



By Dorothy Speirs

Writing last month about the renovations to our Milford Library got me thinking about a presentation by past Chair of the Friends of the Ann Farwell Library, Susan MacDonald. In her article, Susan outlines the history of our library, which began over seventy years ago.

The South Marysburgh Public Library was founded by Ann Farwell, a local South Bay sheep farmer and former Toronto librarian, and Jeanne Minhinnick, a South Bay resident and former Toronto bookseller. In 1951, with the support of Reeve Carson Scott, they established the library in the Milford Town Hall. It was the first rural library in Prince Edward County. In 1952, operations moved to a small one room library, built on donated land with a \$1650 loan from South Marysburgh Township. The library was renamed The Ann Farwell Public Library, following Ann's death in 1976. In 1982, Tom Huff, Chair of the Library Board, in an effort to increase funding, successfully appealed to Athol Township to affiliate itself with the re-named Ann Farwell Library. When the time came to build a new library, the councils of both townships offered their full support and assistance and both communities worked together to raise the funds.

In 1991, the Library Board, having secured a government grant for an accessible wash-

Milford Library a "Community" Achievement

room, realised that the library building was in such disrepair that a new building would have to be built. Although the board was allowed to keep the grant for the washroom, the Athol/South Marysburgh community would have to raise

an enormous amount of money. And raise it they did! Vernice McConnell and Cheryl Reed planned the fundraising efforts and enlisted the many people

needed to make a fundraising campaign successful.

Read more about the extraordinary fund-raising activities in the next issue of The Mirror.

Rain Barrel & Composter Sale Earth Day April 22

Go to www.rainbarrel.ca/csgpicton for information.



Volunteers are needed for a variety of events

**Learn more at the information open house
Sunday April 7, 2-3 pm
Milford Town Hall**