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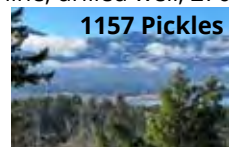
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*The opinions expressed herein do not
necessarily reflect the views of the
Publisher.*

Baroque Needs You!

MUSIC

By Anthony Gregson

AN intimate festival of Baroque music, a chance to workshop with top performers, home stays with welcoming locals, and all in the tranquility of a beautiful Gulf Island – by Canadian, and even international standards, this is something different, something special. Other rural BC communities have a rodeo, a rock festival, or even a bathtub race. Denman has opera – Baroque, no less, which was often composed and performed in small towns across eighteenth century Europe and not just at glittering royal courts. This year's offering will be Venus and Adonis by the English composer, John Blow (1649-1708).

For five years, sponsors Andrew Fyson and Robert Newton have pulled off the Denman Island Baroque Festival, even through the restrictions of Covid. What is truly astonishing is that the festival, as Andrew points out, is primarily for the benefit of the community, for the enjoyment of the small population of (now) 1,300 islanders and regional musicians. It is not just another polished spectacle of professionals for local astonishment.

Like other Gulf islands, Denman has a resourceful population of often well-educated individualists who think it's a fabulous place (with considerable justification), to live and make things happen. They contribute with generous, rural participation. Authentic costumes, stage scenery, nature walks, catering and accommodation, choristers, and amateur musicians eager to learn, are all on offer locally together with an unexpected variety of baroque instruments such as harpsichords, viols, and the occasional theorbo.

Absolutely key to the success of the Festival is the quality of music direction and professional instruction. Marco Vitale, from Italy, is a world-class performer who organizes workshops in Europe and performs with the likes of Early Music stars like Jordi Savall. Romeo Ciuffa is a renowned performer and instructor on the flute and the great family of recorders so important to Baroque music. Both are experts on the scholarship of Baroque music.

Up until two years ago, the Festival also worked with Enrique Gómez-Cabrero Fernández who is a virtuoso on the baroque viol. For strings, Paul Luchkow of Victoria will now take Enrique's place. Meanwhile, partly because he enjoys the Denman Baroque Festival so much, Marco has relocated to Canada where Andrew and Robert have been instrumental in helping him settle and establish a growing professional network.

The Festival relies on volunteers from the community. If you would like to help, please contact Pelka Wiltshire, our committee chair.

Andrew is deeply involved in the music. This is no easy task. With usually only a week to rehearse the opera in ensemble, the choice of score has to balance length and technical demands with available professional singers, who are often graduates or students of music programs, amateur singers, and players, both professional and amateur at various levels.

The performers have to get value. It is not charity in that sense. For instance, this year there will be five sopranos, three of whom are music students from the University of Victoria. They are coming because the level of instruction will look good on their CV.

Professional singers and instrumentalists are also given a chance to perform apart from the opera. Another concert will be organized for them. Andrew points out that this gives professionals a chance to show their stuff outside the workshop. Local performers may also get a chance to show what they can do, again enhancing

community value.

Andrew likes to perform, not, he says, because he wants the attention, but because he wants to participate as a member of the community. It is also a hands-on way to see what's really happening and where the problems are. That makes it important to have someone with a big picture, which is where Robert comes in (though he, too, has enjoyed performing), troubleshooting and providing coordination. Robert also manages fund raising, an arduous but essential task involving personal letters to dozens and dozens of individual donors.

Equally crucial is the organization of catering, billets and receptions. Donna Wooley will provide catering and Pelka Wiltshire is organizing billets. Sharon Clarke will host the Welcome Reception, and Mike and Selinda White will host the Wrap Up Reception. These are no small tasks providing for dozens of participants.

In the end, the most important single factor to the continuing sustainability of the Festival is the scale. "It's like a wedding, Andrew says. "If you have five people, nothing can go wrong; a hundred, and everything can go wrong." Which is why, given the resources and demands of a period piece opera, the focus remains local and why the Festival is such a good value for money.

Denman's Arts Denman / Early Music committee needs your support. You may donate through their website denmanbaroque.com, or by mailing a cheque to Arts Denman (note Baroque), 1016 NW Road, Denman Island, BC V0R 1T0. Donors will receive a tax receipt. 🍷



TreeEater Spring Sale

By Magdalene Joly
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Phoenix Riting! A Hornby Perspective

By Phoenix Bee

THERE are disadvantages to life in a small community. Some, like the lack of public swimming pools, are a matter of living without perks people in larger communities enjoy. Others are harder to deal with. What do you do when someone is acting out in obvious pain? Certain individuals have, over the years, enjoyed a certain level of impunity in destructive behavior, because we simply can't deal with such behavior appropriately (or at all). Occasionally, in desperation, small groups engage in acts of vigilantism. Case in point: the burning of Darek Watson's truck a couple of years ago, before that unfortunate soul passed away.

continued on P.4...

TIDE TABLE

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

2022-03-31 (Thu)		
Time PST (m)	(m)	(ft)
05:10	4.7	15.4
11:29	2.1	6.9
17:08	4.2	13.8
23:20	1.7	5.6
2022-04-01 (Fri)		
Time PDT (m)	(m)	(ft)
06:37	4.7	15.4
13:06	1.8	5.9
19:03	4.3	14.1
2022-04-02 (Sat)		
Time PDT (m)	(m)	(ft)
00:59	2.1	6.9
07:03	4.6	15.1
13:42	1.5	4.9
19:56	4.3	14.1
2022-04-03 (Sun)		
Time PDT (m)	(m)	(ft)
01:38	2.4	7.9
07:27	4.6	15.1
14:17	1.3	4.3
20:49	4.3	14.1
2022-04-04 (Mon)		
Time PDT (m)	(m)	(ft)
02:16	2.8	9.2
07:49	4.5	14.8
14:51	1.2	3.9
21:42	4.3	14.1
2022-04-05 (Tue)		
Time PDT (m)	(m)	(ft)
02:55	3.2	10.5
08:09	4.3	14.1
15:25	1.2	3.9
22:38	4.3	14.1
2022-04-06 (Wed)		
Time PDT (m)	(m)	(ft)
03:40	3.4	11.2
08:26	4.1	13.5
16:00	1.3	4.3
23:40	4.3	14.1
2022-04-07 (Thu)		
Time PDT (m)	(m)	(ft)
04:43	3.7	12.1
08:38	3.9	12.8
16:40	1.5	4.9



...continued from P.3 Here's the pattern: a troubled person destroys your property (or some other indictable act). You call the police, you press charges. Maybe the person is taken away to cool their heels in a jail cell for a night. A trial date may be set for some time in the future. The very next day, the same person is back on the island, angrier than ever. This pattern has played itself out on Hornby over and over during my time here. If Darek hadn't passed away, poor guy, we would still be dealing with that mess. Death is, obviously, no solution.

How can we as a community respond to these traumatic situations? We have no system in place to deal with them, and yet they continue to reoccur. When mental health and substance abuse are front and centre, the problem is starker. Police are not helpful: the primary problem is not the criminal behavior, but the human suffering at the root. The most the justice system can offer is that the offender, almost certainly a trauma survivor, serves time in prison. Upon release, they may show up on our doorstep again, worse off than ever for their time in the prison system. Out of sight may be out of mind, but it's no solution.

I am talking around a current situation unfolding on our island. Bad behavior shouldn't be allowed to continue. But are society's punitive measures the best way to deal? Who takes the lead in implementing a more holistic solution, inclusive of the needs of all victims? It is said, hurt people hurt people. That is true. Look closely at a child abuser, for example, you nearly always find an abused child. Sociopaths are the exception, not the rule. We are trapped on a hamster wheel of suffering breeding more suffering, stimulus response stimulus response ad infinitum.

Everyone deserves love and care, especially when they are hurting. But no matter how we feel or what we say, if someone is too wounded or angry to trust, then as far as they are concerned, nobody cares. Nobody. That is a terrible, anguishing place to live. I spent much of my earlier life in that place. It's a hole I still visit on

occasion. Until I retrieve them all, parts of my soul still live there. I wish that pain on nobody. If you are that person, or you feel that way in your own secret self, please know I care. And so many do. But how can we show it? We haven't the resources. We may be struggling ourselves, with our own mental health, life issues, family, overwhelm, you name it. This is not for individuals to fix.

How can our community embrace our lost ones? Can we? I want to believe we can, somehow. I wish I had better ideas. My heart feels the love, while my body is just trying to survive. I'm still working on my own healing. I'm far from alone in that, here. A precocious young visitor once (scornfully) characterized Hornby as "an island of special needs people." That struck me, then and now as a poignant truth. We need. Can we come together?

If you have ideas and are willing to talk about them, please reach out, I'd love to hear. Email me at phoenixhornby@gmail.com



Green Wizardries, Lentils & the Senility of the Elites

SPECIAL INTEREST

By Maxine Rogers

YOU may have heard about an article written in Bloomberg by economist Teresa Ghilarducci on the subject of inflation. I read it and either she is very stupid or she thinks her audience is very stupid. She wrote that inflation stings most if you earn less than \$300,000 American dollars per year. At the current rate of exchange, that would be \$375,000 Canadian dollars. Did she really mean a person who only earns \$300,000 Canadian a year is poor and must consider selling their second vehicle?

I suspect that what Ms. Ghilarducci is doing is what is so quaintly called, "getting ahead of the story". This is an exercise in shaping public opinion before the real story comes crashing down. It is a form of foreshadowing for dramatic effect. The story to come is that we are all going to be hosed by massive inflation. When governments spin the monetary printing presses, it always ends in hyperinflation. As every government you could care to name has been doing that with a truly-breathtaking lack of restraint since 2008, there was only a question of when it was going to happen, not if.

Politicians in many countries are going to yammer that inflation is all the fault of the war in the Ukraine but inflation has been steep for the past couple of years before that event even got started so don't be fooled by empty political rhetoric. What the Governing classes mean is that you will



become poor due to their mismanagement of resources and have to give up owning a car for the good of the country, war or environment but they don't have to. This is called the Senility of the Elites because this sort of thinking eventually brings their rule crashing down and them with it.

So, Ghilarducci offers some solutions which all make sense especially if they had been put into effect before 2008 or even many years before that. However, if you are only just catching up to events now, you are really in an unfortunate position. You are going to get poorer and poorer, perhaps homeless or living in your car. Don't worry too much because poverty and hunger are natural to our species and we thrive even under such conditions. Fasting for example, is very fashionable now because it has an outrageous bounty of health benefits including curing type-two diabetes. Also, being hungry is the best spice for any food.

Ghilarducci suggested the classes earning less than \$375,000 Canadian dollars a year switch from meat to lentils, beans and vegetables. In February alone, the, "growth," in meat prices was something close to 17%. You will notice the term, "price growth," is being used now when what they really mean is simply inflation. Beans and lentils were up 9% so lay in a stash now because the price of food is on a one-way ticket to the stratosphere.

A couple of weeks ago, I wrote a story about how to stock the pantry and use the food you buy rather than keeping a sack of beans forever for emergency use. Since then, everyone I have discussed the story with has admitted to having an antique sack of beans in their pantry.

If this is you too, I hope you will now go and open the beans up, take out a couple of cups and put them to soak with a couple of inches of water over them. Leave them overnight. The next day, put the beans in a pot of fresh water and bring them to the boil. Once they are boiling, take the pot off the heat and put it in your hay box or if you don't have one yet, set the pot on a cork mat or a folded towel and wrap it in a fluffy towel.

Beans, especially old ones, respond really well to a long, slow, gentle cooking. Check the beans in a couple of hours and bring back to the boil and re-wrap if they are not yet cooked. This method saves money on electricity or propane and will probably become central to the way you cook.

Years ago, I grew a crop of dried beans and cooked them up a few months later. My daughter does not like beans but was persuaded to try these as they were out of our garden. She asked me how I had cooked the beans as they were silky and delicious. I explained that it was not the cooking method but the freshness of the beans that was responsible. So rotate the stock in your pantry!!!

I have lived abroad in many low-income countries and we all got by pretty well with nothing like as much meat as Canadians typically like to eat. Of course, I was among the most privileged wherever I went because it was the custom in the countries I visited to take good care of guests and travellers. I often found even very poor people to have lovely manners, much better manners in fact than in the spoiled and bloated high-income countries. Everywhere from Poland to Sudan people will bring out their very best for guests.

As a student of history, I find myself well prepared for bad government, people being crazy and demanding other people change their way of thinking or religion or political party or be killed or exiled, war, poverty and the other usual aspects of human life. Canadians who have not studied history may have expected the good times to carry on forever because they had been born and raised in good times and it seems the natural state of affairs to them. The later half of the twentieth century was not normal. It was a glorious anomaly. The way ahead promises to be bumpy.

A sage by the name of Teresa of Hershey wrote the following Spell for getting through hard times. It goes like this: Pay off your debts. Insulate your house. Learn to cook. Improve your soil. Learn to food garden. Learn to do simple repairs from replacing buttons to a broken pane of glass. Attend all your Municipality meetings. Get active locally. Exercise. Pay off your debts.

One of the most important practices for getting through hard times is to have a really solid group of friends that you cooperate with to grow seeds, make quilts, run a voluntary organization or similar. If you have friends that can depend on you, it means you have friends that you too can depend upon. 🍷

Shortages in the Land of Plenty

OPINION

By Helen Grond

*Trees, trees everywhere and
not a stick to burn*

THE systematic destruction of our old growth forests has been with us since Europeans first arrived in this neck of the woods in the mid-1800's. On Hornby, there are very few of the giants left. Typically, the remaining few were overlooked for harvest due to obvious disease and other signs of inferior quality. In other words, the only old growth we have left were the rejects of that initial cull of our forests. We all lament their loss as we wander through our forests of densely spaced, spindly second growth among widely spaced giant stumps! What a sight that must have been as we are accustomed to seeing these large trees as a rare novelty.

After clearing the land, the settlers turned to farming. I have heard that in the 40's and 50's you could see the ocean from nearly every property on Hornby. Of course, small scale farming was not to last as the globalization of our food supply didn't support locally grown food. We now rely on distant food sources that require vast amounts of fossil fuels to produce the chemical fertilizers required for the growth and transportation of that food. We also have to hope that the politicians don't create wars, etc. that would disrupt that delicate supply chain and leave us with shortages!

Our conditions are absolutely perfect for trees and it's normal to see tree growth measurable in several feet per year. Turn your back and the forest will reclaim your garden space in a season or two. You can barely see the ocean from anywhere anymore due to the extravagant growth of trees in just a few decades.

What trees are doing is harvesting the sun's energy. In fact, in our neck of the woods, trees are the best possible source of stored solar energy. When thinned, the remaining trees will grow at a faster rate than the trees left in a crowded, stagnant, forest. A properly managed forest can provide a continuous supply of fuel and building materials. The branches can be chipped and composted to provide critical organic matter to our soils so we can grow food. I consider a small woodlot to be a crucial resource for self-sufficiency and a sustainable lifestyle. A wonderful example of a coastal managed forest can be seen in Merv Wilkinsons' "Wildwood" at Cedar BC.

Unfortunately, we are not managing the second growth forests on the public lands we have inherited. They are like a patch of seeded carrots that are never thinned. Rather than removing excess overgrowth, we have adopted the mistaken idea that never cutting trees is like paying restitution for the culling of our old growth forests. This is an ignorant and risky way to go about it!

I have spoken to many foresters about this problem and they agree. We desperately need to remove excess second growth trees or we are going to have to let nature do it for us. How does nature take care of the problem? Fire!!! We know that fires have swept through our islands over and over again. The evidence is everywhere in blackened stumps and the burned bark of the few old growth trees still standing. Those old trees have withstood fire and lived on. This will not be the case for the second growth that does not have the thick fire resistant bark. Many are already dead or weak. They will burn hard and fast and instead of giving us endless firewood and natural building materials, we will have a blackened, smoking mess that could destroy our homes and parks and communities and set the forest back decades. We are living next to and within a highly combustible firetrap and it's due to misguided government restrictions. An aggressive program of thinning would work all over.

Why is the government so intent on banning the use of wood burning stoves? Are they not aware of the fire dangers in our second growth forests? Do they not understand the importance of properly seasoned wood for clean burning? Do they not understand that a tree is a perfect form of renewable solar energy? Have they not heard of masonry heaters which were developed in Europe in the 1600's to address the firewood shortages there? Masonry heaters burn very hot (1500 degrees) and consume all the creosote and volatiles that go up the chimney in conventional

airtight. A large thermal mass absorbs the excess heat and radiates it out for a good 24 hours. It's a marvellous system that I have used personally for 25 years.

If we were truly environmentally minded, we would use this perfect form of renewable solar energy to build and heat our homes – even cook our food. We would manage our forests properly with the intent to re-establish our climax mature forests. We would use the trees right here where we need them. We would season the firewood properly to burn cleanly and safely in low emission stoves. We would limit the need for fossil fuels and electricity that are coming from far away. We would be more independent and we would provide many local jobs in the process. These would be year round jobs that weren't dependant on tourism or handouts from our already bankrupt governments.

We would be able to have this much needed energy source in the winter when expensive, mining intensive, short lived, non-renewable solar panels go to sleep for six months.

Of course, our politicians are not actually environmentally minded. They support globalization and the dependency on mega-corporations to supply our basic needs. We are being set up for devastation and it appears to be more about virtue signalling and control than a true sense of environmentalism. The Islands' Trust proposed policy statement review outlines all the ways they are going to further restrict our ability to look after our forests, our farmlands and our means to survive and pay our outrageous taxes. They haven't done anything particularly useful in the last twenty years or so. Perhaps it's time to limit their interest in controlling every aspect of our lives by reducing their organization to an administrator or two. Imagine how far their 9 million dollar budget would go to rebuilding sustainability instead of dictating dangerous policies? The islanders could then work cooperatively and use their hard earned, on the ground, wisdom to rebuild into strong, independent communities that truly understood how to preserve and protect their own backyards where they actually live.



Beautiful and Hopefully Bountiful Butterflies in Helliwell

SPECIAL INTEREST

By Christopher Junck

• Taylor's Checkerspot Recovery Project Team

A long-term initiative by BC Parks and the Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly Recovery Project to re-establish a population of the critically endangered species in Helliwell Provincial Park reached a major milestone in March. Approximately 5,400 Taylor's checkerspot



butterfly larvae were released in Helliwell's coastal bluff meadow over a three-week period. The caterpillars were reared at the Greater Vancouver Zoo with the support of Wildlife Preservation Canada staff. A minimum of 5,000 larvae per year seems to be an important factor for successful butterfly reintroductions.

"We know from other projects that releasing at least 5,000 larvae per year for at least five years seems to be what is needed to establish a population because that will usually result in about 250 adult butterflies each year," said Jennifer Heron, Chair of the Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly Recovery Project Team and provincial invertebrate conservation specialist with the BC Ministry of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship.



Fortunately, the project team had a lot of help to gently place all those fuzzy little larvae on their meadow food plants. Assistance came from: K'ómoks First Nation Councillor Charlene Everson, and representatives from provincial government staff, Greater Vancouver Zoo, BC Conservation Foundation, Mosaic Forest Management, Conservancy Hornby Island, the Hornby Island Natural History Centre, Hornby Island Provincial Parks Committee.

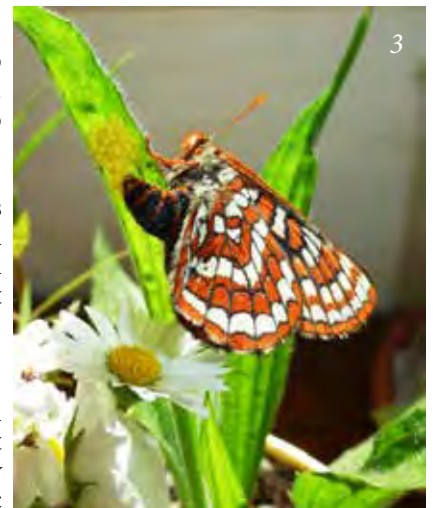
Many of the caterpillars immediately began searching for their favourite foods, such as the leaves of English plantain, small-flowered blue-eyed Mary, or harsh paintbrush. If all goes well, they will progress through a few more developmental stages, pupate, and then emerge as spectacular orange, black and white checkered butterflies in late April to early June.

Trampling is a key threat for caterpillars and their food plants. Park visitors can help protect the caterpillars by staying on the trails that are delineated by ropes and restoration area signs. Also, visitors are reminded that dogs must be on a leash according to provincial park regulations and bikes aren't allowed in this park.

If you spot a Taylor's checkerspot, please don't pick it up. Instead, report sightings to Taylor'sCheckerspot@gov.bc.ca, or by using the free iNaturalist app (www.inaturalist.org). It's an easy-to-use species identification tool that enables citizen scientists to record and contribute important species data for projects around the globe.

The recovery initiative required extensive habitat restoration in the park, such as selective tree and invasive plant removal, and adding native plants and seeds. Although focused on Taylor's checkerspot butterflies, several other at-risk and uncommon coastal bluff species benefit from this project, such as dun skipper butterflies and about a dozen other range-restricted butterflies, western bumble bee, bats, western screech-owl, and numerous other birds and plants.

The Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly Recovery Project Team includes representatives from BC Ministry of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship, BC Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy, BC Parks, biological consultants, Denman Conservancy Association, Garry Oak Ecosystems Recovery Team, Greater Vancouver Zoo, Mosaic Forest Management, Wildlife Preservation Canada, and others. There has also been a lot of local assistance for the project from Helliwell Park neighbours in High Salal Ranch Strata and local community volunteers. BC Parks and the project team thank the Cowichan Tribes, Halalt, Homalco, K'ómoks, Lake Cowichan, Lyackson, Penelakut, Qualicum, Snaw'Naw'As, Stz'uminus, Tla'amin, We Wai Kai, and We Wai Kum First Nations, for allowing us to restore ecosystems in their traditional territories



The recovery project has benefited from funding and in-kind contributions from the BC Parks License Plate Program, the Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation, the Environment Canada Habitat Stewardship Fund and others.

continued on P.8...

...continued from P.7



We needed lots of help to release 5,400 caterpillars. Thanks everyone!





continued on P.10...

...continued from P.9 Photos by Chris Junck unless otherwise noted

1. Taylor's checkerspot larvae on plantain leaf. (Photo by Peter Karsten)

2/3. Adult Taylor's checkerspot butterflies (Photos by Peter Karsten)

4/5. Larvae are transported to the site in plastic cups with mesh tops. Small flags are used to mark release sites.

6/7/8. TCB Recovery Project Team Chair Jennifer Heron demonstrates how to carefully transfer larvae with a paintbrush from a cup to English plantain (one of its favourite food plants).

Background Information

Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly (*Euphydryas editha taylori*)
Also known as Edith's Checkerspot.

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

They were thought to have been extirpated (became locally extinct) from Canada by 2000 when no Taylor's Checkerspots could be found in their last known sites on Hornby Island despite intensive searches. However, new populations were discovered on Denman Island in 2005 and near Campbell River in 2018.

It is federally listed as Endangered (COSEWIC, SARA Schedule 1), and is on the BC Red list of at-risk species. Taylor's Checkerspot butterflies need open sunny meadows where they can find suitable host plants (food for larvae and nectar producing flowers for adults), such as woolly sunflower, common camas, small-flowered blue-eyed Mary, wild strawberry, sea blush, and yarrow.

Habitat loss, degradation and fragmentation are major factors in the species' decline. For example, the meadows along the coastal bluffs in Helliwell Provincial Park became less suitable for butterflies due to invasions of non-native plants and encroaching forests.

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

The Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly Recovery Project
The Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly Recovery Project is led by Jennifer Heron of the BC Ministry of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship and is guided by the Garry Oak Ecosystems Recovery Team's Invertebrates at Risk Recovery Implementation Group. It is a collaborative effort to restore Taylor's checkerspot populations in British Columbia through habitat enhancement, captive butterfly rearing and release, monitoring, public outreach, and other activities.

Team Members

Jennifer Heron (Chair), BC Ministry of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship, Vancouver, BC
Erika Bland and Andrew Fyson, Denman Island Conservancy Association, Denman Island, BC
Deborah Bishop, Denman Island, BC
Menita Prasad, Greater Vancouver Zoo, Aldergrove, BC
Eric Gross, Kella Sadler and Ross Vennesland, Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment and Climate Change Canada, Delta, BC
Crispin Guppy, Entomologist, Whitehorse, YT
Molly Hudson and David Vey, Mosaic Forest Management, Nanaimo, BC
Chris Junck, Garry Oak Ecosystems Recovery Team,

Victoria, BC

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

Patrick Lilley, Private Consultant, North Vancouver, BC

Erica McClaren, BC Parks, Black Creek, BC

Kristen Miskelly, Satinflower Nurseries, Victoria, BC

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

Nick Page, Raincoast Applied Ecology, Vancouver, BC

Jessica Steiner and Andrea Gielens, Wildlife Preservation Canada, Guelph, ON

Bonnie Zand, BC Conservation Foundation, Fanny Bay, BC

Supporters

BC Conservation Foundation

BC Ministry of Environment and Climate Change Strategy

BC Ministry of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship

BC Parks

BC Parks License Plate Fund

Denman Conservancy Association

Environment Canada Habitat Stewardship Fund

Garry Oak Ecosystems Recovery Team

Greater Vancouver Zoo

Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation

Hornby Island Community School

Hornby Island Natural History Centre

Mosaic Forest Management

University of British Columbia

Wildlife Preservation Canada

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

Project Lead/GOERT Invertebrates at Risk RIG Chair
Jennifer Heron

Provincial Invertebrate Conservation Specialist

BC Ministry of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship

Office: 778-572-2273

Jennifer.Heron@gov.bc.ca

Public Outreach Coordinator

Taylor's Checkerspot Recovery Project Team

Chris Junck

Mobile/text: 250-888-4086

chris_junck@hotmail.com

* More photos available by request

BC Parks

Erica McClaren

Conservation Specialist

Office: 250-331-9922

Erica.mcclaren@gov.bc.ca 

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.

Bombings and Innocence

July 8, 2005

I wrote 3-4 brilliant lines of trenchant observations this morning and lost it all in the power failure. Last night I commented to an overnight guest that we had gone all winter without a loss of power. Prescient or what I ask you!

London was bombed yesterday with what was characterized as a modest but unacceptable loss of life. As intriguing as the whole news event was, what most caught my attention (*I mean, not to sound callous but after 9/11 and Madrid and Hiroshima/Nagasaki and Dresden one does get a little inured*) was the report that the London subway system has six thousand cameras recording everything and that every citizen using the system is recorded three hundred times a day. This is probably common knowledge. It may even entice those predisposed to bomb, especially the ones who detonate themselves, to do their wicked deeds. Why would they care if the world saw them blowing infidels up? They likely wouldn't. More fuel for their firestorm.

By this reckoning, I doubt that Denman Island will be a target. To the best of my knowledge we haven't installed surveillance cameras yet though I suspect BC Ferries does have secret recording devices. The Queen of Oak Bay was captured on film crunching a passel of boats in a marina. I don't know whose camera that was, so I am fairly comfortably freely speculating that the Ferry Corporation is set up to record terminal grief.

But perhaps we are not so safe from terrorist attack. If the object of terrorists is to terrorize, then what better place than a sleepy-eyed little rural enclave...in close proximity to an Air Force base not to mention the naval installation at Nanoose? Our overnight guest worked at the Comox base twenty-five years ago. His job was

to load nuclear payloads on jets that would be sent out 5-6 times a week into the air to hunt down soviet planes that strayed into North American air space.

Old hat you say. Perhaps. However, if I was a terrorist, I wouldn't bomb the obvious places. No, I would go after the most innocent of places for if the most innocent are potential victims, then no one is safe.

At the G8 this week, George Bush reiterated that the US of A will continue to not sign the Kyoto Accord. It seems to me that this insistence by the Americans to be contrary to Kyoto is a form of environmental terrorism. No one really knows how many people die for want of cleaner air. Tre Arrow, a government identified eco-terrorist will likely be sent back to the States to face charges of blowing up a truck. (*Attempting to blend in whilst in Canada, he is arrested for shoplifting at Canadian Tire. This faux pas has not served the cause of greening the earth*) George Bush will accept him into the bosom of their virulent legal system. War will continue. Terrorists will don knapsacks of death./ The air we breathe will become more poisoned.

That's a thought or three.

Whew, I'm too damn depressing for my own good.



Ukraine, Russia & NATO

OPINION

By Sally Campbell

• sally@sallycampbellmediator.ca

WE watch and listen in deep dismay as Russian troops pour over Ukraine and millions flee the country. We place the blame squarely on Putin, who seems bent on carving out a place for himself in history as the one who restored Russia

to its former empire. No wonder Trump admires him. During his tenure though, Trump had no need to prove US world dominance; with over 800 bases worldwide and by far the world's largest military, US global hegemony felt secure. Sadly, Biden has not brought diplomacy to US foreign affairs, and the US, as the real power behind NATO, is at huge risk of escalating this dangerous war.

It is intriguing how much condemnation goes to Putin these days without reflection on what led him to invade Ukraine in the first place. There are many bullies in the world, starting in the playground, and there are strategies galore to deal with bullies. Until recently, there have also been recognized "spheres of influence" surrounding the major imperial powers – US, Russia & China. Treading into those spheres can ignite powerful reactions with unintended consequences. Especially when it's the sphere of influence of an insecure bully.

Remember the Cuban missile crisis in the early 60's, when Russia sent missiles to Cuba? The US reaction led the world closer to a nuclear confrontation than ever before. Russia retreated. Why is it so different when NATO conducts its military

"exercises" on the immediate borders with Russia? Is that not a threat to Russia? Why does Canada have troops semi-permanently stationed in Latvia? Not many are aware that when the USSR dissolved & the Warsaw Pact went with it, James Baker, then US Secretary of State, promised Russia's Gorbachev that NATO would not intrude "one inch" into former Warsaw Pact states. That promise was broken, first with Poland, Hungary, & Czech Republic joining NATO in 1999, then Bosnia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia & Slovenia admitted in 2004. In 2008, NATO unwisely promised Ukraine eventual membership in NATO, despite Russia's clearly-stated deep opposition. In February, 2022, just last month, the US announced plans for a new nuclear

continued on P.12...

...continued from P.11 base in Poland, 100 miles from Russia's border. Poking a stick at the bear?

Our system of justice is mostly retributive, that is, punishment and blame for wrongdoing. Often that leads the offender to feel victimized, humiliated and determined to lash back. How well does that serve us? In the geopolitical realm, countries in the West and NATO could have found ways to recognize and include Russia as a major economic power in Europe, rather than demonizing and minimizing it. NATO and Russia agreed to a strategic relationship in 2001. International terrorism, nuclear proliferation & arms control were on the agenda. NATO then failed to follow through with its intention of dialogue and consultation with Russia. By such omission, a huge opportunity to deepen co-operation among the nations in the EU and Russia was lost. Nonetheless, Russia, exporter of 10% of the world's oil & gas, is a major supplier of gas and oil to the EU. Sanctions will be very costly for everyone, not just the average Russian. What to do?

Once again, I turn to the writer Cormac McCarthy and paraphrase: it's not only about the mess we're in now. What decisions were taken back then that led to the mess? If we are ever to learn from mistakes and avoid destroying ourselves & our planet through our preventable conflicts, we must become more reflective and work to reduce the rampant militarism in our world, militarism that continues to call the shots.

So back to the mess in the Ukraine right now. The last thing NATO needs to do is add more fuel to this fire. We need to push for an immediate ceasefire and high level talks to begin. Anatole Lieven, (Sr. Resident Fellow at Quincy Institute for Responsible Statecraft, Washington, DC.) outlined a framework for a peace agreement that could be negotiated now, or sometime in the future, after immense loss of life & destruction of a country. i In his view, the outcome will be much the same. The bones of such an agreement are:

1. Ukraine designated as neutral.
2. No NATO in Ukraine – no membership, bases, training or weapons.
3. Rejection of Nazism in Ukraine.
4. Ukraine makes a free offer to withdraw laws discriminating against the Russian language in Ukraine.
5. Crimea has been lost to Ukraine for the last 8 years. Have a 2nd referendum, or recognize it won't be "given back" to Ukraine. Ukraine ceases its blockade of the water supply to Crimea.

OPINION

Public Comment Presented at Pender LTC March 24th

By Mairead Boland

• Resident of Saturna and retired geologist

THE water DPA (under discussion for North Pender and Galiano) will be replicated on Saturna (and likely other islands) so I am commenting here.

These questions I raise with respect to the GW Solutions report on groundwater availability will be discussed at a Saturna LTC in May.

This report: Islands Trust Area Groundwater Availability Assessment, prepared for: Islands Trust, Prepared by: GW Solutions Inc., October 2021

Water demand estimates for Saturna in the report are too high. North Pender data are equally inflated.

The Islands Trust Director of Planning Services response to me when I raised these questions was:

"I understand your concernsWe are also contracting with GW solutions to address water demand parameters and expect that report to be ready in April or May."

=====

In the report any above 5 % use of groundwater recharge is flagged as "of concern". No reason for this low threshold (5%) is presented.

6. The Donbas region of 2 provinces: one has already been given autonomy by Minsk² which has not been honoured by Ukraine. Possibly have internationally supervised referenda on a district-by-district basis to determine the future of the region.

The parties themselves will determine the specifics of an agreement, but this brief outline shows possibilities for a negotiated resolution. The US was recently described as "the world's most warlike nation" by former President Jimmy Carter, having been at peace for only 16 of its 242 years as a nation. ii As the Canadian military operates in lockstep with the US iii, valuable resources Canadians could be using to address climate crisis, poverty, reconciliation, a transition economy, and other concerns are hijacked to serve US' ongoing expectations of world dominance.

In a way, there are now two wars occurring. One is Russia vs Ukraine. The other is a proxy war between the US & Russia, the world's biggest nuclear powers. There is too much at stake to allow escalation. Einstein said that we don't know what weapons WWII will be fought with. We DO know what weapons WWIV will be fought with: stones. iv We need to raise our voices and make them heard: Ceasefire now!



Land-use parcel maps are used with average URBAN water usage from Kelowna. Water usage is grossly inflated by this.

Some examples of issues for Saturna in the GW report:

- Urban Parks are classed as 50% irrigated. Saturna is 50% Park, so the water estimate will be ridiculous.
- Domestic use is set at 625 liters/day. This is too high – people who live with wells and water collection use water conservatively.
- Return of domestic water through septic fields is unacknowledged. Effectively there is NO NET use of groundwater on Saturna.
- A sole area of Saturna is of moderate concern in a dry year – this

is impossible to understand. Part of the area is supplied by a surface water system (unacknowledged in the report) and the other half is a 270-acre section with 3 wells supplying 20 houses.

In conclusion: Water demand estimates for Saturna are inflated in this report. North Pender data are equally flawed and inflated.

I ask that this water DPA be stopped until, in the words of the draft Trust Policy Statement “multiple ways of knowing, including the best available area-based mapping, science, social science, local knowledge, and Indigenous ways of knowing” are thoroughly explored.

Do Russians Have War in Their Blood?

By Gwynned Dyer
OPINION • OP March 30th, 2022

THE geopolitical views of my grandmother, Florence O'Driscoll, could have been summed up in seven words: 'The Germans Have War in their Blood.' Even as a child I suspected that the world must be more complicated than that, but

I never contradicted her. She came by those views the hard way.

Most Irish Catholics of her time hated England, but she reserved her hatred for Germany because half the young men she had known were killed in the First World War. She had to make sense of why Newfoundlanders were being killed by Germans thousands of kilometres from home, and that was her answer.

During the Second World War she ran a boarding house where naval officers on the North Atlantic convoy run stayed between trips. The only surviving baby picture shows me in the lap of a young Canadian lieutenant who was dead less than a month later, torpedoed by a U-boat right outside the harbour-mouth. Germans again. She never forgave them.

She was wrong, of course, and nobody talks about the Germans like that nowadays. Well, some Russians still do, but a lot of people in the West are in the process of transferring that slander to the Russians themselves. They now believe – largely thanks to the invasion of Ukraine – that it's the Russians who have war in their blood.

What dragged this growing conviction out into the light was Joe Biden's unfortunate remark that Russian President Vladimir Putin “cannot remain in power.” That was widely interpreted as an incitement to regime change in Moscow, which would be a good idea but is not a permissible comment in terms of international diplomatic discourse.

The White House duly issued denials that Biden was threatening to overthrow Putin, and the news cycle moved on to the next topic. However, public discussion of the possibility that Putin might be toppled has raised a different and more fundamental question: would getting rid of Putin actually make any difference?

There are doubtless another dozen people writing articles about this right now, but the first one to catch my attention was in the ‘i’, the London paper which claims to be for “lapsed readers of quality newspapers.” Its title was ‘Getting rid of Putin is not the answer – this runs deeper’, and it is fairly representative of its kind.

It was written by Mark Wallace, chief executive of the ConservativeHome blog, who asserts that “the uncomfortable truth behind (Putin's) retention of power, and what he chooses to do with it, is that a large and powerful portion of Russian society actively likes what he does.”

“Putin assessed what would make him a popular leader and set about doing it. The bloody trail of conflict he has drawn from Moscow through Georgia, Syria and Ukraine...is inherent to his pitch to his constituency, both at the top of Russia's economic, military and political establishments and to the man and woman on the street.”

In other words, the Russians have war in their blood.

Even the polls say so. In a telephone survey two weeks ago by Lord Ashworth Polls, 76% said that they supported the ‘special military operation’ in Ukraine, 81% said it was necessary to protect Russian security, and 85% had a favourable view of Vladimir Putin.

The numbers are untrustworthy, of course: would you always tell the truth to a stranger ringing up out of the blue and asking dangerous questions? It was also striking that a majority of the youngest age group (18-24-year-olds) actually opposed the war, so there's some hope there if you want it. But a clear majority of Russians strongly back the invasion of Ukraine.

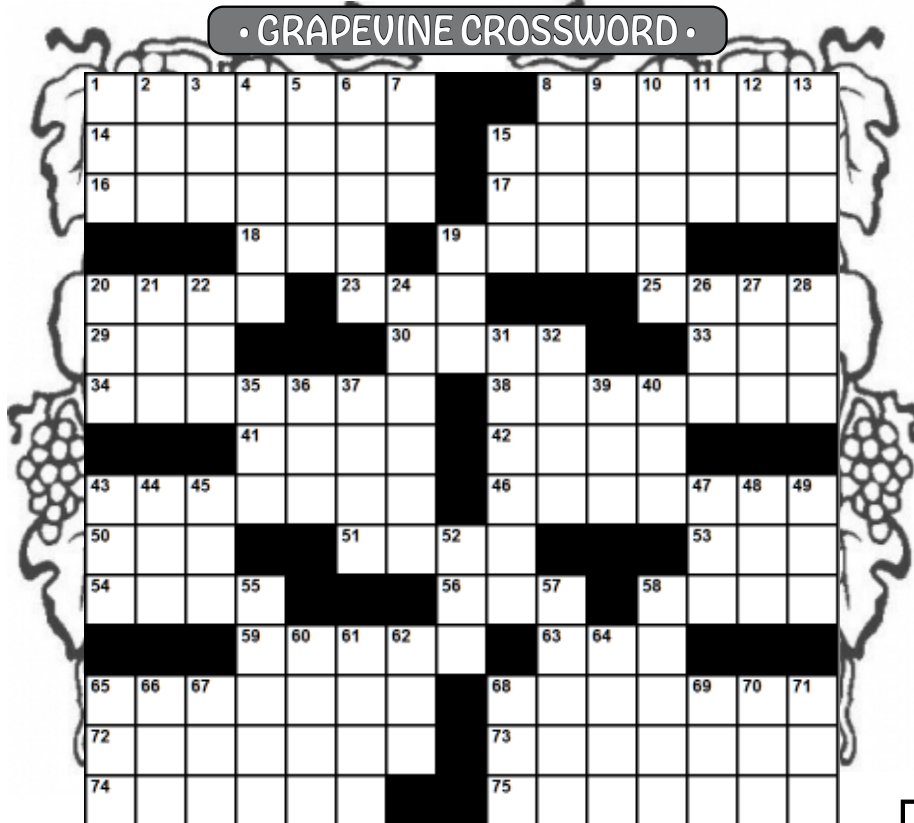
The Russians are deluded, but it's a delusion that has struck almost all the former European colonial powers after they lost their empires. You might call it ‘post-imperial muscle memory’, like the phantom sensation that an amputated leg is still there even after it's gone. It generally involves several foredoomed wars.

The peak period for this was 1950-1975, when the French, the British and the Portuguese each fought several futile wars to hang on to their colonies, or at least to ensure that ‘friendly’ regimes inherited power after independence: Algeria and Vietnam; Kenya and Cyprus; Angola and Mozambique.

The Russian empire died much later (1991), partly because it was a land empire, with lots of Russians settled in all the colonies, and partly because it pretended not to be an empire for its last seventy years, calling itself the Soviet Union instead. So most Russians don't even grasp the connection with decolonisation elsewhere.

But it is really the same transitory phenomenon, with the same inevitable outcome. The Russians don't really have war in their blood permanently. No more than everybody else does, anyway. 

• GRAPEVINE CROSSWORD •



• ACROSS •

1. Charlie of film
8. Back to work time
14. Synopsis
15. Stuffed pasta
16. Irate
17. Ballroom dance
18. And also not
19. Kind of drum sound
20. Classroom
23. Bygone Egypt king
25. Bones in pelvises
29. Alias acronym
30. Computer unit
33. Fr. liquid
34. Olive stuffer
38. First performance
41. Greek mythology goddess of the earth
42. Bowery figure
43. Acrid in smell
46. Film material
50. Avail oneself of
51. Autocrat of yore
53. Contemporary
54. English art patron
56. Annex

58. At a prior time
59. A deadly sin
63. Big argument
65. Last words
68. Eye parts
72. Be clairvoyant
73. Dante topic
74. In layers
75. Pays part of

• DOWN •

1. Type of lettuce
2. Grass house
3. Did lunch

4. Assembly line site
5. Exec's car
6. Having no will to move
7. Actor Beatty
8. Supernatural power, in Polynesia
9. Awaiting reply
10. Japanese Americans
11. Braille makeup
12. A Canadian export
13. Cry of pain
15. Actor Ely
19. Farm abode
20. Baby food
21. Do slaloms
22. Actor Shepard
24. Submarines of W.W.I
26. Ring around the collar
27. Actor McKellen
28. Summer mo.
31. In the direction of
32. Big story
35. Batter ingredient
36. Dundee refusal
37. Color
39. Compass pt.

40. Anything but that
43. Set in place
44. Dos Passos subject
45. ABC, for short
47. Abby's sister
48. Gumshoe
49. Baa sayer
52. Dismissing comment
55. Aromatic chemical

57. Hum one note
58. Possessor
60. Emit amplified light
61. Opinion page, briefly
62. A relative
64. Opera composer Carl
65. Young newt
66. Polynesian staple
67. Angry state
68. Spanish hero, with El
69. Historic time
70. Even the slightest
71. Brillo rival

• TEST YOUR MATH SKILLS •

	9			6		2	3
7				1		8	
	8		2		7		
4			6				
		9			4		
				9			5
		2		7		6	
	3		9				8
9	1		5			7	

4	8	1	5	2	3	6	9	7
2	9	3	6	8	7	1	5	4
6	7	5	1	9	4	8	2	3
1	5	8	7	3	9	4	6	2
7	2	9	8	4	6	3	1	5
3	6	4	2	5	1	9	7	8
8	1	6	3	7	2	5	4	9
9	3	7	4	1	5	2	8	6
5	4	2	9	6	8	7	3	1

Grumpism

“Two weirdly dressed strangers knocked on my door yesterday. They insisted I need to be saved, by God!!! Told them to buzz off and bother somebody else. Ruddy firefighters.”



• LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS •

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

• CLASSIFIED ADS •

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• COMMUNITY NOTICES •

LOOKING FOR ARTISTS to touch up an 8' x 8' plywood mural at the Denman Recycling Centre. Contact Mike or Stacey for further information at enviro-mikebc@gmail.com or stacey.armstrong@mac.com

THE DENTAL BUS IS BACK! from its winter holiday, going strong into its 37th year! Call 250 335 2788 to make appointments for Dr. Peter Walford, DDS, and for Louise Hansed RDH for dental hygiene!

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/

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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.

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

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LICENSED GUN BUYER wants your unwanted rifles & shotguns. Cash buyer, call 250-335-1686 or 250-650-0355

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Sirénité

par Thomas Provençal

Cette plage à Denman est rocailleuse.

Assise en paix, elle est heureuse.

Mirant les montagnes d'outre-mer,

elle songe aux sommets, leurs mystères.

Même en nageant jusque-là sa seule nageoire ne permettra

qu'elle monte les précipices en-haut.

Sa vie est destiné à l'eau.

Réfléchissant aux avantages d'une vie dans l'eau et l'air elle tombe dessus un fou rire dru,

une idée nette et claire.

Lui suffit les profondeurs, bien bas est une aubaine.

Ses couvercles branchiaux lui fournissent l'oxygène.

La folie au monde humain dépasse l'intelligence.

Pourquoi donc participer? Mieux voir sereine à une distance.

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• (FB) Fanny Bay • (C) Courtenay/Comox •

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- Acupuncture • Margot Davey, R.Ac • 778-992-0165 (D/H)
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335-2260 (D/H)
- Massage Clinic • 2796 Northwest Rd. • Leyah Kelly 335-2584 (D)
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FORTNIGHT EVENTS

THURSDAY 31

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



FRIDAY 1

- AA Meeting DI United Church 7pm

SATURDAY 2

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

SUNDAY 3

MONDAY 4

TUESDAY 5

WEDNESDAY 6

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

THURSDAY 7

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

FRIDAY 8

- AA Meeting DI United Church 7pm

SATURDAY 9

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

SUNDAY 10

MONDAY 11

TUESDAY 12

- ST. SAVIOUR'S CHURCH 10:30am

WEDNESDAY 13

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

THURSDAY 14

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



Planning a bulk order to happen early April. Junk in Trunk. Italian dinner. Music. Baking birthday cakes. Contact Earthclubfactory.com

OPEN 8 TO 3 DAILY CLOSED MONDAYS.
ESPRESSO DRINKS, BULK STORE, FROZEN DINNERS AND POT PIES, CALL TO ORDER SANDWICHES 2503352688.

DICAN

Denman Island Climate Action Network

*Our Mission: To connect, empower and provide structure for the
Denman Island community to take action on the climate emergency*

ACTION ALERT

The newest UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's (Feb. 28) report has been described as a
"fire alarm for the planet."

DICAN has been working on the call for a **Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty** that would:

- Prevent the proliferation of coal, oil and gas by ending all new exploration/ production
- Phase-out existing production of fossil fuels in line with the 1.5C global climate goal
- Fast-track real solutions and a just transition for every worker, community and country.

We have sought endorsements of individuals, organizations, churches, businesses,
local, provincial and federal representatives. Some have already endorsed, but we can
do better.

See other side... .

Earth Day – April 22, 2022



Between now and Earth Day, DICAN's goal:
500 Denman Islanders endorse the Call.

It's easy – go to: <https://fossilfuel treaty.org>

Please contact us at our email address and let us know you have endorsed.

DIClimateactionnetwork@gmail.com

*** DICAN is sponsoring Earth Day events on Saturday April 23. *
Daytime – Kids & Families. Evening (7:30 – Community Hall)
Guy Dauncey, Committed Denman Climate Activists, Actions to
Take.)**

Watch for details.

DICAN recognizes that we live on the unceded territory of Coast Salish First Nations