



“Farming is a profession of hope.” • Brian Brett

**Seedy Saturday is Here!**

First Zoom talk “*Making the Case for Nuts in an Age of Climate Catastrophe*” will run this Saturday January 29th from 10am to approximately 12 noon.

Go to <https://www.denmangpa.ca/seedy-saturday>  
To get Zoom link



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New service provider - Strathcona Recycling & Disposal  
New contact info: [strathconarecycling@gmail.com](mailto:strathconarecycling@gmail.com) | 250-207-6500  
New schedule is posted on the DIRA website (<http://denmanresidents.com/waste-management-committee/>)

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listed by Bente Pilgaard

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

## Seedy Saturday is Happening!!

By Danni Crenna  
• DIGPA

### COMMUNITY INFO

**THIS** will be another year of a virtual event rather than an in-person one but our website will have numerous local seed sellers and other garden supports as well as links to weekly zoom talks. **In March (tentatively the 12th** but possibly a week later if the weather is unfriendly) we will have a **local seed exchange table at the Old School Field** in with the hardy souls who do Saturday markets all year long. The Denman Island Seed Library, which is housed at the Portable at the school (aka. The Food Bank), will be present at the seed exchange and will happily accept any seeds that are left over after the seed exchange. The Seed Library offers free seeds year round in the CAP Site next to the pre-school. It is open 4-7 pm on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

The following are scheduled zoom talks which can be accessed free on the Growers & Producers Website: [hQps://www.denmangpa.ca/seedy-saturday](https://www.denmangpa.ca/seedy-saturday) Zoom links are available on the website or you can sign-up for the GPA email list to stay up to date and be reminded about each event. All talks are scheduled for 10 am on the designated Saturday unless otherwise announced.

### Making the Case for Nuts in an Age of Climate Catastrophe - January 29

Dylan Gale and Nick Montgomery of Nutcase Nursery are on a mission to get people to plant more nut trees. Join them to learn about how nut trees can be an empowering response to climate catastrophe, helping make our gardens, farms, and food systems more resilient. They will be sharing their nuQy ideas about why we should grow more nuts, what nuts to grow and how to maximize yield with minimal effort. ([www.nutcasenursery.com](http://www.nutcasenursery.com))

### Interactive Fruit Tree Pruning Webinar with Kate Janeway - February 5

Kate Janeway of Denman Island Heritage Apples will discuss fruit tree pruning techniques. This interactive presentation will cover some of the classic pruning guidelines for fruit trees such as apples, pears, and plums. The session will focus on practical application of pruning knowledge and webinar participants are encouraged to submit a photo during the session of one of their own trees. The group will discuss where to make specific pruning cuts and the rationale for those decisions, providing a template for you to confidently prune on your own! Denman Island Heritage Apples is a small-scale fruit tree nursery that specializes in saving and propagating traditional varieties of apple and pear trees. Kate's knowledge base and services include orchard design and maintenance, nursery trees, and juice pressing. ([www.denmanapple.ca](http://www.denmanapple.ca))

### Plan B(ean) - February 12

Plan B(ean) was born in 2019 with a conversa[on about how to respond collec[vely and joyfully to the challenging [mes ahead, as Plan "A" (business as usual) is clearly not working. Inspired by Dan Jason's book\* and talk on "The Power of Pulses," five (so far) experienced gardeners formed and launched an island-based collec[ve with the goal of growing trials of various pulses under local condi[ons. Can we grow enough to supply our families and (hopefully) even more? We will discuss our project including selec[ng best-suited varie[es, irriga[on, enhancing soil quality, plan[ng with an inoculant, mulching and experimen[ng with trellising. ([www.denmanislandclimateac\[on.ca/ac\[on-areas/plan-bean](http://www.denmanislandclimateac[on.ca/ac[on-areas/plan-bean))

### Increasing Resilience in Food Producton - February 19

Peter Janes of TreeEater Nursery will explore some ideas around increasing the

resilience of our local food production systems to stressors like drought, extreme heat and market instability. Peter Janes is the owner/operator of TreeEater Nursery. He spends most of his time and energy working with perennial plants that make food: Both in the nursery and on the homestead where he lives and works with his family. (www.treeaternursery.com) 🍷

## Discussing Doughnut Economics

By Laura Busheikin  
• DenmanWORKS

### COMMUNITY INFO

**L**AST October I attended (electronically) the Vancouver Island Economic Alliance Summit on behalf of DenmanWORKS. The goals of this annual event are to foster collaboration and add vitality to the Vancouver Island economy. Here is part one of a report.

The Summit was introduced with a call to rethink what we

really mean when we say “economy”:

“It’s clear that our business-as-usual methods for incremental change are thoroughly inadequate to our present circumstances. Urgent circumstances suggest bold response. Lao Tzu said if you don’t change direction you may end up where you are heading,” said George Hanson, VIAE president.

The keynote presentation, Applying Doughnut Economics: From a Radical Idea into Transformative Action, offered a framework for such a directional change.

“The goal of the economy should be to meet everyone’s needs within the limits of the living planet,” said presenter Carlota Sanz, Co-Founder of Doughnut Economics Action Lab (DEAL). “We have inherited systems that have not done well at either of these goals.”

The “doughnut” is the shape used to graphically represent the interplay between human and planetary needs. Social needs are represented on the inner circle, and environmental limits form the outer circle. The doughnut-shaped area between them represents an environmentally safe and socially just space where humans and the planet can thrive.

Working with doughnut economics usually starts with measuring how well a place meets core human needs and stays within nine planetary limits. The resulting doughnut diagram is a tool to analyze, compare, and strategize for change.

### Doughnuts from Around the World

Sanz showed us doughnuts from 150 countries. The variety was striking.

“Rwanda is living within its planetary boundaries but massively falling short of meeting its people’s needs. On the other side of the spectrum, Canada is meeting everyone’s needs but massively overshooting planetary boundaries,” she said.

“Ideally, you meet the needs of all people while staying within planetary boundaries,” she said. “We are very far from reaching this goal. Billions of people are falling short of the social foundations; for example, 11 per cent of the world’s population still does not have enough food to eat. We have already exceeded four of the planetary limits.”

We can’t look at any one country in isolation, said Sanz. “Countries are deeply interconnected through colonization, the ongoing relationships of military power, the structural adjustment rules imposed by the World Bank in the 80s, finance and trade rules imposed by international institutions, ongoing destruction and land grabs, and current and future impacts of climate change. These dynamics end up impacting lower income countries disproportionately.”

### Creating doughnut economies

The key is to create economies that **distributive by design** and **regenerative by design**, says Sanz.

“We have inherited a degenerative system—take, make, use, lose. It’s linear. We use things once, then throw them away. We need to instead use resources far more carefully, creatively, and collectively, working with and within the cycles of the living world,” she said.

Sanz presented some **examples of doughnut economics in action**:

## TIDE TABLE

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

2022-01-27

(Thursday)

Time	Height	
PST	(m)	(ft)
02:42	4.1	13.5
06:46	3.6	11.8
12:01	4.6	15.1
19:58	1.1	3.6

2022-01-28

(Friday)

Time	Height	
PST	(m)	(ft)
03:47	4.4	14.4
08:09	3.8	12.5
12:55	4.6	15.1
20:52	0.7	2.3

2022-01-29

(Saturday)

Time	Height	
PST	(m)	(ft)
04:38	4.7	15.4
09:21	3.8	12.5
13:55	4.6	15.1
21:44	0.4	1.3

2022-01-30

(Sunday)

Time	Height	
PST	(m)	(ft)
05:23	4.9	16.1
10:21	3.7	12.1
14:56	4.6	15.1
22:34	0.3	1.0

2022-01-31

(Monday)

Time	Height	
PST	(m)	(ft)
06:04	5.0	16.4
11:13	3.6	11.8
15:55	4.7	15.4
23:21	0.2	0.7

2022-02-01

(Tuesday)

Time	Height	
PST	(m)	(ft)
06:42	5.1	16.7
12:03	3.4	11.2
16:52	4.6	15.1

2022-02-02

(Wednesday)

Time	Height	
PST	(m)	(ft)
00:05	0.3	1.0
07:18	5.1	16.7
12:52	3.2	10.5
17:48	4.5	14.8

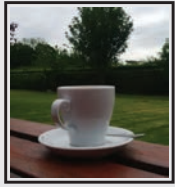
2022-02-03

(Thursday)

Time	Height	
PST	(m)	(ft)
00:47	0.6	2.0
07:51	5.1	16.7
13:41	2.9	9.5
18:45	4.4	14.4



continued on P.5...



## An Unpainted Portrait: *Ah, Nuts or The Importance of Uplifting Support*

ARTS&LIT

By Leo Simmons

ON the morning of the big parade, the sun was doing its best as the senior intake prepared to spend their last half-day on campus. On this most special of occasions for them, we were also very much part of the show. The crowd had gathered, the snooty VIP in place. We waited out of sight for our big moment. The music rang out: it was time. Left-right, left-right; we double-marched on the spot to get the rhythm as the leaders set off. And at that precise moment, the universe played its devilish hand. The already feeble elastic in my underpants had chosen this precise moment to entirely give up the ghost, leaving my undercarriage entirely unsupported. On we jogged, and all fell quiet as, according to the plan, I was the last to pit-a-pat to my designated point and as the last moving person, the crowd's attention was upon me. I stopped directly in front of a very familiar, haughty nose raised several degrees above horizontal. Two dark and piggy eyes peered over the impressive, brandy-enhanced proboscis. He peered at me with bored disdain. Little did the great man know of the burgeoning disaster in my working-class, catastrophically unsupported loins. All he saw was a young man wearing voluminous shorts and a pained expression.

The brief introductory speech crackled through the ancient public address system, giving me way too much time to ponder the situation. Suddenly, a whistle peeped. Like one of Pavlov's dogs, I jumped into the stand-at-ease position, and then as the music started, a star. I briefly wondered how often this scenario was played out within the Home Secretary's parliamentary office. Prompted by this sudden activity, my testicles unceremoniously popped out of my undies. Reminder: I was three metres in front of the Home Secretary. Now, I don't know if he could see my tender components waving about (that sounds a bit boastful; it was more like a wiggle) or maybe he was unmoved by such sights, but he made no outward sign of having noticed. I think he probably would have been unable to pass it off if my genitals had indeed made their presence known, but the mark of greatness is the ability to deal with anything with aplomb. I felt like I was on open display, and I was utterly devoid of aplomb. Of all the things I had planned for my life, waving my unsupported naughty bits at the third most powerful person in the realm had never been on the list. The sweat rolled down my face and mingled with tears streaming from my eyes. I knew what awaited us.

Having been thoroughly trained, regardless of my discomfort I refrained from shoving my hands down the front of my shorts and making vital adjustments. Instead, I began to lead the group in the much-practised series of vigorous exercises. I don't mind telling you, I suffered for my poor choice of undergarments. I went through our entire jumpy, jerky, swiny routine utterly devoid of what any reasonable person might consider to be adequate support. As salty water streamed down my face, those most sensitive of parts banged and crashed into one another and the inside of my thighs (again, that sounds boastful, but not so: I had big thighs).

My mind wasn't, however, only dwelling upon my suffering. I felt sorry, too, for my poor colleagues, who were supposed to be watching my every move. While everyone knew the routine by heart, they still had to make sure that they took their timing from yours truly. As we hovered for a few moments in the press-up position, for example, I was acutely aware that my wares (such as they were) were probably

visible. Attracted inexorably towards the most massive object in the vicinity, they tried to touch the surface of the planet before any other part of my anatomy. Stars appeared, flashes of light streaked across my vision and nausea reared its ugly head as my undercarriage clattered around inside the aircraft hangar that was my (ridiculous) pair of shorts. As well as the physical discomfort, I was ravaged by the anguish brought on by the feeling that 'everything' was almost definitely on view to at least some of the unsuspecting relatives of colleagues. They didn't deserve such treatment.

Minutes of sweaty, jerky and bouncy exercises passed slower than time has ever passed before. Trust me on this. I checked with Stephen Hawking: it's a well-known scientific principle that free-swinging testicles have a direct effect upon the linear nature of the space/time continuum. The angle of dangle has an inverse relationship to the speed at which time passes. Or so it seemed. Once the exercises were complete, and when the glorious, beautiful note of the final whistle blew, I felt like I had two red hot and dreadfully swollen bowling balls clanking around down there. Surely, I thought, they were visible to the assembled masses. With relief throbbing through my system, I hobbled off the square with my teammates.

Almost as nonchalantly as we had left, our specially selected teams of twenty-four hunks - identified by copious band-aids and interesting collections of bruises - returned to the parade square carrying the garishly painted logs. I was thankful to have had the opportunity, in the form of a frantic, trembling rearrangement of the affected parts, to ensure that my throbbing crown jewels were not, after all, halfway down each thigh. Out of view, that was, until I performed any energetic manoeuvres involving bending over. Unfortunately, I was about to do exactly that. The throwing and catching of the logs

commenced to the muted gasps of the crowd. Amazement or puzzlement, it was hard to tell. In the back of my mind was the particular danger of the final, thrilling ‘race’ exercise, where we bent over (!), pushed the pole backwards between our legs. While we did so, the person at the front of the line ran to the back to catch it as it emerged from the tunnel, so to speak. After each of us had our turn, we raised the pole upright for our ‘monkey’ to climb. I wasn’t relishing the prospect.

After we’d thrown, caught, spun, lifted and tumbled the poles to the obvious bemusement of the watching members of the public, the moment came for our little competition. As we prepared to bend over in a line and shuffle the poles between our legs, I shot a proactive apology over my shoulder to the poor soul immediately behind me. He said nothing, although I could have sworn that I heard a muffled cry of alarm. When my ‘turn’ to run to the back of the line arrived, I did so painfully and realised too late that for a few seconds at least, my shortcomings would be pointed at one hapless section of the crowd. Less spectacle and more testicle, I mused. I grimaced in the knowledge that someone would surely notice my condition. Thankfully, there were no screams, no sounds of unconscious bodies hitting the ground. It seemed likely, too, that there was nobody with medical training in the audience, or else they would surely have elbowed their neighbours aside and rushed to my aid.

As the race finally concluded and we watched our ‘monkey’ climb the splintery pole, I was left reflecting, as I looked up at his scrambling hairy legs - and inevitably, his underwear - that it was a very good thing for all concerned that it was he and not I who was up there.



**...continued from P.3** **The City of Amsterdam adopted a doughnut framework** and passed ambitious legislation regulating construction to phase out the use of new materials by 2050, moving instead to a circular system of refuse, rethink, reduce—reuse, repair, refurbish—repurpose, recycle, recover.

**China has created a Sponge City Plan** that uses soil and vegetation to manage the impacts of seasonal flooding. An example is Qunli’s Stormwater Park, which incorporates 500,000 cubic metres of stormwater in a wetland park setting on the edge of the city.

**In Vienna, over 60% of residents live in good quality affordable social housing** that is owned either by the city or by subsidized housing cooperatives.

**Seattle mandated a living wage** for everyone in the city.

### Four questions to get started

“We are asking a very ambitious question,” said Sanz. “How can our community become a home to thriving people in a thriving place while respecting the wellbeing of all people and the health of the whole planet?” She presented a format to get started:

Create a rectangle divided into four equal sections. Assign a question to each of those sections:

1. How can all the people of our community thrive?
2. How can our community be as generous as the wild land next door?
3. How can our community respect the health of the planet?
4. How can our community respect the well-being of all people?

Then look at each question in detail. For question #1, we could ask what it means for people to thrive here. The answer will be place-specific.

For #2, we could look at storing carbon, housing wildlife, harvesting solar energy, managing water, and building soil.

For #3, we could look at decarbonizing energy, creating circular material use, and transforming food systems.

For #4, we can think of the companies and businesses in our community—how are they operating and treating people? And what about the multinational brands and retailers who sell in and to our community? What is the labour behind the labels?

We can then put key questions through the filter of all four questions. For instance, when considering housing, we can ask how to build housing that

- 1) is affordable, supports the community, builds connection, enables parents to care for their children and elders to age in place;
- 2) connects us with nature, cools the air, houses biodiversity;
- 3) reduces use of fossil fuels and materials, uses more renewable energy, is circular; and
- 4) respects the rights of the people who make the materials and do the work, wherever they are in the world.


Here on Denman, we could start to incorporate doughnut-style thinking by pondering the four key questions and looking for ways to be both distributive and regenerative in our individual and community actions.

### More info

*Doughnut Economics: Seven Ways to Think Like a 21st Century Economist*, by Kate Raworth’s

Mission Economy, by Maria Mazzucato

Kate Raworth’s TED Talk: *A Healthy Economy Should be Designed to Thrive, Not Grow*

Doughnut Economics Action Lab: <https://doughnuteconomics.org/> 

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## The Co-Conspirators

MUSIC

By Earth Club Factory

ON Friday, Jan 28th The Co-Conspirators, a Quebec-based folk duo, will be performing a live show at the Earth Club Factory on Denman Island.

This duo performs a blend of folk, country, singer-songwriter, bluegrass, and general roots music, with heavy emphasis on vocal harmonies. They have been compared to such heavy-hitting vocal duos as Ian and Sylvia Tyson, Richard and Linda Thompson, and Gram Parsons and Emmylou Harris.

They are currently on tour in support of their latest release, *The Unreliable Narrators*. The album has been called a masterful mix of fact and fiction folk storytelling, with bullet-proof harmonies. In the grand tradition of songs ripped from the headlines, it includes the first single, *The Lonesome death of Elijah McClain*, the story of a young black man from Aurora, Colorado who was murdered by police and paramedics in August of 2019.

Along with the 11 original songs (that cover such topics as loves first meeting, life on the road, and a range in emotions from joy to the bleakness of loss), there is a version of the classic song of resistance *Bella Ciao*, an Italian anti-fascist song from the 1930s.

Find The Co-Conspirators on Facebook, Spotify, Apple Music etc, or at their web-site at [www.theco-conspirators.com](http://www.theco-conspirators.com). The show at Earth Club Factory is a 6PM, and - weather permitting - will be in the exterior tent. A suggested donation of \$15 at the door. Contact Earth Club Factory for a reservation.

The Co-Conspirators  
[thecoconspirators.band@gmail.com](mailto:thecoconspirators.band@gmail.com)

<http://theco-conspirators.com/>

<https://open.spotify.com/artist/0By7Ss6rMPiNnH4xz09VG>

<https://www.facebook.com/TheCoConspirators>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOFSIliVmSuDEhbM8fuLg5Q>



## Phoenix Riting! A Hornby Perspective

By Phoenix Bee

THE Hornby Arts Council sponsored a Digital Summit last week. The goal was to meet formally with representatives of both our islands' arts and culture community, to gain understanding of our unique situation/needs in the sector, and then develop a network to support cultural events between the islands.

I attended Day 1 and Day 3 of three all-day sessions. The first day was devoted to getting to know each other. Then we heard presentations. Nordicity, a global consultancy group, presented findings from their recent Arts Impact study focusing on data from the Gulf Islands and Vancouver Islands. This study illustrated what we already know, that engagement with the arts is essential for community health on many levels. Carol Fergusson from the Gabriola, and Yael Wand from the Saltspring Island arts councils gave in-depth presentations sharing their successes.

We used breakout rooms for small group discussions, keeping notes so each of our feedback could be shared with the large group. In these, we discussed effective communication specific to our islands, the impact of the pandemic, alternative strategies for communication. Later discussion focused on the effects of tourism, particularly cultural tourism, on our arts communities and how arts and culture could play a more constructive role.

The second day, which I was disappointed to miss, focused on working with local First Nations to strengthen our collective cultural sensitivity and build reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples. Nicole Rempel, Chief Councillor, from K'omoks First Nations, and Dr. Jesse Morin, archaeological consultant, gave a presentation with a Q&A after, followed by an afternoon workshop on Cultural Safety and then facilitated discussion. I gathered from other participants what a rich, satisfying and deeply moving experience this day was. I felt bereft to have missed it.

Day three was the richest, for me. Attendance fell to 16 in contrast to 33 on the first day, much as organizers expected. Presentations on the final day were made by BC Culture Days, Arts BC and SPARC (Supporting Performing Arts in Rural and Remote Communities, which is based in rural Ontario and provides an excellent model for our islands communities). We moved toward strategies for developing a collaborative network and support system between our Hornby and Denman Island arts communities.

Fortunately, Kera was there to point out the obvious, that Comox Valley Arts has many resources already in place, so we needn't re-invent wheels. Every time (it seemed) someone showed a need for a particular resource, she'd say hey, the resource already exists, then provide a link to access it. Helpful and inspiring! The point being, any collaborative network won't be just Hornby and Denman Islands, because Comox Valley Arts is right there with us, having done so much already and happy to share.

So much was discussed, I can't tell it all, so I will focus on my impressions and

experience. I came away immersed in rich, powerful shared visions, and reinfused with hope. Our islands have a history of following through on visions; I feel positively that this summit will bring about a sea change in how our communities work together. In the past, we've operated in parallel, events on one island a mystery to inhabitants of the other. A while ago, one of my favourite artists played on Denman, and I didn't hear about it until a few days after. I would have tried to get to that, had I known, but it happened on 'mystery island' so I didn't. Eli expressed how frustrated he has been, as a Denman promoter, booking bands for Denman who would like to play on Hornby as well, but to have no way to make it happen. I look forward to this brave new world in which we share a mutual cultural map and an interconnected arts community. Bye for now, lovelies.

You know it--I want to hear from you! Thank you for all the lovely feedback so far. Email me at phoenixhornby@gmail.com or say hi when you see me. 🍷

## Green Wizardries: Seeds of Change

**SPECIAL INTEREST** By Maxine Rogers

I feel winds of change sweeping over Canada and the wider world. You may ask whether the change is good or bad but I don't think that is the point. Change requires us to adapt to make it a good change. Try not adapting and the change may hurt you.

One of the changes I have foreseen is an upcoming spike in the price of food. Yes, I reached out with my Druid senses and saw the future! Druids do cultivate 3 uncommon senses: a sense of proportion, a sense of humour and common sense.

The price of natural gas is very high this year and fertilizer plants around the world have either shut down or

drastically reduced their production. Once conventional farmers realize they cannot buy fertilizer, the price will go up and the manufacturing plants will come roaring back to life because the selling price of fertilizer will allow them to buy the costly natural gas which is a feed stock for synthetic fertilizer. The devil is in this detail; the high cost of buying fertilizer will send the cost of food skyrocketing.

I am telling you this now so that you can take evasive action, if you wish. As the philosopher Voltaire wrote, "We must cultivate our garden." I have lived in the Levant which is terrible farming country with poor, thin, abused soil and not much in the way of rain but the people there all do pretty well on a nearly vegetarian diet. One of the staples of life there is the humble broad bean.

I just got my crop from last year threshed and weighed them. I had them in a 3 by 8 foot bed and got 5.75 lbs of nice dry beans from that one bed. According to my Joy of Cooking, only 1/3 of a cup of dry beans is needed to produce one portion of cooked beans per person. There look to be a lot of portions of beans in that harvest.

*continued on P.8...*



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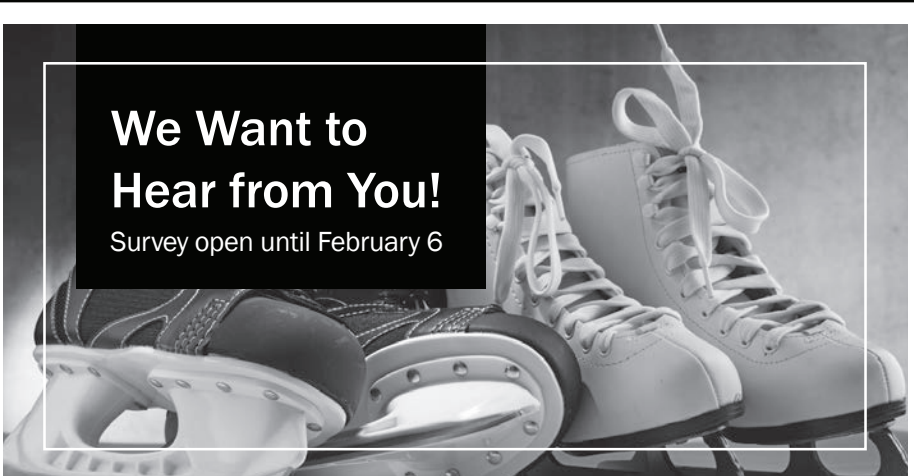
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Gravel Truck  
Kenny Mather  
703•6512





### Adult Ice Users Survey

Are you 18+ and love to figure skate, play hockey or ringette? Do you enjoy adult everyone welcome skate at the CVRD's Sports Centre? Are you keen to try a new ice sport?

We want to hear from you. Please take a brief 2-5 minute survey and enter for a chance to win an annual Family CVRD Recreation Full Facility Membership, valued at over \$1,000.

Fill out the survey before February 6th. To participate or learn more visit:  
[www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/adultice](http://www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/adultice)

For More Information  
Call: 250-334-6000



...continued from P.7 These beans grow well in our climate but they are the really old-fashioned bean from the Middle East and will not take a frost. Some broad beans may be planted in the fall but these beans, The Jerusalem broad bean, like to be planted later in the spring. They are a grateful crop to grow. Almost like



a weed in their hardiness, they crop heavily and ripen reliably. This year, I will grow a large patch of Jerusalem's in my new, no till garden and expect to be self-sufficient in beans.

Another good staple crop that likes to grow here is the potato. We grow a lot of potatoes and they are an easy crop to start with.

A favourite method of mine for growing potatoes is chit the potatoes in a tray. This means to lay your seed potatoes in a tray in the sun in a sheltered spot like a sunny window sill or a glassed in porch until their buds are coming on pretty strong. Then, I place the potatoes on a bed of mulch in the garden and put a layer of screened sand over them. This is because my soil is a heavy clay and we always need to add

sand to lighten it. Then, the potatoes get covered up with compost or soiled hay from the stable and topped off with a layer of maple leaves if we have any left over.



The potatoes have no trouble growing through the mulch and leaves and the roots have no trouble going into the earth. The potatoes remain clustered around their parent seed potato and you don't have to dig in the earth to find them. Just sweep through the fluffy compost with your hands to harvest the potatoes.

We did this a couple of years ago on a grassy pasture and were worried about wire worms which live among the grass roots and will destroy a crop of potatoes. We put down a layer of heavy paper feed bags and put the compost and sand on top of the paper. We didn't have a single potato damaged by wire worms.

I am very happy to tell you that Danni Crenna is organizing a Seedy Saturday for March. Danni is planning to hold the event outside under a tent which sounds kind of jolly to me and much more hygienic than breathing in each others' exhalations indoors. I will be there to trade my Jerusalem broad beans and other seeds I have grown last year.

The principle of Seedy Saturdays is that you must have seeds to share to participate. If you don't have any seeds to swap but want some of my broad beans, just give me a call at 335-1088 and I will get some beans to you.

Another bit of good news is that the Garden Club is going to try to hold some Garden Tours this year! My gardens and farm animals will be on show April 20th. I will be featuring our new, no-till garden and my Magic Garden. These tours are free to Garden Club members and there is only a small drop-in fee if you are not a member.

## Have your say!

### 2022/2023 Budget Consultation

Offer comments on the 2022/2023 proposed budget through an online survey.

📅 **Open:** January 21st–February 6th

🖱️ [islandstrust.bc.ca/budget](https://islandstrust.bc.ca/budget)



### Want to learn more about the 2022/2023 budget?

Join a webinar on January 27th at 7:00 pm.

📍 [islandstrust.bc.ca/budget](https://islandstrust.bc.ca/budget)

✉️ **Questions?** [budget@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:budget@islandstrust.bc.ca)



Islands Trust

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📞 250.405.5151

Until then, we are still stuck indoors gardening. I have a collection of outrageously happy house plants. You can see them here lined up in my bathtub for their weekly shower. I learned this from a 19th century book on farming and gardening. The book said to put all houseplants in a large sink and give them a good shower with a watering can once a week to get all the dust off them. My plants love their shower and grow quite large and unruly. I also give them a shot of liquid fertilizer after their shower and they are good all week.



Back in the day, a lot of people used to cultivate chrysanthemums in the summer and pot them up as indoor flowers for the winter. This seems like a good idea to me as we would have fresh and local flowers in our houses for the winter. I do miss fresh flowers in the winter. 🌸

## Memoir of a Rural Sisyphus-Redux

By Bill Engleson  
• [www.engleson.ca](http://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 several of my observations from a dozen or more years ago and share them. Hopefully, they will have some modern times currency.*

### Marriages and Miracle Beaches

*(Memoirist's contextual note, January 2022: For seven year, from 2005-12, I served as a provincially appointed Marriage Commissioner.)*

July 29, 2007

Yesterday, I drove to Miracle Beach, a beautiful provincial park halfway between Courtenay and Campbell River. I arrived an hour early, as is often my custom with significant appointments.

Lay of the land and all that.

Provincial Parks have a pay for parking system. The cost would be covered by the bride and groom. I had no qualms about paying but alas, paying was not possible.

One poor woman, desperately seeking a positive parking experience and fastidiously connected to honesty was running around opining on the lack of a way to pay.

*continued on P.10...*



# CONDITIONS CHANGE. SO SHOULD YOUR SPEED.

Winter driving can double your risk of being in a crash.  
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Learn more at [ShiftIntoWinter.ca](http://ShiftIntoWinter.ca).

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24HR Public Info Hotline: 1-877-215-7122**

Know before you go | [DriveBC.ca](http://DriveBC.ca) | [ShiftIntoWinter.ca](http://ShiftIntoWinter.ca)



...continued from P.9

I had arrived a few minutes before her and come to the same conclusion. There is petty comfort in having someone else take an exaggerated stance on an annoying trifle which bothers you.

A third less concerned parking party, "Call me Walter," he jokingly said, offered to be called as a witness if the State took her or me to Court.

As it was, the State clearly had no intention of charging anyone that day. The payment box was locked as tight as marriage vows are yearned to be. I suspect vandals had recently plundered the box and the locked container was a short-term resolution to the incommensurable crime. That seemed a more sensible diagnosis than believing government had decreed a Parking Toll Freedom Day at Miracle Beach.

Incidentally, the wedding went well. The betrothed couple had reserved a large, covered picnic area just in case it rained, which it could easily have done. When I arrived at the park, there was a group of 20-30 adults and kids having a picnic in the covered area. They exhibited no regard for the posted notice that was the permit for the wedding to take place and the reservation for the shelter.

Eventually the wedding party dribbled in. One longhaired wedding party maestro with a camera scurried around attempting to hustle the invasive picnickers out of the shelter. Three of the intruders were in wheelchairs adding to the awkward angst.

As the reception was going to be elsewhere, and as it became clear that it wasn't going to rain, his efforts seemed excessively frazzled and frenzied.

Shortly, the interlopers took their eviction in stride, repaired to an unsheltered location for the duration. I have no doubt they swarmed back into the shelter after the wedding party departed.

As for the wedding, it had a 1970's theme (*including, I believe, but wouldn't swear to it, John Travolta and Olivia Newton-John's rendition of "You're The One That I Want" blasting out over the low tide*) and, just for a moment, after the vows were given on the sand and I pronounced the couple married, I wondered if perhaps I had miraculously time-travelled back more than three decades.

It was a little disconcerting, but, overall, quite pleasant if only because I flourished in the seventies.

It was a reasonably good decade.

As is this one. 🍷

## Shrinking Asia

By Gwynne Dyer

• OP January 24th, 2022

OP/ED

**I**N the politics of population, the magic number is 2.1. That is 'replacement level': if a country's fertility rate (the average number of children a woman has in her lifetime) is 2.1, then the country's population will remain level. Above that number, it starts to grow; below 2.1, it eventually falls. And something really significant is happening in Asia.

The big news is that India's fertility rate has now dropped below replacement level: it is 2.0 per woman.

That doesn't mean that India's population will start falling right away. India will still overtake China and become the world's most populous country later this decade, with around 1.45 billion people, but in due course it will stop growing and start shrinking.

The delay is because human beings are not salmon: they do not spawn and die. Instead, they live on another thirty or forty or even fifty years after their children are born, so there is still a little bit of growth left in most Asian countries.

Let me explain, using the Dyer clan. I was the eldest of five children, which was a middle-sized family in Newfoundland at the time. We all lived to grow up, and on average we had exactly 2.0 children each – just below replacement level.



Those children all lived to grow up too, and it looks like they're also going to end up with an average of 2.0 children each – but I and my brothers and sisters are all STILL alive.

Three generations of us, and where there were ten people in my generation (counting spouses), there are now thirty.

The baby boom stops there, because when my generation dies off, we will be replaced by the great-grandchildren. At that point the Dyer clan will finally have reached

equilibrium – or even started to shrink a bit, if some of the grandchildren cut back on the child-bearing. It takes a very long time to stabilise if you stay at 2.0.

However, Asian populations are not stopping at 2.0. The phenomenon is most extreme in East Asia, where every country's population is already in steep decline.

In South Korea, where the fertility rate is an astonishing 0.86 (less than one child per woman, on average), the population is going into free fall. At this rate, it will drop by half by the end of the century.

Same for China, where official statistics predict that the average woman will have only 1.3 children in her lifetime. At that rate, China will be down from 1.41 billion people now to 700 million by 2100, less than twice the population of United States at that time.

Even that may be too optimistic. Fertility expert Fuxian Yi, senior scientist in the obstetrics and gynecology department at the University of Wisconsin, recently estimated that China's 2020 population was actually 1.28 billion, not the 1.41 billion recorded on the census, and that China's real fertility rate is a lot less than 1.3.

The discrepancy arises, he says, because many of the children counted don't exist. Local governments overstate their population to get more subsidies, especially education fees, from the central government, and some families buy extra birth certificates online on the black market because there are over 20 social benefits linked to a birth registration.

If Dr. Yi is right, then the United States, despite a fairly low growth rate (443 million in the year 2100), may have about the same population as China by the end of the century. Japan's fertility rate is 1.35, but that still means its population will fall from 125 million now to 75 million by century's end.

Most of South and Southeast Asia is already below replacement level (Vietnam 2.0, Bangladesh 1.9, Thailand 1.5). The rest are almost there (Indonesia 2.2, Myanmar 2.15, Sri Lanka 2.15). Apart from the Muslim countries of the Greater Middle East (Pakistan to Syria), the only big Asian country still growing fast is the Philippines (2.5).

Populations in Europe are stable or gently falling, and in the Americas almost every country has a growth rate of less than 1%. The only world regions still growing fast are the Middle East and Africa, where population growth rates are between 1.5% and 3%.

Project those numbers forward to 2100, even allowing for a gradual decline in Middle Eastern and African fertility rates (which is not currently happening at all), and just these two regions will contain half the population of the planet at the end of the century: more than four billion people.

Except for the Arab oil states and a couple of middle-income countries like South Africa and Iran, unfortunately, none of these countries has a per capita GDP of more than \$5,000 a year, and their incomes are barely keeping up with population growth. It will be a very divided world. 🍷

## Face Off

by Thomas Provençal

*Pugnacious and proud,  
belligerently loud,  
standing out in the crowd,  
there's a man.  
His odd attitude  
both blatant and rude,  
with language most crude  
makes me pan.  
I'm not of the sort  
to put up with this sport;  
without a retort  
I stand up.  
Determined at heart,  
I face off with bad Bart,  
my only weapon a fart.  
We eye up.  
I feel in the air  
and the break in his stare;  
he's not ready to square  
at this time.  
Retaining his pride  
and smiling wide,  
he sets off with a glide  
in decline.*

## Where Have Donations Gone So Far?

OP/ED

By Eartha Muirhead

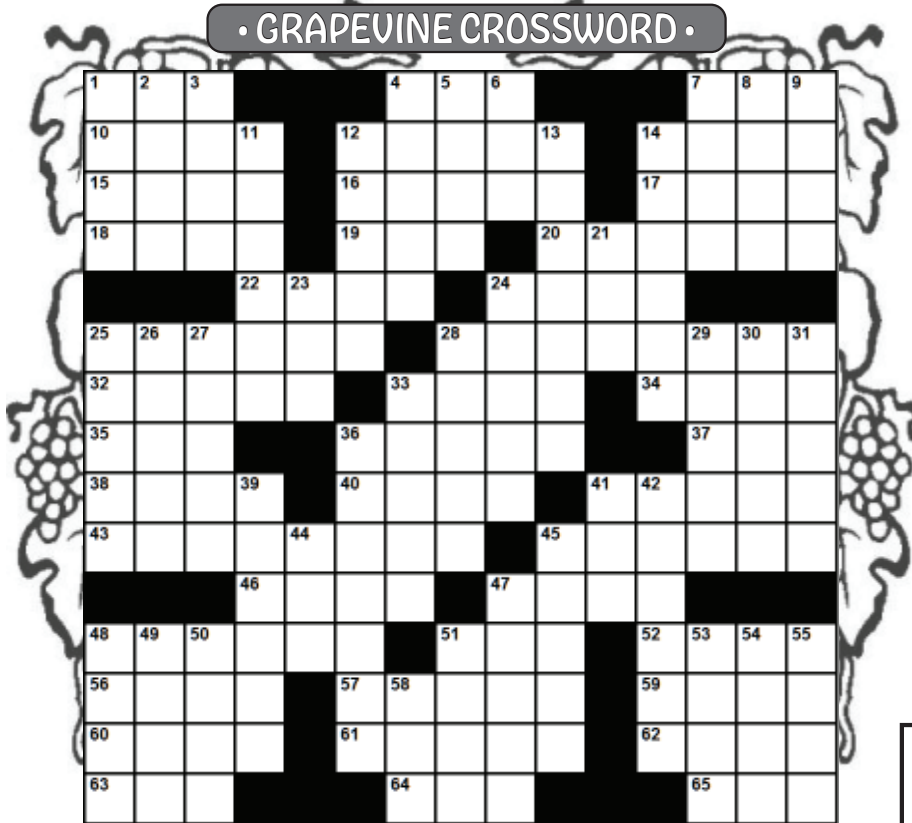


Update by Last Stand for Forests Jan 17

**T**HE following infographic was created as a step towards financial transparency, which is a priority for this movement. These averages provide insight into the financial decisions made from January to October 2021 to support people, camps, and arrestees on both the forest and legal frontlines. The figures were provided by volunteers who manage the finances for the movement, which has been a monumentous task.



• GRAPEVINE CROSSWORD •



• ACROSS •

1. Ar chaser
4. Curative water
7. Actor Shepard
10. Stylish
12. Asian country
14. Chest murmur
15. Angels' symbol
16. Spiral or coil
17. A Walton
18. Biblical you
19. A Canadian export
20. NASA laps
22. Feudal peons
24. Detective's find
25. Popular pullover
28. Big spots
32. Express a view
33. Assigned time
34. Conveyed
35. Bobby of the NHL
36. Small glass bottle
37. College growth
38. Set for a drive
40. Pig noise
41. Funny Burnett
43. Reddish cow with white markings
45. Cinema collie
46. British informer

47. Arctic native

48. Not susceptible
51. Tina of SNL
52. Bump free
56. Female college student
57. Crack a puzzle
59. Give up
60. Alleviate
61. Possessive adjective
62. Baggage markers
63. Chromosome letters
64. Beatnik's address
65. Allow

• DOWN •

1. Genuine, in Germany
2. Bygone Persian
3. Barn neighbor
4. Bookcase level
5. Dock support
6. Cuckoo
7. Asian garment
8. Came to earth
9. Young ---- Christian Association
11. Some reunion attendees
12. Business graph
13. Southwestern salamander
14. Ancient instruments
21. Dead end job
23. Anteceding
24. Dagger partner
25. Kind of fairy
26. Joyride
27. Personnel manager
28. It's a setup
29. Estate recipients

30. Poetic postscript
31. Designer's concern
33. Evade duty
36. Most needy
39. Strip bare
41. Ball park souvenir
42. Appearance
44. Ardent follower
45. Hen, perhaps
47. Novelist Ira
48. Hit a puck too far
49. Complain nosily
50. Flat topped hill
51. Fido rider
53. Osso Buco base
54. Add fringe
55. Avian retreat
58. A little resistance



He could explain

Mr. Stofer

www.stofergallery.com

Grumpism



“I have just finished my latest novel on fire trucks. Next time my publisher wants me to use paper.”

(thank you Rob Manering)

• LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS •

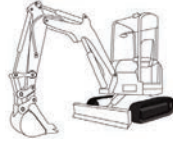
A	S	C	I	C	A	T	B	R	I	D	L	E
S	O	O	N	A	G	O	R	A	C	I	A	L
D	U	D	S	T	E	G	E	P	O	N	Y	M
I	S	A	I	A	H	S	K	E	I	N		
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		U	M	L	A	U	S	T	O	R	E	
T	A	P	I	D	L	Y	O	G	R	E		
E	P	I	C	C	A	N	D	O	Y	U	A	N
M	A	L	A	M	A	I	M	E	S	S		
P	R	O	N	G	A	R	D	E	N	T		
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R	I	P	P	L	E	L	E	T	R	O	D	E
T	O	S	S	E	D	E	K	E	O	N	E	S

• CLASSIFIED ADS •

• SERVICES •

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**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 •

**RECUMBENT TRIKE - \$1700/obo - call 335-2377 for more info.**

**FENDER 5 STRING BANJO** barely used, hence reason for selling. Comes with hardcase, tuner, various finger picks, plus many cord and learn to play books. happy picking :) \$375.00. email: bdippo@lekheadu.ca Ph: 250-643-2164

**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 •

**COMOX VALLEY TRANSITION SOCIETY** Emergency Crisis Line: 250-338-1227 or Text: 250-218-4034 For more info visit <https://cvts.ca>

**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 •

**THE GENERAL STORE** needs two more employees to start right away. The applicants must have some work experience, be able to take direction but also be able to determine and prioritize what needs to be done. A Serving It Right certificate is necessary, as are references. Call 250 335-2293 or email denmanisland.generalstore@gmail.com if interested. A resume could also be dropped off at the Store.

**THE ABRAXAS CAFE** located in the heart of Denman Island is looking for a barista and sandwich maker. The job pays \$17 an hour with experience (on average with tips \$21 an hour or more). I am looking for a commitment through to September (it can get to a high pace environment in Summer) or hopefully longer! Start training Feb. 16 2021. Please call during banking hours 2507021769 or email resume to Abraxas9@telus.net.

**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](http://www.hiplay.ca)



**On Monday 17 January 2022, Margaret Magson passed away at age 90 in Cumberland Lodge, Cumberland, BC. Marg was born on 3 March 1931 in East Stratton, England to Horace and Lily Knight.**

*Marg met her life-long partner Reg just after World War II and they made the best of the post war life spending many hours riding around England on a motorcycle. They married in 1954 and together they emigrated to Kitimat, BC in 1956. Reg went to work for Alcan and Marg went to work for the Royal Bank. Margaret was a wonderful cook producing meals from wild meats and fish and from multiple cultures. She ignited the love of cooking and enjoying good food in their son Ken. Reg and Margaret made a massive life change in 1970 when they moved to Denman Island and became the joint owners of the Denman General Store. They sold the store in 1974 and moved to a new location on Denman Island. This idyllic spot provided a large garden, homes for beef cows, chickens, etc. She supported Reg in his job as the Denman Island school bus driver, Fire Chief and local small engine mechanic. She figured out schedules, fielded many calls from parents and customers, all between harvesting produce and helping maintain the garden. They lived there until Reg passed away in September 2020.*

*Marg had a wonderful memory and took great interest in everyone's family remaining sharp until the end, remembering and always asking everyone about each member of their family. Margaret missed her husband greatly and due to her mobility issues moved on to assisted living and finally settling into Cumberland Lodge.*

*Survived by her son Ken, daughter in law Patricia, granddaughter Eilisha, and several other grandchildren and great grandchildren.*

**• 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 Mešlic • 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)
- Scott Knight • Licensed Home Inspection 604-779-9335 (D/H)

**• SERVICES •**

- Denman Works! • Tony Gregson 250-335-0287 denmanresource@gmail.com (D)
- Pefer 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)
- Bottled Water Delivery • DenmanWater.ca • 250-228-7161 (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)
- Massage Clinic • 2796 Northwest Rd. • Leyah 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)



Hamish's gym membership was about to pay off!

**FORTNIGHT EVENTS**

THURSDAY 27

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

FRIDAY 28

- AA Meeting DI United Church 7pm

SATURDAY 29

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

SUNDAY 30

MONDAY 31

TUESDAY 1

WEDNESDAY 2

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

THURSDAY 3

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



FRIDAY 4

- AA Meeting DI United Church 7pm

SATURDAY 5

- RECYCLING CENTRE 2-6pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 2-6pm
- FARMERS MARKET Old School 9:30am
- FREE STORE 9-Noon

SUNDAY 6

MONDAY 7

TUESDAY 8

WEDNESDAY 9

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

THURSDAY 10

- 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