

leschinews

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

COME CELEBRATE OUR STREET END PARKS!

Friends of Street Ends (FOSE) is a city-wide all-volunteer group that was founded right here in Leschi. FOSE members will provide an overview of the group, its mission, its work in partnership with the City, as well as its successes and failures. Throughout its 25 years, FOSE has had a significant impact on Seattle.

Friends of Street Ends started when Leschi residents John Barber, Karen Daubert and Dean Kentala opened four of Leschi's shoreline street ends for public access. At the time, they were not open for public use and enjoyment. Rather, they were being used by adjacent property owners for their own backyards. And on top of that, there were no City policies that clarified that Seattle's public streets—especially those that dead-end bodies of water—should be accessible to the public. Thus, Friends of Street Ends was born. And there have been lots of challenges, including the era when LCC and the three individuals were sued by a group of waterfront neighbors who argued that LCC had no right to take over "their" property.

As a result of this leadership, Leschi remains a leader in its work on shoreline street ends. The community has opened the following public spaces: S. King, S. Dearborn, S. Charles, S. Norman as well as S. Judkins and now S. Massachusetts—the latter two located in adjacent Mt. Baker. For each street end, community stewards are sought and as always, we welcome assistance! FOSE members work to open and improve the City's 142 shoreline street ends.

April 7, 7pm

(ZOOM INSTRUCTIONS ON INSIDE BACK COVER)

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**SAVE
THE DATE**

MAY 5, 7PM

The Dreamcatcher

President's Message

Dear Neighbors in Leschi,

Spring is here—at least today as I write this. It is a time for renewal and freshness, of new birth, and of longer days. I personally believe we all need this now.

Hopefully our community is well on its way to vaccination completion; If any of you need help getting to an appointment, or help booking a vaccine appointment, please reach out. We will find someone to assist you.

The atmosphere feels much more hopeful and what a delight to not have PTSD when reading the daily news. I believe we have turned a corner, as people are vaccinated and venturing out a bit more.

As you know last year in March at the beginning of the pandemic, we lost our beloved Steve Shulman, owner of the Leschi Market. The Leschi Community Council has worked with Yousef, Steve's nephew and now owner of the market, to create a memorial to Steve. At one time, there was a fountain in a circle in Leschi Park and park benches surrounded the area. Yousef liked the idea of recreating that area with park benches. Benches in the park take us back to a quieter time when people spent time in parks, conversing or just reading the daily paper.

Please join us for our April 7 meeting. The Friends of Street Ends will tell us the history of the String of Pearls and their current work to create these parks all around the city. Zoom instructions are on the inside back cover; please join us Wednesday, April 7, at 7pm.

May the Spring flowers brighten your day and may your lives be filled with happiness.

*-Janice Merrill Brown
President, Leschi Community Council*



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and visit our website: leschinews.com

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The Next Pandemic

Thanks to the Central Area Senior Center and the First AME church, my husband and I had our second vaccine shots early in March. I did have a reaction; the next day I experienced a lot of pain in my arthritic joints which only makes sense as there is probably a low level of inflammation all the time. But one day's pain doesn't negate the feeling of safety one has after getting both shots.

And now, what can I do? Hug my grandchildren? Well, no; only one of them has had both shots as he volunteers at a hospital. Can we eat out? Probably not safe until waitpersons are given the vaccine. Travel? Uh, not yet. Dr. Annie, our daughter, said we could probably go to the store now that it's been two weeks since the second shot, and I could do my own grocery shopping for the first time in months. Whoopee! Perhaps it is better to start slowly; too much freedom might be hard to take after all this sheltering in place.

I do admit to feeling both satisfaction and a sense of relief when we had the two shots.

But then I read Thomas Friedman's article "Think About Averting the Next Pandemic." (New York Times, March 17, 2021) Friedman moderated a global webinar on "Emerging Disease, Wildlife Trade and Consumption: The Need for Robust Global Governance," subtitled "Exploring Ways to Prevent Future Pandemics".

Two main issues were addressed: the wet markets where wildlife is purchased and consumed and the deforestation of the rain forests. With the wet markets, it was admitted that there are people who eat wildlife for survival and the suggestion was for richer countries to contribute to the elimination of "poverty and food insecurity," to support the efforts to shut down the illicit supply of wildlife to these markets and to threaten to ban legal trade with countries that won't stop the wildlife trade. To quote from the article: "Loose nukes kill. So, can caged pangolins."

Brazil, China and the U.S. were singled out for deforestation practices and urban sprawl that "are removing natural buffers and expanding the interface, the touch points, between wildlife and people where pandemics emerge." Friedman ended his column with these words: "it's time that we stop looking for intelligent life on Mars and start manifesting it here on planet earth."

All of this reminded me of the time as a hospice social worker, I visited a woman who was dying of Creutzfeldt-Jacob disease,

the human variant of mad cow disease. When I went back to the office, I consulted with the nurse manager, thinking that I should be reporting this to the county health department. She called and was told that they do not track these cases. I was unsettled by this; I am a vegetarian, but friends and family members happily eat hamburgers and I felt we should know where she might have contracted this horrible wasting disease. She was unable to answer any questions by my second visit and went downhill so fast that it was shocking. I wrote a concerned letter to whoever was the Cabinet Member head of the Agriculture Department at that time and received a three-page letter citing how the United States had the safest food supply in the entire world! I was skeptical as it seemed as though every week, I would read about avoiding some product (cantaloupe, lettuce, green onions) due to E. coli contamination. Thus ended my campaign to save King County residents! Hopefully, we can do better to prevent the next pandemic.

-Diane Snell

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

Last month, Susan Noyes Platt wrote that Jacob Lawrence's 1971 residence was in "a location that only two years earlier had been declared legal for African Americans," namely the U District. Lest her observation be misunderstood, I would like to offer a clarification.

At that late date there were no laws restricting where people could live in the city based upon race. There was, however, widespread redlining, whereby the real-estate industry kept African Americans from buying and renting homes outside the Central Area. The practice was outlawed by the city in 1968.

Earlier in the 1960s, there was a Fair Housing Listing Service that circumvented redlining by offering home sales and rentals to African Americans from willing owners. Through this service, my parents rented our house in an all-white neighborhood to a Black family in 1963.

In the late 19th century, it was illegal for Native Americans to live within what was then Seattle.

-Roger Lippman

Neighborhood and Beyond

ELECTION OF LESCHI CC OFFICERS

CC elections usually happen in May at our annual meeting but with the pandemic and the inability to have in person meetings, we were hoping to wait out the restrictions. But this year, all offices need to be filled and rather than wait another year, we have decided to try a vote-by-mail effort.

The open offices are President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. The current Secretary and Treasurer have reached their term limits, but the President and Vice-President can run again, should they choose to do so.

- Section 1. President. The President shall: preside over all meetings of the Council and of the Executive Board; appoint committee chairpersons; and be an ex-officio member of all committees except the Nominating Committee.
- Section 2. Vice-President. The Vice-President shall: assist the president as needed; perform the duties of president in the president's absence; and act as chairperson of the Nominating Committee.
- Section 3. Treasurer. The Treasurer shall: collect dues; maintain a list of all paid members; receive funds; pay bills; keep records of all transactions; balance all funds; and prepare monthly financial reports for Council meetings.
- Section 4. Secretary. The Secretary shall prepare meeting agendas, record minutes of all general and executive board meetings and provide a copy to the newsletter editor; provide all officers with copies of relevant documents; maintain copies of all outgoing correspondence; retrieve mail from the post office; channel correspondence to appropriate persons; maintain lists of meeting attendance and council members; and maintain all records, reports and documents of the Council.

This is an opportunity to guide the council in their work: "the Council has been and shall continue to be organized and operated exclusively for charitable, educational and literary purposes. Its goal is to initiate and/or support beneficial public interest projects and programs, to create a neighborhood awareness of community issues so that residents of Leschi may make informed and effective decisions in matters concerning them, and to support and promote artistic and cultural activities that are consistent with the Council's purposes." (from our constitution) Both the Constitution and Bylaws are on our website; select Our Council and then select documents from the drop-down menu. Website: Leschi News or Leschi Community Council.

If you have any questions about the election or the offices, you may send your question to leschinews@comcast.net or contact the officer in the position in which you are interested.

This information will be reprinted in the May issue and we will include directions on how to vote if we can't get together by June.

-Diane Snell

LESCHI SCHOOL UPDATE

Following the Governor's order that all public schools in Washington offer a minimum number of in-person learning hours for students, Leschi along with other elementary schools is preparing for the partial re-opening of school for K-5 students on April 5. Families can opt out and continue with remote learning for the duration of the school year. Many details remain to be resolved and a final agreement between the Seattle Education Alliance and SPS is still pending.

We are very grateful for the hard work of all our educators and school administration, and we appreciate that the coming weeks will present new challenges and difficult transitions during these unprecedented times. Our school community will remain united, whether students are learning at home or inside the building.

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

To support our school, classrooms, and community programs please see: https://leschies.seattleschools.org/school_involvement/fundraising.

-Benson Wilder

LIFT UP IN LESCHI

Our March meeting attracted a large Zoom audience to focus on homelessness and the resources we were able to find (none of which are a "quick fix"). The big concern is campers in our parks where there are not amenities such as bathrooms and garbage pick-up, but Parks is not moving campers during the pandemic. There is no safe place to put people at this time.

Possible Solutions

Repurposing office buildings for low-income apartments; since the pandemic and the increased number of persons working from home, there is an excess of empty office space. This has been done successfully in Los Angeles and here: Mary's Place in an Amazon office building.

Tiny House Villages are the quickest way to house folks. They now have a warehouse in SODO where they can assemble the houses and have them ready for placement. The only large lot in Leschi is at 29th & King and owned by the Tabernacle Missionary Church.

The HOPE team has replaced the Navigation Team which was mostly involved with sweeps. The Hope Team works closely with folks to find more permanent housing. The Clean City

Initiative involves picking up trash; one can use the Find it/Fix it app to report areas where litter and garbage have accumulated and if it is accessible, they will get it! You can also call 206-684-7587 to report it.

We were joined by a homeless person that evening who identified himself as Joseph; he cooks for a group of homeless campers and his mission seems to be unionizing homeless persons. Sandi, a helper, also joined us by telephone and she has been trying to collect items that are needed by campers. She will give LeschiNews the current needs each month, and we will print them in the newsletter. You can contact leschinews@comcast.net if you wish to donate something and we will arrange for it to reach the campers.

Current Needs

The thing that would most help Joseph and his kitchen right now would be a propane fridge and/or freezer. Since that may be a little obscure, a few larger-sized coolers would be excellent.

Someone walked away with the camp's dolly and the tall garbage can that was on it while residents were away, so replacing those would be great.

Items that are frequently needed include propane, tents, tarps, and new socks.

Good News

Travel guru Rick Steves bought a 24-unit motel in Edmonds and with the help of the YWCA and the Rotary Club refurbished it to house 24 single mothers and children rent-free!

The Executive Pacific Hotel will house 140 homeless persons and LIHI (the Low Income Housing Institute) will offer case management services. LIHI "purchased this newly constructed 76-unit apartment building as permanent supportive housing for vulnerable homeless veterans and other homeless people. The Clay features 76 apartments, including 70 studios and six lofts. There are 20 apartments for homeless veterans and 55 apartments for homeless singles and couples. There is also a live-in manager's unit. Residents will pay 30% of their income for rent, thanks to rent subsidies from the VA and HUD."

-Diane Snell

DO YOU HAVE A BORED TWEEN OR TEEN?

Check out Coyote Central's virtual workshops from dessert making to animation to podcast production. Registration is open for classes beginning April 24. Families pay what they can afford. info@coyotecentral.org or call 206-323-7276.

THE PROMENADE MAKEOVER

Just driving by on Jackson, you know the buildings have changed dramatically but what is going into those buildings? Thanks to CANDC (Central Area Neighborhood District Council), we were able to learn a little more about this venture. (And you thought that there were no more district councils as gone-but-not-forgotten Mayor Murray had done away with them, but CANDC refused to die!)

A spokesperson from Amazon and another from Vulcan spoke to the changes. They had been seeking a grocery store that met our requirements: workers' union, organic produce, ethnic selections to reflect the neighborhood, etc. and we got

some of it, but not all. Vulcan has been unable to attract a union store so what we have is Amazon Fresh. Taylor, the Amazon Spokeswoman, assured the group that it was not a high-tech store. There would be human checkers and they would accept cash, checks, debit and credit cards, EBT and WIC cards.

She assured us that it would be like any other full-service grocery store (Safeway or QFC) offering deli items (hot and cold) and a selection of ethnic foods such as you might find at Safeway (less reassuring unless your only cookbook is a 30-year-old Betty Crocker.)

Parking is below and the store (plus other retailers) validate for one hour free. Access is ADA compliant. They plan to hire from the neighborhood and start that process at the end of March. Jobs start at \$17 per hour with benefits.

Lori, the spokesperson from Vulcan, said that the apartments above the store were 50% leased. Simply Soulful, the soul food restaurant on Madison, will be moving there in August. You may have noticed some of the artwork installed; each work will have a plaque identifying the artist and there will be a virtual art walk that one may take using this link: <https://artwalk.jacksonseattle.com/>.

-Diane Snell

CENTRAL AREA SENIOR CENTER UPDATE

CASC has been partnering with Safeway/Albertson Pharmacy and The City of Seattle Fire Department to facilitate COVID-19 vaccinations at pop-up clinics. We have done three to date serving the 1B group with the Moderna vaccine, administering 400 vaccinations per session utilizing First AME church. We have also been helping to register the 1B group at other City pop-up clinics. In this capacity we are assisting with

Fionnuala O'Sullivan

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registering a pop-up clinic at Lumen Field. The Pfizer vaccine will be given. A second appointment will be assigned once the first vaccine is administered.

*-Dian Ferguson
(excerpted from a thank you letter to donors)*

AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLANNED FOR 23RD & CHERRY

Plans are in the works for another huge, mixed use development in the Central District, this time at 23rd and Cherry. Ben Maritsa, Dave Sharkey and Chris will be working on this project. The party listed for this development is Acer, LLC. Grace Kim and Don King will be designing this project with an Afro-futurism twist.

Ben says this is a just and equitable project which follows neighborhood guidelines. There will be four buildings on site, with at least 100 units. He says this project is 100% focused on affordable housing, at 80% AMI for all apartments. They are not seeking any tax credits, only MHA. There will also be a retail component in this property.

My concern was for our beloved Flowers For U shop that will be displaced again. Ben assured us that they have a close location where the flower lady will be comfortable working until their retail shops are open, at which time she will be able to work there. The flower lady is of course skeptical as she has been promised this before and it never materialized. We, as a community, need to hold this company to their word on this. The group plans to have building permits by the end of the year.

I recently learned that very few developers are putting affordable apartments on site, but are instead, opting to pay an in lieu of fee that the City allowed as part of MHA's "Grand

Bargain." This is extremely problematic because the MHA (Mandatory Housing Affordability) was sold to Seattle residents to provide affordable apartments in the City. They are asking homeowners in the CD and Southend to give up our homes to developers for this worthy cause. If affordable apartments are not being made in the CD as promised, we are selling our homes for nothing...except to transfer our family wealth to developers or investors who want to own all of Seattle. Don't do it. Keep your precious land. Build an ADU or backyard Cottage to house priced out loved ones. In June 2020 Washington State passed HB2343, which allows every single-family home to convert to a triplex or a duplex. And of course, we can always create a basement or garage apartment to help with density while holding onto our families' wealth. Land is scarce and valuable. Don't give it away!

Dear Homeowners in Districts 2 and 3: If your property is between 5,000 and 10,000 sq. ft. and you are in upzoned neighborhoods, your perfectly good home may have been devalued to \$1000 with most of the value being placed on your land. This practice is called assessed for highest and best use and is assessed as if the land is vacant and your home is a tear down. It has serious consequences for your homeowner's insurance, your equity and ability to age in place. Please email me at keepyourhabitat@gmail.com. We will discuss this issue. John Wilson has volunteered to help educate. Ask your children to help look up your home's latest assessment.

*-Ruby Holland
770-471-3472*

LIFE AND TIMES IN LESCHI

A couple months ago I mentioned other places named after the Native leader Leschi. Here's a story about boats. Until the 1880s, transportation across Lake Washington was largely provided by Indian canoes. Once whites started settling on the Eastside, transit began to be operated by settlers—canoes and eventually steamships. After a while, the Seattle Port Commission got into the business, with the steel-hulled steam ferry Leschi (later converted to diesel) running from Leschi Park to Bellevue and Medina, beginning in 1914. It was the first auto ferry on Lake Washington, capable of carrying 50 automobiles and 1000 passengers. Other ferries operated from Leschi to Mercer Island and from Madison Park to Kirkland.

Eventually the Leschi ended up on the Madison-Kirkland run, which continued until 1950. I had the pleasure of riding that route in 1947—not long before I was born. My mother had a friend in Kirkland who she visited regularly from my parents' rented home in what is now known by the gentrified name of Madison Valley.

After retirement from Lake Washington in 1950, the Leschi worked Puget Sound as a Washington State Ferry. Subsequently, it was refitted to be used as a salmon cannery in Alaska. The wrecked hull now lies abandoned in an Alaskan cove.

Long after the ferry's demise, the Seattle Fire Department commissioned a new fireboat, launched in 2007 and based downtown on Elliott Bay. Its name was chosen from an elementary school student's contest submission. Unlike the ferry boat, which was named after the park, this one was named for the Native leader.



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Courtesy of the Seattle Municipal Archives, identifier number 225.

Some other notes about place names

Last November I credited my brother, visiting from San Francisco, with referring to Leschi as “Sausalito del Norte.” It turns out that he wasn’t the first one to recognize the resemblance. It’s recently come to my attention that a September 16, 1977 article in *The Argus*, by then Leschi resident Lane Morgan, quoted a real estate agent as saying, “We think Leschi is kind of a little Sausalito. It’s pretty much become a non-family-oriented neighborhood.” The agent was referring not so much to the scenery as to the influx of young professionals and arty types—though this is while I was still grinding it out as a car mechanic, artistic in my own way.

Also, last November I mentioned that in early days our neighborhood had been dubbed “Fleaburg.” I wasn’t then aware of the name’s unfortunate origins. The disparaging term came from settler picknickers in the park. The continuing anti-Indian sentiment was aimed at Native people who continued to gather and camp there as late as the 1880s. In the 1930s, a story in the *Seattle Shopping News* (reprinted in the 1950s) stated that Leschi Park had been “a favorite Indian camping ground, and consequently became badly infested with fleas.” It was apparently to counter this prejudice that Mr. Grant, president of the cable car line, who had a major stake in the development of tourism in the neighborhood, undertook to name the park after Leschi, in about 1891. (Full disclosure: in the late 1950s I shared a paper route delivering the *Shopping News* in Madrona.)

In my November article I cited Wade Vaughn’s “Seattle-Leschi Diary” as attributing to the historian Clarence Bagley (who also blamed Indians for the presence of fleas) the notion that the area was no longer known as Fleaburg after the mid-1860s. This timing seems improbable, now that I have documentation going up through the 1880s.

—Roger Lippman

The author writes monthly about Leschi history and his experiences over his 45 years in the neighborhood.

A BRIT EXPLORES THE AMERICAN FASCINATION WITH ROYALTY (DESPITE THE BOSTON TEA PARTY)

Much has been written and posted recently about the British Royal family and particularly the royal formerly known as Prince Harry and his American spouse. Oprah’s recent interview further stirred the palatial pot and gave Megan Markle the one-hour solo starring role she has no doubt long desired since she realized Suits didn’t really suit her self-image.

As a Brit, this latest American obsession with unearned celebrity is surprising—particularly as we’re the ones who used to tax your tea and burned down the White House in revenge for some long-forgotten slight involving Canada (maybe it was their single-payer lotions and potions system?). Fortunately, President Madison didn’t have the house formerly known as White (would that be allowed now?) rebuilt with his name in garish gold letters above the portico. The original Mad Man did however get his name promoted all across the US, including here in Seattle. In fact (or at least according to Google):

Besides Wisconsin’s capital, there are cities and towns honoring Madison with their names in Alabama, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Florida—well, in at least 31 other states. There are also 20 counties nationwide called “Madison.”

Naming rights for the baby formerly to have been known as Princess are still being negotiated. Oprah is believed to be “in the frame.” My personal preference is Sparkle Markle. According to TheBump.com and Social Security Administration data, Sparkle was a popular girl’s name as recently as 5 years ago, when it inexplicably fell precipitously.

So, your former Royal Highness, here’s how you can really make your mark: Just say NO to O! Put the spark back in Sparkle!

Leschi also has a claim to fame and the honor due to royalty, being the name of a Nisqually Chief hanged for murder in 1858, before finally being exonerated by the State Legislature in 2004. The name is also now more than just a delightful neighborhood, but also a Seattle Fireboat. Had the Leschi been stationed on the Potomac in 1812, who knows how history might have been re-written. There would certainly have been less sparkle in the Washington sky on that fateful night.

—Malcolm Harker



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A LAKESIDE SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCE

Many of us developed different ways to break the tedium and anxiety of the Covid lockdown and surprised ourselves in the process. I tried baking sourdough bread but lacked the patience and creative experimentation the process demanded. And I explored drinking too much wine, taking endless long walks, practicing Italian via Duolingo, and even, for a short time, considered cleaning the basement. Never would I have imagined that the solace and energy I sought would be found by taking a daily plunge in Lake Washington. But what began as a traditional Thanksgiving dip was followed the next day by another and the next day, another. And then the game was on. By mid-March I had tallied more than 100 lake plunges and increased the time I could spend in the water from the few seconds it took to get my head wet to eight minutes.

In addition to receiving a marvelous endorphin rush from the cold shock, to which I am now admittedly addicted, my visits to the lake provide an opportunity to revel in the beauty of the water in all its moods. The glassy silk on a calm winter afternoon reflecting purplish hues is an immeasurable reward after a few days of quick submerges when strong southerly winds kick up waves and the dreaded frigid water from the lake's depths. I have gone in on full moons, and when it snowed, and in pelting rain squalls. Friends have joined the challenge and we compare notes on what hurts the most in the cold water: fingers or toes. We tell ourselves we are boosting our immune systems but, really, we are boosting our morale.

We have learned we are not alone. There is quite a community of winter swimmers out there. We hear rumors of the yoga teacher who swims naked at dawn near Seward Park, and we have seen the long-distance swimmer whose stamina astounds us. We have

also learned about Wim Hof and cold-water breathing techniques and watched "My Octopus Teacher." And as if all that weren't enough to distract from the pandemic, on February 14, my husband and I went down to the small rocky beach next to the T dock and were surprised to see a pair of dark eyes staring at us from the still water. A seal! A mere ten feet from the shore! Time and breath stopped together as the luminous eyes fixed us with a curious stare. My husband and I stood spellbound, transfixed, silent. Then, with a graceful dive, the creature was gone. I've seen beavers, nutria and muskrats in the lake, and once even a sea lion rolling over in the exact same spot on a hot summer afternoon when the lake was full of oblivious swimmers, but these sightings paled in comparison to this moment when meaningful chance took on a deeper relevance and we felt connected to the spiritual beauty of Nature.

Uncertain and hesitant, not sure I wanted to break the spell, I finally did a quick dash in and out of the frigid water, then raced home to get warm and fire up the Internet. Sure enough, there have been other sightings of seals in the lake (and sea lions, too). Harbor seals, the most populous mammal in Puget Sound, will follow fish through the locks at Ballard and make their way to the lake. (I'm not sure if there is evidence of their returning the way they came.) Having answered my most important question, "Will they bite humans in the water?" (yes, they do have large teeth, but biting is highly unlikely as they are shy and solitary. They might also scratch with their flippers. Yes, an infection could follow contact...), I came across the story of Butch, a harbor seal who lived for 25 years in Lake Sammamish and whose idea of fun was pulling unsuspecting dogs under water when they were swimming after sticks. He was known for also playing with children, chasing cats, and nuzzling the odd swimmer. (<https://www.historylink.org/File/5542>). Reading about Butch calmed my fears about swimming with seals (it's one thing to see them, but another to share their space).

I perused a few other seal facts and came away knowing that they eat up to ten pounds of fish per day (a fact that does not bode well for the fishers on the T dock), they are known as "pinnipeds," and they can lower their heartbeat to less than one beat per minute when they dive. In the end, the most profound takeaway was the knowledge that to the Northwest coast tribes, seals represent wealth and plenty, the very intangible gifts the lake in Leschi has offered me this past winter: a wealth of experiences and plentiful moments of awe.

If you see a seal or sea lion, report it to the state to help wildlife officials keep track of populations.

<https://wdfw.wa.gov/get-involved/report-observations> and let us know at Leschi News!

-Anne Depue

HAZEL AND ELIZABETH

If you know Esau, you know he foolishly sold his birthright for a bowl of porridge—red beans and rice Rev. Dr. Samuel Berry McKinney often jokingly said. You may not know the names of the Disciples, but if you know any, you probably know Thomas, Doubting Thomas; absent when Jesus appeared to other Disciples, Thomas exclaimed, "Except I put my hands in the wounds..." Despite whatever else Esau and Thomas did, they are remembered for their errors in judgment.



Consider the Founders. Forty-one of the 55 signers of the Declaration of Independence, 11 of the 39 signers of the Constitution, and twelve presidents enslaved persons. You know a number of them are responsible for what many Americans rank extremely important. Somehow, many of us have no idea or a very limited idea of the evil they perpetrated. Do you want to remove the statue of George Washington and rename everything named for him?

In a letter to the woman who would become his wife, Bess Wallace, President Harry Truman made terribly derogatory comments about Black, Chinese and Japanese people, but he also ordered the military to end segregation.

The most recent assessment of a legacy here in Washington is that of Dr. Marcus Whitman; Whitman County and Whitman College bear his name. Whitman, his family, and other whites were killed by Natives who believed Whitman had allowed Natives to die of measles. Some may remember that King County was not originally named for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., but for Vice President William Rufus de Vane King who also owned human beings. King County officially became King County in 2005. Of course, there are those who question Dr. King's integrity.

One of my most memorable instances of an act changing the course of an individual's life and/or society's assessment of that person happened in 1957. The unfamiliar name Hazel Bryan Massery is never referred to without mention of one incident in her life. Depending on your age, you may recognize the 1957 photograph above. Fifteen-year-old white Hazel is the one behind fifteen-year-old "colored" Elizabeth Eckford, one of nine teenagers integrating Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas. Hazel is one of many whites—of all ages—yelling, "Two, four, six, eight. We don't want to integrate" and slurs not necessary to repeat. Six years later in 1963, Hazel apologized to Elizabeth. They made a few public appearances, a poster called "reconciliation." They went on trips together, went on Oprah's show. They attended the 40th Anniversary of that day with President Bill Clinton on hand. Although Hazel did not attend Central, Elizabeth eventually learned that Hazel "had contact with those students [who harassed the "Little Rock Nine"] every Saturday on a local [TV] dance show. And she [Hazel] was part of an organized group that attacked us physically in the school." Elizabeth ended the tenuous relationship. Hazel has spent much of her life "doing good," often getting to know and helping Black people. Her mom voted for Barack Obama. But the photo remains. Hazel tried her best to get the world to see she is so much more than that girl photographer Will Counts captured in 1957, the subject of a picture that went around the world. Clearly, Hazel will tell anyone, everyone that a person's life should not be defined by one incident.

Hazel was an older, wiser person when she learned that a person's life should not be defined but may be defined by one incident. People who make a choice that negatively affects the lives of others would probably agree. During the act, persons committing a deed do not always see the hurt they cause another and never think they may be hurting themselves. Only after some reflection do they reassess the situation, especially after they themselves suffer because of their act.

Hazel, as is so often said today, moved to the right side of history. Some of the persons mentioned above did not make this move. Others did not live long enough, may never have lived long enough to make such a move. Of course, Hazel is right: an individual's life should not be defined by one act.


The impact of the incident has no feelings; the persons involved must live with the impact. And just as the impact of that incident never left neither Hazel nor Elizabeth—the women are in their seventies now—many of us have such negative events in our lives, events that leave indelible imprints. Forgiving is not always easy nor soon. Being forgiven may not be easy nor soon. Worse, neither may solve the problem. Both sides can be difficult, maybe impossible for some of us. The best remedy is to learn not to hurt. We need to do what we can all the time not to hurt others. Should we hurt, we should do our best to make amends and admit that every injured person is not willing to forgive.

Finally, we must acknowledge ignorance is always at work. It is our duty to eliminate as much ignorance as we can. If we are not willing or able to admit, that we, all of us, make errors of various degrees, we may find ourselves in a stagnant pool where we make no progress and may die there alone or with others as ignorant.

~Georgia S. McDade

Georgia S. McDade, a charter member of the African American Writers' Alliance, began reading her stories in public in 1991 and credits the group with making her write poetry. Many poems are inspired by artists. Georgia writes for South Seattle Emerald and Leschinews. She also does interviews for KVRU (105.7) and KBCS (107.3). Outside the Cave is the name of four volumes of poetry; Observation and Revelations: Stories, Sketches, and Essays is the name of her volume of prose.

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Culture Corner

ART SPEAKS CLEARLY!

Art urging us to think about our disrupted world is everywhere this spring.

“Breathe” the current group show (until May 30) at the Bainbridge Island Museum of Art (free, open daily!) addresses civil rights issues in every work by twenty-one artists.

Humaira Abid created a hand carved wooden chain for the title “Breathe.” It suggests both entrapment and escape here, but how many other references are contained in that one word!

In Linda Wolf’s black and white photographs, Caravan Asylum we see people surviving the huge challenges and risks of travel to the US in hopes of a better life (a belief that has surged since Biden came into office). Nearby “Field Notes,” mixed media fiber collages by Carletta Carrington Wilson, quote from formerly enslaved persons in the subtitles, such as “I was plowin’ long and a thinkin’.” Embedded in the textiles is an “x,” honoring the fact that ninety percent of slaves were illiterate.

Throughout the exhibition selections from the extraordinary book art collection of Cynthia Sears address potent issues: Native American displacement (Fred Hagstrom); writing and art by prisoners (Beth Thielen); anti-Semitism (Diane Jacobs); white supremacy in a Klan car rally in 1965 that led to the murder of civil rights worker Viola Liuzzza (Tyler Starr); gay marriage (Cheri Gaulke and Sue Maberry). Each artist brilliantly concentrates a huge topic in an experimental book format.

Roger Shimomura and Michelle Kumata address Japanese Internment. Kumata’s *Song for Generations*, 2019 hangs in the multistoried window of the museum. At the top are two farmers, one holds strawberries, the other a house in flames, below are two adults with painful barbed wire in their mouths, and children in the lower left born in internment (as was Kumata’s mother). Shimomura’s poignant portrait of an American Alien and the anxiety of waiting in *Nightwatch* continues his life-long exploration of the theme of internment. Given the upsurge in hate crimes against Asians, these works remind us the long history of Asian abuse in the US.

Also on display is Paul Rucker’s “Forever” homage to Civil Rights martyrs in the form of “forever” stamps for the post office with biographies of people such as Medgar Evers and Edwin Pratt. In large scale are the four young girls killed in the church bombing in Birmingham Alabama in 1963.

More artists books appear in a separate show “Water” and upstairs are Kimberly Trowbridge’s landscapes based on her residency at the Bloedel Reserve. In short, you can see an astonishing breadth of issues and styles at the Bainbridge Museum of Art, many from the museum’s collection.



Michelle Kumata, study for *Song for Generations*, 2019, giclee print, 10x16" collection Susan Platt (full banner is 17 feet high and hanging in the window of the Bainbridge Museum)

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<https://www.biartmuseum.org/>

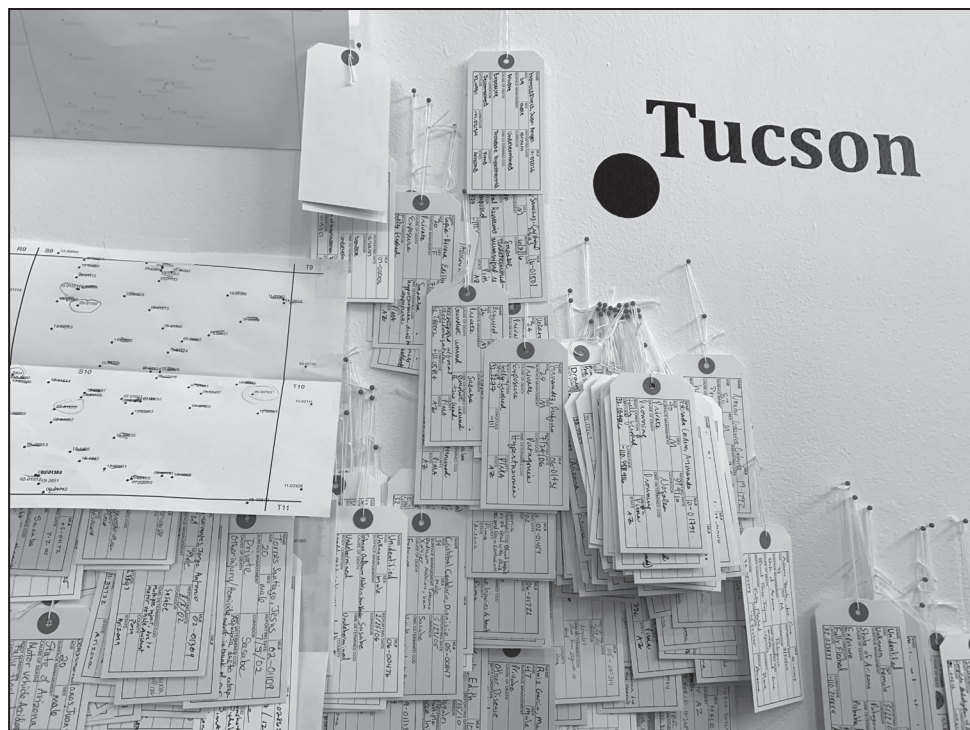
AT THE HENRY

The Henry Art Gallery at the University of Washington also challenges us with difficult topics. In the lobby “Hostile Terrain, HT94,” from the Undocumented Migration Project, outlines a border in Arizona with hundreds of tags hanging on it—volunteers documented each person who died crossing the inhospitable desert with the condition of the body and location. That act means that participants feel these deaths directly as do we. Nearby, a project by La Resistencia gives us access through QR codes to appalling stories of the detainees in the Northwest Detention Center.

“Illustrating Injustice: The Power of Print” curated by Nina Bozicnik and Ann Poulson provocatively pairs Danny Lyons’ prison photographs (Conversations with the Dead (1971) with prints by Honoré Daumier lambasting the legal system of 19th century France. The show also includes moving prison newsletters from the Washington Prison History Project. Commissioned by the Henry “We Own Our Words” is a contemporary zine project with deeply expressive essays and poems by women in the Washington Corrections Center for Women (you can pick it up at the front desk).

By the same dynamic curators “Plural Possibilities and the Female Body” explores the female body beyond the reductive binaries of gender and fixed ideas of beauty. The breathtaking selection of artists ranges from Ana Mendieta and Kiki Smith to Zanele Muholi and Mickelene Thomas. Presiding over the gallery is a lush painting by Dominican Republic artist Firelei Báez The Right to Opacity that fuses Saartjie Baartman (the so-called “Hottentot Venus”) with ciguapas, a mythical fearless woman of the forest.

For those who like the bizarre, don’t miss “Bambitchell: Bugs and Beasts Before the Law.” A video highlights animal trials in medieval and early modern Europe based on a 1906 book Criminal Prosecution and Capital Punishment of Animals. I



Beth Theilen (Chatham, NY), *The Tower*, 2006-2007, linoleum prints and mixed media; writing and binding by prisoners at San Quentin State Prison in California; edition #13 of 30, Cynthia Sears Artist's Book Collection

watched the trial of a cock who laid an egg and was tried for sodomy. Perhaps the larger context could be that because of climate change we are putting animals to death all the time without any trial.

And finally, “Viewpoint” a single gallery exhibition juxtaposes Jean Francois Millet’s images of women working (at home) in the 19th century to a video of a woman’s head being covered with cake frosting by Jeanne Dunning! Go see it to understand it.

So, something for everyone! The Henry exhibitions end on May 17. It is FREE until the end of June although limited hours Saturday and Sunday 10am–5pm with a reservation.

HENRY ART GALLERY

15th Ave NE & UW, NE 41st St, Seattle, WA 98195
206-543-5340, Sat & Sun, 10am–5pm
<https://henryart.org/>

~Susan N. Platt, Ph.D.
www.artandpoliticsnow.com



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Seeking Sustenance...

ITALIAN WINE EXPANSION!

Spring cleaning definitely has its benefits. A fresh start, a new perspective, perhaps even renewed vigor! In a retail setting, and even more specifically the coveted space in the wine aisle, springtime is usually when we look to start expanding warmer weather wines like the pinks and crisp whites which are ever so popular. This year, in addition to making room for the seasonal summery wines, we concluded and realization that the Italian wine section is constantly getting wiped out. Furthermore, we found ourselves turning away REALLY great wines due to lack of space in Italy for bringing on new wines. After some tinkering, contemplation, and running some numbers, IT HAPPENED! Leschi Market is proud to introduce TWELVE new feet worth of shelf space solely dedicated to Italian imports! We definitely recommend a peruse cruise through the aisle, but we are also happy to provide some of our new favorite arrivals! Listed here are ten of those newcomers!

Bubbles

2018 Ca' dei Zago Valdobbiadene Prosecco \$19.99

A customer request that has turned into a shelf staple! "Light and refreshing, with pleasant notes of citrus, honeysuckle and wet stone. Lively acidity, purity, precision, fine long-lasting bubbles and only 11% alcohol. The perfect embodiment of the Italian aperitivo culture, this wine can be enjoyed with all kinds of food, at any time of day." ~Importer notes





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White Wine

2018 La Valle Del Sole Pecorino Offida \$16.99

Organic! Pecorino is not just a cheese! Did you know it's also a fun grape varietal? "Full-bodied white, with a stone-fruit sweetness and floral hints braced against a lively acidity and minerality. Overall a bright, delicate well-balanced white." ~Importer notes

Red Wine

2017 Palazzo Malgara Negroamaro Puglia \$10.29

Ruby red in color. Dark plums and herbs on the palate with a silky texture and subtle rustic earth undertones. Pair with BBQ chicken, pulled pork or teriyaki. ~Importer notes

2019 Tenuta San Vito Chianti \$13.09

Certified organic. 100% Sangiovese. Ready to drink immediately but would not mind a short stay in the cellar. Brilliant ruby red color with fresh and fruity aromas. Harmonious and pleasant to taste. ~Winemaker notes

2018 Poggio Salvi Chianti Colli Senesi \$13.99

Aged in both stainless steel and older oak for balanced, smooth styling with just the right amount of lifted acidity and herbal notes that compliment all your favorite Italian and Mediterranean flavors. Red sauce pasta, olives, roast pork, pizza, sausages and charcuterie will all love hanging out with this bottle. ~Distributor notes

2018 Firriato Etna Rosso Le Sabbie Dell'Etna \$15.99

Very fine. Freshly grated nutmeg and wild blackberries on the nose with lots of ash. It's medium-bodied with silky tannins. More savory flavors of olives and grilled mushrooms on the finish. ~James Suckling, 93-points

2019 Prunotto Fiulot Barbera d'Asti \$15.99

An intense ruby red color. On the nose it is youthful and grapey with fruity aromas of plums and cherries. The palate is fragrant and extremely pleasing. ~92-points, James Suckling.

2017 Tenuta Tascante Etna Rosso Ghiaia Nera Sicilia \$17.79

Love the freshness and drive to this Etna red, which is redolent of blueberries, cranberries, newly picked cherries and orange zest. So crunchy and vibrant



...in the Wilds of Seattle

on the palate, without a hint of over-ripeness. Medium-bodied and energetic, but serious. ~94-points, James Suckling, ~92-points Wine & Spirits, ~92-points Wine Enthusiast, ~91-points Jeb Dunnuck, ~91-points Wine Advocate.

2018 Pietra Susumaniello Puglia \$17.99

Susumaniello is one of the rarest grapes grown in all of Italy. (Leschi Market carries two different Susumaniellos!) Classic Susumaniello has a deep ruby hue and aromas of red berries and plums. The more concentrated version, such as this Pietra, has peppery notes as well as dark chocolate. ~Winemaker notes

2019 Cardedu Praja Monica di Sardegna \$19.99

Local Monica grape is fermented with native yeasts in cavernous cement tanks under the house. A zingy, light-bodied red wine. Think spicy underbrush, herbal notes, and just a little touch of fruit. Great with a slight chill. ~Importer notes

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 monthly column is intended to inspire and explore new choices in wine, learn about wine with his readers, and share his knowledge and experience in the wine world. Check out the latest at www.LeschiMart.com or to request to be added to email updates at wine@leschimarket.com

HOMEGROWN

The young couple who live with us (grandson and wife) are much more creative in choosing places for a takeout meal. Having sheltered in place for a solid year, all I could think of were neighborhood eateries. One night they suggested Homegrown; Seattle has six locations, but they chose the Mercer Island location as there was parking and the closest Seattle location was in Melrose Market...no parking. It seems odd to get sandwiches for dinner, but I found mine seemed to meet all the nutritional needs. Two ordered a spicy chicken with avocado (a special not on their basic menu); these were pronounced excellent and of course the turkey, bacon and avocado sandwich was also delicious. I chose the Broccoli Melt with smoky roasted broccoli and caramelized onion; I can't resist caramelized onion

and of course, I knew the benefits of broccoli. It was very good although somewhat of a challenge to eat with the broccoli clusters wanting to escape. Sandwiches range from \$10.95 to \$12.95. There is also a breakfast menu, soup and "bowls" of healthy stuff. Their mission seems to be wholesome food as suppliers are organic growers and they use range free chicken! One can feel quite virtuous putting teeth into one of their creations!

HOMEGROWN

3016 78th Ave SE, Mercer Island, WA 98040
206-774-3656, Open Mon-Sun, 9am-7pm
<http://www.eathomegrown.com/>

-Diane Snell

GOLDEN WHEAT BAKERY

Thanks to all who have continued to shop at Golden Wheat Bakery both in Leschi and in Mt. Baker as they seem to be surviving the pandemic. My husband does his part by succumbing to the Danish pastry with cream cheese and blueberry filling!

-Diane Snell

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LCC BOARD MEETING 3/8/21

ATTENDANCE

Janice Brown; Trevor Menagh, Janet Oliver, Tracy Bier, Ashley Martin and Diane Snell

Janice introduced our visitor, Leschi resident, Ashley Martin. She is interested in getting involved.

Janet: Treasury report

Janice: asked what are we going to do with what we heard from the people? We did hear what items are needed by campers on our public land and we can make those known to the community. At this point, the Parks Dept. is not moving people due to the pandemic.

b. April program: Diane said the Friends of Street Ends are putting on the program. This coincides with Janice's idea of featuring the programs we support at our meetings and provides an interesting bit of Leschi history. It all started in Leschi and has now spread to other areas of the city.

c. We're coming up on election time again. Think Trevor and I both have terms that expire. Diane said that we can't have an election at our usual May meeting as the bylaws require us to publish news of the election two months ahead. We could do it in June, publishing in both the April and May newsletters and if we cannot meet in person, we could ask folks to vote by email to leschinews@comcast.net. Board accepted this idea.

d. Let's discuss May and June programs too. May program could feature the Dreamcatcher.

Diane: Website issues: late meeting notice; the notice of the March meeting did not go on the website until Tuesday night, the day before the meeting. Ashley said she works at REI on their website and perhaps she can help us with problems as the rest of us cannot access the site.

March 22 deadline for April newsletter

Yousef's wish for Steve Shulman's memorial: he didn't like any of our previous ideas, but he did like the idea of putting park benches in Leschi Park where they were located decades ago around the rose bed which used to be a pond. Parks doesn't allow "memorial" signs; Janet offered to contact Maisha and see if she could assist. Maisha responded that there was a work-around; Janet will follow this up.

Next general meeting: April 7

Next Board meeting: April 12; please put on your calendar!



	Income	Expenses	Balance 2/28/21
General Fund			
Ad Revenue			
Dues			
Donations			
Insurance			
Printing and postage		(\$1,841.54)	
Totals	\$405.00	(\$2,170.94)	\$12,124.42
Restricted Funds			
ArtWalk			\$2,447.32
Cherry Street Corridor			\$635.76
Flo Ware Park			\$686.53
Friends of Powell Barnett			\$1,068.06
Friends of Street Ends			\$3,485.59
Frink Park			\$2,067.60
King Street			\$1270.00
Leschi Gateway Project			\$51.03
Leschi Natural Area			\$6,345.39
Officer Brenton Fund			\$3,287.85
Steve Shulman Memorial			\$65.00
String of Pearls			\$2,130.38
SW Frink Park			\$1233.08
W. Vaughn Memorial Fund			\$1200.00
Wading Pool			\$3006.13
West Sheridan Street End			\$1,850.00
Whitebear DreamCatcher			\$201.64
Totals	\$405.00	(\$2,170.94)	\$43,155.78
Certificate of Deposit			11,255.49

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

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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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LESCHI COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING ON ZOOM

April 7, 7pm 7pm Pacific Time
(US and Canada)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86471275822?pwd=WENYU1crbDVYMHBGTXp2NE51NkZtdz09>

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Passcode: 429394

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The next Leschi News deadline is **APRIL 19**. Mail all articles, comments, letters, advertisements, and membership dues to this address:
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THE LESCHI PAVILION

This magnificent building was once located in Leschi Park; it was a dance pavilion/casino and a popular weekend destination for city dwellers seeking recreation. It was built in 1890 and lasted 40 years.

The casino was free to enter, and it had the largest dance floor in Seattle at that time. A dance did cost three cents! It was far more expensive to enter the theater: 25 cents, but it could hold 4,000 people. There were vaudeville shows and concerts. Information is limited about the activities, but it was common to build an interesting destination point at the end of a cable car or streetcar line to encourage residential development along the way.

Maintenance costs were high, and the city wanted to tear it down, but it remained long past its prime due to its popularity. One memorable event was the appearance of Sarah Bernhardt, the famous French actor, at the Pavilion. Her performance was diverted to the Pavilion when the downtown theater she was supposed to perform in was undergoing some renovations.

(The limited information here was taken from Wade Vaughn's Seattle-Leschi Diary and an article on "comfort station" in Leschi Park from the Seattle Department of Neighborhoods on historical sites.)



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