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CONTENTS

ISSUE NO. 1635 • MAY 23RD, 2024

• OPINIONS •

- 2 • Shucking Oysters: Sweeping Floors with a Rake
By Alex Allen
- 4 • Green Wizardries: The Unthinkable
By Maxine Rogers
- 6 • Climate Bytes
By Rudy Rogalsky
Shortages in the Land of Plenty
By Helen Grond
- 9 • Ain't Gonna Study War No More
By Sally Campbell
- 10 • The Lamentable Rise of Book Banning in Canada
By Riley Donovan
- 13 • The Problem isn't Civil Disobedience, It's Civil Obedience
By Caitlin Johnstone
- 12 • **LETTERS TO THE EDITOR**

REGULAR FEATURES

- 3 • Tide Table
- 16 • Gary's Toon
- 12 • Angled
- 14 • Crossword
- 14 • Sudoku
- 14 • Grumpism
- 15 • Classified Ads
- 16 • Business/Services Directory

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Shucking Oysters: Sweeping Floors with a Rake

By Alex Allen

OPINIONS

date. They did return his wheelchair, but he was threatened with arrest when he tried to grab a bag of his clothing from behind the tape.

Once again, dismantling homeless camps with no hint of humanity was conducted in Victoria last week. With multiple large container trucks taking away belongings, this tactical exercise even took support services staff in the area by surprise. Our Place Society had just surveyed those 77 people sheltering on the block over a two-week period, asking what it would take to help them get off the street. The charity had been working toward helping those into housing by the end of the year. "The trust built since January has been undermined," Our Place CEO Julian Daly said. "Because some people will wonder: 'Did we know about it? Were we part of it?'"

Just over a year ago, I attended the UBCM Housing Summit held at the Wall Centre in downtown Vancouver (where a room with a king bed is \$524 a night). Premier Eby and his entourage; Green leader Furstenau; the Housing Minister, and many municipal politicians, staff, and media attended the three-day event. Each morning, as I walked from my hotel in the west end, I could not believe the homeless clumps everywhere and with nary a glance from passersby. On the last day of the summit, fraught with social commentary, the City of Vancouver chose that day of all days, to forcibly remove the 100-plus Downtown Eastside tent encampment. How many shelter rooms were actually available for the 100 plus people? 12.

Housing advocate Fiona York described the way tents and structures were removed as "violent," "traumatizing" and "dehumanizing." "The actions today were definitely violent actions that came from the state through various levels of government and authorizing bodies," she said.

Sixty-one city staff, plus three dozen police officers, were at the corner of Main and Hastings that morning. City staff included 46 workers from the engineering department; seven people overseeing impounding and staging, four liaison staff to assist with shelter and Vancouver Coastal Health referrals and four Vancouver Fire and Rescue staff. The itinerary: 11:00 am. 12 structures removed. 13 people displaced. Two people's belongings impounded. 1:00 pm. 27 structures removed. 16 people displaced. 13 bins of belongings impounded. 3:00 pm. 55 structures removed. 26 people displaced. 17 bins of belongings removed. 5:00 pm. 10 structures removed. 26 bins of people's belongings impounded. By end of day. 67 of 81 structures were removed. The next day the authorities returned. 1:00 pm. 10 people and 14 structures removed. 3:00 pm. 21 structures removed and 16 people displaced.

continued on P.5...

Publisher's Notes

By Mike Van Santvoord

Since readers last heard from me, a lot has changed at The Islands Grapevine. Those of you who aren't colour-blind (I am) may have noticed some of those changes. I'll just have to trust the feedback I've been receiving about the additional colour flourishes, which has all been positive. In addition Canada Post has rejigged our Denman circulation to better reflect the island's population growth, which has us now serving 850 Denman homes.

Changes less noticeable have occurred as well. The paper's precarious financial state that I'd referenced in January called for difficult measures. I decided against a GoFundMe. Our community has many worthwhile causes to donate to, and I am committed to the concept of self sufficiency in my business model. In truth, a restructuring was required if this 32 year old institution was to meet each of the new challenges presented. I moved The Islands Grapevine office to my house, saving about \$5000 a year, which has allowed me to keep advertising rates at a reasonable level.

Another significant change has seen the Grapevine's longest tenured employee move on to what I hope will be prosperous endeavours. Layout and production manager Chris Seguin not only assured the paper made it to mailboxes each Thursday as its dedicated printer of 14 years, but he was also the bridge I required while learning the ropes after taking over from outgoing Publisher, Sherry Stevens. Without his steadfast commitment, The Islands Grapevine would've been a distant memory, like a dodo bird.

What The Islands Grapevine has over that long departed bird is an ability to adapt to the changing times. Not so coincidentally, as our community's paper of record, all of this is charted in our pages each and every week, some 1600+ weeks and counting! As the dust settles, we see that change can be good. The Islands Grapevine now goes out to over 1400 homes and businesses on Denman and Hornby Islands weekly, and has attained greater cost certainty along the way, while adding more colour to its pages! And we are proud of our updated website, theislandsgrapevine.com.

As I am now the only paid contributor, I earn just enough to augment my modest income to pay my rent and support my family. And while much has changed with The Islands Grapevine, what hasn't changed is our commitment to serving our communities. We are ever grateful to all of our contributors and advertisers as we seek to support our communities' events and activities, its culture and local businesses, by refreshing our website, expanding our circulation and services, and improving the paper's printed quality..

Thank you all. See you next Thursday! 🍷



TIDE TABLE

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

2024-05-23 (Thu)				
Time	PDT (m)		(ft)	
05:03	4.2	○	13.9	
12:44	0.7		2.4	
20:19	4.6		15	
2024-05-24 (Fri)				
Time	PDT (m)		(ft)	
01:11	3.6		11.8	
05:31	4.2		13.8	
13:17	0.6		1.9	
21:01	4.7		15.4	
2024-05-25 (Sat)				
Time	PDT (m)		(ft)	
01:59	3.7		12.1	
06:02	4.2		13.7	
13:55	0.5		1.7	
21:45	4.8		15.6	
2024-05-26 (Sun)				
Time	PDT (m)		(ft)	
02:52	3.7		12.3	
06:37	4.1		13.5	
14:35	0.5		1.8	
22:31	4.8		15.7	
2024-05-27 (Mon)				
Time	PDT (m)		(ft)	
03:51	3.8		12.3	
07:19	4		13.1	
15:19	0.6		2.1	
23:17	4.8		15.6	
2024-05-28 (Tue)				
Time	PDT (m)		(ft)	
05:01	3.7		12	
08:14	3.8		12.6	
16:05	0.8		2.8	
2024-05-29 (Wed)				
Time	PDT (m)		(ft)	
00:01	4.7		15.6	
06:17	3.4		11.3	
09:31	3.6		11.9	
16:56	1.1		3.8	
2024-05-30 (Thu)				
Time	PDT (m)		(ft)	
00:42	4.7	●	15.5	
07:24	3.1		10.1	
11:08	3.4		11.1	
17:51	1.5		5	

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Illustration: Morgan Eliah

Green Wizardries: The Unthinkable

By Maxine Rogers

OPINIONS

Canada is changing very quickly. I don't recognize the place anymore. Women in their 60's, and older, are forced to live on the streets in leaky, wet, inadequate tents or in overflowing women's shelters. The Government's solution to almost every social problem is to offer MAiD instead of care to anyone who is poor, ill, disabled, mentally confused or otherwise inconvenient.

I was still a little surprised to find a local charity, Farm to Family, offering free meals to young families. I know some of the people who volunteer for the charity and I asked one why they were providing meals for young families? I asked if things were really that bad out there and she wrote back to me to say things are really bad and the suppers are absolutely necessary.

She went on to say that most of the families they serve are two income families with kids and they are really struggling. She said that at the end of a long work day, most of these people do not have the energy to grow a garden. Of course, she knew that my first reaction would be to say they needed to grow a garden with the price of food being so high. She added that most of the families donate money for the meals which helps the program and allows the families who cannot donate to enjoy the community meals.

I talked to another volunteer who helps to produce the meals and she said they are joyful events. The mothers with young children really appreciate having a meal cooked for them. The kids are all playing together and this is a good way for young families to meet. I would go farther and say these meals form community because there are two ways to create a community; one is working together and the second is eating together.

Now, I have to add that I think a lot of people are missing the point. If two income families are struggling now perhaps it is time to change strategies before things become even more expensive as I am sure they will. I am going to suggest the unthinkable. I am going to suggest that people think of having one partner leave the commercial workforce and join the home economy.

"But, they would have less money," I hear you gasp. Yes, but soon we will be taking \$500 down to the cafe for a cup of coffee and a piece of pie. Inflation is going up so fast your paycheck will never be able to keep up. The partner in the home economy will be able to save the whole show by growing a big garden, keeping some laying hens, keeping rabbits for their meat and manure and even by keeping a dairy goat or dairy sheep for milk and meat.



I do know something about being poor. My husband and I live below Canada's poverty line. How does the high cost of groceries affect us? It doesn't. We did not even need to shop for groceries this month. We have heaps of frozen and dried vegetables from last year's garden and heaps of frozen fruit that makes a delightful fruit salad. We always buy large quantities of basic items such as beans, rice, split peas and similar. We cook every meal from scratch. This is vastly more nourishing and pleasant than relying on convenience food.

A stay at home partner need not be female. It is very useful to have a good strong person on the home front to cut and split the wood that will

continued on P.6...

...continued from P.2

With nowhere to go, they return. This approach is like sweeping a floor with a rake.

Watch the YouTube video, “Real Canada. Saturday Afternoon - Downtown Vancouver, Canada Spring Walk, March 30, 2024” with almost 23 minutes of the bleakest footage on addiction and homelessness I have seen. And it is not just the big cities. Nanaimo, Courtenay, Campbell River, are all suffering from the same dystopia.

Dr Anna Kopec, assistant professor, School of Public Policy and Administration, at Carleton University, said that rather than this heavy-handed police response and forced eviction, we need to connect the homelessness with the services that they need. In particular, Kopec points to our emergency response and shelter system as not addressing the complexity of addiction. In order to stay in a shelter, “the folks are forced to remain sober and if you’re caught using any sort of substance, then you’re kicked out which really fails to help any individual with regard to thinking about emergency housing, and then on top of that their addiction issues.”



Kopec said that in this neoliberal world, homelessness is often deemed a personal failing. It’s “this oscillation between kind of being identified as undeserving or in need of compassion that is also influencing the approaches to homelessness and adding complexity to how we approach the problem.” This may explain how so many people can simply walk by the homeless with not a blink of the eye. Fear? Disgust? Superiority?

In Chasing the Scream, Johann Hari wrote that “when you have been told that you are a piece of shit all your life, embracing the identity of being a piece of shit, embracing other pieces of shit, living openly as a piece of shit seems better than being alone.”

Addicts need help, not contempt. What happened in their past that made them find everyday life so unbearable? Conclusive studies have shown the long-term effects of early childhood trauma. Child abuse is as likely to cause drug addiction as obesity is to cause heart disease. Survivors of childhood trauma are “often left with that sense of self-hatred all their lives” and that is why so many of them turn to the strongest anaesthetic they can find. As addiction expert, Dr. Gabor Maté noted, if we were serious about reducing the number of addicts, we would identify the mothers who are most stressed and least able to cope and give them care and support in how to properly bond with their child.

Addiction is an expression of despair, and the best way to deal with despair is to offer a better life rather than make threats. Being addicted should not be a crime. 🍷



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...continued from P.4 keep the house warm in the winter as BC Hydro's prices are on a one-way climb to the skies. A strong person can dig the garden, build fences, prune trees, make jam, smoke meat and fish, dry fruit and vegetables, can everything for the winter, bake bread and make pizza, look after the kids, actually go fishing, hunt mushrooms, mend clothes and knit socks and a hundred other money-saving tasks to keep the family afloat and comfortable.

This is the way of the future. When a family goes to one income, they will pay a lot less in taxes, childcare, groceries, heating plus halving the cost of keeping two vehicles plus not paying for two lots of insurance, work clothes, convenience food and the cost of commuting. There is still the possibility of earning cash or goods on the informal market. The quality of life will go up for the family.

The person in the commercial economy earns money to pay rent or mortgage and the unavoidable expenses. The job of the person in the home economy is to make sure no money leaves the family unless it is essential. Druids call this collapsing now and avoiding the rush. 🍷

OPINIONS

Climate Bytes **"If we don't win the war, nothing else matters" [C.D. Howe]**

By Rudy Rogalsky **WE CAN...WE WILL...WE MUST!**

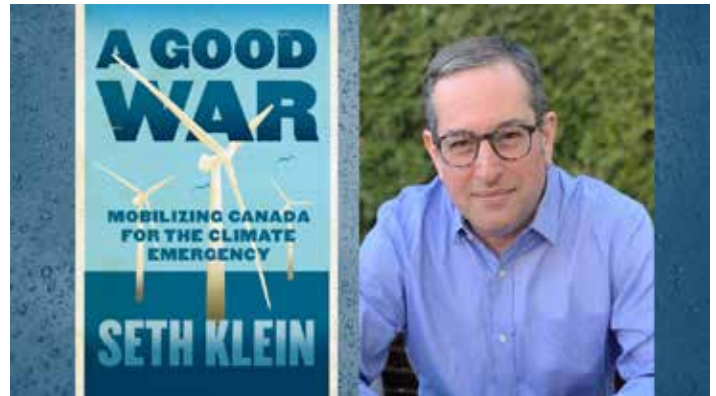
Four years ago, Seth Klein wrote *A Good War* as a model for dealing with climate change. In it, he described how during World War 2, Canadian governments and people "remade the economy [through] retooling factories, transforming the workforce and creating common cause among Canadians for the war effort". That "common cause" included a general acceptance of rationing and "doing without".

That war effort is indeed an apt metaphor for the scope of the transformations and constraints needed if we are to have any hope of salvation from the ravages of climate warming. We need to transform to a human enterprise that is in synch with nature. 250 years ago, world population was a modest one million living amidst seemingly-boundless resources. Then, by 1928 population had doubled, by 1974 it doubled again and then doubled yet again with an increasingly insatiable appetite for resources that is far greater than what the earth can sustainably provide. We have known this for over 50 years and yet, despite annual warnings and countless international agreements, world emissions of green house gases have continued largely unabated.

Admiration for Canada's war response needs to be tempered by consideration that Canadians had just been through the great depression and were well accustomed to living frugally and "doing without". Much of today's population will find future roads more difficult because we know only unparalleled prosperity with its globalization, unlimited availability of food and consumer goods, ownership of more and bigger "stuff" and space to store it in.

So, what societal changes are needed to make Klein's *Good War* against climate change a reality? Please read the book, but one change is a precondition for success of all the others. That is that our political leadership, the media, the judiciary and the population accept unconditionally that the climate crisis is existential and must be won at any cost. C.D.Howe, who led Canada's wartime restructuring, could have been talking about today: "If we lose the war, nothing else matters". There can be no partial victory. The following are some essential pieces of the puzzle we must solve.

For context, understand that the last 250 years of growth fueled by fossil fuels is the most atypical period in human history and that, for most of the last ten thousand years, earth's temperature



Continued on P.7...

...continued from P.6 never varied more than 0.5oC above or below 14oC. We are presently about 3 orders of magnitude greater than that.

Organize! Organize! Organize! Civil society organizations are generally ahead of governments and corporations in knowing the depths of the crisis and understanding what needs to be done. Through coalescing of such minority groups, we could bring about a positive tipping point where their views spread to a quarter of the population and then become the majority view. Only by organizing can civil society set the agenda.

Use that power of civil society to bring about political “leadership” characterized by statesmanship and long-term thinking, public trust and total fixation on winning the war. Present politicians, in the main, are obsessed with perpetual growth and short term political and commercial advantage and they must either change or be changed. To elect such people in this emergency would be tantamount to a death wish.

Everyone—governments, corporations, citizenry—must adopt an emergency we-are-at-war mindset.

Government and civil society organizations must marshal all the resources of communications media and the entertainment industry to rally and unify the public

Governments must mandate that Industrial productive capacity and resources must make only products that reduce or eliminate GHG emissions. Oil and gas exploration, fracking, oil sands production must end. There will be shortages of food and other “necessities” requiring rationing programs.

Don't stop till we've won. 🍷

Shortages In The Land Of Plenty

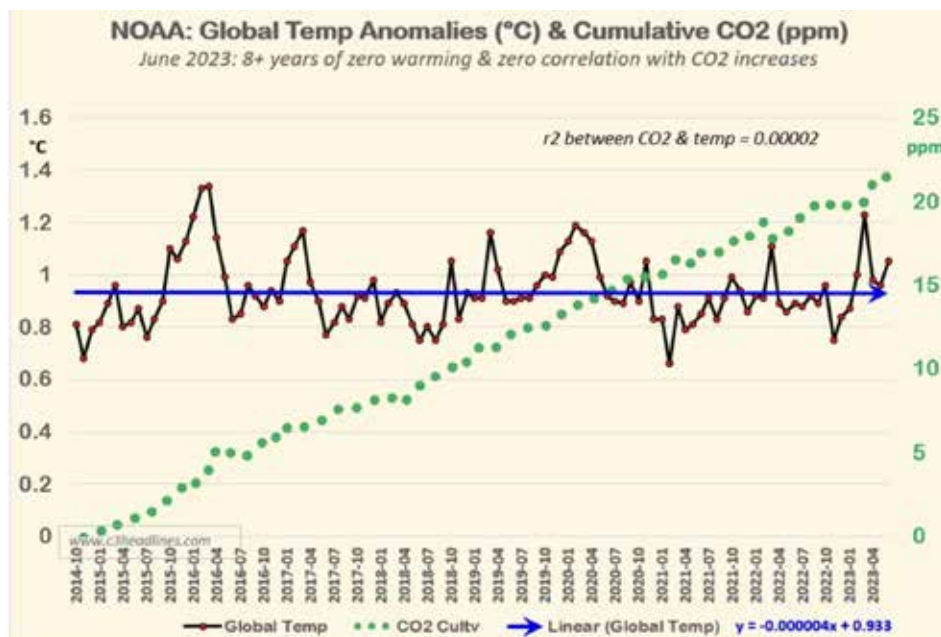
It's not what we don't know that gets us into trouble. It's what we know for sure, that just ain't so” -attributed to Mark Twain

By Helen Grond

Give Science a chance

The following four graphs display data that are all part of the accepted scientific record and focus on the last decade, 128 years, 15,000 years and 400,000 years.

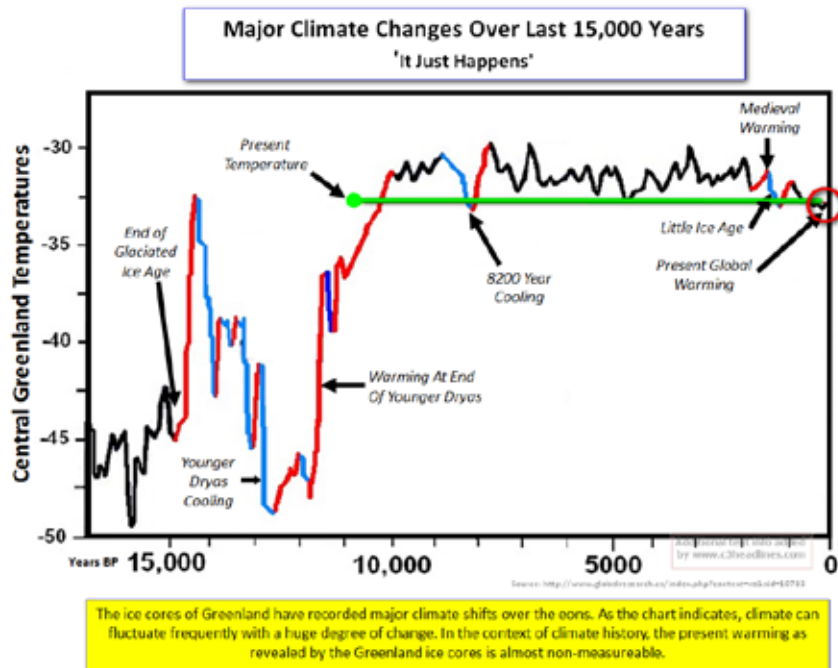
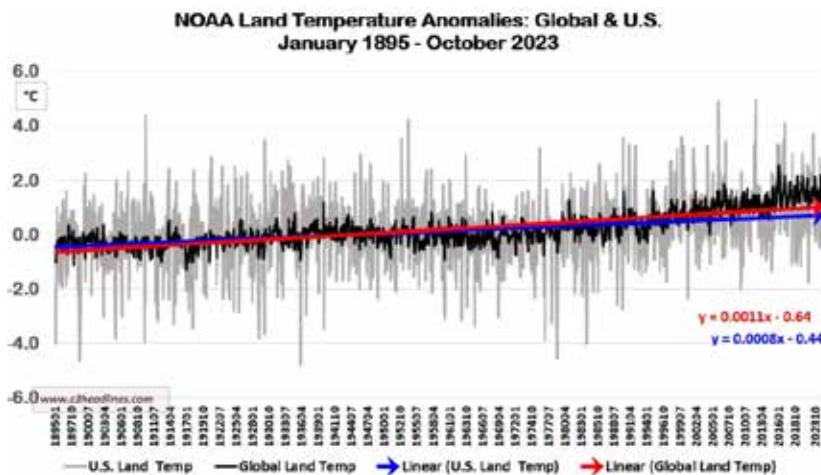
The first graph shows global temperatures over the last 8+ years (black line) with the mean in blue. The green dots represent the increase in CO2 levels. Two important takeaways are: 1. We are clearly not boiling. 2. Wildly fluctuating and now rising CO2 levels do not show they cause rising temperatures now, nor have they ever on any time frame studied.



Continued on P.7...

....continued from P.7 Long studied and understood natural warming has averaged 0.8 degrees C per century for the last approximately 400 years and is staying consistently in that range. Many people are unaware that natural, long term warming (and cooling) cycles exist and that natural warming accounts for most, if not all, of the 1.5 C increase that been attributed to post-industrial emissions.

The well understood decadal oscillations (natural 20 to 30 year climate cycles in black) are quite apparent in the following simple graph. The El Nino, La Nina cycles contribute to the individual spikes (grey) that are averaged in. Pay close attention to the grey areas. Don't get too focussed on the big spikes, they are misleading. The pattern changes after 1960.



Continued on P.9...

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...continued from P.8

The following graph shows temperature changes over the last 400,000 years. Currently, most evidence based climate trends (unlike the IPCC computer generated models) have the planet descending into a cooling phase not a warming one. I think people are starting to notice and they should because the planet has historically spent most of it's time in cooling phases as the graph clearly shows.

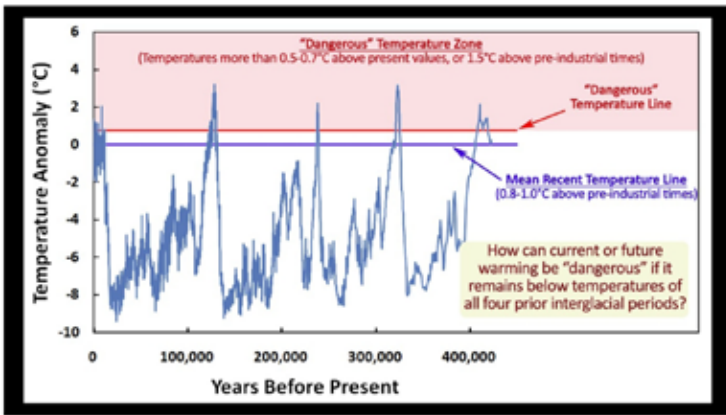


Figure 11. 400,000 years of historic temperature from the Vostok Ice Core, Antarctica. Source: Petit et al. (1999) Nature 399: 429-436.

Cyclical and often dramatic temperature changes have always happened and scientific understanding strives to understand the complex underlying mechanisms. It will never be settled; it's a process, like all science. What is settled is that the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) consistently ignores the 150 years of established climate change research that contradicts their narrative and instead requires you to believe their internally generated predictions and computer models which have been proven wrong over and over. Why? Is it because maintaining that narrative protects what has become a trillion dollar industry?

Without data and evidence, "science" becomes a faith-based belief system. It's time to bring "climate change" out of the category of religion where it cannot be questioned or debated and back into the realm of science where it must be questioned and debated. The political organization known as the International Panel on Climate Change refuses to engage with the world's leading and well respected climate scientists and has for 35 years. By understanding these simple graphs, you already know far more about climate change than the IPCC does! For further information about natural climate variability follow this link:

<https://www.c3headlines.com/chartsimages.html>



OPINIONS

Ain't Gonna Study War No More

By Sally Campbell

I don't know how many encampments have been established on Canadian campuses, but I learned (conversation between scholar Angela Davis & Dr. Gabor Mate – Science & Non- Duality, SAND, Palestine & the World, 17thMay, 2024) that there have been over 180 on various US campuses, a level of student protest not seen since Vietnam War. My alma mater, McGill, is presently seeking an injunction against its protesters' encampment, which has been peacefully in place these last few weeks and getting a lot of front page coverage in Quebec. While these encampments have been student-led interfaith non-violent gatherings involving a disproportionate number of Jewish students, many've been attacked and ruthlessly shut down by city police forces and university administrations. Sometimes, as at UCLA, the students were attacked late at night by a violent mob with clear connections to the ultra-right and extremist Zionism, while police basically stood by and failed to protect them. This is why Max Blumenthal entitled his May 8th, 2024, report on The Grey Zone, "The Occupation Comes Home".



The negative publicity surrounding the encampments has been massive. They have been depicted as anti-semitic for having the audacity to criticize Israel. The media have taken at face-value the Zionist claim that the freedom slogan "From the River to the Sea" is a call for genocide against Jews. This is complete nonsense. Many of these encampments hold weekly Shabat ceremonies, led by such principled people as Rabbi Brant Rosen of T'sedek synagogue in Chicago,

Continued on P.10...

...continued from P.9 and their key speakers and leaders are often Jewish (see his Shalom Rav blog, 17th May, 2024.) Fanatical pro-Israel students, such as the young woman at Yale in early May who made inflammatory, highly publicized claims of being “stabbed in the eye” by a protestor’s placard, an accusation soon shown to be utterly false, are desperately seeking to discredit the students.

Peter Beinart - Journalist, Professor at CUNY, and religious Jew - wrote that he’s visited many encampments recently and has been moved by their inclusivity, respect for all faith traditions, and for Jews he spoke with, a kind of renewal of their connection to their Jewish values. (Beinart blog 20th May, 2024.)

Max Blumenthal’s *The Occupation Comes Home* was filmed in a talk to students at UMass. I find Max particularly compelling because he is a Jewish-American about the age of my sons, who grew up in Washington DC as the son of a government insider. His dad was an advisor to Clinton. He knows the game inside and out, and is a fearless investigative reporter. His 2014 book “Goliath” is a gripping read about the real Israel, the apartheid Israel, based on 5 years of on-the-ground research. This is not the wonderful high-tech, LGBTQ-friendly face Israel likes to show to the world. While most people shrugged off Israel as mainly a positive influence, Max said back then that Israel was a society primed for genocide; his humanity allows him no satisfaction over that foresight. As any student of Israel-Palestine knows, the events of October 7th were a very long time coming, and not unexpected. What has truly shocked the world is the magnitude and severity of Israel’s response, and the West’s complicity in that extreme response.

As Angela Davis states so cogently in the SAND webinar (above): “placing violence at the forefront” [ie, Hamas’ October 7th attack] ignores all the systemic issues that led to the eruption of that violence. This is an issue, she says, that has always clouded liberation movements, and “it misconstrues the extent to which the State uses and monopolizes violence against the people”. She points to the extensive reporting of Palestinian children throwing stones in resistance to Israeli repression and the fact that the tanks & bombs of the Israeli army- “the vast violence of militarism”- are not even considered newsworthy, making it very hard for readers to be on the right side of history. Now the truth is exploding out.

Max Blumenthal considers also that the mask of American liberal democracy is being peeled back, which is why so many are joining the movement. He says: “The US is corroding its own carefully crafted image to accommo-

date the genocide imperatives of Zionism, and everyone can see it.” In the US, we are indeed seeing violent crackdowns on the student protesters; we are also seeing principled leaders like The Rev. Dr. Serene Jones, Professor & President of Union Theological College (UTC) at Columbia in New York, supporting the encampments. UTC is in dialogue with its students about divestment from armaments, guns and for-profit prisons, having divested from fossil fuels in 2014. UTC is also part of a group of 50+ organizations committed to Socially Responsible Investments (SRI) who manage a fund of over \$3.1 Trillion, no small change! She talks with Amy Goodman (early May, 2024) on Democracy Now! about the uptake of university professors weighing in to support the students. With a genocide going on, Jones says: “they feel this is the moral issue of our time”, and we must stand with them. I agree. 🍷

The Lamentable Rise of Book Banning in Canada

By Riley Donovan

OPINIONS

Many Canadians have heard of the scandal back in September involving the Peel District School Board (PDSB) decision to remove books published before 2008 from

school libraries.

What made this particularly shocking was the immense scope: one book-loving Erindale Secondary School student told the CBC that over half the collection in the school’s library was removed.

Canadians across the country were also baffled by the arbitrary cut-off date of 2008 - which meant the throwing out of all 19th and 20th century literary classics, but also popular recent series like Harry Potter and the Hunger Games!

This surreal incident is part of a larger trend of censoring books deemed offensive or outdated.

In British Columbia, the Surrey school district has removed Harper Lee’s *To Kill a Mockingbird* and John Steinbeck’s *Of Mice and Men* from the recommended reading list - teachers in this district wishing to teach these two literary classics will need special permission from a principal.

Continued on P.11...

...continued from P.10 a “white saviour trope”, and *Of Mice and Men* contains “ableist language”.

The Toronto Catholic school board recently passed a policy banning the assigning of books containing racial slurs against black people – with a small carveout for books written by black authors.

This ban includes such timeless classics as *To Kill A Mockingbird* (published in 1960), *Lord Of The Flies* (1954), *Gone With The Wind* (1936), *Heart Of Darkness* (1899), *Of Mice And Men* (1937), and *The Adventures Of Huckleberry Finn* (1884).

These classics have never been out of print because reviewers and readers alike have long been entranced by their timeless stories of love and betrayal, suffering and joy, war, and peace.

To be sure, the authors conveyed their own distinctive view of the world and human nature using the language of their time period.

If you rewatch old episodes of the TV series *Cheers*, the jokes and phrasing will make you feel like you are looking in on another world entirely.

This is because, in effect, you are. As L.P. Hartley wrote in his 1953 novel *The Go-Between* (has that one been banned yet?): “The past is a foreign country: they do things differently there”.

Cheers first ran in 1982. Should we really be surprised, then, if some of the phrasing in *Gone With The Wind* - published in 1936 - takes us aback in 2024?

In 2022, the Upper Canada District School Board (UCDSB) banned Agatha Christie’s famous mystery novel *And Then There Were None* from classrooms, apparently due to language denigrating a Jewish character.

At the time, a spokesperson for the UCDSB made this startling statement in defence of the ban: “The text was first published around 1939 and is no longer relevant or engaging to students”.

The spokesperson went on to say that the district works to ensure that it is “offering fresh, engaging, timely and relatable materials to students”.

Therein lies the underlying problem with the book banning craze: a fundamental misunderstanding on the part of some school boards of the role that schools should play in society.

Students have plenty of ability to find “fresh, engaging, timely and relatable materials” on TikTok and in conversations with their friends.

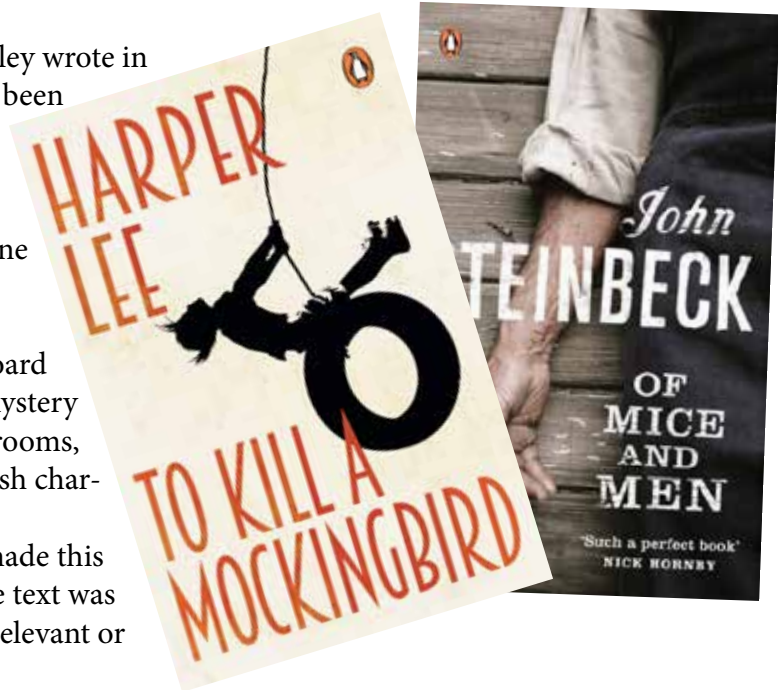
The role of schools is to provide students with interesting, edifying, and timeless material with which to challenge themselves.

Students do not have to agree with the books or essays they read in school, but in reading them they will gain the written and rhetorical skills needed to logically articulate their own positions.

Having read most of the literary classics currently on the chopping block, I can say with certainty that the occasional use of language now considered shocking or distasteful does not obscure their value or their message.

The policy of censorship employed by many school boards lacks historical nuance and charity, and deprives students of the joy of reading some of the best literature ever written.

Riley Donovan is a B.C. journalist and founder of the independent publication *Dominion Review* (dominion-review.ca). You can follow him on Twitter @valdombre 🍷



Letters to the Editor

Oakley Rankin's "Letter on EMI" last week states: "[...] most of us are using portable devices which cannot be cabled." Many people seem to be similarly mistaken, but wireless devices (be they Android or Apple) can indeed be connected by cable. To be clear, one can disable wi-fi and alternatively connect to the Internet or another wi-fi device (television, printer, &c.) by cable, using an adapter. It's worth noting that cables also provide superior speed, reliability, and security.

Many variations of small, inexpensive, "dongle" adapters are available. Some just have one port, but there are multi-function models which provide many ports (Ethernet, HDMI, USB, charging, &c.), all in a compact case with a short cable. Just be sure your device is compatible and matches the connector (usually USB-C these days, but even Apple's obsolete proprietary connector is available).

Oakley's letter also states: "I know that EMI is very real and have tasted its effects," yet it begins by dismissively conflating EMI with psychosomatic illness and "bogus diagnoses". Again, I think many share such an opinion, which is not surprising, considering the emphatic assurance of safety & efficacy from government & industry, and the lack of personal inquiry.

Suffice it to say: In contradiction to the status quo, a large body of evidence exists, there to be seen, by those who choose to look. To quote Oakley's letter once more: "Ask your children and grandchildren how this would sit with them!"

Leif LeBaron 

Dear Editor:

The rant about "fictional anti-semitism" published in the May 16 Grapevine as a featured article contained many inaccuracies and was deeply offensive on several counts, chief among them dismissing the recent well-documented rise in anti-semitic incidents around the world (including Canada) as a fabrication of apologists for Israel. Further, the piece seems to me to contravene the Grapevine's stated policy of not tolerating hate speech.

Stephanie Slater

TIG stands behind leftist anti-war critic Caitlin Johnstone's assertion that the Anti Defamation League's cited statistics relating to the rise in anti-semitism as being false. The ADL now conflates any protest against the ethnic cleansing perpetrated by the Israeli government with anti-semitism. Stephanie Slater claims there are inaccuracies without citing specific examples, and falsely accuses TIG of printing hate-speech, as if to make Johnstone's point for her. -Ed

Angled



The Problem Isn't Civil Disobedience, It's Civil Obedience

By Caitlin Johnstone

OPINIONS

Our society does not have an antisemitism crisis. It doesn't have a crisis of far left radicalism, Islamist extremism, support for terrorism, or fomenting of dissent by foreign powers.

Our society has a moral crisis. A cruelty crisis. An imperialism crisis. A militarism crisis. A propaganda crisis. An insincerity crisis. A stupidity

crisis. An obedience crisis.

Empire managers and imperial spinmeisters try to pretend there's some horrifying existential emergency involving hatred of Jews or love of Hamas or some other ridiculous nonsense in our society, because the empire too is in a state of crisis. People are waking up from its lullaby of propaganda and are rejecting its narrative manipulation like never before, which is why instead of relenting and accepting the empire's destruction of Gaza, opposition to it is only growing stronger.

So the authorized custodians of imperial narratives flail around desperately trying to regain some control by spinning all the civil disobedience we are seeing in a way that makes it seem like some sort of problem which needs to be fixed. But as Howard Zinn said, "Civil disobedience is not our problem. Our problem is civil obedience."

Our problem is not that more and more people are opposing Israel's empire-backed atrocities in Gaza with more and more aggression, our problem is that people are not opposing it aggressively enough. Our problem is that too many people still have their minds jacked into the mainstream worldview and ignore the most urgent matter of our time, letting their thoughts be preoccupied with frivolous garbage and trusting that our leaders are doing what's best for us.

Mainstream culture is so shallow, vapid and idiotic that when an artist rapped about this issue of unparalleled urgency, he included the line "I want a ceasefire, fuck a response from Drake"—and everyone knew what he meant. He meant mainstream culture is fixated on phony public spats between millionaire pop stars while the US empire funnels weapons of annihilation into Israel to be dropped on a giant concentration camp full of children. It says so much about this fraudulent dystopia we live in that such a thing would need to be said. But it did.

The problem isn't that people are becoming too disobedient, the problem is that people remain too obedient. The problem isn't that people are becoming too radicalized against their government, the problem is that people aren't radicalized enough. The problem is that the freaks who rule over us are not sufficiently afraid of us. The problem is that we have not yet come to the collective realization that there are a whole lot more of us than there are of them, and that we don't actually need to put up with them doing crazy and evil things right in front of our faces.

Instead people sit around drooling with their eyes fixed on screens full of endless diversion while children are ripped to shreds by western-supplied military explosives for no other reason than because they happen to belong to the wrong ethnic group.

That is the real crisis of our society. Not an imaginary antisemitism epidemic. Not college kids disobeying authority figures. Not leftists. Not anarchists. Not Islam. Not Hamas.

The real crisis in our society is that too many people are still blindly obedient to a murderous and tyrannical empire which should be hacked to pieces and scattered to the winds. 🍷



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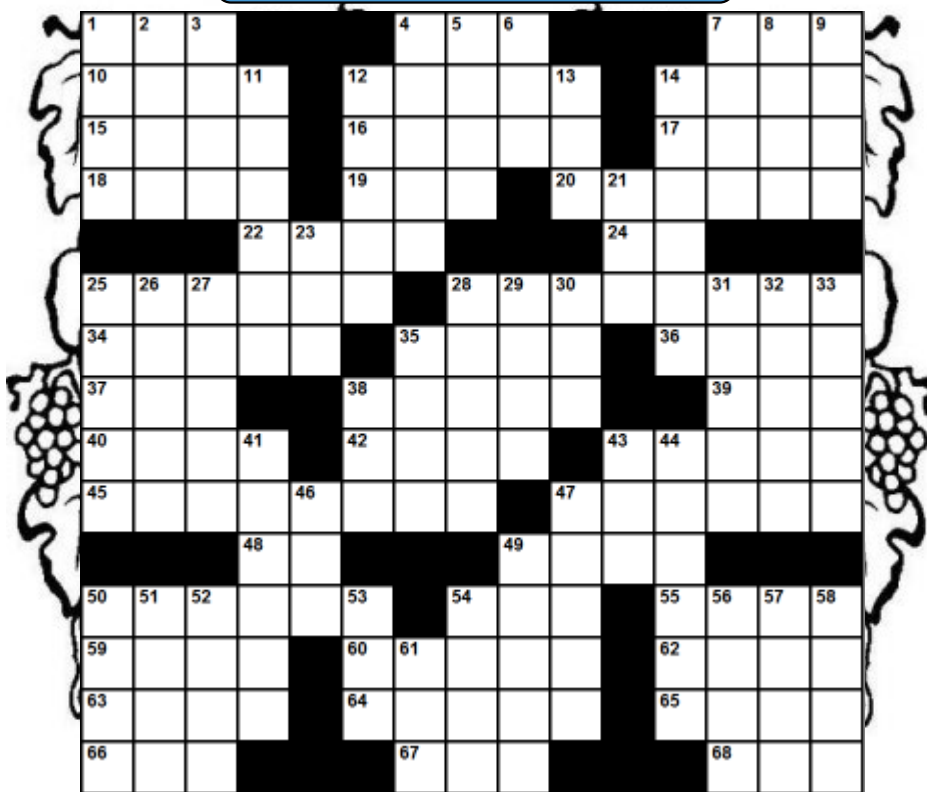
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• GRAPEVINE CROSSWORD •



• ACROSS •

1. Annex
4. Create lace
7. Acct., often
10. Beef, e.g.
12. Small rodents
14. Actor's part
15. Podrida pot
16. Kingly decree
17. Black-and-white cookie
18. City near Chernobyl
19. A good deal
20. U.S.N. clerk
22. Brings to a close
24. Be
25. Artist's attic
28. Frayed
34. Actor's actor
35. Cal or Georgia
36. Barely cooked
37. Altdorf's canton
38. Fend off
39. Bear hand
40. Construction toy
42. Alternative word
43. Capital of Idaho
45. Life is the longest one
47. Staked
48. -- sorry!
49. Mechanical repetition
50. Become depleted
54. Adult elver
55. Undulous

59. Blue flag, for one
60. Flow out
62. 2-D measure
63. Eye at the beach
64. Slightly drunk
65. Amusing story
66. Ball perch
67. Bakery choice
68. Black sheep's trio

• DOWN •

1. Berserk
2. Cold cut place
3. Buttermilk's rider
4. Bustles
5. Came to earth
6. Gumshoe
7. Bulblike plant stem
8. Arraignment offering
9. Galactic time period
11. Beer hall
12. South African Grassland
13. Pork place
14. Lease signatory
21. Have dinner
23. ABC, for short
25. Frenchmen
26. Be in unity
27. Be a monarch
28. Brief
29. A lot of land
30. Biblical possessive
31. Breakneck
32. Banish blunders
33. Beaded with moisture
35. Agalite
38. Animal home
41. Idle
43. However
44. Like some streets
46. Cassowary cousin
47. Mystery writer Rae
49. Be frugal
50. Civil unrest
51. Advocate forcefully
52. Barge setting
53. Before mouse
54. Get a glimpse of
56. Bedouin tribesman
57. Actress Miles
58. Yin counterpart
61. Address for the general

• TEST YOUR MATH SKILLS •

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

• Last Week's Answers •

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

GRUMPISM



“ Got in to trouble when I was in the army when they found me with trifles, ice cream and cakes. They said I was a deserter. ”

• LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS •

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

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• **CLASSIFIED ADS** •

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WATZI: A Weird Denman Dog Show, family & dog friendly fundraising event for Hiladi. Come with or without a (leashed) dog for tail-wagging fun, dog & human treats, competitions, dog photos. \$5-\$20 sliding scale (children free). Questions? Call Max 335-0364

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With Much Thanks

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!

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FORTNIGHT EVENTS

THURSDAY 23

• 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 24

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

SATURDAY 25

• 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

SUNDAY 26

• DOG SHOW 11:00-3:00
Community Hall Field

MONDAY 27

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

TUESDAY 28

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

WEDNESDAY 29

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

THURSDAY 30

• 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 31

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

SATURDAY 1

• 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 2

MONDAY 3

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

TUESDAY 4

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

WEDNESDAY 5

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

THURSDAY 6

• 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

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