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The Radio Issue...CJAI 93.7 is a Go!

THIS ISSUE

- Ian Murray, editor

Congratulations to CJAI on receiving its licence from CRTC. There is a fair amount of radio news in this issue. I sincerely believe that CJAI and the Beacon will complement each other nicely: both entities are in the business of making this a better community to live in.

The last 3 paragraphs of Terry Culbert's Weasel & Easel story were omitted in the November issue. They are included below. Our apologies to Terry and we regret any inconvenience caused by our error. (See page 14)

The Hazel Reynolds article in the November issue contained several errors: the author of the letter was Howard Cochrane not Harold; Hazel's sister's name was Nanetta (or Nanette or Nan) not Annette; and, Hazel's husband's first name was Maurice not Morris. Once again we apologize for any inconvenience caused by these errors.

We at World Beacon Headquarters have now sorted out (most) of our production problems and hopefully each future issue will be out by the 10th of the month. Realistically, the pressures of farm and family and the whims of the computer gods will cause us to be late sometimes. Now some time can be given to improvements to the Beacon's content and style.

Please let me know what you, the reader, would like to see more of (or less of) in the Beacon. Comments in writing, by phone or in person are invited.

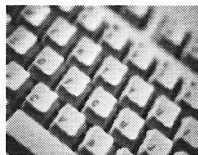
If you are interested in having an electronic subscription, please contact me at "aibeacon@sympatico.ca" or by phone at (613) 389-3802.

INSIDE ON THE RADIO:

Page 12 - The official Press Release.

Page 12 - Dates to know about from Tom Richmond.

Page 10-11 - Terry Culbert visits the Orkney Islands, North of Scotland, and finds ours isn't the only Island to have their own 93.7.



OBITUARY

GRANT FILSON



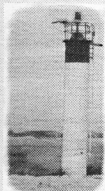
Grant and May Filson, June 18, 1955

Grant Filson died suddenly at his home in Don Mills, Ontario on October 17, 2005 at the age of 84. He was born on Amherst Island on May 26, 1921. He was married to the late May (Trill). Father of Jan Sydorko, Lynn Davies, Chuck Filson, and Kathy Filson. Grandfather of Steve, Mike and Scott Carrothers. Brother of the late Janet Bews, the late Edward Filson, Colin Filson and Diana Rutherford. He is remembered by several nieces and nephews. The funeral was held in Don Mills, and burial was at Glenwood Cemetery, Amherst Island on October 23, 2005.

Donations were made to the Terry Fox Foundation.

See Ancestors of David Grant Filson on page 20

Page 6 - Tom Richmond talked to the Amherst Island Men's Society about the station, and what's to come.
Page 4 - In Janet's Jottings the new station..well...doesn't get mentioned. It's about birds. Mostly owls actually. There is a mention, though, of "live entertainment from dusk to dawn."



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WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

- Judith Harrower



Our November meeting was held at the home of Claire Jenney with 15 members present. Joyce Brown was our guest speaker on antiques. Her overhead presentation enlightened us on how to value antiques which depends on the material, condition, age, provenance, fashion and desirability of the items. Members' items were then evaluated by Joyce - which was very interesting to all. It was like our own antique road show.

Mouthwatering refreshments were provided by Claire Jenney and Diane Hieatt. The business meeting opened with the Ode, Collect and O' Canada. Standing committee reports were presented by

Marion Glenn, Leslie Gavlas, and Nancy Dunn.

The President, Mary Kay Steel, thanked members for their hard work and participation in the 2006 Calendar launch. Remember to pick up your copy at the General Store or the Tea Room.

The memorial tree dedication on Nov 4 was well attended by members and we were pleased to see four generations of Elizabeth McDonald's family present. The blue and yellow ribbons tied on by the family continue to blow in honour of our first president.

It was reported that 20 Christmas Shoe Boxes were delivered by Judith Harrower on our behalf: a job well done by the members.

The last minute planning for the Seniors' Dinner was completed.

It was decided to donate a plaqued Doors of Amherst Island Poster to the New Year's Dinner & Dance as a prize and also an inflatable snowman to the Festival of Lights, to be raffled to the children present.

Our next meeting is our Christmas pot luck and gift exchange on December 14th at St Paul's hall 6 pm.

The Amherst Island Women's Institute members would like to thank everyone for their support in 2005 and wish you and yours a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

LEST WE FORGET



Photo Brian Little

The Cenotaph - site of the Rededication Ceremony and Women's Institute tribute to Elizabeth McDonald, November 4. On November 11 a Remembrance Day ceremony was held.

Memorial Tree in Honour of Elizabeth McDonald



Above: Family of Elizabeth McDonald: Marion, Bruce, Doris, Doug, Carol, Damien, Emma, Garnet (in truck), Tammie and Lilian.

Below: Garnet McDonald, December 1919, in his grandmother's arms.



M.K. Steel [based on her speech]

A special welcome to the family of Elizabeth McDonald, who were able to join us today: Grandson Garnet McDonald, granddaughter Doris Henderson; Marion McDonald, widow of grandson Roger McDonald, and other family members: Garnet's daughter Carol Langwald, her daughter Tammie Stanton and her children, Damien, Emma & Lilian; also Marion's sons, Douglas & Bruce.

Our purpose is to give public recognition to this branch's very first president Elizabeth Ann McDonald - to recognize her work and her long service.

We have planted a modest tree in her honour this fall, and marked it with a plaque. Mother Nature has seen fit to send her winds early to strip it of its leaves, but it is a katsura - a type known for its hardiness and variety of colour - so I am confident that it will grow and add beauty to this section of the school yard.

Let us take a moment to look back in history - back to 1897 to be specific: Did you know that Women's Institutes are a Canadian invention? The very first one was organized in Ontario in 1897. The objective was stated as follows: "to promote that knowledge of household science which shall lead to a better understanding of economic and hygienic value of foods and fuels, and to a more scientific care of children with a view of raising the general standard of health of our people."

Put more simply, it was established so that rural Women, so isolated in

those days, would be able to share vital information for the good of their families and communities.

The Amherst Island branch was the fourth in all of Ontario to be established. Organization began in November 1900 and was completed the following March, 1901. Mrs. McDonald became the first president, a position she held for some 26 years.

She was born Elizabeth Ann Christie in Whitby, Ontario, in 1860, the daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. James Christie, and the first of their ten children. She lived on Amherst Island for a period of her youth because her father became the first pastor of Christ Church in Emerald in 1877. During his tenure in Emerald, she went away to attend Normal School in Ottawa, became a teacher, and taught away from the Island for several years. She returned to the Island and married Duncan McDonald in 1885. They had a home, and farmed, on the Front Road beside Duncan's parents, and were blessed with a son, Edwin, in 1891.

Under Elizabeth McDonald's leadership, monthly WI meetings were held in the Town Hall in Stella. From the moment of her election as president she stressed the value of education for both children and adults, and pursued the improvement of schooling on the Island.

During the years of the First World War, the work of the WI was mostly in support of the Red Cross war effort: making and bundling up packages containing knitted socks, mitts, helmets, and sewn medical

continued on page 5

JANET'S JOTTINGS

- Janet Scott



As the gentle snow falls in late November and as the cold winter months fly by with whistling winds and clear

sunny days. A time of snow flying by at 90 km. an hour and ice pans that come and go with the whim of the wind. This is a time of sculptured snow banks and sunrises reflected on ice. This is the time to visit Amherst Island. This is the time of Owl

This past month I have seen the Short-eared Owls flying their moth-like flight patterns on the South Shore near Plank's farm. Alan Kidd reported Short-eared

Owls at their farm, as well. These mid-sized owls have light faces and dark wrist patches on the underside of the wing. Their call is a short bark and the best time to see them is at dusk. They hunt both night and day and have nested on Amherst Island.

All those attending the museum talk in November heard the Great Horned Owl calling on Stella Point as he seemed to be establishing territory although no friendly answering Mrs. Owl could be heard. Along the Marshall Forty Foot there were Long-eared Owls lifting into the headlights as I drove that road at night and



Barred Owl

Photo Brian Little

Brian Little got an absolutely fantastic picture of a Barred Owl in the Owl Woods. To top off the Owl reports, Rachel Scott reported a Snowy Owl on the South Shore that she saw while riding the bus one morning this past week. Welcome to Owling Time on our fair Island.

On a different note Ian Murray reports a sighting of a Woodcock out their way. The American Woodcock is the only shorebird in North America that has adapted to living in the forest throughout the year. When the European pioneers opened Ontario by clearing mature forests and also introduced earthworms to the ecological system they created a habitat suitable to the Woodcock. During warmer walks in the woods your dog might flush a bevy of Woodcock and they'll rise with a whoosh. They are quite chunky with a large head and eye and a long bill perfectly adapted for getting worms out of moist soil. They are about 11 inches in length but very secretive so you don't see them as often as you hear them.

Their brown feathers are perfectly adapted to hiding in the shaded forest litter and as my son can attest you have to practically step on the nest, it was accidental but surprising, before the bird actually lifts. In Spring the males perform an amazing courtship dance that involves rising high against a setting sun, whirs in descending circles and then plummets to earth followed by a buzz as it lands. They usually arrive in March and leave in November but there is one report of a January sighting. As far as I know we still hold the earliest arrival date when one showed up in our garden while we were still living in Henderson Place, on Mar. 7th, 1983.

At my feeder the regulars, Cardinals, Blue Jays, Juncos, House Finches and Goldfinches are still entertaining us but the Mourning Doves have been joined by a couple of Rusty Blackbirds so that's been interesting to watch. For the price of a few bags of birdseed I have live entertainment from dusk to dawn all winter long.

Good Birding!



Elizabeth's great-great-grandchildren: Twins Damien & Emma, and Lilian

apparel and the like. These packages were then sent from the Ernestown train station.

Mrs. McDonald was president of this WI branch for some 26 years, while at the same time she managed her household and did her farm chores, gave much time to the church, and taught piano lessons to many island children. She died in 1931.

Descendants of Elizabeth Ann Christie

- 1 Elizabeth Ann Christie 1860 - 1931
- ...+ Richard Duncan McDonald 1855 - 1927
-2 Edwin Chritie McDonald 1891-1983
-+ Florence Lillian Detlor 1896 - 1978
-3 Garnet Edwin McDonald 1918 -
-+ Beatrice Gene McMaster 1920 -
-4 Carol McDonald 1950 -
-+ Herman Langwald
-5 Joseph Langwald 1974 -
-+ Sabrina
-6 Mika Langwald 2004 -
-5 Tammy Langwald 1976
-+ Wallace Stanton
-6 Damien Stanton 2001 -
-6 Emma Stanton 2001 -
-6 Lillian Stanton 2004 -
-3 Roger Duncan McDonald 1921 - 1995
-+ Marion Gilbert
-4 Douglas McDonald 1953 -
-4 Bruce McDonald - 1956
-4 Alison McDonald - 1960 - 2003
-+ Peter Williams
-5 Sarah Williams
-5 Geoffrey Williams
-3 Doris Elizabeth McDonald 1924 -
-+ William David Henderson 1926 - 1969
-4 Anthony Henderson 1949 -
-+ Sally J. Filson 1950 -
-5 Kerri Ann Henderson Skene 1972 -
-+ Scott Ashurst
-6 Tanner Ashurst
-5 Ryan Henderson 1985 -
-* 2nd Wife of Anthony Henderson:
-+ Gayle Percy
-4 Richard Henderson 1950 -
-+ Lynne Stanton
-5 Victoria Lindsay Henderson 1977 -
-+ Dan Cunningham
-6 Owen Cunningham 1996 -
-5 Jeffrey Henderson 1979 -
-5 Matthew Paul Henderson 1984 -

Returning to the present, I am pleased to report that the Women's Institute movement is alive and well and functioning in some form world-wide. And sharing information and offering education are still the primary goals. Our own Amherst Island branch is still going strong as we proudly celebrate this month our 105th anniversary!

I would like to thank my colleagues Judith Harrower and Joyce Haines for their fine efforts in organizing this event today.

But right now, on your behalf, I am happy to dedicate this tree to the memory of our first president, Elizabeth Ann McDonald.

Women's Institute Launch Island Sights Calendar

- Story and Photo Kitsy McMullen

On November 12 the Amherst Island Women's Institute launched their 2006 "Island Sights Calendar" at The Lodge in Stella. The event included an exhibit of the Island photos and drawings illustrating the calendar, as well as a silent auction of selected pieces. This is the third year the Women's Institute has raised funds through a calendar featuring Island artists.

The calendars, which feature lists of Islander birthdays and other important events, are available for \$10.00 each at the Amherst Island General Store and the Victoria Hall Craft and Tea Room.

One of the last clear autumn Saturdays of 2005, it was a beautiful afternoon to spend out at The Lodge enjoying the exhibit, the wine, the aperitifs, and the company.



Coralie Marshall and Elsi Willard doing their part at the calendar launch.

COUNCIL GLEANINGS

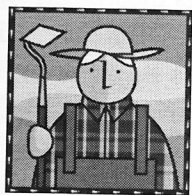
- Ian Murray

Council decided to donate a book of ferry tickets as one of the prizes at the AIMS' New Year's Eve Dinner and Dance.

This year the Ameriks Scholarship recipients are: Marlene Kilpatrick, U. of Western Ontario; Allison McDonald, U. of Ottawa; Andrew McDonald, Queen's U.; Geoffrey McDonald, U. of Ottawa; Brent McGinn, Loyalist College; Shawna Phillips, Queen's U.; Christopher Reed, Queen's U.; Tabytha Trotter, St. Lawrence College; and, Shannon Youell, Algonquin College.

Each of these students will receive \$287.07.

AMHERST ISLAND MEN'S SOCIETY



- Don Pepper

Janet Scott and her Girl Guides prepared a delicious breakfast for about 27 members.

Brian Little

showed a four minute video of Terry Kelly, a blind folk singer, who wrote and sang a song about Remembrance Day because a mall would not stop for a minute of silence.

The school board has purchased the school screen. The township will install it in the west end of the gym. AIMS and WI contributed towards this purchase.

New Year's Committee Report: \$50 couple and \$25 single. Tickets may be obtained through any member of the AIMS executive plus from Ted & Linda Welbanks and Garry & Susan Filson. All Dance & Dinner Volunteers are covered by Loyalist Township insurance.

Liam Titcomb Rocks the House, er, Lodge

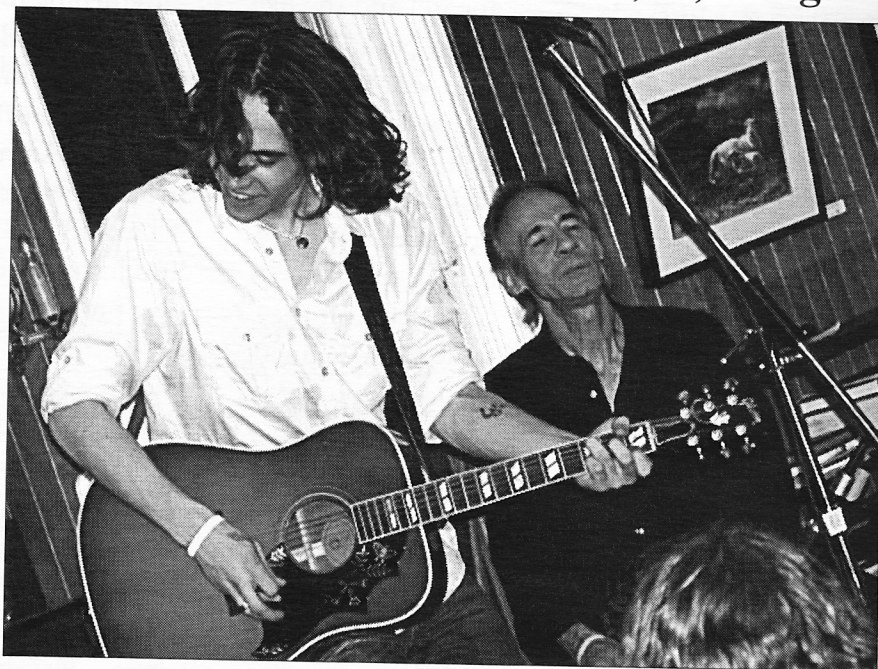


Photo Terry Culbert

Eighteen year old Canadian folk singer-songwriter Liam Titcomb and his father Brent performing at The Lodge on November 5th. The pair were also joined by singer-songwriter Rob Lamothe(not shown).

A letter of thanks from the WI Stone Fence Committee asked for more help next year to finish the cemetery's east wall.

Lynann Whitton sent a letter suggesting that AIMS do a fundraising reading by celebrities of sections of "A Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens. Refreshments would be served afterwards. Tickets would sell for \$10 for adults and \$5.00 for children. AIMS executive will pick a date. Tom Richmond will record for radio.

Studio House Tour: The Museum and AIMS will work on this together next spring.

Guest Speaker Tom Richmond talked about the AI Radio station's progress to date. Tom is waiting for final government approval which he hopes will be given by the middle of December. Then the tower will be built on top of Dayle Gowan's silo.

We hope to start broadcasting by Feb. or March. On air time will be 6 AM 'til Midnight. This time will be filled with some prerecorded music or interviews, remote broadcasting such as the Canada Day Parade etc.

AI Radio now has 132 members. There will be an information clearing house plus the station will keep us all up to date on what is happening with our ferry service. There are plans to broadcast on the internet as well.

AI weather will be done later when the equipment is set up.

Tom hopes that various groups on the Island will provide the radio station with information from their records.

Brian Little thanked Tom for his talk. It was decided that AIMS will donate \$100 to the AI Radio.

Christmas Reflections

- Zander of DUNN INN

Christmas reminds us God is with us.

Today Christmas seems to be more about Santa Claus, Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer, Frosty The Snowman and Jingle Bells than about God.

We're told that is the way it should be. We should not let our religious prejudices ruin the "Holiday Season" for those who are not Christians.

I challenged that view several years ago when, in North Bay, I was asked to do a Christmas radio show.

I presented a play in which we announced an Air Canada plane had collided with Santa Claus and his sleigh. Santa had been killed. The sleigh, the reindeer and the presents had all been lost.

In our theatrical piece we then went into the streets to interview people about what difference the death of Santa Claus would make to them personally. We got various reactions: sadness from the young; resignation from the aged; apathy from the non-believers; panic from storekeepers who would lose their Christmas sales. The response of the public to that radio show was interesting. Most

wanted me defrocked for killing Santa Claus and ruining Christmas for their children. If I had said God was dead or Jesus did not exist few would have cared or complained. But Santa Claus was sacred!

I had recently returned to Canada from Guyana where the government had laid it down that non-Guyanese Christmas symbols and stories were not to be allowed. All vestiges of British Colonialism were to be eradicated. There could be no Christmas cards with snow (Guyana

Amherst Islander's version of Christmas.

A teenaged girl gets pregnant out of wedlock. While some folks condemn the girl most Islanders support her. On the night she gives birth to her baby, Ian Murray, Chris Kennedy, Don Tubb, Mark Ritchie, Cherry Allen, Dave Willard and Laurie McEwen, all out on different points of the Island to check on their sheep, see a blaze of Northern Lights and hear the sound of a Mighty Rushing Wind. They return home to learn the child

they have been expecting has been born. They rush off to see the new born baby. They enter the house where the mother and child lie in bed. To greet them are friends of the girl's family: a Muslim, a Hindu, a Native Canadian.

They bow as the Muslim says, "Every child is a sign God has not given up on the human race."

The Hindu states,

"Every child is a gift from God." The Native Canadian declares, "This child shows us God is with us."

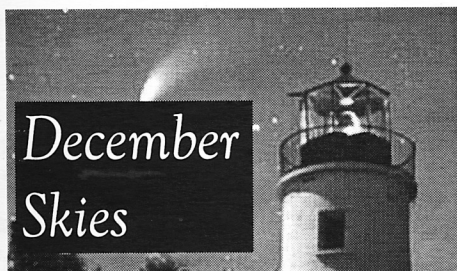
Then the Muslim gives the child a bouquet of flowers - the gift of beauty.

The Hindu gives the child a bottle of water - without water we die. The Native Canadian gives the child a sack of dirt - a portion of the earth to which God came. *****



has no snow). Father Christmas (a British invention) was to be replaced by mummers and stilt walkers. The radio stations could not play "I'm Dreaming of a White Christmas" but had to play calypso songs by The Mighty Sparrow.

For those who don't like the Guyanese version of Christmas, the Canadian version of Christmas or my version of Christmas consider one



- Alan Kidd

Now we are approaching winter, the season of the brightest stars. Some of the brightest constellations are now visible in the early evening.

Probably the brightest and best known of these is Orion. Orion is a familiar sight in the winter skies. The three stars in his belt are as bright as any of the stars in the big dipper, but two of the other stars, Betelgeuse, marking one of the shoulders, and Rigel, marking a foot, are among the ten brightest stars visible in the night sky. Betelgeuse (a corruption of the Arabic phrase yad al-jauza meaning hand

of al-jauza the Arabic name for the constellation) and Rigel are respectively red and blue super-giant stars and both will soon go out in massive explosions known as Supernovae. However "soon" in astronomical terms is a few million years, so we won't wait up for the spectacle.

One final feature of Orion is the Great Orion Nebula. This object can be seen in Orion's sword, and a good pair of binoculars will reveal it as a hazy cloud. This nebula is the most active area of star formation which is visible from the Northern Hemisphere. Looking at the nebula through even a small telescope, several bright young stars can be seen, shining through the dust and gas clouds out of which they were recently formed.

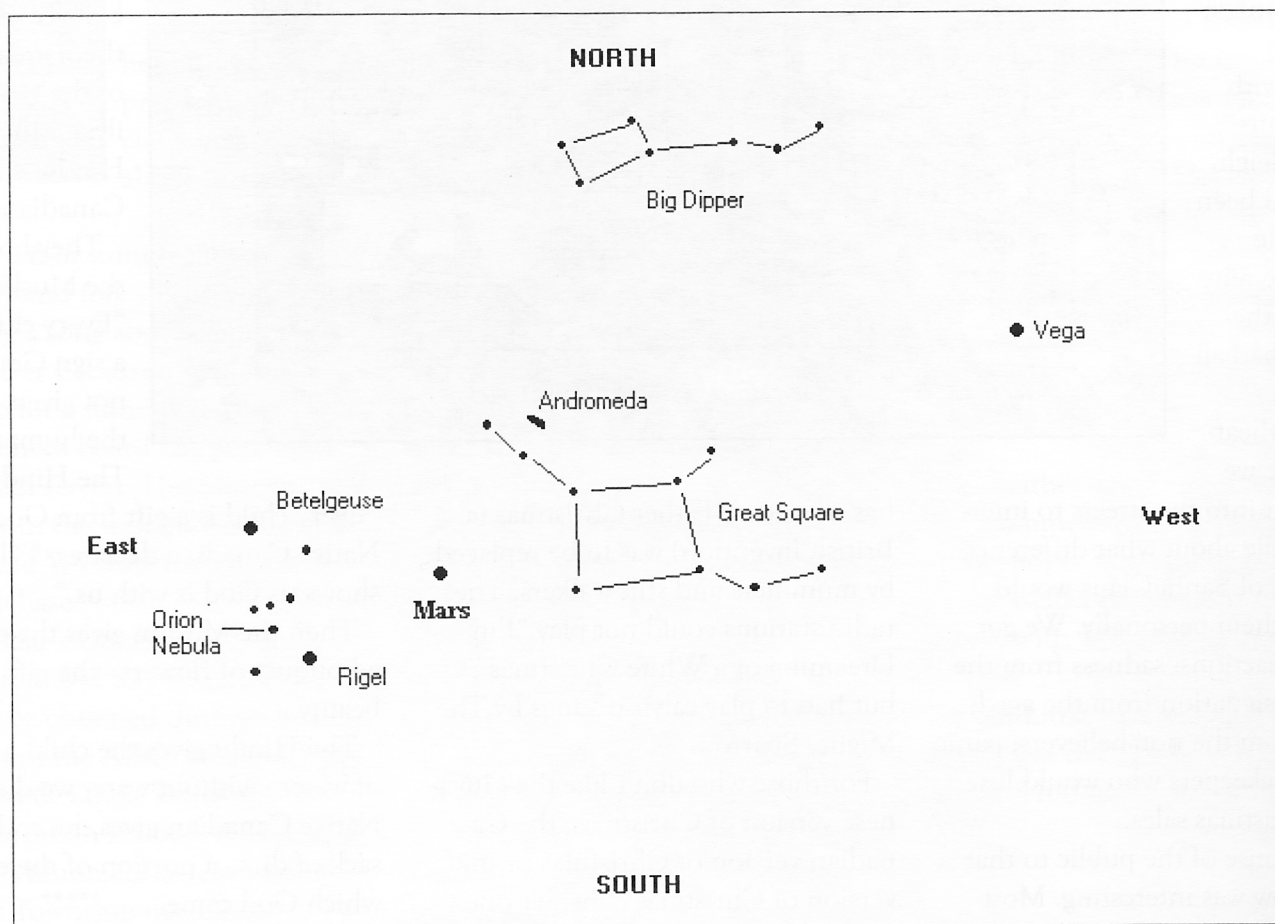
Venus reaches its peak height and brightness around the middle of this month. In the New Year Venus will begin to sink rapidly into the sunset.

Mars also fades during December, as the distance between it and the Earth begins to increase rapidly. However, it will remain an impressive object, high in the South during the evening.

Saturn is rising early in the evening by the end of December. Look for it low in the east-northeast.

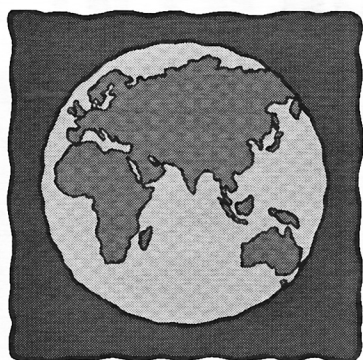
Jupiter is high in the southeast at dawn during December. Mercury can be seen far to the lower left of Jupiter just as the sky begins to brighten. The middle of the month is the best time to look at the elusive Mercury.

The Moon passes very close to Mars on the night of December 11th and to the bright star Spica on Christmas morning. At the end of the month, the waning lunar crescent passes under Jupiter and is near Mercury on the 28th, but both are near the horizon at that time.



ANOTHER STORY

- Alena Schram



In 1974, when you returned from a third-world posting, the government would generally agree to let you undergo a tropical medical examination. This was to make sure you weren't harbouring anything sinister in your system; that you presented no danger to your friends, family or the public at large; and probably so you couldn't sue anyone when, twenty years later, you discovered something unfortunate hiding in your liver.

We'd been living in Lagos, Nigeria for three years. Our daughters, Elizabeth and Katherine, were tiny and vulnerable; we'd had amoebas a number of times (something caused by a microscopic creature that leaves you feeling as though you'd had a bicycle pump applied to your intestines); and John and I had traveled all over the country under dubious hygienic conditions. We therefore thought it wise to take advantage of this entitlement and the government's generosity.

At the time, the Toronto General Hospital was the only place in Eastern Canada able to run these tests. Appointments were generally arranged for the morning, presumably because patients were more likely to produce the required specimens at that time of day.

We arrived for our appointment at

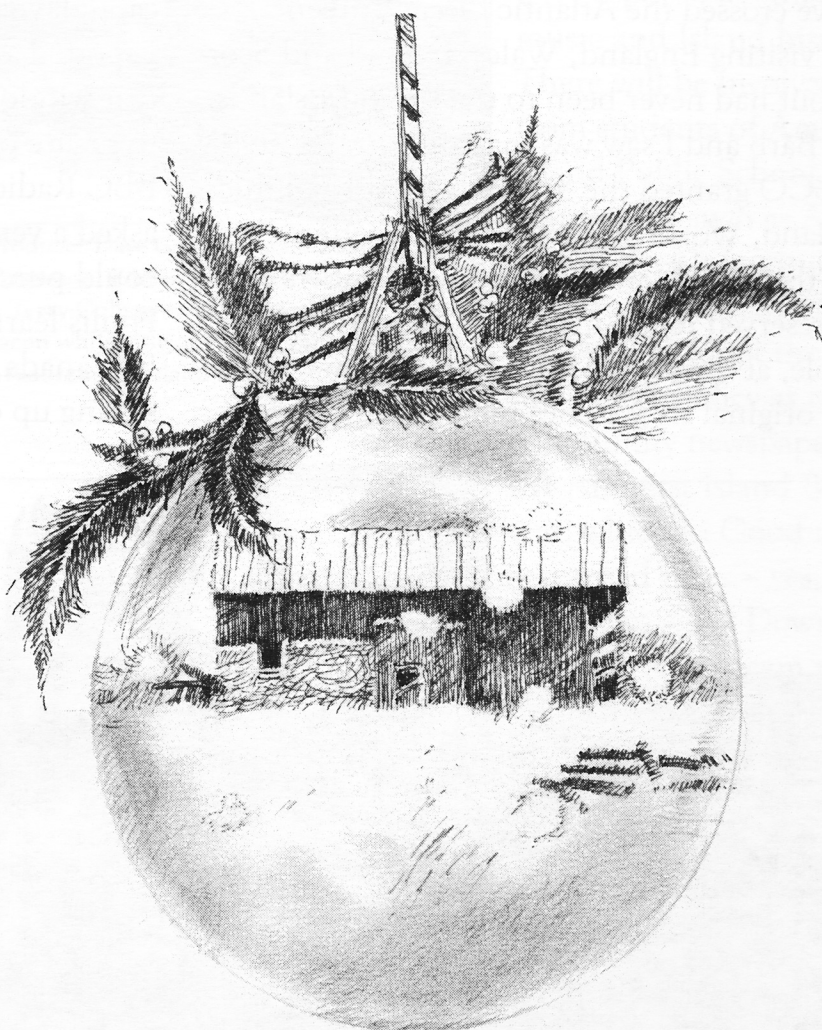
8 a.m. The waiting room essentially a long narrow hall with wooden chairs arranged in a row on the left, and two doors leading to the all-important toilets on the right - was already full. There were only two unoccupied seats and John and I each took one, perching a small daughter apiece on our laps. Within an instant of sitting down we heard our names booming out the length of the hall.

"MR. SCHRAM! MRS. SCHRAM! COME HERE FOR YOUR VESSELS!"

Nonplussed and with considerable

embarrassment, we headed in the direction of the voice. There, at the end of the long hall, behind a desk, sat a grim looking nurse, an array of what looked like Chinese restaurant take-out boxes arranged before her. "TAKE ONE OF THESE VESSELS EACH AND GIVE ME A URINE SPECIMEN," she announced to everyone in the room, her voice echoing off the walls. Thirty pairs of eyes seemed to follow us as we made our way back to our seats.

continued on page 13



NOËL

Snow Globe

By Peter Large S.C.A.

From Amherst Island Radio 93.7...

- Terry Culbert

Shortly after returning from a fabulous holiday to the Scottish Highlands and Orkney Islands with Barb, I was sitting at Tom Richmond's kitchen table as a member of the CJA Radio program committee. I was pleased to present Tom with a decal from BBC Radio Orkney. He immediately pointed out that BBC Radio Orkney's frequency of 93.7 was the same as ours.

I have crossed the Atlantic Ocean fifteen times, visiting England, Wales, Ireland and Scotland, but had never been to the Orkney Islands. What Barb and I saw was magnificent. In 1999 UNESCO granted the 5,500 year-old Neolithic Heartland, World Heritage status. Scattered about the islands are outstanding numbers of well-preserved remnants of past centuries. For example, at the Ring of Brodgar, twenty-seven of the original sixty stones remain standing on

After six incredible days on Orkney, Barb and I were headed for the ferry dock at St. Margaret's Hope. As we passed through Kirkwall, Orkney's

"Many hands make light work...
we are going to need a lot of
hands to keep the radio station
going." - Tom Richmond

capital, with a population of 7,000 Orcadians, I spotted a BBC Radio Orkney decal in the rear window of a parked vehicle. Determined to secure one for myself, I set out to find the BBC Radio building. Located on Castle Street, I asked a very amiable woman behind the desk if I could purchase one of their decals. When Helen Foulis learned that not only was I from an island in Canada, but we also were in the process of setting up our own radio station, she introduced

me to producers Dave Gray, Fionn McArthur, and Northern Isles editor John Fergusson.

BBC Radio Orkney was established in May of 1977 to provide local news and current affairs programmes to the twenty thousand inhabitants of the Orkney Islands. Unlike our 3-mile, relatively calm, short crossing of the North Channel, Orkney

is situated 18-miles north-east of mainland Scotland across a wind swept, and often rough North Sea. BBC Radio Orkney has five full-time employees producing (week-



Ring of Brodgar

the open plains between Stenness and Harray Lochs. The placement of these stones is older than Stonehenge and the Egyptian Pyramids.

Photo Terry Culbert

... To Orkney Islands Radio 93.7?



Top: Producer Dave Gray at the microphone with John Fergusson, Editor, Northern Isles.

Below: Terry Culbert reads the September issue of the Beacon while visiting Doctor Janet Kennedy in her St. Andrews, Scotland home.

days) a daily morning news programme (07:30 – 08:00) and a midday news bulletin (12:54 – 13:00). Music and magazine programmes in the evening are at dinnertime between (18:05 – 19:00). Every Wednesday, during a programme called “Around Orkney”, there is a segment known as the weekly postbag. It will make you want to moan, snarl, or even comment on it favourably. “The Dashing White Farmer”, is a programme of Scottish dance tunes with Liam Muir, and then there is “Friday Requests with Glynis Tait”, a show of messages for friends and relations across the Islands. The remainder of the day and evening, residents of Orkney listen to mainland BBC Scotland.

CJAI will be community radio run by volun-

teers. Island participation is needed. Anyone and everyone can be part of this exciting new venture. “Many hands make light work,” Tom told his audience, “and we are going to need a lot of hands to keep the radio station going.” There will be news, ferry reports, weather, music and Island history. There will be involvement from students of Amherst Island Public School, organizations such as AIMS, the Women’s Institute and the Island Churches.

CJAI will adopt the same news policy as our community newspaper, the Amherst Island Beacon, which is: Good news – yes, Sad news – yes, Bad news – no! Down the trail, a ferry-cam may be positioned on the silo enabling Island residents to see the coming and going of the Frontenac II from their home computer. CJAI will eventually broadcast on the internet as well. Perhaps, even one day, CJAI and BBC Radio Orkney could have a



Photo Barb Hoegenauer

link of their own, sharing the occasional story or programme?

CJAI-FM: The Signal Has Arrived

- Press Release

The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC) announced November 24 that an English language development FM community radio license has been approved for Amherst Island Radio Broadcasting Inc. at Stella Ontario.

The new station will operate with 5 watts of power, at 93.7 MHz on the dial, and will be known as CJAI - FM.

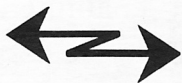
Alex Scott, President of AIR, thanks the 132 station members who have supported this endeavor to date and the hard working board members including Tom Richmond, Lyn Fleming, Adam Miller, Gary McDonald, Michelle LeLay and Neil Johnston who will guide CJAI to air... with the support of the membership.

The transmitter and studio will be located in a refurbished barn on the Dayle & Ellie Gowan property just west of the Stella Forty Foot on Front Road, Amherst Island.

The station will broadcast 126 hours per week with 28 hours of live programming and will proudly air 100% Canadian music during the weekends.

The Board has set ambitious plans in motion to 'go to air' by early spring of 2006. Future fundraising projects, beyond sponsorships and commercial airtime sales, include membership drives, repeating the AIR Book Sale on 12 August '06 and the highly successful Lamb & Pig Roast at The Lodge on Amherst Island scheduled for 09 September '06.

HERE & THERE



- Ian Murray

I am very pleased that Annette Philips is writing for the Whig again. She makes a practice of getting her facts correct and in context; and she puts it all together with unusual skill.

Radio Days

CJAI News and upcoming events

- Tom Richmond

The transmitter has been ordered. It will not arrive 'til just before Christmas or after the New Year. The on-air date is still "early spring" as there are still a series of tests to be done here on the Island to satisfy Industry Canada and Nav Canada (aeronautical safety).

Optimistically, they will take the bulk of January to complete.

Dates to know about:

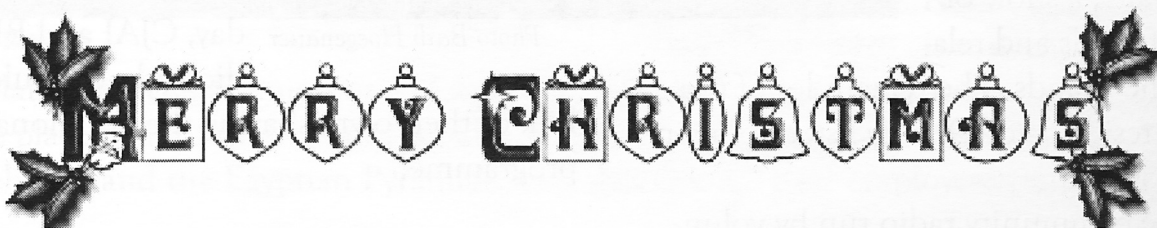
- Sat 17 December: CD "digitizing" party at the Lodge, all day 8am to 5pm: Bring your favorite CD's and have them converted to computer format so they can be used on the air. if you want to hear your music, you have to bring it. Done while you wait! (This is legal as we pay a copyright fee to be able to gather music for the launch of the station).

- Sat 14 January '06: It's another "digitizing" party! (see above).

- January '06: There will be a general meeting for members of AIR and anyone interested in Amherst Island Public Radio in - a flyer will be in the mail when the date has been set.

- Training sessions for Amherst Island Public Radio will begin late in January (possibly Saturday the 28th), starting at The Lodge from 9am to 12 noon. All those interested in attending should email Tom R. (tantonr@kingston.net) or phone 634-1855 to reserve your spot in SESSION 1.

You will NOT need to be a member of Amherst Island Radio Broadcasting Inc. to participate, but all those attending will have to pay a small amount to offset the cost of reproducing class materials. (A word of caution: because of insurance issues, all prospective on-air volunteers will NEED to attend one of these sessions). A duplicate to SESSION 1 will be made available in February. More information will be forthcoming,



continued from page 9

ANOTHER STORY

No problem. The girls and I walked through the door marked "Ladies", did as we were told, and walked out again triumphantly, lids on our little boxes. We handed in our specimens and sat down again.

Then we waited. And we waited. And we waited, as John sat quietly with his own lidless box on his lap. Five minutes passed. Ten minutes. The box stayed put. We were prepared to sit there all day if need be, but clearly the nurse wasn't.

"MR. SCHRAM! MR. SCHRAM! IF YOU CAN'T GIVE ME A SPECIMEN, I'M GOING TO HAVE TO SEND YOU TO THE COKE MACHINE!" she bellowed, accusingly.

Heads turned. John's ears went pink. A sense of failure seemed to surround him. And another five minutes passed.

"ALRIGHT, MR. SCHRAM! THAT'S LONG ENOUGH. YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO GO TO THE COKE MACHINE NOW!"

John got up, walked miserably the length of the hall, past the nurse who seemed to be smirking, and off to the coke machine. He returned a few minutes later, presumably better prepared for the task.

In some seven minutes the Coke had worked its magic and John too was able to produce a small, lidless container for the insufferable nurse. Even Elizabeth and Katherine looked relieved.

Next the crucial stool specimen. Don't ask me how, but the girls and I were somehow - inexplicably - able to produce something on demand. Once again, within moments, we emerged from the ladies'

room victoriously, our boxes sealed. You could see the pride in our steps as we marched towards the desk and plunked our specimens down.

But John was neither so fortunate, nor so glib, and again we sat there, expectantly and supportively, together. Once again long minutes passed. And then the inevitable reproach: "MR. SCHRAM! MR. SCHRAM! IF YOU CAN'T PRODUCE SOMETHING FOR ME IN THE NEXT FIVE MINUTES, I'M GOING TO HAVE TO GIVE YOU A SUPPOSITORY AND A RUBBER GLOVE!"

Now if there's anything that's going to produce constriction of sphincters in a patient it's this ultimate and public humiliation. Unable to endure another, John submitted immediately and, like a schoolboy going for a failed test paper, he approached the gorgon in starched white, wordlessly took the two items she seemed to be waving about, and with his box and lid, entered the Gents'. The waiting room seemed to go silent. An air of expectation hung heavily.

Let me just say that he eventually appeared looking mortified, furious, but noticeably pleased. The girls and I waited for the round of applause we were sure would follow. With something of a swagger, John carried his contribution to the desk, set it down resolutely, and strode out of the room. In fact, he strode right out of the hospital. When I eventually managed to catch up with him, he turned and snapped, "Alena, you and I eat together, drink together, and travel together. Whatever I've got, you've probably got too. So next time we need one of these things, YOU go alone and bring me back all the same medicine!" And, of course, we've never been back.

WHAT IS REFLEXOLOGY?

- Stella O'Bryne

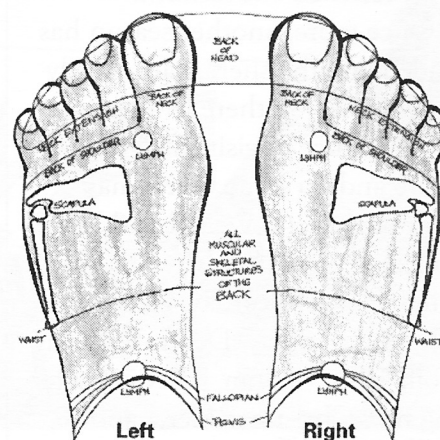
Reflexology is not new, but dates back to the Egyptian times nearly five thousand years ago. It is a natural healing therapy based on the principle that each area of the foot corresponds to an organ in the body.

Reflexology is non-invasive, simple, safe, improves circulation, is a great stress reliever - in short, helps the body to return to health. Tenderness found in the feet arise from crystalline deposits at nerve endings, which can be broken down and disbursed, initiating a smooth flow of energy.

If this is your first time at reflexology, you may experience certain sensations during and or after treatment, such as tingling, bolts of energy, or frequent urination. All this is quite normal. If you experience anyone of these sensations, drink plenty of water to flush the toxins out of your body and rest - this will be helpful.

Reflexology is not meant to treat specific conditions, but does help the body to balance and normalize naturally.

Happy Soaking!!



WEASEL & EASEL

- Terry Culbert

[Here are the last 3 paragraphs that should have been included in Terry's article last month.]

During the spring of 1999, the Weasel and Easel moved across the street to the Township and Ferry Office. A year later, in 2000, the members negotiated a lease with the Township for the area formerly occupied by the Royal Bank withzzxzsin the old Nielson Store.

Island artists and artisans are appreciative of having the opportunity to showcase their wares, especially in the newly refurbished Neilson Store. The Weasel and Easel strives to show a diversity of inventory with original art and handmade crafts, always looking for new additions from local artists and crafters. Presently, the store is run by less than a handful of volunteers, including two of the original members, Eleanor Trueman and Joan Martin. As is the case with most small art and artisan stores, each year the question looms: "Will we be able to meet our expenses?" So far, the Weasel and Easel has managed to meet their target, covering their overhead, albeit barely in some years. Never discouraged, the team looks forward to 2006 with renewed enthusiasm.

Once more, another season has ended and the shelves are mostly bare. However, there will be one more chance to visit the Neilson Store and do some Christmas shopping at the Weasel and Easel. The store, as well as the museum, will be open Saturday, December 10th and Sunday, December 11th from 10am to 4pm. They are offering new Christmas merchandise, baked goods and hot tea or cider.

TWO AND A HALF YEARS TO COMPLETION

- Terry Culbert

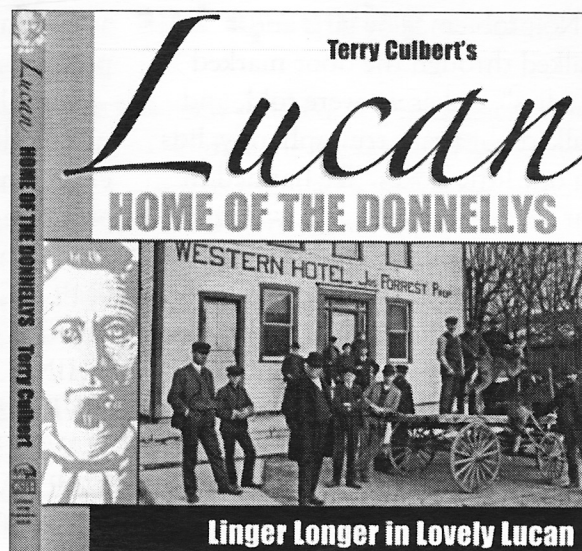
In February of 2003, I was invited to be the guest speaker at the Lucan Area Heritage Dinner in my old southwestern Ontario hometown. I had been asked to give a talk about growing up in the village of Lucan and my 42-year career in television news. The following morning, my Aunt Muriel Culbert innocently asked: "When are you going to write another book, Terry?" "When Barb and I move to Amherst Island, I will have lots of time then," was my response. Aunt Muriel smiled: "Why wait till then, at least start now and it must be about Lucan." Even though "lots of time" never materialized, with the support and unbelievable hard work of my partner Barb Hoegenauer, *Lucan: Home of the Donnelly's*, has just rolled off the printing press in Renfrew.

Irish immigrants settled Amherst Island, as Lucan, in the early 1800's. The Islanders came from the Ards Peninsula in County Down, Northern Ireland, whereas Lucan's pioneers came from County Tipperary in the south. The love of my Irish roots spawned this unusual look at the village I grew up in. *Lucan: Home of the Donnelly's*, is a collection of vignettes around Lucan, a village just north of London, that has a very rich, albeit controversial, history.

In February of 1880, a vigilante committee descended, in the dead of night, on the Donnelly family as they slept in their Biddulph Township farmhouse. The vigilantes left behind four massacred bodies and a log home burning to the ground. Before the night ended, they had continued up the road, murdering another Donnelly. One hundred and twenty-five years later, no one has ever been punished for those brutal slayings.

The first third of my book is Donnelly related, with many stories never published before. I have compiled, with illustrations and photographs, not only the Donnelly stories, but also village commerce, village life, sports, and music from past to present. For example, when Johnny Cash performed in Canada for the first time, it was in the Lucan Arena. This book has photos from that concert.

LUCAN: HOME OF THE DONNELLYS is a good read about growing up in a small, farm village of 900 people during the forties, fifties and sixties. It is an engaging collection of Canadiana. Published by General Store Publishing House, it retails for \$24.95. For your own autographed copy call Terry Culbert at 634-8217.



Cenotaph Rededication

Below: Ben Whitton on clarinet and Danielle Wolfreys.
 Right: Jim Whitton
 Bottom Right: Colour Guard from Bath Legion #632.
 Bottom Left: Tom Miller and Dan Claus.



Photo Brian Little



Photo Brian Little



Photo Don Tubb



Photo Don Tubb

THANK YOU NOTES

I would like to wish all my Rawleigh customers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you for all your support during the past year.

I would also like to thank AIMS for sponsoring the Farmer's Market. It is a great place to meet people and to sell my products.

Marie Ward

A special thank-you to the ladies of the Women's Institute of Amherst Island for honouring our grandmother, Elizabeth McDonald, for her long tenure of twenty-six years, as president of the Island group.

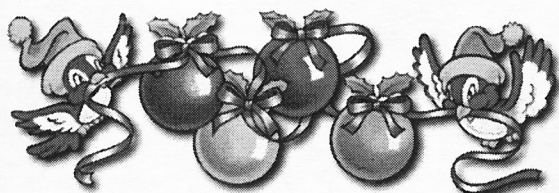
The tree planted in her memory was a wonderful idea, and the short ceremony was well conducted, and appreciated by the family.

Thanks also to Leslie Gavlas for opening her home afterwards for a tasty lunch and a short social time.

From the McDonald family and all their descendants.

Thanks to the Women's Institute, ACW, PCW, relatives and friends for cards and phone calls.

Garnet McDonald



Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all my fellow Islanders, especially to our ferry crews and staff of the Beacon, (all have endured our gripes with good humour).

During 2005, my projects for the Napanee SPCA were well supported and I want you all to know how much they were needed and appreciated.

I can't let this opportunity go by without a special thank-you to Donna and Richard Thompson who made my dream of shade trees for the Dog Kennel area come true. Fourteen trees are now planted and flourishing and will be an everlasting benefit and comfort to the dogs waiting for homes.

From the Shelter, Cat's Meow, myself, and all the animals that have had their lives made more comfortable by your kindness - Happy Christmas and a Healthy New Year to you All.

Freda Youell

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 placemats. (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.

HOVERCRAFT FOR SALE

Hovertechnics Hoverguard

10" 6" long, 600 lb. capacity, 454cc Yamaha twin cylinder. Carries three people. Travels 35 mph on water, faster on ice. Flies approx. 8" off the ground. Full flotation. Complete with trailer. Asking \$5100.00.

Richard Thompson, 634-1417 Islandcustom@sympatico.ca

LOOKING FOR THAT SPECIAL CHRISTMAS GIFT?

The A.I. Women's Institute has ONE Daniel Fowler Reproduction left for sale - \$75.00.

Please contact Nancy Henshaw at 384-0799

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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!

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Seán 384-6241
sndaly@sympatico.ca

Scott Marshall is on Amherst Island working part-time on the ferry. I am also available to do odd jobs. Great rate, friendly personality. Please contact me at anytime with questions and inquiries. Phone: (613) 389-0554
Page: (613) 549-9534 *leave a message*
Email: skot_m@hotmail.com

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See Shell

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

Island references. Phone 378-2736

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

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

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

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

FOR SALE:

Clothes Dryer, \$95.00 OBO. 389-5389

FOR SALE:

Clothes Dryer, \$95.00 OBO. 389-5389

FOR SALE:

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.

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:

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

Phone Marcie at 389-3155 (or 389-4023).

FOR HOUSEWORK:

Call Connie at 634-3075.



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

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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Red Cross Certified Babysitter. Available early evenings
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2 & 1 BEDROOM COTTAGES

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April-October. (Phone numbers above.)



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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
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Welbanks.

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John Jeffery- Phone 561-7867.

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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.

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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.

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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



The Beacon

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

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Mindfulness Meditation Workshop

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

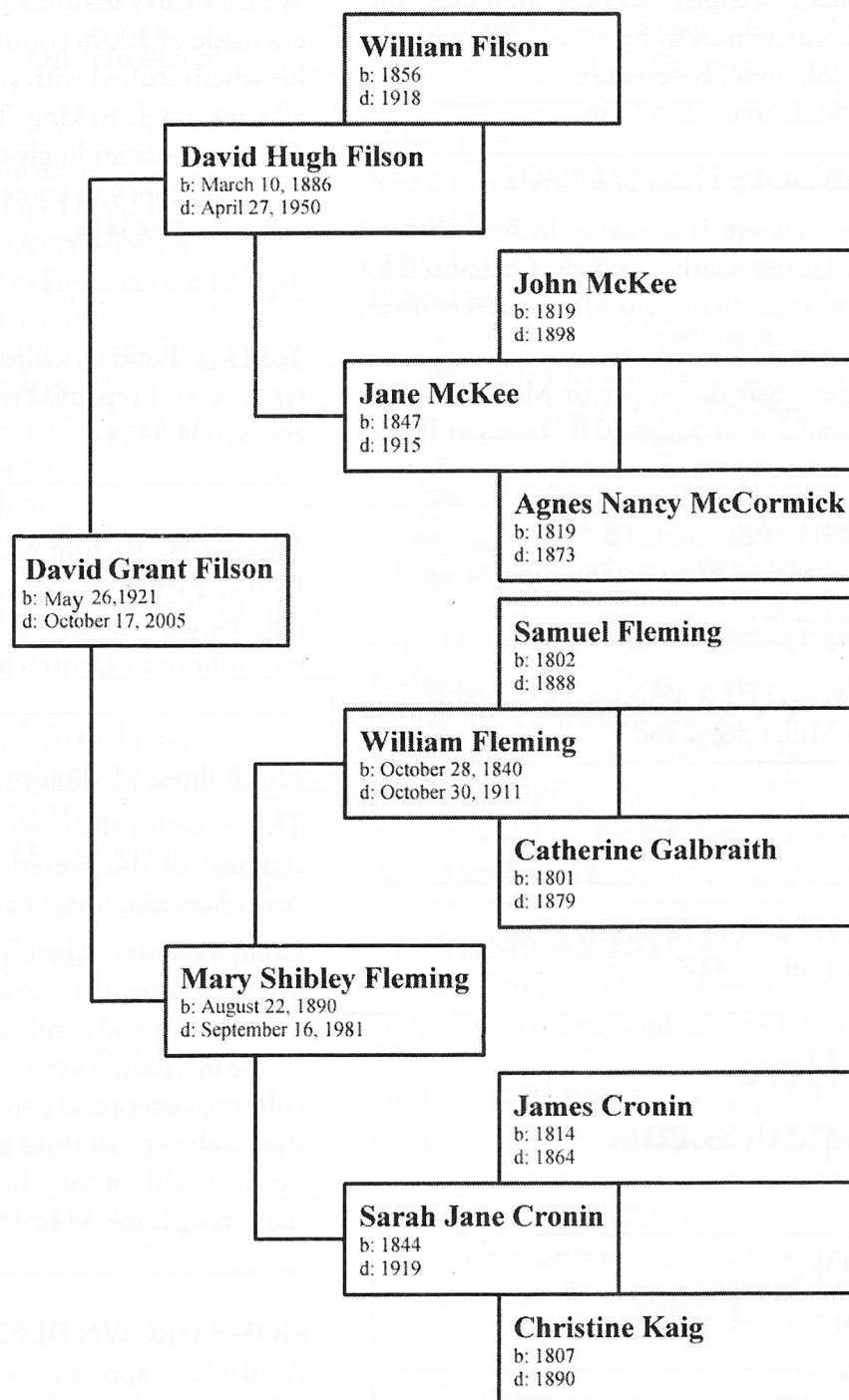
Complementary Health- Jocelyne Leyton, RPP, offers treatments in Cranial Osteopathy. This is a very subtle and gentle approach recognizing the subtle mechanics at work within the head, spinal column, viscera and pelvis. The understanding of the cerebrospinal fluid has a profound influence on the health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

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Ancestors of David Grant Filson



Apologies to Tom Ivison and Marcia Gonzalez, whose photos of Stellas in Italy appeared on this page last month. There was an incorrect photo credit on the page. Their trip to Italy was a vacation/honeymoon...and Brian Little did not go with them.
Seán