Tesoro Refinery to host After Hours Officer Installation event on Jan. 19

Once again this year, Tesoro Refinery will host the combined After Hours / Board Installation event. Make reservations today for the Thursday, January 19 event at the refinery on the north end of March’s Point.

As always, this Business After Hours session will feature door prizes and the opportunity for networking with fellow business people, so don’t forget your business cards.

In addition, the evening agenda will include a brief presentation regarding upcoming projects at the refinery. There will also be an installation ceremony for new Chamber board members including 2006 President Bill Berry (see article, page two).

Representatives of Tesoro will include Dave Reed, President of Refining at the Anacortes Refinery, and Board Member John Pope, Manager / Engineering and Reliability.

RSVP today at 293-7911 for the 5:30 to 7 p.m. event, which promises to draw a crowd.

AM Anacortes will feature hospital and school district administrators

Two of the most influential public employees in the area will speak to a Chamber audience on Thursday, January 12 at the AM Anacortes session.

Guest speakers at the 7:30 a.m. event will be Island Hospital Administrator Vince Oliver and Anacortes School District Superintendent Chris Borgen.

Oliver will deliver an update on the public health center’s renovation and construction project.

The proposed renovation of Island Hospital centers around a new 31-bed patient-care wing featuring single-patient rooms. These universal rooms are flexible and can be used for critical and acute-care patients, eliminating the need to divert patients to other hospitals when the Critical Care Unit is full.

Borgen will provide details regarding the Anacortes School Board’s decision to seek voter approval of a 4-year maintenance and operations (M&O) levy in February.

Call 293-7911 for reservations, necessary for arrangements with the caterer. Doors open 7 a.m. at the Salvation Army Anacortes Corps, 3001 “R” Avenue. $5 fee includes Continental breakfast.

Member 2 Member book on its way

Look for your first Member 2 Member directory and discount book. The new directory will be mailed to all Chamber members and it will also be posted on the Chamber website at www.anacortes.org. The publication will feature a phone book-style listing of Chamber members as well as a special Member 2 Member discount section in the center with special offers for Chamber members and their employees (participation is $50 for a six-month period). Call 293-7911 to sign up for the next discount book.

Chamber Mission
The Anacortes Chamber of Commerce is dedicated to improving the business and community life of Anacortes.

Calendar
January 2006

January 5
Ambassador Club Luncheon 11:45 a.m.
Brown Lantern & Alehouse

January 6
First Friday Gallery Walk

January 27-28
ACT Theatre “Move Over Mrs. Markham” 293-6829

January 12
AM Anacortes, Salvation Army 7:30 am.
Hospital Administrator Vince Oliver and School District Superintendent Chris Borgen

January 18
Waterfront Festival Meeting, 8 a.m.
Chamber Conference Room

January 19
Business After Hours / Board Installation, Tesoro Refinery 5:30 - 7 p.m.

January 20
County-wide Chamber Board Installation
McIntyre Hall, Mount Vernon
5:30 - 8 p.m. RSVP to 293-7911

January 21
Salvation Army Anacortes Corps 100-Year Celebration at Brodniak Auditorium

January 27
Chamber Board Retreat

January 31
VIC meeting,
Chamber Conference Room 9 a.m.

819 Commercial Ave. Anacortes, WA 98221  Ph: (360) 293-7911  Fax: (360) 1595  E-mail: info@anacortes.org  Web site: www.anacortes.org
President’s Message

As I embark on the Presidency of the Chamber, let me first hope for you and yours, the very best in 2006.

We all need to thank Pam Allen for her leadership though a new beginning at the Chamber in 2005. It is my belief that the Chamber is enjoying a Board of Directors that is dedicated to the betterment of our community and business environment.

To this end the Board will be looking for your input and suggestions, and hopefully your support of the Chamber’s activities. There are openings on every committee, including the Waterfront and Jazz Festival committees.

We are also looking to enlarge the Destination Downtown Anacortes division of the Chamber, and are looking for merchants who are willing to help. Later this month the Board will hold our annual retreat. If there is something you feel we need to undertake, please let myself or any Board member know.

Finally, I would like to say that I feel honored to serve with the present Board of Directors, Executive Director Michael Broome, and an office staff that always seems up to whatever task is given them. It’s my opinion that they just don’t get any better, and for ours members, they are dedicated to making the Anacortes Chamber of Commerce the best it can be.

Bill Berry
General Manager, KLKI Radio
(360) 299-8402, bberry@klki.com

Caught in the Act of Doing Business...

Thanks to those who donated door prizes at the December Business After Hours at Anacortes Window and Door. Door prize donors included:

Alice Bohnker  Mark Nilson
Insurance Services Mortgage Consultant
All Data Shredding Penguin Coffee
American Cancer Society Read Me a Story
Anacortes Window & Door San Juan Vineyards
Art Smart Scott Richards Insurance
Bearce Design
Cap Sante Inn
Express Personnel Services
KLKI AM 1340

Donatello Flower and Gifts brought in the holiday season with a festive holiday Open House, too. Pictured behind the counter at the festive event are (r. to l.) Kathy Stamey, shop owner Jean Fantini and Vicki Matzen.
All Skagit County Chambers of Commerce will gather once again to celebrate their boards of directors. The third annual dinner on Jan. 20 will showcase each board of directors and see the installation of new leaders. Last year’s dinner was a huge success. Mark your calendars for Friday, January 20, 2006 at McIntyre Hall. Invitations and more information will be sent out soon.

Area Chambers partner for annual banquet on Friday, January 20

Salvation Army marks Centennial with January event

Many people are surprised to learn that The Salvation Army has played a role in the history of this area since just after the turn of the century. In fact, there have been Salvation Army officers serving this area since 1906.

When Salvation Army Ensign Pierce Dowell arrived in Anacortes in 1906, he discovered a rough-and-tumble young community - the largest in Skagit County. City leaders had given up on the goal of making the island community a railroad terminus, but Anacortes was still the focus of many dreams.

In an article written on the occasion of the city’s Centennial, Anacortes American reporter Jon Bauer quoted a “purported” sales pitch by an Anacortes resident, who stated:

“If you are looking for an ideal spot for a city, centrally located with respect to shipping, a safe harbor, level townsite with deep water right up to a high tide line, scenery unsurpassed and climate just right, railroad facilities and everything else necessary to make a beautiful, prosperous and happy community, you’d better bring your family and household effects down here to Anacortes.”

They did come. By 1910, the population of Anacortes was 4,168 while Mount Vernon’s population was 2,517. Always, there have been people for whom life poses serious challenges, and The Salvation Army has been here to help them meet those challenges.

Long-time Salvation Army volunteer Ginger Houston reports that the Anacortes Corps was initially located in the 400 block of “Q” Avenue. Since then it has been located in a building on 25th Street, a building at 4th and “O,” at 814 28th Street and finally at its current location at 3001 “R” Avenue.

As we enter into a new year, Salvation Army Anacortes Corps officers Mike and Beth Paugh emphasize the Salvation Army’s commitment to the challenges of the day. If you would like to know more, call 293-6682 for a copy of our “Report to the Community.”

Members of the community are also invited to purchase tickets for a Saturday, January 21 celebration event at Brodniak Auditorium featuring popular Christian author Philip Yancey.

Music will be provided by singer/composer David Harsh of Edmonds. City Police Officer Leif Jacobson will perform as drummer in Harsh’s band. Also performing will be the Salvation Army Seattle Temple Band. Tickets are $15; $20 at the door.

AnacortesToday.com

An Internet presence is an important investment in your company’s future. Purchase a banner ad on this colorful, vibrant web site, updated on a daily basis by local writer and photographer Steve Berentson. Local images are also available. Call 293-4852 for details.

Steve Berentson Celebrates Life in Anacortes
Tourism Marketing

Anacortes Chamber Executive Director Michael Broome will join a team of area Chamber directors to represent Anacortes and the region at the 2006 Travel Show January 28 and 29 in Seattle.

On that weekend more than 150 travel companies and 300 travel professionals from around the world will fill the Seattle Center Exhibition Hall, showcasing the world’s most exotic destinations and great vacation ideas.

Among giveaways for those attending the Travel Show will be exotic trips, hotel rooms and airline tickets. The event will also feature hourly travelogues, seminars, and travel tips from travel specialists and tour operators.

BUSINESS AFTER HOURS: Pausing for a photo during a busy evening of festivities are (l. to r.) Chamber Director Michael Broome, Dr. David Kuzma and wife Kris, Anacortes Window and Door owners; Paul and Phyllis Arends and Tom Federico.

Thanks extended to VIC Volunteers
Chamber of Commerce heroes - the volunteers who staff the Visitor Information Center (VIC) throughout the year - were guests of honor December 5 at a Christmas party held at the Majestic Inn & Spa. Chamber Director Michael Broome and Office/VIC Coordinator Sue Keller extended thanks to the volunteers on behalf of the Board of Directors and the community-at-large. Gifts were provided by Pam Allen of Anaco Bay Inn and delicious refreshments were donated by the Majestic. Tours were given to provide volunteers with more information about the hotel and amenities.

Tree-Lighting Thanks

Anacortes High School Transitions Program
Curt Oppel, John L. Scott
The American Red Cross
Chamber President Pam Allen
Town Crier Judy Jewell
Anacortes Fire Department
Sue Keller (Santa’s Helper)

Harold Rhude (Father Christmas)
Benny Rawson’s Anacortes High School Brass Band
Fidalgo Elementary School Choir, directed by Tina Franulovich Martin
Mt. Erie Elementary School Choir, directed by Ginger Orsini
Kathy Sherman, Scott Milo Gallery
Mr. and Mrs. John Noyes
Dakota Barnes, City Tree Care
Corey Fry, Anacortes Tree Care
New Members

Curt Oppel
Individual Member
3201 Commercial Avenue
Anacortes, WA
360-202-0121

Fidalgo Island Walk-In Clinic
Catherine Mizen, ARNP
Urgent care clinic providing medical care to patients of all ages. Open evenings and weekends. No appointment necessary.
1500 Commercial Ave., P.O. Box 481
Anacortes, WA
360-299-2650

Member Renewals

Anacortes Financial Associates
Anacortes Realty
Anacortes Senior Center
American Cancer Society
City Tree Service
Daniel W. Rasmussen, DMD P.S.
Finn’s Photo
Homeplace Special Care Center
How It Works
James Anderson, P.S.
KP Studios
Ken Markel
Mark Nilson Mortgage Consultant
Piston Service Parts PLUS
Randy’s Pier 61
Ron Smith & Associates
Secret Harbor School
Sheely’s Floral & Gifts
Skagit State Bank
Trust Accounting Center
Viking Moving Service
Windermere Real Estate

Mortgage Master
Rita Ball
Mortgage correspondent marketing multiple lenders for best rates at lowest cost. Family owned since 1976.
919 -35th Street
Anacortes, WA
360-588-1814

Pizza Factory
Derek Wortner
Pizza Factory serves pizza, pasta, calzone & sandwiches. Daily delivery. Party room. “We Toss’em, They’re Awesome”
3219 Commercial Avenue
Anacortes, WA
360-293-1000

San Juan Motel (new owner)
Rani Jee
Kitchenette, double rooms, guest laundry, elevator, truck parking, 29 rooms, downtown Anacortes (AARP & Corp. rates). Children under 12 stay free.
1103 – 6th Street
Anacortes, WA
360-293-5105, 1-800-533-8009

Thrive Community Fitness
Aaron Culver
Fitness center, exercise, health & fitness. By Seafarers Memorial Park.
1609 “R” Avenue
Anacortes, WA
360-299-2180
www.thrivecommunityfitness.com

Member News Notes

Salvation Army Centennial
Christian author Philip Yancey will be principal speaker at a Saturday, January 21 Salvation Army Anacortes Corps Centennial celebration to be held at Brodniak Auditorium at Anacortes High School. Yancey is the author of numerous books including “What’s So Amazing About Grace” and “The Jesus I Never Knew.” The 100-year celebration event will also feature music by David Harsh, as well as a program about the Salvation Army’s history, its current programs and its vision for the future. Call 293-6682 for information. Advance tickets are $15, available at the Salvation Army Anacortes Corps, 3001 “R” Avenue. Tickets will be $20 if purchased at the door.

Help insulate someone’s home. Through an award-winning recycling program developed by MacGregor Publishing Company, used telephone directories throughout the county will become cellulose insulation for Habitat for Humanity homes.

“Elementary school children from 13 schools throughout Skagit and North Snohomish County once again will collect the phone books for the annual Return-to-Sender recycling program,” reported Bob Taylor, CEO of MacGregor Publishing Company.

Participating schools include: Fidalgo Elementary and Mt. Erie Elementary.

High School PTSA
Raises Money for Grad Night
The Anacortes High School PTSA of 2007 Grad Night Committee is selling the 2006 Edition Entertainment Book for both Seattle & North Puget Sound. Cost is $30. The book contains coupons for hundreds of dollars of discounts at local businesses and restaurants. Money raised will be used to provide a drug and alcohol free graduation celebration. For Information call Jean at 293-5588.

Recycle Phone Books
Don’t throw away your old phone book yet! Your used telephone directory could help insulate someone’s home. Through an award-winning recycling program developed by MacGregor Publishing Company, used telephone directories throughout the county will become cellulose insulation for Habitat for Humanity homes.

Philip Yancey
Thank You, Volunteers!
November 2005

Visitors 886 (791 - 2004)
Phone Calls 244 (231 - 2004)
Information Request 39 (22 - 2004)
Relocation Request 30 (29 - 2004)
Web Sessions 18,508 (13,288 - 2004)

Thanks to a wonderful team of volunteers, this year’s holiday season included another successful Community Christmas Tree Lighting and Lion’s Christmas Parade. Happy New Year to all!