



"Any damn fool can navigate the world sober. It takes a really good sailor to do it drunk." • Sir Francis Chichester



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Monday the 21st

Store: 10-4
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Have a Wonderful Weekend

ATTENTION
2022/23
HORNBY & DENMAN
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Deadline February 18, 2022

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 Mar 24-26: Painting Portraits from Photos with David Goatley

ONLINE
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 Fourth Zoom Talk this Saturday, February 19th from 10am to approx. 12 noon.
Increasing Resilience in Food Production with Peter Janes

Go to www.denmangpa.ca/seedy-saturday to get Zoom link

THINKING OF MAKING A MOVE THIS YEAR?

I can help! Connect with me at katarinameglic.realtor@gmail.com

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PUBLISHER Mike Van Santvoord
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2550 Lake Road
Denman Island, BC
V0R 1T0
theislandsgrapevine@gmail.com
www.theislandsgrapevine.com

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Farm to Family

COMMUNITY INFO

By LeeAndra Jacobs

BACK in September I received a call from Erika Bland asking me to cater a volunteer dinner in mid-December. I presumed I was catering for Conservancy volunteers as Erika has been serving as the Conservancy Land Manager for some years now. But no, when I arrived on the scene I learned that I was feeding the Farm to Family folks who had just delivered an amazing holiday dinner to their clientele, and now were about to be fed themselves. Farm to Family is another group the dynamic Erika heads. Erika saw a need for our senior population to be aided with meals, especially in light of the decreases in the capacity of Home Care to do such. For a few years the initiative remained in Erika's dreams but with vision, effort, persistence and assistance the dream became reality in January of 2020. What a time to start anything!! The recipient list began with nine people, and has grown to thirty at this time. Clients receive beautiful soups and casseroles twice per month, lovingly prepared and delivered to their doors. The volunteer pool is almost thirty strong as well, a mixture of women and men who meet at the Community Hall early in the morning to cook, package, and label that day's offerings then placing them in the deep freezers. Another crew comes in two days later to pick up the frozen food and deliver it. Local ingredients of meats and vegetables are sought out as much as possible, another scenario of Denman feeding Denman. Energizing our local producers is a part of Erika's vision, supporting islanders who are growing high quality product. Erika and her board have garnered grants as well as receiving donations from generous islanders. A United Way grant allowed the group to purchase good stainless steel cookware and utensils in their first year. More recently a Denman Works! grant enabled the latest acquisition, an industrial size food processor. What a time saver!

After the volunteers had eaten Erika stood to address the group. She recapped their two year his and herstory and thanked them all, especially Deborah Bishop for her hours of recipe sharing and tweaking that she and Erika worked on together. Erika shared that VIHA (Vancouver Island Health Authority) had received a complaint about them right at the beginning in January of 2020. VIHA was going to shut down the operation, and were not conducting any on site inspections in Covid times. But ingenuitive Erika thought about it, and decided to video their entire process from beginning to end and submit that to VIHA. This effort resulted in a go ahead. BRILLIANT!

Erika will be stepping down as coordinator of the group this spring to devote her full attentions to motherhood and family. At the volunteer dinner she stated this and asked for someone to take on her job. I was so moved by the group's energy and efforts that after a little consideration I have stepped forward to do so. Being twice her age with half her energy I can only hope to be able to fill her shoes adequately. But after two years the volunteers know what they are doing and will no doubt carry on this fine initiative.

When Erika finished addressing the group and was about to sit down, Susan Tate piped up that she had just watched a movie in which one of the characters stated that everyone, sometime in their life, deserves a standing ovation. At that moment everybody in the room got to their feet and applauded the blushing Erika for her amazing efforts and results.

Collaboration with Community Paramedics

COMMUNITY INFO

By DICES

THE Community School is once again open for adult programs. We are happy to announce the return of drop in **Basketball** on Mondays 4-6pm and **Soccer** Fridays 4-6pm. If you have programs that you would like to offer or suggestions of programs that you would like to see, get in contact with us at dices.emily@gmail.com.

We are excited to announce a new collaboration with Denman and Hornby Island Community Paramedics. Throughout the spring Community Paramedic, Sean Nordell, will be offering free talks on health and emergency preparedness for the community, every third Friday, 3:00-4:30pm at the Community School.

- Feb 25: **Naloxone training** (opportunity to trade in expired kits)
- March 18: **Hands only CPR**
- April 8: 4th: **MOST form conversation and introduction** (Medical Orders for Scope of Treatment)
- Apr 29th: Blood Pressure and Heart Health Education
- May 20: **Stroke Recognition**
- June 10: **Living with Alzheimers and Dementia**

For details on each talk please visit our website www.dices.ca

Coming up

Saturday February 26, 7-10pm is the first **Teen Night** of the year. Nachos, games and music are on the menu at the portable next to the school. Contact dices.liticia@gmail.com for more info.

Stories of the wetlands - **our spring break camp** is taking form and soon you will be able to find the details on our website www.dices.ca.

We are looking for some extra hands to help us unload the food for the **Food Bank**. If you are able to help contact Liticia at dices.liticia@gmail.com.

Parent and Tot every Friday 9:30-12:00 at the Community School. To be on our Parent and Tot email list contact us at dices.liticia@gmail.com.

The Computer Access Site with computers, printers and internet is open Wednesday and Thursday 4-7pm. 🍷

DICES & HDCHCS PRESENT...
TEEN NIGHT
 AT THE CAP SITE
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 FEB 26
 7 - 10PM
 OPEN TO GRADES 7-12
 Masks required indoors.
 \$2 Drop in, no one turned away.
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TIDE TABLE		
Secondary Tidal Station Ford Cove		
Source: tides.ec.ca		
2022-02-17 (Thu)		
Time PST (m)	(m)	(ft)
07:05	4.7	15.4
12:39	3.2	10.5
17:35	4.2	13.8
2022-02-18 (Fri)		
Time PST (m)	(m)	(ft)
00:30	1.1	3.6
07:28	4.7	15.4
13:15	2.9	9.5
18:26	4.2	13.8
2022-02-19 (Sat)		
Time PST (m)	(m)	(ft)
01:04	1.4	4.6
07:51	4.7	15.4
13:54	2.6	8.5
19:21	4.1	13.5
2022-02-20 (Sun)		
Time PST (m)	(m)	(ft)
01:41	1.8	5.9
08:14	4.7	15.4
14:37	2.3	7.5
20:24	4	13.1
2022-02-21 (Mon)		
Time PST (m)	(m)	(ft)
02:21	2.2	7.2
08:40	4.7	15.4
15:24	2	6.6
21:37	4	13.1
2022-02-22 (Tue)		
Time PST (m)	(m)	(ft)
03:06	2.7	8.9
09:08	4.6	15.1
16:15	1.7	5.6
23:09	4	13.1
2022-02-23 (Wed)		
Time PST (m)	(m)	(ft)
04:03	3.2	10.5
09:42	4.5	14.8
17:13	1.4	4.6
2022-02-24 (Thu)		
Time PST (m)	(m)	(ft)
00:51	4.1	13.5
05:19	3.6	11.8
10:25	4.4	14.4
18:15	1.2	3.9

Denman Island Marine Stewards Receive National Coverage on Plastics Problem

By *Melanie Hewson*
 • ADIMS

SPECIAL INTEREST

IN case you missed it, Denman Island's Dorrie Woodward was extensively quoted and the work of ADIMS (Association for Denman Island Marine Stewards) was featured in Rochelle Baker's February 3rd article for Canada's National Observer.

The article is well worth a read and covers the plastics problem in BC's shellfish aquaculture sector, which involves industry's lack of accountability when it comes to both generating plastic debris in the first place and cleaning up after itself.

Dorrie is clear on where ADIMS stands on the marine debris from the shellfish industry.

"Previously, the stewardship group raised the funds or got donations in kind to do the cleanup, but communities or taxpayers shouldn't have to foot the bill to deal with the shellfish industry's mess.

If this were an oil spill, the government wouldn't be paying for this."



More than 90 per cent of the 38 tonnes of trash and debris collected during a recent coastal cleanup in Baynes Sound came from B.C.'s shellfish sector. Photo courtesy of ADIMS

Drawing national attention to this problem and recognizing the cleanup efforts of ADIMS and other volunteer groups is a positive step. It increases public awareness of what is at the core, an industry and government regulator problem that urgently needs to be fixed.

We encourage you to read the full article, which also features quotes from the BC Shellfish Growers Association, the NDP's federal fisheries critic, other volunteer groups, and photos from this year's cleanup.

https://www.nationalobserver.com/2022/02/03/news/bc-shellfish-sector-has-plastics-problem?utm_source=National+Observer&utm_campaign=cfc743884-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2022_02_02_08_14&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_cacd0f141f-cfb743884-277001069 🍷



An Unpainted Portrait: Undercover Operations

By Leo Simmons

ARTS&LIT

those days, however, prehistoric attitudes were only just starting to make way for late-twentieth-century ideas of fairness and equal opportunity, such as they were. At that time - and with little life experience against which to measure it - a meagre two female officers per class did not seem unusually unbalanced.

I was somewhat protected from the attractions of our female colleagues, entwined as I was in an intense relationship with a delightful young lady who would, after many twists and turns of life, quite amazingly become my wife more than twenty-five years later (you can tell that I really swept her off her feet, can't you?). I was in love for the first time in my life, and thoughts of infidelity were far from my mind - indeed the enforced separation from my girlfriend was without doubt one of the most difficult features of that short period of my life, even though my 'suffering' was minor compared to others. In true teenager-in-love fashion, my thoughts were consumed by our relationship, and any impairment or obstruction to it was therefore considered the worst cruelty that any human had ever undergone. Pathetic, I know.

All the female officers, following a somewhat Victorian approach to the issue (this was an age when police officers were still required to ask permission to get married, take out mortgages, etc.), were housed in a special accommodation block. This was physically set apart from the line of 'male' accommodation blocks and possessed a psychological ring of steel that emanated from the building as well as from every member of the centre's authorities. It was rumoured that there was indeed some kind of force field surrounding this structure. Anyone with dangly genitals venturing too close was detected and rapidly 'dealt with'. The idea of some superhuman individual getting himself caught INSIDE the female accommodation block was considered a very serious matter, punishable by dismissal from the police force. It seems ridiculous today that consenting adults would be punished for consummating their adult urges, but almost forty years ago, what today might seem to be draconian regulations were simply the regulations. Almost(!) all of us understood that you took a big chance if you broke them. There was too much to lose.

However, there were some on site with different needs than I. I'm not sure if my oversexed friend Phil Bland ever made it over the wire, across the minefield and through the MDZ (male detection zone). However, I found it difficult to think of him not giving himself away on any such 'raid' and being detected by the PEWS (Penile Early Warning System). The sound of heavy breathing and a disturbingly visible tumescence would alert any monitoring system long before he slipped on his own drool and fell into the garbage cans. Added to this was the fact that he'd have simply been unable to avoid boasting about his plans to anyone who stood still long enough. Had he been successful in his quest for more intimate knowledge of any of our female colleagues, I seriously doubt that we would have been allowed to get away without being on the receiving end of a lurid and detailed account of his exploits. Since nothing was ever said, I'm bound to conclude that he must have abstained.

Despite the rules and the females' accommodation block taking on the psychological impression of Castle Colditz - I swear that at times it seemed to be perched on top of a sheer promontory of rock - it became apparent in the fullness of time, that frequent successful infiltrations of the building were happening. The defences

were, in effect, penetrated. Naturally, there had to be illicit cooperation from within, because there was simply no way for a male to enter the building through the main door. Fire exits opened and closed as if by magic, or so we innocents were informed. Rumours abounded of hushed footsteps on stairways and landings. We knew it happened; everyone - after a few weeks - knew it happened. As if to conclusively prove that it happened, approximately six months after we left the centre, word reached us that there was born somewhere in a nearby large city, and entirely without any suggestion of an immaculate conception, a small baby. The meeting of chromosomes, it was claimed, could only have taken place within the confines of our enclave.

It really wasn't very surprising that the course was (re)productive in that sense, because the levels of sexual tension within those campus boundaries were quite remarkable. I'd never experienced anything like it before, but I suppose that's what single-sex schooling does for you. Young, sexually active adults, honed to impressive levels of fitness and all cooped up together for weeks at a time is a recipe for high rumpy-pumpy energy levels. Even the bromide that was put in the tea did little to dampen collective ardour. While we were the junior intake of the two on site, we were able to objectively observe all kinds of goings-on among the grizzled, hardened veterans a whole seven weeks ahead of us in service. The larger 'senior' intake was a much more balanced group, and so for them, the opportunities for 'hooking up' were immeasurably greater. Couplings between the senior and junior intakes, however, would have constituted such a distortion of standard protocol as to have started a riot. Similarly, same-sex relationships within the police culture in the early 1980s were so secretive as to be unheard of. I'm happy to report that this changed during my service, too.

For our numerically inferior intake, the possibilities for naughtiness were few and far between. Fortunately, despite much of life on campus being less than ideal, I wasn't troubled by this in the slightest, using up most of

my sexual energy fretting about being away from the love of my life. I was nevertheless aware of the tribulations of others – it was hard to ignore the ribald conversations among the older men. As an utter novice in all things sexual, I kept my head down and my mouth shut.

Occasionally, the more enterprising/horny members of our intake would find themselves embarrassed by being 'caught' in compromising tangles of arms, legs and bra straps in a small, enclosed section of the exterior of one of the male accommodation blocks. Wooden screens originally designed to create an area for large laundry and garbage bins to be stored, effectively formed a concealed courtyard. With all the sexual prevention efforts being concentrated elsewhere, protagonists were able, with only a moderate risk of discovery by their unfortunate colleagues, to engage in some ardent fumbling and impressively entwined 'yoga' positions. It was around this time that I learned the term 'knee-trembler' did not, after all, refer to a kind of gym exercise. The courtyard, officially called Thompson's Grove was understandably better known as Thompson's Grope. The names used on the campus typically honoured past commandants, but I have no idea who the 'Thompson' of Thompson's Grope may have been. I'm left hoping that they never came to discover how their name was being besmirched...

Similar to the expeditionary visitations to the women's block, we all knew that it was happening, and after dark we felt it was only fair to our amorous colleagues to behave discreetly when in the vague vicinity. Sometimes it was difficult to avoid disturbing an intense 'conversation' since a footpath from the accommodation blocks to the parking lot ran directly past Thompson's Grope. The trick, I found, was to whistle a merry tune or cough loudly upon approach to the area, keep your eyes to the front and above all, resist the natural urge to investigate any muffled giggling sounds. On that path lay mental scarring.



The IT Budget Survey Results

COMMUNITY INFO

By Margie Gang

THE IT budget survey results showed that 325 people supported keeping "Advocacy" spending the same. The following shows what the IT has achieved re. "Advocacy" in 2021.

The head of the IT's Advocacy Department is the Director of Trust Area Services, with an annual salary of \$106,019. There are 13 staff working under her direction, including those tasked with "advocacy."

From the **Terms of Reference** provided by the *Select Committee on Government and Management* to the independent consultant working on the review:

"Advocacy activity is carried out by the staff of Trust Area services. The Trust labels anything not obviously planning related as "advocacy". Currently, advocacy is directed to opposing anchorages, the Trans Mountain pipeline and tanker expansion, container terminal expansions as well as advocating for marine environments, lower fares and more service from BC Ferries, as some examples of a broad list.

Advocacy actions are generally limited to letter writing, responding to consultation requests and attendance at related meetings."

This will be evaluated in the Review Report.

"Advocacy, governed through Trust Council's strategic plan, is managed and delivered separately from local planning services. The review of advocacy will question the following:

- Is advocacy more effective if confined to environmental issues within the Trust Area?
- Where planning authority available to the Trust is limited, such as in areas of Federal or Provincial jurisdiction, is advocacy sufficient in carrying out the Object of the Trust Act?
- Are there better options in land use planning than having to rely on advocacy?
- Is the Strategic Plan an effective instrument to guide advocacy and planning within the Trust?"

Advocacy accomplishments for 2021/22:

- 1) Submission to the Aquaculture Management Directorate of Fisheries and Oceans Canada highlighting ... concern regarding reconciliation, environmental protection, and enforcement.
- 2) Call for Immediate Action to Address Freighter Anchorages in the Southern Gulf Islands,
- 3) Call for TSB Investigation into March 30th Freighter Collision in Plumper Sound,
- 4) Letter to Min. Donaldson re. Private Managed Forest Land Act (PMFLA) Amendments,
- 5) Letter to the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities re. Electronic Temporary Use Permits and Public Hearing Notifications,
- 6) Letter to the Province requesting authority to Enhance Islands Trust's Jurisdiction Over Tree Cutting,
- 7) Letter to Premier Horgan and several other Ministries requesting Development of B.C. Coastal Strategy and Law,

Letter to the Environmental Assessment Office re. Trans Mountain Pipeline Expansion Reconsideration,

- 9) Letter to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities Executive Board re. Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls (MMIWG) Calls for Justice,
- 10) Letter to the B.C. Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure re. BC Ferries measures that ensure current service levels are maintained or improved.

Appended comments from a previous post:

"The Advocacy Department includes all the Staff whose jobs aren't directly planning-related, e.g. the Freshwater Specialist, the Communication Specialist, the Fundraising Specialist, the Ecosystem Specialist, the Intergovernmental Communication Specialist, the Species-at-Risk Specialist, etc. The IT hires these Specialists when it doesn't have the knowledge or skills to support its forays into the domains of higher

continued on P.6...

...continued from P.5 jurisdictions. The Trust labels anything not obviously planning related as “advocacy”
 “Here is the question- why are Trust Area taxpayers paying Staff for advocacy? If I elect someone as a local Trustee and wanted to have them advocate on my behalf great...but these are unelected bureaucrats advocating for a Provincial mandate. Let the Province advocate and pay for it, or, our elected local trustees could write a letter at no additional cost to taxpayers.”
 “Yes! It is ridiculous in my opinion. Taxpayers paying for advocacy and we have no say in what they are advocating. Drop the advocacy IT and let the taxpayers donate money to the causes of their choice! 🍷”

Results from the Islands’ Trust Budget Survey

Response to Q 3 from Islands Trust Budget Survey: What Budget Principles do you Support?	2019/20 Budget Feb 2019	2020/21 Budget Feb 2020	2021/22 Budget Feb 2021	2022/223 Budget Feb 2022
INCREASE	38.80%	33.06%	20.34%	14%
SAME WITH SAME SERVICES	11.76%	15.72%	17.43%	11%
SAME WITH DIFFERENT SERVICES	28.24%	31%	33%	20%
DECREASE	12.35%	15%	20%	49%
Don't know	3.53%	5.10%	9.32%	6%

Participation has increased over the last 5 years

	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
No of Respondents	81	178	745	941	1256
Emails	6	37	6	12	30

Input via Survey

Some headline observations from the survey results include:

- The local trust/island municipality areas with the highest number of respondents were Salt Spring (300 participants, 24%), Denman (143 participants, 11%), and Gabriola (124 participants, 10%).
- 77% of respondents were full-time residents in their local trust area or island municipality;
- In terms of the 1,107 responses regarding budget principles supported:
 - 14% chose: Add new programs/services or to improve existing programs/services
 - 11% chose: Maintain services and programs at current levels
 - 20% chose: Maintain existing services and programs with some areas increasing and other areas decreasing (if you select this option please explain your answer below)
 - ➔ 49% chose: Reduce services and programs from current levels
 - 6% chose: Don't know / other

The main mechanism for people to respond to the draft 2022/23 budget was through an online survey. People could also e-mail or phone in their input. The survey was completed 1256 times and the Trust received 30 e-mails.

2021: 941 surveys, 12 e-mails
 2020: 745 surveys, 6 e-mails
 2019: 178 surveys, 37 e-mails
 2018: 81 surveys, 6 e-mails

Phoenix Riting! A Hornby Perspective

By Phoenix Bee

RUMOURS have been flying on the island. "HIRRA is being sued! The Depot is going to close!" Like many, I attended the HIRRA meeting last week, to find out what's happening. Daniel told the meeting that the executive has been advised by lawyers to not speak about the details. There's a lot we don't know still, but here is what we do know.

In 2020, an injury-causing accident happened somewhere on the mountain bike trails. The meeting was not told what happened nor the extent of the injuries, which were apparently serious enough that the injured rider has launched a suit naming HIRRA along with several other parties.

Personal aside: those jumps are insane! Have you seen 'Yer Mom'? Someone sues an entire community because they intentionally took a risk and hurt themselves? Doesn't seem right. In any case, please do not try to cycle the closed-off sections of the trail network. Don't tamper with the signs announcing the closures. Tell your friends.

Now, HIRRA's insurance company has gone and cancelled their policy, which seems unfair, but blah blah business. That is why the mountain bike jumps are closed off: no more insurance. HIRRA have contacted a large number of insurance companies, been turned down by most, but haven't heard back from them all.

The HIRRA insurance package includes the Recycling Depot under its umbrella. Employees at the Recycling Depot have been given formal notice, not because it will necessarily close, but just preparing, in case. There is reason to hope the worst will not happen. If it does, and the site does need to close, it should be for a short term only. No one knows for sure. We're going to have to push the 'Don't Panic' button. Stockpile our recycling for a bit. Exercise the ol' patience. Take a breath.

If you see a member of the HIRRA executive out and about, please be kind. It's been a brutal winter for them, dealing with this very poorly timed (Christmas!) crisis. So, Daniel Segal, Jeremy Payne, Kent Lukinuk, Lynne Nunley and Alpen Kelley: I'd like to give you each a big bouquet of thank you roses. See how lovely their heavy, wine-red, velvet petals. Here, inhale their sweet, rich, heady scent. Ahh. Keep them. You've earned them.

Other issues brought forward at the meeting: the Beulah Creek housing project needs an influx of community support to get over its next hurdle. You can email office@hirra.ca to ask for a copy of the support talking points and information of who to contact. We need this housing, folks. Please take a moment to offer your support, it is much needed and appreciated.

The Hornby Denman Community Health Care Society have reached a crisis point too. The current system is simply not working for the healthcare workers, or for the island. People are at the ends of their ropes, and now they're trying to change the system to make it workable. If you want to support the development of

continued on P.8...

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offered on Denman by
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KJM Construction
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Kenny Mather
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**THE ISLANDS TRUST IS "LIKE THE KID
RUNNING WILD WITH THE CREDIT CARD."**
-Says Former Trustee Eric Booth



**Tell the Trust
you're taxed out!**
Deadline: March 11, 2022
E: islands2050@islandstrust.bc.ca

Read more in *C2C Journal*.



...continued from P.7 a "Community for Life" integrated healthcare project, please email Lori Nawrot, Executive Director at lori@hornbydenmanhealth.com

Every month now, HIRRA has initiated a practice of recognize one community member for their contributions over the years. This meeting recognized Ed Hoepfner, for his years of dedicated work on many fronts. We have Ed to thank for the Spiffy Biffy, to name just one. I'm a fan. Well deserved!

What do you think? As always, you can reach me at phoenixonhornby@gmail.com for feedback or ideas for future columns. 🍷

Memoir of a Rural Introduction Sisyphus-Redux

ARTS&LIT

By Bill Engleson
• www.engleson.ca

For several 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 more years ago and share them. Hopefully, they will have some modern times currency.

Arthritic Penny Thoughts, Visitors, and Noise

July 31, 2007

An obvious statement: it is the last day of July. As I age, I notice the passing of the days; they are like box cars rumbling along the rails. I see them as I stand by the side of the tracks. I am so young. I have squashed a series of pennies. Three. Only three. As much as I wasn't to know the weight of the freight train and its power to compress metal into small sheets of copper, I am aware that I have very little money and, in my youth, pennies actually bought stuff. Now, here on this island as in other places, merchants have a small bowl of coppers resting on the counter, They or a penny-less customer can top up the bill from this bonanza of useless, antiquarian coinage.

The last day of July. Some days, to pursue the metaphor, the freight train full of box cars seems to grind to a screeching halt. Time wears down, dissipates into a slow motion stretched out eternal wait. Every pain is noticed, every moment tortuous. Every failure is blazing like some giant neon sign pulsating the news of what I have failed to accomplish in the last while.

But most days, time speeds by and the years zip along with an unnerving frequency.

My hips ache. This is new. The body compensating perhaps. Is aging nothing more than a shifting of pains and failures, remembrances, and regrets?

Why is there no humor in this excerpt?

Have I lost my funny bone to arthritis?

Family is visiting. Mother and child. He is a rambunctious self-absorbed little fellow, a natterer, one of those kids who hover like a hornet, buzzing away, trying to distract you from whatever it is you are doing so that you'll pay attention to him. He must find it often works though it is irritating beyond measure.

His mother claims a necessary hour of silence, so she can read and write. However, after a few minutes of her child's clomping and fidgeting, belly flops on the foam, stomping here and there, chattering, nattering, and battering the air with his need to be the focus of it all, she is at a loss, cannot resist commenting to him on his behaviour.

He wins of course though the prize is at once fleeting and ephemeral.

I am aware that I like to have lots of silence, or, if not silence, noise of my own choosing. Classical sounds streaming out of the tape deck, floating in the air as I sit on the deck, being gracefully buzzed by a squadron of dragonflies (five by the child's reckoning but many more than five by mine.) The air is so warm, so still, the blue water of sound is flat and peaceful and dreamy.

Dreamy.

I escape from "All the Kings Men" and venture downstairs to compose this flighty journal. 🍷

How Weird Are We?

SPECIAL INTEREST

By Peter Spurr

THERE is some assertion of, and some pride in, the idea that our islands are a bit “weird”. Two weeks ago Statistics Canada afforded some insight into this perspective with its release of basic population and housing information from the 2021 Census.

Denman now has 1,391 residents in 695 usually-occupied dwellings, while Hornby has 1,225 in 654 dwellings.

- It is notable that these populations increased over the 2016 Census by 19 percent and 21 percent respectively.

- It is also notable that both islands have less persons per dwelling than most parts of British Columbia and of Canada. On average, BC dwellings contain 2.45 persons and households in the CVRD have 2.27 people, while Denman has 2.00 and Hornby has 1.87. On our islands fewer people occupy each dwelling than is normal elsewhere.

Of course, the increases in our islands’ populations are striking. During the period 2016 to 2021, Canada’s population grew by 5 percent, BC grew by 8 percent, CVRD grew by 9 percent, Courtenay grew by 11 percent, and Denman grew by 19 percent while Hornby grew by 21 percent. People are moving to our islands, and the people who reside here are living longer than is typical.

Interesting facts. Special places. Weird indeed.

Source: Statistics Canada, Census of Canada, 2016 and 2021 🍷

Population and Housing Change, 2016-2021 - Denman/Hornby and Other Places

Location	Population		Dwellings Occupied by Usual Residents		Persons per Dwelling		
	2021	Change 2016-2021	2021	Change 2016-2021			
		Number	%	Number	%		
Denman Island Trust Area	1,391	226	19%	695	103	17%	2.00
Hornby Island Trust Area	1,225	209	21%	654	4	17%	1.87
Union Bay	1,140	(45)	-4%	527	(82)	13%	2.16
Cumberland	4,447	694	18%	1,840	228	14%	2.42
Comox Town	14,806	778	6%	6,442	234	4%	2.30
Courtenay City	28,420	2,821	11%	12,992	1,288	11%	2.19
CVRD	72,445	5,918	9%	31,939	2,366	8%	2.27
Nanaimo CMA	115,459	10,523	10%	49,348	4,385	10%	2.34
Victoria CMA	397,237	29,467	8%	176,676	13,960	9%	2.25
Vancouver Island and Coast	864,864	65,464	8%	381,864	29,148	8%	2.26
Vancouver CMA	2,642,825	179,394	7%	1,043,319	82,425	9%	2.53
Lower Mainland -SW Region	3,049,496	217,496	8%	1,196,483	96,785	9%	2.55
British Columbia	5,000,879	352,824	8%	2,041,834	159,865	8%	2.45
Alberta	4,262,635	195,460	5%	1,633,220	105,542	7%	2.61
Ontario	14,223,942	775,448	6%	5,491,201	322,027	6%	2.59
Quebec	8,501,833	337,472	4%	3,749,035	217,372	6%	2.27
Nova Scotia	969,383	45,785	5%	428,228	26,238	7%	2.26
Canada	36,991,981	1,840,253	5%	14,978,941	906,862	6%	2.47

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The brochure is aimed at travellers who are already enroute, which is say, headed towards the islands and its “gateway” communities of Deep Bay, Fanny Bay, and Buckley Bay. It is distributed by a commercial service on the major BC ferry routes (Vancouver-Victoria, Nanaimo, and Powell River), all Vancouver Island visitor centres, and throughout the Comox Valley. Most valuable of all, it has been handed out at the Buckley Bay terminal where three hundred a day are known to have been distributed directly to passengers. Quotas assigned for distribution by advertisers are also productive distribution points.

Demand for the brochure also has something to do with the fact that the communities it serves are small enough to be comprehensible in a single brochure. There is not a lot of choice, and the traveller can quickly see where things are, what’s happening. The beautiful maps are another key factor. Nothing says adventure like a map and there is no better souvenir. The maps make the islands look accessible and easily navigated.

There’s one other thought: people have time to browse and may want to get away from looking at maps and websites on cell phone screens. Travellers also need a certain level of certainty. The Guide is in hand where you may not know which website to look for or find it again. For instance, it has a printed ferry schedule which is otherwise now available only online. And then again, the islands are also ephemeral destinations, day trips, places that you may not need to know much about, where a brochure will do.

There are websites – visitdenmanisland.ca, and hornbyisland.com that have the advantage of being able to update as things change and drill down to much more detail, such as the websites of individual artists. But they have a great deal of information and can’t be taken in at a glance. They complement the Guide as advance planning tools, or if you already know something about the islands and want to know more, see what the cabins are like or check out an event.

The fact is, the Guide has its place, in that interim space, between the departure and the arrival, the journey itself, the ferry in your life. 🍷



1991 Undiscovered Islands Visitor Guide

Deafening Deferrals

OPINION

By Eartha Muirhead

Iam reading "The North-West is Our Mother", by Jean Telillet, a Metis lawyer and great grandniece of Louis Riel. This detailed history of the Metis Nation, is 568 pages long and endlessly heart-breaking. This Nation was up against the on-going hypocrisy of corrupt and racist governments and corporations, beginning in the 1780's. Of course we all know that Louis Riel was banished from Canada and later on hung to death, being changed for treason. He was an outspoken defender of the Metis' right to stay on their lands. Over 150 years of racism, lies, betrayals, disease, poverty, and forcible removal, they were given some small paltry lands in northern Alberta, far away from their beloved Red River Valley. Some of it was rescinded in the 50's, to build the Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range.

How is this relevant to today? In December of last year, Squamish First Nation Councillor, Khelsilem stated: "The BC NDP are giving us a terrible choice by only offering (to allow us to give) consent for temporary deferrals but not requiring (our) consent for logging." If a First Nation wants to accept the 2 year deferral areas within their homelands, that the NDP decided upon, without prior Indigenous consent, then they enter into a house of mirrors and the walls are all cracked. By the time the 2 parties agree on how to ensure that the government still gets lots of revenues, time will be up and the logging companies will swoop down to cash in on "their" illegal timber supplies. If a Nation says they disagree with the deferrals, logging will continue on.

How long until the status quo will be forced to admit that the province of BC is essentially a criminal organization? Outside of the approximate 5% of lands controlled "legally" by Indigenous peoples, 3 million hectares of old-growth forests are unprotected. All logging is operating on stolen land. Indigenous peoples are given crumbs in Revenue Sharing agreements, if they were lucky enough to sign up in time. If the Liberals and the NDP were real climate-change heroes, they would have used the 10 million dollars spent on RCMP enforcement at Fairy Creek and bought out Teal-Jones, who have claimed they would make 7 million on logging those forests.

A friend of mine who lives in Youbou, just west of Lake Cowichan saw a staggering 84 logging trucks go by her home today. Most of those trees are coming from TFL 44 and 46, areas where the Last Stand For Forests, Landback, Rainforest Flying Squad and others have been blockading for 2 years. Judge Thompson will rule this Thursday on whether or not arrestees' charges will be dropped due to RCMP unlawful actions. If we win, watch out for round 2 of doing what the NDP promised to do, which is stop clear-cut logging and saving the tiny fragments of Ancient Forests for future generations to enjoy. 🍷

The Simple Life: The Best Sort of News

SPECIAL INTEREST

By Maxine Rogers

I have a lot of good news to tell you about the Omicron illness and how the world is responding to it. Omicron is mild. South Africa was infected with Omicron via four, fully-vaccinated Diplomatic staff from unnamed countries who were serving in Botswana. The infection spreads more rapidly than a measles outbreak and that is saying something!

South Africa was able to easily handle the high number of Omicron cases they got because it was a very mild illness. Very few people ended up on ventilators or in the ICU because it was just a very mild cold. Some people had few or no symptoms even though they tested positive for Omicron. South Africa was one of the first countries in the world to lift all covid 19 restrictions. They are doing just fine.

Omicron got out as airborne-viruses will and infected the whole world. You may already have had Omicron without much noticing it. Dr John Campbell is a medical educator and professor of nursing in the UK. He points out that natural immunity gained from such a mild Covid-19 variant is much superior to immunity acquired from vaccines. It costs nothing and lasts a lot longer than vaccine immunity which wanes sharply in as little as six weeks. Dr. Campbell explained how Omicron had immunized the world very efficiently against the more severe Delta variant.

Let me show you an example to help illustrate this process: Israel, with a very high rate of vaccinations, I believe they are up to two shots and two boosters per Israeli now, is having a very high number of cases of Omicron. This is due to the nature of the Corona viruses.

A lot of people don't seem to know this but the common cold is caused by two families of viruses, the rhino viruses and corona viruses. I was told this by a very no-nonsense RN at the beginning of the pandemic. I also looked it up to make sure she was correct and yes she was.

Public Health officials have made a lot of Covid 19 being a novel corona virus which I find puzzling because we have always been surrounded by novel corona viruses and always will be until the Earth's orbit degrades and the planet falls into the dying sun. Don't worry about that as it will only happen in an unimaginably long time from now, or so the astrophysicists say.

Have you ever wondered why we don't have an effective vaccine for the common cold? Have you ever wondered why you get one cold and then get another without having developed natural immunity to colds? It has to do with the continually shifting nature of corona viruses and rhino viruses. They mutate a lot. So, you can get one cold and develop a resistance to that form of the rhino virus or the corona virus and then a little bit later, you get another cold. That is because your body has resistance to one variety of the virus but not to another.

People sometimes expect all viruses to act as if they were smallpox or polio viruses. A miracle of 20th century medicine eliminated these two deadly epidemic diseases with vaccines. The catch here is that this was possible because smallpox and polio viruses are unusually stable viruses and were not given to mutating. If the common cold was not so given to mutating, breeding new varieties of colds with gay abandon, then we would have a vaccine against the common cold.

We do have several vaccines against the first novel corona virus that came out of that lab in Wuhan and they seem to be somewhat effective against that variant. Trouble is, the corona virus has bred an infinite number of variants on that theme and the vaccines do not seem to much of anything to protect against the newer variants. But of course my good news is that the current variant, Omicron, is out -competing the more aggressive Delta variant. Did I mention how mild Omicron is?

So, countries around the world are scrapping or reducing their covid-19 restrictions. Denmark, on 1 February this year, said that corona virus is no longer a threat to society.



And Denmark said this at a time when case numbers were going up! The moral of the story here is that case numbers are not everything. You also have to look at the severity of the cases. Denmark has scrapped all covid 19 restrictions and they are doing just fine.

Norway also removed all covid-19 restrictions on 13 February. Case numbers are going up in Norway but they are the relatively wimpy Omicron variant. Finland has lifted most of their covid restrictions on 14 February. Sweden never went as far as most other industrialized countries and they removed all their covid restrictions on 9 February. The Swedes are doing just fine. The list goes on.

In Canada, some very large and populous provinces have started lifting covid-19 restrictions. These include Alberta, Saskatchewan, Quebec and PEI. These provinces no longer require vaccine passports for entry into indoor areas. BC seems to be doubling down on mandating who must get the shot and no doubt a certain celebrity doctor is insisting we need to, "Flatten that curve," but I expect she will get over herself eventually.

Given that all this information is freely available, I must say I wonder at the present level of hysteria in BC about an illness that has simply run its course. After all, the 1918 flu is not still causing shut downs and mass vaccination campaigns. It is in the nature of viruses to attenuate over time.

More excellent news is that the ravens have begun picking up bits of wool from my sheep pens. This is a yearly spring ritual as the ravens do love to have a soft, warm, woolly nest for their dear hatchlings. The snowdrops are up and blooming. Spring is coming. Could we all please get over the covid flap and get back to our pleasant lives of gardening, making art and music? 🌸

Shirley Gnome- Valentine's with a Difference

ARTS&LIT

By Anthony Gregson

CONCERTS Denman knows how to shake up the Valentine theme. I'd never heard of Shirley Gnome but no matter. Shirley knows how to get your attention. A good crowd at the Community Hall last Saturday, February 12, loved her and the local comedy trio, Intolerant But Not Allergic, Cumberland's Josh Lichti presiding.

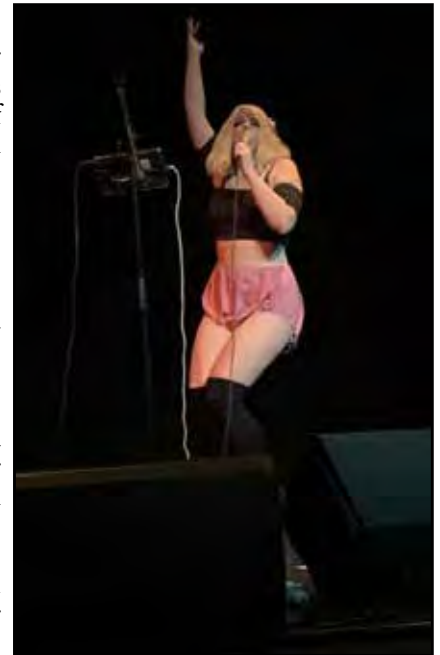
Shirley's first number, a cooing cover of Loving You, was punctuated by piercing screams. Then introductions. After the rigours of Winnipeg, she was delighted to be on "tender, moist Denman". "Holy shit," she enthused about the day, "O cunty Christ, it was pretty," something unlikely to appear on visitdenmansialnd.ca, even if it was true. And that's the point. Shirley, who turned out to be an award-winning master comic of intelligent, edgy raunch, likes to "stretch the truth a little." Her website says that she sings about those things we all know but don't want to talk about, obviously, sex. You've got to hand it to her. It's not everyone who can get the audience to pick up the refrain "jerk off in my backyard." But then, as she pointed out, she's heard about all those generous acreages on Denman, and the song was, after all, about social distancing. Only trying to help.

And so it went. Shirley covered the gamut of unspoken truths of the heart and bed. The lonely heart, crop dusting young lovers with a passing fart; the irritation of a lover who has poor self esteem ("Love yourself, you shit!"); the pillow man who comforts both her and - to her glee - a one-night stand on the road; the tender empathy of those occasions when you just can't get it on ("Go Fuck Yourself"); obsessions with porn; and a yappingly wonderful song about a yappy dog:

"The yappy dog didn't ask to be born,
But now with my help he will die."

Visuals were not neglected. Shirley started off in flowered pants, moved on to a gold mini, and ended up in a generous pair of pink panties ingeniously adapted as a jumper. She has a strong, beautiful voice which makes her material all the more startling.

Intolerant But Not Allergic, consisting of Megan Rose, Joel Fox, and Amber Cella opened and filled in at the break with a number of sketches. I always enjoy their impromptu quality, but I was really amused by the sketch where a daughter, ill with the flu ("Not Covid!") is mistakenly given Neo Nazi Citron by her bumbling father. A feverish energy is induced, much to the dismay of her liberal-minded parents. "Creationism is science!" she blurts as she sits bolt upright, "White lives matter!" Given the anxiety and louring rancour of the Freedom protests, I was personally grateful for some humour about the situation.



Denman has an appetite for the burlesque, filling the Community Hall for the notorious Martini Lounges put on by Roxanne Cowles-McPhail. After the two-year long repression of Covid, something so over the top seemed just right. Shirley Gnome was a perfect choice. 🍷

Open Letter to DCA Board of Directors

OPINION

By Ron Sakolsky

YOUR insertion of the most recent DCA NEWSLETTER in the Feb 10th Grapevine was very revealing. In the unsigned article, "Donation of Danes Creek Wetland", you officially thank "Henning Nielsen and Bente Pilgaard of PanDesign, Inc" for what is referred to alternately as their "donation" or their "gift" and is attributed to their "generosity" and "cooperation". However, in actuality, their supposed benevolence is all smoke and mirrors designed to obscure what is in fact a very profitable real estate deal on their part. Frankly, the Conservancy's demeaning hat-in-hand stance toward these developers is very disconcerting. If you look at Pilgaard's REMAX real estate ad in that same issue of the Grapevine, she's already flogging a contiguous 8.9 acre piece of land for the paltry sum of \$495,000 by pointing out that it is located near a "large protected wetland". With her sales pitch in mind, the hidden implications of the Danes Creek Wetlands deal become clear. It is yet another version of business-as-usual which, in this instance, allows the developers involved to make money on the deal even if they are not selling the "donated" land outright because they decide that it can better serve their pecuniary interests as a Conservancy-administered parcel. While Conservancy stewardship technically takes this particular wetland out of the commodity market, it still retains its commodity value to the developers in terms of their other properties as Pilgaard well knows.

In essence, the Nielsen/Pilgaard real estate speculators are conveniently passing off a piece of land that is unprofitable for development by them to the Conservancy as a public relations gesture that has its own distinct financial benefits attached. Far from being an altruistic "gift", this transfer of an unmarketable parcel of wetland to the Conservancy actually assures the developers of increased market value by providing a green amenity for their adjacent property. Moreover, it enhances their own carefully-crafted reputation as so-called "green developers" who also are fond of promoting themselves as socially conscious advocates of affordable housing. Presently, they are monetizing this inflated do-gooder image in conjunction with future business plans that involve their trading of land for density transfers in relation to

continued on P.14...

...continued from P.13 the Denman Green affordable housing project. While island chatter about that project typically centers around the affordable housing itself, not many islanders seem to realize that PanDesign, Inc, must be granted 3 valuable density transfers by the Islands Trust in order for the affordable housing proposal to be approved. This is because in the Denman Housing Association's affordable housing proposal the downtown land is intentionally linked to those densities. In other words, the land slated to be used for the affordable housing component of the proposal is being held as a bargaining chip by PanDesign, Inc subject to Islands Trust approval of the transfer of the desired densities to them. In spite of all their hypocritical rhetoric about affordability, if they succeed in acquiring these densities, they will no doubt be using them toward their own lucrative high-end development projects that are the very antithesis of affordability. If the densities in question were delinked from the affordable housing issue, the developers might not be able to snag them so easily, and so the housing project for them is really only a bulletproof vehicle for attempting to grab the densities and run.

Returning now to the specifics of the wetland deal, the developer-imposed place name of "Danes Creek", which has now been inherited by the Conservancy as part of the deal, egotistically memorializes the couple's ethnic heritage while attempting to brand their professional activities with a sophisticated Eurocentric pedigree. This vainglorious naming project is not only another pathetic marketing ploy, but it adds the pungent aroma of neocolonialism to the mix: Witness the Saga of Developer as Conqueror planting the Danish flag in the Howling Wilderness of the Inner Island to pave the way for the next wave of settlers. In the urgent context of decolonization, Erika Bland, elsewhere in the DCA Newsletter, discusses an appealing new Conservancy program aimed at naming and renaming conservation areas in consultation with local Indigenous peoples. May I be the first to suggest that the Danes Creek Wetlands be placed at the top of that "to do" list.

Though the Conservancy might have considered the Danes Creek Wetland deal to be a "win-win" situation on the basis of the practical considerations of land acquisition; when it is viewed in the larger context of "greenwashing", gentrification, and colonialism, it is deeply problematic. Why must our most worthy desires for

conservation or affordable housing be held hostage to the very same market forces that created the problem in the



first place and now offer solutions that only compound it further? By colluding with the vested interests of self-serving developers, while obsequiously praising them in public for their noble deeds, DCA is complicit in uncritically endorsing a very dubious Developer/Conservancy partnership model. Such an unholy alliance produces a seriously flawed approach that not only exacerbates the ongoing gentrification of this island but insures the continued cheapening of the term "green" into just another meaningless marketing slogan.



Letters to the Editor

REGARDING your quote on graffiti (Feb. 10,2022) "...like brick in the face of a cop." Here's another perspective: Graffiti is an act of vandalism perpetrated under the cover of darkness by a complete loser. Oh, and regarding the latest offering by your resident poet: "Bunny bitch can...shove'em up her ass." This displays serious issues with self-absorption and misogynistic anger. Get help.

For those of you now ready to jump to the defence of the above duo, I'll end with another quote: "Shut up, I don't care."

B. Collins 🍷

Dear Editor,

I have a similar although less dramatic story but, like Simmons' story, had a great impact on me.

I went to grade 13 at the old Courtenay High School the year after we moved to Comox when my dad, who was in the Air Force, got posted here from Trenton Ontario. Anyways i was bored with school and due to skipping classes and spending too much time in the pool hall was kicked out of every subject but Chemistry and Physics I enjoyed the subjects and the teacher, Mr Stewart. Anyways when the final exams came along in June i figured i might as well write them because even if i failed i could write the supplemental exams as they were called without taking the courses again. So i did a minor amount of studying, wrote the exam fully expecting to fail and do another year of playing pool and drinking beer with my buddies on the weekends.

Finally in August the marks came, my dad opened the letter and by some miracle i had barely passed all subjects meaning no another year lounging about.

When my dad saw the marks he got an ear to ear grin on his face and said, "Well son by some miracle you passed so your options

are you can go logging or to UBC. If you choose UBC we will help you your first year but neither of your options involve you living in my house"! I knew nothing of logging so went off to UBC and got into the faculty of forestry which was perfect for me. The old man was a Warrant Office in the airforce which is the equivalent of a sergeant major in the army. I know you can't get away with that kind of nonsense now but that was 1962. It was the best thing my warrant office r dad could have done to me. Made me get my act together. Just like Mr Simmons and the sergeant on the parade ground.

Cheers
Grant 🍷

I'VE always enjoyed the healthy and sometimes prickly exchange of opinion in *The Island Grapevine*. Under your stewardship this little gem arrives weekly and free in our mailbox and for that I thank you.

However, "... brick in the face of a cop" (Hunter S. Thompson) and "... Bunnie bitch" (Thomas Provençal) set a tone eerily similar to the rhetoric circulating in the public forum of our neighbours to the south.

"Hate Media", for lack of a better term can and has torn nations apart. I would be sorry to see it tear our island community apart.

Respectfully, Peter Marshall 🍷

Iwant to respond to Mr Dueck's article in the *Grapevine* of February 10, submitted by Graeme Isbister.

Mr Dueck draws us in with a reference to an article in the *New York Times*, and then segues into a rendition of his own regarding our need to "genuinely understand" opposing viewpoints, in order to end the pandemic.

I am someone who is skeptical that we can ever really understand ourselves, let alone others, especially when dealing with emotional issues.

Some issues are simply irreconcilable. I have been a defender of legislation to ensure safe, clinical and legal abortion for women for well over four decades, and I can tell you the opposing sides on this issue will not come together and understand one another. In spite of the absence of such an understanding, our country chose to pass laws that provide, uphold, and enforce if need be, access to a safe clinical procedure. Of course it helped that opponents of this access were in the minority. As are vaccine opponents.

The essence of the *New York Times* article, if you look it up, is that as the pandemic nears its end and restrictions lift, we will all need to adjust our behaviour, thinking, attitudes, and way with others. It is well written, informative, and, yes, enlightening.

But Mr Dueck's article with its moralizing tone, moral admonishments and hyperbolic language is a far cry from this, and better suited to the pulpit where he is at home. His call to "Enmesh oneself in the stew of ugliness and ... half-truths" in order to understand those who disagree with you, seems excessive to me. I think I'll pass. In the absence of understanding, I'll settle for civility.

Christine Stewart 🍷

Letter to the Editor,

WE were very offended by the caption under the photo on last week's front page. Contrary to your caption, there is nothing beautiful about throwing a brick in anyone's face. That is not a pretty picture. To bring it closer to home, we have people on this Island who have family members in the police force. Some of these people grew up on Denman Island and this village helped raise them. Bricks are meant for building up: structures, paths and garden planters not meant as weapons. Words fit in the same category. We implore you to use and choose words to build up and to bring healing.

Verna & Graeme Isbister 🍷

continued on P.16...

...continued from P.15 Dear Editor,

Thomas Provencal's poem that you published on Feb 10 is hate speech. The front page quote incites violence.

As editor, you have a responsibility to draw the line. We want to live on an island that is known for its civil discourse. We need to respect each other as we grapple with important issues such as the climate emergency.

Wendy Boothroyd and Ken Madsen 🍷

Letter to the Editor

READING Thomas Provencal's regular poetic rants against vaccinations and public health guidelines has, for me, become tiresome, but I suppose it has to be accepted as the Grapevine's commitment to 'free speech'. However, his most recent one, 'The Jab' goes way too far. The last two lines, and I will quote them in case some readers may have wisely ignored the poem, went as follows: "Bunnie bitch can take em all, and shove em up her ass." This kind of language, thinly aimed at a respected woman and public health physician, is misogynistic, sexist and offensive and does not belong in The Grapevine. If it were spoken publicly, it might well be classified as hate speech. And just by putting these disgusting words into a so-called poem does not make it acceptable to this community, or its weekly paper—whose editorial policy is supposedly based on "fostering a sense of community on Denman and Hornby". This kind of gutter language does NOT foster any sense of community, nor does it show respect for women or for any human being.

I am sure many others feel as I do, and I think your readers deserve an apology.

Stewart Goodings. 🍷

Dear Grapevine,

Hats off to the Grapevine's dedication to 'fostering our sense of community' and 'the creativity of many gifted people amongst us'. Your 10 February issue demonstrates this editorial policy in action, most clearly in T.P.s latest poem. With your help, Tom has really come along as a poet and has pretty much nailed the rhyming thing. Now he's reaching for new heights with flourishes like:

*"Bunnie bitch can take em all
An shove em up her ass."*

The kind of poetry that sends a shiver... Again, bravo to the Grapevine for sharing with us this new dimension, this hate filled invective that takes us beyond Tom's more familiar paranoid ramblings. You've opened the door to a whole new set of intriguing possibilities. There must be scope for other kinds of Freedom loving initiatives that could benefit from the Grapevine's Open Door Policy. Maybe you could persuade T.P. to give us a bouncy poetic summary of "The Protocols of the Elders of Zion"? Perhaps some other emerging writer could give us the real story behind the growing threat to the white race embodied in our misguided immigration and reconciliation policies? The sky's the limit now.

Howard Stewart. 🍷

Iwould like to thank writers Rankin, Engleson and Goodings for their letters to the editor (Grapevine, Feb 10/22). They collectively provided a much-needed counterpoint to the volumes of corrosive twaddle -- both poetry and prose -- that has recently overfilled these pages.

Keith Keller 🍷

LONG-TIME and beloved Denman Island resident John Graham taught the Fascism component of my Grade 12 Social Studies program at my high school in Calgary in the 80's, which first consisted of one question that he left us to discuss on our own:

Do the needs of the many outweigh the rights of the few?

We students all sat and discussed it among ourselves for about 10-15 minutes while he was out of the room.

He asked us if we had made a decision, and we had, and the answer was yes, that the needs of the many outweigh the rights of the few.

Our lesson for the Fascism component of my Grade 12 Social studies class consisted of John berating us for not even asking any of the appropriate questions, and offered several of his own, such as:

Who decides the needs of the many?

Which rights in particular?

What circumstances would condone which specific actions?

None of us had ever seen Mr. Graham so livid. He pounded the table, shouted at us, for our weakness and cowardice, and said that he knew each of us could do better. He also welcomed us to speak to him about any of these issues for the rest of the class, and in the future.

He was one of our favourite teachers and I am sure that most if not all of us were devastated.

He forgave all of us our errors, and in my friendship with him that continued after we both left Calgary and joined the Denman Island community, he remained outspoken in his own resolve against tyranny, both in general and specific.

This current situation is no longer an issue about vaccine mandates or whether the convoy is peaceful or not; it has now become an issue of the proposed removal of dear Charter rights for all Canadians, including property, assembly, and travel.

[citation: <https://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/acts/e-4.5/page-1.html#h-213849>]

Just fucking wow, divided we fall

Arne Olafson 

Letter to the Editor
The Grapevine
Denman Island

I am very disappointed in the latest issue of the Grapevine. It is promoting violence, with the quote at the bottom of the photograph on page one, and is promoting societal division and hatred with the letters and “poems” that you have published. I believe that you have responsibility to edit the contents of the Grapevine to limit societal harms that submitted entries may cause.

Yours sincerely, David Scruton 

Dear Readers - In regards to the agitation caused by the Thompson quote on the cover of last week's edition (I pick the quotes, btw) - labelling it “hate speech” and thinking it incites violence - I don't see it that way. In fact - Mr. Thompson is telling people who have a choice between a brick/violence and a can of spray paint/vandalism to choose the latter . . . no violence required. That said - vandalism ain't a good thing to do either - obviously.

Chris 

World War 2.1?

OPINION

By Gwynne Dyer
· OP February 14th, 2022

COLUMNISTS are not supposed to write about the same subject twice in a row, and only last week I wrote my umpteenth piece saying that Russian President Vladimir Putin is not going to invade Ukraine. But US President Joe Biden just gave us a hard date for the Russian invasion of Ukraine, and it's this week, probably Wednesday.

Biden didn't say when World War 2.1 will follow, but the constant references to the 'worst crisis since 1939' or the 'worst war in Europe since 1945' suggest that it will be along shortly afterwards. This newspaper will be quite cross if they don't have a piece from me recanting my error when the Russian tanks roll, so I feel obliged to write about it again.

Unfortunately, I can't recant. Even the massed choirs of all sixteen US intelligence agencies (I'm not making that up), singing the Hallelujah Chorus and imploring me to believe, cannot persuade me that the Russians are coming. Only when I see their massed tanks rolling across the Ukrainian border will I accept that Putin is that stupid.

He's wicked, certainly: he really puts hits out on people, like the KGB agent he once was. He's obsessed with regaining control of the lost empire Russians call the 'Near Abroad', and quite willing to run a huge, dangerous bluff in the hope of making some progress on that agenda. But he is not stupid. Nobody who stays in power in Russia for 22 years is stupid.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky is getting fed up with all these hysterical Western politicians and pundits. Last Saturday he said "I think there's too much out there about a full-scale war from Russia, and people are even naming dates. The best friend of our enemies is panic in our country, and all this 'information' only creates panic. It doesn't help us."

The highest figure quoted for the total number of Russian troops alleged to be within a few days of the Ukrainian border is 147,000, and more than half of those have been in their present locations for a year or longer. That sounded ridiculously low for an actual invasion of a country with a population of 43 million people, so I did a little checking.

The German invasion of Poland in 1939 was the start of World War 2.0, and Poland then was a pretty good match for Ukraine now: about the same population, although only half the size of Ukraine. The two countries even share a long border. So how many troops did the Germans need to invade Poland on 1 September 1939?

Oh. One and a half million. And although the Germans had better machines and really good generals, the Polish resistance was still pretty serious until the Russians invaded Poland from the other side two weeks later in fulfilment of the Nazi-Soviet Pact. Almost 20,000 German soldiers were killed or missing in action in one month, and 30,000 were wounded.

I'm not claiming that Russian casualties would be the same in an invasion of Ukraine now, but they would certainly be big enough to alarm the folks at home. Moreover, it's even doubtful that 147,000 Russian soldiers could actually overrun Ukraine.

They could grab a few border areas, and overwhelming Russian air power would protect them from counter-attacks, but that's as big as this crisis could get. I really don't think it will even get that big. Maybe a mini-offensive in the southeastern provinces of Donetsk and Lugansk, which are already partly Russian-controlled, but nothing more.

It feels a bit lonely out here, when lots of people who claim to know better are using apocalyptic terms like 'imminent invasion'. I'll apologise profusely if I'm

getting this wrong, but it feels to me like some Central Intelligence Agency people spotted some minor Russian troop movements and rang the alarm for domestic political purposes or just for fun.

Putin, ever the opportunist, decided to feed the flames and see what he could get out of the ensuing 'crisis'. Biden, needing to rebuild his tough-guy image after the Afghanistan bug-out, took the same decision. The Ukrainians don't believe a word of it, but nobody listens to them. And there will not be a hot war in Europe, or even a new Cold War. 🍷

Haikus by Daniel Terry

Oh Canada geese!
Your noisy honking convoy
Drowns out the tree frogs.

.....
The beach in winter:
Gulls drop clams and scream at geese
Who won't fly in vees.

Phone Booth

by Thomas Provençal

Your face is a form of expression,
a wonderful snapshot of you,
your character caught in
suspension
hinting at what you might do.
Our eyes may reveal our
intention.
Our thoughts may be caught in
the flash.
Our spirit transcends the
dimension.
The photo booth just wants the
cash.
And yet we are set for a picture
to immortalize moments of joy.
Throw in a friend to the mixture
our laughter rewarding the ploy.
We went when our pockets were
empty,
our money was spent on good
times.
The photo booth whispered,
"Please rent me".
We pretended the shots were
sublime.



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theislandsgrapevine@gmail.com

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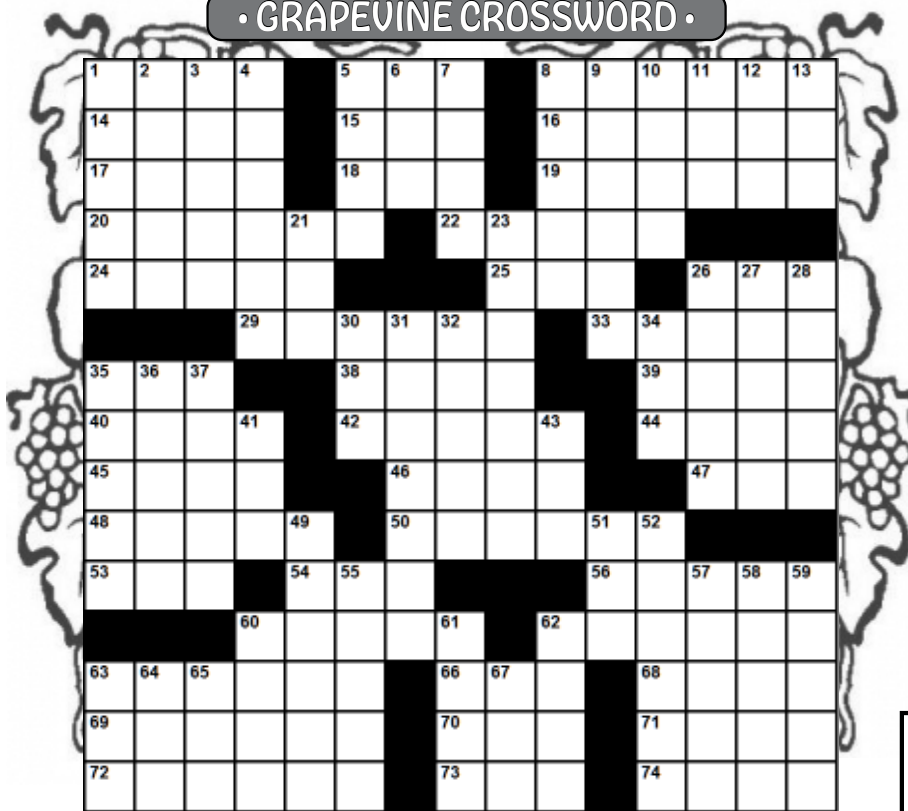
EDITORIAL POLICY

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. Hindu sacred text
5. Baby's break
8. Get away from
14. Alimony getters
15. Belonging to us
16. Brain bit
17. Currency of Brazil
18. Craft of sci-fi
19. Regarded as
20. Glossy cloth
22. R2-d2 or C-3PO, e.g.
24. Different in nature
25. Be master of
26. Adriatic, e.g.
29. Do police work
33. Poltergeist
35. Astute
38. Hale and hardy
39. Anne Frank's father
40. Vigilant
42. Plus
44. How soon
45. Drifting
46. Caesar's well
47. Bauxite bonanza
48. Army wear
50. Fly, e.g.

53. Absorb, as costs
54. Scratch the surface
56. Certain monkey
60. Taters
62. Music movement
63. Dined at a cafe
66. Cochlea site
68. Energetic dance
69. Tried
70. Anteceding
71. Burns one up
72. Fancies up
73. Black-eyed item
74. Be concerned

• DOWN •

1. Left hand page
2. Bishop's grant to a priest
3. Tarot card
4. Inattentive
5. It could be proper
6. Wiedersehen preceder
7. Elbow action
8. Furnish with an income
9. Going out with
10. Prompted
11. Biceps site
12. "Annabel Lee" author
13. Author's last word
21. Historic time
23. Deodorant types
26. Bantoid language
27. Aromatic chemical
28. Do penance
30. Former Delta Rival
31. Cardinal
32. Days of yore
34. In what manner
35. Come to

36. High ranking Ottoman
37. Buy a round
41. Gab and gab
43. Born
49. Cast doubt upon
51. Cape or fish
52. Disastrous
55. Cars
57. Athens civic center
58. Mali river
59. Duck's relative
60. Emulate a lark
61. Leak out
62. 2-D measure
63. Caught ya!
64. Itsy bit
65. Ancient Tokyo
67. Beatitudes verb



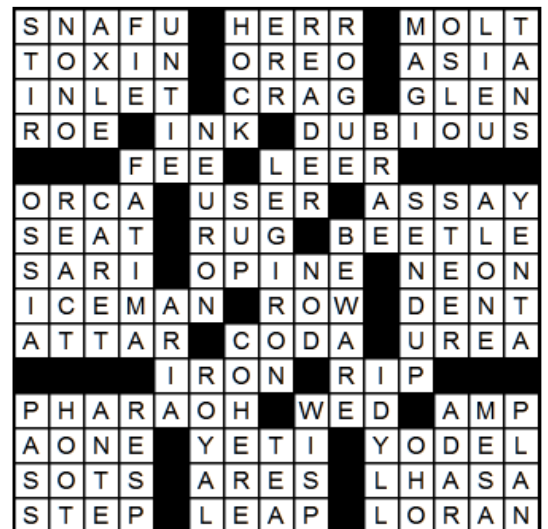
Mr. Stofer
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Grumpism



“A friend started a career as a psychic, but gave it up. Couldn't see any future in it.”

• LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS •



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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.

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WAGNER FIREWOOD. 2 cords to Denman, \$610 plus GST. Hornby, \$630 plus GST. Text or call Scott at 250-334-7323

• **COMMUNITY NOTICES** •

TEA WITH YOUR TRUSTEE:

Join Island Trustee Laura Busheikin for Trust-related conversation at the Guest House, Sat. Feb 5 & 19, 1:00 – 3:00. COVID protocols required.

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 mid-March. 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

• **WANTED** •

INTERIOR FRENCH DOOR. Also, a pair of fisherman pants (wool/size about 44). John Wells Ph.250-335-1079



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• (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 •

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- 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)
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- 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)
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- Music Lessons & Piano Tuning • Scott Knight 604-779-9335 (D/H)
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- Home Town Shredders • Document Shredding • 334-7111 (D/H)
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• 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)



FORTNIGHT EVENTS

THURSDAY 17

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



FRIDAY 18

- AA Meeting DI United Church 7pm

SATURDAY 19

- RECYCLING CENTRE 9-5pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 9-5pm
- FREE STORE 9-Noon
- FARMERS MARKET Old School 9:30am
- TEA WITH YOUR TRUSTEE
Guesthouse 1-3pm

SUNDAY 20

MONDAY 21

FAMILY DAY

TUESDAY 22

WEDNESDAY 23

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

THURSDAY 24

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

FRIDAY 25

- AA Meeting DI United Church 7pm

SATURDAY 26

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

SUNDAY 27

MONDAY 28

- ST. SAVIOUR'S CHURCH 10:30am

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 5pm-7pm



2022 Denman Island Phone Directory

Deadline for changes and new listings
is **March 6.**

Submit to:

denmanislanddirectory@gmail.com or
leave a message at 250-335-1483.