

# The Amherst Island BEACON

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The Beacon



*The Nielson Store Museum - a weighing scale used in the Kilpatrick Store in Emerald.*

## MUSEUM OPENS FOR 2005 SEASON

- Alan Kidd

The Nielson Store Museum and the Weasel and Easel Craft shop reopened for the 2005 season on Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup>. There was a steady stream of visitors all day looking at the new exhibits in the Museum, the result of months of hard work by the Museum's exhibit committee headed by Bruce Burnett. The Weasel and Easel also had its usual great selection of crafts made by Island artists.

One of the new exhibits at the Museum which attracted a lot of attention was a wall chart giving a timeline of Amherst Island history over the past 400 hundred years. Below the timeline and keyed into to it were a series of pictures of Island people and life.

Another new exhibit focused on the military history of the Island, the highlight of which was an old pistol found in the walls of Poplar Dell which was likely used during the attack on that house by George Johnson's band following the collapse of the rebellion of 1837.

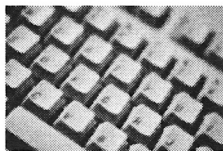
A corner of the Museum has been turned into a replica of the original Neilson's store, complete with shelves, a counter and an antique cooler cabinet.

*Continued on Page 15*

## THIS ISSUE

- Ian Murray,  
editor

In order to give Tom more time to work on the radio project, all Beacon work has been moved to the Head where Seán Daly, Sue Frizzell, myself, and others will be responsible for producing the



Beacon.

Hindsight wisdom indicates that perhaps this wasn't the best month to do the changeover with Seán and Jennifer birthing Calum a few days ago. And Sue is still settling in and caring for a 15 week old. Oh well.

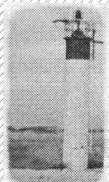
This issue may be a bit late but it looks like another good one. We,

the Staff, really appreciate the content - written, graphic and photographic that is being submitted.

Further information on Maurice Hogeboom's photo of the Stella Cheese Factory: the year of the high water was 1952 and the man on the truck is Vaughan McMullin.

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**Amherst Island Radio update** ...see page 11



## The Amherst Island Beacon

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## NEIGHBOURHOOD

- Lyn Fleming

Get well wishes this month to Doug Wilson who is in hospital; Jean Tugwell, who also made a trip to the hospital; and Sam Miller, who is in hospital now.

Our condolences to Jean Tugwell, Helen Miller and Ralph and Bea Wemp and families, following the passing of a special nephew and cousin, Tom Took in Hamilton. Tom's parents (mom Marjorie is a sister to Jean, Helen and Ralph), originally converted Freda Youell's

house from a coffee shop to a home.

Condolences to Peter and Susanne Wemp and family on the passing of Peter's dad Walt. Condolences also to Walt and Katherine's extended families on the Island.

Congratulations to Julie (Forester) and Laird Leeder on the birth of their son, Jack-Patrick Marshall Leeder. Jack-Patrick is the first grandchild for proud grandparents, Jack and Beth Forester and the first great grandson for Helen Caughey.

Bobbi and Michael Shaw are celebrating the arrival of a grandson, as well, born to their 2nd daughter Alexa-Frances and her partner Brian of Toronto. At 20 days young, Devon Shaw Carrow spent a sociable weekend on the Island. He is a new cousin for Simone.

Stephanie Fleming made a whirlwind, 2 day trip home to visit family and friends, but spent most of her time with her new niece, Tia.

Paul and Nancy Henshaw spent a couple of

late winter months in Florida, were home just long enough to catch their breath (cold as it was, here) and then were off on a Caribbean Cruise to celebrate their 40th anniversary.

Larry and I took a few days to go and visit Stephanie in North Carolina and took in a race while there. Jason and Ange and Tia left with us to go down, but stayed the week for a visit

and some sight seeing.

A "Jack and Jill" was held for Tyler Hutchings and his fiancé Charlotte Patterson in May. Tyler and Charlotte will be married in late June and have bought a house near Harrowsmith.

The Amherst Island Science



*Seán Daly, Jennifer Allen and the newest addition to the family, Calum, born June 7, 2005.*

school has been a busy place this month with students from around Kingston visiting the Island. Now that the Art Show and Public speaking is over A.I.P.S. students are busy with Track and Field, putting together a yearbook and gearing up for end of the year trips and graduation. Students and staff held a Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast recently to recognize our many talented and giving volunteers.

A sell out crowd attended the Rec Association's annual Fish Fry and Spring Dance on the May long weekend.

The same weekend, the Back Kitchen opened for another summer, the Farmer's Market opened for the season to a good crowd and Deb Kimmet performed her one woman show, North of Normal, at the Victoria Hall Tea Room. The weather may have been lousy, but there was no shortage of things to do!!

As I write this, the sun is shining and it is almost warm out - the brisk breeze is still a little





Courtesy Fred Moeller

*Mrs. Pringle's Saturday afternoon sewing class. Each session was followed with a cup of tea and biscuits and jam to top off the Saturday fun.*

*Top Row, L to R; Shirley Fleming, Eileen McKee, Mary Neilson, Betty Adams, Winnifred Fleming, Diana Filson, Kaye Neilson, Ruth Drumgoole. Front Row, L to R; Mary Adams, Arah Cochrane, Ann Neilson.*

on the chilly side. May has been such a dreary month this year and the long weekend was just plain miserable, with rain and cold! The lambs and goslings are everywhere and you wonder how these little things survive a cold wet spring. The lilacs and apple blossoms are about to burst as we enjoy one of the prettiest times of year on the Island.

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## WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

- Joyce Haines

The May meeting of the Women's Institute was held at the home of Leslie Gavlas on May 18. The meeting was opened with the ode, collect and O Canada. Mary Kay Steel, Presi-

dent, welcomed our new member Marilyn Pilon. Roll call followed with each member talking about their favourite museum, which took us on a tour of New York, Paris, London, Quebec and Toronto. Standing reports were given and the President then gave a report on the District meeting which was held at Selby earlier in the day. The delegates attending were Mary Kay



Steel, Marian Glenn and Joyce Haines. We would like to give a big Thank

You to AIMS for their \$500 donation toward a movie screen for the Community Centre/School. It was passed to send \$300 to the YWCA in Zimbabwe for skills training for youth or women headed households. We thank the Schrams for their information on this project.

The Stone Fence Committee has received a donation of stone from Michael Knight which will be moved from the Second Concession to Pentland Cemetery for the East wall.

The July 1 parade was discussed, we'll see you there. The programme for the night followed with Leslie Gavlas giving us a very informative talk on Lennox and Addington Museum and Archives in Napanee.



Rick Bedford photo

*Euchre Tournament winners, from left to right; Garnet McDonald, Emily Tugwell, Cora McGinn and Bob Gibson.*



This is a subject about which Leslie is an expert. She volunteers there every week working with the microfilm. We learned the history of the building and many interesting facts about displays. This is also the location of the original Tweedsmuir Books for the Amherst Island Women's Institute which are held in the archive section. Leslie encourages everyone to make a visit to this local landmark. The meeting was closed and a delicious lunch followed provided by Leslie Gavlas and Kirsten Bennick. Our June meeting will be at the home of Kirsten Bennick on June 15 at 7 pm with a plant exchange and Janet Scott as the speaker on Birds. You are welcome to pop in and join us.

**CANADA DAY WEEKEND BAKE SALE JUNE 30 @ The General Store 3:45.** Remember the Early Bird gets the Goodies. Thanks for your support.

## JANET'S JOTTINGS

- Janet Scott

Spring has sprung and the grass has definitely risen, as the old adage says. That green grass just grows and grows in the merry month of May!

The gardens need tending and the grass needs mowing but unfortunately it's just a great time for Birdwatching as well!

You have probably been watching the Hummingbirds at your feeder and observing the various Swallows building nests and rearing their young. The largest Swallow is the Purple Martin and they prefer to nest in colonies and have happily adapted to apartment houses made by man. They can be heard noisily talking about the day's happenings and coming and going to their Martin houses at the former Bulch house in the village.

Observe the shiny dark blue males and the females with grayish

underparts. The first year males also exhibit this light underside. Some time in the distant past, Aboriginals in North America began hanging gourds or calabashes that had been hollowed out, in order to attract Martins. This species is now completely dependent on man to provide its nesting sites. For information you can contact the Purple Martin Conservation Association at: "www.purplemartin.org" Purple Martin populations are in decline throughout North America.

I became fascinated by Cliff Swallows as a child of the manse in Warkworth, Ontario. The Presbyterian church made of brick had a round wall on its end in the yard where we played and a colony of Cliff Swallows diligently built their gourd shaped nests from tiny balls of mud carried by both males and females. The nests protected by



overhanging eaves would usually last the necessary five weeks needed to fledge their young. Some remnants will stay stuck on the wall throughout the winter. Here on the Island our Cliff Swallow nests were used as platforms for House Sparrows to build later nests during the summer. These swallows resemble their cousins the Barn Swallows in colour but have light forehead patches and do not have the deeply forked tail. We were fortunate to have Cliff Swallows nesting at 2090 South Shore Road for most of the twenty years we lived there. In recent years they have not returned. I presume like adobe, dung is needed to create the right building materials and our house no longer provided the right mix. The colony at Amherst Island Community Centre is happily building on at least five sites around the school.

Barn Swallows are very similar to Cliff Swallows but you will notice the tail shape that we have come to associate with swallows, although this is our only species exhibiting this tail. Their nests are similar in building materials but are more cup-shaped than the Cliff Swallow's gourd. Barn Swallows build in any level spot protected by a roof or overhang. You will find them on top of a light fixture on your porch or on a rafter in the garage. The Barn Swallow has a rust-red patch on its forehead instead of the cream-coloured one on the Cliff Swallow. Unfortunately for us but fortunate for its fellow nestlings the baby swallows wiggle their bottoms out over the edge of the nest in order to defecate. We usually object to the whitewash that they leave behind.



"Robyn Feraday was awarded top honours for her Canada Day outfitted bike and persona in the judging following the 2004 Amherst Island Canada Day parade. Her bike and attire were the result of a joint effort by Robyn, her mom Jill and her "adopted" grandmother Janet Hayes. Ms Hayes, standing behind Robyn, is also festooned in red and white and maple leaves for the occasion. Robyn chose to do her Grade 3 school presentation this year on why Amherst Island was the best place to visit. Robyn loves camping with family and friends on their lakefront spot on Kerr Point Road and also playing with cousins and other family members who have property on the Island."

Tree Swallows are cavity nesters and prefer the nesting boxes provided by Bluebird enthusiasts. They haven't read the fine print in the lease and see no reason for a colour bar in this country. Tree Swallows love white feathers to line their nests and will swoop right up to you in order to nab a floating feather. They nest in nearby boxes but not really in community. They exhibit a shiny blue back and snowy white front. When defending a nesting site they will swoop at you and click their beaks. This past season of numerous gnats has been great feeding for the swooping swallows. The Tree Swallows can digest bayberries so they arrive back the earliest and have even been seen here in December. They are

therefore not solely dependent on insects.

The smaller dull Rough-winged Swallows nest along the South Shore in cavities in the banks. You will see a pair on territory as they sit on favourite shrubs and trees that over-hang the cliff. The Bank Swallows are similar in colour but have a band on their breast. They nest in colonies by excavating holes in river banks.

We probably are attracted to Swallows because of their effortless ability to fly. They swoop and dive in fascinating manoeuvres with the freedom we on the ground envy. They are such good flyers that some swallows winter in Argentina. Think of the Frequent Flyer points they could earn. Take time to watch

the swallows as evening approaches. Watch and dream! The miracle of flight!

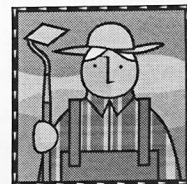
Good Birding.

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## THOSE GREAT ISLAND MEALS

by Zander Dunn

Did you get to the Ham and Scalloped Potato Supper the Presbyterian Church Women of St. Paul's put on for us all on Friday, May 6? If you did you know what a great meal it was. If you didn't you missed a remarkable repast. After I had eaten so well on May 6, thanks to the women of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, I got to thinking about all the



Katie Little representing AIPS at the Historica Fair held at Queens showing a display about her Hungarian Heritage.  
Brian Little photo





*Peter Large and Judith Harrower enjoying breakfast at the Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast at the school on May 25th.*

*Brian Little photo*

wonderful meals I've enjoyed on Amherst Island.

The Anglican Church Women of St. Alban's Church always provide memorable meals with their Chicken dinner in November and their Roast Beef dinner in March. Or is it the other way around? No matter, the point is both meals are outstanding and much appreciated by all who devour them.

The Presbyterian Church Women also offer a Tea and Sale in November and the goodies they provide for that extravaganza are excellent. Which reminds me that at the Garden Party on the last Saturday in July each year tea, cake and cookies, hamburgers, hot-dogs and pop, pie and ice cream are offered to all who attend (for a price, of course).

It seems the Island churches are

always putting on meals - not only for themselves to eat, but for non-Church islanders and mainlanders who accept the invitation to come and enjoy good food.

Food and Christianity are closely linked. It is significant that central to Christian worship is a meal - The Lord's Supper - at which we eat and drink. That meal helps us remember Jesus' last meal before his death. It was an important time in itself, but it was especially important because he shared bread to remind his followers of his broken body and poured out wine to draw their attention to his shed blood.

Many stories were told about Jesus eating and drinking - with all kinds of people. He ate and drank with the wealthy, the religious and the outcasts. In fact, he ate and drank so much his enemies labelled him a

glutton and a drunkard and contrasted the eating and drinking of his disciples with the asceticism of the followers of John, The Baptist.

When Jesus wanted to talk about Heaven or The Kingdom of God, he told about a banquet - to which everybody was invited.

When Christians put on meals or share food or gather for a feast they're emulating their Lord whose ministry involved food in many ways. Jesus used meals to break social barriers. Jesus enjoyed food to point out God loves a party. Jesus asked his followers to eat and drink in memory of him. Jesus said being with God will be like going to a party where food like Amherst Island pies are served and only the best wine is consumed. That's a foretaste of heaven!

I'll always support our Amherst

Island meals because I not only get the best possible food at them, but I meet the most interesting people, most of whom introduce me to God.

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## COUNCIL GLEANINGS

- Ian Murray

There will be lots of information on municipal taxation coming out with the tax bills so I can avoid dealing with this subject.

Also, as policy, I am not dealing with Island property matters as far as they concern individual land owners: severances, variances, building permits, stop-work-orders, re-zoning, and so on. Most of this is very routine and uninteresting; the interesting cases are too complicated and (sometimes) too controversial for this newsletter.

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## AMHERST ISLAND MEN'S SOCIETY

- Terry Culbert, Secretary

Twenty-six AIMS members attended the breakfast meeting at St. Paul's Church Hall on Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup>. Executive Vice Chairman Neil Johnston took over the helm from Chairman Alan Kidd, who was absent. The meeting came to order at 8:30 am. Neil thanked Sandra Reid, Lynann Whitton and the students for providing a great breakfast. The Senior Class of Amherst Island Public School will also prepare the June 11<sup>th</sup> breakfast. Neil welcomed back Peter Moes, who now lives in Amherstview and new member Donald (Woody) Woodiwiss of McDonalds Lane. Committee Reports: Treasurer Jim

Whitton reported that 35 members have paid their annual dues of twenty dollars, and that the bank account is in good order. Peter Trueman reported one request for transportation. Homecare, no report. Alan Glenn's Assistance Committee had two calls.

Neilson Store: Bruce Burnett reports that most repairs are complete and the store is ready for the season, opening on Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup>. The foundation is the only major repair left to be undertaken. It will be completed over the next four and a half years.

Island Market: Two market flyers have been sent to all Island residences. Bruce requires more volunteers for the AIMS wagon.

## OTHER ITEMS OF IMPORTANCE:

Orange Bicycle Program: Loyalist Township refuses liability coverage. Alan Glenn believes the issue that changed the Township's mind was over the use of helmets. Neil Johnston will further look into the Township's decision.

Projection Screen: Projection screen for the public school and community centre will cost \$1700. AIMS and Women's Institute are willing to help out with the cost. It is hoped that other Island organizations are able to participate. It was agreed that AIMS give \$500 towards the new screen.

Girl Guides' Food Drive: Ken Albertan, Hugh Jenney and Alan Glenn volunteered to help pick up food for the Girl Guides on Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup>.

Vicki Keith And The Abrams Brothers Concert: Scheduled rain or shine at Paul and Gwen Lauret's farm, 1900 Front Road, Saturday, July 16<sup>th</sup>. Sponsored by Amherst Island Mutual

Insurance, 350 tickets will be sold. All proceeds from Vicki's 80 km butterfly swim are in support of special needs children at the Kingston Family YMCA. The Stella Bella's will begin selling tickets at the opening Island Market May 21<sup>st</sup>. AIMS members are needed to help at the concert with the concession booth. The use of alcohol is prohibited.

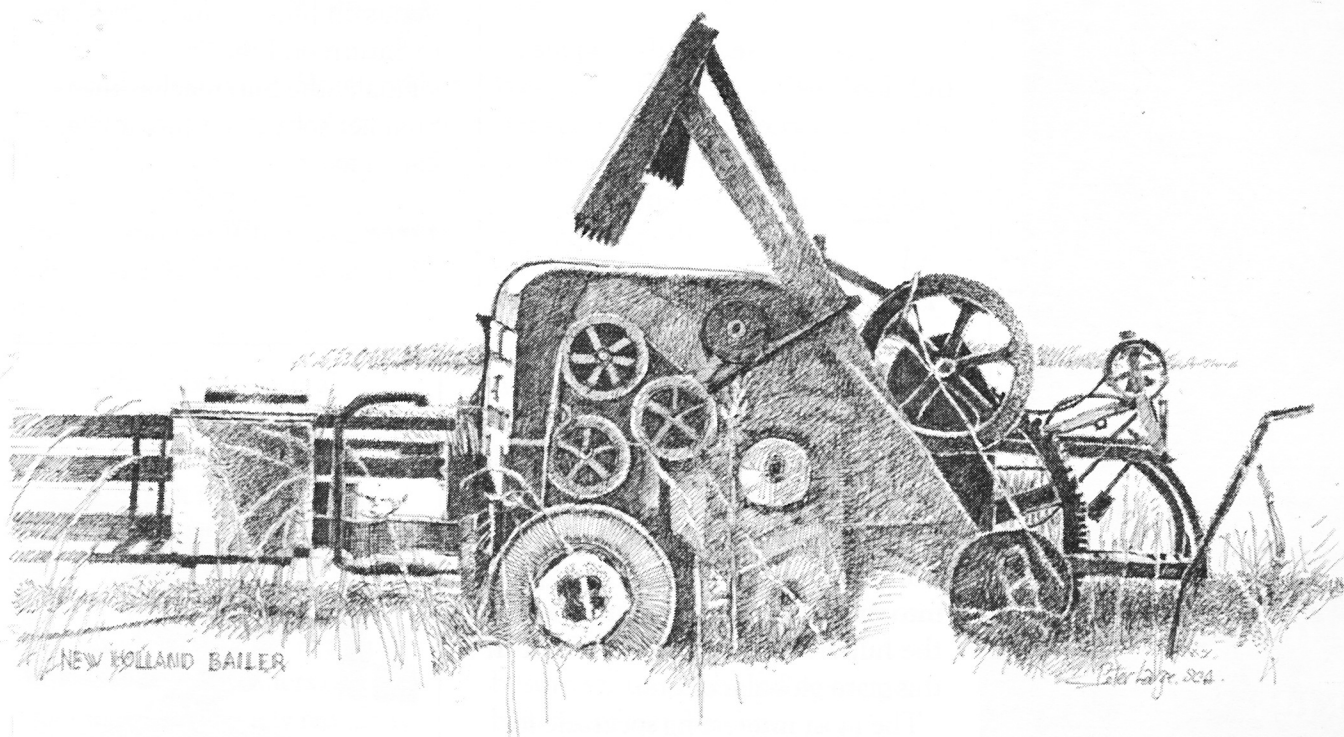
Pentland Cemetery Irish Dry Stone Wall: Joyce Haines of the Women's Institute is hoping to receive assistance as they rebuild the east wall of the cemetery this summer. Give Joyce a call if you can help.

Possibility Of Senior OPP Officer as AIMS Guest Speaker: Dick Dodds suggested having a senior Ontario Provincial Police officer come to one of the AIMS breakfast meetings as a guest speaker. Neil Johnston will contact the Odessa OPP detachment with our request.

Public School Wish List: The Amherst Island Public School's wish list this year is for optical equipment, including textbooks at a cost of \$453. It was agreed to purchase the equipment. North of Normal: David Brady promoted his wife Deborah Kimmett's show North of Normal, to be held at the Victoria Hall Tea Room on Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Guest Speaker: Neil Johnston introduced guest speaker Bruce Caughey, one of three directors of the Amherst Island Agricultural Society.

"The Amherst Island Agricultural Society has two important assets," Bruce said, "we own seven acres of land behind the village parkette on Front Road and we own this beautiful, old wooden briefcase, which holds the Society records. The records date back to 1920;





*Peter Large, SCA*  
(originally published in *The Beacon* May, 2004.)

however, we do know that the fairground was operational prior to that date. Record book entries show that by 1932, assets and cash on hand totalled \$825.94. 'Trials of Speed' were held using horses and Eaton's and Simpsons donated many of the prizes. Another entry in the book showed Mr. Bulch's large peas were overlooked and to his great consternation were not judged. After considerable discussion, Mr. Bulch was awarded 3<sup>rd</sup> prize."

Bruce Caughey explained to the AIMS membership that the Amherst Island Fair used to be an annual event other than in 1945 when it was cancelled. The fair resumed the following year, which unfortunately was its last. The 1946 fair featured a popular slow automobile race. Once drivers had put their car in high gear, they were

not allowed to use the clutch again. First over the finish line was the winner.

Occasionally during the 1960's, the 4-H Club would hold their agricultural shows on the fairgrounds. In the 1970's and 1980's, the grounds were used for training horses. Except for a farmer renting the land as pasture and the Island Market using the parkette in the summer, the grounds have remained unused.

A couple of years ago, the 4-H Club requested use of the fairgrounds. The Agricultural Society agreed to their request providing they had insurance for the occasion. The 4-H Club contested that decision and a letter was written to the government agency that oversees the 223 fair boards in Ontario. The agency pointed out to the Amherst Island Agricultural Society that it was the only one in Ontario not holding an

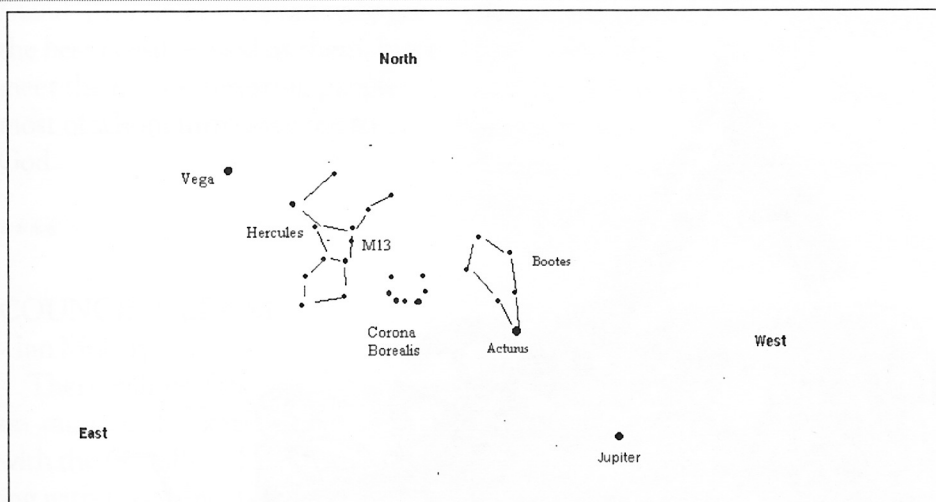
annual fair. The Amherst Island Agricultural Society was granted a two-year period to produce a plan for the property.

Bruce Caughey is in the process of speaking with all Island organizations to determine possible usage for the land. Any input by Islanders is greatly appreciated.

At 10 am Neil Johnston thanked Bruce and adjourned the meeting. The next AIMS Breakfast Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup> 2005. Guest speaker to be announced.

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## JUNE SKIES

- Alan Kidd

Although June is a bit of a difficult month for stargazers, simply because there isn't much darkness at our latitude, there are some impressive evening grouping of planets to watch out for this month. As well that sign of summer, the great summer triangle of Vega, Deneb and Altair makes a reappearance in our skies.

Almost straight overhead this month, at about 11 PM, are two interesting constellations which are not too familiar for most people. The first of these is called the Corona Borealis, or the Northern Crown. The Corona Borealis is a lovely semicircle of stars with the brightest star being the 2<sup>nd</sup> magnitude star Alphekka. Moving further toward Vega, we find the somewhat dim constellation of Hercules named for the famous hero of Greek mythology. Although Hercules does not have any particularly bright stars, it is famous for hav-

ing one of the most famous globular clusters, M13. Even a small telescope will start to resolve M13's fuzzy glow into small points of light, just a few of the hundreds of thousands of star in this giant globular cluster.

The most interesting spectacle for sky watchers this month is a gathering of three planets low in the western sky during the second half of June. This grouping is best seen no more than 45 minutes after sunset. A pair of binoculars might help find the dimmer planets, especially in hazy skies.

Venus is the brightest of the three, and is getting higher each night. Saturn is dimmer than Venus and is getting lower each night. Mercury joins the pair during the second half of the month. On the evening of June 24<sup>th</sup>, Midsummer's day, Saturn is passing just to the left of Venus and Mercury is even closer to Venus on the lower right. Then for the next two nights the trio of planets forms a group small enough to be hidden by a fingertip at arm's length.

Jupiter is the second brightest planet now, shining high in the south at sunset. Mars rises well after midnight but continues to get brighter as it approaches an October opposition.

The thin crescent of the new

moon is just to the lower right of Venus on June 7<sup>th</sup> and passes close to Saturn on June 9<sup>th</sup>.

Finally the Sun reaches the Summer solstice on June 21<sup>st</sup> at 2:46 a.m.

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Brian Little photo

Daniel Little representing Amherst Island Public School at the Regional Public Speakers Festival in Napanee.



## HERE & THERE

- Ian Murray



Islanders in the mainland media: Vicky Keith and her upcoming swim were written up in the Whig, and she was the "secret guest" on the Sheila Rogers show on May 12; and the Whig did a nice article on the AIPS art show at Molly's Lodge.

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There have been several statements lately by high-profile politicians that ways must be found to restore trust in the integrity of politicians. Restore? When was this golden age in which the citizens of this country trusted those we sent to Ottawa or Toronto? Perhaps some of the older readers can remember. I do vaguely recall my parents sitting at the kitchen table and sorting through piles of paper doing their income tax in the early 1950s. My impression is that they were prepared to pay their fair share and felt that the money would be well spent. However, they were struggling to keep a farm going while raising 3 small children and may not have been aware of the political scandals of the day.

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One of the things I enjoy about country living is mushroom harvesting. My daughter-in-law Sue and I took baby Nathan mushroom searching this morning, May 28. We found enough of the wonderfully named Dryad's Saddle (*Polyporus squamosus*) for my lunch and a big mushroom soup for supper. Not many Islanders seek out wild mushrooms and that's unfortunate as the search is interesting and the eating is great. It is really unfortunate when someone guesses wrong about a

wild mushroom - learn before eating.  
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I suppose that there are better companies than Lee Valley Tools Ltd but there cannot be very many. The products are very good, the catalogues are works of art, and the service is superb.

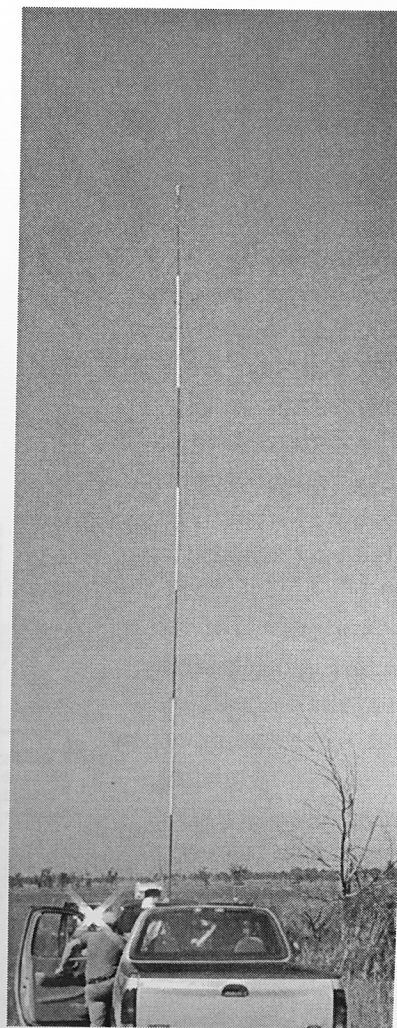
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A meeting was held in Bath on May 17 to see if there was interest within Loyalist Township to start a Chamber of Commerce chapter. Five Islanders - Gary McDonald, Rosemary Richmond, David Brady, Jacob Murray and myself - attended along with 30 or so mainlanders. My guess is that a chapter will be formed and it will be up to individual businesses to weight the costs and benefits of membership.

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The mostly cool dry spring has now - May 31 - been replaced by hot dry summer weather. Farmers got their crops in and are now hoping for enough moisture for the seeds to thrive. Our pastures have pretty much stopped growing.

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*Wind Test tower goes up on Second Concession May 28, 2005  
Tom Richmond photo*

## Amherst Island Radio Update

- Tom Richmond

Amherst Island radio is now up to 88 paid memberships, and we still need to catch up to about 6 members from last year on top of that... I am hoping we can make 100! That alone would pay for the antenna we will need (or 1/5 of the transmitter!) once we get through the government red tape. Speaking of the application... now we have added over 20 more pages

to it with queries and responses fired back and forth, and now the CBC is in on the act too!

To see the document in full, visit the AI Ferry Office.

The programming committee has met and is researching content for the radio station. We have discovered a way to preprogram a one-hour show in only 15 minutes time... shows can be prerecorded and archived for future use, and so now we can begin preparing for our license.

## WILLIAM WALLACE "WALLY" WEMP

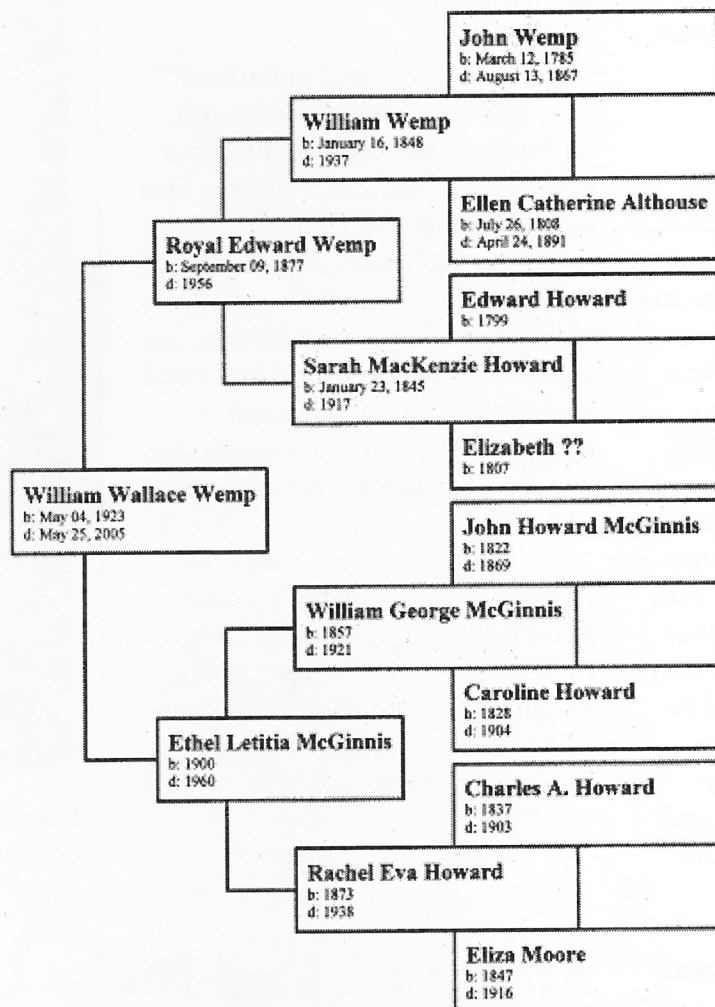
- born May 4, 1923 on Amherst Island. Died May 25, 2005 in Kingston after battling Alzheimer's and congestive heart failure.

Wallace was an only child to Royal and Ethel (nee McGinness) Wemp. He was born in the house now owned by Alan Kidd and Judy Roberts - 1245 Art McGinn Road. His family farmed and owned Nut Island, where Wallace spent much of his time hunting, fishing and looking after livestock. He was surrounded by many cousins who were the brothers and sisters he never had. The photo of Wallace was taken on Nut Island when he was about 23 years old with his pet dog.

The family moved to their house on the North Shore just west of the property formerly owned by Vince Aitken and Wallace attended public school close by (where the Maude property is). He attended high school in the village.

After school Wallace worked for a number of farmers on the Island and carried mail. He married Catherine Filson in 1945 and they worked as caretakers for the Epstein family, property currently owned by the Jefferys. They lived at the same property on the North Shore where Wallace grew up. It was here where Peter and Ann were born. Wallace was

### Ancestors of William Wallace Wemp



the brother-in-law of Harry and Barbara, uncle to Garry and Susan Filson, and Valerie and Bob Howard.

In 1954 Catherine and Wallace moved to Kingston where he began a 25 year career selling cars for Edwards Ford Mercury. Following that, he sold cars for other companies and then worked in real estate, before retiring at age 65.

Wallace and Catherine bought and sold a number of properties in the Kingston area and on Amherst Island. They owned the farm where Annette and Bill Phillips now live, as well as the property owned by Hugh and Sandra Filson.

Wallace and Catherine moved out of the city to move to their house on Stephentown Creek Road. Upon both of them

retiring, they built their own house on Isle of Man Road, on the Rideau River. They lived there for the past 17 years.

Wallace's passions were hunting, fishing, watching hockey and baseball and spending time with his family, particularly enjoying his grandchildren as they have grown. He spent many memorable times on the Island with friends and relatives, including his cousins Stuart, Gwen and Anna Miller.

Wallace is survived by his wife Catherine, son Peter and his wife Suzanne, daughter Ann and her husband Bob, and his grandchildren Lindsay, Sarah, Ryan, Sam and Kate.





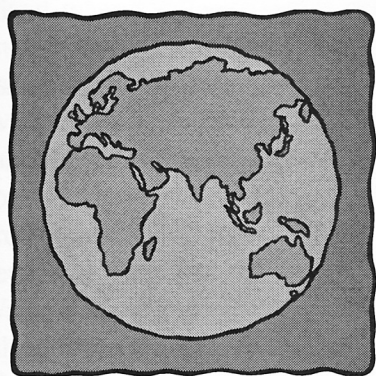
## *Southwind*

*... by Peter Large, SCA*

*(originally published in The Beacon August, 2004.)*



Hugh Drumgoole, Warren Kilpatrick and Scamp Courtesy Warren Kilpatrick



## THE GRAND VALLEY RING

### Part 1

- Ralph Woods

Beula and I and our friend Elisabeth Emond had a very memorable trip to France to celebrate the lives of 6 Canadian airmen. On May 7th & 8th the town of Sees, France went all out to commemorate the lives of these Canadian airmen who died in a Whitley V bomber while distributing leaflets warning the residents to stay away from railways or other lines of communication which might be bombed as a prelude to the June 6th invasion of Nor-

mandy. Georges Buvron, a "French Policeman" whom the Germans had ordered to comb through the wreckage. He picked up bits and pieces of the aircrew's possessions including a ring that had been burned almost beyond recognition. Most of the items went into a box back at the police station. The ring went into the back of a drawer in the policeman's home and eventually was forgotten.

The residents of Sees did not know that it was a Canadian bomber manned by six young men from various parts of our country. In Canada, the families of the airmen received the dreaded telegrams, missing in action.

Even though I was quite young at the time I remember the cloud that settled over Grand Valley when the Harris family received the dreaded news. Since I was a friend of Jim Harris, Gordon's younger brother, the calamity of war was brought closer to home. Also, the same day the Watson family of Grand Valley received a similar message. For a

town of eleven hundred people these deaths struck everybody as part of the family.

At the end of the war, there were bodies of fallen soldiers buried in many small plots across devastated Europe. The job of finding and identifying the remains began. A team did visit Sees and identified the aviators, exhumed their bodies and placed them in the Canadian cemetery at Bretteville-sur-Laize. For some reason, three of the six families back in Canada were never informed as to what had happened or where the bodies of their loved ones had been placed. Sixty years later, through the efforts of a few dedicated people the events and place of their death would become known.

Georges Buvron, the policeman who had brought home the blackened ring and thrown it in the back of a drawer, had died as well as his wife. His son Georges Buvron Jr., when going through his parents' after effects, came across the blackened ring and took it to a jeweler to have it refurbished. When it came back it had "Grand Valley" clearly on the front and WGH on the inside of the ring. Mr Buvron had never heard of Grand Valley but realized it likely had some connection with the war. All the servicemen from Grand Valley received a similar ring when they left to serve overseas. It would be another decade before Georges Buvron was to realize the origin of the ring.

Roger Cornevin who had witnessed the crash as a teenager in 1944, and was now retired, felt that it was wrong that the airmen who died for France had not been properly recognized. He decided to

*continued on next page...*



## THE GRAND VALLEY RING

*continued from previous page...*

do something about it. In 1998 he returned to Sees with the intention of discovering the details. He also wanted to identify the airmen and see that the town of Sees erected a proper memorial in their memory. After contacting the British Ministry of Defence he learned that a Whitley bomber had gone missing that May night in 1944. He also learned the names of the crew who were: pilot David Webster Goodwin of British Columbia; navigator Joseph Hong of Ontario; air bomber Charles Beverly Wyckoff of Ontario; air gunner Joseph Gaston Jacques of Quebec; air gunner John Hopper of Ontario; and, air gunner Wilfred Gordon Harris, from Grand Valley, Ontario.

Mr. Cornevin called a local newspaper that printed an article about the information that he had and this was picked up by a television station. Mr Buvron now living in a suburb of Paris happened by a very strange set of circumstances to be watching the program. He was astonished by what he was hearing and shouted to his wife Yvette to get the ring. The Buvron couple looked at "Grand Valley" and the initials WGH and realized they held the clue to the missing airmen. He told Tom Kennedy of CTV News stationed in Paris that the ring had left from Canada and that it belonged to a Canadian. After having the ring 60 years they wanted to return it to the the family of its owner .

*Look for Part 2 in the July issue of the Beacon*

## THANK YOU NOTES

I want to thank the First Response Team for coming so fast on the two mornings that I had to take an ambulance into KGH. It is such a relief when these highly trained people come to help. We are lucky to have them on Amherst Island. Also thanks to everybody who has sent Get Well Wishes to myself and Bea.

Ralph Wemp

\*\*\*\*\*

The Amherst Island Recreation Association would like to thank everyone who came out and supported our Fish Fry/Spring Dance. This is our biggest fund raiser with proceeds all going towards Canada Day. Our caterers and D.J. did a great job again. We

## Museum Opens for 2005 Season

*continued from Page 1...*

One of the exhibits in the store is a weighing scale used in the Kilpatrick store in Emerald, along with a picture showing the scale in the Emerald store. Another corner features an expanded section on the Island schools, complete with a blackboard with detentions listed for a couple of Island residents who attended the pre-amalgamation one room schools on the Island. You'll have to go to the Museum, to find out who got the detentions.

The first of the Museum's "Backroom Series" - talks on the history and culture of Amherst Island - will get underway on Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Tom Sylvester will be giving a talk on an Island murder mystery, entitled "Why was Thomas Jackson Killed?". This will be held in the backroom of the Museum at 7:00 PM.



*Emerald Store...Daly's Green Tea!*

Everyone is encouraged to come out and see what has been happening at the Museum. The Museum is open the same hours as the Weasel and

Easel - weekends in June and every day during the summer months.

\*\*\*\*\*

would also like to thank all who came out for our Community Euchres this past Winter and Spring. We had lots of laughs and socializing as well as playing cards. Congratulations to the top score winners (and the low score ones as well!)

\*\*\*\*\*

### ACW CHICKEN BARBECUE

Saturday July 16 At Community

Centre

5:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.

Advance Tickets Only

For Tickets Call: 389-4327 Or 389-7907

\*\*\*\*\*

### FOR SALE

Three refrigerators under one month warranty. Two beer fridges @ \$50 and \$75. One bachelor fridge (great condition but the wife would not want it in her kitchen. Bachelors like a good deal) \$200 or best offer.

Call Hugh Jenney 384-7830. Free delivery

\*\*\*\*\*

### PENTLAND CEMETERY STONE FENCE

The Stone Fence Committee invites any interested residents to come and learn the craft of stone fence building. Bill Hedges, stone mason will be teaching new volunteers and guiding last year's workers June 8, 10 and 11. The volunteers will also work on June 9. Come and help restore this piece of Island history and learn the craft.

Please give us a call and let us know when you are available. Joyce Haines 634-7894, Allan Kidd 389-4334, Judith Harrower 384-0435

\*\*\*\*\*

### AMHERST ISLAND ANGELS FOR AIDS

We are seeking any and all donations of material, fabric, ribbon (especially wired) and all manner of fancy, shiny things for making our Angels. If you call me, Judy Roberts, at 389-4334, I will gladly pick things up from you; alternately, you can drop things off at St. Paul's Church on Sundays.

In 2004, we raised over \$4000 to help the victims of AIDS in Malawi, Africa. All donations are greatly appreciated

\*\*\*\*\*



### WATERSIDE 2005 TICKETS ARE SELLING FAST

Tickets for the five concert Waterside Summer Series on Amherst Island are selling faster than ever before. Tickets went on sale only on May first, but as of the first of June half the tickets have been sold. With the first concert of the series scheduled for July 2nd, organizers predict that there may be fewer tickets available at the door this year than previously.

Amherst Islanders interested in a particular concert should call the Ticket Line, 384-2153 as soon as possible to be sure to obtain tickets for any of the five concerts ahead of the performance dates.

The full summer program is available on

[www.amherstisland.on.ca](http://www.amherstisland.on.ca).

The first two July concerts (each concert is \$15/ticket) (all performances are at St Paul's Church) are: July 2, 7.15 pm, Nancy White and Roger James;

Nancy White: voice, guitar, banjo; Roger James: voice, guitar, banjo, bodhran;

Bob Johnston: voice, keyboard

The comic songwriters Nancy White and Roger James join forces in a cabaret show. Nancy will sing songs from her latest CD, "Stickers on Fruit", and Roger will delight with his hilarious takes on many timeless issues.

\*\*\*\*\*

July 16, 7.15 pm, Canadian Jazz Quartet:

Gary Benson: guitar

Frank Wright: vibraphone

Duncan Hopkins: bass

Don Vickery: percussion

Well-known on the Toronto jazz scene, the C.J.Q. plays mainstream jazz with a graceful treatment of standards and original material.

\*\*\*\*\*

### OPEN HOUSE

There will be an Open House at 10776 Front Road, home of Don and Pauline Pepper, to celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary . .

.come join us July 23<sup>rd</sup> from 2 - 5 pm.

Refreshments will be served.

\*\*\*\*\*

### COMING SOON

Fresh baked goods in early morning at the Store. Muffins, cookies, rice crisps, etc.

Talk to Candace at the Store for further information.

\*\*\*\*\*



## Get Ready for "THE GARDEN PARTY"

At St. Paul's Presbyterian Church  
From

Saturday, July 30

If you have any clothing, books, furniture or treasures you would like to donate please leave them at the Whitton residence 175 Stella Forty Foot - on your way to the ferry.

\*\*\*

## ST. PAUL'S GARDEN PARTY

It's time once again to turn your thoughts to summer and St Paul's Garden Party. This year the Garden Party will be July 30 11a.m. to 3p.m.- rain or shine (but hopefully shine). So mark your calendars.

Food, plants, flea market tables, kids' games, entertainment and of course the big auction. Please note that we will be instituting a 'no dogs' policy this year for health and safety reasons. Like last year we will be collecting flea market and auction items ahead of time. So think of us as you clear out your closets and garages!!

Drop things off on the Whitton front porch anytime or call 384-5027 for pickup.

\*\*\*\*\*

## TRANSFORM OUR SCHOOL SURROUNDINGS (TOSS)

Update:

In last month's Beacon I mentioned how we have formed a committee to landscape the area around the school/community centre. We need ideas and so we have surveyed the children, teachers, and parents. Now it is your turn to have a say! You should have received a survey form through a household mailing. Please fill it out and drop it off at the

Whitton house - there is a collection box on the porch or just leave it in the newspaper box out front.

Thank you!

Lynann Whitton

\*\*\*

Scott Marshall is on Amherst Island working part-time on the ferry. I am also available to do odd jobs. Great rate, friendly personality. Please contact me at anytime with questions and inquiries.

Phone: (613) 389-0554

Page: (613) 549-9534 \*leave a message\*

Email: skot\_m@hotmail.com

\*\*\*

## COTTAGE FOR RENT

Private bay, North Shore Amherst Island, 13320 Front Road. Beautiful 3 bedroom cottage. New furniture and three piece bathroom.

Sleeps 10 with pullouts, private beach with dock plus floating raft for kids.

Cost is \$800.00 per week, available from June 1st through to October 1st.

Contact: Jill Scott-Duff or Peter Duff at 905-841-0079

Email: "peter.duff@ibs-us.com"

\*\*\*

## DEAR ISLANDERS:

My name is Peter. I am looking for a plot of land of habitable building. I can pay up to \$3000.00. I plan to build an environmentally friendly house for myself. This is for medical reasons for my health in general. If you have questions please call my grandmother at 634-8716 or myself at 613-771-1861 in Belleville.

Peter Bigras



Logo by Vicki Keith-Munro

## IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT!

AIRBI is planning a fundraising BOOK SALE on AUGUST 6th, at THE LODGE, 320 McDONALDS LANE. This will run from 8:30AM to 2PM. Book donations are being sought. Please phone Tom or Rosemary at 634-1855 to coordinate pickup.

More details to follow in the next Beacon and via post



If you have more information on any of the older photographs appearing in this or any other issue of the Beacon, please write or phone us at our Global Headquarters.

Ian's number is (613) 389-3802

-Who is in the photo?

-Where was it taken & by whom?

-What was the occasion?

Thank you! Your assistance is greatly appreciated!



## NEWS From the GENERAL STORE

Just a reminder to everyone that postage rates have increased: Canada - \$0.50 USA - \$0.85 International - \$1.45.

We've got some great new releases in right now:

Collateral - Tom Cruise, Jamie Foxx

Anchorman - Will Farrell

King Arthur

The Terminal - Tom Hanks, Catherine Zeta-Jones

Troy - Brad Pitt, Orlando Bloom

Wicker Park - Josh Hartnett

The Village

Dodge Ball - Ben Stiller

The Manchurian Candidate - Denzel Washington

Spiderman 2 - Toby Maguire

The Incredibles

Scooby Doo 2- Sarah Michelle Gellar

Many more to choose from.

Store hours:

Mon - Sat. 9 A.M. - 6 P.M.

Sunday 10 A.M. - 5 P.M.

### Canada Post Hours:

Mon.-Fri. - 9 to 11:00 a.m., 2:30 to 5 p.m.

Sat. - 9 a.m. to noon. Sun. - closed.

## VICTORIA HALL CRAFTS & TEA ROOM

-Hours for lunch, afternoon teas and early dinners:

Noon to Six, Wednesdays to Sunday,

-New and improved menu includes

Godden Pork and Willard Lamb

Sausages on homemade garlic and

Parmesan cheese buns.

-Hot specials include homemade soups, lasagna, and smoked ham & cheesy macaroni.

-Hall available for private functions.

Gift Suggestions:

- Tea Room Gift Certificates

- John Munro Y-Knot T-Shirts @\$5.00 each & Commemorative Swim buttons @ \$2.00 each

- Shirley Miller cards and paintings

- Tole painted Island sap buckets

- Topsy Farms wool products

- Quilts and throws by local quilters

- Locally Authored Books

Tom Sylvester's Loyalist Roots Cycling Tours @ \$8.00

John Kuti's Archtypes of Self Esteem @ \$25.00

Nicole Florent's Walk, Hike or Jog Kingston @ \$20.00

Hans Krauklis' Amherst Island Video @ \$16.95

For reservations call Bernice or Neil @ 389-5389

## AMHERST ISLAND T-SHIRTS AND SWEATSHIRTS

are available for sale from Beth Forester 389-5582 or Nancy Henshaw 384-0799.

### Babysitter available



-After school and weekends.

-Responsible & -Red Cross Certified

-Call Whitney Fleming 389-9869

### Babysitting

Red Cross Certified Babysitter. Available early evenings & weekends.

Torri Phillips: 389-0512

### Babysitter



- Red Cross Babysitting & CPR certified - available after school, early evenings & weekends. Beth Albertan: 389-2662



Seasonal Winter Storage for Boats, etc, in beautiful Downtown Stella! Indoor, reasonable rates.

Dayle Gowan, 634-3815

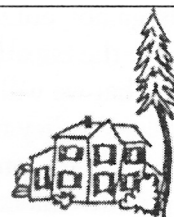
## THE LODGE ON AMHERST ISLAND

Lodging rooms and Rental available for special occasions. Call: (866) 552-3535

[www.amherstisland.on.ca/thelodge](http://www.amherstisland.on.ca/thelodge)

2 & 1 BEDROOM COTTAGES

on Stella Point: By the week or weekend, April-October. (Phone numbers above.)



## NORTH SHORE COTTAGE

for rent. Private with good swimming. By the week or weekend, May-October. Call Cherry 634-1212

**HOUSE FOR RENT:** year-round, by the week, weekend or month...on the North Shore. Call Cherry 634-1212

## SOUTH SHORE COTTAGE

for rent on private, secluded peninsula. Over 2000ft of limestone shoreline. \$650 weekly. Call (613) 389-5536 for further information.

## LAKESHORE RUBBER STAMP

I can provide business and art stamps, daters, signature and similar products. All stamps are custom made on the premises and can be ready in 24 hours. Please call 389-8441 or fax 389-9770.

Email: [selc.welbanks@sympatico.ca](mailto:selc.welbanks@sympatico.ca)

This is a home-based business and available most days. Linda Welbanks.



**WATER WELLS & WATER TREATMENT**

John Jeffery- Phone 561-7867.

**BURNETT'S PLUMBING of Napanee**

Renovations & New, Submersible & Jet pumps, Water Softeners & Purification, Sales, Service & Rentals. Fully Licensed & Insured. Many satisfied Island customers. (613) 354-9223.

**G L M CONSTRUCTION**

Island owned and operated. Complete services, all trades, any size job from design to construction to finishing. We have the connections to get your job done. References.

Gary McDonald: 384-1456.

**GODDEN'S WHOLE HOG SAUSAGE**

Godden's Whole Hog Sausage is available in four distinct flavours - Salt & Pepper; Honey Garlic; Tomato Oregano; Hot Italian - using ALL natural ingredients (no MSG, preservatives, colouring).

New! Breakfast Sausages - Salt & Pepper or Maple Flavour! Our frozen sausages are available in 5 and 10 lb. boxes at Poplar Dell B&B, 389-2012.

**RAWLEIGH PRODUCTS**

To place your order call Marie Ward at 389-5767 or send E-Mail to: [bmward@ihorizons.net](mailto:bmward@ihorizons.net)

**PICNIC TABLES & WEATHER VANES FOR SALE**

Keith Miller 389-2588

**FOR SALE:** Futon frame and mattress, \$150 or best offer. Call Hugh or Claire Jenney 384-7830 to view

**FOR SALE:** Vilas maple cupboard and hutch, \$250.00. Claire Jenney, 384-7830

**FOR SALE:** New "elite" window 6'x4' triple gang unit - fixed 2' centre with operators on both sides. Interior clear pine, exterior aluminum. Low E Argon.

also: FAR Infared Sauna, cedar lined, 2 person, glass doors  
Call Sally at 389-3802.

**LANDFILL SITE HOURS**

Wed 11-2; Sat 10-noon; Sun 2-4.

**FERRY OFFICE HOURS**

Mon, Wed, Fri: 9-noon &amp; 1-4

Ferry fuel-up days are Tuesday and Friday (be prepared for a delay).

**LIBRARY HOURS**

Tuesday 7-9pm, Wed 10-Noon,  
Friday 1-3pm.

**TOPSY FARMS:**

Looking for a Wedding or Shower Gift? Want an interesting outing for visitors? Come visit our Wool Shed at 14775 Front Road. We offer lambskins & sheepskins; yarn & hats; slippers; mitts; blankets; lap robes; and wraps. GIFT IDEAS: we have several new products available, including: muffs (warmth for winter ferry crossings), felted purses & other items, & chibis (3 darning needles in a plastic container - for pocket or purse). Prices \$2 to \$105. We'll mail orders anywhere. CALL TO MAKE SURE WE ARE HOME: (613) 389-3444.



**Ted Gow Painting, wallpapering, tiling, home maintenance and repairs.** Free estimates. Island references. 634-5404.

**Thomas A. Richmond, Certified Electrician.** Home, Farm & Commercial wiring & repairs, right here on the Island. Electrical Safety Authority Authorized Contractor Program. 634-1855.

**Bookkeeping, Property Oversight & Management Services**

Rosemary Richmond. Home, Farm, Cottage, Small Business.  
Island references. 634-1855.



**I am collecting used stamps-** any kind for the guide dogs, clean used clothing and books for the "Cat's Meow." Used towels, cleaning products, A&P tapes and 12" x 12" knitted squares may be left in my front porch or call for a pick-up. The animals really need our help. Freda 384-4135.

**Mindfulness Meditation Workshop**

This practice deepens our connection to the richness of the present moment and develops concentration, insight and compassion.

**Complementary Health-** Jocelyne Leyton, RPP, offers treatments in Cranial Osteopathy. This is a very subtle and gentle approach recognizing the subtle mechanics at work within the head, spinal column, viscera and pelvis. The understanding of the cerebrospinal fluid has a profound influence on the health of the whole body. For an appointment telephone 384-6488, 9060C Front Road.

Letter and photos from Fred Moeller, Jr.  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304-1058

Kaye and I enjoyed the last issue of the Beacon as usual and were particularly pleased to see the old picture of the Neilson Store. It is the first such photo we have showing the entire front. As you undoubtedly know Maurice Hogeboom worked with my father-in-law, Fred Neilson, for many years. We think the picture was taken in the early 30's. My first trip to the Island was in 1960 and the old coal house (to the left) was no longer there. There was an Esso gasoline pump just to the right of the store and I see no evidence of it in the photo.

The enclosed photos may be of interest to you as a follow-up to your article about the first Amherst Islander. They have too much contrast and are a bit too dark but the place I go to says the fancy modern print machines have trouble with old negatives in not too good condition. The pictures were taken behind the Neilson Store at the boat dock and storehouse both of which are no longer there.

We have photos of all three Amherst Islanders should you ever want copies. Has there ever been any action taken to change the name of the present boat to **Amherst Islander** to continue the tradition?

*Above right is Jim Neilson, who liked to think he was cranking up the Chevy truck.*

*We've had a great deal of fun digging through countless old photos. Many bring back good memories and lots of them are before our arrival on the planet!*

*[Note: Look for more photos from Mr. Moeller in future Beacons]*

