



"Anyone can be a fisherman in May." • Ernest Hemingway



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

A Great Welcome for Newcomers

COMMUNITY INFO

By Anthony Gregson

THERE'S no question that the Newcomer event last Saturday at the Denman Activity Centre was long overdue. No one can say just when the last newcomer event was held, but Saturday's event was in the works for two years, twice postponed because of Covid. The first people to start arriving at the Lounge, before filtering through to the recreation hall, seemed all to be longer term residents who kept wondering if any newcomers were going to turn up. It didn't seem to matter too much because everyone was glad of an opportunity to just get together for a drink and a chat after two years of Covid social starvation with none of the traditional community events that bring so many of us together.

They needn't have worried. In the end, the recreation hall filled up with about 250 people, of whom about 100 were reckoned to be newcomers, identified by a red tag while everyone else had blue name tags. It was a bit subjective, but the general idea was that you had to have arrived in the last couple of years, or maybe since the last census (the most recent was a newcomer who had arrived only twenty minute earlier). Considering that the 2021 census discovered the island's population had grown by about 250 people, that's an enthusiastic response.

Even though I have made intense efforts to get to know the community in the five years I have been here, I am struck by the need for privacy that goes beyond urban sheltering from the sheer noise of life, by the need for individual support network to get things done, and to meet the challenges of rural living by taking matters into your own hands. In that sense, newcoming, to coin a word, is an ongoing process and not just a handshake. Pickleball, table tennis and other organized, individual activities play a key entry-level role in getting involved, especially amongst the older demographic who were mainly represented at the event. Many of these activities use the Activity Centre which provides a vital function in that regard.

There was some effort made to represent Denman's non-profits and community organizations who are always looking for supporters, with a table of brochures and other literature, and reps who were asked to identify themselves. This was something, as chair of Denman Works, I was looking forward to, but in the end, it was far more important that people were made to feel welcome. There have been suggestions for a services fair that might be helpful in recruiting interest.



Newcomer Marnie (left), on island a year and a half, and welcoming Denman resident, Tracy.



Phoenix Riting!

SPECIAL INTEREST

By Phoenix Bee

BLUES camp is over! It's hard to write about it without resorting to gushing superlatives. Part of the reason could be it was the first camp in three years, so everyone was more euphoric than usual. Nah. It was just that great. It wasn't quite perfect, the weather was vile. Normally, skies clear and the sun shines for this event, but not this time. Mayvember is relentless.

Sunday night was teacher introductions. It's my first camp so I didn't know what to expect. I imagined gathering in groups with our teachers, discussing what we would learn. What happened was a concert. The teachers talked a bit, demonstrated impossibly complex things we were going to learn in three days and played music for us, brilliantly. Then on Monday, classes started. Teaching venues were located all over the island, from Whaling Station to the Spit. My main classes, with Rick Fines, were at the Seabreeze, which was convenient for getting to lunch on time. My only other class besides Rick's was the Wednesday vocal minor with Angel Forrest and Denis Columbus at Rubinoff's Sculpture Park, slightly less conveniently located for cycling, but I had no trouble catching a ride both ways. People were universally friendly, helpful and supportive. It's that sort of event.

By the afternoon minor, my brains were clogged and it was getting hard to retain anything. Rick assured us that if we could remember just three things to take away and incorporate into our musical toolkit, we would be doing well. He hasn't missed a camp since the beginning, so he knows what he's talking about. He said, teachers have ambitious plans about all they'll fill our brains with, but there's only so much you can assimilate in three days.

What with classes, delicious meals, jams (acoustic and electric) and concerts in the evening, our days were filled to the brim. I'm still processing the week—what a full cup I have! And Electric Night on Wednesday—oh my goodness. What a stellar time. It was the first chance we've had to get together and dance as a community since Covid, and it was brilliant. We were grinning, and dancing, and hugging, and laughing, and... By the end my cheeks were sore from smiling and I had blisters on my feet. The music, obviously, was stellar. My only complaint: it was WAY too loud. I spotted hearing aids on some of the players—wonder why? But it wasn't the fault of the sound crew. I spoke to Mike, who assured me he had the PA turned off completely, all but vocals and drums. Everything else came from the players' amplifiers onstage. What're you gonna do?

The joke went, "How loud does it have to get before a guitar player turns it down?" Answer: "Nobody knows!" They handed out earplugs at the door, but even with plugs my head was ringing by the time I went home. Why do guitar players (and bassists) love it so loud? It's one of the ancient mysteries. As complaints go, though, it's a minor quibble. I had more fun than I have since—well, since the last Electric Night!

Then on Thursday it was time for student concerts. Everyone was eager to share (including yours truly) so we all signed up to perform. The show started at 7:30 and I went on at 11:30, close to the end. Phew. What a marathon, but so much talent. Head and shoulders above the rest was Farley. If you don't know Farley, you will. He is a phenomenon, a true musical genius. At age twenty, it's his third year at camp, so everyone else knew what to expect, but I was blown away. He got a standing ovation both times he performed: the first, a mind twistingly fast and complex guitar duet with his teacher Paul Pigat; the second, a powerfully dramatic Rachmaninoff piano piece. That's right—Rachmaninoff at a Blues show. As the saying goes, "Blues isn't a genre—it's a feeling." Farley has the feeling. He was too good to qualify for an award, he would have swept them all.

There were so many great performances. At the end, Value Village awards were handed out to best solo performer, best new student and best group. One award went to Arlene Mason's 14-year-old grandson Ben, a songwriting prodigy. I'm sure we'll be hearing more from him as well. I felt very privileged to have Rick Fines accompany me on my original song with gorgeous slide guitar. What a treat! A peak moment among many.

Special thanks to all the volunteers that made this event so smooth and seamless. So many! And thanks to the Bishop family, all the venues who hosted classes and jams. And thanks to the Hornby Island Blues Society! You are heroes. I am especially grateful for the scholarship program which made it possible for me to participate in this life changing week. If you have always wanted to be a part of something like this, but felt daunted by the cost, do check out their scholarships and bursaries page on the website, hornby-blues.ca, and apply! I hope to be able to do it again next year. It's such an amazing opportunity to network, learn new skills and experience world class musicians at their best.

I love hearing from you! Email me at phoenixonhornby@gmail.com 🍷

TIDE TABLE

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

2022-05-12 (Thu)		
Time	PDT (m)	(ft)
03:48	4.5	14.8
10:40	2.1	6.9
16:28	3.6	11.8
21:57	2.3	7.5
2022-05-13 (Fri)		
Time	PDT (m)	(ft)
04:14	4.5	14.8
11:09	1.7	5.6
17:29	4	13.1
22:49	2.5	8.2
2022-05-14 (Sat)		
Time	PDT (m)	(ft)
04:40	4.5	14.8
11:43	1.2	3.9
18:25	4.3	14.1
23:39	2.8	9.2
2022-05-15 (Sun)		
Time	PDT (m)	(ft)
05:08	4.5	14.8
12:19	0.8	2.6
19:20	4.5	14.8
2022-05-16 (Mon)		
Time	PDT (m)	(ft)
00:29	3.1	10.2
05:38	4.6	15.1
12:58	0.4	1.3
20:14	4.7	15.4
2022-05-17 (Tue)		
Time	PDT (m)	(ft)
01:19	3.3	10.8
06:13	4.5	14.8
13:39	0.2	0.7
21:06	4.9	16.1
2022-05-18 (Wed)		
Time	PDT (m)	(ft)
02:13	3.5	11.5
06:52	4.5	14.8
14:22	0.1	0.3
21:58	5	16.4
2022-05-19 (Thu)		
Time	PDT (m)	(ft)
03:13	3.5	11.5
07:36	4.3	14.1
15:08	0.2	0.7
22:49	5	16.4



Green Wizardries, Diesel Fuel & Such

SPECIAL INTEREST

By Maxine Rogers

diesel fuel is going up at a much higher rate, nearly double that of gasoline. I will lay out the reasons for this. It takes a certain grade of crude oil to produce diesel. It must be heavy so the stuff the Americans have been fracking is of no use for making diesel because it is very light. Canada's tar sands' diluted bitumen is very high in sulphur.

Current anti-pollution legislation that came into effect in January 2020, insists that the diesel produced should be low in sulphur. Not many countries can produce naturally low-sulphur crude oil. Nigeria used to produce this sort of crude oil but it is in depletion. Every year from now on, it will produce less of this valuable crude oil until it stops altogether. Russia also produces the correct grade of low-sulphur crude oil but the West has an embargo on buying their oil. These are two of the reasons the price of diesel rising more rapidly than gasoline.

Now, you will be thinking, just open a few plants to clean the sulphur out of the crude oil or the finished diesel or whatever but such a processing plant is very expensive to build and challenging to run. With energy prices shifting according to world events, a business person who tried to build a plant to extract the sulphur could be out a fortune if governments rescinded the mandate for low-sulphur diesel. A slow down in the economy would also produce less demand for low-sulphur diesel and, once again, the business person would be out a fortune. It would, in any case, be challenging to produce the right sort of diesel fuel at a competitive price because the desulphuring process is expensive.

A few years ago, an international agreement dictated that ships use low-sulphur diesel too. We didn't notice it at the time as the World Health Organization, (WHO), decided Covid 19 was a deadly pandemic and shut the world down, including much of the shipping. Since then, the WHO have decided that Covid 19 has really become something we just have to live with, like the flu which also kills the elderly and people with compromised immune systems.

Now that the world's economies are opening back up, a lot of goods are being shipped at sea and this has increased demand of a shrinking supply of diesel fuel. The price of gasoline is closer to the hearts of ordinary consumers but diesel is even more important to you, no matter what you power your car with, be it gasoline or electricity. This is because nearly all goods are hauled to consumers in big trucks that burn diesel fuel.

Truck drivers, especially independent truck drivers, have been caught flat footed by the sudden increase in the cost of diesel fuel. Most of them contract to haul goods with the usual cost of diesel factored in but now they have to do the same run with diesel at nearly twice the cost. The independent truckers will lose money and this will force some of them out of the business altogether. The price of every article hauled by truck will be going up. Same goes for shipping. The rates, already very high, will have to reflect the increased cost of diesel fuel. So life for all of us will be getting more expensive. Who can say how much more expensive?

Another class of business will be hit very hard by increased diesel prices. Farmers are already reeling from the blows of extreme weather and very high fertilizer prices. I talked to a farmer today who is



rapidly over seeding his fields with clover to make up for the fact he cannot afford artificial fertilizer. This will be better for his land in the long run but in the short term, the next few years, his production will be down. This means the cost of beef and lamb will rise or he will go out of business or both.

Some grocers are already exploiting the coming shortages by raising prices now. Lablows, a grocery store chain back east, has had their profits surge by 40%. Some people might call that gouging.

I have heard of farmers skimping on fertilizing their wheat as it came up this spring. This will probably mean the wheat is lower in protein. So you will get the grain but it will be of a lower quality. The cost of manure is also up sharply as farmers scramble to get something on their fields. This will drive up the cost of organically produced fruit and vegetables and even organic animal feed.

I am not writing this to stress you out but to prepare you for what is coming. There is still time for you to take action to reduce your dependence of the world economy. You can insulate your home, learn to sew, recycle old clothes, darn socks, get and ride a bicycle and above all, start a garden.

If you have a garden, enlarging it may be a very good idea. You have until the end of May to plant potatoes. If you don't need them, I will bet the Food Bank would be happy to have them. You can also sow parsnips now and until mid June for the winter crop. Turnips are a great long-lasting vegetable. Sow small crops now for the spring and summer harvest and the winter crop by July tenth. The last seeding of carrots must go in on July first, Canada Day.

A lot of people tell me they plan to grow a garden of vegetables but they are not interested in keeping any animals. That is interesting and I wonder what they plan on using for fertilizer? For the more realistic people out there, I recommend keeping a few hens and a few rabbits. They will produce lots of great fertilizer for you as well as eggs and meat. They are also really delightful. Our Mille Fleur bantam hen just brought off a clutch of ten tiny, furry chicks. Nothing is sweeter than those tiny chicks. 🐣

Letters to the Editor *The 12 Year Old Adult*

I recently discovered that BC Ferries classifies 12 year olds as adults.

I guess being perpetually out of pocket an average of \$50 in doing my bit to help prop up this 'essential service' through the years I've grown accustomed to their cynical gouging. It barely fazes me anymore. It's not to say I didn't I resemble Nicholson from One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, post-lobotomy, upon being informed of this however. Some may conclude that's a telltale sign I've been broken. But I'll share with you a little secret. I was just focussing on my buzz.

You see, I've begun to find a sense of pleasure each time I'm bludgeoned with life's cold realities. Every time it occurs my well established cynicism finds validation. That slack jawed expression, distant gaze and lolling head is just me experiencing a torrent of endorphins. It signifies my reward for seeing lucidly with no illusion how the fix is in. The resultant rush is 100% mine. No fees, levies or taxes. It's where the true value is realized in this late stage capitalism. Not in what they tell you you'll get for your money. No. That's pretty much all plastic now anyways. The real value lay in noticing what they withhold, even take, for your money as they take it. It may appear insane on first blush because the world briefly appears upside down and shaky while money drains from your pockets. That said, resisting seems futile under the threat of the hoosegow and besides, I've a ferry to catch. So I figure you may as well get what you can from such dire circumstance. Just feign indifference to the wanton gouging. Drop the illusions. Let go and embrace the rush. Consumerism will yield to Endorphinism in the end. Ain't that right, Klaus?

'ENDORPHINS: Better for you, Better for the environment,' is the rumoured tagline.

I feel 'the surge' a lot these days. It's almost pavlovian in frequency. I try to ignore the drooling because I'm not yet ready to accept I've been conditioned to this point. I wish to hold on to what little naïveté remains. I still have choice. It's just coincidence I happen to like the sound of bells. "I'm still FREE... to swim... if I so choose. Ain't that right Nurse Ratchet?"

*Awaiting my receipt from the booth, I dispassionately recline and marvel at the greed. Wow. **Twelve**. Someone got a promotion for dreaming that one up.*

Just another ridiculous story for sublime times. They'll get my money, without doubt. A measure of my dignity along with it, too. Even chip away at my sanity, bit by bit, but that sweet sweet hit of peptides is all mine baby! A built-in silver lining that acts as a salve for all the bruises, cuts and outright violations this world likes to inflict. It's what placates me as I dutifully roll beyond the ticket agent who mouths, "It's our policy" and "I'm just doing my job." "Ah, the BC Ferries Experience," I

continued on P.6...

...continued from P.5 mutter under breath. That fist in the wallet that digs ever deeper is something we all get used to eventually... much like the frequent service interruptions of our bedraggled BS Con. But I digress. It's running.. for now..

When slapped with such incongruity my mind begins to wander, stagger even. A mini concussion if you shall. Is it any wonder my thoughts traipse into darker places? I better hit the Beachcomber quick, I realize. I need a bag of chips. The MSG will help to keep me tethered.

Waiting in line for the cashier, it dawns on me that summertime bootlegging in Buckley Bay could prove a lucrative gig for the self-starter. Short runs, high reps, and a captive, dependant market. Sure, you might have to evade the occasional irate parent, but they scamper away pretty quickly when the barge loads. I chortle at the thought of 16 year olds sporting beer bellies. "Hey kid er, excuse me... Sir, is that a BC Ferries... tattoo? NICE!"

As I descend the stairs from the Gas & Go, I observe the array of vehicles in the lineup. Big trucks, motorcycles and everything in between. I muse on exactly when my car will be classified as over height. Ha, ha... ha. Not today, anyway.

Back in the car, the barge 20 minutes out, I delve into my '50% Extra' bag of chips for something more satisfying to grind my teeth on. Truly impressive how that larger bag can hold 40% less chips for 250% more money than ones from my youth. A feat of marketing if ever there was one. Where I'd conclude profiteering is the culprit of such disparity, Lays would counter that disparity as being evidence I've lived too long.

"Touché Lays, touché. Whatever it is, I just hope BC Ferries hasn't been consulting with you!"

*God. I shudder to think. Minimum Card Load of \$450. \$85 per crossing, **each way**. And those expecting an actual ferry will find convenient speedo rentals for their swim (deposit required). Just be advised, there's a sliding environmental levy based on how you look in those speedos because preserving the beauty of our region is a BC Ferries top priority! I sheepishly reassess my cravings for MSG, put the chips aside and return to pondering the potential fallout of gerrymandering age classifications.*

If an adult is 12 years old in 2022 exactly how young will one be considered 10 years hence? Eight? Seven? Given BC Ferries has seen fit to brazenly snatch five years of childhood from its ridership already in its relentless drive for profit it's clear the fox is in the henhouse. Hell, who am I kidding? The next step will be to eliminate classifications altogether. Shrinkflation can only be pushed so far after all, no? Be quiet Lays!!

"Truth be told, stepped pricing is more of a nuisance for our accountants than anything so just restructure and rebrand," the fox was heard to say.

As the barge pulls itself into dock, I ruminate further.

What if a 12-17 year old child, God forbid, was molested on BCF property? Would the corporation posit that they're an adult ('consenting,' no doubt) in order to skirt or limit any liability? That you're reading this, it's evident I wouldn't put it past them. I mean it says ADULT right there on the ticket! Having gouged so hard for their money they're certainly not going to chance losing any of it on some 'technicality.' That's what the lawyers be for.

Furthermore, just who would have jurisdiction in such an instance anyways? I mean if a 12 year old can be considered an adult depending on the ground upon which they stand is it farfetched to think the laws are similarly open to interpretation? Better read the fine print more intently.

Driving onto the Con, another question pops to mind. What if one of their vessels sank? How might the Coast Guard be hampered in their search given the passenger manifest clearly states there were no adolescents onboard? I get lost in thought imagining the ocean and its unforgiving vastness as we crawl along the cable. Instinctively I go back to my chips.

Pulling into Denman West, I sweep the chip dust from my lap and check the mirror for vestiges of drool. While waiting for my turn to depart, I think of all the changes of these last couple years. I consider how my own centre-left leanings of 40 years, quite amazingly, now cast me as conservative. I swear I never moved! As 12 year olds become adults in similar fashion I gotta admit it's getting hard to keep up with all these shifting goalposts. It's a sure sign I'm closer to the grave than having a doctor slap my ass and guess my gender, which is a good thing I reckon. The sooner that pesky, "I Remember When" demographic is gone, the better for everyone concerned. For the dearly departed the upshot is obvious. For those left behind to witness where this trend leads it's far easier to cope without all the complaining, am I right?. Acknowledging this, I accept that some of your readers may have scant regard for my imaginings (I've seen some of your Letters to the Editor).

As I accelerate up the barge hill I reflect on the climactic scene in Cuckoo's Nest where Chief Broom pitched the control panel

through the gated window of the asylum and fled across the vale. Away from the madness. That's one of the few remaining antidotes to Endorphinism, I note.

Rattling over the pothole laden road, I limp home from another day in the world. Just because I'm snared in Endorphinism's cold grip doesn't mean I wouldn't prefer otherwise, I rue. But you saw how even Chief struggled to wrench that control panel from its mooring. It can't be done alone. It'll require a consensus. Yes, I realize these contentious times haven't given us much to go on. But if we're ever to find consensus on something, **anything**; something we can build off; something to turn the tide; we need to maintain humility and set our sights lower. Big issues are too complicated. Instead, I offer up real easy one: **12 years old is NOT an adult**. If everyone cannot agree on this much not only are we rightfully doomed but it will be time to get fitted for our speedos. Eew! You know what? in that case just suffocate me with that pillow, will ya?

Sincerely,
BC Ferries Experience Card #108 188 947 🍷

Loving the Denman Community Back Hall by Kathy Rieder

The first time I walked into our "Back Hall" in 1975, it was brand new. "Oh Wow" I said in wonderment, having never been in such a beautiful, wooden space. The windows looked out to the sundeck and field beyond. The little gazebo was just one more beautiful touch. I soon met all the workers who had worked on the back hall, and they have my admiration to this day. We have used our Back Hall to create community for the last 47 years... In that time, I became a carpenter and had a whole career building houses, barns and, seniors villages. I have taught carpentry at Camosun College, Canada Works and UBC. In 2003 I decided to lend my building knowledge to the Denman Hall, so I joined the board. Since then, I have either been on the board or employed by the board, or selling pies at our annual Blackberry Fair fundraiser for the Hall.

I am very opposed to the construction of a 67 ft. X 52 ft. by 30' high Covered Recreation Space that would block the pastoral view from the Back Hall and Deck. When we make changes in our community let it not be at the expense of the things that were beautifully crafted in the past and left in our care to enjoy for generations.

Please let the hall Board know how you feel. There is a box marked DIRC's (Denman Island Recreation Commission) under the free post in Abraxas Bookstore. 🍷

What's Wrong with the Philippines?

OPINIONS

By Gwynne Dyer
• OP May 11th, 2022

BONGBONG' Marcos didn't just win the presidential election in the Philippines this week. He won it by a two-to-one landslide, despite the fact that he is the extremely entitled son of a former president who stole at least ten billion dollars and a mother who spent the loot partly on the world's most extensive collection of designer shoes (3,000 pairs).

Moreover, Ferdinand Marcos Jr, to give him his real name, has virtually no accomplishments other than that name. Yet his name and his inherited wealth, originally stolen from the parents of the people who voted for him, have enabled him to hold various political offices almost continuously (apart from five years in exile) since he was 23.

Equally deplorable is the electoral triumph of his vice-presidential ally, Sara Duterte, daughter of the mass murderer Rodrigo Duterte. The latter is leaving the presidency at the end of his six-year term, still wildly popular despite the many thousands of extra-judicial killings of alleged 'drug fiends' that he has ordered.

Indeed, those killings are precisely why Rodrigo Duterte is so popular, and his daughter basks in the reflected glory of his violence. A lot of Filipinos adore politicians and other prominent people who are loud, rude and macho – but it's more complicated than that. Sometimes they elect murderers and thieves; sometimes they elect apprentice saints.

continued on P.8...

Graham Lake Swim Dock

So many of us get so much pleasure swimming off the dock down at Graham Lake; but with so much use, and at times such inclement weather, we now need to do some serious renovations on the dock. Our preferred option is to raise about \$15,000 to \$20,000 to do a complete overhaul, something that will last for years (the last dock was built in 2007 and has made it to today), the second option is to raise about \$2,500 now, have another go at patchwork, and see if we can put the money together for the major work over the coming year. Our plan is to see how much money comes in by May 15 this year, if we have enough to do the major renovations by then, we'll proceed; if not, we'll do what needs to be done to keep the dock afloat for another year and keep collecting money for a major overhaul in 2023. If you would like to help, please make a cheque out to DIRA, and send it to the DIRA mailing address, 5901 Denman Road, Denman Island, BC, V0R 1T0. Cheques or cash can also be dropped off at the Graham Lake Swim Dock box in the general store (left side of the main counter). If you would like further details, or would like to help with the renovations, please contact J Thornton at 250-335-9089 or jmt.rtd@gmail.com (we are very grateful to J for leading the charge back in 2007).

Thanks so much, and happy swimming!
Graham Lake Swim Dock Committee
Ian Elliot (Chair)
ianelliott0@gmail.com

...continued from P.7 The senior Ferdinand Marcos was legitimately elected president in 1965 but declared martial law when he was nearing the end of his second term in 1972. Martial law lasted for another fourteen years, with Marcos's henchmen dividing their time between stealing public funds and torturing or killing perceived opponents.

After that first President Marcos ran the country's economy into the ground, he was ousted in 1986 in the first of the 'people power' non-violent revolutions. The saintly Cory Aquino, whose husband had been assassinated on Marcos's orders, was elected to the presidency, while everybody applauded the Philippines' restored democracy.

But in 1998 the Filipinos elected Joseph 'Erap' Estrada, a former movie star famed for playing the villain, in another landslide. He immediately began feathering his nest, and, after three years was impeached for 'plunder'. But it took a second 'people power' popular uprising to get him out.

The 2004 Global Transparency Report listed Estrada as number ten on a list of the 'World's All-Time Most Corrupt Leaders', but he was a mere piker compared to Ferdinand Marcos Sr, who held the No. 2 spot.

After the fall of Estrada there were two modestly competent and non-criminal presidents – and then, in 2016, Rodrigo Duterte. Another landslide, of course, and if Duterte stole a lot in the past six years it has not yet been exposed, but he killed even more people than Marcos Senior.

Duterte delighted in insulting people – he called both Barack Obama and the Pope 'son of a whore' – and his supporters lapped it up. And this time the Filipinos haven't even paused for an interlude of dignity and sanity before electing 'Bongbong' Marcos to succeed him.

It's as if the same country were to elect Viktor Orbán, Boris Johnson, Donald Trump, and Jair Bolsonaro to the presidency with only brief intervals in between, just to see what would happen.

The Philippines is a leading contender for the title of 'world's most populist country', which is hard to explain because its lost twin behaves in a quite different way. Just to the west of the Philippines is Indonesia, another country of many islands whose people are ethnically and linguistically very close to the Filipinos.

Per capita income is about 30% higher in Indonesia, mainly because of oil, but the economies are basically quite similar. Both countries lived for decades under murderous dictators, and both finally overthrew them in non-violent revolutions, the Philippines in 1986, Indonesia in 1998.

However, since Indonesia became a democracy it has elected only presidents who were neither killers nor thieves, while the Filipinos hurl themselves enthusiastically at any plausible fraud who gains a bit of notoriety. Why?

It could have something to do with the fact that Indonesia was converted to Islam at about the same time the Philippines became Christian (and specifically Catholic), but probably not. Each is the majority faith in a wide variety of countries, and neither manifests a single distinctive political style across the span of all those countries. So what is it, then?

Two hypotheses, both weak, come to mind. First, the Philippines has an unusually powerful elite of big, rich families with strong regional bases. This week's vote, for example, was shaped by a recent alliance between the Marcos family (northern and central Philippines) and the Duterte family (southern Philippines).

The other hypothesis? Ninety-nine percent of adult Filipinos are online, and Filipinos aged 16 to 64 spend on average nearly four hours a day connected to social networks.



2022 Denman Island Recreation Grants

Applications are now available for the CVRD Recreation Grants for Denman Island Non-profit groups which provide sport and fitness related activities.

Applications can be picked up at Abraxas Books
Free Post under "R"

Or online at www.denmanresidents.com under
"Committees and Services" .

Return to Abraxas Books Free Post under
"R Completed" .

**Deadline for Submissions:
May 27 at 5 p.m.**

Committee Members: Tim Fuchs, Dennis
Lavalle, Frank Frketich

Dispel

by Phillip Andrew Carter

*Dispel the words we've been taught
Spelled the words tie us in a knot
Dispel the meanings of these teachings
Their words lead us to false meanings
Meaning their words are manipulative
Desiring debt does not make you live
Tied in to a hellish system of debt
Indebted to a system making you fret
Dispel the idea that life should cost
Without life's ideals we are all lost
What is is, so then why must we pay
When the inner child wants to play?
Perhaps we dispel this silliness sought
The earth is not for sale; cannot be bought
Dispel the meanings of these teachings
In death no one will own any of their things
Dispel the rat-race for rent and aspire
More art, more culture, let spirit transpire
A beautiful world that we cannot sell
Life could be free if we could dispel*

Egoism

by Thomas Provençal

*Have you ever thrown a pebble
just to scare away the fish?
Have you ever conned a person
to carry out your wish?
Have you ever felt some
satisfaction breaking up a dish?
Know that ego forces live in thee.*

*Raised in love and gentleness
fish will nibble skin.
To blend imagination
with another makes you win.
Give away your stoneware
to feel a person grin.
These actions set us up for harmony.*

*Domination is a method
to get you what you want.
Alas, it meets resistance.
The world's not yours to flaunt.
You'd best be conjuring a dream
displayed in different font.
Unbridled egotism is uncouth.*

*There is no need to buckle
to another point of view,
thus weakening conviction
of the essence that is you.
The need is more aligned
with hearing all the crew
than sticking to one version of the truth.*

Get Notified

Local Emergency
Notification System

Sign Up To Get Notified

The Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) in partnership with the City of Courtenay, Town of Comox, Village of Cumberland and with engagement of K'ómoks First Nation, invite residents to register for emergency notifications for the communities in which they live, work and play. Local emergency notifications will be delivered to registered users directly to mobile or landline phones.

Sign Up Today

Register for emergency notifications at:

www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/getnotified

The service will help keep residents and businesses informed in a timely manner when public health and safety are at risk.

Already have a Connect Rocket account with the CVRD?

Be sure to login annually to ensure contact details are correct.

Don't have a computer?

No problem. Call **250-334-6000** and we will help you receive these notifications via landline or mobile phone.

For more information, call: **250-334-6000** or visit:

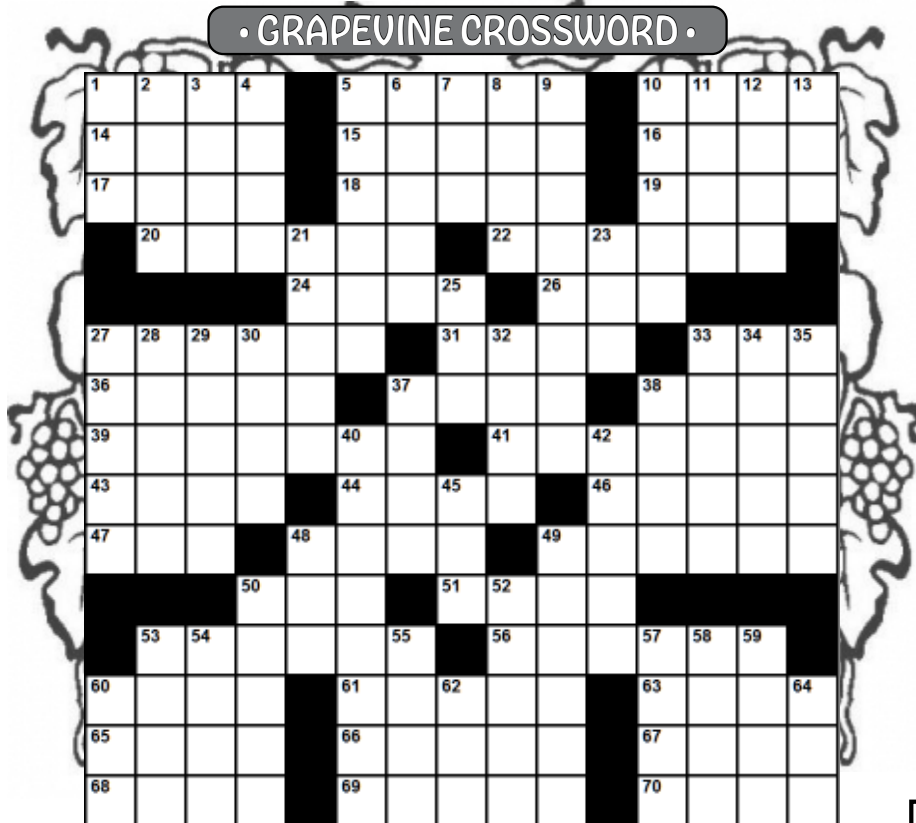
www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/getnotified

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CITY OF COURTENAY, K'OMOKS FIRST
NATION, TOWN OF COMOX, AND THE
VILLAGE OF CUMBERLAND

 **Comox Valley**
REGIONAL DISTRICT
comoxvalleyrd.ca

• GRAPEVINE CROSSWORD •



• ACROSS •

1. Bookie terms
5. Plumed hat
10. First son
14. Carbamide
15. 1000 kilograms
16. Arm bone
17. Carry on about
18. Writer Chekhov
19. Act like a fan
20. See ya!
22. Knitted garment
24. Drop on Wall Street
26. Deposit
27. Audits, perhaps
31. Berserk
33. Anhydrous
36. Biblical hymn
37. Bachelor party
38. Bingo card word
39. Oval
41. Tar's assents
43. Shoe making strip
44. Bivalve
46. Horizontal beam
47. Duroc's digs
48. Stereo setup
49. Glove leathers
50. Clear tables

51.

- Accomplishment
53. A Buddhist and Hindu doctrine
56. Skillful
60. Begone
61. Alpha's antithesis
63. Act as umpire
65. Celeste or Ian
66. Face an embankment
67. Be loyal to
68. Jekyll's evil alter ego
69. Kind of drum
70. Cross the creek

• DOWN •

1. Belonging to us
2. Dully colored
3. Claim untrue
4. Fill full
5. Extend one's visit
6. Sharpens a blade
7. Aardvark fodder
8. Feel certain
9. The art of making wine
10. A Stooge
11. Balm ingredient
12. A party to
13. Actor Pendleton
21. Buoyant airship
23. Acorn bearer
25. Fri. follower
27. Disgorges
28. Cay or ait
29. Add the score
30. Chink or crack
32. Informal madam
33. Tree nymph
34. Female ruff
35. Affirmatives
37. Egotist's concern
38. Cabbie's income
40. Cutters
42. Chopin creation
45. Assistance
48. Buzz
49. Hardly hyper
50. Type of biotic community
52. Anxious
53. Hey Swabbie!
54. Cargo areas
55. Congregational cry
57. Front of a ship
58. Big brass
59. Coaster
60. Librarian's order
62. A notorious Peron
64. Appreciation for beauty

• TEST YOUR MATH SKILLS •

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

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

Grumpism

“I managed to sell my collection of antique puppets. A collector offered me a lot of money to take them off my hands.”



• LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS •

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

• **CLASSIFIED ADS** •

• **SERVICES** •

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.

SBD (SHEL BRODSGAARD)
EXCAVATION & SERVICES: Bark Mulch. Soil. Gravel. Dump Runs. Mid-size Excavation and Hauling Services. Contact 250.703.3898 or sheldano@telus.net

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

RUBBISH/TRASH REMOVAL.
Truck and single axle trailer.
Lawn cutting come Springtime.
Small Kubota tractor/backhoe.
Ideal for small yard work Call
Brian: 250-335-2390 or 250-650-2390

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

• **FOR SALE** •

2009 Chalet Arrowhead Folding Trailer Features furnace, 3 way fridge, cooktop, air conditioning. Sleeps up to 4. No bathroom but lots of windows, skylights, onboard water storage & pump system. Full new propane tank included. All systems manuals available. \$6,500 OBO Call Steve 250-335-1330 to view.

SWAGMAN XTC2 TWO-BIKE RAIL RACK. Mounts in 1 1/4" or 2" trailer hitch receiver. Used less than 10 hours. Cost \$219.00 new, I'm asking \$100.00. Call Bruce 335-1117

RECUMBENT TRIKE - \$1500/obo
- call 335-2377 for more info.

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

• **COMMUNITY NOTICES** •

COMOX VALLEY TRANSITION SOCIETY EMERGENCY CRISIS LINE: 250-338-1227 or Text: 250-218-4034 For more info visit <https://cvts.ca>

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

• **EMPLOYMENT** •

FINALLY!! TACOS ON DENMAN. Fresh and local for you. Jobs available. Please leave full name & # on machine for interview 250 335-2817 or email tacomatrailer@gmail.com

THE DI OLD SCHOOL CENTRE requires someone to fill the boots of our longtime gardener. Duties will include, but are not limited to: weeding, deadheading, watering, mulching (but not mowing). Please contact Gloria Michin gloriamay@telus.net.
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.

• **WANTED** •

CARPENTER HANDYMAN with thirty years of building experience seeking to swap work and security for live in caretaker position at private residence. Skills include carpentry, painting, drywall, flooring, tile, flooring, minor plumbing/electrical, deck/fencing and landscaping. Forty years of boating and fishing experience. Also accomplished guitarist/musician. Reliable and trustworthy. Personal and work references available upon request..Paul 604-807-4465

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



• BUSINESS DIRECTORY •

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

• ACCOMMODATIONS & RENTALS •

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

• REAL ESTATE • INSURANCE • FINANCIAL SERVICES •

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

• BUILDING • CONSTRUCTION •

- Aquarian Systems • Water Cisterns • Ed Hoeppner 335-2037 (D/H)
- Ray Ulovec • Backhoe/Excavator, Septic Installation 335-3145 (D/H)
- Cal's Bobcat Services • Auger, Grapple, Rake 613-447-8873 (D/H)
- Denman Electric, Licensed, Fully Insured & Bonded 335-3122 (D/H)
- DB clearing & excavations • call or text 250-465-1889 (D)
- Roc-Isle Drywall, Harvey Hodgeins • 35 yrs exp. 'certified' 334-4776 (D/H)
- Seaside Electric • Licenced, Bonded & Insured 702-0570 (D/H)
- Tandem gravel truck & transfer trailer • Grant Morrison 335-0702 (D/H)
- Scott Knight • Licensed Home Inspection 604-779-9335 (D/H)
- Shel Brodsgaard • Excavation & Services • 250-703-3898 (D/H)
- Excavator/Backhoe/Tandem Gravel Truck • Kenny Mather •
250-703-6512 (All) • John Isbister • 250-335-2565 (D)

• SERVICES •

- Denman Works! • Tony Gresson 250-335-0287 denmanresource@gmail.com (D)
- Peter T. Mason • Land Surveying 757-8788 (All)
- Tree Service • Darian Chase • Arborist 218-0404 (All)
- Music Lessons & Piano Tuning • Scott Knight 604-779-9335 (D/H)
- Able & Ready Septic Pumping Service • 250-338-8822 (D/H)
- Home Town Shredders • Document Shredding • 334-7111 (D/H)
- Bottled Water Delivery • DenmanWater.ca • 250-228-7161 (D/H)
- Florist-Keep Floral (Emma) • 250-335-2746 (D)
- Bottled Water Delivery • DenmanWater.ca • 250-228-7161 (D/H)

• HEALTH & WELLNESS •

- Acupuncture • Jenny McCartney, R.Ac • 250-508-8160 • www.heartwoodacupuncture.ca (D/H)
- Physiotherapist • Acupuncturist • TCM Herbs • Carmen RPT, RTCMP 335-2260 (D/H)
- Massage Clinic • 2796 Northwest Rd. • Leyah Kelly 335-2584 (D)
- Chiropractic Care on Fridays • Dr. Dawn Armstrong, DC 465-8482 (D)



FORTNIGHT EVENTS

THURSDAY 12

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



FRIDAY 13

- AA Meeting DI United Church 7pm

SATURDAY 14

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

SUNDAY 15

MONDAY 16

TUESDAY 17

WEDNESDAY 18

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

THURSDAY 19

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

FRIDAY 20

- AA Meeting DI United Church 7pm

SATURDAY 21

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

SUNDAY 22

MONDAY 23

TUESDAY 24

WEDNESDAY 25

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

THURSDAY 26

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



May 14 Saturday 6pm
combining
Laura Pope art opening
Kevin, Devin, Steve and
Sheldon music evening!
\$15/person for musicians &
amazing art to purchase &
appies too!

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