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NOTICE

The Islands Grapevine
will be taking a break at
Christmas.

There will be no Grapevine published on
December 23rd - we'll be back in your mailbox
and emailbox December 30th.

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Cover image: Photo Rem Skolney



Internet Referendum Final Report

COMMUNITY INFO

By Peter Spurr

• Hornby/Denman Internet Committee

vote or at the advance poll in

The indications are that the "Yes" vote was 96% on Denman, 90% on Hornby.

Thank you to everyone for voting.

We look forward to hearing when CityWest will install fibre-optic service along our roads, and when the capacity of the Connected Coast undersea cable project will reach our islands. Our communities eagerly await the benefits of high-speed internet, as well as a 300-channel television option and a hard-wired telephone service, all at more reasonable prices than our present providers offer.

Every household on our islands should know one vital bit of information before CityWest begins its installation. CityWest will install a connection from the road to the wall of our house (a "Drop") without charge if the property owner has signed a "Drop Approval form". In cases where the property has a long or otherwise difficult driveway, the owner must advise CityWest of the situation and the two will work out an installation arrangement. Signing a Drop Approval is not committing to subscribe to CityWest services – it is just bringing the capacity to your house. Drop Approval forms are available at the Denman Store, Abraxas, the Hornby Co-op store, or online at <https://www.citywest.ca/dropping-in>.

If a property has not provided a signed Drop Approval before fibre is installed along its frontage, CityWest will not install a Drop to that property. If, later on, that property decides that it does want to obtain service, a Drop will have a substantial cost (perhaps in the \$000s) and there may be a delay of many months before installation can be arranged.

This is critical information that every household should know. It is estimated that about one-third of Denman properties have not signed Drop Approvals. If you know of someone, a neighbour, a friend, who you think has not signed a Drop Approval, please help to ensure that they understand the significance of not signing one of these forms.

People who don't understand today may be very sorry later. 🍷

DENMAN/HORNBYS INTERNET REFERENDUM RESULTS

		Denman Island		Hornby Island		Denman and Hornby Combined	
Population (2016 Census)		1165		1016		2181	
REFERENDUM VOTE							
		Ballot Count	% of Population	Ballot Count	% of Population	Ballot Count	% of Population
Special Vote Nov 24	Yes	97	8%	85	8%	182	8%
	No	3	0%	5	0%	8	0%
	Total	100	9%	90	9%	190	9%
Main Vote Nov 27	Yes	426	37%	308	30%	734	34%
	No	21	2%	41	4%	62	3%
	Total	447	38%	349	34%	796	36%
Total at Voting Booths		547	47%	439	43%	986	45%
Mail-In and Advance Poll	Yes					276	13%
	No					11	1%
	Total					287	13%
Final Referendum Result	Yes					1192	55%
	No					81	4%
	Total					1273	58%

Source: CVRD "Official Results" dated November 29, 2021

December Daphne Days!

By Erika Bland

COMMUNITY INFO

• DCA

Daphne Info Webinar: To kick off Daphne Days, Heidi Grant from Coastal Invasive Species Committee will be giving an online talk on the biology of Daphne, and how we can use this information to control its presence on the island. As well, learn more about how Coastal ISC can help you with other invasive plants on your property. The talk will be conducted via Zoom on December 8th at 6PM. Link to it here:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81568848117?pwd=MXBzTFhCL1AzbXU1bVljbTY3THBBZz09>

A Bit About Daphne: Popular as an ornamental in gardens and for florists, due to its glossy, rhododendron-like leaves and fragrant flowers, Daphne is tolerant of both sun and shade but rapidly takes over native vegetation by forming dense thickets in a range of ecosystems. Its deep black berries are loved by birds, who spread its seeds. It occupies similar niches as native species like Salal and Oregon Grape, which provide important shelter, forage and nectaring opportunities for many wildlife species. When the plants are small, they can easily be mistaken for another leathery species that grows in similar forested environments: 'Prince's Pine' – *Chimaphila umbellata*. However, this native species has serrated leaf edges, grows in creeping clusters of plants and is much smaller, not growing larger than about 30 cm tall. (See photos for comparison.)



Daphne Cluster



Prince's Pine Cluster

December 'One-A-Day' Daphne Removal Campaign: December is a great time to control Daphne, as it is present year-round and is easier to access with the dieback of native vegetation. Tackling it now while it is flowering means preventing further spread of this plant since berries have usually not yet formed or matured. Rains at this time of year moisten the soil so that pulling out smaller plants is easier than when soils are dry.

We challenge you to get out and remove just one plant (or one small patch of Daphne plants) each day this month where you live. Take a photo and keep track of your numbers. Watch our Facebook page for updates and send your photos and removal updates to dcalandmanager@gmail.com. The person who removes the most Daphne plants this month will win a \$25 gift certificate to Abraxas books!

How to Manually Control Daphne: When removing Daphne, use gloves and pull small plants by hand, especially when the ground is moist. Remove larger plants (more than 30 cm) by cutting the stem just below ground level, with as little disturbance to the soil as possible, even though this means leaving part of the root system behind. Mind the Sap! The bark, sap and berries of Daphne can cause skin irritation (and in rare cases nausea

continued on P.5...

TIDE TABLE

• Secondary Tidal Station Ford Cove •
• Source: tides.gc.ca •

2021-12-02

(Thursday)

Time	Height	
PST	(m)	(ft)
04:52	4.4	14.4
09:48	3.2	10.5
15:11	4.8	15.7
22:36	0.7	2.3

2021-12-03

(Friday)

Time	Height	
PST	(m)	(ft)
05:48	4.7	15.4
10:44	3.4	11.2
15:47	4.8	15.7
23:17	0.3	1.0

2021-12-04

(Saturday)

Time	Height	
PST	(m)	(ft)
06:39	4.9	16.1
11:39	3.5	11.5
16:27	4.8	15.7
23:59	0.1	0.3

2021-12-05

(Sunday)

Time	Height	
PST	(m)	(ft)
07:29	5.1	16.7
12:34	3.6	11.8
17:11	4.7	15.4

2021-12-06

(Monday)

Time	Height	
PST	(m)	(ft)
00:44	0.0	0.0
08:16	5.2	17.1
13:31	3.7	12.1
17:59	4.6	15.1

2021-12-07

(Tuesday)

Time	Height	
PST	(m)	(ft)
01:28	0.1	0.3
09:03	5.3	17.4
14:33	3.6	11.8
18:53	4.4	14.4

2021-12-08

(Wednesday)

Time	Height	
PST	(m)	(ft)
02:14	0.4	1.3
09:49	5.2	17.1
15:41	3.4	11.2
19:54	4.1	13.5

2021-12-09

(Thursday)

Time	Height	
PST	(m)	(ft)
03:01	0.8	2.6
10:35	5.2	17.1
16:54	3.2	10.5
21:03	3.8	12.5





An Unpainted Portrait: 'Beneficial' Exercise

ARTS&LIT

By Leo Simmons

Following our humiliating marching experiences, a short break was scheduled. The timetable allowed five minutes for us to get into running gear and meet Tendril on the volleyball court. Our break was therefore spent in a huge rush to fetch our gear from vehicles and transferred to our new residences. I naïvely threw my uniform onto the bright yellow bed, inserted myself at lightning speed into my sports gear and emerged breathlessly onto the landing at approximately the same time as the rest of the gang. Following a very brief debate on the matter, we abandoned the elevator and hurtled down the lethal concrete stairwell to the ground floor.

Once we arrived upon the parade square we were examined for cleanliness and suitability for public consumption. Tendril had, without any warning whatsoever, appeared in a white singlet and *very* tiny 1980s shorts. They may have been purpose-made, but since I've always considered recreational long-distance running to be a socialized form of masochism, it was a shock. Completing his ensemble were garish, fluorescent, proper *running shoes*. This, I deduced, did not bode well. Running shoes are, I have since learned, never a good thing to see on the feet of someone in a position of authority. Such people have a distressing tendency to assume – erroneously – that running for extended periods upon hard surfaces is both beneficial and *fun*. They seem unable to understand any other perspective; for example, that running on concrete is, in principle, a very silly idea.

The most striking aspect of Tendril's appearance was the alarming exposure of the man's skin. From the neck up – in uniform at least – his skin tone, although suspiciously orangey, had not seemed so noticeable, but now with much more of him exposed to the atmosphere, it was evident that he had at some time in the not-too-distant past been deep-fried. Not only that; he had been left in the hot oil for way too long. A disturbing Trumpy-orange all over, his skin had the texture of an over-cooked Christmas turkey (without the bacon strips, and let's not even think about the whole stuffing thing) fresh from the oven. The effect was enhanced by thin, stringy arms which looked exactly like shrivelled chicken wings.

With little further warning, we were then introduced to the delights of one of Tendril's favourite pastimes. No, I do *not* mean rubbing himself against his glossy boots in an unholy way. This was far more indecent: *the cross-country run*. Since the grim expanse of Crumpton is almost exactly in the middle of beautiful, rural Crumbleshire, finding some 'country' to run 'across' in an island of industrialisation presented a slight problem. Green space in this thoroughly dodgy landscape consisted mainly of school football pitches or municipal parks, both of which, it would turn out, were liberally covered in broken glass or ripped-up porn magazine pages and an enormous variety (size, consistency, colour) of dog crap. On reflection, this was probably the most colourful thing about the place.

In order to reach any genuine countryside, we were obliged to find our way – by a ridiculously complicated route – through scruffy residential and industrial streets and out of town on unyielding paved footpaths. The footpaths also presented an obstacle course of canine waste, broken glass and worst of all, grumpy, unmoving Crumptonians. Most of them were utterly absorbed in the town's favourite pastime of standing still and hating everything. After what seemed like a ridiculous distance/length of time, a relatively healthy-looking tree hove into view. This

was slowly followed by a farmer's field – identified by being a large, mostly green and flat space with no obvious buildings or abandoned cars and dotted with unhappy-looking sheep. It felt as if a curtain had been pulled aside to allow us to see the real world once again. It was inspiring and depressing at the same time.

Already desperate for oxygen by this point, I was appalled when the distant head of the column promptly turned around and ran away from England's green fields and *past me in the opposite direction*. We were, then, only halfway through the torture. At least, I thought as I dragged my carcass back through those miserable streets past the same immobile, hateful Crumptonians, we were breathing more noxious traffic fumes than was humanly possible, and my suffering would therefore soon be at an end. Two things were clear: firstly, I wasn't nearly as fit as I had thought I was. Secondly, the deep-fried Tendril was *extremely* fit. I initially wondered how he did it at his advanced age – and almost worked myself into respecting him for it – but with the passage of only a few days, it would become apparent that apart from the first few days with us, he had very little else to occupy his time except to keep himself fit. It was, I thought, a nice job if you could get it.

Mark and I brought up the rear of the group, just about keeping Alan in sight just to avoid getting lost. I was at that time reasonably well-conditioned (I thought) but it was extremely uncomfortable to run on hard pavement, and as a result, I was suffering from a lot of pain in my lower back. There may have been a little bit of feeble whimpering, folks. Mark also hated running on the streets and was suffering his own woes. Despite his denials, I was sure that his main problem was the drag from his outstanding ears. Such was the effect of the huge amounts of air colliding with his flappers, the poor lad was forced to resort to running bent at almost ninety degrees to present

a more aerodynamically efficient profile to the atmosphere. He balanced this with the very real danger of taking off, hang glider-style. If I'd had the breath to make fun of him, I would have.

All I wanted to do was stop. I needed, as a matter of urgency, some relief from the pain in my kidney area, but a combination of pride, fear of the consequences and a total lack of knowledge about where I was, prevented me from doing so. It would, after all, have been a little embarrassing, as a prospective police officer, to have to ask for directions back to the FTC. There was also the prospect – slender but enough to frighten me – of being kidnapped and having my DNA harvested should I end up wandering those mirthless streets alone...All they would have found of me was an empty skin. In addition, being male also meant that to admit to being lost would go against millennia of genetic encoding which prevented me from ever acknowledging that I had even slightly lost my sense of direction. The immediate choice facing me, therefore, was to keep going, or else die a lonely death filled with shame. I preferred the former option.

After approximately half a lifetime of keeping one another moving and a rather desperate and disturbingly ugly version of a sprint finish when I made a poorly judged bid to not finish last, Mark and I arrived back at the front doors of the training centre in a tangle of limbs and a state of near collapse. There, our instructor stood, barely out of breath and with our colleagues in varying degrees of respiratory distress alongside him. Recognising our supreme effort and sacrifice, the kindly Tendril granted us a whole fifteen-minute break to shower and dress in our new uniforms, thence to reappear in class once again. Arse.



...continued from P.3 or vomiting). So, make sure to wear gloves when handling it. Daphne won't re-root from cut pieces, so it's ok to 'chop and drop' it, as long as it's not somewhere where children or pets might get into it, due to the toxicity factor. If you're worried about that, plants can also be collected and buried, or bagged and brought to landfill. Daphne should never be burned due to its toxic compounds.

If you have Daphne in your garden, consider replacing it with an alternative that will not threaten local native ecosystems. BC Invasive Species Council suggests the following plants as alternatives for Daphne in gardens: Evergreen Huckleberry (*vaccinium ovatum*); Japanese Azalea (*rhododendron kiusianum* hybrids); Oregon Grape (*berberis nervosa*); Tall Oregon Grape (*berberis aquifolium*); Winter Daphne (*daphne odora*).

This December (and anytime), if you see Daphne where you live, or on trails where you spend time, please consider taking a few minutes to pull it out or cut it and help keep island biodiversity thriving! 🍷

Where Did Our **HELLO** Cat Fern Go?

By Christopher Mainella

Denman community,
Our 5 month old male cat Fern ventured off Sunday November 21st from our cabin in the forest on Jemima.

I have spoken to all the neighbors, put his litter box, bed, food outside, called his name often while shaking his treats, have covered a large territory calling his name, looking in all the out buildings, checking in the trees and no trace. Unfortunately he has no collar, as the one we got him was too big.

Fern is a friendly cat, loves people and would come to you if you called his name (while shaking a mason jar with treats). He is a tabby, with black stripes, underlying silver and white coloration.

We are moving from Denman (I leave possibly the 8th) and we observed that he was a true Denman cat and were in the midst of finding him a new Denman family and home. Then he took off on his own adventure. Hopefully he has found himself a new, cozy and loving home. If that is the case we would just like to know that he is safe and if you wanted to adopt him we could give you some information on where he is at with his vaccinations etc. We also have his favorite toys that you could have!

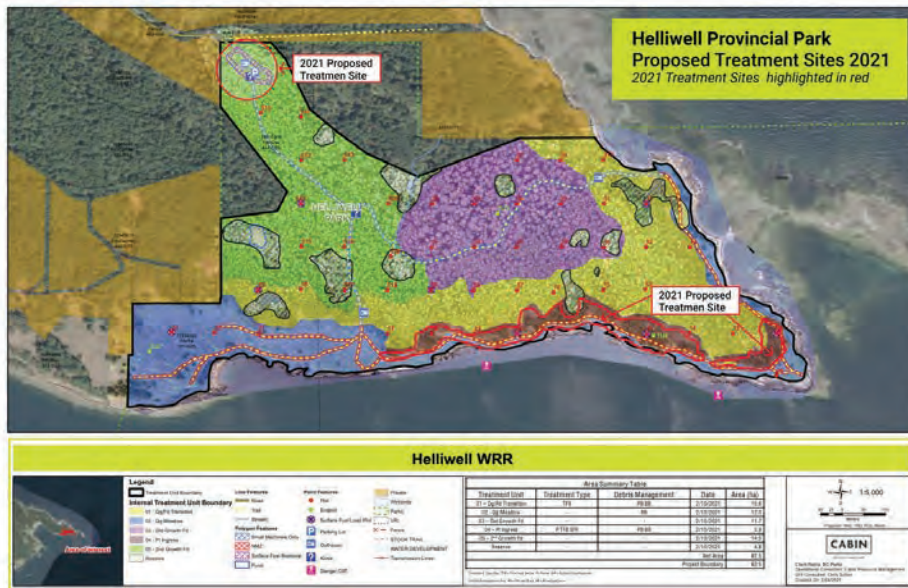
Please contact me: Christopher Mainella (the Physio), 235-255-3354, christophermainella@gmail.com if you have any information of his whereabouts or if you spotted him 🍷



HISTORICALLY, First Nations used fire as a tool to maintain important plants and other species associated with open Garry oak woodlands and meadows. In the absence of First Nation's land management practices, and decades of fire suppression in the area, the fuel hazard has increased within the park with

SPECIAL INTEREST

1



A group of people are gathered in a forest setting. In the center, a wooden shelter with a gabled roof displays a large painting of a forest scene. A man in a green jacket is standing to the right, facing the group and speaking. Several other people are standing around the shelter, some looking at the painting. A wooden bench is in front of the shelter. In the background, a blue car is parked on a dirt road.

2

Heather Steere invited the public to provide BC Parks with a list of locations within Helliwell that are significant for the community, and locals have flagged these areas to prevent unintentional damage during the project. A contractor has been hired and plans to begin limbing and thinning in mid-December and January with work completed by mid-February at the latest.

The Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly Recovery Project Team and BC Parks thank the Cowichan Tribes, Halalt, Homalco, K'ómoks, Lake Cowichan, Lyackson, Penelakut, Qualicum, Snaw'Naw'As, Stz'uminus, Tla'amin, We Wai Kai, and We Wai Kum First Nations, for allowing us to restore ecosystems in their traditional territories. Thanks to Ilze Raudzins, Tina Wai, Neil Wilson, Rebecca Benjamin-Carey, and Serena Laskin for their insightful comments and questions during the October information session in Helliwell Provincial Park.

To find out more about fuel management or other aspects of the Helliwell Provincial Park Ecosystem Based Plan, visit <https://a100.gov.bc.ca/pub/acat/public/viewReport.do?reportId=17734>

Photos by Chris Junck
unless otherwise noted.

1 - The proposed sites for selectively reducing fire fuels in 2021-22 are scattered throughout the areas within the red boundary lines on the map.

2 - BC Parks area supervisor Derek Moore described the coastal bluff Garry oak ecosystem restoration work that has been carried out in Helliwell Provincial Park in recent years.

3 - Erica McClaren, BC Parks conservation specialist, told the group about the Taylor's checkerspot butterfly recovery

Selective, multi-year manual thinning and limbing of Douglas-fir and shore pine. Iconic trees, Garry oak, juniper and arbutus trees will not be negatively impacted. On site pile burning will be used to dispose of thinning debris along the coastal

3



project activities and a hydrology study that took place in the park in 2021.

4 - BC Parks

senior ranger Heather Steere discussed the various potential wildfire risks and the need to reduce the fuel load in the target areas while enhancing the ecological values.

5 - Local community members contributed valuable comments about the fuel management plan during the public information session.

6 - During a tour of the potential target fuel management sites, Heather Steere identified the kinds of fuels that need to be reduced and areas where ecological values will be enhanced. Photo by Erica McClaren.

Background Information

Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly (*Euphydryas editha taylori*)

Also known as Edith's checkerspot.

Historical range was Hornby Island, southeastern Vancouver Island, Puget Trough and to the Willamette Valley in Oregon. In BC, they were once abundant at 10 sites in the Greater Victoria Area, one site each near Mill Bay and Comox, and sites on

5



Hornby Island (including Helliwell Provincial Park). They were thought to have been extirpated (became locally extinct) from Canada by 2000 when no Taylor's checkerspots could be found in their last known sites on Hornby Island despite intensive searches. However, new populations were discovered on Denman Island in 2005 and near Campbell River in 2018. It is federally listed as Endangered (COSEWIC, SARA Schedule 1), and is on the BC Red list of at-risk species.

Taylor's checkerspot butterflies need open sunny meadows where they can find suitable host plants (food for larvae and nectar producing flowers for adults), such



4

as woolly sunflower, common camas, small-flowered blue-eyed Mary, wild strawberry, sea blush, and yarrow. Habitat loss, degradation and fragmentation are major factors in the species' decline. For example, the meadows along the coastal bluffs in Helliwell Provincial Park became less suitable for butterflies due to invasions of non-native plants and encroaching forests.

Habitat enhancement work (weeding, selective limbing +/- or removal of conifers, re-planting and seeding with native species) has been ongoing in Helliwell Provincial Park for several years.

The Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly Recovery Project

The Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly Recovery Project is an initiative of the Garry Oak Ecosystems Recovery Team's Invertebrates at Risk Recovery Implementation Group and our partners. It is a collaborative effort to restore Taylor's Checkerspot populations in British Columbia through habitat enhancement, captive butterfly rearing and release, monitoring, public outreach, and other activities.

Team Members

6

Jennifer Heron (Chair), BC Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, Vancouver, BC

Erika Bland & Andrew Fyson, Denman Island Conservancy Association, Denman Island, BC

Deborah Bish-

op, Denman Island, BC

Menita Prasad, Greater Vancouver Zoo, Aldergrove, BC

continued on P.8...

...continued from P.7 Eric Gross & Kella Sadler, Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment and Climate Change Canada, Delta, BC

Crispin Guppy, Entomologist, Whitehorse, YT

Molly Hudson, Mosaic Forests, Nanaimo, BC

Chris Junck, Garry Oak Ecosystems Recovery Team, Victoria, BC

Nicole Kroeker, Parks Canada Agency, Victoria, BC

Suzie Lavallee, University of British Columbia Faculty of Forestry, Vancouver, BC

Patrick Lilley, Private Consultant, North Vancouver, BC

Erica McClaren, BC Parks, Black Creek, BC

Kristen Miskelly, Satinflower Nurseries, Victoria, BC

Derek Moore, Area Supervisor Von Donop Area, BC Parks, Black Creek, BC

Nick Page, Raincoast Applied Ecology, Vancouver, BC

Jessica Steiner, Andrea Gielens, Maja Hampson & Genevieve Rowe, Wildlife Preservation Canada, Toronto & Guelph, ON

Bonnie Zand, BC Conservation Foundation Fanny Bay, BC

Supporters

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BC Parks

BC Parks License Plate Fund

BC Wildlife Federation

Denman Conservancy Association

Environment Canada Habitat Stewardship Fund

Garry Oak Ecosystems Recovery Team

Greater Vancouver Zoo

Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation

Hornby Island Community School

Hornby Island Natural History Centre

Mosaic Forests

University of British Columbia

Wildlife Preservation Canada

For more information about the Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly Recovery Project, visit: <https://goert.ca/activities/taylors-checkerspot/>
Or contact:

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* More photos available by request

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Heather Steere

Senior Park Ranger

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Crazy Clown, in a Bowl of Hero Soup

SPECIAL INTEREST

By Robbie Newton

Robbie Newton



A perspective.

Yes it's time for me to focus on my Hero's, a celebration of some of the pleasures that Denman has offered me in the times that I've spent here.

So now for an easy Hero, Esther Muirhead, whose determination to save the trees of the Fairy Creek area is now 'legend' for us on Denman. Her reporting of what she has seen and been involved with has promoted many others to join in that campaign.

Personally my disgust is at a new high for those who identify with that once respectable NDP label. And Teal-Jones, the logging company who say they are providing for a market of 'cedar shakes'; a product that is easily available from

any cedar tree; suggests an unhealthy lust for power, in a society which already overindulges in that same lust.

One of my might have been Heroes was Andrew Scruton. I'd watch him tangle in the DIRA 'arena' that I still like to call "Ratepayers", where the 'possessive' natures of residents still stir strong emotions. He did well there, taking criticism and rising

above it; and thoughts about running for the Trust became public. However an admiring Bill Engleson attached himself to that goal; which stirred up the satirical pen of Ron Sakolsky; and Engle/Scruton, linking their names together becoming the butt of this lively piece of writing. Bill was outraged but sensibly Andrew added nothing of his own; and Andrew wasn't elected; so as an "unadorned Hero" he remains.

My heroes, yes, but who are yours? I'm just one observer, there are so many more of you.

Think of who you would choose, and why; there's too much negativity, it surrounds us: make your own positive notions known; free yourself and feel the relief.



Phoenix Riting! A Hornby Perspective

By Phoenix Bee

official public health orders, and that is creating an unsustainable, potentially volatile situation.

The official public health guidelines can be seen at <https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/covid-19/vaccine/proof>. In brief, gatherings, weddings, classes and organized events of all kinds in public spaces require vaccine passports for groups of fifty or more. But for some reason, our local venues have all implemented a zero-tolerance policy. Here on Hornby, all groups, classes and gatherings of any size require passports. No public discussion has taken place about this decision, which is unfortunate.

Now bands, for example, cannot practice in their accustomed venues if one or more members are unvaccinated. The same goes for dance groups, emotional support groups, board meetings, groups or classes of any sort or size. Our community is made up of such groups, some of which have been meeting for years. Groups may simply stop meeting, or struggle to find alternatives which don't exist. As for those groups which choose to leave out their unvaccinated members, what rifts and emotional wounds are created? Feelings matter.

When people feel treated unfairly, hurts fester and that generates toxicity. A community of our size cannot afford to treat so many members as if they are disposable. I hear whispers of "they deserve it" and "people who don't comply should be forced" and I shudder. This is not my Hornby. Our island culture has always tended towards tolerance and inclusion. How many of us moved to these islands in the first place for a more free-flowing way of life? When people feel pressured, they resist.

Resentments are building, and the worst of it is, such feelings are justified, because the public health orders are clear. It's one thing to suffer lockdown along with everyone else by government order. It's quite another to be unnecessarily locked out of the active life of the community. If the official order requiring passports for groups of fifty or more seems too frighteningly large for our small island, then let

I am sensing a disturbance in the Force. Since my last column on the subject, I've heard disturbing stories. Something is deeply wrong. The problem is that here on Hornby Island, vaccine passport requirements diverge significantly from

us set the limit at twenty, or even fifteen. Just, please, anything but zero.

The unvaccinated are not ciphers; they are friends and neighbours, essential to the life of our community. They volunteer, they contribute, they deserve to be treated like they matter. Beliefs aside, personal choices aside, whatever the rest of the world chooses to do, we need to remember who we are and what we value. We are a community, we are in this together. A healthy community seeks inclusive solutions and minimizes harms.

I am sure the decision to go above and beyond the public health order was made from care and concern, but now that a little time has passed, consequences are showing. I do understand the need to abide by the rules, but I fear we are strangling ourselves on them. Is this what we collectively want?

What do you think? I want to hear from you! Please send feedback, questions and suggestions to phoenixhornby@gmail.com.



Memoir of a Rural Sisyphus-Redux

By Bill Engleson
• www.engleson.ca

ARTS&LIT

Introduction

For a few years, I kept a diary of my inauguration into the Denman Community. This column, recently renamed *Memoir of a Rural Sisyphus-Redux*, will extract a few of my

observations from a dozen or so years ago and share them. This particular extract was carefully and artfully prepared for the 2006 Audio Arts CD, *Musical Chairs*. It was significantly enhanced on the CD the musically artistry of Randy Duncan. Hopefully, it will have some modern times currency.

First Spring

March 2, 2004

It is near the end of our first full winter on Denman Island. Hibernation time is about to lapse. More's the pity as it has been play up to now. Rural conjuring, a pretend sort of experience, at least on my part. My love has always had a more realistic bent. And a more complex work ethic to boot.

Today, sun beaming down and warming the 10-degree earth, we chance out into the yard. She shows me the work options. I am exhausted just contemplating any one of the tasks. I pluck a few broom *continued on P.10...*

Completing the Bats' Home!



Perhaps not as obvious as Australia's tree-roosting Flying fox bat mums & babes

But Our Bat Mums and babes are even more Endangered!

Funding for Denman's Old School's attic repairs, where our Endangered Little Brown Bats raise their young, is almost there!

Heartfelt Thanks to the bats' many supporters!

We're just \$1300 from completing the bats' home.

Please consider adopting a bat!
Adopt a bat donations to: Denman Island Old School

Attn: BATS,
Send c/o Gloria Michin 1733 Dalziel Rd., DI V0R 1T0

More Info: dhbatproject@gmail.com

...continued from P.9 plants, recycle some bottles, gather blow down and add them to a future bonfire. I seem the complete fidgeter, jumping from chore to chore like a giant hummingbird. I attempt to ignite the pile of accumulated forest refuse but all I generate is a flit of smoke. I pull some broom and contemplate cleaning out the gutters.

“Help me get rid of this big rock,” my love beckons. She is digging in the garden and is about eight inches down. A large rock impedes her way. I am of a mind to let it lay there, like some sleeping dog. Surely, we can grow vegetables around it. My arguments are obviously weak and betray a slacker’s inclination. We extract the stone, like the old molar it is. My love is delighted. We have one more sacrifice for her rock retaining wall. She is drawn to rock walls, to the methodical layering, one on another, rock on rock, boulder on boulder, not like Frost’s neighbour in Mending Walls, to mark property and keep land orderly, but for the sheer beauty of erecting an immaculate wall of stone. I expect that this hunk of granite is the first of hundreds I’ll be called on to remove. I see no reprieve from her master plan. I pity the souls of these stones; they only want to be left alone, left where time has placed them; either that or to be swept up in one mother landslide, some magnificent avalanche, the true calling of rocks.

Nonetheless, what a glorious day? A few clouds hover back of the Beaufort Hills but other wise the sky is as blue as sea.

Later, my ignition attempts improve. The bonfire is much more inflammatory. Well, perhaps not quite the right word but it catches fire well and burns most of the afternoon. Three properties over, a neighbour is burning one of his fifty feet tall piles but reports it isn’t catching. I have never aspired to skyscraper sized burning mounds. Small fires engender manageable pleasures.

I pull out of storage one of two original green plastic Adirondack style lawn chairs, crack a beer open and settle back to soak up the faint sun and sight of smoke. I daydream of rock walls built at a slow and meandering pace. Off in the distance, the sound of circling birds too early for the herring run. Down on the sea, a small

launch inches along the sound. The fire crackles. I keep a watchful eye. The occasional plane scoots across the open sky. The sun starts to set, the evening chill sweeps up the hill from the sea, the fire’s smoke dances in front of my eyes and chases me down. I cannot escape it. In time, the fire falters, gasping for fuel. It has run its course.

I take a turn in the hot tub. And what a joy that is. The air is crisp, and the slight breeze gently slaps my face with a chilled hand as the trunk of my body is warmed by the heated water. The eucalyptus tree on the side yard was horribly misshapen by the weight of winter snow. It is bent at 90 degrees and hangs over the roof of the house like some cliff overhang, menacing in its deformity.

As I lollygag about in the hot tub, I am aware that I have let much of another sunny day slip away.

At night, my love and I speculate on beach bonfires, coolers of beer, sparkling spring night skies, full moons, endless walls of stone and mad cats.



Green Wizardries, The Gift of Winter Holidays

SPECIAL INTEREST

By Maxine Rogers

I love the month of December because it contains some of my favourite holidays. I know the Christians have one of their most important holidays in December where they celebrate the birth of their God. I am all for that as I believe in religious freedom. As a Druid, I feel

free to celebrate other holidays and I leave Christmas to the Christians.

One of the celebrations I want to tell you about is my all-time favourite holiday: Saturnalia. This is a Roman holiday and it is devoted to the God, Saturn. It was Saturn who taught humans the arts of farming and presided over a Golden Age of equality in ancient Italy.

Saturnalia was also a celebration of returning light and the traditional present was candles. So it was a fun and inexpensive holiday but of course some people went wild and spent too much money on presents.

Saturnalia may not be familiar to a lot of you but it was enthusiastically celebrated in my neighbourhood until Covid 19 put a stop to indoor gatherings. We decorated the living room with candles and turned off the electric lights. Our neighbours would come over on the evening of December 17, which is the first day of Saturnalia, and each guest would be greeted with shouts of Io Saturnalia! This is pronounced Ee-oh Saturnalia. When all the guests had arrived, I would pronounce the words, “Today, all men are free and all men are equal.” Men in this instance simply means people.

Saturnalia was a celebration of equality that started in the city of Rome itself and then spread out over the Empire. It typically lasted from 17 to 21 or even 23 December. All the slaves should have had those days off but in practice, only

the religious households celebrated the festival properly. The slaves would also be given presents of money to buy candy, wine, gamble or whatever they wanted. The master, the Dominus of the house and the Domina, the mistress, would put on a festival dinner for the slaves and wait on them at the table.

Lacking slaves in our household, we put on a big, many-course meal for our eager neighbours. Every formal Roman meal began with eggs and ended with fruit. They had a saying, “From eggs to apples,” which meant to do something properly. So, we began by serving a tray of devilled eggs. We also served spiced and honeyed wine called Conditum Paradoxum, or Surprise Wine.

The Romans loved honey and so do I. So, here is the recipe for Conditum Paradoxum. 1 bottle white wine or red if that is what you have. 1 cup honey, 1 date, 1 Tsp nutmeg (There is a little controversy here because the word is translated as pepper but they also put this on honey flan so I think it really refers to nutmeg. Try both and see which one you like best.) 1/2 Tsp fennel

seed, 2 bay leaves and a pinch of saffron. To the honey add 75 ml of the wine and heat it in a pan until the honey melts. Lower the heat and add the rest of the wine and the spices. The Romans served this wine chilled but you can serve it as hot-mulled wine if you like.

After the eggs, come a variety of little dishes served one at a time. We like to serve all the things we make on the farm so sheep milk cheeses, pickles, pate, home-made bread, pastries and Roman cheesecake made from sheep-milk ricotta, honey and eggs topped by some sort of fruit sauce.

The feast should end with some fruit but everyone used to bring cakes and desserts so we usually had as many sweet dishes as savory and the men would groan as each new sweet was served but then they would throw themselves into the feast with the sort of true courage the Romans would have approved of.

The evening was delightful because it was all about conversation and making merry with people we cared about. It was also a good time to lasso the neighbours before they were all too busy with Christmas preparations.

The next holiday we love to celebrate is the Winter Solstice which, in case you didn't know, occurs on December 21. That is the shortest day and the longest night. After that, each day becomes a little bit longer until the birds return from the south, bearing summer under their wings.

On the night of December 21, somewhere in the forest of the world, midsummer is born as a tiny, frozen jewel and is guarded by the Lord Cernunos, the Stag God. Each day, the glittering midsummer grows a little larger and casts its light and warmth a little farther until it waxes full mighty and the world become warm and full of colour and life again. So an event to celebrate indeed!

The Winter Solstice is celebrated by a variety of religions but even rational materialists can celebrate this holiday as it is an astronomical event. As a Druid, I perform a Grove Opening and welcome the turning of the year wheel. Religious duties done, I used to have a small dinner party for some friends because it is not a feast unless you have guests and share your happiness. Is it even legal now to have a supper party?

When everyone is assembled, all the lights go off and we sit in silence and the dark for a couple of minutes. Then, one candle is lit, I would say a few words about the Winter Solstice and then we would each light a candle, think about the year to come and get slightly drunk and very full.

Local Civil Wars

OP/ED

By Eartha Muirhead

THIS November, the RCMP have been violently removing Wet'suwet'en Indigenous land defenders from their territory, in order to allow Coastal GasLink's (CGL) fracked gas pipeline to be buried beneath the raging Morice River. This week, two planes full of RCMP officers, armed with snipers, canine units, and other military-grade equipment, raided and arrested more than a dozen people, including elders, Indigenous land defenders, journalists, and legal observers. While B.C. is in the midst of a climate emergency, the RCMP is raiding sovereign Indigenous territory to ram through a fossil fuel pipeline which will only worsen the climate crisis. In 2019 and 2020, RCMP have spent approximately 13 million dollars, and up until March 2021, 5.8 million dollars on colonial violence in Wedzin Kwa, also known as, the Morice River area.

The Wet'suwet'en Hereditary Chiefs are the proper title holders on their unceded territory, which the Supreme Court of Canada recognized in a landmark case. The Hereditary Chiefs have governance rights that precede the elected band councils enacted under the colonial Indian Act and all five Hereditary Chiefs have refused to give their consent to Coastal Gaslink. This isn't the first time the RCMP has invaded Wet'suwet'en territory. Land defenders have controlled access to the Morice Forest Service Road to stop Coastal GasLink from drilling under Wedzin Kwa, after the Wet'suwet'en served

continued on P.12...

Small presents can be exchanged at this festival but it is a nature festival so we give presents from our farm. Dried fruit and home-made sweets being the usual products. No one feels less happy for not having to shop for presents. No one needs more plastic junk. No one has money to spare for presents that will be a disappointment in any case.

The last holiday we celebrate in December is the festival of Sol Invictus, the Unconquered Sun. This festival takes place on December 25 and that and Saturnalia set the tone for the new festival of Christmas. Indeed, Saturnalia was celebrated until the fifth century AD much to the annoyance of the Christian clerics.

On the morning of the 25th, my husband brings a tray of coffee into the bedroom first thing in the morning and with it, a couple of outsized stockings filled with candy, fruit, nuts and tiny presents. He was raised a Protestant and is still tapering off. This too is a fun festival and by the time all three festivals have come and gone, I feel sure we have welcomed in the new year properly and we are not broke!



Denman and Hornby Islands are very privileged to have free counseling for women provided by the Comox Valley Transition Society. They have forwarded us the following information about these ongoing services.

"The Comox Valley Transition Society (CVTS) offers Stopping The Violence Women's Counselling, a free counselling service for women in the Comox Valley and surrounding areas who have previously experienced or are currently experiencing violence of any kind, who have been sexually assaulted, or who have experienced childhood abuse or violence."

This service is available on Denman & Hornby Island the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month, from 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. People are asked to please phone CVTS at 250.897.0511 to book an appointment.

Appointments are offered in person and follow rigid COVID protocols, which require individuals to wear a mask, use hand sanitizer, and sit at least 2 metres apart. Phone appointments are also available.

For more information, please visit <https://cvts.ca/womens-counselling/>

In case of emergency please call 911 Advice is also available by calling the Lily House crisis line: 250 338 1227

Free transportation from Buckley Bay to the Lily House transitional emergency housing can be prearranged through the crisis line

...continued from P.11 Coastal GasLink with an eviction notice two years ago. This week, Wet'suwet'en Hereditary Chiefs gave an eviction notice to Nathan Cullen, MLA, calling on him to step down because he is not demanding CGL's immediate halt to all pipeline construction. Please visit the Gidimt'en Yintah Access Point website here: <https://www.yintahaccess.com/take-action-1>. If you are able to, please donate to the the Land Defenders legal fund: <https://go.rallyup.com/wetsuwetenstrong/Campaign/Details>

And on Sunday, November 29, at Fairy Creek, two Indigenous wimmin were ambushed by RCMP officers and dragged away to a Duncan jail. There remains still a deafening silence from the BC Court of Appeals; but injunction or not, the cops are enforcing the rule of colonial law. Ancient Mother Trees and their children are being slaughtered while the corporate warlords continue their ecocidal crimes; all

Covid-19: Digital Peasants & the Ignorant Rich

By Gwynne Dyer

OP/ED • OP November 30th, 2021

THE new Omicron variant of the Covid-19 virus was discovered last week by scientists in South Africa and Botswana, the only countries in southern Africa that have the skills and resources to detect a new variant.

So what did the rich countries of the world do? Like the drunk looking for his lost car keys under a street-light – “Where did you drop them?” “Over there.” “Then why are you looking for them here?” “The light’s better here.” – they banned travel from southern African countries.

On 23 November, scientists in Botswana uploaded 99 Sars-CoV-2 genome sequences to the Wellcome Sanger Institute in the United Kingdom, which has operated as a clearing house for more than a million such sequences from dozens of countries since March 2020. They noted that three of the genomes seemed different from the usual Delta variant.

On the same day a separate team in South Africa uploaded the genomes of seven Covid samples with the same suspicious mutations in the spike protein that the virus uses to infect human cells. Within hours scientists everywhere could study those genomes on the web, and in 72 hours the World Health Organisation declared that we have a fifth ‘variant of concern’ on our hands.

Whereupon the rich countries of the global north instantly slammed their gates shut against travelers from South Africa and nine other countries in the same region. It’s not even clear that this is where the variant first emerged, but never mind all that.

Prof. Tulio de Oliveira, the Durban-based scientist leading the effort to understand the new variant, pointed out that South Africa has been “very transparent with scientific information... The world should provide support to South Africa and Africa and not discriminate or isolate it.” Fat chance.

By Sunday South Africa’s President Cyril Ramaphosa was warning that the travel ban “is not informed by science, nor will it be effective in preventing the spread of this variant. The only thing the prohibition on travel will do is to further damage the economies of the affected countries and undermine their ability to respond to and recover from the pandemic.”

Where to start? Perhaps with the fact that there is no country called ‘Africa’. For example, there is actually no shortage of vaccines in South Africa, a semi-

subsidized by colonial banks, colonial governments and social atrophy.

To learn more about the Fairy Creek blockade, please visit www.laststandforforests.com. To donate to Fairy Creek legal defense fund, go to [<LSFFdonate@protonmail.com>](mailto:LSFFdonate@protonmail.com) and put the word “legal” in the subject heading.

“A possible life is one that wills the impossible.” Mahmoud Darwish 🍷

developed country where the main problem is vaccine reluctance. Internet access is high and mistrust of authority is even higher, so only 27% of South Africans are fully vaccinated.

This is what you might call the ‘digital peasant’ problem, and it is shared by some fully developed countries like Russia (only 43% of the population double-vaccinated) and Germany (68%), as well as by Trump supporters in the United States (ca. 50%).

Cynics might say that this is a self-solving problem. As Germany’s outgoing health minister Jens Spahn put it, “probably by the end of this winter, pretty much everyone in Germany will be vaccinated, recovered or dead.” But this is not just a local problem.

The risk of new variants emerging still exists even in rich countries where the Covid virus continues to circulate widely. In most African countries, and in the poorest Asian countries as well, the risk is very high and will remain so, because they just can’t get enough vaccines. A year after the first vaccines became available, only 6% of Africans are fully vaccinated.

Twelve billion vaccine doses will have been produced in the world by the end of this month (December), which is more than enough for every human being over 18 years old. But the rationing is mainly done by price, so school-children are being vaccinated and adults are getting a third jab in the wealthy countries, while several billion

adults have not yet had their first jab in the global south.

In effect, the rich are maintaining a long-term reservoir of potentially devastating new variants in the poorer countries in order to make themselves a little bit more secure in the short term. Everybody knows that being rich tends to make people greedy and careless about the welfare of others; it's less well known that it also makes them stupid.

And in the meantime, they are also punishing the economies of the poor by imposing knee-jerk travel bans on an entire region of Africa on suspicion of harbouring the Omicron virus – even though we all know that it has already been confirmed in Europe and Asia, and is doubtless present (although not yet detected) in the Americas too.

The right move, even at this late date, is to focus all the world's energies on getting vaccines into the poorest countries: 'nobody is safe until everybody is safe'. Omicron looks like it may be a big problem, and there could be even bigger ones behind it. 🍷

Letters to the Editor

The fear and anger caused by misunderstandings about COVID-19 vaccines and public health measures is

deeply regrettable.

Consider the multitude of inaccuracies in just one sentence from a recent letter to The Grapevine: "Consider how you will become subject to the same...punitive measures...when you perhaps refuse to be injected every 3 months, refusing to suffer the inevitable repercussions of cumulative toxins in your body."

The vaccines don't contain toxins and they don't remain in the body – they "do their job" teaching cells how to respond to the COVID-19 virus and then are shed after a few days. They aren't required every three months: two doses of the mRNA vaccines are required initially for maximum protection and then we'll probably have to have booster shots once a year as we do to protect ourselves from the flu.

The idea that pandemic public health measures are punitive and encroaching on individual rights is another misunderstanding. Freedom and rights are not the same thing. Everyone has the freedom to decide to get vaccinated or not but no one has the right to place others at risk due to their choices.

Ironically, unvaccinated people are the ones best protected by public health measures requiring masking and – in some cases – proof of vaccination. The situations where proof is required – such as indoor dining, recreation and entertainment – are conditions in which unvaccinated people are at greatest risk.

Vaccination requirements for workers are in place where employees might put others at risk. Strange that the recent letter writer decried these requirements for Denman ferry workers when this group experienced the first outbreak of COVID-19 on the island. Their close indoor crew quarters put each other at risk – not ferry travelers.

Comparisons of public health measures to fascism, Nazism, and totalitarianism are as wrong as they are offensive. In response, I offer a one-word edit to the poster text quoted in the Nov. 18 letter: "Your ignorance is prolonging this nightmare."

Or how about this one: "Freedom - how you can reject modern medicine and die like a medieval peasant".

Stephanie Slater 🍷



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Email: office@noahross.ca to request an appointment



DENMAN ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE

www.islandstrust.bc.ca
northinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca

The Denman LTC is considering amending its Siting and Use Permit Bylaw to require surveys in some cases.

PLEASE PROVIDE COMMENTS
to northinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca
Monday November 8, 2021 to
Friday, December 17, 2021
For more information see
<https://islandstrust.bc.ca/denman-ltc-considering-amendments-to-siting-and-use-permit-bylaw/>

HORNBY/DENMAN DENTAL BUS NEWS; WINTER 2021/2022

THIS YEAR, DR. WALFORD WILL BE AWAY FROM
DECEMBER 8 TO MARCH 15.
BUT!!! THE CLINIC WILL BE OPEN ON
HORNBY IN THE CAPABLE HANDS OF
LOUISE HANSED, OUR HYGIENIST, FOR
DENTAL CLEANINGS. WE ARE FORTUNATE
THAT THIS YEAR LOUISE HAS MOVED TO
HORNBY WITH HER HUSBAND AND
THREE SCHOOL-AGE CHILDREN, AND THUS
WE ARE ABLE TO OFFER THIS SERVICE YEAR-
ROUND.

THE DENTAL BUS WILL RESIDE AT ITS
HORNBY LOCATION, BUT DENMAN
PATIENTS ARE WELCOME AS WELL AS
THOSE
USING AN INDEPENDENT HYGIENIST
OR ANOTHER PRACTICE IN THE COMOX
VALLEY.

IF YOU WANT THE BENEFITS OF DENTAL
HYGIENE CARE, TO IMPROVE THE HEALTH
AND APPEARANCE OF YOUR TEETH,
AND TO REDUCE INFLAMMATION IN
YOUR MOUTH, YOU CAN BOOK AN
APPOINTMENT NOW OR LATER.
CALL 250 335-2933

High-Speed Internet Project

PRESS RELEASE

By CVRD

Official Results Show That Hornby and Denman Islands High-Speed Internet Project Moving Forward
November 29, 2021



ON November 27, 2021 a referendum for the proposed Hornby and Denman Islands high-speed internet initiative was held. The official results have been tallied and the community has voted in favor of moving forward with the project. 94% of voters were in favour of establishment of the service, authorizing the necessary borrowing and entering into an agreement with CityWest, the telecommunications service provider. Voter turnout was 55% of the estimated eligible electors.

Advance Voting Opportunity:

Wednesday November 17, 2021 from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm at the CVRD Office

Special Voting Opportunity:

Wednesday November 24, 2021 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at the Denman Island Senior's Centre

Special Voting Opportunity:

Wednesday November 24, 2021 from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm at the Hornby Island Community Hall

Mail Ballot Voting General Voting Day:

Saturday November 27, 2021 from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm at the Denman Island Senior's Centre

General Voting Day:

Saturday November 27, 2021 from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm at the New Horizons Seniors Hall

TOTAL NUMBER OF VALID VOTES CAST

"I am thrilled to see the community voted in favor. The new service will bring high speed internet to both Hornby and Denman Islands, and will provide both homes and businesses top-notch connectivity," explains Comox Valley Regional

District Electoral Area A Director Daniel Arbour. "Seeing projects like this come to fruition after years of research and community interest is so amazing. Thank you to the Hornby/Denman

Internet Committee for bringing this issue to light and helping find a community solution with CityWest."

Total project costs are estimated at approximately \$7.6 million with 90 per cent being covered by grants. A community contribution of 10 per cent or \$760,000 is required as part of the grant funding criteria.

On December 7, the CVRD Board will consider adoption of the bylaws upon which next steps for the project can be developed.

To learn more about the project and referendum results visit www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/islandsinternet (<http://www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/islandsinternet>)

The Comox Valley Regional District is a federation of three electoral areas and three municipalities providing sustainable services for residents and visitors to the area. The members of the regional district work collaboratively on services for the benefit of the diverse urban and rural areas of the Comox Valley.

Media Contact:

Jake Martens, General Manager of Corporate Services and Chief Election Officer 250-334-6029



Comme Ailleurs

by Thomas Provençal

À Denman ça jase comme
partout dans le monde,
toutes les mêmes peurs
rongées à la ronde.
Les êtres humains
comme on le sait bien
sont pas mal pareils,

or, jusqu'aux orteils.
On aime créer une belle
histoire,
comment la vie se vit.
Chez la voisine où l'on se
compare
on renforce notre avis.
Comme tout le monde
on crée des cliques,

une chaleur sociale.
Quand on se croise au centre,
l'échange est cordial.
Comme ailleurs, on veut de
la paix,
que la vie se déroule bien.
Que notre coin de la planète
soit un paradis humain.



250-335-9143

theislandsgrapevine@gmail.com

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All prices include GST

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- 3 weeks • **\$21.00** (\$7.00/wk)
- 4 weeks • **\$28.00** (\$7.00/wk)
- 5 weeks • **\$33.25** (\$6.65/wk)
- 6 weeks • **\$39.90** (\$6.65/wk)
- 7 weeks • **\$46.06** (\$6.58/wk)
- 8 weeks • **\$50.40** (\$6.30/wk)

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additional 30 words*

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how many you should print.*

- or -

we can print it:

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Inside Page • **\$18.20/1x1**

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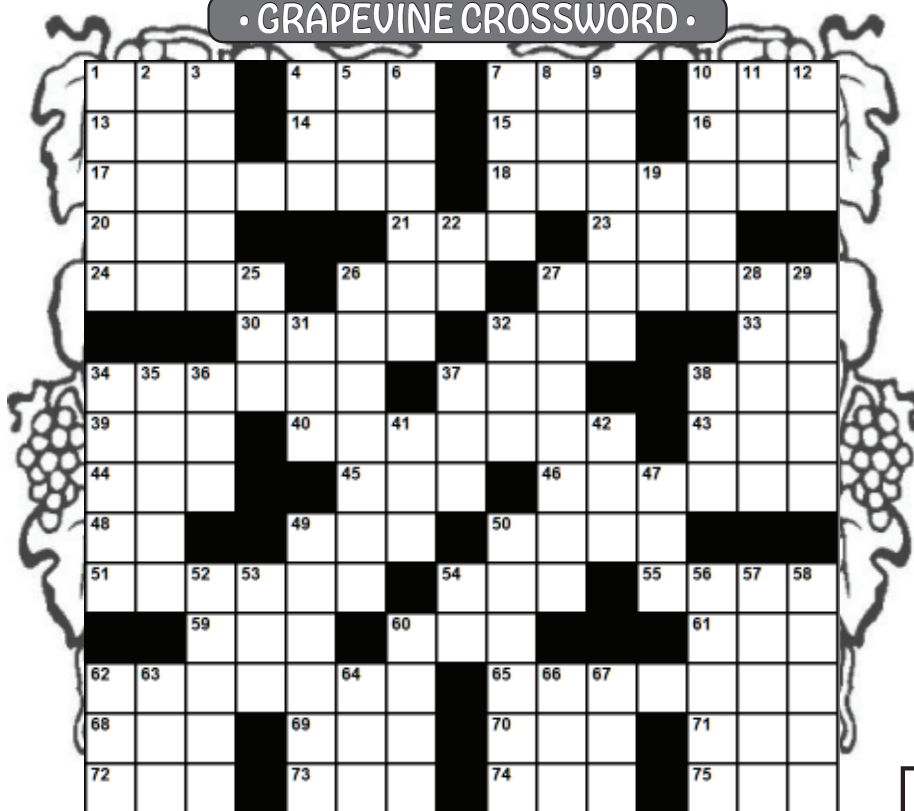
EDITORIAL POLICY

The Grapevine is dedicated to fostering a sense of community on Denman and Hornby by covering events, issues, and the creativity of the many gifted people amongst us. The following is our policy on content:

- Profiles of individuals, history, reviews and op ed are published free of charge.
- Literary content including poetry, stories, belle lettres is published free of charge.
- Promotional content for products, services, programs, and events will be published at going advertising rates.
- Public service announcements, notices of meetings, and news releases will be published for a fee. Exceptions will be made for emergencies where the public is immediately endangered.
- With regret, no exceptions can be made for non-profit status.

Please keep in mind that Hornby and Denman are a very small market for newspaper publication. We do our best to provide quality content at no cost to our readers but we ask you to understand that this depends on financial viability. Paper, ink, postage, equipment, and rent all add up. As it is, the Grapevine can only be brought to you with considerable subsidy of time and energy by our team which is very willingly given. The Grapevine would like to accept more content free of charge, particularly around community news, and is working on plans to expand its reach and revenue base to move towards that goal.

• GRAPEVINE CROSSWORD •



• ACROSS •

1. Half a dance
4. Book jacket item
7. Ring around the collar
10. Black-eyed item
13. Aspire to
14. Aussie bird
15. Be master of
16. Beaver or boater
17. Principle
18. Breather
20. Agitator, for short
21. 50's car feature
23. 1773 jetsam
24. Basra's locale
26. Cauldron
27. Ox's double chin
30. Computer operating system
32. Edible mushroom
33. A Kettle
34. Achieve
37. Band of sparks
38. Existed
39. Adriatic, e.g.
40. Opera villain
43. Giant great
44. Baby food
45. Anomalous
46. Green player
48. Exist

49. Archaic

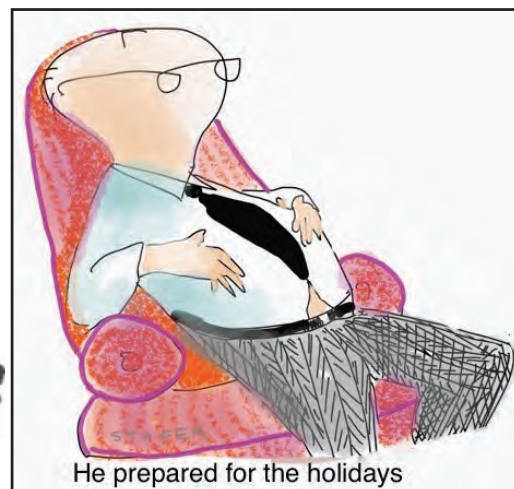
50. Cut into kabobs
51. Moderate red
54. A little resistance
55. Abundantly supplied
59. Blighted tree
60. Like mindedness
61. Actor McBride
62. 31st element
65. Great joy
68. Historic time
69. Avail oneself of
70. Beer barrel
71. Approx.
72. Actor Barker
73. Anthropology focus
74. Yes, informally
75. Part of RSVP

• DOWN •

1. Bay of Naples isle
2. Personnel manager
3. Bit of lowlife
4. Andy Taylor's aunt
5. Bratty kid
6. Beat through cleverness
7. Desolate, once
8. Baa sayer
9. Top of the foot
10. Small glass bottle
11. Have dinner
12. Did lunch
19. Chapel seat
22. Animal magnetism
25. Sine --- non
26. Tiny aperture
27. Propriety
28. Cremona craftsman
29. Adhesive
31. Dog bite
32. PC monitor part
34. Clear jelly
35. Back comb
36. Alehouse fixture
37. Additionally
38. Cooking

pan

41. Annex
42. Crime cartel
47. Above, in poems
49. 76th element
50. Offensively bold
52. Enjoy the weekend
53. Badly
54. Atop
56. Frostier
57. Pick out
58. Clues
60. Auspice
62. Colloid
63. Beatitudes verb
64. NAFTA member
66. Actress Meriweather
67. Arab noble



Mr. Stofer
www.stofergallery.com

Grumpism



“My drug test came back negative. My dealer has some explaining to do.”

• LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS •

T	W	O		F	A	G		G	E	T
H	O	V	E		F	L	O	A	T	
A	R	U	M		L	O	N	G	S	
I	M	M	A	T	U	R	E		H	U
				I	O	T	A		S	I
D	E	P	L	O	Y		E	E	R	I
A	L	E				O	M	I	T	
M	I	C	A		E	V	E	N	S	
E	T	A	L		M	A	R	E		
S	E	N	I	L	I	T		A	T	T
				E	R	E		A	C	H
T	R	I	V	I	A		E	T	H	Y
R	I	D	E		T	H	E	S	E	
A	G	O	G		E	A	R	E	D	
P	A	L			P	Y	A			

• CLASSIFIED ADS •

• SERVICES •

HORNBY COMPACT EXCAVATION

Versatile machine and operator. Small footprint efficient for ditches, holes, levelling, brush clearing, etc. Please inquire email: Call: 2503350770 Matthewlingling@hotmail.ca



RUBBISH REMOVAL AS WELL AS TRASH REMOVAL from house, sheds, etc. 1 ton truck and single axle trailer at your service. Call Brian at 250-335-2390 or 250:650-2390. Lawnmower service come Spring.

WICKEDFABRICATION: Journeyman welder: Mobile welding unit: Custom gates and stairs: Heavy equipment repairs, bucket cracks, fixin tracks: Shipping container modifications: Cut and cap piles for buildings: Trailer repairs and modifications: Minimum 2hr charge PH: 250 207-6904 Email wickedfabrication0@gmail.com

THORLACIUS TRUCKING Top soil, bark mulch, gravel and sand. Call Chris & Lora, 250-650-9986. denmantruck@gmail.com

MR. FIX-IT PLUMBING & All household major and small appliances. All large and small machinery. Yard machinery, chainsaws, outboards, automotive, sharpening, welding and fabricating. Call Rick Graham 335-0954.(HI)

MAGNIFICENT TOPSOIL, (Serving Denman & Hornby since 1988) Bark Mulch, all gravels, Bison compost, Treework, site clean up, fir mill end firewood, roof tear off, demolition. High grade lumber. 30 years local Entpr. Call Dave 218-9667.(DI)

GUTTERS seamless, supply and install also repairs, for free estimate contact Kevin at 250 335 1986 or cell at 250 667 3233. Serving All Areas.

• FOR SALE •

WAGNER FIREWOOD. 2 cords to Denman, \$580 plus GST. Hornby, \$600 plus GST. Text or call Scott at 250-334-7323

APPLIANCES FOR SALE. Ranges, washers, dryers, fridges, dishwashers, gas/electric range. All fully restored and come with a full six month warranty. Call Rick Graham 335-0954.

• COMMUNITY NOTICES •

DEAR DENMAN SANTA -- we've been really good this year, got all our permits and a new septic system! If you'd like to leave something in our stocking, you can find it at <https://gofund.me/d629fd70>. PS. We'll leave cookies and cider out for you. Thank you! Jarrah Crooked Warden Cider

THE DENMAN FREESTORE has lots of winter coats and sweaters. Also, as always, books galore.

COMMUNITY SERVICES FROM DENMAN WORKS Projector and screen: Book with Abraxas Books and Gifts 250-335-2731 abraxas9@telus.net Zoom meetings (unlimited time and free recording): See denmanworks.wordpress.com/contact/

• EMPLOYMENT •

VIRTUAL CARE ADMINISTRATOR for Hornby & Denman Islands with the Comox Valley Division of Family Practice The Virtual Care Administrator (Hornby & Denman Islands) is a fixed term employee position (ending March 31, 2022, with possibility for renewal). The successful candidate will work with primary care teams, specialists, and specialized services to make virtual (video) patient visits more widely available and will facilitate the coordination of these visits to bring together the patient, the family doctor, the specialist and/or specialized services as needed. Part-time. Visit <https://cbtskills.ca> for the full job posting.

DENMAN ISLAND COMMUNITY EDUCATION SOCIETY invites applications for Program Coordinator. The candidate should be experienced in delivering programs for children and youth and have strong written and verbal communication skills. Must be a reliable indi-

vidual, willing to work some evenings. Find a full job description at dices.ca, submit resume to dices.director@gmail.com by Dec 17.

CATERERS WANTED DI Readers & Writers Festival Friday & Saturday July 15 & 16, 2022 Lunch & Dinner each day for approximately 90 people in the Back Hall. Further information: critterbeach@gmail.com

LOVE PLAY? Work with local youth & adults with diverse learning needs. Internships, work experience & volunteer opportunities, PT year-round positions on Hornby Island. Training provided. Apply at www.hiplay.ca

• WANTED •

YVAN, A LONGTIME DENMAN RESIDENT, seeks a rental location for himself and his tiny (10x24) home; he can provide caretaking/labour/rent; 250-792-2770

HOUSE CLEANER FOR RETIRED LADY. Small Denman Island home with high ceilings. Weekly or bi-weekly. Rate negotiable. Please respond to Hannah at 250-218-1893 (cell).

• PERSONALS •

If you are a senior lady on a waiting list, or considering getting on such a list for senior's housing, please write to Box 27, All Secure Storage, 3610 Christy Parkway, Courtenay, B.C. V9N 9T6. Please include a phone number and initials. Confidential. References available.



• DENMAN: 700 • HORNBY: 520 •
• E-SUBSCRIPTIONS: 101 •
PUBLISHER Mike Van Santvoord
DESIGN/PRODUCTION Chris Seguin

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Denman Island, BC
V0R 1T0
theislandsgrapevine@gmail.com
www.theislandsgrapevine.com

The opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the views of the Publisher.

• BUSINESS DIRECTORY •

• (H) Hornby • (D) Denman • (UB) Union Bay •
• (FB) Fanny Bay • (C) Courtenay/Comox •

• ACCOMMODATIONS & RENTALS •

- Denman Activity Centre (Seniors) Rentals 335-3027 (D/H)
- Denman Community Hall Rentals 335-3027 (D/H)
2 halls, commercial kitchen, new sound system
suitable for concerts, plays, meetings, weddings, etc.

• REAL ESTATE • INSURANCE • FINANCIAL SERVICES •

- Bente Pilgaard, RE/MAX The Islands 335-2510 (H/D)
- Cloutier Matthews LLP, Chartered Professional Accountants 338-7367 (All)
- Donna & Jenessa Tuele • Royal LePage Hornby 335-1720 (D/H)
- Sylvie Schroeder • Royal LePage Denman Island 335-2551 (D/U)
- Katarina Meglic • Pemberton Holmes Realty 778-557-7429 (D/H)

• BUILDING • CONSTRUCTION •

- Aquarian Systems • Water Cisterns • Ed Hoepfner 335-2037 (D/H)
- Ray Ulovec • Backhoe/Excavator, Septic Installation 335-3145 (D/H)
- Cal's Bobcat Services • Auger, Grapple, Rake 613-447-8873 (D/H)
- Denman Electric, Licensed, Fully Insured & Bonded 335-3122 (D/H)
- DB clearing & excavations • call or text 250-465-1889 (D)
- Excavator/Backhoe/Tandem Gravel Truck • Kenny Mather 703-6512 (All)
• John Isbister 335-2565 (D)
- Roc-Isle Drywall, Harvey Hodgins • 35 yrs exp. 'certified' 334-4776 (D/H)
- Seaside Electric • Licenced, Bonded & Insured 702-0570 (D/H)
- Tandem gravel truck & transfer trailer • Grant Morrison 335-0702 (D/H)

• SERVICES •

- Denman Works! • Tony Gresson 250-335-0287 denmanresource@gmail.com (D)
- Peter T. Mason • Land Surveying 757-8788 (All)
- Tree Service • Darian Chase • Arborist 218-0404 (All)
- Music Lessons & Piano Tuning • Scott Knight 604-779-9335 (D/H)
- Landscaping & Home Services • Beech&Cedar Home Maintenance
(Kane) • 335-0745 (D/H)
- Able & Ready Septic Pumping Service • 250-338-8822 (D/H)
- Home Town Shredders • Document Shredding • 334-7111 (D/H)

• HEALTH & WELLNESS •

- Acupuncture • Margot Davey, R.Ac • 778-992-0165 (D/H)
- Acupuncturist, Herbalist, Physiotherapist • Carmen B-G, RPT, RTCMP
335-2260 (D/H)
- Chiropractic Care on Fridays • Dr. Dawn Armstrong, DC 465-8482 (D)
- Massage Clinic • 2796 Northwest Rd. • Leah Kelly 335-2584 (D)
- Denman Village Vet Clinic • 3646 Denman Road • 339-2511 (D/H)
- Inner Island Somatics.ca • Mette SEP, MQP • 650-3172 (D/H)



FORTNIGHT EVENTS

THURSDAY 2

- RECYCLING CENTRE 2-6pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 2-6pm
- CAP SITE 4-7pm
- FOOD BANK 4-7pm
- FREE STORE 5-7pm

FRIDAY 3

- AA Meeting DI United Church 7pm

SATURDAY 4

- RECYCLING CENTRE 9-5pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 9-5pm
- FREE STORE 9am-12pm
- FARMERS MARKET Old School 9:30am

SUNDAY 5

MONDAY 6

TUESDAY 7

WEDNESDAY 8

- RECYCLING CENTRE 2-6pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 2-6pm
- CAP SITE 4-7pm

THURSDAY 9

- RECYCLING CENTRE 2-6pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 2-6pm
- CAP SITE 4-7pm
- FOOD BANK 4-7pm
- FREE STORE 5-7pm

FRIDAY 10

- AA Meeting DI United Church 7pm
- HILTC Zoom meeting 10am

SATURDAY 11

- RECYCLING CENTRE 9-5pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 9-5pm
- FREE STORE 9am-12pm
- FARMERS MARKET Old School 9:30am

SUNDAY 12

MONDAY 13

TUESDAY 14

- ST. SAVIOUR'S CHURCH 10:30am

WEDNESDAY 15

- RECYCLING CENTRE 2-6pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 2-6pm
- CAP SITE 4-7pm



THURSDAY 16

- RECYCLING CENTRE 2-6pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 2-6pm
- CAP SITE 4-7pm
- FOOD BANK 4-7pm
- FREE STORE 5pm-7pm

*The Monthly Calendar is on
hold for now.*

Instead we offer a 2 week summary of
upcoming events on the Back Page.
Email us with your event to be listed
in "Fortnight Events".
theislandsgrapevine@gmail.com



DENMAN ISLAND ENTREPRENEUR FAIR

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8

**COMMUNITY MEMBERS WELCOME FROM 1-2PM
(VISITORS MUST FOLLOW SCHOOL COVID RULES)
DENMAN SCHOOL GYM**

*Cypress' amazing
and
colourful tie-dye!*

Hayden's
MAGICAL
Bath Bombs

**Delicious
dog treats!**
by Luka

*Abby's feathered and
beaded jewelry!*
Perfect for gifts!

YOU
need Miles' **Marvelous**
Tic Tac Toe Board!

**COLOURFUL FEATHER
HAIRCLIPS, YARN BRACELETS
AND BOOKMARKS**
by Selena

Yarrow's
propagated
plants

ELIAS' COOL PLAY
DOUGH

yellow, green, blue
Come get them now!

AUTHENTIC ACRYLIC PAINTINGS
BY NOMES

SPECTACULAR! Beautifully scented bath bombs
and salts - by *Chantelle*

QUINN'S
COOL COMIC BOOKS!

Wynn's
Wonderful
Stress Balls

BEAN BAG ANIMALS
BY SOPHIA
mice, cats, dolphins
100% recycled materials

Lili's
Lovely
Lavender Pouches!

Finn's Candles

A galaxy of planet-shaped candles

Thea's
Cool Rock Friends
Pet rocks for everyone

Mali's Mystical Marvels
Clay Creations



Pepper Lane Seniors Housing News Update

December 2021

The current focus of the Denman Community Land Trust Association (DCLTA) is to design, construct and operate an independent living complex for the use of low-income seniors. The project is named Pepper Lane after the family who originally lived on the planned site which is off Denman Road behind the Guest House.

After many years of difficult work that has ranged from invasive weed removal (a standard element of most Denman projects it seems!) to fundraising, to navigating the many shoals of government requirements, the Pepper Lane project is poised to finally move toward the significant milestones of land purchase and building construction.

The prospects for successful development of our project largely depends on BCHousing from which we have received verbal assurances of support, the details of which we hope to confirm and report on soon. The following is an update about some of the many activities underway.



CMHC Approves Funding for Pepper Lane Project

In October we received word that CMHC had awarded seed funding for DCLTA's Pepper Lane project. This grant has allowed us to hire a Development Consultant and a Building Designer to guide DCLTA as we move into the pre-construction and construction phases of building Pepper Lane. We want to thank CMHC and recognize their generous contribution to this project which will add much needed affordable seniors housing to Denman Island.

Profile of Our Development Consultant, Walter Hoogland

A critical member of a team required for a project such as ours is the Development Consultant. This professional has expertise in helping community organizations navigate



through such things as designing buildings according to stringent standards, finding suitable professional contractors and subcontractors to add to the development team, understanding the protocols of fundraisers and writing very complex funding applications and generally positioning an organi-

zation to move forward in a efficient manner. After reviewing many candidates, the DCLTA hired Walter Hoogland as our Development Consultant. Here is Walter's profile:

Walter has been involved in the assessment, design and construction of numerous institutional, commercial and residential projects in mid Vancouver Island area for over 20 years. His professional life as a consultant, businessman and builder has provided him with a clear understanding and determination to vision and plan projects with a variety of clients including municipalities, housing societies, school boards, civic and provincial governments. Walter has developed a track record working on Vancouver Island with many design consultants, which has led to completing quality and viable projects throughout the region.

His expertise in giving collaborative...

(continued from previous page) support to the teams he has developed provides the leadership on assessments, business plans, design input, and cost analysis on a variety of affordable housing projects whether they are revitalized or new in the Vancouver Island Region

Walter's 50 years of experience in project development, building design, and

construction recently included leading a team consisting of the Nanaimo Aboriginal Centre, design consultants, community members and the City of Nanaimo in designing of a 25-unit affordable Passive House project that was recently completed.

Commitment to new construction methods, sustainable development, waste control and environmental stewardship are significant phases

in the assessment and development of projects Walter continues to commit to.

"Pepper Lane" acknowledges that the original 1.6 hectare (4 acre) lot was home to Jim and Donna Pepper and their three sons. The name also reflects the fact that the property has a laneway entrance.



Islands Trust

Approvals with Islands Trust

Doug Olstead, DCLTA Co-Chair

After many years of satisfying requirements from various agencies, the DCLTA is now nearing the point when we can acquire ownership of the Pepper Lane land. Accomplishments under our belt with the Islands Trust are as follows:

Bylaw 233 to amend Denman Island's Official Community Plan and Bylaw 234 to amend our Land Use Bylaw were given 3rd reading by our Local Trust Committee on March 16, 2021 and approved by the Executive Committee of the Islands Trust on April 14. Those 2 bylaws have now been sent for Ministerial approval. These 2 bylaws create an Affordable Housing (R4) Zone and additionally

provide for an R4(2) zoning specific to the needs of Pepper Lane in which there can be a maximum of 4 multi-family dwellings each containing 2 seniors' affordable dwelling units for a total of 8 such dwelling units.

Bylaw 239 authorizing a Housing Agreement with DCLTA was given third reading Sept. 7 and approved by the Executive Committee of the Islands Trust on Oct. 6. This Housing Agreement will be registered against title to the Pepper Lane property and, among its more important provisions, requires that the land only be used for senior's affordable housing, sets out tenants' eligibility qualifications, and establishes a formula for the maximum rent that can be charged.

The terms of a Restrictive Covenant, also required to be registered against the land, have been finalized and include DCLTA's obligation to provide a variety of vegetation buffer, berm and fencing around much of its proposed property boundaries.



Ministry of
Transportation
and Infrastructure

Approval with Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure

Doug Olstead, DCLTA Co-Chair

On Feb. 8, 2021, MOTI issued a Preliminary Layout Review in response to DCLTA's application for subdivision of the existing property into 2 strata lots. Among the more important conditions for that subdivision to proceed: all requirements of the Islands Trust and the Agricultural Land Commission must be met and a Storm Water Management Plan must be prepared. These items are now ready for final approval with the only major requirement remaining being the preparation of a restrictive covenant specifying the kind and location of an acceptable wastewater system. Details of such a system have been tentatively accepted by MOTI.

This report is brought to you by the Denman Community Land Trust Association (DCLTA) Board. Please find out more about the Pepper Lane housing project at:

www.pepperlane.org

DCLTA Community Focus groups seeking input on building design.

DCLTA convened two community focus groups to gather their input: a group of seniors followed by a group of professionals. Pam Willis, a long time Denman resident and facilitator who has experience with affordable housing, led the group through a conversation starting with “what would be important to consider when designing housing for seniors?”

The following day a group of local professionals, many who are health care providers, convened via Zoom to answer this question as well as others related to their perspectives and experience. The notes from these sessions produced two reports which provided a great deal of information for the building designer who took the information to heart, incorporating many of the ideas. A big THANK-YOU to all who participated!



The Pepper Lane Project has a Designer: Chris Iliffe

Chris Iliffe, of Iliffe Designs, was selected by DCLTA in the spring to be the designer for Pepper Lane. Chris is a home designer and builder with many years of experience on Vancouver Island and the gulf islands. Chris has always been focused on building healthy, energy resilient and future-proofed dwellings that use

sustainable construction materials and practices. More recently he has concentrated on social projects that offer affordable housing solutions to local communities. As a 20+ year resident of Quadra Island who lives off the grid, Chris is an ideal person to help us create sustainable and uniquely Denman Island homes for the future residents of Pepper Lane. The DCLTA Board has conducted several on-line and in-person meetings with Chris and we have developed what we believe is an excellent plan for construction that we can now take to contractors and sub-contractors.

Pepper Lane Construction Manager Selected

Now that the subdivision and lot purchase are in the final stages we



have been moving forward to select a preconstruction manager and potential contractor to help complete our design and costing so when the final approvals and financing are in place we are ready to start building.

We received bids from four highly qualified and recommended Vancouver Island contractors. After reviewing their proposals and meeting with them, Island West Coast Developments (iwcd.ca) from Nanaimo was selected. They have over 31 years experience and have built a wide variety of public and private housing including low income seniors and other projects all over Vancouver Island. Tina Brook will be our project manager.

Prior to looking beyond Denman Island, we contacted several local design and construction companies, but none were available had the bonding and experience required to work on publicly (BC Housing) funded multi-unit housing projects. Fortunately, IWCD has strong community focus and has agreed to investigate using local Denman trades, workers and materials where available.



See more of Chris Iliffe's building and location designs on our website at www.pepperlane.org.



Group of Several Denman Island artists promote a campaign to raise funds for the building of fences.

DCLTA Pepper Lane Fundraising Report

Any report to you from the DCLTA Fundraising Team must begin with a “thank you” to the Denman Island community for the clear and ever-present support you have provided to the Pepper Lane Seniors Affordable Housing project. The fact that this community of just over 1,000 people raised \$130,000 for the purchase of the property is truly remarkable.

This past Spring, again we asked for your support as we had to raise \$7,000 for fencing. The Group of Several, the artists Linda Mather, Jean Cockburn, Paule Deschenes, Marilyn Jensen, Annie Kimmins, Virginia Spinny and Brenda Green donated works of art for a draw. We also appealed to you to donate the money from your ICBC rebate. You responded and altogether we raised over \$10,000 and installation of the portion of the fencing for our agricultural neighbours is underway. John Mather is leading this project and is doing a great job. Thank you

to John, the artists, and everyone who donated.

Denman Works also assisted us with a \$1000 grant, allowing us to provide some of the buffering needed to create a privacy barrier between us and our neighbours to the south.

A garage sale was organized and executed by Leyah Kelly and her neighbours living on Northwest Road. They raised an amazing \$1500.

Sharon Clarke raised \$500 from catering the supper at the Readers and Writers Festival.

These spontaneous acts of kindness are greatly appreciated.

Given we will find it difficult to meet in person this winter, the Fundraising Team will be focusing on

renewing the membership this fall and winter. Having a large and committed membership is critical and it is important to stay connected. We will be emailing and phoning lapsed members to encourage ongoing support for this project and provide an opportunity to stay informed about it through member newsletters.



John Mather installing fencing around site.

We will also be exploring different ideas for fundraising in the new year and look forward to ideas from the community. And we are always looking for new members for our fundraising team.... so if you are interested, please contact us.

Thank you from the fundraising team: Nancy Hoyano, Debbie Frketich, Michael Dillon and Sue Hammell



Board Members Complete BCNPHA Course

Early in the new year, three new DCLTA Board members registered for a BC Non-Profit Housing Association online course that brought together community organizations from across BC who are in the process of developing non-profit housing. After writing a 35-page report, the three Board members successfully received their certificate of completion. Involvement in the course by DCLTA Board members is illustrative and just one example of the commitment the Board members bring to the project.

To renew your membership or make a donation go to:

www.pepperlane.org

and click on the “how to help” button or drop a cheque off at Abraxas in the red folder under the letter “Z”. For donations of \$20 or more a tax receipt will be provided.