President’s Letter
By Daniel Smith

“Hey, it took one phone call”

This past Saturday was much like any other, busy. So, when Amy with Casual Comfort Futons and Mattresses pulled me aside to vent her frustration regarding the graffiti on the Clear Channel Billboard across the street from her establishment, I took it in stride. In other words, I placed addressing that particular issue on my to-do list for the following Monday.

The Safety Committee, Chaired by Casey Cowles, has done a great job addressing various safety aspects ranging from painted cross-walks to graffiti removal, and while there has been a huge reduction in graffiti thanks to their efforts, from time to time, it does pop up.

It’s typical in life to find some issues plagued with more bureaucracy than others, and thus requiring more time to complete. So, one can imagine my surprise when Amy excitedly escorted me outside my establishment the following week to proudly proclaim, while pointing at [continued on page 2]

District Manager’s Report
By Mario Lorenz

July 4, 2015

This is a day when freedom rings! Certainly freedom rings from Tacoma’s waterfront where all sorts of activities and shows help us celebrate, culminating in a fireworks show on the waterfront. We have so much to celebrate and to be grateful for throughout Tacoma and on Sixth Ave. In my line of focus there are two items directly affecting the Ave.

1.) The Epworth LeSourd Church: This facility is in a transformation stage and I am convinced that the Universe is conspiring through Tacoma Musical Playhouse to bring live theatre to the Ave. Should this transpire, it will bring people who will be shopping, eating, and celebrating on the Ave. This facility will provide the district with a meeting space on a regular basis and a space for events. As we have learned in Tacoma of late, no deal is done until it is done. This one is inching closer all the time. It is my hope to have a definitive announcement soon.

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President’s Letter [continued from page 1]

the billboard, that all it took, was one phone call.

One phone call and the graffiti was removed.

I think at times, it’s possible to feel as though various issues on 6th Ave are too daunting, too bureaucratic, and too time consuming to overcome. And so we never start; we never place that first phone call.

Let’s not be challenged by this idea. We are business owners and property owners on 6th Ave and we are exceptional. We get things done and this year has been yet another testament to that fact.

So, place that phone call to fight graffiti when you see it. Place a phone call to a committee chair to join their committee. Place a call to a board member to thank them for their efforts this year.

Because, in the words of Amy, “hey, it took one phone call.”

District Manager’s Report [continued from page 1]

2.) The District 3 City Council Candidate Forum that will take place on July 9th at 6 PM at Allen AME, 1223 MLK. Sixth Ave is the dividing line between two city council districts. Two city council members represent the Sixth Avenue Business District. Council Member Robert Thoms is our representative on the north side of the Ave and Lauren Walker is our representative from the south side of the Ave. Robert Thoms is not up for election this year but there are 7 candidates running for Lauren’s seat on the council. Lauren Walker was termed out.

A close connection with the city and its representatives is imperative for the success of any business district. The Forum scheduled for July 9th will pave the way for a follow up forum to be scheduled after the primary. The forum on the 9th will cover all seven of the district 3 candidates and begin to open the public discourse on the “15 Now” issue that is of great concern for everyone not only in district 3 but in the entire city of Tacoma. A follow up forum for the general election in November will be scheduled after the primary.

In conclusion I wish to thank all of those on the promotions committee who produced the Sixth Ave Brochure. I have heard nothing but praise for the publication. After a couple of refinements, we will order another printing. If you have not already done so, please get your membership in so we can further this incredible promotion of the Ave together.
Change on Sixth Avenue

If there is one common element on 6th Ave, it is change. Businesses come and go. Some start in one location and end up in another. Wedding Bell, Red Hot, Crescent Moon, and Tacoma Games are some examples of businesses who outgrew their original spaces and found more spacious real estate. Primo Grill moved to its new location last summer. Half Pint Pizza Pub is branching out with a brewery/bike shop, Sluggo’s. The Nearsighted Narwhal moved next door and gained more window area. House of Tattoo, Tacoma FrameMakers, and the Hawaiian Shop each moved into the shop one space down.

We’ve had new businesses move into and refurbish old spaces: Ice Cream Social, Brass Monkey Tattoo Company, Tacoma Bike, Mary Mart, Original Pancake House, Teslas’ Cellular Repair & Wholesale, Emerald Leaves, and Diamond Green (which is located on 12th, but is a business district member) are examples of stores that have reclaimed old spaces and made them fresh and vibrant. We have also seen various collectives and vape shops refurbish their spaces.

Recently, we have seen a number of businesses move out: Starbucks has left their long-time position at 6th and Pine, Annette B has closed shop, Baroque Salon has moved--and while they are still technically on Sixth, they are now closer to downtown, at 601 St. Helens. Satori will be moving by mid-June and relocating to 1734 Pacific Ave, next door to Sound Running. Even the Sixth Avenue Business District has moved out of its office space at the Real Estate Investment Services building and moved back into the core, currently using the Epworth LeSourd Church at 710 S. Anderson as its base.

I had a chance to talk to Lori White of Annette B last month, just a couple of days before she officially closed. In her opinion, Sixth Ave is a great place for bars and restaurants and places that cater toward the evening crowds, but thought it was a more difficult environment for shops and stores that depend on foot traffic during the day. Daytime drivers on Sixth Ave tend to be more focused on driving through. Lori would have liked a better streetscape and more pedestrian amenities that might make the Ave more attractive for the foot traffic that shops need. She found it difficult to cross the street during peak traffic hours. She also suggested that a more noticeable police presence on the Ave would help encourage more shoppers [continued on page 5]
US Open Effect on Sixth Avenue

The South Sound held the attention of the nation as the US Open played out at Chambers Bay in University Place June 18 through 21. Thousands of people came to the area for the event. We were curious if the US Open had any impact on Sixth Avenue businesses. I sent a poll out to our mailing list which includes 204 businesses. 62 of those businesses were obviously not Sixth Avenue businesses (the list included City of Tacoma, Tacoma Public Schools, banks, credit unions, businesses not located on the Ave, and some duplicates). That left about 142 businesses that could have responded. We got 14 responses, which is about 9.5% of the businesses. This may not be a statistically accurate representation of businesses, but the results are interesting nevertheless.

Below are the questions and responses.

About half of the respondents thought the US Open had a positive impact. About the same amount thought that they had an uptick in their business during that time.

The Tuesday and Wednesday before the Open as well as the first day of the event saw the greatest increase in business.

Only two of the businesses held sales specifically aimed at the US Open. One business actually supplied goods or services to the event. But, sadly, no one had any celebrity sightings during the event.

We did not get quite the number of responses that we were hoping for, but this poll does show that we are on the right track.

--Angie Lokotz
Sixth Avenue Changes
[continued from page 3]

to come out.

Diamond Sanger of Satori echoed some of Lori’s sentiments. She thought Pacific offered more daytime foot traffic and better visibility for her store, and she mentioned a number of clothing shops that have located there. Pacific Ave does have a more robust daytime crowd due in part to the University and the proximity to public transportation that the Link and various bus routes supply.

Some spots, like Pop’s Liquors, have remained vacant for some time. Stores have complained about the graffiti, the lack of police presence, the impatient drivers, and general lack of amenities for foot traffic. These are concerns that the Sixth Ave Board has been trying to address this year. We are working on new banners, better landscaping around our street trees, new crosswalks are coming in, and we are making progress with graffiti abatement (although when the taggers and graffiti crews come through, they tend to hit hard).

You can help by using your TacomaFirst311 app, contacting your City representatives, volunteering for a committee, and coming to meetings to make your voice heard. We are better together.

Story & Photos by Angie Lokotz

SIDEWALK SALE! 20% OFF EVERYTHING
Business Attire - Children’s - Household And MORE!

GRAND OPENING!
SATURDAY JUNE 13TH 10 – 6 P.M.
LIVES CHANGED THRIFT STORE
1601 6TH AVE – TACOMA - 98405
Survey: Tacoma Among "Expensive Cities" to do Business In

A new study has named Tacoma one of the 20 most expensive cities to do business in the Western United States.

The 20th annual Kosmont-Rose Institute Cost of Doing Business Survey — jointly presented by California real estate advisory group Kosmont Companies and Claremont McKenna College's Rose Institute of State and Local Government — compared business fees and a variety of tax rates from 305 cities in nine states (Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Texas, Utah and Washington). Tacoma is the lone South Sound city to make the "20 most expensive cities" list, joining larger metropolises like Los Angeles, Phoenix, Seattle, Portland and San Francisco.

According to the survey, a Tacoma business will pay $40,090 annually in general business taxes for its first $10,000,000 in receipts (0.004 x gross receipts, plus a $90 license fee).

Compare that to Federal Way and Kent, which both made the "20 least expensive cities" list. Federal Way has a $75 license fee with a $50 annual renewal, while Kent has a business license fee based on number of employees rather than gross receipts; a comparable firm with $100 or more employees would pay $717.50 per year.

Other Washington cities on the survey included Bellingham, which joined Seattle and Tacoma on the "most expensive" list; Spokane and Yakima, which were listed with Kent and Federal Way as "least expensive"; and Bellevue and Olympia, which the survey deemed "average cost" cities.

Newsletter Advertising Rates to Increase

Our experiment to offer advertising in the Sixth Avenue Business District newsletter have been successful. We are now able to afford a 12-page paper. We have gotten more contributors and are looking for regular guest columnists. To maintain these positive changes and continue to meet our expenses, the committee will announce a rate increase in the August issue, along with a more detailed advertising form.

We will still maintain a two-tier structure with members at half the non-member rate. Thanks for your patronage. Please send your stories and story ideas to angie.lokotz@gmail.com.

For the next month, our previous advertising rates remain:

Ad Size: Member, (Nonmember)
Bus. Card Size Ad/12 mo.: $100, ($250)

Sponsorships
Sponsor Printing Costs: $60
Sponsor Printing/12 mo: $620

People who want to advertise in the newsletter should send their camera-ready business cards (pdf, jpg, or png) to angie.lokotz@gmail.com.

Checks should be made out to: Sixth Avenue Business District Newsletter, 2802 6th Ave, Tacoma WA 98406

--Angie Lokotz
SABD General Meeting Minutes
6/9/15

New Location: Epworth LeSourd Church
Call to Order 9:03 am by Pres. Dan Smith

Introductions

Move to Approve Minutes | Casey Cowles/Robyn Liss | Approve

Treasurer’s Report | Pete Vanrosendael
$8506.05 in Savings
$4536.04 in Checking
$11,042.09 Total
62 paid members and the vendors who have paid so far
AoA is a bit over budget but within limits of scope

CLO Report | Don Stodola in Darren Skaanes absence
TPD cannot stress enough that fully 37.6% of all burglaries in 2014 involved an unlocked entry.
The comment period on the West End Alcohol Impact Area comment period continues until 7/15.
US Open is June 11-21. During this time we will see more cops on 6th Ave as a crime deterrent.
Question by Casey Cowles (Chair, Safety Committee): Hearing rumors that TPD is ignoring 6th Ave. Is that true? Not true, says CLO Stodola, as evidenced by the 6 officers assigned to the business district for US Open in addition to the off-duty officers hired by venues.

City Dept. of Economic Development Report | Kala Dralle
Paid Leave flyer distributed. Meeting at Tacoma Public Library Downtown Branch at 10:00 am, June 25
Also distributed Business Tax Amnesty Poster and Welcome, US Open Visitors Poster
US Open events will be taking place downtown Tacoma during its run.
June 28 - Proctor District will host Tacoma Critérium, State Championship. Age graded, all day event. Watch for traffic in that area.

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Committee Reports
Art on the Ave | Danno Rankin/James Tucker/Ondia Shapiro

Sponsorships are coming in:
- Emerald Queen (looking to commit at one of two levels)
- MultiCare
- Heineken
- Youngs Market Co
- North End Neighborhood Council & Central Neighborhood Council
- Diamond Green
- Goodwill Industries

112 Vendor applications so far
$30K+ projected income (James says online payment and donations buttons makes payments & collections so much easier this year)

$13,555 outlay so far which is about 1K over budget.
Asking to extend budget by $5000 to hire Sir Mix-A-Lot to close the event

Motion to increase AoA budget to $19,000 total assuming an Emerald Queen commitment | Cowles/Switzer | Pass.

Big Plans for AoA: filling dead areas (parking lots, etc. with live art projects); music acts are over by 5 acts; plan to have an opening kickoff with high school drumlines at each end of 6th Ave,

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“This Summer Explore Local Farms, Food and Fresh Ideas”
By Mason Durfee, TFC Member Engagement Coordinator

Last month Tacoma Food Co-op staff and community members had the opportunity to visit Wild Hare Organic Farm, located only 7 miles from the store. The next generation of farmers of Terry’s Berries, farmers Katie and Mark Green continue to grow organic vegetables, berries, herbs, apples and eggs on these 20 acres in the Puyallup River Valley. To say that we enjoyed our visit to their farm would be an understatement; besides sampling delicious food from the farm, we witnessed first hand the passion and hard work that the entire Wild Hare crew puts toward growing high quality produce that adheres to sustainable farming practices. Stop by 4520 River Road East to visit the farm, or find fresh eggs and vegetables from Wild Hare at the Co-op.

This month we will continue our summer farm visit series with a trip to Tahoma Farms in Orting, WA on Saturday, July 11th, from 2:00-4:00pm. Throughout the year, the Co-op produce department features Tahoma-grown produce, including root vegetables, rainbow chard, sugar snap peas, and sun chokes. During the visit we will look at the farm's facilities for post-harvest handling, and talk about food safety in the context of Tahoma's newly certified Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) farm/facility. Hope you can join us!

Mark your calendars for more Co-op community classes and events related to food and wellness happening in July! To register for a class or request accommodations please email Mason Durfee Member Engagement Coordinator (mason@tacomafoodcoop.com).

“Toxic Chemicals in Food: Health Impacts and How to Reduce Exposure ” lecture with Dr. Fran Solomon
When: July 8th, 7:00-8:30pm
Where: Evergreen Tacoma Campus, Lyceum Hall, 1210 6th Ave, Tacoma

“Cold Brew Methods and Tasting” with roaster Kevin McGlocklin
When: July 14th, 7:00-8:30pm
Where: Bluebeard Coffee Roasters, 2201 6th Ave, Tacoma

“Who Were Your Veggies' Parents?” with WSU Master Gardener John Valentine
When: July 21st, 7:00-8:30pm
Where: Center for Spiritual Living, 206 N J St, Tacoma

“Herbal Basics: Salves” with Kendra Varadi, proprietor K.V. Apothecary
When: July 29th, 7:00-8:30pm
Where: Center for Spiritual Living, 206 N J St, Tacoma
Art on the Ave is fast approaching! James and Peter need your help to make this year’s event a success!

Be careful not to run into any obstacles or you will have to return to the START. Good luck!

6th Ave

START

Mt. Rainbow Erupts!!

Wild Narwhal Attacks!!

Finisht

Christina Wheeler & Stanley Little Artworks of The Neocritical Narwhal
360X6 6th Ave Tacoma, WA theneocriticalnarwhal@gmail.com
Minutes of June [continued from page 9]

marching toward each other and meeting in the middle. Noise will gather crowds and create a buzz. As the event wears down, it will collapse toward the middle (the Jazzbones stage) making cleanup easier.

AoA writing up an AoA for Dummies book with all the “how to” information, making it easier for next year’s event.

AoA has achieved an Excellent rating with Tacoma Green Events. First time.

Loren Carillo is Volunteer Coordinator. He has commitments from 78 Lincoln kids, hopes to have 120 volunteers total.

Vendors won't know their locations until much closer to the event. Vendor check-in stations at each zone.

Promotions Committee | Robyn Liss

Brochure/Map is done (printing glitch caused middle to be printed upside down; reprints will arrive within the week); Robyn is taking suggestions for next reprint

Organizations Committee | Angie Lokotz

Next 6on6 is at Bluebeard Coffee August 6; Newsletter is paying for itself now with advertising and printing sponsors

Design Committee | Dan Smith & Al Switzer (in Julie Bennett’s absence)

Weed removal and Street Tree Landscaping - Al Switzer had a bid for $1500 to landscape 32 planter boxes and Street Trees on the Ave; Dan Smith and volunteers weeded and will have crushed rock installed for $900-$1000.

District Manager’s Report | Mario Lorenz

All our meetings will be held here: AoA, General Meetings, Board Meetings

Members can tour the church after meeting.

Mario will write letter to Methodist Conference to officially ask to use the building as our space.

Tacoma Musical Playhouse is interested in the building.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:06 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Angie Lokotz, South Sound Pano, Secretary

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Members 2015

- A+ Driving School, Latonya Gore & Sean Harris, 253-272-5869, 608 No. Oakes St., alusschool@hotmail.com
- Advanced Chiropractic, Dr. James Fletcher & Dana Clark, 253-906-3363, 606 So. State St.
- Asado, John Xiteco, 253-272-7770, 2810 Sixth Avenue, xfella@msn.com
- Brass Monkey Tattoo, Josh Miller, 253-589-0290, 2914 Sixth Ave., nakedjosh24@gmail.com
- Cannabis Club Collective, Jennifer Williams, 253-507-4725, 2706 Sixth Avenue, cannabiscoop@gmail.com
- Cascadia Well Being Center, Doug Taylor, 253-229-6928, 4133 Sixth Avenue, doug@cascadiawellbeing.com
- Constellation Art Gallery, Stella Maris Vera, Therese Tucker, 253-625-7107, 3013 Sixth Avenue, stellavera@comcast.net
- Crescent Moon Gifts, Angela Wehner, 253-572-8839, 2502 Sixth Avenue, cmgtacoma.com@aol.com
- Diamond Green Recreational, Malkit Singh, 253-301-3148, 4002 So. 12th St., diamondgreen@tacoma@gmail.com
- Dirty Oscars Annex, Alex Henderson, Alicia Boss, 253-572-0588, 2309 Sixth Avenue, info@dirtyoscarsannex.com, aliciaboss@gmail.com
- Engine House #9, John Xiteco, 253-272-3435, 611 No. Pine
- Epworth LeSourd United Methodist Church, Dave Parker, 253-370-6208, 3615 So. 10th St. printer-dave@nventure.com
- Evergreen State College Tacoma, Olga Inglebritson MPA, 253-680-3000, 1210 Sixth Avenue, inglibreo@evergreen.edu
- Gateway to India, C. J. Singh, 253-552-5022, 2603 Sixth Avenue, cjsingh72@hotmail.com
- Grant Center for the Expressive Arts, Dan McKeown, 253-861-2370, 1018 No. Prospect St., grantceaps@gmail.com
- Gray Law Firm, The, Judson Gray, 253-759-1141, 4142 Sixth Avenue, jgrayattorney@harborenet.com
- Green Kross, Kain Shakhirov, 206-267-0337, 3014 Sixth Avenue, logitechlink@gmail.com
- Goodwill, Sarah Butler, 253-341-3779, 5401 Sixth Avenue, sbutler@tacomagoodwill.org
- Hippie House, Justin Stiegitz & Sintha, 253-267-1708, 3109 Sixth Ave., Justin@thehippiehouse.biz
- House of Tattoo, Katie Williams, 253-274-8282, 2701 Sixth Ave
- Ice Cream Social, Layla Isaac, 253-372-1660, 2914 Sixth Ave #A, LAYLA@icecreamsocialtacoma.com
- Jon’s Barber Shop, Jon Tryfon, 253-752-5162, 3825 1/2 Sixth Avenue, jontryfon@yahoo.com

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Membership [continued from page 10]

- Kathleen Creso, 253-537-7565, 16015—16th Ave So., Spanaway 98387
- Laugh Masters, Mario Lorenz, 816 So. L St., 253-272-6622, marioslorenz@gmail.com
- Laundry Mart, Rose Mathe, 5401 Sixth Avenue, 253-752-6100, laundrymart@hotmail.com
- Lawn Equipment Repair, Al Switzer, 253-756-7459, 3519 1/2 Sixth Avenue, achristmaswish-es@gmail.com
- Legal Shield, Bill Connolly, 253-272-2924, 1321 No. 5th St., susanconnolly@sprintmail.com
- Lind Pest Control, Beth Lind, 253-503-1100, 4138 Sixth Avenue, info@lindpestcontrol.com
- Lives Changed Thrift Store, Loida J. Evans, 1601 Sixth Avenue, 253-632-2753, Turfpraise@gmail.com
- Mandelin’s Consignment, Rachael Kragelund, 253-301-3383, 2714 Sixth Avenue, mandelinconsignment@gmail.com
- Mary Mart, Noel Roberts, Damien Mdkvitt, 253 327 1675, 3005 6th Avenue Ste B, 253marymart@gmail.com
- MASA, John Xitco, 253-254-0560, 2811 Sixth Avenue, xfella@msn.com
- Minuteman Press, Casey Cowles, 253-474-9900, 2941 So. 38th St. Ste C, Ccowles@minutemanpress.com
- North End Neighborhood Council, 2522 No, Proctor #418, chair@nenc.org
- Northwest Costume, Tom & Mary Johnson, 253-383-4700, 2315 Sixth Avenue, tomjohnson5649@comcast.net
- O’Malley’s Irish Pub, Pat Mawhinney, Richard Jenning, 253-627-9403, 2403 Sixth Avenue, patmawhinney@comcast.net, COMMUNITY MEMBER
- Paul Reilly ND, 253-752-4544, 3620 Sixth Avenue
- Primo Grill, Jacqueline Plattner, 253-383-7000, 6th Avenue at OakesProctor Chiropractic, Dr, George P. Keogh & Leah, 253-756-7500, 3901 Sixth Avenue, health@proctorchiropractic.com
- Pure Body Shop, Brandy L. McDaniel LMP, 253-267-0367, 2501 Sixth Avenue, purebodyshopmassage@gmail.com
- Real Assets Property, Adam Simon, 206-686-6362, 270 Hanford St., Ste 205, Seattle WA 98134, asimon@realassetsps.com
- Real Estate Investment Services, Debbi Anderson, 253-752-9742, 4427 6th Ave Tacoma 98406, Debbia@reinvest.com
- Retrospect, Julie Bennett, 253-327-1399, 2709 Sixth Avenue, retrospecttacoma@icloud.com
- Shakabrah Java, Caesar & Tina Kalinosky, 253-572-2787, 2618 Sixth Ave., tina@dietoself.com
- Smart Reach Digital, Michelle H. Cote, 206-687-5598, 1101 No. Prospect, mcote@smartreachdigital.com
- South Sound Pano, Dan McCormack, Angie Lokotz, 253-228-2337, 704 No. Warner St., southsoundpano@gmail.com
- Starbucks, Jessica Hamilton, 253-272-1023, 2008 Sixth Avenue, S13916@retail.starbucks.com
- Sutton-McCann & Co., PS, Gordon Bower, 253-564-2217, 7320 Sixth Avenue Ste 2, admin@sutton-mccann.com
- Tacoma Bike, Mike Brown, 253-272-1351, 3010 Sixth Avenue, miker@tacomabike.com
- Tacoma Custom Jewelers, Dan Smith, 253-572-0508, info@tacomacustomjewelers.com
- Tacoma Farmers Market, Stacy Carden, 253-227-2054, 902 Market St., stacy@tacomafarmersmarket.com
- Tacoma Weekly, Marlene Carrillo, 253-534-6563, 2588 Pacific Highway E, Fife WA 98424, marlene@tacomaweekly.com
- Tandem, Ronnie Larson, 360-489-2171, 3019 Sixth Avenue, Suite B, bonniejeanlarson@gmail.com
- TAPCO Credit Union, Elizabeth Stewart, Bethany Neiman, 253-565-9895, 2802 Sixth Avenue, Elizabeth.Stewart@tapcocu.org, BethanyNeiman@Tapcucu.org
- Tesla’s Cellular Repair and Wholesale, Lindsay Godwin, 253-719-3799, 3518 Sixth Avenue Suite 102, Goodwin@wacellrepair.com
- North End Neighborhood Council, 2522 No, Proctor Ste 418, chair@nenc.org
- Turntable Treasures/House of Records, Peter W. Vanrosendaal, 253-272-9229, 608 No. Prospect, peter@turntabletreasures.com
- Ubiquitous Journey, Robyn Liss, 253-572-2550, 2607 Sixth Avenue, robyn@ubiquitousjourney.com
- University of Puget Sound, John Hickey, 1500 No. Warner #1027, 253-879-3203, hickey@ups.edu
- Vapor Café, Chris & Andrea Hendricks, 253-302-4985, 2802 Sixth Ave/., vaporcafe72@gmail.com