# **Amherst** Island



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Issue 408 July 2012

# THIS ISSUE

Ian Murray, editor

Don and I have been overwhelmed by the number of interesting photos for this issue - far more than we have space for. We have also been overwhelmed by the demands of having and sheep work so this issue will be out later than usual. \*\*\*\*

# JAMES "JIM" GREGORY PEARSON

Mr. Pearson, a South Shore resident for several years, died on June 12th in his 74th year. He is survived by his wife Nancy and his children, Andrea and Michael. He is also survived by grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

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# BEACON Issue 408 July 2012

The Amherst Island

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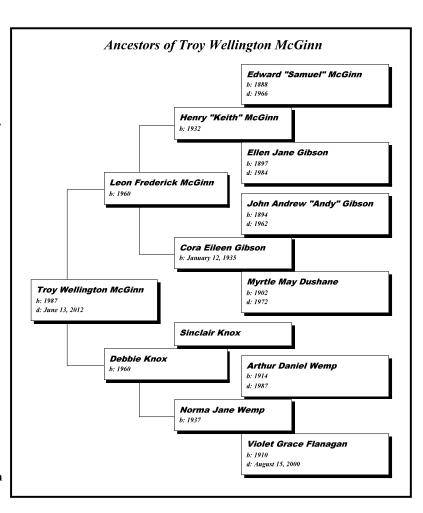
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# TROY McGINN

Died in a motorcycle accident on June 13 in his 25th year. He is survived by his parents Debbie Dermott and Leon McGinn and his sister Kendra. He is also survived by his grandparents Keith and Cora McGinn and Sinclair Knox. On the Island he is also survived by many aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. \*\*\*\*



from Terry McGinn Troy McGinn



# NEIGHBOURHOOD

- Lyn Fleming

Get well wishes this month to Gord Miller, Myrna Alport, Don Pepper, John Adams, Sid Alport and Susan McGinn.

Condolences to Leon McGinn and Debbie Dermott (Wayne) and daughter Kendra (Rob) on the sudden passing of their son and brother, Troy McGinn. Our sympathy also to his grandparents, Keith and Cora McGinn and Sinclair Knox, and his many aunts, uncles, cousins and extended family, both on the Island and off.



Photo by Brian Little Fireworks on Canada Day

Our sympathy to Nancy Pearson, following the passing of her husband, Jim.

Congratulations to Dan and Val Wolfreys, who celebrated their 25th anniversary with family and friends at the community centre.

Congratulations to Sam Miller who was selected to play goalie for the Kingston Township Hawks in the provincial ball-hockey tournament in Mississauga in early July. Sam was chosen from all ball-hockey teams in Kingston for the Tyke age range, (7 & 8 year olds). This is his first year playing ball hockey and it is a pretty big honour for him to be asked.

Congratulations to Amherst Island Public School grade 8 graduates, Rachel Scott, Shyanne Shurtliffe and Alec Welbanks. The graduation ceremony was held in conjunction with the annual A.I.P.S. year end awards ceremony on June 26th. All 3 students will be attending Ernestown Secondary school in September. University bound this fall is Ben Whitton (Western) and Daniel Little (Ottawa)

Jane McGinn and her brother, Tom deHaan; sister-in-law, Sherry Gibson; and niece Krystal deHaan recently returned home from a trip to Holland, where Jane and Tom's dad was born. They also spent a few days in Paris.

The long awaited Senior Class trip has now come and gone. Twelve students and their teacher (Ms. Marshall) and chaperones travelled to Montreal by train, and spent 3 busy days touring Montreal. Among the highlights, were a visit to the new

Ellis Wolfreys, host of CJAI radio's Wolf's Den show. hosted the annual CJAI "Thank you" BBQ. Guests enjoyed

good food and live music on a sunny afternoon at the Milk

House.

Holocaust Museum, Cirque de Soleil, a walking tour of

Old Montreal, the Olympic Tower, and Bio Dome.

Well over 200 people celebrated Canada Day on the Island by participating in or watching the parade, attending the Strawberry Social, and activities at the Community Centre. "The Islanders" (our newest Island band) entertained

the crowd for two hours following the parade. The evening was capped off at dusk with another great fireworks display

Summer has arrived on the Island. With an early start to the having season, farmers are busy cutting and baling. We have several days of abominable heat and humidity under our belt with the forecast for more over Canada Day weekend. School is out and so are the kids, please be careful, especially in the Village - remember the stop sign means **STOP** - no matter how late you are for the ferry.

\*\*\*\*

# WOMEN'S INSTITUTE June Meeting

- Liz Harrison

Claire Jenney, our current President hosted a delightful evening meeting at her home at the end of one of those hot days of June. Members arrived, refreshed themselves with cool drinks, and with the help of guests Diane Pearce and Michele Lelay were

> whisked away to the distant Iles de la Madeleine (Magdalene Islands) in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, a place that Michele and Diane have visited together with their families several times and fallen in love with. As we know, a ferry ride can transport a person to a place with a history, habitat and culture all of its own. The five hour journey from Souris on Prince Edward Island to Ile du Capaux-Meules takes the traveler to a land



Photo by Angus or Jack Little Ms Marshall on the way to Montreal with the senior class.

of seemingly endless, deserted sand beaches, brightly coloured, randomly built houses, idiomatic French, fresh seafood and wonderful first class eating establishments. Like our own Island, visitors are warmly welcomed. There is a thriving artist community and friendly gossip. (I wish I could tell you which well-known person has just bought a parcel of land there!) To cap it all, one of the islands (the seven largest are linked by an end to end road) was at one time called Amherst Island. If you decide that you must experience it for yourself (and you should), note that you must reserve your ferry spot well in advance and it's wise to look for your accommodation early in the year even though things have

improved enormously since Mary Kay (ever the adventurer) went in the seventies and found just two rather run-down motels and very few places to eat.

After this entertaining preamble, we enjoyed wonderful refreshments served by Claire and Kirsten and continued with our business meeting which included making plans for the Canada Day Parade, and our August 15th summer outing to see Calendar Girls in Belleville. If you are not a W.I. member but would like to join us please contact me (Liz Harrison 613-389-5176).

In July we will be hosting the Cherry Valley W.I. who asked to join us at one of our meetings. After lunch we will be showing them around the Island.

We agreed unanimously to accept the invitation to have a bake table at the Emerald Music Festival on August 11th.

Joyce Haines reported on the recent District meeting where it was announced that the Hawley W.I. Branch has disbanded after 45 years. They have sold their building and all their funds have been given to charities. I see from our newly distributed programme that we have 23 members and a full schedule ahead of us. We are fortunate to have such a committed and active branch, the support of the Amherst Island community and friends and neighbours who donate their time to come to our meetings to share their interests and talents with us.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Bruce Burnett for restoring the umbrella on the coffee cart. We appreciate your help, Bruce.

Finally, as we were singing our opening

ode last week, I was thinking about the word weal, which is in the line "But each shall seek the common weal". According to the Oxford Dictionary it means welfare, prosperity and good fortune especially for the public or general population. I think this is what the W.I strives to do for Amherst Island but there is no doubt in my mind that that is what the Amherst Island community does for the W.I.

Our thanks to you all. \*\*\*\*\*

# Loyalist Township Conditions Re Use of Back Beach

Loyalist Township advises that effective January 1<sup>st</sup> to Labour Day every year the Back Beach is available for public use under the following conditions:

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

For information concerning this notice, please contact the undersigned.

Cindy Lawson - Recreation Director Loyalist Township 263 Main Street, P.O. Box 70, Odessa, Ontario K0H 2H0 Phone (613) 386-7351, ext 131

E-mail: clawson@loyalist.ca

# ST. PAUL'S RESTORATION

- Terry Culbert

St. Paul's Presbyterian Church on Amherst Island was built in 1883. Today, after standing for one hundred and twenty-nine years, it remains one of the finest looking and well preserved structures in Eastern Ontario. Throughout that time, it has been a place of worship, marriages, christenings and burials as well as community uses. It is a building that all Islanders' are proud of.

An enormous restoration project to the interior of the church took place during the month of June. The sanctuary badly needed to be rehabilitated due to a water infiltration problem, general wear and tear and old age. St. Paul's Board of Managers chose the Kingston-based Ecclesiastical Refinishing Group to do the job. They are a group of European and North American trained artisans, who have earned an enviable reputation for historical refinishing and custom ecclesiastical design work.

"The entire restoration project was financed with St. Paul's Memorial Fund," said Board of Managers Chair Bruce Burnett. "The fund can only be used to beautify the building and its contents, so it was appropriate for this use."

The Ecclesiastical Refinishing team was made up of company president Mark Gray, Andrea Belliveau, art director-designer and Andrew Evans, a professional painter. "Nearly every restoration project involves repair of plaster surfaces that are loose, delaminating, cracked and water damaged," said Mark Gray.

During the month of June, the congregation worshipped in St. Paul's Hall.

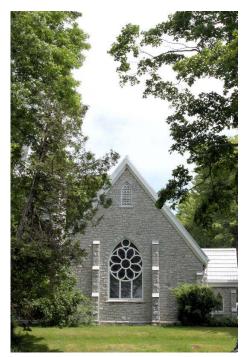


Photo by Terry Culbert St. Paul's Presbyterian Church on Amherst Island was constructed in 1883.



Photo by Terry Culbert Scaffolding in the church sanctuary reached from floor to ceiling.



Photo by Terry Culbert Nick Holman, an Island homeowner and heritage architect, was brought in as a consultant on structural cracks.



Photo by Terry Culbert Sunday worship was held in the church hall during restoration.



Photo by Terry Culbert Andrea Belliveau and Andrew Evans lay out their design in masking tape.



Photo by Terry Culbert Board of Managers Chair Bruce Burnett checks the art directors sketch.



Photo by Terry Culbert Designer and painter check out their progress.



# **JANET'S JOTTINGS**

- Janet Scott

Reflections and Thank-yous!"

As many of you know I have reached the time to retire and over the last few months I have been looking back over lots of photos, memories and history.

When I graduated in June of 1962 after only one year of Teachers' College I thought that I was prepared and that I knew everything. Right? I didn't have a driver's License, was too young to drink or vote but by golly the Government of Ontario thought I was safe to entrust with the education of their children, their greatest resource. Perhaps I didn't have time to develop jitters or insecurities but I sure jumped in with both feet. I had the best experience that I could ever have imagined when I taught eight grades in a one room school in Victoria County. You flew by the seat of your pants so

to speak and the children were kind enough to help you along the way. You can learn more from the children, you know, than you will ever learn from a textbook. This little school gave me a crash course in the content of the curriculum and the boys taught me how to play hockey in the schoolyard. I learned useful things like ink bottles freeze when it gets cold enough and the ice lifts the caps right off the bottles. It froze the aquarium solid but when we dumped the ice out in the ditch we found three of the four goldfish still alive. They didn't teach THAT

when I was practice teaching in Etobicoke! I enjoyed that year and I hope I didn't warp the students too much. Much later I found out an Island connection to that school, my one and only Grade 6 boy later married Helen Lamb's niece and one of my Grade 7's became a dairy judge and I met him when he was judging Jerseys at the Belleville Fair when my daughter was in the Island 4H Club.

I taught next in Almonte in Special Education in the days when we teachers were making up the curriculum for each individual child because Opportunity Classes were so new they hadn't designed methods or curriculum for us yet. After that I moved to Kingston after being hired over the telephone, can you imagine that? , by a Superintendent Hunter which makes it interesting that I retired from Limestone under another Superintendent Hunter forty-seven years later. Now

Special Education is a very advanced field with continuous testing and specialists in every kind of learning difficulty; then we had to know a little about a lot and hope that we were intuitive enough to see and meet the need. Later I graduated from Queen's with a Psychology major but mostly we learned as we went along. How well we did is hard to judge from this side but I do know that one parent complained that her child "never lied nor stole till she was in my class" so my curriculum must have been questionable. Again I was establishing an Island connection as Mr. Dick Dodds was my Consultant when I arrived in Kingston.

I retired then for the first time and left teaching to raise my family, later moving to Amherst Island which was one of the best decisions that we ever made. It was only a matter of a few months until Mike Flanagan called me to see if I would teach Friday afternoons in

the Senior class. That is what made it possible so that I can now say that I have taught two generations of Amherst Island Children. I continued to supply after that until I was hired in 1998 to teach half time Kindergarten and Resource. I've been there ever since and enjoyed every minute of it!

From 2003 to 2006 I taught at Enterprise as well and last week I

Enterprise as well and last week I had the thrill of seeing students that I had taught there in Kindergarten graduate.

I want to say thank-you to the students, their parents, and the community, for making me feel

welcome all those years and for supporting the school and its endeavours so wonderfully. Your support for I.S.L.E. ham dinners, the playground initiative, and general fund raising help for the school has been phenomenal. Thank-you for your kind wishes, your gifts, so many cards and the flowers. They are very much appreciated and greatly treasured. The amazing birdfeeder will give me pleasure for years and you know that it's just what I wanted. I would like to say thank-you to all of you for that most wonderful gift and one that touched me so deeply. It was the moment when you all stood as I was being thanked by I.S.L.E. and now it's making me cry again even this many days after

Thank-you, thank-you, thank-you. My heart is full! \*\*\*\*\*



Photo by Brian Little Brian writes, "A giant moth [a Luna moth] that I found on our door one evening. He was about 5" across."

# From an E-mail to Sally Bowen

- Janet Scott

For the 15 years we helped Avery Brown hay we learned a lot about hay. How will a young man today ever learn to make hay if he never gets to walk the fields with an expert and understand the smell, the colour and the texture of hay?

It was always such a relief when the barns were full but also such a feeling of accomplishment. In most jobs you don't get to start with an empty barn

and see the results of your labour when it's full again.

Perhaps that's what's wrong with society, we burn out because we never get rewarded with proof of our labour.

The smell of hay always takes me back to my childhood and driving the horse up and down the ramp as the big fork lifted loose hay from the wagon parked in the barn and swung it up high into the loft where my



Photos by Terry Culbert Loyalist Township's road crews have been busy making Amherst Island a safe and beautiful place. Don Miller smooths the gravel as Rick Welbanks cuts the roadside grass.



Uncle would yank the rope and release the hay into the loft.

This season makes me remember Dylan Thomas' poem. "Now as I was young and easy under the apple boughs About the lilting house and happy as the grass was green,

The night above the dingle starry,
Time let me hail and climb
Golden in the heydays of his eyes . . . ."
\*\*\*\*\*

# **COUNCIL GLEANINGS**

- Ian Murray

# From the 16<sup>th</sup> Session of Council, June 11

"The Neilson Store Museum and Cultural Centre Board determined the need to install a climate control unit at the Museum to protect the increasing number of artifacts and provide a comfortable environment for visitors to the Museum. The NSMCC Board of Directors sought approval from the Recreation Director and made an application to the Community Foundation of Kingston and Area. The grant application was successful and the CFKA provided \$3500.00 for the project. These funds were provided through the Douglas Branton Fell Memorial Fund, Chown Fund and Community Fund for Heritage Preservation."

# From the 18th Session of Council, June 25

"The Amherst Island Ferry Dock EA [Environmental Assessment] is ongoing with a Public Open House expected in September 2012."

"Moved by Councillor Ashley and seconded by Councillor Ibey that the Director of Planning and Development Services' report, June 14, 2012 re: Request to Rename Front Road to Royal George Drive, and correspondence from Tim Gushue, June 22, 2012 requesting deferral, be received and that the request to rename Front Road to Royal George Drive be respectfully denied. Motion carried."

"That By-law 2011-006.... be amended to include lands designated as shoreline residential on Amherst Island as restricted areas for purposes of the noise by-law...."

\*\*\*\*

AUGUST 10, 11 AND 12, 2012



12675 FRONT ROAD AMHERST ISLAND



Emerald Music Festival is located on Amherst Island on a 100 acre beef farm with 600 feet of waterfront facing the northern channel of Lake Ontario.

There will be twenty-one performers with a wide range of styles which will include Country, Celtic, Bluegrass and 50's Rock & Roll.

Weekend pass (24 hours of music) only \$30.00 per person (Children under 12 free and must be accompanied by an Adult)

# TICKETS SOLD IN ADVANCE

at Stella's General Store, Stella's Café, Marie's Place in Napanee, or at the Gate

# FRIDAY 6:00 - 12:00

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LORAIN SINE R&R

DUAINE PRESLEY JAMIE SPURVEY

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DON COCHRANE & NEVILLE WELLS

COUNTRY RHYTHM

# SUNDAY 10:00 - 4:00 GOSPEL - ANTHONY GIFFORD

COUNTY BLUE GRASS
CORDOURY ROAD
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STEVE KENNEDY
MITCH BARKER & DAN SIMPSON

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Click here for the location of Amherst Island

This event is hosted by Dan and Joan Simpson. Contact us @ 613-389-8297
12675 Front Road, Amherst Island.
emeraldfestival@gmail.com





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# AIMS MEETING JUNE 9, at 8:00am

- Anders Bennick

**<u>Breakfast</u>**: Thank you to the Little family for preparing a hearty breakfast.

**Present:** 19 members.

Chair: Brian Little, President.

- 1. Treasurer's report. The treasurer reported on the financial status and on the proceeds of the first two market days.
- 2. Canada Day Parade. It was agreed that AIMS would take part in the parade. Ross Haines volunteered to drive the tractor that pulls the float. Bruce Burnett will organize the float.
- 3. Flower baskets. The baskets have been hung. Ross Haines needs help with the watering.
- 4. Island spring cleanup. Members were reminded to complete the road spring cleanup.
- 5. Tree planting update. There was no news to report.
- 6. Jim Whitton-AIMS Award and Donation. It was decided to increase the value of the award to \$100.
- 7. Anthony Gifford reported on the proposal presented at the last meeting to turn the sandy beach property on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Concession Road into a public park. More than 20 people attended the showing of the property by the real estate agent representing the vendor. The committee established at the last meeting is now preparing a proposal to the Township for sponsorship so that a grant for financial support can be submitted to agencies such as Trillium.

Speaker: Brian Little presented a slide show which was a continuation of his November account of a family vacation trip to Europe. The trip continued from Scotland through England and France to Schwarzwald in Germany. On the way they visited the castle used as the setting for the Harry Potter movies, now the second most visited tourist sight in Britain! In Paris Brian braved the traffic in the middle of Champs Elysee to get a perfect shot of the Arc de Triomphe showing the dedication of an intrepid photographer. After some rest and relaxation in Schwarzwald the family continued their odyssey which may the subject of another talk.

The meeting was adjourned at ~9:45. \*\*\*\*\*

# PIANO'S STORY

- Sally Bowen

A piano was donated by Garth Orchard, Allan Glenn's uncle, to the Presbyterian Church when the

church hall was newly opened. About 20 years later it was donated to Marty and Becky, temporary residents of the Drumgoole home. Kyle Murray now co-owns and lives there so the piano became his. It had not been worked on



Photo from Catherine Glenn Chris as a young girl with her three brothers Garth, Keith, and Brian

in many years, and its future was in doubt.

However, Kyle recently purchased a solar system from Jens Naumann who as a hobby rebuilds and tunes pianos. He worked for several hours, for love of an old instrument, to clean, repair and tune the piano. His skill is possibly enhanced by his lack of sight.

The lovely old Stanley piano has a new lease on life. I wanted to trace the story of the piano, and learned some Island history.

Chris Glenn Greg and her two brothers, Keith and Garth emigrated from Wales to Amherst Island, where the brothers worked as farm helpers. Although both parents still lived, their tailor father was unable to find work during the Depression, so both were "Home Boys"; transportation paid in exchange for farm labour. Garth came first, at age 14, to work for the Percy

Tugwells, 2nd concession. He was lonely, wrote to his brother, who came to work on the adjacent Hill farm. Chris first moved to Manitoba. working as a nanny. After a year her brothers found rooms for Chris in the Brick House in Stella, (formerly a hotel), where she was companion/caregiv er for an elderly lady. When there, she met a dashing young man named Herbert (Bert)



Photo from Catherine Glenn Chris and Bert Glenn on their wedding.

Glenn. They were married before she was 20. Their parents emigrated later, with younger sister Daphne and brother Brian and lived for a time in the house where Hugh Filson now lives.

Brian and Garth joined the air force, and tragically, Brian was killed in WW ll on his first mission. He was 18 years old. Garth worked as a tailor, his dad's trade, for the air force in Trenton, and later at Tip Top Tailors. He moved to Toronto where he raised a family. After his wife died, he moved to Bath, living there with his brother Keith.

He was very musical, played several instruments, and regained close contact with the Presbyterian Church and with Beth through the church music committee. When the church hall was opened, Garth located and donated the piano that now lives in Kyle's house.

\*\*\*\*\*

# MY RIDING ADVENTURE

- Zander of DUNN INN

We had name and home tags on our bikes. A man rode up behind me and said, "Zander. I only know one other person named Zander, my nephew."

A woman on overtaking me asked, "Where is Stella?" I told her, "On Amherst Island." She asked, "Where is Amherst Island?" I told her it was near Kingston.

I saw a young woman named Sara from Kingston who told me she went to Queen's and worked as a Sergeant at Old Fort Henry. I told her I was in the Fort Henry Guard in 1959 and my son, Scott, became captain of the guard in 1984. The three of us compared experiences for kilometres and kilometres.

All that within the first morning of the Enbridge Ride to Conquer Cancer which took 4,852 of us bicyclists 200 kms from Toronto to Niagara Falls. We raised a

total of \$18.1 million to support the work at Princess Margaret Hospital in Toronto, one of the top five research centres in the world.

I rode with 12 others on the "Get It Dunn" team all dressed in orange jerseys which really stood out among the colours of the other teams. We also stood out because of the amount of money we raised - \$46,900.

On the first day we set out at 8:45 a.m. and rode through

rain and wind to cover 94 kms before we got to Mohawk College in Hamilton. Of course, at the end of the ride that day, the sun came out. On the way we enjoyed several pit stops for food, water and medical assistance such as sun screen and butt balm (to alleviate chafing in our padded shorts). One sympathetic supporter held up a big sign which said, "Padded shorts are sexy." We had many sexy people on the ride. When we stopped for lunch we were served chicken, humus and crackers, carrot sticks and cake. No junk food or pop was to be seen. We ate fruit and drank well. We were encouraged to drink and drink and drink ... water.

The camp at Mohawk College, which we reached about 4:30 p.m. was a model of organization: over 2,000 blue two-person tents, several transports filled with showers, scores of port-a-potties, a huge dining tent, many specialty tents promoting cycling products, and even a yoga tent. After a great meal we were entertained by a good and loud band and then heard doctors from Princess Margaret assure us the money we raised would benefit many. We were impressed that 391 doctors, nurses and researchers from Princess Margaret took part in the ride. We were also impressed that 625 staff called "servers" paid money to volunteer to help us riders by setting up toilets, erecting tents, guarding our bikes overnight, directing traffic, aiding riders in distress. The highlight were speeches by a rider who had conquered cancer and by a woman whose husband had been killed by cancer and who was undergoing chemotherapy herself. She said that in our honour she had donned her best wig.

I was impressed by the gratitude of the ride officials for what we were doing. I was amazed at the number of riders who had conquered cancer. I was reminded that each of us knew somebody who had died or had defeated cancer or was fighting cancer and that it was for them that we were doing all this. There was nothing

"religious" about this event but I felt much caring, support, and love among the riders and from those who were leading, organizing and directing the event.

This was a ride, not a competition, so we had good fun joking with each other as we passed on the left or conversed about matters of mutual concern. One woman almost stopped to investigate when I told her that her rear



Photo from the Dunn family

The 'GET IT DUNN' team includes left to right: Zander Dunn and his three sons Marc, Scott and Kirk.

wheel was going around. A team of riders, sponsored by a plumbing company, all sported plungers or toilets on their helmets. Others had brushes stuck to their helmets to show they were from an office-cleaning company. One group stuck out because they had coloured pipe cleaners woven into their helmets. Our team was conspicuous because of our orange jerseys which advertised the "Get It Dunn" team which stated we were "strong together."

The second day of the ride began at 7:30 a.m. and we had good weather to enjoy the scenic Niagara district. Fortunately most of the hills went down, not up, so I achieved my top speed of 62 kms per hour. My average speed was 21 kms so there must have been some hills we had to climb too.

Many people cheered us on our way with shouts, cheers, bells and whistles. Many cancer survivors held up signs to thank us for raising the money to help conquer cancer. At one turn in the road I was surprised to hear a young couple shouting "Go, Zander, Go. Hurray for Zander." I didn't recognize them but figured I should know them if they knew my name. My oldest son, Scott, later confessed that he had gone ahead of me and told the couple that an old guy in an orange jersey was coming along and his name was Zander so they should cheer especially for him, which they did. I was relieved that I didn't have to try to figure out who they were.

Our team really bonded well during the ride. Everything was positive. We cooperated, we upheld each other, we waited for one another to catch up, we got to know each other. There were no losers and nobody was defeated. We all finished together about 2:30 to the cheers of the crowd of thousands at Niagara Falls. We felt like heroes.

We started out simply to ride, have fun and achieve a goal but we were told we were heroes; we were hailed as heroes; we began to believe perhaps we had done something heroic.

But all the riders knew the heroes were the people for whom we were riding – the victims of cancer. My three sons, Scott, Kirk and Marc, and I were all riding to honour their mother and my wife, Nance, who is a

cancer survivor and whom we love and consider a heroine. We also rode for the many on Amherst Island and for the many whom we knew in the rest of the world who are dealing with cancer. My sons took care of me (much to my wife's relief) and we all finished the ride without any injuries or mishaps. It was one of the

# ART SHOW & SALE AT

# Coffee Plus

We are excited to announce that we are now featuring a display of art in the gallery room beside the main café. Artists will be displaying their work on a rotational basis.

During the month of July, Brian Little, photographer and Jeff Gill, Fabric Artist will be displaying their art. Brian is a photo artist living on Amherst Island who enjoys a variety of photographic settings including landscapes, fine art and wild life. Jeff likes being with nature and creates fabric art scenes from photos he has taken of nature and wildlife.

While visiting the gallery, you can also enjoy your favorite coffee, tea and espresso drinks. The café offers comfortable seating, complimentary daily newspapers and free internet access.

The Café/Gallery is open from 7 am to 7 pm on weekdays and from 8 am to 7 pm on weekends.

# Town Coffee Plus Inc. Loyalist Plaza, Amherstview

(adjacent to the Beer Sore)
(613) 389-5668 info@towncoffeeplus.com

best things I've ever done. And it was fun too.

What is the "spiritual" message in all this? I've prayed for an end to cancer. I know my prayer is only going to be answered by people doing something about it. I figured I could ride a bicycle to raise money to end cancer as we support the doctors and researchers who are on the front lines. I figured each of us can be part of the answer to prayer. Some can ride bicycles; others support them with their gifts. Let's keep on putting our prayers into action.

\*\*\*\*

# SOME EARLY ISLAND RESIDENTS

- Eric Bowler

# JOHN RICHARDS AND JANE HOWARD

John Richards was the son of Lieut. Jean Richard and his wife Alice Wemple (or Wemp), nee Connor. He had been born in Fort Hunter, New York about 1763 and was buried at Amherst Island almost a hundred years later on 28 December, 1860. He was of French and Indian ancestry.

He married Jane Howard (1772-1812), daughter of John Howard Sr. and Mary Hall on 26 January 1795 at St. Paul's Anglican Church in Fredericksburg.

They settled on Amherst Island under a lease arrangement with Sir John Johnson. We have not found what year they came to the Island but by 1798 John Richards was well enough settled to serve as an Amherst Island constable. On Dec 24, 1824, they purchased Lot #1, Concession 1, Amherst Island from Catherine Maria Bowes (Sir John's daughter).

It is very difficult to assess the personality or style of living of someone who is so far removed from our acquisitive era, but it does appear that John Richards Jr. was of a very quiet and retiring disposition. His ancestors, although coming from humble working people had played interesting and adventurous parts in the history of France and of New France. John Richards himself, although living in stirring times, could not even bring himself to take any part in the American Revolution.

John was of suitable age to fight in the American Revolution, but he avoided any commitment. Both his father, Jean Richard, and his uncle, Owen Richards, joined the British forces and were considered United Empire Loyalists, but John Richards Junior was never considered a Loyalist. His two land petitions were requested and approved as "the son of a subaltern in the British forces" and none of his children ever applied for land as sons and daughters of a Loyalist.

Luckily the extreme simplicity of life on Amherst Island that coincided with his years suited his casual temperament. Food was easily grown, caught or collected. The Island was amazingly healthy despite the difficult winters. Swamp fever (malaria) was common on the mainland but Amherst Island's constant light breeze kept the Island untouched. The neighbours were in that happy condition of being neither wealthy nor poverty-stricken and so there was no need to attempt to excel them or to bring comfort, learning and elegance into daily family life.

Perhaps if his wife had survived her child-bearing years she may have added a spark of drive and ambition to an otherwise placid family group.

Children of John Richards and Jane Howard:

- 1. Elizabeth Connor Richards (1796-1877) m. John Richard Bleecker.
- 2. Margaret Richards. Baptized by Rev. Langhorn 28Feb 1798. Died at age 86, in Hallowell Township, Ont., 1 Oct 1884. Unmarried.
- 3. Alice Richards (1800-1870) m. George Bleecker.
- 4. Mary Richards (1802-1828). m. John Nugent
- 5. Jane Richards (1805-1894) m. Joseph Dennee.
- 6. Rachel Hawley Richards (Bapt. 31Jan 1808- ). No other record.
- 7. John Howard Richards (1810-1897) m. Mary (Quintell) Roberts.
- 8. Colin McKenzie Richards (Bapt 2Nov 1812- ). No further record.

\*\*\*\*

# From an E-mail to Sally Bowen

- Jonathan Bradshaw

The gun position at Amherst Island during the war of 1812 was a 2 gun battery of 9 pounder long barrel smooth bore cannons.

The position was just about 100m south from the place where we set up our guns for the event and the outline can still be seen today.

It would have been constructed of wooden logs spiked or pinned together about three feet high and then had a berm of dirt on the water side to stop bullets.

The base under the guns was probably cleaned down to the bare stone or may have been layed in rough hewn lumber to form a smooth floor for the guns.

In 1812 there would have been several wooden structures of some sort to house the soldiers and probably a few tents.

The soldiers would have lived on the island for a period of time and then been replaced by others and rotated back to Kingston or elsewhere in Upper Canada.

I would expect there were probably only about 8-10 artillery troops, 1 sergent, possibly 1 officer plus a few women/cooks and there may have been a small detachment of infantry.

The local island inhabitants at the outbreak of war would have formed a militia and probably had a few of their younger men trained on the use of the guns.

It was common practice to get extra people, infantry or militia trained on the use of artillery to assist the small number of trained artillery troops.

We practice this today and you will sometimes see a mixed crew manning a gun wearing Artillery (Blue), Infantry (red) and militia (normal clothes) during our demonstrations.

For the event we brought three guns the biggest of which was a 6pdr and the other two were 3pdrs all on field carriages.

This was not a really good example of the guns of the time since as I said the guns were 9pdrs but the reality is that there simply isn't anybody in the hobby with guns that big that can be moved

A 9pdr gun as it would have been in 1812 on the island weighs about 1200-1400lbs and is very hard to move quickly. The guns we brought over wieghed between 400lbs and 1000lbs.

On field carriages they are designed to be easy to move on the large wheels but on garrison carriages they have

very small wheels so are hard to move.

The event gave us a chance to relive at least for a few minutes what the gunners and militia would have seen had they been there in November 1812.

Manning the Bluffs.

The Flight of the Royal George was the biggest reenactment for the war of 1812 planned this year and probably the biggest for the bicentennial in sheer size and scope of activity.

I hope all who came out to see us shoot on the island or in Bath and Kingston were well entertained as it will be many years before something like it is attempted again.

PS: we are always looking for a few new members who have time to come out to train with us and learn the history. Anyone interested in joining I encourage you to look up the Canadian Fencibles on the web and click on contact us.

# From an E-mail to Jonathan Bradshaw

- Sally Bowen

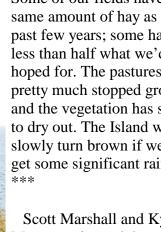
Warm thanks to all the participants for the work. We've had several Islanders say they enjoyed the event immensely - I know the tall ship in the harbour was a hit - and some of the lifelong Islanders had never been to the bluffs so it was a great neighbourhood event.

# HERE & THERE

- Ian Murray

Following several green summers, Amherst Island once again has the start of a dry summer. We farmers are striving to gather up whatever hay we can find.

Some of our fields have the same amount of hay as the past few years; some have less than half what we'd hoped for. The pastures have pretty much stopped growing and the vegetation has started to dry out. The Island will slowly turn brown if we don't get some significant rain. \*\*\*



Scott Marshall and Kyle Murray estimated that they helped park about 60 vehicles for the re-enactment. There Photo by Brian Little were also about a dozen vehicles at Finlay's. Also,

there were people watching the "flight" along the shore from the Head east all along the Island shoreline.

We were all very lucky that it was a sunny day with a southerly wind. The historical event took place in November and there was little wind.

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Thank You for the cards, gift, food and best wishes on our 25th Wedding Anniversary. A special thank you to our daughters Alicia and Danielle for such a great party. Laurene Kilpatrick did a fantastic job on a 4 tier anniversary cake. Thanks also to Talia Fleming for the music and all the other the jobs she helped with.

Thank you also to Rick Bedford, Larry and Lyn Fleming for running the bar. We are so thankful to have so many friends, family and Islanders to celebrate with us. Celebrations. Again this year we were able to add some

Dan and Valerie Wolfreys

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Victoria Leigh hosted a meet Victoria party on June 16th to meet her Island friends and thank them for their generosity in welcoming her into the Island community. She is the very welcome first grandchild for George and Ida Gavlas and fourth great granddaughter for Leslie Gavlas.



Victoria Leigh

The proud

grandparents wish to thank all the generous Islanders for their best wishes, gifts and sharing of our joy. Community is so important in life and Victoria will be very fortunate to have this one for her roots and many happy times ahead. She will be enjoying her first Canada Day on the Island and will be meeting those she missed on the 16th.

Thank you all again for welcoming her to her future community with such a generous, warm, loving and caring extended family.

Granny and Grampa Gavlas \*\*\*

The Amherst Island Recreation Association would once again like to thank everyone for celebrating Canada Day on the Amherst Island. Thanks to our community for participating in the parade - or being out to watch it. Special thanks to Brooke Reid, for taking care of the kids games; Amherst Island Emergency Services, for all of their help with the parade and being on standby for the fireworks; & "The Islanders" band for providing great entertainment for 2 hours - without a break - following the parade.

Thanks to Loyalist Township and Algonquin Energy for their financial support. We would especially like to thank everyone who, through-out the year, support A.I.R.A, by attending the Spring Dance/Fish Fry, the Harvest Festival, the Emerald Music Festival canteens, our bar at Pub Nights, and private functions etc. Every penny we make, including tips, goes to Canada Day money to the fireworks budget & replace many of the flags in the Village. The free hotdog and drink is just a

> small token of our thanks and appreciation for our community!

> Rick, Larry and Lynn [Editor: the community, I think, owes much to you folks for your years of dedication.]

My sincere thank you for the flowers, gifts, cards and calls following my recent surgery. Your thoughts and deeds of kindness are much appreciated.

Gord Miller

We are so very grateful for the caring and professional response

to John's emergency on June 15 by our island Emergency Services.

Jacob Murray, along with John Mayman and Don Miller, brought welcome reassurance and calm along with their response.

We are indeed fortunate to live in this special place. Thanks to all.

Ann and John Adams

Photo by Ida Gavlas

# **GARDEN PARTY:**

# Saturday, July 28, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Come to The 64th Annual Garden Party at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church to enjoy the Quilt display in the redecorated sanctuary, to spend some quiet time in the tea room, to purchase good home baking, to examine wonderful previously owned clothing, to pick out a pickle, a plant or a preserve, to relish good gourmet hamburgers and hotdogs, to delight in a piece of homemade pie with ice cream, to participate in both a silent and a live auction, to purchase some good used books, to discover some valuable treasures, to take a chance on the raffle, to see the kids have fun at the post office and the fish pond, to share a wonderful day with your friends, on Saturday, July 28, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. \*\*\*\*

# MYSTERIOUS WORLD OF MUSHROOMS

- Birthe Jorgensen

Weekend Mushroom Workshop at the Lodge Sat. & Sun. September 29 & 30

Last summer, David and I announced to our children that we were planning to engage in new risk taking behavior on Amherst Island—collecting and eating mushrooms. Our everresourceful daughter Stoney immediately sent us a link to a workshop on mushroom identification at the Koffler Scientific Reserve and demanded we take it.

During that memorable workshop, led by Richard Aaron, naturalist, http://natureknowledge.weebly.com/abou t.html, we discovered much more about the world at our feet during our walks and collecting on Amherst Island. We think our survival in our new hobby is testament to Richard's engaging educational skills. This fall, Richard has agreed to lead a two day mushroom workshop on Amherst Island at Owl Woods and The Lodge—open to daystudents as well as those wishing the full gamut of accommodation, meals and learning at that wonderful facility.

Mushrooms—where are they, what might they be thinking, how can they save the world, to eat or not to eat, edible but not palatable—these are the questions Richard will help us explore.

Details of costs will be posted shortly on The Lodge website, or call 613-634-1388 or toll free 1-866-552-3535.

The Inaugural "WOOLY BULLY RACES"

<u>DATE:</u> Sunday, August 19, 10:15 a.m. <u>RACES:</u> 5/10 kilometres on an out and back route that will be traffic free. There will be at least 2 aid stations. Each kilometer will be marked.

<u>LOCATION</u>: Start and finish at the Municipal Works Facility, Stella 40'. <u>RACE FEES</u>: \$25 per runner. This fee covers race costs including the fare to

ride the Amherst Island Ferry, with the rest being directed to the race charity.

<u>T-SHIRTS:</u> Order a "Wooly Bully Races" cotton t-shirt when your register online. The sizes are S, M, L & XL with a unisex fit.

<u>RACE PROCEEDS:</u> Proceeds from this event will be directed to the Amherst Island Public School.

# 2012 Summer Events at The Lodge on Amherst Island

# **July 2012**

# **Lucy Manley Workshop Loyalist College**

www.loyalistbanner.com/ceweb/doc/2012clickableSummerArts.pdf July 15, 2012 to July 20, 2012

# August 2012

# **Tammy Shane Art Show**

www.tammyshane.com Opening Reception Saturday August 4, 2012 2pm-5pm

# Andy Sookrah Workshop Loyalist College

www.loyalistbanner.com/ceweb/doc/2012clickableSummerArts.pdf August 8, 2012 to August 12, 2012

# John Pryce Workshop Loyalist College

www.loyalistbanner.com/ceweb/doc/2012clickableSummerArts.pdf August 19, 2012 to August 24, 2012

# September 2012

# **Christine Jamieson Art Show**

www.christinejamieson.com Opening Reception Saturday September 1, 2012 2pm-5pm

# **Mushroom Hunting Workshop**

Richard Aaron, Naturalist http://natureknowledge.weebly.com/about.html Saturday, September 29, 2012 to Sunday September 30, 2012

# October 2012

## **All Island Art Show**

"Anything Goes" Saturday October 6, 2012 Opening Reception 2pm-5pm

If you would like further information on the events listed above please contact the Lodge at 613.634.1388 or at thelodgeonamherstisland@gmail.com

<u>REGISTRATION:</u> Register at www.eventsonline.ca under "Amherst Island Wooly Bully Races"

Online registration closes on Friday, August 17<sup>th</sup> at 11:59 p.m. There will be no race day registration. TIMING/RESULTS: This race will be scored without the use of timing chips but we will capture all times at the finish line and a full set of results will the produced. The official results will be sent out via email.

<u>AWARDS/PRIZES</u>: The top runners, male and female, in both races will be presented prizes courtesy of "Runner's Choice," Kingston. The rest of the loot will be given out as draw prizes.

<u>POST RACE:</u> Runners will be served light refreshments after the race prior to the awards presentation and draw prize give away. "Post," post race we encourage runners to head over to the "Stella Café" for a late breakfast before boarding the ferry back to the mainland.

<u>INFORMATION</u>: Contact Joe Du Vall via email at joeduvall@rogers.com or Carol Sinclair, carolasinclair@rogers.com – If you insist, contact Joe at 613-292-7102, evenings only.

[The race organizers, Joe and Carol, "were visiting Judy and Anthony and talking about the beauty of the Island and how we have often run the Wolfe Island race in July and why doesn't Amherst Island have a run? The conversation evolved to a fund-raising event . . . . "]

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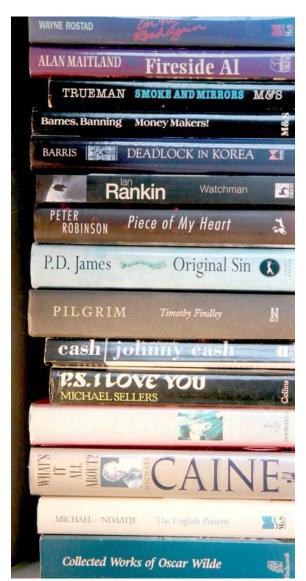


Photo by Terry Culbert Annual Island Radio Used Book Sale is Saturday, August 4<sup>th</sup> between 9am and 1pm in the drive shed next to the radio station. If you have books, don't toss them out... recycle with us. No text books or magazines please



**Photo by Terry Culbert** 

SPECIES BIOBLITZ: John Poland, a retired Queens professor and author of the 'Pictorial Pocket Guide to the Butterflies of the Kingston Region', leads a group of adults and children on a 'live and identify' butterfly hunt. The event was part of the 24-hour BioBlitz put on by the Kingston Field Naturalists. It took place Friday, June 15 through Saturday, June 16 on the Caughey-Bermann property at the Head.

# Canada Day Parade in Stella



Photo by Terry Culbert The Amherst Island Women's Institute, the fourth oldest chapter in the world



Photo by Terry Culbert The McGinn family watching the Canada Day parade.



Photo by Terry Culbert Sam gets to ride in the Loyalist fire truck with his father Don Miller.



Photo by Terry Culbert Loyalist Township Councillor Duncan Ashley water bombs the parade crowd.



Photo by Terry Culbert Judy Bierma on board her hog wearing her Elton John googles.

# WAR Of 1812: the FLIGHT Of The ROYAL GEORGE

Terry Culbert

On Nov. 9th, 1812 the USS Oneida and six gunboats under the command of Commodore Isaac Chauncey lay in wait off the False Duck islands in hope of intercepting HMS Royal George. The 22-gun corvette was the largest war ship on the Lake and was commanded by Commodore Hugh Earle of the Provincial Marine.

The following day, the Royal George was sighted on its way back from Fort George. Chauncey and his squadron gave chase through the Upper Gap, between Amherst Island and the eastern-tip of Prince Edward County. Heading east, the Royal George eventually made it to the safety of Kingston.

On the 30<sup>th</sup> of June, 2012, the owners of Topsy Farms invited the public to view the re-enactment from their property at the Head of Amherst Island. The turnout was beyond expectations. From two vantage points, spectators were able to watch a sight that was straight out of the movies. Three cannons, manned by volunteers in British military period costumes, fired at the American warships. The Americans fired back... it was a 200- year old history lesson taking place before our eyes!



Photo by Terry Culbert Huge crowds line the ridge overlooking the Upper Gap from Topsy Farms.



Photo by Brian Little The American boats chase the Royal George into the Upper Gap.



Photo by Terry Culbert The British fire at the American warships.



**Photo by Terry Culbert** 

The American fire back

# **BEACON ADS**

#### **COTTAGE FOR RENT** - North of Toronto

I have a family cottage near the Briars Park, Jackson's Point, Lake Simcoe north of Toronto. Does anyone know of someone interested in renting? I want renters who are 'recommended' - not strangers.

Sally 613 389-3444

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#### 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

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#### BETTY'S HOME COOKING

My Market Goodies are available!

Plus if you want a full meal to go... a few days notice and your cooking for company is over.

Call Betty 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 pro-biotic, 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 ACCOMMODATION:

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

\*\*\*

#### FOR RENT

House in the village is available by the weekend or the week. Contact - Jan Sydorko at 519-451-1197 or email to michael.sydorko@sympatico.ca

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#### GODDEN'S WHOLE HOG SAUSAGE

We would like to thank 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 Chilli & Lime; Maple Breakfast; and Salt & Pepper Breakfast.

Now selling packages of 4 sausages!!

See more at: "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.

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#### 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.

#### ISLAND YOGA

Call Taggett for more information 613 888-5156 \*\*\*

### POPLAR DELL FARM BED & BREAKFAST

3190 FRONT ROAD, AMHERST ISLAND

Welcoming guests for over 30 years.

Also, Cottage Rentals and Godden Sausage sales.

Call Susie @ 613-389-2012

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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 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.

# STELLA'S CAFÉ

During the season the Café 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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#### 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

### 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** has a 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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#### THE VILLAGE GALLERY

The Gallery will open on weekends and holiday Mondays from 10 am - 4 pm.

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#### 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.

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#### 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 .

\*\*\*

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

The Weasel and the Museum will be open 7 days a week, 1 - 4pm, except Saturdays, 10am - 4pm. Call 613 634-9512. There are many new and unusual items available.

# Neilson's Store Museum and Cultural Centre Genealogy Saturdays

Visit the museum between 10:00 and 12:00 Mrs. Joyce Brown will be available to answer questions and lead you through family trees.

# ...a couple more pictures from the Bluffs



Photo by Terry Culbert

The Murray family of Topsy Farms check out the battlefield.



Photo by Brian Little Cannon fire