By Angela Jossy

Do you want to get involved with Art on the Ave?

Festivals are a fantastic way to connect with your community, show your support for local artists, meet new people and share your brand with thousands. If you want to get in on the action, 6th Avenue Business District's Annual Art on the Ave Festival has some spectacular options to share with you. This is your invitation to the inner circle.

You might have noticed our little festival growing year after year into the large regional draw that it is now. It is thanks to our generous partners that we have been able to achieve this growth, win awards and provide free entertainment to roughly 20,000 people every year.

Here are a few of the ways your company could get involved:

* Volunteers - Everything we do is people-powered. If you've got the time, we have some fun jobs for you and your group. Contact volunteers@artontheave.org to sign up.

* Vendor Applications - available at www.artontheave.org. Over 100 vendors participated last year and the feedback we received from them was superb. I highly recommend participating as a vendor. This is a great way to showcase your brand and meet new customers. Save money by signing up before the May 15th early bird deadline. Send your vendor related questions to vendors@artontheave.org

* Prize Donations - We have a number of games and awards to present during the festival. As we publicize these contests, your business will share in the limelight. Contact Angela.Jossy@Gmail.com for more information.

* Take out an ad in our event program - Our event program will be an insert into three local newspapers (Weekly Volcano, Fort Lewis Ranger and NW Airlifter) and distributed at the festival too. Prices start at just $200. Contact marioslorenz@gmail.com for more information.

* Promotional Partnership - We love our cash sponsors but many times the in-kind support can be just as valuable. We'd like to have a conversation with you to discover how we can help each other. Our media outreach power is spectacular this year. Contact Angela.Jossy@Gmail.com

[continued on page 4]
Minutes of April 8 General Meeting

Called to order at 9am

President Update

Spoke with City about various issues throughout the district – banners repainting light standards and garbage cans. Cost $10K to $12K for City to do it.

Gateway bike racks are moving forward – 2 years in the making.

CLO Report

Spoke with lead detective in homicide. Some leads, investigation moves forward.

Vehicle prowls are up considerably – spiked 84\% between March 17 and 23. Bystanders and business owners are encouraged to call when they see suspicious activity. No glaring graffiti is present – painting over within 72 hours request is in effect.

City/Economic Development

Reported that this was her last meeting – another staff member will take over and the District will be looked after.

Council Member – Robert Thoms

Spoke about his priorities for the City including more robust crosswalks and potential City charter review. Encouraged District to consider a BIA – as exists downtown. Also reported the City is looking into new technology for pot-hole repair and acknowledged it is a problem in Tacoma.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer was not in attendance but President reported the District has $10K in all accounts.

District Manager Report

Newsletter will come out again in May and articles were requested. The 6 on 6 events are reinvigorated and everyone is encouraged to attend.

General discussion about a BIA and more police officers occurred.

Meeting adjourned at 10:20am
My Answers to the Big Question
By Casey Cowles

During my time with SABD I’ve heard various versions of the question, “What does the district do for me?” especially when there is a question of monetary output. As a noncore business member I’m always a bit surprised to hear that objection to joining and or supporting the district so I wanted to offer my opinion on the benefits of the district. The short and simple answer is the SABD has helped bring events to the core while also working to improve its safety and image which leads to more potential customers visiting said core. The following are some of SABD’s accomplishments and plans along with the reasoning I’d use to argue SABD is providing value to our members.

Art on the Ave (AoA):

Anytime you can have over 10,000 people visit your neighborhood/district in a day is an opportunity to advertise your business. Per Microsoftbusinesshub.com, “There is still only one time-tested way to help ensure the success of your retail business. Get customers to walk through the door.” AoA brings over 10,000 of those customers to your sidewalk which is a unique opportunity to educate them on what you do the other 364 days of the year. Every business owner will have their own ideas on how to market but a few ideas would be utilizing window space, teaming up with a neighbor or neighbors to hire folks to pass out flyers, sponsoring your favorite local charity in a booth or any other way to be visible and deliver a clear message to all of those potential customers should do the trick. The key is finding a financially prudent way to deliver your message to as many of those people as you can; plain and simple that’s good business.

I’ve heard people say their customers don’t attend AoA and to me that’s a defeatist attitude. Nothing will convince me that in over 10,000 attendees there aren’t potential customers for each and every business in SABD’s core so it’s up to those businesses to take advantage of the flood of potential customers. Doing nothing will get you nothing but the opportunity is there to do something and help drive business through your door.

Advertising Subsidy Program:

This is pretty simple and I don’t believe requires much explanation or even the backing of a source. Basically there’s money available to help our members advertise. Advertising is good for business and should be budgeted into any good business plan. The SABD can help offset a tiny portion of that cost and allow our members to try a new advertising approach so the benefit there should be obvious.

The squeaky wheel gets the grease:

I’m no fan of government getting involved in our businesses and or our private lives but my opinion on that isn’t going to change the fact that they are involved and need to be managed to the best of our ability. Our monthly meetings are always attended by our TPD Community Liaison Officer, an employee of The City of Tacoma and the occasional local politician. What this does is give us the opportunity to be the squeaky wheel and get whatever help the City can offer. Our Community Liaison Officer has been instrumental in getting our new Safety Committee off the ground and using it to help address the problems with graffiti and car prowls while our interaction with city employees has helped provide guidance to make sure our actions aren’t going against the City’s codes.

Aesthetic Improvements:

It doesn’t take a genius to do a Google search and find a line like this one from dailyuw.com, “Customers often complain they are afraid to park their cars in the area because of the extreme graffiti.”

It also doesn’t take a genius to spend some time in the district’s core to see there’s a problem on 6th Ave with graffiti. The SABD has been instrumental in getting the graffiti removal program up and running and will continue to spearhead that effort. It’s a problem that will most likely never go away however it’s one we have already diminished and with a group effort can diminish further.

SABD has also improved the aesthetics by working with the city to bring more artistic bike racks and entry-way pieces on both the West and East boundaries of the district. Both of these projects are being forecasted to be finished by the end of the summer and will improve the overall feel of the district and make it a more appealing place to shop and dine.

Farmers’ Market, Day of the Dead and Other Events:

The Farmer’s Market and Day of the Dead are opportunities on a smaller scale than AoA to market your business to potential customers and should be treated as an opportunity and not a hindrance. Again I get to the point if you do nothing you should expect nothing where as if you [continued on page 4]
My Answers . . . [continued from page 3]

create a way to deliver a clear call to action you will drive business to your doors.

The gist of this article is I believe your view on the benefits the SABD offers is really a matter of the old glass half full or half empty adage. Take a look at all the SABD does and ask yourself how you can use that to promote your business. Do not give yourself the easy out of saying there is no way as that rational is rooted in a negative and will thus produce negative results. Look for a way or ways to make the opportunities the SABD provides into a positive and you will find them; I’ve been able to and my shop is 32 blocks south of SABD.

SABD Managers report
May 5, 2014

• Sixth Ave Cleanup Scheduled for May 24, 2014 from 9 AM to 1 PM
This is our annual clean up of the district and I encourage everyone to participate that can find an hour or more to help. This is a wonderful opportunity to participate in an event that will make the district better for all concerned.
For more information please contact Rachael Kragelund at Mandelin’s Consignment shop 253 301 3383 or give me a call at 253 921 1718

• Associated Ministries holds a ceremony: On the street just out side of Legendary Doughnuts where violence occurred last month, Associated Ministries under the leadership of Reverend Chris Morton reclaimed the location for positive energy and direction in the future. This a practice provided by Associated Ministries of Tacoma that is done anywhere in the city that a violent act results in a death. We are very appreciative of this service provided by Associated Ministries.

• 6th Ave Farmers Market: Please join us! Now open every Tuesday from 3 to 7 on 6th and Pine. Vendors include Gateway to India, Budha Bear Bagels, Terry’s Berries, Shen Zen Tea, Adams Mushrooms, Samba Baskets, Arista Pasta, Rolf’s Choice Salmon, Mid Life Crisis Farm, L’Arche Farm and Garden and many more. We gladly accept credit, debit & EBT at all of our markets. Buy Fresh – Buy Local! Stacy Carkomen

• Calendar of events on the Ave: I am still working on this for the district but need your help. Please submit information and I will get it in the newsletter. Please submit the information to me at Marioslorenz@gmail.com or Dave Parker at Printer-dave@nventure.com

• Tacoma Bike is now open: Look for an article on this incredible new business on the Ave in the June Newsletter

• Southern Comfort Restaurant: A new restaurant on the Ave that will be open soon!

In Love and Service,
Mario Lorenz
SABD Manager

President’s Letter [continued from page 1]

I took the one less traveled by,
And that has made all the difference”

Yes the Business District puts on Art On The Ave, schedules various social activities throughout the year, promotes individual business growth through collaborative efforts, is a voice for small business’ at the governmental level, is tasked with beautification efforts within the core boundaries, and on the list goes. But those aren’t reasons to pay for a membership, those are accolades.

Each year we have a choice between a list of goals that is readily accomplishable and those that take more effort (the road less traveled), and that is the answer to the question. As business, property owners, patrons, and residents of the Ave, we pay our memberships so that, together, we can define and venture down our own path, the one that we believe will make our association better.

Opportunity Knocks [continued from page 1]
to schedule a meeting. We’d like to tell you about all of the exciting festival features you could sponsor.

Please let us know if you’d like to be involved and let’s talk about how we can maximize exposure for your company in the process.

Thanks,
Angela Jossy
Art on the Ave Director
http://artontheave.org
When Mario gave me an assignment to write about the clothing shops and boutiques on 6th Avenue. I admit, I was stumped for a bit. Like many people, I thought of 6th Avenue as a place to eat or catch a band. I knew there were a couple of consignment stores, but boutiques? So, pen and paper in hand, I walked the Avenue. Little did I know the variety of merchandise, friendliness of personnel, and business savvy of the 6th Avenue Merchants.

The 6th Avenue merchants can help you look good for any style or occasion. They can outfit you for work or play, for date or prom. They will find you the perfect wedding gown or outfit you in a fashionable maternity style. You can find killer leather biker jackets or kinky leather fetish gear.

Whether your style is effortlessly chic, retro, contemporary, vintage or steampunk, you will find something to enhance your style here On the Ave. Some stores have only a retail storefront, some have extended their customer base by making use of online retail, either through their websites or Etsy, or with social media such as Facebook, Tumblr, or Instagram. Every retailer has a mission statement, a particular clientele, and a well-thought-out marketing scheme.

I found nine stores offering a wide variety of merchandise to write about, but there are three specialty stores as well: Northwest Costume, Aloha Oasis (some island apparel), and Recognition Plus that provides screenprint and embroidered sports apparel. Perhaps we'll cover these another day.

Annette B.
Apparel | Gifts | Maternity
2711 6th Avenue, Tacoma WA 98406
253-761-0984
Open Tues-Sat 11-5:30
www.annetteb.com
facebook.com/AnnetteB.Boutique

“A Unique Boutique”
Lori White, the pleasant owner, stocks cute, unique clothing at affordable prices, picked with a Tacoma clientele in mind.

Her store is tastefully decorated with an Anthropologie-like atmosphere and features effortlessly chic clothing that appeals to women ages 30 to 60.

Merchandise changes weekly, so you will want to stop in often for the newest casual fashions. Lori stocks a good selection of !it, Kut, and Mavi jeans which all do wonders for a woman’s body. Why spend more money at the mall when these jeans will fit you fabulously?

Her maternity section features comfortable styles to take you from work to casual, with a good selection of nursing bras and items to get you through your pregnancy effortlessly and stylishly. She also stocks the most adorable baby shower gifts: shoes, socks, blankets, and cute, unique onesies. Stop in just to look and say, “Aww.”

Even if you are not in the market for clothes today, stop in and pick up that perfect gift for a friend. You’ll find belts, jewelry, hats, bags, scarves, and more. She also stocks little items that make clothes fit better, like double-sided fashion tape.

Annette B. has been on the Avenue for five years, having moved here from its location at 21st and Alder.

As you can see in the following, there's something for everyone here on 6th Avenue. So, when you are in the market for clothing or gifts, start here, close to home before you head to the mall.  

By Angie Lokotz
Satori
2503 6th Avenue, Tacoma WA 98406
253-272-0910
Open Tues-Sat 11-7, Sunday 11-5
facebook.com/satoriboutique
pinterest: tacomasatori
instagram @satoriboutique
www.satori-boutique.com

Serving the Pacific Northwest girl at prices that allow her to discover her true style.

Diamond Sanger, the friendly, outgoing manager of Satori, really knows her stuff. She acts as a buyer, stylist, marketer, and window dresser for Satori. The store is brand new to 6th Avenue, having opened in November 2013.

Their target clientele is women, 25 to 40 who are looking for reasonably priced casual fashion and soft clothing. They stock several brands over all price points so that the customer rarely leaves empty handed. The clothes look effortless and the fit is fabulous.

You can find BB Dakota, Articles of Society, and Red23 clothes here as well as some accessories, shoes, and scarves. They have all new and made in U.S.A. clothing.

Stock changes every week and a half to two weeks. Diamond is always bringing in new merchandise, so stop by weekly to see what’s new.

The store has an easy, spare vibe; the dressing rooms are positioned in front of two comfortable leather chairs so you can model your choices and get your friends’ opinions.

Satori has a robust social media presence, but stop in. Check them out. You will look better for it.

Retrospect
Vintage Clothing Buy/Sell/Trade. New Items Daily!
2709 6th Avenue, Tacoma WA 98406
Open Sun-Fri 12-7, Closed Sat
facebook.com/retrospect.tacoma
Tumblr
Instagram
Website coming soon

Promoting Recycling and Sustainability

Julie Bennett, the owner of Retrospect has been On the Ave for a year. She is no stranger to the clothing business, having opened UrbanX-Change--now run by her daughter--downtown by the UW-T.

Retrospect takes its mission seriously: Providing quality curated vintage clothing made in the USA (wool, cotton) to the community at a reasonable price.

Julie operates on a buy/sell/trade model which is an alternative to consignment stores. She offers cash for clothing (same day); 30% cash or 50% store credit. This keeps her stock constantly updated. It
Retrospect [continued from previous page]

changes daily so stop in often to see what’s new. They have changing rooms so you can be assured the clothes you select will fit.

Retrospect offers clothing for men and women. Men can find cowboy boots, Doc Martens, Pendleton, and Levis for Men. Women can find everything from acid-wash denim to fur, Coach bags to vintage jewelry. This is a great store to find unique prom apparel and an excellent place for musicians and performers to find that perfect special outfit for their gigs. They even have a fine, vintage 70’s-era pimp suit hanging on the wall.

Julie holds end of season sales twice a year, but the items come and go quickly. Stop in to see what’s new, but also check out their social media pages for ideas on how you can create the latest outfits.

Mandelin’s Consignment

2714 6th Ave, Tacoma WA 98406
253-201-3383
Open 7 Days a Week. Mon-Sat 11-6 (11-7 in Summer), Sunday 11-3
10% Discount for Students & Military

www.mandelins.com
facebook.com/mandelins

“Fashion recycling for men and women”

When you walk in to Mandelin’s you will be pleasantly surprised by the size of the store, the amount and variety of inventory, and the friendliness of the staff. True to their slogan, you will find an amazing selection of clothing and accessories for men and women.

Mandelin’s has been in its location almost two years. The owner, Rachael Kragelund, took over the location that was occupied by an old 6th Avenue staple, the Letterman’s Club, and after an extensive remodel, she carved out a great space to show off her wares.

She describes the shop as consignment only, with a constantly changing inventory that is updated according to the season and even for special events from Burning Man to Halloween.

She says the staff loves to help put together outfits for special occasions, so if you’re looking for a unique look or style, you could find everything you need right there, from jewelry to bags and belts, and even shoes.

It’s her mission to clothe anyone, no matter their size or age or gender. They specialize in one-of-a-kind items so you can find something that fits your own style. They encourage you to try on your items to be certain they fit.

Keep up with what’s new in the shop by Liking their facebook page.

Rachel is the 6th Avenue Business District Vice President and happy to be On the Ave.

Mandelin’s takes in consignment Mon-Saturday from 11am to 4pm.

[continued on next page]
Vanity Boutique
3701 6th Avenue, Tacoma WA 98406
(253) 876-4400
Open seven days a week! Mon-Thu 12-6, Fri 12-7, Sat-Sun 12-6
https://www.etsy.com/shop/melsvanity?ref=em
https://www.facebook.com/vanityfashion

Melanie Peterson, the owner, was in the middle of setting up a model shoot when I stopped in to interview her. She was friendly and helpful and didn’t miss a beat as she generously gave me her contact info. The model was thin and lovely with white hair and fierce eyebrows.

Vanity is a resale boutique that specializes in vintage wear with an eclectic mix of newer resale items. They also buy & trade!
The shop is small, intimate, and beautiful. A cordial stylish girl with perfect eyebrows was at the counter. She described their clientele as a 30-ish woman looking for unique, mostly more formal apparel.

Girls looking for truly unique prom dresses may have good luck here. They also have a selection of vintage jewelry to complement your outfit.

The woman who shops at Vanity will stand out at any occasion. Their vintage clothing is beautiful and carefully curated. And the price tags feature classic Varga girls.

Vanity is located in a strip mall; plenty of parking, yet a convenient walk down the Ave.

These photos came from their facebook page. They also have a robust etsy presence.

The Wedding Bell
Bridal Gowns - Bridal Party - Tuxedos - Accessories - Special Occasion - Alterations
2609 6th Avenue, Tacoma WA 98406
253-759-2513
Open Mon 9:30-6:30, Tues-Wed-Thur 9:30-7, Fri-Sat 9:30-6:30, Sun 11-5
http://theweddingbell.com/
https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Wedding-Bell

Unique, Quality Gowns - Pampered and Intimate Experience - Exceptional Value

It is The Wedding Bell’s mission to put their dedicated team to work to help you find the PERFECT dress for your special day! In fact, Kimberly Miller, the store owner, wants to know immediately if your visit to the store is anything less than exceptional and will give you her personal phone number and email to guarantee your satisfaction.

The staff was busy, but super friendly and helpful on both occasions that I stopped in. Brides were modeling dresses, alterations were being discussed (alterations are performed onsite), and girls were coming in to pick their perfect prom dress, but the staff generously took the time to show me around and show off their new store.

Bridal gowns and accessories occupy the first floor. The Wedding Bell has the largest selection of [continued on page 11]
2013 Members

- 6th Avenue Photography, Vanessa Vancuren, 253-503-7611, 2506 Sixth Avenue
- A+ Driving School, Martin and Linda Kongsli, 253-272-5869, 2703 Sixth Avenue
- Advanced Chiropractic, James and Dana Fletcher, 253-906-3663
- Annette B, Doreen Jensen, Boris Kogan, 253-761-0984, 2711 Sixth Avenue
- Asado, John Xitco, 253-272-7770, 2810 Sixth Avenue
- Blush Beauty & Organic Spa, Lilah Pearson, 253-302-5904
- Bronage Tanning, Lynsey Joudch, 253-759-3444, 3518 Sixth Avenue, Suite 102
- Marlene Carillo, Tacoma Weekly, 253-922-5317, 151 So. 46th St.
- Casual Comfort, Amy Byrn, 3019 Sixth Ave Ste A, 253-302-4648
- City Central Church, Jennifer Hollins, 253-404-0177, 2520 Sixth Avenue
- Commencement Bay Veterinarian, Dr. Karen Comer, 253-475-5301, 3511 Sixth Avenue
- Commencement Financial, Troy Sapp CPP, 253-820-6432, 611 No. Fife St.
- Connect Realty, Christopher List, 253-219-3041, 3407 So. 7th St.
- Constellation Art Gallery, Stella Maris Vera, Therese Tucker, 253-625-7107, 3013 Sixth Avenue Ste B
- Crown Bar, Jacqueline Platner, 253-272-4177, 2705 Sixth Avenue
- Dirty Oscar’s Annex, Jake Barth, 253-572-0588, 2309 Sixth Ave
- Edward Jones Investments, 759-4136, 3813 Sixth Ave
- Engine House #9, John Xitco, 272-3435, 611 No. Pine
- Farley’s Flowers, Alton Larson, 253-627-7161, 1620 Sixth Avenue
- Farelli’s Wood Fire Pizza, 759-1999, 3518 Sixth Avenue
- Fedlay, Nick, 360-507-7001, PO Box 3336, Lacey WA 98509
- Forward, Inc.,
- Gateway to India, C.J. Singh, 552-5022, 2603 Sixth Avenue
- Grateful Goods, Tracy Saxton
- Gray Lumber Co., Steve Gray, 752-7000, 3800 Sixth Ave
- Marta Gronlund, 253-448-8282, 614 So. Oakes St.
- High Maintenance Spa, Su & Ehrin
- Ice Cream Social, Layla Isaac
- Its Amore’, Art Britton, Linda Greer
- Jason Lee Middle School, Kelli Johnson, 253-383-8725, 602 No. Sprague Ave.
- Jazzbones, Daniel Rankin, 253-396-1969, 2803 Sixth Avenue
- Laughter Masters, Mario Lorenz, 816 So. L St., 253-272-6622
- Legal Shield, Bill Connolly, 253-272-2924, 1321 No. 5th St.
- Legendary Doughnuts, Shannon Patton, Lizz Mayz Furniture, Jennifer Gintz
- Michele Malec, 272-6336, 710 So. Fife St.
- Mandelin’s Consignment, Rachael Kragelund, 253-301-3383, 2714 Sixth Avenue
- Masa, John Xitco, 253-254-0560, 2811 Sixth Avenue
- Medi’s, 2710 Sixth Avenue
- Minuteman Press, Casey Cowles, 253-474-9900, 2941 So. 38th St. Ste C
- Northwest Costume, Tom & Mary Johnson, 253-383-4700, 2315 Sixth Avenue
- O’Malley’s Irish Pub, Pat Mowhinney, 627-9403, 2403 Sixth Ave
- Pop’s Liquor Store, 2805 Sixth Avenue
- Primo Grill, Jacqueline Platner, 253-383-7000, 601 So. Pine St.
- Retrospect, Emily & James Jenkins, 253-327-1399, 2709 Sixth Ave
- Sandhana-Karana Yoga, Pamela Higley, 253-254-6167, 3014 Sixth Avenue
- Six Olives, Eve Adams, 272-5574, 2708 Sixth Ave
- Sixth Avenue Farmers Market, Jamie, 253-272-7077, P.O. Box 707, Tacoma 98401
- Starbucks, Janelle Graciano, 253-572-9525, 601 So. Pine Ste 100
- Starbucks, Jessica Hamilton, 253-272-1023, 2008 Sixth Avenue
- Studio 6 Ballroom, Wes Rogers, Natasha Thayer, 253-905-5301, 2608 Sixth Avenue
- Tacoma Custom Jewelers, Dan & Shelly Smith, 253-572-0508, 3013 Sixth Avenue Ste A
- TAPCO Credit Union, Bethany Neiman, 253-565-9895, 2802 Sixth Avenue
- The Travel Company, Mary Jo Strom Copeland, 253-564-8189, 2522 No. Proctor Ste 153
- Ubiquitous Journey, Robyn Liss, 253-572-2550
- Urban Alchemy, Stella Maris Vera
- Wild Orchid, Lin Po An, 627-5889, 3023 Sixth Avenue

New or Renewed for 2014

- Ace Remodel, Kelly Jecs, 206-856-0745, 325 Washington Ave So., Suite 174, Kent WA 98032
- Center for Spiritual Living, Rev. Frances Lorenz, 253-383-3151, 206 No. J St.
- City of Destiny Float, Marca Ouida, 253-792-9735, 406 Ea. 26th St.
- Connect Realty, Christopher List, 253-219-3041, 3407 So. 7th St.
- Constellation Art Gallery, Stella Maris Vera, Therese Tucker, 253-625-7107, 3013 6th Avenue Ste B
- Creatively Unique Gifts, Joan Johnson, 253-383-4438, 3009 Sixth Avenue
- Epworth LeSourd United Methodist Church, Dave Parker, 253-370-6208, 710 So. Anderson St.
- Fedlay, Nick, Feedlay, P.O. Box 3336, 360-507-7001, Lacey WA 98509
- Gateway to India, C. J. Singh, 253-552-5022, 2603 Sixth Avenue
- Gray Law Firm, The, Judson Gray, 253-759-1141, 4142 Sixth Avenue
- Gray Lumber Co., Steve Gray, 253-752-7000, 3800 Sixth Ave.
- Health Connection, The, Jenny Schwartz, 253-396-1000, 601 So. Pine St, Suite 201
- Jason Lee Middle School, Kelli Johnston/Mary Boone, 253-571-7755, 602 No. Sprague Ave.
- Jazzbones, Daniel Rankin, 253-396-1969, 2803 Sixth Avenue
- Just Loving Care Farm, Jeff & Lisa Breiner, 253-441-8811, 843 So. Pine St.
- Kathleen Creso, 253-537-7565, 160151- 6th Ave So., Spanaway 98387
- Laughter Masters, Mario Lorenz, 816 So. L St., 253-272-6622
- Laundry Mart, Rose Mathes, 5401 Sixth Avenue, 253-752-6100
- Law Offices of Terry E. Lumsden, Terry Lumsden, 253-537-4434, 3517 Sixth Avenue, Suite 200
- Legal Shield, Bill Connolly, 253-272-2924, 1321 No. 5th St.
- Mandelin’s Consignment, Rachael Kragelund, 253-301-3383, 2714 Sixth Avenue

[continued on page 10]
Members’ Local Advertising Opportunity

If you haven’t heard yet, the Board of 6th Avenue Business District along with the general membership have approved an advertising fund that all paid district members can take advantage of. The SABD will pay $100 towards your advertising purchase. This benefit is a one time per member business per year. If you would like to take advantage of this and get some advertising going with Tacoma Weekly, contact me. We also have the Be Well section which comes out once a month with a featured story and in all papers. We have a restaurant section which comes out weekly and also has a featured story. Our City Life section might be where you would like to advertise or on the web? We publish Tacoma Weekly, Fife Free Press, Milton - Edgewood Signal, we have online as well as our new Radio 253 online. Visit the following link to become a member of SABD www.on6thave.com

Thank you, Marlene Carrillo
Tacoma Weekly Sales Representative
Boardmember of SABD
marlene@tacomaweekly.com
253-922-5317 ext 20
253-534-6563 cell

Opening Day for the
Sixth Avenue Farmers
Market May 6

Member CJ Singh’s
Gateway to India
food booth does a
good business.
The Wedding Bell  [continued from page 8]

bridal gowns in the Pacific Northwest, with over 600 dresses in stock. They feature designer gowns by San Patrick, Maggie Sottero, Sottero and Midgley, Paloma Blanca, and Mikaella Bridal, as well as their own collection of gowns that you will not find anywhere else.

If you are wondering where to find your dream prom dress, their whole second floor is dedicated to prom/special occasion/pageant gowns and tuxedos, bridesmaid, and mother-of-the-bride dresses. The Wedding Bell has almost one thousand prom and pageant gowns in stock for almost any occasion you can think of. Their onsite alteration team will guarantee your prom dress fits perfectly. And, they won’t sell another dress of the same style to anyone else in your school (they keep a registry). The Wedding Bell knows their clientele. They have sponsored the Miss Washington USA, Miss Washington Teen USA, Miss Idaho USA, Miss Idaho Teen USA, Miss Washington High School America, Miss Washington Collegiate America, Miss Pierce County, and Miss Pierce County Outstanding Teen!

They also offer help for Dads and Moms, grooms and wedding party by carrying a large selection of Tuxedos, Mother-of-the-Bride, and bridesmaid dresses. They can even help fit bridesmaids from out of town. In fact if you need any special occasion accessory, they can find it for you.

The Wedding Bell has been on 6th Avenue for quite a while, but after hopscotching around the Avenue for a few years, they have settled into their beautifully remodeled (and huge) building at 2609 6th Ave. They consolidated their Wedding Bell store with their former Wedding Bell Tres Chic into one perfect space.

The images in this article came from their face-book page.

Tandem Gear

3019 6th Ave, Suite B, Tacoma WA 98406
253-301-3026
Open Tues-Thurs 12-9, Fri-Sat 10-11, Sun 10-9, Closed Monday
10% Discount to Military, ACES, CSPC, SML, SGOL

http://tandem-gear.com/
facebook.com/tg.tacoma
twitter @tandemgear
See-Inside Tour at http://goo.gl/maps/TXqiR

Carefully selected items to meet the specific needs of those in the Leather, BDSM, Goth, Steampunk, Rave, Fetish and other distinctive communities

Doug Gonzales is the owner, but I spoke with Dmitry Mikheyev, the promotions and marketing manager of Tandem Gear.

Tandem Gear is a premier retailer of specialty clothing with a storefront on 6th Avenue.

Besides carrying products for the general public, they offer a wide range of products to meet the needs of folks in the Gay Lesbian Bisexual Transgender (GLBT or LGBT), BDSM, Leather, Goth, Steampunk, Rave, Fetish and other distinctive communities.

The store is meticulously clean and well organized and features unique items of the highest quality; many products created by some of the finest craftsfolk in the Pacific Northwest. They pride themselves on their high quality items offered at the best prices.

Their customers generally fall into one of three categories: men looking for high quality designer underwear, women who love corsetry, and folks into high quality leather and fetish goods.

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Tandem Gear [continued from previous page]

They get new items (lube/toys/clothing) every two to three weeks and they display everything tastefully. The kinkier items are kept in the back out of sight of young eyes which may look into the window. The staff is very cordial and can answer questions you may have.

They have been On the Ave for a year and a half. Stop in. You may be surprised what you will find.

Drastic Plastic

3005 6th Ave Tacoma, WA 98406
(253) 272-2886
Open Mon-Sat 11-6, Closed Sunday

If you’re in the market for a pair of 501’s or a Bad A** biker jacket, here’s your store.

Admittedly, when you think “clothing” you don’t think “record store,” but Drastic Plastic has both, and they work well together.

Good selection of leather jackets from $20-$90.

For 38 years (26 years in this location), Chuck, the owner and genuinely nice guy, has been selling gently used Jean Jackets, Leather Biker Jackets, and quite a large assortment of Jeans: “501’s over here, other men’s Levis over there, and women’s over there. But no ‘bling’ jeans.” He’s got some motorcycle chaps as well.

His clientele is mostly students and young adults looking for Records/Jeans/Posters/Jackets. He has a phenomenal collection of cassettes. You can also find a selection of pipes and smoking materials.

The only social media I could find for Drastic Plastic was a Google+ page (with some very nice reviews).

Creatively Unique Gifts & Things

3009 6th Ave, Tacoma WA 98406
253-383-4438

“Uniquely Yours”

Here is another interesting store that you may not have thought of as a clothing store until you get inside and look around.

The owner, Joan Johnson, has been On the Avenue since 2004 and makes most of the items herself, guaranteeing that everything in there is truly creatively, uniquely, one of a kind.

It’s amazing to see the amount and variety of apparel and accessory items that one person can create; all of it special, all interesting.

You can find hand-knit and embellished sweaters, scarves, hats, mittens, and booties. Look a little further and you will find fedoras and special occasion hats and bags. Toward the back of the store you will find vests and aprons, and brilliant Jeans jackets that have been remodeled using Pendleton blankets and blanket stitching guaranteeing that you will stand out in the crowd.

There are cute items for babies from blankets and quilts to embroidered onesies.

If you would like a gift basket for a special occasion, Joan can prepare one for you. She also performs repairs and alterations.

She says her store is designed “to meet the unexpected needs” and has something for everyone. It’s well worth a look.