As part of our ongoing effort to keep members informed, we are hosting a candidate roundtable on October 8.

Candidates in contested races seeking the following positions will be invited to give a brief overview of their platforms: Mayor, port commission and school board. The list of candidates who have agreed to attend is as follows:

- **Mayor’s seat:** Dean Maxwell and Steve Sonnenberg
- **Port Commission – Position 1:** Roger Born and Ray Niver; Position 2: John Prosser and Bill Short; Position 5: Frank McCoy for Guy Davidson and Keith Rubin; Anacortes School Board: Bob Hyde and Karl Yost.

Each candidate will have a few minutes to introduce themselves to chamber members. Following the presentations from each race there will be a 10 minute Q&A period.

We meet at the Anacortes Lutheran Church located at 2100 “O” Avenue at 11:30 am – the cost is $20. Please RSVP to the chamber at 293-7911.

The meeting is sponsored by Comcast.

**ACT (Anacortes Community Theatre)**

Anacortes Community Theater (ACT) is celebrating its 45th season and is hosting this month’s Business After Hours on Thursday, October 15th, 5:00–6:45 pm. ACT continues to be a cornerstone of performing arts in Anacortes, providing high quality, live theater and conducting performing arts education through its ClassACT programs. The cast from the current production *Caught in the Net*, including future chamber board member and leading man Matt McKay, will be on hand to share the theater experience with you.

Co-sponsoring the event is Deception Cafe and Catering—providing high-quality, homemade food and a full range of services, from simple take-out to formal sit down banquets. Contact them for your holiday event plans.

Please RSVP to the chamber at 293-7911.

**State Sen. Kevin Ranker**

The Governmental Affairs Division met with State Senator Kevin Ranker to get his views on a variety of topics, which are detailed below. Senator Ranker’s district extends from Anacortes up to Bellingham, and includes the San Juan Islands. He serves on the following four committees: Agriculture & Rural Economic Development, Natural Resources/Ocean & Recreation, Environment/
Legislative Update  
(Continued from page 1)

the likelihood of an October special session is limited. As resources become available, he would like to see additional monies pointed toward community colleges, which are taking the brunt of retraining programs with little related funding.

Ferries: He has been very focused on ferries and was supportive of our international ferry efforts this spring. He views the move to deliver a 144-car ferry for the San Juans in 2013 as positive, though this may end up as a 64-car ferry if additional funding is not available. There was an interesting discussion on federal stimulus money. Because Washington State limits ferry boat construction to in-state boat yards and federal grants require open bidding, federal dollars were not available to fund new boat construction. Sen. Ranker fully supports the “Build in Washington” clause as it preserves local jobs. He is investigating the potential of outsourcing engine production out-of-state, however, which may open this manufacture up to federal funding in the future.

Education: Sen. Ranker fully supported the move to redefine basic education in the last session. His continuing focus is to provide additional funding to K-12 education, while at the same time streamlining the process, addressing unfunded mandates and increasing efficiencies.

NOAA Regulations: Proposed NOAA regulations would limit access to whale viewing and would create “no-go” zones, where boat traffic would be prohibited. The new rules would have a large impact on the whale watch industry, kayaking, and boat charters. Sen. Ranker will be in Washington DC next week to discuss this issue with national officials.

Shoreline: Sen. Ranker would seek to address shoreline bureaucracy with a concept called “marine spatial planning”, which would mandate that agencies work together to streamline the process. This would likely result in a more customized, less generic approach. Shoreline planning will be a continuing issue, extending out over the foreseeable future.
Peter Bell feels that some of the most beautiful flying in the world is to be found around Anacortes. He's probably in as good a position as most to come to that conclusion. His flying career as a British Royal Air Force pilot, a USCG exchange pilot and a commercial pilot has taken him to areas as diverse as the Scottish Highlands, several African countries, most of the US Pacific coast and SE Asia.

However, he says he is happiest and most inspired flying around the San Juan Islands. “There really is nowhere else in the world with such a mix of different scenery in a compact area—farmland, rolling wooded hills, craggy coastlines, sheltered beaches and mercury-colored water, all set against the backdrop of the Olympics and the Cascades.”

Peter started Coast Aviation in 2008 and for the last year has been passing along his enthusiasm as he instructs fellow pilots. This summer he obtained authority from the FAA to carry passengers on scenic flights from Anacortes Airport. He is especially excited about this as he is a firm believer that Anacortes should be a center for tourist activities in the area, not just a gateway to the Islands.

At present he offers scenic tours in an antique Cessna and an ultra-modern four-seat aircraft. He has tried to keep prices low enough to appeal to someone buying a gift for a family member, or be an alternative to a couple who might be thinking of an expensive meal for a romantic treat. Next year he hopes to pursue FAA permission to allow more flexible passenger flights to and from different locations. However, he says: “I have no desire to compete with the traditional passenger flights currently offered by operators in the Islands. My interest is in selling the romance and beauty of the local area.”

Visit www.coastaviationllc.com for further information. Coast Aviation is offering 15% off advertised prices between Sept. 30 and Dec 31, 2009. The company continues to offer various types of flight instruction, as well as aerial photography.

Mark Bunzel
Fine Edge Nautical and Recreational Publishing

Mark is the owner of Fine Edge Nautical and Recreational Publishing, a local Anacortes company that publishes over 50 boating cruising guides, how-to books, maps and mountain biking books and maps. He writes articles and provides photography for six different boating magazines, typically on different cruising destinations around the world that have ranged from our local island destinations, to popular boating destinations along the Inside Passage and in Southeast Alaska, to the more exotic locations such as sailing the coast of Vietnam, cruising the canals of France or the Virgin Islands. Mark also owns a strategy and marketing consulting company called Burrows Bay Associates whose client list includes American Tug, Boat U.S., and San Juan Passage.

Mark moved his family to Anacortes in 2002 after spending 20 years visiting Anacortes to start bare-boat charter trips up the Inside Passage. Formerly, Mark was a consultant and business executive with Intel, PricewaterhouseCoopers, a joint venture of IBM and Apple Computer, and his own marketing communications companies in the San Francisco Bay area and before that NYC. Mark has been involved in leading the adoption of standards for multimedia on personal computers and the adoption of HDTV. His consulting clients over the years have ranged from American Airlines, Avon, and Hertz to entertainment companies such as Disney, Sony Pictures and MGM. He is the former president of the Interactive Multimedia Association and has served on the boards of the Software Publishers Association, Cinequest—The San Jose Film Festival, and several startup companies. Mark is currently on the Board of Trustees for the Northwest Marine Trade Association—the group that presents the Seattle Boat Show and runs a broad range of programs to promote recreational boating in the Pacific Northwest. Mark has been a member of the core team for the Anacortes Futures Project for the last two years and is now the facilitator for the Temp Team process, working with the city, port and chamber officials to prepare the next stage in the development of a strategy and master plan for Anacortes.
2009 Jazz Poster Art by Carol Dolgoff

The 2009 Jazz Poster was painted by local artist Carol Dolgoff. Carol Dolgoff’s life-long love of music, especially the blues and jazz, has long inspired her to paint the subjects she does. A native of the Bay Area, Carol’s love for live music grew from seeing bands such as The Grateful Dead, Jefferson Airplane, Santana and The Doobie Brothers. She attended school with many of the band members and always had her sketch book with her. Dolgoff describes living in Anacortes as “a dream come true,” adding that “this breathtaking area has such a wealth of quality musicians, I never run out of subject matter!”

Posters and t-shirts can be purchased at the chamber of commerce. As always, there is a member discount for t-shirts. Stop by and get yours today and wear them on Festival Fridays!

2009 Anacortes Jazz & Blues Festival Sponsors

Our business community is so supportive of this great event. Thanks to all of the sponsors. There is still time to add your name to this list, call the chamber.

STAGE SPONSOR: Tesoro Refining & Marketing Co.

ORCA LEVEL SPONSORS: Dakota Creek Industries Island Hospital

VENUE SPONSOR: Port of Anacortes

LOPEZ LEVEL SPONSORS: Anacortes American Island Electric & Supply Puget Sound Energy RiverCity Screenprinting Skagit Valley Herald


GUEMES LEVEL SPONSORS: Anaco Bay Inn Anacortes Inn Chandler’s Square — A Retirement Community Quantum Construction Star Bar Whidbey Island Bank

FRIENDS OF THE FESTIVAL: Majestic Inn & Spa San Juan Air Upstage Boutique & Men’s Store Steve & Linda Wilhoit

Buy your tickets today!
www.anacortes.org
360-293-7911

Jazz Gala Dinner & Concert Tickets available now

Place your reservations now for the Jazz Gala Dinner & Concert. We have invited the dynamic vocalist and swinging pianist, Dena DeRose, back to entertain us. Dena headlined at the 2006 festival and was a crowd favorite. Cameron’s Living Room Dining will be catering the event, which is sure to be a delectable meal. Tickets go quickly and are only $50 for this exclusive event. Call today at 360-293-7911 or go online to learn more and reserve your tickets.
Shoreline Master Program Update

Under the Shoreline Management Act, each city and county is required to adopt a Shorelines Master Program (SMP) based on state guidelines but tailored to the specific needs of the community. Local SMP’s combine both plans and regulations. The plans are a comprehensive vision of how shoreline areas will be used, protected and developed over time.

The City of Anacortes SMP update began around January 2006. Anacortes utilized the City of Port Townsend SMP as the foundation of our SMP. As part of the process the city formed a Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) to guide the plan through the beginning of the process. Between 2006 and July of this year the city held 40 public meeting and seven public comment periods on our draft SMP. Staff has also drafted an expanded SEPA checklist and draft SMP submittal checklist for Department of Ecology (DOE).

The city applied for and received a grant of $96,969 from the DOE in July 2009. This grant money allowed the city to hire the Watershed Company out of Kirkland to assist in the final stages of the update. The consultant’s scope of work includes:

• Public Participation Plan
• Shoreline Inventory and Analysis
• Cumulative Impacts Analysis and Restoration Plan
• SMP Review and Development
• SMP Adoption

The consultant should be able to complete the first three items of their scope by the end of November. The remaining two items will be completed with the adoption of the Shoreline Master program.

The city is progressing towards issuing a SEPA threshold determination in late November and a public hearing before the Anacortes Planning Commission on December 9, 2009. It is anticipated the City Council will hold their first public hearing on February 1, 2010 with an expected adoption of the Final Shoreline Master Program on March 1, 2010. More information may be obtained from the city Web site at http://www.cityofanacortes.org/planning.htm.

Downtown Trick or Treat

In tandem with our friends at Village Pizza, the chamber of commerce will be sponsoring downtown trick or treating on Saturday, October 31 from 1:00–4:00 p.m., open to all children 12 and under, who must be accompanied by an adult.

The event will culminate at Village Pizza at 4:00 p.m., with pizza bites and prizes for the most imaginative costumes. We will be distributing window placards to all participating merchants the week before the event (who should definitely stock up on candy, as volumes have increased over the past several years). We are also looking for prizes, which we will acknowledge at the contest—please contact the chamber office if interested.

Computer Safety

What do accounting, e-mail, and games all have in common? Too often, it is one computer running them all. We see payroll on the same machine used for email, browsing the internet, and downloading files.

Internet access challenges security and increases risks of being compromised. There’s no computer that is hack-proof. Given enough time and resources, any machine can be invaded. If your system is safeguarded, however, hackers will likely move on to easier prey.

Awareness is key. And, should be combined with three basic tools:

• A firewall to stop uninvited guests from entering your computer and controlling what programs have internet access.
• Antivirus/Spyware Software to protect against viruses, worms, trojan horses, and other malicious programs.

Be diligent about critical security updates and keep your antivirus software current. Although firewalls are mostly self-sufficient, occasional product updates must be installed.

Lack of knowledge can be costly. Identifying security issues is not only practical, but also cost-effective. Be aware of what the most serious threats are for your business and know what to look for.

Finally, be prepared if something goes wrong. Have a backup. Current backups are essential for your files and e-mail. Security issues aside, there are many other things that can go wrong which warrant backups.
We would like to thank the following businesses for donating to our door prizes in August:

- Anacortes Clean!
- Bayside Specialties
- Chandler’s Square – A Retirement Community
- Olympic Communications
- Opulence Hair Salon
- Read Me A Story
- Scott Richards Insurance
- Sound Health Chiropractic

Jan Hersey

Neither born nor raised in Anacortes, Jan Hersey believes in blooming where she’s planted, and loves putting down roots in Anacortes. She grew up on the Hudson River, in Scarborough, NY, a dot on the map 30 miles north of New York City that boasts only a post office, railroad station, and lots of history.

After graduating from Skidmore College in horse racing-famous Saratoga Springs, NY, she lived in the Big Apple, Weston, MA, and then spent the next 30 or so years in North Carolina before discovering the Northwest, where she’s showing improvement in geography west of the Mississippi.

Along the way Jan worked as an editorial assistant for publisher Alfred A. Knopf; taught elementary school; reported for weekly, daily, and trade newspapers; freelanced for magazines; co-authored a book, The Complete Book of Floorcloths (they’re painted canvas rugs); and was communications coordinator for Lexington Home Brands. Currently owner and word goddess for Biz Point Communications, Jan is a senior writer for Thomasville, dreaming up copy for furniture, lighting, flooring, cabinetry, and a host of other home products while helping individuals and small businesses closer to home with Web site copy and other marketing collateral.

Jan rows with an OARSS crew and loves to hike our NW forests. She also serves on the Anacortes Community Garden advisory committee, the chamber marketing and promotions committee, and is completing a term on the South Fidalgo Community Council, after which she plans to tend her own gardens and become a more active Beach Watcher.

Jan has two thriving children, Page, an elementary school teacher in Fairfax, CA, also working on her doctorate, and Tyler, archive coordinator for Wingnut Films in Wellington, NZ. At least they live in great places to visit, says Jan.
Farewell and Thank You to Vicky Ratcliffe

Last December, Vicky Ratcliffe approached the chamber of commerce to volunteer after arriving from New Zealand with her husband who had secured work in Anacortes. Vicky’s experience and knowledge on search engine optimization and effective Web sites meant we were able to utilize her with a number of upcoming projects. Since then, she has met with over 60 chamber members to enhance their business directory listing on our Web site, and she has given advice on how to develop a successful Web site for their business.

Vicky also assisted our Marketing & Promotions Division with the revamp of our Web site in conjunction with the marketing campaign launched earlier in the year.

Sadly, Vicky is returning to New Zealand in November. We would like to take this opportunity to remind those of you who have not yet utilized her expertise to meet with her before she leaves.

When we asked Vicky what the highlight of Anacortes has been for her, she responded, “It has been great to meet so many members of the Anacortes business community. Not only have I been able to share my knowledge, but I’ve also gained valuable exposure to small-to-medium business operations on the other side of the world. The major highlight of my experience in Anacortes has been to experience the willingness of a friendly and passionate group of people to ensure this small community continues to prosper and be enjoyed by tourists and travelers. Mary, Stephanie and Mitch have made me feel very welcome in Anacortes, which I thank them a great deal for.”

Vicky can be contacted on 360-540-1196 or at the chamber office on 360-293-7911.

Mary Talosi will be available to assist you with your business directory listing after Vicky’s departure.

2010 Board Nominees

The Board of Directors has nominated four new directors to take office in January 2010. These four nominees replace outgoing directors Patti Anderson (Williams & Nulle), Mark Lione (Cap Sante Inn), Curtis Payne (Curtis Payne Insurance & Financial Services), and Robin Pestarino (Ponte Vecchio Corporation). The nominees are:

Robert Atterberry (Avenue Catering; Bob’s Chowder Bar & BBQ Salmon)—A native of Anacortes, Bob and his wife Barbara have been a constant presence in the chamber for many years, providing wonderful support to chamber programs and operations. We look forward to Bob’s insights in coming years.

Andrea Jurkovich (Summit Park Covered Storage)—Another native, Andie brings great perspective to chamber efforts. She took part in the international ferry run celebration to Sidney in April. We appreciate her willingness to serve on the board and look forward to her contributions.

Peter Kovach (Chandler’s Square Retirement Community)—Pete has done a wonderful job building Chandler’s Square into a model senior community. He has been very involved in the Summit’s organized by the chamber over the past two years, providing input into senior needs and trends. His organizational skills will add significant value to our board.

Matt McKay (HR Strategies)—Matt has been instrumental in leading our Ambassadors this year, continuing to grow the group and to channel energies toward enhancing member benefits. Matt has been active in organizing Chamber Cheers and has consistently supported the chamber in a volunteer role. He is an excellent new resource for our board, as well as continuing his leading role with the Ambassador group.

These four nominees will be formally voted in at the President’s Luncheon on November 12. Please join us in welcoming our new members and in thanking our outgoing board members—they have been instrumental in the growth of our organization over the past three years.
Mark your calendars for the 6th Annual Anacortes Jazz & Blues Festival

Friday night dinner and concert with the Dena DeRose Trio ($50)
Saturday evening concert with Kim Field & the Mighty Titans of Tone and the Allen Toussaint Band ($25)
Sunday afternoon concert with Stephanie Porter and the Seattle Repertory Jazz Orchestra. ($20)

Friday and Saturday Jazz Walks will be in seven downtown venues. ($10)

Tickets are available now at the chamber. More info — www.anacortes.org