Do you go to local music shows? Do you love to write or take pictures? Do you know about an upcoming show that could benefit from some hype? Show Chime is looking for volunteer contributors to help us cover the local music scene. Lend your skills and passion to help promote the homegrown music you love and help us grow this beloved publication. Cover one show or become a regular contributor. Contact us at theshowchime@gmail.com to start the conversation.

Your support amplifies the music and musicians of Anacortes. In addition to the promotion, publication, and distribution of the SHOW CHIME music calendar, AMP is committed to creating events featuring local musicians, developing a scholarship and mentoring program, continuing the development and collection of archives past and present, and shaping exciting visions for the future, such as a physical space for our community’s very own radio station and music space. Your contribution is uplifting the culture of art and music in our town. We’re doing this together!

Go to anacortesmusicproject.org and click on the sponsorship button.

Thank you to our sponsoring businesses; Mugzy at The Red Snapper, Hal, Sheryl, and Erik at The Brown Lantern, Nick and Carolyn at Bikespot, and Mark and Willy at Guemes Island General Store. Thank you Manieri board, Chris Terrell, and Keith Eyer at How It Works. Thank you community member sponsors Laura Spehar, Victoria McNeil, and DJ Brown. Thank you to our new sponsor, long-time Anacortes music supporter, Patti Pattee, for sponsoring AMP! Thank you to The SAM Project for all they do to promote our cause. Thank you to our contributing artists and writers and to our February cover artist, Ben Starner. Thank you, Laurie Racicot, for editing and design. Thanks to all of the downtown businesses who help Show Chime fall into the hands of the public and to our amazing crew of distributors who keep our drop points stocked. Getting the Show Chime to you each month is a community effort! Show Chime February 2020 is printed by How It Works and made possible by a grant from the Anacortes Public Library Foundation Manieri Endowment.
Where’s Karl Blau Now?

Since moving to Philly in late Fall, 2018, I’ve been playing shows in this city and some in NYC, Baltimore, and DC. The music scene in Philly feels kinda like Seattle, pretty tight knit and yet also diverse. There’s a country gig on the 3rd Thursday of each month at a venue called Kung Fu Necktie entitled “Baby’s First Rodeo” that I’ve played a couple times, also appeared on WXPN, the KEXP of Philly, and notably performed at the David Berman Tribute at World Cafe Live, downtown Philly. I’ve written a couple dozen songs, put out a 4-track album called “If There Is A Guard Above,” a book of poetry titled “Rhizomes,” a new Christmas album featuring a reggae version of Silent Night, and most recently a 4 song EP called “Little, Pink Maggot & Friends.” I’ve been busy! This February I have my first art show at a Germantown gallery called “Imperfect Gallery” where my #trashiondolls will be displayed in print. It’s been an exciting year already, but the idea of coming to Anacortes to play Guemes Island General Store on February 7th takes the cake! Can’t wait to see you there, so soon already. Lotsa love ~k

Get in Touch!

Want your music projects or shows mentioned in the Show Chime? Want to submit a piece of art or an article? Have ideas for Show Chime you’d like to share? Please get in touch!

theshowchime@gmail.com

Stay in Anacortes

Coming to Anacortes for a show? Stay the night! Check out the range of options at Anacortes.org/stay/
The Birth and ReBirth of The NeXt Show

by Carol Laing

In the absence of the infamous Department of Safety and with a quiet lull resting upon Anacortes' new music scene in 2013, there was a need for something new. Enter the notoriously creative Karl Blau, a local musician with a passion to bring all-ages access to our local music scene, particularly to inspire our up and coming generation. Karl fell in love with a possible venue space downtown (currently The Business), and decided to gather friends to start brainstorming this new idea. Two of those friends who came alongside him were Todd Young and Doug Cassidy.

Todd recounted that, "It was on random evenings, Karl would be up there doing whatever and we would just hang out and talk about what this new venue could be. It started out as just something fun to do and ultimately we were trying to set up what was going to grow into a venue. Karl had a multi-layered vision of where it could go and one of those things was the radio station."

Right off the bat, Doug and Todd caught Karl's vision to help run it. Todd continued, "Doug had the know-how and I had an interest in helping them put out the content. I wanted to add something to listen to that wasn't just pre-recorded music, but something new to promote local music."

Anacortes Music Channel was born. In the beginning, it was anything from live shows to pre-recorded songs, but always playing local music. Eventually this grew into The NeXt Show, which has become a monthly broadcast comprised of local artist interviews, live music, and pre-recorded music from those artists. It's also archived as a podcast so you never have to miss a show.

Before The NeXt Show could become what it is today, there was one major event it had to survive—just like the Phoenix, it had to first go through fire. In December of 2015, the Anacortes Music Channel was broadcasting our own piano phenom, Ben Starner. He had just finished playing a live set on the air and, as planned, left and locked up. Doug remembers listening to the broadcast live at his home, "I had just heard Ben get done playing and the show was just broadcasting dead air. I had left the radio on in the background and started hearing all this snapping and popping. I was trying to figure out what it was and eventually realized it was a fire. I called 911. At first I was thinking it might be Karl putting the microphone on something weird like water in a bucket outside or something." Todd added, "because that is definitely something Karl would have done!"

Although devastated by the loss of equipment and many recordings, this motley crew was not detered. "It was like, well, where do we record from now? Where’s our studio going to be? Thankfully Doug offered his house and we were recording there for three and half years," Todd reflected.

They both talked about some memorable shows they’ve done. Doug said that one of the last interviews they did as the Anacortes Music Channel may have been his favorite one. "It was with Shannon Quinn from Fanny Alger and it was really funny and just a really good time." Todd added that, “a lot of the shows make an impression like that. They’re all super fun. One of my favorites was the one that Pearl Tottenham co-hosted and helped curate. We interviewed all female musicians and it was very cool. We’ve also had a couple of instructional episodes and historical lessons about instruments. Ben Starner and Brayden Kreuger led those. One other that always jumps to mind, was right before the first Yule Bizarre, we did a Next show with all of the Yule bizarre bands and basically 10 bands did one or two songs each, and it was just an amazing, giant party.”

Now in their fifth season of The NeXt Show, Todd and Doug say they are looking to grow the audience and expose more people to our incredible community of local artists. Todd noted that “although we are part of Anacortes Music Project, we are also looking at how to broaden our base of artists to not just people that live here but also artists that have a a connection to Anacortes and come here to tour regularly.” They’ll be launching a new segment in February that will showcase a smattering of the music and very brief interviews with bands that record with Nick Wilbur over at the Unknown. Todd feels “that it’s important to connect with the music and the musicians that are drawn to our town to record.”

This month The NeXt Show will feature Nick and Evie from The Business and highlight some of the bands that they distribute through their company. In March, they will have a show with Karl Blau and get a chance to hear about his adventures in Philly and new music from him as well.

To hear some previous episodes in the archives visit anacortesmusicproject.org under “podcasts”. If you’d like to recommend an artist interview for The NeXt Show please e-mail us at anacortesmusicproject@gmail.com.

The NeXt Show

Please join us on the first Thursday of every month for The NeXt Show, the live show where you hear the music and thoughts of artists from Anacortes and beyond. Our guests for February are NICK & EVIE of THE BUSINESS. Listen in as we discuss Anacortes’ record store and highlight some of the artists they distribute!

February 6, 7:00-9:00 PM.
To listen live and access podcasts go to ANACORTESMUSICPROJECT.ORG.

Anacortes Music Channel

Do you know about the Anacortes Music Channel? One great pool of Anacortes music just churning away—24/7! Each sound recording played at Anacortes Music Project online radio has an Anacortes tie-in, a story that, if not rooted in Anacortes, is affected by or involves a person from our town.

Tune in day and night at ANACORTESMUSICPROJECT.ORG.
**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9**
- Anacortes Public Library  
- Manieri Jazz Series  
- The Jane Sheldon Trio  
- Jazz Mix All Ages  
- Westminster Presbyterian Church  
- Skagit Community Band  
- Big Band All Ages

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12**
- Guemes Island General Store  
- Ben Starnes Piano Magic All Ages  
- Rockfish Grill Andre Furlante Guitar Master All Ages

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13**
- Guemes Island General Store  
- 720 String Band Island Strings All Ages  
- Brown Lantern Open Mic Locals 21+

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14**
- Cuviero Cultural Center  
- Vicki Bowgeman & Tamara Friedman Chamber Music All Ages  
- Swinomish Casino The Mix Popular Hits 18+

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15**
- Rockfish Grill Joe T Cook Blues Band  
- Blues Veterans All Ages  
- Swinomish Casino Midlife Crisis & The Alimony Horns Valentine’s Dance 18+  
- Swinomish Casino The Mix  
- Rock Factor 18+

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19**
- Guemes Island General Store  
- Ben Starnes Local Piano All Ages  
- Rockfish Grill Shari Roberta’s Graines Soulful Singer All Ages

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20**
- Guemes Island General Store  
- 720 String Band Island Strings All Ages  
- Brown Lantern Open Mic Local Mix 21+

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21**
- Swinomish Casino  
- Troy Fair Band Country 18+  
- Brown Lantern Bootleg Sunshine Seattle/Neighborg 21+

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22**
- Anacortes Public Library  
- Open Mic Acoustic Music All Ages  
- Swinomish Casino Troy Fair Band Popular Country 18+

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26**
- Guemes Island General Store  
- Ben Starnes Piano Magic All Ages  
- Rockfish Grill Janette West Stellar Vocals All Ages

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27**
- Anacortes Public Library  
- Manieri Jazz Lecture Series  
- Jazz on the Silver Screen with Dmitri Matheny All Ages  
- The Business Black Belt Eagle Scout Indigenous Magic All Ages  
- Guemes Island General Store  
- 720 String Band Island Strings All Ages  
- Brown Lantern Open Mic Your Neighbors 21+

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28**
- Swinomish Casino  
- The M-80’s 80’s Magic 18+  
- Rockfish Grill Cassadie Groove Groove Jazz All Ages  
- Swinomish Casino  
- The M-80’s Retro Hits 18+

**DID WE MISS YOUR EVENT?**
We do our best to publish all Anacortes music shows! You can help us out by sending information about your upcoming event. Email details to thebunchie@gmail.com by the 20th of each month, to be published in the following month’s edition.

**ANACORTES VENUES**
- Anacortes Public Library  
- Anacortes Senior Center  
- Brown Lantern  
- The Business  
- Cuviero Cultural Center  
- Guemes Island General Store  
- Pelican Bay Books  
- Rockfish Grill  
- Swinomish Casino  
- Westminster Presbyterian
One of Anacortes’ fabulous musical traditions, Rock the Island, was once again hosted at the spacious Kennelly Keys stage on January 24. Rock the Island is a showcase competition of teen artists and bands from our community. A board of judges from the local music scene were tasked to review each act, consisting of 2 songs each. This board included Alex Niedzialekowski from the band Cumulus, Nick Rennis and Evie Opp from The Business and the band Buffet, music educator Tina Franulovich-Martin, and AMP vice president Todd Young.

The young musicians came fully prepared and brought some incredible organic energy. Bands and artists competing were Nathan Thomas, the Bummer Friends, Tripping Upstairs, Ristfut, and Woohoo. During judging, the band Dead Man’s Lawyer kept the crowd busy. Speaking of the crowd, they were a performer’s dream—slam dancing, phone waving, cheering, and arm waving. The floor was packed, right up to the front of the stage. There was definitely energy flowing both ways all night.

Musically, the night was notable for its fearlessness and eclecticism. Like rap? Nathan Thomas had you covered. Boomer? Tripping Upstairs deftly channeled Simon and Garfunkel and The Who, including some bass lines worthy of John Entwhistle. If ska-punk is your thing, Ristfut would have you bouncing off the walls. Woohoo showed off some jazzy chops and The Bummer Friends would have made a great opening act for Alice in Chains.

All the performers were mesmerizing, but Ristfut continues to improve every time I see them. They took home the grand prize from the panel. Their second original song, “Winter”, is an outstanding composition with a great hook. The overall message to all in attendance was that the future of music in Anacortes has arrived like a freight train.

Above: The crowd looks on as Bummer Friends play their set.

The 2020 Winners: Ristfut

Ristfut, consisting of singer Gavon Long, guitar prodigy Dominic Ermi, bass player Andrew Knapp and drummer Vince Jackson will be making another run at the win in this competition. In 2019 they won Crowd Favorite while coming in 2nd overall. You last saw them playing AMP’s Yule Bizarre in Dec 2019. Expect loud rock and roll, just like it should be played!
Chime Chat with Cherry

In the tradition of the great personal advice column, Show Chime presents Chime Chat with Cherry. Do you have a problem you need help with? Are you wondering who you can turn to? Cherry doesn’t just dish out advice, she peers deeply into your soul to find the answers within you. She also specializes in naming bands, boats, and babies. Write to Cherry at theshowchime@gmail.com!

DEAR CHERRY:
My teenage son has started to wear cologne and its stinking up my whole house, but he thinks he smells good, how can I dissuade or redirect his interest in this foul smelling new step towards what he thinks is maturity without crushing his spirit? (And still saving my nose)—Stuck with Stinky

DEAR STICKY:
This one hits close to home because I HATE cologne and perfume of any kind. It assaults the senses and gives me headaches. That being said, many young folks are trying out things they think will make them more popular or attractive. And possibly they don’t realize how foul smelling Axe Body Spray is. A school bus was recently evacuated after a spilled bottle of Axe sickened several children. One tactic to drive home the point of not forcing obnoxious odors on others would be to ask your son to do an experiment where he spends an hour in a small enclosed space (closet, car?) with an odor he doesn’t like. Kimchi? Pickled herring? Dozens of deviled eggs? Of course, after the experiment you’d have to burn your car...

DEAR BIBLIO:
Books are very personal. So my recommendation is to take an exacto knife, hollow out the books your neighbor gives you, and insert a smaller but better book. When you return the books to the neighbor, they will have a pleasant literary surprise! Either that or put dead birds in them. They will probably stop giving you books. Problem solved.

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 whole new perspective on a band or musician. Here we highlight the words of one song. Each piece of writing featured here has a unique Anacortes connection. This month we have words by Pearl Tottenham from her 2019 EP entitled Halloween Island.

Fear
By Pearl Tottenham

favorite one, you are a ghost
haunt me for fun, hobby at most
cinnamon spice, you keep me warm
sugar is nice, but I am bored
of the sweet sweet nothing you are promising to me
of the sweet sweet nothing you are promising to me
I spend my time gathering bones
I’m not sure why I find them wherever I go
under the bed is where it hides
out of my head waiting to strike
when I leave and you say you cannot promise anything
anything
and I only wanted to love you
I only wanted to try
oh I only wanted to haunt you
I only wanted to be right
and I only wanted to love you
I only wanted to try
oh I only wanted to haunt you
I only wanted to be right
and now I’m strung out I can’t help but want you
only temporary isn’t enough for me
when it’s not just anybody it is you
can’t take your spell off me ‘cause baby I’m in love
baby I’m in love
maybe I’m in love

Manieri Second Sunday Jazz Concert

The June Shellene Trio
February 9, 2:00 PM
Join us for an afternoon of live jazz at the Anacortes Public Library with the June Shellene Trio. The trio features a mix of jazz standards and pop songs with pianist and singer June Shellene, Keegan Harshman on bass, and Scott Small on drums. June came to Whidbey Island from Chicago, where she worked for many years in Chicago’s nightclub scene and theatre industry as musical director, band leader, sideman, recording artist, solo performer, writer, and teacher.

Manieri Jazz Lecture Series
Benny Goodman: The Orchestra and the Groups
February 6, 2:00 PM (Rescheduled from January 16)
Come to Anacortes Public Library for a talk on Benny Goodman’s big and small bands, illustrated with audio and video. Seattle-based jazz clarinetist and 30’s enthusiast Jacob Zimmerman looks at some of the swing era’s greatest performances.

Jazz on the Silver Screen with Dmitri Matheny
February 27, 2:00 PM
Come to Anacortes Public Library at 2 pm on Thursday February 27 for an illustrated talk on the movies that feature great jazz performances. West coast based and nationally acclaimed jazz flugelhornist, historian, and educator Dmitri Matheny is a popular guest performer at Northwest jazz events.

These free jazz events are sponsored by the Anacortes Public Library Foundation Manieri Jazz and Swing Endowment.

Picture This Sound

Gandalf rocks Anacortes High 1969: From the Anacortes Museum’s AHS newspaper archives comes a 1969 photo of Gandalf. One of two rock bands then active at the high school, Gandalf’s name was chosen by three band members who were Lord of the Rings fans. Lead guitarist, Mark McGlenn, played music publically for the rest of his life. Solo, he released a local hit single called Cow Patty, back when they still made vinyl 45s.

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