March means go!

With the spring comes a new year. The earth knows when the new year starts. The bright nettles poke their little baby selves out from the brown leaves. You all know my spiel, right? This is the time of year we can call “new.”

Set your over-arching clocks straight, March is the first of the year! This is an anti-capitalist message for sure, we’re talking alignment with the spirit of the world, not the mind-controlled knee jerk of the consumerist culture. It’s our birthright as living animals of this world to let the winter be a time of dreaming.

If you’ve been dreaming of how you’re going to emerge into the year, don’t let what has happened already in “2023” taint your stance and trajectory. Let those first two months of January and February just be a free-fall and preparation as winter ought to be.

I’m rooting for you, Anacortes — especially you artists and musicians wanting to keep one foot on the beach and one foot out in the world. Reach out and connect with those imaginers around you. Pull into fruition the manifestations of your bright visions.

Crouch into position and then — Spring!
Here we are for another edition of meet the band! Floodlights & Fools is a five-piece indie rock group who took first place in this year’s Rock the Island show. They have great musical talent and take inspiration from local legends the Lonely Forest. I caught up with vocalist Ashlyn Solowey and rhythm guitarist Gibson Groenig to see how things have been since their triumphant performance.

Ashlyn: Only two of us, Gibson and Zach haven’t been in band. Me, Kellen, and Darren have been in band since middle school. Our band director, Mr. Dyel, has always influenced my love for music. It was pretty important to me to tell him about my singing. There was a solid array of groups who performed at Rock the Island. Outside of your group who was your favorite artist and why?

Gibson: That’s a very difficult question, but I think I’d say my favorites were Fully Funktioning and Metanoia since they’re all such talented people and they were very kind to everyone.

Ashlyn: Definitely Metanoia. Last year was an awesome show from them and I loved how this year, they brought it to us with a new perspective.

Singing in the shower yay or nay? If so, what’s your go-to tune?

Gibson: Yay, for sure. My go-to currently is probably Unforgiving Girl (She’s not an) by Car Seat Headrest since it’s nice to wake up to and get you pumped up for the day.

Ashlyn: I only sing in the shower when I’m home alone but it’s never a specific song every time. It’s usually a Lonely Forest song though.

What’s the best piece of advice you’ve ever been given that you might like to pass on to our readers here?

Gibson: Something that’s really been important for me throughout my life is just trying to find the light in the dark. Along with being grateful for the way things are turning out, because who knows how your life would be if even the smallest of details were different.

Ashlyn: Don’t be afraid. Find ways to face your fear. I used to have the biggest stage fright. In fact, I’ve only mostly conquered it this year. I still get extremely nervous and shaky, but somehow forcing myself to just sing for people has really helped. It’s tough to do that, I know. Sometimes it just happens and once you do it one time, you know you can do it again.

Thank you for having us!

Thanks again for taking the time to be featured in Show Chime! •
AMP Space
It’s Happening Now!

by Katie Williams

Well friends, AMP’s big dream has finally come to fruition. AMP is moving into a physical space. Ahem. May I please shout that from the rooftops? AMP IS MOVING INTO A PHYSICAL SPACE!!!! YAAA-MOTHER-JUMPIN-HOO!!!! We will be housed, along with the Anacortes Arts Festival and ACT Theatre, in Buxton’s, at 1904 Commercial Ave, a historical building that thankfully seems tailored for our organization and its needs.

This space has been longed for by our community, discussed over hours and hours of meetings by our board members and been present in the ever-steady buzz of excitement from our supporters asking, “When-oh-when will this happen?”. The time is now. Our magical, musical hub is taking form as I write these words. We are creating a haven where ALL are welcome to experiment, create, learn, play, and build friendships!

Other than being a welcoming and rad place to hang out and jam with friends, we will be hosting after-school rock camps, music-related workshops for teens and adults, toddler music time, music lessons for all-ages, family-friendly live shows and much, much more.

Our mission has always included being a steady force of creating culture and spaces of belonging for our community. Our headquarters will offer the opportunity to serve many more members of our small town and transform their needs into reality. Do you want a space for your punk-rock barber shop quartet to rehearse? Look no further. Have you always wanted to play in a band but not sure where to start? We are here for you! Stay tuned in March and April for the premiere of our event calendar, which may be viewed anacortesmusicproject.org, in Show Chime, and on Anacortes Music Project’s Facebook page.

The opportunities to get involved in this process are endless. If you think you have something to contribute (and we know you do!) and would like to give us financial support or volunteer as an educator, a mentor, a grant writer, a contractor, a painter, or a popsicle distributor, please reach out to anacortesmusicproject@gmail.com or come to our information night at Buxton’s on March 28th. We would love to see you and get you involved in all of the magic that is going down! •

AMP Community Meeting!

Do you want to get involved in the AMP Space project? We’d love to hear from you. Join us this month for a community meeting. We’ll talk about where this dream is heading and listen to your thoughts and ideas. All are welcome! You can also reach out to us directly at info@anacortesmusicproject.org.

Save the Date! At our new home in Buxton’s!
Tuesday, March 28, 6pm

Anacortes Musicians Around the World!

The Longhaulers are James Harper, Rob Carter, and Sommer Carter — Anacortes musical friends who collaborated to strum their way through Scotland this winter.

Photo courtesy of Martha Harper.

Geno “Juan-Ted” Lamphiear and Doug “Diego” Cassidy played at the San Pancho Music Festival in San Pancho, Mexico last month. Geno, an Anacortes rocker from way back when, helped grow this festival over the last 20 years to its current two stages and attendance over 600. Doug received his first bass lessons from Geno in Anacortes in the early ‘80s.

Photo courtesy of Doug Cassidy.
New Release
from Sword Fearn:
RED
RED is a wicked ballad of cringing regret and simmering anger, a tale of obsession and rejection. Infatuation is a fickle mistress, a sibling of delusion who will disappoint you. RED is a violently hammered piano on an empty stage; come all ye villainous lonely boys and girls.

Released February 14, 2023

Donor Spotlight:
Paul Tappa
by Andrew Velin

Paul Tappa was first introduced to Anacortes through classes that he took at the Shannon Point Marine Center while studying marine biology at Western Washington University. Years later he was playing keys in a band called The Pontoons, who began playing on Lopez Island in the early 2000s. Paul remembers how supportive the community was, how all the musicians & farmers would come out to see them play. The Pontoons (now more of a collective than a static band) still play Lopez Island a few times a year, at Vito’s and The Islander.

After living in a small farmhouse in the suburbs of Seattle, Paul and family realized they needed more room, which they found in Edmonds. Turns out the Edmonds school system has a robust jazz program and there is a respectable jazz scene where he got to see some of his own musical heroes as they toured through the state. However, one of the things he observed that was missing in Edmonds was a lack of accessibility. Folks can go out to a nice dinner, see some expensive art, and hear some professional jazz music, but there wasn’t a local scene happening, for any age group. This is what attracted Paul to AMP after he moved here last year. He feels like Anacortes is a community where local bands are forming organically, people are playing together. He says this about the Anacortes music scene: “there is a recognition that music can come from all different kinds of places, not just the formal structure of musical theory and piano lessons.” What AMP has to offer is exactly what he is looking for in terms of being involved in a living community of music makers and collaborators.

Paul donated two professional quality keyboards to AMP’s instrument lending library. We hope to incorporate them in our rock camp program and recording projects. One of the keyboards is a vintage analog organ synthesizer that simulates the sound of an electromechanical Hammond organ with a rotating Leslie speaker. This is sure to be an interesting texture for kids and adults to experiment with. Thank you Paul for supporting our vision and raising your hand to participate in our mission for local music!

Live Music Calendar
March 2023

Wednesday, March 1
6:00PM

Rockfish Grill
Whistle Lake Jazz Quartet
Jazz All Ages

Thursday, March 2
Brown Lantern
Open-Mic
Local Talent 21+

Friday, March 3

Joe Hall's<br>Manieri Jazz Walk<br>Hot Club<br>Jazz Ensemble<br>Dog Tail Swing<br>All Ages

Frida's<br>Manieri Jazz Walk<br>Newton's Lawn Trio<br>Jazz Fusion All Ages

Depot Arts Center<br>Manieri Jazz Walk<br>AHS Jazz Band & Groups<br>Student Talent All Ages

Brown Lantern<br>Manieri Jazz Walk<br>Deep River Blues<br>Acoustic Blues 21+

Rockfish Grill<br>Manieri Jazz Walk<br>Kelly Johnson<br>Jazz Vocalist All Ages

Pelican Bay Books<br>Manieri Jazz Walk<br>Susan Pascal<br>Vibraphone w/Trio All Ages

Saturday, March 4
6:00PM

Guemes Island General Store<br>Call Out For The Haul Out<br>Island Talent All Ages

Rockfish Grill<br>Cardova<br>Retro Soul All Ages

Wednesday, March 8

Rockfish Grill<br>Andre Ferante<br>Fusion Guitar All Ages

Lincoln Theater<br>Jonathan Richman w/Tommy Larkins<br>Songwriting Legend All Ages

Thursday, March 9
7:30PM

Farmstrong Brewing Co.<br>Brittany Collins<br>Soulful American All Ages

Lincoln Theater<br>Walter Trout<br>Blues Guitar All Ages

Brown Lantern<br>Tenderpille's Smile Aisle<br>Deep Cuts 21+

Saturday, March 11
7:00PM

Rockfish Grill<br>The Naughty Blokes<br>Rock n Roll All Ages

Brown Lantern<br>Tenderpille's Smile Aisle<br>Deep Cuts 21+

Sunday, March 12

Anacortes Public Library<br>Manieri Second Sunday Jazz<br>Stephanie Porter<br>Jazz Vocals All Ages

Thursday, March 16

Anacortes Public Library<br>Manieri Jazz Lecture Series<br>A History of Jazz Improvisation w/Michael Brockman All Ages

Brown Lantern<br>Open-Mic<br>Local Talent 21+

Friday, March 17

Brown Lantern<br>The Enthusiasts<br>w/The Long Haulers<br>Heartful Rock 21+

Saturday, March 18

Rockfish Grill<br>Cozmic Sauce<br>Funky Horns All Ages

Wednesday, March 22
6:00PM

Rockfish Grill<br>Fidalgo Swing<br>Django Inspired All Ages

Thursday, March 23
7:00PM

Brown Lantern<br>Open-Mic<br>Local Talent 21+

Friday, March 24
7:00PM

Croatian Cultural Center<br>William Laws and the Broadside<br>Ballads of the English Civil War<br>English Ballads All Ages

Saturday, March 25
7:00PM<br>Depot Arts Center<br>A'Town Big Band<br>Swing Dance All Ages

Rockfish Grill<br>Jimmy Mac All Stars<br>Blues Rock All Ages

Brown Lantern<br>Min Far<br>Psychedelic 21+

Monday, March 27<br>7:00PM

Lincoln Theater<br>John McCutcheon<br>Folk Virtuoso All Ages

Tuesday, March 28<br>9:00PM

Buxton's<br>AMP Community Meeting<br>All are welcome to attend! Come get involved! All Ages

Wednesday, March 29<br>9:00PM

Rockfish Grill<br>Pension King & The Dependents<br>Classic Rock All Ages

Thursday, March 30<br>7:00PM

Brown Lantern<br>Open-Mic<br>Local Talent 21+

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 theshowchime@gmail.com, by the 20th of each month, to be published in the following month’s edition.
Nate Ashley
A Chat About Anacortes Connections

Nate Ashley is a multi-instrumentalist, singer/songwriter, soundtrack composer, and graphic artist based in Portland, Oregon. He’s also a past roommate and collaborator of mine. His roots stretch northward through Olympia and Anacortes and out to Orcas Island where he grew up. I talked with Nate earlier this winter about his Anacortes connections and his current recording project.

KARL: What did you connect with in Anacortes during your time there?
NATE: Growing up on Orcas, Anacortes was the mainland — like the big city. I can remember taking a ferry and biking around and thinking “Anacortes is big!” Because of the size of it, there’s a richer musical and artistic community there — it’s larger but it’s been so supportive. And because of how fruitful the environment was, it actually spread to the San Juans. After What the Heck? Fest [a music festival in the late 90s-early 2000s] and Shipwreck Fest [the AMP festival that took over when What the Heck? Fest ended], Doe Bay Resort on Orcas had those pretty big music festivals and I feel like that was an extension of the popularity of What the Heck? Fest. For me there was always such a good, strong musical community and the combination of that with the feeling of Fidalgo Island — for me it was the perfect marriage. I could’ve stayed there if it wasn’t for the need to get out to make it work to have a career in music or art. I needed to go back to school, and it was hard to make that happen up there.

KARL: What projects have you worked on in Anacortes over the past 25 years.
NATE: All of Dead Lovers [Dead Lovers Benevolent Return, Nate’s horror soundtrack] was done there in the shed behind the house on 7th Street. That whole thing was done there and the end part of Darling I’m Your Devil [album, 2000] and the beginning of Darker Corners of Your Heart [album, 2003]. And then when I came back to Anacortes I was working on Liminal Sea [album, 2011] — did a big chunk of that there. I wanna say it was 2004.

KARL: What years were you on 7th Street?
NATE: Where Matter Lives [Nate’s first album] came out in ’99. I had finished it in Portland and then I moved up there. I had started Darling I’m Your Devil in Portland and then finished it up in…did I finish it in Anacortes?
KARL: We had the album release at the Brown.
NATE: Oh yeah. So I finished it up there. That was 2000, and then I did most of Dead Lovers there and then finished that when I moved to Olympia.

KARL: Who all lived at that house? Bill [Bill Cook of Spoonshine/Captain Fathom], Dave [Dave Matthies of The Gift Machine] and you and me, right?
NATE: That was so fun, all the music that was happening between us and all the instruments — probably mostly because of Dave — that was such a great opportunity to dive into a project like Dead Lovers because there was all this weird s*** that I never would have had access to. Dave had that crazy pump organ. His piano — I played that a lot on Dead Lovers and he had a moog that ended up on Darling I’m Your Devil.

KARL: It was a cool chapter of everyone sharing their tapes, like every week there’d be a lot of sharing of songs that were fresh out.

NATE: It felt like coming up there was an immediate jump — shifting up a few gears into music. Practicing for the California tour it was Phil’s songs [Phil Elverum of The Microphones], your songs, Dave’s songs — coming up there and learning like 30 songs. I still can’t believe we did that. They all felt good to me but I wonder how it was for the audience hearing four bands with the same lineup…

KARL: What about this current project you’re working on — the Spaghetti Western instrumental?
NATE: In the spring it’ll be two years, so it’s been a project! A lot of fun, but you know, not trying to hit any deadlines besides my self-imposed momentum deadline. I wanted to get it done by this summer but with the wedding it was just a little too much. I don’t know if you have that, but just if you slow down too much or lose steam — I mean I’m pretty good at finishing my projects but when they start dragging on you start to lose interest — it’s a dangerous spot to get to.

KARL: I’ve definitely left albums that I was like “no I can’t finish it” — the momentum wasn’t enough and the idea was fun when it started but I wasn’t feeling it anymore. The danger of not being excited about a project anymore.

NATE: Especially when you’re two years into it and you’re on the last part of a twelve-minute song and you’re like F***!

KARL: So that’s all you have left on the record? Wow! And that’s like a suite, right?
NATE: Yeah it’s pretty much all the themes, only a couple that it doesn’t have on the soundtrack. I think that’s actually part of the reason I lost steam — I just recorded the whole album, and now I’m gonna record it again. But in a truncated version, the themes are there, it’s not going through the whole song, it’s slightly different sounds and tempos and exploring more or differently. It’s been fun, I just need to push through so I can get the last. I think Koshalla Goodrich (vocalist) will really bring it to another level on some of these songs. So yeah, hopefully in the next couple months I’ll be done with it.

KARL: Where can people find your music?
NATE: All of my stuff’s on Bandcamp, plus my website — NC Ashley Design and Left-Handed Label. There’s a whole music part of it, all the albums are on there and if you go to each of the albums it’ll have a review and pictures from that time — I try to flesh out each of the albums a bit.

Listen at nateashley.bandcamp.com. Go to www.ncashleydesign.com to see all of Nate’s work in one place.
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 with a unique Anacortes connection. This month we have lyrics from AHS junior Ashlyn Soloway who is part of this year’s Rock the Island winning band, Floodlights & Fools: “The song is mainly about time moving too fast and not knowing what to do with what we have left. In the band, two members are graduating this year and the other three, including myself, are becoming seniors next school year. Essentially, we as kids are reaching adulthood too quickly and some of us don’t know what we want to do with our lives yet. It’s a song expressing our struggle with time running past us while we’re trying to walk. The initial idea was to make the song nostalgic. Even if we didn’t incorporate that idea in the lyrics, some felt that it was shown in the instrumental.”

Back in Time
by Ashlyn Solowey

These years have gone by so fast
Could’ve guessed it’d be like this
Almost nothing

Each day just rolls on by
And we all wonder why
We’re left here with little time

There’s nothing to change
Nothing to change the way
That time’s gone by

Everybody has their paths to follow
And I don’t have a road to go
But everyone seems to know that

It just takes some time
To get things right
But we’re running out of time
Wonder if we’ll get out alive

I’ll just wait until tomorrow
To see if I stand a chance
For what it’s worth

Against the things I’ve done
To ruin the light of my path
So miserably

But no matter where I go
This thing’s still haunting me
Obnoxiously

And no matter what I do
I don’t know where I’m going
But I know this thing’s true

It just takes some time
To get things right
To make it feel alright
We can’t go back in time
To make things right
Alright

It just takes some time
To get things right
But we’re running out of time
Wonder if we’ll get out alive

From March Cover Artist
Julianna Seligman

by Laurie Racicot

Julianna Seligman is a digital artist, energy intuitive, and jewelry designer from Anacortes who loves to travel to see new places, meet new people, and explore new perspectives. She attends Skagit Valley College, pursuing her education in Multimedia - Web Design with a focus on UX design. She loves painting and creating digital art that is infused with deep intention. Her business, Illumino Designs, offers radiant handmade earrings, necklaces as well as permanent jewelry. I spoke with her to learn more about her creative process and her Oracle Essence Portraits.

What is your connection to Anacortes?
I have lived in Anacortes for 25 years. Anacortes is one of the most beautiful places in the world. I feel so fortunate to have grown up in this area and community.

What inspired you to become an artist?
My mom has always been artistic and for a time that was her profession, selling her paintings in galleries. She always supported me to have creative outlets. I was very fortunate to be able to participate in the arts growing up. She inspired me to always have a creative outlet and to trust the process. I love to paint and every time I paint I can hear my mom’s voice " Julianna, every time I paint I reach at least one point where I hate what it looks like, I want to throw it out. But don’t, I trust and keep going. That’s the great thing about painting — you don’t like it, just paint over it!" I have always kept that motto in my creative process but also in life. When we reach a point where we “hate it,” remember to keep going, or take a break and come back to it. You can always change it. It very rarely has to be final.

When did you start making digital art?
I enrolled in a Photoshop class in 2021 at Skagit Valley College. For our final assignment, we could create anything we wanted using the tools we had learned in class. I decided to try to create an oracle card. Once I started the process I was immediately hooked. As a child, I loved creating collages; this digital art process felt similar and natural. I fell in love with the process and decided to make more cards. I wanted to merge my creativity with my background in energy work, this evolved into creating custom Oracle Essence Portraits.

How do you create an Oracle Essence Portrait?
I start with the portrait of the individual. Then I do an energy reading of them to better understand what core essences should I bring to light in the imagery. Then my process is similar to creating a collage. I will download an assortment of different photos that have different colors, textures, and backgrounds that I believe capture the essences I see/feel from the individual. Then I head over to Photoshop and that is where the magic happens. I do a lot of layering, cutting, and editing. The biggest aspect of my creative process is editing layers and trusting the intuitive process that what I am doing will end up with a finished image that is in alignment with the energy reading. Each portrait is unique and has many layers, all blending together to capture the essence, just like in life, we each have so many different layers to ourselves.

Tell us about this piece on the cover.
This Oracle Essence Portrait card is called “Cycles”. I created it for someone who was going through multiple big life changes. The essences that came through in this energy reading were trust, surrender, and transformation. She is very powerful yet elegant and soft. The flames represent the burning away of the old, and that sometimes we have to surrender to what needs to “burn” and trust in the process of transformation and change. We clear the way, to make room for what will be. The hummingbird represents that challenging times are ending and that the healing process is on its way. The moon is whole, even when we can only see part of it when it is in transition. We are no different than the moon, we always are going through transitions, and cycles, but regardless we are always whole, it is a reminder to trust in the timing of things.

Do you have any new creative projects or plans for the future?
In the future, I would love to create an oracle deck. Also, have an art show featuring the Oracle Essence Portraits on display. I

See more of Julianna’s work on Instagram at @illuminodesigns and @juliannain111. Find her jewelry for sale at Ink + Wool in Anacortes.
March 2023
Manieri Jazz Events

First Annual Jazz Walk

Johnny Piacasso
April 15, 8-10 p.m.
Digital String Trio
Hot Club Jazz Quintet
Brown Lantern
7-9 p.m.
Dorf Bluegrass Band
Dolby Blues Trio
Appalachia Blues, Rhythm, and Holidays
Friday's
6-9 p.m.
Newt's Live Trio
Jazz Fusion
Rockfish Grill
7-9 p.m.
Bucky Johnson Jazz Ensemble with Trix
Pelican Bar Books
7-9 p.m.
Susan Parrel
Videophone with Tim Sound
The Depot
7-9 p.m.
Anacortes High School Jazz
AHS Jazz Group

Second Sunday Jazz Concert
Stephanie Porter
Sunday, March 12, 2:00 PM
Join us for an afternoon of live jazz featuring Seattle native Stephanie Porter, a world-class jazz vocalist with a rare contra-alto range. She has toured and performed across the US and Europe and extensively in the Pacific Northwest. She has shared the stage with The Steve Miller Band, Michael McDonald, and Chaka Khan, among other greats. She is truly a favorite among jazz listeners and musicians everywhere.

This concert is LIVE and FREE for all. Sponsored by the Anacortes Public Library Manieri Endowment.

Live at the Anacortes Public Library

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!


Thank you Manieri board, Chris Terrell, and Keith Eyer at How it Works for putting us in print. Thank you to our March cover artist, Julianna Seligman. Thank you to Laurie Racicot for editing and design. This March 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.

Share the Local Music Love!

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 and night at anacortesmusicproject.org.

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