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THIS ISSUE

- Ian Murray, editor

The size of the Beacon very much depends on what is contributed. This issue is one of our best in quite a while with several Island events and an obituary for a well-loved Islander.

We do appreciate all the photos but we have only so much room. So, if your favourite photo didn't make the cut, we are sorry. Please keep sending photos and articles.

A huge congratulations to CJAI on not only surviving some serious ups and downs over 5 years but thriving, as proven by a very successful fund drive.

SUCCESSFUL ISLAND RADIO FUND DRIVE

-Terry Culbert (Assistant Station Manager)

Thank you Islanders and
Mainlanders ... you are
TERRIFIC!!! We set a goal for
\$3500, and this year we raised
\$6320, just \$330 less than last
year.

“On behalf of the CJAI Board,
it was amazing!” said Island
Radio President Michele LeLay.
“We had more volunteers this
year than any other year. They
baked, answered phones, offered
prizes and talked on air. A special
thanks to the Amherst Island
Women's Institute and the
Amherst Island Men's Society for
their support. This is a
community working together.

The funds raised will go towards
running the station. We do have
some capital expenses. Most of
our equipment is very, very old....the control panel in the On-Air booth alone dates back to the
early 1970's. We bought it on E-Bay more than five years ago,” noted Ms. LeLay.

Dayle Gowan, Host of the Udder Morning Show, went on to say: “We had just over 100
individual donors with 30% of those coming from off-Island. One of the important things that
makes our fund drive great and exciting is the number of prizes and give-aways we receive from individuals as well
as from our Island Radio sponsors. We would not have had the success we did without the large and small gifts that
these folks made available to us.”



Photo by Terry Culbert

Island Radio President Michele LeLay draws the lucky numbers
culminating the week-long fund drive during the Udder Morning Show
on May 2, 2011. Assisting are co-hosts Dayle Gowan and Susan
Filson.



Photo by Terry Culbert

CJAI Board member Cherry Allen receives a donation from her grandchildren 18-year old Natasha Bonham-Carter of New Zealand, 7-year old Finn Varette and 10-year old Lucie Amson

The smallest radio station in Canada, born in the milk house of an old dairy farm, alongside our Amherst Island ferry dock hummed with excitement from 6 a.m. Monday morning April 23rd until Friday evening at 9 p.m., April 27th. So many LIVE shows with guests and LIVE music.... it was wonderful being part of it. Celebrity disc-jockey and broadcaster Jack Thompson of 102.7 The Lake was Steve Kennedy's special guest on the afternoon portion of 'Up Steve's Sleeves'.



Photo by Terry Culbert

Co-hosts Susan Filson and Dayle Gowan are into the fourth hour of the week-long fund drive on the Udder Morning Show as Station Manager Jim Gould looks on.

To top off this very special week, Station Manager Jim Gould received an email: "I am listening to your live streaming in Japan. Heart-warming mood with

good music selection. Half hour before sleeping is my CJAI time. I do not know much about Amherst Island, but your programs always make me relax. Arigato, Thank you." Signed: Atsushi from Toyota City, Japan.

[more pictures later in this issue... staff]



Photo courtesy of Laurie Kilpatrick

DOROTHY ELIZABETH KILPATRICK: 1929 – 2011

- Warren, Laurie, Kevin and Mark Kilpatrick
*"Some would gather money along the path of life,
 Some would gather roses and rest from worldly strife.
 But I would gather children from among the thorns of sin:
 I would seek a golden curl and a freckled toothless grin,
 For money cannot enter in that Land of endless day,
 And the roses that are gathered soon will wilt along the way.
 But oh, the laughing children, as I cross the Sunset Sea,
 Within my heart I will carry them with me."*
 (Author Unknown)

This was one of Mom's favorite poems and in many ways it reflects the way she lived her life. Children were a constant source of joy and laughter and she was a wonderful mother, grandmother, aunt, cousin and friend to the children in her life.

Mom was very much a "people person" who was happiest when surrounded by family and friends. She

gathered people around her with her welcoming smile, generous spirit and sense of humor...and could she cook!



Dorothy and Bill - June 1951

Photo courtesy of Laurie Kilpatrick

Reverend Zander Dunn in his meditation said “I don’t know of anybody who had more friends than Dorothy. There are some people who have the gift of friendship. Dorothy was such a person.”

She shared this gift of friendship throughout her life, on and off the Island. At the nursing home where she lived for a short time, they called her “the social butterfly”. She loved parties and the last picture we have is of Mom in full Halloween costume thoroughly enjoying herself with Vi, one of her newest friends.

Mom was born on Amherst Island on July 5, 1929, the third daughter of Raymond McMaster and Frances McMaster (Tugwell). She grew up in the house just west of Stella where George and Ida Gavlas now live and her Dad farmed what is now the Vincent Eves farm.

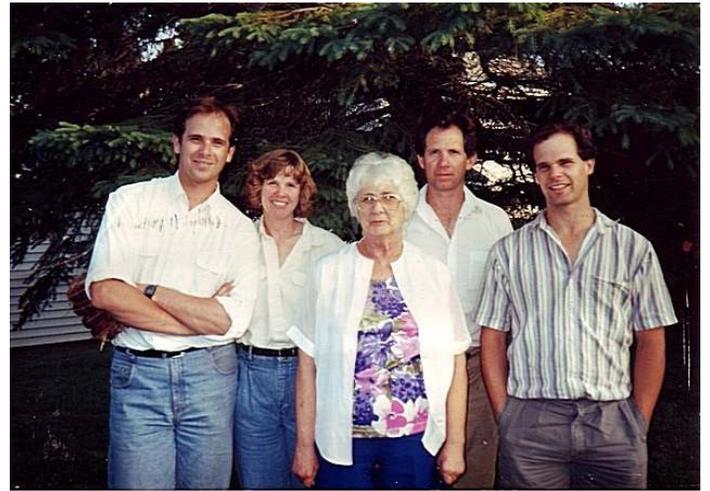


Photo courtesy of Laurie Kilpatrick

Mark, Laurie, Dorothy, Warren and Kevin

Her mother Fanny, whom she described as young at heart, was a teacher. Mom was surrounded by loving adults. Her grandmother lived in Lilac Cottage next door and she had a large extended family of aunts and uncles on the Island. Some of her fondest childhood memories were of Christmas and New Year’s parties spent with her family.

Her two sisters Helen (Smith) and Gene (McDonald) were 10 and 9 years older and she enjoyed the attention of being the youngest but lamented not having young children to play with. She repeatedly asked her parents to adopt a baby for her to play with. Much to her dismay, this didn’t happen. Mom then looked forward to the summertime when people flocked to the Island including her young Scott cousins Helene and Bob Hannah.

Mom attended S.S. No.1 on the Front Rd and Stella Continuation School. As a teenager, she enjoyed playing the piano and the accordion and she also took part in the Island Rangers. After graduating she moved to London to work for Bell Canada, staying with her Aunt Sadie, Uncle Alfred and cousin Hugh Filson.

When her mother became critically ill, Mom returned to the Island to help her father care for her. Her mother passed away when Mom was only twenty.

Shortly after her return, she began seeing a certain Billy Kilpatrick, the son of Arthur and Leith Kilpatrick who ran the Emerald Store. Then, on a beautiful June day in 1951, she and Bill were married in the United Church in Stella. The reception was held in Victoria Hall and the newlyweds boarded the ferry and headed out to New York State on their honeymoon.

Mom and Dad moved to the house in Emerald that Arthur and Leith had built in 1929. Warren arrived in 1952 and Laurie a year later. Their life revolved around their family, the Emerald Store, St. Paul's and the Island community.

The decade of the 1960s was eventful with the arrival of two more little Kilpatricks. Kevin was born in 1965 and Mark who Mom referred to as her "Centennial Project" arrived in 1967. They had closed the store in 1964 and when Dad began work on the ferry, life became easier for both of them.

Following the early death of our dear father in 1978 and once the young boys had finished elementary school, Mom moved from the Island to Napanee. With declining health herself, she faced these difficult years with courage... always more concerned for her children than for herself. She worked for Wartman's Funeral Home, she volunteered at the local museum and cared for others in the building where she lived.

The grandchildren began to arrive in 1980. On March 7th of this year Genevieve, the 17th grandchild made her debut. Mom had 31 years sprinkled with beautiful grandchildren!



Photo courtesy of Laurie Kilpatrick

This was the legacy that Mom was most proud of...her grandchildren: Kristan and Jonathan; Brennan and Marlene; Tara; Aidan and Evan; Marie-Rose, Jocelyne, Kyle, Eric, Luke, Isaac,

Jacob, Dominic, Anthony and Genevieve. Under her wing were also the children and grandchildren of John Moolenbeek.

Mom yearned to see the little ones, even to the end. She was looking forward to meeting her new granddaughter Genny, but because of illness at the nursing home it had not yet been possible.

Mom was admitted to Napanee hospital with a bout of pneumonia on March 19. As the pneumonia improved Mom did not. She slipped out of consciousness. Later in the week, Kevin and Suzanne brought Genny to the hospital. We all had dinner there and Suzanne brought the baby to Mom's side. The baby was making gurgling baby sounds. Mom's eyes opened...she saw her new granddaughter and she saw her family close beside her... she took her last few breaths and she moved on. We cannot think of a more beautiful way to leave this world.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

- Mary Kay Steel

The regular meeting of the Amherst Island Women's Institute was held on Wednesday, April 20th at the home of member Leslie Gavlas, starting at 7PM. President Liz Harrison welcomed the thirteen members in attendance. Minutes and treasurer's monthly reports were tabled and approved. Several committee reports were made and discussed. We received an invitation to the 75th anniversary celebration of the Victoria II WI branch (Napanee), which will be part of the district level annual meeting in Selby on May 17th. Some of us will be in attendance. It was announced that the committal of the remains of Mrs. Georgina Allison, a former president of our branch, will take place at Glenwood Cemetery on May 20.

Leslie Gavlas noted that we have been asked to help with the July Car Rally fund-raiser for the museum by bringing our market cart to assist in providing refreshments. Our branch is sponsoring the All Candidates meeting on April 28; Liz Harrison gave details and asked for helpers. Looking ahead to spring and summer, members were asked to sign up to manage our upcoming bake sales, and our Saturday market wagon. Finally, Liz reported that the petition we sponsored advocating a library facility on the Island was tabled at the Loyalist Township council meeting earlier this month. After completion of branch business the monthly meeting was adjourned.



Photo: Jim Barber, Napanee Guide

Back row: Joyce Reid, Liz Harrison, Anne Henderson, Joyce Haines, Elsie Willard, Nancy Dunn
 Front row: Coralie Marshall, Marion Glenn, LeRoy Wannamaker (L&A Hospital), Leslie Gavlas

We immediately moved on to our Annual Meeting and election of a 2011-2012 executive. Kirsten Bennick, past president, chaired the meeting. She also headed up the nominations group, and duly presented the proposed list of volunteers for executive offices. As there were no further nominations from the floor, a vote was held and the new executive was acclaimed to office. Liz Harrison will remain another year as president, and Nancy Dunn as secretary. New treasurer will be Anne Henderson. And we have both a first and a second vice-president: Sharen English and Anne Henderson respectively. We were sad about Leslie Gavlas stepping down after many years as our Tweedsmuir co-coordinator; but we welcomed Claire Jenney taking on the job with assistance from Mary Kay. Then the annual meeting was adjourned, and it was on to some fun, at last!

A very tasty lunch and social hour followed all this serious business. It was highlighted by one of our fun Brown Bag auctions, ably led by new member Norma-Lynn Cole. The idea is to package treasures in brown or other-coloured bags, and auction them off to the highest bidders, with proceeds (over \$50 at this meeting) going to our international headquarters for worthy projects in developing countries. On top of that, of course, we each get to take home a very interesting or even very tasty surprise.

Our next meeting is to take place at St. Paul's church hall on May 18. It is planned to be a session open to the public with a guest speaker.

JANET'S JOTTINGS

- Janet Scott

How many shades of green can there be? There is something about this Island in early Spring that must have reminded the early settlers from the Ards Peninsula of their former home on the Emerald Isle. As Spring takes hold and drives the snow banks of winter back into the darkest corners of ravines and

forests the wonderful rainbow of greens appear.

Perhaps it is the early lime green of the Weeping Willow as its fronds begin to leaf out and unfurl. A little lighter and brighter is the newly uncovered grass that has been struggling up to the light from beneath its winter covers of leaves and sticks and contrasts with the darker greens of the grasses that have been uncovered for most of the winter.

When a puddle gradually recedes there is another green grass showing that has been under water for several weeks. Every ditch, and lawn and hayfield leaps with joy into new life and vigour.

In the deeper woods is the soft velvety green of the mosses as they revive and grow in the soft leaf mold and welcome the sunbeams to the forest floor. The lilacs that will soon create floral tunnels on our roads and perfume the air, so that you smell the Island from

the ferry, are unfolding in a rich green shade and everywhere are daffodils with green leaves waving and the promise of merry, bouncing yellow heads soon to open.

The cat has managed to find a miniature, dark green catnip plant pushing its way through a crack in the patio stones. He is so excited that he attempts to roll on this miniscule dark green showing and already there is enough plant to fill

the air with the pungent minty smell as he crushes its leaves. The hollyhocks wrinkled and furled are pushing up along the wall and show the darker, deeper green to follow. The crocuses have pushed striped, green and white leaves into the light from sheltered corners in the garden and have already bloomed in spite of a late snow.

In the flooded ditch, a pair of Mallard Ducks, are courting and in the newly washed sunshine his head glows with the richness of emerald gems and as they lift the drops of water sparkle and catch the light. If the light is right you can also see the glowing green head of the Golden-eye with its eye shining in the light or the deep rich green of the Red-breasted Merganser and elegant Wood Duck.

In the deepest woods the Dog-toothed Violet - sometimes called Adder's Tongue - is lifting spotted



Topsy Farms Shearing: The 3 shearers were supported by Carolyn Ackerman (pictured) and about a dozen others (not all at once, mind you) during the three days.

Photo by Don Tubb

brownish-green leaves and deep yellow flowers. The three bold leaves of the Trillium unwrap themselves from the stem and feed the flower of snowy white or showy red.

There is so much green everywhere that our beloved Island takes on an ethereal glow and aura of new life, new hope and rebirth. Enjoy, take a drive or a walk and absorb the gifts of our green earth.

COUNCIL GLEANINGS

- Ian Murray

Ferry rates have been increased: a book of 25 tickets, \$100; single fare, \$9.

No building permits have been issued on the Island from January 31 to March 31.

ELECTION RESULTS

- Ian Murray

Reid:	riding, 33,756	local, 105
Smyth:	riding, 12,174	local, 58
Remington:	riding, 9,938	local, 85
Baranyi:	riding, 2,702	local, 20
Lee:	riding, 370	local, 3

Out of the 337 eligible voters on Amherst Island, 271 voted on Monday; a turnout of 80%. Some Islanders also voted in the advance poll.

AIMS MEETING

April 9th

- Dave Meikle

Twenty four members enjoyed a delicious breakfast prepared by Lynn Fleming, Mitchell Morgan-Bursey, Noa and Lucy Bonham-Carter.

Our guest speaker was Councilor Duncan Ashley.



Photo by Brian Little
Bruce Caughey, Scott Reid, Doug Green and Greg Latiak at the All Candidates Meeting

Councilor Ashley kindly accepted AIMS invitation to talk on the recent issues before Council that directly involve Amherst Island.

Councilor Ashley opened his discussion by first commenting that many of the issues before the Council have a significant impact on Amherst Island though the Island is not being directly named in the discussion.

Aside from attending Council meetings or accosting the Councilor on the boat there are a few other good options for keeping informed. The Township website, loyalisttownship.ca, provides a record of all of the Council discussions. Councilor Ashley also recommended the Beacon as a resource. The Beacon provides a digest of all Council activity that will have an impact on Amherst Island. He then discussed some of the current issues before Council:

Amherst Island Ferry Service End-loading Docks

The MTO has put out a call for design-build bids for end-loading docks for the Amherst Island ferry service. Councilor Ashley has a concern that this approach will result in bids of varying design with widely varying estimates of cost. This can confuse the process of getting a bid accepted. He felt that MTO would select the cheapest option, regardless of its utility. Any selected option could still be scuttled by a higher level of government.



Photo by Brian Little
A good crowd was out for the All Candidates Meeting... as usual!

Amherst Island Ferry Service Rates

The Council will be voting on a motion to raise the Amherst Island ticket prices on Monday April 11. The proposed ticket price is \$9.25, with a book of 25 tickets for \$100. This rate increase will cover this year's ferry budget deficit if fuel prices stabilize and ridership does not change. This rate increase does not

compensate for the ferry service budget deficit accrued in the previous two years. There is no current plan for systematic rate increases. At present the ferry ticket rate is being adjusted in response to the annual costs for the service. The MTO came to an agreement with the Municipality in 2008 to reexamine the current arrangement of cost sharing for the Amherst Island ferry service. In 2009 the Minister reversed this decision, citing economic turmoil. Councilor Ashley noted that the Minister apparently needed the money to maintain his unwritten agreements at Wolfe Island. He pointed out that every dollar the Minister saves here is one more to spend there. No significant action towards this end has been made to date. The Municipality is pressing the Ministry to honour this commitment.

Front Road

The Municipality has budgeted to resurface Front Road from the four-way stop in Stella to Emerald. This will be done in two phases, half the distance this year and half the next. This includes improving the base and ditching in the required areas. The surface asphalt will be pulverized to form part of the new base. A surface treatment cap, as was done east of the village, will constitute the finished road surface.

Business Meeting (was abbreviated due to the length of the Q&A and commentary with Duncan)

Review/Approval of Last Months' Minutes – voted and accepted by the membership.

Treasurer's Report – Paul Lauret provided an update, including the funds returned from the Beacon.

Update on Action Items from Last Month
-Market Porta-potty – correspondence from Rec Committee was read, stating that the request was refused as the vendor chosen by the township will not service the Island under their contract.

-AI Beacon Assistance Update – Ian has reorganized the Beacon staff and will be producing future editions with Don Tubb. The support funding is no longer required and the latest instalment has been returned with thanks.

-Market Coordinator Volunteer – anyone willing to help Marc? Al Caughey indicated that he is willing to help.

-Second Email Meeting Notification – turnout at this meeting suggests the email notification mechanism is working.

-Spring Road Cleanup – signup sheet circulation &

distribution of maps.

-Other Business?

John Harrison announced that the Womens' Institute will be hosting an All-Candidates meeting at AIPS on 28 April at 7pm. Subsequent to the meeting Bruce Caughey agreed to be the moderator for this event. Assistance from AIMS would be appreciated for chair setup and teardown.

Terry Cuthbert announced that planning was underway for the Road Rally this summer. He asked that AIMS once again provide support for promotion costs. This was approved.

The Township has notified AIMS that as a result of liability discussions in Council, vendors at the Bath market are being required to sign a vendor agreement in order to participate. The text has been sent to AIMS to implement similarly.

Next Meeting will be May 14th, Speaker as yet TBD (volunteers would be appreciated – anyone?).

MADE FOR GOODNESS

-Zander of DUNN INN

If you want to have your spirits lifted and feel hopeful about life, about religion, about God and about yourself, I suggest you read the latest book by Desmond Tutu. It's entitled, "Made for Goodness" and his daughter Mpho Tutu, has worked with him on it.

There's a sense in which there's nothing new in this book. Any Christian could have written it. But, because it comes from Desmond Tutu, the Bishop of South Africa, it packs a wallop.

Desmond Tutu declares that we are fundamentally good. God made us that way. He argues that we get enraged at wrong because we are fundamentally good.

He contends that evil and wrong are aberrations. If evil was the norm, then it would not be news. He says that our newscasts would not lead with the latest reports of murder and mayhem, because they would be the ordinary. But murder and mayhem are not the norm. The norm is goodness.

The Tutus are not naive. They have both sat through the horrible revelations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission in South Africa. Desmond Tutu, a sensitive soul, said that when he heard of what some of God's people did to others, he broke down in tears.

Desmond Tutu and his daughter, Mpho, have seen people at their worst. They have visited the people of South Africa who have suffered under the terrible rule of Apartheid, that edict that said all black African people are less than white African people, must keep separate from whites Africans, and must obey the white laws. They have been to Rwanda and have seen the churches in which Tutus were slaughtered by Hutus who considered them less than human. They have been to Canada and have seen how the white Christian Canadians mistreat and oppress the Native Peoples. They have been to Ireland and have seen the hatred of the Roman Catholics for the Protestants and vice versa. They have seen how the Palestinian Christians and Muslims are put down by the Jews. They have visited Uganda to witness the violence between the Muslims and the Christians. They know how bad people can be.

But they declare that people are made, by God, for goodness. They quote Genesis which says that God made humans in the divine likeness. We are made to have connections, or relationships, with God.

You and I are fundamentally good. Evil cannot have the last word. Goodness is not just our impulse; it is our essence. To be hateful is to operate against the deepest yearnings God has placed in our hearts.

Now there are some Christians who would argue that we are sinners, bad, evil, filled with those things which work against God. It is true that many of us do things that are wrong and terrible; but it is also true that we are made to be good. We are made for God. We are made to be with God. We are made in the image of God.

Each one of us has within us a longing for the holy. We are temples of the Holy Spirit. Not just our bodies, but our very selves are made for God to indwell. Anything less than God will not suffice. We need God and we yearn for God because we are made for God.

God knows us intimately and God longs to be with us. We have the freedom to reject God and mock God and turn away from God; but always God loves us. God loves us because God made us and saw that what God had made was good, very good.

Both Desmond and Mpho Tutu declare that evolution has instilled within us a need to belong and feel accepted. The Good News is that God accepts us just as we are. It is an unconditional, unlimited and undeserved acceptance. God loves each of us with a love which will never let us go.

This has led us, at our best, to “tend and befriend” one another. The African word, “Ubuntu” sums it up very well. That’s the Xhosa word used to describe the need that all humans have to be accepted and welcomed. We must care for one another to thrive in our society.

At a time when so many people are judgmental and harsh in their attitudes and relationships with others it is good to be reminded by a loving father and daughter that we are basically good and are made for goodness.

We don’t have to work at being good in order to please or appease God; we are already good and loved by God no matter what we do with, or against, our goodness.

JONES FAMILY REUNION

-Dale C. Jones

Once upon a time two sisters, Margaret and Mary McClelland, arrived on Amherst Island from Londonderry, Ireland. Margaret was married to James Clement, Mary to John Clyde. The Clements and Clydes established themselves along the Front Road. About 1900, the Clements moved to the Northport area of Prince Edward County. The Clydes left at a later date to establish dairy farming near Kingston.

John and Mary Clyde had several children. One was a Joseph Percival Clyde who married Annie Willard of Amherst Island.

Soooo . . . All relatives on Amherst island are invited to the Jones Family Reunion on July 23, 2011, in Wellington, Prince Edward County.

I’m Dale Clement Jones. My grandmother was Alice Clement, born on the Island. Mary McClelland was her aunt; that makes me related to many Islanders.

Please RSVP if you’re coming: phone 519-855-6873; e-mail, inourdreams@xplor.net; snail mail, 9643 27 Side Road, RR#1, Erin, N0B 1T0.

HERE & THERE

- Ian Murray

Congratulations to W. Bruce Caughey on his election as chair of Farm Mutual Reinsurance Plan Inc. (FMRP).

The corporation is owned by fifty-eight Canadian Farm Mutual Insurance Companies. This company

spreads the risk of catastrophic losses through their access to world-wide Reinsurance Markets. The corporation's annual revenue for 2010 was more than \$180 million with assets exceeding \$700 million.

PENTLAND CEMETERY WAS ESTABLISHED 180 YEARS AGO

-Judith Harrower

Pentland Cemetery was established with the death of Samuel Pendleton, age 7 years, whose father owned land east of the future cemetery and donated a half acre to establish the first non-denominational cemetery on the Island. It is not clear if Mr. Pendleton, a Methodist, asked if his son could be buried in the Anglican glebe, and was denied or if he did not bother. In subsequent years the farmer to the west donated another half acre of land. The eastern half of the cemetery contains the earliest burials. Outside of the eastern stone fence was a building where bodies were kept for spring burials - it has disappeared.

Interesting facts:

Most pioneer families buried their relatives on their farms until Pentland was established.

Over 300 bodies are buried in Pentland.

Only 157 headstones are recorded in the 1979 genealogy survey. However during the restoration project stones have surfaced through the soil which were not recorded.

Early burials had large flat rocks commonly used as headstones, due to lack of money for most pioneer families.

The husbands were buried to the south of their wives.

Seventeen bodies are buried outside the fenced area, thought to be aboriginals as they are buried north/south where as Christians are buried east/west.

Originally cedar posts and rails enclosed the cemetery; four cedar posts were unearthed on the east side.

In the 1860s the Irish stone fences were erected on all four sides when the cemetery was enlarged.

The front four cement posts and wire fencing were erected in the 1930s by the Neilson family.

The large headstone sitting outside the fenced area was moved from inside the cemetery when Mr. Neilson's second wife died and he attempted to move his first wife's headstone to Glenwood where his

second wife was buried.

The cedar trees just outside the cemetery and around Daniel Fowler's grave were planted by Mr. Fowler as noted in his letter to a friend - a copy of this letter was donated by Queens University.

Original surveyor's metal stakes and stone are still visible.

Some of the trees are original growth such as the large leaning cedar at the back of the cemetery.

Very high number of children buried in Pentland as compared to other early cemeteries. Diseases/house fires claimed the lives of many children such as the Mahood children: Nancy died in 1840 at 1 year, 5 months; then three died in one month - Sarah on March 6, 1851 at age 1 year, 9 months, 2 days, followed by Eliza who died ten days later on March 16, 1851 age 7 years, 3 months., 21 days, and, followed six days later by William who died on March 22, 1851 at age 5 yrs, 3 months 11 days. On a separate headstone is Thomas Mahood who died on March 17, 1867 at age 9 years 6 months.

During the restoration of Robert Wilson's headstone, died Dec.22, 1871 at age 4 months 10 days, two footstones were noted containing the initials E.L.W. and H.S.W. These initials were revealed when a headstone surfaced as belonging to Robert's sister, Emma Louisa and Helen Sophia. Both headstones were placed in the same socket beside one another.

Burleigh stones commemorate two sons who died in sailing ship accidents on the Great Lakes; one drowned and the other fell from a top mast.

Two Irish immigrants, Francis and Joseph Hamilton, born in 1765 and 1759 from County Down, died on Amherst Island at age 101 and 108 respectively in 1866 and 1867 - their farm was on the Second Concession.

Pentland Cemetery has been designated a historical site by Loyalist Township, recognized by the Ontario Historical Society and the National Federation of Women's Institute.

Since 2004 the Amherst Island Women's Institute has completely restored nearly all of the Irish stone fences, with about fifty feet left to do on the north fence.

Over 65% of the headstones have been restored over the last seven years.

The original restoration estimates of over \$110,000.00 has been reduced to just over \$20,000.00 due to the great volunteers who have not only made

financial donations but have spent hours restoring the fences and assisting in maintaining the cemetery.

Pentland Cemetery contains the earliest recorded history of the Island which is worth preserving for future generations. In this special year of commemorating 180 years, completion of the Irish stone fences and restoration of many headstones, your donations will provide the means to complete this long term project. You are also invited to come out and assist with the last few feet of the last stone fence on Tues. and Thurs. mornings or simply walk around the cemetery and see the restoration progress that has been made.



Photo courtesy Judy Bierma

Judy Bierma with new friends at the Educational and Learning Centre for the Blind in Freeport.

DEAR COLLEAGUES AND FRIENDS

-Judy Bierma

I have found an Educational and Learning Centre for the Blind on Grand Bahama Island. It is located at the Susan Wallace Team Centre in Freeport.

The school hopes to reach more students on Grand Bahama Island. There are 50 to 100 blind persons on the Island. They need transportation to bring the students to their Centre. They also need 6 Perkins Brailers, a Braille Bible, any Braille novels or textbooks, small tape recorders and blank audio tapes, 6 adult white canes, a Braille dyno labeler and tapes,

6 slate and stylus', a text book in print of the Eye Diseases, etc. anything you have in your cupboards or boxes that you don't need will be appreciated.

If you can help me out email me and I'll be in charge of picking the materials up and shipping them to Freeport. They are in need of money too for the gas for the car to pick up the students and to purchase materials.

Thanks for your help.

THANK YOU

- Anthony and Judy

Hello A.I.ers from Ocean Reef Yacht club near Freeport, Grand Bahama Island in the Bahamas.

It's been a short winter. Judy came down to the boat in mid January but I stayed north until February to have my back checked out. It seems that I'm getting older. Imagine that! In the first week of January I had a back "event" that really knocked me down. An M.R.I. told of collapsing discs and pinched nerves. Yada-yada. (Thanks to Dave Meikle for his help in controlling the pain.) I'm working OK now, what with an even more vigorous back exercise regime. Hope it will keep me OK until I can schedule an operation.

We've been lazy. Perpetually working on blogging, writing, entertaining, singing, drinking, snorkeling, diving, biking, sailing, hot tubbing, visiting, swimming, walking the beaches, volunteering, shopping, churching, fishing, sleeping, T.V. and movies. Rough life.

One more month and we'll be back at home and panicking, for we have been presented with a list of improvements that MUST be done before the COUNTY will allow us to open. Don't be surprised if Judy and I beg for some help in May in order to get the stuff done that will please the fire inspector in Odessa.

We're busy planning and scheming re: the menu and programs at Stella's Cafe. We'll have to charge more on many items this year but we simply must make wages as well as pay the HST tax. But we'll do our very best to be fair.

We're hoping to have a "Dinner and Movie Night", as well as our Singalong Night, Featured Chef Night, Bingo, Special Music and often later dining hours on the weekends and some new items on the menu.

Every day here, amidst the heat and escape, we've always had Amherst Island, the Cafe and all our

family and friends there on our minds. We long to be back there and as soon as our last family visitors have left on April 24th we will be putting the boat "up on the hard" at Runny Mon for the summer and flying north.

We look forward so much to being there.

ALL-CANDIDATES MEETING

A.I.W.I would like to thank all the Islanders who came to give the federal candidates a warm and attentive reception. The excellent turnout was commented on by the candidates. Thanks also for all the help A.I.W.I. received from Terry Culbert and CJAI, Bruce Burnett, Greg Latiak, David Pickering and John Harrison.

Eloise and Dayle Gowan as well as Diane Pierce kept us in touch with the uncertainties of the ferry and thanks to the crew, the boat was back on schedule to bring over the candidates and prevent the cancellation of the meeting. And of course a special thank you to Bruce Caughey who moderated the meeting with skill and good humour.

Liz Harrison President A.I.W.I.
[Editor: Thanks to all involved in putting on this event. Islanders have always taken a real interest in politics – local, provincial and federal.]

THANK YOU NOTE

We extend a heartfelt thank-you for your expressions of love and sympathy in honour of our dear Mother, Dorothy Elizabeth Kilpatrick. Your kind words, cards, flowers, visits and donations gave us such comfort. Special thanks to Reverend Zander Dunn for the remembrance service at St. Paul's, and to the Presbyterian Church Women for the beautiful lunch. The caring assistance of Wartman's Funeral Home and The Lodge was also very much appreciated.

Thank-you so much,
Warren, Laurie, Kevin and Mark Kilpatrick

THANK YOU to Brian and Eva Little and their family for keeping me supplied with my cases and cases of liquid food.

The Beacon is also grateful to them for picking up the newly printed Beacons from Napanee, saving us

the courier costs.

Sally Bowen

WATER SAMPLES COLLECTION

Water sample bottles will be again collected this year on Thursday July 7 and Thursday December 8, 2011.

Please have your filled out form containing all the correct information attached to your sample at the screen porch area of the General Store by 10:45 am. There will be a cooler in which to place your water sample bottle. Empty sample water bottles are available at the store for your convenience.

BEACON ADS

AMHERST ISLAND CHIROPRACTIC - 11450
Front Rd.

Office hours: Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.
For appointments call 613 328-8892

AMHERST ISLAND RAW WILDFLOWER HONEY

Raw honey is honey the way the bees made it with all of its flavour, nutrients and bioactive substances. Bees pack honey with anti-bacterial, anti-viral and anti-fungal agents. Raw honey is a pro-biotic, enhancing digestive function. The pollen in raw honey tunes your immune system to the local environment.

Our honey is extracted in small batches to retain the unique flavour and aroma each bee colony produces.

Available at Topsy Farms, 613 389-3444 and The Museum shop at the former Neilson Store, or call direct, at 613 384 5363.

SAND BAY FARM BED & BREAKFAST AND PERCHERON HORSE DRAWN WAGON AND SLEIGH RIDES

by your hosts Garry and Susan Filson @ 2 Front Rd., here on beautiful Amherst Island. Call 613/384-7866 or email redandgarry@aol.com for bookings or more information. Located on the very northeast end of the island with waterfront views from every window, very private and backs onto the Kingston Field

Naturalists bird sanctuary. Open year round.

HELP STILL NEEDED. It has been a long time since I advertised for the things I collect for the Lennox and Addington S.P.C.A., in fact, many newer Islanders may not even be aware of the items that can be donated. Needed are used towels and linens, paper towels and cleaning supplies, pet food, kitty litter, dog and cat toys are always in demand as are used stamps (any kind), 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.

AMHERST ISLAND STORE Winter hours continue into April and May:
Monday - Friday: 9 am - 11:30 am; 2:30 pm - 5 pm.
Saturday: 9 am - 1 pm (Post Office closes at noon)
Sunday: closed.

FOR SALE: Good used push lawnmower, 4 h.p. Mastercraft. Newly serviced.
\$100. Call Marion Glen at 613 352-9950

FOR SALE

Removing redundancies from our computer network:
LINKSYS Wireless-G 2.4 GHz Broadband router
LINKSYS Wireless-G Access Point WAP200E
LINKSYS 9dBi HGAN9 High Gain Antenna
TrendNet PoE Switch TPE-S44
Make an offer or please advise me where to sell these mysterious items.

Ian Murray at 613-389-3444.

THE WEASEL AND EASEL will be opening Victoria Day weekend, May 21st - 23rd. Hours: Sat. 10 - 4; Sun. noon - 4; Monday check the sign. Weekends only until July.

FOOTFLATS FARM ACCOMMODATION:

www.footflats.com (613-634-1212)

Goodman House (waterfront)

- 4 bedrooms, 3 baths
- available year round

Waterfront Cabin

- 3 bedrooms, 1 bath
- May to October

STELLA'S CAFÉ

Hours: 8:30 to 6:30 Monday and Thursday; 8:30 to 7:30 Friday, Saturday and Sunday; closed Tuesday and Wednesday.

Your Island dining and place to gather. Join us there.

TOPSY FARMS WOOL SHED

Wool and sheepskin products including yarn, blankets, and crafts.

Also Island honey, wild caught BC salmon, and Topsy's frozen lamb cuts.

EMERALD MUSIC FESTIVAL

Friday 6:30 p.m. to Sunday 4 p.m., August 5-7

Local Entertainment

Weekend pass: \$20/person

Children under 12 free

Rough Camping Available

Contact Dan & Joan Simpson 613-389-8297.

ISLE is again selling the Canadian Tire 10% Off Coupon (at Gardiners Rd store only)

Good for all live goods from the Garden Centre until June 30, 2011. The \$10 per coupon includes a free hanging basket. Contact Lynn at the school, 613 389-4582

WANTED

To borrow a rollerskate to use as part of a display in the Wool Shed, when the Derby Girls and kids come to visit, May 21st. Please call Sally, 613 389-3444

FROM THE ARCHIVES

FROM BEACON ISSUE 40, MAY 15, 1981

Regular Council Meeting May 5, 1981

- Ian Murray

Ron Heaney of Thorne Riddell presented the 1980 financial audit to Council. This report concludes that the township is being well run financially. Interest charges carried by the municipality due to the present grant structure involved in the ferry operation continues to be the Township's largest financial problem. These charges amount to about 25% of the total tax levy. Councillor Hall wondered out loud why the layout of the auditor's report has to be so difficult to understand. Mr. Heaney and Council reviewed the proposed 1981 municipal budget. This budget was then passed by Council.

Council resolved to increase the ferry workers' wages to match the Wolfe Island settlement. Figures are not yet available.

Council agreed to have \$5100 worth of calcium chloride poured on the township roads to control dust.

Three building permits were approved, one new house, one renovation, and one addition. One building permit application was rejected due to a conflict with zoning provisions.

The Big Marsh has been rented to the Amherst Island Conservation Club for 1981 for one dollar.

Softball 1981

- Doug Shurtliffe

The 1981 softball season will soon open for some teams on the Island. The MacRow Motors Mens' Team will be coached by Jack Forester, U.T.D.C. Juveniles by Doug Shurtliffe, Midget Girls by Darrell Miller, Squirt and Grasshopper mixed by Brian Ward and Gary Hitchins. The mens' team begins play on May 14 and the juveniles around May 19. The lights on the ball diamond will be a definite asset to the softball teams. All of the teams will provide excitement for both players and spectators. Come out and support the Island Ball Teams. They will thrive on your support.

On The Farm There Are Signs Of Spring



Photo by Don Tubb

First lambs of the season.



Photo by Don Tubb

Soon there will be too many to count, we hope!!

Around The Island

COUNTRY MUSIC NIGHT AT THE LODGE

On March 26th, one hundred and ten people listened to the band *Country Rhythm* along with Keith Miller and Allen Caughey.



Photo courtesy of Dan Simpson

Keith Miller, Rick Henderson, Dan Simpson, Sheila Bedard, Peter Mallett



Photo courtesy of Dan Simpson

Allen Caughey replaced Keith Miller

MORE FROM THE CJAI FUNDRAISER



Photo by Terry Culbert
Jazz with Jim Gould LIVE



Photo by Brian Little
Island beef farmer Dan Simpson sings some Bob Dylan tunes just after 6am on Terry Culbert's Friday Morning Show. (photo: Brian Little)



Photo by Terry Culbert
Celebrity disc jockey Jack Thompson of 102.7 FM The Lake was Steve Kennedy's guest on Up Steve's Sleeves



Photo by Terry Culbert

Frequent guest on The Wolf's Den Gord Struthers with host Ellis Wolfreys

AMHERST ISLAND PUBLIC SCHOOL ART SHOW

The Lodge on Amherst Island held the first of their annual art shows featuring Amherst Island Public School students' works, Saturday, April 30, 2011. To quote The Lodge management: "All works of art displayed in this show are priceless. They speak to us from the innocence of childhood".



Photo by Terry Culbert

Island artist Barb Hogenauer and Frontenac II Head Captain Doug Shurtliffe admire a charcoal drawing by Doug's daughter Shyanne



Photo by Terry Culbert

Rachel Scott shows her grandmother Janet Scott her work in pointalism



Photo by Terry Culbert

Art patrons Kevin Varette, Tagget Bonham-Carter, Elsie Willard and Jean Tugwell



Photo by Terry Culbert

Brian and Eva Little appreciate their son Jack's architectural pointalism piece

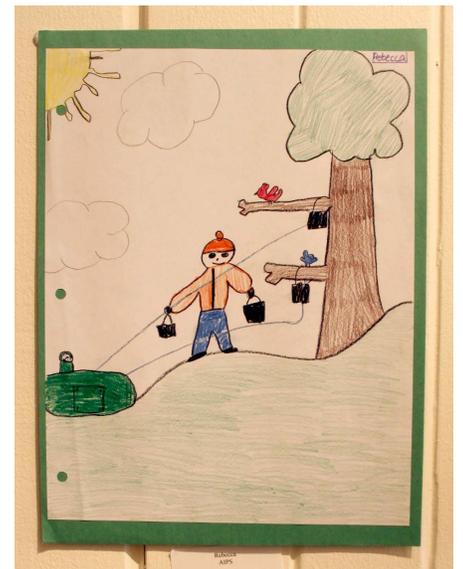


Photo by Terry Culbert

A student's work representing maple syrup gathering

Comic relief during the 2011 Women's Institute
all-candidates meeting on Amherst Island
was from the Independent Ralph Lee
when he said:

"Can you imagine being a bird
and flying into one of those
turbine blades.....
like that would suck!"

