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• **PRESS RELEASE** •

- 5 • Vietnam War Resisters Event

By Joline Martin

• **LITERARY** •

- 6 • And we, the observers, watch them. We watch them trying to maintain the fiction of their old lives

By Gabriel Jeroschewitz

- 8 • 8 21 25 I have swum

By Alan Black

• **OPINION** •

- 2 • Shucking Oysters: The Future is Far From Friendly

By Alex Allen

- 4 • Phoenix Riting!

By Phoenix Bee

- 10 • Israel Droned Flotilla Activists And Then Abused Greta Thunberg

By Caitlin Johnstone

— REGULAR FEATURES —

- 3 • Tide Tables
- 14 • Gary's Toon
- 12 • Crossword/ Sudoku/ Grumpism
- 13 • Classified Ads
- 14 • Business/Services Directory



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by Mark Prior

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

OPINION

Shucking Oysters: The Future is Far From Friendly

By Alex Allen

Data. It records our actions: what we read, what we watch, where we travel, what we purchase, what we write, what we search, and on. Far from being held in the clouds, our data is being held in data camps all around the world. Some can be millions of square feet in size, stretching across thousands of acres; others are hidden innocuously behind building façades in downtown metropolises. As cloud computing and AI increase the world's demand for data storage, there are even bigger plans to build even bigger data warehouses globally.

A data centre, Alexander Nazaryan wrote, is kin to a server centre, “the lymph node of the digital economy.” Typically windowless warehouses, they constantly process the ginormous amounts of data we use all day long. Much like industrial animal factory farms, these are industrial digital farms. Both need large amounts of floor space, both have high power requirements and both need ample water. Instead of the screeching of abused animals in distress one gets to hear the high-pitched buzzing of fans and cooling systems.

With his brazen lack of concern for the environment or life and his obsession with winning, Trump has big, big plans. In January, he announced “Project Stargate,” which he called “the largest AI infrastructure project in history.” The project, a \$500 billion joint venture between OpenAI, Oracle, Japan-based SoftBank and Emirati investment firm MGX, is financing massive data farm construction across the US.

As we well know, Trump has no boundaries. Beyond arable farmlands, pristine federal lands are also primed for big, beautiful data farms. “Obviously, we are not oblivious to the fact that data centers require energy, they require water,” a White House spokesman commiserated. “We understand those concerns. But there’s a cost-benefit analysis here.” Indeed. Everywhere data farms are being proposed (forced), communities are being told of the huge employment benefits. The reality is, once construction ends, a data farm may need only a dozen or so people to operate.

In north Virginia, two years ago, the world’s largest data farm, Digital Gateway, was given the go-ahead, a 23-million square foot cluster fuck of 37 data farms on 2,100 acres of former farmland. Last August, a judge voided its rezoning due to, of all things, a public notice violation. Then in September, a county board appealed the ruling, citing that private investments could be “irreparably jeopardized.”

“Halting this project disrupts critical momentum and raises serious concerns among investors.” We all know this

continued on P.3...

...continued from P.2 mantra. It's not about the environment, it's about the almighty shareholder. If you're against data farms, you're against innovation and prosperity. Fun facts: the power requirements for the proposed Digital Gateway site, are estimated to be about the equivalent of the needs of 750,000 households. And water? As much as five million gallons of water a day (the usage of a community of 50,000 people).

AI is worse. For every 50 questions it's asked, ChatGPT needs 16-ounces of water. And according to the International Energy Agency (IEA), a single ChatGPT query requires 2.9 watt-hours of electricity, compared to a mere 0.3 watt-hours for a Google search.

It's a generative AI building boom. As Franklin Foer wrote, data is the new oil. Construction is planned in North America, South America, Europe, Asia, Africa and Australia. Rajiv Garg, a cloud computing professor at Emory University in Atlanta, says these data farms aren't going away – if anything, they're becoming the backbone of “modern” life.

In January, Zuckerberg's Meta opened a \$1 billion data farm, that spreads over two-million square feet on 396 acres, in Mesa, Arizona. It doesn't matter that the surrounding county, where Microsoft also has two data farms, is facing extreme drought. And it hasn't stopped Google's plans for a second center, while the first can use over five million cubic metres of water a year.

In Louisiana, Meta is currently building a four-million square foot, \$10 billion complex data farm, dubbed “Hyperion,” on 2,250 acres of farmland (the size of both North and South Pender Islands combined), that could use the energy equivalent of four million homes. “We are making all these investments because we have conviction that super intelligence is going to improve every aspect of what we do,” Zuckerberg said in July.

Touted as the largest construction site in North America, Delaney Nolan wrote, “this is rural Richland Parish, once a floodplain tangled with meandering bayous and wild canebrake where black bears still wander and a quarter of the 20,000 residents live below the poverty line.”

There are over 5,000 data farms in the US, followed by Germany with 529, China 515, the UK 514, and Canada 336. With no surprise, soon to be the largest data farm in Canada, is a massive \$70 billion AI complex in Alberta, driven by dragon/shark Kevin O'Leary, called Wonder Valley, stretching over 760,000 square feet. Premier Danielle Smith, who someone once described as having a “kind of bombast and defensive determination to keep doing the wrong thing,” has plans to blanket rural Alberta with \$100 billion worth of data farms. Meanwhile in BC, Bell AI Fabric plans to build six AI data farms, with the altruistic aim of creating the largest Canadian AI infrastructure (for its shareholders).

The IAE recently estimated that “the US economy is set to consume more electricity in 2030 for processing data than for manufacturing all energy-intensive goods combined, including aluminium, steel, cement and chemicals.” So it is with supreme irony, speaking at Italian Tech Week last week, that Jeff Bezos announced that he's going to be building giant gigawatt data centers in space.

“Because we have solar power there, 24/7. There are no clouds and no rain, no weather,” Bezos said. “We

continued on P.8...

TIDE TABLE

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

2025-10-09 (Thu)		
Time	PDT (m)	(ft)
01:49	0.757	2.5
08:40	4.709	15.4
14:01	2.972	9.8
19:20	4.673	15.3
2025-10-10 (Fri)		
Time	PDT (m)	(ft)
02:32	0.528	1.7
09:41	4.795	15.7
14:53	3.298	10.8
19:55	4.581	15.0
2025-10-11 (Sat)		
Time	PDT (m)	(ft)
03:17	0.463	1.5
10:43	4.837	15.9
15:55	3.531	11.6
20:35	4.411	14.5
2025-10-12 (Sun)		
Time	PDT (m)	(ft)
04:06	0.557	1.8
11:47	4.836	15.9
17:11	3.637	11.9
21:23	4.171	13.7
2025-10-13 (Mon)		
Time	PDT (m)	(ft)
05:00	0.777	2.5
12:51	4.807	15.8
18:43	3.577	11.7
22:26	3.893	12.8
2025-10-14 (Tue)		
Time	PDT (m)	(ft)
06:00	1.067	3.5
13:54	4.770	15.6
20:15	3.353	11.0
23:56	3.644	12.0
2025-10-15 (Wed)		
Time	PDT (m)	(ft)
07:06	1.368	4.5
14:51	4.732	15.5
21:26	3.028	9.9
2025-10-16 (Thu)		
Time	PDT (m)	(ft)
01:37	3.528	11.6
08:13	1.642	5.4
15:38	4.691	15.4
22:18	2.668	8.8



Google Data factory Farm, Loudoun County, Virginia, USA

Phoenix Riting!

By Phoenix Bee

Hello, dear Islands.

We've survived another summer, and look at the glorious sunshine out there now. This is the kind of weather that makes you want to talk about the weather to everyone you see.

"Beautiful day!"

"It is!"

It's not hard to feel positive when the sun shines low and golden on an autumn afternoon. This is where we should orient ourselves, here and now, to take stock on this Aries Full Moon on the eve of the apocalypse, to gain a little perspective. This is what we have, now. Who knows how long it will last?

I've had a long summer to do not much else but think. I think we should write a song.

A song can change the world. Not every song does, but a song can change *you*. Singing a song you made yourself can rewire your brain, and singing it can spread the virus around. Music, married with story and poetry, adds up to magic, the real sort of vibrational magic that works through the laws of harmony, melody, synchronicity, meaning and rhyme. Songs are spells.

Of course, a song doesn't have to be revolutionary or deep. It can be lighthearted and sweet, or ironic and satirical, or tell a funny story. A song can be silly. No two people will ever come up with the same one. Songs are a good thing.

Even songs of pain, suffering, trauma, and oppression add up to harmony. They set us free, transform our reality. Songs of heartbreak can heal our hearts; songs of anger can motivate us to change what's wrong in our lives. This is true whether we write the songs or not. Songs soundtrack revolutions, but how much more powerful can it be when the songs come from our own souls?

If you've ever written a song (or would like to) there's a space opening on Fridays at the Hornby Arts Centre at 7 p.m. Every songmaker is welcome! Let's spread the news in music and maybe even change the world with songs and magic. We don't need the internet, or radio waves, or even to be heard outside the room. It's about shifting the vibe—opening spaces between our cells and selves.

So that's what. I've had a lot to think, and I'm full up. I think all government is corrupt, because they are all subject to forces: lobbyists, corporate interests, foreign

interference, hidden powers behind the scenes, the temptations of wealth and power, the struggle and compromise it takes to get to the top, it all corrupts. Right wing? Left wing? Who cares, the poor old bird is dying. Governments are starting to split at the seams. It could all fall down unexpectedly quickly. These are chaotic times.

Our hope doesn't lie in trying to change governments. It's too late for that; it's been tried and failed over and over. It's time to keep our feet on the ground, to develop and nurture relationships within and between our local communities. Grow the next new thing from the ground up.

We do have to obey rules imposed from above, bureaucratically tone-deaf and inapplicable to our local situations, and that's frustrating for those who have to deal with bureaucracy. In my opinion, the most important work we can do is strengthen our internal affairs: develop inter-community connections and neighbourhood relationships.

Gather in groups through the winter. Get to know each other. Share vulnerable stories. Sing together. Dance together. Learn the stories behind the familiar faces. It's amazing how shallow our relationships have become with the advent of the internet. We spend so much energy talking to people who, if the machine ever stops, we may never hear from again.

I don't mean to be a doom crier, but I grew up on sci-fi tales with titles like *The Machine Stops*, about the dangers of extreme dependence on technologies that could shut down in a moment, for reasons we can't even anticipate. An extreme solar storm. Terrorist attacks on infrastructure. Climate change. Running out of energy to sustain the grid. So many things could go wrong. The heroes are the folks who grow the food right here. And it isn't enough, but if it all goes to fluff, I don't think it would take long for us to pull together and do what needs to be done. We're very blessed to live here, with a friendly climate and a co-operative, supportive community.

I suppose I'm thinking apocalyptically. It's easy to do right now. After all, we just had the Rapture. And apparently, American cities are turning into war-torn hellscape requiring military intervention. Yeah. Weird, weird times.

Just kidding. The Rapture didn't really happen. Did it? Is anyone missing?

That's what I think. What do you think? Email me at phoenixhornby@gmail.com



Vietnam War Resisters Event

By Joline Martin

Those of us coming of age during the sixties hold vivid images of that time's turmoil. Others born later are curious about the notorious protests, riots and social change of that era. Since the fall of Saigon, which effectively ended the Vietnam War, people are reliving the memories of divided families, violent protests and the senseless loss of life. In our current political climate, remembering the Vietnam War has never been so important. While the media widely reported the protests, Americans resisting the war by leaving the US has been under-reported. Two noteworthy works are joining to broaden the public's understanding of resisters who had the courage to take a different route, one of peace. Patricia Gruben's movie *Heart of Gold* is a fictional feature film

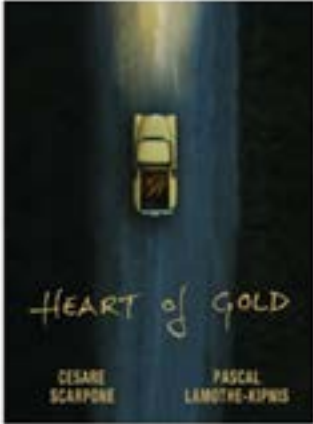
about Michael, an army draftee who left active duty for Canada while his girlfriend stayed behind and joined the underground resistance. Michael's journey into Canada and the compassion he experienced from Americans smuggling him into Canada and the Doukhobors who helped him settle in their community is mirrored in Joline Martin's book, *War Resisters, Standing Against the Vietnam*. *War Resisters* offers a contemporary perspective by featuring previously untold stories of twelve Vancouver Island war resisters, along with bridging chapters that explain the geopolitical influences of the Vietnam War era. Together, the two works bring fact and fiction to present a blended portrait of what it was like for war resisters to stand by their principles and leave their homes, not knowing if they could ever return. Joline and Patricia both came to Canada from the States in 1972 as political dissidents — Joline to join her war resister brother in Haida Gwaii, Patricia to reunite with a resister on active duty in Toronto.

Their Vietnam War Resister Event is at the Activity Centre gym, Denman Island, Sunday, October 19th, 2025. *Heart of Gold* starts at 1pm, tickets \$10 at the door, and the *War Resisters, Standing Against the Vietnam War* launch starts at 2:30, free.



BOOK READING & MOVIE SCREENING

**Sunday, October 19th, 1 to 4 pm, Denman Island Activity Centre,
111 Northwest Road, Denman Island, BC**



Heart of Gold Vancouver filmmaker Patricia Gruben's feature drama tells the story of a US Army draftee who heads to Canada while his ex-girlfriend goes underground as an antiwar activist.

Movie begins at 1pm
Tickets will be sold at the door



Joline Martin shares stories of twelve Vancouver Island residents who risked everything to stand by their principles, and the politics that led them to leave the US.

Reading begins at 2:30 pm
Books to be sold by
Abraxas Books

After the screening and reading, there will be a discussion between Patricia Gruben, the filmmaker behind *Heart of Gold* and Joline Martin, the author of *War Resisters*



Patricia Gruben



Joline Martin

Joline and Patricia both came to Canada from the US in 1972 as political dissidents: Joline to join her war resister brother in Haida Gwaii, Patricia to reunite in Toronto with a draftee who had quit the Army. Both bring their unique perspectives to their work.






Caitlin Press Inc. acknowledges financial support from the Canada Council for the Arts, the Province of British Columbia through the British Columbia Arts Council, Creative BC, and the Book Publisher's Tax Credit, and the Government of Canada through the Canada Book Fund.

And we, the observers, watch them.
We watch them trying to maintain
the fiction of their old lives.

Gabriel Jeroschewitz,
August 2nd, 2025

LITERARY

We do not see the girl. We see the photograph, a brittle, sepia-toned ghost captured in 1915. We know the ghost is making a face. She has pulled her lips back to reveal a set of impossibly large, fake teeth, a cheap novelty item that must have felt wonderfully scandalous in the hermetic, gilded world of the Alexander Palace. Her eyes, dark pools of light, are crinkled with a joy so pure and unthinking it feels like a form of blasphemy from our vantage point, a century later. This is Anastasia Nikolaevna Romanov. Or rather, this is the first vessel for her memory. A girl playing a fool, unaware that the universe is preparing a joke of its own, one with a punchline delivered in a dusty basement. The horror is not in the image itself. The horror is in the system surrounding it, the invisible machinery of fate clicking into place just outside the frame. In that moment, she is trapped, not by revolutionaries, but by something far more insidious: the unyielding pressure of her existence. She is a Grand Duchess, a cog in an ancient, ornate apparatus of bloodline and divine right. Her laughter is a state-approved commodity. Her future is a pre-written ledger of diplomatic marriages and ceremonial duties. The fake teeth are a tiny, momentary rebellion against the crushing decorum, a brief, absurd gesture that says, *I am here. I am a person, not just a title.*

It is a protest that no one, least of all her, understood the weight of. It was simply a silly thing to do. Her sisters, Olga, Tatiana, and Maria, likely giggled. Her brother Alexei, frail and cherished, might have managed a weak smile. Her parents, the Tsar and Tsarina, would have seen it as another instance of their *shpion*—their little imp—being herself. They were all trapped in the same room, in the same palace, in the same story. A family portrait so suffocatingly perfect it was bound to crack.

And then, the system changed. The ornate, gilded cage was replaced by a plainer, more brutal one. The Revolution did not free them; it merely transferred them from one form of imprisonment to another—from the Alexander Palace to the Governor's Mansion in Tobolsk and

then to the Ipatiev House in Ekaterinburg—the House of Special Purpose. The name is a Kafkaesque masterpiece of bureaucratic dread—a place designated for a terrible function that could not be named outright. In this new system, the rules were inverted. Their titles became curses. Their refinement was a mark of guilt. Their helplessness was the entire point. They were no longer symbols of power, but specimens of a bygone era, preserved under armed guard for a final, forensic examination. One can imagine Anastasia in those months, the impish light in her eyes dimming, not with fear, perhaps, but with a profound and bewildering confusion. The world had ceased to make sense. Why were the soldiers so angry? Why was the food so meagre? Why could they no longer walk in the garden without being watched? The questions were met with a blank, unyielding silence. The logic of their situation was as alien and nonsensical as a trial for a crime one was never told they committed.

And we, the observers, watch them. We watch them trying to maintain the fiction of their old lives. The Tsarina teaching her daughters to sew jewels into their corsets, a desperate, pathetic act of faith in a future that would never arrive. It was an act of profound absurdity, sewing diamonds into their undergarments as if they were smuggling not wealth, but their very identities, past an unseen checkpoint. They were preparing for an escape, but the only escape available was into myth. The final night is the quietest nightmare of all. They are woken and told to dress. There is unrest in the town, they are told. They must be moved to the basement for their safety. It is a lie, of course, but it is a systematic, procedural lie. It has the hollow ring of officialdom. Down the stairs they go, a small, sleepy procession into the earth. The Tsar carries his son. The Tsarina and her daughters carry pillows, their dogs, and the secret weight of their diamonds.

In the bare room, they are arranged as if for another photograph. And for a moment, there is only the waiting. The silence is thick with unspoken questions. What happens now? It is the ultimate expression of their powerlessness. They are characters in a play who have been led onto a dark stage, awaiting a final line they will never get to speak.

Then, a man steps forward and reads from a piece of paper. The words are bureaucratic, cold—a verdict from a system that has condemned them. The ensuing chaos is not the clean stroke of an

continued on P.7...

...continued from P.6



Anastasia Nikolaevna Romanov

executioner's axe, but a clumsy, horrifying mess—the cacophony of gunfire in the small space, the ricochets, the screams. The jewels sewn into the corsets are doing their one, final, absurd trick: deflecting the bullets, prolonging the agony. The system is malfunctioning, a brief, frantic struggle before its terrible purpose is fulfilled.

And in that noise, the girl with the fake teeth disappears.

But the story does not end there. The horror mutates. Anastasia is not allowed the dignity of a simple, tragic end. The desperate need for a fairytale resurrects her. The system of history ejects her from the basement and traps her in a new role: the lost princess, the survivor, the ghost who might still be out there. Women with haunted eyes and half-remembered stories step forward, claiming to be her. Anna Anderson became the most famous vessel for the world's collective wish. She has forced the world to look, wonder, and hope for decades.

This is the second, more profound horror. Her identity, which she asserted with that silly face, is now a commodity. It is debated in courtrooms, romanticized in animated films with talking bats, and sold as a story of

hope and resilience. The real girl—the one who loved jokes and dogs, who was trapped and confused and ultimately murdered in a cellar—is erased. She has become public property, an indifferent machinery of the world.

When the science finally arrives, it is as cold and impersonal as the verdict read in the basement. DNA analysis. A confirmation of bone fragments. The file is closed. The rumour is put to rest. Anastasia Romanov did not survive.

We are left, then, only with the photograph. The girl with the fake teeth. It no longer looks like a moment of joy. It looks like a mask. A frantic, silent scream of identity from a girl about to be swallowed by systems—royalty, revolution, history, and finally, by our own stories. We look at her, and she looks back, not at us, but through us. Her playful gesture has become a grimace, a reflection of the absurdity we all feel when confronted by the world's vast, silent, and utterly senseless machinations. We feel exposed. And in that exposure, we recognize the hollow space where a person used to be.



...continued from P.3

will be able to beat the cost of terrestrial data centers in space in the next couple of decades.”

Bezos assures us that the shift to “space infrastructure is part of a broader trend of using space to improve life on Earth” (after Big Tech destroyed it). “It already has happened with weather satellites. It has already happened with communication satellites. The next step is going to be data centers and then other kinds of manufacturing,” Bezos enthused.

As Andrew Nikiforuk in *The Tyee*, eloquently put it: “Let’s be clear about what we are doing here. We are using lakes of clean water, reviving coal-powered stations, gulping methane, raising electrical prices, squandering agricultural land and cannibalizing electrical supplies to ask inane questions and make videos about stupid shit.”





Construction Timeline Delayed

Due to the tide schedule and pouring/curing of precast concrete deck tiles, the updated launch date is expected for mid-November. Some night work may occur.

For more information and project updates, visit:
comoxvalleyrd.ca/shinglespit



8 21 25 I have swum

Recently
 I have swum
 in the cold
 dark atlantic
 off of Brier Island,
 Nova Scotia
 and shortly
 thereafter I threw
 myself off of reddish
 sand into the turbulent
 Bay of Fundy
 and in New Brunswick
 I let the Restigouche River
 push my bulk down
 a serpentine path
 and later still I swirled
 majestically in the old
 quarry waters of Lac
 Crystal, Quebec

and from there it was
 onto mighty Lake Superior
 where I floated wildly
 above its infinite glossy
 pink stones
 and in Winnipeg
 I dove into a hotel pool
 swimming with an
 enormous fat man
 who enjoyed sliding
 upside down through
 the winding kiddies
 tunnel that spat
 him into the pool
 like an enormous
 ball of phlegm
 and I didn’t swim again
 until I hit the Okanagan Lake
 which was divine in its
 inviting tepidity
 and when I got home

to Denman Island
 I bounded down into the blue
 pacific tossing linens
 like an old stripper
 across the oyster beds
 in nothing more than
 my modern loin cloth
 hurling myself into
 the frothy salt chuck
 head first while
 swinging deep with
 my overhand stroke
 only to find it was
 the coldest of all
 which is good
 for oysters,
 gooey ducks
 and people
 who really like to
 swim like
 me.

Alan Black

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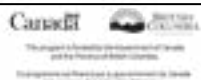
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October / octobre 6	Denman Island
October / octobre 13	CLOSED / Fermé
October / octobre 20	Denman Island
October / octobre 27	Denman Island

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Denman Conservancy Association

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Denman Conservancy Association Job Posting

The DCA is looking to hire someone to do the publicity work advertising the 2026 Home and Garden Tour which will be held on June 13/14, 2026.

The job includes designing and publishing the tour promotional poster and map/guide of tour properties, social media postings, and the creation and publishing of tour materials in traditional media including press releases, etc.

The contract would be ideal for someone who has experience organizing a studio or art tour on Denman.

This is a contract position. There is considerable support from prior media coordinators and the DCA Board.

If you are interested please email the DCA at info@denman-conservancy.org, contact us at the above address, or text your interest/contact info to 250-213-6600.

Israel Droned Flotilla Activists And Then Abused Greta Thunberg

By Caitlin Johnstone
October 4th, 2025



“Lorenzo D’Agostino, a journalist and another flotilla participant, said after returning to Istanbul that Thunberg was ‘wrapped in the Israeli flag and paraded like a trophy’—a scene described with disbelief and anger by those who witnessed it.”

Who would have imagined five years ago when we were seeing Greta Thunberg amplified by every mainstream western liberal institution that we would one day hear reports that she has been captured and tormented by the Israeli military for trying to bring formula to starving babies?

The Guardian reports the following:

“In an email sent by the Swedish foreign ministry to people close to Thunberg, and seen by the Guardian, an official who has visited the activist in prison said she claimed she was detained in a cell infested with bedbugs, with too little food and water.

“‘The embassy has been able to meet with Greta,’ reads the email. ‘She informed of dehydration. She has received insufficient amounts of both water and food. She also stated that she had developed rashes which she suspects were caused by bedbugs. She spoke of harsh treatment and said she had been sitting for long periods on hard surfaces.’

“‘Another detainee reportedly told another embassy that they had seen her [Thunberg] being forced to hold flags while pictures were taken. She wondered whether images of her had been distributed,’ the Swedish ministry’s official added.

“The allegation was corroborated by at least two other members of the flotilla who had been detained by Israeli forces and released on Saturday.

“‘They dragged little Greta [Thunberg] by her hair before our eyes, beat her, and forced her to kiss the Israeli flag. They did everything imaginable to her, as a warning to others,’ the Turkish activist Ersin Çelik, a participant in the Sumud flotilla, told Anadolu news agency.



These reports, as shocking as they are, also happen to more or less reflect exactly what the Israeli regime said it intended to do to Global Sumud Flotilla activists when they were captured.

Israeli National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir said last month that Sumud activists must be treated as terrorists in order to “create a clear deterrent” from future flotilla activism, declaring that “Anyone who chooses to collaborate with Hamas and support terrorism will meet a firm and unyielding response from Israel.”

“We will not allow individuals who support terrorism to live in comfort. They will face the full consequences of their actions,” Ben-Gvir said at the time. After the flotilla activists were abducted by the IDF, Ben-Gvir filmed himself taunting them and calling them “terrorists”.

Israel, needless to say, has an extensively documented record of torturing and abusing individuals who’ve been given the “terrorist” label by the regime.

...continued on P.11...

...continued from P.6

So it would appear that they singled out the most high-profile activist on the flotilla for abuse in order to send a message and deter future efforts to break the siege on Gaza.



This comes as CBS News publishes a report confirming what we've been saying since last month: that Israel launched multiple drone attacks against the Global Sumud Flotilla.

Citing two US intelligence officials, CBS reports that Benjamin Netanyahu personally authorized attacks in which drones were deployed from an Israeli submarine to drop incendiary devices onto the boats to set them on fire.

Israel has been documented using quadcopter drones to drop incendiary fire-bombs on tents and buildings in Gaza. Last month Trump's middle east envoy Tom Barrack casually admitted during an interview that "Israel is attacking Tunisia," which was where the boat carrying Greta Thunberg was docked during the first drone attack.

• THE ISLANDS GRAPEVINE • OCTOBER 9TH, 2025 • 11 •

Like the reported mistreatment of Thunberg, these drone attacks would also fit in perfectly with the Israeli government's depraved and cynical decision to treat the flotilla activists as terrorists.



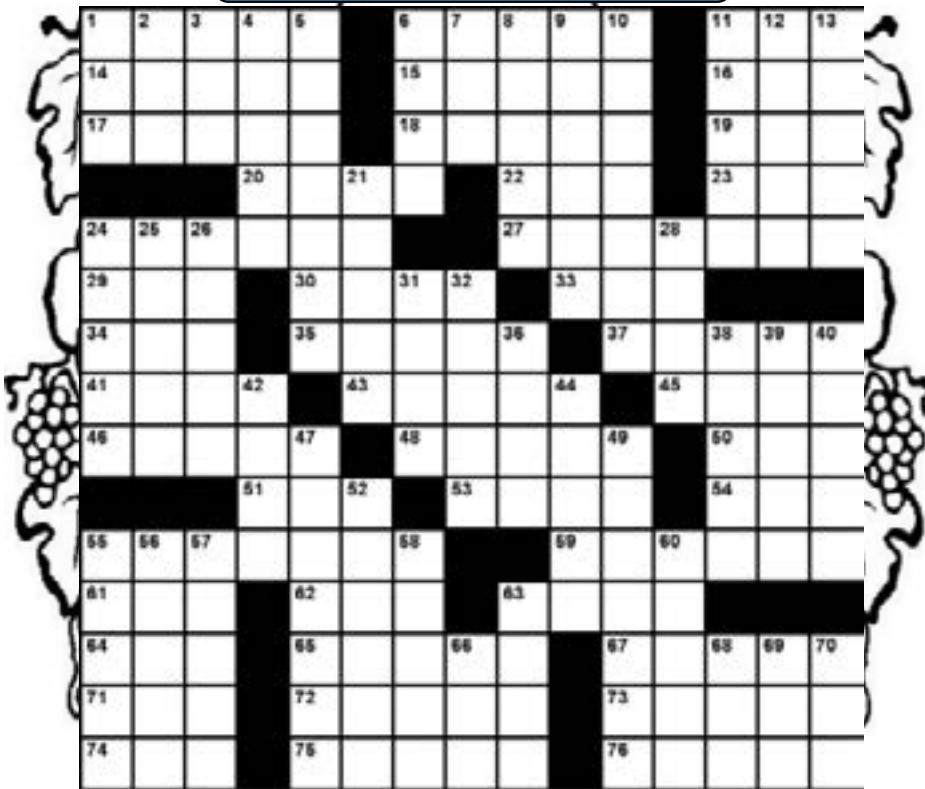
After the initial claims of a drone attack on the flotilla, the information ecosystem was flooded with hasbarists claiming it was ridiculous to blame Israel for the attacks, and that the fire hadn't come from a drone at all.

Odious genocide propagandist Eyal Yakoby got nearly ten million views on a tweet where he falsely claimed to have video evidence showing that the fire was actually the result of a misfired flare from one of the boat's crew members. Anyone who'd actually watched the video would have seen that it showed nothing of the sort, but because Yakoby inserted a narrative above the video claiming it shows that, I had people in my Twitter notifications telling me for days that it had been conclusively proven the fire was started by a flare.

I encountered even some solid Palestine supporters expressing doubt about the drone attacks when the reports first emerged, because it seemed too heinous to be believed. But this just goes to show that there really is nothing you can put past these freaks. Israel and its apologists lie about everything. Everything, everything. We are far past the point where it is reasonable to give Israel the benefit of the doubt when we hear reports that it has done something evil. If you'll launch drone attacks on activists trying to bring aid to starving civilians, there's nothing you won't do.



• GRAPEVINE CROSSWORD •



• ACROSS •

1. Flavor start
6. Burial places
11. Brit. fliers
14. Aggressive one, they say
15. Convex molding
16. Airport info
17. Contrivance
18. Honey badger
19. Answer on Jeopardy
20. Architect's design
22. Came down with
23. Actor Marvin
24. Like a raft
27. Marks of shame
29. Barn sound
30. Big book
33. Behold
34. Cineraria
35. Bring good news to
37. Dressing option
41. Cancel a dele
43. Dern of films
45. Barely cooked
46. Lofty nest, var.
48. Frugal fellow
50. Atom fragment
51. Dandy
53. Bone dry
54. Actor Ely
55. Circular
59. Exotic pet
61. Additionally
62. Skater Midori
63. Dread
64. Belief, in brief
65. Court event
67. Like some basins
71. Be contrite
72. Hi there
73. Canine features
74. Animal abode
75. Be out
76. In the future

• DOWN •

1. Child's game
2. Altdorf's canton
3. Deck the Halls word
4. Musical speed
5. Place alone
6. Lacerated
7. Aves, once
8. Candle circlers
9. Goat noises
10. Man at arms
11. Kingdom
12. Aboard ship
13. Forgeries
21. Coral structure
24. Emulate a jester
25. Pair of scores
26. Introverted
28. Cogwheel
31. Informal madam
32. Needle boxes
36. Celtic
38. Currency of Nigeria
39. Sing a lullaby
40. Hair color
42. Petty clash
44. Cliff hanger
47. Flint implements
49. Marina event
52. Oceanic bird
55. Estate owner
56. Follow in order
57. Jingle writers
58. Linen fabric
60. A Heap of Dickens
63. Broadway bomb
66. A Canadian export
68. Be left on base
69. According to
70. Dr. Tim's drug

• TEST YOUR MATH SKILLS •

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

• Last Week's Answers •

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

GRUMPISM

“What side dish do you bring for Thanksgiving dinner when you accidentally sat on the sweet potatoes?” “Squash casserole.”



• Last Week's ANSWERS •

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



• CLASSIFIED ADS •

• SERVICES •

Exterior cleaning service. Offering cleaning solutions for your windows, gutters, roofs, decks, driveways, chimneys, siding, awnings, etc. Reasonable rates with professional results.
Call or text Bjorn for free estimate.
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WAGNER FIREWOOD. 2 cords to Denman, \$680 plus GST. Hornby, \$720 plus GST. Text or call Scott at 250-334-7323

Denman Island local cedar kindling sales. Wildcrafted. Artisanal! Damn Cheap! Your fire will thank you! By burning!!
DISCLAIMER: "Denman Island natural cedar kindling" is not intended to diagnose or treat any medical condition. For external use only.
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• HELP OFFERED •

Are you needing help with your yard, firewood prep and/or housework? Available for weekly, biweekly or monthly scheduled work or one off jobs.
call/ text 250-895-9422
Local references available

• COMMUNITY NOTICES •

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

NEED HELP? Alcoholics Anonymous
250-338-8042



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
- 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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- Custom Audio
- Custom Video
- Custom Fiberglass
- Custom Panels
- 12volt/110volt Inverters

Jason Rasmussen

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Servicing Denman & Hornby Islands
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- Custom Home Audio
- Custom Home Video
- Custom Drywall Services
- Custom Taping Services
- Custom Lighting

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

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• REAL ESTATE • INSURANCE • FINANCIAL SERVICES •

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• Tuele Group, Royal LePage in the Comox Valley,

Jenessa & Donna 250 335 1720

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• Excavator/Backhoe/Tandem Gravel Truck & Transfer Trailer

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• 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)

• SERVICES •

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

• 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 •

• 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 9

• 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
• Community Choir 2:30pm Back Hall

FRIDAY 10

• Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm
• AA Meeting DIUC Gathering Place 7pm
• Songwriter's Workshop 7pm Hornby Arts Centre

SATURDAY 11

• 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 12

• HAPPY THANKSGIVING •

• Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm
• AA Meeting DIUC Gathering Place 7pm
• Volleyball still happening 6:30-8pm by the C.R.S.

MONDAY 13

TUESDAY 14

• Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm
• PAC AGM 5pm Denman School Library

WEDNESDAY 15

• Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm
• RECYCLING CENTRE 1-5pm
• BOTTLE DEPOT 2-5pm
• Choose to Move 11:30-12:30 Gathering Place
• DIGS Meeting 1-3pm Gathering Place
• DAAC Open Mic 7:30pm Back Hall

THURSDAY 16

• 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
• Community Choir 2:30pm Back Hall

FRIDAY 17

• Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm
• AA Meeting DIUC Gathering Place 7pm
• Deadline for November's Flagstone
• Songwriter's Workshop 7pm Hornby Arts Centre

SATURDAY 18

• 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 19

• Vietnam War Resisters Event
Heart of Gold 1pm DAC
War Resisters: Standing Against the Vietnam War
2:30pm DAC
• Hornby First Edition Deadline 11:59:59pm

MONDAY 20

• Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm
• AA Meeting DIUC Gathering Place 7pm
• Employment Services 9am-3pm DAC
• Volleyball still happening 6:30-8pm by the C.R.S.

TUESDAY 21

• Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm
• DILTC Meeting 10am DAC

WEDNESDAY 22

• Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm
• RECYCLING CENTRE 1-5pm
• BOTTLE DEPOT 2-5pm
• Choose to Move 11:30-12:30 Gathering Place

THURSDAY 23

• 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
• Community Choir 2:30pm Back Hall

