

# Leeds & 1000 Islands Historical Society



## The Doctor's House 1098 Prince Street, Lansdowne

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#### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members:

I have not written a President's message since Newsletter #9, February 1998.

Isn't it strange how few things change over the years. Paul Cote and Ruth Ralph were leaving the executive. Paul is now back as 2nd vice-president, and Ruth is a member of a committee. Anne Graham and Mary Robertson joined the executive and are still members. I was commenting on the continually growing collection of material with no fixed place for storage. That problem still exists today. Over the next couple of months we will be taking part in discussions which may be able to solve at least part of this dilemma. At least the sorting and cataloguing of the Darlingside material, mentioned in my message, has long ago been completed.

In all the time I have edited this newsletter, I never wrote an editorial. Last issue I had prepared a pointed one discussing the lack of members on the executive, but by the time the newsletter went to press, the problem had been solved and I scrapped my editorial.



I write this as we celebrate Dominion Day...pardon that historical slip....Canada Day. This is Canada's 140th birthday. William Beatty in his diary says "Went to Brockville on the cars (train) yesterday. Had to walk home today as it was a holiday and the cars were not running. July 1, 1867". This is also the 40th anniversary of our big birthday bash. 1967. Perhaps that is now coming of the age where it can be considered history. I doubt any of you remember 1867, but do you remember what you were doing in our Centennials Year, 1967?

There were so many things going on that it is hard to remember everything. I do remember celebrating New Year's Eve at the Ball in the Conference Centre, complete with two bands and a steak dinner. I was responsible for 10 of 600 school children we took to Expo. I only lost one. In all I went to Expo 3 times. July 1, I was on Parliament Hill with my almost three year old daughter to see the Queen cut the Centennial cake. My daughter recently saw the knife the Queen used, and can remember the occasion. Paul Martin Sr. came across the lawn to shake hands. We were involved in so many things that year, that our regular baby sitter earned enough to take a seven day, 9 country, tour of Europe! So that is my historic memories of that year.

We are planning our fall program, and I hope I will be able to see many of you there.

Bill Boulton - President

# William Boutton

#### MEMBERSHIP FEES



General (Family) - \$10.00 Association - \$10.00 Corporate - \$25.00 Our membership term is Sept. 1 to Aug. 31 Memberships available at any meeting or by cheque to:

> LTI HISTORICAL SOCIETY Box 332 Lansdowne. Ont. K0E 1L0

#### **NEWSLETTERS**

As our newsletter binder was growing large, we have decided to split it into two.

Back copies of our newsletters are available for \$2.50 each

Copies 1 through 20 are now available in a three ring binder. Cost \$62.00

Copies 21 through 26 - Cost \$25.50 - Binders with all 26 copies will still be available.

Due to the weight and high cost of postage, if these have to be mailed, postage will have to be added.

Also available now is a binder with a coloured cover insert or the coloured cover insert alone.

Ask the Executive for prices.



#### 614 COUNTY ROAD # 2



Before Renovations

Picture from My Family - Long Point Leeds County Web site

After Renovations

Picture by Bill Boulton

Some time ago on the "My Family.com – Long Point Leeds Cty." Web site I found the picture of this house. The caption named the builder of the balcony as Joe Bevans. It is thought he was trying to make the balcony in a shamrock shape.

It appears that Joe Bevans was a Lyndhurst area carpenter, a cousin of the O'Connor family. His name appears frequently in Charles O'Connor's diary as a visitor at the O'Connor farm.

The present owner, Neil VanLuven, believes the house was built in the 1900 – 1910 era. For many years it was the home of the George Steacy family. Over the years the condition of the balcony deteriorated badly. Mr. VanLuven has spent the last two years rebuilding the balcony, reproducing the parts as close as he could to the original.

Mr. VanLuven deserves a lot of credit for preserving this piece of architectural heritage. Congratulations Neil!

### Heritage Organization Grant

The Historical Society made an application to the Provincial Ministry of Culture for a Heritage Organization Development Grant. Our application was approved, and we received \$466.00.

This grant will be used to cover the cost of preparation and distribution of our Newsletters. We wish to thank the Ministry of Culture for this assistance.

## The Moore Family of Mooretown - Part 2

By Alan Lindsay

Charles and Anna Moore had 5 children: Sylvester, David, Albert, Rachel and Agnes.

Charles and Hannah had 2 children: Fannie and Rachel

<u>David Moore 1847 - 1938</u> married Mary Jane Heaslip and Euphemia Breckenridge Yule, widow of Archie Yule. Mary Jane was born in New Orleans. Her parents came to Lansdowne because they were related to the other Heaslip families already settled here. Children: Lydia (married Charles B Gray, David John and Elgin Israel (married Bertha Kyes). David and Euphema did not have any children.

<u>Albert Moore</u> married Emily Andress -daughter Gertrude lived on King Street in Lansdowne. Albert lived on the original farm west of Eden Grove School (House destroyed by fire in 1940's).

#### Children of Elgin and Bertha Moore.

- Eula Married James Cox Paul (Shirley McFarlane), Sylvia.
- Helen married Milton Burns Joy (Blaine Reed), Bob (Beth Struthers), Lloyd
- (Dorothy McNeil), Dorothy (Jim Funnell), Bessie, Keith (Joan Jeffries), and Paul.
- Grace married Robert Ernest Harper Ruth, Blythe (Ron Jones), Ronald (Billie Battams), Linda.
- Thelma married Albert (Bus) Harper Betty and Shirley
- Jean married Robert Kennedy no family ran a store across from Linklater School.

The connection of Ebenezer Moore to any of the other Moore families in the area is unknown. Walsingham Moore who lived in Lansdowne was married to Sarah Davis. Of their children Margaret married Joseph Doak, Jane married Benjamin Tackaberry, and Joseph Doak, Sarah married Alex Heaslip, <u>Fanny married Benjamin Bradley</u> and Walsingham Jr. married Isobel Ennis.

Fanny and Benjamin Bradley were the grandparents of Milton Burns who married Helen Moore (above) and Taylor Burns father of George, Marilyn, Donald, Joan and Gary Burns.



Special thanks to Carol Edwards, June Abrams Wright and Geraldine Chase for much of the material for this family tree.

The Moore Homestead, Eden Grove Road Picture courtesy Bruce Foley



## CONGRATULATIONS! - LANSDOWNE RURAL TELEPHONE COMPANY

This year, 2007, Lansdowne Rural Telephone Company celebrates its 100th birthday. From humble beginnings in rented space in Charles Fredenburg's men's wear store at 1 King Street East to its ultra modern headquarters at 42 King Street West, may be only a move of 2 blocks, the progress has covered a much greater distance. It has taken it from a 100 line cabinet switchboard to full digital dial service and internet. Lansdowne Tel is one of only 36 independent telephone companies in all of Canada.

From its updated history by Lisa Lawrence to its birthday bash on July 13th, it is a big year for the

local do-well.

Congratulations on the last 100 years, and look forward to the next 100.

See Newsletter 17, Spring and Summer 2002 for full history of the company.

Lansdowne Rural Telephone Company
Photo by Ted Hewitt



### Fire in Lansdowne Village

#### Gananoque Reporter August 10, 1907

On Monday last Darling's store an old landmark in Lansdowne Village across from the Stewart Hotel burned to the ground. Mr. Darling had sold out a few years ago to Firman Cross who ran a general store on the premises. He is turn sold to H. L. Merrill who still owned it but rents it out. It was an old store of wooden construction. Mr. A W Latimer occupied the old store and sold groceries and a general line of goods. Mrs. S H DeWolfe had a millinery and fancy goods shop in a newer addition. F. Latour, shoemaker, who is away in Calgary, had a small room. It was feared the whole block would be lost but the brick wall of Mr. Deane's store to the north stopped the fire which is believed to have started in Mrs. DeWolfe's shop. Mr. Deane's stock of stationery and fancy goods was removed but his store was considerably damaged. Merrill had insurance of \$1000, Mr. Latimer \$1500 and Mr. DeWolfe \$1000.



Mr. Deane's stock was insured for \$300. It would be a good time for the Lansdowne people to buy the Gananoque fire engine which is available at a nominal cost.

Thanks to Alan Lindsay for printing this article from The Gananoque Reporter.

Prince Street Lansdowne 1905 Darling's store is third building on right

Photo from Society files

#### "Doctor's House" has History of Love

Doctors come and doctors go, but the Doctor s House still stands, a time piece, a reminder of days gone by, of board walks and rail fences, buggies and house calls.

In Lansdowne, the Doctor's House sits sedately on Prince Street, half way up the hill. Gone are the rail fences and the board walks, but remaining are the delicate carvings and lattice work around the porch and windows.

The first occupant, **Dr. Aylesworth**, was fortunate enough to have his father-in-law build the house for him. The father-in-law had been residing at the time in the brick house beside the Presbyterian Church at the top of the hill. Hand cut stone was carted from the Armstrong quarry, about a mile east on the south side of present County Road 2. Each stone was placed for size and colour. The interior was to include a waiting room, examining room (now the bathroom), living room, back kitchen, wood shed and four bedrooms. The rooms have changed in use but the many architectural details remain — the curved ceiling corners, deep windows, glass paneled doors and a solid walnut stair rail which has provided for many a joyful slide. As Mrs. Lochead, who grew up in the house states, If I weren t afraid of breaking it, I d still be sliding down it today .

From 1870 to 1890 there had been three doctors practicing from the house. After **Dr. Aylesworth** came **Dr. Hannah**, followed by **Dr. Emory**. Once again the house was up for sale. A young doctor by the name of Shaw arrived. Originally from Perth, Scotland, **Dr. Shaw** had spent his school years in Kingston receiving both his B.A. and M.D. at Queen s University where he held the record of the mile run for over 50 years. (*The story is told that he was so far ahead, he finished the last 100 yards running backwards*). **Dr. Shaw** borrowed the \$2,600 necessary to purchase the house and set up his practice, then moved into the house in May, 1890, with his bride, Anna Mallory, of Mallorytown. Besides being the residence and office of the doctor, the house became the centre for social and family activity. A son, Mallory, arrived (died in Montreal at age of 56), followed by a baby girl who did not survive birth. Then came Anna. The house echoed with chatter and children s voices. People would come calling at all hours for one emergency or another and, Anna recalls, at night her father would jump out of bed, rush to the door, and if the call was urgent, would get dressed, harness the horse, hitch up the buggy and visit the patient. Sometimes the calls would involve a hard rowing across the river to an island patient. Upon his return to the house, **Dr. Shaw** would take the blanket that was left by the big wood cook stove to warm, and place it over the horse for comfort and for a service well appreciated.

Never a day passed without some form of adventure for the Shaw family. One of Anna s earliest recollections is that of the Strychnine Tablet incident. One day her father had walked into the surgery and placed a bottle of Strychnine tablets on a table. He was only gone for two or three minutes but in that time the tablets had managed to disappear. He asked Mrs. Shaw where they might be, and look as they may, the tablets were not to be found. Meanwhile, a little Anna sat playing on the floor with her brother s toy wagons. In each sat a few white pills. When asked if she had eaten any she replied, No daddy. They don t have chocolate on them . Dr. Shaw was relieved, but little did he know that Anna was a frequent visitor to the dispensary to suck the coating off pills, and then replace those pills in their jars as though they had never been touched.

Mrs. Shaw, Anna and Mallory 1914

Photo from Society files



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#### "Doctor's House" has History of Love

This incident was followed by many others, such as a patient carelessly leaving his loaded gun in the hall by the waiting room. Curious Anna picked up the gun, looked it over, aimed and fired. The bullet went sailing past a lady s head. Dr. Shaw gave the man a dickens of a talking to about leaving guns lying around in the reach of children. Meanwhile it took many coats of paint to cover up the bullet hole in the window frame.

Dr. and Mrs. Shaw were often the hosts of glorious parties. The children would be tucked into bed for the evening but excitement would prevent any possible sleep. Anna would get up and get dressed in all of her finest clothes and sneak down the stairs to parade among the guests. It did not take long for her to be found out and whisked off back to bed.

Communications between patients and Dr. Shaw were often quite difficult because of the great distance of his practice. To make life a little easier, Dr. Shaw helped pay for the first telephone line to Lansdowne.

Along came other changes in the village. The board walks were to be replaced by concrete, much to Anna s dismay. She had enjoyed jumping along the board walks and playing with her kittens between the boards. She also enjoyed taking off her shoes and running through the mud puddles in the middle of the road. As Anna grew older, Dr. Shaw took her on his rounds to help and observe. On one such visit, Dr. Shaw insisted that she remain outside the house and observe the patient through the window. This is the last case of small-pox that you will ever see, he told her. So, besides being prepared for trying for the Olympic Team for high jump, Anna had her mind set on becoming a doctor like her father.

Tragedy struck. While attending school in Brockville, Anna was informed that her father was ill. No, she declared. My father has never been sick a day in his life. He is dead. Anna was right. She was driven home to meet the coroner and to manage the household. Her mother, away in Syracuse, could not be located, and her brother was away in Alberta. So, Anna was left alone to bear the burden of this death, and she, only 15 years of age. This was 1914, the year that Dr. Shaw had sold his horses and was planning on buying a car in which to make his rounds. He had collapsed on the porch, and died before help arrived.

Life in the doctor s house underwent drastic change. Anna and her mother remained in the house living alone, but they allowed the doctor s surgery to be used by **Dr. Stevens** until he left to join the Canadian Forces in the First World War.



There were two other doctors in the village at the time. **Dr. Mackie** practiced medicine in a house where the Lion s Den Hairdressing is now located, and Dr. Campbell worked in the brick house next door to the doctor s house. In 1923, the Campbells traded practices and homes with young Dr. Harold Lochead. Dr. Lochead had just finished his internship at the Kingston General Hospital and at Lying In Hospital in New York City. Anna was at the time engaged to another gentleman who was working in London, Ontario. The introduction of a new neighbour, a single young doctor, added a little more interest into her life. said that there is always safety in numbers, continued Anna. So began the courtship with two young men. Harold had the upper edge in that he lived next door. The marriage uniting Harold and Anna Lochead took place in 1931, and Harold then moved into the doctor s house to continue his practice. Mrs. Shaw continued to live with Anna and Harold until her death. She had fallen in her room and went into a coma. She was buried at Union Cemetery on February 11, 1950.

John Lochead 1940

Photo from Society files

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#### "Doctor's House" has History of Love

By 1938, it was evident that new facilities were needed for the surgery so the kitchen and woodshed were torn down and replaced by a new kitchen, waiting room, surgery, dispensary and bathroom. Patients had a new entrance and the original door to the old waiting room was replaced with a window. The extension had to be built with wood because it was not possible to obtain any more stone from the Armstrong quarry.

A son John was born as the extension was being completed. Once more the house was graced with children s laughter. Again came the active pace of patients and family, all hours of the day.

The family took an active interest in the community and its functions. **Dr. Lochead** did, in fact, try to introduce water to the village in the late 1940 s explaining that the drinking water was a hazard to the residents health. The motion was defeated. (By 1 vote).

Harold still took night calls and it was after one such call to help a patient with a heart attack, that he himself suffered from a fatal attack while sitting on the couch resting. After 38 years of loyal service to the community, Dr. Lochead was laid to rest on New Year s Day, 1962.

Once again the doctor s house remained without a doctor. Mrs Lochead did offer the surgery to the Township for a doctor but instead a **Medical Centre** was built.

Over the years you build up so many memories, especially when living in the one house for so long. There have been many pains, deaths and unhappy incidents, but I try to forget those and bring the happy things to the surface and let them grow, explained Anna.

Even though Anna enjoys travel and people of other lands, it is always with great joy that she returns to Lansdowne. I am always so happy to get back. You know, there s no place like home and my home is Lansdowne.

Mrs. Lochead s son John lived with his mother on Prince Street until her death.

The house was deeded to John for use in his lifetime, then it was to become the property of Lansdowne United Church. Some months ago, the Lansdowne United Church sold the house. The new owners are Sean and Kristina Griffiths, and their two sons Jordan and Patrick. Once again, after almost 50 years, the halls will echo with the sounds of children.

This article was written by Rosemary Phillips who is listed as  $\ \,$  Staff Correspondent . We do not know what newspaper it appeared in, nor the date, although it appears to be sometime in the early 1980  $\ \,$ s.

Thanks to the Lansdowne Women s Institute Tweedsmere History Book for providing the article.

#### REMEMBERING DR. J. HAROLD LOCHEAD



In December 1937, a baby was due at the Edwin Warren s. At that time it was not unusual for a baby to be born at home and since it was winter it seemed the thing to do.

We arranged for a midwife and home help and talked it over with Dr. Lochead, who was agreeable with it. Little did we know what the weatherman had in store for us.

Three days before due date, it started to snow big fluffy flakes and between snow and wind, there wasn t a road open anywhere. Only the tops of the fence posts were visible.

A call to the midwife — it was impossible for her to get there. A call to the doctor — how do I get there? I ll be there with the team, was the answer. The sleigh was cleaned off and some straw put on it and a bale of hay for the doctor to sit on. The lane was full of snow, so Ed took the team through the front field to the house. My mother filled in as midwife and Aunt Daisy took care of meals. This is how Freda (White) entered the world and she has been kicking up a storm ever since. I love her dearly.

It was reported that Dr. Lochead was the youngest man to graduate as a doctor from medical school

Margel McKay Warren Age 92

Dr. J. H. Lochead 1940's

Photo from Society files

When the Earl family lived in Lansdowne in the big brick house on the corner (King and James Streets), Dr. Lochead was a frequent visitor at our home. He came both as a doctor and also as a very good friend of my parents. He and my father were fishing buddies.

One memorable time was when my mother was in the hospital. My sister, Helen, who was around 5 years old, had visited her and was very impressed with the nurses in their starched uniforms carrying trays with one hand in the air. She decided that s what she wanted to be when she grew up - - - a nurse.

When my mother came home, she had to stay in bed for a while. One day Helen thought she would act the nurse and take Mother's breakfast dishes downstairs. She got to the top of the stairs and fell all the way down, dishes and all. When we got to her, she was covered in blood. Dr. Lochead was called immediately and rushed right down. When he saw her, he put her on the kitchen table, and gave her a heavy anesthetic. Then he cleaned the cut and sewed up her face, from her nose across her face and up under her eye. She was a pitiful looking little girl for many weeks. Eventually her face healed up with no complications, thanks to Dr. Lochead

This is one of my memories of Dr. Lochead.

**Audrey Tamblyn** 

(See Mrs. Dixon s Scrapbook, May 10, 1924)

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#### REMEMBERING DR. J. HAROLD LOCHEAD

I remember his kindness, compassion, big smile and puffing up the stairs on a house call to visit the sick. He was on duty 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. He concocted his own medicines in his office, medicine that really worked! Dr. Lochead had specialized training in maternity in New York City. He worked with **Bertha Vanorman** in her maternity home, first on Miller Street next to the United Church, then on James Street, and last on Railway Street. He crossed from his home through the back lots many a time. He operated on patients at the Brockville General Hospital, often driving the patient down with him. He always enjoyed a home cooked meal at the home of friends (or patients).

#### Anonymous

Dr. Lochead liked good cars. At the time, a doctor s license plate carried a D to identify them as a doctor. He had just picked up a new car and was on his way home. He couldn't resist trying it out, seeing how fast it would go. He was pulled over by the police for speeding. Didn't you see the D on my license plate? This is an emergency, I m rushing to save a man's life. The officer sent him speedily on his way.

Bill Boulton

#### LANSDOWNE DOCTORS

**Dr. P.P. Piercy** was born in Napanee about 1820. He studied with Dr. Moore in Picton and graduated from McGill University in 1848. He established a practice in Brighton in 1848, but ill health forced his retirement in 1853. He again opened a practice in Delta in 1863, then moved to Lansdowne in 1865. He was well loved by his patients, traveling on horseback to treat them.

**Dr. R.B. Aylsworth** was born in Addington in 1842. He attended Queens University, but graduated from Victoria College in 1867. He started his practice in Lansdowne in 1867, working out of his father-in-laws house, the brick house at the top of the hill next to the Presbyterian Church. His father-in-law built the stone Doctor s House featured in our major article, for him.

**Dr. Franklin Hannah** was born in Portland in 1856. He graduated from McGill University in 1879, and did post-graduate courses in Edinburgh in 1895. About 1880 he married Miss Emeretta Emery of Gananoque. He started to practice in Lansdowne in 1880, and continued until 1890 when he went to Perth to practice with his brother Dr. A.E. Hannah. He moved to Brantford in 1897. He practiced a total of 43 years.

**Dr. John MacMillan Shaw** was born near Perth, Scotland in 1861. He came to Canada at 13 months, and lived in Kingston. He received his B.A. at age 19, holding a gold medal in math. He graduated as a doctor at the age of 22. He was an outstanding boxer and runner, his records for the half mile and 3 miles standing for 50 years. He opened his practice in The Doctor s House in 1890, the same year he married Anna K. Mallory of Mallorytown. He died at age 53 in 1914 at his home.

**Dr. W.F. Meikle** was born in Morrisburg in 1863. He graduated in medicine from McGill University 1893. He did post-graduate work in New York. He came to Lansdowne in 1891, and was married in 1895. He retired after 20 years here, and died in 1945.

**Dr. Herbert H. Murphy** was born at Antrim, Ontario in 1881. He received his early education at Arnprior and Almonte. He graduated from McGill university in 1904. He did post-graduate work in Ottawa, Pennysylvania, Philadelphia, London, Edinburgh and Chicago. He opened a general practice in Lansdowne in 1905, and remained until 1910. From 1912 to 1929 he practiced in British Columbia.



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#### LANSDOWNE DOCTORS

**Dr. John deLendrecie Campbell** was born in Arnproir in 1895. He received his early education there, and was well known as a hockey player. He graduated fromMcGill University in 1908. He did post-graduate work in Ottawa and New York city. In 1913 he was married to Helen Kelly of Mallorytown. He practiced in Lansdowne from 1910 to 1924, when he traded properties with the Lochead family and moved to Kingston. From 1924 to 1927, he was associated with Dr. I.G. Bogart, the first in his profession to use an auto in his practice. While in Lansdowne, Dr. Campbell operated the drug store, with his wife as manager.

**Dr. Robert Stanley Stevens** was born in Delta in 1887. He attended schools in Athens and Brockville, graduating in medicine from Queens University in 1912. He did post-graduate work in New York City. He came to Lansdowne to take over Dr. Shaw s practice when he died in 1914. He remained until 1916, when he went overseas in the medical core. After the war, he

specialized in heart and chest diseases in Chicago, and practiced in Ottawa. He worked too hard, and died in 1945.

**Dr James W. Mackie** was born in Rear of Young Township in 1889. He graduated from Queens University in 1914. He opened his practice in Lansdowne in 1919, working from a house which stood where the Present Lion s Den Hairdressing is now. He moved to the white house toward the end of Grand trunk Avenue, where he continued his practice until his death in 1952. Dr. Mackie was Health Officer for the township for many years. He also kept one or two standard bred horses which he raced. Thus the snowy roads of the 1940 s held no problem for him, he just hitched up a horse.

Dr. J.W. Mackie during First World War

Photo from Bill Boulton collection



**Dr. James Harold Lochead** was born in Centerville, but moved to Newburg. He graduated from Queens University in 1922. Post-graduate work was done at Lying-In Hospital, New York City and at Kingston General Hospital. He came to Lansdowne in 1924 to replace Dr. Campbell. He was the fifth doctor to carry on the medical practice in the old stone Doctor s House. He died of a heart attack at the end of December 1962.

**Dr. James A Bildfell** was born in Winnipeg of Icelandic parents. He received his medical degree from the University of Manitoba in 1933. He was delivering babies on Baffin Island in 1934, and also worked in the north from 1940 to 1942. Semi-retired, he opened a practice in Lansdowne in 1964. He worked first from a former classroom in the old Victoria School, later moving his office to his farm home on Selton Road.

#### ST. LAWRENCE DISTRICT MEDICAL CENTRE

In October 1979, the provincial government labeled 150 Ontario communities as medically under serviced. This area was one of them. For some time the area had been without a resident doctor. Many people from Lansdowne area sought medical assistance in Gananoque, Brockville, and even Kingston.

More than 50 communities decided at that time to build medical clinics to attract doctors. A medical centre in this area could serve over 5,000 residents in the townships of Front of Escott and Young, as well as Front and Rear of Leeds and Lansdowne.

In July 1972 a public meeting was called to get the project rolling. A building committee was nominated. It would be their job to spearhead the project and raise the funds necessary. In August the committee was elected: Eric Webster, chairman; Agnes Jack, secretary; William Robb, finance; Wilbert White, Carson Montgomery, Keitha Smith, Les Smith, Joe Moore, Harold Poole, Bob Hall, Jim Kellar and Ron Huck, directors.

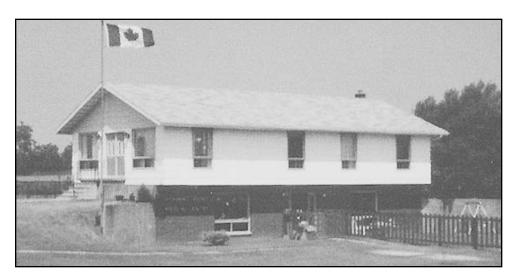
There was controversy as to the location of the centre. It was felt that it was important that the centre have access from a county road. Finally land on the west side of Prince Street in Lansdowne was purchased from Eric Webster. The cost of the centre was estimated at \$40,000.00 Because the area was listed as under serviced, a Local Initiatives Grant of \$16,472. was awarded by the Federal government.

Construction began in late January 1973. Construction was completed, and the building opened on June 30th. The scissors used to cut the ceremonial ribbon were a pair used by the late Dr. Harold Lochead.

The building was a two storey structure, designed for two doctors and a dentist. At first the second floor was left unfinished until the staffing was certain. The basement area, when finished, was used for several purposes. From 1986 to January 2005, the whole basement area was the home of Willow Tree day Care Centre.

During the construction there were many fund raising events, including candy sales, barbecues, raffles, euchres, bingos, and a smorgasbord dinner. The school children in the area raised \$1000. Letters requesting support were sent to all full time and seasonal residents. At the time of the opening there was a small mortgage left.

**Dr. Howard J. Nathan** of Montreal was the first doctor when the Medical Centre opened. He was joined in 1975 by dentist Dr. Cathy Ashton who stayed for two years, and was assisted by Dr. Robert Fell. Since that time there has been no dentist. Dr. Nathan left in 1976 to further his education. He was followed by **Dr. Bylsma.** From July 1979 to July 1980 **Dr. Ngoc Khoi Hoang** and his wife served the centre. Dr. Hoang was followed by **Dr. Joseph Chamberline, Dr. Prymak, Dr. Sweet and Dr. Green.** Some served only as temporaries.



St. Lawrence District Medical Centre

Photo courtesy Medical Centre



Mrs. Dixon's Scrapbooks

Mrs. Dixon's Columns from 1919 - 1924

Since the Historical Society was formed in 1992, we have heard of "Mrs. Dixon's Scrapbooks". We talked to people who had used them at the Gananoque Museum for research. When asked, museum employees never seemed to be able to find them or know anything about them. Then the Gananoque Museum closed. A couple of years ago, the town hired a student to sort and catalogue material at the museum. Contact with her won us nothing. Now, another inventory is being made by Tim Compeau. Before I got to him to watch for these books, he found two books, one of which was labeled "Gananoque Journal". Knowing Steven Heaton's interest in the Journal, Tim contacted Steven. He realized what he was looking at, and called me. Thus, we have been able to borrow these books.

Mrs. Dixon lived in Lansdowne from the time of her marriage in 1907 until 1966. She was the local correspondent for several local newspapers, including The Gananoque Journal, The Gananoque Reporter, The Brockville Recorder and Times and The Kingston Whig Standard. She held this position for over 50 years. In Lansdowne, Mrs. Dixon worked with her husband, S.C.E. Dixon, in the paint and wallpaper business. She continued the retail portion of the business for some time after her husband's death in 1955.

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#### ST. LAWRENCE DISTRICT MEDICAL CENTRE

**Dr. Eric Curtis** and his wife Elinor, a R.N., arrived in 1981 and stayed until 1990. **Dr. Denise Pajot** served from 1990 to 1998. From 1999 to 2003 **Dr. Chris Milburn and Dr. Jeff Hogan** served the centre. During that time **Dr. Patrick Turner, Dr. Jeannette Dietrich and Dr. Matthew Martin** assisted. The present doctor, **Dr. Lucie Lajoie** arrived in 2003. She was joined be **Phoebe Collard, a Nurse Practitioner** and **Dr. Lawrence Gitterman**, medical Psychotherapy in 2004, and **Dr. John Erb** in May 2006.

By 1982, the Medical Centre had accumulated a mortgage of \$22,000. through the purchase of equipment, improvements and

expenses. Through fund raising efforts and donations the mortgage was retired in June 1988.

At present the Medical Centre is fully operational, and it is hoped it will stay this way for the future.

Prepared with assistance from Medical Centre scrapbooks and Audrey Newell

Burning the Medical Centre Mortgage

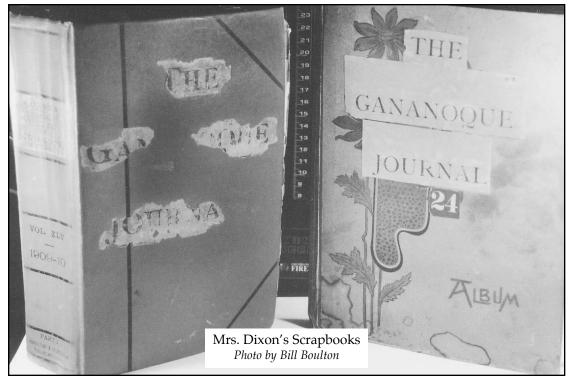
Photo courtesy Medical Centre





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# Mrs. Dixon's Scrapbooks Mrs. Dixon's Columns from 1919 - 1924



Although her parents were Canadian, Margaret Elizabeth "Daisy" Dixon was born in Chaska, Minnesota, October 13, 1878. She persisted in celebrating her birthday on the 22 as "the thirteenth was unlucky". Mrs. Dixon was the daughter of Samuel Fowler, County Attorney of Sibley County, Minnesota, and Charlotte Corrigal-Scollie of the Peterborough area.

Mrs. Dixon's maternal grandparents came from the Orkney Islands directly to Hudson's Bay, where they were commissioned as Chief Traders. Mrs. Dixon's paternal grandfather was John Fowler, a contractor, who was invited by the Town of Cobourg to migrate from Yorkshire, England, to correct faulty work on the first railway in Upper Canada – the Cobourg and Peterborough – which ran across Rice Lake. It was so poorly planned that railroad employees would often get off the train and walk across the trestle. The trestle eventually collapsed into the lake.

Mrs. Dixon moved to Sherwood Park Manor, Brockville, in 1966. After a fall, she was hospitalized and died on March 28, 1978, at the age of 99.

Following are some of Mrs. Dixon's columns from 1919 to 1924.

#### ENEWSY LANSDOWNE Lansdowne, Dec. 24, 1919

Mrs. Thompson, of Belleville, visited her sister, Mrs. Wm. Kaiser on Wednesday last.

Mr. Nicholas Salthouse sails on Xmas day for England.

The school closed on Friday. Each of the teachers were suitably remembered by the scholars.

Mr. Trotter of the Merchants Bank staff, has been transferred to Winnipeg.

Mr. W.B. Warren has moved into the residence he purchased from J.D. Latimer.

Mr. Evans Steacy has purchased Jonas Hagerman's house and will take possession in April.

Mr. and Mrs. Townsend have removed to their farm at Long Point.

Mr. Geo. Squire, of Alpin, Ont., is the new Continuation Class teacher.

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Patience and daughters are spending the holidays at Smiths Falls.

Mr. A. McClary is section foreman now and Mr. A. Harmer relieving foreman at Findlay



#### Leeds & 1000 Islands Historical Society Newsletter #27

Spring/Summer 2007

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### Mrs. Dixon's Scrapbooks

Mrs. Dixon's Columns from 1919 - 1924

Pte. Harold Tedford returned home last week, having received his discharge.

Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Winter entertained the S.S. children on Monday evening.

Miss Edna McNeil, operator at telephone office, is enjoying a weeks holidays.

A number of young people held a Xmas dance in J.W. Heaslip's ice cream parlor on Friday night.

Mrs A.H. McKay returned on Wednesday from Kingston General Hospital.

Mr. G. Anderson has purchased an automobile from Mr. Elmer Burns. Mr. Burns has disposed of 60 automobiles during the past season.

#### **LANSDOWNE** March 22, 1922 (From Our Own Correspondent)

Messers A.E. Mooney, Robert Jack and A.W. Latimer are in Picton this week attending a meeting of the Provincial Grand Lodge.

Mrs. Potter, of Echo Lodge, Ivy Lea, entertained at a St. Patrick's progressive euchre on Saturday evening.

In St. Matthew's Church, Warburton, service will be held on Wednesday evening.

Mrs. Alex Lawson, of Ottawa, is visiting her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Senn, at the Srewart House.

Mr. L. Moxley, son of Mr. and Mrs. J.H. Moxley, has purchased Mr. Garnet Sheppard's bakery, store and dwelling.

Mr. James Lorimer proposes moving to Toronto, and has sold what is known as the Post Office, with flat above, to Mr. W. Danby. Services will be held in St. Paul's Church, Escott, on Tuesday and Thursday in Holy Week.

The W.C.T.U. is meeting Tuesday evening at the home of Mrs. Darling.

#### LANSDOWNE May 30, 1924 (From Our Own Correspondent)

Helen Earl, little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Percy Earl, fell down stairs recently and cut her face quite badly on some dishes she was carrying, which necessitated a number of stitches.

Mr. Elmer Burns has opened an up-to-date ice cream parlor with Mrs. Bryce Burns in charge.

Mr. McArthur, of Toronto, has taken Mr. Galbraith's place in the Bank of Toronto.

Mr. and Mrs. Thos. Hill, of Toronto are visiting at Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Loney's.

Mr. L. O'Grady, of Warburton, is seriously ill.

Miss Edith Hagerman has been engaged to teach the Rockport School until the summer holidays.

The Women's Institute will meet on Monday afternoon in the Town Hall.

W.Y.C.T.U. will meet on Tuesday evening at the home of Marjory Nunn.

Why not have an "at home" week in Lansdowne and fix the road leading to the Provincial Highway.

Mr. McGuire, School Inspector, was here Wednesday and Thursday.

On Monday evening Lansdowne L.O.B.A. attended lodge at Kingston.

Rev. J.D.McRae, of Honan, China, will preach at the Presbyterian Sunday services, at Lansdowne in the evening, and Fairfax and Sand Bay morning and afternoon.



#### **OUR CORPORATE MEMBERS**

BLACK CREEK BUILDING SERVICES CHARLESTON LAKE PROV. PARK HORTON HOMESTEAD FARM LANSDOWNE TELEPHONE/1000ISLAND.NET RONEY ENGINEERING LTD.

THE LIONS DEN HAIRSTYLING

TODD GRIER EXCAVATING

TOM BURNS C.A.

TWP. LEEDS AND THOUSAND ISLANDS



#### Paid up MEMBERSHIPS as of SEPTEMBER 8, 2007

CLARK, ED CORNISH, JOHN CRAIG, BRUCE & BETTY CRAWFORD, FLORENCE CRAWFORD, MADGE CROSS, DONNA & MURRAY CROSS, THORALD & MARY DAY, M. SHARYN DEMPSEY, DONNA DESJARDINS, MELANIE DICKSON, GERI

CHISAMORE, DON & DANNIE DILLMAN, DUANE & CAROL DOAK, BOB DOBSON, JOYCE DONEVAN, DOUGLAS DONEVAN, LOUISE DOREY, DONIE DOREY, MARK DOUGHTY, ERNIE & MARY EDGLEY, LAWRENCE & BESSIE EDWARDS, CAROL

### LAST NAME FIRST NAME

FOLEY, BRUCE & JOAN FOSTER, DONALD & CAROLE FUNNELL, DOROTHY GAYLORD, DAN & JANET GEEKIE, NANCY GEMMELL, IAN GIBBINS, CHRIS & GINNY GIBSON-LANGILLE, SHIRLEY

GILBERT, DAVID GILBERT, JUNE & DOUG GRIFFIN, BARBARA GRAHAM, ANDREW GRAHAM, KATHERINE GRAHAM, TOM & ANNE GRAY, CHARLES & ANN GRAY, PAUL & NORA GREEN, BRUCE GRICE, LINDA GRIER, HAROLD & RUTH

GRIER, JAMIE & TRACIE GRIER, ROSS HAFFIE, JOHN HAIG, HAROLD HALL, MYRTLE HAMEL, HUBERT HEATON, STEPHEN HEWITT, NATTANYA HEWITT, TED & PAT HOGAN, KENNETH P. HUNT, ERIC & JEAN HUNT, MORLEY & ANNE HUNT, GORDON & DOREEN

JACK, MURRAY JOHNSTON, THANE W. JONES, MARY A. JONES, STEWART & THELMA

KAISER, LAWRENCE

KAISER, W. KEIR, VIVIAN J. KELLOGG, MARK & VALERIE

LAPPAN, ANN

KELSEY, LLOYD

KELSEY, MILTON & VIVIAN KENNEDY, ADELINE KENNEY, GLORIA

KNOWLES, LLOYD & MADELINE LACKIE, BOB & KAYE LANDON, BILL & IRIS LANDON, GLENDENE LANDON, HARRY LANDON, YVONNE LANGTON, JIM & NANCY LAPOINTE, YOLANDE

LAST NAME FIRST NAME

LAPPAN, ROSE LAPPAN, WILFRED LAWSON, RICK & SUSAN LEDINGHAM, G. LEGGETT, LYNNE LINDSAY, ALAN & CAROLE LYNCH, CAROL LYNCH, DAVID & BEV MABEE, KEITH MACKENZIE, WANDA

MACKINTOSH, DOUGLAS & BLU MANGAN, ELLEN

MALLORY, LINDA MASSEY, TOM & JEAN MATTHEW, MARY ELLEN McCRADY, EARL

McCREADY, BRUCE & MAXINE McCULLOUGH, DORTHY McDOUGAL, MARILYN McELROY, GLEN & MARG

McKAY, HUGH & MARION

MICHIE, ROSE MODLER, BERTHA MOIR, RONALD MONTGOMERY, LEON MONTGOMERY, LOVERNA MOORHEAD, ALBAN MOORHEAD, LORNE MOREY, ELEANOR M. MOUG, NORMA MOULT, ELEANOR C. MULHOLLAND, PAT MURCHIE, DAN & PAM

NALON, JOHN NEAL, TOM & HELEN NEWELL, AUDREY NEWELL, DORTHY NUTTALL, BEN & HILDA NUTTALL, JAY

OFFORD, HOSS & SANDI

O'GRADY, CHRIS OLIVIER, GLENNDA & BOB ORTH, JIM & CATHERINE

PAGE, STEVE & JOANNE

PAQUIN, CAROLE PAQUIN, LAURIE PECK, GARY PERRY, BETTY

PHILLIPS, LINDA & ROLF PILON, TELESPHORE

PURVIS, DANA & ALLAN MARR RALPH, DAVE & RUTH REED, GWENDOLYN

#### LAST NAME FIRST NAME

REID, DENNIS REID, JOHN & KAY RIDEOUT, WES & KAREN ROBERTSON, MARY RONEY, MR. & MRS. G.V. RUNNING, IRVIN

RUNNING, MURRAY & DIANE SANDROd'ADDARIO, PATRICIA SCHARF, MYRNA & RICHARD

SHEPHERD, RHODA J. SHERREN, MONA SHIELDS, JOCK SHIRE, DAN SHIRE, GEORGE SIMPSON, DERROL

SLY, KEITH SLY, SANDRA SMID, HENRY SMITH, BRIAN & RONA

SMITH, SUSAN

SORENSEN, JOHN & LOUISE

STEACY, H. R. STEACY, MARLENE STEACY, PETER E. STEACY, RICHARD STEACY, ROBERT E. STEVENS, MILDRED

STRACHAN, JOY: MERCIER PIERRE

STUCKLESS, MARLENE SWAN, PETER & MARION TEDFORD, ROGER & CONNIE TEDFORD, LYNN TRICKEY, SPENCER TRUESDELL, ERIC & JACKIE

TRUESDELL, VAIDA WARREN, GEORGE & BETTE

WARREN, MARGEL

WEBSTER, ERIC & NANCY WEBSTER, GEORGE & REBECCA

WEBSTER, JEAN WEBSTER, LES & DAWN WEBSTER, PAUL & DOREEN WEBSTER, ROBERT & BEATRICE WHITE, LARRY & CHERYL WHITE, WILBERT & FREDA

WILLIAMS, HOWARD & JUDY ZIMMER, JOHN E.

#### **HONORARY LIFE MEMBER:**

RUTH CHISAMORE