



Inside news from your Port of Anacortes

A monthly newsletter from your Port of Anacortes

December 2010

Commission Calendar

Thursday, December 2

7 p.m.

Regular Commission Meeting
Commission Meeting Room

Thursday, December 16

7 p.m.

Regular Commission Meeting
Saturday, December 18

Community Christmas Celebration
following Boat Parade
(see article, this page)



Hospital Foundation hosts 'Winter on the Waterfront' event

The Island Hospital Foundation has hosted this festive event since 2007. Businesses and community members come together and transform the Port Transit Shed Event Center into a beautiful holiday venue filled with decorated trees and wreaths, which are auctioned Saturday evening at the close of the event.

Funds raised during the live and silent auction benefit Island Hospital's Community Health Screening Program, which provides low-cost and no-cost health screenings to the public.

Free Community Days, held on Friday (noon to 10 p.m. and Saturday prior to the auction, feature fun activities for the entire family. Santa will be on hand for photos, too.



Dakota Creek hosts Open House

MADE IN ANACORTES. Dakota Creek Industries owner Dick Nelson (inset, above), Cade Candies Captain Bill Buckley and combined staffs hosted about 800 guests at an Open House Sunday, November 21 aboard the new vessel. The 309-foot Cade Candies will serve as an inspection, maintenance and repair vessel to support offshore platform repair and other activities. The ship is powered by four Caterpillar diesel generators with a combined 12,600 horsepower.

Community Celtic Christmas Celebration

Among holiday events in Anacortes this year will be a free, family friendly Christmas Celebration Saturday, December 18 at the Port's Transit Shed Event Center.

In partnership with community boat brokers, the Port will host an evening of activities that includes the annual Flotilla Lighted Boat Parade (5 p.m.). At 6:30 p.m., renowned violinist Geoffrey Castle presents a "Celtic Christmas" concert. Castle's band mates are Eric Robert on keyboards and Darin Watkins on drums.

Joining them will be vocalist Beth Quist from Cirque du Soleil, Celtic Dance, Gothard Sisters, Mac MacDonald (as Santa) and Tracy Alan Moore as emcee (with a cameo

appearance as Elvis.)



Celtic violinist Geoffrey Castle will perform at a free December 18 celebration.

The event is free; donations will be accepted for Toys for Tots, Boys and Girls Club and Anacortes food banks (non-perishable food items). Fifty free tickets will be donated to families of active duty personnel at NAS Whidbey.

Major sponsors include the Chamber of Commerce, Rick Starr, Shell Puget Sound Refinery, Island Espresso, Epting Foundation, Elks Lodge, Cascadia Weekly, Anacortes American and Soroptimist International of Anacortes.

Special reserved seating is available. Suggested donation is \$25, which includes \$5 off Castle's Christmas CD. If you have questions call Julie Johnson Lindsey (299-1804) or Linda Lipke (708-7770).



Pat Mooney, District 4



Steve Hopley, District 3



Ray Niver, District 1



Bill Short, District 2



Keith Rubin, District 5

Commissioners chat with Chamber of Commerce audience

There was no vote taken for the record, but the consensus among Port Commissioners at a November 15 evening session was that it was a welcome opportunity to “converse” with members of the business community.

The event, held at the Anacortes City Library, was hosted by the Anacortes Chamber of Commerce with President Mark Bunzel acting as moderator. Each of the five Port Commissioners was given an opportunity to make an opening statement. Questions were then taken from the audience, and a “conversation” between elected officials and guests took place for the next 90 minutes.

Excerpts from commissioner statements included the following:

Pat Mooney: “The business of the Port is business.” He spoke of his desire to see the Port extend its property holdings so land is available for lease when prospective tenants come calling.

Steve Hopley: “I believe the Port should be focused, consistent, predictable.” He spoke of the Board’s “strategic” role, setting policy and allowing staff to handle day to day operations.

Bill Short: “The Port District contributes to the community by providing opportunity for

living wage jobs, tax revenue from activities such as the marina, and public access to water.” He said Cap Sante Boat Haven, home to 900-plus boats, is “a multi-million-dollar source of income” for the community.

Keith Rubin: “Most of what we do at the Port is transportation infrastructure, through the airport, the marina and our seaport.” He said the Port exists “to do some good. The questions then are: What good? For whom? At what cost?”

Ray Niver: “Ports have the ability to leverage grants with private industry investment.” He made reference to the Port’s investment of \$5.6 million in grant money, combined with a \$15-plus million investment by Port tenant Dakota Creek Industries. He termed “fantastic” the environmental cleanup made possible with funds from the state Department of Ecology and former mill owner Kimberly-Clark.

Questions from the audience found commissioners noting some of the following:

- Land-use, or zoning, issues, are under the authority of city government;
- Port policy is to avoid action that would be detrimental to existing businesses. The idea is to take actions that complement, rather than compete with the private sector;
- There is consensus among commissioners that this island city’s “small town,” “livable community” characteristics should be protected;
- Community efforts such as the ongoing “Futures Project” can serve to help move the local economy forward, especially in areas that may have been restricted by past controversy.

For more information about the Port, see www.portofanacortes.com. Click on “Port of Anacortes Comprehensive Plan” link in left hand column to see a vision updated in 2009.

Bonds sold to fund dock replacements

Almost \$4.5 million in subsidized Build American Bonds were sold by Port of Anacortes last month to finance the replacement of Docks E and F at Cap Sante Boat Haven.

The Port will pay back the bond debt through 2024 with no additional tax to the public. Total cost of the dock replacement is estimated at \$7 million. Port staff is waiting to hear about a \$1.5 million Boat

Infrastructure Grant sought to help pay for the project. Another \$1.2 million will come from money put aside in the Port’s construction fund. Dock replacement was the top scoring project in the Port’s proposed 2011 Capital Improvement Plan.

Veterans Day celebration



More than 200 guests attended a 2010 Veterans Day event that included a program at the Port Transit Shed Event Center.

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Steve Hopley	District 3	766-6823
Pat D. Mooney	District 4	293-3260
Keith Rubin	District 5	588-6097