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Denman Housing Project

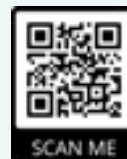
Community Meeting

July 26 | 2:00-4:30 PM

Denman Island Community Hall

Islands Trust staff will provide a brief presentation at 2:00 PM at the Community Hall. Community members will have the opportunity to ask questions and discuss the density bank, accessory dwelling units, cluster housing, and lot size and floor area limits. Islands Trust trustees and staff will also be at the Denman Island Farmers Market to connect with community.

Learn more at: islandstrust.bc.ca/island-planning/denman/projects/denman-housing-review/
or scan the QR code



Islands Trust

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New Vice-Principal Appointed to D.I. Community School

By Comox Valley Schools

Hello Denman Island Community School Community, Comox Valley Schools is pleased to announce the appointment of Karla Neufer as the new Vice-Principal of Denman Island Community School.

Karla brings more than 30 years of experience as an educator, with almost all of it at Denman Island Community School. Since beginning her teaching career there in 1993, Karla has been a cornerstone of the school community – teaching in multi-grade primary classrooms and building strong, lasting relationships with students, families, and staff. Her deep understanding of early learning, small schools, and the unique characteristics of Denman Island have shaped her student-centred and community-based approach to education.

In addition to her classroom work, Karla spent a year as a Curriculum Support Teacher with the Indigenous Education team for Comox Valley Schools and also served as President of the Comox District Teachers' Association – experiences that further deepened her knowledge of the system and her commitment to advocacy, collaboration, and inclusive practice.

Karla holds a Master of Arts in Counselling Psychology, a Bachelor of Arts in Child and Youth Care, and completed her Professional Development Program at Simon Fraser University. She is a graduate of G.P. Vanier Secondary and has called Denman Island home since her teenage years.

Karla is honoured to continue serving the Denman Island school community in this new leadership role.

Please join us in congratulating Karla Neufer on her appointment as Vice-Principal.

Thank you,

Craig Sorochan

Communications Manager

Comox Valley Schools 

TIDE TABLE

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

2025-07-17 (Thu)		
Time	PDT (m)	(ft)
06:00	2.109	6.9
11:44	3.474	11.4
16:58	2.549	8.4
23:28	4.686	15.4
2025-07-18 (Fri)		
Time	PDT (m)	(ft)
06:56	1.652	5.4
13:45	3.590	11.8
17:59	3.105	10.2
2025-07-19 (Sat)		
Time	PDT (m)	(ft)
00:02	4.632	15.2
07:52	1.217	4.0
15:33	3.930	12.9
19:19	3.541	11.6
2025-07-20 (Sun)		
Time	PDT (m)	(ft)
00:44	4.567	15.0
08:48	0.839	2.8
16:44	4.296	14.1
20:50	3.782	12.4
2025-07-21 (Mon)		
Time	PDT (m)	(ft)
01:34	4.503	14.8
09:42	0.537	1.8
17:37	4.580	15.0
22:11	3.834	12.6
2025-07-22 (Tue)		
Time	PDT (m)	(ft)
02:34	4.456	14.6
10:35	0.323	1.1
18:22	4.761	15.6
23:16	3.764	12.3
2025-07-23 (Wed)		
Time	PDT (m)	(ft)
03:36	4.433	14.5
11:24	0.206	0.7
19:03	4.856	15.9
2025-07-24 (Thu)		
Time	PDT (m)	(ft)
00:10	3.625	11.9
04:36	4.415	14.5
12:11	0.197	0.6
19:40	4.893	16.1

Wildlife Wednesday July 30th, 2025 On Saving the Loggerhead Shrike etc.

by Peter Karsten

Dear Nature Enthusiasts the Purple Martin Project team has a surprise for you! Hazel Wheeler, a wildlife biologist and Conservation Program Director at Wildlife Preservation Canada (WPC) is visiting Denman Island to look at the Taylors Checkerspot Recovery

projects and the Western Purple Martin Preservation Project in situ. Both are conservation project of WPC.

Hazel will speak on: "Conservation in action: Saving the Loggerhead Shrike" and other projects of WPC.

Hazel started with WPC in 2013 with the Loggerhead Shrike Recovery Program but for the last ten years Hazel, a champion in species conservation, oversees and support all of the WPC recovery projects across the country. We will learn about the dedication and intricacies to return a rare bird species back to its former habitat. Reminiscent of the Purple Martin story and others the former speakers of the Wildlife Wednesday series presented to us. Come and celebrate conservation in action with us on:

Wednesday July 30 at 7:30 pm at the Back Hall. Entry is by donation.

Wildlife Wednesday is presented by the Purple Martin Preservation Project with funding support by Wildlife Preservation Canada. 



Loggerhead Shrike

Flight Lines: Tashi Draper Brings the Beauty of Birds to the Summer Art Gallery

by the Denman Island Summer Art Gallery

Tashi Draper's newest body of work, *Flight Lines—The Flowing Movement of Birds*, on exhibit at the Denman Island Arts Centre July 24 to August 5, captures the grace, power, and beauty of birds in motion. For Tashi, this airborne vision began in an unlikely place—flat on her back with a broken leg.

Falling and Flying

In September 2024, a bad fall off a wonky ladder left Tashi confined to her bed, facing a daunting healing process. In response to immobility, Tashi became fascinated with birds, spending hours online looking at images of birds as they moved with the grace and freedom she missed so much.

Tashi knew she couldn't fly, but she needed to do *something*. Her partner suggested carving. This could mean many things, but Tashi happened to have a collection of 12"x12" squares of marmoleum, a natural type of linoleum, stashed away in the seemingly random way some artists collect materials.



Bedbound Inspiration

Birds, carving, stillness, flight, linoleum—all converged into an idea. "My imagination soared," says Tashi. "I imagined 12- by 12-inch squares carved with flying birds with their flight lines swirling around them, printed on fine archival paper, and framed. I knew printmaking would become my favourite new medium."

Tashi had 20 years of experience working in photogra-

phy, painting, jewelry, ceramics, textiles, and leather. She'd exhibited in galleries all over coastal British Columbia, and, with her partner, operated a summer gallery on Denman Island. But she'd never tried printmaking. She had to start from scratch.

Tashi knew she wanted her prints to include nuances of texture and detail. To achieve that, she needed the right equipment. She ordered a hand-made small press built in Montreal by Mitch Mitchell, head of Concordia University's printmaking department.



Nests, Wings, and Art Nouveau

While waiting for her press, stuck in bed with her leg elevated, Tashi started creating images. She took inspiration from photographs, the world around her, and memories of birdwatching expeditions: Purple Martins nesting on columns beside the Denman Island ferry terminal, a Reddish Egret fishing for shrimp with wings spread wide, a Rufus Hummingbird hovering above lily pads, and more.

Another inspiration came from art nouveau, an art movement characterized by flowing lines, nature-inspired motifs, and sumptuously decorative aesthetics. This influence shows up in swirling lines and shapes which create framing and emphasize the birds' movements.

Arrival of the Press

When the press arrived—in pieces—in January 2025, Tashi had 22 plates ready to print, and she could walk. The next step was assembling the press and learning to use it to get the high quality Tashi wanted. This took weeks of experimentation.

Tashi's toolkit includes a clothes steamer to soften the

continued on P.5...

...continued from P.4



paper and open its pores, an extra-hard brayer (roller) to spread the ink thinly, an additional fibreboard pad under the lino plate to increase the pressure, specialized archival ink, fine art archival paper, and a pack of drugstore baby wipes to keep her hands clean.

The Printer's Ritual

The printing process demands unrelenting focus and precision. For Tashi, it becomes a ritual, accompanied by the burbling and hissing of the steamer and the sticky kiss-kiss sound of the brayer spreading ink, and resulting in a moment of magic.

"I love to watch prints come off the press," says Tashi.

"You start with a blank slate. Then you have to carve everything in reverse, think about what's going to be black and what's going to be white, ink up the plate and run it through the press—and then it's like Christmas morning! You never know exactly what you'll get."

Each print is unique, based on how the ink is applied, how the plate takes the ink, how the paper responds, and how the printing unfolds. Tashi rarely prints more than three copies in one session. "People think printing is a standardized process, but that's not true," she says. By the time she finished the set of 22 prints, Tashi had fully recovered from her accident. "This body of work is about both flight and healing," she says.

Tashi Draper's exhibit, *Flight Lines—The Flowing Movement of Birds*, takes place at the Denman Island Summer Art Gallery Thursday, July 24 to Tuesday, August 5.

Hours: Mon – Sat 11:00 am – 4:00 pm / Sunday 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm.

Opening reception: Thursday, July 24, 7:00 pm.



OPINION

Shucking Oysters: Expected Tourists on Road

By Alex Allen

Visitors. Tourists. Citidiots. Tourons. Call them what you will, they have arrived. And before I embark on my tirade, let's be clear, like everything there are good and bad versions of humanity. Acceptable and unacceptable. Appropriate and inappropriate. Reasonable and unreasonable. Mindful and unmindful. We've got them all. And we think we know where we fit in the intelligence spectrum.

It never fails, every summer we read or hear about some blatant example of human ignorance. The amount of wild fires started by idiots is depressing and scary. Every random human being is a walking fire bomb. Illegal camping remains popular. On Canada Day weekend, a large group of people, with canopy and five tents, camped at Kennedy Lake Park. The signage? Day-use only and no overnight camping. A resident returned to the site after two days and cleaned up the garbage. Acceptable or unacceptable? Apparently, a \$25,000 fine does not seem to be much of a deterrent from engaging in stupid behaviour.

Over on Hornby, we have our share of the unenlightened. The guy who parked his mega truck at the air hose and car vacuum and then went shopping across the road. The gaggle of conversationists blocking paths and grocery aisles. The zombie-like individuals, walking erratically, staring at their dumb phones. The woman who pulls out of a side road with no regard for the safety of oncoming traffic. The man who parks his car on the wrong side of the road, idling with his high beams on so oncoming traffic can't see. The couple who leave their dog in the car for over an hour. This one is far from unenlightened, it is grossly negligent and stupid and you shouldn't even have a dog. Dogs in hot cars can suffer from potentially fatal heat stroke in as little as 15 minutes, even when a window has been left open or water has been left in the car!

So, what does summer mean to you? Going to the beach day after day? Endless parties and BBQs? Mojitas and other smart cock-tails? Does summer wrap its

continued on P.7..

**The plan was hatched
with the meticulous detail
only children with too much time
could devise.**

By Gabriel Jeroschewitz

June 29th 2025

For Leslee

The summer sun, a relentless golden fist, beat down on Elm Street. Tar bubbled on the asphalt, and the air shimmered above the cracked sidewalks. This was when the only air conditioning most houses boasted was an open window and a strategically placed box fan. And outside, amidst that glorious, shimmering heat, lived the children of Elm Street.

From the shade of Mrs. Gable's colossal oak, where I often found myself contemplating the profound mysteries of clouds and neighbourhood gossip, I watched them. They were a united crew, bound by the unspoken rules of childhood and proximity. Mikey, the self-appointed general of all outdoor endeavours, was perpetually sporting a scraped knee and a glint in his eye that promised adventure or imminent disaster. Jenny, the



quiet one, usually had her nose in a book, but when she joined the fray, it was with a surprising strategic mind. Sammy, bless his heart, was the designated comic relief, a walking, tripping, accidental-slapstick machine. And then there was Little Timmy, the youngest, a human exclamation point of boundless energy and even more boundless naiveté, whose primary function was often to get lost or blurt out secrets at the most inopportune moments.

It began, as most summer Thursdays do. Did, with Mikey declaring, with the gravitas of a seasoned explorer charting unknown territories, "I'm bored."

Jenny, perched on a wobbly tree branch, looked up

from *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*. "You know what Mom says," she recited without looking, "You better find something to do before I find it for you."

Sammy, attempting to scale the oak and failing spectacularly, ended up in a heap of dusty grass. "I heard that means scrubbing the baseboards," he mumbled, picking a twig from his hair. "Again."

A collective shudder ran through the small gathering. Staying inside wasn't a treat; it was a punishment. The hose, gushing icy salvation, was their water fountain. And as for "something to do," their imaginations, fueled by sugar and limitless daylight, were about to conjure something truly magnificent.

"We need a project," Mikey announced, surveying his troops with a determined glint in his eye. "A grand undertaking. Something that will... acquire us a dollar." A dollar. The very word hung in the humid air like a sacred promise. A dollar meant a paper bag, crinkling with the glorious weight of a dozen bubble gum cigars, candy cigarettes (which they meticulously puffed on with serious faces), and enough penny candy to induce a week-long sugar high.

"A lemonade stand?" Jenny suggested, ever the practical one.

Mikey scoffed. "Too slow. Too much squeezing. We need a *product*. Something already... available." He fixed his gaze across the street, on Mrs. Gable's front yard, specifically her legendary berry bush. Mrs. Gable, a woman whose stern expression could curdle milk from a distance, nurtured that bush like it was her firstborn. Its berries were plump, glistening, twilight colour, rumoured to be the sweetest in the county.

"The Great Berry Heist!" Mikey whispered, his eyes gleaming. "We make a pie. A *gourmet* pie. And we sell it for, like, five dollars!"

Sammy gasped. "Five dollars? We could buy the *whole* candy aisle!"

Jenny, ever the realist, pulled thoughtfully on a braid.

"Mrs. Gable's got that dachshund, Muffin. And she's always out there, watering or pruning."

"Muffin's a pipsqueak!" Mikey countered. "And Mrs. Gable's got a routine. She watches her soaps at 2 PM. That's our window."

The plan was hatched with the meticulous detail only children with too much time could devise. They would shed their "good clothes" for play clothes—Mikey's faded T-shirt, Sammy's perpetually grass-stained shorts, Jenny's hand-me-down denim overalls. Little Timmy, already in his

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...continued from P.5

arms around you like a warm and soft blanket?

Or maybe you suffer from Tourist Syndrome, a condition of the nervous system that causes involuntary tics. Not sure? The tics can be physical or vocal. Some examples of physical tics include raising eyebrows, shrugging the shoulders, or jerking a middle finger. Examples of vocal tics can be humming, clearing the throat loudly, or yelling out a word or phrase. Sound familiar? It affects those more severely who work on the front lines and need to get from A to B.

The sounds of summer have arrived in my neighbourhood. It's like our house was suddenly dropped into the middle of a provincial campground. Everything happens in the great outdoors – twenty-four-hour-games, music and hoots – except, we can't go to the campground hosts and ask them to tell campsite 23 to keep it down.

And the bicyclists. I feel like I'm in Zandvoort. Like the paddle board, every second person (both locals and visitors alike) has an Ebike. Don't get me wrong, this is great. But with the influx of more visitors, the more bikes the more safety issues. Riding in the middle of the road seems to be the only option. No one uses the bike trails. Are tree roots or pine cones really that scary?

Gone are the two cyclists riding side-by-side enthusing loudly about salsa macha, and how it's the perfect accompaniment to roasted vegetables. Visitors seem to prefer to ride in clumps of six or more. As a seasoned driver, I can tell you that it is easier to go around one or two bikes than a group of seven, with a dog on leash and three kids in trailers. And then the random cyclist, like a deer, that suddenly appears out of nowhere. If there is one tourist, there may be another following. The signs should read "Expect Tourists on the Road" not deer.

If I have sounded harsh, or somewhat intolerant of tourists, you've misunderstood my intentions. As I keep on saying, would you rather have four or 20 individuals turn up at your front door? Yes, it's our bread and butter, but it doesn't have to be 12 loaves of Wonder Bread and 36 pounds of butter. It's not just the carrying capacity of the island, it's the carrying capacity of those who live here. Do we want to preserve the rural character of Hornby Island? To protect the reason why people want to come and visit? As Edward Espe Brown asked in his Zen teachings, "If there's an uneven, rocky road, do you want to cover the whole path with leather, or do you want to put the leather on your feet?"

Are human beings inherently good? Are we built with an internal moral compass, or is morality entirely the result of socialization? Is the value of a human being based on the sum of their actions, or do they have value no matter the actions they take? At what point do your actions give your life less value? So many existential questions and so little time to ponder. Maybe we should just answer the other questions: Is there a liquor store? Are these today's newspapers? How do I get to the beach? Is this coffee fresh?



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Kokoro Dance

Tue **July 22** 12pm*

Thur **July 24** 12pm

Fri **July 25** 8pm

Borealis String Quartet

Tue **July 29** 12pm

Wed **July 30** 8pm**

Thur **July 31** 12pm

*July 22 short film & artist talk followed by dance workshop after park closing
Free by registration (see website)

**July 30 Canadian premiere of 'Galatea String Quartet' by Paul Alexander

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www.rubinoffsculpturepark.org

Free Admission

...continued from P.6



grubbiest, was assigned "lookout."

"You just stand here," Mikey instructed, pointing to a strategic spot near a fire hydrant, "if you see Mrs. Gable, you yell! Loud!"

Timmy nodded, solemn as a sentinel, then promptly got distracted by a shiny beetle.

Their "equipment" was rudimentary, but their resourcefulness was boundless: a rusty bucket for the berries, a discarded broom handle for leverage, and a walkie-talkie system made of two tin cans connected by a string, which predictably, only transmitted garbled static. At precisely 2:05 PM, with the sun still intent on baking the planet, Mikey, bucket clutched in hand, gave the signal. "Operation Berry Blastoff! Go!"

Consulting an imaginary map, Jenny pointed to the berry bush's left flank. "Sammy, you create a diversion on the right. A... a clumsy one."

Sammy didn't need coaching. He stumbled over his feet, sending a decorative garden gnome tumbling, which knocked over Mrs. Gable's prize-winning birdbath with a surprisingly loud splash. This was the distraction, but not for Mrs. Gable. It was for Muffin, the miniature dachshund, who emerged from beneath the porch with a bark that belied his size, a yapping, fury-fueled missile aimed straight at Sammy's shins.

"Argh! Dog! Dog!" Sammy screeched, flailing his arms and tripping backward into Mrs. Gable's meticulously cultivated rose bush. Thorns snagged his shorts, and he began a series of high-pitched yelps.

Mikey, meanwhile, darted for the berry bush, scooping fat berries into his bucket with urgent precision. Jenny, ever the pragmatic strategist, was already calculating the yield. "We'll need at least three more buckets for a five-dollar pie!"

But then, the world stopped. A shadow fell over the berry bush. The distinct creak of a screen door. And then,

the voice.

"Children," Mrs. Gable said, her tone as dry and unyielding as a well-worn leather belt. She stood on her porch, a watering can, inexplicably, in her hand. Her "look"—that singular, piercing gaze that promised swift and undeniable consequences—was enough.

Mikey froze mid-scoop, with a purple stain on his thumb. Jenny's calculations vanished. Sammy, tangled in the rose bush, whimpered. Finally shaken from his beetle-watching reverie by the commotion, Little Timmy pointed a finger. "Uh oh!" he yelled, far louder than he'd been instructed to for the "Mrs. Gable approaching" alert.

Mrs. Gable sighed. A deep, world-weary sigh that could deflate a hot air balloon. "You kids," she said, her eyes sweeping over the scene: the half-stolen berries, the miffed dachshund, the birdbath askew, the boy stuck in the roses. "You want berries? Ask. And maybe," she added, a hint of a twinkle in her eye, "help me weed this patch. And then we'll make a pie. My way." The Great Berry Heist had failed. Spectacularly. But the punishment wasn't a belt or a switch. It was an afternoon of weeding under Mrs. Gable's watchful eye, learning the difference between a dandelion and a daisy, and then, the unexpected reward: warm, fragrant berry pie, fresh from her oven, eaten with their fingers on her back porch, Muffin curled contentedly at her feet.

They didn't get their dollar for the candy store that day. But as the streetlights buzzed on, casting long, familiar shadows, and they sped home on their bikes, legs burning, cheeks hurting from laughing about Sammy's thorny adventure, they knew they'd gotten something far better. They were tired, covered in dirt and berry juice, and completely free. That was childhood. Not curated, not connected, and just lived. And sometimes, delicious. 🍷



Tree Frog Radio “W 20th Anniversary Bash

by Bob Morley
listen to the music”
on 89.1 FM to enjoy a
memorable day! In to-

day’s world, there are so many ways to engage in the media maze. But if you really want to relax, turn on your radio, take your seat on the patio, kick off your shoes and listen to the music! It will bring a smile to your waiting lips. From the age of Marconi, radio has played a major role in the lives of millions of people. And today, international radio continues to support broadcasters around the world to strengthen rural communities in all aspects of their lives. When you listen to these programs, it quickly becomes more than a one-time experience – it evolves into a community event. So, dig out that old radio, or buy one at the thrift store, turn up the volume and give yourself a real old time /new time treat! On July 27th, at 5 pm in the Back Hall, get ready to celebrate to the 11th hour. Entertainment, including Richard Garvey, Bee Balm, Kevin Mitchell, Bethany Ireland, Polson Moose, and the Fortune cookies begins at 6 bells. We will also air out a few choice pieces from ‘Shtick with Us’, Jerry Miller’s & Lee Andra’s Comedy show. Erin O’Brien will end the evening with a DJ dance set. Admission and refreshments will all be by donation and available throughout the evening. A silent auction will include three collections of Crystals from Tom’s Crystal Pyramid, Jewels from Bruce and Lee Andra, a painting by Poete Maudit, a gift basket from the Denman Craft shop, stained glass lamp and Lagostina coffee press to brew up your next cuppa.

For “It was 20 years ago today, that the band began to play’ on Tree Frog Radio!

Bob Morley for all tree frogs!



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Trucks

By Oakley Rankin

Will Carney's serious loosening of regulations on big business really set up Canada for the rest of the 21st Century? Or will it push us back to the point when we ignored the environment except to create National Parks? Is he more inline with the disastrous rhetoric of Danielle Smith or will he recognize that what she asks for is based upon environmental denial? And are Canadians ready to forget environmental degradation in order to build an even more destructive standard of living? A 'canary in a coal mine' is a warning of danger. For a measure of social belief in climate change danger my 'canary' is the truck.

In 2024 Canadians purchased 1,918,861 new vehicles of which 1,671,656 were classified as 'trucks' and 247,205 classified as 'passenger cars'. This represents a continuing decline in passenger car sales, so much so that Ford around 2019 stopped North American manufacture of all passenger cars except for the Mustang—if you believe that's a family car. And no one asks why; they assume we individually decided we really, really want trucks. But that's not why cars are no longer popular. The reason is one that Terry O'Reilly on the CBC's *Under the Influence* answers every week, you are a willing victim of advertising. Now I, like everyone, else know for certain that I am never influenced by advertising but the evidence of such influence, as Terry demonstrates every week, is overwhelming whether we admit it or not. But why trucks? Well, back in the 70's and 80's when the Germans and Japanese demonstrated how to build better cars and complaints about shoddy American workmanship were rife, our car manufacturers, GM, Ford and Chrysler of the time, could have decided to compete as their free market beliefs demanded. But they didn't. They saw an interfering government attempting to set safety and emission standards which would add to the cost of construction and they saw Ralph Nader attacking their products and policies. So they reached for a vehicle they could make that would be too costly for foreigners to manufacture—the truck. Why the truck? Because back in 1964 in retaliation for European tariffs on the importation of American chickens Lyndon Johnson passed a 25% tariff on pickup trucks built outside of North America, about 10 times higher than any then current American tariff and a tariff still in effect that quite possibly was inspi-

ration for Trump's weapon. Then in the 70's the Corporate Average Fuel Economy (CAFE) emissions standards were passed but gave business a break with lower standards for pickups, now renamed as Light Trucks, which it was argued, were largely used by commercial owners. The lower standards meant lower costs and bigger profits on trucks than passenger cars; a GM exec estimated a decade ago that the average profit on a car was around 7% whereas profit on a truck could be as high as 35%.

And so the light dawned. If all vehicles are classified as Light Trucks our costs go down and our profits go up. Today Ford, GM and Ram account for 90% or more of current pickup sales, proving the wisdom of eschewing real competition by using the government to keep foreigners out of our market—an early example of MAGA. Canada, of course, harmonized with the U.S. standards. Pickups, crew cabs, SUVs, Crossovers, and vans; manufacturers classified them all as Light Trucks and then sold them to you by excluding the moderately more virtuous passenger cars from their advertising, presenting trucks as able to traverse any landscape—particularly one without any other vehicles in it—and shouting about the impossibility of electric vehicles matching the convenience of gas powered ones. What you don't see, you won't buy. Of total truck sales 68% are now purchased as passenger vehicles; trucks are now used to bring the children to school, to do the shopping at the mall, to take you to visit with friends which are all activities perfectly serviced by a passenger car or a station wagon. The box out behind the crew cab remains empty most of the time but every once in a while you will dump a bunch of camp chairs, paddle boards, blow up floating gadgets, coolers, bicycles into the back of your half, three-quarter, or full ton and bring it all to Denman and Hornby for a fun week.

Équiterre is a Quebec based, sustainable farm management non-profit with over 100 farms under its direction. Is is certified by both the Quebec and Federal governments to conduct energy audits and has a staff to do so. In a comprehensive report published in 2021 it was noted that between 2009 and 2018 greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) from light trucks rose 156% adding a 20.9% increase in emissions for all vehicles. They further note that there has been a decided increase in the average size of all vehicles; 25% in mass, wheelbase up 7.4%, length up 5%. And as to the classification of vehicles that is left entirely up to the manufactures and is a byzantine morass. A much

continued on P.11...

...continued from P.10 smaller Hyndai Kona with significantly better



efficiency measures is in the same category as a Lincoln Navigator—as of 2025 the curb weights of these two respectively are 3340 lbs and 6045 lbs. In conjunction with the Suzuki Foundation



Équiterre's latest report for 2024-25 states: 'Between 2010 and 2022, the average per vehicle fuel consumption in Canada was reduced because of improvements in engine efficiency. But unfortunately, more than 80% of this reduction in average fuel consumption has been cancelled out by the increasing size of the vehicles on our roads across the country. . . ' Even when the engineers succeed the consumer isn't buying. And what to canaries have to do with it? Just as the coal mine canary announces danger for humans when it keels over, the massive increase in truck sales indicates danger for humans when it helps the climate keel over. Truckers may well agree that Danielle Steele gets a few things right as she continues to increase the venting of CO2 and announces the ever-coming carbon neutral production of her favourite resource. But she completely ignores the very real dinosaur in the room, to what use customers put her Alberta oil. But that's not Daniell's problem; it is a problem for the buyers of trucks who obviously are paying little attention to it while their dollars flow back to the corporations in the Alberta oil patch. 🍷

OPINION

Letters To The Editor

Excerpts from last week's Open Letter to Sam Borthwick and David Graham

"Many community members are calling for more proactive mandates to protect this island from further forest and habitat loss. A new advocacy group called The Friends of the Gulf Islands is pressuring the Islands Trust to implement stricter guardrails on development that impact the natural world. Private property owners across this Island, (and all the Gulf Islands) are "legally" clear cutting, and cutting trees on slopes close to sensitive riparian zones which eventually affect water tables, destroy essential wind and storm breaks, cause soil erosion, habitat loss and contribute to local climate instability.

We appreciate the energy and time that you give to your responsibilities as Trustees. With a strong committed community behind you, Denman Island can be an unflinching leader in environmental protection. We must act now to bring in stricter bylaws and regulations to protect forests and trees on private property, as well as send a clear message that Gulf Islands are not suitable venues for land speculators and developers"

The following community members have added their names in support of the Open Letter:

Brad Hornick, Heather Mclean, Rosa Telegus, Sandy Schafer, Eileen O'Brien, and Denman Islanders For Climate Action and Social Justice (DICASJ) 🍷

TUESDAY, JANUARY 4, 2011
Denman Community

Surrounded by water we are afloat in time
our essence becoming one with water drops
when we get on that expensive BC ferry
and cross Baynes Sound we are islanders

Denman Islanders to the world out there
We are defined by water and the tides
Denman cave dwellers like winter bears
by nature strong and all introspective

Its risky living on an gulf island now
as we go through the eye of the needle
never knowing what tomorrow brings as
our world is hurtling toward the cliff

The past is always with us past mistakes
This island was stripped of cedar trees
Taken without thought of the spirit here
Taken in trucks we witnessed this horror

We have not forgotten or forgiven the time
The spirit of the forest remains with us
Collectively we failed to save any of them
As egos of the day stifled our resistance

By Sheila Simpson-Brown

Cowboy Corner: The Badger and the Bee

By Conrad Campbell

One day in the forest a bee was buzzing about from flower to flower when it came upon a badger. The badger had a very sad face and seemed unhappy, so the bee said, "Why hello! How are you on this fine day?" Suddenly the badger burst into tears. "Actually, I'm very sad - you see, none of the other forest creatures like me - it's because I have short stumpy legs and long claws and big teeth...they won't talk to me at all and run away at the mere sight of me, and I always feel very very lonely. The bee thought for a moment and knew just what to say, for bees are very wise. "Why that's not it at all", said the bee, "In fact, I have a feeling I know why the other creatures don't want to be your friend". The badger stopped crying for a moment and looked at the bee and said, "Really? Well...what is it then?" And the bee said, "It's because you're an insufferable asshole on social media. The vast majority of us just want to go on the groups to see nice things and get information about people and events and there you are hijacking posts and yammering on about politics and climate change and nuclear fucking war all the time. You speak with great authority on topics you know very little about, and when someone calls you out on your bullshit, rather than apologize and self-reflect, you double down. Then you're actually surprised that others have a negative reaction to your uninvited input and unpleasant personality. If it's really happiness you seek, perhaps turning your life into an attention whoring minstrel show of smug self importance, snide remarks, and abject condescension probably isn't the best move". Then off he flew



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theislandsgrapevine@gmail.com

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Inside Page • \$22.42/1x1

Please ask about our discounts for ordering and prepaying for multiple ad placements. Refer to examples below for actual ad sizes. We cover everything from a small 1x1 to full page.

Don't Take Instruction On How To Live Your Life From A Stark Raving Mad Society

*By Caitlin Johnstone
July, 2025*



Don't take instruction on how to live your life from a stark raving mad society.

This civilization is sick. It is genocidal. It is ecocidal. It is omnicidal. We are ruled by psychopaths, while the best among us are relegated to the fringes of the fringe. We are hurtling into totalitarianism and armageddon at breakneck pace while our attention is aggressively pulled toward the vapid and the inane. You should share none of the values and priorities of this freak show. You should not let any aspect of this dystopia inform your decisions regarding who you should be and what kind of life you should live. In this warped and twisted madhouse, we are trained to believe that "success" looks like making a lot of money, earning large amounts of esteem and adoration, having a certain body type, living in the right kind of neighborhood in the right kind of house full of the right kind of products to impress the right kind of people. We are trained to believe we need to rack up all kinds of accomplishments, academic achievements, promotions, impressive stories, social ascendance. We are trained to believe we must attract a certain type of partner who will be approved of by everyone whose approval we crave. If we cannot achieve these goals, we are trained to believe we should feel bad about ourselves. That we don't deserve happiness. That we should either spend our time stressing and striving for worthiness as defined by our crazy civilization, or go and join the ocean of miserable failures who couldn't win the capitalism game and sedate ourselves with alcohol and entertainment waiting for death to carry us into the nothingness where we belong.

This is clearly insane. It's a stupid game with stupid prizes. The only reason anyone takes it seriously is because we were raised and taught how to live by other people who take it seriously. Our parents have been indoctrinated into the power-serving worldview that has been forcibly imposed upon the denizens of the empire, and we want to make them proud. Our friends, families and acquaintances have been likewise brainwashed, and we want to impress them.

But to do so is to take lessons on how to live from a collective disease that is pointed at misery and dysfunction. It is impossible to lead a truly fulfilling life while also trying to live the way the people around us think we should live, because the society which shaped their ideas about how we should live is insane.

If you want to really live an awake and inspired life, you've got to blaze your own trail. You've got to unlearn everything you've been told about what a life properly lived would look like, and write your own rules. Because the rules everyone else has been playing by were written by madmen.

Find your own truth. Set your own values and priorities. Define your own idea of success. Define your own idea of sanity. Consider the possibility that just being present for the beauty of each moment on this wonderful planet is worth more than anything the imperial insane asylum has to offer you. Consider the possibility that your very next breath, deeply relished, would be enough.

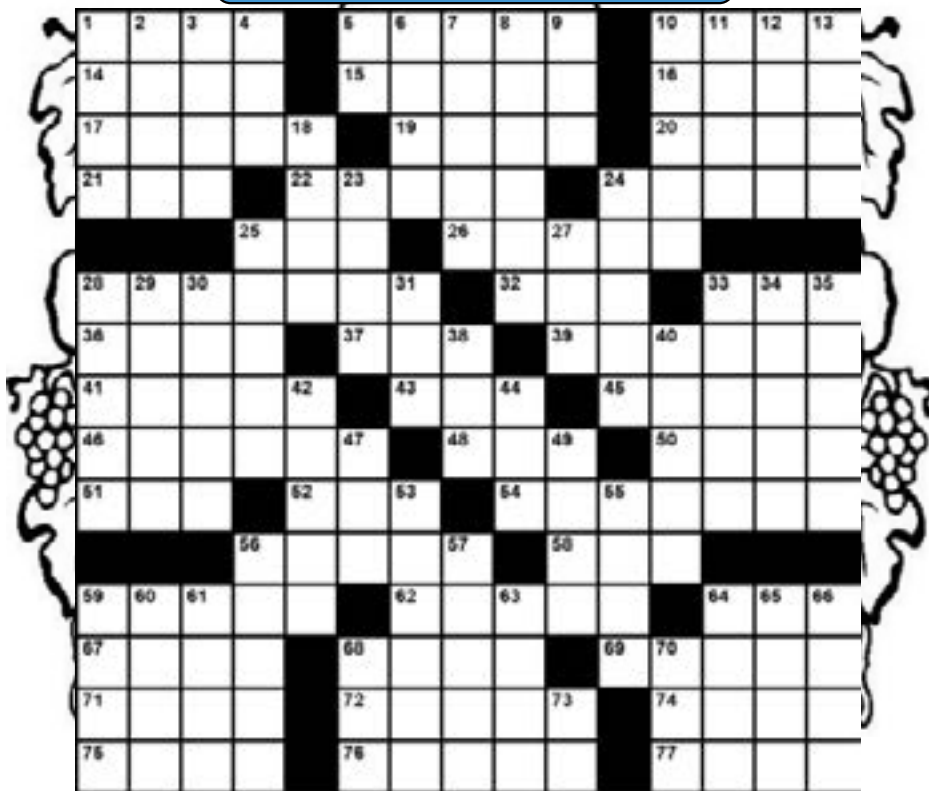
We are destroying our planet and driving every living organism toward annihilation. The status quo has failed as spectacularly as anything could possibly fail. The old ways of doing things plainly do not work. So try some new ways.

Be different. Be strange. Be a freak. Do everything the wrong way. Disappoint your parents. Fail to live up to your potential. Transgress your family doctrine. Anger whatever gods you were taught to believe in. Nothing anyone has done has worked. It is therefore necessary to travel off the beaten path.

The world won't get better until humanity changes its ways. Humanity won't change its ways if it keeps insisting on trying the same failed approaches over and over again. Our survival as a species depends on diverging from our patterns.

Maybe we'll succeed in surviving, and maybe we won't. But at the very least we can rescue ourselves from spending one more day on this amazing blue world trying to live by the rules of lunatics. 🍷

• GRAPEVINE CROSSWORD •



• ACROSS •

1. Cave home
5. Rough woven raw silk
10. Begged
14. A lot of land
15. Banish blunders
16. Hokkaido ancients
17. Jack, in cards
19. Competent
20. Farm laborer
21. Still, in verse
22. Lover of Daphnis
24. Fill the seams
25. Any miss
26. Downstairs, at sea
28. Flaunt
32. A pop
33. Be in session
36. Continental coin
37. Canine category
39. Irrational
41. Second brightest star in Perseus
43. Break in continuity
45. City of New York
46. Gaucho's plains
48. Barker and Bell
50. Big heads
51. Absalom, to David
52. Contemporary
54. Attic functions
56. Male and female
58. Cineraria
59. Estate house
62. Sonnet parts
64. Bandeau, for short

67. Jewish month
68. Bow, in music
69. During a broadcast
71. Norse god
72. Computer insert
74. Immoderate revelry
75. Accomplishment
76. Fawning sycophant
77. Raise marks on the skin

• DOWN •

1. Erie and Tahoe
2. Complexion woe
3. Ayatollah territory
4. Auto gear, abbr.
5. That man
6. Contract variety
7. Important one
8. Inattentive
9. Born as
10. Oblong fruit
11. Stead
12. Certain organic compound
13. Basketball tactic
18. Alpine sound
23. Judges weight by lifting
24. Horn-shaped object
25. Faint with pleasure
27. Luau wear
28. Christmas stamps
29. Howdy
30. Organlike instrument
31. London forecast
33. Eurasian antelope
34. Conceal identity
35. Back comb
38. Candied item
40. Rear of a ship
42. Introverted
44. Ballet step
47. Census form question

49. Bump one's toe
53. Nutcase
55. Approximation words
56. Cube or cone
57. Spinal bases
59. Canasta play
60. Balm ingredient
61. Microwave, slangily
63. Frame of mind
64. Exposed
65. Baltic port
66. Chemistry term
68. Be a stage star
70. Chic
73. Goodness gracious

• TEST YOUR MATH SKILLS •

6				5				
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2	3						7	
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				4				5

• Last Week's Answers •

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

GRUMPISM

“ I had a lot of jokes about unemployed people, but none of them worked.”



Thank you Michael RAPATI

• Last Week's ANSWERS •

E	R	A	S	E		S	H	O	O	T		E	K	E
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• **HELP WANTED** •

Help required for the construction of a residential home, out buildings, and development of acreage on Denman Island. Construction and equipment operating experience an asset. Wages neg. Call Thorne at (403) 471-8965.

• **COMMUNITY NOTICES** •

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

NEED HELP? Alcoholics Anonymous
250-338-8042

Ring
of
Wood

Randall Jason
Fox



ISLANDS GRAPEVINE EDITORIAL POLICIES

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

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

- Profiles of individuals, history, reviews and op ed are published free of charge.
- Literary content including poetry, stories, belle lettres are published free of charge.
- Promotional content for products, services, programs, and events will be published at going advertising rates.
- Public service announcements, notices of meetings, and news releases will be published for a fee. Exceptions will be made for emergencies where the public is immediately endangered.
- With regret, no exceptions can be made for non-profit status.
- Letters to the Editor are published free of charge.

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

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

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



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• (FB) Fanny Bay • (C) Courtenay/Comox •

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• Tuele Group, Royal LePage in the Comox Valley,

Jenessa & Donna 250 335 1720

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Kenny Mather • 250-703-6512 (All) • John Isbister • 250-335-2565 (D)

• Tandem Gravel Truck & Transfer Trailer • Lora Mercieca

• 250-650-9986 (D/H)

• Wicked Shovel Excavating & Landscaping • Doug Schmidt •

250-222-8076 (All)

• Ray Ulovec Excavator/Backhoe, ROWP Septic Installer, Land clearing,
ponds, site prep. 250-335-3145 (D/H)

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

• Bottled Water Delivery • DenmanWater.ca • 250-228-7161 (D)

• True View Tree Care • Wild Bill - Senior's Discount • 250-898-7246

• HEALTH & WELLNESS •

• Good Medicine Massage • Carly Woolner • (250) 879-0979. By Appt. (D)

• 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. • Leah Kelly 335-2584 (D)

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



THE
ISLANDS
Grapevine
EST. 1991
HORNBY ISLAND & DENMAN ISLAND
COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

FORTNIGHT EVENTS

THURSDAY 17

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



FRIDAY 18

• Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm
• AA Meeting DIUC Gathering Place 7pm
• Deadline for August's Flagstone

SATURDAY 19

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

SUNDAY 20

MONDAY 21

TUESDAY 22

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

WEDNESDAY 23

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

THURSDAY 24

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

SATURDAY 26

• 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
• Denman Pride Day and Parade
• Community Meeting: I.T. Denman Housing Project
2-4:30pm Denman Community Hall

SUNDAY 27

MONDAY 28

TUESDAY 29

• Tree Frog 20th Anniversary Party 5pm Back Hall

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

WEDNESDAY 30

• Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm
• RECYCLING CENTRE 1-5pm
• BOTTLE DEPOT 1-5pm
• FREE STORE 9-12:30pm
• Wildlife Wednesday 7:30pm Back Hall
(see article page 3)

THURSDAY 31

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



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• Custom 1200w
• Amplifiers

Jason Rasmussen

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• Custom Home Video
• Custom Drywall Services
• Custom Taping Services
• Custom Lighting

DENMAN ISLAND Readers & Writers FESTIVAL

JULY
18th - 20th, 2025



Caroline Adderson
Fiona Tinwei Lam
Sarah Leavitt
Lenore Newman
Janika Oza
Adam Shoalts
Drew Hayden Taylor
Timothy Taylor
John Vaillant

Moderators:
Evelyn Gillespie
Des Kennedy
Ken Madsen
Stephanie Slater

Plus readings
by Denman
Writers



Sponsors



Abraxas Books and Gifts
DENMAN ISLAND, BC

Workshops

Workshops:

Caroline Adderson – Thursday, July 17, 2025, 2:00 – 5:00 pm.
Ending It All: Explore what makes a story ending successful. We'll look at planned vs. discovered endings, common pitfalls, and how plot and character arcs guide satisfying conclusions.

Janika Oza – Thursday, July 17, 2025, 2:00 – 5:00 pm. **Writing the Opening:** What makes a first page work? Study strong openings, generate ideas, and draft new work using prompts. Come ready to write.

Fiona Tinwei Lam – Thursday, July 17, 2025, 2:00 – 5:00 pm. **Elemental Poetry:** Use natural elements as inspiration for poetry. Includes meditation, prompts, writing time, and sharing in groups.

Timothy Taylor – Thursday, July 17, 2025, 2:00 – 5:00 pm. **Writing Family Histories:** Learn how to shape memoir from letters, interviews, and memories. Includes scene-building, research tips, and proposal writing.

Friday

8:30

Registration

9:15

Opening

9:45-10:45

Solo: **Adam Shoalts**

11:00-12:00

Solo: **Fiona Tinwei Lam**

12:15-1:15

Lunch

1:30-2:30

Solo: **Caroline Adderson**

2:45-3:45

Solo: **John Vaillant**

4:00-5:00

Solo: **Sarah Leavitt**

5:00-5:30 Happy Hour

Music by Randy Duncan

5:30-7:30

Dinner

7:30-9:00

Main Stage: Lenore Newman, Janika Oza and Timothy Taylor in conversation with Evelyn Gillespie.
Exile to invention: narratives of displacement and becoming.



Saturday

9:00

Registration

9:15-10:15

Solo: **Drew Hayden Taylor**

10:30-11:30

Solo: **Janika Oza**

11:45-12:45

Lunch

1:00-2:00

Solo: **Timothy Taylor**

2:15-3:15

Solo: **Lenore Newman**

3:30-5:00

Denman Writers

5:00-5:30

Happy Hour

Music by Randy Duncan

5:30-7:30 Dinner

7:30-9:00

Main Stage: Caroline Adderson, Sarah Leavitt, Fiona Tinwei Lam in conversation with Stephanie Slater.
Diving into Darkness to find our humanity/joy/compassion.

Sunday

9:30-10:30

Main Stage: Adam Shoalts in conversation with Ken Madsen:
Surviving Wilderness While Keeping an Eye on the Birds

10:40-11:40

Main Stage: John Vaillant talks with local author, Des Kennedy: *Creating gripping Narratives as in his best-selling Fire Weather*

11:50-12:50

Main Stage: Drew Hayden Taylor: *Looking for my Place in the Story.*



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.com**

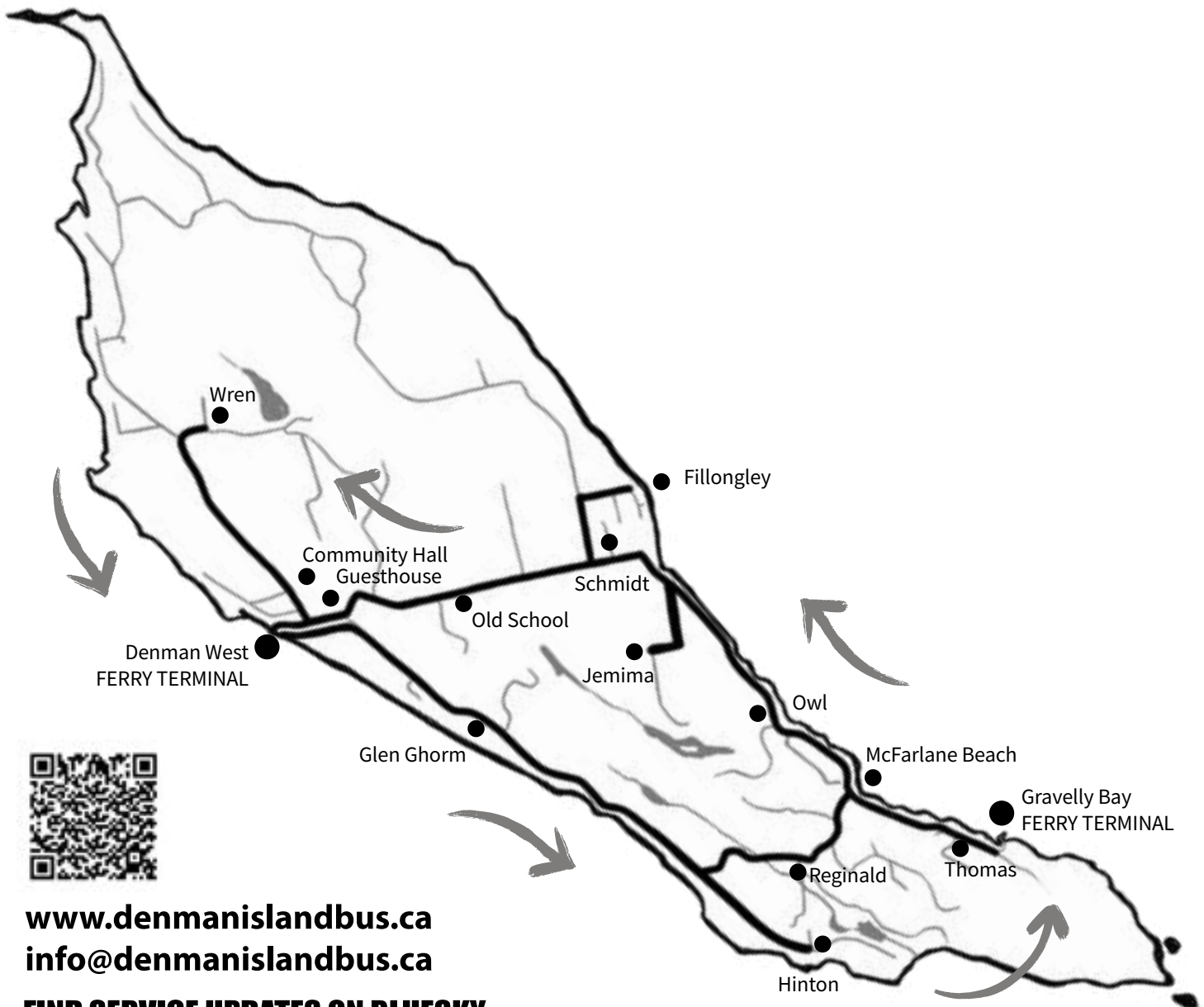
DENMAN ISLAND BUS SERVICE

2025 SUMMER SCHEDULE

MAY 1st - SEP 29th

Hail bus anywhere along route.

Bus will stop where safe to pick up and drop off passengers.



www.denmanislandbus.ca
info@denmanislandbus.ca

FIND SERVICE UPDATES ON BLUESKY
[HTTPS://BSKY.APP/PROFILE/DENMANISLANDBUS.CA](https://bsky.app/profile/denmanislandbus.ca)



DENMAN ISLAND BUS SERVICE

2025 SUMMER SCHEDULE

MAY 1st - SEP 29th

FREE

Bus runs on **THURSDAY - FRIDAY - SATURDAY - SUNDAY - MONDAY** (no service *TUESDAY* and *WEDNESDAY*)

Denman West *	08:15 AM	09:45 AM	11:15 AM	12:45 PM	02:15 PM	03:45 PM	05:15 PM	06:45 PM
Guesthouse	08:19 AM	09:49 AM	11:19 AM	12:49 PM	02:19 PM	03:49 PM	05:19 PM	06:49 PM
Glen Ghorm	08:21 AM	09:51 AM	11:21 AM	12:51 PM	02:21 PM	03:51 PM	05:21 PM	06:51 PM
Hinton	08:29 AM	09:59 AM	11:29 AM	12:59 PM	02:29 PM	03:59 PM	05:29 PM	06:59 PM
Reginald	08:34 AM	10:04 AM	11:34 AM	01:04 PM	02:34 PM	04:04 PM	05:34 PM	07:04 PM
McFarlane Beach	08:37 AM	10:07 AM	11:37 AM	01:07 PM	02:37 PM	04:07 PM	05:37 PM	07:07 PM
Thomas	08:39 AM	10:09 AM	11:39 AM	01:09 PM	02:39 PM	04:09 PM	05:39 PM	07:09 PM
Gravelly Bay *	08:44 AM	10:14 AM	11:44 AM	01:14 PM	02:44 PM	04:14 PM	05:44 PM	07:14 PM
Owl	08:49 AM	10:19 AM	11:49 AM	01:19 PM	02:49 PM	04:19 PM	05:49 PM	07:19 PM
Jemima	08:54 AM	10:24 AM	11:54 AM	01:24 PM	02:54 PM	04:24 PM	05:54 PM	07:24 PM
Schmidt	08:57 AM	10:27 AM	11:57 AM	01:27 PM	02:57 PM	04:27 PM	05:57 PM	07:27 PM
Fillongley	09:01 AM	10:31 AM	12:01 PM	01:31 PM	03:01 PM	04:31 PM	06:01 PM	07:31 PM
Old School	09:05 AM	10:34 AM	12:05 PM	01:34 PM	03:05 PM	04:34 PM	06:05 PM	07:34 PM
Community Hall	09:12 AM	10:42 AM	12:12 PM	01:42 PM	03:12 PM	04:42 PM	06:12 PM	07:42 PM
Wren	09:16 AM	10:46 AM	12:16 PM	01:46 PM	03:16 PM	04:46 PM	06:16 PM	07:46 PM
Community Hall	09:22 AM	10:52 AM	12:22 PM	01:52 PM	03:22 PM	04:52 PM	06:22 PM	07:52 PM
Denman West *	09:25 AM	10:55 AM	12:25 PM	01:55 PM	03:25 PM	04:55 PM	06:25 PM	07:55 PM

* Ferry Terminal (Denman West ferry to Buckley Bay and Gravelly Bay ferry to Hornby Island)