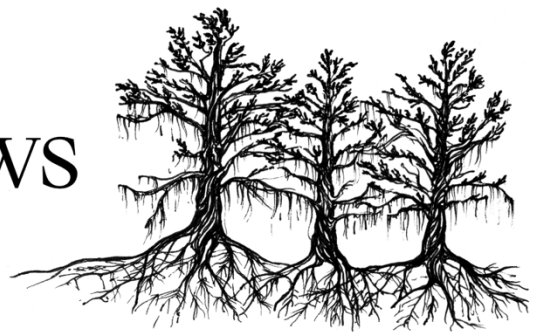




# Xwe'etay News



Issue 4

May 2024

## A Note from your Editors

Many thanks for the feedback on the newsletter. We've heard that people like/don't like the font, want/don't want staples, like/don't like authorship at the bottom instead of the top... Not surprisingly, there are differences of opinion about these details within our collective. What's most important, however, is that we're hearing that folks are finding Xwe'etay News to be a fun and informative read — thanks to all of you.

People told us that we didn't include authorship on some pieces last month. We will try and pay attention to this going forward as we agree strongly that this is important. In the meantime, we want to acknowledge that the obituary for Steve Lamb was written by Doban, Louis, and Seaborne Lamb, and Diana Mongeau. Our apologies to the family for this omission. It is corrected on the on-line version of the newsletter.

With respect to the font, we originally chose Times New Roman because of its oldish look. But that's precisely why some Lasquetians don't like it! As you can see, we're trying a sans serif font this month.

Some folks have asked to see prior months' columns and articles. Dianna will post .pdf versions of all past issues on-line.

And finally, although none of us loves that we're printing so many paper copies of the newsletter, the one thing that most Lasquetians agree on is that they want a paper copy to read. We do want to let folks know that the paper we're using is Forest Stewardship Council (FCS) certified — meaning the paper is made from "responsibly sourced wood fiber".

Enjoy reading and send comments our way:  
[xweetaynews@lasqueti.ca](mailto:xweetaynews@lasqueti.ca) - *the Yew Collective*

## Creatures are my Teachers

### Obituary For My Cat, Wayne Rainey

*April 15, 1994 - November 3, 2006*

In the spring of 1994, I was lying in my bed in a float house when Wayne burst from the loins of his mother, the stray who showed up one day all charm and good intentions, but failed to tell me she was in the family way.

In his early days, Wayne caught the occasional bird. So, when he felt like hunting, I would sit with him and say, "I will always give you good food, I will never abandon you, and birds just want to be free like you and me." I put the pictures in my mind and reinforced this daily. Eventually I would find him asleep under a blooming lilac that was abuzz with hummingbirds.

Wayne allowed Beedoop, the baby robin, to share his window shelf, no cage, and they would sit together for hours watching the bluff. Once I caught Wayne sleeping beside my head with Beedoop perched on top of him. - *(cont'd next pg)*



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*We acknowledge and honour the Indigenous Peoples  
who, for generations, have made Xwe'etay/Lasqueti their home.*

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*(Creatures cont'd from previous pg)*

A baby flycatcher needed help, and when I let it out of its enclosure for the day, it flew out and landed between Wayne's paws on the bed. I left them there, nose to beak, and went to the kitchen to blanch the morning mealworms.

Wayne was my best friend (sorry Kathy, you're just my second- best friend), my significant other (though not in the biblical sense — he was neutered), and the one who showed me that communication with animals can be deeper than we imagine. It requires respect, attention, curiosity, and a dose of magic.

After Wayne's death, I spent two days building the meowsoleum. I schlepped boulders to make walls. I lugged huge flat rocks for stairs. I made dirt. I used to think a labour of love was something you did not because you had to, but because you wanted to. Now I know it is much more. It is hard work that drives you up through sadness. It's a way to spend grief.

The night before Wayne's death I wrote of his incredible bird spirit, and I told him that I would bury him with feathers. By 4:00am he was gone and I placed him on his window shelf. By a single candle light, I went to play the song I associated with our time together. On top of the stereo was a wren. We watched each other. After a moment I said, "Little wren, I have to put you out." I reached forward, and it flew to the desk. I went there, and it flew to the shelves, and finally it came to rest on Wayne's body. I stood before it, now knowing why it had come. I reached out and it let me hold it. I nudged the door open with my foot, opened my hands, and the wren flew up into the starry, predawn sky.

Wayne is survived by the hedgehogs and the chickens. Also Dapple the deer, Sable the llama, Beedoop the robin, herds upon herds of wild birds, me, and these two magnificent ravens who watch over us all. — *Jay Rainey*



## ~~~~ Ebbs and Flows ~~~~

### The Story of Marshall's Beach

Well, I find myself here after making my usual unremembered promises! Island history: I love to read about it and to contribute the occasional tale, verbally. My research has been so personal, though, that it is difficult to imagine it as of interest to others.

I recently had a rather shocking experience — again, so personal, but still amazing. I have been an appreciator of Marshall's Beach — as settlers began calling it after they started living here — since I first visited it when I was a child, around 1959. As a community, we all loved it, and always felt free to drive down to Lenny's Lagoon for a visit anytime. Our one perfect, fully sandy beach. I think it may be the only one on Lasqueti; certainly, the only large, wide, perfect beach like that. I have sat there in appreciation, had picnics there, recently attended archaeological talks about it by Dana and the local Indigenous elders and community members.

Since the uplands around it have been so carefully monitored by the current owners, it has become less accessible; but luckily in this country the tidal lands are publicly owned, and so it is still possible to access it from the water and from other nearby properties. It is an exquisite and useful spot — an ancient refrigerator, a fish trap which could keep the fish fresh until it could be processed — in use for possibly thousands of years! This coast had been so beneficial and so well used for centuries.

I always knew the Land Company owned the land around there, but never wondered where it came from. I assumed it was something to which Charlie Williams may have contributed. When Great-Grandpa sailed down this coast in 1895 and got dropped off here on Lasqueti, he purchased a few swaths of land on the north end for himself and his brothers-in-law. They tried moving here and attempted to set up and farm his estate at Sunset Beach (Schumak Farm). But It was too tricky for them! They bought the Island's first work horses. The land that Great-Grandpa bought for them was around Lennie's Lagoon. - *(cont'd on next pg)*

(Ebbes and Flows cont'd from previous pg)

It was only this winter, after all these years, that it finally twigged, that this beach had taken its name from them, because they owned it at the time. They were the Marshall brothers!

- Laurence Fisher



Michelle Munkittrick

Marshall's Beach fish trap

## The Arts Almanac

*Editors' Note: Stay tuned for another installment from Jen B in the June issue. Computer issues prevented submitting this month.*

### Arts Council Update

#### Arts Fest Volunteers Needed (July 5, 6)

Lots of the chief positions have been filled but we still have need of volunteers and specifically a volunteer coordinator. If you want to help make this Big Fun Artsy Festival happen, please get in touch with JennyV [jennyv@lasqueti.ca](mailto:jennyv@lasqueti.ca) or Jen Brant [brant.jen@gmail.com](mailto:brant.jen@gmail.com). – JennyV

### Cultural Burning – May 19

Chief Mark Recalma, Willie Pierre, Bill White, and Kim Recalma-Clutesi will be hosting another cultural burning ceremony for the Xwe'etay ancestors, at Dolf and Suzanne's on Millicheap Road, followed by a feast at the Hall. Many will remember last year's event as a profound gift. As last year, we will be inviting people from the neighbouring First Nations communities. This year's "table" will be smaller, but also meaningful. Instead of gifting blankets to the cultural workers, we'd like to gift baskets of Xwe'etay produce (eggs, squash, greens, nuts, etc.). Visit [www.xweetaynews.com/cultural-burning](http://www.xweetaynews.com/cultural-burning) to learn more about this Coast Salish ritual. Details to follow in the email list and FB. Contact Dana [dlepofsk@sfu.ca](mailto:dlepofsk@sfu.ca) if you'd like to help in any way.

## ArT & PLaY

Last November a small group of us started meeting at the Arts Centre once a week. We are still with it and now going strong. It's me and a group of five awesome kids! It's been great to see the kids get to know each other and feel more confident and comfortable in the space.

Over the past few months, we have sculpted with clay and waxed yarn, created octopus and mushrooms out of cardboard, made leaf prints and mandalas out of forest materials, painted and decorated a big eucalyptus branch together, and created many paintings using various tools, applying the paint with everything from toy cars to natural paint brushes. We've also enjoyed going wild on the playground and cozying up for story time by the fire.

I want to give a big thank you to the Arts Centre for embracing the odd stray hotwheel or piece of lego, along with other forgotten items, and perhaps one or two left-over fort-structures in the space. Needless to say, we had a lot of fun. Thanks also to Gretje who generously gave us a bunch of awesome art supplies including washable tempera paints! Richard Bauer kindly left us some plywood to paint on that he will assemble into one of the new art centre chairs. Thank you! <3

With the weather becoming warmer we will move our play group to a new location. We will spend our time together outside doing forest things. We'll wrap up at the end of June, and perhaps start again in the fall, returning to the Arts Centre in the winter months. So far, it's been a nice way to meet up for some social time (for kids in their pre-school years) and a good growth experience for me. The kids teach me so much and are so loving. I am also seeing how art for kids promotes confidence, problem solving, emotional expression, tactile agility, and creativity in all things! - Carly P.



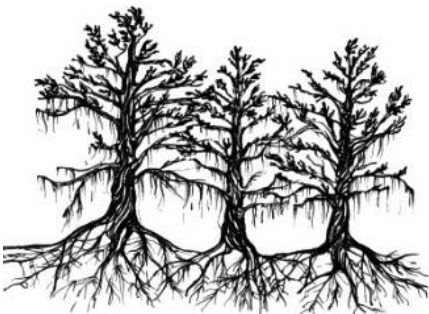
3 The crew working on the Painted Branch: Xander, Caleb, Cora, Barnabé (missing Sofia)

## Lithium Battery Safety

In this article I'll provide an overview of some of the safety considerations associated with lithium batteries. There are specific standards that govern batteries and energy storage systems (ESS). The one that will be most relevant to Laquetians is UL 1973 which is a chemistry agnostic battery safety standard. The test procedure includes mechanical safety, thermal cycling, exposure to moisture and, perhaps most important, fire exposure testing. *All* batteries purchased for home installations should be certified to UL 1973 standards. Part of the requirements for attaining a UL standard is that the manufacturer must provide installation and operating instructions. Read and follow them; they contain important information about safe installation and operation.

There are a variety of chemistries within the lithium battery "family" and some of them have less-than-stellar reputations. NMC (Nickel Manganese Cobalt) use materials that are mined in very economically depressed areas by very oppressed workers. These batteries have the highest energy density and have been used extensively in EV applications. They have a higher risk of thermal runaway catching fire. Many e-bike batteries use this chemistry for the extra energy density. This choice of chemistry is largely why they frequently burn when charging. The quality of the battery management system (BMS) is more critical with NMC batteries. A high quality BMS that is matched to the specific battery makes a significant difference with respect to fire risk. More on BMS later.

Virtually all the lithium batteries made for home applications are Lithium Iron Phosphate (LiFeP04 or LFP for short). This chemistry is somewhat less energy-dense and is also considerably safer and uses less controversial materials. It is very hard to make these batteries burn. Hard but not impossible – which is why a safe installation is so important! – *Ezra Auerbach*



## Cemetery Clean-up Thanks

Around twenty-five people showed up on Sunday, April 21 to work on deer-proofing the fence. We should now be able to plant more tulips and deer-loved flowers.

We planted a yew tree in the crook of the big-leaf maple so that when the maple dies, the yew will replace it. If you visit the cemetery this summer and see the yew could use a drink, there is a water barrel behind the shed with a tap on it.

Next work party in the fall. Thank ya' all.

- Kathy Schultz



Kathy Schultz

### Ode to the artist

Ain't no fate but what we make,  
fixate on your portrait of self-hate,  
put down your brush turn away from hate.  
When all you give is all they take and consider  
crossing heaven's gate.  
Put down that brush, turn away from hate.  
When life is hard and all seems fake.  
Pick up that brush and  
Paint, paint, paint.

- *Jamie Smith*

## Ferry Committee News

On behalf of the LCA Ferry Committee, I am pleased to submit a brief report for the LCA AGM, for the year of 2023 to 2024.

As everyone is aware, it was a challenging year for the Lasqueti Island ferry service on a number of levels. For more than a year, the Ferry Committee worked toward resolving contract violations and very poor service and customer relations.

We wrote numerous letters to Western Pacific Marine (WPM), MLA Adam Walker, Minister Rob Flemming and BC Ferries. Despite our efforts, we have not yet received even an acknowledgement of a letter submitted to BC Ferries. Community members also wrote numerous letters of complaint to the aforementioned parties. We asked for basic things such as contract compliance and undisrupted services to the island. We also requested consultations with island residents, and that the service provider be held to account if the contract terms were not being met. In addition, we asked for either a new formal bidding process for Route 55 ferry services, and that any contract renewal for the current company be limited to one year.

MLA Adam Walker held a public meeting on the island in January. It was well attended. A report was subsequently submitted to BC Ferries and MoTI. Neither BC Ferries or MoTI made any attempts to meet with island residents; nor did they respond to invitations to attend the Island meeting in January.

There has been a new contract negotiated and signed for continued ferry service on Lasqueti Island (Route 55), which to date has not been viewed by the Ferry Committee. A Freedom of Information request has been made through MLA Walker's office; we will receive a copy following the completion of that process.

The Ferry Committee continues to work with WPM on some outstanding issues, such as: crew shortages and training; vessel capacity;

communications; annual meetings; electronic pass systems; touch pay capability; prepaid passes; return fares; the condition of the current vessel; and the hiring of local crew members.

There have been a number of improvements to the ferry service during the past few months and the Ferry Committee remains hopeful that the island will maintain a safe and reliable ferry service on Lasqueti Island.

We are honoured to work on your behalf.

- *Shelley Garside, for your Ferry Committee:  
Sue Kristinsson, Jana Vannan, Tim Peterson,  
Ezra Auerbach, Peter Johnston, Andrew Fall,  
Shelley Garside.*



### LCA Update

The next round of Community Hall improvements are on the way. We'll begin with the kitchen. A new triple stainless steel sink, cupboards and flooring will (hopefully) be installed in the next couple of months. The LCA has some money to get the project going but we could always use more. The propane stove needs to be replaced and the fan above it could finally become functional!

If you want to contribute to the upgrades, contact [lasquetilcatreasurer@gmail.com](mailto:lasquetilcatreasurer@gmail.com). Lisa Johnson can give you a tax receipt for donations over \$50.

Fundraising events for kitchen improvements are being loosely planned. The 2nd Annual Talent Show will be sometime in August and an Oktoberfest in October. Details to come.

In the meantime, please come to The LCA AGM on Saturday June 8 at 1pm to find out how you can support or join a committee. -JennyV on behalf of the Hall Building Committee





**Serafina (Fina) and Zinnia talk about their experiences in Mexico**

F: Zinnia, how old were you when you first went to Mexico?

Z: I'm not exactly sure but I think I was about 2.

Z: What were some of your favourite things at the Plaza?

F: I think the slinkies, they definitely were the funnest. I like how they go down stairs and how they had lights and changed colours.

Z: I loved the "bricolin", the triple trampoline, there are 3 spaces where you can jump. And it had a ladder to get to the next level and then they had ropes you had to hold on to to get to the steep part. It was so much fun.

F: Yeah, I think it was the funnest thing ever. I think we should have one here.

Z: Did you think the tamales were yummy?

F: Yes! I really liked the chicken ones and on some days at the plaza you could get them filled with pineapple and watermelon for dessert!

Z: Even more than the tamales I liked the spinaka, it's like spinach and cheese wrapped in a corn husk. It was the best.

F: I didn't try that but did you like the crepes or the tamales more?

Z: I think I loved them both even, and I loved the churros.

F: Ugh! I did not like the churros, They are the worst. Last time I had them I almost threw up. They use the same oil to make them day after day after day.

F: How old were you when you started school in Mexico?

Z: I was like 5 or something and I remember when I went to kindergarten and I also remember before that that I went to daycare and there was a really nice lady there and she spoke English. And then I went to kindergarten. I didn't really want to go to school at first, but I had to.

F: School for me was terrifying, evil and not fun because my teacher didn't speak any English and I went one day without Zinnie and I thought I was going to die that day. The other kids were interested in me but I didn't know anything of what they were saying. I'm feeling a bit better now. I know how to ask for a crepe in Spanish "un crepe con nutella e fresa".



**There's a train you wanna catch**

It's that time in the spring,  
when every partnered robin sings...  
the sun-down.  
The sky glows with that before-the-die-off...  
coral colours.  
Turning,  
from the in-your-face hues of a field of Holland  
tulips.  
Fading,  
to the hugging your infant child to your breast of  
a velvet evening rose...  
and your heart squeezes a bit,  
your breathe hitches,  
there's a welling in your eyes  
and the thousand echoes of the robins singing  
goodnight...  
fills your soul.  
That's the train you wanna catch,  
it's the one...  
that takes you home.

- Dolf Schoenmakers, 17 April, 2024



## Sharp-Tailed Snakes

Last spring the elusive sharp-tailed snake was seen—and documented!—on Lasqueti. As this is its northern-most siting, other than a population in Pemberton, it has caused quite a stir in the scientific scene. Read on to learn more!

Lasqueti Island has recently been identified as the northern-most locale (on the Gulf islands) of the endangered Sharp-tailed Snake (*Contia tenuis*). There is a more northerly population in Pemberton on the mainland that was discovered in 2011. This small (20-30 cm long), reddish-brown snake has been critically endangered in BC since 1999 largely due to habitat loss and fragmentation. Sharp-tailed Snakes live in open forests and woodlands in coastal Douglas-fir and Garry Oak woodland habitats. They tend to thrive in subterranean habitats where the ground is rocky with a southern exposure to support their egg-laying. Unlike the common garter snake, the Sharp-tailed Snake is rarely seen basking in the sun; it generally prefers to stay under cover and is typically more active during cool, moist conditions when the slugs they prey upon are active. These snakes tend to be more active at night.

The Lasqueti Island Sharp-tailed Snake was found in early May 2023 near Richardson Bay where there is an abundance of exposed south-facing rocky habitat with Douglas-fir and Arbutus forest. These snakes are seasonally active in early spring and again in the fall; they, likely spend the majority of the dry summer and cold winter months sheltered in underground burrows. Individuals appear to restrict their movements to relatively small and distinct areas. This lack of movement means stewardship and conservation is very important to the survival and recovery of Sharp-tailed Snake populations. It is difficult to find them due to their secretive habits. Utilizing snake-friendly gardening practices (including piling rocks in sunny locations, avoiding pesticides, and planting native plants) and maintaining natural areas with south-facing rocky slopes, rotting woody debris, and rock piles would benefit many native species. The Sharp-tailed Snake's secretive nature makes it challenging to document its habits. Studies are

ongoing to determine more about its behaviour and how to best support its recovery.  
- Charlene Lloyd, BSC in Environmental Science

### Upcoming LINC events:

- May 24** Coast Salish Woolly dog presentation, Audrey Lin (Mus Nat. History), 7pm, Arts Ctr
- May 25** 11:00 our AGM, followed by a hike to a new (beautiful!) acquisition.
- June 2**, a hike to the Ecological Reserve in search of prickly-pear cactus flowers, led by Duane. Details to follow



## Meet the Neighbours



### What's your "Lasqueti story"?

Gwyn Cole has been with Lasqueti since she was a baby, coming on her dad's sailboat. In the 50's her family bought the general store in False Bay - source of rubber boots, food, nuts & bolts and of course penny candy. She was taught by Pat Forbes and went to school with the Millicheaps, Forbes, Manns & Ryans. She had "quite the childhood," roaming the Rock. When her parents split, she moved to Courtenay with her mom, returning in Grade 11 to finish high school here. She rode the ferry [I'm drawing a blank, what was the old ferry's name?] with her - infamous? Notorious? *legendary* father, Captain [what was his name - Al?]. Then - "I went off to see the big world, which lasted only 30 years!" Gwyn came back in 2005, and now resides in the Elder Cottages at the Judith Fisher Centre. She has put in a huge vegetable garden and goes for walks and mushroom hunting with the incredibly fluffy Otis.

She is diving deep into dying with natural materials (we save our avocado rinds and pits for her) and creating beautiful scarves and bags with Lasqueti leaves.

### ***If you had a magic wand, what is one thing you would change on Lasqueti?***

"Can I have two? - I'd pave the roads and have a 7-day-a-week ferry."

### ***What would you never want to change?***

The beauty of this place.

- Suzanne Heron

## Canada Geese: Are They an Invasive Species?

Looking out the window this morning I watch a pair of Canada Geese. They look like they are getting ready to nest on a little rocky islet in Heron Bay. A pair of geese have been nesting here for what seems like years, but now I've learned Canada Geese haven't always bred on Vancouver Island.



In an article in the August 2016 edition of B.C. Birds, Neil K. Dawe and Andrew C. Stewart, wrote that Canada Geese did not historically breed on

Vancouver Island<sup>1</sup>. They might stop over on their migration or winter here, but only a very few would breed and rear their young here.

In the early 1900's, B.C. operated several game farms on Vancouver Island. They primarily imported and raised pheasants, but they also raised some Canada Geese. In 1929, 16 Canada Geese were liberated from the Elk Lake Game Farm and likely released at nearby Elk Lake. By 1958 there were 200 resident Canada Geese at Elk Lake.

This population of Canada Geese increased slowly. It got a major boost in the 1970's when the B.C. Fish and Wildlife Branch carried out a program to introduce geese from a variety of sources, such as Saskatchewan, Ontario, Minnesota, to a number of places on Southern Vancouver Island. For example, in the late 1960's the Branch released 20 or 30 geese in Craig Bay near Parksville; and in 1976 they released some in the Englishman River estuary. This continued until the 1980's. Prior to this there were no resident breeding Canada Geese in our area!

From these introductions the number of Canada Geese now resident on Southern Vancouver Island has increased to at least 15,000. In the opinion of Neil Dawe and Andrew Stewart, these resident geese "should be considered an exotic, invasive species similar to the European Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) and the House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*)." Like other

introduced species they are impacting both human-modified landscapes and native habitats.  
– *Sheila Ray*

1. [https://bcbirds.bcfo.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/bcbirds\\_v20\\_p24\\_canada-goose-on-vancouver-island-british-columbia.pdf](https://bcbirds.bcfo.ca/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/bcbirds_v20_p24_canada-goose-on-vancouver-island-british-columbia.pdf)

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## Wisdom from Xwe'etay Gardeners



### Garden Problem: Damping Off

Damp-off is a fungal disease that occurs in most garden soils. It particularly affects very young, newly-transplanted seedlings. A baby plant will be looking fine, then suddenly collapse. The stem will look very thin and watery right at soil level, and the tender little plant will die.

Years ago, I was having a lot of damp off and noticed that it occurs when the top of the soil is quite wet, so I figured out a way to (mostly) avoid this when transplanting a seedling into a bigger pot.

Fill the pot about 3/4 full with potting soil, then make a hole in the soil with your fingers and water a bit into the hole, where the roots will go. Now put the seedling and whatever soil comes with it into the hole, firm lightly, and add DRY soil to fill the pot, so that the surface of the soil around the stem is dry, which apparently doesn't welcome the fungus. Wait a few days to water the plant again, and water from the bottom if possible, setting the pot in a shallow pool of water to soak it up from the bottom. Water early in what promises to be a sunny day, so that the plant won't sit wet and cold over a cloudy day or a night.

Damp off, for me, has mostly affected tomato and brassica seedlings. This year I've had only two tomato plants succumb, out of about 90. Not too bad! – *Sue Wheeler*

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*Editor's Note: Marti W. provided feedback regarding rat-free composting: Marti also started burying her compost when rats became more prevalent on Lasqueti. She has two garden sites – one with drier, more sandy soil and one with heavier clay soil. She buries compost in both. Marti has found that the compost breaks down more quickly and effectively in dry, sandy soil.*



## Kitchen Creations

### Butternut Squash and BBQ Chicken Pizza

This recipe was inspired by a piece of pizza I had at Sue and Peter's house. Before this slice of pizza, I had never heard of squash on pizza and was pleasantly surprised by how delicious it was. It inspired me to dream up this cheese free pizza for Andrew who is not interested in fake cheese. The butternut squash in this recipe is not pretending to be cheese, it's squash and proud of it, and somehow still has the moreishness of a cheese pizza...and it's simple enough for a team of feral kids to make!

Take 1 butternut squash. Cubed, steamed and blended into a thick sauce.  
Your favourite pizza dough  
1 large onion caramelized  
2 chicken breasts cooked however you like (I steam mine in an inch of chicken broth in a shallow pan with a fitted lid)  
Chop up the chicken and mix it with your favourite bbq sauce.  
Roll out the dough and spread it with the butternut squash sauce thickly.  
Add BBQ chicken and caramelized onions and bake at 400 deg.

- Submitted by Ivy Runnings (and highly recommended by Kathy Schultz)

### “... and I thought you were being rude!”

Just to be clear – this was meant as a joke and no offence was taken. The voyage across the Strait of Georgia on the Centurion is a cacophony even for hearing people; but for those with hearing loss, it is torturously difficult to have any sort of conversation in transit. After struggling for many minutes to hear what a friend was saying, I had to admit that I had essentially not heard a word, and feebly apologized.

Hearing loss is very stigmatizing. Common reactions include denial, shame, dissembling, and withdrawal. At best, one may be perceived as being rude or snooty .... I'm certain that stigma is the main reason why people with slight hearing-loss tend to avoid, refuse or resist getting hearing aids. Some who do so may end up not wearing them on a regular basis or not using them at all.

Hearing instruments (aka hearing aids) are marvellously intricate devices; and, thankfully, the technology has evolved exponentially over the last 40+ years. Unfortunately, they do not restore or correct one's hearing in the way that prescription lenses manage common vision conditions. Increased volume leads to distortion and discomfort. Background noise will always impact the ability to hear conversations even with the most sophisticated hearing instruments. Fatigue or congestion exacerbate the problem. Many hearing-aid wearers rely on lip reading to augment hearing; therefore, poor lighting, obstructions, and the dreaded mumbling may cause further interference. These difficulties may be mitigated in cases of mild or moderate loss.

This is not a bad news story. Hearing instruments work, despite some limitations. For those with severe or profound loss, such aids are essential. There are many other assistive technologies and coping strategies to complement the efficacy of hearing aids. For example, on that same trip, a crew member patiently spoke directly into a transcription app on my cell phone, and I was able to “hear” without any problem. For me, managing my expectations, forgiving myself and maintaining a sense of humour are personal coping strategies. Lately, I have been noticing a blossoming of little devices in or behind the ears. Bravo and welcome to the club! - Sue Ashcroft



Juniper, Xander, and Evan making pizza



## AI, huh, yeah, what is it good for?

In March I wrote that current AI is a statistical prediction machine, one so complex we can't explain it. And I argued that this is not actually "intelligence". While we don't have good definitions for "intelligence," we could likely agree it would include...

- a capacity to understand the physical world (a world model);
- persistent memory and ability to learn from experience;
- ability to reason and to plan.

Even the most advanced AI can do *none* of this. Never mind empathy, suffering, or love.

"Narrow" AI can perform tasks within a single domain. To build such AI requires a huge trove of categorized data (e.g., scans classified as cancer, or not cancer). AI requires such data to build its statistical models, allowing it to make predictions from similar inputs. All current AI results? are "narrow". We have no inkling of how to get to the "general" intelligence of sci-fi.

If AI is not actually intelligent, what's it good for? Could it really take someone's job?

Currently, AI is best suited to tasks that don't require accuracy, or that are repetitious or formulaic. To function effectively, it requires humans to evaluate the quality of its output. Because of this, AI is often best used as a tireless assistant, i.e., fallible and over-confident, yet with a deep and comprehensive knowledge of its "narrow" domain.

With more and more AI on the horizon, some jobs are near certain to radically change, or even disappear. It's already happening in the spheres of legal assistants, customer services reps, bookkeepers, translators, content creators, financial analysts. Any jobs that involve looking up and/or summarizing existing information can likely be supplemented or even replaced by AI. Even jobs that require some creativity like copy editing, computer programming, script writing, or medical diagnosis can be augmented with AI.

The prospect of freeing up human creativity by delegating boring, repetitious tasks to AI is being marketed by tech. evangelists as the new enlightenment. Such glowing promises raise some fundamentally challenging questions, however. How will individuals displaced from their employment provide for their families? Why are we automating creative tasks, like illustration and film making, that people generally do out of passion? Who will ultimately benefit and who will pay the costs?

AI is already disrupting the labour economy. But more worrying is its potential to flood our information spaces, drowning out human connections and human-driven cultural evolution. And these impacts are already being felt. More on this next month. - *Joseph Fall*

## My Favourite Tool

These are two of my best-loved and most used tools: a light wheelbarrow and an extension to enable me to move larger, lighter loads. They're my favourite partly because we live a six- or seven-minute walk from the road, so we need to push or carry nearly everything we want here, or there. There's a stage hand's axiom that says, "Never lift what you can drag, never drag what you can roll, never roll what you can leave." We bought the aluminum wheelbarrow from Woodward department store, decades ago. I made the extension. I'll make improvements to it some day. - *Peter Johnston*



*Editors note: Submit your "Favourite Tool" to us for subsequent issues! (<100 words, please)*

I thought I would briefly cover the topic of dementia. Dementia is a general term used when a person develops difficulties with reasoning, judgment and memory. As well as memory loss, a person must have difficulty with at least one other area of difficulty, such as (i) speaking or writing coherently or understanding what is said or written, (ii) recognizing familiar surroundings, (iii) planning or carrying out complex or multi-step tasks. To be considered dementia the issues need to be severe enough to interfere with a person's daily activities and ability to live independently.

Most people have heard of Alzheimer disease as it is the most common type of dementia. Other forms of dementia are: vascular dementia, dementia with lewy bodies, parkinson disease dementia, frontotemporal dementia, as well as mixed dementia. Mixed dementia is more common in persons over 80 years of age and is often caused by both Alzheimers disease and vascular damage. CTE (chronic traumatic encephalopathy) is a form of dementia that is caused by cumulative damage of the brain over years. This can occur with people with chronic alcoholism or repeated head injuries.

So, what can be done to help prevent dementia? This of course depends on the type of dementia. Controlling vascular risk factors can be helpful (controlling blood pressure, diabetes and quitting smoking).

Lifestyle factors have also been associated with dementia. Keeping physically active, staying socially connected and mentally engaged can all help in preventing dementia.

Some forms of dementia such as Alzheimer disease have a genetic component (i.e., they tend to run in families). Having an affected close family member can increase your chance of developing it.

To date there are no medications that have been shown to provide measureable benefits for treating dementia although in some people there may be some apparent "slowing down" of cognitive impairment. The class of medication used for treatment are cholinesterase inhibitors.

Cognitive screening is available for anyone concerned about memory loss. The screening tools commonly used are the MMSE (Mini-mental state exam) and the MoCa (Montreal cognitive

assessment). It is best to have an experienced health practitioner provide these assessments so that other health concerns that may be associated with cognition can be addressed.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. Best, ♥dianne  
[LasquetiHealthCentre@gmail.com](mailto:LasquetiHealthCentre@gmail.com)  
cell 250-240-5712; Clinic # 250-333-8891

**\*\*Clinics Thurs. At JF Health Center, 11-3\*\***

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## Waste Case Scenario

According to the government of Canada, our national recycling rate is a paltry 9%. In Japan, the national average is 20%. But in the small rural township of Kamikatsu (pop. 1500), on the island of Shikoku, the rate is 80%. How was this achieved?

In the 90's, Kamikatsu dealt with garbage by open air burning in a big hole. In 2000, strict new national laws on dioxin emissions shut down the two small incinerators. In 2003 a non-profit called Zero Waste Academy was born. Garbage was studied. Plans were made to change social systems and wasteful habits. Kamikatsu declared its intention to become a Zero Waste Town by 2020.

Built on the former incinerator site, the Zero Waste Center at the heart of this experiment is designed to look like a question mark. By using local cedar off-cuts, hundreds of donated windows, recycled glass flooring and fixtures from abandoned buildings, they created a beautiful example of low waste construction.

Inside the Center, recycling is separated into a whopping 45 categories. Some are refundable (1/4 of disposal costs are off-set); others cost the town to recycle. Residents are required to bring in and sort recycling with help from staff. Initially, resistance to new and complex rules bloomed (as on Lasqueti, all recycling has to be clean and dry.) However, once educated and incentivized by rewards for recycling (points can be exchanged for eco-friendly products), the locals got enthusiastic.

Like Lasqueti, the Zero Waste Center has a free store. Anything reusable goes into the Kuru Kuru Shop (translated as "round and round"). Only Kamikatsu residents can donate but anyone can take. For statistics sake, all donations are weighed and recorded before being displayed and (*cont'd on the next pg*)

(Waste Case, cont'd from previous pg)

weighed and recorded again when taken.

The dot in the question mark is the Hotel Why.

Tourists come and during their educational stay they sort six bins of garbage!

Other nearby businesses like the brewery and cafe are part of the collaborative and circular economies, aiming to not produce garbage or contaminate the environment.

A recycling rate of 80% is remarkable. The next identifiable step there is to get production/industry on board. Kamikatsu has shown the world what is possible when citizens change habits and work towards a shared goal. Lasqueti could be a local model of a community working to reduce waste together. What do you think it would take? *JennyV*

### Trash Barge

May 8, 10 am until the barge is full.

Questions: WMM 250 240 9886

## The way I see it; a two, four, eight, sixteen sheep story

I didn't do well in high school. One of my worst subjects was mathematics in all its forms, so I didn't formally learn about exponentials. Today I have gratitude to our herd of sheep for their patience in teaching me.

Our herd of ewes regularly numbers about 6-8. This year 5 of those were of an age that produced 6 lambs. Now 14 sheep. Occasionally they are joined by an elder ram and two to four wannabes. So, this year the herd at times grows to near 20 in number.

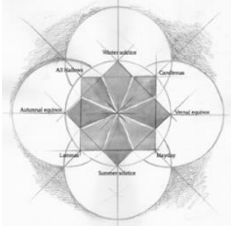
Speaking of growing, in the early spring the grass just launched itself. You could practically see it get taller every day, like corn in Kansas. Now, a month later, we are back to being surrounded by golf greens.

Speaking of growing, last fall we (read that as entirely Suzanne) planted nearly 1000 daffodil bulbs. We got three bouquets out of that crop this spring: one of seven, one of nine, and one of two. We usually have five to six resident deer, two does, an elder and junior buck, and one to three fawns. I have not seen a single deer in the last nine months.

The sheep browse heavily on everything they can reach. Clearly this is not sustainable. As the herd jumps in size each year, that is a lot of live-thirsty-stock: eg., gestating ewe or ram five litres; lactating ewe ten litres. So we are even with my crap arithmetic, at about a 100 litres per day, or depending where you're from, around 22-25 gallons a day, or about 750 gallons a month, or even maybe about 5,000 gallons for seven months outside of winter. If it gets dryer, this is unsustainable, so we will need to enclose the pond where they come at end of day to drink. I suppose we can do something or nothing about this. I for one would like to roll through fields and forest and see flowers. One of our lambs will be prime in about 2 months; four of our lambs in four months; and then one late lamb in six months. Just saying.

My gratitude to the sheep for helping me see things clearly and understanding increases that become more and more rapid. I wonder what it is called when decreases become more and more rapid? - Bye for now, Dolf.

## Poems for the Cross-Quarter Days



### The First of May

This day is so sexy

I'm surprised everyone doesn't just stop whatever they are doing and swoon.

That deep knocking call raven makes listens for an answer from low in our bellies. Have you stroked a tulip petal lately?

On the way home from shucking oysters on the beach I washed the juice from my hands by rubbing them on thick, wet moss.

*I'm not kidding here, this is not a metaphor.* My hands were so full of the smell of life I kept bringing them to my face to breathe.

Look how the tentacle of this snail stretches to taste the air.

Hear how the earth whispers: come closer, yes, yes, yes.

- Sophia Rosenberg, 2024

## LCA 2024 Annual Report from the French Creek Parking Committee

This year the total number of parking places remained the same at 164 green spots. Luckily for French Creek pass holders, the annual fee also remained the same at \$407.00.

We anticipate issuing 5 passes to new recipients this year based on passes being returned or not meeting the qualifications for the green spaces.

We currently have two 'official' car sharing spots --where one pass holder has voluntarily agreed to share their space with another current pass holder. Note that such people qualify to go to the top of the waiting list if their car sharing agreement dissolves. Thanks to those who are doing this to allow space for others to park.

The parking committee wants to thank Kathy Fisher for her years of service on this committee; it welcomes Carmen Stewart to the group as her replacement.

Thank you also to all the community members for understanding the difficulties in issuing passes with our limited capacity. Your patience is greatly appreciated. We hope to see you at the LCA Annual General Meeting on June 8th.

From your committee Lisa J, Sue K, Cindy C, Deb P, Pia L and Carmen S.



Freddy and Sue K. enjoying the ferry ride

## April 2024 AGM report from Peter Lironi: Representative on the French Creek Harbour Board of Directors

I've been on the board for a year now and have seen a substantial number of changes. Previous long-term manager Julie Blood has been replaced by Steve Donegan who has extensive background in marine matters. He lives nearby, has good instincts in dealing with day-to-day business, and faithfully represents the policies of the board. John Millicheap is the new president; and the rest of the board represents a good cross section of the users of French Creek. The parking rate (\$407) has remained the same as last year as our operating expenses remain static.

The fuel tanks at French Creek Seafood have passed their "safe to use date", and their replacement cost is quoted at \$271,000. This cost, plus liability insurance makes it an unattractive business venture. In the past, Small Craft Harbours have assisted in old tank removal, permits and other costs.

An increase in operating costs, new environmental regulations, building codes, permits, engineering reports and drawings, consultation with local indigenous governments, as well as approval from Transport Canada, etc, makes it difficult to have fuel at all in French Creek. There are various consultations going on: I will keep you informed.

The board will probably be asking for some public support along the line as this will affect the Ferry, Coast Guard, commercial fishing, as well as ourselves – the general public. We don't want to see a sea of fuel containers in French Creek.

Toilets in French Creek have become increasingly challenging to maintain as there have been deliberately damaged toilet seats, feces horizontal and vertical, and unfurled? and/or stolen toilet paper. We have decided to put the toilets on cardlock between 10:00 pm and 6:00 am, as that is when most brownouts occur.

If you have any other questions or comments, call me: 250-927-0642 - Peter Lironi

p.s. In regards to time spent and numbers, Lasqueti Islanders continue to be the biggest users of French Creek Harbour.



**From Tim Peterson:** Greetings all,

On April 19, we held the first meeting of our Snaw-naw-as/Islands Trust Joint Working Group. This initial meeting was mostly a meet & greet, but we will be meeting again in July to learn about their interests and any concerns with the current draft of our OCP. We will also be meeting with them in person in late May for the official signing of the protocol agreement.

The CAO hiring committee continues to meet regularly, and is expected to announce the appointment of an executive search firm soon. Because it is anticipated that we may not have a new hire before our current CAO retires, we are also looking at an interim hire, both within the organization, and externally.

At the end of April I'll be heading to Victoria to meet with Shawn Haley, Vancouver Island District Operations Manager at the Ministry of Transportation, and other senior staff. Although Islands Trust and MoTI have had an agreement since 1996, with a provision for an inter-agency task force, the task force has never been struck. I am confident that we will finally take this important step and establish a direct line of communication.

Our next regular business meeting is scheduled for May 6 at the JFC, and we expect to receive a Staff Report on the status of the Official Community Plan Review. In the meantime, feel free to contact your trustees with your questions, comments, or concerns. My email and phone: [tpeterson@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:tpeterson@islandstrust.bc.ca) 250-607-7094. To contact the whole committee and staff, email [laltc@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:laltc@islandstrust.bc.ca)

**From Mikaila Lironi:** As a member of the Regional Planning Committee, I attended a meeting where we reviewed the recommendations from the 2022 Governance report regarding land use planning. This includes standardizing language and bylaw formatting for the Trust Area. This will make it easier for the planner as well as trustees to understand and apply the bylaws. Although some standardization is positive, our bylaws must flow from each area's OCP. Bylaws that work on Saltspring will probably not work on Lasqueti and vice versa.

We also had our first meeting with Snaw-naw-as. It went very well. They gave us some early feedback on the OCP draft. The draft will now go to their council after which they will give us their formal feedback. We will be meeting in person in May to discuss engagement further. The APC will be meeting on May 1st at 4pm at the JFC.

Hope to see you at our next LTC meeting: May 6, 11-3 at the JFC. Mikaila [mlironi@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:mlironi@islandstrust.bc.ca)



qathet  
REGIONAL DISTRICT

**Community Ceramics Studio at the Arts**

**Centre: Survey Results:** The results from the survey were reported at the end of April. Turnout was good (125 responses, all but 2 of which were from residents and/or property owners).

Over 94% (117) were in favour of allowing the Lasqueti Arts Council to build a community ceramic studio on the qRD-owned Legion Lot that is leased to the Arts Council. The summary report includes many interesting comments.

This proposal was supported unanimously at the qRD committee level; and a final decision will be made at a qRD Board meeting in May. Receiving such a high response level with consistent feedback from the community was important for the committee discussion.

**AVICC 2024: Civil Responses to Incivility:** The annual Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities convention brings together local government reps from Victoria to Haida Gwaii, in part to discuss resolutions on many topics brought forward by local governments, and to call on the Province and Feds to take action on the resolutions that are supported by vote.

A highlight was the keynote speaker Diane Kalen-Sukra on rising incivility, and ways to be part of solutions and to avoid adding to the problems. The speaker offered many insights on the causes and consequences of incivility. The talk included several good quotes:

*“Incivility anywhere is a threat to civility everywhere”* (ignoring it is not a solution, but our responses to incivility must be civil).  
*“Community resilience is incompatible with toxic incivility”* (seeking collective harmony strengthens community threads, while propagating and enabling incivility erodes our social fabric).

*(cont'd on next pg)*

qRd (cont'd from previous pg)

*“A love-based community is the only way to be consistent with democracy” (or as Lincoln put it “A house divided against itself cannot stand”).*

The speaker suggested that one role of local government representatives is to mitigate the risks of incivility and division on local community culture by fostering social cohesion. Perhaps not always easy or possible, but at least a guiding point on the horizon.

**Rural Housing Solutions Report:** The qRD Planning staff researched solutions and options for housing in rural communities. These were summarized in a report that was included in the early April Regional Board agenda (available at [www.qathet.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/20240320\\_Review-of-Rural-Housing-Solutions-Final-Report.pdf](http://www.qathet.ca/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/20240320_Review-of-Rural-Housing-Solutions-Final-Report.pdf) or ask for a link).

Please feel free to contact me. I am honoured to be your regional representative.

Director Andrew Fall, qathet Regional District  
Contact: Tel: 250-333-8595



Ruthie King and Zinnia Lironi

## **False Bay Elementary School Annual Spring Fling: A Celebration for a Cause**

As the warmth of spring begins to envelop our island, the Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) at False Bay School eagerly prepares for the largest fundraising event of the year, the Spring Fling. This year's Spring Fling falls on the May long weekend, Saturday May 18th, from 12 PM to 3 PM. This event will be filled with laughter and community spirit, all in support of a vital cause. It serves as the cornerstone fundraiser for our beloved school, which, like many educational institutions, grapples with underfunding. Each year, the proceeds from this event play a crucial role in providing our children with enriching educational experiences beyond the classroom.

For those new to our community, PAC has been the driving force behind the Spring Fling for over 35 years. Dedication and tireless efforts have transformed this event into a cherished tradition that brings together families, neighbors, and friends from on and off island.

What can you expect at the Spring Fling? Well, to start, there will be a BBQ and beverages, an exciting auction, games, a 50/50 raffle, and a

plant sale. And let's not forget about the entertainment – from face painting to the ever-popular cake walk and the irresistible strawberry shortcake sale, there's a treat for everybody.

But beyond the festivities lies a deeper purpose – one rooted in ensuring that every child at False Bay Elementary has the opportunity to explore, learn, and grow. The funds raised during the Spring Fling enable our PAC to organize educational field trips and extracurricular activities that broaden our children's horizons and foster a love for learning. Over the years these funds have also paid for so many things at our school such as school supplies for the staff and students, phys ed equipment, a playground structure, a school garden and many other things.

Whether you're a long-standing member of our community or a newcomer eager to join the festivities, we extend a warm invitation to you to please join us at the False Bay Elementary School's Annual Spring Fling. Together, let's make a difference in the lives of our children and ensure that their educational journey is filled with endless possibilities.

We can't wait to see you there!

# Community Happenings and Notices

## Housing Options Meeting

Please join us for a consideration of housing options on Saturday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, at 4:30 PM, after the Community Forum at the hall. We can look at some of the ideas floated at the last forum, including concepts like a community land trust, co-housing, and a building bank to help fund construction. Bring your ideas and an open mind, and join us as we spend a couple hours exploring some concepts. We hope to establish a working group of folks who want to put some time into following up on some of these possibilities. We also want to see what actions we can come up with in an effort to plan ahead, and to promote continued socio-economic diversity in our community for years to come.

Questions? [shoshanahray@gmail.com](mailto:shoshanahray@gmail.com) or [timpeteron24@yahoo.com](mailto:timpeteron24@yahoo.com)

## Mother's Day Plant Sale

We are back in business this year with a new Mother's Day Plant Sale!

Come and join us for vegetable and flower starts, as well as some perennial plants.

**When?** Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup> 2024, 11:00 - 14:00

**Where? Three locations!**

*Jenny Vester*, "V-Star Varieties" on Gline and Fletcher (follow the flowers down the trail). Please don't bring dogs or small children as she has a rescue dog that reacts to high pitched voices/ unpredictable little people - he likes adults!

*Marie-Ange Fall*, "Old Mossy Haven" on Tucker Bay Rd. If you bring a dog, please keep it on a leash as we have sheep and an old, slow cat.

*Katrina Jean and Kristos Seed* from "Lifetime Nursery" will join the plant sale this year. Main Rd., at the top of Pete's lake hill, 2nd driveway on the right after Oben Rd. (going south-east).

Please bring your own boxes or trays to take your babies home. Looking forward to seeing and meeting you! - *Marie-Ange*

## Mother's Day Brunch by The Lasqueatery

May 12, 2024; 10 am - 2pm, Community Hall.

Mothers over 80 and brand new moms: free  
A scrumptious menu to be announced. Dietary needs will be accommodated.

Make reservations with Nico 604.741.5482 or drop in.

## Welcome Mural Update

Mayne Island has just unveiled their beautiful new welcome pole and triptych mural honouring the deep history of the island. They called it, "Walking Forward With The Past". It was startlingly co-incidental and resonant with the efforts for the new mural/carving that is in progress for the False Bay dock.

Jesse Recalma (Coast Salish carver, Qualicum First Nation), Julia Woldmo, and Sophia Rosenberg (local artists) have now moved from the initial design stage to the painting and carving stage. Their artistic collaboration is grounded in the research from the XLAP project and supported by the Lasqueti Community Arts Council and the Lasqueti Reconciliation Group.

Send comments, questions, or support for the project, to [Willy\\_reconciliation-group@sfu.ca](mailto:Willy_reconciliation-group@sfu.ca) - *Willy Clark, Lasqueti Reconciliation Group*

## Planning meeting for the Saturday Market

Thursday, 9 May, 4:00 at the Arts Centre site. New vendors are welcomed. If you have questions or information, please call Marti at 333-8879 or Ingo at 333-8627.

## 21st Annual Dance Performance & Costume Ball

Friday, June 28<sup>th</sup> and Saturday June 29<sup>th</sup>.

This year I am pleased to announce that I am presenting this event at my studio and for two consecutive nights.

There is limited space available, so seating reservations are recommended.

More details to follow in the next Xwe'etay News.

## ♥ Arne's Celebration ♥

Tuesday May 14<sup>th</sup> - At the hall - 3 - 5ish

To bring as able:

- finger food
- flowers in vase/jar
- photos to display
- plant species / gardening tips from Arne
- stories to share

To help: email, text or call Wendy B 240-8842



## Our Week in Review

	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Ferry – leaves FB</b>	1, 4 pm	8, 11, 4			8, 11, 4	8, 11, 4	8, 11, 4
<b>Ferry – leaves FC</b>	2:30, 5:30	9:30, 2:30, 5:30			9:30, 2:30, 5:30	9:30, 2:30, 5:30	9:30, 2:30, 5:30
<b>Provisions</b>	12 - 4	9 - 5		10 - 5	9 - 5	9 - 5	9 - 5
<b>Post Office</b>		10 - 4		10 - 4		10 - 4	
<b>Free Store</b>		10 - 5			10 - 5		
<b>Recycling</b>		10 - 5			10 - 5		
<b>Nurse</b>					11 - 3		
<b>Feed Store</b>		11 - 3			11 - 3		
<b>Propane filled</b>						1 - 3	
<b>Taco Tuesday</b>			3 - 6				
<b>Black Sheep Gas</b>		2 - 6			2 - 6	2 - 6	
<b>Pub</b>	1pm–1am	3 – 11	3 – 11	3 - 11	1pm–1am	1pm–1am	1pm–1am
<b>Restaurant</b>						3 - 8	
<b>Ultimate Frisbee</b>	4:30			4:30			
<b>Life Drawing</b>			7 - 9				

### Community Forum #3 Update and #4

The third community forum – on wildfire prevention/education – drew a small gathering of people dedicated to fire safety. One of the key issues was how to inspire more people to get a FireSmart assessment. It is free and can result in a) getting paid to do the recommended work; and b) lower insurance premiums when all recommended FireSmart improvements are made. Another benefit is that it makes your home more resilient. For a FireSmart consultation, contact Wendy B, Dick V, or Anneliese.

Other ideas for improving community resilience to wildfire included updating the LIVFD map of community assets and hazards (e.g., identifying accessible back roads, water tanks, ponds, propane tanks, pumps, turnarounds, etc.); installing more fire-rating signs, freely distributed pocket ashtrays; regular checks of public beaches for campfires during fire-bans; educating machine operators about the importance of minimizing dirt in slash burn pile; and having more fire safety information on lasqueti.ca (including how to apply for a burn permit and providing links to the venting index, organizing a bulk order of pumps and hoses with standardized fittings, and offering an on-island wildfire fighting course for non-LIVFD community members.) It's very important to ensure people know that if they suspect a fire, they should immediately call

the Lasqueti emergency reporting number: 1-855-871-1175. If you have energy/time to help with any of these initiatives, please get in touch.

The next Community Forum will take place on May 25, 2-4pm. There will be a town hall to propose any new community topics as well as an opportunity to share views on the two topics that were proposed at this past Forum: private docks and forest density/log export. – *Shoshanah*

### Monthly Community Calendar

May 6: LTC meeting, JFC, 11 – 3  
 May 8: Trash barge run, 10am til full;  
 May 9: Market meeting, 4pm, Arts Centre  
 May 12: Mother's Day Brunch, 10 – 2, at the Hall.  
 May 14: Arne's celebration of life. 3 – 5, the Hall.  
 May 18: Spring Fling, False Bay School  
 May 19: Cultural burning ceremony, Millicheap Rd  
 May 24: Coast Salish Woolly dog, Arts Ctr, 7pm  
 May 25: Community Forum, 2 – 4 at the Hall.  
 May 25: Housing Options, 4:30 – 5:30 at the Hall.  
 May 25: LINC AGM at JFC and hike. 11am  
 June 2: Prickly pear hike, Ecological Reserve  
 June 8: Lasqueti Community Association, Annual General Meeting, 1pm at the Hall  
 June 28, 29: Dance Performance and Costume Ball, Denise's dance studio  
 July 5, 6: Arts Fest  
 Aug 3: Firefighters Picnic

False Bay School  
*Strawberry Shortcake* Presents *Prizes*

# Spring Fling

SATURDAY MAY 18TH  
 12-3PM  
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RAFFLES BBQ LUNCH  
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*Domena's*

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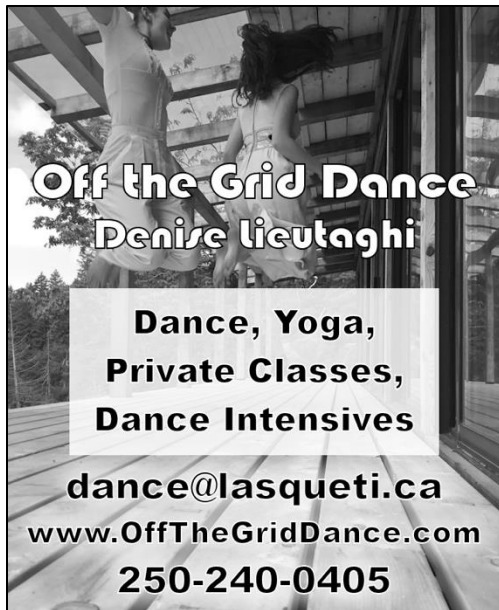
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E: [carmstew@hotmail.com](mailto:carmstew@hotmail.com)



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Old Douglas Farm's

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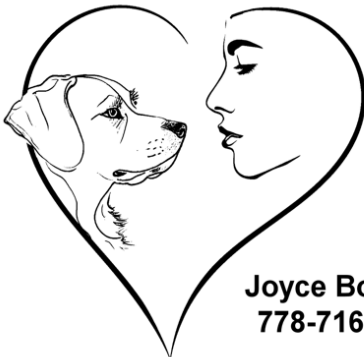
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