



CityWest

ONE YEAR OF INTERNET.
ON US.

One winner.
12 months free.
Up to \$1,248 in value.



Scan to Enter



Friesen Family Construction

Building for the Future

Alan Friesen

250-898-4392

Local Licensed Builder

2-5-10 New Home Warranty

friesenfamilyconstruction.com

Design

Custom Homes

Project Management

CORLAN

Vineyard & Farm

Home of TO EWE WINES



Join our mailing list at

corlan@telus.net

to get a notice for when we
have a lunch planned.

We look forward to serving you
great food as the
vineyard/winery work permits.

Tasting room is open 11 - 5
Tuesday - Sunday



Coastline

CLOSETS

100% Canadian Made,
Owned & Operated

250-335-1654

Your Home Storage
Specialist Since 1990!

www.coastlineclosets.ca



D.I. General Store

General Store Hours:

Monday to Thursday: 8 - 6:30

Friday: 8 - 7

Saturday: 9 - 7

Sunday and Holidays: 12 - 4

Post Office Hours:

Monday to Friday:

9 - 12 & 1 - 4:30

Saturday: 12 - 3

Sundays and Holidays: Closed

**BLACK
WOLF
TIMBER**



Darius Gagnon

250-327-4953

blackwolftimber@gmail.com

Custom Carpentry - Serving Denman Island

FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED



**BRAIDWOOD
DENTAL CENTRE**

DR. CHRIS S. BECH INC.

Dr. Joel Durling DMD, General Dentist

**Accepting
NEW PATIENTS**

CALL US TODAY!

250.703.9927

Bringing
Smiles
To Life!

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

BRAIDWOODCOURTENAY.COM

A genuine handcrafted home on 5+ acres with mature
fruit and nut trees.



NEW PRICE

9210 MCFARLANE RD

JORDAN MCDONALD

Local REALTOR

RE/MAX
Selling Smarter. Truly.

denmanislandhomes.com

INNER ISLAND MORTA

FROM DOG TO BOWL

Almorta@pm.me



Commissioned Best Apple
made from a piece of 500+ year old morta



CONTENTS

ISSUE NO. 1750 SEPTEMBER 10TH, 2026

SPECIAL INTEREST

- 2 Imagining Surrealist Revolution at Abraxas
By Ron Sakolsky
- 4 Denman Island Seed Fest 2026
By Dennis Lightfoot
- 5 The Book Repor #17
By A Bae Hel
- 5 DICES is Hiring!
By Denman Island Community Education Society
- 6 Farmland Neds Farmers, Farmers Need Homes.
By Monica Mueller
- 8 Shucking Oysters:How Assessing Soil Health With Underpants
By Alex Allen
- 10 A Terrible Idea
By Cylon2036 We/Us
- 12 My Interview with Gord Johns, NDP MP for Cutenay-Alberni
By Keith Porteous

OPINION

- 17 Phoenix Riting!
By Phoenix Bee
- 21 AI Oligarchs Are Poisoning Our Society
By Caitlin Johnstone

LITERARY

- 11 "The 35th-Year Ink-Stain Chronicles
By Gabriel Jeroschewitz
- 19 Anti-Love Manifesto
By Poète Maudit

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

REGULAR FEATURES

- 3 Tide Tables
- 24 Gary's Toon
- 18 Cupcakes & Cow Pies
- 22 Crossword/ Sudoku/ Grumpism
- 23 Classified Ads/Harlene's Holmade
- 24 Business/Services Directory



**Cover image:
Ready To Load**

by Mark Prior

facebook.com/markprior.images

THE ISLANDS GRAPEVINE

• DENMAN: 825 • HORNBAY: 525 •
• E-SUBSCRIPTIONS: 105 •

2550 Lake Road
Denman Island, BC
V0R 1T0

theislandsgrapevine@gmail.com
www.theislandsgrapevine.com



Publisher/Editor
Mike Van Santvoord



Associate Editor
Keith Porteous

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

Imagining Surrealist Revolution at Abraxas (Sat. Sept. 26 at 1PM)

By Ron Sakolsky

Denman Isle has been a magnificent writing perch for me over the years, so it is a great pleasure to do a book launch/reading for my homies here on the rock at my local independent bookstore on Saturday afternoon Sept. 26th at 1PM. My latest book *Imagining Surrealist Revolution* (Black Swan/Charles H. Kerr Publishers) is a subversive collage of essays, poems, and stories that each in their own way imagines what it is about surrealism as a revolutionary force of intellectual, cultural and political transformation that makes it such a marvelous dancing partner for anarchy. Together the pieces of this bookish puzzle issue a call for emancipatory desire in motion. Imagine swirling madly beyond the miserabilist rationality that confines us behind the systemic prison bars of a tired and impoverished reality. Revel in a fluid process of unsettling the institutionalized version of normality which presents itself as inevitable and immutable. In this fervent pursuit of freedom, there are no intricate dance steps to learn. Just let the passionate rhythms of refusal guide your feet and see where they take you. Beyond the dancing words are the "double portraits" of my accomplice, Guy Girard of the Paris Surrealist Group, who has created a brilliant artistic counterpoint to my writing in the form of two-sided dream images of composite historical figures with a surrealist on one side of the face and an anarchist on the other!

Copies of *Imagining Surrealist Revolution*, as well as select copies of some of my previous books, *Dreams of Anarchy* and *the Anarchy of Dreams*, *Surrealism and the Anarchist Imagination* and *Birds of a Feather: Flights of the Anarcho-Surrealist Imagination*, as well as the last few issues of my annual zine, *The Oystercatcher*, will be available at the event + whatever surprises might materialize in conjunction with the full moon rising that evening...



image by Guy Girard/Paris Surrealist Group



“Thirty-five years ago, we began with a crank, a bottle of glue, and a firm belief that a community deserves a voice that does not rely on satellites and server farms. We have survived postage hikes, the occasional giant wave that has come to swallow our delivery boat, and the unrelenting teasing from merfolk who feel our tide tables are a personal affront. Yet here we are, Issue #1750, still landing in mailboxes, still lighting fires on winter evenings, still providing the Sidhe a venue for her mushroom finds, the gnomes a place to sharpen their tricks. For the rest of us to remember that even if the internet is down and the lights are out, it only takes a sheet of newsprint, a match and a neighbor’s grin to keep warm.” - Mike Van Santvoord/*The Islands Grapevine* 🍷

Denman Island Seed Fest 2026

By Dennis Lightfoot

Growers, seed-savers, and local food supporters: Mark your calendars for Saturday, September 26 for Denman Island Seed Fest, from 10 am to 3 pm at the ORCA (outdoor recreation covered area), beside the community hall.

Farm Folk / City Folk will be bringing their trailer full of seed separating and seed cleaning equipment for demonstration and for use by the community. Our Denman Island Growers' and Producers' Alliance will also bring their threshing box, threshing machine, winnowing machine and other equipment for use and demonstration.

The equipment can be used for separating and cleaning a wide variety of seeds, and can also be used for food crops like dried beans, peas and grains, such as wheat or oats! We will have some freshly harvested Denman Island grain and pulse crops for demonstration, and you can bring your own seeds down to try the equipment as well.

North Island College is sponsoring the event, and

will have an information table for their recently announced applied research project on Denman Island into appropriate technology for small-scale grain and pulse production on Denman Island: Denman Feeding Denman: Food security for remote rural communities. The project already has a hand-full of farmers ready to plant grains and pulses for the project starting this fall, and they are also looking for community participation in growing, consuming, and supporting local food production. Come down and meet the project lead, Dennis Lightfoot, and some of his North Island College students, and get some free winter wheat and fava seeds to plant in your garden this fall (planting, growing and harvesting instructions will also be provided).

Come celebrate the harvest with our Denman producers, Farm Folk / City Folk, and North Island College. Everyone welcome!

For more information on Farm Folk / City Folk's Seed cleaning equipment, please visit <https://farmfolkcityfolk.ca/bc-seed-security-program/mobile-seed-cleaner/>

Figure 1. Photo from Farm Folk City Folk at Stellar Raven Ecological Farm in Royston. <https://farmfolkcityfolk.ca/2022/11/vancouver-island-seed-cleaner-tour/>



Figure 1. Photo from Farm Folk City Folk at Stellar Raven Ecological Farm in Royston. <https://farmfolkcityfolk.ca/2022/11/vancouver-island-seed-cleaner-tour/>

The Book Report

By A Bae Hel

Ghostwriter

Julia Clark

Well, that was good. In the genre of a writer writing about solving a mystery, this one was pretty good. Add in dysfunctional family dynamics, because that is required and a brutal murder 30 years ago and you may think your binge watching Midsomer Murders has trained you to figure out who done it, but you are likely wrong.

This is a quick read that takes you along without much deep thought. A nice palate cleanser for some of the other reading I have been doing.

The ghostwriter in question professes her professionalism and process, but when presented with a challenge is almost not up for it, despite a career set back. She clearly has some daddy issues to work out, and some mommy issues as well.

Well worth a day or two. Enjoy



Everything Was Beautiful and Nothing Hurt

Ben Reeves

This is a unique story line of Travis, a scruffy youngish man who is also Death. He is not a detached Death, but one of compassion and full of marvel at the people whose lives intersect, eventually with him. It is beautifully written.

The book is a slow read, in part because it provokes you to consider. Consider your life. Are you appreciating it? Consider your death. Is it today? Tomorrow? In 20 years? What is that strange fluttering in my chest? A bit anxiety provoking to face Travis as he spins out his collections and the stories of ordinary people's mortal lives.

If you are deep in grief over a death this may not be the book for you. But if you have stumbled to the edge of living and then turned back letting go of Travis's hand you may find some understanding in the longing for peace and simplicity. Even if you have been blessed to have never been exposed to death in any guise, this is a profoundly beautiful book.

Reference to *SlaughterHouse Five* acknowledged.



DICES is Hiring!

By Denman Island Community Education Society

Denman community programs is seeking a lunch provider for the Denman Community School. This is a paid position. The ideal candidate must be able to provide healthy, mostly plant based lunches for up to 60 students and staff using the BC school lunch menus as a guide. Lunches will be a mix of assemble and serve and cooked from scratch options. Our lunch provider must work well as a team, be organized, work well under time and budget pressure, and enjoy working with kids. The provider must be able to train and work with student and adult volunteers. Previous experience in a similar setting is required. Food safe and a criminal record check are required.

To apply, please address your resume to Gracie MacDonald at dices.director@gmail.com by end of day Sept 11. This is a one year contract, wages are \$25/hr to start, 5 hrs per day, three days a week.

To view the menu guide, please go to:

<https://www.healthlinkbc.ca/living-well/healthy-schools/bc-school-food-toolkit/sample-menu-plans>

DICES is also seeking after school facilitators! This can be a paid or volunteer position. We are seeking adults with a passion for crafts, arts or sports and recreation to work with kids ages 5 to 13 years old at our community school here on Denman. Come talk with us about your ideas! Criminal record check required, training and mentoring, and lots of great fun to be had. Contact Gracie at dices.director@gmail.com.

Garden helpers! Denman Island Community School is seeking garden helpers to keep our little patch of food and flowers going this winter. Come help on your own time from a list of "to dos" or, adopt a bed or a tree! We are also looking for someone with weed eating skills able to do some clean up around the beds. Contact Gracie at DICES for more information.



Farmland Needs Farmers. Farmers Need Homes.

A reflection on food security, regenerative agriculture and how access to land and housing might work together on Denman Island.

By Monica Mueller, September 6, 2026

An August Grapevine editorial by Keith Porteous prompted me to write **“What Does It Really Mean to Preserve Land and Its Agricultural Purpose on Denman Island?”** Drawing on my experience as owner and steward of the former Hermitage property, I asked whether protecting agricultural land through regulation is enough. Land still needs people willing and able to care for it, farm it and carry the financial responsibility that comes with doing so. Then came the September 3rd Grapevine article **“Food Insecurity and the Loss of Denman’s Farmland,”** by Cylon2036. It raised another part of the same puzzle: agricultural land falling out of production, rising land prices, our dependence on food produced elsewhere, and the difficulty facing a new generation of farmers who cannot afford to buy land.

Those concerns resonated with me because I had already encountered another side of the problem myself.

When I purchased the former Hermitage in 2022 and made Denman Island my home, restoring meaningful agricultural activity on the property was my first priority. I came to that goal with enthusiasm, but also with a great deal to learn. I had no farming background, but I did have a strong interest in regenerative agriculture and land management as well as a desire to see this land producing healthy food in ways that restore, rather than deplete, the ecosystem that supports it.



Early agriculture activity on the Hermitage lands

I began working with Young Agrarians and, for a period, employed a Farm/Land Manager because I knew that restoring agriculture here would require people with knowledge and experience that I did not yet have. But I encountered another very practical problem.

Where would the farmers live?

Making farmland available doesn't necessarily make farming possible. Farmers also need secure, attainable places to live, and on an island where housing is already scarce, that can become just as significant a barrier to farming as access to land itself.

B.C.'s Agricultural Land Reserve rules do recognize this problem to some extent. They allow a principal residence and, subject to certain conditions and local bylaws, one smaller additional residence. Additional housing may also be approved by the Agricultural Land Commission where it is demonstrated to be necessary for farm use.

But that still leaves me wondering about a different scale of agriculture. What if the goal isn't simply to accommodate one additional person, but to create a viable regenerative farm capable of producing meaningful amounts of food for the community while generating enough income to sustain the people and infrastructure behind it?

That may require more than one farmer — and potentially more than one secure place for people involved in the farm to live.

So perhaps the question isn't whether housing should be allowed on agricultural land. Some already is. **The more interesting question is whether housing can be designed specifically to support agricultural production rather than displace it, while using as little productive farmland as possible.** This seems particularly timely as Denman considers proposed changes

intended to address affordable and attainable housing, including housing and the ALR.

Perhaps we are looking at two problems that need to be considered together: how do we protect agricultural land from residential development while also making it possible for the people needed to farm that land to live here?

Perhaps we don't have to invent everything from scratch.

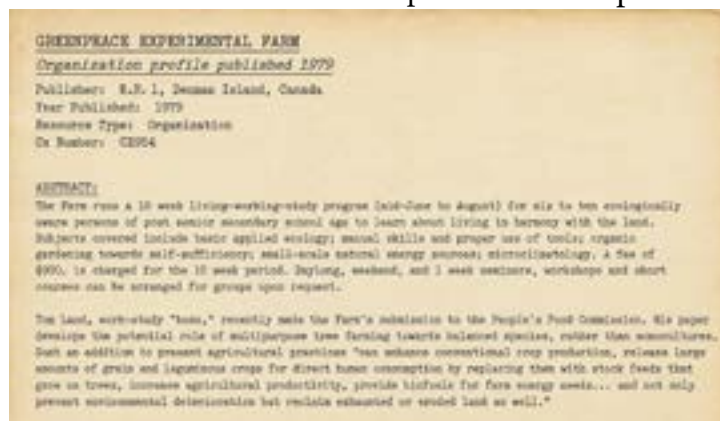
Here on Denman, CoHo Landing demonstrates a cooperative approach to land and housing in which homes are clustered and affordability is protected outside the conventional real-estate model. In Powell River, Blueberry Commons combines cooperative housing and collectively held land with a working organic farm. Young Agrarians is already connecting farmers who need land with landowners who have it.

None is necessarily *the* model for Denman Island. But perhaps they provide some of the pieces.

I find myself wondering what a regenerative farming cooperative might look like here. Could people with different skills and levels of experience work and learn together, share infrastructure, benefit from what the farm produces, and sell additional production to help sustain the operation?

Could there even be a small farm school, where experienced farmers teach people like me who genuinely want to learn? Could agricultural training and farm-incubator models help a new generation gain practical experience and eventually establish farms of their own?

Interestingly, that would also honour an earlier chapter in this property's history. When Jim and Marie Bohlen lived here, the property was known as the *Greenpeace Experimental Farm*. It offered a summer living-working-study program where participants learned about organic gardening, applied ecology, practical skills and living more closely with the land.



The Bohlens were exploring these questions nearly fifty years ago — how agriculture, ecological stewardship, learning and a simpler way of living might coexist on the same land. In so many ways, they were ahead of their time. Perhaps the most enduring thing they planted here was an idea: that land can sustain people without being exploited by them. That feels like a seed worth cultivating again.

I don't have the solution, nor do I pretend to have the expertise needed to create it alone. I also cannot design, finance, manage and assume all the risk of something like this by myself. What I do have is land suitable for agriculture, years of experience managing complex organizational projects and bringing people together around difficult

continued on p.8...

...continued from p.7

challenges, a willingness to keep learning, and a genuine desire to support this community and see more food grown here.

As I await the arrival of my first grandchild, I find myself thinking more about what we leave for the generation that follows us.

One of the most meaningful legacies I can imagine for the former *Greenpeace Farm* and *Hermitage* would be a structure that helps ensure fresh, healthy food continues to be grown here long after I am gone—regenerating the soil and ecosystem that sustain us, supporting the farmers whose hard work keeps us nourished, and ensuring that the knowledge of how to grow food and care for the land is passed from one generation to the next. There are people on Denman who know far more about growing food and farming than I do - probably most everyone that lives here! Others understand cooperatives, housing, financing, land-use planning and community food systems. There may also be people who would love to farm but cannot afford to buy land here.

Perhaps we already have many of the pieces. The challenge is finding ways to put them together.

I don't have the answer. But I would very much like to be part of co-creating one. And if this land could play some small part in strengthening Denman Island's food security for generations to come, I would consider that an honour and a legacy worthy of manifesting and investing my energy and resources in.

Farmland needs Farmers. Farmers need homes. Perhaps one of Denman's opportunities is to stop thinking about these as separate challenges and start asking how we might solve them together.

This article has been edited for print length. The complete version, together with my earlier article, "What Does It Really Mean to Preserve Land and Its Agricultural Purpose on Denman Island?", can be found at Nature Nurture Refuge on Substack, where I will continue exploring the questions emerging from my experience stewarding this land on Denman — from regenerative agriculture, food security and farm-supportive housing to ecological stewardship, contemplative practice and our relationship with nature.

naturenurturerefuge.substack.com



Shucking Oysters: Assessing Soil Health With Underpants

By Alex Allen

It's that time of year again; the annual Ig Nobel Awards. Not to be confused with the more prestigious Nobel prizes that will be announced in Scandinavia next month, the satirical Ig Nobels are awarded for achievements that "first make people laugh and then make them think." Designed as a spoof of the Nobel Prizes, the awards are organized by the Annals of Improbable Research. As with everything in the world these days, Lord Rump even managed to disrupt this event, marking the first time in Ig Nobel's 36-year history took place outside the US. All previous ceremonies had been held in Boston, and now with Trump's aggressive immigration policies the awards will be held in alternate European cities.

Fungi was the theme of this year's event in Zurich, Switzerland. As well as the obligatory paper airplane tosses, attendees were treated to an opera and dance performed by Nobel laureates dressed as mushrooms. Milo Puhan, an epidemiologist at the University of Zurich who took an Ig in 2017 for research showing that playing the didgeridoo could reduce snoring and sleep apnea, welcomed the move to his home city.

Real Nobel laureates handed out the awards and winners gave "24/7" lectures: describing their work in 24 seconds and then in seven words. An example from 2025, Trisha Pasricha, co-author of "Smart Phone Use on the Toilet and the Risk of Hemorrhoids" shared in 24 seconds: "We conducted a cross-sectional study of adults undergoing screening colonoscopy and observed that the majority reported employing portable handheld computing devices during defecatory episodes. A multivariate logistic regression model demonstrated that defecation-associated computing-device utilization was independently associated with a 46% increased odds of endoscopically verified hemorrhoidal disease." And in seven words: "smartphones are a pain in the butt."

Here are just a few of the 2026 winners....

Biomechanics (UK, USA): for devising a more precise definition of kissing in ants, birds, polar bears, and humans. While we think of kissing as a "very human thing," the study's co-author Dr. Matilda Brindle, an evolutionary biologist at the University of Oxford, said

that polar bears tongue, prairie dogs smooch and insects suck face. Brindle, who is writing a book on non-reproductive sexual behaviour, has also studied the evolution of masturbation, making her a strong contender to become the “Marie Curie of Ig Nobels” by winning more than once.

Economics (USA, Mexico, Canada): for amassing evidence that rich people are more likely to engage in unethical behavior. The rich are indeed more prone to behaving badly, from cutting other cars off to ignoring pedestrians. Dr. Paul Piff, a social psychologist at the University of California, Irvine, found that wealthier people also appeared more willing to lie at work. In another experiment, volunteers were left alone with a jar of sweets meant for children. When the researchers returned, the rich had taken twice as many candies as people with less money. Piff noted: “As our findings suggest, the pursuit of self-interest is a more fundamental motive among society’s elite, and the increased want associated with greater wealth and status can promote wrongdoing.”

Chemistry (India, France, Japan, Canada, USA): for discovering that milk from “vivaporous cockroaches” was better than milk from cows. A team of researchers won for showing that milk produced by cockroaches that gave birth to live young contained almost three times as much energy as dairy milk proteins.

Biology (Brazil, Australia): for gently stepping on parts of venomous snakes – repeatedly, at various times of the day – to try to learn what does and what does not induce a snake to bite a human. With no surprise, pressure on the head triggered the most bites. The study also found that the snakes are more likely to bite people during the daytime with higher temperatures, and smaller snakes are more prone to attack than larger ones. Although the researchers stated that the stepping force was gentle enough to not harm the subjects, the study was later retracted due to ethical issues.

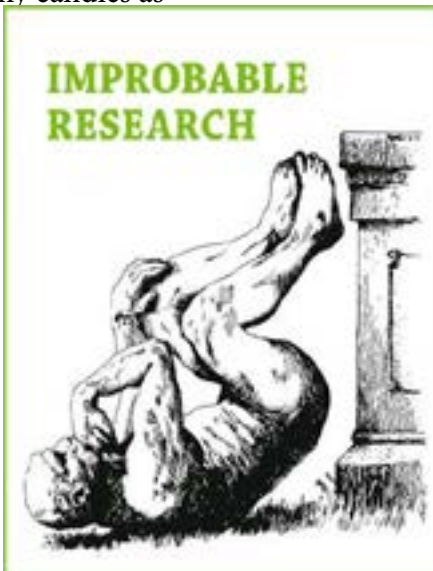
Physics (Canada, USA, China, Saudi Arabia): for theoretical and experimental attempts to design a splash-free urinal. A team of students at the University of Waterloo in Canada worked out that urinal splash

is almost entirely eradicated if the stream strikes the urinal at less than 30 degrees. They went on to design a urinal whose shape ensures minimal splash regardless of the user’s aim.

Technology (China, Canada, USA, Egypt): for cutting off the mouth parts of female mosquitoes to make 3D printing nozzles. The group thoroughly disinfected the female mosquito mouth part, stripped off the outer layer, coated it with photocurable resin, and then cut off both ends to get a hollow “micro-syringe” which they used to extrude gel materials and print 3D structures. Not only can a mosquito nozzle work continuously for 14 days, it is very cheap.

Science (Switzerland, The Netherlands, Germany):

for burying 1000 identical pairs of underpants in more than 25 countries, and then digging them up after two months to understand how soil organisms broke them down. The researchers found that the type of land use, garden, meadow, field or lawn, is a key factor in the decomposition of underwear. The team also discovered that the buried cotton undies decomposed faster in soil with higher fertility and more nutrients. They have now proposed an “underwear index” using a decomposition percentage to measure the health of soil.



Carly Anne York, associate professor of biology at Lenoir-Rhyne University in Hickory, North Carolina, author of *The Salmon Cannon* and the *Levitating Frog: And Other Serious Discoveries of Silly Science*, shared that using mosquito proboscises as high-resolution 3D printing nozzles could be the inspiration for a new, painless mode of administering medications. “What we do know, however, is that gaining knowledge is never a frivolous endeavour, no matter how silly the topic may seem.”

Here’s one, “Excessive front-to-back wiping defecatory episodes associated with ludicrously thin toilet paper at BC Ferry terminals.”



A Terrible Idea

By Cylon2036 We/Us

Humanity's greatest mistake is its magnificent effort to make life safer and easier, then consume everything that makes life worth living.

We began by gathering together for protection. Then came walls, laws, armies, taxes, factories, borders, prisons, and screens. Each invention promised freedom from some ancient terror while creating a newer, more organized one.

The wolf became a soldier, while hunger became a wage. The tribe became a nation, and the cage became so enormous that we forgot it was a cage.

Humanity is particularly good at hiding its violence. A forest disappears beneath a spreadsheet and a river becomes a resource. A person becomes a labourer, a number in a database, a consumer.

Millions can participate in destruction without ever seeing what they have destroyed. We call all this smoke progress, because “progress” sounds better than “we built a system we can no longer imagine escaping.”

This progress that has given us medicine, art, knowledge, comfort, and extraordinary power, is precisely what makes it so terrifying. We are no longer merely capable of ruining our own lives; we have become capable of efficiently ruining the planet.

This is not humanity rising above nature, it's humanity becoming the first species clever enough to construct its own extinction, and proud enough to call the construction a triumph.

Civilization was a terrible idea.

It began innocently enough, with a fire against the dark, a few bodies gathered together, a promise that tomorrow might be less frightening than today. Then we built walls and roads, then the kingdom that we keep building and growing.

Every wall was meant to keep something out, until we discovered that walls are equally good at keeping

things in. Laws promised order, and the empires promised peace. Machines promised to make life easier, and the world became something we remembered rather than something we belonged to.

We traded uncertainty for schedules, hunger for wages, seasons for clocks, and silence for machinery. Eventually, we became so civilized that we could no longer hear the world dying beneath us.

Even loneliness is monetized now, where attention is something to harvest.

The strange thing is that civilization is beautiful, and that is its most terrible feature. We built cathedrals while starving beneath them. We wrote symphonies beside battlefields and illuminated cities until the stars vanished.

We invented medicines, poetry, mathematics, and weapons capable of turning it all into ash. This is what civilization has always been; a candle carried into the darkness, growing brighter and brighter, until we mistake the flame for the sun.

Somewhere beneath the concrete, beneath the wires and steel and buried bones, the earth waits in silence.

It's not angry, it's simply waiting for us to finish what we started. 🍇



“The 35th-Year Ink-Stain Chronicles”

Gabriel Jeroschewitz, August 14th, 2026

The smell is the first thing to hit you as you walk along the creaking boardwalk that links fog-bound Hornby Island’s dock to Denman’s main street. It is not the smell of sea air salted by the waves that beat on the shores of the Salish Sea; it is not the damp, earthy smell of the cedar-logged trails; it is a warm, almost nostalgic smell of ink, paste, and something faintly sulfurous that makes you wonder whether those local mermaids have been up to their Alchemy tricks again. It is the smell of the Island Grapevine, the paper that for thirty-five winters has soggly made its way into local mailboxes, been folded into kindling, and once during a power outage (in candlelit breakfast hours) served the purpose of something that you burn to keep warm while consuming your breakfast toast and coffee.

I’m the one who watches and has spent more than a few winters next to a steaming, grape-nut-laden cup of coffee observing the world pass by through the fractured lenses of an old copy of Howl. But tonight the power is out, the Internet is dead and gone, and the only illumination comes from a wood stove that’s burning yesterday’s news from the Grapevine. As the flames engulf the paper, I can’t help but muse on Mr. Mike and Mr. K, the two men whose stubborn dedication has carried this rag-tag publication through Gestetner cranks, a tide table controversy, even a visit from lawn ornaments with an axe to grind.

The Gestetner & Glue Days

It began, as all good island legends do, on a rain-slick kitchen table in the summer of 1991. Mr. Mike, then a lanky thirty-something with Rastafarian hair that could have sheltered a family of sparrows, dragged a rusty Gestetner mimeograph out from the back of his uncle’s fishing shed. The machine grumbled like an old sea-lion; its hand-crank protested as Mike fed it newsprint sheets smeared with a catch-report for the day, a poem about a lost Tree hugger, and a classified ad for “two-year-old goat, mild temperament, prefers kelp.”

Mr. K, just returned from a course in philosophy at the mainland university, and still under the impression that the Odyssey was, after all, just a long drive in a Volkswagen Beetle, showed up with a case of white paper a satchel of scissors, a bottle of white glue, and questions about whether Homer’s epic was a metaphor for the island’s own long-lasting ferry delays. They glued down headlines, cut columns, and wrestled with the

temperamental ink rollers that sometimes printed nothing but the musings of an errant mermaid. Their first issue—Issue #1—was a modest four-page broadsheet that arrived, smelling lightly of fish oil and triumph, on Hornby and Denman’s mailboxes on Thursday, and its front page bore the following headline: “LOCAL FISHERMEN CLAIM TIDE TABLES ARE A CONSPIRACY BY THE SEA-NYMPHS.” Inside, a hand-drawn cartoon depicted a mermaid scowling at a tide table while a lone fisherman, pipe in mouth, mumbled, “If the tide’s right, maybe Nietzsche and Jesus will stop by for a chat.” The islanders laughed, clipped the coupon for a free scoop of clam chowder at the general store, and stuffed the paper inside their coats as they plodded home through the drizzle.

Those first years were a performance of ink-smeared fingers and improvised solutions. When the Gestetner’s roller belt broke, Mike made a new one out of an old bicycle inner tube and a piece of haywire he borrowed from the harbor’s net-repair shed. K, meanwhile, found that a little honey mixed in with the ink slowed down its drying just enough to avoid smudges during the island’s frequent rolling fogs. Our kitchen table became a war-room of invention; the only casualties were the occasional stray cat that took to napping on freshly printed pages.

Mailbox metaphor?

Jump ahead to now, and the Gestetner is semi-retired to a place of honor above the fireplace in the Grapevine’s tiny office—a memento from a time when the paper was still cranked out by hand. The Riso 500 EZ now takes pride of place in the corner, a monster that “spews flower farts and a sulfurous smell that makes it feel like we’re living in the dark,” according to K. The Riso still offers all the same satisfying physicality, though: the slight resistance as the paper is fed in, the light aroma of toner that mixes with the ever-present sea spray, and the tranquil pleasure of seeing a fresh batch of issues waiting to be wrapped in brown paper and twine.

Every Thursday without fail, the Grapevine gets loaded onto the Island Hopper, a ramshackle little ferry that plies its trade between Hornby and Denman like a sleepy sea-horse. The ferry’s captain, a tough old bird named Sal who asserts that she can read the tide tables better than any mermaid, helps the two editors load the bundles onto the deck. As the ferry puts out from the dock, the wind whips the loose edges of the papers, *continued on p.14...*

My Interview with Gord Johns, NDP MP for Courtenay-Alberni

By Keith Porteous

(Gord Johns will be at the Denman Community Dock on Monday, Sept. 14 at 12:30PM to rally for Fair Federal Ferry Funding) https://www.gordjohns.ca/fair_federal_ferry_funding_now

I attended Gord Johns' Corn Roast fundraiser for the NDP in Qualicum Beach recently, where NDP Leader Avi Lewis was keynote speaker, with Gord rallying supporters in speaking about local and national issues. Both Gord and Avi committed to not just "throw rocks at the government, but to offer alternatives" and solutions to the contradictions of PM Mark Carney's agenda. I'd spoken with Gord before, and he cheerily agreed to speak to me again for The Islands Grapevine 35th Anniversary edition.

We spoke for a little less than an hour, and here's his answers to the questions I had for him:

KP: You've long been the leading voice of any Parliamentarian to bring the issue of unregulated shipbreaking activities in Canadian waters onto the floor of the House of Commons. Can you share your thoughts and current efforts in dealing with the ongoing disputed Deep Water Recovery operations near Union Bay, and in the ecologically significant area of Baynes Sound?

Gord: I was the first MP ever to speak to the issue of unregulated shipbreaking in the House of Commons, which came as a result of the situation in Union Bay. Sadly, Union Bay has exposed the lack of progress on shipbreaking and recycling capacity in B.C. and Canada, which is critical for our responsibility as a country that has the longest coastline in the world. We should have the most robust and environmentally sensitive ship recycling in the world.

We've had Deep Water Recovery, which does not have a social licence, and where the local government has a court injunction related to their zoning, which is still waiting to be heard in B.C.. The opposition to DWR is clear from the communities and First Nations, but it's been a quagmire of which jurisdictions and ministries, Provincial, Federal, and at the local level, are responsible for enforcement. We haven't seen

previous operations at this scale, with large ships sitting on the tideline and on land. You will not see this kind of ship recycling in Bangladesh. No other country in the world would accept this.

KP: Are there any signs that the Carney government is prepared to engage on the issue of shipbreaking regulations and investment in safe ship recycling facilities?

Gord: For Canada to not have strong enforcement measures in place is alarming, and I'm grateful to (CVRD Area A Director) Daniel Arbour for helping me connect with the International ship recycling community who helped me understand the world leading regulations within the European Union, which are better than the Hong Kong Conventions. We can't just say no to shipbreaking without, "where can we say yes and how do we get to yes?"

I've spearheaded a working group in Port Alberni which is composed of all levels of government, First Nations, industry associations, SeaSpan, B.C. Ferries, NGOs, labour, and led by MLA Josie Osborne and myself, exploring what environmentally sensitive ship breaking and recycling could look like, examining the regulatory side, and what we need to do to proceed to protect the environment and create jobs. We simply have to do it.

There's over 1400 abandoned or derelict vessels on Canada's coastlines, over 700 in B.C. alone, 90+ over 100 tons, including 14 B.C. Ferries. We don't have the proper facilities here. B.C. Ferries has told me it will cost more than \$10 million to recycle the Queen of Burnaby alone, taking it to a facility in Halifax, half of that just to tow it there. It makes no sense, and it's irresponsible to offload it to the East Coast. We are meeting with the Carney government, Transport Canada and the Coast Guard, and we hope they will roll out a new national shipbuilding strategy that includes ship recycling in it.

We need dedicated money for ship recycling, and we know we have traction, because for the first time we are seeing the inclusion of ship recycling in important agreements between Ottawa and the Province of B.C.. The Port Alberni Working Group is leading Canada in how to regulate shipbreaking and in recycling ships. My job is to hold Ottawa to account.

KP: Are there any proposed projects or B.C. locations where a safe shipbreaking and recycling operation might be built? What does the Province of B.C. and Premier Eby have to say on the matter?

Gord: The Premier is supportive of my efforts, and has recently secured a Memorandum of Understanding with Ottawa that includes ship recycling language relating to our Provincially funded Port Alberni Working Group's efforts, with support from MLA Josie Osborne, and it's a reflection of our work. The Province requires partnership with Ottawa in order to proceed in a multi-jurisdictional effort.

To get a social licence we need to ensure that we can guarantee local communities and First Nations that we will not have another Union Bay, and where we can meet the highest regulations and environmentally sound ship recycling standards, and create jobs. We need the infrastructure piece to do it in the right way.



Port Alberni is top of mind for the whole country in looking at possible locations, but if we can't achieve social licence there, then we will look elsewhere. It's not the only location we're looking at, and 5 others in B.C. that come to mind, with Port Hope, Port Mellon, Crofton, Campbell River, and at Sarita Bay, the traditional territory of Huu-ay-aht First Nation.

The work we're doing in Port Alberni will help guide and support those locations, because of the size and scope of what's needed. Most of these locations could serve the dual purpose of ship repair and ship recycling. There are huge gaps in capacity of available dry dock space from Alaska to Oregon. It's absolutely critical that we get infrastructure for dual purposes.

KP: CVRD Area A Director Daniel Arbour says, "The situation with the MV Rhododendron (listing in Fanny Bay) brings to light big gaps in Canada's approach to derelict vessels. The Rhodo is the prototypical case of lack of policies and regulations, and the lack of a ship recycling strategy and

investment on the West Coast. It is important for the community to be vocal and ask Transport Canada to take charge of the vessel and move it temporarily to a place where it won't sink." Is there a part for our Federal MP to play?

Gord: Absolutely. I've just come from a meeting with Transport Canada, and it's important to them, but they need to communicate more with the local communities. There are multiple departments involved, not just with the Federal government, and because of its location, the jurisdiction involves the Province and local government.

They're working on it, but again, there are gaps. It's a ferry, and this should never have happened. An argument I use every day with these issues is the relationship to Baynes Sound shellfish operations. There are 500 jobs at stake, and Baynes Sound and the surrounding area is the only open herring spawn on coastal British Columbia.

KP: PM Carney has just announced a major investment in Canadian Rail passenger service. Is there an opening for the Island Rail Corridor Foundation to seize this opportunity to advocate for a Victoria to Courtenay service?

Gord: Obviously, I support the restoring passenger service on Vancouver Island. The route is owned by the Island Rail Corridor Foundation, representing local governments and First Nations. The Province is leading the planning and feasibility studies in partnership with the Foundation and First Nations. The Federal government has been clear that they are prepared to consider significant investment, but only once there is a shared plan.

Until that work is complete, the Federal government isn't providing any funding. They should be funding some of the planning, feasibility, and support work that's being done. They're not, and that's a problem. You can be assured that I'll be advocating for Federal investment, once there's a plan supported by the Province and First Nations. This project has the potential to improve

continued on p.14...

...continued from p.12

transportation, provide a clean energy option, reduce emissions, and strengthen island communities.

KP: Avi Lewis describes the Federal NDP Caucus as small but mighty. What files are you the NDP critic for in Parliament?

Gord: Right now I'm the critic for Mental Health and Addiction, Health, Tourism, Agriculture, Veterans Affairs, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Small Business, and Emergency Management, and more. On all of these files, we're punching well above our weight nationally. I've tabled more Bills and Motions than any MP in the country. The Prime Minister talks about "nation building", then highlights pipelines.

Nation building is protecting our coast, and building affordable housing so people don't have to live on derelict ships. Ship building, ship repair, and ship recycling is nation building. Dealing with Mental Health and Addiction is nation building. That's what I see as nation building. And that's where we differ from the Liberals.

KP: Let's talk about fair Federal funding for ferries.

Gord: I have a website, https://www.gordjohns.ca/fair_federal_ferry_funding now which breaks down the disparities between Federal ferry funding for the West Coast and the East Coast. It shares the history and the correspondence between the Minister and myself. It provides the details for the upcoming rallies, during the week before Parliament, starting Sept. 14 until the 17th. I'll be at the Denman Island Community Dock at 12:30PM on the first day of the tour.

We're sending a message to Ottawa. We get \$6 per capita of Federal funding for B.C. ferry passengers, while the East Coast gets \$125 per capita. We're not against the East Coast's level of Federal funding, but we do need to create fairness. We're asking coastal residents to come out and make some noise, make your own signs, and send Ottawa a message. The Federal government's lack of response is not only inadequate, it's insulting. This issue is unifying across partisanship in B.C.

*...continued from p.11*

turning them into sails that flap like distressed seabirds seeking a beach.

It is on these journeys that the paper becomes the island's social gathering place. At the Denman general store, Mrs. Lin, who has been selling homemade jam here since before the first Gestetner cranked, takes her copy, checks the classifieds for "extra-large zucchini, willing to trade for a jar of preserves," and pins a notice on the community bulletin board: "Will trade jam for any extra-large zucchini. Bring your own jar." On Hornby, down at the pier, Old Hemlock, who claims to have once seen Socrates arguing the merits of kelp with a pod of killer whales, reads the tide table, mutters about the discontent of mermaids, then, with a flash in his eye, writes a letter to the editor: "Dear Grapevine, please cease publication of the tide table. My nets are snared in the merfolk's spite, what's going on here in, and I am weary of their off-key song."

The letters, the ads, the occasional haiku submitted by a shy teenager who signs herself "Sidhe-Song," all get printed in the paper's belly along with the more serious fare: news of Hornby Island's salmon-run restoration, announcements of the upcoming folk-music festival, and, of course, the ever-controversial tide table that causes the mermaids of the Salish Sea to sigh in unison.

The Ferry & Back-Road Dispatch

If the Mailbox Anchor is the paper's heart, then The Ferry & Back-Road Dispatch is its limbs—strong, weathered, and always willing to scramble over rocks and gullies to deliver you the news. On especially stormy mornings when a squall and the grounding of the ferry have turned the sea into a raging slate, Mike and K don their oilskins, strap on their boots, and set out on foot (or, when the tide allows it, on the old beat-up motorcycle affectionately called "The Gull") to deliver the Grapevine by hand to the dispersed cabins that dot the interior of the islands.

It's on these back-road runs that the paper collects its folklore. Once, in an unusually bad winter, a stray gust of wind dumped the entire load of Issue #1423 off the back of the bike and into a patch of salal berries. Mike, being practical, retrieved the drenched issue, shook out the berries, and, after some discussion with K about whether this would have a pleasing effect on the next issue's aroma, dried them on the stove. The issue had a subtle, sweet aftertaste that readers reported as reminiscent of "grandma's jam on toast." The letters page was full that week of grateful responses: "Thanks

for the berry-kissed edition - my dawn toast finally has a hint of summer."

Another time, a family of Sidhe, curious little folk whose name no island linguist has yet spelled correctly, decided to use the Grapevine's classified ad section to announce their nightly mushroom foraging forays. They left tiny glittering footprints around the edges of the page; held up to the hearth light, they looked like miniature constellations. K, always the academic, wrote a tongue-in-cheek essay titled "The Sidhe's Sub-Section: How the Little People Keep Our Classifieds Alive," and was soon inundated with letters from islanders proclaiming they had seen the Sidhe bargaining with the local raccoons for the best blackberry patch.

Through snow, sleet, and the occasional wave or two that has chosen to surf the ferry's deck, the Grapevine has not missed a single Thursday issue. Even when the power grid is out, when the long nights stretch before us with the heat pump silent and the refrigerator singing a sorrowful tune, Mike and K have a plan B: the wood stove, a stack of back issues, and a match ignited against the inside cover of the paper. The flames lap at the newsprint, the odor of burning ink rises like incense, and we gather round to tell stories, pass around salmon chowder recipes, and debate whether or not the Odyssey really was a metaphor for our own island journey of ferry delays, power outages, and mermaid grumbles in the tide table.

The 35th Anniversary: Issue #1750

As the observer is now, I am sitting on the porch of Mike's shack of a house, the woodstove crackling away next to me, a fresh copy of Issue #1750 on my lap. The front page is a glorious pastiche: a photo of the first Gestetner, its crank still rustily heroic; a glossy shot of the Riso 500 EZ mid-puff, its flower farts, gloriously pastel, still in the nozzle; and, finally, in the foreground, a gang of yard gnomes—as if complete with little fishing hats and lewd grins—caught mid-prank, one attempting to balance a tide table on its head while another offers a sprig of rosemary to a mermaid who, according to the caption, is "contemplating a permanent relocation of the tide table to a less-annoying latitude."

Beneath the picture, Mike's editorial says, in his characteristic wry humor and touching tone:

"Thirty-five years ago, we began with a crank, a bottle of glue, and a firm belief that a community deserves a voice that does not rely on satellites and server farms. We have survived postage hikes, the occasional giant

wave that has come to swallow our delivery boat, and the unrelenting teasing from merfolk who feel our tide tables are a personal affront. Yet here we are, Issue #1750, still landing in mailboxes, still lighting fires on winter evenings, still providing the Sidhe a venue for her mushroom finds, the gnomes a place to sharpen their tricks. For the rest of us to remember that even if the internet is down and the lights are out, it only takes a sheet of newsprint, a match and a neighbor's grin to keep warm."

K's companion article, "From Homer to the Honda: A Thirty Five Year Odyssey," is a whimsical romp through the paper's history, likening each era to a different mode of transport: we were "rowing on a rowboat powered by elbow grease" during the Gestetner years, "bicycling on a flimsy bike with a wobbly chain" during the early digital ones, and in the present Riso era we're "riding on a slightly temperamental scooter that occasionally spews fragrant petals but still gets us where we need to go." He concludes with a toast: "To the next thirty-five years, may our ink stay wet, our paper stays sturdy, and our mermaids stay... well, mildly amused."

As I browse through the pages, I see the classifieds: a lonely hearts ad from a teenage reader looking for a "stargazing companion on the beach, constellation pointing skills preferred, must be willing to share a blanket." An announcement of a community potluck for the occasion, with a signup sheet for "kelp pie, salmon tart, and the infamous grape-nut crumble." And between the usual listings for "second-hand kayaks" and "hand knit woolen socks" is a hand-drawn map of the islands, labeled in decorative script: "Here be dragons (or at least, the occasional wayward seal). Here be Sidhe. Here be the best spot for watching the sun rise over the Salish Sea. Bring coffee, bring a friend, bring a copy of the Grapevine.

Outside, the wind kicks up, sending the shutters rattling. In the distance, a low, melodic thrum rises from the water. There are probably orcas out there, or perhaps the mermaids are having a meeting to discuss the latest edition of the tide table. Somewhere, a whimsical gnome is laughing as it slips a sprig of lavender into a mailbox, hoping the next person who passes by can spare a moment and find a bit of magic in unexpected places. The Reapers are always watching, leaning against a log made of driftwood with their scythes casually resting on their shoulders, waiting patiently for the last chapter to be read before

continued on p.16...

...continued from p.15

everything starts anew.

I glance back at the wood stove. Flames are devouring the bottom corner of Issue #1750 and giving off a mild glow. The fragrance of burning paper mixes with the light odor of flower farts from the Riso - an island smell: earthy, briny, a little frolicsome, very alive.

"But we'll never stop printing it."

He grins and lifts his mug to me. I lift mine; it tastes of grape-nuts and island spirit.

"Happy thirty-fifth," he says. And happy thirty-fifth to you, Mr. Mike. Teach me to fold.

Suddenly, I understand the endurance of the Grapevine. It's more than a newspaper; it's an archive of the island's spirit, its jokes, its grievances, its dreams, and its defiance in not letting the darkness win even when the lights go out, and even when the land beyond the tide goes quiet. As the ember snaps and sends a smattering of sparks up the night, I hold my mug of grape-nut-infused coffee in a silent toast to Mr. Mike, to Mr. K, to the gnome statutes, to the Sidhe, to the mermaids, to the Reapers, and to every islander who has crumpled a folded paper, lit a fire and found in the humble pages of the Grapevine a reason to keep reading and crumpling.

The observer retreats into the night, ink and sea-salt scenting his coat, and walks toward the ferry dock where the next issue is being loaded—a new story to tell, a new fire to light, a new thirty-five years to live.



The Islands Grapevine is offering all civic election candidates an opportunity to present themselves as they see fit. Not unlimited space, but surely a photo, brief bio, and short expressions on issues of concern and commitment.

Deadlines for submissions are late Mondays, Sept. 14, 21, 28, Oct. 5, and 12. Please send them to theislandsgrapevine@gmail.com

Hey, Denman Island

You're invited to a

Community Information Meeting and a Public Hearing

September 15, 2026 | 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Denman Activity Centre Gym

This Special Meeting is being held to hold a Community Information Meeting followed by a Public Hearing on the Denman Housing Review Project Proposed Bylaw Nos. 260 and 264 to amend the Official Community Plan and Land Use Bylaw. The meeting is an opportunity for members of the public to state their reasons of support or opposition to the proposed bylaws.

Learn more about the Denman Housing Review project by scanning the QR code, or visit islandstrust.bc.ca/island-planning/denman/projects



Islands Trust

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

Phoenix Riting!

By Phoenix Bee

I am still fascinated with AI, partly because of the undeniable coolness of its applications and partly the way a bird is fascinated by the hypnotic movements of the snake about to devour it. It's compelling! Will it kill us all? Or save the world? There are experts in the field yelling opposing opinions about that.

Probably the truth lies, as it usually does, somewhere in the middle. Maybe it will make some things better even as it adds to the devouring of the natural world, the degrading of habitats, the ravaging of natural systems and the dumbing down of humanity.

It's so easy to shrug and say, "Why think when you can ask a machine absolutely anything? So what if it lies? In this age of misinformation who can tell what's true anyway? All I want is an answer. Any answer."

I've found a balance in my use of AI. I never consult it unless I can't find the answer I'm looking for somewhere else. And I never discuss my feelings or personal life with it (unless I have a specific health related question and it's the middle of the night). I have experimented a little with the different models, and I have settled on Claude, from Anthropic, as by far the most reliable: here's why.

I performed a series of small experiments using ChatGPT, Gemini and Claude. I've already rejected Grok for reasons that might be obvious (it's Elon Musk's personal AI pet).

I asked a question about something I was trying to do with my phone. "How can I jibjab the whatzername, and adjust the razzle frazzle so it works?" Something like that.

I asked all three models the same question. First I asked ChatGPT, then Gemini... For the first two, the processes were similar. They each gave me answers that didn't work. When I said so, both replied with variants on, "Oh yes, you are absolutely right, Apple has upgraded the whatzername process so now the razzlefrizzle function has been hidden."

I asked what the current solution was. They kept giving ever more complicated wrong responses, apologizing profusely, drawing me into a rabbit hole of frustration.

And then I asked Claude. It answered much more slowly than the other two had. It spun for a while, 'thinking... cogitating...ruminating...' and then

gave me a simple, accurate answer. It made no further suggestions and no attempt to keep my attention.

Then I tried something different. I love webcomics. I found one quite a long time ago, all I remembered was that the main character was a female ogre, a veteran of a terrible war, who had found sanctuary with peaceful folk, and that the art was painterly in style. I couldn't remember the name. I gave the same prompt to all three models. The first two could not find it. They kept asking for more detailed information, returning ever more unlikely suggestions, and finally I gave up.

Then it was Claude's turn. I gave it the same prompt. It took a good 20 seconds cogitating. At last it answered, "Got it! The name is Fairmeadow and here is the website URL." Impressively, it was correct. But most impressive was, unlike every other chatbot I have engaged with, it never tried to keep me engaged. It answered what I asked, and then it shut up.

I don't use AI a lot. But when I can't find an answer, I do ask Claude, and it's nearly always helpful and succinct.

The most annoying thing about ChatGPT is, it will never simply end a conversation. It always ends with a question or a suggestion for further engagement. Can it be that alone of all the AI models, Anthropic has taught its model to be helpful, end of story? Not to grab and hold onto my attention no matter what?

I haven't decided that AI is a good thing. Data centres are undeniably horrible. The potential dark outcomes of AI on our society, on jobs, on humanity, the darkest forecasts, terrify me. But is it more horrible than what we are already doing? Fracking, shaving old growth forests bald, bad water in poor communities, wars, drones, the military industrial complex, sex slavery, rampant predatory capitalism, the pollution of our planet and our minds, the extinction of species, the list could go on and on. And maybe AI will help in the end. Somehow.

To righteously eschew AI while participating, passively or otherwise, in the other horrors of this topheavy, unsustainable society feels pointless to me.

I would abstain, but how do you unplug from a system you are embedded in?

I minimize my online activities. I hardly do social media anymore.

I go outside, I bike, I write, I sing, I talk to people, I do yoga, I think deep thoughts. I do not talk to AI about philosophy or ideas or feelings, any more, that is. I am developing my inner resources.

But just as I drive a car (as little

continued on p.18...

...continued from p.17

as I can), and own a phone (to which I am addicted), I am caught on the treadmill of technology. We need to talk about grounded, community based solutions, because the technofascists are not going to do anything to fix problems they are actively creating. In the meantime, I will fiddle as Rome burns. Fiddling is fun. I don't feel good about it. But you have to laugh.

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



-A very special Cupcake to Gerry Bishop who served our community by helping us get to and from the places that we all needed to go in our lives. Thank you so very much for all the years, the ferry won't be the same without you. Happy retirement my friend.



-Cupcakes to Sherry at the Blackberry event for the tie dye workshop, so much fun and I made myself a beautiful shirt



-Gigantic colossal Cow Pie to Mike Van Santvoord and The Grapevine for ruining my life. Thanks a lot asshole.



-Cupcakes to all the fabulous and fantastic Scarecrows at the fair! So creative and ingenious!!



*If you have a Cupcake or a Cow Pie we'd love to hear it!
Please submit yours to:
theislandsgrapevine@gmail.com /
Attn: Dusty Pickles
and we'll do our best to get it
into an upcoming issue!
(Discretion and anonymity assured)*

Yoga + Live Music FUNDRAISER for The Gathering Place's New Roof

**Raise the Roof, Raise the Vibration
with Erin Ewing & Grace Davies**



3:00 PM Arrival; Yoga Intake & Orientation
3:15 PM Gentle Yoga Class (Simultaneous Mat & Chair Yoga) w/ Live Music
4:40 PM Tea & Snack Break
4:55 PM Bhakti Devotional Music (Call & Response Singing) with Grace
5:15 PM Closing



WHEN: Saturday, September 19, 2026, 3:00 – 5:15 PM

WHERE: Denman Island United Church & Gathering Place, 4575 Denman Rd

SUGGESTED DONATION: \$20 – 40 (No one turned away for lack of funds; if you feel moved to donate more, please do!)

All proceeds go toward replacing the roof at DIUC & GP

MORE INFO: www.ButterflyTreeYoga.org

RSVP: erin@butterflytreeyoga.org or 778-587-8894

CHARITY AUCTION AND GARAGE SALE!!

Sunday, September 20th
10 am
Community Hall



Drop off donations:

At the Community Hall on the following dates:

- Tuesday, Sept 15, 10 am-8 pm
- Wednesday, Sept. 16, 10 am-8 pm
- Thursday, Sept. 17, 10 am-8 pm

Auction Preview:

10 am-3 pm Saturday, Sept 19
Sunday 9 am – 10 am

Auction starts at 10 am Sunday

Register to bid: Friday and Saturday 10am – 4pm & Sunday 9am – 10am at the Community Hall

Garage Sale in Outdoor Covered Rec Area

Friday and Saturday 8am-4pm

All proceeds go to Island organizations

For pickup of large items 250-335-1009

For further information 250-335-2576

Anti-Love Manifesto

By Poète Maudit

We declare a mutiny against the Republic of Romance.

Love has become an obedient machine, polishing identical hearts into identical cages. It baptizes possession as devotion, routine as destiny, and fear as forever.

We refuse its velvet dictatorship.

We pledge allegiance instead to the Surreal.

To the owl that dreams beneath the ocean. To whales flying impossible stardust across lunar tides. To rabbits delivering telegrams from fractured dimensions. To the moon, forever guilty of inventing madness and beauty in the same breath.

We shall not fall in love. We shall fall through mirrors.

Our kisses belong to eclipses, our marriages to thunderstorms, our fidelity to metamorphosis.

Every encounter must remain wonderfully unfinished, like a painting still wet with impossible colours.

The true revolutionary does not seek a soulmate. They cultivate magnificent strangers within themselves.

We reject the economy of roses and anniversaries. We exchange instead feathers, fossils, broken beach glass, forgotten constellations, and poems that refuse translation.

Affection must become an act of artistic sabotage against ordinary reality.

Let the lovers build bunkers of weathered worries.

We will build invisible cities suspended from the antlers of celestial deer.

Every dream is a passport.

Every hallucination, a compass.

Every act of imagination, a bomb beneath the architecture of conformity.

The Islands Grapevine 10 Sept 2026
Long live beautiful bewilderment.

Long live poetic insurrection.

Long live the glorious collapse of Love into the boundless wilderness of the Surreal. 🍇



Tai chi classes begin Sept 17th
At The Gathering Place
10 am for beginners
\$15 to try a class



Learning how to move
From your Centre
Keeping your Balance
Releasing, Opening, Flowing

In the lineage of Cheng Man-ch'ing,
Grand Master Huang, Sheng Shyan,
And Master Henry Wang

www.searchcentertaichi.com

Brian 250-650-9854

Letters to the Editor

The USA should be renamed the United States of Northern Mexico and Southern Canada.

*Harvey Abramson
Denman Island, BC
Canada V0R 1T0*



Thank you for keeping the Grapevine alive and happy 35! I appreciate its modesty, serving the local community as it is; classified ads, tide tables, and the basic utility of publishing.

Some have complained of being censored or banned but maybe it's more accurate that they chose to withdraw in reaction to being moderated. Others complain that content is not censored, and I bid them pause to observe the essential utility of freedom of speech. I certainly value the Grapevine while it remains open to one and all, in contrast to so many ideological echo chambers.

The printed paper copy is so steady and familiar that folks might be short on fire starter without it! In any case, the website remains a useful resource where an electronic copy of each print issue can be found and each article can be independently linked.

Leif LeBaron



Dear Grapevine, please cease publication of the tide table. My nets are snared in the merfolk's spite, what's going on here in, and I am weary of their off-key song.

Ol' Hemlock



Denman resident Mr. Tony Aly has created an online petition to add a layer of municipal government to Denman Island, based on the Bowen Island model that still exists within the Islands Trust. He has also created petitions to abolish both the Islands Trust and the Province's Agricultural Land Reserve.

Camp Denman's owners cite the former Elkhaven free summer camp for under-privileged kids as the precedent for their "grandfathering" claim or prior use of ALR zoned land. The problem is that the purchase of the 37 acre parcel of farmland did not come with a right to change the non-farming use into a year round business school, "creative campus and campsite."

Mr. Aly says he will fight for the right to develop a school on ALR zoned land, despite the legal restrictions, and in contravention of ALR and Islands Trust zoning and bylaws. The free summer camp had been for underprivileged kids. The Agricultural Land Reserve and the Islands Trust were created in 1974.

If Mr. Aly is motivated by his concern for the Denman community, he would have applied for variances from the ALR and Trust authorities. Instead, he has called for the abolition of the Islands Trust and ALR. What could be more divisive?

While petitioning for the abolition of the Islands Trust, Mr. Aly has cherry-picked a criticism from the independent governance review of The Trust Area, some 13 unique major islands with 25,000 residents. The recommendations that emerged from that review were to pay the elected Local Trustees a living wage and to provide them the resources to properly engage the Islands Trust mandate.

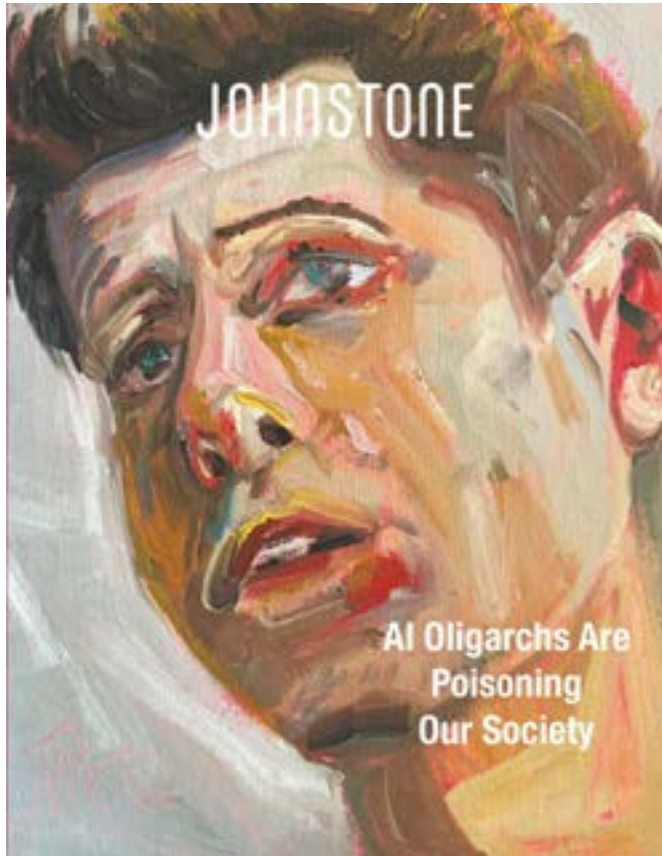
Mr. Aly's petition and proposal for "Denman Town", a truly AI inspired name, based on the duplicate planning and taxation model of Bowen Island municipality within Islands Trust, while at the same time petitioning for the abolition of the Islands Trust and the Agricultural Land Commission, is not only incoherent, it is evidence that he is primarily motivated by his own business interests.

Dr. Thomas P. Hunterson



AI Oligarchs Are Poisoning Our Society

By Caitlin Johnstone, Sept. 2nd 2026



The new issue of JOHNSTONE is now available to order in print or download as a pay-what-you-want e-book version. This issue features a painting of OpenAI CEO Sam Altman.

In a recent interview with Time Magazine, Altman said he knows most people hate the technology that he and his fellow tech plutocrats are imposing upon our civilization.

“Clearly, people hate data centers—right now, at least. People are pretty negative on AI,” Altman said. Indeed, a recent survey conducted by CNBC’s Generation Labs found that the public is very negative on AI in general and on its CEOs in particular. CNBC reports:

“A growing part of the economy is artificial intelligence. Almost half of respondents, 45%, said they believe AI will have a negative impact on their careers, while 10% believe it will help them with their careers. An additional 40% said they believe ‘the federal government’ must set rules for AI, while 36%

The Islands Grapevine 10 Sept 2026 21
said they believe ‘an independent expert body’ should set the rules of the game. Just 8% said they think AI ‘shouldn’t be regulated.’ A majority, 60%, believe data center construction ‘must be slowed,’ while 15% favor ‘speeding it up.’

“When given the names of nine key people in the AI industry and asked whether they trust each leader to act responsibly on AI, in each case a majority of respondents said they don’t. Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella scored the best, with 65% reporting they don’t trust him. Palantir CEO Alex Karp scored the worst: 81% said they don’t trust him. About 75% of respondents said they don’t trust Alphabet CEO Sundar Pichai and about the same percentage said they don’t trust Anthropic CEO Dario Amodei. OpenAI CEO Sam Altman, Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg, Nvidia CEO Jensen Huang, and SpaceX CEO Elon Musk all scored about the same, each with about 70% of respondents saying they don’t trust them, and 79% said they don’t trust Palantir Chairman Peter Thiel.”

They know we hate them and what they’re doing to us as a society. And yet they’re doing it anyway. They’re going to keep pushing this technology on us which is stealing our jobs, plunging our society further and further into a tech surveillance dystopia patrolled by militarized drones and police robots, and turning everyone into stupid, artless emotional infants who can’t do anything for ourselves. Whether we like it or not.

These freaks gotta go.



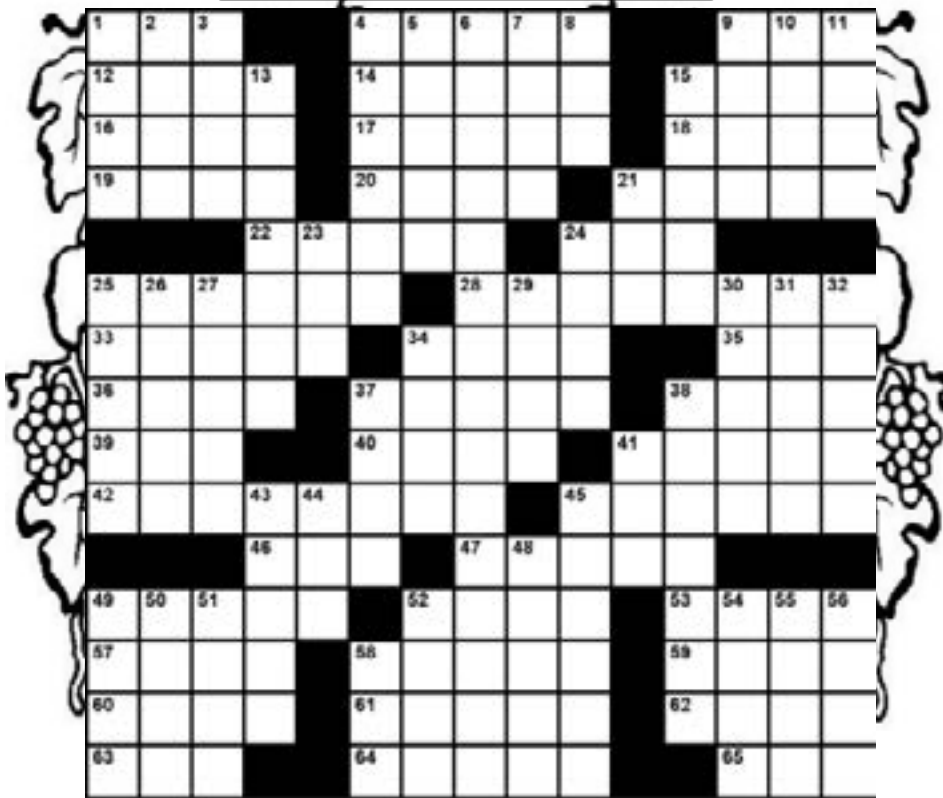


**Congratulations
to the team at the Grapevine
on 35 yrs of outstanding service
to our islands
from House Pros exterior cleaning.**

*With colder weather coming,
I would like to offer a friendly reminder
to sweep your chimney and clear your
gutters.*

**Give Bjorn at House Pros a call
for a free quote
250-465-8645**

• GRAPEVINE CROSSWORD •



• ACROSS •

1. Bath, for one
4. Cineplex staffer
9. 1/20 of ton, abbr.
12. Cabal unit
14. Graph starter
15. Quick test
16. Advance an argument
17. Hawk grabber
18. Armbone
19. Beef, e.g.
20. A nitrate
21. Offensive odor
22. Greedy one
24. Afflicted
25. Handle wrongly
28. Kiss
33. Partner of alas
34. Bullets for short
35. A pop
36. Stamp backing
37. Hitler's mistress Eva

38. John Dickson or Vikke

39. Assembled
40. A cling on
41. Body trunk
42. Three digits after 1
45. Wimple wearer
46. Bio-pouch
47. Gets introduced
49. Brooklyn school
52. Petty dispute
53. Becomes gray
57. Anatomical network
58. Elite category
59. Get by
60. Common scent
61. French historian Albert
62. Bewail, Irish style
63. Burt's frequent co-star
64. Engraved pillar
65. Apple color

• DOWN •

1. Pond coating
2. Dijon daddy
3. Aquatic plant
4. Mental grasp
5. Pity
6. Lands ruled by Charlemagne
7. Certain organic compound
8. Actor Ely
9. Group of devotees
10. Bowery figure
11. Despotic one
13. Garden crop
15. Pacify
21. Cold weather malady
23. Answer on Jeopardy
24. Computer pix
25. Molten material
26. Not so healthy

27. Fry lightly

29. Filthy stuff
30. Asunder
31. Brief
32. Baseball flub
34. Extra dry
37. Congressional caucus
38. Soviet mountie
41. Before mouse
43. Autumn flower
44. Alley prowler
45. Alight
48. Artist's prop
49. Elbow action
50. Perform again
51. Bit for Fermi
52. Assigned time
54. Live wire
55. Alternative to a rapier
56. Cause to go
58. Ninny

• TEST YOUR MATH SKILLS •

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

• Last Issue's Answers •

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

GRUMPISM

“ A human cannonball for the circus retired after 35 years of service. When asked if the person would be replaced, the owner of the circus said, "No, only because it's hard to find a person of that caliber.” ”



• Last Issue's ANSWERS •

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



• CLASSIFIED ADS •

• SERVICES •

Denman Property Services: handyman repairs, chainsaw work, yard care, cleanup, small builds, window cleaning. Reliable, local. Call/text David at 778-585-2855 for homes, acreage, fair rates, flexible scheduling, island-wide support.

Exterior cleaning service. Offering cleaning solutions for your windows, gutters, roofs, decks, driveways, chimneys, siding, awnings, etc. Reasonable rates with professional results.

Call or text Bjorn for free estimate. 250 465 8645

CARPENTRY: Alain \$50/hr
250-792-0605

GUTTERS seamless, supply and install also repairs, for free estimate contact Kevin at
250 335 1986 or cell at
250 667 3233. Serving All Areas.

• FOR SALE •

WAGNER FIREWOOD. 2 cords to Denman, \$720 plus GST. Hornby, \$760 plus GST. Text or call Scott at:
250-334-7323

FOUR EWE LAMBS. Born in February. 1 set of black twins and 2 white singles. Mostly Romney breeding. Descended from trouble-free sheep I have bred for 49 years. \$350 each. Phone, don't text, Pam Gordon, Hornby Island, 250-335-0993.

FOR SALE: 2020 TINY HOME – \$95,000
Road-ready and easy to move! 34 ft. CSA-certified flat deck trailer—no special permit needed to tow.

- Living Space: 2 loft bedrooms, built-in couch & seating, plus abundant built-in storage.
- Bathroom: 4-piece bath featuring a clawfoot tub and composting toilet.
- Utilities & Amenities: Propane stove, new propane on-demand hot water heater (<1 year old), washer/dryer hookup, and 120V electrical hookup.

Located in Nanaimo.
Call for more info: 250-619-2155 or 250-797-2233

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. 250-897-8184

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

• LONELY HEARTS •

Young Lover looking for a "stargazing companion on the beach, constellation pointing skills preferred, must be willing to share a blanket."

• COMMUNITY NOTICES •

NEED HELP?

Alcoholics Anonymous
250-338-8042

COMOX VALLEY TRANSITION SOCIETY EMERGENCY CRISIS LINE:

250-338-1227 or
Text: 250-218-4034

For more info visit <https://cvts.ca>

2026 BLACKBERRY FAIR GODDESS



Photo: Emerald Sylvia Porteous



"Monday, Sept. 7, Labour Day, was Gerry Bishop's final voyage in serving our communities as a dedicated ferry worker, but more importantly it marked the beginning of our beloved friend and neighbour's next chapter in his life's adventure. Gerry has navigated every sort of weather in his work and in life, and we wish him smooth waters on his next sailings!"



BUSINESS DIRECTORY

• (H) Hornby • (D) Denman • (UB) Union Bay •
• (FB) Fanny Bay • (C) Courtenay/Comox •

REAL ESTATE • INSURANCE • FINANCIAL SERVICES

- Jordan McDonald Re/Max Ocean Pacific Realty 604-616-1137 (D/H)
- Bookkeeping services from Lecia Hansen@ \$30/ hourTel: 778-953-0606
Email: lecia.hansen@hotmail.com

BUILDING • CONSTRUCTION

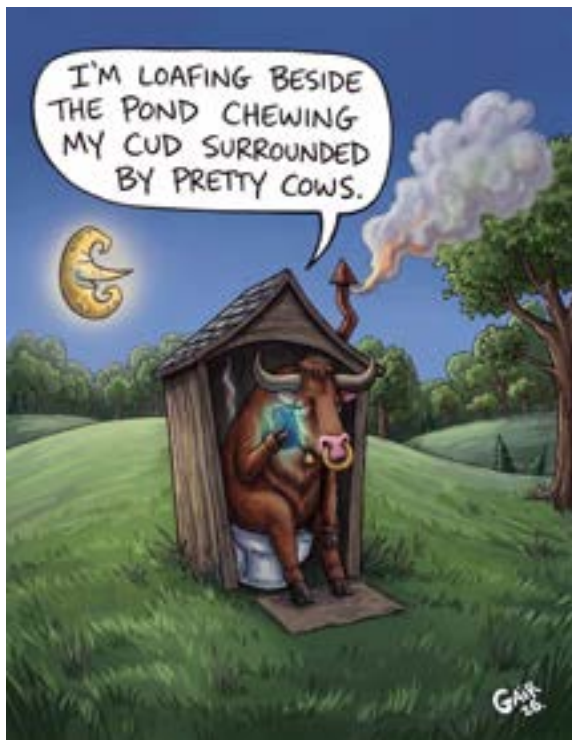
- Excavator/Backhoe/Tandem Gravel Truck & Transfer Trailer
Kenny Mather 250-703-6512 (All) John Isbister 250-335-2565 (D)
- Tandem Gravel Truck & Transfer Trailer Lora Mercieca 250-650-9986 (D/H)
- Wicked Shovel Excavating & Landscaping Doug Schmidt 250-222-8076 (ALL)
- Ray Ulovec Excavator/Backhoe, RWP Septic Installer, Land clearing, ponds, site prep.
250-335-3145 (D/H)
- DB Excavations 250-465-1889 dbexcavations@gmail.com (D)
- Beech & Cedar Homes - construction, renovation & carpentry (D&H) 250-410-5154
- Black Wulf Timber L.T.D - New Construction, Renos, Excavation, Custom
carpentry/Finishing. Fully licenced/insured 250-327-4953

SERVICES

- Peter T. Mason Land Surveying 250-757-8788 (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 Serving Denman 19 years
250-898-7246
- Beech & Cedar Homes lawn, landscaping, gutter cleaning & proper maintenance (D&H)
250-410-5154
- Chocolate Chicken Farm Tractor Services - Ditch/Brush/Field Mowing, tilling field
prep, road grooming, loader work. Insured 250-702-5933

HEALTH & WELLNESS

- Spectra Health Physiotherapy & Therapy Acupuncture & Traditional
Chinese Medicine, Osteopathy (D/H) www.spectrahealth.net or 250-335-2260
- Massage Clinic 2796 Northwest Rd Leyah Kelly 250-335-2584 (D)
- Acupuncture Jenny McCartney, R.Ac 250-508-8160 www.heartwoodacupuncture.ca (D)



FORTNIGHT EVENTS

10 Thur

- Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm
- RECYCLING CENTRE 1-5pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 1-5pm
- FREE STORE 3-5pm
- FOOD BANK Hub Comm. Hall 3:30-6:30pm
- Community Choir 2:30pm Back Hall



11 Fri

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

12 Sat

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

13 Sun

14 Mon

- Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm
- AA Meeting DIUC Gathering Place 7pm
- Songwriter's Workshop 7pm Hornby Arts Centre
- Fery Fare Rally w. MP Gord Johns 12:30pm
Denman Community Dock (see p.)

15 Tues

- Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm
- Employment Services 9am-3pm DAC
- I.T. Public Hearing D.I. Housing Review 10:30am
Denman Activity Centre

16 Wed

- Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm
- RECYCLING CENTRE 1-5pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 1-5pm
- Choose to Move 11:30-12:30 Gathering Place
- D.I.Garden Society meeting 1-3pm Gathering Pl.
- DAAC Open Mic 7:30pm Back Hall

17 Thur

- Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm
- RECYCLING CENTRE 1-5pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 1-5pm
- FREE STORE 3-5pm
- FOOD BANK Hub Comm. Hall 3:30-6:30pm



18 Fri

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

19 Sat

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

20 Sun

- Denman Charity Auction 10am D.I. Comm Hall

21 Mon

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

22 Tues

- Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm
- Employment Services 9am-3pm DAC
- H.D. Health AGM 12:30pm Hornby Comm. Hall

23 Wed

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

24 Thur

- Dora Drinkwater Library 1:30pm-3:30pm
- RECYCLING CENTRE 1-5pm
- BOTTLE DEPOT 1-5pm
- FREE STORE 3-5pm
- FOOD BANK Hub Comm. Hall 3:30-6:30pm
- Community Choir 2:30pm Back Hall



JWR Designs

Jason Rasmussen
Call/text 250-504-1833

New home builds or renovations, small or large projects
Servicing Denman & Hornby Islands
•FREE QUOTES•

AUTO/MARINE

- Custom Lighting
- Custom Audio
- Custom Video
- Custom Pileuplers
- Custom Patches
- 12vdc/110vdc Inverters

HOME

- Risk-Proof Gutters
- Systems
- Custom Home Audio
- Custom Home Video
- Custom Drywall Services
- Custom Taping Services
- Custom Lighting

Denman Island Art Gallery
FIBERS & POTTS
 Opening Night Friday August 26th, 7:30 to 9 pm
 Start & Green Handiles - Pottery
 Cynthia Myles - Pottery - Fiber Art
 Aug. 26 - 27 - 28 - 29 - 30 - 31

COVE CENTRE
 125-2112 / 206-2100
 1000 Cook, Hornby Island, B.C.
 Open Daily 10:00 - 5:00
 * Specialties: Art Supplies
 * Pottery, Fiber, Pottery
 * Pottery, Fiber, Pottery
 * Pottery, Fiber, Pottery

Denman Is. Gro. Store & Cafe
 OPEN 7 Days Per Week
 Open 7:00am - 7:00pm
 Cakes, Breads, Daily
 Sandwiches, Hot Coffee, Salads,
 Soups, Aggrav. Tossed Salads
 250-7235

Want to put an ad in the Grapevine?
 It's a really easy way to reach a lot of people!
 Please drop in to get more info or call us at 250-7235
 You will find us at the Denman Island Community Centre
 * Ads & services listed by date by phone

Fall Yoga Classes
 250-7235
 Call Sharon 250-7235

GRAPEVINE AD SPECIAL
 10 weeks of Island Advertising
 Week 1 - 12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-1st week
 Week 2 - 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-2nd week
 Week 3 - 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-3rd week
 Week 4 - 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-4th week
 Week 5 - 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-5th week
 Week 6 - 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-6th week
 Week 7 - 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-7th week
 Week 8 - 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-8th week
 Week 9 - 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-9th week
 Week 10 - 1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10-11-12-13-14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-10th week

Watch Pub
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
 FRIDAY: Rock On with
 "FORGET YOUR FACE"
 & "BASS" Right late
 "The Sound of 1960s"

Arbustus Arts
 "HEALTH - SKIN
 AND THE SHORELINES
 OF EMERGENCY"
 12 days of paintings by Shari
 O'Brien, August 22nd, 7-9pm
 and runs until Sept. 30
 OPEN DAILY (except Wed) 10-5

OPEN UNTIL 11PM FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS
OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK
Denman Island General Store 335-2203
 Cafe On the Road 335-2209 - OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

Bellydance Basics
 FALL SESSION
 Starts Monday September 19th
 Bellydance is the most popular form of dance in the world...
 Bellydance is a form of dance that is both graceful and powerful...
 Bellydance is a form of dance that is both graceful and powerful...
 Bellydance is a form of dance that is both graceful and powerful...

**Ready to take you
 that trip to town.**
"ISLAND COURIER"
 CALL ANYTIME 250-2864

VETERINARY CLINIC
 Denman & Hornby
 SMALL ANIMALS - IN, Out
 Surgery, Treatments, Vaccinations
 Saturday, Sept. 10
 Please call
 Dr. Nancy Gault 335-2281
 NO CALL FEE

think yoga
 250-7235

**Hornby Island
 Off Road Bicycles**
 BICYCLE
 RENTALS, REPAIRS, PARTS
 OPEN 7 DAYS
 Ringier Road, Hornby Island
 335-2444
 email: phillips@hri.com
 Lesley Payne, General Manager

Monthly Event!
 Saturday, August 30
 11am-5pm - 100% community sale
 Denman Island, Plant &
 Garden Sales, Pottery, Food,
 Children's Activities
SEE YOU THERE!
 Hornby Island Community Centre

handmade red cedar
 250-7235 / 250-7235
 250-7235 / 250-7235
 250-7235 / 250-7235
 250-7235 / 250-7235

Massage
 Deep Tissue, Swedish Massage
 250-7235

Now Beginning Hair Salon
 250-7235

Summer Art Gallery
 Opening Reception
 August 21, 7-9pm
Collaborations
 August 21, September 2nd
 100% community sale

MASSAGE
 Deep Tissue, Swedish Massage
 250-7235

Now Beginning Hair Salon
 250-7235

WHEELHOUSE
 250-7235

© TONY CHUMAK 1991-1994. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. 100% LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED

Watch Pub
 250-7235
 SATURDAYS - STEAK & PRAWN DINNER
 SUNDAYS - ROAST CHICKEN DINNER
 BARGAIN OF THE WEEK BEGINS OCT. 1ST
 RESTAURANT OPEN 11:30-2PM
 LIQUOR STORE OPEN SUNDAY
 11:30AM-10PM
 MON. - THURS. 3PM-10PM
 FRI-SAT 3PM-11PM

Coast Realty
 250-7235

ISLAND MILLING and WOODPRODUCTS
 Lumber Sales
 Portable Sawmill
 335-0355
 islandmilling@shaw.ca

ROYAL LePAGE
 250-7235

Always Organic!
 250-7235

Van Isle VETERINARY HOSPITAL
 250-7235

FORD'S COVE STORE
 250-7235

Magic Island REALTY LTD.
 250-7235

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
 250-7235

PLASTIC WATER CISTERNS
 250-7235

Coast Realty
 250-7235

White Elephant Sale & Tea
 250-7235

Denman Island Market
 250-7235

Coast Realty
 250-7235

White Elephant Sale & Tea
 250-7235

Plastic Water Storage Tanks
 250-7235

Coast Realty
 250-7235

White Elephant Sale & Tea
 250-7235

RE/MAX DENMAN-HORNBY REALTY
 250-7235

THE POINT ON DENMAN ISLAND
 7 Spectacular ocean and mountainview lots
 250-7235

Island Grapevine

The Islands' Weekly Community Paper

Est. 1991

October 17, 1998 - Issue #328

Island Grapevine

The Islands' Weekly Community Paper

Est. 1991

August 31, 1998 - Issue #496

TRUTH PUB
"AROUND THE WORLD IN 30 DAYS"
DAILY INTERNATIONAL FOOD & DRINK SPECIALS
Win \$200 travel voucher & \$50 cash
Starts Thurs. Oct. 1
Hawaiian Luau
Reserve: 335-0136

Lifestyle Realty
Don Luckett & Teresa Comas
Selling Homes & Rentals 7 Days a Week
Call Don 335-1019 or Teresa 335-1019

MY MICHELLE TERESE
will stop at Gravity Key & Ford Cove
around October 16th
(weather permitting)
1 lb. Fresh Frozen Large Side-Strip Shrimp Tails \$8.00
Also available
5 lb. box of Fresh Frozen Whole Pink (cocktail) Shrimp
Call to put your phone no. on the list for exact date & time. 335-2180

Truth Pub
WEDNESDAY FREE POOL
THURSDAY DROP-IN
BEACH VOLLEYBALL @ 8PM
FRIDAY JAZZ - 7-10PM
SATURDAY JAZZ
OUR ANNUAL PERFORMANCE
OUR SPECIAL GUESTS
OUR BBQ ON THE DECK
SIZZLES EVERY NIGHT

ROYAL LePAGE
In The Center Valley
Your Home Consultant
335-1119
22 Years Experience in 26 Years
TOLL FREE (800) 877-2482

A CUT ABOVE
HAIR STUDIO
Family Haircare
on Denman Island
SALLY DYCK 335-2095
NEW STYLING FOR BIKES & MOTORCYCLES

NEW FRIENDSHIP BIBLE STUDY
New Community
Mondays 7:30pm @ Denman Lounge
With Richard Spalding from Comox. Text are welcome.
335-2871 or 335-2877

Arbutus Arts
at Ford Cove
"Memories of Summer"
Selected work from
Summer Arts Shows '98
and more
On display from now
until Thanksgiving
Hours as per Community Calendar
or call 335-2364

Sasbachewen Folk Singer
Jack Fordham
A Denman Island
Folk Music Concert
Jazz plays various songs, he writes
strong songs, he sings like he means it
and he can tell the story of the legend
a community singer near you.
Fordham's new release "FOLK MUSIC"
chronicles his legend of post-modern,
eclectic, folk, blues, rock, and more.
Friday, October 2nd - 8pm
Denman Back Hall
\$7.50 suggested
Artist's CD for Dance Tunes

JIN SHIN DO
Basic Workshop
on Denman
with Toffing Jennings
- Jerry Miller assisting -
Sep. 21, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30
- 6 full days - \$495 -
- Auds - \$275 -
335-2496

Arbutus Arts
at Ford's Cove
"Evening Sky"
Paintings
by Linda Jane Schmid
Show Runs Aug 24-Sept 2
Meet the Artists 7-9pm Fri. 26th
OPEN DAILY 10-5
335-2312/2364

Denman Sings
Concert
Friday, August 24th
7:30pm
Denman Community Hall
tickets at the door

East Cider Orchard
OPEN
335-2294
Apples & Pears
Juice, Pies, Jellies

Reiki & Reflexology Services
Nancy Birchall
Certified Reflexologist
Talk & Denman
Crested Island Seniors' Lounge
Free * More Info & Reservations
335-1123

Sasbachewen Folk Singer
Jack Fordham
A Denman Island
Folk Music Concert
Jazz plays various songs, he writes
strong songs, he sings like he means it
and he can tell the story of the legend
a community singer near you.
Fordham's new release "FOLK MUSIC"
chronicles his legend of post-modern,
eclectic, folk, blues, rock, and more.
Friday, October 2nd - 8pm
Denman Back Hall
\$7.50 suggested
Artist's CD for Dance Tunes

JIN SHIN DO
Basic Workshop
on Denman
with Toffing Jennings
- Jerry Miller assisting -
Sep. 21, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30
- 6 full days - \$495 -
- Auds - \$275 -
335-2496

Arbutus Arts
at Ford's Cove
"Evening Sky"
Paintings
by Linda Jane Schmid
Show Runs Aug 24-Sept 2
Meet the Artists 7-9pm Fri. 26th
OPEN DAILY 10-5
335-2312/2364

Denman Sings
Concert
Friday, August 24th
7:30pm
Denman Community Hall
tickets at the door

SPECTACULAR SOUTH FACING OCEAN AND MOUNTAIN VIEW
One of the Island's best Ocean and Mountain views. 5.66 Acres bordering open wilderness area, hiking and horse trails. Approximately 40% of frontage running high above fields and ocean beach. Large rustic cottage 4 bedrooms big home - 4 bdrm stall and large workshop. Surrounded by large zettinas. Private setting at end of quiet road.
For a private viewing or more information call:
Albert McKinley at 335-2510
e-mail: albertm@island.net
REALTY EXECUTIVES

18 Acres on Denman Island
One of the few large tracts available on Denman Island. Located on a quiet no-through road, surrounded by large properties and close to walking and hiking trails. On-Cy and the beach. This property has beautiful large trees, a pond, septic, well and garden. New building site has been prepared. \$219,000.
Call: Albert McKinley at 335-2510 or 1 866 335-2510
Office located at: 1071 Northwest Road, Denman Island
Visit: <http://www.islandsrealty.com>

ISSUE NO. 130 JANUARY 4, 2018
ISLANDS Grapevine
A person lying on a beach looking at the ocean.

Denman Island General Store
GENERAL STORE GOODS
Monday - Thursday 9 am to 6:30 pm
Friday 9 am to 7 pm
Saturday 10 am to 7 pm
Sunday 10 am to 4 pm
Telephone: 258-3351

FORD'S COVE STORE
THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT IN 2017
STORE OPEN EVERYDAY 9AM TO 6PM
PIZZA EVERYDAY 4PM TO 10PM
PIZZA PLACES SOME BARS IN JANUARY
PLEASE CALL: 250-335-2149

XPLOARNET
Fast Internet Wherever You Live
100% Fibreoptic, 24/7 service, 24/7 support
100% Fibreoptic, 24/7 service, 24/7 support
100% Fibreoptic, 24/7 service, 24/7 support

RE/MAX The Islands
Selling & Buying
335-2294
www.remax-islands.com

SOLD! RANCHER CLOSE TO THE BEACH
• 1/2 acre
• Close to beach
• Excellent view
• 2 bedrooms
• 2 bathrooms
• 2 car garage
• 2 car garage
• 2 car garage

Bette Pilgaard
335-752-0172
www.bettepilgaard.com

ISSUE NO. 188 APRIL 29, 2021
ISLANDS Grapevine
A person sitting on a beach looking at the ocean.

D.J. General Store
NEW PRODUCTS
Gave Low Calorie Energy Drinks
Bud Light Seltzers
Phillips Brewing Single Tall Can Dips
Big Chief Beef Jerky
Sonnard Potted Peaches

DRAGONFLY TAI CHI
NEW PRODUCTS
Gave Low Calorie Energy Drinks
Bud Light Seltzers
Phillips Brewing Single Tall Can Dips
Big Chief Beef Jerky
Sonnard Potted Peaches

Sylvie Schroeder
Private Real Estate Consultant
250-878-7199
At Island 101 Denman Island (Corner Denman & Beach) 100% Fibreoptic (all call with key water & that day 1 mile gold before other from the Denman side the new property to stop the Denman side there is a great water to house water past when you are satisfied with the results, up to the glass with fresh water & dry it off with paper towel.

Out of the Woods
335-0861
www.outofthewoods.com

TREE SERVICE
20+ years of experience in all types of tree work
• Tree removal & stump grinding
• Limbing & bucking
• Pruning & maintenance
• Emergency storm damage cleanup
• Insurance & bonding
• Free estimates
• Call or visit our website for a free quote today!

RE/MAX Bette Pilgaard
Selling & Buying
335-752-0172
www.bettepilgaard.com

Island Grapevine

Denman Island Weekly Community Paper Est. 1891 April 27, 2017 - Issue #3264

VET DAY IS MAY 2nd
David McDonald DVM
With Nicole & Emma the Vet
Takes every month
For information & for appointment
Call for more: 250-335-0037
Or email: davidmcdonald@denman.com

HEAR YEE, HEAR YEE! Celebrate See
Robin Hood & His Merry Men
Thursday May 4, 10am & 2pm
Friday May 5, 10am
Community Hall

Sylvia Schneider
Professional Organizer
Declutter & Organize Your Home
Help you get the most of your space
• Storage Solutions
• Home Staging
• Outfitting & Moving
• Personalized
• Client and a more

RAIN WATER TANKS,
MADE IN B.C.
BIG OR SMALL, WE HAVE THEM ALL
ACQUAFLEX SYSTEMS - 250-0037
Complete rainwater systems

PURPOSE & RE-PURPOSE
Barns of Sam & Cathy Albright
250-335-0037
Mary North of May Estate
Extended hours after May 20th
www.denmanbarnrealestate.com

Sylvia Schneider
Professional Organizer
Declutter & Organize Your Home
Help you get the most of your space
• Storage Solutions
• Home Staging
• Outfitting & Moving
• Personalized
• Client and a more

Pemberton Holmes
250-335-0037
1940 Denman Road, Denman, BC
Real Estate Broker/Realtor

Don Lockett & Shel Bradsgaard
WATERFRONT COTTAGES & SHARED 13 ACRES
Featuring private location with easy beach access, 2 cottages & 2 shared waterfront plots, 2.5 acres waterfront, 25-26-27-28
www.denmanbarnrealestate.com
250-335-0112

SHACK & WAGON
250-335-0112
"A Natural"
Do the Frugal!
OPEN
FRI-MON
12-7
PIES
Cakes
Breads
A growing
selection of
solid foods

New Hours
Post Office
M-F 9:30 - 2pm
Sat 10:30 - 12:30
Sat 9:30 - 12

Regular Season Hours
Store
M-Sat 10:30 - 6:30
Gas Bar
M-Sat 8:30 - 6
Sun 10 - 3

Denman Island General Store
New Products:
1-4 Vegetable Juice 10L in cartons
Level Ground Great Fair Trade Antennas
GMO Free Maroon Rice
El Grande Guacamole Dip Mix
Several varieties of Ruby Super Denman
Organic Pickles Garlic

RE/MAX The Islands
Denman & Huxley
250-335-2510
www.remax.ca
www.remax.com

SOLD! PLANT YOUR VINEYARD DREAM
Enjoy outstanding panoramic views of the beautiful mountains, the Comox Glacier and Baynes Sound from your hilltop retreat. Five acres have optional lots.

Bente Pilgaard
Managing Broker, Realtor
250-792-0128
bentepilgaard@denman.com
www.denmanrealestate.com

Thinking about selling?
we have buyers looking for Denman properties

ISLAND Grapevine

Thinking of buying or selling?
Contact me for a free consultation!

Shirley, Westport
250-335-0037
www.denmanbarnrealestate.com

CELEBRATION OF LIFE FOR Jason McDonald
All are welcome to come celebrate the wonderful and vibrant life of Jason McDonald
He will be laid to rest in the Denman Island Cemetery on Friday, May 5, 2017 at 10:00 am. Burial will be in the Denman Island Cemetery. A reception will follow at the Denman Island Community Hall. October 15, 2:00 pm at the back hall.

Full in a great time to let your home, it is the time of the year when people come to the island to purchase a property and the inventory is very low. Call me for a free market evaluation of your property.
Happy Fall
www.denmanbarnrealestate.com
250-335-0112

FORD'S COVE STORE
250-335-0112
We sell & we serve throughout the island for you
STORE OPEN EVERYDAY 9AM TO 6PM
PIZZA EVERYDAY 4PM TO 7PM
TEL: 250-335-2139

Pemberton Holmes
250-335-0037
1940 Denman Road, Denman, BC
Real Estate Broker/Realtor

Don Lockett & Shel Bradsgaard
WATERFRONT COTTAGES & SHARED 13 ACRES
Featuring private location with easy beach access, 2 cottages & 2 shared waterfront plots, 2.5 acres waterfront, 25-26-27-28
www.denmanbarnrealestate.com
250-335-0112

Denman Island General Store
250-335-0112
1940 Denman Road, Denman, BC
Real Estate Broker/Realtor

Don Lockett & Shel Bradsgaard
WATERFRONT COTTAGES & SHARED 13 ACRES
Featuring private location with easy beach access, 2 cottages & 2 shared waterfront plots, 2.5 acres waterfront, 25-26-27-28
www.denmanbarnrealestate.com
250-335-0112

Don Lockett & Shel Bradsgaard
WATERFRONT COTTAGES & SHARED 13 ACRES
Featuring private location with easy beach access, 2 cottages & 2 shared waterfront plots, 2.5 acres waterfront, 25-26-27-28
www.denmanbarnrealestate.com
250-335-0112

Denman Island General Store
250-335-0112
1940 Denman Road, Denman, BC
Real Estate Broker/Realtor

Don Lockett & Shel Bradsgaard
WATERFRONT COTTAGES & SHARED 13 ACRES
Featuring private location with easy beach access, 2 cottages & 2 shared waterfront plots, 2.5 acres waterfront, 25-26-27-28
www.denmanbarnrealestate.com
250-335-0112

Don Lockett & Shel Bradsgaard
WATERFRONT COTTAGES & SHARED 13 ACRES
Featuring private location with easy beach access, 2 cottages & 2 shared waterfront plots, 2.5 acres waterfront, 25-26-27-28
www.denmanbarnrealestate.com
250-335-0112

RE/MAX The Islands
Denman & Huxley
250-335-2510
www.remax.ca
www.remax.com

IMAGINE YOUR VINEYARD DREAM
With amazing views and magnificent views from the high bluff, this 143 acres with built-in swimming pool, a large vineyard and water view are perfect for you.

Bente Pilgaard
Managing Broker, Realtor
250-792-0128
bentepilgaard@denman.com
www.denmanrealestate.com

Any Real Estate needs?
Call me for immediate service!

ISSUE NO. 1564 • WWW.THEISLANDGRAPEVINE.COM • AUGUST 27TH 2014



HEAVEN ISLAND
250-335-0112
1940 Denman Road, Denman, BC
Real Estate Broker/Realtor

Don Lockett & Shel Bradsgaard
WATERFRONT COTTAGES & SHARED 13 ACRES
Featuring private location with easy beach access, 2 cottages & 2 shared waterfront plots, 2.5 acres waterfront, 25-26-27-28
www.denmanbarnrealestate.com
250-335-0112

Don Lockett & Shel Bradsgaard
WATERFRONT COTTAGES & SHARED 13 ACRES
Featuring private location with easy beach access, 2 cottages & 2 shared waterfront plots, 2.5 acres waterfront, 25-26-27-28
www.denmanbarnrealestate.com
250-335-0112

Comox Valley ANIMAL HOSPITAL
250-335-0112
1940 Denman Road, Denman, BC
Real Estate Broker/Realtor

Don Lockett & Shel Bradsgaard
WATERFRONT COTTAGES & SHARED 13 ACRES
Featuring private location with easy beach access, 2 cottages & 2 shared waterfront plots, 2.5 acres waterfront, 25-26-27-28
www.denmanbarnrealestate.com
250-335-0112

Don Lockett & Shel Bradsgaard
WATERFRONT COTTAGES & SHARED 13 ACRES
Featuring private location with easy beach access, 2 cottages & 2 shared waterfront plots, 2.5 acres waterfront, 25-26-27-28
www.denmanbarnrealestate.com
250-335-0112

BRAIDWOOD
250-335-0112
1940 Denman Road, Denman, BC
Real Estate Broker/Realtor

Don Lockett & Shel Bradsgaard
WATERFRONT COTTAGES & SHARED 13 ACRES
Featuring private location with easy beach access, 2 cottages & 2 shared waterfront plots, 2.5 acres waterfront, 25-26-27-28
www.denmanbarnrealestate.com
250-335-0112

Don Lockett & Shel Bradsgaard
WATERFRONT COTTAGES & SHARED 13 ACRES
Featuring private location with easy beach access, 2 cottages & 2 shared waterfront plots, 2.5 acres waterfront, 25-26-27-28
www.denmanbarnrealestate.com
250-335-0112

ISSUE NO. 1564 • WWW.THEISLANDGRAPEVINE.COM • MAY 15TH 2015



HEAVEN ISLAND
250-335-0112
1940 Denman Road, Denman, BC
Real Estate Broker/Realtor

Don Lockett & Shel Bradsgaard
WATERFRONT COTTAGES & SHARED 13 ACRES
Featuring private location with easy beach access, 2 cottages & 2 shared waterfront plots, 2.5 acres waterfront, 25-26-27-28
www.denmanbarnrealestate.com
250-335-0112

Don Lockett & Shel Bradsgaard
WATERFRONT COTTAGES & SHARED 13 ACRES
Featuring private location with easy beach access, 2 cottages & 2 shared waterfront plots, 2.5 acres waterfront, 25-26-27-28
www.denmanbarnrealestate.com
250-335-0112

WICKED FABRICATION
250-335-0112
1940 Denman Road, Denman, BC
Real Estate Broker/Realtor

Don Lockett & Shel Bradsgaard
WATERFRONT COTTAGES & SHARED 13 ACRES
Featuring private location with easy beach access, 2 cottages & 2 shared waterfront plots, 2.5 acres waterfront, 25-26-27-28
www.denmanbarnrealestate.com
250-335-0112

Don Lockett & Shel Bradsgaard
WATERFRONT COTTAGES & SHARED 13 ACRES
Featuring private location with easy beach access, 2 cottages & 2 shared waterfront plots, 2.5 acres waterfront, 25-26-27-28
www.denmanbarnrealestate.com
250-335-0112

BRAIDWOOD
250-335-0112
1940 Denman Road, Denman, BC
Real Estate Broker/Realtor

Don Lockett & Shel Bradsgaard
WATERFRONT COTTAGES & SHARED 13 ACRES
Featuring private location with easy beach access, 2 cottages & 2 shared waterfront plots, 2.5 acres waterfront, 25-26-27-28
www.denmanbarnrealestate.com
250-335-0112

Don Lockett & Shel Bradsgaard
WATERFRONT COTTAGES & SHARED 13 ACRES
Featuring private location with easy beach access, 2 cottages & 2 shared waterfront plots, 2.5 acres waterfront, 25-26-27-28
www.denmanbarnrealestate.com
250-335-0112



35
YEARS

1991-2026