



"If you saw a heat wave, would you wave back?" • Steven Wright

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

Local Writers at Readers & Writers Festival

ARTS&LIT

By Stewart Goodings • DI Readers & Writers Festival

THE DENMAN READERS AND WRITERS FESTIVAL has always featured local writers, and this year's event is no exception. Here's the line-up for four occasions to see and hear your friends and neighbours:

1. **Bill Engleson** will read his short story titled "The End of Summer, 1968" to open invited author Seth Klein's solo session at 3:55 on Friday, July 21.
2. **Lorraine Martinuik** will read three poems "Far enough down any road", "Facing out to sea" and "At the end of the light" to open invited author Tolu Oloruntoba's solo session at 10:35 on Saturday, July 22.
3. **Annie Siegel** will read her memoir "Lake Erie, 1968" to open invited author Ruth Ozeki's session at 1:15 on Saturday, July 22.

Bill, Lorraine, and Annie were the winners of this year's Writing on the Rock competition.



4. On Saturday, July 22, from 3:30 to 4:45, seven other local writers will present their work: **Sheila Simpson-Brown** (A Denman Monologue); **Laura Busheikin**, "Majestic" (memoir); **Cas Evelyn** (poems: Two Lunatics Tonight; An Ending August); **Stewart Goodings**, "Coming Home", (short story); **Graham Hayman**, "Return to South Africa" (memoir), **Stewart MacNutt** "Chapter 1 of 'By What Measure' (novel) and **Daniel Terry**, "Spores" (short story). This session in the Activity Centre will be moderated by Jane Edwards, member of the Festival Organizing Committee.

Entrance to the Local Writers session on Saturday afternoon is by donation. Please come and support the active writing community on Denman Island. 🍷

2023 Studio Tour: The Summer Gallery Preview - July 27th-August 8th

ARTS&LIT

By Anthony Gregson

BRACE YOURSELF! August 12th to the 13th the Studio Tour is coming, following hot on the coattails of the Readers & Writers. I think it can be fairly said that between the Tour and R&W, these two events engulf Denman in high summer for the simple reason that everyone on Denman seems to be either a writer or an artist, and not infrequently both – if they are not also a musician. It gets to the point where you wonder if all those deer are not part of some sort of wildlife performance project exploring the boundaries of radical sovereignties in an ecological context. Other places have hunting; Denman has art.

In conducting a survey of artists and artisans on behalf of Denman Works this year, there are over seventy candidates for interview. The twenty artists on the Studio Tour this year are an excellent representation of the diversity and dedication that characterizes the island art world. In my experience, there are no casual hobbyists;

whatever people do, however much time they can give, no matter how they come to art, they are serious about their practise.

That's where the traditional Summer Gallery Studio Tour Preview comes in. The Preview opens with a reception at 7:00 PM on Thursday, July 27th and closes on August 8th, just prior to the tour itself.

The Preview is an excellent chance to get an idea of what lies in store. Twenty studios are a serious schedule, and it pays to plan what with summer heat and dusty roads. For some of us, the Studio Tour can be a sort of pilgrimage, to show our support for artist friends, but as last year's newcomers' welcome, held by the DSMS, showed, there are many new arrivals on island.

The studios this year are:

Donna Millen
Isabelle Fusey
Fireweed
Annie Siegel
Pelka Wiltshire
Jayne Fogarty
Peter Smallwood
Bronwyn Schuster
Melissa Winkler
Sam Albrecht
Cathy Albrecht
Shannon Ford
Jenn Gosse
Laura Pope
Michael Dennis
Gordon Hutchens
Lisa Geddes
Sudasi Gardner
Shirley Philips



The Studio Tour can be found on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/denmanislandstudiotour/> 🍷

**Thank You,
Denman Island**

By Driftwood Communication

We have officially wrapped up our operations on Denman Island and wanted to take this opportunity to give a HUGE THANK YOU to the fine businesses, colleagues and residents of Denman Island.



We are grateful to have been given the opportunity to help bring high speed connectivity to Denman Island. 🍷

TIDE TABLE

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

2023-07-20 (Thu)		
Time	PDT (m)	(ft)
02:55	3.4	11.3
06:52	3.8	12.6
14:09	1	3.3
21:34	4.7	15.3
2023-07-21 (Fri)		
Time	PDT (m)	(ft)
03:32	3.3	10.8
07:36	3.7	12.2
14:37	1.3	4.1
21:55	4.7	15.3
2023-07-22 (Sat)		
Time	PDT (m)	(ft)
04:11	3.1	10.1
08:26	3.6	11.7
15:05	1.6	5.2
22:16	4.6	15.2
2023-07-23 (Sun)		
Time	PDT (m)	(ft)
04:52	2.9	9.4
09:25	3.4	11.2
15:35	2	6.4
22:38	4.6	15.1
2023-07-24 (Mon)		
Time	PDT (m)	(ft)
05:36	2.6	8.4
10:39	3.3	10.8
16:11	2.4	7.9
23:01	4.5	14.8
2023-07-25 (Tue)		
Time	PDT (m)	(ft)
06:22	2.2	7.3
12:23	3.3	10.8
16:58	2.9	9.4
23:28	4.4	14.5
2023-07-26 (Wed)		
Time	PDT (m)	(ft)
07:12	1.9	6.2
14:41	3.5	11.6
18:07	3.3	10.9
2023-07-27 (Thu)		
Time	PDT (m)	(ft)
00:01	4.4	14.3
08:05	1.5	5
16:08	3.9	12.8
19:42	3.6	11.9

SUMMER ART GALLERY Collected

A Showcase of Studio Tour
Artists & Artisans

Runs from July 28th-Aug 8th

Opening July 27th at 7pm

Green Wizardries, *Chickens in the Country*

SPECIAL INTEREST

By Maxine Rogers

WE keep a flock of Buff Orpington laying hens. This is a heritage breed from England, from the town of Orpington in Kent. The birds are large and heavily feathered with golden feathers. I saw a Buff Orpington rooster at a Fall Fair when I was a small child. The rooster was a little taller than I was, or so I remember it. He was a beautiful deep-gold colour and from that day on, the Buff Orpington was the only breed for me.

The Buff Orpington is a new breed of chicken, dating back only to the 1880's. The first Orpington chickens were the Black Orpingtons. The breeder, a Mr. William Cook, wanted a good laying hen and a heavy meat bird. He succeeded in his goal and his new breed of chickens rapidly became a favourite in the UK and the US.

Not content with the Black Orpington, Mr. Cook went on to create the Buff. To get the golden colour he wanted, Mr. Cook drew on some golden Cochin chickens and some other breeds to get the excellent colour and the very thick feathering. There are other colours of Orpingtons, including the lavender and the splash, but the Buff has remained far and away the most popular variety.

The Buff Orpington is an excellent bird for cold weather but they require shade in the summer to thrive. As soon as the sun hits our hen yard, all the Buffs depart for the shady interior of their house.

The Buff Orpingtons have a reputation as being good mothers but this is, sadly, not the case anymore. This breed, and so many other breeds of chicken, have been reared in incubators for so long that breeders have not selected for good mothering ability and some of these birds have almost none left.

Last year, we were very pleased to have one of our Buff hens sit on a clutch of eggs and rear them all with mothering skills more often seen in Bantam breeds. This summer, we set her to breeding again and again, she chose to sit on the eggs. She was very focused and every time we checked on her, she was screwed down tight on that nest. We kept listening at the door for the first peeps which would tell us the chicks had hatched.

A couple of days ago, I heard some peeping and went in to find the area around the nest to be littered with six unconscious chicks. I ran and quickly set up the incubator and got a basket to gather the chicks in. We went in and picked them all up. Some seemed dead but the rule with hypothermia is you are not cold and dead until you are warm and dead. Once in the incubator, they all revived.

We went back and lifted the hen up and collected the remaining chicks and the eggs, some of which were pipping, that is, the chicks inside were breaking their shells to hatch. Our hen may have lost her mind at the end but she did such a

good job of incubating the eggs that we got eighteen chicks from twenty-two eggs which is a very good rate of hatch and would have been even better if she had not managed to smother one chick as it was hatching. Only one of the eggs was infertile which tells us our rooster, Admiral, is a good breeder. The chicks spent something like 28 hours in the incubator and then went into a brooding box with a heat lamp and are all doing very well.

I mention this because the other way to get chicks is to order them from Rochester Hatchery in Alberta and have them flown over. This is stressful on the chicks and some always die in transit. Rochester is good about this and puts in a few extra chicks to make up for the expected travel losses.

I would rather breed my own birds here as there is no danger of importing disease and the savings in fuel are astronomical. Flying our chickens in from Alberta is kind of pants on the head madness. I get to choose what my hens are eating to get them ready for breeding and this makes a difference in the strength and resilience shown by the chicks.

Having roosters on our islands is essential for food security. There was some lunatic idea from the Trust, some time ago, that roosters would be banned from Denman and Hornby. They seem to have mistaken our rural islands for the suburbs of some large city. Luckily, the backlash from that proposal was fierce and they gave it up.

I feed my birds a mash every day of soaked alfalfa pellets, kitchen scraps, a bit of milk, any animal fat I have extra, and their usual ration of layer pellets all soaked in hot water to make it more palatable. We also soak their hen scratch in water to ferment for three days before serving it. This makes the scratch much easier to digest and it has more nutritional value from the process of fermentation. They also get heaps of lettuces and other greens from my garden, dandelion greens being a perennial favourite.

The chicks are thriving on a diet of unmedicated chick starter, home-made cottage cheese and finely-chopped greens. The future is uncertain. Having some hens in your back yard may be the best investment you will ever make. 🍷



March 22nd, 2007

MacCrew #2

ARTS&LIT

By CS#05943451

WORK today was good. Real good. We went up the inland Island highway to the Port Alberni turnoff and turned around to get onto the southbound lane. There were a bunch of 4-5 year old alders peppering the bank which needed removing. The slope upon which we worked was reminiscent of many a tree-planting day. I always get into my work but the challenge of the slope only upped my zeal to rip it up. Actually, it was Fred who ripped it up seeing as he was on the chainsaw.

We picked up where we left off from yesterday's work, again, without the disabled chipper. A crew of six of us, one saw, one hellacious slope that the others weren't too adept at navigating, and the alders. I just rode Fred's hip on high and let it all hang out! I've numerous times been complimented on my work ethic and high rate of output by several of the C.O.'s I've toiled for. C.O. Person not excluded. Further to that, I've been told how appreciated my efforts have been from time to time, because it helps to bring up the efforts of the others who can often exhibit indifference to the work. Having 15 years of tree-planting under my belt, I'm all too aware of this phenomenon. Nobody on a tree-planting crew likes to be seen as not pulling their weight. A jail house crew is a different breed, though. Many times I've heard a fellow inmate say, "don't work so hard, you're making us all look bad." A comment I thought was the sole domain of union workers. My efforts don't and shouldn't have any bearing with the others on the crew. At the end of the day we all make the same pittance. As I've stated before, I'm just looking to pass my time as quickly as possible. To sit around dog-fucking only prolongs the agonizing drag of time to my mind, so I may as well work. And work I do. Especially today.



Of the numerous incarnations of Crew #2, its many different assemblages of inmate, today's was a roll-your-sleeves-up group. Peters is the only one who maintains a 'methodical' approach to his day. A byproduct of his being here for fifteen months, *no doubt*. Rick and Brandon are new and I gather don't realize that slacking is an option. Fred is an experienced saw guy who knows how to work and young Richie, my old roommate with Troy, is a steady, determined worker in his own right. The way I saw it, being the one mainly on the bank with Fred, I just tried to keep up with him. As he dropped the alders which ranged up to 20 feet in height, I proceeded to toss them down to the others so that they could stack them for chipping at a later date. The key to stacking them for easy chipping is to have the butt end of them closest to the road. To simply toss them down haphazardly would only add to the grief of the guys stacking them and slow down progress. So I made the effort of delivering them in the orientation necessary. This required using the ol' Caber Toss technique. By lifting each tree vertically and then flipping them into the air, the steep slope afforded me a handicap of an extra 50 degrees over your typical Highland Games participant which had me looking like a rising star in the sport. Without that 50 degrees, I wouldn't have conceived of donning my 'prison issue' kilt for the day. Admittedly, it only takes some green beer to make me Irish for a day so culturally I guess I'm a bit easy. Anywho, my goat-like abilities and a combination of balance, strength and a keen feel for touch and physics, had me keeping up with Fred's saw work. The result of my extra efforts not only helped to facilitate the work of the others but I suspect that they too got caught up in the blistering pace of it all. We kicked some serious alder ass today. Each of us easily did the work of two, without question, and from my perch I could see the smile on Person's face grow as the day wore on. He was impressed to the point of not being able to contain it. I could tell that he was recognizing Fred's and my efforts were drawing the others along for the ride. And ride they did. Given the fact that we only average around \$3.50/day, our crew's output was a sight to behold. Over lunch, Person said that he intended to stop on the way back to jail and get us all a popsicle. An obvious show of his pleasure as I'm sure it all reflects on him to his superiors. It's becoming clear to me that I've gained the respect of Person for my approach to work and I'm fine with that. He sees enough duds and dolts roll through his watch, I suspect, and my capabilities register upon him. It's just like tree-planting in that respect. Okay, it ends right there, admittedly. The pay is in no way similar and I'm still a red to his blue, but once the work starts I'm more of a peer in his eyes. I think he's to the point of astonished. It makes me laugh actually. I'm likely challenging any preconceived notions he holds about inmates. Purely out for the easy money. 'Thieves, dealers, fraud artists. All looking for maximum return from minimum effort.' Well I wouldn't think of giving **anybody** the satisfaction of confirming such prejudice. Least of all the 'heads' that run this place. Hell, they are all in jobs that drain them of any motivation to work. They just sit around all day and look at us. How agonizingly boring! The midsections of the majority of the C.O.'s here tell of this. I could outwork any of them, hands down! "Who's looking for the easy pay now?" It's my way of turning them all on their heads. And I quite enjoy that! 🍷

Fixing Housing Bylaws

COMMUNITY INFO

By Riane da Silva · Chair, Denman Housing APC

*Dear Denman Community, this is your invitation
to help us fix housing bylaws!*

COMMUNITY response to Denman's housing emergency includes reforming our land use bylaws and OCP (official community plan) to support housing options and care for our ecosystems. The Denman Housing APC (advisory planning commission) has been tasked with making recommendations to our Local Trust Committee about bylaw and OCP changes and updates.

We're here for a short time, and a thorough time. There is room for everyone at our table. We value and uphold human rights. We value nature and are mindful of our duty to protect water and each other.

What housing-bylaw fixes do you envision? Do you have examples to share with us? Want to hear what we're discussing? Do you have stories to share about the impact of each day this housing emergency drags on?

The HAPC meets every Tuesday (until and including September 5th) at 5pm in the Lounge of the Activity Centre. Our agenda is posted in advance on bulletin boards in downtown Denman, and on Facebook bulletin boards. Correspondence, delegation and/or materials to submit can be sent 10 or more days in advance to denmanhapc@gmail.com. All are welcome to attend and participate.

This is our opportunity to be the change we need to be. Let us get bring our community home safely and sagely. May all be safe at home. 🍷

Letters to the Editor

IN a recent Letter to the Editor, I referred to advice from Stephen Malthouse that I had thankfully ignored. When we later spoke on the phone, he asked me what I was referring to.

Nearly nine years ago, there was a Pertussis outbreak on Denman Island that went undiagnosed for a long period. My 4 month old daughter was hospitalized with Pertussis, but fortunately she had already received her first Pertussis shot from a public health nurse, saving her from brain damage or worse. Contrary to his claim, Malthouse did have one early appointment with my newly born daughter, weighing her, and advising me against vaccinations. Now, in last week's Letter, Malthouse violates the privacy of our phone call and is not honest about its content.

Pertussis is not a dangerous disease to everyone, but can be very dangerous to newborns. In his most recent letter, Malthouse admits that the Pertussis vaccine can reduce the symptoms. These are the very symptoms that threaten a newborn's life. Malthouse's claim is that my issue with him is that he promotes anti-vaxx views. I was very clear with him on our phone call that this was not the case. And when he claims that I believe his views led to the Pertussis outbreak, he is being dishonest. I told him that he has every right to his view on childhood vaccines, just as I have the right to my own. I have always believed, and still believe in the principle of vaccine choice, where every person has the right to make decisions regarding themselves and their children.

I told Malthouse that I believed that the most critical public health issue currently in our community, is that we have become more acrimonious in our differences. Some best friends and neighbours no longer speak to one another. Neighbours viciously smear one another, and some have lost their jobs over the COVID19 issue. In attempting to bridge these unhealthy divides, I encouraged him to publicly share what he had told me of his own mistakes when the public health emergency was first declared. It would show a conciliatory tone that might help us reconcile divisions with a demonstration of humility. Three times he asked for suggestions of what he might say, and each time he simply refused to acknowledge what I had given him in specific suggestions, even when I repeated his own admissions to him.

In my view, some of Stephen Malthouse's actions during the pandemic were irresponsible, and exacerbated the divisions in our community on what should have been personal and private health matters, just as I believe that the 20 local Doctors who promised herd immunity as a result of COVID19 inoculations have been irresponsible, having never admitted their mistakes. This demonstrates critical flaws in all of our local caregivers, and their capacity for reason. Malthouse doesn't listen well, and his hubris impedes him from the compassion required to be an effective public health advocate. He is, however, a very capable Spin Doctor.

Keith Porteous 🍷

Jenin Jenin Part 1 of 3

By Sally Campbell

OPINIONS

I remember our hosts making and bringing us lunch on the rooftop garden of *The Freedom Theatre* (TFT) in Jenin Refugee Camp after they gave us a tour of their black box type theatre. We were there with *Eyewitness Palestine*. (It was 2014, just when *Hamas & Fatah* reached a Unity Agreement, just before that summer's brutal siege of Gaza, killing the fragile unity in its wake.) There were several Europeans in temporary residency at TFT, teaching lighting, sound, film. Plays of TFT are original writing, based on stories told by Palestinians, or adaptations of established plays. *Friends of TFT*, based in New York & London, also mentor and support financially. Our Palestinian hosts, who run the Theatre, were born and raised in the Camp or elsewhere in the occupied Palestinian territories. They proudly recounted the history of TFT, inspired by the work in Jenin Refugee Camp of a Jewish-Israeli woman named Arna. As a young woman, she was part of an Israeli militia, the Palmach, participating in the ethnic cleansing of Palestinian Bedouin from the Negev. She later married a Palestinian from Nazareth and they had 3 children. She wanted to create a space for children to heal from the violence and to learn their own history, not a history written by the new State of Israel. Arna won the Alternate Nobel Peace Prize in 1993, and her son Juliano Mer Khanis, then the most famous and most controversial actor in Israel, encouraged her to use her prize money to build a small theatre. She did that, then died in 1995; Juliano re-established it as TFT in 2006. By this time, Jenin Refugee Camp had been devastated by the Israeli military during the 2nd Intifada.

Jenin has long been a place of resistance to Israeli control over Palestinian lives and dispossession of their land. Jenin Refugee Camp is about 1 square km., housing 15,000, mostly people (& their descendants) driven out of Haifa by Zionist militias in 1948. Haifa at that time had a Palestinian population of about 70,000. Only 4,000 remained after the Nakba. Their homes, businesses and lands were

taken over by Jewish immigrants to the new State of Israel, and the Palestinians - neither consulted nor compensated - have never been allowed to return, even to visit.

The utter failure of the Oslo Accords in the 90's, with loss of even more land to Israelis, plus the non-realization of the promised Palestinian State, created pre-conditions for the 2nd Intifada ("shaking off"). With no military, and ownership of weapons by Palestinians illegal under Israeli law, some of the most desperate Palestinians resisted with their lives, as suicide bombers. Many of these came from Jenin, and consequently Jenin Refugee Camp became a prime target of the Israeli military. The Camp's virtual destruction in 2002 was seen as collective punishment by many. The 2nd Intifada was harsh and ineffective, with 5,000 Palestinians killed and 1,400 Israelis.

More resistance was created by the violence and destruction, and so the cycle goes. Out of the ashes rose once again *The Freedom Theatre*. It has served as a place for numerous youth and young adults of Jenin, living unfree in the cramped squalor of the Camp, to work through their trauma, to find purpose, to learn skills and be mentored. It is like a beacon of hope in a pretty bleak environment. When parts of the Camp were rebuilt after 2002, our hosts from TFT told us that Israelis made sure the roads were wide enough for Israeli bulldozers and tanks.

And now in June & July, 2023, Jenin has been not only invaded again by land, but bombed by Israeli drones & Apache helicopters, causing a level of destruction not seen since 2002, which locals remember as the "Battle of Jenin". The latest incursion began in the middle of the night with over 1,000 Israeli military entering the Camp in tanks, holding people at gunpoint while forcing 3,000 people to leave their homes, moving on the rampage from one occupied house to

continued on P.8...

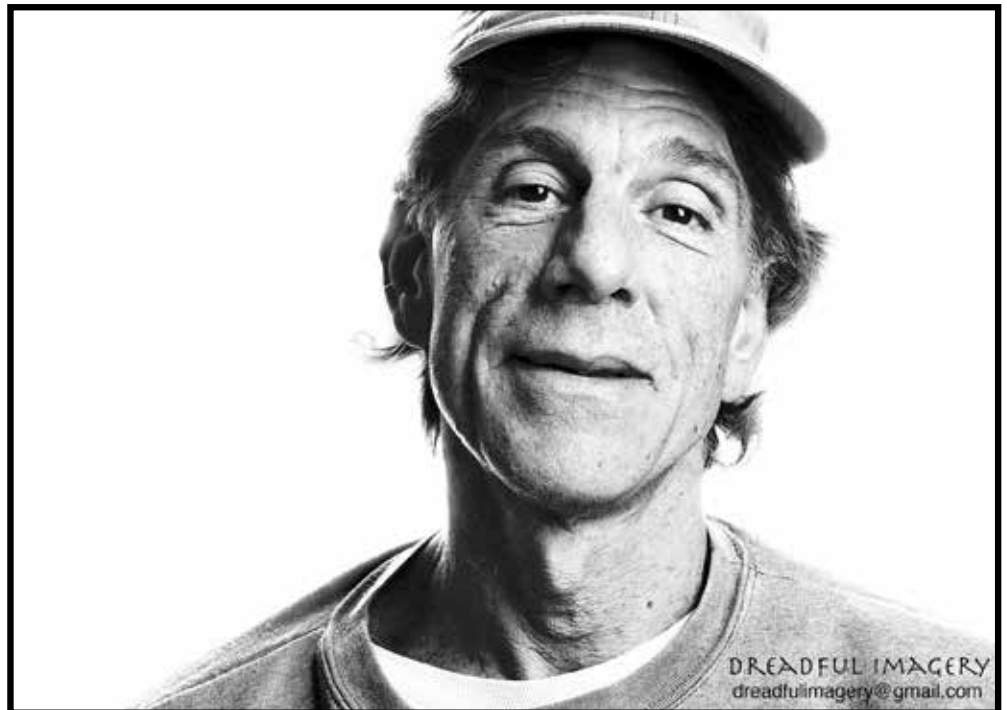


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...continued from P.7 the next. 12 were killed, over 100 injured. Power, water and sewage networks were damaged; roads were completely destroyed, perhaps to prevent ambulances from getting through*. Bombs were dropped indiscriminately from the air, damaging or destroying almost 80% of the buildings. (*Jewish Currents, Unpacking Israel's Legal Fictions*, 14 July, 2023.) Every boy the Israeli military found over 15 years of age was arrested. (*Mondoweiss Podcast "Unpacking Jenin"*, 11 July, 2023.) Journalists were once again targeted by snipers, ostensibly to prevent their reporting.** Then after 2 days of mayhem, the military upped and left the Camp. Go figure.

*The Israeli military has a long history of preventing help for the injured enemy, in contravention of the Geneva Conventions. See Thomas Suarez' *Palestine Hijacked: How Zionism forged an Apartheid State from the River to the Sea* (2023), describing Jewish militias' guerilla attacks against the British in the lead-up to 1948: "As was their habit, the militants mined the approach road to blow up anyone coming to the victims' aid". (p.139)

** This practice has been documented & condemned by the International Federation of Journalists.

(Next week: Part 2) 🍷

Capitalism is a Giant Scam

OPINIONS

By Caitlin Johnstone · OP July 17th, 2023

I got a call from a biofuels startup who saw my work with Earth Mums and wanted to hire me to write search engine-friendly articles to draw traffic to their website. I went to their office for a meeting, and while I was waiting I listened to the three partners — real high-octane entrepreneur types — laughing and talking about the various business plates they were spinning.

One of them had apparently just come back from a consulting job for a product called Lectric Soda, which Earth Mums had a lot of affection for because it was an environmentally friendly household cleaning compound that you could buy for less than a dollar a bag.

"Don't tell me, lemme guess: you told 'em to double the price?" asked one of the partners.

"I told 'em to quadruple it!" said the consultant guy.

I found it incredibly sleazy how they were making a product that could actually help make households kinder to the environment less accessible while presenting themselves as eco warriors who want to save the planet. I told them I charge way more than I knew they'd ever pay me for the job and got the hell out of there, but lo and behold I did see Lectric Soda shoot up in price fourfold shortly thereafter.

It left me so deflated and disheartened I wound up shutting down Earth Mums. I could see that these guys and people like them were going to turn consumer ecological responsibility into this trendy elite thing priced way out of range for normal people, and that's exactly what ended up happening. It wasn't long before I saw the arrival of eco chic and Whole Foods and Tesla and the rest of this whole new luxury market designed to let rich people feel good about themselves while the world burns and create the illusion that we can profiteer our way out of our problems.

It was just such an in-your-face illustration of the problem.

Lectric Soda wasn't improved in quality, didn't become harder to make or more difficult to obtain, the supply and demand remained the same; the price was changed because the market would bear it. The hidden hand of the market was not going to magically restore the product to its "correct" value; the value of such products was going to be determined by the narrative manipulations of entrepreneurs, consultants, con-artists, marketeers and ad-men.

"Let the market decide" really means let the manipulators decide, because the markets are dominated by those who excel at manipulating. We're taught that letting the market decide means letting supply and demand take its natural course, as though we're talking about ocean tides or seasons or something, but in reality both supply and demand are manipulated constantly with extreme aggression. Manipulating the supply of diamonds. Manipulating the supply of housing. Manipulating the supply of oil. Manipulating people into wanting things they'd never thought to want before through advertising. Manipulating women into feeling bad about their bodies so they'll buy your beauty products. Manipulating people into paying \$2000 for a \$20 bag using branding. Manipulating people into buying Listerine by inventing the word "halitosis" and convincing them to be worried about it. Manipulating people into believing Beanie Babies were prized collectors items when they were just standard stuffed toys.



Capitalism gives us a civilization that is dominated by trickery. Those who get to the top are those who succeed in tricking as many people as possible. Tricking them into paying more. Tricking them into buying your product and not someone else's. Tricking people who actually produce something of value into making you their middle man who gets paid despite producing nothing. Tricking competitors into making the wrong move. Tricking people into asking their doctor about your extremely lucrative pharmaceutical product. Tricking people into buying or selling certain stocks or cryptocurrencies or NFTs. Tricking people by using the legal system and your team of lawyers who understand it better than normal people do. Tricking people into letting you privatize their own drinking water and then selling it back to them in bottles.

It's a scam competition. Whoever scams the best wins. How can you save the planet from destruction by human behavior when all of human behavior is driven by a bizarre scam competition? And the biggest scam of all is the narrative that this system is totally working and is entirely sustainable. That's the overarching scam holding all the other scams together.

Proponents of capitalism often decry socialism as a coercive system that people are forced to participate in, but what the hell do you call this? Did any of us sign up to be thrown into the middle of a giant unending scam competition? What if I don't want to spend my whole life being subjected to people's attempts to trick me? What if I don't want to live in a society where everyone's trying to trick and scam each other instead of collaborating toward the greater good of our world? Guess what? I don't consent to any of that. I am being coerced into this.

Whenever you talk about the destructiveness and depravity of capitalism online you'll get people saying "Hurr hurr, and yet here you are participating in capitalism" like that's an own instead of the exact problem that's being discussed. Yes! Yes I am coerced into participating in a capitalist society in order to pay the bills and stay alive. That's the problem I'm trying to address here. It's like prisoners complaining about the prison system and being called hypocrites because they are in prison.

I'm convinced that this is a huge factor in the mental health crises our society is experiencing today. We're trapped in this system where we're constantly being psychologically pummelled with an endless barrage of messaging trying to make us think and feel and desire and loathe specific things for no other reason than because it will make someone money. How can mental health prevail in a civilization where everyone's mind is continuously being yanked this way and that by mass-scale psychological manipulation? Capitalism poisons our minds as much as it poisons our air and our water.

It's already so, so bad and it's set to get so, so much worse, and we're so, so far from any real changes in our political status quo looking anywhere remotely achievable. All we can do is keep drawing attention to this in as many ways as we can, and hoping enough people open their eyes and start to see what's needed. 🍷

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Sucking the Oxygen Out of Affordable Housing Solutions

OPINIONS

By Keith Porteous

THE threads of text about the Local Trust Committee's Housing Advisory Planning Committee appearing on the Denman Island Bulletin Board, reveals that which is not well understood, and conspicuously, not even contemplated. Much of it is finger pointing at local governance and its rules by some of the same people involved with the APC, while never considering that residents can get together in an ad hoc effort to discuss housing and human health services without involving the same institutions they believe are impeding needed improvements. Instead, the loudest voices wade back into another slow and bureaucratic process, even Chairing its appointed housing advisory committee, then publicly complaining that the process and its enablers are flawed. Perhaps we have identified the problem in addressing needed changes.

We have been through all this before without producing the result of increased access to affordable housing, even when the Local Trust Committee has amended some bylaws. It may be faint praise, but to the Islands Trust's credit, they have suspended bylaw enforcement of some non-conforming housing. What is not understood by many, is that Islands Trust has no legal jurisdiction as a housing authority, where they are limited to zoning and land use only. They have no power to enforce rent controls, or initiate any development of housing, affordable and not. The major impediments to affordable housing development are Provincial laws relating to water and septic and setbacks from riparian areas, and of

course the funding needed to build it. Whatever changes the APC may recommend, it will have no effect on these Provincial laws.

So what is all this self-righteous grandstanding about? Doing the same thing over and over and expecting a different result? Hopefully, Denman Green will be built, and some people will be housed affordably, following what will amount to a 10 year effort. And then we'll still be faced with many of the same access to affordable housing problems, with nearly no rental vacancies, residents with low incomes, and some human health issues that contribute to an individual's capacity to find comfort in a safe and affordable home. We don't need (god), The United Nations, or the Islands Trust to tell us what needs to be done. And all the self-congratulatory and performative backslapping is completely unnecessary, as are more surveys.

We will have to accept that simply changing local bylaws is not necessarily THE solution, or at least not the only solution, or even the presumptive best solution! Many people with housing issues need different kinds of help, and we should be addressing the deficit in local support for health and human services. Looking at these issues from a different perspective starts with supporting people's needs based on their personal circumstances. We already have some zoning for small secondary dwellings, without the intended outcomes. Entering into yet another cumbersome, bureaucratic, one size fits all process that will take months and years, and has an extremely low probability of creating fundamental change, is a fool's errand. 🍷

Heat Waves & Tipping Points

OPINIONS

By Gwynne Dyer · OP July 17th, 2023

“WHAT we're seeing is climate impacts that scientists thought would accompany certain temperatures happening far more rapidly, with far more devastating effects than had been forecast,” said Dr. Simon Nicholson of the Forum for Climate Engineering Assessment at American University.

“We didn't think that the Arctic would crash by now, and yet it's almost gone. We didn't think we'd be seeing these wildfires in Australia and the United States and elsewhere with the frequency and severity that they're being seen.

“Given that we're at about one degree Celsius [$+1.1^{\circ}\text{C}$, actually], we thought those were far-distant prospects. So 1.5 degrees Celsius of warming above pre-industrial averages could turn out to be far more devastating than had been imagined when that target was set as the threshold for international action.”

Last month was the planet's hottest June on record, and probably the hottest in about 12,000 years. This month is shaping up to be the hottest July, and there's a good chance that Au-

gust will also break the record, because the relentless upward creep of global heating is being supercharged by the return of the cyclical El Niño phenomenon in the eastern Pacific.

It's not just very high temperatures – more than one-third of the US population is now under extreme heat warnings, and the city of Phoenix is having its 18th successive day over 110°F (43.3°C) – but the heat lasts into the night, too.

Southern Europe is the same from Spain to Turkey, with daytime temperatures in the low forties Celsius and little relief at night. Europe, which keeps better records on this than the United States, counted 61,000 heat-related deaths last year. This year will be much higher.

South and Southeast Asia had their heat waves in April and May (45°C and up in India and Thailand), and now it's time for torrential rain and landslides in Japan, Korea and China. (That's really due to the heat, too: high temperatures mean higher evaporation, which means much more rain.)

All quiet in the southern hemisphere, where it's still winter, but El Niño probably means record bushfires in Australia by December. Worrisome, because they have just discovered that the 2020 fires were big and hot enough to drive the

smoke up into the stratosphere, where it started destroying ozone and expanding the ozone hole again.

El Niño-linked droughts in South America and southern Africa, of course – and did I mention that there are still 500 wildfires burning in Canada?

Well, what did you think that ‘global heating’ would be like? No surprises there, except that what the scientists thought would be happening around 2030 is happening now.

2029 or 2030 is when we were scheduled to breach the ‘aspirational’ never-exceed level of 1.5°C higher average global temperature if emissions continued on the current track, but somebody forgot to allow for the fact that there’s an El Niño every three to seven years. Oops!

Now the World Meteorological Organisation is saying that global average temperature is likely to exceed +1.5°C at least once, but perhaps a number of times, between now and 2027. How likely? 66% likely.

“It’s the first time in history that it’s more likely than not that we will exceed 1.5°C”, said Adam Scaife, the head of long-range prediction at Britain’s Met Office Hadley Centre. And that means that we will be getting into the territory where the ‘tipping points’ may be lurking.

Ever since 2015, we have been operating with two ‘never-exceeds’. The big, flashing red lights, with sirens blaring, are at +2°C, because after that we would be crossing lots of tipping points: Arctic sea ice gone, Amazon forest turning into savannah, methane coming out of melting permafrost, lots of

things causing rapid, unstoppable further warming.

But they also set the lower, ‘aspirational’ never-exceed target of +1.5°C because they were worried that some of the tipping points might activate even before +2°C. ‘Aspirational’ because even in 2015 it didn’t look very likely that we would be able cut our emissions that rapidly.

That’s what we are heading for right now, and the forecast is that we’ll be in zone for extremes past +1.5°C until 2027. Then, if all goes well, the El Niño will have been replaced by the cooler La Niña, and the global average temperature will fall back to normal. Well, to a new ‘normal’ – say, +1.3°C.

That would be nice. If we have been really efficient about reducing our emissions in the meantime (miracles do happen), we might not see +1.5°C again until the early 2030s. But if we cross some tipping points in the next few years, they won’t go back to ‘normal’ afterwards. Unfortunately, it doesn’t work like that. 🍷



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DEADLINE MIDNIGHT MONDAYS FOR THE FOLLOWING THURSDAY ISSUE

*Herb Jones-Celebration of Life
Reminder.*

*Natural Burial Cemetery
Grounds 3-5 Saturday July 29.
Finger food snacks, lawn chairs,
a small cup for a toast are
welcome. Bring a short story, or
song to share aloud, or for the
guest book if you wish. You may
have an item that connects you to
Herb for the Altar to take home when you
leave.*

Uke Group, games, eats, laughter, tears...
NO DOGS PLEASE

trapped rat

by Alan Black

*There is a rat trapped behind my washing
machine.*

*I can still see its dark grey tail when I
shine my small black multi use flashlight behind
the machine.*

*I don't want rodents in my house; I once woke
up to a rat in the kitchen dragging an avocado
across the kitchen lino like a character from
Goodfellows who was doing a debt collection.
In the recent past I have killed them with
traps but taking this rodent head on would
bring killing rats to a much more personal and
disturbing level.*

*I don't own a gun which is the most
convenient of killing machines although even a
twenty two would be messy and likely put a hole
in the floor.*

*I could probably batter it to death with my
blue acrylic pool cue but this would be rather
unpleasant for both of us and I would not ever be
able to look at the cue the same way.*

*I have sent a text to my wife and wait for
further instruction.*



*It is with great sadness that
the family of Meggie Molz
announce her passing on
July 4th at the age of 88. She
was much loved, and her
family and friends will miss
her sweet, sunny personality.
Meggie and her husband, Karl
(predeceased), were part or
full time residents of Denman
Island since the mid 1970's and
truly loved the Island.*



You Probably Don't Care But:

* - 160 cars can drive side by side on the Monumental Axis in Brazil, the widest road in the world.

* - Antarctica is the only continent that does not have land areas below sea level.

* - Canada has more donut shops per-capita than any other country in the world

* - Canada is home to the invention of ice beer. It is produced by freezing the brew and filtering the ice crystals, increasing the alcohol content.

* - Colgate faced a big obstacle marketing toothpaste in Spanish speaking countries. Colgate translates into the command "go hang yourself."

* - In Chinese, the Kentucky Fried Chicken slogan 'finger-lickin' good' came out as 'eat your fingers off.'* - In Elizabethan England women wore egg whites over their faces to create a glazed look. 🍷

Curry

by Thomas Provençal

*Exploring with my tongue
a mysteriously delicious dish
complementary spices dance
entangling my taste buds
in a blend of bold nuance
sweet and salty balanced
ginger, garlic, and turmeric
of course
a complexity of fusion
to embolden my tongue.*

THE ISLANDS GRAPEVINE EDITORIAL POLICIES

Whether covering events that entertain us, presenting issues that concern and affect us or highlighting the many interesting and gifted people we call neighbour, the Grapevine celebrates the diversity and inclusivity of our shared island life. The following is our policy on content:

- Profiles of individuals, history, reviews and op ed are published free of charge.
- Literary content including poetry, stories, belle lettres are published free of charge.
- Promotional content for products, services, programs, and events will be published at going advertising rates.
- Public service announcements, notices of meetings, and news releases will be published for a fee. Exceptions will be made for emergencies where the public is immediately endangered.
- With regret, no exceptions can be made for non-profit status.
- Letters to the Editor are published free of charge.

The Grapevine is happy to provide an open, public forum for all islanders to speak and be heard. We are steadfast in our commitment to uphold freedom of expression. Opinions expressed in the Grapevine do not necessarily reflect that of the Publisher.

As the record of our times, every issue of the Grapevine is a compilation of that week's submissions. We do not editorialize content, nor do we censor. We ask that writers moderate their own content. The Grapevine reserves the right to edit for brevity. Inciting violence, hate speech and pejorative language will not be tolerated.

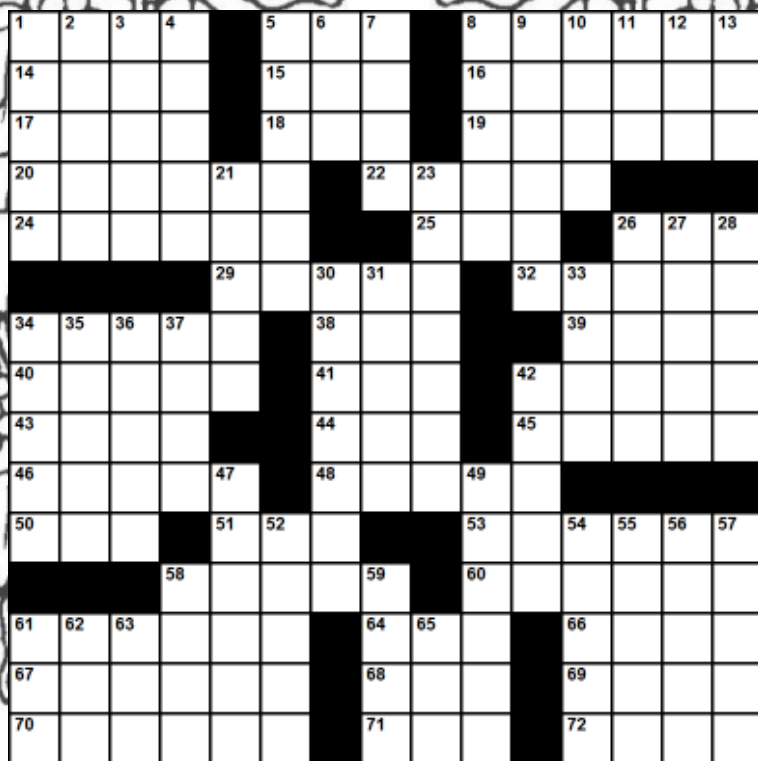
We are open to contributions from all Denman & Hornby Islanders. If you've something to say, send it our way! No copy and paste submissions. In your own words, please!



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• GRAPEVINE CROSSWORD •



• ACROSS •

1. Nut used in flavoring
5. Boxing punch
8. Armen
14. Obtained from urine
15. Craft of sci-fi
16. Egypt neighbor
17. Crash result
18. Possessive pronoun
19. Be aware of
20. Astrologer's topic
22. Act division
24. Accepted or habitual practice
25. Aladdin prince
26. Denial in Glasgow
29. Commander
32. Dollars, in slang
34. Critter
38. ABC, for short
39. African wading bird
40. Bane of pool owners
41. Grade of wine
42. Famous long knife
43. A sound of pride
44. Belonging to us

45. Spam is

46. Certain nerve
48. Style of sweater
50. Born as
51. Actor Marvin
53. Type of geological formation
58. Fashionable again
60. Art rubber
61. Outcast
64. Between pi and sigma
66. Atlas dot
67. Clock topper
68. Electric fish
69. Feels regret
70. One with a line
71. Bauxite bonanza
72. Ball girls

• DOWN •

1. Fast-growing vine
2. Cookie snacks
3. Actress Lavin
4. Type of simple protein
5. Health bar orders
6. Back at sea
7. Company hotshot
8. Comic unit
9. Having a funny twist
10. After time
11. Decorative belt
12. Cramp
13. Thus, to Burns
21. Certain angle
23. Confiscate
26. Important one
27. Essential acid type
28. English county
30. Reveal
31. Old TV program
33. A roaring success
34. Business magnate
35. Bolt together
36. A marble
37. Asian garment
42. Cyclist
47. Split in two
49. Bayou cooking style
52. An anesthetic
54. Estate owner
55. Flow out
56. Limo user
57. Lock or curl
58. Lunar valley
59. Black-and-white cookie
61. Bake sale grp., maybe
62. Barley bristle
63. Std.
65. Him's opposite

• TEST YOUR MATH SKILLS •

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

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

Grumpism



"I wrote a book about wind systems of the world. It's saved in my drafts."

• LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS •

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

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• **LOST & FOUND** •

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

• **EMPLOYMENT** •

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BEAUTIFUL, well raised one
year old black spayed female
cat looking for a good home on
Denman. Please call 250 335
2890 if she's for you.

• **WANTED** •

IF YOU OR ANYONE you know
has experienced body red-
ness or recurring red rashes,
possibly due to Covid-19
shots, would you be kind
enough to contact J. Wells at
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erably a full-body one for an
adult male. Chris 250-335-
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DOUG R. IS STILL LOOKING
for a spot for his caravan.
Rent paid, caretaking avail-
able. Only requirement,
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• **GARAGE SALES** •

AWESOME GARAGE SALE
Saturday July 29 10 am - 2
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3380 Brigantine, H.I.
Over 50 antique collectibles:
tools, furniture, copper ware.
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rifier, maple countertop, air
tank, folding guest beds and
much more.
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