If you’ve been by the new AMP Space at Buxton’s then you know this – things are happening! The space is coming alive and people are coming out of the woodwork to be part of the dream.

Chance conversations and serendipitous collaborations are already happening. An impromptu jam session between a classically trained violist and a self-taught electric guitar player? Yes, please. An open-mic session providing the musical backdrop for a photo shoot with a class of young ballet dancers? Of course! A gaggle of kids learning how to restring guitars in the instrument lending library just because they happen to be hanging around after school one day? Yes!

This is the kind of artistic cross-pollination that has driven the vision for the AMP Space from the very beginning. These are the roots that have been feeding the dream since the Department of Safety and the Anacortes Music Channel. And this is just the beginning!

If you haven’t stopped by, what are you waiting for? We need you to join us! We are all here in this community creating our artistic culture together. Come help us fill out this space!

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An Album in the Works at the Unknown

by Rick Vance

Spring has sprung eternal and our friends The Enthusiasts are in the studio bringing their latest musical vision to life. I had the absolute pleasure of filling in on bass guitar for Doug Cassidy this past winter in The Enthusiasts and couldn’t have had more fun! This band is so vibrant and full of energy that it just seems natural that they’d be bringing the sunshine with them to the recording studio. I was able to catch up with my favorite singer, Sommer Carter, to dish on what’s happening with the album. Enjoy.

So rumor has it you’re in the studio possibly recording some new music, where are you guys recording and who’s engineering the album?
We’ve returned to The Unknown for the second time. Nich Wilber, the mastermind of sound engineering, is at the helm. We’ve also asked Pearl Tottenham to join us on production for this project. Pearl is a singer-songwriter who has returned to her roots in Anacortes after earning a Musical Studies degree at Evergreen College.

Is this session for a full length, or an EP? What album number will this be?
We are hoping for nine songs, maybe eight songs. I think that makes it an EP, but it might be over 45 minutes long, which makes it an LP. We’ll see!

This is The Enthusiasts’ second recording project, Andrew and Sommer’s third.

Do you all have a name for this release?
Yes. We are calling it To Rest A Field.

Have you learned anything from your last recording session that has made this experience smoother?
Ooh, one would think so. We went into this session with the band not knowing several of the songs. We are trying to keep the songs in simple form, which is a challenge with six instrumentalists. We started the project with more questions than answers, which is actually normal. However, having played together and recorded together, we are all more comfortable in the studio this time around.

When might we expect a release?
We hope to release a digital version this fall.

When and where can we next catch you guys live?
We are honored to play for The Friends of the Forest Spring Community Day on May 7th at The Depot! This is an annual all-ages event celebrating their forest education program. We’ll also make an appearance at AMP Prom on May 20th.

The AMP Space at Buxton’s is Open for Business!

AMP Space Open Hours
Mondays 2:30 - 5:30 pm
Fridays 2:30 - 8:30 pm
We now have drop-in hours! Stop by and hang out! These hours will expand as we settle into the space and grow our volunteer pool. If you would like to volunteer to keep our doors open longer, please get in touch!
info@anacortesmusicproject.org

All-ages Open Mic/Open Jam
Friday, May 12
7:00 - 9:00 pm
AMP’s Open Mic. Finally an open mic for all ages! Join us for a collaborative session at the new AMP Space. Kind. Chill. Free! Come hang out in our Sunshine Room — a soft place to land and get inspired!

Instrument Lending Library
Imagine being able to borrow musical instruments and equipment for free, right here in town. Our instrument lending library now lives at the new AMP Space!

Check out this beautiful new Fender acoustic guitar just donated to AMP by Bob Richardson and available for check-out today! Stop by the new space to check out the collection. Instrument donations always welcome!
Opportunities To Make Some Music!

**Song Writing Circle**
Unlock your creative potential and breathe life into your songs with our dynamic and engaging songwriting workshop! Whether you’re a budding songwriter looking to dip your toes into the music-making world or someone who started a song ages ago and longs to see it through, this weekly workshop is tailored for you.

Join a supportive community of like-minded individuals who share a passion for songwriting and come together to listen, collaborate, and offer feedback. Bring your ideas, projects and dreams to the table and let’s embark on an exciting musical journey together!

Don’t miss this opportunity to connect, create, and elevate your songwriting to a new level!

**Wednesdays starting April 26th**
7:00 - 8:00 pm

**AMP Camp**
AMP Camp is a week-long excursion into playing as a band, making friends, building confidence, exercising inclusivity, expanding creativity, and learning how to rock!

AMP Camp will be led by experienced local musicians Karl Blau and Pearl Tottenham, along with many other musical guests! With the instructors’ guidance, participants will form bands and create original songs to be performed live on the final day of camp.

Have a desire but no instrument? No worries! We will have guitars, basses, keyboards, microphones, and drums available to play. Please join us and bring your songs and creativity to life on stage!

This camp is designed for ages 12-18 and all levels of experience are welcome.

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Private Music Lessons at AMP!

The AMP Space is now available for hosting private music lessons! We have a growing number of talented instructors ready to help you hone your skills. If you are interested in lessons you can find more information on our website or reach out to the instructors directly. If you are a music instructor and would like to collaborate with us, please get in touch!

**KATHY MOORE**
Piano, Guitar, Bass, Vocals
206-240-1076  kathyelvis@hotmail.com

For nearly two decades, Seattle guitarist Kathy Moore has been a go-to guitarist with her talents ranging from rock to funk to jazz and country. She is a studio musician, arranger, multi-instrumentalist and teacher who performs in many theater projects, and Seattle bands. She has also played for theater productions at Fifth Avenue, Seattle Children’s Theater, ACT and more.

**PEARL TOTTENHAM**
All levels of voice, Beginner-intermediate guitar
360-853-3446  Pearljad99@gmail.com

Pearl Tottenham is a local singer songwriter, AMP program instructor, and classically trained vocalist with over 12 years of guitar experience, and a Bachelor of Arts degree from The Evergreen State College with with academic emphasis in music performance, history, and theory. Their teaching style is individualized and low stress, designed around the style of music each student is interested in; suitable for all ages.

**ALEX LOVECCHIO**
Drums, beginner-intermediate
720-754-7072

For nearly two decades, Seattle guitarist Kathy Moore has been a go-to guitarist with her talents ranging from rock to funk to jazz and country. She is a studio musician, arranger, multi-instrumentalist and teacher who performs in many theater projects, and Seattle bands. She has also played for theater productions at Fifth Avenue, Seattle Children’s Theater, ACT and more.

**DR. MICHAEL WHEATLEY**
Strings
513-515-5688  michael@microwaveatley.com

Active as a conductor and classical music educator, Maestro Wheatley is the Music Director and Conductor of Skagit Symphony. He has led professional orchestras on three continents, most recently in Poland, Russia, and Ukraine, and in the USA with the Rochester Philharmonic, the Fargo Moorhead Symphony Orchestra, Southern Illinois Music Festival, and the Cincinnati Chamber Opera. Dr. Wheatley is a frequent clinician and performs regularly as a violinist.
Live Music Calendar MAY 2023

Did we miss your event? We strive to publish all Anacortes music shows! You can help us out by sending information about your event to theshowchime@gmail.com by the 20th of each month.

Wednesday, May 3
Rockfish Grill
Whistle Lake Jazz Quartet
Local Jazz All Ages

Thursday, May 4
Farmstrong Brewery
Brittany Collins
Americana All Ages
The Brown Lantern
Open Mic
Local Talent 21+

Friday, May 5
Lincoln Theater
Cinco De Mayo Mariachi Show
Local Mariachi All Ages

Saturday, May 6
Anacortes Community Theater
Singin’ In The Rain
Musical Theater All Ages

Sunday, May 7
Depot Art Center
The Enthusiasts
Friends of the Forest
Community Day All Ages

Wednesday, May 10
Rockfish Grill
Newton’s Law
Jazz Fusion All Ages

Thursday, May 11
Anacortes Community Theater
Singin’ In The Rain
Musical Theater All Ages
The Brown Lantern
Open Mic
Local Talent 21+

May 19-21
ALL DAY
Maple Hall, La Conner
La Conner Guitar Festival
Vendors, Concerts, Luthiers

Friday, May 12
AMP Space at Buxton’s
Open Mic
Local Talent All Ages

Anacortes Community Theatre
Singin’ In The Rain
Musical Theater All Ages

Saturday, May 13
Guemes Island General Store
Nathaniel Talbot Electric Trio
Northwest Folk All Ages

Anacortes Community Theater
Singin’ In The Rain
Musical Theater All Ages

Sunday, May 14
Anacortes Public Library
Manieri Second Sunday Jazz
Silk Road Swing Band
Vintage Jazz All Ages

Anacortes Community Theater
Singin’ In The Rain
Musical Theater All Ages

Wednesday, May 17
Rockfish Grill
Christina Atteberry
Soulful Vocals All Ages

Thursday, May 18
Anacortes Public Library
Manieri Jazz Lecture Series
A History of the Vibraphone with Susan Pascal
All Ages

Anacortes Community Theater
Singin’ In The Rain
Musical Theater All Ages

Wednesday, May 20
Guemes Island General Store
Ebb Slack & Flood
Funky Groove All Ages
Art Center @ Buxton’s
Barefeet, The Enthusiasts,
Jack Mattingly, Randy Weeks
AMP Prom All Ages
Anacortes Senior Center
Manieri Swing Dance Series
Skagit Swings
Big Band Swing All Ages

Anacortes Community Theater
Singin’ In The Rain
Musical Theater All Ages

Rockfish Grill
Pacific Twang
Swangy Rock All Ages
Lincoln Theatre
Heart By Heart
Heart Tribute All Ages

Sunday, May 21
Anacortes Community Theater
Singin’ In The Rain
Musical Theater All Ages

Wednesday, May 24
Rockfish Grill
Mike Faast Trio w/Aaron Howell
Jazz Standards All Ages

Thursday, May 25
Anacortes Community Theater
Singin’ In The Rain
Musical Theater All Ages

The Brown Lantern
Open Mic
Local Talent 21+

Friday, May 26
Guemes Island General Store
Caleb Klauder & Reeb Willms
Underground Country All Ages

Anacortes Community Theater
Singin’ In The Rain
Musical Theater All Ages

Saturday, May 27
Anacortes Community Theater
Singin’ In The Rain
Musical Theater All Ages

Wednesday, May 31
Rockfish Grill
Pension King & The Dependents
Classic Rock All Ages
REFA + AMP

Equals More Artistic Opportunities for Area Youth

by the Board of the Rick Epting Foundation for the Arts

One of the most rewarding opportunities for groups like us who support the arts in Skagit County is the wide variety of organizations eager to work together to make great things happen. One recent example is the donation from the Rick Epting Foundation for the Arts (REFA) to the Anacortes Music Project’s instrument lending library for needy students in the area. REFA has partnered with the Lincoln Theatre and the cities of Anacortes and La Conner to put on shows of local and national musical artists which raise money to support school arts programs.

When people hear about our donations or happen upon one of our events, they often ask what REFA is and who Rick Epting was. We’re always happy to spread the word about what we do and why we do it.

Our primary work is to hold music and arts-based events to raise funds for our grant program, which has provided over $60,000 to local artists, schools and arts organizations over the last fifteen years. Plus we’ve given out fifteen scholarships to local high school students who plan to follow a degree in collegiate arts programs.

We got our start after the sad and sudden death in 2005 of our friend Rick Epting. He was a founding member of the Lincoln Theatre Center Foundation and the Skagit Performing Arts Council, served on the Washington State Arts Commission, and was the arts editor for the now-defunct Skagit Argus newspaper. Rick was instrumental in the restoration campaign for the Lincoln Theatre and the planning and organization for McIntyre Hall in Mount Vernon. Rick was a songwriter and proud supporter of arts groups and organizations in Skagit County until his death. His tireless work for the arts was the inspiration for creating this organization.

Here are some of the grants we’ve made that make us feel good and that we think Rick would be proud of: online ticketing and theater camp at the Lincoln Theatre; Skagit Poetry Foundation Poetry Festival; Skagit Community Band concerts; and the Mount Vernon Riverwalk summer concert series.

If you’d like to support REFA’s work and enjoy live music at the same time, this summer you’ll have opportunities in Anacortes, taking place at the Heart of Anacortes. The Heart of Anacortes Concert Series is held on Saturdays throughout the summer. All donations raised at the concerts collected by REFA go back into the local communities in the form of scholarships and grants to underserved children and local projects. One of the performances at the Heart of Anacortes annually is designated as the organization’s annual fundraiser. This year the event will take place August 19, with the Savage Blues Band performing.

Those looking for fun on the 4th of July can find it in La Conner with REFA’s annual event featuring food and fun for the whole family including live music and fireworks. This year opening band at the REFA sponsored 4th of July Concert in La Conner is Anacortes’s own The Enthusiasts.

“We have done the 4th of July concert for the last six years and raised over $10,000 to support the music and arts programs for the underserved kids of the La Conner District,” President Linda Lipke says. “Because of what the Rick Epting Foundation has done, all fifth grade students in La Conner can now have free music lessons and instruments. Last year, through the money we raised, we bought a kiln for the La Conner Art Department.”

Another rewarding aspect of our work is giving out grants to needy art and music programs providing more opportunities for all of our community to be involved in and experience the magic and power of the arts.

Want to help? One way is at our events. Another is by spreading the word about the Foundation. Donations can be made on our website or at our events. If you have experience writing grants there’s often a project you can help out with. Contact us at info@rickeptingfoundation.org. To find out about upcoming REFA events and how you can take part, visit www.rickeptingfoundation.org.
From May Cover Artist
Owen Racicot
by Laurie Racicot

Our cover artist this month was born in Anacortes and attended his first Shipwrecked Music Fest when he was one month old. He’s now almost seven and splits his time between Anacortes and Orcas Island. He is an avid Star Wars and LEGO fan who makes music and art on the side. He grudgingly agreed to be interviewed about his artwork.

Tell me about the artwork on the cover.
It’s a confetti clone — a clone trooper with a sound blaster and a confetti gun. Disco Wrecker is on the back. He’s carrying two disco balls and balancing a speaker on his head.

What inspired you to draw these?
Music and clones.

What kind of music do you like to listen to?
Rock music, that sort of thing.

You have a playlist of music, right? What songs are on your playlist right now?
“The Imperial March,” “Abandon Ship,” “We Will Rock You,” wait no, that’s not on there right now. “Thunder,” “My House,” and “Everything is Awesome.” “Everything is Awesome!” I heard from the LEGO movie and “My House” I heard from some of my friends and “Thunder” I heard from some of my friends and “Abandon Ship” I heard from another one of my friends. Yeah.

Do you listen to music when you draw?
No. I don’t usually do that. I listen to music in my room and with my friends.

What do you like about being in Anacortes?
My favorite place to go is Ship Cove because of the culvert there that I like to go in sometimes. I like the shows at Causland Park in the summer because of the rock music. It’s nice and I like it because you get to listen to a lot of different kinds of music and because of the trees and that sort of thing.

Do you know any musicians in Anacortes?
No. Oh yeah. Mr. Tom and Karl. And some other people.

Do you like to play music?
Yes. I have an electric guitar. It’s red and it has three strings. I’m done being interviewed now.

Verse/Chorus/Verse

Anyone who has ever gotten lost in 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. The band Your Heart Breaks has a new full-length album and this month we have lyrics from “Wesley Crusher,” the first single from that album. Here are lyricist Clyde Petersen’s thoughts on the song and it’s origins:

“Wesley Crusher” is an incoming transmission on a secure channel to some fictional characters that gave us something to hold onto in our darker days. When I was in junior high school, I loved watching Star Trek: The Next Generation. I adored the character of Wesley Crusher and identified with several of his plotlines where it seemed the universe had already chosen his path without his consent. He seemed trapped in life. I felt trapped in life and out of control. I desperately wanted him to beam me up to the Enterprise so we could be friends and do science experiments together.

There is a scene between Guinan and Wesley that always stuck with me. It’s from an episode called “The Child”. Wesley is in Ten Forward. He is staring out into space, lost in thought about his future. Guinan starts questioning him about what he sees out there. He replies with logical scientific names of stellar matter. Guinan asks again, pushing beyond the scientific, to matters of the heart. I loved the gentleness in which Guinan pushed Wesley to ask himself what he truly desired. Though I did not have an ancient alien guiding me through my youth (not that I know of at least), I felt a kinship with the character of Wesley Crusher and always appreciated these moments of self-reflection in popular culture. Thanks to Guinan, I learned to look beyond the logical and ask myself the same question. What did I see in my future?

For this song and music video, I am grateful to have some many talented collaborators and bandmates to both record and cosplay with. You’ll see Kimya Dawson (Moldy Peaches), Katherine Paul (Black Belt Eagle Scout), Karl Freske (Drowsy), Jacob Jaffe, Eli Moore and Ashley Eriksson (LAKE).

“Wesley Crusher” is the first single from The Wrack Line by Northwest band Your Heart Breaks, coming to you on July 7th from Kill Rock Stars.

Wesley Crusher
Lyrics by Clyde Petersen
Music by Your Heart Breaks featuring Kimya Dawson

I saw you staring into space trying to solve for an equation
What was E when mc squared was all your parent’s expectations?
When the cameras and the lights and the crew all fade away
We could see that Wil and Wesley, they were one in the same
Mr. Indigo child
Mr. Natural born nerd
Mr. Late nights in the lab
Mr. Screw the grading curve
Wesley Crusher, Child wonder
Wesley Crusher, Under pressure
Wesley Crusher, What’s your answer?
Down in southern California I was tapping on my TV
Sending signals through the static hoping that you might just hear me
Filtered through the subspace incoming transmissions
Past the cleverly disguised ceremonial rhythms
Mr. Lock onto my signal
Mr. One to beam aboard
Mr. Save me from my family
Dear Wesley, whatcha waiting for?
I saw you peering through the portal naming every constellation
You were looking for the logic in a fucked-up situation
Stuck between your true desires and your parent’s expectations
Lost in feelings of your future, trying to solve for the equation
**A Heartfelt Thank You**

**Dear AMP Community,**

For seven years, Anacortes Music Project has been gathering together folks of all ages and music of all kinds. We've made posters and baked goodies together; we've set up and put away chairs, stages, picnic blankets and twinkly lights together; we've hauled gear and hauled more gear together—all in order to enjoy our beautiful town, its music, and each other. This has always been a collaborative effort.

What a joy it was to see new and familiar faces at our new space on Community Night last month! AMP is thrilled to see our musical community growing! Because of you, we are building new programs and opportunities to welcome more folks into music making and support.

Thank you all for coming out! Thank you, specifically to our new monthly supporters. Thank you to those who showed up to help build out our space. And thank you to those who stepped up with an enthusiasm and willingness to volunteer as we head into the next part our journey—running a vibrant community space for music making!

Thank you for being a part of this fun work, this good work and for what is yet to come! Having a home base for this community to gather is right on time. If you haven’t been in to see us, come by! Check out what we’re offering! Join in!

**Sommer Carter**
AMP President

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**Thank You for Your Support of Local Music**

Here at AMP we have big plans for the future. In addition to the promotion, publication, and distribution of the Show Chime music zine, 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. 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! 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 keep our doors open!

**Stay in Anacortes**

Coming to Anacortes for a show? Stay the night! We are supported in part through Lodging Tax grants and every stay contributes to that. Check out the range of options at [Anacortes.org/stay](http://Anacortes.org/stay)

**Get in Touch!**

Do you want to be part of the fabulous Show Chime team? Show Chime only happens because of people like you. We would love to hear from you! [theshowchime@gmail.com](mailto:theshowchime@gmail.com) Are you interested in getting involved with AMP Space programs and events? Email us for opportunities! [info@anacortesmusicproject.org](mailto:info@anacortesmusicproject.org)

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**Partner Organizations:**
- Anacortes Arts Festival
- Fidalgo Dance Works
- Anacortes Community Theater
- Rick Epting Foundation for the Arts
- Manieri Jazz Endowment
- Burn the Box Creative

**Major Donors:**
- Barrett Community Caring Project
- Darren & Jennifer Lewis
- Woolsey Family Foundation

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- Sommer Carter
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- Brian Tottenham
- Ricky Vance
- Tristen Vail
- Todd Young
- Doug Cassidy
- Jenn White
- Jenny Heitzner
- Dad’s Diner
- ACE Hardware
- Salt & Vine

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- Beth Bell
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- Don Bird
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- Mark and Willie at Guemes Island General Store
- Clay Christofferson at Farmstrong Brewing Company
- Barrett Community Caring Project
- Ricky and Tristen at Total Home Services
- The good folks at the Anacortes Food Coop

**May Show Chime Team:**
- Laurie Racicot
- Rick Vance
- Clyde Petersen
- Dave White
- Nicole Conte-Anderson
- Owen Racicot
- Sommer Carter
- Clarity Miller
- Katie Williams
- REFA Board
- How It Works