Meet the 2013 Herald community editorial board

Heather Hernandez
Publisher

Colette Weeks
Editor

Sharone Elander
Anacortes

Background: A Northwest native, former resident of La Conner and a lifelong com-

munity volunteer. Served on the Montesano school board, is active in non-

profits and has been involved in numerous issues in Anacortes, trained as a natu-

re writer.

Education: University of Washington.

Interest in the editorial board: “In the 30 years we’ve been here, there’s been

such explosive growth. I think the com-

munity needs to have healthy debates on how they want this county to go. There’s

such pressure on the Island and how it’s going to be used versus the development. I’m

interested in being a part of helping peo-

ple debate this and bring it to the fore.”

Andy Friedlander
Anacortes

Background: Retired in 2010 from Skagit Valley Col-

lege, where he ran the theater program for 30 years and still teaches part-time.

He plays in a bluegrass band and has an exhibit of his paintings at Cate Bulging.

Natives of New York City, Skagit Valley resident since 1964.

Education: Evergreen College and Yale University School of Drama.

Interest in the editorial board: “I really

have looked for, among the intellec-

tuals and writers who you have on your board, someone who will take the time to re-

… and try to bring some thoughtful pers-

pective concerning issues in the valley.”

Tom Heiderman
Cane Lake

Background: Retired journalism professor from Washington State University,

former journalist from Yak-

ima. In 1998, married with his wife, currently involved with Skagit 

Warden Support Services, which he has
taught classes.

Interest in the editorial board: “It comes naturally to want to be around a newpaper.”

Jane Rung
Mount Vernon

Background: Special education teacher at Little Moun-

tain Elementary.

Resident of Skagit Valley since 1996.

Education: University of Wisconsin.

Interest in the editorial board: “I’d like to stretch myself to be more open to a more thorough understanding of various points of view. I think it will be an oppor-

unity for me to be a bit more thoughtful … and to hear many sides of an issue.”

Jerry Wilkes
La Conner

Background: Owner and CEO of Bellingham Health Ser-

vices. Valley resident since 1966. Previously worked as a pharmacist in Sedro-Woolley as well as businesses in Mount Vernon. Former Sedro-Woolley city councilman.

Education: University of Washington.

Interest in the editorial board: “The

opinion page … and thoughtful com-

munications inform the community in a timely manner. I’m thrilled to be part of a

process that can thoughtfully educate the citizens and myself.”