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SPECIAL INTEREST

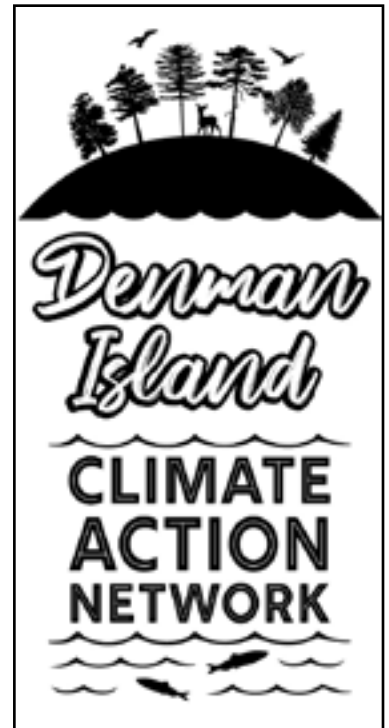
## Wild Times: Supporting Life in the global polycrisis

By The Denman Island Climate Action Network

How are you experiencing these wild times? With all that is happening in the world and in our lives, we're all carrying so much in our hearts and bodies and Spirit.

On Sunday April 27 (10:00-noon) at Denman United Church, Lisa Pierce and Maxine Matilpi will facilitate an eco-grief circle as an opportunity to share what we're experiencing personally and attend closely to emerging collective storylines. Our intention is to co-create a safe and generative space that may provide clues for how to navigate these wild times together.

Everyone welcome. 🍷



SPECIAL INTEREST

## Tool Repair Café, Sun. Apr. 27th @ the Recycling Centre

By The Denman Island Climate Action Network

On hand will be Peter Marshall and David Scruton to help you to problem solve and fix your garden tools. You might need to purchase parts such as wheels, hose ends and handles in advance. Check out the local hardware store.

Once again, we will have Graham Hayman demonstrating how to sharpen pruners and other tools.

And new this year: welding will be possible!

AND more...

Meet our Denman Island experts, Remi Skolney, Michael Rapati and Mits Narusawa who will help you to figure out that problematic small appliance, weed eater, etc.

A fixed item is one less going to the landfill! YAY! See you there!

Sponsored by Denman Island Climate Action Network. 🍷



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SPECIAL INTEREST

## Shucking Oysters: Skippy, Scrappy, or the Outsider?

By Alex Allen

If you think you've had enough of politics, you're not alone. I see the fatigue everywhere. We've watched the relentless campaign cycle (and aftermath) down south and now in Canada, we are winding down to our big election day. Have you ever seen Canadians so engaged? A new record was set with two million votes cast on the first day of advance polls. Canada may be a four-party country, but in this election it is a binary battle between the Liberals and the Conservatives.

Nationally, pollsters have the Liberals at 43% and the Conservatives at 37%. Regionally, with no surprise, the Liberals are well ahead in Ontario, Atlantic Canada and Quebec; while Conservative support is strongest in Alberta and the Prairies. Even though BC has "been a sanctuary" for the NDP and Greens in past federal elections, some analysts have said that strategic voting could "push those parties to the brink," making our province one of the most unpredictable regions to call.

David Black, associate professor, Royal Roads University, said Trump's tariffs and threats have shifted the election. "What we're seeing ... is that people who might have been comfortable voting for an NDP candidate because they like the party, they like the values – or likewise doing the same for the Greens – are less comfortable doing that because it might be seen as a kind of luxury."

Elizabeth May's Saanich-Gulf Islands riding is one to watch. Richard Johnston, professor emeritus of political science, UBC, said what makes this riding unpredictable is the uncertainty about where the Green vote will go. While it may be safe to assume the NDP vote may switch to the Liberals, the Greens' support comes from multiple sources because it can be a "parking spot" for "disgruntled voters from all directions."

In our riding, NDP Gord Johns has been our federal voice for over a decade. "Obviously, it's the most important election of them all, especially with what's happening with Donald Trump and his threat to our own country's autonomy," said Johns. "The support has been incredible. Never seen support like it. We've more signs on lawns than we've ever had before."

Conservative candidate, Kris McNicol, says he's hearing people want change. A businessman of 24 years, Kris says the rising cost of housing, groceries and increasing crime all need to be addressed in a new way. Liberal candidate Brian Cameron felt compelled to run after becoming a father. "Also, my wife and I are renters and we're feeling the same hardship as so many people and just like many people across Canada, I haven't felt adequately represented." Green candidate Chris Markevich, also a first-time candidate, is disappointed with the absence of climate change in the conversation. "The problems are getting worse. It's not getting better, and it affects every facet of our lives, from public safety regarding floods or fires to food security."

Both Carney and Poilievre have often shared similar campaign promises. In the arts, however, they differ. The Liberals would provide an initial \$150-million annual funding increase to CBC/Radio-Canada, while the Conservatives plan to defund the CBC but maintain French Radio-Canada. With hints of DOGE, the Conservatives also plan to cut the federal public service (hopefully, with an Exacto knife not a chainsaw) and have public servants monitored on efficiency.

### TIDE TABLE

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

2025-04-24 (Thu)		
Time PDT (m)	(m)	(ft)
04:05	4.50	14.7
10:31	2.33	7.6
15:59	3.85	12.6
22:04	1.89	6.2
2025-04-25 (Fri)		
Time PDT (m)	(m)	(ft)
04:30	4.54	14.9
11:08	1.79	5.9
17:07	4.11	13.5
22:55	2.16	7.1
2025-04-26 (Sat)		
Time PDT (m)	(m)	(ft)
04:57	4.60	15.1
11:47	1.25	4.1
18:11	4.37	14.3
23:45	2.48	8.1
2025-04-27 (Sun)		
Time PDT (m)	(m)	(ft)
05:25	4.65	15.3
12:27	0.75	2.5
19:13	4.61	15.1
2025-04-28 (Mon)		
Time PDT (m)	(m)	(ft)
00:35	2.82	9.2
05:57	4.68	15.3
13:08	0.37	1.2
20:12	4.81	15.8
2025-04-29 (Tue)		
Time PDT (m)	(m)	(ft)
01:27	3.12	10.2
06:31	4.64	15.2
13:51	0.16	0.5
21:08	4.94	16.2
2025-04-30 (Wed)		
Time PDT (m)	(m)	(ft)
02:22	3.35	11.0
07:09	4.53	14.9
14:35	0.13	0.4
22:03	5.00	16.4
2025-05-01 (Thu)		
Time PDT (m)	(m)	(ft)
03:23	3.50	11.5
07:51	4.34	14.2
15:21	0.28	0.9
22:58	4.99	16.4

continued on P.5...

## **Cowboy Corner:** **The Glove**

*By Conrad Campbell*

**I**t was the spring of 1974. Dad had gone into the city to sell the eggs at the big farmer's auction and when he got back I was to help unpack the truck and sort out the empty crates

for the next run.

I was in the house watching TV when I heard the old truck coming up the lane. I threw on my cap and quickly put on a pair of rubber boots and headed out to do my chores.

"How was it today, Dad?", I asked.

"Pretty good this time, pretty good", was my father's reply.

As I pulled down the rusty tailgate Dad said to me, "Here, better put this away first!", tossing me a large paper bag he had stashed behind the seat. Curious, I opened the bag and as I peered inside I couldn't believe my eyes! It was a brand new baseball glove! I looked at Dad with wide eyes and I was utterly speechless!

"Well, you didn't think I was going to let my favorite boy start baseball season with the worn-out old thing you've been using, did you?!"

"Wow!! It's beautiful! Can I go show my friend Gary?", I asked.

"Sure, you go ahead. I'll finish unloading the truck. Just make sure to be home by suppertime, that's all", he said.

I cut across the back field and started out on the mile and a half trek to Gary's place. I had my new ball glove on the whole time, kneading it and loosening it up, dreaming of all the great catches I would surely make. I can still remember the new stitching and the smell of fresh leather as I happily made my way around the last bend near my friend's house.

As I came up the path, there was Gary sitting on the front steps. But something was wrong. He had his head down and he looked really sad.

"Hey Gary! Check out my new glove!", I said. "My Dad got it for me in town!"

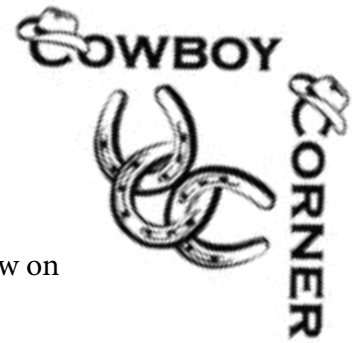
I went to hand it to him and suddenly he burst into tears. "I'm sorry Conrad. I'm pretty upset today. You see, ever since my Dad died in that accident last year Mum and us kids have been having a really hard time. Now the bank is taking our farm away and we have to move to the city and put Grandma in a home".

I couldn't believe my ears.

I had come all this way to show my best pal my cool new glove and all he could do was go on and on about his own selfish, stupid problems. Some friend he turned out to be.



*continued on P.5...*



*...continued from P.4* I guess I learned a pretty good lesson that day.

I never spoke with Gary again. The bank eventually took over their farm and sold it to these two ladies from Winnipeg and they turned the place into one of those disco BDSM sex dungeons that were big in the seventies. They asked me if I wanted in on the action but I'm way too delicate for that type of activity so after a brief discussion I began renting the barn from them and started a business that manufactured illegal fireworks that utilized gunpowder I had obtained from cutting the ends off of stolen shotgun shells. Business was booming until one morning a powerful explosion revealed the existence of the factory to law enforcement and the public, so I decided to flee to the big city and lay low for a bit. On the way I was kidnapped by a really procrastinating serial killer. Every night before bed he would say, "Well, thanks for the company....I was planning to murder you tonight, but I had a really busy day and I'm just too tired and my back is kind of sore. I promise to kill you first thing in the morning". This lasted about four weeks until I became bored and eventually wandered away. I ended up passing by a pawn shop where I bought an old guitar for twelve dollars and that's when I wrote my first multi platinum hit, but that's another story.... 🍷

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*...continued from P.3* If you missed the English language leader's debate, it was like watching a game of Whack-a-Carney. Poilievre, Blanchet and Singh all took swipes at Carney within the first 10 minutes. The three leaders did have exchanges with each other, but mostly tried to keep "laser-focused" on Carney. At one point, each leader was given an option to pose a question to one of their opponents. All chose Carney, who joked, "I'm going to ask myself a question," before posing one to Poilievre. Carney did manage to keep his cool despite Poilievre's needling and interruptions.

When asked, what is the biggest security threat facing Canada: Poilievre said the biggest "physical" threat is "the rampant crime wave that is running out of control." Singh said the biggest threat is illegal guns and drugs coming over the border and Carney said the biggest security threat to Canada is China.

Singh's interrupting was beyond distraction. Poilievre was the target of Singh's constant interjections, so much so that Carney told the NDP leader to let his Conservative rival finish his point. As CTV News political analyst, Scott Reid said, "Singh routinely interrupting Poilievre is a continuing gift to Carney. It's a very deliberate strategy. But how it helps the NDP leader is a mystery to me."

After the debate, Singh defended his interruptions. "I'm a scrappy guy. I want to fight for people. I'm gonna fight for the things I care about," Singh said. He added: "I'm going to push back when people say things that are wrong and things that are going to harm Canadians." Singh wasn't pushing back, he was shoving, which was rude and unprofessional.

Conservative campaign strategist Kory Teneycke ominously shared: "If the polls hold the way they are, there's a very good chance that he [Singh] will not be a leader and that the NDP will not be an official party in the House of Commons."

Let's be clear, this election is all about who can handle Lord Rump, and more importantly, it's about our nationalism. As Gary Mason wrote in the Globe and Mail, "if nothing else, the US president has incited many Canadians to think more deeply about their country, to ponder the questions of who we are and what we stand for." So, keep calm and vote, April 28. 🍷

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**Love was an entity  
that fed on emotion**

*abridged, post-semantic*

*By Gabriel Jeroschewitz*

*Apr. 9th, 2025*

LITERARY

The old house, perched on a cliff that overlooked the tumultuous Atlantic, was a sight to behold. Its weathered shingles, the color of dried bone, whispered tales of a profound love that had the power to warp reality. As a folklore scholar, I was drawn to this enigmatic place by a morbid curiosity and a grant that promised to replenish my savings. I decided to spend a month within its decaying walls, eager to uncover

its secrets.

The property belonged to the estate of Elias Thorne, a celebrated poet who vanished in the 1920s, along with his muse, a woman named Seraphina. Elias was obsessed with Plato, particularly the quote, "At the touch of love, everyone becomes a poet." He believed that Seraphina was his conduit to a higher plane of artistic expression, that their love was a key to unlocking truths beyond human comprehension. The last entry in Elias's journal, found years later, spoke of a ritual, a merging of souls through verse, performed under the light of a blood moon. Then, silence.

The real estate agent, a nervous man with a perpetually damp brow, handed me the keys with a tremor. His warning, delivered with a quiver in his voice, sent a shiver down my spine. "Just...try not to stay out on the cliffs after dark, Mr. Harrison," he stammered. "Bad things are said to happen."

The interior was exactly as I imagined – dust motes dancing in the shafts of sunlight pierced through grimy windows, the air thick with the scent of mildew and forgotten dreams. Elias's study, overlooking the sea, was a chaotic shrine to his obsession. Books on ancient Greece were stacked haphazardly, poems scrawled on parchment littered the floor, and a large, unfinished canvas leaned against the wall, depicting a swirling vortex of colors.

The first few days were uneventful, filled with archival research in the local library and cautious house exploration. I found drafts of Elias's poems, passionate verses filled with longing and an almost unsettling adoration for Seraphina. She was described as ethereal, a being of pure light and inspiration, a goddess descended to grace his life. But as the days passed, a sense of unease began to settle over me, a feeling that I was not alone in the house. I dismissed it as the typical hyperbole of a lovesick artist.

Then, the dreams started.

I would wake in a cold sweat, heart pounding, with fragments of verse echoing in my mind—not my own words, but Elias's, or perhaps...Seraphina's. They were beautiful and terrifying, filled with imagery of intertwining souls and transcendence achieved through artistic rapture. In my dreams, the house pulsed with a strange, unsettling energy, the walls breathing, the shadows whispering secrets in a language I couldn't quite grasp.

One evening, as the sun dipped below the horizon, painting the sky in hues of blood orange and bruised purple, I found myself drawn to the cliffs. The wind howled like a banshee, and the waves crashed against the rocks below, a relentless, rhythmic roar. I felt an inexplicable pull, a sense of recognition, as if I had stood on this very spot before, in another life.

Then, I heard a voice, soft as the rustle of silk carried on the wind. It was reciting poetry, Elias's, but with a haunting cadence and a feminine inflection that chilled me to the bone. I strained my eyes, trying to pierce the gathering gloom, and saw her.

She stood at the cliff's edge, a figure cloaked in swirling mist, her hair a cascade of moonlight. Shadows obscured her face, but I could feel her intense, knowing gaze piercing me. As she spoke, the air around her shimmered, and the fabric of reality seemed to warp and bend.

"Do you understand now?" she whispered, her voice echoing in my mind. "Love is not merely an emotion. It is a conduit. It is the key to unlocking the infinite potential within."

Fear gripped me, but it was mingled with a strange fascination. I wanted to run, to scream, but I was rooted to the spot, paralyzed by her presence.

"Elias understood," she continued. "He knew that through our love, through our poetry, we could transcend this mortal coil, become something...more."

The wind picked up, whipping my hair around my face, and the waves below crashed with renewed fury. I felt a pressure building in my head, a sense of being pulled in two directions, as if my soul

*continued on P.10...*

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## **Phoenix Riting! Easter, Meet Earth Day**

*By Phoenix Bee*

**T**his year, Easter and Earth Day arrived back to back. It made me think back on the arc of the 21st century, wondering what happened to the optimism and collective energy we had for a minute about “saving the environment,” before the language shifted to “combating climate change.” The shift from ‘saving’ to ‘combating’ is telling.

New forms of energy and simpler living seemed not only possible but inevitable. We shared real momentum, until 9/11 happened, and a bomb went off in the global psyche.

Before that, a global shift toward sustainability was taking root. Overnight, the focus veered to security, war, and “good versus evil.” The energy around environmental action was derailed. All caused by a few brown men wielding box cutters, it seemed. The enemy is everywhere! They look like those people! Fear terror!

Some will argue the facts, causes, or players involved. Regardless, the consequences are clear. Whether you believe in a conspiracy or not, 9/11 was a textbook case of disaster capitalism. A crisis erupted, and opportunists swooped in to reshape policies and priorities to their benefit. Canada was swept into war “to help our ally,” and we swallowed the rhetoric: “If you’re not with us, you’re against us!”

A shift happened. Before that, things felt, not calm, but cyclical. Crises came and went, and there was space to reflect and regroup. We were starting to deal with pollution, a practical thing to work with, tangible. ‘Climate change’ is so vast and abstract it paralyzes even the well-intentioned. Maybe that’s the point. Daunt, dishearten, dispirit people, so many will cling to those who deny there’s a problem as saviors. Nothing to worry about! Everything to fear!

Since 9/11, global tensions have escalated. Today, the world feels closer to all-out war than it has since the 1940s. We now have a “trade war” and the temperature keeps rising.

How does this benefit capitalists? Why would they fuel chaos and conflict? It’s obvious. War is good for business. When you toss religious fundamentalism into the mix, whether as the main course or a side dish, it’s even better. Now, they’re helping God with His master plan for Armageddon. In that context, why bother caring about the environment or the future? If the goal is the end of the world, stewardship is irrelevant.

Yes, things are that weird. The world is being run by people who want to end the world. Blow it all up and bring the Rapture! But just to be safe, the billionaire atheists who fund it have built secure bunkers to ride it out until they can emerge to become kings of what may be cockroaches and dust. Disaster capitalism’s ultimate win!

What does Easter have to do with all this? I watched Jesus Christ Superstar yesterday; that’s my Easter tradition. From a certain viewpoint, Judas wasn’t the bad guy, but the hero or the victim. In the film, he accuses Jesus of ‘using him’ to bring about his end, prescribed by God, where the Saviour dies to redeem the world...somehow. Never understood how that works. The point is: the bad guy was secretly the good guy. Just like Armageddon is their sort-of-secret goal now.

Now, disaster capitalists are facilitating, or taking advantage of, opportunities provided by mass disasters to advance their agenda of profit at all costs. If it results in apocalypse, so much the better! Bring on the Rapture. Christians who truly believe in a God of love are being betrayed right alongside the rest of us.


What can we do, here and now, on the ground? We have to live where we are, clean up our own yards and work within our communities to create the world we want. Fighting against bad guys, no matter who we think they are, only fuels the furnaces of war. War is a state of mind, a stance of ‘us against them.’ There is always a place in the middle, a point of possibility. A balance. A win-win. A way to hear everyone and include all the realities, to reconnect as humans, to reweave the web of interdependence we need to survive.

Apocalypse is not my idea of a solution, except in the most final sense. I want life on Earth to continue, to regenerate, to thrive. I believe that’s still possible, if we drop the accusations, threats, and othering to see the real human hearts and feelings on the other side. Everybody is fighting for what they think is good. Maybe if we can really hear each other we can start to work together.

As for the billionaires, warmongers and disaster capitalists, they too are people. People driven by forces inimical to life, who want things they have no right to, who need real-life lessons and karmic correction. If we stop feeding the chaos and start focusing our energy where it truly matters, on the land, the air, the water, the interconnected life that sustains us, they’ll either wake up or die off.

Oh, and also, vote!

Vote for the person who’s shown up for our community and for the planet all along, for years. Vote for the only one who actually has a chance to beat the party most aligned with disaster capitalism and religious extremism. Everybody knows who I mean. We need him speaking for us in Parliament.

That’s what I think. What do you think? email me at phoenixonhornby@gmail.com 

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## Economic Theology

By Oakley Rankin Science has often been put forward as a secular religion, a replacement for the God that Time magazine pronounced dead on April 8, 1966. Belief is not the only necessary condition of religion, a supernatural element influenced by human agency but never changed, understood, or replaced by us is necessary as well. Science has nothing to do with the supernatural and consequently can never be a religion. But we have a secular institution which does partake of belief in the supernatural, is not fully understood, can be influenced by human behaviour, and cannot be changed or replaced by us. That institution is Economic Theory.

Markets capable of perfection are the supernatural aspect of economics; this perfection is akin to that of a deist God; it can ensure perfect relations among humans if we don't interfere. But we do interfere. We blame many social disasters on our interference with the market (tribulations), we devise actions to push a market in one direction or another (prayers), and we promise a market Eden where all will be satisfied and our relationship with each other will be euphoric (afterlife). The economic base must be taken on faith; theologians from St. Augustine to Barth in dealing with the supernatural have attempted to square the faith/reason circle and always end up with faith trumping reason. We do the same for markets and what I call economic theology has today ousted all other possible forms of organizing a society; so much so that our economic theologians have us believing that cultures are entirely a product of economic relationships.

Just as a god's motives can be named but are ineffable, so to is the motivation of a market—efficiency. Efficiency can be assessed in dozens of different ways but for economic theologians there is only one—productivity. To assess the efficiency of any market one must measure productivity; if you suggest that certain types of productivity are not easily measured, say health outcomes for a certain population under a certain medical policy, then economic theologians ignore them by positing the 'rational actor', an imaginary being teetering on the unsupported idea that en masse human actions will cancel out every motivation but self-interest—more commonly called greed. No measurement, no actuality. And measurement is nearly always signified by a dollar amount; for a program based on a claim of social efficiency economic theologians will calculate a self-interest productivity figure in dollars and claim that it trumps your wishy-washy 'externals' claim.

There are various practical means of enforcing economic theology but the most effective one has been 'austerity'. It replaces the inclusive term 'citizen' with exclusive 'consumer' or 'taxpayer'. Citizen includes everyone in a defined geographical area; consumer and taxpayer exclude those without sufficient disposable income—those with little or no money just don't count and the onus is on every individual to make money. The wealthy cannot be expected to take care of failures. This is known as individual responsibility or blame the victim; social responsibility is not entirely dismissed; the army, police and courts keep motivations other than self-interest under control and criticisms of their inefficiency are rarely acted upon.


The political economist Clara E. Mattei argues: 'Mostly austerity serves to quash public outcry and worker strikes—not, as it is often advertised, to spontaneously improve a country's economic indicators by practicing greater economic discipline.' Austerity is imposed not primarily as an economic policy but as a social one designed to prevent the implementation of unmeasurable social programs on the part of the government receiving aid. This is achieved through such conditions as budget cuts, regressive taxation, deflation, privatization and wage repression on IMF loans; it meant that the money eventually granted is largely diverted into the hands of a few. Elizabeth Popp Berman takes our economic theology to task for 'The high value that the economic style placed on efficiency, incentives, choice, and competition frequently conflicted with competing political claims grounded in values of rights, universalism, equity, and limiting corporate power.' Perry Anderson writes: 'Mathematisation had long anaesthetised much of the discipline of economics against original thought of any kind.' Most of us can't escape the Procrustean bed of economic theology; it *continued on P.9...*

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*...continued from P.8* is so widespread today that we never really think of other ways of ordering culture; all our meditations and opinions on culture just take this background as needing no justification or criticism. This is clearly revealed in current political ferment where the policies propounded by party leaders promise to bring on the same economic heaven.

You don't believe we ever ordered the economy any other way? Mercantilism was the Western economic order from Elizabethan times to the end of the 18th Century. 'Mercantilism is a nationalist economic policy that is designed to maximize the exports and minimize the imports of an economy. In other words, it seeks to maximize the accumulation of resources within the country and use those resources for one-sided trade.' (Wikipedia) It was achieved by monopolies granted by the state (East India Company, Hudson's Bay Company, etc.), suppression of all competitors, high tariffs to prevent importation of goods and thus outflow of wealth, subsidies on exports, and designating 'staple' ports among a host of other policies. Mercantilism is characteristic of authoritarian regimes and mercantilists never believed in 'free' markets and competition. Beginning to sound familiar? Trump is our current leading 'mercantilist'.

Further Reading:

Thinking Like an Economist: How Efficiency Replaced Equality in U.S. Public Policy / Elizabeth Popp Berman  
The Capital Order: How Economists Invented Austerity and Paved the Way to Fascism / Clara E. Mattei  
Crack-up Capitalism: Market Radicals and the Dream of a World Without Democracy / Quinn Slobodian  
Economics in America: An Immigrant Economist Explores the Land of Inequality / Angus Deaton  
Regime Change in the West? / Perry Anderson. London Review of Books, April 3, 2025. 

OPINION

## **"I Want A Death That The World Will Hear" - Journalist Assassinated By Israel For Telling The Truth**

*By Caitlin Johnstone*

*Apr.19th, 2025*

**I**srael assassinated a photojournalist in Gaza in an airstrike targeting her family's home on Wednesday, the day after it was announced that a documentary she appears in would premier in Cannes next month.

Her name was Fatima Hassouna. Nine members of her family were also reportedly killed in the bombing. She was going to get married in a few days.

The documentary is titled Put Your Soul on Your Hand and Walk, and it's about Israel's crimes in Gaza.

In an Instagram post from August of last year, Hassouna wrote the following:

"If I die, I want a loud death. I don't want to be just breaking news, or a number in a group; I want a death that the world will hear, an impact that will remain through time, and a timeless image that cannot be buried by time or place."

(Image 2)

Hassouna said she viewed her camera as a weapon to change the world and defend her family, making the following statements in a video shared by Middle East Eye:

"As Fatima, I believe that the image and the camera are weapons. So I consider my camera to be my rifle. So many times, in so many situations, I tell my friends, Come and see, it's not bullets that we load into a rifle. Okay, I'm going to put a memory card into the camera. This is the camera's bullet, the memory card. It changes the world and defends me. It shows the world what is happening to me and what's happening to others. So I used to consider this my weapon, that I defend myself with it. And so that my family won't be forgotten. And so I can document people's stories, so that my family's stories too don't just vanish into thin air."

Israel saw Hassouna's camera as a weapon too, apparently.

As Ryan Grim observed on Twitter:

"For this to have been a deliberate act—which it plainly was—consider what that means.

*continued on P.10...*

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...continued from P.9 A person within the IDF saw the news that Fatma's film was accepted into Cannes. He/she/they then proposed assassinating her. Other people reviewed the suggestion and approved it. Then other people carried it out."

Israel has been murdering a record-shattering number of journalists in Gaza while simultaneously blocking any foreign press from accessing the enclave because Israel views journalists as its enemy. And Israel views journalists as its enemy because Israel is the enemy of truth.


Israel and its western backers understand that truth and support for Israel are mutually exclusive. Those who support Israel are not interested in the truth, and those who are interested in the truth don't support Israel.

That's why the light of journalism is being aggressively snuffed out in Gaza while Israel massively increases its propaganda budget to sway public opinion.

It's why journalists like Fatima Hassouna are being assassinated while the western propaganda services known as the mainstream press commit journalistic malpractice to hide the truth of Israel's crimes.

It's why western journalists are banned from Gaza while western institutions are silencing, deporting, firing and marginalizing those who speak out about Israel's criminality.

Israel and truth cannot coexist. Israel's enemies know this, and Israel knows this. That's why Israel's primary weapons are bombs, bullets, propaganda, censorship, and obstruction, while the main weapon of Israel's enemies is the camera.

Fatima Hassouna's death has indeed been heard. All these loud noises are snapping more and more eyes open from their slumber. 

...continued from P.6 was being stretched and contorted.

"He longed to unravel the mysteries of the universe, to dance among the stars," Seraphina said, I think (because I couldn't be too sure of what was reality anymore). "And I, his willing partner, helped him do just that."

I tried to speak, to ask her what she meant, but no sound escaped my lips. My mind was a maelstrom of fragmented thoughts, images of Elias, Seraphina, ancient rituals, and swirling colors.

Then, she extended a hand, her fingers long and slender, shimmering with an unearthly light. "Join us," she crooned. "Become a poet. Become eternal."

That's when the true horror struck me. Elias hadn't found a muse; he had found something far more dangerous. He had fallen in love with an entity that fed on emotion, on passion, on the very essence of human creativity. Seraphina wasn't a woman; she was a parasite, a siren luring souls to their doom with the promise of artistic immortality. And Elias, blinded by his ambition and infatuation, had opened the door, unleashing her power upon the house and the world.

In a moment of clarity, I understood the truth. The "love" that Plato spoke of was a double-edged sword. It could inspire great art, but it could also lead to obsession, madness, and the complete disintegration of the self. Without reason to ground it, love could easily become a pathway to destruction.

Gathering every ounce of willpower I could muster, I screamed. It was a primal, guttural sound, born of terror and desperation, a rejection of her offer, a refusal to surrender my soul. But the figure on the cliff did not yield. Her eyes, burning with an unholy light, were filled with rage and disappointment at my defiance.

continued on P.11...

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Services d'emploi

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**May 2025 / mai 2025**

Monday <i>lundi</i>	Tuesday <i>mardi</i>	Wednesday <i>mercredi</i>	Thursday <i>jeudi</i>	Friday <i>vendredi</i>
5 Denman Island 9:00 - 3:00	6	7	8	9
12 Denman Island 9:00 - 3:00	13	14	15	16
19 CLOSED Fermé	20	21	22	23
26 Denman Island 9:00 - 3:00	27	28	29	30

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The Government of British Columbia  
 and the Government of Canada  
 The Government of British Columbia  
 and the Government of Canada

...continued from P.10 The figure on the cliff recoiled, her shimmering form flickering and distorting. Now visible in the darkness, her eyes burned with an unholy light, filled with rage and disappointment. "You cannot escape your destiny," she hissed. "The touch of love has already claimed you." Then, she vanished, dissolving into the mist, leaving me alone on the cliff, trembling and gasping for breath.

I stumbled back to the house, my mind reeling, my body aching with exhaustion. I packed my bags, every movement driven by a frantic urgency. I didn't bother to clean up, to finish my research, to do anything but escape that accursed place. I glanced back at the house as I drove away in the pre-dawn light. It stood silhouetted against the rising sun, a dark and forbidding presence on the horizon. I knew I would never forget what I had seen or felt.

In the rearview mirror, I thought I saw a figure in one of the windows watching me. Shadows obscured her face, and her eyes were burning with an unholy light.

I floored the accelerator and didn't look back again. I still dream of Seraphina and Elias, the churning sea and the crumbling house on the cliff. The dreams are less frequent now, but they are always there, lurking beneath the surface of my consciousness. And sometimes, when I'm alone in the dark, I hear the faint echo of poetry, carried on the wind, a haunting reminder of the price of love, the cost of inspiration, and the terrifying power of Plato's words. I never write, but I swear, I dream in perfect verses. It's the curse Seraphina left me with when she couldn't claim my soul. I exist in love, as a poet; just not in life. 🍷

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CHFR 96.5 FM Weekly Schedule P = PODCASTED/PRE-ARRANGED SHOW

	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	
<b>8am</b>						HAL Music Shuffle 8am		<b>8am</b>
<b>9</b>	HAL Music Shuffle 9am	Good Face For Radio Sun Live 9am-11	Today's Tuesday Morning Sun Live	Podcast Wednesday Morning Sun Live 9-10:30	Mail on Sun Sun Live 9am-10:30	Pod Radio Sun Live 9am-10:30		<b>9</b>
<b>10</b>			LETTER 36 The Chair Sun Live 10-11	Join a Show Sun 10-11:30	Vote on Pod Sun 10-11:30	Just Hot Sun Live 10-11:30	HAL Music Shuffle 10am	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b>	Who Knew? Sun Live 10am-11	HAL Music Shuffle 11am						<b>11</b>
<b>12pm</b>			High 5 Sun Live 12pm-1:30	Some Other Stuff 12pm-1:30	Some Faraway Beach 12pm-1:30	Friday Fresh 11:30am Live 12:00pm-11	Canoe La Crosse Sun Live 12:00-12:30	<b>12pm</b>
<b>1</b>	The Vinyl Show 12pm Live 12	Out to Lunch 12pm Live 12pm-1:30						<b>1</b>
<b>1</b>	HAL Music Shuffle 1pm		HAL Music Shuffle 1pm	Beat Pains Sun 1pm-2	No Flaw Show 1pm-2		HAL Music Shuffle 1pm	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	Imagined Circle 1pm Live 2pm			Podcast Blues 2pm-3			Podcast Blues 1pm-2	<b>2</b>
<b>2</b>		HAL Music Shuffle 2pm	Support Radio 2pm Live 2pm-3:30			HAL Music Shuffle 2pm	Revised Labels 1pm-2	<b>2</b>
<b>3</b>	Lambert Channel Doors 3pm Live 3:30			Revised Labels 3pm-4	Music From the Deep Back Woods 3pm-4		Revised Labels 3pm-4	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b>		Good Face For Radio II 4pm Live 4pm-5	HAL Music Shuffle 4pm	Vinnie's Grooves 4pm-5			Earth/Sun 4pm Live 5-11	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>								<b>5</b>
<b>6</b>	HAL Music Shuffle 6pm			Pete No Regrets 6pm Live 6pm-7:30	Radio Wander 6pm Live 6pm-7:30	Metal Mayhem 6pm Live 6pm-7:30	The Review 6pm Live 6:30-7:30	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>		Evening Electric 6pm Live 6:30-7	Mark's Tracks 6pm Live 6:30-7:30					<b>7</b>
<b>8</b>					The Sound For Experience 7pm-8	TBA 7pm Live 7pm-8	That 8th Show 7pm Live 7:30-8:30	<b>8</b>
<b>9</b>	The Album Show 8:30pm Live 8:30-9			Meet Curt 8:30pm Live 8:30-9	ALB 8 Live 8:30-9pm 9-10	Seat Of The Pants Radio 8pm Live 8:30-9		<b>9</b>
<b>10</b>		Monday Evening Music 8pm Live 8pm-11	Radio Moments 8pm Live 8:30-9				HAL Music Shuffle 8pm	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b>					Beats Connect 8pm Live 8:30-9			<b>11</b>

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## Letters To The Editor Norway

1.738 Trillion plus change (US \$) buys you a lot of groceries and independence.

As of March 2025 this is the assets of Norways government Pension Fund. The worlds largest sovereign wealth fund. Not bad for a population of only 5.5 million people, I say.

Oil and other resources carefully developed and exported to a world in need of energy is largely the reasons for this massive fountain of wealth. All developed with a keen eye on protecting the environment.

This gives the people of Norway a wide range of options to develop their country and put in place a society that is the envy of many countries of the world.

Infrastructure cost.

Norway is right now a global leader regarding environmental issues.

Consider this :

In 2024 almost 90 % of all new cars sold are EV's. 80 commuter ferries are run by electricity. (Drag queen anyone) Higher education is free. Unemployment in 2024 is calculated at 3.9%. General income taxed at a flat rate of 22%. Trains run on electricity.

Maybe it is time for Canada to take a hard look at what can be achieved by developing the abundant resources we are blessed with. And having the means to pay for it without constantly relying on our collective credit card leaving our grandkids to face the music when the chickens come home to roost.

Like sneaking off to the washroom when the bar bill hits the table.

We pay our leaders good money hoping that they will have the foresight and drive to prepare us for what we can expect in the future. If they are wrong we have the opportunity every few years to replace them with a different crew hoping they will get it right.

Like right now.

Along the way we also have an opportunity to help our allies around the world by giving them access to our resources, instead of arrogantly telling them to get lost because "there is no business case" for this trade as stated by former Prime Minister Trudeau. Hopefully this time we can get it right.

Voting for somebody just so this other person does not get elected is nonsense.

Why are we turning ourselves into pretzels trying to out smart the democratic process?

Vote by all means for whoever you think will be the best guide for the future and of course totally respect the outcome whatever that might be.

Btw

Last time I checked, the killer whales along Norways 2500 km coastline are doing just fine feeding heavily on (guess what) herring unlike our resident population which according to DFO are only interested in salmon. Starving in fact if they cannot find enough salmon (over 80 cm in size) to fill their bellies.

Maybe they did not get the memo from their Scandinavian family. Herring are good eating. In fact so good that it is about time the DFO abandon the reckless fishing of herring for roe as we witness year after year in our beautiful corner of the world. This year believe it or not DFO increases the total catch by 12%. Go figure.

So with the upcoming election in sight, get out and vote.

Maybe it is time to take a serious look at Norway and the way they capitalize on their rich resources.

No reason why Canada cannot become a superpower without bragging about it, and deal with all unfriendly adversaries from a position of strength.

Good cheers to all fellow islanders

Kris Christensen  
Denman Island



*Letters continued on P.13...*

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*Letters continued from P.12...*

### **The Culture of Fear**

Is it politically correct in Canada to feel hopeful? Are we even allowed to want a future for our youth, free of the threat of a murderous drug culture and rampant crime? When did it stop being normal to expect a healthy, safe and prosperous future for our children and why exactly?

The boomers are often described as the “Golden Generation”. They were able to achieve considerable wealth without trying too hard. They had everything going in their favour. They inherited a strong, resilient country and they could look forward to a great future. Later, they benefited directly from the debt-based, inflationary fiscal policies that central bankers like Mark Carney created over decades, artificially boosting their assets and real estate to nose-bleed levels. How is everybody else doing, by the way? Mark Carney has made it very clear that he will double down on those same disastrous policies and his alarmist narratives will never end. He knows what sells.

Meanwhile, we have given our children a culture based on fear, hate and shame. If they are young men, they are told they are worthless and responsible for all the ills of the world. Our children have been told all of their lives that they are doomed and can never have a future of hope. They will never have their own home. They will never have a job good enough to support a family and many are deciding not to. That’s the legacy the boomers have left their young while they themselves are largely doing just fine. Meanwhile, their children and grandchildren will be paying off their boomer largesse for the rest of their lives while having nothing themselves. If you were young again, would you accept that?

A society that denies it’s young a future is a failed society. The youth know it and are turning to the only political option that gives a damn about them. They are choosing Conservatives in droves because Carney pays zero attention to their plight. Pollièvre, who is an actual working, tax-paying Canadian living in Canada, makes it central to his platform. Carney’s focus is making sure that crisis, crisis, crisis are the only acceptable narratives. He’s based his entire career on crises while managing to turn them into an enormous financial fortune for himself.

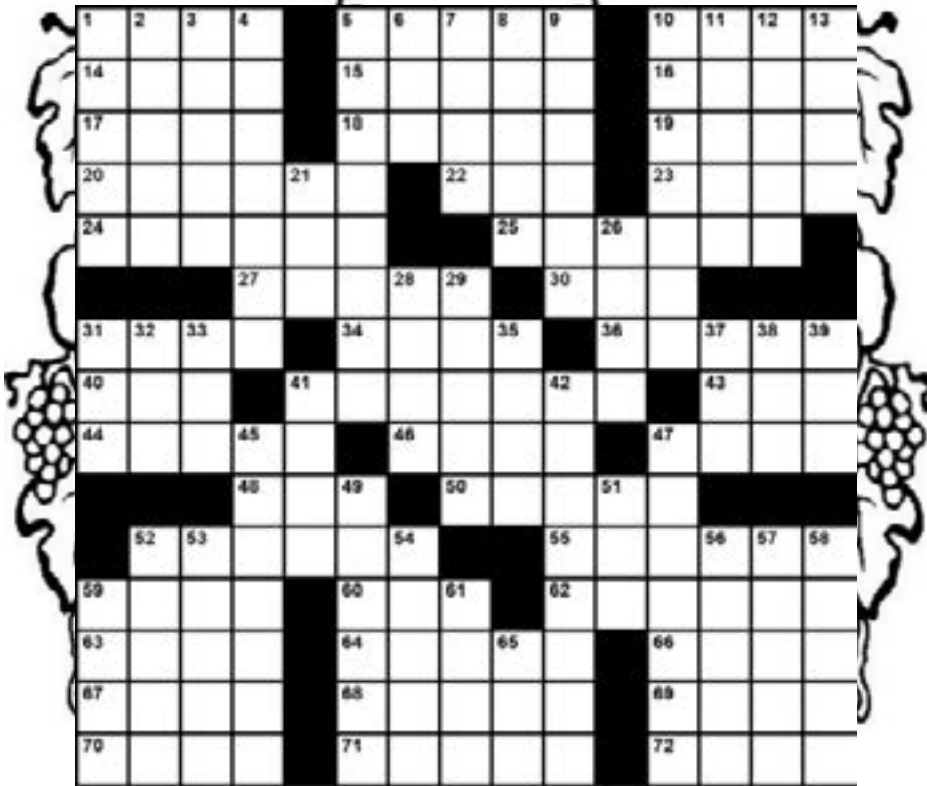
Older folks are more vulnerable to fear. Fear literally interferes with the process of critical thinking and every politician knows that. The youth are tired of it. They have nothing left to lose and they are turning their backs on the culture of fear that has dominated their entire lives. They are starting to advocate for their own futures and we really should be listening.

Young people don’t really listen to the CBC, CTV, the Globe and Mail, etc. Most know that all of legacy media is funded by the government and is full of propaganda. The media pushes Liberal narratives day and night and the bias is undeniable to any critical thinkers. Younger generations, mainly get their news from the internet which offers them many different perspectives, often much more in-depth than typical soundbite-style reporting. They have a far better understanding of the issues as a result. A lot have figured out that most government narratives fall apart when any kind of rational analysis is applied.

The election we are in today is the first time in Canadian history that ALL of legacy media receive funding from the federal government. What do journalists do when required by their bosses to amplify Liberal government objectives and agendas above their opponents? They do what they’re told or are forced to leave. Those rejected journalists often join the growing citizen journalist movement that numbers in the hundreds? Thousands? They are allowed to practice actual investigative journalism. Here’s an interview between well known senior Canadian journalists discussing the biases of state-funded media. It’s very informative. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KlBMjDV4Kj0>

As we keep hearing, we are at a pivotal point in Canadian history. I’m amazed at the skills and knowledge of many of the young people I know. I am also very disheartened at the burden we have placed on them. Even if our problems cannot be cured easily, I think we would be a much happier and more resilient society if our young people could have real hope for change and a chance. We can change our legacy to them if we allowed them some of the same opportunities that enriched us.

• GRAPEVINE CROSSWORD •



• ACROSS •

1. Changed color
5. Lobe in the mouth
10. Company hotshot
14. Emulate Sinbad
15. Breathing passages
16. Centerward
17. Becomes gray
18. Narrow valleys
19. Animal appendage
20. Movie industry
22. Breakfasted
23. Become exhausted
24. Type of tax
25. At a diner, they're short
27. Kind of plastic
30. Craggy peak
31. Chinese horn
34. Feast on Oahu
36. Bring together
40. Exist
41. Burma today
43. Baby fish
44. Asian peninsula
46. Bird beaks
47. Milady's
48. Aspen gear
50. Bantoid language
52. Asian river
55. Jesse James, e.g.
59. Asian garment
60. Adriatic, e.g.
62. Music category
63. Bit for Fermi
64. Poetic postscript
66. Horned goddess
67. Perform again

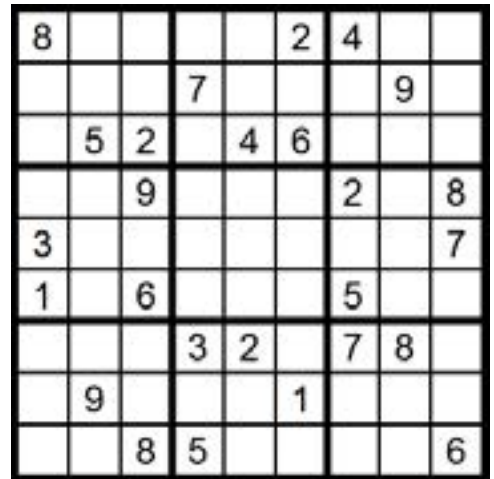
68. Civil unrests
69. Broadway hit from 1996
70. Coloring agents
71. Agent's slice
72. Units of energy

• DOWN •

1. Big Dipper neighbor
2. Of a Hindu discipline
3. Calendar item
4. Be worthy of
5. Awkward looking
6. Actor Kilmer
7. Carbamide
8. Slow musically
9. Be forceful
10. Marsh heron
11. During a broadcast
12. Cools, as coffee
13. Boot bottom
21. French pronoun
26. Sullen
28. Currency of China
29. Country roads
31. Acorn bearer
32. A rel.
33. Above, in poems
35. Boss on a shield
37. Angry state
38. Favoring
39. Affirmative reply
41. Kind of shark
42. Amaze
45. Husky runners

47. Start without a key
49. Set in
51. Colorization
52. Shipboard companion
53. Carve a canyon
54. Aladdin's servant
56. Focused beam
57. Getting older
58. Adam and Rebecca
59. Gemstone
61. Calling company
65. Baseball great Mel

• TEST YOUR MATH SKILLS •



• Last Week's Answers •

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

GRUMPISM

“I tried to walk like an Egyptian and now I need to see a Cairo practor.”



Thank you Scott  
MACDONALD

• Last Week's ANSWERS •

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

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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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• Peter T. Mason • Land Surveying 757-8788 (All)

• Able & Ready Septic Pumping Service • 250-338-8822 (D/H)

• Tree Service • Antoine • 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

www.spectrahealth.ca 335-2260 (D/H)

• Physiotherapy • Christopher Mainella 250-335-2260

• Massage Clinic • 2796 Northwest Rd. • Leyah Kelly 335-2584 (D)

• Acupuncture • Jenny McCartney, R.Ac • 250-508-8160

• www.heartwoodacupuncture.ca (D)

**FORTNIGHT EVENTS**

**THURSDAY 24**

- Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm
- RECYCLING CENTRE 1-5pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 2-5pm
- CAP SITE Hub Comm. Hall 4-7pm
- FOOD BANK Hub Comm. Hall 4-7pm
- FREE STORE 3-5pm

**FRIDAY 25**

- Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm
- AA Meeting DIUC Gathering Place 7pm
- "All You Need Is Love" Community Hall 7:30pm

**SATURDAY 26**

- Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm
- RECYCLING CENTRE 9:30am-5pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 9:30am-5pm
- FREE STORE 9-12:30pm
- Collage Making 9:30-12:30pm Denman Market
- FARMERS MARKET Old School 9:30-12:30
- David Rovics: Resistance Songs Back Hall 7pm

**SUNDAY 27**

- Eco grief circle 10am-Noon The Gathering Place
- Tool Repair Café 1-4pm Recycling Centre

**MONDAY 28**

- Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm
- AA Meeting DIUC Gathering Place 7pm
- Employment Services 9am-3pm DAC

**TUESDAY 29**

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

**WEDNESDAY 30**

- Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm
- RECYCLING CENTRE 1-5pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 2-5pm
- Wildlife Wednesday: Marmots Back Hall 7:30pm

**THURSDAY 1**

- Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm
- RECYCLING CENTRE 1-5pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 2-5pm
- CAP SITE Hub Comm. Hall 4-7pm
- FOOD BANK Hub Comm. Hall 4-7pm
- FREE STORE 3-5pm

**FRIDAY 2**

- Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm
- AA Meeting DIUC Gathering Place 7pm

**SATURDAY 3**

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

**SUNDAY 4**

**MONDAY 5**

- Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm
- AA Meeting DIUC Gathering Place 7pm
- Employment Services 9am-3pm DAC

**TUESDAY 6**

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

**WEDNESDAY 7**

- Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm
- RECYCLING CENTRE 1-5pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 2-5pm

**THURSDAY 1**

- Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm
- RECYCLING CENTRE 1-5pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 2-5pm
- CAP SITE Hub Comm. Hall 4-7pm
- FOOD BANK Hub Comm. Hall 4-7pm
- FREE STORE 3-5pm



Fun fact- Ants are the only other Earthlings that herd livestock similar to the way Humans do



**HOME**

- Backup Generator Systems
- Custom Audio/Video
- Drywall/Taping Services
- Specialty Lighting

**AUTO/MARINE**

- Custom Lighting/Audio/Video
- Custom Panels
- Fibreglass Fabrication
- 12 volt/110 volt inverters

Text:  
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