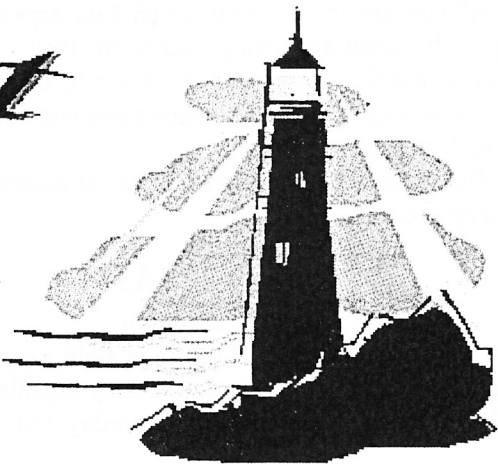


# Amherst Island BEACON



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**ISSUE 281**

**JUNE/JULY 2001**

## THIS ISSUE

**Ian Murray**

The Beacon is now coming out closer to the end of the month so we have decided to call this issue JUNE/JULY with the next issue labeled AUGUST. The Issue numbers will continue to be in order and subscriptions will continue to be for 12 issues.

The margin size last month was too large which resulted in smaller print than usual. That seems to have been the only technical problem resulting in our e-mailing the Beacon to the printer. We'll do our best to correct that problem.

Its great to have more material for the Beacon this month than usual. I had been planning an article on dairy farming and milk quota but I can, in good conscience, put it off for now.

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## WATERSIDE SERIES EMERGES AS COMMUNITY EFFORT

### Summer Series Committee

The Waterside Summer Series of musical performances, now in its eighth season, is emerging as a community effort. The Series was started by Lyn Fleming, Dave and Diane Hieatt, Dick Shurtleff, Jan Snee and Caroline Yull to generate funds for St. Alban's Church. The current organizing committee, chaired by Island

pianist Inka Brockhausen, has enlarged its membership and restated its goals.

The main aim of the expanded committee is to provide high quality music and entertainment at reasonable cost for Islanders as well as for visitors. The bulk of the proceeds from ticket sales and financial support from sponsors will be dedicated to improving program quality.

As part of the community involvement, and to accommodate larger audiences, St. Paul's Church is included as a location for the 2001 season. Under the new structure, rental agreements have been established with both churches.

Together with Inka Brockhausen, members of the organizing committee are Kirsten Bennick, Bruce Burnett, Andrea Cross, Beth Forester, Janet Grace, Dave and Diane Hieatt, Michael and Bobbi Shaw, John Schutzbach, Dick Shurtleff and Jan Snee..

Sponsors for the 2001 season are: the Amherst Wildlife Foundation; Bath Food Town; Bombardier Transportation; Classic Video; Dave Hieatt - Royal LePage Pro Alliance Realty; Garfalo Bros Construction Limited; Glenn Lasher Home Comfort Service; Janet Grace - Royal LePage Pro Alliance Realty; Guardian Amherstview Drugs; LaFarge Canada Inc.; MacDonald, Porter, Drees - Barristers and Solicitors; Meriton International; Nut Island Club; Marc Raymond Opticians; Thomas A. Richmond - Electrician; Royal Bank Financial Services; Carolyn McIntyre Smythe - Royal Le Page Real Estate, J & D Division; Stradwick

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All concerts this summer are on Saturdays and begin at 7:30 p.m. Included are Swing Jazz at St. Paul's on July 14, Wassermusik at St. Alban's on July 28, Ceili, blues and folk at St. Paul's on August 11, and bluegrass and humour on August 25 at St. Alban's.

Tickets at \$12 per performance can be ordered by calling Jan Snee at 634-1255.

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## Article on AIM

Peter Trueman

More than 30 Amherst Island men held an enthusiastic inaugural meeting for a new community organization at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church Hall, Saturday AM, June 8.

The purpose of the new group is:

1. abto be of service to Amherst Islanders, particularly younger and older people, and to raise funds for worthy island projects; and
2. abto promote fellowship among island men, and to entertain and educate themselves in the process.

The group will be called Amherst Island Men, AIM for short

AIM came into being because several people realized there were island needs that were not being met, and that although island women have several worthy organizations they can join to mingle with others of their sex and serve the community, there was no such opportunity for men.

The organizers noticed that apart from the usual agencies, whose assistance is limited, no one was giving relief to full-time caregivers who are rarely able to leave their ill or elderly charges to shop, meet friends for a meal or a movie, or just have a change of scenery. It had also come to their attention that the island no longer has a meals-on-wheels program, and that if there is a need, AIM might be instrumental in its revival.

Several other possibilities were discussed at the organizational meeting, including the setting up of medical, shopping and entertainment trips to the mainland for elderly and other shut-ins; as well as raising funds for needy people and youth scholarships.

Other ideas included assisting the teachers at the school, and working with young people generally; island history projects; yard work and minor repairs for those who cannot manage these things themselves; and larger long-term projects, perhaps some day including "habitat" type house construction for those finding home-ownership beyond them.

Those attending the meeting were asked to put on paper the kind of endeavour they would be ready to undertake, and the wide range of skills they listed was extremely gratifying to

the organizers. The categories of effort for which the first 31 members volunteered included the following:

Relieving care-givers, companionship, driving/transportation, school help, meal delivery, sailing, communications, repairs, building, estate care, recreation (boats), kids' workshop on science, book-binding, labour, yard work, tutoring; transportation into town, planning, fund-raising, getting speakers, pot lucks, working, island history, design detailing, construction, flyer delivery, plumbing, carpentry, garden, work with tractor and front-end loader, "anything" and "whatever".

The first meeting took place over a pancake and sausage breakfast prepared by Allan Glenn, John Kuti and Hugh Jenney, and the cooks were given a round of applause. Monthly meetings will not always involve a meal, or take place on weekends, and may sometimes be scheduled for weekday evenings, with interesting speakers. Some other meetings may be devoted almost entirely to the planning of various community projects and services.

A committee consisting of Clinton Kilpatrick, Allan Glenn, Paul Henshaw and Jim Whitton will consider projects and a variety of chores that AIM should undertake, and will recommend ways of making these services available to islanders who need them. The committee will be reporting its findings to the second breakfast meeting on Saturday July 7 at 8 a.m., also at St. Paul's Church Hall.

Anyone who missed the first meeting and who would be interested in joining AIM should call one of the cooks who volunteered for the second meeting - Ken Albertan, Gian Frontini or Paul Henshaw - and tell them they're planning to attend so that enough food will be purchased to feed everyone.

The cost is \$5.00 per meal, and there is a \$5.00 membership fee for the first six months. AIM is making an attempt to reach decisions by consensus rather than by majority votes, and will have no elected executive. To begin with, chairmen and secretary-treasurers will volunteer for each monthly meeting. The meeting recognized that at some point it may be necessary to chose a long-term treasurer to handle finances and banking.

Zander Dunn will chair the second meeting on July 7. Peter Trueman and Paul Henshaw will share the secretary-treasurer's chores.

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## CANADA DAY PARADE

Parade starts at 7:00 p.m. (St. Alban's)  
be there by 6:30p.m. if you are  
taking part in the Parade  
Fireworks at dark

## NEIGHBOURHOOD

**Lyn Fleming**

Get well wishes this month to Dave Willard, who is home again following a stay in hospital: to Kaye McGinn, who has also been in hospital this month, and to Ardis Shurtleff who was in hospital. We wish you all a speedy recovery.

My favourite part of this column, is the new baby news, and there are 3 this month! Congratulations to Alex and Debbie Scott and daughter Rachel on the new addition to their family. Rebecca Dawn was born on May 28, weighing 9lbs 11 oz. She is another granddaughter for Syke Fleming and Janet Scott, and another great granddaughter for Pete Wittveen and Ernest Fleming. Councillor Duncan and Kim Ashley welcomed Gavin's baby sister into the world on June 7. Megan Emma weighed 6 lbs 9oz. She is another granddaughter for Hans and Hazel deHaan. Congratulations to Ross and Sally Wilson on the birth of their 6th grandchild. Tyler Stewart Wilson was born on March 30 to Michael and Jacqui Wilson, in Boston, Mass. Ross and Sally will be travelling to Boston in July for Tyler's christening.

Leslie Gavlas travelled to Nova Scotia recently to spend a couple of weeks with her son John and his family.

Condolences to Helen Caughey, Alan Caughey, Beth Forester and Bruce Caughey and families following the passing of their husband and father, A. Bruce Caughey in May. Also to the family of long time summer resident Earl Smith, who passed away this month. Sympathy to Bonnie Caughey and family on the sudden passing of her sister in law.

Late May was a busy social time for many Islanders. The PCW held a Ham Dinner which was well attended. The quilt that some of the ladies had been working on and selling tickets on was raffled off after dinner.

The Amherst Island Rec. Association held their annual Spring Dance and Fish Fry. The fish dinner has earned quite a reputation and was sold out.

Congratulations to this year's graduates. Grade eight graduates from A.I.P.S. are Whitney Fleming, Geoffrey McDonald and Chris Reed. All will be attending NDSS in the fall. Graduating from Mount Carmel, is Alicia Wolfreys, who will attend Holy Cross in the fall. High School grads this year are Helen Bell-Smith, Ryan McGinn, Kyle Murray and Shawna Phillips, from NDSS and Tamson McDonald from Ernestown. Congratulations to OAS grads Bonnie Marshall and Sarah Pollock, also from NDSS. Graduating from St. Lawrence College were Doug Gavlas and Tyler Hutchings.

Also, congratulations to Shawna Philips and her date, Rob McFarlane (son of Gord, the milk tester), who were voted queen and king at the NDSS prom.

Summer is finally here, we've already had some hot, muggy days, we welcome back our summer people, and best of all, the Back Kitchen is open again!

## ALLEN CAUGHEY INTERVIEW

**Ian Murray**

I phoned Allen to follow up on the Whig article about his retiring from judging horse races: "Caughey quits horsing around", June 22, by Doug Graham.

Just about the first thing Allen said was that Doug Graham had been a grade 8 student of his when he taught school and that Doug has often contacted him when doing horse racing articles. (Doug is married to the daughter of Reverend Lindsay and Jean McIntyre.)

The uncle who took 5-year old Allen to his first horse race was Art Drumgoole. From the time he was seven, Allen has spent as much time around horses and horsemen as possible.

I reminded Allen that some time ago - at least 10, maybe 15, years ago - he told me that he was concerned that casinos and lotteries would seriously weaken horse racing in Ontario. He said that the Ontario Government's decision to locate casinos at race tracks and to direct some of the casino profits into racing purses has been very good for horse racing. And good for the local municipal tax payers as some of the profits also go there: Allen said that Milton, where Mohawk Raceway is located receives about \$10 million a year.

The Whig quoted Allen as saying he'd like to have a colt to train. That plus his 30 beef cows and continuing part time work with the racing commission should keep him active for years to come.

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## WOMEN'S INSTITUTES: WHAT ARE THEY? WHAT DO THEY DO?

**Nancy Dunn**

The Women's Institute(WI) was formed in 1897 in Stoney Creek, Ontario. Adelaide Hoodless and Janet Erland Lee were instrumental in organizing the first branch. WI's initial purpose was to improve the conditions of life for rural women through the promotion of domestic science education. Their mandate was soon expanded to include self-improvement, government lobbying, and community betterment. In 1919 the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario (FWIO) was organized to give women a stronger voice by working together as a united group. In the same year, the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada (FWIC) was formed to coordinate the work of the provincial organizations.

A member of a local branch is part of an international network of women who believe that peace and progress can best be advanced by friendship and understanding through communication. The international federation is known as ACWW - Associated Country Women of the World. Their recent triennial gathering was held in Hamilton and was attended by current Amherst Island Women's Institute president, Nancy Henshaw. She was thrilled to be part of a 900-strong meeting



of women of diverse backgrounds with a common purpose.

In November 2000, the AIWI celebrated its 100th anniversary with a festive party at the community centre. Among its projects last year were the annual Christmas dinner for Island seniors and the publication of an Island telephone directory. A previous directory, sponsored by the First Response Team six or more years ago was rapidly becoming dated to say nothing of dog-eared. The new one took many months of slogging to complete and distribute. All members helped but the bulk of the leg work (mouth, arm and ear work?) was done by Jackie Sylvester and Nancy Henshaw with the invaluable and considerable assistance of Tom Richmond and his computer. Besides being a useful tool this directory will, we hope, be a souvenir keepsake of the millennium and our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. There are still a goodly number at the store @ \$6 each. Since they include addresses they are useful to have in the car too - buy two or three!

New members and interested guests are always welcome at our meetings which are usually held on the 3rd Wed. of each month. Pres. Nancy Henshaw or Sec. Mary Kay Steel will be glad to give details and/or send out brochures of our year's program. Look for us in the Canada Day parade too!

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## **WOMEN'S INSTITUTE MAY MEETING**

**Nancy Dunn**

Several delicious desserts were offered by Marian Glenn to begin the May 17th meeting of the A.I. Women's Institute at her Bath home. Nine members were present. The acting secretary read the previous meeting's minutes and announced that there are now 17 members in the group. Program pamphlets for the 2001-2002 year were distributed, indicating a varied and interesting season ahead. A "float" committee was formed to plan participation in the Canada Day parade.

Anna Hitchins reported on the District Annual meeting held in Odessa on May 9 with 25 delegates and 23 visitors in attendance. The district has 13 clubs and a total of 220 members. Amherst Island's branch had the biggest increase in membership last year. The local branch is one of four sponsoring the July/August edition of the Seniors Outreach Services (S.O.S.) newsletter, a publication of Lennox and Addington County. It was announced that a Country Fest scheduled for Sept. 29 is in doubt because of the Hoof and Mouth disease.

Unfortunately the evening's program, an outline of 4-H clubs and what our two Island groups have been doing and are about to do, had to be postponed. The Islanders caught an early boat home in spite of Marian's offer of more food, drinks and an opportunity to visit!

The next meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Wed. June 20th at the meeting room behind the ferry office where we are pleased to have been given permission to hang some of the Institute's plaques and historical items. Venues for subsequent meetings will vary between members' homes, the ferry office board room and St. Paul's Church. On the July meeting date (18th) an outing to Wellesley Island is scheduled.

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## **THE CENSUS (1852)**

**Vera Hogeboom**

Now that we have dispensed with and forgotten the Census for a few more years I found his old copy interesting.

In 1852 the population of Amherst Island listed 1287 residents.

The denomination of the residents was listed as:

Church of England	384
Roman Catholics	359
Presbyterian Church of Canada	454
Methodists	55
Unitarians	8
Mormons	1

By 1901 the population was 821 and by 1971 had declined to 367.

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## **The Amherst Islander of Collingwood Postscript**

**Sally Bowen from Ralph Morrow**

The first ferry purchased by Council in 1928 traveled between Stella and Millhaven five days a week, closing down at 6 pm. On Tuesdays and Fridays, it traveled Stella - Millhaven - Emerald - Millhaven - Stella - Kingston. Stores would deliver goods purchased to the dock for pickup.

Carl Morrow, Ralph's brother, said he took the photo (printed in last month's Beacon) at the head of Howe Island. The ferry was taken there when it was no longer needed, and went to pieces there.

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## **NEWS FROM AMHERST ISLAND PUBLIC SCHOOL**

**Cathy Donaldson**

It has been a busy and productive year at A.I.P.S. As the year ends, and the staff and students reflect on the many experiences we have had, we realize that we have shared many interesting and exciting learning experiences.

Our students participated in the Terry Fox Run held at Bath in September, presented a Remembrance Day ceremony on November 10, and a Christmas celebration in December. Through the winter months, they participated in intramural sports, the Polar Bear Olympics, and the School Board Assessment for Grades 2, 5, and 8. We also enjoyed some delicious hot lunches provided by people in our community.

In the spring, our school presented a musical called



CLOWNS in which our students refined their "clowning around" skills. A.I.P.S. did very well in track and field events held in Bath and at Richardson Stadium. Our grades 3 and 6 students participated in the Grade 3 and 6 Provincial Assessment. We also raised money for heart and stroke research through our Jump Rope for Heart Day and held a luncheon to thank our many wonderful volunteers.

Through all three terms, our students have worked hard all year to develop their academic abilities and learning skills. We have enjoyed many field trips to historical sights, theatrical presentations, science and sports events. We appreciate the contributions of I.S.L.E. and our volunteers who have made these trips possible. Each month, we have had Recognition Assemblies to acknowledge the good work and citizenship of our students. We have had an ongoing program called "Choices in Action" through which we have had visitors to the school who describe their jobs and explain the kinds of training they took to be able to do their jobs.

We have had many improvements to our school building this year. The halls were freshly painted and a new floor was laid in the entrance. We have new heating and water filtration systems, new blinds in the library and senior room and new computers which are hooked up to the Internet.

On Tuesday, June 26 we will have our graduation ceremony for our three graduates who are leaving us to attend Napanee District Secondary School next year. We are proud of their accomplishments and will be sad to see them leave.

The staff and students at AIPS have had an action packed and enriching year and express appreciation to all who have participated with us.

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### **Congratulations**

Bonnie Marshall and Sara Pollock on their graduation from OAC and their Ontario Scholar Standing.

Sara will be going to the University of Ottawa majoring in Marketing. Bonnie will be attending York University in Toronto, studying Film.

I think we should also take our hats off to our very own Amherst Island Public School. The excellent education they received there provided them with a sound base for their future success.

Best Wishes.

Dianne Marshall

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### **When the tall ships were threatening our 1812 Battery**

**by Thomas Sylvester**

The sheltering ice of December 1812 barely came soon enough for our humbled fleet cowering in Kingston Harbour. November 10, 1812 the US Navy attacked and boldly chased our flagship the Royal George into Kingston Harbour. They burnt merchantship Two Brothers in the port of Ernestown and nearly

seized merchantship Governor Simcoe east of Amherst Bar. South of the Upper Gap, the US subsequently captured merchantship Elizabeth which had been under escort by the only other Canadian gunship Earl of Moira.

By late November, our army and the civilians at Niagara were anxious for military stores and clothing. However, these crucial provisions were being blockaded in Kingston; a convoy of the Royal George, the Earl of Moira and a schooner failed at four attempts to sail out of Kingston. The US had a squadron of four ships cruising between the Ducks and Kingston in order to intercept everything passing in and out of the port.

The sailing season concluded with the US Navy commanding Lake Ontario. Clearly, our ships alone were not going to save the colony and Amherst Island occupied a central position within this naval theatre. Indeed, the marauding American fleet would have been visible from the Island's south shore.

The strategic contribution of the Island was the control of the Upper Gap, the water feature at the western end of the Island that links the sheltered Bay of Quinte to Lake Ontario proper. The Island shore is a six metre limestone cliff that overlooks the gap. Further, the apparent expanse of the gap is deceptive, the sailing channel is restricted to 700 metres contiguous to the cliff. The gap was the refuge of the Royal George from the pursuing American fleet Nov 9, 1812.

The Island Battery was subsequently constructed; the details of which were not recorded. It was an earthen berm on the brow of the cliff, apparently equipped with a six and a twelve-pounder cannon and was manned by either Royal Artillery or local Militia. The "Old Battery" was noted on Naval surveys of 1820 and continues to be plotted as an "Historic Site" on topographic maps. It's thought that Daniel Fowler painted the setting; his daughter Mrs Annie Christie romanticised it in her poem, "Above the guns."

I first recognized the Battery in 1969. The earthen mound is discernable covered in Juniper, Cedar and Prickly Ash. It fronts 26 metres with 8 metre flanks, maximum profile 2 metres. It is now on the brink of the cliff, likely to collapse and disappear into memory within a century. In the meantime, it remains the only 1812 War historic site within Lennox & Addington County. It is a national site (our nationhood once depended on it).

The Island Battery is protected by Topsy Farms, who refuses access. Their livelihood and livestock are threatened by the spectre of Hoof & Mouth Disease, and require tranquil pastures for pasturing ewes. The battery is best viewed (or imagined) from the water after all, glancing nervously up towards hostile uns. (44N 07.403 N, 76N 48.393 W)

## Janet's Jottings

Trees by Harry Behn

Trees are the kindest things I know;  
They do no harm, they simply grow

And spread a shade for sleepy cows,  
And gather birds among their boughs.

They give us fruit in leaves above  
And wood to make our houses of,

And leaves to burn on Hallowe'en,  
And in the spring new buds of green.

They are the first when day's begun  
To touch the beams of morning sun,

They are the last to hold the light  
When evening changes into night,

And when a moon floats on the sky  
They hum a drowsy lullaby

Of sleepy children long ago...

Trees are the kindest thing I know.

Last month I was able to see the generosity and co-operation of a group of people doing something that will probably never benefit them but will certainly help the next generation. It takes faith to plant a tree and the ability to trust that someone else will water and nurture that tree and enjoy its shade.

After "The Ice Storm" the Girl Guides across this area were challenged to raise money to plant trees and a great many trees were planted. In the account a small sum of money was left and it was decided that trees should be planted where Girl Guides meet. Lakeside District voted to spend their tree money on Amherst Island where Sparks, Brownies and Girl Guides and Pathfinders have been meeting for the past 15 years. That's when this ball started rolling. The motion was passed on a Tuesday evening and the following Friday I was called and told that a Maple Tree had been found in our price range at White Rose. I was working that weekend and could not fit an 8ft tree in my car so I called my Guiding partner Val Wolfreys who took on the project. She called Donna Thompson who generously gave of her time and delivered the tree to the Island. Noel McCormick and Dan Wolfreys donated their time to dig a hole and plant our Maple. The Pathfinders, Guides and Brownies watered and Loved our tree and it looks like it is thriving. A great many people who may never see or enjoy our tree and some very generous Islanders worked together and have made one more step in repairing the ravages of that storm. We all thank-you for sharing your time. Thanks Donna and Richard, Val and Dan and Noel for helping to make an idea happen.

## REMEMBRANCES OF OUR "DAD"

submitted by Beth Forester

He was tall in structure - taller than both of my brothers, Allen and Bruce - not as tall as his 6'8" cousin, "Mac" Filson who was his Best Man when he and Helen Marshall were married on September 3, 1938, in St. Paul's Presbyterian Church. We never stopped looking up to Dad - whether it was simply that he was of the tallest in the crowd, or that we were seeking more of the stored information - about so many things, that made Allen Bruce Caughey the "Icon", the "historian" the "legend", the "greatest citizen", to which he has been referred, by so many since his death on Thursday, May 17, 2001.

Always a farmer, Dad was born on January 22, 1910, in the same home in which he lived until February 1999, to his proud parents David Jr. (Dave) and Mary Agnes (Min) Caughey (nee Filson) after having lost their first son, Allen Filson Caughey to diabetes at the ages of six, having been born on January 22, 1899.

Dad spent five and one-half debilitating months in Kingston General Hospital, where his ability to walk, even with the walker became impossible. Arthritis, he felt, had finally taken its toll. He spent a week at St. Mary's Hospital, in May, to try more intense physiotherapy. It was his "Island" connection there, Maureen McGinn, who triggered to the fact that his condition had altered, recognizing a particular infection, she prompted his being rushed back to K.G.H. where his condition remained uncertain for several weeks. When a bed became available at Helen Henderson Care Centre, Amherstview, in July 1999, a very ailing man was transported by ambulance. The staff there, and family, agreed ...his days were perhaps "numbered", as he struggled to swallow a few bites. However, as most readers know, Dad's determination took over — he ate, he improved, he adjusted, he simply had another chapter to write, and so he did. He left his mark at H.H.C.C., having participated in every activity available, which included a bus tour of Amherst Island. He made many friends there, too, so very characteristic of him through out his entire life.

Dad often spoke of his early years and of his family visiting around the Island - by spring wagon, by horse and sleigh or cutter, or travelling in their first car - a 1918 "gleaming black" Ford Touring Car - Licence plate number 95902 ( purchased from Vanluven Bros. through Arthur Kilpatrick, salesman). They were welcomed into many homes and enjoyed many "Supper Parties". This tradition carries on as can be evidence when people enjoy the fine culinary abilities of both of his daughters-in-law, Bonnie and Susie, and indeed this tradition still flourishes in many Island families. Dad often relayed tales of crossing on the ice - to dances in Bath, for socializing with the Mainland friends and relatives, as well in later years, of his sometimes hazardous trips, to the many meetings which he continually attended. The introduction to

the Island for Jack, his then future son-in-law, was as smooth as 401, his passenger was somewhat less comfortable!

As youngsters at home on the farm, all three of us will fondly remember.....walks with Dad through the fields to "fetch" the cows, swims at the Sand Beach after chores with Dad tossing us from his shoulders, riding atop a load of loose hay while the team of horses plodded carefully from the hay loader in the field, taking our turn driving the Ford Ferguson tractor while the horse fork transported that load to the haymow, being safely guided by Dad across the barnyard where the frightening bull lurked, being rescued from the gander, who also lived behind the barn and in close proximity to the cornfield, taking a ride around the Island while Dad stopped at each home to read the meter, sometimes assisting around the dining room table in sorting little long-distance telephone call slips, which was part of the billing process for the Secretary-Treasurer of the Amherst Island Telephone System, and evening trips to Stella where we hung out with our friends or watched the newest invention - the television - at Aunt Nessie and Artie's, while Dad attended a meeting of the Orange Lodge, Amherst Island School Board, a Church meeting or on occasion a Town Hall meeting, and the pleasant summer drives home along the country road while both parents were instilling our interest in music through the many favourite oldies which they harmonized, while we "Debated" who would get the middle seat in our 1950 Mercury - and who would sit by the open window.

In later years, Poppy enriched the lives of his grandchildren - Julie, Jeff, Amy, Lori and Jill in many ways. They will remember his ever-prevailing willingness to drive them or pick them up from band practices, dance lessons, violin and piano lessons, hockey games and practices, art lessons, visits with friends, after school functions or birthday parties. They are all so fortunate to have spent time with him - listening to his stories - how proudly he spoke of all their accomplishments. And how thrilled he was with the arrival of his great granddaughter, Abby Jo Godden.

One of Dad's avid interests was boats and Great Lakes shipping, of which he spent endless hours discussing with his brothers-in-law Bill and Harold Marshall and Rod Barr whenever they visited with their wives, Kay, Nellie and Rhoda. Dad maintained a close, almost "brother-like" relationship with his brothers-in-law Art Drumgoole and Clifford Glenn, who with their wives, Mom's sisters, Nessie and Ruth, worked together in farming and spent many happy hours together. "Uncle Bruce" held a special place in the hearts of many nieces and nephews.

For 62 years Mom was Dad's wife, supporter, encourager, helpmate, homemaker, mother to his children, and true friend. We will all miss A. Bruce Caughey in some way or other - his distinct laughter, his recounting of stories, his unbelievably keen memory, his genuine concern and kindness, his unrelenting determination, his giving of himself to his Community, his love, his faith.

Visitation at the Paul Payne Funeral Home was on

Saturday, May 19th, with a Masonic Service being well attended. He then rested in the Sanctuary of St. Paul's for further visitation on Sunday, May 20th. Funeral was held on Monday, May 21, 2001 at 11 a.m., with Rev. C.A. (Zander) Dunn officiating. Dick Dodds delivered a splendid tribute. Burial was in Glenwood Cemetery, pallbearers were: sons, Allen and Bruce Caughey, son-in-law Jack Forester, grandson Jeff Forester, Ben Godden, nephew Peter Barr and Stephen Perry. The Ladies of the Church served a bountiful lunch for the Reception that followed.

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## FAREWELL BRUCE

George Gavlas

With the passing of A. Bruce Caughey, Amherst Island has lost perhaps its greatest citizen ever. I am not going to list accomplishments here, that has been done elsewhere, for I feel that to define Bruce in terms of his achievements alone would do him an injustice. Besides implying that he initiated change, the impression might be given that he generally enjoyed public support. That was simply not the case.

As long as white men have lived on Amherst Island, for it is generally thought that the Indians did not live here full time, anyone wishing to participate in the current century left for greener pastures. Those who stayed, and those who moved over, tended to view modern ways with suspicion. Not Bruce. He stayed on the Island, welcomed the new and wonderful things the twentieth century had to offer, and worked tirelessly to get Amherst Island a piece of the action. This was his legacy.

I hardly knew Bruce privately, but his public persona was unavoidable. I was a shy kid who moved to the island at four years of age and left at ten. I didn't know many grown ups, but I knew who Bruce Caughey was. When everyone else mumbled through the Queen or Oh Canada it was Bruce you heard singing. Later, as an adult I tried to sing along with him but to no avail. He had range and a voice like a foghorn. Add commitment and you had a very persuasive combination. Yet apart from the school board he never held public office, preferring to exercise his responsibilities as a citizen, doing the work, supporting the causes he considered worthy and not running home with his tail between his legs at the first sign of opposition. As I said before, Amherst Island was not totally in favour of being dragged into the twentieth century.

So it is that when we smugly try to convince ourselves that our community values date from before the great war, we do so in all the comforts and conveniences of the twenty first century. Far more than we care to admit, we have Bruce to thank.

Here's where it is customary to say how much he will be missed. For my part he has already been missed for ten years. Instead I will say - Farewell Bruce, it has been an honour.

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## THANK YOU

The Caughey family wishes to acknowledge their grateful thanks to so many people for so many kind remembrances, at the passing of a loving husband, father, and grandfather. Thanks to Rev. Zander Dunn for his support and fine message, to Dick Dodds for his caring eulogy, and to the ladies of St. Paul's P.C.W. for the lovely Reception following the service. Our sincere appreciation for the many contributions to St. Paul's Memorial Fund, the Canadian Diabetes Association, and all other donations. Thank you to relatives, neighbours, and friends for floral tributes, beautiful cards, visits and delicious food. We also wish to thank Paul Payne and his staff for the efficient, accommodating, and caring service.

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ST. PAUL'S P. C. W. wishes to thank all those who so generously supported the recent Mother's Day Ham Dinner and those who purchased tickets on the handmade quilt. Our congratulations to the winner of the quilt; John Barr of St. Catherines.

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Due to the great response to the appeal for egg cartons, the Food Bank now has enough to last the summer so I will not be collecting them again until the fall. Thank you all for your support.

Freda Youell

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## MASTER GARDENERS OF ONTARIO INC GARDEN CALENDAR - JULY

- Fertilize roses, annuals and vegetables.
- Pinch back and stake straggly annuals.
- Mow, hoe, weed and water as required.
- Finish pruning spring-flowering shrubs and evergreens.
- Remove old raspberry canes and trim back strawberry plants after fruiting.
- Transplant flowering cabbage and kale.
- Turn compost.

\*\*\*\*\*

## St. Paul's Presbyterian Church Summer Services

Zander Dunn

The worship services at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church from July 1 to September 2 inclusive will begin at 10 a.m. On September 9 the services will begin at 11 a.m. Come early to get a back pew! Each service is followed by a time for refreshments.

St. Paul's Presbyterian Church is pleased to be hosting two of the Waterside Summer Series of concerts: on Saturday, July 14 at 7:30 p.m. and on Saturday, August 11 at 7:30 p.m.

We're all looking forward to the annual St. Paul's Garden Party from 12 noon to 4 p.m. on Saturday, July 28. Good things to eat, good things to buy, good entertainment to enjoy, a good time to meet and greet friends.

The people of St. Paul's join with many others to thank The Beacon staff for doing such a great job. You keep us informed about people on the island; you remind us of our history; you challenge us to think new thoughts. We thank Don Tubb for reporting on the work of the Loyalist Township Council.

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[Staff: The following was scheduled for the May issue but somehow got lost in the shuffle.]

## AN ANGEL

submitted by Betty Wemp

Once upon a time there was a child ready to be born.

The child asked God, "They tell me you are sending me to earth tomorrow, but how am I going to live there being so small and helpless?"

God replied, "Among the many angels, I chose one. Your angel will be waiting for you and will take care of you."

The child further inquired, "But tell me, here in heaven I don't do anything but sing and smile to be happy."

God said, "Your angel will sing for you and will also smile for you everyday. And you will feel your angel's love and be very happy."

Again the child asked, "And how am I going to be able to understand when people talk to me if I don't know the language?"

God said, "Your angel will tell you the most beautiful and sweet words you will ever hear, and with much patience and care, your angel will teach you how to speak."

"And what am I going to do when I want to talk to you?"

God said, "Your angel will place your hands together and will teach you how to pray."

"I've heard that on Earth there are bad men. Who will protect me?"

God said, "Your angel will defend you even if it means risking its life."

"But I will always be sad because I will not see you anymore."

God said, "Your angel will always talk to you about me and will teach you the way to come back to me, even though I will always be next to you."

At that moment there was much peace in heaven, but voices from Earth could be heard and the child hurriedly asked, "God, if I am to leave now, please tell me my angel's name."

"Her name is not important. You will simply call her 'Mom'."

## **New Web Address**

**Jan Snee**

The old host for the web page stopped offering the service at the end of May, so I would like to let you know that the Amherst Island web page has a new address. It is now

I have not updated the content too much in the change from one location to another, however I think some updating to the pages is long overdue. I will be working on a face-lift and some content revisions over the summer. I'll let you know when anything significant takes place.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **APOLOGY**

**Ian Murray, farmer**

This is a blanket apology to those motorists that I have inconvenienced in the past and to those I may inconvenience in the future: with large farm equipment - our haybine takes up the whole road width on the Front Road west of Emerald; with sheep on the road being moved from one pasture to another, or back to the barn, or from the barn to pasture; and, with slow moving loads of hay. I do try to get out of your way but sometimes things just don't work out right - there's no place to get the haybine off the road, the sheep are stubborn, and I just cannot see you stuck back behind all that hay.

Perhaps during this busy summer season you, the motorist, could leave for the ferry a few minutes early in case you meet one of us farmers clogging up the road while going about our business.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **DAIRY FARMER WINS POETRY SLAM and Other Scenes from Ireland**

**Rosemary McMullen**

I traveled to Ireland April 26 to join my sister Kitsy for a visit and tour. She has been working in Amsterdam for almost a year as a member of Greenpeace's climate change team. We met in east Clare and headed west, hoping to spend a night on the Aran Islands. But the weather was too "soft" that day to see anything, so we headed for the bright lights of Galway City.

The charming and quite posh town was crawling with European tourists and very good looking Irish youngsters, almost all with cell phones in hand. Kitsy's comment on their beauty: "It's amazing what a little nutrition will do." A literary festival was in progress, and I packed into the basement performance space of a pub with several hundred others to witness thirty poets competing with their works on one of three themes: jealousy, "cute hoors" (tricky people, like politicians), and the River Corrib. Thus nature, love and betrayal, satire and comedy were nicely covered. The three judges, one of whom was himself the UK's poetry slam champ, unanimously declared as winner a young dairy farmer

from Kilrush, west Clare. Sean O'Brian stunned all by assuming the persona of Cain in a beautifully rhymed monologue to the absent Abel encompassing his motive (jealousy), crime, remorse and desolation.

Foot and mouth disease precautions in Ireland closed many historical sites, but Kitsy and I managed to enter the excavation area in Sand Hill, Sligo where hundreds of circa 6000 BC stone circles and dolmens, many of them still buried, surround Maebdh's Mound, itself a sacred hill. Another foot and mouth memory: driving around a bend on the Antrim coastal road to meet two young fellows sunbathing, who sprang up to pump out the iodine solution and spray our tires.

Besides the mostly gloriously sunny dry weather and spring scenery, we enjoyed wining, dining, and exchanging family lore with our relatives. My mother's parents were the only members of their large families to emigrate to the USA in the 1890s. Their nieces and nephews abound. Kitsy had not met any of these cousins, but I had in several earlier trips in which I had been housed, fed, and driven around with great generosity, so it was my pleasure to return the favors and introduce Kitsy to her family members, now closer than those in North America. She plans to return for the Ballycastle Music Festival and see them in August.

We were also keen to dig into the origins of my father's side of the family. One of our great-great grandmothers was Bridget McAuley, wife of Neal McMullin who built the stone house here on Amherst Island in the 1840s. (Spelling variations are irrelevant, as they are all anglicized versions of the Gaelic.) Bridget, her parents and siblings came to Canada in 1802 from Cushendall, north Antrim, in the same neighborhood where all my mother's ancestors abided for centuries. McMullin is a common name there. In fact, one of my mother's aunts married a McMullan, so we have lots of McMullan cousins on our mother's side. Lo and behold, the Glens of Antrim Historical Society is centered in Cushendall and its president is named Robert McMullan! I did not have a chance to meet our father's namesake on this trip, but look forward to communicating with him about HIS ancestors. I wager he can tell us something about the McMullans in the mid-18th century and how three of their boys, Neil, Hugh and our great-great-great grandfather John, would have come to the colonies. John and his wife (Rosemary) and children settled on lots 2 and 3 of Amherst Island in 1793.

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## **KINGSTON FIELD NATURALISTS**

Editor, Amherst Island Beacon,

The message below was sent to those who subscribe to the "Ontbirds" list server on the internet, to express the appreciation of the birding community to those mentioned, for their support and assistance to birders from far and wide visiting Amherst Island during an outstanding winter of birding. Although many Amherst Islanders may be "Ontbirds" subscribers, this message may not have been seen by all of those for whom it was intended,

and I respectfully request that it be published in the Beacon.

I would like to add the thanks of the Kingston Field Naturalists and the Kingston birding community in general to the Laurets, the crew of the ferry, Alex Scott and Karen Fleming, and the entire population of Amherst Island. We know we sometimes block the roadways and incur your ire in our excitement over a bird sighting, but I assure you, it is unintentional, and we usually do try to pull over and allow room to pass. Thank you for your patience and understanding. Next time you see any of us peering with binoculars or 'scopes along the roadside, stop and say hello, and we'll show you what we're excited about.

Sincerely,  
Bud Rowe  
President, Kingston Field Naturalists  
\*\*\*

Dear Everyone,

The OFO Board of Directors, Mike Street and I join with birders to thank all those who made birding Amherst Island a memorable experience this winter by posting information on Ontbirds and assisting visiting birders.

We thank Alex Scott and Karen Fleming for their frequent posts on Ontbirds of the owl populations/sightings at Amherst Island during this eventful owl winter. Alex and Karen served the Ontario birding community very well, and acted as good ambassadors to numerous visiting birders.

Many thanks to the owners of Owl Woods: Gwen and Paul Lauret, and the Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority, Loyalist Township and the Kingston Field Naturalists for access to the Owl Woods and for their warm, helpful hospitality to visiting birders.

We appreciate the efforts of the crew of the Amherst Island ferry boat, Frontenac II, to assist birdwatchers see the IVORY GULL, which was present in the area of Amherst Island in January 2001. Many thanks to: Earle Willard, Senior Captain; Captain Doug Shurtliffe; Helen Trotter, Purser; and Brent Wolfreys.

Best wishes and good birding,  
Jean Iron  
President, Ontario Field Ornithologists  
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#### **GLEANINGS From COUNCIL MINUTES**

**Don Tubb & Ian Murray**

Changes to the Loyalist Official Plan:

- 1) "the autobody use on Amherst Island [George Gavlas] ... approved but restricted to the current building."
- 2) "that guest facilities on Amherst Island ... be approved with the provision of one guest facility per lot as an accessory to an existing residence and that the floor space for such accessory use not exceed 30sq.m." [This was requested by Jackie Sylvester.]

#### **THE BACK KITCHEN RESTAURANT**

384-7200

#### **HOURS OF OPERATION**

Friday, Saturday and Sunday  
11:00 am - 8:00 pm

Plus Holiday Mondays: August 6 and September 3  
until September 9

Specializing in : Burgers and fries and Homemade Pies  
Hot Dinners

Dinner Specials 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
\*\*\*\*\*

Join us for the

#### **53rd ANNUAL GARDEN PARTY**

JULY 28th                      12 to 4 pm

at

**ST. PAUL'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**BBQ                      PIE & ICE CREAM**

**HOMEMADE BAKING                      AUCTION**

**QUILT DISPLAY**

**FISH POND                      CANDY**

**CLOGGING      MUSIC      &      MUCH MORE**  
\*\*\*\*\*

#### **CHICKEN BAR-B-QUE**

Sponsored by A.C.W.

Saturday, July 14, 2001, 5 - 7 P.M.

Adults \$10.00  
Children (5 - 12) \$ 3.00  
Pre-school Free

Advance tickets only  
\*\*\*\*\*



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

The animals really need our help.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **News from the General Store....**

Hours for the Canada Day Long Weekend are:

Fri June 29 9am - 9pm  
Sat June 30 9am - 9pm  
Sun July 1 10am - 6 pm  
Mon July 2 10am - 5pm

The heat waves of summer have finally arrived and what better way to cool off than with a nice cool "Youellies Coollies" treat. Very refreshing.

Hours for Youellies Coollies are:

Fri. June 29 3 - 8 pm  
Sat June 30 1 - 8 pm  
Sun July 1 12 - 6 pm  
Mon July 2 12 - 6 pm

Some great movies are available for rent right now:

What Women Want - Mel Gibson  
Little Nicky - Adam Sandler  
Pay It Forward

and many more to choose from.

Post cards are available at the store now. 6 different scenes to choose from. We'd like to thank Zander Dunn, Zelma Koenders and Shannon Youell for the wonderful photos they submitted.

**HAPPY CANADA DAY ALL!**

Have a great long weekend.

### **WI BAKE SALES**

at the Store  
Fridays  
June 29  
Aug 03  
Aug 31

3:45 - sell-out

\*\*\*\*\*

### **WOOLLEN PRODUCTS**

#### **From TOPSY FARMS**

Blankets, Wraps, Yarn, Sheepskins

389-3444

or at

The Weasel and Easel

&

Bath Village Gallery

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### **SUMMIT INTERNATIONAL CANADA**

Carpet Manufacturer and Distributor  
Gord Forbes, Sales Agent .... 389-8516

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### **Thomas A. Richmond**

#### ***Certified Electrician***

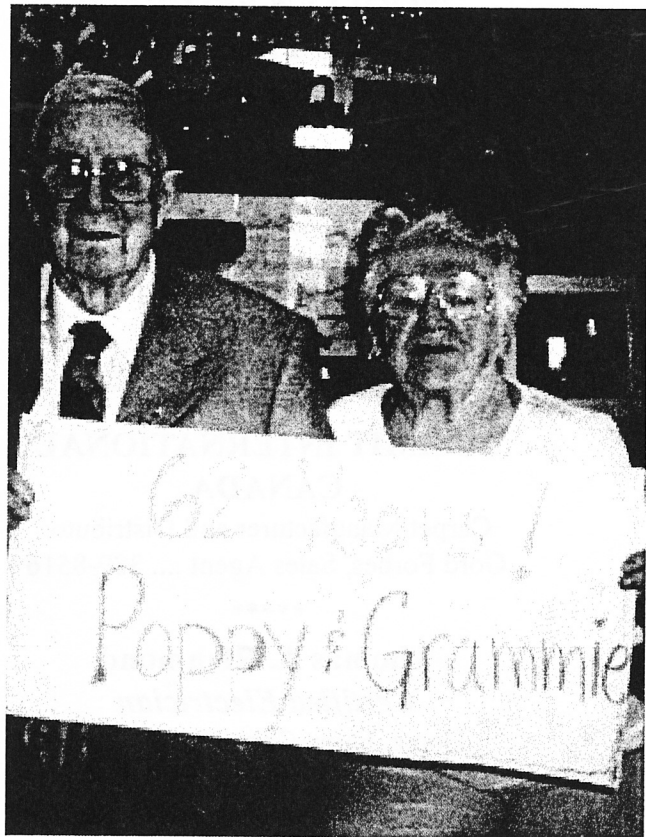
Home, Farm, Commercial work,  
right here on the island.

634-1855

**Hey, where are those  
advertizements, pictures, and  
articles you promised you'd write?**

**Now you can't say there wasn't  
room for them.**

**So there!**



**Bruce & Helen Caughey:  
62nd Anniversary**



**Amherst Island Girl Guides:  
Tree Planting**