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COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER
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KALEIDOSCOPE: Fighting Fire With Community

By Anthony Gregson

COMM
INFO

Success can come in unexpected forms. The Kaleidoscope Fire is one of them. Totally consuming a 5600 sq. ft building last Tuesday, the fire at 1151 Northwest Rd was the largest structural fire in Denman's history. The fire was frightening and distressing for those whose home was threatened or who lost all their possessions. But it was also a major stress test, the first in a long time, of all the Fire Department's resources, including training, equipment, maintenance, and above all, their support system in the community. From a fire management point of view, the incident proves that the way the community got behind the department in providing equipment and volunteers has really paid off in a highly effective service. Everyone - volunteers, residents, paramedics, business owners, equipment operators, schools, BC Ferries, Hydro, and water providers worked together to bring a dangerous situation under control with speedy effect. The model of community fire protection has certainly moved on since the first fire protection service was set up the Emperor Augustus with six hundred slaves assigned to the four quarters of imperial Rome.

The Fire Department knew the situation was serious by the number of 911 calls Fire Dispatch started getting around 12:00 noon. They had a truck on the scene in just over six minutes and all their equipment there ten minutes later. Twenty-seven Denman Island

Fire Rescue volunteers responded immediately to the callout. Tankers



Portable water tank being filled on the scene.

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MY FIRST JOB • STEEL IN THE AIR

ARTS
& LIT

By Robert Newton

During the Vietnam War, privileged American white boys like myself could avoid the draft by going to college and later by winning the draft lottery. On both counts I won! Even so, after college I dreamt of returning to idyllic Vienna, Austria where I had attended a private boarding school for the spawn of the *Corps diplomatique*.

When I finished college at the University of Michigan with an art history degree, I first planned to go to Hawaii where I dreamt of becoming a bar tender and living on the beach. My new wife was born in Salzburg Austria to a native Hawaiian American soldier and a Russian refugee mother. My wife qualified for an acre plot on the beach of the big island at \$1 a year for 99 years. She persuaded relatives in Honolulu to convert their garage into an apartment for us. That would have to do before I would be able to build a tree house in my back-to-the-land hippy fantasy.

Just before departure an ex-lover and school classmate wrote to say he could find me a job working for his father-in-law at Dow Chemical GmbH in Vienna. So, in a flash, the plan changed and my wife and I set off for our big adventure to work and become citizens of a neutral country, unaligned with the Great Amerikan Beast. I imagined it would be just as wonderful as it had been in school, that some day after a concert, I would wear an off-white suit, sit in an elegant cafe, sip an aperitif and watch the world go by. I bought the suit to take with me.

At that time Austria was still recovering from the Second World War. There was a critical labour shortage because so many men had perished. Knowing nothing about that, we arrived in Vienna without a visa or work permit. It didn't matter. No questions asked. We could stay as long as we liked. After all, Americans liberated Vienna in '45. Some of the American soldiers never went home.

As it turned out Dow Chemical would not have me. Just as well, I sniffed, because I identified as an anarchist and I was not ready to sell out my principles to evil napalm manufacturers. Not yet. Conditionally. You understand.

Most of our savings went to "key money", a kind of illegal bribe required to rent a one room apartment in a shabby run-down 18th century building in the former Jewish quarter. It had a parafin heater, a shared water tap, and a shared toilet outside in the hall. The shower inside had a little gas flame under a pipe over the sink. The flame was supposed to warm the water running up through a plastic tube tacked to the ceiling and down to the shower head, but the heat was lost in transit. Rent was the equivalent of about 12 dollars a month.

Unwashed and close to starving, we rarely visited the public baths, and we each subsisted on one head cheese sandwich a day, the cheapest cold cut available. One day we went to a fancy restaurant and ordered pepper steaks and wine. After the meal, while the waiter was in the kitchen, we ran out whooping it up on the street. Oh how we enjoyed our new identity as shameless scofflaws!

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TIDE TABLE

• Secondary Tidal Station Ford Cove •

2019-10-17 (Thursday)		
Time PDT	Height (m)	(ft)
02:28	1.4	4.6
09:23	4.4	14.4
14:43	3.1	10.2
19:52	4.2	13.8

2019-10-18 (Friday)		
Time PDT	Height (m)	(ft)
03:04	1.3	4.3
10:18	4.5	14.8
15:34	3.4	11.2
20:21	4.1	13.5

2019-10-19 (Saturday)		
Time PDT	Height (m)	(ft)
03:47	1.2	3.9
11:20	4.5	14.8
16:41	3.5	11.5
20:56	4	13.1

2019-10-20 (Sunday)		
Time PDT	Height (m)	(ft)
04:37	1.3	4.3
12:26	4.5	14.8
18:07	3.6	11.8
21:47	3.8	12.5

2019-10-21 (Monday) ☾		
Time PDT	Height (m)	(ft)
05:36	1.3	4.3
13:30	4.6	15.1
19:35	3.5	11.5
23:09	3.7	12.1

2019-10-22 (Tuesday)		
Time PDT	Height (m)	(ft)
06:42	1.4	4.6
14:26	4.6	15.1
20:41	3.2	10.5

2019-10-23 (Wednesday)		
Time PDT	Height (m)	(ft)
00:51	3.7	12.1
07:50	1.5	4.9
15:12	4.7	15.4
21:32	2.9	9.5

2019-10-24 (Thursday)		
Time PDT	Height (m)	(ft)
02:22	3.7	12.1
08:54	1.5	4.9
15:52	4.7	15.4
22:17	2.5	8.2

2019-10-25 (Friday)		
Time PDT	Height (m)	(ft)
03:38	3.9	12.8
09:53	1.7	5.6
16:28	4.8	15.7
23:00	2	6.6



Source: tides.gc.ca

A big thank you from
Sybil is extended to
Anne V, Chef, Donna,
Elizabeth, Filippa,
Helen M, Jane M, Juan, Mica, Riane, Steve
G, and Tachi for two fabulously successful
nights.



Also a big thanks go to the guests who she
hopes had as much fun as they did.

And lastly a big thanks to Donna and
Sheldon for the use of the restaurant.

We all raised \$1700

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from Hornby Island and Fanny Bay were soon on their way. The Incident Commander had to make a tactical choice, whether to go on the offense and fight the fire or go on defense and just try to contain the blaze. The size of the building and the speed of the fire, helped by the wind which began to pick up, left no choice. It would have taken enormous amounts of water to quell such a large blaze. They went on the defense, protecting exposures and the spread of the fire.

The situation of the building, with clear frontage on NW Rd, made it easy to get water there. A pump truck (No. 55) was set up right in front, and a porta tank, like a swimming pool full of water, placed right beside it. Tanker trucks then hauled water from various sources including Doug Wright's pond on Northwest Road to provide a continuous supply. As a precautionary measure, Chief Luckett ordered a tactical evacuation of downtown, including the Community School and Blackberry Lane Pre-School as well as all stores and the two community halls. Volunteers, including Ann Paisley, Jackie Hipwell and Catherine Platz, diverted traffic to make room for fire equipment while others patrolled the perimeter for embers spread by the wind. That left trained firefighters to man the attack lines. The smoke and fumes made it necessary for firefighters to wear air tanks. BC Paramedics were on hand to rehabilitate firefighters emerging from the fire atmosphere, checking their vital signs and allowing them to return only when they had recovered.

Several times, the fire spread into the trees. Dusty Prowse stood ready to drop a tree, but the flames were quickly extinguished by a fire monitor (water cannon) mounted on the pump truck. The fire call was declared closed at 6:36 PM, after which Chief Luckett maintained a fire watch, checking

through the night until four in the morning. Rather than try to go through the smouldering ruins and quench every last ember, which would have taken days, Grant Morrison and Kerry Mathers were called in with an excavator to dig out the whole site while the fire crew doused it with water.

Food, Chief Luckett has pointed out, is a huge issue at any big fire, and Daryl McLoughlin and the staff of the General Store came through.

Chief Luckett would like to thank everyone who worked to put out the fire, contributed as an auxiliary, provided their services and equipment, or simply helped out by cooperating. Everyone should know that their contribution counts, and that in the broadest sense of community, we are all members of the Fire Department. The origin of the fire is known but with regards to the cause, Chief Luckett says the investigation is ongoing.



... continued from Page 3 ...

There was hope. I landed an interview at the Kunsthistorisches Museum, Vienna's famous government-owned art collection established by the Hapsburgs. Sitting there in my off-white suit, the interview went well and we discussed when I could begin. The interviewer asked for my work permit and of course, I had none, so the job offer was rescinded. I left the building, sat down in the grass under Empress Maria Theresa's cyclopean bronze statue, and sobbed. These days as a tourist I like to revisit the spot and reminisce.

I got another interview with the owners of a commercial art gallery. To my delight, they had a Caravaggio for sale, or so they thought. During the interview I bragged about my Michigan art history degree, how exclusive it was, how much it had cost to get it - more than you can even imagine, I said. Oh, wasn't I special! After leaving the room, I heard through the door loud guffaws and shouts cruelly quoting my badly expressed words in German. Intensely humiliated, I was undaunted.

Sleeping on the floor and eating head cheese sandwiches could not go on forever. Savings gone. So finally I went to the Government Employment Bureau to find a job, any job. The interviewer asked me which metier I would prefer, *Kunststoffe* or *Maschinen*. In German, Kunst means art as in the Kunsthistorisches Museum. Oh, I exclaimed, I'd prefer *Kunststoffe* because I'm an ART HISTORIAN! The interviewer laughed so hard he almost choked. He explained that *Kunststoffe* means plastic. Humiliated again, I chose to work as a labourer in a factory where metal machine parts were manufactured.

The Friedrichs Maschinen Fabrik was located in a bleak, polluted area by the freight switching yards near the Danube. Rising at 5 am, I started the day early. I worked 10 hours a day for six days a week with Sunday off. That benefit is because Austria is a most pious Catholic country. My job was to count engine parts, nuts, and bolts for eternally repeating inventory audits. Not much heavy lifting. I got that esteemed position because I could be trained to calculate the quantity of parts by weight. Though mathematically challenged and just barely trained, I

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was still better than my colleagues, the boss said, because most of them had no education.

Only the administration people worked indoors. They were Austrians. My all-male labourer colleagues were either Serbs or Turks, reviled by Austrians then as they are now. They were called *Tschutschen*, a filthy word. Without papers, we were all allowed to work as Guest Workers with the understanding we could be expelled from the country when no longer needed. Except me, of course, young prince that I was. We worked outdoors in rain or snow. For our comfort, there was an unheated putrid-smelling bathroom with a wash basin, a metal trench for urinating, and a row of commodes side by side. Oh my!

In the factory we were exposed to vaporised microscopic metal shards that came from grinding engine blocks. I began spitting up wads of black slimy stuff. Years later, after a chest x-ray, the doctor asked if I had had tuberculosis because a small part of my lung was missing.

I once visited the loo, turned around and found myself surrounded by a phalanx of workers pointing knives at my body. Several others surrounded them to watch out for the boss. To them it was unimaginable that a privileged, blue-eyed, blond-haired American boy would be hired as a Guest Worker amongst them without having a higher wage. "How much do you make!?" they demanded in German, as the knives pinched my belly and sides. I answered honestly. The knives disappeared. Smiles, hugs and backslaps ensued.

During that time, through an open window, I once saw Guest Workers living in a room with bunk beds that almost filled the entire volume of the room. Each worker probably paid rent that made a nifty profit for the apartment proprietor. This was as it had been for poor Austro-Hungarian labourers before the First World War. Unfortunately, the post-WWII Austrian socialist party had only enacted labour reforms for Austrians, not for Guest Workers, those expendable *Tschutschen*.

But one thing the socialists did require the factory to do was to offer all

the workers a hot Austrian lunch. To me, every meal seemed as good as dining at the Sacher Hotel. *Leberknödelsuppe! Schnitzel a la Holstein! Tafelspitz!* I still love Austrian cuisine.

After about 8 months and the brutal winter had passed, I found a job as a file clerk in a United Nations agency in the center of the city. A former schoolmate employed in HR put my application on the top of the heap for every low-level position opening up. At last my privilege paid off as it would ever more.

Once, while strolling about town on a Sunday afternoon, perhaps wearing my off-white suit, I encountered some of my former factory colleagues waving at me across the street. Over the traffic noise we exchanged shouts of warm greetings. *Servus Herr Newton! Servus! Servus!*, expressed with their smiling, ruddy faces so sweetly engraved in my memory.

Hello islanders! Tell us your first job stories. Make it a recurring Grapevine column. I hope you enjoyed my account of the silly callow boy I once was, and in some respects still am.



PRE-SCHOOL EARLY YEARS LITERACY

By Anthony Gregson

COMM
INFO

The waiting list for Denman's Blackberry Lane Preschool is continuing to grow. A new preschool building is on the horizon to help solve the problem, but what can be done to fill the gap in the meantime? A new Early Years Literacy Program offered by DICES is meant to do just that. The program will run on Tuesdays 9:30 to noon throughout the winter, starting November 5th, at the Community School. Book reading, literacy activities and games, free play in the gym and healthy snacks will be on the schedule and all children between 0-6 are welcome with their caregivers.

A generous donation from Union Bay Credit Union, who made their support readily available, is what made the program possible. An inaugural announcement at DICES with UBCU Chief Executive Officer Mark Jones was made last week. The donation will go towards paying staff who will coordinate activities, and the acquisition of literacy materials.

Emily Guinane, Executive Director of DICES (Denman Island Community Education Society) cites a 2019 report by the Comox Valley Early Years Collaborative, focused on vulnerable children. The report points out an insufficient amount of early childhood programming, particularly in rural areas, including Denman and Horn

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UBCU CEO Mark Jones presents DICES Executive Director Emily Guinane with funding support for Denman's Early Childhood Literacy Program.
Photo: Daryl McLoughlin

by, where the cost and time of ferry travel make access to early years literacy programs elsewhere in the Comox Valley challenging. DICES, as an established community hub that already provides other family services, are in a great position to fill this gap.

Denman is also, unfortunately, Emily points out, unique in having the second highest level of poverty in the Comox Valley according to the 2018 Vital Signs report, produced by the Comox Valley Community Foundation. Some of the poverty

is associated with single parent households of which there are a growing number. Getting kids reading is obviously vital to their economic expectations and social development down the road, but the program is not only the opportunity to develop literacy. It will also bring parents together and alleviate patterns of isolation, especially in the winter, when you are coping alone with few resources.

The program also works with a Victoria-based pre-school reading program, 1000 x 5, which believes that a child who has read a thousand books by age five stands a far better chance. They take pre-school level donated books, sort them into three age groups, package them up in gift bags (to highlight their value) and make them available free to literacy partners like DICES and parents. Parents can also borrow books from the Community School Library.

Missing from this picture are the numerous pre-school reading apps available, many of them free. Emily says they are staying away from that because it is not their expertise and perhaps does not support the interaction between child and parent in the same way as reading a printed book, or the broader social objectives of the program. Another roomful of people staring at their iPad or phones is hardly the point.

For more information on the program, contact Emily at denman@uniserve.com or 250 335 2058. 🍷

FROM THE CROW'S NEST: Delta Country • Part II • Death in the Afternoon

By William Thomas

Except for a few incurious cows grazing on the beach, our solitude is complete. In a spot jammed gunnel-to-gunnel in summer, skinny-dipping is a dare never refused as I race Thea down *Celerity's* wide sidedeck to splash shouting into the chill October waters.

After a three-day idyll, a few cows see us off. The breeze comes in fresh, raising a stiff chop as we beat past a drowned farmstead with unique sunken hazards. Passing under Antioch Bridge, the Honda runs so rough I switch it off.

The lethal entourage must have been steaming fast through West Island's blind bend. When I last scanned astern, all was clear. When I look again, the push-tow is on top of us.

"OH SHIT!"

The usual last words.

The massive ocean-going barge is being shoved by a sturdy tug whose restricted view ahead must not include a 34-foot mast draped with white sails. My mind gibbers, bracing for impact.

The helm is already up, my hands and arms moving instinctively. But *Celerity* is becalmed under that looming steel cliff.

Jumping back to the transom, I kick savagely at the oxidized motor mount and reach down for the starter cord, jerking it hard.

The ailing outboard catches first pull. Ramming on full power, I slam the steering arm hard over – looking straight up into that rusty black maw as it swiftly closes those final few feet.

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EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

High Salal Strata Corporation on Hornby Island is looking for a Permanent, Part Time Contractor in the position of **WATER & GROUNDS MAINTENANCE MANAGER**.

Responsibilities include but are not limited to:

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Successful Applicant must have:

- Basic Computer skills e.g. spreadsheets
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- Schedule flexibility
- Certification of Small Water System Operator (or completion during training period)

Submit statement of interest, cover letter & application to kendra@burntstew.bc.ca by Oct.20, 2019

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Celerity pirouettes with a crash of gybing sails.

Counting rivets as that great working beast slides past, I direct death rays at the tug's impassive skipper. Elbow braced on an open sill, he waves casually, as if accustomed to running down small craft. He would never have felt the bump.

Minutes later, the motor quits cold. All efforts to revive it fail as we drift into the San Joaquin-Sacramento River junction. Thea and I look at each other, each with the same thought.

The 50-mile return beat against fresh westerlies takes another five days.

Suisan is a bitch. The stiff ocean breeze is dead on the nose as a procession of tugs and a container ship coming up from seaward force us outside the channel markers – sails strapped in hard, Thea spinning winches, my own voice tight as I call “Hard alee!” each time the depth- sounder shows six-feet.

Tacking between concrete bridge supports plucks our nerves like frayed E-strings. Fickle breezes troll these gloomy spaces, batting the tell-tales in hair-pulling wind-shifts.

Recalling those first engineless days in Silva Bay, Thea moves on cat's feet to bring the genoa around as *Celerity* vanquishes each bridge in succession.

Tack-on-tack, we drive *Celerity* toward the ocean, past the beeping overhead cranes at Oakland's container terminal, past the navy shipyard where white-hot welding torches stab at steel plate. Sailing right up to Alameda's Rusty Scupper, we make fast to a handy float. Welcomed by the restaurant's startled owner, I phone for an outboard ambulance.

By dusk next day, the Honda is back on duty. It has taken a valve job, head gasket and water pump to fix. Why it ran at all the mechanic cannot say. No way it should have started when most needed – no choke, no prime. First try. 🍷



Celerity on Hornby.

DON'T PANIC • JUST BE PREPARED: Community Paramedics

By Anthony Gregson

COMM
INFO

When anyone suggests moving to a Gulf Island, the invariable reaction is “But there's no hospital.” With the exception of the Lady Minto Gulf Islands Hospital on Saltspring Island, that is true. With an aging population, the concern is certainly merited. But need this really be such a big risk? A chat with Jason Stevens, a community paramedic with BC Ambulance suggests that maybe it's not.

With his colleague Sean Nordell, Jason Stevens is one of two community paramedics, each putting in 20 hours a week on Hornby and Denman, Jason has been doing it for over two years.

There are three aspects to any healthcare emergency. The one that springs to mind first, naturally, is rescue from the situation. On that score, Denman and Hornby both have excellent first responder and ambulance service. The second aspect is true for any potential crisis: be prepared. And third is preventative action to mitigate or avoid the possibility of an emergency altogether: if you are at risk, take care of yourself.

Ambulance services on the islands are provided by on-call paramedics at ambulance stations on Denman and in outlying communities... BC Emergency Health Services is a provincial organization that operates the BC

Ambulance Service and employees close to 3,000 paramedics across the province.

When a 911 medical emergency call comes in to BCEHS dispatch, highly trained medical dispatchers and call takers go through a triage process to determine what they think your needs are going to be. “Are we going to have to hold a ferry? Is it something that's not urgent? For example, if you're having a cardiac event, they would get you to the ferry and off the island to a higher level of care. They're going to look at having a ferry waiting for you and another ambulance on the other side. In the evening, if the ferry is not running, can we get a ferry crew together quickly? Or is it quicker to fly an air ambulance helicopter or

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order a water taxi?.

The situation is a bit different on Hornby where there is an on-island clinic which is on-call 24 hours a day.

Could say – on Hornby patients are more likely to first go to the on-island clinic and if needed the ambulance service would be called from there. Paramedics are always going to try to transport patients to a higher level of care, but there are occasions, as happened this winter, when bad weather made the helicopter, ferry, and water taxi all too risky.

What if you are living alone, as many people now do on the islands? If you feel at risk of a fall or some other medical emergency, Jason thinks for everyone living alone, a third person medical alert device is a good idea. BC Paramedics favour a Philips Electronics product, Lifeline, which is available on a monthly subscription basis. You press a button and it will activate an ambulance by contacting a dedicated call centre. The device requires a land line (doesn't work with mobiles) and can also be heard within 150 feet. "Lying on the floor for hours," Jason points out, "you may have pressure sores, mobility issues and other problems from which you will also have to recover." Obviously, it helps to have family or friends to look in on you. Programs such as Comox Better at Home, which is volunteer-based, available through Hornby/Denman Healthcare Society, are also helpful.

For both islands it is important to be prepared with advanced care planning. In any medically urgent situation, especially when you cannot speak for yourself, it is important that the health care team understands your expressed wishes for treatment and care. Paramedics are really supporting the Green Envelope Program. They are doing workshops all year to put green envelopes containing the MOST (Medical Orders for Scope of Treatment), a form that tells the health care team what level of treatment you wish to receive together with a list of medications and medical history, as well as a representation agreement in case you can't talk. "When we show up in an emergency, and things are going sideways or whatever, it's an emotional event, we can look in the fridge, pull out the green envelope. Don't need to have you looking for it. It allows us to leave quicker and catch a ferry." Medical, Jason points out, will order the scope of treatment, but when you can't speak, the care forms speak for you.

Be prepared to leave the island. If you leave Denman after 4:00 PM, you won't be coming back that night; on Hornby, it is after 1:00 PM so keep overnight grab bag by the door. If you don't have a grab bag, at least have a list of things you need to take. "So you throw in your wallet, clothes, keys - whatever you need to stay overnight. A partner can be grabbing all your stuff and putting it all together for when the paramedics shows up." Last, but not least, is to have a well-identified sign on the road. This is a huge issue paramedics where signs are often obscured by trees, hidden, or imaginatively painted with blues and greens so as to be virtually camouflaged. Unless you are deeply paranoid of authority, or fanatically eremitic, your sign should be bright, reflective, and easy to read where minutes may make the difference between life and death.

All good, but the main thrust of the Community Paramedic Program is prevention through education. Started in Australia and the United Kingdom 20 years ago, BC adopted the community paramedics program in 2015 with the aim of reducing emergency calls and the pressure on paramedic services by helping people take better care of themselves at home. As

of 2019, there are now close to 122 community paramedics in rural and remote communities across BC.

Jason and Sean spend half their time delivering health promotion and medical awareness with the aim of keeping people in their homes on the islands. They provide training in CPR, hypertension clinics, and advanced care planning. Last year they instructed over 300 people in awareness of Naloxone, an antidote for opiate overdose (drugs such as heroin, dilaudid, morphine, and fentanyl) by allowing you to breathe. They also deliver the Choose to Move program to encourage seniors to get exercise. The Denman Activity Centre, New Horizons on Hornby, libraries, and walk-in clinics at fire halls are all delivery points for health promotion and medical awareness such as stroke.

Community paramedics are also networked into the care teams of both islands and into the Comox Valley health care system. They work with the medical clinics and doctors, go to discharge planning meetings for people coming back on island, and work with occupational health therapist to help people come home. Their focus is home support where they gradually develop a relationship with patients, working to educate them about their medical situation, be aware of symptoms and unusual changes, as well as correct use of their medications. For instance, Jason points out, "If you experience chest pain or dizziness, call the ambulance at once. It doesn't need to be a dire emergency. A lot of people have chest pain and ignore it because they don't want to wake up the ferry staff. The longer you wait on a symptom that is something different, the chances are it will be harder to recover, so the sooner you get off the island, the better. It's a matter of education."

"Ultimately," Jason concludes, "it's a question of building a bigger health care weave: community care, nurses, physios, pharmacists (huge on the islands), rehab . . . " And you. 🍇

POLISH LESSONS

OP/ED

By Gwynne Dyer • Originally published October 16th, 2019

There is a tension at the heart of populist political parties that may ultimately lead most of them to electoral defeat. They depend heavily on the votes of the old, the poor and the poorly educated – “I love the poorly educated,” as Donald Trump once put it – but they are also right-wing parties that do not like what they call ‘socialism’. (Other people call it the welfare state.)

So while they fight the ‘culture war’ against liberal values and bang the nationalist drum (which is popular with these key voting groups), they usually shun the kinds of government programmes that would actually raise the incomes of their key voters. It doesn’t sit well with the ideologies of the people who lead these parties, who are neither poor nor poorly educated.

A case in point is Britain’s governing Conservative Party, which has made the journey from traditional conservative values to rabid nationalism and populism over the past decade. But at the same time it has pursued ‘universal credit’, a punitive reform of the country’s generous welfare programmes that has left most of its working-class voters worse off, and forced some to turn to food banks.

The Conservatives have been getting away with it, in the short term, because Brexit is an all-consuming emotional issue in which the same old, poor and poorly educated part of the electorate mostly voted ‘Leave’ in blatant contradiction to their economic interests.

However, it does not make electoral sense in the long term. Populists always manufacture some sort of crisis for their supporters to focus on at election time, but few others will work as effectively as Brexit. Sooner or later their economic policies, which hurt the poor, will betray them. Unless they heed the Polish example.

In last Sunday’s Polish election, the populist Law and Justice Party won 43.6% of the vote (according to the exit polls) in an election that saw the biggest turn-out since the fall of Communism in 1989. That is a full 6% higher than the vote that first brought them to power in 2015, and will give them an absolute majority in the Sejm (the lower house of parliament).

The Law and Justice Party is not an attractive organisation. It cultivates the national taste for self-pity and martyrdom (the ‘Christ of the Nations’), and always finds some imaginary threat to ‘Polish values’ that only it can protect the nation from. In 2015 it was Muslim refugees (none of whom were actually heading for Poland); this time it was the alleged LGBT threat to Polish culture.

In power, it has curbed the freedom of the press, attacked the independence of the judiciary, and purged the civil service, replacing professionals with party loyalists. Several times it has been threatened with sanctions for its anti-democratic actions by the European Union, which has the duty of defending democracy among its member countries.

Law and Justice’s rhetoric is divisive and filled with hatred. Foreign Minister Witold Waszczykowski explained that the government wanted to “cure our country of a few illnesses” including “a new mixture of cultures and races, a

... continued on Page 10 ...



HORNBY & DENMAN COMMUNITY HEALTH CARE SOCIETY

Please join us as we celebrate the
40th Anniversary of the Society and the many
people that have helped to make it a success

Historian Megan Davies, PhD presents research into
the formation of the Society and
the history of Home Support



Films, stories, exhibits
and cake

1 pm - Saturday, October 19th
at the Hornby Community Hall

For more info 335-2885 or hornbydenmanhealth.com

... continued from Page 9 ...

world made up of cyclists and vegetarians, who only use renewable energy and who battle all signs of religion.”

So far, so bad, but fairly typical of the new generation of populist parties in the West. What is very different, and gave Law and Justice its resounding victory in this election, is that it addressed not only its voters’ ideological concerns but also their economic needs.

Perhaps it’s because the Polish right, suppressed under Communist rule for more than four decades, never developed the kind of libertarian, Ayn Rand-worshipping ideology that infects much of the right in countries further west. Or maybe it’s because of Polish nationalism’s long alliance with the Catholic Church, which actually does respect and care for the poor.

At any rate, Law and Justice manages to be economically left-wing even though it is culturally right-wing. In power, it raised the minimum wage, promising to double it by 2023, and lowered the retirement age. It gave pensioners an annual cash bonus and boosted farming subsidies. (It won most of the rural vote.)

Above all, it brought in the 500 Plus programme, which gives parents 500 zlotys (\$130) a month for each child. It’s pro-family (which pleases the Church), it encourages big families (which pleases nationalists, given

Poland’s declining birth-rate), and while it doesn’t make much difference to middle-class families, it transforms the life of a poor family with three children.

And all that money going into the hands of the citizens produced an economic growth rate last year of 5.4%, one of the highest in the European Union. No wonder Law and Justice increased its share of the national vote in this month’s election.

So if you are not fond of populism, pray that populists elsewhere do not discover Poland’s secret. They do need to be culturally conservative, because they are always blood-and-soil nationalists, but there’s no particular reason why they shouldn’t be economically liberal. If they want to last, that’s the way they have to go.



ARE YOU LENDING MONEY TO CLIMATE DESTROYERS?

OP/ED

By Eartha Muirhead

Did you know that CIBC, TD, RBC, BMO and Scotiabank have put 450 BILLION dollars into fossil fuel development since 2016? They are financing Trans Canada, Enbridge and Teck resources. Even Coastal Community Credit Union and Coast Capital Savings Credit Union turns a portion of their investment dollars over to these big banks. Union Bay Credit Union and VanCity Credit Union have claimed they do not invest in the fossil fuel industry.

The federal government is trying to sell the Trans Mountain Pipeline to private buyers and will have to finance the deal through bank loans. The most likely buyer, Pembina Corporation, has stated they are hesitating because of opposition from climate alarmists. Fossil fuel investments are a risk for investors and if they see massive withdrawal of cash from major banks, they may bow out. Big banks and credit unions are not going to divest from tar sands, LNG and pipelines so we must make sure our money is not helping them kill the planet. Yes, this is a big hassle to change all your banking around but hey, I just read that Jane Fonda is risking arrest every Friday in Washington, DC, to protest the lack of government climate action.

"You cannot persuade a dictator, a sociopath or a corporation by moral argument or pacifism.....The task of the resister is to mobilize a movement that can exert general political and economic force and to choose tactics that will make that movement effective." • Aric McBay 

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

I’ve become aware that my piece about the future with improved internet on Denman and Hornby has been construed to suggest that changing shopping behaviour could negatively impact our Denman Store. This is certainly not the intention. The article was an attempt to illustrate options that Islanders might choose if they had reliable, fast and capable internet. In no way are the Denman and Hornby internet committees advocating that islanders purchase their groceries, etc on line rather than from local vendors. The intention is to help our fellow residents, businesses and institutions to work together to achieve improvements to our internet that will serve us all in the future. I regret any misunderstanding. • Peter Spurr

*Creative Oddments
eclectic compilation
sunshine and rainbows*

Denman Works! Economic Enhancement Society

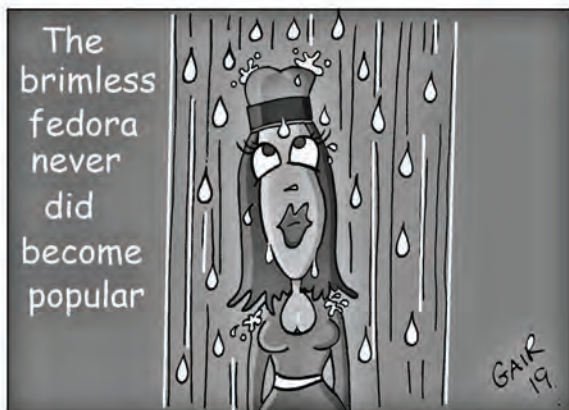
Annual General Meeting

Tuesday, October 22nd 2019

7:00 PM

**Denman Activity Centre
Lounge**

This is a late AGM for
the year 2018.



Écoute

by Thomas Provençal

*Écoute ton cœur
et tu demeures
au centre de ta vie.
Le monde te chante
quand tu t'y plantes
bénie par le Saint Esprit.
La paix te descend
quand tu comprends
que ton but n'est que l'amour.
Mais l'être humaine
se remplit la bedaine de bling
et se cache dans une tour.
Ouvre ta porte
avant qu'elle soit morte
derrière des barreaux de peur.
Il y a moins de stress
et la vie te caresse
quand tu ouvres ton cœur
au bonheur.*

ADVERTISING RATES

Prices include taxes

INSERTS/HANDBILLS

\$62.97/Island

Please contact us to find out
how many you should print.

- or -

we can print it:

\$7/100 (letter-sized - one-side)

\$12/100 (letter-sized - two-side)

CLASSIFIED ADS

30 words or less.

1 week • **\$8.39**

2 weeks • **\$15.40** (\$7.70/wk)

3 weeks • **\$21.00** (\$7.00/wk)

4 weeks • **\$28.00** (\$7.00/wk)

5 weeks • **\$33.25** (\$6.65/wk)

6 weeks • **\$39.90** (\$6.65/wk)

7 weeks • **\$46.06** (\$6.58/wk)

8 weeks • **\$50.40** (\$6.30/wk)

\$4.20/week for each
additional 30 words

BUSINESS DIRECTORY LISTINGS

6 weeks • **\$27.98** (\$4.66/wk)

12 weeks • **\$50.38** (\$4.20/wk)

25 weeks • **\$90.96** (\$3.64/wk)

50 weeks • **\$147.26** (\$2.95/wk)

PROMOTIONAL ARTICLES

Advertise your event
with an article.

\$34.99

for up to 300 words and one
graphic/photo.

BOX/DISPLAY ADS

Price is based on 1x1 column
inches
(2.4" wide x 1.2" high)

For ads that are greater than 1x1
the spacing between columns
and rows must be accounted for.
For each additional column inch
in width add 0.15" and for each
additional column inch in height
add 0.02".

For example:

a 2x3 ad (2 column inches wide x 3 column inches high)
would be

$2.4" + 2.4" + 0.15" \times 1.2" + 1.2" + 1.2" + 0.02" + 0.02" \times 3$

Front Page • \$21.00/1x1

Inside • \$18.20/1x1

Discounts available for placing ads
for multiple weeks.

DEADLINES

Deadline for ALL
submissions is

every Monday at Midnight.

Please contact us for more
information.

theislandgrapevine@gmail.com
250-335-9188



**SUPPORT
CANADA'S
VETERANS**

On October 21st,
Vote for your candidate
in Courtenay—Alberni
best to defeat Conservative:

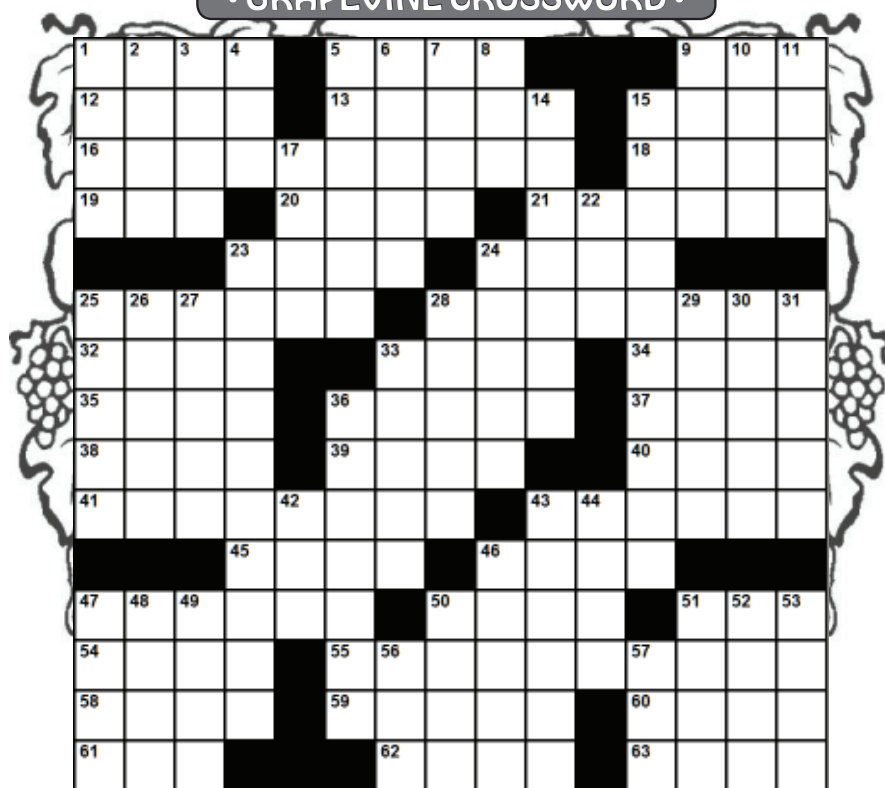


**Gord
Johns,
NDP**



Authorized by Canadian Veterans' ABC 2019 Campaign

• GRAPEVINE CROSSWORD •



• ACROSS •

1. Fizz flavor
5. Incisions
9. Biz degree
12. Cross follower
13. Milo or Tessie
15. City north of Brussels
16. North American Indian language
18. Actor Sandler
19. Chesapeake or Hudson
20. Not his and hers
21. Brainiac
23. Canasta card
24. Prompted
25. Fantasized
28. Errant
32. Bouncy
33. Al Capp's hyena
34. Large tree of East Indies
35. B.C.
36. Cartoonist
37. Kind of bag
38. Baal or Mammon
39. Bankruptcy

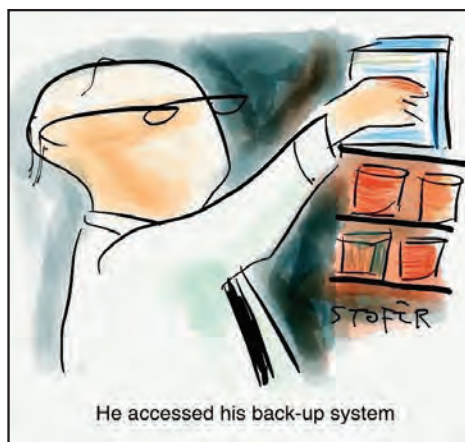
40. Actress

- Campbell
41. Australian bird resembling a pheasant
43. Usher
45. Big brass
46. Directly after
47. Whirl around
50. Gypsy lady
51. Admirer's sound
54. Drag a load
55. Knight meeting place
58. Celtic
59. Act division
60. Carpe ----
61. Compass pt.
62. Chemistry term
63. Call a halt to

• DOWN •

1. Deck mop
2. Actress Montez
3. Immoderate revelry
4. Ancient Tokyo
5. Talk amorously
6. Loan sharking
7. Not that
8. Adriatic, e.g.
9. French region
10. Actor Bridges
11. Biceps sites
14. Gaunt
15. Fishing aid
17. A Crosby
22. Electric fish
23. Snitch
24. Church dogma
25. A British doctorate
26. Close at hand
27. Baseball flub
28. Ill smelling
29. Basque headgear
30. Fall faller
31. Barbecue minutia
33. Dera of films
36. Payola flub
42. However
43. Founder of genetics
44. Beltway sign
46. She-goat
47. Clarified butter
48. Amusing story
49. Tricky scheme
50. Remorseful one
51. Final bio
52. Bread smear
53. Burlap material
56. Andean tuber
57. Billboards

Mr. Stofer



He accessed his back-up system

THE ISLANDS
Grapevine

Now you can read your Grapevine on your personal digital device . . .



email:
theisland-grapevine@gmail.com
for more information.

• LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS •

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



• CLASSIFIED ADS •



• CARPOOLING

RIDE OFFERED TO DEPARTURE BAY FERRY, typically Mondays from the 6:40 am.

RIDE OFFERED FROM NANAIMO TO BUCKLEY BAY, typically Thursday afternoons.

Max 335-0364

HAVE ROOM FOR A PASSENGER? NEED A RIDE? Carpooling offers and requests are free to run in The Islands Grapevine. Contact us to place your ad today. 335-9188, theislandgrapevine@gmail.com.

• FOR SALE

1987 CHEVROLET PROPANE Thomas School bus motor home with full electric lighting and plugs. 183043 km, 6000kg. Great condition. \$ 6,400. Respond to: 4181 East Road Denman Island. 250-299-2971 (message) or crosby-morley@gmail.com

HAY FOR SALE at Corlan Vineyard and Farm, \$7.00 bale. 250-335-9132 or corlan@telus.net

FIR FIREWOOD FOR SALE. 2 cords to Denman, \$540 plus GST. Hornby \$560 plus tax. Text or call Scott at 250-334-7323

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

WAGNER FIREWOOD will begin delivering for 2019 on May 1st. Two cord price is \$540 to Denman and \$560 to Hornby, plus tax Phone or text Scott at 334-7323.(DI/HI)

• SERVICES

MANDALA MASSAGE Is it time for some self care? Offering Deep tissue/Aromatherapy Massage with experienced Holistic Massage Practitioner . call or text Lisa Larkin 250 871-8701 or landline 335-2836.

A PRACTICAL AND HANDY MAN • Electrical • Plumbing 40 plus years experience as an electrician. Licensed as a Master Electrician, Insured. Extensive experience renovating houses. Ty Runkle 250 702-1247

GUTTERS seamless, supply and install also repairs, for free estimate contact Kevin at 250 335 1986 or cell at 250 667 3233. Serving Denman/Hornby.

YVONNE'S BAKING 335-0460

THORLACIUS TRUCKING Top soil, bark mulch, gravel and sand. Denman stockpile for smaller loads. Call Chris & Lora, 250-650-9986. thorlaciustrucking@gmail.com

MR. FIX-IT PLUMBING & All household major and small appliances. All large and small machinery. Yard machinery, chainsaws, outboards, automotive, sharpening, welding and fabricating. Call Rick Graham 335-0954.(HI) (12/20)

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

• COMMUNITY NOTICES

NO FRIDAY NIA Oct 18 & 25. I'll look forward to seeing you Nov 1st.

EXPLORE A NEW TRAIL! Sunday, October 20, 1:00pm. Join the DIRA Trails Committee on a 1 1/2 hour guided walk. Meet on Park Road near the old gravel pit, approximately 2 kilometres west of Park Road/Swan Road intersection.

• HELP WANTED

DENMAN ISLAND CHOCOLATE is looking for the right person to join our amazing production team, four days a week in a permanent position. This is a boring and repetitive job - but hey, chocolate! Must be reliable, conscientious and good at multitasking. Being able to work both independently and with others is essential. Apply with resume to dichoc@telus.net

• FREEBIES

FREE FIREWOOD 339-5187 - Denman

• PERSONALS

SENIOR GENTLEMAN wishes to correspond with a lady perhaps 75 or so. I'm seeking an affectionate companion to live with me on a beautiful Gulf Island. I am aware, UBC graduate, even tempered and live a holistic lifestyle. Interests include: organic gardening, alternate health, spiritual growth and the environmental movement. I am financially secure and believe in the equality of women and men. If this advertisement interests you please reply to Box 4, All-Secure Storage, 3610 Christie Parkway, Courtenay, V9N 9T6. Please include phone number.

• 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 335-9177 (D/H)
2 halls, commercial kitchen, new sound system
suitable for concerts, plays, meetings, weddings, etc.

• REAL ESTATE • INSURANCE • FINANCIAL SERVICES •

- Bente Pilgaard, RE/MAX The Islands 335-2510 (H/D)
- Cloutier Matthews LLP, Chartered Professional Accountants 338-7367 (All)
- Donna & Janessa Tuele • Royal LePage Hornby 335-1720 (D/H)
- Sylvie Schroeder • Royal LePage Denman Island 335-2551 (D/U)

• BUILDING • CONSTRUCTION •

- Bobcat and Compact Excavator • Steve Isaak 335-1853 (All)
- Cal's Bobcat Services • Auger, Grapple, Rake 613-447-8873 (D/H)
- Dean's Digger - Mini Excavator & Small Haul 218-4534 (D/H)
- Denman Electric, Licensed, Fully Insured & Bonded 335-3122 (D/H)
- Excavator/Backhoe/Tandem Gravel Truck • Kenny Mather 703-6512 (All)
• John Isbister 335-2565 (D)
- Gutters Supply & Install • kcgutters@outlook.com • Kevin 335-1986 (D/H)
- Home Storage Solutions • Coastline Closets • 335-1654
- Kinetic Electric, licenced, bonded & insured 335-1741 (D/H)
- Ray Ulovec-Backhoe/Excavator, Septic Installation 335-3145 (D/H)
- Renaissance Stoneworks • natural stone/slate installation 335-0220 (D/H)
- Richard Menard • Carpentry, Construction & Renos 335-1877 (D/H)
- Roc-Isle Drywall, Harvey Hodgins • 35 yrs exp. 'certified' 334-4776 (D/H)
- Seaside Electric • Licenced, Bonded & Insured 702-0570 (D/H)
- Tandem gravel truck & transfer trailer • Grant Morrison 335-0702 (D/H)
- Wafer Tanks and Cisterns • Steve Isaak 335-1853 (All)

• SERVICES •

- Acupuncture, Herbs • Dr. Willo Walker, Dr. TCM 335-1535 (D/H)
- Bio-Energy Healing, Empowerment, Laughter Yoga • Shari Dunnet
335-1877 (D)
- Chiropractic Care on Fridays • Dr. Dawn Armstrong, DC 465-8482 (D)
- Massage Clinic • 2796 Northwest Rd. • Leyah Kelly 335-2584 (D)
- Peter T. Mason • Land Surveying 757-8788 (All)
- Physiotherapy & Acupuncture • Carmen B-Gautrais RPT, RTCMP
335-2260 (D/H)
- Tree Service - Darian Chase • Arborist 218-0404 (All)
- Tops n Toes • Mobile Haircuts & Footcare • Sandy Shaffer 778-585-9356 (D)
- Trueview Treecare, seniors' discount • Wildbill 898-7246 (D/H)
- Yoga Classes, Holistic Massage, 30 years exp. • Fiona Walker 335-1535 (D/H)

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

DEADLINE IS
FRIDAY OCTOBER 25TH
check out the calendar online

theislandsgrapevine.com

theislandgrapevine@gmail.com
250-335-9188



NOTICE

Check out The Islands
Grapevine on the website
• theislandsgrapevine.com •

to keep up to date and check out any extras that
didn't make it into the printed copy.

THE COMING WEEK'S EVENTS

DENMAN ISLAND (DI) HORNBY ISLAND (HI)

THURSDAY 17

- CAP SITE 3-7 pm • Community School (DI)
- D.I. FOOD BANK 3-7 pm • Community School (DI)
- DAAC OPEN STAGE is postponed to Thursday Oct. 24th
- SONGBIRDS DANCE BAND 6:30pm • The Thatch (HI)

FRIDAY 18

- CREATIVE THREADS CONSPIRACY • Community Hall
(DI) Refer to ad on front page for more info.

SATURDAY 19

- CAP SITE 2-5 pm (except holidays) • Community School (DI)
- EARTHQUAKE SIM RAPID DAMAGE ASSESSMENT &
SEARCH/RESCUE TRAINING 8:30-3pm • Tribune Bay
Outdoor Education Centre (HI)
- CREATIVE THREADS CONSPIRACY • Community Hall
(DI) Refer to ad on front page for more info.
- HDCHCS 40th Anniversary Celebration 1pm • The Hall (HI)
- OPEN JAM roots, folk & bluegrass 5pm • Guesthouse (DI)

SUNDAY 20

- DENMAN UNITED CHURCH 10:30 am • (DI)
- CATHOLIC MASS 3 pm • Phipps Point (HI)
- DEATH CAFE 11am • Guesthouse (DI)
- CREATIVE THREADS CONSPIRACY • (DI) Refer to ad on
front page for more info.
- SERGEI & NIKOLAI SARATOVSKY Concerts Denman
2:30pm • Community Hall (DI)

MONDAY 21

- QUILTER'S GUILD 9:30-3 pm • United Church (DI)
- FEDERAL ELECTION

TUESDAY 22

- CAP SITE 3-7 pm • Community School (DI)
- DENMAN WORKS! ECONOMIC ENHANCEMENT
SOCIETY AGM 7pm • DAC (DI)
- DICES AGM 2:45pm • Community School (DI)

WEDNESDAY 23

- CAP SITE 3-7 pm • Community School (DI)

THURSDAY 24

- CAP SITE 3-7 pm • Community School (DI)
- D.I. FOOD BANK 3-7 pm • Community School (DI)
- DAAC OPEN STAGE 7:30pm • Back Hall (DI)