



6th Avenue District
"Tacoma's Eclectic Destination"
News of "The Ave" Published Monthly by the
Sixth Avenue Merchants Association

Web sites: www.on6thAve.com
www.ArtonTheAve.org

Over 180 great businesses
for unique shopping,
services and entertainment

May 7, 2009

Next Meeting Tuesday, May 12

All business people in the Sixth Avenue Business District are invited to the next meeting of the Association at Shakabrah Java, Sixth Avenue and Oakes, 8 to 9 a.m. next Tuesday. The agenda includes:

- Welcome, self introductions, minutes
- Treasurer's report, Jack Brinkerhoff
- CLO report, Officer Taahar
- Cross District Report
- Status of Landlord/Tenant meetings
- Speaker, Anthony Hemstad, Executive Director, World Trade Center
- Street Life report
- Progressive Dinners report
- Farmers Market report
- Spring Social report
- City Council report, Fey, Walker
- Economic Development Report.
- Art on the Ave report
- Other

**Enthusiastic Response
To First Progressive Dinner
And Date for Next Dinner**

By Natasha Thayer

Her voice beaming into the phone, "Wow!!! What a great time! For a first time event it went really well! Everything I saw was fabulous! The food was great! The people were great! My girlfriends [I brought] felt the same. I had an outrageous time! They want to go again! They're talking about the restaurants & going back [to them]. What a worthwhile event! We can't wait until the next one!" 6th Ave's Progressive dinner kicks off a success!



For many attending it was about undiscovered restaurants or undiscovered talents of 6th Ave Restaurants. Along the way they were delighted with the com-

pany of new acquaintances and the fresh air walks between venues viewing what else the Ave has to offer. "Good company & good food!" was a common comment of the 60 attending as well as, "I didn't realize there was so much on 6th Ave!"

April 22nd, four groups of diners with one guide each took turns at four restau-

(Continued on page 4)

**6th Avenue
Business District**

Meets 2nd Tuesday of each month, Shakabrah Java, 8 a.m. 6th Avenue & Oakes

Officers:

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**YOU ARE INVITED TO THE
SPRING SOCIAL, JUNE 1!!**

All business people on the Ave are cordially invited to the Sixth Avenue Merchant Association Spring Social, Monday evening, June 1, from 5 to 8 p.m. It will be held at soon-to-be-opened Sax Restaurant and Lounge at 2309 Sixth Avenue.

This is always a fun evening

Spring Social Chairperson is Kimberly Castrilli. Please RSVP to kimberlyc@cynergydata.com or 973-0042.

of getting together, making new acquaintances and networking. The evening is no charge, except to purchase your own beverages.



Dates to Remember

- Far & Wide Travel Talk, Friday, May 8
- Regular Meeting, Tuesday, May 12
- Next Progressive Dinner, Wed. May 20
- Association Board Meeting, None scheduled for May.
- Spring Social, Monday, June 1
- Farmers Market, Tues., June 2
- June Progressive Dinner, Wed., June 17
- Art on the Ave, Sunday, July 12



2009 Sixth Ave. Association Members

Advanced Digital Solutions
 Agape Foundation
 Aloha Oasis
 Asado
 Bartell Drugs
 Brilliant Life Chiropractic
 Brinkerhoff Tax & Financials
 C. Cable Insurance, Inc.
 Chemel Salon & Day Spa
 Creatively Unique Gifts & Things
 Creso, Kathleen, property owner
 Crown Bar
 DelBrocco's Pizza, Steak & Hoagie
 Diane Hagen State Farm Agency
 Educational Programs
 Engine House No. 9
 Epworth LeSourd United Methodist Church
 Far and Wide Imports
 First Evangelical Lutheran Church
 Foundation Escrow
 Gateway to India
 Gayle Orth Catering
 Gray Lumber Co.
 H & R Block
 Hair & Jeffery Inc.

Health Connection, Inc.
 Hi-Voltage Records
 Hilltop Artists in Residence
 House of Tattoo
 House of Records
 Indoor Garden & Lighting
 Indoor Reef, Inc.
 Jewell Day Spa
 Jhenry Enterprises, Cary Nilson (Honorary)
 Johnson, Paul F. Insurance
 Joseph Warren Lodge #235
 Krazy Kat Fiberhaus
 Last Stop Computer
 Lawn Equipment Repair of Tacoma
 Liberty Tax Service
 Lind Pest Control
 M & J Repair
 M.R. Construction
 Masa
 MSM Deli
 MultiCare Health System
 Mustard Seed Center
 North China Garden
 Northwest Costume
 Old Milwaukee Café & Dessert Company
 Origin 23° Coffee Roasters
 Paul Reilly, N.D.
 Poole's Corner LLC

Posh Home
 Pre-Paid Legal Services
 Precision Automotive
 Primo Grill
 Quizno's
 Rector's Antiques & Wardrobe
 Serenity Massage
 Six Olives
 Sixth Avenue Autobody
 Sixth Avenue Neighborhood Market
 SolaRichard
 Sooji's Day Spa
 Studio 6 Ballroom
 Tacoma Window
 TAPCO Credit Union
 The Red Hot
 The Shoe Show
 Turning Point, The
 Turntable Treasures
 University of Puget Sound
 Urban Gourmet and Garden
 Vanity Boutique
 Wild Orchid
 www.slotkar.com

New for 2009
 6th Avenue Barber Shop
 Connect Realty

(Christopher List)
 Cynergy Data Merchant Services
 Down to Earth Gadgets & Gizmos
 Dream Street Lending
 "Girl Talk" a natural nail salon
 Il Fiasco
 John Toler, Journey Financial
 Jon's Barber Shop
 Judson C. Gray, Attorney at Law
 Laugh Masters
 Laundry Mart, The
 Little Caesar Pizza
 Loesch Development
 Magical Garden (Virginia Ferguson, new owner)
 Mandolin Cafe
 Murfay Properties
 North Slope Historic Dist.
 Satellite Coffee
 Sax Restaurant & Lounge
 Sixth Ave Farmers Market
 Shakabrah Java (Ceasar Kalinowski)
 The Frame Makers
 Tuell-McKee Funeral Home

Musings from Natasha

By Natasha Thayer

BLOGGER

A few of us had a brainstorming session the last couple of days. Lynnette reminded us that 6th Ave has a gal in charge of blogging and all the businesses can utilize her. We thought this would be a good announcement/reminder to make in the newsletter. She is Jen Davis. Contact her at jerindavis@ups.edu.

FOR SALE

I got a message that Sluggo Music's building is for sale.

WHERE TO LIST

Lynnette, Wes & I are working on collecting a master list of places to list your business or events--sites to list on, email dist lists, blogs, places to put posters, list of newspapers, and web sites we can give thumbs up for eachother's businesses... This list will be compiled and available to everyone. Please contact any one of us or email to: natasha@studio6ballroom.com

EVENTS & BLOG FOR 6TH AVE

We are also working on an events calendar & blog all 6th Ave members can access and add to.



Progressive Dinners (continued from page 1)

rants-Il Fiasco, Gateway to India, Primo Grill & Shakabrah-and advantage of their popular Wednesday wine specials. They received a surprise wine tasting at Vino Aquino then on to Studio 6 Ballroom for live music by the fabulous Maia Santell & "House Blend" and dessert, organic coffee & tea from Origin 23 (& their provider, Corina Bakery). The restaurants were met with rave reviews & look forward to being part of future Progressive Dinners!

The event drew mostly T-towners but also people from as far as Seattle, Silverdale & Lake Chelan. No date was necessary--both a gal from Seattle & one from Port Orchard almost did not attend when both of their dates for the night could not come. After some convincing that "no partner was necessary" not only at Studio 6 but the dinner as well, they both decided to attend and thanked us profusely afterwards. A waiting list for tickets for the next Progressive Dinner, including returning attendees with upwards of 5 more friends to bring each, began that night!

Next Dinner Wednesday, May 20th

On the menu for the 2nd Progressive Dinner, **Wednesday, May 20th**, is *A Taste of Asia*. Wild Orchid, Jazzbones, Gateway to India and North China Garden will be cooking up dishes such as "Honey Walnut Shrimp" (alt: Golden Crispy Tofu), Lamb Shish Kabob with Mango-Mint Chutney with Rice (alt: vegetable kabob) and "family style Chinese sampler." Dessert, coffee & tea will be served at Studio 6 Ballroom to live music. Tickets are on sale for only \$35 (\$45 if purchased after 5/17). Different start times are available as early as 5 p.m. and as late as 7 p.m. Group tailoring was done by Studio 6 for the last event (2 mixed groups, 1 single's group & a couple's group) and we anticipate the same for this event. The event is open to all ages.

This event is a great **Mother's Day** present (**Father's Day** for the **June 17th** Progressive Dinner). It's also a great way to network, meet new people, make new friends, socialize, have a night out with friends or work-mates, a family outing or a romantic/date night.

Non-restaurant businesses on 6th Ave are invited to guide. This is a great opportunity to network and help spread the word about the many businesses on the Ave. Call Natasha or Wes for more details (253-905-5301). All businesses are invited to send in anything they would like mentioned as well (send to

natasha@studio6ballroom.com). If you would like to sell tickets, and have your business announced on advertising, you can also contact the ballroom.

Personal thanks from Natasha

On a personal note...Thank you 6th Ave Business Association for this opportunity. Between opening a new business, waiting for a diagnosis on my health (and dealing with all the symptoms) and Wes finishing his time as a Naval Police Officer (& ineligible for unemployment since he opened a business), we were very hesitant to volunteer for anything. We had no idea the support we had around us. The restaurants were fabulous to work with and those of you who are the support structure under 6th Ave are too (you know who you are!). A special thank you to Lynnette Claire, professor at UPS, as well for her brilliant ideas (even moments like these when she's being a smart-alec!) and the time she takes on 6th Ave & its events. To sum it up in the words of one attendee... "Wow! What a great experience! Fun! Fun! Fun!" We all had an absolute blast!

The Neighborhood Cleanup April 19!

Many thanks to business folks who helped make the Neighborhood Cleanup a success. They include Shannon Kaiser of Tacoma Window who provided many pairs of kids gloves for the event; Yuon Park of Neighborhood Market for food for the kids and adults; Starbucks for coffee; Metropolitan Market for the beverages.

Sixty or more neighbors, Cub Scouts, Grant Elementary students, Sixth Avenue Business District members, Community Service workers and Epworth members picked up many bags of trash on the streets, sidewalks and parking strips.

Next Travel Talk at Far & Wide

The four import firms that make up the Far and Wide store at 606 No. Prospect offer these travel talks for our neighbors and business folk. Here's an opportunity to learn almost first hand about other parts of the world. Refreshments are offered and donations accepted.

Friday, May 8 - Arabian Nights (and days, too) Dubai, Abu Dhabi and Oman, Connie & Al Bacon, Clare Petrich and Bruce Kendall recently returned from a Study Mission to the United Arab Emirates. Come learn how oil wealth is spent (indoor skiing, underwater hotels), what's happening in today's economic crisis and whether camels are still seen on the streets.



Owners Jeni and Andy Yee (North China Garden) and General Manager Chef Micha Cornelius are just about to open this exciting new place between the North China Garden and Northwest Costume at 2309 Sixth Avenue. Their soft opening will be late May and Grand Opening a week later.

Planning to offer the best in several worlds of restaurant-lounge facilities on the Ave, Sax will serve hearty All-American favorite breakfasts (weekends only). Lunches, every day except Monday, will offer American dishes plus Italian dishes that are American favorites and a broad range of Americanized salads.

Dinner, every day from 4 p.m. to the last seating at 8 p.m. is 80% Italian-inspired says Micha. The menu includes pastas and raviolis and a variety of meat and seafood dishes. He added prices will be in the lower middle range and "our objective is to create a family dining experience that is not emptying your pockets." He further described their goal as a place for good food and good atmosphere for a fair price.

Sax amenities include a piano bar open for dinner and five tv's.

Nine p.m., for age 21 and over, to closing will have a different theme each night of the week, Tue-Sun. Tuesday is open mike for local artists (not karaoke); live DJ's on Wed; ladies' nite Thurs. Fri-Sat, live jazz bands. Sunday, "Bring Your First Date".

Sax will be a great addition to the Ave. See their web site for much more information: Saxon6th.com.

Board Meeting Notes From April 27th

Present: President Christopher List, Cary Nilson, Bill Connolly, Lynnette Claire, Tom & Mary Johnson, Sonia Jewell, Natasha Thayer, Caesar Kalinowski, Dave Parker, guests Martha Curwen, Sylvia Sommers.

Meeting called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Bill Connolly reported on the neighborhood cleanup April 19. Said it was a good day, about 60 people, lots of good comments and it was fun, educational and useful.

Natasha Thayer reported the Progressive Dinner "was a blast". Sixty people took part in four groups to the four restaurants, Il Fiasco, Shakabrah Java, Gateway to India, Primo Grill. Said it went very well. The guests got a surprise treat at Vino Aquino and Studio 6 Ballroom. The next dinner, May 20, will have a taste of Asia theme and end again at Studio 6. Plans are underway for the June and July dinners.

Ron Pulliam submitted a written report on the Shop Hop. Said he was concerned about the viability of this project for the future because of not many shoppers. Said we don't have a big enough budget to do major advertising. **Shari Hart** says the neighbors in the district feel ignored because we don't merchandise to them and we need to market our events better to them. A discussion followed about using email to the neighbors. Sonia said she uses a service called "Constant Contact". **Tom Johnson** said nine members without store fronts had tables set up in his Northwest Costume and it was an "all day party". He suggested promotional materials be put in bags for distribution.

Lynnette Claire said **Brynn Weagraff** is the new associate coordinator of Art on the Ave.

A discussion followed about District giving financial support to the Sixth Avenue Farmers Market. Last year we gave \$3000 and anticipated this would be repeated for two more

years. This year, however they have asked for \$3800. After a discussion, the board voted to give \$3000 with possibly more later when members can see our total budget for the year.

After discussion, it was moved seconded and passed that we have the Shop Hop again next year with a leaner budget and more extensive PR.

There was a discussion in the March board meeting about on-line methods of accepting payments.

Member **Kimberly Castrilli** gave a short presentation of what her company offers. **Wes Rogers** will work with her to follow up and define the possibilities for the Association.

Martha Curwen, director of the My Sister's Pantry project at First United Methodist Church spoke. That project is a food and clothing bank and feeding location at 7th and Tacoma Ave. For the last three years they have, as a fund raising project, worked with Pacific Avenue restaurants along the Tacoma Link light rail to provide participants an item on their menu as they stopped off the Link at the different restaurants. This has been a successful event and this year they would like to do it on Sixth Avenue in September, with the endorsement and support of the Association. They sell 100 to 150 tickets and say this will generate longer term business in a different way. **Lynnette Claire** suggested the UPS van might be available to transport the participants between restaurants. It was moved, seconded and passed to endorse and support this project.

Christopher List presented a project concept being worked on that may bring more children and their families to the Ave. He, **Bill Connolly**, member **Mario Lorenz** of Laugh Masters, and **Caesar Kalinoski** of Shakabrah are working to develop a kids concerts program to be offered at Shakabrah on Saturdays. A similar program has been enthusiastically received in the Stadium district with as many as 70 attending. More planning will be done.

Meeting adjourned, 8:30 p.m.

Dave Parker, Secy



Small Business Space Available Here!

Chiara of The Turning Point Integrated Therapies says she has two rooms (negotiable) available for lease in her building at 2211 6th Ave. All inclusive rent of approximately \$350, depending on room and use. 253-272-7876.

Several Ave Business are "Best of . . ."

In a recent poll by the Tacoma Weekly, these district businesses were voted best of class:

Jewell Day Spa, Best Day Spa
Bombay Bistro

Sixth Avenue Merchants Assn. Minutes of Meeting April 14, 2009

President Christopher List called meeting to order at 8 a.m. at Shakabrah. Self introductions followed.

Jack Brinkerhoff presented treasurer's report. Current balance is \$9867.

CLO Jennifer Terhaar reported 3826 calls for service in the sector in March. Re graffiti, she said victims have 18 days to clean up or Tacoma cares will clean up for charges. TPD has a map showing incidents which helps officers to see where incidents are happening. Pressure is on the victims of crime to report and the prosecutors if perps are caught. Said cameras and lights help solve crimes and referred to the recent homicide of a cab driver in which cameras caught the perp several times walking down Sixth Avenue. Crimes can be reported on the TPD web site, www.TacomaPolice.org.

A motion was made to authorize \$1170 for expenses of Shop Hop. Seconded and passed.

Shop Hop chair Ron Pulliam reported that **Bill Connolly** had signed up 61 paid members and 8 not yet paid to participate. He said Bill had also secured 32 gift certificates and 4 prizes to be awarded to shoppers. Ads will be in local papers and materials will be distributed a few days before April 25.

Landlord-Tenant Committee chair Tom Johnson reported he has the city's list of property owners and will be contacting them by mail and phone. Possible meeting to be in May.

Parks Commissioner Ryan Mello spoke, said he was present to speak about the smoke-free initiative in the district's parks. Said the health department educated him about smoking in public areas. Said young people tend to copy what adults do. Also said smoking-caused preventable disease costs \$278MM annually statewide. He said 409 jurisdictions across America have created smoke-free parks. The question is, he added, do we want to make our parks a healthy, inviting environment. He also said Metro Parks is creating a science and math center at Pt. Defiance

and are updating 90 parks from the 2005 bond issue. He said the quality of the parks is an economic element of the city. In response to a question about how the no smoking issue would be enforced, he said it is a lot like bars and restaurants, it is community education. In response to further questions, he said the next step is to get City Council to change the park code; the timeline is probably by this fall; there is no particular cost for this, rule will go into effect as signage is routinely updated with esthetic signs.

Hugh Messer, assistant superintendent of the city street maintenance division said 6th Avenue will be regularly swept late Thursday nights/early Friday morning. Cigarette butts are the biggest problem. He suggested we establish a no parking rule on the Ave in the early morning hours so the sweepers could run through. This would be a pilot project for the no parking hours. Shari Hart said the sweepers would be available between midnight and 6 a.m. in the district.

Motion made to allocate the 2009 \$5,000 grant from the city for **District Manager Bill Connolly's** salary. Seconded and passed.

Natasha Thayer spoke about the progressive dinner coming up. She thanked all who have helped make this possible. She also spoke about dinner patrons using PayPal to pay for dinners.

Lynnette Claire moved for an allocation of \$500 for the dinner and expenses of the Street Life Committee. Seconded and passed.

John Toler announced Farmers Market will begin June 2. A brief discussion followed about merchants having their advertisement logos on the tables and chairs as a way to raise funds for the market.

City Councilperson Lauren Walker said a study session involving building height issues will be coming up in Council. She also said Metro Parks is holding an open house at People's Pool April 21 at 7 p.m.

City Councilman Jake Fey said the Council is working on long-term financial help for the parks and also funding the "goLocal" campaign.

EDD liaison Shari Hart spoke about the upcoming Economic Gardening workshop at Bates. She said EDD is reaching out to the districts through the Cross District Association, available now "Splash" grants for butt cans for all districts.

Tom Johnson said there are four spots still open for the dunk tank at Art on the Ave.

Bill Connolly mentioned the neighborhood Earth Day cleanup April 18.

UPS graduation is May 17.

Dave Parker, Secy

FREE Economic Gardening Workshop:
Cash Flow Planning for your Business



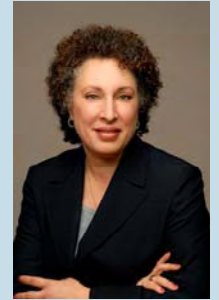
Presented by the City of Tacoma Community and Economic Development Dept.

Cash Flow Planning

Did you know that one of the primary reasons that businesses fail is because of their inability to pay their bills on time? Ensuring that you have enough cash reserves is an essential part of a healthy business. Join us for an engaging workshop on how to plan and manage your cash flow. Workshops are free and open to businesses located in Tacoma.

Trainer: Audrey L. Godwin, CPA

Audrey is principal and founder of The Godwin Group, PLLC, a Certified Public Accounting and Business Advisory Services firm. Audrey brings 20 years of experience working with businesses to build solid strategic plans and equipping them with the tactics to get the job done. Clients appreciate Audrey's clarity and insight when trying to achieve their financial goals and improve their businesses.



Date/Time: **Wednesday, June 10, 2009**
Choose a morning or evening session
8:00am – 10:00am or 5:30pm – 7:30pm

Location: **Evergreen State College – Tacoma Branch**
1210 Sixth Avenue, Room 105
Tacoma, WA, 98405
(Campus parking lot located in front of building)
Refreshments and light snacks will be served

To Register Online:

Morning Session (8:00-10:00): <http://www.eventbrite.com/event/337602779>

Evening Session (5:30-7:30): <http://www.eventbrite.com/event/338289834>

For questions or to reserve by phone, please contact Christine Clifford at 253.573.2435 or cclifford@cityoftacoma.org.

