WHAT’S NEW?!

Hilltop Street Fair Luncheon!

The Tacoma Tool Library is officially open at its new location in the Lincoln District. Although we will miss them here on Hilltop, we are happy that they were able to celebrate their first year anniversary recently.

The new Volunteer Coordinator, Megan, is helping them expand their amazing cohort of volunteers in order to best serve you and our Tacoma community. Please consider becoming a dual member/volunteer this year by attending our next Volunteer Orientation on Saturday, March 18th at 10 am.

The more volunteers we have, the more services we can provide to you and the community.
Hello All,

A famous author by the name of Charles Dickens once wrote “It was the best of times, and it was the worst of times”. We here on the hilltop are experiencing some of these types of duplicitous days. There are a number of workshops, products, and resources moving into the Hilltop for business growth. Councilman Keith Blocker is looking to work closer with the Hilltop Business Association to bring about a better working relationship with businesses that are encountering city red tape issues. My discussions with city council and staff are beginning to bring awareness for the need of a clearer path for businesses to open and generate revenue.

The Hilltop Business Association has planned a partnership with the city, state, federal, and private industries to bring a “Business to Business” workshop that will expose business owners to funding products, permit acquisition information, SBA loans, business banking instruction, and much more.

With so many good things on the horizon, there are still some things for business owners to watch out for. One in particular was sent to me in an email from the city of Tacoma entitled Scam Alert! The following is the information from Tacoma Public Utilities:

Local businesses in the Tacoma area have recently been targeted by scammers acting as representatives from Tacoma Public Utilities. We take the security of our customers very seriously and want you to be prepared if you are contacted by a scammer. Help protect yourself from payment scammers by understanding what types of scams are being run and what to do if you get a suspicious call about your bill.

What to watch for:

• Scammers posing as utility employees are contacting Tacoma Public Utilities customers mainly by phone.
• Scammers are threatening to shut off power if payments are not immediately made.
• Scammers are pressuring customers to obtain pre-paid credit cards or provide cash to make immediate payments.
• Scammers are targeting non- or limited-English speaking businesses.

Please visit our website MyTPU.org/scams for more information on what to look out for and what to do if you are contacted by a scammer.

Fellow business owners, in this tale of two cities stay vigilant and protect your investments. Great things are happening. Don’t give up. Keep going. Let’s get out there and make good fun and good business.

- All the best!

Anthony Steele

OFFICERS

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DISTRICT MANAGER: Mario Lorenz
HILLTOPPER EDITOR: Jennifer English
STREET FAIR PRODUCER: Mario Lorenz

If you have an event or would like to contribute to the Newsletter, please email Jennifer at: spuntacoma@gmail.com
OR
Mario at: marioslorenz@gmail.com

BOARD AND MEMBER MEETINGS

NEXT MEETING IS THURSDAY, APRIL 20TH AT 8AM

ALLEN AME CHURCH MEETING ROOM
1223 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR WAY, TACOMA

BOARD MEETINGS ARE HELD THE SECOND WEDNESDAY MONTHLY AT 4PM (SAME LOCATION)
WEDNESDAY - MARCH 29, 2017

Laugh your way through lunch! You won’t want to miss award winning comedian David Crowe who will entertain you at this very fun and meaningful event! Join your friends in the community as we support 48 years of care for the uninsured in our community!

FEATURING

David Crowe
Comedian

Hotel Murano - Bicentennial Pavilion
1320 Broadway Plaza/ Tacoma, WA
11:00 a.m. Registration
11:30 - 1:30 Lunch and Program

Reserve your seat today! Space is limited.
There is no cost to attend. Donations made at the luncheon will support health care for under-served individuals and families.

For more information or to RSVP visit us at www.lunchandlaughter.com, email us at info@lunchandlaughter.com or call 253-722-1552.

MEET SOAR ACADEMY!

Friend-raising Brunch

Saturday, March 25 at 10:30 AM
At SOAR Academy
2136 Martin Luther King Jr. Way
Tacoma, WA 98406

Hosted by the SOAR Academy Board of Directors

SOAR Academy, one of Washington’s first free, public charter schools, provides an innovative educational experience for youth in the Tacoma and surrounding areas. Through the use of data-informed instructional strategies, arts integration, and holistic student supports, SOAR Academy looks to close the opportunity gap experienced by students historically underserved by the traditional education system.

Please join us for a complimentary brunch to hear about our students and the work we do. We hope as you learn about the SOAR Academy community you will come to love it like we do. A request for voluntary donations to support our work will be made at the event.

To RSVP please email us at info@soaracademies.org or call (253) 444-6759.

In Memoriam Jerry Koski
- Long time employee and close friend of Mr. Mac passed away earlier this month.
- Koski was one of the most respected and admired buyers in the fashion industry during the 70s and 80s. His buying was copied by all the department store buyers for decades.
- Koski’s cutting edge taste level lead to the creation of several successful fashion manufactures, both in Seattle and Canada.
Pics from Red Elm Cafe’s Grand Opening

If you haven’t yet, be sure to stop by soon!

Featured Artists
Anj Cunningham @waterlilymoondust
http://waterlilymoondust.tumblr.com/

Joseph Brooks @weekendatbernie
JosephBrooksArt.com

Dave Bloomfield @Starheadboy
https://www.facebook.com/starheadboy/

Curtis Ashby @curtisashbyart
https://www.curtisashbyart.com/

Date: March 31st
Time: 7-10 PM
Location: Feast Arts Center - 1402 S. 11th Street
Tacoma, WA
After Party at 1111 at 10:10pm
FOOD TRUCK! Rain or Shine Pizza

Tickets are $20 at the door or $15 if you post about Lettuce on Facebook or Instagram with a #Lettuce253 or @Lettuce253 tag.
2017 Memberships

Don’t forget to send in your renewal!
If you have not received a renewal form, please contact Mario Lorenz
marioslorenz@gmail.com

HBA MANAGER’S REPORT

Get your green on and say happy happy to all your Leprechaun friends... and by the way we packed the room for the Street Fair Luncheon and even made some money!

Hilltop Business Association Mission: To promote, beautify, support revitalization, and advocate for Hilltop businesses and organizations

My Irish family came in the 1840’s, through New York and eventually to Minnesota where they remain today living in the Shadow of the Mayo Clinic. You’d think we would have a plethora of doctors in my family.

To my knowledge we have one dentist and one veterinarian. The rest of us are farmers, business managers, service people, with a couple of soldiers mixed in, and one Juggler. While my Irish ancestors practically crawled off the boat when they arrived with almost nothing in their possession other than their wits and their Irish Charm, my German ancestors were much better off, and traveled with steamer trunks. It is good that we celebrate our diversity and honor our background and the ancestors that got us here to this land of immigrants. We must remember that all of us are not immigrants. I think of two groups that fit this category; One is the Native population that was here from the start and includes the native American Indians and the Latino Community. Although I suppose it could be argued that they to were immigrants for they most likely came by crossing the Bering Strait. The second group is of course the Africans that were not immigrants but were abducted from their homes and brought as slaves.

The first nation peoples include the Native and Latino Cultures the second nation are the Europeans and the Africans that arrived at almost the same time. And the third nation are those that came next and are still coming to this day, I’m not sure it matters when we got here but it does make a difference in how we arrived.

Hilltop is where all cultures and all means of arrival are represented and I believe must be acknowledged in their own right. Until we can come to grips with the greater understanding of who we are as a culture and how diverse we are, we will have difficulty solidifying a vision for the Hilltop that makes sense and can live on beyond just a few years. It must be reflected in our architecture and in our celebratory practices.

I love my family and my Irish, English, Scottish, and German roots, but I dare say I am drawn to a place called Hilltop because of what I saw at the Street Fair Luncheon. A blend of several cultures all breaking bread together. When we can all see this in our vision and our practice, it will reflect a more balanced population in the market place and in the prisons. Why is it that when MLK was named a street in Tacoma it stopped being MLK at Division? Who made Division the dividing line? And how is it that MLK did not make it across the division? When we come to grips and have an answer to this question I believe there will begin to be balance and vision that will grow and prosper everyone in our district and we will truly embody “Unity Through Diversity.”

And Oh yes, please get your memberships in soon if you have not already done so. We are stronger when we are unified.

Mario Lorenz
HBA Manager

2017 Memberships
APRIL 8, 2017
TACOMA’S HILLTOP
CHERRY BLOSSOM FEST
& WINE WALK

FAMILY FEST IN PEOPLE’S PARK  11AM-5 PM
Join us at People’s Park for family activities with a Japanese theme: haiku poetry writing, origami, kite flying, picnics, entertainment, and a cherry blossom walk in the neighborhood. Great discounts at neighborhood businesses and restaurants are available throughout the day.

CHERRY BLOSSOM WINE WALK  4 PM-7PM
at Sponsoring Merchants—$ 25- get your tickets on line or at sponsoring merchants. Tickets $ 30 on April 8. Register and get your wine glass and entry stamp and passport at Marconi’s Chiropractic and Wellness Parking Lot, 1002 Martin Luther King Way.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Sponsorships/Booths
CONTACT: Frances Lorenz  (253) 363-2956
EMAIL: franceslorenz@gmail.com

SATURDAY, APRIL 8, 2017
FREE
Family Fest in People’s Park
S 9th & MLK Way
11:00 am-4 pm
*Cherry Blossom Walk
*Haiku  *Origami
*Kite Flying
*Entertainment
* Picnic

Festival Booklet with Discounts from Hilltop businesses

WINE WALK
4:00-7:00 PM
Register at Marconi’s Chiropractic & Wellness parking lot 1002 MLK Way
Tickets: $ 25 in advance; $ 30 on April 8

HILLTOP BUSINESS DISTRICT
PO Box 5293
Tacoma, WA 98415
Free WORKSHOP
Preparing for a Job Interview
Pierce County Administrative Center and Library
Center Meeting Rooms
3005 112th Street E., Tacoma, Wa
March 30, 2017  9:30 AM - 3:00 PM

Self evaluation and data collection
Bring your school and work history and we will help you evaluate your skills for today's jobs.

Writing your Résumé
Learn how to write your school and work history for the job you are applying to.

Searching for a job
Find out how to use today's resources for searching for a job.

Dressing for the interview
Get tips and help in how to dress for your interview.

Preparing for a successful Interview
Get help in preparing and practicing for your interview.

For more information call: 253 503 6213 or write to: martha.hernando@gmail.com or wrmclaim

Sponsored by:  Participants: