

# NEWS

Have I Got e-  for You!



News from the Communities in and around the  
Old Barns and Hilden United Churches



No 22

October 2022

## *Message from Your Editor*

Where has the time gone since the last newsletter? Summer is already a distant memory with winter just around the corner. We are learning to live with COVID which means travel is being cautiously taken. Our daughter and granddaughter were home for a visit and while here, we spent part of a day at Martinique Beach, which was our first visit there. Very beautiful!! We flew with Catherine out to Calgary for a couple weeks where we visited places like Bragg Creek – named after a gentleman from Collingwood here in Nova Scotia! Beautiful country in southern Alberta, from the Rockies to the prairies. And now, we have just welcomed the birth of a granddaughter, our fourth grandchild and in two weeks, I will return to Calgary to await the birth of our fifth. The family is growing!

Here in our community, we have welcomes newcomers and said good bye to others and then we lived through Hurricane Fiona and, while many trees came down and power was out for most for a week, some for less time and others more, no one was injured or died. Our thoughts and prayers go out to those in areas hit harder, who lost their homes and businesses.

This makes me think of the saying – “There but for the Grace of God go I”. This is a paraphrase from a letter Paul wrote to the Corinthians (1 Corinthians 15: 8 – 10):

*Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I but the grace of God that is with me.*

We have many reasons to celebrate neighbours and friends who help when help is needed, and a reminder to count our blessings each and every day.

~ Leslie



*Thank You to the Clifton Community*  
from Roman and Yulia Burakov



Many thousands of kilometers behind, a long and difficult path lies ahead of us. We never thought or dreamed of living in another country, but the attack of Russian troops on Ukraine on February 24, 2022, became a tragedy and a difficult test for all Ukrainians.

For many, this day was a moment that completely changed life and divided it into before and after. Several million people left Ukraine in a hurry in the first days of the war, taking almost nothing with them. Many simply took their children away from mortal danger, and we were among them.

Saving our children and wives from danger, my brother and I took our families and our precious dog named Ricky outside Ukraine, then it seemed to us that we had left our house for only a week and very soon we would be back. We did not have a goal to get anywhere, we just left, leaving everything that we had, everything that we had earned and accumulated over the years.

Once in Moldova, we ended up at the Red Cross help center, after a couple of days we were told that there were a lot of people arriving and we

were offered to take a bus that would take us to Romania, where we lived for a few more days with a nice woman named Mimi. We were told that it would be better to take any evacuation train and move a little deeper into Europe, making room for those who are just coming. We did just that. Further, our path lay in Austria, Germany, France, Spain, Portugal. It was not a journey at all, but a test.

We just drove, spent the night at train stations or in gyms. Thanks to the Red Cross for providing people fleeing the war with accommodation and food. So we drove for over a month. In Spain, we again turned to the Red Cross organization for help, we were accommodated in a hostel with the rest of the Ukrainians, it was a hostel where everyone who had animals with them was accommodated.

We lived there very friendly, like one big family. I was looking for a job and I was taken to a construction site by Ukrainian Vasyli, who has been living in Spain for a long time. We thought in Spain we would wait for the end of the war and soon return home. But days and weeks passed. After 2 months, when I was at work, they called me and said that a tragedy had occurred, our dog Ricky had been hit by a car to death. I thought we'd go crazy with grief. I did not understand why this terrible misfortune was added to all our suffering. We will always remember his love and affection that he gave us, without any exaggeration, Ricky was like a son to us.

We didn't have the strength to be there, it seemed to us that we were going crazy, we felt the constant presence of our dead pet. We barely ate or drank, didn't sleep at all. The decision came, we packed up, said goodbye to our new friends and flew to Canada, but forever leaving our dear Ricky in Spain, taking only good memories of him with us.

Here we met real support. We were invited to stay with Laurie and Mike Sandeson, who live in Lower Truro, Nova Scotia. These kind people raised four wonderful sons. And no matter how strange it may sound, it seems that they also consider us their family. How else can you explain their help and very friendly attitude towards us. Feeling like you are living with

family. Thank you so much for being there. Many thanks to their friends for their help and support given to us.

One day, Laurie invited us to a benefit concert where a pie and cake auction was held. We understood that this concert was organized to introduce us to the locals. We also decided to bake a cake. This concert was held in a church, many people came. It was a lot of fun, a wonderful musical group called Highway 236 performed on stage for us; there was also an auction of pies/cakes. After this concert, Laurie Sandeson took the stage, she took out a letter from the envelope and read that the auction raised \$2,500 and this amount is being transferred to us.



We did not understand what was happening and could not believe it. This is a very big support for us. Then on the stage we said almost nothing because of poor knowledge of English. Now I want to thank the organizers of this concert, to say a huge thank you to the musicians and singers, a big thank you to everyone who was at this concert and supported us. We are also supported and helped by the friends of our Laurie – Leslie and Karen with their families support us and Maxim with Esther Lysakovskyy. Yes, and many residents of Truro and the surrounding area treat us with understanding, providing all kinds of assistance. Thank you guys for this. Thank you to everyone who helps us get through this difficult time in our lives. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

We still live in Lower Truro with Mike and Laurie Sandeson. Time passes, we got a job, the children went to school. We are starting to get used to life in Canada, but the house is the house and home will always be Ukraine where many family and friends still live. We look at our happy life behind and our plans ahead, and we understand that we will linger here, and perhaps stay forever.

Thank you all for your support, care and understanding, this is what we need now.



### *Thank You to the Clifton Community*

from Kelly Blair and Family

I am still at a loss for words and so I will just say it again, Thank You. These last two months have been the worst of my life and I have had to go through them without my best friend and true love, Andrew. The things that have gotten me through the hardest moments are the acts of kindness, especially those that my children get to experience in these very sad days for them. The concert was so special for them and the delicious goodies they got to take home were so exciting for them. The generosity of this community will support them in their future exciting days as they decide to go to post-secondary education or buy their first home or maybe take their first trip. I hope I am able to share Nola, Brynn, Kori & Axel's future successes with many of you and I know they will continue to feel the love and support that has come from this community. Thank You.

## Good Bye, Dear Friends



Wilfred Winfield "Sonny" Whitehead  
February 20, 1945 – June 19, 2022  
Beaver Brook



Doris Laverne McCallum  
September 17, 1927 – June 28, 2022  
Beaver Brook

*Sympathy is extended to those community members who have lost family and friends from within and outside our communities.*

*Always missed, forever remembered.*

*To Eternity  
Where does the journey end?  
Beyond where we can see.  
Where do the years end?  
That's unknown to you or me.  
Where does life end?  
In love and eternity.*

David Adam

## Welcome Babies



Levi Anthony Russell Burris  
Born October 5, 2022  
Parents: Stephen and Jenna  
Sisters: Marett and Adelaide



Daisy Jean Burrows-O'Toole  
Born October 17, 2022  
Parents: Alexander and Lacey  
Siblings: Violet and Forrest



## Happy Days!

### 80 + Birthdays:

Kathie Chisholm – October  
Sybil McCurdy – November  
Glenda Kent – November  
Fran Fiddes - January



## God Save the Queen



Her Royal Highness, Queen Elizabeth II (1926 – 2022), will be sadly missed by many. For many of us, she is the only Head of the Commonwealth that we have known.

Kathie Hannah shared the picture below which shows the Queen during her 1951 visit to Canada, the first of her 22 visits here. Kathie's father is driving the car.



## Up-Coming Services at the Clifton PC

October 23 – Peace Sunday  
9:30 a.m. in Hilden; 11:00 a.m. in Old Barns  
October 30 –  
A Service of Gratitude & Thanksgiving  
11:00 a.m. – Joint Service in Old Barns  
November 6 – Remembrance Sunday  
9:30 a.m. in Old Barns; 11:00 a.m. in Hilden

November 27 – December 18 –  
Advent Sundays  
December 24 – Christmas Eve Services  
7:00 p.m. in Hilden; 9:00 p.m. in Old Barns  
December 25 – Pre-Taped  
Christmas Day Service on-line

Information about our churches and when our services are can be found on our website. Most Sundays, the Old Barns services are either live-streamed or taped and can also be found on the Charge website:

[cliftonpastoralcharge.ca](http://cliftonpastoralcharge.ca)



*My colleague Lisa France wrote, "I am feeling more determined than ever to reconnect with community and feel some joy."*

*When joy doesn't come to your door, as it so often doesn't, it's a necessary act to go and choose some for yourself. Not in spite of difficulties, but because of them. I hope you find some way to choose joy – to choose yourself – today.*

by AJ Willingham, CNN

## Old Barns Library

Beckie Burrows, Librarian

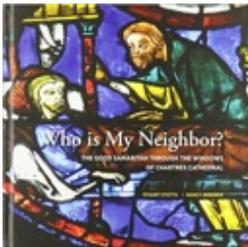
New books in the Old Barns Library

### **Who Is My Neighbor?: The Story of the Good Samaritan Through the Windows of Chartres Cathedral**

A thrilling exploration of color infused with story and story infused with light. The majestic windows of Chartres Cathedral bring this ancient yet essential parable to life on the page, provoking reflection on our own relationships to others and inspiring us with beauty. Nancy Enderle and Stuart Stotts surround the photos with simple text that provides background to deepen understanding of the cathedral and the story as well as a straightforward retelling of the Biblical parable.

### **The Little Tree** by Rebecca Harrison

This book is about kindness and relationships – relationship with nature, relationship with friends, relationship with ourselves.



### **Family Tree: Embracing Your Father Daughter Roots for Forgiveness, Fulfillment and Freedom** by Rebecca Harrison

The relationship between a young girl and her father is one that impacts her entire life. When fathers consciously encourage and protect their daughters, strong women will flourish. Unfortunately, not every father-daughter relationship follows this path, and many of us are left with wounds that take many years and a lot of self-work to heal.

Three fathers and eight daughters have come together to illuminate the importance of this early bond, offer hope for women and men who are healing this relationship, and show what is possible when a conscious father lays a foundation that allows his girls to shine. Immerse yourself in these empowering stories and discover your own pathway to healing and peace.

### **Family Tree: Embracing Your Mother Daughter Roots for Forgiveness, Fulfillment and Freedom** by Rebecca Harrison

Eleven mothers and daughters have collaborated to whole-heartedly share their deeply personal journeys of love, loss, and powerful healing. Every story offers the reader a deeper understanding of the importance of this bond, real hope and guidance for those healing this relationship, and hands-on tools for mothers who want to create a foundation for her daughters to shine. Immerse yourself in these authentic stories and discover your own pathway to more love, forgiveness, fulfillment, and freedom.



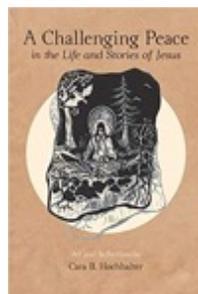
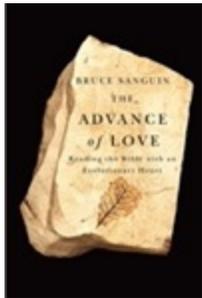
### **The Advance of Love: Reading the Bible with an Evolutionary Heart** by Bruce Sanguin

Through the lens of evolutionary Christianity, Sanguin works through moral, spiritual, and scientific issues raised in Mad Men, the writings of Richard Dawkins, tales from the Bible, and other stories that inform our views of the world. Sanguin's reflections will revitalize your faith and leave you celebrating that you don't need to sacrifice a rational, evidence-based worldview to be a person of faith in the twenty-first century.

## A Challenging Peace: In the Life and Stories of Jesus

by Rev. Cara Hochhalter

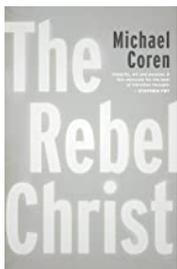
A Challenging Peace in the Life and Stories of Jesus is for anyone who is curious about the stories of Jesus, yearns for peace in their own lives and in the world today, or appreciates the intersections of art, story, faith, and justice. The book interprets forty stories from the Gospels through block print images created by the author, along with their Biblical texts. It also includes the author's own reflections that draw on the story, the art-making process, and how it all speaks to the challenge of making peace in our times. The author believes there are universal truths in the stories around Jesus that reach beyond the limits of Christianity and may help to unite us all in creating a more peace-filled world.



## The Rebel Christ

by Michael Coren

The real Jesus was a rebel, a radical, and a revolutionary. Contrary to conservative Christian narratives today, the rebel Christ wasn't about judgment but forgiveness, not about rejection but inclusion. Michael Coren reveals what the real Jesus would say about the hot-button issues dividing Christians.



## Benefit Concert Pictures

### Concert for Burakov Family



Highway 236



Shirley and Reg



Gerry and Reg



Kim and Madeline



Terry, Garry and Reg



## Concert for Blair Family



Alden and Reg



Glenn and Joyce



Rachel



Sandra and Colie



Some of the young Audience



## Old Barns Baby Blessing



The Yuill Family  
Aidah, Sadie, Stewart and Joleigh,  
Tiffany and Murray

*Now we're old and aching,  
mortality sits at our breakfast table,  
invites us to smile and enjoy  
warm sun caressing the  
red geraniums on our balcony,  
slyly suggests an argument  
would waste the precious moments  
of the day.*

~ Cornelia Hornosity ~

## August 28<sup>th</sup> Outdoor Service in Old Barns



Beckie and Phillip

## *The Monument –*

### *Cobequid District Fire Brigade*

submitted by James and Pat Yuill  
on behalf of the Committee

Approximately four years ago, with the thought that Cobequid District Fire Brigade was nearing its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the brigade felt it was time to find a way to honour the work that many community members had given to the brigade. Many members felt that a Monument similar to that of many other fire departments would be an appropriate symbol of the appreciation of the Brigade and community.

The committee felt that first step was to set the criteria for who would qualify to have their name engraved on the monument. Looking at the criteria that other area departments used for inclusion on their own monuments, recommendations eventually were agreed upon by the Brigade as to who would qualify. The following are the criteria for a name being included on the monument.

1. All Honourary Members – persons who made a significant contribution, in any way, to the Brigade and were voted, by the Brigade, onto our Honourary Membership Roll.
2. Charter Members – Members who joined in the first year of the inception of the Brigade and served for at least 5 years of service.
3. Any Brigade member with at least 10 years of service. Note: Members would have to be retired for 5 years before the name will be placed on the monument.

Now the real work started. Before the monument design could be finalized, we needed to know just how many names we would be dealing with in each category. It was an exhaustive two years of going through Brigade documents, histories and interviewing present and former members and their families. This resulted in a list of well over 300 names, which just goes to show what a great and giving community we live in.

On the list, we ended up with 12 Honourary Members, 29 Charter Members and 20 Members having served 10 years or more, who currently met the criteria to be listed on the Monument. Also, there are currently 15 or so active members who will qualify when they retire. With this in mind, extra space was needed to be provided in the design looking to the future.

The committee now went to the internet and traveled throughout the Maritimes and in some cases included side trips, when on vacation to the USA, to visit other such monuments to get design ideas. After much sketching, a design was presented and accepted by the Brigade. The location was decided to be at the Beaver Brook substation because the setting was the perfect, quiet spot to rest and reflect.

Pricing was acquired from several suppliers and Mattatall-Varner Funeral Home was chosen to supplied the stones. Site prep was done by Will Kare Paving and cement work was completed by TML Construction. Hubtown Crane lifted the stones in place.

We had hoped to have the project completed for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Fire Brigade on November 18, 2021, but Covid-19 had other plans. Various delays in research, work, and supplies resulted the project being completed on July 30, 2022.

The Cobequid Distirct Fire Brigade is proud of the Monument and hope that Everyone will feel free to drop in and visit the site in Beaver Brook.





Front and Back of Center Stone



Stone at the Back



Left and Right Sides of Centre Stone



This brilliant poem written by Abdullah Shoaib can be read both ways – top to bottom and bottom to top, one sentence at a time – and both messages are so incredibly powerful.

I'm very ugly  
 So don't try to convince me that  
 I am a very beautiful person  
 Because at the end of the day  
 I hate myself in every single way  
 And I'm not going to lie to myself by saying  
 There is beauty inside of me that matters  
 So rest assured I will remind myself  
 That I am a worthless, terrible person  
 And nothing you say will make me believe  
 I still deserve love  
 Because no matter what  
 I am not good enough to be loved  
 And I am in no position to believe that  
 Beauty does exist within me  
 Because whenever I look in the mirror I  
 always think  
 Am I as ugly as people say?



Stones to Left and Right of Centre

## *Giving Back Their Voices*

The Green Oak Graveyard  
1850 – 1944

Information gathered and compiled by  
Leslie Burrows of Green Oak, Nova Scotia

During the summer of 2022, the headstones in the Green Oak Graveyard were scrutinized and, with as much accuracy as possible, all words were copied down. Several of the stones were in a deteriorating condition with some words lost due to weathering and time and others due to the stones having been broken. Once all information was gathered and pictures taken of the stones, then the work of trying to find out a little more about the lives of each of the people buried there was undertaken. This was mostly accomplished by going through the Canada Census records. I tried to be as accurate as possible when finding the names to determine that they were the people in the Green Oak Graveyard. Thanks go out to Nanci Dartt, Hannah Burrows and Cliff Sandeson for their help.



I dedicate this work to Ralph and Lola Dartt. Ralph and friends, in the early 1960's, started the job to bring the graveyard back from the growth of trees and alder bushes which hid it from view for many years. Ralph then repaired broken stones and kept the graveyard mowed and in good condition. This legacy has been continued by their daughter Nanci.

*A copy of this 48 page document now resides in the Colchester Historeum Archives.*

## *Refugee Thoughts*

by Gary Saunders

Recently, on the editorial page of a Nova Scotia daily, a reader asked why Nova Scotia was accepting so many refugee Ukrainians when so many of our own citizens were homeless, poor and needing help. Not long afterward, another reader reminded this person that the ancestors of many of us whites, unless born indigenous, were in fact themselves refugees.

This rejoinder resonated with me. Not that my forbears were fleeing war when they left southwest England in the late 1700s to make a new life overseas. For them, the big attraction was Newfoundland's rapidly developing cod fishery, set to feed a protein-hungry Europe. Because that fishery needed healthy young men to work the boats and jiggers, many in their late teens were snatched off the streets of Poole and other southern seaports to become low-paid apprentices – "youngsters", they called them. Many stayed to marry and raise families.

A better example of the wartime refugee is the Acadian experience. In the late 1600s, these natives of Normandy and Brittany, fed up with the endless squabbles between England and France, left France to settle hereabouts. The same wars followed them here. Forced in 1755 to swear allegiance to the English Crown and refusing, they were uprooted and sent hither and yon as refugees.

Then there were the thousands of disbanded Loyalist soldiers who took the British side in the American War of Independence. No longer welcome at home when America won, many emigrated to Upper Canada and the Maritimes.

The two world wars sent more thousands to our shores, from the Netherlands especially. During and between those wars, hundreds of other families, especially Ukrainian, helped settle the Canadian West. I'm told that Canada boasts the highest percentage of that nationality in North America.

Another group victimized by war were the black American slaves who, freed after the 1860s American Civil War, were given passage and land in Nova Scotia's Shelburne district, and in the new country of Liberia in Africa.

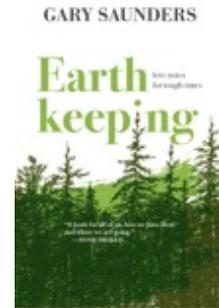
But most of our white refugee ancestors arrived in three 19th-century waves. The Irish Potato Famine or Great Hunger of 1845-1849 caused mass starvation in that island when successive potato harvests – a new crop to them – failed due to disease. As a result, thousands of Irish families took ship to America to settle along its Atlantic Seaboard, especially around Boston and New York.

Next came the migration of thousands of Scots, mainly Highlanders, whose sheep-raising lands were progressively confiscated by London wool merchants. Naturally, many gravitated to New Scotland, aka Nova Scotia. Another, though smaller contingent of refugees, consisted of minorities fleeing religious persecution. Among these were the hundreds of Swiss Protestants who settled near Lunenburg.

All of these refugees, in one way or another, encroached on the lands and waters of indigenous peoples who had lived here for millennia. In Newfoundland, the native Beothuk, shot on sight for “stealing” metal tools, nails and such, were forced by mainly English immigrants to retreat to remote inland lakes. Even there the germs of tuberculosis and other European diseases found them; by 1930 they were virtually extinct. Meanwhile parties of Nova Scotia Mi'kmaq were exploring the Island's southwest coast, whence some trekked northeast to the Gander River watershed. In my childhood, those were the only indigenous people we knew. One of them, Jim John, took my teenaged dad on his first caribou hunt.

Today, white society is finally trying to atone for our ancestors' injustice and racism. One example of this is the practice of some churches to begin each worship service with a statement of reconciliation, a confession or sorts. Not much, and late coming – but it's a start.

## *A New Book by Local Writer – Gary Saunders*



The author of *Alder Music*, Gary Saunders returns with an evocative, lyrical, and immersive collection of personal essays on our relationship with nature and with each other.

In nine sections, *Earthkeeping* ruminates on the necessity of love and earthkeeping, on forage fish and robinsongs, and on the stewardship of our ecological landscape. Offering an antidote to the world's anxiety about climate change, plastic pollution, and biodiversity loss,

Saunders writes with a deep connection to the natural world and his signature humane zest for life. Lovingly illustrated with Saunders's own drawings, the result is a joyful, personal, and deeply attentive stroll through an enchanted land of blue and green.



A man Outstanding in ... someone else's field!!!  
James Kelleher, watering the soy beans  
Oh, this (former) city boy!!!

## *Clover Crest Farm Expansion*

submitted by Jim Burrows

After several years of planning, in June of 2021 we finally broke ground for an addition and major renovation to our dairy barn.

The new structure is 80 feet by 216 feet. Sitting on a concrete foundation the building is a steel frame every 24 feet tied together with wooden purlins. The roof and ceiling are made up of sheets that have steel on the top insulation in the middle and plastic for the ceiling on the bottom. The side walls are roll up curtains. Two on each side, one top and one bottom. They open and close depending on temperature. On hot days in the summer about 12 feet of the side wall is open for air flow. Near the center of the barn attached to the ceiling are 24 diameter fans that provide sufficient air speed to provide cooling for the cows.

The three pictures I have included are lifted from our web cams. The one below was taken from the north end of the barn shows the inside of the new structure.



On the right is the feeder where the cows get their feed. In the picture the tractor and mixer are delivering the day's feed. The cows then leave the feeder area through one-way gates to get to the rest sleep area. At the far end of the picture, out of view, the cows go through a sort gate when they leave this area. The sort gate directs them into the holding area to be milked or back to the feeder. They are sorted based on how long since they were last milked.



The picture above is taken of the holding area shows a structure on the left. You can see a green gate on the right side of the structure. That is the gate that opens to allow a cow into be milked. There is another milking unit on the other side out of view. Once milked the cow leaves to the front of the structure and returns to the feeder area. The second room to the right houses equipment to operate the milking system.



The picture above is taken of the pack area, it is looking back at the robot milking area and, in the distance, you can see the new barn. This area of the barn used to house stalls and feeder when the cows were milked in the milking parlour. It has been completely redone. In the foreground, you can see feeder area and a shavings pack. This is where the cows that are 3 weeks and less away from calving come until they give birth. Beyond that pack, next to the robots is another pack area for special needs cows. Mostly for cows the first few days after calving and cows needing special attention. After milking, cows that are flagged for this area are sorted to the pack.

Not shown, and the renovations are not yet finished, is the original barn I build in 1980. In that barn it housed the milk-house, milking parlour, calves from 3 months to 10 months, and cow stalls and feeder. The milk-house is still in use. The parlour is being removed and part of that space will be used for utilities. Some of the cow stalls have been converted for heifers from 10 months to 14 months. The remainder will be converted for older heifers and calves.

The project is taking longer than expected. Given delays in receiving materials and construction crews operating with skeleton crews, we have made reasonable progress. The cows moved into the new barn in late April. For the next few months, they had to travel through a construction zone to be milked in the old parlour. On August 30<sup>th</sup>, the new milking system started up and late September the pack area was ready for the dry cows.

Having the cows in the new barn for a few months helped our robot start-up. They were already familiar with the barn and travelling through one-way gates. After encouraging the cows through the robots for the first two milking's, the cows were on their own. The cows caught on very quickly and there are very few that need to be directed to be milk. The improvements in technology and the understanding of how to construct a barn to make use of a cow's natural movement and patterns is obvious when you compare to the first robot milking units. The average cow is being milked 2.7 times a day. It takes just over a minute from the time the cow enters until the milking unit is attached, the cow prepped and her milk flow has started. She is in the milking stall 6.5 minutes.



Glenda & Sybil at the *Beyond Van Gogh Show*

### *Natures Glorious Skies*

