

leschinews

February 2019 Issue No. 359

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President's Message

Greetings Fellow Leschi Dwellers,

As I sit here on a chilly January afternoon, I am grateful we are in a mild climate and not in the Midwest and East Coast with wicked snowstorms. Spring will soon be upon us.

Please join us for the pre-Valentine's Day celebration Saturday, February 9 in the dining hall at the Community Center. Tickets are still available and our wine tasting will be courtesy of Steve at Grocery Outlet. He will be offering 20% discounts for six bottles or more. We have a Brazilian jazz group, The Rio Thing, that will give you a chance to dust off your dancing shoes and take your sweetheart out before Valentine's Day and avoid the crowds on the 14th. See the cover of this issue for more information.

SAVE THE DATE: In March, we will be offering another phase of the earthquake preparedness program. We will be working in conjunction with the Madrona neighborhood. Stay tuned for further details in the March newsletter, and **mark your calendars for March 6 at 7pm**, our usual meeting time.

I want to give a big shout out thank you to Diane Snell, our fearless LCC Secretary and general go-to person. She and her husband, Jim, are so integral to our Community Council. I must also mention and thank John Barber for his tireless work on behalf of landscaping and the Seattle Parks Department. Janet Oliver is our beloved Treasurer and even when she is off on rowing adventures, she is still hands on with our books. Trevor Menagh-Lalish and Tracy Biers round out our Board and they are the point people in the earthquake preparedness programs. They are passionate about everyone being safe in the event of a tremblor in our area.

February is a time when we begin to think springtime thoughts, flowers and trees are beginning to bud and bloom and the days are getting longer. As you move into this month, how are you going to bloom where you are? What special plans do you have with family, travel plans, grandchildren, new relationships and old friends? Always take the time to remember those who live in your heart.

I wish you the Happiest Valentine's Day—a day for remembering to love and to be loved...



*Janice Merrill Brown,
LCC President*

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Leschi Community Council
140 Lakeside Ave. Suite A #2
Seattle WA 98122-6538

President

Janice Merrill Brown

janicemb@comcast.net

Vice President

Trevor Lalish-Menagh

trev@trevreport.org

Secretary

Diane Snell

leschinews@comcast.net

Treasurer

Janet Oliver, janetoliver@seanet.com

Program Chair

Diane Snell, 206-726-0923

Parks and Greenspace

John Barber, 206-324-1548

barber-osa@comcast.net

Land Use Chair

Jeff Floor, jsfloor@gmail.com

Public Health and Safety

Tracy Bier, atbier@msn.com

Leschi Business Associate

Yousef Shulman

yousefshulmanlcc@gmail.com

Events Chair

Position open

Marketing Chair

Yuki Igarashi, YElgarashi@gmail.com

**Newsletter Editor
and Advertising**

Diane Snell, 206-726-0923

leschinews@comcast.net

Production Designer

Kirsten Hopperstad

khopperstad@msn.com

Staff Photographer

Position open

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Why a Senior Center?

Why do we support a senior center in our neighborhood? As our society ages, the importance of senior centers grows astronomically. Seniors need support as longevity increases. We may lose a spouse in the later years, our adult children may live across the country and have obligations of their own and we have often lost the support of friends through death and illness. I know that when I retired, I did not miss driving on I-5 but I missed the social contacts with both co-workers and the patients I served. I threw myself into community activities to fill that void.

Our Senior Center is not only a gathering place for those who continue to be independent, but it serves a vulnerable population as well. The Central, the café that serves nutritious lunches during the week, may provide the only well-balanced meal during the day for some folks. Few men (of that generation) who have lost their spouses have the cooking skills needed for maintaining health.

When Red Apple was still open, I happened to be in line behind a recent widower I knew from the Senior Center and I was appalled to see a stack of frozen meals in his basket. I was glad that he was coming to the Center for his lunches and getting some green salads and fresh fruit. And it is not only about the nutritious meals that they provided; it is the social setting and human community. We all eat better when we are not eating alone. I can remember "alone" times in my younger days when I didn't want to bother fixing something nutritious and would stand by the sink with a spoon in one hand and the cottage cheese container in the other hand. Not totally bad, but not well balanced.

The Senior Center also offers many classes and activities to either help seniors retain physical strength or stimulate one's mind. One of the most popular classes is the exercise class long led by Ernestine Robinson and Charlesetta MacDougal, certified teachers in the Enhanced Fitness program developed by the UW and Group Health (now Kaiser Permanente). The program has a focus on upper body strength ensuring that if you do fall, you can get yourself back up. Periodically, separate classes are given at the Center in fall prevention and balance.

Other important classes that are given a few times per year is the AARP driving course, which can help save money on car insurance. Leschi resident Judy Ellis is a SHIBA (State Health Insurance Benefits advisor) volunteer and helps seniors with their health insurance questions, assisting in comparing plans during the open season.

Ray Bradley gives the computer classes in the technology room. Seniors who learn to email can keep in touch with

their far-flung families who are often too busy to write the old-fashioned letter; emails can be brief and to the point.

We will look at other popular classes in this issue but one gets the picture. Senior Centers can help folks both physically and mentally. Social isolation is common among seniors and is often seen as a major health concern. Maine has hired "senior companions" to visit isolated seniors on a weekly basis; it is more than just a "checking in" process; it is a chance to talk and reminisce which keeps folks grounded. I used to tire of my Dad's stories about Bradley tanks, but now I miss them; testing those tanks in the desert was often a risky job but one that he valued; he was doing his part and everyone likes to think that they have done their part in whatever this life process is as they near the end.

-Diane Snell

Letter to the Editor

I am probably one of a very few Leschi residents who can also speak for waterfront-ish property owners on the other side of town. I own a studio condominium just off First, which has been rented out for 30+ years.

LIDs have generally been formed by property owners who wish to pool resources to address a common problem. In the waterfront (West Edge) community, without using the LID format, property owners have organized and contributed to address garbage and security issues while helping tourists.

This so-called LID was imposed from above. It was assumed as part of the funding package early on, without any opportunity for comment from us minions. Many property owners do not believe that this project will increase their property values anywhere near what is being proposed in the LID. We have a right to our opinions and to demand proof. This is a misuse of the LID concept. Of course, the County will be able to raise our assessments in the future, if property sales bear out their projections of increased property values.

-Dennis Tully

Editor's note: It appears that the city did not accomplish the due diligence on the LID issue as they are supposed to do before they bring the issue to the City Council. We assumed that had been done. The Mayor has now decided that the needed funds will come from parking taxes downtown so the park issue that we were concerned about has been resolved.

Neighborhood & Beyond

IN SUPPORT OF THE SENIOR CENTER

What the senior center means to me

I have made many new friends and have enjoyed much conversation at the Central Area Senior Center over the years since 1997. What has enriched me most is the exercise program.

Starting on the patio at 9am, three times a week, we begin with warm-ups and move on to flexibility and balance exercises, all while enjoying a million-dollar view of Lake Washington and the mountains beyond, stretching from the sight of downtown Bellevue, Mercer Island, the I-90 Bridge, and Mount Rainier. We see this view in many forms: still water, subtle reflections, or choppy, foggy, misty, mountains behind clouds and in front—it is a constantly changing panorama day-to-day.



Inside, we do strength exercises and more stretching and balance, and then we take a 20-minute walk through the neighborhood with walking companions (another chance for chatting and making friends). When we return, we do our final stretches and some coordination exercises.

Afterwards, we can stay for coffee klatch at 10, another chance to socialize with other seniors.

The exercise program was expressly designed by Group Health Cooperative and the UW to meet the conditioning needs of senior citizens. Besides addressing general health, the exercises anticipate preventive conditioning to reduce falls or the results of falls, to keep the core muscles toned to be able to more easily get

up, and to keep mentally alert and ready to react to unexpected changes. The Center has offered the program for more than 20 years and has received national recognition for quality.

Seniors, if you want to keep fit, this program is for you. The Center is virtually at your doorstep.

-John Barber

CELEBRATORY EVENTS

Seniors want to also participate in events that are not necessarily improving them physically, but are socially stimulating. Now that we are retired and there are no more office parties big or small, the Holiday Gala is an event for which to look forward. Time to dig out your best outfit, jewels and show-stopping shoes to attend the affair of the year. Great music, substantial food, raffle items and photos reminiscent of your prom days! It's a night to remember! One can buy tickets individually or a group can purchase a table. The Leschi Community Council has been purchasing a table for several years, as it is part of our mission to support the Senior Center.

The Center also holds a monthly birthday lunch for seniors. The birthday folks enjoy a free lunch and some have even purchased a table of lunches for friends to celebrate with them. The oldest birthday person is recognized; this is one setting where one's age is revered!

Seafair offers another excuse to throw a party, as the view from Center is priceless. Again, there is music and the food is not to be believed; no one goes away hungry!



These are just a sampling of the activities offered at the Center. We hope to feature more in coming months.

-Diane Snell

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LOSS OF ANOTHER LESCHI ICON

We are saddened by the loss of Leonard Shulman, longtime owner of the Leschi Market. He died December 24. Leonard bought the Leschi Market in 1977 from his uncle, Hank Edelson.

To quote the obituary in the Seattle Times: *“Over the years Leonard made Leschi Market into a unique community business with his dedication and hard work, his charming manner, welcoming smile, and his willingness to help others. Although he continued to be an active part of the business, he handed over the daily operations to his children and grandchildren. Leonard continued to work for the business until he passed away freely sharing his straight-talking advice and counsel.”*

Leonard’s son, Steve, and grandson, Yousef, have used a photo of Leonard in his classic grocer’s white apron on their house wine label: **Leschi Cellars**. Look for it when you are in the store and you will see the family resemblance. Our condolences to the Shulman family and our belated thanks to Leonard for building the store into the community pillar that it is.

-Diane Snell

CAPTURING MEMORIES AND CREATING GARDENS

Another Leschi resident who finds pleasure in the Senior Center is Diane Morris who teaches the Memoirs class. She feels it is important to write down your memories for your progeny, but it is also important for one’s self. Writing one’s life memories is a way of making sense of one’s life—a way of discovering one’s *raison d’être*: the reason for being. When hospice patients reminisce about their life, we call it Life Review; an important step in the process of leaving this earth and one that is missed in sudden death. At a recent memorial held at the Senior Center, a portion of the deceased’s memoirs were read; this had been written in the Memoirs class and must have been a treasure to the family to have such a document.

Diane is known in her neighborhood for her street side flower garden; there is something pretty blooming at any time of year. So it was only natural that she saw a garden that needed her tender, loving care when she started to go to the Senior Center. She tends the plants, makes sure they are kept alive during times the Center is closed, she weeds and she plants when she can get her hands on some bedding plants. She also creates the vases of flowers for each table at the monthly Birthday lunches. We appreciate Diane for bringing beauty into our lives!

-Diane Snell

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ANOTHER KIND OF BALANCE

Muriel Moore who attends the Memoirs class also goes to Tai Chi and feels it does help with physical balance. Tai Chi is an ancient Chinese tradition once associated with the martial arts. Today it is practiced as a graceful form of exercise. It involves a series of movements performed in a slow, focused manner and accompanied by deep breathing.

The Mayo clinic recommends Tai Chi to fight stress in a gentle way. The exercises also reduce anxiety and help to increase both flexibility and balance. This is an exercise requiring no special equipment and can be performed just about anywhere.

LESCHI ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Students, parents, staff and many other members of our school community took part in the march and rally for justice and equity on January 21, in recognition and celebration of Martin Luther King, Jr.’s life. Here are upcoming events at Leschi Elementary:

- February 12: General PTA Meeting—All are welcome!
- February 13: Art from the Heart—Each semester, this event builds relationships between students across grade levels and exposes them to a wide variety of visual and performing arts, with workshops organized by teachers, staff, parents, and other volunteers.
- February 16–24: Mid-Winter Break.
- February 28: Black History Night.

Keep up to date on upcoming events and news by visiting leschies.seattleschools.org or our Facebook page: facebook.com/leschischool.

-Benson Funk Wilder

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100 WOMEN WHO CARE: CHANGE OF MEETING DATE

Editor's note: The article in our January issue stated that their next meeting in February would be the 20th; this has been changed to the 21st. Please correct your calendars if you plan to attend.

GOOD NEIGHBORS

A Leschi teacher and her student doing research discovered this article about building community. See the page at idtrue.com/resource-center/being-a-good-neighbor/.

Nine suggestions are given to build community through being a good neighbor:

1. Introduce yourself
2. Notify your neighbors before you throw a party
3. Take care of your yard
4. Put your trash out on the right day
5. Keeping your pets under control
6. Be mindful of excessive noise
7. Do favors for your neighbors
8. Invite your neighbors over for a friendly BBQ every once in a while
9. Deal with all issues face to face

Thank you! Important things for all of us to remember.

-Diane Snell

THE AMBIGUITY OF DEFINITIONS

Definitions continue to occupy and consume much of my time. I know I am not alone. The problems resulting from our variety of definitions for the same word continue to occupy and consume the minds of many. Please know that for every sexual assault case that the media covers, numerous other cases go no farther than the individuals involved and perhaps a few confidantes. Other cases have taken place and changed the lives of persons who survived and occasionally the lives of persons responsible. The sooner we have a clear definition, a definition with which all of us agree, the sooner such violations will be halted. Of course, odds are that society will always have people who knowingly violate others, but the concern here is with the individual who reveals he or she has been violated and the individual who is certain no such violation happened. Was the act consensual? "Yes," say the survivors. "No," say the accused. The discussion may prevent a number of situations, which could have negatively altered human lives. Just as we have no way of knowing how many stories of such abuse exist, we have no way of knowing how many are avoided as a result of #MeToo and #TimesUp.

Another word at the root of more differences than anyone can know is "racist." Have you ever heard anyone say, "I'm a racist"? Everyone seems to know that "racist" is not a term anyone wants applied to them. Who is or isn't a racist is one more great divide in our country. Trump supporters detest being called racists. Some, however, admit Trump is racist, but they themselves are not. Wikipedia defines racist as "a person who shows or feels discrimination or prejudice against people of other races, or who believes that a particular race is superior to another." The key word is "prejudice." Prejudice is pre-judging a person or group of persons.

Donald Trump, for instance, protests being labeled a racist, and has said, "I am not a racist. I'm the least racist person you will ever interview." Many of us disagree with him. The January 15, 2018, New York Times published what it called the "definitive list of" Trump's racist statements, more than twenty examples. Only after he was elected did I learn about his not wanting African Americans in his apartment building. I concluded he is a racist after hearing him say, "When Mexico sends its people, they're not sending their best. They're sending people that have many problems, and they're bringing those problems with us. They're bringing drugs. They're bringing crime. They're rapists. And some, I assume, are good people." (I don't know why he thinks Mexico "sends" people to the U. S.) I have included more than "Mexicans are rapists" because he does say, "And some, I assume, are good people," another instance of pre-judging and prejudice.

Red flags cover this comment. What the President should do is what all of us should do: speak the truth and qualify our statements. "Mexicans" means all Mexicans; "some Mexicans" is a smaller group; "Mexicans I know" is a significantly smaller group than "Mexicans." But how many Mexicans does the President know? How many are rapists? Similar questions could be asked about the problems, drugs and crime as well as his assumption about their being "good people" which comes across with much less weight than his preceding words. What those who call Trump racist see most vividly are the first words. The "good people," followed by "I assume," seems an afterthought. What listeners to the President understand is that Mexicans are less important than white people.

-Georgia McDade

*Editor's note: Part 2 of **The Ambiguity of Definitions** will be published in the March issue of the Leschi News.*

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GOODBYE VIADUCT!

“We knew it was dangerous and it had to come down but still it has been a Seattle icon.” These were the words of Jason Snell explaining why he took a last drive on the Viaduct heading north on the evening of January 11, which was supposed to be the last day for the controversial structure. Jason ended up at Myrtle Edwards Park with a boisterous crowd celebrating with fireworks and cheers for the brave few who continued to flow across the high-rise corridor. Jason did not mention the presence of bare-breasted women who were celebrating in their own special way. A loud roar went up for the barricade truck that lost one of its barricades on the westernmost lane forcing traffic to swerve around it. Farewell, viaduct! Diane Morris said in the “olden” days, it was referred to as Seattle’s Great Wall of China.

-Diane Snell



CENTRAL MEMBER MEETING

Very brief notes for the 1/16 member meeting as forwarded by Dian Ferguson, Director. Dian reported that 115 folks attended the Holiday Gala and \$11,000 was raised toward capital improvements. The Center was transformed with holiday decorations: there were five decorated trees, linen tablecloths and chair covers and twinkly lights everywhere!

On January 12, 2019, Dian attended and presented at the 6th Annual State of Africatown 2019 held at Langston Hughes Cultural and Performing Arts Center. It was a wonderful celebration of what is going on in the community. She had the honor of presenting Elder of Distinction Awards to Muriel Softli, a founder of the Mary Mahoney Nurses Association and Dr. Norward Brooks, former City Comptroller, Employment Security Commissioner and Seattle Vocational Institute President,

Mayor Durkan attended. Dian provided an update on the Seattle City Council including the CASC in the City budget that passed on November 19, 2018 with a resolution for the Executive to negotiate with us on the terms for the transfer and sale of the building to us. The Mayor in her remarks stated that her goal was to build senior housing on the site.

Neither the Mayor nor her representatives have ever spoken to the CASC, board, director or members about building senior housing on the current site. Neither has she and/or her representatives discussed with us what our goals and desires

are for the property. The City of Seattle Office of Housing in a Memo dated October 7, 2016 determined through their analysis that the mitigating steep slope on the east side of the property would make redeveloping the CASC site with affordable housing financially unfeasible. They determined that the benefits of having CASC continue to serve African-American seniors in the community far outweigh the benefits of redeveloping the site with single-family homes. We all need to ask the Mayor, “What are your real intentions?”

-Diane Snell

A REVIEW OF THE 2019 EPIPHANY WINDSTORM

The strongest storm thus far of the 2018–2019 storm season brought a brief but intense blow to the Pacific Northwest on January 5/6, with south/central Puget Sound (including the Leschi area) experiencing 50–60 mph winds and worst damage. I’ve heard that some folks are calling this storm the “Epiphany Storm” since 1/6 was Epiphany 2019 (the 12th day after Christmas).

As far as wintertime midlatitude cyclones go, the Epiphany Storm was relatively weak. Based on observations near Long Beach in far SW Washington, it looks like the central pressure dropped to 982–983mb, which is strong but nothing out of



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the ordinary. On satellite, the storm resembled a “glob of clouds” rather than a well-defined, hook-shaped midlatitude cyclone.

However, the Epiphany Storm had two distinct features that helped it deliver a solid, region wide below despite its small size.

First, the storm took a nearly perfect track for high winds in Puget Sound. It raced NNE from just off the Oregon Coast to Cape Disappointment and eventually across the Strait of Juan de Fuca towards the US/Canada border. As it did so, it dragged a small region of intense pressure gradients across the highly populated I-5 corridor, knocking out for hundreds of thousands of people and causing one injury in the process.

Second, there were strong pressure rises at most stations with the passage of this storm. The NNE (as opposed to more easterly) track, the moderate/fast speed and the intense pressure gradients to the south of the low-pressure center all played a role. Most stations saw their strongest winds during the time of maximum pressure rise immediately after the center of the storm had passed.

The University of Washington WRF-GFS model did a fantastic job modeling this storm. After several “so-so” or downright poor forecasts for major windstorms in recent years (the 2016 Ides of October storm comes to mind!), it’s refreshing



A toppled tree just east of Leschi Elementary on Lake Dell Ave. Image courtesy Sara Robertson.

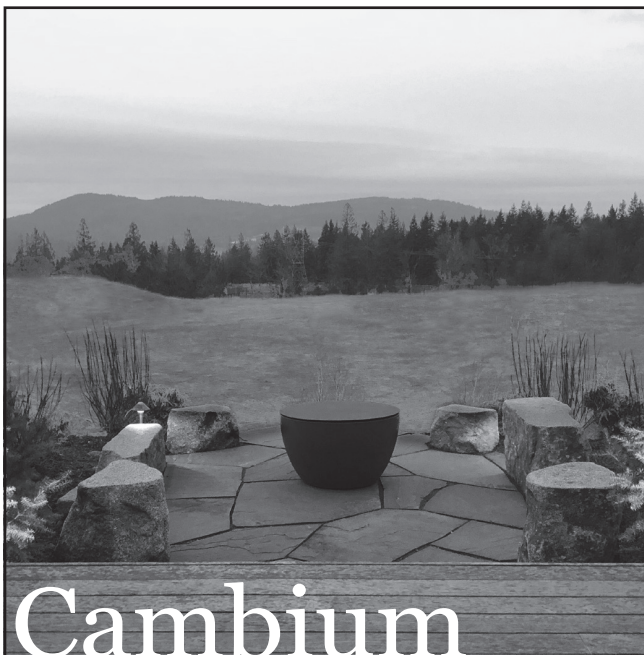
to absolutely nail a forecast, especially with all the uncertainty that existed even 24 hours away from landfall due to differences in various models.

Most Pacific Northwest windstorms create a surge of westerly winds down the Strait of Juan de Fuca as they depart, and this storm was no exception. Not only did many locations throughout Island and San Juan Counties experience 60+ mph gusts from this westerly surge, but an intense squall line formed over Southern Whidbey Island and extended north all the way into Bellingham. The forecasters at the Seattle NWS office issued a rare Severe Thunderstorm Warning for 60 mph winds and penny-sized hail associated with this feature.

We can still get windstorms in February, March and even April, but they are more rare and generally weaker than the storms we see from November through January. So, while windstorm season is far from over, the chances of us seeing a storm stronger than the 2019 Epiphany Storm this winter/spring are quite low.

-Charlie Phillips

Charlie Phillips, a Madrona resident, received his B.S. in atmospheric sciences from the University of Washington and works in Portland as a meteorologist. Check out his weather website at charlie.weathertogether.net.



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Culture Corner

Editor's note: our art critic, Susan Platt is recovering from surgery and we are grateful to Esther Ervin for contributing this month.

THE ETHNIC HERITAGE ART GALLERY

This quote from a local, celebrated Black artist who grew up in Auburn, Washington captures the force and feeling that brought the Ethnic Heritage Art Gallery into being:

"Racism—it was waiting for me as I left my mother's womb. It is institutional. It is built into society. The traditional values and beliefs of people of color hold the universal consciousness of mankind. We have racism because this consciousness has been silenced. Art can make this consciousness heard by creating an equitable reality where cultural diversity flourishes. Cultural diversity needs to be nurtured and valued."

-Marita Dingus, 1992

To help advance the city's Race and Social Justice Initiative (RSJI), the Ethnic Heritage Art Gallery (EHAG) was established by the City of Seattle Employee Affinity Groups to showcase established and emerging artists of color from four ethnic and cultural communities. By providing a location to show ethnic artwork on a rotating schedule, they help recognize the contributions and cultural arts of the greater Seattle community.

The Employee Affinity Groups began by approaching Deborah Paine, (now retired) then Curator and Collections Manager for the Office of Arts and Cultural Affairs, (Office of Arts & Culture's name at that time,) in 2008 to forge an alliance, and establish and maintain gallery space on Level 3 and in the 6th floor lobby of the Seattle Municipal Tower (SMT.) This agreement also called for regular assessments to assure quality and professionalism in the management of the gallery space. The management of SMT was also a party to the agreement.

The arrangement was solidified in a written proposal to the General Manager of the Seattle Municipal Tower in January of 2009, requesting the specific areas to be used. Those submitting the proposal were representatives of the City of Seattle Employee Affinity Groups: Preston Hampton of the City Light Black Employees Association and the Citywide Black Caucus, Pamela Masterman of the Native American Civic Employees, Patricia Lopez, President of the Latino City Employees and Brenda M. Sevilla of the Filipino-American Civic Employees of Seattle.

Deborah Paine, also communicated with the General Manager, offering her support as a consultant for exhibition planning and installation. These combined actions established a home for the Ethnic Heritage Art Gallery on Level 3 of the Seattle Municipal Tower, where EHAG has run continuous quarterly exhibitions since January of 2009.

The operational rules of EHAG and its board are outlined in the EHAG Charter of 2014, which defines the roles of the Ethnic Heritage Art Gallery and of Arts & Culture with respect to gallery publicity, installation, de-installation and other management duties. The main goals of this Coalition are to:

- Build and strengthen relationships between ethnic communities and the City of Seattle
- Foster pride and appreciation for diverse cultures within the workplace and the community at large
- Showcase and support local artists of color
- Nurture appreciation for the cultural diversity of art

The current exhibit at the EHAG is *A Persian Spectra*, an exhibition of oil and acrylic paintings by Nasrin Afrouz. The artist was born in Tehran, Iran where she graduated from the University of Tehran with a bachelor's degree in fine art in 1987. She also completed a thesis in Persian Mythology entitled *Mehr Means Love*, about the Persian God Mithra. She moved to Seattle in 1994 and studied English at the local

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Community College. In 1997, she earned a certificate in Visual Communication Technology in the field of Graphic Design and Electronic Prepress.

While still a student during the Iran-Iraq war, Nasrin traveled and witnessed the devastation in the war-torn cities. As a woman, she was not permitted to go to the front lines of war. However, she was touched by the pain and suffering inflicted upon her countrywomen, and was especially influenced by the ceremonies and rituals performed for the dead. This motivated her to study these rituals along with the ancient mythology and rituals of Iran, which culminated in the writing of her thesis Mehr Means Love.

The EHAG is located on the Third Floor Arcade level of the Seattle Municipal Tower. The current Curator and Collections Manager is Blake Haygood. For more information, email: EthnicArtGallery@seattle.gov.

The EHAG follows a quarterly schedule: Jan–Apr is the Black Heritage Exhibit, Apr–Jul is the Asian Pacific Heritage Exhibit, Jul–Oct is the Latino Heritage Exhibit and Oct–Jan is the Native American Heritage Exhibit.

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–Esther Ervin

Credit for this article is due to Bradley Wilburn and Preston Hampton, who have generously provided the source material.

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100 YEARS AGO

If you've wondered if political turmoil has ever been so intense, if the government shutdown and the viaduct closure would markedly change our lives, if we can back out of tipping points, History steps and reminds us that Seattle hosted the nation's first general strike. It is a story of grandstanding, mistrust, a strong female Socialist and ill-defined goals. In the words of the inimitable Murray Morgan, "It frightened millions of Americans into believing that revolution was just around the corner, and it cheered thousands with the same thought..."

Follows is an abbreviated account from our friends at HistoryLink.org.

The Seattle General Strike began at 10am on February 6, 1919, and paralyzed the city for five days. Never before had the nation seen a labor action of this kind. Many in Seattle were expecting revolution—and a few wanted it—but when 65,000 laborers walked off the job that day, the result was more an eerie calm. Initially, the strike demonstrated the power of union solidarity, but it soon fizzled. For labor, the Seattle General Strike was a glorious folly that led to government crackdowns and to the distrust of the public and the press for a decade to come.

The Shipyard Strike

The Seattle General Strike grew out of a shipyard strike that began on January 21, 1919. In that strike, 35,000 union members, most of them affiliated with the Metal Trades Council, walked out of Seattle shipyards that were still bustling with wartime prosperity: World War I had just ended. The strike was aimed as much at the federal government's Emergency Fleet Corporation, which coordinated wartime shipbuilding, as at the private shipyard owners themselves.

As the shipyard strike began, Seattle's Central Labor Council of the American Federation of Labor (AFL) debated launching a general strike in solidarity with the shipyard unions. Ironically, the Labor Council held the key vote during a January 22, 1919, meeting while many prominent—and moderate—labor leaders happened to be in Chicago discussing the possibility of a nationwide general strike...at the Seattle meeting, the remaining, more radical leaders voted to poll the various locals for a strike authorization in support of the shipyard workers.

Hope and Fear

These events took place during a time of mounting anxiety. The Allies had won the war, but turmoil was engulfing several regions of the world. While many middle and upper class Americans viewed the 1917 Russian Revolution with fear, many unionized workers, especially in those early years, hoped it might encourage a working-class revolt in the U.S. The Federal Government jailed numerous activists for sedition, and employers tried to break the unions with "open shop" rules. When the EFC imposed wages that fell below union goals, labor radicals such as Seattle School Board member Anna Louise Strong (1885-1970) saw red (though not in the political sense).

In this environment, one union local after another voted for the strike. The momentum became irresistible. The Building Laborers and the Hotel Maids unanimously favored mass action. Many others followed, but the exact aims of the action remained unclear.

Labor Not United

A debate raged within the labor organizations. A. E. Miller of the Metal Trades Council wanted to use the General Strike to force shipyard owners to the bargaining table. Unions in other industries wanted to address their own grievances. Some radicals, influenced by the Industrial Workers of the World or “Wobblies,” hoped to overthrow the capitalist system.

On February 4, Anna Louise Strong published her views in the *Union Record*. By that time many citizens were convinced that revolution was afoot. She wrote: “We are taking the most tremendous move ever made by Labor in this country, a move which will lead—NO ONE KNOWS WHERE!” She pledged that the unions would feed the people and take care of the sick. But she sent chills down the backs of the management class by asserting: “Labor will not only SHUT DOWN the industries, but Labor will REOPEN, under the management of the appropriate trades, such activities as are needed to preserve public health and public peace. Under its OWN MANAGEMENT” (Friedheim, 110-111).

A Great City Stopped

As the strike approached, many Seattleites armed themselves and stockpiled ammunition and supplies in their homes. Shelves were stripped bare in stores as the siege mentality took hold. Meanwhile, the Union Strike Committee prepared to run the city. They determined which Unions would be exempted and which vital services would be kept running. For example, the Meat Cutters Union had just been through a bitter strike that had resulted in many of the larger employers switching to open, non-union shops. The weakened Union now represented workers primarily in small butcher shops. Rather than exhaust the Union and penalize the small butchers who had kept Union meat cutters on, the committee decided that the meat cutters would continue to work. But since they were on strike, they would not be paid, and in this way, the small butchers would be rewarded. Vital services such as utilities and health care were also provided for, but the city’s essential streetcar system halted in its tracks.

The day of the strike arrived with its eerie quiet. Seattle Mayor Ole Hanson (1874–1940) described it this way: “Streetcar gongs ceased their clamor; newsboys cast their unsold papers into the street; from the doors of mill and factory, store and workshop, streamed 65,000 workingmen. School children with fear in their hearts hurried homeward. The life stream of a great city stopped.”

Fear of Insurrection

Seattle’s Central Labor Council of the American Federation of Labor (AFL) had called the strike in support of striking shipyard workers. However, the concrete objectives of the strike remained unclear, and statements such as the powerful one by Anna Louise Strong that the strike will lead “who knows where” fed public fears of insurrection.

In addition to the union workers, some 40,000 others were idled either because their employer saw no use in opening or because they depended on the streetcars to get to work. Some Seattleites barricaded themselves at home in fright and a few of the wealthy departed the city on extended vacations.

Rumors flew. Strikers had dynamited the city’s Cedar River dam, some said. The mayor had been assassinated, said others. Gunmen were reputedly coming from Chicago to aid the workers’ cause. Water and food were said to be poisoned.

In truth, the strike itself proved orderly. Key services continued to operate based on exemptions from the strike committee. The unions set up food stations and sold meals to union members for 25 cents and to the general public for 35 cents.

The Official Reaction

To keep public order, army troops arrived from Fort Lewis, outside Tacoma. The soldiers tried to remain inconspicuous at their postings around the city, but strike leaders were well aware of their presence, if uncertain of their orders.

For his part, Seattle Mayor Ole Hanson (1874–1940) added 600 police to the force to be kept in reserve for expected trouble. He recruited 2,400 “special deputies” from University of Washington fraternities and student organizations. The college student deputies carried clubs and, when available, firearms. Machine guns were stationed at various points downtown. The potential for bloodshed was immense but it never materialized.

Mayor Hanson, an erratic and opportunistic figure, had been elected with the support of labor in 1918. (Hanson was a key real estate developer of the unique planned community, Lake Forest Park. He served as Seattle mayor from 1918–1920.) At first, business interests had distrusted him, but he gradually moved to curry favor with them. Unbeknownst to the Seattle public and to the strikers, he made a tough statement to correspondents of the *United Press* in time for the national Sunday papers, asserting that the strike was a revolution and avowing not to negotiate with its perpetrators.

Want to know how it all turned out?

Go to HistoryLink.org, the Online Encyclopedia of Washington State History. “Seattle General Strike, 1919” (by Patrick McRoberts), February 4, 1999.

Sources: Robert Friedman, *The Seattle General Strike* (Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1964); Richard C. Berner, *Seattle 1900–1920: From Boomtown, Urban Turbulence, to Restoration* (Seattle: Charles Press, 1991); Harvey O’Connor, *Revolution in Seattle* (New York: Monthly Review Press, 1964); Robert C. Simmons, “Seattle-Style Strike,” *The Seattle Times/Post Intelligencer*, January 31, 1999, p. E-1.

(Editor’s note: for further reading and delightful prose, see Murray Morgan’s recently re-issued Skid Road: An Informal Portrait of Seattle.)

—Anne Depue



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Seeking Sustenance...

WINES WE LOVE

Leschi Market's monthly Wine Newsletters always includes two special features not found in the weekly email blasts.

The first, "Staff Selections," consists of favorite wines that the staff is currently excited about, new arrivals to the wine aisle, or old favorites that deserve remembering. Many times, customers find a particular steward whose palate matches theirs, making the "monthly picks" more of a shortened, condensed personal shopping guide.

The second feature is the "Best Sellers List," a very straightforward list of the previous month's best-selling wines by number of units sold, broken down by different parameters: Red, White, Bubbles, Rose or Greater than \$20, for example. Personally, I've always viewed the "Best Sellers" list as the "Customer Picks" list. Fun, right? A newsletter that features both employee favorites alongside customer favorites!

Love is in the air all month long, and what better way to celebrate than compiling many of our favorite wines. Following is a Top-10 List from the last several months, combining "Staff Selections" and "Customer Picks" (aka "Best Sellers") to create this "Wines We Love."

Pablo Picasso may have said, "Love is the greatest refreshment in life," however, this list may challenge that!

RED

2016 Quilceda Creek Red Wine "CVR" Columbia Valley (\$55.99)

"A combination of all our vineyard sites and represents a great value. It is the best version of this wine to date displaying highly aromatic black and blue fruits with nuances of anise, smoke, forest floor and minerals. This blend of 87% Cabernet Sauvignon, 7% Merlot, 3% Cabernet Franc and 3% Petit Verdot will be best enjoyed over the next 15 years." –Paul Golitzin, Director of Winemaking.

2016 Brooks Pinot Noir Willamette Valley (\$25.39)

"Blackberry, sandalwood, marjoram, damp moss, sassafras aromas. Umeboshi plum, graphite, fresh currant, lavender and garam masala on the palate. Deep fruits and vibrant acidity lead into elegant floral notes, broad tannins and a long resinous finish. Exhibits both lively freshness and ample structure for extended aging; great value!" –Winemaker notes.

2017 Elephant Seven Cosmic Revelation Red Walla Walla Valley (\$21.99)

"Classic Mourvèdre characteristics of gaminess and meatiness accented with black raspberry and licorice. A dense bouquet of dried flowers, garrigue and white pepper with an iodine driven minerality. The finish is pure and lively with nice acidity and supple tannins. 61% XL Vineyard Mourvèdre, 39% Yellow Bird Vineyard Syrah." –Winemaker notes.

2016 Bouza Reserva Tannat Red Montevideo Uruguay (\$19.59)

If you're going to try just one Uruguayan Tannat, then let it be Bouza. This friendly, nicely balanced offering opens on forest floor and dusty berry aromas. Toasty, peppery oak lends spice notes to core berry fruit, while the finish is lush and round. Drink through 2022.

2017 Garage Wine Co. Pais "215 BC Feriment" Portezuelo D.O. Chile (\$18.69)

"The wine is super fresh and clean and is also softer, more floral, less rustic and with more finesse than the 2015 I tasted next to it. The quality of the tannins is superb." –Wine Advocate, 92-points.

2016 San Felice Chianti Classico Tuscany (\$13.99)

"Expressive and smooth, this hits all the right notes, with pure black cherry, black currant and violet flavors. Touches of earth, iron and tobacco add complexity. Shows fine harmony and length. Best from 2020 through 2036. Smart Buy." –Wine Spectator, 96-points.

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WHITE WINE

2016 DeLille Chaleur Estate Blanc Columbia Valley (\$35.99)

“Impressive lemon cream and gently herbal, grassy and tropical notes. They follow through to a concentrated palate that has bright acidity and smooth, tropical flesh. Long, energetic lime and green-mango finish. Drink fresh or age for up to a decade for a more toasty, nutty expression.” –James Suckling, 93-points.

2017 Domaine Pierre Riffault Sancerre (\$20.59)

From this small 20-acre domaine comes one of Seattle’s hottest Sancerres. 100% Sauvignon Blanc vines from both caillotes and Terre blanche terroirs produces wonderfully aromatic and fragrant Sancerre with invigorating pink grapefruit, elderflower and gooseberry flavors. Don’t wait; 2017 was a very short vintage so there won’t be much of this delicious wine to be had.

2017 A.D. Beckham “Amphora Blanc” Chehalem Mountains Oregon (\$19.99)

The A.D. Beckham wines are a convergence of two passions, ceramics and wine. The terra cotta amphorae used to make these wines are handcrafted in Andrew’s studio on our vineyard. This wine was fermented in terra cotta, partially aged in terra cotta and neutral barrels. The wine is an estate field blend of Auxerrois, Pinot Blanc, Ehrenfelser, Scheurebe, Sylvaner, Viognier and Pinot Gris.

2017 Domaine de la Verpaille Mâcon-Villages Vieilles Vignes (\$16.79)

Baptiste and his wife, Estelle, work the very small parcel of 105-old-vines that produces only a few hundred cases of wine. This stunning Chardonnay is aged 100% in stainless steel bringing a crisp intensity that’s really quenching to drink. The richness of the ripe apple and tropical fruit flavors are balanced by a firm backbone of acidity. A surprise here is that it sells for just about half what your average Bourgogne does.

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 Dablia 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 www.LeschiMarket.com or request to be added to email updates or send questions, comments, or suggestions to ken@leschimarket.com and follow the wine department directly on twitter at twitter.com/leschimarket.



TACOS CHUKÍS



It took a long time to fill that ground floor space facing 23rd Ave in the relatively new building called

The Central on the SW corner of 23rd & Union. There were always rumors of a restaurant but it took until a short time ago for something to materialize and it appears to be a hit already.

Tacos Chukís has a place in South Lake Union on Dexter and another on Capitol Hill. It is very reasonable with street tacos for as little as \$2.20. The most popular seems to be the Adobada taco that is marinated pork grilled with fresh pineapple; a chunk of pineapple is served on each mini-taco. One person in our party had the Adobada marinated chicken breast in a quesadilla and gave it a great review: “spicy, but not hot for me to handle!”

My selection was a Nopales taco: grilled prickly pear cactus. And no, no prickles can be found; it’s like small diced green pepper but cactus leaf instead. Very nicely seasoned. I also ordered the Frijoles quesadilla, veggie pinto beans. I usually cook with black beans and consider pinto beans to have little taste but these were well seasoned and enjoyable. One thing missing from these selections is the chopped lettuce and tomato that we are used to seeing on Mexican food, but these tortillas are so stuffed with whichever filling you have chosen that the addition of anything else would probably make it impossible to eat without a huge bib and some eating implements. As it was, I kept losing chunks of Nopales on my plate as I tried to eat the taco with some semblance of table manners.

Drinks are refrescos by Jarritos in many flavors and Mexican beer is offered; I remember seeing Tecate on the menu.

The décor is modern with both booths and a long table. The offerings are served on colorful pottery plates rather than in a flimsy boat-like cardboard. A nice touch! Each dish came with a healthy chunk of fresh lime. Orders are brought to your table and service is fast. Although there is only one order taker, there is a sizable crew in the open kitchen deftly assembling the dishes.

The prices were very reasonable: tacos \$2.20, burrito \$3.80 and quesadilla \$4.40. They also serve something called a torta, which is nothing like the tortas in my Mexican cookbook: it is any of these fillings on a French roll. If you are sensitive about eating messy stuff in public, you might want to choose that, as it would contain the filling much better.

Ambiance? No Mexican music and seemed rather quiet despite the huge group that walked in after we easily found a booth. I do miss the ancient card tables with beer advertising on the surface and the rather wobbly metal chairs AND of course, the big bowl of fresh radishes one finds on your table as you drive the length of Baja Sur. Authentic food in a sanitized American setting. Parking is non-existent; prepare to walk.

TACOS CHUKÍS

2215 E Union St, Seattle, 98122; 206-971-1250
Sun–Sat, 11am–9pm, facebook.com/TacosChukis

–Diane Snell

LESCHI COMMUNITY COUNCIL

LESCHI CC BOARD MEETING 1/7/19

Attending: Janice Merrill Brown, Trevor Menagh, Diane Snell, John Barber and Tracy Bier.

There was no Treasury report with Janet away.

Janice suggested we review tasks for the wine tasting at the end of reports.

JOHN BARBER

The impending crisis over the failure of the LID to bring in the needed funds to complete the Waterfront Park was alleviated by the Mayor's plan to use parking tax money to supplement. Diane brought up a possible concern: the city will negotiate with Parks re: maintenance for the Waterfront Park. Given that this park will be the jewel in the crown so to speak and puts on a good face to visitors, it is likely that the maintenance for this highly visible park will result in less maintenance for our neighborhood parks, which is already something like 20 years backlogged.

John also said there had been some unauthorized cutting at one of the String of Pearls, which he will address. Parks Board meets this coming Friday (1/11/19) and John will bring up maintenance issues.

DIANE

We received a check from a Mt. Baker group, which was devoted to neighborhood security and was disbanding. Check in amount of \$1206.49 was acknowledged and group thanked. Deadline for the February issue of the Leschi News is Jan 21. She wants to put a focus on the Senior Center for this issue to reinforce our support through the wine tasting. She also mentioned a possible program: the book about the Seattle strike has been reissued with a foreword by James Gregory, professor at UW. He has several speaking engagements around town and it would be interesting to hear this talk as this was the most successful and least disruptive general strike in any city. Diane also asked for help in storing some Leschi CC materials during construction at her house. Website issues were discussed and it seems the solution is to train more people to add and make changes as Yousef no longer able to help.

TRACY

She is partnering with folks from the Madrona CC to do the follow-up emergency program: HOW to handle an emergency of wide proportions. They have agreed on a date of March 19 and it will be in the Senior Center dining room as there is a possible third community interested in participating.

WINE TASTING

Ticket purchase set up through Brown Paper Tickets as Valentine Wine Tasting. Publicity: Senior Center to make fliers; Janice to put on NextDoor Leschi. Food to be provided by Leschi CC. Music is Brazilian Jazz by the Rio Thing; they will perform two sets and will be paid \$300. Senior Center staff will set-up. We need ticket takers and sellers the night of the event. Not sure how much cleanup will be needed but the food table for sure.

NEXT MEETING

February 11 is AFTER the wine tasting.

RESTRICTED FUNDS

We've worked our way to the fund for SW Frink Park and this is a fund one doesn't hear much about. We consulted our Parks expert, John Barber who describes the fund for us: The neighbors raised donations to go for improvements at the section of Frink Park at the intersection of South King Street and 31st South. The area is approximately one city block by one city block in size. So, these funds can be used only for improvements to that area of Frink Park.

	Income	Expenses	Balance 12/31/2018
General Fund			\$11,891.10
Ad Revenue	\$8,255.00		
Dues	\$1,405.00		
Donations	\$3,196.49		
Postage		(\$644.00)	
Printing		(\$7,045.75)	
Totals	\$12,968.99	(\$11,352.60)	\$12,777.95
Restricted Funds			
ArtWalk	\$1,500.00	(\$2,198.33)	(\$50.69)
Cherry Street Corridor			\$635.76
Flo Ware Park		(\$458.69)	\$1,023.98
Friends of Powell Barnett			\$1,068.06
Friends of Street Ends	\$400.00	(\$116.97)	\$710.41
Frink Park	\$9,898.10	(\$10,154.08)	\$2,067.60
King Street			\$1270.00
Leschi Gateway Project			\$347.39
Leschi Natural Area	\$75.00	(\$909.48)	\$4,845.39
Officer Brenton Fund		(\$170.00)	\$3,463.85
String of Pearls	\$250.00		\$1,930.38
SW Frink Park			\$1233.08
W. Vaughn Memorial Fund	\$200.00		\$1200.00
Wading Pool			\$3006.13
Whitebear DreamCatcher			\$201.64
Totals	\$25,292.09	(\$25,360.15)	\$35,730.93
Certificate of Deposit	\$1.03		\$ 11,253.03

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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

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leschinews

The next Leschi News deadline is **February 18**. Mail all articles, comments, letters, advertisements, and membership dues to this address:
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or email Diane Snell at leschinews@comcast.net

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february 2019 | calendar

FEB 2 9am–3pm. Leschi Natural Area work party, with lunch & tools provided. 36th & Terrace.

FEB 3 Noon–3pm. Planting of native shrubs and trees with a little love for our natural area above Leschi Park. More info and sign-up at: seattle.greencitypartnerships.org/event/calendar. We have hundreds of plants to get in the ground—so here is your chance!

FEB 6 No LCC meeting this month.

FEB 7 6pm. Central Area Neighborhood District Council (CANDC) meeting at The Central (aka: The Central Area Senior Center, 500 30th Ave S) in the solarium. NOTE: different day to avoid conflict with Valentine's Day.

FEB 9 Seattle Neighborhood Coalition (SNC) meeting at The Central; \$14 for hearty breakfast.

FEB 9 6–9pm. Valentine Wine Tasting at The Central, benefiting the Senior Center! \$30 admission 21 and older.

FEB 10 4:30–6pm. Garfield Jazz Jam Session at the Royal Room.

FEB 11 6pm. LCC Board meeting, Senior Ctr in Technology room. NOTE: new time.

FEB 21 6–8:30pm. 100 Women Who Care meeting at the Pyramid Ale House. NOTE: new date.

FEB 28 6:30pm. EastPAC at Chardin Hall, Seattle U. Park in bldg. lot on Jefferson just east of 12th. Turn right into lot just beyond athletic fields.

Contact Darcy Thompson for Frink Park work parties at 206-325-4295.

Join us on Facebook: LESCHI or see our website: leschicommunitycouncil.org or leschinews.com