Dear, dear Community.

I am walking our downtown streets these days and feeling overwhelmed with so many emotions. The signs handwritten on letterhead, taped, hung on the kiosk—until further notice, CLOSED. It feels overwhelming.

Our beautiful home, all the beautiful souls doing all the big things to protect us from a big thing. It’s gut-wrenching. It feels alien. It feels wrong. I know it is right. To close, to hold back and protect each other and wow, it’s undoing. Amazing.

I stay home and put on Jacob Navarro’s Otter House Sketches. I can hear the good work of his thousands of hours of practice. This is lone work much more than the solitary time it takes to home a love, a grief, an offering. We need solitude. It’s the place of maturity and finding the gold in our souls and discovering what we have within that is needed in the world. I am moved by listening to the fruits of Jacob’s labor. This seems right too—to be inspired by what others bring into the light from that often dark, solitary place. We need ideas, muse, insight, teaching. Then the practice. The doing. The bringing. You know, it must come out for others to see, hear. And, it will? This pandemic will pass and my wish-prayer is that we all have some story, some work that we’ve cultivated in this lonesome time, to share. I, for sure, want to know what our town has been up to, while alone.

This online-only edition of Show Chime begins to explore the sense of uncertainty and isolation. In a regular contributor. Have ideas about what we should cover? Contact us at theshowchime@gmail.com

Blue Collar Musician
by Joel Askley

I was on the top floor of the Keystone Building on a rainy February night, looking south down the glittering, blurry downtown nightscapes. The room has a window, a haven for a recording musician looking for a creative retreat. Jacob Navarro has this space dialed in. He kindly sat with me that evening to share what he’s been up to since last year’s release of Otter House Sketches, a spare, melodic album of folk Americana.

Jacob was relaxed and affable as we talked about his recent creative endeavors. As a self-proclaimed “blue-collar musician,” he’s playing solo and duo gigs in small pubs and halls, as usual. He opened for Karl Blau on February 7th on Guemes Island to a standing-room-only crowd at the Carnegie Gallery. His latest solo recording is in the demo stage. To us locals, this is the Jake we’ve seen around town for years.

Yet, our perception of Jake is somewhat akin to looking at the Sixten Chápe, cutting through a keyhole. Prominent jazz vëldır! Jess Schennum, who has been a side woman to such luminaries as Lou Reed, Linda Perry, and Aretha Franklin, asked Jacob to engineer her 2017 album Here on Earth. In late February, he was recruited to back the Secret Sitters opening for Brandi Carlisle at Benaroya Hall in Seattle. Weber Mandolins lists Jake as one of their “Walter Artists” (aka: And sooner or later, I’m sure, I’ll see Jake hanging out with the likes of Bill Walton. This Anacortes “blue-collar musician” has a well-earned, wide-ranging industry reputation. The work finds him, many times, not the other way around. Jake discussed how his guitar playing has changed over the years. High-speed runs and furious, precise alternate picking were hallmarks of his work, especially with the Spoonshine duo. His most recent album, Otter House Sketches, features sparse arrangements that give his songs more breathing room and feature a more calculated, harmonic playing style. Jake says his focus lately has been more on being a songwriter. As Jake joyfully showed me some of his vintage instruments, my gaze shifted to a music stand. On that stand was a collection of sheet music entitled Thaïnise Music for Guitar. I laughed to myself realizing that this was one book that could not be judged by its cover. Blue-collar indeed.

Follow Jacob at jacobnavaro.com.

Supporting Local Music from Home

In order to slow the spread of COVID-19, Governor Jay Inslee has issued a statewide Stay Home—Stay Local order, which effectively shutting down all restaurants, bars, and recreational facilities, as well as prohibiting social gatherings of any size. We have been asked to wash our hands frequently, stay six feet away from others, and stay at home, except to run essential errands. The first order went into effect at midnight on March 17, was expanded on March 23, and will remain in place until at least April 6. However, depending on the situation downtown, those measures are expected to extend well into April.

Attending live shows is a great way to support local artists. It’s direct, it’s fun, and it’s personal. But due to the current limitations on gathering, live shows are going to be scarce for the foreseeable future. This leaves local artists in a tenuous position. For many, revenue from ticket sales and in-person merch sales constitute an important part of their income. As fans and friends of local artists, it is critical that we recognize the struggle they are facing and their work through this unstable time.

If you have money to spare, consider looking into online platforms like Bandcamp or Tidal in purchasing new music. Consider looking into local artists’ websites or Facebook pages. Check back often, as we’re planning a number of digital events to keep you company while you’re hunkering down. Check back often, as we’re planning a number of digital events to keep you company while you’re hunkering down. In the meantime, stay home, wash your hands, and keep your vulnerable friends and neighbors in your thoughts. We’ll get through this.

Welcome to Organ Territory
by Will McCracken

Recently we’ve started an exciting new project here at the Anacortes Museum. For years our antique 1866 Packard pump organ sat, soundless, in our exhibit. It was a beautiful piece of Americana, but had been so removed from its true purpose by a piece of paper stating, “Please Do Not Touch.” Perhaps, we thought, it was time to take Anacortes’ oldest pump organ out for a spin.

Thus, Organ Territory was born and the organ finally has the chance to sing again! In collaboration with local musicians, we are releasing intimate monthly organ recordings from inside the Carnegie Gallery. After performing, the musicians sit down with us for a conversation to explore the history and community of Anacortes and learn how these talented artists have sprung up from the fertile musical soil of our town.

Our first recording was with Indie rock/power-poppunk star John Van Deusen. Topics of discussion ranged from fatherhood to his love for city planning. The second episode featured alternative/folk artist Pearl Tottemham who spoke about what it was like to grow up in the Anacortes music scene. Both of these episodes featured the musician playing unreleased music on our antique organ. You can find our first two episodes and all future episodes on the Anacortes Museum YouTube channel.

This project is a celebration of Anacortes history, culture, and of course, music. We have some exciting guests lined up for future episodes. Check it out on YouTube, or via the Anacortes Museum website.

Call for Contributors

Show Chime is looking for volunteer contributors to help us cover the local music scene. Send your skills and passion to help promote the homegrown music you love and help us grow this beloved music scene. Lend your skills and passion to showchime@gmail.com to start the conversation.

Share this article

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Signs in the windows of downtown businesses illustrate the sense of uncertainty and isolation. (Photos courtesy of Katie Carter)
### Stay home! Connect! Support local music!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
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<tr>
<td>5 Invent a board game that takes you around your favorite Fidalgo Island spots.</td>
<td>6 Dig out that instrument you've been storing in your attic for years. You know, the one from high school. Play it!</td>
<td>7 Sign up for the AMP email newsletter on the AMP website.</td>
<td>8 Download a beat-making app and make a beat. Share it with the world!</td>
<td>9 Have a dance party in your living room.</td>
<td>10 Tune in to Anacortes Music Channel or stream your favorite local artist while you cook a meal.</td>
<td>11 Make a simple instrument and play a song.</td>
</tr>
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<td>12 Call a friend or relative and read them a poem or sing them a song.</td>
<td>13 Order takeout or buy a gift card from a local restaurant.</td>
<td>14 Write down 10 things you love about Anacortes. Share them!</td>
<td>15 Listen to a new album and bake some delicious cookies.</td>
<td>16 Share a video chat meal with a friend. Stream Anacortes Music Channel softly in the background.</td>
<td>17 Go out under the stars tonight and sing a star song.</td>
<td>18 Listen to some Mount Erie and take a socially distant walk.</td>
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<td>19 Throw a lip sync party with your fellow housemates.</td>
<td>20 Make up a new twenty-second song to wash your hands by. Share it! Happy Birthday is getting pretty old by now.</td>
<td>21 Start a huge game of telephone with 20 people and actual phones.</td>
<td>22 Sing loudly in the shower. Raise your spirits while you get squeaky clean!</td>
<td>23 Check out the Organ Territory videos on the Anacortes Museum website.</td>
<td>24 Make up a choreography to a Lonely Forest song. If you're brave, post your moves on your social channels!</td>
<td>25 Buy a gift card from a local business you can't live without.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 Pick some spring flowers and leave them on your neighbor's porch.</td>
<td>27 Order something online from The Business or sign up for their Monthly New Music Subscription.</td>
<td>28 Draw or paint a picture inspired by a local artist's song.</td>
<td>29 Lay with your head to a speaker and listen to a whole album or mixed tape! Feels good!</td>
<td>30 Stay home, wash your hands, breathe. Everything is going to be all right.</td>
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**Ringing the Bell for Anacortes Music // Brought to you by Anacortes Music Project**

**HOW IT WORKS**
It’s not the end of the world
But it sure feels like it
Friends cost a dime
Wish I could go back in time
In the miles—there’s nothing
It’s hard, hard shopping for someone
Can’t seem to find it
It’s hard, hard looking for something when you can’t find the nerve
But it sure feels like it

Verse Chorus Verse
Anyone who has ever gotten lost in the liner notes knows that reading the lyrics of a song can give you a new per- spective on a band or musician. Here we highlight the words of one song with an Anacortes connection.

Last month we featured Brit Lunsford and this month we give you a really great rock band from Bellingham. Author, Jonn Lunsford has been rocking’ sides around town since the 90s when he and Lisa Jack- ston formed the very popular and long-lasting indie rock band The Crabs. Jonn played guitar with Lisa for years and was known for his driving dual vocals. They toured the world, then settled in Anacortes, and raised their family. While they no longer frequent Anacortes stages, their recorded music continues to really get things mov- ing. Please do yourself a huge favor and find this song on the album Somewhere We Call Home. Let’s crank it and dance around.

Livestreaming During Lockdown

By Joel Askay
Social distancing really puts a damper on those who love to get out and enjoy music. It’s hard to know when things will get back to normal again so the Anacortes Music Project is exploring ideas and ways we can keep the music going. The next best thing to seeing a band in a favorite venue might be to see a performance liv- estreamed. Zoom, YouTube, and other sites offer this service for artists to play to a show from home and connect with their audience. One thing that is not discussed in our research is how artists and labels, located at 216 Commercial and on the Skagit Valley Cultural Alliance, determine interest in starting a livestreaming community. If enough interest is generated, AMP will provide assistance getting set up to livestream, collect information about upcom- ing livestreams from local musicians, and work to promote them to our community.

Are you an artist who might like to play an online show? We need your feedback! Please fill out our livestreaming survey at the web address below. We’ll review the responses and make a determination if it makes sense to pursue an online option.

Fill out our survey! >>> https://forms.gle/TLVDpKmGZLeYe4ETS. <<<

Please check the Anacortes Music Project website for updates. Check out the calendar in this issue for ways to stay connected and support local musicians now too.

Music Resources

The BUSINESS
The Business cultures Anacortes and the world with its selection of coffee shops, local music, and local businesses. They offer music subscriptions, curate local shows, and offer label operations and mail-order fulfillment which allows independent artists and labels. Located at 216 Commercial and on the Skagit Valley Cultural Alliance, AMP is committed to supporting local music cultures and creating a community that supports emerging and established artists anderezdavila.com

The UNKNOWN: Recording Studio
It’s an amazing place to record music. It sounds huge because it’s huge. Our great collection of equipment and instruments and the skills and familiarity with the space have made consistent great albums for people from all over the world who have traveled here to record. We are currently focusing on mixing and mastering due to the pandemic. Email Nich: nicholas@forteewood.com

The connection
Since 2009, The connection has been a family- owned and operated business providing distribution, promotion, marketing, and ful- fillment solutions for hundreds of festivals, concerts, fashion brands, musicians and bands, filmmakers, independent labels, foodies and more. Headquartered in Anacortes, Washington, their bi-coastal team provides world-wide services to customers around the world. Learn more at Theconnection.com.

Hoopla
Mop up your library? Check out Hoopla, a dig- ital media service provided by the Anacortes Public Library. With Hoopla, you can access millions of books, audiobooks, and streaming videos. Access over 300,000 music titles, 40,000 audiobooks, 13,000 movies, 180,000 episodes of TV shows, comics, and an in- credibly user-friendly interface. Sign up with your local library card at hoopladigital.com. The library has temporarily increased the number of monthly Hoopla downloads to each patron.

Kennelly keys music
Kennelly keys music is a Hobnob member, a record label, and a Discogs page. They are a record. We are currently focusing on mixing and mastering due to the pandemic. Email Nich: nicholas@forteewood.com

Man the Business
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Spring finally arrived on Friday, March 20th.
It’s hard, hard looking for something when you can’t find the nerve
But it sure feels like it
Wish I could go back in time
Friends cost a dime
Wish I could go back in time
In the miles—there’s nothing
It’s hard, hard looking for something when you can’t find the nerve
But it sure feels like it

An illustration from the Anacortes High School Rhododendron yearbook, this cartoon dates to 1922 when Guemes Island was known as the Bubble Islands. This cartoon, from the Guemes Island’s renaissance woman, famous locally for her artistic approach to life. The Guemes Island’s own in ART! yearbook series are a great place to trace the evolution of music trends in our community: museum.cityofanacortes.org

This series of historical music photos are brought to you by the Anacortes Music Museum. More than 40,000 photographs from the Anacortes Music Museum are now online available.

Interview with Cover Artist
Margaret Horak
Local painter, Margaret Horak, finds daily inspiration in the natural beauty of Skagit County. Her work is featured in local art shows and can be found in public and private art collections throughout Mount Vernon, Skagit County, and across the country. She has created the characters for the Skagit Valley Theater for local writers and in addition to being a popular artist, she has created various paintings of people and has donated artworks to many worthy local non-profit organizations, including The Lincoln Theatre, The Mount Vernon Farm- ers Market, The Children of the Valley, Pacific Northwest Opera, and Skagit Children’s Home. Margaret Horak is a local artist and has contributed to many projects in Anacortes. In addition to the projects she has created for the Anacortes Music Project, Margaret has been prominently featured by a variety of Hobo.

Looking for Margaret on Facebook (@marghorak), Instagram (@marghorak) and online at margarethorak.com. Look for Margaret on Facebook (@marghorak), Instagram (@marghorak) and online at margarethorak.com.

What role do you think artists play in the Skagit Valley?
All artists in the Skagit Valley are so proud to be creating art every day. We try to show it to the rest of the world.

Where do you find your inspiration? Inspiration is found in a variety of places. I get inspired when we travel, seeing colors in a different light, or just taking a walk, or when I smell something lovely, like a rose or a fresh loaf of bread.

Do you have any advice for aspiring artists? Keep creating! Do what you love and you will be doing it for a lifetime.

The Business cultures Anacortes and the world with its selection of coffee shops, local music, and local bari- ers can be purchased at AMP events or by becoming an AMP sponsor at anacortesmusicproject.org.

Thank You!

Thank you to the following sponsoring businesses: Mudfish at The Red Snapper, Hall, Shari, and Erik at The Brown Lantern, Nick and Caro- lyn at Thiepval, Mark and Willy at Crazy Guemes Island’s General Store, Dick Rock at Star Rock Food Co-op and Grizzly’s Bar and Grill, Barrett Community Caring and Kennelly Keys Music. Thank you to the following sponsors: Lyn Beall at Bikespot, Mark and Willy at Crazy Guemes Island’s General Store, Dick Rock at Star Rock Food Co-op and Grizzly’s Bar and Grill, Barrett Community Caring and Kennelly Keys Music. Thank you to the following sponsors: Lyn Beall at Bikespot, Mark and Willy at Crazy Guemes Island’s General Store, Dick Rock at Star Rock Food Co-op and Grizzly’s Bar and Grill, Barrett Community Caring and Kennelly Keys Music.

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