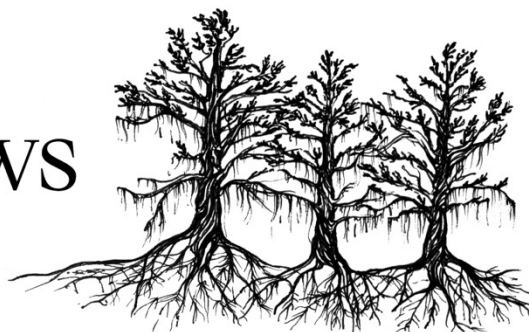


Xwe'etay News



Issue 5

June 2024

A Note from your Editors

Thank you all for your contributions of words, ads, and funds to support Xwe'etay News – collectively we are creating a community newsletter. While the newsletter is free, it costs money to print (\$425), so, if you can send a donation with your submission, we would be grateful. Small donations from many are perfect.

Also, a reminder to put your copy of the newsletter at Provisions or the ferry when you're done. The one "ferry copy" we put on the ferry seems to walk within a day of being put out.

- *The Yew Collective*; xweetaynews@lasqueti.ca

Aurora

The Aurora wrapped itself around the northern hemisphere like a cloak spun from celestial silk embellished with sequin stars in perfect unison, from the ultimate house of couture.

Divinity. - *Jamie Smith*



~~~~ Ebbs and Flows ~~~~

The Livingstone Forest

If you go down Lennie Road, past the old farm site and down the road a bit, keep an eye out on the right. Hidden off the road is a big mossy rock, an erratic, with a small plow sitting on top and a plaque marking the covenant Chris Feris and Doug Hopwood so generously placed on that part of the forest and even kindlier, named after my pioneer family. The Livingstone story includes good times, hard times, abuse, legacy, story tellers and one Alberta premier.

Ephriam and Kate came to the island in 1912 with their children. He built bunkhouses at the St. Joseph mine at Mine Bay and she cooked. They lived where Ralph Lewis used to live. Eph worked hard, had a flock of black-faced sheep that still hang around West Point; he also beat the children and terrified his wife. The sons drove him out, promising to kill him if he ever came back and the message must have been received.

Things weren't always so dire for Kate Beattie. She was the youngest child in a prosperous Ottawa family, went to the collegiate, spoke Gaelic, was an accomplished artist and engaged to a lawyer who later became a Supreme Court judge. Fortunes changed when her father, a cattle manager for E.B Eddy, of matchstick fame, was killed in a street accident. Mrs. Beattie and Kate came west to The Territories to live with the oldest daughter Annie Watson, in Olds. * Apparently, she saw Eph out haying in the fields and that was it.

Work took them west to Duncan, Lazo, and Powell River before Lasqueti, always on the

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

(Ebbs and Flows cont'd from previous pg)

move. Eph's father, Oliver Livingstone, to make up for his son's wretched behaviour, purchased a quarter of section 21 and put the property in Kate's name. Some of the property was sold to Ralph Lewis and the remaining she willed to her remaining children. Some islanders may remember my aunt, Edith Livingstone, the janitress at the school, a kindly, soft and cat-loving woman. Or my dad Fred, who partnered with Tom Millicheap and Peter Forbes to log and fish in the early days. Edith left her share of the property to her nieces and nephews, and we eventually sold it to Doug and Chris, thus the covenant. Kate would be thrilled.

*Annie's great grand-daughter is Rachel Notley, past premier of Alberta.

- *Kate Hackett*

Powell River with Kates mother, Jessie Beattie.
George, Harry, Kate, Ephriam, Fred.
David, Mrs. Beattie, Edith



survived the biped monster, they regarded me as another feeder, and I was enveloped each time I went outside.

One bird took to nibbling my toe through my croc to get my attention. I'd reach down and give it a seed, then go back to hand-feeding the others. My toe would be nibbled again. Another seed delivered. I learn fast.

For hours each day, I sat with seeds and siskins. Some would ride me around the yard. There was always food, so they were not begging. They were curious.

Whenever I was outside, pine siskins would land on me. I wanted to lie in the sunshine, finch-free, so I took a blanket over the bluff where I could not be seen. I was lying there, looking at the sky, when one of them perched on the tip of the foxglove that towered over me. I put my finger to my lips and said, "Shhh. Don't tell the others." But she did.

One day, the flock vanished. A month later, they returned threefold. Each pair brought 2 or 3 fledglings. The kids automatically trusted me. One baby was in my hand, gaping, while its mother hopped from finger to finger, challenging the others. "This is *my* hand, and I'm feeding *my* baby, so bugga off." She'd plug another seed into her kid, then turn again to defend her territory.

By September, the throng was gone. They never came back. They were crowded out by juncos.

An image from that summer sticks with me. I see it as a painting. A woman sits outside, surrounded by nature. Her head is in her hands. She is weeping. And she is covered with songbirds. - *Jay Rainey*

Creatures are my Teachers

My Siskin Summer

One spring, a swarm of pine siskins descended. About 35 of these little finches gobbled sunflower seeds I put on logs and filled the air with their trill.

I was enduring another mind-boggling depression, barely able to pick my nose. I thought, if I'm just going to sit in this lawn chair every day, staring, I may as well put seeds in my hands.

Already, the birds were familiar with me, so when I moved my chair closer, they were not flustered for long. It took a day until one nabbed a seed. Seeing this, another one braved the hand. Then a third. When the rest saw that these three warriors



Pine siskin



Gratitude for the Cultural Burning Ceremony

Really, there are no words for the gratitude and pride I feel for my community. Thank you to so many for making plates, contributing baskets and their beautiful contents from our bounty, for donating foods and items for the ancestors, for driving people around, for sharing your words and songs at the feast, for creating a dazzling meal, and for just showing up. I estimate there were something like 140 people at Boot Point.

The weather was perfect, the setting was spectacular, and the energy was powerful.

Folks from Qualicum and K'omoks Nation feel very honored and welcomed. The cultural workers are sending notes saying how much they are daily appreciating the beautiful gift baskets. Our friends from Tla'amin send deep regrets and say they look forward to our next gathering.

- Dana Lepofsky



Baskets filled with Lasqueti bounty for the cultural workers



Plates made by Lasquetians for ancestral food offerings

“What An Owl Knows”

By Jennifer Ackerman (Penguin Press, 2023)

We’ve always known about owls – some of our cultures worship them, others fear them! But one thing is for sure, they’ve always beguiled us with their mystery, their mythology, and their magic.

They’ve been part of our lives forever. Who hasn’t been “owly” in the morning? If we stay up late at night, we’re “night owls”, and, of course, if we’ve aged well and become sage, we’re now considered “wise old owls”!

For millennia, humans have been obsessed and enchanted with owls, but only recently have scientists begun to study and understand in detail the complex nature of these extraordinary birds. And this is where the author takes us – she travels the world interviewing and observing the scientists who are trying to reveal the secrets of these enigmatic birds. In this book you will be surprised to learn that some owls live in burrows; some roost in large groups; some migrate; some adopt orphan young; and some can dive into half a meter of snow, and never miss that vole!

We all know of their exceptional eyesight, hearing, and silent flight – this book explains how all that happens, which I found fascinating.

For instance, they are the only bird whose eyes face forward, like ours. Further, their eyes do not move in their eye sockets. So, if you are lucky enough to see an owl in the wild and it starts to bob and weave as it looks at you, it just wants to get a better look and needs to swivel its entire head to do so.

Their flat faces (it’s really their feathers) are actually “mini satellite dishes” that direct sounds into their ears – take that, Elon Musk!

They have an amazing vocabulary that goes beyond the “hooting” that we are all familiar with. They chirp, whisper, and chat to each other.

And get this: even though they all speak the same species language, they each have individual voices. Some are gravelly, some are high pitched: Just like us!

Our Lasqueti owls don’t even build nests. They mostly use abandoned hollows in trees. One last tidbit: to conduct their field research, scientists now use owl “sniffer” dogs!! Don’t believe me? Read the book!

p.s. My dog Thor can finally get a job! Wouldn’t that be a hoot? Okay,...I know,...I’ll stop now.

- Don Dempster

The Arts Almanac

Let's talk about colour! We all have favourite colours, as well as colour combinations that make us cringe. We look around and see glorious colour in the world, and many people try and capture that beauty on canvas or paper. We know that contemporary artists can go to an art supply store and pick any number of colours, in any number of mediums. But how did we get here? For the next few articles, we will do a dive into colour, starting with a brief timeline.

Our first forays into making coloured pigments can be traced back 75,000 years when we ground up red ochre, mixed it with animal fat, and made marks on bodies and cave walls. Other materials followed, including yellow ochre, chalk, charcoal, and umber, giving us the first five pigments – red, yellow, white, black and brown. It is exciting to think that these materials are still in use today.

The Chinese and the Egyptians were the first to refine and scale up pigment production by cleaning these earth materials and removing impurities, which led to stronger colours. The Egyptians developed blue by grinding a blue glass into powder; and they harnessed the power of plants, particularly madder, using the 'lake' left over from dyeing textiles to produce pigment. The Chinese were producing vermilion red from the mineral cinnabar 2000 years before the Romans developed a similar colour. The Greeks and Romans introduced Tyrian purple, which came from murex snails; and the Greeks were the first to make white paint from lead.

The Renaissance brought new methods including roasting earth pigments to make the rich colours of burnt umber and burnt sienna and terre verte for underpainting flesh tones. This era also saw the development of ultramarine blue, which came from ground lapis lazuli.

The 18th century, with new trade routes (and the inevitable exploitation that accompanied them) and an unprecedented scientific fervor, gave us the first chemically synthesized colour. We began isolating new elements including chrome, zinc, alizarin, and arsenic during this period, and the result was an abundance of new pigments, with varying degrees of toxicity.

There are many more developments in our modern age, far too many for the space we have in this article. However, next month we will start exploring specific colours, and learn more about where they came from, how they are produced, and whether or not they will kill you. - *Jen Brandt*

The Lasqueti Arts Festival unfolds on the weekend of July 5-6, 2024

Visual art to be hung on Thursday July 4th. Please contact Jen Brant brant.jen@gmail.com to reserve space on the panels. Art sales happen at the festival from 2-6 pm on Saturday. Tarps set up a few days before. Contact Ian Giles ifd.giles@gmail.com to be part of the team.

The festival officially begins with the Friday night Writers Reading at 7pm at the Community Hall. The list of readers is already full and promises to delight and move the listeners. There will be newbies as well as the seasoned voices. Entry by donation. Desserts, wine and special coffees will be served. If you want to make a dessert, get in touch with martioflasqueti@gmail.com

Gates to the Saturday event open at 2 pm. \$15 entry fee (plus \$5 if you want to buy an arts council membership). Kids 16 and under are free. If you want to volunteer at the gate, contact Daniela rmtdaniela@gmail.com.

Music made by locals all-the-day long. Special Guest band "The Real Ponchos" from Vancouver are the evening headliner. Followed by DJ Promix (Andrew Van der Meer).

During the day there will be multiple food vendors. The communal evening meal will feature local sheep and a vegetarian option. The taps at the bar will be flowing. Contact Lori Garson at lorigarson@gmail.com to volunteer for a shift.

On-site activities include Still Life Painting, Sewing challenge/Fashion Show, daytime kids activities with CarlyP, a collaborative art canvas, art making table, face painting by Sophia, and (hopefully) a puppet making station and a theatre for puppet shows and word/story games like Exquisite Corpse and magnetic poetry.

We are looking for volunteers. Give the festival three or more hours and you are in free! If you want to help make this big fun arty celebration happen, please get in touch with arts@lasqueti.ca. Positions needing to be filled are: volunteer coordinator, lights/ambience/ decorating crew to help David and Link, someone to stay on top of water filtration, someone to take charge of recycling and a clean-up crew (we are willing to pay if you have a team).

Research shows that volunteering makes people happier and creates healthy social connection. Please come join the team!

- *JennyV Arts Council Secretary*

LCA Update

We are looking forward to seeing you at the hall for the LCA's AGM on Saturday June 8th at 1pm. Reports from the Ferry and Parking Committees as well as the French Creek Harbour representative made it into last month's paper, and you'll see more LCA committee reports in these pages. Big thanks to everyone who steps up and volunteers for these committees! The AGM is also the time to bring forward proposals for any new LCA committees. You just need to prepare a mandate – i.e., a statement of what your committee is for, and then you can recruit and instate committee members at the AGM. So far, we have received a proposal for a new subcommittee to assist the pursuit of public recreation infrastructure. Let me know if you have any other committees/projects to propose and I will add you to the agenda.

The floors at the hall are looking like they will need to get refurbished in the semi-near future, which will be a massive undertaking. Let's all please try to be a bit more gentle on the hall floors, both to help extend their life and to adjust our habits for when we eventually have fancy new floors. Please don't drag chairs or speakers around and be gentle when moving the piano. It would also be great if we could revive the habit of removing our outside shoes when we come to hall events. And a friendly reminder that a full sweep AND mop of the floors is required after ALL events/hall rentals. You may want to consider hiring someone to do this for your event/rental to make sure it gets done. Hall renters will be charged a fee if the hall isn't fully and properly cleaned in time for the next event. *-Hilary, on behalf of the LCA exec*

Report to the LCA Annual General Meeting 2024

The Climate Action Committee

The Climate Action Committee continued to raise consciousness around personal choices and their climate impacts with their presence at the Summer Market and booth at the Fall Fair. This group is seeking new members to reinvigorate it; otherwise, the group may ask to become a dormant committee. Current members are Aigul, Shoshanah, Yves, Peter J, Marti W, and Maritza.

The Hall Building Committee

During 2023 many improvements, outside and inside, were completed so that we now have a more welcoming building. There was also fundraising for the kitchen renovations. This is the current focus of the Hall Building Committee.

We now have a budget and a shopping list. Members of the HBC along with great community volunteers have sourced a triple basin commercial sink, cabinets, rolling bus carts and a baker's rack. Jenny V has been delegated to choose the new flooring.

All of us have are energized after winter's hibernation and ready to rejuvenate the kitchen. We will be looking for volunteers as this project continues.

Thanks again to everyone who contributed during 2023, with labour, money, or materials. *- LCA Hall Building Committee members: Bruce Grant, Aigul Kukolj, Jodi Ayers, Jenny Vester, Mark Bottomley, Daniel Jacobs, and Melinda Auerbach.*

Playground Committee Proposal

As a mom, I have become increasingly aware that playgrounds are an integral part of childhood development, providing children with a space to socialize, exercise, and engage in imaginative play. The benefits of playgrounds for children are numerous and far-reaching. With the growing number of families on Lasqueti Island, I feel it is important for our community to prioritize their construction and maintenance. To that end, I'm seeking to establish a public playground and disc golf course, accessible during school hours. I have been in contact with BC parks and the qathet Regional District and believe this is an achievable project that would enrich our community. Ian Rusconi has kindly offered to help apply for grants to support this proposal. The backing of the community and of a non-profit would be very beneficial to our prospects with grants, and bureaucratic requirements. I'd like to make a motion that the LCA form a subcommittee to assist the pursuit of public recreation infrastructure. Thank you for your consideration *-Laila Fricker*



New Equipment for the Community Hall Kitchen

This month we are adding a new "rack and roll" baking multi shelf on caster wheels to the kitchen (thank you Lisa Johnson for donating this beauty!). It will eventually double the counter space available for food, plates, trays etc. complete with a first batch of full-size sheet pans for that shelf.

We've also just completed assembling a large-wheeled utility cart that will make bussing tables, delivering food, and serving easier at the hall. A demonstration of these tools will be included at the LCA AGM.

Wait until you participate in the next large event to see how these items will help! Thank you to the Hall Building Committee for allowing us a chance to help visualize more improvements to the Hall's Kitchen. - *Camino and Dorothy*

Duane, for a light-hearted cross-country tour of the Reserve. Be prepared with good footwear, food, water and appropriate clothing.

The LINC Directors are so grateful for all the support the community has provided over the last year that we are planning an event for our supporters and friends on June 29. At this point in time, we are planning an event themed around foraged food harvesting and preparation. Stay tuned for details.



Photo: Julia Woldmo

Marine Island hike

Don't forget, join us on Sunday, July 21st starting at 4pm at the Judith Fisher Centre when our own Sheila Harrington shares stories from her new book *Voices for the Islands*, chronicling the three decades of determined islanders who have passionately dedicated their lives to protecting islands in the Salish Sea. *"This is an impressive, engaging book. I highly recommend it. If you care about passing nature onward, Voices for the Islands is a must-read that I suspect may inspire you too to join the action."* (Ric Careless) – Gordon Scott for the LINC Board



It was a cool, Saturday morning with a hint of sunshine while 30 people crowded into the JFC for the LINC Annual AGM. Expertly facilitated by Ken Lertzman, the audience learned about the numerous projects LINC had accomplished over the year. We reviewed LINC's financial status and the membership briefly discussed sheep, First Nations, Crown lands and our upcoming plans for the year. A slate of currently serving directors and three new director nominees was elected by the members to serve on the LINC Board for next term. For the 2024-2025 term the LINC Directors are: Wendy Shneible, James Schwartz, Ken Lertzman, Gordon Scott, Duane West, Kaia Bryce; and the newly elected directors are Peter Sorensen, Norm Stacy and Martha Konig. We welcome the new directors and appreciate their commitment to conservation. The busy gathering was rounded out with an educational wandering exploration of spectacular Marine Island and the surrounding shoreline.

Taking no break from our busy schedule, LINC invites you to a guided hike through the Ecological Reserve in search of elusive *Opuntia fragilis*, or Prickly Pear cactus on June 2nd at 10:30 am. Carpool to Richardson Bay and meet your guide,



Photo: Anna Dodds

Calendula. Beautiful in the garden and makes great nutrient-rich tea. The petals are nice additions to summer salads.

Wisdom from Xwe'etay Gardeners



DIY Organic Fertilizers

The rising costs of organic fertilisers over the last few years has been alarming so it is a great time to turn back to some do-it-yourself, homemade fertilisers that will improve soil fertility and plant resilience. Here are a few suggestions.

Many gardeners on Lasqueti already know about the Steve Solomon mix. Steve is a renowned local organic gardening expert who created a simple signature mix to make your own complete organic fertiliser:

- 4 parts seed meal (GM free canola seed or feather meal) – N (nitrogen)
- 1 part lime (or ½ part wood ash)
- 1 part bone meal or rock phosphate – P (phosphorus)
- ½ part kelp meal – K (potassium) and trace minerals

Nitrogen is key for leafy plant growth and overall plant vigor. Lime adds calcium and magnesium and raises soil pH. Wood ash is more alkaline and higher in potassium than lime so you need less of it. Phosphorus is important for root development, flowering, fruiting and disease resistance. Potassium promotes strong stems and roots, improves drought tolerance and disease resistance.

You can also try making some of these nutrient dense teas from simple things we have easy access to. They are easy and super low cost!

Seaweed tea- high in nitrogen, potassium, phosphorus, and important trace minerals.

Comfrey leaf tea – provides a potent source of potassium, nitrogen, and phosphorus.

Calendula flower tea – besides being beautiful, calendula flowers are rich in potassium, calcium, and trace minerals which boost plant vigor.

Nettle Tea - a potent fertilizer high in nitrogen, iron, calcium and magnesium.

Yarrow Tea – high in phosphorus and potassium and helps with root growth and plant immunity.

To prepare plant teas, simply steep the chopped up leaves of the plant in a bucket of

water for a few days to several weeks. After it has steeped, strain some of the tea into another bucket and dilute it with approximately 10 parts water before using it. Apply in the early morning or late afternoon for best nutrient absorption.

Many on Lasqueti also know the benefits of diluted urine tea, which is really high in nitrogen and other trace minerals; it is sterile and it is free! The recommended dilution rate is about 10 parts water: 1 part urine. Diluted urine is especially loved by rhubarb plants in very early spring and by newly planted small leafy greens and brassica plants. - *Anna Dodds*



Spring is turning to Summer, and the garden at the Judith Fisher Centre looks beautiful. Thank you to all the groundskeepers! Come and join us at 1:30pm on June 22nd for the Lasqueti Last Resort Society's 2024 AGM and see the place for yourself. The 2024-2025 society membership fee is \$10.

In partnership with *CanadaHelps*, we are participating in *The Great Canadian Giving Challenge!* You can think of it like a donation raffle; during the entire month of June, every \$1 donated to the LLRS through *CanadaHelps* grants us an entry to win one of two \$10,000 donations. Please

visit www.judithfishercentre.com and make your charitable contribution today!

Many thanks to Dianne, Pia, the Women's Choir, heart circle, moms & tots meetup, meditation group, LIAS, LINC, LIVFD, LCA, qRD, Islands Trust, Island Health, practitioners, caregivers, and all other users of the Judith Fisher Centre over the Winter and onwards - it is a privilege to provide a home for so many organizations and events. As always, please contact healthcentre@lasqueti.ca or 8891 for facility booking questions, requests for medical equipment, use of the Respite Suite, or any other inquiries. — *Ian Rusconi*



Kitchen Creations



Chimichurri

My favorite thing to do with bolting parsley this time of year is blend it into delicious chimichurri. An ideal way to use up the stalks or less garnish-worthy sprigs from a parsley plant that is getting ready to flower, a couple cloves of garlic that are starting to sprout, and one of last year's dried hot peppers. I make a batch of this sauce in a mason jar and spoon it onto fish tacos, steak, or fried chicken. It can be a marinade for meats or tofu, is great on egg dishes and adds a vibrant green to the plate.

Into a quart sized jar:

- 2 cups chopped parsley
- 1 cup cilantro
- 1 hot pepper, fresh or dried (seeds optional)
- 2 large cloves garlic
- 3/4c olive oil
- 1/2c apple cider vinegar
- 1/2 tsp freshly ground cumin
- Salt & pepper to taste

Chimichurri (or *tximitxurri*) is a South American condiment traditionally served alongside grilled meat. In its authentic form and texture it is chopped and oily. However, when mechanically blended at high speed, the olive oil and juice from the fresh herbs emulsify into a beautifully creamy green sauce. I use a handheld emulsion blender and like to eat it this way. – *Emily Carnes*

My Favourite Tool

When the perfect tool does not exist ...

.... you make one! These two old codgers needed to bring a new door from The Other Side on the ferry. The door is heavy, relatively unwieldy with a large pane of glass down the middle. As with all accompanying freight, everything has to be loaded and unloaded multiple times, obstacles and bumps are expected hazards, the ferry doorway narrow, and the tide table called for a steep incline up the ramp.

The wheels and bolts were newly bought but the rest of the pieces were from found objects in the shop. All component parts can be disassembled for future projects. Nicknamed The Trolley Dolly, this is what it looks like:



The door was wrapped in plastic to avoid scratches and fit precisely into the slot sideways. Straps and sheets of plywood secured it on both sides for extra protection. The plywood sheets were precision-measured and rounded on the end so as to fit snugly into both transport vehicles.



The Trolley Dolly can't stand upright on its own and has limited steering capabilities. At French Creek, we pulled it out of the back of the SUV *very carefully* and distributed the weight evenly into the trough. Taking the 9:30 is always a safer bet and, fortunately on this day there were few passengers and, even better, almost no other freight. It was a somewhat windy morning, however, so this necessitated sitting out on the back deck to make sure nothing else banged into it and the Trolley Dolly stayed put.

Once in False Bay, it took some navigation skills to wheel it off the drop to the dock (BUMP!), guide it into a turn, and then slowly wheel it up a ridiculously steep angle to the upper deck. After that, getting it into the Lasqueti vehicle and back to the homestead was a somewhat anti-climactic venture, but no one complained. – *Sue Ashcroft*





AI is coming for your Culture

Last month I wrote about how AI might be coming for our jobs in the future. But the more pressing and urgent threat is how it is altering our perception of reality in the present. There are 2 threads here. We'll look first at one that's been shaping how we view consumption, politics, and the media for years.

Facebook, Google, Amazon, and other tech firms have been harvesting, collating, and storing our data for 20+ years. Everything and everyone you ever searched for, looked at, liked, and shared online is catalogued and linked together in massive databases. Researchers across disciplines agree that the algorithms based on these data will "*know you better than you know yourself*". What they mean is these algorithms are able to assemble such a detailed profile of your personal history, relationships, and preferences that they can make accurate statistical predictions about your desires, beliefs, and motivations. For example, these systems can predict sexual orientation and pregnancy prior to any reveal, in some cases prior to the person learning it about themselves. This is the basis for "targeted advertising" – the multi-billion \$\$ reason these data were so valuable in the first place – to manufacture desire or prompt a purchase or manipulate a vote.

But today that algorithm is an AI capable of generating personalized content tailored to exploit each of our unique personal motivations and biases. We are seeing ever more examples of AI deployed to achieve more opaque goals than simply delivering an ad. Audio / video deepfakes and other AI-generated content are being used to shape opinion, to influence elections, and even to undermine democratic norms. AI is like rocket fuel for the trends towards isolated "information bubbles" and the hyper-partisan culture wars already tearing the fabric of human society.

How do we avoid being manipulated when the AI knows us better than we know ourselves? How would we even know it was happening?

These are not concerns for some far-off dystopian future. It is happening now. Nor is it a sinister plot being orchestrated to usher in a new world order. It is merely the unintended consequence of an arms race among people pursuing intellectual, technological, and economic goals without any oversight. We need collective action to regulate these powerful technologies. Yet the technologies themselves may make collective action harder to achieve. More on that next month.... - *Joseph Fall*

Student Corner



The False Bay School Garden is back in action and the students are really enjoying their time outside, planting, weeding and watering. What I love about gardening:

"The peace and quiet" - Avi, grade 1.

"The feel of mud" - Lucca, grade 1, Fina, grade 3, Grace, grade 3.

"Planting and weeding - it's so much fun!"
- Zora, grade 3.

"It's fun to put holes in the ground and plant seeds" - Issa, grade 3.

"I like to rototill with the shovel" - Luke, grade 2.

"It's neat to see what the worms do"
- Sterling, grade 2.

If you will be around in the summer and would like to help with the upkeep of the garden, including weeding and watering please contact Amanda Jahnke at ajahnke@sd69.bc.ca or call 333-8619.



Waste Case Scenario

Broken Electronics and Appliances: Repair or Recycle?

Once upon a time—within living memory in fact—when things broke, they weren't just thrown away. If it was a textile it was mended. If it was wooden furniture, it was glued back together. If it was electronic it was taken to the little shop down the street for repair. Things lasted because they were designed to and we had the skills to keep goods working and in circulation.

Knowing how to repair is a skill being lost to modern society. However, the global initiative known as Repair Cafes is helping to change this. According to repaircafe.org, the first Repair Cafe, envisioned by a woman named Martine Postma, took place in Amsterdam in 2009. The concept was inspired by the goal of reskilling citizens in modern day society. Martine saw the value and importance of keeping repair know-how as part of local knowledge. Repair Cafes also offer a unique opportunity to connect neighbours from different walks of life through the common goal of extending the use of their belongings.

A quick search online brings up a host of pop-up Repair Cafes on Vancouver Island and beyond as more communities are organizing them. On Lasqueti, Waste Manager Mark enjoys tinkering with simple broken appliances in his Repair Shop at the Recycling Depot; locals can consider him a local fixer to reach out to. There are no doubt others on island with knowledge and tools to share that can help bring items back to life. You don't know unless you ask. A great resource for those willing to brave repairs themselves is iFixIt.com. It is filled with step-by-step guides for all manner of repairing from textiles to bikes to iPhones. The idea is that no one knows how to fix everything, but everyone can learn how to fix something.

When dreaming of a sustainable future and a circular economy, repair has to be part of the picture. If repair isn't possible, however, recycling is often an option. Take your end-of-life electronics, small appliances and large appliances to the Parksville Recycling Depot. These items are not accepted at the Lasqueti Recycling Depot, so be sure to set them aside for your next trip to the island! - *JennyV*

You'll know when...(to fill the holes)

It's a bird-hit-the-window day.
Broken-necked crumple.
A few scattered bright rainbow feathers, no gold at
this rainbows end,
a small huddled form dominating the moment.
As is just and right,
I feel a hole in the world.
My spirit trips over the lost song
as one small soul flies through the hole,
into that last night.
The wind blew hard,
The forest shook as the mother came down.
Broken branches dug deep into the ground,
ten thousand leaves
Suddenly homeless, dominating the moment.
As is just and right,
she left a huge hole in the world,
a world she reached out to and served since time
immemorial;
Where do trees go when they die these days?
There's a blood red circle, at low tide
Where a broken legged deer has drowned.
The vultures and eagles gathered
And they haven't come to pray;
They've come to stay until the rank, white boned
end.
As is just and right,
she left a tail flashing leaping hole in the world
and the small speckled fawn, that dominates the
moment,
curled waiting forever in the bracken.
I picked up the feathers,
I picked up a few pine cones,
I picked up the doe's white skull,
as is just and right,
To fill the holes in the world.
I arranged them in a memory shrine
on the fallen Mother tree,
I lit a candle, stuck it in the bark and prayed, lying
face down on the ground,
Then arose to feed the fawn...
- *Dolf Schoenmakers*

Father's Day is on the 16th of this month. Whether Father's Day or Mother's Day (which occurred in May) is acknowledged or not, I do like to take some time to reflect on being a parent myself. "The Parents Tao te Ching" helps me to do this. There always seems to be a message for me. This is the one I would like to share this month.

Self-Acceptance

How do children learn to correct their mistakes?

By watching how you correct yours.

How do children learn to overcome their failures?

By watching you overcome yours.

How do children learn to treat themselves with forgiveness?

By watching you forgive yourself.

Therefore your mistakes, and your failures

are blessings,..... opportunities for the best in parenting.

And those who point out your mistakes are not your enemies,

but the most valuable of friends. - ♥ *dianne*

LasquetiHealthCentre@gmail.com

cell 250-240-5712; Clinic # 250-333-8891

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

Ferry Committee News

For the Love of Pets and People

So....summer is almost here and with all that's wonderful about that, there are also some things that can be fraught with emotion during the season.

Keeping this in mind, WPM in collaboration with the Ferry Committee and the Ferry Crew, have come up with some regulations which we hope will mitigate some of the frustrations and fears associated with all the pets that will be travelling on the ferry this summer.

Unfortunately, some dogs, which are perfectly lovely and well behaved normally, can become nervous and reactive when travelling on the ferry, especially for the first time. Therefore, putting some regulations in place to prevent injuries to pets and people seems like a sensible thing to do.

Small dogs and cats can travel in appropriate-sized kennels. All other dogs need to be on a leash and kept close to the owner. Admittedly, some dogs are very well trained off leash. However, in fairness to those who don't know either the dog or the owner, all dogs need to be leashed when on board. If you don't have a leash, there will be a few onboard available for loan. Dogs that become very reactive towards people or other dogs should be muzzled. There will be a few basket muzzles available on the ferry should the need arise. There will also be a collapsable kennel available for a dog that becomes extremely nervous or reactive.

Please bear in mind that there are also people travelling on the ferry who may be afraid or nervous around dogs and children who will approach dogs with no sense of possible danger. In order to keep pets and people safe, we request that these regulations be followed. Please, please let your guests with pets know what is expected and please let children know that they should always ask the owner if they can pet their dog.

As in all matters, the Captain and Crew have final say in any situation that may arise. There will be signs posted on each dock, in point form, with the new regulations.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to speak to a ferry committee member. – *Jana Vannan*



Some of our best sleeps are on the ferry.



From Tim Peterson: At our May 6th meeting, the Lasqueti Local Trust Committee directed staff to prepare a business case for the 2025/26 budget that includes any unfinished items from the OCP/LUB Review Project; an updated community vision statement; and review of the Land Use Bylaw, including potential revisions arising from OCP amendments. This is intended to make certain that funding will be in place next fiscal to complete these projects. On May 31st, we will be heading to Nanoose for the signing of the Protocol agreement with Snaw-naw-as First Nation, representing the start of a new working relationship.

At the end of April, I participated in a meeting with Shawn Haley, Vancouver Island District Operations Manager at the Ministry of Transportation, and other senior staff. Discussion centered on road conditions on the islands, and a commitment was made to work towards better and more frequent communications.

The CAO hiring continues its work to find both a permanent and an interim CAO for the organization, as our current CAO prepares to step down at the end of June.

On May 30, Trust council will convene its first Committee of the Whole meeting, for initial consideration of the new draft of the Policy Statement. Built into the process is a 6 month window for public consultation. The draft can be viewed online at <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/programs/islands-2050/> I also have a paper copy you can borrow on request.

June Trust Council will be focused on a Strategic Planning session, as well as a session with Ryan Greville of Transport Canada on the Wrecked, Abandoned or Hazardous Vessels Act. June also marks the 50th anniversary of the Islands Trust Act, and its object to “preserve and protect the trust area and its unique amenities and environment”.

In the meantime, feel free to contact your trustees with your questions, comments, or concerns. By email or phone: tpeterson@islandstrust.bc.ca 250-607-7094. To contact the whole committee and staff, email laltc@islandstrust.bc.ca

From Mikaila Lironi: This month saw a fruitful APC meeting where they elected a board with Shelly Garside as Chair, Pachiell Smith as Vice-Chair, and Philippe Taillefer as Secretary. The committee discussed at length their recommendation for a definition of community benefit as regards to temporary-land use fee reduction.

Our LTC meeting included prioritizing completion of any unfinished items from the OCP/LUB Review Project. The OCP is lacking an updated community vision statement which will be remedied. The next meeting will be on July 15, 2024.

I am looking forward to the bi-annual Shellfish Aquaculture Management Advisory Committee meeting next week. We will be covering some significant changes to licencing and hearing from a variety of government agencies and ministries regarding shellfish farming in the province. I always look forward to these meetings as they include a wide variety of voices and they represent all the moving pieces.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Tim or me.

Thanks, Mikaila MLironi@islandstrust.bc.ca or 250-812-2560



qathet
REGIONAL DISTRICT

New: Spring Bay Regional Park

Two years ago, the qRD inquired with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) about the potential to obtain a Licence of Occupation on the road allowance at the end of Spring Bay Road to manage the area as a Regional Park. It took more than two years, but MOTI responded in the positive. The qRD Committee of the Whole voted unanimously to obtain this Licence of Occupation and establish a second Regional Park on Lasqueti: Spring Bay Regional Park.

This area is about 2.2 ha (about 5 ½ acres) of forest (with some mature stands and older trees) and about 250m of waterfront. The area has been used by residents for walking, views and nature appreciation.

This new park has the same ownership structure as Boot Point Regional Park (i.e. a Licence of Occupation with MOTI), and will be

qRD (cont'd from previous pg)

managed for conservation, trail use and limited water access (i.e. no changes and no active management). The only change that the qRD is allowed, according to the Licence of Occupation, is to put up a simple sign and cleanup (and MOTI reserves the right to use the land for road purposes in the future).

In terms of cost, the Licence of Occupation costs only a \$250 application fee, with no annual fee. Annual maintenance and administration costs will be very low - Boot Point Regional Park has cost taxpayers nearly nothing. As a region-wide service, Lasqueti taxpayers contribute to the Regional Park service (which has a significant budget, especially for parks with campgrounds and other facilities and infrastructure). It is equitable for Lasqueti and all qRD residents and property owners to benefit from this service. 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

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

Spring Fling Thank You!!

The False Bay Elementary School PAC would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who contributed to the Spring Fling fundraiser. Because of the generosity of both our on-island and off-island donors, we successfully raised approximately **\$8,000** for our school.

A special thanks to our off-island supporters:

- Thrifty Foods
- Quality Foods
- Sam's Sushi
- Shades of Green
- Pharmasave
- Starbucks
- Lordco
- Outrageous Edibles
- Michaels
- Emily Carey Jewelry

A very special thank you to Silke Seiler and Norman Martin for their beautiful art donations and for ALL our on-island donors. While there

are too many of you to name individually, please know that each and every contribution is deeply appreciated.

Together, we are making a difference for the students of False Bay Elementary.

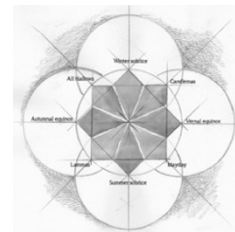
Thank you! - False Bay Elementary School PAC



Photo: Tikki Smith

Cake Walk winners Ingo and Aigul. Ingo was also the lucky winner of the 50/50 draw!

Poems for the Cross-Quarter Days



A Poem for Summer Solstice

Even after all this time,
 the sun never says to the earth,
 'you owe me.'
 Look what happens with a love like that!
 It lights up the whole sky.

- Hafez (translated by Daniel Ladinsky)

Community Happenings and Notices

Lasqueti Email List and Notify List

Anyone with a connection to Lasqueti can subscribe to the Lasqueti email list (daily doses of opinion, news, information offered or wanted, stuff available or wanted) or the Notify list (occasional critically important news of ferry cancellations or schedule change, road closures, etc.).

To subscribe to either list, go to <https://lists.lasqueti.ca/postorius/lists/> Select/click on the list you want, and go to the bottom of its page and subscribe yourself.

There are detailed instructions at <https://lasqueti.ca/how-to/use-email-list>
- Peter Johnston

Baby Boom

Once again, we have a large crop of small Lasquetians. Here is the list from 2023 and 2024 to help you keep them straight.

- Kalevi born 17 Feb, 2023 to Caroline and John.
- Satori born 2 July 2023 to Noel and Seaborne.
- Desmond born 27 Sept 2023 to Tikki and Jacob.
- Tayvin born 5 Nov, 2023 to Izora and Sirett.
- Leyland born 3 April 2024 to Jelina and Rob.
- Zephyr born 28 April 2024 to Katrina and Kristos.
- Tedithward Tortugo born 16 March 2024 to Jenn and Justin.

Stay tuned for more additions!
Congratulations to all! - Marti

Welcome Mural Update

Progress continues on the Xwe'etay/Lasqueti Welcome mural. Part of the plan includes replacing the existing bench with one equal or larger in size, made with materials from the island. The existing mural on the freight shed from 2008 will remain. Local artists, Julia Woldmo, Sophia Rosenberg, and Jesse Recalma (Qualicum First Nation) are working collaboratively to research and create the artwork and are inspired by the freight shed's shed-roof structure — the traditional form of Coast Salish houses.

This artistic collaboration is grounded in the research from XLAP 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@lists.sfu.ca
- Willy Clark, Lasqueti Reconciliation Group

The 21st Costume Ball Fri, June 28 & Sat, June 29

Two consecutive nights of dance in Denise's studio! There is limited space available, so seating reservations are recommended.

Come and enjoy an entertaining evening of dance featuring local Lasqueti dancers performing works by Denise Lieutaghi: a show not to miss!

The Saturday show will be followed by a dance, with great music, for those who enjoy a great party after the dance performance.

Where: Denise's Dance Studio

When: Friday, June 28th, Saturday, June 29th

Time: Doors open 7:00 pm; Performance 7:30 sharp

Entrance: Adults \$20; teens \$10; 12 and under free

**Food and Beverages available

For reservations, please contact Denise @ 250 240-0457 or dlieutaghi@gmail.com



(LtoR): Lakota and Deagan (born Sept 2022), Sirett and Tayvin, Tikki and Desmond, Noel and Satori



Lasqueti Island Yacht Club News

Spring has sprung and the Yacht Club has started again for the 2024 season. We have lots of exciting events planned for this year and invite anyone to come and join the club.

We have been busy getting the laser fleet ready for summer under the guidance of our Fleet Captain Peter Steenbergen. We are hoping to start a small dry land program with the school this year in the hopes that it may grow to a full on water program in the future.

Any family who wants to teach their kids to sail can use the lasers if they are members of the club. Any club member can sail the lasers as well.

Membership is really economical this year. Cost is \$30.00 per adult with dependent children included. New Memberships and renewals can be paid at any of our events. Our Membership Coordinators are Louise Zinsli and Sharon Chesham and both will be happy to sign you up to be a Lasqueti Yacht Club Member. Payment can also be made by e-transfer to sharon@thefudgery.com New members will have to fill out some easy paperwork before taking part in any event.

We are excited to announce the **launching of the Lasqueti Yacht Club Recipe book**: June 9 at the Teapot House 4:00-7:00. This will be our first event of the year and an opportunity to view or purchase the new cookbook, pay your membership fee and gather together to celebrate our fun loving club. The book is a fundraiser for the club and also an opportunity to promote the LYC to new members. Come and enjoy yummy appetizers, \$3 wine bar (or BYOB)
Cheers! - Doug Dobbyn, Past Commodore

June Trash Barge


Barge will be scheduled based on availability of the barge and weather. WMMark will keep you posted via the email list and Facebook Hotwire. Please call him @ 250 240 9886 with questions.

Lifetime Nursery

Happy June Lasqueti! Lifetime Nursery will be open 10 - 4 Tuesdays through June and July. There may be a few tomatoes and peppers left to put in the garden next week. We have berries, flowers, trees, and perennials.

It's the third left after Lennie Road going North and second right after Oben Road going south. Look for the yellow and green sign on the road.

Keep your eyes open for our special events planned for Fridays: Fried Fridays. Come join Ted for some music and snacks in the nursery from 4:20 till 7pm.

Thanks, and see you Tuesdays and/or Fridays
 – Katrina, Kristos, and Baby Zéphyr

Field Picnic Friday

Beginning Friday, June 14th from 1pm to 3pm we will be welcoming people to our stand and field at the corner of Lennie and Main Road for lunches! We will be selling sandwiches, pastries, and cold drinks and coffee, on the corner and inviting folks to picnic in our field. There will be an origami table, hosted by our son Rune.

We will be hosting this each Friday through the summer unless otherwise noted on the mail list.

We would like to express our immense gratitude for everyone who stops by our little stand. And, if you don't know, we are a home-based organic sourdough bakery that sells its wares in a roadside stand at Lennie and Main Road. We mill organic red fife and rye grain every week to bake with and use high quality organic unbleached white flour. We use an extended traditional fermentation to make the bread delicious, nutritious and highly digestible. We are inspired by the seasons to provide interesting flavours and are attentive to using the highest quality ingredients that we can. We offer savoury options as well as sweets, and we love to make cakes for special occasions. We also cater small events and workshops!

If you'd like to make a special order, give us a call at 250 607-1619 or email us at lasqueticatering@gmail.com
-Community Sourdough, Gabriel and Violet

Workshop by poet and writer Cecily Nicholson



Sponsored by the Lasqueti Arts Council, and in collaboration with *In the Wheelbarrow Writing Circle*, we are pleased to present a workshop by visiting poet and writer Cecily Nicholson. Cecily, author of four books and recipient of the Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize and the Governor General's Literary Award for Poetry, will facilitate this engaging workshop.

The workshop will explore themes of place, wayfinding, and the "understory." Participants will engage with prompts related to our surroundings, as we practice noticing connections and writing about them. Cecily will start with a brief talk, then facilitate discussion and writing exercises.

This workshop is open to everyone; no prior experience required.

Date: Sunday June 23rd

Time: 10am-2pm with a 1-hour break

Location: Arts Centre

Cost: Suggested donation \$30. No one turned away for lack of funds. – *Junie D.*

Free Meal Support from Lasqueti Lifeline

Hi community! This is a reminder from our local food security program, Lasqueti Lifeline, launched in 2020, that if you could use help with extra food to contact one of us in person via False Bay Provisions or write us a letter via local mail to: Lasqueti Lifeline & Provide, Lasqueti Island, General Delivery, VOR 2JO. This is a cooperative group that has put a tremendous amount of energy into being there for people in our always-growing community that could use a hand.

We have been hosting pay-what-you-can or free meals, arranging for assistance with grocery purchases, packing lunches, and providing support via our food stand in False Bay, Provide, over the past 4 years as well as giving direct help when needed.

This summer we'll be focusing on making complete weekly dinners for those of you who are interested. Please contact us if you want to be included or want to take the time to deliver a dinner to someone who you think would like one.

Thank you so much for supporting our mission to provide this service here!

- *The volunteers from Provide & Lasqueti Lifeline*

Here Comes Summer! Time to live it up... False Bay Provisions 9th Anniversary

Hello to the island! Who else is getting excited about the weather getting warmer? It's the best time of the year to get out in the garden, go to the beach or take some time out in the woods. We have three main pieces of news this month: first off, we are extending our hours slowly as things heat up. We are now open on Tuesdays 9 am - 5 pm and open at 11 am on Sunday instead of 12.

The second thing is we are happy to report that this year's shipment of books for False Bay School has arrived and is due to be stocked for them shortly. We give gratitude to those who contribute to our Library Program at Provisions by purchasing books from our bookstore to fund new books for the school. Please contact us if you are interested in knowing more.

The third is.. we are celebrating our 9th anniversary by hosting a dinner and Get-together on Saturday, June 15th at the Community Hall. Following in the footsteps of previous parties, we are going to have music, games, food dancing and beverages to mark the occasion. Put it on your calendar and watch for more details leading up to the event.

As we head into our 10th year of operation, we'd like to thank you for giving us the opportunity to cultivate a healthy, beautiful space for you to gather, refuel & enjoy yourselves!! ❤️

A big round of applause for the cooks, servers, artists, builders, bakers, customers, suppliers & supporters behind the scenes. You are amazing and we appreciate everything you do to make being here an experience of a lifetime.

Always our best - *False Bay Provisions*

Monthly Community Calendar

- June 8: Lasqueti Community Association, Annual General Meeting, 1pm at the Hall
- June 9: Launch Lasqueti Yacht Club Recipe book, Teapot House 4:00-7:00
- June 23: Cecily Nicholson, 10 -2, Arts Center
- June 28, 29: Dance Performance and Costume Ball, Denise's dance studio
- July 5, 6: Arts Fest
- July 21: Sheila Harrington reads from her book, *Voices for the Islands*, JFC, 4pm
- Aug 3: Firefighters Picnic
- ***Nurse's clinic every Thursday, 11 – 3:30***

Our Week in Review

	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Ferry – leaves FB	1, 4 pm	8, 11, 4		26 June: 8, 11, 4	8, 11, 4	8, 11, 4	8, 11, 4
Ferry – leaves FC	2:30, 5:30	9:30, 2:30, 5:30		26 June: 9:30, 2:30, 5:30	9:30, 2:30, 5:30	9:30, 2:30, 5:30	9:30, 2:30, 5:30
Provisions	11 - 4	9 - 5	9 - 5	10 - 5	9 - 5	9 - 5	9 - 5
Post Office		10 - 4		10 - 4		10 - 4	
Free Store		10 - 5			10 - 5		
Recycling		10 - 5			10 - 5		
Nurse					11 – 3:30		
Feed Store		11 - 3			11 - 3		
Propane filled						1 - 3	
Taco Tuesday			3 - 6				
Black Sheep Gas		2 - 6			2 - 6	2 - 6	
Pub	1pm - 1am	3 – 11	3 - 11	3 - 11	1pm - 1am	1pm - 1am	1pm - 1am
Restaurant						3 - 8	
Ultimate Frisbee	4:30			4:30			
Life Drawing			7 - 9				
Lifetimez Nursery		10 - 4					

Do you want to make Islands Trust more accessible? Now Recruiting - Accessibility Committee Appointments

Islands Trust is accepting expressions of interest for volunteer Accessibility Committee (AC) positions.

Islands Trust is seeking residents that have the interest and ability to assist and advise the Islands Trust Council to identify, remove, and prevent barriers to individuals interacting with Islands Trust.

To meet the requirements of the Accessible British Columbia Act, Islands Trust is looking for:

- a minimum of one and up to four people from organizations that support people with disabilities, or who have disabilities, in the Islands Trust Area;
- a minimum of one person who is Indigenous; and
- a minimum of one and up to two people from the Islands Trust Area.

Successful applicants will be appointed by the Islands Trust Council and may be expected to meet four times per year. The term for each of these positions is to December 31, 2026. Terms of reference for the Accessibility Committee can be viewed on the Islands Trust website.



If you are interested in helping us promote accessibility in the Islands Trust organisation, please apply via the website before 4:30 pm, September 16, 2024.



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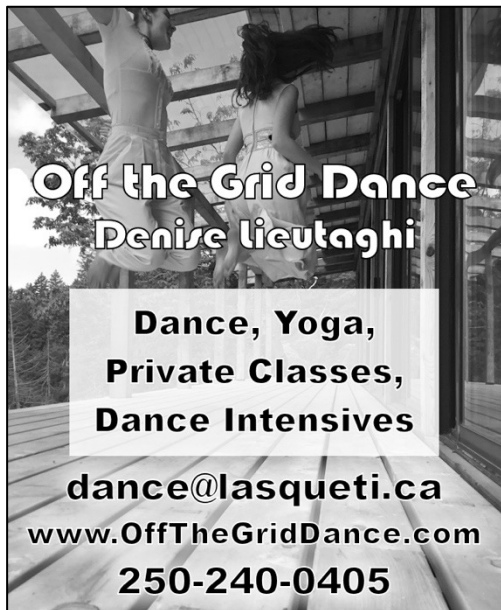
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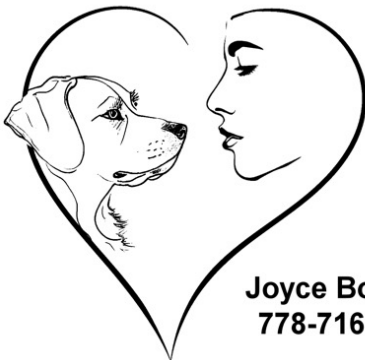
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Xwe'etay News is the monthly newsletter of the Lasqueti Island/Xwe'etay community. All submissions come from the island's community; donations cover production costs. An editorial collective is responsible for final production. To submit material for consideration (<400 words) or to make a donation:

xweetaynews@lasqueti.ca



For the online version: xweetaynews.com
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