

Since 1970

# Amherst Island Beacon

Issue 460

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November 2016



## From the Editor's Desk

- Terry McGinn

I've always been a spring-lover, but I have to admit that fall is lovely; I would even dare call this one beautiful. The wonderfully coloured leaves seem to have lasted for an extraordinarily long time. Along the road in front of the house here on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Concession we have a tree whose leaves do not begin to turn until the rest of the trees have been denuded. Its companion trees to the west turn red in fall and those to the east turn yellow, and together they create a wonderful rainbow in maple leaves.

Fall, it turns out, is also highly photogenic, to a degree that I didn't know was possible. For this month's Beacon alone I have received more than 100 photos from more than a dozen contributors.

However, it now occurs to me that at least one of the pictures I received includes a witch bleeding from the head, so perhaps it's not all the beauty of fall that seemed worth photographing.

Along with the fall comes the final, inevitable end of the garden season. With the exception of some root vegetables that haven't yet been

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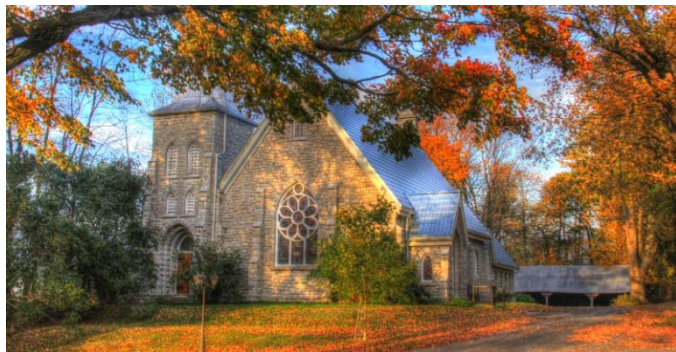
Cover photo by Brian Little

harvested all of my gardens are put “to bed”. The greenhouse, an outlier with its cheats-y plastic roof and 30-degree Celsius daytime temperatures, continues to grow strongly, producing summer-esque tomatoes at a quite-decent rate. The plants are comically covered in flowers in a way that tells me that tomatoes don’t read calendars.

This was a good year for the village market, I think, in spite of the challenges faced by those of us who grow our wares. There were more vendors than I’ve seen in the past with seven regular vendors and half-dozen others who came and went over the course of the season (if my memory serves me). We lucked out weather-wise – forgetting for a moment how much we begged for rain – in that we had sunny skies for 19 of 21 Saturday mornings.

Our customers and the visitors to the market were always faithful. In the height of the summer the Island gets busy and time runs thin, but the market regulars seems to find a way to squeeze an extra half-hour into their Saturday morning for a trip to the market to visit, and to shop.

I am grateful. And I’m going to unabashedly use my soapbox here to sincerely thank everyone who came to the market this season on behalf of myself, and on behalf of everyone else involved (I think I can take that liberty). It was appreciated. And we hope to see you next year – starting May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017.



*St. Paul’s in Fall, by Brian Little*

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The Island artists and artisans are up next with the Christmas Shopping on Amherst Island two-day event this month. From the Presbyterian bazaar to the Wool Shed, Lynn’s Lids, The Back Kitchen, and many others, there is a great deal to choose from in buying local, right here on the Island, and just in time for Christmas.

Judy Bierma, in her column The Cheesemaker’s Daughter, goes into more detail about the event.

Another thank you, come to think of it, in my stream-of-consciousness style that I seem too committed to at this point to change, goes out to the Amherst Island Emergency Services Association – and those outside the AIESC who



help as well – for the excellent Hallowe'en Masquerade that they put on for the community. It's a great tradition that is enjoyed by the kids and the grown-ups alike. Thank you.

And speaking of annual island events I got a note from Joe Du Vall, the coordinator of the Woolly Bully, which stated: "The Woolly Bully races netted \$1300 for the Amherst Island emergency services organization. The next step is to set up a race committee from some interested folks who will assist with some of the planning and run day activities, which will get going in late November."

And finally back to the Beacon.

One of the things that I've really come to love about being editor of the Beacon is compiling the archives. I know that there's a pretty broad range of fairly strongly held opinions on the archives, but for me they are a great glimpse of this community's past written by the community itself. What can be better than that?



*Colourful tree, by Brian Little*



*Colourful characters, by Brian Little*

In searching for items to include in the archives I usually read the entire past-Beacon from 10, 20, 30 years ago (where available). This month when searching I read the council summaries from those Beacons and noted that, in each, a member of council or staff missed the reported-on meeting because they were away deer hunting. And it made me smile. Not because they were off, sitting in a tree waiting for Bambi's mother to wander by and that tickled my funny bone, but because of all the things considered noteworthy in the gleanings of a council meeting on Amherst Island (one of which included the potential downloading of services from higher levels of government) – that information made the cut.

I love this community.



*White outerwear is all the rage this season,  
by Brian Little*

## Neighbourhood

- Lynn Fleming

October has been fairly quiet here on the Island. Get Well wishes to Leslie Gavlas, Carol Kolga. Condolences to the family of Dennis Baxter on his passing after a brief illness; Dennis owned the property adjacent to the Sand Beach.

Congratulation to Judy Bierma, on the birth of her newest granddaughter, Tilley. Judy spent some time in Toronto, looking after older sisters Loa and Hannah, while mom and dad (Rich and Kate Murrell) were at the hospital welcoming the newest baby to the family. Congratulations also to Eric and Janice McGinn on the birth of their newest – and 4<sup>th</sup> over all - grandchild, Lawson Michael, to Brent and Caitlin McGinn.

Welcome to our newest Islanders, Bill and Liz McKee, who bought the Dunn house on Stella Point.

APAI held a dance/concert, mid October with The Brian Pickell Band. Those attending enjoyed some great music and contra dancing (similar to square dancing). Apparently there were some tired feet the next day.

Amherst Island Public School students attended the Grand Theatre this month to see the play “The Lightning Thief”. The students and staff also took part in the annual Terry Fox School Run in early October, raising \$720.00 for the Terry Fox Foundation.

A.I.P.S. students and staff will host the annual, student led Remembrance Day Service on November 11<sup>th</sup> at 10:45 a.m. The indoor ceremony will be followed by the wreath laying at the cenotaph. All are welcome.

Congratulations to Larry Fleming, who along with another passerby, helped rescue an elderly couple from Lake Moira after their car went off highway 62 and into the lake.

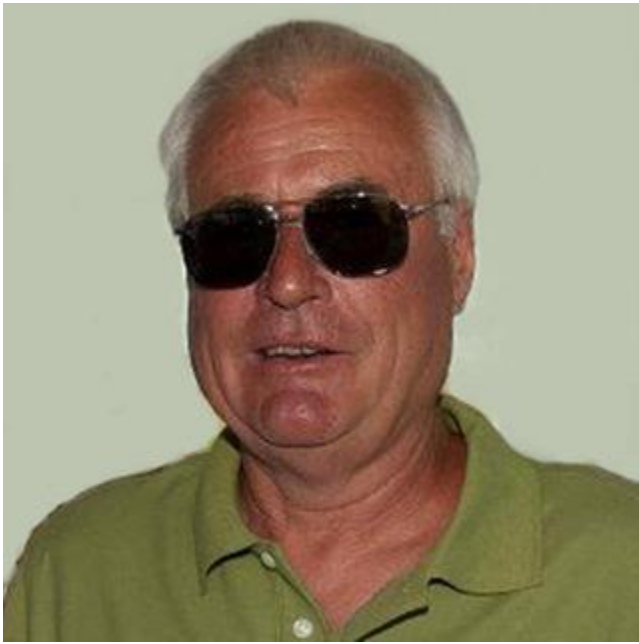
We have had a relatively mild fall so far, right through to the last week of October, when the temperatures dropped to a more seasonal level. The leaves were changing colour by mid-October, but the grass was greener and thicker than it was all summer! I was afraid that after the drought this year, we wouldn't have much in fall colours, but they have been beautiful this year! We had 2 days of heavy, steady rain in late October with a total in our rain gauge of 3.25 inches (82.5 mm). That, in addition to the 1.25 inches (31.75 mm) we received earlier in the week gave us a grand total of 4.5 inches (114.25 mm) in one week! Snow arrived the last couple of days of the month, but quickly changed to rain.



*Stone wallers at work, by Brian Little*



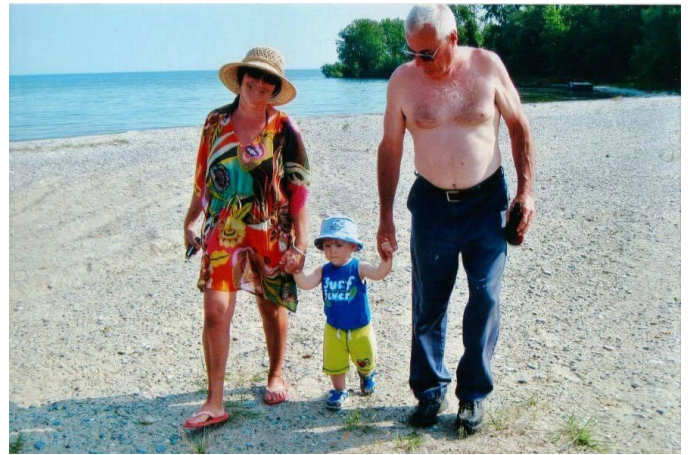
## Dennis Baxter



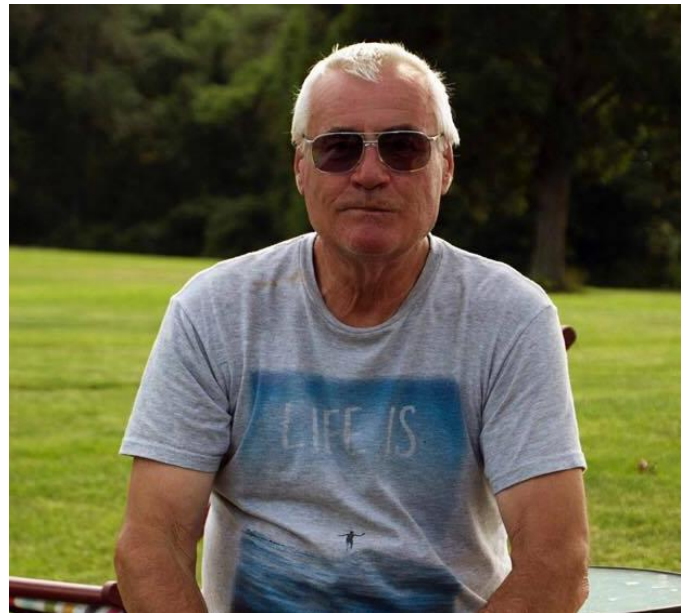
July 30, 1951 - October 25, 2016 Dennis passed away peacefully at Kingston General Hospital following a sudden illness. He was surrounded by the love of his family. Left to mourn, his beloved wife of 43 years, Jackie, his loving daughter Angela Erkan (her husband Ziya) and adored grandson Mason. Sadly missed and remembered by Jackie's parents, Mel and Gladys Thompson, her sisters Kim Jamieson (her husband and Dennis' best friend Kevin) and Cathy Siemonsen (husband Pete), as well as their families. Survived by his brother Ron Baxter and his family. Cremation in the care of James Reid Crematorium. As an expression of sympathy, donations may be made to, UHKF (Cancer Centre of Southeastern Ontario) in memory of Dennis.



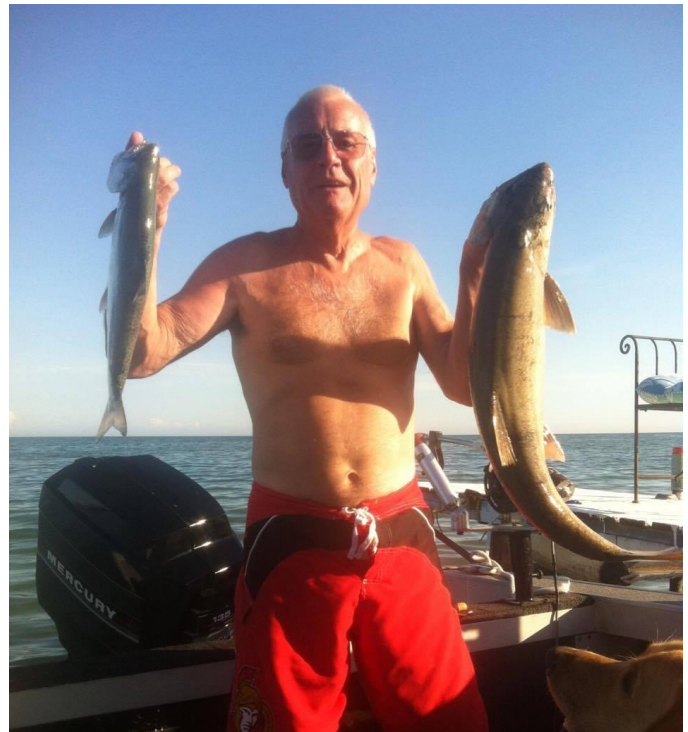
*Dennis and pup, courtesy Jackie Baxter*



*Jackie, Mason & Dennis, courtesy Jackie Baxter*



*Photo courtesy of Jackie Baxter*



*Dennis, where he loved to be, courtesy Jackie Baxter*

## CJAI Report

- Mary Lou & Ellis Wolfreys

On April the 1st, 2006 I received a phone call from my son, Dan Wolfreys, who lives on Amherst Island, that the radio station CJAI was now on the air. He said, "see if you can get it (CJAI) up in Sydenham, try on your radio". So, we tried, and have been listening ever since. My wife, (who now also does a program on CJAI 92.1 FM) mentioned that Tom Richmond was looking for local entertainer CDs. I had a few so I went over and offered them to him.

At that time, Tom was doing three jobs and did not have time to enter them in the computer. He suggested that maybe I should start a radio program. I said I was mic shy, and that it would probably not work out. I mentioned it to my wife, Mary Lou, and she thought I should try it for a few months as I knew many local musicians. That was over ten years ago, now we are both doing programs on Wednesday afternoons every week.

After a month or so I asked if live entertainers could come into the station to perform and Tom thought that would be a great idea. My first entertainer was a good friend of mine, Mr. Gord Struthers from Godfrey, Ont. Gord sings, yodels, and plays a beautiful 12 string guitar. From that day on we have had entertainers from all parts of our Country and World. We have had artists from New Zealand, Ireland, and the USA. We have also had Canadian artists from the East Coast, and as far west as Saskatoon. The last couple of years, I have had around 85 entertainers perform live on my program per year. I have also collected around 2000 Cd's from various entertainers that we play on my program; keeping it about 99% Canadian Talent. I would like to send a big shout out to Gord Struthers who has helped at our annual fundraiser every year since we have started.

Additionally Jim Smith deserves a nod of gratitude as he has lent a hand over the last couple of years.

We have two new studios, and upgrades to other musical equipment have improved the broadcast capabilities of the station. I still look forward to doing my program every week as does my wife, Mary Lou. My program is called The Wolf's Den, and I am on the air from 2 pm to 5 pm every Wednesday. Replays are on Friday at 10 am to 1 pm, and Sunday's from 2 pm to 5 pm. Mary Lou's program is called Believe and plays every Wednesday from 1 pm to 2 pm, with a replay on Sunday from 1 pm to 2 pm.

My Wife and I have thoroughly enjoyed doing our programs over the years. We have met so many great entertainers, and folks that love Country and Gospel music. We will continue as long as we are able to give local entertainers and others an opportunity to be heard and perform on air, in a way commercial stations are prohibited. Country and Gospel music is here to stay.

Thank You & God Bless.



*Abandoned house on Long Point Road, by Brian Little*





*Peter McCormick working on the Wool Shed move,  
by Sally Bowen*

## What Hasn't Changed

*-Ian Murray*

Some things that haven't changed. If you have a problem with a flat tire or a stay in the hospital, neighbours are willing (and often eager) to help; most people still wave when you meet them on the road; and our school is still thriving.

There is an increasing amount of music on the Island: the Waterside events; the Emerald Music Festival; the Islanders playing at Harvest Fest; and so on.

The Emergency Response Team and a Public Works Crew provide us with a lot of security. When there is an emergency, a heart attack or trees across the road, help is on the way.

## Road Widening Update

*- Sally Bowen*

The road widening continues on the Front Rd, west end of Amherst Island.

Just to clarify a few rumours we've heard – Topsy did not initiate any of this. We did not ask for the road to go behind Kyle's home at Drumgooles. We did not ask for the road widening either.

But we are very grateful for the latter. The deeply undercut road was becoming very dangerous for the school bus and other farm and family vehicles crossing over. There are caves that literally go well under the road. We understand the plan is to widen this stretch of road, do significant ditching, then shore it up underneath with big rocks.

One of the many impacts of the widening is that the old ice house and milk house, that had become Topsy's Wool Shed, was to be bulldozed. We successfully moved it this week, inches ahead of the work crew. Noel and Peter McCormick, and Noel's son Zach were amazingly skilled. The small building will eventually sit on the concrete pad behind our newly constructed Wool Shed and will become our shipping and receiving area. See the story of the move in pictures at <https://www.facebook.com/TopsyFarms/>

We look forward to everyone possible dropping in during the Christmas Shopping on Amherst Island, November 19 and 20, to explore our new setup – and just perhaps to find a Christmas gift or two.



*The road, prepared for reinforcing, shows by how much it had been undercut, by Sally Bowen*



*A Yukon view, by Daniel Little*

## **Yukon Dan**

- Daniel Little

It has snowed for 4 days straight. I woke up last Friday to 4 centimetres of fresh powder accompanied by a steady fall of snow, which still has not stopped for longer than a few hours. If I did not feel like a stranger in a strange land during my first few weeks here, before the snow started, I certainly should now... But I don't! Since I arrived in the Yukon at the end of September I have seen nothing but kindness from those I have met, and I have been made welcome at every turn!

The trip itself from Toronto to Vancouver and then up to Whitehorse was incredible! Having never been to the west coast before I had never seen mountains like the ones you fly over when coming into Vancouver. I wisely had a window seat and luckily was the only person in my row for whom the mountains were novel, which meant my face was glued to the window for the last 40 minutes of the flight. Furthermore, the flight from Vancouver (which people here call 'the island') to Whitehorse passes over the Pacific mountain range which is not accessible by land. That meant that I got to see mountains whose history is completely free of people!

When I touched down in Whitehorse I was very tired but also very excited and Tom was waiting at the airport for me. As we drove through Whitehorse to our cabin 20 minutes out of town

I was spellbound by the views all around me. Every way you look you see nothing but stretches of dense northern wilderness in front of snow capped mountain backdrops! After my 3 weeks here the mountains still surprise and excite me every time I see them!

When we arrived back at the cabin I was introduced to my roommates (all friends of Tom's who also accepted his offer to move to a cabin in the woods). We all bonded on my first night here over a moose sausage feast and have become fast friends in the days since. When not working we have filled our days with long fall hikes on the many trails near our cabin, or by soaking in the natural hot springs nearby. I have also now seen a black bear, moose, bald eagles, bison, elk, and an arctic fox! I have found myself fitting in easily to this new life where Mother Nature plays a much larger factor. Now that the snow has arrived and my surroundings look like the planet Hoth, the real difficulties of my time here will start to appear. I am staying warm, and feeling very happy and excited for the coming months.

So far so good.



*Frozen trunks, by Daniel Little*



## The Cheesemaker's Daughter

- Judy Bierma



Christmas Shopping on Amherst Island 2016.

I couldn't think of a topic for this month's Beacon so I called Shirley Miller for ideas. She suggested I talk

about the sales and other things that are happening on Christmas Shopping on Amherst Island weekend. You can find more information about this on page 23 of the Beacon or on Facebook. All you have to do is type in Amherst Island in the search box on Facebook and it'll take you to the information about the event.

From Shirley Miller – Shirley Miller's Studio: Shirley's studio will be open on the Second Concession. Anyone from her class that wants to, will be selling their paintings there. Shirley has had an Art Gallery on the Island since 1990. The first one was set up at their farm on the Third Concession. She has been teaching Art in her home since 1989. In her first gallery, she sold pottery and different items that were made by Island artists and artisans. It gave her students and herself a place to display their work.

From Joyce Haines - The Weasel and Easel: will be open at the Neilson's Store. I talked to Joyce Haines and she said the Weasel and Easel displays Island Artist's and Artisan's work. There is pottery, weaving, felted scarves, soap, honey, stained glass, jewellery, etc. It was started more than 10 years ago. Peggy Coulter, Joan Martin and Carolyn Ackerman were involved in the founding of it. It started in the house where Lorna Willis lives now. It was Carolyn Ackerman's house then. The Island needed an outlet for the Artists and Artisans to display their work. Eleanor Truman and

Dorothy McGinn and Coralie and Duncan Marshall helped start it up too. Joyce feels it is an excellent place for friends and family and tourists to buy things made on the Island. The money they make goes back into the cost of renting their space from the Museum. In the beginning some people put in money to get it started but that money has been paid back. It is run by volunteers. There is not any sales tax so you get a saving of 13% on all purchases.

From Eleanor Trueman: It was Shirley Miller's art class that first decided to open a venue to present the class work to other islanders and visitors. The class had held one or two exhibitions at Shirley's house and they were quite successful in attracting visitors and in selling some of the work. A number of group meetings were held, and it was decided to look for a central location and to include any other island artists - pottery, weaving, knitting, wood working etc. Each member of the group gave \$300.00 as a start up fund and the name "The Weasel and Easel", (thought up by Shirley herself) was adopted.



*Halloween masqueraders, by Brian Little*



*Stone-carving workshoppers and their creations,  
by Brian Little*

The W&E opened in spacious quarters in Caroline Ackerman's house in the village. When we needed more space, the W&E moved to a large room behind the village library and at that time, the township offices.

All members of the art class were the original organizers, and as other talented islanders were interested, various committees and service positions were formed.

The W&E was invited to be part of the former Neilson store in the village when the museum was first proposed and has remained in that location to the present.

From Brian Little - The Little Studio & Gallery, it came from a need for a place to keep my increasing numbers of photographs. It first opened for the 2016 Amherst Island Art Tour as a venue to display my work and I decided to keep it open year round. It is open by appointment or chance and a new sign will be installed prior to the Christmas Shopping on Amherst Island weekend in November. It includes several photos, either framed or on canvas. There are several images taken during travelling overseas as well as a large Island collection. There is one dedicated to images of the Owls of Amherst Island.

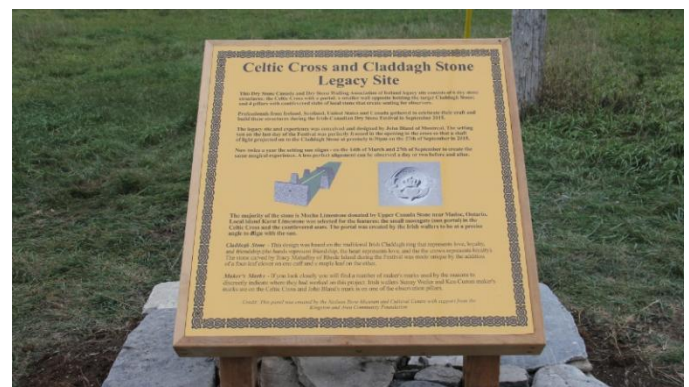
Brian Little has been taking photographs for over 40 years although it wasn't until he moved

to Amherst Island 13 years ago that his hobby became his career.

He enjoys shooting wildlife fine art, landscapes sports, portraits, architecture and the occasional wedding. He has had several gallery shows in Ontario and Quebec and his work hangs in a number of private collections Brian's work can also be found in many retail outlets across North America. Brian is a member of The Society of Canadian Artists.

From Woody Woodiwiss – The Island Gallery: I opened Island Gallery last spring. The predominant reason for having a gallery is to share my art with others. My art consists of Island and Central American photography framed, mounted behind plexiglass and printed on metal. Metal prints and plexi-mounts offer stability and longevity in displaying photos. Notecards of my images are available. The gallery also displays ceramics by Mayo Underwood and at different times hosts other Island artists. The Gallery is open on special occasions such as Art Tours, special spring opening and Christmas Shopping on Amherst Island. At other times a phone call will gain one access. 613 217 9326 for an appointment

From Sally Bowen: In the 1970's, the value of shorn wool crashed, world-wide. Australia had 2 years wool clip stored. We couldn't cover the cost of renting a truck to haul our bags to The Wool Growers near Ottawa with their payment.



*One of the information panels at the village stone wall, by Brian Little*





*Kassy-Sue McGinn and April White, by Brian Little*

Ian says he spent too much time on the tractor, thinking about farm finances. He's from PEI, where the old-fashioned Woollen Mill that processes our wool is located. We travelled there to visit with our sons, talked 'shop', and had our first few blankets made; bought some samples of yarn. We grew from there.

Each year we ship about 6000 lb of wool 'clip' to MacAusland's, where it is processed with no sulphuric acid or harsh chemicals, retaining its natural lanolin and softness. Wool does NOT have to be prickly.

Once Kyle and his band were done with the band room in the old ice house/milk house, we cleaned it up and gradually made it into a thriving store. Sally relearned how to knit and crochet, expanded the items offered, then hired folks to knit from home. We've now 10 people who produce dryer balls, needle-felted 'critters', and knitters of various products. Islanders involved include Jane McGinn and Alysha Wolfreys.

We expanded our sources too, finding wonderfully made cotton-encased wool bedding in Alberta, washable beautiful sheep and

lambskins in Ontario, as well as all the great yarn and woollen products from PEI.

We've had enormous help from the Internet Café, and from many other Islanders, supporting our efforts. With much coaching, we've now got a very effective internet store that brings us an increasing number of orders. The spring events, inviting people to visit shearing and baby lambs brought 1300 people in a few weeks this spring.

It is possible to run a thriving business from a dead-end gravel road on an Island – but it isn't for the fainthearted. Please come to explore our new Wool Shed during the Christmas Sale on Amherst Island.

From Lynn Wyminga - Lynn's Lids, Lynn says Lynn's Lids started because I made a hat for myself. I started knitting again. I love wearing hats and everyone wanted me to make them a hat like mine. In 2012 I took 2 years off because I had breast cancer and thyroid cancer. I was taking treatment for a year for the breast cancer. My business really started the end of 2012. I knit the hats out of 2 strands of merino wool then throw them into the washer and a little bit of soap, hot water. Then I want my hats to keep their shape. I put them on a hat block and leave them there for 2 days then they keep their shape. Go to the Etsy Shop, there are mostly small items there.



*Crowd-favourite Sparky, by Brian Little*



*Earnestown Secondary School football team,  
courtesy Laura Welbanks*

I go to Art Shows from August to December. I talk to other Artisans to find out where to sell my products. If you look in Craft Ontario they publish all of the Artisan Shows. They are juried shows meaning they won't take just the first people that apply. They don't choose the artisans until all the participants have submitted and they take the best. I have sold at One Of A Kind in 2014 and this Christmas 2016.

I also make needle felted ornaments. I learned through Andrea Graham in Odessa. Sally Bowen put me in touch with her. I love it. I love that the hats are durable, warm and practical. They are beautiful. I will have the Lynn's Lids Studio in the front of the house (The Anniversary House). I get all my supplies for needle felting from the Topsy Wool Shed.



*Ainsley Kennedy, by Brian Little*

From Beth Forester - The Presbyterian Bazaar: Beth was reading through the minutes of the PCW, Presbyterian Church Women's. In the October meeting of 1983 and the PCW decided to have a bazaar. In 1983 it was the church's 100th anniversary. The motion to have a Bazaar was made by Elaine Wolfreys and seconded by Audrey Miller. Karen Fleming, Marion Glen, Elaine Wolfreys and Jean McIntyre were on the committee. After the first Tea and Sale in 1983 it was reported that admission was \$1.00. They served sandwiches, pickles, sweets, tea and coffee. They had a Craft Table and a Bake Table. The money from the Tea and Sale was put in with the money for the cook book \$800. It was always held at the school in the gym. There was always a Craft Table and it was very popular. The women were really crafty back then.



*Stone wallers at work, by Brian Little*

From Janet Scott (head of this years committee): The tables this year are: Crafts, Amherst Island Clothing, Bake Table, Treasures, Book Table and Silent Auction.

Menu: Homemade Chili, including a Vegetarian choice, homemade soups, cream, beef or chicken and a vegetarian choice. Dessert is Apple Crisp.

The committee this year is: Janet Scott, Judy Miller, Judy Bierma, Linda Welbanks and Carol Glenn.

Janet says, "Weather can affect the Bazaar. One year when it was cold and rainy, we had more visitors because they wanted to get warmed up and shopped while they were in getting warm."





*Chicken in barn window, by Brian Little*

## **Our Life at 20 Front Road**

*- Sharen English*

Kevin the blonde, 2 year old, short haired Chihuahua, follows David everywhere. David takes him on his computer calls.

David and I take Kevin for evening walks. We walk in the darkness to enjoy the stars. We saw The International Space Station a few nights ago. It appeared very close and we could see the outline of its solar panels.

We see the outline of a light coloured, small dog darting through the darkness in the grass and on the road. Kevin is sniffing and exploring. He likes to visit Zophia, the brown hourse, and Gazoo, the white Palimino at Cherry and Mark's farm. He also enjoys seeing the horses on Gary and Susan's property.

Maxine, the 14 year old cat, a grey shorthaired house cat, is 78 in human years. She wants to be rubbed several times a day. She lolls on the sidewalk outside asking for a massage. At night she visits me on the bed and kneads me. She purrs softly while accomplishing her goal of telling me how much she values me.

Puss is having dental surgery today. She is 11 years old. She is a short haired house cat, with black and white markings. She is more feisty than calm Maxine. Puss demands rubs at night

and when I am on the John. She is a talker. She says "mip" when she is touched or wants food.

I walk on the rocks on the waterfront. I pull weeds and clean out the garage. I prepare the lawn and gardens for winter.

I play Rummoli with my Island friends on Tues. night.

I hope to start birding on the island again.

October is exhibiting the kind of weather I enjoy, 20 degrees, sunny with a small wind. I did not enjoy the hot and humid July, August and September weather here.

I enjoy looking at the grasslands and farms of the island. I enjoy seeing the children playing outside. I enjoy visiting my friend Sting, the white and brown Parsons Terrier, who lives at Freda's house. I enjoy listening to the sheep "Baaa". I watch the cows. I say hello to Laird's horses by the ferry dock.

David pointed out the howl of a coyote. It was faint. I would not have noticed it if he had not told me to listen carefully. I hear the Great Pyreneese dogs bark. The sounds come from the Ritche/Allen farm.

I wave to drivers as I pass them.

I watch the beauty of the lake.

It is peaceful here.



*Red barn, by Brian Little*



*Stone wallers, by Brian Little*

## Poetry

- Bruce Suds

On an island of stone walls, this poem will hopefully resonate for most. The deeper dialogue about the nature of walls both real and figurative is both timeless and timely as we watch our neighbours' to the south host a tumultuous election season...

## Mending Wall

*By Robert Frost*

Something there is that doesn't love a wall,  
That sends the frozen-ground-swell under it,  
And spills the upper boulders in the sun;  
And makes gaps even two can pass abreast.  
The work of hunters is another thing:  
I have come after them and made repair  
Where they have left not one stone on a stone,  
But they would have the rabbit out of hiding,  
To please the yelping dogs. The gaps I mean,  
No one has seen them made or heard them  
made,  
But at spring mending-time we find them there.  
I let my neighbour know beyond the hill;  
And on a day we meet to walk the line  
And set the wall between us once again.  
We keep the wall between us as we go.  
To each the boulders that have fallen to each.  
And some are loaves and some so nearly balls  
We have to use a spell to make them balance:

"Stay where you are until our backs are turned!"  
We wear our fingers rough with handling them.  
Oh, just another kind of out-door game,  
One on a side. It comes to little more:  
There where it is we do not need the wall:  
He is all pine and I am apple orchard.  
My apple trees will never get across  
And eat the cones under his pines, I tell him.  
He only says, "Good fences make good  
neighbours."

Spring is the mischief in me, and I wonder  
If I could put a notion in his head:  
"Why do they make good neighbours? Isn't it  
Where there are cows? But here there are no  
cows.

Before I built a wall I'd ask to know  
What I was walling in or walling out,  
And to whom I was like to give offence.  
Something there is that doesn't love a wall,  
That wants it down." I could say "Elves" to him,  
But it's not elves exactly, and I'd rather  
He said it for himself. I see him there  
Bringing a stone grasped firmly by the top  
In each hand, like an old-stone savage armed.  
He moves in darkness as it seems to me,  
Not of woods only and the shade of trees.  
He will not go behind his father's saying,  
And he likes having thought of it so well  
He says again, "Good fences make good  
neighbours."



*Celtic cross, by Brian Little*





*Mariah Simons and Riley McGinn, cousin-witches,  
by Trish McGinn*

## Janet's Jottings

- Janet Scott

### Fall Birds

The Autumnal time of year is such a joy to walk or stroll through the many wonderful birding sites on Amherst Island. The shorelines share a wealth of sandpipers, herons, swans, ducks and gulls while the marshes and wetlands are inhabited by rails, coots and ducks of an amazing variety. You can drive quiet roads (except at boat time) and scan hayfields and meadows for the migrating grassland birds such as: Meadowlarks, Starlings, a few late warblers and flocks of mixed blackbirds. These same fields usually present the birder with a wonderful chance to view and compare the many raptors that visit our island. This year seems different. Keith Miller who is a man, kind enough to survey the local vole population for

me, has informed me that the drought this summer has depleted them. This tells me whether the raptors will find food when they and the owls return to our Island in November. I am not seeing the raptors yet. Our birding group spotted American Kestrels and a Cooper's Hawk and Susan Filson reported a Saw-whet Owl. Carol Glenn and I saw a Great Horned Owl but raptors are not in the numbers I expected as yet.

Perhaps it is the cruising Northern Harrier with that white rump flash that catches your eye. They have nested successfully on the pasture lands on Amherst in other years, so where are they? The male Northern Harrier has pale grey wings and back with black wing tips and a longer tail. His under parts are white and he is smaller than the female. The female Northern Harrier shows the same white rump patch but is brown above, white below with lots of brown streaking on the breast and flanks. The young are cinnamon brown below and resemble the female. They have streaking on the upper breast and will gradually fade to a creamy buff breast by spring. Harriers are low level hunters and cruise back and forth across a field in a leisurely manner, only to drop suddenly on unsuspecting prey. They are 43 to 58 cm (17 to 23 inches) in body length and have a wingspan of 97 to 122 cm. (38 to 48 inches) in length.



*Pumpkin carving, by Brian Little*

Anytime this month I would expect the Rough-legged Hawks to appear. They are 21 inches in length, a wingspan of 53 inches and weigh 2.2 lb. They are mottled brown on the back with a white tail showing a dark band on the trailing edge. Their heads are lighter than the rest of the body and across their lower belly is a dark belly band. One birder gave me an interesting clue to help me tell them from the local Red-tailed Hawk when you can just see the back. The Red-tailed Hawk looks like it's wearing a "hoodie" and the Rough-legged Hawk looks like it's wearing a "sweatshirt". When the Rough-legged hawk soars it can stay in one place, hovering as it hunts. Then you can see dark wrist patches part way along its wing. Red-tailed Hawks are 19 inches long, have a wing span of 49 inches and weigh 2.4 lb. Red-tailed hawks do not always have red tails as this characteristic comes as it ages. Just to make identification more interesting the Rough-legged Hawk comes in a dark phase where it is chocolate brown all over and doesn't show the wrist patches but instead a two-toned under wing. We will be watching for them as they migrate south, riding the northwest winds down from the Arctic Tundra hoping to feed and rest on Amherst Island.

Here on the island the farmers have allowed the hedgerows to remain and these are such a wealth of habitat for nesting and feeding birds as well as other wildlife. This time of year the hawthorns, scrub trees and Prickly Ash may be filled with twittering Kinglets, both Ruby-crowned and Golden-crowned. Kinglets are about 10-11 cm.(4 to 4 1/4 inches) in size and are busy feeding on late fall insects as they prepare to migrate on to warmer southern climates. A few have been known to stay into the winter. They will be heaviest in migrating numbers in late October. The Golden-crowned shows a black and orange striped head and two wing bars, the Ruby-crowned rarely shows its red

head patch but does exhibit a prominent white eye-ring. Watch for these little fellows along the Marshall Forty-foot or in the brushy ravine on the west side of the Lower Forty-foot. American Tree Sparrows and Dark-eyed Juncos are feeding and twittering in every brushy patch and pile. They will stay with us for awhile.

Ontario Field Naturalists came across three American Woodcock in the Owl Woods this month. They are a 12 inch (28cm) rather chunky bird with large eyes and a long beak. It is similar to a Common Snipe but has a larger head in proportion to its body. They are nocturnal and very secretive. You are usually lucky to see one in the daytime and usually because it's been flushed it flies quickly up in the air with a twittering sound to its wings. In spring their elaborate courtship flight allows one to see them against the setting sun as they rise high into the sky with quickly fluttering wings, then drop suddenly with the twittering sound followed by a loud peet right after they land. They nest in the Owl Woods and other moist woodlots.

Please keep on telling, phoning and reporting interesting bird sightings as that helps us all to better understand and enjoy our feathered friends.

Thank you.



*Poppin' Fresh, a Galaxy 7, a hotdog and Bruce,  
by Brian Little*





*Stones on the shore, by Brian Little*

## **A Mother's Prayer**

*- Marie Parker*

They have placed you in my arms my son  
and so once more the battle's won  
the endless days have come to rest  
and god in pain has made me blessed.

In awe and wonder once again  
a son to join the rank of men  
a trust, a hope, a joy supreme  
the climax of a mother's dream.

God give me strength to show the light  
to teach this son the wrong, the right  
and as I hold him close to me  
let me remember he is free.

*Marie Parker is Victoria Cuyler's grandmother*



*Horses, by Brian Little*



*Old tractor, by Brian Little*





*Her friend Justine, and Elena, by Elena Moffatt*

## Hungry in Hungary

- Elena Moffatt

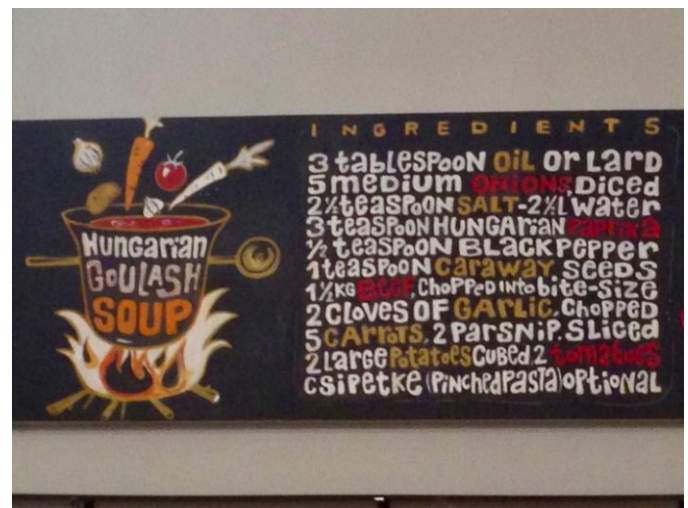
October has been a month of non-stop smiles and fun. From starting the month with a visit from Craig Anderson (fellow Back Kitchen team member), to going on a school trip to Hungary, and finishing it with a visit from my parents, it's been crazy. Needless to say, I'm a little exhausted.

What I really want to talk about this month is my trip to Hungary. Visiting an entirely new country was a great experience, although it was alienating being in a country where the language is entirely different than any other. As someone who's bilingual in English and French, I feel as though I have a pretty solid grasp of languages and being able to get around in countries within Europe. France, Spain, England, the Netherlands, and even in Germany I can get around with a fair bit of ease. I'm thankful that the English capabilities were better than I expected in Budapest, but it was still a challenge to navigate the city with signs in such a completely different language. I hadn't experienced this kind of disorientation since my class trip to Iceland in 2013.

With English being spoken in the capital city, it was easy to order food with the bilingual

menus. There was a restaurant just down the street from the hostel that I'm embarrassed to say I went to every day during the five-day trip. I quickly discovered that that restaurant, STEK, had the best Hungarian goulash soup (a dish I also ate every day during the trip, at least once). I'd tried the soup at some different restaurants both within the city and in the eastern countryside, and STEK was by far the best. Although the service wasn't great and it was often a struggle to get the waiter's attention, the quality of the food made up for it. I was surprised by the overall price in Hungary as well. Being able to leave a restaurant with a big bowl of delicious goulash soup, a beer, and a main course (hello duck burger!) for under \$20CAD sounds too good to be true. I even went to a bar where I was amazed that you could buy 200ml of whiskey for about \$1.50CAD. I was even able to get a haircut for about \$7CAD!

I'm not entirely sure what I expected of Hungary, but the country easily exceeded my expectations. I have yet to try making my own Hungarian goulash soup, but the hostel my classmates and I stayed at had a recipe written on the wall which I've attached to the article. I should really make it soon, it's perfect for those cold nights that are becoming all too frequent.



*Make your own Hungarian goulash, by Elena Moffatt*



## AIMS Report

- Hugh Jenney

Welcome and thank you to the Back Kitchen people who got up early to prepare us a beautiful hot breakfast: Bonnie Caughey, Diane Pierce, Beth Forester and Terry McGinn.

Before talking about our Bank of Canada, we should understand what fiat money, fractional banking and branches vs. single banks as in the US are all about.

Fiat money is anything authorized by a government as being legal tender. There is no gold backing any money these days. The only thing backing our Canadian dollar is faith. Faith that \$10 will buy a delicious breakfast at the Back Kitchen. Every year the purchasing power of our dollar goes down by about 2%. This is called inflation as the price of everything goes up ie inflates.

Our Canadian branch bank system is far superior to the US single bank system. None of our banks failed during the Great Depression. Many US banks failed. We all had runs on the bank but our branches sent money to the one under attack and thwarted it. The US single bank system could not come up with the cash so they failed.

Our Bank of Canada was created in 1935 during the Great Depression. Three years later Mackenzie King nationalized (bought out the shareholders) the bank. Now we are the shareholders. When the Federal Government needs money for health, education, welfare, housing, infrastructure or war, the Bank of Canada buys their interest-bearing bonds (pieces of paper saying I owe you) and the citizens of Canada redeem these bonds plus interest out of general tax revenues. Where does the interest go? Back to the Bank of Canada's

shareholders ie Canadian taxpayers. Therefore we receive the money interest free which cuts the cost 300%. Now a bridge to the other side of Kingston will not triple our debt as it does now when we borrow from the Big Banks. There are provisions in the Bank of Canada Act that this system could be used by our provinces and municipalities. We are presently wasting \$60 billion a year on paying unnecessary interest.

There is no truth to the rumour that the Bank of Canada is independent. Article 18 (a) states very clearly that if there is a difference of opinion between the Governor of the Bank of Canada and the Minister of Finance, the Minister of Finance rules.

North Dakota owns it owns bank and it is doing better than all the other states.

Our finance department claims that using our own Bank of Canada would cause inflation. They have no proof for this silly thought which has proven groundless since 1938.

Raising interest rates to stop inflation is a barbaric cure that kills us all. If you want to take too much money chasing too few goods out of circulation, a much fairer and effective way would be to raise the Banks' reserves.



*Nailed it, courtesy Barb Miller*

People confuse the word inflation with costs rising as they will when you leave a village with few services to move to a big city with lots of services. Yes, it costs more to live in the city, but you receive more services which naturally cost more.

Getting more for your buck is not inflation. Getting less for your buck is!

Harold Redekopp told us that a builder friend of his told him that the cost of land has risen 40%. They aren't making it any more.

Bruce Caughey thanked Hugh for all he has done to make our community a better place to live.

Our September minutes (all six pages can be seen in the Beacon thanks to Terry McGinn) were ratified by all.

Brian Little is heading up our Labour Day Auction to be held Saturday, Sept. 2, 2017. Bruce Caughey has agreed to be our auctioneer. Dayle Gowan has agreed to let us store our valuable items in his Radio Station shed.

Bruce Burnett is home with a sore back but he told me that the flu clinic is a no go to date. If anyone knows a health care organization that will put one on for us, please do so.

Dayle Gowan reported that William Barrett is still working on the flower baskets which will be coming down soon. Hubert Groot told us that they will cost more next year.

The AIMS Wagon has brought in just over \$900.00 for the summer. Thanks to all who worked to make this such a success. Marc Raymond said it was easier this year to get volunteers, but that he may not head up this committee next year. Let us know if you can do this very rewarding job.

Jay Brennan thanked us all for our work on the wagon. He and his son, John, enjoyed buying stuff from it every week.

Brian Little volunteered to look into how much AIMS golf shirts would cost.

John Harrison was thanked for doing such a good job on the AI Museum garden.

David Pickering reported that he will deliver the WI medical equipment which is stored at his house to anybody who calls for it. Thank you David.

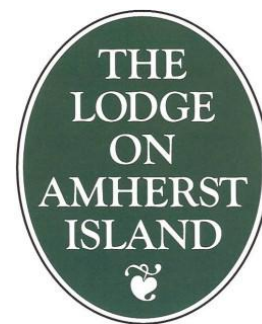
A letter of appreciation will go out to William Barrett thanking him for all his services while he takes a short, we hope, leave of absence.

Robert MacKenzie asked for assistance from two Islanders to help locate and organize an Island metal collection depot. Please call him at 613 384 6861 to offer advice.

David Pickering reported that he and Don Pepper are providing transportation to their regular clients.

Kevin Archibald moved to adjourn at 9:50.

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## Thanksgiving Swim

- Vicki Keith, prefaced by Terry McGinn

On Thanksgiving weekend several island ladies took a dip off the Museum dock in the village. Twelve swimmers took part in the swim, which is an annual event that has taken place for 3 years on the island. But it's actually older than that by quite a bit.

I had heard that the Thanksgiving swim was inspired by Vicki Keith and was a tradition that she had introduced here and that continues on. This year Vicki missed the island swim, but I asked her for some history on the Thanksgiving swim and the following is what she had to say:

"Another open water swimming season has come to an end. Thanks Sally Bowen for being one of my faithful swimming partners. I was sad that I was unable to join the Amherst Island Thanksgiving day swim this year. But I was thrilled that it went on anyway.

"It was 45 years ago that I engaged in my first cold water swim. I was 10 years old. We were at the cottage for Thanksgiving and a family friend, Neville Lewis mentioned to my dad that his son Allan was going to go for a water ski. I immediately asked if we could go too. My dad agreed. He later explained to me that the best way to do something like this was with a smile and complete enthusiasm.

"The next day we got into the boat and headed out into the lake. The wind was brisk and the water temp was about 15 degrees Celsius. Allan put one toe in the lake and immediately came to his senses and said there was no way he was going to get in the lake. I on the other hand climbed into the lake with a smile, ignoring the bite of the water. I put on my water skis, grabbed the rope and waited for the line to become taut. I yelled "Hit it" the engine gunned

and I was pulled out of the water and into the even cooler air. I skied around the lake once and dropped the rope. I slid back into the water which now felt warm in comparison to the pins and needles of the October wind cutting into me.

"The boat came around to pick me up and as I climbed out of the water I looked at my dad and Neville and said "can we go get ice cream?" I saw pride in my dad's eyes as we headed across the lake to Brown's Marina and Convenience store. I walked up to the store in my towel and bathing suit and the owners of the store were so entertained that they didn't charge me for the treat.

"So started a tradition. 44 years of water skiing or swimming on Thanksgiving. There was however one year that I was sick on Thanksgiving so 3 weeks later, as snowflakes gently drifted from the sky, I jumped in and skied around the lake. I count that ski to bring my tradition to 45 years.

"Happy Thanksgiving everyone! Hopefully, I will be back on the island next Thanksgiving to rejoin in the festivities."



*Eva emerges, by Brian Little*



*Elena Zanetti, dry stone waller, by Brian Little*

## **Dry Stone Walls**

- Andrea Cross

On October 17th the Frontenac Heritage Foundation recognized the Loyalist Township & Heritage Committee and Council for their excellent work to designate by-laws for the dry stone walls of Amherst Island by presenting an award to Deputy Mayor Ric Bresee. Roxanne Guttin and Andrea Cross were also mentioned and acknowledged as making significant contributions to this ongoing cultural heritage project. Mayor, Bill Lowry was on hand along with many of the Heritage Committee members who worked on documenting the walls, and two planning staff. It was wonderful to receive such enthusiastic support for the hard work that goes in to each by-law. Many of the Foundation members were encouraged to revisit Amherst Island to view the walls and also check out the Dry Stone Legacy Site.

Dry Stone Canada ran two workshops October 22 & 23, 2016, using The Lodge on Amherst Island as a base. The workshops were lead by professionals Andre Lemieux and Kenny Davies focused on dry stone walling restoration and Tracy Mahaffey and Karin Sprague lead the stone carving workshop. We had close to 40 people attending including participants, volunteers, instructors and organizers. Plus the general public was invited to attend a

presentation at The Lodge entitled "Wallers & Carvers" where images of their work was presented and the professionals were available to answer questions. The interest in both workshops has exceeded expectations!

For 2017 Dry Stone Canada has committed to a minimum of 5 events on Amherst Island next year with the dates already firmed up. Dry Stone Canada's Annual General Meeting will be held on March 11-12 weekend, close to the 14th which is when the setting sun will perfectly align with the Celtic Cross legacy dry stone site on the Island. On April 29-30, and October 21 & 22, two workshops will be held simultaneously – a stone carving workshop and a walling workshop. Dry Stone Canada also plans to run a certification examination next year as well but the date has not been set. Also many are hoping to make the second annual September 27th setting sun experience at the dry stone Legacy Site across from the Amherst Island Public School/Community Centre.



*Susan Friesen, stone carver, by Brian Little*



# Christmas Shopping on Amherst Island



**Saturday & Sunday, November 19th & 20th, 2016**

## *The Weasel & Easel*

Fine art, photography, pottery, quilting, weaving, jewellery, handcrafts,  
Shane's Apiary Honey (from hives kept on the Island) & Christmas Items. **Tax Free**  
5220 Front Road, housed in the Historic Neilson Store Museum in Stella  
Open Saturday 10am - 4pm & Sunday 1pm - 4pm

## *Topsy Farms Wool Shed*

Wool bedding, blankets, throws, comforters, mattress pads & pillows. Yarn & handcrafted  
wool products. Sheep & lamb skins, sheepskin mitts (all washable) Fresh frozen lamb cuts.  
Amherst Island Raw Honey. Calendars and cards by Don Tubb. **We pay the Tax**  
14775 Front Road West  
Open Saturday & Sunday 10am - 4pm

## *Presbyterian Church Christmas Bazaar*

**\*\*Saturday Only\*\*** in the Community Centre (Public School)  
from 10am - 1:30pm

**Free Admission.** Hot lunch \$5. (Children 12 and under \$3)  
Bake sale, book & treasure tables, crafts. Amherst Island clothing & caps.  
Raffle & silent auction

## *Shirley Miller's Studio*

4505 Second Conc.

Local fine art.

Open Saturday & Sunday 10am - 4pm

## *Island Gallery*

125 McDonalds Lane, Stella.

Fine art photography, cards & ceramics by Mayo

Open Saturday & Sunday 10am - 4pm

## *The Little Gallery*

1355 Second Conc.

Fine art photography and cards.

Open Saturday & Sunday 10am - 4pm

## *Lynn's Lids*

8790 Front Road

Felted wool hats, tea cosies, tree toppers, ornaments & more!

Open Saturday & Sunday 10am - 4pm

## *The Back Kitchen*

5660 Front Road

Hot desserts, ice cream, Reuben sandwiches,  
and refreshments Saturday; chili and soup on Sunday

A silent auction for pies, cakes, special treats  
and dinner packages both days.

Open Saturday & Sunday 10am - 4pm

## Manure Spreader Update

- Terry McGinn, with Keith Miller

Last month's Beacon included a picture of Keith Miller's antique horse-drawn manure spreader. After the Beacon was published Keith contacted me to ask if I want to print the marketing material and history that goes with that particular machine.

Of course I said yes. You can read the rest below:

"This manure spreader was given to me by Syke Fleming in 2002. It belonged to her father Piet Witteveen who farmed most of his life at 4750 Front Road.

"In 2008 with the help of my friend Paul Glenn I restored it and it is my hope that this old machine can be admired for another eighty years."

### **Promotional Material**

Important as is the maintenance of the soil, many do not give it the attention it deserves. Some allow the manure to remain in the barnyard until it loses much of its value as fertilizer, others are careless in their methods of applying it and the soil does not receive the benefits it should.

Hand spreading is wasteful, it is expensive and is one of the most hated jobs on the farm. When spreading by hand, it is impossible to apply the manure evenly, nor is it possible to give the land as light an application as had been found to give the best results in most cases.

With a Massey-Harris Manure Spreader a given amount of manure may be made to cover more ground and every bit of its fertilizing value is retained in the increased crops.

The Manure Spreader has made possible the top dressing of field crops, a method of spreading which has been found to give the best results in the majority of cases. The first rain carries the fertilizing elements down into the soil, directly to the roots of the plant. Also the top coating serves as a mulch to prevent drying out, and, in case of fall-sown crops, as a protection in winter.

Often it is desired to manure a meadow, but it cannot be done successfully by hand, for the result would be uneven and many chunks would be left to find their way into the hay at haying time. With a Massey-Harris Spreader the result is all that could be desired – the manure is evenly spread and there are not chunks left.

A light coating of manure can be applied to pasture lands by this spreader without causing the cattle to refuse to graze over it, as would be the result from hand spreading. Many pastures which were about worthless have been reclaimed this way.



*Manure spreader, by Shirley Miller*



## Book Review

- Anthony Gifford

Review of *The Many Lives & Secret Sorrows of Josephine B.*

By Sandra Gulland, HarperPerennialCanada,

A thanks to my wife, Judy Beirma and her book club, for pointing me toward this great read.

To me, it was more than that. Sandra Gulland (Carrie Sudds' mother) brings to life the realities of the French Revolution in ways that were new and most frightening to me. Told in the first person, the future wife of Napoleon Bonaparte, the reader is really there, walking along her side. History has rarely been more real.

In the reading of the book, with great sadness we are with those people as they rebel first against perceived evil and then slip quickly into even darker and deadly ways, giving away much of their newly found freedoms to the new emperor in Napoleon. All of this happening in the most educated and 'enlightened' society of Europe. It shows how fragile our civilization can truly be. Seen from our perspective, this was a very sobering book.

I highly recommend it to be read and enjoyed on many levels. Even though we know of the outcome in general, the details read like a true page-turner. Don't plan on taking much time with this one. Thank you, Sandra Gulland.



*Anthony Gifford's book birth at the Lodge,*  
by Brian Little



*Batgirl needs a snack, by Brian Little*

## AIWI Report

- Judy Greer

The AIWI met on October 19 at the home of Sherri Jensen for a business meeting chaired by President Joyce Haines. Treasurer Sherri presented a financial update and the report was approved. Several members were absent due to illness or with other commitments. Anne Henderson has sent letters to MPs re: Prison Farms but there has been no response yet. She is also keeping an eye on our donations to the KIVA organization and this will be added to the agenda of the next meeting. There was further discussion about funds that might be available for community support. The group decided to make limited donations at this time and only to recipients from other years. Discussion of additional donations was postponed until our

financial situation is clear since funds are needed to produce the telephone directory. Deb Barrett reported on the progress of the 2017 Island Directory and everything is going well. Loyalist Township is starting to work on a Recreation Master Plan and a public meeting to launch the project is being held October 20th. As several members are planning to attend there was discussion about the recreation needs and priorities for Amherst Island from our perspective which will be communicated. Members can expect a more extensive survey in the future and were encouraged to respond with ideas. The annual Seniors Christmas Dinner volunteer list has been published and most of the tasks have been allocated. AIWI members have continued to meet Thursday mornings for coffee at St. Paul's and this will continue as long as there is interest.

The meeting was followed by a delicious lunch provided by Claire and by Sherri who has perfected her Pecan Pie. Many thanks.

The next meeting will be November 16th and there will be a "surprise" craft activity planned by the Program Committee. Visitors and guests are most welcome to attend.



*Renee and Maryanne Minville, by Brian Little*



*Sparky poses for a picture with the masquerade-goers, by Brian Little*



# Amherst Island Beacon

## Submit Now for December

The deadline for the December issue of the Beacon is November 25<sup>th</sup>  
if you have contributions, ads, ideas, or suggestions  
please send them to [editor@amherstislandbeacon.com](mailto:editor@amherstislandbeacon.com)

*The Beacon can be found online at <http://www.amherstislandbeacon.com>  
or on the Amherst Island home page at  
<http://amherstisland.on.ca/>*

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*A selection of halloween photos, by Brian Little*



## Upcoming Events

### Friday, November 4

7pm – Celtic House Concert at The Lodge 320 McDonalds Lane

\$20 per person payable at the door. All welcome. Bring nibblies and a beverage.

### Sunday, November 6

2am – Daylight Saving Time ends. Don't forget to set your clock back an hour.

### Wednesday, November 9

9am to 12pm – Coffee for Alzheimer Society of Kingston

Ida and Bonnie invite you to drop by the ferry office and make a donation to the Alzheimer Society. Receipts will be provided for donations over \$10.

7pm – CJA Annual General Meeting at the Museum 5220 Front Road

All welcome! Be part of Canada's smallest radio station

### Friday, November 11

10:45am – Remembrance Day Service at the cenotaph at the school

### Saturday, November 12

8am – AIMS Meeting at St. Paul's 1955 Stella 40 Foot

Nominal cost for breakfast. Guest speaker. All welcome.

### Wednesday, November 16

7pm – Women's Institute Meeting at Kirsten's  
Guests and new members welcome. Contact Joyce Haines

## Saturday, November 19 & Sunday, November 20

10am to 4pm – Christmas shopping on Amherst Island.

Check out a myriad of local vendors who together are making your Christmas shopping experience easier and better. See details on page 23.

### Save the Date!

Women's Institute Seniors' Dinner -

All Island seniors and their guests will be invited to the annual Christmas dinner on Sunday December 4, 2016 at 4:30 pm at the Amherst Island Community Centre.

If you are a senior new to the Island or you turned 65 this year, please let us know so that we can send your personal invitation:  
[amherstislandwomensinstitute@gmail.com](mailto:amherstislandwomensinstitute@gmail.com)

Last chance to update the 2017 Women's Institute Directory

New to the Island? New telephone number or email address? You may add a cell, off-Island telephone number or email address to the 2017 Directory. The choice is yours! Please send your information to:

[amherstislandwomensinstitute@gmail.com](mailto:amherstislandwomensinstitute@gmail.com)



*Alec Welbanks, by Laura Welbanks*





*Museum garden, courtesy Diane Pearce*

## Notices & Thank-Yous

### Thank You

I want to thank all my Rawleigh customers for supporting me by buying so many of my products both at the Market and from our house. For those of you who use the toilet bowl cleaner, I am still trying to get the company to bring it back. The company has had many complaints.

Thanks again

Marie Ward

---

### THANK YOU!

In last month's BEACON I invited people to join me in 'giving birth' to my book CHURCHES: A Time To Die - Hope For New Life. I didn't know what to expect, just that I wanted to share this with friends and neighbours before I did anything commercial. Let me thanks you thirty-some folks who joined me at THE LODGE on the 11th and made that evening so special to me. And to those at The Lodge and the others who helped with the food and work.

We talked and talked, didn't we! From my perspective, it could hardly have been more rewarding. Thanks again. Maybe we'll do more talking, re the subject.

In friendship,

Anthony Gifford

## To the Community of Amherst Island

Thank-you, thank-you for all your prayers, kind words, cards, gifts and visits while I was in hospital. A special thank-you to both Rev. Jay Brennan and Father Don Bailey who took the time out of their busy schedules to visit me in hospital. Thank-you to all my family: kids, grand-kids, in-laws and extended families who put in extra hours service as I needed care between my time in Belleville Hospital and acceptance in the Convalescent Care Centre in Napanee. Thanks to Judy and Anthony who ran errands, fed my cats and cared for my home while I was gone. I am blessed to live in this community and in an extended and loving family. God Bless You All!

Janet Scott

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### Thank you!

Thank you to John Harrison who, on behalf of APAI, has maintained the flower garden at the Neilson Store Museum & Cultural Centre, and to Bill Barrett and other AIMS volunteers who kept the AIMS hanging baskets watered and fertilized all season long. Volunteers make this community what it is!

Diane Pearce



*AIMS basket, by Diane Pearce*

## Advertisements

NOTICE: Advertisements can be placed here by sending an email to [editor@amherstislandbeacon.com](mailto:editor@amherstislandbeacon.com), unless otherwise directed advertisements will appear for a maximum of 3 months before needing to be "renewed" by contacting the Beacon. This is to prevent stale ads from lingering. Thank you...

### WANTED: SMALL MOTOR BOAT

Contact Jake 613-876-5101

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### WANTED:

Excellent quality queen mattress; good quality double bed mattress; small dog or large cat carrying cage (sufficient for 2 smallish lambs). Call Sally 613-389-3444

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### WANTED: HELP STILL NEEDED

for the Lennox and Addington S.P.C.A.

Used towels and linens, paper towels and cleaning supplies, pet food and toys, kitty litter, are always in demand; Canadian Tire coupons. We are glad to accept pop cans, beer and LCBO containers too. Thank you for helping to support our animal shelter. Further information needed?

Call Freda Youell – 613-384-4135

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### TOPSY FARMS

Topsy Farms has fall lamb frozen lamb cuts; great raw honey by bees (with help from Dave Meikle and Kyle Murray).

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### BETTY'S HOME COOKING

My Market Goodies are available! Plus if you want a full meal to go... a few days notice and your cooking for company is over. Call Betty 613-389-7907

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### TOPSY FARMS WOOL SHED

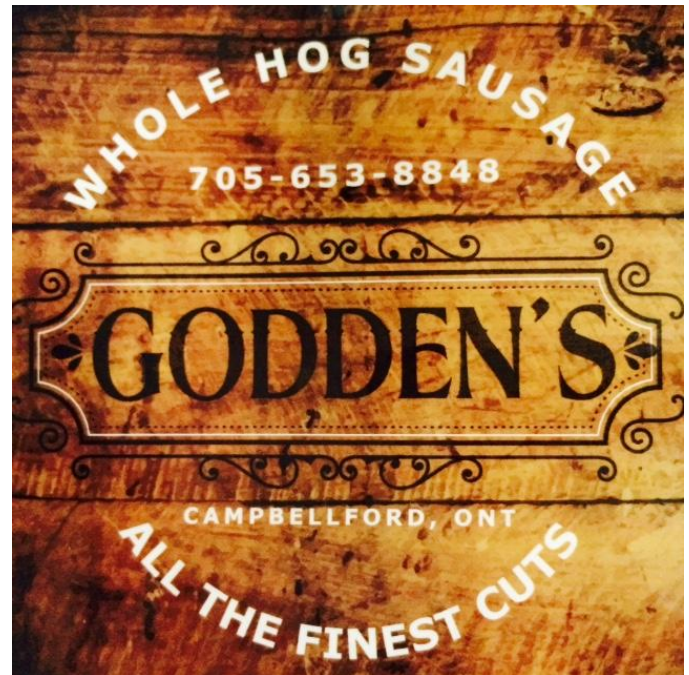
Wool and sheepskin products including yarn, blankets, crafts, and individual photos, books and booklets by Don Tubb. Open weekends and most weekday mornings. 613-389-3444

### RAWLEIGH PRODUCTS FOR SALE

Catalogues available. To place an order call Marie Ward at 613-389-5767 or email: [bandmward@xplornet.ca](mailto:bandmward@xplornet.ca)

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### GODDEN WHOLE HOT SAUSAGE



MANY THANKS to our island customers for choosing Godden's Whole Hog Sausages for your BBQ needs this summer! Particular thanks to The Back Kitchen for including our product on your menu! We are freshly stocked at Poplar Dell with 5 lb. cases of both BBQ Sausages (Salt & Pepper, Honey & Garlic, Hot Italian, Sundried Tomato & Oregano, Sweet Chili & Lime) and Breakfast Sausages (Salt & Pepper, Maple). All cases \$35.

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### ISLAND BOOKKEEPING

For simple bookkeeping, payroll, and tax preparation needs at very competitive prices. Call Renée for more information and free quotes at 613-929-4545



## MEDICAL EQUIPMENT LOAN

Amherst Island Women's Institute Medical Equipment Loan Cupboard (wheelchairs, walkers, canes, crutches, bath seats, grab rails, commodes, raised toilet seats). Donations of used equipment in good condition also welcome. Call Sharen English 613-384-6535

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## FILM EXTRAS CASTING

Looking for Amherst Island residents who have the acting bug or like to wear period costumes pieces or both! A small budget independent short film set in the late 1800's is shooting on Amherst Island. We are looking for featured extras (no dialogue) for one scene. Costumes have been professional designed for this film. Ideally looking for two parents and a child (5-10 years old) to act as a family, but we are open to anybody excited and interested in this. First time actors are more than welcome. This is not a paid position but food and fun will be provided. Please email [dtahmizi@gmail.com](mailto:dtahmizi@gmail.com) if you are interested. Thank you.

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## COMPUTER REPAIR/UPGRADES

New installs, virus/Malware removal. Island References. Bruce MacCrimmon – 613-453-0505 or [bruce.maccrimmon@hotmail.com](mailto:bruce.maccrimmon@hotmail.com)

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## ISLAND GOLD 100% PURE RAW ONTARIO HONEY

Please call Perry at 613-371-8118 or email [islandgold@rogers.com](mailto:islandgold@rogers.com)

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## ISLAND YOGA

Call Taggett for more information at 613-888-5156

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## FREE

A Hampton Bay floor room fan, it works. Excellent condition. Sharen 613 384 6535.

## AMHERST ISLAND CHIROPRACTIC

10650 Front Rd. Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

For appointments call 613-328-8892

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## PAINTINGS, PRINTS & ART CLASSES

Shirley Miller 613-389-2588

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## HARTIN'S PUMPING SERVICE

Septic Pumping & Inspection 613-379-5672

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## FOOTFLATS FARM ACCOMMODATION

Goodman House (waterfront) - 4 bedrooms, 3 bath - available year round.  
<http://www.footflats.com> 613-634-1212

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## HOUSE IN THE VILLAGE FOR RENT

by the week or weekend.

Contact Jan Sydorko at 519-451-1197 or email [michael.sydorko@sympatico.ca](mailto:michael.sydorko@sympatico.ca)

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## POPLAR DELL FARM BED & BREAKFAST

3190 Front Road, Amherst Island

Welcoming guests for over 30 years. Also, Cottage Rentals and Godden Sausage sales. Call Susie @ 613-389-2012



*Michele, Diane, and Joyce at the stone wall,  
by Brian Little*



## **NOTICE OF SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING**

### **LOYALIST TOWNSHIP OFFICIAL PLAN REVIEW**

Loyalist Township is currently undertaking a review of its Official Plan under Sections 26 and 27 of the Planning Act. The Official Plan is a long-range planning policy document that manages land use, growth and development over a 20-year horizon.

**TAKE NOTICE** that a Special Public Meeting pursuant to Section 26(3)(b) of the Planning Act will be held by Council on:

**MONDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2016 AT 7:00 PM  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, ODESSA ADMINISTRATION BUILDING  
263 MAIN STREET, ODESSA, ONTARIO**

**THE PURPOSE AND EFFECT OF THE OFFICIAL PLAN REVIEW** is to update policies to conform to Provincial planning legislation and the County of Lennox and Addington Official Plan, as well as to consider comments by the public and agencies.

**THE PURPOSE OF THE SPECIAL PUBLIC MEETING** is to discuss the revisions that may be required to the Official Plan. It is intended to provide an opportunity for the public to offer comments regarding any issue or matter that should be considered during the Official Plan Review process.

**ANY PERSON** may attend the Special Public Meeting and/or make written or verbal representation. If you are unable to attend the Special Public Meeting, you may provide written comments to Andrea Furniss, Supervisor Planning Services at the address below.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** can be obtained by visiting the Municipal Offices at 263 Main Street, Odessa, Ontario or by contacting Andrea Furniss, Supervisor, Planning Services at 613-386-7351 ext. 144 or [afurniss@loyalist.ca](mailto:afurniss@loyalist.ca). If you wish to be placed on the interested parties list to receive notification of future public consultation events and other matters related to the Official Plan Review, please advise the above noted contact.

The Township's current Official Plan is available for inspection online at <http://www.loyalisttownship.ca/index.cfm/business/planning-and-development/official-plan/> and/or during business hours from Monday to Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Township's Municipal Offices at 263 Main Street, Odessa, Ontario.

Paul Snider  
Director of Administrative Services/Clerk  
Loyalist Township, PO Box 70, 263 Main Street  
Odessa, Ontario K0H 2H0

Dated at Loyalist Township this 25<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2016

**If you are a person with a disability and need Loyalist Township information in another format, please contact 613-386-7351 ext. 100, between 8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. or e-mail [info@loyalist.ca](mailto:info@loyalist.ca)**



## From the Archives

November 1968 – Issue 106

### Interview

- Annette Phillips

In an interview following last week's Council meeting, Reeve Norman Allison confirmed he is prepared to resign if Councillors don't start pulling together to get certain issues solved.

Norm will be putting two main ideas before Council at their next meeting, and if a satisfactory conclusion is not reached, Norm said he will be resigning.

Notice of motion has already been served on the issue of a new development road, which would run from the ferry dock to the south shore. Norm said a highgrade road here would be of benefit to most Islanders, and would open the door to further development.

According to Norm, now is the time to start looking towards our new ferry, and since the dock will have to be enlarged and redesigned, he feels a good place to start would be with a new road, improving all intersections and cutting down the three big hills.

Norm also pointed out that a new development road might be of advantage should the County take over our roads. The County has already been contacted by Council in this regard, and has told Council if they did take over our roads, they would also want to assume responsibility for the ferry.

Another item Norm will be putting before Council concerns ferry personnel. Instead of phasing out the deckhands on the Amherst Islander, Norm will suggest the pursers be edged out instead. Pursers are the actual money collectors, Norm says, and since they are being paid more money than they bring in, they are not necessary. Pursers are actually being subsidized, he said, and that is not fair to the ratepayers. He would therefore like to see the pursers demoted to deckhand positions and the deckhands let go as soon, as possible, preferably by the beginning of next year.

If Councillors will not agree to phasing out ferry personnel, Norm will suggest that the ferry operations be turned over to either the County, or to MTO.



*A decorative door, by Brian Little*

## **In Defence Of Queen Anne's Lace**

- Dale C. Jones, Resident-On-Occasion

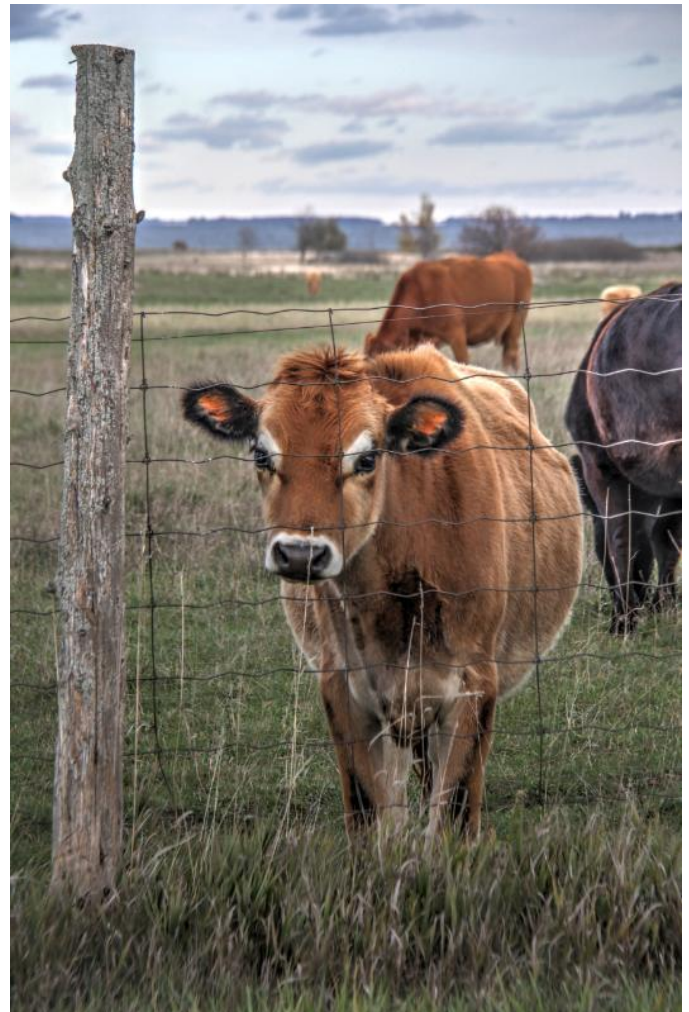
I've been reading with some interest the recent spate of letters whose authors decry the "overpopulation" of such plants as Queen Anne's Lace on the Island. I do agree that the sight of agricultural land being taken out of production is a distressing symptom of a global problem. I would, however, offer the opinion that the reappearance of "weeds" is not entirely as disastrous as has been suggested.

In part the weeds signify nature's amazing drive to regenerate, to regain "lost ground", to waste not (unlike we humans). The value of any particular species of plant cannot be simply measured by the economic loss of the crops which used to/could've been produced on the ground occupied. Nature's balance sheet is far more comprehensive than Man's. Diversity of species, both plant and animal, is an essential part of our planet's health. Our attempts to "manufacture" nature have been failures every one. No further proof is necessary than to participate first hand in growing monocultures - be they suburban lawns of the "right" grass or fields of corn.

The total energy we expend on our "single crop" systems is far greater than the net energy gain realized. We operate on a deficit budget and the best we can hope for is to minimize the deficit.

Please understand that I'm not advocating some return to an ideal past economic system - the good old days weren't. What I am advocating is that we develop a total system awareness of the relationships between human activities and the earth. The attitude that is betrayed by the desire to destroy all plants that do not fit our scheme and by the measure of the value of a plant in strictly dollar terms must change if we as a species are to survive at least as long as the "weeds" we seek to eliminate.

Besides Queen Anne's lace is a beautiful plant. Must not beauty count for something?



*Moo, by Brian Little*



## **Announcing!!**

Gary And Joanne, Owners Of Bath Foodland, Are Please To Announce Their Expansion Into Glenn's Store.

On November 1, Gary and Joanne expanded their inventory at Glenn's Store to include a wide range of convenience items. Glenn's Store now has bread, milk, butter, eggs, sugar, coffee, paper products, feminine hygiene products and all sorts of other items our Island customers might need in a pinch.

We have kept the movies, as well as the bottled water and the ice, and we have attempted to stock the Island store with frequently-used items. We encourage our Island customers to drop by, look at our selection of items and make suggestions on other items you would like to see available. If there is an item you run out of at home, and it isn't in the store, please let Annette know and we will have it available the next time you run out.

This will not interfere with our Grocery Order days which will still be Saturday. Orders need to be in at Glenn's Store by 4:00 on Fridays. Pickup is between 11 and 12 on Saturdays. Payment may be made at Glenn's Store when you pick up your order.

Bath Foodland will continue to accept personal cheques for purchases, and will continue to cash your personal cheques if required. All cheque transactions

at Glenn's Store must now be made payable to Bath Foodland. A charge system will not be used.

We wish to advise local service groups that we are more than willing to meet your needs as far as specialty orders for fundraisers, or for your catered meals.

Special delivery arrangements can be made to suit your needs.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our Island customers for your support, and to assure you that we welcome any suggestions that might help us serve you better.

Gary and Joanne Nightingale

Bath Foodland

## **A Letter Home**

- Sally Bowen

It's still reasonably early in the morning and I just came in from my walk. The Bay is 'steaming' which is definitely not a good sign. Last year on this day we had our first snow storm. Already I'm counting on my fingers and find that there will possibly be 6 months of winter again this year. The older I get the more winter clothes I accumulate and the more I tend to hibernate.

Our Small ferry has returned as promised and as always it is quite a shock to our daily going to Town routines. Some mornings there are as many as 18 to 20 vehicles parked on the mainland dock. This means some people can make it home an hour and a half earlier and

they don't have to leave home so early in the morning.

We made it to the Halloween masquerade which the Legion hosts at the Community Center. Even though it is mainly the 'kids' who dress up, the walls were lined with community members who have come to join in the fun. It's one of the annual events which make this such a great place to live and provides the children with special memories to take away with them on their life's travels.

Unfortunately, on Halloween, we did have some vandalism which may seem minor to those committing the acts. However, it is real people whose feelings and homes are affected. I think those throwing eggs, soaping cars and smashing mailboxes must think past the momentary fun of their acts and think of how they would feel if done to them.

The sheep are still trickling away to the sales barn and we've been pleased with the prices. It makes all that hard work worthwhile and encourages us to continue when things aren't going so well.

I almost forgot to tell you about the gale force winds. Last week Mother Nature must have known that the Little ferry was back and she decided to have some fun. Knowing how much the Amherst Islander likes to bob around in a southwest wind she provided an almost continuous roller coaster ride for three days and nights.

It's amazing how many people you can reach at home on days like that and even more amazing how many people actually enjoy travelling across the Bay on a windy day.

Time is ticking and seeing as I do my best work before noon I should move on as I have at least 10 'to do things' on my list.

All our best.

P.S. Today is Thursday the 14th and we awoke to a January blizzard leaving us with a foot of wind driven snow. By midmorning, the worst was over and it turned into one of those really lovely sunny January days. So much for a gentle drift into winter - eh, what?



*Charlie Howard's old barn, by Brian Little*