



Electric Trucking and Delivery

-soil, compost, mulch, sand, gravel
-construction materials

www.electric-delivery.com

Alan Friesen @ 250-898-4392



*All Corlan lunches
under \$20.00!*

*We are open for lunch
11-2
Monday - Friday*

*Reservations appreciated
250-335-9132*

SUNDAY JUNE 9 • 11 - 3 PM

WATZI!

A WIERD DENMAN DOG SHOW



FUNDRAISER FOR HILADI

OUTSIDE DENMAN COMMUNITY HALL • SPECTATORS WELCOME
THREE CATEGORIES - \$5 TO \$30 ENTRY FEE - \$100 PRIZE
PET PORTRAITS • BIRDS • DOG & HUMAN TREATS



Coastline
Closets

250-335-1654

www.coastlineclosets.ca

DENMAN ISLAND HOMES

MY HUMANS
WANT A GARDEN
BUT I WANT A
SUNNY SPOT TO
SNOOZE.



LET'S FIND A HOME THAT FITS
EVERYONE'S WISH LIST.



Local REALTOR® Jordan McDonald
jordan@denmanislandhomes.com



**BRAIDWOOD
DENTAL CENTRE**

DR. CHRIS S. BECHTOLD

Dr. Joel Durling DMD, General Dentist

**Accepting
NEW PATIENTS**

CALL US TODAY!

250.338.0809

12 • 204 OLD ISLAND HWY
COURTENAY, BC V9N 3P1

BRAIDWOODCOURTENAY.COM



**Open 12pm to 8pm Wednesday, Thursday & Sunday
Open 12pm-10pm Friday & Saturday
(Pizza after 3pm Friday-Sunday)**

Beef & veggie burgers (gluten-free buns available), fries & poutine
(gluten-free vegan gravy available), Korean-style fried chicken,
pizza, panozzos, and rice bowls. Try our signature Caesar!

Licensed • Dine-in & Takeout

**3646 Denman Rd (the old bakery) • TakeoutNearYou.com
(250)335-1099**



D.I. General Store

General Store Hours:

Monday to Thursday: 8 - 6:30

Friday: 8 - 7

Saturday: 9 - 7

Sunday and Holidays: 12 - 4

Post Office Hours:

Monday to Friday:

9 - 12 & 1 - 4:30

Saturday: 12 - 3

Sundays and Holidays: Closed



CONTENTS

ISSUE NO. 1637 • JUNE 6TH, 2024

• COMMUNITY NEWS •

- 3 • Home & Garden Tour adds Corlan Vineyard
By Brad Hornick

• LITERARY •

- 2 • Shucking Oysters: It's Complicated
By Alex Allen

• OPINION •

- 3 • Green Wizardries: A Second Step
By Maxine Rogers
- 6 • Building a Team-Easier with a Blueprint
By Sally Campbell
- 8 • Is Margaret Atwood Transphobic?
By Keith Porteous
- 12 • The US Empire Isn't A Government That
Runs Nonstop Wars, It's A Nonstop War
That Runs A Government
By Caitlin Johnstone

- 9 • • LETTERS TO THE EDITOR •

— REGULAR FEATURES —

- 3 • Tide Table
- 16 • Gary's Toon
- 13 • Angled
- 13 • Angelika Forray-Enlightened Monkey
- 14 • Crossword
- 14 • Sudoku
- 14 • Grumpism
- 15 • Classified Ads
- 16 • Business/Services Directory

Cover image: East Cider Orchard Pond
by Mark Prior • printartphotography.ca

THE ISLANDS GRAPEVINE

- DENMAN: 850 • HORNBY: 520 •
- E-SUBSCRIPTIONS: 105 •

2550 Lake Road
Denman Island, BC
V0R 1T0
theislandsgrapevine@gmail.com
www.theislandsgrapevine.com

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



Publisher/Editor
Mike Van Santvoord



Associate Editor
Keith Porteous

LITERARY

Shucking Oysters: It's Complicated

By Alex Allen

You may have noticed that space exploration is no longer an arena for the inquisitive and the courageous. Like the ocean, outer space is poised to be commodified in the interests of personal economic gain with shades of benevolence. Driven by private corporations such as Elon Musk's SpaceX and Jeff Bezos's Blue Origins, we are entering a new era of the space capitalist, geared towards generating profits from satellite launches, space tourism, and asteroid mining, to name a few.

As Victor L. Shammass and Tomas B. Holen wrote in *One Giant Leap for Capitalistkind: Private Enterprise in Outer Space*, "Neil Armstrong's famous statement will have to be reformulated: space will not be the site of 'one giant leap for mankind,' but rather one giant leap for capitalistkind." These space capitalists are "forging a new political-economic regime in space... aimed at profit maximization and the apparent minimization of government interference."

In 2018, a New Zealand start-up, Rocket Lab, launched thousands of miniature satellites as well as a giant, shining 'Humanity Star' into orbit around Earth. The geodesic sphere, made from carbon fibre with 65 highly reflective panels, mimicked a disco ball, reflecting sunlight back to Earth. Many astronomers expressed outrage at these plans. But, as Shammass and Holen, noted, "while these astronomers were incensed by the idea of a bright geodesic object disrupting their ability to carry out observations, concerns with the effects of the arrival of capitalistkind on their ability to collect data were non-existent." Bob King warned on the Sky & Telescope website that "it won't be long before there's enough momentum for everyone from breweries to real estate companies to advertise their products and services with a 'bright light' in the sky."

Another private venture group, Moon Express, has the vague mission: "to redefine possible by returning to the Moon and unlocking its mysteries and resources for the benefit of humanity." The moon is "a new frontier for humanity with precious resources that can bring enormous benefits to life on Earth and our future in space." And that's not all, with hints of creepiness they add, "Not long from now a new generation will look up and see lights on the Moon, and know that they are part of a multi-world species."

Even though no one is actively mining the moon right now, there are companies in Turkey, Saudi Arabia, Finland, Norway, Germany, Luxembourg, Belgium, Canada, the US, the UK, China, Thailand, India, Mexico, Peru, New Zealand, Australia, and Greece, all working on space mining technologies. Beyond asteroid mining, as an example, Meraki Space Systems, a private US military contractor, will later expand into the construction of "agriculture domes, hotels and settlements."

A new World Economic Forum report released in

continued on P.4...

H&G Tour welcomes Corlan Vineyard

By Brad Hornick

Dear Denman Island,
The **Denman Island Home and Garden Tour** has the delight of adding **Corlan Vineyard** to the Tour! This is just one of the now 13 stellar properties involved in the Tour.

By purchasing a ticket, visitors will be supporting the work of the Denman Conservancy Association (DCA). Over the last two decades, the Tour has helped finance the protection of over 800 acres of environmentally precious land, safeguarding the Island's ecological integrity, biodiversity and cultural heritage. Here is a description of this 'must-see' gem on the Tour, one among many others...

In 2006 this 10 acre property was forested with no water, septic or hydro. Today it is a thriving 5 acre vineyard, tasting room, farm and restaurant. The vision, hard work and dedication of Pat and Selwyn is an inspiration. This year, they won 3 Gold Medals for their wine: white, red and rosé. The vineyard is certified organic. You are invited to visit the tasting room. "Corlan" means sheepfold and they have 12 sheep, a working border collie and 30 laying hens. Plant starts and tree seedlings are grown in the greenhouse.



*The siding and addition onto the house were built with trees off the property and milled with Pat's sawmill. In the kitchen, notice the center beam with a carved mermaid and harbour seal, stained glass cupboards and unique drawer pulls. Recycled materials were used throughout the home. Enjoy a picnic under the arbor. Charcuterie boxes are on the menu and can be pre-ordered. **Live music is featured at this venue on Saturday.***

To see more venues on our interactive map and to purchase your ticket today, please go to denmanconservancy.org/tour. 🍷

Green Wizardries: A Second Step

By Maxine Rogers

In this little series, we are talking about ways to thrive in lean times. Lots of people claim that the only way to do this is to live within your means. I disagree. I think the best way to thrive is to live below your means.

Living within your means can mean spending all the money you make but not more.

While living below your means is a habit of spending less than you make every month. It is a happy feeling when you have an unexpected car repair or need dental treatment to know that you have lots of money to deal with such a problem.

When I was young, I had a debit card and would go to the bank and put it in the slot and get money out. I never really knew how much money I had and I never had a plan for saving any of it. That is what having credit cards and debit cards is meant to do to you.

It is also far easier to pull out your card and tap it for a purchase than it is to pull out a crisp red bill and see it vanish from your life forever. For those of you who do not know what cash looks like, a red bill is fifty

TIDE TABLE

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

2024-06-06 (Thu)

Time PDT (m) (ft)

04:52 4.5 14.7

12:33 0.1 0.3

20:08 4.9 16.2

2024-06-07 (Fri)

Time PDT (m) (ft)

01:15 3.6 12

05:32 4.4 14.4

13:14 0.1 0.3

20:51 5 16.4

2024-06-08 (Sat)

Time PDT (m) (ft)

02:10 3.7 12

06:14 4.2 13.9

13:54 0.2 0.7

21:34 5 16.4

2024-06-09 (Sun)

Time PDT (m) (ft)

03:07 3.6 11.9

06:59 4.1 13.3

14:35 0.4 1.5

22:15 4.9 16.2

2024-06-10 (Mon)

Time PDT (m) (ft)

04:09 3.5 11.5

07:47 3.8 12.6

15:14 0.8 2.5

22:54 4.9 15.9

2024-06-11 (Tue)

Time PDT (m) (ft)

05:21 3.4 11

08:40 3.6 11.7

15:53 1.2 3.8

23:33 4.8 15.7

2024-06-12 (Wed)

Time PDT (m) (ft)

06:40 3.1 10.2

09:44 3.3 10.7

16:31 1.6 5.2

2024-06-13 (Thu)

Time PDT (m) (ft)

00:10 4.7 15.4

07:48 2.8 9.2

11:08 3 9.9

17:10 2 6.7

...continued from P.2 April reveals that the global space economy will grow from \$630 billion in 2023 to \$1.8 trillion by 2035. Until 2035, the report acknowledges, with not a hint of transparency, that “most of the space tourism revenues will come from in-orbit stays aboard space stations as ultra-high-net-worth customers purchase their space travel experience.” Interestingly, you have to look long and hard for any mention of mining in the report. It appears in a table and twice, both as footnotes in four point type. In the “State-sponsored civil” section, “the moon could spur innovations in space habitation, mining and laboratories in its unique environment” and later in the all-encompassing industry category of “Other,” mining coyly appears with space tourism and in-space manufacturing.

Of course, behind every space venture looms a thick web of government spending programs, regulatory agencies, public infrastructure, and universities financed by industry research grants. SpaceX would not exist were it not for its government-sponsored contracts. Evan Briscoe wrote that these “launches highlight an interesting dichotomy that is beginning to emerge in space exploration, as we see highly trained scientists and researchers juxtaposed with high paying billionaires, each boarding the same rockets and jettisoning into space. One group for research, another for recreation.”

SpaceX is developing a massive rocket that will launch 1.25-ton satellites, adding to a fleet of 5,500 Starlink satellites already in space, part of a planned constellation of 42,000. It will soon be joined by Amazon’s Project Kuiper constellation, followed by others jumping on the broad-bandwagon. According to a 2023 study in *Ecological Economics*, low-Earth orbit can only hold about 72,000 satellites without the risk of a Kessler syndrome event. This phenomenon happens when space collisions produce so much junk that the Earth’s orbit becomes unusable for any human activity. Space junk includes rocket bodies, explosions of satellites, dead satellites, and even tools lost by astronauts.



What we don’t hear much about is the effect on the environment. A study last October showed that the stratosphere is already littered with metals from re-entering spacecraft. When researchers began analyzing the data, they found high levels of particles like niobium and hafnium, chemicals that are only used in rocket boosters.

Satellites could eventually total one million, requiring an even greater number of space launches creating even more emissions. Another study published in 2022 found that if the rate of rocket launches increased by a factor of 10, their emissions could cause temperatures in parts of the stratosphere to rise as much as 2 degrees Celsius. This could begin to compromise the ozone over most of North America, all of Europe and a chunk of Asia. Those

DENMAN ISLAND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING TO PRESENT THE 2024 RECREATIONAL
GRANT COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

NOTICE OF DIRA GENERAL MEETING

A public meeting to present the recommendations of the 2024 Recreational Grant Committee will be held on Monday, June 10, 2024 at 7:30 PM in the Back Hall of the Denman Island Community Centre. This will be followed by the June General Meeting of the Denman Island Residents Association.

The DIRA Board hopes you are able to attend and looks forward to updating you on the activities of our Committees in 2024.

of us who live in higher latitudes in the Northern Hemisphere will be exposed to even more harmful ultraviolet radiation without our consent. For space regulators across the globe, pollution or exploitation is not a concern, profit is. Like everything capitalists touch, by the time we figure out the consequences it will probably be too late. 🍷

...continued from P.3 dollars.

One of the best ways of developing a conscious relationship with money is to spend only cash. I learned this in Lancashire, England from people who grew up in the Great Depression. They had a system where money coming into the family was divided into envelopes. So much would go in the rent or mortgage envelope, so much to groceries, so much to buy clothes and shoes and on until, at the end, the husband would receive a little cash for beer and tobacco. When any of the envelopes was empty, they stopped buying that category. If a man ran out of beer and tobacco money before the next wage packet, he stopped smoking and drinking for a few days.

To give an example of how that worked in practice, my friends wanted a new car. The wife ran the numbers every which way but they could not afford the car. The husband said, "What if I give up smoking?" His wife did the math and said, "Yes, if you give up smoking, we can afford the car." He quit cold turkey and never once mentioned his struggle with that very potent addiction.



One couple we are friendly with was having money troubles. We offered to teach them this simple way to manage their money and explained that their situation could be rectified by a single year of lean living. The husband said, "I want what I want when I want it." So we dropped the subject and they lost their house.

Another couple did want to learn the method of envelopes. They had lots of money but had bitter and disruptive fights over money frequently. Once we explained the envelopes to them, they reached a fair division of money into electronic envelopes and decided how much each person got as spending money each month. The fights stopped at once. They were very successful at budgeting, or rather the wife was but the husband was happy with the outcome as he could spend his whole allowance on his sail boat with never a harsh word from his wife.

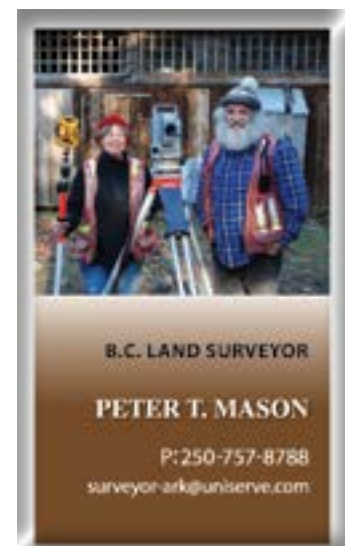
Once a person has their money under conscious control, they may have a lean year or two while they build up savings but the lean years can still be fun. Walking, swimming, biking and picnicking are all almost free. Having the family and friends play board games or do a jigsaw puzzle (available for free from the Free Store) is a pleasant way of spending time with loved ones. When you finish the puzzle, take it back to the Free Store and exchange it for a new one. Also lots of great books can be had at the Free Store, the Denman Community Library and the Public Library.

Getting together with friends and family to do art projects is fun and inexpensive. Does anyone remember the oracle cards we used to make at the Arts Denman House as a free art project?

Snacks for such occasions do not have to be purchased. Try popping popcorn and see how fast your family shows up for a share. Baking cookies with kids is an entertainment and an educational process for them.

By the time your couple of lean years are over, you will be really good at living below your means.

A friend suggested that another good step is to create a 4X8 garden bed and grow some lettuce, peas and carrots. He said once people find out how easy it is to grow great food, there will be no stopping them. 🍷



Building a Team – Easier with a Blueprint

By Sally Campbell

Of the many tools and models I've relied upon during my years of

assisting groups to learn to work in collaborative ways, the *Tuckman Model* is right up there as one of the most useful. It's actually a summary of team-building studies created by Bruce Tuckman in 1965. Here in simplified form are the 5 phases of the model. Groups don't necessarily flow through them in a linear way, but in my experience no group reaches a level of *performing* without struggling through the *storming* phase. (It can really help to be able to say: "Oh, we're in our storming phase!") And it's not just pertinent to groups, committees, and boards. As a mediator often working in the difficult arena of separation & divorce, I found that couples splitting up were, for the most part, stuck in the storming phase; they had never learned how to address the inevitable conflict that arises when two souls meet in an intimate relationship and decide to stay together over time. Learning how to navigate storming often gives people the tools and the glue they need to build a long-term partnership.

It also helps to recognize that moving through one phase to another doesn't mean there won't be a revisiting of a previous phase later on. Being able to name which phase the group or the couple is immersed in at any given time helps to normalize a dynamic relationship, build team and lessen tension. These are the stages of the **Tuckman Model:**

FORMING

- This is the "getting acquainted", orientation stage.
- People are on polite behaviour with formalities observed.
- They are trying to find out if they can commit to the group, its goals and objectives, or to this person they're interested in.
- The questions are: can they be accepted by the group or by this person? And might they want to make that commitment themselves?
- Fear, safety and trust are the key issues they are working on.
- This is a time of foundation setting, a lovely, lively and hopeful time of beginnings, as well as uncertainty.

STORMING

- This is when differences start to become apparent.
- Agenda issues emerge: What is this group trying to achieve and how? Do I belong in this group? What is this person like and what are priorities for this person?
- Will I be able to advance my own goals and objectives with this group/person?
- There is a critical need to clarify differing viewpoints and build understanding during this phase.
- It is important to recognize and normalize differences. The idea that difference is more than ok, it's actually valuable, is useful during this phase.
- Safety and trust are key issues. Do I feel safe enough to speak honestly with this group/person? Can I trust them to be the same way with me?
- Critical point: a competitive environment indicates storming, even though it all may be very polite. Some groups/couples never work through this phase and they neither function very well nor build capacity. When a crisis hits, they have no foundation to fall back upon and the relationship collapses.
- The primary goal of this phase is the need to engage with & manage conflict.
- Exploring separate and shared values, what they mean to the group, to the other, and expressing your own values, builds trust and necessary common ground.

NORMING

Continued on P.7...

...continued from P.6

- Power and resources are more easily shared.
- Delegation of tasks is possible. A shared way of operating starts to unfold.
- Rapport and trust levels build. Tensions lessen.
- Individual differences are respected, valued and encouraged.
- An atmosphere of cooperation and involvement develops, and people can feel it.

PERFORMING

- At this stage the group reaches its peak, achieves its goals.
- Team identity is strong.
- There is more informality, less need for structure.
- There is more delegation because of trust.
- There is high productivity.
- At this time, there's a need to sustain momentum, pay attention to process, and not take this level of performing for granted.

ADJOURNING

- The group completes its task, mandate, term.
- This is a time for evaluation of process and accomplishments. For couples, it could be a time of looking back, revisiting their journey together, recommitting after a difficult passage, marking the end of a period in their joint lives. Only extremely rarely are both members of a couple emotionally ready to engage in “adjourning” at the time of a separation. It may come years later though, sometimes decades later.
- This phase, added in 1977 with *Mary Ann Jensen*, involves acknowledgement and recognition. Rituals, ceremonies, appreciations – gatherings to mark the group's successes, next phases, completion of its work, possible legacy, are important and often neglected. It's called *mourning* in some texts, and reminds us that endings shape beginnings.
- This is a time of closure; ritual/ceremony/making meaning of the time together and the work done help complete that task.

“These phases are necessary and inevitable in order for a team to grow, face up to challenges, tackle problems, find solutions, plan work, and deliver results.” Bruce Tuckman.

(Next week: *Enhancing Group Work*, Part 2) 🍷



Is Your Neighbourhood Prepared?

Learn about the Neighbourhood Emergency Preparedness (NEPP) and how each household in your community can get involved. Disaster planning starts at the neighbourhood level.

**Neighbourhoods that plan
for disaster, recover faster.**

For more information, call: **250-334-6000** or visit:
comoxvalleyrd.ca/nepp

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
CITY OF COURTENAY | K'ÓMOKS
FIRST NATION | TOWN OF COMOX
VILLAGE OF CUMBERLAND

 **Comox Valley**
REGIONAL DISTRICT

Is Margaret Atwood Transphobic?

By Keith Porteous

I read *The Handmaid's Tale* in the late 80s, discovering Margaret Atwood as a great writer and social critic. It wasn't until years later that I read her explanation of her book. I had thought of it as a feminist parable that revealed the brutality of patriarchy, but Atwood tells us it's much more than just that. She says it's about how we assume our culture will not regress, and that when women are marginalized, they are often the most cruel to others. In other words, it addresses these complex issues with nuance and humanity.

I thought it to be deeply ironic that some of the most enthusiastic ticket buying attendees to Atwood's talks were local people who have publicly expressed views that Atwood vehemently opposes. She is against cancel-culture and censorship in general, especially by governments or organizational authorities. She holds views about language relating to transgender people that many of her Denman fans must not have been aware of. Where were the protests and placards, demanding Atwood be de-platformed, her speaking event cancelled? Is Margaret Atwood a "transphobe?"

Of course she shouldn't be de-platformed and her speaking event boycotted and cancelled. She's a great writer, and she agreed to come here to raise funds for worthy causes. For me, it isn't about what Atwood does or does not believe, nor whether I agree with any of her views. The point is that many of the fawning attendees to her talks are the same people who take issue with *The Islands Grapevine* (TIG) because we allow people to express themselves, with limited moderation. And the reward for doing so has been the false accusations of bigotry and trafficking in misinformation, while no good deed goes unpunished.

Atwood has been smeared with the accusation of "transphobia" for merely discussing the meaning of the word "woman." For this, she was accused of sending a "dogwhistle" for anti-trans sentiment. A contributor to TIG was accused of transphobia for far less, if we can quantify such matters. And thus, a boycott of TIG was mounted

on the grounds that TIG had somehow endorsed transphobia for not censoring the discussion. Atwood supports trans rights, as does TIG and its contributors. Atwood opposes censorship and cancel-culture, and for many of us on the Left, these are all fundamental principles.

Apparently there were question and answer periods after each talk, and private receptions with the organizers and their acolytes. Did anyone ask Atwood her views on any of these issues? So far, no one I know who attended, heard any question that might stray outside the lines of public discourse on subjects that would reveal Atwood's committed individualism and critical thinking on these controversial matters. She mostly fielded questions about her books and her celebrity. In each case I was told that Margaret Atwood is really smart and funny, and very enjoyable to listen to.

FireSmart™ Your Home

FireSmart™ Program Helps Protect Your Home

The Comox Valley Regional FireSmart Resilience Committee is encouraging all residents to FireSmart their properties. Forest fires are a natural part of our ecosystem. You can reduce the risk of losing buildings and properties in a wildfire event by using simple FireSmart Tips.



FireSmart Tip For Your Home:

Add non-combustible 3 millimetre screens to external vents (except dryer vents).

FireSmart™, Intelli-feu and other associated Marks are trademarks of the Canadian Interagency Forest Fire Centre.

For more information, call: **250-334-6000** or visit:
comoxvalleyrd.ca/firesmart

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY:
CITY OF COURTENAY | K'OMOKS
FIRST NATION | TOWN OF COMOX
VILLAGE OF CUMBERLAND



BRITISH COLUMBIA

FireSmart™



Comox Valley
REGIONAL DISTRICT

Letters to the Editor “In God knows how many Words or more!”

This mini diatribe is written in response to Bill Engleson’s pronouncement in The Flagstone, and I quote:

“Recently, and not for the first time, a Facebook note urged our community to heal. While a noble aim, I have doubts about whether we can. Covid drew a line in the sand. Our community, those who either cared to express an opinion, one way or the other and/ or opted to mask/vaccinate or not, fashioned a divide. These divisions were significant.”

He continues his pronouncement by applauding DIRCON (Denman Island COVID-19 Response Coordination Network) and closes his mini-polemic with the following statement:

“Of course, there were other forces working in an opposite direction. They are still festering.”

Those “other forces” that are “festering” are working hard to build community and support the most vulnerable on both Hornby and Denman Island. They socialize and discuss the state of Canadian and world society on a

Do you want to make Islands Trust more accessible?

Now Recruiting - Accessibility Committee Appointments

Islands Trust is accepting expressions of interest for volunteer Accessibility Committee (AC) positions.

Islands Trust is seeking residents that have the interest and ability to assist and advise the Islands Trust Council to identify, remove, and prevent barriers to individuals interacting with Islands Trust.

To meet the requirements of the Accessible British Columbia Act, Islands Trust is looking for:

- a minimum of one and up to four people from organizations that support people with disabilities, or who have disabilities, in the Islands Trust Area;
- a minimum of one person who is Indigenous; and
- a minimum of one and up to two people from the Islands Trust Area.

Successful applicants will be appointed by the Islands Trust Council and may be expected to meet four times per year. The term for each of these positions is to December 31, 2026. Terms of reference for the Accessibility Committee can be viewed on the Islands Trust website.

If you are interested in helping us promote accessibility in the Islands Trust organisation, please apply via the website before 4:30 pm, September 16, 2024.



SCAN ME

regular basis. They have developed a network in which they help and support each other in practical and emotional ways. The “line in the sand” is becoming evermore blurred as more islanders engage with these “other forces” to create hope, support and wellbeing within our communities. Where are you in all this, Mr Engleson? Maybe you should attend a gathering and explore ways in which you can help to heal our communities rather than hurling salt into the COVID wound.

In closing, I must, once again, thank The Islands Grapevine for continuing to embrace all sides of every discussion and Mike, for standing strong and true through all the storms that have come the way of The Grapevine.. Carpe Diem.

Perri Gorrara 

Letters continued on P.10...



Islands Trust

Preserving and protecting over 450 islands and surrounding waters in the Salish Sea

...continued from P.9 Dear Editor

Re: Climate Change Articles by Helen Grond

I am writing in response to articles written by Helen Grond published in the last two issues of The Island Grapevine. While the premise of her articles was to 'Give Science a Chance' when seeking to understand climate change, the link provided to support her argument was to a rambling website (Climate Conservative Consumer, www.c3headlines.com) overflowing with conspiracy theories poorly disguised as science. 'Conspiracies are fostered by commercial and ideological interests that seek to benefit from muddying the waters around climate change (eg fossil fuel companies, libertarian think tanks).

Ms Grond's assertion that the International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has ignored accepted science on historical climate change is wholly unsupported by her writings. She has not provided evidence to support her argument that the current IPCC modelling methods do not incorporate historical data.

Models, despite Ms Grond's comments, do not predict anything. They are tools used to develop scenarios or possible futures against which public policies can be tested and the outcomes of those policies better understood. To refer to them as predictive misses their intended use as valuable tools for analysis.

Patricia Gordon, Denman Island 🍷

Breaking the Spell

"If a lie is only printed often enough, it becomes a quasi-truth, and if such a truth is repeated often enough, it becomes an article of belief, a dogma, and men will die for it." *The Crown of Life*, 1869

I'm glad that the recently released documentary, "Climate - The Movie" is now widely available for free (link below). After decades of controversy, the "biggest scientific scandal in human history" is finally being seriously scrutinized from every angle. It's long overdue. There have been countless books, films, videos and articles produced over the years but this new film is very comprehensive and straightforward in its treatment of an incredibly complex subject that can easily fly over the heads of the non-expert. The complexity of the issue accounts for a lot of the success of the unprecedented alarmist propaganda machine.

The film chronicles a sober and detailed portrayal of what the scandal is, how it was propagated, and who is behind it. Contributors are highly respected world experts and scholars. Every aspect of the scandal is explored in an intelligent and thoughtful way, relying on an abundance of well-established facts. You will find out what actually drives climate change and what can be expected in a world where climate has always changed naturally and always will. It's of outmost importance to understand natural cycles because they can have huge impacts, even if they occur over long time-frames. We all deserve to know the impact of well-understood natural short term cycles because they have real implications for local food growing conditions. Besides, had lay people been informed about basic natural climate change processes, the scheme would never have worked.

The hijacking of the environmental movement by the most powerful organizations on the planet was achieved through the exploitation of human vulnerability to fear and propaganda. Fortunes were made, and are still being made, but the environment was never the beneficiary! The lifeblood of the scheme is vigorous and perpetual fear, injected continuously into the public's psyche. The constant hits of impending disaster keep coming but they are losing their impact. The truth can no longer be contained. People are growing weary of the ever shifting narratives of doomsday climate events that never materialize and have never been supported by evidence.

The disintegration of the narrative began when the Cult was forced to shift the story from "global warming" to "climate change" due to a severe shortage of actual warming. Lately, in desperation, the Cult went on to grasp at any absurdity to deflect from their massive failure to predict warming trends.

The infamous Climategate scandal (2009) exposed the rot and deceit behind the scenes at the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and their part

Continued on P11...

...continued from P.10...

ners. A whistleblower released emails regarding internal discussions on how to fudge the data to hide the fact that a warming trend (natural) from 1978 to 1998 took a 20 year pause right after. Just one of those inconvenient truths, I guess. The media helped cover it up but many ethical scientists distanced themselves from the tainted narrative and became outspoken critics. That should have spelled the end of the nonsense, but there was too much at stake. "Climate - The Movie" gives good background on how countless scientists have been forced to "go along" with the propaganda to keep their jobs. Where have we heard that before?

The film looks at both historical and recent data on temperature, CO2 levels, extreme weather events, ocean levels, coral reef health, forest fire risks and even polar bears. Remember that "science" is evidence based and not the outcome of repeated political talking points.

The Climate Cult has been the main contributor to an entire culture of hopelessness in our youth, who see no point in bothering with a world that has always been presented to them as broken with no possibility of repair. Who can blame them? Suicide, drug addiction, mental illness and poverty have been induced by those who clearly scorn humanity. Show this film to your older kids as it could go a long way to ease wide-spread anxiety which is plaguing children everywhere as they have been especially targeted with fear campaigns. How dare they! It took barely 20 years for the hypocritical global warm-mongers to strip humanity of its future. This is the true existential threat.

We can turn it around and bring back hope by educating ourselves. We must focus on making real efforts to clean up the social, environmental, political and financial mess we find ourselves in. The costs to society have been staggering over the lost decades consumed by this scandal. It won't be easy but at least we will be moving in a positive direction. We sorely need the change.

And, for heaven's sake, let's stop scaring our kids to death!

<https://wattsupwiththat.com/2024/03/20/climate-the-movie-watch-here/>

Helen Grond, M.Sc. Geology



Graham Lake

The US Empire Isn't A Government That Runs Nonstop Wars, It's A Nonstop War That Runs A Government

By Caitlin Johnstone

June 1st, 2024

OPINIONS

or their security, but to benefit the loose international alliance of plutocrats and unelected empire managers whose wealth and power are premised on the world order of continuous violence, exploitation and extraction which the campaign of global domination upholds. This campaign of global domination and its manifestations as a whole may be referred to as the US empire, which has very little in common with the US as an individual nation.

Until you understand this, nothing the US government *or* the US war machine does will make sense. You won't understand why military operations are being waged which don't seem to benefit the American people in any way, and which if anything actually *harm* the national security interests of the United States. You won't understand why US foreign policy remains the same no matter who's in office, regardless of party or platform. You won't understand why the US and its allies do crazy things that otherwise make no sense for governments to do, like backing an increasingly unpopular genocide in Gaza, starting a cold war with China, or tempting nuclear armageddon with Russia.

And the answer is that these aggressions are not happening because they benefit the US as a nation, or even because they serve the political agendas of any elected officials. The nonstop violence is a means to a completely different end, and is almost an end in and of itself—benefiting war profiteers, shoring up geostrategic control, and expanding the sphere of the US empire's particular brand of global capitalism.

There's the nonstop worldwide military operation, and then there's the theatrical set pieces of an official government slapped together in the foreground which we're all meant to pretend has something to do with all the wars and militarism we are seeing. In reality the war machine just does what it's going to do while the official elected suits in Washington put on these performances where they argue about abortion and Donald Trump to make it look like the US has a real government that's making real decisions.

It was decided long ago that war is too important to be left to the will of the electorate, so now there's this fake dummy political system that the American people are given to play with so they won't meddle with the gears of the imperial machine. The local inhabitants of the hub of the globe-spanning empire are kept too propagandized, entertained, distracted, busy, poor, and sick to have a truth-based relationship with what's being done in their name around the world, and if they do make some space in their life to become politically engaged they are herded into a kayfabe two-party system where both factions support war, militarism, imperialism, plutocracy and ecocidal capitalism but put immense amounts of energy into empty culture warring over issues that nobody with any real power cares about.

Trying to talk about this to people who are still plugged into the mainstream imperial worldview is like if Amazon had a children's cartoon show called Andy Amazon & Friends, and the public believed the cartoon show *was* Amazon—they didn't know anything about the sprawling trillionaire megacorporation that's devouring the global economy. You'd try to talk about the gargantuan e-commerce company and they'd think you were talking about the cartoon, and object that what you're saying doesn't line up with what they know about the show and its characters.

Once you see the corporation behind the cartoon, once you see the empire behind

The wars are not designed to serve the interests of the United States, the United States is designed to serve the interests of the wars. The US as a country is just a source of funding, personnel, resources and diplomatic cover for a nonstop campaign to dominate the planet with mass military violence and the threat thereof.

This campaign is not waged to benefit the American people



Continued on P13...

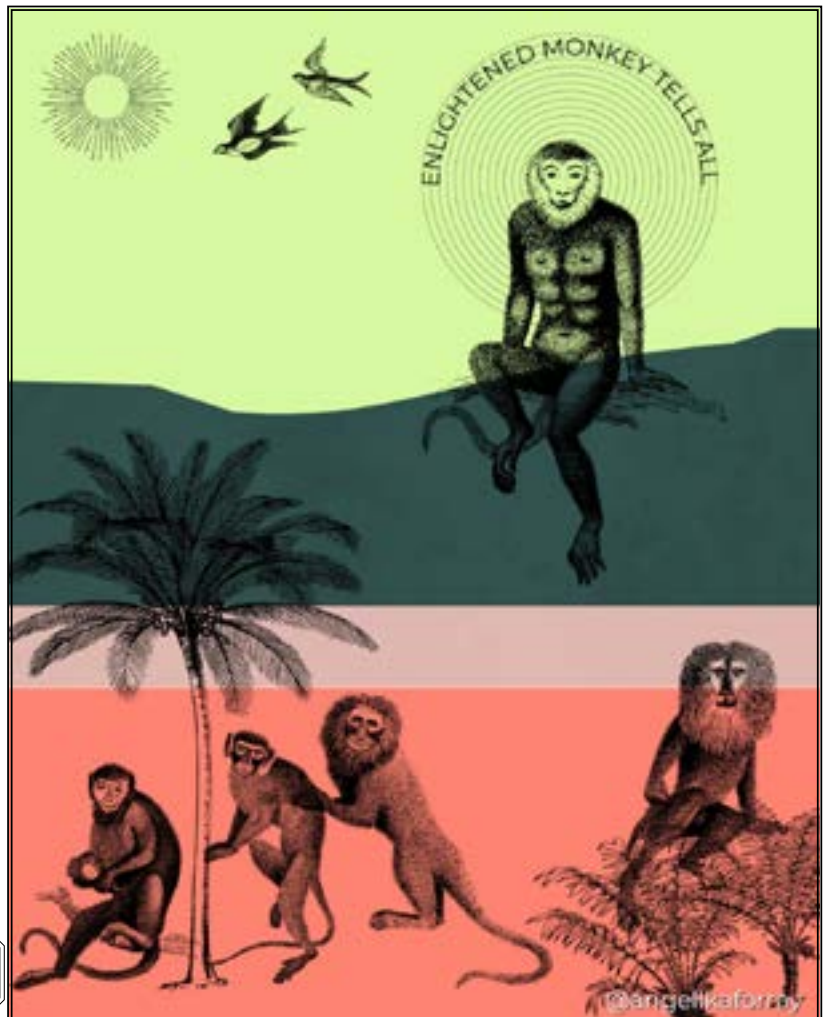
...continued from P.12 the performative puppet show of official politics, you see it everywhere. You see it in the movements of the imperial war machine. You see it in the news headlines. You see it in the phony justifications and narratives that are being spouted by the western political-media class. You see it in our education system. You see it throughout our vapid mainstream western culture of interminable diversion and capitalist indoctrination.

And you stop caring about the puppet show. You stop caring about presidential elections, about Stormy Daniels and Donald Trump, about the culture war wedge issue of the day and the latest hot topic that everyone's saying you need to take a position on. It becomes as interesting to you as some Youtube video your kid has on in the background when you're busy dealing with a home emergency.

And the behavior of the empire absolutely is an emergency. The escalations against Russia and China that these freaks are pushing have the world on a trajectory that's going to get us all killed, and the horrors they are inflicting in Gaza and elsewhere are creating a nightmare on earth right here and now. The empire is only getting crazier and more violent as its planetary domination becomes more challenged, and until people can see it for what it really is, it's going to be very hard to build up the necessary public opposition against it to use the power of our numbers to force them to stop. 🍷



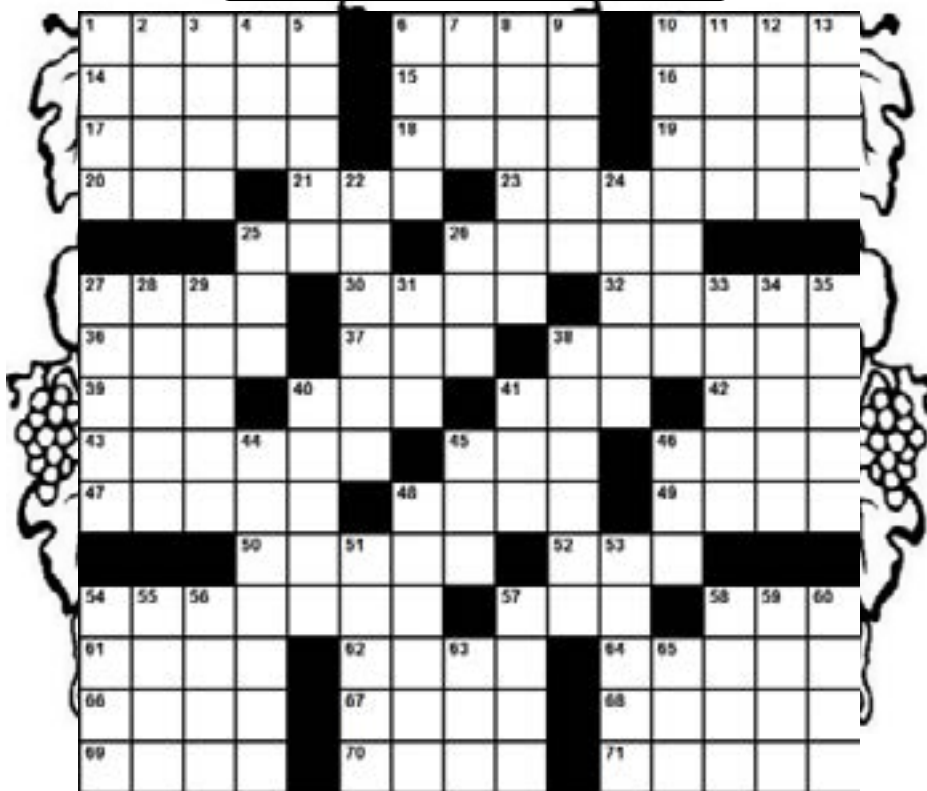
Angelika Forray



Angled



• GRAPEVINE CROSSWORD •



• ACROSS •

1. Russian villa
6. Pile
10. Drinks like a dog
14. In the country
15. Anthony of the alleys
16. Beltway sign
17. Coral structure
18. Charisma
19. Club of notes
20. Accept applause
21. Black gold
23. Most smarmy
25. Possessive pronoun
26. Golf cup
27. G.I. ration
30. Black-and-white cookie
32. Here and now
36. A tide
37. Abbot or Collier
38. Resembling the moon in shape
39. Always, in verse
40. Actress Rita
41. Drink cognac
42. Actor Selleck
43. One who admits frankly
45. A play on words
46. Actor Wilder
47. Home of the Masai
48. Adhesive item
49. Arabian port

50. College at Oxford
52. Actor Carney
54. Certain shade of cerise
57. Angry state
58. Absorb, as costs
61. Exact places
62. Bolt partners
64. Fire wood
66. Exuberance
67. Anemic's supplement
68. Cockamamie
69. Thrash soundly
70. A small ante
71. Wood tissue

• DOWN •

1. Dully colored
2. Before mobile or mat
3. Boast
4. Actor Linden
5. Divvy out
6. Cure
7. Fr. liquid
8. A stream or brook
9. Clan pattern
10. Type of restraint
11. Car bar
12. Bakery purchases
13. Cancel a dele
22. Weather map line
24. Abate
25. Bratty kid
26. Apple color
27. Be furtive
28. Miff
29. Braves legend
31. Alcoholic drink
33. Obsolete
34. Do penance
35. Mideastern nation
38. In a row
40. First and reverse, etc
41. Have a dinner
44. Its capital is

Cheyenne

45. Kiddo
46. Gangster's weapon
48. Prof protection
51. Like some columns
53. Blend anew
54. Pitch indicator
55. Bagel or bialy
56. U.N. civilian aviation agcy.
57. Ain't right
58. Abbr. after a list
59. Complexion woe
60. Giant ant horror film
63. 2,000 pounds
65. Even the slightest

• TEST YOUR MATH SKILLS •

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

• Last Week's Answers •

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

GRUMPISM

“I wanted to get my pants hemmed quickly so I called Taylor Swift.”



Thank you
Noel Villard

• LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS •

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

• **SERVICES** •

Exterior cleaning service. Offering cleaning solutions for your windows, gutters, roofs, decks, driveways, chimneys, siding, awnings, etc. Reasonable rates with professional results. Call or text Bjorn for free estimate. 250 465 8645

WICKED FABRICATION

Servicing Denman, Hornby and the Comox Valley Mobile unit available
--250-207-6904

-Custom truck decks, bumpers & headache racks
-Heavy equipment attachments and repairs
-Sea can modifications, fire pits and grills
-Custom gates, staircases & hand railings
-Animal Shelters, chicken tractors & firewood sheds
-Driveway signs and privacy screens
-Aluminum boat repairs and more..
BC A Pressure/ CWB Certified
CNC Plasma Table

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.

• **CLASSIFIED ADS** •

LAWN CUTTING available for this spring and summer Give Brian a call at 250-650-2390. Leave a message if I don't answer. "Thanks in advance"

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)

• **FOR SALE** •

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

WAGNER FIREWOOD. 2 cords to Denman, \$680 plus GST. Hornby, \$720 plus GST. Text or call Scott at 250-334-7323

• **COMMUNITY NOTICES** •

HIRRA hybrid meeting: Wed., June 12, 7:30pm. At Room to Grow and by Zoom. AGENDA: Pre-summer topics: RCMP, HIFR, Water Stewardship, HICEEC, Ferry Advisory. Volunteers needed! E-mail office@hirra.ca.

WATZI: A Weird Denman Dog Show, family & dog friendly fundraising event for Hiladi. June 9th @ the Community Hall park. 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

Lee Andra and Bruce's Rock Shop is rockin' ready for your visit. Full of gorgeous crystals and mineral specimens at amazingly low prices. 3333 N. Central Rd., DI

By appointment: phone (250)335-1802 or email: cosmicwedo@gmail.com

COMOX VALLEY TRANSITION SOCIETY EMERGENCY CRISIS LINE:

250-338-1227 or Text: 250-218-4034 For more info visit <https://cvts.ca>

• **EMPLOYMENT SOUGHT** •

EXPERIENCED ADMINISTRATION EXECUTIVE SEEKING WORK

Skill set includes administration, business development, management, customer service, organisational skills, events and social media. Other services available. English Denman Resident. Resume & references available. Leanna Pugsley, leannapug13@gmail.com 250-792-2907

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 •

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

• BUILDING • CONSTRUCTION •

- DB Excavations • 250-465-1889 • dbexcavations@gmail.com
- Shel Brodsgaard • Excavation & Services • 250-703-3898 (D/H)
- Excavator/Backhoe/Tandem Gravel Truck & Transfer Trailer
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 • 335-3145 (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)

• SERVICES •

- Peter T. Mason • Land Surveying 757-8788 (All)
- Able & Ready Septic Pumping Service • 250-338-8822 (D/H)
- Home Town Shredders • Document Shredding • 334-7111 (D/H)
- Tree Service • Darian Chase • Arborist 218-0404 (All)
- Antoine's Tree Service • Certified • Insured • Local 250-207-3884
- Bottled Water Delivery • DenmanWater.ca • 250-228-7161 (D/H)

• HEALTH & WELLNESS •

- 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)
- Dan Last • Registered Massage Therapist • 250-335-1270 (D)



rumble.com/stewmango

garypiarcy.com

FORTNIGHT EVENTS

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



FRIDAY 7

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

SATURDAY 8

- 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 9

- Wazi - A Weird Denman Dog Show
Community Hall Park 11am-3pm

MONDAY 10

- Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm
- AA Meeting DI United Church
Gathering Place 7pm
- Yves Engler - Canada's Complicity
Back Hall Noon-1:15pm

TUESDAY 11

- Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm
- DILTC Meeting, 10am D.A.C.

WEDNESDAY 12

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

THURSDAY 13

- 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 14

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

SATURDAY 15

- 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
- Denman Home & Garden Tour - 9am-4pm

SUNDAY 16

- Denman Home & Garden Tour - 9am-4pm

MONDAY 17

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

TUESDAY 18

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

WEDNESDAY 19

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

THURSDAY 20

- 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



THE
ISLANDS
Grapevine
EST. 1981
HORNBY ISLAND & DENMAN ISLAND
COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER