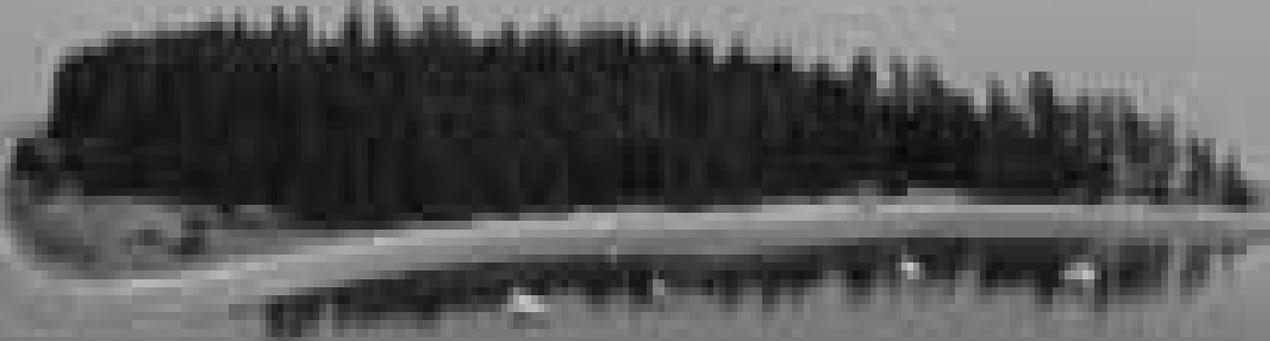


Discovery **Islander**

Community News and Events from the Discovery Islands

ISSUE #172
OCTOBER 9TH 1998



- Every Sunday**
-Winter Market
1:00-3:00 p.m. Community Centre

- Oct. 9, Fri**
-Friday Flicks Welcome to Sarajevo
7:30 pm Community Centre

- Oct. 15, Thurs.**
-Minor Softball AGM
7:00 pm Quadra Elementary

- Super Soup Workshop
7:00-9:00 p.m. (\$15) Community Centre

- Oct. 18, Sun.**
-Pilgrimage: Past & Present
evening service QI United Church

- Omega String Trio
Lodge
2:30 pm Tsa-Kwa-Luten

- Oct. 23, Fri**
-Friday Flicks Ma Vie En Rose
7:30 pm Community Centre
- 23 & 24 Sat.**
-Howlin' Digs Tsa-Kwa-Luten



Bursary Awarded

Each year Discovery Islands Realty presents a \$500 dollar bursary to a high school graduate. The recipient is chosen by the bursary committee from applicants who are residents of the Discovery Islands. The student is expected to have clear, post secondary goals and to have contributed in an above average way to the betterment of the school community. Such a student should be recognizable for their spirit, participation and service to others.

This year the bursary was awarded to Sophie Shankar. Sophie is attending UBC where she will be taking a four year program in Kinesiology leading to a degree in human kinetics. Her occupational goal is to work in the sports field, possibly as a team manager. Discovery Islands Realty is proud to acknowledge one of our Island's youth and we wish Sophie the very best in her future endeavours.

Items For "News and Events" Welcome.
No Business Related Material Please
Next 2 Deadlines - 5p.m. , Mon Oct. 19th & Nov. 2nd

Whirlwind Rescheduled

To all those who have enjoyed country dances with Whirlwind in the last year. We couldn't find an available Friday or Saturday nights in Quadra's busy community hall for the rest of 1998. We have cancelled our dances booked for Oct.18 and Dec. 13 (both Sundays) because the nights weren't suitable for our band members or our audience. For those of you who enjoy live Celtic music and community all-age, old-time dances, look for the next Whirlwind dances at the Community Hall on Sat. Jan 16 and Sat. Feb. 27. Hope to see you there.

Super Soup Workshop

In this 2 hour workshop, local chef Linda Gray will give hands-on instruction for essential stock making techniques. As well she will produce 2 gourmet soups: East African Sweet Pea and Pasta e Fagioli. Bring your apron and your tupperware! Sunday October 25th 7-9 p.m. at the Community Centre. Fee \$15, to register call Linda at 285-2171 (please leave a message)

Book Tables For Xmas Craft Fair

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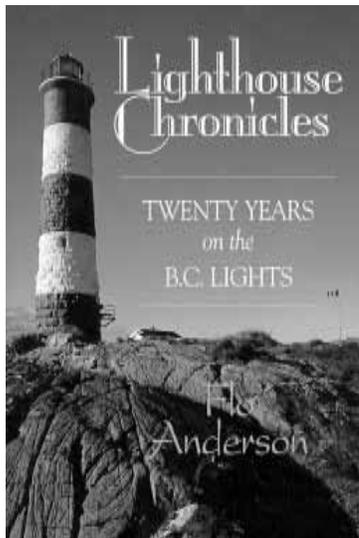
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News & Events

Lighthouse Chronicles



Twenty years of isolation, breathtaking scenery, wind, rock, and sea. Twenty years on an exposed island with few of the conveniences modern life has encouraged us to expect - only the exacting work of lightkeeping and the wild exhilaration of helping your children grow up on the BC coast.

Flo Anderson will be reading and showing slides from her book, *Lighthouse Chronicles: 20 Years on the BC Lights*, at the **Museum at Campbell River, 470 Island Highway, October 18 at 2:00pm.**

Flo Anderson offers a rare glimpse into the life of a lightkeeper, from the perspective of a woman who has lived on the lights and raised her family under these difficult and rewarding circumstances. She captures the essence of this lifestyle - which is quickly disappearing - in her memoirs, *Lighthouse Chronicles* (Harbour, \$18.95). The book is an intimate journey that traces the challenges and joys of living where there are no stores, no mail delivery, no doctors, and no schools. A number of black and white photographs enliven the author's stories.

Flo Anderson was born in Victoria, BC. From 1961 to 1982, she and her husband Trevor and their four children lived at five different BC light stations. At Race Rocks, their last posting, the Andersons spent seven years building a yacht in whatever spare time they could find. Trevor took early retirement in 1982, and over the next thirteen years the family sailed the BC coast and through the south Pacific to New Zealand. Flo and Trevor now live ashore in Sidney, BC.

Admission to the "*Lighthouse Chronicles*" presentation is \$5 for adults, and \$3 for students and seniors. For more information call 287-3103.

Games We Play

Did you know that ice skates used to have blades made of bone? Or that old-fashioned bicycles could be taller than some adults?

In a special **Pro-D program at the Museum at Campbell River**, children can learn more about the games they play: where they came from and how they have changed over the years.

Museum education coordinator Linda Hogarth will use slides and antique games to explain the sometimes surprising origins of modern games. Children can also try playing games from other times and cultures.

The **Games We Play** takes place on **Thursday October 22 from 1 - 2pm** at a cost of \$5 per child. The cost includes a take-home activity. Please pre-register at the museum since space is limited.

To round out the afternoon, **Courtenay storyteller Hazel Lennox** builds up for Halloween with a medley of scary stories: "**Tales to Give You Goose Bumps**". **Storytelling starts at 2:30pm** at a cost of \$3 per person. For more information call 287-3103.

Friday Flicks Oct 23

Seven-year-old Ludovic has a trick learnt from his beloved Grandmother. When things go wrong, he closes his eyes and imagines an ideal world for himself. It's a toyland with colours as bright as boiled candy and he lives in it as a girl. Little "Ludo" is a girl trapped in a boy's body and his story is revealed to us in the feature film, *Ma Vie En Rose* (My Life In Pink).

The problem for Ludovic is not that he wants to be a girl; he's quite certain that he *is* a girl and that God made a simple mistake in giving him a boy's body. His unshaken faith in his destiny as a female begins to create problems for this family when he plans to marry the son of his father's boss. His parents begin to realize that, short of major surgery or a miracle, there is no way things can be made right. The adults in Ludovic's world mouth values of tolerance, but the neighbours persecute the entire family. The only consistently sympathetic person in his life is his grandmother, Elizabeth - a free spirited feminist.

Award-winning, first time director Alain Berliner "wins you over from the film's first moments, choreographing his scenes with such a bustling air of wit and confidence" (Sandra Kull). Berliner also handles all the characters sympathetically. He effectively builds up the tension and the fact that Ludovic will not change his mind. With the tension builds the discomfort, then disgust of friends and neighbours. *Ma Vie En Rose* balances commentary on gender roles with an honest sense of childhood whimsy. "It is a combination of darkness and light - both in style and in substance - that make *Ma*

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At the Legion

Mon. Hockey Pool starting **Oct. 5** 7 pm. For more info call Wendy at 285-2132. Also Men's Darts.

Tues. Board Games..... Bring your favourite or play someone else's...Pool, darts, ping-pong, shuffle board also available.

Wed. Crib Night. **7 pm** start. Play every week \$5 for tournament or drop in \$3 nightly pot.

Thurs. Jam Night. Come and mix it up with Steve, Mark, Howie & Duane!

Fri. Oct. 9, 9pm Comedy once again with Bobby Dean, Elvis impersonator, entertainer extraordinaire! Joke-off after the show...Prizes!

Sat. Meat Draw! **5pm** start. Draws every 1/2 hour... You could fill the freezer cheap!

See ya at the Legion where the pool tables are always free!

Benefit Bottle Drive

Sunday, October 25, 1998. Island fund-raiser for Darlene and Owen Vig (Richards), to help with expenses during Owen's lengthy and ongoing recovery in Vancouver. If you would like to help drive and collect please meet us at the Community Centre at 10:30 or if you would like to help sort we will be at the Heriot Bay Store at 12:00. You can drop your cans off there between 12:00 and 2:00 pm. Thank you. For more information call Karen Sumner 285-3650 or Sally Bradshaw 285-3608.

Around the World in Words & Pictures

Mark your calendar, November 14th, now so you won't miss this superb slide show by a British Columbian family sailing their way around the world on a **71 ft. yacht**.

The show covers 18 months journeying from Europe to New Zealand via Cape Horn, with explorations in South America and the South Pacific. Their interests are largely natural history, wilderness and the people they encounter ashore. The slides, enhanced by music over, are truly superb, the subjects fascinating and unusual. The commentary, live, is light and bright and always interesting.

So make a note of the date: **Saturday, November 14th, 8 pm** at the Quadra Community Centre. Admission will be very affordable and all proceeds will be donated to the Community Centre Addition Project. We'll tell you more later on, but for now, mark that date!

Tonight-Welcome to Sarajevo

Welcome to Sarajevo is another in the newsman-as-hero genre starring Stephen Dillane and Woody Harrelson. It is based on British reporter Michael Nicholson's book about his Bosnian Tour and his efforts to smuggle a young Muslim girl out of the country. **Welcome to Sarajevo** plays on **October 9th at 7:45pm** at the Quadra Island **Community Centre**.

The movie is a two part dramatization and summary of the conflict. The first half often mixes actual newsreel footage with matching reenactments revealing the Serbian siege of Sarajevo in 1992. The second half marks the moment Henderson crosses the line of objectivity - an essential awareness in all good reporters - and becomes a committed participant in his experience of the war. He is determined in his efforts to rescue Emira, a savvy young girl he meets in an orphanage.

The movie is both thrilling and extremely moving. There's no denying the potent and deeply disturbing dramatic effect of the real-life footage and it is an emotionally powerful docu-drama.

Welcome to Sarajevo has been criticized on the grounds that the movie wasn't totally accurate journalistically, the argument being: Why alter events when reality is powerful enough? But a docu-drama is not journalism. "Welcome Sarajevo isn't re-imaging history and motivation with titillating theories from the fringe. It is taking events the world was scarcely interested in and shaping them into a cohesive, dramatic structure; bringing home greater truths leaving viewers stunned, heart broken and perhaps feeling a bit guilty" (Jack Matthews). If it over simplifies the complexities of the Bosnian war, **Welcome to Sarajevo** "isolates with laser precision the reasons the world should have been more involved" (Matthews).

As usual, the Friday Flicks Film Club crew offers up gourmet popcorn, tasty treats and speciality coffee from the cappuccino bar. Join us for the new fall series of film showing every alternate Friday till December 11th. It's worth the trip to the island.



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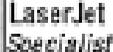
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The Omega String Trio

Violinist Marc Destrube returns to Quadra Sunday October 18th, for a concert at TsaKwaLuten Lodge. His trio will provide a delightful program, beginning at 2:30 pm, including works by Schubert, Schnittke and Mozart. The Lodge is offering a buffet lunch before the concert. Call them for lunch reservations and pickup from the ferry.

The Omega String Trio consists of Mr Destrube, with Yariv Aloni on viola and Pamela Highbaugh-Aloni on cello. Marc Destrube, born in Victoria, has studied violin in several great centres, and has performed throughout BC, across Canada and Europe, for several years with the Purcell String Quartet. He is now concertmaster of CBC Vancouver Orchestra and director of the Pacific Baroque Orchestra. He travels to Europe several times each year as the co-concertmaster of the Orchestra of the 18th Century. Heard regularly on CBC, he has recorded on several highly respected labels.

Yariv Aloni was born in Israel, and graduated from the Jerusalem Music Centre. He has been a violinist with the Penderecki and the Aviv String Quartets, and has performed in major concert halls in Israel, Europe and North America, recorded on many labels, served on the faculty of Wilfred Laurier University and given master classes at universities across Canada. He is the Music Director of the Victoria Chamber Orchestra and the Victoria Choral Society.

Cellist Pamela Highbaugh-Aloni, originally from California, with music degrees from Indiana, California State and Northridge in Los Angeles, is Artist in Residence at the University of Victoria, where she teaches cello and chamber music. A founding member of the Lafayette String Quartet, Ms Aloni has performed throughout North America and Europe, winning top prizes in the Fischhoff National Chamber Music Competition and the Portsmouth International String Quartet Competition, and has made several recordings.

Tickets for this concert are available at the Tidemark, Joanne's Country Charm and Quadra Crafts. Price is \$15 for adults, \$12 for seniors and \$5 for students under 18.

Wine Tastings

A series of wine tastings is being planned to take place this fall and winter on Quadra Island. Interest in forming a wine club will also be discussed. The tastings will be held at the Lovin' Oven. If you are interested, phone 285-3687 and leave your name and number for Jim.

QI United Church

Quadra Island United Church invites you to the next evening service on Sunday Oct. 18. Patrick Stewart will present "Pilgrimage: from past to present". Everyone welcome.

The Board of Stewards is pleased to announce that Mignon Smienk (285-3163) will be offering Sunday School at the church every Sunday at 10:00 am, and that Juaneva Smith (285-3246) is now licensed to conduct marriages.



Marlena's Salon

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Showtime *to see or not to see*

CRUMB

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THE PARTY

A quirky yet hilarious film in which an accident prone man mistakenly attends a posh tinsel-town party. If you haven't seen it in the last 4 years- its laugh time. If you've never seen it, learn what Jim Carrey wishes he could do, but only Peter Sellers can. Reviewed by Beshara B.

JEANNE DE FLORETTE

Set in rural France, this is a black comedy about greed, ambition, and the love of the land. Faced with the unpredictable nature of weather, Jeanne de Florette struggles to maintain his farm without adequate water. The film follows the neighbours attempt to acquire the land and a secret spring for themselves. Reviewed by Sheahan Wilson.

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Coming Events

A Classical Concert

in cooperation with Quadra Island Cultural Committee:

Marc Destrube-violin, Yariv Aloni-violola and Pamela Highbaugh-cello

The Omega String Trio

October 18th, concert starts at 2:30 p.m.

A Lunch Special will be served before the concert.

To reserve your table, please call in advance.

October 23rd & 24th

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Greg Hewitt **285-2762**

Welcome to our first issue under the new schedule of Friday distribution. It has been a hectic week with back to back *Islanders* to produce but in the long haul the new dates should help make things less frantic (especially around the weekends). Apologies in advance to those that didn't notice the deadline change and may miss having their event listed. We tried to minimize this with the timing but I've no doubt there will be a few calls to field in the next few days.

Sad to see the Red Radish finally closing its doors after so many very fine meals and quick coffees. It will be sorely missed.

News on the production side of the *Islander*: Castle Printing (fearless printers of this and many other notable works) have taken charge of a new press that once the bumps and squeaks have been ironed out is sure to give the *Islander* (and the aforementioned other works) an even more polished look.

Philip

Deadlines For Next 2 Issues

5 pm, Mon. October 19th & November 2nd

Only Items Received Before The Deadline

can be guaranteed space in the upcoming issue.

Drop off at the Heriot Bay Store or Quadra Foods or fax to 285-2236
Lengthy items preferred on disk, Saved As "Word for Mac", RTF, or by email.
Disks will be returned. Any questions...call 285-2234, 9 to 5 Mon.-Fri...

#172 October 9th 1998

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Letters, artwork, submissions of any kind welcome. Lengthy items are preferred by email or on 3.5" floppy disk in RTF or MS Word for Mac format, **please also supply a printed copy.** Items may be edited for content and/or formatting.

Submissions may be left at Quadra Foods or Heriot Bay Store.

Opinions expressed in this magazine are those of the writers and are not



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On the cover:
Rebecca Spit and Breton Islands
Photo: Philip Stone



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Sierra Quadra

An Evening with Swedish Foresters

Ray Grigg

Mix two dozen Swedish foresters with Tsa-Kwa-Luten, good food, free beer and a couple of environmentalists, and the result is an interesting evening. After these European visitors—hosted by TimberWest—had toured local forests, saw local logging and talked to local foresters, they wanted a different perspective. That's why two members of Sierra Quadra were invited to the buffet dinner.

Our intense discussions—interspersed with speeches, toasts and Swedish forester songs—lasted from 7:30 until after midnight. Their English was excellent and, occasionally when it failed, a quick translator or huddled group of Swedes found an appropriate word.

Unos, Mats, Liv, Michael and Leonard introduced themselves as a forestry consultant, an ecologist and a woodlot operator—Leonard's family had been operating a woodlot for six generations. All were urbane, informed, thoughtful and very environmentally serious. Leonard talked with heartfelt intensity about his two sons, aged 20 and 18, who were concerned about a future for themselves and humanity. Michael, who was soon to present his thesis for a another degree in psychology, was also concerned about nuclear accidents—the fallout ("falldown" he called it) from Chernobyl still haunts the Swedish landscape and psyche. We learned much from each other. So here, for Quadra, are some salient insights generated by these Swedish foresters.

Most forested land in Sweden is privately owned by woodlot operators and by several major timber companies. The land is relatively flat, the trees are relatively uniform in both size and species, and the management and harvesting techniques have been honed and refined to computerized perfection.

The forests are essentially wood factories, carefully tended and nurtured by many years of experience.

It is important to know, consequently, that the Swedish forester's sense of nature is somewhat different from our own. They live in a country where harvesting forests has been going on for about a thousand years. Old-growth forests—they called them "prime forests"—no longer exist. No one knows, they said, when these forests disappeared. And no one knows what these original forests were like. All of Sweden is now managed forest, managed wildlife, managed nature. So it was difficult, at first, to explain to them that our sense of nature involves wilderness, a concept which required them to understand a place and an energy that is essentially devoid of human influence, that has intrinsic worth simply for its own sake—not for how we are using or controlling it.

This brought the conversation to Quadra and the second-growth forests that dominate the island. They had learned about the island's history: the logging of the original forests and the fire in '25 that burned off most of the island. They were aware of a few surviving old-growth trees scattered throughout Quadra and emphasized that these trees should be protected. But they were unaware of the old-growth forest at Nuggedzi, expressing amazement that this area was not protected in some official and permanent way.

They saw clearcuts on Quadra. Were we concerned about them? And then they noted, rather slyly, that the forest industry itself seemed a little ashamed of clearcuts because they tried to hide them from view or contour them into a landscape for reduced visibility. In Sweden, too, they said, people have difficulty with clearcuts, especially

when such a practice takes place close to populated areas. To deal with this conflict, many forest operators are reducing clearcuts and supplementing income by enticing tourists with wildlife, mushrooms and farm animals. Where logging is to take place on Quadra, what would we prefer, they asked?

In this respect, we suggested, Quadra is somewhat like these populated areas of Sweden. In the remote areas of B.C.—As in northern Sweden—industrial forestry may be quite appropriate. But on Quadra, where population, a diverse economy, tourism, recreational values and a sensitive ecology all have to coexist with logging, we would prefer thinning, individual tree selection and the gradual cultivation of stands of mixed ages and species. This, we proposed, might best be accomplished with the "short-log system" which would minimize visual impacts, damage to trees, compaction of soil and large hauling roads.

They expressed surprise that this system wasn't being used here. In Sweden, they said, all logs are cut to either 5.2 or 4.5 metres. They had difficulty understanding why our logs were cut long in the forest and then cut short in the mills. Isn't 5.2 metres the longest length of lumber? Wouldn't it be better just to cut it short in the first place?

This conversation with Michael was interrupted by a comment in Swedish from a couple of seats away. It came from a company executive who overheard what we were saying. Yes, Michael interpreted in English, he thought short-logging was a more intelligent and sensitive way of harvesting, and it should work on Quadra.

The discussions could have gone on all night. But we were getting tired and hoarse. So home we went, a little overcome by the sincerity and intensity of the evening. In the

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Giant Banks Loom

Steven Halliday

The recent released Mackay Report on banking in Canada includes recommendations on many key areas of the industry, but of particular interest is the suggestion that most barriers remaining to entry into the traditional banking marketplace be dropped. Broadly speaking, this means that foreign banks will have much more open access to consumer and commercial banking, and non-banks such as insurance companies will be able to offer services formerly restricted to banks, trust companies and credit unions. Generally speaking, competition is a good thing. But what are the ramifications to you as a consumer? And what about the big bank mergers?

We have already seen limited entry of foreign banks into Canada, known as "Schedule B" banks. ING Direct is a good example - this Dutch subsidiary of the gargantuan ING Bank, with over \$300 billion US in assets has succeeded in attracting over \$500 million in deposits in less than 2 years! This without having a single branch in Canada, only a call centre in Toronto. Therein lies the reason they have attracted deposits, as they are able to pay much higher than market rates because they have no branch overhead to cover. Of course, they offer almost no other services, but rate hungry depositors seem willing to accept this inconvenience. MBNA Corp., a US giant in the credit card field, is entering the Canadian market with a vengeance, attracting card switchers with higher limits and low rates (that revert back to their normal high levels after a few months). Several other US and European banks or near banks are poised to enter Canada, almost always with little or no physical presence outside of major centres.

I expect these new competitors will share one common weakness, being a distinct inability to provide personal service. Imagine dialling a 1-800 number to explain why you can't pay your credit card balance because your EI just ran out, or calling Toronto to ask them to wire money to your kid who is in trouble in Inuvik. How about asking your "virtual banker" to sign your passport application? How much sympathy will you get when asking for an emergency overdraft to travel to visit a sick relative? These are real situations we deal with on daily basis, and we can only do it because we *know* you. We know you well enough to place extraordinary trust where warranted, and to go the extra mile because we live and work with you. So if service means little to you, these new near-banks will be made to order for you.

Critics of the proposed mergers between 4 of Canada's 5

largest banks state that two vital facts must be considered by Paul Martin before making any decision - that Canada is already served by one of the best banking systems in the world (a fact that has been confirmed by institutions such as the Bank of International Settlements) and that additional competitive pressure caused by the forging of banking behemoths can only hurt the competition provided by existing alternatives to the chartered banks. Further, the banks stated intentions of cutting costs to become more competitive will be damaging to the Canadian economy as a whole, especially if the spectre of 30,000 unemployed ex-bankers were to become true. However, these points are all moot because it is the belief of many in the industry (including the author) that the mergers will proceed, albeit with several conditions attached. We who compete with the banks are used to competing against giants - what difference does it make in wrestling match if you weigh 100 pounds whether your competitor weighs 1,000 pounds, or 10,000 pounds? New competition will only make us better at it, and the consumer will benefit. I have no doubt there will always be an alternative for those who wish personal service in a face to face, friendly and local manner here in the Discovery Islands.

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Over the weekend of October 3-4, Quadra Credit Union successfully converted to a new generation computer system called RFS-NT. This Windows-based banking system gives the Credit Union state of the art transaction processing, and ensures that Credit Union members will be unaffected by any Year 2000 computer problems. The system will allow the Credit Union to offer members previously unavailable banking products, which will start to roll out in the coming months.

The conversion process itself went relatively smoothly, except that members were unable to use their MemberCards for several hours. This unfortunate event was unforeseen, and to the members affected we offer our sincere apologies for any inconvenience this may have caused. We also wish to thank all of our members for their patience as our staff become familiar with the new system over the next few weeks.

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Island Report

“BC Ferries Could Save Millions” Study Says

BC Ferries could save millions of dollars a year in back office administrative costs, independent consultants told a meeting of the ferry stakeholders' Coastal Council October 1 in Nanaimo. At least \$6 million—almost half of last year's \$13.8 million operating loss—could be saved annually by changing “cumbersome and labour intensive” processes and introducing up-to-date technology, according to a “business diagnostic” of the Crown corporation.

Representatives from most of the communities served by BC Ferries also heard predictions of future costs that renewed their fears of tariff hikes and service cutbacks, prompting the delegates to approve letters to the BC Ferries' Board of Directors and to Deputy Premier Dan Miller, Minister responsible for BC Ferries, asking for no fare increases or service reductions until the council's work on financial planning and service efficiencies is completed.

The Council also supported the recommendation of its finance working group that BC Ferries should be run as a “non-profit authority” in which “revenues, including (federal and provincial) subsidies, would be equal to its full costs, including depreciation.” The council rejected the present policy which calls for all routes to break even on their direct operating expenses within five years, saying that goal would be impossible to achieve on about one-third of BC Ferries' routes.

The administrative study, conducted by Ernst & Young, a Vancouver management consulting firm, found that BC Ferries “does not have excessive layers of management personnel” but has “departments that are larger than is typically necessary in today's environment and which are greatly hampered by outdated business processes.”

John Fryer, the government-appointed mediator of last winter's fare protests whose recommendations included undertaking this study, immediately asked whether the savings envisioned would mean a loss of jobs in BC Ferries. Fryer was attending the meeting in his new role as head of the Crown Corporation Secretariat. John Murphy of Ernst & Young replied that the benefits would not necessarily come from reducing the number of employees but from better utilization of their time.

Ken Michael, President of the BC Ferry and Marine Workers Union, said the union would support efficiency but “job cuts for the sake of reducing the deficit will inspire another reaction.” Kerry Morris, a Mid-Coast stakeholder representative, asked, “Should we be concerned about losing a few internal jobs when whole communities are fighting for their lives in this economic downturn?”

The study was greeted positively by BCFC Board Chair Curtis Eaton, President and CEO Tom Ward, and Gordon Cross, Vice President for Finance and Corporate Services, whose department received the greatest analysis and the most suggestions for “improvement opportunities.” Generally, the report said, BCFC “has been slow to adopt new technology” for its information and accounting systems, and its managers “apparently do not recognize technology as an enabler to increase efficiency and effectiveness.”

“The onus is on me,” Cross told the meeting, “We will follow through on these recommendations.” John Rumble of South Pender Island, chair of the Coastal Council's audit working group, said his committee was reviewing the report but already felt it was “insufficient” because a number of the concerns of his group were not addressed. He pointed out that the study was only part of an “value-for-money” audit that ferry protest leaders had demanded last winter.

Ernst & Young's report suggested the potential savings in back office administration “will be not be significant in terms of the overall expenditures of the corporation.” The council's finance working group, chaired by Lorne Whyte of Tourism Victoria, put this in perspective with estimates that the corporation will have losses in the \$100-\$150 million range in five years because of capital costs to replace its aging fleet.

Whyte presented a “five-year scorecard” which the finance committee is working with to see how projected costs might be balanced with revenue from tariff increases, retail sales, parking and government support and with savings from greater efficiency in administration and service, better use of crews, and reductions in service. The mention of tariff increases and service reductions was a red flag for the stakeholder representatives, many of whom were involved last winter's coast-wide protests against the substantial fare hikes that were ordered by the Provincial Cabinet.

Council members approved the following statement to the Board of Directors to

express their concern that BCFC might reduce ferry service as an alternate to raising fares:

“We have expressed to the Minister our position that tariffs should not be increased until a full report on tariff and subsidy issues is received by Government and an agreement on subsidy and tariff policy and implementation strategy between the Provincial Government and the Coastal Council is reached.

“We ask that the Board of BCFC commit to supporting the Coastal Council by not reducing ferry service levels during this time. This is not intended to restrict normal operational changes nor local stakeholder processes.”

The creation of the Coastal Council, as a “second tier” of stakeholder representation, was a recommendation of Fryer's report, which also led to a rollback on frequent user ticket book prices last December and a one-year moratorium on rate hikes. There are two representatives from each of eleven local stakeholder committees plus delegates from chambers of commerce and tourism offices in the mainland ferry service areas. The council met for the first time in Victoria in June and has been operating with a December 31st deadline for making recommendations to the Minister. It will meet again in Nanaimo November 4-5.

For further information, contact: Neville Atkinson, Salt Spring Island, Chair of the Coastal Council (250-537-2591 or bcfcstakeholders@saltspring.com) ; John Rumble, South Pender Island, Chair of the Audit Working Group (250-629-6492 or jdrumble@gulfislands.com); or Lorne Whyte, Tourism Victoria, Chair of the Finance Working Group (250-414-6999 or lwhyte@pinc.com).

Quadra Resident Lands Federal Internship in China

by Tanya Storr

Quadra resident Lisa Verbicky is off to China in a few days' time on a federal government internship. Lisa will spend six months in China, helping to set up a sushi restaurant in Tianjin, a city of 9 million southeast of Beijing.

The Canadian government funds internships for young people in many different countries, Lisa explained, in association with Canadian companies that do business in those countries.

Lisa's internship is through a large real estate company that is setting up a 100-franchise chain of fast food sushi restaurants in China. One of approximately 80 people who applied for the internship, Lisa, who is 27, learned about the Canadian government program from a Province newspaper ad.



Lisa Verbicky

photo: Troy

"I was trying to find something interesting to do for the winter. I've studied international relations and Asian studies, so the ad about an internship in China caught my eye. They wanted people aged 29 or under, with a business, marketing, or food services background. I sent off my resume at the end of August, not really thinking I would get an interview, but I got a call back right away," she said.

Lisa, who took a year of Mandarin at Camosun College and

has also completed a University term in Japan, was requested to come to Vancouver for a group interview. By this time, the 80 applicants had been narrowed down to 10, and each person had to stand up in front of the group and say something about his or her background.

"It was quite scary. All the other people were in suits and they all had degrees in marketing and were running their own businesses," she said.

Lisa didn't think she could compete with the other applicants, so was surprised and pleased to learn she was one of the four chosen for the last stage of the interview process. After she had a personal interview with the real estate company president and his assistant, she came back to Quadra to find a message on her answering machine that she was one of the two people accepted for the internship.

"I thought they would want somebody with a stronger academic background but they told me that the other people had plenty of credentials but no personality. They said I've got personality and that's why I got the job. That was really refreshing for me because I was trying to decide if I should go back to school at the time," Lisa told me.

Lisa has been travelling back and forth to Vancouver for training since she

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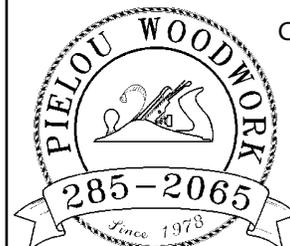
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found out she landed the position, fitting in her job as a front desk clerk at April Point as well. The training included classes in survival Mandarin, history, and orientation of the city and sights. Lisa will be leaving for China as soon as her working visa is ready, probably around Thanksgiving.

In China, Lisa and the other successful applicant will be living in a two-storey house in a foreign quarter on the outskirts of Tianjin. They will be sharing the house with a Chinese-Canadian couple, the partners with the real estate company on the sushi chain venture.

Working long hours five-and-a-half days a week, the interns will be commuting by bus to the sushi restaurant and back. The restaurant will try to attract the young yuppie crowd, and the sushi will be machine-made. Lisa said they will start out by offering lots of vegetable rolls as the Chinese population does not eat a lot of raw fish.

"We really have to introduce sushi slowly into their culture," she explained.

During her six-month stay, Lisa will get five days holiday at Christmas. Her fiancé Troy plans to travel to China this winter and meet her for her holiday. Troy and Lisa, who are both from Victoria, met in Bangkok six years ago. They moved to Quadra this spring from Mount Washington.

Lisa said she has mixed feelings about the Canadian government doing business in China, considering the Chinese government's atrocious human rights record. She has heard the argument that Canada shouldn't be doing any business with China because of the human rights issue, and she has also heard the opposing viewpoint that opening up business with China offers Western powers a chance to influence China's human rights policies.

"I have trouble making a judgement call on such moral issues before I actually go and see for myself. I just want to go there and make my own decision as I see for myself what's really going on. There's so much hype on both sides over whether or not Canada

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Quadra Clothesline

by Tanya Storr

Sandra Ramm, owner of Quadra Clothesline, a new laundromat in Quathiaski Cove, had been wanting to open her own business for a long time. As a bartender/manager at the Landing Pub for the past three years, Sandra has spent a lot of time listening to islanders' needs and suggestions.

"I got the idea for opening the laundromat from listening to people on the island say they felt there was a need for another place to do laundry. This summer Bill O'Connor told me a space had come available for rent in the Cove Plaza and it was mine if I wanted it. I pursued it and it all came together within a couple of months," she said.

Quadra Clothesline opened in the last week of August and business has been steady ever since. Some of the laundromat's customers have been people whose wells have run dry, and Sandra hopes she will start to see people use the dryers more in the winter when hanging clothes outside on a line is no longer an option.

The laundromat is open from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. seven days a week, and it is staffed from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. daily. Sandra has three part-time employees, two of whom are on call.

During staffed hours, you can drop off your laundry and take advantage of Quadra Clothesline's wash, dry, and fold service. You can also drop off dry cleaning and Sandra will take it to town and bring it back a couple days later, for the same price it costs to get dry cleaning done in town yourself.

If you prefer to do your own laundry but there is a wait for the machines, you can leave some quarters with the staff and they will pop it into the washers or dryers for you as they come available.

"It helps keep the flow moving and keeps the customers happy," said Sandra.

The laundromat has five washers and four dryers. One of the washing machines is a maxi load, and will take 40 pounds of laundry at once. Sandra said that machine is well-suited for sleeping bags, quilts, or large loads of laundry that don't need to be separated.

There are also two front-loading (double load) washing machines and two top-loading machines. Some of the washers have a digital display telling you how much change to insert and how much time is left in the cycle. The dryers are the large industrial type.

Sandra took out a business loan to start up the laundromat, and her biggest expense to date has been purchasing the washers and dryers. She decided to buy new machines as they are under warranty and should have no major maintenance problems for five years. She also bought a machine that sells soap, bleach, softeners, and plastic laundry bags. In future she'd like to purchase a change machine, but they are very expensive. Sandra noted that people should try to bring their own change during unstaffed hours.

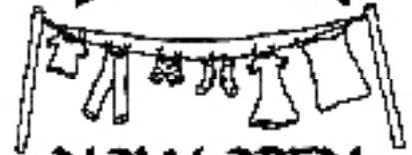
Sandra said her husband, Clayton, and two kids, Nicole (12) and Brenden (4), have been a big help with the laundromat. The family lives in Campbell River because Clayton works at Westmin Mine, and although they have their own washer and dryer at home, Sandra has been so busy on Quadra she's been bringing her laundry to work!

The laundromat is painted white and has a seating area with magazines to read and toys, including a chalkboard, for kids. A large notice board displays posters about community events. Sandra plans to put in a television set at some point, and she wants to paint a clothesline on one of the walls.

"I'm working on making it a comfortable place to be. Customer feedback has been very positive so far," she said.

For more information about Quadra Clothesline, drop by the laundromat or call 285-2700.

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Adult Coho Return to Lakes in Record Numbers

by Tanya Storr

Adult coho are returning to Village Bay Lakes in record numbers this year, reported Quadra Island Salmon Enhancement Society (QISES) director/secretary Gary Pronk on October 6. He described seeing over 1,000 adult coho, most in the 10-13 pound range, swim up Village Bay Creek to the lakes that day.

"It was just incredible. I've never seen such a good return in my eight years with the society. I haven't seen more than 200 in the creek before, usually not more than 120. If you stood where our salmon trap is normally located, you could see splashes for 200-300 yards as they moved up the creek," Gary said.

Thanks to the dedicated efforts of Gary and some other QISES members, the coho were able to get through a logjam blocking the creek. QISES director Brian Stevenson, who has an oyster lease in Village Bay, had been keeping an eye on the coho as they jumped around in the bay for the last few weeks and then started to move up the creek. On the evening of October 5, he phoned Gary to say he had noticed the fish were trapped below the logjam, unable to get past it.

Gary, Hans Lucas, and Judy Lucas went to the logjam the next morning and managed to open a couple of holes in it for the coho to swim through. They also trenched out some pathways in the river bottom so the salmon wouldn't hurt themselves so much.

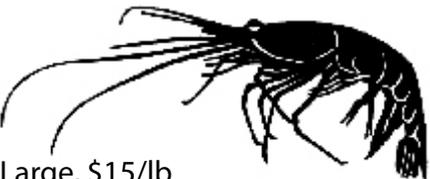
"By the time we were finished over 1,000 coho had come through, and there were another 500 lined up like soldiers waiting their turn. At the moment the tributaries are dry so the coho will stay in the lakes. In another three or four weeks we'll hopefully have had enough rain so they can move up the tributaries, such as Mine Creek, Hartford Creek, and Stramberg Creek," Gary said.

He explained that these are all Quadra hatchery coho, returning in their third or possibly fourth year to spawn. Gary said he believes a big reason for the strong returns was the federal government's decision to close down the coho fishery this year. He also credits QISES president Don McEachern and all the hatchery volunteers, including Quadra Seniors and numerous local fishing guides, who helped raise the coho fry and release them into freshwater.

"It's a real success story. After today I really believe things can turn around. It gives me hope for the future," said Gary.

Day	Time	Ht/ft
Sa	0230	3.3
	1.0	
	10	13.5
	4.1	
3.0	1525	9.8
	3.0	
	1935	13.1
	4.0	
Su	0320	3.3
	1.0	
	11	13.5
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	3.2	
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	3.8	
Mo	0415	3.9
	1.2	
	12	13.5
	4.1	
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	1.5	
	13	13.8
	4.2	
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	1.7	
	14	13.8
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	3.4	
15	0735	5.9
	1.8	
	1400	13.8
	4.2	
2.5	2130	8.2
	2.5	
	0150	11.2
	3.4	
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	2.0	
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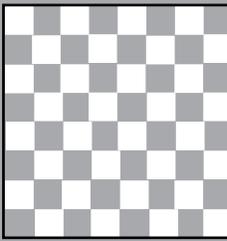
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Great Opportunity! This older, but cozy home has had quite a bit of renovating done already. The upstairs makes a wonderful bedroom plus office/study. The double wide trailer on the property could be rented to bring in additional revenue to help with the mortgage. Fairly level lot, only minutes walk from services and the ferry. \$129,000.



Call It Home! The shingled exterior gives a cozy look to this three bedroom home, located above a spectacular ravine, flanked by majestic cedars & firs, right down to a year round creek. The home boasts numerous skylights, loads of windows (one leaded glass) a nice patio, and fenced garden. A small barn, pasture area and shed complete the picture.

*** Nearly 10 acres with an excellent drilled well and driveway. Easy to develop. Bright and sunny property on Quadra's southern end. Now only \$109,000! Quadra Island

*** Ready for building, 1.04 acre lot with driveway & lawn in. Open and bright, located on a quiet street and only minutes walk to the conveniences in Heriot Bay. \$63,000. Quadra Island

*** Good potential for wonderful sunsets & great mountain views! Well treed 4.96 acres with trails. Minutes from the ferry, shopping, and gov't dock. Only \$99,000. Quadra Island

*** Mossy bluffs, trees, fabulous water & mountain views, and western exposure on this 30.58 acres of prime development property. Minutes from services and ferry.



Shop & Save at your Heriot Bay Store

General Mills Cheerios **\$2.⁹⁹** 575g

Sun Rype Blue Label
Apple Juice **99¢** 1L

Dove Bathroom Tissue **\$4.⁹⁹** 24 Roll

PRODUCE

99¢ lb
\$2.18/kg

BC Grown
Asian Pears
69¢ lb
\$1.52/kg

Russet Potatoes
29¢ lb 64¢/kg

FRESH BAKED DAILY

Calabrese Buns
5/\$1

Kraftkorn Bread
\$1.²⁹ each

Turnovers
2/89¢

MEAT

Chicken
Thighs **\$1.⁷⁹** lb
\$3.95/kg

Sirloin Tip
Steak **\$3.⁴⁹** lb
\$7.69/kg

DELI

Honey Ham **99¢** 100g

Specials in effect October 11-17 While Supplies Last
Store Hours Sun-Sat 9-7