

Amherst Island BEACON



Newsstand
\$2.00

Issue 366

www.amherstisland.on.ca

September 2008

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NEIGHBOURHOOD

- Lyn Fleming

Due to email and editing mix-ups, my condolences to the Filson family did not get into the last Beacon, and I apologize.

Our sympathy goes out to Barbara Filson following the passing of her husband Harry. Also, to Gary and Susan Filson and Val and Bob Howard and families on the loss of their father and grandfather. Harry also leaves his sister Katherine Wemp and many extended family members as well.

Condolences to Gary and Susan, who also lost Susan's father, John Sedore, a few weeks later.

Our sympathy also this month to Diane Pollock (Bill Phillips), Lois Millen (Kevin) and Jane Cappelle (Donald) and families, whose father, Albert Henderson passed away in August.

Get Well wishes this month to Madeline Glenn, who is recovering from a fall and Puddy Dodds, Dick Dodds and Emily Tugwell who are all recovering from assorted surgeries.

It seems this was the summer for Islanders to travel to the Calgary Stampede. Jane and Russell McGinn, Bob Gibson, Susan McGinn and Bonnie Baker took a road trip to Calgary for a couple of days at the Stampede, then went on to the west coast. Victoria and Marianne Eves flew out to Calgary for 5 days during the Stampede.

Wilbert and Gayle Willard's daughter Diana visited in July from B.C. When she left, Wilbert and Gayle went back to B.C. with her.

Well, summer is over and school is just around the corner. There has been a large turnover in staff at A.I.P.S. this summer and we are still in the midst of changes!

The last week of August turned out to be warm and dry - I think that is the first straight week with no rain since June. Farmers are still trying to get their June crops of hay off the fields. The forecast is for a warmer, dryer September - we will see.

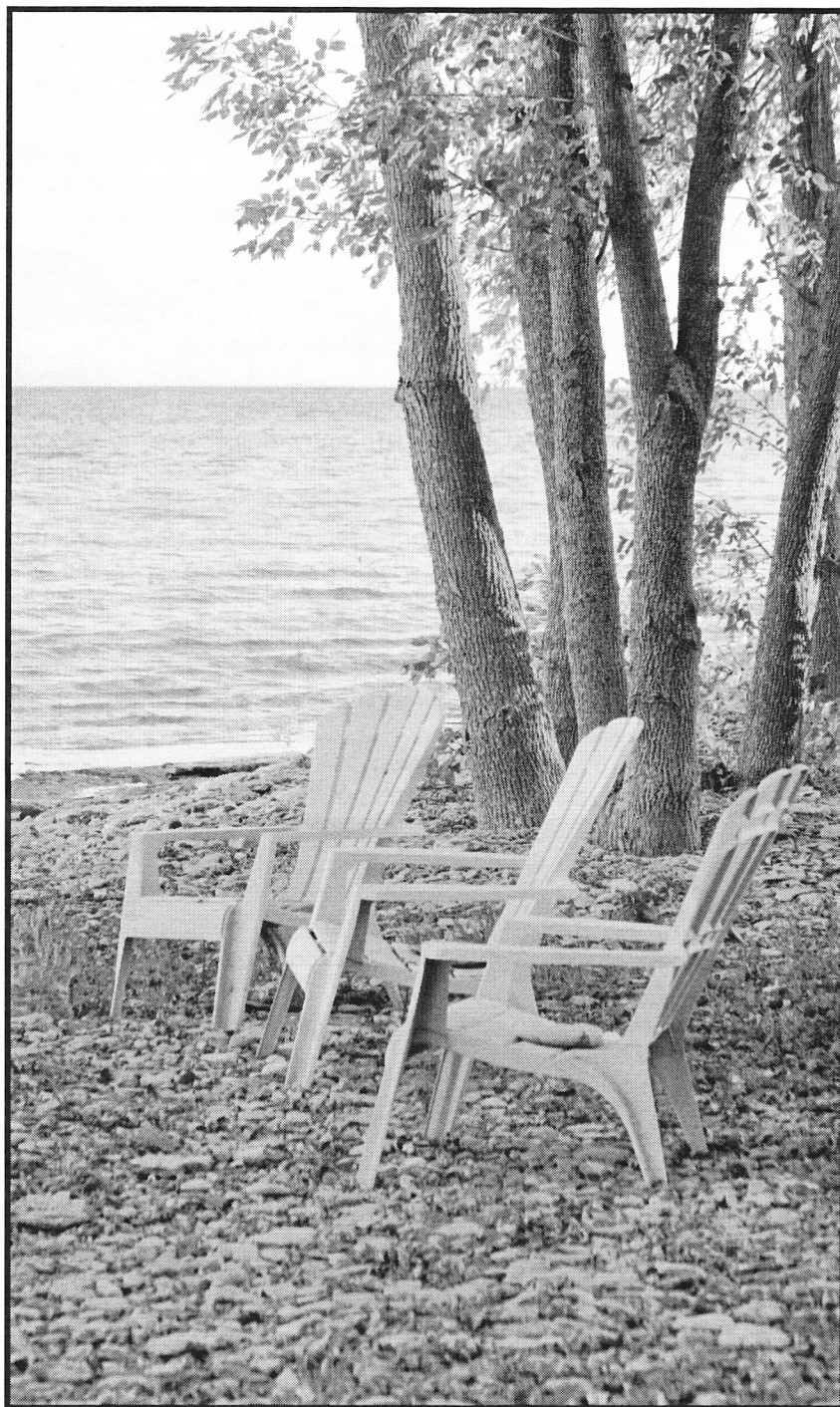


PHOTO BY BRIAN LITTLE



The Amherst Island Beacon

Issue 366
September 2008

Published monthly, the Beacon is wholly funded by paid subscriptions and sales at the Amherst Island General Store.

Subscription Rates:

Canada \$35/yr
USA \$40/yr
Overseas: Contact Us!
E-Mail \$20/yr

September Printing
275 Copies

Subscription & Editorial

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Deadline for all submissions:

25th of each Month

Printed By:

Burke's Printing,
Napanea

Credits:

Word 2003
Microsoft Publisher
2003
Pagemaker 7.0
Acrobat 6.0
Family Tree Maker
9.0
Microsoft Clip Art

FAREWELL TO REVEREND MARGARET JOHNSTON-

JONES

- Joyce Reid

On Sunday July 27, a Farewell Church Picnic was held at the home of Joyce Reid, in honour of the Reverend Margaret Johnston-Jones, rector of St. Alban's, Stella, and St. John's, Bath. All three Island churches were represented - since she has touched many lives here.

The gathering began with a tribute from the Rev. Zander Dunn of St. Paul's Presbyterian Church. After his kind words, Rev. Margaret was asked to say Grace, her last official function before this congregation. A fabulous pot luck luncheon awaited.

At half-time, we took a break to present gifts to her from various grateful groups and families.

Following the presentations, Margaret cut her beautiful farewell cake, made by Lynn Fleming and then dessert was served.

Good wishes were extended by all, in her new position as Chaplain in two Metropolitan Toronto area hospitals.

She will be missed.



PHOTO BY JOYCE REID

A farewell party for Rev. Margaret (held at Joyce Reid's house).

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

- Sharen English

On Wed., Aug. 20, sixteen members of the Women's Institute and two guests, Mayo Underwood and Bette Kelley, went on an outing to Prince Edward County on a warm, sunny, summer day.

The group car pooled and rode the Glenora ferry to The Lake on the Mountain Resort for lunch in Picton. Before lunch we enjoyed the scenic lookouts at the two lakes and read the plaques explaining the geological formation of the lakes.

A short business meeting was conducted by Kirsten Benick, our co-president. Claire Jenney our other co-president was unable to attend the outing and conveyed a message expressing her regret. Two of our W.I. members who live on the mainland and don't often attend meetings, Jean McIntyre and Jane Miller, were welcomed. Kirsten thanked Erika Krauklis for organizing and volunteering her time as the chief recycling officer at the Lamb and Pig Roast fund raiser for the Amherst Island Radio Station. Judy Wambara and Joyce Haines assisted in the recycling duties. Judy Greer was thanked for buying and transporting the soft drinks to the Lamb and Pig Roast. The W.I. sold these soft drinks as a fund raiser for the radio station and the W.I. Joyce Reid was thanked for womaning the soft drink table. Judy Harrower helped sell soft drinks. Jackie Sylvester, Nancy Pearson and Sharen English were thanked for organizing this outing.

Lunch was delicious. It was served in a rustic stone dining room. After lunch we looked at some exquisite stone fences on County Road 7. We continued on to the Fifth

Town Artisan Cheese Company in Prince Edward County. Sheep and goat cheeses are the only cheeses made here. The milk is purchased from small scale, family owned farms within 100 miles of the facility.

The grounds of the company have contemporary art displayed by various artists. This art "explores concepts of sustainability in a creative 3-D dialogue with the major principles of Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)." The materials for the whimsical art are all recycled and the art is for sale.

"LEED is a green building rating system which establishes standards for environmentally sustainable construction with respect for



(Continued from page 2)

process as well as building design."

We were given a tour of the impressive facility by the owner. The tour was very interesting. We had a wine and cheese tasting hosted by Sommelier Andrew Laliberté. The wines were all from Prince Edward County wineries and the cheese was from the factory. We then browsed the cheese shop on site.

The outing was enjoyed by all.

The next meeting will be on Wed., Sept. 17 at 7 p.m.



PHOTO BY ELIZABETH BARRY

JANET'S JOTTINGS

- Janet Scott

What an exciting call I had on Saturday, August 23rd. Susan Filson called to let me know that they had a Great Egret on their property. The beautiful Great Egret makes occasional visits to Amherst Island. The best view I ever had was one walking out of the reeds at the marsh on Lance Eves' property on the South Shore. They are pure white with yellow beaks and can be distinguished from the white phase of the Great Blue Heron by the black legs. The Great Blue Heron in the white phase is found in Florida and has yellow legs. Great Egrets are 39 inches in length and have a wingspan of 51 inches. In 1988 nine birds were seen on Amherst Island. A breeding colony on Lake Erie was noted in 1953 and a colony at Cornwall in 1985. This is a wonderful bird to see and observe.

Susan and Gary and their guests were thrilled when the egret chose to land on their lawn. They had the best possible view of its magnificent wingspan as it started to land by their dock and unfortunately my arrival by car scared off the bird. Wanderers in fall sometimes move well north of their usual breeding grounds so perhaps our bird was from the United States or perhaps from the newer breeding colony on Lake Erie.

The marsh at the east end of the Island has been a viewing spot for many wonderful and also some rare white visitors. One July we had an American White Pelican stay for three weeks on the bar and adjacent marsh. This bird should have been on territory in the west or at least only on the west end of Lake Superior but he or she had de-

cided to visit our scenic isle. On another occasion the very rare Arctic Tern visited the bar with the more usual Caspian and Common Terns. We were fortunate to add this circumpolar visitor to our Amherst Island list. Both Trumpeter and Tundra Swans can be seen at that corner of the island and for the past few years it has been usual, except for last winter, to have a Snowy Owl hanging out at that corner of the island. How fortunate we are that The Kingston Field Naturalists, in their wisdom, chose that piece of property to buy back in the fifties when it was still possible to buy such a large shoreline parcel of land on Amherst Island.

White birds do not always come in rare species because albinism occurs in various amounts on some rather common birds. Lance Eves' farm was home to an all-white cowbird that could be seen frequently around the barn door back about twenty years ago. We had an all-white Red-winged Blackbird at our feeder one year. The only thing that gave it away was the black eye and when it Ok-a-reeed it showed its red epaulettes and we were able to identify it then. Another case of partial albinism was a Black-capped Chickadee in the Owl Woods that had a white cap. It was an unusual sight that winter among the other regular birds. Last winter The Whig-Standard ran a photo of an all-white Robin.

Recent bird sightings have been nine Orioles at Ida's feeder, Indigo Buntings at the dump and Eagles on the North Shore. Keep your eyes open and watch for rare and unusual birds as migration gets into full swing. Don't forget to call and let me know what you're seeing.

A \$175 HOUSE

- Janet Scott, 2090 South Shore Road

When William Coulson renovated the old farm house on Lot 13, Concession 4 Amherst Island in 1967, two boards were discovered under the sill of the southeast corner window. He was wise enough to preserve them and frame them so that later generations could read the writing. One says: "Jos. Gardner and Alfred Kent built this house for Charles Girvin in July in 1877 for the sum of one hundred and seventy five dollars." The other board states that: "A. Kent and J. Gardner built this house in July 1877. They lived in Napanee and Bath."

What a wonderful treasure to come with a house. Always keep your eyes open when renovating an old house as these little treasures may appear.

These boards connect the present with a glimpse of the past. What was Canada like back in 1877? Prime Minister John A. Macdonald had left office in 1873 after The Pacific Scandal and Alexander Mackenzie, a Liberal and a Scot won the election. Canada was in a depression and times were hard. In 1872 the North West Mounted Police were brought into existence and in the 1870's British Columbia, Prince Edward Island and Manitoba became provinces. Canada was growing and John A. was back on the campaign trail in 1877. He would win the election of 1878. In July of 1877 just at the same time that my house was being built the Baltimore and Ohio railroad cut wages and thus began "The Strike of 1877" in United States. The workers demanded a minimum wage of \$1.50 a day. That kind of puts the house cost in perspective. In 1880 Chinese railway workers made \$1.00 a day and general workers made \$1.50-\$1.75 a day. You could travel from Toronto to Montreal on The Grand Trunk railway for \$10.00 in First Class and \$2.00 in Second Class. Just remember though that the trains run on Montreal time which is 8 1/2 minutes faster than Brockville Time and 12 minutes faster than Kingston. Belleville was faster by 14 1/2 minutes and Toronto 23 minutes. We didn't have Standard Time.

The deed for this Lot 13 South Shore was given to Samuel Girvin in November 1873 and signed by William Moutray as attorney for Robert Perceval Maxwell and Helena Perceval Maxwell. I went on a hunt for the Girvin stones and found them in the Pentland Cemetery. I found Samuel Girvin 1810 - 1898 and also his wife Eliza who died in 1878. They had a son Charles 1848-1899 who received this house in November 1889 from Samuel. Charles was married to Evangeline Weller 1854-1915.

In our upstairs storeroom, there are no windows in the room and I presume it's what the Victorians called a boxroom. There is writing on the wall and on the back of the door. On the door it says, "I wonder how long this writing will remain. November 24th, 1901, F.W. Girvin. The signature is written in a beautiful flowing script and

appears several times on the plaster wall with the years 1897, 1898, 1899 and 1901 after them. Genevieve Fleming told me that Fred Girvin became a doctor and moved out to Alberta.

You can see a photo of Fred at The Neilson Store Museum and Cultural Centre. He was a member of the Stella Band. Fred Girvin had a daughter Evangeline Carter who sold this property to William and Evelyne Coulson in 1956 but retained a corner lot until she sold it in 1988 to Kathleen Reed. Thus the Girvins had a connection to this land for one hundred and fifteen years. The Scotts were fortunate in 1984 to purchase the house and almost two acres from the Coulsons and we're still here.

Drop in some time and I'll show you the writing on the wall. I would love to meet a Girvin connection so if you know one, please tell them to drop by and share a cup of tea and some memories.

I've included a couple of pictures of the house. Peter Witteveen took the first one in 1951 and his great-granddaughter Whitney Fleming took the present one.

Thank-you to all those people who helped me with research and shared their expertise: Karen Scott, Tom Sylvester and Laurie Kilpatrick.



PHOTO BY WHITNEY FLEMING



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY PIET WITTEVEEN

ALBERT IRWIN HENDERSON:

March 5, 1929 - August 20, 2008

- Diane Pollock

Married Phyllis Minaker on November 16, 1957.

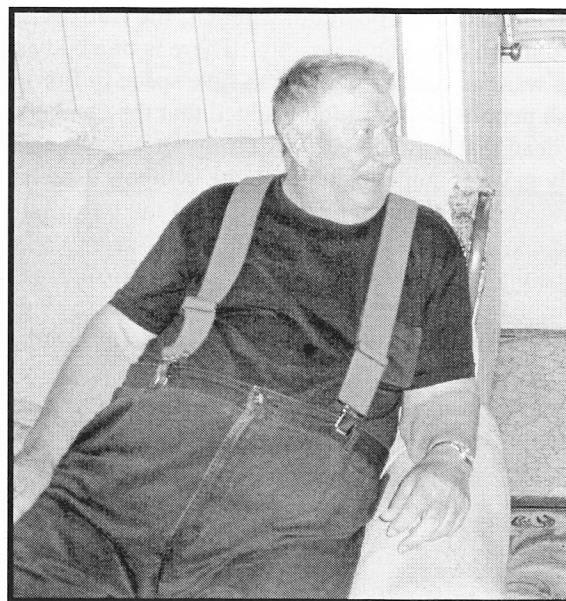
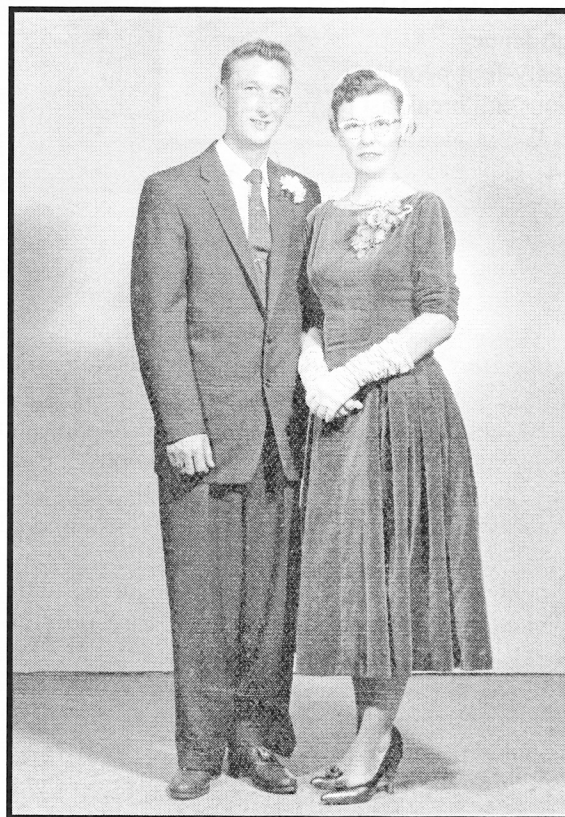
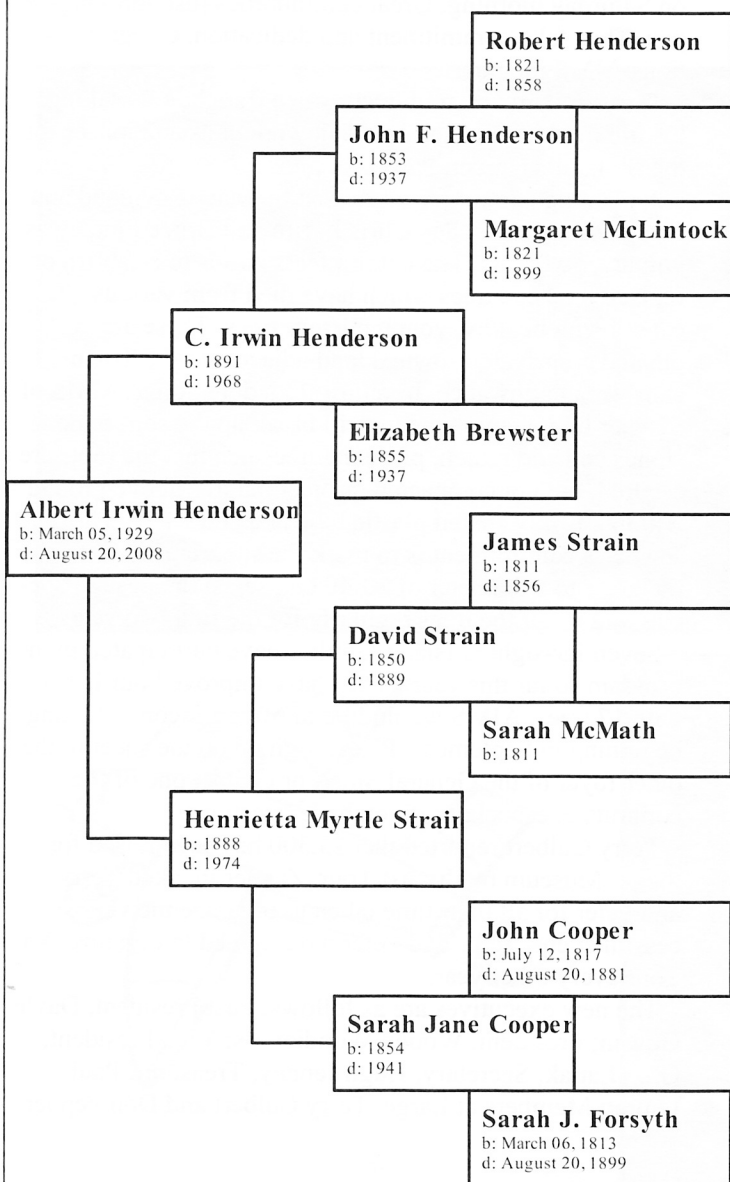
Phyllis passed away Sept. 26, 2006.

Survived by daughters: Diane (Bill), Amherst Island; Lois (Kevin), Napanee; and, Jane (Donald), Edmonton.

Also survived by grandchildren: Sara, Samantha, Cale, Jesslyn, Dakota and Sierra.

Dad lived his life on the family farm. He was born in the house that he lived his life out in. Farming, hunting and fishing were his passions.

After Mom died, not one day went by that Dad didn't talk about her. He missed her very much.

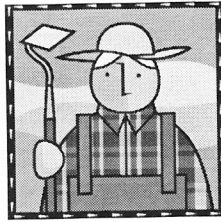
Ancestors of Albert Irwin Henderson

PHOTOS PROVIDED BY DIANE POLLOCK

AIMS: AUGUST 9

- Hugh Jenney

Twenty-four people sat down to a delicious full breakfast prepared by Lorna Willis.



Dayle Gowan was away so our Vice President, Woody Woodiwiss, started the meeting by introducing our guest speaker, Judy Harrower. Woody said that Judy is a person who has worked tirelessly for all Islanders on the Ferry Committee and now on the Pentland Cemetery Committee. She is a very valued member of this community because she gets things done.

She gave a fascinating, well-documented report on the Pentland Cemetery Committee's accomplishments and goals. This non-denominational cemetery holds a wealth of early pioneer history. We have very little written history left to us by the ancients thanks to it being lost, burned, damaged and thrown out. Now that we have our own AI Museum, the hope is that all historical pictures and data will be donated for the edification of those who follow us.

In 1831, a child, Samuel Pendleton, was the first person to be buried there. The name was shortened to Pentland, I guess, to make for a shorter sign. Times never change! You can still decipher his headstone.

Judy has written a Pentland Cemetery history which should be available at the AI Museum shortly. It makes for a good read. The cemetery is well worth visiting. According to the Artesian Dowsing Services, there are 330 bodies within the walls and outside between the road and the south fence there are 17 Natives or transient visitors struck down by a contagious disease. The Christians are laid to rest in an East-West position; whereas, the Natives are placed in a North-South position. There is one body standing as was the custom in order to save space in Europe for Jewish people. Bruce Findlay added that the Quakers bury their dead that way too.

Judy gave us some insight into the symbols used on the head stones. Clapsed hands symbolized the transition from life to death. A single rosebud symbolized one child.

Once the cemetery was designated AI's first non-denominational cemetery, people started transferring their loved one's remains into it; therefore, the oldest stone is from the 1700's.

Daniel Fowler planted the cedars on the south side as reported in one of his letters. The Fowler family interred his granddaughter in 2001. Yes, it is an active cemetery with several burial plots available. There are many native plants and trees on the property. The oldest cedar on the Island is at the back of the cemetery. Would you believe it is 500 years old? That is what the boring proved. Do go and see it for yourself.

Judy gave special thanks to the AI Women's Institute for organizing the restoration of the John Crowe stone walls. Many Islanders have and are participating in this ongoing work.

All the big and dangerous stones have been repaired by Campbell's Monuments. Many families have paid for these restorations. Many groups have contributed to the cost too. Judy has a book of head stones that need repair and is looking for donations to do so. There is a tax receipt from Loyalist Township for these donations.

For more information be sure to ask Judy for a copy of her Pentland Cemetery History.

The secretary read Zander's letter of thanks for the use of our BBQ at the St. Paul's Garden Party, part of which is hereby reproduced: "The generosity and kindness of AIMS was a beautiful example of how your organization is working for the good of the Island community. We are very grateful for your policy of allowing groups seeking to serve the Island to use your barbeque. All of us on the Island benefit."

Comments like that make it worthwhile to get up early on Saturday morning. Great communities just don't happen. They take commitment and dedication. Congratulations AIMS members.

Terry Culbert congratulated Bruce Caughey for taking his life in his hands during the downpour as auctioneer for the St. Paul's Garden Party Auction.

A planting committee organized by Marc Raymond and Doug Martin has added Chris Laffin and Bruce Findlay as volunteer workers. The committee's aim is to establish or replace roadside trees which have died from various causes with healthy, young nursery trees. These are planted on privately-owned land adjacent to the Township's road allowance. In return for a donation to AIMS of \$10 per tree, the volunteers will break up the soil, remove stones and add mulch, place the tree such that the roots are secured, but not compacted, protect the tree above ground within a firmly staked plastic tube and add water. The land-owner's commitment is to mark the site, remove or kill the grass to a diameter of 30-40 cm, select the desired species and water the trees regularly for the first two years.

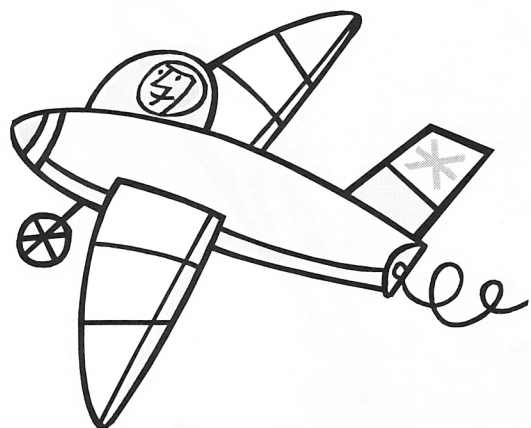
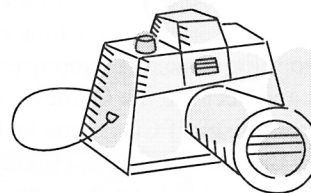
Seven far-sighted Island families have participated in the program so far this year. They have improved our Island with 17 trees. AIMS would like to offer a second planting beginning in September. Please sign up on the sheet in the outer foyer of the General Store, or contact one of the committee, especially if you have questions."

Terry Culbert reported that \$3,300 has been raised for the AI Museum by the Art Tour. Zander thanked Terry and Peter for all their time taken to organize the very successful event. Terry and Peter have agreed to organize Art Tour every other year.

The new executives are as follows: Past President, Dayle Gowan; President, Woody Woodiwiss; Vice-President, Greg Latiak; Secretary, Hugh Jenney; Treasurer, Paul Lauret; Members at Large, Terry Culbert and Don Pepper.

IN THE SKY WITH ALAN KIDD: OVER WOLFE ISLAND

I flew over Wolfe Island in late August to take a look at the construction activities on the Windmill project over there. There has been a lot of progress since late July, the last time I flew over Wolfe, when I could see no signs of construction. This time I could see work in progress on about ten sites, with associated road building. Most of these sites are at a considerable distance from any houses, but since there are over 80 turbines to be installed that may change. Also a storage depot for the wind turbines has been built. The winter ferry dock has also been modified to accept the large barges need to transport the part of the turbines. The attached picture give an idea of the scale of these activities.



PHOTOS BY ALAN KIDD



GOD AND THE OLYMPICS

- Zander of DUNN INN

Where was God in the Olympic Games? It is a good question because, to the best of my knowledge, no mention of God was made. And yet, I remember, at a comparable world event, when Montreal hosted Expo '67 the Christian churches banded together to build and run a pavilion which included a chapel, Bibles in many languages,

a kitchen where people could make a coffee and a lounge where they could drink it and meet with friends and relatives in quiet away from the hustle and bustle of the World Fair.

Now, that doesn't mean God was only in that place. Nor does it mean that only Christians could meet with God. That was over 40 years ago and not much thought was given to anything but a Christian expression of God's presence.

In these Olympics in China one might expect

there to be no religious expression because of China's communist ethos and because the Chinese religions are Confucianism and Taoism. If Christians had been allowed to set up pavilions then the Muslims, Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, etc. would all want to have the same privilege.

There would have been too much religion! The only expressions of religion I saw were all Christian - mostly Roman Catholic. I saw athletes wearing crucifixes, holding

them out and kissing them. I saw athletes making the sign of the cross and then pointing upwards. I saw

some athletes bowing as if in prayer (they might have been non-Roman Catholics).

I suspect some of those athletes wore their crucifixes and made the sign of the cross in the sincere and prayerful hope that such actions would benefit their efforts. You could argue that Usain Bolt of Jamaica (who crossed himself before each race) was helped by God through such gestures because he won several gold medals. Some of those athletes may have been trying to witness to billions

concerning their Christian commitment. Some may have been dedicating their events to God. Other athletes were going through those religious motions simply because they were superstitious.

The athletes took what God had given them and did prodigious deeds. The athletes are to be praised.

I am not a cynic, but I cannot believe those religious expressions helped or hindered the athletes. I am not opposed to jewelry but I cannot understand why so

many men (more men than women) wore necklaces which bounced in their faces when they jumped or ran or rolled or paddled. I am sure the necklaces did not make their efforts more efficacious.

God was not in the religious gestures or the religious jewelry. And God was not limited to Christian athletes. God was in all the athletes. Those athletes, whatever their religious commitments, had developed their God-given bodies so they could use them to do amazing things. By that I don't mean it was God who made Michael Phelps win at swimming or Shawn Johnson excel on the beam or Alexandre Despatie do so well in the diving. The athletes took what God had given them and did prodigious deeds. The athletes are to be praised. But God was in them enjoying their expertise and marveling at their successes.

And when some athletes failed or got hurt or were disqualified, I am sure God suffered as much, if not more than they did. I saw so much of God in so many dedicated young people at the Olympics. I hope you did too.

I saw so much of God in so many dedicated young people at the Olympics.



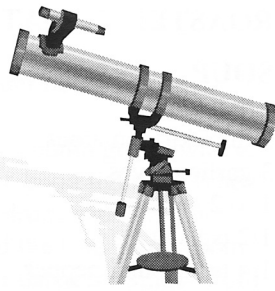
SEPTEMBER SKIES

- Alan Kidd

The constellation Cygnus, or the Northern Cross, is overhead in the early September evening. It is right next to Vega, the bright jewel of the summer skies. Now that we are getting closer to fall, there are more clear nights and the Milky Way should be more visible. Vega is one of the three bright stars making up the summer triangle, which is now right overhead as the sky gets dark. The other stars are Deneb, at the head of the Northern Cross and Altair, which is in Aquila or the Eagle.

Jupiter is still the brightest planet in the night sky, though it has faded a bit from last month. It remains in the eastern part of the constellation of Sagittarius, just three degrees above Nunki, the second brightest star in that constellation. If you have a small telescope, this is a good time to look at Jupiter, since it is high in the sky during the early part of the night.

At the beginning of September, Venus, Mercury and Mars form a triangle low in the sky at sunset. It will not be easy to pick them out, since they are so low, but Venus should be easy to see. Mars and Mercury will be a bit to



the left of Venus. On the second of September, the crescent moon will be visible, a bit further to the left. The trio of planets should just about fit into a binocular field of view on that night. By the 11th of September, Venus will have moved to about 1/3 of a degree from Mars, with both planets still just above the horizon as the sky begins to darken.

Saturn becomes visible again by the end of the month, this time as an early morning planet, rising three hours before the sun by the end of the month.

If you have a small telescope you might want to try and spot Uranus, the planet just beyond Saturn in the Solar System. It is in opposition this month, which means it will be well placed for observation. However, Uranus is still very dim, just barely visible to the naked eye on a clear night. It is located just below the circlet of stars in Pisces and I have shown its position of the chart. However, in order to find this dim planet you will probably need a more detailed chart. Fortunately these are readily available online. Websites such as heavensabove.com or skyandtelescope.com, will have the charts you will need to find this elusive planet.

WATERSPOUT VIEW FROM SECOND CONCESSION

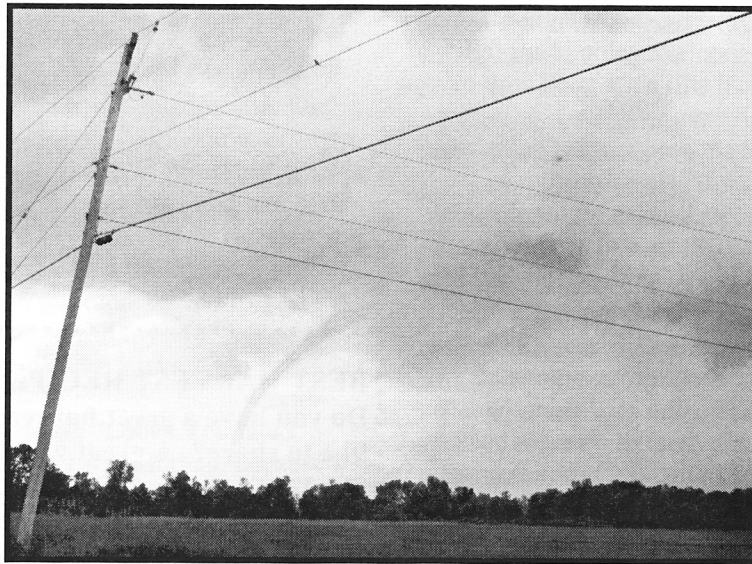
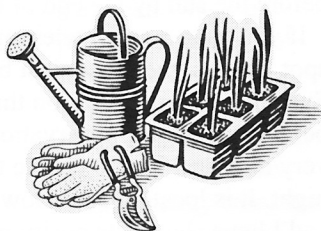


PHOTO BY EVAN YOUNG

CRUNCH TIME IN THE GARDEN

- Doug Green (www.douggreengarden.com)

It's crunch time in the garden it seems. The wet weather has brought on some tomato blight problems in local gardens and while the early blights will slow down harvest and ruin a few fruits, the late blights will leave your plants dying (from bottom to top) in about a week's time. It doesn't take long to go from green plants to yellow and dying tops and the fruit is pretty much done as well. Not much you can do with any of these problems at this time of year other than to remind yourself to crop rotate next year in a major way and hope for a bit more sunshine.

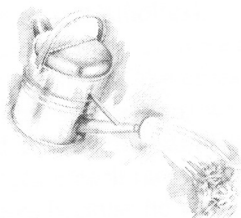


I've been picking tomato hornworms all week. These big monsters got one of my staked-tomato plant tops before I noticed them and one or two tomatoes were half eaten as well. You don't have to actually handle the worms I note (they're quite leathery-feeling) but you can break off the leaf they're currently eating, scoop a shallow grave, put the leaf and worm in the depression, cover it over and then stomp it. End of worm.

And let me remind you that we will see cracking on the tomatoes as they start to put some bulk on this past week in the sunshine. As soon as you see a crack, harvest the fruit. It's still useable with small cracks but the slugs and other critters will be at it shortly for the sugary juices.

Our broccoli was a bit of a disaster this year. It was slow to get going because of the new garden soil and then the deer pruned it for us. Now it's gone and bolted immediately to flower. If your broccoli has bolted you might try a severe pruning - take those flowering shoots right off. You may very well get a few side-shoots develop if our fall season is long enough and you'll still get a good crop of broccoli for salads and late fall eating.

Many of the perennials have set seed and I'm collecting daylily, hosta and echinacea seed this year to start in my own garden-nursery next year. We're also letting the bean plants (we have about six varieties) start to produce seeds as well. All I have to say to that is "Thank goodness." It seems we've been eating a lot of beans lately and I'm a little beaned-out. There are only so many bean salads you can eat. But we're letting those seeds grow out and go brown on the vines so we can save the seed from them as well. That's the advantage of some of the open pollinated

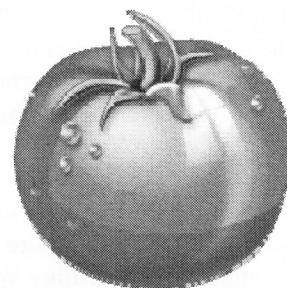


varieties, the seed can be easily saved and stored from year to year and you get to save a ton of bucks and get more beans than you know what to do with.

ROASTED TOMATO SOUP

SOUP

- Judi Gould
2 lb (1 kg) tomatoes
3 garlic cloves
1 to 2 tsp sugar
1/2 tsp salt
1/4 tsp ground pepper
1 cup chicken or veg stock
1 tsp balsamic vinegar
1/2 cup chopped fresh basil or 1 tsp dried
light sour cream, optional



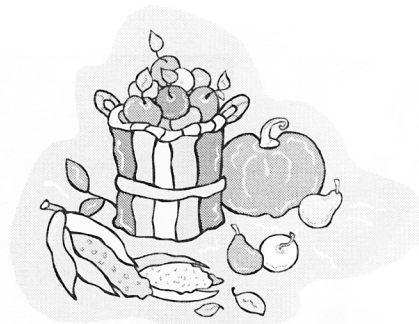
METHOD:

Move rack to highest level and preheat oven to 450F. Cut tomatoes in quarters lengthwise (or more if it is a very large tomato). Place skin-side down in single layer, on ungreased baking sheets. Scatter whole peeled garlic around tomatoes. Sprinkle tomatoes with sugar, salt and pepper. Roast, uncovered, until tomato edges are brown tinged, about 35 mins.

Puree roasted tomatoes and garlic in food processor adding chicken broth as needed to keep mixture from sticking. Whirl until almost smooth. Stir in remaining chicken broth and the vinegar. If using dry basil, stir in. Taste and add remaining tsp of sugar if needed.

Serve right away or refrigerate for up to 3 days. Soup can also be stored in freezer. If using fresh basil, stir in just before serving. Serve hot or cold with a swirl of sour cream.

Makes 3 cups or 6 small servings, each with 50 calories.



BEST HARVEST RECIPES

Do you have a great harvest recipe that you'd like to share? A great way to use up extra Zucchini? Tomatoes? Squash? Just a favorite Autumn recipe?

Please send it to aibeacon@sympatico.ca, drop it off at Topsy Farms, or leave it in the envelope at the store.

DATING

- Deb Kimmett

It's hard being fifty. It's even harder being fifty and learning to date again.

It was easier when I was younger. I could go anywhere. Now I have to go to places that have good lighting. When I was young I was musical. I dated drummers. I am not trying to name drop here but I dated the lead singer from Ambush. Correction. I exaggerate. I dated the singer from the cover band, Almost Ambush.

I saw him recently at the World Music Festival in Inverary and I realized that even if he had remembered me I wouldn't be attracted to him at this point in my life. And it's not because he's bald on top or still has a mullet on the bottom. Or that he's still driving a motorcycle, without a helmet. It happened when he was on stage speaking. I didn't know what he was talking about. All he did was talk in metaphors. He was a poet, and let us know it.

See musicians are obscure. For instance Bob Dylan. Would you be able to have a conversation with Bob? No.

Or Leonard Cohen. I have fantasized about Leonard for years; but really, can you imagine living with him?

You'd say, "Hey honey, what do you want to do today?"

And he'd be like, "First we take Manhattan and then we take Berlin."

"What? I thought we were going to the Cat Centre."

What's really got me going on about this is that I did some Internet dating recently.

I was on the site Plenty of Fish dot com for a while. For people not plugged in I'm not joking. There really is a site by that name. (Known as POF by the regulars) They have a similar site for librarians called Plenty of Microfiche dot com, You don't have to know your password. Just a dewi-decimal

On POF you post a profile letting people know what kind of person you are looking for in a relationship. For instance you could say I want Dating or Chatting, or Long Term. My favourite category is Other Relationship. This is for the cheaters who are making no bones about it. Check it out. Your current partner might be on there. Not that you could tell necessarily. People create a pseudonym, or a handle, a lot like CB radios. Your moniker has to convey the right message. I was going to call myself, "Who says Flannel isn't Sexy?" Or "Smells like Vicks Vapo Rub". I chose "Too Old to Take Your Nonsense", but it was already taken. So I finally settled on "Looks Younger Upwind". They must have thought I was kidding, because I got a flood of 'you've got emails.' From men I didn't even know I was looking for. It's a lot like shopping at Costco. You go in for mayo and come out with a year's supply of turkey.

The men have a lot in common. They put pictures of their cars and their house on the site. And they want a woman who isn't into head games. Oh darn! Where's the

fun in that? They want to take long walks and chats by the fire. Well I don't need a fireplace. I have hot flashes - regularly.

And they all want smart easygoing women. FYI fellas, there is no such thing as an easy going 50 year-old woman. At least one that's not in a coma.

And finally men want sexy. Women must be sexy. For example the shirtless man with the c-cup breasts wants sexy. Don't we all? Women want sexy too. Online dating is a lot like the Sears Wish Book. We all want the Malibu Barbie but what we get is a wool sock doll with buttons for eyes.

There are two ways friends react when they hear you're dating online. First they look at you like you're pathetic. With that look that says 'has it really come to this?' Then they hug their husbands very tight and whisper, "Please never leave me".

They're worried that you might meet a serial killer. The men that I attracted were so old the only thing they killed was a bowl of cereal. What's with the many heart-broken widowers carrying on about their dead wives? Talk about baggage. Yes "Lost in Oakville." I'm speaking to you. It isn't flirting when you keep telling me your dearly departed wife has a nice ash.

Once friends are assured of your safety, the second thing they like to report is that they know a couple who met and got married on line.

Okay. Who are these people? What are their names and where do they live? Because like the story about finding the rat in the McDonald's burger, I think there was one couple, one rat and it's been built into an urban myth.

How to assess whom you would want to meet was beyond me. At what point do you say I'd like to meet this man that I am texting. There's something about his well-placed exclamation point. Only a sensitive, caring man would choose a font like that. Apple Chancery. Or demi bold. My, my.

I guess I've become a bit jaded. I thought I had something going with this one guy. When we said we'd meet, I said look if there is anything I need to know about you, please tell me now because I don't want to be surprised. And, he said not much. I'm on an iron lung. I am waiting for a double lung transplant. Do you mind?

Do I mind? Maybe I'm fussy, but I like my men to have both their lungs. Of course I mind. It's called dating not palliative care.

I'm a person who makes bad choices; face to face, let alone in cyberspace. I think I could attract insanity from outer space. If aliens landed on my lawn, the crazy one is the one I'd want. "Hey you with the probe. Park your space ship and come in for a drink."

I'd probably be easy going at first then likely I'd be mad that he landed on my lawn at three in the morning. I'd be out there in my flannel, smelling like Vicks, screaming,

(Continued on page 13)

LOYALIST TOWNSHIP EMERGENCY SERVICES— AMHERST ISLAND STATION



PHOTO BY WHITNEY FLEMING

Back Row (L to R) - Cpt. Alex Scott, Rick Welbanks, Wayne Fleming, Mike Walhout, Don Miller, Maureen McGinn, Lesley McDonald, John Munro, Cpt. Gary McDonald
Front Row (L to R) - Jean Pierre Thiffault, Andrew McDonald, Jacob Murray, Vicki Keith Munro, Brennan Kilpatrick. Absent - John Mayman, David Albertan

*** Our apologies to Whitney Fleming for failing to credit her for the above photo in the August Issue of the Amherst Island Beacon.

We have reprinted the photo this month to give extra acknowledgement to our Emergency Services Personnel, and to give credit to Whitney for taking this excellent photo. Thank you all!***



FOLK FESTIVAL REPORT

- Tom Richmond:
President of the Board,
CJAI-FM; Artistic Di-
rector, Amherst Island
Folk Festival 2008

Well, yesterday at
this time, our last act,
Jason Fowler and Sahra
Featherstone were fin-

ishing their last few tunes, we had a lot of well fed audi-
ence members and performers on hand. The sun was set-
ting, the coloured stage lights were starting to make their
presence known on the white canopy above the stage. The
audience thrilled to the sound of Celtic harp and acoustic
guitar as it rolled across the lawn of The Lodge, and con-
tinued out across Stella Bay in between the moored
sailboats and around shady trees on shore.

This was a record-breaking event on many fronts. We
served 250 meals. Although we did not sell out, we sold
more tickets than ever before. We had more fabulous mu-
sicians than ever before. The Lodge just shone. We had an
amazing Master of Ceremonies, Deb Kimmet, a great
Stage Manager and a fabulous Sound Engineer. Artists
Wallace Edwards, Terry Culbert and Shell Madden's work,
when coupled with Terry's superb salesmanship of raffle
tickets, more than paid for the services of Mr. Gurnsey, the
pig, the corn and the tomatoes, and the lambs were do-
nated by Topsy. We heard from many there that the food
was the best ever, the bread was great, the music was
heavenly, and the near-military precision of the stage tim-
ing was unbelievable.

A SPECIAL THANKS goes out to the Ontario Trillium
Foundation. For those who missed the official announce-
ment at the Festival, we have received a targeted grant to
hire a full time Station Manager at CJAI-FM for one year.
The generous support of the Trillium Foundation will al-
low this person to pursue charitable status for the station,
improve communication with sponsors, increase station
visibility within our community, search out and apply for
grants from private and public sources, and improve mem-
bership services and volunteer training. An official presen-
tation was made at the Folk Festival by representatives
from MPP Hillier's office, and the Ontario Trillium Foun-
dation. We are extremely grateful and feel incredibly for-
tunate to have been selected for this honour, targeted at
building better communities in Ontario.

We would like to thank EVERYONE who made the
AIFF happen: The car pointers and parkers, the entry gate
people, the table set up folks, the tent set up folks, the WI
water and drink tent, the AIMS licensed tent, the food pro-
viders and servers, the stage folks, the cleanup folks, the
folks who loaned us stuff, the amazingly successful WI

recycling and composting tent, the CD-book-and-poster-
sales tent folks, the folks who cooked and baked, those
who provided the heavy lifting and those who did the pa-
perwork, the folks who filed in the gaps and just did jobs
that nobody else was doing. An event of this scale doesn't
happen here without bushels of volunteers, and we have to
thank our lucky stars for the dedicated bunch who turned
out to execute it and clean up afterwards.

A big thanks to the CJAI-FM Board of directors, seldom
seen or heard, these mostly unsung folks make sure we
continue well into the future.

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR PERFORMERS: Lorain
Sine; Pat Rogers & Friends; Gary W. Rasberry & Fire-
weed; Jon Jones & Tim Ryan; John MacPherson; Mill
Creek; Kate & Hollis; Crooked Wood; and, Jason Fowler
& Sahra Featherstone.

We actually paid these folks this year- that's a real step in
the right direction, and they responded in kind with fabu-
lous shows.

Now, we are looking forward to your feedback so we
can begin planning
for 2009.

Again, thank you all. I am humbled by the dedication,
talent and support of the Amherst Island Public Radio
community.



(Continued from page 11)

DATING

"You come and go as you like. You traipse through my
house, dripping your alien goo all over my clean floor!"

So I took my line out of the water and stopped fishing. I
am happy just to spend my lonely nights listening to Leo-
nard Cohen reminiscing about Suzanne.

Yes, there is one man who still writes to me. So far it's
really quite romantic. He calls himself Life without Parole.
So far it's working out very nicely.

OSPREY IN FLIGHT

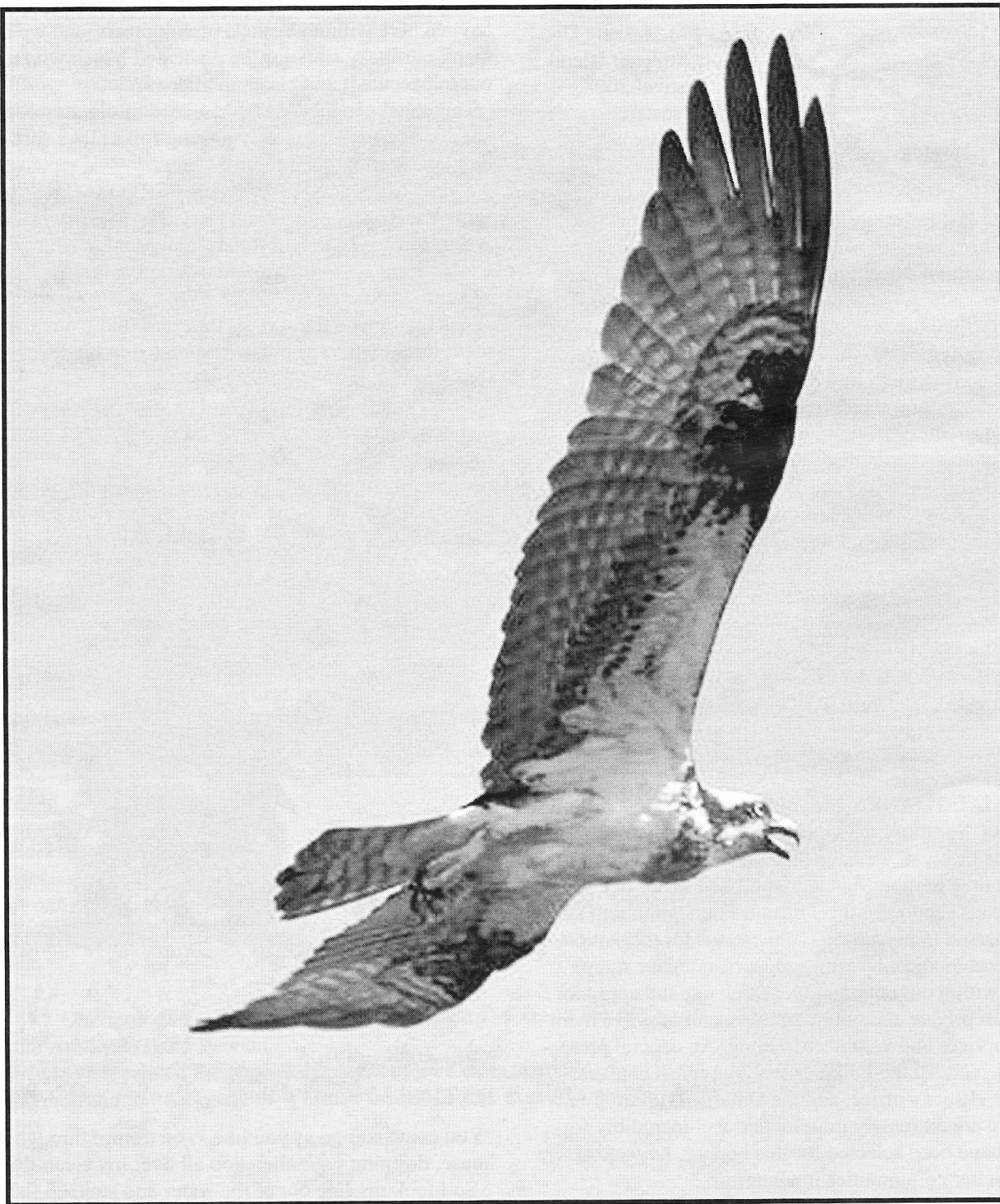


PHOTO BY DAVE YUELL



The volunteers at the Weasel & Easel would like to invite you to come and browse through our selection of Arts and Crafts featuring the work of many of our Islanders. We have paintings and pottery, jewellery, photography, woodwork and cards for all occasions. We also have hand made quilts, Afghans and blankets and much more.....

Our hours of operations are:

Weekdays (except Tuesdays) from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. during the month of August.

Each weekend up to and including Thanksgiving we are open:

- Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Sundays from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m.
- Holiday Mondays from 10:00 to 2:00 p.m.

We are pleased to tell you that as well as VISA, cash and cheques, we now accept **debit** cards.

We look forward to seeing you in the store at 5220 Front Road. Our telephone number is 613 634 9512 during business hours. If you would like further information, please contact Sherrill Wright at 613 634 7038 (sherrillw@ca.inter.net) or Linda Joll at 613 634 8213 (thejolls@kos.net)

~ CLASSIFIEDS ~

LOYALIST TOWNSHIP

Conditions Re Use of Back Beach
Loyalist Township advises that effective at midnight on September 2nd to December 31st, 2008 Back Beach is prohibited for public use. Violators will be prosecuted by Nut Island Farms Limited and/or Loyalist Township.

For information concerning this notice, please contact the undersigned.
Patrick Beyer, R.D.M.R.

Recreation Director

The Corporation of Loyalist Township

263 Main Street, P.O. Box 70

Odessa, Ontario K0H 2H0

Phone: (613) 386-7351, ext. 131

E-Mail: pbeyer@loyalist.ca

FOR SALE

Basil and other herbs in season. Call Sally, mornings or early evenings.
613-389-3802

SINGLE BED, 7' 1/2 " MATTRESS
6" foundation, metal bed frame, almost new. Firm: \$ 150.00
Call: Rosy or Bruce 613/634-0103



FOR SALE

1998 red Volvo V.70 (wagon), purchased new, one owner, complete maintenance history, NO rust, NO accidents, heated leather seats, A/C, sun-roof, four snow tires on rims, one full-size new spare (unique feature), \$4500 firm.
Call Peter or Margaret, 613-384-7925.

WALKABOUT

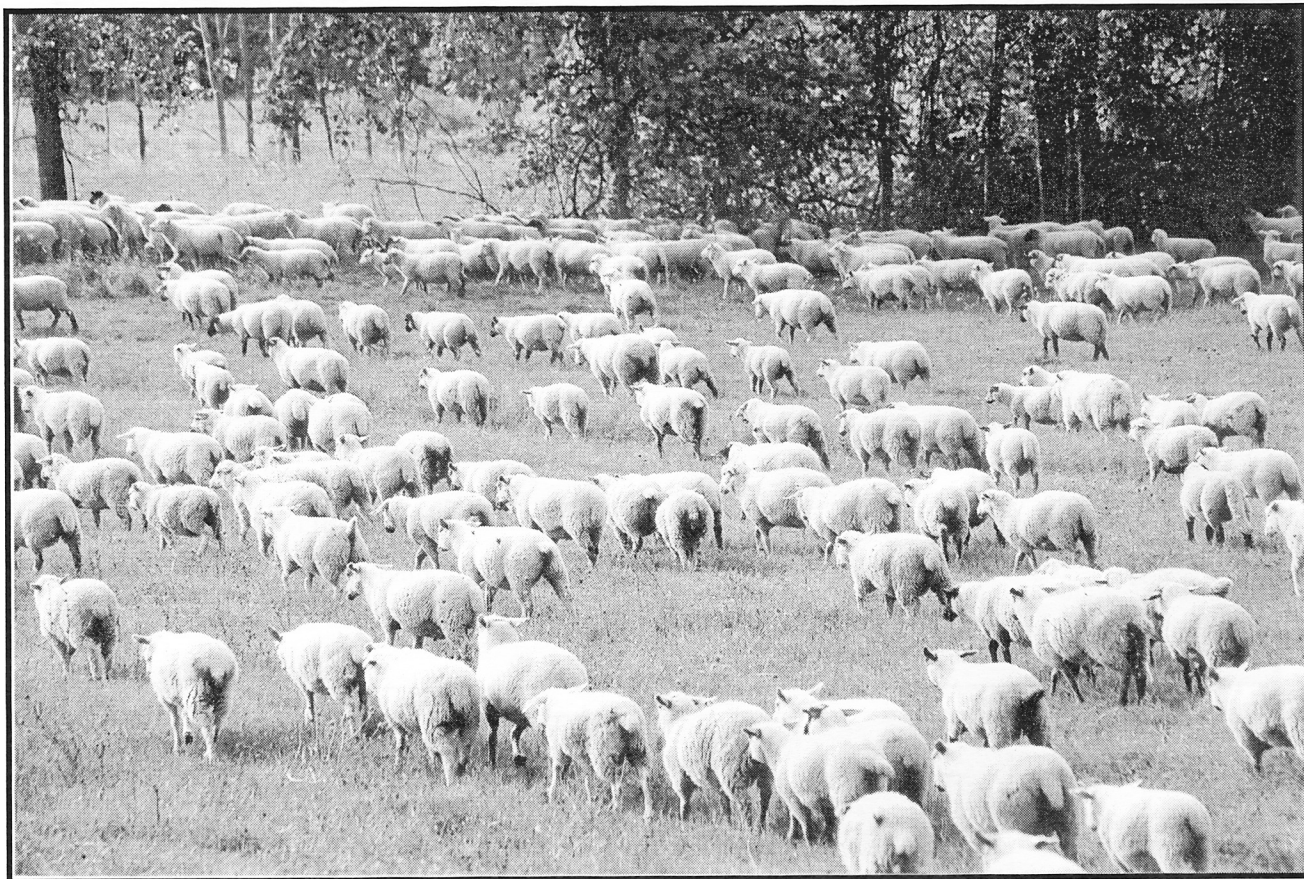


PHOTO BY DON TUBB

The



Foot