

# leschinews

February 2016 Issue No. 329

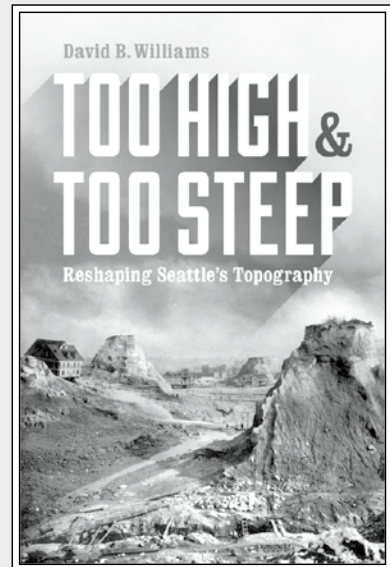
Leschi Community Council is a participating member of the Seattle Community Council Federation

## Special Presentation

Join us for a look at Seattle's early history as David B. Williams talks about his book, Too High & Too Steep: Reshaping the Seattle Landscape.

Since settlers first arrived in Seattle, the city's citizens have altered the landscape with an unrivaled zeal. We have regraded hills, reengineered tideflats, and replumbed lakes to provide better locations for business and easier ways to move through the challenging topography.

And we are still at it, though now we also understand that earthquakes and rising sea levels have the potential to change us as much as we have changed the land.



**February 3, 7pm**

**CENTRAL AREA SENIOR CENTER, 500 30TH AVE. S.**

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**SAVE  
THE DATE**

NICK LICATA  
March 2 meeting

# Presidents' message

Thank you to everyone who checked their labels and renewed their membership! And a special thanks to those of you who included something extra for our work in the community. And thanks to those who wrote some atta boys, i.e., "Thanks for all you do in the community!"

Now that we are in 2016, it seems like a good time to review the 2015 goals that we set. It's certainly a mixed bag of success and failure!

We did keep up the stairway work until November; both rain and the fact that SDOOT had recently cleaned the Spruce St. stairs forced us to cancel. We will start up again in March.

The Living Wall on the Lake Dell retaining wall became an impossibility as not enough space had been left at the base of the wall to install plants. We will consider other options, but they are significantly more expensive.

No threats to Bus #27 were perceived, but the best way to keep this bus is to ride it, so it's up to all of us!

Great difficulties finding a date for the annual ArtWalk interfered with plans to have a concert on the pier, but that is still in our plans for this year.

Membership increased slowly; we did not have a membership drive and we need to discuss that for this year. There is strength in numbers and we need to increase our numbers.

NextDoor Leschi is now another venue for posting our events; thanks to Jeff Floor for keeping this up.

Improving relationships with Parks was a mixed bag according to John Barber, who has the most interaction with that department as our Parks Chair. In the November Leschi News, he detailed what worked and what didn't. We need to keep a dialogue going with Parks.

We will create new goals for 2016; please forward any ideas you might have to [leschinews@comcast.net](mailto:leschinews@comcast.net).

If you want to become more involved, check out the volunteer activities on our website at [leschinews.com](http://leschinews.com) and do consider running for office in May. Our current officers are term-limited and we need new folks to step forward and assume these responsibilities. We'll post the positions and the tasks in the March issue and you can always email us at [leschinews@comcast.net](mailto:leschinews@comcast.net) or call 206-726-0923 if you want to talk to someone about the tasks involved for each position.

*Be the change you want to see in the world. -Gandhi*

*-Diane Morris & Diane Snell*

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# Dogs and parks, urbanization

*Editor's note: Last month we printed John Barber's op-ed piece on dogs and parks, hoping to stimulate a conversation. We had one letter in favor of John's views and one opposing view.*

Just a short message to say I completely agree with the opinions expressed by John Barber in his 'Dogs in Parks' editorial (January 2016). As a frequent walker through all the Leschi Parks, and someone who actually LIKES dogs, I do find off-leash canines a problem. On roughly half of my walks (including last Sunday), I find myself charged by barking dogs, often accompanied by owners saying things like "he/she's actually very friendly", or "he/she won't bother you"...too late, the adrenaline rush that accompanies a charging-barking dog has already 'bothered me' and DISRUPTED an otherwise endorphin-filled exercise excursion. Stepping in waste, especially in Frink and upper Leschi areas, is another common mess that some dog owner has left for me to clean up.

John sums things up succinctly in the last paragraph of the editorial when he states, "I believe that dogs outside should always be leashed". Our "limited urban park lands" should be for the enjoyment of all - those with and without canine companions.

*-Sue Moore, Leschi resident*

It was your editor who disagreed (to some extent) with John. I do agree that dogs should be on leash in public spaces, which solves most of the problems that John brings up; but I felt John was not in favor of more off-leash areas and I found that troubling. We take our two rescue dogs to the Genesee off-leash area and have found that many other users of this area have also rescued dogs. When one rescues a dog, you get what you get and they are not always as well trained as

one you raised yourself. We rescued two older dogs, well set in their ways, and they do need a fenced off-leash area. I also disagreed with his last idea: "Public policy should encourage residents to choose small, less needy of exercise, pets..." As an owner of two medium-sized dogs, I found this insulting. We tend to adopt breeds we are familiar with and understand their quirks to some extent. Should we only rescue small dogs? What does this do to the no-kill policy at shelters? Will they need bigger and bigger facilities to house the larger dogs as policy encourages urban dwellers to adopt only the small dogs that get their exercise walking to the food bowl? As for the off-leash areas, I love the camaraderie, as these folks are all dog lovers. It is good to see the rescued greyhound standing regally and watching the other dogs running madly around; one can imagine him saying to himself: "Been there, done that." It's also a good way to get one's puppy socialized to other dogs.

Dog ownership is emotional; some of us empty nesters have found these furry creatures to be comforting companions. I think public policy should be directed to responsible dog ownership (leashed in public spaces and all poop scooped) and not toward limiting one's choice of breed and limiting the all-important off-leash areas.

*-Diane Snell, Leschi resident*

*And this letter appeared on NextDoor Leschi:*

With all the changes proposed for neighborhoods throughout the city, ours included, it is important for all Leschi neighbors, renters and owners, to not only join the Leschi Community Council, but be an active participant in protecting this very special community. If you are not already a member or know someone who is not, I encourage you to join today! Ballard, West Seattle, Capitol Hill and neighborhoods throughout the city waited too long to organize. Let's not be the next community to be "involuntarily urbanized."

*-Dianne Ramsey, Leschi*

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# Neighborhood and beyond

## TOO HIGH & TOO STEEP

Our February program features David B. Williams, a freelance writer focused on the intersection of people and the natural world. This talk is based on his recently published book, *Too High and Too Steep: Reshaping Seattle's Landscape* (University of Washington Press). Previous books include *Stories in Stone: Travels Through Urban Geology* and *The Seattle Street-Smart Naturalist: Field Notes from the City*. Williams also works at the Burke Museum and maintains the website [GeologyWriter.com](http://GeologyWriter.com).

Williams spoke to us several years ago on his book *The Seattle Street-Smart Naturalist*. I have to recommend this book to anyone with children who have an interest in the outdoors; I took my grandson



downtown with this book and we inspected the buildings to find the encrusted fossils. And his chapter on crows revised my opinion on these sometimes quarrelsome birds.

Come and learn a little bit new about the history of this area and the gutsy folks who changed what was! There will be time for book signing.

---

**DAVID B. WILLIAMS EVENT**  
February 3, 7pm  
Central Area Senior Center

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## PROMENADE 23 REDEVELOPMENT

Attend a Community Meeting to give input on the proposed redevelopment of Promenade 23 (23rd & Jackson, Red Apple grocery store site), with a presentation by Vulcan and their architect, hosted by the Central Area Land Use Review Committee

February 4, 6:30-8:30 at Ernestine Anderson Place, 2010 South Jackson Street

## NEIGHBORHOOD APPRECIATION DAY

The city designated Saturday, February 13, as neighborhood appreciation day, a time to let your neighbors know that you do appreciate them.

They suggest an event to do so, but February seems a poor month to have such an event when it's cold and wet outside!

We'll be handing out Leschi Star awards at our annual May meeting, but in the meantime, we'd like to appreciate all those who volunteer in the parks, those who help with the newsletter and contribute to it, those who volunteer for the Leschi CC Board, those who volunteer at Leschi Elementary School and at the Central Area Senior Center and at our many community events each year. This community is far richer for the service you give and we do appreciate you!

*-Diane Morris and Diane Snell*



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## JAMES WASHINGTON JR. PRESENTATION

CC Art Critic, Susan Platt, will present a program on the life and works of James Washington, Jr. at the February 12th Central Area Neighborhood District Council meeting. Learning more about this artist and his work will help you understand why we want to preserve his fountain at MidTown Center Plaza at 23rd & Union (post office site). The meeting starts at 6pm in the Solarium at the Central Area Senior Center, 500 30th Ave. S.

The following piece is a moving tribute to the fountain by Savior Knowledge:

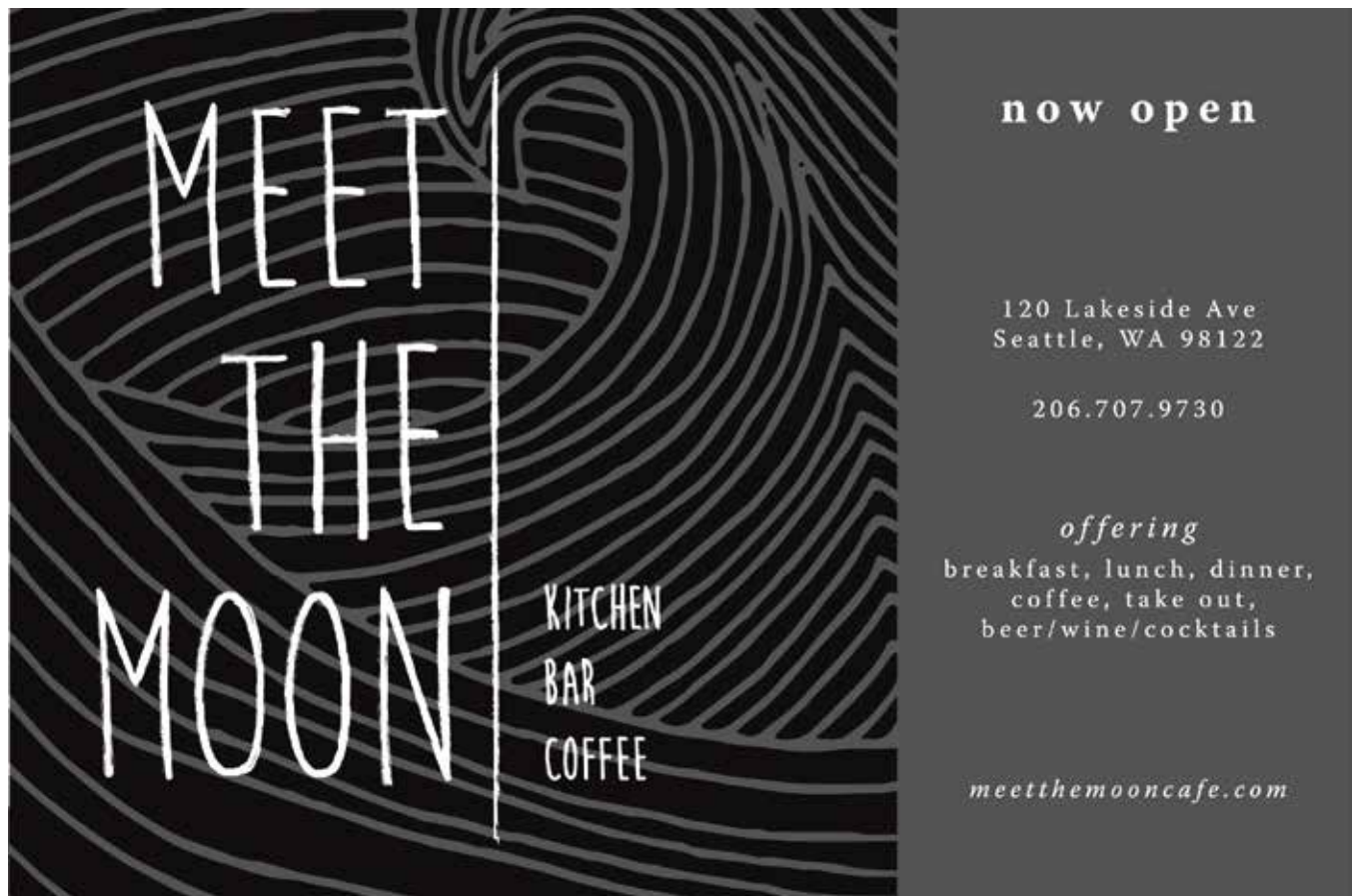
### THE FOUNTAIN ON 23rd AVENUE

It is with great concern, love, and respect that I write this article; for it has been a painful reality to watch the disfigurement and neglect of a great American artifact. On 23rd Avenue right off Union St., there sits a fountain about 30 feet from Earl's Cuts and Styles, right in front of Quality Accounting, and across the street from the Casey Foundation. Within the fountain there is a structural thought of truth very basic in its application and purely stated in its manifestation, which is that life in its earliest stages is hard and needs a determined mind to elevate to the higher aspects of being. And even if you only seek to manifest the middle point of life, there are many struggles and obstacles that you must overcome.

Such is the thought and idea of this structural work of art that celebrates the inception of life, and all of its realities and eventualities.

The foundational premise of the structure is the salmon swimming up stream to bring new life into this world, while providing nourishment for other living creatures with its very existence. This idea is conveyed by carved drawings of salmon on a marble-like surface.

There are also middle-size rocks on the front side of the structure to indicate the difficulty of such a task, and the power of the accomplishment. It also represents the fact that all living creatures have an instinctive reality to bring life into the world, even at the cost of its own existence. The top of the structure represents the apex of life, for it is the point at which the substance of earthly life (water) is released; just like rain, the water comes from above and supplies support in the journey. The back side of the structure is smooth to show that once you reach the top and fulfill all of your goals and aspirations, life is no longer a struggle, and we slide into the golden ages of life; but not before we prepare others to continue the ever upward bound process toward perfection. Thus we go back from whence we came, the primeval water to begin the beginning that never began, which is perpetual life. This aspect is manifested by a circular rock wall, which surrounds the structure in a continuous perpetuation of water the substance of earthly life.



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The structure mentioned above is a piece done by the world-renowned artist and sculptor James W. Washington, Jr., who lived here in Seattle for many of his working years. In fact he lived right here in the Central District, within walking distance of the fountain. It is my thought that we the people of Seattle in general, and we here in the Central District in particular owe a debt of gratitude to the Washington family and to The James and Janie Washington Foundation.

-Peace SK

## LESCHI NATURAL AREA

If you have closely followed the development of this unique park, you probably know that the property next door at 319 36th Ave. (south of the original park) was purchased by Seattle Parks in 2008. The home was demolished and now there are plans to demolish the remaining features: walkway, retaining wall, railing and hardscape areas.

Seattle Conservation Corps will begin the demo work in early spring 2016. Planting restoration will be complete by fall 2016. No Trespass signs will be installed and enforced.

Questions or Comments? Come to the Work Party Feb. 6th at 10:00 am. Katie Bang, Seattle Parks & Recreation, will be in attendance.

-Seattle Parks Department

## PEACEFUL POLLINATORS HAVE HOMES!

Thanks to the Leschi residents who came forward to be bee stewards as we place mason bees throughout the neighborhood. Each steward receives a shelter with a wooden bee-nesting block. At the end of the season, the homes and the blocks will be collected. The harvested bee cocoons can be traded in for permanent nesting blocks and shelters should the steward want to continue, but the important object of this is to spread pollinator awareness and a sensitivity to chemical threats to bees and other living things around us. One of the stewards has a small orchard and the Mason bees really like early stone fruits so we are anxious to see what happens in this setting.

Even if you don't have a bee home, you can encourage bees by planting the flowers and plants that attract bees. Neighbor Ruby Holland has been doing this and sends us some suggestions.

-Jim Snell

## ATTRACTING BEES WITH PLANTS AND FLOWERS

When I moved back to Seattle Aug. 2014, I drove around Leschi and Mt. Baker looking at yards. I was pleasantly surprised to see many new, more sustainable yards and gardens. Those yards that may look a little disheveled and unkempt are actually the types of yards that pollinators love. Well-manicured lawns are a thing of the past, although it is sometimes difficult to convince our families and loved ones of that. As a compromise I'm leaving my front yard as is (for now), but the backyard is mine to do as I please. And I plan to let it get a little wild with plants that attract pollinators, especially our native bees.

These little guys need our help! They are losing their homes and their food supply is getting scarce. They are disappearing. This is due to many factors, including commercial and residential development, pesticide use, use of non-native plants, which our pollinators won't eat, and which further destroy habitat by crowding out the native plants that have evolved with native pollinators.

Why do we care? These insects pollinate many of the fruits and vegetables that we eat. Without bees, there would be no apples, pumpkins, strawberries, or many other fruits and vegetables that we love. Canada and the U.S. alone grow more than 100 crops that need pollination.

How can we help? The solution is easy. Plant flowers. Plant flowers that are native to your region and that attract pollinators. A small sunny spot in your backyard or front yard is all that you need. Plant a large variety of nectar and pollen-rich flowers. Color matters; bees like bright blue and violet. Planting large groups of flowers of the same color or kind attracts bees much better than single, individual flowers scattered throughout the garden. Include a variety of flowers that bloom throughout the season. The flowers of certain trees, vines, shrubs and herbs attract pollinators.

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## Plants for bees

When choosing plants to attract bees, the first choice is native plants. Native wildlife and native plants are adapted to each other and to our climate. Also native plant species from local gene stock are adapted to our summer drought conditions and can thrive without fertilizer, pesticides (a no-no), pruning and other maintenance. When you buy native plants, ask for local stock.

Some native plants to consider: Aster, Goldenrod, Penstemon, Sunflower, Rose, Clarkia, Nootka Lupine, Thrift, Yarrow, Common Camas, Columbia Lewisia, Trillium, Wood Sorrel. These are only a few.

Other garden plants and non-natives that attract bees: English Lavender, Blue Columbine, Hellebore, Purple Coneflower, "Autumn Joy" Sedum, Bee Balm, Sea Holly, Globe Thistle, Russian Sage, Daffodil, Crocus, Cosmos, and many more.

Herbs that bees love: Thyme, Borage, Oregano, Rosemary, Sage, Lemon Balm, Mint.

## Helpful resources

- [Real Gardens Grow Natives](#), by Eileen Stark
- [Attracting Native Pollinators](#), by the Xerces Society ([www.xerces.org](http://www.xerces.org))
- The Pollinator Partnership ([www.pollinator.org](http://www.pollinator.org))
- The Washington Native Plant Society ([www.wnps.org](http://www.wnps.org))
- Urban Bee Project ([www.urbanbeeprojectseattle.com](http://www.urbanbeeprojectseattle.com))

This is truly gardening to save a planet, one backyard, one container, one p-patch and one community at a time.

*-Ruby Holland*

## "THE CENTRAL" HAPPENINGS

### The Central's Name

The name of this entity was part of the discussion at January's Member meeting at the Central Area Senior Center. The parent organization, Senior Services, recently changed its name to Sound Generations and requested that its partners, the various senior centers across the city, consider name changes as well. The Central membership wanted to keep Central Area Senior Center on

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its letterhead, but approved the informal use of The Central as displayed on the large wooden sign at the driveway entrance. Those discussing and voting were well beyond the baby boomer age; studies show that baby boomers have negative views of the word Senior and this could discourage that age group from joining the center.

## Staffing at the Central

Interviews have narrowed the field of candidates for the Program Coordinator position to just 3; Dian Ferguson, Director, feels that a new coordinator will be in place by mid-February. Hiring part-time building attendants has proved more challenging; folks are not really looking for part-time work. Dian said they might have better luck hiring one full time attendant, but she worried that the work was hard with all the set-up of tables and work days covering the weekend evenings might not be that attractive.

The \$30 challenge! Dian said that the stove and walk-in refrigerator that have been purchased are still awaiting installation. The bids for the conversion to gas for the stove have come in higher than budgeted by \$3000. She said that if 100 members would donate \$30 each, they could raise the needed \$3000. Almost everyone at my table reached for their checkbooks, so she should have a nice start to this campaign. All donations to the Center are tax deductible.

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## Mysterious disappearances at The Central!

Dian expressed some disbelief and sadness at the disappearance of items from the center. They had purchased some portable heaters for the cold rooms that are not on the new heating system like the dining room; most of the heaters have walked away from the center. Likewise, 8 sets of garbage /recycling cans were purchased and 2 sets have walked away. And someone took all the silver balls off one of the Christmas trees that decorated the Center during the holiday season. Dian has trouble sleeping and often returns to the Center in the night to work on a project; she has found unauthorized people in the building who have obtained the key from someone else. The parent agency, Sound Generations, will provide security staff to do an assessment and security cameras may be installed. When one thinks of the hard work that goes into obtaining every dollar for the Center, this type of loss is very discouraging.

Dian asked that we all be good stewards of the space and question when we see something that doesn't seem right.

-Diane Snell



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## SENIOR SCAMS

The phone rang at 7am and when I answered, an unfamiliar voice (with slight accent) said "Good Morning, Grandma!" This is the 3rd time in several months that I have received this type of call, so I didn't waste any time in answering "I am not your grandma!" AARP reports that grandparents are particularly susceptible to these calls, which usually go on to describe a situation where the "grandchild" needs money very quickly to get out of a mess of some sort. So, seniors, beware! There are obviously some lists of older folks out there being used for illegal purposes. There are other clues in these calls: background noises of a call center and the avoidance of names. The supposed "grandchild" will wait for a slip from you: "Oh, is this Johnny?" Don't respond emotionally. Check out the whereabouts of your real grandchild before wiring big sums of money to this group.

-Diane Snell

## RATING THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES ON CLIMATE CHANGE

*Editor's note: This opinion piece does not reflect the views of the Leschi News, its editor or the LCC Board.*

I cannot remember an election season that was ever more heated and vicious as this one. I'm not very well informed when it comes to tax code, balancing the budget, or how to defeat ISIS, but I do know a fair bit about climate change. I've listened to all the debates and have gotten a good idea of where these candidates stand on the issue, so I thought I'd grade them here and crown a climate "winner."

Let's start off with the Republicans. I am not going to spend much time here, because if you care about the environment, you should not vote for any of the Republicans running for president. Climate action is not high on the list of priorities for Republican candidates; in fact, for some, it is not on the agenda at all. If you want to vote Republican but still are concerned about the climate, Jeb Bush is your best bet, and avoid Ted Cruz at all costs.

On the Democratic side, Bernie Sanders is the most vocal about the dangers of climate change, but he is also unfortunately the most prone to exaggeration. I take issue with his alarmist and incorrect rhetoric; he has stated that the Earth will become "uninhabitable" due to global warming, that climate change is responsible for the recently observed forest fires on the West Coast, and that mass migration will result from rising sea levels. The fires we have seen in the Northwest over the past few summers are the result of natural variability and are not attributable to global warming. I wrote a report last year on rising sea levels and mass migration and found that people are far more likely to stay put and adapt than to leave everything behind and head for the hills. Sanders also strongly opposes nuclear power based on safety and waste

concerns (which I understand), but if we are serious about combating global warming, we absolutely need nuclear power because it provides a cheap and, more importantly, continuous source of energy to the power grid. Sanders supports a carbon tax, a practical and very effective way to encourage energy conservation. It's easy to ignore the consequences of global warming when they will affect people in the 22nd century and beyond. It's a bit harder when it affects you in the present.

Hillary Clinton is less outspoken about climate change, and as a result has largely avoided exaggerated and incorrect claims about the state of our atmosphere and its repercussions on our world. She is in favor of all types of renewable energy as well as nuclear and "clean coal" (capturing and storing carbon dioxide and pollutants emitted from coal plants), but she has not rolled out any specific sort of carbon tax, which should be a logical first step in sharply reducing carbon emissions here in the U.S. She has called to reach half a billion installed solar panels by the end of her first term, so we'll see if that pans out.


Martin O'Malley seems to have a stance between Bernie Sanders and Hillary Clinton: he is vocal about climate change and how we must take action but avoids making exaggerated, unscientific claims. He supports a wide variety of renewable energies, nuclear energy, a carbon tax, and ending subsidies for fossil fuel companies. He even calls for retrofitting old government buildings to the highest efficiency standards and requiring new ones to have net-zero carbon emissions. I agree with his stance on climate change the most, but unfortunately, it doesn't look like he will win the Democratic nomination.

I believe that if elected, Hillary would be the most effective candidate in reducing carbon emissions. She has pledged to expand upon Obama's Clean Power Act if elected, and looks to have a better handle on the science of the subject than Bernie Sanders. However, she should look into a carbon tax; it is the easiest and fastest way to reduce carbon emissions.

-Charlie Phillips

# A Taste of Retirement

## Wednesday, February 17th



Sample appetizers from Renton, Southeast and Central Seattle's Retirement Communities for people age 50 or better. Talk to admission directors and caretakers about their facilities and amenities to see if it's a good fit for you or an aging parent.

Healthcare and insurance companies will be on-hand to consult with you about your plans and can show you how to enroll.

**Healthcare Options & Housing Resources**  
10 AM – 1 PM

- Retirement Apartments
- Independent Retirement Communities
- Assistive Living Spaces
- Skilled Nursing Facilities
- Adult Family Homes
- Health Insurance Companies


**Educational Sessions**  
10 AM – 1 PM



- Medicare & Medicaid 101
- Downsizing Your Home
- Choosing the Right Health Plan
- Making Informed Decisions for Yourself & for Aging Parents

**Food Service & Appetizers**  
11 AM – 1 PM

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*Charlie Phillips, a Madrona resident, just received his B.S. in atmospheric sciences at the University of Washington. He writes for WeatherOn, a local organization that provides forecasts, blogs and podcasts for the Pacific Northwest and has had his own weather blog since high school. Check it out at [www.charliesweatherforecasts.blogspot.com/](http://www.charliesweatherforecasts.blogspot.com/)*

# Culture Corner

## “POETRY IS A TYPE OF MUSIC...” ~JUDITH ROCHE

Susan Noyes Platt

www.artandpoliticsnow.com

Award-winning and nationally known poet Judith Roche lives in the heart of Leschi. I almost missed her unassuming house on a steep forested hill that descends down to the lake, but once inside, I immediately felt her poetic sensibility in the subtle aesthetic details of her home. She opened our conversation with the declaration that she loves living in a house with a view of the woods that is ten minutes from downtown. That partnership of nature and culture fills her poetry, but never peacefully. Her acute perceptions pierce into our hearts.

Even as a child growing up in Detroit, Michigan, in the midst of a radical family of union organizers, Judith Roche spontaneously loved poetry: she read Longfellow, Wordsworth, Edna St. Vincent Millay. Later she got a

BA in English literature and an MA at the New College of California, studying with Robert Duncan and Diane de Prima, and began her career as a high school English teacher.

But her activist family roots emerged as she taught poetry to children in correctional facilities and to adults in federal and state prisons. She deeply believes in “teaching incarcerated youth to write poetry as a way of finding out the best of who they are.”

Rather than enumerate her many accomplishments and awards, I want to suggest here why her poetry breaks through traditional aesthetic restraints to speak so directly to us.

As a writer focused mainly on visual art, I first responded to the vivid imagery such as “Sunday morning sun flaring through/my kitchen window, / sun-struck tulips/ on my breakfast table/ have spread themselves wide open/showing everything they’ve got inside/ which they’ve kept/hidden for days.” Georgia O’Keeffe’s paintings come to mind in the sexual innuendos of the lines.

She told me that poems find their own rhythms, they are a type of music; she feels where it ought to break, emphasize, stick out. Reading poetry out loud reveals those qualities more quickly, but you can also experience the music of her poetry reading silently and alone.

Roche’s fourth book, *All Fire All Water* (Black Heron Press, 2015) has four sections, with titles that concisely correspond to her life lived fully, but not easily, and her current preoccupations: “Rivers Have Memories” unrelentingly gives us the sounds and scars of nature; “A Bird Caught in the Throat” speaks of the realities of our contemporary political life, (“Another word for terror is a bird caught in the throat”); “The Husbands Sweet” invokes the pains and pleasures of marriage (“the bitter bundled in the honey’s swarm”); “We are Stardust” meditates on life and death: (“how do we know where we are when the stars we navigate by no longer exist”).



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For each poem, Roche selects painfully precise words evoking deep emotions that move inexorably toward a final line that can leave us breathless, uncomfortable, or shocked. Sometimes she invokes Walt Whitman's style, or the rhythms of a folk song, or a nursery rhyme, or Dante or Homer (as in her excruciating "The Face of War": "With polyphonic voices, we sing/the horror of these mutilated cities/where immortal cruelty roams").

The content-laden lines have complex poetic forms. For example,

"Bee Villanelle" pays homage to the disappearing bee. "Villanelle" refers to a nineteen-line poem with specific patterns. But we never sense constraints in the flow of the ideas and feelings, so carefully expressing the tragedy of the bee. "They were with us so long./Heavy with gold dusted bodies they go. / We'll miss their sibilant song." The villanelle repeats the first and third line throughout in a fixed pattern, but as we read it the first time, we feel that we want to hear it again and again, just as the bees have always been there every summer. The form perfectly fits the subject of the poem, and the words perfectly fit the tragedy.

The last part of the book "We are Stardust" speaks of aging and death, both specifically as in the case of a poem dedicated to two women who have died, "Pat and Mary" ("In this dream, the dead girls are alive.") and literally in the poem about the ghats of Varanasi, the city on the Ganges in India where Hindus cremate their dead ("It's all fire and water here.") The poem "Metaphors of Dust" perfectly captures Roche's unusual imagination: "As it turns out, we actually are stardust," an irresistible declaration that both explodes a metaphor and creates one.

In Seattle we can experience Roche's poetry integrated into the fabric of our city. For example, as part of a 2002 citywide public art program focusing on the survival of salmon, she persuaded the Army Corps of Engineers to introduce her poems into the audio system at the fish-viewing windows inside the fish ladder at the Ballard Locks. With the push of a button, we can hear her read a poem that corresponds to what we are seeing in the window according to the five different phases in the salmon cycle.

Judith Roche's poetry sharpens our experience of the world and speaks to the crucial concerns of our time. We are so fortunate to have her in our midst.

## Credo

I believe in the cave paintings at Lascaux,  
the beauty of the clavicle,  
the journey of the salmon.  
I believe in all the gods –  
I just don't like some of them.  
I believe the war is always against the imagination,  
is recurring, repetitive, and relentless.  
I believe in fairies, elves, angels and bodhisattvas.  
Santa Claus and the Tooth Fairy,  
I believe Raven invented the Earth  
and so did Coyote. In archeology  
lies the clue. The threshold is numinous  
and the way in is the way out.  
I believe in the alphabets, all of them  
and the stories seeping from between their letters.  
I believe in dance as prayer, that the heart  
beat invented rhythm and chant –  
or is it the other way around?  
I believe in the wisdom of the body.  
I believe that art saves lives  
and love makes it worth living them.  
And that could be the other way around, too.

-Judith Roche

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## BLACK HISTORY MONTH DANCE FESTIVAL

Spectrum Dance Theater presents *Making the Invisible Visible* in its Black History Month Dance Festival: *Rambunctious 2.0* at the Cornish Theater Feb.8-21 and *Dance Dance Dance* at the Moore Theater Feb. 25-28. Please see their flyer for this event at our website [leschinews.com](http://leschinews.com)

## CIRCLE OF FIVE

Featuring at the M. Rosetta Hunter Gallery: *Circle Five*, contemporary Native American Artists through 2/12/16. Gallery located at Seattle Central College; hours 9-3:30 Mon.-Fri.



# Seeking Sustenance...

## COZY FEBRUARY WINES

Love is in the air. This month we feature two categories of wine. First, you'll see a few high-end, high scoring, rare behemoths that you could cuddle up with on a cold, gray day. Second, intriguing new Italian imports that have captured our heart. Usually the offering is a Hot Seven list, but I figured since this February has an extra day, why not throw in an extra wine and make it a Great Eight list!

### 2012 Mount Eden Vineyards Chardonnay Santa Cruz Mountains (\$58)

"Taut and vibrant, the 2012 Chardonnay is one of this winery's finest. This tiny winery in Saratoga is one of California's underappreciated treasures. Mount Eden is a labor of love, producing small amounts of Cabernet, Pinot Noir and Chardonnay. The Chardonnay comes from two shy-bearing parcels on the mountaintop, giving a mix of ripe and structured cuvées that spend a year in French oak and undergo full malolactic fermentation. The wines are styled to age for 10 years or longer." -#5 Wine Spectator Top 100 of 2015, 95 points.

### 2013 Brick House Pinot Noir Les Dijonnais Ribbon Ridge (\$51)

"Fresh and expressive, soft in texture, this offers generous flavors of cherry, raspberry and clove that linger effortlessly against velvety tannins. Drink now through 2023. 517 cases made." -Wine Spectator, 93 points.

### 2012 Baer Ursa Columbia Valley (\$37)

"The core glows with ripe blackberry, dark plum, mint and floral flavors, gliding over lightly prickly tannins into the long and compelling finish. Feels almost weightless, but has tremendous depth. Merlot, Cabernet Franc, Cabernet Sauvignon and Malbec. Drink now through 2020." #28 Wine Spectator Top 100 of 2015, 94 points.

### 2011 Reverdito Barolo (\$22)

Michele Reverdito is what they call a "rising star" winemaker in Barolo. "The best deal in Barolo I've ever found. Any fan of Nebbiolo, and really any fan of Italian wine, should not miss out on this. All the character of Barolo is in here—complex aromas of licorice and rose, dark red fruit on the palate. This will be a staple at my house given its ridiculous quality-to-price factor and the fact that I can pop the cork and drink it. Why settle for simple Langhe Nebbiolo when you can drink Barolo any night of the week?" -northwest-wine.com.

### 2013 Struzziero Irpinia Dry White Coda di Volpe Italy (\$14)

100% Coda di Volpe (foxtail), named for the shape of the cluster. Coda di Volpe is a white Italian wine grape varietal that has been historically grown in the Campania region around the town of Naples. It has rich and intense scents of fruit and flowers with notes of orange. Fresh and soft to the palate, it has tones of citrus fruits and quince.

### 2013 Tenute Rubino Susumaniello 'Oltreme' Salento Puglia (\$13)

Made from native grape Susumaniello, this conveys aromas of charred earth, mature plum and a hint of coffee bean. The soft, dense palate offers juicy black cherry, pomegranate, licorice and a note of black pepper alongside ripe, velvety tannins. Drink through 2016. New item

### 2014 Monte Tondo Corvina Rosso Veneto Italy (\$11)

Corvina is the great grape of the Valpolicella region, but it is almost always blended with other varietals to create the classic Valpolicella cuvée. Monte Tondo's Corvina is extraordinarily rare. It is redolent of pie cherries, Seville orange peel, pepper, and crushed stones. Bitter medicinal



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# ...in the Wilds of Seattle

herbs and fine tannins work alongside brisk acidity to make this one of the most versatile and table-ready wines.

ALSO! Stay tuned for next month when we unveil the 2nd installment of the Leschi Market Wine Awards. The Top-10 wines of 2015 as well as several other smaller awards mixed in. Always a fun read and recap of the last year's worth of wine.

*CHEERS! ENJOY!*

*Kenneth Benner, a Seattle area native, is a trained chef and has worked in such restaurants as Barbacoa, B.O.K.A. Kitchen + Bar, and Dahlia Lounge. Ken is the wine buyer at Leschi Market. He has a passion for learning, a meticulous palate, and a tenacity for searching out the best for his customers while offering some of the most highly coveted wines in the area. His wine column is intended to inspire and explore new choices in wine, learn about wine with his readers, and share his knowledge and experiences in the wine world. Check out the latest at [LeschiMarket.com](http://LeschiMarket.com) or request to be added to email updates or send questions, comments, or suggestions to [ken@leschimarket.com](mailto:ken@leschimarket.com) and follow the wine department directly on twitter at [twitter.com/leschimarket](https://twitter.com/leschimarket).*

fries underneath. There are always too many fries and they don't reheat well so they tend to become yard waste fodder.

Prices before tax: \$17.47; Falafel was \$6.49 and Chicken Kebob was \$6.99. My husband says the Chicken Gyro is 20 cents cheaper and not as messy to eat. He thinks that is the best lunch deal in town. These sandwiches are filling; at this moment it is 5 hours past lunch and I am still full. Bonus: You won't have to cook dinner.

Tip: they have Zahri on the menu, which is deep-fried cauliflower with tahini sauce. I have not tried it here, but used to order it as a group appetizer at the old Mediterranean Kitchen, which was at the foot of Queen Anne, when ACT was also there. This is the best cauliflower recipe ever...except for M.F.K. Fisher's recipe. I fixed the Zahri at home when my grandson was about six, and he pronounced it the best shrimp he had ever eaten. I should write a book on how to keep folks happy as vegetarians!

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## MEDITERRANEAN EXPRESS

1417 Broadway (Harvard Market bldg.) 206.860.3989  
Eat in, take out or have your order delivered!

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*-Diane Snell*

## MEDITERRANEAN EXPRESS

A \$15 order (before tax) will be delivered for free. We went there, parked above QFC free for 30 minutes and ordered take-out, so I won't bother talking about the ambience (of which there is none). We got the Falafel sandwich (deliciously goopy with tahini sauce) and the Chicken Kabob sandwich (tender, garlicky cubes of chicken). Sandwich means your choice comes wrapped in a warm pita.

I ordered the Greek fries as well, because I keep hearing how terrific they are; I am not all that fond of fries and these fries did not make me a supporter. The fries are sprinkled with some kind of seasoning salt, which looks as though it has paprika in it and the whole dish is sprinkled with crumbled feta and parsley. It's sort of good, but still



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**EXEC BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**1/12/2016**

Attending: Diane Snell, Diane Morris, Kim Murillo, Jeff Floor, Yousef Shulman, Amy Fink, and Tracy Bier.

**Kim/Treasury**

Diane S. did a lot of work on advertising and brought in ad money. We also have some new advertisers. Please see Kim's report. Financially we're in good shape. Diane suggested we go ahead and pay \$10,000 for the work done on Frink Park (based on the grant from King County). The motion was made and carried unanimously.

**Jeff/LURC**

LURC has been working on re-writing their bylaws. They're in discussion with Vulcan for a site they may be interested in on the Promenade 23rd S. site. Jeff is looking at this situation as a potential subject for a general meeting.

**HALA Flexibility**

HALA is changing regulations around backyard cottages/basement apartments. The group is also looking for flexibility from communities in relaxing single-family zoning. Diane is looking for input/info on this subject. Jeff will take the request to LURC.

**Programming/February General meeting**

The board discussed paying an honorarium for the scheduled speaker, writer David Williams. The motion was made and carried.

**Moorage report**

The Parks dept. has received 2 proposals. One of the proposals is for Lakewood moorage only. The other proposal is from Foss.

**'Pot Shop' Buffer Zone Issue**

The City Council voted to reduce buffer zones from 1000 ft. to 500 ft. Board offered no objections to this. The board noted that the corner Uncle Ike's occupies has become safer since the pot shop moved in.

**Website**

We need a new hosting site; Yousef will research options.

**Central Area Senior Center**

Operation of the facility is a part of Senior Services, but the building is owned by the city. Senior Services may be interested in obtaining the building for multiple purposes, including low-income housing. There are some concerns as to whether the proposed changes might result in a loss in terms of community availability to the facility.

**Reminder**

Exec board elections are coming up in May.

*-Submitted by Amy Fink*

*Ask me about real estate when you see me in Leschi!*

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klosh@ewingandclark.com | 206.953.6786

EASTPAC DECEMBER MEETING

We did not have a representative at this meeting; it conflicted with the CANDC meeting. Troy Meyers, EastPAC Chair, did report at the January CANDC meeting that violent crimes and robberies were down, but car prowls are up. One can see evidence of this in the posts on NextDoor Leschi. SPD advises never leave anything of value in your car.

# Support your community by joining the Leschi Community Council!

We create awareness of neighborhood issues so residents may make informed and effective decisions.

LCC joins with the Leschi Business Association on ArtWalk and Halloween Spooktacular

LCC supports the Instrumental Music Program at Leschi Elementary

LCC supports volunteer activities in our local parks and on our public stairways

LCC supports the Central (Central Area Senior Center)

LCC produces the Leschi News 10 times a year

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My check is enclosed:  \$35 family membership  \$25 individual membership

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# leschinews

The next Leschi News deadline is **FEBRUARY 15**. Mail all articles, comments, letters, advertisements, and membership dues to this address:

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## february 2016 | calendar

**FEB 3** Leschi CC Meeting: Too High & Too Steep (see cover), 7pm, The Central, 500 30th Ave. S

**FEB 4** 6:30-8:30pm Community meeting on the redevelopment of Promenade 23 presented by Vulcan.  
At Ernestine Anderson Place, 2010 S. Jackson.

**FEB 6** Leschi Natural Area work party, 9am-3pm. Lunch & tools provided, 36th & Terrace. At 10am, there is a community meeting on the planned demolition just south of the original space for all interested parties.  
See the flyer on our website: [leschinews.com](http://leschinews.com)

**FEB 8-21** Spectrum *Rambunctious 2.0*, Cornish Theater

**FEB 9** VOTE! School Bond Levies 1 & 2

**FEB 9** Leschi CC Executive Board Meeting, 7pm, 128 30th (Diane Morris's)

**FEB 12** Central Area Neighborhood District Council meeting, 6pm. Susan Platt will present on James Washington Jr. Central Area Senior Center

**FEB 13** Seattle Neighborhood Coalition 9am, The Central (Breakfast: \$14)

**FEB 17** Retirement Fair at Rainier Beach Community Center, 10-1pm. See ad on page 9.

**FEB 19** Green Dolphin Street Lounge, 6-9pm, featuring saxophonist Brandon Willis.  
Admission is \$20 for non-members and \$15 for lifetime members.  
Refreshments. No Host bar.

**FEB 25** EastPAC, 6:30pm, Chardin Hall 12th & Jefferson (parking lot off Jefferson)

**FEB 25-28** Spectrum's *Dance Dance Dance* at the Moore Theater

**Contact John Barber about  
String of Pearls work  
parties at 206.324.1548 and  
contact Darcy Thompson  
for Frink Park work parties  
at 206.325.4295.**

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