Show Chime
October 2021
The Bikespot Issue
Thank you, Bikespot.

October 2021

October arrives with change, as is its nature. Fall is the time when the work of dreams and plans have hopefully come to fruition. We live to see the fullness of work that has been done, work that has come to completion. No wonder we celebrate, indulge superstition, honor ancestors, and give thanks.

A major change has come to Anacortes: this month, for the first time in over a decade, Bikespot will not be opening its doors. That sweet alleyway between the Olsen Building and Marine Hardware, with free coffee, air and advice, and the best service in town, will be empty.

Nick and Carolyn, the dreamers, purveyors, and adventurers, have seen their successful endeavor Bikespot through to the end. Oh, what a thing to have done. And if you are a cyclist, you know the worth, the wealth, that Bikespot was for our community. Our town now has bike lanes and a greater awareness of cyclists, thanks to them.

And if you are a musician, a music lover, or an artist, you know that Bikespot’s events were a beacon made of and for our community. And their vision went way beyond their shop. Bikespot was one of Show Chime’s original sponsors and they sponsored every one of AMP’s music events. Nick and Carolyn volunteered at shows and booked local bands to play at their shop. Nick served on our board and was a regular contributor to Show Chime. Their contribution to Anacortes’ cultural scene is the stuff that carries on, even without the shop.

It is inspiring to know folks who follow their dreams, make beautiful things, and incite change. There’s no question that Bikespot the shop will be sorely missed. We dedicate this issue of Show Chime to them with our deepest gratitude.
October Art Honors Bikespot

Our pages this month are graced by the artwork of so many fine friends of the Bikespot, expressing their thanks. Our front cover artwork is embroidered by local artist Christine Olsen, a longtime friend of Nick and Carolyn, to honor the closing of the shop. Clarity Miller embroidered the beautiful rainbow AMP logo on the back cover. On page two we have art by Quinn K Thompson, another longtime Bikespot friend and fan, and on the facing page we have a heartfelt letter of thanks from Quinn. On page seven we have a sketch of Nick and Carolyn by artist and musician Luuk Honey.

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“We were really lucky to be two doors down from AMP in its initial incarnation, when Karl Blau started it where The Business Records store is now. We had a front row seat. So we were lucky to see some shows there and see that take shape. It just organically happened on the 200 block here.”
— Carolyn Moulton

“On a misty bike trail four friends meet and form a zine called Ana-cortex, focusing on life and art in Anacortes. Two of the friends go one step further and open a fantastical bike shop, creating a warm and fun environment for friends old and new to get together. Enjoying group bike rides, art and music. A decade of fun times! We will always be grateful for the magic that was created thanks to Nick and Carolyn.”
— Christine Olsen
Live Music Calendar
October 2021

Saturday, October 2
- Rockfish Grill
  - Michelle D’Amour and the Love Dealers
    Jazzy Blues    All ages
  - Brown Lantern
    - The Dolts
      Local rock    21+

Wednesday, October 6
- Rockfish Grill
  - Time3Jazz
    Jazz Standards    All ages

Friday, October 8
- Farmstrong Brewing
  - Brett Benton and Wes Jones
    Emotional Rock    All ages
  - Lincoln Theater
    - Duffy Bishop
      Powerful Jazz

Saturday, October 9
- Guemes Island General Store
  - Eli West Trio
    String trio    All ages
  - Rockfish Grill
    - Low-Pass Trio
      Seattle Fusion    All ages
  - Brown Lantern
    - The 7:20 String Band
      Guemes Favorites    21+

Wednesday, October 13
- Rockfish Grill
  - Janette West
    Jazz Vocals    All ages

Saturday, October 16
- Guemes Island General Store
  - Tapwater
    Curious Anticipated    All ages
  - Rockfish Grill
    - Free Harmony
      Classic Harmonies    All ages

Sunday, October 17
- Lincoln Theater
  - Robert Cray
    Grammy fame

Wednesday, October 20
- Rockfish Grill
  - Heron and Crow
    Old Time    All ages

Saturday, October 23
- Rockfish Grill
  - Bill Mattocks
    Blues Harp    All ages

Wednesday, October 27
- Rockfish Grill
  - No Tonic Press
    Original Jazz    All ages

Saturday, October 30
- Rockfish Grill
  - Billy Appleton Band
    Southern Blues    All ages
The day started out and stayed overcast, but the grass on the lawn at Seafarer’s park was lush and vibrant, having been nurtured through the intensely dry summer. We all had missed AMP Fest last year, and although the day was gloomy, a great lineup of Anacortes-based musicians awaited us.

Stopping at the AMP table, I was excited to see the new branding, featuring a nice megaphone graphic on t-shirts, stickers, and on the redesigned Show Chime. A taco truck, beer garden, and Turkish coffee stand greeted new arrivals. The main stage was set up at the east end of the grassy area, with a smaller acoustic stage about 60 feet to its left.

As I arrived, the world percussion group ShiDaa, lead by Saeed Abbas, started playing carnival music from Ghana and Senegal. The small gathering of early arrivers danced enthusiastically to the complex polyrhythms. As they finished, the performance transitioned to the main electric stage. Throughout the day, the audience’s attention would alternate between these two focal points.

For those who have been paying attention, a super talented group of young bands has been emerging lately. They were well represented at AMP Fest. The Young Hunks brought an enthusiastic group of fans and performed a set with a tasty brand of particularly literate pop. Some of us who look back fondly at groups like Alice in Chains and Soundgarden were delighted to hear the Buddhadawg Band. This power trio showed that they can hold their own with the best of them. And Woo-Hoo played an energetic set, featuring covers of The Strokes and Dick Dale.

Intimate acoustic music was well represented. This listener was delighted to hear Crazy Like a Fox, featuring Mia Starner on vocals and Ben Starner on piano. They played selections such as “Daydream” and “Ma, He’s Making Eyes At Me”, from the golden age of jazz. An array of outstanding vocalists/songwriters continued with performances by Elizabeth Bishop, Alexandra Niedzialkowski (Cumulus). Alex, along with local icons Jacob Navarro and John Van Deusen, were all previewing new captivating unreleased material. And Luuk Honey brought a very spiritual vibe to his solo performance, complete with mutating wardrobe, a looper, and a banjo played with a violin bow.

During the afternoon, the main electric stage was graced by Neesha Blanchett, all solid musicians, who brought a Memphis R&B flavor to the proceedings. Despairplane followed with a duo set featuring Ben Coe and Keith Boller. Freshly arrived from Olympia, Pearl Tottenham debuted some newly recorded material, both solo and backed up by her father Brian Tottenham and Bradyn Krueger. The Dolts, featuring guitarist/songwriter John Bisagna and drummer Andrew Culp, played material from their recent release. Leading up to the final two acts was a solo set by Tom Savage, featuring some tasty blues guitar, followed by the “Funk Challenge”, loads of fun and joined by others on stage.

As the sun started to set, local favorites Enduro took the stage and the crowd started to press in around them in the front. While the group churned through songs like “Blue Baby Blue” and “San Juan Motel”, they had nearly formed a mosh pit.

Whiskey Fever finished off the night in grand style. If any band can follow Enduro, it’s this outfit. At the end of the evening, the feeling of live music being back in Anacortes pervaded the park. Well done, AMP, and everyone who volunteered, planned, or performed! ■
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 lyrics from AMP’s forthcoming release, Terribly Quiet, a collection of songs from women of Fidalgo Island that came out of this turbulent year. This month we have lyrics from musician and songwriter, Mariah Barrett.

How Will We Pass These Days?
written by Mariah Barrett

On a cold and lonely day
If you close your eyes
You’ll see a morning in May
So won’t you close your eyes?

Baby, go outside
Can’t you see the sun is going down
On our town?
So darling, go outside

Chorus:
And know who you love
And what you chance
And how to give
Not who’s watching you dance

How will we pass these days?
With our hands in the ground
And our hearts all ablaze
Tell me, how will you pass these days?

Chorus

Darling, go outside
Can’t you see that moon is coming up
To fill your cup?
So won’t you go outside?

New AMP Swag!

Along with our new logo we now have a brand new set of AMP merch for fashion, fun, and local music love. Look amazing while supporting AMP! Keep an eye out for delightful new items, styles, and colors coming soon, at Yule Bizarre and beyond. (For fans of the old logo, there are still a few shirts and stickers available on our website. Get them while they last, they’ll soon be coveted collector’s items!)
Chime Chat with Cherry

In the tradition of the great personal advice column, Show Chime presents Chime Chat with Cherry. 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 bike tires have a slow leak. But Bikespot is gone! What shall I do? —Sad Cyclist

Dear Sad:
I know next to nothing about bikes, but I’d recommend making a little incision in your inner tube and inserting enough jumbo hot dogs to reach the full circumference.

Dear Cherry:
With a vintage turntable, a few nuts and bolts, and a bit of mechanical genius, I have rigged up my bike to be a rolling musical showcase. I call it the Bikrophone. It plays while I ride! Unfortunately, the only album I have on vinyl is Mariah Carey, Merry Christmas. Where can I go to expand my collection and what music do you recommend for blasting the streets of Anacortes? —Brilliant Biker

Dear Brilliant:
First off, please do humanity a favor and burn that Mariah Carey. Secondly, I’d head on down to The Business, our town’s purveyors of all things audial, and get some piping fresh vinyl.

Dear Cherry:
I need a name for my bike. It is my most prized possession, my pride and joy, and my primary mode of transportation. It’s a brilliant magenta ten-speed with more personality than a pack of pink peppermints. —Pink Pedaler

Dear Pink:
All you need to do is take a pedal through the marina, make note of most of the boat names, and pick something that is the polar opposite. Boats in general are poorly named. What I think you need is a good drag queen type name for a bike with that much pizzazz. A quick Google has offered up Gigi Lamour, Super Nova, and Betty Brilliance.

Dear Cherry:
With Autumn’s rapid reduction in temperature and sunlight, how can I keep my beloved base tan? —Mr. Hasselhoff

Dear Hoff:
Oh you lucky, toffee colored hunk, you have come to the right place. Cherry has a secret recipe that’s better than a tanning bed for keeping that summer glow. Mix equal parts ketchup, mustard, horse dewormer (kidding on that one), coffee grounds, and pickle brine and stir until combined. Coat every inch of skin in the concoction, including all the nooks and crannies. Go outside and run around in the rain, shouting curses at the darkening sky. Then take a hot shower and voila, a nice even tan. ■

Share the Local Music Love!

Call for Contributors
Show Chime is looking for volunteer contributors to help us cover the local music scene. Cover one show or become a regular contributor. Contact us at theshowchime@gmail.com to start the conversation.

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? Show Chime only happens because of people like you. We would love to hear from you! theshowchime@gmail.com

Anacortes Music Channel
Do you know about the Anacortes Music Channel? One great pool of Anacortes music just churning away—24/7! Tune in day and night at anacortesmusicproject.org.

Call for Band Bios
The AMP archive of Bands, Venues, Shows, Compilations, Events, and Players is just getting started! We are compiling photos, videos, and music, along with details of each artist/band. We need help from the community to build out this amazing resource. If you want to have your band included, just fill out our Archive Questionnaire!

Represent!

Here at AMP we have big plans for the future. In addition to the promotion, publication, and distribution of the SHOW CHIME music calendar, AMP is committed to creating events that feature 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 support amplifies the music and musicians of Anacortes.

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

Become an Amplifier!
Becoming a monthly donor is easy, you can scan this code with your phone and choose the amount you would like to contribute to AMP each month. Your donation helps us pay our musicians and artists, fund our events and festivals, offer AMP music camps, and move into an amazing new venue space for all to enjoy!

Stay in Anacortes
Coming to Anacortes for a show? Stay the night! Check out the range of options at Anacortes.org/stay

Thank You!
A huge thank you this month to our amazing AMP Fest sponsors; Ryan Walters, Bikespot, John L. Scott Real Estate, Schaffner Pharmacy, Pelican Bay Books, Karen Everett Real Estate, ACE Hardware Anacortes. Thank you to all of our bands, volunteers, for coming out to AMP Fest and making it a great day. Thank you to our monthly donors; Jessica Redman, Brenda Treadwell, Jenn White, and Jensen Lovelett! Thank you to our sponsoring businesses; Mugsy at The Red Snapper, Hal, Sheryl, and Erik at The Brown Lantern, Nick and Carolyn at Bikespot, Mark and Willy at Guemes Island General Store, Clay Christofferson at Farmstrong Brewing Company, Rick Star at Rockfish Bar and Grill, Barrett Community Caring Project, and the good folks at the Anacortes Food Coop. Thank you Manieri board, Chris Terrell, and Keith Eyer at How It Works. Thank you to Laurie Raciocit for editing and design. This October issue of Show Chime was printed by How It Works and made possible by a grant from the Anacortes Public Library Manieri Endowment. Getting the Show Chime to you each month is a community effort! This issue was written, edited, printed, distributed, and probably read on the traditional lands of Samish, Skagit, Swinomish, and Puget Sound Salish people. ■