

# Amherst Island

# BEACON



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## **JANIE ELIZABETH BROWN** (August 23, 1918 - March 28, 2012)

Janie was predeceased by her husband Edgar McCaugherty (1984) and her siblings Ida, Michael and Stewart. She is survived by her children Raymond, Vivian, Stewart, Earle, Wayne and Barbara.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **THE NEIGHBOURHOOD**

- Lyn Fleming

Get Well wishes to Don Pepper, Marcus Bermann and Neil Johnston.

Condolences to the family and friends of Anne Turner who recently passed away. Anne was a former Island resident.

Condolences to Ange and Jason Fleming following the passing of Ange's grandfather (& Tia and Braden's great-papa), Vince Joyce.

Congratulations to Tom deHaan, on the birth of his first granddaughter. Ella Violet Marie, is the first child for proud parents, Thomas and Jen deHaan of Amherstview. In addition . . . The day I sent the neighbourhood column off to the Beacon, I talked to Tom - who was quite happy to tell me that his 2nd granddaughter had just arrived!

Congratulations to daughter Shannon and husband Mike Doyle, who welcomed their first child, Anna Evelyn Jane

on May 1st, in Carleton Place.

Congratulations to Mike and Jill Walhout, & big sister Anna, on the birth of their son.

Congratulations to grandparents, Bruce and Susan Caughey on the birth of their first grandson.

Congratulations to Mindy Fleming, who was married recently, in Scotland, to Stuart Burnside. Mindy's dad, David Fleming and sister and brother-in-law, Angela and Andy Williams, made the trip across the "pond" for the wedding. A marriage blessing and family reception will be held on the Island in June

Congratulations to Rev. Zander Dunn, who recently celebrated 50 years in the ministry.

St. Alban's Church held their annual Beef Dinner, which as always, was well attended.

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## **ISLAND RADIO's GREATEST FUND DRIVE TO DATE**

see page 6



Photo by Terry Culbert

Amherst Island Public Radio offered free freshly brewed coffee and goodies throughout their 5-day fund drive.

A \$50 basket of groceries was raffled off and won by Bonnie Caughey.

CJAI 92.1, our Island radio station, held a very successful fund raising drive in late April. It was nice to have live radio and lots of interesting guests on air, all day, all week.

A.I.P.S. students and staff spent an afternoon out picking up litter off of our roadsides and school yard as part of the annual Pitch In, in celebration of Earth Day.

Neil Johnston and Bernice Gould spent several months in Mexico this winter. Two weeks before they returned home, Neil suffered a stroke. Bernice would like everyone to remember the importance of getting a stroke victim to hospital and being administered vital medication within 3 hours, to lessen the chance of permanent paralysis or other physical and neurological damage. Luckily Neil did receive the needed medication and has returned safely home.

After some warm early Spring weather in March, April was exceptionally cool, which seems to have slowed the budding process on trees and shrubs, but has also prolonged the tulip and daffodil season. A few early lambs and calves are appearing in the fields, and as if on cue, the geese with gaggles of goslings appeared on April 27th!

Island life as we know it, has changed as of May 1st with the arrival of the Quinte Loyalist for who knows how long. Islanders spent a frustrating couple of days of disrupted service, with the added annoyance of a multitude of off island cattle haulers trying to beat the arrival of the Quinte Loyalist, the prepping of the Frontenac II for its trip up the lake, and then of course the preparing of the docks for the actual change over.

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## WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

- Liz Harrison

April 18 saw 12 members of A.I.W.I. gather at the home of Leslie Gavlas for a regular business meeting followed by the A.G.M. during which a new slate of officers was presented and unanimously accepted. Three members have offered to share the presidential duties over the next two years. Claire Jenney, Joyce Haines and Mary Kay Steel will each take on a four-month "tour of duty." They will be ably supported by the current recording secretary, Nancy Dunn and treasurer, Anne Henderson both of whom will continue to hold these positions. Retiring President (Liz Harrison)

## Amherst Island Women's Institute

- Terry Culbert

The Amherst Island Women's Institute adopted the first two kilometres of Lennox & Addington County Road 4 north of Highway 33 two years ago. Twice a year, the Loyalist Township Roads Department supplies safety vests and motorist caution signs to protect the volunteers as they clean the roadside ditches. For their commitment, a sign was erected in their name.



Photo by Terry Culbert

Amherst Island Women's Institute road crew o April 26. Left to right: Joyce Haines, Liz Harrison and Joyce Reid.

expressed her appreciation for the enthusiasm and energy invested in branch activities by all members during her term of office. After a welcome and delicious lunch served by Mary Kay Steel, Joyce Reid, and our hostess, Leslie, the meeting closed with a somewhat rowdy and successful "brown bag auction".

Earlier this year members of the W.I. decided to establish an annual Social Studies/History award to be presented to a pupil of A.I.P.S. who "demonstrates a keen interest in local and world affairs and exhibits excellent research skills in the study of History." With help from teacher Janet Scott, Vice-Principal Heather Campbell and school secretary Lynn Fleming the project is under way and we are looking forward to making the first presentation at the awards night in June.

We have to thank George Gavlas and Dayle Gowan who a couple of weeks ago did a great job on "fixing up" the mechanism of our coffee cart so that we will be



all set for the Victoria Day weekend. We spent some of our meeting this month discussing possible ways of “rejuvenating” the market and attracting more vendors. We do have some ideas but we would welcome any of your suggestions. Please contact one of the members if you have any brainwaves about this.

By the end of the month most of the “snow-bird” members will have returned to a warm welcome as we get ready for Spring and Summer activities. On April 26 we will be tackling our semi-annual clean up of County Road 4 from Millhaven to Doyle Road and later in the month (May 27) we are planning on entering a team in the MS walk in Kingston. As usual on Saturday mornings you will find us at the market selling coffee and muffins and on the Friday before each long weekend we will be holding our bake sale in front of the General Store.

Also, please make a note about Wednesday May 16 when A.I.W.I. will be hosting a public meeting open to Island residents and visitors at St. Paul’s Church Hall. Marc Raymond and Chris Laffin will be talking all about trees. The meeting will start at 7 p.m. and of course there will time allocated for questions and refreshments afterwards.

Whether you are new to the Island or a long-time resident, you will find a warm welcome at any of our monthly meetings. We are a sociable, supportive and friendly group of women who manage to have fun while taking on projects that benefit residents of Amherst Island as well as local and international communities. Call Liz Harrison (613-389-5176), Nancy Dunn (613-634-0465) or any member for meeting times and dates. After the Victoria Day weekend you will find us at the market. Come along and say hello!

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## **JANET’S JOTTINGS:**

### **Nests and Babies**

- Janet Scott

Just like in our world of modern transportation, high-tech communication and stress-causing decisions, the world of raising baby birds holds its own difficulties. Choosing a nursery site, decorating the room, providing the crib and supplying the babies’ needs all has to happen in a matter of days not in a matter of nine months. Not only does it happen after an unusually long

## **Turkey Vultures**

- Terry Culbert

The Beacon’s foreign correspondent Terry Culbert took these two photographs [Ed: only one shown] of a Turkey Vulture taking flight from a barn on the corner of Second Concession and the Emerald 40 Foot Roads during the month of April 2012.



Photo by Terry Culbert

vacation flight but it also happens in multiples. This is high speed parenting 101.

Some birds are already paired up before making the trip North. Mother Osprey probably already suggested a Honeymoon Trip to Canada while they were cruising the Gulf of Mexico in March. For the Red-winged Blackbirds, Grackles and Thrashers, courtship begins once they arrive and the males and females take separate flights. Once the ladies have shown up, the courting, complete with serenading, battles for sites and exaggerated posturing has to take place. Three Grackles sitting around the rim of the feeder today were too busy sticking their beaks in the air, hissing and inflating their bodies to actually have time to eat.

The courtship of the Red-breasted Mergansers requires the male to inflate the feathers on his head and make them stand up like a spiky Mohawk hairdo and then throw his head backwards on his shoulders while swimming. Don’t try this at home without Doctor Dave on speed dial! The quiet, timid Thrasher of late summer is sitting on the highest top of a tree singing all the melodies of other birds that he can remember in double phrases in order to woo a Mrs. Thrasher. Mrs. Robin wants to get the nursery built right away so they both

lug building materials to three or four sites before they actually decide on the one she really likes. This preferred nest must be woven and reinforced with mud and then Mrs. Robin rubs her breast around and around inside the mud lined nest until it is shaped to her specific satisfaction. You will see female robins with this muddy worn patch on their breasts from finishing the nests. The Red-winged blackbirds choose a site and guard it ferociously with loud Oka-reeing and pitched battles for many days until the females arrive but at some unspoken signal they all take a break with cessation of hostilities and go off to feed, returning to the sites again to go through all the posturing again. Peace talks, perhaps?

Nest building continues and labour is fast and furious with four eggs laid in this nice mud shaped bowl that Mrs. Robin made, or the 12-15 eggs in the beautiful feather lined grass nest that Mrs. Mallard has created, must have water access. She pulls her own feathers from her downy breast to create this hollow nest, domed with long grasses that she can camouflage.

Mrs. Mallard is a single mom and must raise her 15 young which require sitting on them for about 26 days. Dad would be no use with his bright rust and green colouring as he would just attract predators. No walkers or jolly jumpers are required for these babies. As soon as they are all hatched they head for water imprinted with mom's distinctive call and although covered in down, they are able to swim like bobbing corks after her.

Now what are we going to do about diapers? Mother Osprey expects Father to fish, guard and fetch the diapers. As the babies grow he brings wet cattails with mud dripping from their roots to the nest to line it. This cools the nest, moistens it and ornithologists say this natural remedy kills mites and disinfects the nest. The Common Grackle likes to remove fecal sacs regularly and deposit them in a water source. Tom and Jackie on the South Shore had this diaper disposal going on in their beautiful water garden. Robins also carry the fecal sacs away and this not only keeps the nest clean but it hides the nest from predators. Mother Killdeer doesn't worry about diapers. The whole family up and leaves home as soon as the babies hatch. They are called precocious nestlings and feed themselves right away. Mother shows

them where and how to look for food. Don't remove a cute little baby killdeer from its natural environment. You won't be able to feed it. She doesn't build a nest either but squats among gravel or stones that will camouflage her eggs and then both parents take turns sitting on them for 24 days.

Feeding the newborn is always a complicated issue. Bird babies have no teeth and grow quickly so constant feeding schedules are necessary.

Pabulum was invented in the last century but mother birds such as Rock Pigeons and Mourning Doves have been grinding up grains in their crops and regurgitating a baby cereal for centuries. Mother and father Herons have to carry a regurgitated fish soup from nearby feeding grounds to their young sitting in nests high above the marsh. Seed eaters such as Sparrows feed their young high protein insect diets.

College or University is not on the bird parents' list of priorities but after this frenzied child rearing marathon they launch their kids in flight school and from then on they learn in the School of Life.

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## **THE 1812 CANNONS: NOTES FROM APRIL 18, 2012**

- Laurie Kilpatrick

### **Background**

Historical documents and Island oral history accounts suggest that two or three cannons that were positioned at the Amherst Island "Battery" during the War of 1812 were buried on or near the bluff at the western end of Amherst Island. David Smith, a local historian and a member of the upcoming reenactment of the "Flight of the Royal George" also stated that the evidence to date suggests that this was the case.

Our objective is to determine, using a metal detector whether the 1812 cannons could be buried on or near the bluffs.

No excavation is being undertaken during this exploratory stage.

The first outing was on Dec. 6, 2011 and included Dieter Eberhardt, Ian Murray, John Moolenbeek and Laurie K. We scanned Topsy farms property at the bluffs. The readings we had did not suggest a major metal find. We



Photo by Terry Culbert  
John on western edge of the earthworks of the Battery, the Upper Gap is to the left. This is the site of the reenactment on June 30, 2012.



decided that we needed to return once more to the site of the Battery to check out an area that was difficult to access.

The second outing to locate the 1812 cannons included Dieter, John M., Terry Culbert and Laurie. We headed out to two potential locations at 9 a.m. on April 18 to scan the ground surface for evidence of cannons, using a metal detector that can identify iron to a depth of 15 ft.

### **The Bluffs at Topsy Farms**

This was the second visit to the bluff and to the location of the 1812 Battery. Last time the prickly ash kept us at bay and we felt it was important to have Dieter revisit this area with his metal detector. Much of the brush had been removed in preparation for the 1812 reenactment in June.

We did not find any evidence of iron/metal, however we did mark out the earthworks (circlet, as it is referred to in the poem by Daniel Fowler's daughter). John did the GPS readings and we took photos of the area.

### **The Berman/Caughey Mound**

Bruce Caughey, in early April had asked that we check out a mound located at Amy and Marcus' home. John, Bruce and I took a look and agreed that it was worth further investigation. The cannons could have been buried at a distance from the battery and this large mound (approx, 30' by 20' by 5' high) certainly had the capacity to house two or three cannons.

We are quite certain based on the readings from the metal detector that there are no cannons in this mound. Dieter had readings from a number of field stones and there was a depression and a small hole about 18" by 12" where we got a reading from what turned out to be the edging of a tin can. Further readings occurred about 5' from this hole, covering an area of about 1' X 3'. We flagged this spot and did GPS readings, however the size and strength of the readings did not suggest an object the size of a cannon.

It would be interesting however to find out what the source of these readings was. As one needs to have an archaeological license to do test pitting and any digging, I will check with the Cataraqui Archaeological Research Foundation in Kingston (CARF) to see if there is interest in being involved.



**Berman/Caughey Mound**  
**Dieter with his metal detector**  
**Area to revisit on the Berman/Caughey Mound**

Photo by Terry Culbert

### **Next Steps**

1. Contact CARF re: their potential involvement
2. Photos and map to follow. Short article for the June Beacon.
3. Historical research by anyone who is interested!
4. Identify other potential burial sites for the cannons.

Thanks to: Terry C. for coming along and taking pictures and to everyone for their cooperation.... we have not given up ...the search will go on!

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## **COUNCIL GLEANINGS**

- Ian Murray

### **7<sup>th</sup> Session of Council, March 26**

“Moved by Councillor Ashley . . . that staff be instructed by Council to advise MTO that Township owned lands adjacent to the Stella port facility will be provided to MTO at fair market value should these lands be required for vehicle, pedestrian, loading and queuing or storage areas or for the location of material and equipment storage buildings and/or the Ferry office and related pedestrian facilities. Motion carried.”

\*\*\*

“Moved by Councillor Porter . . . that the correspondence from The Township of Clarington, March 6 re: Request for Moratorium on Wind Turbines be received and supported.

Councillor Ashley requested a Recorded Vote.

RECORDED VOTE	Yea	Nay
Councillor Porter	x	
Councillor Hegadorn	x	
Councillor Ashley	x	
Councillor Daniliunas	x	
Councillor Ibey		x
Mayor Lowry	x	

Motion carried.

“Councillor Ibey indicated that he wanted to clarify his position on the Municipality of Clarington’s request for a moratorium on wind turbines across the Province. He noted that he didn’t object to wind turbines in some areas of the province but if a request came forward for a moratorium on wind turbines on Amherst Island he would vote in favour of it.”

**[Council Gleanings will continue on page 8]**

# ISLAND RADIO's GREATEST FUND DRIVE

– Terry Culbert

\$7,700. was raised during Amherst Island Public Radio's five full days of broadcasting LIVE from the milk house studio in Stella. The most successful fund drive ever! It began at 7am Monday, April 23 on the Udder Morning Show and culminated at 9pm Friday, April 27 on Eric's Friday Night Radio Show. To our generous donors, auction bidders, sponsors, pastry makers, telephone operators and radio volunteers behind the scene and on the microphones ... we thank you. ISLAND RADIO is extremely lucky that Dayle and Eloise Gowan give us our space



Photo by Eloise Gowan

The fund drive planning committee was made up of the co-hosts of the Udder Morning Show, Susan Filson and Dayle Gowan and standing, the host of the Friday Morning Show Terry Culbert.

rent free, but we still have many expenses broadcasting 24-hours a day, seven days a week. CIAI has monthly hydro, telephone and equipment bills. We are all volunteers, no one is paid. The annual fund drive, sponsorship, membership and our summer used book sale are so important in keeping us on the air



Photo by Terry Culbert

It all started at 7am, Monday, April 23, on the Udder Morning Show with Janet Scott, the Bird Lady of Amherst Island, and co-hosts Susan Filson and Dayle Gowan.



Photo by Terry Culbert

John Munro, Dan Simpson and Lloyd Wolfreys, make up half the newly formed group the ISLANDERS. They performed LIVE in the milk house studio on the final day.





Photo by Terry Culbert  
Treasurer John Schutzbach with the volunteer phone operator Paul Lauret.



Photo by Terry Culbert  
Wednesday began at 7am with the Breakfast with Brian Show. Brian checks the fund raising total with phone operator Alison MacKeen.



Photo by Terry Culbert  
Retired CBC broadcast executive and Amherst Island resident Harold Redekopp spent the first hour of Day 4 chatting on Island Radio with Dayle Gowan.



Photo by Terry Culbert  
Allen Caughey and Doctor Luv (Keith Miller on harmonica), are members of the ISLANDERS.

**[Council Gleanings continues from page 5]**

“Moved by Councillor Ashley . . . that the correspondence from Bryan Finlay, March 9, and background information from the Township re: Damage to Driveway at 16020 Front Road, Amherst Island and background correspondence, map and Plan 29R-2795 from the Township be received. Motion carried.”

\*\*\*

“Moved by Councillor Ibey . . . that Councillor Ashley assume the position of Acting Deputy Mayor in the absence of Deputy Mayor Bresee until June 1st or as advised. Motion carried.

\*\*\*\*

**8<sup>th</sup> Session of Council, April 10<sup>th</sup>**

“The Recreation Director informed the Cemeteries Committee that the Facilities Maintenance Supervisor has taken the broken stones from the Glenwood vault to a stone cutter for replication. The next step will be to replace the stones and repair the vault so the door can close properly.”

\*\*

Tree planting in Glenwood Cemetery was discussed by the Cemeteries Committee. “The Recreation Director informed the Cemeteries Committee that the present policy prohibits tree planting of any kind in Loyalist Township Cemeteries and suggested the Committee review and revise the policy at the next meeting.”

\*\*

“Bruce Caughey mentioned in an email to the Recreation Director that he has been busy setting new memorial stones and corner stones in Glenwood Cemetery.”

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The Building Department’s accumulated deficit of \$97,561 in 2007 has become an accumulated surplus of \$68,984 at the end of 2011.

\*\*

Policing costs for Loyalist Township were \$2.42 million in 2011.

\*\*

“That the Administration Allocation to Amherst Island Ferry for each of 2011 and 2012 be reduced to the amount provided in the agreement with MTO (by \$28,500 and \$14,600 respectively for a total reduction of \$43,100), with the shortfall in the recovery being absorbed by the General Tax Rate in 2012.

“That any resulting operating surplus for the Ferry operations be used first to discharge the outstanding balance of the non interest bearing loans, and thereafter deposited to a Ferry Operations Reserve Fund.

“That staff develop a proposal for a long term financially sustainable Ferry Service taking into consideration the options presented in this report and report back to the Ferry Committee.”

\*\*

“Councillor Ibey requested that property standards be enforced proactively. Residents are leaving toilets, televisions and chesterfields on the side of the road and the By-law Enforcement Officers need to contact the owners to request removal.”

\*\*

Council received copies of 2 letters written by Peter Large, Director of the APAI. One was a reply to a letter from the Minister of Natural Resources on Ontario and the other was addressed to Ms. Howath, leader of the Ontario NDP. Both letters expressed criticism of the plan to site wind turbines on our Island.

\*\*

“Moved by Councillor Ibey and seconded by Councillor Porter that a book of ferry tickets be donated to the Amherst Island Public Radio Station for its fundraiser with funds in the amount of \$100 to be transferred from the Mayor’s Discretionary account. Motion carried.”

\*\*\*\*

**10<sup>th</sup> Session of Council, April 23**

The Amherst Island disposal site received some 5,539 bags of garbage and 71 half-ton truck loads in 2011. This figure includes all bags of waste, tagged or otherwise. The number of bags disposed of in 2011 is about 120 less than what was received in 2010.

A survey of the site in October, 2011 confirmed that the annual fill rate was 220 m<sup>3</sup>/year. The average annual rate of fill over the past twelve years has been 330m<sup>3</sup>/year. The 2011 measurement was consistent with previous years’ measurements and long term trends. Single-year measurements at smaller sites like Amherst Island can often fluctuate significantly.

The lifespan of the landfill is now estimated to be 20 years (2031).

\*\*

Janet Grace, President of the Association for the Protection of Amherst Island wrote a letter to Council opposing the wind turbine project.

\*\*

Algonquin Power requested permission to do Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment work - ploughing and maybe digging - 2 sections of untraveled unopened road allowance between North and South Shore Concessions.

\*\*\*\*\*



## **AIMS: April Meeting**

- John Schutzbach

Meeting called to order by Greg Latiak 9 Attendees plus speaker Chris Kennedy

Thanks to Janet Scott and helpers for preparing breakfast; support for Amherst Island Public School

Greg introduced Chris Kennedy who spoke about sheep rearing on Amherst Island:

There were small numbers of sheep on the island when Chris first arrived but sheep farming was greatly increased through the establishment of Topsy Farms, Foot Flat Farms, and David Willard's farm. At one time, sheep were actually transported as flocks on the ferry. Sheep were routinely taken to Ernesttown station for shipment primarily to the Toronto area.

There is currently a good market for sheep, but Canada produces only about 45% of the animals needed for the Canadian market. The rest are imported.

Chris stated that the major obstacle to sheep farming in Ontario, and on the Island, is the population of coyotes that makes sheep farming difficult. The use of special high electrified fences does help, but these involve large expenditures. Shearing season is about to start and about 1200 ewes will be sheared in a period of about 2½ days.

Chris then answered a number of questions and was thanked for such an interesting program.

Treasurer's report was given by Kevin Archibald.

Bruce reported that the band and caterer are booked for the new year dance, and Victoria Cuyler has agreed to manage the New Year Dance.

Bruce will also prepare maps for road cleanup before the next meeting.

Mark Raymond volunteered himself and Woody for duty at the Farmers Market wagon.

Meeting was adjourned.

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## **SYMBOLS OF EASTER**

- Zander of DUNN INN

At Easter, Christians celebrate their most important and central belief - that Jesus was resurrected, that Jesus was raised up to new life from the dead.

Some people believe it happened literally as it is reported in the Bible. Others try to explain the resurrection in other ways. A growing number of people reject the resurrection completely.

We Christians have always struggled to find symbols for the resurrection. There is no symbol that is adequate.

Bunny rabbits may represent fertility; they don't

represent resurrection. Bunnies don't lay eggs. They certainly don't lay chocolate eggs. Why, then, have chocolate eggs become symbols of Easter?

Eggs are not symbols of resurrection. An egg, when it cracks open, produces a new life, but that new life, that new chick, was not dead in the egg before it emerged alive. The closest the egg comes to symbolizing the resurrection is that it reminds us of the rock which was rolled away from the tomb in which Jesus was buried.

And where did chocolate Easter eggs come from? I love chocolate, but chocolate Easter eggs don't symbolize resurrection. They're just sweet. Even more incongruous is the chocolate cross I saw for sale before Easter. There was nothing sweet about the cross on which Jesus was crucified.

The purpose of a symbol is to make concrete an abstract thought. For example, we often use a light bulb (the old incandescent kind) to represent an idea. We make the "V" sign with our two fingers to represent Victory. An arrow on a road sign symbolizes the direction to take.

Christians break bread and drink wine to symbolize the entry into our lives of the Spirit of Jesus, The Christ. Sharing bread and wine at communion does more than remind us of the Last Supper Jesus had with his closest followers; it helps us enter into the mystery of a relationship with the living Jesus himself.

Christians also baptize with water to symbolize the passage through the Red Sea or the Jordan, but even more than that, to symbolize the miracle of birth into a new life. As we were born wet from the womb, so we are reborn wet into the new life God has for us.

But how do you symbolize resurrection? Resurrection is not emerging from a near death experience.

Resurrection is not resuscitation whereby we are brought back to life after our heart stopped beating or we stopped breathing. Resurrection is not overcoming the suspension of death by medical technology - e.g. artificial hearts, breathing machines etc. Resurrection is new life out of real, final, complete death. Easter lilies and daffodils suggest something rising from dead soil, although we know their bulbs were not dead but simply dormant, sheltered by the earth and insulated by the snow from the killing frosts.

Butterflies are often used to symbolize resurrection. Butterflies may signify life being transformed but they can't remind us of life emerging from death. The chrysalis from which they struggle into the world is not a shroud of death; it is an incubator for life.

There was a time when people believed the sun literally travelled across the sky. When the sun sank in

the West, it died and was buried in the earth. The next morning it rose again from death. I had a man tell me that he believed as surely as the sun went down into death at the end of each day and was raised up, by God, into new life, that is what would happen to his son, whom we had just buried. He said that for himself he experienced a little death when we went to sleep each night and he enjoyed the resurrection to new life when he awoke with the dawn.

That was his faith and I understood what he was saying, but the truth is that the sun doesn't die each night and rise out of death each morning. We don't die when we go to sleep each night and we are not resurrected each morning from slumber.

And yet, our churches display lilies on Easter Sunday, women wear brooches in the shape of butterflies and we gather for sun-rise worship services to remind us of resurrection.

Those symbols can't do the job for us.

There is no fitting symbol for the resurrection.

All we have, at the end, is our trust that God who created us and all that is, will not allow death to hold us but will raise us up, as God raised up Jesus long ago.

I can't prove the resurrection; but I believe it is true - for Jesus, for me and for you.

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## **IS YOUR HOUSE DOWN JASPER LANE?**

- Leah Murray

I have always enjoyed the experience of finding a familiar place depicted in fiction. When I lived in Vancouver in the late 1990s, it was a very popular location for film and television shoots. I loved watching the X-Files, or the latest Jackie Chan movie, and trying to discern what had been made out of my local pub, or that alleyway I cut through on the way to work. Imagine my delight when I came upon Kate Hewitt's novel "Down Jasper Lane", the "first in the Amherst Island trilogy"! Our own Amherst, immortalized in the written word! Naturally I was curious to discover her connection to the Island, and to see how she depicted it in her book. I emailed the author, who graciously agreed to an interview about herself and her choice of locations. And I positively gobbled up the book!

Kate Hewitt, nee Berry, is the niece of Sally & Ross Wilson, whose Stella property houses the old cheese factory. She visited them as a child, but it was a summer wedding Kate attended as a young adult that inspired her to use the Island for "Down Jasper Lane". "I remember

standing by the shore gazing down at the incredible blue-green of the lake and seeing the rolling meadows around me and thinking it was a little bit of heaven. I have spent my summers in rural Ontario about a hundred miles west of Ottawa, and so some of the descriptions in the book are based on my own experiences there, but I wanted an Island setting for the story – a place that was small, somewhat remote, and with a strong sense of community – and so I thought back to my experience on Amherst Island." She's no stranger to Island living – after many years in Manhattan, Kate and her husband and four children recently moved to rural Cumbria, in England. "I've lived in a lot of different places and it has made me think about what makes a place a home – that is, a place that both welcomes and nurtures. I like to write about characters finding a home – whether it is a place, person, or frame of mind. I think in some way we are all seeking a home for ourselves, not necessarily a physical space, but a state of being."

The search for a home is a central theme in "Down Jasper Lane", and one of the great strengths of the story. It is a book to be enjoyed by an audience from 9 to 90 - anyone who has ever been lonely or displaced, searching for belonging – or just looking for some well-crafted historical fiction. The tale begins in a Scottish coal town in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Eleven year old Ellen Copley must quit school to nurse her mother, while her dreamy-headed father works in the train yard. The illness has postponed the family's emigration to America, an plan upon which Ellen's hopes are hung. She and her father make their way to Vermont, where Ellen struggles to fit in at a new school, to please her stern, inscrutable aunt, and to understand the difficult turns her short life has taken. Amherst Island turns out to be quite a refuge for our heroine, who learns to ice skate, makes maple syrup, and finally finds a family. It's a delightful story, and Ellen's plucky determination is utterly charming. There are inevitable echoes of Anne Shirley, the story centering on the trials and tribulations of a spirited Island girl, but Ellen Copley is very much her own person. Hewitt's characters are quirky and enchanting, and her depiction of village dances and sleigh rides brings a rural turn-of-the-century community to life. Of course, there is artistic license with regards to the Island - my favourite being the fact that the Island is so far away, the mainland practically disappears during the ferry ride. Imagine! I'm not sure that I can discern exactly where Jasper Lane is, but I very much enjoyed trying to figure it out. And I can't wait to find out what is next for Ellen Copley, in the



second installment of the Amherst Island trilogy.

Kate Hewitt has promised a copy of “Down Jasper Lane” to the school, but if you'd like your own you can find a paper copy at Amazon.com, (listed under the pseudonym Katharine Swartz). There's also a Kindle version, for the electronically inclined. You can find out more about Kate and her myriad non-Island-centric books at “kate-hewitt.com”. I'm deeply grateful to her for taking the time to chat with me, and for putting our home in her delightful book.

\*\*\*\*\*

## FALLING FOR AMHERST ISLAND

- Peter Gahlinger

I first came to Amherst Island with my wife, Judith Holman, in 2002 when we came to visit her sister Sue, who had rented Ted Wellbanks and Karen Miller's property on the South Shore. Judith had been coming to the Island every summer for several years. Her brother Nick bought a home on Third Concession around 2004.

I was taken with the Island immediately – it brought back memories of childhood. When my family emigrated to Summers Corners, near Aylmer, Ontario in 1955 from Switzerland, we bought a small abandoned farm. It was overgrown, had several crops of fieldstone and was channeled by erosion. There were many small fields designed for horse-drawn equipment. It also had a shallow marshy pond at some distance from the house in the middle of a four-acre paradise of trees, shrubs, berries and birds. We called it ‘The Swamp’ and sailed it in the summer and skated it in the winter.

We worked hard to reclaim the farm, enlarging the fields, removing the stones, filling in the erosion. We cleared paths around the pond in the swamp and planted 1000 evergreen trees. We also planted a 100-tree orchard and a very large garden. As we cleared the land, my father would pile up any debris as high as he could throw it, wait for nightfall, douse it with gasoline and toss in a match. Our house was at the top of a hill and one could see the fire for miles. We children were fascinated.

Ever since, I've had a deep and abiding addiction to renovations and big fires. There is no treatment for the addiction. I renovate everything I can find or that happens to fall in my path or within eyesight: houses, toys, couches, carpets, birdhouses, cooking pots, clocks,

books, farmland, trees, cars, etc.

This passion for renovation led me to the old Howard property, at the northwest corner of Emerald Forty Foot and 2<sup>nd</sup> Concession. Judith and I first drove past the property in 2004 when it was for sale. My heart started racing. I had been looking for a place similar to our Summers Corners farm for many years. Unfortunately my passion wasn't matched by our financial resources at the time. Two years later, when it came back on the market and we had the resources, I jumped at it.

To my eyes, this property had it all – an old semi-abandoned farmstead, the remnants of an orchard and three very old mulberry trees pleading for pruning. The partially collapsed barn was a rich source of lumber for future renovation projects. The house had history - we dated part of it back to 1806. It even had an old maple tree at the foot of the driveway just like on my



Photo by Don Tubb

Charley and Thelma Howard's place on the Second Concession.  
(Taken August 2010)

childhood farm.

I pictured myself following in my father's footsteps. I saw potential in every inch of the buildings and land. I started dreaming: this could be our retirement home, a gathering place for family spread across North America. Perhaps it could also be the start of a small organic business: basil for pesto, heirloom garlic, a small vineyard; we could have chickens, rabbits and a horse or two, a dog and some cats. It was brimming with possibilities.

A month after buying the former Howard property, we bought our main residence in Ottawa, which was another fixer-upper - though on a much smaller scale. We started renovations on the Howard property in 2007, taking down part of the barn, reclaiming the lawns, building a fire pit, and collecting a wonderful array of artifacts. We had many bonfires using debris from our

clean-up. I believe we may have been the reason for the notice in the Beacon that fall reminding Islanders that bonfires were prohibited without a permit.

In 2008 we continued cleaning up the property, pruned the mulberry trees and finished demolishing the barn. We took the floorboards of the barn to Ottawa where I had started building a workshop. The lumber became the floor of my new workshop, a real beauty. In 2009 we started the demolition on the interior of the house, dug trenches to point the stone foundation and continued clearing brush.

Then we began to focus more on our Ottawa renovations, which were extensive and increasingly costly. In the meantime, I had several operations, saw my 60<sup>th</sup> birthday come and go, and eventually realized that there was just not going to be enough time, energy and resources to realize my Amherst dream. We decided that it was time to pass the dream on to younger hands. And so, with much regret, we are putting our property up for sale. It is a restoration in progress.

Meanwhile, the property is still brimming with possibilities, and Amherst Island still holds a special place in our hearts. I will miss waking up to the quiet of the Island, the rising sun, the many birds calls and the rabbits and deer feeding outside the kitchen window. I'll miss the myriad colors of the various bushes, trees, weeds, grasses and flowers. I'll remember the happy times we had on our property: playing badminton and baseball on the large front lawn with our friend's children, having bonfires and marshmallow roasts around the fire pit, watching the snakes coming out of the west wall on a sunny morning, sitting down with the construction crew to big meals at our kitchen table, racing to go swimming at Back Beach on a hot summer day, the forest of lilacs in the spring, and Thanksgiving dinners with family and friends.

And we'll keep coming back whenever we can, drawn by the friendliness of the Island folk, the peace and quiet, and the beauty of the land. It has been a great adventure.

\*\*\*\*\*

## MUSEUM CELEBRATION

– Terry Culbert

On Friday, April 20, the Board of Directors for the Neilson Store Museum & Cultural Centre held a wine and cheese celebration to mark the Museum's tenth anniversary. Museum directors Gord Miller, Janet Scott and Allen Caughey were the planning committee and they did a marvellous job. Over 75 Islanders attended the old Neilson store at 5220 Front Road in Stella that evening. The highlight was a draw for a very large gift basket donated by Lynn Miller, Gord's wife. For every five dollars donated, guests received a ticket to the draw. Loyalist Township Clerk and Amherst Island resident Diane Pearce drew the winning ticket belonging to Joan Martin. The Museum and the Weasel & Easel open for their 2012 season on Saturday, May 19, the Victoria holiday weekend.



Photo by Terry Culbert

Museum directors Bruce Burnett and Gord Miller with president John Schutzbach.



Photo by Terry Culbert

Museum secretary Liz Harrison with Laurie Kilpatrick.

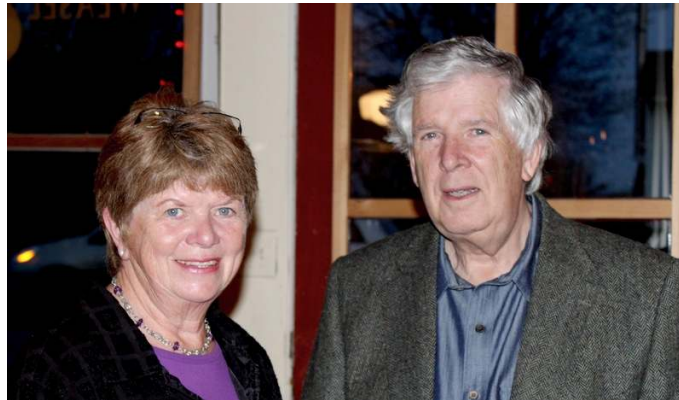




**Photo by Terry Culbert**  
**Caroline Ackerman, Judi Gould, Eloise Gowan and Rosy Findlay.**



**Photo by Terry Culbert**  
**Lucie Amson and director Janet Scott.**



**Photo by Terry Culbert**  
**Museum director Beth Forester and Peter Large.**



**Photo by Terry Culbert**  
**Tom Sylvester and Paul Lauret.**



**Photo by Terry Culbert**  
**Lynn Miller presents her donated gift basket to winner Joan Martin.**

## **WELCOME TO STELLA'S CAFÉ – 2012**

- Anthony

Judy and I are so excited about opening up the cafe on the long May weekend! We'll be on the island a month before that, busy with making some improvements to the building and catching up with friends. We'll have some new menu items that we hope you'll enjoy and of course will continue with the Friday night GUEST CHEF tradition and the sing-along that follows. At this time we plan on being closed Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, as we did last summer. If things get busier, we will add more days.

Cooks, don't be surprised if Judy gets in touch with you regarding Friday evening dinners. That was such a pleasure for us and for everyone, but it needs your help.

If you have any time to stop by before opening day, please do so. We might put you to work, but more than likely we'll be glad to take some time off and chat. Life is too short to not enjoy each other, right? The coffee will always be on. Just like at home. But wait a minute, the café IS our home, isn't it?

See you soon.

We will be open 8:30 to 7:30 on Friday, Sat. and Sunday, 8:30 to 6:30 on Thursday because of choir practice. We'll be open Holiday Monday's from 8:30 to 7:30. Looking at a Knitting Bee on Thursday afternoons 2 to 4. Movie Nights, Ribs on Saturday Nights with children being half price, etc.

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## **THANK YOU NOTES**

Friends of Bev and Bill:

First I want to tell you about my health scare that sent Bev and me home to Amherst Island from our annual stay on St. Simons Island after just 10 days!

The cause was my heart palpitations and what seemed to be possible early dementia. After a day of investigations at the Brunswick hospital we had a choice of staying there or driving home. So we chose to drive, and returned to AI on Tuesday March 13<sup>th</sup>. I saw my GP Mark Dockrill of the Friday the 16<sup>th</sup> - which resulted in cat scans and follow up appointments over the next two weeks. The end result was that surgery identified a frontal brain tumor and I was in KGH 7<sup>th</sup> floor - waiting!

The good news is that surgery on April 4 located the tumor and stitched me back up so I could be discharged on Easter weekend. Son James stayed a week with Bev and son John flew in from Riyadh and stayed with us until Thursday.

And the many caring friends sending food and sympathy made it all seem amazing!

Thanks to our Amherst Island Community for all the gifts of food and wishes we have received.

Bev and Bill

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From an e-mail to Dave Thompson, Director of Engineering Services Loyalist Township:

We very much appreciate the help that we receive from the ferry crew each year when we take our wool in hay wagons to the mainland. Their willingness to deal with odd situations help make our Island a good place to live & work.

Ian for Topsy Farms

\*\*\*\*\*

## **NOTICES**

All are welcome to attend Marc Raymond and Chris Laffin's presentation on Trees, arranged by the AI Women's Institute, to take place at 7pm on Wednesday evening May 16<sup>th</sup>, at St. Paul's Church Hall. Yummy refreshments will follow. Bring your questions and experiences.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **LOVING SPOONFUL LAUNCHES "GROW A ROW - 2012"**

- Mary McCollam

Here at Loving Spoonful we are in the planning stages for another Grow a Row campaign.

The purpose of Grow a Row is to encourage growers (both full-time farmers and backyard or community gardeners) to grow an extra row of food for the express purpose of donation to emergency meal programs.

Loving Spoonful staff and our volunteer Grow a Row Committee collect donated food, deliver food to 18 agencies that feed their clients, maintain the Acorn donation garden, and preserve surplus produce in our community kitchen workbees. The campaign starts off on Tuesday, May 22, 4-8 pm with a seedling sale and launch party at the Oak St. Community Garden. Everyone is welcome! We wrap up in late October with a harvest party and fall cleanup event at the Oak Street Community Garden.

In 2011 the price of fresh produce rose 16% from 2010 prices – making the purchase of healthy fresh food beyond the means of many Kingstonians. Grow a Row makes more fresh produce available for low-income members of our community. Last year we collected over



7000 lbs of fresh produce through the Grow a Row campaign! By preserving some of the donated produce that comes in during peak growing times – think tomatoes in September – we are able to extend the amount of fresh local food available to meal programs beyond the growing season.

There are many ways to participate in the Grow a Row campaign, and we hope you will consider engaging in the way that suits you best.

For the green thumbs:

- Donate seedlings to the May 22 sale. Plant an extra row or container at home and donate the produce, or donate your surplus produce.
- Call Sally at 613 389-3444 for help to co-ordinate pickup and delivery.
- Call Mary of Amherst Island, Chair of the Board of Loving Spoonfuls, at 613 549-8681 for drop-off details.

For the non-gardeners:

- Consider purchasing a Community Shared Agriculture share or produce from market vendors for donation to Grow a Row
- Volunteer to collect food on Amherst Island
- Deliver donated produce to a drop-off point
- Lend your expertise to help with publicity, fundraising, outreach and event planning

We are currently delivering quality fresh food to many agencies in Kingston, including St. Vincent de Paul, Martha's Table, Ryandale Shelter, Lunch By George; St George's Cathedral, Food Not Bombs, Dawn House, Kingston Interval House, Kingston Youth Shelter, Bred of Life, Salvation Army, Weller Ave., Katarokwi Native Friendship Centre, Ryandale Transitional Residence, Kingston Boys and Girls Club, The Gathering Place, Salvation Army, Alfred St, Better Beginnings, Ban Righ Women's Centre, HIV/AIDS Regional Services, In from the Cold, Nightlight.

Please help make the 2012 Grow a Row Campaign our biggest and best yet!!

Grow a Row is one of several Loving Spoonful projects. For more information see our webpage: [www.lovingspoonful.org](http://www.lovingspoonful.org)

[Editor: Mary has been a full- or part-time resident since 1972. She was co-builder and is co-owner of the off-the-grid home just north of Amy and Marcus'. Mary is a first cousin of Kitsy McMullen.]

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Photo courtesy of Mary McCollam

## BEACON ADS

### NEW ADS FOR BEACON FOR MAY ISSUE

#### THE VILLAGE GALLERY

The Gallery will open on weekends and holiday Mondays, starting May 26th - 27th, from 10 am - 4 pm.

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#### STELLA'S CAFÉ

The Café will open for the Victoria Day long weekend, starting Friday the 18th. During the season it will be open on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays and holiday Mondays from 8:30 am to 7:30 pm; open on Thursdays from 8:30 am to 6:30 pm. It will be closed on non-holiday Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

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#### THE WEASEL & EASEL and NEILSON STORE MUSEUM & CULTURAL CENTRE

The Weasel and the Museum will open Saturday May 19th from 10am - 4pm; Sunday and Monday, May 20th and 21st from 1pm to 4pm. In June they will be open on Saturdays, 10am - 4pm, and Sundays, 1 - 4pm. In July and August, they will be open 7 days a week, 1 - 4pm, except Saturdays, 10am - 4pm. Call 613 634-9512. There will be many new and unusual items available.

\*\*\*

#### WATERSIDE MUSIC FESTIVAL

The schedule of events for a most interesting series of five concerts is now available. For more information, call 613 384-2153 or visit [www.watersidemusic.ca](http://www.watersidemusic.ca)

\*\*\*

#### WANTED:

Island residents interested in putting up a booth at the Emerald Music Festival. Aug. 10th, 11th and 12th. Call Dan and Joan at 613 389-8297.

\*\*\*\*\*

**AMHERST ISLAND CHIROPRACTIC**

10650 Front Rd.

Office hours: Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday.

For appointments call 613 328-8892

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**AMHERST ISLAND STORE**

Monday - Friday: 9am - 11:30am; 2:30pm - 5pm

Saturday: 9am - 1pm (Post Office closes at noon)

Sunday: closed

\*\*\*

**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 389-7907

\*\*\*

**Dave Meikle's****AMHERST ISLAND RAW WILDFLOWER HONEY**

Raw honey is honey the way the bees made it with all of its flavour, nutrients and bioactive substances. Bees pack honey with anti-bacterial, anti-viral and anti-fungal agents. Raw honey is a probiotic, enhancing digestive function. The pollen in raw honey tunes your immune system to the local environment.

Our honey is extracted in small batches to retain the unique flavour and aroma each bee colony produces.

Available at Topsy Farms, 613 389-3444, or call direct, at 613 328-8892.

\*\*\*

**FOOTFLATS FARM ACCOMODATION:**

www.footflats.com (613 634-1212)

Goodman House (waterfront)

- 4 bedrooms, 3 baths

- available year round

Waterfront Cabin

- 3 bedrooms, 1 bath

- May to October

\*\*\*

**Hartin's Pumping Service:**

Septic Pumping & Inspection

613-379-5672

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**HELP STILL NEEDED.** We need the following items for the Lennox and Addington S.P.C.A.. Used towels and linens, paper towels and cleaning supplies, pet food, kitty litter, dog and cat toys are always in demand as are used stamps (any kind), Canadian Tire coupons and pop cans. There is a large container in my porch for the pop cans and any other items can be left in my porch as well.

Thank you for helping to support our animal shelter.

Further information needed? Call Freda Youell - 613 384-4135.

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**ISLAND YOGA**

Call Taggett for more information 613 888-5156

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**SAND BAY FARM BED & BREAKFAST AND PERCHERON HORSE DRAWN WAGON AND SLEIGH RIDES** by your hosts

Garry and Susan Filson at 2 Front Rd., here on beautiful Amherst Island. Call 613 384-7866 or email [redandgarry@aol.com](mailto:redandgarry@aol.com) for bookings or more information. Located on the very northeast end of the island with waterfront views from every window, very private and backs onto the Kingston Field Naturalists bird sanctuary. Open year round.

\*\*\*

**STUDIO ON THE BAY**

8750 Second Concession Road

Acrylic works of Barb Hogenauer & Terry Culbert

Open by chance or appointment 613-634-8217

[www.studioonthebay.ca](http://www.studioonthebay.ca)

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**TOPSY FARMS WOOL SHED** 613 389-3444

Wool and sheepskin products including yarn, blankets, and crafts.

2012 Calendars and individual photos by Don Tubb.

Also Island honey and Topsy's frozen lamb cuts.

Open weekends and most weekday mornings.

\*\*\*

**TOPSY FARMS** now has an extensive supply of freshly frozen lamb cuts for sale in the Wool Shed. We should have any roast or chop or shank or stew or ground lamb you desire.

We also have lamb patties, and our own sausage for sale. For those who enjoy organ meat, we have kidneys and liver available also.

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***FROM THE ARCHIVES:***

*From the Amherst Island Beacon: May 15, 1982 - Volume 3 Issue 52*

***A MEMORY FROM THE PAST***

*{reprinted from the original newspaper article}*

*1927*

***Death of William Glenn at Stella***

*The sudden death occurred on Thursday evening, March 10th of one of Amherst Island's oldest citizens in the person of William Glenn, Sr., aged 85 years. He had*

*been in poor health for a few weeks during the winter, but had practically recovered. The aged gentleman had just finished his evening meal when he suddenly expired.*

*The late Mr. Glenn was a well-known and respected farmer of the Island. He was a Presbyterian in religion, a Liberal in politics and a member of the Canadian Order of Chosen Friends. The deceased is survived by*

his wife and five daughters: Mrs. S. A. Strain, Buffalo, N.Y.; Mrs. Goslen, Detroit, Mich.; Mrs. Gates, Kingston; Mrs. N. Glenn and Mrs. Edward Fleming of Amherst Island, and four sons: Samuel Glenn, Detroit, Mich.; Robert Thomas and William of the Island.

The largely attended funeral was held on Saturday from the old home when the service was conducted by the pastor of St. Paul's Church, the Rev. J. Vint. Loughland, to Glenwood cemetery. The pallbearers were six nephews of deceased, R. A. Caughey, D. Caughey, S. Miller, J. Miller, Capt. A. Glenn and William Glenn, Jr.

Among relatives from a distance were Mrs. Gates and Miss B. Gates, R. A. Caughey and Capt. Alex Glenn, Kingston, Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Strain and Miss Edna Strain, Buffalo, N.Y., Mr. and Mrs. Goslen and Samuel Glenn, Detroit, Mich.

Owing to the continued mild weather the ice in the bay is becoming unsafe for travelling on.

Peterson Bros. and E. Welbanks and their families have moved to Long Point for the fishing season, after spending the winter in the village.

The annual meeting of the patrons of Stella cheese factory was held in the town hall on Thursday afternoon. Weather permitting the factory will open on April 1st. Donald White, the new cheese maker, is moving to the factory house in the village. R. Onslow, Kingston, the new cheese maker who has been secured for the Emerald factory, is also moving to that place.

E. McMullen, Emerald, has moved his hay press to James Eves', Lake View. Dr. H. S. Northmore, Bath, has been on the island nearly every day of late, so much sickness has been reported. The lake has cleared of ice and our fishermen are getting their nets in the water once again.

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## **COUNCIL MEETINGS**

- Tom Sylvester

Council met in special session April 13 and discussed the Miller Municipal Drain situation with Alex Graham, drainage engineer, and Peter Radley, legal counsel.

A committee of adjustment was appointed. This committee, upon the application of the owner of any land, building or structure affected by our restricted area (Zoning) by-law, may authorize such minor variance from the provisions of the by-law, as in its opinion is desirable for the appropriate development or use provided that in the opinion of the committee, the general intent and purpose of the by-law is maintained.

Members appointed:

Chester Tugwell 3 years

Heather Welbanks 2 "

David Vrooman 1 "

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May 4 - Regular Session

Mr. Ron Heaney from Thorne Riddell was present to review the 1981 Financial Statement and 1982 budget estimates.

The Township financial position has improved from one year ago. There has been an increase in working capital reserve. These funds reduce the Township bank loan on a short-term basis and are available for unexpected capital costs in the future.

The Township proportion of tax in arrears to total tax was 15%, an acceptable figure. The increased interest rate charged to due taxes will likely encourage payment.

The Township bank interest and charges constituted the largest single general government expenditure last year, \$9617, nearly 23% of the same. Evidently, MTC grants for ferry operation will be received on a more regular basis, with the effect of reducing the municipal bank borrowing.

1982 Budget Estimates

Expenditures:

General Government 40,400

Roads 80,666

Development Road 236,842

Ferry 632,221

Working Capital 4,071

Total 995, 000

Revenue 947,528

To raise through Municipal Taxes 47,472

I found it sobering to recognize the ratepayers in this Township are paying directly approximately 5% of the 1982 budget.

Ron Heaney noted no expenditures for municipal drain expenses have been budgeted since funds would be raised by debenture when the drain is approved. If there is no approval, the Township would have to raise funds to pay the incurred expenses.

The resulting mill rates from the 1982 budget estimates were up a total of 9% to 237 and 279 mills for residential and commercial assessments respectively. The increase is entirely due to higher requisitions for elementary and secondary schools.

Ron Heaney concluded by expressing confidence in the budget, and felt Island ratepayers should be pleased as well.

Council has accepted Earle Tugwell's resignation with regret and expressed their appreciation for his many years of service, not only on the ferry but for the telephone company as well.

Council has called for tenders for the supply, crushing, spreading and stockpiling of gravel for the development



road project and for the usual township requirements. Closing date for the tenders will be June 21.

Six new street lights will be installed on the "Stella 40 ft" from the dock to Harry Filson's and in the proximity of the town hall.

The Emerald property (Pt. Lot 12, Con. 1) is to be relisted with Raycraft Realty (Marlene Frolich) with the price reduced to \$2,900.

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## **ORAL HISTORY PROJECT ON AMHERST ISLAND**

- Sally Bowen & Ian Murray

Four summer student jobs have been created locally by the approval of a student employment grant from the federal government. Two of the positions have been filled by Cathy Wilson and Ian Milligan, two students enrolled in post-graduate studies in the History Department at Queen's University. They bring considerable practical experience and training to the project. The other two jobs are available to local high school students. Applicants must be enrolled at Napanee Manpower. The main qualifications are basic office skills, especially typing, and the ability to work well with others.

The purpose of the project is to gather information from the memories of older island residents about their lives on the island. With the aid and advice of the staff of our public school, the information will be made available to public school students as a supplement to their regular historical studies. The material gathered in the interviews will also be used in articles for the Island Beacon. It is possible that some of the historical data and documents may be of interest to historical societies or museums.

While the primary funding source is the federal government, the Beacon is also contributing some money. Several local residents have promised assistance and offered the loan of office equipment. The principal of the public school Mike Flanagan, has indicated that part of the public school would be available as an office for the project.

All concerned in this endeavour hope that you will encourage and support the students in their efforts to carry out a worthwhile historical project that will be of interest and a benefit to residents.

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## **Re OUR RECENT ISLE TALENT NIGHT**

- A. Bruce Caughey

The large crowd who attended the recent "Talent Night" sponsored by the "ISLE organization" in the Amherst Island Community Centre, certainly were

rewarded with a fine performance and certainly the continuous rounds of applause gave indication of the enjoyment that prevailed from the opening choruses by the members of the Amherst Island Glee Club to the tremendously humorous closing "skit" presented by the members of ISLE.

There is no doubt that the contribution to the program by the Glenn Orchestra brought forth nostalgic memories and there were many who listened to their beautiful renditions of those danceable numbers which never grow old, did so with lumps in their throats which they found hard to swallow and a goodly number of the older folk found it hard to keep tears from their eyes as they were carried back in memories to the countless hours of pleasure and enjoyment which this group of people, along with others, brought to the people of our Island community.

Someday, I propose to write at greater length concerning this family orchestra which down through the years was so much a part of our Island entertainment. I will content myself for now by saying, "Thank you Tena, Stirling and Leslie" for the pleasure which you gave we old timers, and as you played, we remembered other members of the orchestra, Alex and Max, who are no longer with us and, of course Ben, who is a resident of Providence Manor.

The Women's Institute's "Family Album" was also a nostalgic memory and so well done. It brought back to my memory a "Family Album" presented at a concert by the St. Paul's Church Women on March 17th, 1928, and arranged by Miss Arline Miller (now Mrs. R. K. Earls). She had a large cast and she presented her album with a great deal of wit and humour - I am sure those of us who saw that presentation could never forget the "poses", particularly The Minister portrayed by William Glenn (Eva and Edna's father) and Little Willie, portrayed by Robert Marshall (Ruth & Helen's & Harold's father). Both were jovial men and sat without a move, while they longed to laugh with the audience who enjoyed their poses so much.

Thanks ISLE for a fun-filled evening, so rich with memories.

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## **SOFTBALL**

- Doug Shurtliffe

Amherst Island UTDC Midget-Juvenile Softball team will begin its season at home on Monday, May 17. The Heritage Softball League has expanded to seven teams this year. This will offer more competition and variety than other years. We look forward to your continued support this year and we guarantee game after game of

*intense competition.*

\*\*\*\*\*

### **TALENT NIGHT**

*ISLE would like to thank the Glee Club, Tena Filson, Stirling and Les Glenn, Anglican Church Women, Presbyterian Church Women, Women's Institute, Sherry Ward, Steven Ward, Trudy Strain, Julie Forester, Steven Willard, Senior Sunday School, Yvonne Lavigne, 1st Stella Cub Pack, and everyone else who participated as performers and audience. It was a warming experience to see so many members of the community willing to participate to promote fun as well as displaying a great variety of excellent talent.*

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### **ISLAND NEWS**

*The spring seeding is progressing favourably and was helped by the spring rain of the past weekend. "Get well" wishes go out to many of our residents and friends who have been and still are on the sick lists: Leslie Glenn, Jack McCormick, Wendy Shurtliffe, Myrtle Veech, Phyllis Welton, Mr. Densem, Arnold Smith, Francis Welbanks, Amy Caughey, Fred Neilson, Jack Bews, Syl Apps, Dorothy Kilpatrick, Ralph Wemp, Douglas Gavlas, Alice Compesu and Bert Glenn.*

*John and Mary Hall and Sheila and Shannon Eves have been vacationing in Florida.*

*The "Talent Night" sponsored by the ISLE People was greatly enjoyed by all who attended. Many of our residents who spend the winter elsewhere have returned to their Island homes for the summer.*

*Jack and Madlyn Kerr and Neil Babcock visited Cuba during the winter.*

*Chris Willard, a recent graduate of St. Lawrence College in Business Administration, will be taking a position in Eastern Ontario.*

*Sympathy is extended to the families of the late Mrs. Wills, Molly Apps, Harry Glenn, Lucien and Anne LaVoie, Cathy Lewis, Alec Glenn and John Kimmett.*

*W. Bruce Caughey has been hired as Secretary-Treasurer of Amherst Island Mutual Fire Insurance Company replacing Marie Ward who held the position for over two years.*

*Tom and Marjorie Brown have moved to the Gavlas apartment in East Stella.*

*Roy and Colleen Nourry and Jason are spending some time at the Smith cottage.*

*Work crews from Ontario Hydro are replacing poles and power lines on the Front Road and 2nd Concession.*

*Cattle are to be arriving this week to Quinte Pasture on Concession 2.*

*Barry Strain is now employed by the Department of Health in Kingston.*

*Much credit is due to the choir of the Amherst Island Public School and their leader, Mrs. Forester, for their performance at Grace United Church, Napanee, on Sunday, April 25th. The service opened Education Week in Lennox and Addington County. Two of our students, Sherry Ward and Julie Forester were winner's in the essay contest on the theme "Growing Together."*

*Rev. Allan Read, Bishop of Ontario, met with the congregations of St. Albans and St. Pauls at a pot luck dinner recently in the school gym. Rev. Read showed slides of a Passion Play at Oberammergau which he attended. His son, Michael, took the slides.*

*Irene Glenn, Louise Seaman, Lulu Strain and Marion Glenn, members of the Women's Institute, and Syke Fleming enjoyed a bus trip to the Erland Lee Home, Stoney Creek, and the Adelaide Hoodless Home near Brantford.*

*Howard and Noreen Welbanks attended the Blessing of the Fishing Fleet and the Fish Fry at Picton on Sunday.*

*The Baseball season is getting underway and the teams are busy practising.*

*Mr. & Mrs. John Gavlas recently became the parents of healthy twin girls. Congratulations to the grandparents, Ed. and Leslie Gavlas.*

*Bill Brown is employed by a Swimming Pool Company on the mainland*

*Louise Seaman is to be hostess for the P.C.W. meeting this month and Phyllis Babcock for the A.C.W meeting.*

*We were surprised to learn that Howard Welbanks was unable to tuna fish. We thought Howard should know all there was to know about a fish..*

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### **CARD OF THANKS**

*I want to thank everyone who was so kind and thoughtful to me during my stay in hospital and after I came home. The cards, visits, flowers, candy and all the good food were appreciated so much - wish I had the space here to thank each one individually but I don't, so to each of you good people - my sincere thanks.*

*Dorothy Kilpatrick*

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### **THE AMHERST ISLAND WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

*- Thelma Howard*

*The Amherst Island Women's Institute met at the home of the president, Mrs. Irene Glenn, on Wed., April 21 at 8 p m. Mrs. Glenn opened the meeting with the Ode and Mary Stewart Collect followed by O Canada. The Roll Call was the payment of fees. Mrs. Diane Gavlas, the*

*Secretary-Treasurer, read the minutes, financial statements and correspondence.*

*The President thanked everyone for the successful year we had and announced her retirement and turned the chair over to Mrs. Lulu Strain for the election of officers. Also, the Sec.-Treasurer, Mrs. Diane Gavlas, announced her retirement.*

*The new list of officers for 1982-83 are as follows:*

*President - Mrs. Georgie Allison*

*Vice-Pres. - Mrs. Louise Seaman*

*2nd Vice Pres. - Mrs Jackie Sylvester*

*Sec.-Treas. - Mrs Phyllis Strain*

*District Director - Mrs. Marian Glenn*

*Alternate Dist. Director - Mrs Irene Glenn*

*Pianist - Mrs. Louise Seaman*

*Good Cheer Leader - Mrs Phyllis Welton*

*Auditors - Mrs Ena Baker & Mrs Jane Miller*

*Convenors - Agriculture and Canadian Industries - Mrs Ena Baker*

*Citizenship and World Affairs - Mrs Jane Miller*

*Education and Cultural Activities - Mrs. Lulu Strain*

*Family and Consumer Affairs - Mrs Jacqueline Sylvester*

*Resolutions - Mrs Marian Glenn*

*Public Relations Officer - Mrs Thelma Howard*

*Tweedsmuir History Curator - Mrs Genevieve Fleming & ass't Reta Miller*

*Delegates to the District Annual - Mrs Marian Glenn, Mrs Georgie Allison & Mrs Anne Hitchins*

*Delegates to Area Convention in Sept in Napanee is the new president Mrs Georgie Allison and alternate delegate Mrs Louise Seaman.*

*Mrs Allison announced there would be a meeting on Mon., May 3 at 8 p.m. at her home to plan programmes for the year. The retiring president, Mrs Irene Glenn, presented the Institute badge to the new president, Mrs Allison. The meeting closed with the Grace and Queen after which lunch was served. The next meeting will be held on May 19 at the home of Mrs. Marian Glenn.*

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## **NOTICES**

*There will be a Glee Club practice and meeting at the home of Mrs Beth Forester on Thursday May 27 at 8 p.m. Come on out and enjoy singing. New recruits are needed (especially men).*

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## **EDUCATION WEEK**

*The pupils in Mrs Forester's class wrote about Education Week. Here are some excerpts from their accounts. (Unfortunately there was no name attached to some of the material.)*

*Trudy Strain-*

*To start off the week Amherst Island Public School went to Grace United Church in Napanee and sang 3 songs, which I will admit we did pretty good {a couple words obscured} to enter the church I just about died - I thought St Paul's was big. This one was enormous!*

*Sherry Ward-*

*For the Education Week essay contest I won first place in the County finals. I got \$10.00. I did not think I would get it, but I did. I didn't think I would because there is more competition in the County.*

*Mike Strain-*

*For Education Week we also went to Grace United Church. Mr. Kennedy and Mrs. Forester thought of it. At the church we sang the Lord's Prayer, Prayer for our Country and Growing Together.*

*No name-*

*Talent Night was April 29. My mother was a cat and was in the jug band.*

*Reg Hitchins-*

*We went to Grace United Church. They liked to hear us sing. We liked to be there. I was excited.*

*Steven Ward-*

*It was very unusual for two County winners to be in the same school. Especially in a small school, like ours. (re Talent Night) By the sound of the audience, I think it was the best performance the Island has ever put on.*

*Shannon Eves-*

*The big night on Amherst Island was Talent Night. Many people were watching and acting. There was dancing, plays, commercials, and music.*

*No name-*

*On Thursday night there was a Talent Night. There were lots of plays and commercials, piano solos and songs.*

*No name-*

*The whole school went to Grace United Church. It was a big church. Lots of people were there. On Talent Night ISLE put on a performance The Dating Game. It was funny. My mom was in it.*

*No name-*

*After a disappearance of 20 years the Glenn orchestra played.*

*Kirk Collins-*

*The Dating Game was the funniest.*

*Ricky Welbanks-*

*(re Talent Night) I think that ISLE should put on another one.*

*No name-*

*My favourite play was by the Presbyterian Chickens.*

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