

The Amherst Island BEACON

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April 2004



THIS ISSUE

For us on the Island, fire safety should be constantly on our minds. Each of us is not only responsible for ourselves, but for our neighbours as well.

NEIGHBOURHOOD

- Lyn Fleming

First of all, my apologies for an error in last month's Beacon. Get well wishes were to go to Phyllis HENDERDSON, not Phyllis Strain. So get well soon Phyllis Henderson.

Also get well wishes this month to Ann Turner, Freda Youell, and Warren Kilpatrick.

Our condolences this month to Carman Hewitt on the recent passing of his son in Oshawa.

Congratulations to first time Grandparents Gary and Susan Filson, who are overjoyed to announce the safe arrival of their granddaughter, Emma Isabelle, born to Kristy and Nelson Cabral in Mississauga. Emma weighed in at 8lbs 6ozs and has already met her proud Uncle Derek and will meet Aunt Ashley Filson at Easter. Emma is the first great grandchild for Harry and Barbara Filson and first great niece for Uncle Bob and Aunt Val Howard. A great niece for Ted Welbanks and (late) Heather Welbanks, (Aunt Heather would have been so proud of her little great nieces)! First great, great niece for Catherine and Wallace Wemp.

Spring Break was in March so a few families took advantage to escape

"As for myself, I am always forgetting what it was I wasn't going to write about. What I wasn't going to say again." Catherine Hunter



The home of Diane Pearce in the Village, lost to a fire on April 5th (see pg 20)

someplace warm, with Florida being the popular destination. Tom and Lynn deHaan and boys spent time with family in the Fort Lauderdale area; Alan Kidd and Judy Roberts and girls spent time with family in Kentucky and the Florida panhandle; Dick and Ardis Shurtleff and family spent the week in Las Vegas; Rachel Scott went with Grandma Janet to Toronto for 4 days (a big trip for a 5 year old!) to visit family; John and Vicky Keith Monro ran their kids swim camp in Cocoa Beach again this year, and took some time to unwind as well; Paul and Nancy Henshaw headed south of the border as well to rest and relax; and, Stephanie and I did some touring in North Carolina and Georgia before ending up at Mom's in Orlando.

Which brings us to Spring. As I write this, the sun is shining and the temperature has been above freezing for several days, so we are hoping Spring has come. We left for our holiday just ahead of another winter storm and hoped when we returned Spring would be here. We forgot that we had New York state to deal with!! It started to snow (lake effect) at the NY/

PA state line and continued to snow and blow right up to a few miles from the Canadian border, where the sun was out and the roads were dry, but boy was it cold!

There are calves starting to appear in the fields, but no lambs or fawns yet. The geese and robins are back in full force, (haven't seen any snow birds yet!) and the bulbs are starting to poke up in the gardens. The ice isn't gone from the bay quite yet, but is looking pretty "rotten" so a good wind in the right direction may take that away soon.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

- Nancy Dunn



For the fifth Rural Ontario Sharing Education (ROSE) program of its season the Amherst Island Women's Institute invited the public to its meeting at 7 p.m.

Continued on page 2



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BL:Brian Little
...others as noted.

~Passings~

FREDA ETHEL MacCRIMMON

(1920-2004)

Freda MacCrimmon died peacefully at Rideaucrest Home on March 13, 2004. She is survived by her sister Phylis Myers and children: David, Stuart, Marcia and Judy. Predeceased by her husband Hector and sons, Michael and Greg.

Freda and family lived in Emerald in the 1950s and 1960s. Her son Stuart still owns the family house in Emerald as well as the farmland to the south of Emerald.

CLARENCE ARTHUR KEARNEY

(1918-2004)

Arthur Kearney died suddenly at KGH on March 20, 2004. He was the son of Wallace Kearney and Miriam Jane McGinn. He was part of a large family that lived on the Front Road where Rick Bedford now resides.

He is survived by his wife Helen and children: Wallace, Helen, Jean, Janice, Sheila, and David. Also survived by: siblings Gerald, Don, Mary, Edna, and Laurine. Predeceased by his parents and siblings John, Wallace, Alice, Ruth, Jean, and Doris.

During the war he served as a petty officer in the navy. He then worked at Alcan from 1948 to 1982.

Happy Birthday to WI members Anna Hitchins and Marian Glenn



WI Report: Continued from page 1

on Wed. 17 March 2004.

Between 35 and 40 people gathered at St. Paul's Church Hall for an information session on Abbeyfield Retirement Homes. Stan Sherry has been active in not-for-profit housing in Kingston for 24 years and is the vice-chair of the Abbeyfield Houses Society of Kingston Inc. which was established in 2001. He explained the history and concept of Abbeyfield which is the largest non-profit volunteer-based housing support service in the world.

Begun in England in 1956 this housing program is designed to provide care and companionship for 5 to 10 residents who choose no longer to live alone. It gives independence with social support in a small residential, barrier-free home-like setting. Personal nursing care is not provided although help with a weekly bath, for example, can be arranged from outside providers. It is appropriate for seniors with modest retirement incomes who have been living alone. Such people sometimes feel lonely and isolated and have difficulty shopping, preparing meals and handling household chores. As a result they tend to become depressed or develop other health problems. At Abbeyfield a house co-ordinator shops, prepares lunch and dinner and manages the household. Each resident looks after his/her own breakfast from the home's food supplies. The monthly room (furnished with one's own furniture) and board for a resident is dependent on initial capital costs and local operating costs but usually ranges from \$900. to \$1500.

The Greater Kingston area has the second or third highest concentration of seniors (65+) in Canada! The Abbeyfield Society there hopes to have found an appropriate home or build a one-story one on a donated or reasonably priced property in Kingston by 2006. However, much needs to be done before this dream will become a reality. As for rural homes there are a few among the 29 existing (and 8 planned) Abbeyfield Houses in Canada. If environmental, zoning and water supply criteria are met it is likely that Amherst Island would qualify for such a home too. Additional challenges for a rural setting include: finding capital funding sources, accessing and maintaining strong community volunteer support and providing accessibility to core regional health, social and transportation services. In many municipalities, faith communities (churches) and service clubs assist in some of these aspects. Mr. Sherry recommended an excellent book published by Self Counsel Press - Canada: "Making the Right Move: Housing Options for Seniors" by Gillian Eades Telford.

Following a question period and a vote of thanks Mr. Sherry chatted with several people over a delicious lunch of fruit, cheese and crackers provided by Elsie Willard, Judi Harrower and Jocelyn Leyton. Shortly before 9 p.m., guests having departed, the monthly business meeting

was held with Joyce Haines presiding. Fifteen W.I. members welcomed a further guest, Rosemary Richmond, who spoke briefly on the proposed Amherst Island Radio Station and handed out questionnaires to any who had not already received one.

Minutes were read and approved and the chief correspondence shared by the secretary was an invitation to all women to attend the A.C.W.'s April 14th meeting at 7 p.m. where the speaker will be a dynamic cancer survivor, Wendy Blake. Please note the venue will be St. Paul's Church Hall.

Standing committee reports were heard and members reminded that they need to have their volunteer hours with W.I. tallied for the next meeting.

Work on the phone directories continues with the copy for 58 advertisements now being in the hands of the compositor.

President Joyce Haines announced that stone mason Bill Hedges has agreed to teach volunteer fence builders some of the skills required to rebuild the Pentland Cemetery wall. Fourteen souls (and bodies) have offered their services to this project so far and more would be welcome. Purchase of a commercial dishwasher for the community centre is a step nearer with donations having been received from the A.C.W., P.C.W., and AIMS and investigations made into makes and models. Any further financial aid will be gratefully accepted.

The W.I. is paying the postal costs of the April Cancer Drive on the Island. As in the

past if you will use the envelopes provided volunteer credit will go to the W.I.

A nominating committee is hard at work trying to fill executive positions for next year. Their report will be received and the installation of the new officers will take place at the annual meeting which will be held on Wed. 21 April at 7 p.m. at the home of Joyce Haines. Members are reminded to bring money as annual dues will be collected and a brown bag auction will be part of the program. The meeting closed with the singing of God Save the Queen.

JANET'S JOTTINGS

- Janet Scott

For those who are experiencing their first Spring on Amherst Island, you are about to see an amazing transformation. The signs are beginning around us as the Willows take on a yellow tinge and the roadside bushes get more burgundy in

colour. Before long the entire Island will be green, a glowing green and so many shades of green, more than you can imagine. If you look along the south sides of buildings that slope to the southern exposure you can see the dead brown grasses reviving and even in late March that green has begun. By May we won't be able to keep ahead of the grass growing on our lawns and be complaining again but for now we are awakened and enlivened by that hint of green, that promise of Spring.

The chorus of birds in the early morning announces the new season. The Red-winged Blackbirds, Common Grackles and Cowbirds arrived back this past week and the air is alive with their morning song.

The Killdeer, vocus vociferous, is back and your quiet walks along the Southshore are now a thing of the past as like an annoying yapping dog he accompanies you on your way with re-



Peter Large, S.C.A.



The township office in the Village

TR

in trees or on wires. How these large wading birds became tree nesters is difficult to fathom but Adam or Keith Millar can tell you all about heronries and the Great Blue's habit of nesting in large colonies in the tops of trees.

I was glad to see my favourite duck back in the ponds along the Stella Forty Foot. I think the

peated killdeer, killdeer. Not content to escort you off his turf, he will then fly ahead of you and start that noise all over again.

Those of us blessed with old, or is it more polite to call them, heritage houses are experiencing the annual awakening of the flies and ladybugs. They come out of hibernation and gather in every sunny window but are so dopey they drop in your cup of tea or buzz drunkenly and annoyingly against lights. Ah the joys of Spring!

The Eastern Phoebe's are back and trying to catch the flies even those still buzzing under glass. They are a slightly larger flycatcher than the Peewee and you will notice they pump their tails up and down while perching. They arrive back from migration in late March while the Peewee will show up in May. Both are flycatchers with darker backs than their lighter breasts and hard to tell apart but listen for the husky FEE BEE of the Phoebe while the Eastern Wood-Pee-wee will whistle its PEEWEE with clear notes and a rising note.

Doug Lamb reports that the Great Blue Herons are back. These magnificent flyers with bowed wings and long legs stretched backwards will suddenly look so strange and out of place as they land

Pintail is an elegant duck. He joins the Mallards and American Black Ducks as a puddle duck along water edges tipping his bottom in the air as he feeds but when he surfaces that white up his neck gives us the impression that he is proud and haughty and with disdain he paddles serenely across the pond.

His head is chocolate brown and the tail feathers are long black, elongated feathers that extend beyond his wedge-shaped tail. His sides are grayish-silver.

The House Finches are singing happily again as the weather improves and you can hear Flickers calling in the wooded areas.

The Song Sparrows are back in numbers, some stayed all winter, and they too are singing on territory.

The fields and woods of Amherst Island are awake and noisy and as the sun warms the land, more and more Islanders awaken from hibernation and are seen walking or jogging and more and more Islanders too return from their migration trips.

Welcome Spring!

Good Birding,

COUNCIL CLEANINGS

- Ian Murray

Council received a delegation from the local prisons. Warden Gascon of Bath Institution and Warden Jim Marshall of Millhaven Institution requested "Council's assistance in finding residents who would be interested in serving on the Citizen Advisory Committees (CAC) for the two penitentiaries. . . . They noted that these committees are very important in promoting the Correctional Service in a positive way."

The wardens pointed out "that the two penitentiaries are responsible for approximately \$31 million in salaries and incur \$7 million in operating costs."

The Annual Operating Report for the Amherst Island Waste Disposal Site (aka the Dump) indicates that it now has an anticipated lifespan of 27 years. This is a much longer time than originally estimated and is due to recycling and the bag tag charge.

"The 2003 monitoring program showed, in general, the groundwater and surface water chemistry to be similar to that previously encountered."

Loyalist Township Emergency Services call outs in 2003: Amherst Island, 21; Amherstview, 96; Bath, 64, Odessa, 121. There were 5 more calls than in 2002.

Information from 2001 census (presented to Council by Planner Murray Beckel):

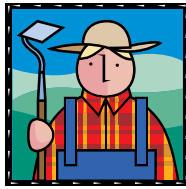
- the population of Ontario increased by 6.1% since the 1996 census (from 10.75 to 11.41 million)
- the population of Loyalist increased by 0.3% over the same period (14.5 to 14.6 thousand)
- foreign born: Ontario, 27%; Loyalist, 9%
- population of Amherst Island: 399 in 1996; 406 in 2001
- private dwellings on Amherst Island in 2001: 264
- median age of population: Ontario, 37.2 years; Amherst Island, 50.7 years.



AIMS for March 2004

- John Kuti

Chairman Zander Dunn.



The minutes from last month's meeting were proposed for acceptance. Brian Little asked that the minutes be altered to reflect the fact that he was born in 1956 not 1954.

Tom Richmond spoke about the proposed survey for a possible radio station on Amherst Island. He explained that a radio station would have to be 25 percent nonmusical content but there was an inexpensive computer program that could be used so that the same nonmusical content would rotate through the day. He explained that it would cost \$3000 to \$5000 a year to run such a station and there would need to be volunteers for at least two hours a day. He explained how the nonmusical portion could be devoted to Island history, to ferry information, to coming events and reports, as well as supporting Island culture in all its varied aspects. He explained how it would take eight months or longer to get governmental permission for a non profit community-based radio station that would broadcast to an area that would reach as far as Amherstview and Bath.

Tom asked members to fill out a survey intended to establish the

interest there might be on the island for such a radio station. He suggested that everyone make sure spouses and children also filled out the survey. After some questions and answers it was clear that such a radio station was feasible and practical if Island interest was sufficient to maintain it. Tom promised to keep members apprised of any further developments as the idea proceeded.

It was decided that AIMS offer the Women's Institute up to half the cost of a dishwasher up to \$500.

New business: John Kuti agreed to put a list of services Aims could supply to people in the monthly Beacon; Bruce Burnett agreed to make a list of volunteers for the Farmers' Market opening in the spring. Bruce Burnett was then made honorary wagonmaster of the AIMS display table.

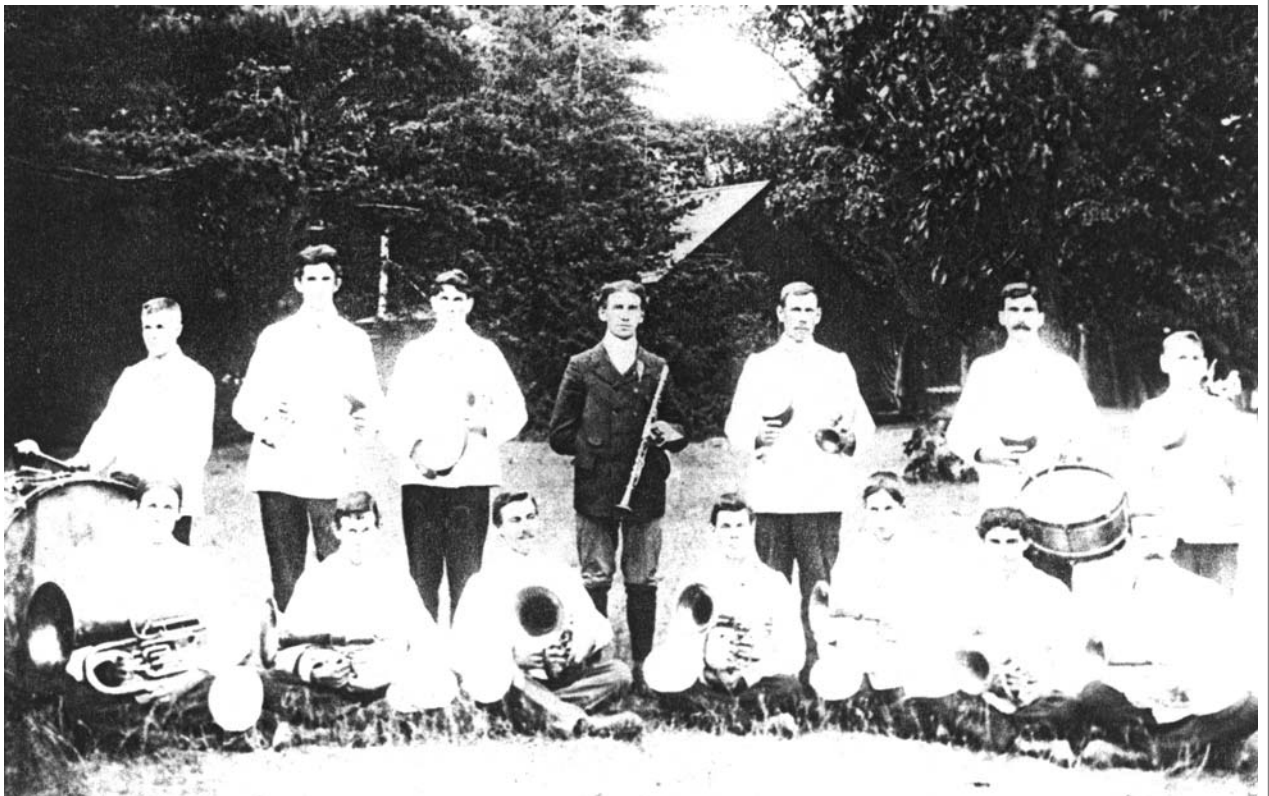
The chairman raised the question of the New Year's Eve Dance Committee. After some discussion a committee was formed including Brian Little, Ken Alberton, Paul Laurett, and Bruce Burnett. Members

agreed that Allen Caughey (who was not present) be asked to be a part of the committee.

Bruce Burnett agreed to bring in a map for the spring road cleanup designations to the next meeting.

Peter Large then spoke about the possible art tour in June. He reported that his committee had established that there were sufficient artists on the Island for such a tour, that the end of June was a feasible time, and there should be an end point where people could gather for food or exhibitions. He also said his committee had agreed that there should be no more than 10 stops on the tour and that it should not be compromised by trying to make it a garden tour as well. He pointed out that most such tours are free and so its potential as a fundraiser was very limited. Members agreed that it was still worth doing and the fund-raising events such as selling food or having an art raffle might be enough to raise money at the gathering point.

There was some discussion about how



This picture appeared in the Beacon's mailbox some time ago- does anyone know who these finely turned out folks are?

the tour would be organized and it was agreed that there probably would be no more than 100 people coming to such a tour, and so the idea of providing transportation to people coming off the ferry was unnecessary. Everyone agreed that the social benefits to such a tour were sufficient to make it worth doing. It was pointed out that on some tours artists paid a commission from their sales, but it was agreed this would limit artists' interest. It was also pointed out that AIMS did not want to raise money from Island artists.

The Chairman pointed out that the next monthly meeting would be April 17th and that ISLE would be doing breakfast for the next two months.

Peter large then spoke to members. He pointed out that the previous month's minutes indicated that he would be speaking on the way an artist might see Amherst Island.

He said he always quarreled with the idea of calling oneself an artist, seeing himself more as an assembler of images. He felt that it was up to others to decide whether his creations rose to the level of art. He explained how he came to become an image maker and why the images on Amherst Island were ones that inspired him. He said he grew up in small villages because his father had always liked them, and so he had formed a close attachment to rural life as he was growing up. He stated that he was an engineer by training and his first degree was in agricultural engineering at Guelph and his next degree was in civil engineering. His first job in the early '60s was in Toronto and he said in those days people actually had an hour for lunch and it was during his lunch hour walks that he discovered the art galleries springing up all over Toronto. Peter told how the Group of Seven was still active and you could actually go in galleries and purchase the work. One of the engineers at his firm was an artist and invited him to a class that he taught, and this experience sparked his first interest. He said he received some tutoring over time but he believed that

artists are mostly self-taught. In Vancouver he belonged to the Federation of Canadian Artists, in Toronto to the Society of Canadian Artists where he was the past president.

Peter then opened a portfolio to show members some of the drawings he made of images on Amherst Island. He explained the circumstances of the creation of some of the images and there were questions-and-answers about the process involved and the time it took to create such images. Peter explained that he worked very carefully, slowly assembling many alternative possibilities in creating a particular final work. He said that the images he finally created came from those that were there for everyone to see, and his job was to notice and assemble them in another form. He said he felt there were enough images on Amherst Island to keep him busy for the rest of his working career.

The chairman thanked Peter and some members gathered around to discuss some of the particular images Peter had shown.

The meeting was then adjourned.



AIR

(Amherst Island Radio)

- Ian Murray

The Amherst Island Radio Feasibility Committee will be holding a membership meeting at **7PM on Tuesday, April 20, at the Community Centre.** There will be a chance to mill about and look at a sample of equipment, look at the AIR survey results and hopefully buy a membership from 7 PM to 7:30 PM.

Memberships are \$10 each and will entitle the bearer to one vote at this meeting and at the first Annual General Meeting sometime in the future. Members will also, it is hoped, provide a pool of volunteers to get the radio station in place and to keep it running.

The first official meeting of AIR will take place from 7:30 pm to 9 pm (at the latest). The agenda will include some technical information from Tom and Alex. Those who have purchased memberships will elect a board of 7 directors. The board will be responsible for developing by-laws, incorporating, and dealing with the matters that need to be dealt with to obtain a radio licence. The challenge of content - what will go out on the air waves - will also be discussed.

A flyer will be sent out to all Island households in about 2 weeks to remind people of this meeting.

AIR SURVEYS

- Ian Murray

Number of surveys returned (as of March 31): 61

Interested in listening to AIR: 65%; Unsure: 17%

Interested in becoming members (Yes, 30% plus Maybe, 10%): 40%

Interested in making a financial or other contribution (Yes, 52% plus Maybe, 10%): 62%.



It is unfortunate that the survey did not make it clear that the survey did not make it clear that AIR is not asking for any taxpayer money. The Beacon is giving AIR \$1000 to get it started. All other money will come from memberships, donations, fund raising and, when AIR is operating, from advertising and sponsorships.

AIR is to be a self-supporting and all-volunteer project - like The Beacon.

AMHERST ISLAND RADIO:



WHY BECOME A MEMBER?

-A.Scott

Simply put, Amherst Island Radio needs your help to become a reality.

Similar to PBS radio and tv stations in the States, members are what makes this kind of station viable. Financial contributions from individual members will make up the bulk of the startup costs and operating budget as the station gets going. It is hoped that additional advertising can be sought to offset some of the ongoing costs of the station as we become more established.

There is no government money foreseen to assist in the startup or operation of this station: the federal program mentioned previously in our release is a rulemaking and legislative one, not a funding vehicle of any kind.

As an independent, not-for-profit radio station, AIR will operate to provide what we hope will be a valuable community service for Amherst Island. We require your support to show the Canadian Radio & Television Commission (CRTC) that we have both the financial & volunteer support in the community for a radio license.

When you join AIR, you join other individuals who care about the issues that affect the community. Membership is open to everyone. By joining AIR you will have a say in the operation of the radio station, be eligible to serve on the Board of Directors of the station and will be able to vote to elect members to the Board of Directors.

Become a member today. You truly can make a difference.

Those at a distance can join by mailing their contribution of \$10 or more to Amherst Island Radio, RRI, Stella, ON K0H2S0.

APRIL SKIES

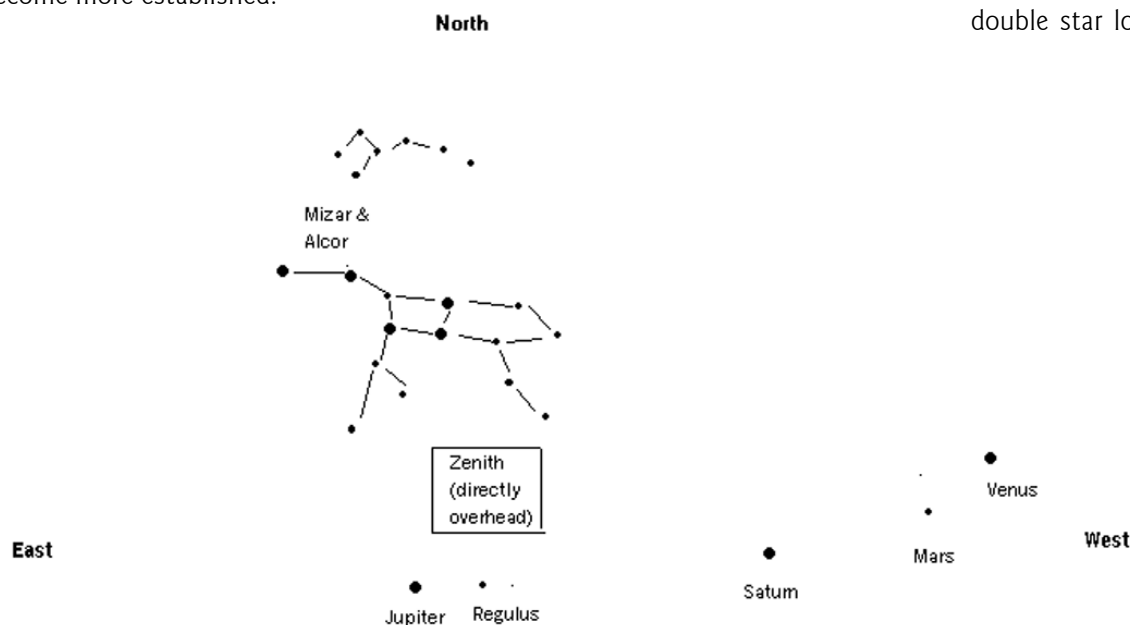
- Alan Kidd

I hope everyone was able to take advantage of the clear nights at the end of March to see all the five naked eye planets. It was quite a sight to see them all lined up. Mercury is gone now, but the other four are still visible. Of course, we go on daylight savings time this month, and that, in addition to the lengthening days, means our observing times will be getting later. The chart will be for a time around 11 PM, at mid month.

This month we'll discuss what is probably the best known constellation, the Big Dipper.

Technically the Big Dipper is only a part of a much larger constellation called Ursa Major, or the Great Bear. Ursa Major is about as close to being overhead as it gets during our observing time. As most people know, once the Big Dipper has been located, the North Star (also called Polaris) can be easily found using the pointer stars in the bowl of the Big Dipper (the side of the bowl opposite the Dipper's handle). Follow a line from the pointer star for about five times the distance between the two stars, and you will come to Polaris, which is always due north, and at the same elevation as your latitude. This makes it about halfway between the horizon and the zenith, for an observer on Amherst Island.

Another feature of the Big Dipper is the double star located at the bend of the handle. The brighter star is Mizar, and its dim companion is called Alcor. Although this pair is visually a double star, Mizar and Alcor are not a true binary system, that is to say they do not orbit one another. However, with a small telescope one can see that Mizar itself is a double star (called simply Mizar A and Mizar B) and those two stars are a true binary system, orbiting about each other every few thousand years. In fact Astronomers



have found that Mizar A and B are also each double stars, making a total of four in the Mizar system.

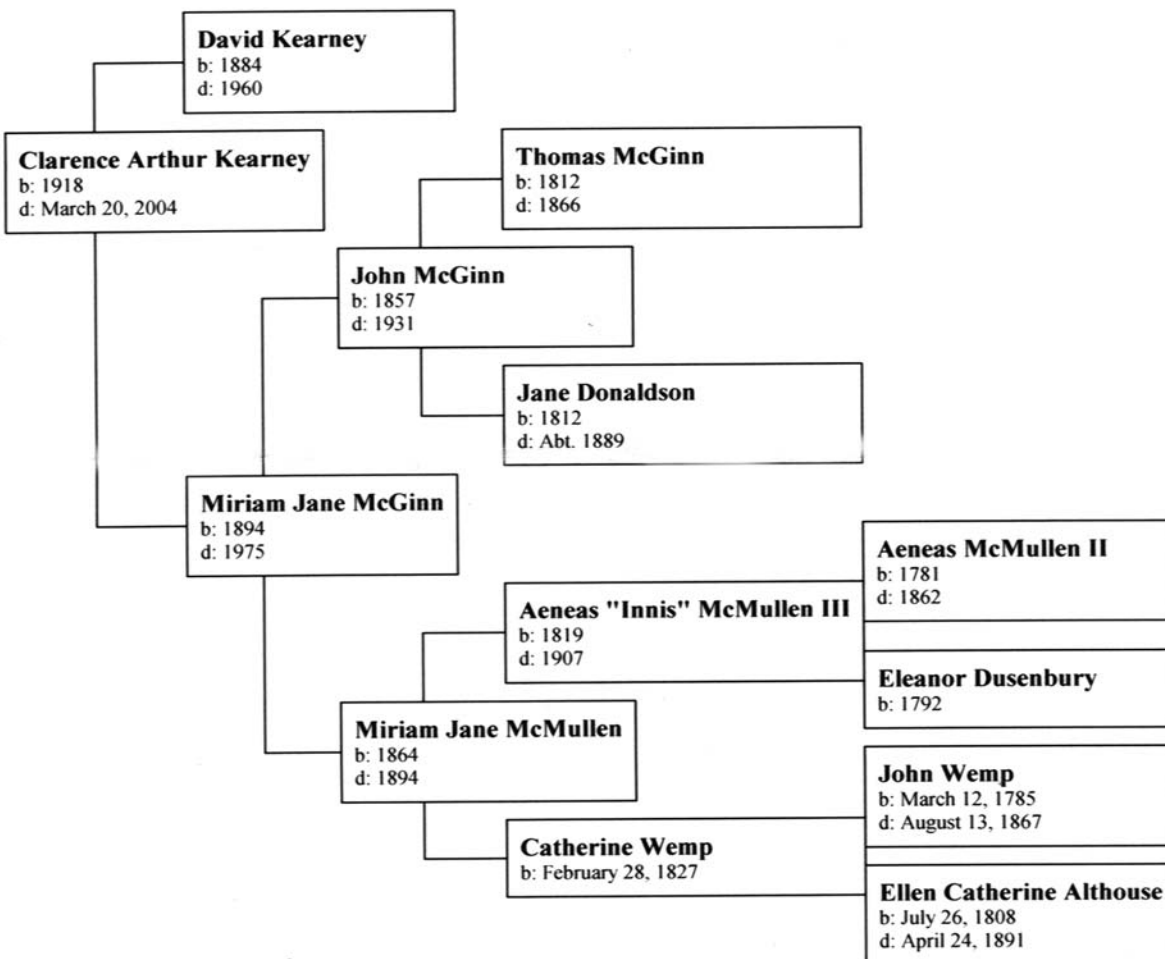
Venus continues as the brightest object in the early evening sky. Venus remains visible for hours after sunset, and appears as a thin crescent in a small telescope. Mercury fades from view by the end of the first week of April. Mars continues to be visible just above Venus, but is now so far away from the Earth that it is dimmer than the nearby star Aldebaran, which it passes on April 5th. Venus appears to almost catch up with Mars in the sky this month, moving from 9° apart on April 1st, to only 5° by April 25th, but then Venus rounds the bend in its orbit as seen by us, and starts heading back toward the sun. Saturn continues to be well situated for observation, located just above Orion. Jupiter appears high in the southeast after sunset. It is also a great sight in small telescopes.



Educational Assistant Margo Virtue and the Sr. Kindergarten class. L-R: Ciara Richmond; Rachel Scott; Dylan Mayman; Shyanne Shurtliffe.

Brian Little Photo

Ancestors of Clarence Arthur Kearney



AWARD

The staff and students of Amherst Island Public School is proud to announce that our Educational Assistant, Margo Virtue, will receive the Outstanding Service Award at a Limestone District School Board meeting in April.

Nominations are received from the entire school board, and on person from each classification is selected.

We are all very proud of Margo and the dedication she has shown to our students and our school over the past 5 years.





INTERVIEW With MARY HALL



Zander of DUNN INN

To sit down with Mary (Glenn) Hall over tea and cookies is to learn about Amherst Island. She has a wealth of stories to share. Unfortunately most of her stories are unprintable (so she contends) and she is reluctant to see them in print which only encouraged me to get her to tell me more. Some of her memories of Amherst Island brought tears to my eyes - from laughing so hard!

Other yarns evoked smiles.

Mary was born on the island, left to go to work and get married and returned when she and her husband retired. She stressed that she did not want a long article all about her because she had not spent very long on Amherst Island. But her stories are certainly worth sharing.

The sister of Stirling and Les Glenn, Mary was born after them, but unlike them, in the Glenn Store on October 29, 1922, and was dubbed, by her father, Hugh Glenn, his "Hallowe'en Prank." Hugh and his wife, Florence McKee, had moved from their farm, where Tom and Rosemary Richmond live today, to purchase the Old Dominion Hotel and General Store.

The Glenn General Store was full of good things (even beer was sold there) and became the centre of activity for many kids of Mary's age. Hugh Glenn used to get his bananas in by the crate and would hang the bunch from the ceiling. Mary was able, by standing on her tip-toes, to pick off the lowest bananas and share them with her neighbourhood pals - people like Grant Filson and Janey and Mike Brown. Her father knew what she was doing but turned a blind eye. It was her mother who put a stop to that.



Her father was very popular with the kids at Hallowe'en because he would pull fists full of candies out of the big candy jars with the metal lids and distribute them to the trick-or-treaters. And when the youngsters had exhausted their luck at the Stella houses and at other shops, they came back for more and were not disappointed.

Mary remembers fondly the Stella Cheese Factory and how, when she was about four years old, she would run to the Cheese Factory and ask for a taste of curds. The Cheesemaker, Mr. Donald White, would pick her up and hold her so she could reach into the big vat and grab a handful of curds to chew on. That was a taste treat!

Mary attended Public School No. 1 about one and half miles away on Griffin Point, near the Gulf on The Front Road. The school was a brick edifice which Mrs. Maud has turned into her residence. Spring and Fall she and Les walked to school but in the winter, when the snows were heavy, Mr. Fred Richards or her fa-

ther drove her and her neighborhood friends in a sleigh. They had warm bricks and buffalo robes to protect them from the elements. The first thing the kids did when they got to school was to vie for places around the pot-bellied stove to keep themselves warm in the freezing school building.

At the Christmas Concerts all the schools got together in Victoria Hall for wonderful times of sharing. Invariably Mary was called upon to do the highland fling. Her brother, Stirling, played the harmonica or the banjo. Plays, recitations, speeches, songs and games were all part of the events. There were many pranks pulled in school and Mary laughs when she recalls them. Some she felt were too embarrassing to others to share in a family newspaper. And we think today's generation is bad!

Mary's first teacher was Kay Heinmiller. Edith Scott taught her during her last year in public school. Mary's last year in public school was Junior Third and she was the only student. Miss Scott encouraged her to learn the material of Senior Fourth, which she did, and got into High School having completed both Junior and Senior Fourth in one year.

Mary's memories of high school, the old brick building in Stella (where The Back Kitchen is now), are also full of fun and pranks. Her teachers were Alice Hogeboom and Aubrey Ramey. The other High School teacher, Evelyn Gamble, boarded with the Glenn family above the store. She was very friendly with The Rev. R.K. Earls and later played the organ at the Presbyterian Church after Mary left that job.

The first and second forms were located

on the second floor and the third and fourth forms were on the main floor on the East side of the building. Mary and her classmates, Henry Hitchens and Roger McDonald, decided to pool their resources. Mary was good at Latin, English Literature and History. The two boys excelled in Math, Chemistry, Physics etc. which didn't appeal to her. Unbeknownst to their teachers they traded their homework. Thus Mary learned the advantages of the division of labour.

Les Glenn, Raymond Reid and Mike Brown puzzled their teacher, Miss Broad. They tied all the rhythmic gymnastic clubs together to hang in the cloak room on the bottom floor and then ran a cord outside the school up to the second floor. When Les, on the second floor, cut the string they fell with a clatter on the first floor. It was a puzzlement.

Mary began her musical career by taking piano lessons from Mrs. Leach, the Anglican minister's wife. Mary was disappointed that she learned only hymns. When Edith Scott took over as her music teacher Mary was delighted to learn many other tunes.

Mary, in her teens, for a time, played the organ at St. Paul's and can remember bitterly cold winter Sundays when only she and a handful of others were in attendance.

Mary has always enjoyed music but she never felt she had the talent of her two older brothers. Music came naturally to them both. When Stirling was sent, by their mother, to take music lessons in Kingston the teacher told Mrs. Glenn, after the ninth lesson, it was a waste of time and money because Stirling, like Les, played by ear and could not be bothered

to learn to read music. Stirling, who became accomplished on the banjo, saxophone and drums, could play several other instruments like the mouth organ and violin. Les was an expert on the piano accordion and played the drums in the Army Band when he was overseas.

Stirling and Les combined with their cousins, Alex Glenn and Tina (Glenn) Filson, to become known as the Glenn Orchestra, famous for several years from the 1930's to the 1950's. Alex, who learned his music by taking a correspondence course from the U.S., took over the violin and Tina played the piano. Tina, who took music lessons in Bath, was a staunch United Church member and also played the organ at Trinity United Church in Stella. The Glenn Orchestra played for all the dances on the Island at Victoria Hall and were often invited to homes for special events. They loved to get together for "jam sessions" and entertain their friends. They knew each other's styles and personalities well and had the ability to improvise together. Sing-a-longs were popular and the Glenn Orchestra could play all the tunes. The Glenn Orchestra brought the Island together, gave life to the Island

and and made the Island sing.

St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, where she was baptized on January 21, 1923, played a big part in Mary's life. Not only did she play the organ she also attended Sunday School. She remembers three classes all of which convened in pews in the sanctuary. One class occupied the choir pews to the north of the pulpit, another class met in the cross pews to the south of the pulpit and the third class got together in the nave in cold weather and in the bell tower in mild weather. Heaven help you if you did not know your catechism!

The Rev. R.K. Earls worked diligently with the young people of the congregation and one of his interests was drama. The Drama Group at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church put on many plays - mostly comedies. The most memorable one for Mary was *Anne of Green Gables* in which Mary played the role of Anne.

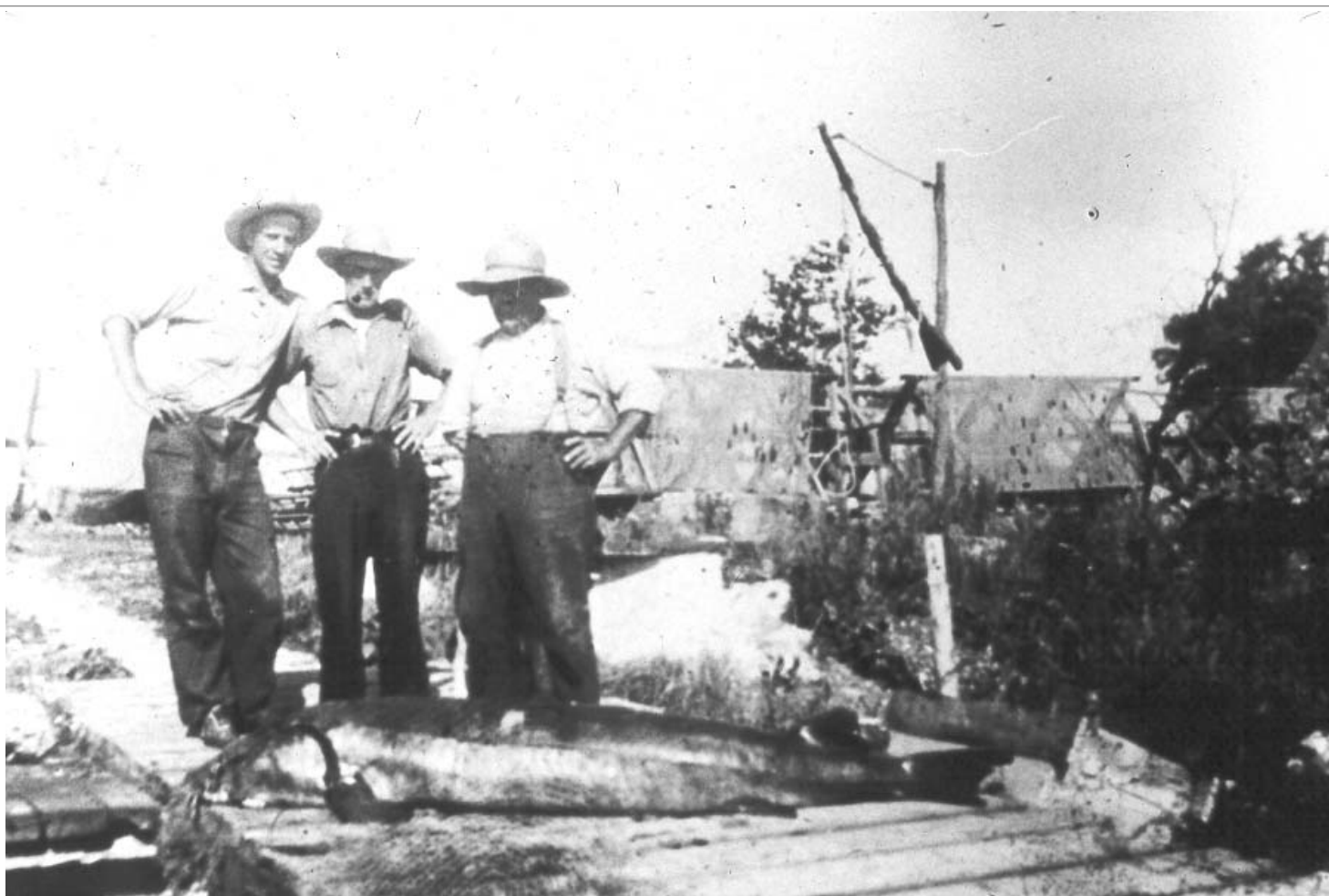
The Drama Group not only performed in Stella, they even took their plays to Bath and Odessa where they were well received. Other actors in that troupe were Garth and Keith Orchard and Chris (Orchard) Glenn who lived across from the store in the brick building. The Orchard family was also musical and often the two families would get together for sing-a-longs.

The Rev. R.K. Earls also played an influential role in Mary's life. She remembers how he entertained, at the manse during the war, many British airman of the RAF who had been posted to the flying school in Kingston. She sometimes was asked to help serve food to the men who enjoyed their "home away from home." When the Presbyterians put on their famous oyster suppers, Mary's father would order in a wooden barrel full of small square crackers to accompany the meal. Who could forget how good they tasted? Not only did Mary help serve but



This barn, close by the dock in Stella, is made from parts of the oldest public building on the Island: It's beams and boards, made up St. Paul's Presbyterian Church before the present limestone edifice was constructed.

TR



3 men on the Government dock in the Fishing Village with a HUGE fish.... who are they?

she also was expected to do a recitation along with other young people. A dance would break out in Victoria Hall after that!

Mary's father was also important in her life. He was rather deaf and so often did not go to church because he could not hear the sermon. When she and her mother returned from worship he would ask, "Who wore the new clothes today, Florrie?"

Often men gathered in the store for conversation around the stove or to play cards. On one occasion, when a group of men were there, a "proper" woman came in to purchase toilet paper. She did not want to speak her request aloud, near the men, so she leaned over the counter and mouthed the words, "I'd like some toilet paper," figuring Hugh Glenn could read her lips. Obviously he deciphered only part of her request because his response to her was, "Would you

like the envelopes to match?" The embarrassed lady left to return later to purchase her toilet paper from Florrie Glenn when the men were no longer there.

When Hugh Glenn died, Mary and her mother were alone in the store. Les was overseas with the Army Service Corps and Stirling had set up his own garage in the house where the Whittons live today. So Florrie Glenn rented the store to Henry McGinn and moved with Mary to Kingston. It was in Kingston that Mary graduated from the Metzler Business College and got her first job at ALCAN.

There she met her future husband, John Hall, a Queen's student, working in the same plant for a few months. They were married by The Rev. R.K. Earls at St. Andrew's in Kingston on the morning of May 18, 1946 and went to John's Queen's convocation that afternoon. They began their honeymoon in the

evening. They moved from Kingston to John's work with DuPont in Prescott, Montreal, Shawinigan, Toronto and Ajax.

When John retired in 1977, they returned to the Island and rebuilt the cottage on the property now owned by Brian Epperson and Charlotte Sheng at 2150 Front Road. John got into everything, as did Mary (although she says she gave up curling, golf and bridge when she returned to the Island).

Mary devoted much of her time to The Presbyterian Church Women of St. Paul's. She and John also enjoyed winters in Florida.

Three deaths in the family deeply affected Mary. The first was the death of her dear brother, Les, in 1983. When she visited Les in the hospital she went in a sombre mood because she knew he was dying of cancer and wanted to give him support and love. She was completely disarmed when Les, thin to begin with



Stone fence on the west side of the Emerald Forty-Foot.

TR

and thinner as the result of his illness, introduced her to his nurse who he said would take him out on Hallowe'en as a skeleton and shine a flashlight through him to scare all the kids. She had come to cry with her brother; instead he made her laugh even in the face of death.

The sudden death of her oldest brother, Stirling, in 1984, was a terrible blow for her and for every one. Mary and Stirling were close so when he died at home unexpectedly, of congenital heart failure, she was shocked and shaken.

The death of her beloved husband, John, in 1993 led to Mary's departure from the Island. She stayed for two years but in 1996 she moved to a condominium at 120 Barrett Court in Kingston where she lives today.

Mary is as active as ever, serving on

the social committee of the complex in which she lives, playing bridge, working in the gardens around her building, attending St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, visiting friends, neighbours, relatives, children and grandchildren. She gets back to the Island whenever she can. She and her son, John, returned recently to beautify the grave of Alexander Glenn, her grandfather, after whom the Glenwood cemetery is named.

Mary is especially proud of her family. Her son, John, lives in Montreal with his wife, Christiane. They have two children: Alex and Vivian. Mary's older daughter, Pamela has one daughter, Jordan, and lives in Newfoundland. Her younger daughter, Susan, resides in Toronto and has two girls: Megan and Erin.

Mary keeps Amherst Island in her heart

and appreciates news from visitors and friends. She will always be an Islander.

MORE STONE FENCES

- Leslie Gavlas

A Committee of the W.I. met on March 11, 2004, to discuss plans for the restoration of the Pentland Cemetery stone fences.

Bill Hedges has been contacted, as we are counting on him to be the leader and instructor for the work. He has advised us that he will be here about April 30, and wants to meet with the Committee. The Chairwoman stated that she has contacted a number of people who are willing to help with the project, and we plan for an open meeting early in May to get together with all those interested,

and with Bill. At this time we hope that plans can be finalized for working parties.

We are appealing to members of the community of Amherst Island for their input, especially for those of people whose forbears are buried in the Cemetery. There are a number of fallen and broken tomb stones, and we hope to use this occasion to improve this situation. The Cemetery Committee is going to give us some help in clearing up the site. We do not know at this time the costs of this work. Joyce Haines, our chairwoman is investigating this with Bill, and is also writing for funds from possible donors. We would ask the Community to give us a help with this. We do feel that respect for those who died is important, and maintaining a proper resting place for them is part of such respect.

We will keep the readers of the Beacon informed of our progress as this goes on. Many volunteers will be needed we suspect, so please let us know if you are interested.

HERE & THERE

- Ian Murray

A few Saturdays ago, I turned on my Walkman and there was Deb Kimmet being interviewed on CBC's Fresh Air program. She was being interviewed about her North of Normal show.

The first sign of spring, for some of us at the Head, is not a foolish robin bobbing about looking for frozen worms. A much more reliable sight is the red-breasted ice breaker crunching along, making a path for the cement boats.

Another sign of spring is the appearance of snakes coming out of their winter quarters on the lake side of our house. I believe that the original house foundation is down there and the snakes overwinter in the rubble.

The For Sale signs are blooming again - speaking of signs of spring - around the Island. Elsie's house is now on the market. We hope the new neighbours

like sheep going by and forgives us the occasional ovine trespass.

Congratulations to Vicki Keith Munro and John Munro on being named Kingston's Citizens of the Year by that city's Junior Chamber of Commerce. In the spirit of good neighbourliness, Amherst Islanders will likely forgive this poaching of our citizens. In the spirit of accuracy, the Whig might have noted that John and Vicki did not move to Kingston 3 years ago. They moved to the "Kingston Area"; wisely choosing to live on Amherst Island.

MUSEUM EXHIBIT COMMITTEE

- Bruce Burnett, Chair

In the February Beacon we described the setting up of the Exhibit Committee for the Neilson Store Museum & Cultural Centre, the members of the committee and their initial work in the planning, design and execution of the museum content project.

We would like to bring everyone up to date and let you know how you can help.

As you have noticed the building is

slowly being rehabilitated into a structure that resembles its situation in the 1930s or so. This is being handled by volunteers and various local contractors under the Board of Directors of the NSMCC with the collaboration and assistance of the Township who own the building. We are simply tenants at this point.

The work is being done with funding from a Trillium Foundation grant and money raised in the community during the last two years as well as some Township money.

It is very exciting to see the building coming back to life and looking as it did in earlier times.

In our previous article we mentioned that we had defined 15 main themes under which we were gathering information, stories, pictures and hopefully some artifacts.

They are as follows with the people who are coordinating each area.

Transportation - Laurie Kilpatrick

Education - Dick Dodds, 389-7032

Agriculture - Allen Caughey, 389-5729

Communication - Dick Dodds, 389-7032



The Neilson Store

Electrical Power - Peter Trueman, 389-3548

Industry - Peter Trueman, 389-3548

Clubs/Brotherhoods - Allen Caughey, 389-5729

Social Life - Anna Hitchins, 389-0482

Halls - Laurie Kilpatrick, 634-3057

Churches - Andrea Cross, 634-9734

Families/Homes -

History - Peter Trueman, 389-3548

Daniel Fowler - Anna Hitchins, 389-0482

Neilson Store - Allan Glenn, 389-0214

Island Lore - Dave Willard, 389-1656

Birds - Janet Scott, 389-4608

Most of these themes obviously have a number of sub-sections that are too numerous to list and some other people are working on these various sub themes.

The Island has a very rich history that we each know something about and that affects us all in some way.

Please call the appropriate one of us if you are able and willing to help with some part of this project. We welcome photos, artifacts, or calls about memories. For anyone willing to write the information down, the coordinators will be able to provide information on the materials required and format to be followed for each story package. The more people who are involved the better and the more accurate the history will be.

"It is to be hoped that in every town, township & county of this vast Dominion, swept by three oceans, steps may be taken to gather, while it may be done, the first beginnings, the noble deeds, the struggles to conquer the hard conditions of life."

Janet Carnochan

LESLIE GAVLAS:

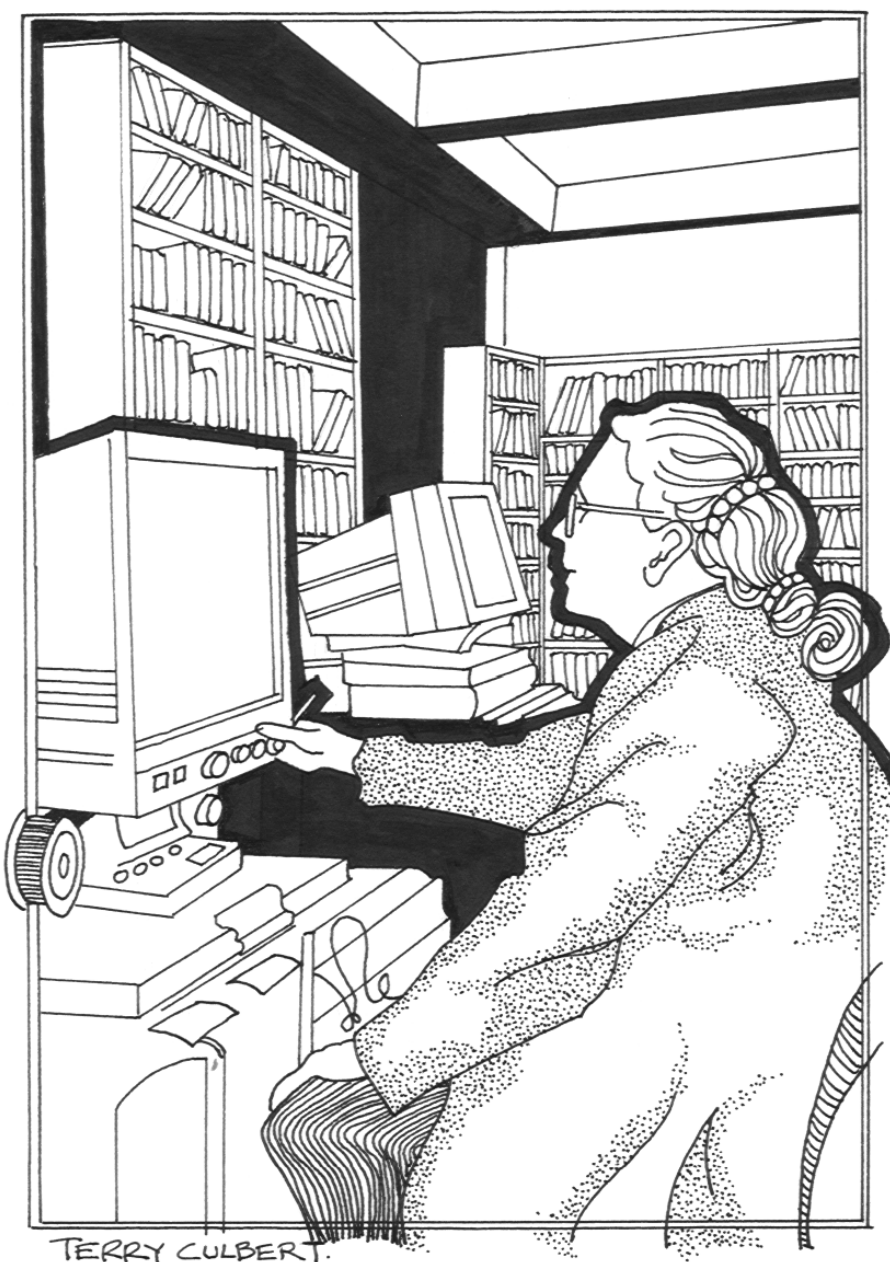
THE ULTIMATE VOLUNTEER

- Terrence Patrick Culbert

I met Leslie Gavlas for the first time last fall. Barb and I were walking our Bouviers along Front Road as Leslie was hiking at a brisk pace towards her son George and daughter-in-law Ida's home. After introducing ourselves, I recognized her name as the person I mailed my Beacon subscription to when we lived in York Region. Over the next few weeks I passed Leslie in the village a number of times while exercising my dogs. Each time we'd stop and

chat and I'd learn more about this extremely busy great grandmother.

I learned that she was raised in Burlington, Ontario and had married a Saskatchewan farm boy. They discovered Amherst Island in 1955, when her husband Edward Henry Gavlas was working in Kingston. "Searching the area for a house," she said, "Edward saw someone drive their vehicle across the ice to the Island. I can do that, he told me, and he did!" On Amherst Island he found a house with 85-acres for sale. The Front Road property was just to the west of Stella. For the next seven years, Leslie and Edward, along with their children George,



Sally, John and baby Shirley lived on the Island.

When the electrical construction engineer's job took him to Labrador, he rented out their home, knowing they'd be back to the Island one day. After four years in Labrador, Edward was transferred to Newfoundland, Montreal, and Winnipeg, back to Montreal, then a two-year stint in Jamaica. After retirement in 1980, the Gavlas's returned to the Island they loved. By this time their eldest son George had married Ida Bulch and the couple had taken over his parents' Front Road property. Leslie and Edward bought her present home south-east of the Neilson Store Museum. Three years later Edward died.

Leslie has always been extremely involved in her community. She's a life long member of the Women's Institute, a member of the Anglican Church Women and until recently, a long time volunteer for the Amherst Island Beacon. Leslie has always had a great curiosity for history. For years she's gathered historical material about the Island for the Women's Institute Tweedsmuir Books. In 1993, she spotted an advertisement in a local newspaper and she just had to respond. It was from the County of Lennox and Addington Museum and Archives looking for volunteers. She applied and was accepted into the archive department.

Every Tuesday morning for the past ten and a half years, barring storms and holidays, Leslie catches the 9am ferry to the mainland en route to her job at the museum in Napanee. The magnificent limestone building was erected in 1864 and used as the County Gaol. The morning I visited Leslie, she was scanning microfilm from the Napanee Express, established in 1861. "I search and write out the births, marriages and deaths for archivist Jennifer Bunting," said Leslie. "Jennifer then arranges to have them typed on filing cards, which are made available to people searching for genealogical information." Periodically, Leslie discovers articles on microfilm pertaining to Amherst Island.

The following is an excerpt from one of them:

STELLA: Nature has once more bridged the sheet of water lying between the Island and the mainland and some of the Islanders have crossed with horses. The Island is a little world in itself no longer, for even this week, strange faces have appeared upon its shores.

FELINE ENCOUNTER

- Terrence Patrick Culbert

The other morning a feline encounter was observed in downtown Stella. Terry and Barb were walking Justin and Merlot, their two sizeable Bouviers along Front Road as they do most mornings. Unexpectedly, an inquisitive cat crossed their path and spotting the two woolly beasts, stopped to investigate. Merlot, a 5-year old female, with a love for anything that

moves, strained to be free of her leash. As her lead began slipping through Barb's fingers, Terry made a lunge, grabbing the leash in an attempt to restrain the eager dog. Within a second, the cat dashes through Terry's legs, Merlot in hot pursuit. Terry trips over his dog, flies through the air, landing unceremoniously on the ground. A frightful scream of pain could be heard: "Help Barb, some thing's biting my foot!"

When the dust settled, Terry picked himself up and realized Merlot had mistaken his 'Island Wellie' for the cat. Her large, strong jaw had locked around and into the rubber boot, grazing tender skin. From atop a nearby picket fence, the feline observed the mayhem, grinning like the proverbial Cheshire cat.

P.S. I think it needs to be mentioned, throughout this whole ordeal Barb laughed hysterically.





Picture for article below left as provided by Terry Culbert

ATV SPEEDS UP MAIL DELIVERY ON THE SCOTTISH ISLAND OF KERRERA

Source: Ananova (UK)

Duncan Macheachen of Kerrera, a small island off Scotland's southwest coast, became the first postman in the United Kingdom to deliver mail on an all terrain vehicle, a Honda TRX450. Roaring around the hilly countryside, dodging sheep and other such critters, Duncan delivers the Royal Mail to seventeen homes on the island which has no roads.

The mail bound for Kerrera is sorted in Glasgow, then taken to the local post office in Oban. From there it's placed in a secure box at the Oban Pier ferry dock. At 8AM each day, Duncan dons his other hat as Kerrera's ferryman and heads for the mainland to collect the island mail. "The ATV is making a real difference to me and the community," claims Duncan. "It used to take me four hours to get around Kerrera by foot. The wee machine saves me so much time and leg muscles on my daily delivery."

To Amherst Island readers: We wonder if Canada Post deliverywoman Helen McCormick would like a machine like this?

Thanks to Mary Jane Culbert, a Vancouver-based researcher and sister of Terrence Patrick Culbert for this article.

NOTICES

AMHERST ISLAND T-SHIRTS AND SWEATSHIRTS are available for sale from Beth Forester 389-5582 or Nancy Henshaw 384-0799. ***

AIMS SERVICES CONTACTS

Transportation (emergency services for those needing short term transportation help): Ralph Woods at 389-7235

General Assistance (for those needing help with particular tasks not requiring professional skills): Alan Glenn at 389-0214

Home Care (short term help with food preparation or domestic tasks): Peter Trueman at 389-3548 or John Kuti at 389-0890

Farmer's Market (information): Bruce Burnett 634-6696

FOR RENT

Village Cottage for rent in Stella.

Walk to the ferry.

By the week or weekend, year round.

Call Jan at 519-451-1197.

HELP

When I started Law School in 1997, I decided I was too busy to knit anymore, and I loaned or gave some of my pattern books to someone (can't recall who). One of them, which is no longer in print, was one of those old, multi-pattern baby books, which contained a lovely pattern for baby socks. I think they were called "crawlers". They were over-the knee, with a bent knee and a shaped calf, and the miracle was, they NEVER FALL OFF! Anyone who may have received this wonderful book would be doing me a HUGE good deed if they were to allow me to make a photocopy of this pattern. And, if you have the book and didn't get it from me, the same would apply. Anyone?

Thanks, Caroline Yull 384-4071

WATER WELLS & WATER TREATMENT

John Jeffery

Phone 561-7867

Fax 561-9238.

[Editor: John is part of the Jeffery family who have owned property on the Island for several years.]

ST. PAUL'S MOTHER'S DAY HAM DINNER

Saturday, May 8, 2004

5 pm to 7 pm

Community Centre

Tickets: Adult, \$10.00; under 12, \$5.00.

For tickets call: Nancy Henshaw, 384-0799; or, Carol Glenn, 384-7480.

ANNUAL A.I.R.A. SPRING DANCE AND FISH FRY

Saturday, May 1st

Tickets on sale now.

Dinner/Dance \$25.00 per couple

Dinner only - \$12.00 per person

Because of a conflict of dates with the caterers, the Fish Fry will be held several

weeks earlier than usual this year.

Please mark your calendar and plan to join us.

The past few years, the Fish Fry has sold out and people were turned away. To ensure you get your tickets, please book soon.

Thank you, Amherst Island Recreation Association

MOVIE NIGHT at A.I.P.S.

Please join us Saturday APRIL 17 at 7PM for our 2nd Movie Night at A.I.P.S. The movie starts at 7:30PM

This month's movie will be "Something's Gotta Give" (starring Jack Nicholson and Diane Keaton)

This is a fund raising effort for the Senior Class year end trip to Toronto.

Babysitting will be provided (free of charge) for children 11 & under, by grade 7 & 8 students - with adult supervision - in the Primary room, where an age appropriate movie will be shown.

Prior to the movie (7:00-7:30) hot dogs will be served.

During the movie a Canteen will be available with coffee, drinks, popcorn, chips, chocolate bars.

Free will donations at the door

(Minors 12 and older should be accompanied by an adult.)

SHINGLES

If you like the Lock-Tite brown shingles on the old Neilson Store and you want a good deal on 23 m² (736 sq. ft) then give me a call. We bought too many. They were a special order because we wanted to make sure our shingles did not blow off on that windy north shore location. Please canvass your friends. We need the money! Hugh Jenney, Neilson Store Museum and Cultural Centre Inc. 384-7830



BACK KITCHEN NEWS

Hello Amherst Island! I am writing this from Indiana where Spring has arrived with warmer temperatures, thunderstorms, and rain. Grass and trees are turning that new green again, and the flowers are starting to bloom. I am looking forward to another summer season on the Island, and seeing you all at The Back Kitchen. Yes, the restaurant is "For Sale," however, we plan to have a great summer. We have a few new menu additions, a couple of menu subtractions, and we plan to sell some bakery items and crafts. Our opening day will be May 21st, and since that is also Victoria Day weekend, we will be open on the Monday following that first weekend. After that we will be open the usual Friday, Saturdays, and Sundays. Hope to see you all the first part of May!!

Thank you note for the Beacon

A huge thank you to everyone who helped out during our backyard fire at the end of March. Special thanks to:

-Our heroes, Ben Whitton and Daniel Little, who saw the smoke from the school and ran all of the way home to raise the alarm,

-Hugh Jenney and Noel McCormick – without their quick hose work while Lynann was calling 911 the fire would almost surely have spread across the field behind our house,

-Wayne Fleming, Tom Richmond and the rest of the fire department, for responding quickly and efficiently.

The Whittons



If you have more information on any of the older photographs appearing in this or any other issue of the Beacon, please write or phone us at our Global Headquarters.

*Ian's number is (613) 389-3802
Tom is at (613) 634-1855*

*-Who is in the photo?
-Where was it taken & by who?
-What was the occasion?*

Thank you! Your assistance is greatly appreciated!



Foot Flats Farm

(613) 634-1212

**Year-round
two bedroom house
to rent on the farm,
by the week or weekend**

**Waterfront cottage to rent
seasonally by the week
or weekend.
Three bedrooms,
Good Swimming
Private!**

20 Signs showing you might be Canadian

1. You understand the phrase "Could you pass me a serviette, I just dropped my poutine on the chesterfield."
2. You eat chocolate bars, not candy bars.
3. You drink Pop, not Soda.
4. You know what a Mickey and 2-4 mean
5. You don't care about the fuss with Cuba. It's a cheap place to go for your holidays, with good cigars .
6. You know that a pike is a type of fish, not part of a highway.
7. You drive on a highway, not a free-way.
8. You have Canadian Tire money in your kitchen drawers.
9. You know that Casey and Finnegan were not part of a Celtic musical group.
10. You know what a touque is.
11. You design your Halloween costume to fit over a snowsuit.
12. You know that the last letter of the English alphabet is always pronounced "Zed" not "Zee"
13. Your local newspaper covers the national news on 2 pages, but requires 6 pages for hockey.
14. You know that the four seasons mean: almost winter, winter, still winter, and road work.
15. You know that when it's 25 degrees outside, it's a warm day.
16. You understand the Labatt Blue commercials.
- 17 You know how to pronounce and spell "Saskatchewan".
18. You perk up when you hear the theme song from 'Hockey Night in Canada'.
19. You were in grade 12, not the 12th grade.
20. "Eh?" is a very important part of your vocabulary, and is more polite than, "Huh?"



Arts at The Lodge on Amherst Island Summer 2004

Botanical Painting w/Pamela Stagg- June 5th to June 7th
Get into the Thick and Thin of Things Acrylic! w/Andrew Sookrah- June 14th to 18

Watercolour Basics And Beyond w/Shirley Miller - June 21st to June 25th

Mixed Media w/Jean Campbell- June 28th to July 2nd

Watercolour Basics And Beyond w/ Shirley Miller- July 5th to July 9th

Nature Photography Workshop w/ William Reynolds- July 9th to July 11th

Fresh Seeing: A Photography Course w/ Diana Harding Tucker- July 12th to July 16th

Step-by-Step Watercolour: Let Nature be Our Guide w/ Barry Lovegrove- July 19th to July 23rd

Landscapes in Oil w/ Lucy Manley - Aug. 23rd to Aug. 27th

www.amherstisland.on.ca/thelodge

For information contact Molly Stroyman:

Toll Free- 1-866-552-3535, ms@mollystroyman.com



GOLDEN WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

Join us at Victoria Hall on Saturday, April 24, between the hours of 4 pm and 9 pm as we celebrate 50 years of bliss between



Gayel (Peters) and Wilbert Willard. All are invited to drop by and offer congratulations. Light refreshments and finger foods will be served. MP Larry McCormick and his wife Rita will present a certificate on behalf of Prime Minister Martin.

COOKS CORNER

Morgan's Mom's Fudge
 (as seen at the AI Farmers Market)

Prepare a greased 8 inch square pan

Mix in a heavy sauce pan over a low to med heat:

- 2 cups of white sugar
- 2/3 cup canned 2% milk
- 2 cups regular marshmallows
- 1/2 cup butter

Stir constantly. Bring to low boil for 5 minutes.

Remove from heat

Stir in:

- 1 cup semi-sweet chips
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 cup nuts or coconut (optional)

Cool on counter then transfer to fridge.

(Warning note below added as a public service by the layout artist)

Cut up, sell at Farmers Market. Do not eat this fudge yourself! Highly addictive!



NEWS FROM THE GENERAL STORE

New Releases available to rent:
 The Cat in the Hat - Mike Myers
 Mambo Italiano - Mary Walsh
 Good Boy
 Looney Tunes - Brendan Fraser, Steve Martin
 Under the Tuscan Sun - Diane Lane
 Mona Lisa Smile - Julia Roberts, Julia Stiles
 Duplex - Ben Stiller, Drew Barrymore
 Dickie Roberts: Former Child Star - David Spade
 Runaway Jury - Gene Hackman, John Cusack.

Regular Store Hours:

Mon.-Sat.: 9AM-6PM.

Sun - 10 AM. to 5PM

Happy Easter Everyone!

Store Hours for Easter Weekend:

Fri. Apr. 9: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Sat. Apr. 10: 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Sun. Apr. 11: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Mon. Apr. 12: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Canada Post Hours:

Mon.-Fri. - 9 to 11:30 a.m., 2:30 to 5 p.m.

Sat. - 9 a.m. to noon Sun. - closed.

Easter Holiday Canada Post:

Fri. Apr. 9: Closed

Sat. Apr. 10: 9 a.m. to noon

Sun.: Closed Mon.: Closed.

VICTORIA HALL CRAFTS & TEA ROOM

-New winter hours for lunch
 afternoon teas and early dinners
 Noon to Six Wednesdays to
 Sunday,

-New and improved menu includes
 Godden Pork and Willard Lamb
 Sausages on homemade garlic and
 Parmesan cheese buns with Napa
 salad.

-Hot specials include homemade
 soups, lasagna, and smoked ham
 & cheesy macaroni.

-Hall available for private func-
 tions.

-Wednesdays are card days from
 1:30-4:00 ...Call 389-5389 if you
 plan to attend.

Christmas Crafts Gift Suggestions:

- Tea Room Gift Certificates
- John Munro Y-Knot T-Shirts
 @\$10.00 each & Commemorative
 Swim buttons @ \$3.00 each
- Shirley Miller cards and
 paintings

- Tole painted Island sap
 buckets & milk cans

- Topsy Farm wool products
 - Quilts and throws by local
 quilters

- Local Authored Books
 Tom Sylvester's Loyalist Roots

Cycling Tours @ \$8.00

John Kuti's Archtypes of Self
 Esteem @ \$25.00

Nicole Florent's Walk, Hike or
 Jog Kingston @ \$20.00

Hans Krauklis' Amherst Island
 Video @ \$16.95

For reservations call Bernice or
 Neil @ 389-5389

Babysitter available

-After school and
 weekends.

-Responsible.

-Red Cross Certified

-Call Whitney Fleming 389-9869



Babysitting

Red Cross Certified Babysitter.

Available early evenings &
 weekends. Torri Phillips:
 389-0512

Babysitter

- Red Cross Babysitting &
 CPR certified - available
 after school, early evenings &
 weekends. Beth Albertan: 389-2662



Seasonal Winter Storage for Boats,

etc., right in beautiful Down-
 town Stella! Indoor, reasonable
 rates. Dayle Gowan, 634-3815



The Lodge on Amherst Island

Rental available for special oc-
 casions. Call:

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 diets can also be accommodated. Con-
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 meal descriptions and prices.

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 Dr. H. C. Burleigh: ONLY 9 COPIES
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 have lowered the price
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LANDFILL SITE HOURS

Wed 11-2; Sat 10-noon; Sun 2-4.

FERRY OFFICE HOURS

Mon, Wed, Fri: 9-noon & 1-4

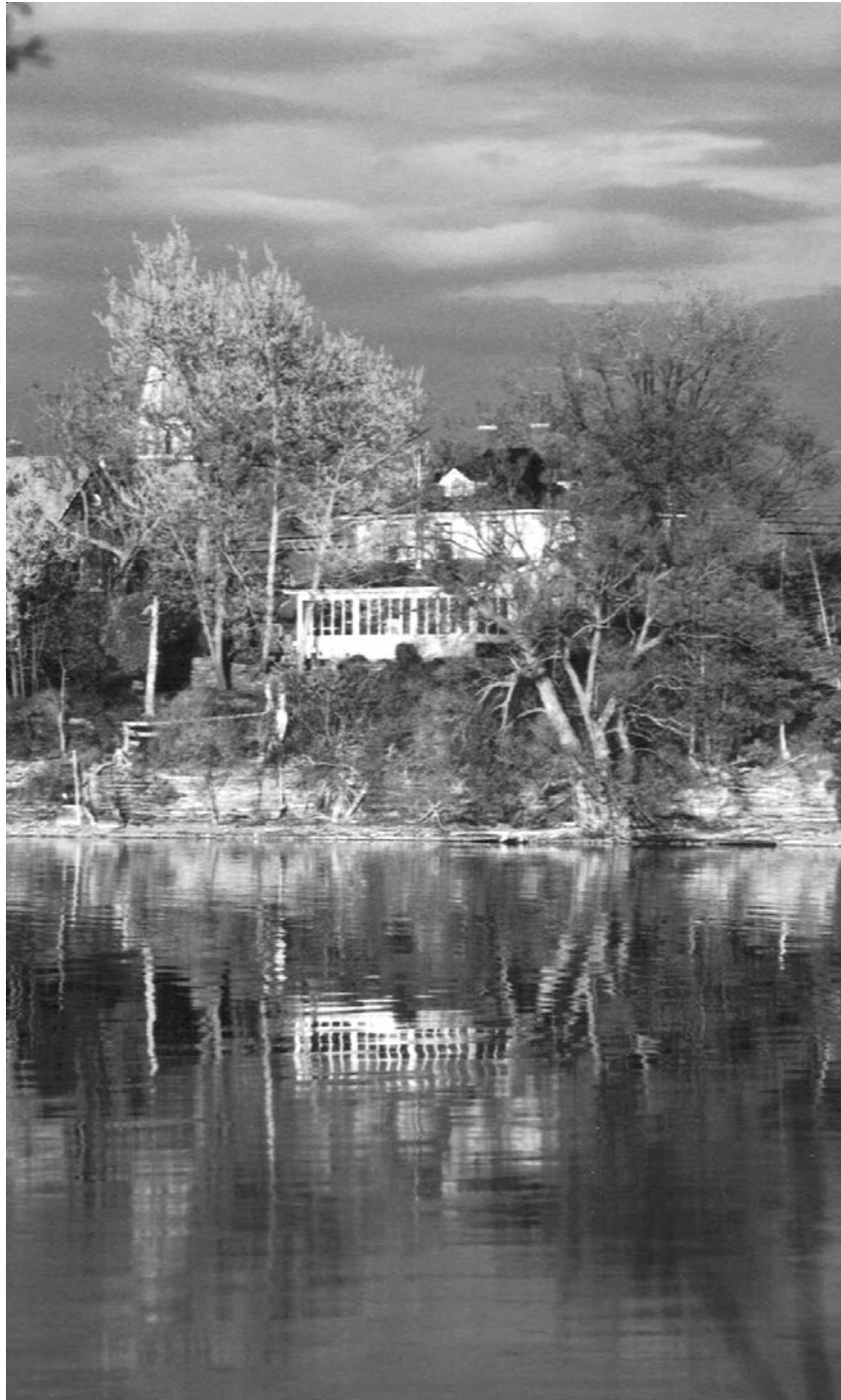
Ferry fuel-up days are Tuesday and
 Friday (be prepared for a delay).

LIBRARY HOURS

Tuesday 7-9PM, Wed 10-Noon
 Friday 1-3pm

Tel # 389-9371

Beautiful heritage home on Island lost to fire



The blaze at 5050 Front Road in the village was discovered at approximately 5PM on Monday April 5th, 2004. Fire crews from Amherst Island and Bath responded immediately, but to no avail. Damage was prevented to the neighbouring St Alban's Anglican Church. Phone service to the island was intermittent for the next day as damaged cables were repaired over the next 48 hours. There were no injuries. The cause has yet to be determined at this time.

The Beacon joins all Islanders in expressing sympathy to our friends on their loss.