



*"Maybe I should just go home and ride my tractor."* • Chuck Grassley



**D.I. General Store**

**Your Community  
General Store**  
*101 years* and  
**still going strong!**

Marvelous, hardworking staff who hope that Grumpy is now Happy in his retirement. Thanks for everything, Grumpy! We'll miss you!

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Marion Dillon winner of our  
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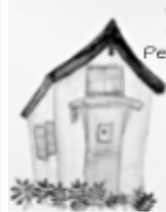
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## CONTENTS

ISSUE NO. 1483 • MAY 13TH, 2021

### • ARTS&LIT •

- 4 • An Unpainted Portrait: Doodads, etc.  
by Leo Simmons

### • COMMUNITY INFO •

- 6 • Grumpy's Farewell  
by Anthony Gregson

### • SPECIAL INTEREST •

- 7 • I Thought You Might Like This  
by Doreen Langmead

### • OP/ED •

- 9 • Objective Allies: Netanyahu and Hamas  
by Gwynne Dyer

- 8 • Letters to the Editor

### — REGULAR FEATURES —

- 3 • Tide Table
- 12 • Gary's Toon
- 10 • Crossword
- 10 • Mr. Stofor
- 11 • Classified Ads
- 12 • Business/Services Directory

Cover image: Henning Farm ractor.  
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• DENMAN: 700 • HORNBY: 510 •  
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*The opinions expressed herein do not  
necessarily reflect the views of the  
Publisher.*

## The Zella Clark Health Centre

By the Denman Health Centre Society

COMMUNITY INFO

**W**e are very fortunate on Denman Island to have our health care providers at the Centre continue to meet the needs of our community in such a comprehensive and effective manner. The services that include physiotherapy, laboratory testing, home care, prescription delivery, mental health assistance and five days a week physician care are unique to our island and much appreciated. Dr. Ron Wilson reports that the Clinic is now linked to the Primary Care Network of the Comox Division of Family Practice. As a result there are new resources coming to the clinic that include a pharmacist for consultations regarding patients prescription drugs, a social worker and a new Mental Health and substance abuse worker. This is a positive addition to the services available at the clinic.

### An update on the Health Centre Building:

During the past year with the unfortunate COVID invasion, there has been careful review of the importance of fresh air ventilation within enclosed building structures. One of the most closely examined areas of review has been within facilities where medical services are offered. ASHRAE, the north American authority for most heating, ventilation and air conditioning standards has upgraded their recommendations for air handling within medical service facilities. To meet these standards, DHCS has further upgraded the air handling system within the clinic building to meet these new standards.

The clinic is now serviced with an increased volume of fresh outside air being introduced into the building while exhausting more air from within the building. The fresh and exhaust airs are handled via an Energy Recovery Unit (ERV) which further complements the air filtration, heat pump and UV light air purification system installed a few years ago.

### A couple of thank yous:

We wish to thank two gentlemen who have very generously helped us out at the clinic: Richard Martin who contributed his electrical expertise for the supply of power to the new ERV unit and to Steve Isaak who has contributed his time and machine time for the regrading of the clinic parking lot. On behalf of the community we thank them sincerely.

We know that many of you were able to avail yourselves of the COVID-19 vaccine clinic on the island and we hope that you continue to stay safe and healthy. 🍷

## Plant Sale Thank You & 2021 Farmers Market

Coupon Program By DICES

COMMUNITY INFO

### Grateful for our Plant Sale

DICES and Community School PAC would like to thank the many gardeners who dropped off gorgeous plants to our plant sale on April 24, everyone who came out to buy new greenery for their gardens. Huge thanks to the wonderful volunteers who helped us sort, price, and generally acted as persuasive salespeople. It was a thoroughly successful event. We couldn't do it without you!

If your garden plans include veggies, please consider growing an extra row for the food bank. Fresh fruit and veggies are eternally popular among our clients, and most of our offerings are centered around non-perishable items. We are grateful for your support!

### Food Bank Drop offs - Reminder

Food Donations Unopened food donations can be left at the Community School Portable on Thursdays from 3-7, or by prior arrangement made by contacting dices.communityprograms@gmail.com.

Home grown vegetables are welcome but unfortunately we cannot accept home-canned goods, or products past their expiry date. Cash donations to buy food are

also much appreciated.

### 2021 Farmers Market Coupon Program

We are happy to announce that the registrations for our 2021 Farmers Market Coupon Program are now open!

The Farmers Market Nutrition Coupon Program is aimed at providing access to healthy, nutrient dense foods for families and individuals on Denman Island. The program prioritizes seniors, pregnant women, and families with children under the age of 5. If you fall into one of the above categories, self identify as low-income or face barriers such as isolation, this program could be a fit for you. Participants will get \$21 per week for 16 weeks to spend on fruit, veggies, eggs, meat, and nuts. Coupons can be used as early as June 19th until October 9th at the Farmers' market.

Redeeming coupons is easy! Just treat them like cash at your favourite stalls at the farmers market. Participant selection and orientation will take place in the first week of June. Places are limited and not all applicants may be eligible, however they may be included on a waitlist in the event we are able to expand the program.

To apply for this program, contact us by phone 250-335-2058 or by email at [dices.communityprograms@gmail.com](mailto:dices.communityprograms@gmail.com).

Questions from vendors can be directed to Laura at [denmanmarket@gmail.com](mailto:denmanmarket@gmail.com).

This program is delivered by the BC Farmers Market Association, with financial support from the province of British Columbia. On Denman, the program is being jointly coordinated by the GPA and us, DICES, and we are thrilled to have been awarded 25 placements this year. 🍷

## The Group of Several Fundraiser for Pepper Lane Project ARTS&LIT

**A**t the market last Saturday names were drawn for seven beautiful and original works of art generously donated by the Group of Several to help raise money for the DCLTA Pepper Lane Fence Fund.

Building this fence is an important milestone towards the completion of Pepper Lane. The estimated cost to build the fence was \$7,500 and thanks to everyone who donated to this fundraiser DCLTA not only met this goal but exceeded it and donations are still coming in.

AND THE WINNERS ARE: Michael Rapati, Margaret Birch, Janet Ann Murphy, Christine Fenwick-Wilson, Tracy Birch, Linda Schmidt and Alan Friesen. Congratulations to these seven lucky people.

A HUGE THANK YOU TO:

- The Group of Several: Linda Mather, Paule Deschenes, Annie Kimmins, Virginia Spinney, Brenda Green, Marilyn Jensen and Jean Cockburn – for so generously donating your works of art
- Jane Lighthall – for the brilliant idea behind this project and all your help throughout
- Jenn Goss: for painting the graffiti fence to remind people about the Fence Fund
- To all the Denman Islanders who donated and made the Pepper Lane Fence Fund such a success 🍷

## Living Well: Spring

*By Graeme Isbister*

**T**here were two sporting goods stores in my hometown of Chilliwack. One was Cheam Sports and the other was Gleig Brothers.

Cheam was big and spacious with wide aisles for all the seasonal sports paraphernalia as well as the year round hunting and fishing displays. Gleigs was smaller, cramped and the merchandise didn't change much from one time of year to the other.

Except in the spring time.

It's been often said that our most powerful sensory memory is that of smell.

*continued on P.5...*

## TIDE TABLE

• Secondary Tidal Station Ford Cove •  
• Source: [tides.gc.ca](http://tides.gc.ca) •

**2021-05-13**

**(Thursday)**

| Time  | Height |      |
|-------|--------|------|
| PDT   | (m)    | (ft) |
| 01:28 | 3.4    | 11.2 |
| 06:11 | 4.2    | 13.8 |
| 13:45 | 1.0    | 3.3  |
| 21:11 | 4.4    | 14.4 |

**2021-05-14**

**(Friday)**

| Time  | Height |      |
|-------|--------|------|
| PDT   | (m)    | (ft) |
| 02:09 | 3.5    | 11.5 |
| 06:30 | 4.1    | 13.5 |
| 14:14 | 0.9    | 3.0  |
| 21:51 | 4.5    | 14.8 |

**2021-05-15**

**(Saturday)**

| Time  | Height |      |
|-------|--------|------|
| PDT   | (m)    | (ft) |
| 02:56 | 3.6    | 11.8 |
| 06:49 | 4.0    | 13.1 |
| 14:46 | 1.0    | 3.3  |
| 22:36 | 4.5    | 14.8 |

**2021-05-16**

**(Sunday)**

| Time  | Height |      |
|-------|--------|------|
| PDT   | (m)    | (ft) |
| 03:58 | 3.7    | 12.1 |
| 07:09 | 3.9    | 12.8 |
| 15:24 | 1.1    | 3.6  |
| 23:25 | 4.5    | 14.8 |

**2021-05-17**

**(Monday)**

| Time  | Height |      |
|-------|--------|------|
| PDT   | (m)    | (ft) |
| 05:30 | 3.7    | 12.1 |
| 07:27 | 3.7    | 12.1 |
| 16:08 | 1.2    | 3.9  |

**2021-05-18**

**(Tuesday)**

| Time  | Height |      |
|-------|--------|------|
| PDT   | (m)    | (ft) |
| 00:17 | 4.5    | 14.8 |
| 17:01 | 1.4    | 4.6  |

**2021-05-19**

**(Wednesday)**

| Time  | Height |      |
|-------|--------|------|
| PDT   | (m)    | (ft) |
| 01:08 | 4.5    | 14.8 |
| 08:36 | 3.3    | 10.8 |
| 10:20 | 3.3    | 10.8 |
| 18:03 | 1.6    | 5.2  |

**2021-05-20**

**(Thursday)**

| Time  | Height |      |
|-------|--------|------|
| PDT   | (m)    | (ft) |
| 01:54 | 4.5    | 14.8 |
| 08:58 | 3.0    | 9.8  |
| 12:40 | 3.2    | 10.5 |
| 19:10 | 1.8    | 5.9  |



## An Unpainted Portrait: Doodads, etc.

By Leo Simmons

ARTS&LIT



**Doodad**, Miss. Def: *A young woman of the teaching profession in possession of certain physical attributes liable to cause spontaneous confusion/distraction in the adolescent male.*

There was no getting away from it. In a school populated by approximately twelve hundred males and perhaps twenty females, Miss Belinda Doodad was the object of many a boy's lusty fantasy. The tradition of calling female teachers 'Miss' stems from the Victorian insistence upon female teachers being unmarried and therefore demonstrably chaste and/or virtuous although this idea was not one that we subscribed to. Miss Doodad taught Biology, a fact which raised the double-edged sword of being taught all about sexual reproduction by her. It was a prospect which tested our imaginations and our faith in our own abilities to remain calm in such circumstances.

Sadly - or perhaps thankfully - it was not to be, and the decidedly frumpy and unattractive Mr Pootle would eventually take us through the emotional minefield of vaginas, breasts and ovaries, penises and testicles with an appropriate matter-of-fact approach. Somehow, we felt cheated. The opportunities - discussed in intense schoolyard conversations - to talk with Miss Doodad about not only the most exciting parts of the body but *what they were used for* had been snatched away. Again, there were two sides to this: we were denied the supreme titillation of our lives (up to that point, at least) and yet also spared the toe-curling embarrassment we undoubtedly deserved.

The object of many of my desires had one teeny-tiny flaw in her otherwise delightful makeup. The problem was her unfortunate tendency to lose her temper with anyone that she didn't very much like. Since the school was packed with obnoxious teenage boys, this was a distressingly frequent occurrence. It was apparent that she wasn't particularly fond of pubescent males and it was something of a let-down to realise that I was unlikely to ever become her ideal partner. We were regularly treated to outbursts of intense irritation from her, whether it was in the classroom or in the corridor or the schoolyard. As her voice rose to humiliatingly berate some unfortunate callow youth, many of us would gather to stand at a respectful but convenient distance and stare at Miss Doodad's buttocks as they softly tested the tensile strength of her skin-tight trousers. I'm sorry, but it's the truth. I'd share a little more of my thoughts on the subject, but some small semblance of propriety must be observed here. Let's just say that the 'delete' key may have done some heavy lifting...

While missing out/dodging the bullet of having her teach us about sexual reproduction, she was scheduled as my biology teacher for two of the first five years. Despite my belief that I could be the future Mr Doodad (if you see what I mean), it became clear fairly quickly that we might not have been destined to make beautiful music together. In short, she seemed to regard me in much the same way as he might regard something she was scraping from the sole of her shoe. My passions undimmed, I embarked on a lengthy campaign to woo her, to educate her about my endearing qualities. This involved a cunning approach of melting into the background and making myself as invisible as possible, thus setting in place a lifetime of useless strategies concerning any interaction with the female gender. It worked this time, in a way; she pretty much forgot about despising me. At least, until our homework was due.

With the exception of Mrs Crotchet, who at the approximate age of fifty was more of a mother figure than the object of any feverish teenage fantasies, the female teachers were always the subject of much speculation vis-à-vis partners or the lack thereof. Of course, most of the time we had absolutely no idea on the subject, but a veritably seismic rumble of astonishment swept over the school population

when Mr Keynes (math/economics) became engaged to his colleague Miss Draught (engineering drawing). How, we wondered, had this happened without us noticing? Why had we not been consulted? Those of us with a gleam in our eye for Miss Draught were, of course, devastated. Mr Keynes instantly became the object of much hatred, having spoiled so many hopes and dreams. I, meanwhile, remained faithful to Miss Doodad, much as a fly remains faithful to the spider which has spun the entangling web. I was helpless.

And then, IT happened. We had returned to school following the six-week summer break and I was a fresh, even more pimply fifth former/tenth grader. The first day had been going well; I'd already caught sight of my favourite teacher and noticed that she had grown her hair to an even more attractive length. My plan to remain invisible and distant from her was progressing nicely, I thought; in only three or four years she might notice my loveliness, seek me out as an adult and pop the question in a moment of unfettered longing. Over lunch that day, a group of us were trying to look frighteningly tough in front of the new first years/sixth graders when we were joined at the table by a breathless 'Sticky' Stevens.

"Guess what?" he said, his eyes wide in alarm. "Doodad's got *married!*" Pausing mid-chew, I began to swoon. His next words acted like smelling salts: "To Chippy!" This was almost too much. The object of my hopes and dreams had not only chosen another, but had plighted her troth to *the woodwork teacher*? Mr Dovetail was a pleasant enough fellow - even though he had misplaced my amazing sculpture three years earlier - but he always looked like he'd just survived an explosion and walked the earth in a bewildered, detached way. What, I thought, could he possibly have offered that I might not, albeit at some undefined point in the future?

To this day, it remains an unsolved mystery...



**...continued from P.3** Spring is baseball season and in the spring both Cheam and Gleigs each dedicated one entire aisle to, what is today, my most powerful memory of this time of year.

Baseball gloves: leather baseball gloves, arrayed on the shelves in a rich visual palette of browns, reds, yellows and black, drawing my ten year old self in off the street with the unmistakable, utterly intoxicating promise of spring.

I can see and feel them now, checking for flexibility, the webbing, how far my short fingers reached in.

But the smell, oh the rich aroma of that wholegrain cowhide, still untouched by Dubbin, the leather conditioner we used to soften and shape the gloves to our hands.

It was springtime, it had to be.

Part of who I am today is memory,

And now, this springtime, I feel a greater need for remembering.

Our lives are bigger than present circumstances, right?

One of the bitter twists of Covid is a diminished sense of smell.

Faugh! Nothing can take away my sweet memories and the joy of connecting with times and places beyond whatever at present may seem heavy.

Try it yourself: lavender sachets in old dressers; early morning bacon frying; rain on long-dry pavement; skunk cabbage; sun warmed, roadside wild rose...

What speaks to you? Are you not in another time and place when you re-visit your powerful memories from long ago?

One other life-giving memory of my boyhood is that of mud...yes, mud.

We lived near the Fraser River and every year all the dried up backwaters that snaked through the farms around us would slowly fill with the springtime freshet. Rich grounds for exploring: amphibian egg masses, tadpoles, sticklebacks, snails dangling from bull rushes, all hosted, as it were, by freshly flooded soil.

Walking with Verna on the trails near Morrison Marsh the other day my head whipped around. Yes, there it was, the smell, nay, the fragrance of springtime. I was transported back to another time and place.

And, here's the curious thing, that memory, and its link with the present, somehow made a difference. It gave some hope, made whatever was going on right now less daunting.

The memories of simpler times, perhaps...?

I think it has to do with feeling rooted. Our memories are alive; we are bigger than whatever difficulties we may be going through.

We are rooted, and the stronger for it.



## ***Fearful***

by Thomas Provençal

*You could spend a lifetime  
being scared of what you think.  
Stories of a kind that bring  
your mind right to the brink  
of shaking your self-confidence,  
for brave and bold to shrink  
into a puddle of perception  
where you can only guess  
at the nature of your fiction  
as you muddle through your mess.  
When fear dictates inquiry  
hypotheses are skewed.  
Conclusions get confounded  
with temerity unglued.  
The only way to fix it  
is to give your head a shake.  
Redirect your point of view.  
'Tis happiness at stake!*

## **Scotch Broom - - Now is the Time to Pull It!**

By Peter Thomsen



Illustration by Franz  
Eugen Köhler

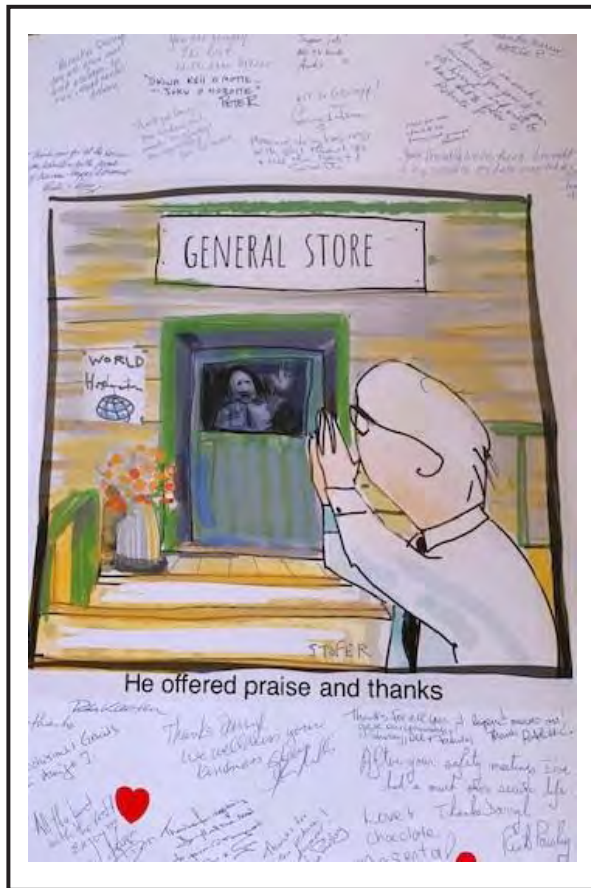
**Scotch** Broom with the pretty yellow flowers, is one of the most destructive and rapidly spreading invasive species we have here on Denman Island. Right now our Denman Pesticide Free Committee is pulling Broom along the roadways with the help of a grant from the CVRD. But that is just a drop in the bucket. We need land owners and renters to step up and pull the Broom along the roadway in front of their property -- and the interior portions too. To assist with that, there are Broom Pullers available to borrow at the Denman Hardware. - No cost --just sign them out (and maybe consider a small donation to your favourite charity). NO pesticides please. Thanks for your assist.



## Grumpy's Farewell

By Anthony Gregson

COMMUNITY INFO



**I**t was almost as if it wasn't going to happen. At 3:30 PM on Monday, Denman was going to bid Grumpy farewell at the General Store. But being Covid times, after much back and forth, there would be no gathering outside the store. The two of us waited with our coffees across the street at Abraxus as the hour approached and finally wandered over for the photo opportunity. The newly-minted manager, Jen West, waited on the porch with some paperwork in case nothing materialized. Grumpy stepped out, then went back in to continue with his work. Even the master of ceremonies, Graham Isbister ventured from the Hardware to enquire if it was happening. But the hesitation was a natural precursor, a fitting acknowledgement of something nobody really wanted to see happen. And then it did happen

"Darryl," Graham began to the famously publicity-shy Grumpy, standing with head down and hands in pockets, "we want to thank you on behalf of all of Denman Island for all you have been to this community and which you will continue to be, but in a different role. You have been a wonderful servant to so many of us, to so many of the programs, quietly behind the scenes, never attracting attention. It is about you. We really do want to thank you, first of all to your staff, your advocacy for them, for all the people in your world, the punster supreme, for Margaret. We hope you will continue to put something in the Grapevine, some terrible pun. We really do want to thank you."

A substantial bundle of cards from well-wishers was presented together with a huge card created by Dawn Stofer, covered with messages inside and out from islanders who had made the trip to the Hardware over the

week to record their affection and appreciation, so many, that by the time I hoped to sign, there was literally no space. The card elicited a gasp from the handful of well-wishers. Then Jen West led a rousing chorus of For He's a Jolly Good Fellow.

At that moment, you felt the emptiness of the street in the late afternoon in front of the store, and Grumpy's poignant unease, voicing a shared sadness. 🍷

### *The General Store*

#### *A Shi'Rensa Transition*

by Bill Engleson.

*It's our meeting place,  
high commerce but quite low tech,  
where friendships refresh.*

*Where friendships refresh,  
midst groceries and our lives,  
shared moments of time.*

*Shared moments of time,  
a quick smile, a passing wave,  
a wealth of exchange.*

*A wealth of exchange,  
and though the mantle is passed,  
the art will endure.*

### Denman WORKS! Economic Enhancement Society

On behalf of the Comox Valley Regional District, Denman Works would like to draw your attention to a Request for Qualifications (RFQu) for a proposed Denman Island Community Bus Service.

The RFQ is available on the CVRD website:

<https://www.comoxvalleyrd.ca/about/business-cvrd/tenders-rfps/rfqu-denman-island-community-bus-service>

### *The RFQu closes on May 27th.*

The CVRD hopes to find a qualified contractor to operate a bus service starting this summer. Denman Works will be in a role of ancillary support, working with the CVRD to identify details such as routes and schedules.

## I Thought You Might Like This

By Doreen Langmead

SPECIAL INTEREST

**R**eaders may recall Doreen Langmead's clarion call for someone to deliver her Beardsley Pottery mugs from Denman to Victoria. (Issue #1454)

"I need some kind soul to pick up and bring an order from the Beardsley potters, Scott & Garnet, on Denman Island down here for me please?"

I'm 86 and it's a long way for me to drive. I'd have to break my trip and stay in a motel risking COVID and that's not really a great idea.

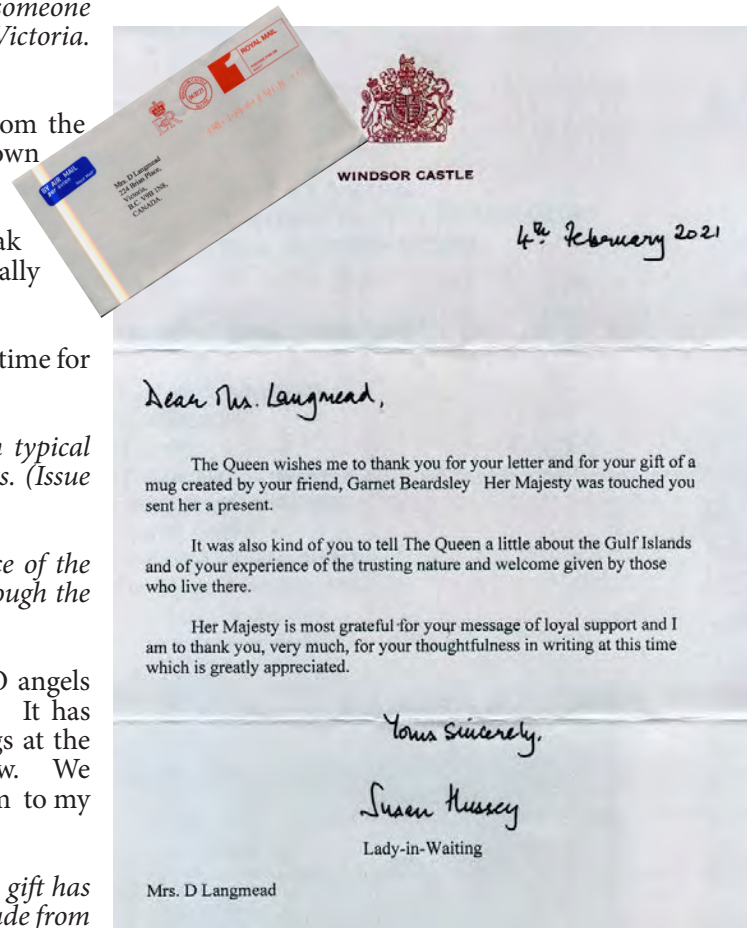
They are 12 mugs as Christmas gifts for my family so there's time for me to find an angel."

*If you remember that then you will also remember that in typical Denman fashion her mugs were delivered to her within days. (Issue #1455)*

*To hear anew from Doreen we now learn of the significance of the mugs and the angels who assisted in getting them to her through the letter she shares.*

Dear Grapevine, I am DELIGHTED to tell you that TWO angels offered to help me - Roxanna Mandryk and Sue Hirst. It has happened that now Sue has picked up my Christmas mugs at the Beardsley's and will be bringing them to Victoria tomorrow. We will meet up at the Four Mile Pub so that I can transfer them to my car and then treat her to lunch.

*And now we have the final chapter in the mug's journey. The gift has arrived at its new home and Doreen received a letter of gratitude from one of the Queen's entourage . . .*



*Hope is the thing with  
feathers,  
that perches in your  
soul,  
and sings the tune  
without the words,  
and never stops at all.*

Emily Dickinson

Submitted by Donna Millen

**Share your experiences of  
raising a child(ren) ages 0-6  
on Denman or Hornby Island  
and provide ideas for  
improving childhood well-  
being for Island children**

**Building  
Connections  
for Comox  
Valley  
Families**

**Zoom Conversation Circle  
WEDNESDAY, MAY 19th - 10-11am**



**Participants will receive  
a \$25 gift card!  
For more information or  
to RSVP for Zoom link,  
please email:**

**comoxvalley.earlyyears@gmail.com**

## Letters to the Editor

### Letter to Editor:

*People focus on the serious side of life through a narrow lens of science, religion, or politics. A number will disparage what's obvious because they can't live with it. Politics provides a protective smokescreen. Things go wrong, they're the ones to go into damage control.*

*Some of the serious readers are immune to double negatives and satire. They miss the point; science is good. But science also fails. My particular issue has to do with an epidemic of viral and bacterial superbugs. Which came about from the overuse of antibiotics. Which, in a different way, is being repeated with COVID.*

*TB is the leading cause of death in Russia. 400,000 babies die annually of malaria. Treatments are failing. And yet these mini-epidemics are contained. In part because they're part of the natural order. COVID arrived as a rampaging pandemic. A mammal was identified as the source. If it came from one, why aren't they getting it back. If it came from a lab, that won't apply.*

*You need not be a deplorable to ask why so few pharmaceutical giants are pursuing the golden egg. Who don't have to go through ten years of trials to work out the kinks. Proving, conclusively, that their product is safe. That's what we, the public, are here for. Testing for safety. Pfizer concocts a chemical/biological vaccine that's stored at -70 C. Nothing on Earth lives at that temperature. How can it be a viable cure.*

*And why would anyone put that biological bomb in their body. Unless they had to. Why would they even think to put that into our children? They've virtually immune from the effects of COVID. They're safe. But only as long as the adult dummies, as incubators and carriers on the waves of mutations, don't pass such on.*

*I had COVID a year ago. No drugs. I healed organically. I got SARS in China in 2004. Same symptoms. Just less intense. My immunity is not as assured as what I'd get with a biological freak bombing throughout my body. The experts told me so. They're wrong. Unless, by the logic of the day, Pfizer will be around to sell boosters shots. With me reduced to depending on their system. Wave after wave, becoming more addicted.*

*Why isn't there a credible test to determine my status with COVID? Same for the other millions of survivors. Just take the jab. Its cheaper than the cost of a blood test. One shot fit all sizes. Again, it's cheaper. Each way involves an overuse of drugs.*



Looking forward to seeing you soon!

332 - 5th Street,  
Courtenay, BC V9N 1K1  
(250) 338 1233

whalestaletoys@telus.net  
www.whalestaletoys.com

We are open Monday – Saturday 10:00 – 4:00

*The first Pharma responders are way ahead of the competition. All of them reside in countries with militaristic right wing governments. Each has a secretive interest in biological warfare. And an obvious interest in mutual deterrence. COVID, like SARS, originated in one such country. From an outdoor food market near a laboratory? In a city of eleven million potential carriers!*

*Of the most vulnerable who were vaccinated in Canada, 40% got the flu. To date, 1.3% got COVID. Ergo, a mutation vaccinated with a mutation is 30 times more efficient than vaccinating with an organic! As for deaths, flu is down by 75%. Spin has it that social distancing is why. Did COVID wipe it out? In 2019, 224 fatalities were from influenza and pneumonia. 2% of COVID victims died. It's a killer.*

*The political response is to blame and shame. As if it's our fault for not getting with the program. Trust? Expert opinion fluctuates on a daily basis. Herd immunity is now a dream. A disease that runs its course becomes less lethal. Cheat death, and the disease drags out. Mess around, and mutations result. Happened with antibiotics. Happening with COVID.*

*With the cat out of the bag, it's irresponsible to just stop the shot. As it was done to put a program on hold because of rare, but treatable blood clots. It's more than criminal to experiment on kids. And turn them into addicts! See through the prevailing narrative. Focus on what's obvious, without prejudice, preconceived notions, or short circuiting of our intelligences. Go with a degree of critical thinking. And continue to trust in social distancing, masks, and healthy living for the foreseeable future.*

*Get the shot, as needed. Last summer was a reprieve. Given the artificial nature of the virus, maybe the monied predators will be satisfied with the billions they made. Otherwise, have faith that ethical laboratories will find a viable organic solution.*

*Sources: Globe and Mail. The Guardian. Plague; D.I. Library. Government of Canada.*

**Hersh Chernovsky** 🍷



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Transferring of your existing prescription is very simple, just talk to our Pharmacist. We will do the rest.

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112-6996 Island Hwy W., PO Box:8, Bowser, BC, V0R 1G0

## Objective Allies: Netanyahu and Hamas

OP/ED

By Gwynne Dyer • OP May 12th, 2021

**O**bjective allies' generally don't even talk to each other. They don't have common values, their ultimate goals may be completely incompatible, they often hate each other. But they share some intermediate goal, and are clever enough to realise they can both get what they want by acting together in certain ways.

Sometimes those ways may even involve shooting at each other, but if acting that way brings a result that serves their various purposes, they are still objective allies. So Binyamin Netanyahu, still prime minister of Israel despite his parlous political position, and Hamas, the Islamist Palestinian organisation that controls the Gaza Strip, are objective allies.

Right now the missiles are flying and people are dying in both the Gaza Strip and Israel, and as usual it's hard to say who or what started it. Was it the Israeli air strikes that hit 150 targets in Gaza and killed around thirty people including nine children on Tuesday? Or the Hamas fighters who launched 130 of their home-made missiles at Israeli towns earlier in the day and killed three Israelis?

Or the Israeli police who fired stun grenades Monday night at Palestinian demonstrators taking shelter in the al-Aqsa mosque on what Israelis call Temple Mount? Or the Palestinian protesters who threw rocks and other missiles at the police every night during the last week of Ramadan? Or the founders of Hamas in 1987, or the authors of the Balfour Declaration in 1917?

Never mind who started it. The right question is: who benefits from what is happening right now? It's the same old 'objective allies' who have been playing this game for a quarter-century already: Hamas and Netanyahu. And yes, they do hate each other, but nevertheless....

Consider Netanyahu's position. For the fourth time in a row, he has just failed to get an election outcome that will let him create and lead a coalition government. He is on trial on serious corruption charges, and may go to jail if he does not remain prime minister.

The opposition parties that want to see Netanyahu gone now have a month to try to make a different coalition that excludes him, but they have a problem. The electoral arithmetic means that their coalition must contain the United Arab List (UAL), one of the parties that represent Israel's 20% minority of Arab citizens.

No Arab party has ever been part of an Israeli government before, so putting this coalition together was already quite tricky. Doing it while Israelis and Palestinians are killing each other is impossible. UAL Chairman Mansour Abbas has already suspended the talks with his potential Jewish coalition partners.

If these coalition talks fail, Israel will have to have another election (the fifth in thirty months) next autumn. Netanyahu will remain prime minister in the meantime, and will then have another, fifth chance to get a durable right-wing majority coalition that will pass legislation safeguarding him from further prosecution.

I can't read Netanyahu's mind, but if he were a ruthlessly self-serving politician he would certainly find this little war politically useful. How about his alleged 'objective ally', Hamas?

Hamas needs a war right now less than Netanyahu does, but it's always up for one. Its business model is perpetual rejection of peace with Israel, in the expectation that divine intervention will one day deliver total victory and eliminate the Jewish state.

Hamas is therefore in permanent competition with Fatah, the rival Palestinian political movement that accepted the (now moribund) 'two-state solution' which envisaged Israeli and Palestinian states living side by side. A little war with Israel

now and then is good for Hamas's image.

The Hamas-Netanyahu 'objective alliance' is based on the fact that Netanyahu hates the idea of a two-state solution just as much as Hamas does. Indeed, they began by strangling that deal together in 1995-96, and most of the shooting since has been about keeping it dead.

The deal came out of the Oslo Accord of 1992, in which Israeli prime minister Yitzhak Rabin and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat agreed to move towards two parallel states living in peace.

Rabin was assassinated by a Jewish right-wing extremist, but everybody expected his successor, Shimon Peres, to win the 1996 election on a sympathy vote and go through with the Oslo deal. Instead, Hamas went on a terrorist spree, bombing buses in Israel to cause maximum casualties, in order to drive Israeli voters into the arms of the anti-Oslo Accords nationalist right instead.

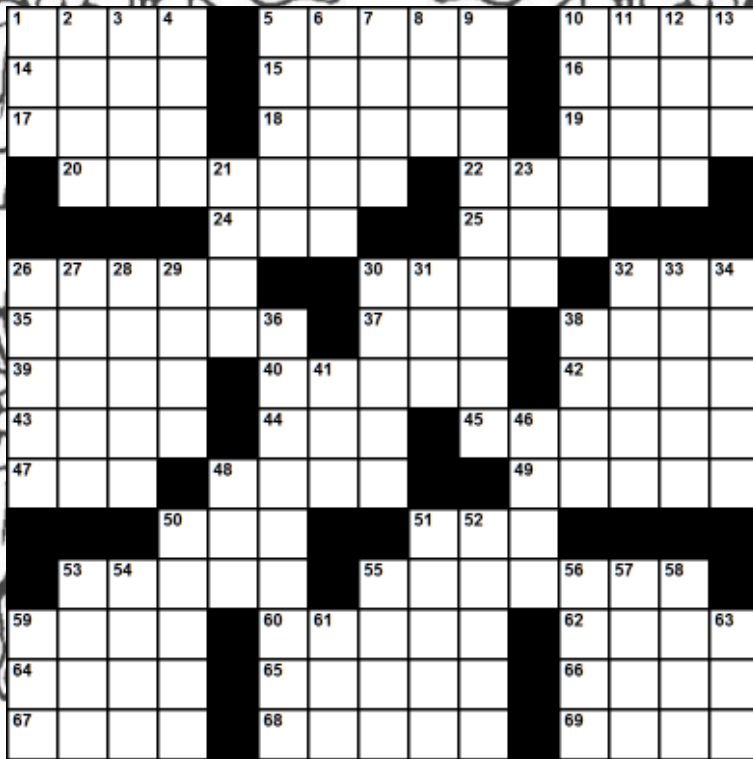
It succeeded, and the right-wing candidate, ex-commando Binyamin Netanyahu, became prime minister instead and sabotaged the 'peace process'. It was never very likely to succeed, but Hamas and Netanyahu both act as objective allies whenever the corpse of the two-state solution threatens to rise from its shallow grave. 🍷



**Are you wondering how you can get a little bit of the Grapevine in your mailbox every Thursday? Contact the Denman Island Post Office (1636) and request delivery of the Islands Grapevine and voila . . .**

**thanks for all your support!**

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• ACROSS •

1. Change copy
5. Action setting
10. Groovy, today
14. Bubbly beverage
15. Disband, to a Brit
16. Costly cloth
17. Be a rat
18. Singer Cass
19. Asian sea
20. Concealment
22. Tree sprite
24. Aardvark fodder
25. Anonymous Jane
26. Get naked
30. Unit of loudness
32. Emeril's expletive
35. Repugnance
37. Actor McKellen
38. Inflamed lymph node
39. Leaf angle
40. Wash or rinse
42. Batter's stats
43. Cattle
44. Create lace
45. Disney septet
47. Ar chaser
48. Gets under one's skin
49. Like an old car

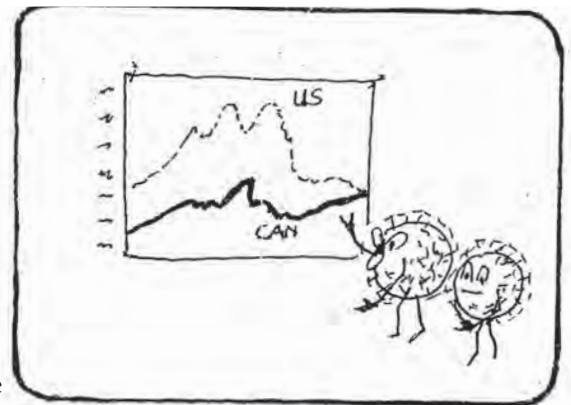
50. Did lunch
51. Assent ase
53. Cow food
55. Brown shades
59. Churlish one
60. Wise lawyer
62. Exuberance
64. All aflutter
65. Rejoice
66. European volcano
67. Does, once
68. Damascus locale
69. Item in a roundup

• DOWN •

1. Change copy
5. Action setting
10. Groovy, today
14. Bubbly beverage
15. Disband, to a Brit
16. Costly cloth
17. Be a rat
18. Singer Cass
19. Asian sea
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68. Damascus locale
69. Item in a roundup



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Imagine Canada's infection rate catching the US  
by Peter Karsten

• LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS •

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
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| A | L | I | B | I | S | H | A | M | D | E | L | I |
| B | I | N | E | S | C | O | L | A | E | P | O | S |
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| E | S | S | B | O | W | P | R | U | D | E | N | T |
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| D | E | M | U | R | P | U | S | B | O | M | B | E |
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| R | I | M | P | E | R | T | A | I | N | T | I | C |
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• **FOR SALE** •

1995 OLDSMOBILE 98 4 door sedan Repairs made to motor, brakes and electrics. \$1000 spent in parts bills. Fiberglass body-no rust-clean inside-runs and drives well. 335-2459 \$1300

LOOKING FOR A SUITABLE HOME for very pretty Registered Palomino Tobiano mare. Excellent feet, gentle, no vices. Green broke - Some professional training. 15 years old. Price negotiable. louseafraser@gmail.com 250-702-7851

8X8 CEDAR BEAMS plus a few 6X8 and 4X4 fir beams. Call Valerie, 250-207-6904

WAGNER FIREWOOD. 2 cords to Denman, \$580 plus GST. Hornby, \$600 plus GST. 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** •

**HORNBY COMPACT EXCAVATION**  
Versatile machine and operator.  
Small footprint efficient for ditches, holes, levelling, brush clearing, etc.  
Please inquire email: Matthewling@hotmail.ca  
Call: 2503350770



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IT'S TIME TO HAVE UNWANTED RUBBISH REMOVED, LAWNS CUT, GARAGE CLEANED, ETC. SPRING CLEAN UP TIME IS UPON US, SO LET US HELP YOU WITH YOUR CHORES. CALL 250-335-2390 - BRIAN

DB EXCAVATIONS AND CLEARING (Dorian Baker) Equipment: 040 Excavator, 080 Excavator, Skid-Steer Services: Land-clearing, Power Installations, Landscaping, Trenching, Site Prep. Licensed tree faller available. Coming soon if interest shown a mulching head for clearing, tree trimming and broom removal. Great alternative to burn piles. Call or text 250-465-1889 or email dorianbaker56@gmail.com

• **CLASSIFIED ADS** •

THORLACIUS TRUCKING Top soil, bark mulch, gravel and sand. Call Chris & Lora, 250-650-9986. denmantruck@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)

MAGNIFICENT TOPSOIL, (Serving Denman & Hornby since 1988) Bark Mulch, all gravels, Bison compost, Treework, site clean up, fir mill end firewood, roof tear off, demolition. High grade lumber. 30 years local Entrp. Call Dave 218-9667.(DI)

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

• **COMMUNITY NOTICES** •

COMMUNITY SERVICES FROM DENMAN WORKS Projector and screen: Book with Abraxas Books and Gifts 250-335-2731 abraxas9@telus.net Zoom meetings (unlimited time and free recording): See denmanworks.wordpress.com/contact/

COMOX VALLEY TRANSITION SOCIETY Emergency Crisis Line: 250-338-1227 or Text: 250-218-4034 For more info visit https://cvts.ca

• **EMPLOYMENT** •

DENMAN ISLAND CHOCOLATE is hiring a new member of our production team. If you're smart, capable, reliable and interested in working with chocolate, drop us a line. Note: this is a permanent position, not a summer job. Email with resume to dichoc@telus.net.

BLACKBERRY LANE CHILDREN'S CENTER (Denman Island) seeks certified full-time Early Childhood Educator/Program Manager to implement emotionally literate program. Must be comfortable guiding groups of up to 8 children, ages 1-5. Applicant

will be community-minded, positive and engaging. We provide a supportive, non-profit environment in a brand new facility. Wage based on experience and education. Please send resume to blackberrylane@centres@yahoo.com by June 25th. Starting September 2021 or sooner.

THE GENERAL STORE is looking for a cashier for 3 days a week. Please call Jennifer at 335-2293, email denmanisland.generalstore@gmail.com or drop off a resume at the Store.

• **FREEBIES** •

2003 KITCHENAIDE Superta propane range. Call 250-335-0034

- 1) Washing machine "Inglis - Superb 2" - good working order
  - 2) Swivel bar chair, oak
  - 3) Vinyl fascia - 12 pieces - 9.5" x 12.5' never used.
- please call : 250 335 0296

• **RENTAL WANTED** •

WANTED: By Greg Joly (Magdalene & Philin father) Long term bedroom furniture, res... man who takes care... live in. For July 1st or earlier. 250 475 1106

**RENTAL FOUND!**

**FOR SALE**

FIVE ACRES TWO HOUSES, three established gardens, two wells, heritage apple orchard with the best apples on Denman. Gravenstein (makes great juice, apple butter, apple cider vinegar or apple cider ginger beer.

Heat pump in house built in 1982 Other home is a heritage house built in 1926. Both houses are fully equipped. The property is a triangle space, backing onto to the Hermitage an active Buddhist Centre. We are on the main road two miles from the village Ten minutes to the beach looking over Hornby Island. 900,000.

Our neighbours are lovely. Please call 250335 2338 /email peacewalking@gmail.com

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• (H) Hornby • (D) Denman • (UB) Union Bay •  
• (FB) Fanny Bay • (C) Courtenay/Comox •

### • ACCOMMODATIONS & RENTALS •

- Denman Activity Centre (Seniors) Rentals 335-3027 (D/H)
- Denman Community Hall Rentals 335-3027 (D/H)  
2 halls, commercial kitchen, new sound system  
suitable for concerts, plays, meetings, weddings, etc.

### • REAL ESTATE • INSURANCE • FINANCIAL SERVICES •

- Bente Pilgaard, RE/MAX The Islands 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)
- Katarina Meglic • Pemberton Holmes Realty 778-557-7429 (D/H)

### • BUILDING • CONSTRUCTION •

- Aquarian Systems • Water Cisterns • Ed Hoepfner 335-2037 (D/H)
- Bobcat & Compact Excavator • Steve Isaak 335-1853 (D/H)
- Cal's Bobcat Services • Auger, Grapple, Rake 613-447-8873 (D/H)
- DB Excavations & Clearing • Dorianbaker56@gmail.com • call or text 465-1889 (D)
- 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)
- Kinetic Electric, licenced, bonded & insured 335-1741 (D/H)
- Ray Ulovec-Backhoe/Excavator, Septic Installation 335-3145 (D/H)
- Roc-Isle Drywall, Harvey Hodgeins • 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)
- Water Tanks & Cisterns • Steve Isaak 335-1853 (All)

### • SERVICES •

- Acupuncture • Margot Davey, RAc 778-992-0165 denmanresource@gmail.com (D/H)
- Acupuncturist, Herbalist, Physiotherapist • Carmen B-G, RPT, RTCMP 335-2260 (D/H)
- Chiropractic Care on Fridays • Dr. Dawn Armstrong, DC 465-8482 (D)
- Massage Clinic • 2796 Northwest Rd. • Leyah Kelly 335-2584 (D)
- Denman Workst • Tony Gresson 250-335-0287 denmanresource@gmail.com (D)
- Edwardsen Tree Service • Jered 250-580-7127 (D)
- Peter T. Mason • Land Surveying 757-8788 (All)
- Physiotherapy • Christopher Mainella • 236-255-3354 (D/H)
- Tree Service • Chipping • Certified Faller • Antoine 207-3884 (D)
- Tree Service • Darian Chase • Arborist 218-0404 (All)
- Trueview Treecare, seniors' discount • Wildbill 898-7246 (D/H)
- Music Lessons & Piano Tuning • Scott Knight 604-779-9335 (D/H)
- Landscaping & Home Services • Beech&Cedar Home Maintenance (Kane) • 335-0745 (D/H)
- Home Town Shredders • Document Shredding • 334-7111 (D/H)

**DUE TO AN INCREASE IN SHOPLIFTING, SECURITY CAMERAS HAVE BEEN INSTALLED AT THE...**



**FREE STORE**

## FORTNIGHT EVENTS

THURSDAY 13

- RECYCLING CENTRE 2-6pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 2-6pm
- CAP SITE 4-7pm
- FOOD BANK 4-7pm

FRIDAY 14

- AA Meeting DI United Church 7pm

SATURDAY 15

- RECYCLING CENTRE 9-5pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 9-5pm
- FREE STORE 9am-dark
- WOOD FIRED PIZZA & BEER  
- Earth Club Factory
- FARMERS MARKET Old School 9:30am

SUNDAY 16

MONDAY 17

TUESDAY 18

WEDNESDAY 19

- RECYCLING CENTRE 2-6pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 2-6pm
- CAP SITE 4-7pm

THURSDAY 20

- RECYCLING CENTRE 2-6pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 2-6pm
- CAP SITE 4-7pm
- FOOD BANK 4-7pm

FRIDAY 21

- AA Meeting DI United Church 7pm

SATURDAY 22

- RECYCLING CENTRE 9-5pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 9-5pm
- FREE STORE 9am-dark
- NATIONAL IMMIGRATION DAY  
by Jana - Earth Club Factory
- FARMERS MARKET Old School 9:30am

SUNDAY 23

- General Store open longer 12-6:30pm

MONDAY 24

TUESDAY 25

WEDNESDAY 26

- RECYCLING CENTRE 2-6pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 2-6pm
- CAP SITE 4-7pm



THURSDAY 27

- RECYCLING CENTRE 2-6pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 2-6pm
- CAP SITE 4-7pm
- FOOD BANK 4-7pm

***The Monthly Calendar is on hold for now.***

Instead we offer a 2 week summary of upcoming events on the Back Page. Email us with your event to be listed in "Fortnight Events".  
theislandsgrapevine@gmail.com