

# The Amherst Island BEACON

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The Beacon

## THIS ISSUE

- Ian Murray,  
editor

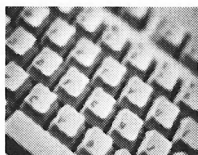
I don't know exactly when this issue will be printed but we are doing our best to get it out a LOT earlier than the October issue. Our goal is to have the Beacon on sale by the 10th of each month.

\*\*\*\*\*

## NEIGHBOURHOOD

- Lyn Fleming

Condolences to Tom and Jacquie Sylvester, following the recent passing of Tom's mom, Marjorie Sylvester.



Condolences to family and friends of Grant Filson, who passed away in Toronto. Grant was born and raised on the Island and last lived in the home where Bob and Diane Horth now live.

Get Well wishes to Lloyd Wolfreys as he recovers at home from triple by-pass surgery.

Congratulations to Judy Roberts, who became a Canadian Citizen, in a ceremony held in Kingston on October 11th.

The ACW held another sold out Turkey Supper on October 1st. Good food and good company was enjoyed by all.

Janet Scott hosted a group of Girl

Guide Leaders from around eastern Ontario for an historic tour of Amherst Island. During their tour they visited the Museum and the Weasel and Easel, followed by lunch at the Tea Room.

October has turned out to be a typical rainy, cold Fall month. So much for the predicted warm Fall!! Hopefully Indian Summer is still to come. The leaves have changed, tho' not as brilliant as they have been, they are still beautiful.

Thought for the month - "In winter, why do we try to keep the house as warm as it was in summer - when we complained about the heat?"

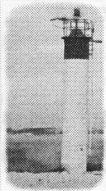
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## Stella from Above

An aerial shot from Brian Little. This one looking Northeast over the village. See Page 7 for another couple of shots. Also in this issue, a visit to...Stella St. (The Foot) and the conclusion to Zander's Interview with Jean Tugwell (Page 8).



Photo Brian Little



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TC: Terry Culbert  
BL: Brian Little  
BH: Bill Harris  
TR: Tom Richmond

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE  
- Judith Harrower



The October 19 meeting was a ROSE  
program, to share information about

teen members present. Standing committee reports were  
presented, Marion Glenn - Good Cheer, Leslie Gavlas  
- Tweedsmuir.

The President, Mary Kay Steel, reported on the various  
items that the Finance Committee had recommended  
for 2005, only two remain outstanding. The following  
purchases have been finalised: three new tables for the  
community's use, new serving utensils and the movie  
screen for the community centre.

The Farmer's Market and Bake sales were very success-  
ful again this year and raised funds to be used in projects  
in 2006. We thank everyone for your support.



Fall at the Farmer's Market. Marie Ward, Andrea Cross and Betty Wemp. Photo Brian Little

A brief synop-  
sis of the Stone  
Fence project  
was presented  
by Judith Har-  
rower. The  
project has  
stopped for  
the year with  
three-quarters  
of the east fence  
completed by  
volunteers from  
the Women's  
Institute, AIMS  
and the com-  
munity at large.  
Thank you to  
all who came  
out this sum-  
mer, especially  
during the ex-

Arthritis and Aging presented by Mr  
Philip Ambury, a physiotherapist. Mr  
Ambury talked about: the various types  
of arthritis; the age when men and wom-  
en develop it; what joints of the body it  
affects; and, how one is able to manage  
the effects.

Exercise is the primary way to reduce  
and control the pain associated with  
arthritis; there is no cure.

Refreshments were provided by Marilyn  
Pilon, Coralie Marshall and Judith Har-  
rower.

The business meeting opened with the  
Ode, Collect and O Canada with thir-

ten members present. We plan to continue in 2006.

Kirsten Bennick gave an update on the 2006 calendars  
and stated that the launching of the calendar will be  
held at the Lodge on November 12th. We hope to see  
you there.

The plaque and post for the Memorial Tree has been  
purchased, honouring Elizabeth McDonald, first presi-  
dent of Amherst Island Women's Institute from 1900-  
1926. Mrs McDonald was the grandmother of Garnet  
McDonald and Doris Henderson.

The dedication will be held on November 4th at the  
school with light refreshments following at the home of  
Leslie Gavlas.

The Christmas Shoe Box work will be completed in  
early November, with members purchasing items and



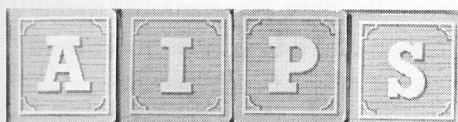
packing the boxes.

The Seniors' Christmas Dinner will be held at the Community Centre on December 4, so mark that date on your calendar.

The next meeting will be held at the home of Claire Jenney on November 16th at 7 PM with Joyce Brown providing her expertise on antiques that we all may have in our homes.

Guests are always welcome.

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## AIPS

- Lyn Fleming

We have had a busy, and sometimes mixed up fall at the school so far. Our predicted enrolment was 32, but is actually 30, which is still up from last year.

We welcome back Mrs. VanDyke, who has returned from her year long maternity leave to the Senior classroom. We said our goodbyes to Mrs. Samis, who has covered the Senior class for the first couple of months of this school year, but hope to see her again on a supply teacher basis.

Congratulations to Mr. Cotton and his wife who became first time parents to a daughter, Maeve Anne, born on October 21st. Mr. Cotton was away on a two week parental leave and Mr. Palmer covered the Primary room during that time, and we hope to see him again as a supply teacher.

Now the students! Students in grades 3 to 7 took part in the area Cross Country meet at N. Fredricksburg Recreation Park, with thanks to Vicky for her help with practices. Students participated in the Terry

## Extra spaces at Millhaven Wharf



Photos Terry Culbert

During the month of October, the Ministry of Transportation Ontario and TWD Road Management Inc., enlarged and resurfaced the staging area at the Millhaven Wharf. The bus shelter was relocated to the east parking area enabling the concrete island to be reduced and a sixth vehicle lane added. This adds six additional parking spaces, bringing the total to thirty-six.

Fox Run on September 16 and raised almost \$500.00 for cancer research.

Canadian author, Janet Lunn, who was participating in an author's workshop at the Lodge, dropped in for a visit with her friend, Mrs. Samis. While she was here, she also read one of her stories to the students.

Students in all grades went on a walking trip to the Lodge to see Shirley Miller's art exhibit and hear the stories behind many of the paintings. Many thanks to Shirley for her time with us.

Associate professor of Anthropology at the U. of Alberta, Pamela

Willoughby, also visited our school and did a presentation for students regarding Archaeology.

In science and school life in general, students are learning more about recycling and reducing waste.

The Amherst Island Outdoor Science School has been quite busy, this Fall, hosting schools from throughout the School Board, with a lot of positive feedback from the visiting teachers and classes. Visit the A.I.S.S. website at 'scicentre.limestone.on.ca'. Senior Class students travelled to Bath P.S. for

**Continued on next page**

## JANET'S JOTTINGS

- Janet Scott

With Respect and Dignity



I was saddened on a recent trip to the Landfill site to see the remnants of a Canadian flag sticking out of the mud on the roadway. Certainly I'm old enough to remember the controversy over the Flag and was stubborn enough to hang on to my Canadian Ensign over the last 40 years. (I illegally fly it on Nov. 11 and June 6 for my Father and Father-in-law. That's the flag they

sailed under.) It's getting faded now and will soon have to be retired completely but you know I've grown used to that familiar red maple leaf and when you're out of the country it sure feels good to recognize it displayed on a fellow traveller. Flag etiquette requires that you dispose of a worn flag with respect and dignity. You didn't have an alternative to get rid of your flag and it's not your fault BUT..... if

after this anyone has a flag that needs retiring please drop it off to any Girl Guide or myself. We have a ceremony every June to burn old flags.

We remember Canada and what the flag represents and then place the folded flag in the campfire. We'll gladly treat that symbol of our native land with Dignity and Respect.

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### A Bird Encounter of a Close Kind

Susan Filson phoned to report a rather strange night visitor. During

that recent bright moonlight night in October three Saw-whet Owls flew into their window and were stunned. I was so pleased to hear that after resting they recovered and were able to leave on their own. She was able to get a close look and thought one was a young one.

When picking up a Saw-whet you realize how tiny these Owls are. Most of their size is feathers and no body weight to speak of.

The strange moonlight on the window must have disorientated them.

Swans and a variety of ducks were seen off of the northeast shore and at least a dozen loons were off the South Shore on October 29th. That lone Mute Swan will at least have some company for a while.

Fox Sparrows joined my White-throats at the feeder so it was fun to watch them whisking in and out of the nearby shrubbery.

Good Birding.

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## AIPS

a musical presentation called "Great Lakes Adventure". They also attended a Halloween dance at Bath at the end of October. All students participated in Orange and Black day fun on October 31st.

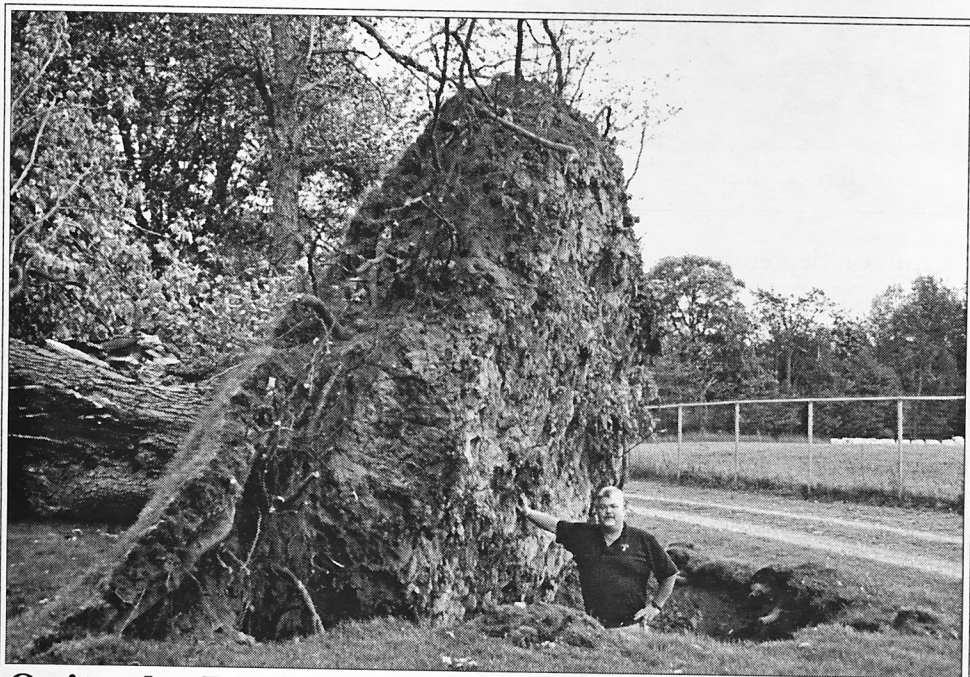
A.I.P.S. will again host the annual community Remembrance Day service at 10:45 a.m.

Students got an unexpected day off at the end of September, when a wind storm cut power to the school.

We continue to have a busy schedule right through Christmas!

Staff and students also would like to thank the many community groups and individuals who continue to support us in so many ways.

\*\*\*\*\*



## Quite the Breeze

Brian Little is dwarfed by a tree knocked down after the windstorm in October.

Photo Brian Little





- Alan Kidd

Now we are deep into autumn, and Mars is now the brightest object in the night skies (once Venus has set). The Northern Cross and Lyra, the constellations that dominated the summer skies, are slowly moving into the west and the Great Square and Cassiopeia now occupy the zenith (that part of the sky that is directly overhead).

In many ways the autumn is the best time for stargazing, since the bugs are pretty well gone, along with most of the summer haze. However, the nights are not so cold as to

prevent us from spending some time outdoors looking at the heavens. Late in the evening during mid October, there is a pattern of four fairly bright stars directly overhead. This is the constellation of Pegasus, also called the Great Square. The Great Square of Pegasus is the major landmark of the Autumn Skies. Pegasus, of course, is the great winged horse of mythology. In the skies Pegasus is flying with his head down, pointing toward the south.

If you extend a line connecting the western most two stars of the Great Square southward almost to the horizon, you will come to the star Fomalhaut, in one of my favourite constellations, Piscis Austrinus, or the Southern Fish.

Fomalhaut is the brightest star of the autumn constellations, but is stuck more or less all by itself in the

south. The autumn is the only time Fomalhaut is visible in the evening because it is so far south. Fomalhaut is quite close to us compared to most of the stars we see, only 25 light years away.

Venus continues to get brighter all month and shines like a beacon during twilight

Mars dominates the late evening sky, occupying a position between the great square and the Pleiades. It came closest to Earth on October 29th, but will remain at its maximum brightness, magnitude -2.3, for the first part of November. Viewers with even small telescopes will be easily able to see the surface markings on the Red Planet. The most prominent dark marking on Mars, Syrtis Major, is well placed for viewing during the evening hours.

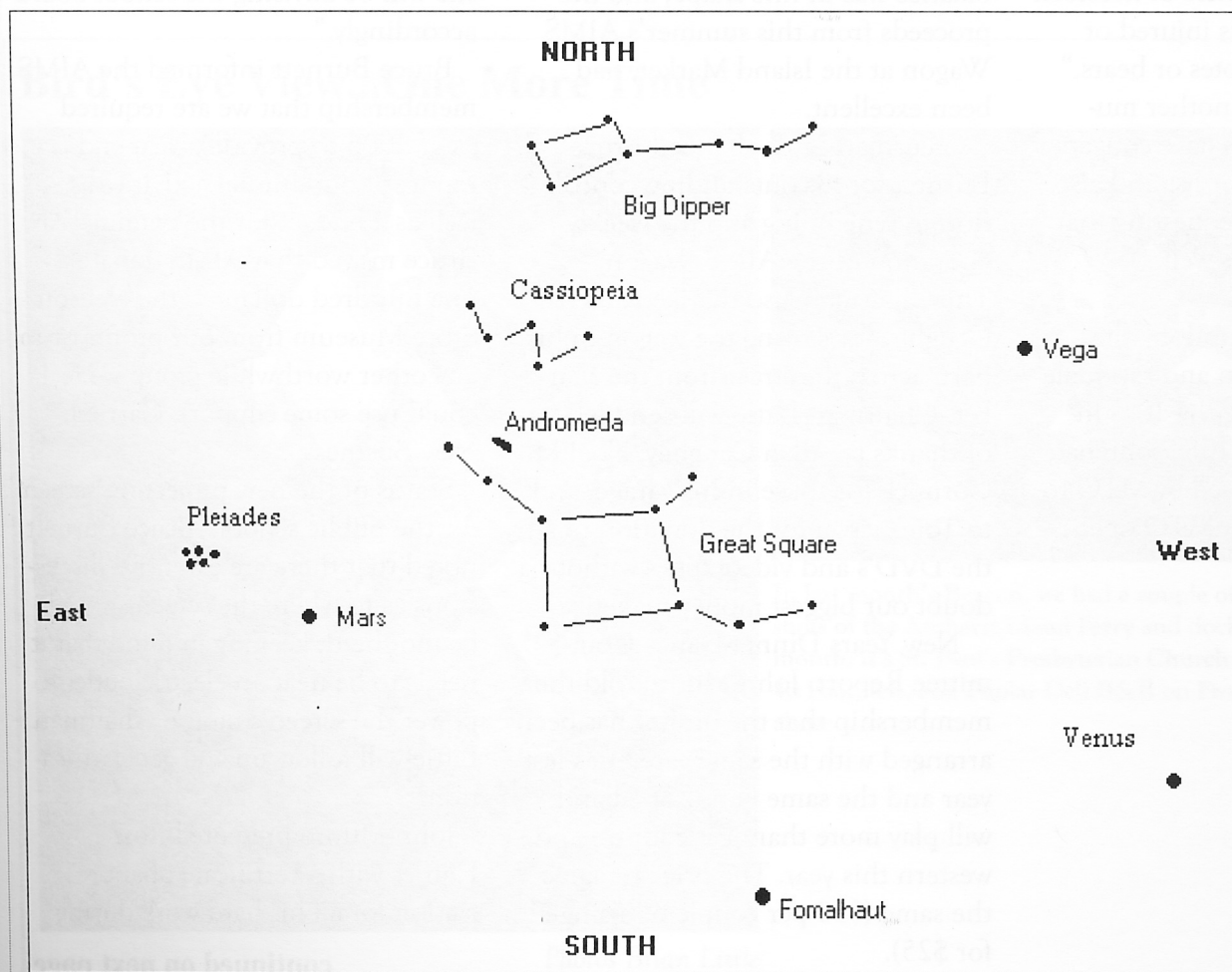
Jupiter is now coming out from

behind the sun, and will become a prominent object in the dawn skies by mid-November.

Saturn rises by 11 PM at the beginning of November, but by month's end is rising at 9 PM.

On the chart I've added the Great Square, as well as the positions of Fomalhaut and Mars.

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## COUNCIL GLEANINGS

- Ian Murray

Building permits for new houses on Amherst Island Jan. through Sept.: 4.

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Council approved the following increases for meal allowances: lunch, \$20 (was \$15); and, dinner, \$30 (was \$25). Breakfast allowance remains at \$15.

Council also approved increasing the daily allowance given to Council members attending boards and committees from \$100 to \$250.

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Long term service awards were presented to: Earle Willard, 40 years; Darrell Miller, 25 years; Garry Filson, 15 years; Donald Miller, 15 years.

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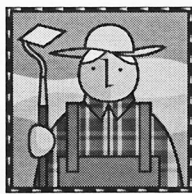
OMAFRA "currently provides compensation to owners of livestock for claims for animals injured or killed by wolves, coyotes or bears." Council supported another municipality's request to have cougars added to this predator list and also passed a resolution requesting that fishers be included as well.

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Council passed a motion "that staff seek clarification and rationale from MTO regarding the 10% increase in fuel use on the Frontenac II and the formula used by MTO to monitor fuel used on MTO operated ferries".

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## AMHERST ISLAND MEN'S SOCIETY



Terrence Culbert sat in for Recording Secretary Hugh Jenney

The AIMS monthly meeting

was held Saturday, October 15th in St. Paul's Church Hall. In attendance were 23 AIMS members and guest John Schram, former Canadian Ambassador to Zimbabwe and an Amherst Island resident. Chairman Brian Little thanked the Senior Class of Amherst Island Public School for preparing a delicious breakfast. The school was represented by Daniel Little, his mother Eva, and Lorna Willis.

Dayle Gowan, Treasurer, was pleased to announce that the bank balance was in fine shape, and the proceeds from this summer's AIMS Wagon at the Island Market, had been excellent.

Chairman Little thanked Bruce Burnett for his outstanding contribution in scheduling and the weekly operation of the AIMS Wagon. The Chairman also thanked Allen Caughey for storing the wagon in his barn across the street from the Market. Chairman Little will send letters of thanks to Allen Caughey, Noel McCormick for space in his garage, and to Tom Ivison for the donation of all the DVD's and videotapes - without a doubt our biggest money maker.

New Years Dinner-Dance Committee Report: John Munro told the membership that the dinner has been arranged with the same caterer as last year and the same band. The band will play more than just country and western this year. The price remains the same (\$50 per couple or a single for \$25).

Bruce Burnett said the Limestone School Board require proof of insurance from AIMS for the use of their building. Bruce contacted Pat Beyer of Loyalist Township for clarification on this issue. The following is a portion of Pat Beyer's letter to Bruce:

"The AIMS group is already recognized as a subcommittee of the Loyalist Township Recreation Committee and is therefore covered under the Township's insurance policy when you are involved in a function which provides a benefit to the community in the area of Culture and Recreation. Concerning the New Years Dance, the funds raised will be used towards the development of the Neilson Store Museum and therefore meets the Township's criteria. I have already apprised Lyn Fleming that your group is a subcommittee of the Recreation Committee and she will be advising the school board accordingly."

Bruce Burnett informed the AIMS membership that we are required as of 2006 to provide a year-end report of our annual activities as well as a budget for the coming year. Bruce moved that AIMS donate one hundred dollars to the Neilson Store Museum from our profits or to any other worthwhile group we feel could use some support. Carried. New Business:

Status of the new projection screen for the public school: Bruce Burnett noted that there are extensive discussions as to where the screen should be mounted, keeping in mind that it needs to be near an electric outlet to power the screen's motor. Chairman Little will follow up and get clarification.

John Munro presented Ross Haines with a certificate of appreciation for all his hard work during

**continued on next page**



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Vicki Keith's record-breaking marathon swim. As of October 14th, Vicki had raised \$183,000 dollars towards the new YMCA swimming pool.

A letter was read from Sally Bowen thanking Peter Trueman, Jim Whitton and Peter Large for helping her settle back on the Island.

On behalf of his wife Robin and himself, AIMS member Gene Karr thanked Allan Glenn and John Kuti for building the horseshoe pit.

Chairman Little is in need of prizes for the New Years Dance raffle table.

Guest speaker:

The guest speaker was Chairman Brian Little of Brian Little and Associates.

His topic: "Brian, what exactly do you do?"

Using his computer and a projection screen, Brian gave a powerpoint explanation of his life as a professional events manager. He co-ordinates and consults for large trade shows in Toronto and Montreal. In brief, he is responsible for taking an enormous venue and filling it with show booths, carpeting, computer systems, security, shuttle buses as well as being responsible for the menu for thousands of people. At times he'll have to co-ordinate hundreds of mini vans and up to twenty 18-wheelers. Brian also sets up golf tournaments for large organizations. His latest venture is a series of business seminars for pharmacists held throughout Ontario. Brian works out the logistics, such as locations, the setup itself and meals for the one-day event. Brian's business partner, Paul Gauvreau of Uxbridge,

Ontario, is the speaker.

Brian claims to be an adrenalin junkie and is happiest when kept busy. Married to Eva, a school-teacher, they reside on the Second Concession Road, with their four children. Brian has a passion for volunteering and is not only this year's Chairman of AIMS, but sings in the Presbyterian Church choir and is active in helping at the Amherst Island Public School.

Zander Dunn thanked Brian for his talk, concluding with: "What exactly is it that you do?"

Meeting adjourned at 9:50am.

The next AIMS breakfast meeting is scheduled for Saturday, November 12th. Janet Scott and the Girl Guides have volunteered to prepare our breakfast. Speaker to be announced.

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## Bird's Eye View...One More Time



In last month's Beacon, we had a couple of aerial shots of the Amherst Island Ferry and dock. This month, it's St. Paul's Presbyterian Church on Stella 40 Foot, left, and Poplar Dell B&B on Front Rd., above.

*Photos Brian Little*

# On V.E. Day Kingston Went Wild!

This is the conclusion to Zander Dunn's

## Interview with Jean Tugwell

Zander of DUNN INN

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. 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.

On V.E. Day Kingston went wild! People took the screens off the windows and threw things out second, third and fourth storey windows - things like confetti, toilet paper rolls, and clothing. Jean was so small she almost got pushed out. There was a big dance on the Island that night and many Islanders returned for the celebration!

When the war was over it was a



The Tugwells

sad time too. So many friends had been killed or wounded overseas. When Ralph returned to Kingston Jean and her mother went to meet him but missed him as his train was early and he had gone to his uncle's home - and there they found him. What a joy!

When the war ended, Jean was delighted to welcome her brothers back to the Island. She also welcomed Earle Tugwell back but when he saw her on the dock he asked her what class she was in at school, which annoyed her. Obviously Jean looked

come for them to be husband and wife so they were married quietly on November 1, 1946 in St. George's Cathedral Chapel with the Rev. Scouse officiating.

Earle worked in Kingston with an electrical company until spring of 1947 when he returned with Jean to the Island and bought the Tug-

well farm and cattle on the Third Concession where Terry and Susan McGinn now reside. Earle's father, Irwin Tugwell, was a carpenter and his mother, Mabel (McGinn) Tugwell, also farmed. She was a hard-working woman. They shared the home with Earle and Jean for four years. Earle and Jean stayed on that farm for 52 happy years. The Miller family planned and held a lovely, happy 50th anniversary party for them at the LaSalle Cavalier Room in Kingston.

Jean and Earle and her sisters,

“People took the screens  
off the windows and threw  
out...confetti, toilet paper  
rolls, and clothing”

younger than her years. (A continuing “problem”.) When Earle came to Kingston to work he and Jean began dating. Jean's mother had sustained a broken neck in an auto accident so Jean gave up her job to nurse her mother full-time. Earle and Jean figured the time had

brothers and their spouses continued to care for Jean's mother until she was ninety years of age. Although she never fully regained her health, she lived within a week of her 103rd birthday. She died in Lenadco Nursing Home in 1996.

continued on page 12



# WEASEL & EASEL - A DECADE OLD

- Story and Photo Terry Culbert

On February 25th 2006 the Weasel & Easel in Stella will be ten years old. Almost a decade ago, Amherst Island artist-teacher Shirley Miller and her student Caroline Ackerman felt there was a need for a central location for Island artists and craftspeople to display and sell their work. After a couple of meetings held in the kitchen of Shirley's farm house on the Third Concession Road, it was decided to rent space at the Ackerman home on Front Road at McDonald Lane. "It was absolutely the best location," said Sheila Whiting.

"Caroline's build- ing had a great history. At some time it had been a restaurant, an ice cream parlour, and even a boat building workshop."

With fifteen members an executive was formed, nominating Shirley Miller as president, Eleanor Trueman, secretary and Sheila Whiting treasurer. The remaining twelve members were: Caroline Ackerman, Martine Bresson, Joan Martin, Duncan and Coralie Marshall, Joyce

Mayhew, Dorothy McGinn, Peggy Coulter, Paulette Apps, Keith Miller, Kit and Lockie Morrison.



The first order of the day was to make all fifteen members partners. The partners would run the store. They obtained a business license, which read: 'For the exhibition and sale of local artwork.' It was decided to seek out other artists and craftspeople who then became associates. Then as now, the artists dedicate thirty percent commission to the store, which covers the overhead.

"When setting up the store,

all original founding members contributed directly to the start up cost," Sheila explained. "We all chipped in. Rent needed to be paid, shelves to be built, lighting installed, as well as covering telephone and bank charges." Sheila checked with Revenue Canada as to whether the Weasel and Easel had to collect GST. "I explained what we were doing and what our anticipated revenue would be. I was informed that as our revenue was below the GST threshold of \$30,000, no GST needed to be charged." The store only charges 8% PST.

When the doors finally opened to the public, the store offered pottery, watercolour and acrylic paintings, art T-shirts, wool skeins, wool blankets, photographs, stained glass, hand-crafted jewellery, woodwork, and even a few books. How did they arrive at the name 'Weasel and Easel' and what is a 'weasel'?

"I take credit for coming up with the name," explained Shirley Miller. "I felt it was appropriate as we had two spinners and weavers and many painters in our team. A weasel is a skein winder, used to measure the yarn as it comes off the spinning wheel. The easel, of course, is used by many artists to secure their canvases while painting."

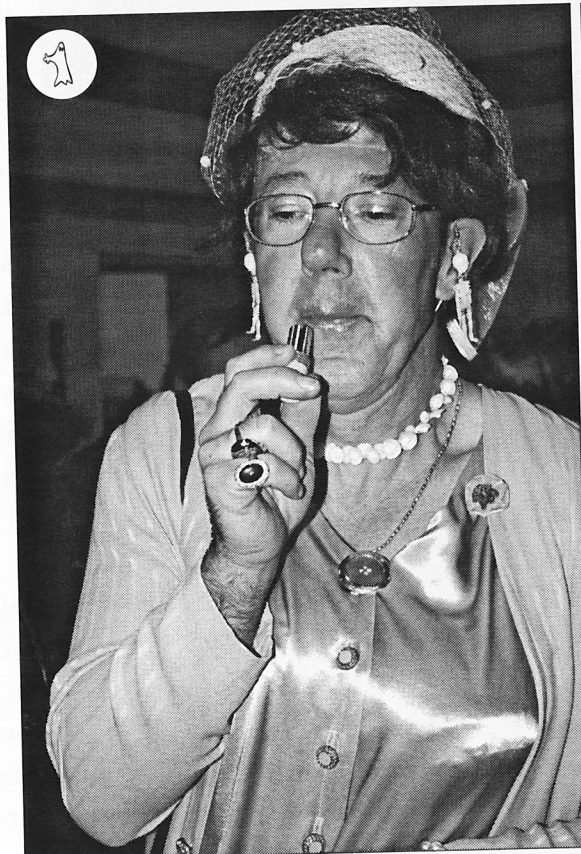
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# MILLERS

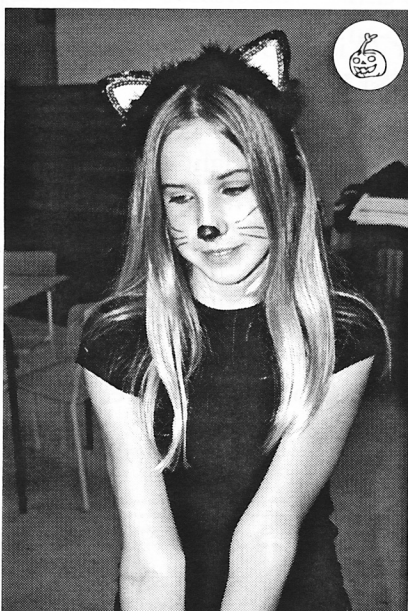
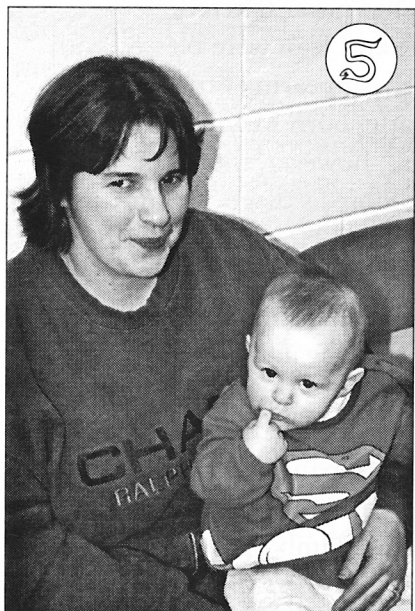
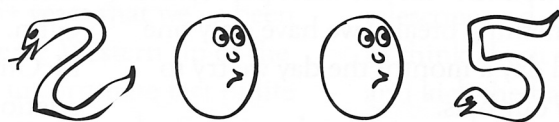


Masqueradw fun at The Amherst Island Community Centre, Saturday October 29. Follow the numbers:

- 1: John Munro
- 2: Dale Willard
- 3: Judges from left Jim Gould, Don "Woody" Woodiwiss, Judy Greer
- 4: Ana & Eva Kidd
- 5: Barb Miller & Alan Miller
- 6: Katelyn Aitkenhead
- 7: Ben Whitton & Daniel Little (Scottish Golfers or to be more specific, Jim Whitton)
- 8: Muranda Fabian-Robinson
- 9: Ciara Richmond (left) Unknown (centre) Dana LeBlue (right)







## HERE &amp; THERE



- Ian Murray

The use of acronyms just keeps increasing. There was NIMBY - Not In My Backyard; now there is BANANA - Build Absolutely Nothing Anywhere Near Anybody.

\*\*\*

Caroline Yull sent us 2 Neilson Store receipts dated July 29, 1963. They are both made out to Mr. R. Barr - possibly Roderick Barr, father of Peter and Elizabeth. The prices appear to us in 2005 to be extraordinarily low but so were wages.

Caroline found the receipts in an old Readers' Digest Condensed Book on the AIMS table on Sept. 10. She plans to donate them to the Neilson Store Museum.

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Shirley Miller had a letter in the October 6 Whig. She speaks of what a good life farming is except for the economics: "for the most part (unless something breaks) we have only one bad day a month: the day we try to pay our bills."

\*\*\*

The October 24 issue of the Whig featured Amherst Island. Annette had a front-page article about Zander Dunn and the page to the right of the editorial page had a write up on Topsy Farms.

Some Islanders are grumbling that the Whig needs to give this Island some negative coverage to discourage visitors as its getting too crowded over here.

\*\*\*\*

continued from page 8

## Jean Tugwell

Earle and Jean were always good friends with Keith and Cora McGinn. Jean loved to baby-sit for the McGinn family and built up a close relationship with the McGinns, which has never faltered.

Earle and Jean were blessed with a healthy-appearing little boy, Jeffrey Earle, born May 13, 1951. Jeffrey was, however, the first case of Cystic Fibrosis diagnosed in Kingston General Hospital. He died on October 23, 1951. Earle and Jean did mixed farming. Earle also did electric wiring and was the maintenance man for the Telephone Service, which belonged to Hugh Perry of Napanee. Often Earle had to hitch up his horses, put on his cleats and climb up the poles to fix the lines. Those were the days of party lines - sometimes 16 sharing a line. Nothing was private on the telephone but that party-line system also had advantages. Jean tells about The Anglican Ladies Guild having an ice cream social when she was president. The treasurer called to say she had forgotten to order the ice cream. A voice was heard to announce that she was going to Napanee and would pick up the ice cream. Another voice chimed in offering a freezer in which to store the ice cream until needed. What a wonderful place to live!

There was no hydro on their part of the Third Concession from 1947 to 1952. That meant oil lamps, lanterns, laundry by hand washing machines, milking cows by hand. In 1967 Earle changed from dairy cows to beef cattle. He then worked on the Amherst Island Ferry as



Photo Brian Little

By the look on that face, I'd say Miles was leaving the Island - not arriving.

continued on page 15



# ISLAND BREAK-INS

- Ron Hartling

While not full-time "Islanders", we've always appreciated the close-knit community spirit of all the wonderful people that we've met in the 15+ years that we've been living part-time out on the extreme Western tip of the Island out by the Bluffs. It's an unfortunate fact of life that even the best communities generate the occasional bad apple. This article is to share our recent experiences with one of those.

Starting this past summer, we started to notice signs of a trespasser hanging around our property while we were away. Around mid-August, the trespasser graduated to "break and enter" when he jimmied a patio door and obviously used our house but didn't damage or steal anything. For that reason, we chose not to file a police report at that time, satisfying ourselves with better securing the door. While there were subsequent signs of trespassing, including a late night near-sighting, he seemed to have satisfied his curiosity about what was inside the house.

On Thursday October 13, sometime between noon and 11 pm, our trespasser became a thief. While some friends who were staying there were out, he used a long 2 by 6 to shinny up to the second floor and break in through a patio door up there. This time he stole a large black reflecting telescope from the house and also broke into our shed to steal a red Honda EX1000 generator.

To me, this fits the classical pattern of a young person who had gotten away with initially minor infractions but couldn't help doing more until he eventually gets caught. This most recent event has left us with no choice but to file a full report with the OPP. As a result, he is now facing a possible charge of break, enter, and theft over \$1000, an offence that would result in a serious life-long criminal record. We also have evidence such as digital photos of tire treads and discarded beer containers with fingerprints, so a conviction wouldn't be difficult when he is identified.

What I hope to accomplish with this article is two-fold. The first is to alert our Island neighbours to be on the lookout for someone who makes a habit of skulking around others' properties and to report any incidents to the OPP (since we're simply not going to keep valuables lying around in the future, the typical response of someone who has so far gotten

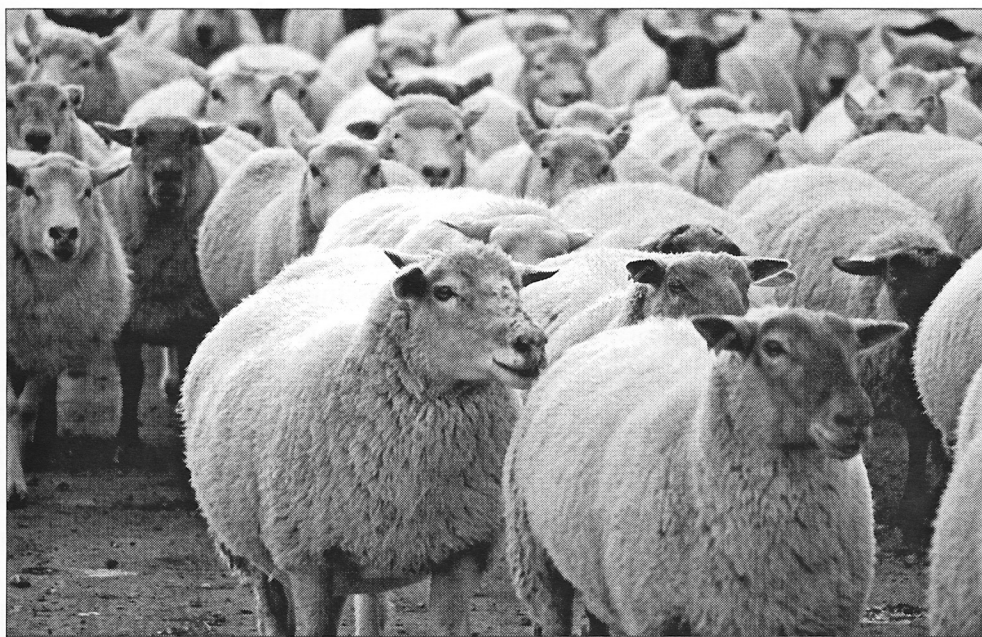
away with at least one theft is to start looking around for other targets). The second is to encourage the friends and family of someone who has suddenly acquired a telescope and a generator or may be behaving strangely to think about what he's doing, return the stolen items, and kick the habit of trespassing. If he continues down this escalating path to crime, it is inevitable that he will be caught sooner or later.

[Editor: thanks Ron for coming forward with this information. The Beacon is willing to publish or report on any other trespasses or thefts committed here. Ron was Sally's landlord while she lived in Kingston and has been a good friend to us.] \*\*\*\*\*

## VIA Rail Comes to Stella?



No, this is not a picture of the new Stella VIA station...nor is it a shot of the new one-way street on the Island. It is, however, a shot from Islanders Tom Ivison and his wife Marcia Gonzalez, taken on their recent trip to Italy. See more "Stellas in Italy" on Page 20 (The Foot).



## Bring on Winter!

Sheep sheep sheep...yes, there are many times more sheep on this Island than there are people... and this lot seem prepared for the cold weather.

*Photo Brian Little*

# A TASTE OF GOD'S KINGDOM

- Zander Dunn

Last month I attended my high school reunion.

In 1955, the year after I graduated from The Duke of Connaught High School in New Westminster, B.C., the school was torn down. That meant that my class was among the youngest of the graduates.

My mother, 95, and my aunt, 92, had graduated from that school so I expected to see old people there. Unfortunately my mother was the only one left in her class of 1927. My aunt found a couple of other grads from the class of 1930. And there were many old people there!

But I didn't expect to see old people in my class. I was amazed to see how much some of my classmates had aged. I hadn't aged; but they certainly had! Fifty years can do unkind things to some people.

I was especially looking forward to meeting my high school sweet heart, the Homecoming Queen of 1953! The pictures I have of her show her to be a beautiful, radiant young woman. I confess if I had not

seen her nametag, I would not have recognized her. She had changed that much! I hadn't changed but she was not the woman I remember at the Homecoming 52 years ago.

On the other hand, I remarked to my wife that several of the women in my class looked better now than they did in high school. They had kept healthy, worked hard and matured gracefully. They were attractive people in every way. Reunions can be humbling also. I went up to a man whom I recognized easily because of his big ears and greeted him warmly. I remembered several things we had done together. He looked at me blankly. When I told him my name, he said, "I don't remember you at all." So much for my importance! This reunion had a revelation for me. The co-chair of the event was a woman who graduated in 1949 so I had never seen her at Duke of Connaught High School. I didn't know she was from New Westminster and my High School. But I knew her from working with her on World Council of Churches committees in Toronto. She later became The Moderator of

The United Church of Canada. I wasn't the only famous graduate of my school!

The reunion was full of surprises. People I had not seen for 50 years showed up and we picked up where we had left off. There were instant connections and then one thing led to another and we found we had several things in common. We talked about our kids and grandchildren and we deepened our friendships.

The reunion didn't last long - only two days - and I didn't get caught up with everybody. But it gave me a taste of God's kingdom - a place full of special people who have something in common and who care for each other - even after a separation of 50 years.

I imagine the Kingdom of God will be like that reunion. Old friends, who share a common experience - love and commitment - gathering to enjoy relationships, which nothing - not even an absence of 50 years can break.

\*\*\*\*\*



continued from page 8

## Jean Tugwell

mate from 1967 to 1982.

St. Alban's, Stella, and Christ Church, Emerald, both lacked Church Schools. In 1965 the Rev. Powell helped a group of eager ladies organize Church Schools in both churches. The teachers were Gayel Willard, Beatrice Wemp, Donna Willard, Jean Tugwell and others. The school bus would drop the children off at the church every Friday night after school and the teachers would take the children home if necessary. There were several classes in one room - but the children seemed to enjoy the experience.

In 1971 when Christ Church closed, Cathy Glenn suggested all the Island churches join together for Church School. Over 60 children attended the popular sessions. On one occasion they organized a walk-athon to raise money for Christian literature and raised \$600. Great Church School picnics and also Christmas concerts were held. The children were well behaved and became friends with the teachers. Jean felt she gained as much from the children as they gained from her.

When friends came to visit, Jean

**"Jean is buoyed by the love and support of her extended family, Church members and island friends."**

and Earle would take them for walks to the marsh to pick cranberries or to the woods and fields to pick elderberries.

Earle enjoyed entertaining people in his home. He was a quiet, soft-

spoken man with a great sense of humour. He was also a great believer and attended church regularly. He once said it was too good a deal not to take seriously. He assured Jean that Jeffrey was in a better place than they were. It should come as no surprise that Earle served as warden in the church and was an active Legion member. He loved sports - especially baseball, hockey, darts and horse-shoes - and played as long as he was able. He also gained a reputation as a card-shark.

Jean worked hard beyond the farm. She kept the books at the Cheese Factory in Stella from 1956 to 1971 when it closed. Although it was a part-time job it kept her busy. Forty-two farmers delivered milk to the cheese factory and their milk had to be evaluated, weighed and recorded. The cheese factory finally closed down simply because the government laid down too many requirements for the farmers to meet. Not only that, the farmers would need more cattle to handle the overhead however their holdings were too small to support them.

Jean then served as Township treasurer for three years. Her uncle, Fred Neilson, taught her the books - a full-time job. She was expected to do the work at home using her own equipment. Jean served on council for four years. She and Betty Bedford were the first and only two women on council at that time. The Church

continues to be a big part of Jean's life. One of the most influential people in her life was The Rev. Woodward B. Williston, who had been a missionary in China, and who served on the Island from 1947 to 1961. He

would do anything for anybody and would help anyone in need. He was there for Earle and Jean when their son died. He loved to gather the Anglican children in his car, teach them at the church and then drive them home, after giving them oranges to enjoy.

Jean sees the Island booming and changing and is encouraged by the progress but she is glad to have lived

**"Because God has been such a powerful force for good in her life she wants others to enjoy God's Love, too."**

on the Island when she did. Those were good days. During the time when her husband was sick, Jean was out of circulation for about six years. But the people were still there for her. She is pleased with the good new people coming to the Island. Because God has been such a powerful force for good in her life she wants others to enjoy God's love, too. Jean believes there is a new peaceful and loving world to look forward to.

The house in Stella where Jean lives today was built for Earle's parents but his mother, Mabel (McGinn) Tugwell, died before it was finished. Earle's father, Irwin Tugwell, lived in the house for 15 years. When Earle and Jean left the farm they moved there - 5750 Front Road. Earle died on October 25, 2003. Jean continues to miss him but is buoyed up by the love and support of her extended family, Church members and island friends. She feels truly blessed by all her nieces, nephews, sisters, brothers and friends. They brighten all her days.

\*\*\*\*\*

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Now, where do you find the decorator?

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\*\*\*

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(or 389-4023).

\*\*\*

## FOR HOUSEWORK:

Call Connie at 634-3075.

\*\*\*

## 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

\*\*\*

## ART SHOW/CALENDAR LAUNCH

Come and join the W.I. at our Calendar unveiling at The Lodge, 320 McDonald's Lane, Saturday, Nov. 12th, 2-5.

This is your opportunity to get Calendars as Christmas gifts and to view submissions. Many of the works will be for sale by the artists.

Light refreshments provided.

\*\*\*

## AMHERST ISLAND GENEOLOGY

Sunday, November 27

1 p.m. at Neilson Museum

Agenda:

1. The Lennox & Addington Archives - Leslie Gavlas

2. Cemeteries in the Ards (Ireland) - Beth Forester

3. Amherst Island family histories

Contact: Joyce Brown 352-1125 or "joyne@sympatico.ca".

\*\*\*

## FOR RENT:

Small, bright little village cottage for rent. Recently refurbished.

Perfect for two people. No pets, no smokers please.

Call (613) 321-6645 for more details.

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## FOR SALE:

Clothes Dryer, \$95.00 OBO.

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\*\*\*

## 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

I am trying to arrange a **FIRST AID COURSE** to be given on the island by St. John's in early December. Details to be determined. If you're intersted, contact: Kitsy McMullen 389-4786 or kitsymcmullen@hotmail.com

\*\*\*\*

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!



**NOTE TO READERS:**

Staff at the Beacon are always looking for interesting articles, history pieces, and other submissions for the Beacon.

For our December issue: "The Beacon Asks:" What are your Christmas Traditions? Do you stay on the Island? Go somewhere else? Do you have special memories of Christmas on Amherst Island?

If you would like to contribute, or have ideas for upcoming stories, please send your comments to "aibeacon@sympatico.ca" or drop a note in the envelope at the General Store.

\*\*\*

**TO OUR ISLAND BABYSITTERS:**

With the holiday season fast approaching, many Islanders who have children are likely to be looking for babysitters. If you're available to baby-sit over the Christmas Holidays, send a small ad, with the dates that you are available, and the Beacon will run a special feature in the December issue.

\*\*\*

**Advance Notice:** Christmas Bird Count on Amherst Island - December 30th.

\*\*\*

**PCW CHRISTMAS LUNCH & BAZAAR**

Saturday, November 19th

Noon - 2:30 p.m.

Amherst Island Community Centre

Bake Table, T-shirts, Raffle, Treasures Table, Books, Game, Videos, Homemade Craft Items

No Admission Charge!

Santa from noon to 1p.m. - photo opportunity

Lunch, \$5 (\$2 for children 12 & under)

Lunch choice of soup/chili, roll, apple crisp, tea or cold drink.

\*\*\*\*

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\*\*\*

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Computer not running smoothly? Internet connection down? Want to know how to Google more effectively? Don't know what that means? I can help.

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## Auld Lang Syne Dance & Dine

**New Years Eve  
At the  
Community Centre**

Hosted  
By  
AIMS

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

**THANK YOU NOTES**

On behalf of the St. Alban's A.C.W., I want to thank everyone who purchased tickets for our annual Turkey dinner and sale on Oct.1 to once again make this event a huge success.

Special thanks to all our members and associates as well as non-members from our Anglican Community and volunteers who so graciously offered their services from St. Paul's P.C.W. and the W.I.

I also want to thank Wilbert and Dick for their help with tickets at the door and the manpower we received on Friday night for set-up and also for clean up after the dinner.

I fell truly blessed to have such great members who work as well together and to you the public who support us; a community working together is what makes us successful.

Thank you everyone.

Elsie Willard - President A.C.W.

\*\*\*

Many thanks to family, friends and neighbours for cards, visits, meals, phone calls and flowers while I was in hospital and since coming home. Your kind thoughts and wishes were greatly appreciated.

Lloyd Wolfreys

## NEWS From the GENERAL STORE

We've got some great new releases in right now:  
SISTERHOOD OF THE TRAVELLING PANTS  
AMITYVILLE HORROR

BATMAN BEGINS - Christian Bale

UNLEASHED - Jet Li

KINGDOM OF HEAVEN - Orlando Bloom

THE TRANSPORTER

ALEXANDER

SAHARA - Matthew McConaughey

MONSTER-IN-LAW - Jennifer Lopez, Jane Fonda

THE WEDDING DATE - Debra Messing

THE INTERPRETOR - Sean Penn, Nicole Kidman

FEVER PITCH - Drew Barrymore

SHARK BOY AND LAVA GIRL - 3-D

POOH'S HEFFALUMP MOVIE

THE AVIATOR - Leonardo DiCaprio

Hours for Christmas Holiday:

December 24, 31 - 9am - 4pm

December 25, January 1 - CLOSED

December 26, January 2 - 10am - 4pm

Merry Christmas to All & Every Good Wish for a Happy New Year!!

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.

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Home cooked food...

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-Responsible & -Red Cross Certified

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Babysitter



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

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for rent. Private with good swimming. By the week or week-  
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HOUSE FOR RENT: year-round, by the week, weekend or  
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limestone shoreline. Call (613) 389-5536 for further informa-  
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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).

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# Italian Stellas



A few images from a recent trip to Italy by Islanders Tom Ivison and his wife Marcia Gonzalez. The two on the left were taken in Palestrina, and the two on the right are of Stella St. in Sulmona.

*Photos Brian Little*