

# HILLTOP ACTION JOURNAL

June-July 2020 | Hilltop Action Coalition | Volunteer Organized | [www.hilltopactioncoalition.org](http://www.hilltopactioncoalition.org)

## RISE UP!

*“There comes a time when one must take a position that is neither safe, nor politic, nor popular, but he must take it because conscience tells him it is right.”* Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



Wright Park Protest photograph courtesy of Saven Hoff.

## Peaceful Protest in Tacoma

*“You’re not to be so blind with patriotism that you can’t face reality. Wrong is wrong, no matter who does it or says it.”* Malcom X

In response to the recent deaths of black people at the hands of police, including Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, George Floyd and Manuel Ellis, thousands of Tacomans have taken to the streets to protest police brutality and institutional racism that continues to prevail in this country.

Over the past two weeks, protests at Wright Park, the University of Puget Sound, Wapato Park, Downtown Tacoma and others have brought people together to declare that Black

Lives Matter. An important message here and around the country.

Peaceful protests and other activities continue here in Tacoma. You can see pictures from the protest at Wright Park (above and on page 9) and read about *6 Feet Under at People’s Park* on page 3. You’ll also hear voices speaking against injustices (*“I Can’t Breathe”*, page 3) and sharing experiences (*Kaleidoscope*, page 9) in this edition of the Hilltop Action Journal.

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*“I Can’t Breathe,” A poem dedicated to George  
Floyd and his family, By Bethany ‘B.Lyte’  
Montgomery, page 3*

*Kaleidoscope,  
Community Praying Together,  
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**Hilltop Action Journal**  
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### Community Priorities

- Good Jobs and Local Hires
- Affordable Housing
- Safety through Community Policing
- Pathways to Home Ownership
- Programs for Youth and Seniors
- Create a Hilltop Neighborhood Library



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### 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.

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## HAC Virtual Meetings

*HAC goes virtual to keep Hilltop Neighbors informed.*

Brendan Nelson and Alyssa Torrez, HAC Board Members, are hosting Virtual Monthly Community Meetings and Weekly Updates via Facebook Live during the COVID-19 pandemic. Join the Hilltop Action Coalition - That's You! - on Mondays at 6:00 PM and find out what's going on in your Hilltop Neighborhood! Say "Hello" to friends, and stay socially connected. Have community questions for HAC? Bring them with you. We'll find answers together. See you this Monday, June 15th, for the HAC Monthly Community Meeting!

### HAC Virtual Meeting Library

Miss the meeting? Visit [HAC Facebook](#),

click on the 'Videos' tab, and check out the HAC Virtual Meeting Library:

**March 16th** Monthly Community Meeting - 1st HAC virtual meeting!

**April 20th** Monthly Community Meeting with special guests Tim Jumper, Sound Outreach, and Rhoda Ramirez, Catholic Community Services

**May 18th** Monthly Community Meeting with special guests Deputy Mayor Keith Blocker and John Gaines, City of Tacoma Public Utilities

**April 27th** Weekly Update with special



guests Patrick Tippy, Horizon Housing Alliance, and Roberta Schur, Tacoma Housing Authority

**May 4th** Weekly Update with special guest Liz Ellis, Sound Transit Community Outreach Specialist

**May 11th** Weekly Update with special guests Rebecca Friedman and Sam Mulvey with KTQA-FM Tacoma Radio Station

**June 1st** Weekly Update with special guest Sarah Joslyn, Red Elm Cafe

Share your ideas for Virtual Weekly Updates email [hacoffice15@gmail.com](mailto:hacoffice15@gmail.com)

# Join Us

## Hilltop Action Coalition Monthly Community Meetings 3rd Mondays @ 6PM

Meet your neighbors and become part of the Hilltop Community. Each month, we have presentations and information about community events, activities, policy, and important news. Light refreshments and kid's activities provided!



## President's Message

By Brendan Nelson

Hilltop Community,

The impacts of global health developments related to COVID-19 and the unraveling presence of racism, resulting in the senseless deaths of black men and women in our community, and the wider world around us weighs heavily on our minds. Before saying anything else, I want to extend my gratitude to the many front-line workers, protesters, activists, and leaders of all ages who are making tremendous sacrifices to support response efforts, convene rallies, and hold our elected officials accountable by demanding justice. My thoughts are also with all who are experiencing illness and loss, near and far. This time has brought unprecedented challenges to many of our doorsteps. Our

entire community has had to change its ways of working, collaborating, and learning given the evolving circumstances. We—and many of our partner organizations—find ourselves navigating uncharted territory, while also considering what more we all might do to help our community strengthen and heal. We at the Hilltop Action Coalition are deeply committed to supporting members of our extended community in navigating this difficult and rapidly evolving climate.

As an organization that focuses so much on building bridges and spaces for collaboration between different sectors, institutions, disciplines, and individuals, this period has challenged us to think differently about how we connect and partner with those that are doing impactful work in the community. We hope that changes we are discussing and putting action behind now will ultimately

help us make HAC's work stronger, more accessible, equitable, and more inclusive.

We thank you for your continued commitment to our shared mission, which is as important now as ever. And at this moment, most especially, we hope to continue to be a learning community and a gathering space for the sharing of ideas, and a catalyst for collective action on important challenges we face. More than ever, all of our efforts are needed to help build a better community and future for us all.

In partnership, and on behalf of HAC,

Brendan Nelson  
President, Hilltop Action Coalition

#BlackLivesMatter



## 6 Feet in the Street at People's Park

*Community praying together for "all people affected by the coronavirus but especially people of color who have been affected in greater proportions than the rest of the population."*

By Harlan Shoop

On Saturday, May 31st, as part of a national movement for a call to prayer, the [Tacoma Ministerial Alliance](#) took the opportunity to invite people to come together to pray for all people affected by the coronavirus but especially people of color who have been affected in greater proportions than the rest of the population.

A recent CDC MMWR report included race and ethnicity data from 580 patients hospitalized with lab-confirmed COVID-19 found that 45% of individuals for whom race or ethnicity data was available were white, compared to 59% of individuals in the surrounding community. However, 33% of hospitalized patients were black compared to 18% in the community and 8% were Hispanic, compared to 14% in the community. These data suggest an over representation of blacks among hospitalized patients.

The Tacoma Ministerial Alliance asked the city to gather to pray for 15 minutes in the street. It started at noon on every corner of MLK from Division to South 27th. Several hundred gathered and were hosted by a pastor representative from the African American community. The participants were diverse and represented many faith communities in Tacoma.

The murder of George Floyd took place in Minneapolis, Minnesota after the event was planned and added an additional reason to gather and pray together for healing and speak out in recognition of the systemic evil of racism.

At 12:15 people were invited to pro-

cess to peoples park. Bishop Lawrence White from [Church of the Living God](#) hosted and Emceed the rally at the park. Present were faith leaders from the community along with several government leaders, Mayor Victoria Woodards, Deputy Mayor Keith Blocker, Washington State House leader, Laurie Jenkins, US Representative Derek Kilmer, to name a few.

### Picking Up the Mantle

*"I was especially encouraged and inspired by the commitment of the Tacoma Ministerial Alliance acknowledging the historic role of black pastors and churches as a moral leader and voice for the Hilltop and the City of Tacoma. These men and women of God are picking up the mantle passed by their predecessors—beginning with prayer, but then stepping into action to bring about change. I'm hopeful that their voice will guide the policies and actions in our city to bring about justice that is truly for all."*

*The gathering was unifying, and healing. It swelled my heart to see so many from our city gather to commit to bringing about change."*

~ Greg Walker

It was like a church service as those gathered were reminded by several speakers, mostly African American faith leaders in Tacoma that we are all God's children and change has to happen, now, enough is enough. Reverend Annie Jones-Barnes, read the names of those who have been killed by police over the last few years interjecting from time to time- "I can't breathe" as she read the names.

What started as a call to prayer for a virus also became a call pay attention to another kind of virus in our country and an admonishment to change. "I can't breathe" seems a fitting theme to call attention to structural racism and a call for the mourning and lamenting those who have died from Coronavirus 19. Bishop White reminded us that racism is a powerful force, the virus is a killer too, but a greater power for change is love for one another.

The Tacoma Ministerial Alliance committed to be accountable to the community for meaningful change and to make a plan and to hold other events to remind us we have work to do as a community. Another event is planned for later in June. Stay tuned.

For more information on the Tacoma Ministerial Alliance, please visit their website at <https://tmatoday.org>, their [Facebook](#) Page or call (253) 272-4949. Find out about their [Community Programs and Partnerships](#): Power Up Pierce 98404, Homeless Prevention Project, and Homeless Intervention Program.

## "I Can't Breathe"

He can't breathe  
She can't breathe  
They can't breathe  
WE CAN'T BREATHE

Breath

Something that seems so effortless  
Something done through our subconscious  
Something done until the day we die  
Something that keeps us alive

Life

Life is breath  
Feel the air fill up in your chest  
Now close your eyes  
And imagine laying on the ground  
Being held down  
Hands behind your back  
And someone's knee  
And not just anyone  
The police  
Pinned against your neck  
As your life fades  
Due to your lack of breath

Yeah that's a reality check  
Don't give a damn about any forged check  
The reality is that to them  
Your life don't matter if you're black  
A truth that is sad  
A truth that we shouldn't have

We are mad  
We are furious  
They keep killing us  
We keep filming it  
The tension keeps building up  
When is enough  
Really going to be enough

How much more blood  
How much longer  
Will they continue to drag us through the mud  
Seems as though society has grown numb  
To the inhumanity our people  
Have received from this country since day one

If only they could really feel our pain  
If only they could really know our rage

We are sick of dropping names  
We are sick of digging graves  
We are sick of all the injustices  
We are sick of us being treated like nothing

But let us add George Floyd  
To the very long list  
And again let us never forget  
What Dr. King said,

"injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere"

We shed our tears  
We bury our kids  
They keep committing sin  
When will it end

Momma  
Will it ever end

Change don't happen over night  
But we should all know wrong from right  
We all sure know black from white  
And well if you're black  
Then you're in for a fight

We fight for our lives  
We fight for our rights  
We fight for our justice  
We fight for our sisters and brothers  
We fight for one another

You can knock us down  
We will always get back up  
And if you kill us  
We'll make sure that you feel us  
And we ain't never giving up  
Because we got us  
And we got love  
And as always

WE SHALL OVERCOME

Power 2 The Poetry

Rest In Peace to all those deceased  
Due to the brutality of the police

A poem dedicated to George Floyd and his family by  
Bethany 'B.Lyte' Montgomery [Power2thepoetry.com](http://Power2thepoetry.com)

## HAC May Community Meeting

*A virtual meeting on HAC Facebook Live with Special Guests Deputy Mayor Keith Blocker and John Gaines with City of Tacoma Public Utilities.*

On May 18th at 6PM, Brendan Nelson, HAC Board President and Virtual Host, facilitated the HAC Monthly Community Meeting via Facebook Live. We were excited to have [Deputy Mayor Blocker](#) and John Gaines with [City of Tacoma Public Utilities](#) (TPU) as our Special Guests.

Deputy Blocker shared actions the City is taking during the Stay Home Order to make resources more available, such as access to City Council Meetings remotely and small business resources, and answered community questions typed in by attendees. Deputy Mayor Blocker also provided community resource links to share with the Hilltop.

John Gaines shared actions TPU has taken to make paying our electric bills a little bit easier during the Stay Home Order, such as the [Emergency Assistance Program](#). TPU expanded relief for their customers - read the [full press release here](#).

To find out more, check out [HAC Facebook Video](#) and listen to what our Special Guests have to share with the Hilltop Community. Deputy Mayor Keith Blocker's Community Resources for the May 18, 2020 HAC Monthly Community Meeting are noted below:

**-Watch City Council Meetings:** <https://www.cityoftacoma.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=169&pageId=18251>

**-Video archives of City Council Meetings:** [https://www.cityoftacoma.org/government/city\\_departments/City\\_Managers\\_Office/media\\_and\\_communications\\_office/tv\\_tacoma/meeting\\_coverage/city\\_council\\_meetings](https://www.cityoftacoma.org/government/city_departments/City_Managers_Office/media_and_communications_office/tv_tacoma/meeting_coverage/city_council_meetings)

**-Solid Waste Management Recovery Center Updates:** <https://cityoftacoma.org>



[Click here to view the HAC May Community Meeting](#)

[org/cms/one.aspx?portalId=53543](https://www.cityoftacoma.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=169&pageId=53543)

**-Information on the TEMS Community Advisory Committee:** [www.cityoftacoma.org/authorizedencampments](http://www.cityoftacoma.org/authorizedencampments)

**-Donate to the Rental Assistance Housing Fund:** <https://www.gtcf.org/product/city-of-tacoma-rental-assistance-fund/>

**-Make It Tacoma:** <https://makeittacoma.com/business-employer-resources-for-covid-19-response-2-2/>

**-Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department:** <https://www.tpchd.org/>

**-TPU Bill Assistance:** <https://www.mytpu.org/payment-billing/payment-information/payment-assistance/>

**-Washington State Governor Jay Inslee COVID-19 Response:** <https://coronavirus.wa.gov/>

**-Pierce County Supporting Partnerships in Anti-Racist Communities Report:** <https://www.piercecountywa.gov/DocumentCenter/View/67289/SPARC-Tacoma---Pierce-County-Report-February-2018?bidId>

**-Take the Census:** You can respond to the Census at [2020census.gov](https://2020census.gov), by filling out the form you received in the mail, or over the phone by calling (844) 330-2020.

**-Census response rate by census tract in Pierce County:** <https://www.piercecountywa.gov/5853/2020-Census>

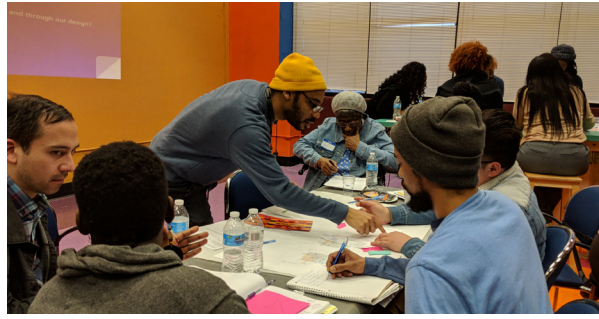
**-Washington's Phased Approach** <https://coronavirus.wa.gov/sites/default/files/2020-05/PhasedReopeningChart.pdf>



## THA: Ensuring Affordable Housing for the Hilltop Neighborhood



Once we started to see evidence of gentrification and displacement taking place in a substantial way, we knew we had to get involved. The Community Engagement process has been vital in educating the development team on local history and the trauma of those who have been displaced.



By Roberta Schur, Community Development Manager and Real Estate Development, at Tacoma Housing Authority

Tacoma Housing Authority (THA) has had its offices in the Hilltop for decades and owns several apartment buildings in the neighborhood. Until relatively recently THA was not actively involved in the Hilltop in a proactive way. However, once we started to see evidence of gentrification and displacement taking place in a substantial way, we knew we had to get involved. As a affordable housing organization, THA is keenly interested in ensuring there is affordable housing throughout the City.

In 2013, THA began acquiring property in the Hilltop as opportunity presented itself to increase affordable housing and stabilize local businesses in the face of rapid change and gentrification. In 2016, THA began a community engagement process, called Housing Hilltop, to gather neighborhood feedback on how THA should redevelop its property. This process included asset mapping and hosting 'Homework Groups' to hold meaningful conversations around neighborhood opportunities and challenges. This information was used to structure recommendations for development and offer synergies beyond typical planning efforts to ensure development would happen in an equitable fashion.

THA now owns four parcels that it plans to redevelop into mixed-use affordable housing. These sites are located at:

- Site A- S 10th & S L St, SE Corner
- Site B- S 11th & S L St, NE

- Corner
- Site C- 1120 S 11thSt
- Site D- 1124 Martin Luther King Jr Way

In 2019, THA partnered with [Mithun](#), an integrated design firm, and [Fab-5](#), a community arts organization, to facilitate the [#DesignTheHill](#) community engagement process. This initiative included stakeholder Homework Groups, community-wide Design Labs, and Creative Engagement projects. These events explored how to reflect the community's cultural knowledge, experience, history, and hope for the future in the design. Members of Fab-5 served as 'Community Engagement Specialists', using their roots in the Hilltop community to guide the outreach and assist the professionals at THA and Mithun in developing accessible and culturally relevant events. THA had two overall guiding questions that shaped the outreach:

1. How can we empower the Hilltop community to design itself?
2. How can we reflect the history, vision and culture of the neighborhood in these buildings?

We invited nonprofits, businesses, housing providers, and city officials to four Homework Groups to discuss how to align the project with their shared values and goals. We also invited Hilltop's community and business leaders to discuss specific issues, including Hilltop history, community needs and economic empowerment. The

focused discussion topics at these events informed agendas for the larger Design Labs and allowed the development team to develop thoughtful responses to community priorities before these meetings.

Three 'Design Labs' were held to catalyze community involvement in the design process. Design Labs were energized and accessible community events with music, food and collaboration. They were organized to give equal weight to participants no matter what their background or experience with design and development. Creative activities inspired conversation between the project team and residents. The design and development professionals sought to describe the complex technical issues of building planning and construction in everyday language, to put their professional expertise in service to community vision. We received enthusiastic engagement and an enormous amount of feedback from this approach.

Five 'Creative Engagement projects' were targeted specifically to youth, neighbors, elders, people who do not speak English as their first language, and local entrepreneurs to find out how these groups want to be represented in design. These groups were selected to ensure their voices were heard as they are often overlooked in community process.

The Community Engagement process has been vital in educating the development team on local history and the trauma of those who have been displaced. [#DesignTheHill](#) allowed the development team to better understand the spatial identity of the Hilltop neighborhood. Throughout the process, it was vital

to amplify the voices of those most impacted by new development and to integrate their advice on the character and components of the new buildings.

Key design guidance includes:  
 \*Explore locating a local Tacoma Public Library branch/learning/resource center in the project.  
 \*Include home daycare opportunities for residents.

\*Incorporate neighborhood history, arts, and culture into building and site design.

\*Integrate opportunities for gathering and events of different scales. Design these spaces to be flexible and adaptable to host anything from birthday parties to public performances.

\*Provide permanent seating areas at residential entries in the L Street right-of-way.

\*Incorporate lush plantings and explore opportunities to incorporate community gardens and fruit trees (a historic aspect of the neighborhood).

\*Integrate a rooftop view deck and community space that is accessible to residents of all buildings.

Key process guidance includes:  
 \*Continue outreach to neighborhood throughout the development process. Provide regular updates.

\*Include community members with particular interest in certain areas (i.e.... community space, retail space) in the design process as these areas are developed.

\*Make units affordable for current Hilltop residents and those who have already been displaced.

\*Explore a community preference policy when leasing units to combat displacement pressures.

\*Create partnerships with local organizations to support business development.

\*Prioritize local and minority-owned businesses when leasing ground floor retail.

\*Provide outreach regarding job opportunities for residents during the construction phases.

\*Resist the net loss of affordable housing in the Hilltop neighborhood.

The plan will provide approximately 250 units of new affordable housing and affordable commercial/retail/office space. This will include studio, 1-, 2-, and 3-bedroom units. One parcel, Site D, will be dedicated to permanent supportive housing for single adults experiencing homelessness. THA will be partnering with [Horizon Housing Alliance](#) to develop that parcel. Construction on that site is scheduled to begin in late 2020 (see adjoining article). The current plan is for the construction of the balance of the units to begin in early 2021 if financing once financing has been secured. All units will be affordable for households up to 60% of area median income.

THA has larger plans and other ideas to help local resident build assets, develop capacity and have a voice in the development of the Hilltop. If you would like to get involved, please contact Roberta Schur (Rschur@tacomahousing.org or 253.207.4434).

The full Hilltop Community Framework Plan can be found here: <https://tacomahousing.net/housing-hilltop>



Check out the [#DesignTheHill Community Development Framework Plan](#), page 12, for a more detailed map with site specifics.

- Site A- S 10th & S L St, SE Corner
- Site B- S 11th & S L St, NE Corner
- Site C- 1120 S 11thSt
- Site D- 1124 Martin Luther King Jr Way





# Hilltop Lofts: THA Partners with Horizon Housing Alliance to Provide Affordable Housing in Hilltop



Watch the [April 27th HAC Weekly Update](#) and meet HAC special guests, Roberta Schur (THA) & Patrick Tippy (HHA), as they share their goal “to produce exceptional housing- resulting in a community with top quality physical surroundings and the best available supportive services for residents. Together, THA and HHA are planning a 57-unit development for individuals exiting homelessness called Hilltop Lofts.”

By Patrick Tippy, Director of Housing Development at [Horizon Housing Alliance](#)

Over the past several years, Tacoma Housing Authority has engaged community members and organizations about the redevelopment of its property in the Hilltop neighborhood. At the conclusion of the “Housing Hilltop” (2016) and #DesigntheHill (2019) community conversations, THA created the Community Development Framework Plan capturing



[Click here to view the #DesignTheHill Development Framework Plan](#)

enced design and construction partners as well as experienced service partners. Horizon is excited to join these efforts and active in wanting to bring these visions to life. Together, THA and HHA are planning a 57-unit development for individuals exiting homelessness called Hilltop Lofts.

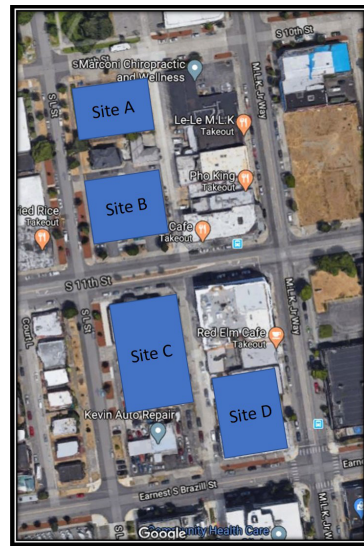
Horizon Housing Alliance is a non-profit, real estate development and asset management organization. Patrick Tippy, Director of Housing Development for Horizon, has experience with developing housing for people experiencing homelessness in 7 counties throughout Washington including the Nativity House shelter and apartments in Tacoma. HHA’s mission is to bring best-in-class partners to produce exceptional housing- resulting in a community with top quality physical surroundings as well as the best available supportive services for residents. Horizon seeks to partner with individuals and organizations who excel in their roles as property managers, designers, contractors, and supportive service providers and is excited about the

partnerships in place for the Hilltop Lofts development.

This development, located at [1124 MLK Jr. Way](#), is the current location of the [Mr. Mac’s](#) and [Sam and Terry’s barbershop](#). The map to the right shows the location as “Site D”. Hilltop Lofts will include 57 units of permanent supportive housing for chronically homeless individuals exiting homelessness. Residential amenities will include a large community room and kitchen for residential community gatherings, interior courtyard, onsite laundry, ADA accessibility, and a 24- hour front desk. Metropolitan Development Council (MDC) will provide supportive services on site including front desk, case management, and behavioral health services for residents. MDC’s services will provide be critical to support to in their housing and health goals. Community Health Care will offer medical services on site.

The building will also include 4,000 sf of commercial space for local businesses. HHA and THA are in conversations with Mr. Mac’s and Sam and Terry’s barbershop about returning to the space.

Horizon released a [call for artists](#) to support the team in setting a vision for the development by developing an Art Brief and outlining integrated artwork/design within the permitted architectural design. [Proposals due June 29th, 8AM] The successful artist/designer will join the existing architectural team to help create a building that will act as a beacon on this prominent corner, help beautify the neighborhood, and provide a welcoming environment for residents of the building and community members. Horizon’s goal is that Arts Brief will be site responsive, and create synergy with adjacent buildings, spaces and activities, future development, and physical features. Addi-



Site D  
1124 Martin Luther King Jr Way

tionally, Horizon anticipates the design will honor and reflect the history of the Hilltop Neighborhood includ-

ing the history of the area’s Black and Native American communities. That artist/designer, along with the development team, will identify opportunities to commission site-specific artworks by either the selected artist/designer or additional artists. (The call for artists response is due on Monday, June 15th and the team will be selected later that week. For information about this opportunity please contact Patrick Tippy, [ptippy@hhaofwa.org](mailto:ptippy@hhaofwa.org))

Construction is expected to begin in late Fall 2020 performed by Inland Construction. Horizon expects the residents to begin moving in winter 2022 providing homes for 57 individuals exiting homelessness.

the collective vision for the development opportunities. The Tacoma Housing Authority’s (THA) Hilltop Parcels Development represents an unprecedented opportunity to positively impact the City of Tacoma’s historic African-American neighborhood through the development of four related buildings and improvements to the connecting streetscape. Additionally, the Community Development Framework Plan identified housing for people experiencing homelessness as a priority for redevelopment activities.

Tacoma Housing Authority and Horizon Housing Alliance (HHA) partnered together to fulfill the vision to create permanent supportive housing for individuals experiencing homelessness on the site that is financially feasible by bringing in experi-

***The Tacoma Housing Authority’s Hilltop Parcels Development represents an unprecedented opportunity to positively impact the City of Tacoma’s historic African-American neighborhood through the development of four related buildings and improvements to the connecting streetscape.***

## Community Highlight- Hilltop Christian Center

*Strong leadership serving people on the Hilltop for 25 years.*



By Harlan Shoop

As in most churches, leadership is key. Leadership that is authentic, consistent, relevant and radical attracts people to want to be a part of something bigger than themselves. A mission bigger than anyone can achieve and yet compelling.

Pastor Pana and his wife Tai, share in a ministry on the hilltop that has all the above ingredients. While attending Northwest University, God began giving Pana a burden for the Hilltop area of Tacoma, Washington. In 1988 he began walking the streets

of the Hilltop talking to drug addicts, drug dealers, and gang members. After graduating from Northwest University in 1990 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Biblical Literature, he relocated to Tacoma with the hopes of pioneering a church in the

Hilltop area. After a time of ministry and teaching in Hawaii, in October of 1995 he began meeting with friends and colleagues concerning the planting of a church in the Hilltop area. After months of collective prayer and fasting, he moved back to Tacoma in January of 1996 and started Hilltop Christian Center, located at 1016 S. 10th (front entrance on MLK).

Pastor Pana married his wife Tai Mamea in February 2001. Tai is a graduate of the University of Washington, where she earned her

Bachelor of Arts Degree in American Ethnic Studies and has a Masters of Science Degree in Taxation from Golden Gate University. They now have two lovely daughters named Maleija and Keilani and a son named Micaiah..

They have been present on the Hilltop for almost 25 years and serve a wide range of individuals ranging from homeless/addicted to the two parent family and everyone else they come in contact with.

Here are some examples of their



ministry-according to Pastor Pana “our worship pastor began as a

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pregnant teen in our youth group that went on to raise her daughter, who is currently a sophomore in college, and earned her B.A. & Master degree. The gentleman that leads our Men’s ministry was a crack addict and homeless. There are several people who have overcome drug and alcohol addiction and serve in various parts of the church including single moms being reunited with their children after losing them to CPS due to drug addiction and prostitution. “

These examples matches their focus to produce men and women who are equipped by God and sent out to reach this generation with the good news of Jesus and who are focused and alert for service.

Hilltop Christian Center worships on line during the pandemic and social distancing at 10:15 every Sunday. The goal of HCC’s ministry effort is to draw people closer to God.

They reflect values of Christian faith and the work of Christ’s kingdom in worshipping together, annual community outreaches such as an Easter egg hunt, Community block party, and school supply giveaway during , scholarships for high school seniors, annual mission trips, and long term transitional housing.

As you can tell, Hilltop Christian Center is a vibrant community that always invites people to join in and be cared for, encouraged, challenged, renewed and change by the love of God. And then asked to give back to the community.

For more information, visit Hilltop Christian Center’s at [1016 S 10th St, Tacoma](#); email at [thehilltopccc@aol.com](mailto:thehilltopccc@aol.com), call (253) 272-3250; or, check out their website [www.hilltopchristiancenter.org](http://www.hilltopchristiancenter.org) and Facebook page, [Church Web Works](#).



## Hilltop Honors

The Hilltop Action Journal would like to highlight friends, neighbors, organizations or businesses that have stepped forward to help during COVID-19 in a special Journal segment called 'Hilltop Honors'.



Hilltop Honors  
Kaylene Nelson

### Mask Makers of the Hilltop

An interview with Kaylene Nelson.

there are the maintenance workers, delivery folks, grocery clerks and stockers who make it possible for life to go on. These are folks who deserve to be safe, and they should not have to provide masks at their own expense."

So, on March 31, she created a [Facebook](#) group called Homemade Masks for Medical Professionals and Other Essential Workers.

Now there are more than fifty volunteers actively involved in the mask-making brigade. Most of the volunteers discovered the group through social media such as Facebook, Next Door, and Buy Nothing, and of course word-of-mouth (but not face-to-face).

Original group members included Robert, Billie, Cheryl, Jessica and Diane. They find sources for materials, cut the fabric and elastic and sew masks in their spare time. They are making donations large and small; there have been donations/loans of sewing machines and some have even bought machines so they could help. The guidelines are simple and rely on common sense, courtesy,

and consideration: the masks are not to be sold, group members are reminded to be nice to one another and not to block group administrators/moderators, and most importantly, have fun! Kaylene emphasizes this last point: "this is not a competition or a sweat shop operation, we expect that volunteers will work on the masks as they have time in their regular lives."

This undertaking has not been without its challenges. In the beginning the difficulty was finding suitable mask and filter fabric, and elastic. After some trial and error, Kaylene's uncle suggested the olyfabric (polypropyl) that they use now source through JoAnn's, e-Bay, and anywhere else it can be found. According to Kaylene, "I figure we currently have enough supplies to make 4000 masks."

She continued, "Never in my wildest dreams did I think there would be such an enthusiastic response from folks wanting to help us. The challenge of organizing volunteers, distributing supplies and finished masks required developing a logistical approach that I hadn't anticipated. But we have a system now and a cohesive group. Two women

whom I've never met in person are providing critical administrative help: Melissa picks up and delivers materials, kits, and finished masks, and Amber manages the requests, donations, and communication."

This effort really is a brigade facilitated by porch pickups. Fabric and elastic are delivered to the porches of volunteers who cut to specifications, then Melissa picks up the pieces and delivers them to Kaylene's porch and she assembles kits containing fabric, thread, elastic and pipe cleaners (to fit over the bridge of the nose), Melissa then distributes the kits to sewers, picks up the finished masks, and returns them to Kaylene's for gifting to workers. The turnaround is about five days.

Homemade Masks distributed about 600 masks by mid-May. They are simple double-sided masks: one side is the polypropyl fabric that does not need a filter and the other side is 100 percent cotton. The masks are washable in hot water, but you must use a low setting if you iron them, otherwise they melt.

They are distributed free to anyone one in the qualifying categories who request them, but Tacoma requests are the priority. Masks have been provided to Seattle Pain Relief, Rain City Painting, Big Lots and

for a family funeral. Kaylene has a selection of masks on her porch for delivery drivers who are bringing supplies, etc. They also sent

100 masks to the Navajo Nation and to a non-profit organization in Kentucky. Facebook has certainly extended the visibility of the group.

Medical personnel and other essential workers can request masks through the Facebook messenger page "Homemade Masks for Medical Professionals and Other Essential Workers." Folks who want to participate as volunteers can make contact through the Facebook page as well.

As with any grass roots group, there always room for more: more volunteers and more contributions to cover expenses for supplies. Donations can be made by check to 2324 S L Street, Tacoma 98405 or through FB Messenger to PayPal, or Venmo. When asked how long they will continue with mask making, Kaylene replied : We'll be making masks until no one needs them. That's when our work here will be done."

For more information, contact Kaylene Nelson at [thenelsons253@outlook.com](mailto:thenelsons253@outlook.com), or visit the Mask Makers of the [Homemade Masks for Medical Professionals and Other Essential Workers](#) Facebook.

Jo Davies from 8th & I Neighborhood passed along this story.

I met Kaylene Nelson several years ago at a meeting of the L & M Neighborhood group, she was a spark-plug for that group and that spark has not dimmed over the intervening years. It's not surprising that she is now the point and pivot for the "Homemade Masks for Professional Medical Workers and other Essential Workers" a grass roots group that grew from her conviction that folks who have to go to work should feel safe while they are there. Kaylene said "I think that safety is a right. In addition to medical personnel,

### Helping our Street Neighbors

Service for those in need.



Hilltop Honors  
Rachel Ahrens

Greydon Sheldon from New Tacoma Neighborhood passed along this story.

Monday morning when I got back into town from working at the hospital in Renton, I drove by [First United Methodist Church](#) on S 7th and Tacoma Ave and saw Rachel Ahrens passing out goodies to our Street Neighbors. I pulled my car over and got out and visited with Rachel.

Rachel took me to the back of the Church and introduced me to a gentleman named Stanley who operates their food pantry for the homeless and those in need. She showed me the recently acquired outdoor portable toilet with inside hand sanitizer the Church got for our Street Neighbors. The toilet costs \$540.00 a month

through 1-800-TOI-LETS, which is the same company that was used at People's Park.

Rachel Ahrens attended a HAC Monthly Meeting with me just before COVID. I first met Rachel one morning while I was outside picking up garbage and debris from our Street Neighbors and she was passing out hot cocoa to them. Rachel is one of the Leaders at First United Methodist Church and she and the Church are very involved with our "outdoor neighbors." Rachel Ahrens and her work with First United Methodist Church deserves a special Hilltop Honors!

Services provided by First United Methodist Church can be found on their [website](#), [Facebook](#) page, or call (253) 627-0129.

### Essential Needs

Serving 275 Hilltop Families a week!



Hilltop Honors  
Bishop  
Lawrence White

1000 and may speak with Amanda Scott Thomas. Families receive an allotted time to drive up to the distribution point along with a sticker to put on their windshield that indicates how many families are being served in each car.

For each family, one box of food and one box of essential supplies such as toothpaste and toilet paper are loaded into to the open trunk of the car. Volunteers wear masks and maintain a safe distance, and a canopy overhead protects everyone from the weather.

Each week through these two programs, the Church of the Living God serves approximately 175

individuals and families on Mondays, and 100 families on Wednesdays. Word goes out through the [City of Tacoma](#), the [Ministerial Alliance](#), the [Tacoma Urban League](#), Facebook, and other channels. Volunteers also come from these organizations, with many teachers, ministers and church members throughout Tacoma ministries having stepped up enthusiastically to volunteer.

Anyone who wishes to support these much-needed services in our community may do one or more of these things:

\*Donate food to the Church of the Living God at 2102 S. M. St.

\*Donate cash or checks to the Church of the Living God through their donations mail slot at 1954 S. M. St.

\*Donate by credit/debit card through the Cash App, to SCOTLGWA202.

Volunteer through one of the organizations listed above. For more information about Church of the Living God, please visit their [Facebook page](#); or, give them a call at (253) 272-1900.

### "They are my heroes!"

Good friends check up on good friends.



Hilltop Honors  
Cathy  
from Ivar's

Judy Quackenbush from the 8th & I Neighborhood passed along this story.

Don Higby is one of the Hilltop elders. Eighty eight years old, he's retired from the U.S. Army and has lived in the 8th and I Neighborhood for over 40 years.

Don contributed many hours of labor and support in the early development of Neighbor's Park and several years ago he moved to an apartment overlooking the Park.

Every day, rain or shine, for the past 35 years, Don has walked to the bus stop on 6th Ave, and gone to the Ivar's at 19th and Mildred for his main meal and companionship. One waitress in particular, Cathy, often had some friendly words for Don.

With the onset of Covid 19, Don has been isolated in his

apartment and missing his daily trip to Ivar's and the ability to pick up a few groceries at Fred Meyer's.

Several weeks ago, Don had a BIG SURPRISE. Cathy, along with her daughter, showed up at his home. They brought a take out meal from Ivar's, and told Don they were worried about him. Don said: "I couldn't believe they came to see me...it gave me such a good feeling that they wanted to see how I was."

On her next day off, Cathy and her daughter returned to take Don grocery shopping. She left her phone # with Don, saying: "...call if you need anything"

Don said: "These are good friends to have when you're stuck like I am!! THEY ARE MY HEROES!!!"

Do have a Hilltop Honor story to pass on? Email [hacoffice15@gmail.com](mailto:hacoffice15@gmail.com) to share the good news in the August/September issue of the Hilltop Action Journal!



# Safe Streets: Community Mobilization and National Night Out (NNO)

## Strengthening Neighborhoods

*Community members want a safer, more nurturing environment.*

By Sarah DuBois, Safe Streets Mobilization Specialist

My name is Sarah and I am a community mobilization specialist with Safe Streets Campaign. Safe Streets serves residents in the City of Tacoma and in unincorporated areas of Pierce County. At Safe Streets our vision is to imagine all of us living in a safe and thriving neighborhood. What this means is different for every group I and my colleagues work with, but the general desire amongst the neighborhood group members I work with is to see their community as safer and as a nurturing environment for the people who live there. I work in unincorporated Pierce County, particularly in the northeastern area. Prior to November 2019, I worked across all of unincorporated Pierce County with the exception of Key Peninsula, where my friend and colleague RoxAnne works.

One of the first things I learned about unincorporated Pierce County is that residents who live there face some unique challenges, partially because they don't have the extra support of a city

government amongst other things. More importantly, however, they have unique and innovative ways to address many of those challenges. In my time at Safe Streets, I have learned much from the people of Pierce County. I've listened to their sadness, anger, and frustration at situations in their neighborhoods that would make us all cringe, but they refuse to give up. I've stood alongside them as they've marched on their street corners for safer neighborhoods, cleaned up litter in their parks and off their streets, and hosted community events like Easter Egg hunts and National Night Out celebrations. I've eaten meals with them and had discussions about their pasts and dreams for the future, both personal and for their communities. I have witnessed their tenacity, courage and resilience in spite of seemingly insurmountable odds, and I am humbled to get to be a part of the work being done by these community leaders around Pierce County. But it is their response to the new crisis across our communities that truly has left me amazed by their creativity and passion for their families and others.

Reasonably, group members could take this time off from their groups to focus on their families and the new needs and challenges they are facing. I support those who are doing this, especially because this is one way we care for our communities, and Safe Streets will be ready to continue serving them when they can come back to their groups. Some groups and many individual group members are staying active during this time either with us or in their communities and I am once again amazed at the creative ways the communities I serve are grappling with the effects of COVID-19 and the stay-at-home order. Group members are making face masks to give away to neighbors. They are updating contact lists for everyone in their neighborhood, especially shut-in seniors so they don't have to go through this alone. They are helping serve weekly meals to their neighbors and delivering meals to those who can't make it to the pickup sites. They are creatively planning how to get more food resources into their communities and advocating for greater focus on areas that are sometimes overlooked. They are

helping ensure that children have access to the internet for distance learning and that parents have the support to feel successful with the extra tasks that come with their children being at home all day every day. They are planning community gardens to provide creative outlets for families with children and to help with food scarcity for those impacted by joblessness. Somehow, they continue to show up to online meetings with positive perspectives and eager attitudes, ready to figure out how to help next or how to maintain the projects they are currently working with. And they continue to dream about the future and what they will work on when things feel more "normal."

The current situation with COVID-19 have made me starkly aware of the impact working with these incredible people has on me. I think it also highlights what Safe Streets does so well: emboldens people to step forward in the face of adversity and crisis with the tools and resources they need to come together, even virtually, to make where they live a better place for all. It encourages them to persevere with patience and to stay committed to the cause they are pursuing. Right now, I am grateful for the virtual realm and its ability to help keep me connected with most of my groups, but it is a far cry from seeing them in person. I eagerly await the day when we can meet together again in the same room and make plans for what happens next in their neighborhoods. But until then, it is their energy and passion in the face of this crisis that inspires me, keeps me motivated, and makes me want to do a better job of taking care of my own neighborhood in Tacoma.

## Sign Up for NNO!

Did you know HAC participates in NNO? Our Board Members will come to your neighborhood event to say "Hello!" and bring a Safe Streets SWAG Bag with additional HAC items to share.

Email [hacoffice15@gmail.com](mailto:hacoffice15@gmail.com) once you have [registered](#) your neighborhood's event with Safe Streets. We will add you to the HAC list and see you on Tuesday, October 6th to celebrate community!

National Night Out is designed to:

- \*Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness

- \*Generate support and participation in local anti-crime efforts such as Community-Oriented Policing and neighborhood organizing

- \*Strengthen neighborhood spirit and unity

- \*Support community and police relations/cooperation

- \*Send a clear message that our neighborhoods are organized and will not tolerate illegal activity

Safe Streets offers these resources to help you plan your event:

- [NNO Planning Guide](#)
- [Customizable NNO Flyer](#)
- [Block Party Barricade Diagram](#)

For more information on how to register, please call Safe Streets at (253) 272-6824 today!



## National Night Out 2020



POLICE ~ COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

**Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

On Tuesday, October 6, 2020, join more than 38 million neighbors in 16 thousand other communities across all fifty states, U.S. territories, Canadian cities, and military bases worldwide and make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live.

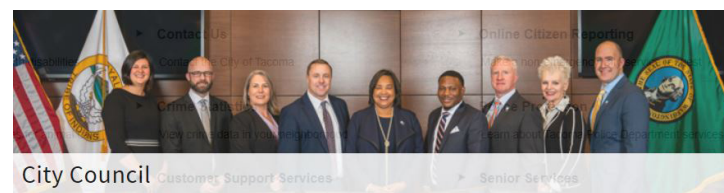
Groups will gather in the streets on which they live, holding block parties, barbecues, picnics, cookouts, safety fairs, and other events to build a true sense of community and police-community relationships.

Find out more and register your event at:  
<http://safest.org/events/nno2020/>

For more information, contact Safe Streets at (253) 272-6824.



## Virtual City Council Meetings



### Special Tacoma City Council Weekly Meetings on Coronavirus Updates - Fridays at 2PM

The Tacoma City Council has established special weekly meetings to provide updates on the status and impact of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) and the City's response to the emergency every Friday at 2 PM. These meetings are open to the public but to comply with Governor Inslee's Proclamation, this meeting will not be conducted in-person. You can listen in on the meeting by dialing 1-855-747-8824 and using Passcode: 8215373. You may also listen on [Facebook LIVE](#). [Meeting Agendas](#) will be posted at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting.

'Stay Home, Stay Safe' Order and Participating in Tacoma City Council Meetings

Consistent with the CDC's recommendation, and pursuant to the City's recent state of emergency proclamation, Council has set the maximum occupancy of Council Chambers, not including Coun-

cil and staff, at 10. Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department and the CDC also recommend that individuals over the age of 60 as well as individuals with underlying medical conditions – like heart disease, lung disease or diabetes – stay home as much as possible and avoid crowds.

Community members are strongly encouraged to participate at Council meetings in written form. This guidance extends to Public Comment for items on the agenda and Community Forum for items limited to matters over which the Council has jurisdiction. Written comments may be submitted to [cityclerk@cityoftacoma.org](mailto:cityclerk@cityoftacoma.org) every Tuesday before 4 PM prior to that evening's Council meeting, and comments will be compiled and sent to Council.

Council meetings are televised on [TV Tacoma](#), which is carried on both the Click! and Comcast Cable systems. Council meetings can also be streamed on [tv.tacoma.com](http://tv.tacoma.com).



## Congratulations Class of 2020!

*“Education must enable each one to weigh evidence and sift, to distinguish the real from the unreal, the true from the false, and the facts from the fiction.” Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

**Anauncia Willis**  
Stadium High School



**Anauncia Willis, Class of 2020**, is graduating from Stadium High School! Anauncia is passionate about higher education and will be on the path of becoming a registered nurse. Anauncia is an outstanding role model to her younger siblings and fellow scholars at her school!

**Man Dang**  
Stadium High School



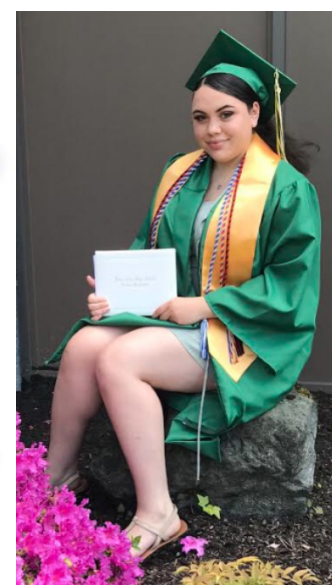
**Man Dang, Class of 2020**, is graduating from Stadium High School! Man is graduating top of his class with a cumulative 4.0 GPA. Man will be attending the University of Washington Seattle this fall and majoring in engineering. Man has been accepted into the STARS program at UW where he will be on the path of his dream career of Aerospace Engineering!

**Imahni Hawkins**  
Stadium High School



**Imahni Hawkins, Class of 2020** is graduating from Stadium High School and TCC Running Start Program! Imahni has been an active member on the Youth Philanthropy Board and is a recipient of the Act Six Scholarship. Imahni will be attending Saint Martin's University to major in Psychology!

**Destiny Bergevin**  
Foss High School



**Destiny Bergevin, Class of 2020** is graduating from Foss High School! Destiny will be attending Clover Park Tech this next school year and is passionate about helping others. Some of her potential career paths to fuel her passion include becoming a Traveling Nurse and/or a Behavioral Technician working with children!

**Isis Sapp**  
Foss High School



**Isis Sapp, Class of 2020** is graduating from Foss High School this spring! Isis is a passionate artist and plans pursue higher education focusing on art to obtain a career in animation. You can find Isis's published artwork in the Tacoma Weekly!

**Adaiah Walker**  
Tacoma School of Arts



**Adaiah Walker, Class of 2020** is graduating from Tacoma School of Arts. Adaiah loves to sing and plays guitar. She loves crystals, natural stones and nature. She is here to make a difference. We are so proud of you! Your Loving Family

**Harlan Estrada**  
Stadium High School



**Harlan Estrada, Class of 2020** is graduating from Foss High School! Matthew plans to attend Western Washington University in the Fall.

### Local High School Cap & Gown Event Videos

Just in case you missed it, check out the links below to our local high school's Cap and Gown events! Although COVID-19 changed the way we could traditionally celebrate, we love our graduates and want to lift them up and share their HUGE success. We hope this will inspire all Hilltop students, traditional and non-traditional, to persevere, and do not give up your goal for education.

- [Foss High School Class of 2020 Cap & Gown Event](#)
- [Lincoln High School Class of 2020 Cap & Gown Event](#)
- [Stadium High School Class of 2020 Cap & Gown Event](#)
- [Wilson High School Class of 2020 Cap & Gown Event](#)
- [iDEA Class of 2020 Cap & Gown Event](#)
- [SAMI Class of 2020 Cap & Gown Event](#)



## “Whatever your child’s talent, there’s a scholarship to fit.”

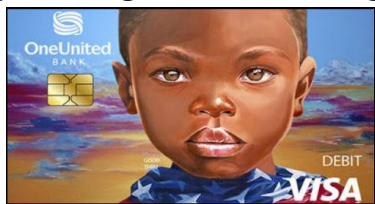
**Scholarships aren’t just for graduating seniors and college students.**

By Perry Newell

If you have been following our [Funding College Project](#) Facebook posts, you know that scholarships aren’t simply for high school seniors and current college students. Did you know that there are also ample opportunities for elementary and middle school students? It’s true!

Online scholarship search services are not available to students under the age of 13, which can make finding these opportunities a little more difficult. That’s why I felt it was important to share with you some of the programs that are currently open for younger students.

For example, on June 2nd I posted information about the 10th Annual [“I Got Bank!”](#) Financial Literacy Contest sponsored by OneUnited Bank which is the country’s largest Black-owned bank. Every year, they sponsor a financial literacy contest for children between the ages of 8 and 12 years old. Students are required to write a 250-word essay about what they learned from the book, *I Got Bank*, or another financial literacy book of their choice, and submit a unique art project in PDF format. The essay must state how they can use the information in their life.



Every year, ten winners of the competition receive a \$1,000 savings account. The deadline for this scholarship is usually in June 30, 2020 and the award is a \$1,000 savings account. Find out more at [OneUnited Bank](#).

What about the “No Essay” College Scholarship for \$2,000?

Sponsor: [Niche](#) - Amount: \$2,000 - Closing Date: June 30, 2020 - Description: Scholarship is open to high school, college, and graduate students and those planning to enroll within 12 months. Applicant must be a legal resident of the United States or an international student with a valid visa. Applicant must log in to [Niche](#) or create a free account to apply for the scholarship.

[Celebrate Pride!](#) \$1,000 Easy Scholarship: Celebrate Pride (While Staying Safe) During COVID-19.

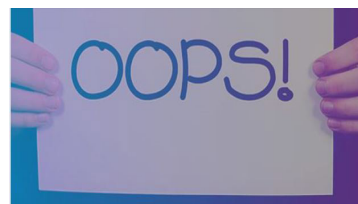
Sponsor: [DoSomething](#) - Amount: \$1,000 - Closing Date: June 30, 2020



Description: You could win an easy \$1,000 scholarship by making a Pride-themed face mask or hanging up signs to show LGBTQ youth that they are not alone this June. The COVID-19 outbreak has put LGBTQ youth at a greater risk, and efforts to proactively support LGBTQ+ young people in non-supportive environments can help promote physical and emotional safety.

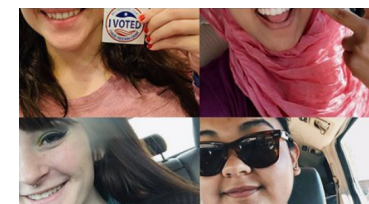
Check out the [Do-Over Scholarship!](#) Sponsor: [Unigo](#) - Amount: \$1,500 - Closing Date: June 30, 2020 - Description: Scholarship is open to students 13 years of age or older who are legal residents and are currently enrolled (or will enroll no later than the fall of 2026) in an accredited post-secondary institution of higher education. Applicant must share what they would do “if they could turn back time.”

Here is a scholarship called [“New State of Mind”](#) for \$1,000. This is an



easy Scholarship where you Send Tips on How to Manage Stress to Help Us Create a Mental Health Guide. Sponsor: [DoSomething](#) - Amount: \$1,000 - Closing Date: June 30, 2020. Description: Your classmates and friends could use some mental health support in 2020, especially in the wake of the COVID-19 outbreak. While you’re social distancing, you could win an easy \$1,000 scholarship by sending us tips on how you get through these particularly stressful times. We’ll use your advice to create New State of Mind, a first-of-its-kind mental health guide that’s for students, by students. By sharing your tips, you’ll be automatically entered to win a \$1,000 scholarship. Let’s Do This!

[“Ready Set Vote”](#) \$1,500 Easy Scholarship: Share a Link to Help Your Friends Register to Vote! Sponsor: [DoSomething](#) - Amount: \$1,500 - Closing Date: June 30, 2020



Description: You could win a \$1,500 scholarship just by helping your friends register online to vote! By signing up for our campaign, you’ll get a personalized voter registration page. Then text, email, or share the link to your page on social media to help your friends quickly register to vote. It takes less than two minutes for them to register online! Every time you share your voter registration page before June 30, you’ll be entered for a chance to win a \$1,500 scholarship. Yep, it’s that easy!

The Funding College Project Facebook Group is about finding and using techniques and strategies to fund school and post high school activities. Whatever your child’s talent, there’s a scholarship to fit.

For more information on the Funding College Project, visit [www.educatingouryouth.org](#) or email Perry Newell at [callnow@lawyer.com](#).

## Kaleidoscope

By Zydeco Queen

Kaleidoscope

This poem is not yet a poem.  
This text is only a group of words.  
Learning the definition of the words,  
might give you comfort in mind,  
yet give you no understanding  
In thoughts, might be in actions.  
We in no way want any bad thing for  
any Group of people.  
We want Fairness, equal in value of our  
labor and deeds.  
For your Life as your forefathers  
selected for you,  
based on the fairness of your skin.  
Chosen over and through color of skin,  
Gender, or any other differences, you want  
to control by sight and sound of words.  
Words spoken through delicts of tongues.  
Learning the English language is this  
most Phantasmagoria thing,  
Established by the Founders  
of this country.  
As we learned, “We the People”,  
long before we could read or think for  
ourselves, thinking done for us.  
Bewilderment cased over the  
(PhD’s -eras) after living privileged  
surrounded by a pile of lies.  
1619 ships, Atlantic publications, bring  
wheel barrels of facts to 2020.  
Give a true meaning to the statement,  
“what’s done in the dark  
will come to the light.”  
Incomprehension training of the  
population places a burden  
on the United states.  
Blaming this discourse on the only Black  
skinned people known throughout history  
to be the leader of the free world only  
makes what the elite has done is true.  
It is not a poem yet.  
Cynicism, contempt, astonishment to  
write the least.  
You still can not walk in our shoes;  
you only got an experience of what  
we Black women go through  
everyday of our lives.  
Standing tall even after being raped.  
Speaking out even after we were slapped  
and knocked down.  
Care for our young even after we have  
been robbed paid less  
and stolen million-dollar ideas.  
Never to be paid reparations.  
It is not a poem yet  
Surely, WE (meaning all human beings)  
are in trouble.

Now our air is poisoned by whom? Our  
communities are prescribed with drugs,  
and by whom?  
Our food supply is controlled by Whom?  
Our land is poisoned by Whom?  
Our children are educated by Whom?  
Our houses are poorly built by Whom?  
What gives anyone the right to certify  
Mother nature???  
It is not a poem yet.  
Looking through your Kaleidoscope  
surely is not what I see through mind.  
Cognizance is not franchise to skin color,  
yet we are treated as such. Ignorance on  
your part is not related to the awareness on  
our part. Can we live life with or without  
each other is the indicator?  
It is not a poem yet.  
Socializing with one another in a  
meaningful way has not been taught.  
It’s learned through traumatic  
experiences such as now.  
We example ourselves and our actions,  
not to oppose or oppress, or use the  
resources and concepts of the persons  
without compensation.  
Trapping or excluding the person  
because of their differences is not  
advantageous.  
Because the same person you ignore,  
because of the inability to speak, or use  
their legs is the same person that has the  
concept to save the world you prize and  
privilege to live.  
It is not a poem yet.  
You, you all wanted to hear from me,  
yet you hear thousands  
of Black women through me.  
Your ears must be open to except the  
written Word, twisted around the nerves of  
the almighty dollar.  
We know now the dollar can not pick up  
a shovel, hammer, not a skill saw.  
The computer can not move one grain of  
wheat into the bins.  
A command from any person can’t get  
us out of this thick mess  
we’ve all come face to.  
Yet we have not figured out the poem of  
yesteryears.  
In the beginning there was, is and still is  
GOD. The creator of ALL.  
Until we seek Her face, we will continue  
to bear fruit of our labor.  
Sincerely  
Gold Star Mother 2007

Submit Articles, Photographs  
or Advertise in the  
**HILLTOP ACTION JOURNAL**  
Email [hacoffice15@gmail.com](mailto:hacoffice15@gmail.com)  
for more information.



Wright Park Protest photograph courtesy of Saven Hoff.



## Hilltop Businesses: Working Through COVID

*It's important to look at some of the wins happening around our community.*

By Jennifer English

Everyone is doing their best. Right now, businesses on Hilltop would only be contending with the light rail construction. Instead of no parking, there are little to no people out spending money at our businesses. What do you do when there are no people?

You pivot! [Johnson Candy](#) and [Red Elm](#) have both made the change to online orders and pickups. [Manifesto](#) has a counter at the front door for orders and pickups as well. Seeing our local community partners making tough decisions and coming out on top is uplifting. It also does something mentally, having a familiar smell and taste is comforting. Especially now when we are starving for some sort of contact. Oh, just me? Okay.

[2nd Cycle](#) has been crazy busy as an essential business and they have started using their back door off the alley for drop offs of donated bikes. They are also staying involved with the community with different events. One of the recently organized events was a biking scavenger hunt around town with cool prizes. I'm looking forward to what they come up with next.

At my business, [SPUN](#), the kiln is working hard for those home potters. We are open every Sat for a couple hours for drop off and pickups. We are hoping to reopen when Phase 2 goes into effect for studio time by appointment only and will require

masks and hand washing for anyone coming inside.

Michelle Marconi and I spoke the other day about how her business has been affected and how she has been adjusting. "It's been really hard", being thrown in to homeschooling her children and running a business. "Business has dropped 40%, so we are only open a couple days a week and on those days we are busy." When you visit [Marconi Chiropractic and Wellness Center](#), you are asked to wash your hands when entering and only a certain number of people are allowed in at a time. You will also get your temperature taken at the door and fill out a questionnaire about any symptoms you might be having. Did you know that you can get an antibody test at Marconi Chiropractic? Give them a call for details, you can walk in and get the test with no appointment necessary.

What will it look like on Hilltop when businesses can reopen during Phase 2? Some similarities between businesses I've noticed are; limited people inside buildings, must wash hands and wear a mask, appointments only, online ordering and bookings, reduced hours and staff, and social distancing. Many of your favorite spots will not look the same, it's an adjustment we all will need to get used to.

The support from the community is great, we see people getting tacos and drinks to go from [Zodiac](#). [Fern](#) and

[Foster](#) has really gone 'all in' on the virtual classes and workshops and it looks to be paying off. Take out orders from [Quickie Too](#) are flying out the door. We're so used to hearing about the bad associated with COVID-19 and small businesses. It's important to look at some of the 'wins' happening around our community too.

Some businesses must be closed until at least Phase 2 of the Governor's reopening plan. Many have used this time to go over and adjust their business plans to accommodate the 'new' business landscape. If they weren't already using social media or a website as a revenue stream, they are now.

Support your local businesses and the people in your community. Reach out to the people and places close to you and see what they need. Ask what you can do to help. It takes a village not only to raise a child, but to hold on to what makes our community special.

Hilltop is resilient and as we support each other it's good to remember that we are not all individual silos in our homes and businesses, we are a web of support collaborating to lift each other up.

Jennifer English is co-owner of [Spun](#), a Hilltop business, vice-president of the [Hilltop Business Association](#), and is the Training Coordinator for [SpaceWorks](#).

## Loyal to the Local

*Are you [Loyal to the Local](#)?*

*When you shop in the Hilltop, you help local businesses grow and thrive.*

During construction, we know it may take extra effort to patronize businesses along Martin Luther King, Jr. Way. Take advantage of adding a little walk to your favorite restaurant; or, order online and have your food delivered by [Grub Hub](#), [Uber Eats](#), or [Door Dash](#). If you're looking for good quality food, trust your Hilltop eateries - they have history and family ties in this community.

Sound Transit has created a

[Loyal to the Local Businesses](#), [Hilltop Tacoma Link Map](#). Stay Loyal to the Local and help small businesses survive construction and COVID so they can take care of you once the Link is complete and we are free of social distancing.

Are you a business owner? Find out how you can become a Loyal to the Local business today.

[Click here](#) for more information.

### [Pho King](#)

1020 MLK Jr. Way

(253) 272-6287

[Pho King Menu](#)



### [The Fish House Cafe](#)

1814 MLK Jr. Way

(253) 383-7144

[Fish House Facebook](#)

## Ray Gibson's Caballeros Club

*Providing family activities and community service since 1957.*



By Mary Cogger

"Ray Gibson's Caballeros Club continues to be one of the most respected and widely known African American owned clubs in the United States and the world," stated Bonnie Pinckney in her 2017 HAC Journal article celebrating the CC Club 60th anniversary. The organization has worked tirelessly over the years to bring community, service, and social opportunity to the African American community and beyond.

Caballeros Club is a strong, historic member of Hilltop history. Before the Club was formed, members of the Black community got together for various social activities. Men got together to play golf, recreate and network. Women also got together. But, African Americans were denied access to many venues. Negroes found job and housing (redlining) discrimination. There were unwritten limits to where an African American could eat, dance, or even roller skate. In his autobiography, Mayor Harold Moss wrote, "Discrimination in hiring, public accommodations and housing in the Northwest was just dressed in a clean white shirt and tie, but it was just as debilitating as coming from the mouth of an avowed racist." Lola Bailey told me,

the club was "founded because we (Negroes) weren't welcomed...we were always on the spot. We wanted to go relax and let our hair down without judgment." Ellen Smith put it simply, "There was nowhere our people could go to call their own."

The idea for a club was planted in 1956 when George A. Strickland and Howard Woods discussed a place to welcome the general public with safe, welcoming spaces for meeting, dining, dancing, and other recreation. It welcomed people of all races unlike many of Tacoma's institutions.

The first formal meeting of the Caballeros Club took place in January 1957 when Arthur Fox, Howard Woods, Sidney Breckenridge, John Harper, and Junior Collins became the first members of the Executive Board. They formed a private, non-profit social club to provide social, educational, entertainment, and family activities in the community.

The founders believed in many possibilities including a place for all to have fun and fellowship, a place for conversation with and about the community, and to assist young people in their quest for education, according to Zephaniah Craft and Lola Bailey. Tom Hilyard told me that the club was a characteristic of the time and that it had a family focus

as well as cultural focus.

Many things have happened in 63 years.

The Club was renamed Ray Gibson's Caballeros Club in the 1970's. Ray was a charter member of the Club. Sidney Breckenridge wrote, "Uncle Ray was not only generous but his expertise, kind heart and ability to work with everyone played a major role in the continuous existence of this organization both morally and financially." Ray and Charles Stubblefield were responsible for acquiring the house at the current site. He died at the club April 10, 1974. One week later, April 17, resolution made and unanimously passed to add Ray Gibson's name to the Caballeros Club.

After meeting at various locations, in 1962 the Club bought a house at its current location, 1516 S. 28th St. Ten years later, ten members mortgaged their homes to finance renovation and expansion.

In the early '90s, when membership was expanding including to other races, Tom Hilyard chaired a strategic planning committee focused on the future of the club.

There have been many renovations to accommodate the membership and refresh the building.

### Women in the Club

At the beginning of the club women were welcomed to social and service events as guests but were not voting members. With time and changes brought about by the Women's Rights Movement in the 1960's and 70's, women wanted a bigger role in the Caballeros Club. The Women's Auxiliary was established in 1989, and women continued to support the Club. The Auxiliary began some of their own events and separate fundraising. Three years later 3

women challenged the all-male organizational structure. Bonnie Pinckney told me "No way did we just want to be an Auxiliary, we wanted to vote and have more say in the organization." Women were admitted as full members in 1992. The first woman president, Bonnie Pinkney, was elected in 1998.

### Community Service

The original charter set the general direction for the club which is to operate a facility designed to benefit the community. This includes educational, charitable and special projects. From the beginning family and education have been a priority.

Over the years the Education Committee has raised funds and volunteered to support many learning programs. The Club is especially well known for the college scholarships awarded annually to deserving African American high school seniors.

The Club's Christmas party for children is open to all on The Hill, but others are welcome to come as well. There are games and age appropriate activities, child-oriented food, and gift baskets. About one hundred bicycles are given out as well.

In the past, and today, The Caballeros Club has worked and still works with other organizations for equal civil rights and community welfare. The groups including the NAACP, Masons, Urban League, and Black Collective as well as local churches, fraternities, and sororities. They are interwoven both in membership and work.

### Social Activities

Caballeros Club emphasizes community and fellowship. There are many opportunities to build lifetime social and business relationships. The Club has a full-service kitchen, dance floor and stage. They host

dinners, dances, and entertainment. If you want to go and unwind, you don't need to attend a formal event; you can just go for a meal or a drink. In the summers there are barbecue nights where you can "Bring Your Own Meat" then cook and eat on the back terrace with a beautiful view including Mount Rainier.

The Caballero's Club Juneteenth event began in 1989 when Ed Ware, originally from Texas, brought the special event to Tacoma. Juneteenth celebrates African American Emancipation Day in Texas on June 19th, 1865. Activities include eating, socializing, and entertainment.

The full calendar reveals many activities besides special events and eating. There are weekly social events including card games and dominoes. The club hosts happy hours, bingo, karaoke, DJ nights, baseball games, and more.

"{Supporters of the Caballeros Club} deserve thanks for their dedication, patience, and courtesy. Imagine, at a time in 1957 when philanthropy was particularly not in favor of our founding members, they maintained a timeless mixture of tenacity, purpose-driven visions and community partnerships to establish what we have here today," stated Will Jenkins Sr. in 60th Anniversary Journal. For over 60 years, the Caballeros Club has helped transform Tacoma. It began as a product of its time and has continued to grow and impact the community as the times have changed.

Thanks to Bonnie Pinkney, Lola Baily, Tom and Marti Hilliard, Ellen Smith, Bil Moss, Billie Johnstone, Tonia Johnson, and Transforming Tacoma, a video produced by the Tacoma Civil Rights Project.

Ray Gibson's Caballeros Club is located at [1516 S 28th ST](#), Tacoma. For more information, visit [www.raycaballerosclub.org](#), call (253) 572-9681, email [caballeros@comcast.net](#), or check out their [Facebook](#) page.



# KTQA-LP, Hilltop and Tacoma's Community Radio Station

Check out HAC's [Virtual Weekly Update](#) on May 11th and meet HAC special guests,

Rebecca Friedman and Sam Mulvey, with [KTQA 95.3 FM Tacoma](#), a Community Radio Station direct from Hilltop!



By Becky Friedman and Sam Mulvey of KTQA-LP 95.3 FM

Right at the south end of Hilltop lies a freestanding, 100-foot metal tower on private property. About two-thirds of the way up, careful observers will spot a dual-bay antenna. From there, the sounds of KTQA-LP are transmitted across the city, and beyond, on 95.3 on the FM dial. As two of the directors of this low-power noncommercial community radio station, we recently had the privilege to join Brendan and Alicia during a recent HAC weekly update via Facebook Live to share about the station's history, current programming, volunteer opportunities, and vision.

Tacomans scanning the dial in the past two years may have been surprised by programming that sounds like you've pulled backwards 80 years to a time to when noir, sci-fi pulp, mystery dramas, and situation comedies dominated the airwaves. Indeed, we at KTQA have been entertaining listeners with those old-time radio programs as we slowly worked to build capacity of the all-volunteer organization.

More recently, listeners may have heard [The KTQA Daily Briefing](#), where the two of us share bulletins, updates, and resources related to the COVID-19 emergency, followed by an interview from a fellow Tacoman to help keep us feeling connected to our community at a time when it's easy to feel isolated.

It's a show we started in late March as schools closed, stay-home orders were issued, and COVID-19 apprehension weighed heavy on us all. In a little over 2 months, we've managed to produce more than 50 episodes where we share those resources with Tacomans, and share the stories and insight of elected officials, nonprofit workers, artists, musicians, small business owners,

poets, health workers, teachers, and activists from our community as we stay together, separately.

Earlier in the year, KTQA held its first community engagement event at [Black Fleet Brewing](#), where we, along with our other board member Alease Frieson, shared the story of KTQA and solicited input from the community our station hopes to entertain, reflect and serve. Part of that input has resulted in a diversified summer programming schedule (see below), while still keeping significant blocks set aside for old-time radio favorites.

Sundays have a block dedicated wholly to Secular Humanist and skeptical programming. Listeners will also hear local and regional shows, some of which are produced by students. Keep ears peeled for programs focused on environmental sustainability and state history, too.

Education plays a prominent role in the lives of KTQA organizers: Becky is a public-school educator currently working as a high school instructional coach. Alease is a private teacher of fitness and functional movement. Sam serves as guest instructor for the Introduction to Podcasting/Broadcasting class at SAMi during Tacoma Public Schools' Elements Miniterm, and the students' work is among what you'll hear when you tune in to 95.3 FM.

It should not come as a surprise, then, that when COVID-19 closed schools, we immediately began to worry about how students with limited technology would access remote learning. Despite the challenges of social distancing and store closures, we set in motion an ad-hoc plan to do what we could to get laptops into the hands of kids who needed them. Friends collected disused laptops, tablets, and hard drives from companies they worked for, Becky sanitized the equipment surfaces, and Sam prepped each

device to be used by students as young as seven. We utilized a KTQA Daily Briefing episode, along with the station's social media accounts, to get out the message that limited free laptops were available for students in



need of technology for school.

Within 72 hours the station had more requests than computers! The need was so great that we created a lottery. At first it was hard to convey that we were essentially just two people working from their living room, operating under the same stay-home orders as the rest of the state. Happily, some listeners heard of the continuing need and began donating older personal laptops, which Sam continues to turn around for student use. (There is still a great need for laptops, computers, and tablets, so if you have a retired computer you would like put to good use, please reach out to us!)



In the absence of seed funding for things like antennas and station automation software, we've capitalized a lot on our personal skills to build the infrastructure for the station. Sam harnesses and builds upon software from the open source community, and we both have a decade of experience producing podcasts and radio shows. Bartering, networking, and in-kind donation also played significant roles in getting the station off the ground, and we continue to be all volunteer-run.

One huge step for the station will be when we can establish a broadcast studio open to other participants, interview subjects, and volunteers. We remain very eager to co-locate or partner with an organization, landlord, or business in order to establish a studio where Tacomans of all ages and backgrounds can develop and showcase skills involved in all levels of station operation. We have the physical components ready to go, thanks to a commercial station that donated equipment (operating boards, furniture, and more), which remain in storage and are waiting to be deployed.

Our love for the medium can hopefully be matched by community enthusiasm to amplify the voices, stories, and music of Tacoma. We just need a space to make the leap from pre-recorded to live content. Summer and fall present a huge opportunity to make it happen.

KTQA welcomes volunteers and content creators for additional shows to fully reflect the community. The station also solicits unlicensed, independent music to showcase the creative musical talents of Tacoma and our region; tracks and links can be emailed to [music@ktqa.org](mailto:music@ktqa.org). Those interested in volunteering, or helping to secure a physical studio space, should email us at [info@ktqa.org](mailto:info@ktqa.org). Tune in to [KTQA-LP](#) on 95.3 FM in Tacoma, or listen online at [https://](https://ktqa.org)

[ktqa.org](https://ktqa.org) and click on "CLICK TO LISTEN".

Check out the KTQA Daily Briefing [interviews](#) available to listen to at your leisure:

- 6/4: Mariesa Bus, Tacoma Public Library
- 6/2: Bethany "B.Lyte" Montgomery, Poet
- 6/1: Mary Getchell, Pierce County Libraries
- 5/29: Tim Jumper, Community Engagement Manager
- 5/28: Bryan Flint, Sound Outreach Director
- 5/27: Lynn Willis, Community Embedded Employment Coach
- 5/22: Gabriel Silberblatt, Gault School Community Engagement
- 5/21: Laura McDonald, Hope Grows Here
- 5/20: Drena Sellers, Video Editor
- 5/19: Anika Moran, Tacoma Farmers Market
- 5/18: Kyle Maxwell, Black Feet Brewer
- 5/12: Marilyn Kimmerling, Peace Prize Laureate
- 5/11: Ron Lim, Bloodworks Northwest
- 5/8: Noah Struthers, 2nd Cycle
- 5/6: Jennifer Caringer, Helping Hands in WA
- 5/5: Chelsea McElroy, Vision Step Team
- 5/4: Brendan Nelson, Hilltop Action Coalition Director
- 5/1: Sam Mulvey, KTQA Laptop Distribution Project
- 4/30: Chloe Eklof, Choir Director
- 4/29: Malia Somerville, Marine Mammal and Birds Curator
- 4/28: Ahndrea Blue, Eloise's Cooking Pot Director
- 4/27: Ali Bishins, Consultant, Artisan, and Community Leader
- 4/24: Sarah Low, Tacoma Tree Foundation
- 4/23: Robert Demko, Nutritionist
- 4/22: Leah Michaelson, Tacoma Sustainability
- .....and many more!!

## KTQA-LP 95.3 FM Tacoma Radio Station Schedule

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
06:00 Suspense	06:00 Suspense	06:00 Suspense	06:00 Suspense	06:00 Suspense
07:00 Yours Truly, Johnny Dollar	07:00 Yours Truly, Johnny Dollar	07:00 Yours Truly, Johnny Dollar	07:00 Yours Truly, Johnny Dollar	07:00 Yours Truly, Johnny Dollar
08:00 Black Museum	08:00 Historical Speeches	08:00 WA Our Home	08:00 Historical Speeches	08:00 WA Our Home
09:00 USGS: Eyes on Earth	09:00 Variable TBD	09:00 Variable TBD	09:00 Variable TBD	09:00 Variable TBD
10:00 Yours Truly, Johnny Dollar	10:00 Yours Truly, Johnny Dollar	10:00 Yours Truly, Johnny Dollar	10:00 Yours Truly, Johnny Dollar	10:00 Yours Truly, Johnny Dollar
11:00 CBS Mystery Radio Theatre	11:00 Democracy Now	11:00 Democracy Now	11:00 Democracy Now	11:00 Democracy Now
12:00 The Shadow	12:00 The Shadow	12:00 The Shadow	12:00 The Shadow	12:00 The Shadow
13:00 Suspense	13:00 Suspense	13:00 Suspense	13:00 Suspense	13:00 Suspense
14:00 Secular Buddhist Raising Freethinkers	14:00 CBS Mystery Radio Theatre	14:00 CBS Mystery Radio Theatre	14:00 CBS Mystery Radio Theatre	14:00 CBS Mystery Radio Theatre
15:00 Ask An Atheist	15:00 Variable TBD	15:00 Variable TBD	15:00 Variable TBD	15:00 Variable TBD
16:00 Atheist Talk	16:00 Lux	16:00 Lux	16:00 Lux	16:00 Lux
17:00 The Lucky Ones	17:00 X Minus 1	17:00 JP's Game Night	17:00 X Minus 1	17:00 JP's Game Night
18:00 Yours Truly, Johnny Dollar	18:00 Daily Briefing	18:00 Daily Briefing	18:00 Daily Briefing	18:00 Daily Briefing
19:00 Ask An Atheist	Our Miss Brooks	Our Miss Brooks	Our Miss Brooks	Our Miss Brooks
20:00 Lux	19:00 Cannabis Corner	19:00 AAA	19:00 Yours Truly, Johnny Dollar	19:00 AAA
21:00 JP's Game Night	20:00 Librivox Elements	20:00 UW Sustainability	20:00 Librivox Elements	20:00 UW Sustainability
	21:00 Variable TBD	21:00 Variable TBD	21:00 Variable TBD	21:00 Variable TBD

Friday	Saturday
06:00 Suspense	06:00 Suspense
07:00 Yours Truly, Johnny Dollar	07:00 Yours Truly, Johnny Dollar
08:00 Historical Speeches	08:00 Black Museum
09:00 Variable TBD	09:00 Variable TBD
10:00 Yours Truly, Johnny Dollar	10:00 Yours Truly, Johnny Dollar
11:00 Democracy Now	11:00 CBS
12:00 The Shadow	12:00 The Shadow
13:00 Suspense	13:00 Suspense
14:00 CBS Mystery Radio Theatre	14:00 CBS Mystery Radio Theatre
15:00 Variable TBD	15:00 Variable TBD
16:00 Lux	16:00 Lux
17:00 X Minus 1	17:00 USGS: Eyes on Earth
18:00 Daily Briefing	18:00 Daily Briefing
Our Miss Brooks	Our Miss Brooks
19:00 Cannabis Corner	19:00 AAA
20:00 Librivox Elements	20:00 Librivox Elements
21:00 Variable TBD	21:00 Variable TBD

**5/4: Brendan Nelson, Hilltop Action Coalition Director**

May 4, 2020 By sam No comments

Podcast: Play in new window | Download (Duration: 21:34 — 9.9MB)

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Brendan Nelson shares some of the ways that Hilltop Neighborhood stays vibrant, resilient, and connected. Interview begins at:

KTQA Daily Briefing interview with Brendan Nelson, HAC President. One of the many community member interviews made possible by KTQA-LP, your Tacoma FM Radio Station. Visit <https://daily.ktqa.org/page/3/> scroll down and click on Brendan Nelson, Hilltop Action Coalition Director. Brendan shares some of the ways that the Hilltop Neighborhood stays vibrant, resilient, and connected.







**June 11 – Thursday – Stadium High School, Class of 2020 – Virtual Graduation Ceremony** 4pm-5pm (Tacoma Public Schools via [Facebook Live](#))

**June 11 – Thursday – Lincoln High School, Class of 2020 – Virtual Graduation Ceremony** 7pm-8pm (Tacoma Public Schools via [Facebook Live](#))

**June 11 - July 31 – Modern Womxn: An Art Exploration** June + July online & at Alma when open ([Handmade PNW](#), Free via [Eventbrite.com](#))

**June 11 & 12 – Thu & Fri – Emergency Food Network (EFN): Free Victory Garden Starts:** tomatillos, summer squash, and Swiss chard 10:30am (McCarver/Bamford Park CG, [2301 S J ST](#))

**June 12, 19 & 26 – Fridays – Community Partners to Give-A-Way School Supplies** 5pm-7pm ([Peace Community Center](#), 2106 S Cushman Ave)

**June 12 & 26 – Friday – Slo + Socially distant rides** 12pm-2pm ([2nd Cycle](#), [1205 MLK Jr. Way](#))

**June 12 & 26 – Friday – Friday Family Storytime** 1pm-1:30pm (Tacoma Public Library via [Facebook Live](#))

**June 13 & 27 – Friday – First-Time Homebuyer Seminar** 10am-3pm ([Tacoma Urban League](#), via Zoom-email [corey.orvold@coldwellbanker.com](mailto:corey.orvold@coldwellbanker.com) for information)

**June 14 – Sunday – June Virtual Hike Habit** 11am-1pm ([Wild Grief](#), [register to attend](#) for free)

**June 15 – Monday - HAC Virtual Monthly Community Meeting** 6:00-7:30pm (Meet Virtually via [HAC Facebook Live](#))

**June 17 & 24 – Wednesday – Back Alley Bike Drive on Wednesdays** 11am-3pm ([2nd Cycle](#), [1205 MLK Jr. Way](#))

**June 18 – Thursday – Virtual- Working Women in Sustainability** 8am-9am ([Tacoma Sustainability](#) via [Zoom](#), click here for more info.)

**June 18 8am – June 19 12:30pm – Salishan Chalk Festival** ([Salishan Association](#), [4205 E R ST](#))

**June 19-21 – Fri, Sat & Sun – Emerald Queen Casino’s Taste of Tacoma** presented by BECU 11am-9pm (Point Defiance Park, [5400 N Pearl ST.](#))

**June 19 – Friday – Pierce County Abilities Parade 2020- Inclusive, Everyone Welcome!** 5:30pm-6:30pm ([PAVE](#)-Pierce County Support Programs, free tickets at [tfaforms.com](#))

**June 20 – Saturday – Christian Graduation on the Hilltop** 12pm ([Tacoma Ministerial Alliance](#), Allen AME Church Parking Lot: [1223 MLK Jr. Way](#)- click [here](#) for information)

**June 21 – Sunday – Father’s Day**

**June 21 – Sunday – Tacoma Art Walk: Art Market BETA Version** 11am-7pm covid-19 compliant art market (6th Ave in Tacoma)

**June 22 – Monday - HAC Virtual Weekly Update 6:00-7pm (Meet Virtually via HAC Facebook Live)**

**June 23 – Tuesday – Guided Visualization Meditation Online** 7pm-9pm ([Wellness Coaching](#), via [Zoom](#) with Password: 691428)

**June 25 – Thursday – Hilltop Library Planning Committee Meeting** 7pm-9pm (Tacoma Public Library via [Zoom](#) with Meeting ID: 819 6034 2310)

**June 29 – Monday – How to Do Business With the City of Tacoma** 8:30am-9:30am (Tacoma Municipal Building, [747 Market ST](#), Room 248)

**June 29 – Monday - HAC Virtual Weekly Update 6:00-7pm (Meet Virtually via HAC Facebook Live)**

Visit HAC Facebook [Posts](#) and [Events](#) for more Community activities near you! View the complete HAC Calendar on our website at [www.hilltopactioncoalition.org](http://www.hilltopactioncoalition.org)! Scroll down to Upcoming Events and click on the full ‘MONTHLY CALENDAR’ LINK.

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## On-Demand!

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