Join us Thursday, July 20th, from 5:30-7:00pm for this month’s Business After Hours hosted by Bubba Sudz Car Wash and Detail at 3216 Commercial Ave.

Steve and Erin Meissner purchased Bubba Sudz in February of 2017. They have made many improvements in the last two years including all new self-serve vacuums, new self-serve wash equipment, as well as all new equipment in the automatic tunnel wash. They also offer a full service car wash featuring a soft cloth tunnel wash with towel dry and full interior/exterior detailing.

The Meissners are dedicated to the concept of providing excellent customer service and clean cars. They appreciate the value and harmony of living and working in a small community and are proud to be business owners in Anacortes!

RSVP online or by calling 360-293-7911. Gifts for the giveaway are always welcome!
message from the president/ceo

Washington Chamber of Commerce Executives Annual Conference September 25-27, 2019
As the current president of the board of the WCCE it is my honor to host our annual conference here in Anacortes. Eighty destination influencers will be here – Instagraming, Tweeting and Facebooking – about our lovely island getaway.

One of the evenings we are taking a two-and-a half hour cruise on Island Adventures 5. The night before the conference many come in early – our plan is to congregate at the Rockfish garden.

We are hosting the conference at the Swinomish Event Center and have a line up of some amazing speakers, some traveling from far away, and others are our own stars: Bob Hyde on Board Development; Coyte Cooper on four core habits; Duane Knapp on the BrandPromise.

Chairman Brian Cladoosby of the Swinomish Tribe will be our key note speaker at our banquet.
As a long-time member of the WCCE, I find the professional development and connections to be so valuable. Chambers of commerce need to be growing and changing with the community – these events help us to fine tune our work. I am hoping to gather gift bags for the attendees that scream Fidalgo Island. If you would like to donate to that endeavor let me know!

new member benefit

We are very excited to share our new video series called, “Island Insight,” where we showcase the Anacortes business community.

Island Insight videos are about two minutes long and posted weekly on the Anacortes Chamber of Commerce Facebook page. You must be a Chamber Member to participate in these videos.

Check the videos out on our Facebook page today!

coming June 2020 to Anacortes

COME ABOARD AND BE A SCIENTIST!
The Salish Sea School is excited to launch its Guardians of the Sea program next summer! Watch for our flyers this Fall when registration opens.

Guardians of the Sea is a boat-based program for rising 9th-12th graders that trains young scientists and shapes them into world-changing leaders in marine conservation ecology. Experiential science lessons, hands-on research, and environmental service projects are the fundamental building blocks.

Learn more at thesalishseaschool.org
questions? contact info@thesalishseaschool.org

congratulations!

Congratulations to new Anacortes new business Pet Place Market!
For over a decade they have been committed to providing our communities with one of the most pet friendly self washes in Washington.

They are unequivocal in our commitment to family, friends and community. Their #1 priority is the health and wellness of your furry family members.

NOT ENOUGH ROOM
SHORTER COMMUTE
THE NEST IS EMPTY
BABY ON THE WAY

Doesn’t matter the reason, we are here to help.

SARAH JURKOVICH, Branch Manager
360-293-5181 / sarah.jurkovich@wafd.com
1017 Commercial Avenue in Anacortes
Barry Harter has been a resident of Skagit Valley since 1982. Barry started working in Anacortes at Boomers Landing Restaurant and was there for 11 successful years. In 1993, Barry and his lovely wife Brenda bought Axelson’s Cafe in Burlington and created a culinary eatery that became Cafe Burlington featuring made-from-scratch organic food and beverage. Approaching 2004, Cafe Burlington was sold to the current owner.

Harter was recruited by Central Payment Corporation to become “The Passionate Premium Provider of All Non-Cash Payments” as a sales consultant for providing merchant services and point of sale solutions to any size of business. Recently Central Payment was sold to TSYS.

Barry says “Love to Live and Love to Volunteer.”

You can reach Barry at 360-333-0636 or barryharter@comcast.net

employment matters

The last couple of months have been significant for Washington employers when it comes to employment law. Most recently, the Director of the Washington State Department of L&I issued proposed rule changes which will have a dramatic impact on overtime paid to employees. The proposal is to progressively increase the threshold exemption for executive, administrative, and professionals in 2026 to $80,000 and increase the minimum wage. This matter was recently briefed by LeGros lawyers to the Chamber Board of Directors and the chamber will be encouraging businesses to provide input to this rule-making process at state-wide hearings. In addition, the Governor recently signed a bill which curtails non-compete agreements for employees and independent contractors unless they earn over $100,000.00 or $250,000.00, respectively. That law takes effect on January 1, 2020.

Finally, the last week of June will be when the U.S. Supreme Court will hand down its much-anticipated decision in Zarda v. Altitude Express. After years of disputed decisions in the lower courts on whether Title VII of the Civil Rights Act covers LGBTQs, the Supreme Court is expected to render its decision in a split vote. As of the writing of this article, we anticipate Chief Justice Roberts to cast the swing vote. Depending on the size of your company, these matters could impact your business.

If you have any particular issues you would like to see addressed in this column, do not hesitate to contact Stephanie Hamilton.

- Reid Meyers

Legros, Buchanan and Paul

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Legros, Buchanan and Paul
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We take the burden of business supply management off your shoulders.
With an Ace Commercial Account, we deliver:
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- Property management supplies
- Paper products and more
Contact our B2B specialist Brent at brobi@aceanacortes.com or call 360-402-5589
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2019 Anacortes Waterfront Festival

It was a weekend filled with activities for the whole family at the 30th Annual Waterfront Festival. A huge thank you to the many community groups, volunteers and the following sponsors for helping to make this community event possible!


Some of the many highlights include Anacortes Yacht Club free boat rides, which hosted 485 passengers on the 16 boats used from the club members. Fidalgo Island Rotary went through roughly 1,200 boats, which created smiles and laughter all weekend long. The Quick and Dirty boat building competition, which included seven teams this year, raised money for local charities. There were more than 70 art vendors and 13 food vendors as well as nine entertainers, the Anacortes High School Drumline, and the flyover by the Blackjacks.
ambassadors

Mindy Holland, Chair
Interpreting Technology

Brandon Carter
Robert W Baird

Crystal Eddy
Banner Bank

Erica Guesford
Bank of the Pacific

Barry Harter
Central Payment Corporation

Shona Martin
Fidalgo Financial Planning LLC

Dan Maul
Fidalgo Artisan Yarn and Clothing

Caren McKay
John L. Scott Real Estate/Anacortes

Jessica Nguyen
Peoples Bank

Lacee Root
Vacasa

Meagan Schwab
Peoples Bank

Carol Van Iterson
Bank of the Pacific

tanks....

Thank you to SeaBear and their staff for hosting our June Business After Hours. Thank you also to the businesses for bringing a giveaway prize.

• Anacortes Oil & Vinegar
• Bank of the Pacific
• Bubba Sudz
• SeaBear
• Steve Whilhoit
• Unique Romance Travel

Port of Anacortes presents

ROCK the DOCK

JULY 4th 2019 starts 5:00pm

at Seafarers’ Memorial Park

Free Community Concert

Featuring

THE WALRUS and
JOHNNY BULLDOG

Beer Garden and Food

Fireworks

FREE Kids Activities

Thank you to our sponsors
This year’s Quick and Dirty Boat Building Contest was another huge success. Over $1900 dollars was raised for the Anacortes Waterfront Alliance.

AWA is a non-profit organization which is committed to serving the waterfront needs of the Anacortes public. They maintain past accomplishments and affect positive future development through their three core values: Access (Waterfront engagement and storage solutions), Community (Creating inclusive waterfront programs), and Advocacy (A unified voice for the small boating community.

There were seven teams each raising money for their own non-profit organizations totalling up to almost $900. Teams were judged on several different categories and this year’s overall winner was the Anacortes Rotary.
Thank you, volunteers!

May 2018 May 2019
Visitors 1,335 1,319
Phone Calls 59 68
Information Requests 15 8
Relocation Requests 15 22
Web Users 36,677 31,058
Page Views 30,383 71,866

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