

# Amherst Island Beacon



*Issue 468 There's always another boat. April 2019*

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### **4H Cinnamon Buns**

by Julia Kennedy

On Saturday March 16th, Amherst Island's 4-H club got together at Who House to attempt the impossible: baking, packaging and delivering almost 400 cinnamon buns. Our fundraiser was advertised on Facebook and with my radio interview with Janet and Keith. We got 41 orders all for cinnamon buns-regular or gluten free. On the 16th, we all wore our aprons and got down to work. Each 4H member made their own batch, a gazillion times. We delivered them to everyone that ordered and heard good things. We plan to have a fun time all together

at our tea party as a reward for all of the work we did. Thank you everyone for supporting us.



### **Birthdays**



**Bella Rose: granddaughter to Joan and Dan**

**Amherst Island BEACON Issue 468, April 2019**

Published monthly, the Beacon is provided free through the work of dedicated volunteers.

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**Submission Deadline** 25<sup>th</sup> of mth

**Provided via:** [Amherstisland.on.ca/Beacon](http://Amherstisland.on.ca/Beacon)  
and its webmaster Alex Scott



**Duncan Ashley**



**Woody Woodiwiss**



**Michele LeLay**



**Rider family. Grandson and great grandchildren  
of Ellis and Marylou Wolfreys**



**Laura Anderson**



**Nathan Townend**





**Loki: Karen and Wayne Fleming's dog**



**Ray Koenders  
Grandpa to Drew and Archer McGinn**



**Margret Mooney – 88 years**



**Adam and Tom Miller**

Grandma From The Island  
Shirley Miller Shares

April 3, is Adam's birthday. He was born in 1972 at a time when mothers were kept in hospital for seven days. It had been warm when I went in but on April 10 when Keith brought us home it was frozen up and cold.

It is also Tom Miller's birthday so I put in a picture of Tom and Adam celebrating together.

As is my usual habit of over doing everything I had decided to get rich selling African Violets. They weren't in every store then like they are today, mostly ladies would pinch a leaf of one a friend had and start her own. I had probably at least fifty or so, all under lights. The girls and I tried peddling them in town a couple of times and even though they sold well, how much can you charge for an African Violet?



So when Maggie sent one of my violets to the hospital the staff loved it. "I have lots" said I. After about the third day of lugging violets to the hospital for the staff Keith put his foot down. "If you call me again to bring more flowers, I am not coming to see

you".





**Elly Gowan**

**Congratulations**



**Marlene Kilpatrick (centre) is with  
Laurene and Warren Kilpatrick**



**Roberta sends Happy 59<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to  
MaryLou and Ellis Wolfreys**



**Congrats to Emily from The Beacon  
Emily Wemp made the Provincials  
Janet Scott's granddaughter**



**The futon is in good condition and becomes a  
very comfortable bed when needed. It is free but  
whoever takes it must provide transportation.  
Contact John or Liz 613-389-5176.**



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## Beacon Archives

### Council

The 1978/79 council held its inaugural meeting on December 5/78. Minutes from the previous meeting were approved and payment of out- standing bills were approved. The following standing committees were approved:

Ferry - James Neilson

Roads - Jack Kerr & John Hall

Fire - Dave Vrooman & Jack Kerr

Sanitation, Parks & Property - John Hall & Jack Kerr

Finance - Jean Tugwell & John Hall

Cemetery - Jack Kerr

Recreation - Dave Vrooman & Jean Tugwell

\*\*\*\*\*

### Here And There

by Ian Murray

For over a year now I have been exposed to the metric system on a construction site. There has been considerable confusion, most of it, I think, caused by using measuring tapes calibrated in both English and metric systems. We were using only linear measurements and if we'd had to use volumetric as well it would have been very confusing. I still recall a brief chat, with a very large, very rough labourer, who, leaning on his jackhammer, slowly said: "I don't think I'll ever understand these centigreeeters. ...." A lot of people probably feel the same way.

\*\*\*

### Montgomery Ancestry

A. Bruce Caughey

During recent months, I have received two letters from Robert L. Montgomery of Hawaii and last evening received a phone call from Mr. Montgomery - during our conversation we had perfect transmission and one could hardly believe that so many miles separated us!

Mr. Montgomery is attempting to trace his ancestry and I would like very much to assist him. If any of our readers, both Island and others know of the existence of sources of information, I would appreciate hearing from them, so that I might research some and forward information to the man.

Possible sources of information may include "Family Bibles", old correspondence, census lists, titles of property, Baptismal records, marriage records - these suggested items turn up in the most unusual places and are frequently in the possession of persons who have no idea of the value or interest.

I realize that there are many present residents of Amherst Island, completely unaware of the "Montgomery" name in Island history. To the best of my recollections, Mrs. Alice Compeau would be the only living survivor, resident here - her mother, Margaret Taylor's maiden name was Montgomery and of course history tells us that the village of Stella had a business "Montgomery's Tailor Shop" - the property where Mrs. Ruth Glenn presently resides. Hoping that someone can help me out.

\*\*\*

### Christmas Trees Wanted

Used Christmas trees are wanted for the construction of the bush road this year. Anyone who is finished with their Christmas trees are asked to leave them down in the Park beside the Township Building. Instead of throwing them away use them for a good purpose. Using the used trees substitutes for the tress that will have to be cut down. Your participation will be greatly appreciated. Thank You.

[Ian: So, in 40 years our Island has gone from the road crew creating a "bush road" on the ice for those travelers who wanted to get to mainland quickly - even with the bubble system the ferry could be pretty slow - to an end-loading ferry that is very reliable. Next year the permanent docks will be ready with a new ferry coming. Big changes!]

\*\*\*

### Ernestown Minor Hockey

Some of the boys from the Island are playing in the Ernestown Township Hockey Program at Henderson Arena in Amherstview. The boys playing are Neil deHaan, Billy Bustard and Steven Wemp in the Pee Wee Division. Noel McCormick also played in Pee Wee until he was hurt. Mark Wemp and Jeff Pearce play in the Atom Division and Doug Willard plays in the Midget Division. This is Neil and Doug's first year playing in the Program. All the boys enjoy playing and are doing great!



**Wild turkeys from Doug Green**





**What a bevy at the Amherst Island Dock**



**1967 Amherst Island Parade for Centennial Year. George and Helena Bierma, Judy, Joyce, Joan and Robert**

**Blasts from the Past**



**The last time the ferry left the old dock a year ago from Terry McGinn**



**Past Parades on Amherst Island**



**Jean and Earl Tugwell from Shirley Miller**





Hello Friends and Neighbours, hope everyone enjoyed March 6ths, of Cds. I'll have to dig deeper for some new old Cds that I have hidden away. Just gotta find them.

Wed. Feb. 13 I had a fabulous entertainer from Belleville, Ont. His name is Steve Smith, and is also a good rhythm guitar player. I've heard him many times and have been trying to get him on the AIR for the past year, and now here he is. Coming to back Steve is Chuck D'aoust on bass guitar, and maybe some vocals if it's OK with Steve. A great rhythm guitar player, Jon McLurg will be joining us, and he may do some vocals as well. I have been asked to play lead guitar, but no vocals from me. Chuck has been in music for many years and is well experienced both on Bass and rhythm guitar. Jon also is very experienced and can play many instruments. Both Chuck and Jon have cd's and Jon has written a few songs as well. These three talented individuals should make a wonderful program. Hope you tuned in. If not, my program replays on Sunday from 2 pm to 5 pm.

Don't forget to join Roy and Joan Shepherd at the Glendower Hall on the Westport Road with their great Open Mic Jam Session, called The Bedford Jam Session. What a great event. \$2.00 at the door, entertainers are free, snack table and drinks available. Come and listen to some great entertainers, and musicians, and kick up your heels on the dance floor. What a great way to spend a Sunday afternoon.

P.S. Regarding the Bedford Jam that I mentioned in my note above. It is at the Glendower Hall approximately 6 miles East of Godfrey, off of # 38 Hwy on the Westport Rd. It all starts at 1 pm and usually goes to 5 pm on Sunday, March 17th.

Thank You All, and God Bless. From Mary Lou & Ellis Wolfreys, and Amherst Island Radio CJAI 92.1 FM.



**Nick Rosetti**

This past Saturday, after a little over 4 years away, I, Nic Rosetti, returned to Your Amherst Island Radio with The Afternoon Delight: Yesterday's Favourites On Today's Radio. 3-5 PM Bi-Weekly I will be live to bring you the music you know and the music you love.

*Now Broadcasting From Amherst Island...*



Crowding into the broadcast booth at CJAI are (from left) on-air personalities and station volunteers Adam Miller, Jim Gould, assistant station manager Rosemary Richmond, station manager Terry Culbert and direction or opera Tom Richmond. The station official went on the air at the start of the month.

**Community station goes liv**  
*Brand new CJAI 93.7 is becoming a hit on the island, and beyo*

**April 1 was the anniversary of Amherst Island Radio, 13 years I believe. Did any of us think it would keep going so long? This news paper clipping appeared on April 12, 2006 in the Napanee Beaver.**



# Prime Time Schedule

## 6AM-Midnight

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6am	Classical	Island Folk	Island Folk	Island Folk	Island Folk	Island Folk	Island Folk
7am		Udder Morning Show (Live)	Bluegrass	Rise and Shine (Live)	Island Sunrise Show (Live)	Friday Morning Show (Live)	Sally's Books
8am	Believe (Repeat)						Carbon and the City (Repeat)
9am	Bach's Sacred Gifts		Spiral Groove (Repeat)				
10am	Broadway SoundTrack	Cheesemaker's Daughter (Live)	Oldies and Goodies (Live)	That's Life (Live)	A Cappella to Zither (Live)	Sam's Jams	A Cappella to Zither (Repeat)
11am	Sally's Books						
Noon	Carbon and the City (Live)	I Like To Move It, Mondays (Live)	Tales from the Tarpit (Live)	Birding	Virtual Reality Radio (Live)		Deconstructing Dinner
1pm				Believe (Live)		Studio Stories	Rendez-Vous de la Francophonie
2pm	Wolf's Den (Repeat)	Udder Morning Show (Repeat)	Funraising (Live)	Wolf's Den (Live)	Island Sunrise Show (Repeat)	Friday Morning Show (Repeat)	Birding
3pm							Afternoon Delight (Live)
4pm			Cheesemaker's Daughter (repeat)				
5pm	Radio With Spirit (Live)	Celtic		Canadian Celiac Podcast	Overtones (Live)	Eastern Ontario Playlist	Spiral Groove (Live)
6pm		Celtic		Studio Stories		Beacon Librivox	
7pm	Sunday Nights (Live)	Geek Positive Radio (Live)	Tuned Up (Live)	Mixed Tape (Live)	More Cowbell (Live)	Friday Night Show (Live)	Saturday Night Barn Burner (Live)
8pm							
9pm	Sunday Country State of Mind (Live)	Overtones (Repeat)	Scott Jackson Show				
10pm			Radio Moo Canadian	Rise and Shine (Repeat)	Radio Moo Canadian	Scott Jackson Show	Humble and Fred
11pm		Eastern Ontario Playlist				Friday Night Show (Repeat)	Saturday Night Barn Burner (Repeat)

Last Updated: 07 Mar 2019



**Fresh Maple Syrup for sale \$12.00 for 500 ml bottle. Just in time for Easter gifts. If interested please call 613 561 6564 Janice McGinn**

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**Great Pics**



**Tilted prehistoric from Woody Woodiwiss**



**from Brenda Vanalstine**



**Who has the ball?**



**The Cat from Brian Little**



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## Museum



***"A View to the Past"***

## Neilson Store Museum and Cultural Centre Inc.

5220 Front Road, Stella, ON K0H 2S0

Registered Charity #864124243RR0001

Meeting of the Board of Directors Tuesday, February 5, 2019

**Present:** Anders Bennick (President & Chair), Bruce Burnett, Carol Glenn (Treasurer), Warren Kilpatrick, Karen Miller, Janet Scott and Thomas Sylvester (*pro tem* Recording Secretary)

**Regrets:** Terry McGinn and Bonnie Livingstone

1. Welcome

Anders Bennick welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Approval of Agenda

The *Agenda* was accepted.

3. Minutes of January 8, 2019

It was moved, seconded and carried that the *Minutes of January 8, 2019* be accepted.

Motion #2019-04

4. Business Arising from the Minutes

We did not know if Sherri Jensen was issued a tax receipt for the Bird Posters.

Thomas gave a lengthy, circuitous report on his thinking this past month (while his laptop has been sitting on a repair bench). The "*On This Spot*" walking tour website seems more appropriate for Toronto, Vancouver, Lethbridge ... not our modest museum (yet).

There had been a much more appropriate organization, the *Mecklenburgh District Heritage Co-operative* that was established in 2003. It was "formed to facilitate museums, heritage sites and organizations to work together to build a stronger network of regional communication." Our museum was most likely invited to join. Unfortunately the Wintario funding was spent and it is no longer active. JoAnne Himmelman of the *Lennox & Addington County Museum and Archives* directed Thomas towards the *Kingston Association of Museums, Art Galleries and Historic Sites Inc.* This organization does not appear to be as good a fit as the former would have been.

Now all of the above served as an introduction to the subject of our existing walking tour. The Oral History project of 1982, wrote "A stroll through historical Stella" which was mimeographed and distributed that year. It was subsequently, excerpted and published (L & A Historical Society) as a pamphlet within a county-wide series. Sylvester's *Curbside Publishing* plodded at republishing it in 1994, and revised again in 2009. The text and the recently rediscovered, original photographs should be posted on the internet (either our museum's website and/or Alex Scott's island website). The walking tour typed manuscript, along with the original photographs were rediscovered in a cardboard file box merely labelled with a post-it note, "Historic." The box had been in the interim Ferry Office (more on this box later).

5. Treasurer's Report for January 2019

Carol Glenn distributed the *Treasurer's Report for January 2019*. A new supply of cheques was bought (\$166, previously a six-year supply). Bird Posters sales \$240. Bottle returns \$183.

It was moved, seconded and carried that the *Treasurer's Report for January 2019* be approved.

Motion #2019-05

6. Committee Reports

**6.1 – Building and Maintenance Committee** – Bruce Burnett noted that no date has been set for the floor refinishing. The annual furnace inspection was due. The Exterior Exhibits Shelter has a name and awaits further news. There continues to be issues with the protocol of groups booking the Back Room.

**6.2– Exhibits Committee** – No report. Janet Scott explained that there will probably be an organizational meeting in March, on a Tuesday

**6.3– Publicity Committee** – In Bonnie Livingstone’s absence, Janet Scott reported on Back Room Talks: Susan Pasternak's talk was postponed due to inclement weather, tentatively rescheduled for March. Terry McGinn's seeds and planting is scheduled for February 22. In April, possibly Matt Ellerbeck *Save All Frogs*. And in May - Ron Tasker has been invited to present his Restoration of Ham House (on the Museum’s opening weekend perhaps?)

Everyone was in favour of promoting Shirley Miller's retrospective art show in the L& A County Museum, Napanee. Interest was expressed to attend her presentation Tuesday, February 19.

**6.4– Fund-Raising Committee** – The Woolly Bully Run has been scheduled for Sunday, August 18, 2019 – there will be an organizational meeting 3:00 pm, Tuesday, February 19 at our Back Room. It was moved, seconded and carried to accept the committee reports.

Motion #2019-06

7. Other Business – There was none.

8. New Business

The above mentioned cardboard file box “Historic” is currently being examined by Warren Kilpatrick (Ferry Service research). The contents appear to be a residual collection of miscellaneous papers: ferry business 1940s, 1950s, Council draft minutes 1970s, insurance, etc. A letter will be drafted to formally request Loyalist Township to transfer/store the box in our collection.

Karen Miller will be attending the Loyalist Township meeting to discuss an Arts, Culture and Heritage Summer Series Calendar on February 25.

It was wondered whether our minutes could/should be posted on the museum's website?

It was also wondered if there would be an opportunity to have a display within either / both of the new ferry terminal buildings.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:47 pm.

10. Next Board Meeting Tuesday, February 5<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm

Anders Bennick  
Chair & President

Thomas Sylvester  
*Pro tem* Secretary

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE MUSEUM**

Volunteers are needed to empty the Neilson Store Museum and Cultural Centre bottle bins at the landfill site and take the bottles to the open barn at the Radio Station. The task could be shared by several volunteers. Money earned on return of the bottles are important for covering the expenses of the Museum, so volunteers would make an important contribution to cultural activities on the island. Please contact Anders Bennick (email: andersbennick@kos.net; phone 613 389 0636) or any other member of the Museum Board.

Thanks, Anders Bennick





**Janet Scott, Suzanne Pasternak and her friend.  
photo from Judy Bierma**

### The Halifax Explosion

On March 17, the Amherst Island community was treated to an in-depth talk on the aftermath of the 1917 Halifax explosion by Susanne Pasternak at the Back Room of the Neilson Store Museum and Cultural Centre. Up WWII, it was the largest single man-made explosion on record and was also the most devastating in terms of human casualties. But Ms Pasternak's chosen focus was on the immediate and long-term aftermath. She gave an approximately 20 minute talk followed by a 40 minute audio documentary where she thoroughly expounded on the human capacity for compassion and service in the face of overwhelming tragedy.

Suzanne masterfully wove the story together. At times she gave the audience an understanding of the scale of the disaster through the vivid descriptions of the city in ruins, but then she turned to the ways the resolve of a handful of determined men and women brought hope and healing. She clearly outlined how this small handful grew into a flood of support. It started with a nearby doctor who spent 72 hours performing emergency eye surgery, as well as the governor of Massachusetts and a Bostonian businessman, Mr. Ratschesky who were the first to load a train with supplies and personnel to bring aid to their northern neighbors. This set an example for what was to come as military and civilians, Canadians and Americans, and private business owners and politicians came together almost spontaneously to do what they could to care for the grievously injured and rebuild the city.

Personally, I was most surprised to hear about the long-term efforts made to support the blind community following the explosion. An often-overlooked element of such an event is the injury caused by shattered glass. Nearly all the windows within the shockwave's radius blew in, leaving over a thousand people facing significant vision loss or blindness due to flying glass. But a concerted effort

to rehabilitate and educate the blind and visually impaired community turned Halifax into a global leader in these areas. This resulted in the formation of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind. Additionally, I learned how blinded soldiers returning from The First World War became part of this support network that crossed professional and political borders. So I would like to extend my thanks to Ms Pasternak and all the volunteers at the museum who made this event possible. Suzanne's stated purpose was to show us how human beings have "a deep reservoir of goodness," so may we all be inspired by these examples and may we all find similar ways, no matter how small, to show compassion to our neighbours.

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### Note from the Editor



Ummmm I'm not so good at coming up with something different to say every month. Here goes. Thanks to everyone that posts on Facebook and allows me to put it in the Beacon. Sorry about the lateness of this Beacon. I lost a week. We house sat on the Island for 3 weeks, it was a staycation, in March and I got mixed up about what was the last Monday of the month.

I apologize for the mistakes I might have made in The Beacon and hope you stay patient with me. Let me know and I will try to fix them quickly.

I realize The Beacon is old school but a lot of the older folks don't access Facebook, like my mom, Helena Bierma, who is 90 this month, so she loves to read through the Beacon that my sister Joan Simpson prints for her. She also loves the pictures of the people from the past. It brings back great

memories for her. I hope it is fun for you to read too. I'm a picture nut so yes there are a lot of pics. If any of you would like to write anything about anything and submit it to me that would be great.

That's all folks. Judy Bierma

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## People



**Sam Miller 2019 from his Grandma Marie Ward**  
From Sherry Miller

Roller coaster weekend for the Novice jets! Tough loss at home on Saturday and a great win in Tweed Sunday! Now leading the series 2-1....Game 4 is Saturday...a win will mean advance to Ontario Championship round!



**As you see, Sam has grown up quite a bit in the last six years.**



**Janice and Eric McGinn's granddaughters. Got the work crew ready for the maple syrup season. Just waiting on the weather.**





**Lyn Ann Whitton near Kampala**

From Lyn Ann: Yesterday (Sunday) we had visits from a number of university students that are currently supported by sponsors through Helping Cope Through Hope. They go to school in the capital city - Kampala- but came to visit since it was Sunday. Here I am with Kenneth - whom I support through Civil Engineering. He has just finished his first year and has 3 Years to go. But he has already started his own construction company with a friend of his! Such a mature and focussed young man. When he isn't in school, he volunteers at construction sites to learn all of the various trades and see how long it takes to complete different types of jobs. The foreman even leaves him in charge of the men sometimes. Great experience. I'm very proud of him. He and his mother served me a wonderful supper of beef stew, matoke (cooked mashed green bananas) sweet potato and cooked cabbage. It was a good day.



**Lynn Fleming and her grandkids. Love seeing the grandkids, Hudson, Braden, Tia and Cooper**



**Baker's great granddaughter, Connie Free's grandchild**





**Tori's girls. Paul and Carol Glenn's greatchildren**



**The Sudds girls looking very tired. Kiki and Estelle**

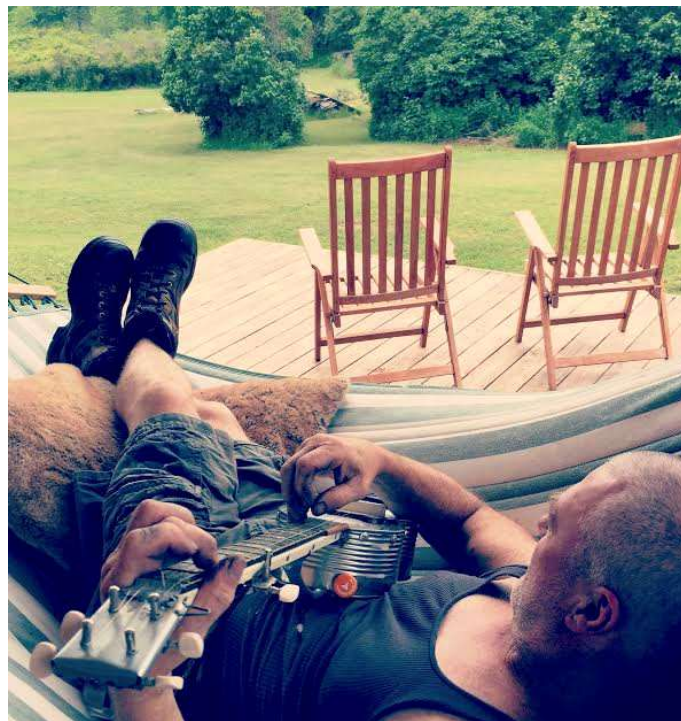


**Loa and Hannah, Granddaughters to Judy and Anthony. Sampling their product.**

## The life of a Bird: by Judy Wambera

A little bird falls off a roof  
And lands on to the street.  
A little boy picks up the bird.  
"I didn't know," he exclaims,  
"Potatoes had so many feet."

## **Rossland**



## **Vole-are**

Fat Ratty had to die so I killed him. I killed his wife also, with apologies.

On examination of their bodies, before they got thrown into the grass, they were unlike any rat or rodent that I had ever seen.

I am however no stranger to rodents and have gone head to head with them in dark, dank, close quarters. This Island rat seemed quite different to what I was used to and at first, I was content to share this space, here in the rossland, with Fat Ratty.

Perhaps I was lonely, before d moved in.

In my previous life as certified house inspector, carpenter and general neighbourhood Mr Fixit, I have had many encounters with rats in dark, dank situations as in cellars, toilets, crawl spaces and building drains. I have come to admire and also loathe these creatures, so closely resembling the characteristics of our own breed, homo sapiens, in wiliness, savagery and will to survive.

Sporadically at first but then every morning - and then every time we left the kitchen it seemed, Fat



Ratty would be on the counter leaving his little wild rice rat turds everywhere. The rodent wore out its welcome though and it became time to say goodbye. The first time I met Fat Ratty it was a couple of years ago. I came downstairs in the night because the empty beer case rattled in the kitchen and I wondered why. It was Fat Ratty jiggling the case with his chubby little body: coffee brown and not overly concerned about a human presence. We looked each other over. Neither of us knew quite what to think.

He eventually decided to get away and clumsily blundered about, hiding here and there, changing his mind, going behind the blue bin and scurrying back out again in front of me, waddling, strangely fat, oddly dignified, to go down a tiny hole in the bottom of the wall.

I said to d later: 'this was not a rat. It was cute, fat, chocolate brown and looked delicious'.

I now know Fat Ratty is/was not a sewer rat, nor even a *rattus rufus* at all but a rodent of the *Arvcolinae* family: a vole.

Voles may be new to me but I have battled sewer rats before: black or grey; large, territorial and vicious.

I fought the last one for weeks, in that old house bought in Toronto in 1996 – the house no-one wanted at the time; the abandoned one with the broken windows. The one the previous resident, Mr Yoneyoma, died in and was consumed by rats and flies as he lay undiscovered on the floor for weeks. The one the local residents were afraid of. The one we raised our family in.

The rats were coming up through an open, but concealed and un-trapped, drain in the basement.

I wound up killing sixteen sewer rats in those early house days, mostly using a squirrel cage and then drowning them in the rain barrel outside. The big grey/ black rats were too smart for rat traps of the spring kind, once they learned what they were. They were so smart that I learned they had personalities, like people. That is how long it took me to kill them. Die they had to. Like us, they are territorial, and it is either victory or death, within our human habitations.

The rats tried to drive us out of the house.

They stared out from dark renovation holes and screamed from the kitchen ceiling - invisible but for shrieking and hissing sounds. Hidden rodent brain energy gave off an atmospheric tension, as they

watched from the darkness of hidden spaces, moving peripherally as shadows on the walls. The last sewer rat I caught; it was with a ripe tomato inside the squirrel cage.

The cage was set up every night and I used every kind of bait. The rats were always wary but some foods proved irresistible to some individual rats: cheese, fish, bread, I tried many things. Bowls of Warfarin did nothing. They gobbled the poison down and came back, night after night, day after day.

One by one, however, I was able to trap them using the squirrel cage. Then I discovered the open sewer drain in the basement and blocked the drain off, denying the rats access completely.

But there was one rat left in the house. Stuck there, it nested in the ceiling. It took two weeks to catch it.

At nine o'clock every night this terror would come running above the dining room ceiling and the rat head would poke out of a hole in the unfinished kitchen ceiling. The rat would bare its brown chisel teeth and scream at us to go away. 'Die' the rat would shriek. 'Go away, this is my time now'.

I put the tomato, almost rotten, in the cage. It was a last resort, inspired by a banana that got shredded the night before. Maybe it likes fruit.

The squirrel cage has a near foolproof design, if you're not familiar with them. It is comprised of square wire mesh in a rectangular tunnel. Both ends of the tunnel have gates that are raised up so it looks open ended. Because the gates lie flush to the top and are in-line, they appear almost invisible. The bait sits in the centre of the tunnel on a balancing tray. If the tray tips over, both gate ends fall down instantly and latch, trapping whatever upset the tray.

The rat wouldn't go in, night after night. I thought I had tried everything.

The rotten tomato proved too tempting and this time I got him.

The cage tripped around one am. I heard the rodent bang into the ends trying to get out and then be quiet. It got quiet quickly. The rat knew.

It knew I was going to come.

I had welding gloves for picking up the cage, in case a rat tried to bite me through the mesh. I had left the gloves on the stair railing in anticipation, so I picked the gloves up and slowly, calmly went down the stairs into the darkness.

I was calm because I felt the need to mitigate fear.

Fear and sadness mixed. I hated these rats and I was going to kill this one like all the others so far. I feared their savagery and will to survive and now I had to get up close and face this enemy.

On went the kitchen light.

The large black rat immediately crouched facing me and showed me all its teeth, hissing. No fear. In its mind it was going to kill me, it was going to win. In its mind I was going to have to release it from the cage to do battle for supremacy and it would win. It didn't know about the rain barrel.

I felt the need to blank my brain to its aggression- and when I got close enough to lean over and pick the cage up off the counter, the rat sent a sudden signal of fear, tensing up as the ground fell away. It recovered quickly, bravely. The rat showed no panic and moved deliberately, gaining its footing, searching, trying to get to my hand and wrest freedom. It was going to win, it was confident.

When the fresh air washed over us as we stepped outside, the rat stopped moving, stood still and screamed in triumph: 'open the cage! Fight me!'

I felt sadness because this ugly, vicious creature of nature was going to die and I was going to kill it. I also felt victory with relief: no regret, no remorse.

I flipped the cover off the rain barrel, upended the squirrel cage and dropped it into the stagnant water. The rodent thrashed. I did not look. After about five minutes I took the cage out again. I dug a hole in the garden and put the body in. For curiosity I weighed the dead rat first. It weighed, dead and wet, at almost exactly one pound.

I will take a vole any day. But they need to stay outside.

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### **Shirley's Art**



February 19 was a wonderful night for me. 116 friends and family came to the opening of my show at the L&A County Museum in Napanee. The show will be there until April 6. The staff and their fearless leader Joanne Himelmann displayed 30 of my paintings, provided nibbles and drink as well as letting me talk about other paintings on a power point (my first.) They even gave me a beautiful flower arrangement.

I want to thank all who came and were so encouraging.



**'VILLAGE DOG WALKER' lives above a fireplace mantel on Amherst Island. from Terry Culbert.**



## Island Schedule

St. Paul's Webmaster

Sundays March 24, 31 April 7, 14, 21, 28

10:30 am Worship at St. Alban's

11:00 am Worship at St. Paul's

Tuesdays March 26, April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

9:00 am to 2:00 pm Internet Cafe at the Museum

David Pickering and William Barrett invite you to bring your computer, iPad, tablet, PC, and connectivity challenges to the Internet Café. You decide what problem you would like to solve. Please donate a toonie to the Museum.

Wednesdays to end of April at the home of Janet Scott, 350 Third Concession

12:00 pm Loaves and Fishes Luncheon

Enjoy hot soup, sandwiches and convivial company. All welcome!

Mondays March 25 to May 6 at the Amherst Island Community Centre

6:00 to 6:50 pm Art Attack - Loyalist Township

Recreation Department Create your masterpiece!

Children age 5-9 can join Art Attack classes offered at three different locations this spring. Classes begin soon. Register at [www.loyalist.ca/go/register](http://www.loyalist.ca/go/register)

Saturday March 30 at The Lodge on Amherst Island

7:30 to 11:00 pm Mexican Themed Pub Night \$10

per person. Meet your friends after a long winter!

Katalin Kiss and Friends Unplugged

Wednesday April 17 at the home of Deb

7:00 pm Women's Institute Annual General Meeting

Guests and visitors welcome. Contact Deb at 613-634-4460

Sunday April 21 2019 Happy Easter

Saturday May 18 at Centennial Park

9:00 am to Noon First Market of the Season

Saturday May 18 at The Lodge on Amherst Island

1:00 to 4:00 pm Knitting Workshop with Kirk Dunn

Knitter Kirk Dunn presents a 3-hour workshop featuring an original pillow pattern, inspired by Loyalist County, and featuring Topsy Farms yarns. Choose complex colourways with Kirk to learn his unique method for creating texture and depth, all in a relaxed social setting. For more information contact The Lodge at 613-634-1388

Saturday May 18 at The Lodge on Amherst Island

2:00 to 5:00 Paul Cuyler Black Smith, Metal Artist

Art Show Opening. Meet the artist and share refreshments.

Sunday May 19 at the Amherst Island Public School

2:00 to 3:30 pm Kirk Dunn, The Knitting Pilgrim

A one-man play & talkback about the real-life artistic and spiritual journey of Kirk Dunn, who took 15 years to knit a triptych of tapestries, designed in the style of stained-glass windows exploring the commonalities and conflicts of the Abrahamic faiths. There is no other project like it in the world.

Tickets \$25 Contact The Lodge 613-634-1388



**Waterside Series** - time to invite your friends and family

Thursday, July 4 7:15 PM at St. Paul's

Charles Richard-Hamelin Tickets \$37

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/charles-richard-hamelin-piano-tickets-55453404626>

Saturday, July 13 4:15 PM at St. Paul's

True North Brass

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/true-north-brass-tickets-55453535016>

Thursday, July 18 7:15PM at St. Paul's

Brazilian Guitar Quartet

<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/brazilian-guitar-quartet-tickets-55453690481>





Saturday July 27 at St. Paul's  
 11:00 am 71st Annual Garden Party  
 THE Island event of the summer - Home Baking,  
 Pie & Ice Cream. White Elephant - Books - Music  
 Quality Used Clothing - Silent Auction BBQ &  
 Lemonade and much more!

Friday to Sunday August 9, 10, 11 at the Simpson  
 Farm 12675 Front Road  
 Emerald Music Festival. Friday \$15, Saturday \$30,  
 Sunday \$15 Weekend pass including camping \$50.  
 Children under 12 free. Contact Joan at 613-389-  
 8297 for tickets. [www.emeraldmusicfestival.com](http://www.emeraldmusicfestival.com)

Saturday, August 10 4:15 PM at St. Paul's  
 Gryphon Trio  
<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/gryphon-trio-tickets-55453875033>

Thursday, August 15 4:15 PM at St. Paul's  
 Ensemble Made in Canada  
<https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/ensemble-made-in-canada-tickets-55454133807>

Sunday August 18 at the Willard Farm on South  
 Shore 9:30 am 2019 Woolly Bully Races

The Woolly Bully is a terrific family event which has  
 three different distances: 1K Kids Fun Run, 5K/10K  
 races.

The 10K race counts for points towards the KRRRA  
 members Race Series standings. The 10K is also the  
 final event in the 'Tri-Island Series,' which also  
 includes the "Howe Island Hustle" and the "Wolfe  
 Island 5K." Go to [www.krra.org](http://www.krra.org) for details on both  
 2019 series

Races: 5/10K events held on a very scenic out and  
 back route along the South Shore of Lake Ontario.  
 There will be at least 2 aid stations, each kilometer  
 will be marked.

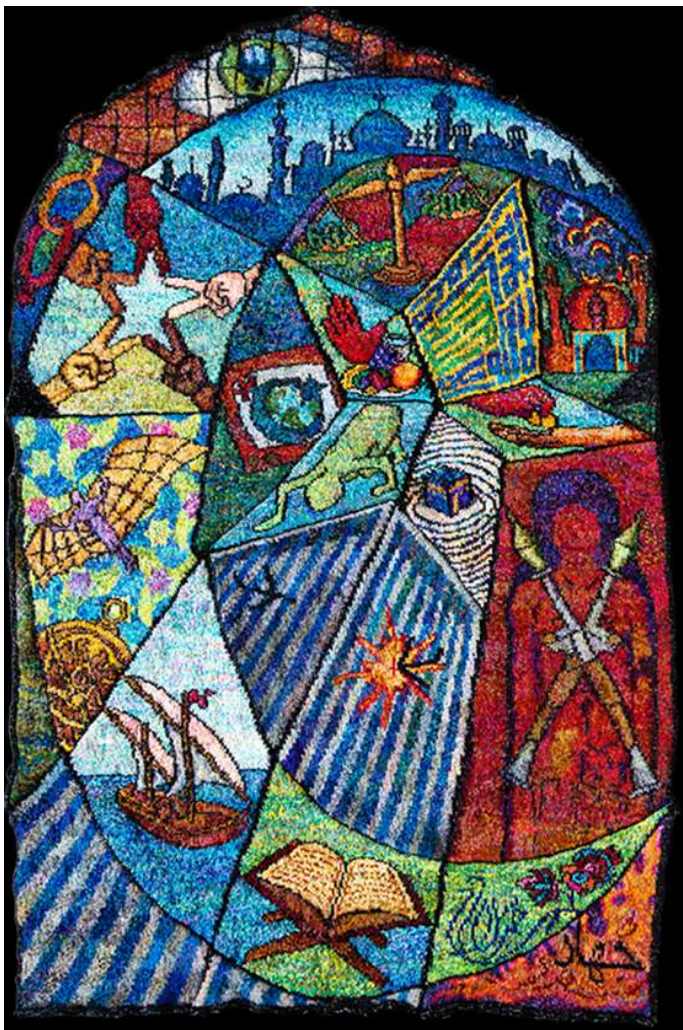
1K Fun Run: A timed event for children 5-12 years  
 of age on an out and back course. It will be timed  
 but there will be no prizes for top runners. Parents  
 can run with their children if they feel it necessary  
 but not required to register. Each child will receive  
 a souvenir ribbon at the finish line and refreshments.

Location: The race site is at the farm of Dave  
 Willard, Amherst Island, 600 South Shore Road.  
 Signs will direct you to the sight once you leave the  
 ferry. There will be portable toilets and a baggage  
 check will be provided.

Other important info: Our bus shuttle will pick up  
 runners at the Loyalist Public Works Facility,  
 located on County Road 4 north of Highway 33 at  
 Millhaven.. It will depart at 7:45 a.m. and transport  
 you to the ferry dock in Millhaven to board the 8:30  
 a.m. trip to Amherst Island. A bus will be parked at  
 the dock in Stella to take you to the race site. The  
 departure time from the site after the race is 11:30  
 a.m. It will return you to the Stella dock in time for  
 the 12 noon crossing and the bus will be at the  
 Millhaven dock to bring you back to your car. The  
 charge is \$10 per person and spots can be purchased  
 during the online registration process.

Runners who opt to drive over can purchase their  
 ferry ticket while registering on line at a reduced  
 cost of \$5 each. They will be passed out on race  
 morning at the Millhaven Dock. Car pools are  
 highly recommended, especially if travelling over on  
 the 8:30 a.m. trip from Millhaven over to Amherst  
 Island. You can meet at the Loyalist Works Facility  
 (directions above) and car pool from that location  
 for either the 7:30 or 8:30 a.m. crossing.





Friday to Sunday September 13 to 15  
Dry Stone Festival on Amherst Island

Check with Lynn Wyminga about volleyball and  
Isle Orders for Wilton Cheese! Pickleball is  
ongoing! Stay safe and warm!

<http://stpaulsamherstisland.com/calendar/>

### **Topsy Farms UPCOMING EVENTS**

For all, please register on-line

**FRUIT TREE GRAFTING** Saturday, March 30th 10 – 12:30 Choose your own root stock and apple variety. Learn to graft them, take your tree home and the lifelong skill to create others.

**PLANTING FOR BEES AND BUTTERFLIES** - Saturday April 13th Learn how to entice our valued pollinators to your yard and garden and to nourish them. Seed exchange.

**SHEARING AT TOPSY FARMS** – Saturday and Sunday, April 20 and 21st. Free to all but please book a time on-line. Kids encouraged but no pets please. It's upstairs in the barn, so dress warmly.

**PLANTING HOPS** – Sunday June 2nd Led by MacKinnon's Brother's Brewing expert, Sam will teach all you need to know to successfully grow your own hops. Watch for a follow-up Harvesting event in September.

**DYEING YARN NATURALLY** – Sunday June 16th Forage for natural dyes, boil them on an open fire, then dye your own skeins of Topsy yarn to take home with you. Our workshop on Saturday sold out quickly so don't wait.

**NURTURE BABY LAMBS** – This popular event will be from Sunday May 12, Mother's Day, through June 9th. Free to Islanders but please give us a head's up when you plan to come.



**Thanks to the Ferry Crew on these cold snowy days**



# EMERALD MUSIC FESTIVAL

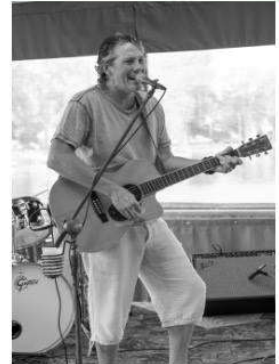


Little Caesar and the Consuls

Since 1956  
www.littlecaesarmusic.com

12675 FRONT ROAD  
AMHERST ISLAND  
ONTARIO, CANADA

August 9, 10, 11, 2019  
Friday \$15 / Saturday \$30 / Sunday \$15  
/ Weekend Pass \$50 includes rough  
camping (wristbands must be worn)  
Children under 12 FREE  
(must be accompanied by adult)



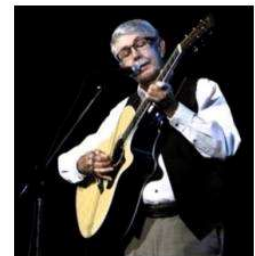
DAVID McGRATH



BLUE RIVER BAND



RUDY and SADDLE UP



DON COCHRANE

Friday, August 9  
6pm - Midnight

The Porch Rockers  
R&R  
Red Rose Express  
Shadows

Saturday, August 10  
Noon - Midnight

Don Cochrane  
David McGrath  
Blue River Band  
Ladies and Escorts  
Nighthawk  
Rudy and Saddle Up  
Little Caesar and the Consuls

Sunday, August 11  
10:30am - 4pm

Keith & Anthony  
Pete Deachman  
County Rd 17  
Blue River Band  
Left Overs

Line-up subject to change without notice

Food Venues  
Vendors  
Local Artists/Artisans

For more information  
call 613-389-8297  
or visit our website  
[www.emeraldmusicfestival.com](http://www.emeraldmusicfestival.com)

Visit our website  
And "LIKE" us  
On  
FACEBOOK





## The Knitting Pilgrim

featuring the **Stitched Glass** tapestries

Presented by The Lodge on Amherst Island

**Sunday, May 19, 2019, 2pm-3:30pm**

A one-man play & talkback about the real-life artistic and spiritual journey of Kirk Dunn, who took 15 years to knit a triptych of tapestries, designed in the style of stained glass windows, exploring the commonalities and conflicts of the Abrahamic faiths. There is no other project like it in the world.



**Also: On Sat, May 18, 1-4pm**  
Kirk is giving a "Loyalist Pillow" knitting workshop at The Lodge, featuring Topsy Farms yarns. For more info, contact The Lodge.

**The Amherst Island Public School,**

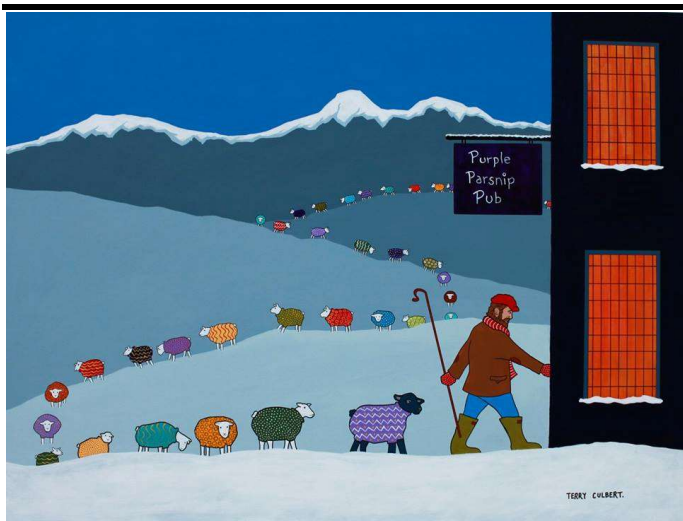
5955 Front Road,  
Stella, Amherst Island

Tickets: \$25

[www.thelodgeonamherstisland.com](http://www.thelodgeonamherstisland.com)

or call 613-634-1388





**TEA TIME @ THE PURPLE PARSNIP:**  
**30x40-inch acrylic on canvas delivered to Arts on Main, our co-op gallery in Picton for the Spring Show. [www.artsonmaingallery.ca](http://www.artsonmaingallery.ca)**

#### Advertisements

**Handy Fairies by Phuong McNeil**

If you are looking for an extra hand to do a good cleaning, call us. We offer a special rate for a first-time visit. We can clean an average family house for \$56 - \$84. Our work is guaranteed.

**Eric's Carpet Cleaning**

Eric Beauchamp is a Bath resident who does on-island mobile carpet cleaning. Personal service using eco-friendly products. Fast drying, odor controlled, anti-allergenic carpet protection (613) 328 8300

**COMPUTER REPAIR/UPGRADES**, new installs, virus/Malware removal. Island References. Bruce MacCrimmon – 613 453-0505  
[bruce.maccrimmon@hotmail.com](mailto:bruce.maccrimmon@hotmail.com)

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.

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

**SHIRLEY MILLER** Paintings, Prints & Art Classes  
 613-389-2588

**AMHERST ISLAND CHIROPRACTIC** 14005 Front Rd. Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. For appointments call 613 328-8892

For Rent: Room with kitchen privileges. Features include private bath, private TV room, excellent home gym and unlimited Wifi. Call Dave at 613 530 4859.

**GODDEN'S WHOLE HOG SAUSAGE** Thanks to our faithful sausage customers on Amherst Island for their continued support of our product. Flavours now include: Salt & Pepper; Honey & Garlic; Sundried Tomato & Oregano; Hot Italian; Sweet Chili & Lime; Maple Breakfast; and Salt & Pepper Breakfast. Now selling packages of 4 sausages!! See more at [thewholehogblog@blogspot.com](mailto:thewholehogblog@blogspot.com); Facebook, "Godden's Whole Hog Sausage"; or, follow us on "Twitter @Godden Farms". Please call ahead for large orders, 705-653-5984. With Sincere Thanks, Lori Caughey & Family.

**FOOTFLATS FARM ACCOMMODATION:**  
[www.footflats.com](http://www.footflats.com) (613 634-1212) Goodman House (waterfront) - 4 bedrooms, 3 bath - available year round

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

**TOPSY FARMS WOOL SHED** 613 389-3444 Wool and sheepskin products including yarn, blankets, crafts, and individual photos by Don Tubb. Open seven days a week.

**RAWLEIGH PRODUCTS** Serving your family with pride since 1889. Catalogues available. To place an order call Marie Ward at 613 389-5767 or email: [bandmward@xplornet.ca](mailto:bandmward@xplornet.ca)

**LOCAL WILTON CHEESE AT FACTORY PRICES FROM ISLE**

Each month ISLE offers cheese from Wilton Cheese Factory for sale to Island residents. Cheese is ordered monthly, picked up fresh in the morning and delivered to the school for evening pickup. Look for a flyer this month which will include varieties and prices.

To order or for info, contact us at 613.888.5726 or by email at [amherstislandisle@gmail.com](mailto:amherstislandisle@gmail.com)

**J&J Taxes** 613 539 5849  
[Judyhineman@gmail.com](mailto:Judyhineman@gmail.com)  
[jkhudacin@gmail.com](mailto:jkhudacin@gmail.com)

Located in Bath, we offer over 25 years combined experience, very reasonable prices and better service than the big companies. Happy to travel to the island to take care of you.



## Vacation Pics



**Brian Little in the Virgin Islands  
With a friend he met during a dive in Stl Thomas.**





**Charlette Eves on holidays**



**The Vanstones on holidays**