Marine Museum before enjoying a picnic lunch and some time on the Splash Pad at Lake Ontario Park.

Our school Volunteers were honoured at the annual Volunteer lunch, hosted by students and staff to recognize and thank our amazing volunteers.

The annual Graduation and Awards Ceremony was held on June 24th and we said good-bye to 4 graduates this year. Congratulations and good luck to Lucie, Angus, Jack and Mitchell.

All of the students and staff enjoyed an end of the year trip to the South Shore of our Island, looking for and learning about fossils, followed by a picnic at Lanes End Park.

Finally, the highly anticipated, "last day of school water fight" was held the afternoon of June 26th. This is an afternoon the kids thoroughly enjoy as it is students against staff! Everyone goes home wet, but happy for the summer.

Unfortunately, we also say goodbye to some of our staff. Joanne Mace, has taught a year in both classrooms, the past two years, covering maternity leaves, and will be moving on to Southview P.S. in Napanee; Erin Mills, our French and planning teacher, will be taking on a full time French immersion position at the Prince Charles P.S. in Napanee in September. Lastly, we say goodbye to our principal, Joanne Stinson, who will be terribly missed by everyone, as she takes on new challenges and travels in retirement.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who volunteers, donates and supports our school. We are very lucky to have you all. Special thanks to I.S.L.E.; the Harvest Festival Committee; Loyalist Community Sharing; A.I.M.S.; Women's Institute; and the Amherst Island Recreation Association for their generous monetary donations to A.I.P.S. and to the community who

supports our fund raising efforts each year.

Have a Great Summer!!

JANET'S JOTTINGS

- Janet Scott

July 2014



Lark Bunting

Photo by Kurt Hennige

How much excitement can 38 grams of fluff create?

On June 19th, while doing her turtle watch, Sherri Jensen spotted a bird that was somewhat different from the usual birds on Art McGinn Road. She was able to identify it as a Lark Bunting. Sherri told me about it at the Museum talk on the Friday but I didn't see her photograph until Monday and when I shared that photo the excitement began!

On Monday while Kurt Hennige, president of the Kingston Field Naturalists and myself were watching the bird as it fed along the edge of the 2nd Concession and flew up to a wire above the road, we were joined by Mark Reed, the Bird Record's Secretary, and then by Dr. Mackenzie. Dr Mackenzie had been heading back to the mainland after a Bobolink survey, but then turned around and returned in order to come see the bird. The bird

belongs along the Alberta/Saskatchewan border but had somehow been pushed off course and ended up on David and Betty Wemp's farm. Mark posted it on Ontario Birds' list of rare sightings for Ontario and the visitors began to arrive. For myself, it was a "Life Bird" and so special because it sang its little heart out as it flew a display pattern to attract a mate that wasn't coming. He rocked in flight flashing the white patches on its wings and singing like a cardinal with clear bell-like notes followed by a melodious chatter.

They migrate from Texas north and should be arriving in Colorado in May but this male refused to listen to his mate, probably wouldn't look at his map and trusted in a faulty GPS. When blown off course somewhere along the way he fell in with some cheerful Bobolinks heading home to Amherst Island and took a wrong turn east. He's here feeding happily on roadside seeds, living in brushy, grassy areas that make him feel at home and is now teaching local Catbirds and Brown Thrashers to sing his song. He will probably migrate south again in August and find his own way home to Mexico for the winter.

According to members of the ferry crews, hundreds of birders have come to the Island to check off one more species on their "Life List": it is the rarity of the hour. David Wemp reports that they have been polite and obey his "No Trespassing" sign and seem to be parking over on the side of the road so that cars can pass. As of July 2nd he was still living at Wemp's and enjoying life on the Island so watch for a 7 inch black bird with white on its wings.

Another interesting sighting on Monday, June 23 was a young Snowy Owl still hanging out at The Martin Edwards Nature Reserve on the lower Forty-foot. Excitement galore when a young birder driving along the 2nd named Henrique Pacheco photographed a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher which again should be along the Gulf of Mexico in the Texas area. Perhaps these guys got caught in the same storm? Check out the photographs by Kurt Hennige and Henrique Pacheco and maybe you'll add some exciting birds to your species list.

Happy Birding, - Janet I. Scott

AIMS JUNE 14 AT 8 AM

- Anders Bennick

Breakfast: Many thanks to the senior class, their teacher and her husband for a tasty breakfast

Attendance: 14 members.

Chair: Bill Barrett

Agenda:

1. Presentation

Dayle Gowan

The speaker was Dayle Gowan who talked about diving in the Caribbean Sea. Dayle has been diving as a hobby for many years, prompting him to recertify as a diver two years ago. This past winter he continued his interest in diving by exploring the Mesoamerican Reef, the second largest barrier reef in the world. The Mesoamerican Reef stretches from the tip of the Yucatan Peninsula to Guatemala. The reef has a very rich flora which supports an extensive fauna. Dayle illustrated his talk with a series of vivid and masterly photographed underwater pictures of many corals such as soft and hard coral including Elkhorn coral, brain coral and Fire coral, but also of other flora including many varieties of sponges and sea fans as well as grassy areas of the reef. The reef is home to a great variety of colourful fishes such as Parrot fish, Grunts, Trumpet fish, Lion fish, eels, Cow fish and Angel fish. Other inhabitants of the reef include lobsters, sea turtle, electric ray, sting ray and star fish. In addition to the slides Dayle showed a series of short videos which provided a striking glimpse into the varied biology of this ecosystem. The reef clearly is a wonderful place to visit and experience a unique part of nature.

Bill Barrett thanked Dayle for a masterful presentation.

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the May meeting as circulated were approved.

3. Driver tasking.

David Pickering

A report was given that, on average, there were one to two requests every week, but demand varies wildly. Please send David an email if you would like to be on the list of potential drivers. Drivers will receive ferry tickets for their trips.

4. Update on Haskap Production.

Bill Barrett

In the absence of Gardner McBride, Bill reported that Carl McCrosky has planted 2 acres of Haskap berries. A presentation on the project so far is planned in order to inform the public and potential investors.

5. Spring cleaning of the island roads

Bruce Burnett

There are not enough people signed up to clear all segments of the roads. Fortunately the roads are a lot cleaner than they used to be.

6. Flower Baskets for Stella

Bill Barrett

The flower baskets have been hung in Stella. Volunteers are needed for watering.

7. Flower beds at Neilson Museum

Marc Raymond

The flower beds have been planted with annuals as well as shrubs and perennials.

8. Arrangements for the market for 2014

Marc Raymond

Members were urged to sign up for the empty spaces as market volunteers.

9. Suggestions for other speakers at future meetings.

Various suggestions for speakers were made. During discussion of this item it was DECIDED TO CANCEL THE JULY MEETING.

10. Financial Report

Kevin Archibald

Kevin reported the bank balance and announced that he was willing to continue as treasurer.

11. Tick Removal Kits

The secretary will contact Sally Bowen with regard to making the deer tick removal kits available for sale at the market.

12. Wine tour

Marc Raymond

Twenty-two people took part in the tour of Prince Edward County Wineries on May 24. A good time was had by all and a small surplus was generated which will be donated by AIMS to island causes.

13. Other business.

It was decided that AIMS would not take part in this year's Canada Day parade.

14. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at ~10am.

PEOPLE HEALING PEOPLE BY LISTENING

-Zander of DUNN INN

I've been reading recently several of the Bible stories about Jesus healing people and those stories got me thinking about people healing people. Jesus

was a true man. That is important to note because Jesus, the man, healed many people. Some people claim that Jesus was God and that it was as God that Jesus was able to heal. I cannot agree. Jesus was a man filled with God as any of us can be filled with God and this man Jesus was able to change the lives of many by restoring them to health and wholeness.

In fact, we all have within us the ability and power to heal others. People have been healing other people since the beginning of time. Long before there were doctors, and certainly long before there were specialists in medicine like surgeons, oncologists and internists, we were there for one another. There has always been enormous power in human relationships. For example, think of the strength of a touch, the blessing of forgiveness, the grace of someone else taking you just as you are and finding in you an unsuspected goodness.

Doctors and specialist doctors are important because expertise can cure. But wounded people can best be healed by other wounded people. Jesus was not a pure, perfect person; he had wounds in his life. We don't read much about them, but I am sure Jesus was hurt by those around him who mocked him for being illegitimate. I am sure he had to live with that daily rejection. It was that wound in his life which made him compassionate toward the outcasts, the rejected, the sick, the lost. Only other wounded people can understand what is needed, because for the healing of suffering it is compassion that is needed, even more than expertise.

That is one reason I find it difficult to imagine that Jesus would condemn homosexual people or depressed people or people filled with doubt. I find it difficult to believe Jesus would condemn any people. I have read some of the ideas of Carl Rogers, a pioneering psychotherapist whose therapy was called Unconditional Positive Regard. One critic of his approach said the Unconditional Positive Regard was reduced to sitting in silence and accepting everything the patient said without judgment or interpretation - until she heard Rogers say, "Before every session I take a moment to remember my humanity. There is no experience that this man has that I cannot share with him, no fear that I cannot understand, no suffering that I cannot care about, because I too am human. No matter how deep his wound, he does not need to be ashamed in front of me. I too am vulnerable. And because of this, I am enough. Whatever his story he no longer needs to be alone with it. This is what will allow his healing to

begin.”

Then Rogers would listen to what that man had to say. Rogers said nothing. He listened. Listening is the oldest and perhaps the most powerful tool of healing. It is often through the quality of our listening and not the wisdom of our words that we are able to effect the most profound changes in the people around us. When we listen we offer ourselves to the one who speaks. We don't complain or criticize or condemn. We listen and take it all into ourselves. As one observer has put it, our listening creates sanctuary for the lost or homeless parts within the other person - that which has been denied, unloved, devalued by themselves and by others.

I heard about a man who phoned a minister to pour out his fears, his worries, and his failures. The minister listened. That's all he did. He listened. After about half an hour the man said "good bye" and hung up. Years later that man met the minister and thanked him for listening to him. He told the minister that he had been going through a very difficult time and he was close to suicide. He said the minister had saved his life by listening to him, by accepting him, by not condemning him. The minister said he remembered the phone call very well. Then he told the man, "You should know that at that time I did not speak English and could not understand a word that you said."

Another writer has wisely observed that listening creates a holy silence. When you listen generously to people, they can hear truth in themselves, often for the first time. And in the silence of listening you can know yourself. Eventually, you may be able to hear, in everyone and in everything, the unseen God listening to you, singing to you, loving you.

I would like to think of myself as a good listener but too often my wife tells me that I don't listen to what she has to say. I contend that she talks to me when I want to listen to the radio or watch the T.V. or read a book. But I know that if I don't listen I am not affirming her, accepting her, honouring her and making her the most important person in my life. She feels the judgment, the rejection, the hesitation and doesn't hear God speaking through me because I don't I listen to her. If I want to follow Jesus I must learn to listen. In doing that I can then accept and affirm all those who speak to me. That's when healing will start.

KEITH MILLER GIVES A TOUR

-Sharen English

We were the lucky winners of a silent auction prize from the fundraiser for our island's radio station, CJAI, 92.1 on your FM dial.

Our prize was a tour of the island with historic commentary given by Dr. Love, a.k.a. Mr. Keith Miller. We met at his house at 9 a.m. both times. Keith drove us around the island in his truck.

Shirley, his wife, greeted us with her usual affable charm. Shirley is an extremely talented painter and I love her work.

Keith is a clever man, easy to laugh, friendly and he has lived on the island all his life.

His motivation for giving the tour was for new islanders to meet and know facts about old islanders and their homesteads.

We had two tours, a week apart, one was 5 hours and one was 2 hours.

They were both on warm and sunny days.

Janet Scott was our first guest and she enjoyed the trip. Janet took many notes. She is a valued historian for our island and I expect some of Keith's tales will end up in our island museum.

Anthony Gifford was our second guest and he too enjoyed the trip and commentary.

We learned a lot of history about the people, farms and houses on the island.

We saw places that we would not have normally seen. I appreciated and enjoyed that very much. I now know that I have seen all the corners of our island and it is a beautiful from from Head to Foot. Keith told stories from times ranging from the arrival of the United Empire Loyalists to now.

He showed us where old farms and schools had once been but are no more. He knew all the family names of the owners of the homes.

Where there are lilac bushes now, there was a homestead.

Every family had a farm of 100 acres along the Second Concession.

I learned that the foundation rocks on the Second Concession were from an old barn. I had wondered what the structure had been.

We saw a marsh that used to be an island.

I learned that Grape Island is Crown land. I did not know that.

Keith has an “in” with most islanders. He meets everyone as he mans the dump. He will chat with us as we leave our recycling and refuse. The dump is a place to say hello to your neighbours.

Back at home the geese and their goslings run around the foot of the island. The little ones follow their parents, waddling and looking panicked. The killdeers yell at me.

It is summer on Amherst Island.



A MAN OF MANY PARTS

Photo and article by Zander of DUNN INN

George Gavlas, whose diverse talents and many interests set him apart from the ordinary citizen, was born in 1951 in Shawinigan, Quebec. The family moved to Kingston and took up residence in Elevator Bay. In the winter of 1956, while riding in the car, he and his father saw the vehicle ahead of them pull off the road and go onto the ice. George’s father exclaimed, “If he can do it, I can do it.” They not only drove onto the ice but they drove over to

Amherst Island where they talked with Mr. Ray McMaster who had a house for sale. George’s father drove his son back home, left him there with a baby sitter, returned with his wife and bought, not the house that was for sale, but the one in which George and his wife, Ida, reside now. The car that brought them to the Island over the ice, a 1952 Austin A40, today rests in a field, not visible from the road.

George was not destined to live only on Amherst Island. He moved with his mother and his electrical engineer father, to Labrador in 1962 and spent three years in Newfoundland. Later he lived for two years in Winnipeg while his father worked in Northern Manitoba. But Amherst Island resonated with George more than any other place and he and his brother, John, and two sisters, Sally and Shirley, were pleased when they returned to the Island to live.

George contends that he hated school. He thinks that was because he never mastered the art of memorizing material in subjects like History. He did do well in other subjects like Maths, Physics and languages - subjects in which he could build knowledge upon knowledge. And yet, George, in spite of failing history, did well enough in grade twelve to pass. Perhaps his schoolmates - Gary Filson, Donald Miller, Laurie and Warren Kilpatrick, David Wemp and Marie Ward - can affirm all that about George.

The year 1972 was a Leap Year, the year in which our tradition has it that a woman can propose marriage to a man. Ida Bulch, then known as Diane, informed George that if he wanted to buy her a wedding ring she took a size eight. George says: “She kept smiling at me and I fell for her. I took her out on April Fool’s Day and I’ve been a fool for her ever since.”

As many Island men did, George served on the Amherst Island council. His term was from 1975 to 1977 and he says he learned much from that experience. Above all he learned that he should not be there. Politics did not interest him or occupy his talents.

George underwent training at Ontario Hydro and became a millwright and a welder. He trained on very heavy machinery - one piece weighed 95 tons. He figures that he gained all manner of education and challenges from Ontario Hydro but also from his job at Anchor Concrete which prepared him for the work he does today.

Before he became the mechanic of Amherst Island he worked for a few months on the Canadian Empress, the tour boat that travels from Kingston to Quebec and from Kingston to Ottawa. His previous work on the ferries which served Amherst Island from 1984 to 1994 allowed him to succeed at that work. Five years of part time work led to five years of full time work on The Amherst Islander, the Charlevoix (which became The Frontenac II) and the Upper Canada (a replacement ferry). George served in all the positions on the ferries - from Engineer to Captain. Today George continues to have dreams about The Amherst Islander ferry, the ship to which he became most closely attached.

George has a story about the Canadian Empress which makes him smile. He met an older lady on the Canadian Empress and told her about his mother-in-law, Helen Bulch, who gathered coal by the railroad as a little girl. That story triggered the same memory in this old woman. She would walk up and down the rail line picking up the coal that had fallen off the coal tenders. Her father carried the bags of coal she gathered back to their home. She remarked, "It was Sooooo Cold." That story is a good reminder of how poor some people were during the depression, how big a role the railways played in our lives and how difficult it was for many Canadians to keep warm in the winter.

Now George is best known as a car mechanic but he will tackle any motor problem. Very modestly, he states that he is a one dimensional person, who has been pushed into the work he enjoys because he has all the tools required for any job and he has the property which allows him to park vehicles and work on engines and car bodies inside his barn. He is willing to try anything - heating, plumbing - because he wants to help and because he has the tools at hand. As he puts it, "I'll try to fix anything that's broken."

George did not plan to set up a mechanic shop on the island. His business came to him. People who knew of his abilities, accommodations and acquisitions approached him and asked him to work on their cars, fix their engines, and repair their machinery. He laughs about one referral - from a man he had never met. That man told another man that he had heard of George and that he would solve his mechanical problems for him.

George continues to receive referrals and feels that Amherst Island has treated him very well. He has been extremely well received by the Islanders and is

grateful for their support and encouragement. George is famous as "The Barefoot Mechanic." Of course he is not barefoot in the winter but in the summer he walks the island barefoot and operates his shop in his bare feet.

When asked why he goes barefoot he will tell you that it is because his feet are more comfortable out of boots. To accommodate his bare feet and the children who come into his shop, sometimes in their bare feet, he keeps everything in his work place very clean, neat and tidy. Although he considers his garage to be an industrial work place and not a play ground he emphasizes that it is not a mine field. Everything must be safe for himself and for all his customers and their families, many of whom poke about out of curiosity. George considers the biggest reward of being self employed is that he gets to meet many interesting people and to learn from them.

The 10,000 square foot garden that George and Ida farm takes much of their time but produces an amazing array and amount of good things although they do not raise flowers. Tomatoes are bottled by George who also makes his own sauerkraut out of the cabbages he grows. Peas, beans, corn, peppers, rhubarb, broccoli, raspberries, strawberries are all eaten fresh but also frozen. Pumpkins, squash, potatoes and rutabagas are all stored away for the winter. In other words, the garden makes the Gavlas household almost self-sufficient for food. George and Ida do not sell their garden produce. Instead they bribe people with it! Ida makes wonderful pies which, when given as gifts, make the recipients want to do whatever she asks. And, of course, Ida's raspberry-rhubarb and pumpkin pies are often donated to Island causes and win rave reviews. As the saying goes, "They are to die for."

George has devised a sprinkler system for the garden which relies on water brought up from the lake to the house and then pumped into hoses down to the vegetables. Unfortunately it can sometimes take 2 days to cover the whole garden.

The main enemies of the garden are deer and raccoons, both of which eat corn. There is not much anybody can do to keep the deer out of a garden that size. The autumn hunters are his garden's best friends. George has declared war against the coons. His battle cry is, "Coons or Corn" because the raccoons will destroy all the corn in one night within two days before the corn is ready to be picked.

George does not watch T.V. but has become

enthralled with Opera, especially Russian opera, from listening to the C.B.C. According to George, the Russians are now the best at presenting opera; the best composer of opera was Giuseppe Verdi. The walls of the Gavlas living room are filled with music albums, many of them opera. George says if he were to listen to one album a day he would die before he had heard them all. He also has some CDs but he prefers to listen to the old vinyl albums. One of his favourite Russian operas is "Lady McBeth of Ntensk" conducted by Shoshtakovich. When Eric Friesen, once the classical music guru of the CBC and who lives on the Island, heard that George had listened, enraptured, to the whole album he declared George to be not normal but to be suffering from a strange form of obsessive behaviour.

If George has a hobby he would say it is writing letters to the Editor. It is his soap box and has been for a long time. Those of us who read The Kingston Whig Standard have pondered many of George's missives to that venerable rag. Some of George's letters have been picked up by national papers like The Globe and Mail and The National Post. He especially likes to respond to something in print that is funny, silly or stupid. He recalls one letter concerning the question, "Do real men 'twease'?" The issue was raised by Ru Paul, a male who worked as a female model. To twouse is to use tweasers to remove facial hair, mainly eye-brow hair. George wondered in his letter how the matter could be discussed without reference to Robert Morley who was famous for his hirsute eye-brows. George figures he has been successful if his letter is printed unedited. If the letter is edited by the newspaper he considered that he has failed.

Recently George presented a well received talk on Astronomy to a gathering in the Back Room of the Museum. George has always enjoyed looking at the stars and has identified and taught himself the various constellations. He has a telescope which is not very powerful but which has opened the wonders of the heavens to him. That interest in astronomy led George, the tool freak, to bid on and win a sextant at an auction. It is an intricate and beautiful instrument carefully housed in a strong box to protect it. He has not used it but its purchase has led him to learn about how the explorers found their way around our world.

Obviously George is a learned man, knowledgeable in many subjects, wise in many ways, always open to learn more. George is very observant about life and he has enjoyed watching his

children grow up, marry and share their love with the family. Lately George has been learning from his granddaughter, Victoria, (Jessica's daughter). He marvels at the ways she changes as she grows. He notices that she sees new things, reaches out to new opportunities, questions new occurrences, sizes up new people, and gets excited about new opportunities. George is amused to see her face light up, her eyes sparkle and her body jump when Victoria catches a glimpse of her grandmother, Ida. George and Ida both believe you cannot spoil a child with too much love and they lavish their affection upon Victoria. She is very grateful for their gifts of compassion, acceptance, enthusiasm and laughter. George says that if there is anything that shows you how little you know about anything it's being a parent and a grandparent. There is everything to learn!

George receives as a compliment the love that his children, Douglas and Jessica, give to him and he receives as a gift beyond value the way his granddaughter laughs and reaches out to him. He holds Ida in the highest esteem and is grateful for all her gifts with which she blesses him.

After our chat, as we walked down the path leading to the Front road, around trees, through grass, close to flowers, under a starry night, George summed it all up by saying, "I live in heaven." Who could disagree?

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW AMHERST ISLAND STORE HOURS

Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri:

9:00 - 11:30 am; 2:30 - 5:00 pm

Thurs:

9:00 - 11:30 am; 3:30 pm - 6 pm

Sat: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Sun: closed

ISLAND KIDS DAY

A kids' day will be held at the Saturday Morning Market on August 2nd. Games, face painting, clowns, music and more. Sponsored by AIWI

COME OUT AND PLAY

Recreation Service Department of the Loyalist Township will have lots of activities set up on Tues. July 29th 9:30 to 11:30 at the school
No fee, but children must be accompanied

CALL FOR VENDORS

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

NEILSON STORE MUSEUM & CULTURAL CENTRE HOURS OF OPERATION

Summer (1 July to 1 September)

Sunday through Friday – 1 to 4

Fall (after Labour Day)

Saturday 10 to 4

Sunday 1 to 4

Holiday Mondays 1 to 4

WEASEL AND EASEL ARTS AND CRAFTS GALLERY HOURS OF OPERATION

Summer (1 July to 1 September)

Sunday through Friday – 1 to 4

Fall (after Labour Day)

Saturday 10 to 4

Sunday 1 to 4

Holiday Mondays 1 to 4

NEILSON STORE MUSEUM INTERNET CAFÉ HOURS OF OPERATION

Museum 9-11 AM Tuesday

Museum 1-3 PM Wednesday

Stella’s Café 9-11 AM Thursday

Like us on Facebook

“AmherstIslandInternetCafe”



WANTED: KAYAK

Seeking to purchase (or borrow!) basic single or double kayak for weekenders to use during the summer season.

Contact Mary Kay 613.634.9772.

LOVING SPOONFUL

Food drop off is on Thursdays at 5750 Front Road (Jean Tugwell's former home). Please bring any extra fresh produce for delivery Friday morning to folks in need.

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.

66th ANNUAL GARDEN PARTY
ST. PAULS PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH, AMHERST ISLAND
SATURDAY, JULY 26TH, 11 am - 3 pm

BBQ, PIE AND ICE CREAM,
MADHATTER BOOK SALES
& TEA SHOP

HUGE COLLECTION OF WHITE
ELEPHANT ITEMS

BAKE TABLE

TREASURES TABLE, POST OFFICE

MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT

SILENT AUCTION

LIVE AUCTION at 1:30

If you care to donate items, please phone Beth at 613 389-5582; or Amy at 613 389-2012

We appreciate the community support of this event. Check us out at: www.stpaulsamherstisland.com



Jacob Murray and Liam Kennedy driving the firetruck in the Canada Day Parade.



Canada Day Parade: Rob and Michael Hamberger.
Grace McMullen between.
Photo by Audra McMullen

Topsy Farms announces that foster lambs Fuzzy



and Caramel will be staying with us for the summer, for the entertainment of your grandkids. Please give us a call to let us know you are coming. Even as the lambs grow, they are always delighted to visit and to suck on a bottle.
Photo by Rhonda Russell

WEASEL & EASEL

Get ready to celebrate with the Weasel & Easel next year!

2015 heralds the 20th anniversary of the Weasel & Easel. In 1995, artist-teacher, Shirley Miller and her student, Caroline Ackerman thought the island needed a central location where island artists and crafters could display and sell their works.

After several changes of venue, the Weasel and Easel that came to be now rents space from the historical Neilson Store Museum and Cultural Centre.

The store is manned solely by volunteers. The commission taken from each sale covers the store's overhead. Volunteers receive a "thank you to the volunteers" luncheon at a local restaurant each December. If you are interested in volunteering please let us know.

The prices at the Weasel & Easel are often lower than the same items sold in stores and galleries on the mainland. As a matter of fact, some vendors who also sell on the mainland often get 2 times what they get at the W&E. The Weasel and Easel also does not charge sales tax.

Thanks go out to all supporting local craftspeople, artists and shoppers.

Please let us know of any arts or crafts available for the store and tell us about any ideas on how to celebrate our 20 years of being a community service.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

Help Us Celebrate

Barbara Reid's 80th Birthday

Please join us in Celebration!

What: Open House to celebrate Barbara's 80th

Where: The Lodge on Amherst Island

When: Sunday July 20 2014, 2-4 pm

Requesting No Gifts – if so inclined

Donations to St. Albans Anglican Church
Stella, Amherst Island

Would be a much appreciated option

Cake & Refreshments available

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!



Happy Birthday Barbara, and than you for all the years of wonderful food. (Leslie Gavlas on the R)
Photo by Brian Little

FANTASTIC ISLAND FIESTA!

SATURDAY, JULY 12, 2014 9 AM TO 3 PM

AT THE NEILSON STORE MUSEUM AND AROUND AMHERST ISLAND

Our 2014 Museum fundraiser is an opportunity for Amherst Island families to learn something new through workshops offered by many willing and talented Islanders who have volunteered for this new venture. You will have options to learn new skills, brush up on talents you haven't used for a while, or simply join your neighbours and friends in just doing a workshop (or 2, or 3) on a summer's day!

Costs: \$20 for the day. You can buy your lunch at the barbeque at the Museum (11:30 am to 1 pm).

To register: email Ali at admackeen@gmail.com or phone 613-634-8797.

Support your Island Museum...by joining us on Saturday, July 12th!



FANTASTIC ISLAND FIESTA!

Full schedule of events

Saturday 12 July, 2014

0900	Registration at Neilson Store and Cultural Centre Get Location Information Silent Auction Begins									
0930	Technical Photography Brian Little	Radio D.J.'ing Dayle Gowan	Making Music (vocal) Kat Heikkila	Spinning Pat Frontini	Stretching through Yoga Tagget Bonham- Carter	Muffin & Scone Making Diane Pearce	Watercolour Painting Shirley Miller	Pie Making Karen Fleming	Owl Woods Nature Walk Janet Scott	Making Felted Dryer Balls Sally Bowen
1000										
1030	Pottery Making Mayo Underwood	Steeping Tea Kathy Atamanuk	Making Music (guitar) Jeff Pearce	Radio D.J.'ing Dayle Gowan						
1100										
1130	Lunch available at the Neilson Store Museum and Cultural Centre Silent Auction continues until 12:45 Music by Dan Simpson									
1200										
1230										
1300	Pottery Making Mayo Underwood	Technical Photography Brian Little	Steeping Tea Kathy Atamanuk	Spinning Pat Frontini	D.J.'ing Dayle Gowan	Stretching through Yoga Tagget Bonham- Carter	Rumball Making Inka Brockhausen	Watercolour Painting Shirley Miller	Historical Walking Tour of Stella Janet Scott	
1330										
1400	Yoga Tagget Bonham- Carter									
1430										

Late in June and July 1, 2014 on Amherst Island Joyce Reid is driving her car on her backyard lawn by the water scaring away the geese. She yells "Go away" at them.

I laugh. It is funny to see a woman driving a small gray car on the grass by the water. It looks incongruous.

Simcha and I walk ten minutes in the morning and ten minutes in the evening to help him with his arthritis and me with my fitness level.

I carry him half way and let him walk home. I cuddle and talk to him as I carry him.

He is 12 and a very quiet and self absorbed, but beloved, long haired Chihuahua.

He likes to play with toys on the bed at night.

Maxine, the old gray cat and I cuddled for 5 minutes while I watched the pink sunset at 9:30 pm.

It is very humid these days, but sunny and warm.

I washed dishes at Stella's Café on a Friday night after guest chef Norma-Lynn made a delicious chicken and cheese pasta dish with heavenly salads.

Then came the sing a long with Bruce Caughey, Keith Miller, Diane and Michele, Joan and Dan, Ed Mooney, Margaret Mooney, Joyce and Herbert Groot, Erna and Harold Redekopp, Shirley Miller, Sherri, me and of course Anthony and Judy. I love Keith Miller on the harmonica. All the other musicians were great too. Michele and Sherri danced.

"Play 'Goodnight Irene' with pathos", said Harold. He said that two weeks ago too.

The Lark Bunting Sherri Jensen saw on Weds. is bringing scores of birder to the island.

Saturday, Bonnie Baker and I helped Jo-Anne move and then I went to Geoff Matthews farm for a summer party. What a glorious warm cloudless two days.

I helped Jo-Anne with Roxanne, her daughter Emma, Hans, Bonnie and friends and a relative of Jo-Anne move her belongings to her new rental home on Sunday.

It is hot and extremely humid these days. It feels like 30 to 33 degrees C.

On Canada Day, an orange sliver moon and fireflies appear at night and it is as humid a day as I can ever remember.

I watched the fireworks from downtown Kingston on my back deck.

THANK YOU NOTES

A "huge thank-you" to my family, neighbours, dear friends for their prayers, phone calls, food, flowers, cards and general concern after my unfortunate fall from which I have fully recovered.

When I am thanking all you wonderful people and you know who you are without naming names and leaving someone out.

I also want to say thank you again for prayers, phoned calls, love and support for me and for my daughter Janice and son Doug during and since their surgery in April.

I do want to say a very special "thank-you" to Beth Forester for taking me to Ottawa the day following their surgery and Victoria Cuyler who I went with a few weeks later to visit Doug. Your kindness was so much appreciated.

Thank-you to all those wonderful people who sent cards, gifts and just general concern for both Janice and Doug.

One can never begin to imagine how we appreciate such a caring community.

Elsie Willard

Thank you to the members of AIMS, the Women's Institute and all the individual sponsors who helped send me to Ireland in June.

A special thank-you to Andrea Cross who pulled it all together.

I learned some new dry stone wall techniques, met some wonderful people and enjoyed a whirlwind tour of the country.

Jacob Murray

Thank you to the Amherst Island Recreation Committee, the Firefighters and First Responders, and all of the other volunteers who worked to make the Canada Day celebrations such an outstanding success.



From everyone who enjoyed watching or participating in the parade to everyone who made it all happen, Thank you.

See you next year.

FROM THE ARCHIVES

From Amherst Island Beacon: July 15, 1984

COUNCIL MEETING

- Chris Kennedy

The building inspector presented his report. Four permits were issued last month, to Glenn's store for siding, and a new wall; to Spence for a sundeck; to Hinch for an addition; and to Richards for some siding.

Plans are proceeding to improve docking facilities for the Charlevoix. Council discussed the problems of putting toilets on the ferry and the Stella dock. There are numerous health regulations to be complied with. Nothing has been decided and don't hold your breath waiting for toilets to appear; these matters progress very slowly.

The Ministry of the Environment is giving the township a \$2000 grant for site upgrading at the dump, so we should see some improvement shortly.

There was then a in-camera discussion of township non-union wages. All future wage agreement will run from June 1 to May 31. Casual road employees will receive a 5% raise June 1 to \$5.25/hr. Council honoraria will remain unchanged and the mileage rate will be 20¢/km.

CARDS OF THANKS

We would like to thank our relatives, friends and neighbours for their support during the loss of a dear wife and mother.

Thanks to all for the lovely flowers, cards and donations to charities.

Thanks to all for the generous supply of food. A special thanks to Uncle Ed and Aunt Helen for the use of their home; also to Rev. McIntyre and to Graham A Stein Funeral Home for their kind and courteous service we received.

Sincerely, Avery and Reta Brown

We would like to thank our friends and neighbours for their kindness and support at the time of Annie's death. We greatly appreciate the calls at the funeral home, the flowers, donations to the Heart Fund, cards, food and the generous help of all the ladies at our house after the funeral.

Special thanks to Vernon McGinn for taking Edward's shift on such short notice.

Sincerely, Edward, Helen & Family

I wish to congratulate my sister Irene on being chosen to receive the Bicentennial Medal, also to thank Norman Allison for my nomination. There are a great number of people who have served this Island Community in a great many ways. Perhaps they all deserve a pat on the back.

Sincerely, Francis Welbanks

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my family, friends and neighbours who have sent cards, flowers visited me and brought treats while in hospital and since returning home. A special thanks to Anne-Marie Hitchins for looking after my flowers and visiting Gordon while I was away.

I greatly appreciated my visit from Rev. McIntyre and the PCW and my get-well wishes from the Women's Institute. The help and company each day from my Red Cross Homemakers, Lucille Brown and Carol Kirby is appreciated more than words can express. God Bless you all.

Georgia Reid

I wish, to thank Branch 539 Legion members and the boat crews for the lovely fruit baskets. I also wish to thank all my friends and neighbours and family members for all their help and thoughtfulness. Your visits have been greatly appreciated too, and have helped to pass the time.

I am feeling much better and hope to be back to work soon. Thank you all.

Bill Bulch

I wish to thank our neighbours and relatives and friends for visitations, cards, gifts and well wishes while I was in K.G.H. and since my return home. Jean adds her thanks for help she received from neighbours, relatives and friends.

Earle Tugwell

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

There is the fable of the old man sitting outside a town, being approached by a stranger.

"What are they like in this town?" asked the stranger.

"What were they like in your last town?" replied the old man.

"They were delightful people. I was happy there. They were kind, generous and would always help you in trouble."

"You will find them very much like that in this town."

The old man was approached by another stranger. "What are the people like in this town?" asked the second stranger.

"What were they like in your last town?" replied the old man.

"It was an awful place. They were mean, unkind. Nobody would ever help anybody."

"I'm afraid you'll find it very much the same here," said the old man.

[Editor: I sometimes think of this parable imagining someone like Les Glenn or Billy Bulch as the old man.]

*From Amherst Island Beacon: July 15, 1994
Issue 198*

STREET DANCE

The Street Dance Scheduled for July 23 has been cancelled.

COUNCIL REPORT July 5, 1994

- Chris Kennedy

Construction of the Helipad will start soon on the east side of the Stella 40 near the Township shed. Then the subject of ferry rescheduling came up. There have been letters and phone calls to Council for and against the proposed schedule. Earl Willard, the Senior Captain, said that he did not consider the fifty minute schedule possible on a regular basis. After considerable debate, mostly good natured, it was decided to hold another public meeting, Monday July 25 at 8 pm at the Community Center. I strongly advise anybody who has an opinion on the timing of the early ferries to attend this meeting.*

The hydrogeological study of leachate from the dump has been received, and it appears that the Township has a reasonably clean bill of health, which is most satisfactory.

Noel McCormick has been awarded the contract to demolish the Annie Clyde house. He was the lowest of two bidders.

There was considerable further discussion on

people speeding through the village and failing to stop at the stop sign. The Reeve reiterated the fact that if he is given the names or licence plate numbers and descriptions, the offenders will be reported to the police.

There will be another, and it is hoped, final meeting to approve the revised Zoning By-law on August 29th at the Community Centre at 8:00 p.m. This is your last chance to have a say on the new Zoning By-law.

Township Of Amherst Island

Notice of Public Meeting

Monday, July 25 1994 8:00 pm

A I.P.S. / Community Centre

For consideration of proposed change in ferry schedule to accommodate the Lennox and Addington Board of Education's decision to begin Secondary School classes at 8:15 a.m.

SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING July 11, 1994

- Don Tubb

What is likely to be one of the last Council Meetings to discuss the Zoning By-law was held on July 11, 1994. Present were Reeve Willard, Councillors Murray and Woods, Clerk-treasurer Pearce, Consultant MacKenzie, Reporter Tubb, Members of Public Sycra and Sylvester.

The main purpose of the meeting was to go over the maps from the surveyor which show the boundaries of the Shoreline Zones on the north and south shores.

A LETTER FROM THE REEVE

-Reeve S. Willard

At the June Regular Session, Council passed the 1994 Budget for the Township of Amherst Island. The total raised for Township purposes will be \$614,140. which equals a 14.73% increase over 1993. This increase was finalized after much discussion and represents approximately the amount budgeted this year for the Back Beach expenditure.

Other points of interest include the payment of the balance owing for the Municipal Garage and the proposed expenditure of grant money for the building of a helipad for medical emergencies. The Roads budget has been increased to \$196,464. to cover additional expenditures resulting from the

severe winter weather.

In an effort to have users pay for certain services, Council has increased fees for Building permits and animal control. Now the people who use these services will pay for them rather than the cost being a burden to the general taxpayer.

The Fire Department budget is currently \$27,800. for operating and capital expenditures. The Landfill Site will operate on \$8,500. for this fiscal year with another \$8,800. budgeted for capital purposes.

Council has worked very hard to hold the line. Our only major increase is due to the Back Beach. In January, on behalf of Council, I was able to negotiate a compromise agreement with Nut Island Farms Limited. As a result, an agreement is being drafted and will hopefully be signed soon.

In other levy matters, as Warden of Lennox and Addington County, it is my pleasure to pass on a 0% increase budget for 1994. This includes the swallowing of a 22% increase in General Welfare expenditure. Due to the vagaries of assessment, Amherst Island will pay 0.45% more or \$40,450 in total.

The school Boards, which levy most of your tax dollars, have asked for more.

THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

- Annette

Best wishes to Tabytha Trotter who finished off the school year by breaking her arm in 2 places. Best wishes also to those who have been sick or in hospital this month - Anna Hitchins, Doug Lamb, Vera Hogeboom, AnneMarie Hitchins.

Welcome to our new and returning Island residents. Freda Youell will be moving into Ross and Beth Evans' house this month. In Myrtle Veech's house we will soon have John, Diane (Henderson), Sarah and Samantha Pollock.

Welcome home also to Alan Kidd and Judy Roberts who have returned as full time residents after spending the last couple of years working in Europe.

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Volunteer Fire Department answered a call to a structural fire on June 15th, when Vince Aitken's workshop was burning. This was apparently caused by a bird's nest near an outside light getting too hot

and starting the fire. According to Kingston dispatch, 911 was called at 11:40 p.m., the Fire Department was paged out at 11:41 p.m. and arrived at the fire seven minutes later. The fire was out after about half an hour. The roof of the building was badly damaged, but most of the walls and the contents were intact, but very wet at the end.

ISLAND HISTORY AMHERST ISLAND HOUSE TOUR JULY 9, 1994

- Janet Grace

As a fund raiser for the restoration of the Pentland Cemetery, the "Stone House Tour" held on July 9 was, by all accounts, a resounding success. The last stop on the tour was at Farnham where we held a Strawberry Social for tour guests.

We had expected about 40 guests but as the day approached the number increased to almost double that, leading to furious last minute efforts to cope with the larger numbers!

Fortunately we were blessed with perfect weather, glorious sunshine and a refreshing breeze from the lake. I think everyone enjoyed the opportunity to sit, have a cup of tea and some delicious strawberry shortcake, and enjoy the view from the lawns of Farnham (after walking up and down stairs for most of the afternoon)! A special project was the creation of a catalogue of houses on the tour complete with pen and ink sketches drawn by Martin Smith of Ottawa. Last minute printing of the illustrated catalogue seemed an insurmountable problem, however Peter Morgan undertook the project, delivered the catalogues within 24 hours and donated the whole cost of production to the Pentland Cemetery Fund! Many thanks Peter.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank, also, the many people who helped make the Strawberry Social such a success: Dorothy McGinn, Irene Glenn, Helen Caughey, Beth Forester, Helen Miller, Coralie Marshall, Lisa McCarthy, Caroline and Helen Yull, Ted Wemp, Lisa Spano and Bill Hedges, my sister Joanne Flint and friend Anita Cooper, Kim Hedges and Martin Smith, sons Andrew and Richard and all the others who let us know that their help was available if needed. Thanks also to Cameron for helping pick all those strawberries and to husband Brian for the speedy painting and papering of Farnham.

We are, once more, gratefully aware that the community spirit of Amherst Island is alive and well.

Please accept my personal thanks - it couldn't have been done without you.

GLENN'S STORE

After more than 40 year's of service to the community Irene Glenn and her granddaughter Annette Phillips have reluctantly decided to shut down their grocery business and switch exclusively to movie rentals, cigarettes, junk food and confectionaries. This will be on a six month trial basis and if not successful then the store part will close down completely.

The post office service will not be affected, nor will the hunting/fishing licences. Display space will be available for Island artists, craftspeople and woodworkers.

In a householder mailing they thanked their staff who have helped them over the years and their customers.

It was a difficult decision to make but with so many people commuting and buying their groceries on the mainland they were unable to compete with the high volume grocery chains on the mainland.

THANK YOU NOTES

I would like to say thanks to the Fire Department and Emergency Response Team for their quick response when our clothes line and house were hit by lightning.

Thanks also to all the neighbours and friends who turned out to help us.

James, Marjorie, Kelly and Shannon Baker

May we take this opportunity to express our sincere and heartfelt thanks to all our wonderful Island neighbours and friends who through their visits, phone calls, cards, goodies and many acts of kindness, expressed their concern for our well-being, during and after my recent surgery.

A special note of thanks goes to all those who assisted Helen during her stay in hospital.

God Bless

Doug & Helen Lamb

We thank everyone for their support and enthusiasm for our Back Kitchen Restaurant.

The flowers, cards and well wishes are truly

appreciated.

A special thanks to our families for donating their precious time to get the kitchen open on time and operational, and to Barbara Filson for her wonderful pies and tarts.

Following the resounding success of the fundraising 'Amherst Island House Tour' I feel that thanks should go out to a number of people actively involved in the organization of this event. From the dawn of an idea to the actualizing of the event, Bill Hedges and Bruce Caughey Sr. have been the driving force. Thank you Bill for your foresight and thanks to Bruce for the tremendous wealth of information and knowledge about the island and it's history - your efforts have been rewarded!

I would also like to thank John and Jean Baker, Bob and Catherine McMullen, Allison McNaught and Patrick Gray, Stan and Adrian Walters and Bruce and Susie Caughey for allowing so many guests to visit their homes and for being on hand to answer questions about the buildings and their origins - your cooperation and generosity is greatly appreciated. Our gratitude, as well, is offered to Bruce Caughey Sr. for overseeing St. Paul's Church and Pentland Cemetery locations during the tour and providing the tour guests with the history of these landmarks.

We were happy to have so many of the four hosts join us at Farnham in the late afternoon where they were able to join the tour guest in an informal and relaxed atmosphere, and enjoy a cup of tea and a few strawberries (while answering the many questions that their interested guests still had!)

Janet Grace

The Beacon thanks the Back Kitchen for their generous donation towards its printing costs. We really appreciate the extra help as all time is donated and prices do keep rising for paper and supplies.

Thanks also to those who put a little extra in the can when buying the Beacon at the store and not to forget the others who sent in a donation for ads and announcements.

WATERSIDE SUMMER FESTIVAL

- Stanley Burke

It's a first for the Island and already it's a sell-out

success.

The Waterside Summer Festival, which is bringing outstanding Canadian musicians to Amherst Island sold out its first two concerts and, of the remaining three, tickets for two are gone.

“I’m more than ecstatic,” said Jan Sneep, the tail-of-the-island resident who conceived the idea of a concert series at St. Alban’s Church. “We had our doubts but we are extremely pleased at the way it’s turning out.”

Both audience members and musicians have expressed delight at the warm informal atmosphere of the concerts which are now expected to become part of Island life. Many in attendance were off-Islanders who came specially for the occasions.

A LETTER HOME

Not much room today so let’s yet going...

This is the middle of July and we have only 2% of our hay done. At this time in past years, we have been all done and sitting on the beach for the rest of the summer (ha... ha... that’s a little joke about the beach part). We are still looking for the infamous Amherst Island drought which as far as I can remember lasted for about 3 days last month sometime. Hasn’t the weather been weird for the last couple of years. Here it is past the middle of July and the Island is still green! Oh well, we’ve just going to keep going and if we need the snow blower to clear the fields of snow to hay them then that’s what we’ll do.

Them nasty coyotes are still eating up our lambs. It’s over 35 to date and mama coyote hasn’t even brought her pups out of try hunting yet. Maybe she’ll gorge herself to death.

ADVERTISEMENTS

SHIRLEY MILLER

Paintings, Prints & Art Classes
613-389-2588

LOT 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

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

WATKINS AND 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

ISLAND BOOKKEEPING

We can provide simple bookkeeping, payroll, and tax preparation needs at very competitive prices. Call Renée for more information and free quotes at 613-389-0652.

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.

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



Amherst Island's own 2nd City Group

Photo by Zander Dunn

The Ladies of the Women Institute on Canada Day

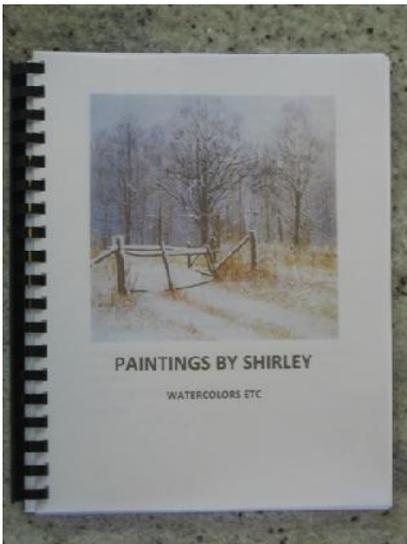
Photo by Zander Dunn





George Gavlas' barn as seen through the lens of Brian Little.

Paintings by Shirley



This book, more than 100 pages long, contains photos of paintings and a few poems by Shirley Miller. All pages are in colour, and represent her choice of many years' work.

The book can be viewed at Stella's Café, at Shirley's table at the Market, or at her home by appointment. Please phone : 613 389-2588. Cost is \$100

**AUGUST 8, 9
AND 10, 2014**

EMERALD MUSIC FESTIVAL

**12675 FRONT ROAD
AMHERST ISLAND
ONTARIO, CANADA**



Emerald Music Festival is located on Amherst Island on a 100 acre beef farm, with 600 feet of waterfront facing the northern channel of Lake Ontario.

**Music with a wide range of styles that will include
Country, Celtic, Bluegrass and 50's Rock & Roll**

**Daily Passes – Friday \$10, Saturday \$25, Sunday \$10
\$35 Weekend Pass includes rough camping.**

**Tickets sold at the gate or in advance at Amherst Island General Store, Stella's Café
Or Marie's Place in Napanee
(Children under 12 free and must be accompanied by an Adult)**

Sound by KING SOUND

Scheduled Entertainers in order of appearance (subject to change without notice)

Friday 6:00 - 12:00

**Mellow Lily
Sheila Bedard & Country Rhythm
Corduroy Road
OPEN MIC
Blue Grass Bandits**

Saturday 12:00 - 12:00

**Bob Caverly & Jackie Fraser
Bernadette Kelly
Family Traditions
The Celtic Kitchen Party
Blain Henshaw
Rob Carnegie
Don Cochrane & Neville Wells
Stompin' Jon Finlan**

BLUEGRASS SUNDAY

Sunday 10:00 - 4:00

**Gospel Hour
Balsam Blue
County Road 5
Grass Under Fire
Country Rhythm closing**

Visit our website for more details www.emeraldmusicfestival.com

**Food Venues, Vendors & Washroom Facilities on Site
BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIRS & COOLERS FOR A GREAT WEEKEND**

From Ferry Dock, turn right at the stop sign and follow the Festival Signs

This event is hosted by Dan and Joan Simpson

Contact us @ 613-889-8297

emeraldfestival@gmail.com