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September 2024
COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

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GIRLONWAX ENTERTAINMENT: DJ Leanne's Journey to the Top

Her story is one of passion, innovation, and relentless pursuit of excellence, making her a true icon in the entertainment world. One of DJ Leanne's most notable achievements is her role in creating Western Canada's first DJ School, The Rhythm Institute. This innovative institution has been featured on major platforms such as MuchMusic, MTV Canada, and CTV, highlighting her commitment to nurturing new talent and advancing DJ education.

DJ Leanne's talent and dedication have not gone unnoticed. She has been honored with numerous awards, including 'Best Local DJ' by the Georgia Straight People's Choice Awards and 'Entrepreneur Of The Year' for her work with The Rhythm Institute.

“
Seeing people
enjoy and connect
with the Music
drives me daily.”

Her influence extends beyond the DJ booth. DJ Leanne has performed at high-profile events, including the 2010 Olympics 10th Anniversary Celebration and private events hosted by the Prime Minister of Canada, Justin Trudeau.

She has also entertained celebrity clients like Jennifer Aniston and Goldie Hawn, further cementing her status as a top-tier DJ.

She and her Gironwax DJ team's ability to blend various music genres, ranging from Lounge to House to Top 40 and Retro Classics, ensures that every event they touch is memorable.

Reflecting on her journey, DJ Leanne says, "Music has always been my passion, and sharing that passion with others through Gironwax Entertainment and my DJ Classes is incredibly fulfilling. Seeing people enjoy and connect with the Music drives me daily."

DJ Leanne's musical influences are as diverse as her sets. She draws inspiration from a wide range of artists and genres, including Stevie Wonder's soulful rhythms, Mark Farina's innovative beats, and David Bowie's timeless classics. This eclectic mix of influences allows her to create unique and dynamic sets that resonate with audiences of all ages.

For more information or to book DJ Leanne and her team, visit Gironwax Entertainment.

In the vibrant world of Music and entertainment, few names resonate as strongly as DJ Leanne, the powerhouse behind Gironwax Entertainment. With over 20 years of experience, DJ Leanne has carved out a niche for herself and significantly contributed to Canada's thriving DJ scene.

DJ Leanne's journey began with a passion for Music that quickly evolved into a career. She founded Gironwax Entertainment, a DJ and musician company synonymous with top-tier music styling and unforgettable events.

Her reputation for excellence is well-earned, having spun alongside world-renowned DJs like Kaskade, Boy George, and Armand Van Helden.

Under DJ Leanne's leadership, Gironwax Entertainment continues to set the standard for professional music styling. Whether it's a corporate event, wedding, or private party, DJ Leanne and her Gironwax DJ team deliver exceptional experiences that leave lasting impressions.



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CITY LIGHTS VICTORIA Community Magazine

Where the brushstrokes of the community meet the canvas of possibility

Welcome to **City Lights Victoria**, your ultimate guide to the pulse of our **vibrant city!** In every issue, we delve into the heart of our community, showcasing local profiles that highlight the achievements and stories of our neighbors and friends.

From mouth-watering **dining guides** to the latest happenings around town, we've got you covered. **City Lights Magazine** is dedicated to celebrating **Victoria's**

unique spirit while bringing a smile to your face with our humorous jokes and witty columns. In each edition, we'll keep you informed, entertained, and connected to the community we all love!

City Lights Magazine is a visual delight that stands the test of time—uneditable, undeletable, and unhackable. It's a feast for your eyes, capturing the essence of authenticity."

Media Specialist Lily Watson joins the City Lights team

Hello! I'm thrilled to join **City Lights** as the new Digital Media Specialist. I'm excited to contribute to a project that's all about building community, and I'm eager to enhance that vision with dynamic and engaging digital content.



Join Our Team at City Lights Victoria!

POSITIONS AVAILABLE:

Part-Time Distribution Team Members

- Help distribute City Lights Magazine around Victoria.
- Flexible hours, perfect for **seniors**, or those looking for part-time work.

Sales Representative

- Call on local businesses.
- Build relationships and drive sales.
- Great commission structure and supportive team environment.

Interested? Apply now by contacting Gary at citylightsvictoria@gmail.com

Join us and be a part of the vibrant **City Lights Victoria** team!



Charmer of the Month:

Brooklynn, at just seven months old, she lights up every room with her love for headbands, dancing to Ms. Rachel's tunes and splashing around in the pool. Her favorite moments are spent with Grandma and Grandpa, making memories that last a lifetime.

SUDOKU

PUZZLE OF THE MONTH

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Answer Key

Here are some intriguing and lesser-known facts about Victoria, BC...

- Victoria's Chinatown is the oldest in Canada and the second oldest in North America, after San Francisco.
- The Empress Hotel serves more than 500,000 cups of tea annually.
- The waters surrounding Victoria are home to five species of whales.
- Fan Tan Alley in Victoria's Chinatown is the narrowest street in Canada.
- The city plants 1,600 flower baskets on lampposts every summer.
- Victoria's Beacon Hill Park is larger than New York's Central Park in terms of city size.
- The Maritime Museum of British Columbia in Victoria houses North America's oldest operating birdcage elevator.
- Victoria is home to a large population of harbor seals, which can often be seen lounging on rocks or swimming in the city's waters.
- Craigdarroch Castle, built by coal baron Robert Dunsmuir in the 1800s, is a stunning example of Victorian architecture.
- Hatley Castle, located on the grounds of Royal Roads University, is another historical gem known for its beautiful gardens and rich history.
- Victoria has been home to several famous residents, including musician David Foster, singer Nelly Furtado, and actor Calum Worthy.

These quirky facts highlight Victoria's unique charm and rich history, making it a fascinating place to explore and celebrate.

Where are rates going?

With another Bank of Canada interest rate announcement coming up on September 4th, I thought it would be a good idea to dispel one of the most common misconceptions regarding these rate announcements.

I have many clients who are sitting on the sidelines, waiting to see if we will be granted another slight reprieve to the aggressive rate hikes we have all endured over the past two years. And who can blame them? It seems you cannot leave your home now without having at least \$100 vanish from your pockets.

The only problem with this "wait and see" strategy is most of them have, or want, Fixed Mortgage rates. And Fixed Rate lending, is actually tied to the 5 year Canadian bond yield, not the Bank of Canada announcements – which directly impacts Variable Rate products. As of the date this was written, Fixed Rates have dropped roughly 1.5% from their highs over the past year and are currently in the low to mid

4% range (best available rates). Whereas Variable Rate mortgages have only come down 0.5% and now sit in the mid to upper 5% range (best available rates). If waiting on the government to act is your current mortgage strategy, it might be time to contact your favourite mortgage expert and discuss all the other options available to you!

Most economists are expecting both options to continue their downward trend, barring any unforeseen domestic or international events that would adjust our current economic trajectory. And I am cautiously optimistic that we will see fixed rates dip into the upper 3% range in 2025.

James L. James, *Property Financing Specialist*
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Healthy & Easy SNACK IDEAS

Whether you're on the go, or just returning home from a day of work or school, try out some of these quick and easy snack ideas.

1 Tortilla Chips & Salsa



Bake a whole wheat pita and cut it into wedges. Serve with a fruit salsa or tomato salsa for flavourful dipping.

2 Trail Mix



Mix together nuts, seeds, raisins, dried fruit or cereal such as Chex or Cheerios for a sweet and salty snack.

3 Fruit Slices & Dip



Delicious and satisfying, you can cut fruit into bite size pieces to be dipped into yogurt.

Upcoming Events

MUSIC & CONCERTS

- **Great Canadian Beer Festival:** September 6-7 at Topaz Park. Enjoy a variety of craft beers from local and international breweries.
- **Rifflandia Festival:** September 13-15. A multi-genre music festival featuring a diverse lineup of artists, including reggae and world music performances.
- **MEMBA at Rifflandia:** September 15. Enjoy an outdoor performance by MEMBA as part of the Rifflandia Festival.

THEATER & DANCE

- **Shakespeare by the Sea:** Enjoy classic Shakespearean plays performed in the beautiful outdoor setting of Clover Point Park.
- **Dance Victoria's 2024/25 Season Launch Party:** September 7 at Luxe Home Interiors. Celebrate the kickoff to Dance Victoria's new season with a glamorous evening.

MAGIC & ILLUSION

- **Magic at the Market:** September 14 at Victoria Public Market. Enjoy a day of magical performances by local magicians, perfect for families and magic enthusiasts.

FAMILY-FRIENDLY EVENTS

- **Ultimate Toy Fair:** September 21-22 at Pearkes Arena. A must-visit for toy collectors and enthusiasts.
- **Esquimalt Lantern Festival:** September 13 at Esquimalt Gorge Park. Bring a lantern and enjoy a magical evening.

COMEDY & IMPROV

- **Stacked Deck Stand-Up Comedy:** September 6 at The Vic Hotel. Enjoy a night of laughter with some of the best local comedians.
- **Phillips Comedy Night at The Mint:** Various dates. This popular comedy night features a rotating lineup of hilarious comedians.
- **Improv Against Humanity:** September 6 at Garden City Comedy. An improv show inspired by Cards Against Humanity.
- **Solo Improv with Kevin Matviw:** September 20 at Garden City Comedy. An evening of solo improv comedy with Second City's Kevin Matviw.
- **Garden City Improv with Kris Siddiqi:** September 27 at Garden City Comedy.
- Join **Canadian Comedy Award winner Kris Siddiqi** for a night of improv hilarity.

LOCAL MUSIC LINEUP IN PUBS & CLUBS

THE DUKE SALOON

- **Live Country Music:** Every Friday and Saturday night from 9:00 PM to 2:00 AM

LUCKY BAR

- **DJ Nights:** Various genres, including Pop, Rock, House, Electro, Techno, Punk, Metal, Hip-Hop, Experimental, Folk, and Jazz.
- **Live Bands:** Check their website for specific dates and lineups.

THE LOFT PUB

- **Live Music:** Enjoy live music every day of the week, including local bands and musicians.
- **Sunday Jam Sessions:** Every Sunday from 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM.

HERMANN'S JAZZ CLUB

- **Live Jazz Performances:** Regular performances by local and international jazz artists.



A beautiful celebration of love – rich in customs and rituals

Attending the **Indian wedding reception on Sunday, August 25th**, at **The Gardens at HCP on Quayle Road** in Victoria, BC, was an unforgettable experience.

The bride, adorned in **stunning traditional attire**, was **elegant**, while the ladies at the wedding party wore **beautiful, vibrant gowns**.



Harsheen, Drishty, Purneet, Smrity, Anshi

Looking dapper in a sharp three-piece suit, the groom added a modern touch to the celebration.

The venue was transformed with colorful decorations featuring bright flowers, intricate drapes, and twinkling lights, creating a festive and enchanting atmosphere. As one of the few non-Indian faces in the crowd, I was

treated like royalty. Everyone was incredibly kind and attentive, ensuring I had plenty to eat and drink.

The groom's father, DJ, was incredibly attentive, ensuring I felt welcomed despite the occasional language barrier, as did his lovely wife, Smrity.

Sunny, the bartender, was fantastic, always ready with a smile and a perfectly crafted drink.

The love and warmth from everyone were palpable.



Traditional Indian weddings are rich in customs and rituals.

One such tradition is applying **henna, or mehndi**, to the bride's hands and feet. This intricate art form symbolizes joy, beauty, and spiritual awakening. The henna designs are often elaborate and take hours, but the result is always breathtaking.

I am deeply grateful for the kindness and hospitality shown to me. It was a joy to witness such a beautiful celebration of love!



I wish the bride and groom a lifetime of happiness and prosperity. May their journey together be beautiful and vibrant as your wedding day! Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Aman Dhiman newlyweds!

4

Homemade Muffins



Easy to make in big batches and freeze, muffins can be made in endless variations and are a convenient snack.

5

Popcorn



Kids will love the fact that they think they are eating "junk food"...but air popped popcorn is surprisingly low fat. And since it is high in fibre, it can keep them satisfied until supper.

6

English Muffin Pizza



A fun personalized mini pizza, using an English muffin for the crust. Bakes quick and easy... even in a toaster oven or air-fryer.

7

Hummus Dip



Hummus is such a fantastic condiment that you can really get creative with! Serve with crackers, veggies and more!

DINE OUT

Victoria's Favourite Indian Restaurant

At Namaste Victoria, we invite you to embark on a culinary adventure that transcends borders. Nestled in the heart of the vibrant city, our restaurant is a haven for those seeking an authentic taste of India. From the moment you step through our doors, the aromatic spices and rich flavors will transport you to the diverse and enchanting world of Indian cuisine.

Benjamin's Cafe & Restaurant

A cozy spot for Filipino fare. The "Halo-Halo," "Beef Tapsilog," and "Lomi" are a must try! In addition to the delights found when you visit the Cafe, they also offer catering and food services.

Mesa Familiar

Mesa Familiar is a cozy, family-owned restaurant located at 1296 Gladstone Avenue. Known for its welcoming atmosphere, it offers a delightful menu of Mexican and Latin American dishes. The restaurant is praised for its authentic flavors, friendly service, and comfortable space where people can gather and enjoy a meal together.

Uptown Bistro

Uptown Bistro, situated at 400 Boleskine Road, offers modern Canadian cuisine in a sophisticated yet informal setting. This neighborhood bistro is known for its elegant dining experience, featuring a diverse menu, daily specials, and an exciting wine list. The friendly staff and warm ambiance make it a popular spot for locals and visitors.

The Rack

The Rack Bistro in Victoria offers a delightful West Coast dining experience. The cozy, rustic ambiance sets the perfect backdrop for enjoying their diverse menu. Highlights include the flavorful pasta and wings, complemented by a fantastic drink selection. The staff are friendly and accommodating, ensuring a pleasant visit. Whether you're there for a casual meal or a special occasion, The Rack Bistro delivers Great food and a welcoming atmosphere. They are highly recommended for a memorable dining experience!

Pho Halong Kitchen

Pho Halong Kitchen, located at 110-4480 West Saanich Road, offers authentic Vietnamese cuisine. Run by former Saigon Night chefs, the restaurant is known for its rich and savory pho, which is made with broth simmered for hours. The menu features a variety of traditional Vietnamese/Thai dishes, all prepared with fresh ingredients and a touch of hometown influence.

Big Bad Bob's Food Cart

Big Bad Bob's Food Cart is a popular spot in Victoria, BC, known for its hearty and delicious comfort food. Located at various spots around the city, it offers a variety of mouth-watering items like gourmet hot dogs, burgers, and Phillipino fare. The friendly service and generous portions make it a favorite among locals and visitors alike. To find their location, go to Facebook: bigbadbobhotdogsfood.



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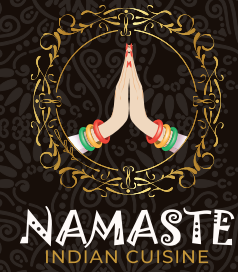
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SMILE FACTORY

- As I get older, I remember all the people I lost along the way. Maybe a career as a tour guide was not the right choice.
- My girlfriend wanted a marriage just like a fairy tale. Fair enough. I gave her a loaf of bread and left her in the forest.
- Do not walk behind me, for I may not lead. Do not walk ahead of me, for I may not follow. Do not walk beside me either. Just pretty much leave me alone.
- Today, I asked my phone "Siri, why am I still single?" and it activated the front camera.
- Today I made a decision to go to my childhood house. I asked the residents if I may come inside because I was feeling nostalgic, however, they refused and slammed the door on my face. My mother and father are the worst.
- The other day, my wife asked me to pass her lipstick, but I accidentally passed her a glue stick. She still isn't talking to me.
- I asked the corporate wellness officer, "Can you teach me yoga?" He said, "How flexible are you?" I said, "I can't make Tuesdays."
- Teamwork is important; it helps to put the blame on someone else.
- The most corrupt CEOs are those of the pretzel companies. They're always so twisted.
- My boss told me to have a good day. So, I went home.

What's the Scuttlebutt?

Hello, Dear readers! Welcome to another edition of "Scuttlebutt," your go-to column for all the latest and greatest happenings around town. Let's dive right in!

First, a warm welcome to Lilly Watson, our new social media Yoda! Lilly is already working her magic, helping City Lights build its online presence and grow its readership. With her expertise and infectious enthusiasm, we're sure to reach new heights. Welcome aboard, Lilly!

Congratulations to two beautiful couples who recently married. Jordan and Michaela from Island Cabinet Refinishing had a stunning wedding in Saanich, and Dr. Timothy and Kathleen Haskett celebrated their love at Finnerty Gardens. Both brides were radiant, and the grooms weren't too shabby either! Here's to a lifetime of happiness for both couples!

A belated happy birthday to my very good friend Jay, the office guru who keeps the patients flowing smoothly at Dr. Stamp Vincent's office. Jay and I had a delightful dinner at Fudo Restaurant in Royal Oak. I hope she enjoyed it as much as I did, and with her sweet

nature, dessert was definitely not required!

A big thank you to Neetu from National Courier Service, who always comes to my rescue when I need something picked up in a hurry. If you need a reliable and reasonably priced delivery company, give her a call—you won't be disappointed!



Exciting news! Dr. Jeff Gratton and his lovely daughter Georgia will offer advice in a new column, "Chiropractic Corner," next month. Well, actually, Dr. Jeff will be, and Georgia will advise him and make him look good! We can't wait to read their insights.

I recently took my roommate David for dinner at The Halibut House restaurant for the first time. To my surprise, they don't serve halibut, but they do have the best Chinese food in town! A big



shoutout to the owner, Sherry, who is an incredibly nice hostess. She managed the whole room on her own and kept everyone happy. She's a true gem!

Last but not least, I want to thank Cheryl, our star graphic designer, who always knocks it out of the park with her amazing skills in putting together this publication. Thanks, Cheryl, you're the best!

Finally, if you need a shot of adrenaline or just a pick-up, check out our Charmer of the Month, Brooklynn. Her smile is sure to brighten your day!

That's all for this month, folks! See you next time with more juicy tidbits and delightful updates. Until then, stay fabulous!

If you would like to be featured in our Scuttlebutt column, please contact us at: Citylightvictoria@gmail.com or call 250-938-9969.