Reimagining Stanley Playfield of Hilltop

Controversial plans to change the Stanley Playfield cause concern for Hilltop Residents

Fun Fact: Tacoma Metro Parks and Tacoma Public Schools original proposed plans for Stanley Playfield

Concept designs for Stanley Playfield by Hilltop community member Amy Igama

By Jennifer Lacy

Stanley Playfield is a parcel of 6.51 acres of undeveloped land that has served as a neighborhood park in Hilltop since 1977.

Nestled within a small residential Hilltop neighborhood between S 19th and S 17th, located directly out of the back of Stanley Elementary and the Al Davie’s Boys & Girls Club, this is a cherished communal space for community members and children alike. Though it does not have any of the amenities that many local Tacoma parks have, we have found ways to utilize this space to enrich our lives. I am sure this isn’t news to you, so why am I talking about it?

Well, in mid-February Hilltop community members, who are also Stanley Parents, attended a MetroParks Co-Create session where a project to turn Stanley Playfield into all turf ball fields primarily for high school baseball players was mentioned. With zero community outreach done by MetroParks or Tacoma Public Schools this news came as a shock and felt completely unjust and contrary to the way we use the space.

Soon after the Co-Create event some of us who live close to the playfield received a public notice from the City of Tacoma notifying us that an application for a Conditional Use Permit has been submitted at the beginning of February.

What is a Conditional Use Permit? In order to use Stanley Playfield as an intensive sports complex they would need approval from the City of Tacoma because it is not currently zoned for that use.

Fun Fact: No other designated neighborhood park in Tacoma has been used as an intensive sports complex. What are the implications if the project is approved?

Stanley Playfield is currently the only open greenspace with a playground that is open after school hours and on the weekends. We have seen a pattern of upgrades that include turf resulting in locked gates and decreased access to the community.

Community members also have a lot of concerns about the health impacts of turf: whether it is the increased radiation of heat in an area that already lacks urban tree cover, or the increase in injury to the people who play on it.

The community has been very clear that we do not want turf at Stanley Playfield. If the ball fields are approved the primary users of the space would be high school and middle school teams, followed by MetroParks after school and weekend paid sports programming, limiting the access for users of the space would be high school and middle school teams, followed by MetroParks after school and weekend paid sports programming, limiting the access for community members and school activities.

This plan is not only inaccessible for the surrounding community, but it is inequitable to take an integral community resource to serve a very exclusive group of people and turn it into a “pay to play” sports complex.

Fun Fact: Tacoma Public Schools has earmarked $6 million bond dollars for the field construction. MetroParks has earmarked $330 thousand bond dollars to upgrade Stanley Playfield regardless of the field project.

What has the community said? We have conducted our own community outreach via our Facebook group – Hilltop Community Page, which includes a community survey.

The community has been very clear that they strongly object to the land being used as a sports complex. They want to keep the grass and trees, they want to improve the space with more park-like amenities like picnic shelters, a splash pad, sensory garden, walking paths, an improved basketball court to name a few. We have also asked the MetroParks and Tacoma Public Schools reconsider using Peck Field and Heidelberg Field for this project.

What is the status of the project now? In the past several weeks since we found out about the plans community members have organized to make sure our voices are heard. We have attended multiple TPS and MetroParks Board meetings, sent over 100 emails, and participated in 3 community meetings with MetroParks and TPS, plus a public meeting with the City Manager and City Planners.

MetroParks has acknowledged their mistake in moving a project forward without community engagement and has said they are committed to making it right with us.

What actions can we take now? Join the Hilltop Community Facebook page to stay up to date with community and board meetings to attend, or contacts to send emails to regarding the project and the needs of our community.

Take the community survey to let MetroParks and Tacoma Public Schools know what you would reimagine Stanley Playfields and what is important to you.

This community has been overlooked and underserved for far too long, it is disrespectful to this community to invest money in a way that does not serve the actual community after historically ignoring the needs of the people who actually live here.

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TPS hasn’t been as transparent about where they are in the process and that matters because though it is MetroParks land TPS is footing the bill with bond money we taxpayers approved and are paying for. We hoped to hear back from the City of Tacoma during the 2nd week of April about whether or not they are going to approve the Conditional Use Permit.

A denial is a win for the community, an approval will mean a different and more assertive course of action needs to be taken.

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Award-Winning Publication!
Journals are viewable online at
www.hilltopactioncoalition.org!
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Hilltop Action Coalition
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Alyssa Torres
Ashleah Yandell
Guest Contributors
Amy Igama
Tacoma Public Schools
Jennifer Lacy
CATHERINE PLACE
Selena Choy
Bryant Neighborhood Center
Neighborhood Clinic
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Pierce County Public Works
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Tacoma Art Museum
Pierce Transit
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Tacoma Tool Library
Ashleah Yandell
Community Health Care
Second Cycle
Tacoma Community House

Community Priorities
• Good Jobs and Local Hires
• Affordable & Obtainable Housing
• Pathways to Home Ownership
• Programs for Youth and Seniors
• Create a Hilltop Neighborhood Library

Hilltop Action Coalition
Hilltop Action Coalition is a community-based coalition and 501(c)3 nonprofit that is working to mobilize and empower diverse individuals, families, businesses and other public and community organizations to build a safe, clean, healthy resilient and united community.

President
Michealene Lemons
Treasurer
Tiffani Reyes
Secretary
Jennifer Lacy
Executive Director
Alyssa Torres
Program Manager
Selena Choy

Hilltop Action Coalition is recruiting Board Members!
Email hacoffice15@gmail.com

2023 HAC Meeting Updates
Help be a voice for Hilltop at the community meetings
Join us for our 2023 calendar year in-person meetings. The voices of our neighbors is vital to the monthly community meetings and we look forward to seeing everyone there each month.

The in person community meetings are planned to take place at the Bryant Neighborhood Center at 1619 6th Ave, Tacoma WA 98405, a comfortable and safe location in our community.

We are looking forward to serving Hilltop throughout the year and be a bigger presence with the community we serve.

The Hilltop Action Coalition meets the first Thursday of each month at 6:30 PM at the Bryant Neighborhood Center.

You can watch past HAC virtual meetings here:
https://www.facebook.com/HilltopActionCoalition/videos/?ref=page_internal
along with the entire library of Virtual Weekly Updates.

Welcome Jennifer Lacy to HAC
Meet our newest Hilltop Action Coalition Secretary
By Selena Choy

Meet Jennifer Lacy!

Our historic community of Hilltop exemplifies the ideals and way of life Jennifer values. Diversity, inclusions, and rich cultural BIPOC history. These values are vital to Jennifer as she raises her two sons through life as multi-racial young men.

A pillar in the community, Jennifer takes on important roles in her daily life. A member of the Stanley PTA where her children attend school, she helps the school stay true to the community’s current needs. Jennifer has been highly involved in raising awareness to those impacted by the proposed changes to the Stanley playground.

Looking for more meaningful ways to engage with our vibrant community Jennifer joined Hilltop Action Coalition as a board member in April.

While her time as an official board member has been short, Jennifer has been involved with HAC as a volunteer for quite some time. With her unanimous vote of confidence to join the board, she also accepted the role as Secretary.

No matter where we come from all of us involved with Hilltop Action Coalition have love and pride for the Hilltop community.

Message from HAJ Designer
By Ashleah Yandell

As the Journal Designer it is important to capture the culture of our amazing community. The Hilltop is home to so many diverse people, ways of life and community involvement.

This publication has been such fulfilling work to take on and a task I am honored to continue to be a part of. Designing the Hilltop Action Journal has connected me to the best parts of our community and showed me we are truly here together.

So many of us have stories to share, events to promote, and projects that need help getting a start. Spring brings new life to each of us year after year and we should grab hold of the excitement. I want to hear from you so our community journal has a community voice.

Send us your thoughts, stories, concerns, we want to hear everything our neighbors want to say. Contact our email at hacoffice15@gmail.com and let us know what you want to see in the upcoming issues of the Hilltop Action Journal.

Hilltop Action Coalition
2023 Advertisement Rates

Ad sizes (width x height in inches)

- 5x7, quarter page at $50
- 10x15, half page at $100

Contact HAC: hacoffice15@gmail.com

www.hilltopactioncoalition.org

Page 2
Catherine Place in Pierce County

Catherine Place Brings Hope, Healing, and Connection to Women in Pierce County

By Catherine Place

On the corner of 8th and J is a house with a wrought iron fence and a beautiful garden. Originally known as the Davison House, it was built in 1918 and stayed in the family until 2000, when a brand-new nonprofit, Catherine Place purchased it.

The Tacoma Dominican Order was the driving force to create Catherine Place, which they intended to be an ‘oasis for women’ in the Hilltop. It has been one since the doors opened in October of 2000. Thousands of local women have received support through their unique struggles.

Although Catherine Place maintains a strong connection to the Dominicans, the organization does not have a religious affiliation and welcomes people of all beliefs. At Catherine Place the term “women” includes cis and transgender women, as well as non-binary and gender non-conforming people who are comfortable in women’s spaces.

What began as a ministry of presence has become a trusted resource for folks experiencing issues related to economic, social, or personal challenges. All of Catherine Place’s services are offered on a donation basis and in Spanish as well as English.

Today, Catherine Place has three primary program areas; Individual Advocacy, Support Groups and Circles, and Healing Arts. Although Catherine Place is not a mental health provider, staff and trained volunteers offer emotional and spiritual support to women experiencing relationship, job, or housing instability; life changing illness or grief; discrimination of any kind; or challenges with immigration.

Catherine Place is not a shelter, but does serve those who don’t currently have a home. Hygiene and some clothing items are available by request during open hours. Catherine Place is open by appointment Tuesday through Friday from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Appointments are available by calling (253) 572-3547 or emailing cplace@catherineplace.org.

Support groups and Circles are currently offered via zoom, and a full listing can be found on the website at catherineplace.org/events. Groups are responsive to community need and while some have been meeting as long as Catherine Place has been incorporated, others last for as long as the participants need.

Domestic Violence support groups include Healing Together (in English) and Juntas en Transición, Pierce County’s only ongoing DV support group in Spanish. Healing Arts appointments are also available at set times and include Reiki, tapping, meditation, breathing exercises, light-touch massage, and biomat experiences.

A self-care library produced in collaboration with the University of Washington, Tacoma can be accessed at care.ds.lib.uw.edu/library.

Catherine Place is a resource for the community, and it receives support from the community. As a 501c3 donations can be accepted in person, by mail, or by attending the upcoming fundraiser, Boombaballa on April 30.

More information on Boombaballa can be found on the website at catherineplace.org/boombaballa. Those who would like to give time rather than funds can volunteer. Current openings include: Group Facilitation, Events, and Healing Arts. Learn more about volunteering at catherineplace.org/volunteer.

Catherine also offers tours by appointment. Call or email to schedule a personal discovery of the inside of the house on the corner and the important healing work done within the walls.

Youth Sports Equipment Drive

Let’s hit it out of the park for kids in need. Help support Metro Parks Tacoma youth sports leagues by donating your new or gently used sports equipment!

Drop off new or gently used equipment at any Dinsmore location and Metro Parks community centers.
The Bryant Neighborhood Center Auction is a beloved tradition that we’re excited to bring back this year! Come join us for a fun evening that includes a fantastic Silent Auction, terrific Raffles, and a Live Auction - all of which directly support the partnerships and programming of the Bryant Neighborhood Center!

On Friday, May 12th beginning at 6:30 pm and running until 9 pm at the Bryant Neighborhood Center located at 1615 6th Ave in Tacoma, WA the auction will provide some great late springtime fun. Get ready for a fabulous evening complete with savory and sweet nibbles.

We have curated a bountiful Silent Auction with our Tacoma donors. Tacoma businesses showed big support to the , interviews with several of our partners, and an update about how we are GROWING TOGETHER. Your participation directly supports the Bryant Neighborhood Center’s efforts to bring this vision to life! We can’t wait to be together!

We can’t do this without the help of volunteers so a call for help was sent out. Volunteers have signed up to help with registration, homemade appetizers and desserts, cashiers, selling raffle and game tickets, and more!

Thank you to the businesses and organizations that support the 2023 Auction through their donations!

Tacoma Donors
Edgeworks Climbing and Fitness
Mudbay
Tacoma Art Museum
Total Wine and More
La Bella Nail Spa
Anthem Coffee
Foss Harbor Marina
The Grand Cinema
Legendary Dounts
LeMay America’s Car Museum
Tacoma Glassblowing Studio

Family Time
Engima Escapes WA
YMCA of Pierce & Kitsap
Greentrike
Seattle Mariners
Ice Cream Social
Wild Waves Waterpark
Woodland Park Zoo
Slide Waters
Bricks 4 Kidz
Let’s Roam

Restaurants
Southern Kitchen
E9 Firehouse Gastropub
Indo Asian Street Eatery
McMenamins
Farrell’s Pizza

Beyond Tacoma
Galaxy Theaters
Heritage Distilling Co.
Burke Museum
Museum of History and Industry
Portland Center Stage at the Armory
Museum of Pop Culture
Oregon Shakespeare Festival

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Hilltop Business Association Spring Update

It’s Your Business – News from the Hilltop Business Association

By Jo Davies

After the Zoom time, the Hilltop Business Association has begun to hold in-person meetings and has shifted from years of donuts and coffee in the morning to snacks and beverages in the early evening.

Join fellow business owners and other interested folks at Hilltop A Go-Go (1015 MLK Jr Way) on the third Wednesday of each month at 6 pm. The April 19th meeting was focused on Hilltop security enhancements and other improvements.

The Hilltop Street Fair is happening, so put Saturday, August 26th on your calendar. While the footprint is under discussion, planning for the event is ramping up and volunteers and vendors are getting on board.

Right now there are Early Bird discounts for Vendors, applications are online at Store 1 — Hilltop Business Association (hilltopba.org). Volunteers of all sorts and performers are encouraged to participate. Please let us know of your interest by emailing info@hilltopba.org.

The Primary Election for various local offices will be Tuesday, August 1. Be sure you’re registered to vote. To help acquaint voters with the issues and candidates, HBA is organizing a Voters’ Forum/Debate for candidates for District 3 and At-Large City Council positions.

Stay tuned to the Hilltop Business Association website and Facebook for more information as it develops. We welcome new members, comments, and suggestions.

Visit the Hilltop Business Association at hilltopba.org.

Visit the Hilltop Business Association at hilltopba.org.
Biking for a Greener Pierce County

Get Ready for Bike Month in Pierce County with Pierce Trips

By Pierce Trips

This spring, Pierce Trips invites you to hop on your bike to destinations like work, school, the library, park, or store.

Looking for some guidance? You can find bicycle commuting guides, bike maps, bike parking tips, bike events and more at PierceTrips.com/Bike.

Pierce Trips is hosting the Bike Everywhere Challenge, May 1-31, encouraging folks to log their bicycle trips on the Pierce Trips Calendar at PierceTrips.com. You can participate as an individual or form a bike team with your friends or coworkers. Those who take and log at least 10 bike trips in the Pierce Trips Calendar are automatically entered to win prizes, including gift cards for individuals, and a pizza party for the top performing bike teams.

How do you create a bike team? Teams must have 4-12 participants including one captain. During the Bike Everywhere Challenge, participants log bicycle trips in the online calendar at PierceTrips.com. Bike at least 10 trips (5 roundtrips) each to be considered for the team pizza party prize.

Residents can participate in the Bike Everywhere Challenge by riding a bike anywhere they might otherwise drive. When residents ride to the park, library, grocery store, work or any other destination and then log their trips at PierceTrips.com, they will be entered to win a number of exciting prizes (must be 18+ to log trips and win prizes). To join the Bike Everywhere Challenge, create an account or login to the Pierce Trips Calendar and log your bike trips during May.

Keep an eye out for Bike Month events at bike253.com and follow us on Facebook and Twitter to stay updated.

What is your favorite reason for riding a bike? Many people like to ride with others and wave to neighbors. They enjoy fresh air, take in the scenery, smell the flowers and hear the birds. Many people use bikes as a mode of choice for getting around town. Biking helps leave the stress behind and is a great form of exercise.

Looking for opportunities to ride your bike? Check out our Events Calendar, or find your next community bike ride among these local bicycling groups: Cascade Bicycle Club - Free group rides; Velofemmes; Kidical Mass Tacoma; 2nd Cycle; Tacoma WA Bicycle Club; Tacoma Tuesday Night Rides.

Celebrate Bike Month with Tacoma Public Libraries, their team has curated a list of ebooks you can check out to sharpen your cycling know-how or get inspired for your next ride! Check out piercetrips.com for additional Bike Month Resources. There are links on how to find a low-cost bicycle helmet near you (Pierce County), bicycle commuting tips & tricks, Washington State Bicycle Commute Guide, and Washington State Bike Laws.

And finally, kick off your Bike Everywhere Challenge by joining Pierce Trips at the 12th Annual Bike Swap! The Pierce County Bike Swap will bring the bicycling community together to buy, sell bikes and bike parts, teach young ones how to ride, discuss best cycling routes, and much more.

The Bike Swap will be held on Saturday, May 6 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the University of Puget Sound, Thompson Hall parking lot on N. Union Avenue and N 14th Street. Find your next new-to-you ride!! More information can be found at PierceTrips.com/bikeswap.

Send any questions to Jacob Meyers via email at jacob.meyers@piercecountywa.gov.
Camille Patha: Passion Pleasure Power
Passion and Emotion Fill Exhibition of New Work by Camille Patha at Tacoma Art Museum

By Tacoma Art Museum

TACOMA, WA (February 15, 2023) – Seattle-based painter Camille Patha’s new body of work invites us to consider the power of art in a provocative exhibition that unites a range of themes from the universe and intimate passions. Moving through Patha’s exhibition at Tacoma Art Museum, visitors will see mostly abstract paintings that reveal hidden messages through their absence of recognizable images. This series shares the power of painting.

Camille Patha: Passion Pleasure Power will be on view at Tacoma Art Museum from March 4-September 3, 2023. Patha worked intensely on these new paintings over the last three years. The exhibition will highlight more than 50 paintings that push the limits of our imaginations by depicting the indescribable.

“The artwork in this exhibition is astounding. Camille’s new paintings are mesmerizing and striking and I hope many of you will love them as much as I do,” said Helen McGovern-Pilant, TAM’s interim executive director. “We are grateful to Camille for her dedication to the arts and for filling our galleries and hearts with the passion that she paints. Her early work with Punch of Color. Over the years, she demonstrated talent with every color, Patha’s TAM 2014 retrospective exhibition and catalogue describes her signature style: a bold use of hot pink, bright orange, and citrus yellows,” said Faith Brower, exhibition curator. “I quickly realized Camille’s signature is not just her great use of color, but her daring and fearless approach to painting… that’s what makes it a Patha and that’s why people will want to see this work for years to come.”

Patha’s confidence with colors—especially black—continues to stand out. Her themes are revelatory. Plus, a few new works combine fabric with paint to change the way we understand lines, shapes, and depth—a few of the key characteristics of a strong painting.

The exhibition will also feature Camille in Color, a short film directed and edited by Seattle-based, nationally known filmmaker David Wild. Wild explored Patha’s passion for painting. The film will be premiered at the opening event and will be streaming in the gallery throughout the run of the exhibition.

Associated Programming
• Members Opening Event and Premier of Film, Camille in Color, Friday, March 3, from 6-8 p.m.
• Monthly meet and greet with the artist in the gallery. Visit tacomaartmuseum.org for dates and times.
• Additional events will be announced at tacomaartmuseum.org and on social media.

Visit Tacoma Art Museum
• Hours – Wednesday through Sunday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; Thursdays 10 a.m.-8 p.m.
• Admission – $18 Adult; $15 Senior (65+); TAM Members, children 18 and under, active duty military, reservists, veterans and their families are free.

Celebrating over 85 years, Tacoma Art Museum is the leading resource for art of the Pacific Northwest and greater western region. TAM’s mission is to transform our communities by sharing art that inspires broader perspectives and cultivates a compassionate future. TAM’s collection contains more than 5,300 works, with an emphasis on the art and artists of the Northwest and broader western region.

The collection includes the largest retrospective museum collection of glass art by Tacoma native Dale Chihuly on permanent view; the most significant collection of studio art jewelry by Northwest artists; key holdings in 19th century European and 20th century American art; and one of the finest collections of Japanese woodblock prints on the West Coast.

TAM is in the heart of Tacoma’s vibrant Museum District, which consists of six museums, including the Museum of Glass, a leader and frequent partner.

Tacoma Art Museum is located on the homelands of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians. We recognize and honor the Puyallup people and Coast Salish communities who have endured so much, so that we can all thrive here today. Learn more about land acknowledgments in TAM’s current exhibition, On Native Land: Landscapes of Glass, a leader and frequent partner.

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By Pierce Transit

News Release
For Immediate Release
Mar. 20, 2023

Pierce Transit Offers ORCA LIFT Starting April 1

Beginning April 1, Pierce Transit joins regional transit partners in offering the ORCA LIFT program. ORCA LIFT is a reduced adult fare program available to individuals with incomes below or equal to 200 percent of Federal Poverty Level guidelines.

Those who qualify will pay $1 adult fare per one-way trip on Pierce Transit buses and Runner services (Tideflats, Ruston, Spanaway, JBLM), and reduced fare per one-way trip on the following transit services:
- Sound Transit services such as ST Express, Link Light Rail, Sounder Commuter Rail
- King County Metro buses, Water Taxi, Seattle Monorail, Seattle Streetcar
- Kitsap Transit buses
- Everett Transit buses
- Community Transit buses

To help eligible customers access this benefit, Pierce Transit has partnered with King County Public Health and Sound Transit to conduct ORCA LIFT outreach and enrollment at the Customer Service Center at Tacoma Dome Station, 505 East 25th Street, Tacoma.

The enrollment eligibility process will be performed on site with an agent Tuesdays and Thursdays between March 21 and April 6, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Customers can also learn more about program guidelines and how to apply by visiting the info.myORCA.com/LIFT website.

The following Pierce County enrollment facilities are accepting in-person applications:
- Pierce South Community Service Office – 1301 E. 72nd St., Tacoma
- Pierce North Community Service Office – 1949 S. State St., Tacoma
- Lakewood Community Service Office – 5712 Main St. W. #100, Lakewood
- Community Health Centers
  - 1020 MLK Jr. Way, Tacoma
  - 1708 E. 44th St., Tacoma
  - 4050 Gravelly Lake Dr. SW., Lakewood
  - 11225 Pacific Ave., Tacoma
- 134 188th St. S., Spanaway
- The Puyallup Community Service Office is virtual access only; call 877-501-2233.

For information on services provided by Pierce Transit, visit PierceTransit.org.

Contact: Rebecca Japhet, Communications Manager
rjaphet@piercetransit.org
253.377.5436

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*For income-qualified riders; apply at info.myORCA.com/LIFT
**Same pricing for the 30 Day Local Pass on Transit app.

### Discounted

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***Must show Regional Reduced Fare Permit when boarding.

### Youth

Youth 13 and older are encouraged to tap their Youth ORCA card or show a high school or middle school ID to the driver if they have one. Learn more here.
For some people April 22nd is just another day but for many it is the official celebration of Earth Day. In 1970 Gaylord Nelson founded Earth Day after being inspired by anti-war demonstrations happening around the nation. So in 1969 he had the idea that in the spring of 1970 he would promote ecological issues by allowing communities to engage their own problems in their own way. Gaylord hired Nelson Hayes to help him organize an event.

On April 22, 1970, Americans marched and demonstrated in the streets for a healthy, sustainable environment in massive rallies across the US. It was estimated 20 million people, from 10,000 elementary and high schools, 2,090 colleges, and over 1,000 communities participated that day.

Even more unique about this happening is people from all backgrounds and beliefs gathered in support of the earth and combating the ecological crises plaguing our globe. Political and religious differences do not matter when we all share the same fate by harming the environment. Some would argue that the first Earth Day influenced the creation of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (The EPA). The EPA is responsible for creating many of the environmental protections we enjoy today. Like clean drinking water? Thank the EPA for passing the Safe Drinking Water Act.

Since the first Earth Day the event has only gotten more popular. All around the globe communities can gather and participate in different ways to bring awareness to environmental issues and even help in immediate ways like doing neighborhood pickups.

I had the pleasure of going to the 15th South Sound Sustainability Expo that was hosted in downtown at University of Washington Tacoma along the Prairie Line Trail. The event was well attended with around 2,000 community members who showed up to learn more about what our local community is doing to help.

There was representation from over 20 organizations present! Oh and did I mention that there was swag too? Many booths passed out useful items like tote bags and sustainable cutlery.

I own dogs so one of my favorite items was a free dog bag carrier with hand sanitizer in it given to me by Tacoma Surface Water Management; apparently a lot of dog poop goes into our stormwater drains (yuck) and that impacts our water!

The South Sound Sustainability expo covered many interests. One could find information ranging from nature education programing to Tacoma Public Utilities talking about how to save you money on your bill. All the people that came had a shared goal, to talk about sustainability issues.

There are certainly some externality costs with going green and many people do not buy into the greenwashing many organizations are doing today. But here at the local level there are real people, they are you neighbors and friends, who just want to help create a healthier world for all living things.

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By Hunter Henderson

FREE HOME MAINTENANCE 101 WORKSHOPS
SECOND QUARTER 2023

Join us for a monthly series of basic home maintenance classes on the 1st Saturday of each month at 3:00 pm.

APRIL 1ST
Tools 101 - Rebuilding Together South Sound, 4019 S. Orchard St. Tacoma

MAY 6TH
Plumbing Basics - Goodwill Training Center, 714 South 27th Street, Tacoma

JUNE 3RD
Disaster Preparedness - Location TBA

Learn more at https://rebuildingtogethersound.org/blog/homeimprovementworkshop

May 13th | 11:00am - 2:00pm
Food, music, employment opportunities and giveaways!

Please join us at our Community Resource Fair! Connect with programs and services that are available within your community.

Interested in being a vendor?
Contact: Jeremy Dashiell | jdashiell@reachtacoma.org

(253) 383-3951 | REACTACOMA.ORG | 124 S L ST, TACOMA WA 98405
Humanities of Washington Events

Join Humanities of Washington events for valuable conversations and community engagement.

By Humanities Washington

Humanities Washington opens minds and bridges divides by creating spaces to explore different perspectives. We envision a state where all people seek a deeper understanding of others, themselves, and the human experience, in order to discern and promote the common good.

Our Organization hosts a variety of events offering both in-person and online options. Join us for our upcoming events:

**IN PERSON: The Samurai Code: How Bushido Changes Lives**
When: May 27, 2023 at 6:00 pm
Location: Grand Cinema, 606 Fawcett Ave, Tacoma, WA 98402

Bushido—the way of the warrior—is the code of ethics practiced by the samurai warriors of ancient Japan, a code which includes courage, integrity, benevolence, respect, honesty, honor, and loyalty.

Through her own story of using Bushido to overcome a traumatic brain injury, Lori Tsugawa Whaley shows how the code can help people find hope, resilience, and fulfillment in our rapidly changing world. She explores examples of ancient warriors like Tomoe Gozen and Saigo Takamori, as well as modern-day samurai warriors like the Japanese Americans who survived incarceration during World War II. She shows how Bushido instilled a determination and perseverance in Japanese society that remains evident to this day.

Lori Tsugawa Whaley (she/her) is a third-generation Japanese American and descendant of a samurai warrior. She is an author, speaker, life coach, and storyteller, and is passionate about sharing the code of Bushido and her Japanese heritage at universities, TEDx stages, libraries, and cultural venues across the West Coast. She earned a bachelor’s degree from Portland State University. Whaley lives near Gig Harbor.

**IN PERSON: What Laughter Tells Us: Asian Americans, Comedy, and Belonging**
When: May 25, 2023 at 6:00 pm
Where: Harbor History Museum, 4121 Harborview Dr, Gig Harbor, WA 98332

Laughter shapes the way we listen to each other, and can be a signal of who belongs—and who doesn’t. While everyone finds different things funny, we all have experienced laughter. And what we find funny shapes how we interconnect. Through clips of Asian American stand-up comedians, Professor Michelle Liu explores how humor can change the patterns of belonging that everyone in the United States has inherited. When we want to learn about the past, we turn to history books. When we want to learn about how the past continues to live within us, we can turn to humor. Join Liu for a conversation about why laughing matters.

Michelle Liu (she/her) is a professor of English and the associate director of writing programs at the University of Washington. She specializes in writing and exploring ideas about identity, history, emotion, and storytelling. She has taught for nearly 20 years with the goal of helping people interconnect their hearts, minds, and experiences in their learning. She earned her PhD in American Studies from Yale University. Liu lives in Seattle.

**IN PERSON: What I Learned from My #MeToo Journey**
When: June 5, 2023 at 7:00 pm
Location: Grand Cinema, 606 Fawcett Ave, Tacoma, WA 98402

As long as there have been men in positions of political power, there have been young women working for them who face harassment in the workplace. While we know sexual harassment happens in many industries and professions, there seems to be a preponderance of such stories around elected officials. And in the days and weeks that follow a new story breaking, part of the narrative often includes victim blaming, both by the elected officials and their supporters.

Looking back 30 years after working for Senator Bob Packwood from Oregon, Lauri Hennessey recounts what she learned in the halls of the nation’s capital and asks why there are still so many stories about politicians and the women who work for them.

Lauri Hennessey (she/her) has over 30 years of experience in communications, politics, and nonprofits. She is the CEO of the League of Education Voters and board member for the state chapter of the National Women’s Political Caucus. She is married with three grown children. Hennessey lives in Vashon.

Join Humanities of Washington events for valuable conversations and community engagement.
The Spring has officially sprung! The city is alive with the people enjoying more sunny days. We are now finding more things to spend our time on as the days grow longer. We all enjoy days in the park or at the beach, but some of us may be longing for some community.

Tacoma is full of things to do in the springtime. Coming together and exploring different communities is a great way to bridge gaps with distant neighbors. It is even better when the things we can do to come together are free. Once again, connecting neighbors to neighbors with events across Tacoma. These events are free to attend in the upcoming weeks.

Third Thursdays: Hilltop Artists at Museum of Glass
- May 18 at Museum of Glass, 1801 Dock St, Tacoma, WA

Every third Thursday of the month—watch Hilltop Artists collaborate and create live on the Museum of Glass hot shop floor!

It’s all part of Third Thursdays where Museum of Glass is open free of charge from 5-8 PM every third Thursday of the month.

Point Defiance Flower & Garden Festival
- Jun. 3-4 at Point Defiance Park, 4702 S 19th St, Tacoma, WA

Whether you’re an expert gardener, a budding plant lover or just enjoy smelling the roses, the Point Defiance Flower & Garden Festival is an experience you can really dig your shovel into. The festival will be held both outdoors and inside, gracing Point Defiance Park’s gardens and Pagoda on June 3-4, 2023. Visitors to the event will enjoy a showcase of gardening in the Pacific Northwest with hands-on programming, garden tours, food trucks, shopping, lectures, live music, a beer and wine tasting garden and more.

Tacoma Bazaar Free Community Event
- May 27 at 3025 S Union Ave, Tacoma, WA 98409-3316, United States

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR OUR 2ND YEAR OF THE TACOMA BAZAAR! Our free community event will support and highlight local women-owned small businesses. Invite your friends, family, co-workers, neighbors, etc. to shop, eat, listen to music and engage with our local neighborhood.

We have vendors setting up from all over the South Sound with goodies ranging from custom tumblers, mugs, jewelry, soaps, signs, cupcakes, clothing, photo ops, to local professional services businesses! We will also have a different food truck to highlight at each event, an espresso stand, and activities for kiddos! Let’s turn this into a big community mix and mingle party!

Foraging in the Sound
Full of life and nourishing foragables
By Hunter Henderson

Spring is the time when life begins anew. By now you can hear the songs of birds in the trees and see bees busy at work pollinating flowers. And with life presenting new opportunities there are more ways to get outdoors and enjoy the earth!

Most folks have had mixed results with their vegetable starts because to be honest this spring has been cold. But have no fear, there are still plenty of vegetable opportunities because not everything gets planted in the spring.

In addition to more vegetable opportunities there are edible spring plants to be harvested that are nutritious and distinct.

*Please remember to properly identify, wash, and properly prepare any wild edible*
By Noah Struthers

Thanks to the incredible support of our community, Second Cycle has had a year filled with remarkable accomplishments that have made biking more accessible and inclusive. Our team of dedicated staff, volunteers, and donors have worked tirelessly to ensure that our impact has been felt far and wide.

In 2022, we had the privilege of delivering six weeks of bike camp programming, giving away over 100 bikes to individuals in need of basic transportation and recreation, and opening our community tool space three days a week. We were also thrilled to bring back our youth and adult programming post-Covid, all while keeping our community safe. And we are proud to say that our annual fundraiser, Bike Stories, was a resounding success, with a sold-out venue.

However, we recognize that there is still work to be done. The loss of Michael Weilert on July 19, 2022, who was hit and killed while using a marked crosswalk, was a tragedy that deeply affected our community. Our hearts go out to the Weilert family. In collaboration with concerned citizens and advocacy groups, we organized a ride of silence for Michael Weilert on August 7th, which brought together over 100 riders in silent protest and solidarity to work towards a safer Pierce County and Tacoma.

Thanks to our collective efforts, a Vision Zero plan was proposed and approved by Pierce County leadership. This is an incredibly impactful and important step that Second Cycle has not previously engaged in. We are committed to continuing this advocacy work in Tacoma and Pierce County to make biking and walking safer in our community. Our belief is that our communities are healthier, happier, and more resilient when people ride bikes. We will continue to advocate for bike riders, and we couldn’t do this work without the support of our community. Thank you so much for everything.

**2022 by the numbers**

**Recycle Reuse**
- Used bike sales - 415
- Bikes Donated - 1647
- Donated parts and accessories - 9365 lbs
- Metal recycled - 28000 lbs
- Lbs of tires recycled - 1400 lbs
- Used parts sold - 6962

**Volunteers**
- 58 folks volunteered in 2022
- 1,747 hours donated in 2022
- Averaging 20 different folks volunteering/month (+42% from 2021)
- Averaged 30.1 hours/volunteer in 2022 (+36% from 2021)

**Youth Program / number of youth served**
- Earn a Bike / 18
- Bike Camp / 47
- Bike Rodeo / 338
- Juvenile Court Programming / 11
- Youth Bike Give away / 34

**Adult Program / number of adults served**
- Community Tool Space / 128 participants
- BIPOC programs / 6 events with 75 participants in total
- Sol Social events / 7 events with 120 participants
- Pedal it forward / 230 repairs or $10,000 of critical transportation focused bike repairs
- Pedals 4 the people / 117 bikes given away with lights, locks and helmet approximately $46,000 in value given to low income bicycle riders.
HAC Spring Self-Care

By Selena Choy

Spring brings the sunshine and sunshine makes us happy! Spring cleaning isn’t just for your home but can also be applied to your self-care routine. Below you’ll find fun activities to refresh your soul this season.

Hilltop Story Fest

By Tacoma Public Library

Celebrate the stories of the Hilltop

The Community Archives Center is coming to the Hilltop neighborhood to document stories from the community! Stop by on May 6th from 11:00 am-3:00 pm to share your story and add to the Community Archives Center digital archive. Record a short oral history (any language welcome!) about your life in Tacoma. Bring a special family photograph, document, or recipe that helps tell your story and have it scanned at our Digitization Station. View highlights from the Northwest Room’s local history collections related to the area. Participate in a gallery walk answering questions about Hilltop on paper. Engage in a virtual story map. Enjoy stories from local artists. Plus, kids of all ages are invited to create their own comic book.

You have a unique and important story to tell. By sharing your oral history, family photos, or special family recipes with the Community Archives Center, it can become a part of Tacoma’s collective memory. We look forward to hearing YOUR STORY on May 6th! Lunch will be served.

Learn more about the Community Archives Center: tacomalibrary.org/communityarchives

Call to Action: Support Hilltop Restaurants

Construction in the Hilltop could put beloved eateries at risk of closure

By Ashleah Yandell

Hilltop is bustling with change as of late and this comes with many challenges. As we reinvigorate our historic neighborhood for the future it is important to remain present to the obstacles that may bring. The construction of new housing all around Hilltop is creating strains on ourselves, neighbors, and treasured businesses. Hilltop is no stranger to change and has seen many businesses come and go.

Now more than ever we need to help our community by choosing our community. The Hilltop is home to some of Tacoma’s best restaurants, but many of those establishments are struggling during this vast construction boom. We are responsible for keeping the restaurants and business we love in the Hilltop.

A call to action to visit these Hilltop staples is needed now more than ever. Next time you decide to grab a bite to eat, stop into one of many great spots in Hilltop.

Here are the locations and hours of some of our delicious restaurants:

- Fish House Cafe
  1814 M.L.K. Jr Way
  Open: Monday-Saturday 11 AM-4 PM
  Closed: Sunday

- Tacoma’s No1 Fried Rice
  1201 S 11th St
  Open: Monday-Friday 1030 AM-9 PM
  Saturday 11 AM-9 PM
  Closed: Sunday

- Pho King
  1020 M.L.K. Jr Way
  Open: Monday-Saturday 10 AM-8 PM
  Closed: Sunday

- Peterson Bros. 1111
  1111 S 11th St
  Open: Monday-Sunday 11 AM-12 AM
  Closed: Sunday

- Bob’s BBQ pit
  911 S 11th St
  Open: Tuesday-Saturday 12 PM-8 PM
  Closed: Sunday-Monday

- Pho Bac Cafe
  1115 S 11th S
  Open: Monday-Sunday 9 AM-7 PM

- Red Elm Cafe
  1114 M.L.K. Jr Way
  Open: Monday-Saturday 7 AM-4 PM
  Sunday 8 AM-4 PM

- Johnson Candy Company
  924 M.L.K. Jr Way
  Open: Monday-Friday 930 AM-5 PM
  Saturday 10 AM-5 PM
  Closed: Sunday

Together we can keep the Hilltop vibrant, beautiful, and historic. Let’s go out and save our iconic restaurants and business by outing Hilltop first.
For 113 years, Tacoma Community House has provided service to immigrants, refugees, and now, homeless youth with Immigration, Housing, Education, Employment, and Victim of Crime services.

Since March of 2022, Tacoma Community House (TCH) has experienced a significant influx of recently arrived Ukrainian refugees, due to the unprovoked invasion of their country. We have welcomed more than 250 individuals and their 400+ family members who have traveled approximately 5,683 miles to Tacoma, seeking assistance within TCH’s English as a Second Language, Employment, and Immigration Services Programs. Many have found shelter through the generosity of the Slavic communities in Pierce County.

TCH has recently initiated a relief fund to support individual or family specific needs, solicited item donations, as well as hired multiple staff to help these newcomers navigate their new home and the unfamiliar systems they have encountered.

We are also dedicated to serving homeless youth ages 12-24, through The REACH Center. REACH’s 10 Peer Outreach Specialists, all with lived experience, meet one-on-one with homeless youth (many BIPOC and LGBTQ2+) at encampments, shelters, and vehicles, to connect them to housing, employment opportunities, advocacy to mental health services. Currently, there are approximately 860 homeless youth in Pierce County with the number increasing daily.

Our most recent event, Hope Lives Here, welcomed an estimated 500+ in-person guests. Our goal is to provoke discussion about our programs and raise awareness, which we hope will also raise funds.

Please join us to learn more about the array of programming offered by TCH and REACH, focused on family reunification, economic stability, citizenship, education, safety, opportunity, and quality of life.

Hope Lives at Tacoma Community House
Learn about the programs Tacoma Community House and REACH are offering our community.

HILLTOP ACTION JOURNAL

Hilltop Action Coalition
The Communications Anchor of the Hilltop Area

2023 Advertisement Rates
Ad sizes (width x height in inches)
5x7, quarter page at $50
10x7, half page at $100
10x15, full page at $200
JPEG Format
CMYK Colors

Articles & Photographs for the Journal
Word count is your choice, photographs in JPEG format

Contact HAC hacoffice15@gmail.com
Main Library is getting a makeover! The Main Library in downtown Tacoma is being upgraded to improve safety, accessibility, and efficiency, creating an overall better visitor experience.

Upgrades will be made primarily to the modern addition (that is, the building attached to the Carnegie building, last remodeled in 1990); the Olympic and other meeting rooms, as well as the Handforth Gallery in the original 1903 Carnegie Library will also be refreshed.

Due to facility updates, public restrooms are not available at this time. Lobby service, including holds pickup, is available during open hours. The Digital Media Lab and Northwest Room are open for visits by appointment. https://www.tacomalibrary.org/visit-a-library/

Current hours for Main Library:
Monday- Closed
Tuesday- 12:00PM - 8:00PM
Wednesday- 12:00PM - 8:00PM
Thursday- 10:00AM - 6:00PM
Friday- 10:00AM - 6:00PM
Saturday- 10:00AM - 6:00PM
Sunday- Closed

In 2024, our beloved downtown library will reopen with new spaces, features, and fixtures. We would love your input as we move forward with this project. Please use your best interior design skills to help us choose the best furniture and fabrics for our adult and family area (Tacoma’s Living Room) and our new Teen Space.

Adult and Family Area, “Tacoma’s Living Room” will be a casual space for reading, conversations, and working or co-working with a laptop. We hope this space will be inviting, modern, and comfortable. What types of furniture and fabric patterns do you envision in Tacoma’s Living Room?

Provide your input through our online survey by Friday, May 5!

Overall plan for Main Library
The first and second floor of the library will receive necessary repairs and reopen with a new layout that has space for community partner tenants whose missions align with Tacoma Public Library’s. For example, the Tacoma Tool Library, opens a new window has been operating from the Main Library (via curbside services) since January 2021.

Interior updates will include repairing some of the most noticeable wear and tear: peeling drywall, carpet worn down through to the concrete, and a 30-year-old elevator needing safety upgrades.

Once these repairs and updates are complete, Tacoma Public Library anticipates reopening the Main Library in 2024. A phased reopening is possible.
Are You Expecting?

Community Health Care has the full range of maternity services.

- FREE pregnancy tests! No appointment needed!
- Obstetrics & Gynecology
- Have your delivery at a local hospital.
- Specialized maternity program to help you prepare for your baby.
- You can choose your doctor from a staff of 12 physicians.

Hilltop Regional Health Center
1202 Martin Luther King Jr. Way, Tacoma
(253) 441-4742
Learn more at www.commhealth.org