Sunnyside Up at Majestic Hotel

Join us for the Sunnyside Up breakfast, scheduled for Thursday, September 11th, at 7:00 am at the Majestic Hotel. The Anacortes School Board will attend and is interested in member feedback.

This year the school board adopted a new governance model designed to focus efforts and resources on its goals and to foster greater connection with the community. ASD Superintendent Chris Borgen will briefly describe the district’s strategic plan. “Charting a Course to Excellence” emphasizes that students be school ready, transition ready and college/work ready. Borgen will share data on progress towards these readiness goals. School board members will then spend time listening to feedback on how the district is doing in educating our students. Breakfast is $10; networking is free. Please RSVP to the chamber at 293-7911.

Business After Hours

The Bank of the Pacific and Avenue Catering are co-hosting Business After Hours on September 18th at 5:30 pm.

The Bank of the Pacific is a full-service community bank that is committed to providing professional, convenient and personalized financial services to the citizens and businesses of Anacortes. They are opening their doors to showcase their newly remodeled upstairs, which features private client services and the real estate department.

A native of Anacortes, Avenue Catering Executive Chef, Robert Atterberry’s love of food is exemplified in all his meals. Avenue Catering services events for groups large and small; whether a casual picnic or a fine dining affair, they make your dreams come true. Avenue Catering is centrally located in Burlington and serves Western Washington.

Please RSVP for the Business After Hours to the chamber at 293-7911.

Anacortes Jazz Festival!

THIS WEEKEND, AUGUST 30 – SEPTEMBER 1
Come on down to Curtis Wharf
2nd Street and O Avenue

Tickets available at the gate. Check out the line up at www.anacortes.org.
As our summer (unfortunately) begins to slip into the rear-view mirror, thoughts and planning at your chamber begin to move toward 2009. There are a number of projects and initiatives that are moving toward completion and will affect our operations next year. I want to take a few minutes via this column to update readers on our progress.

The Futures Project, conducted through our economic development division, is nearing completion, with a draft due out at year-end. The aim of the project, headed by board member Mike Trafton (Bank of the Pacific) and assisted by board member Patti Anderson (Williams & Nulle), Pam Allen (Anaco Bay Inn), Mark Bunzel (Fine Edge Nautical & Recreational Publishing) and two individual members—Kirk Kennedy and Steve Wilhoit—is to define various scenarios for land-use planning and economic development. The chamber will publish this study in early 2009 and conclusions reached will help guide the board in policy and position statements next year.

Two of our divisions are in the beginning stages of important work that will also have a positive impact in 2009. The Marketing and Promotions Division is working on a strategic program that can be exported to members and used in their individual marketing efforts. This effort is currently in development and will be discussed at length at the board retreat in October.

The Retail Division is sorting through the details of a comprehensive “Buy Local” program. The essentials of such a program are to lay out to our community and local companies the benefits of using our members for goods and services, providing optimum visibility and a clear rationale.

Laid over the top of these initiatives is a dedication to our members and a continuing focus on advocacy, continuing education and the further development of programs that enhance member businesses and the community in general. The recognition that Anacortes has received—most recently in Sunset magazine and in an upcoming edition of Coastal Living—is positive and speaks volumes for our progress. Our aim is to continue this momentum into the new year and beyond.

As always, thank you for your continued support of the Chamber of Commerce—you make all of this possible. Any comments or questions, please contact me at 293-7911 or meverton@anacortes.org.

We hope the Anacortes Jazz Festival has a strong turnout this weekend and that weeks of publicity for the Labor Day event kept our community “in the news” in this region, planting seeds for visits in the future.

In the past several weeks Jazz Festival advertising extended from King County to Vancouver, B.C. A contract with the Washington Newspaper Publishers Association placed a jazz ad in 20 community newspapers in the greater Puget Sound region. These newspapers boast a combined circulation of 261,466, with an estimated 601,000 readers. Other ads included the Seattle Weekly and daily newspapers in Everett and Bellingham, as well as our own Skagit Valley Herald.

We continue to tap the Internet to market tourism here. Based on solid response numbers, we extended our “Trips on a Tankful” ad campaign with KIRO TV.com. We continue to be the “featured trip” on the Web site travel page, with banner ads and a 30-second video. We have contracted to run at least through October, well into the shoulder season.

We have also taken advantage of our relationship with the Cascade Loop Association, placing a banner ad on the organization’s Web site “Map” page. We are among the first to take advantage of this new Cascade Loop offering, and hope to attract many more guests to our Web site via a link.

Also on the docket are print ads promoting our community as a boating destination. Ads have already appeared in NW Yachting and 48 Degrees North, in partnership with the Port of Anacortes. Deliberations continue on 2009 marketing. We will potentially partner with local companies including the Skagit Valley Herald, the Anacortes American and MacGregor Yellow Book (publisher of community Newcomer and Visitors guides).
Member Profile: A-1 Mobile

Locally owned and operated, A-1 Mobile Lock & Key has been providing automotive, commercial and residential locksmith services to Anacortes and the surrounding area for the past 28 years.

A Western Washington graduate with a management information systems degree, owner Andrew Olson was previously a network administrator at a high-tech consulting company in Bellevue. He decided to return to his hometown and take over A-1 Mobile Lock & Key from his father in 2001. Since then, he has expanded the business from one mobile locksmith van to a full service locksmith shop, four fully equipped service vehicles, and six employees.

In recent years, the locksmith industry has evolved to incorporate electronics in automotive and commercial security. Many vehicles now require unique transponder “chipped” keys, laser cut keys and remote keyless entry systems. A-1 Mobile Lock & Key has the cutting edge tools to duplicate or originate and program these high security keys.

For commercial security, it is getting more affordable to purchase and install PC-based access control hardware with proximity card readers and the ability to audit door usage. Business owners can see who is going into the building and at what time.

Some of A-1’s other services include:
- CCTV installation
- Installation and service of panic hardware and door closers
- Rekey and masterkey cylinders
- Safe sales and service
- New hardware packages provided and installed
- Hard to find boat keys and hardware
- Onsite repair and service; or drop off location in West Mount Vernon

The staff at A-1 Mobile Lock & Key prides themselves on their locksmith knowledge and friendly service. They thank you for your support through the years and look forward to serving your security needs in the future!

Cameron’s Grand Opening!

Cameron Morris and Chef David Burdette of Cameron’s Living Room Dining and Chamber President-Elect Zee Hogan of Maison et Jardin and Boudoir pose with Mayor Dean Maxwell at a celebration honoring the grand opening of the new restaurant at 3401 Commercial Avenue. Cameron’s recently hosted the volunteers of the Visitor Information Center for a luncheon — a great way to promote by inviting “the front door” of Anacortes into your business!

Buy Local

Look for a comprehensive “Buy Local” campaign, to be implemented through the chamber by year-end. The campaign will be coordinated through the retail division, headed by Heather Miller (Read Me A Story) and will be based on the “Think Local First” model developed by the Business Alliance for Local Living Economies (BALLE). BALLE was initially based in Bellingham and has since expanded nationwide. In concert with another local organization—Sustainable Connections—they have introduced a very successful Buy Local mindset in Bellingham and a variety of other communities. We will be using this model as the basis for an Anacortes program. More information will be forthcoming in the next couple of months.
Chamber Board Nominations

2009 will be an exciting year for the chamber. Among many programs under development, we are currently working on a comprehensive growth scenario plan through our economic development division, a strategic marketing concept plan through the marketing & promotions division, a dynamic “Buy Local” program through the retail division, and expanded benefits through the membership division. Central to all of this activity is our chamber board of directors, a dedicated group of business leaders who oversee our activities and strategic direction.

As a natural rotation dictated through our by-laws, we are looking to fill board seats for next year. Each seat is elected to a three-year term and serves on at least one division.

As a board member, you (and your company) will be recognized in all chamber publications, at all chamber events, and will assume a business leadership role in our community.

Over the past two years, your chamber has grown from 320 members to over 460, in large part due to the able leadership of our board. We look to continue this growth in the years ahead.

The nominating committee will be meeting over the next several weeks to develop a slate. If you are interested, please contact the office (293-7911).

Member Announcements

STAND UP TO CANCER
The American Cancer Society’s Relay For Life of Anacortes offers community members the opportunity to be a part of the bigger picture, and to “Stand Up to Cancer.” Think you’ve got the enthusiasm and positive energy to do it? Then we want to hear from you! Join the committee today and find out what makes Relay more than just a party—find out what makes it a cause. For more information, contact Kim Neff, ACS staff partner, at (425) 322-1136 or kim.neff@cancer.org

ISLAND MEDICAL SPA
Island Medical Spa, the premier spa in the Pacific Northwest, is now open seven days a week. Located at 3110 Commercial Street, Suite 103, in Anacortes, Island Medical Spa is open daily 9:30 am to 6:00 pm, weekends 9:30 am to 4:00 pm. Island Medical Spa is directed by Board certified dermatologist and dermatologic surgeon, D. Russell Johnson, MD, PhD. Call Island Medical Spa at 360-588-1480 or visit us at www.islandmedicalspa.com.

ZAP PRO LUBE
Zap Pro Lube opened the doors on its brand new facility on the corner of 23rd and Commercial Avenue on July 1. The new building features four bays and a comfortable waiting room with a flat screen television. Zap Pro Lube offers tune-ups and brake work as well as oil changes. It is open six days a week from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm and offers the best in customer service.

VILLAGE PIZZA
Village Pizza recently opened its side door to the Wheel House. Anacortes newest hot spot offers 12 beers on tap, wines by the glass and bottle and your favorite cocktail. The venue is open seven days a week, offering a full menu in the bar, with new additional items to be added in the upcoming weeks.

The walls are replete with 90 vintage photographs showcasing Anacortes’ maritime history, installed by Bill Mitchell, along with pictures of contemporary local fishing and recreational vessels.

Owners Jay and Micky Field want the community to embrace the Wheel House in the same manner as Village Pizza, a favorite for 35 years.
Fund Raising for Small Non-Profits

Skagit Valley College
November 5 & 6, 2008

SPONSORED BY
Anacortes Chamber of Commerce
Mount Vernon Chamber of Commerce
Skagit Valley College

The Fund Raising School helps thousands of staff and volunteers each year achieve new levels of success in fund raising. Participants gain the knowledge needed to build your organization’s resources with confidence and success in an ever-changing society. More than 600 national and local organizations have partnered with The Fund Raising School to deliver or sponsor courses tailored to meet specific needs.

People attending this course will learn how to:
• Build a convincing case for financial support
• Select the donors and markets best suited to your nonprofit
• Choose the right fundraising vehicles for your organization

In addition, participants will receive:
• Inspire the leadership potential of volunteers
• Create a fundraising process that works, but is attainable with limited resources

Who should attend?
• Staff who must raise funds as well as oversee operations
• Board members and volunteers
• Anyone looking for a career in fund raising
• Seasoned development staff who want to hone their skills

Cost $295 for two full days of training and a workbook

For more information contact:
Skagit Valley College Business and Community Development at (360) 416-7873 or www.svc-brc.com

Save the Date

In an effort to continue offering excellent services to our members, the chamber is excited to bring national speaker and best selling author, Tony Rubleski, to speak on Wednesday, October 29.

Tony is the President of Mind Capture Group. His latest venture is the release of his second book in the Mind Capture book series titled, MIND CAPTURE: How You Can Stand Out In The Age of Advertising Deficit Disorder.

The book has received excellent reviews from many of the top marketing minds and thought leaders on the planet and went #1 with Amazon.com on July 29th, 2008, in the marketing, advertising and sales categories.

Watch for further details.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE PARTNERSHIP AWARD WINNERS!

Chamber staff collaborates with the Arts Festival each year by presenting Partnership Awards to an art vendor in each block of the festival. This year’s awards went to Katy and David Adamson, Doug Mader, Judy Meddaugh, Susanne Newbold, Marcia Peterson and Arunas Oslapas (who also won the creativity award sponsored by Cornelia’s Garden).

Pictured are Cindy Morton of Cornelia’s Garden, Arunas Oslapas with Recycled Garbage Art, and Mitch Everton.
The people involved in the Technology Taskforce are as varied as their perspectives on what is important to the membership community of the chamber. They look forward to sharing their technology expertise in the chamber newsletter. The new column will focus on day-to-day business technology as well as answer some basic questions.

The people involved are:
- Art Shotwell — Art Shotwell
- Brett Parker — Port of Anacortes
- Rick Matson and Laurie Sowa — Wise Owl
- Jay Leporé — CompuMatter
- Ken Davenport — Steam Interactive
- Therese Rudzis — Rockton Software
- Tyler Starkovich — Anacortes School District/All Micro

The column will consist of a wide variety of subjects, from helping limit security risks to new office innovations. The taskforce will meet quarterly to discuss and present different subjects. The next meeting is September 29th at 11:30 am.

I grew up in Seattle, graduated from Evergreen High School and attended Green River Community College, where I majored in Drama and Fine Arts. My husband Jim and I started San Juan Toffee Co. in Edmonds in 1995. We moved to Anacortes this year, the result of a couple of years of research and visits to various towns from Coos Bay, OR, to Bellingham, WA. Like many small business-people, we were looking for quality of life and business opportunities. After a few visits here, meeting people, chamber members, etc., we were convinced that this is a healthy place to headquarter our expansion though the Puget Sound area, and a great place to call home. We both love the water and feel truly blessed to be here.

My broad interests lie in the arts. I would like to become involved with theatre, performing arts and music.

Since moving here, we have gotten involved with several non-profit organizations related to growing food, selling and marketing locally produced products and Jim is focusing on working with local producers to help develop an Anacortes brand awareness outside our area. I really enjoy working on community events. It seems like there’s something going on every weekend! A little known “fun fact” is that for years, I was a member of a German Folk Dancing group that performed at two different World Fairs.

FIDALGO BAY DAY
September 20, 2008
11:00 am - 3:00 pm
Seafarer’s Memorial Park

Discover sea creatures and marine scientists, paddleboat pool, fish prints, and much more. Sample local chowders and shellfish. Enjoy a delicious barbequed salmon lunch.
NEW MEMBERS

A-1 SHREDDING, INC.
1221 Woburn St.
Bellingham, WA 98229
Phone: (360) 676-5594
Contact: George and Cindy Myiow
E-mail: info@a-1shred.com
www.a-1shred.com
On-site, Mobile Plant Shredding Service, Regularly Scheduled Route and One-Time Purge Service, Three Types of Collection Containers, Free Consultations, “Your security is our Priority.”
Referred by Brenda Harter, SICBA

ALLEY CAT ANTIQUES
301 & 309 Commercial Avenue
Anacortes, WA 98221
Phone: (360) 293-8020
Contact: Lea Mayberry
E-mail: overo52@comcast.net
www.alleycatantique.com
Welcome to Alley Cat Antiques and Collectors Mall. We offer more than 9,000 sq. ft. of dealers with the most unusual collections that are sure to delight and entertain you. We have a wonderful outside garden area full of garden art, import iron and reclaimed wonders.

DJ’S PIZZA
910 11th Street, Unit A
Anacortes, WA 98221
Phone: (360) 588-2232
Fax: (360) 588-2537
Pizza delivery and carry out. We deliver anywhere in Anacortes. Cap Sante Marina delivery is free. Family owned and operated. Satisfaction expected or we’ll fix it.

FRATERNAL ORDER OF EAGLES #249
901 7th Street
Anacortes, WA 98221
Phone: (360) 293-3012
E-mail: foe249@verizon.net
Fraternal non-profit club

FIDALGO ANIMAL MEDICAL CENTER
3303 Commercial Avenue
Anacortes, WA 98221
Phone: (360) 293-2186
Fax: (360) 293-2187
E-mail: famc@fidalgo.net
www.famc.vetsuite.com
Veterinarian

MARGI HOUGHTON, WINDERMERE REAL ESTATE/ANACORTES PROPERTIES
3018 Commercial Avenue
Anacortes, WA 98221
Phone: (360) 293-4049
Contact: Bob Folkes
Small-to-medium business network, email, network security – wired and wireless

NORTHWEST COMPUTER & NETWORK SOLUTIONS
3412 G Avenue
Anacortes, WA 98221
Phone: (360) 391-3421
Contact: Jim McNally
Community service organization. Provides support for various functions, all proceeds go to Meals on Wheels and Relay for Life/American Cancer Society. All in honor of former teammate Nathan Estvold.

WRESTLERS FOR LIFE
2023 I Avenue
Anacortes, WA 98221
Phone: (360) 293-1180
Contact: Jim McNally
Community service organization. Provides support for various functions, all proceeds go to Meals on Wheels and Relay for Life/American Cancer Society. All in honor of former teammate Nathan Estvold.

Radio Shack Testimonial

My cell phone battery recently gave up the ghost, leading me to the doorway of local battery purveyor (and chamber member), Radio Shack. While inserting a new battery, I mentioned that my screen had become occluded and asked if there was an easy remedy. The offer: leave my cell phone for the morning, let the store take my phone apart and clean the screen, and it would be returned to me by lunch (at no additional charge). My phone came back, good as new and as promised. This to me is a perfect example of the great service our local stores provide. Not only do they offer products at competitive pricing but they do it with a smile, going the extra mile. Thanks to Radio Shack for a job well done.

— Mitch Everton

THANK YOU!
I would like to thank Mark Lione and his staff at Cap Sante Inn for not only rearranging rooms and the last minute accommodation of my visiting family, I would also like to thank the staff for making my family feel welcome, comfortable, and for taking such good care of them.

Much appreciation,
Karla Locke, That Photo Shoppe.

MEMBER RENEWALS

• American Gold Seafoods, LLC
• Anacortes Dental Care — David L. Olausen
• Anacortes Hearing Center
• Anacortes Telescope & Wild Bird, Inc.
• Anderson’s General Store
• Buer’s Floral and Gifts
• Central Payment Corporation
• Chinook Enterprises
• Days Gone By Antique Mall
• Fidalgo Bay Roasting Company
• Gere-A-Deli
• Greek Islands Restaurant
• Lynne M. Lang Accounting & Business Service
• Orcas Island Eclipse Charters & Whale Watching
• Raymond James Financial Services, Inc.
• Rockfish Grill/Anacortes Brewery
• Samish Indian Nation
• Ship House Inn
• State Farm Insurance
• Trident Seafoods Corporation
**VIC Statistics**

**THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!**
Visitor Information Center

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**Chamber Officers**

**Executive Board**
- President: Robin Pestarino / Ponte Vecchio Corp.
- President-Elect: Zee Hogan / Maison et Jardin & Boudoir
- Secretary: Mark Lione / Cap Sante Inn
- Treasurer: Patti Anderson / Williams & Nulle
- Past President: Vince Oliver / Island Hospital

**Board of Directors**
- Jim Clarke / John L. Scott Real Estate
- Suzanne Knutson / Bunnies By The Bay
- Pat Meyer / Viking Moving Services
- Heather Miller / Read Me A Story
- Curtis Payne / Farmer’s Insurance Agency
- John Pope / Tesoro Refinery & Marketing Co.
- Joe Schlundt / Shell Puget Sound Refinery
- Rick Star / Rockfish Grill
- Mike Trafton / The Bank of the Pacific

**Staff**
- Executive Director: Mitch Everton
- Program & Events Director: Stephanie Hamilton
- Visitor Information & Operations Director: Mary Talosi
- Licensing Sub-Agents: Kristi Daniels, Kathleen Mitchell, Mandy Murdoch
- Newsletter Editor: Sheila Powell, Graphic Concepts

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**A chamber member dinner, dance and celebration**

**November 15, 6:00 pm**

**Port Warehouse**