State of the Port Address

At our June luncheon, Port Executive Director and chamber board member Bob Hyde will present a “State of the Port.” The port has been working hard over the past six years with the city and the chamber to make Anacortes a prime destination for recreational boating and a Mecca for boat building and servicing. Bob will discuss upcoming initiatives, events, and capital projects, which will continue the quest to make Anacortes the most livable and economically vibrant location in Puget Sound. Bob will elaborate on some of the inner workings of the port and the secrets to their transition to a successful, forward leaning organization. Bob will also introduce a new staff organization recently established to take the port to the next level.

The luncheon is sponsored by Carrie Worra of Cornerstone Home Lending. Since 1993 Cornerstone has been dedicated to looking out for clients’ best financial interests while helping them achieve their homeownership goals. Cornerstone Home Lending Inc. and Carrie Worra proudly offer a variety of loan programs details are available at www.CarrieWorra.com.

Bring your marketing materials and a gift for the give-away as we will network speed-dating style after our speaker. Luncheon starts 11:30 am and will be catered by Bob’s Chowder Bar and Salmon BBQ at the Anacortes Lutheran Church at 22nd & O, $15. Please register online at www.anacortes.org.

Washington Federal

This month’s business after hours will be at Washington Federal, which is a locally headquartered bank that was founded in 1917. They currently operate 166 offices. Between Skagit and Whatcom County they have 16 branches available for your convenience.

At Washington Federal, they believe that banking is more than a series of financial transactions. It is a commitment to building relationships with our clients and our community. They pride ourselves on giving excellent customer service and going above and beyond the status-quo.

Erin Anderson, the Branch Manager of the Anacortes office, has been in banking for over 14 years and specializes in Business Banking and Mortgage Lending. The Anacortes team is available to help you with all of your financial needs. Along with assisting you in your personal banking, they also have competitive business banking and lending products available to support your new or existing business, and they have flexible underwriting that comes with being a portfolio lender.

Washington Federal is located at 1017 Commercial Avenue. Business After Hours is on Thursday, June 21, from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm. Please RSVP online at www.anacortes.org.
a message from the executive director

Blooms Abound

Summer came early to our community, with an unexpectedly warm and sunny May—locals and visitors alike have been filling our streets!

Our city looks so beautiful this time of year. Earlier last month we hung the flower baskets downtown, which will be watered by the city all summer. The Anacortes Sidewalk Planter Project group repotted the containers downtown and will work all summer to keep them looking great. The uptown banners should be hanging soon, adding color and vibrancy to the south end of Commercial Avenue.

The city-planted containers on the median on R Avenue will be overflowing with gorgeous color and interesting varieties, the port’s esplanade’s border adds so much to the morning stroll with their expert plantings.

Your chamber funds over $17,000 in beautification projects throughout the year, and so many of our businesses add to our beauty with their green thumbs: Dr. Ras-mussen’s gardens pop all season; Calico Cupboard’s hanging baskets and side garden bring a hint of European charm; Gere-a-Deli—with no ground available still makes a lovely place to sit and with their overflowing planters.

We want to encourage more business owners to add blooms as well. In last month’s newsletter, we mentioned a blooming contest and we would like more members to participate.

Judging will be the last week of July and will be evaluated on:
- Effective use of color, texture and foliage
- Sense of design, personality
- Plant health and maintenance
- Ecological: water-wise, inviting to wildlife
- Year-round interest
- Interesting and creative architectural features

Some of you have no garden space so will have to think out of the box with planters or hanging features—it could be a fun project.

Thanks for all you do to keep Anacortes beautiful.

EDASC help for business owners

The Economic Development Association of Skagit County will once again be offering business assistance here in the privacy of the chamber board room on the fourth Friday of each month. The EDASC Free Confidential Business Advising program is available to existing and start-up Skagit County business owners looking for guidance in the following areas: business strategy and planning, competitive intelligence, marketing plans, financing preparation, financial analysis, human resources, export assistance and location assistance. To learn how you can tap into their certified business assistance expertise, call EDASC at 336-6114 and ask for Kevin Hoult or James McCafferty.

tourism

Reaching our neighbors

Each month we place a full page advertorial which includes photos and cost effective ad spaces for our members in the Victoria Times Colonist and on their robust website. These pages run in the travel/holiday section on Saturdays to reach our ferry market visitors.

To expand on this market, the Victoria Times Colonist is now available on a mobile format and will be showcasing Anacortes in its advertising on smart phones across Victoria.

This market boasts a healthy 96,000 unique monthly users, an audience we welcome to visit our beautiful city.
Bridge Café

Deception Pass, already a powerful draw as a Northwest “must see,” gained another asset this spring with the April opening of the Bridge Café.

Bridge Café owner Lisa Aydelotte notes: “A visit to Deception Pass is a rite of passage for any Northwest adventurer. Our hope is to make that adventure just a little more memorable with special treats ranging from a cup of organic coffee and breakfast to a glass of beer or wine enjoyed with our soup of the day and one of our tasty wraps.”

Aydelotte, a Whidbey Island native who has lived on the north end for the past 18 years, emphasizes that the café’s lodge home on Highway 20 represents opportunity for locals, too.

Deception Pass Café is the exclusive retail provider of JennyBean Coffee, an organic, micro-roasted coffee produced in nearby Coupeville. Also available are Arnie Deckwa’s Cornet Bay food products; a signature “Island Joy” ice cream from Lopez Island Creamery, homemade baked goods prepared daily, and more.

Among retail products are out-of-print books by newspaper columnist/historian Dorothy Neil; hand blown glass by C.W. Donnell; “GurglePot” pitchers by Matt Ellison and original hand-knit products from fiber artist Kelli Wyll of Anacortes. There is also a book-swap.

The main lobby features museum-quality historic photographs, Wi-Fi, gas fireplace and a big screen television.

“Everyone visiting Deception Pass enjoys that special ‘wow!’ experience,” said Aydelotte. “I hope to enrich that with a memorable Bridge Café experience for locals and pass-through visitors alike. Quality and customer service will be our top priorities.”

The Bridge Café is located in the large “log cabin” just a few hundred yards beyond the park’s North Whidbey entrance. Hours are 6:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., seven days a week.

For more information, call Lisa at 675-9438 or visit the website at www.bridgecafe.us. The café address is 40751 State Route 20.

Watch the café’s website calendar for live entertainment from local musicians including Lisa’s husband, John.

SeaBear Anacortes Plant Expansion Groundbreaking Ceremony—May 23

From left to right: Gordie Harang (owner), Dominique Place (chef), Clancy Niblack (Director of Operations), and Mike Mondello (president)
23rd Annual Anacortes Waterfront Festival

This weekend’s festival has added many exciting new features including Paddlefest at Seafarer’s Park, canoe rides with the Samish Indian Tribe, and the 1st Annual Milk Carton Derby! The new date change has brought new vendors—offering many different and fun products for your boats, children, pets, family and yourself! Come down to the Cap Sante Marina this weekend for a family fun tradition!

**Poster Sponsor:**
Shell Puget Sound Refinery

**Venue:**
Port of Anacortes

**Fleet:**
Dakota Creek Industries
Island Hospital
Trident Seafoods

**Admiralty:**
Puget Sound Energy
Skagit Publishing
Tesoro Refining and Marketing Co.

**Vice Admiralty:**
KeyBank
Swinomish Casino and Lodge
Whidbey Island Bank
Les Schwab Tire Center

**Commodore:**
Anacortes American
Gere-A-Deli
Irishman Enterprises
Pacific Party Canopies
Samish Indian Nation
Sebo’s Hardware and Equipment Rental
Transpac Marinas
Williams & Nulle CPA, PLLC

**Captain:**
Best Western Plus/Candlewood Suites
Lovric’s Sea-Craft Inc

---

**Friends of the Festival:**
Anaco Bay Inn
Anacortes Yacht Charters
Calico Cupboard Café & Bakery
Mystic Sea Charters
Upstage Boutique and Men’s Store

---

**Relay for Life of Anacortes**

“*The Magic of Relay*”

Celebrate...Remember...Fight Back

Together as a Community, we can make a difference!

**When:**
3 p.m. Saturday June 23rd to 9 a.m. Sunday June 24th

**Where:**
Anacortes High School War Memorial Stadium

**Silent Auction**

SILENT AUCTION • GAMES • ZUMBA • FOOD & CREATING MEMORIES FOR ALL AGES

**Event Chair:**
Chris Zimmerman (360) 293-1650
Chris.L.Zimmerman@tsocorp.com

**ACS Staff Partner:**
Anna Whitson (425) 218-1056
Anna.Whitson@cancer.org

**Relay Website:**
www.RelayForLife.org/AnacortesWA

Relay Facebook Page: In the search box type: Anacortes Relay For Life 2012
Anacortes Middle School students’ banners were chosen to be displayed on south Commercial Avenue. Pictured here with Assistant Principal Mark Perkins, chamber director Stephanie Hamilton, chamber beautification committee chair Jack Darnton and Principal Patrick Harrington celebrate with students and their drawings: Sydney Berriss, Laren Doster, Ruby Lindsay and Grace Dzieciuch.

Members of the chamber’s beautification committee along with Wrestlers For Life hung the flower baskets downtown in May. Pictured here is Craig Jones, one of the young men who will be taking over Wrestlers For Life from founder Jim McNally.

PHOTO: JACK DARNTON

Banner artists from AMS

Anacortes Middle School students’ banners were chosen to be displayed on south Commercial Avenue. Pictured here with Assistant Principal Mark Perkins, chamber director Stephanie Hamilton, chamber beautification committee chair Jack Darnton and Principal Patrick Harrington celebrate with students and their drawings: Sydney Berriss, Laren Doster, Ruby Lindsay and Grace Dzieciuch.

PHOTO: JACK DARNTON

Business After Hours, for Anacortes and Skagit County

Hosts of May’s business after hours, Bela Berghuys (Petite Wine Bar) and Jeffery Pleet (Edward Jones Investments) address the jovial crowd.

All County BAH at Swinomish Casino and Lodge—Lara Dunning (GEMS), Anthony Young (chamber member), Kate Smith (Swinomish Casino and Lodge), and Stephanie Hamilton (Anacortes Chamber).
ambassador profile

Tara Milas-Swenson
Owner/LMP — TARA Nurturing Massage Therapy

After five years of establishing and developing relationships as the lead massage therapist in Anacortes at the Majestic Inn and Spa, Tara was ready to grow roots and open her own day spa. TARA Nurturing Massage Therapy LLC is a private destination boasting a complete day spa experience.

Tara has enjoyed meeting new faces and reconnecting with familiar ones at the chamber events. “I just can’t help, but LOVE Anacortes. Just look at it! Nowhere else can you find a community full of such beauty.”

Tara’s first and foremost joy is in helping guests with pain management using deep relaxation techniques. She is constantly striving to help achieve optimal health for her patients by providing Professional Massage Therapy. Her clients have been seeing exceptional results through a combination of multiple massage modalities; including integrated hydrotherapy and passive range of motion stretching. “I love this work and love being of service. I hope that this passion comes through in my therapy. Ultimately, I hope my intuitive and tranquil touch will reduce stress, build calm, ease discomfort, and rejuvenate your life.”

When Tara is not pampering you at the spa, you can find her smiling on her bicycle with her husband Chris Swenson or training one of her two dogs Brock and Kaylee.

Fun Fact: Tara is crazy about 80’s music. “If I could listen to it in the treatment room I think I just might.”

new members

ANACORTES INSURANCE SERVICES / ALLSTATE
1007 15th Street
Anacortes, WA 98221
www.allstateagencies.com/
TamaraWillis/Welcome
Tamara Willis
(360) 293-8441
tamarawillis@allstate.com
Insurance

ANACORTES STUDIO 1010
1010 6th Street
Anacortes, WA 98221
www.studio1010.net
Wendolyn Rue
(360) 421-2852
openwaterswimmer@aol.com
Dance Studio

TED GAGE, AICP— PLANNING CONSULTANT
5619 Harrison Avenue
Anacortes, WA 98221
Ted Gage
(360) 791-3805
headinghome1@comcast.net
Planning Consultant

GATEWAY CHIROPRACTIC CENTER
1101 8th Street, Ste. B
Anacortes, WA 98221
www.docredburn.com
Peter Redburn
(360) 982-2881
redburn@gmail.com
Chiropractor

LIGHTHOUSE AUDIT AND INVESTIGATION
1004 Commercial Avenue, #1101
Anacortes, WA 98221
www.lighthouseauditandinvestigation.com
Sandra Perkins, CFE, PI
(360) 420-1649
lighthouseaudit@comcast.net
Fraud Investigations

TOTAL HOME SERVICES
PO Box 1972
Anacortes, WA 98221
John Bruemmer
360-299-2575
totalhomeservices@earthlink.net
Home Watch

member renewals

BUSINESS
- Steve Jahn
- Kiwanis Sunrisers
- Lang Custom Concrete & Construction, Inc.
- McAdams Wright Ragen
- Mert’s Taxi
- Northwest Yachts
- Skagit Valley College
- Soroptimist International of Anacortes/Thrift Shop
- Teru Lundsten, Personal Historian
- Town Cottages
- West Beach Resort
- Westside Pizza

Thanks to these businesses who provided door prizes at the May events:

Luncheon:
- Bayside Specialties, Inc
- Chinook Enterprises
- Costco Wholesale
- Fidalgo DanceWorks
- Papa Murphy’s
- Shell Puget Sound Refinery
- Walgreens Drug Store
Thank you to our sponsor Chinook Enterprises and thank you to the Swinomish Casino & Lodge for providing a delicious lunch!

Business After Hours:
- Cap Sante Inn
- Edward Jones, Jeffery Pleet
- Fidalgo DanceWorks
- Marketing With Mary
- Papa Murphy’s
- Petite Wine Bar
- Read Me A Story
- Shell Puget Sound Refinery

All County After Hours:
Thanks to the Swinomish Casino & Lodge for hosting a wonderful event and congratulations on their new addition, and thank you to all the businesses that gave gifts for their give-away!
Chamber Crossword in American

Extra, extra read all about it!

The Anacortes American will run a 6-week section highlighting local retailers in a crossword puzzle with two weekly prizes given to those who challenge themselves to complete and turn in their finished puzzles at local retail establishments. The clues will be about local retailers and GoAnacortes.com with each week boasting two prizes given away ($25 each) from one of the noted retailers.

Meet our intern, Jacob Rector age 18, a graduating senior of 2012 who plans to attend WWU this fall. He currently spends his time between his internship at the chamber, school, and playing bass guitar in his band “Swine Grinder.”
chamber officers

Executive Board

PRESIDENT
Kristi Gabrielse Ana-Cross Stitch

PRESIDENT ELECT
Kathy Larson Puget Sound Energy

TREASURER
Mark Lawrence Simply Yards

PAST PRESIDENT
Mark Bunzel Fine Edge Nautical & Recreational Publishing

BOARD MEMBER AT LARGE
Matt Miller Read Me A Story

Board of Directors

Robert Atterberry Bob’s Chowder Bar & BBQ Salmon
Karin Baldwin Quantum Construction
Jody Barnett Shell Puget Sound Refinery
Bela Berghuys Islands Inn
Chris Borgen Anacortes School District
Duane Clark Cap Sante Court Retirement Community
Peggy Flynn pflynn+associates
Brian Geer KeyBank
Bob Hyde Port of Anacortes
Dean Maxwell City of Anacortes
Vince Oliver Island Hospital
Curt Oppel John L. Scott Real Estate
John Pope Tesoro Refining & Marketing Co.
Mary E. Staley Marketing With Mary
Chris Terrell How It Works

Chamber Staff

Stephanie Hamilton Executive Director
Mary Talosi Visitor Information & Operations Director
Cecilie Miller Event & Communications Coordinator
Leah Hines Marketing & Promotions Coordinator
Kristi Daniels & Crystal Johnson Licensing Sub-Agents

Thank you, volunteers! Volunteer Hours: 279

Visit us on the web at www.anacortes.org

vic (visitor information center) statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>April 2012</th>
<th>April 2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Visitors</td>
<td>1218</td>
<td>1065</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone Calls</td>
<td>273</td>
<td>277</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Requests</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>April. 2012</th>
<th>April 2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Relocation Requests</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Web Visits</td>
<td>14,557</td>
<td>12,457</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Web Page Views</td>
<td>41,064</td>
<td>37,645</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

April 2012 April 2011
Visitors 1218 1065
Phone Calls 273 277
Information Requests 77 29
Relocation Requests 11 8
Web Visits 14,557 12,457
Web Page Views 41,064 37,645

Milk Carton Derby! Model Boat Show!
Heritage House! Free All Corvette Car Show!
Boat Rides! Discovery Channel! Custom Classic Car Show!

Waterfront Festival

Quick & Dirty Boat Building Demonstration!
Radio-Controlled Sailboat Regatta: Swap Meet! 2 Days of
Live Music! High Tide Fun Fun Fun Children’s Area! Ride!

Coast in. Hang out.

ANACORTES JUNE 2 & 3, 2012

PUG SOUND PINK

ANACORTES PADDLEFEST!

All Corvette Car Show!
Model Boat Show!
Heritage House!
Free All Corvette Car Show!
Boat Rides! Discovery Channel! Custom Classic Car Show!

April 2011
Visitors 1065
Phone Calls 277
Information Requests 29
Relocation Requests 8
Web Visits 12,457
Web Page Views 37,645

April 2012
Visitors 1218
Phone Calls 273
Information Requests 77
Relocation Requests 11
Web Visits 14,557
Web Page Views 41,064

Thank you, volunteers! Volunteer Hours: 279

Visit us on the web at www.anacortes.org

Milk Carton Derby!
Anacortes Paddlefest!
All Corvette Car Show!
Free Boat Rides!
Model Boat Show!
Heritage House!
Custom Classic Car Show!

Waterfront Festival

Quick & Dirty Boat Building Demonstration!
Radio-Controlled Sailboat Regatta: Swap Meet! 2 Days of
Live Music! High Tide Fun Fun Fun Children’s Area! Ride!

Coast in. Hang out.

ANACORTES JUNE 2 & 3, 2012

PUG SOUND PINK

ANACORTES PADDLEFEST!

All Corvette Car Show!
Model Boat Show!
Heritage House!
Free All Corvette Car Show!
Boat Rides! Discovery Channel! Custom Classic Car Show!

April 2011
Visitors 1065
Phone Calls 277
Information Requests 29
Relocation Requests 8
Web Visits 12,457
Web Page Views 37,645

April 2012
Visitors 1218
Phone Calls 273
Information Requests 77
Relocation Requests 11
Web Visits 14,557
Web Page Views 41,064

Thank you, volunteers! Volunteer Hours: 279

Visit us on the web at www.anacortes.org

Milk Carton Derby!
Anacortes Paddlefest!
All Corvette Car Show!
Free Boat Rides!
Model Boat Show!
Heritage House!
Custom Classic Car Show!

Waterfront Festival

Quick & Dirty Boat Building Demonstration!
Radio-Controlled Sailboat Regatta: Swap Meet! 2 Days of
Live Music! High Tide Fun Fun Fun Children’s Area! Ride!

Coast in. Hang out.