



"Only the dead have seen the end of war." • Plato

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photo by Dreadful Imagery

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS IS
MIDNIGHT MONDAYS FOR THE
FOLLOWING THURSDAY ISSUE**



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

International Women's Day 2023

COMMUNITY INFO

By Eileen O'Brien

Wednesday March 8th
Denman Island

"A Celebration of Courage"



International Women's Day

START time 6:30 at the front hall for complimentary tea and nibbles. Hugging optional but warmly encouraged. Masks are at the door by request. Donations of finger foods would be welcome.

A film "Afghanistan: No Country for Women" (Ramita Naval) will be shown close to 7pm. After the film we will break for tea and a debriefing. Afghani women guests have requested that we learn and debrief before their arrival following that.

We then will welcome our 3 women guests from Afghanistan. Each will sit and share the story of her journey focusing on the positive adjustments to life in Canada despite all odds.

They are also looking forward to celebrating with us in sharing traditional woman's dancing and would like to teach us how to join in.

There will be a short Denman portion at some point in our evening where we will celebrate both our work this year and our next jobs. Three Denman women will offer us a song and after the Afghan woman's dance we will end with a dance of universal peace.

Women and allies welcome as always.

Please watch for a full story in the March Flagstone and there will be an insert in the March 2nd issue of the Grapevine." 🍷

Water Wizards of Oz GLID

COMMUNITY INFO

By Grant Cyz

THANK you for your continued interest and support. The journey continues for the new service area landowners and those concerned about community water projects. Watch out for flying monkeys.

The next two project fundamentals-expectations are covered here.

6. There should be, for all those involved, an environment of good communication that is demonstrated from the onset of the project.

Good communication (and listening) skills help to ensure that a project stays on track, on time, on budget and that all those involved, impacted and interested are made aware of the project's progress or of any delays. Good communication skills mitigate misunderstandings and costs. Good communications develop and solidify relationships and trust. This is especially important when big project dollars are involved, critical deadlines are to be met, and value is expected (customer satisfaction). Don't expect good communication if or when new service area landowners are viewed only as the ATM

As of January 1st, 2023, the date of conversion from GLID to CVRD, the new owner (CVRD) has yet to make available a hardcopy of any water project information guide or handout relevant to the escalating rate schedule. A published project name along with its stated purpose-objective-goal would be appreciated. Is there a project scope or budget? The reckless notion to defer stewardship and dismiss water project and operational fundamentals (see Quantum of Solace Glid) by the GLID Board has left the critical thinking landowner feeling thrown to the curbside; left to fend for themselves. Five years squandered. And "No", Island Health will not shut off the water unless we panic buy the "Lamborghini" water system (see

Quantum of Solace Glid and Fundamentals 101 Glid). The conversion transition has been anything but professional or transparent. Tragic and unnecessary, yes. Fait accompli has costly consequences.

Key Point: Good project communication fundamentals should be expected from the new owner (CVRD). Is the critical thinking new service area landowner to become a perpetual ATM at \$3,000 dollars or more per year? According to one landowner who dared question the escalating water prices and condescendingly was told by a CVRD employee, "Water rates won't end up costing that much". The published escalating rate schedule, that stated the numbers didn't account for inflation, would indicate otherwise. The response is very telling. Its time CVRD start good communications with the new service area landowners. A steering committee should be considered.

7. There should be an awareness of current risk-liability issues and their history

People driving by the Union Bay Estates subdivision have noticed that along with the freshly paved streets and cul-de-sacs; that shiny new red fire hydrants have been installed. Why didn't the developer obtain an alternative fire suppression water delivery method and forgo the expense of paying for and installing an engineered fire hydrant system? In the Province of B.C., where approvals for subdivisions are concerned, an engineered fire hydrant system is the only subdivision approved fire suppression water delivery method. A subdivision is where people, live, cook, sleep and more in close city lot fire load proximity. The fire hydrant system is engineered in accordance with the specified fire safety codes and standards that protect life and property (see Quantum of Solace Glid). The water and fire hydrant system are engineered to be an integral system. Ownership of the water system is ownership of the fire hydrants. Non-debatable.

People driving through the Graham Lake subdivision have noticed shiny red fire hydrants. These fire hydrants were also installed to obtain subdivision developmental approval. Non-debatable.

Let's stop, pause and consider the following.

What should the expectation of the Provincial specifier, the subdivision engineer, end user and the landowner be once a fire suppression water system is installed?

Is it reasonable to expect that the Provincial specification and the engineer's design will be upheld, tested, serviced and maintained?

Is it reasonable for the end user to expect fire systems to be functional as specified by the Province?

Is it reasonable for landowners to expect their life and property be protected as specified by the Province?

How should these specifications and expectations to be upheld and met? Answer; by the owner properly administering fire codes, standards and best practices.

The five specified and engineered fire hydrants connected to the Graham Lake water system have new ownership (CVRD). Non-debatable. What is the owner's (CVRD) fire hydrant policy and protocols for testing, operation and maintenance? Critical thinking landowners look forward to a response. Its expected if no policy or status knowledge of the fire hydrant system is available the universal best practice standard stated in NFPA 291 Section 5; bag all fire hydrants N.I.S.(Not In Service) be carried out. This is the responsibility of the owner (CVRD). There should be no confusion as to the status of the fire hydrants for landowners, island visitors, real estate agents, future property buyers or sellers, Grandma, neighbouring communities responding agencies or departments such as mutual aid, Coastal Fire or the military (especially during a fire or other emergency). Let there be clarity.

Yet, there are those that continue to jeopardize the safety of life and property by using intentionally dense semantics, technical nonsense or worse in an attempt to strip an important layer of fire suppression water away from those that live in the GLID subdivision and surrounding neighbourhoods. The GLID subdivision has an integral interface and alternative fuel fire risk as well as the usual subdivision fire load. Any critical thinking landowner sees access to the large body of Graham Lake water as crucial for the GLID subdivision. Fire suppression water from Graham Lake is only available through the fire hydrants. Obviously, the Province and the subdivision's engineer saw it that way too. Hard to physically un-subdivison an approved and completed subdivision development. People are now realizing the fire hydrant issue exists only due to unsubstantiated personal notions and political entanglements. As part of a team that over decades commissioned numerous water and fire projects; testing GLID water flow to atmosphere will not cause piping; to burst, explode, collapse or disintegrate. All this is nonsense. Some might think Fire Underwriters Survey (FUS) is a Provincial

TIDE TABLE

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

2023-02-23 (Thu)

Time PST (m)	(ft)
01:23	1.4 4.7
07:53	5 16.4
14:19	1.9 6.2
20:09	4.3 14.1

2023-02-24 (Fri)

Time PST (m)	(ft)
02:05	2 6.6
08:22	4.9 16.2
15:06	1.6 5.4
21:18	4.2 13.7

2023-02-25 (Sat)

Time PST (m)	(ft)
02:49	2.6 8.5
08:50	4.8 15.7
15:55	1.5 4.8
22:38	4.1 13.4

2023-02-26 (Sun)

Time PST (m)	(ft)
03:38	3.1 10.3
09:18	4.6 15
16:45	1.4 4.6

2023-02-27 (Mon)

Time PST (m)	(ft)
00:13	4.1 13.5
04:44	3.6 11.7
09:45	4.3 14.2
17:40	1.4 4.7

2023-02-28 (Tue)

Time PST (m)	(ft)
01:51	4.2 13.9
06:26	3.8 12.6
10:12	4.1 13.4
18:41	1.5 4.8

2023-03-01 (Wed)

Time PST (m)	(ft)
03:11	4.4 14.4
08:39	3.8 12.6
10:46	3.9 12.7
19:45	1.5 4.9

2023-03-02 (Thu)

Time PST (m)	(ft)
04:06	4.5 14.7
10:25	3.7 12.1
12:33	3.7 12.2
20:45	1.5 4.9

continued on P.4...

...continued from P.3 authority. It is not. Did FUS receive political notions rather than substantiated fire system information? - "Fire hydrants are an unnecessary distraction" is not a replacement for fire hydrant flow test data. Fait accompli has dangerous consequences.

Key Point: In the Province of B.C., where approvals for subdivisions are concerned, fire hydrants are the only fire suppression water delivery method which meets subdivision approval. The GLID subdivision fire hydrants, all of which have been engineered to provide life and property saving fire suppression water, are now the responsibility of the new governing body CVRD (owner and operator). The new service area landowners should expect due diligence to be demonstrated by the CVRD (owner-operator) in the testing, operating and maintaining of the fire hydrants either to or from the fire codes, standards and best fire hydrant practices. Due diligence is about conscientiousness and caring. It's about having, not removing, a layer of life and property fire suppression water safety. Denman is an island community with limited water making all water sources and all delivery methods important. Fire insurance doesn't extinguish fire, water does. Fait accompli has dangerous consequences.

Union Bay Estates, Graham Lake Improvement District (Seaview Properties), KIRNEL (Fre-West Developments) and the list could go on. The Province of B.C and the subdivision Approving Officers did their job. Thank you. Its time others stepped up and did theirs.

To Be Continued...🍷

Voting Results Not Released...

By Bruce Batchelor

SPECIAL INTEREST · CCCU-membersgroup.org

...director
recommendations
coming; open
invitation to co-create
the compendium

VOTING results not released; expect minimal details
Members of our credit union are asking, "What are the results of the balloting? Did we win? Will there be term limits?"

The short answers are, "We don't know yet, and we don't know *when* we will know. But we do know we won't ever be getting full details of the voting."

As representative of the petitioning members, I requested access to the full report of the board's contracted 'independent returning officer' so we could have confidence in the integrity of the process. It is an expectation in democratic elections, that all candidates and parties have some ability to scrutinize and have access to detailed results. And especially here when the directors are in such an obvious conflict-of-interest position.

The board chair's response was that "CCCU is a 'private' corporation" so it doesn't *have* to act as a public body would, and "will report the results in accordance with our legal obligations [only] and in a manner consistent with past practice." Past practice at CCCU unfortunately has been to only announce the result – who won – with no details about ballot counts per candidate or per resolution, geographic dispersion, online v. mail-in, etc. It seems telling that a board chair is doing what is the absolute legal minimum, rather than respecting and embracing "democratic member control" – one of the seven core principles of a co-operative.

Director recommendations coming

Coming soon will be the members group's recommendations about which four candidates to support in the upcoming director elections. CCCU members are excited about the potential to soon have – for the first time this century – a majority of credit union directors who are supportive of co-operative principles and action. As our communities and environment face so many crises, strong co-operatives

(financial, retail, housing, worker, social action, etc.) are needed more than ever.

Open invitation to co-create the "Re-alignment Compendium"

We want that new progressive majority on CCCU's board to have a jump start on the re-alignment process. They will surely need the benefit of members' thoughts and advice. So, we are inviting all members of our credit union (and others) to contribute to a compendium that will inform and inspire the re-alignment of CCCU to its original co-operative purpose and full potential.

Please send us (CCCU.membersgroup@gmail.com) your ideas and submissions for:

- Exemplary programs and priorities at other credit unions [CUs]
- Your experiences with this and/or other credit unions, and/or co-operatives
- Tips on re-aligning corporate culture [info coming from a former Vancity chair]
- How have CUs helped you and communities?
- How could CCCU help with climate justice, affordable housing, mental health & addictions, health care and other crises?
- How can CUs be relevant as we all move to online banking?
- How could CCCU be a good force for reconciliation and retribution?
- How could CCCU support ethical and local investing?
- How should CCCU plan for and report on its carbon emissions and other social and environmental impacts?
- How did CCCU get off track [perspectives provided by two former CCCU directors]?
- How might loan decisions be de-centralized?
- What could democratic member control be a real advantage?
- What are the best books and resources for the directors and management to learn from?
- Is there a role for an ombudsperson?

If you communicate best through photos or videos or poetry, that's great. Please send what you feel might inspire others.

Will this compendium be forty pages long? 180? We will see how this process gains momentum. We envision a limited print run (<50 copies), plus digital access. The whole process will be a demonstration of one way a large co-operative can connect with and benefit on an on-going basis from the wisdom and resources of 86,000 members.

The timeline is "starting now" – aiming to present an edition of the **Re-alignment Compendium** to the new board in early May, before their scheduled strategic planning retreat.

Please send us your thoughts and creativity to CCCU.membersgroup@gmail.com.

Bruce Batchelor,
On behalf of CCCU-membersgroup.org 🍷

Lasqueti Island Adventure

SPECIAL INTEREST

By Sara de Rose



HAVE you ever watched the sun rise over Lasqueti and wondered about that mysterious island, where there is no car ferry and everyone generates their own electricity? Here's your chance to find out.

If you remember how Hornby and Denman were in the 1980s, then Lasqueti will feel familiar: quiet sun-dappled roads, locals in no particular hurry, and a Farmer's Market that feels more like a family reunion...

This summer, I'll be renting my beautiful off-grid, straw-bale home, located on 24 acres of fields and forest, just a 10-minute walk to the beach. It has two upstairs bedrooms, with queen and king beds. Downstairs, the kitchen/living room open right on to a grassy hilltop, overlooking a pond and garden.

You can arrive by ferry (leaving your car in the secure French Creek parking lot) or you can take a water taxi directly from Ford Cove or Denman West. Once there, a local taxi driver will transport you and your gear, so you can even bring your bikes.

For photos and more info, please email me at sara_de_rose@hotmail.com 🍷

Green Wizardry: Seed Starting

SPECIAL INTEREST

By Maxine Rogers

IT is time, my friends, to get your seeds started, if you haven't already. February is the time to plant heaps of onion seeds as store-bought onions are just disgusting. Home grown onions are also beautiful, coming in a range of colours that include maroon, pink, tan and white. They keep much better than store-bought onions and are as rich nutritionally as your garden soil is rich.

Some people prefer to plant onion sets but the best gardeners I know always start from seed. Starting from sets confuses and upsets the onions. Onions are not always easy. I had a terrible time growing onions last year as it was winter right up to June 21. The soil temperatures in June actually fell from the May temperatures and this confused and upset the onions too. Let us hope for better weather this year.

Even my seed crop of onions failed last year and a treasured friend, on Hornby, gave me some seeds she grew from her delightful, huge, red onions. Those onions are great keepers and she just gave me a string of those onions which are as crisp and fresh as the day she picked them.

I will plant her onions out in the garden and they will go to seed this coming summer, ensuring I have heaps of really fresh seeds from plants that grow well here. Onions cross easily so only cultivate one variety of onion for seed. Next year, you can choose a different variety to grow to seed. Onion seeds are good for up to two years, more if you keep them in the fridge.

It is also time to plant leek seeds. I grow my own

continued on P.6...

CORRECTION, CORRECTION, CORRECTION!

The Denman Conservancy AGM

is scheduled for Monday, February 27, at 7:30 PM in the Back Hall, not February 28th, as reported in the DCA Newsletter. Sorry for the confusion.

Ima's Kitchen

Organic bakery every Friday
Vegan Ice cream open everyday

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Find us at the market on Saturdays!



...continued from P.5 Bandit leek seeds as this is a very robust, winter-hardy leek. At the moment, I have a lot of leeks left standing in the garden and will be eating fresh leeks for a few more months. There are a lot of fresh eggs about at the moment and you might want to try lightly sauteing some leeks in butter and when they are tender add some beaten eggs with a little salt and pepper for a delicious spring treat.

To grow leeks start the seeds in a few 4-inch pots on good potting soil and cover them with a sprinkling of more soil or sand and put them with the potted onion seeds in the propagator. Keep them moist. The style of propagator I use is a series of shop lights over wooden shelves. I find this brings on the seedlings just fine and is a lot less expensive than the grow lights.

The next crucial crop to sow is celery. The seeds are tiny and if you need any, just call me at 335-1088 and I will wrap up a package of last year's home-grown seeds for you. I sprinkle the seeds lightly on top of some damp potting soil and then water them daily. The plants are only tiny dots of green when they emerge so I will probably have lots of seedlings to trade with friends.

I also started some Parcel seeds from the lovely and talented Shirley Ward. Parcel is a delicious cross of celery and parsley that grows a lot of parsley-looking leaves that add a divine flavour to savoury dishes. Shirley Ward is quite the best and most accomplished seed producer on Denman. I hope a lot of our Hornby friends came to Denman's Seedy Saturday as we have many accomplished seed producers here on Denman.

I also started a number of pots of sweet peas for myself but mostly as presents for friends. I have been doing this for a few years now and the variety I use is Old Spice, originally from West Coast Seeds. This is a mix of hardy, old-fashioned and heavily perfumed sweet peas. I sow 8 or 9 of the seeds I grew last year in a 4-inch pot and start them inside. The blooms are wonderfully pretty and have a heavenly scent. The hummingbirds also like them for nectar.

I started many pots of alyssum because this hardy little flower plant can be tucked in anywhere in the flower garden or the vegetable garden to attract pollinators and predatory insects. The thick clusters of tiny blooms smell like honey.

You really do want a garden that attracts predatory insects. I was just reading about insect pests that can devastate tomatoes. In all my many years of growing tomatoes, I have never seen one in the flesh and I have never had any insect damage to my tomato plants.



With all this talk of starting seeds, I should say that I never buy potting soil. I make my own from fine, finished compost and mix in sand. There is a recipe for how to do this but I know what good potting soil feels and looks like and I always get good results. My potting soil is not sterile but that has never been a problem and if weed seeds germinate, I just pluck the tiny things out. Good luck with your garden this year. 🍷

Phoenix Riting!

SPECIAL INTEREST

By Phoenix Bee

SINCE I braved the social whirl at the February

Social, I have had a very social week. Some peak Hornby times! At a recent gathering, the group discussed what it means to live here. What is special about this place? How have we experienced this community as being different from other communities? Everyone there, perhaps a dozen folk, agreed that there is indeed something unique, special, even magical about this particular island community. Tribune Bay, Helliwell Park, Mt Geoffrey, the extensive island trails in the deep woods, this powerful accretion of unmatched natural beauty has an inevitable effect on the humans who live here, but it goes deeper than that, too.

It was a spontaneous, end-of-a-really-great-party experience, the sort of moment where people dive into the deep end of vulnerable truth, inspiring others to go there too, which makes it better, and so on. It was powerfully intimate, often hilarious, a profound experience of community building.

Somehow, this island opens these spaces here and there, between diverse small groups of people, over different occasions. This glue coheres us and is part of what makes us a community.

This doesn't mean that those who do not experience being a part of those events are not a part of the community. Everyone belongs and contributes in their own way, much as each separate organ in a body focuses on its own function and role. Every part is necessary for the whole, whether it views itself as within a greater whole or focuses only on its own experience. We all do what we feel called to do, and it somehow adds up to enough. Imperfect, evolving, but always just enough. This is harder to see in the context of modern culture, of course. We are not accustomed to thinking of the organism of greater community and ourselves as parts of that whole. That's what we are, though--wholes within greater wholes, within ever greater wholes, the body of the planet, the solar system, the galaxy, the Universe, and so on: world without end.

Other news this week: As I have mentioned, I have an album in the works with Marc at the Barn, so I've decided to return to the world of performance, working up to a possible eventual CD release. I played a house concert last week for a living room full of people, and it was a wonderful, fulfilling event; in fact, my cup was filled several times over, spilling out all over the place. It felt amazing and I need to do more! I want to play more, and yes, opportunities are welcome and no crowd is too small! (pluggity plug) Because it has been so long (I hate to think about how long), I was nervous about performing again, but the room was so open, receptive and enthusiastically complimentary that I could hardly have a better experience to start out the process. Starting over-again! It's never too late.

The rest of my week included an evening of small group dining, dancing and hot tubbing, sweet and simple. Last night, I had a late night fireside chat with a dear friend. This chat went deep (as such visits with this friend do)! We explored so many subjects and important issues. I am repeatedly inspired

by the wisdom, sharp intelligence and personal power of women, especially those who have achieved a certain stage of life. By the time women are post menopause, we are well past giving effs about appearances or social expectations. Society should listen more to women's thoughts, especially elders who are so often sidelined, ignored and undervalued.

This is important. Up until fairly recently, women were chattel, objects to be used for males' pleasure and gain. Not until 1929 were women legally acknowledged as persons under the law. Even then, women had few actual rights. Women could legally be raped and beaten by their husbands, for example. Women needed their husbands' permission to do many things they now are empowered to do. Now, society needs women to contribute their balancing experience and wisdom. I will have more to say on this in future columns. Over and out!

That's what I think, what do you think? email me at phoenixhornby@gmail.com 🌸

For the Love of Writing & Reading

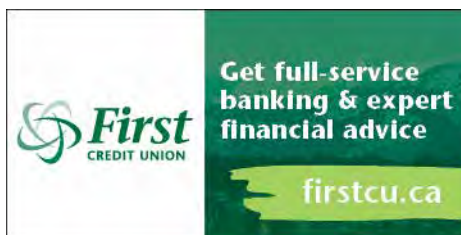
ARTS&LIT

By Sally Campbell

As a person who, according to my resigned mother, "always had her head in a book", I consider it an amazing instance of serendipity, not to mention privilege, to live in an environment where reading is valued, writing is valued, book clubs and well-established newsletters abound. Denman hosts such an exceptional **Readers & Writers Festival** each year that top writers literally vie for an invitation. Add to that Abraxas, which has for so many years been a source of really good books, with amazing variety for such a small outlet. I love to order books through Abraxas and I appreciate the intriguing selection of children's books on the shelves. As we know, children like to have their favourite titles read multiple times, and for the reader, that can become a tad repetitive. Not if you are reading them one of Oliver Jeffers' fine books, or Tachi's most recent recommendation to me, "*The Boy, the Fox, the Mole and the Horse*". Now that is truly a wise book for all ages. Alix also carries a great selection of children's books in her Hornby ringside store: "*To the Moon and Back*". And then we have 2 excellent libraries for our reading delight. Such riches on our tiny islands!

Book clubs and writing groups, both live and online, are plentiful on our islands – what a balm for our souls during Covid. For the last few years, I've been savouring the experience

continued on P.8...



Many of our community wonder how Finn Crowe is doing, and have asked how they can support and help. Finn has been diagnosed with stage 2 brain cancer, and has already undergone brain surgery and radiation. He is now in the next phase, chemotherapy, which will last many months, and a long recovery is expected.

E- transfer can be sent directly to Finn through this e-mail address; crowelawood@gmail.com

Thank- you for your love and support, Melissa Lampman.

Denman WORKS! Economic Enhancement Society

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

2023 Community Project Grant Applications

Denman Works! invites all non-profit organizations to apply for a Community Project Grant to assist with financing their proposed projects and ongoing plans.

Deadline for submission: Friday, March 3rd, 2023

Eligible projects: must provide economic benefit to Denman Island and may be a new initiative or an enhancement to an existing initiative.

For example, in 2022, Community Project Grants were given for affordable housing, a climate change survey, Denman Sings, purchase of farming equipment, a Christmas artisan flyer, the Denman Recreation Guide, and a new shared workspace at the Community Hall.

Eligible costs: could include equipment purchase or rental, materials and supplies, contractor fees, training, start up wages for new positions, and marketing.

Complete details and an application package may be found at our website: <https://denmanworks.wordpress.com/community-project-grants/>

Hard copy applications can be picked up and dropped off at Abraxas Free Post under Denman Works

For more information, contact Tony Gregson, Chair, Denman Works 250-335-0287 or email denmanresource@gmail.com.

...continued from P.7 of online books clubs through **World Beyond War**. These are fundraisers for World Beyond War, and for around \$100, an amazing writer volunteers to spend an hour/week delivering a month-long course exploring the writer's book. The assortment ranges from political analysis to war poetry to my current experience, actually a 6 week course - with writer Rivera Sun, "Peace Writing". (She's the prize-winning author of the "Ari Aria" children's adventure series, featuring young heroines using creative non-violence to solve problems they encounter.) Rivera's course sold out almost immediately, so she is offering another one this summer.

Topics are posted at www.worldbeyondwar.org for each month until October of this year. These clubs are amazing because participants may be in The Bronx, North Carolina, Montreal, Oz, New Zealand, you never know. The excellent facilitators/authors I've encountered online are genuinely committed to delivering a rich offering in support of such a vital organization as WBW. The book club I joined in January was led by celebrated Canadian poet, Thetis Island's own Gary Geddes, who led 4 really fine sessions around his fascinating book of 4 long-narrative war poems: "*The Ventriloquist: Poetic Narratives from the Womb of War*". Our group relished the experience of hearing the poet read portions of his work; people began posting their own poems and videos on the topics of war and peace. And our humble teacher never once mentioned that he has a book of poetry just released: "*The Oysters I Bring to Banquets*". Go figure! I'd better order it from Abraxas.

WBW also has a number of fine online courses, "War Abolition I & II", "Leaving World War II Behind" and "War & the Environment". I can attest to the immense value of each of them.

So onward, reading and writing our way through the wintry months – gotta get back to my "Peace Writing" assignment, optional as are all assignments in these courses. How sweet is that? 🍷

Matters of the Heart March 4th, 2007

ARTS&LIT

By CS#05943451

AT 9:20 am I was summoned up to 'Park House', which is the room that is designated for visitation. As I strode up there, I was followed by Meat-head Sean. The ape that threatened me earlier in the week. Jabbering at me as if I gave a shit, he says that he is going to be able to see his son, who is coming to visit him with his ex. I said nothing. When we arrived, the C.O. that received us told me to take my coat off and as I did, I overheard him tell Sean that he had no visit. There was a mix up on the docket and Sean Miller wasn't to have been called. Doug Miller on the other hand, was. Predictably, Sean left in a huff. As I turned to survey the visiting room, I found that not a single table seated the familiar faces of Ted and Gail. Mentioning this to the C.O. he perused the docket and said that they mustn't have shown yet and released me a well to return back to Campbell House. While it is a bummer to anticipate a visit only to have it fall through, it was not as bad as having to listen to Sean seethe the entire way back to the range. Curiously, I figured that by calling me to 'Park House' 20 minutes after the beginning of the ascribed two hour visitation period, it stood to reason that Ted and Gail's arrival was confirmed. To be summoned only to be turned back almost as quickly, leads me to imagine they were reading from the 'Inmate' column of the docket rather than the 'Visitors' column. After all, it's entirely possible a visitor mightn't make a scheduled visitation, whereas we visit-ees most assuredly would. Perhaps I'll fill out another request form and cajole the heads to re-examine their flawed procedures.

Any-who, Big Dawg Sean, who yammered on about being able to see his boy on the way up to visitation only griped about not getting his anticipated package from "that no-good, cock-knocker of an ex," the entire way back down to the range. He did interrupt his tirade momentarily to say, "they screwed you over too?" To which I replied, "while it is a drag to have my visit fall through, I at least wasn't missing an opportunity to see my child," in some feeble attempt at empathizing with his plight. He didn't hit on the line of thinking, preferring to further air out his spleen at having to go another week without drugs! Ah love... not to mention priorities.

As we exited the main building on our descent back to the range, about 15 meters away to our right stood a gaggle? a flock? a murder?! of blue-shirts looking somewhat purposeless. There must have been about eight



of them milling about. One of which was attired in a flak jacket. When I glanced their way it was hard to ignore the returned looks which seemed to say, "you got a problem?" or "don't even look at us!" It seemed odd to me because I wasn't aware of any rules dictating we couldn't freely observe our immediate surroundings. Seems regardless of the colour you wear, testiness abounds here in the clink! Once back down on the range I stepped out for a smoke and was quickly posed the question by Kelly, "did you see what was going on up there?" The cresting landscape between the basketball court smoke pit and the main building obscures the sight line between the two. I returned "no." Kelly then goes on to say that a couple of ambulances had driven up to the main building. I shared that I saw a *bunch?* of blue-shirts standing about not looking like they were up to much. From there, he proceeds to say that some inmate had suffered a heart attack and that they were having trouble reviving him. The lack of any urgency that I witnessed in the blue-shirts suggests that maybe the prognosis for this faceless, nameless inmate isn't encouraging.

Nothing like an aborted visit and a possible death to break up the monotony of a weekend in jail!

Returning inside the range, Sean was impatiently sitting on the phone. No doubt attempting to reach his 'no good, cock-knocker of an ex.' While it falls substantially short of being classified as entertainment, it is flabbergasting to my mind watching this lunk carry on. There is nothing reserved or quiet about him. Despite the steady din from the television echoing within the dining hall, one could still quite clearly hear Sean griping on the telephone down the adjoining corridor. What became apparent was that there wasn't anyone on the other end of the line. He was just trying to get through! This didn't keep him from obnoxiously bellowing out expletive after expletive after goddamned expletive. Hell, he couldn't even hang up the receiver without slamming it into its holder, repeatedly. There is something almost criminal about his need for attention, hijacking everybody's peace and quiet with no regard for anyone other than himself. My cynicism sees this act as a poorly veiled ploy at drawing some unsuspecting person into asking, "what's wrong?" No worries, mind you, because failing to bait anyone will only have him rant openly about his 'oh so important' triviality anyway. This is our collective cost for Sean not getting his way. Being that I was present right at the moment of his disappointment, I've been privy to his tantrum front-to-back. He can't eat it. He can't get it out of his system by simply telling one or two fellows what occurred and moving on. It seems that all one needs are two ears and the misfortune of crossing his path, to be rushed by his torrent. His voice and words do little other than fill the air. They may bounce off a few sets of ears but they largely are repelled from there to the floor. My ears, while good at hearing and at times listening, are also adept at filtering. About all that squeezes through to my brain amidst the baritone concussions of wind that his sphincter can't seem to contain is the affirmation that **'this guy is an idiot!'** FULLY, COMPLETELY! Some guy may have died up top but nobody could be having a worse day than Big Dawg Sean. He, after all, didn't get to see his drugs... I mean son. 🍷

Letters to the Editor

REGARDING last week's protest at the Denman East ferry terminal.

Here are a few excerpts from a letter from Jason Barabash of BC Ferries;

I quote, **'Due to the ongoing protests, work to improve traffic safety at and outside the Denman East Ferry Terminal by way of a larger vehicle holding space, and designated Pick Up/Drop Off lanes, has not been able to proceed.'**

In reply to this first statement, A larger parking lot will not ease congestion in the bottle necks on both sides of the terminals. It is the neck, not the bottle that needs to be addressed and rectified.

The second concern addressed in the letter states. **'This is despite community consultations that happened in 2017/18 identifying these safety concerns as a top priority for those who responded. The community has also asked for bigger vessels with more vehicle capacity on its route.'**

In reply to this statement, the community consultation was a farce with only 0.2% of the population responding.

The third statement reads, **'Without a larger vehicle holding compound, (read 'parking lot') current safety risks are heightened as well as back ups on the two lane residential road that leads to the Denman East Terminal.'**

In reply to this statement, please refer to the reply pertaining to the first statement.

The fourth statement from Jason reads, **'It is unfortunate that the community is unable to reach a consensus on this project and that one group's views are creating further delays.'**

In reply to this statement, If the community as a whole were involved in the so called consultation this unfortunate state of affairs could have been avoided.

In conclusion, It is absolutely not necessary to destroy one hundred and twenty seven mature trees and the surrounding flora and fauna and our corner of paradise because BC Ferries could not bother to upgrade their infrastructure in a timely manner in lockstep with population and tourism increases. Both ferries should be of equal capacity and coordinated as far as possible. The captains of the vessels should have the autonomy to shuttle whenever necessary with up to the minute coms between vessels. Traffic lineups are unavoidable in the present system.

Traffic on the Denman side can be lined up as far as Thomas Road at times and as far as Brad'sDad'sLand on the Hornby side.

As far as sanitation facilities goes, it is totally unworkable with only two booths at the terminal matter how large the car park is.

Respectfully, Huw Austin

You don't know what you have lost till it's gone 🍷 **continued on P.10...**

...continued from P.9 To the Editor:

ON February 19, more than 70 people came to the Hornby Community Hall to participate in the Road to 2030 project. At the event—co-hosted by the Hornby Island Economic Enhancement Corporation (HICEEC) and the Hornby Island Residents and Ratepayers Association (HIRRA)—participants built on what HICEEC had learned from interviews with community members regarding 14 sectors of local life, ranging from agriculture to housing to social justice to transportation. What were the accomplishments from the Vision 2020 project that the community engaged in, two decades ago? What are our aspirations and goals for this decade?

Community members will have another opportunity to move the project forward on March 1, by attending the Zoom meeting that HICEEC and HIRRA are hosting. (To register for that meeting, go to office@hirra.ca.)

Incidentally, an insert in last week's Grapevine, which contained the HICEEC logo along with a defaced version of the ad for The Road to 2030, misled some readers into thinking that HICEEC had produced the insert. We had nothing to do with it.

John Heinegg
Chair, HICEEC

Letter From BC Ferries

OPINIONS

By Eartha Muirhead

Good afternoon
Eartha:

AS you are aware, on January 18, 2023 we advised the community of the next steps for the Denman East terminal upgrade, a project that was originally scheduled to begin shortly after the 2017/18 community engagements but was delayed by the pandemic.

After listening to the communities concerns this past week, we understand and acknowledge that the community feels the engagement work done at that time, no longer reflects the community as a whole, and residents are clearly divided on the project.

As a result of this feedback, we have made the decision to not proceed with the Denman East terminal expansion project at this time, and to plan further reengagement with the community later this year as part of our regular FAC and community engagement schedule.

We recognize safety concerns at the terminal, as well as on the residential road approach to the terminal, were identified as top priorities by those who responded and as we are unable to address these concerns given the project's delays, due care and attention by motorists and pedestrians is imperative.

We will continue to update you and the community on next steps and engagement opportunities for this project.

Updates will also be posted to the Denman East terminal upgrade projects page found here.
<https://www.bcferriesprojects.ca/denman-east-terminal>

Thank you,
Tamara Olson
Community Relations Manager
Strategy and Community Engagement
British Columbia Ferry Services Inc.
T: 250-978-2069
tamara.olson@bcferries.com

Gravelly Bay Eagles are Safe for NOW!!!

OPINIONS

By Eartha Muirhead

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." Margaret Mead

BC FERRIES has backed away from their simpleton solution to traffic concerns by a small group of sassy, simple-minded tree-huggers. (Some of our opponents like to curse us using that term "tree-hugger.")

The letter they sent seems to put the blame on the protesters. However, we might as well imagine all the corporate CEO's on the planet finally recognizing that the time is now to save the last of the natural wonderous world. Let's keep up the pressure tactics as we relish how we have set an excellent example to all thoughtful tree-huggers and concerned citizens.

The Sickening Winds of the Warmongers (War Is A Racket)

OPINIONS

By Keith Porteous

EACH of my pieces in The Islands Grapevine have been explicit in saying that the facts I have presented

are not a rationale or justification for any Russian military action. Oakley Rankin is simply wrong when he claims that I have made the case that the "U.S. alone" is what has caused Russian military forces to have occupied the ethnic Russian Donbas region of Ukraine. In Oakley's mind, and in the minds of many others, it's a zero-sum calculation when being critical of U.S./NATO policies relating to its proxy war with Russia, and that it is tacit support for the Russian

government's actions. Oakley is stuck in an old McCarthyite Soviet Cold War perspective unrelated to present day Russia. He is promoting imperialism, jingoism, and war, where only the war racketeers benefit, and while tens of thousands of people die needlessly.

Anyone can choose to succumb to the narrative that Ukraine is a noble democracy and a bastion of freedom, but they would be the most misinformed and naive amongst us. Ukraine will badly lose this U.S. proxy war, with Russia empowered not "weakened." Vladimir Putin has never been so domestically popular, and I have no affinity for the Russian State. I am anti-war and war profiteering, while the only responsibility I have with a tiny Western based audience,

and with no Ukrainian and Russian readers, is to be critical of the warmongering NATO States where I live, and where my voice can be heard. War is a racket, and the U.S./NATO alliance is a corrupt cabal, feeding trillions of public dollars to the industries of militarism.. When it comes to war, the partisan political classes have a clear consensus in funding it.

Just last week, NATO's Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg said "this war did not start in February of 2022, it started in 2014." That was the date of the CIA backed coup of the elected government of Ukraine. He added that NATO's funding, arming, and training of Ukraine's military began at that time. That training included the arming and training of Azov Neo Nazi battalions in the Donbas region of Eastern Ukraine, who killed 14,000 ethnic Russian Ukrainians between 2014 and 2022, with a total of more than 50,000 casualties. Canada was one of the NATO members responsible for training these Ukrainian Nazis, and until the 2022 Russian incursion into the Donbas, this was widely reported in mainstream Western press.

In leaked telephone conversations, current U.S. Under Secretary of State Victoria Nuland is heard in 2014, as Barack Obama's Assistant Secretary of State, discussing the names of which Ukrainians would lead the new CIA installed government of Ukraine. Nuland was a senior member of former VP Dick Cheney's staff in constructing the narrative leading up to the criminal invasion of Iraq, killing a million

Iraqis, based on the lies of WMDs and connections to Al Qaeda. Before she joined the Biden administration, she was a Senior Fellow at the Albright Group, named for former US Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, who was infamous for her statement that the deaths of 500,000 Iraqi children were "worth it", a result of the crippling economic sanctions placed on Iraq prior to the U.S. occupation.

Currently, the U.S. occupies a third of Syria, the oil and wheat fields, following its failed attempt at regime change in Damascus, as part of a more than decade long CIA dirty war, an operation called Timber Sycamore. The U.S. armed Al Qaeda insurgents to fight the Syrian government. Syria has been under more crippling U.S. sanctions, and now the U.S. has blocked aid to victims of Syria's recent earthquake. I had hoped for a public debate on these issues, but instead we see mostly war propaganda generated through corporate news sources, and parroted by those who have selected Ukraine as the one flag to wrap themselves in, and as being a righteous and just cause. They not only misrepresent the anti-war arguments, they condescend to smear anyone who challenges their unrelenting nonsense. That's not a debate, it's a bullying tactic, and lacking in the courage of conviction.

War is a racket, with only wealthy investors benefiting, and I'm astonished when intelligent and liberal minded people support it. 🍷

Ukraine War & International Law

OPINIONS By Gwynne Dyer · OP Feb. 20, 2023

JUST before the first anniversary of the Russian invasion of

Ukraine (Friday, 24 February), France's President Emmanuel Macron declared that he wanted to see Russia "defeated, but not crushed." That is a very fine distinction, but an important one.

Macron is seen as 'soft' on Russia by many observers. In particular, he continues to make frequent phone calls to Russia's President Vladimir Putin, while continuing to condemn his "ignoble war." It gets him a lot of negative press, but he's quite right.

"I chose to stay in touch as much as I can...with President Putin to try and convince him to lay down his arms," Macron explained, "... and to prevent the spread and widening of the conflict." And he particularly deplores loose talk by NATO hard-liners about permanently crippling Russia.

Not many of these extremists have senior positions, but US Secretary of Defence Lloyd Austin certainly made the grade when he declared last April that "We want to see Russia weakened to the degree that it can't do the kinds of things that it has done in invading Ukraine."

That meant, Austin added, that Russia should "not have the capability to very quickly reproduce" the forces and equipment that had been lost in Ukraine. So, presumably, it should end up with neither the manufacturing ability nor the financial resources to rebuild its army. That's certainly how

Russians interpreted his remarks.

This unhinged proposal harks back to the Morgenthau Plan of 1944, a delusional proposal by US Treasury Secretary Henry Morgenthau Jr. to turn defeated Germany into a deindustrialised nation of farmers so it could never wage aggressive war again. The 80 million German peasants might not be happy, but they wouldn't be able to do anything about it.

Morgenthau's plan was eventually abandoned as unworkable, but Macron fears that there are some similar crazies in the ranks of the NATO countries today: "I do not think, as some people do, that we must aim for a total defeat of Russia, attacking Russia on its own soil. These people want to, above all else, crush Russia. That has never been the position of France and it will never be our position."

It shouldn't be anybody's position. NATO's objective in helping Ukraine should be to see the country entirely freed from Russian rule (including the parts Moscow seized in 2014) not because

continued on P.12...



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...continued from P.11 Ukraine is democratic or 'pro-Western', but simply because that is what international law requires. And the same international law does not permit a counter-invasion of Russia.

Significantly, China agrees with all that, although you have to examine its opaque statements on the war quite closely to grasp their meaning. Beijing is being deliberately obscure, because Russia is currently in transit from being China's 'no limits' strategic partner to being its compliant sidekick. No point in disrupting that process with too much frankness – but look what the Chinese officials actually say.

Virtually every public statement by Chinese diplomats on the war in Ukraine includes the sentence "all countries deserve respect for their sovereignty and territorial integrity". The key phrase here is 'territorial integrity': it refers to Chapter 2 (4) of the United Nations charter, which prohibits states from using force directed "against the territorial integrity or political independence of another state."

The implication is that any changes in a country's borders that are achieved by violence are illegitimate and should never be recognised by any other country. This may sound hopelessly idealistic, but the founding states of the UN made this law because it was in their own interest.

Ninety percent of all the states that ever existed have been destroyed by war. It is in every country's interest to minimise territorial changes imposed on them by force by backing a rule that takes the potential profit out of them. They generally won't fight expensive wars in distant places to reverse a military conquest elsewhere, but they will withhold recognition of the change forever.

Israel annexed the Golan Heights after seizing them from Syria in 1967, but even today only the United States officially sees them as part of Israel – and that only because Donald Trump changed long-standing US policy in 2019. Indonesia annexed East Timor in 1975, but it was forced to recognize its independence in 2002.

That's why China (rather shyly) supports the territorial integrity of Ukraine. So do most other countries, although many in the Global South are also shy about it.

The goal of ending the Russian occupation on all Ukraine's territory (whose borders Russia officially recognized as recently as 1997) is not a fantasy. It is a legitimate aspiration. But the goal of permanently crippling Russia, to the extent that it really exists, is neither legitimate nor wise.



The Power-Serving Myth that Anti-War Protests Make No Difference

OPINIONS

By Caitlin Johnstone · OP Feb. 20, 2023

THOUSANDS of people from across the political spectrum gathered at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, DC to protest US militarism, proxy warfare and nuclear brinkmanship in Ukraine on Sunday.

I've been seeing some people try to downplay the numbers on social media, but footage from the Rage Against the War Machine rally makes it clear that attendance was in the thousands; people who were there place the number at around three thousand.

This is significantly better attendance than any other American anti-war demonstration in recent years that I'm aware of. It's nowhere remotely close to the historic numbers people demonstrated in to protest the war in Iraq, and it's nowhere remotely close to what it should be for an issue of such existential importance.

But it's a start. Maybe the start of something good. The ANSWER Coalition has a March on Washington scheduled for March 18th for the 20th anniversary of the Iraq invasion demanding "Negotiations not escalation" in Ukraine and an end to US militarism abroad. We shall see if this thing continues to pick up steam.

One criticism I hear of anti-war demonstrations is that they don't make a difference. "Millions of us marched in opposition to the Iraq invasion, and they did it anyway!" is a common sentiment.

While it's true that demonstrations failed to stop the



invasion of Iraq, if you look at the US war machine's actual behavior following that war, it has clearly been reacting defensively to public opposition.

If anti-war protests made no difference, the US empire wouldn't have completely abandoned full-scale ground invasions after 2003 and switched to sneakier, less effective means of warfare while launching unprecedented narrative management systems to suppress anti-war sentiments. They abandoned Bush-era Hulk Smash ground invasions in favor of drones, proxy warfare, covert ops and sanctions because enough people rose up and said "NO" to make them afraid of the masses beginning to wake up and begin turning against them and their institutions.

And now people are even beginning to protest the proxy warfare. I guarantee you that's making our rulers nervous about the possibility of losing the ability to effectively dominate the world with violence and coercion, and even losing the ability to continue to rule us.

These things very clearly and obviously make a difference. The only reason Syria and Iran remain sovereign, unabsorbed governments, and the only reason the imperial body count isn't much higher today, is because enough people put their foot down and said "NO" to that kind of war.

ANSWER Coalition

@answercoalition

On Feb 15 2003 millions marched against the impending invasion of Iraq, a war which in the end killed over 100,000 Iraqis.

Now 20 years later, in its proxy war, the US is determined to fight Russia to the last Ukrainian.

Join us again to say NO to ALL US WARS!

Our rulers pour so much effort into manufacturing consent because they absolutely require that consent in order to rule. Their worst-case nightmare scenario is the emergence of a large, robust movement of people saying "NO" to the imperial war machine, because military violence and the threat thereof is the glue that holds the empire together. It's bringing public consciousness to the very most important aspect of the empire, which also happens to be the very least defensible.

Noam Chomsky said "Propaganda is to a democracy what the bludgeon is to a totalitarian state" because over the centuries those who seek large-scale power over other humans have discovered that dominating people psychologically is more energy-efficient than dominating them with brute force, and is far less likely to see them wind up on the business end of a guillotine blade. If you can simply trick a profoundly unfree populace into thinking that they are free, you don't have to

waste any further energy wrestling their freedom away from them.

But what this means is that the entire power structure which rules over us is entirely dependent on the ability to successfully administer propaganda and maintain the illusion of freedom. If it can't manufacture consent for the things it wants to do, it has to either refrain from doing those things until it can manufacture the necessary consent or do those things anyway without the consent of the public. If they do that, public trust in the ruling institutions will immediately begin to disintegrate, and they won't be able to propagandize people anymore because propaganda only works if people trust its source.

Our rulers could of course then switch to the direct bludgeon of totalitarianism if they want to, but then they're up against an angry populace, and in America's case a very heavily armed one. All the narrative management that holds the US-centralized power structure together would lose trust around the world, because the "Freedom-Loving Good Guys Vs Tyrannical Bad Guys" framing of imperial propaganda would no longer be believable.

The US-centralized empire will crumble if it cannot preserve the illusion that it is accountable and responsive to the public.

Of course a few thousand people at one protest is not going to bring peace to our world. Even a few million wouldn't be enough. But public demonstrations are one of the many ways in which our society can be drawn toward awareness of what's really going on in our world, what our rulers are really up to, and how much we've been lied to all our lives. From there health can follow, because with enough awareness people will cease consenting to things that they've come to recognize as being against their interests.

All positive changes in human behavior are always preceded by an expansion of consciousness. Demonstrations are one of the many different tools ordinary people have to spread awareness so that positive change can occur; that's why they've featured so prominently in civil rights movements throughout history, and that's why the US empire has been pouring so much energy into preventing the reemergence of a lively antiwar movement in the western world ever since Vietnam.

All we're doing is nudging our species bit by bit toward consciousness. Other tools we can use toward this end include new media like online videos, blogs, tweets and memes, and old media like pamphlets, public speaking and graffiti. Anything we can do to get people opening their eyes to the horrors of imperial warmongering and start bringing some actual movement into the anti-war movement will help. Our survival may very well depend on it.



Jennifer Rice Takes the Helm in Improving Access to Health Care for Rural Residents

February 16, 2023

HEALTH & WELLNESS

By BCRHN

rural communities, is poised to provide much-needed representation for rural voices in the conversation on health care transformation.

BRITISH COLUMBIA - On January 20th, Premier David Eby made a major announcement that was met with great enthusiasm from rural residents across BC - the appointment of Jennifer Rice as the Parliamentary Secretary for Rural Health. Rice, a resident of the North Coast and a known advocate for

For over two decades, rural communities have been excluded from the health policy making processes. The BC Rural Health Network is hopeful that the tide is beginning to turn. Paul Adams, Executive Director of the BC Rural Health Network, expressed his optimism about the impact Rice will have on rural health: "Jennifer has a proven track record of advocating for rural residents and is both engaged and interested in working with communities to ensure we address the inequity in access to care that many of our residents experience in rural BC. As a charity and an apolitical organization, we work with all policy makers and seek support from all political parties on health solutions that make sense for British Columbians. Working with the government of the day is essential and we are grateful for Premier Eby for this appointment. I meet virtually with groups and municipalities around BC it is very clear that the rural voice is ignored, our municipal members who have joined through a vote of council has grown from 6 to 27 in less than a year! We reach people all over BC, we hear them, and they feel abandoned! We look forward to helping Ms. Rice in anyway we can to improve health for all BC residents."

Adams, alongside Dr. Jude Kornelsen of the UBC Centre for Rural Research, were invited to attend the BC Throne Speech at the Legislature on February 6 and to present the Networks policy positions to the BC Government and specifically the NDP Rural Caucus. Their goal is to bring forward community derived solutions which are evidence-based and supported by research.

According to Dr. Kornelsen, "Community lived and living experience provides context to my research and is critical to giving decision makers an understanding of the challenges faced by rural residents. The collection of these experiences must be invested in by our governments and a system needs to be created to ensure the residents of rural BC are heard. Bi-directional communication with community grassroots is key." The average cost that rural residents face for out-of-pocket costs on single condition treatments where local provision of services are not available is over \$2200 and continues to rise, which further highlights the importance of rural engagement in the health conversation. She goes on to note, "There are many issues that need to be addressed and community engagement in decision-making is top of list".

Rice's appointment brings hope to rural communities, but they need more than just hope - they need meaningful engagement. The BC Rural Health Network intends to work closely with Rice and Roly Russell, MLA for the Boundary-Similkameen and the Parliamentary Secretary for Rural Development, to bring about change for rural residents across BC. Rice stated during her introduction of Adams and Kornelsen to the Legislative Assembly, "I will be working closely with them in my new role as the Parliamentary Secretary for Rural Health."



BCRHN

British Columbia
Rural Health Network

Has the time come for rural voices to finally be heard in the health conversation? Rural communities across BC look forward to offering their perspective on issues relevant to health planning and being included in the conversation to effect positive change. The BC Rural Health Network is hopeful that Ms. Rice will help create equity in health for all British Columbians. 🍷



Denis Daniel LACASSE March 20, 1951 - February 2, 2023

Denis Lacasse passed away at home on February 2nd, 2023 at the age of 71. In May of 1990 he moved to Denman Island with his partner of 36 years, Sally Rae Dyck. Through the years, he shared his life (and his lap) with numerous dogs, including 7 standard poodles, a few cats and chickens along the way.

He had a long list of careers in his lifetime from working in radio and real estate, drafting, construction and eventually going back to school to become a 'Registered Massage Therapist'. He opened the 'Therapeutic Massage Clinic' in Clearbrook, BC continuing with massage when he moved to Denman Island. During his construction phase, he built numerous Denman Island homes from the ground up and did renovations to many more Denman houses and barns. Denis worked fast and efficient, the projects he contracted were completed almost always under budget and in less time

than his initial quote. He was a hard worker, quiet and considerate when working inside with home owners. In his spare time, Denis loved fishing, he met many avid Denman fishermen on his early morning trips. Denis was a generous, kindhearted man, a free spirited individual who refused to be bound by the expectations of society. He loved life to the fullest and lived on his own terms. He never judged people by their differences and always accepted folks for who they were. He will be missed by many...

Denis is survived by his partner Sally Dyck, six younger siblings, numerous nieces and nephews, aunts and uncles. Predeceased by his parents. As per Denis request, there will not be a public, Community Celebration. In lieu of flowers or gifts of food, the family requests donations be made to your favorite charity.

They would also like to thank the Denman Island First Responders, Denman Island Paramedics, Don Luckett, John Dillon, Chris Luckett, Cynthia Minden, Friends and Neighbors volunteers; Wendy Boothroyd and Angela Robinson, Green Cemetery Manager; Charlie Johnston, Claire Sierra, Mary Barclay, Roisin Harris, Jo-Anne McLean, Dr. Alsoon Brine, all the volunteers involved in the planning and preparation of a last minute Green Burial in this incredible Community that Denis loved. Also huge heartfelt thanks to the caring love and support from our Denman Island neighbors and friends who have been like family. Apology if any names were unintentionally left out ...

Denis, may you soar with the eagles ... you are greatly missed



Gravelly Bay Good Vibe

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed individuals can change the world. In fact, it's the only thing that ever has." I'm sure I wasn't the only one who was reminded of this famous quote from Margaret Mead last week as the protest at Gravelly Bay ferry terminal on Denman succeeded in saving 140 plus marked

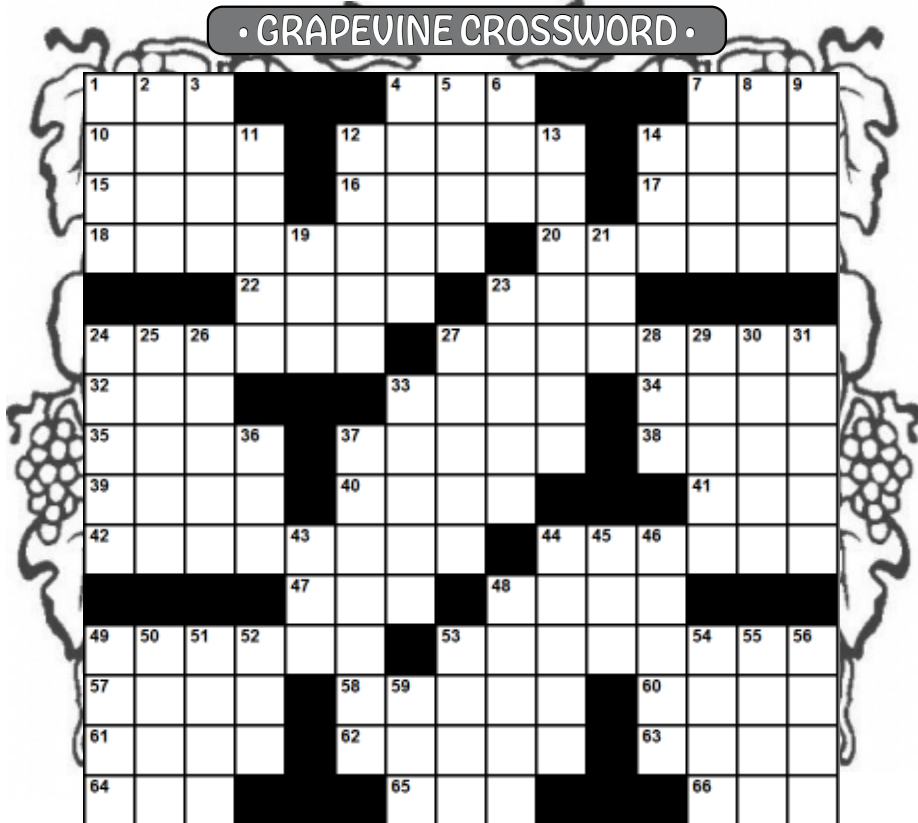
trees from being felled. While there are some on Denman who don't seem to have qualms about razing their own property, I think you'd be hard pressed to find many who would like to see public lands unnecessarily desecrated and paved over for parking lots. We are here for the nature, right? And so are visitors. Likewise, no one is happy about all the Hornby traffic speeding between ferries or the line ups along East Road during the summer months. I hope we, as a community, can agree on those two things and present a united front to BC Ferries. Surely, with their highly paid professionals and access to consultants, they can come up with some imaginative and clever solutions to the traffic problem that does not involve the destruction of sensitive ecosystems We must insist that they do so. I might add the obvious, lest we forget; it is especially important in this climate emergency that we do not remove trees that sequester carbon to make way for parking lots for cars that produce carbon.

Ostrich

by Thomas Provençal

*Some people stick
their heads in sand
while politicians write
the bills and laws
that rule the land;
they ignore their plight.
When heads are down
the butts go up
in unbecoming stance.
There, power plants a
flower
that makes it hard to
dance.*

• GRAPEVINE CROSSWORD •



• ACROSS •

1. Conniving
4. Librarian's order
7. Existed
10. Cambodian neighbor
12. News first
14. Ale ingredient
15. A lot of land
16. Cowboy's hello
17. Carbamide
18. Typical German pub
20. Child's garment
22. Fix, in a way
23. Antony's loan request
24. Admire
27. Classic Nash vehicles
32. Big flap
33. Biblical trio
34. Agenda component
35. Hockey disk
37. Measured
38. Dark purple
39. U.N. civilian aviation agcy.
40. Exploiter
41. River in Sweden
42. Fragile
44. Not mourned for

47. College growth

48. Aspen apparatus
49. Dwarfed shrub
53. Perkinsess
57. Black-and-white cookie
58. Letter after eta
60. Bluewing
61. Hurry-up letters
62. Fermenting agent
63. Be down with
64. Craggy peak
65. Alpine transport
66. A Tillis

• DOWN •

1. Chunk of concrete
2. Add liquor
3. Days of old
4. Dress down
5. Bay, as a wolf
6. Coal scuttle
7. Star Trek speed factor
8. Helm position
9. A feature of Old Glory
11. It suits many
12. Rock formed from clay
13. Giza shape
14. British parent
19. Him's opposite
21. Circle, in a way
23. Anxious
24. Breakneck
25. Draw out
26. Outspoken
27. Type of ship
28. Cup's rim
29. Chopin creation
30. Go over
31. Great Lakes fish
33. Mathis classic
36. Japanese pond fish
37. Smoothness
43. Alias org.
44. Das Boot craft
45. Aye opponent
46. Malice
48. Rwandan people
49. Flotilla unit
50. Approximation words
51. Almost proximate
52. Absorb
53. Bird's bill
54. A tide
55. Spanish wine
56. Original Big Bang matter
59. Cock and bull

• TEST YOUR MATH SKILLS •

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

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

Grumpism



“If I have learned anything in my 22 years on earth is that it's okay to lie about your age.”

Thank you Paul Bailey.

• LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS •

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

• **SERVICES** •



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• **COMMUNITY NOTICES** •

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250-218-4034 For more info visit
<https://cvts.ca>

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and Gifts 250-335-2731 abrax-
as9@telus.net Zoom meetings
(unlimited time and free record-
ing): See denmanworks.word-
press.com/contact/

• **LOST & FOUND** •

LOST - 1-10qt aluminum pressure
cooker. Can't remember to whom
I loaned it to. Please return to
Jackson Steen.

• 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 250-792-0128 (H/D)
- Donna & Jenessa Tuele • Royal LePage Hornby 335-1720 (D/H)

• BUILDING • CONSTRUCTION •

- Aquarian Systems • Water Cisterns • Ed Hoepfner 335-2037 (D/H)
- Roc-Isle Drywall, Harvey Hodgins • 35 yrs exp. 'certified' 334-4776 (D/H)
- Seaside Electric • LEO207455 • 702-0570 (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)
- Ray Ulovec • Backhoe/Excavator Septic Installation • 335-3145 (D/H)
- DB Excavations • Dorianbaker56@gmail.com • 250-465-1889 (D/H)
- Tree Service • Darian Chase • Arborist 218-0404 (All)
- Cal's Bobcat Services • Auger, Grapple, Rake • 613-447-8873 (All)
- Steve Isaak • Bobcat & Compact Excavator • 250-335-1853 (All)
- Water Cisterns • Steve Isaak • 250-335-1853 (All)

• SERVICES •

- Denman Works! • Tony Gregson 250-335-0287 denmanresource@gmail.com (D)
- Peter T. Mason • Land Surveying 757-8788 (All)
- Able & Ready Septic Pumping Service • 250-338-8822 (D/H)
- Bottled Water Delivery • DenmanWater.ca • 250-228-7161 (D/H)
- Florist-Keep Floral (Emma) • 250-335-2746 (D)
- Home Town Shredders • Document Shredding • 334-7111 (D/H)

• HEALTH & WELLNESS •

- Acupuncture • Margot Davey, R.Ac. • 778-992-0165 (D)
- Registered Massage Therapist • Mary G Vellet •
11100 Dusty Rd •
250-202-1268 (D)
- Physiotherapist • Acupuncturist • TCM Herbs • Carmen RPT, RTCMP
335-2260 (D/H)
- Massage Clinic • 2796 Northwest Rd. • Leyah Kelly 335-2584 (D)
- Acupuncture • Jenny McCartney, R.Ac • 250-508-8160
• www.heartwoodacupuncture.ca (D/H)
- Ryan Moulf Counselling (Statera Therapy) • Ryan Moulf, MA, RCT-C
• moulfcounselling@gmail.com • remote service (D/H)
- Jessi Schlegel • Personal Training & Fitness Classes • 604-329-3466 •
online & in-person (D/H)



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FORTNIGHT EVENTS

THURSDAY 23

- RECYCLING CENTRE 2-6pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 2-6pm
- CAP SITE Hub Comm. Hall 4-7pm
- FOOD BANK Hub Comm. Hall 4-7pm
- FREE STORE 4:30pm-6pm

FRIDAY 24

- AA Meeting DI United Church 7pm
- Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm

SATURDAY 25

- RECYCLING CENTRE 9-5pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 9-5pm
- FREE STORE 9-Noon
- FARMERS MARKET Old School 9:30-12:30
- Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm

SUNDAY 26

- AL-ANON United Church 7pm
- GEOLOGY OF DENMAN Activity Cntr. 2pm

MONDAY 27

- Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm
- DCA AGM Back Hall 7:30pm

TUESDAY 28

- Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm

WEDNESDAY 1

- RECYCLING CENTRE 2-6pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 2-6pm
- Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm

THURSDAY 2

- RECYCLING CENTRE 2-6pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 2-6pm
- CAP SITE Hub Comm. Hall 4-7pm
- FOOD BANK Hub Comm. Hall 4-7pm
- FREE STORE 4:30-6pm

FRIDAY 3

- AA Meeting DI United Church 7pm
- Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm

SATURDAY 4

- RECYCLING CENTRE 9-5pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 9-5pm
- FARMERS MARKET Old School 9:30-12:30
- FREE STORE 9-Noon
- Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm
- ROOTS ROUNDUP Concerts Denman Community Hall

SUNDAY 5

- AL-ANON United Church 7pm

MONDAY 6

- Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm

TUESDAY 7

- Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm

WEDNESDAY 8

- RECYCLING CENTRE 2-6pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 2-6pm
- Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm
- INT. WOMEN'S DAY see p.2

THURSDAY 9

- RECYCLING CENTRE 2-6pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 2-6pm
- CAP SITE Hub Comm. Hall 4-7pm
- FOOD BANK Hub Comm. Hall 4-7pm
- FREE STORE 4:30pm-6pm



ATTENTION DENMAN ARTISTS!!



Water colour painting by Annie Kimmins

The Summer Art Gallery committee is excited to be gearing up for a new season.

All artists, both established and new to Denman, are invited to submit proposals for consideration to mount a show at the Art Centre for the summer season.

The Gallery committee will present 6 or 7 shows of approximately 2 weeks each, providing a gallery space, volunteers to sit the show, flowers and an experienced curator.

If you are interested please submit a proposal before March 24. Information sheets with detailed instructions are available at the **Abraxas Free Post** or on **FaceBook at The Denman Island Summer Art Gallery**.



Contact Pelka Wiltshire at 335-2478 or pelkawiltshire@hotmail.com if you have questions.