**Candidate Forum**

Please join us to get to know candidates for office in the 10th and 40th Legislative Districts and Skagit County Commissioner seats at the chamber member luncheon on Thursday, October 11. The format of this forum will be more relaxed and intimate than the candidate’s forum we are co-sponsoring with the League of Women Voters.

While chamber members enjoy lunch, candidates will move from table to table to share their platforms and answer your questions. Make sure you take this opportunity to learn more about these individuals who may represent you starting next year. Bring your thoughtful questions as a member of the business community, and let’s keep the conversation going.

Our sponsor of this luncheon, Marketing WITH Mary, can handle all of your marketing needs: consultation, analysis, identity, branding, research, full event plans, management—monthly retainer packages available. So you can keep your head in your business and she can keep her head on your marketing... YOUR SUCCESS IS HER GOAL!

The candidate forum lunch is on Thursday, October 11, 2012. Anacortes Lutheran Church at 22nd & O Ave. 11:30am – 1:00pm. Lunch will be catered by the Swinomish Casino & Lodge, 13moons $15. Please bring a gift for the give-away! RSVP to the chamber at (360) 293-7911 or online at [www.anacortes.org](http://www.anacortes.org).

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**business after hours**

**Studio 1010**

**How good do you want to feel?**

The folks at Studio 1010 on Sixth Street are devoted to your aliveness in body and mind. It’s a community center offering movement classes, art classes, writing classes, concerts, and lectures. Visit us on “Business After Hours Evening” to talk with our Yoga teachers, see videos on the dance-fitness technique called “Nia,” and learn about the Friday-night lecture series (new topics monthly), and the Fidalgo Island Writer’s Guild.

Studio owner Wendolyn Rue is a physical therapist with a passion for arts and a conviction that feeling great in our bodies can be accomplished by feeding it with the movement it wants and the brain stimulation it craves.

Please drop in to have a nosh with us, enjoy a glass of champagne or wine and get to know others who share your interests. We will be raffling off a two-month pass to the movement classes!

Studio 1010 is located at 1010 6th Street. The afterhours will be from 5:30–7:00pm on Thursday, October 18. Be sure to bring a gift for the give-away!

RSVP to the chamber at (360) 293-7911 or online at [www.anacortes.org](http://www.anacortes.org).
a message from the president

As I sit writing my last letter as President of the Chamber Board of Directors, the Oyster Run is roaring in my ears and the crowds are milling around the door to the shop. The store has been very busy today, who would have guessed? I think there may be no better illustration of the diversity of this town and our business community.

I am thrilled with the varied accomplishments of the chamber in this past year...

Membership continues to be strong, not only in numbers, but in participation. Our divisions and committees involve our membership in the work of government affairs to inform and arm our membership with the facts involving legislation and its impact, economic and community development works to find ways to improve what makes us an attractive place to do business, and marketing and promotions tells the world about all the unique things that are taking place here in Anacortes.

Our stellar staff continues to astound us with their management of all aspects of our day to day operations, special events, and “one time” efforts such as moving the Boys and Girls club to new digs this past month. Our members and volunteers on committees and events constitutes nearly 5000 work hours per year. I find the level of action and commitment in this truly amazing and would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has contributed to this past year’s success of the chamber in our community.

I would briefly like to thank the Board of Directors for their efforts this year to set the strategic goals of our chamber and follow through with them. Everyone has worked so very hard and I could not be more pleased with our direction and determination as we welcome our new year.

Washington State Ferries invited Anacortes along with other ferry-served communities early in the summer to join them in a brainstorming session. The focus was to identify a means of advertising that would increase ridership and entice the riders to visit other ferry-served communities. The campaign would need to be universal so each community could use the template to tie in their advertising. After hearing each community’s idea Anacortes’s idea was chosen! It was simple: a map that would depict the communities with a QR code that would lead the reader to the destination community they were looking for. Giving the rider a peek at what they might find if they visited.

Washington State Ferries added icons to the map that would be representative of the communities (Anacortes’s icon will be a sailboat).

Watch for the bright green and blue maps appearing on ferries, in the terminals, print advertising and websites in the next month.

Here is a rendition of the map design that will be on all ferries in Washington State. Just one of the great ideas coming out of this marketing group of ferry-served communities.
Barrett Financial

Barrett Financial, Ltd. has enjoyed providing 25 years of financial service to their clients. President and founder, Patrick Barrett’s mission throughout the years has been to create a meaningful and honest relationship with each and every one of his clients. This has enabled him to discover what is genuinely important to them, and has resulted in his ability to truly help them achieve their life goals financially. His client base not only spans the United States but also includes multiple generations within families.

Patrick’s dedication to his desire for an all-encompassing relationship with his clients evidences itself in a unique but delightful manner: unique greeting and note cards! He constantly surprises his clients with cards that truly fit their personalities, their current place in life and their sense of humor.

Barrett Financial, Ltd. specializes in wealth planning, retirement planning, tax and estate planning, family wealth transfer, and any type of investment and planning that is challenging and to many, overwhelming. Many of Barrett’s colleagues’ make comments pertaining to how he will work with a client, who has a challenging situation, and work through every avenue possible to come up with the best plan for their situation, never leaving a single stone unturned.

Barrett himself makes the comment about how he loves working with women clients. He states that his women clients are quite honest about what they know, but more importantly, what they do not know about their financial picture and future. He loves that they genuinely appreciate his firm’s help and clear guidance.

He also enjoys working with small businesses helping them with financing, planning, and structuring.

Barrett Financial, Ltd. would like to invite you to give them a call, 360-293-6287, or stop into their office, 1019 “Q” Ave. Suite 1, Anacortes, WA, if you need someone who is truly vested in your life goals or if you just have financial questions. Patrick is always willing to help!

word waves Anacortes

Word waves is a community-wide literary celebration. In its first year, 2012, word waves includes permanent public poetry installations at Cap Sante Marina and Washington Park, a public poetry game played through Anacortes businesses, a melding of poetry and art at local galleries, and several public readings by our Washington Poet Laureate, Kathleen Flenniken, and other regional poets who will also be working alongside our public school students.

Word waves begins its two month series of community literary events with a Pen-A-Poem & Get Published word game provided by local merchants and business organizations. The community word game is designed to involve as many community members as possible in order to bring awareness to the word waves project. The game offers kids and adults the opportunity to have the same word fun by creating their own poetry art works and submitting them to the word waves panel for choosing the game winners.

The winners’ poetry works will be announced and read publicly during an event the first week of November at the Anacortes Library called an Evening of Poetry. The winning poetry will then be published in the Anacortes American and Anacortes Magazine print and online publications.

The Pen-A-Poem game form provides a list of words that players can choose from and mix with their own words to create poems. Return the form to Watermark Book Company or a number of other businesses. All entries must be received by October 27.

Word waves partners include the Anacortes Arts Festival, Anacortes Parks & Recreation, Arts Commission, Anacortes Public Library, Port of Anacortes, Chamber of Commerce, Anacortes School District and local poets, businesses, publications and service organizations.

Pen-A-Poem game forms can be picked up at the Visitor Information Center and other participating businesses.

Preliminary Schedule of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oct 5 – Nov 11</td>
<td>Poets &amp; Artist Collaborate at Anchor Art Space</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept – Oct 27</td>
<td>Pen-A-Poem contest through local Anacortes merchants</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 2</td>
<td>Poetry &amp; Art unveiling at first Friday Gallery Art Walk</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 4</td>
<td>Regional Poets reading at Anchor Art Space</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nov 8 &amp; 9</td>
<td>Washington Poet Laureate, Kathleen Flenniken, working with students in the Anacortes schools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 8</td>
<td>An Evening of Poetry with Kathleen Flenniken (and other regional poets) at the Anacortes Library</td>
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</table>
On October 12, the movie *ARGO*, starring Ben Affleck, Alan Arkin, and John Goodman opens across the country. *ARGO* is based on part of the story of the 1979 takeover of the American embassy in Teheran, Iran, during which 52 Americans were taken hostage and held for 444 days. The *ARGO* story relates to the six US diplomats who, in the chaos of the takeover, were able to slip out a side door of the embassy and eventually found themselves in the undisclosed protective care of Canadian diplomats for almost three months.

Tony Mendez, a CIA officer, created a very elaborate and courageous scheme to spirit the six Americans out of Teheran. The scheme involved a pretend movie production crew and cast with each of the Americans assuming a false identity. The movie that they were “producing” was called *ARGO*.

Two of the six Americans who were part of this international drama live in Anacortes. Mark Lijek and Cora Amburn-Lijek have lived in Anacortes since 1996, and have both been invaluable leaders in the Anacortes Sister Cities Association.

On October 11 (at 7 PM at the Library), one day before the opening of *ARGO*, the Anacortes Sister Cities Association is sponsoring a program during which Mark and Cora will provide the “inside” story that has now become a Hollywood movie. They will explain, in words and photos, what happened during the takeover, during their time in hiding, during the escape attempt, and what happened after their return to the US.

It is a captivating story. Mark has written an e-book, titled *The Houseguests: A Memoir of Canadian Courage and CIA Sorcery*. More information can be found on his website – marklijek.com.
From the mail bag

We received this sweet and gracious letter from one of the winner’s of the “Win A Trip Back To Anacortes Gift Give-Away” package, and we at the chamber would like to chime in and say thank you to all of you that generously give and support our community! Below is the letter received on August 7, 2012:

Dear Anacortes Chamber Members,

My wife Nancy and I visited during April for the Wine Festival and were the Grand Prize Draw Winners and were very happy to receive all the Gift Certificates you sent. We came back last weekend (3 & 4 August) for the Art & Crafts Festival, and had another lovely time. Thank so sincerely to you and the generous businesses that contributed certificates to our gift package. We had a WONDERFUL time in Anacortes, and will DEFINITELY be coming back. Thank you, simply thank you, so much...

Yours truly
John Gannon and Nancy Schrader from Victoria, BC, Canada
Jan Hersey has spent a lifetime writing, starting with the launch of “Cowboy Dumb” stories, co-authored with a second grade classmate. Such auspicious beginnings led to a diverse career in publishing, writing, marketing, branding, editing, video production, corporate communications, and teaching.

A Navy baby born in Norfolk, VA, Jan grew up in Scarborough, NY, outside NYC, and has lived in Boston, NYC, Philadelphia, and North and South Carolina. She arrived in Anacortes in 2002, reuniting with her college boyfriend—and now husband—Jay Ham, whom she met as a camp counselor in the Adirondacks.

Jan continues to help clients with writing and editing projects as Biz Point Communications, while pursuing a growing focus on the environment. She wrote about Fidalgo and the islands for Natural Skagit, produced by the Skagit Land Trust, and is developing the copy for the new Trail Tales interpretive signage along the Tommy Thompson Trail.

Serving as a chamber ambassador and marketing and promotions division member provides Jan a role in the local business community. She’s also a board member of Anacortes Community Gardens and Transition Fidalgo & Friends, which is helping to build local resilience and reduce use of fossil fuels.

Playing outdoors tops Jan’s pastime list—hiking, rowing, skiing, and gardening. There’s always time, too, for photography, reading, and playing long-distance mom to Page, who is completing her doctorate in education in the Bay Area, and Tyler, an archivist with Wingnut films in Wellington, NZ.

Having been fortunate to discover the Magic Skagit, Jan is committed to helping strengthen and enrich the little piece of heaven she’s now fortunate to call “home.”

**ambassador profile**

**Jan Hersey**

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**2012 Ambassadors**

- **Josh Baldwin**—Quantum Construction
- **Angie Baker**—Opulence Salon & Day Spa
- **Carla Cummins**—All About Honeymoons & Vacations
- **Lara Dunning**—Gems, LLC
- **Jim Gordon**—Freedom Wireless Media, Inc.
- **Jack Hamilton**—Labor Ready, Inc.
- **Barry Harter**—Central Payment Corporation
- **Lisa Helm-Morrow**—KeyBank
- **Jan Hersey**—Biz Point Communications
- **Debra Jones**—Individual Member
- **Kari Kennedy**—KeyBank
- **Tara Milas**—Massage Therapy
- **Leileah Petty**—Farmers Insurance
- **Jeffery Pleet, CLU, ChFC**—Edward Jones—Jeffery Pleet
- **Therese Rudzis**—Individual Member
- **Mary Staley**—Marketing with Mary
- **Sandy Swartos**—DueDesign, LLC
- **Boyd Veer**—Seaside Autobody & Accessories
- **John Williams**—Skagit Publishing

**thanks...**

Thank you to Swinomish Casino & Lodge for sponsoring this luncheon and to the following businesses for donating gifts!

- Anacortes Properties
- Bob’s Chowder Bar & Salmon BBQ
- Central Payment Corporation
- Fidalgo Island Writers Guild
- Skagit Publishing
- Take Shape For Life—Veronica Spencer
- Trident Seafoods Corporation

**member renewals**

- A-1 Mobile Lock & Key
- Anacortes School District #103
- Coupeville Lodging Association
- Eslick House & Boat Watch
- Freedom Wireless Media, Inc.
- JK—Janis McHarg & Kristine Stultz Real Estate
- Kathy’s Upscale Resale Boutique
- Law office of Alan Souders
- Little Caesars Pizza
- Lovric’s Sea-Craft, Inc.
- John R. Lucke
- The Mail Box
- Papa Murphy’s Take ‘n’ Bake Pizza
- Penguin Coffee LLC
- pflynn+associates
- Simply Yards Landscape and Design
- Vicki Stasch, M.S.
- The Heart of Anacortes
- Tri Mariye, LLC

**new members**

- **LINDA LIPKE**
  2810 Morton Avenue
  Anacortes, WA 98221
  (360) 708-7770
  Linda Lipke
  lalipke@gmail.com
  Individual Member

- **BART RULON PHOTOGRAPHY**
  253 Smugglers Lagoon Lane
  Greenbank, WA 98253
  (360) 678-3882
  www.BartRulon.com
  Bart Rulon
  bartrulon@juno.com
  Photographer

- **ISLANDS WEST REAL ESTATE, LLC**
  PO Box 431
  Anacortes, WA 98221
  (360) 293-1024
  Donald L. Yankacy
  islands.west.don@gmail.com
  Real Estate
**Upcoming EDASC Business Class Schedule**

$10 member, $20 non-members.

All classes at EDASC office, 204 W. Montgomery, Mount Vernon, unless listed otherwise

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Cost</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9/11</td>
<td>Planning and Financing a Business</td>
<td>FREE!</td>
<td>1:00pm–4:30pm</td>
<td>Refreshments provided.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/18</td>
<td>QuickBooks Users Group</td>
<td>$10 member, $15 non-members.</td>
<td>Noon–1:30pm</td>
<td>Lunch provided.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/21</td>
<td>Planning and Financing a Business</td>
<td>FREE!</td>
<td>1:00pm–4:30pm</td>
<td>Refreshments provided.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Session presented in partnership with the Burlington Public Library and held at the Burlington Public Library: 820 E Washington Ave.</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/27</td>
<td>Accepting Credit Cards, Checks and More.</td>
<td>$10 member, $20 non-members.</td>
<td>Noon–1:30pm</td>
<td>Lunch provided.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9/29</td>
<td>Biz fair 2012. Learn from the experts how to form and run a successful business at the 16th annual Washington Small Business Fair. Biz Fair 2012 happens Saturday, September 29, 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Renton Technical College, 3000 NE 4th Street, in Renton. Sharpen your skills—attend seminars that cover important, up-to-date topics for all stages of business ownership. Savvy business experts share their knowledge and real-life experiences with you. Save valuable time—connect with 30 federal, state and local government agencies, and business and trade associations to get the information you need. The fair is free, with plenty of free parking and no advance registration. Visit <a href="http://www.bizfair.org">www.bizfair.org</a> for more information.</td>
<td>$10 member, $20 non-members.</td>
<td>Noon–1:30pm</td>
<td>Lunch provided.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/9</td>
<td>Planning and Financing a Business</td>
<td>FREE!</td>
<td>1:00pm–4:30pm</td>
<td>Refreshments provided.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/11</td>
<td>Creating Magic in Your Business</td>
<td>$10 member, $20 non-members.</td>
<td>Noon–1:30pm</td>
<td>Lunch provided.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/25</td>
<td>The Power of Wellness Plans—Attracting &amp; Retaining Talent. $10 member, $20 non-members.</td>
<td>Noon–1:30pm</td>
<td>Lunch provided.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**2012 Regional Small Business Forums**

Join Washington Policy Center to vote on recommendations that will determine the future of Washington’s small business climate!

WPC’s Center for Small Business is hosting their biennial small business forums throughout the state. WPC policy experts and business leaders in your community will gather to discuss the important issues facing businesses, including health care reform, regulation and workers’ compensation. This is your opportunity to meet with policymakers, business leaders and elected officials to share the challenges facing your business, develop solutions and to look ahead to what’s in store for 2013 with a new governor and legislature.

Cost: $15 per person. Contact the Anacortes Chamber for reservations: (360) 293-4669.
October 5 - 6
Fri 5-9PM • Sat 12-6PM

Anacortes OKTOBERFEST
Bier on the Pier

October 5 - 6
360-293-7911
www.anacortes.org

Get Your Tickets Now

Thank you, volunteers! Volunteer Hours: 495
Visit us on the web at www.anacortes.org

VIC (Visitor Information Center) Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>August 2012</th>
<th>August 2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Visitors</td>
<td>3039</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phone Calls</td>
<td>375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Information Requests</td>
<td>143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Relocation Requests</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Web Visits</td>
<td>15,659</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Web Page Views</td>
<td>49,316</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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
Karín Baldwin Quantum Construction
Jody Barnett  Shell Puget Sound Refinery
Bela Berghya’s 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

Photography by Steve Berentson
Newsletter designed by Linda J. McGuire