

The Amherst Island BEACON

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THIS ISSUE

- Ian Murray,
editor

We have received a lot of photos for this issue. The photos selected are, we hope, the most interesting to our readers. The choices were not easy as there were so many great shots. If we could afford to print in colour, some different photos would have been chosen.

Our apologies to Vicki Keith who got her thank you note to us in time for the last issue and we lost track of it.

OBITUARY

WEMP, Hazel 'Laura' (nee McGinn)

Died peacefully with her family at her side on Tuesday, September 13, 2005, in her 83rd year. Beloved wife of the late Leslie J. Wemp. Dear mother of Sandra, Sharon Sands, Fred, Betty Ennis, and James. Sadly missed by her grandchildren Cathy, Steven, Vicky, Carolyn, Christine, Lesley, Jennifer, Donnie, Lauri Ann, Kerry, Andrew, Heather, Erin and Daniel and great grandchildren Holly, Kristy, Nicholas, Nathan, Taylor, Brandon, and Cameron.

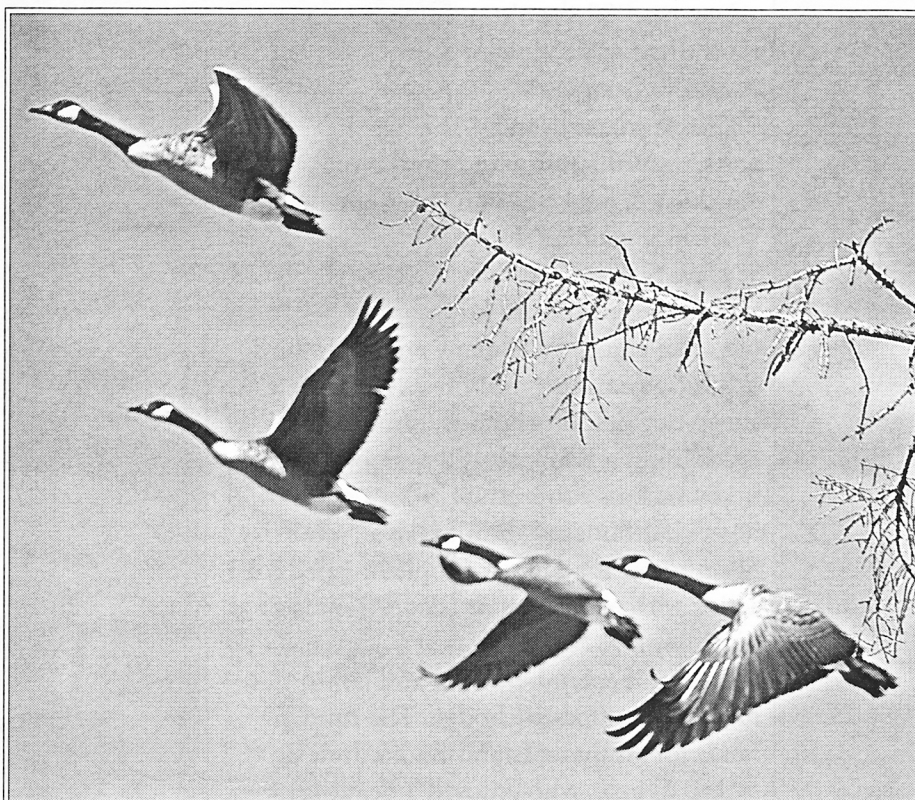
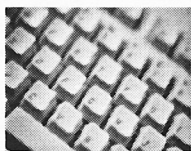
She is survived by her sisters Hilda Mills of Amherstview and Edna Brown of Kingston and her brothers Keith and Kaye McGinn both of Amherst Island. Predeceased by her sisters Iona Kay and Nora Delisle and her brother Leslie McGinn. Fondly remembered by her many nieces and nephews.

Friends desiring may contribute by cheque to the L&A Hospital Foundation or St. Luke's Church Memorial Fund.

NEIGHBOURHOOD

- Lyn Fleming

Get well wishes this month to Barb Reid, Lloyd Wol-



Summer's Over!

Canada Geese heading south for the winter.

Photo Brian Little

freys, Bobbi Shaw and Kaye McGinn.

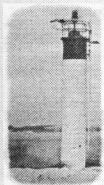
Condolences to Keith McGinn and Kaye McGinn following the passing of their sister Laura Wemp. Condolences also to the many extended family members on the Island.

Our sympathy goes to Diane and Bob Horth, following the passing of their granddaughter.

Happy 50th birthday to Debbie Miller. Debbie celebrated this milestone at a surprise party at the Millhaven Legion with 50-60 of her closest friends and family!

Congratulations to Caroline Yull on the birth of her first grandchild, Kyleb Gurnsey-Yull. First child for Jesse Yull and Melanie Gurnsey.

Harold and Erna Reddakopp's son was married on a beautiful early September weekend. Thomas Reddakopp and Cathy Wong were married at St. Paul's, followed by a reception on the lawn at the Lodge.



The Amherst Island Beacon

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JH: Judith Harrower

TC: Terry Culbert

BL: Brian Little

BH: Bill Harris

TR: Tom Richmond

Congratulations to Jessica Gavlas (daughter of George & Ida) and Byron Rybka, who were married mid-September at St. Paul's, followed by a reception at the Community Centre.

Lynanne Whitton's mom, Marilyn, is visiting for a couple of months from Australia.

The Amherst Island 4-H club, with leader Doug Williamson and his organizing committee, held their 2nd annual Harvest Fest on September 10th. The festival, held at Dave & Laurie Willard's South Shore farm, has grown from last year. Young and old alike enjoyed the many animal & bird exhibits, a canning and preserves exhibit, sheep dog demonstrations, farm machinery exhibit, a BBQ, as well as booths set up by various community groups and businesses. Although it didn't take all afternoon to see it all, most people lingered for a visit with exhibitors or Island friends & neighbours.

Later in September, a pig and lamb roast was held at the Lodge. The fund raiser for Amherst Island Radio drew up to 150 people, who enjoyed a beautiful fall evening with dinner on the lawn and entertainment by Cold Country Bluegrass and friends.

I neglected to mention in an earlier column, an evening at St. Alban's, at a choir performance. This choir was made up of people from Canada, the U.S., England and South Africa, who were attending a one-week workshop at the Lodge. The performance at St. Alban's was the compilation of their short week working together, where 30+ singers learned many songs, in several languages and parts. Although the choir performed for about 2 hours, the evening was much too short!

Well, the long, hot summer has finally come to an end. Kids are back to school, the weather has been beautiful and is forecast to continue well into October. We had an unseasonably wild end to September with a wind storm that took down many grand old trees down around the



Topsy Farms Pears

By Peter Large S.C.A.

Island, power & phones were out for a good part of the day, and the road crew was kept busy clearing downed trees from the roads. We expect the winds in November, but I think this storm took us by surprise!

Good news this fall is that we aren't expected to have the Quinte Loyalist visit this fall; bad news is, that work on the Millhaven dock could cause some mix ups with ferry traffic and line-ups, but in the end there should be more room for ferry lines and hopefully parking at Millhaven.

I hope everyone enjoyed a restful and happy Thanksgiving with family and friends.

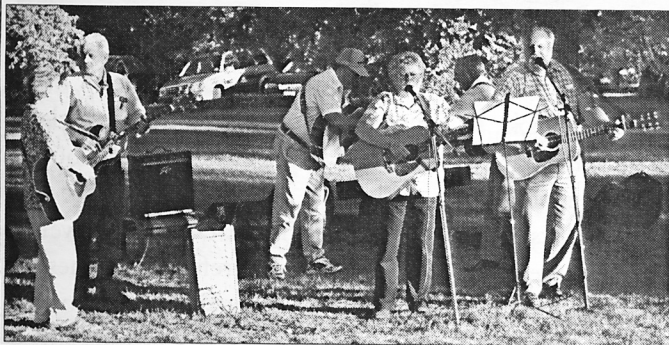
**Correction to last month's column - Jason Silver is the son of Phil Silver and Liz Hogeboom.

AIR Lamb and Pig Roast a great success



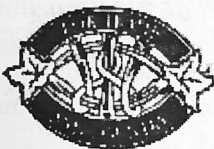
Above: Enjoying the music and the food are, left to right: Stanley Burke, Brian Grace, Betty Wemp, Peter Large, Marg Maloney, Peggy Coulter and Janet Grace.

Below: Cold Country Bluegrass and friends.



Photos Brian Little

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



Mary Kay Steel

The regular monthly meeting took place on Wednesday, September 21, at the St. Paul's Church Hall. The meeting, open to the public under the R.O.S.E. (Rural Ontario Sharing Education) program of the Ontario Federation of Women's Institutes, got underway with a presentation by Dr. Gian Frontini on the topic of "Higher Education in an Increasingly Complex World". Some thirty-five people enjoyed his provocative thoughts

on the nature of education, how to prepare for a job or career today, and the fact that one must be ready to re-train and re-educate throughout one's life. Many questions from the audience followed and then refreshments prepared by Marion Glenn, Marilyn Pilon and Mary Kay Steel were enjoyed, with a seasoning of further animated discussion.

After this enjoyable beginning, the business meeting of the branch got

r.o.s.e.

rural ontario
sharing education

underway with the president, Mary Kay Steel, in the chair. The president thanked members for their stamina and skill in baking up a storm for our four bake sales plus the bake table at the September Harvest Fair. Also for their faithful service in managing the refreshment

table all summer at the Saturday Island Markets.

The treasurer, Stephanie Boissonneault, made her report, detailing spending and income over the past month. Other standing committees reported as well. Judith Harrower, with helpers, has planted a tree on behalf of our branch in front of the Amherst Island School near the cenotaph; it will be dedicated in the near future to our branch's first president, Elizabeth MacDonald.

It was noted that this fall we celebrate our 105th anniversary since our inception as a WI branch, and a wave of proud smiles went 'round the room. There followed discussion of the plans for the annual Seniors' Christmas Dinner Party and to fill "shoeboxes" for children in Africa at Christmas as well as the progress of Jackie Sylvester's team on developing the 2006 "birthday" calendar.

We were reminded of the upcoming meeting: October 19, at the St. Paul's Church Hall, commencing at 7pm, with a guest speaker on Arthritis; the public is welcome! There will be refreshments!

JANET'S JOTTINGS

- Janet Scott

From Another's Eyes:



Sometimes we have to look at the overly familiar with another's eyes to appreciate what we have.

Recently my daughter and I drove all around the Island showing the sights to two of her friends from Markham. We had one of those glorious September days when the air is clear and the sky glows blue.

Once our tour was over Wendy remarked, "I've never seen so many birds in one day ever!"

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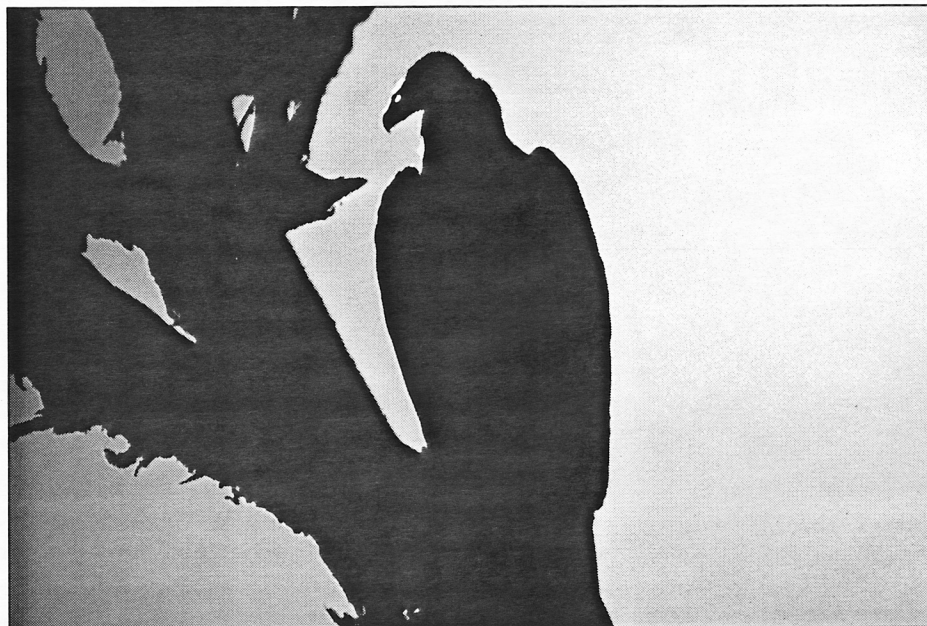
JANET'S JOTTINGS

What I had come to believe was just an ordinary day was special through her eyes. I explained to her that Amherst Island has such a wide variety of bird habitats that we see many different species in our somewhat small area.

We started the morning with White-crowned and White-throated Sparrows flitting around our feeder. Both birds exhibit a black and white striped head but the White-crowned stands more upright and has a plain dove-gray front while the White-throated has a yellow spot in front of its eye and a snowy white bib under its chin.

The Osprey sailed by the Front on bowed wings cruising into the wind. Later I showed them the Osprey platforms at the Kingston Field Naturalists property at the Foot where several successful families have been raised.

As the land warmed in the sun our offshore breezes began and as we descended Avery Brown's hill there was a wonderful kettle of circling birds. Most were magnificent Turkey Vultures with 69-inch (127cm) wingspans. They soared effortlessly with a slight V-shaped wing position. Their flight feathers from underneath appear silver or almost transparent and the wing-



Turkey Vulture

linings are black. The adults have red heads and the immature have black heads. They rock in the air with hardly any wing movements and yet rise on the thermals to appear as dots.

With the Turkey Vultures there were some Buteos circling but too high for me to identify. My guess is Red Tails; because they are local, but earlier in the day I spotted a Rough-legged hawk. During a short visit to the Owl Woods we had great fun feeding the Chickadees. A brave Nuthatch kept coming closer and closer but not quite ready to land on our hands. This always delights visitors and for both these ladies it was their first time having one land. They are so light and so trusting as they choose just the perfect sunflower seed from all the other identical looking seeds in the palm of your hand. As a special treat I sometimes take shelled peanuts as well which they love. While in the woods we saw more sparrows, woodpeckers, and a small hawk zoomed through, freezing all the birds tight to the trees.

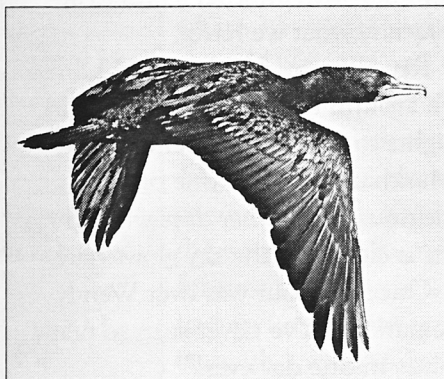
We saw gulls soaring along the

water's edge, Double-crested Cormorants cruising low along the lake and a variety of ducks too far out to identify. We didn't get to see the Harris' swan, however. There were Kingfishers on preferred perches overlooking favourite water spots and Greater Yellowlegs crying their three note call along the water's edge near Molly's.

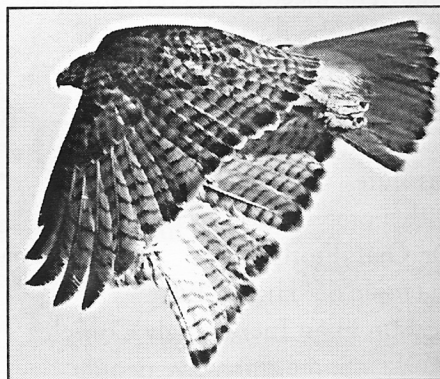
As the sun set, Canada Geese flew in against the reddening sky and the resident Great Horned Owls hooted.

Just another wonderful day of birding on Amherst Island!

Good Birding



Double-crested Cormorant



Red-Tailed Buteo

COUNCIL GLEANINGS

- Ian Murray

There are 2 wind energy firms actively interested in locating wind generators on Amherst Island. Murray Beckel, Township Planner, recommended to Council: "That staff be authorized to research wind turbine development and how it may impact Amherst Island as a whole and that staff bring back a report to Council in either December 2005 or January 2006.

This was approved.

Moved by Councillor Ashley . . . that the following be adopted:

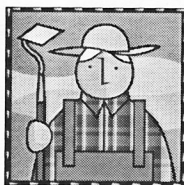
1. That Council awards the [Stella Wharf Stabilization] contract to Corcoran Excavating for the sum of \$117,001.83....
2. That Council approves the increase in the combined project budget from \$110,000 to \$220,000; and
3. That staff utilized the \$94,000 difference to upgrade the ferry docks on both sides, Stella Wharf and Millhaven Dock in principle and pending further information.

Motion carried.

Council endorsed "United Trinity Church (5555 Front Road) for [historical] designation... and specifically that the following be included in the designation: That the building's

exterior be designated for historical and architectural importance excluding the modern single leaf metal door, roof, eaves trough, foundation and wheelchair ramp."

AMHERST ISLAND MEN'S SOCIETY



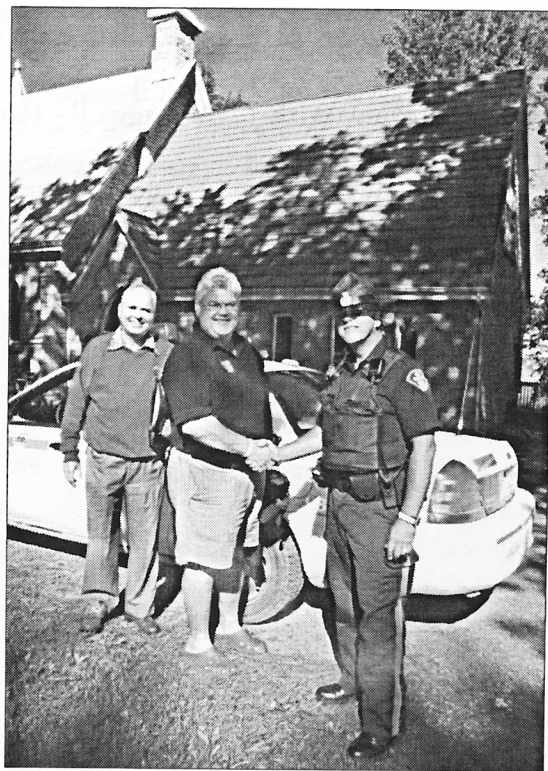
- Hugh Jenney
John Kuti
and David
Brady came to our
rescue with

a last minute breakfast, which was enjoyed by 26 members.

Jim Whitton advised us that our \$1,000 contribution to the Vicki Keith Marathon has been delivered.

Alan Kidd conducted the election of the new members of our executive who are as follows: past President: Alan Kidd; President: Brian Little; Vice-President: John Moolenbeek; Treasurer: Dayle Gowan; Secretary: Hugh Jenney; Social Con-
venor: Any volunteers?

New Year's Eve Dinner & Dance: John Munro plus volunteers Bruce Burnett, Allen Caughey and Brian Little. John was away so Allen Caughey reported that they have had a meeting and are working on the insurance for the school hall.



Hugh Jenney, Brian Little and Constable Paul Evans of Napanee OPP.

Our Board of Ed has removed their coverage so it behoves us to arrange coverage for all the Island events. By "us" I mean all the organizations using the hall.

Dayle Gowan brought greetings and thank-yous from the Stella Bella's for the AIMS volunteers who helped with the Vicki Keith Concert held at Lauret's farm.

Alan Kidd introduced our speaker, Constable Paul Evans, a 25-year veteran of the OPP.

Constable Evans gave a brief history of his service and congratulated Islanders for looking after each other so well. He said that we could have more policing if we asked for it.

[Hugh's report goes on at length, the gist of which is that AIMS members are concerned about speeding and dangerous driving on the Island.]

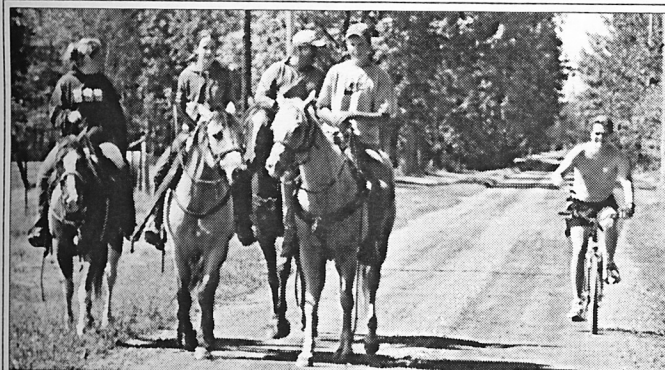


Photo Terry Culbert

Island Transport

'Amherst Island Cowboy' Glen Mack of Quinte Community Pasture, third from left, and his friends, watch a cyclist roar by on the Second Concession Road.

CO-OPERATION AND TEAMWORK

An Interview with Jean Tugwell - Part 2

- Zander of DUNN INN

Christmas concerts in Victoria Hall brought all the Island schools together. Jean also remembers one concert held in the Emerald Hall. Recitations, songs, plays and skits were the highlights of the day!

The scariest day of the year for both students and teachers was the day the School Inspector came to the Island. Everybody lived in fear of him. All were happy to see him depart. Public School involved strict discipline and sometimes the strap was used.

Madlyn (Kilpatrick) Kerr, Laura (McGinn) Wemp, Doris (McDonald) Henderson, Noreen (Richards) Welbanks, Anna (Glenn) Hitchins, Catherine (Filson) Wemp, Harry Filson, Edward Filson, Cecil Tait, Wallace Wemp, Edna Kearney, Ruth Kearney, Edward Reid all went with Jean to high school (the brick building which stood where the Back Kitchen is today). Excellent teachers were Alice Hogeboom, Mr. Miller and Mr. Ramey. The high school plays were fun and were performed at Victoria Hall.

Every Sunday the horses were hitched up and the Wemp family attended Sunday worship at Christ Church in Emerald. Neilson, Helen, Marjorie and Jean with others, sang in the choir. Their mother played the organ. They were also loyal to the Wednesday Lenten services. Jean was not impressed, as a young girl, by the excessive length of Mr. Thomas Leech's sermons. He and his wife lived in the rectory beside St. Alban's Church in Stella and served both congregations. Both sanctuaries came alive with



The Tugwells

beauty at Christmas when they were decorated by many hands.

What a blow it was for the whole family when Mr. Wemp died of cancer in 1936 at the age of 51. Jean's father was a quiet man, full of fun and love, and a hard worker. Jean's mother was a good housekeeper and loving parent. With the help of Helen, Marjorie and Jean, she tended vegetable gardens, canned fruits and vegetables, packed meat and eggs in salt for winter use, churned butter and made bread weekly. She was a powerful example for her children.

Neilson and Ralph gave up their boyhoods for the family. They farmed until the war broke out. Helen was a great help to her brothers on the farm. Everybody worked very hard.

Helen married her long-time sweetheart, Donald Miller, in 1939. Marjorie, the family scholar, put herself through the educational requirements to become a schoolteacher and married Thomas Tooke in 1944. He became a cheerful and kind addition to the family.

Neilson joined the RCAF when he was 21 but never got posted overseas. Ralph was only 18 when he joined

the Army and was soon sent overseas where he saw plenty of action.

Jean went to Stella and for two years lived with her uncle Fred and Aunt Nellie's family in the house where Doug Shurtleffe and Helen Trotter live now, so she could attend high school. Later in 1939 her mother moved to Stella and lived in what is

now Caroline Yull's home. Jean lived with her mother and completed high school.

It was a rather sad time for young people like Jean - saying goodbye to so many of the young men who left the Island to enlist in the Armed Forces. But Jean also remembers welcoming some of those same men back to the Island after the war.

One of those young men was Earle Tugwell who, prior to W.W.II, had dated her sister Marjorie. When they broke up, Jean remembers thinking, "You silly girl, I'd have married him" - which she did in 1946.

Jean had taken a secretarial course at Kingston College (torn down long ago). After graduating she worked at the Prudential Insurance Co. of America and later as a secretary to Herrington and Slater's law firm. Mr. Herrington was the father of Jim Herrington who owns property on the Island.

Kingston, during the war, was a busy military centre and attracted good entertainment. Jean went as often as money would allow to the musicals and the coloured films.

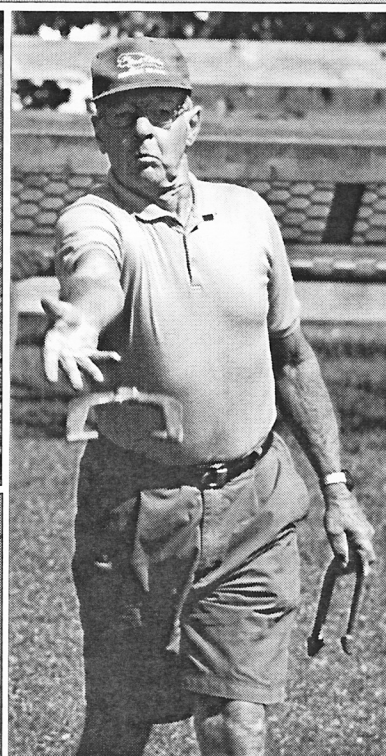
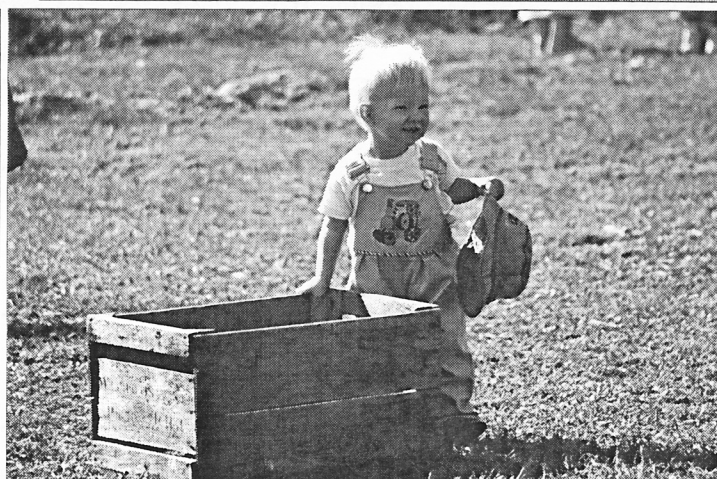
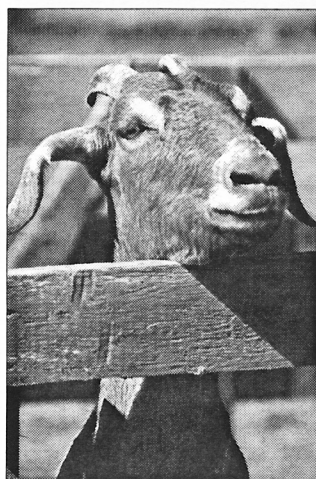
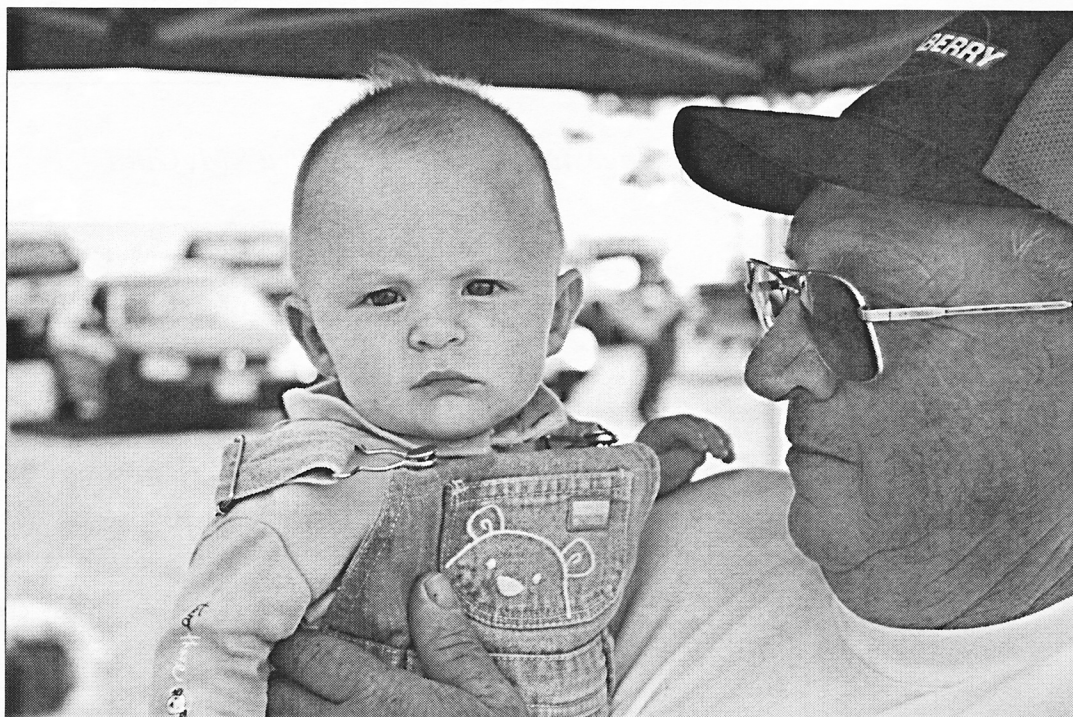
continued on page 9

Fall Fair Enjoyed By All

The Amherst Island 4-H club held their 2nd annual Harvest Fest on September 10th. There was much to do, including animal exhibits and Border Collie Demonstrations. Pictured below is Keith Miller with his grandson Alan Miller. Bottom right is Alan Glenn. In the center is Jack Welbanks (grandson of Eric and Linda).

4-H

Ontario

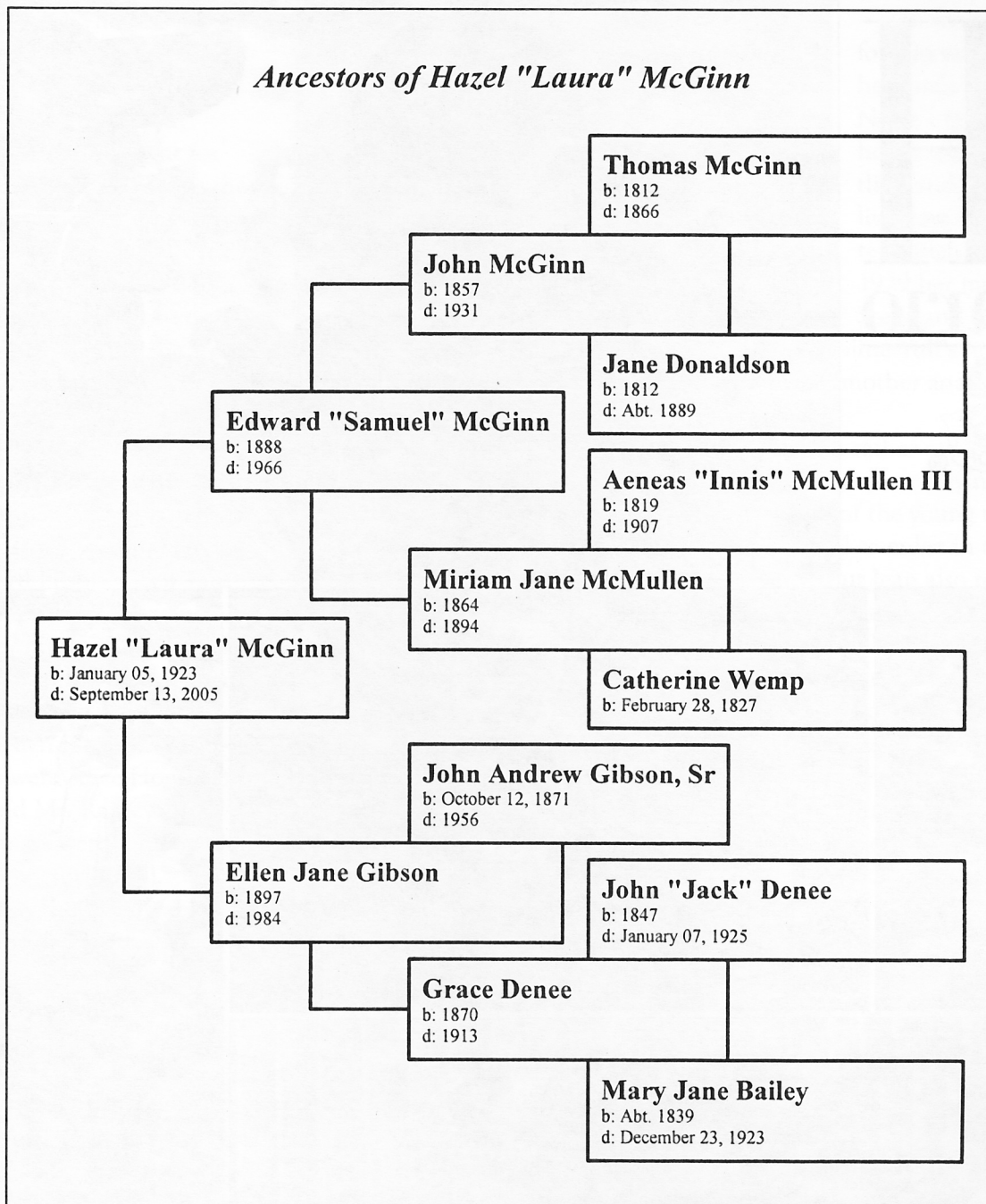


Photos Brian Little

OBITUARY: Wemp, Hazel 'Laura' (nee McGinn)

Please see Obituary on Page 1.

Ancestors of Hazel "Laura" McGinn





Bird's Eye View

These photos, taken by Brian Little, provide a great view of the Amherst Island Ferry and dock. They were taken while on a flight with Alan Kidd.

Photos Brian Little



continued from page 6

Jean Tugwell

She lived at the YWCA, an old three-storey house at Clergy and Johnson Sts. (now demolished) with 30 other girls and ONE telephone. Each girl had to sign out and sign back in; the curfew was 11 p.m. Everybody had a ration card for sugar, tea, butter, meat, etc. It was a warm family atmosphere for a country girl.

Several Island girls lived in Kingston and tried to get back to the Island for weekends. Edgar McCaugherty would load up his car with girls and bring them back to the Island. Anna (Glenn) Hitchins, Ruth (Marshall) Glenn, Noreen (Richards) Welbanks were among those who would return to the Island for the dances which were judged to be better than those in Kingston.

Jean also used to walk across on the

ice if she had to. One New Year's eve she came over to the Island by boat and, a few days later, skated back on ice.

Please see next month's Beacon for the conclusion of Zander Dunn's Interview with Jean Tugwell, which starts with V.E. Day memories.

SENIOR ENJOYS THE COMFORTS

LETTER

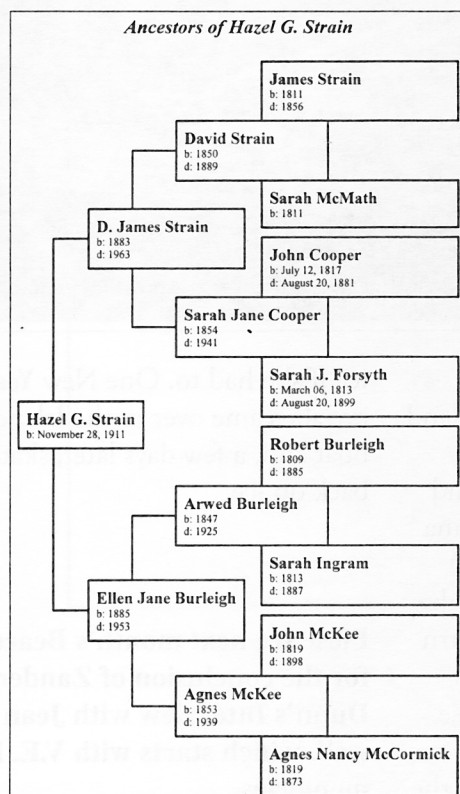
- Harold Cochrane

On 05 August 2005, I received a copy of the Community Press, which is published weekly in Stirling, Ontario. An article written by the name of Kate Everson "Senior Enjoys the Comforts of Home at Hastings Manor" caught my eye, as it was about a lady Hazel Reynolds - who stated she was born on Amherst Island in 1911. Not recognizing the married name Reynolds, I visited her on 12 August 2005 at Hastings Manor. Hazel informed me that their maiden name was Strain and she was brought up on a farm on the Front Road. Her father was Jim Strain and she had a brother Estel and a sister Annette, who married Gordon Glenn.

Hazel also informed me that she knew my father and mother, William and Agnes Cochrane. After graduating in Ottawa, she came back to the Island to teach at SSNo1 and that she boarded with my grandparents William and Annie Cochrane who farmed on the Front Road (first farm east of the Village). The reason for this was it was within walking distance to the school.

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[Editor: We have received permission from Community Press to reprint the following article.]



- Kate Everson

You would never guess that Hazel Reynolds is almost 94.

A resident of Hastings Manor for the past four years, she is on the computer every day emailing some of her 33 contacts "I learned the computer at 88", she says. "I am the only one on my floor who can use it!" She also does toile painting and loves to read books. She has knitted 31 pairs of mittens for children, which are donated through the firemen's drive every year. "I am so grateful for my eyes and hands," she smiles.

She uses a walker to get around now because of arthritis, and her hearing is not too good. She sometimes has problems with angina.

"I'm glad I went to a lot of movies when I was young," she says, "because now I wouldn't be able to hear them!"

Hazel was born on Amherst Island, near Kingston, on November 28, 1911. Her parents were farmers. She went to Grade 13, then Teacher's College in Ottawa and taught school for four years, starting in Amherst Island and ending up at a school north of Madoc.

"It was pretty hectic," she says about the one-roomed school teaching eight grades. "It was during the depression and I made \$4900 a year. I remember my first pay. It was nine ten dollar bills in cash."

She said the next year the Township ran out of money and had to cut her salary in half, only \$450. She moved

"I'm glad I went to a lot of
movies when I was young,"
she says, "because now I
wouldn't be able to hear
them!"

to Madoc where she made more money, \$600 a year.

When she got married in 1937, she quit teaching to stay home and later take care of her two girls, Nancy and Janet. Her husband Morris was a farmer.

"It's so different now," she says. "Back then there was so much going on in the community. Your neighbours were your friends. Now people live beside someone and

OF HOME AT HASTINGS MANOR

don't even know them."

Hazel was active in many organizations including the Women's Institute, Women's Missionary Society, Easter Star, Madoc Fair Committee and agricultural society. She taught Sunday school for 22 years. Her two girls were also active in everything, such as Junior Farmers, CGIT [Canadian Girls in Training] and 4-H Club. "Those were the good old days," she smiles.

She had a big garden and worked hard. She spent a lot of time canning fruits and vegetables. "I liked it," she says. She also did all of the baking, making extra to feed the hired men who worked as silo fillers and threshers. They would go from farm to farm helping out.

"When we were first married there was no hydro," Hazel adds. "I used a washboard to wash the clothes. I remember once the line fell down and all the diapers fell in the mud. I went in the house and cried. My husband came home and did the wash again for me."

It was eight years before they got hydro and a real washing machine. "Some years were hard," she admits, adding that farmers depended on the weather just as they do today.

She and her husband moved to Whites Road in Sidney Township after they sold the farm in 1971, and Morris worked for Jack Parrott. "They were great friends," she said. In 1986, Morris had a massive stroke and they moved to an apartment in Belleville, and after to Richmond Retirement Residence. When Morris broke his hip they moved to Crown Ridge where he was in the nursing home section and she in the retirement home. He died in 1988 and Hazel moved into Hastings Manor. Last year the new manor was built and she is now on the fifth floor.

"I like it here," she smiles. "I am a lucky old lady to be



Hazel Reynolds

Photo Kate Everson

living in this beautiful home." She participates in the activities and enjoys the entertainment. "We do exercises every morning," she adds.

Hazel particularly loves the big window in her room facing west. She has lots of flowers and decorations, but her favourite thing is watching the sunset. "Sunsets are gorgeous," she says. "It is so pretty at night."

She says she is just taking it easy enjoying life at the manor. She notes that somebody does her laundry for her. "After working hard all your life, it's kind of nice," she smiles.

Hazel has written diaries since 1932 and still has all of them. She writes in her diary

every night. Some of the entries show the changes that have taken place in the world over the years. A note on September 2, 1939 stats simply, "Germany." And on September 10, "Canada declares war on Germany."

The back of her diaries also has listings of all her relatives and ancestors in the Chatham area, a count of 143 cousins! It also lists all the books she has read and some of the movies. Her favourite author was L.M. Montgomery and she has read all of her books. Her favourite actor was Shirley Temple, and her husband's was John Wayne. A list of expenses in 1933 reveals that she spent 10 cents for a bottle of red ink and five cents for pen nibs. Room and board was \$21 a month. A dress costs her \$4.95 and stockings 69 cents. She gave 10 cents to the church.

"This is just a treasure," she says of the diaries. "It brings back so many memories."

Hazel has four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Her daughters both live nearby. "I am very lucky," she smiles.

HERE & THERE

- Ian Murray

Ray O'Neill, who trucks our sheep and wool, believes that the higher price of fuel is noticeably reducing the number of cars and trucks on 401.

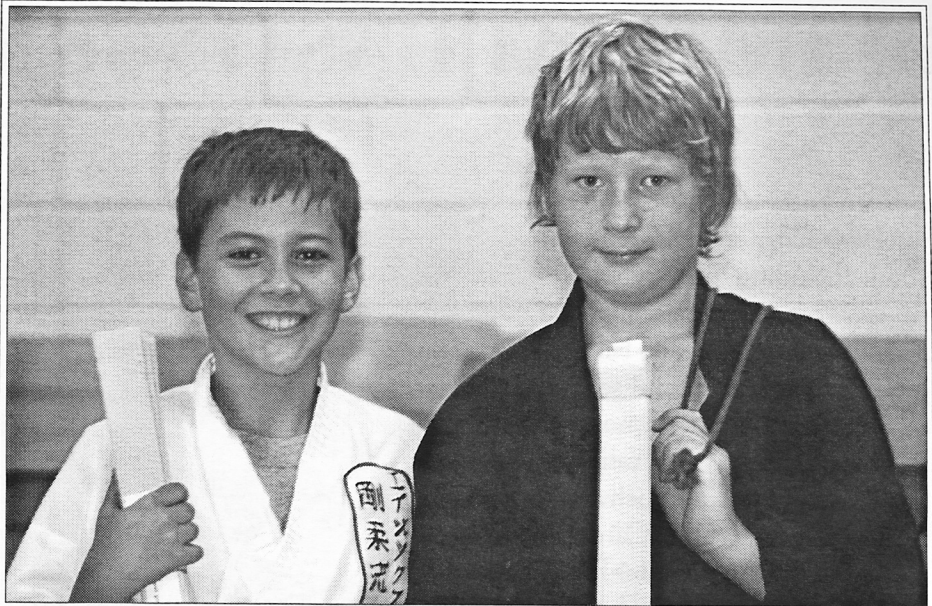
Fuel prices are a reminder to me of lessons learned from my mother on increasing gas mileage: don't speed, gradually slow down before stopping, accelerate smoothly. She learned to do this in the 1930's while driving a Model A Ford from her nursing job in New York state to her family home in PEI for her summer vacations.

The Sept. 14th Whig had a front-page story - and a large photo of Neil Johnston, Tom Richmond, and Gary McDonald - about the Island's soon-to-be radio station.

A few weeks ago 2 men from the Ministry of Natural Resources came to the Island looking for places to erect insect traps. They are trying to determine if the Sirex woodwasp - *Sirex noctilio* F. - has made it this far north. This insect is native to Europe, Asia and North Africa. It is believed to have entered the USA in wood packing material.

Unlike our native woodwasps who attack dead or dying pines, the Sirex goes after living pine trees. It has caused up to 80% mortality in Southern Hemisphere pine plantations.

I forgot to get a business card from the men so I



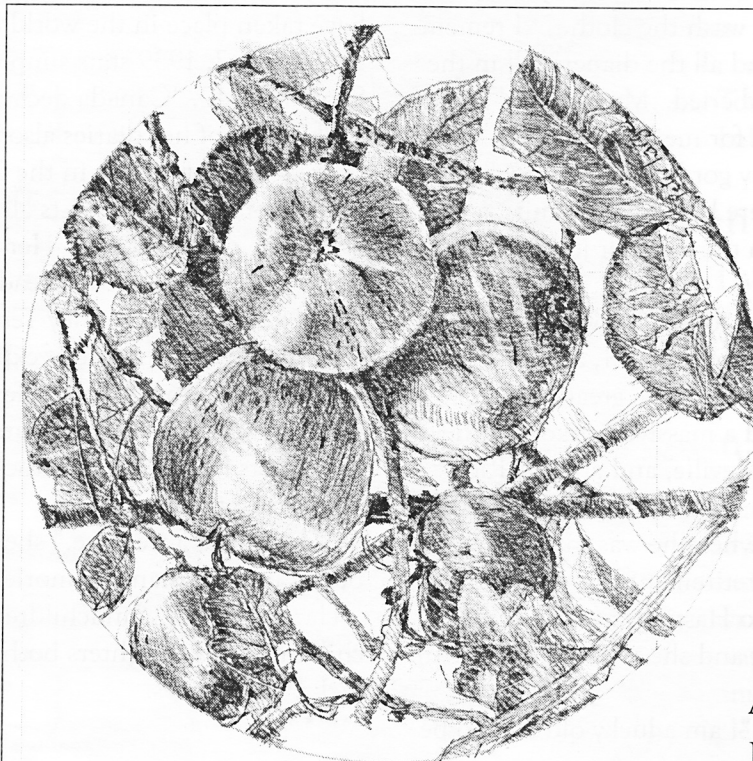
Daniel Little and Ben Whitton receive their Yellow Belts at Amherst Island Karate School.

Photo Brian Little

don't know if they put up any nets on the Island. If anyone knows more about this please contact the Beacon.

The ash borer beetle was featured in a CBC article some time ago. If that insect makes it to the Island

it will certainly cause a landscape change comparable to the first die off of elms 30-some years ago. Ash is the predominant tree in our fence rows and its hard to imagine what our farm would look like without ash trees.



Apple Time

By Peter Large S.C.A.

Travels with my Sketchbook

by Peter Large

Episode 3

In which we go Scottish-country dancing in Orkney and find sage advice for living (in a 12th Century Norse Church).

We took the train from London to Inverness, then a ferry to Orkney where as part of our journey we were to sightsee during the day and Scottish-Country dance in the evenings.

The Orkney Islands, windy and without trees, are off the north coast of Scotland and, because of the Gulf Stream, have a benign climate with lush grass and bright flowers.

Orkney has been settled a long time. The oldest surviving house in Northern Europe is found here. Standing stones, alone and in circles are common as are ruins of Neolithic dwellings.

The Norse raided, settled and intermarried here with the most striking evidence to day being the many red-haired people in the Orkney population. (There is an annual celebration of Orkney's Norse roots in which there are games, bonfires, food and drink in preparation for which the red-haired men of Orkney grow long beards and wear Viking helmets.)

We danced in several locations in Orkney accompanied by our own musician playing strathspeys, jigs, and reels.

Our tour guide had contacted Orkney dance groups and invited interested members to join us.

One evening, about 8 o'clock when we had just begun to dance, a woman with flaming red hair entered the room and joined us.

She danced every dance and during an interval, told us she come from one of the northern Orkney Islands and, hearing of our coming, travelled all day by hitch-hiking and taking two ferry rides to meet us. She was thrilled to find that we danced to live music. Her group in the North used recordings; she had not heard a live musician in 25 years.

The next day we wandered the town of Kirkwall and came upon the Norse-built St. Magnus Cathedral constructed in the 12th century and still in regular use. The Cathedral is of red and ochre sandstone, tall and austere with a narrow nave. Inside, we

walked upon 400 year-old grave markers in the floor and read others set in the walls.

One message, dated 1687 reminds the reader of the insignificance of worldly things and the irreplaceable quality of "time". The inscription reads:

"But more I lament the loss of time – material damage everyone can make good – none can make good the loss of time."

I left the Cathedral sobered, and, looking at my watch, resolved to do better.



The Bishop's Doorway

By Peter Large S.C.A.



Photo Brian Little

The students of Amherst Island Public School, seen here with Shirley Miller after visiting The Lodge to see Shirley's Art Exhibition.

PENTLAND GRAVE YARD

- Shirley Miller

On a beautiful morning of sunshine and dew,
I finished the dishes and rhubarbed the stew.
Then I left with my camera and funny old car
to call at the school. It's not very far.

We gathered some pencils and lunches and such
and set out on a school trip which kids love so much.
We spent the whole morning in Pentland Graveyard.
To find things of interest was not very hard.

All was so peaceful and tranquil and warm
and to ponder the past could do us no harm.
The dandelions nodded. The butterflies flew.
The wind started sighing then whispering too.

So I sat down to listen and what did I hear?
I heard voices saying "We're glad you're all near."
Then soon they were shouting and laughing for fair.
They rustled our papers and rumpled our hair.

There 'neath the cedars, where the sky violet grew,
While watching the clouds and the birds in the blue,
I noticed the maples, the pines and a chestnut so fair.
A place filled with the past but so right to be there.

'Twas as if they were waiting for children to come
to dress up in flowers and green grass and sun.
They spread wide their branches inviting us stay.
But the time has all gone. What a wonderful day.

The Year of the Veteran

Amherst Island Cenotaph Re-dedication ceremony
- Lynann Whitton

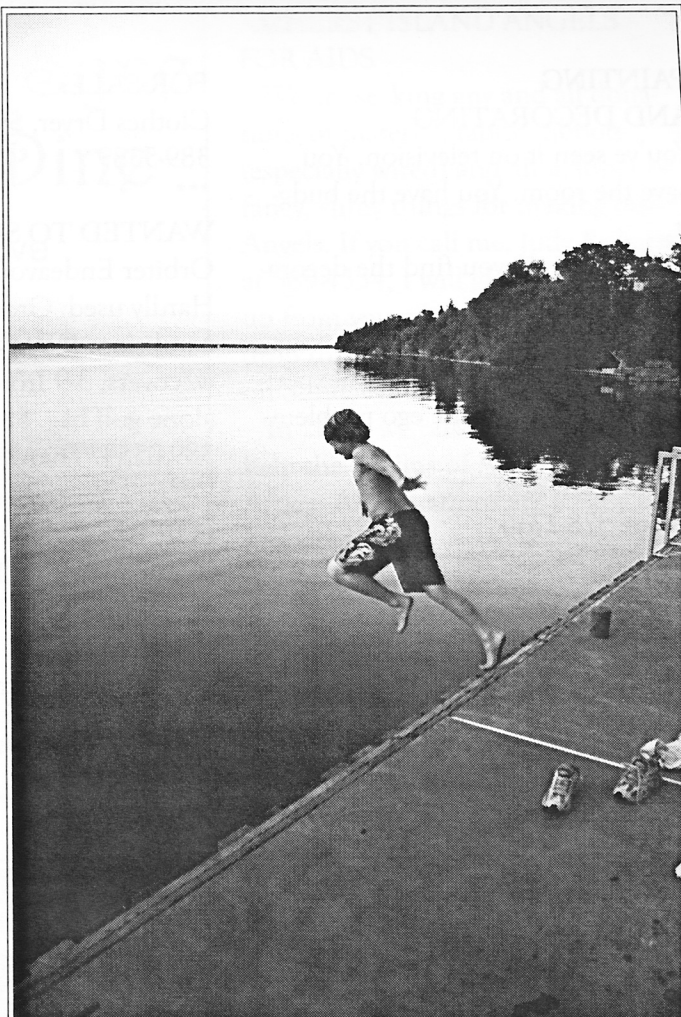
Many of you may have noticed the flurry of gardening activity centred on the Legion Cenotaph at the school grounds. The Legion Branch 623 (Bath & Millhaven) has very generously donated money to fund landscaping of the area surrounding the Cenotaph, which has been named Remembrance Corner. A number of volunteers have been creating gardens and planting shrubs, in readiness for a special event.

On Friday, November 4th, a ceremony will be held, in honour of the Year of the Veteran, to re-dedicate the Amherst Island Legion Cenotaph. A special colour guard from Legion branch 623 will be in attendance, and our school children will also be taking part. The ceremony will take place at 11:00 AM. All are welcome. Please join us to remember those Islanders who never had the opportunity to return to their home.

THANK YOU NOTES

It's hard to find the words to express how important Amherst Island support was to me during my swim in mid August. As I approached the bluffs, I was frustrated and felt exhausted, and then I saw you - people, yelling, cheering and waving. It lifted my heart - I felt like I was home, if only for a few hours. When you feel like you are struggling alone, there is nothing better than realizing that people care. As I swam along the shore there were knots of people everywhere. At 2:00 in the morning, as I approached the ferry dock, I could hear your voices calling out to me, and see fireworks shooting up marking my next step towards completion. My swim was successful in some part because of your support. Thank you to the Stella Bella's, Amherst Island Mutual, boat captains, crewmembers, party organizers, and other support people. I have never lived anywhere that has such a feeling of community and caring. Amherst Islanders alone have raised \$16,000 to support the young people with physical disabilities at the Kingston Family YMCA. Total at press time sat at \$177,000.

Thanks again.
Vicki Keith



September Splash!

Photo Brian Little

Ben Whitton takes advantage of a beautiful September evening with a quick dip.

AMERIKS SCHOLARSHIP FUND - 2005

Applications for the Ameriks Scholarship Fund, in memory of Reeve Frank Fleming, will be received by the Committee until October 31, 2005.

Amherst Island residents who currently attend post-secondary institutions on a full time basis are eligible to apply. Application forms are available at the Ferry Office in Stella during office hours, Monday, Wednesday and Friday or on the Loyalist Township website at: www.loyalist-township.on.ca.

Please forward completed applications to the attention of the undersigned at:

The Corporation of Loyalist Township
263 Main Street, Odessa, K0H 2H0
or leave at the Ferry Office for delivery
Brenda J. Hamilton, CMO
Township Clerk

PAINTING AND DECORATING

You've seen it on television. You have the room. You have the budget.

Now, where do you find the decorator?

See Shell

Great ideas, lots of hands-on experience, and none of the ego problems of those TV folks.

Island references.

Phone 378-2736

HOUSE CLEANING

I'll do house cleaning, gardening or other work.

Phone Marcie at 389-3155

(or 389-4023).

WI ISLAND SIGHTS 2006 CALENDAR

Pre- Order your Birthday Calendars Don't miss out.

Make sure to get your copy by ordering early.

Calendars are \$10.00 each.

Envelopes @ \$1.00 each.

Postage @ \$2.00 each (in Canada).

Make cheques payable to

Amherst Island Women's Institute.

Send to: 2006 Calendar 14005

Front Road, Stella, ON, K0H 2S0



FOR SALE:

Clothes Dryer, \$95.00 OBO.

389-5389

WANTED TO SELL

Orbiter Endeavour Golf Club set.

Hardly used. Great

condition. P Wedge, 1,3,5 Woods

w/covers, 3-9 Iron, Putter plus stand

alone golf bag. \$200 Please call Scott

389-0554. Thanks!

FOR SALE:

- Craftsman 16 HP riding mower,

42", Works well, \$500.00

- Bolens 1225, 12 HP Garden Tractor for pulling a trailer, needs work.

\$100.00

Call 634 1417

FOR SALE:

Snowblower

TORO model 1132

11 HP, 32' auger

Electric start, Chains.

\$100.00

SPARKS, BROWNIES, GIRL GUIDES AND PATHFINDERS

It is with a great deal of regret that I find it necessary to retire from an active role in the Girl Guide Movement on Amherst Island. My time and my computer skills just don't keep up with the needs of this activity. If you are looking for a fun and active opportunity to work with girls ages 5 years to 15 years and are willing to participate in some basic training then PLEASE call me !

This is such a unique group with the multiple ages and they work together so well that I guarantee you'll find it rewarding.

Janet Scott, 389-4608

There are very few things in life more relaxing than a foot massage. REFLEXOLOGY helps to improve circulation and decrease anxiety.

SHIATSU MASSAGE THERAPY also has a calming effect on the body. During a session, loose comfortable clothing is worn at all times. For an appointment, please call: Stella O'Byrne 389-1681

WANTED:

I am collecting the following for the Napanee S.P.C.A. Any kind of used stamps. A&P tapes, Cdn Tire Money. Used towels, etc, and cleaning supplies. Cat and dog food. Knitted squares & material place-mats. (The latter provide comfort to cats in the cages.)

The "CatsMeow" thrift store is always grateful for used clean clothing and paperback books.

Any of the above may be left in my porch or call me regarding any other items. The animals really do need our help. Freda. 384-4135.

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.

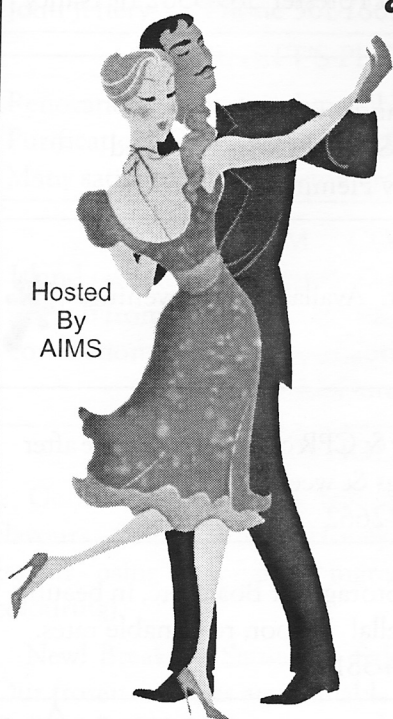
Ian's number is (613) 389-3802

-Who is in the photo?

-Where was it taken & by whom?

-What was the occasion?

Thank you! Your assistance is greatly appreciated!



Hosted
By
AIMS

Auld Lang Syne Dance & Dine

New Years Eve
At the
Community Centre

Doors open at 6:30 pm
Traditional Hip of Beef Dinner at 7:30 pm

Featuring music by Gary and Mickie Code
And the Running Kind Band

Advance Tickets Only
Limited Seating
No Jeans

\$50.00 / couple \$25.00 / single
Tickets will be available in October

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



Brooke Reid, Muranda Fabian-Robinson and Katelyn Aitkenhead in the AIPS Terry Fox Run.

Photo Brian Little

NEWS From the GENERAL STORE

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

BE COOL - John Travolta

HITCH - Will Smith

LEMONY SNICKETS - Jim Carrey

PEOPLE I KNOW - Al Pacino

THE AVIATOR - Leonardo DiCaprio\

BIRTH - Nicole Kidman

ARE WE THERE YET? - Ice Cube

RACING STRIPES

BLADE TRINITY - Wesley Snipes

KINSEY - Liam Neeson

Many more to choose from.

New releases are due back the next day before 6pm.

Please be prompt in returning, others are waiting.

Late fees will be charged.

Summer hours:

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

Fri. and Sat. 9 A.M. - 8 P.M.

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

Homemade pies available - just bake and serve

- \$12.00 each.

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

"Friendly Service in a Cozy Atmosphere."

For Lunch, afternoon teas, and early dinners.

Home cooked food...

- Pork, Lamb and Beef Sausages

on Sourdough Garlic and Cheese Buns

- Quiche Lorraine

- Cheesy Macaroni with Ham

Our seasonal specialty soups like:

-Tuscany Umber,

-Slightly Curried Squash,

- Sweet Potato and Chick Pea

Tempting Desserts:

- Pies

- Chocolate Torte

- Scones with Fruit and Cream

- Our Special Cheesecake...and Neil's Key Lime Pie!

Open Year Round.

From Noon to 6pm.

Wednesday through Sunday.

Hall available for private functions.

See our local craft display.

For reservation call Bernice or Neil - 389-5389
5545 Front Road, Amherst Island

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 beauti-
ful 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

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 week-
end, 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. Call (613) 389-5536 for further informa-
tion.

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

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

PICNIC TABLES & WEATHER VANES FOR SALE

Keith Miller 389-2588

FOR SALE: Two rolls of green lawn fence, 50' x 4'. Never been used. 389-1081

FOR SALE: Jacuzzi - Excellent working condition. Four jets, grey, bathtub style. Asking \$300. Call 634-4276.

LANDFILL SITE HOURS

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

FERRY OFFICE HOURS

Mon, Wed, Fri: 9-noon & 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:**NEW PRODUCTS at TOPSY's WOOL SHED**

We now carry mattress pads and comforters made of 100% cotton (bleached or unbleached) stuffed with pure wool. These come in all sizes, single to king. They are fully washable. They are outstandingly comfortable. Call us before you come to make sure we are around. 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.

**Mindfulness Meditation Workshop**

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

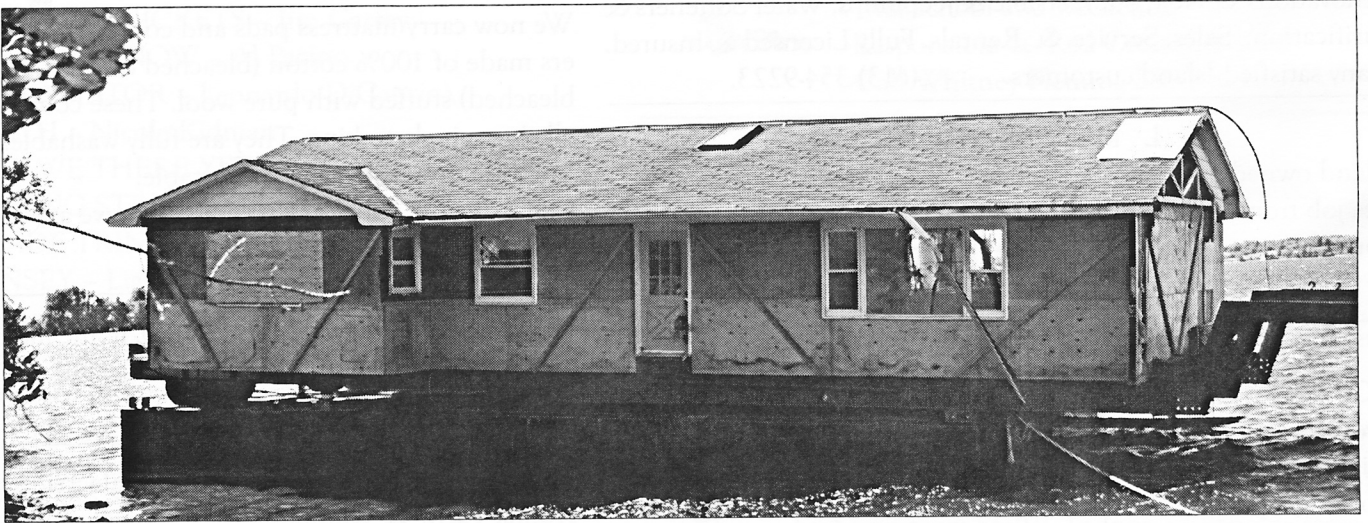
Complementary Health- Jocelyne Leyton, RPP, offers treatments in Cranial Osteopathy. This is a very subtle and gentle approach recognizing the subtle mechanics at work within the head, spinal column, viscera and pelvis. The understanding of the cerebrospinal fluid has a profound influence on the health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

HOME GROWN BEEF Government Inspected Available in approximately 25 or 50lb freezer packages.

Including: Roasts, Steaks, Stew, Hamburg, & Patties. Individual vacuum-packed pieces.

Call Flemingdale Farms 389-9869.

Moving Day!



Above: Ken Albertan's new house arrives on the shores of Amherst Island. Below: The crane used to move the house from the water onto Front Road being squeezed onto the ferry.



Photos Brian Little

