



Volume 14 / Issue 9

Calendar

SEPTEMBER 2004

SEPTEMBER 3

First Friday Art Walk Downtown Anacortes 6-9 pm

SEPTEMBER 5

Guemes Island Fall Festival 11-2:30 p.m.
293-8128

SEPTEMBER 9

Chamber President Luncheon, noon 3001 R Avenue
RSVP 293-7911

SEPTEMBER 11

"Crittter Run" motorcycle rally, 8 a.m.
1808 Commercial Ave. 293-4061

Annual Antique Engine & Machine Day, 9th St. & Q Ave,
9-4 p.m., 293-1915

SEPTEMBER 14

Destination Downtown Anacortes Board meeting,
at Chamber 4 p.m.

SEPTEMBER 17-19

Anacortes Jazz Festival, Curtis Wharf, 293-7911

SEPTEMBER 19

Dr. Samuel Brooks Aux. Home & Boat Tour,
588-9840

SEPTEMBER 21

Executive Board 2:30 pm, Combined Board 3:35

SEPTEMBER 26

Annual Oyster Run Motorcycle Rally,
Vendors: 360-755-0138



September 9 President's Luncheon

Anacortes Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Tom Marrs, To Be Keynote Speaker

Anacortes Superintendent of Schools Dr. Tom Marrs will be the keynote speaker at the Chamber's monthly President's Luncheon on September 9, noon at the **Salvation Army**, 3001 R Avenue.

With another school year upon us, it is a good time to hear from Dr. Marrs, who will discuss where we've been and where we are going, the state of the district, current



school issues, new grad requirements, educational reform, technical enhancements and more. As Dr. Marrs will be leaving his position on June 30, 2005, he will also discuss Superintendent transitions.

The luncheon is sponsored by **Upstage Boutique & Men's Store**, and

will be catered by **Gere-A-Deli**. The cost is \$15 and you must R.S.V.P. to attend. Call the Chamber at (360) 293-7911.

Anacortes Jazz Festival Is Here!

It started last year as a mere conversation between **KLKI's** Bill Berry and Chamber executive director Michael Broome and now the Anacortes Jazz Festival is a full-blown exciting reality!

Berry, who has a long history with the now defunct Friday Harbor Jazz Festival, and Broome, who was the general manager of a live jazz club in Bellevue, decided to present the idea of producing the Anacortes Jazz Festival to the chamber board of directors at their annual planning retreat in January of this year.

The board voted to support the idea and, with the help of chamber staff, board members and numerous volunteers, the rest will become history on September 17, 18 and 19.

Chamber events director Beth Prins is coordinating much of the festival with Bill, Michael and other key members of the growing committee.

Staff member Nancy Jankelson is coordinating the Kick-off Gala and Concert at the Port Warehouse while Mike Keller, Ken Markel, Shelley McGuire and Steve Berentson are working on various other elements of the festival. The committee hired John Gilbreath of *Earshot Jazz* magazine as a consultant and booking agent, Tamara McDonald as production manager, and Ronnie Olivier as sound engineer.

Tickets have been on sale for close to a month and are selling quickly.

Continued page 2



2004 Oyster Run and Critter Ride

It's that time of year again when the streets of Anacortes will rumble with the sounds of thousands of motorcycles for two great events – Critter Ride and the 23rd Annual Oyster Run motorcycle rally.

Critter Ride, set for Saturday, September 11, is run locally by Bill and Linda Carlisle as a fundraiser for the Anacortes Animal Relief Fund (A.A.R.F.). The 'poker run' registration and breakfast begins at 8 a.m. at Anacortes Iron on Commercial Avenue and winds it's way through Skagit County with three stops before returning to Anacortes Iron. Each stop visited as well as the start and finish points gets the rider a playing card. The best poker hand of the day wins great prizes and bragging rights.

The Oyster Run, scheduled for Sunday, September 26, is the largest motorcycle rally in the Pacific Northwest, last year drawing more than 13,000 motorcycle enthusiasts and nearly 20,000 spectators to Fidalgo Island. The economic impact of this event is substantial not only for Anacortes, but for the entire county.

Local merchants, restaurants and accommodation providers should plan now to seize the opportunity to increase sales by marketing to this niche crowd. Last year some merchants were successful in attracting more shoppers into their stores by offering free shipping on purchases over a certain value. Get creative and have a great weekend!



Critter Ride and Oyster Run pulls motorcycle enthusiasts of all ages to Anacortes for the annual events in September.

Caught in the Act of Doing Business



Compass Wines owner Doug Charles serves up a bottle of the best to a smiling customer.

Skagit Speedway



Seaside Autobody & Associates owner Boyd Veer won the right to flag a race at the Skagit Speedway's Chamber Night promotion in August. Pictured from left to right are Speedway owner Steve Beitler, Chamber Director Michael Broome, Boyd Veer, and Speedway promotions coordinator Joe Toussiant.

Jazz Festival *continued from page one*

By popular request, tickets for all festival events are now available at the Chamber office. Additionally, Ace Hardware, Donatello Flowers & Gifts and Island Adventure Charters are selling tickets for the two days of concerts on the wharf (cash or check only).

Initially tickets were only available on-line at www.Anacortes.org or through a charge-by-phone number (1-866-468-7623).

Buying tickets through the Chamber or local outlets saves the purchaser the service fees charged on-line and over the telephone, however, they must be purchased in

person. No mailing or will call is available this way.

Ticket prices are as follows: Friday night Kick-off Gala & Concert \$45; Saturday on Curtis Wharf \$25; Sunday on Curtis Wharf \$20; Sat./Sun. 2-day pass \$37; Sunday Gospel Brunch \$27; Full Brass package \$99 (includes the Kick-off Gala, the Sunday Gospel Brunch and two days of concerts on the wharf).

Regardless of how you get your tickets, make sure you get them. This inaugural year is going to be great and you don't want to miss it.



Jazz Festival Chairman Bill Berry



Skagit County Featured In TV Commercials

Skagit County Tourism, a division of SCCEDA (Skagit County Chamber Executive Directors Association), has launched a new 30-second television commercial in cooperation with Washington State Tourism and Belo Broadcasting touting the natural attributes and abundant recreational opportunities of Skagit County.

SCCEDA members leveraged \$10,000 in County lodging tax funds to receive a matching grant from Belo for a total of \$20,000 in commercial airtime.

The schedule began in June and will run through September with more than 200 commercials airing on Northwest Cable News and KING-5 television.

This county campaign closely resembles that which the Anacortes Chamber coordinated to promote tourism in Anacortes.

The commercials will appear during shows like Evening Magazine, Northwest Backroads, Gardening with Siscoe, morning and evening news and others.

Scenes and narration include hiking, biking, boating, shopping, wildlife, and visual and performing arts as well as a reference to the SkagitTourism.com

web site. Once at the site, visitors get an overview of the County and can link to all seven individual Chamber sites for more information. Chambers represented by SCCEDA are Anacortes, Mount Vernon, Burlington, LaConner, Concrete, North Cascades and Sedro-Wooley.

This is just one phase of a multi-faceted tourism promotion campaign that Skagit County Tourism is executing this year.

Other efforts include travel trade shows, rack cards, web site and more. Keep your eyes open for the TV commercials and more from the members of SCCEDA.

August Business After Hours



The August Business After Hours, hosted by Molly MacIntosh of Gracious Living Interior Design and Nels Strandberg of Strandberg Construction, Inc., was extremely well attended by close to 75 chamber members and guests. Thanks Nels and Molly!

New Location For Jennings Chiropractic

Chamber Director Michael Broome cuts the ribbon in celebration of the new location of Jennings Chiropractic. Dr. Ben and Linda Jennings were joined by many who enjoyed good food and beverages and some wonderful door prizes.

Stop by the new office at 1015-14th St., Suite C, in Anacortes to say hello to Dr. Ben and his staff.



Delicious Business After Hours at Gere-A-Deli on Sept. 23



MMM-MMM Good! That's what you'll think after attending September's Business After Hours at **Gere-A-Deli**.

The date of this month's Business After Hours has changed from the third Thursday to the fourth Thursday because of the Anacortes Jazz Festival.

The new event date is September 23 from 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. at Gere-A-Deli, 502 Commercial Avenue, Anacortes.

Don't miss this great opportunity to net-

work with other Chamber members while enjoying some great food and beverage from one of Anacortes' favorite delis.

Don't forget your business cards for networking and door prizes.

Also, if you would like to sponsor a door prize, please contact the Chamber office at 293-7911. Please R.S.V.P. to the Chamber office to help plan for catering.



FEATURED BUSINESS

The Dish

The Dish, one of Anacortes' favorite specialty shops, has been "re-packaged" in a bright new downtown location at 904 Commercial Avenue.

Owner Marianne Mach said it has been gratifying to hear "welcome back" greetings from so many neighbors and shoppers in the wake of her decision to relocate from the south end of Commercial Avenue.

"The Dish traces its roots to this end of town," said Mach. "We're in a beautifully renovated space and we look forward to many new downtown adventures."

Mach said The Dish will return to its focus on the kitchen, from cooking implements and aprons to glassware and "cool gadgets."

"Now with the fall season," said Mach, "we're the perfect place to shop with holiday entertainment in mind."

The Dish also includes a wide range of gift items including housewares, bath elements, table linens, and women's clothing, sweaters, hats and accessories.

Unique inventory includes the hand-crafted jewelry by Anacortes artists Mary Kiser (8 Silver Links) and Stacey



Campbell (3 Heart Design). The shop also features delicious items from Gloria Shelton's Burrows Bay Spices.

The Dish's move followed a decision by Anacortes business owners Jerry Zwiers and Nels Strandberg to do a dramatic upgrade on the building that most recently served as home to an auto parts store.

Since August 6 The Dish has been located in a bright, 1,500-ft. renovated space that is connected directly to a 1,400 sq. ft. shop that will soon be home to The Deli at the Dish. The new deli will not include the dine-in option, but will be "like an old-time general store," with merchandise such as cheeses, meats, olive oils and even fresh milk in a bottle.

The Dish is open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For information call (360) 293-1362.

THANKS TO...

2004 ANACORTES JAZZ FESTIVAL SPONSORS

THE FIDALGO LEVEL
TESORO REFINING AND MARKETING COMPANY

THE LOPEZ LEVEL
ISLAND HOSPITAL

THE CYPRESS LEVEL
COSTCO
DAKOTA CREEK INDUSTRIES
SHELL PUGET SOUND REFINERY

THE GUEMES LEVEL
ANACORTES AMERICAN
BAYSIDE SWEETS & TREATS
DONATELLO FLOWERS & GIFTS
FIDALGO COUNTRY INN
PACIFIC PARTY CANOPY
SKAGIT STATE BANK
SOROPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL

THE SADDLEBAG LEVEL
ANACORTES INTERIORS
FRONTIER BUILDING SUPPLY
PUGET SOUND ROPE
SAN JUAN LANES
SEBO'S DO IT CENTER

BRASS LEVEL
ANACORTES WOMAN'S CLUB
SIMILK BEACH GOLF COARSE

STRINGS LEVEL
CAP SANTE INN
ANACO BAY INN
ANACO INN
CALICO CUPBOARD
FIDALGO COUNTRY INN
PENGUIN COFFEE



AnacortesToday.com

More than 2,000 visitor sessions last month! Call 293-4852 about an ad

Sneak a peek at this city's coolest photoblog



**910 11th St.
Anacortes
360-293-5574**

"The best subs in town"

Fresh sandwiches, soups, salads and smoothies for dine-in or take-out.



SEPTEMBER'S PRESIDENT'S LUNCHEON SPONSOR:

Upstage Boutique & Men's Store

Upstage Boutique and Men's Store, celebrating more than twenty-six years of doing business in Anacortes, offers a variety of fun and comfortable clothing for women and men.

Some of their most popular lines include Woolrich and Columbia Sportswear. Upstage is pleased to sponsor the September President's Luncheon on Thursday, September 9.

Make your plans now to attend the luncheon and hear Dr. Tom Marrs address concerns in our local public schools.



CHAMBER MEMBER NEWS NOTES

■ The Skagit County Marine Resource Committee and several local groups are hosting a Marine Ecology Day on Saturday, September 11th, at SeaFarer's Memorial Park, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The general public and business community is invited to attend what is hoped to be an annual event.

Presentations, displays and slide shows about local marine habitat are planned throughout the day. Outdoor activities are planned for kids and adults including a pancake breakfast sponsored by the Anacortes Community Maritime Center.

The purpose of the event is to better inform the public of efforts to restore and preserve our marine habitat. People will also learn about the Marine Resource Committee's newly completed study of Fidalgo Bay. If you have great ideas or wish to sponsor or participate, please contact Lyndon Greene (360) 299-9075.

■ Congratulations to Penguin Coffee which celebrates its 2nd year anniversary on September 6.

■ Anacortes Jazz Festival Weekend is Sept 17-19 and features top regional and national talent on two stages. Jazz Walk is a joint cover event between 5 clubs in downtown Anacortes where a single cover charge of \$7 provides access to The Rockfish Grill, The Brown Lantern Ale House, PW Murphy's, el Jinete, and the Watertown Pub and Grill.

Jazz Walk music runs from 9 p.m. to midnight and will feature Greta Matassa, Tim Casey and the Bluescats, Fidalgo Swing, The Jerry Schreuder Trio, Trish Hatley, The Randy Oxford Band, Bebop and Destruction, Blake Angelos and others.

For more information on the Anacortes Jazz Festival and Jazz Walk visit www.anacortes.org.

Welcome New Members

Advantage Wireless

Advantage wireless offers several cellular carriers to choose from and an experienced sales team that comes to you.

1716 Commercial Ave.
Anacortes, WA 98221
360-708-8883
Victoria Sorensen Morron

**Aaron M. Rasmussen,
Attorney at Law**

General Practice Law Office
1101 8th St.
Anacortes, WA 98221
360-293-3018

Anacortes Window & Door

Retail/wholesale windows, doors, cabinets, skylights, millwork, shower doors, door hardware & mirrors
1020 11th St.
Anacortes, WA 98221
360-293-2847
Paul Arends

PW Murphy's

Restaurant & Pub
701 Commercial Ave.
Anacortes, WA 98221
360-293-3411
Phil & Pam Griffin

Northwest Ballet Theatre

Bringing professional level ballet performances to Skagit County and N. Puget Sound.
416 B Commercial Ave.
Anacortes, WA 98221
360-588-1689
John Bishop

Ship House Inn

Unique Bed & Breakfast, nautical design, high bluff waterfront westerly views, wonderful sunsets.
12876 Marine Dr.
Anacortes, WA 98221
360-293-1093
Oggie & Bette Olson
www.shiphouseinn.com

Membership Renewals

- Chinook Enterprises
- Art Shotwell
- Gere-A-Deli
- Island Breeze Guest House
- Orcas Island Eclipse Charters
- Printwise
- Anacortes Telescope & Wild Bird, Inc.
- Enterprise Rent-a-Car
- Rockfish Grill/Anacortes Brewery
- Anacortes County Taxi
- Costco Wholesale



Visit us on the web at www.anacortes.org



VIC Statistics

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

JULY 2004

Visitors	3,122	(2003 – 3,129)
Phone Calls	969	(2003 – 999)
Information Requests.....	71	(2003 – 116)
Relocation Packets.....	54	(2003 – 48)
Web Sessions	29,554	(2003 – 24,528)

Executive Board

Executive Board

- PRESIDENT**
Randy Burgess / Ace Hardware
- PRESIDENT-ELECT**
Pam Allen / Anaco Inn / Anaco Bay Inn
- SECRETARY**
Jean Fantini / Donatello Flowers & Gifts
- TREASURER**
Mike Keller / Scott Richards Insurance
- IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT**
Steve Henery / Skagit State Bank
- EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**
Michael Broome

Board of Directors

- Shane Aggergaard / Island Adventure Charters
 Bill Berry / KLKI Radio
 Gretchen Buchmeyer / Shell Puget Sound Refinery
 Dianna Chonka / Cap Sante Marine, Ltd.
 Madeleine Roozen Cook / Peoples Bank
 Mike King* / City of Anacortes
 Vince Oliver* / Island Hospital
 Dan Porter / Tesoro Refining & Marketing Co.
 Nate Scott / Windermere Real Estate / Anacortes
 Dan Stahl* / Port of Anacortes
 Nels Strandberg / Strandberg Construction
 Gene Tanaka / T Bailey Inc.

* ex-officio

Staff

- EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**
Michael Broome
- EVENTS COORDINATOR/VIC MANAGER**
Beth Prins
- MEMBERSHIP SERVICES**
Sue Keller
- ACCOUNTS MANAGER**
Kathleen Hobbs
- DIRECTOR, DESTINATION DOWNTOWN ANACORTES**
Nancy Jankelson
- LICENSING SUB-AGENTS**
April Conger
Betsy Rogers
Kristi Strickland



ANACORTES Jazz Festival

ON CURTIS WHARF

SEPTEMBER 17•18•19

*Overlooking the waters of the San Juan Islands
 Featuring Northwest and International Artists
 More than 20 Jazz Bands on two stages Saturday & Sunday
 Plus Kick-Off Gala & Concert Friday, Gospel Brunch Sunday
 and Jazz Walk in the clubs Friday and Saturday Nights*

For information call (360) 293-7911 or visit www.anacortes.org

Produced by Anacortes Chamber of Commerce



Anacortes Chamber of Commerce
 819 Commercial Ave., Suite F
 Anacortes, WA 98221

PRESORTED
 STANDARD
 US POSTAGE PAID
 ANACORTES, WA
 Permit NO. 44

Your Chamber newsletter is printed by



25th & Q St. / Anacortes, WA 98221 / 299-0990