End of Year Holiday Luncheon

Please join us for our last luncheon of the year on December 10th, 2015 at the Lutheran Church at 22nd & O Avenue. This holiday networking luncheon will give members a chance to connect with fellow business professionals and work together to answer some fun trivia questions about the season. We will also be presenting the Community Service and President’s award as well as honoring outgoing board members. Be sure to bring your business cards and a gift for the giveaway drawing.

The December luncheon is sponsored by Skagit Publishing and Colette Weeks, the new Editor/General Manager of the Anacortes American. Skagit Publishing produces the Anacortes American, Fidalgo This Week, the Skagit Valley Herald and several other publications in the county. The company is locally owned by the Wood family and employs more than 100 people. Skagit Publishing also has a controlling interest in Pioneer Newspapers, a Seattle-based company with daily and weekly publications in Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana and Utah.

The lunch will take place at the Lutheran Church at 22nd & O Avenue from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm. Please RSVP and pay online or in the chamber office to receive the $15 luncheon rate. Payment at the door at the time of the luncheon will be $18. Please bring a gift for a give-away along with a donation for the local food banks.

San Juan Lanes

San Juan Lanes invites you to join in the cheer at their Multi-Chamber Business After Hours on December 17th from 5:30-7pm. San Juan Lanes has been providing fun and food for over 65 years. Activities include bowling leagues for all ages, open bowling for fun and a state-of-the-art arcade. The remodeled banquet room is perfect for birthday parties, holiday gatherings, receptions, business meetings, or any other special event. They will even cater it to your tastes.

San Juan Lanes has a full-service restaurant and bar boasting their own award-winning clam chowder, fish and chips, burgers, breakfasts, and more. The bar features a giant HD television to enjoy the Seahawks and college football games with happy hour pricing.

Please join us on December 17th from 5:30 – 7:00 pm for the all chamber after hours at San Juan Lanes, 2821 Commercial Avenue—just look for the giant bowling pin. Enjoy tasty bites from the kitchen and a full bar at special happy hour prices. Take part in the ugly holiday sweater contest and remember to bring a gift for the giveaway. Please RSVP online.
The beginning of November starts a new year for the Anacortes Chamber Board of Directors and I’m very excited to have been elected to serve as your President for this next term. We have a great team of directors in place and they’ve already hit the ground running. We would also like to welcome in our new board members and bid a fond adieu to the off going who have generously served, helping better our chamber and business community. Leaving the board this year after completing their term are Carol Van Iterson, Gary Jacobson, Andy Schwenk and Past President Mark Lawrence. We offer a big thank you for a job well done to these off going members. We would also like to give a warm welcome our newest board members Peter Whiting, Jeff Pleet, Allen Workman, Mary LaFleur and Rob Mellish. We are very excited to have your talents compliment our endeavors. This also closes out Karen Baldwin’s term as president. She had a fantastic year and we are all very grateful for her selfless contributions and are fortunate that she will remain as an officer of the board for one more year as past president. Thank you for your leadership through the past year.

The board kicked off our year with a retreat designed to build unity and generate a cohesive plan for the year to come. The day started off with guest speaker John Erdman who led us through accountability and networking training. I think we all were a “ball of fire” after his inspirational message. We continued our day with Duane Knapp furthering our efforts with Destination Anacortes and developing a plan to deliver the Experience Anacortes Promise to the community. We are all very excited to see this strategic plan come together, creating a destination mindset and delivering that promise to help bring guests to our community and provide them with a one-of-a-kind experience. I am truly proud and excited to be working with such a dedicated and motivated board of directors. I am confident this is going to be a tremendous year!

Well the holiday’s are upon us and it’s time to start looking for that perfect gift for our friends and family. We are very fortunate to have so many wonderful shops right here in Anacortes to satisfy even the most discerning shopper. Not only does shopping local provide an added convenience to our busy lives, but it also supports the very heart of our community. Shopping locally helps sustain strong local economies and gives our independent business a big boost, especially through the shoulder seasons. “Keep the Cheer Here” is our Anacortes Shop Local campaign. This successful program has been put in place to encourage our community to continue supporting local businesses and keep their dollars in town. Shop at participating stores through December 31st and you will have the opportunity to win prizes totaling over $1000 in value! Check out our website for further details!

Thank you all for helping make this community great! The Anacortes Chamber of Commerce is here for you. We aim to make this community the best island destination anywhere! I can’t think of any small town in the world that has our natural beauty, island lifestyle while combined with a very healthy commerce like ours. I hope you all feel as fortunate as I do to live in such a truly amazing place!

—Chris Long
Jolly Mon Charters
Considering Buying or Selling Real Estate?

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Allen Workman
Managing Broker
360.770.4948
AllenW@JohnLScott.com

Anacortes Coastal Christmas

In the fishing villages of New England a unique tradition has taken hold. Each December lobster pots find a second life as they are stacked into pyramids to create community Christmas trees. These fun and unique trees bring the whole community together and reflect the spirit of their towns.

Inspired by these trees, we’ve decided to put our own twist on the theme this year. To celebrate our coastal marine heritage we are building a prawn pot tree! Thanks to a loan of pots from Bret Andrich, a trunk from Jason Dunton of Duntons Welding, and cedar garland from Costco Wholesale, we’ll be constructing our tree in early December for the community tree lighting celebration on December 4th from 6-7 pm. The high school arts club is busy making a marine themed topper for the tree and the middle art classes are decorating buoys to hang on the tree.

The event is a great night to be out in our community. Local elementary schools will be performing during the celebration and Santa will be there taking pictures after the tree lighting. We hope you will stay downtown and explore the chamber sponsored holiday art walk. New this year, you will have the chance to vote for your favorite downtown window display and be entered to win a prize!

Throughout the month there will be events in our community celebrating our coastal take on the season, including Deck the Docks at Cap Sante Marina. On December 19th head down to C-Dock after your local holiday shopping and view brightly lit and decorated boats. Stay warm sipping hot chocolate as you participate in the cocoa-crawl, filling up at different locations on the dock. We’ve heard Santa will be making an appearance at this event too. We’ve included a full list of the month’s activities on the following page and we hope to see you out celebrating the season.

Calico Cupboard

Back in 1981, it was Linda Freed, Calico Cupboard Café and Bakery’s owner who baked and cooked in the La Conner location. Ten years later the downtown Anacortes location was added with Linda’s desire to share comfort and eclectic foods with a larger part of the amazing Skagit Valley. Anacortes also houses the bakery for the three Calico Cupboard’s and Seeds Bistro and Bar in La Conner.

The bakery is the heart of the business, operating through the night to ensure that the homemade breads, cookies, pies, cakes and pastries are out of the ovens, fresh and delicious. The Gluten Free bread is one item that is hard to keep on the shelves along with seasonal and new items being tested. A couple of new favorite pastries are the Bacon Maple Cinnamon Rolls and Salted Caramel Brownies.

A lot of Calico Cupboard’s success has come because Linda wants to give the customers what they want along with a little something you can’t find anywhere else. The restaurant features 110 breakfast and lunch items from Grandma’s Hot Cakes to Salmon on Focaccia with many vegetarian and Gluten Free items.

Everything is made from scratch and the customers comment that their coffee cup is never empty with the long-time staff waiting on them. Calico Cupboard of Anacortes is managed by Amy Senff, a native of Anacortes, who loves our town, the people she works with and the regulars who keep coming back for their favorite dish year after year.

Part of what makes Calico Cupboard unique is the building. The brick at 901 Commercial was recently redone staying true to the original structure and character of old town. Calico Cupboard is loyal to its roots supporting local farmers and small businesses whenever possible and appreciates the town of Anacortes for supporting 24 years in business and for the fabulous destination that Anacortes is.
December 4th
Annual Chamber Tree Lighting  Free!
Location: 819 Commercial Avenue
Time: 6pm

December 4th
Chamber Holiday Art Walk  Free!
Location: Downtown Anacortes
Time: 6pm-9pm

December 5th
Chamber Holiday Art Walk  Free!
Location: Downtown Anacortes
Time: 6am-4pm

December 5th
Christmas Parade  Free!
Sponsored by Lion’s Club
Location: Downtown Anacortes
Time: 11am

December 5th
Celebrate the Season—Opening Day  Free!
$5 per person
$20 per family at the door
Location: Port of Anacortes Event Center
Time: 12 noon – 5pm

December 6th
Breakfast with Santa  $6
RSVP at 293-1918
or www.cityofanacortes.org
Location: Anacortes Senior Center
1701 22nd Street, Anacortes
Time: 8am-11am

December 6th
Saint Nicholas Feast Day with the Croatian Cultural Center  Free!
Please call the Croatian Cultural Center if you plan to attend the celebration so that the planners can provide enough food.
360-299-2525
Time: Starting at 10:30am

December 6th
Celebrate the Season—Dream It Dinner and Auction  $45
Reservations Required
Time: 5:30pm-8:30am

December 6th
Fidalgo DanceWorks presents The Nutcracker Ballet  $12-$17
Location: Anacortes High School
Brodniak Hall
1600 20th Street, Anacortes
Time: 7:30pm

December 6th
Celebrate the Season—Dream It Dinner and Auction  $45
Reservations Required
Time: 5:30pm-8:30am

December 6th
Fidalgo DanceWorks: Winter Celebration  Free!
Anacortes Community Theatre
918 M Ave • Anacortes
All seats reserved — $18
Many dates in December – visit www.acttheatre.com to learn more

December 6th
Deck the Docks at Free!
Cap Sante Marina
Cocoa Crawl and public viewing of lit boats on Saturday the 19th from 4-7:30pm.
Call the Marina to reserve your spot at 360-293-0694.
Location: Cap Sante Marina
1019 Q Avenue

December 9th
Jingle Bell Dash 5k Run/Walk & Kids Dash to Santa  Free!
Location: Seafarers’ Memorial Park Building
601 Seafarers Way
Time: Registration begins at 9am

December 9th
Fidalgo Danceworks: Winter Celebration  $12-$17
Location: Anacortes High School
Brodniak Hall
1600 20th Street, Anacortes
Time: 7:30pm

December 11th & 12th
Wonderland Walk  Free!
at Washington Park
Location: Washington Park
Sunset Avenue, Anacortes
Time: 5pm-8pm

December 12th
Fidalgo DanceWorks presents The Nutcracker Ballet  $12-$17
Location: Anacortes High School
Brodniak Hall
1600 20th Street, Anacortes
Time: 7:30pm

December 12th
Celebrate the Season—Dream It Dinner and Auction  $45
Reservations Required
Time: 5:30pm-8:30am

December 12th
Celtic Christmas Celebration  Free!
To purchase VIP seating visit PortofAnacortes.com or call 360-299-1822
General Admission FREE with donation of a new unwrapped toy or nonperishable food item.
Location: Port of Anacortes Event Center
100 Commercial Avenue
Time: Doors open at 8:30pm

December 19th
Jingle Bell Dash 5k Run/Walk & Kids Dash to Santa  Free!
Location: Seafarers’ Memorial Park Building
601 Seafarers Way
Time: Registration begins at 9am

December 19th
Fidalgo Danceworks: Winter Celebration  Free!
Anacortes Community Theatre
918 M Ave • Anacortes
All seats reserved — $18
Many dates in December – visit www.acttheatre.com to learn more

December 16th
Celtic Christmas Celebration  Free!
To purchase VIP seating visit PortofAnacortes.com or call 360-299-1822
General Admission FREE with donation of a new unwrapped toy or nonperishable food item.
Location: Port of Anacortes Event Center
100 Commercial Avenue
Time: Doors open at 8:30pm

December 16th
Deck the Docks at Free!
Cap Sante Marina
Cocoa Crawl and public viewing of lit boats on Saturday the 19th from 4-7:30pm.
Call the Marina to reserve your spot at 360-293-0694.
Location: Cap Sante Marina
1019 Q Avenue

December 19th
Jingle Bell Dash 5k Run/Walk & Kids Dash to Santa  Free!
Location: Seafarers’ Memorial Park Building
601 Seafarers Way
Time: Registration begins at 9am

December 19th
Fidalgo Danceworks: Winter Celebration  Free!
Anacortes Community Theatre
918 M Ave • Anacortes
All seats reserved — $18
Many dates in December – visit www.acttheatre.com to learn more

For more details and the most up-to-date information, visit anacortes.org/coastalchristmas
**PUNCH AND WIN!**

Pick up a punch card by shopping at participating stores between November 23rd and December 31st and you will be entered to win weekly gifts and grand prize drawings totaling over $1,000!

**Participating Merchants**

- Ace Hardware*  
  1720 Q Avenue
- Alley Cat Antiques*  
  301 Commercial Avenue
- Anacortes Health & Nutrition*  
  1020 7th Street
- Anacortes Candle Company*  
  619 Commercial Avenue, Mezzanine
- Anacortes Chocolate Shoppe  
  615 Commercial Avenue
- Anacortes Oil & Vinegar Bar*  
  704 Commercial Avenue
- The Apothecary Spa*  
  419 Commercial Avenue
- AwesomeSomething  
  3015 C Commercial Avenue
- Bayshore Office Products*  
  603 Commercial Avenue
- Boxes and Bears*  
  709 Commercial Avenue
- Buer’s Floral and Vintage*  
  720 Commercial Avenue
- Camwood Jewelers*  
  516 Commercial Avenue
- Classic Style & Company*  
  705 Commercial Avenue
- Donatello Gifts*  
  702 Commercial Avenue
- Elisabeth’s Cottage by the Sea  
  619 Commercial Avenue
- Epicure … for the Passionate Cook*  
  714 Commercial Avenue
- Fidalgo Artisan Yarn Company*  
  711 Commercial Avenue, Suite B
- Forget Me Not Scrapbooking  
  604 Commercial Avenue
- Gifts & More at Island Hospital*  
  1211 24th Street (Near Central Registration)
- The Good Stuff*  
  902 8th Street
- Horizon Audio, Video & Security  
  (retail goods only, no installation)  
  1010 34th Street
- In Stitches Quilt Shoppe*  
  820 Commercial Avenue
- Island Styles  
  1006 6th Street
- Johnny Picasso’s  
  (retail goods only)  
  501 Commercial Avenue
- Pearl Buttons*  
  904 Commercial Avenue
- Pelican Bay Books*  
  1104 9th Street  
  (corner of 9th & O Ave)
- Portal Coffee & Tea  
  (retail goods only)  
  705 Commercial Avenue
- RadioShack*  
  1001 Commercial Avenue
- The Red Snapper  
  501 Commercial Avenue
- Re-Feather Your Nest*  
  909 Commercial Avenue
- Scott Milo at the Framemaker*  
  420 Commercial Avenue
- SeaBear Wild Salmon/Made in Washington Stores*  
  605 30th Street
- Sebo’s Hardware*  
  1102 Commercial Avenue
- Sheely’s Floral & Gifts*  
  1420 Commercial Avenue
- Skagit Cycle*  
  1620 Commercial Avenue
- Sparkle*  
  619 Commercial Avenue, Studio 6
- Tides of Anacortes*  
  804 Commercial Avenue
- Toy Stories*  
  1005 9th Street
- Watermark Book Company*  
  612 Commercial Avenue

For more information and a list of participating merchants go to [www.anacortes.org](http://www.anacortes.org) or call 360-293-7911.

*Chamber Member
ambassador profile

Jessica Cantrell

Jessica Cantrell and her six year old daughter, Isabella, moved to Anacortes in 2012 from Bellingham. They are very fond of Anacortes and all it has to offer. Jessica especially enjoys participating in runs and many “kid” related activities held on this beautiful island! She was even able to evoke excitement out of her daughter to run in the color run this summer. Her daughter completed the whole 5k! They look forward to more family fun runs in the future.

Jessica works as the Office Manager for RE/MAX Gateway, which opened its doors on August 24th of this year. She enjoys the nature of her work and the people she works with. Prior to working for RE/MAX Gateway, Jessica chose to nanny, which enabled her to be more present for her daughter. She very much has a heart for children.

In the past as an Ambassador, Jessica volunteered with the Boys and Girls Club as well as took on a volunteer role with the Waterfront Festival helping encourage children to participate in the milk carton derby. She looks forward to volunteering for the event this spring 2016.

A fun fact that some may not know about Jessica is that she earned her Bachelors in Anthropology from Western Washington University in 2004. She enjoys learning about cross-cultural practices!

2015 Ambassadors

Taylor Bannister—Boys & Girls Club
Jessica Cantrell—RE/MAX Gateway
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 & Co.
Catherine Mers—Windermere Real Estate
Cathy Rockwell—Cathy’s Accounting and Bookkeeping Service LLC
Therese Rudzis—Individual member
Veronica Spencer—Take Shape For Life
Tricia Sharp—Anacortes Candle Co.
Carla Schipper—Unique Romance Travel & Destination Weddings
Mary Staley—Marketing WITH Mary
Boyd Veer—Seaside Auto Body

Your name could be here too—Join the Ambassadors. Call the chamber to learn more.

new members

JACK DARNTON
3915 Copper Pond
Anacortes, WA 98221
(360) 588-1661
darntonfamily@comcast.net
Individual Member

MCD PHOTOGRAPHY
1414 20th Street
Anacortes, WA 98221
(360) 599-7296
http://photographybymcd.com
Meggan Carrigg Davidson
meggan@photographybymcd.com
Photographer—We specialize in unique wedding photography that tells a couple’s deeper story and family portrait photoshoots that feel more like a fun hangout. Our first mission is to give you photos that you absolutely love—the reaction we always look for is “wow!“ To do that, we work hard to make your photoshoot carefree, natural, and easy.

member renewals

Thank you to Peoples Bank for sponsoring our November Luncheon, to The Swinomish Casino & Lodge for preparing such a delicious meal, and to the following businesses for bringing a giveaway prize.

- American Cancer Society
- Boys & Girls Club of Skagit County
- Express Employment Professionals
- Papa Murphy’s Take ‘n’ Bake Pizza
- Peoples Bank
- United Way of Skagit County

Thank you to Flooring Connections for hosting our November Business After Hours, to the Dad’s Diner for catering, and to the following businesses and individual members for bringing a giveaway prize.

- Anacortes Candle Company
- Anacortes Oil & Vinegar Bar
- Ann & Ron Smith
- Barrett Financial
- Catherine Mers at Windermere Real Estate
- Flooring Connections
- Lighthouse Park RV Park & Mini Storage
- Papa Murphy’s Take ‘n’ Bake Pizza
- Scott Richards Insurance, Inc
- Unique Romance Travel & Destination Weddings

Action Pages
Anaco Bay Inn
Anacortes Kayak Tours
Anacortes Yacht Sales/AAA Yacht Finders
Bella Ve Permanent Make Up, Reflexology & Anti-Aging Skin Care
Best Western Plus Harbor Plaza and Conference Center
Brown Lantern Ale House
Cornerstone Home Lending, Inc. Corporate
El Jinete Mexican Restaurant
Fidalgo Country Inn
Frida’s Gourmet Mexican Cuisine
La Conner Country Inn & Channel Lodge
Fidalgo Auto Parts
Steven Wilhoit
The Troll House
Whidbey Coffee

Apply Online Today!
Applying for a home loan is now easier & more convenient.
RealEstate.BankofthePacific.com

All loans subject to credit approval. Certain fees and restrictions may apply.

Bank of the Pacific
Did you know about our Shop Anacortes Dollars? They are a great way to encourage spending with local merchants, and give a local gift that’s just as good as cash.

**For buyers/customers:** These are sold in $5 increments at the Anacortes Chamber of Commerce. They’re great to give as teacher appreciation gifts, stocking stuffers, employee incentives/rewards, birthday gifts, or any other reason you might want to treat someone! There’s no expiration date, and they never decrease in value.

**For merchants:** Customers spend Anacortes Dollars with you and they are treated like cash at your business. If a customer gives you $15 in Anacortes Dollars for a $12.95 receipt, you give them $2.05 in cash back. You turn the Anacortes Dollars back into the chamber, and you are reimbursed face value minus a three percent (3%) print/process fee. You can turn them in as often as you’d like, and checks are cut at the Chamber every two weeks.

Currently participating business can be found online at [anacortes.org/shopanacortes](http://anacortes.org/shopanacortes).

If you are interested in joining the program, please contact Amanda Hubik to have your name added to the list! As always, if you have any questions, please give us a call at 360-293-7911.
chamber officers

Executive Board

PRESIDENT
Chris Long Jolly Mon Charters

PRESIDENT ELECT
Brian Johnson Anacortes Construction Services

TREASURER
Nancy Dalton Gateway Bed and Breakfast

BOARD MEMBER AT LARGE
Dennis Richards Island Hospital

PAST PRESIDENT
Karin Baldwin Quantum Construction

Board of Directors

Patti Anderson Williams & Nulle
Barbara Atterberry Bob’s Chowder Bar & BBQ Salmon
Jody Ayon Shell Puget Sound Refinery
Colleen Craig Windermere Real Estate
Mayor Laurie Gere City of Anacortes
Matt Gilt Tesoro Refining & Marketing Company
Duane Knapp Pearl Buttons
Mary LaFleur ALT Insurance
Rob Mellish Heritage Bank
Jeff Fleet Edward Jones
Chris Terrell How It Works
Mark Wenzel Anacortes School District #103
Peter Whiting Northwest Yachts
Allen Workman John L. Scott
Dan Worra Port of Anacortes

Chamber Staff

Stephanie Hamilton Executive Director
Sandy Swartos Visitor Information & Operations Coordinator
Laura Hartner Events & Communications Coordinator
Amanda Hubik Marketing & Promotions Coordinator
Kristi Daniels & Crystal Johnson Licensing Sub-Agents

Photography by Steve Berentson
Newsletter designed by LMac Graphics

vic (visitor information center) statistics

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Thank you, volunteers!

Anacortes Coastal Christmas

Community Tree Lighting
Friday, December 4th at 6pm
819 Commercial Avenue

Performances by

*The An-O-Chords*

*Anacortes Elementary School Choirs*

*Anacortes Community Theatre*

*The Salvation Army Brass Band*

*Plus Pictures with Santa!*

After the tree lighting, stroll the downtown holiday art walk. Stores will be lit up with white lights & bright colors. Stop inside, vote for your favorite and be entered into a drawing for a holiday gift!

Coast in. Hang out.™