



## *Business Spotlight—A Clean Carpet Company*

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Caleb Cate, owner of *A Clean Carpet Company* is a young man with over 15 years of experience cleaning carpets. He's local grown with a customer base that spans most of the counties in Western Washington, and he runs an intimate local company that can handle even the largest cleaning and repair jobs.

Caleb grew up in Coupeville and began cleaning carpets back in 1994, then decided to step out on his own when he bought *A Clean Carpet Company* in 2004. He kept the original owner's commitment to quality, which is expressed in the company's logo: "Excellence Beyond Expectation, Every time Since 1989." With Caleb's many years of experience, he can offer a range of services that most carpet companies simply can't handle, including tile and gout cleaning and water and flood restoration.

*A Clean Carpet Company* uses



hot water extraction, which is required by many carpet manufacturers for warranty protection. Carpet cleaning includes commercial vacuuming, spots and stains treated individually, use of non-damaging "green" cleaning solutions, and use of deep rotary procedures.

*A Clean Carpet Company* can handle residential and commercial jobs, including autos, boats, and motor homes. In addition to cleaning, *A Clean Carpet Company* offers services such as spot dyeing and carpet repairs.

With discounts for real estate agents and property management companies, and commercial clients, as well as special offers for residential customers, you can be assured of a great price, the best service, and an iron-clad guarantee.

Contact *A Clean Carpet Company* at 360-678-3249, 360-321-0585, or 800-710-8321. You can also e-mail [info@acleancarpet.com](mailto:info@acleancarpet.com). The company's web site is [www.acleancarpet.com](http://www.acleancarpet.com).

"Our business in life is not to get ahead of others, but to get ahead of ourselves -- to break our own records, to outstrip our yesterday by our today."  
— Stewart B. Johnson

"In the business world, the rear-view mirror is always clearer than the windshield."  
—Warren Buffet

"There is no elevator to success. You have to take the stairs."  
— Unknown

### *Victoria Clipper III Docks at Coupeville Wharf*

The Victoria Clipper III is docking at the Coupeville Wharf as part of their whale-watching package. People have about 90 minutes to shop and eat in downtown Coupeville. The Chamber is providing maps of where to shop and eat as well as visitor information. Upcoming dates include April 3, 11 and 23, 24, 28.



## Art School Sponsors Museum Visit

"The Michelangelo Exhibit was lovely and we were treated elegantly by the Art School"

Art School Sponsors Museum Visit Fourteen adventuresome souls boarded a private coach, and headed into Seattle for a day of art immersion under the sponsorship of the Pacific NorthWest Art School Thursday, January 21st. They visited two exhibitions at the Seattle Art Museum, the Calder sculpture exhibit and the Michelangelo exhibit, escorted by private docents and enjoyed lunch in the Museum restaurant and wine, cheese

and crackers on their way back home.

"The Michelangelo Exhibit was lovely and we were treated elegantly by the Art School" said Muriel Pickard, founding member of the art school. She urges those who could not attend this first Art Excursion, to consider a future one.

The next Art Excursion departed from the Pacific NorthWest Art School on February 24th with a destination of

the Tacoma Art Museum and Tacoma Glass Museum including a tour of the glass "hot shop."

The Pacific NorthWest Art School, the North West's premiere arts education school, is located at 15 N W Birch Street, Coupeville. Call (360) 678 3396 to find out what all the buzz is about.

## Art School off to Italy

The Pacific NorthWest Art School is expanding its curriculum—to Europe. In May 2010, the art school will host its first Art Expedition to Torgiano, Italy. Washington-based artists Alfred Currier and Anthony Turpin will lead up to 15 painters and their companions on an artistic journey to Umbria. This region, situated between Rome and Florence near the knee of "the boot," boasts gorgeous panoramas of vineyards, quaint villages and lush valleys laced with rivers.

"We are so excited to show this beautiful region to our students. It is rich in plein air and watercolor painting opportunities, from street scenes along Torgiano's cobblestone alleys to vistas of hillsides dotted with olive groves," says PNW Art School Director, Sue Symons.

Art instruction and painting will fill seven of the ten days the group is in Italy. In addition to demonstrations, group painting sessions and a final exhibition in the Torgiano

Town Gallery, students will receive two sessions of private, one-on-one mentoring from Currier or Turpin. offer this benefit.

Registration deadline is April 1st, 2010. For more information about the Painting Art Expedition to Italy or other Art Expeditions to Peru and Hawaii in 2011, contact the Pacific NorthWest Art School at [pacificnorthwestartschool.org](http://pacificnorthwestartschool.org).

## News Notes for Central Whidbey



Ranger Adam explains "interpretation" at the Ebey's 101 program.

### *New Ferry Named*

Expected to begin operation late this summer, the new Pt. Townsend-Keystone ferry has been named Chetzemoka, and is one of a new class of ferries designated Kwa-di Tabil, which means "little boat" in the Quileute language. The new ferry will carry 64 vehicles.

### *"Patients First" Passes 10 Year Mark*

Whidbey General Hospital's "Patients First" program recently passed the 10-year mark. The program is designed for employees to improve the patient's experience at WGH.

### *Ebey's Reserve 101*

About 55 people attended an Ebey's Reserve

101 presentation on March 18 at the Coupeville Rec Hall. The program was designed to help residents learn how to best introduce visitors and tourists to the unique National Park.

### *Piercy Named to Board*

Central Whidbey Chamber Board Member Don Piercy was recently elected to the Skagit Valley College Board of Trustees.

### *Sun and Wind provides power*

Whidbey Sun and Wind has installed a solar generating system at a building in Sedro-Woolley. The park information center will derive about 15% of its power from the system.

# Membership Renewals

Collections Boutique  
 Crockett Farm LLC  
 The Honey Bear  
 Compass Rose Bed & Breakfast  
 Whidbey Marketing  
 Horse Tales Nursery LLC  
 Keystone Cafe  
 Whidbey Island Center For The Arts  
 Coupeville Dental Clinic  
 Garden Isle Vacation Home  
 Harrington Lagoon Hideaway  
 Captain Whidbey Inn  
 Windjammer Gallery Ltd  
 CADA  
 Puget Sound Energy  
 Central Whidbey Island Fire & Rescue #5  
 Island County Assessor's Office

Angelie's Interiors & Gifts  
 Au Sable Institute  
 Coupeville Lodging Association  
 Anchorage Inn B & B  
 Calista Cottage  
 Coupeville Lodging Association  
 Branch Business Services  
 Dianna's Vinyasa Yoga  
 Habitat for Humanity of Island County  
 Soroptimist International of Coupeville  
 Eagle Aerie  
 Gary Leake Woodworking  
 Whidbey Dermatology  
 H & R Block  
 The Honey Bear  
 Kelleher Construction  
 Lind's Coupeville Pharmacy

A Clean Carpet Company  
 Greenbank Farm Management Group  
 Guest House Log Cottages Inc  
 Heidi's Coffee House  
 Branch Business Services  
 The Oystercatcher  
 Meerkerk Rhododendron Gardens  
 Corey Oil Company LLC  
 Christopher's on Whidbey LLP  
 Penn Cove Water Festival Assoc  
 Whidbey Marketing  
 Porter Stuurmans Insurance Inc  
 Toby's Tavern  
 Spinnaker Tea Garden B & B  
 One More Thing LLC  
 Pacific NorthWest Art School

# Welcome New Members

Cascade Insurance Agency, LLC.  
 Owner Shelli Trumbull  
 404 S. Main Street, Coupeville  
 360-678-6738  
 New office on South Main will be open soon. Please be sure to stop by and say hello!



Whidbey Marketplace & News  
 Weekly Event and News  
 Publication.  
 Owner Eric Marshall  
 390 NE Midway Blvd. # B203  
 Oak Harbor  
 360-682-2341  
 MinRef Press  
 Rick Lawler  
 360-929-7121  
 www.whidbeyphotos.com

Jenny's Place  
 Vacation Rental  
 1361 Penn Cove Road, Oak Harbor  
 Owner, Leslie Kelly  
 360-579-1263

**WHIDBEY NEWS-TIMES**

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## Mussel Hussel a Hit at MusselFest

The first annual Mussel Hussel drew an enthusiastic crowd in its first year. Participants had to visit a number of Coupeville locations, marked on a map, to answer questions.

Those with the most right answers in the quickest time won the top prizes. Everyone went away with a T-shirt, a calendar, or a poster, and a real sense

of accomplishment.

Assisting with the Mussel Hussel and providing general information were volunteers Hilary Bratton, Cathie Harrison, Board Member Marianne Johnson, Angelie Graham of Angelie's Interiors, Chamber Director Lynda Eccles and Rick Lawler.



Chamber Director Lynda Eccles and volunteer Hilary Bratton tally the results.

## Whidbey Reads 2010

Sno-Isle Libraries are proud to announce that Whidbey Reads 2010 will feature *All Roads Lead Me Back to You* by Kennedy Foster. Copies may be checked out at Clinton, Coupeville, Freeland, Langley and Oak Harbor Libraries, or purchased from independent booksellers. Whidbey Reads is an expansion of the idea of a book club. It offers all community members an opportunity to read and discuss the same book with a chance to meet the author. Kennedy Foster will be at the Oak Harbor Yacht Club on Tuesday, April 27 at 7:00 pm. She will be at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation in Freeland on Wednesday, April 28 at 7:00 pm. Books will be available for purchasing and autographing. The author will also meet with students at Oak Harbor High

School, Skagit Valley College and South Whidbey High School.

Whidbey Reads 2010 is a collaborative effort between Sno-Isle Libraries, the Friends of the Libraries groups, Humanities Washington, Skagit Valley Oak Harbor campus, the All Island Book Group, Best Western Harbor Plaza, Honeymoon Bay Coffee, Langley Motel and Whidbey Telecom.

This is a unique way to build community and encourage community members to read a book they might not select, and then meet people they might never meet elsewhere to discuss the book.

Kennedy Foster teaches at Walla Walla Community College. *All Roads Lead Me Back to You* is a beautifully

written book about a single woman rancher in the foothills of the Blue Mountains of Washington. She discovers a Mexican ranch hand working illegally in the United States in the snow, and she saves his life. Alice needs his help on the ranch and their relationship evolves from there. Foster brings ranching to life, and raises interesting questions about illegal immigration status.

## Investing Headlines Chamber Meeting

The speaker at the March 11, 2010 Chamber Meeting was William Schatz, CFP Vice President of Investments, Investment Advisor Representative & Certified Financial Planner with Elliott Cove Capital Management. He Partnered with Susan Medalia, Whidbey Island Bank's Private Banking Manager. The topic was "How to Make the Most of Investing in this Economic Climate." The meeting was sponsored by Whidbey Island Bank.



William Schatz, Chamber Speaker



360-678-2900

Hours  
7 am to 4 pm

Delivery 10-11 am  
On Front Street and  
Main Street  
And  
4-5 pm in Coupeville  
And Rolling Hills

12 Front Street  
Coupeville

## President's Message

I am Karen Haster, your 2010 Central Whidbey Chamber (CWCC) President. My company, Island Craftsman, LLC is a general contractor that specializes in new custom home construction, remodels and additions as well as outdoor living spaces. I am the Interior Design Planner and Coordinator.

Being in the building industry I know all to well that these are truly extraordinary economic times! I would like to take just a moment of your time to share with you some of the most important benefits I have found to being a chamber member.

The greatest benefits are the business networking opportunities provided when you take an active role in the Chamber by attending meetings, events and seminars. Members provide increased resources of information. Your participation can also bring referrals to your business from other Chamber members.

The 2010 CWCC Board of Directors and the Executive Director have already begun and will continue to work closely with our CWCC committees to insure that the Chamber is meeting your needs. We will be interacting with our local, county and state governmental agencies to insure that the economic needs of Central Whidbey businesses are met.

I strongly urge all of our members to buy local, buy Central Whidbey, buy chamber. We have so much to offer each other and our community; the CWCC Board will be working diligently to get your business out there and in the forefront!

If you are already a member, thank you for your continued support! If you are not a member, I encourage you to join our Chamber family by completing the membership form. There is strength in



numbers and we welcome the additional strength of your membership. If you have questions about renewing your membership or becoming a member, please contact our Executive Director, Lynda Eccles.

I look forward to seeing and visiting with each of you in the very near future at our member meetings, Chamber sponsored events as well as upcoming local events here in Central Whidbey. I am always just a phone call and/or email away, never hesitate to contact me with your ideas, questions or concerns. I am here to serve you!

Thank you for supporting the Central Whidbey Chamber of Commerce.

## Meet Your Board Members—Gary Taylor

Each issue of the Chamber Notes newsletter, we will briefly profile a member of the Central Whidbey Chamber Board of Directors.

This issue: Gary Taylor, Whidbey General Hospital

Gary Taylor represents Whidbey General Hospital on the Central Whidbey Chamber Board. He became a board member when the Chamber asked the hospital for a representative to serve on the board. We asked Gary some questions about the chamber and the Central Whidbey area.

CWCC: What do you think are the most significant challenges for business in Coupeville in the coming year?



Gary Taylor, WGHI

GT: Doing more with less. There are a lot of things you'd like to do but because of the economic situation, businesses need to focus on what they do best, get back to the basics and your profit center. You may not have the luxury of doing other things right now.

CWCC: What is your favorite local event?

GT: The Coupeville Arts and

Crafts Festival.  
CWCC: What one thing would you not want to see changed about Central Whidbey?

GT: I do not want a bridge from here to the mainland.

CWCC: How long have you lived on Whidbey Island?

GT: Since 1978.

CWCC: What do you enjoy most about Whidbey Island?

GT: You can live where other people vacation. We're five minutes to the beach, in 10 minutes you're on the water. You can camp overnight in a park. We have a temperate climate. People come from all over to stay here, and we live here.

### Central Whidbey Chamber Board of Directors

resident  
Karen Haster  
Island Craftsman LLC

Vice President  
Tom Tack  
EWA Inc

Secretary  
Lisa Bernhardt  
Pacific Northwest Art School

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Dawn Littlejohn  
Branch Business Services

Director  
Gary Taylor  
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Staff:  
Lynda Eccles  
Executive Director

Rick Lawler  
VIC Coordinator

### Chamber of Commerce Business Office

Hours of Operation:  
Mon-Fri—9 a.m. — 1 p.m.  
23 Front Street  
Mariner's Court  
Coupeville

"All lasting business is built on friendship."  
— Alfred A. Montapert

## Upcoming Conferences, Job Fair, Farm Activities

### Upcoming Coupeville Conferences

A little recognition goes a long way.... Over the next few months we will be having a number of people coming to Coupeville for Conferences. The first will be in April when the Navy Wives Club of America will be attending a conference at Camp Casey. On Sunday they will be dining and shopping in Coupeville so why not include a sign in your window that says "Welcome Navy Wives."

In May the Washington State Juvenile Detention Officers will be attending a conference in Coupeville. They will be staying in our local Inns and B&B's and shopping and dining in our town. More than 100 people will be in attendance. A Welcome sign in the window might make a difference to your business!

### WorkSource Whidbey Job Fair

The WorkSource Whidbey Job Fair will be held Thursday, May 6, 2010 from 12-4pm at The Elks Lodge, 155 NE Ernst Ave. in Oak Harbor. The deadline to reserve table space is April 22nd. Participation is free!

19 employers participated in the October 2009 Job Fair and 226 job seekers were looking for new employment. Employers will have the opportunity to meet applicants, hand out applications and/or interview on-site.

If you are an employer interested in meeting qualified potential employees, please contact WorkSource Whidbey at 360-675-5966 or email [ahallam@nwpic.bellingham.wa.us](mailto:ahallam@nwpic.bellingham.wa.us). For more information on WorkSource, or to see current job openings visit [www.go2worksource.biz](http://www.go2worksource.biz).

### Greenbank Farm Activities

First Friday at the Farm Wine & Art evening will take place Friday April 2nd from 5-8 pm with Guardian Cellars from Woodinville as the featured winery. Wine maker Jerry, a police officer by day, will talk about his quest for the perfect wine, via the forklift (it's a question you'll have to ask him about!). Visit the cheese shop for artisan cheese samples and goodies, tour the galleries and listen to music while you taste wines. All for \$10. per ticket, which supports the Farm programs. On Easter Sunday, April 4th, the Farm

will host the annual Easter Egg Hunt for kids. The event will be moved in the big old barn if it rains. Starting at 1 pm with the smaller toddlers, age groups will be set to stage every 10 minutes or so. There will be a limit on the number of eggs per youngster.

Volunteers to help stuff, hide and supervise are still needed. Call Virginia at 678-7171 to offer your assistance. For all the Farm events visit the website at [www.greenbankfarm.com](http://www.greenbankfarm.com) Come on down to the Farm!

Greenbank has a Relay for Life of South Whidbey team "Have a Greenbank Day" that welcomes anyone to join or to contribute toward.

The event is June 5th & 6th. Go to [www.relayforlifeofsouthwhidbey.org](http://www.relayforlifeofsouthwhidbey.org) for more information. Greenbank Farm is a sponsor for Relay for Life.

## Chamber Staff, Volunteers, and Visitor Center Hours of Operation

Phone: 360-678-5434  
23 Front Street (Mariners Court)  
P.O.Box 152, Coupeville, WA 98239

### Staff:

Lynda Eccles  
Executive Director  
Email: [director@centralwhidbeychamber.com](mailto:director@centralwhidbeychamber.com)

Rick Lawler  
Program/Visitor Center Coordinator  
email: [coordinator@centralwhidbeychamber.com](mailto:coordinator@centralwhidbeychamber.com)

Web site:  
[www.centralwhidbeychamber.com](http://www.centralwhidbeychamber.com)

### Volunteers:

Hillary Bratton  
Mary Beth Budzinski  
Karwin Driftmeyer  
David Eccles  
Lauren Gansermer  
Cathie Harrison  
Maxine Katz  
Carolyn Rutherford  
Karen Sayers  
Everett VanDerWende  
Karen Whelan  
Paul Whelan

### Visitor Information Center

#### Hours of Operation:

Monday-Friday: 10 a.m. — 3:30 p.m.

Saturday: 11 a.m. — 3 p.m.\*

Sunday 11 a.m. — 2 p.m.\*

\* Based on volunteer availability



If it's happening in Central Whidbey, it's happening here:

[www.centralwhidbeychamber.com](http://www.centralwhidbeychamber.com)

# Chamber Members: Your Assignment for March/ April

Your Assignment for the month of March: Stop by the Visitor Information Center in Mariner's Court.

All Central Whidbey Chamber members: Here is your assignment for the month of April.

Sometime during the month, you are tasked with stopping by the Visitor Information Center and saying "hello" to the volunteer on duty.

While you're at it, please bring by a nice supply of rack cards, brochures, or business cards for your business. Since our move to Mariner's Court, our visitor traffic has increased tremendously and we have a con-

stant need for materials to support your business.

While you're at the VIC, consider signing up to volunteer for a weekend shift (training provided) or as an on-call volunteer.

You can also bring by an item for the raffle drawing held at each of the monthly membership meetings.

Get more involved in your Chamber and see what wonderful things happen!

## Are You Getting Our E-News and Notes????

Please stop by, call, or e-mail us with your correct information.

Each week we send to you via e-mail our E-News that includes events and business activities as well as additional timely information. Once a month, we send you the Chamber Notes, a larger newsletter with photos and articles.

Our statistics show that only about one-third of Chamber members are even opening these e-mails.

If you are not receiving them, we may have an old or incorrect e-mail. Please stop by, call, or e-mail us with your correct information.

If you are receiving them, but have not been

reading them, please make a renewed commitment to do so. A lot of hard work goes into the production of these newsletters, and they often contain useful, even vital information, that you can use in the conduct of your business.

We are working on ways to simplify the process, including making the Central Whidbey Chamber web site more of a central location for this type of information.

Please make it a habit to visit the web site, provide us with information about your events and activities, and please open and read the e-mails sent by your Chamber.

Stay current on what's happening in Central Whidbey

[www.centralwhidbeychamber.com](http://www.centralwhidbeychamber.com)



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23 Front Street, Suite 8A  
PO Box 152  
Coupeville, WA 98239

Phone: 360-678-5434

Fax: 360-682-6439

Email: [coordinator@centralwhidbeychamber.com](mailto:coordinator@centralwhidbeychamber.com)

## Upcoming Events

### April

- 2 — First Friday at Greenbank Farm
- 3 — Soroptimist Easter Egg Hunt
- 3 — Coupeville Farmer's Market Opening
- 3 — Pacific Northwest Art School Workshops
- 3 — Victoria Clipper III docks at Coupeville
- 4 — Greenbank Farmer's Market opening
- 4 — Greenbank Farm Easter Egg Hunt
- 5 — Chamber Board Meeting
- 8 — Chamber Membership Meeting
- 8 — Soroptimist Whidbey Playhouse Opening
- 9 — "Cash on Delivery" opens, Whidbey Playhouse
- 10 — Gray Whale Watching Cruise
- 10-11 — Whidbey Weaver's Guild Spin in 2010
- 11 — Whidbey Island Marathon
- 11 — Victoria Clipper III docks at Coupeville
- 17 — Olga Symphony, South Whidbey High School
- 17-18 — Meerkerk Magical Festival of Flower Fairies
- 21 — Economic State of Washington, Useless Bay Golf & Country Club
- 23-24 — Victoria Clipper Docks at Coupeville
- 23-25 — Holland Happening, Oak Harbor
- 24-25 — Coupeville Garden Plant Sale, Rec Hall
- 29 — Victoria Clipper III docks at Coupeville

### May

- 7 — First Friday at Greenbank Farm
- 9 -- Mother's Day Concert, Meerkerk Gardens
- 22 -- Penn Cove Water Festival
- 29 -- Coupeville Annual Memorial Day Parade
- 29 -- Friends of Library Book Sale, Coupeville

"Your business could be here"

\$12 per issue

\$30 3 issues

\$60 6 issues

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