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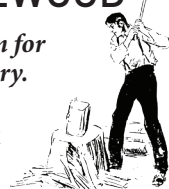
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Cover image: The Mackenzie Queen on the Beach at Tuk 2019/02.
Photo by Annie Steen



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

DENMAN GREEN • An Update

COMM
INFO

By Simon Palmer • DHA

It is some time since the last Update, because frankly there has been little of real interest to report. We have been chiefly engaged in a lot of research, behind the scenes legwork & education of ourselves; and of course a lot of time spent on the Islands Trust's approval process of our Application to transfer densities (in order to obtain the 20 acre site), rezone to permit the use of those densities plus build 20 units of affordable housing and of course subdivide the Denman Green lot from the larger piece of land. And the Trust approval process is not designed for speed, so getting anywhere, having anything to write about takes time.

But now there are some milestones to report and they in turn indicate a positive way forward, which is encouraging.

First however some background, for those who are reading about Denman Green for the first time or have not looked at our website - DenmanHousing.com

The project started with a Housing Needs Study back in 2013 that showed up to 120 people, including 20 children, in need of decent, liveable or affordable housing or both. Our 2013 study was validated by one commissioned by Islands Trust in June 2018 that concluded "Denman Island now requires up to 80 affordable housing units." Land as we all know is expensive and there is no public land, which makes it hard, absent a generous landowner or a Rockefeller, for a Society with no money to acquire land, even for something as altruistic as affordable housing. But someone did come forward to make it happen, two landowners (angels really) willing to downzone their property from 7 to 3 densities. Couple that 'gift' with a property owner prepared to transfer title to 20 acres to our organization as a site for affordable housing,

provided his remainder lot was upzoned to add those same 4 densities, and Denman Housing now had a path towards creating some of the much needed affordable housing on Denman. At which point, July 2018, BC Housing came through with \$95,000 in Project Development Funding, which is enabling us to carry out all the studies & preparatory work required by Islands Trust, VIHA, Ministry of Transport and to prepare for an eventual capital funding application to BC Housing & others.

So where are we today? As stated we have an Application going through the Islands Trust approval process. Currently four bylaws have been given their first reading. Bylaw 235 amends the OCP, enabling the density transfer mentioned above; requiring Energy Step Code in the building construction; rezoning the receiver parcel to allow for the addition of 4 densities; and zoning the affordable housing parcel to ensure the housing is affordable in perpetuity. Bylaw 236 amends the Land Use Bylaw, rezoning the donor parcel to reduce permitted densities/dwellings from 7 to 3; rezoning the receiver parcel & Denman Green lot; and regulating the Denman Green lot coverage, parking and other land use parameters. Bylaw 237 & 238 amend the OCP & LUB to enable the designation of a new Development Permit Area for the receiver parcel & Denman Green lot. The new DPA Guidelines relate primarily to protection of the environment before & after construction, designating no-build areas, establishing a vegetative buffer on all boundaries, requiring a qualified professional report that building design incorporates features to reduce water & energy consumption, improve thermal comfort, air quality and more.

In conjunction with our primary

... continued on Page 4 ...

ISLANDERS UNITE! By C Urquhart

COMM INFO

For the past 2 years, I have been acting as a liaison between the Denman Green Affordable Housing board and the people who will potentially be renters in this new housing project. I have witnessed the board working tirelessly to meet all the demands that have been put on them, by the Island's Trust as well as by BC Housing, in order to bring this project to fruition, and it is still not a done deal. I have also compiled a list of over 50 people, including many children, who are in dire need of housing, many of whom are currently living in substandard conditions.

As hard as it is to believe, there are people on the island who are opposed to this project and are attempting to influence Island's Trust with the intent to have this project shut down.

If you are someone who is in need of affordable housing or know of someone who is in need of affordable housing or even if you are simply an islander who recognizes the need for affordable housing and wish to support your fellow residents and support living in a diverse community, now is the time for you to speak up and be heard!

We need you to show your support for this project by writing letters, emailing, calling or showing up to Island's Trust meetings. We are at a turning point and it is critical that everyone who can, has their say. Please don't wait any longer to show your support.

Many thanks, C. Urquhart

Please send letters to:

wcottingham@islandstrust.bc.ca

DenmanIslandLocalTrustCommittee@islandstrust.bc.ca

szupanec@islandstrust.bc.ca 🍷

CORONAVIRUS

OP/ED

By Gwynne Dyer • Originally published January 26th, 2020

In an emergency, the good thing about a dictatorship is that it can respond very fast. The bad thing is that it won't respond at all until the dictator-in-chief says that it should. All the little dictators who flourish in this sort of system won't risk their positions by passing bad news up the line until the risk of being blamed for delay outweighs the risk of being blamed for the emergency in the first place.

You can see how this works if you consider China's response to the emergence of nCov-2019 (novel coronavirus 2019), a new viral threat potentially as serious as the SARS virus of 2003. Some things it has done well, but others it did very badly, and the odds that the virus will spread globally are now probably evens or worse.

The local health authorities in Wuhan, the 11-million-strong city in central China where the virus first appeared, spotted it on 31 December, when only a few dozen cases had come to their attention. That's as fast as you could ask, and they promptly shut down the seafood and wild game market where the victims caught the disease. Score: 9 out of 10.

China's national health authorities also acted fast. On 9 January they announced that they had a brand new

... continued on
Page 5 ...



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TIDE TABLE

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

2020-01-30
(Thursday)

Time PST	Height (m)	(ft)
02:25	2	6.6
09:25	4.7	15.4
16:12	2.7	8.9
21:12	3.5	11.5

2020-01-31
(Friday)

Time PST	Height (m)	(ft)
02:56	2.4	7.9
09:49	4.6	15.1
16:59	2.5	8.2
22:29	3.5	11.5

2020-02-01
(Saturday)

Time PST	Height (m)	(ft)
03:33	2.8	9.2
10:15	4.5	14.8
17:49	2.3	7.5

2020-02-02
(Sunday)

Time PST	Height (m)	(ft)
00:22	3.5	11.5
04:25	3.2	10.5
10:45	4.4	14.4
18:41	2	6.6

2020-02-03
(Monday)

Time PST	Height (m)	(ft)
02:15	3.7	12.1
05:46	3.5	11.5
11:25	4.3	14.1
19:34	1.7	5.6

2020-02-04
(Tuesday)

Time PST	Height (m)	(ft)
03:24	4.1	13.5
07:25	3.7	12.1
12:16	4.3	14.1
20:25	1.4	4.6

2020-02-05
(Wednesday)

Time PST	Height (m)	(ft)
04:13	4.3	14.1
08:46	3.8	12.5
13:17	4.3	14.1
21:15	1.1	3.6

2020-02-06
(Thursday)

Time PST	Height (m)	(ft)
04:54	4.5	14.8
09:44	3.7	12.1
14:17	4.4	14.4
22:01	0.8	2.6



... continued from Page 2 ...

objective of meeting, in part, the affordable housing needs of the Denman community, we are also committed to making Denman Green a model of sustainability.

Building Design: Subject always to BC Housing approval, our current designs are for 4 fourplexes (each unit containing 4 dwellings), 1 duplex and 2 studio apartments above a common laundry/general use facility, in all 6 buildings. Four of the 10 X 1 bed units will be wheelchair accessible. In addition there will be 6 X 2 bed and 4 X 3 bed units. All buildings will be constructed to meet Energy Step Code 4, meaning they will be significantly more energy-efficient than most modern structures.

Energy: Our intent is for Denman Green to be net zero in energy consumption, in other words to generate as much energy as it consumes. Hakai Energy of Cumberland has completed a solar energy study & costing. Connected to BC Hydro via a net metering arrangement this will pay for itself & achieve our net zero goal.

Water: As many know, the well we drilled was dry. The hydrogeologist whom we then consulted reviewed relevant geological data & concluded “that drilling another well within the proposed subdivision boundaries has a low chance of success”. So we took the next logical step and began to research rainwater harvesting (RWH) on a multi-family dwelling scale. And the more we learned, the more we asked ourselves why it had not been the logical first step. Because of course there are thousands of households in B.C. alone living comfortably with RWH as their sole source of water. Meeting the needs of Denman Green is simply a matter of scale.

And sustainable? The UBC Chapter of Engineers for a Sustainable World, with whom we are working on all aspects of Denman Green wrote, “Rainwater harvesting encompasses the definition of sustainability by providing drinking water, a basic human necessity, without compromising the access of future generations.” They went on that RWH was first employed to provide drinking water approximately 4,000 years ago. Meanwhile, back in the present day, the Ministry of Health, with a document titled ‘Guidance for Treatment of Rainwater Harvested for Potable Use in British Columbia’, is defining how VIHA may permit the construction & operation of RWH in multi-family dwellings. Currently we are developing, with UBC/ESW & two specialist companies, the design for a RWH Pilot collection & treatment system that will demonstrate how Denman Green’s future water can be reliably treated to Canadian Drinking Water Standards.

The counterbalance to sustainable delivery being conservative usage, the fittings & devices in the Denman Green dwellings will be low-flow & water efficient. ‘Proficiency’ toilets @ only 3 litres per flush will use greywater recycled from showers & basins. The common laundry, a standard economic feature of multi-family dwellings, will use untreated rainwater in machines consuming 31.5 litres per load. Dishwashers will be installed because, at 11 litres per load, they use much less water than hand washing. Finally there will be a significant water reserve that will exceed the no-rain days predicted by climatologists for this part of B.C.

Rounding off the subject of water, we will install tankage for firefighting, per the Fire Chief’s specifications; while water for outdoor use, gardening & such will come from a dug pond.

The Denman Green Site: As with everything, there has to be balance, in this case between creating a pleasant living environment and clearing as little land as possible. We would expect to have a Site Plan approved by BC Housing by the time of the Community Information Meeting now being planned by Islands Trust. Meanwhile we do know that there will be a 30m setback/vegetative buffer on all sides of the property and that the maximum lot coverage of all buildings & structures will be 10%. The Environmental Impact Study of the Denman Green site, prepared by Current Environmental, Courtenay, points to there being an opportunity to create a meadow habitat, where tree clearance is needed, by planting native grasses which are known to support species such as the Taylor’s Checkerspot Butterfly. The Study recommends other mitigation measures such as thinning the second growth to encourage habitat diversity and the placing of a no-build covenant on undeveloped areas, all of which we support & intend to follow.

Tenancy: So far we have over 40 names of persons interested in making Denman Green their home. This is not a waiting list. First prospective tenants must qualify with BC Housing and be placed on the Housing Registry. This involves disclosing income & assets and an assessment of the applicant’s ability to uphold the obligations of a tenancy agreement. Once on the Registry, and because Denman Green cannot accommodate all who qualify, certain criteria will have to be applied, such as length of Denman residency, whether there are children in the family, or a need for accessible accommodation & more. It will likely be a difficult task, one that we will delegate, one that must be seen to be transparent and fair.

Our Association has been working on this now for over 6 years and the likelihood is that it will take at least

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two more before Denman Green is ready for occupancy. But it is worth it. Not only does a broad demographic enrich our community, but it is essential if the volunteer-driven organizations that do so much on the island are to carry on; essential if the fairs, dances, creation of arts & crafts, the school, the growing & selling of produce are to continue. Above all it is arguably the mark of a civilized, caring community that it refuses to allow some, including children, to live in sub-standard, unaffordable housing.

Our AGM is coming up on February 27, at 4 p.m. in the Activity Centre Lounge. After routine business there will be time to talk more about Denman Green, to answer questions, pick up on suggestions & more. All are welcome because this is really a Denman community project, one you will be proud of once it is completed. 🍷

... continued from Page 3 ...

coronavirus on their hands, and just one day later they released its full genetic sequence online so medical researchers worldwide could start working on it. Elapsed time: eleven days. Known deaths at that point: one. Score: 10 out of 10.

But these are medical professionals, doing their duty according to internationally agreed protocols. We don't know what they recommended to China's political authorities at that point, but they must have called for widespread testing, and probably also for travel restrictions to control the spread of the virus. But nobody dared to rock the boat: nothing was done.

A pause here to recall how you control the spread of a new infectious disease for which there is no vaccine, nor any effective cure. You isolate the victims as soon as they are identified, and give them what medical support you can: some will die, but most will usually survive. And if you do that soon enough and thoroughly enough, the global pandemic never gets going.

There are often complicating factors. The spread will be far faster if the virus can pass from one person to another in the air. It will be much harder to isolate the people carrying the virus if they become infectious before they develop visible symptoms. But the methods available to slow or stop the spread are still the same: identify the carriers and isolate them.

Now, back to what happened in China. The medical people did their job; the political people did not. It was two more weeks before the city of Wuhan was cut off from the rest of the country and the world. I live in London, fifteen hours' flying time away, and during those two weeks 2,000 people arrived from Wuhan at London's airports.

Lunar New Year, the biggest holiday in China's calendar, was coming up fast, but nothing was done although half the population goes home for a visit at this time every year. Wuhan and a dozen other Hubei cities are now in lockdown, but it's too late: Wuhan's mayor, Zhou Xianwang, admits that 5 million people have already left the city for the New Year celebrations. Score: 2 out of 10.

We now have two pieces of bad news that would have made it even more urgent to seal Wuhan off had we known them at the time. The new virus does propagate through the air, and people carrying it do become infectious before they display any symptoms.

Zhou didn't dare advocate isolating the city, and neither did anybody else, until the Great Panjandrum Himself had spoken. President Xi Jinping finally spoke last Saturday (25 January), saying that China faces a "grave situation", and now the system is racing to do what it should have been done two weeks ago.

Too bad, but this pandemic (if that is what it becomes) will probably be on the same scale as the Sars virus, and that is not really horrific: deaths in the high hundreds or a few thousands worldwide. The mortality rate among those who catch it appears to be about 2%, compared to 1 % for ordinary seasonal influenza. And ordinary 'flu kills about 400,000 (mostly elderly) people every year.

But one of these days something like the 1918 virus that caused the 'Spanish' influenza will emerge again. That killed around fifty million people worldwide, out of a global population only a quarter of what it is now.

Since Chinese food markets now seem to be a prime source of dangerous new 'flu-related viruses, the Chinese government has a particular responsibility to contain them early. The Chinese doctors will do their duty, as always, but it would be nice if China had its political act a bit more together before then.



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Denman Island Community Paramedicine will be providing presentations on the following topics. All presentations are free of charge and open to all age groups.

Heart Health

Cardiovascular disease and risk factors for heart disease.

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January 31st Denman Fire Hall at 2:00pm

FROM THE CROW'S NEST: Out of Africa

Again By William Thomas

ARTS&LIT

On a planet that is two-thirds ocean, the ability to cross open-water to a distant shore enabled and defined human history. After nearly two-million-years of wandering, the need to be on the move is engraved on our DNA. Whatever our chosen locomotion, few things make us happier than watching the landscape pass. Or our wake spinning out astern.

Any excuse will do.

Fast-rewind to... the Cape of Good Hope circa 164,000 years ago. Modern Homo sapiens are settling into luxurious condo-caves at scenic Pinnacle Point, where abundant seafood scraps show newcomers living the good life just around the corner from fabled Arabia. All they need is a floating carpet.

Everything's Eden for another 40,000 years or so, until the Earth teeters once again in its passage around the sun and prolonged drought sends a fresh wave of climate refugees fleeing to Africa's south coast, where hungry interlopers uproot the scowling locals.

With northern routes blocked by impassable desert, the only exit points east, across the five-mile-wide "Gate of Tears" guarding the entrance to the Red Sea. (Homo sapiens gathering shells on the beach can see the other side.) As a renewed ice age sucks up seawater, genetic mapping in Europe, Asia and Oceania shows our progenitors rafting over to Aladdin's lands via the shrunken Bab-el-Mandeb strait.

That's right. Those first narrow-beamed ferries with upswept ends conveyed a single tribe, who "went on to colonise the rest of the world," writes Richard Gray.

It was a near-run thing.

Venturing two-and-half miles from the nearest shore is huge. When was the last time you were that far from dry land onboard a waterlogged raft working its lashings loose in a sea-way?"

Each small crew of synchronized paddlers faced up to three-hours' exposure each way. Did I mention unforeseen currents and storms sweeping them out into the Indian Ocean?

Even light adverse headwinds would have kept reinforcements beached, "or forced any raft already at sea to

turn back," geneticist Gray observes. "The entire human race outside Africa owes its existence to the survival of a single tribe of around 200 people who crossed the Red Sea."

"We are talking about just a few hundred individuals," confirms Dr. Peter Forster.



Looking back to departed shore while crossing the Bab el Mandeb.

When successive waves of Homo sapiens floated out of Africa 120,000 to 70,000 years ago, they were following in the wakes of their pre-human predecessors. Hominin remains and accompanying stone tools dated more than a million years ago testify to intentional 12-mile crossings by Homo erectus from the shores of North Africa through the Straits of Gibraltar to Spain.

How about Santa Rosa, where early Californians spoke proto-Japanese? Corroborative dating shows delighted Jomon seafarers reaching this Channel Island's well-stocked natural larders around 700,000 years ago.

And ignorant racists still insist on some latter-day whitewashed "superiority"?

Yo! Dudes! There is greater genetic



Ethiopia to Yemen via the Bab el Mandeb.

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variation among individuals in each “race” than the average difference between such scientifically-nonsensical groupings.

Through mitochondrial DNA passed on by our mom’s moms, every human alive today can be traced to a single female who lived around 200,000 years ago.

Hey Klansmen! Yo’ mama was a black lady from Ethiopia. And her descendants – daughters and sons – were sailors, to boot.

Deal with it.

willthomasonline.net



THE BOAT THAT CAME BACK

SPECIAL
INTEREST

By Anthony Gregson

For some reason, turning seventy-five seems something to take seriously for once. Even for those who believe that sixty is the new forty, it is the marker for what might be called advanced years, a source of pride and some reflection on what life has to offer – or not. Long-time Denman resident Ed Phelan of Northwest Road thought so and decided to do something about it.

Some years previously he had finally acquired, after a long wait, the last clinker-built open fishing boat built by the father and grandfather of Al Scott on the island. Built of cedar, it was the Gulf Island equivalent of the East Coast dory, fifteen feet, nine inches long and five and a half feet wide, requiring long cedar sweeps (made by Paul Scanlon) to row without holding the oars over your head. With a Briggs and Stratton inboard, capable of 8 to 10 hp, it was used for fishing around Hornby and Denman.

After years of storage high up in an Island shed, it was intact but needed a lot of restoration. In 2014, on the great occasion, Ed decided to treat himself to a 75th birthday trip. How about taking it down the Mackenzie River, from Slave Lake to Tuktoyaktuk on the Arctic Ocean? It’s only 1100 miles or so.

A few people might be somewhat daunted by this idea but from all I have observed about Mr. Phelan, he is a seasoned man of adventure, well-travelled, and at one time, a gold prospector, amongst other things not yet discovered from our conversations at the Guesthouse.

He has a lively curiosity about history and is an inveterate collector of the odd and the useful, such as the puzzle bolts he bought into the Guesthouse that challenge you to figure out how to unscrew the nut, or a 1929 tourist road map of the Vancouver Island east coast that shows Denman but no Hornby.



The Boat at Tuk



THE RIVER WAS SWOLLEN AFTER A WRESTLING MATCH WITH THE RAINING CHAMPION THUNDER STORM!

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Ed was no stranger to the Mackenzie after a previous attempt twenty years earlier in a kayak. The river was in flood, swamping vast stretches of forest and submerging all the bars and low islands where you could pull out and camp safely. “I launched at noon and by 1:30 the next morning I was still trying to find somewhere to land.” He eventually started down river, calling in at RCMP stations “so they wouldn’t have to search the whole Mackenzie to find me”. He learned about the moan of storms that seemed to come out of nowhere with torrential rain and lightning, the plagues of mosquitoes, and the extraordinary helpfulness of people. He pulled out at Wrigley, 500 miles from the mouth of the Mackenzie, and put in again at Inuvik, at the foot of the delta about seventy miles from Tuk. But then a big wave tossed him on a rock, “the only one in that forty-five mile wide delta”, cracking the kayak in two places. Ever prepared, he got out his patch kit only to find it was useless because the bottle of hardener has split and emptied out. The experience did nothing to change his deep feelings for the river. Ten years previously, travelling in Central America, he had written in his diary that getting down the Mackenzie to Tuk was his pilgrimage to Santiago Compostela.

Now he built a custom trailer for the Scott boat and rigged it up with a fly sheet over the stern and a new 9 hp engine for the journey downriver from Fort Providence, just east of Great Slave Lake. Taking no chances, he’d kitted himself out well. This time he was followed by six people, on Denman and elsewhere, via a GPS feed so they could see exactly where he was at any time. When he took a wrong turn, a friend became really upset and turned to her husband. “What can we do?” “Shout louder?” he suggested.

A born documentalist, he had purchased a 360 degree Go Pro camera that he mounted on a pole (needed because the banks of the Mackenzie are often too high for a panorama) and two other cameras, including the one in his tablet. Everything was in watertight containers. But he woke up on the first day, June 10th, to find everything afloat, the boat filled with water. With all his equipment, the boat had settled above the level where the caulking, still fresh, had yet to swell. Ever prepared, he had caulking set up in a gun. But the river wanted those cameras and eventually, both the GoPro and his other camera slipped overboard.

Apart from having to travel alone, the journey presented two main problems: unlike in a kayak, the banks of the Mackenzie offer very few places to pull out. There were also the rapids which filled Ed with trepidation. At the Ramparts, the river narrows from 6600 to 330 ft over 7 miles; At the San Soult, 34 miles downstream, the river again narrows to just over half a mile, white water that eighteenth century explorer Alexander Mackenzie noted was the worst he had ever seen. They proved something of an anti-climax, perhaps because of the low water. In fact, Ed only realized he had passed through the Ramparts when the river suddenly widened again. With characteristic precision, he mapped his speed with GPS. At one point, he was moving at 27.3 knots, something, Ed says, he would never have guessed.

People are the place in so many journeys. On the way down he was looking for somewhere to shelter from a storm and spotted what looked like an opening in the bush along the bank, the first he had seen in the entire journey. Once inside he was surprised to find an aluminum boat with a big fifty horsepower Merc. “Who the hell left this here,” he asked himself. Then he spotted what looked like a bridge, 85 miles from the nearest road. He went up to explore. There was a road and down below, just out from under the bridge, was a tent. “I’m good at being quiet,” Ed said, and he came up. “Hello Tent,” he cried. There were startled cries. Charles Hardisty and Charles Tolly were two Slavey trappers, looking up the river under the bridge for the moose to come down. He began by asking them for matches and that was how he became known as the Matchless Tourist; he called them his Slavey Sasquatches because they joked that sasquatches came from UFOs. When they asked him what gun he had, Ed said he didn’t have one. “What about da bears?” Ed told them he made a deal: if they left him alone, he’d leave them alone. “It don’t work like dat,” he was told, and they laughed at his bear spray and flares and horn. “There’s a horn – he must be around. And there’s a flare – he’s right over there.” Over the course of the next two days, sheltering from the storm, they became fast friends and posed in a photo with the flare and the horn and a sign Ed takes everywhere

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with him, Club Ed.

He arrived at Tuktoyaktuk on June 28th and arranged with an Inuit, Lucky Pokiak, to get the boat barged upriver on its journey back to Denman Island. But eventually he learned that Pokiak had moved the boat from the shelter of a lagoon and left it right on the beachfront, open to the waves. It was never going to get back home unless he went up to retrieve it himself. So last September he set off again for Tuk and returned on October 5th with the boat in tow.

The boat was filled with seaweed and beach detritus but had survived its five years on the beach. John Steen had moved the boat up high next to a local diner, Grandma's Kitchen. Now its back in his shop, stripped down and all cleaned up, waiting to be restored once again, a precious relic of Islands' life still on the go.

While up in Tuk, one Annie Quéméré mistook a sorry-looking beat-up old canoe for Ed's boat, and called on him, expecting, Ed says, some strapping, six foot-four voyageur. She wasn't too impressed. "Here I was expecting to meet some rough, tough Canadian and here is this scrawny old man," she complained. That set the tone for them. "How old are you, Annie," he asked. "A gentleman never asks a lady her age," she noted. "Okay," Ed quipped, "That lets you and I out. Now how old are you?" It

... continued on Page 11 ...

DENMAN WORKS!

• HAS MOVED •

Denman Works has moved from the Denman Activity Centre and changed its hours.

Our new location is a shared office at the back of the Emporium Building
1071 Northwest Road. Access is through the garden gate behind
Denman Hardware.

• Office hours are now every
Thursday, 9 to 5 •

07-07-20 = 10

Episode Three in which Andro begins to have doubts about his work ...



*V*olunteers by Bill Engleson

*"It just doesn't seem right," Fred Biddle said in passing,
as I hung out on the General Store porch counting leashed dogs,
wearing my old winter coat with the busted zipper,
thinking about the pending snow attack,
hoping for a bit of stimulating conversation.
"What's that about?" I asked, not sure if Fred heard me
as he talks and walks pretty fast old Fred does,
faster than me, I must admit.
But he stopped and palavered.
"They're taking a lot of unearned heat," he said,
"but there surely isn't much illumination to be had."
"Specifics?" I rebounded with, and he said,
"Volunteers. The folks who give up their time to make the wheels turn."
Well, of course I've had this conversation before
Or one like it. You see it sometimes, in the locals,
A list of all the people who did something for one group or another,
The arty crowd or the environmental types.
Those volunteers get kudos up the yin yang.
Some, however, find themselves on the receiving end of mistrust.
I should have left it alone, I suppose,
but I had this self-destructive urge to make a further enquiry of Fred,
who, though he's a speedy guy, often fails to get directly to the point,
but this time he did, even rushed it some.
"Committees of any kind, eh! You seen those Bulletin Board ramblings?
Some downright unpleasant."
"Yup, a bit over the top," I said, surprising myself with a strong opinion.
"Yeah," he said. "Hardly anyone jumps in to defend anyone.
I mean, they're us, aren't they?"
Well, there I was, thinking about the cold and my busted zipper
and also thinking, "No, hold your tongue, fool. You don't want to get involved,"
Meaning me, of course. Facebook is lethal. Bitter and deadly.
You say something, anything, and the verbal artillery
starts blasting away at you and it never ends.
Sure, I was feeling cowardly. I expect I'm not alone
But sometimes, most times you best keep your head down,
check out the lay of the land, wear a helmet,
hope all the meanness goes away.
Fred broke up my faint-hearted reverie and pointedly asked,
"How about you defending volunteers who serve on Boards and Committees?"
And I answered, "Got a busted zipper, Fred. Have to get it fixed before the ice storm."
That ended our faint foray into heroics
and he went on into the store
and I just stood there thinking about the cold.
and seamstresses,
and why anyone would want to volunteer for most anything
that required a serious decision.*

... continued from Page 9 ...

could be vaudeville. Annie, from France, loved Tuk. Together they christened his boat the Mackenzie Queen, the waters of the Arctic Ocean clouding red with an \$85 bottle of Chateau Phélan's Ségur (not a home brew), hauled all the way from Denman for the occasion by the ever-prepared Ed.

Annie turned out to be someone else with a boat. In fact, she is a world renowned extreme sport adventurer. She has rowed solo across the Atlantic from Cape Cod to France, and kite-sailed from New York to Britany as well as from Peru to French Polynesia, both world firsts. Since 2014, she had been trying to traverse the Northwest Passage. Her first attempts in a kayak were defeated by the storms which, ominously, have grown far longer and stronger in recent years (in fact, Tuk itself is being swiftly eroded). She'd then moved on to a solar-powered boat but was again frustrated by storms, blown ashore and rescued by scientists who were waiting for a helicopter pickup. Undaunted, she had arranged with a French cruise ship to pick up her boat on their Arctic passage, but they just got started when they were told by the Coast Guard it was too late in the season to proceed.

"So, I got my boat back," Ed said, unflustered in the presence of fame and feisty as ever. "Where's yours?" Annie, of course, now has a Club Ed sign of her own. Ed's tee shirt says it all: "I'm not seventy. I'm eighteen with fifty two years of experience." 🍷

Insecurity

by Thomas Provençal

*Go and get a mirror
and look into your heart.
Examine how you feel and think.
Be honest from the start.
What form of insecurity
has shaped how you perceive?
A patchwork quilt of influence
that leads you to believe
the world is out to get you,
self protection is a must!
Mulling over many details
of the ones you're scared to trust
will only bog you down the more
and keep your truth inside.
Emulate a chrysalis
Then burst out full of pride!*

• THE ISLANDS GRAPEVINE • EDITORIAL POLICY

The Grapevine is dedicated to fostering a sense of community on Denman and Hornby by covering events, issues, and the creativity of the many gifted people amongst us. 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 is 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.

Please keep in mind that Hornby and Denman are a very small market for newspaper publication. We do our best to provide quality content at no cost to our readers but we ask you to understand that this depends on financial viability. Paper, ink, postage, equipment, and rent all add up. As it is, the Grapevine can only be brought to you with considerable subsidy of time and energy by our team which is very willingly given. The Grapevine would like to accept more content free of charge, particularly around community news, and is working on plans to expand its reach and revenue base to move towards that goal.

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" w x 1.2" + 1.2" + 1.2" + 0.02" + 0.02" h

Front Page • \$21.00/1x1

Inside • \$18.20/1x1

Discounts available for placing ads
for multiple weeks.

DEADLINES

Deadline for ALL

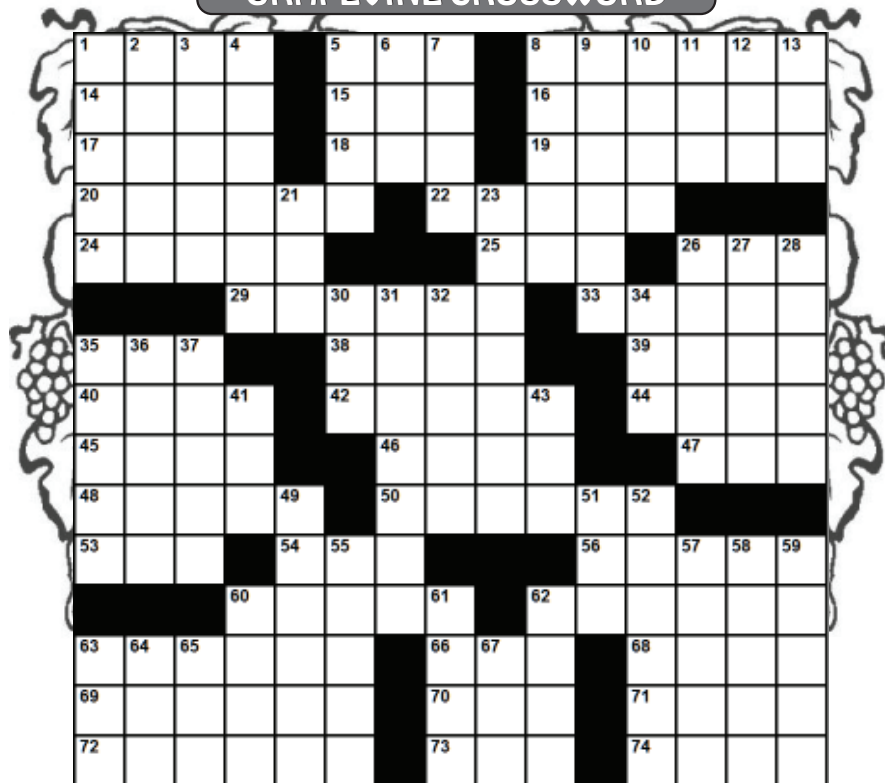
submissions is

every Monday at Midnight.

Please contact us for more
information.

theislandgrapevine@gmail.com
250-335-9188

• GRAPEVINE CROSSWORD •



• ACROSS •

1. Con man's scheme
5. Drop the ball
8. Appetizer
14. Spelling on TV
15. Asian gazelle
16. Giraffe relatives
17. African wading bird
18. Be master of
19. Mellows
20. Has snacks
22. Church tenet
24. Flash of light
25. Little white lie
26. Angry state
29. Defer
33. Choral ensemble
35. Command to Fido
38. Caesar's wound
39. Egad or dang
40. Barely cooked
42. Abrupt blows
44. Musical medley
45. Horned goddess
46. Escape hole
47. Affirmative reply

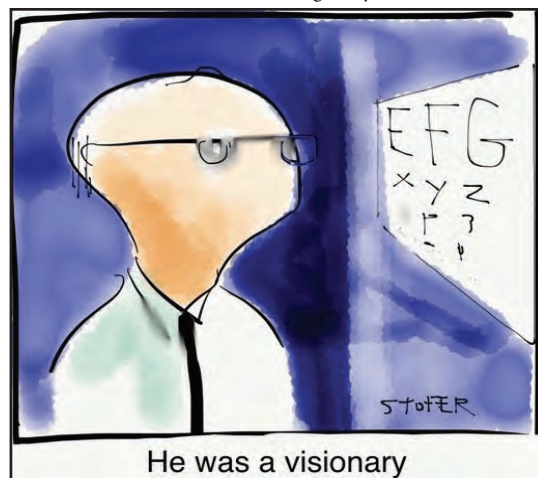
48. Alluvial plain
50. Anatomical opening
53. Conduit fitting
54. EPA stat
56. Dine sumptuously
60. Alcohol base
62. Ichabod's sleepy place
63. Hindu prayer
66. Be beholden to
68. Animation
69. Bout settings
70. Caught ya!
71. Depression migrant
72. Film extra
73. Anything but that
74. Break from a habit

• DOWN •

1. Bee bite
2. Old computer language
3. Crop up
4. Bad luck
5. Big heads
6. Big argument
7. Dancer Sally breed
8. Welsh dog
9. With hands on hips
10. Calif. county
11. Be unoriginal
12. Alley target
13. 19th of 26
21. Cassowary kin
23. Strikingly unconventional
26. Boot of Europe
27. Fix a knot
28. Group beliefs
30. Cookbook meas.
31. Study of the ears
32. Forgeries
34. Act dovish
35. Bouquet bearer
36. Artist's prop
37. Bar companion
41. Approx.
43. Aspen gear
49. Amphibious vehicle
51. Craft of sci-fi
52. Laid-back
55. Full moon, for one
57. Much the same
58. Director Coppola
59. Poetic contraction
60. Active volcano
61. Bank deal
62. Furnace output
63. Scratch the surface
64. Beatitudes verb
65. After deductions
67. Barn dweller's query

Mr. Stofer

www.stofergallery.com



He was a visionary

Looking to the Night's Sky

SAYING GOODBYE TO SPITZER

The x-ray space telescope, Spitzer, is scheduled for decommissioning today. It has spent the last 16 years studying the universe in the infrared spectrum. From imaging the life-cycles of stars to discovering exoplanets - Spitzer has proven itself by operating 11 years beyond planned operations. The telescope will be shutdown by ground control and left to drift in its heliocentric orbit trailing the Earth.

www.spaceflightinsider.com/missions/space-observatories/spitzer-telescope-to-be-decommissioned-after-16-years/

Until next week . . .

Keep Looking to the Night's Sky

• LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS •





• 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

WAGNER FIREWOOD.
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.

• SERVICES

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.

PAINTING/DRYWALL REPAIR. Need a second set of hands for that project? I can help. I have experience in plumbing, electrical, framing, roofing, insulation/vapour barrier and many other things. Call Tom 250-218-7682 or email taucht@telus.net (Denman/Hornby)

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

RICHARD MENARD CARPENTRY – RENOVATIONS and INTERIOR PAINTING, decks, studios, tiny houses, highly-skilled woodworking & interior finishing, custom doors, woodcarving, etc. Courteous, reliable, excellent references: 250-334-7978 (cell) or home 250-335-1877 (DI/HI)

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, Tree-work, 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

NEXT NIA is 10:30 Friday Feb 7. Dance. Stretch. Laugh. Release. Explore. Bring a water bottle and a matt. Questions? Everyone welcome. Max 335-0364.

THE DRAFT COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT BETWEEN HIRRA and Recycling Depot CUPE employees is ready for a ratification vote at the Wed. Feb. 12 HIRRA meeting at 7:30pm at the Hornby Hall.

• FOR RENT

PRIVATE OFFICE SPACE FOR HIRE Contact Abraxas - 335-2731 or drop in for availability & rates.

• HELP WANTED

DENMAN ISLAND CHOCOLATE is STILL looking for good people to join our amazing production team. We know you're out there. Email us with your resume: dichoc@telus.net

YOUTH OUTREACH WORKER - Hornby and Denman Community Health Care Society seeks a part time outreach worker to join our child, youth and family team. For a detailed job description please see our website at hornbydenmanhealth.com. Closing date February 3, 2020.

MAINTENANCE CONTRACTOR - Hornby and Denman Community Health Care Society seeks an experienced building and equipment maintenance contractor for the Hornby Clinic and Society office. Interested applicants should review the position expectations on our website at hornbydenmanhealth.com and provide an expression of interest by February 3, 2020.

• 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 •

- Aquarian Systems • Water Cisterns • Ed Hoepfner 335-2037 (D/H)
- 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 • Kevin 667-3233/335-1986 (D/H)
- 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)
- Seaside Electric • Licenced, Bonded & Insured 702-0570 (D/H)
- Tandem gravel truck & transfer trailer • Grant Morrison 335-0702 (D/H)
- Water 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)
- Denman Works! • Tony Gresson 1-778-838-7110 denmanresource@gmail.com (D)
- House Cleaning & Massage • Ruth Kirwin 250-650-3132/250-335-0822 (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)

MARCH CALENDAR

DEADLINE IS
FRIDAY FEBRUARY 21ST

theislandsgrapevine@gmail.com
250-335-9188



NOTICE

Check out The Islands
Grapevine on the web
• 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 30

- GRANT WRITING 101 • Community School (DI)

FRIDAY 31

- DENMAN PARAMEDICINE PRESENTS: Healthy Diet & the New Canadian Food Guide 2pm • Fire Hall (DI)
- DICES GAMES NIGHT fundraiser 6:30pm • Back Hall (DI)
- SENIOR'S LUNCH Theme: Robbie Burns 12pm • DAC (DI)

SATURDAY 1

- REID JAMIESON BAND concert 7pm • Guesthouse (DI)

SUNDAY 2

MONDAY 3

- QUILTER'S GUILD Fabric Exchange & "Blue" Challenge
9:30am • United Church (DI)

TUESDAY 4

- UBCU 2020 MARKET OUTLOOK presentation 12-1pm
(lunch provided) • Corlan Vineyard (DI)
- UBCU 2020 MARKET OUTLOOK presentation 7-8:30pm
(wine & cheese) • Sea Breeze Lodge (HI)

WEDNESDAY 5

- MEDITATION AT THE YURT 7pm • The Hermitage (DI)
- GREAT BIG PAINT 4:30pm • Community School (DI)
- DISCOVERING THE GIFT OF ACTIVE HOPE •
Community School (DI)

THURSDAY 6

DO YOU WANT TO KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING
ON DENMAN OR HORNBY REGARDLESS OF
WHERE YOU ARE?

- WHEN IS THE NEXT CONCERT AT THE COMMUNITY HALL? •
- WHEN IS THE NEXT GATHERING OF NIA ENTHUSIASTS? •
- IS THE HIRRA MEETING AT 7 OR 7:30? •
- IS PICKLEBALL STILL HAPPENING ON MONDAYS? •
- IS CATHOLIC MASS STILL HAPPENING THIS SUNDAY? •

CHECK OUT THE DETAILED
EVENTS CALENDAR AT
theislandsgrapevine.com

ARE YOU PUTTING ON AN EVENT OR HOSTING WORKSHOP OR
PROMOTING A CONCERT? CONTACT theislandsgrapevine@gmail.com WITH
THE DETAILS SO WE CAN LIST IT ON OUR EVENTS CALENDAR!!