calendar

Wednesday, January 7 3:30
Marking & Promotions Division Meeting
Chamber Office

Thursday, January 8 11:30-1:00
Chamber Luncheon
Anacortes Lutheran Church

Friday, January 9 10:30
Finance/Executive Meeting
Chamber Office

Tuesday, January 13 4:00
Membership Division Chamber Chat
Chamber Office

Wednesday, January 14 2:30
Economic Development Division Meeting
Chamber Office

Thursday, January 15 3:45
Governmental Affairs Division Meeting
Chamber Office

Thursday, January 15 5:30
Business After Hours
Sedro-Woolley Chamber of Commerce

Tuesday, January 20 3:30
Board of Directors Meeting
Anacortes School District Board Room

chamber luncheon

ASD “State of the District”

Dr. Mark Wenzel, Anacortes School District superintendent, will give a “State of the District” presentation on January 8, 2015, in which he outlines the district’s major initiatives related to student learning, including the upcoming facilities bond.

The district will propose a bond measure to voters in an election on February 10 to address critical capital construction needs at Anacortes High School. The superintendent will also share examples of innovative learning in Anacortes classrooms, as well as future directions for our public schools.

Dr. Wenzel became superintendent in Anacortes in July 2013. He received degrees from the London School of Economics and University of Washington. He lives in Anacortes with his wife, Julie, and three young children.

The January luncheon is sponsored by Washington Federal & Vantiv. Washington Federal has almost a century of experience in banking as a portfolio home lender. They offer a wide variety of products that include personal/business accounts, and can assist you in all your financial needs. For 40 years, Vantiv’s team of committed professionals has made them one of the most trusted and respected organizations in the payment processing industry, as well as the nation’s largest PIN debit acquirer. Washington Federal & Vantiv have partnered together to provide Merchant Services to existing and new business clients.

The Luncheon will be held at the Lutheran Church at 22nd St and O Ave on January 8th from 11:30AM-1PM. The luncheon is $15 if paid in advance, or $18 at the door and will be catered by Gerea-Deli. Please RSVP online and bring a gift for the giveaway!

business after hours

Multi-Chamber Business After Hours in Sedro-Woolley

This month the Anacortes Chamber of Commerce will join in a multi-chamber Business After Hours celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Sedro-Woolley Chamber of Commerce. Please join us from 4–7pm at their new chamber location at 810 Metcalf Street in Sedro-Woolley.
White Lights Bright Colors winners

Anacortes was aglow this December with cheery lights and colorful window displays reflecting the Holiday Season. The White Lights Bright Colors judges (comprised of volunteers from the Visitors Center) had a daunting task to choose the best of the best—thank you to everyone for your spirit and participation!

First Place Large Business: Fidalgo Rehabilitation and Rosario Assisted Living

Second Place Large Business: Cap Sante Court Retirement Community

First Place Small Business: Camwood Jewelers

Second Place Small Business: Epicure—For The Passionate Cook

Happy New Year from your chamber staff!

Community Service Award

Each year the chamber honors a community member who has demonstrated excellence and outstanding contributions to our community. This year we are honoring Karen Thomson. Karen saw a need and took the reins to get it done. Our Anacortes Welcome Sign was deteriorating and in desperate need of painting and repair. She came to the chamber and we went to the city and we all discovered there was no money to put to this task. That did not sway Karen, she soldiered on…campaigning for donations of time and talent, she orchestrated the sign’s completion.

Chamber President’s Award

The outgoing president has the opportunity to choose a chamber member who has challenged the process and lead the way for continued excellence in our organization. This year, Matt Miller from Read Me a Story is the recipient. Matt’s tenure on the board ended in October, but he made long lasting process changes that will continue to serve our organization as we move forward. Having tight internal controls will give the chamber the opportunity to be a leader in our community for transparency and non-profit professionalism.
**A-1 Lock & Key**

Established in 1980, A-1 Mobile Lock & Key has provided automotive, commercial, and residential locksmith service to Anacortes and the surrounding areas for the past 34 years. For many years, this family owned locksmith was operated out of a single van. Andrew Olson took the family business over in 2001. In 2003, A-1 Mobile Lock & Key purchased Mount Vernon Locksmiths, an established business with a storefront in West Mount Vernon. This allowed the company to grow from a mobile locksmith to a full-service shop, complete with four fully equipped service vehicles and six employees. In 2009, they purchased commercial property centrally located on Burlington Boulevard with over 2000 square feet of space. A-1 Mobile Lock & Key now boasts six work vans, over ten employees, and a combined 66 years of staff experience to service all your security needs.

In addition to the normal locksmithing services A-1 Mobile Lock & Key provides, they also repair and replace door closers, panic hardware, and both commercial and residential doors. They specialize in access control, safe service, and high security automotive keys and remotes. Check them out at their showroom located at 1956 South Burlington Blvd. for anything from a novelty Seahawks key to card-based access control and CCTV.

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

Find them on Facebook or on their website: [a1mobilelock.com](http://a1mobilelock.com).

**Barbara Atterberry**

Barbara Atterberry has been actively working in the advertising/marketing industry for 25 years. Her initial foray into advertising was with New York City’s BBD&O as a student. After gaining mentorship from some of the legends of the advertising industry, Barbara transferred to one of highest ranking advertising schools in the nation. Barbara’s internship was with the force of Southern Ad Agency’s, Hemmer & Yates.

Barbara was part of the transition team that took WOWW 107 from a local country station to a member of a Regional radio operation. At the station Barbara managed national accounts for Rite Aid Drugs and KFC as well as regional and local corporations. Broadcast is one of Barbara’s passions and she was a lead voice for production. Atterberry is still well known as a radio talent and is often called upon for local radio productions.

Eventually, Barbara went on to be the regional director for Russ Berrie and Company. She managed accounts for the southern states and was the key liaison for the world’s largest gift company.

When an opportunity came to assume a position in the Seattle area Barbara decided to try living on the west coast for one year. That year has grown from one to twenty and the past 20 years have found Barbara very involved in business and the community.

Beginning in 2002, Barbara became a member of the board of directors of the Northwest Burn Foundation. She then became an active member of the Burned Children Recovery Foundation as burn recovery and supporting burn survivors is a passion of the Atterberry family.

Barbara’s first business in Anacortes was McGoo & Pea’s Specialty Foods. McGoo & Pea’s products were sold at local farmers markets as well as regional gourmet shops. Her small business is what prompted her to join the Anacortes Chamber of Commerce and she has been a member since 2006.

Within six years Barbara has developed three successful businesses: Avenue Catering NW Ltd., Bob’s Chowder Bar and Lemon Love Company. Bob’s has grown to two locations and Lemon Love Company’s dressings can now be purchased in five states. During these past six years she has also served as SWAN Board President, SWIB Board President, Red Cross Board Chair and member of the Burlington Board of Directors.

Barbara is a published poet who has been referenced in academic publications. Her passion for pushing one to one’s limits is what drives her to see the city of Anacortes reach its full intellectual and economic potential.
Anacortes Community Tree Lighting

Standing 35 feet tall and shining bright for Anacortes, this year’s community tree truly symbolizes the spirit of the season and the generosity of our community. This year in fact we had two trees. The first, donated by Barbara and Robert Atterberry, was a towering spruce that unfortunately lost its top as it was cut down two days before the community tree lighting. Undeterred, the volunteers from Pioneer Tree Service scouted out a gorgeous hemlock just up the trail. It turned out that this tree belonged to Bill Wooding from Lake Erie Trucking, who was kind enough to give us permission over the phone to cut down his tree. Once delivered to the chamber, Kathleen and Brian Johnson from Anacortes Construction Services swooped into action with a lift donated by Birch Equipment and began decorating the tree from tip to trunk. Our chamber ambassadors and Visitor Center volunteers helped hang lights and decorate the lobby to get ready for the big night, fueled by pizza donated by Village Pizza.

Months of planning and days of cold, hard work came together as a magical evening for the community of Anacortes. There was a festive mood as the crowd gathered and enjoyed hot chocolate and cookies from the Salvation Army. Chamber President Karin Baldwin and Town Crier Richard Riddell emceed the event, which featured performances by the Mount Erie Choir, Fidalgo Choir, Island View Choir, the 6th Grade Band, the An-O-Chords and ACT Theatre. Their voices rang out clear and their faces shone thanks to sound and lighting provided by Sound Events. Mayor Laurie Gere and Santa Claus led the countdown for the tree lighting. Over a thousand lights shown bright as the Salvation Army Brass Band played and children gathered to see Santa. A big thanks goes out to all of the community members who volunteered their time, money and loving care to make this a successful event. Thanks also to Walgreens for printing the photos with Santa and to Sebos for helping us get the tree back down at the end of the season.

ambassador profile

April Breckenridge

April Breckenridge moved to Anacortes in June 2009 from California. She moved to be closer to her family. She has two children: nine-year-old son Landon, and three-year-old daughter Miley, who keep her very busy with their activities. For the last three years she ran Anacortes Sun Tanning. She still does airbrushing for the company but decided in July it was time for a new career path in her life. She is now a CA for Natural Way Chiropractic. She started training in August at the Mount Vernon location. Now as of December 13, she is running the Anacortes location, which is new to our area, with Dr. Aaron Theriot. She is loving her new career choice and hopes to be able to help with the natural healing of people in our community. She has been an ambassador for a little over a year, and is now our head ambassador. She was involved on the committee for the milk carton derby at the Waterfront Festival. She was also on the committee for Bier on the Pier. She loves volunteering wherever she’s needed and wants to reach out and be a part of the community as much as possible. She loves living in Anacortes because of the beautiful views. She enjoys boating around the island and taking her kids on all the trails Anacortes has to offer.
Scholarships Available

At this time of year, after all of the holiday madness has passed, it’s time for students to really start thinking about heading off to college and with that comes filling out applications for scholarships and financial aid. You hear all the time how there is plenty of available money out there, you just need to know where to look.

Below is a list that the Anacortes High School provided us that includes local organizations that have scholarship available. Most of these groups offer monies for young students, but some also have assistance for “head of household” and adult learning applicants.

• A.C.T.
• Anacortes Youth Sports Coalition
• Anacortes Elks
• Anacortes Para Educators
• Anacortes Educators Association
• Kiwanis Sunrisers
• Kiwanis Noon
• Anacortes Lions Club
• P.E.O groups
• Masons Fidalgo Lodge
• USW Local 12-591
• Prowler Roost (Association of Old Crows)
• AHS PTSA
• Anacortes Rotary
• Dorothy Etter-Madrona Chapter
• Officers Spouses Club of Whidbey Island
• Chuckanut Valley Veterinary Clinic
• AAWU Anacortes Branch
• Whidbey Island Officers Association
• Beta Sigma Phi
• Guemes Island Environmental Trust
• Matheson Family Trust
• Puget Sound Anglers Fidalgo Chapter
• Samish Indian Nation
• SABA
• Soroptimist
• Ray Wittman Scholarship Fund
• Frank & Joan Todd (Marine Corps)
• Eagles Auxiliary
• Daughter of the American Revolution

The website link for information at the high school is: [http://ahs.asd103.org/pages/Anacortes_High_School/Parent_Student_Resources/AHS_Counseling_Center/Counseling_Center_Documents/Financial_Aid_Scholarships](http://ahs.asd103.org/pages/Anacortes_High_School/Parent_Student_Resources/AHS_Counseling_Center/Counseling_Center_Documents/Financial_Aid_Scholarships)

The Anacortes Schools Foundation also has a list of available scholarships at: [http://www.anacortesschoolsfoundation.org/our-programs/scholarships-66.html](http://www.anacortesschoolsfoundation.org/our-programs/scholarships-66.html)

Good luck students! We can’t wait to hear of all of your successes and journeys.
## thanks...

Thank you to Chinook Enterprises for sponsoring our December Luncheon and to Vivi’s Kitchen for catering such a delicious feast. Thanks also to all of the wonderful community groups that came out to our first ever Give-Back Buzz and to the following businesses for bringing a giveaway gift.

- Bayside Fitness
- Bella Ve Permanent Makeup
- Bob’s Chowder Bar and BBQ Salmon
- Cap Sante Court Retirement Community
- Chinook Enterprises
- Economic Development Association of Skagit County
- Fidalgo Rehabilitation Center & Rosario Assisted Living
- Heritage Bank
- Louis Auto Glass, Inc
- Maya Shakti Yoga & Wellness Center
- Papa Murphy’s Pizza
- Port of Anacortes
- ServPro of Skagit County
- Skagit Publishing
- Stress Education Center
- Walgreens Drug Store

Thank you to Quantum Construction for hosting the December Multi-Chamber Business After Hours. Quantum was decked out with holiday spirit and the food, drinks and games made all of us feel jolly and bright. Thanks also to the following businesses for bringing a giveaway gift.

- Soria Real Estate
- Anacortes Candle Company
- Bank of the Pacific
- Catherine Mers with Windermere Real Estate
- Chandler’s Square Retirement Community
- Curt Oppel with John L. Scott Real Estate
- Hampton Inn & Suites
- Lake Campbell Lodging
- Majestic Inn & Spa
- Maya Shakti
- Portalis LLC
- Scott Richards Insurance
- Take Shape with Veronica
- Washington Federal

## new members

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<tr>
<td>ANNE MARTIN MCCOOL</td>
<td>711 Commercial Avenue</td>
<td>(360) 293-3577</td>
<td><a href="mailto:annemartinnmccool@gmail.com">annemartinnmccool@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Art Gallery—A working studio with viewing room. Open by appointment.</td>
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<td>GALLERY</td>
<td>Anacortes, WA 98221</td>
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<tr>
<td>BILLIE BENNETT TEAM</td>
<td>2606 Fir Crest Blvd.</td>
<td>(800) 248-7114</td>
<td><a href="http://www.BenefitTeam.net">www.BenefitTeam.net</a></td>
<td>Health Agency—Benefit Team is a full-service insurance agency specializing in the sale and on-going service of employee benefits &amp; individual insurance, with 20+ years of experience, knowledge &amp; relationships.</td>
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<tr>
<td>WILLIAM CROSS</td>
<td>306 5th Street</td>
<td>(360) 708-6960</td>
<td><a href="mailto:johnbrierley.bvm@gmail.com">johnbrierley.bvm@gmail.com</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>BILLIE BENNETT TEAM</td>
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## FIDALGO LIVING—BEST VERSION MEDIA

306 5th Street
Anacortes, WA 98221
(360) 708-6960

John Brierley
johnbrierley.bvm@gmail.com

Publishers—Directories, Guides, Maps

## member renewals

- Allen, Kerry Dyson
- American Cancer Society
- Anacortes Marina
- Barrett Financial, Ltd.
- Bayshore Office Products, Inc.
- Calico Cupboard Old Town Bakery
- Cascades Job Corps
- Fidalgo Bay Resort
- Flooring Connections Int., Inc.
- Foundation Massage Therapy
- Holly McIntosh
- Highline Pavement Maintenance
- I Love Skagit County Visitors’ & Newcomer
- Impressions Salon and Day Spa
- Lakeside Industries
- Lopez Island Creamery
- Louis Auto Glass, Inc.
- Madden, Philip W. D.D.S.
- Marine Detail Specialists
- OASYS, Inc.
- Pacific Rim Marine Surveyors
- PND Engineers, Inc.
- Quantum Construction
- RadioShack
- Anacortes Dealer
- Skyline Marine Center/ Skyline Marina
- Skyline Moorage Sales
- Sturdy Engineering Corporation
- Transpac Marinas, Inc.
- Village Pizza/ The Wheelhouse
Spring Wine Festival

The nights may be long at this time of year, but blooming tulips, sunshine and the Spring Wine Festival are just around the corner! This annual event brings 1,000 visitors to Anacortes for weekend of wine tasting, winemaker dinners, and local shopping and dining. Going into our 7th year we are looking to add new features to expand the event and increase community partnerships. Sponsorship at the Anacortes Spring Wine Festival is a great way to promote your business, connect with the community and reach new customers. Please contact Laura Hartner at the chamber (360-293-7911) for further information and details.

2014 Ambassadors

Cameron Bigge—Fidalgo Chiropractic
April Breckenridge—Anacortes Sun
Jack Hamilton—Cap Sante Court Retirement Community
Barry Harter—Central Payment Corporation
Linda Harvey—Anacortes Ship Harbor Inn
Rich Heidecker—Youth Dynamics
Brenden Jones—Bank of the Pacific
Sarah Jurkovich—Washington Federal
Dan Maul—Classic Style
Matt McKay—Nantucket Inn; Anchor Catering
Catherine Mers—Windermere Real Estate
Therese Rudzis—Individual member
Veronica Spencer—Take Shape For Life
Mary Staley—Marketing WITH Mary
Boyd Veer—Seaside Autobody & Accessories
John Williams—Skagit Publishing

Keep the Cheer Here!

“Keep The Cheer Here” is a campaign to encourage both locals—and visitors—to choose Anacortes merchants over larger out-of-area, or online, shopping. For every ten dollars the shopper spends, they get a punch on a rewards card, and when they spend $100 the card is considered completed and is turned back into the chamber offices. From there, each shopper is entered to win prizes through a weekly drawing. For the 2014 holiday season, the number of participating retailers more than doubled, with a grand total of 41 shops featured in the program. This not only broadens the scope of products that shoppers have available to choose from, but the prize pool is incredible! We’re able to give away a gift a day throughout the program, and there will be TWO grand prize winners—on January 6th, two people will each win a set of gift certificates, worth $500, from the participating local businesses.

Here’s what Keep the Cheer Here winners had to say …

Misti from Anacortes says: We love living, and owning a business, in this amazing community like our family has for generations. This is great, thank you so much!

Judy from Anacortes says: I’m sending an “all things Anacortes” gift box to family on the east coast. Our local businesses made shopping fun and easy. There are many creative people in this town and in no time the box was full of unique gifts.
Chamber Chat

The first Chamber Chat of the new year will be held on January 13, 2015 from 4:00-5:00 at the Anacortes Chamber of Commerce boardroom. The topic for this quarter will be the upcoming Anacortes School Bond. Members will have an opportunity to ask one-on-one questions as well as have any concerns addressed regarding the bond. On hand will be Dr. Mark Wenzel, Anacortes Schools Superintendent, and Jeannette Papadakis, President of the Anacortes School Board.

Please RSVP online.