



Beacon finally publishes February issue

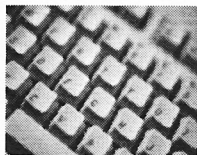
THIS ISSUE

- Ian Murray, editor

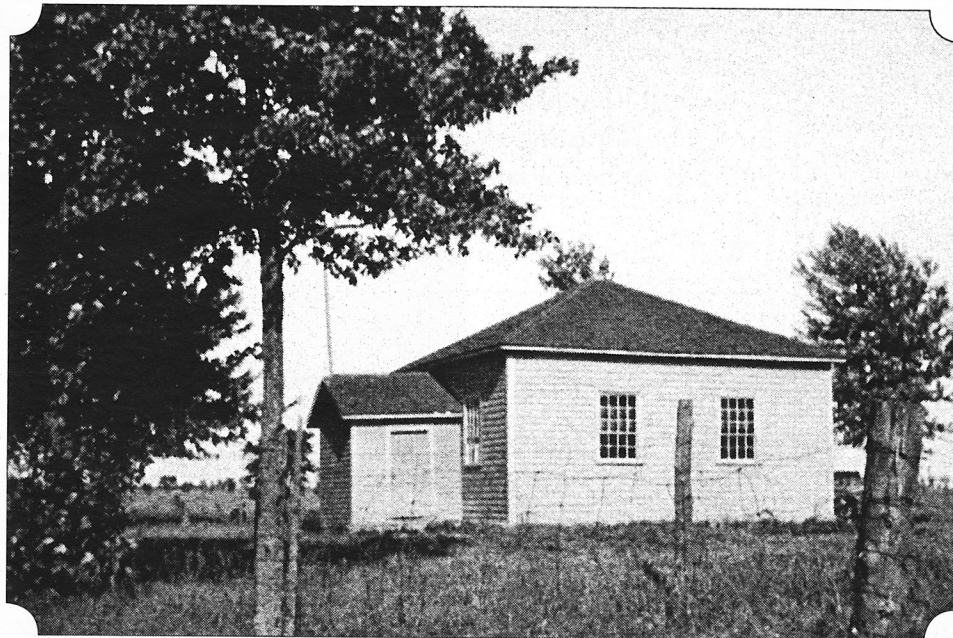
Congratulations to Alena Schram who had one of her Beacon stories printed in the Globe & Mail (January 21, page T5).

I mentioned in the December issue that e-mail subscriptions are now available. The cost is \$20 a year and, through an arrangement with Topsy Farms, can be paid through Pay-pal - aibeacon@sympatico.ca for more information - or by cheque. Existing mailed subscriptions can be changed to e-mail. If there is enough interest, the electronic Beacon will have colour photos.

I am sure most people will still prefer the paper version but I believe there are some who will prefer to go to their computer for the latest Beacon.



Island Schools Then and Now



Above is school house #5, original building is gone but on the site is the home of Carol and Paul Glenn at 3475 Third Concession, seen at right.

See Pages 10 and 11 for more Schools: Then and Now, from Judith Harrower.



NEIGHBOURHOOD

- Lyn Fleming

Get well to Helen Bulch, who has had to make 2 trips to the hospital this month. Get well wishes also to John Pollock, Garnett McDonald & Kaye McGinn.

Condolences to Carmen Hewitt whose mother passed away recently.

Keith Miller is back "on duty" at the dump, following his recovery

from hip surgery.

Congratulations to Brandon Reid, who has been selected for a tournament bowling team. Brandon will represent Prost Bowling Lanes in a tournament in Hamilton, later in February. Good Luck Brandon!

Happy 75th birthday to Lloyd Wolfreys.

Lynanne and Ben Whitton squeezed in a ski trip to Banff before

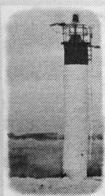
Christmas.

Stephanie Fleming spent New Year's with friends in North Carolina.

Debbie Miller enjoyed the sun and surf in Jamaica for a week in January.

Ralph and Beula Woods spent some time in Belize.

Continued on next page



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Island Beacon

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BH: Bill Harris
TR: Tom Richmond

Continued from last page

Eric and Linda Welbanks were in New Hampshire for a week to do some skiing.

The Amherst Island Recreation Association's weekly Community Euchres have begun again. 25-30 people have been turning out to enjoy some friendly card games, light refreshments and lots of laughs.

Amherst Island Radio has been on air for test broadcasting recently. Tune into 93.7 FM to hear a sampling of things to come.

Well, winter has been relatively non-ex-

istent since Christmas. We have enjoyed milder temperatures and almost no snow. The foot or so of snow we had during December is long gone, replaced with too much rain and mud! Although the bay has skimmed over with ice once or twice this month, it hasn't stayed more than a few hours.

We keep our fingers crossed that February doesn't make up for the lack of winter this month, and then Spring will be on the horizon.

The swans have been regular visitors at the foot in the shallow bay between the Island and the Brother Islands, and there have been regular sightings of several snowy owls.



WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

- Joyce Haines

The Amherst Island Women's Institute January 18th meeting was held at the home of Nancy Dunn. Members welcomed new resident Ann Henderson as a guest. The meeting was opened with the Ode, Collect and O Canada. Roll call was a sharing of New Year's resolutions and there were some interesting ones. Minutes were read and standing reports were given. Another Tweedsmuir Book has been filled and is ready to be photocopied with the original to be taken to the Lennox and Addington Museum.

It was motioned to once again support the local Heart and Stroke Foundation with a general mailing to the Island. Please note that the envelopes for local contributions have a red dot on them, as you may receive other requests.

The president gave a report from the Federated Women's Institute of Ontario (www.FWIO.on.ca) with some interest-

ing information including that the Museum of Civilization in Hull Quebec will have a display honouring Adelaide Hunter Hoodless in 2006.

The movie screen at the community centre has been installed thanks to the Township and we hope the school and community will put it to good use.

A donation to the Neilson Store Museum and Cultural Centre will be made this month.

The treasurer, Stephanie Boissonneault, presented the proposed spending plan for 2006 to the members who will discuss and vote on the items at a later meeting.

A fun time, brown bag auction followed with auctioneer Judy Harrower prompting everyone to spend their money. Proceeds from this auction go to our world-wide affiliate for projects in third world countries.

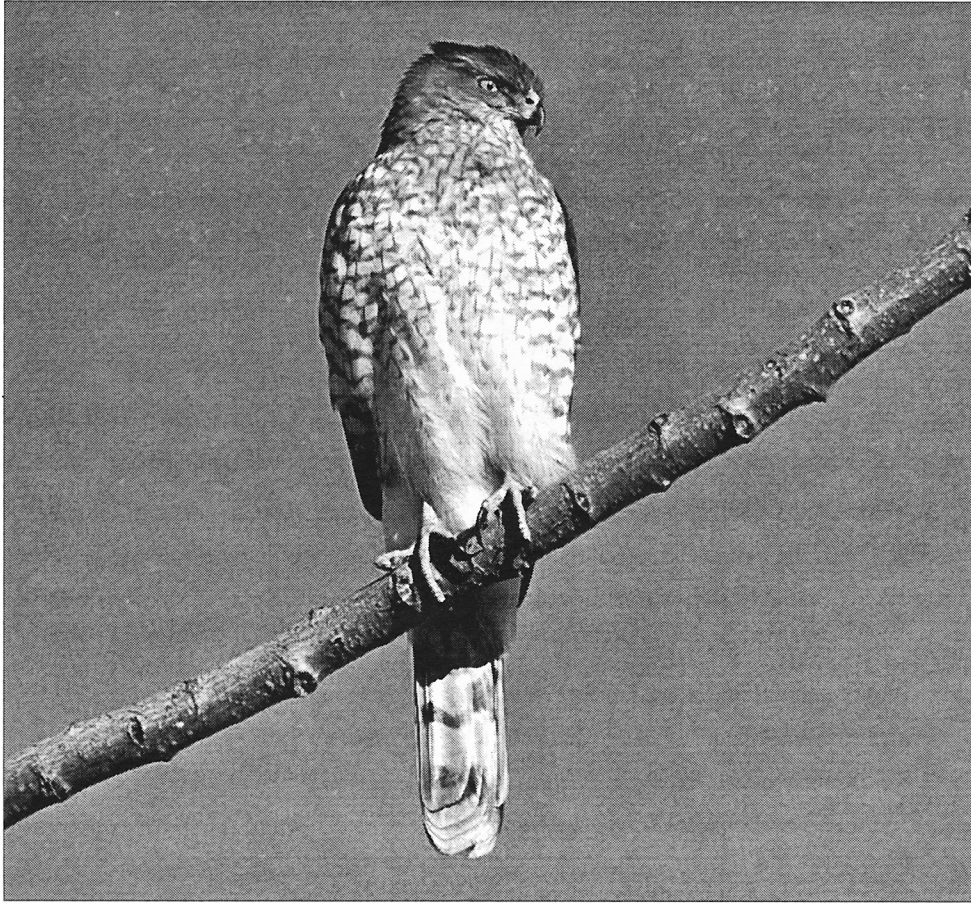
Scrumptious refreshments were served by hostesses Nancy Dunn and Leslie Gavlas.

To chase away those February blahs a movie night and dinner is planned on the mainland.

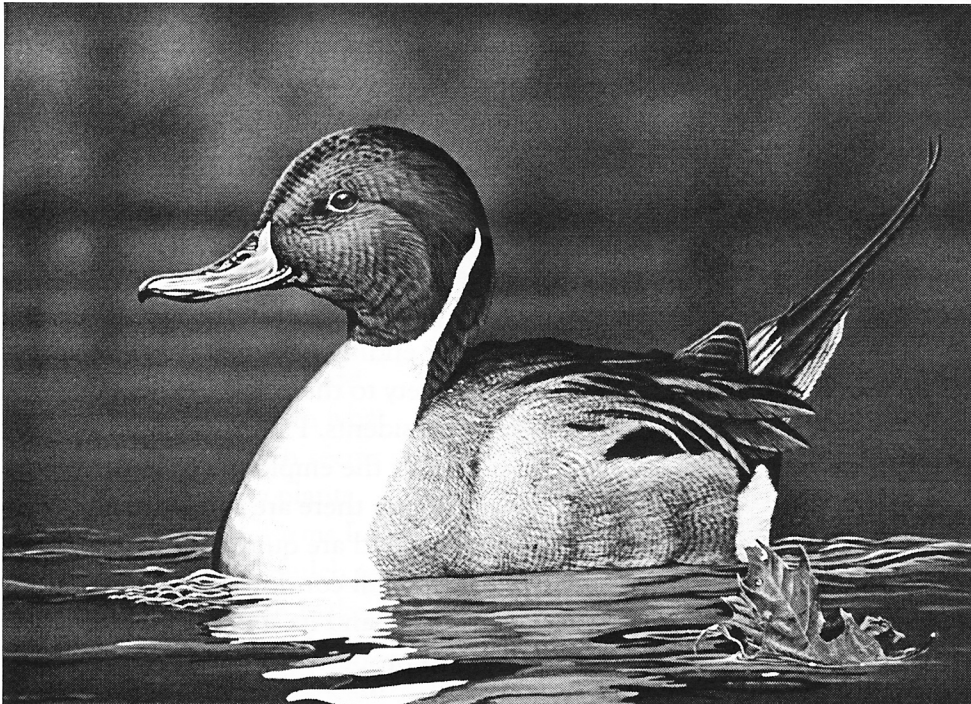
The next regular meeting is March 15th @ 7PM at St Paul's church hall. This is an open meeting with speakers from the Heirloom Seed Sanctuary of the Sisters of Providence in Kingston. Everyone is welcome.



58 bird species were seen on the Island by 30 people on December 30, the official count day, including: Common Loon 1; Tundra Swan 47;



Cooper's Hawk
Northern Pintail



Great Blue Heron 1; Canada Goose 736; Long-tailed Duck 30; Buffle-head 56; American Black 52; Mallard 569; Northern Pintail 2; Green-wing Teal 2; Ring-necked Duck 2; Red Br. Merganser 27; Common Merganser 25; Common Goldeneye 2712; Gadwall 85; Greater Scaup 2; Bald Eagle 10; Northern Harrier 7; Sharp-shinned Hawk 1; Cooper's Hawk 1; Red-tailed Hawk 20; Rough-legged Hawk 8; American Kestrel 1; Ring-necked Pheasant 3; Bonaparte's Gull 1; Ring-billed Gull 5; Herring Gull 45; Great Black-backed Gull 4; Rock Pigeon 70; Mourning Dove 223; Snowy Owl 9; Barred Owl 1; Long-eared Owl 1; Downy Woodpecker 20; Hairy Woodpecker 6; N. Flicker 1; Pileated Woodpecker 1; Northern Shrike 1; Blue Jay 191; Am. Crow 30; Horned Lark 59; Black-capped Chickadee 276; Golden-crowned Kinglet 1; American Robin 1; European Starling 392; Red-breasted Nuthatch 1; White-breasted Nuthatch 41; Am. Tree Sparrow 97; Dark-eyed Junco 16; Lapland Longspur 1; Snow Bunting 535; Northern Cardinal 6; Red-winged Blackbird 1; Common Grackle 1; House Finch 4; Common Redpoll 36; Pine Siskin 2; American Goldfinch 44; House Sparrow 240.

Also during the week of the Christmas bird count were: Great Gray Owl; Meadow Lark; a Short-eared Owl; Lyn Fleming reported Great Horned hooting in the village; I saw a Song Sparrow at my feeder.

Now that gives us over 60 species.
Great count.
Good Birding. *****

COUNCIL GLEANINGS

- Ian Murray

A 1992 GMC Pumper truck has been purchased - \$50,000 - for our Fire Department. It will replace the 1975 International Pumper which was once the pride of the fleet.

Regarding the Lafarge tire burning issue: Councilor Ashley moved that the following be adopted:

1. That Council request the Ministry of the Environment to attend a Council meeting;
2. That Council reaffirm their previous position that a formal hearing is required.

Motion carried.

A motion that Council host a public meeting with the purpose to clarify the Township's request for a technical hearing under the Environmental Act and to allow residents to attend and participate.

Motion lost.

Moved by Councillor Bresee and seconded by Councillor Ashley that a letter be sent to the Ministry of the Environment requesting full disclosure and copies of all documentation relating to Lafarge's application, as soon as possible, specifically including the following information:

1. Lafarge's request to withdraw the waste oil portion of the proposal.
2. Lafarge's commitments to address the specific Township concerns.

Motion carried.

Usually reliable sources believe that: there is a ferry fare increase coming due mainly to the price of fuel; and also a substantial increase in cemetery fees.

Building permit summary for 2005 (estimated value of construction in brackets): single dwellings, 107 (\$17.1 million); commercial, 15 (\$1.6 million); industrial, 2 (\$90 thousand); institutional, 8 (\$872 thousand); new farm buildings, 5 (\$217 thousand); farm renovations, 0; additions & renovations, 231 (\$3.5 million); total building permits, 366 (\$23.4 million). Permit fees totalled \$250 thousand from 2033 inspections.

There were 6 building permits issued for new houses on Amherst Island - no commercial permits.

The following is from a letter written by Jim Hegadorn, a Loyalist ratepayer that appeared in the Council documents:

"I would simply like to express my appreciation to the municipality and the municipal staff which I have dealt with throughout 2005. . . . In the past year I have dealt

SHED DOOR



Photo Judith Harrower

with the clerk's, CAO's, roads', parks and recreation, planning, and treasury departments and council members. With each person contacted, and the dealings I had regarding their respective fields of expertise, were polite, informative and knowledgeable, and they were always willing to ensure that all concerns were addressed and corrective measures taken when required.[sic] Even when the response I received was not favourable to my situation it was presented in a professional manner with explanations provided as requested.

"The level of service provided within this township is appreciated. It is a never ending balancing act between providing service and safety to the public versus increased taxation of the residents. I am always impressed with the concern shown by the employees to ensure standards are met. Although there are some who are vocal with their displeasure, and are quite willing to display their ignorance publicly, I will continue to defend and commend this municipality and its staff for the dedication to the residents and property owners."

How does a mild winter affect your garden?

- Judith Harrower

I have been asked many times this winter as to the effects that this unusually mild winter will have on gardens. There is no guarantee that flowering plants, shrubs or newly planted trees will not be affected. However, my only possible suggestion is MULCH, MULCH and more MULCH. A heads up that the winter could be mild were the fuzzy caterpillars, black and orange ones, who were either all orange or had more orange than black which indicates that the winter would be mild. Another Islander also commented that the Rowan Tree (Mountain Ash) had few berries, while another Islander thought it would be harsher due to the abundance on other berry bearing shrubs.

I have now in late January a primula that has bloomed on the north side of the house and daffodils are coming up as well. However, these were not planted deep enough and once the surface ground warms and thaws up pop the bulbs.

Lack of snow cover and biting winds are what will do more damage than extremely cold temperatures to our gardens. To prevent thawing/freezing damage when there is little or no snow, a very thick cover of mulch will keep the surface ground frozen. I add several inches more than what is recommended which seems to have protected my plants. Then as the season warms I gradually spread the mulch to the outer edges, which makes it easier to mow as well by widening the area underneath

the bushes/trees. If the weather remains similar to January's, then try and get mulch from the dump and add it now for goodness knows what we may get in February and March. It can only help. If you have had twigs/branches down, pick these up and break them into smaller pieces and put around your shrubs/trees, - saves having to take them somewhere or burning them.

Winds have not been as bad as last year when an eastern biting wind took out many sumacs and evergreens. Burlap screens certainly help but are a pain in the neck to get them to stay up when the surface ground thaws and a wind pushes them over.

Mr. and Mrs. Vole have commenced their rise in numbers this past year and the little blighters are quite numerous. The only suggestions I may offer are to keep the grass around shrubs/trees very short and then add

a layer of mulch. I have found that the white plastic tape/tubes does help. In the fall I pull dirt/mulch away from the trunks and put on the plastic, push a mound back over the plastic end so it is buried in the frozen ground and wrap it up the tree. Even if deer/voles eat the top portion of the bush/tree, as long as you have around 10" of trunk left, then the plant has a better chance of coming back. It will of course take longer to get back to the original height.

Hope this might be of some help to you who are concerned. Perennials are going to be affected, especially mums who have had the ground warm up, and I have lost many over the years. With the lack of snow we could be watering this summer but perhaps we will get that snow cover yet this winter.

JUST WAITING

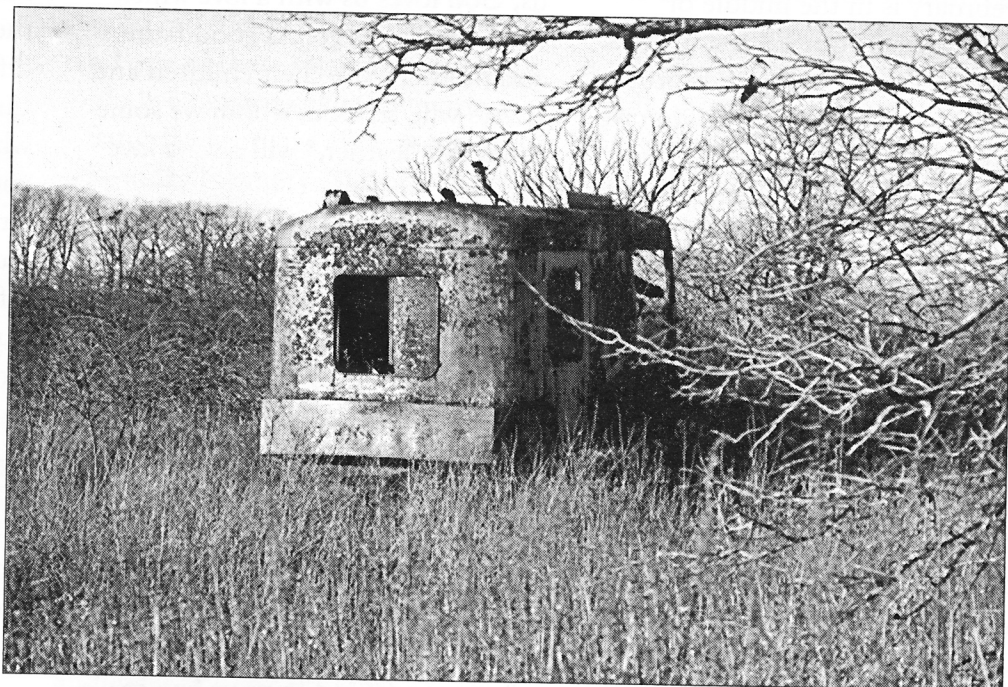


Photo Judith Harrower

THE MONTH OF LOVE

- Zander of DUNN INN

... February is, by numbers, the shortest month of the year. It normally has 28 days while all the other months have 30 or 31 days. But, by all other methods of accounting, February is the longest month of the year.

The month of January which heralds the beginning of a new year has the end of Christmas school holidays and excitement about the new year. The month of March is blessed with the week-long school break and sometimes even with the

engaged on February 14.

But the love we focus on when we celebrate Valentine's Day, is only one kind of love - romantic love. And, while romantic love is wonderful, there are other and better forms of love to share.

There is a love which we share with relatives and friends. The love of friendship is deep and powerful. Anne of Green Gables longed for a "kindred spirit" - another girl - with whom she could enjoy life. The Bible tells us the love David had for his friend, Jonathan, surpassed the love

of a man for a woman. Of course lovers can also be good friends and often a husband or wife will say his or her spouse is the friend most valued.

The best or highest form of love we can know is the unconditional love God has for us. Because God made us, God loves us with a love which will never let us go. As good fathers and mothers love their children and always will, so God, whom we sometimes call "Father," will always love us.

Of course we don't deserve that love. But how can you deserve love? Love is always a gift, freely given to you by someone who holds you in high regard, wants the best for you and seeks to serve you.

We can't earn love or become good enough to merit love. All we can do is receive it and pass it on.

Some of us try to work hard at doing good so God will bless us. God doesn't love us only after we've done what's good. God loves us before we

do anything - even anything good. And God loves us even when we do what is wrong. God forgives, restores and renews - so great is the divine love for us!

We don't need to win God's love; it's there for us before we even thought about it (or even if we didn't think about it). And, for most of us, when we realize how great is that love for us, the weather gets warmer, the sun shines brighter and the days get longer. Imagine: all that from love in the longest month of the year!

AIR Update

- Tom Richmond

We are currently running federally mandated on-air tests to see if there is any interference caused by the station transmitter, particularly to aircraft. If you listen in to the station on 93.7 FM from January 30 to February 20 you will hear the automated computer ("Hal") running the station. It is programmed to run different types of music at different times of the day, but it won't tell you what the song is you are hearing. If you hear something you like, just write down the exact time, and we'll let you know what it was. We've got a few programming glitches to iron out yet, but on the whole you should find it very listenable. The station is shooting for 85% Canadian content during the test period - more than double of any other local station.

Signal coverage seems very good on most of the Island, with a weak spot in the southeast corner of the Foot along South Shore Road that

"The best or highest form of love we can know is the unconditional love God has for us."

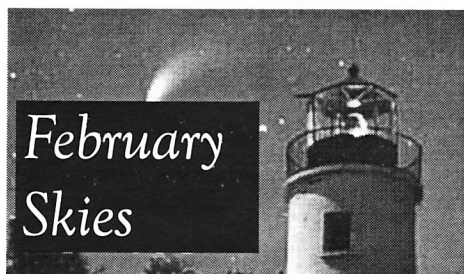
Easter holidays. Besides, in March the days are definitely getting longer.

February is in the middle of winter. Usually our coldest weather comes in February. Often February holds us in such a cold grip that we can't even enjoy the snow. February, unbroken by a holiday, seems to last forever.

It's appropriate that in this most bleak of all times of the year we celebrate the gift of love. Valentine's Day, while not a holiday, reminds us, in the middle of the longest month of the year, when it's at its coldest, that love abounds.

Valentine's Day is all about "Love." School kids exchange Valentine cards; adults observe the day with special parties; lovers often go on dates, eat special foods and get

Continued on next page



- Alan Kidd

One benefit of winter is that its skies bring the brightest stars of the year. Orion is the most notable of the Winter constellations, but Canis Major (just southeast of Orion) has the brightest star, Sirius, and the constellation of Taurus (just northwest of Orion) contains the Pleiades star cluster.

The Pleiades, also known as the seven sisters (although only six stars are visible to the unaided eye) are the best known star cluster, simply because they are the nearest to Earth and therefore the most prominent in our skies. Looking at the Pleiades with a pair of bin-

oculars reveals many more stars, and looking at the cluster through a small telescope one can see a glow around the brighter stars of the cluster. This is the clouds of gas that surround the young stars in the cluster, reflecting the light of those stars. These clouds have a blue color for the same reason that the sky is blue. The wavelength of blue light causes it to be scattered more easily than other colours when passing through dust clouds.

We use the Greek name for the Pleiades Cluster, but of course other peoples have their own names for the star group. The Japanese name for the cluster is Subaru, and the Japanese cars of that name have a little star cluster as their emblem.

The Pleiades are almost directly overhead in the early evening and as an additional bonus Mars is located just to the west of the star cluster. Mars is fading now but is still quite bright. The Moon will also pass through the Pleiades between Febru-

ary 5th and 7th.

The other planet that is visible in the evening sky is Saturn. It is now in opposition, which means that it rises at sunset and sets at sunrise. It is located below the twin stars of Castor and Pollux, to the north east of Orion.

Jupiter rises about 1 am and so is quite prominent in the sky at dawn. Venus is an even brighter object and is rapidly climbing in the east-south-east dawn skies.

By the end of February (26 & 27) look for the Venus and Mercury near the crescent Moon just before dawn.

On the chart I've added Canis Major and the Pleiades, as well as the positions of Mars and Saturn. The group of Orion and Canis Major can be found in the south, about one third of the way from the horizon to directly overhead, in the early evening (about 8 pm). The Pleiades and Mars are almost directly overhead.

Continued from last page

AIR Update

we are going to have to work on with our antenna manufacturer. Evidently we are listenable right past Gardiners Road on both Bath Rd & Princess Street on the mainland.

We had a public meeting on January 25th where the training programme was briefly outlined, and had a little show-and-tell session with the transmitter rack, which was set up at the school. Folks signed up for one of the training sessions: Our station will run on volunteer labour, and so it is very important to have everyone at the same training level.

The dates were chosen so that everyone should be able to find a session they can attend. Folks who

are interested in signing up by phone should call 634-1855. You must attend one of these sessions if you want to do live on-air work at the station.

- Saturday February 18th at 10AM
- Monday February 20th at 10AM
- Monday February 27th at 7PM
- Sunday March 5th at 3PM

Additional one-on-one training will happen in the studio and on-air once each person has been through these sessions. We will schedule additional sessions as demand requires them. Each session will take place at the Lodge on Amherst Island, 320 McDonalds Lane in the village. If you could, please bring \$10 to help defray the cost of duplicating material for attendees of these sessions.

Those who want to volunteer in

some other way are not required to take these training sessions, however, it will give them a better idea of how a radio station works if they do attend if possible.

This is a very exciting time for those of us involved in the station. We are out seeking sponsors for Amherst Island Public Radio, and these will be vitally important to keep CJA1 - FM on the air: Our estimates indicate that it will cost us about \$24 per day on average to operate, allowing for some savings, reserves for future expenditures, etc...

(Of all Kingston area media outlets, only "The Beacon" runs on a tighter budget than that!)

HERE & THERE

- Ian Murray



The latest federal election is over and for those who paid attention it was quite interesting.

Voting in our riding (with Amherst Island in brackets):

Scott Reid	Conservative	30,367 (93)
Geoff Turner	Liberal	14,833 (90)
Helen Forsey	NDP	9544 (46)
Mike Nickerson	Green	3115 (26)
Jeffrey Bogaerts	PCP	735 (3)
Ernest Rathwell	MP	501 (3)
Jeffrey Ackerman	CAP	429 (3)

Dorothy McGinn, who worked in our polling station, told me that the Island residents cast 264 votes out of a total of 320 registered to vote.

Comments from neighbours:

"It was a good election. Each party got something but not too much: the Conservatives won enough to form a minority government; the Liberals could have done a lot worse and were 2nd in a lot of ridings; the NDP increased their seat count; the Greens got 4.5% of the popular vote at \$1.75/vote for the coffers and they got a lot of sympathy in the media; the PCP (Progressive Canadian Party), the MP (Marijuana Party) and the CAP (Canadian Action Party) all got some votes and publicity for their respective causes."

"The West is in and feels good. It won't make any difference - 4 or 5 people in the Prime Minister's Office will make the real decisions."

..."Could have been worse. And it probably will be."

"A new set of hogs at the public trough."

From a NY Times editorial: "... the United States set a record for foreign debt in 2005. . . . The foreign debt is financed by foreign lenders, mainly central banks in Asia and offshore hedge funds."

The irony is that consumption by the world's richest people is dependent on the savings of the world's poorest people who are also producing much of what the richest are consuming.

One wonders for how long this will continue.

Neilson Store Museum Backroom Series

- Alan Kidd

On Friday, January 20th the 2006 series of Backroom talks was kicked off with a presentation called "From Tonti to Amherst - the Seven Years War and the Amherst Island Region." A large audience listened to Alan Kidd, Martin Hauschild and Tom Sylvester discuss the impacts of the Seven Years War on our region, with particular emphasis on the capture of Fort Frontenac.

The war pitted Britain, Prussia and Hanover against France, Russia, Spain, Sweden and Austria. Most of the battles were fought in Europe, but the biggest impact of the war was probably felt in North America.

Two Hundred and Fifty years ago, at the start of the Seven Years war, what is now Quebec and Ontario, together with a huge territory extending from the Great Lakes to New Orleans lay under nominal French control. By the end of the war all that remained of French territory in North America were a few small islands in the Caribbean and the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

Although Britain suffered repeated defeats early in the war, the tide of battle began to turn in their favour in 1758 with the capture of the French forts of Louisburg on Cape Breton Island and Frontenac at what is now Kingston.

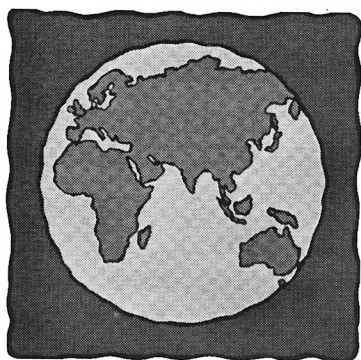
Martin Hauschild described the details of the capture of Fort Frontenac. Col. James Bradstreet, a native of Nova Scotia, led a force of around three thousand men, mostly colonial militia, against the fort. His force crossed the lake from Oswego, catching the small French garrison by surprise. The French prisoners were all paroled and sent to Montreal, the British force destroyed the fort but didn't occupy it and for the next thirty years the area around Kingston supported only a small population.

The next year, 1759, Quebec fell to General Wolfe and General Amherst took Montreal in 1760. The peace of Paris transferred all of Canada to the British, but it wasn't long before rebellion in the southern colonies brought troops and fortifications back to the area.

Tom Sylvester talked about the various groups that had lived in the area and also briefly touched on the life and times of some of the principal figures in the area - from Henri de Tonti to James Bradstreet. The evening ended with a general discussion over refreshment in the museum itself.

LETTER FROM NASSAU

- Harold Redekopp



Over the Christmas season there were two interesting book launches here in Nassau. Both books deal with the whodunit murder in July 1943 of Sir Harry Oakes, a Canadian gold mining magnate who made his fortune in Ontario around Kirkland Lake.

Sir Harry, one of the richest men in the British Empire, had moved to Nassau in order to avoid the Canadian taxman. He was a controversial figure in Nassau, who could be both a rough-tough character to

Wallis Simpson) has been installed as governor of the colony. The Duke and the Duchess have been assigned to this remote corner of the Empire because their alleged sympathies to Hitler and his Nazi cronies have created serious embarrassment and security issues for Britain and its wartime Prime Minister, Sir Winston Churchill.

The first book, "Blood and Fire", by John Marquis spends as much time dealing with the really quite unsavory behavior of the Windsor's as it does of the actual murder, the trial and acquittal of Oakes' son-in-law, Count Alfred de Marigny. Marquis, currently the Managing Editor of the Nassau

Tribune, has had secret meetings with what he calls credible sources, and has ploughed through a tremendous amount of material about the protagonists to try to

cast new light on one of the most engrossing murder mysteries of modern times.

"Was the Duke directly or indirectly involved in the killing? If so, why? Was his mishandling of the Oakes investigation another example of his ineptitude or did he deliberately intend the inquiry to pose more questions than it answered?

The two biggest and most disturbing questions of all, about his role in the affair, go right to the root of the Windsor enigma. Was he really

a doe-eyed weakling whose every decision was made for him by his wife, or was he a ruthless conspirator prepared to see an innocent man go to the gallows to protect himself and his friends from exposure?"

Marquis is a gifted writer and readers will find his Blood and Fire an intriguing tale. Sales of his book here in Nassau have been brisk and Marquis is currently urging the Bahamas tourist authorities to have the Windsors and their resi-

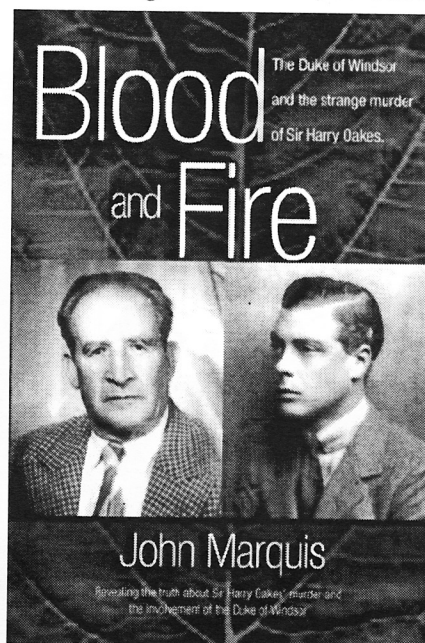
dence, Government House, become vacation attractions.

The second book, "Who Killed Sir Harry", by Eric Minns, who maintains residences in Toronto and Nassau, covers much the same ground as Blood and Fire, except that it sets the murder and trial in the context of a novel with a Canadian ex-newspaper reporter attempting to solve the puzzle.

I found "Blood and Fire" the more compelling of the two. It would make great reading for any one of the book clubs on Amherst Island. And it would certainly stir up vigorous debate on a number of questions posed.

"Blood and Fire" By John Marquis is published by LMH Publishing Ltd., Kingston, Jamaica and is available through www.amazon.com.

"Who Killed Sir Harry" by Eric Minns is published by Loric Publishers, 910-1210 Radom Street, Pickering Ontario, L1W 2Z3.



"...the prime ingredients of a great page turner; betrayal, sedition, a rigid, stultifying class system, sex and racism."

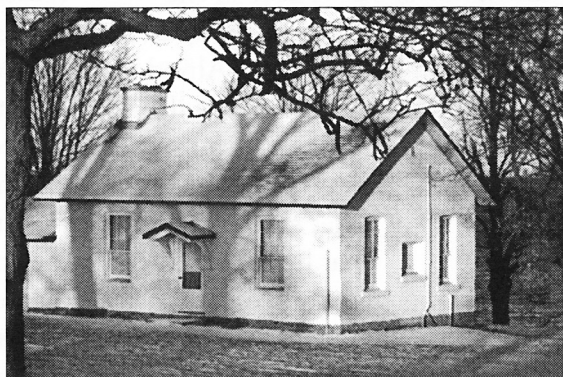
deal with, as well as a magnanimous benefactor to those truly in need.

The whodunit is particularly interesting because it deals with the prime ingredients of a great page turner; betrayal, sedition, a rigid, stultifying class system, sex and racism. The setting is the remote British colony of Bahamas in the middle of World War II which is going very badly for the British. The Duke of Windsor (Edward VIII who had abdicated the British throne for the love of a twice divorced Mrs.

The Schools of Amherst Island...



Picture #1



- Judith Harrower

As the Island changes, even since I came here just four years ago, I thought it would be of interest to others to know what was here long before we arrived over the years. To commence this I have been given pictures of the five original school houses and have taken pictures of the same sites today.

Picture 1 is school house #1, original building still there and is currently owned by Mrs. Gertrude Maud at 3580 Front Road.

Picture 2 is school house #2, original building still there and is currently owned by Martin Hauschild and Ulna Sturf at 4125 South Shore Road.

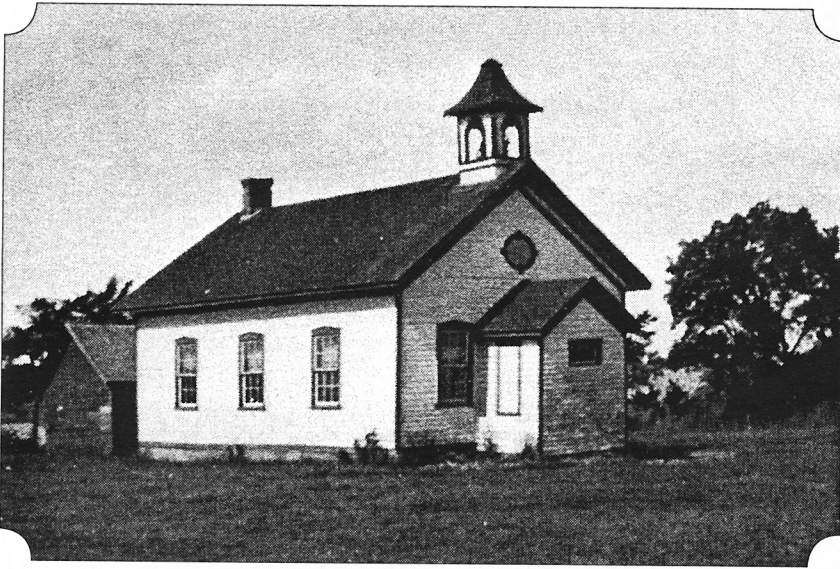
Picture 3 is school house #3, original building gone and now is the site of Johnny McGinn's home, north-west corner of Front and Kerr Roads.

Picture 4 is school house #4, original building still there but abandoned on the east side of the Emerald Forty-Foot Road.

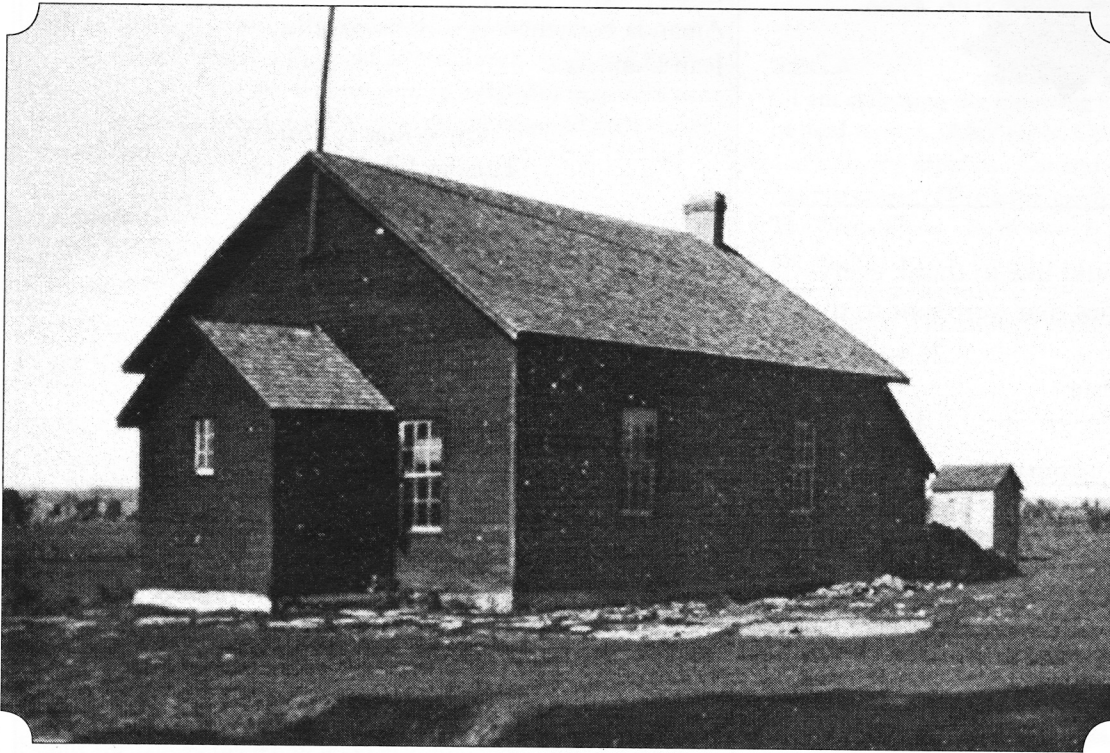


Picture #2

...Then and Now



Picture #3



Picture #4



PLASTIC BAGS

- Sally Bowen & Ian Murray

From a recent Whig article (Jan. 16, page 13):

"Twenty minutes: how long the average plastic bag is used before it is discarded.

"Four hundred years: how long it takes the bag to disintegrate."

Please recycle your plastic bags to the General Store, the local libraries, health food stores and wherever else they can be re-used.

Beside the above article was a story about John Stuart, a farmer in Nova Scotia, who has been donating trees to urban municipalities for 15 years. He has donated about 20 thousand so far and hopes to increase that to 100,000 in his lifetime. Now that's making a difference.



THANK YOU NOTES

The members of "A" crew would like to thank everyone for all the Christmas goodies that were sent to the Ferry. We enjoyed them.

Warren, Darrel, Gary, Jim, Jane

NOTICES

LOST CAT

Emerald area of Front Rd., black and white face mask, answers to the name Phantom. Big neutered tom. Has he been eating at your house? Please call 384-5774 Anna & Eva
We miss him!

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.

NOTICES

WATERSIDE

SUMMER SERIES

2006 WATERSIDE SUMMER SERIES ON AMHERST ISLAND

All concerts at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church

The Music Within

Friday June 30 7.15 pm

Tickets \$18

Mark DuBois	tenor
Elizabeth Beeler	soprano
Danny McErlain	piano

Studio Sparks on Amherst Island

Saturday July 8 7.15 pm

Tickets \$18

Eric Friesen	host
Amanda Forsyth	cello
Jean Desmarais	piano

On Wings of Song

Tuesday July 25 7.15pm

Tickets \$30

Russell Braun	baritone
Norine Burgess	mezzo-soprano
Carolyn Maule	piano

The Celtic Spirit

Thursday August 3 @ 7.15pm

Tickets \$18

Mark Haines	fiddle, guitar and voice
Tom Leighton	accordion, bodhran, keyboards and voice

The Gryphon Trio

Wednesday August 9 @ 7.15pm

Tickets \$18

Annalee Patipatanakoon	violin
Jamie Parker	piano
Roman Borys	cello

Ticket Information. To reserve tickets, payment by cheque must be received in advance. **They go on sale May 1**, and may be ordered by telephone at 613-384-2153, or by Mail at Waterside, RR#1 Stella ON K0H 2S0, Reserved tickets will be mailed if purchased two weeks prior or can be picked up on the day of the performance after 6:30 pm. If available, tickets may be purchased at the door.

ADS AND NOTICES

LOYALIST TOWNSHIP: Conditions Re Use of Back Beach

Loyalist Township advises that effective January 1st to September 4th, 2006, Back Beach is available for public use under the following conditions:

1. All terrain vehicles, dirt bikes, dune buggies and other motorized vehicles and bicycles are prohibited. All vehicles must be parked in the designated parking area.
2. No persons shall be allowed to camp, light fires, hunt or discharge firearms on the Beach.
3. Use of the Beach is permitted only during the period from January 1st to Labour Day and at no other time.
4. Persons using the Beach do so at their own risk as the Beach is unsupervised.
5. Keep the area clean by placing all garbage in the garbage receptacles provided. Users are encouraged to take their garbage with them when they leave the Beach.
6. No one shall use the Beach for sleeping or residential purposes or for the storage of personal effects or articles.
7. No trees of any nature may be cut or destroyed in the Beach or adjacent areas.
8. Consumption of alcoholic beverages is prohibited.
9. Management reserves the right to make such other and further reasonable rules and regulations as in its judgment may from time to time be needed for the safety, care, cleanliness and appearance of the Beach.

For information concerning this notice, please contact:
Patrick Beyer, Recreation Director, Loyalist Township,
(613) 386-7351, ext. 131, pbeyer@loyalist-township.on.ca

FOR SALE

WI ISLAND SIGHTS 2006 CALENDAR

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
Or contact any WI member.

APPLIANCES

Family size fridge/freezer, in good working order, free to a good home.

12 cu.ft. freezer, also in good working order: \$150

Phone # 384-5027

AMHERST ISLAND T-SHIRTS AND SWEATSHIRTS

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

PICNIC TABLES & WEATHER VANES

Keith Miller, 389-2588

FOR SALE

RAWLEIGH PRODUCTS

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

JACUZZI

Excellent working condition. Four jets, grey, bathtub style. Asking \$100.

Call 634-4276.

WANTED

AMHERST ISLAND ANGELS FOR AIDS

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

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

S.P.C.A

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 "Cats Meow" 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.

FOR RENT

THE LODGE ON AMHERST ISLAND

Lodging rooms and Rental available for special occasions.

Call: (866) 552-3535

www.amherstisland.on.ca/thelodge

ALSO 1&2 BEDROOM COTTAGES on Stella Point: By the week or weekend, April-October. (Phone numbers above.)

STORAGE

Seasonal storage in Stella! - boats, cars, snowmobiles, etc.

Indoors, reasonable rates.

Dayle Gowan 634-3815

NORTH SHORE COTTAGE

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

HOUSE FOR RENT

Year-round, by the week, weekend or month...on the North Shore. Call Cherry 634-1212

FOR RENT

SOUTH SHORE COTTAGE

On private, secluded peninsula. Over 2000ft of limestone shoreline.

Call (613) 389-5536 for further information.

SERVICES/BUSINESS ADS

VICTORIA HALL CRAFTS & TEA ROOM

"Friendly Service in a Cozy Atmosphere."

For Lunch, afternoon teas, and early dinners.

Home cooked food...

- Pork, Lamb and Beef Sausages
on Sourdough Garlic and Cheese Buns

- Quiche Lorraine

- Cheesy Macaroni with Ham

Our seasonal specialty soups like:

-Tuscany Umber,

-Slightly Curried Squash,

- Sweet Potato and Chick Pea

Tempting Desserts:

- Pies

- Chocolate Torte

- Scones with Fruit and Cream

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

Open Year Round except for Jan. 25 to Feb. 28.

From Noon to 6pm.

Wednesday through Sunday.

Hall available for private functions.

See our local craft display.

For reservation call Bernice or Neil - 389-5389

5545 Front Road, Amherst Island

NEWS From the GENERAL STORE

Canada Post - Postage rates will increase Jan. 16.

Letter: in Canada, \$0.51; to USA \$0.89; overseas, \$1.49.

Happy New Year!

Hope everyone had a great holiday - from all of us at the General Store.

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.

LAKESHORE RUBBER STAMP

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

Email: selc.welbanks@sympatico.ca

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

Linda Welbanks.

SERVICES/BUSINESS ADS

Certified Computer Technician

12 years experience. Hardware installs/repairs/upgrades. Networking and internet setup including wireless. Tutoring. Virus and spyware removal and assistance on prevention.

\$ 65.00 for the first hour and \$40.00 for subsequent hours.

Colleen: office and msgs: 377-6598 cell: 539-1900

colleen@lahaise.net - www.lahaise.net

COMPUTER SERVICES

- Website design, maintenance and management.
- Computer not running smoothly? Internet connection down?
- Tutoring, troubleshooting and more.
- Photo retouching and restoration.
- Marketing/promotional materials - business cards, flyers, etc.

15 years of experience, very reasonable rates.

Don't go off the Island for help, contact me:

Seán 384-6241

sndaly@sympatico.ca

PERSONAL CARE

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

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.

CUTS IN MOTION

Professional hair care in your home offering cuts, perms and colours.

Over 20 years experience.

Call Kim at 386-7821. (Island references available.)

HOME SERVICES

G L M CONSTRUCTION

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

Gary McDonald:384-1456.

TED GOW

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

HOME SERVICES**THOMAS A. RICHMOND**

Certified Electrician

Home, Farm & Commercial wiring & repairs, right here on the Island. Electrical Safety Authority Authorized Contractor Program. 634-1855.

WATER WELLS & WATER TREATMENT

John Jeffery- Phone 561-7867.

RENOVATIONS, ETC.

I do renovations, repairs, painting, decks.

References available from highly satisfied island customers.

Please call Walter at 352-8742 for details

PAINTING AND DECORATING

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

Now, where do you find the decorator?

See Shell

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

Island references.

Phone 378-2736

FOR HOUSEWORK:

Call Connie at 634-3075.

TURVY

GENERAL CONTRACTING

"A variety of contracting services"
Reasonable Rates

Ask About Our Senior's Discount

Jacob Murray
(613) 888-5101

Kyle Murray
(613) 389-3802

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!

BABYSITTERS**WHITNEY**

-After school and weekends.

-Responsible & -Red Cross Certified

-Call Whitney Fleming 389-9869

TORRI

Red Cross Certified Babysitter. Available early evenings & weekends.

Torri Phillips: 389-0512

BETH

Red Cross Babysitting & CPR certified - available after school, early evenings & weekends.

Beth Albertan: 389-2662

FARM PRODUCTS**GODDEN'S WHOLE HOG SAUSAGE**

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.

HOME GROWN BEEF

Government Inspected

Available in approximately 25 or 50lb freezer packages.

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

Call Flemingdale Farms 389-9869.

TOPSY FARMS:**NEW PRODUCTS at TOPSY's WOOL SHED**

We now carry mattress pads and comforters made of 100% cotton (bleached or unbleached) stuffed with pure wool. These come in all sizes, single to king. They are fully washable. They are outstandingly comfortable. Call us before you come to make sure we are around. 389-3444.





Photo Brian Little

