



"Sunlight is the best disinfectant." • Anonymous

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Cover image: Denman Museum, DI.

photo by Dreadful Imagery

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



• DENMAN: 700 • HORNBY: 520 •
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*The opinions expressed herein do not
necessarily reflect the views of the
Publisher.*

DICES **News** **WANT** to know what we do and how you can help your community and

COMMUNITY INFO

the Denman Island Community Education Society? Read this!

Food Bank

During COVID, DICES received several emergency grants and funds which led to a well stocked food bank. Now that the pandemic resources are slowly drying up, it is important to keep the food bank running despite the lack of future funds. **On Saturday, April 8th, between 10am and 2pm**, we're having a **Food Bank Drive**. Come show your support by dropping off food items at the **Hub in the Hall**.

Community Programs Special:

Community Paramedic - In Case of Emergency: Presentations for Health at the HUB in the Hall

March 16th - Naloxone Education & Practice

April 14th - Naloxone Education & Practice

April 28th - Medical Orders for Scope of Treatment

May 12th - Community Paramedicine

May 26th - TBD

Big Thank You

This month's big thank you goes to **Sam Borthwick** for being a crucial part of helping us find and move to the new HUB space. We are very thankful for all the things you do for us and your community!

Also, a big thank you goes out to **Serendipity** who is always there for food bank needs, for his community, and DICES. He makes sure food is ready to go out and keeps us updated with facebook posts.

Keep up the great work!

Donations and Volunteer Opportunities

If you would like to volunteer your time and/or have amazing skills to share with kids or adults, feel free to email us at: dices.communityprograms@gmail.com

You can also donate directly to us via cheque, cash or e-transfer or through CanadaHelps! 🍷

DICAN Letter Writing Café **THE Denman Island Climate Action Network.**
March 25, 10:00 to 12:00am

COMMUNITY INFO

By Frank Frketich · DICAN

is sponsoring a second letter writing café to get the attention of our Provincial politicians. Many of you will recall we had a very successful letter writing café just after David Eby took over as Premier hoping to encourage a more climate focused agenda as a new era began in Victoria. Well it seems our new Premier did not read his letters and needs a reminder. And this after his first speech as Premier in which he stated the NDP government that he led would have a much clearer climate focus. Something happened just after Mr. Eby made those remarks.

Having said that last week's B.C. budget took a nap on the climate front, according to the Tyee newspaper, spending about one-fifth of what is needed to tackle the current emergency and setting the province up to miss its own climate targets.

The climate emergency is the defining issue of our time! If the government continues to miss its own climate targets what hope is there for our province, country, and indeed the world?

Please join us in the Gathering Space at the top of Denman hill on Saturday morning, March 25. We will provide ideas, information, paper, pens, and envelopes to help make your job easier. We look forward to seeing you there! 🍷

Islands Trust Council Approves 2023/24 Budget

L'ak'wəyən, METULIYE/
Victoria, B.C. – Islands Trust Council has approved the 2023/24 budget of \$9.7 million.

PRESS RELEASE

By Islands Trust · OP March 10, 2023

"This was a challenging budget year as the Province of BC has approved new collective agreements that have resulted in salary increases outside of Trust Council's control. Like island communities, Islands Trust is also affected by high inflation," said Islands Trust Council Chair Peter Luckham. "To keep tax increases low, trustees made difficult choices and compromises as they prepared a budget to support the work to preserve and protect the Trust Area into the 2023/24 fiscal year."

The approved budget for 2023/24 of \$9.7 million assumes that Islands Trust will maintain existing service levels, support a new Governance Committee and a new Accessibility Committee, and undertake select projects including:

- Denman Island Housing Review Project
- Gabriola Island Official Community Plan and Land Use Bylaw Comprehensive Review
- Gambier Island Official Community Plan and Land Use Bylaw Targeted Review
- Hornby Island Official Community Plan Amendment
- Salt Spring Island Official Community Plan and Land Use Bylaw Major Review
- Salt Spring Island Ganges (Shiya'hwt/SYOW T) Village Area Plan
- Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Alliance
- Stewardship education program
- Administrative support to regional coordination groups (e.g. Átl'ka7sem/Howe Sound Community Forum, Rural Islands Economic Partnership)
- Species at risk protection program through Islands Trust Conservancy

The budget also includes funding for three new staff positions:

- Manager, Finance and Accounting (full-time, permanent) - will oversee the day-to-day financial operations in a financial controller capacity
- Local Trust Committee Meeting Administrator (full-time, temporary) - will coordinate livestreaming/recording of in-person local trust committee meetings
- Administrative Coordinator (full-time, permanent) - will provide administrative assistance to the new Governance Committee, a future Accessibility Committee and the reconciliation program. The position will also lead development and maintenance of operating procedures throughout the organization

Highlights of the approved 2023/24 budget:

- Total planned spending of \$9.7M, with \$8.6M directed to operations, \$651,296 directed to special projects, and \$134,300 for the purchase of capital assets
- 2.06% increase to the existing local trust area tax base plus an additional 8.01% tax revenue expected from new construction and development in local trust areas
- A 6.86% (\$22,220) increase to the Bowen Island Municipal tax levy, of which 6.56% is expected to come from new construction and development in the Municipality, with the remaining 0.30% representing a true increase to the existing tax base
- 6.44% (\$585,851) increase in total planned spending for operations, projects, and capital purchases
- 5.85% (\$569,796) of overall budget funded by approved external grants
- \$192,000 in application fee revenue (increased from 2022/23)
- \$414,900 budgeted for transfers from Island Trust surplus and reserve funds (increased from 2022/23)
- \$43,500 Salt Spring Island Local Trust Area special tax levy (reduced from 2022/23)

Further details of the approved 2023/24 budget are available on the Islands Trust website: <http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca/trust-council/budget/>

About Islands Trust

Islands Trust is a federation of special-purpose government bodies representing over 30,000 people living within the Islands Trust Area and another 10,000 non-resident property owners. The Islands

TIDE TABLE

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

2023-03-16 (Thu)		
Time PST (m)	(ft)	
02:16	4.5	14.6
07:19	3.7	12.3
11:13	4.1	13.4
19:12	1	3.4
2023-03-17 (Fri)		
Time PDT (m)	(ft)	
04:09	4.6	15
09:27	3.6	11.7
13:43	4.1	13.4
21:16	0.9	3
2023-03-18 (Sat)		
Time PDT (m)	(ft)	
04:51	4.7	15.3
10:21	3.3	10.8
15:03	4.2	13.8
22:14	0.9	2.8
2023-03-19 (Sun)		
Time PDT (m)	(ft)	
05:28	4.7	15.5
11:08	3	9.7
16:11	4.3	14.2
23:06	0.9	3
2023-03-20 (Mon)		
Time PDT (m)	(ft)	
06:00	4.8	15.7
11:54	2.6	8.5
17:14	4.4	14.5
23:53	1.1	3.5
2023-03-21 (Tue)		
Time PDT (m)	(ft)	
06:30	4.8	15.8
12:38	2.2	7.1
18:14	4.5	14.6
2023-03-22 (Wed)		
Time PDT (m)	(ft)	
00:37	1.4	4.5
06:59	4.8	15.9
13:21	1.8	5.7
19:14	4.5	14.7
2023-03-23 (Thu)		
Time PDT (m)	(ft)	
01:20	1.8	5.8
07:28	4.8	15.9
14:03	1.4	4.6
20:15	4.5	14.7

continued on P.4...

...continued from P.3 Trust Area is located within Coast Salish territory and is the homeland to over 28,000 Coast Salish Peoples who have called this place home since time immemorial. Islands Trust is responsible for preserving and protecting the Islands Trust Area's unique environment and amenities by planning and regulating land use, development management, education, cooperation with other agencies, and land conservation. The area covers the islands and waters between the British Columbia mainland and southern Vancouver Island. It includes 13 major islands and more than 450 smaller islands covering 5,200 square kilometres.

Contact:

Peter Luckham, Chair, Islands Trust Council 250.210.2553

Russ Hotsenpiller, Chief Administrative Officer, Islands Trust, via Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services 250.405.5192 🍷

More is Better for Endangered Butterflies

SPECIAL INTEREST

By Chris Junck · TCBRPT

SUCCESSFUL butterfly reintroduction programs have many components. Releasing large numbers of caterpillars into habitat with plenty of adult nectar plants and caterpillar food, are two key components. Mild weather and cooperative park users can be important factors too. Commitment over the long-term and persistence pays off as well. All these things are critical for the survival of endangered Taylor's checkerspot butterflies in Helliwell Provincial Park.

BC Parks, the Taylor's Checkerspot Recovery Project Team, First Nations, community volunteers and other partners have been restoring the coastal bluff ecosystem since 2015 to increase the amount of suitable habitat for butterflies and other species. In 2022, approximately 5,000 Taylor's checkerspot larvae were released into the park's meadows. This follows release of approximately 800 Taylor's checkerspot caterpillars in 2020 and 1,300 in 2021. In late March 2023, another 1,300 larvae will be gently placed in the coastal bluff meadows. All the larvae were reared at the Greater Vancouver Zoo, with the support of Wildlife Preservation Canada staff.

The next few weeks will be a crucial time for butterflies. "Trampling is a key threat for caterpillars and their food plants," said Jennifer Heron, Chair of the Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly Recovery Project Team and invertebrate conservation specialist for the BC Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship.



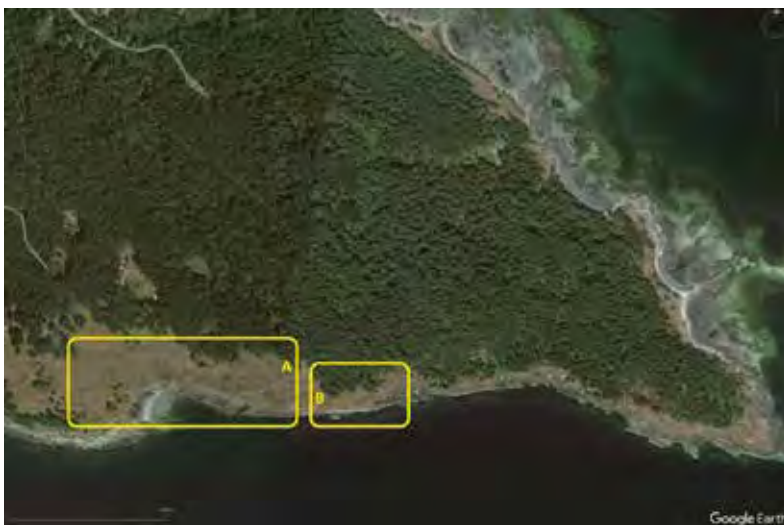
*Taylor's checkerspot butterfly.
Photo by Jennifer Heron.*

Helliwell's visitors can increase the caterpillars' chance of survival by complying with park rules. Dogs must be on a leash according to provincial park regulations and bikes aren't allowed in this park. Please tread carefully and watch out for caterpillars. Stay on the trails that are delineated by ropes and restoration area signs. Do not move or pick up Taylor's checkerspots. Instead, report sightings to Taylors. Checkerspot@gov.bc.ca, or by using the free iNaturalist app (www.inaturalist.org). It's an easy-to-use species identification tool that enables citizen scientists to record and contribute important species data for projects around the globe.

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

BC Parks and the project team thank the Cowichan Tribes, Halalt, Homalco, K'ómoks, Lake Cowichan, Lyackson, Penelakut, Qualicum, Snaw'Naw'As, St'Zuminus, Tla'amin, We Wai Kai, and We Wai Kum First Nations for allowing us to restore ecosystems in their traditional territories. There has also been a lot of local assistance for the project from Helliwell Park neighbours in High Salal Ranch Strata, volunteers, Conservancy Hornby Island, the Hornby Island Natural History Centre, and Hornby Island Provincial Parks Committee.

The recovery project has benefited from funding and in-kind contributions from the BC Parks Licence Plate



*Area A in Helliwell Provincial Park is where Taylor's checkerspot larvae were released previously. Most of the 2023 release sites are in recently restored coastal bluff meadow habitat towards St. John's Point in Area B.
Map prepared by Dawn Marks.*

Program, the Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation, the Environment Canada Habitat Stewardship Fund and the B.C. Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship, and others.

The Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly Recovery Project Team includes biological consultants and representatives from the B.C. Ministry of Water, Land and Resource Stewardship, BC Parks, Denman Conservancy Association, Garry Oak Ecosystems Recovery Team, Greater Vancouver Zoo, Mosaic Forest Management, Wildlife Preservation Canada, and others.

Learn more about the Taylor's checkerspot butterfly:

<https://goert.ca/activities/taylors-checkerspot/>
and

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/environment/plants-animals-ecosystems/species-ecosystems-at-risk/implementation/conservation-projects-partnerships/taylors-checkerspot>

Background Information

Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly (*Euphydryas editha taylori*)

Also known as Edith's Checkerspot.

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

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

It is federally listed as Endangered (COSEWIC, SARA Schedule 1), and is on the BC Red list of at-risk species.

Taylor's Checkerspot butterflies need open sunny meadows where they can find suitable host plants (food for larvae and nectar producing flowers for adults), such as woolly sunflower, common camas, small-flowered blue-eyed Mary, wild strawberry, sea blush, and yarrow.

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

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

The Taylor's Checkerspot Butterfly Recovery Project

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

Team Members

Jennifer Heron (Chair), B.C. Ministry of Water, Land, and Resource Stewardship, Vancouver, B.C.

Erika Bland and Andrew Fyson, Denman Island Conservancy Association, Denman Island, B.C.

Deborah Bishop, Denman Island, B.C.

Menita Prasad, Greater Vancouver Zoo, Aldergrove, B.C.

Eric Gross and Ross Vennesland, Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment and Climate Change Canada, Delta, B.C.

Crispin Guppy, Entomologist, Whitehorse, Y.T.

Molly Hudson and David Vey, Mosaic Forest Management, Nanaimo, B.C.

Chris Junck, Garry Oak Ecosystems Recovery Team, Victoria, B.C.

Suzie Lavallee, University of British Columbia Faculty of Forestry, Vancouver, B.C.

Patrick Lilley, Private Consultant, North Vancouver, B.C.

Erika McClaren and Stephanie Govier, BC Parks Conservation Specialist, Black Creek, B.C.

Kristen Miskelly, Satinflower Nurseries, Victoria, B.C.

Derek Moore, Area Supervisor Von Donop Area, BC Parks, Black Creek, B.C.

Nick Page, Raincoast Applied Ecology, Vancouver, B.C.

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

Bonnie Zand, BC Conservation Foundation, Fanny Bay, B.C.

Supporters

continued on P.6...

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email: studiobythec@yahoo.ca



Taylor's checkerspot caterpillar. Photo by Chris Junck.



Corlan Vineyard is open for Lunches again!

Mon - Fri, take out picnic lunches charcuterie style
on Sat and Sun. Hours are 11 - 2 Monday to Friday
for restaurant service, Saturday and Sunday normal
winery hours for box lunches.

...continued from P.5 BC Conservation Foundation
B.C. Ministry of Environment and

Climate Change Strategy
B.C. Ministry of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship
BC Parks
BC Parks License Plate Fund
Denman Conservancy Association
Environment Canada Habitat Stewardship Fund
Garry Oak Ecosystems Recovery Team
Greater Vancouver Zoo
Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation
Hornby Island Community School
Hornby Island Natural History Centre
Hornby Island Co-op
Mosaic Forest Management
Sea Breeze Lodge
University of British Columbia
Wildlife Preservation Canada

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

Front Hall Music

MUSIC

By Bethany Ireland

Saturday, April 15th

WE are looking forward to sharing our music with you on Saturday, April 15th at the Front Hall! Some new groups have arisen, fresh sounds, bursting with colour and exuberance! Whimsy, silliness, original music derived from the ridiculousness of existence can and will be performed on the stage this April night. We are celebrating the birth of our Dear Teacher and Friend, Mr. Daniel Farrow, who happens to be an accomplished musician, hilarious MC and wicked DJ. Please enjoy loads of spring ambience as you sit at a be-lined table with candles and colour, taking in the aroma of new music from old musicians - a fine musk. Mikel Planomaniac and Steve Ireland will erupt from the earth at 7:30 with an incredible balance and blend of two powerhouse voices. I have trouble keeping it together when I sneak into rehearsal. Then myself, Bethumus and Mr. Daniel Farrow, The Curvy Swindle, will cultivate our original musings and inventive coverings 'til you're enriched by the warmth of our acoustical outpouring! Delish! Also enjoy treats galore, licensed bevies of beauty and games outdoors. Then ChadPab, Keelan Gamble and Bethany will form a trio of pianistic proportions. Chad Pab (www.chadpab.com), like the rainforest, possesses such biodiversity and ancient knowledge that we must protect this musician and allow him to flourish! The definition of the term Keelan Gamble is, in fact, to exude musicality in a dazzling display of physiologic synchronicity. All will be held together by the Highest level of professional Sound and Lights Crew known to the Earth.

Lastly, djsomethingsomething (Daniel in a fresh costume) will mount his rightful throne to carry us through the night

Or contact:

Project Lead/GOERT Invertebrates at Risk RIG Chair
Jennifer Heron
Provincial Invertebrate Conservation Specialist
B.C. Ministry of Land, Water and Resource Stewardship
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Public Outreach Coordinator
Taylor's Checkerspot Recovery Project Team
Chris Junck
chris_junck@hotmail.com
* More photos available by request

BC Parks
Erica McClaren
Conservation Specialist
Office: 250-331-9922
Erica.mcclaren@gov.bc.ca

with funk and fun, getting us moving through the season of growth.

Twinkle lights and a dress up in your best night (gown to clown, punk to funk, and all in between), with Sue and Donna tending bar could mean you turn into a pumpkin.

Saturday, April 15th Front Hall, doors and games at 7:00, Mikel and Steve begin at 7:30. Licensed, All Ages. By Donation (coins from cars and couches encouraged).



Bethany & Daniel

Invite you to enjoy:
Music, Friends.
Musical Friends.
Food, Beverage,
Dance.
And other things
in between.

MUSIC BY:
MIKEL AND STEVE
THE CURVY SWINDLE
BETHANY, CHAD AND KEELAN
DJSOMETHINGSOMETHING

Saturday, April 15 2023
At the Denman Island Community Hall
Doors and Games at 7, Music at 7:30
All Ages
By Donation
Fully Licensed



CoHo Landing Community Information Meeting

COMMUNITY INFO

By CoHo Landing Members

IF you want to learn more about CoHo Landing's plans to apply for rezoning to increase its capacity, you are invited to a **community information meeting, Tuesday, March 21, starting at 7:00 pm (doors open at 6:30), at the Activity Centre.**

This is a preliminary meeting early in the process. Folks from CoHo will make a presentation that will include a site map showing current uses and the proposed new ones, and there will be time for comments and questions.

Denman Island's housing needs are urgent and varied, as evidenced by the Islands Trust Northern Region Housing Needs Assessment and many other studies. CoHo Landing is motivated by the desire to meet some of that need, and also

to bring more vibrancy and diversity to the project.

CoHo Landing is a registered not-for-profit land cooperative. We are proposing to provide up to five more units of housing and have the option for secondary suites attached to the main homes. All units at CoHo are governed by a housing agreement that regulates affordability.

Over the years, the CoHo Landing cooperative model has proven that it works. Residents find they thrive once they have stable, affordable housing and the support and benefits of a connected, caring neighbourhood. CoHo residents are active members of the Denman community—you will find them (or have found them) working at the preschool and the community school, providing home care, serving on the ambulance and fire department, building houses, making art and music, engaging politically, running an outdoor school, supporting youth, and more. 🍷

Green Wizardries, Alban Eiler: The Spring Equinox

SPECIAL INTEREST

By Maxine Rogers

MONDAY 20 March at 2:24 pm is the exact moment of the Spring Equinox. This is a delightful time of the year when the sun is directly over the equator and both hemispheres share the sun's rays equally. Night and day are, near as dammit, of equal length.

Druids call this day Alban Eiler, which in Welsh means something like the Light of the Earth. It is the second festival of spring and a personal favourite. Also, I just saw my first turkey vulture bearing spring beneath its wings! It is time to celebrate the Rites of Spring!

The ancient alchemists reckoned the time between Alban Eiler and Beltane, the first of May, to be the time of peak fertility and used to collect the dew in the early morning for use in potions as it was charged with powerful energies of renewal and life. In truth, the whole Northern half of the world is ramping up to a time of peak fertility. I hope and pray that this season of early spring is going to be warmer and more conducive to farming than last year's spring.

There are lots of folk customs surrounding the coming of spring. Spring cleaning used to mean moving every piece of furniture out of the house and washing every wall and floor. Not a bad idea but we all have so much more furniture now than our ancestors had centuries ago. Still a good sort out and chuck out of anything you haven't found useful in the past six months would be a good way to refresh the house.

Spring cleaning also used to mean cleaning the human body from the inside. People brewed tonics of nettles and dandelion leaves as a way of cleaning the body and adding fresh, spring goodness. Our chives are up and that mixed with some of the wild cress from the garden makes a delightful accompaniment to egg salad. The hens are laying like mad just now so any menu for the festival has to contain eggs and the tender, fresh greens of early spring.

In the Druid tradition, which come from 18th century

Britain, (No we don't claim to be descended from the ancient Druids who fought the Romans!) it is permitted to celebrate a holiday the day before, the day of and or the day after the festival which gives everyone lots of room to celebrate this holiday.

I usually celebrate this festival by performing a Grove Opening, with appropriate prayers for the season and sit in meditation for some time on what it is I hope to achieve before Beltane, the first of May. There is a lot of work to be done at this most glorious time of the year.

It is time to start indeterminate tomatoes inside if you have good growing conditions. Lettuce, spinach and other greens can be planted outside now. Pot pea seeds up and get them started inside and plant outside once the soil has warmed to 12 degrees. Set out seed potatoes to chit. That means putting potatoes on a tray in a sunny windowsill until they have dark green sprouts. Set out new strawberry plants. You can even plant fruit trees, grape vines, blueberries and raspberries. Finish pruning your grapes.

You don't have to be a Druid, or even religious, to participate in and enjoy this festival. Ways for secular people to celebrate include planting some seeds of flowers that will nurture the pollinators or vegetables that will nourish the body. Make a commitment to care for these plants as they grow. Watch where the sun comes up and

continued on P.8...



...continued from P.7 mark the spot on your window so you can track the sun's northward journey. Meditate on what you most want to accomplish this spring.

A word on meditation: a lot of people do not realize that Western cultures practised mediation but they did for many centuries. Meditation used to mean thinking in a very disciplined manner on a topic. If one's thoughts strayed from the topic, they were brought directly back. This is what the Buddhists call contemplation but for us, it was always meditation. Which is why we have a word for meditation. This form of meditation is often called discursive mediation and still forms part of the tradition of Roman Catholicism and Anglicanism.

That is where the Druids learned meditation from as our first Chosen Chief in Britain was an Anglican clergyman by the name of William Stukeley. He went on to become known as the Father of Archaeology for the pioneering work he did at Stonehenge and Avebury. He was a friend of Sir Isaac

Phoenix Riting!

SPECIAL INTEREST

By Phoenix Bee

WHAT a busy time it has been! Herringfest, not this past weekend but the one before, was a blast, although unfortunately the herring missed it. They must have had something better to do elsewhere. Maybe someone forgot to send them the poster.

I also missed most of Herringfest. I didn't see the art opening, though I had a chance to view the art later. There were some wonderful pieces, as always. I also missed the film night, Herring school, and the boat rides. I went to the Herringball and danced like crazy, though I admit to Denman envy as they jumped around to the pounding beats of Roots Roundup on the same night (note: I just found out that was cancelled. Sorry, Denman! I feel your pain!). We didn't suffer here. Jody Rutherford, Nigel Fletcher and friends rocked us to beautifully crafted covers of cheesy old songs for two hours before DJ Jeff Rabena took the stage. By that time I was ready to crawl home and into bed. It's not that I'm old, I just get used up faster these days. Also, I prefer my music on real instruments played in the room by living humans. Ok, maybe I'm a bit old.

Ian Tamblyn played a New Horizons last Wednesday night, which was a surprise to me. You'd think after a fifty-year career, twenty-five albums, several plays and an Order of Canada award (as of December 2022), he'd be playing much bigger halls, but he told me he prefers small venues. "I'm playing Deep Cove next," he explained. He loves the remote, distant, small places, and I love that about him.

The show was wonderful, intimate and engaging. Ian Tamblyn is a skilled, mesmerizing guitarist and fascinating storyteller, speaking as much as he sang. Every song had its tale, often moving, sometimes hilarious, putting the songs in context and bringing them to life. More than a musician, he is an adventurer and explorer, traveling the world from Antarctica

Newton, a fellow of the Royal Society and he died in 1765. 



to Nunavut exploring the most extreme environments our world (and this country) has to offer. These places are captured in his songs; he has a real gift for telling stories and painting pictures with words and melody.

The house was comfortably full. We sipped glasses of wine and were taken on journeys to places we'd never heard of, but felt like now we'd been. It was lovely. Ian was very kind and friendly, available to chat between sets. Thanks to Larry Rossignol for arranging, organizing and presenting this show.

Things are brightening up as the days lengthen; buds, leaves and flowers are popping out everywhere. And nettles! I have to go pick again. It's still so cold though. It's hard to believe in spring when it's this chilly. Will this be another two-season year? Last year we skipped spring and fall entirely, going from winter into full blown summer with hardly a beat, and then summer lingered right into the start of winter. There were few to no cool winding-down fall days. Just, boom! winter. We used to have occasional double-digit winter days in past years, when warm sun blessed us unseasonably. Not this year. Not last year. Not for a while! Weather is weirding and extremifying.

International Women's Day has inspired a new limited radio show on CHFR (96.5 FM, available only on Hornby and the east side of Denman). It's called "PheeJee to Avalon" (the title was Peter's idea and it stuck). Myself, Jean Gordy and starting this week, Gina-Rae Horvath will be talking about woman stuff and playing songs by, for and about women. All the ways that being female has impacted us as humans. Last week was super fun, this week will be even better. This series airs Thursday evenings starting at 7, for as long as Senor Pea is away recharging his batteries in Mexico, through until sometime in May.

That's what I think! What do you think? email phoenixhornby@gmail.com



Food. Community. Resilience.

OPINIONS

By Teresa Beers

I recently had a long overdue conversation with Sam and Emily of Two Roads Farm. These are two dynamic, hard working, thoughtful, resourceful and insightful young farmers who have made an incredible impact and contribution to our Island.

They are in their eighth commercial growing season and have built their farm from the ground up. The majority of their farm sales now are on Denman and Hornby. If you live on Denman, you can purchase their vegetables at their Farm Honour Stand on Northwest Road and at the Saturday Market. In their busy season, you can find their produce at the General Store. If you live on Hornby, you can find their vegetables at the Co-Op. Two Roads also delivers orders purchased through their online store to customers in Cumberland and Union Bay, and have supplied produce for special events and local businesses in the Comox Valley. They supply the independent grocers Seeds and Edible Island, and also Abraxas, The Guesthouse, and Ima's Bakery. Two Roads Farm began with the focus on providing meat, with some veg. They moved to the majority of their focus being on veg, with some meat. Then they moved to just veg, and now they focus on veg with some spring flowers. This year, they are partnering with Lentelus Farms in Courtenay to reduce costs and allow both farms to focus energy on what they excel at (Lentelus' larger scale crops, and Two Roads' quick succession crops). These are some concrete facts about their farm, and they constituted a small amount of our 2 hour conversation. The rest of the time we talked about the many issues facing small, local farmers today, and the larger world issues affecting food security in our present world.

The jist of that conversation can be summed up in three words: complex, evolving, restorative - with an emphasis on complex! When attempting to encapsulate our conversation, I realized how impossible it is to speak to the current issues in one small article. So instead, I am going to list some of the things we talked about and hope that you will do your research and become informed in your own way. Jenny, their fabulous employee and the creator of the Ugly Carrot products, suggested that if people want to understand the issues, the best thing to do is talk with local farmers and understand the economics of small farming. Be curious. Be open to different ways of seeing things. Ask questions.

- Our current food system is set up for large corporate profit and advancement.
- We can make the conscious choice to use our money locally to create thoughtful and more sustainable buying habits.
- There is a need to create better temporary farm worker living conditions and wages.
- We need a fundamental shift in our cultural norms and what we will accept for ALL people.
- Perpetual growth leaves many people behind in the basic human needs of food, shelter and safety.



- The Young Agrarians are finding that there is more land available right now than there are people willing to farm it.
- Casual farm labour isn't as efficient or manageable as steady workers.
- We've become used to externally produced, artificial, cheap food to support our lifestyle choices...someone else (and the health of the Earth) is paying for these choices.
- The unpredictable weather we are now experiencing adds to the already unpredictable nature of growing food.
- We are all inter-related...what one person or society does directly or indirectly affects us all.
- Until the 1950's, 85% of the food supply consumed on Vancouver Island was locally grown...in 2019, that figure has diminished to about 10% (source: <https://www.get-fed.ca/single-post/2019/03/05/food-security-on-vancouver-island-why-it-matters>)
- Just because an item is labelled organic doesn't necessarily mean that it's grown with respect for the land and/or the employees.
- There is good evidence to support choosing to spend your money locally means increasing the local economic resilience. Take a look at the short at this short article: <https://amiba.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/The-Local-Multiplier-Effect.pdf>

Emily and Sam describe their farming approach as using thoughtfully chosen farming methods, rooted in the spirit of organic growing, that support long-term environmental and human regeneration and sustainability. This includes which suppliers they use, their packaging, and their overall

continued on P.10...

...continued from P.9 infrastructure decisions. They gave many examples of how farming with integrity is more important than conforming to one prescribed method.

They also spoke to their deep desire for paying a living wage and benefits to everyone who works on the farm...and how that is impossible for them right now. The current economic climate reflects our wide-spread spending choices based on getting the most for our dollar to support our individual lifestyle desires and experiences. "It would be great if all of us shifted our thinking more towards making purchasing decisions in a way that considered both our own needs and also investment in what we value and our vision for a world we want to live in i.e. purchasing decisions that consider social and environmental impacts as well as individual good."

Despite the complex farming issues Two Roads Farm face, Emily and Sam are also very clear in expressing "optimism and hope for the future of small farms and local food systems, hope and optimism that we can move towards farms that can give everyone access to well-grown, nutritious, delicious, affordable food while also providing good quality sustainable jobs for body and mind." May it be.

I humbly and gratefully acknowledge that we live in the traditional territory of peoples of Pentlatch ancestry who lived, died, loved, mourned, worked and played here long before we did. 🍷



March 7, 2007 *Jailhouse Egg-onomics*

ARTS&LIT

By CS#05943451

TODAY being Wednesday, it was canteen. For our sorry lot anticipation of this weekly event is not unlike that of a 'Welfare Wednesday.' As early as Monday morning, *most weeks*, I'm prone to being approached by various others with their hand out looking for help with their smoking habit. A habit which they have trouble supporting on the meagre wages earned here in the clink. As the week progresses, the ever-present smattering of 'grinders' will become the majority of the range. I make a good mark because I'm fortunate to have financial support from the outside. As a result I'm able to take seriously the prospect of supplying my lone allowable vice. I'm not sure which is worse. Being constantly hit up by dudes who are in need or being the one who's in need, himself. I'll say the latter, *but not by much*. By Wednesday morn it becomes quite uncomfortable, not to mention damn near impossible, to have a cigarette all to myself. I'm not all that keen to share a smoke to begin with so it does become annoying. Moreover, it isn't like tree-planting where the earnings are such that you can be assured of full reimbursement from anyone who might look for a little help. The daily wage here means that the cycle is cast in stone for most. I'd venture to say that maybe 60% of my fellow inmates in Campbell House have absolutely no outside financial backing. And so for me, who has difficulty saying 'NO,' this aspect of jail life is not only trying, but inevitable.

If the cycle from Wednesday to Wednesday were to be plotted graphically, it would appear a rather disjointed shape. I'd liken it to an egg, only with its wide end being dead flat. As an egg might roll from Wednesday night to Wednesday night, our deformed version's forward momentum is hopelessly stalled by landing on this flattened end by sometime Monday. Then



the well worn promises coupled with the yearning forlorn eyes, for sympathetic effect, begin to inundate me and a few others as well *I suppose*, for I wouldn't have near enough money in my account to support everyone for two entire days. Anyways, my comfortable surplus magically disappears in no short order, leaving me rationing my own consumption in the final hours before canteen.

As much as this deformed cycle may have appeared to have come to a full stop on its flat end, as if by some form of miracle, there is *just* enough momentum carried by the rapid descent from its opposing end to magically kick over and begin another cycle. As canteen is announced, almost as embarrassing as it is ridiculous, it unleashes a literal sprint by many up to the main building to get their precious *yet modest* supply of tobacco and our egg turns its corner. The cycle begins anew. The silliest thing about this rhythm, to my eyes, is that those who have had to go without their own

supply for a day or more can't seem to get it into their heads to start into their fresh supply with greater restraint.

Certainly, I'll get reimbursed by most of the guys, but it is seldom full. Here in jail repayment can take form of simply not being hit up for a smoke for a precious few days. The spike in spirits *alone* is enough to have me look past the occasional shortfall. You'd swear it was a party atmosphere when the tobacco hits, such is the mood swing. Guys start smoking like it's going out of style thus ensuring that our egg will never appear in its classic shape. To see my peers rip through probably 20-30% of their supply on the first day, in seeming denial of the certainty it won't last the week to begin with, leaves me shaking my head. A cigarette isn't like alcohol for crying out loud. The faster and more you smoke doesn't get you any higher. It just depletes your rations faster. But I guess that's what Welfare-Wednesday's are stereotypically about. There's nowhere near enough money to last a month, so you may as well live like kings for a weekend and worry about the return to Pauperville when it inevitably arrives. Even if the trek through Pauperville is a full month. At least for we reds, we're lucky it's just a few days.

The cycle of poverty I see as even more dire than the canteen 'egg.' I imagine welfare's cycle looks more like the letter 'L,' only with the vertical arm damn near cut to the quick. There isn't any momentum to its turning, to boot. And having transitioned to such a topic, I can see that I'm going where I needn't with this entry. I've digressed! I must be getting drunk on post-canteen nicotine!

The jailhouse canteen cycle; it may mimic an egg with a flat bottom but we are now mercifully off its linear end and back onto its smooth and happy arc. Hallelujah! 🍷

Letters to the Editor

I'M in total agreement with Ms Grond's summary line "No matter what anyone else says, we live in the Land of Plenty. It's time we believe it." Yet it seems to contradict the body of her debate, which expresses a desire to eliminate structures put into place to attain this state of grace. Her desire for: "A land where communities can solve their own problems and make decisions based on what is best" "one having "steady wisdom valued above the loud voices of the rulers" where "Politics won't be needed" and "government doesn't tell people how to think" but rather uses the individual's "morals and values" to fix their own problems and hence "they don't need government to get in the way."

But in her community (a group of free individuals) Thomas chain-smokes ganga (for religious purposes) at public gatherings, while Julia values breathing pure-air. She's beside herself and Thomas 'prays' that she may 'lighten-up.' Suddenly A Rule must be made to protect both Freedoms. The community (individuals) must make A Choice. One voice favours Thomas. Another voice favours Julia. Each tries to sway the group on "What IS Best." These are Politicians ... just as is Ms Grond ... and their choosing on this one simple dilemma is Governance. It makes the community function. Without or reducing it is Anarchy where the Bully-slime always rise to the top. But she argues, "We don't need multiple levels of Government to control everything." Yet those 'multiple levels of Government' are but the decisions of thousands of Thomas and Julia solutions made in a vast set of past situations culminating in this Land of Plenty. Her search for a new Utopia is not "believing in This Land."

It's not perfect! Most people have difficulty living with one person let alone a country-full. Any functioning new-world Intentional Community seeking to be a Utopia have three things in common: They have a strong (often dictatorial) leadership and/or religious affiliation, are very selective in their size and in the choice of (compliant) members. WE have to serve a unique 40 million (giving each a unique Social Insurance Number) to assure that each is contributing-toward

and has access-to the common facilities and securities needed to keep this "the Land of Plenty" .. for us all... (including Thomas and Julia) So "Believe in it." Thousands have given their blood and lives to preserve it and today Thousands are risking their lives for a chance to become part of it.

Ken Fischer 🍷

Re: Thomas Provencal's poem in the March 9 edition of the Grapevine:

The title of this poem, Operation Paperclip, caught my attention because the military operation it represents is the basis of one of the storylines in a favourite novel: *The Way the Crow Flies*, by Canadian writer Anne-Marie Macdonald. It was the name of the covert program by which scientists were smuggled from defeated Nazi Germany to the US after the war, thus acquiring for the Americans sought-after expertise in the burgeoning construction of nuclear weapons. Some (many?) men were secretly transferred via Canadian military bases.

It is a common conspiracy theorist tactic to use factual material to lend credibility to something that is not factual (and in this case not even credible but that's just me). With a well-placed comma, Mr Provencal suggests that the smuggled, managed to themselves smuggle into post-war institutions, plans for a future/resurgent Nazi nation. These plans were somehow concealed, nurtured and developed underground by who knows who over the years, and decades later we are seeing them unfold. I'm assuming the poem is a

continued on P.12...



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...continued from P.11 reference to Medical Assistance in Dying, but it could also be vaccine mandates, or even inflation - take your pick.

Denman writers more valiant than I have given up trying to combat the publication of Nazi-themed conspiracy presented as serious thought in our weekly paper, but I feel compelled to voice my objection. I sincerely hope that no one will form an opinion of our island community as a whole, based on what is deemed acceptable to print in the Grapevine.

Christine Stewart 

Pogrom is an Ugly Word

OPINIONS

By Sally Campbell

POGROM is a word we have heard most often in association with Jewish persecution. It means a rampage or an outbreak of mass violence incited against a religious minority or ethnic group with the aim of massacring or expelling them. The word came from the Russian language, to describe attacks against the Jews in the Russian Empire, late 19th century. Pogroms have also occurred in Poland and Germany, during Hitler's regime. They are either approved or condoned by the authorities and are a shameful example of humanity at its worst.

Now we have reports of a pogrom last week by a mob of Jewish settlers in Israel-Palestine, against the village of Huwara (population 6,000) in the occupied Palestinian territories (West Bank). The pogrom was apparently in retaliation for the killing of two Israeli settlers driving through Huwara, by a Palestinian. Approximately 400 armed settlers set 150 cars ablaze, burned 100 homes to the ground, wounded over 100 people and killed one. The Israeli army blocked all entrances & exits to Huwara, did nothing to stop the violence, and blocked ambulances from coming to aid the wounded. There is video footage of Israeli soldiers dancing in Huwara streets with settlers.

As Richard Falk, former UN Special Rapporteur on Human rights in Palestinian Territories said recently: "With over 730,000 settlers in East Jerusalem & the West Bank, [illegal under international law] and two million people barricaded in Gaza, there is no other situation like that in the world." (Webinar: *UN: Protecting Human Rights in the Occupied Palestinian Territories*, **Friends of Sabeel North America**, 5th March, 2023.) As desperate as the situation is right now in Israel-Palestine, Falk claims it's important to show the continuity among successive UN Special Rapporteurs in identifying Israel's defiance of international law. There is nothing new about what is happening. The mask is simply off, with Israel's new extremist government. As an example, after the horrific violence visited upon Huwara last week, Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich, newly appointed Head of the Civil Administration in the oPt declared: "The Palestinian village of Huwara should be wiped out... I think that the State of Israel needs to do that - not...private individuals". He was forced to say he regretted those words, but there they are. And indeed, last year was the worst year for the killing of Palestinians by the army and settlers in nearly 20 years - 150 people, over 1/2 of them under 25. That was during the

supposedly "centrist" Israeli government of Yair Lapid/Naftali Bennett. 78 Palestinians are already dead this year from the violence, and 14 Israelis. The vast majority of these dead are not engaged in violence; they are reporting, protesting, or simply in the wrong place at the wrong time. The change we're seeing now is in the greatly increased numbers, not in the killings themselves, which have been ongoing for over 7 decades.

There have been massive protests in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem lately. Unprecedented numbers of Jewish Israelis are out in the streets. They are largely Zionists who are worried that this fascistic new government will legislate away the democracy that Jews in I-P have enjoyed. Palestinians don't enjoy democracy. Even the impotent & corrupt agent of Israel and leader of the Palestinian Authority, Mahmoud Abbas, has to ask permission from Israel to go more than one kilometre from his home! Can you imagine being subject to that kind of control? (Webinar: *Resisting the Radical Right: Human Rights Defenders*, Sarit Michaeli of **B'Tselem**, 9th March, 2023) Even the Palestinians who have the vote, because they live in "Israel proper" are still subject to dozens of laws that discriminate against them in terms of housing, renovations, land purchase, education, employment and more.

The matrix of control over Palestinians that Israel has established through its bureaucracy is something that we as Canadians would find completely staggering. At least, I found it so. I met people in the oPt who had never been to the ocean even though they could see it from the West Bank. (You need a permit.) People who could not go to Jerusalem ten minutes away without navigating a humiliating checkpoint, sometimes entailing hours of waiting. *Minor Detail*, by Adania Shibli (New Directions, UK:2020), is a chilling, gripping depiction of this relentless dehumanization. And so, the Palestinians resist and they will continue to do so. Observers are describing the present moment as a crisis because young Palestinians are arming themselves - willing to die for freedom, justice & equality. What chance do they have against the world's 4th largest army?

The late Rev. Jesse Jackson said words to this effect: "Yes, the moral arc of the universe does bend toward justice [MLK], but we have to make it bend. It doesn't bend by itself." Public opinion can lead to big shifts, and key leaders in the world will follow the change; they don't necessarily make it. We need to make the change for the sake of our shared humanity.



A Man and His Hot Rod

By Keith Porteous

OPINIONS

I had hoped to change my lane of public discourse this week, but with Oakley Rankin's attempt to undermine my anti-war perspective, that'll wait for another day. It's not character assassination when I describe his perspective as

being well out of step with the current circumstances of war in Ukraine. He can only repeat the talking points of the U.S. State Department regarding the U.S. proxy war against Russia that he is fervently key stroking for escalation, employing his cursive hand.

In last week's The Islands Grapevine, Oakley offered up a photo of himself as a young hot rod greaser in 1958. It was only a few years later that a Soviet officer ignored an order to launch a nuclear strike on the U.S., saving life on earth from annihilation. The Soviets had moved missile launch capability to Cuba, just a few hundred miles off the American coastline, triggering the Cuban Missile Crisis. A rival nuclear power encroaching so closely to the United States was a "red line" for President John F. Kennedy, as it surely would be today. Even if that younger Oakley was distracted by the aroused feeling in his hot rod, it would have been impossible for him to be unaware of this. Now he's spinning his academic wheels all over the road in a backfiring junker. The encroachment of a nuclear armed U.S. and NATO on Russian borders isn't an existential threat, if we are to believe Oakley Rankin's current prone position.

As a self-identified historian, what can Mr. Rankin suggest as a rationalization for the betrayal of an agreement with Mikhail Gorbachev that NATO "would not move an inch closer" to Russia's borders after the reunification of East Germany with its Western half? For many years the Russian government had stated these were "red lines" for Russian security, while proposing a pan European security arrangement. These proposals were ignored. It is the U.S. and NATO, the most powerful nuclear armed alliance, that has been encroaching on Russia's borders. It was criminal aggression in 2014 when the coup of the elected government of Ukraine was facilitated by the U.S., and still, Oakley Rankin can fire only one flaccid missile, that of Russian aggression, a product of his own jingoism.

This year, former German Chancellor Angela Merkel made a startling public admission that the 2015 Minsk Peace Accords were a disingenuous stalling tactic to buy time in arming and training the Ukrainian military. These were the same neo-Nazi forces that were murdering ethnic Russians in the Donbas, those citizens that the Ukrainian government had refused cultural recognition. Ukraine's President Zelenskyy was elected in 2019 by more than 70% of Ukrainians on a platform of "Peace with Putin", despite the 2014 U.S. backed coup to install a NATO friendly regime in Kyiv. The far right-wing ethno-nationalist Ukrainian government that had been installed was not going to let Zelenskyy's electoral mandate change anything relating to the ethnic cleansing that was occurring in Eastern Ukraine. If Zelenskyy was to survive, he would need to be obedient to the Americans and to the fascists that controlled key Ukrainian government ministries, including the military.

The Americans, as thoroughly outlined in the Project For A New American Century, and by the U.S. policy planners at the Rand Corporation, are hellbent on weakening any rising economic power that might rival U.S. full spectrum economic and military control of the world. We see this again with the manufactured and Sinophobic war propaganda aimed at China. Even off-course weather balloons can be weaponized as propaganda. The Americans blew up the Nord Stream German pipeline infrastructure connected to Russian energy, in an act of international terrorism, and the largest release of methane into the atmosphere in history. This was detailed in a story published by Pulitzer Prize winner Seymour Hersh. What all of this has demonstrated is that the Russian Federation has no potential partners for peace negotiations, which were nearing settlement in April of 2022, and blocked by the U.S. and its proxies.

In this case, the high mindedness of "both sides" considerations is a fool's errand, especially when Mr. Rankin ignores any inconvenient information about the country that threatens the security of all inhabitants of this planet. We live in a U.S. mafia empire that the majority of the world's population considers to be the most dangerous threat to human survival. The erection of Oakley's pro-war argument is dysfunctional. Submissive NATO allies of the U.S. aside, the rest of the world sees this for what it is; a U.S. provoked proxy war with Russia, with a sadist's appetite to "fight to the last Ukrainian." Sadly, it looks as though they're going to do just that. I'm calling for peace. What Oakley is doing with his hot rod rhymes with Rankin.



China: The Flogging Will Continue Until Morale Improves

OPINIONS

By Gwynne Dyer · OP March 12, 2023

XI JINPING was confirmed in a third term as president of China at the National People's Congress last week, and not one of the 3,000 delegates voted against him. Why would they? Everything is perfect in the People's Republic of Oz, and the chief Wizard doesn't even need to hide behind a curtain.

Meanwhile, in Washington, the one topic on which both Democrats and Republicans can agree is the Chinese Threat (once known as the 'Yellow Peril', but those were different days). The politicians posture, the strategists warn, and the armed services rejoice in the emergence of a 'peer competitor'.

China has been a very useful peer competitor for the American military, because it's big, it looks powerful, and it talks tough. Its economy has stalled, its population is crashing, and its 74-year-old political system is fraying badly, but as long as everybody in the Pentagon and the Congress pretends not to notice, it will continue to serve that purpose.

In the real world, however, China came off the old high-speed growth track about seven years ago, although its statisticians and economists managed to hide it for a while.

Official Chinese statistics are, as former premier Li Keqiang once tactfully put it, "man made", but for what it's worth China says its economy grew last year by 3%, about the same rate as the United States. In reality, it probably shrank by 1%-2% last year due to the endless Covid lock-downs.

Even in good years, China's economy has been growing as slowly as developed economies in the West since the middle of the last decade. It's not 'catching up', and there's a strong possibility that it is caught in the same trap that struck the Japanese economy in 1992: stuck with low to no growth forever more.

The Japanese are bearing up under their misfortune remarkably well, mainly because their per capita GDP was already over \$31,000 when their economic miracle stalled. Per capita income in China now is only \$12,000, and people may be a lot less forgiving if that is where the Chinese 'miracle' stops.

It probably has stopped, if the other 'miracle' economies of east Asia are anything to go by. They all had thirty years of high-speed growth and then a return to normal or below-normal growth. China's thirty years started much later, in the later 1980s, but it's probably all over now.

All the more so because the population is starting to fall at an unprecedented speed. In the past seven years the number of births in China has literally halved, and it's still falling. The most recent forecast predicts 771 million Chinese by the end of the century. That's half what it is now, and not even twice the American end-of-century population.

Very long-term predictions are rarely correct in detail, but they often get the trend-line right. If these economic and demographic predictions come to pass, then China will never become a world-bestrident Colossus.

Meanwhile, the dawning realisation that genteel poverty is probably the future for most Chinese, combined with the reality of an all-powerful state that seeks to control every detail of private life, is already having a profoundly negative impact on the attitudes of the young.

In a recent opinion piece in the Washington Post, economist Nicholas Eberstadt of the American Enterprise Institute noted the rapid rise among Chinese youth of a passive sort of civil disobedience, expressed in slogans like "tang ping" (lying flat) and "bai lan" (let it rot). They see no hope for the future, and they don't see the point in even trying.

The old men who rule China know that something has gone wrong – that's why they caved in so fast last year to the popular protests against constant lock-downs – but they haven't the faintest idea how to fix it. In fact, they probably can't fix the economy and they certainly can't fix the birth rate.

So they will go on using propaganda backed up by intimidation and occasional violence, the traditional levers of power of any authoritarian state, even though the younger elements of the population can see through their game. They have no other options. "The floggings will continue until morale improves," as the apocryphal Captain Bligh put it.

A promotional poster for the RIEP Forum 2023. The background is dark blue with a map of British Columbia on the left, where several islands are highlighted in orange. A large white circle on the left contains the text 'RIEP' in blue. To the right of the circle, '2023' is in orange, 'Forum' is in large green letters, and 'Gabriola Island' and 'April 25-27' are in white. Below this, '3 Days' is in large white letters, followed by 'of Connection+' in green, 'Reflection+' in blue, and 'ACTION!' in large orange letters. At the bottom, 'for BC's rural islands' is in white, and 'RIEPForum.ca' is in white with an orange circular logo to the left.

RIEP 2023 **Forum**
Gabriola Island
April 25-27
3 Days
of **Connection+**
Reflection+
ACTION!
for **BC's rural islands**
RIEPForum.ca



air sockets of my brain

by Alan Black

In the pickleball days
 of expired youth
I now run with the other grey flappers
 with stretchy things holding
onto fleshy folds;
 there are only so many
sunsets left
 and death sits upon my shoulder
like a laughing monkey skull
as organised religions become more absurd
 and necessary to my muddled psyche
for I fear the other side as much as the next person
 and although my dear late Mother tried to be a martyr
I am as lazy
 fat,
indolent,
 insipid,
and uninspired
 as the average North American
and there is nothing more dangerous than average:
 it will shoot up a classroom to be noticed
or start a meaningless riot
 in an attempt to try to make anything meaningful
but thankfully I am less than any of that
 so I will just continue to sit here
and throw words
 at this blank screen
until I fill it with something of me
while emptying another air socket
of my brain.

Self-analysis

by Thomas Provençal

*An ego with a temperamental
intellect to prod,
contained within one human
being like the rest all flawed
points an arrow
at self sacrifice
though the gesture
be outlawed
and suffers through
a self-inflicted failure.
Like setting sail
out on the seas
where naught is guaranteed,
where tide and wind
dare skill and wit,
Or, so much may impede!
For all the misery you caused
you cry instead of bleed
and pray to God,
come out a better sailor.*

'Enemies'

by Wendell Berry

If you are not to become a monster,
you must care what they think.

If you care what they think,
how will you not hate them,
and so become a monster
of the opposite kind?

From where then is love to come—
love for your enemy that is the way of
liberty?

From forgiveness.

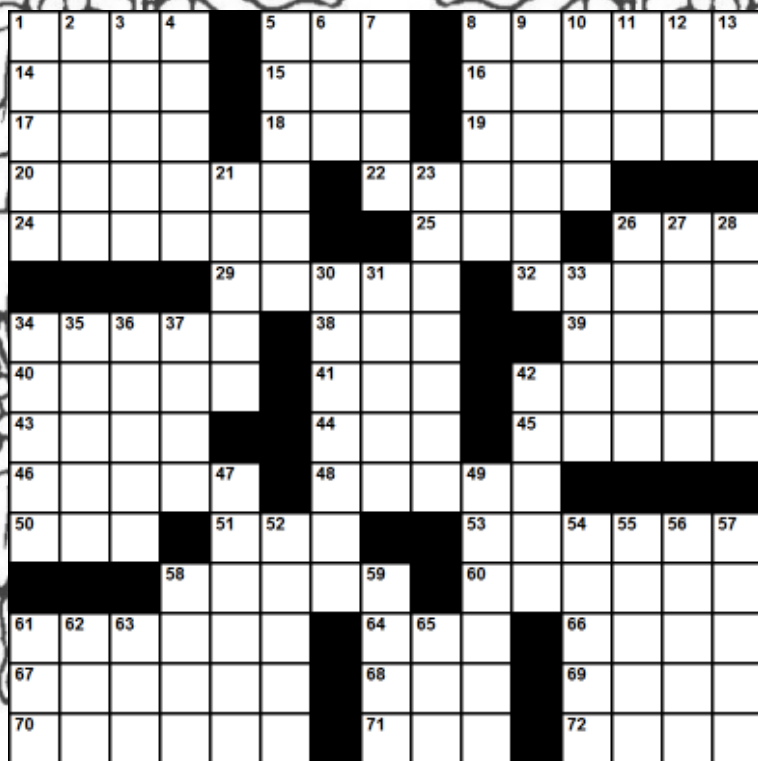
Forgiven, they go free of you, and
you of them;
they are to you as sunlight on a green
branch.

You must not think of them again,
except as monsters like yourself,
pitiable because unforgiving.

Submitted by Carie McGregor
Denman Island



• GRAPEVINE CROSSWORD •



• ACROSS •

1. Aussie's friend
5. Expression of shock
8. Number of lines in printed material
14. Big flaps
15. Archaic
16. Garland
17. Bothersome noises
18. Alpine transport
19. Modern books
20. Trojan hero
22. Coarse wool cloth
24. Granola's kin
25. Adorer's writeup
26. Cold's kin
29. Berry bearing shrub
32. R2-d2 or C-3PO, e.g.
34. Bring on
38. Possessive pronoun
39. Gave the pink slip
40. Act the ghost
41. Any miss
42. Attack from all sides
43. Canary or wren
44. 2,000 pounds
45. European viper

46. Cookie snacks

48. Class paper
50. Biblical meaning "The Active Hand"
51. Addition column
53. Popular pullover
58. Lost, in Tours
60. Fencer's call
61. Lively spanish dance
64. Asian gazelle
66. Bridle line
67. Dishonored
68. French lake
69. Adjust a piano
70. Go softly
71. Enrage
72. Dalmatian feature

• DOWN •

1. Butterfly for a woman
2. French farewell
3. 1000 kilograms
4. Double curves
5. Palenotology topic
6. Kind
7. Amend a draft
8. Added spirits
9. Certainly
10. An ointment
11. Big flap
12. Birthstone
13. Font widths
21. Far from sleepy
23. Deteriorates
26. Deceived someone
27. Feudal vassal
28. Cow part
30. Bloat
31. Group beliefs
33. Attack unexpectedly
34. Goody!
35. Africa's largest city
36. Like bacon
37. Disassemble
42. Final authority
47. Kind of record

49. Go on the

- offensive
52. Carve a canyon
54. Is sore
55. Get frost covered
56. Jungle charger
57. Article of faith
58. Annoying one
59. Citrus hybrid
61. Airborne vampire
62. Decorative belt
63. Baby's seat
65. Blade

• TEST YOUR MATH SKILLS •

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

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

Grumpism



“Heard a rumour that the reason St. Patrick drove all the snakes out of Ireland was because it was too far to walk.”

• LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS •

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

• CLASSIFIED ADS •

• SERVICES •



**HORNBY
COMPACT
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efficient for

ditches, holes, levelling, brush
clearing, etc. Please Inquire.
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And much more!

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ings; insightful, confidential.
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tion & Services:** Bark Mulch.
Soil. Gravel. Dump Runs. Mid-
size Excavation and Hauling

Services. Contact 250.703.3898
or sheldano@telus.net

MR. FIX-IT PLUMBING & All
household major and small appli-
ances. All large and small machin-
ery. Yard machinery, chainsaws,
outboards, automotive, sharpen-
ing, welding and fabricating. Call
Rick Graham 335-0954.(HI)

GUTTERS seamless, supply and
install also repairs, for free esti-
mate contact Kevin at 250 335
1986 or cell at 250 667 3233.
Serving All Areas.

**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. 35 years local
Entpr. Call Dave 218-9667.(DI)**

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

• FOR SALE •

APPLIANCES FOR SALE. Ranges,
washers, dryers, fridges, dish-
washers, gas/electric range. All
fully restored and come with a
full six month warranty. Call
Rick Graham 335-0954.

WAGNER FIREWOOD. 2 cords to
Denman, \$680 plus GST. Hornby,
\$720 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 abrax-
as9@telus.net Zoom meetings
(unlimited time and free record-
ing): See denmanworks.wordpress.com/contact/

• LOST & FOUND •

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

• EMPLOYMENT •

**BLACKBERRY LANE CHILDREN'S
CENTER** seeks a caring and fun
loving individual to join the caregiv-
er's team on a part time or occa-
sional basis. Working together to
care for young children is highly
rewarding. We provide compet-
itive wages and training sup-
port in an inclusive, nonprofit
environment. Wage starts at
\$20/h based on experience and
education. Please send resume
to blackberrylanecentre@yahoo.com

**HORNBY ISLAND BUS ON HORN-
BY ISLAND, BC** is hiring drivers
with a Class 4 unrestricted license
for the summer of 2023 to drive
a 24 passenger bus. This is a com-
munity operated initiative. We
offer competitive rates and sup-
port to the successful candidates.
Enjoy the sandy beaches, the
ocean, awesome mountain biking
and a cultural scene that comes
alive every summer. Call John
604-938-8090 or send a resume
to stars@nemy.com. Drop off a
resume at the HICEEC office on
Hornby Island. Web Site: <https://hornbybus.com>

• WANTED •

Doug R. Is still looking for a home
for his caravan. A quiet, respect-
ful tenant! Making punctual
payments of much needed rental
income! Needing only a minimal
hydro hookup! 250-897-8184

• 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 Hoeppner 335-2037 (D/H)
- Roc-Isle Drywall, Harvey Hodgins • 35 yrs exp. 'certified' 334-4776 (D/H)
- Seaside Electric • LEL0207455 • 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)
- Jessi Schlegel • Personal Training & Fitness Classes • 604-329-3466 •
online & in-person (D/H)

Ark Chronicles

A few months after the flood

Noah's son Shem started building floating homes



Irish Dinner Specials & Open Mic Friday 6pm

Looking for additional staff
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FORTNIGHT EVENTS

THURSDAY 16

- 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 17

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

SATURDAY 18

- 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 19

- AL-ANON United Church 7pm
- COMMUNITY COLLAGE Art Centre 12-4

MONDAY 20

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

TUESDAY 21

- Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm
- COHO LANDING meeting see p.7

WEDNESDAY 22

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

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 4:30-6pm

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
- FARMERS MARKET Old School 9:30-12:30
- FREE STORE 9-Noon
- Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm
- CONCERTS DENMAN see insert

SUNDAY 26

- AL-ANON United Church 7pm

MONDAY 27

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

TUESDAY 28

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

WEDNESDAY 29

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

THURSDAY 30

- 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



CONCERTS DENMAN PRESENTS



WITH TAI MCGILLIVRAY & FRIENDS

SATURDAY MARCH 25th 7:00PM

DENMAN ISLAND COMMUNITY HALL

**TICKETS AVAILABLE AT ABRAXAS BOOKS
AND ONLINE AT: CONCERTSDENMAN.COM**

\$20 ADVANCE ~\$25 DOOR ~ \$5HS STUDENTS ~KIDS FREE



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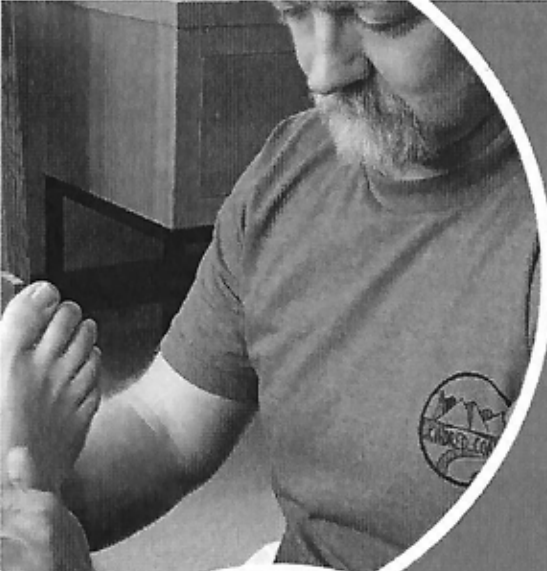
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Tues & Thurs 9:00 - 4:00

Wed 2:00 - 6:00

\$120 for 75 minute booking



SLEEPING DRAGON QI GONG ACADEMY

Qi Gong course designed for
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Denman Community Hall

10 WEEK QI GONG COURSE

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Denman Community Hall
\$200 for 10 weeks

To register call: 250-335-1270