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# THE ISLANDS Grapevine

## CONTENTS

ISSUE NO. 1618 • JANUARY 25TH, 2024

- 5 • **ARTS&LIT**  
June 20th, 2007 Johnny Martin  
By CS#05943451
- 6 • **OPINIONS**  
What is Security? Part 1  
By Sally Campbell
- 7 • Dear Forest Friends  
By Eartha Muirhead
- 8 • Shortages in the Land of Plenty God Save the King  
By Helen Grond
- 9 • Poetry

### REGULAR FEATURES

- 5 • Tide Table
- 12 • Gary's Toon
- 10 • Crossword
- 10 • Sudoku
- 10 • Grumpism
- 11 • Classified Ads
- 12 • Business/Services Directory

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### THE ISLANDS GRAPEVINE

- DENMAN: 700 • HORNBY: 520 •
- E-SUBSCRIPTIONS: 105 •

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

**CORRECTION** - Last week's article titled "Before You Connect to Fibre-Optic Cable, Read This!" was not penned by Christiane Brown but it was submitted to the Islands Grapevine by her on behalf of the Concerned Residents of Hornby Island.

COMMUNITY INFO

## DICES is Hiring!

By DICES

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## Open House About Proposed Denman Housing Rules

COMMUNITY INFO

By David Graham  
Islands Trust

**What?** Open House  
**When and Where?** Sunday, January 28th, Back Hall, 2pm - 5pm  
**Why?** To hear and talk about proposed changes to Denman's Housing Rules  
**Who?** Local Trustees, Sam Borthwick and David Graham

That was a fun way to try and get your attention!

**T**HE first question I should answer: Is this a meeting of the Denman Local Trust Committee (DLTC)? Well, no, it isn't, even though whenever two members of a Local Trust Committee are together, it could be considered a meeting. The difference on January 28th is Sam and I will not be making any decisions. We want to give you an opportunity to hear about recommendations for change which our Housing Advisory Planning Commission (HAPC) members worked on last year and presented to the DLTC in November. We also want to hear your comments, concerns and suggestions, so that when we are in a Public Meeting of the DLTC, we can discuss what we heard with our Chair, David Maude, and Planners Marlis McCargar and Narissa Chadwick.

As well as questions on housing and our local regulations, you might be curious about Denman's local governing structure. The Islands Trust is unique to the Gulf Islands, found nowhere else in all of Canada! We can explain how the current by-laws regarding housing came about etc.

So pop by anytime between 2pm and 5pm, to meet us in a casual setting! Hopefully the snow will have melted and some early signs of spring are evident. Take this opportunity to get to know us both, have those conversations about the Trust and hear how it works, and get a head start on the next phase as we enter the community engagement part of considering what our Bylaws should look like with respect to housing here on Denman Island.

SPECIAL INTEREST

## Green Wizardries, Set a Place for Brigid

By Maxine Rogers

**I**MBOLC, the first day of spring falls on the first of February. We have a week to prepare! Coincidentally, this is also the first day of the Community Choir which starts at the Community Hall at 2:30 pm. Newcomers may come try out the choir for free for the first two sessions so they can see if they like it. Cost for this choir session is \$120 to 140 sliding scale. Bursaries are available from Arts Denman.

I am doing something different this year to celebrate the great day. I will be potting up elderberry cuttings on the day to give as gifts to my friends and neighbours. The elder cuttings are made during the pruning, or coppicing, of the elderberry bushes which should be done in January. I got mine done just be *continued on P.4...*

## Cancel Culture is Killing TIG

By Michael Van Santvoord  
Publisher

**P**UBLICLY funded advertising has been cut off to me, and as a result I will not be able to sustain The Islands Grapevine (TIG).

My visitdenmanisland.ca website job was taken from me without cause, and I was removed from the board of DenmanWorks Economic Enhancement Society without explanation.

Why? Because there were some opinions published in TIG that some people didn't agree with.

This is what's happening. This is what a few people who control publicly funded ad dollars are doing to this free weekly paper that supports our communities and advertises local businesses. This is what they're doing in the name of "community."

The print version of TIG is now unsustainable and faces being shuttered. A small group of people with their hands on the levers of publicly funded advertising budgets, themselves paid by tax funded dollars, have decided that they alone have control of where those dollars are spent. And having cut TIG off for nearly a year now, it has pushed this thirty-two year old island institution and my livelihood, AND the jobs of the people who work here, to the brink. They've even been on social media saying it's their intention to do so.

Before the pandemic, you could freely express views and submit them to TIG and nobody would bat an eyelid. Somehow we hit an issue so radioactive, so divisive, that it became, "I believe in freedom of speech, except for this subject." The thing is, in doing so, some people granted themselves a license to treat anybody who disagrees with them as a bad person.

Believe me, I know of what I speak. Letters critical of my handling of editorial oversight were submitted to TIG. The

SPECIAL INTEREST

## Shucking Oysters: You Can't Win Them All

By Alex Allen

**L**IKE most people, I can usually enjoy a feel-good story without too much cynicism. So, when I read about someone on Denman Island winning half a million it made me feel good. Did you know that the odds of winning

the \$500,000 Daily Grand prize are one in 2,224,698? One lucky random moment at the Driftwood Mall lottery kiosk; that's all it takes.

Words that some 2023 BC lottery winners have used to describe how they felt: Disbelief. Shaking. Vibrating with excitement. Life-altering. Overwhelming. Fantastic. Wanted to cry. One thing is for sure, they all had that same giddy feeling. I remember that feeling. Years ago, I thought I had won \$91,000 in the Monopoly Scratch game. As I drove to my partner's workplace I positively vibrated with glee. And then in three seconds, I went from flying high as a kite to crashing to the ground with a thud. My "roll" of the dice was wrong. I will always remember that feeling, because nothing since has come close, nothing.

only ones our readership haven't seen were the ones specifically marked "not for publication." I printed the rest to show I wasn't censoring different viewpoints. The neutrality of the paper has been misperceived, and some of the dissenting views turned out to be true.

It's a prime example of how censorship is problematic, why censorship is dangerous, and more dangerous than a few letters of dissent in a free local publication with a circulation of 1250 homes. Have I been wasting my time standing up for a principle that I thought was an accepted liberal democratic standard?

So many of you have expressed support for TIG privately, but the small group of people who control publicly funded ad dollars, who are paid by our tax dollars, are starving me out and killing my business. And they'll celebrate TIG's demise. Three times we tried to resolve this issue privately, and each time we have been rebuffed. The vast private support has sadly become meaningless. Unless the residents of our communities push back publicly, the printed version of the paper is dead.

I lay it at your feet, dear readers. The Islands Grapevine is your paper. If you want to save it, do something by saying something. You can write us a letter for publication, and/or you can write to those responsible for the public funding of local agencies.

CVRD General Manager of Community Services, Doug Demarzo [ddemarzo@comoxvalleyrd.ca](mailto:ddemarzo@comoxvalleyrd.ca)

CVRD Area A Director Daniel Arbour [reachme@danielarbour.ca](mailto:reachme@danielarbour.ca)

DenmanWorks Chair Anthony Gregson [denmanresource@gmail.com](mailto:denmanresource@gmail.com)



Where lottery winners differ is in what they first choose to spend it on. A \$16,000 refrigerator, dream homes, a Mercedes Camper, exotic travels, a truck and RV trailer, or some pay off their mortgage. In 2020, when a Cumberland woman won \$50,000 in a \$3 Bingo Blast scratch game, the first thing she did with her winnings was head to a local restaurant for a roast beef dinner with Yorkshire pudding.

Last year, professional bookkeeper, William Scott Gurney won a \$55-million jackpot, the largest prize ever won from a ticket purchased on Vancouver Island at the Save-On-Foods in Sidney. Gurney planned to travel, help his family, and purchase a home on Vancouver Island — something with a dock, as "he loves crabbing." He confirmed then that he "will not be returning for another tax season." Today, he's probably hiding under a large rock in the Cayman Islands.

Perhaps, the best feel-good lottery story, is 18-year-old university student Juliette Lamour from Sault Ste. Marie, the youngest person in Canadian lottery history to win \$48 million last year — and she did it on her first-ever lottery ticket

*continued on P.5...*

...continued from P.2 fore the first snowfall.

The cuttings are taken so they have two leaf nodes and can be planted straight into a nursery bed if the soil is not frozen. Some people like to plant the cuttings so deep that only the tip is sticking out of the ground and others like to plant them higher. I do not know which works better so will do both and take notes.

The cuttings can be left to root in the nursery bed which should be quite sandy to help you get the roots out next October when the cuttings that thrive will be planted out in their permanent locations. For fruit bushes, I would plant five or six feet apart. Elders can be used to create a hedge and what a lovely hedge they would make with their rapid growth and crowns of creamy white flowers. Elders would make a great hedge to support pollinators and thirty five different species of North American birds eat elderberries. The dense shrubs make excellent nesting sites for low-nesting birds. Plant a foot apart to create a hedge.

Elderberries kept for fruit production should be planted out in October and left to grow for a full year before their first pruning. Some people like to cut the elders right to the ground and others leave some nice supple canes at waist height so the elders do not get too tall to easily harvest their fruit. Prune out any branches that have rough bark, are crossed or weak.

The berries are picked and frozen to make it easier to get the berries off the fine stalks and can then be made into juice, syrup, jams, jellies, pies and wine. Humans have to cook elderberries before eating them but birds, including chickens, love to eat them raw and flourish on them.

I love elderberries for their anti-viral properties. I find them very useful for treating colds and flu. They make a very tasty juice when cooked with some cloves and a bit of chopped ginger. The solids are strained out and the juice sweetened with honey and canned. It makes a very refreshing drink served cold with club soda or served hot, added to tea.

I will be donating some of my elder cutting to the Garden Club raffle. The Club meets at the United Church Hall 21 February at 2 pm.

Imbolc is sacred to the Goddess Brigid and is the feast day of Saint Brigid of Kildare. These two may well be the same exalted being as the church at Kildare was built on an ancient shrine of the Goddess Brigid and both have the same powers and duties. Saint Brigid is also thought to have been brought up in the house of a Druid...

Imbolc being the first day of spring it is considered lucky to plant some seeds. Onions, celery, celeriac and leeks can all be planted in February. I will be planting some coriander

seeds to grow some fresh herbs on a windowsill.

The feast is centred around foods Brigid loves. Both Brigids are defenders of the dairy, the hearth, the home and bring the spring by spreading their green cloaks over the land. Both of them love honey, butter and cheese.

I will be making some lemon and poppy-seed pancakes which I will cook so they have a golden colour. The round shape and gold colour are like the sun and the poppy seeds represent the seeds and flowers of spring. For a good lemon flavour add some lemon zest to the batter.

I will serve these cakes with butter and honey. People do divination with the pancakes. Ask a question and flip a pancake. If all goes well, the answer is yes. If the flip was not a success, the answer is no.

Typical dishes include, oatcakes, seed cakes, braided and fruited bread, custard tarts, brambrack ( a yeast loaf containing dried fruit that has been steeped in cold tea or whisky), and colcannon. The last is a dish of mashed potatoes, butter, cabbage, bacon, onions and herbs.

In the evening, light a candle and put it in your window to let the Goddess or Saint know she is welcome and you ask for her blessing. When you serve the Imbolc feast, set a plate for Brigid and she will come.

St. Brigid  
(Brigid)



...continued from P.3 purchase. As for what Lamour will do with the money, her dad (like Taylor Swift's dad) is a financial planner and the majority will be put away in "carefully chosen investments." Lamour said she remains committed to becoming a doctor and practicing in Northern Ontario. "As a member of the Garden River First Nation community, I was eligible for educational assistance programs, but I no longer need those resources, which means someone else in the community can benefit from that funding." And after that? "Once school is done, my family and I will pick a continent and start exploring," Lamour said.

Meanwhile, back on Hornby in 2013, resident Christa Weiss, purchased a quick pick Lotto Max ticket at Ford Cove Store, having to share the second prize of \$373,805.40 with two other winners from Quebec. By matching six of seven numbers plus the bonus they each got \$124,601.80. If Christa matched one more number, she would have won \$22,063,437.50. Luck can be so fickle.

Confession. I've been buying lottery tickets for years. I'll admit, it's all a part of my future retirement plan. And since the pandemic, I have been purchasing most of my tickets online. That's when I started obsessing about how much Ontario and Quebec won the lottery compared to the rest of us in Canada. It's not a conspiracy, they just have more people, though my brain does not compute.

I remember as a kid watching the 6/49 balls being drawn Sunday night on TV, like those bingo ball machines. And it was riveting — back then. How are the winning numbers drawn today? The national lottery draws (Lotto Max, Lotto 6/49, and Daily Grand) are conducted in Toronto using Random Number Generator software, while BC/49 is drawn by a stand-alone computer at BCLC's head office in Kamloops, all while two guys in smart suits, holding brief cases, watch with precision.

I always said that if I won a chunk of money in the lottery, I'd like to be the unknown benefactor. You hear about someone's hot water tank breaking down, and when they get home, a new tank awaits them or some other such thing. I think I need to shake it up. Maybe I'd win, if I say, "If I win the lottery, I'm going to buy the million dollar UFO-shaped aquatic, Anthenea, with wet bar, lounge area, master bedroom, circular soaking tub, and pop-up upper-level solarium." Or not. 🍷

ARTS&LIT

**June 20th,  
2007**

**Johnny Martin**

By CS#05943451

**W**ELL I did it. It took me staying up all night, but I completed Johnny's eulogy.

As a result, work today was a bit of a grind. I am one waxed individual! But I didn't let no sleep keep me from putting in my usual effort at work. Matter of fact, I outperformed pretty much everyone on the crew... again.

Post dinner now and I just returned from another visit with Reverend Lon. I brought him the eulogy I'd prepared to get some guidance and/or feedback. While I doubted any disapproval from him over what I'd penned, it was still encouraging to gain his approval. He seemed rather impressed actually, leaving me feeling...

*In Honour of Johnny Martin,  
1971-June 17th, 2007*

If Johnny were the skies, he wouldn't be cloudless and sunny, suggestive of carefree joy. Nor would he be roiling and thunderous. For brooding and ominous don't describe his weather. I'd say that he would be more mutable, as in springtime. Clouds that could just as soon release some of their moisture as allow the diffuse rays of the sun to dapple the ground below. Perfect conditions for rainbows and their mystical ends.

If Johnny were the earth, he wouldn't be arid and lifeless, parched grains that sift through one's grasp. Nor would he be mud. Clingy and lacking structure, incapable of supporting the weight that bore down on him. I'd say he would be firm and rich. The crops of his experience grew rapidly, were firmly rooted, and the remainder after harvest helped to nourish the next.

If Johnny were a fire, he wouldn't be smouldering for a lack of fuel, in peril of being extinguished. Nor would he be raging, consuming all that lay in his path. Uncontrolled and insecure. I'd say he would be established and composed. Hot, were you to get too close but pleasantly warm if you didn't encroach too far. The coals beneath shifting and dancing in their colours of red, orange and yellow.

*continued on P.6...*

**TIDE TABLE**

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

2024-01-25 (Thu)		
Time PST (m)	(m)	(ft)
06:56	4.9	16
12:23	3.7	12.1
16:24	4.2	13.7
23:53	0.8	2.7
2024-01-26 (Fri)		
Time PST (m)	(m)	(ft)
07:25	4.8	15.9
12:59	3.6	11.7
17:10	4.1	13.5
2024-01-27 (Sat)		
Time PST (m)	(m)	(ft)
00:27	1	3.2
07:49	4.8	15.8
13:34	3.4	11.2
17:54	4	13.2
2024-01-28 (Sun)		
Time PST (m)	(m)	(ft)
00:57	1.2	3.9
08:10	4.8	15.8
14:10	3.2	10.6
18:39	3.9	12.8
2024-01-29 (Mon)		
Time PST (m)	(m)	(ft)
01:24	1.5	4.8
08:30	4.8	15.7
14:47	3	9.9
19:27	3.7	12.3
2024-01-30 (Tue)		
Time PST (m)	(m)	(ft)
01:50	1.8	5.9
08:49	4.8	15.7
15:24	2.8	9.1
20:21	3.6	11.8
2024-01-31 (Wed)		
Time PST (m)	(m)	(ft)
02:17	2.2	7.2
09:08	4.7	15.5
16:03	2.5	8.3
21:26	3.5	11.5
2024-02-01 (Thu)		
Time PST (m)	(m)	(ft)
02:48	2.6	8.6
09:29	4.6	15.2
16:46	2.3	7.5
22:57	3.5	11.4



...continued from P.5 If Johnny were water, he wouldn't be shallow and stagnant, at risk of evaporating in the the heat of the sun. Nor would he be a torrent that runs over its banks. Inviting grief and strife with its deluge. I'd say he'd be a lake. Welcoming the alpine runoff of friendship and in turn giving forth the same to its streams. All the while preserving his soulful depth.

Yet Johnny was a man. He wasn't driven to proving himself, as do some, and in doing so revealing that he hasn't quite attained such a station. Hoping, wishing or needing. Nor was he of broken spirit and withdrawn, suggestive that life had got the better of him and won. Regretting, forsaken or forlorn. I saw that he was a man ho was full, to the very extent of his flesh, with the confidence he earned from experience. The strength to withstand the trials and tribulations of his existence and the wisdom to not belabour its fickle fate.

I've oft times pondered the cliché, 'everything happens for a reason.' And admittedly it may take some time for us to reconcile the reason for the passing of this 'good man,' Johnny Martin. But from my perspective, and that of all the guys of Campbell House who came to know, respect and appreciate him, the shared time we had provided us opportunity to glimpse the colourful rainbows of Johnny's keen intellect and sharp wit, treasured no less than the pot of gold purported to be at their end. The chance to share in and learn from his experiences, that perhaps our own harvests will lead us to give humble thanks. To have felt the warm fires of his friendship, that we might strive to kindle the same with others.

And the feeding of our souls through the continual exchange of giving and receiving friendship as we seek our own respective balance.

In happening to meet and befriend Johnny, be it playing cards, billiards or backgammon, or in the many shared conversations that put a premium on laughter, the more uproarious the better, I begin to see the reason behind the intersecting of our lives. The example he poses, be he the skies, earth, fire or water, lend insight to the man he was. These traits of his character are both admirable and worthy of trying to aspire to ourselves. And it is for *this* reason that we are all gathered here today, to celebrate the life of our good friend. 🍷

## What is Security? Part 1

OPINIONS

By Sally Campbell

**S**UCH an interesting question to ponder: What is security? My hunch is that it is the same for most people. The ability to attend to our basic survival needs for food, clean water, clean air and shelter, of course. Then there are our needs for psychological security: the need for love, the need to belong, to feel safe, to have purpose, to make meaning of our lives, as well as to serve others. Western society's cult of individualism puts that last need on the back burner, but we see it emerge time and time again in the event of a crisis. People pull together in extraordinary ways. They put their needs after the needs of others, they show generosity on unexpected and unusual levels; they share, support and cooperate. Like the Gazan doctor whose hospital was being bombed – although encouraged to leave and save himself, he stated that he did not spend 14 years doing medical training only to abandon his patients. "Who will care for them if I am gone? Do you think my life is more important than theirs?" he questioned. This level of service to others is surprising in Western society, not so much in other parts of the world where serving the collective is fundamental to being. He did not survive, but he had the security of knowing who he was and how he belonged in the world; he will be remembered as a noble human being.

Underpinning physical and psychological needs are our **identity needs**: we want to be secure *to be able to be who we are* as human beings. Those identity needs may be around gender, race, ethnicity, religion, ableness, and more. Identity needs drive much of our behavior, they shape our values and how they play out; they are generally non-negotiable. They just are.

One way of looking at it is this: our interests (needs, concerns, fears, hopes, expectations) drive our behavior. They change over time, depending on our situation. Interests, which might be physical/concrete, procedural or psycholog-

ical, are based on our *core values*, which usually don't change; they get laid down early on in our development. And our identity runs even deeper, it goes to the fundamental nature of *who we are*.

By imagining our physical world on the basis of outdated ideas of sovereignty and nationalism, we have narrowed our identity focus, shrunk it to borders and territories, and in so doing, we have lost sight of our *common identity* as humans on one small planet. We share many more similarities than differences with our global community.

We are in a time of great insecurity right now, because our world is changing so rapidly. On a primary level, are we struggling with issues of *physical security* in an age of climate crisis. Last year was the hottest year on record since 1850, when the age of fossil fuel-burning began. We saw record droughts, record forest fires, record floods. We learned that Canada is especially vulnerable to global warming and in fact our country is warming faster than one would "expect" of a cool, northern country. The "why" of this is carefully explained in a recent article by Gordon McBean, retired Professor of Geography & Environment, Western University (The Tye, 16 January, 2023). We have major issues with affordable housing, with the cost of food, with clean air. We have a health care system that functions amazingly well for how under-funded it is. Our service of Empire and our capitalist economic structure have created unimaginable levels of inequality between rich and poor. All these issues relate to our physical security.

On the level of psychological security, our individualistic social structure has led to an unprecedented emphasis on *autonomy* as a positive value. Here's a small example: instead of deeply valuing intergenerational connection & support, Western culture has asked: "Is your adult son/daughter *still* living at home?" While by no means all people feel this way, we have a near- epidemic of people living alone, both young

---

and old, who are isolated and lonely. How well is autonomy working for them, as fundamentally social beings? It can be hard for us to ask for help. We are supposed to be able to do things on our own, to be self-reliant above all.

And then on the level of identity needs, many of us hold a deep connection to the idea of being Canadian. And how easily do we sit with that idea when that involves “freedom convoys”, embeddedness with the US military, our own military buying armed drones and angling for huge increases in spending? And now we’re angry not only at Russia, but China and India. Fear of others and unquestioning alliance with the American Empire does not add to our sense of security; in fact, it keeps us on edge and needing distraction from its overwhelm.

We can find security in our lives; it will involve changing our relationship to ourselves, our economy, our environment, our global community. We are at a crossroads of choice right now. Which way will we head?

(Next week: part 2) 🍷

OPINIONS

## Dear Forest Friends:

By *Eartha Muirhead*

**T**HERE are 9 BC Timber Sales old-growth cutblocks on Vancouver Island that have been on thier auction list since last summer. I decided to fight this monolithic Goliath and applied for a West Coast Environmental Law Dispute Resolution grant last fall. After 4 months of slog, I successfully got the grant (with endorsements from The Union of BC Indian Chiefs and Garry Merkel from the Old-Growth Review Panel) and found a great lawyer, Ben Isitt to help. In less than 3 days I raised \$500.00 to pay him the amount the grant will not cover; thanks to some of you! He will investigate all the legal arguments that could be used in a courtroom. But we really need to begin applying pressure on BCTS to stop allowing old forests to be cut down, especially in the light of Indigenous land claims and the climate crisis. I formed a group called Vancouver Island Forest Focus and we are ready to roll.

I need a volunteer steering/advisory committee to help me:

- communicate with lawyer Ben Isitt
- organize demos at all BCTS district offices on Vancouver island
- liaise with all Indigenous groups whose lands are within the 9 BCTS auction cutblocks
- track when each of the 9 BCTS cublocks could be auctioned off
- coordinate media campaigns
- coordinate fundraising campaigns
- coordinate letter writing campaigns

Any questions or offers of help? Please be in touch.

For all the Forests:

*Eartha Muirhead*  
([ejmuirhead4@gmail.com](mailto:ejmuirhead4@gmail.com)) 🍷



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### "THE REVOLUTION'S PROMISE"

A DRAMATIC READING (BY LOCALS) ON CULTURAL RESISTANCE IN PALESTINE.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 2PM

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**Hornby Community Hall**

**Saturday 27th January**

**10am to 4pm**

*Apologies for having to cancel  
the 20th due to snow.*

**Affordable  
Housing  
on  
Denman**

**Open House**  
hosted by local Trustees,  
Sam Borthwick &  
David Graham  
January 28th, Back Hall,  
2pm to 5pm.  
Come and give us  
your ideas, concerns,  
questions etc.

OPINIONS

## Shortages in the Land of Plenty God Save the King

By Helen Grond

“THE land of Canada is solely owned by King Charles III, who is also our head of state. Only 9.7% of the total land is privately owned while the rest is Crown Land” (*World Atlas*). Canada’s Crown Land is a “territorial area belonging to the Monarch, who personifies the crown. It is the equivalent of an entailed estate and passes with the monarchy, being inseparable from it” (Wikipedia). The 1982 Constitution, which was supposed to turn Crown land ownership over to Canada, never got royal assent. The subsequent Meech Lake (1987) and Charlottown Accords (1992) failed to remove the *subject to* clause that Quebec required to ratify the Constitution. Aboriginal rights have never been formalized as a result

either. Ownership of Canada has been left in the hands of the single biggest landowner on earth – an uninspiring dude who had a lucky accident of birth.

When Justin Trudeau was sworn in as Prime Minister of Canada, he pledged an oath to the Queen of England and her descendants. Every Parliamentarian has to as well. New Canadians also swear an oath to the monarch and not Canada. It’s interesting that Canada has expanded immigration to unprecedented levels and over 2 million new immigrants have entered Canada since 2022. If they apply for citizenship, their sworn oaths will be to King Charles III.

It would seem that Colonialism is alive and well, even if we call it Globalism. Trudeau has said repeatedly that “now is not the time to debate the monarch’s role in Canada”. That’s not surprising considering his sworn allegiance is first and foremost to the Monarch of England!

Immigrants are arriving in unprecedented levels and are finding a nation that can’t even house its own citizens. Those new immigrants also face a country steeped in runaway inflation, a fragile financial system and it’s dang cold here. What a cruel welcome! Government spending is madly out of control and we’ve seen deficit spending since Trudeau senior pledged his allegiance to the Queen of England in 1968. He started us off on the road to financial ruin and most governments since have been more than willing to plunge us deeper and deeper into debt. How is Trudeau junior going to afford to build the 700,000 new homes desperately needed to address the current shortage? With his stated intention to bring in 500,000 future immigrants a year, it’s clear he hasn’t got a plan we’d support.

The official explanation for bringing in millions of new immigrants is that it will stimulate our flagging economy, an economy ruined by decades of governmental fiscal mismanagement.



### Share Your Input

The Comox Valley Regional District is seeking input from the community to review emerging directions for the Regional Parks and Trails Strategic Plan process.

#### Ways to Get Involved

- Attend an open house (Jan 24 - Feb 7)
- Participate in an online session (Feb 8)
- Provide your feedback through the community survey (until Feb 19)

Visit: [engagemoxvalley.ca/RegionalParksPlan](https://engagemoxvalley.ca/RegionalParksPlan)

For more information, call: **250-334-6000**



In the brave new world of Globalism, the promise of wealth for all has morphed into a “race to the bottom”. The whole Western world is being flooded by desperate immigrants and the globalist leaders make it clear that in their new ordered world, borders won’t exist. One could argue they don’t already. Is that helping Canadians, migrants or the environment or is it helping the globalists who have cornered most of the world’s wealth in the last 50 years since the “globalist” experiment was launched?

It doesn’t benefit Canadians but it has been an incredible boon to the corporations who have deep connections to governments and privately controlled NGO’s like the WHO, the UN and the WEF, all of whom have garnered plenty of self-appointed power. The globalists have all flown in their private jets to Davos for the WEF (World Economic Forum) annual meeting being held this week. They are going to debate how to make life even more difficult for the working classes of the Western countries they seem intent to ruin. King Charles has close ties to the WEF (as do Trudeau and Freeland) and has inserted himself into world politics when he should be nothing more than a figurehead. He is the richest man in the world and he obviously has his own interests to protect.

Canadians are rapidly waking up to the fact that “things aren’t right” and polls show that 75% are losing confidence in all levels of government. Years of housing shortages, a disastrous COVID response and massive immigration are all part of the problem. A failing health care system is happening at the same time that Canadian’s overall health status is dropping precipitously. The list goes on.

Globalism, like colonialism, has been an unmitigated disaster and ongoing worldwide instability has been the result. I wonder if it’s time for a big rethink.

*“Every great cause begins as a movement, becomes a business and ends as a racket”*

-Eric Hoffer 🍷

**Parable of the Bread-truck**

by Ken Fisher

Early in the morning  
Somewhere between dawn and five  
A breadtruck on the River Bridge caromed from side to side .  
And when it finally hit the curb  
it flew over the rail  
then seemed to hover silently , like a blind man reading braille .  
The River that she plunged into  
flowed fast from a two-week rain  
and Thomson , at the wheel , woke up from napping  
to complain .....

He cranked on the ignition , then crawled out on the hood .  
" The bloody engines quit " he moaned " Looks like she's flooded good"  
His truck at first was buoyant from the racks of bread inside  
so Thomson stretched out on the hood to enjoy the new sunrise .  
But soon the loaves got soggy , as the bread began to swell .....

With the rear - end rising higher ..... while the front - end slowly fell .  
Now Thomson quickly scrambled to the roof , on the odd chance  
that the whole machine would level-out , before he wet his pants.  
Yet the breadtruck sank still deeper ..... Then the bumper snagged a reef!!!  
" I think I'm gonna make it " cried Thomson in relief  
" It really is most fortunate , that I was hauling bread "  
" if it hadda been the Christmas Cakes ... I'd be most likely dead ."

So the lesson of this Saga is .....  
( for those who still don't know )  
..... to have a hope to stay afloat  
..... you must have lots of dough .

**all beak through the middle**

by Alan Black

Honey in my coffee  
but I've let it get cold  
as the snow falls  
a big blast of endless white dust  
watch as a raven  
picks a dog bone from our mottled yard  
her beak through the middle  
to get that right grip  
before she flies into a Douglas Fir  
to do some picking  
and I would like to do more for this black bird  
through this cold,  
cold snap  
but I'm sure she will survive and isn't it better  
to protect her independence?  
Us hairless ones aren't going to be around  
forever.

**WorkBC** Employment Services  
Services d'emploi

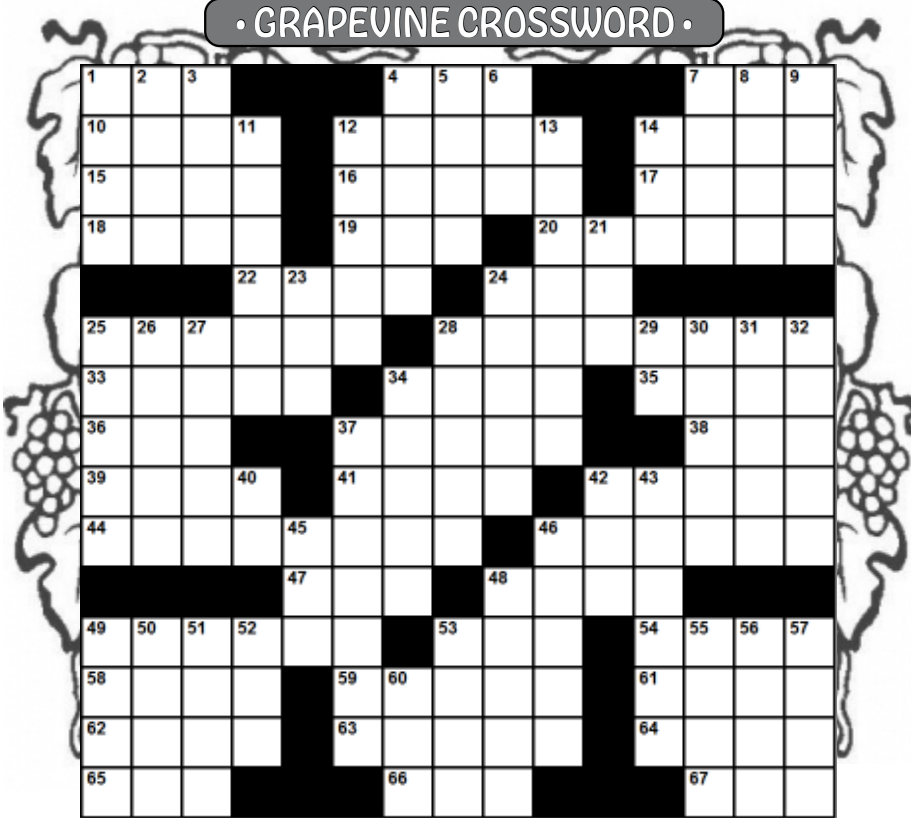
**February 2024 / février 2024**

Monday lundi	Tuesday mardi	Wednesday mercredi	Thursday jeudi	Friday vendredi
			1	2
5 Denman Island 9:00 - 3:00	6	7	8	9
12 Denman Island 9:00 - 3:00	13	14	15	16
19 CLOSED Fermé	20	21	22	23
26 Denman Island 9:00 - 3:00	27	28	29	

**Available by appointment only / Sur rendez-vous seulement**  
 dominique@ceas.ca - 250-334-3119 - www.workbccentre-courtenay.ca  
 Hornby Island: 2155 B Sollans Road  
 Denman Island: Activity Centre, 111 Northwest Road  
 Services offered in French and English / Services disponibles en anglais et en français

This program is funded by the Government of Canada and the Province of British Columbia.  
 Ce programme est financé par le gouvernement du Canada et la province de la Colombie-Britannique.

• GRAPEVINE CROSSWORD •



• TEST YOUR MATH SKILLS •

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

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

• ACROSS •

1. Jiffy
4. Ending for belief
7. Absalom, to David
10. Moslem prayer leader
12. Social slights
14. Amazon estuary
15. Callas was one
16. Kind of vein
17. Type of organic compound
18. Angelico and Diavolo
19. A murid
20. Choice
22. Boil slowly
24. Grade of wine
25. Go to class
28. Indian Ocean nation
33. Helping push
34. Lung opening
35. Harpo or Karl
36. Alley cat's scrap
37. Invective
38. Denial in Glasgow
39. Exploited
41. Casual talk
42. Anesthesia type
44. Song from "Annie"

46. Emeral and aquamarine
47. And also not
48. Commit a gaff
49. Highway divider
53. A relative
54. Angels' symbol
58. Came to earth
59. Not mine
61. Bit for Fermi
62. Small apes
63. Math sign
64. Bump or knot
65. Aardvark fodder
66. Drop back
67. Animal home

• DOWN •

1. Agree with
2. Abu Dhabi leader
3. Spanish wine
4. Spouse's kin
5. Be just right
6. Biz degree
7. Asian garment
8. Black-and-white cookie
9. Indian flat bread
11. Church services
12. Fathered
13. Lava cinders
14. Deposited
21. Afghan monetary unit
23. Blasting material
24. Earth layer
25. Around
26. Body trunk
27. Clan emblem
28. Idaho valley
29. Be
30. Mrs. Reagan
31. African village
32. Rink jumps
34. Dislike very much
37. NASA, etal
40. Pull off
42. Ring around the collar
43. Annie, for one
45. Code letters
46. Smile upon
48. Shoulder gesture
49. Actress Powers
50. Exuberance
51. Grime
52. Possessive pronoun
53. Blue fin
55. At the peak of
56. Big vein
57. Auspice
60. Black gold

Grumpism

"I used to like using heavily scented soaps but one left a bad taste in my mouth."



• LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS •

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

• CLASSIFIED ADS •

• SERVICES •

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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.

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• FOR SALE •

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• COMMUNITY NOTICES •

COMOX VALLEY TRANSITION SOCIETY EMERGENCY CRISIS LINE: 250-338-1227 or Text: 250-218-4034 For more info visit <https://cvts.ca>

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LICENSED GUN BUYER wants your unwanted shotguns & hunting rifles. Cash buyer, call 250-335-1686 or 250-650-0355

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT looking for part-time & remote work Ten years experience in fast paced industries in Europe and Canada. Skill set involves scheduling meetings and organizing event/travel, data entry, administrative tasks, content translation (english/french) and property management. Other services also available. Charging hourly or per

project. Resume and references available upon request. Claire Debleu, Denman resident denmanpersonalassistant@gmail.com (236) 380 0726

• EMPLOYMENT •

INTERESTED IN TIMBERFRAMING? Kettle River Timberworks is hiring a Construction Labourer for a new Timber frame home on Denman Island. Check out our website at [www.kettleriver-timberworks.com](http://www.kettleriver-timberworks.com) For more information contact: keenan@kettlerivertimber.com"

**ISLANDS GRAPEVINE EDITORIAL POLICIES**

*Opinions expressed in the Grapevine do not necessarily reflect that of the Publisher. Inciting violence, hate speech and pejorative language will not be tolerated.*

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

**Profiles** of individuals, history, reviews and op ed are published free of charge.

**Literary** content including poetry, stories, belle lettres are published free of charge.

**Promotional** content for products, services, programs, and events will be published at going advertising rates.

**Public** service announcements, notices of meetings, and news releases will be published for a fee. Exceptions will be made for emergencies where the public is immediately endangered.

**With** regret, no exceptions can be made for non-profit status.

**Letters** to the Editor are published free of charge.

The Grapevine is happy to provide an open, public forum for all islanders to speak and be heard. We are steadfast in our commitment to uphold freedom of expression.

As the record of our times, every issue of the Grapevine is a compilation of that week's submissions. We do not editorialize content, nor do we censor. We ask that writers moderate their own content. The Grapevine reserves the right to edit for brevity.



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

**• 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)

**• REAL ESTATE • INSURANCE • FINANCIAL SERVICES •**

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• Jordan McDonald • Oakwyn Realty • 604-616-1137 (D/H)

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- Shel Brodsgaard • Excavation & Services • 250-703-3898 (D/H)
- Excavator/Backhoe/Tandem Gravel Truck • Kenny Mather • 250-703-6512 (All) • John Isbister • 250-335-2565 (D)
- Tandem Gravel Truck & Transfer Trailer • Lora Mercieca • 250-650-9986 (D/H)
- Ray Ulovec • Backhoe/Excavator, Septic Installation • 350-3145 (D/H)
- Wicked Shovel Excavating & Landscaping • Doug Schmidt • 250-222-8076 (All)
- Landscape Construction & Gardening Services • Beech and Cedar Home Maintenance • (Kane) 250-327-1073 (D/H)

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- Able & Ready Septic Pumping Service • 250-338-8822 (D/H)
- Home Town Shredders • Document Shredding • 334-7111 (D/H)
- Bottled Water Delivery • DenmanWater.ca • 250-228-7161 (D/H)
- Tree Service • Darian Chase • Arborist 218-0404 (All)

**• HEALTH & WELLNESS •**

- Acupuncture • Margot Davey, R.Ac. • 778-992-0165 (D)
- Physiotherapist • Acupuncturist • TCM Herbs • Carmen RPT, RTCMP 335-2260 (D/H)
- Massage Clinic • 2796 Northwest Rd. • Leyah Kelly 335-2584 (D)
- Acupuncture • Jenny McCartney, R.Ac • 250-508-8160 • www.heartwoodacupuncture.ca (D/H)
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AND POT PIES, CALL TO ORDER SANDWICHES  
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**FORTNIGHT EVENTS**

**THURSDAY 25**

- RECYCLING CENTRE 2-6pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 2-6pm
- CAP SITE Hub Comm. Hall 4-7pm
- FOOD BANK Hub Comm. Hall 4-7pm
- FREE STORE 4:30pm-6pm

**FRIDAY 26**

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

**SATURDAY 27**

- RECYCLING CENTRE 9-5pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 9-5pm
- FREE STORE 9-Noon
- FARMERS MARKET Old School 9:30-12:30
- Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm
- THE REVOLUTION'S PROMISE see ad p.7

**SUNDAY 28**

- AFFORDABLE HOUSING ON DENMAN Open House Back Hall 2-5pm

**MONDAY 29**

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

**TUESDAY 30**

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

**WEDNESDAY 31**

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

**THURSDAY 1**

- RECYCLING CENTRE 2-6pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 2-6pm
- CAP SITE Hub Comm. Hall 4-7pm
- FOOD BANK Hub Comm. Hall 4-7pm
- FREE STORE 4:30-6pm

**FRIDAY 2**

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

**SATURDAY 3**

- RECYCLING CENTRE 9-5pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 9-5pm
- FARMERS MARKET Old School 9:30-12:30
- FREE STORE 9-Noon
- Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm

**SUNDAY 4**

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

**MONDAY 5**

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

**TUESDAY 6**

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

**WEDNESDAY 7**

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

**THURSDAY 8**

- RECYCLING CENTRE 2-6pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 2-6pm
- CAP SITE Hub Comm. Hall 4-7pm
- FOOD BANK Hub Comm. Hall 4-7pm
- FREE STORE 4:30pm-6pm

**OPPOSITES ATTRACT NEWS**

